

**SUNDAY MASSES**
(All in Main Church)

Saturday at 5 p.m.

Sunday at 9 & 11 a.m.

Holy Days as announced.

WEEKDAY MASSES
(All in Historic Church)

Monday-Friday at 9 a.m.

PERPETUAL ADORATION
(In Chapel of the Nativity)**RECONCILIATION**
(In Main Church)

Friday 8-8:45 a.m.

Saturday 3:30-4:45 p.m.

Any time by appointment.

Fourth Sunday of Lent**March 11, 2018**

I have to be honest with you. As I sat down to write this bulletin article, I looked up the Gospel for this weekend and let out a sigh. I have always struggled with this Gospel; I find it immensely frustrating.

We begin with another healing by Jesus, who declares that he is the light of the world -- beautiful! A man who once was blind now sees! Praise God! However, this is not where the Gospel ends; instead, we hear at length about the investigation brought about by the Pharisees. It's annoying. They could be grateful for this man's newly gained sight. They could rejoice in the beauty of what God has done. Instead, they are too focused on finding fault.

Can you imagine being the man who had been born blind? I would want to celebrate! I would want to invite my family and friends to rejoice in my healing! Rather, you would find yourself and your family being questioned by the Pharisees. This is not exactly the celebration you would be hoping for.

In my early days of ministry, I found myself in a frustrating situation. I sat in the office of a good friend, venting about what was going on and she said to me, "Maybe your frustration is not with the situation but with the part you played in the problem." I was a bit taken aback by her remark; however, upon further reflection, I realized the reason for my strong feelings had less to do with what was going on and more to do with my own insecurities about the role I had played in creating the problem. I was being distracted by my own pride, and it was causing me to stay in the darkness of the problem and not look for a solution in the light.

This brings me back to our Gospel. Upon further reflection (and a little time with Jesus in our adoration chapel), I realized the reason I reacted so strongly is because I can be just like those Pharisees. Their insecurity caused them to completely miss God standing in their midst! They were so focused on staying in power, that they were living in the darkness of their own pride. How often I can miss the good that God has done, because I'm too focused on the dark that the devil is trying to use to distract.

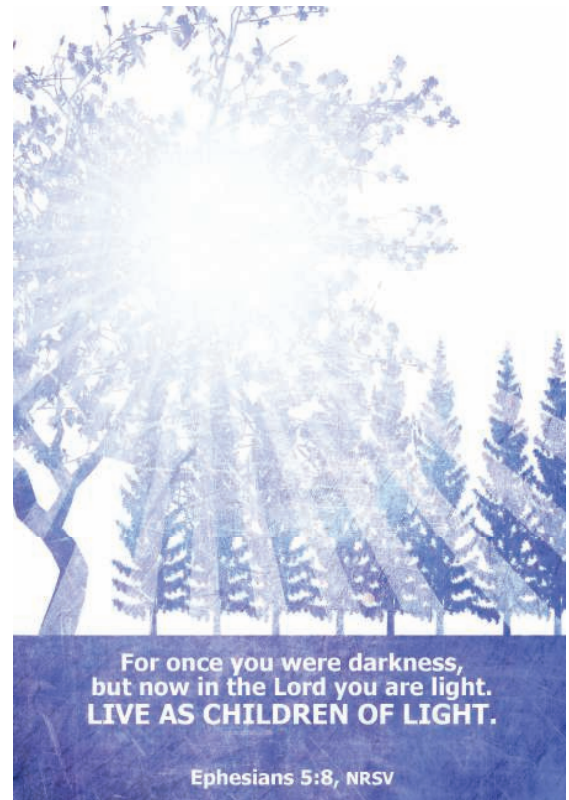
There are blessings and gifts showered upon us by the Lord. It can be easy to overlook the beauty, because we're too busy looking at the negative. It's tempting to live in the

negativity and to blame others. It's easy to hide there, but we are not called to live in the dark -- we are called to live in the light!

Jesus, the light of the world, came that we may be freed from the dark! Praise God! May we strive to live in this light, to set aside the negativity and the blame, and to see the goodness and blessings all around us. Let us celebrate the good that God has done in our lives and not focus on the negative distractions that Satan throws in our way.

The words of the blind man ring true for us today, "I was blind, but now I see."

Elizabeth McCanna
Youth Coordinator

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YOUTH NEWS AND FAITH FORMATION

FAITH FORMATION

Grade 2 First Eucharist Program

Grade 2 classes will not meet on Wednesday, March 14, because the students will have been here on Saturday for the mini-retreat. Grade 2 will resume classes on March 21. Please contact Kathy Raible if you have any questions.

Christos Large Group Event

Grades 1, 3, 4 and 5 will have a Large Group Family Event on March 21, at 4:30 and 6:30 pm. The topic for this event is Holy Week. Each child in grades 1, 3, 4, and 5 should attend and have a parent with them. Grade 2 will have their regularly scheduled class on this date.

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

The Random Acts of Kindness Cross is in the Gathering Space by the elevator. Each time you perform a random act of kindness - an act you perform because of a “desire to connect, to lend a helping hand and/or to extend ourselves out into the world”—please put a tissue paper flower into the cross. By Easter, we will have a blooming cross of kindness!



KIDS' CHANGE FOR KIDS: TO UGANDA WITH LOVE

During Lent, we are asked to give alms. In order to encourage our youth and children to follow this Lenten practice, we are sponsoring a child in Uganda. Please have children and youth bring in money that they have earned to help support this child. They may bring the money to their religion class and put it in the can located on the teacher's desk. All proceeds go to support this child. We will continue to collect money throughout the Lenten season.

FAITHFUL SHEPHERD HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION FISH FRY



FSCS Home and School Association will host a Lenten fish fry at Southview Country Club, 239 Mendota Road East, West St. Paul, on Friday, March 16, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Dinners purchased in advance via StarPay are \$16.50 per adult and \$8 per child. Attire is casual.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School is coming!
Save the dates: June 18 through 22.
More information will be shared as we receive it.

OFFICE INFORMATION

“ Father Steven Hoffman: 651-452-4550

“ Deacon Tim Hennessey: 651-905-4301

Parish Office Hours: Mon - Fri, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Phone: 651-452-4550

BAPTISMS, NEW PARISHIONERS, WEDDINGS

Call the parish office for more information.

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Email Lisa Amos at lamos@stpetersmendota.org, call her at 651-905-4304 or call the parish office.

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ICONOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Mary, Mother of the Church in Burnsville will host an Iconography Workshop. The workshop will take place April 9 - 13, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Master Iconographer, Nicholas Markell, teaches Byzantine iconography using the ancient method of egg-tempera painting and 24 karat gold leafing. This approach explores the technique, as well as the spiritual symbolism, of the icon writing process. Each participant will create the icon of Our Lady of Tenderness.

For registration information or questions, contact Judy Symalla at 651-351-0650, or visit www.stcroixiconography.org.

SINCERE SYMPATHY



St. Peter's Parish extends its sympathy to the family and friends of Mary Friedlander. We invite all to join us in praying that God may make her a sharer in eternal salvation.

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS EASTER EGG HUNT

Bring your Easter baskets or bags and join us for an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 31, at 11 a.m. We will meet in the Gathering Space of the Main Church. We hope you will join us!



CATHOLIC WATCHMEN AND MEN'S CLUB MARCH MEETING

All men are invited to attend the Catholic Watchmen and Men's Club monthly meeting on Thursday, March 15, at 6:30 p.m., in Heritage Center. Fr. Shovelain will share with us his message on Discipline #6 - "Monthly Confession." Join us for social time, dinner and discussion. For more information, contact Jim Lodoen at 952-707-0539 or jlodoen@lindquist.com, or you can contact John Vogel at 651-587-3073 or john.p.vogel@skf.com.



GLOBAL SOLIDARITY SUNDAY WEEKEND

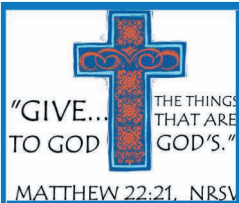


Please support efforts to shine the light of God's mercy and healing on those most in need. This outreach collection serves our brothers and sisters in Africa, Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe and humanitarian activities of Catholic Relief Services. Thank you for your generosity.

"The Light came into the world" (John 3:19)

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Divine Mercy Sunday is April 8, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at St. John Neumann Church. "I demand from you deeds of mercy, which are to arise out of love for Me. You are to show mercy to your neighbors always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to excuse or absolve yourself from it" (Diary 742). The Tri-Parishes of St. Joseph in West St. Paul, St. Peter in Mendota and St. John Neumann in Eagan will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday at St. John Neumann, 4030 Pilot Knob Road, in Eagan, on April 8. Confessions, exposition, and adoration (Confessions made during Lent and within 20 days after the Feast are sufficient.) are from 1:30 to 2 pm, Rosary and prayers are from 2 to 3 pm and The Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Reposition is from 3 to 3:30 p.m.



Financial Recap July 1 to March 4, 2018

YTD Actual Collections:	\$679,195
YTD Budgeted Collections:	\$649,192
Difference:	\$30,003

To donate electronically visit www.stpetersmendota.org and click on Stewardship & Community Life or call Mary in the parish office at 651-905-4307.

BOY SCOUT FISH DINNER

Boy Scout Fish Dinner

Friday, March 23, 4:30 - 7 p.m.

The meal includes fish, potatoes, coleslaw, vegetable, macaroni and cheese, dessert and beverages.

Adults - \$10 Children 2-11 - \$7

Children under 2 (with paid adult) are free.

Stations of the Cross will be held Fridays at 6:30 p.m., through March 23.

HOLY SATURDAY PRAYER

Are you seeking ways to enter more deeply into the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ? Do you feel that God is asking you to do just a little bit more to make room for Him in your heart? Join us on Saturday, March 31, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the Historic Church. Lisa Amos will lead us in an observance of the Office of Readings and Morning Prayer, followed by time for silent meditation. Together, we will prepare ourselves more fully for the Resurrection, by first making room in our hearts and our lives for Christ's death and resurrection.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

Come join us on Saturday, March 17, for our St. Patrick's Day Dinner. The Council of Catholic Women and Men's Club will be serving corned beef brisket with cabbage, carrots, potatoes, onions and rutabagas, Irish soda bread, Polish rye bread, various beverages and assorted Irish desserts. All proceeds will go to the CCW and Men's Club. The cost is \$15 for an adult, \$25 for two adults and a family is \$35. RSVP's are not required, but we strongly encourage it! We look forward to seeing you there!



We are looking for volunteers to help with serving and clean-up after. If you would like to help with this event, please contact Anne O'Keefe at 651-905-4308 or aokeefe@stpetersmendota.org.

EASTER FLOWERS



We are now accepting donations for Easter flowers in memory or honor of a loved one. If you would like to make a donation, please pick up an envelope on the information counter in the Gathering Space. Fill out the information and drop it off at the parish office or return it through the Sunday collections by Monday, March 26. All names will be listed in a flyer in our Easter bulletin.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

St. Peter's is here to bring the good news of the Gospel to all, so that every person can have a personal, life changing, life giving relationship with Jesus Christ.

Trustees:

Jim Oricchio.....651-452-3587

Helen Wilkie.....651-365-1334

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 11

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [6ab]/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21

Scrutiny: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or Jn 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b [2a]/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 [8]/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18 [8a]/Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 [4a]/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23 [19a]/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 [2a]/Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 [12a]/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33

Scrutiny: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or Jn 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

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MASS INTENTIONS

The following are the intentions offered by the priest at Mass:

Monday, March 12	† Ruthe Perron
Tuesday, March 13	Jack Mayers
Wednesday, March 14	† Antoinette Crea-Larson
Thursday, March 15	† Howard Dahlheimer
Friday, March 16	† Richard Gangl
Saturday, March 17	Patricia Horne
Sunday, March 18, 9 am	Mass For The People
11 am	† Marian & Leo Reding

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR: MARCH 12

Monday, March 12

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
6:30 pm Alpha, Heritage Center
7 pm Boy Scout Troop Meeting, Classroom 10

Tuesday, March 13

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
10 am Women's Bible Study, Ravoux Room
10:30 am Mobile Meals, Off Campus
6:30 pm Lent Parish Penance Service, Main Church

Wednesday, March 14

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
9:45 am Divine Mercy Cenacle, Ravoux Room
4:30 pm Grades 1, 3-5 meet in their homes. No Grade 2 classes.
5:30 pm Chill
6:30 pm Grades 1, 3-5 meet in their homes. No Grade 2 classes.
 Grades 6-8 meet in their classrooms.

6:30 pm Perissos

Thursday, March 15

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
9:45 am Small Faith Group, Conference Room 1
6:30 pm Women's Bible Study, Ravoux Room
6:30 pm Catholic Watchmen & Men's Club, Heritage Center
6:30 pm ACCL, Conference Room 1
7 pm Finance Committee Meeting, Conference Room 3
7 pm AA Meeting, Classroom 5

Friday, March 16

8 am Reconciliation (Main Church)
9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
6:30 pm Stations of the Cross with Benediction, Main Church

Saturday, March 17

9 am & 10:30 am AA Meeting, Classrooms
3:30 pm Reconciliation, Main Church
4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
5 pm Mass, Main Church
6 pm St. Patrick's Day Dinner, Heritage Center

Sunday, March 18 - Hospitality Sunday

Hosted by the Men's Club

8:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
9 am Mass, Main Church
9 am Sunday School, Classrooms
9 am Liturgy of the Word for Children, Ravoux Room
10:30 am Rosary for St. Peter's, Chapel of the Nativity
10:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
11 am Mass, Main Church
11 am Liturgy of the Word for Children, Ravoux Room
11:30 am RCIA, Conference Room
12:30 pm Baptism Class, REFF Office

PASTORAL MINISTRY

FOLLOWING JESUS



In the Gospel for this Sunday, we encounter a man who was born blind. But Jesus indicates that there is also a spiritual blindness. The gift of faith can heal our spiritual blindness and allow us to see as God sees. Let's pray, this

week, as we follow Jesus, to see more with the eyes of faith, seeing ourselves as children of God and seeing our neighbors as brothers and sisters.

MINNESOTA FOOD SHARE MARCH CAMPAIGN



Many families are struggling, despite their best efforts and hard work. A young mother came to the food shelf very excited to be there. She said, "We were finally able to afford to get

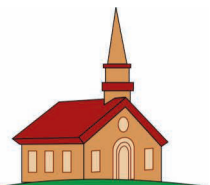
our car fixed, and today is the first time I have driven a car [in months]. I am so grateful to have that car back." Not only had she been unable to get to the food shelf to supplement her food supplies, but for the past two months this winter, she carried her 19-month-old baby to daycare and then walked another two miles to her job. To keep her baby warm during those cold days, some of which were well below zero, she wrapped him in layers of blankets and carried him inside her own winter coat.

A full-time job is no longer enough to keep some families out of poverty. Of Minnesota households, 10.8% are at risk of hunger.

"Many things can wait. Children cannot. Today their bones are being formed, their blood is being made, their senses are being developed. To them we cannot say 'tomorrow'. Their name is today."

~Gabriela Mistral, Nobel Prize Poet

After each Mass this weekend, special grocery bags will be available for you to take home. Please consider filling these bags with your food donations and returning them to St. Peter's by April 8. Monetary donations are also encouraged. Each dollar donated is the equivalent to one pound of food. You may place your monetary donation in the collection basket at Mass. Address the envelope to Neighbors, Inc. and write "Church of St. Peter" on the check's memo line.



*Come as a Guest
Leave as a Friend*

ADORATION CHAPEL

"If we but paused for a moment to consider attentively what takes place in this Sacrament, I am sure that the thought of Christ's love for us would transform the coldness of our hearts into a fire of love and gratitude."
~ St. Angela of Foligno



As we lean deeper into Lent, many of us begin to feel a little less excited about the Lenten practices we committed to a few weeks ago. The Chapel of the Nativity Adoration Chapel is the perfect place to take your desire to remain steadfast. Whether for a few minutes or an hour, recognize that your relationship with Christ is worth it.

The chapel is closed for Masses. If you need a sub for your hour, please refer to our substitute roster to cover your hour in advance. Contact Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or at lamos@stpetersmendota.org to sign up for an hour of adoration. We still need adorers at the following hours:

Early Morning		Daytime		Evening	
Monday	2 to 3 am	Sunday	2 to 3 pm	Sunday	5 to 6 pm
Wednesday	1 to 2 am	Sunday	4 to 5 pm	Friday	7 to 8 pm
Saturday	3 to 4 am	Monday	2 to 3 pm		
Saturday	4 to 5 am	Wednesday	2 to 3 pm		
Saturday	5 to 6 am	Friday	4 to 5 pm		

JESUS APPROACHES: WOMEN'S SCRIPTURE STUDY

Join local author and speaker, Liz Kelly, in an 8-week study based on her new book: *Jesus Approaches, What Today's Woman Can Learn about Healing, Freedom and Joy from the Women of the New Testament*. By immersing ourselves in the stories of Jesus and the New Testament women, we will grow in confidence and skill in praying with Scripture and in making the Gospel story our own. Strengthen the tether between your heart and the Sacred Heart of Jesus and join us this spring. Register early as space is limited, and we do sell out.

Here is the link to the **Women's Scripture Study** event page, which is now online: http://rediscover.archspm.org/rediscover_events/womens-scripture-study-jesus-approaches/.

RELEVANT RADIO

Did you know the time you spend driving in your car can be an opportunity to grow in faith, to be renewed in hope and to be reminded of God's love for you and for the world? Simply tune your dial to 1330 AM, where you will hear engaging and dynamic Catholic programming on Relevant Radio®. You can also download the *free* Relevant Radio mobile app and take your faith with you wherever you go! Fuel your drive with spiritual nourishment this Lent!

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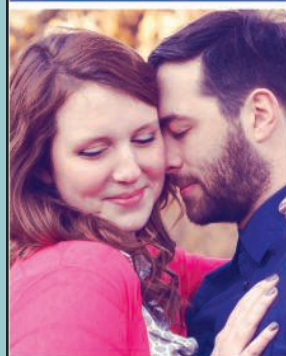
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