

Church of ST. PETER MENDOTA



**February 14, 2016
First Sunday of Lent**

OUR VISION

We envision St. Peter's to be a dynamic and growing parish through our: expressions of faith and worship, service to one another and the broader community, welcoming new members, compassion and ministry in pastoral care, and stewardship of God's gifts and blessings.

OUR MISSION

The Church of St. Peter, the first Catholic parish in Minnesota, serves as a cornerstone of faith and heritage, where we welcome all to celebrate and live as the Body of Christ. We embrace our commitment to continue this founding legacy, care for future generations, and advance the Kingdom of God.

PASTOR:

Fr. Steven Hoffman 651-905-4305

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

Lisa Amos 651-905-4304

BUSINESS MANAGER:

Mary Jubenville 651-905-4307

Heritage Center Rental Information

Mary Jubenville, staff contact..... 651-905-4307

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/FAITH FORMATION:

Kathy Raible, Director 651-905-4311

Elizabeth McCanna, Youth Coordinator..... 651-905-4312

Beth Halbert, Sunday School Coordinator... 651-905-4313

Religious Education Information Line 651-905-4314

MUSIC and LITURGY:

David Dunst, Director 651-905-4323

COMMUNITY LIFE COORDINATOR:

Anne O'Keefe 651-905-4308

OFFICE STAFF:

Rita Holien, Bulletin-Website Coordinator.... 651-905-4302

Carolyn Rynders, Parish Assistant 651-452-4550

MAINTENANCE:

Tom Deshler 651-905-4322

John Raible 651-452-4550

Parish Office: 651-452-4550

Office Hours: 8 am-4 pm Monday through Friday

Fax: 651-456-0646

E-mail: church@stpetersmendota.org

Parish School: Faithful Shepherd

651-406-4747, www.fscsmn.org

3355 Columbia Drive

Eagan, MN 55121



SUNDAY MASSES (all in the Main Church)

Saturday 5 pm

Sunday 9 am and 11 am

WEEKDAY MASSES (all in the Historic Church)

9 am Monday-Friday

HOLY DAYS As announced.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Fridays, 8 to 8:45 am and Saturdays 3:30 to 4:45 pm
and also any time by appointment.

BAPTISMS, NEW PARISHIONERS, WEDDINGS

Call the parish office for more information.

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Mary LeClair E-mail: maryleclair62@gmail.com
or call the parish office at 651-452-4550.

Reflections from Our Music Director

This past week we began the season of Lent with the celebration of Ash Wednesday. This is a season that certainly generates no shortage of reactions. The more stereotypical reactions would be akin to groaning and, perhaps, a panicked search for something to “give up.” We instead ought to hope some part of us would experience something closer to eagerness.

Among the words very often associated with our understanding of Lent and the perceived preoccupation with sin – and this would likely apply to Catholicism in general – is guilt. “Catholic Guilt” is, I would estimate, in the top five reasons people leave the Church, and given the understanding many of us carry from childhood, that would be forgivable. Unfortunately, many of us lack a proper frame of reference with which to form a healthy definition of “guilt.” We describe guilt in terms of shame and judgment, attempting rather to mask or hide it than deal with it. A lot of our upbringing and childhood formation has prevented us from a healthier approach, because it has traditionally centered on preventing sin through fear motives and attempting to instill a disgust for sin itself. However, we must move beyond fear (for, indeed, “perfect love casts out all fear” – 1 John 4:18) to form a healthy definition.

What then is guilt through love’s lens?

The fundamental truth of love is that it is all about relationship. Love is concerned with how my behavior impacts my beloved or the way I relate to my beloved. Therefore, guilt, when approached from a place of love, is not inward-looking, fixated on “my fault,” which fosters shame. Rather guilt is far more the awareness that something I did has harmed the one I love, or worse, has damaged the way I relate to my beloved.

In this way, rather than fear of harming my beloved, my principal motivation is care and affection for them. It is the desire to positively grow and develop that relationship and advance the interest of the one I love. Guilt is not a shaming mechanism. It is the natural pang I experience having grieved the one I love – this is imminently healthy.

If I lack this awareness, I have a defect of another poorly understood interior mechanism: the conscience. Now, in converse relationship to the concept of guilt, conscience is understood in a backward way in this day and age.

Conscience is not my standard by which I measure my own behavior or weigh a course of action. That is a de-

formed conscience because it is self-referential. Where love is concerned, conscience is my knowledge of my beloved, and thereby my knowledge of what harms them or the love and trust-based relationship we share.

What we need to understand better in this day and age is that we do not live by or for ourselves. If we do, we are truly malformed as human beings. We must and do, whether willing or not, live for those who are dear to us, or even merely in contact with us. Our happiness is in giving of ourselves, based on the cloth from which we are cut, whose “image and likeness” we share.

So, instead of some kind of dread aversion to the sacrifices and disciplines, rather let these become the tools we employ in reconciling with God. He has built the bridges, paved every road. He has made all the ways clear to connect with him and to commune with him, but when we allow blocks to be set up by our sins, or by the clutter of the world, we impair our own relationship with God.

By paying heed to the voice of the Spirit in Scripture, in the Church’s teachings, in nature, and in the stillest, most quiet and unaffected places in our souls, our conscience can receive a true and trustworthy formation that will illuminate those things by which we separate ourselves from the Lover and Shepherd of Souls.

Given this formation, and with zeal and ardor, we can embark on the journey of Lent with sure, purposeful steps toward renewed and increased intimacy with God the Father. “Let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith.” (Hebrews 12:1-2A)



David M. Dunst
Director of Music

Sincere Sympathy

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



Religious Education/ Faith Formation (RE/FF)

Kid's Change for Kids-To Uganda with Love

During Lent, we are asked to give alms. To encourage our youth and children to follow this Lenten practice, St. Peter's is 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 their teacher's desk. All proceeds go to support the child we sponsor in Uganda. We will continue to collect money through Lent.

Random Acts of Kindness

Random Acts of Kindness Cross

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!



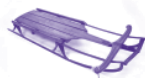
Upcoming Middle School And High School Dates

Chill

All middle school youth are welcome to join us for our middle school youth group, Chill, on Wednesday, February 17, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. We will meet in the youth room for pizza, games and a look at the upcoming Sunday's Gospel. For more information, contact Elizabeth McCanna at 651-905-4312 or emccanna@stpetersmendota.org.

Youth Group

On Sunday, February 21, all high school youth are invited to join us for youth group! We will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and will be having a mini Lenten retreat. To help Elizabeth make sure she has enough materials, please let her know if you plan to attend by Wednesday, February 17. You may contact her at emccanna@stpetersmendota.org.



Pastoral Ministry

A Lenten Opportunity for The Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF) Alumni

Lent is right around the corner with Ash Wednesday on February 10th. We have a special opportunity to help you to enter more fully into your Lenten observance! This Lent, consider *The Journey to Jerusalem: A Lenten Retreat* as a way to grow closer to Christ.

Fr. Mark Toups has written a booklet with daily reflections for each of the 40 days in Lent. A simple daily devotional with scripture references will lead you on a journey with Jesus towards Jerusalem and the Triduum culminating with the Resurrection. The reflections can also be heard on the IPF website, www.priestlyformation.org/resources/fr.-mark-toups/journey-to-jerusalem

We have a small number of copies of the printed booklet available for purchase for \$5 per copy. Please contact Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or lamos@stpetersmendota.org to reserve a copy.

Lent Speaker Series

Sacraments in the Light of Mercy: How the sacraments help us to experience and live from God's mercy

Thursdays, February 18, 25 & March 3
6:30-7:30 p.m. in Heritage Center

Jesus is God's love incarnate, a love that comes to us as mercy. God's merciful love is communicated to us in numerous ways. The seven sacraments, instituted by Christ himself, are especially designed for this purpose: to bring the power of God's merciful love into all the areas of our life.

We hope you will come and join us this Lent, during the Year of Mercy, as we reflect together on how we can live more generously and concretely from these life-giving sources of mercy. All are welcome.

- ♦ **February 18:** The Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist
- ♦ **February 25:** The Sacraments of Vocation: Holy Orders and Marriage
- ♦ **March 3:** The Sacraments of Healing: Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick

No reservations are required. Free will donations will be accepted. Fellowship and refreshments will be provided after each evening's talk. For further information, please contact Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or lamos@stpetersmendota.org.

St. Peter's Community News

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction

Fridays, February 12, 19, 26

March 4, 11, 18

7 p.m. in the Main Church



There will be Confessions
before Stations each Friday
6-6:45 p.m.

Spirituality on the Margins Pilgrimage

Exploring the Ministry of Presence

Saturday, February 27 from 8:30 am to 2:20 pm

Are you ready to expand your circle of relationship? Have you ever considered being a 'spiritual listener' to someone who lives in poverty? Parishioners of St. Peter's are invited to an urban pilgrimage to experience the ministry of compassionate presence. This pilgrimage, designed by City House, will provide you an opportunity to prayerfully travel to St. Paul and listen to stories of individuals who are experiencing homelessness or exist in other conditions of poverty in the city. Small group sharing, lunch at Dorothy Day, and an introduction to "Spirituality on the Margins" will be part of this half-day pilgrimage. There is limited space. If you have questions or wish to register, please contact parishioner Lorilee Petrangelo at Lorilee@city-house.org, or call 651-494-8303.

To sign up at the parish office, please see Lisa Amos.

Join the Choir

The choir is beginning preparation for the Holy Week celebrations, the Lenten season and beyond. Now is a great time to join! Rehearsals are weekly on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. and end by 8:30 p.m. If you have questions, feel free to ask any choir member or contact David at ddunst@stpetersmendota.org.



Come as a Guest
Leave as a Friend

Catholic Services Appeal

It is not too late! If you have not given your gift in support of the 17 Collective Ministries of this Archdiocese to the Catholic Services Appeal, either drop your pledge in the collection basket at Mass or utilize the prepaid envelope from the mailing and send it directly to CSAF's processing center.



Every gift matters, so please prayerfully consider your gift. Thank you for your continued support of the Catholic Services Appeal. These are the ministries served by the Appeal:

- ◆ American Indian Ministry
- ◆ Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW)
- ◆ Campus Ministry—Newman Center
- ◆ Campus Ministry—Saint Paul's Outreach
- ◆ Catholic Charities
- ◆ Deaf Ministry
- ◆ Elementary Schools
- ◆ Evangelization and Catechesis
- ◆ High Schools
- ◆ Hospital Chaplains
- ◆ Latino Ministry
- ◆ Marriage, Family and Life
- ◆ Parishes
- ◆ Prison Chaplains
- ◆ Saint John Vianney College Seminary
- ◆ The Saint Paul Seminary
- ◆ Venezuelan Mission

Eucharistic Adoration

Parishioners and friends are welcome for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the Historic Church
on Tuesdays after the 9 a.m. Mass until 7 p.m.

Matthew 26:40-41—Jesus said to Peter:

***"Could you not watch
with me one hour?
Watch and pray."***

For more information please contact
Jane Vasiliou at
651-454-5292

or

jvasiliou@comcast.net

The Week of February 15

Monday, February 15

Parish Office Closed—President's Day

- 9 am** Mass, Historic Church (8:40 rosary)
6 pm St Paul Civic Symphony, Heritage Center
7 pm Boy Scout Meeting, Ravoux Room

Tuesday, February 16

- 9 am** Mass, Historic Church (8:40 rosary)
9:30 am Adoration Before Blessed Sacrament
 Until 7 pm, Historic Church
9:45 am Women's Bible Study, Ravoux Room
10:30 am Mobile Meals, Off campus

Wednesday, February 17

- 9 am** Mass, Historic Church (8:40 rosary)
9:45 am Divine Mercy Cenacle, Ravoux Room
4:30 pm REFF Grades 1-5, Classrooms
5:30 pm Middle School Chill, Youth Room
6:30 pm REFF Grades 1-8, Classrooms
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

Thursday, February 18

- 9 am** Mass, Historic Church (8:40 rosary)
9:45 am Small Faith Group, Conference Room
6:30 pm Lent Series, Heritage Center
7 pm ACCL, Family Room
7 pm Alcoholics Anonymous, Room 5
7 pm Al-Anon, Room 7
7 pm Teen Al-Anon, Room 6

Friday, February 19

- 8 am** Confessions-Main Church
9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:40 rosary)
5 pm Workcamp Pasta Dinner, Heritage Center
6 pm Confessions, Main Church
7 pm Stations of the Cross with Benediction,
 Main Church

Saturday, February 20

- 9 am** Parish Pastoral Council Meeting,
 Conference Room 1
9 and 10:30 am Alcoholics Anonymous, Rooms 2, 4
10 am Scripture Study, Community Room
3:30 pm Confessions, Main Church
4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
5 pm Mass, with blessing for expectant
 mothers, Main Church

Sunday, February 21

- 8:30 & 10:30 am** Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
9 am Mass, Chair of St. Peter, with blessing
 for expectant mothers, Main Church
9 & 11 am Liturgy of the Word for Children
9 am Sunday School
10 am Confirmation Class, Classrooms
10 am Minnesota Food Share
11 am Mass, with blessing for expectant
 mothers, Main Church
6:30 pm Youth Group, Youth Room

After Masses

Parish Pastoral Council

Lance Miller, Chair.....952-432-6957
 Joseph Towle, Vice-Chair.....651-683-9250
 Paul Hirsch, Secretary.....651-431-1832
 Mary Pat Ferraro.....651-454-1091
 Anne Hallgren.....651-702-6465
 Sarah Larsen.....612-384-1474
 Maria Schwartz.....651-452-1796
 Alice Sheeler.....651-457-8119
 Nancy Stanton.....651-686-9009
 Parish Pastoral Council Voice Mailbox:
 651-905-4309

Parish Pastoral Council Email:

ParishPastoralCouncil@stpetersmendota.org

Trustees:

Jim Oricchio.....651-452-3587
 Helen Wilkie.....651-365-1334

Readings for the Week of February 14

Sunday: Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-15/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13
Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8-10, 15/Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-7, 16-19/Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32
Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-3, 7-8/Mt 7:7-12
Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-8/Mt 5:20-26
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48
Next Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14/Phil 3:17-4:1 or 3:20-4:1/Lk 9:28b-36

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Mass Intentions

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

Monday, February 15— Peter Connolly
Tuesday, February 16 - †Robert LeMay
Wednesday, February 17 †Dennis Braun
Thursday, February 18 - †Jim McBride
Friday, February 19 - †Evelyn McGonagle
Saturday, February 20 - †Thomas Hirsch
Sunday, February 21 - **9 a.m.** - Mass for the People
11a.m. - †Br. Paul O'Donnell

24 Hours for the Lord

Come back to Confession in the Year of Mercy Friday, March 4 - Saturday, March 5

Please consider joining in this worldwide celebration of the Lord's mercy by returning to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As Pope Francis invites us, "Let us place the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the center once more in such a way that it will enable people to touch the grandeur of God's mercy with their own hands." Special opportunities include round-the-clock confessions at both the Cathedral of St. Paul and Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis from Friday, 1:30 p.m. to Saturday, 12 noon.

FAITHFUL SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL AND TRI-PARISH CENTER

St. John Neumann, St. Peter, St. Thomas Becket
3355 Columbia Drive, Eagan, MN 55121
651-406-4747, www.fscsmn.org

Faithful Shepherd Enrollment Now Open

Additional Grants and Financial Aid Available

Faithful Shepherd Catholic School is proud to announce that we have received a \$50,000 grant from the Catholic Schools Center of Excellence. This award recognizes our commitment to academic excellence and will allow us to award grants of \$1,000 to each Kindergarten student for the 2016-2017 school year. In addition, Faithful Shepherd has over \$100,000 available in financial aid for families in need of additional help. Our goal in offering these grants and additional financial aid is to allow everyone the opportunity to experience the Faithful Shepherd difference.

Enrollment is now open for the 2016-2017 school year. To learn more or to apply, please visit our website at www.fscsmn.org or call us at 651-406-4747. We're proud of our vibrant, faith-filled community, and we want you to become a part of it. We are committed to providing a Catholic education for all who seek one.

Be Among the First We Tell

We don't know who. We don't when. But we do know who we'll tell first...you! Follow [The Catholic Spirit](http://TheCatholicSpirit.com) for the best coverage when our new archbishop is named. Go to www.TheCatholicSpirit.com/NewAbp and sign up to choose how you want to hear the news.

Holy Hour and Rosary for Our Archdiocese

The Church of St. Peter in Mendota will hold a Holy Hour and Rosary on Sunday, February 21, from 1 to 2pm, in the Main Church.



As we wait with hope for the assignment of a new archbishop for our archdiocese, coming together as a community to pray is increasingly important.

Please join others for an hour of Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, which will begin with the rosary. We will pray together for healing for all of those who have been hurt in any way by the events of the recent past and to pray for the future of our local church, its current leadership, and its eventual new archbishop.

With Gratitude from Listening House

Many thanks to the St. Peter's community for providing warm clothing for our clients. I will always be amazed and filled with wonder by the generosity of those donors gifting warm hats, gloves, winter coats, boots and Christmas gift bags.

This is the light that shines into our long hours of darkness. We can only express our deep gratitude.

Julie, Program Director

Cursillo Corner

All are welcome to attend the South East Metro Ultreya (monthly meeting) on Sundays, at 7 p.m. in Shamrock Hall at the Church of St. Patrick, 3535 72nd Street East in Inver Grove Heights. Mark your calendars. Upcoming meeting dates are:

- ♦ **February 28** at 6:30 p.m., potluck and meeting
- ♦ **March 27** at 7 p.m., meeting

Weekend retreats in February include the Men's Weekend, February 4-7 and the Women's Weekend, February 11-14.

For more information about all Cursillo events and weekend retreats, see www.tc-cursillo.org or contact janemarie.rief@gmail.com or call 651-485-7089.

Jubilee Year of Mercy

Pope Francis asks us to “live this Year in the light of the Lord’s words: ‘Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.’”(cf. Lk 6:36) Participate throughout the year by making a pilgrimage to a Holy Door at the Cathedral of St. Paul or Basilica of Saint Mary, regularly receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation, performing corporal and spiritual works of mercy, and participating in the #MercyWorks video challenge. Find additional ways to **pray**, **learn** and **act** at



www.archspm.org/Mercy.

Miryam Dinner

Women Ages 16 to 35

The Vocation Office invites you to the Miryam Dinner hosted by Bishop Andrew Cozzens. The event will be held on Tuesday, February 16, from 6 to 8 p.m., at the archbishop’s residence, 230 Summit Ave, St. Paul. It is for women, ages 16 to 35, who are discerning consecrated life. It is typical for women discerners to be accompanied by their pastor, consecrated religious, or youth minister.

The evening begins with prayer, followed by dinner with consecrated women sharing their vocation testimonies. To reserve your spot at the table, call 651-962-6890 or email stpaulvocations@10000vocations.org.

Volunteers Needed

2016 CARONDELET GALA

Spend an hour or two with your friends at Carondelet Village and help a great cause—St. Mary’s Health Clinics. Since 1992, the clinics have provided quality health care at no cost to uninsured women, children and men in the Twin Cities. We need your help stuffing and stamping invitations for this major fundraiser on **Wednesday, March 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.** in Carondelet Village Auditorium. Please contact Mimi at 651-690-7058 or mpizzi@csjministriesfoundation.org. There will be treats and door prizes for your help!

Neighbors, Inc.

Neighbors, Inc. Food Share Drive

Neighbors, Inc. distributes food according to family size. The larger the family, the greater the quantity of food they receive. These numbers are posted on the shelves for all shoppers to see. We have to make sure there is enough for everyone, and so we consistently follow these guidelines.

However, sometimes you just have to break the rules. A client who had survived brain cancer two years earlier came to the food shelf. She said the cancer was back. This time it was in her stomach and lungs. She had just lost her job a few days prior. She was going to have surgery in a few days. It took longer than usual for her to shop, because so many volunteers and Neighbors, Inc. employees came to share old memories and stories with her. It was more like a party than a shopping trip. Laughter and hugs were abundant.

How could you not give her extra cans of cranberry juice or tuna when she asked for it? Sometimes human needs can’t be measured by numbers. Your donations to Neighbors, Inc. do make a difference. Neighbors, Inc. thanks you for your generosity.

We are in front of a global scandal of around one billion – one billion people who still suffer from hunger today. We cannot look the other way and pretend this does not exist. The food available in this world is enough to feed everyone.



~Pope Francis

Thank you from Neighbors, Inc.

Our sincere thank you for the generous donation of \$646.45 and 23 pounds of food you made to us during November and December.

Many of your neighbors will benefit from these gifts from your heart.

Sincerely,

Neighbors Inc. Staff and Volunteers

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*All are welcome to join us for an all you can eat
Italian feast to help support
St. Peter's Workcamp trip!*

Friday, February 19, 2016

Dinner: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Silent Auction will close at 6:45pm.

Adults: \$8 | Children: \$5 | Family: \$25

Church of St. Peter

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For more information about workcamp contact Elizabeth McCanna.

(651) 905-4312 | emccanna@stpetersmendota.org