

**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.

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**JANUARY 21, 2018**

This weekend's readings get me a little turned around and confused. Taken in a vacuum, one might mistake these readings for, either just before or even during, Advent. The sort of themes we encounter this week are quite at home in those contexts.

Repentance, preparedness and the shortness of time all resonate with the Advent message of making a straight path for God, of course. However, what we hear today is different and feels much more collegial -- that is, it sounds more like believers encouraging one another, reminding each other, in love, of the stakes in our contest against sin.

Incidentally, this is but one view of the role of the Church in the life of each Christian and only one facet of the nature of the Church.

Unlike the Advent voice of the "endtimes" and "now is a very acceptable time," the prevalent tone is what we hear in the verse to this week's Gospel Acclamation, the Alleluia: "The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the Gospel."

It is a call, not so much to conversion, as to mending one's ways. It has less to do with "scaring them straight," and more to do with encouraging a brother, sister or a beloved friend to embrace the ways we know will bring that friend closer to Christ. There is a note of the impending possibility of failure and also the fact that the current direction is not healthy or sustainable, but greater is the sense of a higher, better way of living that is within reach.

First, we hear the end of the famous story of Jonah, wherein he finally fulfills his mission. Jonah arrived at the metropolis of Nineveh and proclaimed a message of approaching destruction. Striking, however, is the great weight put on the response of the people of the city, as if Jonah's prophetic role were somehow easy. After a mere day, the word had spread so thoroughly throughout the place and was so accepted that all took to methods of repentance, "they proclaimed a fast and all of them, great and small, put on sackcloth" (Jonah 3:5).

The Psalm then gives voice to our own prayer, "Teach me your ways, O Lord."

If I were to summarize the meaning of the second reading, I would say simply, "don't get bogged down in the

distractions of the world." Or, according to the axiom, "don't sweat the small stuff" of this temporary and limited season. There are greater and more efficient ways to get right with God.

Finally, these readings culminate in the Gospel, wherein Simon (Peter) and his brother Andrew, as well as the brothers, James and John, lay aside the trappings of earthly occupations and follow Christ. Not only this, but the Lord offers them a new job. "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Mark 1:17).

Over the course of a few short readings, we were taken from the need to repent to the reason for repentance - not avoidance of punishment but a greater calling. We're not just called to cease from sin and evil, but we are called to walk and to live close to Jesus. Finally, we're not called to merely do something for Christ, but to do something for Christ *with* Christ.

These readings are, in brief, the story of faith - to be called, to seek, to leave behind the old way and to live a new life with Jesus.

David Dunst
Music Director

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YOUTH NEWS AND FAITH FORMATION

FAITH FORMATION

Sunday, January 21

Grade 2

First Eucharist Focus Mass

We will be having the second grade Focus Mass at the 9 a.m. Mass. We encourage all second grade students who are involved in the First Eucharist Program to be at this Mass. Please call Kathy Raible at 651-905-4311, if you have any questions.

January 24

Grades 1-8

There are no Religious Education classes.

Wednesday, January 31

Grade 2

Please note that the Parent & Child session takes place at 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. on January 31. Parents and children will meet with Fr. Steven at this session.

Grades 1, 3, 4, & 5

Christos - Meet in your homes. Continue working in the children's books.

Grade 6-8

Meet in your classrooms at your regular times.

FAITHFUL SHEPHERD MIDDLE SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHT

Middle School Program Join us on Wednesday, January 24, at 7 p.m. for a presentation about our Middle School Program. Learn how your child can excel through personalized learning and spiritual growth.



K-8 Program Families interested in learning more about our parish K-8 school, Faithful Shepherd Catholic School, are invited to stop by our Open House between 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, February 6. This is a great opportunity to tour our school and have questions answered by our staff, parents and students. If you are unable to make this date, you may also contact Jen Claude at 651-262-2898 to arrange a private tour of the school. To learn more, visit www.fscsmn.org.

WORKCAMP PANCAKE BREAKFAST



The Workcamp Youth invite you to join us for a delicious pancake breakfast after the 9 and 11 a.m. Masses today, Sunday, January 21. You can enjoy pancakes, sausage and egg bake, while helping support St. Peter's Workcamp trip. The cost for breakfast is \$7 for adults, \$4 for children and \$20 per family.

Contact Elizabeth McCanna at 651-905-4312 or at emccanna@stpetersmendota.org for more information about workcamp.

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.

FAITHFUL SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL AND TRI-PARISH CENTER

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ALPHA IS RETURNING TO ST. PETER'S

Alpha is returning to St. Peter's on Monday, February 19. In a recent homily, Deacon Tim asked the question, "Have you met Jesus?" Alpha is a place to meet Jesus and to explore the basics of the Christian faith. It will take place on Mondays, February 19 through May 14, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., in Heritage Center. Alpha consists of a meal, a video and small group discussion. It is an open, informal and honest space to explore and discuss life's big questions together; it is designed to create and/or deepen a personal relationship with Jesus and create fellowship. One recent participant commented, "Great sharing with fellow participants!" Another said, "I really entered into a relationship with the Holy Spirit." Sign-ups begin January 20. Watch for more information in upcoming bulletins. In the meantime, mark your calendars and plan to join us! Space is limited. If you have any questions, please contact Laurie Reding at 612-419-1709 or lreding1@aol.com.



WEDDING BANNES

First Proclamation

David Zerr and Heidi Bock



THE GRAND ADVENTURE: A CALL TO GRANDPARENTING



The Grandparent's Group will be meeting on Thursday, January 25, at 10:30 a.m., in the Conference Room. Please read chapters two and three from Fr. John Forliti's Book, Ten Anchors. We will discuss these chapters at the meeting.

Grandparents are a blessing and anchors in a family. They often have time that parents do not for special one-on-one interactions. If you have questions about Grandparent Adventure, please contact Joan at 651-454-1568.

NEW PARISHIONER DINNER

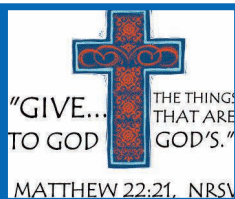
St. Peter's will host a dinner for all new parishioners on Saturday, January 27, following the 5 p.m. Mass. This time together gives us a chance to welcome you and give you a chance to meet other new members and some long-time parishioners. There will be drawings for a few prizes, as well as a tour of our Historic Church. To RSVP, please contact Anne O'Keefe at 651-905-4308 or aokeefe@stpetersmendota.org.

Volunteers Needed!

Are you interested in helping at the New Parishioner dinner? We need people to help make and serve a homemade lasagna dinner to our new parishioners. Please call Anne O'Keefe at 651-905-4308 or email her at aokeefe@stpetersmendota.org, if you would like to help.

CANA DINNER

St. Peter's seventh annual Cana Dinner, in celebration of marriage, will be held on Saturday, February 10, beginning with Mass at 5 p.m., social hour at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. Entertainment will be Deacon Tim and his friends, Bob and Jackie Harvey from St. John the Baptist Church in Little Canada. All parishioners are invited to attend. Ticket sales will begin the weekend of January 27/28.



Financial Recap July 1 to January 14, 2018

YTD Actual Collections:	\$534,432
YTD Budgeted Collections:	517,720
Difference:	\$16,712

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

ACCL PRAYER VIGIL AND MARCH

A Community Caring for Life has arranged a carpool for the Annual Prayer Vigil and March for Life in St. Paul on Monday, January 22. Committee members will host a sign-up table in the Gathering Space after all Masses this weekend. You may also contact Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or at lamos@stpetersmendota.org to sign up. Please consider joining others from around the state in giving voice to this very important work.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



St. Peter's Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the fourth Thursday of every month from 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Family Room. Our next meeting is January 25. Those who knit or crochet are always welcome to join us for fellowship, prayer and shared work. For more information about this meeting, please contact Laura Elm at lblynam@yahoo.com or 612-578-0377.

MARDI GRAS PIZZA BINGO

Come join us for an early Mardi Gras Pizza Bingo on Friday, February 2, at 6 p.m.! We will have the regular child prizes and adult prizes, but the cover-all at around 7:15 will be a \$50 Gift Card to Lucky's Pub for the adults and a \$25 Barnes and Noble gift card for the kids. If we have multiple winners, we will draw a name to break the tie.



Bring your appetite and join us for a family-friendly good time! We will have a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Space this weekend and January 27/28. We ask that you sign up, so that we can estimate how many pizzas to order from Tommy Chicago. You can also call Anne O'Keefe at 651-905-4308 or email her at aokeefe@stpetersmendota.org with your RSVP. There is no cover charge, but we will accept good will offerings. We look forward to seeing you there!

THANK YOU TO GARDENERS

A big thank you to all of the gardeners who helped keep the St. Peter's grounds looking great this past summer. Your hard work does not go unnoticed. We had many, many compliments on how nice everything looked. It takes a lot of hands to keep up with the weeding, trimming and watering of the plants during the summer months. We can always use a few more people to adopt one of St. Peter's gardens. The time commitment is minimal, and you do not really need a green thumb. Our first big project in the spring will be a grounds clean up, which will take place sometime in mid to late April, weather permitting. Thanks again, gardeners!

~ Mike Berndt

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 JANUARY 21

Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [4a]/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20
Monday: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26 [25a]/Mk 3:22-30
Tuesday: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 [8]/Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30 [29a]/Mk 4:1-20
Thursday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Mk 16:15-18
Friday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10 [3]/Mk 4:26-34
Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [12a]/Mk 4:35-41
Next Sunday: Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9, [8]/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

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MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, January 22	Chuck Mitch
Tuesday, January 23	† Paul Baker
Wednesday, January 24	† Richard Gangl
Thursday, January 25	† Robert Weidner
Friday, January 26	† Jeffrey Weiss
Saturday, January 27	Mass For The People
Sunday, January 28, 9 am	† John Miller
11 am	† Tom Schommer

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR: JANUARY 22

Monday, January 22

9 am Mass, **Historic Church** (8:30 Rosary)
9 am Carpool leaves for Annual March For Life
St. Paul Cathedral/State Capitol

Tuesday, January 23

9 am Mass, **Historic Church** (8:30 Rosary)
10 am Women's Bible Study, Ravoux Room
7 pm Endow, Family Room

Wednesday, January 24

9 am Mass, **Historic Church** (8:30 Rosary)
9:45 am Divine Mercy Cenacle, Ravoux Room

Thursday, January 25

9 am Mass, **Historic Church** (8:30 Rosary)
9:30 am Potluck Birthday Breakfast, Heritage Center
10:30 am Grandparents' Meeting, Heritage Center
1 pm Prayer Shawl Meeting, Family Room
7 pm AA Meeting, Classroom 5

Friday, January 26

8 am **Reconciliation (Main Church)**
9 am Mass, **Historic Church** (8:30 Rosary)

Saturday, January 27

9 am & 10:30 am AA Meeting, Classrooms
10 am Saturday Scripture Study, Conference Rm
3:30 pm **Reconciliation, Main Church**
4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
5 pm **Mass, Main Church**
6 pm Cana Dinner Ticket Sales, Gathering Space
6 pm Registration for Alpha, Gathering Space
6 pm New Parishioner Dinner, Heritage Center

Sunday, January 28 - *Hospitality Sunday* *hosted by the Men's Club and* *Faithful Shepherd Catholic* *School*

8:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
9 am **Mass with Liturgy of the Word for Children, Main Church**
9 am Sunday School, Classrooms
10 am Cana Dinner Ticket Sales, Gathering Space
10 am Registration for Alpha, Gathering Space
10:30 am Rosary for St. Peter's Parish, Chapel of the Nativity
10:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
11 am **Mass with Liturgy of the Word for Children, Main Church**
11:30 am RCIA, Conference Room
12 pm Cana Dinner Ticket Sales, Gathering Space
12 pm Registration for Alpha, Gathering Space
12 pm Cana Dinner Ticket Sales, Gathering Space
12 pm Baptism, Main Church



Come as a Guest
Leave as a Friend

PASTORAL MINISTRY

FOLLOWING JESUS



Jesus called His disciples with a simple invitation to come after Him. We, too, are called to follow Jesus wherever He leads us. Will we accept His invitation?

NEW EVENING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The essential purpose of reading the Scriptures is to know a person--Jesus Christ--more personally and intimately. Knowing the names of Jesus allows us to establish a closer and fuller relationship with him. Though no single name or title of Jesus can encompass the fullness of who he is, together they express his very nature and person. They express and convey all his saving deeds. The more we know about his names, the more we will understand what he has done for us and what he still can do for us. We reflect on the names of Jesus for this reason: every name that he bears is a blessing that he shares.

Join other women of all ages and stages of life for a time of learning and, most importantly, growing in faith. Sessions are Thursdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Conference Room, beginning on February 1. All are welcome. Please register by contacting Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or lamos@stpetersmendota.org.

NEW EVENING MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Someone pointed out to me recently that in verse one of Mark's gospel, Mark identifies Jesus as "Son of God." How could I have missed that reference! Finding references to the divinity of Jesus was something I've always enjoyed, and here it was in the opening verse of Mark's gospel. What I propose to you is that we read through Mark's gospel together to sift out items small and grand. We'll read it, make note of it and talk about it with each other. We will also have an excellent commentary with "The Gospel of Mark," by Mary Healy, which we won't use, that is until we've read, noted and talked about what strikes us in this gospel. Let's get together.

~ Bob Pintozzi, Bible study leader

Join other men of all ages and stages of life for a time of learning and, most importantly, growing in faith. Sessions are Mondays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Ravoux Room, beginning on January 29. All are welcome. Please register by contacting Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or lamos@stpetersmendota.org.



PRAYERS OF THE HEART WORKSHOP

"As our body cannot live without nourishment, so our soul cannot stay spiritually alive without prayer."

~ St. Augustine

Prayer is as necessary to our soul as nourishment and air is for the body. Because of this truth, we are offering a workshop to guide and support this essential practice of our Christian life. As we revisit certain helpful keys to prayer and cover practical tips on how to deal with distractions, dryness and other challenges, those who attend will also have the opportunity to grow in their understanding and experience of the fruitful practice of meditation and prayer of the heart.

This three-part workshop will be offered at two different sessions for your convenience. Choose whichever best fits your schedule, and plan to make time to enrich your personal prayer and grow deeper into your relationship with Jesus. Both sessions will be held in Heritage Center.

Evening session: Tuesday, January 30, and February 6 and 20, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Daytime session: Wednesday, January 31, and February 7 and 21, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

- Part I: Introduction: Basic foundations and practical helps for personal prayer.
- Part II: Approaches to prayer.
- Part III: Various difficulties experienced in prayer and what to do about them.

Registration is not required. Please contact Lisa for more information at lamos@stpetersmendota.org or 651-905-4304.

SINCERE SYMPATHY



St. Peter's Parish extends its sympathy to the family and friends of Patricia Korman and Antoinette Crea-Larson. We invite all to join us in praying that God may make them a sharer in eternal salvation.

BOOK GROUPS

Small faith groups are a wonderful way to form relationships of support and encouragement with others who share your love of Jesus. Book study groups are a terrific way to start. If you have thought about gathering friends in your home or local venues, but don't know where to begin, we can help! Fr. Steven has put together a spiritual reading book study guide, and we can recommend books. The titles by Fr. Jacques Philippe in our resource center are just right for this type of study. For further book suggestions or a copy of the reading guide, contact Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or lamos@stpetersmendota.org.

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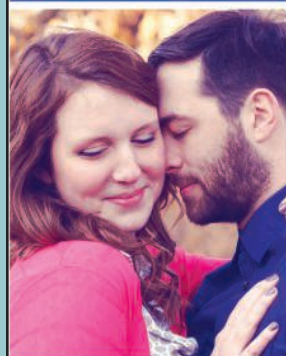
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Prayer of the Heart Workshop

"As our body cannot live without nourishment, so our soul cannot stay spiritually alive without prayer."

~ St. Augustine

Prayer is as necessary to our soul as nourishment and air is for the body. Because of this truth, we are offering a workshop to guide and support this essential practice of our Christian life. Those who attend will have the opportunity to grow in their understanding and experience of the fruitful practice of meditation and prayer of the heart. We will revisit certain helpful keys to prayer and cover practical tips on how to deal with distractions, dryness and other challenges.

TWO SESSIONS!

Choose whichever best fits your schedule and plan to make time to enrich your personal prayer and grow deeper into your relationship with Jesus.

Evening session

Tuesdays, January 30, February 6 and 20
6:30 to 8pm

OR

Daytime session

Wednesdays, January 31, February 7 and 21
10 to 11:30am



THREE-PART WORKSHOP

PART I:
INTRODUCTION: BASIC
FOUNDATIONS AND
PRACTICAL HELPS FOR
PERSONAL PRAYER

PART II:
APPROACHES TO
PRAYER

PART III:
VARIOUS DIFFICULTIES
EXPERIENCED IN
PRAYER AND WHAT TO
DO ABOUT THEM

**BOTH SESSIONS IN
HERITAGE CENTER**

Registration is not required.
Please contact Lisa Amos for further information at 651-905-4304 or lamos@stpetersmendota.org