

**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 in Ordinary Time***JANUARY 28, 2018***

Voice. Authority. Choice. All of these are accepted general themes of this passage from Mark. We could choose any one of these and have plenty to unpack and talk about with one another. Of course, I have my own opinions about which is the dominant theme, but then again, that opinion has changed over time and with reading it many times over. As I read through it again today, I can't help but conclude that it's all of them. That's the thing about Mark; his writing is as complicated as the effect that Jesus' coming had on the world, as it was understood in his time.

Jesus was born in a time filled with more voices than ever before. Even Jesus' community of Jews has the burden of trying to listen to many voices and navigate the subtleties of living as a people faithful to their religious leaders, while staying on the right side of Caesar's laws. This must have been frustrating and scary, especially when those voices conflict. We could think of it a bit like youth sports, and get a pretty fair, if less potentially lethal, idea of how they felt. At almost any kids' game, there is at least one parent who is yelling instructions to their daughter or son, while simultaneously, the poor kid's coach is trying to coach them. When the two commands are conflicting, the kid is likely to stop and look terribly confused. Which voice is the right one to listen to? Although they may be too young to realize it, they are wrestling with the very notion of authority. Which is the voice of authority?

And so it is for us. If Mark's message is to recognize Jesus' voice, then the next logical interpretation is that he is also encouraging us to recognize that Jesus speaks with the voice of authority. Once we have heard Jesus above the crowd, we must listen, even when that voice is in conflict with others. Every day we are surrounded by voices, many of them offering us instruction or guidance. While it's true that many of them offer us bad advice, they are not the ones that create difficulty for us in this context. If, in our sports game story, Jesus is the coach, then many of the other voices in our lives are our parents. They're well-meaning, maybe they even are right to some extent, but they don't have the whole picture in the way that God does. They don't speak with the authority that Jesus does. And, therefore, no matter how difficult or counter-intuitive it feels, they must give way to the authority of Jesus. In other words, when mom or dad says, "shoot," but Jesus says,

"pass," the only right choice is to pass.

One of the lasting questions for humankind is "why is there choice?" If refraining from eating the fruit in Eden would have made such an eternal difference, why didn't God just refrain from making the tree? Why give the serpent the opportunity to urge Eve to eat the fruit in the first place? Similarly, why, in this passage and others early on in Mark's Gospel, doesn't Jesus just come out and announce who he is and lay claim to his authority more directly? The answer is that God wants us to come to Him, not as slaves or subjects, but as His children. In fact, He wants that so badly, that His Son came to us to teach us how to accomplish that. As C.S. Lewis put it in The Screwtape Letters, God wants His servants to willingly and joyfully become His children, to form their wills to His own, not by decree but by formation in sincere love. This answer is frustrating even for the faithful, because it would certainly be easier to be formed, rather than go through the difficult process of formation on our own. That, however, is the blessing of being made in God's image. We have free will, and that means we can choose whether to follow God or the impulse toward sin. Our choice becomes beyond value.

Life in Christ, lived in our earthly life like Mark, is both simple and complicated. We can't do it alone. We must allow ourselves to be dependent upon Jesus to aid us. We must go to Him, as the man possessed of an unclean spirit did. When the voices become too loud or distracting, when authority is hard to recognize in the midst of contention, when the choices seem too many and varied, we must seek Him out and lower ourselves before Him. There's a saying I often repeat to myself when things get to be difficult and I feel myself forgetting to lean on the Lord: "When life gets too hard to stand, get on your knees." We can seek Him. We can find Him in the moments of peace that we create when we can hear Him. We can choose to acknowledge His authority and follow His coaching. May we always find ways to do so.

Lisa Amos
Pastoral Associate

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YOUTH NEWS AND FAITH FORMATION

FAITH FORMATION

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.

Wednesday, February 7

Grade 2

Meet in your classrooms at your regular time.

Grades 1, 3, 4 and 5

Christos Program - February 7 is our next Large Group Family Event! All students and at least one parent per family will come together to learn more about Lent as we prepare to enter into this liturgical season. Please let Kathy know if you cannot join us that evening. This event is held at 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

FAITHFUL SHEPHERD MIDDLE SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHT



FAITHFUL SHEPHERD Catholic School 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. and 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.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK JANUARY 28—FEBRUARY 3

This weekend, in celebration of Catholic Schools Week, Faithful Shepherd is providing the hospitality for all Masses. We are thankful to be a part of St. Peter's vibrant community, and we appreciate your support of our school. We have an Information Table in the Gathering Space this weekend. Please stop by to say hello and learn more about our wonderful school.

Meet the Principal!!! Dr. Sheila Hendricks, Principal of Faithful Shepherd Catholic School, will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week with our parish on Sunday, Jan 28. Come meet Sheila after the 9 or 11 a.m. Masses!

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 BEGINS AT ST. PETER'S



Alpha will begin at 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." You can register online at www.stpetersmendota.org/alpha-registration/. 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



Second Proclamation
David Zerr and Heidi Bock



2018 CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL



Our parish is now conducting the 2018 Catholic Services Appeal for the 18 Collective Ministries of the Archdiocese that no one parish can support on its own.

The CSAF recognizes each parish itself as a ministry integral to the daily life of the Archdiocese. Our parish really is our second home; we see our brothers and sisters in Christ every week, as together we celebrate the Mass. It is also where we are prepared and supported as disciples to go forth to preach the Gospel. Thus, our parish is a benefited ministry of the CSA; we receive 25% of the dollars we collect in our parish, if we reach our parish goal. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge to help us reach our goal.

The 18 Collective Ministries supported by the Catholic Services Appeal are:

1. American Indian Ministry
2. Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW)
3. Campus Ministry—Newman Center
4. Campus Ministry—Saint Paul's Outreach
5. Catholic Charities
6. Deaf Ministry
7. Elementary School Subsidies and Scholarships
8. Evangelization and Catechesis
9. High School Scholarships
10. Hospital Chaplains
11. Latino Ministry
12. Marriage, Family and Life
13. Parishes
14. Prison Chaplains
15. Saint John Vianney College Seminary
16. The Saint Paul Seminary
17. Venezuelan Mission
18. Rachel's Vineyard Twin Cities

Please go to www.csafspm.org to learn more about the ministries supported by the 2018 Catholic Services Appeal.



Financial Recap July 1 to January 21, 2018

YTD Actual Collections:	\$563,241
YTD Budgeted Collections:	542,546
Difference:	\$20,695

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

ADORATION CHAPEL

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	Friday	Noon to 1 pm	Thursday	6 to 7 pm
Friday	5 to 6 am	Friday	4 to 5 pm	Friday	7 to 8 pm
Saturday	3 to 4 am			Friday	8 to 9 pm
Saturday	4 to 5 am				

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. 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!

ROSARY MAKERS MINISTRY

Join us in the Ravoux Room on the first Tuesday of each month, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., for the Rosary Makers Ministry. Our next meeting is on February 6. The cord rosaries you make will be sent to missions or used for local and national needs.

There is great demand, and your help is needed to keep up. Leaders will teach you how to make the rosaries and supply all materials.

Come and see if this ministry is right for you! For more information, please call Mary Ellen at 651-457-1764.

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 be this weekend and February 3/4..



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 28

Sunday:	Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9, [8]/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28
Monday:	2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [8a]/Mk 5:1-20
Tuesday:	2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30--19:3/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [1a]/Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday:	2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 [cf. 5c]/Mk 6:1-6
Thursday:	1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd [12b]/Mk 6:7-13
Friday:	Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 [10b]/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
Saturday:	1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 [12b]/Mk 6:30-34
Next Sunday:	Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39

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MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, January 29	† Doris Thompson
Tuesday, January 30	† Mark Theroux
Wednesday, January 31	† Mary Ann Mousel
Thursday, February 1	Ashley Holien
Friday, February 2	† Margurite Newcomb
Saturday, February 3	† Florence Dugan
Sunday, February 4, 9 am	Mass For The People
11 am	Alex Rynders

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR: JANUARY 29

Monday, January 29

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

7 pm Men's Bible Study, Ravoux Room

Tuesday, January 30

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

10 am Women's Bible Study, Ravoux Room

6:30 pm Prayer Workshop, Heritage Center

7 pm Endow, Family Room

Wednesday, January 31

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

9:45 am Divine Mercy Cenacle, Ravoux Room

10 am Prayer Workshop, Heritage Center

4:30 pm Grade 2 Parent/Child Meeting in their classrooms. Grades 1, 3, 4 & 5 meet in their homes.

6:30 pm Grade 2 Parent/Child Meeting in their classrooms. Grades 1, 3, 4 & 5 meet in their homes. Grades 6-8 meet in their classrooms.

6:30 pm Perissos, Youth Room

Thursday, February 1

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

9:45 am Small Faith Group, Conference Room

6:30 pm Women's Bible Study, Conference Room

7 pm AA Meeting, Classroom 5

Friday, February 2

8 am **Reconciliation (Main Church)**

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

9:30 am **Anointings, Historic Church**

6 pm Mardi Gras Pizza Bingo, Heritage Center

Saturday, February 3

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 with CSA Video, Main Church**

5 pm Lifeline, NET Center

Sunday, February 4 - *Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast*

8:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

9 am **Mass with CSA Video, Main Church**

9 am Sunday School, Classrooms

9 am Liturgy of the Word for Children, Ravoux Room

10 am Cana Dinner Ticket Sales, Gathering Space

10 am New Parishioner Registration, 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 CSA Video, Main Church**

11 am Liturgy of the Word for Children, Ravoux Room

11:30 am RCIA, Conference Room

12 pm Cana Dinner Ticket Sales, Gathering Space

12 pm New Parishioner Registration, Gathering Space

12 pm Baptism, Main Church



*Come as a Guest
Leave as a Friend*

PASTORAL MINISTRY

FOLLOWING JESUS



Jesus amazes the people in the synagogue by driving out a demon. They are astounded and comment that Jesus gives a new teaching with authority! Let us listen to Jesus' teaching today, recognizing the power of his words for our lives.

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.

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

Visiting those who are sick or infirm is one of the means God gloriously uses to grant us a heavenly focus in our lives. There are many in our parish family who will be cheered and nourished when you visit them, bearing with you the very Presence of Christ. As we work to identify those in our community, our dependence on your generosity increases.

St. Peter's is seeking commissioned Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to bring the Eucharist to the sick and the homebound, as well as to serve in nursing homes in our community. Candidates for this ministry are those who have a compassion for those who may be suffering, a friendly and warm disposition, a deep love of Jesus Christ and a desire to bring the incredible gift of Christ in the Eucharist to our sisters and brothers. Training is provided; times and days are flexible. Long and short-term assignments are needed. For more information, please call Lisa Amos, Pastoral Associate, at 651-905-4304 or email her at lamos@stpetersmendota.org.

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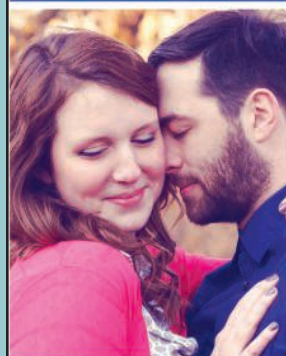
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18 MINISTRIES



2018

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Total Ministries
\$8,800,000

2018 Expenses
\$1,000,000

2018 Total CSAF Goal
\$9,800,000

I
American Indian
Ministry
\$200,000

II
Archdiocesan Council of
Catholic Women (ACCW)
\$25,585

III
Campus Ministry
Newman Center
\$264,000

IV
Campus Ministry
Saint Paul's Outreach
\$11,000

V
Catholic Charities
\$1,100,000

VI
Deaf Ministry
\$39,733

VII
Elementary School
Subsidies and Scholarships
\$1,703,125

VIII
Evangelization
and Catechesis
\$150,000

IX
High School Scholarships
\$800,000

X
Hospital Chaplains
\$600,000

XI
Latino Ministry
\$350,000

XII
Marriage, Family and Life
\$430,174

XIII
Parishes
\$1,900,000

XIV
Prison Chaplains
\$45,345

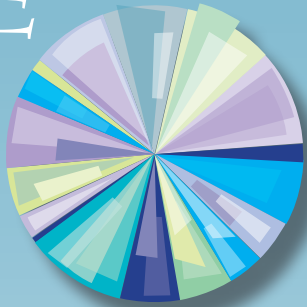
XV
Saint John Vianney
College Seminary
\$300,000

XVI
The Saint Paul Seminary
\$650,000

XVII
Venezuelan Mission
\$204,163

XVIII
Rachel's Vineyard
Twin Cities
\$26,875

WHAT WE DO



THE MISSION of the Catholic Services Appeal Foundation is to work with each of the parishes of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis to conduct an Annual Appeal to fund 18 Collective Catholic Ministries within the Archdiocese that no one parish can support on its own. We coordinate and administer the Appeal on behalf of our parishes, providing them necessary resources and services, along with receiving and distributing gifts from parishioners to and for the benefit of the Collective Ministries, including our parishes.



Sean

Junior at Saint John Vianney College Seminary

"My time in seminary has fostered in me, and I believe every seminarian, a deep desire to love the Lord with everything I have. I want to live my life for others and the greatest gift I can give to another is to help them discover the love of Jesus because He can give them so much more than I ever could."

Susanne

Retreat Participant at Rachel's Vineyard Twin Cities



"When I came to Rachel's Vineyard, I arrived with a 'silver bullet' in my heart. The 'silver bullet' contained all my grief and pain that I had carried since my abortion. Rachel's Vineyard gave me the beautiful gift of healing, the opportunity to ask for forgiveness, and most of all, it gave me the gift of encountering God's infinite love and mercy at a much deeper level that I had not thought was possible!"

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Mi

Senior at Saint Agnes

"The Saint Agnes community motivates me to continue building my relationship with God and others. Honestly, the energy of being around other like-minded Catholics creates such a captivating atmosphere! It allows for the sharing of experiences from different individuals, whose insights can be mind-opening and inspirational."



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