

**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.

ADORATION

(In Historic Church)

Tuesday 9:30-6 p.m.

RECONCILIATION

(In Main Church)

Friday 8-8:45 a.m.

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

Any time by appointment.

First Sunday of Lent***MARCH 5, 2017***

After the Resurrection, our Lord put a very simple, yet profound question to Peter—and Jesus asked him this question three times: “Peter, do you love me?” Now let us replace Peter’s name with our own, because at the heart of our Christian life and all the practices of this Lenten season is this question, and the Lord asks it each and every day: “Do you love me?” . . . “Do you love me?” We would do well to let this question ring deeply in our hearts, during this season of Lent.

Hopefully, our response to this question will always be “yes.” But we also know that this “yes” must translate itself into action, that we must show it by how we live. There are three ways the Church invites us to show our love for Jesus in this season of Lent, and these are: prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

First there is **Prayer**. When we love someone, we want to spend time with them. Prayer is that setting aside of time in the day to be with the Lord in the intimacy of loving silence—to rest in Him, to seek His wisdom, to receive mercy and strength or just to hear Him say, “I love you; let me help you; trust in me.” By opening ourselves to God each day in prayer, God is able to give us the help we need to face whatever comes our way. Prayer becomes related to almsgiving when our prayer includes the needs of others, praying for their salvation or for Divine assistance in a moment of crisis or need.

Fasting is a form of self-denial, a way to show the Lord that we love Him more than the passing pleasures of life. While fasting helps to detach and free us from things that can enslave us, it also helps us to pray with greater peace and fewer distractions. Another grace of voluntary fasting is that it can awaken in our soul a more intense hunger and thirst for God. By fasting, and other forms of self-denial, we are accepting the invitation to pick up our Cross and follow Jesus. The discomfort brought about by fasting unites us to the sufferings of Christ and places us in greater solidarity with all those who suffer. It is easy to become “fair-weather” Christians—friends of the Lord only when things are going our way, when things are easy. Voluntary fasting is one way we can show the Lord that we are willing to share in His passion and Cross, and like St. Paul, to bear our share for the sake of the Church’s growth and renewal. It is

important to remember that fasting for strictly dietary purposes would not be true Christian penance. Fasting becomes Christian only when the motive is for the love of God and for the love of others.

Almsgiving prevents us from becoming selfish, greedy and attached to the things we can buy and own, expanding the heart and making us more generous toward others. Almsgiving reminds us that whatever we do toward another, we do it toward Christ. “Whatever you do unto the least,” Jesus said, “you are doing it to me.” The question “Do you love me?” is the cry of Jesus in every poor person we meet or hear about, in the lonely, the sick, in those who need and ask for our prayers. “Do you love me?” If our answer is “yes,” then we will be able to hear the Lord say in return: “then feed me, clothe me, visit me, listen to me, pray for me, show me love.”

“Do you love me?” Let us use this time of Lent to answer this question the Lord puts to you and me—not just with our lips—but with generous lives of prayer, self-denial and almsgiving.

Jesus bless you and keep you always close to His heart,

Fr. Steven

COR JESU

Meaning “Heart of Jesus,” Cor Jesu is a moving opportunity to worship Christ in community with the Church through Eucharistic adoration, confession, praise and worship, benediction and fellowship.

Join college age and young adults for these evenings at St. Mary’s Chapel at the Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity, 2260 Summit Avenue, in St. Paul, at 8 p.m. on the following first Fridays: April 7 and May 5.

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YOUTH NEWS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAM

First Communion Program

Saturday, March 11 is the Mini-Retreat for all students in the First Communion Program. Please drop off your students by 9 a.m. Parents will return at 11:30 a.m. for a rehearsal, pot luck lunch and banner making. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Raible at kraible@stpetersmendota.org or at 651-905-4311.

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, 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 the child we sponsor in Uganda. We will continue to collect money through Lent.

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!

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WORKCAMP



Join Us For Workcamp!

All high school youth are invited to join Elizabeth and the rest of the Workcamp Team, as we travel to Covington, Tennessee from June 24 through July 1! Spend a week being the hands and feet of Christ for the people of Covington, all while making new friends, having fun and eating lots of Dairy Queen! Make sure to sign up today! For an information packet and application, please email Elizabeth McCanna at emccanna@stpetersmendota.org or call her at 651-905-4312.

OFFICE INFORMATION

- ♦ Father Steven Hoffman: 651-452-4550
- ♦ Deacon Tim Hennessey: 651-905-4301

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Phone: 651-452-4550

Email: church@stpetersmendota.org

BAPTISMS, NEW PARISHIONERS, WEDDINGS

Call the parish office for more information.

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Submit via website, to Mary LeClair

(maryleclair62@gmail.com) or call the parish office.

YOUNG ADULTS NEEDED FOR TEACHING THIS SUMMER

Apply to be a team member for the Totus Tuus Summer Catechetical Program. We are in need of college age men and women who feel called to share their Catholic faith with the youth from local parishes around the Archdiocese. Positions are a 2-month commitment (June 2 to July 29), which includes one week of training and one week break for the 4th of July. Each team member will receive \$2,520 for their work. Find application forms at www.archspm.org/TotusTuus.



VOLUNTEERS AND TOYS NEEDED



Toy Collection

We are working to provide childcare opportunities for families, during some of our events here at St. Peter's. We need your help. We won't be able to begin offering this to families, unless some parishioners come forward to watch the children. Training is required and

provided.

Also, please consider donating gently used or new toys. We will gratefully accept toys for all ages, puzzles and games. Please, no used stuffed animals, toys in need of repair or violence themed toys such as toy weapons.

Donations may be left in the marked bin in the coatroom. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Anne O'Keefe, Community Life Coordinator, or Lisa Amos, Pastoral Associate at 651-452-4550. Thank you!



ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER



Come join us on Friday, March 17, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., for a St. Patrick's Day dinner. The Catholic Watchmen, the Council of Catholic Women and the Men's Club will be serving corned beef brisket with cabbage, large carrots, large and small boiled potatoes with parsley and butter, rutabagas and onions, Irish soda bread, Polish rye bread, beverages and assorted Irish desserts. All proceeds will go to the Adoration Chapel project. The cost is \$15 for an adult, \$25 for 2 adults and \$35 for a family. RSVP's are not required, but we will have a sign-up sheet in the gathering space, so we can get a tentative count. We look forward to seeing you there!

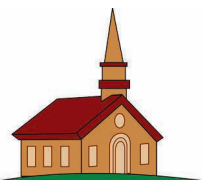
We received a letter from the Archdiocese which states: "Archbishop Hebda has granted to the faithful of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, as well as any visitors or travelers, who may be physically present within the territory of this Archdiocese, a dispensation from the obligation of abstinence from meat on March 17, 2017. Those taking advantage of the dispensation, however, are exhorted to undertake a work of charity, an exercise of piety or an act of comparable penance on some other occasion during the Second Week of Lent."

~ Susan Mulheron, JCL, Chancellor of Canonical Affairs.

ARCHDIOCESAN MEN'S CONFERENCE

Join men of all ages and walks of life from around the Archdiocese on Saturday, March 18, at Anderson Fieldhouse at the University of St. Thomas, 2115 Summit Avenue, in St. Paul, for a morning filled with faith and fellowship. Archbishop Hebda will speak on *Lessons from Saint Joseph, the Ultimate Watchman*. This event begins at 8 a.m. and runs until 1 p.m. (Doors open at 7 a.m. for Adoration and Confession).

The conference includes: Mass, breakfast, dynamic speakers and a Eucharistic procession around the UST campus. Cost: \$25 per adult; \$10 per student (up to high school senior). Special group discount: Order 5 tickets for the price of 4! Please pre-register at archspm.org/events. If you have questions, contact Enzo Randazzo at randazzov@archspm.org or 651-291-4483.



*Come as a Guest
Leave as a Friend*

PERPETUAL ADORATION IS COMING TO ST. PETER'S

"Come and spend some quality time with Me!" These are the words that Jesus calls out to all of us. As many of you have heard, Fr. Steven recently made an announcement that St. Peter's will institute Perpetual Adoration in the near future. What a privilege this is for us as individuals and as a parish! An Adoration Chapel is currently being created at St. Peter's. What Perpetual Adoration means is that 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, Jesus can be "visited" in the Blessed Sacrament, encased in a Monstrance, where He is fully present in Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. On any day, at any time, you can come to St. Peter's Adoration Chapel to experience the full presence of Jesus and spend quality time with Him, which He longs for.

There are currently approximately 43 Perpetual Adoration Chapels in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. It was St. John Paul II's hope that one day all Catholic parishes, all over the world, would have a Perpetual Adoration Chapel. St. Peter's is doing its part in making that hope a reality! We have put together a team of parishioners to create a process that will establish a strong and vibrant Adoration program. We hope that all parishioners will be part of this wonderful opportunity to experience the love of Jesus in this special way.

Over the next few months, there will be group meetings to learn about Perpetual Adoration, the benefits to our parish and to individuals, how you may get involved, and how we will, ultimately, give glory and praise to Jesus. Hopefully all of you can attend one of these meetings. More information to follow over the next weeks. God bless you all and all are welcome!

For more information you may contact Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or lamos@stpetersmendota.org or Mark Mischke at 651-481-6900.

UGANDAN MISSION TEAM FISH DINNER

Save the date for a tilapia fish dinner on Friday, April 7, from 5 to 7 p.m. The food will be provided by the Ugandan Mission Team. Free will offerings will be gladly accepted. All funds collected will be used to help fund the projects that we will be doing while on our mission trip to Uganda in June.



Mark your calendars now and please plan to join us!

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.

Parish Pastoral Council Email:

ParishPastoralCouncil@stpetersmendota.org

Trustees:

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

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 5

Sunday:	Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11
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, 7c-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 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9

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MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, March 6	† Joseph Guild
Tuesday, March 7	† Arnold & Margaret Mehsikomer
Wednesday, March 8	Mark Linnell
Thursday, March 9	† Paige Duncan
Friday, March 10	Mulrooney Family
Saturday, March 11	† Julian Kaeder
Sunday, March 5, 9 a.m.	Jack Mayers
11 a.m.	Mass For The People



"It is written: One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that

comes forth from the mouth of God."



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR: MARCH 6

Monday, March 6

9 am	Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
6 pm	St. Paul Civic Symphony, Heritage Center
6 pm	Cub Scout Den meeting, Classroom 4
6:30 pm	Boy Scout Committee Meeting, Conference Room 1
7 pm	Boy Scout Meeting, Ravoux Room
7 pm	ENDOW, Youth Room
7 pm	Perpetual Adoration Meeting, Historic Church

Tuesday, March 7

	Loaves and Fishes, Off Campus
9 am	Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
9:30 am	Adoration Before the Blessed Sacrament until 6 pm, Historic Church
9:30 am	Women's Bible Study, Classroom 10
6:30 pm	Lent Speaker Series, Heritage Center

Wednesday, March 8

9 am	Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
9:45 am	Divine Mercy Cenacle, Conference Room 1
1:00 pm	Communications Meeting, Conference Rm 1
4:30 pm	RE Grades 1-4, Classrooms
5:30 pm	Workcamp Meeting, Youth Room
6:30 pm	RE Grades 1-8, Classrooms
6:30 pm	Perissos, Heritage Center
7 pm	Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

Thursday, March 9

9 am	Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
9:45 am	Small Faith Group, Classroom 10
6:30 pm	RCIA, Conference Room 1
7 pm	AA Meeting, Classroom 5

Friday, March 10

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

Saturday, March 11

9 am	First Communion Mini Retreat, Classrooms
10 am	Saturday Scripture Study, Conference Rm 1
3:30 pm	Confession, Main Church
4:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
5 pm	Mass, Main Church
6 pm	Bags for Minnesota FoodShare distributed

Sunday, March 12 - Hospitality Sunday hosted by Mom's Club

8:30 & 10:30 am	Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
9 am	Mass, Main Church
9 am & 11 am	Liturgy of the Word for Children, Classroom 10
9 am	Sunday School, Classrooms
10 am & 12 pm	Bags for Minnesota FoodShare distributed, Gathering Space
10:20 am	Rosary for St. Peter's Parish, Historic Church
11 am	Mass, Penitential Rite (Scrutiny) RCIA, Main Church

PASTORAL MINISTRY

FOLLOWING JESUS

“Lead Us Not Into Temptation” When we pray the Our Father, we ask God to help us in times of temptation. What are the areas of temptation in your life? When you pray the Our Father each day, ask the Father to help you specifically in those areas where you are often tempted.



LENT SPEAKER SERIES 2017

Living by the Power of the Holy Spirit Through Faith, Hope and Love

St. Peter's will hold a Lenten Speaker Series on Tuesday, March 7, 14, and 28, in Heritage Center, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., beginning with the speaker and ending with refreshments and fellowship.

Among the gifts given to us in our baptism by the Holy Spirit are three powerful virtues: Faith, Hope and Love. Come and join us as we set out to deepen our understanding of how to live by these virtues and lean on them in moments of doubt and fear, weakness and discouragement. Everyone is welcome. We invite you to bring a friend! Following the speaker, refreshments will be served.

Topics and speakers are:

March 7: The Gift of Faith with Fr. Steven Hoffman

March 14: The Gift of Love with Fr. Andrew Jaspers

March 28: The Gift of Hope with Elizabeth Kelly

Childcare will be provided for children ages 6 months to 11 years. **Registration for the childcare is REQUIRED in advance one week prior to attendance.**

I AM BELOVED

You are invited to spend a morning of retreat reflecting on what it means to believe that you are a beloved daughter or son of God. It is important to embrace wholeheartedly the truth of your beloved-ness. One of the first and most important steps to discipleship is acceptance of the Divine love that is unconditionally ours. Only then can we begin to explore how Christ invites us to respond to His love.

Choose from 2 dates! Wednesday, March 22, OR Saturday, March 25, 9:30 a.m. to 1p.m.

All participants must register by Friday, March 17. Please contact our parish office at 651-452-4550 or Lisa Amos at 651-905-4303 or amos@stpetersmendota.org to register.

Childcare (for ages 6 months to 11 years) is available for SATURDAY session ONLY, with advance registration by Wednesday, March 15. We will begin our retreat in the Main Church for Adoration together. FREE WILL donations will be gratefully accepted. A light soup lunch will be served.

CATHOLICS AT THE CAPITOL

On Thursday, March 9, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., join Minnesota's bishops, dynamic speakers and over a thousand Catholics from across the state for a day of inspiration and advocacy at our State Capitol.

Be inspired by dynamic Church leaders and the power of prayer. **Be informed** about the critical issues impacting life and human dignity in Minnesota. **Be equipped** to effectively engage your elected officials. Participation includes access to the morning program with the Minnesota bishops and guests, Bishop James Conley and Gloria Purvis, advocacy training workshops, coordinated legislative visits with fellow Catholics from your area and more. For more information visit www.catholicsatthecapitol.org.

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

We have not yet reached our parish goal for the Catholic Services Appeal. Until we reach this goal, we will not receive the 25% refund to our parish. If you have not yet given your gift in support of the 17 Collective Ministries of this Archdiocese to the Catholic Services Appeal, please prayerfully consider God's gifts in your life and consider making a pledge. There are additional pledge cards available in the office and on the information counter in the gathering space.



2017 MARCH FOOD DRIVE

For more than three decades, the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign has been making a HUGE difference in relieving hunger throughout the state. This grass-roots campaign is the ONLY ONE of its kind in the entire nation – and it is right here in Minnesota. It is a wonderful resource for all of Minnesota's food shelves. Neighbors, Inc. is grateful for everyone's donations and appreciates how carefully people have shopped for items needed throughout the year.

Our parish's goal for this year's campaign is to collect 4,500 pounds/dollars for Neighbors, Inc. Special grocery bags will be distributed today and again on March 11 and 12. Please consider filling these bags with your food donations and returning them to St. Peter's by April 2. Each dollar donated is the equivalent to one pound of food. You may place your monetary donation in the collection basket at Mass. Please mark envelopes clearly, make checks payable to Neighbors, Inc. and note "Church of St. Peter" on the check's memo line. You may also donate at www.neighborsmn.org/donate-neighbors.

Total to date (food and cash): 90 pounds

"You pray for the hungry. Then you feed them. That is how prayer works." ~ Pope Francis

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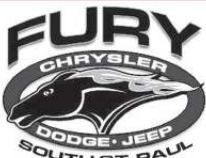
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Lenten Speaker Series

Living by the Power of the Holy Spirit Through Faith, Hope and Love

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