

Church of ST. PETER MENDOTA

Welcome Fr. Steven!

October 26, 2014
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 651-452-4550

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
Ed Overell, 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:

Sara Rogers 651-905-4308

OFFICE STAFF:

Darlene Olson, Communications Coord. 651-905-4302

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

Saturdays 4 to 4:45 pm or 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 Pastoral Associate

This weekend we hear from Matthew one of the most well-known passages from his Gospel. This is understandable; the simplicity of its message is appealing, the seeming lightheartedness of its message compelling. Love God. Love others. Easy, right?

Why, then, is it paired this weekend with the passages from Exodus and Thessalonians? They are not lighthearted, nor are they simple. It is because, despite its apparent straightforwardness, the words of Matthew are meant to challenge us.

Jesus doesn't tell the questioning scholar to "love God a lot." He says that the greatest and first commandment is to love God with everything he has, everything he is. That is no small task. What Jesus is teaching is radical. It's difficult, especially today. Especially when the world around us thinks so very differently than Jesus.

It's a simple message. Simple is not the same as easy. How many of us have chosen to go to a sporting event on a Sunday morning rather than come to church and show God our love? How many t-shirts do we proudly wear with favorite teams, charities, TV shows, and personal accomplishments? On the other hand, how many do we wear that acclaim our love for the God who has given us our very lives? I counted my own; I have 13 of the former and only 3 of the latter.

Jesus' words become even more challenging when seen through the lens of the reading from Exodus. Jesus says, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Jesus doesn't teach these two commandments separately. It's not a casual connection. Loving God with everything we have is what drives the love of neighbor. For us this means that when we love God with all our heart, soul, and mind, we cannot fail to love our neighbor. All of our neighbors. Exodus speaks specifically about "aliens," immigrants of the time, the poor, the outcast. So, then, the next question has to be, "who is neighbor?"

If we are actively loving God with all of who we are and all we have to give, then neighbor is defined in the context of God, rather than politics. Catholic teaching, and Christian love for that matter, isn't bound by the political boundaries of countries. It recognizes no division between "us" and "them." I won't go into the politics of immigration law in America here but I would challenge each of us to consider our own beliefs in light of today's readings. Let us educate ourselves about what God and

Church have to teach us about this subject rather than TV commercials and blogs.

Where else in our lives will this passage challenge us? It should play a part in every choice we make, however small or large. Jesus is commanding us to apply this test to every part of our lives. Was our coffee this morning the fruit of exploitation? Does our rhetoric about the Ebola crisis reflect care and compassion or fear and segregation? When we encounter those whose families look different from our own do we truly see them as neighbor? Do we judge their food choices when they pay with food stamps? Do we dismiss their value to society based on their tattoos, body piercings, or their clothing? Do we believe them less deserving of our compassion because they aren't native English speakers, or because they have a different name for God? Even the best of us are influenced by the secularism of the world we live in. It doesn't make us bad people, or even bad Christians. It does mean we have to pay closer attention to our interactions with others. It calls us to work harder in the Lord's name. Jesus doesn't say, "Love your neighbor, if she deserves it or he has earned it." I, for one, am very grateful he didn't. If God only loved those who deserve God, none of us would be included. So who are we, in the light of God's own example, to set conditions on our love?

I challenge us, all of us, to ask three very simple questions of ourselves. "Am I thinking this, saying this, or doing this out of love for God?" "Is what I am about to think, or say, or do an expression of God's love for me?" "If I think, or say, or do this am I a faithful imitator of the Lord?" If the answer is no to any of these, then I believe we fall short of Jesus' answer to the questioning scholar. We stop shy of this greatest and first commandment and the next. Let's all try just a little harder, and with more honesty, to love God with everything we are, everything we have, and to love our neighbors—all of our neighbors—without exception.

This weekend we welcome our new pastor, Fr. Steven. I don't doubt that this community, which welcomed me so well when I first came, will welcome him with the love of Christ poured out. Thank you for the prayers, patience, and commitment you have shown to this community. The love of God has shone brightly at St. Peter's throughout the last several months, and surely will continue in this next chapter of our parish history. May God bless you.



Come as a Guest
Leave as a Friend

Religious Education/ Faith Formation (RE/FF)

Don't forget **individually-wrapped Halloween candy** to share with the poor children of Kentucky. A box for your donation is located in the coat room of the Main Church and the office entrance until Sunday, November 9.



All Souls Mass



This year the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day) falls on Sunday. This is a special time to remember all of our loved ones who have gone before us in faith. At all three weekend Masses we will remember—by name—all of those we celebrated a Mass of Christian Burial for or were members of our parish community. Please hold all who have died in your prayers during the month of November.

All Saints Day Mass

This year, the Solemnity of All Saints falls on a Saturday. This means that it is not a Holy Day of Obligation and Sunday Masses (including the 5 p.m. on Saturday night) will be celebrated as the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, or All Souls. For those of you who would like to observe All Saints Day, a 9 a.m. Mass will be celebrated in the Historic Church on Saturday, November 1. Although this Saturday morning Mass will not satisfy the Sunday obligation, we hope that you will consider joining us to celebrate this meaningful day.



Fall Festival Profit and Thank You



Well, the numbers are in... and we raised **over \$27,000** at our Fall Festival this year! It's a great achievement for our parish and we couldn't have done it without you. Between the volunteers, the donors, and all the attendees, we were grateful to see so many people involved. We hope you felt the strong sense of community that we did that day.

We've said it before and we'll say it again: **THANK YOU** for your generous support of our Fall Festival and the Church of St. Peter!

Pastoral Ministry

Scripture Study with Fr. Stephen Adrian

Apart from the Passion Narratives of the Gospel, no part of scripture has engaged the mind and heart of women and men as have the first two chapters of the Gospels of Matthew and Luke—the Christmas Story. These four chapters of scripture have inspired authors, composers, artists, and poets.

Each of these two authors tells the story, but very differently. Together they have been merged into the one Christmas Story, but taken separately they open doors to a deeper understanding of the mystery of God in human flesh and the purpose of Jesus' life.

Often the last part of a work an author writes is the "Introduction," the "Forward," or the "Preface." The purpose of the forward or preface is to introduce the reader to the purpose and theme of the author and the manner in which the author will proceed in developing the theme.

These first two chapters in Matthew and Luke are in introductions to the Gospel.

Scripture Study Topic: The Infancy Narratives, Matthew 1-2; Luke 1-2

When: Thursdays, November 6, 13, 20 and December 4, 11, 18, 6:30-8 p.m.

Presenter/Leader: Fr. Stephen Adrian

Location: Heritage Center, St. Peter, Mendota

There is no fee for this study, but your preregistration will be appreciated so that we may prepare a sufficient number of resource packets. To register, please contact Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or lamos@stpetersmendota.org



New Parishioner Registration

Interested in joining the parish? New parishioner registration will be held after all Masses **November 1 and 2** in the Gathering Space. You can also register by clicking on the "Community/Join St. Peter's" link on the parish website.

St. Peter's Community News

Annual Giving

Weekly Contribution Summary:

Budget for period of Oct. 13-Oct. 19, 2014.....	\$22,473
Actual for period of Oct. 13-Oct 19, 2014.....	\$17,222
Year to Date Budget	\$248,008
Year to Date Actual	\$222,002

Don't Forget to Turn in Your Commitment Card

We are still in the midst of our annual Stewardship Renewal. If you haven't returned your commitment card, you can mail it to the parish or complete one online by going to our parish website. Returning your card is an important part of being an active member of St. Peter's. Please take this opportunity to express your support for our parish with your time, talent and treasure. Thank you to those of you who have already returned your card!

Thanksgiving and Christmas Pie Sale



St. Peter's Council of Catholic Women is sponsoring a Thanksgiving and Christmas Pie Sale in conjunction with Perkins Restaurant on Robert Street.

Orders will be taken on November 1 and 2 and again on November 8 and 9 in the Gathering Space. Pies can be picked up at Perkins on the day you determine. They will give us back \$3 for every pie ordered. All proceeds will be used towards St. Peter's Debt Reduction.

It's a Wonderful Life

Back by popular demand is a special performance of "It's a Wonderful Life—a Live Radio Broadcast Play" at The Saint Paul Hotel on Wednesday, December 10. Tickets are \$25 each and all of the proceeds go to Neighbors. Buy your tickets in advance! (Groups are also welcome to attend—ask about group specials.) For more information, visit: www.neighborsmn.org



Giving Tree

It may seem early to think about Christmas and the Giving Tree, but there are so many things that need to be done by those who work with the program that it is necessary to begin now so we have things ready for the families before Christmas. If you are aware of someone, yourself or others, in need of Christmas gifts from the parish, please use one of the flyers available in the Gathering Space to recommend them for the Giving Tree by November 9. Your help in identifying recipients is very important. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Amos at 651.905.4304 or lamos@stpetersmendota.org.



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 6 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

Walk to End Hunger

The annual 5K (non-competitive) Walk to End Hunger will be held Thanksgiving morning at the Mall of America. Create a team from your church or sign up with your family—either way it's a great tradition to give back before giving thanks. For more information, visit www.walktoendhunger.org. Remember to select Neighbors as your partner organization!

Hearing and Vision Aids Available for Mass

If you find it hard to hear at Mass or your ability to participate is inhibited by difficulty reading the hymnal or worship aids, we can help with that. Please see one of our friendly ushers and let them know of your need. We have hearing devices and magnifiers available for you to use while you're here. Thank you.

The Week of October 27

Monday, October 27

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

Tuesday, October 28

- 9 am **Mass, Historic Church** (8:40 rosary)
 Adoration Before Blessed Sacrament
 After the 9 am Mass Until 6 pm
 9:45 am Women's Bible Study,
 Conference Room I, Ravoux Room

Wednesday, October 29

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

Thursday, October 30

- 9 am **Mass, Historic Church** (8:40 rosary)
 7 pm Alcoholics Anonymous, Room 5
 7 pm Al-Anon, Room 7
 7 pm Teen Al-Anon, Room 6

Friday, October 31

- 9 am **Mass, Historic Church** (8:40 rosary)

Saturday, November 1—All Saints Day

- 9 am **Mass, Historic Church**
 9 and 10:30 am
 Alcoholics Anonymous, Rooms 2, 4
 10 am Scripture Study, Conference Room I
 4 pm **Reconciliation, Main Church**
 4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
 5 pm **Mass, Main Church**
 After Mass:
 Council of Catholic Women Pie Sale
 New Parishioner Registration

Sunday, November 2—The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed (All Souls)

- 8:30 & 10:30 am
 Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
 9 am **Mass, Main Church**
 9 am Sunday School
 9 & 11 am Liturgy of the Word for Children
 10 am Confirmation Class
 10 am The Joy of the Gospel Book Club,
 Conference Room I
 11 am **Mass, Main Church**
 After Masses:
 Council of Catholic Women Pie Sale
 New Parishioner Registration
 6:30 pm Youth Group

Parish Pastoral Council

Sarah Larsen, Chair..... 612-384-1474
 Lance Miller, Vice-Chair..... 952-432-6957
 Alice Sheeler, Secretary..... 651-457-8119
 Mary Pat Ferraro..... 651-454-1091
 Anne Hallgren..... 651-702-6465
 Paul Hirsch..... 651-431-1832
 Maria Schwartz..... 651-452-1796
 Nancy Stanton..... 651-686-9009
 Joseph Towle 651-683-9250
 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 October 26

Sunday: Ex 22:20-26/1 Thes 1:5c-10/
Mt 22:34-40
Monday: Eph 4:32--5:8/Lk 13:10-17
Tuesday: Eph 2:19-22/Lk 6:12-16
Wednesday: Eph 6:1-9/Lk 13:22-30
Thursday: Eph 6:10-20/Lk 13:31-35
Friday: Phil 1:1-11/Lk 14:1-6
Saturday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a
Next Sunday: Wis 3:1-9/Rom 5:5-11 or Rom 6:3-9/
Jn 6:37-40

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Mass Intentions

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

Monday, October 27 - †Tom Thill

Tuesday, October 28 - †Ralph Schloegl

Wednesday, October 29 - †Erin O'Keefe

Thursday, Oct. 30 - †Raymond & †Doris LeClaire

Friday, October 31 - Tom O'Neill

Saturday, Nov. 1 - 9 a.m. - Mass For the People
5 p.m. - Mass For the Dead

Sunday, November 2 - 9 a.m. - Mass for the Dead
11 a.m. - Mass For the Dead

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Minute Memo from Ms. Shimshock

*W*hat do you expect from the day ahead? Knowing today is a gift, maybe we can celebrate more fully the small joys that we sometimes take for granted—the crisp fall air, the smell of fresh cookies from the oven, the crunch of the leaves under our feet, the warmth of mittens on a cold morning. This time of year with the change of seasons gives us even more reasons to celebrate all that God has given us as his followers.

*This is the day the Lord has made,
we will rejoice and be glad in it.*

~Psalm 118

In October at Faithful Shepherd, the fifth graders had the opportunity to celebrate the day with their grandparents/special friends. The day started with a special Mass and included a breakfast, tours of the school and pictures to remember the event. It was a wonderful day! Also in October, our third through eighth graders took their Iowa Test of Basic Skills tests. These standardized tests guide us in curriculum decisions while giving a snapshot of each student's academic skills. Our students do very well on these tests, scoring in the upper 25th percentile with students around the nation. We have been busy!

Autumn Blessings,
Ms. Shimshock

Thank You from Faithful Shepherd Catholic School

The students, staff and families at Faithful Shepherd would like to thank St. Peter's parishioners for their support and prayers. In gratitude, Faithful Shepherd families are serving in liturgical ministries during Masses this weekend. They will also help us welcome Fr. Steven by assisting to serve cake after Masses. We welcome you to stop by the Faithful Shepherd informational table in the Gathering Space to allow us the opportunity to say 'Thank You!' in person and learn more about Faithful Shepherd Catholic School and Catholic education.

Appalachian Christmas Drive/ "Papal Footprints" Collection



We now have the boxes for the Appalachian Christmas drive placed outside the coatroom and the office entrance of the church. A few shoeboxes, along with some flyers for the "Papal Footprints" shoebox collection will also be available. This is a project that children might like to be involved in by choosing some necessary things, (toothbrushes, toothpaste, bar soap, deodorant (no liquids)) and some not so necessary things (hair bands or clips, little craft kits, Matchbox cars, Lego sets, etc.) Maybe even some hard candy. Indicate on the flyer for which age group the box is intended.

Don't forget the wrapped candy! These children seldom get sweet treats to enjoy.

THANK YOU TO ALL!

The Appalachian Committee

St. Peter's Fall Group Tour The Museum of Russian Art

Join us for another St. Peter's group tour. On Wednesday, November 5, we will be visiting The Museum of Russian Art where we will have a private tour with a docent. The tour will include their featured exhibit—"Life on the Edge of the Forest: Russian Traditions in Wood." This exhibition will focus on the folk traditions of Russian woodworking as well as how the Russian forest played a role in cultural identity and the traditional way of life. Specifically it will examine three perspectives of Russian traditions in wood: wood as building and crafts material; forests as sustainable ecosystems for renewable resources that support life in Russian communities; and the forest as a spiritual and cultural resource that inspires artists and folktales while also serving as a component of cultural identity.

The bus will depart from St. Peter's following the 9 a.m. Mass, at approximately 9:45. Following the tour, as well as some free time to explore as you see fit, we will have a traditional Russian meal at Moscow on the Hill. We will return to St. Peter's by 2 p.m. Reservations must be made by Friday, October 31; cost is \$35/person and includes transportation, tour, and lunch. To make reservations or for more information, contact Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or lamos@stpetersmendota.org.

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CHURCH OF ST. PETER

Prayer of Remembrance for Our Parish Dead

Month of November 2014



*Listen kindly to our prayers, O Lord,
and, as our faith in your Son,
Raised from the dead, is deepened,
so may our hope of resurrection for your departed servants also find
new strength.*

*Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in
the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.*

*~Collect (formerly called the Opening Prayer),
First Mass, All Souls Day*

For all the faithful who have died we pray, but in particular for

***Bill Amadick
Edward Murphy
Virginia Roden
Patrick Worth
Peg Smith
John Morson
John Slater
Rheta Oster
Paul Clements
Florence Reid
Francis Daniel
Elsie Clare Stiennon
Jack Conway
Laverne Carlson
Helen Ekblad***

***Gregory Jenniges
Peggy Madden
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Christopher Wiesner
Rodger Wolfgram
Lloyd Cizek
Mary Margaret Tierney Trettel
Chas Stuns
Carol Grayson
Mark Toetschinger***

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace.

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

Amen.

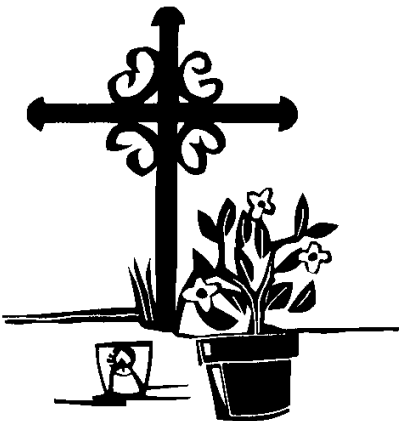
†A remembrance book to write the names of your deceased loved ones will be placed in the Main Church through the month of November.

-OVER-

NOVEMBER

“The Close of the Liturgical Year”

November brings us to the end of the liturgical year, beginning with the Solemnity of All Saints on November 1 and ending with the final Sunday of the year, The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King. As we draw closer to the end of the year, the focus of our Sunday readings turns to the end of time. We are challenged to examine our own lives in terms of their final, last moments.



On All Saints Day we come to realize that, like our brothers and sisters who have gone before us, we are called to holiness of life and perfect union with God one day in heaven. All Souls Day reminds us of our need to pray for the dead who are being purified.

As in the Gospel, the wedding party waiting at the groom's house need to have their lamps prepared and burning to be ever ready. We too are challenged to be prepared, since we know neither the day nor the hour.

We are also challenged to be good stewards of that which God has entrusted to us. We have an obligation to care for these goods, but also to use them wisely, in order to help the Kingdom grow.

And finally, our actions need to be in line with our words. It is not what we say that is significant, but what we do. Have we been willing to take risks because of the Kingdom? The task of building up the Kingdom of God in the present continues. May the presence of Christ in the Eucharist move us to make a gift of our very self so that our world might have life!