

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: Growing In Faith Together (G.I.F.T.)

Dear Parishioners,

Congratulations to Sue Serbus who received the Diocesan Distinguished Service Award, along with three others, last Monday evening at the Bishop Lucker Lecture. Thank you to her for all her service, not only to our parish as cantor/choir member, but also in service to the County and Catholic Charities.

In our Gospel this week, we hear of the woman caught in the act of adultery. They crowds brought her to Jesus that He should be trapped between Mercy and Justice, the false dichotomy that continues. He accepts the challenge telling them that the one without sin can exact justice. He Himself was the only one present without sin (we have no indication the Blessed Mother, free from sin by grace, was present). He pardons her, but does not mince words, either. She is forgiven but is to change her life. He calls her to justice with mercy! He displays that mercy is a display of power and justice.

The Spiritual work of mercy, "to forgive sins willingly" is a difficult one. When we are harmed, our natural inclination is to lash out, form alliances, begin the gossip circles. We might see forgiveness as complacency - that what the person did was alright. That is not the case, however. When we forgive, we are letting go of our need for retaliation. Note, too, that it is not always possible to reconcile with the other, that too much damage has been done or that the other does not see the issues and continues to hurt. But when we forgive, we stop drinking the poison of resentment, and trust in God's mercy to bring justice. Consider this week: Is there anyone I am holding unforgiveness or resentment? Ask the Lord for the grace to be merciful as He is merciful to us.

With Mercy in mind, I ask yours regarding my planned pilgrimage next Fall. To many, no explanation is needed, to others no explanation suffices. NEVER did I intend to send the message that the Parishes' financial situation is not important to me. NEVER was it part of the plan to take a 'vacation' (elaborate or otherwise) financed by the parish or you directly (which is ILLEGAL) or even indirectly (except through my salary). Yet, those rumors exist and persist. Because of this, I have decided, after consulting with Bishop LeVoor, that my only option is to cancel the pilgrimage. I am not going to try to explain or justify any further. I apologize, and I humbly ask forgiveness.

In Christ,
Fr. Todd J. Petersen



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

March 13 - 20, 2016

5th Sunday of Lent, March 13

- Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 8 AM Mass, Nicollet
- 9 AM Men's Breakfast & Raffle, Nicollet
- 10 AM Mass (+Lois Pettis), St. Peter
- 10 AM Faith Formation Preschool-Gr 1
- 11 AM Coffee & Donuts, SH
- 5:30 PM Mass (+Parish Family), St. Peter
- 7 PM LifeTeen, Social Hall

Monday

- 8 AM Mass (+Kathy Schaus), Chapel
- 9 AM Bible Study, Family Room
- 7 PM APC, St. Paul's

Tuesday

- 8 AM Mass (+Eugene & Genevieve Silkey), Chapel
- 3 PM School Choir, Band Room

Wednesday

- 8 AM Mass, Nicollet
- No JIS Prayer Church
- 6:30 PM FF Grade 2-8
- 6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir, Band Room

Thursday

- 8:15 AM School Mass (+Ken Pufpaff), Church
- 1-10 PM Eucharistic Adoration, Chapel
- 3:30 PM Confessions
- 6:30 PM RCIA, Family Room
- 7 PM Chrism Mass, St. Mary's, Sleepy Eye

Friday

- 8 AM Mass (+James & Nancy Vetter), Chapel
- 8:30 AM Stations, Church

Saturday

- 9 AM LOI Run, Church
- 4 PM Mass (+Jim Littig), St. Peter
- 5-7 PM JI Luck of the Irish Dinner, Fairgrounds
- 5-11 PM JI Luck of the Irish Events, Fairgrounds

Palm Sunday, March 20

- Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 8 AM Mass, Nicollet
- 10 AM Mass (+Parish Family), St. Peter
- 10 AM Faith Formation Preschool-Gr 1
- 11 AM Coffee & Donuts, SH
- 7 PM LifeTeen, Social Hall

DAILY READINGS

Monday: Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62/ John 8:12-20
Tuesday: Numbers 21:4-9, 12 / John 8:21-30
Wednesday: Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95
Thursday: Genesis 17:3-9/John 8:51-59
Friday: Jeremiah 20:10-13 / John 10:31-42
Saturday: 2 Samuel 7:4-5, 12-14, 16 / Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22 / Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24
Sunday: Luke 19:28-40/Philippians 2:6-11/Luke 22:14 23:56

Coffee and Donuts

Please join us on Sunday mornings in the Social Hall as we enjoy community and Coffee & Donuts after the 10 AM Mass.

Volunteers for March 20th: Glen & Deb Schilling

**Make a difference by leaving a gift to
the Church of St. Peter in your will.**

Learning at John Ireland is a **BLAST!**

Registration for 2016-2017 now open!

John Ireland School is a Catholic community welcoming students of all faiths, devoted to Gospel Values, Academic Excellence, and Christian Service.

“At John Ireland we have SAC. It is really fun for me. I also enjoy learning new things in science. We made a food chain. I love to talk about God and lead prayer. I like to help my classmates.”
-Jaxson Schaefer, 2nd Grade

March 12, 2016

www.churchofstpeter.org/ji



Catholic School



CHURCH OF ST. PETER THRIFT and CONSIGNMENT STORE
(507) 931-9150

If you are spring cleaning remember
the Thrift Store. We will gladly take your
gently used items!

50% off: Cookbooks and vases
For Sale: Fern stand, oak quilt rack,
side tables, and walkers.

We are looking for good, clean used furniture.
If you have any to donate/consign that would
be greatly appreciated!

We are in need of several volunteers for aiding in the decorations, especially during Holy Week. Needed especially are individuals willing to climb ladders, lift and carry things, etc.

Please contact Fr. Todd.



St. Peter Public Access TV - Channel 7

- ◆ Church of St. Peter Sunday Mass:
Mondays – 7 pm Tuesday - 9 am
- ◆ **“The Ten Commandments - #2”**

Fr. Benedict Groeschel explores the Ten Commandments in this twelve-part series. Founder of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal in the South Bronx, Fr. Groeschel brings his knowledge of Scripture and pastoral experience to the table in each half-hour episode. He does not seek to provide an exhaustive explanation of each of the Commandments, but instead he seeks to give a small sampling of what each of the Commandments mean and how they can impact our lives in the twenty-first century. Episode 1 introduces the series, episodes 2 through 11 examine each Commandment individually, and episode 12 summarizes what has been learned.

Wednesday, March 16 @ 9 pm

Thursday, March 17 @ 10 am

We are need of Ushers for Saturday
evening mass. If interested, please
contact the office @ 931-1628



CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

Court St. Peter #1601 held their regular meeting on Thursday, March 8th, beginning with a presentation from the Minnesota Historical Society (Traverse des Sioux Treaty Center). Meeting followed and thank you to all the members who provided items/money for the food shelter.

Thank you also to the member that volunteered to be on the audit committee which will meet following our April meeting. MARK YOUR CALENDAR as we will be having our semi-annual Salad Luncheon on April 20th and the monthly chair gals will be contacting you shortly.

Our May meeting is our "fun night out" and this is being planned and more information will be forthcoming.

We welcome Stella Meixner, officially, to membership in Court #1601, and we invite any lady who would like to join our organization to attend one of our meetings and, hopefully join us. You do not have to wait to join until Reception of New Members.

Regents next outing is March 20th. Meet at the Community Center at 5 pm.

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The American Legion Fish Fry

Every Friday during Lent

Time: 5:30-8 PM

Cost: \$12.00

Steak fry - available the 2nd Saturday of the month

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"Men's Fish Fry"

Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, New Ulm

Friday, March 18 from 4-8 pm.

Menu: All You Can Eat Batter Fried Cod,
scalloped potatoes, cole slaw, corn,
sherbet, coffee and milk.

Cost: Adults: \$11.00, Children 5-12: \$5.00.

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St. Anne's Patrons & Alumni

will be sponsoring a Fish Fry on

Friday, March 18 from 4:30-7:30 pm.

@ St. Anne's school in Le Sueur.

Located at 511 North 4th Street, Le Sueur.

Menu: Fish, baked potato, coleslaw,
green beans, bun and a beverage.

Cost: Adult: \$10.00. Children 5-12: \$5.00

Children 4 and under: free

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Jewelry Sales

The weekend of March 12th, it is our privilege to offer you an opportunity to purchase beautiful imported hand-made Italian, Mexican, and Bethlehem olive wood rosaries, as well as a large variety of Catholic medals, crucifix necklaces, bracelets and other faith inspired necklaces. An assortment of First Holy Communion, Confirmation and RCIA gift items will be included.

There are beautiful, time-tested and traditional articles, as well as contemporary pieces that are very popular all across the country. You will find we truly have something for everyone!

We are presenting you with a wide variety of these religious items at reasonable prices. Even as you are blessed by the beauty of these sacramentals, our group will be blessed by your generosity.

Please stop by our display after Mass. Whether you need a new rosary for yourself or as a gift, or want a crucifix to wear, saint medal, bracelet, necklace or other expressive reminder of your faith, we have a variety to meet your needs.

Your purchase of these quality items will help send several of our teens to the Franciscan LEAD training in July. Thank you for your support!



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Celebrate St Particks Day

Thursday, March 17 with Irish Stew at the
St. Henry Hall. Serving From 11:00 - 1:00. Sponsored by the St. Henry Catholic
 Order of Foresters Court #1022.
 Located 2 ½ miles West of Le Center, off of Highway 112.



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Church of Saint Peter, Saint Peter, MN

Stewardship

Treasure: Fiscal Year July 2015-June 2016

Week Ending: March 06, 2016

Offertory Envelopes	\$	7,543.00	
Electronic Giving-Offertory	\$	4,655.00	
Loose Plate	\$	370.80	
Initial Offertory	\$	-	
Total Weekly Offertory Contributions	\$		12,568.80
Each week the offertory budget is \$10,310.00	\$		10,310.00
Difference:	\$		2,258.80

===== **~~Please note:~~** =====

To meet budgeted expenses, we need \$10,310.00/week in adult envelopes. Please help as you can. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Year to Date Contributions

Year to Date Budget

Year to Date Difference: **\$ 367,645.26**

\$ 371,160.00

Children's Giving: **\$ (3,514.74)**

Bulletin Advertising:

\$ 2,290.00

Interested in advertising your business on the back of our bulletin? We have space available. It is a great way to reach potential customers & makes our bulletin possible. Please contact our office at 931-1628, if you have any questions. Thank you!!

Church of St. Paul

March 13, 2016

Pastor - Fr. Todd J. Petersen

E-mail: stpaulccnicollet@gmail.com

Parish Office — 507-232-3857

Parish Hall — 507-232-3897

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

CHURCH OF ST. PAUL SUNDAY COLLECTION

3/6/16 — Adult - \$1,953.00 / Plate - \$64.00

SPAF Foodshelf — \$25.00 / 1st Choice Pregnancy Fundraiser — \$25.00 / 3/2/16
Soup and Sandwich — \$112.00

WELCOME TO THE MEN'S BREAKFAST!

SUNDAY (Today): Baptism: We welcome our newest little Christian, Kaylee Marie Rose, daughter of Cody and Kelsey, into the family of God and St. Paul's Parish.

WEDNESDAY: 5:00 p.m. Soup and Sandwich / 6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

THURSDAY: 4:15 p.m. Choir Practice

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

Wednesday, 3/16 – 8:00 am – †Michael and Anna Ecker

Sunday, 3/20 – 8:00 am – †Marcus and Madeline Brandel

MINISTRY OF LITURGY

Palm Sunday, March 20

USHERS: Rick Meurer, Randy Renne, Clete Wenner

COMMENTATOR: Dale Mack

PASSION READERS: N = Jake Zins V = Cyndi Zins

EME: Jay Dorn, Dcn. Steve, Jeff Zajac, Cyndi Zins, Donna Zins

SACRISTAN: Dcn. Steve

SERVERS: Wallace Michels, Justin Rosin

GIFTS: Betty and Phyllis Wenner

GREETERS: Jake and Cyndi Zins

The sick and/or homebound: *God is taking care of you.* Pat Anton, Sister Miriam Ardolf, Pam Bernal, LeAnna Brown, Millie Dorn, Charlie and Dianne Epper, Lisa Hackett Family, Sarah Iverson, Helyna Mack, Whitey Mayer, Herman Mettler, Shirley Michels, Stacy Schultz, Angie and Valerie Weber, Pat Zins, Rob. **We pray for all who are ill or hospitalized.**

Nursing Home Residents: Gene Wenner, Benedictine Living Center, St. Peter; Rose Marie Zins, Oak Hills Living Center, New Ulm.

Group Homes: Nadine Brown, James Weber, Mary Jo Weber.

Assisted Living: Fr. Ed Ardolf, Benedictine Living Community, St. Peter. Eddie Bauer, The Wilds of Sand Prairie, St. Peter. Mary Ann Mans, Benedictine Living Community, St. Peter.

PARISH NOTES:

1. **Easter Flowers — an Easter memorial you share.** Would you like to place a memorial lily in the altar area this Easter? Like Mass intentions, you can list any person or family that you want. There is a sign-up sheet on the pulpit in the main entryway. The average purchase price of the lily is \$15.00. You can put your contribution in an envelope and drop it in the collection basket. If you have any questions, contact Millie Dorn - 232-3539 or Donna Zins - 232-3808. All contributions, big or small, are welcome.

2. **Holy Rosary Church, North Mankato, Annual Lenten Fish Feed**, Friday, March 18, serving 4:30 to 7:00 pm. Tickets: Adults - \$10 / Children (age 6-12) - \$6 Under age 6 – Free / \$30 max per family. Sponsored by North Mankato Knights of Columbus, Council 5551. Join us for a great dinner!!

3. **Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, New Ulm, Men’s Fish Fry**, Friday, March 18, 4:00 to 8:00 pm. Serving battered-fried cod — all you can eat. Tickets: Adults - \$11 / Children ages 5-12 - \$5.

4. **Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign:** The St. Peter Area Foodshelf (SPAF) is once again participating in the statewide, month-long campaign to restock our foodshelf. SPAF provides emergency food assistance to persons within the area of the St. Peter School District and all of Nicollet County not served by other foodshelves.

In 2015 SPAF served 2,796 households made up of 10,019 individuals and distributed 228,589 pounds of food and non-edible necessities. In 2015 they served 14,809 more pounds than the year before.

Donations can be made to St. Paul’s Church or to SPAF in St. Peter between March 1 and 31. Monetary donations are also welcome. Checks must have a March date.

SPAF has a NEW ADDRESS: 201B S. 3rd St., St. Peter MN **“When I was hungry, YOU gave me to eat.”**

5. **“Mission of Love” Valentines for the San Lucas, Toliman Mission, Guatemala** is a project for all ages to participate in. You don’t have to buy a card for this — get out your craft supplies a make one. Your Valentine and accompanying \$2/card donation will be accepted until March 31. You can drop them off at the Parish Office, or you can put them in an envelope marked *“Mission of Love”* and drop it in the Sunday collection basket.

“No one has ever become poor by giving.” —Anne Frank

6. **New Ulm Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (NUDCCW):**

A. **Region 1 Spring Gathering**, Thursday, March 31, Church of St. Mary, Arlington. The speaker will be Amber Collins, Youth Ministry Team Leader, Holy Cross AFC. All women of Region 1 parishes are invited to enjoy an evening of fellowship and faith-building. Registration is 5:00, Mass at 6:00 followed by speaker, light supper and door prizes. Registration requested by not necessary. Cost is \$10. Please bring personal care products (hotel/travel size preferred). These items are collected to distribute tow omen’s shelters in the diocese.

B. **57th Annual Convention**, Saturday, April 23, St. Edward Church, Minneota. The keynote speaker will be Sheri Wohlfert — *“I Have Made You a Light.”* Check our Sheri’s blog at joyfulwords.org.

*People are often unreasonable and self-centered. **FORGIVE THEM ANYWAY.***

*If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. **BE KIND ANYWAY.***

*If you are honest, people may cheat you. **BE HONEST ANYWAY.***

*The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow. **DO GOOD ANYWAY.***

*Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough. **GIVE YOUR BEST ANYWAY.***

For you see, in the end, it is between you and God.

IT NEVER WAS BETWEEN YOU AND THEM ANYWAY.