



SUNDAY MASSES
In Main Church
Saturday at 5 p.m.
Sunday at 8, 10 & 12 noon
Register at [SignUpGenius](#)
10 am Mass is Livestreamed on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) and St. Peter's website

DAILY MASSES
In Main Church
Tuesday: 9 am & 5:45 pm
Wednesday: 9 am
Thursday: 7 am & 9 am
Friday: 9 am
PERPETUAL ADORATION
Chapel of the Nativity

RECONCILIATION
In Main Church
Tuesday 5-5:40 pm
Friday 8-8:50 a.m.
Saturday 3:30-4:45 p.m.
Other times by appointment.

Second Sunday of Lent

February 28, 2021

One of the comforts of Lent is that many of the readings we hear at the Mass are so very distinctive and well known. However, there is something peculiar about the account of the Transfiguration on the mountain top being proclaimed during Lent. Taken in conjunction with the other two readings, the Scriptures this week say a great deal about Christ, what he reveals about God, and just what his life, death, and resurrection (the “Paschal Mystery” in so many words) accomplish on our behalf.

We'll begin with the Gospel, which is entirely a mystery; then, by going to the old testament and ahead to the epistle, we can circle back to see Christ's revelation in its full glory.

What Peter, James, and John experience at the mountain top must be indescribable. Nearly every commentary I've encountered and the gospel account itself depict Peter as in a state of euphoric delirium and awe. Imagine your friend, mentor, leader, and teacher suddenly appearing arrayed in light, with two of the absolute heroes of your nation's heritage, deep in conversation. “He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified (Mark 9:6).” This depiction is very relatable.

Now, these apostles—the first Pope, the principal leader in the eastern reaches of early Christianity, and the Apostle whom Jesus loved—were privileged to a vision of the glorified Lord and then commanded to keep it secret. One wonders if they could even have found words to describe it.

Let us now give this scene broader context. With the benefit of history, we can glean perspective that even those few present may have missed.

In the book of Genesis, we hear of the sacrifice of Abraham which was so nearly consummated through Isaac's death. However, the Angel of the Lord interrupted and, sparing the life of Isaac, Abraham's beloved son—the son of the promise of the Lord—alludes to the giving of God's own Son. The sacrifice of Abraham in willingly placing his own son in God's hands merely prefigures the only necessary sacrifice, that of Jesus, God's only Son placed willingly in the hands of men. For his faithfulness, Abraham is promised further blessing, but we are the ones who truly receive the blessing. Just how does Jesus embody the promise of God to the generations and generations of Abraham's descendants?

St. Paul answers that question in his letter to the Romans. Making it clear that God did not withhold his only Son, just

as Abraham's “yes” illustrated millenia prior, we read about God, “who did not spare his own Son but handed him over (Romans 8:32).” The surrounding text of this passage from Romans highlights, not just God's generosity, but his inexorable blessing in keeping his promise to Abraham. For who indeed could deny us the Lord's favor when he has chosen to give it? Who indeed can condemn the man whom God has exonerated from sin? Moreover, if God has given up his Son for our ultimate good, what good could he withhold?

Still, we are confounded with Peter and James and John at what could be meant by “rising from the dead.” Like them, no sooner do we hear God than every trace of that tremendous holy moment has disappeared, and we might see merely Jesus. Just Jesus. Only Jesus, perhaps.

And yet, that is exactly what we need to see.

The way my heart pounded in my chest, when I first experienced that glory moment in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament some 23 years ago is something I will never forget. If I were pressed to describe it, I would sound much like Peter, “This is amazing! So peaceful, so thrilling, let's just set up camp and stay here!”

Still there comes that moment when I realize I'm just there with Jesus. Just Jesus. Merely Jesus. After these many years, though, through the Lord's patient insistence, it is finally becoming clear: merely Jesus is all the good my heart could ever take. Merely Jesus is all the blessing every age of Abraham's spiritual posterity could need. It is merely Jesus that the Father gives for the healing of all the world's wounds, and merely Jesus is more than enough.

David M Dunst
David Dunst
Director of Music and Liturgy



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YOUTH NEWS AND FAITH FORMATION

LENT AND EASTER SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MASSES DURING LENT

Saturday at 5 p.m.

Sunday at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. (Livestreamed), and 12 Noon.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays, February 19, 26, March 5, 12, 19, and 26.
6:30 p.m. in the Main Church (All are livestreamed)

RECONCILIATION DURING LENT & HOLY WEEK

Tuesdays, 5 to 5:35 p.m.

Fridays, 8 to 8:50 a.m. and 5:30 to 6:15 p.m.

Saturdays, 3:30 to 4:45 p.m.

Thursday, March 18, 6:30 p.m. Parish Penance Service

Tuesday, March 30, 5:45 p.m.

Wednesday, March 31, 6 to 9 p.m.

No regularly scheduled Confessions on Good Friday or on
Holy Saturday

FR. STEVEN'S PRAYER OF THE HEART WORKSHOP

Tuesdays, March 9, 16, and 23. 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the
Main Church.

Go here to see it livestreamed: [St. Peter's Facebook page](#).

Go here to register to attend the workshop in person:
www.signupgenius.com/go/prayeroftheheart.

PALM SUNDAY MASSES

March 27, 5 p.m. March 28, 8 a.m., 10 a.m.,
(Livestreamed), and 12 p.m.

DAILY MASS DURING HOLY WEEK

Tuesday, 9 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.

Wednesday, 9 a.m.

EASTER TRIDIUM

Holy Thursday, April 1: 5 and 7 p.m. (7 p.m. livestreamed)

Good Friday, April 2: 5 and 7 p.m. (7 p.m. livestreamed)

Easter Vigil, April 3: 8:30 p.m. (livestreamed)

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 4: 8, 10, and 12 p.m. (10 a.m. livestreamed)

**Register for all weekend and Holy Day
Masses here: [www.signupgenius.com/go/
saintpeters](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/saintpeters)**



PARISH OFFICE REMAINS CLOSED

The office at St. Peter's remains closed to walk-ins during this time of COVID-19. Some staff is always present, during our office hours of Monday through Friday, 8 to 4 p.m. We will be answering phone calls, voicemails, and emails. Please feel free to contact us at 651-452-4550, with questions or concerns.

OFFICE INFORMATION

Father Steven Hoffman 651-452-4550

frsteven@stpetersmendota.org 651-905-4301

Deacon Tim Hennessey 651-905-4307

thennessey@stpetersmendota.org 651-905-4304

Peter Guzulaitis, Director of Operations 651-905-4307

directorofoperations@stpetersmendota.org 651-905-4304

Lisa Fontecha, 651-905-4304

Director of Mission and Ministry

lfontecha@stpetersmendota.org

Parish Office Hours:

Mon-Fri: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Phone: 651-452-4550

BAPTISMS - NEW PARISHIONERS - WEDDINGS

Call the parish office for more information.

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Email Lisa Fontecha at lfontecha@stpetersmendota.org or
call her at 651-905-4304 or call the parish office.



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Leave as a Friend*

ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS * STEWARDSHIP * COMMUNITY NEWS

DOROTHY DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



St. Peter's prepares and serves a meal every two months at the Dorothy Day center (Loaves & Fishes). We are currently in need of volunteers to prepare the meals. The time commitment is approximately 3 hours on the first Tuesday of alternating months, beginning at 2 p.m. If you would like to learn more about this very important and rewarding ministry, please contact Lisa Fontecha at lfontecha@stpetersmendota.org or 651-905-4304.

MARCH SANDWICH LUNCH MINISTRY

Our next collection of lunch items to be distributed to Sharing & Caring Hands in Minneapolis will be **Tuesday, March 16, from 12 to 1pm**. Please pull up to the north Main Church doors, and we will come out to your car. We will continue to collect one Tuesday each month. If you are interested in donating items for lunches, please contact Nancy Stanton at 651-686-9009 or nanrr1@yahoo.com.

It is extremely helpful to know how much food to expect, so please be sure to sign up in advance. Each donor is asked to bring 20 to 40 of one or more of the following (you may bring everything, or just one or two items from this list):

- Sandwiches: Choose turkey, bologna and cheese, or ham. No condiments please. Place each sandwich in an individual bag. Sandwiches are easiest to store and transport if you stack bagged sandwiches inside your empty bread bags!
- Individual serving bags of chips
- Individually wrapped cookies
- Bananas, oranges or cuties, or individual fruit cups

Please do NOT put items into paper lunch bags.

Thank you!

HAITI COLLECTION

We continue to collect sheets for the people in Haiti. There is a great need for these items. White (or nearly white) sheets and pillow cases are needed for the burial of babies, children, and adults. How easy for us to be part of this corporal work of mercy!

People also have a need for empty pill bottles. Please remove the labels from the bottles. It is easy to remove them; simply fill the containers with HOT water. The heat will loosen the label, and it will peal off easily.

We also continue to collect canvas bags and totes. Please make sure they are washable, as they will be used to carry food.

You may drop your contributions on the table outside the office. Thank you for your contributions.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Celebrate your sacrament by signing up for a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Virtual Weekend. The next available virtual weekend is March 19—21, 2021. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information contact Rob & Angie Waletzko at Applications@ndwwme.org

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

Together in Hope



The Catholic Services Appeal Foundation is an independent foundation partnering with fellow Catholics to share Christ's love with neighbors in need through ministries that serve the poor, support life and strengthen the Faith.

Your gift brings hope.



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EASTER FLOWERS IN HONOR OR IN MEMORY

We are now accepting donations for Easter flowers in memory or in honor of your loved ones. If you would like to make a donation, use the Easter Flower envelope included in your packet of contribution envelopes that you receive in the mail.



If you do not receive envelopes by mail, we will have them available to pick up on the information counter in a couple of weeks. Please return all donations in the Sunday collection box or to the parish office by Wednesday, March 31. All names will be listed in our Easter bulletin flyer.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT

During this unprecedeted time, stay in the loop with a Catholic perspective on local, national, and world news. Email Rita Holien at rholien@stpetersmendota.org to receive a free subscription to the Catholic Spirit.

ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS * STEWARDSHIP * COMMUNITY NEWS

PLEASE REGISTER FOR WEEKEND AND HOLY DAY MASSES

Please remember to register for weekend Masses. We are no longer taking registration for weekday Masses. Use this link to register: www.signupgenius.com/go/saintpeters.

All weekend and Holy Day Masses that are currently available will be included on this online form. Please follow the guidelines on the signup page. If you are not able to sign up online or if you have questions, call the parish office at 651-452-4550. Someone will help you get registered.

Thank you for your cooperation.

FORMED

Every member of our St. Peter's community can enjoy a free subscription to formed.org - the incredible online gateway to the best Catholic content, all in one place!

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HOLY HOUR OF INTERCESSION WITH OUR LADY

There is such a need for prayer in these troubled times. Please join us for a special Holy Hour of Adoration on **Wednesday, March 10, from 6:30 to 7:30 pm** in the Main Church.

In the words of St. Teresa of Calcutta, these "hours of adoration will be special hours of reparation for sins and intercession for the needs of the whole world." Gathering around Mary, the Mother of God, we will bring "the sin-sick and suffering of humanity before the healing, transforming rays of Jesus, radiating from the Eucharist."

If you can't be here in person, please join us on our livestream. Go to St. Peter's [YouTube](#) or [Facebook](#) pages.

2021 ACCW ANNUAL CONVENTION



The St. Paul and Minneapolis Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women will hold their annual convention on Friday,

April 30, at St. Patrick of Shieldsville, 7525 Dodd Road in Faribault. Join us on site for Celebrating Life's Challenges. Doors will open at 7:30 a.m.

- 8:45 a.m. Celebrating our Successes: Looking Back—Looking Ahead
- 12 noon Mass with Archbishop Hebda
- 2 p.m. How the Pandemic Has Changed Us, with Kate Souchery

More information will be coming in future bulletins.

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Check out St. Peter's website at www.stpetersmendota.org, our Facebook page at facebook.com/stpetersmendota and Twitter @StPetersMendota and on YouTube.



January 2021 COLLECTIONS	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Year over Year	Fiscal Year to Date	Prior Year thru Dec	Year over Year
Sunday Envelope & Electronic Gifts	\$ 108,643.70	\$ 86,642.75	\$ 22,000.95	\$ 659,965.87	\$ 611,865.26	\$ 48,100.61
Sunday Plate	\$ 135.51	\$ 1,595.50	\$ (1,459.99)	\$ 1,799.38	\$ 13,876.37	\$ (12,076.99)
Total	\$ 108,779.21	\$ 88,238.25	\$ 20,540.96	\$ 661,765.25	\$ 625,741.63	\$ 36,023.62

Sunday giving keeps the lights on, pays for repairs, and funds all ministries and operations. Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish community.

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:
Sue Zhulkie
Mark Mischke

651-454-6434
651-444-8888

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 28, 2021

- Sunday:** Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10
- Monday:** Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9 11 and 13 [cf. 103:10a]/Lk 6:36-38
- Tuesday:** Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 23:1-12
- Wednesday:** Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16 [17b]/Mt 20:17-28
- Thursday:** Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/Lk 16:19-31
- Friday:** Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
- Saturday:** Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8a]/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
- Next Sunday:** Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25 or Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

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MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, Mar. 1	9 am	No Mass
Tuesday, Mar. 2	9 am	† Ervin & Monta Metz
	5:45 pm	† James Krenik
Wednesday, Mar. 3	9 am	† Louis & Jaz Peltier
Thursday, Mar. 4	9 am	Margaret Henseler
Friday, Mar. 5	9 am	Al & Alice Mayers
Saturday, Mar. 6	5 pm	† Alice Goetz
Sunday, Mar. 7	8 am	Mass For The People
	10 am	Michael & Sarah Larsen

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR: MARCH 1, 2020

Monday, March 1

Tuesday, March 2

- | | |
|---------|------------------------------------|
| 8:30 am | Loaves & Fishes, Off Campus |
| 9 am | Rosary, Main Church |
| 5 pm | Daily Mass, Main Church |
| 5:45 pm | Reconciliation, Main Church |
| | Daily Mass, Main Church |

Wednesday, March 3

- | | |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 8:30 am | Rosary, Main Church |
| 9 am | Mass, Main Church |

Thursday, March 4

- | | |
|-------|--------------------------------|
| 7 am | Daily Mass, Main Church |
| 9 am | Daily Mass, Main Church |
| 10 am | CCW Meeting, Ravoux Room |
| 7 pm | AA Meeting, Classroom 5 |

Friday, March 5

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 8 am | Reconciliation, Main Church |
| 9 am | Daily Mass, Main Church |
| 9:30 am | Anointings, Main Church |
| 5:30 pm | Reconciliation, Main Church |
| 6:30 pm | Stations of the Cross, Main Church |

Saturday, March 6

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 9 am & 10:30 am | AA Meeting, Classrooms |
| 3:30 pm | Reconciliation, Main Church |
| 5 pm | Mass, Main Church. Register on Sign Up Genius |

Sunday, March 7

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 7:30 am | Rosary for St. Peter's, Main Church |
| 8 am | Mass, Main Church. Register on Sign Up Genius |
| 10 am | Mass. Main Church, livestreamed on St. Peter's Website , YouTube , or on Facebook . Register on Sign Up Genius |
| 12 noon | Mass, Main Church. Register on Sign Up Genius |



PASTORAL MINISTRY

MINNESOTA FOODSHARE MARCH CAMPAIGN



Each year the faith communities in Northern Dakota County join together to collect donations for Neighbors, Inc., the designated food shelf for that area. Each faith community has its own unique theme. Some have competitions between their congregation's groups, some offer goal incentives like shaving the pastor's head, and some use motivational quotes from saints and religious leaders. No matter what the theme, fun is in abundance and the food shelf is always blessed with an over abundance of donations.

With the outbreak of COVID-19 virus, this year's drive has brought some unique challenges.

To address this, we've made available several ways for you to choose from to help

Food may be delivered to bins in the Gathering Space, as in the past. We even have grocery bags available for you to take and fill! You may also choose to take advantage of our convenient curbside drop-off on Saturday, March 20, from 10 a.m. to noon (and pick up your palms at the same time!).

Or, you may choose to stretch your contribution further by making a cash donation. While food donations are always welcome, this might be the year when you would feel more comfortable making a monetary donation instead. Yellow donation envelopes are available next to the food drive posters outside the upstairs office and next to the downstairs collection box. You could also mail your donation directly to the Church of St. Peter. Follow these instructions:

- Make checks payable to Neighbors, Inc.
- Write "Church of St. Peter" on the memo line of the check.
- Place your check in an envelope and address it to:
Church of St. Peter
Attention: Lisa Fontech
1405 Sibley Memorial Hwy
Mendota, MN 55150
- Return your envelope via US Mail by Monday, April 11.

This year, more than ever before, Neighbors, Inc. needs your help. It is becoming obvious that more and more people in our community will be in need of food assistance as we all deal with the challenges ahead of us. Neighbors, Inc. thanks you for your generosity.

*"Stay where you are. Find your own Calcutta.
Find the sick, the suffering, and the
lonely right where you are."
~St. Teresa of Calcutta*



CHAPEL OF THE NATIVITY PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL

"The Eucharist is the secret of my day. It gives strength and meaning to all of my activities of service to the Church and to the whole world."

~ St. John Paul II

We are in need of adorers in the Chapel of the Nativity. Please prayerfully consider committing to one of the hours listed here that is still empty. White spaces indicate where we have the most urgent need.

"Could you not watch one hour with me?"

~ Matthew 26:40

To sign up for a regular Hour of Adoration, please call Lisa Fontech at 651-905-4304 or email her at lfontech@stpetersmendota.org.

	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
12 am							
1 am							
2am							
3 am							
4 am							
5 am							
6 am							
7 am							
8 am							
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10 pm							
11 pm							



PASTORAL MINISTRY

FOLLOWING JESUS



Jesus' disciples were incredulous when they glimpsed his Divinity. We meet Jesus each time we receive the Eucharist. Let us be amazed, as his disciples were.

PRAYER OF THE HEART WORKSHOP

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

~ St. Augustine

Since prayer is as necessary to our soul as nourishment and air is for the body, we are offering a series of three workshops 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 in person and livestreamed 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. In-person sessions will be in the Main Church. Seating is limited. Please register in advance on Sign Up Genius: www.signupgenius.com/go/prayeroftheheart.

The workshop takes place on Tuesdays, March 9, 16, and 23, from 6:30 to 8 p.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.

Please contact Lisa Fontechia for further information at 651-905-4304 or at lfontechia@stpetersmendota.org.

TOTUS TUUS MISSIONARIES NEEDED



The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis is in need of college age men and women, who have a missionary heart, love children/youth, and are committed to their Catholic faith, who feel called to share it with the youth from local parishes around the Archdiocese. Go to www.archspm.org and search Toton Tuus.

CATECHISM CORNER BY DAVID DUNST



Catechism Corner

As we continue to consider the implications of the tenth commandment, we must make prudential distinctions and apply judgments of priority to the desires we experience. While envy is, of course, a sin, we must acknowledge that within the temptation to most sin is a good that we are right to desire, in some way. However, this desire for the good must be checked, by moral considerations as well as the application of charity and justice.

As we can see from the ninth commandment, the desire for the good of human intimacy is subordinate to the laws of love and justice. Likewise, the desire for the good we perceive in earthly comforts, especially those that belong to another, is constrained by the preeminent law of justice (this thing rightly belongs to someone else) and that of love (is someone else in greater need of this thing). This question of higher goods is the thrust of the next few paragraphs in the Catechism.

Law and grace cooperate to slow the heart's descent into avarice and envy. They also make man aware of and thirst for Sovereign Good (God himself), and by acting on that thirst, the Holy Spirit satisfies the heart. Even in the Garden of Eden, the forbidden tree was clearly good, but the desire to usurp God was the undoing of good (CCC 2541).

It is precisely in that space between God, who is good itself, and individual goods that we fall into sin, becoming slaves to our appetite for good things, rather than seeking the greatest Good (CCC 2542).

This is where Jesus changes the rules of the game, because in his person he embodies all good. Thus we may be satisfied in finding and knowing, experiencing and receiving Jesus both Sacramentally and spiritually. It is this desire of the Holy Spirit that frees us from slavery to lesser goods and crucifies the desires of the flesh, by which we experience concupiscence—that warping of the will toward sin (CCC 2543).

Rather, we must be willing to sacrifice and consecrate our desires, purifying them and thus craving God, rather than mere good.

Next week: poverty of heart.



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