



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: 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.

Ascension Sunday *May 16, 2021*

We are in the world. The daily business of living begins from the minute we open our eyes in the morning and doesn't let up—until we drift off to sleep at night. Some days are unremarkable, ordinary—filled with the typical responsibilities of work, family, and personal pursuits. Some days are filled with exciting events, or special moments shared with extraordinary people. There are days we don't feel well, physically, emotionally, or spiritually. Days that seem almost too hard to bear.

Thankfully, we don't have to be in the world alone. Jesus knew that to be in the world, faced with the very real existence of struggle, pain, and apathy, we would need a protector after he was gone. In today's Gospel, He implores Our Father to watch over us, to protect us from the worst of the world.

It's easy to slip into the mistaken belief that we're alone. Yes, we have a responsibility to wage our own personal campaign to keep our eyes on Him and to work hard to always be improving our spiritual lives. The kind of love that's possible with a deep friendship with Christ compels us, or it should, to reach out with truly open hearts to those in our world who are hurting, regardless of who they are or how different from one another we may be. But that's not always our first response to a challenge, a wound to the heart, or fear.

In these past months of the pandemic, many of us have found ourselves without the very things that help us to remember His desire to protect and love us. The list is long and will read differently for each one of us. For me, now that things are slowly, gradually, returning to more familiar activities, I feel the absence of two things very distinctly.

As a single working mom, with the extra responsibility of distance learning for two adolescent—and very active—boys, my obligations have caused me to forego making a retreat for almost two years. Time that passed so quickly, I barely thought of how much I have missed that valuable time alone with the Lord. I had begun to wonder why the world seemed to feel so heavy, when the Lord saw fit to remind me that He's there, waiting for me, calling me to make Him a priority. After months of not even thinking about scheduling a retreat, the Lord sent me two phone calls, three emails, and a mailing from some of my most loved retreat centers, not the least of which was information about the opportunity to attend a retreat facilitated by a

favorite author and theologian. Sometimes the Father is subtle, but there are times when he makes it perfectly clear that He wants the best for us. Needless to say, I made my reservations for both the guided retreat, as well as some time of silence in my beloved hermitage.

Another way that I allow Him to protect and speak to me is through music. Specifically, praise and worship that lifts me up and fills my heart with His Love and Grace. Usually, this takes its most robust form in attending concerts, with one of my dearest friends. There's something really beautiful and encouraging about sharing an evening of singing praise with a friend who knows and loves Christ. Today's Gospel reminds me of a song from one of those bands, Mercy Me, titled, "We Win." When I feel sad, or lonely, or beat against the rocks by the sea of life, this song, and many others like it, never fails to turn me toward Him, to allow myself to lean into Him and trust that, whatever the world has in store for me, He will protect me if I let Him.

As we begin to emerge together—back into the world and, praise God, begin to experience a little more normality, as we make room again for the social commitments, get back into our offices, enroll the kids into their activities, and take in a ball game or concert again, let's also remind one another to make time for those treasured opportunities to spend time with the Lord and be reminded of His guardianship and protection.

Lisa Fontecha
 Director of Mission and Ministry

YOUTH NEWS AND FAITH FORMATION

PRAYERS FOR ST. PETER'S FIRST COMMUNICANTS

Please pray for the children of our parish, as they complete their preparation to join us at the Lord's Table for the first time, during the month of May. The parents and families have been teaching their children the meaning and the beauty of the Blessed Sacrament and helping them ready themselves for this special encounter with Jesus. The children will participate in their First Holy Communion on Tuesday, May 18, at the 5:45 pm Mass.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for our children and their families.

ST PETER'S RE/FF TEAM

To learn more about Faith Formation at St. Peter's, click this link: www.stpetersmendota.org/faith-formation

St. Peter's Religious Education/Faith Formation Team

Kathy Raible

Grade 1-5 Program

Reconciliation and First Eucharist 651-905-4311

Elizabeth McCanna

Grade 6-8 and Confirmation

651-905-4312

Beth Halbert

Preschool Coordinator

Liturgy of the Word for Children 651-905-4313

Karen Cronin

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

651-905-4314

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2021



All Aboard! Save the date for VBS 2021!

This year we are doing a family-based vacation Bible school; parents and children together!

You will have two different sessions to choose from—morning or evening.

Evening session: August 2, 3, and 4, from 6 to 8 p.m.

~ OR ~

Morning session: August 4, 5, & 6, from 9 to 11 a.m.

More details will be coming soon!



OFFICE INFORMATION

Father Steven Hoffman 651-452-4550

frsteven@stpetersmendota.org

Deacon Tim Hennessey 651-905-4301

thennessey@stpetersmendota.org

Peter Guzulaitis, Director of Operations 651-905-4307

directorofoperations@stpetersmendota.org

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.

FAITHFUL SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL AND TRI-PARISH CENTER

St. John Neumann * St. Peter * St. Thomas Becket

3355 Columbia Dr Eagan MN 55121

651-406-4747

www.fscsmn.org

FAITHFUL SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL



FAITHFUL
SHEPHERD
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Academic excellence, a faith-based education and a supportive community that engages the whole family are just a few reasons why our families love Faithful Shepherd. **Financial aid is available.** To arrange a private tour, please call Molly Altermatt at 651-262-2898. We look forward to meeting and sharing our school with you!

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

First Proclamation

Kevin Martinez

&

Louise Fossen

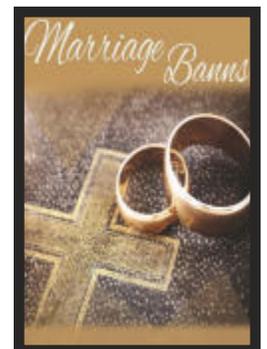
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#### Second Proclamation

Michael Rivera

&

Sarah Trenkamp



## HELP WANTED

The Church of St. Peter is looking for a part-time custodian to support evening and weekend activities here at the parish. Duties would include cleaning, vacuuming, trash removal, setup and take down for rental groups. The parish pays a competitive wage. Evening and weekend work is required. On average the position will take 10 to 15 hours per week.

The successful candidate will need to be able to work independently, with specific directions and take initiative when necessary. Additionally, the hire is contingent on passing a physical and criminal background check, along with other safe environment protocols. To apply please contact Peter Guzulaitis at 651-905-4307 or via e-mail at [DirectorofOperations@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:DirectorofOperations@stpetersmendota.org).

## SANDWICH LUNCH MINISTRY

Our next collection of lunch items to be distributed to Sharing & Caring Hands in Minneapolis will be **Tuesday, May 18, 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](mailto: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, ham, or bologna and cheese. No condiments on sandwiches, 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
- Oranges, Cuties, or individual fruit cups

**Please do NOT put items into paper lunch bags.**

Thank you!

## ST. PETER'S SCAVENGER HUNT

Join us on Sunday, May 23, when we will hold our second annual Scavenger Hunt. Several people asked if we were going to do it again this year, so it must have been a success! Everyone is invited to participate. You can do the scavenger hunt



anytime between 9:15 a.m. and 2 p.m. Directions will be available in the Gathering Space after Mass.

The idea of the scavenger hunt is to get outside and wander around our beautiful campus. There will be a sheet of paper with pictures of what you are supposed to find on your hunt. When you get to each location, take a picture of it (or preferably, a selfie with the location in the background). Come back to the Gathering Space when you have found each location, and everyone in your group will get a prize (*Hint hint: it's Father Steven's favorite treat!*)

If you do not have access to a camera, don't worry; we want you to participate anyway! We look forward to seeing you! Contact Anne O'Keefe with any questions at [aokeefe@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:aokeefe@stpetersmendota.org) or at 651-905-4308.

## HOW IS GOD WITH ME IN TRIALS AND LOSS: WITH FR. STEVEN

When we are struggling in our lives, especially in times of loss, we may find ourselves in those moments also struggling with faith. We may feel abandoned, alone, helpless, and overwhelmed. Questions can arise, such as "Is God with me?" or "Is God hearing my prayers?"

We hope you can come for an evening of reflection on Scripture and to learn how God walks with us in the difficult moments of life.

We invite you to join us on Tuesday, May 25, at 6:30 p.m. in Heritage Center. Reservations are not required.

Please contact Lisa Fontecha with any questions at 651-905-4304 or at [lfontecha@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:lfontecha@stpetersmendota.org).

## SYNOD AT HOME TIPS AND TOOLS FOR GROWING IN FAITH



In the Synod process, the Church is taking time to listen to one another, pray, and discuss in order to determine priorities. These steps are important for every household, too, that wants to thrive.

The **Synod at Home** series takes helpful videos, tips, and tools for growing in faith and pairs them with family-friendly activities based on four pillars: Prayer & Sacraments, Lifelong Learning, Generosity & Service, and Traditions & Fun.

Individuals, couples, and families will find their faith and relationships strengthened by Synod at Home.

- Find weekly videos and materials posted on the [Archdiocesan Synod web page](#).
- Text APP to 88202 or [click to download MyParish App](#) and within the app, search for "Archdiocesan Synod."
- [Sign up](#) to receive weekly emails during the Synod at Home and other Synod updates.

# ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS \* STEWARDSHIP \* COMMUNITY NEWS

## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



Mark your calendars! The Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for Thursday, May 20, from 1 to 6 p.m. at St. Peter's Church in Heritage Center. This drive is by APPOINTMENT ONLY. To schedule an appointment, please email Keith or Nancy Stanton at [nanrr1@yahoo.com](mailto:nanrr1@yahoo.com) or call them at 651-686-9009. Please leave your full name, including spelling, your phone number, and your preferred time. You will be contacted to confirm your appointment. Only those with appointments will be allowed onsite and only at their scheduled time. Face coverings are required and will be provided, if you forget yours.

## MILITARY PRAYER BOARD

It is time to update the St. Peter's Military Prayer board. If your family member is already posted, please forward an update. If you have a new family member serving in one of the branches that you would like remembered in prayers, please contact Jackie Dimmen by phone at 651-681-9851, or email her at [jdimmen@comcast.net](mailto:jdimmen@comcast.net). She will provide you with instructions for submitting a brief profile and photo to be posted. We are forever grateful for the selfless acts of these family members.



| April 2021 COLLECTIONS             | April 2021          | April 2020           | Year over Year        | Fiscal Year to Date  | Prior Year thru April | Year over Year       |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Sunday Envelope & Electronic Gifts | \$ 83,215.35        | \$ 125,895.87        | \$ (42,680.52)        | \$ 907,831.95        | \$ 898,998.00         | \$ 8,833.95          |
| Sunday Plate                       | \$ 176.43           | \$ 1,200.00          | \$ (1,023.57)         | \$ 2,360.14          | \$ 16,462.26          | \$ (14,102.12)       |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>\$ 83,391.78</b> | <b>\$ 127,095.87</b> | <b>\$ (43,704.09)</b> | <b>\$ 910,192.09</b> | <b>\$ 915,460.26</b>  | <b>\$ (5,268.17)</b> |

*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.*



## JESUS OUR HOPE, YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND FOREVER. . .

Our goal is to eliminate this debt over the next three years and we are off to a great start. Thanks to several generous contributions this past week, the parish was able to eliminate another \$263,000 in principal on our construction debt. Please continue to pray for the campaign as it continues. Each registered family was mailed a pledge card as you are ready please return it to the parish office through the mail, dropping it in the Sunday Collection boxes, or dropping it off at the office. Working together we can eliminate the construction debt for the Church and Heritage Center. As you consider making a pledge remember no amount is too small or too large and with God's blessing and working together we can eliminate this debt. If you have questions about making a pledge please contact Peter Guzulaitis at 651-905-4307 or via e-mail at [directorofoperations@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:directorofoperations@stpetersmendota.org).

| Report on Debt for Church and Heritage Center Construction                 |                       | Jesus Our Hope Capital Campaign   |                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Debt on Church and Heritage Center as of 9/30/2020                         | \$3,591,160.00        | Pledges as of 5/11/2021           | \$1,806,503.85      |
| Less proceeds from the Rectory Sale in October of 2020                     | -\$241,532.00         |                                   |                     |
| Less principal payments from proceeds from Jesus Our Hope Capital Campaign | -\$929,600.00         | Pledged Money Received            | \$998,751.77        |
| Less other principal payments                                              | -\$8,832.00           |                                   |                     |
| <b>Total Principal Due on the Loan as of 5/14/21</b>                       | <b>\$2,411,196.00</b> | <b>Total Income from Campaign</b> | <b>\$998,751.77</b> |
| <b>Total Reduction in Principal since October 1, 2020</b>                  | <b>\$1,179,964.00</b> | <b>Balance Due on Pledges</b>     | <b>\$807,752.08</b> |

## 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

651-454-6434

Mark Mischke

651-444-8888

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 16, 2021

**Sunday:** Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20

**Monday:** Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab [33a]/Jn 16:29-33

**Tuesday:** Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 [33a]/Jn 17:1-11a

**Wednesday:** Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68: 29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab [33a]/Jn 17:11b-19

**Thursday:** Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Jn 17:20-26

**Friday:** Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab [19a]/Jn 21:15-19

**Saturday:** Morning: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7 [7b]/Jn 21:20-25

**Next Sunday:** Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 [cf. 30]/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39  
Day: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 [cf. 30]/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25/Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

## MASS INTENTIONS

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

|                      |         |   |                      |
|----------------------|---------|---|----------------------|
| <b>Mon, May 17</b>   | 9 am    |   | No Mass              |
| <b>Tues, May 18</b>  | 9 am    | † | Joseph Schuster      |
|                      | 5:45 pm | † | Marguerite Smith     |
| <b>Wed, May 19</b>   | 9 am    |   | Mark & Sally Metz    |
| <b>Thurs, May 20</b> | 9 am    | † | Phillip Roeder       |
| <b>Fri, May 21</b>   | 9 am    |   | Sr. Theresa Hoffmann |
| <b>Sat, May 22</b>   | 5 pm    | † | Maria Flynn          |
| <b>Sun, May 16</b>   | 8 am    |   | Mass For The People  |
|                      | 10 am   |   | Gerald Henseler      |

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR: MAY 17, 2021

**Monday, May 17**

**Tuesday, May 18**

**8:30 am** Rosary, Main Church  
**9 am** **Daily Mass, Main Church**  
**12 pm** Sandwich Lunch Ministry Drop Off, Curbside Main Church Entrance  
**5 pm** **Reconciliation, Main Church**  
**5:45 pm** **Daily Mass with First Communions, Main Church**

**Wednesday, May 19**

**8:30 am** Rosary, Main Church  
**9 am** **Daily Mass, Main Church**  
**6 pm** Perissos, Heritage Center

**Thursday, May 20**

**9 am** **Daily Mass, Main Church**  
**1 pm** Red Cross Blood Drive, Heritage Center  
**7 pm** AA Meeting, Classroom 5

**Friday, May 21**

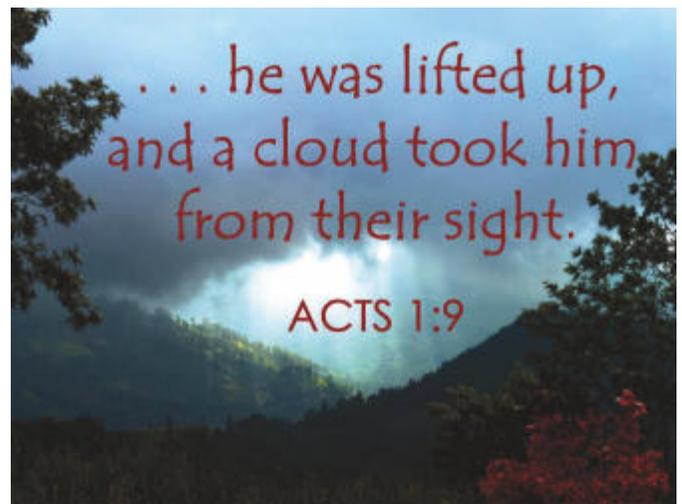
**8 am** **Reconciliation, Main Church**  
**9 am** **Mass, Main Church**

**Saturday, May 22**

**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, May 23**

**7:30 am** Rosary for St. Peter's, Main Church  
**8 am** **Mass, Main Church.** Register on [Sign Up Genius](#)  
**9 am** Hospitality (Coffee and Donuts), Outdoors  
**10 am** **Mass, Main Church. Livestreamed on YouTube, or on Facebook.** Register on [Sign Up Genius](#)  
**11 am** Hospitality (Coffee and Donuts), Outdoors  
**12 noon** **Mass, Main Church.** Register on [Sign Up Genius](#)  
**1 pm** Hospitality (Coffee and Donuts), Outdoors



## PASTORAL MINISTRY

### CLASS OF ST. JOSEPH CATECHETICAL INSTITUTE

**Ever wonder what God has planned for your life?**

Discover God's plan of sheer  
goodness in the Class of St. Joseph!

This fall, the Catechetical Institute will offer the two-year Pillars Program in-person at Transfiguration in Oakdale and via livestream at various satellite sites around the Archdiocese. Classes will be held on Monday evenings, from 7 to 9 p.m. The classes are divided into four eleven-week modules, with two Saturday morning formative sessions per module.

Applications are being accepted through August 1 2021.

Go here for more information: [www.cistudent.com/pillars/](http://www.cistudent.com/pillars/).

### TOTUS TUUS MISSIONARIES NEEDED

The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis is in need of college age men and women, age 18-26, who have a missionary heart, love children/youth, and are committed to their Catholic faith, who feel called to share it with the youth (grades 1-12) from local parishes around the Archdiocese. Go to [www.archspm.org](http://www.archspm.org) and search Totus Tuus.



### SHG'S SPRING PRESENTATION AND GRAVESIDE PRAYER



**When:** Saturday, June 12,  
1 to 3 p.m.  
**Where:** St. Peter's  
Catholic Church, Ravoux Room

Join Laura Elm, Founder and  
Director of Sacred Heart

Guardians and Shelter (SHG), for a discussion on:

- Embryo mortality in IVF labs
- SHG's mission to facilitate burial for the youngest human beings

Following the presentation, you are invited to join SHG as we travel to Resurrection Cemetery to pray the Rosary at the gravesites of 168 deceased IVF-conceived embryonic children, for whom SHG has facilitated burial.

Agenda

- 1 to 1:30 p.m. Meet & Greet (St. Peter's Church)
- 1:30 to 2:15 p.m. Presentation (St. Peter's Church)
- 2:45 p.m. Rosary (Resurrection Cemetery)

Registration required at [www.sacredheartguardians.org/june12/](http://www.sacredheartguardians.org/june12/)

If you have questions, please contact us at 612-578-0377 or at [info@sacredheartguardians.org](mailto:info@sacredheartguardians.org).

### 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 Fontecha at 651-905-4304 or email her at [lfontecha@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:lfontecha@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  |      |      |       |      |        |      |      |
| 9 am  |      |      |       |      |        |      |      |
| 10 am |      |      |       |      |        |      |      |
| 11 am |      |      |       |      |        |      |      |
| Noon  |      |      |       |      |        |      |      |
| 1 pm  |      |      |       |      |        |      |      |
| 2 pm  |      |      |       |      |        |      |      |
| 3 pm  |      |      |       |      |        |      |      |
| 4 pm  |      |      |       |      |        |      |      |
| 5 pm  |      |      |       |      |        |      |      |
| 6 pm  |      |      |       |      |        |      |      |
| 7 pm  |      |      |       |      |        |      |      |
| 8 pm  |      |      |       |      |        |      |      |
| 9 pm  |      |      |       |      |        |      |      |
| 10 pm |      |      |       |      |        |      |      |
| 11 pm |      |      |       |      |        |      |      |

### HOLY COMMUNION



If you are unable to attend one of the Masses and desire to come to the church to receive Holy Communion, please contact Jennifer at 651-905-4305 to set up an appointment. If you wish to receive

Holy Communion at your home, please call Lisa Fontecha at 651-905-4304.

## PASTORAL MINISTRY

### FOLLOWING JESUS



The Church celebrates the Ascension of the Lord. Jesus ascended to the Father after his earthly work was completed. He now intercedes for us with the Father and is the source of our participation in the heavenly banquet through our reception of the Eucharist. Let us celebrate this feast with great joy!

### MEMORIAL DAY MASS

The Memorial Day Mass will take place in the Main Church on Monday, May 31, at 10 a.m. A ceremony at St. Peter's Cemetery will take place after Mass.

### NEW MINISTRY SCHEDULE

For the first time in a year, the ministry schedule is live and available to ministers online. Those who have volunteered to serve in the various liturgical ministries can manage their scheduled dates, seek substitutes, and indicate preferred service times. Please sign in and check for your scheduled dates.

### MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

We are very pleased to see events and ministries beginning to be active again here at St. Peter's! We have many exciting ways for you to be involved. At this time, we do have a few specific needs. Please contact Lisa Fontecha at 651-905-4304 or [lfontecha@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:lfontecha@stpetersmendota.org), if any of these are of interest to you.

#### Wedding Coordinator

Once the marriage prep is completed and the blessed day approaches, our engaged couples are guided through the rehearsal and wedding day by one of our St. Peter's wedding coordinators. Responsibilities include leading the wedding rehearsal, opening the church for the wedding party, supporting them during their preparation time, and serving as sacristan/server for their marriage ceremony on the day of the wedding. Training and materials are provided. This ministry does require availability that includes Thursday and Friday evenings, and Saturday mornings and afternoons. **There is a generous stipend for wedding coordinators.**

#### Giving Tree Co-coordinator

The Giving Tree provides help for almost 50 families every Christmas. Our team, comprised of two co-coordinators working closely with Lisa, works hard to gather gift requests, collect donations to meet those needs, and facilitates the sorting and distribution of donations to families in both our own St. Peter's family and the community we serve. This ministry is active from October through December. Good communication and organization skills are a must for this ministry, as well as a deep desire to help and maintain confidentiality.

### CATECHISM CORNER BY DAVID DUNST



#### Catechism Corner

The very key to prayer and its having an effect on our lives is the degree to which our prayer is united to the prayer of Jesus. Just as his prayer is a communication of love with God the Father, so ours can and should be. It is the communion of love (the Holy Spirit) between the Father and the Son that manifests in this world the good will and generosity of God. This is why our petitions can be heard: "Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full." (CCC 2615-2616)

Here, in both the Catechism and the Compendium (from which I'm still drawing), we turn to the example of Mary. Her unique faith and openness to God is what Christian prayer is all about. Her generosity in offering her whole self to God is what makes her unique among all the saints.

The Magnificat is the principal example of Mary's prayer in the Bible. Luke 1:46-55 contains her words to her kinswoman Elizabeth (the Bible says "cousin," but familial terms in Scripture are not what they are now, so there is not a definitive translation for us of what their exact relation was, other than "of the same family," based on multiple sources). It is her song of praise to God in reply to Elizabeth's greeting, and the Church's joyous song of Thanksgiving (CCC 2619).

Just a short article this week, before what could be two weeks on prayer in the Age of the Church. At last, we'll be finishing the Catechism's course of the history of Christian prayer, before moving on to a relatively short chapter on traditions of prayer within the Church. That section will address more complex realities in the spiritual heritage of the Church, touching on prayer to Mary and the saints as examples of prayer.



Dedicated to the Love of People and Home...  
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