

All high school & college graduates are invited to attend our recognition



Masses May 10 & 11! See page 3 for details!

WELCOME to all who have come to worship and pray with us. We're glad you're here! Please fill out a visitor card. They are found at each of the church entrances.

WEEKEND MASSES

6PM Saturday
10:30AM Sunday

WEEKDAY MASSES

8:15AM Wednesday & Friday

LIVESTREAMED MASSES

Some of our Masses are live-streamed on the church's Facebook page, SS Peter & Paul Church — Boonville, Mo.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is generally offered 30 minutes prior to Mass unless otherwise announced and by appointment.

THE ROSARY is prayed before most Masses. Please join us.

Father Mark Smith, Pastor

.....pastor@ssppparish.net

Deacon Dave Miller

Prison Ministry; Marriage Prep
.....(660) 888-6827
.....dmiller@diojeffcity.org

Diane Brimer, Secretary

.....secretary@ssppparish.net

Debbie Kraus, Bookkeeper

.....bookkeeper@ssppparish.net

Theresa Krebs, DRE

.....dre@ssppparish.net

Janet Thompson

Pastoral Council Chairperson
janethufnagelthompson@gmail.com

FLOCKNOTE Text SSPPBV to 84576 to receive occasional text communications from the parish.

ST. JOSEPH, PILOT GROVE Father

Mark is also the pastor at St. Joseph, Pilot Grove. Mass times are Tuesdays & Thursdays at 8:05 a.m., Saturdays at 4 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 a.m. Contact the St. Joseph office at 660-834-5600.

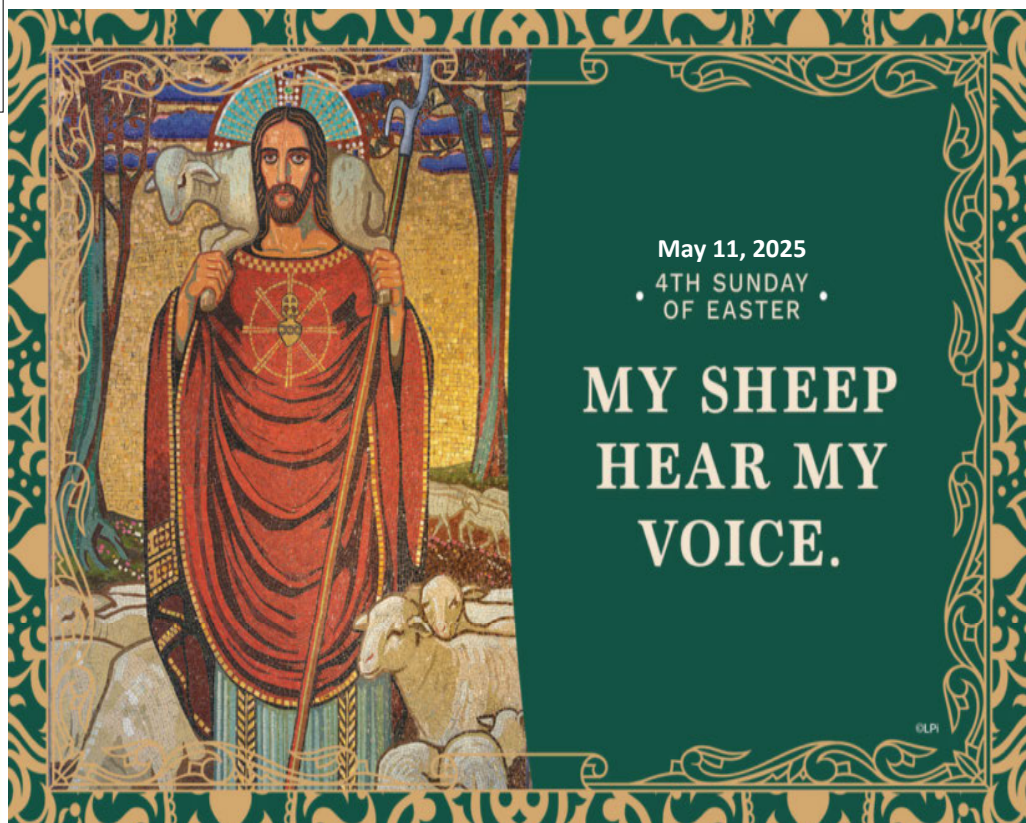
Ss. Peter & Paul Catholic Parish

322 7TH STREET • BOONVILLE, MO 65233

Parish Office & Rectory: (660) 882-6468; School Office: (660) 882-2589

Website: ssppboonville.diojeffcity.org

Facebook: @ssppchurchboonville Instagram: @ssppchurch



Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me." To follow him, we must know him. This week, how can we know Jesus better?

First Reading: The Gentiles were delighted when they heard this and glorified the word of the Lord. All who were destined for eternal life came to believe, and the word of the Lord continued to spread through the whole region. (Acts 13:48-49)

Psalm: We are his people, the sheep of his flock. (Ps 100) Or: Alleluia.

Second Reading: "For the Lamb who is in the center of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to springs of life-giving water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." (Rv 7:17)

Gospel: Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me." (Jn 10:27)

GOSPEL MEDITATION

A few years back, I felt as if I couldn't hear God's voice the way I used to. The words in the Bible seemed like cold ink on a page. Prayer felt like sitting anxiously in a lonely room. I was worried — how could I, a priest, preach or help others if I couldn't hear God's voice? It went on for months.

Then a friend encouraged me to go on a retreat and spend as much time as possible in silence. After a day or two of quiet prayer, I noticed gentle but clear thoughts of repentance in two specific areas of my life. I asked God for the grace to change, and I went to confession. Suddenly, the divine silence that haunted me was filled with a sense of God's closeness and goodness. I realized, gratefully, that God had been speaking to me in the quiet voice of my conscience.

This week we hear Jesus say, "My sheep hear my voice. I know them and they follow me" (John 10:27). Jesus links the hearing of his voice to following him. He speaks to us in our conscience in an intimate, personal way, when we most need to hear him. When you feel deaf to God's voice, perhaps it is time to listen in silence for His voice in your conscience calling you to hear and follow the Good Shepherd of your soul.

— Father John Muir

FATHER'S MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, May 10
6PM: People of the Parish

SUNDAY, May 11
10:30AM: High School & College Graduates

THURSDAY, May 15
9AM: Robert Gerling

FRIDAY, May 16
8:15AM: Adrienne Fairley

SATURDAY, May 17
6PM: Asuncion Sancho

SUNDAY, May 18
10:30AM: Mike Kraus

PARISH COLLECTION & TITHING

Weekly Collection & Tithing as of April 21: \$19,589.70
Weekly Collection & Tithing as of April 28: \$13,119.25
Weekly Budgeted Collection & Tithing: \$18,271.15
YTD Collection & Tithing Received: \$777,230.00
YTD Budgeted Collection & Tithing: \$803,930.77

We are grateful to those who sacrificially tithe to financially support our parish. Thank you.



OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Easter; World Day of Prayer for Vocations; Mother's Day

Monday: Ss. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs; St. Pancras, Martyr

Tuesday: Our Lady of Fatima

Wednesday: St. Matthias, Apostle

Thursday: St. Isidore

Saturday: Armed Forces Day

Next Sunday: 5th Sunday of Easter



World Day of Prayer for Vocations Fourth Sunday, May 11, 2025

"My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me." (John 10:27)

Pray that your child listens for the Good Shepherd's call to care for His flock as a priest or religious brother or sister. Trust that He knows them by name and will lead them in their vocation. Support them in this journey and have conversations with your priest, religious coordinator, or diocesan vocation director.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Acts 13:14, 43-52/Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5 (3c)/Rv 7:9, 14b-17/Jn 10:27-30

Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Jn 15:9-17

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27/Jn 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab/Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 14:7-14

Next Sunday: Acts 14:21-27/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 (see 1)/Rv 21:1-5a/Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35



Bishop McKnight's May Prayer Intention for our Local Church: For all vocations, and especially for those who will be ordained this year. That they may be strengthened by the grade of the Holy Spirit and remain faithful to the call of Christ. We pray to the Lord.



The Pope's May Prayer Intention for the use of new technologies: Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfillment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.

SPIRITUAL HOMEWORK: QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading: Paul and Barnabas experienced resistance from some of the Jews and leaders of the city of Antioch. What sustains you in difficult and challenging experiences?

Second Reading: John sees a vision in which those who have suffered and died for the faith are comforted by God and relieved of their distress. Is there a family member or friend you could comfort this week?

Gospel: We hear how Jesus gives eternal life to all who follow him. How does following Jesus impact your work or family life?



Mass Ministry Volunteers

April Altar Linens: Kathy Lang

Altar Angels Church Cleaning Team Families: Jordan & Delanie Brown, Lainey Byrd, Aaron & Tiffany Carmichael, Seth & Jessi Cater
 Parish families with school-aged children are assigned each week to clean the church. The first family listed is the Team Coordinator.
 You will receive a text prior to your assignment with instructions. Thank you for your stewardship to our parish family!

	Sacristan	Coordinator	Lectors	Offertory	Greeters/Ushers	Servers	Musicians	Money Counters
Saturday, May 17 6 p.m.	Ellise Kirchner	Volunteer	Mike Ivy	Bobby Richerson Family	Ashley, Bryce & Conner Wassmann	Teel & Olivia Kenney Jax Kopine	Kristina Hahn	Team 5 Janet Wirths Jill Coleman Vicki Nave
Sunday, May 18 10:30 a.m.	Amy Imhoff	Kathryn Schuster	Volunteer	Chen Family	Thurman Family (2 doors) Russell Gerling	Cinder Doering Jack Murphy Ava Rapp	Jesse & Charlotte Rohrbach	

Please find someone to substitute for you if you are unable to fulfill your ministry.
 Sub lists can be found online at: tinyurl.com/5n78w677. Thank you for all you do to keep our liturgies reverent!

PLEASE NOTE: WEEK DAY MASS CHANGE

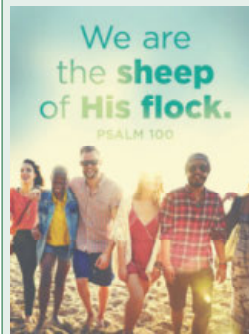
Wednesday, May 14, 8:05 a.m.: Mass at St. Joseph, Pilot Grove
Thursday, May 15, 9 a.m.: Mass at SSPP

PARISH CALENDAR

- **Friday, May 9:** Bingo, KofC Hall, 1515 Radio Hill Rd. Doors open at 5 p.m. Early Birds starts at 6:30 p.m.
- **Friday, May 9, 7 p.m.:** SSPP 8th grade graduation Mass
- **Saturday, May 10, 7 a.m.:** Men’s Group, parish office basement
- **Sunday, May 11, 10 a.m.:** ProLife Group leads the Rosary at church
- **Monday, May 12, 9 a.m.:** Legion of Mary, parish office basement
- **Monday, May 12, 6:30 p.m.:** Rosary at church
- **Tuesday, May 13, 5-6:30 p.m.:** Food pantry distribution, 509 Water St.
- **Tuesday, May 13, 5:30 p.m.:** Care Fund Committee meeting, parish office
- **Wednesday, May 14, 4:45 p.m.:** Cursillo, cry room
- **Wednesday, May 14, 6 p.m.:** Women’s Group will lead the rosary at church and then continue with their program in the church hall.
- **Thursday, May 15:** SSPP last day of school, 12 noon dismissal
- **Thursday, May 15, 5 p.m.:** Finance Council meeting, parish office
- **Thursday, May 15, 5-7 p.m.:** Reception for Beth Green & Rita Rapp, SSPP school gym. See bulletin announcement.
- **Thursday, May 15, 6:30 p.m.:** Pastoral Council meeting with dinner at the rectory
- **Third Friday, May 16, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.:** Adoration at church
- **Friday, May 16, 9 a.m.:** Cursillo, cry room
- **Friday, May 16, afternoon/evening:** Church hall rented
- **Saturday, May 17, 12 noon—5 p.m.:** Church hall rented
- **Saturday & Sunday, May 17 & 18:** Father Hoyer preaches at the Masses. Religious Articles case open for sales.
- **Sunday-Tuesday, May 18-20, 6:30 p.m.:** Parish mission. See bulletin announcement.
- **Monday-Friday, May 19-23:** Father Mark on vacation.
- **Monday, May 19, 12 noon—6 p.m.:** Red Cross blood drive, church hall. See bulletin announcement.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Margie Friedrich** who died April 25, 2025.
 “Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.”

The family of Patty Kempf would like to thank you for your prayers, kind words, and remembrances. We especially thank Father Mark and Father Gormley for a beautiful, comforting Mass, and the special ladies who prepared a wonderful meal for us. May God bless each of you for the kindness you have shown us!



Prayer to the Good Shepherd
 Beloved Shepherd,
 You guide in a way often beyond my understanding.
 You lead to paths yet undiscovered.
 Keep me in Your care, as together we seek green pastures and still waters.
 Amen.

2025 Graduation Mass

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future"
Isaiah 43:2

Calling all Graduates! Your SS Peter and Paul parish family wants to celebrate YOU and your accomplishments during the weekend masses on May 10/11, 2025. Join us at 6:00pm on Saturday evening or 10:30am on Sunday for mass and a small token of our congratulations.

As high school and college students approach their graduations, their faith family at Ss. Peter & Paul would like to celebrate their accomplishments with them! This includes recent graduates as well. All are cordially invited to attend one of our special graduation Masses on either Saturday, May 10, 6 p.m., or Sunday, May 11, 10:30 a.m. Pews will be reserved to you, your family, and other guests. Please RSVP to the parish office, 660-888-6468, or email dre@ssppparish.net to let us know you’re attending and how many people will be in your group. We’ll have a small commemorative gift for you as well. You’re always in our prayers! God bless!

thank you

Thank you to everyone who contributed non-perishable food items on Holy Thursday. Sixty-seven pounds of food was collected to donate to our local Neighbors Helping Neighbors food pantry.

neighbors helping neighbors

★ MEMORIAL DAY ★

Please join the SSPP Cemetery Board for the annual placement of flags in honor of the veterans buried at the SSPP Cemetery on Thursday, May 22 at 6 p.m. If there is enough help, a mini-spruce up of the grounds will also be tackled.



Congratulations to:

- Jaden Ronnfeldt and Olivia Zoeller (pictured above) who received the Sacrament of Confirmation Sunday, May 4 at St. Andrew in Tipton.
- Chase Grissum who received his First Holy Communion Friday, April 15 at SSPP.

Catholic Life Explained: WHY DO WE GENUFLECT?

Question: Why do we genuflect?

Answer: Genuflection is an act of devotion that literally means “to bend the knee.” For many Catholics, it’s an almost automatic gesture that we perform before entering our pew or row of seats at Mass. But, like many of the symbols and gestures of our faith tradition, genuflecting can also be an invitation for deeper reflection.

The practice of “bending the knee” is an ancient way of recognizing the presence of someone greater than we are. It has been said that the practice dates back to the time of Alexander the Great, but it became a common part of etiquette in the royal courts of the Middle Ages. From throne rooms and palaces, it was a small step to genuflecting becoming part of the devotional lives of Christians, who used this secular gesture as a way of recognizing the presence of the One who is King of Kings, especially in the Eucharist.

Today, Catholics are asked to genuflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament (whether in the tabernacle or exposed on the altar during eucharistic adoration). So, while it has become second nature to genuflect before entering your seat in church, we should pay attention to where the Blessed Sacrament is kept in each church or chapel that we visit, and genuflect in the direction of the tabernacle where the Blessed Sacrament is kept. In churches or chapels in which the tabernacle is in a separate space, we are invited to simply bow toward the altar.

In addition to genuflecting before the Blessed Sacrament, we are also instructed to genuflect before the cross used for veneration on Good Friday (during the solemn celebrations of the Lord’s Passion) and any time a relic of the True Cross is displayed for veneration. This long-standing tradition is a way of honoring the cross as the great sign of our salvation and of showing devotion to the passion of Jesus.



This Week on Formed
Week of May 11, 2025



The Day the Sun Danced: The True Story of Fatima

In 1917, three children in Fatima, Portugal, saw the Blessed Mother, shared her message, and witnessed the miracle of the sun dancing in the sky. Their faith inspired the world. Experience this miracle in this great film the entire family will enjoy.



The 13th Day

In a world torn apart by persecution, war, and oppression, three children in Fatima were chosen by God to offer an urgent message of hope to the world. Based on the memoirs of the oldest seer, Lucia Santos, The 13th Day dramatizes the true story of three young shepherds who experienced six apparitions of Our Lady, which culminated in the final prophesied miracle on October 13.



Our Lady of Fatima | Brother Francis and Friends

Brother Francis and Sister Imelda tell the story of the three shepherd children from Fatima who saw visions of Mary, later to be known as Our Lady of Fatima. Learn about the courage and faith these children exhibited and how they were rewarded with an amazing miracle!

Our parish has a Formed subscription. Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

MAY 18, 19, & 20, 2025 Sunday, Monday & Tuesday

Spring

INTO YOUR FAITH

All are welcome!

2025 Parish Mission

With Father Ron Hoye

6:30 P.M.
(50 minute presentation)

Ss. Peter & Paul Catholic Church
322 7th Street, Boonville, MO 65233
660-882-6468

Sweet Treats & Fellowship
Desserts served in the church hall after Fr. Hoye's final presentation Tuesday evening!

Children Welcome!

Q: "Why aren't Catholic priests allowed to marry?"

— Amy F., 14

A: Although the early Church allowed married clergy, the Church later came to see celibacy as a better example of the norm and model of Jesus' priesthood.

In referring to celibacy, St. Paul says: "Indeed, I wish everyone to be as I am, but each has a particular gift from God ... Now to the unmarried and to widows I say: it is a good thing for them to remain as they are, as I do" (1 Cor. 7:7-8). He goes on to say: "An unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord. But the married man is anxious about the things of the world, how he may please his wife, and he is divided" (1 Cor. 7:32-54).

Jesus said: "Everyone who has given up house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands for the sake of My name will receive a hundred times more, and will inherit eternal life" (Matt. 19:29).

Celibacy is a discipline, not a dogma. This means that the Church could change the rule. However, this is unlikely because of the many positive and practical benefits of celibacy. Here are 10 reasons why a celibate clergy makes good sense:

1. It leaves the priest free to more fully commit his life to the service of the Lord and the laity.
2. The Church has found it is better to keep priests moving from parish to parish every few years perhaps for a few reasons, including the desire to prevent a cult of personality from building around a particular priest. This situation can put too much focus on the man vs. the message. Can you imagine how much stress it would cause a priest to have to move a wife and family each time? Having a celibate priesthood enables the bishop, to whom the priest dedicates his life at ordination, the full flexibility he needs to move priests around.
3. To be able to lay their life down for their flock. Because a celibate priest does not have the obligation of a wife and children, he can give himself more easily: including his own life, if necessary. For example, Blessed Damien de Veuster of Belgium was able to work with lepers on the island of Molokai, Hawaii, because of the freedom he had in being a celibate minister. This work eventually led to his contracting and dying from leprosy.
4. It is a sign of contradiction and challenge to a society that is flooded with sexual messages. Celibacy surely gains the Catholic clergy a hidden respect from many people.
5. It gives the priest greater credibility when he asks the laity to make sacrifices because the laity knows that celibacy involves sacrifice.
6. It helps the priest master his passions, which will help as he teaches and ministers to the laity. It also gives him more time for prayer, which is the lifeblood of any ministry.
7. It enables a priest to be more objective when counseling married couples. He is less likely to project his own marriage successes or problems onto the couple.
8. It enables the priest to be a "spiritual father" to many more



people than a married man.

9. It allows the Church to put the hundreds of millions of dollars it saves in priestly salaries to the evangelization and charitable assistance of a needy world. Although priests do receive salaries, they are much less than they would have to be if they had families to support.

10. It's a foreshadowing that there will be no marriage in heaven.

No one is required to live a permanently celibate life. The Church says that people are free to marry. In fact, the Church glorifies the married state. Only if one wants to become a priest, brother or religious sister do they have to live a celibate life. The religious life, and the

requirements that come with it, do not have to be chosen by anyone. However, when it is chosen, it needs to be followed in the manner our Lord and His Church requires.

Sure celibacy can be difficult, especially in this sexually permissive age. But if a priest has good seminary formation that strongly supports celibacy and if he stays close to our Lord in prayer, he will be able to turn this sacrifice into a wonderful aid to his work.

*Reprinted from "Did Adam & Eve Have Belly Buttons?"
by Matthew J. Pinto*

Job Opening at Fr. Tolton Catholic High School

Fr. Tolton Catholic High School currently has a job opening for a full time Math Teacher. Full job description and information on how to apply can be found at <https://toltoncatholic.org/job-openings>. Join our team - apply today!



A Fond Farewell
JOIN US AS WE RECOGNIZE AND
CELEBRATE THE LEGACY OF TWO
BELOVED EDUCATORS

MRS. BETH GREEN
MRS. RITA RAPP

MAY 15, 2025
5 PM - 7 PM
(COME & GO AS YOU ARE ABLE)
SS PETER & PAUL GYM

As the College of Cardinals prepare to enter Conclave on May 7 to elect our next Pope, let us pray for them and for our church, that God may grant us a faithful Successor of Peter.

*O God, Eternal Shepherd,
Who govern Your flock with unflinching care,
Grant in Your boundless fatherly love
a pastor for Your Church
who will please You by His holiness
and to us show watchful care.*

*Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.
St. Peter, pray for us.*

The SSPP Quarterly Financial Statement for the time period of July 1, 2024-March 31, 2025 is available. It has been inserted into this week's bulletin. If you bulletin does not have this insert and you would like one, please call the parish office, 882-6468, to request a copy.

Now Hiring
Preschool Aide
For the 25-26 school year

Apply Here!

SS Peter & Paul is looking for a preschool aide to assist in our 4 year old classroom. This is an hourly position, which follows our school calendar.

If you, or someone you know, enjoys working with children and helping them grow in their faith, please contact Abby Martin at amartin@ssppschool.net

With immense gratitude for the Diocese of Jefferson City, Archbishop Shawn McKnight invites you to attend a special *Mass of Thanksgiving* accompanied by a light meal

May 20, 2025 | Cathedral of St. Joseph
5:30 p.m. | Jefferson City, MO

All are asked to RSVP at diojeffcity.org/Thanksgiving-Mass

GIVE HOPE THIS SPRING.
Give blood.
American Red Cross

Blood Drive
Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church
In the Hall
322 7th St.
Boonville, MO 65233

Monday, May 19, 2025
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: BOONVILLE to schedule an appointment.

Give May 19 to 31 for Red Cross solar lantern 1ml qty & chance @ USA trip of choice! rblblood.org/may

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

SS PETER & PAUL SUMMER CARE

Our Summer Care Program provides a nurturing, safe, and faith-filled environment where children can learn, play, and grow throughout the summer. Rooted in Catholic values, we foster a sense of community while engaging children in fun activities that support their spiritual, social, and academic development.

Open to SS Peter & Paul (Boonville) and St. Joseph (Pilot Grove) Parishioners and School Families. Join us for a summer of faith, friendship, and fun!

What to expect

- Swimming
- Crafts
- Hands-on projects
- Outdoor Play
- Service Projects
- Weekly Masses
- Structured Free Time

Hours Monday - Friday 6:30am - 6:00 pm
Weekly Rates Daily Rate: \$25/Day *Multi-child discounts will be applied
Registration \$40 per family

SCAN HERE to access the Registration Form

Saints Peter & Paul Catholic School
502 7th St. Boonville, MO 65233
660.882.2589
MHerzog@ssppschool.net
AMartin@ssppschool.net



GRADUATION AND MOTHER'S DAY ARE QUICKLY APPROACHING!

Please consider supporting the church and school by purchasing your gift cards from the Scrip (Raise Right) program. Please contact Darlene Smith at (660) 537-8638. .



AVAILABLE INVENTORY: Amazon \$10, \$25 & \$100; Arby's \$10; Bass Pro Shops \$25; Bath & Body Works \$25; Bredeaux \$10; C&R Market \$50 & \$100; Casey's \$25, \$50 & \$100; Cenex \$25 & \$100; Dairy Queen \$10 & \$25; Dick's Sporting Goods \$25; El Rancho Viejo \$25; Food & Laughs (Valid at BJ's Brewhouse, Cracker Barrel, Red Lobster, Red Robin, Cheesecake Factory) \$25; Gap/Old Navy/Banana Republic/Athleta \$25; Gordon Jewelers – any denomination; Happy Moments (Valid at Buffalo Wild Wings, Cheesecake Factory, Macy's, Panera Bread, Red Lobster, and Ulta Beauty) \$25; Hardee's \$10; Home Depot \$25; Hy-Vee \$50 & \$100; Infinity Massage 30 (\$35) or 60 (\$60) minutes; Lowe's \$25; Maggie's \$25; Menard's \$25; McDonalds \$10 and \$25; Never The Same – any denomination; Olive Garden/Cheddar's/Longhorn \$25; Panera Bread \$10 and \$25; Sonic \$10 or \$25; Starbuck's \$10 & \$25; Subway \$10; TJ Maxx/Marshalls/Home Goods/Sierra Trading \$25; Taco Bell \$10 or \$25; Target \$10 & \$25; Texas Roadhouse \$25; The Brew Brothers \$25; The Cove \$25; Tractor Supply \$25; VISA (No activation fee!) \$25, \$50, or \$100; Walmart \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, or \$500; Wendy's \$25

PROLIFE UPDATES

Ninth Month of Unborn Baby Development: In the ninth month, a baby will gain one half pound per week as it is getting ready for birth. The bones in the head are soft and flexible to help with the journey down the narrow birth canal. Of the 45 generations of cell divisions before adulthood, 41 have already taken place. Only four more come before adolescence. Ninety percent of a person's development happens in the womb.

Our Ss. Peter and Paul Parish Baby Shower will be Saturday, May 31 and Sunday, June 1 at front entrance of church and cry room. Pick up some literature, ask questions, grab a couple of cookies and a bookmark for the kids.

We will have baskets available at each of the church entrances and in the school office two weeks before the baby shower weekend for anyone who cannot attend and would like to donate a baby shower gift.

Baby shower gifts needed are as follows: baby lotion, head-to-toe body wash and shampoo, nail clippers, pacifiers, diaper rash ointment, newborn diapers to size 5, infant sleepers through size 1, and infant clothing through size 1. Baby thermometers, and white onesies size newborn and 3-6 months are also needed.

Items will be taken to My Life Clinic and a pregnancy resource center. We toured the centers that do so much to support parents of an unplanned pregnancy with no cost: sonograms, counseling, educating parents on caring for their baby, helping mothers get jobs, managing a household, cooking and a place to stay as needed.

Thursday, May 1 was the Midwest March for Life at the Missouri State Capitol.

The theme was "To Honor and Glorify Jesus Christ and Defend Innocent Life." Bishop Rice based his talk about defending life on a phrase on the wall in the senate chamber of the capitol that read "Nothing is politically right which is morally wrong."



Andrew Bailey, the attorney general, gave testimony of his own family adopting two children. He gave a speech on the need to appeal and replace Amendment 3 because the law did not explain what it actually would do.

Denny Haskins, Secretary of State, stressed all should be protected, and Governor Mike Kehoe stressed the importance of involvement. Speakers talked about not growing weary, the importance of involving fathers and programs for fathers. Another woman talked about being led into the room for an abortion, and a doctor who tried to convince her to continue the abortion after she changed her mind. She left the room after seeing blood on the floor. A janitor in the hallway helped her. There were additional speakers offering support and discussing why abortions are not health care nor are they safe, especially, the chemical abortions.

For more information call Connie Gerling, 660-621-2787.

Columbia Pro-Life Event
Wednesday, May 21, 2025
 Social 6-7 p.m. | Dinner 7-9 p.m.
 \$100 per person
 Country Club of Missouri
 1300 Woodrail Ave. | Columbia, Missouri

Keynote: Riley Gaines
 NCAA Swimmer &
 Advocate for Women

P23 DISCERNMENT CAMP

An epic vocation camp for junior high guys based on Psalm 23

June 26-28 — Shelbina
 July 9-11 — Camdenton

DIOCESE OF Jefferson City
 diojeffcity.org/camp-p23

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Thomas E. May, Holwell J. May II, Keith Hodges and Theresa Krebs

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✓ Family/Friends ✓ GPS & Fall Alert
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STARTING AT
\$19⁹⁵
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