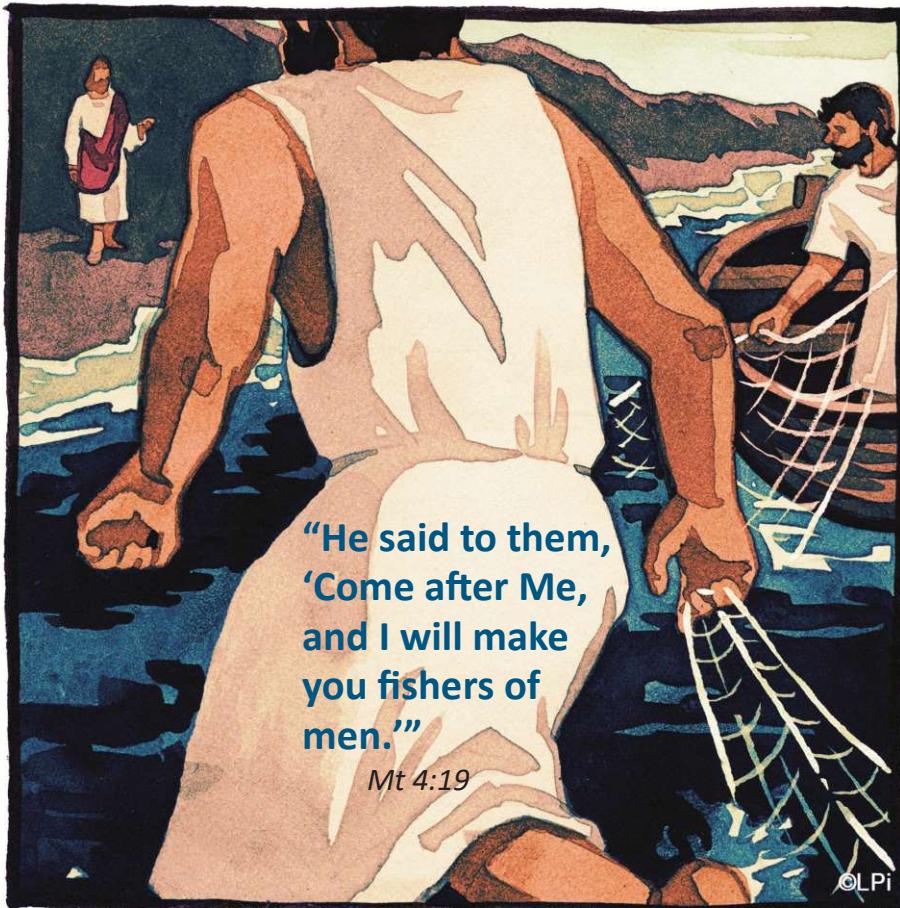


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St. Peter's Church
OF SPRING GROVE, IL



Sunday, January 25, 2026
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

ST. PETER'S MISSION STATEMENT

As parishioners of St. Peter's Catholic Church, we strive to imitate Jesus' example of prayer, fellowship, love and service.

Mass Schedule

Tuesday - Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.
(10:00 a.m. Mass *livestreamed*)

Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00 - 3:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. - Sunday 7:45 a.m.

Mark Your Calendars
for the Annual Parish
Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, February 7th

Two seatings (5:00 pm & 7:15 pm)

Dinner will include salad, bread, spaghetti and meatballs, wine or soda and a selection of desserts.

Adults - \$16 per person

Kids (5-12) - \$8

Kids under 5 - Free



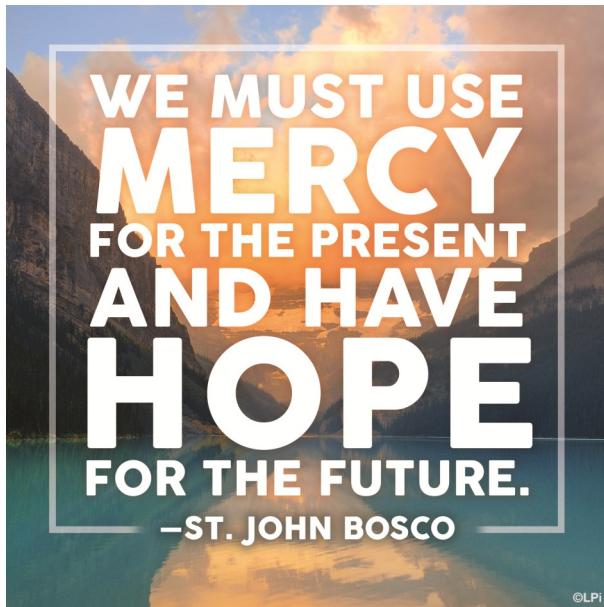
Seating is limited, so please return the registration form you received in the mail no later than Monday, February 2nd.

Many hands make light work!

To help, sign-up on the bulletin boards in the vestibule before or after Masses.

This is a great opportunity to earn service hours too!

Get your reservations in today for a GREAT NIGHT!



Coming this Spring

St. Peter's will be working with Universal Church Directories to create a new Parish Directory.



We are currently looking for a hobbyist photographer who would be willing to take some high resolution photographs of our renovated church, as well as photographs of our ministries.
If you are interested, please call Laura in the Parish Office at 815-675-2288.

The Virtue of Patience, Explained



In treating others with a spirit of patience, said Pope Francis, we "look at them... with God's gaze, knowing how to distinguish their faces from their faults."

"Rushing and impatience are enemies of spiritual life," he continued. "God is love, and those who love do not tire, they are not irascible; they do not give ultimatums. God is patient, God knows how to wait."

Patience is sometimes referred to as being "annexed" to the moral virtue of fortitude. In practicing patience, we bear any kind of suffering for a greater good. St. Thomas Aquinas describes patience as a means to "safeguard the good of reason against sorrow, lest reason give way to sorrow" (Sum. II-II, 136, Art. 1).

The virtue of patience is a fruit of the Holy Spirit (*Galatians 5:22*), and as Christians who have received the Holy Spirit we are called to "be patient in tribulation" (*Romans 12:12*) and to "preach the message (of Christ)... with great patience" (*2 Timothy 4:2*).

Live the Liturgy

Inspiration of the Week

Peter and Andrew, James and John – they were not expecting God that day. But there He was, right in front of them, beckoning. God stands before us today, and like the Apostles, we often don't see Him coming. But still, He beckons. Will we follow?

Save-the-Date

Monday and Tuesday, March 2nd and 3rd

St. Peter's will be hosting Fr. Robert Sherry for a two-day mission on the Eucharist.

More information to follow.

Last Opportunity, Sign Up Today!

Sausage Soiree/Sausage Making

Come spend a FUN afternoon with us,
you can be on your "wurst" behavior.



Who: Your Knights of Columbus are pleased to offer

What: Our 15th Annual Sausage Soiree

When: **February 1st after 10:00 a.m. Mass**

Where: Our Parish Hall

Why: Because we can! And besides: What else do you have planned for a Sunday afternoon in February in northern Illinois?

Cost: \$25 per person

Reservations Required by Wednesday, January 28th!

To Reserve Your Space, please contact **Lee M. Jones**
L.Jones@mchsi.com (preferred) or 815-403-8122

33 Days to Eucharistic Glory

*To find out more about this program for Lent,
join us this weekend, Saturday and Sunday,
Jan. 24 and 25 after each Mass in the Parish Hall
for an informational meeting.*

33 Days to Eucharistic Glory is an incredible journey that awaits you this Lent—an *invitation to participate in a spiritual pilgrimage!* This journey will lead you to the essence of what it truly means to be Catholic. This journey will change your life in a most marvelous way. This Lent you may give up something, but I encourage you to step out and take this Eucharistic journey with other parishioners to find Jesus in the Most Holy Eucharist.

We are offering to the St. Peter's community, the opportunity to study Matthew Kelly's book, "33 Days to Eucharistic Glory."

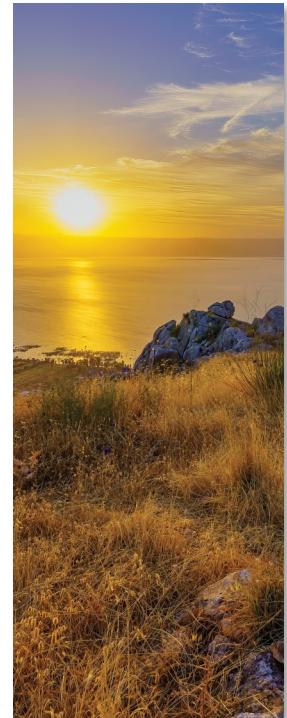
If you were not able to sign up for the 33 Days of Eucharistic Glory this weekend, no problem; just call Laura at the parish office and she will have someone from the team give you a call. You will then be able to choose a time and place that best suits your situation. Each of the 6 study groups will meet one time a week to facilitate how everyone is progressing in the material. It looks like each group will meet at different times and places. So, if you did not sign up you still have a chance.

In Christ, Deacon Mark

GO EVANGELIZE

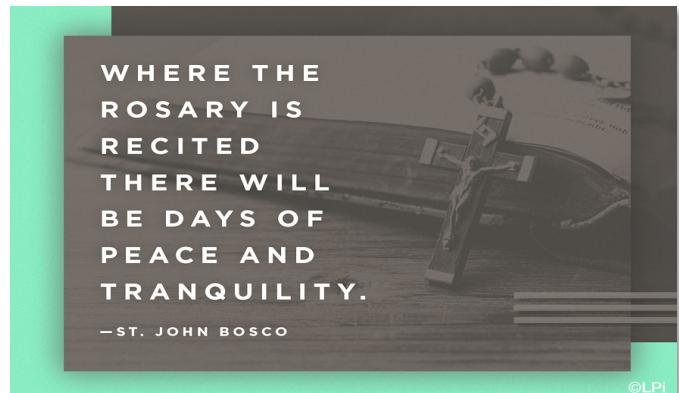
PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Like the Apostles Peter, Andrew, James and John in today's Gospel, *we, too, have been called to help build God's Kingdom on earth. We do this in a particular way by continuing the works of Jesus here on earth.* As Pope Leo XIV reminds us in *Dilexi Te*, "The signs that accompany Jesus' preaching are manifestations of the love and compassion with which God looks upon the sick, the poor and sinners... *The Church, if she wants to be Christ's Church, must be... a place where the poor have a privileged place.*" Part of the way we bear witness to the inbreaking of God's Kingdom on earth is to put those who are ill and marginalized at the center of our concern. Then the Kingdom of God will be manifest and visible in the world, drawing others to Christ.



SERVE

This week, spend some time researching ways you can work with other Christians to serve the sick and the poor of our world. As we conclude this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (which ends Jan. 25, 2026), there's no better witness we can offer to the dawn of the Kingdom of God than being "united in the same mind and in the same purpose" (as Paul calls us to be today) in serving those in need.



(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

SEA OF GALILEE MOMENTS

Mini reflection: Young or old, believer or non-believer, rich or poor: it doesn't matter who we are. It doesn't matter what our life looks like. If we are a human being, if we have a soul, we stand on the shore of a great and powerful sea, a net in our hands and a hunger in our soul.

Young or old, believer or non-believer, rich or poor, healthy or sick: it doesn't matter who we are. It doesn't matter what our life looks like. If we are a human being, if we have a soul, we stand on the shore of a great and powerful sea, a net in our hands and a hunger in our soul.

So what's in the sea? I don't know about yours, but mine is filled with feelings of inadequacy. It's filled with fear and resentment and confusion. It's filled with misplaced pride. It's deep. It's dark. It's well-stocked.

I cast my net, over and over again. What else is there to do? If I draw back a harvest, it can sustain me for days, weeks, maybe even years. The nourishment of the sea can keep away the hunger pangs — for a time. You can survive on fear and resentment and pride if it's all you have. You'll never feel full, and you'll never be strong, but you'll survive on what the world can offer you — so long as you keep coming back to the shore.

This is where Jesus finds us.

If I close my eyes, I can picture the moments exactly, all of them: my Sea of Galilee moments. I could describe them to you — the day, the year, what was happening in my life, what I wanted and what I needed and what gnawing hunger had brought me, once again, limping, crawling back to the shore.

But you wouldn't understand my Sea of Galilee moments, just like I wouldn't understand yours. There is only one who understands, and his is the voice we heard, clear and strong: "Put down the net, and come with me."

~ Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman



WEEKENDS
1/24/ - 2/1/2026

The Mass		For
CONFESIONS OFFERED ON SATURDAY'S, 3:00 - 3:45 P.M.		
ROSARY PRAYED AT 3:30 P.M.		
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME		
Sat	4 pm	† John Popelka
Sun	8 am	The parishioners of St. Peter's Church
	10 am	† Deceased Members of the Rygiel - Kula Families
Tuesday - Friday, Rosary Prayed at 7:30 a.m.		
Tues	8 am	Mass of Thanksgiving
Wed	8 am	† Deceased Members of the Wagner Family
Thur	8 am	† Matthew J. Scholle
Fri	8 am	† Deceased Members of the Rygiel & Kula Families
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME		
Sat	4 pm	† Mark Mucek
Sun	8 am	† Tom Britz
	10 am	† Thomas & Lucille Bodden The parishioners of St. Peter's Church

SERVING OTHERS BRINGS HAPPINESS AND MENTAL WELL-BEING

Helping others doesn't just make an impact — it literally makes you feel better. According to research posted in Harvard Health Publishing, when we serve, our brains release endorphins (natural mood boosters), leading to what's called the "helper's high." It reduces stress, improves well-being, and builds mental resilience.

St. Mother Teresa: "We cannot all do great things, but we can do small things with great love."

Need Help Now: 988

Brought to you by Catholic Charities Mental Health Ministry

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Ushers
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Saturday 1/24 4:00 pm	Peggy Mack	Deacon Mark	Deb Christian Rich Wirth Mike Wyatt
Sunday 1/25 8:00 am	Kathy Rietschel	Eddie Wells	Paul Leali Vince Desecki
10:00 am	Jacqui Wold	Mike Rygiel <i>Carol Rygiel (Choir)</i>	Dave Harms Kathleen Harms

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 1/31 4:00 pm	Cyndee Wehrheim	Dennis Wehrheim	Sean Gosselin Gary Miller
Sunday 2/1 8:00 am	Ardie Arnold	Deacon Mark <i>DeAnne Besetzny (Choir)</i>	Dennis Wehrheim Larry Hauser
10:00 am	Joanne Prato	Sharon Ellicson <i>Heather Justen (Choir)</i>	Tom Straley Mike Wyatt

Homebound Ministers

January 25th: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deacon Mark, Maria Sullivan, Theresa Frer, Eddie Wells & Steve Besetzny

February 1st: 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Kathleen Van Ella, Mary Seil, Peggy Neuman, Julie Francis & Eddie Wells

Pope Leo's best quotes for Catholic Youth:

- “God loves us, and evil will not prevail. We are all in God’s hands.”
- “You are not only the future of the Church, you are the present. Your voices, your ideas, your faith matter right now. And the Church needs you.”
- “If you want to change the world, begin by letting God change you.”
- “Be intentional with your screen time. Make sure technology serves your life and not the other way around.”
- “The Church needs what you have been given to share with all of us. If you want to help the Church prepare for the future, start by being involved today.”
- “Remember, AI can never replace the unique gift that you are to the world.”
- “Jesus takes nothing away, and He gives you everything. When we give ourselves to Him, we receive far more than we could imagine.”

Our Sanctuary Lamp burns from
January 25th – February 7th for

† Scholle, Sompel Families

May this light which reminds us of
Jesus’ True Presence in the Sanctuary
Welcome them into eternal peace.



We would love to Pray for you!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place into
your hands, all fellow parishioners
we know and love, who are ill or injured
and in need of Your healing touch.
Jesus, be with them all, especially:

Marguerite Baranov	Martha Koukol
Christel Beyerlein	Mark & Kim Krakowski
Joan Boettjer	Larry & LeeAnn Lord
Patty Brown	Caroline Madson
Deb Christian	Denise Meyers
Deb Cooke	Larry Meyers
Deacon Eugene Damian	Barbara Miller
Phyllis Ehlers	Norma Moretti
Robert Fenrich	John Mueller
Carol Flatley	Carole Nowicki
Glenn Geske	Jim Nowicki
Lynn Geske	John & Sandra Paleka
Gina Gugala	Debbie Schaff
Anthony Hodnik	Dorothy Scichowski
Patricia Hodnik	David Thomas
Christopher Hautala	Valerie Thompson
Joseph Keim	Robert Tolomeo
Nancy Klein	Grace Wesinger
Ronald Klein	Fred Zahn

**The individuals who are on our prayers list will
continue to be on our prayer list for six months.**

If you or a loved one wish to continue to be on
the prayer list, please contact the
Parish Office during regular business hours.
815-675-2288

If you know someone who is sick and asking for
prayer, but they are not registered members of our
parish family, please allow us to solicit support for
them by adding their names to our Prayer Chain
Ministry. Just visit StPeterCatholicChurch.org and
**after clicking where it reads CONTACT US, simply
follow the directions under PRAYER REQUEST.**

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
IS OFFERED Every Saturday
from 3:00 until 3:45 p.m.

Or call the Parish Office
to schedule an appointment.



Website: StPeterCatholicChurch.org

Email: SaintPetersChurch@gmail.com

Office Hours: Tue. - Thu. 8:30 a.m. - noon,
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Confessions: Sat. 3:00 - 3:45 p.m. (or by appointment)

Pastor: Rev. Burt H. Absalon

Deacon: Mr. Mark Raz

PARISH STAFF

Parish Office 815-675-2288

Office Administration

Mary K. Yager x205

Laura Hamill x203

Music Director

Brian Wrightson 630-440-7261

music.stpeter@gmail.com

Property Maintenance

Mark Krakowski

Marka.stpeter@gmail.com



Parish Hall 815-675-6208

Preschool 815-342-6318

Aimee Thomas

Religious Education 815-342-6318

Aimee Thomas

FaithFormationStPeters@gmail.com

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Steve & DeAnne Besetzny

Bulletin_Editor_StPeter@aol.com

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Altar Servers

Tony Rygiel 815-482-6618

Eucharistic Ministers & Liturgical Scheduler

Sharon Ellicson 815-258-5033

Lectors

Peggy Mack 815-403-2225

Women's Ministry

Crystal Pace StPetersWM@gmail.com

Communion Ministers to the Homebound

Steve Besetzny steve.besetzny@gmail.com

Ushers

Chad Franckowiak chadfranko@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus, Grand Knight

Stan Logan Tinsley 847-507-2096

superstinsley92@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul

Ardie Arnold StPeters.svdp@gmail.com

Prayer Chain

Mark Vallango & Carol Flatley

StPetersPrayerChain@hotmail.com

Adoration & Our Visiting Madonna

Carrie Shannon 815-687-6734

Grief Support Group

Marie Arnold (Call the Parish Office)

Prayers & Squares

Connie Otsuka 224-392-1940



PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, January 25th - 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

- Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am
- K of C - Breakfast - After the 8:00 & 10:00 am Masses
- 33 Days Parish Mission Info Meeting - Parish Hall - After Masses
- OCIA - Parish Office Upstairs Class Room - 9:00 am
- Faith Formation Classes - 1st, 2nd, 7th & 8th - 5:30 pm

Monday, January 26th - Parish Office Closed

Tuesday, January 27th

- K of C - Planning Meeting - Parish Hall - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, January 28th

- Spiritual Warfare Rosary - Church - 6:00 pm

Thursday, January 29th

- Choir Rehearsal - 6:00 pm

Friday, January 30th - Parish Office Closed

Saturday, January 31st

- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament all night until 7:45 am

Sunday, February 1st - 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am
- K of C - Sausage Soiree - Parish Hall - 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
- OCIA - Parish Office Upstairs Class Room - 9:00 am
- Faith Formation Classes - 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th - 5:30 pm

IL Pro-Life March

**DIOCESE OF ROCKFORD PILGRIMAGE
THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026**



REGISTRATION FORMS & PAPERWORK AVAILABLE AT:

life.rockforddiocese.org/life-dignity/2026-il-pro-life-march

FOR INFO: LIFE & FAMILY EVANGELIZATION OFFICE (815) 399-4300 x 377

YOUTH/SCHOOL/FAMILY GROUP

\$60/PERSON

INDIVIDUAL PILGRIMS

\$80/PERSON

Cost Includes:

- Round-trip motor coach to Springfield, Ill.
- Mass, Rally, IL Pro-Life March, and Adoration.
- Diocesan pilgrimage baseball cap; option for pilgrimage hoodie available at extra cost
- Debrief discussion of the day
- Please bring a bagged lunch and money for dinner on the road.

A truly unforgettable experience!

PILGRIM REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

All forms & payment must be submitted by **February 26, 2026**

SPACE IS LIMITED. SPOTS WILL BE FILLED IN THE ORDER IN WHICH FORMS AND PAYMENTS ARE RECEIVED.

Due to a generous Knights of Columbus donation, youth & accompanying adults will travel at a reduced cost!



PARISH INFORMATION

BAPTISMS - Fr. Burt is eager and happy to baptize children whose parent(s) are practicing the Catholic faith and registered members of St. Peter's Parish. Please call the Parish Office for additional requirements and information.

MARRIAGES - Please contact Fr. Burt before you set a date, at least six months in advance.

HOLY COMMUNION - Parishioners confined to their homes, for an indefinite length of time due to illness or advanced age, may call the office and request that the Holy Eucharist be brought to them on Sunday mornings.

REGISTRATION - New members should register by either calling the Parish Office or visiting us online at: StPeterCatholicChurch.org

HOSPITAL VISITS - If you wish **Fr. Burt** to visit during your stay in the hospital, please call him at the Parish Office and he will be happy to do so. Likewise, if you wish to be added to our Prayer Chain, let us know by calling 815-675-2288

FUNERALS ARRANGEMENTS - are to be made in consultation with Fr. Burt.

ANointing of the Sick - If you or someone you know is sick, injured or being admitted to a hospital and would like to receive the Anointing of the Sick, call the Parish Office without delay.

Should there be an emergency after normal business hours, please call 815-675-2339

KNIGHTS' CORNER WE ARE ALL CALLED TO SERVE

Knights of Columbus

Planning Meeting - Tuesday, January 27

Parish Hall - 7:00 pm

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