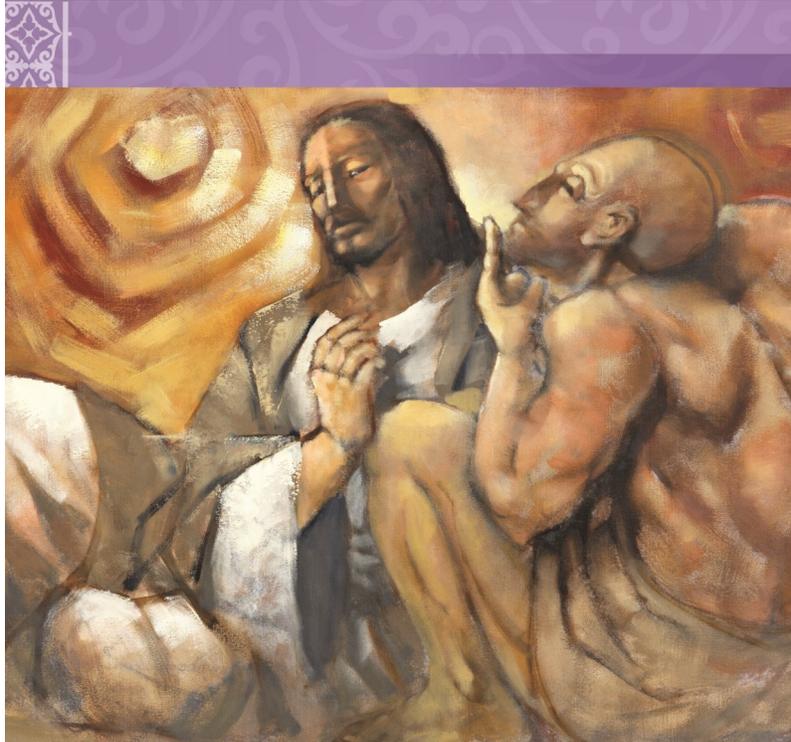




St. Peter's Church

OF SPRING GROVE, IL



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

"The tempter approached and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread.' He said in reply, 'It is written: One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.'" Mt 4: 1-4

Sunday, February 22, 2026 1st Sunday of Lent

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.

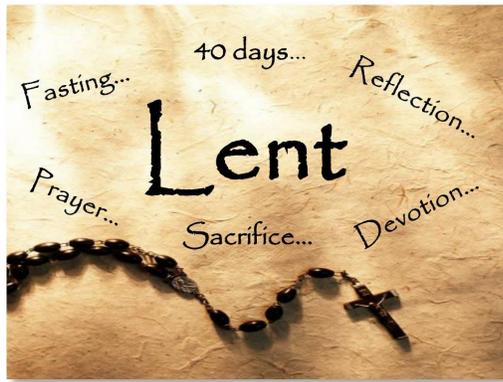
(10:00 a.m. Mass livestreamed)

Reconciliation

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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



**LENT IS A TIME OF RENEWAL & REPENTANCE.
To Add to Our Penitential Spirit of Lent
and Our Ascent to the
Holy Mountain of Easter!**

A reminder that at *All Masses during the Lenten Season the Gloria is Omitted and NO Alleluia is recited or sung. And the congregation will disperse in silence after the Dismissal and recitation of the Prayer to our Lady.*

**This Lent prayerfully consider
sacrificing a little bit of your personal time to
spend with our Lord during
All Night Adoration
of the Blessed Sacrament.**

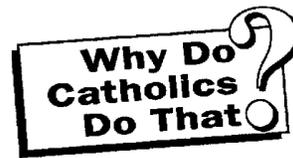
**Adoration is every Saturday evening right after
the 4:00 p.m. Mass and ending with
Benediction on Sunday mornings at 7:45 a.m.**

Prayer during adoration is defined as raising one's mind and heart to God. If we are trying to pray, we are succeeding, because trying, we will to raise our minds and hearts to God, and that is the meaning of prayer.

Around the globe, peoples' lives have been transformed by the power of prayer, especially during Eucharistic Adoration. The fruits of the Holy Spirit somehow softens the human heart. Re-molds it in the image and likeness of God. Allowing God's love to blossom forth in you.

Those individuals seem to engage more in their spiritual life, their marriage, their family, their work even becoming more active in their parishes. This continues the ripple effect of Christ's presence in the world.

Come join the movement of Eucharistic Adoration!



**What to do with
dryness in
prayer**

God never leaves us, yet our experience of prayer can ebb and flow. There are times of joy and peace, and others marked by dryness and difficulty. *While dry seasons can be discouraging, that is often when our faith can grow the most.* Don't avoid them, but live them well.

Ask why.

Dryness in prayer can point to areas that need attention. Chronic stress, lack of rest, constant busyness, excessive screen time, or unresolved sin can weaken our attentiveness to God.

Examine your habits and ask what may be interfering with prayer.

Remembering the good times.

When times are tough, memory sustains love. Follow Mary's example, who *"kept all these things, pondering them in her heart"* (Luke 2:19).

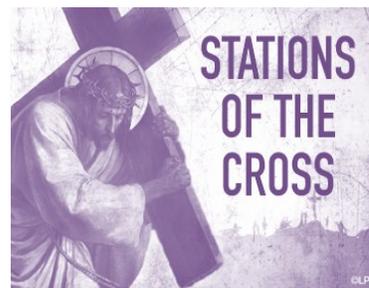
Recall the ways God has acted in your life.

Remembering His faithfulness restores confidence.

Renew your "Yes" daily.

Mary's consent to God's will was a daily surrender, even amid suffering. **Resist the temptation to abandon prayer.** Each day, echo her words: *"Let it be done unto me according to Your word"* (Luke 1:38).

**The Stations of the Cross
Every Friday During Lent!**



***Unite your own
suffering with
Christ's and
feel the depth
of His love.***

Walk with Jesus, step-by-step as He journeys towards His Cross and we pray the Stations of the Cross beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Church.

“What Do You Seek?”

(John 1:38)

Have you ever felt restless or quietly dissatisfied, sensing that something in your life needs changing? Lent offers that opportunity. It is a spiritual reset, inviting us to reorient our hearts toward Christ, the true source of peace, joy, purpose, and meaning. Here are practical ways to deepen your encounter with God and His love this Lent.

Faith is relational, not informational.

The first disciples were not content with simply hearing about Jesus. They wanted to be with Him and to know Him personally. Christ extends that same invitation to us today. We respond by making room for Him through prayer and meditation, regular participation in Mass, and time with Scripture, not as duties to complete, but as ways of choosing a living relationship with the One who loves us most.

Choose Trust Over Control.

“Let Him lead and guide you,” Pope Leo has urged. God’s invitation to deeper friendship is renewed each day, and Lent is a privileged time to respond with intention. Begin each morning by offering your day to God, placing your work, relationships, and uncertainties in His hands. This simple act of trust opens the door to genuine freedom.

Share What You Have Received.

A true encounter with God naturally leads to what Pope Leo called “missionary zeal,” the desire to share with others what we have received. After meeting Christ, St. Andrew simply brought his brother, Simon Peter, to Him. Likewise sharing your faith is often as simple as an honest conversation with a friend about the source of your hope. You are not persuading or performing; you are inviting someone you care about to meet the Friend who has changed your life.

This Lent, let renewal take root. Choose presence, trust, and generosity, and allow God to do the rest.

“If you sense the Lord calling you, do not be afraid... He alone knows the deepest, perhaps hidden, longings of your heart—the path that will lead you to true fulfillment.”

~ Pope Leo XIV

Save-the-Date

Fr. Sherry

On Monday and Tuesday,
March 2nd and 3rd
at 7:00 p.m. in the Church



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

Fr. Sherry will be guiding us through our Catholic belief in the **Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.**

Come and listen to Fr. Sherry and renew your understanding of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

Lenten Blessing

Bless us in Your mercy, Lord as we enter these 40 days of Lent. Use this time to call, anoint, bind, strengthen, and inspire us anew. Like a good shepherd, teach us Your voice, and give us the strength to follow. *Amen.*



Soup and Salad Fridays

Every Friday night during Lent, various parish ministries will host a soup and salad dinner in the parish hall.

A “no cook” Friday dinner for moms and dads.

Cost: Free

Who's Invited: All Parishioners and Families

Time: 6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

Enjoy a tasty bowl of soup, salad, and a variety of breads with your Parish Family.

Then, we'll journey together in the footsteps of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection as we pray the Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. in the church.

**Food, Faith, and Family...
What could be better?**

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

INTO THE DESERT

Mini reflection: There are many reasons why the Word became flesh. But I think one of the most important reasons must have been that God wanted to show us that He knows, intimately, how easily the devil exploits our physical experience of this world.

When we first got married, I wanted to know everything my husband was thinking, exactly when he was thinking it.

Thirteen years later, I still want to know it all. But I want to know it after he's had a snack.

I think he still wants to know what I'm thinking, too. But he wants to know it after I've had 10 minutes without hearing the word, "Mommy!"

Life has taught us, you see, that it's hard to be a good person, a nice person, a gentle person, when your body doesn't feel good or nice or gentle. When you're hungry. When you're exhausted. When you're anxious.

It's not impossible, of course. It's just... *hard*.

We're entering a penitential season, a time in which we purposefully deprive ourselves in certain ways. During Lent, we intentionally enter into the desert of physical hunger and weakness. Why, in preparation for Easter and in an effort to spiritually purify ourselves, do we go to this place where it's so *hard to be good*? Why do we go to the desert?

Because Christ has shown us that the desert is where decisions are made.

There are many reasons why the Word became flesh to accomplish God's plan for our salvation. But I think one of the most important reasons must have been that God wanted to show us that He knows, intimately, how easily the devil exploits our physical experience of this world. We see it in today's Gospel: Jesus, hungry and weary. Jesus, taunted and tempted.

We see him. We recognize him. We are him.

And we hear his voice, even though it trembles with fatigue: "Get away, Satan!"

Today, we enter the desert. Because the desert is where decisions are made.

~ Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman



WEEKENDS
2/21/ - 3/1/2026

The Mass		For	
<i>CONFESSIONS OFFERED ON SATURDAY'S, 3:00 - 3:45 P.M. ROSARY PRAYED AT 3:30 P.M.</i>			
1ST SUNDAY OF LENT			
Sat	4 pm	†	Deceased Members of the Popelka Family
Sun	8 am		The parishioners of St. Peter's Church
	10 am	†	Diana Kula
<i>Tuesday - Friday, Rosary Prayed at 7:30 a.m.</i>			
Tues	8 am	†	Dale Vogel
Wed	8 am	†	Doris & Carroll Osborn
Thur	8 am	†	James Michelotti
Fri	8 am	†	Deceased Members of the Green & Walsh Families
2ND SUNDAY OF LENT			
Sat	4 pm	†	Donald Wehrheim
Sun	8 am		The parishioners of St. Peter's Church
	10 am	†	Diana Kula

A bar opened next to a church.

The church openly prayed every day against the bar and its business.

A few weeks later, the bar was struck by lightning and burned down.

The bar owner sued the church, claiming the fire was caused by their prayers.

The church denied all responsibility.

In his judgment, the judge said, *"This case is hard to decide because we have a bar owner who believes in the power of prayer, and an entire church that doesn't."*



	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Ushers
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT			
Saturday 2/21 4:00 pm	Jerry Bodden	Dennis Wehrheim <i>Jacqui Wold</i> (Choir)	Sean Gosselin Gary Miller
Sunday 2/22 8:00 am	Ardie Arnold	Deacon Mark <i>DeAnne Besetzny</i> (Choir)	Dennis Wehrheim Larry Hauser
10:00 am	Joanne Prato	Heather Justen <i>Jean Hlavin</i> (Choir)	Dave Harms Kathleen Harms
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT			
Saturday 2/28 4:00 pm	Tom Straley	Susan Straley	Denise Wahls Chad Franckowiak
Sunday 3/1 8:00 am	Eleanor Murphy	Mary Seil <i>DeAnne Besetzny</i> (Choir)	Vince Desecki Paul Leali
10:00 am	Nettie Toms	Deacon Mark <i>Kathie Toms</i> (Choir)	Stan Tinsley John Ellicson

Homebound Ministers

February 22nd: 1st Sunday of Lent

Deacon Mark, Kathleen Van Ella, Maria Sullivan, Theresa Frer & Julia Francis

March 1st: 2nd Sunday of Lent

Deacon Mark, Mary Seil, Peggy Neuman, Stan Tinsley & Steve Besetzny

Our Sanctuary Lamp burns from February 22nd – March 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
Christel Beyerlein
Patty Brown
Deb Cooke
Deacon Eugene Damian
Phyllis Ehlers
Robert Fenrich
Carol Flatley
Gail Gagnon
Glenn Geske
Lynn Geske
Gina Gugala
Anthony Hodnik
Patricia Hodnik
Christopher Hautala
Joseph Keim
Nancy Klein
Ronald Klein
Martha Koukol

Mark & Kim Krakowski
Larry Lord
Caroline Madson
Denise Meyers
Larry Meyers
Barbara Miller
Norma Moretti
John Mueller
Carole Nowicki
Jim Nowicki
John & Sandra Paleka
Debbie Schaff
Dorothy Scichowski
David Thomas
Valerie Thompson
Robert Tolomeo
Grace Wesinger
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.



Continue into the Lenten season with **Foretold**, a video series that weaves together Old and New Testament stories that reveal Jesus as our salvation from the beginning of time. These stories will also teach you how to see God's providence at work in your everyday life.



To Watch, "Foretold." Simply scan the QR code to sign-up today, and use zip code 60081 to easily find St. Peter's FREE subscription for you to use anywhere, anytime.



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

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Mark Krakowski

Marka.stpeter@gmail.com

Dave Hiller

Cemetery Sexton

Kevin Murray x216

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Aimee Thomas

Religious Education 815-342-6318

Aimee Thomas

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Bulletin_Editor_StPeter@aol.com

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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.svd@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, February 22nd - 1st Sunday of Lent

- **Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am**
- Faith Formation Classes - 1st, 2nd, 7th & 8th - 5:30 pm

Monday, February 23rd - Parish Office Closed

Tuesday, February 24th

- K of C - Planning Meeting - Parish Hall - 7:00 pm
- 33 Days Eucharistic Glory, Study Group - Parish Hall - 8:00 pm

Wednesday, February 25th

- **Spiritual Warfare Rosary - 6:00 pm**
- 33 Days Eucharistic Glory, Study Group - Parish Hall - 7:30 pm

Thursday, February 26th

- 33 Days Eucharistic Glory, Study Group - Parish Hall - 10:00 am
- Choir Rehearsal - 6:00 pm

Friday, February 27th - Parish Office Closed

- Soup/Salad Supper - Parish Hall - 6:00 pm
- Stations of the Cross - Church - 7:00 pm

Saturday, February 28th

- **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament all night until 7:45 am**
- 33 Days Eucharistic Glory, Study Group - Parish Hall - 9:30 am

Sunday, March 1st - 2nd Sunday of Lent

- **Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am**
- Faith Formation Classes - 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th - 5:30 pm
- OCIA Class - Parish Office Upstairs Classroom - 9:00 am



Save the Date!
Bring a Friend!

Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, April 18, 2026
9:00 a.m. - Noon

*** Live Music ***

Location: St. Mary Catholic Church
Parish Hall
10307 Dundee Road, Huntley, IL

For More Information:
use the QR Code or go to
<https://Magnificat-Ministry.net/chapters/il-mchenry/>



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**When you
have the
opportunity
to do good,
do not
let it go by.**

St. Polycarp

©LPi



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, February 24th

Parish Hall - 7:00 pm

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