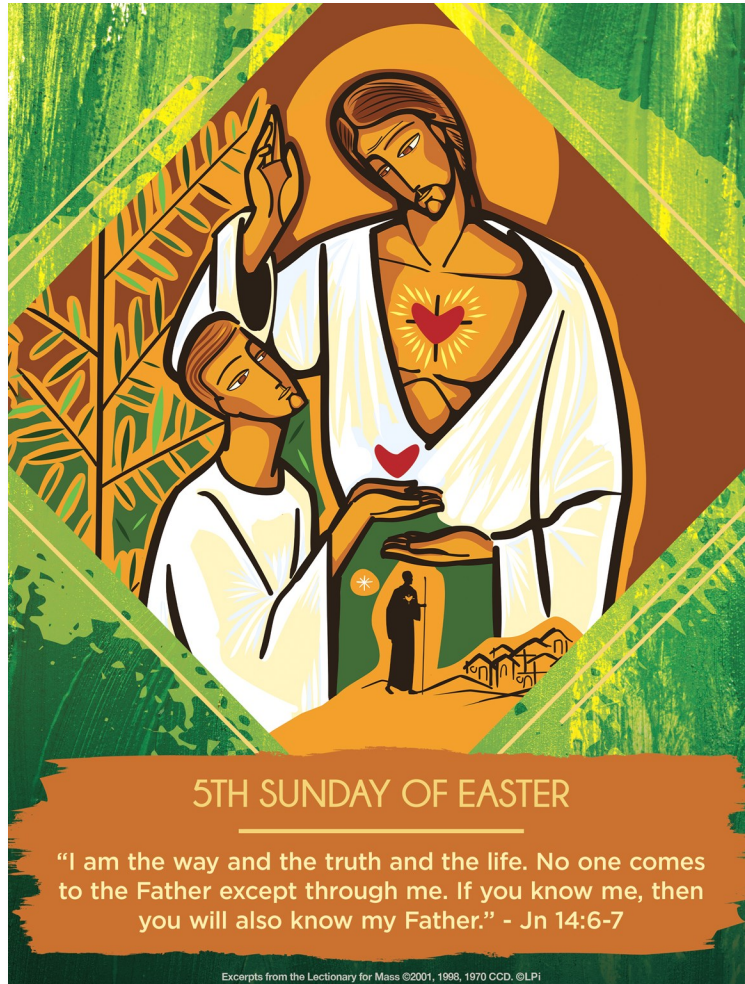




St. Peter's Church

OF SPRING GROVE, IL



Sunday, May 3, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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.

Tuesday Mornings Free?

Your parish family needs your assistance with counting the weekly collection on Tuesday mornings. Did God give you the following gifts to share?

- Love for Jesus and St. Peter's Parish
- Affinity for Math
- Patience
- Appreciation for detail

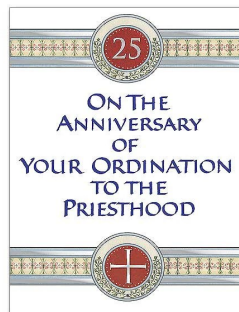
Please contact Mary K. Yager at 815-675-2288, ext. 205 if you are interested in more information.

Rummage Sale

Mark your calendars, the rummage sale dates are set. The fun starts Friday, June 5th through Saturday, June 13th. This is a parish-wide event. We need everyone to pitch in. One of the many reasons to volunteer is that it's fun to work together with your fellow parishioners AND, if you see something you like, you may purchase it ahead of time. Come and work with a smile and leave with a pile. Check the bulletin for more information in the coming weeks. If you have any questions, please call Denise at 815-347-2527 or Connie at 224-392-1940.

Rev. Burt H. Absalon 25th Anniversary of Ordination

We will be celebrating as a parish on the weekend of May 16 & 17 after each Mass downstairs in the Parish Hall.



Mom's Day Flower Sale

Saturday, May 9th and Sunday, May 10th

After all the Masses next weekend, the St. Peter's Women's Ministry will have fresh carnations available to purchase for your mom, grandma or the mother of your children!



Suggested donations \$ 3 ea.

100% of your donation will be given to 1st Way Life Center in Johnsburg.

St. Vincent de Paul Orientation Saturday, May 23rd

If you have been thinking of joining St. Vincent de Paul ministry, now is the perfect time to take the leap!

St. Peter's is hosting the required Ozanam Orientation workshop on Saturday, May 23rd. This session begins at 8:30 a.m. and concludes at around 3:00 p.m.



St. Vincent de Paul is a network of friends, inspired by gospel values, growing in holiness and building a more just world through personal relationships with and service to people in need. **We would love to have you join us!**

The Ozanam Orientation is the training you will need to start on this path. *Please consider attending to learn more.*

Contact Ardie Arnold at Ardiearnold@gmail.com or call him at 847-530-6468

Virtue of Diligence Explained

Diligence is the opposite of negligence; the diligent man pursues his goal with the same faithfulness with which God has pursued us, wayward as we are, through the long course of salvation history. St. Thomas Aquinas writes that *"diligence, no less than solicitude, is required for every virtue."*

(Sum., II:II, 54, Art. 1)



Christians are called to diligence in prayer, in self-scrutiny, in exercising virtue, in seeking God's will, in detachment from the world and in reflecting on God's Word in Scripture: "If we are diligent in observing all of these commandments before the Lord, our God, as He commanded of us, then this will be our righteousness." (Deuteronomy 6:25)

Diligence is made possible by the freedom of will that we have been granted by God, and it is the virtue by which man can secure for himself true happiness. (*Gaudium et spes*, 17)

Witnesses for Jesus

This journey of faith is not always easy. Sometimes the greatest wounds are those we suffer when family members and friends wander away from God and leave us behind. The faith they had when they were younger is now strained, or they see the daily walking with Jesus to be too difficult. For them, Jesus becomes what Peter wrote about when he described Jesus as the stone that causes people to stumble and the rock that makes them fall. Our journey is hard enough, but watching a loved one stumble and fall is heart-breaking.

What are we to do in such a situation? Most importantly, we pray. We must realize that God is more powerful than us, and even if we can't make them see the truth, He can. Then we witness to the transformative power of Jesus by our own lives. We need to serve him in word and deed. We should let the joy of being a disciple enlighten our faces. Allow Jesus to work through us so that others may be drawn to him. Lastly, we must never lose hope. Many have walked long journeys alone only to find God far down the road. What will it take to bring someone to Christ? It might be an action, a word, or an emotion. We never know how certain people will be touched. That loved one is a gift from God in your life. Place them back in God's hands, and let Him pick them up if they have stumbled and fallen.

~ Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Overcoming My Own Hesitation To Be A Eucharistic Minister

Sometimes we get into a rhythm where all we do on a parish level is come to Mass on Sunday, do our duty for the week, and then don't darken the doorstep of the church again until the next Sunday. Consider this—can you offer a sacrifice of time for our parish? Becoming an instrument in God's hands as a Eucharistic Minister or Minister to the Homebound, would contribute to taking on a more rewarding role within our parish.

By partaking in our ministries, you may find yourselves in the company of parishioners you never would have met otherwise. A very special bond is formed in faith, hope, and love.

As a Eucharistic Minister or Minister to the Homebound you fill a much needed role in our parish, allowing the graces received through the Blessed Sacrament to flow through our brothers and sisters in Christ.

St. Peter's Needs Eucharistic Ministers and Ministers to the Homebound! *Please Call the Parish Office!*

3 HISTORICAL FACTS ABOUT THE RESURRECTION THAT CHALLENGES EVERY SKEPTIC

EVERYTHING HINGES ON THE MIRACLE OF THE RESURRECTION. HERE ARE THREE HISTORICAL FACTS ABOUT THE RESURRECTION THAT ALL SKEPTICS MUST RECKON WITH.

Christianity is not just a philosophy or a moral system; the entirety of the Christian Faith depends on certain incredible historical facts. If certain things did not actually happen, then the whole religion is useless.



One of the most important is the real, bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. The Resurrection of Christ confirmed Christ's identity as the Son of God and His defeat over Satan, sin, and death. Everything hinges on this miracle.

1) JESUS' BODY IS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND

The easiest way someone in the first century (or even today) could prove that Jesus did not rise from the dead would be to simply produce the body.

After His death on the Cross, Jesus' body was placed in a tomb, a giant stone was rolled in front of the entrance, the stone was sealed, and Roman guards were placed there to protect it. And yet His body vanished without a trace.

2) THERE WERE HUNDREDS OF EYEWITNESSES TO THE RISEN JESUS

Christians don't believe in the Resurrection of Jesus merely because His body disappeared. No, the risen Jesus actually appeared to people. And we're not talking about just His inner circle of Apostles—perhaps to those most "fanatically" devoted to Him—we're talking about hundreds of people.

3) THOSE WITNESSES WERE WILLING TO DIE TERRIBLE DEATHS FOR WHAT THEY KNEW TO BE THE TRUTH

Some skeptics argue that Jesus' followers somehow stole His body and then lied about having seen the risen Christ. But if that's the case, then why would they be willing to leave behind their religious communities, families, friends, livelihoods, and—for many—their lives in gruesome ways, all for a lie?

The answer, of course, is that they didn't: they really had seen the risen Christ, and they knew that this changed everything—so much so that they were willing to abandon everything for Him.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC
 RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS
THE WAY

Mini-reflection: There are lots of different routes to Heaven. But there's only one Way.

A friend of mine who had family members belonging to several different religions once told me that there were as many different routes to Heaven as there were to the grocery store.

This was an analogy her family had used to remember that they all sought the same thing—God—even though they were going about the search in different ways.

I've thought a lot about her words in the years since she shared them with me. It's not an untrue analogy—there are a lot of different routes to the grocery store. An infinite number, in fact. There is actually no "right" way to get to the grocery store, because it all depends on where you're starting from and what other errands you have along the way.

And there are a lot of different routes to Heaven—likewise, an infinite number. It all depends on where you're starting from. It all depends on what you have to do along the way.

There it is: the part that matters. **The way.**

Whether we're talking about Heaven or the grocery store as our destination, all routes are not created equal. Some take too long. Some are impassable. Some are hard to navigate. Some are just plain made-up—the glitch of a GPS, the promise of a false prophet. And inevitably, if you take a less-than-ideal route, you will find yourself flagging down a pedestrian, asking, "I'm lost. Which way do I go?"

See, you can meander all you want. But in the end, you have to find The Way. And there's only one. Don't worry, though.

You'll know him when you see him.

~ Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Tuesday, May 5th



WEEKENDS
 5/2 - 5/10/2026

The Mass		For	
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER			
Sat	4 pm	†	Clarence & Mildred Shastal
Sun	8 am		The parishioners of St. Peter's Church
	10 am	†	Patricia Skokowski
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER			
Sat	4 pm	†	Donald Wehrheim
Sun	8 am		The parishioners of St. Peter's Church
	10 am	†	Alexander & Jean Skokowski



St. Peter's Women's Ministry
 Presents Our 8th Annual Ladies Night Out

Friday, May 15th - Parish Hall

6:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.
 with a practice round at 6:45 p.m.

Proceeds go towards fulfilling
 the Women's Ministry's mission
 of making a difference in our parish.

Drop off your reservation forms at the
 Parish Office

NO later than Wednesday, May 6th

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Ushers
5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER			
Saturday 5/2 4:00 pm	Jean Rygiel	Katie Toms <i>Deacon Mark</i> <i>Nettie Toms</i> <i>(Precious Blood)</i>	Sean Gosselin Deb Christian
Sunday 5/3 8:00 am	Cyndee Wehrheim	Marge Ladner <i>DeAnne Besetzny</i> <i>(Choir)</i> <i>Eddie Wells</i> <i>Mary Seil</i> <i>(Precious Blood)</i>	Tom Fanella Larry Hauser
10:00 am	Stan Tinsley	Jacqui Wold <i>Jean Hlavin</i> <i>(Choir)</i> <i>Nancy Piggot</i> <i>Heather Justen</i> <i>(Precious Blood)</i>	Dave Harms Kathleen Harms
6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER			
Saturday 5/9 4:00 pm	Nettie Toms	Kathie Toms <i>Darien Martinez</i> <i>Marge Ladner</i> <i>(Precious Blood)</i>	Chad Franckowiak Tom Stall
Sunday 5/10 8:00 am	Eleanor Murphy	Chris Chinni <i>Mary Seil</i> <i>(Choir)</i> <i>Deacon Mark</i> <i>DeAnne Besetzny</i> <i>(Precious Blood)</i>	Dennis Wehrheim Paul Leali
10:00 am	Peggy Mack	Carol Rygiel <i>Mike Rygiel</i> <i>(Choir)</i> <i>Cyndee Wehrheim</i> <i>Dennis Wehrheim</i> <i>(Precious Blood)</i>	Mike Wyatt Ron Hlavin

Homebound Ministers

May 3rd: Fifth Sunday of Easter


Deacon Mark, Peggy Neuman, Theresa Frer, Maria Sullivan, Laura Hamill & Stan Tinsley


May 10th: Sixth Sunday of Easter - Mother's Day

Deacon Mark, Julia Francis, Mary Seil & Steve Besetzny



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns from
May 3rd – May 16th for
† *Witek & Snarski 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:

<p><i>Marguerite Baranov</i> <i>Christel Beyerlein</i> <i>Patty Brown</i> <i>Deb Cooke</i> <i>Deacon Eugene Damian</i> <i>Phyllis Ehlers</i> <i>Kathleen Van Ella</i> <i>Robert Fenrich</i> <i>Carol Flatley</i> <i>Gail Gagnon</i> <i>Glenn Geske</i> <i>Lynn Geske</i> <i>Rosalie Geraci</i> <i>Gina Gugala</i> <i>Anthony Hodnik</i> <i>Patricia Hodnik</i> <i>Christopher Hautala</i> <i>John Jindra</i> <i>Joseph Keim</i> <i>Nancy Klein</i> <i>Ronald Klein</i> <i>Martha Koukol</i> <i>Mark & Kim Krakowski</i></p>	<p><i>Trudy Krieger</i> <i>Larry Lord</i> <i>Caroline Madson</i> <i>Denise Meyers</i> <i>Larry Meyers</i> <i>Barbara Miller</i> <i>Norma Moretti</i> <i>John Mueller</i> <i>Kevin Murray</i> <i>Carole Nowicki</i> <i>Jim Nowicki</i> <i>John & Sandra Paleka</i> <i>Carol Sasse</i> <i>Debbie Schaff</i> <i>Dorothy Scichowski</i> <i>Bev Schmitt</i> <i>David Thomas</i> <i>Valerie Thompson</i> <i>Robert Tolomeo</i> <i>Mark Vallango</i> <i>Grace Wesinger</i> <i>Fred Zahn</i></p>
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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**.

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

Property Maintenance

Mark Krakowski

Marka.stpeter@gmail.com

Dave Hiller

Cemetery Sexton

Kevin Murray x216

Preschool 815-342-6318

Aimee Thomas

Religious Education 815-342-6318

Aimee Thomas

Bulletin Editors

Steve & DeAnne Besetzny

Bulletin_Editor_StPeter@aol.com

Ministries

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, May 3rd - Fifth Sunday of Easter

- K of C - Breakfast - Parish Hall - After All Masses
- Faith Formation Classes - 2nd & 8th - 5:30 pm

Monday, May 4th - Parish Office Closed

- SVdP Meeting - Parish Office Conference Room - 7:00 pm

Tuesday, May 5th - Cinco de Mayo

- SPWM - Installation of Officers Ceremony - Church - 6:30 pm

Wednesday, May 6th

- **Spiritual Warfare Rosary - Church - 6:00 pm**

Thursday, May 7th - National Day of Prayer

- Choir Rehearsal - 6:00 pm

Friday, May 8th - Parish Office Closed

- First Holy Communion Evening Retreat

Saturday, May 9th

- First Holy Communion - Mass - 10:00 am
- 1st Way Mother's Day Flower Sale - After 4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, May 10th - Sixth Sunday of Easter - Mother's Day

- 1st Way Mother's Day Flower Sale - After All Masses

Day Retreat:

Monastic Spirituality

This retreat will explore the

Sayings of the Desert Fathers.

at St. Benedict Abbey Retreat Center, Benet Lake, WI

on **Tuesday, May 5th, 9:00am – 4:00pm**

presenter:



Br. Matthew

Participants must register!

Call 262-396-4311, ext. 105 to register.

Fee \$10 per person, lunch included.

Registration deadline is Wed., April 29th.



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, April 28th

Parish Hall - 7:00 pm

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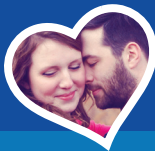


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