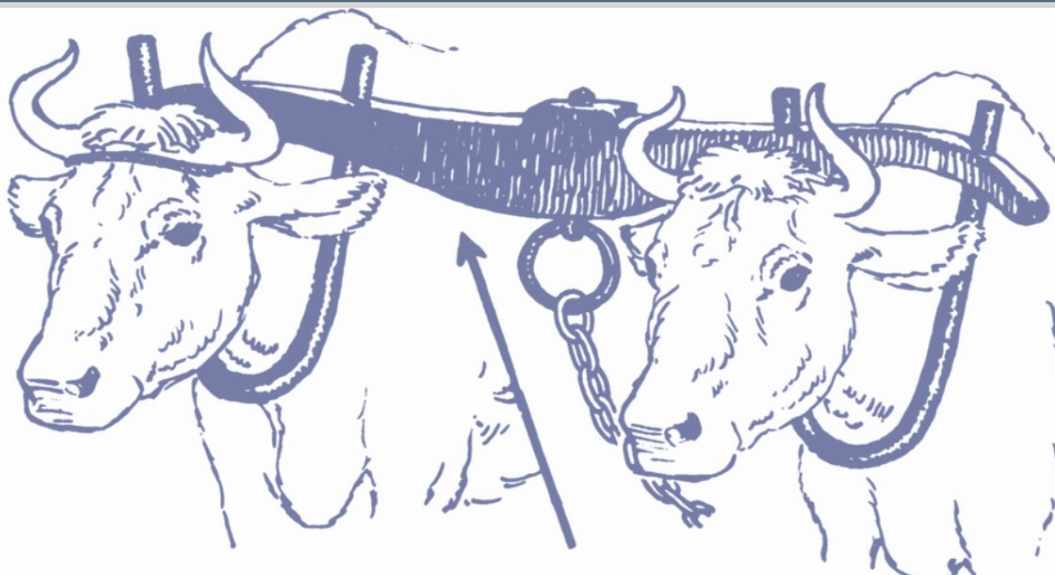




St. Peter's Church

OF SPRING GROVE, IL



“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,
and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,
for I am meek and humble of heart;
and you will find rest for yourselves.
For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.”

Matthew 11:28-30

Sunday, July 5, 2026

Fourteenth 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.

Attention All Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers, Altar Servers and Sacristans

Meeting on Saturday, July 18th
9:00 a.m. — Noon

Please Mark Your Calendars!

There will be a meeting for all Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers, Altar Servers and Sacristans, on Saturday, July 18th.

Our day will begin with a prayer service in the Church promptly at 9:00 a.m.

From there we will move down into the parish hall for a light continental breakfast and fellowship.

***Fr. Burt and Deacon Mark
will be giving a reflection on the
liturgical roles within the Mass.***

The topic of discussion will be on the Liturgical roles as seen through the GIRM
(General Instructions of the Roman Missal)
of the Catholic Church.

***A training session will be provided for various
ministry roles within the Mass.***

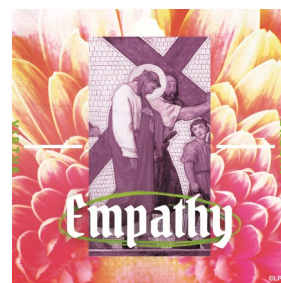
***Ending our day in prayer, reflecting on the
liturgical roles of the Mass
within our own ministries.***



The Virtue of Empathy

Empathy, Explained!

The virtue of empathy describes our ability to connect emotionally with the suffering of others. It's our interior capacity to appreciate and experience other people's feelings—to the extent, even, that we allow those feelings to impact our own decisions and our own actions.

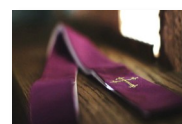


Christ had empathy for us and for our state of imprisonment in original sin. He had empathy for the suffering we endure because of our self-imposed exile from friendship with God. This empathy meant that he sacrificed himself willingly for our salvation—he wanted to do it, because he had allowed our feelings to intermingle with his own.

Since empathy flows directly from charity, the theological virtue that enables us to love God and to love others, we can use charity as a way to increase the empathy we feel. If we find ourselves struggling to muster empathy in a particular situation, engaging in charity will liberate us from our state of self-centeredness.

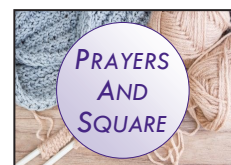
THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
IS OFFERED Every Saturday
from 3:00 until 3:45 p.m.

*Or call the Parish Office
to schedule an appointment.*



Prayer & Squares

Meeting July 9th at
1:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall



We meet on the second
Thursday of each month.

Our next meeting is on July 9th at 1:30 p.m. in the
Parish Hall.

Prayers & Squares group uses knitting and crochet to create comforting shawls and blankets for anyone in need of a warm reminder of God's love.

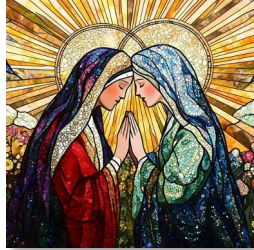
We invite you to be part of this important ministry. Beginners are warmly welcomed, and all materials and instruction are provided.

Please join us!

McHenry Deanery Council of Catholic Women St. Peter's Parish 2026 Nominee for the Woman of Inspiration

It's time to nominate this year's
Woman of Inspiration!

Each year the McHenry Deanery Council of Catholic Women, holds an Awards Ceremony honoring those women who inspire and encourage us with their amazing gifts, service and love for God.



Who can be nominated? Any woman at St. Peter's that serves or volunteers, who you think is outstanding!

Nomination forms are located in the narthex and the parking lot church entrance.

Get Your Nominations In!

Please return forms either to the parish office or place them in the collection basket no later than Monday, July 20th.

Gospel Meditation Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

This weekend, our nation celebrates the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Unlike most nations, the United States was not founded primarily on a shared ethnicity, language, or culture. Instead, **our founders built a political community out of diverse peoples united by a shared vision of liberty.** That vision echoes something deep in the Christian mystery revealed in today's Gospel.



Jesus returns to his hometown. The people see only what is familiar: the carpenter, the son of Mary, one of their own. As Mark tells us, **"They took offense at him. Jesus said, 'A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house.'"** Their narrow vision blinds them. Jesus has come to inaugurate a new communion that transcends geography, bloodlines, and culture. He has come to unite all people in Himself.

At its best, America's national unity reflects this possibility, which fully subsists only in the Catholic Church. Our unity is not based on ancestry or tribe, but on a shared commitment to higher ideals. For this reason, we can love our country with gratitude while situating patriotism within the broader horizon of faith.

Rooted in Christ, we are less vulnerable to the unholy tribalism that threatens civic life and faith. ***This weekend, let us thank God for our nation and pray that we also live as citizens of Heaven in Jesus Christ.***

~ Father John Muir

Blessing for Our Country

Dear God,

Bless this land that we love, a land You Created, in love. We are at our best when we're close to You. Please inspire, guide, and govern our leaders and our vision, that our greatness may be founded in and defined in You.

Amen



Silver & Gold Wedding Anniversary Mass

Are you and your spouse celebrating a special milestone anniversary in 2026? Couples celebrating their milestone wedding anniversaries of 25, 50, 55, 60, 65 or 70 or more years of marriage in 2026 are invited to a special Mass in their honor at St. Mary Parish in Huntley on Sunday, August 16th at 2:30 p.m., celebrated by Bishop David Malloy. A reception with celebration cake will immediately follow. The Life & Family Evangelization office welcomes your registration by August 3rd.

815-399-4300 ext. 377 or

www.rockforddiocese.org/anniversary

Commemorative certificates to mark this special occasion will be available for those who pre-register for this event.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Smallness of Great Faith

My children attend Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) for their faith formation. Because of its Montessori basis, CGS atriums, which are something like classrooms, contain lots of objects made from real materials—authentic glass, wood, and ceramic.

This is a polite way of saying there are lots of breakable things in there.

So when my four-year-old entered the atrium on her first day of CGS, my whole body tensed, wondering what she would shatter first. I had to restrain myself from crying out, *“Don’t touch anything!”* She spotted the prayer table—the low, wooden stand which holds an open Bible, candles, a vase with flowers and a statue of the Good Shepherd. It’s the centerpiece of every atrium.

She knelt before the table. She made the sign of the cross. And she sat there, still and silent.

I stopped dead in my tracks. How had she known to come here? And where did she learn to make the sign of the cross? (*Obviously we’ve tried to teach her, but she does it wrong every time!*) And why was she sitting there so quietly, so expectantly, in front of a book she can’t read?

A thought came to me so clearly: *Well, Colleen, you can read that book. But can you understand it?*

It is so easy for us to forget that great faith does not require great intelligence. It does not require great knowledge of the world and its workings. Great faith does not require the believer to possess any answers.

Great faith only requires the believer to know his own smallness.

~ Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

“The secret of happiness is to live moment by moment and to thank God for what He is sending us everyday in His goodness.”

~ Saint Gianna Beretta Molla



WEEKENDS
7/4 - 7/12/2026

The Mass			For
14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Sat	4 pm	†	Deceased Members of the Green & Walsh Families
Sun	8 am	†	Deceased Members of the Rygiel & Kula Families
	10 am		The Parishioners of St. Peter’s Church
Tues	8 am		Maria Guadalupe
Wed	8 am	†	Deceased Members of St. Peter’s Chrch
Thu	8 am		Lawrence Anton Roehrich
Fri	8 am	†	Deceased Members of the Rygiel & Kula Families
15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Sat	4 pm	†	Deceased Members of the Green & Walsh Families
Sun	8 am		The Parishioners of St. Peter’s Church
	10 am	†	Deceased Members of the Green & Walsh Families

Ignatian Contemplation in Nature



July 15, 2026

Day of Reflection
for Adults

Jesus invites us to embrace childlike wonder, while Ignatius encourages us to discover God’s presence in all things. This retreat offers prayerful reflection and imaginative contemplation with creation as a sacred reflection of God’s presence, and guides us into a deep, heartfelt encounter with the Divine. As we refresh our eyes, return to humility, and open ourselves to awe and wonder, we catch a glimpse of how God sees—the beauty, the mystery, and the surprises that surround us.



Retreat Leader: Mark Blancke

Theology graduate student at the Jesuit School of Theology, Santa Clara University; 6+ years of spiritual direction experience; working on two Master’s Degrees in Theology (with a certificate in Ecological & Social Justice).



To register for this retreat, scan the QR Code
or visit jesuitretreat.org/retreats.



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	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Ushers
14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Saturday 7/4 4:00 pm	Peggy Mack	Jean Hlavin <i>Deacon Mark</i> <i>Nettie Toms</i> <i>(Precious Blood)</i>	Deb Christian Rich Wirch
Sunday 7/5 8:00 am	Ardie Arnold	Nancy Piggot <i>Marge Ladner</i> <i>Mary Seil</i> <i>(Precious Blood)</i>	Paul Leali Larry Hauser
10:00 am	Sandi Wesinger	Heather Justen <i>Lisa Bringer</i> <i>(Choir)</i> <i>Carol Rygiel</i> <i>Mike Rygiel</i> <i>(Precious Blood)</i>	Dave Harms Kathleen Harms

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Saturday 7/11 4:00 pm	Nettie Toms	Kathie Toms <i>Marge Ladner</i> <i>Chris Chinni</i> <i>(Precious Blood)</i>	Sean Gosselin Tom Stall
Sunday 7/12 8:00 am	Kathy Rietschel	Nancy Piggot <i>Deacon Mark</i> <i>DeAnne Besetzny</i> <i>(Precious Blood)</i>	Dennis Wehrheim Paul Leali
10:00 am	Darien Martinez	Sharon Ellicson <i>Carol Rygiel</i> <i>(Choir)</i> <i>Tennille Cates</i> <i>Mike Rygiel</i> <i>(Precious Blood)</i>	Mike Wyatt Tom Straley

Homebound Ministers

July 5th: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deacon Mark, Maria Sullivan, Theresa Frer & Stan Tinsley

July 12th: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deanna Grandt, Kathleen Van Ella, Nancy Piggot & Don Piggot

- What do you call a line of men waiting to get haircuts?
A barberqueue.
- In fact, if you sneer at any other method of measuring liquids, you may be held in contempt of quart.
- Who were the greenest Presidents in US history? *The bushes.*
- What do you call a beehive without an exit?
Unbelievable.
- This morning, Siri said, "Don't call me Shirley."
I accidentally left my phone in Airplane mode.



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns from
June 28th – July 11th 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:*

Marguerite Baranov
Christel Beyerlein
Mary Bresolin
Deb Cooke
Kathleen Van Ella
Carol Flatley
Gail Gagnon
George Gemberling
Rosalie Geraci
Glenn & Lynn Geske
Patricia Hodnik
John Jindra
Joseph Keim
Ron & Nancy Klein
Martha Koukol

Mark & Kim Krakowski
Trudy Krieger
Caroline Madson
Barbara Miller
Norma Moretti
Kevin Murray
Sandra Paleka
Sam & Claire Pintacura
Carol Sasse
Debbie Schaff
Dorothy Scichowski
David Thomas
Mark Vallango
Grace Wesinger

***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.**

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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

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Laura Hamill x203

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Brian Wrightson 630-440-7261

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Mark Krakowski

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Dave Hiller

Cemetery Sexton

Kevin Murray x216

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Aimee Thomas

Religious Education 815-342-6318

Aimee Thomas

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Peggy Mack 815-403-2225

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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, July 5th - 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

• **Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am**

Monday, July 6th - Parish Office Closed

• **SvdP Meeting - Parish Office Conference Room - 7:00 pm**

Tuesday, July 7th

Wednesday, July 8th

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

Thursday, July 9th

• **Prayers & Squares - Parish Hall - 1:30 pm**

• **Choir Rehearsal - 6:00 pm**

Friday, July 10th - Parish Office Closed

Saturday, July 11th

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

Sunday, July 12th - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

• **Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am**

Everyday Stewardship

Many young people want to make a path for themselves in life without the help and guidance of others. My own young adult son oftentimes refuses assistance because he feels that he must learn to go it alone and have his achievements based solely upon his effort. However, few truly get anywhere of circumstance without the aid of others.

The body of Christ only functions well when we move together and help each other. Unfortunately, too often parts of the body seek to do their own thing and do not integrate with the other parts. We use our gifts in ways that are only focused on our own gains and our own being. But be mindful, our gifts exist in us to be cultivated and shared with God and his people.

In the same manner, with Jesus as the head of this body, he is there for us as well. In Jesus we find our rest and assistance with our burdens. I cannot imagine life without the compassion and aid of our God. If it isn't bad enough that some people fail to lean on their brothers and sisters, some of them fail to ever turn to God.

This is never good stewardship. A stewardship way of life seeks to share and integrate with others, especially Jesus. We have been created for community. If we take seriously our discipleship, a true relationship with Jesus always beckons us into community with other believers. Here we are strongest. Here we are the most fruitful. Here we are Christ's body on earth.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



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.

ANOIDING 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

Business Meeting - Tuesday, July 14th

Parish Hall - 7:00 pm

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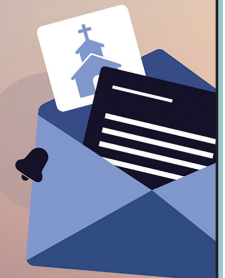
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