



April 7, 2024

ST. PAUL the APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

511 N. Conrad Street
Peotone, IL 60468-9290

CHURCH OFFICE TELEPHONE: 708 258-6917

CHURCH OFFICE FAX: 708 258-3061

CHURCH OFFICE E-MAIL: StPaulOffice@att.net

PASTOR: Rev. Roger D. Kutzner
708 989-0565

DEACON: Mr. James Kelly
708 373-0311

DEACON E-MAIL: jimk3163@sbcglobal.net

PARISH BUSINESS MANAGER: Paula Prium

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON:

CCW PRESIDENT: Maura Culver

GRAND KNIGHT of K of C: Patrick Frencl

BUILDING & GROUNDS: Steve Maltese

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON:

WORSHIP COMMISSION: Paula Prium

CHRISTIAN FORMATION / EDUCATION COMMISSION:

SOCIAL SERVICES COORDINATOR: Mary Ann Battermann

MINISTERS OF CARE: Barb Egelski

DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Dcn Jim Kelly

RE OFFICE E-MAIL: StPaulRE@att.net

RE OFFICE PHONE: 708 258-9580

FAITH FORMATION (RELIGIOUS ED) CLASSES:

Grades K through 8: Sunday from 8:45am-10:15am

Find us—

Facebook: "**St. Paul the Apostle Peotone**"

Website: **StPaulPeotone.org**

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM: By appointment
RECONCILIATION: Thursday: 7:30pm to 8pm
Saturday: 3pm to 3:45pm
Any time by appointment

FIRST RECONCILIATION: Sunday, March 17, 2024

FIRST COMMUNION: Sunday, April 28, 2024

CONFIRMATION: Saturday, May 11, 2024

MARRIAGE: By appointment only

Please call at least 6 months in advance

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: Call anytime

Please call the parish office to inform us of an illness or hospitalization of a parishioner or family member. Privacy laws prohibit hospitals from releasing information to clergy about hospitalized church members without the specific consent and request of the patient or their immediate family.

ORDINARY MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday: 4pm

Sunday: 10:30am

Daily Mass: Mon, Wed, Thurs and Fri 7:15am

Communion Service: Tuesday 7:15am

Holy Days of Obligation: Please see the bulletin

Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday 6pm to 8pm

Communion Calls: If you or someone you love is ill or homebound and would like to receive Communion, please call the parish office to make arrangements for regular visits.

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 12:30pm to 5pm
Regular time to make appointments, registrations, etc.

Regular bulletin deadline: Wednesday by 12pm

FILLED RICE BOWLS can be returned to the
Religious Education or Parish Office!



The Mission Statement of St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church
As disciples of Jesus Christ, we strive to grow in relationship with Him,
live the Faith, and share His Good News with others.

COLLECTION SUMMARY: March 30—31, 2024

Easter \$6,122.00

Envelopes used / distributed 79 / 514

**Includes 9 Online Givers*

Sunday Offertory \$ 295.00

Good Friday Holy Land \$ 956.00

Providing for Our Future \$ 100.00



Secure and convenient **ONLINE**
GIVING is available at
GiveCentral.org.

Please put in zip code 60468 to
find the St. Paul portal.

Are you a Catholic man 18 or older?
Do you want to volunteer for your
church and community? Are you
ready to put your Faith into Action?
Come learn about the Knights of
Columbus! You can obtain infor-
mation by contacting Membership Coordinator
Dan Mott at 708 277-7086 or
mottd@rushenterprises.com; contacting Grand
Knight Patrick Frencl, visiting with any current
member of the Knights or visiting our website
at www.kofc.org.



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Are you called to the
permanent diaconate?
Please see the poster and
brochures in the lobby
for more information.

**SUNDAY of DIVINE
MERCY**
April 7, 2024

Class / Family Mass
10:30am—

Snack & Chat follows

1:30-2:45pm: Confession

3pm: Divine Mercy Service



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Tina Butler, Peggy Schwiesow,
Collin Bias, Scott Rosenberg,
Betty Knickrehm, Arline Clark,
Mary Jo Fry, Gerald Adcock,
Laura Valenti, Samantha Digia-
como, Julie Szudarski, Owen

Ruhbeck, Sharon Andrews, Sue Gomez, CJ
Ogalla-Arebalo, Aris Tomac, Joe Rojas, Terry &
Mary Urbanek, June O'Flynn, Bob Johnson,
Pete Henrisey, Claudia Merrifield, Harry & Pam
Carpenter, Ray Romito, Francesca Librera
Biondo, Mike Wilczynski, Fran Rewers, Harry
& Geri Mokry, Carole Reichert, Pastor Richard
Young, Joseph Terri, John Fahs, Jeanne
Vinezeano, Frances Librera, Mary Ann Librera,
the Adamsick Family, Cassidy Novak, Lavergne
Sigrist, Charlie Kooy, Rita Hall, Rose Bailey,
Julie Hayes, Emily Klamkin, Lorianne Mihelic,
Irene Manning, the Robert Polacek family, Rich
Harms, TJ Stefanski, Linda Galica and those that
go unnamed.

***Please note that only names given with permis-
sion of the person or family member will be
added to the list.***

Our next **BAPTISMAL
CLASS** is scheduled for this
Thursday, April 11 at 6pm.

Parents and godparents are
required to attend a class be-
fore making arrangements
for the baptism of their child.

If parents and godparents have attended
a baptismal class within the last two
years, there is no need to attend again.
We encourage you to attend the class
during your pregnancy so there will be
no delay in your child's baptism.



If you plan to attend,
please call the parish office
at 708 258-6917.



Sat	4/6	3:00 pm— <u>CONFESSION</u> 4:00 pm— + <u>Clarita Caswell</u> req by Joan Olsen and <u>People of the Parish</u>
Sun	4/7	10:30 am— <u>Rich & Judy Strubin</u> <u>57th Wedding Anniversary</u> 1:30 pm— <u>CONFESSION</u> 3:00pm— <u>DIVINE MERCY SERVICE</u>
Mon	4/8	7:15 am— + <u>Hank & Sophie Kudlo</u> req by Larry & Nancy Pilotto
Tue	4/9	7:15 am— <u>Communion Service</u>
Wed	4/10	7:15 am— + <u>Bernard Powers</u> req by Mary Ann Battermann
Thr	4/11	7:15 am— + <u>Judy Wingri</u> req by the Hanlon Family 6:00 pm— <u>ADORATION</u> 7:30 pm— <u>CONFESSION</u>
Fri	4/12	7:15 am— + <u>Bernard Powers</u> req by Arnie & Julie Szudarski
Sat	4/13	3:00 pm— <u>CONFESSION</u> 4:00 pm— + <u>Art Scroogins; Joey Scroogins</u> req by Rich & Judy Strubin
Sun	4/14	10:30 am— + <u>Jim Egelski</u> req by Family and <u>People of the Parish</u>

If you are attending a Mass that you requested an intention to be said for, please sign the gift bearer book in the rear of the church and let an usher know you are here if you wish to bring up the gifts.

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS for APRIL 2024:

For the role of women

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.



WHY NOT A MASS INTENTION! If you are thinking of sending someone a get-well card, or a special occasion is coming up, a birthday or an anniversary, why not have a Mass said for them? Mass intentions are for the living as well as the deceased. There's no nicer way to offer tribute, or better prayer you can offer for those you love.

For more information, please call the office at 708 258-6917.

UPCOMING RE / FF EVENTS

First Communion:

Sunday, April 28 at 10:30am Mass

May Crowning at Masses
weekend of May 4-5

Final RE / FF classes:

Sunday, May 5

Confirmation:

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on Saturday, May 11, 2024 at 11am by at St. Anthony (Frankfort)

Stay tuned for information on ecumenical **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**—
June 17—21, 2024!

Friends of the Peotone Public Library District:

Spring Book Sale 2024

Thursday, April 18 (3pm-7pm)

Friday, April 19 (10am-4pm)

Saturday, April 20 (10am-2pm)

515 N. First St. Peotone, IL 60468

708-258-3436



Congratulations
to the St. Paul
Council of Catholic
Women

2024 Woman
of the Year—
MRS. BETSY RICHTER!



Sometimes we find it hard to accept what happens in our lives, and even wonder why good God permits it. It's often because we have forgotten that He is both Lord and Savior. When it's hard for us to obey Church teaching or to follow God's will, it's usually for the same reason.

To illustrate that, I'd like to mention the story about huge atomic energy plant that was malfunctioning. None of the plant's engineers and scientists could figure out the cause of the trouble. Finally, an eminent professor in the field was summoned from his university for consultation. The professor surveyed the situation and then asked for a hammer. He took the hammer in hand, walked over to a pipe and struck it a heavy blow. Immediately, the plant began functioning again: everything was back in working order. Later, he submitted an itemized bill for his services in the amount of \$5,000. It read as follows: "for striking the blow - \$5; for knowing where to strike the blow - \$4,995." The engineers wanted to save the plant from destruction, but they didn't have the knowledge or the power to do so. The professor had the knowledge and the power, but he needed the engineers to call him in.

Christ is like that engineer and professor. He wants our lives to flourish with lasting happiness, wisdom, and all the gifts of the Holy Spirit. And he also knows how to make that happen. And so, whatever God asks of us or sends us, no matter how hard it may be, flows from both his love as our Savior and his power as our Lord.

Many don't know Jesus in a personal way, often see Christ as a demanding Lord, but they don't realize that he is also a merciful Savior. Until they experience the Savior's mercy and goodness, they will never find the courage to follow Christ the Lord and be satisfied with that. This is why Christ left us the commandment to love our neighbor as he has loved us. He wants us to be mirrors of his goodness, so that other people can discover his goodness and mercy.

Every single day, in our families, at school, at work - we have an opportunity to be a mirror of God's goodness: at school we can sit down next to the person who's having lunch alone because no one likes them; we can comfort the relative or neighbor who is suffering; we can make the effort to listen compassionately and carefully instead of impatiently tuning out. Just simple ways of giving God's light a chance to shine into shadowy hearts.

But still that goodness and compassion can only happen when we first ourselves open to the mercy and compassion of our God in the sacrament of Reconciliation. Second Sunday of Easter celebrates that. This is the feast of the Divine Mercy.

+ Rev. Roger D. Kutzner



St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.

***One of the secrets of life
is to make stepping
stones out of stumbling
blocks.***

***Do what you can,
with what you have,
where you are.***



75th Anniversary Apparel Webstore

Commemorate the 75th Jubilee in DOJ style! T-shirts and polos (men's and women's) are available to order through **April 15**. Wear yours to the regional Masses this summer and fall! See diojoliet.org/75th for details.



Scan the QR code or visit qrco.de/75thMerch to order by April 15. Orders will be shipped April 26.

Welcome to St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church

Our warmest wishes to all who celebrate with us. If you are not registered at St. Paul or need to make changes, please fill out this form and place it in the collection basket or mail to the parish office (511 N. Conrad Street / Peotone, IL 60468).

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

() _____

Phone _____

Email Address

- () New Parishioner, please contact me
 () New Address or New Phone Number
 () Moving—Please remove from membership list
 () Email—Please add email address to your records
 () Interested in becoming Catholic
 () Please send envelopes
 () Interested in Religious Education
 () **Interested to volunteer in Ministry Programs**
 () Would like to be contacted by a priest

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS:

- HM2 Chuck Claxton (Navy—29 Palms, CA)
- AN Chase Clyden (Navy—Asian Seas)
- SFC Nicholas Hupke (Army)
- CAPT Jori Ingersoll (Air Force—Washington State)
- SGT Nate Kijowski (Marines—Okinawa)
- PVT Jake L. O'Connor (Marines)
- SSG Sean Rodgers (Army—Ft. Campbell, KY)
- 2LT Joseph Walan (Air Force—Las Vegas, NV)

- Son of Dennis & Pat Claxton; Brother of Peter Claxton
- Grandson of Laura (Tom) Jacques;
- Great-nephew of Barbara Grantz
- Nephew of Paula (Fred) Prium
- Daughter of Mary Jo (Frank) Fry, Jr.
- Grandson of Ron & Ann Ziolkowski
- Grandson of Marge Brooke
- Grandson of Barbara Grantz;
- Great-nephew of Laura (Tom) Jacques
- Son of Mary Jo (Frank) Fry, Jr.



Please pray for their safety, spiritual and physical well being and that God will give His peace to their parents and families.

Bishop Hicks' Column

April 2024

FAITH-INSPIRED MOVIES



CONTEMPORARY MOVIES are challenging to watch and often dubious to recommend. It seems so many contain agenda-laden themes, disturbing violence, immorality, and obscene language. I keep hoping to uncover that diamond in the rough that is worth watching—either in the theater or streaming live in the comfort of my home.

When I worked as the vicar general in the Archdiocese of Chicago, I had a colleague who would thoughtfully alert me to the latest Catholic, faith-inspired movie. In 2019, he recommended *Love and Mercy: Faustina*. A few days later, I invited a group of seminarians and priests to join me at a movie theater in downtown Chicago to enjoy this movie together. We were all inspired by the life of Sister Maria Faustina, an uneducated nun in Poland who allowed God to do extraordinary things through her.

Here's what was so inspiring: Helena Kowalska entered the convent in 1925 and took the name of Sister Maria Faustina. She toiled at menial tasks to fill her day in the kitchen or garden but was not always treated kindly by others. Yet throughout her humble existence and faithfulness, she experienced mystical encounters with Jesus that clearly revealed God's forgiveness, mercy, and boundless love for humanity. These experiences prompted her to pen her now-famous diary, *Divine Mercy In My Soul*.

She also was gifted with a beautiful vision of Jesus, that most of us now recognize as the Divine Mercy image (*above*). It touchingly portrays Jesus with His right hand raised in a gesture of blessing. His left hand is touching His chest, emanating rays of red and white light. These rays symbolize the blood and water that flowed from Jesus' side, which signify the graces of mercy and forgiveness. Of course, the rays also represent the sacraments of Eucharist and Baptism. The bottom of the image is inscribed with the spiritual words of surrender: *Jesus, I Trust in You*.

Saint John Paul II canonized Sister Faustina in 2000—the first saint of the new millennium. He affectionately named her “the great apostle of Divine Mercy in our time.”

Every year on the second Sunday of Easter we, as the Catholic Church, celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. It is a good reminder to focus our attention on God's sacrificial love. On this particular Sunday, we especially pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet, a powerful prayer invoking God's mercy. Most of us would agree our world, our society, and our very souls are in such need of God's grace these days.

On Divine Mercy Sunday, we pray to turn away from division, hate, and vindictiveness, so we can refocus our gaze and actions on God's mercy, forgiveness, and love.

I love the collect prayed at the beginning of Mass on Divine Mercy Sunday, which boldly proclaims:

God of everlasting mercy, who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast, kindle the faith of the people you have made your own, increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose blood they have been redeemed. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Recently, my “movie whisperer” colleague from the Archdiocese of Chicago emailed and encouraged me to see the movie, *Cabrini*. He informed me that it is about an Italian immigrant, Francesca Cabrini, who fights the odds to help the poor and orphans, and ultimately becomes the first American saint. I immediately told him, “Based on your recommendation, I am determined to see it soon!”

When you see a good, faith-based movie which you enthusiastically give two thumbs up, I encourage you to recommend it to your family and friends. Your endorsement may be a simple way for you to evangelize and help spread the good news of our faith.

Saints Frances Xavier Cabrini and Maria Faustina Kowalska, pray for us, and may the Divine Mercy of God bless you today and always.

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