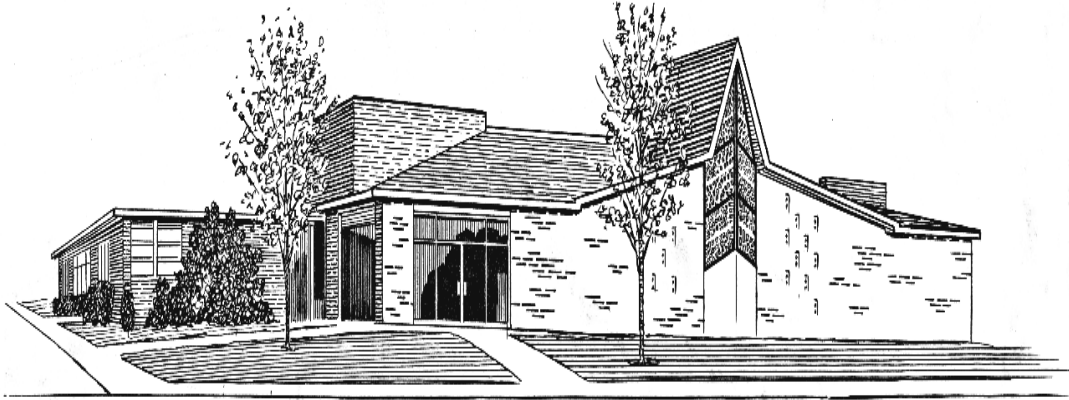




Saint Paul

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April 26, 2026

ST. PAUL the APOSTLE CATHOLIC PARISH

511 N. Conrad Street
Peotone, IL 60468-9290

CHURCH OFFICE TELEPHONE: 708 258-6917

CHURCH OFFICE E-MAIL:
ParishOffice@stpaulpeotone.org

PASTOR: Rev. Thomas Theneth, CMI
815 468-1954 / Theneth52@gmail.com

DEACON: Mr. James Kelly
815 412-0565

DEACON E-MAIL: jimk3163@sbcglobal.net

PARISH BUSINESS MANAGER: Paula Prium

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON: Patrick Frencl

CCW PRESIDENT: Marge Harms

GRAND KNIGHT of K of C: Ron LeClaire

BUILDING & GROUNDS: Steve Maltese

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON: Al Leffelman

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:
StPaulReligiousEd@stpaulpeotone.org

RE OFFICE PHONE: 708 258-9580

FAITH FORMATION (RELIGIOUS ED) CLASSES:

Grades 1 through 8: Wednesday from 6:15pm—7:30pm

Find us—

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

Website: StPaulPeotone.org

YouTube: **Saint Paul the Apostle Peotone**

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM: Please contact the Parish Office

RECONCILIATION: Thursday: 7:15pm to 7:45pm

Saturday: 3pm to 3:45pm

Any time by appointment

FIRST RECONCILIATION: December 10, 2025

FIRST COMMUNION: April 12, 2026

CONFIRMATION: **May 9, 2026 at 11am**
at St. Anthony (Frankfort)

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: 11am

Daily Mass: Tue, Wed and Fri 8:30am

Communion Services: Mon and Thrs 8:30am

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

The Parish Office will reopen on Tuesday, May 5, 2026.

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

Mass Intentions For The Week



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Sat	4/25	3:00 pm— <u>CONFESSION</u> 3:30 pm— <u>ROSARY</u> 4:00 pm— + <u>Tom Adamsick</u> — <u>14th Anniversary</u> req by Family
Sun	4/26	10:30 am— <u>ROSARY</u> 11:00 am— <u>People of the Parish</u>
Mon	4/27	8:30 am— <u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Tue	4/28	8:30 am— + <u>William J. Gordon, Jr.</u> req by Kristen Farmer
Wed	4/29	8:30 am— <u>Celebrant's Intention</u>
Thr	4/30	8:30 am— <u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u> 6:00 pm— <u>ADORATION</u> 7:15 pm— <u>CONFESSION</u>
Fri	5/1	8:30 am— + <u>Chad Carder</u> req by Family
Sat	5/2	3:00 pm— <u>CONFESSION</u> 3:30 pm— <u>ROSARY</u> 4:00 pm— + <u>William J. Gordon, Jr.</u> req by Peggy Schwiesow
Sun	5/3	10:30 am— <u>ROSARY</u> 11:00 am— + <u>Linda Frencl</u> req by Family

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.

Our food drive continues
The Knights of Columbus have a drop box for non perishable food items and cleaning supplies in the St. Paul the Apostle lobby across from the office. Food collected is distributed through local pantries. Please help us help those in need.



CCW 
Council of Catholic Women

Manteno Veteran's Home Collection

The CCW is collecting a variety of items to be donated to the 8 ladies who reside at the Illinois Veterans Home at Manteno through the weekend of May 2/3. Containers are in both lobbies.

New unused items they have requested are: \$10 Amazon gift cards, nail polish & remover, lipstick (reds, soft pinks, etc.), lip gloss, medium to small bottles of shampoo and conditioner, lotion, any kind of new jewelry & large hair clips for long hair.

They also requested individually packaged snack cakes ("Hostess" as an example), Twinkies, Diet Coke (12 pack) & new "humor" type short story books.

Please no packaged nuts!

If you have any questions, please call Janet Hase at 708 846-1603.

There will be a CCW meeting on Monday, May 6 at 6:30pm. All women of the parish are invited to attend.



The flowers at the altar are dedicated in honor of the deceased members of the Knickrehm and Reed Families.

Altar Flowers If you are interested in sponsoring our bi-weekly altar flower arrangement (when liturgically permitted), possibly in honor of an anniversary or birthday or in memory of a family member, ***please contact the parish office for scheduling details.***

The cost is \$80 and can be shared between one or more parishioners.

Please consider remembering ***St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Parish*** when preparing your will. For more information, please contact the parish office.





Special Message from Bishop Dennis E. Spies April 2026



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Happy Easter! As we continue celebrating the joy of the Resurrection, I have a special request for the people of our diocese on behalf of our brothers and sisters in Kankakee County.

On March 10, severe storms and tornadoes caused widespread destruction in the area, damaging homes, vehicles, Bishop McNamara Catholic School, and affecting families throughout our diocese—including those of some of our priests. Many now face a long and challenging recovery. We continue to pray for all who were injured or suffered loss.

A Special Second Collection

To offer concrete support, I am asking every parish in the Diocese of Joliet to take up a special second collection the weekend of May 2–3 or May 9-10, 2026.

How the Funds Will Be Used

Every dollar collected will directly support two urgent needs:

- Families in Need - Catholic Charities of Joliet will administer a grant process to provide financial assistance to families who have suffered significant hardship.
- Bishop McNamara Catholic School - Assistance with repairs to buildings, buses, athletic fields, and other property not covered by insurance.

Where to Send Collections

Collections should be sent to:

Diocese of Joliet
c/o Finance Office
16555 Weber Road
Crest Hill, Illinois 60403



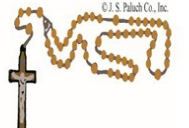

All funds will be distributed responsibly to those in need. Thank you for your prayers, generosity, and care for one another. May the hope of Easter strengthen us as one Body of Christ.

+ Dennis E. Spies

Sincerely in Christ,
Bishop Dennis E. Spies

Apostolic Administrator for the Diocese of Joliet

A second collection will be taken up at St. Paul
the weekend of May 9 / 10, 2026.
Envelopes for your convenience will be available that weekend in church and the lobbies.
If you'd like to put your donation in your own envelope, please include your name and envelope # on it—it can be dropped in the collection prior to May 9 / 10.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3	4 CCW MEETING 6:30pm	5 KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS 7pm	6 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 6:15pm-7:30pm	7 ADORATION 6-8pm CONFESION 7:15-7:45pm	8	9 ANNIVERSARY BLESSING CONFESION 3pm ORANGE SHIRT MASS
10 MOTHER'S DAY ANNIVERSARY BLESSING	11	12	13 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 6:15pm —7:30pm 	14 ADORATION 6-8pm CONFESION 7:15-7:45pm	15	16 CONFESION 3pm
17 ASCENSION	18	19	20	21 SR. ASSIST 10am-3pm (by appointment) ADORATION 6-8pm CONFESION 7:15-7:45pm	22	23 CONFESION 3pm
24 PENTECOST	25 	26	27	28 ADORATION 6-8pm CONFESION 7:15-7:45pm	29 ST. PAUL the APOSTLE PARISH —Established 1961	30 CONFESION 3pm
31 TRINITY SUNDAY		The ROSARY will be prayed 30 minutes prior to weekend Masses			1	2 CONFESION 3pm

welcome

Fr. Tom Donaldson,
Congregation of the Most Holy
Redeemer (Redemptorists),
representing **Food for the Poor**,
who is celebrating Masses this
weekend.

Information on how you
can personally support **Food for
the Poor** will be available from
Fr. Donaldson. We will not be
taking up a parish collection.

If you receive bi-monthly offering en-
velopes in the mail from the parish, you
will be included in the upcoming parish
directory listing with the personal infor-
mation we have on file for you—name, ad-
dress, phone(s), email.

We'd like the directory to be as
accurate as possible. To do this, your help is needed.

*If you'd like to verify the accuracy of the infor-
mation we have on file, please contact the parish office.*

*If you **DO NOT** want certain items or all of your in-
formation listed in the directory, **YOU MUST** contact the
parish office.*

708 258-6917 / ParishOffice@StPaulPeotone.org



The **Altar Linen Ministry** is a sacred, behind-the-scenes service in Catholic parishes responsible for cleaning and caring for the sacred linens (corporals and purificators) used during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. This ministry involves at-home reverent laundering, ironing, and maintaining the linens used on the altar, ensuring they are prepared with dignity and respect. We are in need of additional volunteers to be placed on the bi-weekly schedule. You will be given training.

Please contact the Parish Office or Mrs. Betsy Richter at 903 918-9305 for details.

Today's Gospel often referred to as the prologue to the Good Shepherd Discourse, and it is a rich tapestry of Christological and ecclesiological symbols. In the Catholic and Patristic traditions, this passage is not merely about pastoral care; it is a profound statement on the Incarnation, the Sacraments, and the Authority of the Church.

Patristic writings often depict Christ as the "Door". St. Augustine and St. John Chrysostom, emphasize the distinction between the "door" and those who "climb in by another way." Augustine argues that Christ is the door because He is the only way for humanity to ascend to God. To enter through the door is to enter through humility. Those who "climb over the wall" represent the proud, specifically the heretics or those who seek spiritual authority for their own glory rather than through Christ's mandate. For many Patristic writers, the "gatekeeper" is often identified as the Holy Spirit or Moses, who opens the meaning of the Law and Prophets to reveal Christ. The sheep hear His voice because the New Testament is "hidden" in the Old, and the Old is "revealed" in the New.

From a systematic Catholic perspective, this passage anchors several key doctrines such as The Apostolic Succession and Authority of the Church. The "gate" represents the legitimate entry into the ministry of the Church. Catholic theology put forward that a true shepherd must be called and sent by Christ through the Holy Orders of the Church. The Thieves and the Robbers are those who exercise ministry without a legitimate mission from Christ. The Shepherd enters "by the door," meaning he adheres to the Truth and the sacramental order established by Jesus.



In Catholic anthropology: *"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."*

This is not interpreted as material wealth, but as 'Sanctifying Grace Abundant Life', which is the sacramental life.

Through the sacraments, the Church is distributing from the 'Reservoir of Grace', which is Christ, her bridegroom.

The Eucharist is the "pasture" where the sheep find nourishment is frequently linked to the Altar. To "go in and out" is to live the liturgical rhythm of the Church, entering for worship and going out for mission, sustained by the Bread of Life.

The expression "The Sheepfold" is considered as the Church, the enclosed space of safety and communal identity. Christ calls us "by name," signifying the personal relationship established in Baptism. The Thief means Sin, heresy, or the devil, who seeks to "steal, kill, and destroy" the soul's peace.

Catholicism maintains a "Christocentric" exclusivity here. By calling Himself the "Door of the sheep," Jesus asserts that He is the sole mediator between God and man.

As the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 754) notes, the Church is a "sheepfold whose one and necessary door is Christ." This means that even the Church's authority is derivative; the Church does not replace the Door, but points to it. The "abundant life" promised is a participation in the Divine Nature, a process that begins in the sheepfold of the Church and is perfected in the Beatific Vision.

Yours in Christ,

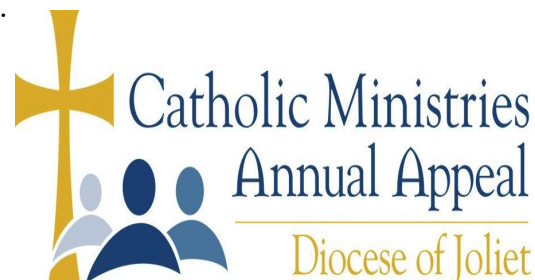
Fr. Thomas Theneth CMI

Pledge Report for St. Paul the Apostle Parish as of April 19, 2026

Monthly pledge payments are due in the next few days. These payments are essential to reaching our parish goal. Once we reach our goal in paid pledges, 70% of the amount over goal will be returned to our parish for our needs.

If you still plan on making your gift, please prayerfully consider how you can elevate your faith beyond all expectations in support of those in need. Pledge envelopes are available in the pews, or you can use the envelope you received in the mail from the diocese. We also welcome online gifts at jolietdioceseappeal.org.

PARISH GOAL:	\$16,700
AMOUNT PLEDGED:	\$25,430
AMOUNT PAID:	\$15,929
BALANCE DUE:	\$ 9,501
DONORS:	82



COLLECTION SUMMARY: April 18-19, 2026:

Budgeted	\$3,205.53
Sunday Offertory*	\$2,456.00
Minus	\$ 749.53
Envelopes used / distributed	69 / 484
*Includes 7 Online Givers	
Holy Land	\$ 10.00
Providing for Our Future	\$ 848.00
Easter	\$ 15.00

Secure and convenient
ONLINE GIVING is
available at

GiveCentral.org.

Please put in zip code
60468 to find the St. Paul portal. A credit card or
bank account can be linked.



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Please keep Carol Henderson, Ken Rocznia, Pat Cleary, Ed Kulish, Jan Leffelman, Nancy Pilotto, Rev. Tom Ewing, Michael Doyle, Mary Ellen Hanlon, Ashley Doody, Luke Payne, Dave Castaneda, Greg

Nalepka, Kathleen Callahan, Jeff Furtek, Charles Claxton, Mary Jane Szewka, Elaine Doyle, Dorothy Simikowski, Arline Clark, Mary Jo Fry, Gerald Adcock, Laura Valenti, Samantha Digiacommo, Julie Szudarski, Aris Tomac, Bob Johnson, Pete Henrisey, Claudia Merrifield, Harry & Pam Carpenter, Ray Romito, Francesca Librera Biondo, Mike Wilczynski, Fran Rewers, Geri Mokry, Pastor Richard Young, Jeanne Vinezeano, Frances Librera, the Adamsick Family, Lavergne Sigrist, Charlie Kooy, Rita Hall, Rose Bailey, Julie Hayes, Emily Klamkin, Lorraine Mihelic, the Robert Polacek family, Rich Harms, TJ Stefanski, Linda Galica and those that go unnamed.

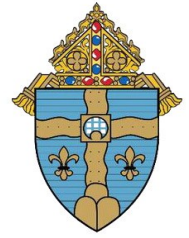
Please note that only names given with permission of the person or by a family member will be added to the list.



POPE'S INTENTIONS for APRIL 2026: For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

Announcing the 48th Annual
Wedding Anniversary Mass
Sunday, August 30, 2026 at 1pm



Couples celebrating anniversaries of 25 years, 50 years, and more than 50 years are welcome to attend. Bishop Dennis Spies will celebrate the Mass at St. Raymond's Cathedral (604 N Raynor Ave., Joliet) and will lead all couples in a special renewal of wedding commitment.

Deadline to register: August 10, 2026
Questions? Contact Deacon Doug McIlvaine:
815-221-6136 / dmailvaine@dioceseofjoliet.org.

Religious Education

May Crowning at Masses
Next weekend — May 2 / 3

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on Friday, May 9, 2026 at St. Anthony (Frankfort)

Final RE / FF classes
Wednesday, May 13

Stay tuned for information on ecumenical
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



**Do you enjoy gardening outdoors?
Are you interested in tidying up and beautifying the outdoor areas of the parish?**

If you have a green thumb or enjoy working outside, please contact Cindy Reed at 708 280-7787 for more information on opportunities!