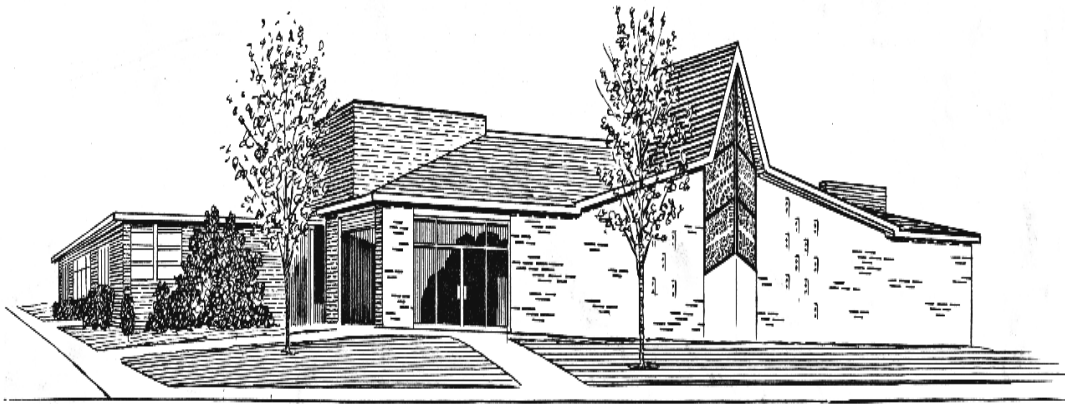




Saint Paul

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April 5, 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:

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 at 11am**

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

*EASTER BLESSINGS from the staff of St. Paul.
The parish offices will be closed on Monday, April 6, 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	4/4	8:00 am—	<u>MORNING PRAYER</u>
		12:00 pm—	<u>Blessing of Easter Food</u>
		8:00 pm—	<u>Our OCIA CANDIDATES</u>
Sun	4/5	10:30 am—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		11:00 am—	<u>People of the Parish</u>
Mon	4/6	8:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Tue	4/7	8:30 am—	+ <u>Betty Knickrehm</u> req by the Setticasì Family
Wed	4/8	8:30 am—	+ <u>William J. Gordon, Jr.</u> req by Nancy Powers
Thr	4/9	8:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
		6:00 pm—	<u>ADORATION</u>
		7:15 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
Fri	4/10	8:30 am—	+ <u>Betty Knickrehm</u> req by Tom & Lou Hagemaster
Sat	4/11	3:00 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
		3:30 pm—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u>Joe Ladislas</u> req by Marge Brooke and <u>People of the Parish</u>
Sun	4/12	10:30 am—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		11:00 am—	<u>Our First Communicants and Their Families</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.

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.



Ticket sales for our annual raffle are winding up. We award \$400 in prizes every month, you can win multiple times! Tickets are also good for a 10% discount on services at Dralle. Knights will be selling tickets after the Masses after Easter at St. Paul the Apostle Church. You can also purchase tickets directly from knights, or call Ron LeClaire,, Grand Knight at 708-204-6277 to purchase tickets and have them personally delivered.

Like what the Knights of Columbus are doing locally? Join us for free! Use the URL "<https://www.kofc.org/get-involved/join-kofc/>" from your PC or smartphone browser to join. Select 11232 as your council., and SARO-DRIGUEZ in the promo code for your free membership.

For assistance or questions, contact Ron LeClaire, Grand Knight 708-204-6277

Rite of Initiation into the Catholic Church: Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion

—***Jacob Anthony Berlongieri***

Godparents: Patrick & Tammy Frencl
Sponsor: Augustine Guerero
Confirmation Name: St. Augustine

—***Clay Eugene Melhorn***

Godparent: Michael Bourke
Sponsor: Michael Bourke
Confirmation Name: St. Maximilian Kolbe

—***Dennis James Nehmer***

Godparents: Joshua Nehmer & Danielle Nehmer
Sponsor: Maria Nehmer
Confirmation Name: St. John the Baptist

Rite of Continuing Conversion: Sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion

—***Rylee Kate Schubbe***

Sponsor: John Schubbe
Confirmation Name: St. Katharine Drexel

Congratulations!

Please celebrate with them as they begin their sacramental lives. They are fully initiated members of the Catholic Church and will continue to live out his or her response to God as a member of our faith community.



OCIA

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

A Journey of Faith

EASTER FLOWER OFFERINGS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM:

-M/M Gary Adams

Loretta Yunker,
Steven Yunker, Van Yunker

-M/M Gerald Adcock

Mr. & Mrs. C. Adcock,
Mr. & Mrs. K. Baczynski,
Joey Wiziecki,
Mr. & Mrs. S. Martinkus,
Mr. & Mrs. E. Bender

-Ms. Jean Adduci

Deceased of LeGros Family

-Ms. Kathleen Anderson

Martin Kocsis, Angeline Kocsis

-Mrs. Sharon Andrews

Norman, Sr., Norman, Jr., Anthony, Sue G.,
Kristie

-Dr/M Robert Astroth

Robert Kuhn, Doris Kuhn,
Robert Astroth, Mary Jean Astroth,
Mary Kay Astroth

-M/M David Basile

Anthony Vinezeano

-M/M Donald Brooks

The Brooks and Johnston Families

-M/M Ed Carriel

Bernard DeVine, Catherine DeVine,
Richard Carriel, Dorothy Carriel,
Maria Carriel

-M/M Dennis Peter Claxton

Peter Claxton

-Ms. Janet Coleman

Migrants & Refugees

-Mr. Mark Cwiertniak

-Kerry Dee /

Jesus Montes de Oca

Paul Dee,
Antonio Montes de Oca

-Mrs. Dolorita Farmer-Gordon

William Gordon

-Mrs. Dorothea Fewkes

-M/M Patrick Frencl

-M/M Jose Fulgencio

Sabino Herrera, Rafaela Guzman,
Ester Herrera, Elena Herrera,
Jesus y Ofelia

-M/M Chester Furtek

M/M J. Bannas, M/M A. Furtek,
M/M R. Lysik, M/M E. Furtek

-M/M Gerald George

Elaine Walsh

-M/M Jose Guerrero

-M/M James Hansel

Betsy Crandall,
Paul Brelmyer

-M/M Richard Harms

Deceased Farrell & Harms Families

-M/M Norman Hecht

Don & Joyce Hecht,
Ed & Toni Cieply

-Mrs. Carol Henderson

Jim Henderson, Catherine Clifford

-M/M Thomas Henderson

Al / Connie Sumera,
Jim / Alice Henderson

-Mrs. Marsha Henning

Timothy Julian,
Arnold Henning, Marie Hansen,
Angelo & Virginia Julian

-Mrs. Barbara Hodgett

Mike Hodgett, Al Hodgett,
Ed & Edna Kolar

-M/M Thomas Jacques

Jacques Family, Urick Family

-M/M Bruce Jennings

Carmen Torres, Janet Jennings

Joe Hayden, Audette aunts & uncles & cousins,
Gallagher Family

-Mr. Theodore Litak

Sgt Jerry Pawlak & Pawlak Family,
1LT. Jane Rode,
Robert & Francis White,
Major Sam & Alice Parrilli

-M/M Todd McArdle

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Rancatore,
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Sadowski,
Mrs. Lucille McArdle

-M/M Genaro Meza

Rogelio Meza

Mr. Walter Mielzynski

Mom, Dad, Brother, Nephew

-Mrs. Geri Mokry

-M/M Armand Napoleon, Jr.

Armand & Mary Napoleon, Sr., Nicholas &
Pauline D'amico

-M/M Dennis Nehmer

-M/M Thomas Newquist Jr.

-M/M Donald Neybert

Jim O'Grady, Charlotte Neybert, David Neybert

-Mrs. Noreen O'Connor

O'Connor Family, Collins Family,
Richlik Family

-M/M David Lee Osmolski

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Kramer,
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Osmolski

-M/M Larry Pilotto

Deceased members
Kudlo Family, Pilotto Family,
Dan Fair, Wendt Family

-Mrs. Rosemarie Ponton

-M/M Timothy Reed

Tom & Elsie Reed,
Dale & Betty Knickrehm

-Mrs. Betsy Richter

Gene Richter

-M/M William Sander

-M/M Brian Schubbe

Deceased members of the
Schubbe and Mitchell families

-Ms. Peggy Schwiesow

Schwiesow Family, McCoy Family, Dorothy
Smith, Tom Donahue

-M/M Arnold Szudarski

Sophie Janus, Charles Janus,
Albina Szudarski, Floyd Szudarski

-M/M Daniel Trevino

Jose & Lupe Trevino,
Breda McGuigan

-M/M Timothy Tucker

Gladys Herr, Paul Herr,
Nancy VanHoutegan,
Jacob VanHoutegan, Shelly Piffner

-M/M Rodney Williams

Ruth & Ed Marcinkowski,
Millie & Russ Williams



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-Mr. Carl Johnson

Mae Johnson

-M/M James Kelly

M/M Patrick Kelly,
M/M Richard Weiss

-Ms. Dawn Ladislas

Joe and Linda Ladislas,
Baron & Ladislas Families

-M/M Thomas Leddy

Patricia Bruno, Nancy Bruno, Mike Bruno, Jo-
sephine Zahropoulos,
Sandy Winder

-M/M Alan Leffelman

Leffelman Family, Stachowiak Family

-M/M Robert Lewis

Ruth / Paul Audette,
Annette Shepherd,
Hazel / Geo Lewis,
Pat & Elda Hauert,



Easter Sunday Message from Bishop Dennis E. Spies April 2026



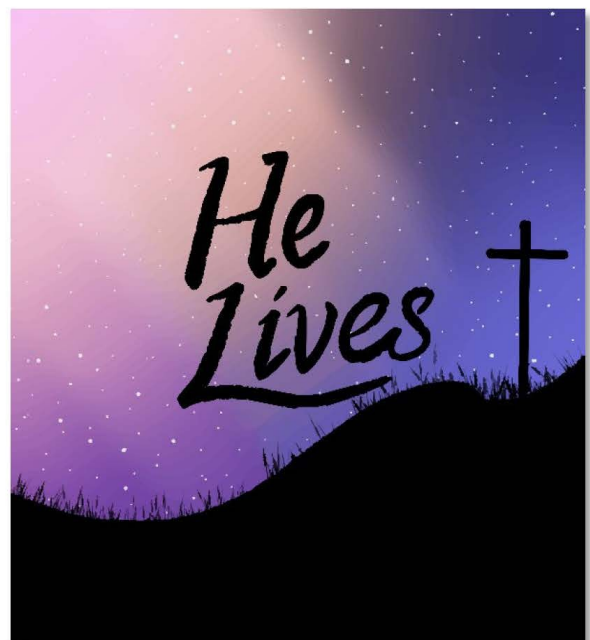
Happy Easter everyone! This is the greatest of all the celebrations. Everything we celebrate all year culminates Easter Sunday. Have you ever considered that the whole point of Christmas is that Easter Sunday needs to happen?

Sometimes we forget in our life that Easter Sunday is real. We think a lot about the passion that Jesus had to go through on Good Friday and how we participate in it. When life is difficult and we're struggling, we sometimes forget about Easter Sunday during the year. It's important for us to remember that any time we're going through something and we're struggling, and then somehow we get through it, and it's extraordinary afterwards—that's Easter Sunday in your life.

Our Lord Jesus participated in Easter Sunday to let us know that he has power over life and death. His life wasn't taken from him. He gave it away—the same with rising from the dead. He chose to rise from the dead. Why would he do that? To let us know that we're next. We get to participate in this resurrection when we follow Him throughout our whole life. And the whole point of the resurrection is the proclamation of eternal life, that we will rise from the dead when we die. Thanks be to God that He saw fit to give us such an example.

This witness is apparent as we enter into this Easter season when we see the apostles boldly testifying to the resurrection from the dead—most of them with their lives. They were martyred on account of their testimony, so it's not just an expression. Jesus actually rose from the dead, and they gave their lives to testify to it.

So, this year, remember that celebrating Easter is about celebrating Jesus' rising from the dead, and the hope that he gives us. Rather than filling up on chocolate Easter bunnies and eggs because you gave up chocolate for Lent, celebrate the resurrection of the Lord Jesus in your life, rising out of the many challenges you face to give you hope in this life and in the life to come. Thanks be to God.



We hear this Gospel passage on every Easter Sunday. This passage is a profound mystery involving the senses, the transition from the Old Covenant to the New, and the "running" of the soul toward God.

The Darkness and the Light: *"Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark..."* St.

Augustine and other Fathers of the Church saw the "darkness" as more than a time of day. It represented the state of the world and the hearts of the disciples before they fully grasped the Resurrection. By happening on the "first day," the Resurrection mirrors Genesis. Just as God said: "Let there be light" on the first day of the old creation, Christ becomes the "Light of the World" on the first day of the New Creation. Mary Magdalene represents the soul that seeks God even when it feels "dark" or hopeless.

Peter and the Beloved Disciple received the message from Mary Magdalene that the body of Jesus was missing and she saw the Lord, they both ran to the tomb. *"Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter..."* St. Gregory the Great offers a famous allegorical interpretation of this race between Peter and John. The Zeal of Youth vs. Authority: John (the younger) runs faster because of the intensity of his love. He illustrates himself as "the disciple Jesus loved." However, he waits at the entrance. John arrives first, but Peter enters first. The Fathers saw this as a sign of Ecclesial Order. John may see the truth quickly, but he respects the Office/Authority of Peter in the Church.



Pastor's EASTER MESSAGE

The "Napkin" and the Order of the Tomb: *"...and the cloth that had been around Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself."* For the Fathers of the Church, the neatness of the tomb was proof against a heist. If grave robbers had stolen the body, they would not have taken the time to unwrap the spices (which would stick to the skin) and neatly fold the head covering. St. Cyril of Alexandria noted that the separate head cloth symbolized that Christ, the "Head" of the Church is distinct from the "Body," the faithful, yet both are part of the same mystery of the Resurrection.

The Abandonment of Death:

Christ did not just leave the tomb; He left the "garments of mortality" behind. Unlike Lazarus, who came out *wearing* his grave cloths, because he would die again, Jesus leaves them behind because Death no longer has a claim on Him.

Seeing and believing: *"Then the other disciple... saw and believed."*

What did he see? He saw an absence. The Fathers emphasize that John did not see the Risen Christ yet; but he saw the *evidence* of His departure. This is the transition from "sight" to "faith."

Today's Bible passage tells us that "they did not yet understand the Scripture." Their belief at this moment was sparked by the physical reality of the empty tomb, which would later be confirmed by the "burning hearts" of scriptural understanding. We too need to reach this point of "burning hearts" by reading and meditating the Scripture over and over again.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Thomas Theneth CMI

A heartfelt **THANK-YOU** is extended to everyone who helped make our Triduum and Easter celebrations beautiful and prayerful. From liturgical ministers, flower donors, choir, decorators inside and outside, and ALL volunteers—your time, dedication and love made a profound difference.

May the joy of the Risen Christ continue to bless you all!



CRS RICE BOWLS can be returned as soon as possible

to the Parish or Religious Education Office. It is recommended to convert loose change into bills or a check for easier processing.



First Communion will be celebrated next Sunday, April 12, 2026, at 11am Mass.

COLLECTION SUMMARY: March 28—29, 2026

Budgeted	\$3,205.53
Sunday Offertory*	\$3,105.25
Minus	\$ 100.28
Envelopes used / distributed	83 / 515
<i>*Includes 6 Online Givers</i>	
Easter Sunday	\$ 85.00
Good Friday for the Holy Land	\$ 24.00

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 Betsy Richter, 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 Digiaco, 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, Lorianne 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.

“Let the greatest sinners place their trust in My mercy. They have the right before others to trust in the abyss of My mercy. ...Souls that make an appeal to My mercy delight Me. To such souls I grant even more graces than they ask.”

—Jesus’ words to St. Faustina as recorded in her Diary (1146)

To all choir members:

Thank you for participating in the Holy Week Easter services, and all of the Saturday afternoon practices that you attended to make this happen. Your contribution to the music ministry is truly appreciated!

**To the congregation:**

I hope that you feel that the choir met our goal of enhancing the Holy Week church services. I couldn’t ask for a more talented and dedicated group of people to work with.

Blessings to all!

Sue Williams

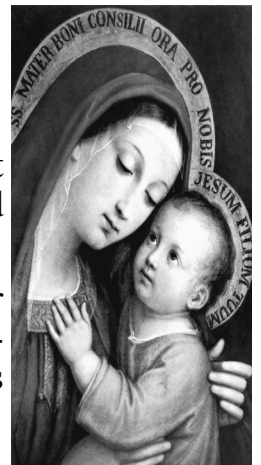
**POPE’S INTENTIONS for****APRIL 2026: For priests in crisis:**

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.

The Council of Catholic Women announces our 2026 Woman of the Year, **MRS. PENNY LUND!**

Penny is a very active participant in our parish ministries and activities.

Thank you for all that you do for our parish, Penny and congratulations on being selected as **2026 Woman of the Year.**



Celebrate
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

April 12, 2026

2pm—3pm Confession

3pm Chaplet



There will be a **Finance Council** meeting on Wednesday, April 15 at 5:30pm
There will be a **Parish Council** meeting on Wednesday, April 15 at 6:30pm