

# January 11, 2026

## ST. PAUL the APOSTLE CATHOLIC PARISH

511 N. Conrad Street  
Peotone, IL 60468-9290

**CHURCH OFFICE TELEPHONE:** 708 258-6917

**CHURCH OFFICE FAX:** 708 258-3061

**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:** StPaulRE@att.net

**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

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**

May 9, 2026 at 11am

at St. Anthony (Frankfort)

### CONFIRMATION:

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

Please pick-up a complimentary **2026 WALL CALENDAR**  
(courtesy of Fedde-Helfrich-Cross Funeral Home) in either lobby!



**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	1/10	3:00 pm—	<b><u>CONFESION</u></b>
		4:00 pm—	+ <b><u>Jeannie Scheiman</u></b> (from 11/29/25) req by the Adamsick Family and <b><u>People of the Parish</u></b>
Sun	1/11	11:00 am—	+ <b><u>Vic Wienckowski, Jr.</u></b> req by Family
Mon	1/12	8:30 am—	<b><u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u></b>
Tue	1/13	8:30 am—	<b><u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u></b>
Wed	1/14	8:30 am—	<b><u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u></b>
Thr	1/15	8:30 am—	<b><u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u></b> 6:00 pm— <b><u>ADORATION</u></b> <b><u>NO CONFESION</u></b>
Fri	1/16	8:30 am—	<b><u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u></b>
Sat	1/17	3:00 pm—	<b><u>CONFESION</u></b> 4:00 pm—+ <b><u>Peter Claxton</u></b> (from 12/28/25) req by Dolly Farmer
Sun	1/18	11:00 am—	+ <b><u>Betty Knickrehm</u></b> req by Tom & Lou Hagemaster and <b><u>People of the Parish</u></b>

*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.*

## Annual Mass for Persons with disABILITIES—

Please join Bishop Spies in a special Mass for persons with disabilities and their families at Our Lady of Mercy (Aurora) at 2pm on Sunday, March 1, Refreshments and fellowship to follow. Additional information on registration is in the lobby.

**48th Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass**—Sunday, August 30 for couples celebrating 25, 50 and more than 50 years spent together. Registration will be available in spring of 2026.



Additional volunteers are needed to assist in the reverent cleaning of our **altar linens** (purificators and corporals). Laundering / ironing is done at your home and instructions will be given. Please contact Betsy Richter or the Parish Office for details.



## Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

Diocese of Joliet

### The 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal has begun!

The Diocese of Joliet invites all parishioners to support the 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). Together, we can make a profound difference.

This year's theme is *Beyond all Expectations: Faith that Elevates!* Through the CMAA, we ensure Christ's mission and ministries reach everyone. We provide shelter for the homeless, feed the hungry, support vocations, and educate the next generation of Catholics. Our parish cannot accomplish this alone. As a diocese, we can do so much more.

Our parish goal is **\$16,700**. We receive 70% of any amount raised over goal to use within our parish. Please review your mailing from the Diocese of Joliet and prayerfully consider your gift.

If you do not receive a CMAA mailing, please contact the parish office. Thank you!

### 2025 CMAA Pledge Report

for St. Paul the Apostle as of 1/4/26:

<b>PARISH GOAL:</b>	\$15,600
<b>AMOUNT PLEDGED:</b>	\$36,067
<b>AMOUNT PAID:</b>	\$35,497
<b>REMAINING BALANCE:</b>	\$ 570
<b>NUMBER of DONORS:</b>	122
<b>2025 REBATE:</b>	\$13,928



Council 11232 Pasta Dinner @ Saint Boniface

Friday, February 13, 2026 4:30 - 7:00pm

Donation: \$12 per person

Proceeds benefit Knights supported charities.

**On Sale After  
All Masses**



**POPE'S INTENTIONS for  
JANUARY 2026: For prayer with  
the Word of God**

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

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

Thank you for all of your hard work during practices. I thought that we added a lot to the Christmas Night Mass, especially with not much turn around time between Father's Installation Mass and Christmas!



Several of you have asked when we would be meeting next. You will find the practice schedule below. Note that we will be taking the month of January off and will start back up with rehearsals on February 7. Please mark your calendars of the dates, and text or email me with any conflicts.

*There's plenty of room for more choir members. If you have the dates below and think that you'd like to be part of the St Paul Choir, we'd love to have you. Please contact Sue (815 370-6287) if you have any questions, or would like to join.*

**St. Paul the Apostle  
2026 Winter / Spring Choir Rehearsals**

Saturday, February 7, 14:	2:30-3:30 pm
Saturday, February 21:	NO REHEARSAL
Saturday, February 28:	2:30-3:30 pm
Saturday, March 7, 14, 21, 28:	2:30-3:30 pm

**Easter Liturgies**

Thursday, April 2	Holy Thursday
Friday, April 3	Good Friday
Saturday, April 4	Easter Vigil
Sunday, April 5	Easter Sunday

Thank you for giving freely of your time to enhance the church liturgy through music.

**Mother Teresa Catholic Academy—  
parish school of St. Liborius —**

at 24201 S. Kings Rd / Crete, will be hosting **OPEN HOUSES** this Wednesday, January 14 and Tuesday, January 27 from 12:15 to 6pm. If you would like your children educated in a safe, faith-filled and loving environment or you know someone who does, please have them visit us at Mother Teresa for our open house(s).

Some may think they can't afford a Catholic Education; however, scholarship offerings have increased to make a Catholic Education at Mother Teresa accessible. Come check us out!

Please call 708 672-3093 for information—  
[Mtcacademy.org](http://Mtcacademy.org)





Looking for a New Year's resolution that is positive? Join our local Knights of Columbus St. Paul the Apostle Council. You will be glad you did! Contact Grand Knight Ron LeClaire at 708-204-6277 for more information and to get started.

The Knights of Columbus continue to collect non perishable food items in boxes in the lobbies at St. Paul the Apostle Church. Please be especially generous during this holiday season. Donations support local pantries like Helping Hands and others.

Mark your calendars for Friday February 13 when St. Paul the Apostle council K of C will be serving our famous Spaghetti Dinner at St. Boniface Hall. Tickets will go on sale at Church later in January. Hope to see you at this popular event!

#### **JANUARY 2026 RAFFLE WINNERS**

\$150.00	#38	Zeke Peter's
\$100.00	#695	Greg Kunes
\$ 50.00	#156	Joe Celebucki
\$ 50.00	#16	Tyler Sweetie
\$ 25.00	#791	Rubin Moreno
\$ 25.00	#264	Renee Burge

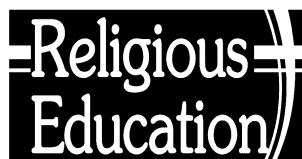
#### **COLLECTION SUMMARY: January 3—4, 2026**

Budgeted	\$3,205.53
Sunday Offertory*	\$3,337.00
Plus	131.47
Envelopes used / distributed	72 / 531
<i>*Includes 8 Online Givers</i>	
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 957.00
Christmas	\$ 200.00
First Offering	\$ 504.00

Secure and convenient  
**ONLINE GIVING** is available at [GiveCentral.org](http://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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A mandatory **CONFIRMATION RETREAT** will be held at St. Anthony Catholic Church (Frankfort) on Tuesday, January 20, 2026 from 6pm-8pm or Wednesday, January 21, 2026 from 6pm-8pm;

**A STUDENT / PARENT MEETING** will be held on Sunday, January 25, 2026 at 10am. Please plan on staying to celebrate 11am Mass;

**FIRST COMMUNION** is scheduled for Sunday, April 12 at 11am Mass

Please keep Ed Kulish, Jan Leffelman, Nancy Pilotto, Rev. Tom Ewing, Michael Doyle, Mary Ellen Hanlon, Ashley Doody, Luke Payne, Dave Castaneda, Greg Nalepka, Kathleen Callahan, Deacon Mark Otten, Jeff Furtek, Charles Claxton, Mary Jane Szewka, Elaine Doyle, Dorothy Simikowski, Joe Ladislas, Arline Clark, Mary Jo Fry, Gerald Adcock, Laura Valenti, Samantha Digiocomo, 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 Michelic, 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.*



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**PHS STUDENT COUNCIL**

**BLOOD DRIVE**

**American Red Cross**

**Sign Up Here!**

**Saturday**

**17**

**January**

**2026**

**DONATE**







Peotone HS / 605 W. North St  
 Door #16 Media Center  
 9am-2pm

**The Baptism of the Lord**  
**Is 42:1-4, 4-7; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17**

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is a powerful conclusion to the Christmas season and marks the inauguration of Jesus' public ministry. With this Feast commences the ordinary time of the year. Though sinless, Jesus voluntarily approached John for baptism to show his solidarity with the sinful humanity. It was a sign that he willed to assume the burden of humanity's sins as prophesied by Isaiah. Jesus' baptism identified him as the son of the living God who through his life that and resurrection came to serve, and not to be served. In addition, he was anointed by the presence of the Holy Spirit to carry out the mission. In our baptism, we are identified as persons set apart and consecrated to God, who are to live differently, united with Christ in his mission to the world. We are given the power to accomplish the mission because we are anointed by the Holy Spirit. Every day we are to live out the meaning of our baptism because we are identified and anointed for continuing Jesus' mission.

The Baptism of the Lord is a profound event that offers several deep points for reflection: "Why did the sinless Son of God need to be baptized for the forgiveness of sins?" This is to identify himself with Sinners. Jesus, though without sin, chooses to stand in line with those who are repentant. He steps into the "dirty water" of the Jordan River, a place where people were washing away their sins, to fully identify with humanity and its fallen state.

It is at His baptism God revealed Himself (Theophany) as the Holy Trinity. The Baptism of the Lord is a great Epiphany or the manifestation of the Divine, revealing the Holy Trinity for the first time in Jesus' adult life. Jesus as the Son is physically present, submitting to the ritual. The Holy Spirit descends upon Him "like a dove," anointing and empowering Him for His ministry. God the Father speaks audibly from heaven, declaring, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."



This feast calls us to reflect on the meaning of our own Christian baptism. Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we accepted the death and resurrection of Christ, cleansed of sins, and reborn as adopted sons and daughters of the Father. Thus, we receive a new identity. We share in the very lovingness and preciousness that the Father proclaims over Jesus.

During the Baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus to empower Him for His ministry. We, too, received the gift of the Holy Spirit in our baptism and this gift calls and equips us to live as faithful disciples, to share the Gospel, and to walk in "newness of life." The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is an invitation to renew our commitment to our baptismal promises: to reject sin and to live as befits the blessed children of God.

The Baptism of the Lord is a moment of profound humility, divine revelation, and powerful commission. Jesus' descent into the Jordan is an act of love that transforms us, making us co-heirs with Him.

Yours in Christ,  
*Fr. Thomas Theneth CMI*



Fr. Thomas will be on vacation from Monday, January 12 and will return for 4pm Mass on Saturday, February 14.

There will be no 8:30am weekday Masses celebrated at St. Paul during this time. Communion services will be held Monday through Friday at 8:30am.

Confession will be offered on Saturday from 3pm-3:45pm and weekend Masses will be celebrated as usual at 4pm and 11am.

There will be no Confession offered on Thursdays.

Adoration will be held as usual from 6-8pm.



**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION**

On the second weekend of each month—this weekend—Fr. Thomas will offer a special blessing to couples celebrating an anniversary in that month. Couples who want to participate will be asked to stand at the end of Mass for the blessing.

If you would like your names and anniversary date **printed in the bulletin**, you need to register in the **registration book in the lobby**. Couples who register will also receive an anniversary card. No January anniversaries were submitted for publication.

### Welcome to St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Parish

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 in Ministry Programs
- Would like to be contacted by a priest

### Faith in Action

A Christian is someone who makes it easier for others to believe in God — not through perfection, but through kindness, grace and love in everyday life. When people see Christ's compassion in us, they're drawn closer to Him.

Discerning? We can help you foster  
your vocation to fatherhood ...

Because God Still Calls...  
Join us for an  
upcoming

"Vianney  
Visit"



February 12-14, 2026

St. John Vianney College Seminary, St. Paul, MN

### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS:

-HM2 Chuck Claxton (Navy—29 Palms, CA)  
Son of Dennis & Pat Claxton

-AN Chase Clyden (Navy—Asian Seas)  
Grandson of Laura (Tom) Jacques;  
Great-nephew of Barbara Grantz

-SFC Nicholas Hupke (Army)  
Nephew of Paula (Fred) Prium

-MAJ Jori Ingersoll (Air Force—Washington State)  
Daughter of Mary Jo (Frank) Fry, Jr.

-SSGT Nate Kijowski (Marines)  
Son of Debbie (John) Ziolkowski Kijowski

-PVT Jake L. O'Connor (Marines)  
Grandson of Marge Brooke

-SSG Sean Rodgers (Army—Ft. Campbell, KY)  
Grandson of Barbara Grantz;  
Great-nephew of Laura (Tom) Jacques

-CAPT Joseph Walan (Air Force—Las Vegas, NV)  
Son of Mary Jo (Frank, Jr.) Fry

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



### 9 Days for Life (January 16-24, 2026)

**9 Days for Life** is an annual novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life.

Download the novena or sign up to receive the daily prayers via email or text message! ([www.respectlife.org/9-days-signup](http://www.respectlife.org/9-days-signup))

The Diocese of Joliet has scheduled a "Vianney Visit" for February 12-14, 2026, to provide high school juniors and seniors (ages 17-18) the opportunity to take a closer look and experience college seminary. Attend Mass, prayer and spiritual conferences with SJV priests and hear testimonies from SJV seminarians.

St. John Vianney College Seminary in St. Paul, MN, is the largest collaborative college seminary in the United States, representing 18 dioceses through the nation, including ours, with more than 100 undergraduate men in formation this year!

**Questions / Concerns / Registration:** [vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org](mailto:vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org) or call 815-221-6171. There is no cost for this trip and the Diocese of Joliet will provide all meals and transportation.