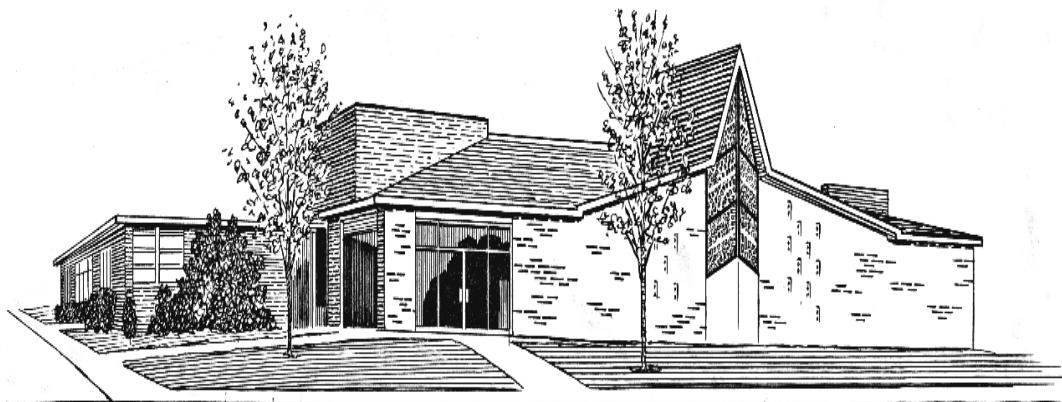




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July 12, 2026

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: Denise Carriel

GRAND KNIGHT of K of C: Bill Sander

BUILDING & GROUNDS: Steve Maltese

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON: Al Leffelman

WORSHIP COMMISSION: Paula Prium

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: Will resume in the fall

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;
or any time by appointment

FIRST RECONCILIATION: t / b / a

FIRST COMMUNION: t / b / a

CONFIRMATION: t / b / a

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 and Thrs 7:30am

Communion Services: Mon, Weds and Fri 7:30am

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



Deacon Cooks July Breakfast

Enjoy Deacon Kelly's culinary skills and community fellowship **this Thursday, July 16 at 8am following 7:30am morning Mass**. Scrambled eggs, sausage links, pancakes, potatoes, fruit and beverages are on Deacon's bill of faire!

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	7/11	3:00 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
		3:30 pm—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u>Jeannie Scheiman</u> req by Don & Kathie Brooks and <u>The People of the Parish</u>
Sun	7/12	10:30 am—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		11:00 am—	+ <u>John R. Tierney, Jr. & Family</u> req by Family
Mon	7/13	7:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Tue	7/14	7:30 am—	+ <u>Candace Marevka</u> req by St. Paul Parish
Wed	7/15	7:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Thr	7/16	7:30 am—	+ <u>Richard W. Strubin</u> req by Bill & Penny Lund
		6:00 pm—	<u>ADORATION</u>
		7:15 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
Fri	7/17	7:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Sat	7/18	3:00 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
		3:30 pm—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u>Katherine Weiss</u> req by the James Kelly Family
Sun	7/19	10:30 am—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		11:00 am—	+ <u>Theodore S. Litak</u> req by T.R. Litak and <u>The People of the Parish</u>

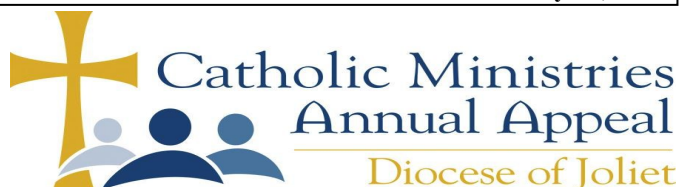
If you are attending a Mass that you requested an intention to be said for, please sign the gift bearer book in the rear of the church and let an usher know you are here if you wish to bring up the gifts.



*Altar
Flowers*

*The Altar flowers are given
in memory of
Jerry & Rosemary Borchardt
and
Bob & Margaret Schwiesow,
from Family*

If you are interested in sponsoring our bi-weekly altar flower arrangement, 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.



Pledge Report for St. Paul the Apostle Parish as of July 5, 2026

Monthly pledge payments are due in the next few days. Since we have reached our goal in paid pledges, 70% of the amount over goal will be returned to our parish for our needs.

If you would still like to make 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:	\$33,580
AMOUNT PAID:	\$29,543
BALANCE DUE:	\$ 4,037
DONORS:	90
REBATE:	\$ 8,990

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS for JULY 2026:

For respect for human life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.



A volunteer sheet to lead the rosary 30-minutes prior to weekend Masses is in the lobby.

Please sign-up if you would like to lead us in prayer.

There will be a **FINANCE COUNCIL** meeting on Thursday, July 16 at 5:30pm.

There will be a **PARISH COUNCIL** meeting on Thursday, July 16 at 6:30pm.

COLLECTION SUMMARY: July 4—5, 2026:

Budgeted	\$3,205.53
Sunday Offertory*	\$3,020.75
Minus	\$ 184.78
Envelopes used / distributed	76 / 468
*Includes 11 Online Givers	
Peter's Pence	\$ 20.00
Providing for Our Future	\$ 10.00



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.



Please keep Penny Lund, Marcel Smaga, Bernie Iversen, Carol Henderson, Pat Cleary, Ed Kulish, Jan Leffelman, Nancy Pilotto, Rev. Tom Ewing, Michael Doyle, Mary Ellen Hanlon, Ashley Doody, Luke Payne, Dave Castaneda, Kathleen Callahan, Charles Claxton, Mary Jane Szewka, Elaine Doyle, Arline Clark, Mary Jo Fry, Gerald Adcock, Laura Valenti, Samantha Digiacomio, Julie Szudarski, Aris Tomac, Bob Johnson, Pete Henrisey, Claudia Merrifield, Harry & Pam Carpenter, Francesca Librera Biondo, Mike Wilczynski, Fran Rewers, Geri Mokry, Pastor Richard Young, Jeanne Vinezeano, Frances Librera, the Adamsick Family, Lavergne Sigrist, Charlie Kooy, Rose Bailey, Julie Hayes, Emily Klamkin, Lorianne Michelie, the Robert Polacek family, Rich Harms, TJ Stefanski, Linda Galica and those that go unnamed in your prayers.

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

The Archbishop Fulton John Sheen Foundation is the official promoter of the **Cause for the Canonization of Archbishop Sheen**. It is the goal of the Foundation to introduce a new generation to the holy priest, missionary and communicator, Fulton J Sheen, and to move the Church to proclaim him a saint.

For tickets to the Beatification Mass in St. Louis and other events in Peoria in September 2026, please visit **www.celebratesheen.com**.

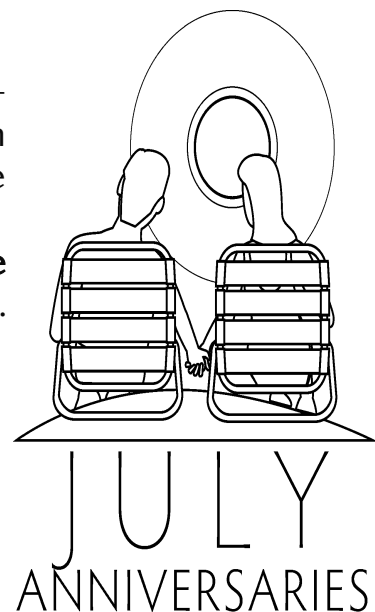
St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin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

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.

Brian & Sheri Schubbe	July 20, 1991	35 years
Gary & Shirley Adams	July 21, 1979	47 years
Deacon Jim & Virginia Kelly	July 22, 1978	48 years
Tom & Laura Jacques	July 23, 1983	43 years



Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of
MRS. CANDACE MAREVKA, 78, who passed away July 4, 2026.
+ May she rest in peace. +

The Gospel today is about the Parable of the Sower. It is a call to lifelong conversion (metanoia) through the Sacraments, prayer, and grace to cultivate a heart that can bear rich fruit.

Notice the method of the Sower (God). In ancient farming, scattering seed before plowing meant seed landed everywhere. God does not ration His grace. He does not look at a hardened path or a patch of thorns and decides it is a "waste" of seed. He throws His Word and mercy abundantly onto every human heart, desperately desiring that all might be saved. Jesus provides the direct interpretation of the soils later in the passage. In Catholic tradition, these are often viewed not as four different types of people, but as four different seasons or conditions within our own individual hearts.

The Path (The Hardened Heart): The seed cannot penetrate because the ground has been trampled and compressed. In our lives, this represents a heart hardened by pride, unconfessed sin, cynicism, or simple spiritual laziness. Because the Word rests only on the surface, the evil one easily snatches it away before it can prompt a change of heart.

Rocky Ground (The Superficial Heart): This soil has a thin layer of earth over a bed of stone. The seed sprouts quickly, driven by emotion or temporary enthusiasm, but it has no depth. When "persecution or trial" comes—perhaps a difficult church teaching, a dry spell in prayer, or social awkwardness about the faith—the roots fail, and the faith withers.



Among Thorns (The Choked Heart):

This ground is fertile, but it is overcrowded. Jesus explicitly defines the thorns as "worldly anxiety and the lure of riches." These are the constant distractions of consumerism, toxic productivity, and social media. We do not necessarily reject God; we just crowd Him out with secondary anxieties until our spiritual life suffocates.

The Rich Soil (The Docile Heart):

The good soil hears the Word, understands it, and bears fruit. In Catholic theology, this understanding is deeply tied to docility—a willingness to be taught by the Holy See and formed by the Holy Spirit.

The Supernatural Yield: Jesus promises a yield of "thirty, sixty, or a hundredfold." In the ancient world, a standard good harvest was roughly sevenfold. A hundredfold yield is explicitly miraculous. It reminds us that the holiness of the saints is not achieved by human striving alone, but by God's grace working through a cooperative heart.

The Sacramental Remedy: How do we change our soil? We cannot plow our own hearts with sheer willpower. We need the tools Christ left us in the Church. The Sacrament of Reconciliation breaks up the hardened "path" of habitual sin and clears away the "rocks" of hidden resentment or unconfessed guilt. Receiving Christ in the Eucharist is the ultimate way to nourish the soil, giving our roots the depth they need to withstand the scorching heat of trials.

Intentionally stepping away from distractions and practicing charity actively cuts back the "thorns" of material anxiety. This is how the prayer and almsgiving help a soul to come back to Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Thomas Theneth CMI

JOIN US FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

GOING WILD WITH JESUS!

COLOSSIANS 3:12-17

FIRST CHILD: \$10
\$5 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL CHILD
MAX \$20 PER FAMILY

LOVE, COMPASSION, HUMILITY, PATIENCE, PEACE

A JUNGLE ADVENTURE WHERE KIDS DISCOVER HOW TO FOLLOW JESUS IN EVERY PART OF LIFE!

MONDAY, AUGUST 3 – FRIDAY, AUGUST 7
6:00PM – 8:30PM

FAITH CONNECTION
14101 W. Joliet Rd.
Manhattan, IL 60442

PREPARE FOR FUN, FRIENDS & FAITH!
BECOME A JUNGLE RANGER FOR JESUS!

HOSTED BY THE PEOTONE CLERGY ASSOCIATION

Religious Education

ATTENTION ALL CURRENT and INCOMING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FAMILIES—

There will be an important meeting for all parents about the upcoming 2026-2027 program year **this Wednesday, July 15 at 6:30pm** in the church.

Parents —
please make every effort to attend.



THE 146TH ST. ANNE'S HOLY DAY MASSES
 Held at the Country's First National Shrine
ST. ANNE'S CHURCH
 230 N. 6th Avenue
 St. Anne, IL 60964
 ☎ (815) 427-8265

Mass in Latin - July 25th at 6:00 p.m.,
 Followed by Rosary & Procession
 Fr. Pete Jankowski, Celebrant
Outdoor Mass in English - July 26th
 at 9:00 a.m., followed by Rosary & Procession
 Fr. Jim Heyd, Celebrant
 Fr. Pete Jankowski will hear confessions
 and offer anointings during the Mass.
Outdoor Procession of Relic at Camino y
Esperanza Retreat House at 11:00 a.m.
Outdoor Mass in Spanish at 12:00 noon
 Rev. Sebastian Genoni, Celebrant
With Sales of Flowers, Religious Items, Blessed Water & Oil and Brats, Hotdogs and Hamburgers (as well as drinks & desserts) sold after all the Masses. Activities for the children after the 9:00 a.m. Mass!

Daily Novena Masses from July 17-24
 at 7:00 p.m. (except Sundays) **in English**
 at St. Anne's Church and at
 St. Patrick's Church **in Spanish**
 at 119 N. Market St. in Momence, IL)

CALL ☎ (815) 427-8265 FOR MORE INFO!
 Buses are welcome and parking is available
 on the grounds. Help us raise \$60,000 to
 Renovate Our Parking Lot! The church is air-
 conditioned. www.stannestanne.org

Please Check Out and
 SUBSCRIBE to Our "BORDER
 TOWN PARISHES" YOUTUBE SITE
 ALMOST 600 SUBSCRIBERS
 Online Novena Masses and
 OVER 1,000 VIDEOS!!!



The **Peotone Senior Assistance Center** serves clients, by appointment only, this **Thursday, July 16**, from 10am—3pm. This is part of our **Respect Life Ministry**, whose mission is to protect the vulnerable and provide seniors, low income and disabled persons with assistance from county, state and federal programs, including Medicare, Social Security, Illinois License Plate Discounts, and services offered through Catholic Charities. We are also a certified SHIP site (Senior Health Insurance Program). The center is staffed by volunteers who serve the community without cost.

For information on specific services,
 please leave your name and phone number at
 708 258-6917 then press 5.
Please make an appointment.



God can't be outdone

Years ago, Chris and Nena Lavoie began welcoming seminarians into their home for a meal and a blessing. Over time, 10 or 12 young men gathered around their table. They couldn't have known that this simple hospitality was planting a seed in their own son, Joshua, now a priest for the Diocese of Joliet, ordained just a few weeks ago. The diocese walked with Fr. Josh through eight years of formation. For the Lavoies, giving to the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal is one way to walk with the next young man, and the next.



**Lockport
 Young Adults
 Presents...**

SUMMER SERIES 2026

THEOLOGY ON TAP

7 PM - DOORS OPEN
 7:15 PM - TALK BEGINS



Monday, July 13

The Most Underrated Threat to
 Human Flourishing and What We
 Can Do About It
 Theo McManigal



Monday, July 27

Daily Work as Daily Holiness
 Fr. Dan Korenchan



Monday, August 3

Dating, Relationships, and Theology of the
 Body
 Fr. Thomas Loya



Monday, August 10th

Magnificent Humanity: How the
 Incarnation Makes Us Truly Human
 Fr. Greg Alberts

Invite young adults
 ages 18-40 to:

COOM'S CORNER
 1225 E. 9TH STREET
 LOCKPORT, IL

Questions? Contact:
angela.labanca3@gmail.com





DIocese OF JOLIET
Office of Mission



**LUNCH
IN THE PARK**

Join us for an afternoon filled with hot food and delightful community at Sacred Heart Catholic Church!

Sat. July 25th 2026 | 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
4375 S Walnut St, Pembroke Township, IL 60958

For More Information, contact Alex Buldak:
1-815-221-6256
abuldak@dioceseofjoliet.org

Use the QR code to register!



****Must be 18 years or older to attend this event****

Please remember these men and women in your daily prayers—priests, Deacons, Seminarians and Women & Men Religious in the Diocese of Joliet:



JULY

- 11 Fr. John McGeean
- 12 Dcn. Frederick Maier
- 13 Fr. Jason Stone
- 14 Fr. Alex Lorang
- 15 Srs. Alana Gorski & Margaret Gremppka OSF
- 16 Dcns. Robert Malek, Peter Manning
- 17 Dcns. Thomas Marciani, Philip Marrow
- 18 Fr. Michael McMahon
- 19 Dcn. Anthony Martini

Vocations are born in prayer and from prayer; and only through prayer can they persevere and bear fruit.
—Pope Francis



CCW
Council of Catholic Women

The CCW will be at both lobbies collecting cash donations after the Masses this weekend. All proceeds go to Catholic Charities—Diocese of Joliet, for their Back-to-School Fair. Your generous support will help foster care children and families in need to go back to school with the supplies needed. As a retired teacher, I know how important it is to a student's self-esteem when they come to school on day 2 ready to learn. Their smiles say it all. If you are writing a check, please make it out to **Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet** and write **Back to School Fair** on the memo line.

Thank-you for your support.

Denise Carriel
President

The winners for the CCW Summer Fun Baskets:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| # 1 Norine Dee | # 2 Renee Burge |
| # 3 Paula Prium | # 4 Nancy Pilotto |
| # 5 Dan Mott | # 6 Amy Leddy |
| # 7 Dan Mott | # 8 Denise Carriel |
| # 9 Renee Burge | #10 Denise Carriel |
| #11 Laura Jacques | #12 Kevin Bouchard |
| #13 Sue Williams | #14 Mary Frederick |
| #15 Dolorita Farmer Gordon | |

We had 59 participants in the raffle.

Thank you to those who donated baskets and to all for your continued support to the St. Paul CCW.

The **Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary** are offering a variety of retreats, days of reflection, spiritual enrichment programs and other opportunities.

Visit their website—
www.sscm-usa.org —
to learn more about
upcoming opportunities.

SSCM Province Center
2041 W. State Rt 113
Kankakee

