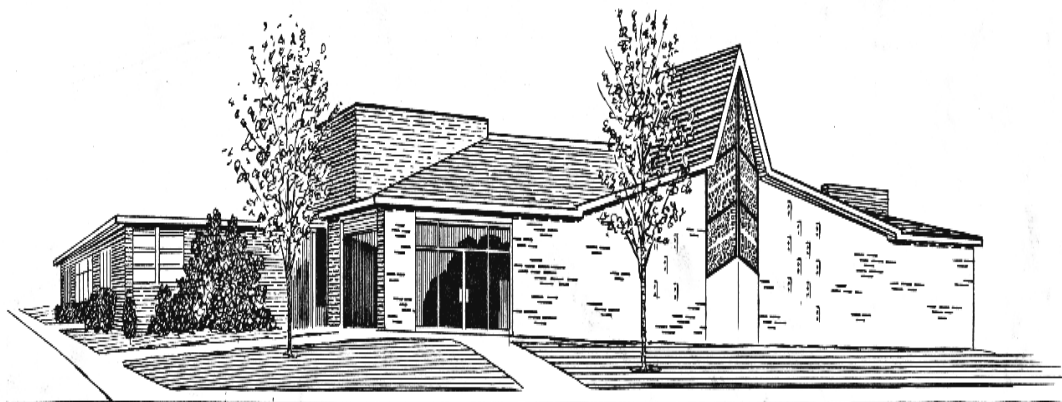




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July 26, 2026

## 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:** Denise Carriel

**K of C GRAND KNIGHT:** 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  
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

We warmly welcome grandparents and the elderly who are with us today! —Isaiah 49:15 "I will never forget you."

**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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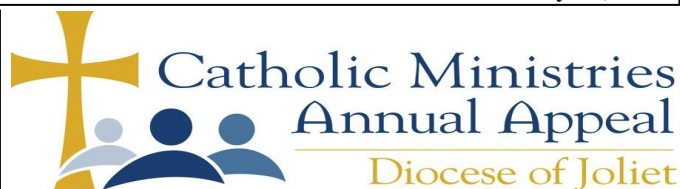
|     |      |           |                                                                                                                |
|-----|------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat | 7/25 | 3:00 pm—  | <b><u>CONFESSION</u></b>                                                                                       |
|     |      | 3:30 pm—  | <b><u>ROSARY</u></b>                                                                                           |
|     |      | 4:00 pm—  | + <b><u>Joe Ladislas</u></b><br>req by Dolly Farmer-Gordon<br>and<br><b><u>The People of the Parish</u></b>    |
| Sun | 7/26 | 10:30 am— | <b><u>ROSARY</u></b>                                                                                           |
|     |      | 11:00 am— | + <b><u>Herbert Sr. &amp; Marguerite Battermann</u></b><br>req by Herbert Jr.<br>& Mary Ann Battermann         |
| Mon | 7/27 | 7:30 am—  | <b><u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u></b>                                                                                |
| Tue | 7/28 | 7:30 am—  | + <b><u>Candace Marevka</u></b><br>req by Bob & Helen Lewis                                                    |
| Wed | 7/29 | 7:30 am—  | <b><u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u></b>                                                                                |
| Thr | 7/30 | 7:30 am—  | + <b><u>Fr. Michael Ginter</u></b><br>— <b><u>20th Anniversary</u></b>                                         |
|     |      | 6:00 pm—  | <b><u>ADORATION</u></b>                                                                                        |
|     |      | 7:15 pm—  | <b><u>CONFESSION</u></b>                                                                                       |
| Fri | 7/31 | 7:30 am—  | <b><u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u></b>                                                                                |
| Sat | 8/1  | 3:00 pm—  | <b><u>CONFESSION</u></b>                                                                                       |
|     |      | 3:30 pm—  | <b><u>ROSARY</u></b>                                                                                           |
|     |      | 4:00 pm—  | + <b><u>Peter Claxton—1st Anniversary</u></b><br>req by Family                                                 |
| Sun | 8/2  | 10:30 am— | <b><u>ROSARY</u></b>                                                                                           |
|     |      | 11:00 am— | + <b><u>Ken Roczniak</u></b><br>req by the Beecher Bunco Club<br>and<br><b><u>The 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.*



***The Altar flowers are given  
in memory of the Hodgett &  
Schuitema Families***

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 19, 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](http://jolietdioceseappeal.org).

|                        |          |
|------------------------|----------|
| <b>PARISH GOAL:</b>    | \$16,700 |
| <b>AMOUNT PLEDGED:</b> | \$26,630 |
| <b>AMOUNT PAID:</b>    | \$23,530 |
| <b>BALANCE DUE:</b>    | \$ 3,100 |
| <b>DONORS:</b>         | 89       |
| <b>REBATE:</b>         | \$ 4,781 |

***TUESDAY*** after 7:30am  
Mass until approximately  
4pm and ***THURSDAY*** after  
7:30am Mass.

Father celebrates Mass at  
Beecher Manor on Thursday  
at 10am and will be availa-  
ble after that prior to  
Adoration / Confession.



**Pastor's  
Office Hours**

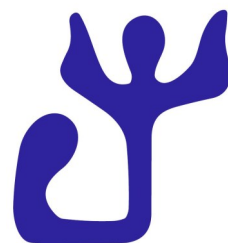
Are you navigating life as a widow or widower? We invite you to join us for support, healing, and community.

Attend a ***Joyful Again!*** A 2-day workshop & Spiritual Retreat, August 8 & 9, 2026 at Visitation Parish (Elmhurst).

No overnight accommodations are available.

For further information, call:  
708 354-7211 or e-mail us  
at [info@joyfulagain.org](mailto:info@joyfulagain.org).

For registration, please visit:  
[www.joyfulagain.org](http://www.joyfulagain.org).



**COLLECTION SUMMARY: July 18—19, 2026:**

|                                  |            |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Budgeted                         | \$3,205.53 |
| Sunday Offertory*                | \$2,987.00 |
| Minus                            | \$ 218.53  |
| Envelopes used / distributed     | 79 / 468   |
| <b>*Includes 8 Online Givers</b> |            |
| Providing for Our Future         | \$ 773.00  |



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.

Thank you to all those that donated to the K of C food drive, we exceeded our goal for the past fraternal year. As we start this year's drive, the Helping Hands Food pantry has a need for the following: any type of salad dressing, canned cooked chicken breast, and jars of spaghetti sauce. The donations to date for July sits at 80 pounds. A great start.



**CCW**  
Council of Catholic Women

The CCW is sponsoring a 5-week **bible study** to Encounter the Eucharist in a Bold Way. Here at St. Paul the Apostle, the sessions are open to both men and women, ages 18 and over. The first session will be on Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> and ending on October 13<sup>th</sup>. Each session will run from 60 to 90 minutes long. The format will be using the bible with a study guide to help us encounter the living word focusing on the Eucharist. If interested, the sign up will be in the back of church. **There you can give your preference for Tuesday morning or evening.**

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the **Catholic Charities Back to School Fair** after Masses on July 11-12, 2026. \$693 was received in cash & checks.

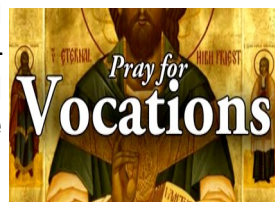


**Please review this list and inform the parish office if anyone may be removed from it.**

Please keep 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 Digiaco, Julie Szudarski, Aris Tomac, Bob Johnson, Pete Henrisey, Claudia Merrifield, Harry & Pam Carpenter, Francesca Libreria Biondo, Mike Wilczynski, Fran Rewers, Geri Mokry, Pastor Richard Young, Jeanne Vinezeano, Frances Libreria, the Adamsick Family, Laverne Sigrist, Charlie Kooy, Rose Bailey, Julie Hayes, Emily Klamkin, Lorianne Mihelic, 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.**

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

**JULY**

25 Dcns. Todd Bly, Stephen Contreras, Michael Doerries  
26 Fr. Thomas Milota, Fr. David Mowry  
27 Sr. Monica R. Sesko  
28 Dcn. Wilfredo Marrero  
29 Dcn. Michael Doerries  
30 Fr. Patrick Mulcahy  
31 Dcn. Christopher Mazzacano

**AUGUST**

1 Br. Damien DeBraekeleer OSF, Br. Joseph Ruscha OSF  
2 Dcns. Luciano Coson, Paul Dirienzo, Anthony George

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

—Pope Francis

Traveling? Find a Mass at  
**www.MassTimes.org.**

For your convenience, copies of previous  
**St. Paul bulletins** are available in both lobbies.





In today's Gospel, Jesus concludes His great "Sermon on the Parables" with a trio of brief but striking illustrations: the Hidden Treasure, the Pearl of Great Price, and the Net Thrown into the Sea. This passage challenges us to examine what we truly value, how we respond to God's grace, and how we live in the light of eternity.

The first two parables are twin images with a slight, beautiful difference. In the first one, a man stumbles upon a treasure hidden in a field. In the second, a merchant actively searches for fine pearls until he finds the ultimate one. Both renounce joyfully whatever they had to acquire the greatest treasure or the Pearl of great price. In both cases, the discoverer goes and "sells all that he has" to possess it. Catholic tradition reminds us that following Christ involves detachment. Whether we stumble into a deep conversion, like the man in the field or spend years searching for truth through philosophy and religion before finding the Church, like the merchant, the response must be total surrender.

The Gospel says: "out of joy he goes and sells all that he has." Christian sacrifice is never supposed to be a grim, resentful duty. We do not give up the world because the world is inherently evil; we surrender it because we have found something infinitely better. It is like trading pennies for gold. St. Augustine offered an alternative, beautiful interpretation: Jesus is the merchant. He looked at humanity, saw you as a pearl of great price, and emptied Himself, selling everything He had on the Cross to buy you back.

Jesus shifts imagery to a dragnet cast into the sea, collecting fish of "every kind." When it is full, the fishermen sit down and separate the good from the bad. This parable is foundational for the Catholic understanding of the Church on earth. Jesus explicitly states that until the end of time, the Church will contain both the righteous and the unrighteous.

It is not our job to violently purge the field or the net ahead of time. It is a call for mercy when God exercises profound patience, giving the "bad fish" time to be transformed by grace into "good fish." While God is infinitely merciful, the parable ends with a reminder of final judgment. Our choices matter, grace can be rejected, and there is an ultimate accounting at the end of time.

Jesus concludes by asking His disciples if they understand. When they say yes, He says: "Every scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old." For Catholics, this perfectly captures the relationship between Scripture and Sacred Tradition. The "Old" is the foundational bedrock: the Old Testament, the covenants, and Israel's history. The "New" is the fulfillment: Jesus Christ, the Sacraments, and the New Covenant.

A mature Catholic life does not discard the old to chase the newest cultural trends, nor does it rigidly hide in the past, blind to how the Holy Spirit is moving today. Instead, we draw from the rich, living treasury of the Church's 2,000-year history to feed our souls in the present moment.

Yours in Christ,

*Fr. Thomas Theneth CMI*



World Day  
for Grandparents  
and the Elderly  
2026

### Prayer for the 6th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

Holy Father

Who watches over every person

Watch over me too when I am elderly.

You have revealed your name to me in Christ,

And You were not discouraged by my frailties.

You hold me tenderly in your hands,

And You caress my lines.

You will never forget me! (see Is 49:15).

Grant that I may not fear my weakness;

Help me learn to love it

Just as You love it.

Help me learn to listen to it

Just as You listen to it.

Help me embrace it

Just as You have chosen it –

You who, though all-powerful, clothed yourself in humility.

May growing old strip away all our pride and all division

So that we may live these years united in You.

You will never forget us! (see Is 49:15)

Amen.

JOIN US FOR  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

**GOING WILD WITH JESUS!**

COLOSSIANS 3:12-17

LOVE. COMPASSION. HUMILITY. PATIENCE. PEACE.

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