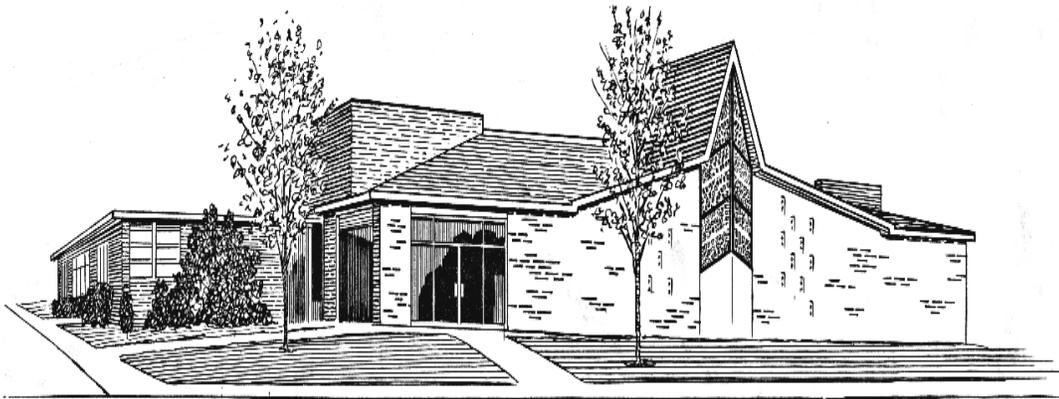




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# March 1, 2026

## 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](mailto:ParishOffice@stpaulpeotone.org)

**PASTOR:** Rev. Thomas Theneth, CMI  
815 468-1954 / [Theneth52@gmail.com](mailto:Theneth52@gmail.com)

**DEACON:** Mr. James Kelly  
**815 412-0565**

**DEACON E-MAIL:** [jimk3163@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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

The ROSARY will be prayed 30 minutes prior to weekend Masses.  
Leaders are needed. Please sign up in the 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.

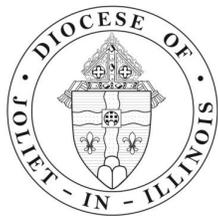
# Mass Intentions For The Week



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Sat	2/28	3:00 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
		3:30 pm—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u>James “Jim” Baskerville</u> req by Bob & Helen Lewis
Sun	3/1	10:30 am—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		11:00 am—	+ <u>Sr. Mary Mark Segvich, OSF</u> req by St. Paul Friends and <u>People of the Parish</u>
Mon	3/2	8:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Tue	3/3	8:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Wed	3/4	8:30 am—	+ <u>Betty Knickrehm</u> req by Tom & Lou Hagemaster
Thr	3/5	8:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
		6:00 pm—	<u>ADORATION</u>
		7:15pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
Fri	3/6	8:30 am—	+ <u>Fr. John McGrath</u>
		7:00 pm—	<u>STATIONS of the CROSS</u>
Sat	3/7	3:00 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
		3:30 pm—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u>Norman Andrews</u> req by Dawn Ladislas and <u>People of the Parish</u>
Sun	3/8	10:30 am—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		11:00 am—	+ <u>Betty Knickrehm</u> req by the Setticasia Family

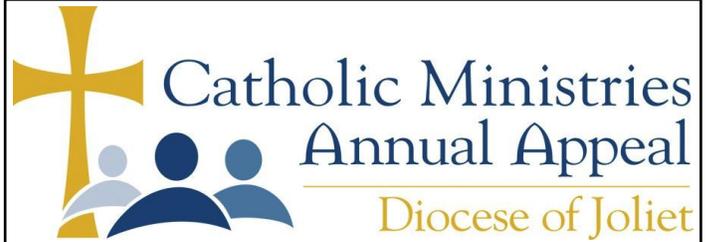
*If you are attending a Mass that you requested an intention to be said for, please sign the gift bearer book in the rear of the church and let an usher know you are here if you wish to bring up the gifts.*



## Prayer for the election of a new Bishop

O God, eternal shepherd, who governs your flock with unfailing care, grant in your boundless fatherly love a pastor for your Church of Joliet who will please you by his holiness and to us show watchful care.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.



If you have already pledged to the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA), we sincerely thank you! Let's join together to meet our parish goal of \$16,700. Every gift makes a difference.

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](http://jolietdioceseappeal.org).

Remember, we receive 70% of any amount raised over our goal to reinvest in our own parish. This is an incredible opportunity and blessing!



**Daylight Saving Time** begins Sunday, March 8 — don't forget to spring forward one hour!



**POPE'S INTENTIONS for MARCH 2026:** For disarmament and peace  
Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

Today's Gospel passage of the Transfiguration from Matthew is a pivotal moment in the Gospels, acting as a bridge between Jesus' public ministry and His journey to the Cross. In Catholic tradition, this event is seen not just as a historical miracle, but as a "sacramental" preview of the glory that awaits us.

The Divine Confirmation: Jesus takes Peter, James, and John up a "high mountain." In the Bible, mountains are places of encounter with God. By shining like the sun, Jesus reveals His divine nature, which had been hidden by His humanity. Moses (representing the Law) and Elijah (representing the Prophets) appear as 'The Witnesses'. Their presence confirms that Jesus is the fulfillment of the entire Old Testament.

The Father's Voice: The Cloud, which represents the Holy Spirit, overshadows them, and the Father speaks: "*This is my beloved Son... listen to him.*" This echoes Jesus' Baptism but adds a command for the disciples to obey Him as they head toward Jerusalem. The Fear and the Touch: When the disciples fall on their faces in terror, Jesus does something deeply human and comforting: He touches them. He says, "*Rise, and do not be afraid.*" How often do we let the "glory" or the "trials" of our faith overwhelm us? Jesus meets us in our fear with a physical, tangible presence—much like He does in the Eucharist today.

"It is Good to be Here." Peter wants to build three tents to stay in that moment of bliss. It's a very human reaction to want to hold onto a "mountain-top experience." Every believer likes to continue in the

God-experience he ever had as Peter did.

Jesus leads them back *down* the mountain to the reality of life. The Transfiguration wasn't meant to be a permanent escape; it was fuel for the difficult days of the Passion ahead. Spiritual consolations are gifts meant to strengthen us for our "valley" moments—the daily grind, our suffering, and our service to others. In our lives too we have mountain-top experiences, sometimes they go unnoticed. Our prayer experiences are the moments of consolation to face the challenges of our life.

Connection to the Mystery of the Rosary: The Transfiguration is the Fourth Luminous Mystery. It invites us to pray for the grace of "Holy Desire"—a longing for the glory of God that helps us persevere through earthly challenges.

Listen to Him: God the Father is commanding the disciples and us to listen to what Jesus tells us. Where in your life is Jesus speaking, but perhaps you are too busy "building tents" or talking to listen?

When the vision ended, the Gospel says they saw "*no one else but Jesus alone.*" In the end, after the bells and whistles of life fade, Jesus is the only one who remains. Is He the center of your focus?

Yours in Christ,

*Fr. Thomas Theneth CMI*

Father Thomas will have **OFFICE HOURS** on Tuesdays after 8:30am Mass until 10am / Wednesdays after 8:30am Mass until 10am / Thursdays from 5—6pm / Fridays after 8:30am Mass until 10am or by appointment.



**Pastor's Message**  
for Lent



Next week our parish will take up the **CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION**. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).



Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of **MR. TOM DONAHUE**, 76, who passed away February 22.

A memorial funeral Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday,

March 3 at 10:30am.

+ May he rest in peace. +

**COLLECTION SUMMARY: February 21—22, 2026**

Budgeted	\$3,205.53
Sunday Offertory*	\$2,770.00
Minus	\$ 280.53
Envelopes used / distributed	74 / 515
<i>*Includes 6 Online Givers</i>	
Church in Central & Eastern Europe	\$ 937.00
Providing for Our Future	\$ 92.00
Lent / Easter Environment	\$ 25.00
First Offerting	\$ 20.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 10.00

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.

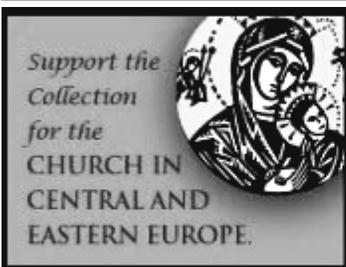


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Please keep Ken Rocznia, Pat Cleary, Ed Kulish, Jan Leffelman, Nancy Pilotto, Rev. Tom Ewing, Michael Doyle, Mary Ellen Hanlon, Ashley Doody, Luke Payne, Dave Castaneda, Greg Napelka, Kathleen Callahan, Jeff

Furtek, Charles Claxton, Mary Jane Szewka, Elaine Doyle, Dorothy Simikowski, Arline Clark, Mary Jo Fry, Gerald Adcock, Laura Valenti, Samantha Digiacomo, 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.**



Thank you for your generous contributions to the **Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe!** As a parish, we collected **\$937** to restore the

Church and build the future in more than 25 countries. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give. Visit [www.usccb.org/ccee](http://www.usccb.org/ccee).

The St. Paul Choir will begin practicing for Holy Week on Saturday, February 28 at 2:30pm in a classroom at church.

**There's plenty of room for more choir members. If you are available 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.**



**2026 Winter/Spring Choir Rehearsals**

Saturday, February 28 2:30-3:30 pm  
Saturday, March 7, 14, 21, 28 2:30-3:30pm

**Easter Liturgies**

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

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

**Help us find the ST. PAUL 2026 WOMAN of the YEAR**

The purpose of this award is to recognize an outstanding woman in our parish as one who has carried on the mission of Christ through her family, church and community. To qualify for this award, the woman must:



- be 18 years or older,
- be Catholic,
- registered at St. Paul and,
- have not received the award in the past.

Nomination forms are in the lobbies— the deadline for completed forms is **SUNDAY, MARCH 15.**



Please join us this Friday, March 6, after 8:30am Mass, for **FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE** (simple coffee and a "sweet").

### 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.*

**FAMILIES—Please contact the Parish Office with any updates or corrections!**



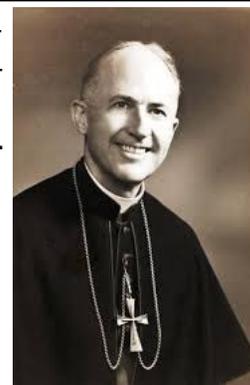
### Peotone Ecumenical Council of Churches *Lenten Soup Suppers / Worship*

The Peotone Ecumenical Council of Churches extends an invitation to gather together as the people of God on five Wednesdays in Lent.

With the great success of the past, and the fellowship we have created as a community, we will gather to share a simple dinner and inspiring worship on these nights. As in the past, soup will be served from 6—7pm and Worship will begin at 7pm.

Hosting this **Wednesday, March 4** is Immanuel United Church of Christ (311 W. Corning / Peotone).

Applications for the Joliet Diocesan Council of Catholic Women **Bishop Blanchette Scholarship** are available in the **Religious Education Office** to those students in grades 8-11 planning on attending a **Joliet Diocesan Catholic High School** for the 2026-2027 school year.

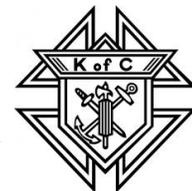


**Completed applications are due on the St. Paul office by Saturday, March 28, 2026.**

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is offered on Saturday from 3—3:45pm, on Thursday from 7:15—7:45pm or by other arrangements with Father. Please call the parish office at 708 258-6917 or e-mail ParishOffice@StPaulPeotone.org.

Like what the Knights of Columbus are doing locally?

Join us for free! Use the URL [www.kofc.org/get-involved/join-kofc](http://www.kofc.org/get-involved/join-kofc) from your PC or smartphone browser to join. Select 11232 as your council, and SARODRIGUEZ in the promo code for your free membership. For assistance or questions, contact Ron LeClaire, Grand Knight 708-204-6277



Lenten Food Drive is underway - Let's remember to think of those in need. The Knights of Columbus have drop boxes for non perishable food items in the St. Paul the Apostle lobbies. Food collected is distributed through local pantries.

Coming Soon! Watch for the annual raffle ticket sales offer \$4,800 in prizes, with \$400 drawn monthly, 6 draws per month.

Thank  
you  
volunteers!

Our thanks are extended to all who helped with the **ECUMENICAL SOUP SUPPER** and **SERVICE** on Wednesday, February 22. Our parish definitely has very talented and imaginative cooks and bakers! Thanks to our set-up and clean-up crew and those who helped with hospitality during the evening, including our Confirmand, Jillian!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 1st COMMUNICANT / PARENT MEETING 10am	2	3 KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS 7pm	4 SERVING GOD'S FAMILY 9:45—11am	5 ADORATION 6-8pm CONFESION 7:15-7:45pm	6 <b>ABSTINENCE</b> FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE after Mass SOUP 6pm STATIONS 7pm	7 CHOIR 2:30-3:30pm CONFESION 3pm
8	9	10	11	12 ADORATION 6-8pm CONFESION 7:15-7:45pm	13 <b>ABSTINENCE</b> SOUP 6pm STATIONS 7pm	14 CHOIR 2:30-3:30pm CONFESION 3pm K of C ORANGE SHIRT MASS
15	16 CCW MEETING 6:30pm	17 St. Patrick's Day 	18 SERVING GOD'S FAMILY 9:45—11am	19 <b>Solemnity of St. Joseph</b> SR ASS'T 10-3pm by appointment ADORATION 6-8pm NO CONFESION	20 <b>ABSTINENCE</b> SOUP 6pm STATIONS 7pm	21 CHOIR 2:30-3:30pm CONFESION 3pm
22	23	24 <b>ST. OSCAR ROMERO</b> 	25 <b>Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord</b>  PENANCE SERVICE: RELIGIOUS ED 6:30pm PARISH 7pm	26 ADORATION 6-8pm CONFESION 7:15-7:45pm	27 <b>ABSTINENCE</b> SOUP 6pm STATIONS 7pm	28 CHOIR 2:30-3:30pm CONFESION 3pm
 Palm Sunday	30	31	COMMUNION SERVICE (or MASS) at the ILLINOIS VETERANS HOME at MANTENO on TUESDAY at 2PM	MASS (or COMMUNION SERVICE) at BEECHER MANOR on THURSDAY at 10AM	The ROSARY will be prayed 30 minutes prior to weekend Masses. 	

**CLERGY ASSOCIATION of GREATER PEOTONE SOUP SUPPER  
and LENTEN PRAYER SERVICES**

**Wednesday Soup Suppers begins at 6pm / Wednesday Prayer Services begin at 7pm** / collection taken for Peotone Clergy Association which benefits Helping Hands Food Pantry; Summer Bible Camp; other needs by request

DATE	HOST CHURCH
March 4	Immanuel United Church of Christ (311 W. Corning / Peotone)
March 11	St. John Community Church (hosted at 14101 W. Joliet Road / Wilton Center)
March 18	Faith Connection (14101 W. Joliet Road / Wilton Center)
March 25	United Methodist Church Green Garden (26256 S. Rt. 45 / Manhattan)

**PENANCE SERVICE**  
Wednesday, March 25 at 6:30pm for Religious Education students and at 7pm for the parish. There will be 3 priests available.

Please join us for our meatless Lenten **SOUP and BREAD SUPPERS** on Friday evenings at 6pm, followed by **STATIONS of the CROSS** at 7pm in the church.

**ALMSGIVING OPPORTUNITIES**

- CATHOLIC MINISTRIES ANNUAL APPEAL (CMAA)** (see page 2)
- OPERATION RICE BOWL** throughout Lent. Folded cardboard bowls are in lobbies.
- HELPING HANDS FOOD PANTRY** / PO Box 508 / Peotone, IL 60468
- CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES APPEAL:** March 7 / 8, 2026 (see page 3)
- PONTIFICAL COLLECTION for the HOLY LAND:** Good Friday, April 3

