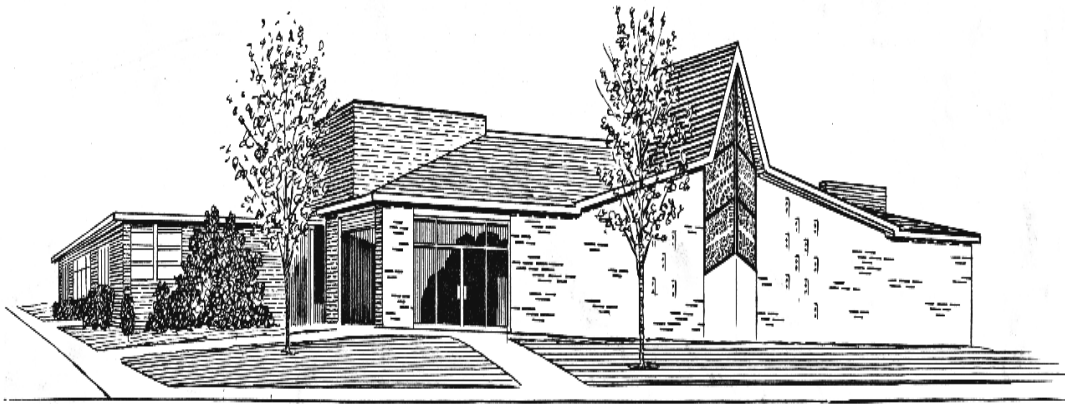




Saint Paul

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March 29, 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)

By appointment only

MARRIAGE: 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 Parish Offices will be closed in observance of Good Friday, on April 3, 2026 and Easter Monday on 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



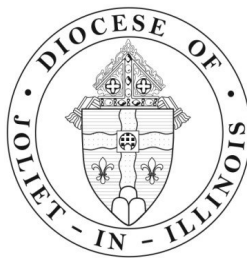
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Sat	3/28	3:00 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
		3:30 pm—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		4:00 pm—	<u>People of the Parish</u>
Sun	3/29	10:30 am—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		11:00 am—	<u>+Robert Kobel</u> req by Denise Fitzgerald
Mon	3/30	8:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Tue	3/31	8:30 am—	<u>Health Intentions for</u> <u>Elaine Mazur</u> req by Paula Prium
Wed	4/1	8:30 am—	<u>+Pat Motyka</u> req by Family
Thr	4/2	8:00 am—	<u>MORNING PRAYER</u>
		7:30 pm—	<u>Priests & Bishops of the Diocese</u> <u>of Joliet, living & deceased</u> <u>Silent Adoration until 10pm</u>
Fri	4/3	8:00 am—	<u>MORNING PRAYER</u>
		12:00 pm—	<u>Ecumenical Stations of the Cross</u>
		3:00 pm—	<u>The Reading of the Lord's Passion</u> <u>Narrative with Veneration of</u> <u>the Cross and Distribution of</u> <u>Holy Communion</u>
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>

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.

Plan Today for Peace of Mind Tomorrow

It's difficult to think about, but pre-planning your Catholic cemetery arrangements today protects your family from the heartbreak and financial worry of having to make these decisions tomorrow. Look for special savings in your mailbox soon and visit diojoliet.org/cemeteries for more details.



PALM SUNDAY, March 29

- Confession at 3pm
- Vigil Mass Saturday at 4pm
- Mass at 11am

HOLY THURSDAY, April 2

- Morning Prayer at 8am
- No 8:30am Communion Service**
- Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30pm followed by Adoration until 10pm.

GOOD FRIDAY, April 3

Day of Fast and Abstinence **Divine Mercy Novena begins**

- No 8:30am Mass**
- Morning Prayer at 8am
- Ecumenical Stations of the Cross—Noon
- The Reading of the Lord's Passion Narrative with Veneration of the Cross and Distribution of Holy Communion—3pm

The Pontifical collection for the Holy Land will be received.

HOLY SATURDAY, April 4

- Morning Prayer at 8am
- Blessing of Easter Food—Noon
- No Confessions / No 4pm Vigil Mass

EASTER VIGIL MASS—8pm *(The most solemn of all vigils when we celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord and welcome our new and fully initiated Catholics into the Church)*

EASTER SUNDAY of the RESURRECTION OF THE LORD, April 5

- Mass 11am

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.



Holy Week is the most sacred time in the Christian calendar. It isn't just a historical reenactment; theologically, it is the Paschal Mystery—the transition of humanity from death to life through Christ. From a Patristic perspective, this week represents the "re-creation" of the world. Just as God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh, Christ labors through his Passion to undo the fall of Adam and enters the rest of the tomb before the "Eighth Day" of Resurrection.

Palm Sunday: Biblically, Jesus "The Humble King," enters Jerusalem fulfilling Zechariah 9:9. This marks the beginning of the end of the "Old Law" and the entry of the true High Priest into the Holy City. The Christ came a donkey to show that His kingdom subdues not nations, but the passions of the soul.

Holy (Maundy) Thursday, the New Passover. This day focuses on the institution of the Eucharist and the Mandatum (the washing of feet). It bridges the Old Covenant Passover with the New Covenant Sacrifice. Christ is both the Priest and the Victim. By washing the disciples' feet, He restores the dignity of humanity that was soiled by the "dust" of sin. St. John Chrysostom notes that when Christ said, "*This is my body*," He transformed the nature of the bread. He argues that the same power that worked miracles in Galilee is present on the altar, making the Last Supper an eternal reality, not a past event.

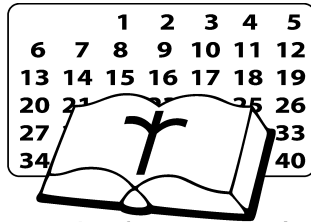
Good Friday, we celebrate the Victory of the Cross. Biblically, this is the fulfillment of the "Suffering Servant" in Isaiah 53. Theologically, the Cross is the Cathedra (the teacher's chair) of Christ. The Cross is often viewed as the "Tree of Life" planted in the middle of the

earth to replace the "Tree of Knowledge" from Eden. The blood and water flowing from Christ's side are seen as the birth of the Church, just as Eve was formed from Adam's side. St. Augustine famously said, "The death of Christ was the death of most certain death." The Fathers stress that God did not die in His divine nature (which is impossible), but that the Person of the Word suffered *in the flesh* to conquer death from the inside.

Holy Saturday is the day of "Great Silence." While Christ's body rests in the tomb, His soul descends into *Sheol* (the abode of the dead). This is the ultimate "rescue mission." Christ breaks the bronze gates of Hades to liberate the righteous who died before Him. An Ancient Homily for Holy Saturday depicts Christ grabbing Adam by the hand and saying, "*I order you, O sleeper, to awake. I did not create you to be a prisoner in hell.*" It highlights that even in death, Christ is active and victorious.

Easter Sunday, the Eighth Day. The Resurrection is the "Feast of Feasts." Biblically, it is the empty tomb; theologically, it is the dawn of the New Creation. Because Christ rose with a glorified body, the physical universe is now destined for transfiguration. It is called the "Eighth Day" because it transcends the seven-day week of the old creation. St. Gregory Nazianzen exclaims, "Yesterday I was crucified with Him; today I am glorified with Him. Yesterday I died with Him; today I am given life with Him." Easter is not just something that happened *to* Jesus, but something that happens *to us* through Baptism.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Thomas Theneth CMI



Pastor's Message for Lent

Be an angel
to someone in need.



catholic
charities
Diocese of Joliet

You can help bring hope to neighbors in need by supporting the **Catholic Charities Angel Fund**. Your gift helps provide food, shelter, counseling, and other essential services to families, seniors, and individuals across the Diocese of Joliet.

Thanks to a generous angel donor, all donations will be matched (up to \$50,000), doubling the impact of your gift.

Please consider donating by May 3.

Visit catholiccharitiesjoliet.org, call 815 724-1140,

or mail a gift to:

Catholic Charities Angel Fund
16555 Weber Rd / Crest Hill, IL 60403

*On behalf of those served by Catholic Charities,
thank you!*

Holy Thursday—

Wear white or gold in honor of the Holy

Eucharist. It is a

Solemnity, and the Gloria is sung at Mass.

This is also the liturgical color of the day.

Good Friday—Wear red in honor of the blood that Jesus shed on the Cross for our salvation.

This is also the liturgical color of the day.

Holy Saturday—Wear black in the morning in mourning of the burial of Jesus.

—Wear white once the sun falls to recall Jesus's Glorious Resurrection.

Easter Sunday—Put on your Sunday's BEST! Wear white or gold to symbolize the glory of the resurrection or flowers that recall new life!



COLLECTION SUMMARY: March 21—22, 2026

Budgeted	\$3,205.53
Sunday Offertory*	\$2,904.00
Minus	\$ 301.53
Envelopes used / distributed	77 / 515
<i>*Includes 6 Online Givers</i>	
Providing for Our Future	\$ 40.00

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.

Prayer
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Please keep Betsy Richter, Ken Rocznik, 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- mo, 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.

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.

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.

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.



**2,000 teens. One weekend.
Lives changed for Christ.**

Izzy came to the Diocese of Joliet's first-ever Steubenville Youth Conference unsure of what to expect. She left with a renewed faith, a deeper desire to pray, and a changed heart. Your support through the CMAA makes transformative experiences like this possible for teens across our diocese.

"Come here," Izzy said. "You'll want to continue in your faith and grow."



Watch the video and see the good your donation to the CMAA brings to our community

Copies of the
THE LITTLE WHITE BOOK
6-minute reflections on the
Sunday Gospels of Easter
(Cycle A)
are available in the lobbies.

The Little White Book
Easter 2026





Pontifical Good Friday Collection April 3, 2026

Pope Leo has asked our parish to support the *Pontifical Good Friday Collection*, which helps Christians in the Holy Land, where they are now less than 2% of the population. Your support is essential to help the Church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools, and offer religious education.

The *Pontifical Good Friday Collection* also helps to preserve the sacred shrines of Christianity, including in Jerusalem, Nazareth, and Bethlehem, to name only a few. The pandemic had hit Christians in the Holy Land particularly hard. Most of them depend on pilgrimages for work. The war and now the Iranian conflict have made their situation even more dire.

In these times of crisis, the *Pontifical Good Friday Collection* is necessary to meet the basic needs of the People of God still living in this Land and to maintain a Christian presence where the Church was born.

When you contribute to the *Pontifical Good Friday Collection*, you join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land.

PLEASE BE GENEROUS!

Your donation can be deposited in the basket in the rear of the church on Good Friday or in a collection following.

For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.custodia.org and www.myfranciscan.org.

Lenten Food Drive is underway. 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. Our goal is 400 pounds of food in Lent. Please help us help those in need.

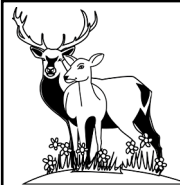


Ticket sales for our annual raffle are underway. We award \$400 in prizes every month, you can win multiple times! Tickets are also good for a 10% discount on services at Dralle. Knights will be selling tickets after the Masses at St. Paul the Apostle Church. You can also purchase tickets directly from 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 SARODRIGUEZ in the promo code for your free membership.

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



APRIL
ANNIVERSARIES

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION

On the second weekend of each month—April 11/12—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 **white registration binder in the lobby**. Couples who register will also receive an anniversary card.





Why Palm Sunday?

Palm branches are mentioned in only one of the four Gospels (see John 12:12-15). So why do we call the first day of Holy Week Palm Sunday?

Tradition plays an important part in church history. During Jesus' time, Rome was the world's leading power. Whenever the Romans were victorious in battle, citizens traditionally threw palm branches in the returning heroes' path.

This was the accepted custom of reception. So when Jesus rode into Jerusalem, it was appropriate that he receive a hero's welcome. One week later, he would be victorious over death.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<p>© J. S. Palutch Co., Inc.</p> <h1>APRIL</h1>	<p>The ROSARY will be prayed 30 minutes prior to weekend Masses.</p>  <p>© J. S. Palutch Co., Inc.</p>	<p>1 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 6:15pm-7:30pm</p>	<p>2 HOLY THURSDAY MORNING PRAYER 8am MASS of the LORD'S SUPPER 7:30pm ADORATION UNTIL 10pm</p>	<p>3 GOOD FRIDAY FAST & ABSTINENCE MORNING PRAYER 8am ECUMENICAL STATIONS NOON LORD'S PASSION 3pm</p>	<p>4 HOLY SATURDAY MORNING PRAYER 8am BLESSING of EASTER FOOD NOON VIGIL MASS 8pm</p>
5 EASTER	6	7	8 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 6:15pm-7:30pm	9 ADORATION 6-8pm CONFESSION 7:15-7:45pm	10	11 CONFESSION 3pm
12 DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY FIRST COMMUNION at 11am MASS CONFESSION 2pm DIVINE MERCY SERVICE 3pm	13 CCW MEETING 6:30pm	14	15 FINANCE COUNCIL 5:30pm RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 6:15pm-7:30pm PARISH COUNCIL 6:30pm	16 SR. ASSIST 10am-3pm (by appointment) ADORATION 6-8pm CONFESSION 7:15-7:45pm	17	18 CONFESSION 3pm
19	20	21  © J. S. Palutch Co., Inc.	22 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 6:15pm-7:30pm	23 ADORATION 6-8pm CONFESSION 7:15-7:45pm	24	25 CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL CONFESSION 3pm
26 CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL	27	28	29 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 6:15pm-7:30pm	30 ADORATION 6-8pm CONFESSION 7:15-7:45pm	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