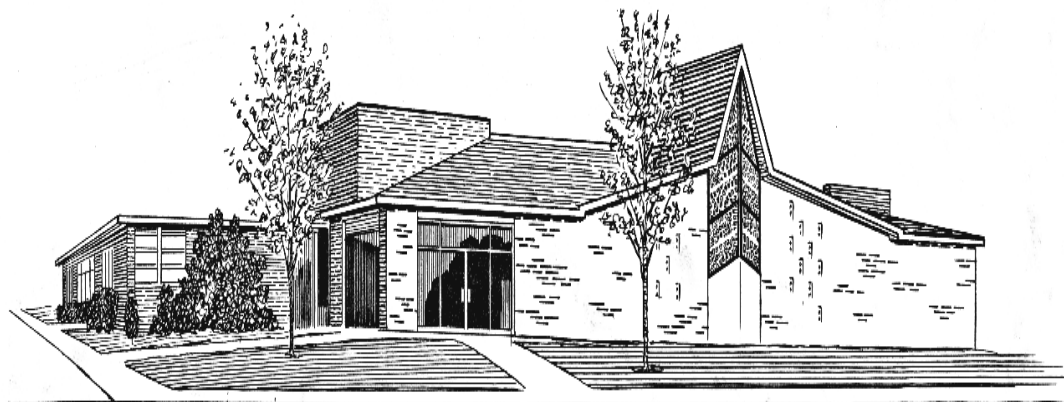




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October 11, 2026

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:

Are held at St. Joseph in Manteno

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: Sunday, May 2, 2027

CONFIRMATION: Saturday, April 10, 2027

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

A **FINANCE COUNCIL** meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 15 at 5:30pm and a **PARISH COUNCIL** meeting at 6:30pm.

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	10/10	3:00 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
		3:30 pm—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u>Mae Ann Johnson</u> req by Family and <u>The People of the Parish</u>
Sun	10/11	10:30 am—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		11:00 am—	+ <u>Jim Egelski</u> req by Egelski Family and + <u>Jim Henderson</u> req by Carol Henderson
Mon	10/12	7:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Tue	10/13	7:30 am—	<u>Celebrant's Intention</u>
Wed	10/14	7:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Thr	10/15	7:30 am—	+ <u>John R. Tierney, Jr. & Family</u> req by Family
		6:00 pm—	<u>ADORATION</u>
		7:15pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
Fri	10/16	7:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Sat	10/17	3:00 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
		3:30 pm—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u>Tom Adamsick-</u> <u>86th Birthday Remembrance</u> req by Family and <u>The People of the Parish</u>
Sun	10/18	10:30 am—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		11:00 am—	+ <u>Theodore S. & Mary B. Litak</u> req by T.R. Litak

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 from
October 3--October 16 are given
in loving memory of Mr. Jim
Egelski and Mr. Jim Henderson,
from family.**

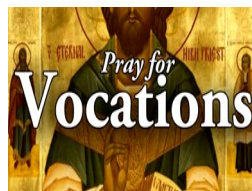
All dates for 2026 have been filled. Please contact the parish office to reserve dates in 2027.

***OLIVE WOOD ART will be available
for purchase after Masses next weekend.***

Please help us support Christians who want to live in peace and support their families with a centuries-old trade and way of life. Our support of these hard-working Christian artists helps to ensure a viable Christian presence in the land where the gospel was first preached.

Please keep the Adamsick Family, Arline Clark, Frances Librera Biondo, Ashley Doody, Rev. Tom Ewing, Rich Harms, Bernie Iversen, Emily Klamkin, Frances Librera, Anna Smaga, Marcel Smaga, Judy Strubin, Mary Jane Szewka, Julie Szudarski, Jean Vinezeano, Larry Woss 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, Seminar-ians and women & men Religious in the Diocese of Joliet:

- 10 Fr. Néstor F. Sánchez
- 11 Fr. Terry Deffenbaugh O.S.A.,
Fr. Joseph McCormick O.S.A.,
Fr. John Merkelis O.S.A.
- 12 Seminarian Joshua Solarz
- 13 Seminarian Joseph Min
- 14 Mark Santschi, Justin Sommer, Kyle Stern
(Deacon Candidates)
- 15 Sr. Lourdes Boyer OSF, Sr. Sue Bruno OSF,
Sr. Maria Bui OSF
- 16 Sr. Mary Ann Clark OSF,
Sr. Mary Agnes Cross OSF
- 17 Fr. John Sebahar, Fr. Greg Skowron
- 18 Very Reverend Richard Smith,
Fr. Danilo Soriano

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

COLLECTION SUMMARY: October 3—4, 2026:

Budgeted	\$3,205.53
Sunday Offertory*	\$3,256.00
Plue	\$ 50.47
Envelopes used / distributed	75 / 468
<i>*Includes 10 Online Givers</i>	
Providing for Our Future	\$ 23.00



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.

St. Paul the Apostle
CCW is once again par-
ticipating in **UNDY
SUNDAY**, Catholic
Charities Diocese of
Joliet's annual collec-
tion of basic necessities
for individuals and
families in need.



This year we have been asked to collect:

***Men's Boxer briefs in all sizes;
Adult incontinence underwear
sizes L — 3XL,***

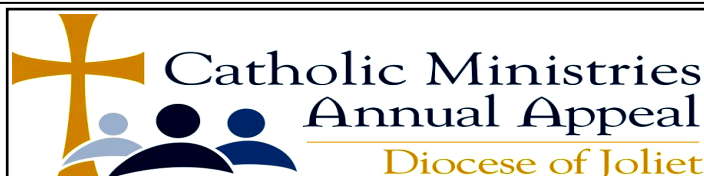
pull-up style only, no tabbed briefs, please.

Please donate ***new, unopened items*** and
bring them to the church lobbies between
October 10 —18.

These everyday essentials are among the items
our clients need year-round, and your generosity
makes a meaningful difference for our neighbors
in need.

+++++

The fifth and last session of "***Eucharist***," the
5-week Bible study will be this Tues-
day, October 13. This week's theme is "***Filled
and Satisfied***." The morning session is at
9:30am, and a repeat evening session at 6:30pm.
Study guide booklet is provided by the CCW.
Open to women and men. Join us for this final
session, even if you haven't come before!
Contact Jean Adduci at jeanadd@aol.com, for
more information. Please pray for the contin-
ued success of this parish endeavor!



**CMAA Pledge Report for St. Paul the Apostle
Parish as of October 4, 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 dio-
cese. We also welcome online gifts at jolietdioceseappeal.org.

PARISH GOAL:	\$16,700
AMOUNT PLEDGED:	\$26,775
AMOUNT PAID:	\$25,496
BALANCE DUE:	\$ 1,279
DONORS:	90
REBATE:	\$ 6,157

Girl Scouts from Peotone Service Unit 714,
with the help of Scouts Troop 315 and several high
school volunteers will be holding their annual **FALL
FOOD DRIVE** to benefit the Helping Hands Food Pan-
try. Area Girl Scouts have been collecting food for
Helping Hands in Peotone since 1997, and it has be-
come one on the Food Pantry's most successful
events.

Grocery bags will be dropped off the weekend
of **October 16—18, 2026** volunteers will be back **Sat-
urday, October 24, 2026** to pick up your donations.
We ask you to have your bag on your front porch by
8:30am. If your donation is missed, please feel free to
call Mary Ann at 708 738-0952. If you will not be home
the day of the pick up, or you remember after the fact,
please bring your donations to the bins at American
Legion Post 392, FCBT, Old National Bank, or 1049
Heron Ave in Gull Landings.

The need never diminishes-especially during
these unprecedented times and Helping Hands re-
ceives no public assistance. The delivery truck arrives
on the first and third Tuesday at the food pantry and
distribution occurs the following day from 1-5:30pm.
Anyone who resides within the Peotone School District
boundaries is eligible for assistance.

For information regarding volunteering, sup-
porting or referring someone in need, please call 708
258-9204.

The Parable of the Wedding Feast is one of Christ's most striking teachings on grace, responsibility, and the nature of the Church. The parable opens with a King (God the Father) preparing a wedding feast for His Son Jesus Christ. This parable of the 'Great Banquet' teaches us about God's invitation to salvation. The king's banquet represents the kingdom of heaven, which is open to everyone. However, many people refuse the invitation because they are too focused on their own worldly concerns.

St. Gregory the Great notes that God made a marriage feast for His Son when He united Him to human nature in the womb of the Virgin Mary. The Incarnation itself is the nuptial bond between divinity and humanity. The feast represents the fullness of salvation, which begins on earth in the Sacraments, especially the Holy Eucharist and reaches its fulfillment in the heavenly Jerusalem. It is 'The Messianic Banquet'.

The sending of servants in waves mirrors God's patience throughout salvation history: St. John Chrysostom and St. Irenaeus explain that the original invitees represent the original people of the Covenant. The servants sent to call them were the prophets, John the Baptist, and later the Apostles. The guests make light of the invitation—distracted by fields, merchandise, and worldly pursuits. St. Augustine comments that men often prefer their own pride and temporal possessions over the eternal joy offered by the King. After the initial refusal, the King orders his servants to go out to the main roads and invite everyone.

The dramatic climax occurs when the King confronts a guest without a wedding garment. How could



someone pulled off the street be expected to have formal attire. Thus, the missing garment represents a failure of the heart, not a lack of material resources. Augustine argues that faith alone is not enough, because even the demons believe. The garment is *charity*—a heart transformed by divine love. Chrysostom calls the garment "life and practice". Coming to the feast is an act of free grace, but remaining requires cooperating with grace

through virtue. In Catholic dogmatic theology, the garment is the soul clothed in sanctifying grace that it received in Baptism. To enter the heavenly kingdom, one must not be in a state of mortal sin.

The parable closes with a sobering truth: salvation is a free gift, but it demands a personal, transformative response.

The Catholic theology rejects the notion that salvation is automatic or purely external. Grace precedes us that is, calling us to the feast, but our free will must cooperate by putting on Christ. As St. Cyril of Alexandria warns, being inside the Church building or identifying as Christian is not enough.

We must continually examine whether our baptismal garment remains unspotted by grave sin, or if it needs to be washed clean in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This parable challenges us to: (i) place God's invitation above our worldly concerns, (ii) respond with humility and gratitude, and (iii) wear the "wedding garment" of faith, living a life filled with God's love. As Pope Benedict XVI said, "The Christian faith is not a private matter, but a journey to share, a journey that leads to life."

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Thomas Theneth CMI

The Peotone Senior Assistance Center serves clients, by appointment only, this **Thursday, October 15**, 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.

St. Joseph, Manteno

YOUTH GROUP

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Grow in Faith. Make Friends. Have Fun. Live It Out Together!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

WHO: Grades 5th through 10th

FAITH that inspires

FRIENDS that encourage

FUN you'll love

PURPOSE that matters

QUESTIONS? Call the Faith Formation Office 815-468-8116

Don't miss REBOOT! with Chris Stefanick Nov. 18

God didn't create us to just get by. He created us to live life to the full!

Let internationally renowned speaker and author Chris Stefanick help you REDISCOVER the life you were made for by applying the beauty and genius of the Gospel to every aspect of your life.



DATE: Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2026

TIME: 7 - 9:30 PM

AUDIENCE: Adults and teens aged 12 and up

LOCATION: St. Mary Immaculate, 15629 Illinois Rte 59, 60544

Get tickets today.
Space is limited.



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. *We're here to help!*

October 2026 Raffle Winners:

\$150 Tony Tomato
\$100 David Zenere
\$ 50 Andy Novak
\$ 50 Janet Bauch
\$ 25 Patrick Polcyn
\$ 25 Angelo Christopher



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.

Don & Jeanette Neybert	October 5, 2019	7 years
Ernie & Kathy Yost	October 11, 1999	27 years
Dennis & Maria Nehmer	October 17, 1991	35 years





OFFICE OF MISSION
DIOCESE OF JOLIET

Saturday, November 7, 2026

LUNCH IN THE PARK

Join us for hot food with delightful community at Sacred Heart Catholic Church! (10:30 AM - 1:30 PM)

Lunch: July, November, January, April

Use the QR code to register!



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

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

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

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.

We're here to help!



The **Baby Bottles for Life** campaign to support the programs and services of **Waterleaf Medical Clinic and Education and Resource Center** located in Aurora, which helps pregnant women facing crisis or unintended pregnancies, ends this weekend.

Please return your bottle to the basket in the lobby by next Sunday, OCTOBER 18, 2026! Checks are preferred. If you wish a tax receipt, checks made out to **Waterleaf**, must be used.

The Pope's Intentions for October 2026— For mental health ministry:

Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.