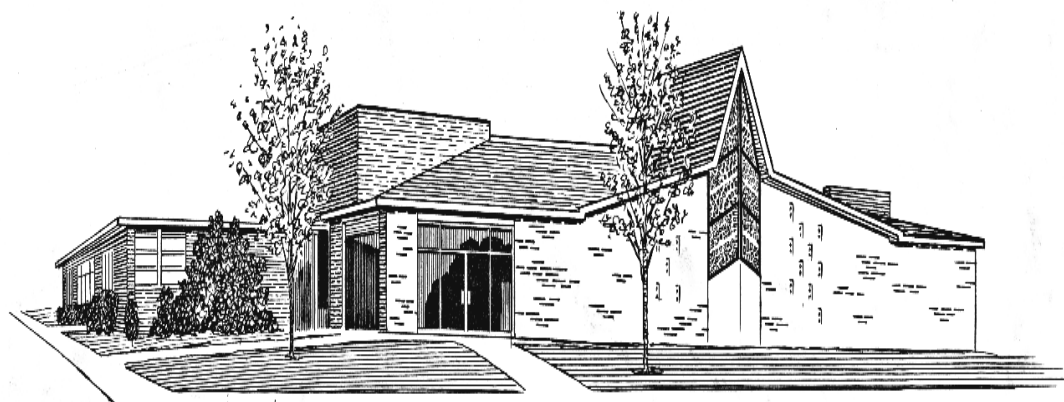




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September 20, 2026

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: 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

The sign-up sheets for **Lectors** and **Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist** are in the rear of the church. Please sign-up where you are able.

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	9/19	3:00 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
		3:30 pm—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u>Chet Furtak</u> req by Bob & Helen Lewis
Sun	9/20	10:30 am—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		11:00 am—	+ <u>Scott Starkey</u> req by Rick & Denise Starkey and <u>The People of the Parish</u>
Mon	9/21	7:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Tue	9/22	7:30 am—	<u>Celebrant's Intention</u>
Wed	9/23	7:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Thr	9/24	7:30 am—	+ <u>John R. Tierney, Jr. & Family</u> req by Family
		6:00 pm—	<u>ADORATION</u>
		7:15 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
Fri	9/25	7:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Sat	9/26	3:00 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
		3:30 pm—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u>Richard W. Strubin</u> req by Bob & Helen Lewis and <u>The People of the Parish</u>
Sun	9/27	10:30 am—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		11:00 am—	+ <u>Donna Dionne</u> req by Tim & Cindy Reed

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 September 19--
October 2 are given in loving memory of
the deceased family members of
Fr. Thomas Theneth CMI.**



Altar
Flowers

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



Pastor's
Office Hours

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
available after that prior to
Adoration / Confession.

Please join us
Sunday, October 4 after 11am
Mass for the **BLESSING of
ANIMALS**. Bring all your
pets, great and small, for a
special blessing.



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Animal blessing services are a way for humans to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi (October 4), embodying his love of animals and all mankind. St. Francis is the patron saint of animals and the environment and founder of the Franciscan order.



BEATIFICATION OF
ARCHBISHOP
**FULTON J.
SHEEN**

THURSDAY
September 24, 2026
ST. LOUIS, MO



The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a **PARISH PICNIC** next Sunday, September 27 following 11am **OUTDOOR MASS**. Please bring a chair.

The Knights will supply hamburgers and hot dogs and parishioners are asked to bring a dish to pass.

Sign-up sheets are available in the back of church.

COLLECTION SUMMARY: September 12—13, 2026:

Budgeted	\$3,205.53
Sunday Offertory*	\$2,807.00
Minus	\$ 398.53
Envelopes used / distributed	79 / 468

**Includes 7 Online Givers*



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.

MILITARY FAMILIES—
please confirm with the parish
office that your loved ones'
listing below is correct. This
list will be revised in October
with only those names that
were updated.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS:**

- CW4 John Carrillo (Army—JBLM Washington State)
Nephew of Denise (Ed) Carriel
- 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
- CMDR Chad Stuewe (Navy—Abu Dhabi, UAE)
Nephew of Barb (Dave) Castaneda
- 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.*



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Please keep the Adamsick Family,
Arline Clark, Frances Librera
Biondo, Ashley Doody, Rev. Tom
Ewing, Rich Harms, Bernie
Iversen, Emily Klamkin, Frances
Librera, Peggy Schwiesow, Anna Smaga, Marcel
Smaga, Judy Strubin, Mary Jane Szewka, Julie
Szudarski, Jean Vinezeano and those that go un-
named 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.*

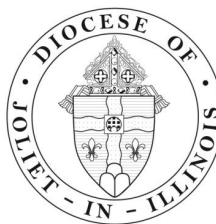


The Church Office will be
closed September 24 through
September 27, 2026.



Peotone Financial Center
Saturday, September 26, 2026

Hours are 9-11 AM. Bring your unwanted papers to be destroyed securely by a
licensed shredding company. It's the perfect opportunity to declutter your
home and protect your personal information - all for free!



***Our Apostolic Administra-
tor, Bishop Dennis E.
Spies, is pleased to an-
nounce that Pope Leo XIV
has appointed Bishop
Brendan J. Cahill as the
seventh bishop of the Diocese of Joliet.***

Bishop Cahill has served as bishop of the
Diocese of Victoria, Texas, since his ap-
pointment by Pope Francis in 2015.
His biography and the official announce-
ment are available on the diocesan web-
site, **www.diojoliet.org**.

Please see the board in the lobby for his
biography and photo.

The Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard in today's Gospel directly challenges human standards of merit and fairness, reframing justice through the lens of God's unmerited grace. The Gospel reminds us that the Kingdom of God doesn't work in such a way that the first believers or followers of Christ will be rewarded more, but all will receive the same reward of grace of God. We have generous God. He is equal to all, despite all the circumstances or differences of the persons, just like in the parable story. God works in mysterious ways. We tend to compare ourselves with the people around us, but that kind of thinking should be eradicated, for we should be grateful for the success of others. The Kingdom of God operates on total dependency upon divine generosity, not as humanly calculated economics. The denarius, eternal life, is a gift that cannot be divided into fractions. The early workers' complaint ("You have made them equal to us") exposes a heart that views laboring in God's vineyard as a burden rather than a privilege.

St. Gregory offers a dual interpretation of the hours of the day. Historically, the household-er went out in the morning (Adam to Noah), at the third hour (Abraham), the sixth hour (Moses), the ninth hour (the Prophets), and the eleventh hour (the Apostles/Gentiles). Spiritually within an individual's lifespan, the hours represent childhood, youth, adulthood, mature age, and old age. No matter how late in life a person turns to Christ, the reward of eternal life remains whole. Chrysostom highlights that those hired at the eleventh hour were not idle out of laziness, but because "no one has hired us." He notes that God's judgment accounts for human opportunity

and readiness. On the equal payment, Chrysostom explains that God pays according to His loving-kindness, demonstrating that salvation rests entirely on divine mercy rather than human pride. Augustine addresses why all receive the

same wage regardless of time spent. The denarius represents eternal life, in which all the saved participate equally—the vision of God. While there may be degrees of glory in heaven based on charity, the fundamental gift of salvation is whole and indivisible for every soul welcomed into the Kingdom.

From a strictly distributive justice perspective, the full-day workers have a valid point. But the landowner keeps his contract with the first group and acts out of

pure generosity toward the last. God's grace is not an hourly wage to be accrued; it is an infinite gift—eternal life—that cannot be divided into fractions. When the first-hired complains, the landowner responds, "Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" The early-hired workers stop viewing their own wage as a blessing and begin viewing it through the lens of comparison. The parable asks us to examine whether we truly rejoice when a deathbed convert receives the same salvation as a lifelong saint. The Church is the vineyard. The call to labor in it is itself a grace, not a burden. The tragedy of the complaining workers is that they viewed their time in the vineyard as grueling labor rather than the privilege of communion with the Master.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Thomas Theneth CMI



MARCELO ANDRES was baptized on September 12, 2026.

He is the son of Jose and Monica Gonzalez Najera.

Welcome to the parish family!

MEN OF CHRIST
LIVE YOUR FAITH BOLDLY

JOLIET

OCT 28
2026

CATHOLIC MAN NIGHT

TOPIC: Making room for your faith through a busy life



Keynote
Mike Blackburn
Knights of Columbus
State Secretary

Featuring
Dr. Ryan Hendrickson
President
University of St Francis
Joliet



Cathedral of St. Raymond | Joliet

Wednesday, October 28, 2026

5:30-8:30 pm

Dinner provided

Scan QR code to register or visit

MenOfChrist.net/Joliet



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

St. Paul the Apostle Parish



2026

Waterleaf

**Baby
Bottles
for Life!**



Scan to give securely online

Fill a bottle. Save a Life.

- ♥ Scan the QR code to give online
- ♥ Write check payable to Waterleaf
- ♥ Return cash and bottle to church

Start Date

September 18-19th

End Date

October 3-4th

www.onechoiceonelife.org

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, will begin this weekend.

Bottles are in the lobbies. Checks are preferred. If you wish a tax receipt, checks made out to **Waterleaf**, must be used.

Please consider remembering ***St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church*** when preparing your will. For more information, contact the parish office.

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.





KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS -
ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE COUNCIL #11232

**ANNUAL ID DRIVE:
HELPING INDIVIDUALS WITH
INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES**

SEPTEMBER 18-19TH - TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE!

**Donate &
Get a Tootsie Roll!**
Support Our Community.



SCAN TO DONATE ONLINE
Credit/Debit Cards Accepted



Honoring our Brother Knight,
Peter Claxton.

Thank You for Your Support!
Charity, Unity, Fraternity, Patriotism.



**Pledge Report for St. Paul the Apostle Parish
as of September 13, 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:	\$26,725
AMOUNT PAID:	\$24,714
BALANCE DUE:	\$ 2,011
DONORS:	90
REBATE:	\$ 5,610

The second session of “*Eucharist*,” the 5-week Bible study will be on Tuesday, September 22, and continue the next 3 Tuesdays.

The morning session is at 9:30am and a repeat evening session at 6:30pm. A study guide booklet is provided by the CCW.

Open to women and men. It’s not too late to join us! Contact Jean Adduci at jeanadd@aol.com for more information.

Please pray for the continued success of this new parish endeavor!



CCW 
Council of Catholic Women

+++++

The new banners made a big WOW last weekend at Mass. Thank you to the banner chair, Jean Adduci, and committee members Marge Harms and Jan Leffleman, for their year-long research and determination to purchase the green banners for our church's liturgical ordinary time. Thank you to Steve Maltese, Building and Grounds Chair, for installing the brackets and hanging the banners behind the chairs on either side of the crucifix. Most of all, the CCW women want to thank all of St. Paul's parishioners for participating in our Spring Basket Raffle, as well as numerous other fundraisers. Also being purchased are new banners for the Advent season and Holy Week. Because of your dedicated support we were able to purchase these beautiful banners.

Last week, the CCW hosted our first Bible Study session on the Eucharist led by Jean Adduci (see above). We had 16 participants in the morning and 10 in the evening. The feedback received thus far has been positive and uplifting. Whether you come for one session or all five, you are welcome to attend. Session 2 will be this Tuesday, September 22 at 9:30am and repeated at 6:30pm.