

September 21, 2025

## 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:** [StPaulPeotone@att.net](mailto:StPaulPeotone@att.net)

**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:** [StPaulRE@att.net](mailto:StPaulRE@att.net)

**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:** To be announced

**FIRST COMMUNION:** To be announced

**CONFIRMATION:** To be announced

**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 Thurs 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

WELCOME CATECHISTS and FAMILIES!



**The Mission Statement of St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church**  
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	9/20	3:00 pm—	<u><b>CONFESSION</b></u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u><b>Peter Claxton</b></u> req by Bernie Iversen
Sun	9/21	11:00 am—	+ <u><b>Scott Starkey</b></u> req by Rick & Denise Starkey and <u><b>People of the Parish</b></u> <u><b>COMMUNION SERVICE</b></u>
Mon	9/22	8:30 am—	<u><b>COMMUNION SERVICE</b></u>
Tue	9/23	8:30 am—	+ <u><b>Deceased of the Knickrehm Family</b></u> req by Family
Wed	9/24	8:30 am—	+ <u><b>Joe Fitzgerald</b></u> req by Family
Thr	9/25	8:30 am—	<u><b>COMMUNION SERVICE</b></u>
		6:00 pm—	<u><b>ADORATION</b></u>
		7:15 pm—	<u><b>CONFESSION</b></u>
Fri	9/26	8:30 am—	+ <u><b>Tekla Stumbris</b></u> req by Family
Sat	9/27	3:00 pm—	<u><b>CONFESSION</b></u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u><b>David Neybert</b></u> req by Bob & Helen Lewis and <u><b>People of the Parish</b></u>
Sun	9/28	11:00 am—	+ <u><b>David Neybert</b></u> req by the Hodgett 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.*

## Welcome to St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church

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



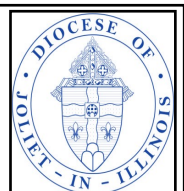
## THE GIFT of MUSIC

*I wish to see all arts, principally music, in the service of Him who gave and created them.*

*Music is a fair and glorious gift from God. I would not forego my humble share of music. Singers are never sorrowful, but are merry, and they smile through their troubles in song.*

*Music makes people kinder, gentler, more staid and reasonable. I am persuaded that after theology, music is the only art capable of affording peace and joy of heart ... the devil flees before the sound of music almost as much as before the Word of God.* —Martin Luther

Please visit [www.diojoliet.org/offices/careers](http://www.diojoliet.org/offices/careers) for up-to-date information on employment in parishes, schools and diocese offices.



**Twenty-Fifth Sunday in OT**  
**Am 8: 4-7; Tm 2:1-8; Lk 16:1-13**

In today's Gospel Jesus tells us a parable of a shrewd manager about to be fired for squandering his master's possessions. Faced with unemployment, he cunningly reduces the debts of his master's debtors. His master, upon hearing this, commends him not for his dishonesty but for his shrewdness in preparing for his future. Jesus uses this unexpected commendation to teach a profound lesson: we should be as resourceful and strategic in our spiritual lives as worldly people are in their financial lives.

The parable is not meant to be a commendation of dishonesty. Instead, it is a lesson on prioritizing spiritual wisdom with the same shrewdness that people use for earthly matters. The unjust steward is an example of someone who acted decisively and with foresight. He recognized his impending crisis and took bold steps to prepare for it. In a similar way, Jesus urges his followers to be just as proactive and clever in using their earthly resources—their money, time, and talents—to secure their eternal future. He is not telling us to be dishonest, but to be as resourceful and purposeful in serving God as the world is in serving itself.

We are not owners of our possessions but rather managers of the resources God has entrusted to us. The parable prompts us to consider how well we are managing these gifts for His purpose. "One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much." This verse emphasizes the importance of integrity in all things, no matter how small. Our handling of money and earthly possessions is a test of our character. If we can be trusted with small, worldly resources, we prove ourselves worthy of greater, heavenly responsibilities.



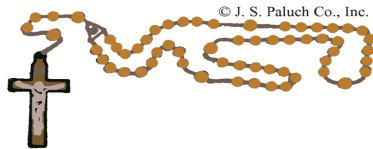
Jesus remarks that "the children of this world are shrewder in dealing with their own generation than the children of light." He is not endorsing dishonesty, but rather highlighting the dedication and foresight that worldly people often show. We are called to use our intellect and resources with the same intentional purpose, but for eternal ends. The manager used his worldly position to secure his future. In the same way we should use our earthly resources to secure our eternal future.

This passage challenges us to examine our relationship with money and possessions. We are called to be faithful in small things, knowing that our faithfulness in managing earthly wealth reflects our readiness to be entrusted with true, spiritual riches. Ultimately, this parable is a call to action. It urges us to be wise, proactive, and generous with what we have, using our earthly resources for heavenly purposes.

The final verses of the passage deliver a powerful conclusion: "You cannot serve both God and money." This is not a suggestion but a stark choice. Jesus is not saying money is inherently evil, but that the love of it, or the priority of it, can become a rival god in our lives. Our ultimate loyalty must be to God alone. How we manage our finances and possessions is a tangible expression of where our true allegiance lies. Are we serving our wealth, or is our wealth serving us in our service to God?

Yours in Christ,

*Fr. Thomas Theneth CMI*



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We will pray the **ROSARY** 30 minutes prior to weekend Mass in October. Rosary leaders are needed for Sundays, beginning at 10:30am. Please sign-up in the lobby if you would like to help!

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2025-26 registration forms for new and returning RE/FF students are due and should be returned as soon as possible. Please mail to the RE Office or drop them off at church.

Would you like to share your faith with the children of our parish? We are in need of **RE aides and substitutes for all grades**. Classes are held on Wednesday from 6:15—7:30pm. Please contact Deacon Jim if you are interested or have any questions.

#### TEACHERS

1st Grade:

2nd Grade:

3rd, 4th and 5th Grade:

6th and 7th Grade:

Confirmation:

Aides:

Sophie Novoa and Spencer Cann

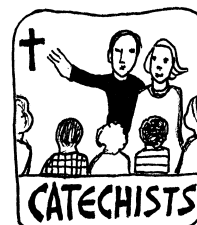
Denise Carriel

Catherine Gonzalez

Jessica Smith

Ed Carriel

Xavier Mendoza, Mirella Arroyo



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**TODAY is**  
**CATECHETICAL**  
**SUNDAY.**

We will bless our  
 Catechists  
 at Masses.



**Bishop Hicks' Column**  
**September 2025**  
**The Leo Effect: Reflecting After 100 Days**

In the world of leadership, there is a common practice: after the first one hundred days in office, we pause to reflect. What direction is this new leader taking us in? What tone has been set? Where might we be headed?

In these early months, we are beginning to see the kind of shepherd God has given us. The “Leo Effect,” as I like to call it, is the fruit of his presence. It is the blessings, the new stirrings, and the hopeful signs already emerging in our Church and in our world.

At a recent Presbyteral Council meeting, one of our Augustinian priests told me that, since Pope Leo is himself an Augustinian, they have noticed a marked increase in young men expressing interest in the priesthood. That is the Leo Effect in action. These are ripples of inspiration that move from Rome all the way to local parishes and communities like ours.

Another question I have been asked many times in recent weeks is this: will Pope Leo XIV choose Chicagoland as the first place he visits? People have wondered if he might return to his roots in the south suburbs, visit his old neighborhood in Dolton, grab a slice of his favorite pizza, or even celebrate Mass at White Sox Park. As wonderful as that would be, and as much as I would personally love to see it, I usually remind people that his first stop is more likely to be a place in urgent need of healing, reconciliation, or peace. Perhaps the Holy Land, perhaps Ukraine, or perhaps another corner of the world that needs his pastoral presence. But who knows? The Holy Spirit guides these journeys, and for now we simply wait in joyful anticipation.

People close to Pope Leo have said, “He listens more than he talks.” That in itself is part of the Leo Effect. In an age of noise and constant headlines, the witness of a leader who listens deeply is striking. His way of leadership is not rooted in quick sound-bites but in steady gestures of closeness and compassion. Early in his pontificate, he celebrated Mass with the homeless and then shared a meal with them. He has spoken often of the “fire of love” that must burn within us, not a fire that remains hidden, but one that spreads outward in compassion, justice, and peace.

Another sign of the Leo Effect is his bridge-building across cultures. Born in the United States, formed as a missionary in Peru, and shaped by the Augustinian spirit of community and humility, Pope Leo embodies the universality of the Church. His very life story unites North and South America, English and Spanish, tradition, and modernity.

Pope Leo has also expressed concern about pressing global issues. He has spoken about the moral questions surrounding artificial intelligence, reminding us not to allow technology, money, or power to displace God. He has called for peace in conflict zones, urging the world to pursue reconciliation. He has also reminded us that the greatness of the Church is not measured in status or wealth, but in holiness and service. Recently, he approved a new Mass for the Care of Creation, highlighting his commitment to safeguarding our common home and encouraging all believers to pray and act for the protection of God’s earth.

At the same time, he has shown deep respect for tradition. When he walked out onto the balcony of St. Peter’s, he reclaimed the use of the mozzetta, a traditional papal vestment symbolizing continuity with history. He also revived the ancient practice of personally bestowing the pallium on new archbishops. These gestures remind us that while Pope Leo leads the Church into new challenges, he remains anchored in her history and symbols. His leadership balances continuity with creativity.

Many have also noted his warmth and relatability. He is approachable, enjoys simple pastimes like baseball, tennis, and word games, and speaks plainly from the heart. These touches of humanity remind us that the pope is not a distant figure but a pastor walking with his flock.

The Leo Effect is nothing less than the Holy Spirit reminding us that God is alive and active in His Church. And just as the world pauses after one hundred days to reflect on a leader, let us pause to recognize the Spirit’s work through Pope Leo XIV. As we pray for our new Holy Father, let us also commit ourselves to being open to the impact the Leo Effect can have on our own lives, to become people of unity, compassion, and love that set the world aflame.



**COLLECTION SUMMARY: September 6—7, 2025**

Budgeted	\$3,069.00
Sunday Offertory*	\$2,976.00
Minus	\$ 93.00
Envelopes used / distributed	74 / 531
<i>*Includes 8 Online Givers</i>	
Providing for Our Future	\$ 20.00

Secure and  
convenient  
**ONLINE**  
**GIVING** is



available at [GiveCentral.org](https://GiveCentral.org). Please put in zip code **60468** to find the St. Paul portal. A credit card or bank account can be linked.



Illinois Lutheran HS is hosting its 1st **COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE** blood drive of the school year on Thursday, October 9

from 12:30-4:00pm. It will be on the Versiti mobile donation bus at the ILHS campus (1610 Main St, Crete).

You must be 16 years or older to donate, and 16 year old donors need a signed parental consent form, along with a photo ID for all donors.

You can sign up by visiting [donateblood.versiti.org](https://donateblood.versiti.org) and searching for the ILHS October blood drive.

If you have any questions or need help with your appointment, please contact Chloe Robbert ([crobbert@ilhs.org](mailto:crobbert@ilhs.org)).

**Congratulations on Your New Baby!**



**LYLE WILLIAM** was born September 4 to Luke and Susannah Schubbe.

He is the brother of Levi Schubbe, grandson of

Brian & Sheri Schubbe, nephew of Kristen & Austin Jester and John & Rylee Schubbe and great grandson of Candace Marevka.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Dianne Russell, Nancy Pilotto, Sheela Jose, Rev. Tom Ewing, Michael Doyle, Mary Ellen Hanlon, Ashley Doody, Luke Payne, Dave Castaneda, Greg Nalepka, Kathleen Callahan, Deacon Mark Otten, Jeff Furtek, Charles Claxton, Tina Butler, Mary Jane Szewka, Elaine Doyle, Joyce Svatos, Dorothy Simikowski, Joe Ladislav, Arline Clark, Mary Jo Fry, Gerald Adcock, Laura Valenti, Samantha Digiaco, Julie Szudarski, Owen Ruhbeck, Sharon Andrews, Sue Gomez, 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 family member will be added to the list.*

On September 26—28, our Holy Father will be remembering in prayer and celebrating with **Catechists**. These women and men bring the Word of God and the teachings of the Church through their ministry to all of God's people from the youngest of children to the most senior of adults. Let us pray for them and in some way show our overwhelming gratitude for their willingness to share their time, talent and treasure with all in your parish community



### A Prayer for Catechists

Loving Father, we pray today for our catechists. We thank you for their gift of ministry in your Church. Grant them your wisdom that they may grow in the understanding and teaching of your Word. Grant them also your love that they may be fruitful heralds of your Word and lead others to love you. Pour forth your Holy Spirit upon them to grant them wisdom about what is important; knowledge of the truths of faith; understanding of their meaning; right judgment about how to apply them in life; courage to persevere even in the face of adversity; reverence before all that is sacred and holy; and that loving zeal which leads others to a transforming encounter with your Son. We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## Medicare Open Enrollment

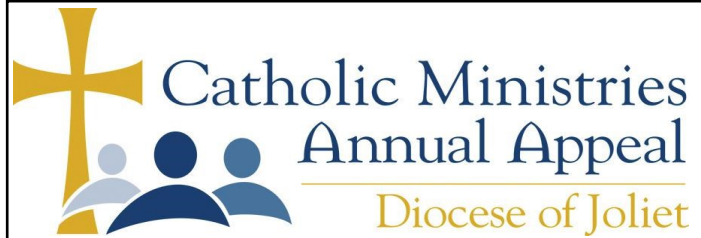
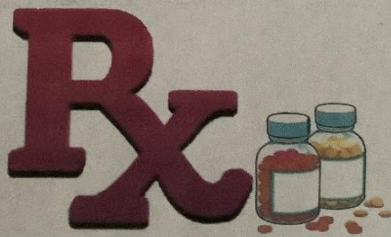
Oct 15 – Dec 7

The Senior Assistance Center at St. Paul the Apostle in Peotone will begin scheduling appointments Sep 1 for an annual review of Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plans and Medicare Advantage Plans.

Premiums, drug tiers and formularies change from year to year. A review ensures you are on the best plan at the lowest cost.

**Call 708-258-6917 Ext 5**

Please leave your name and phone number



### CMAA Pledge Report for St. Paul the Apostle Parish

Monthly payments for CMAA pledges should be made in the next few days. It is very important that these pledges be paid. Since we have reached our goal in paid pledges, 70% of the amount over goal will be returned to our parish for our needs. As of 9/14/25:

<b>PARISH GOAL:</b>	\$15,600
<b>AMOUNT PLEDGED:</b>	\$40,067
<b>AMOUNT PAID:</b>	\$37,157
<b>REMAINING BALANCE:</b>	\$ 2,910
<b>NUMBER of DONORS:</b>	121
<b>2025 REBATE:</b>	\$15,090



Like to sing?

will begin Saturday,  
October 11 @ 2:30pm and  
will continue every Saturday  
from 2:30—3:30pm

*The goal of our church choir is to enhance the church liturgy through music.*

Scheduled dates for choir to sing:

- Saturday, November 8** @ 4pm Mass
- Saturday, December 6** @ the 4pm Installation Mass for Father Thomas
- Wednesday, December 24 / Thursday, December 25** - TBD

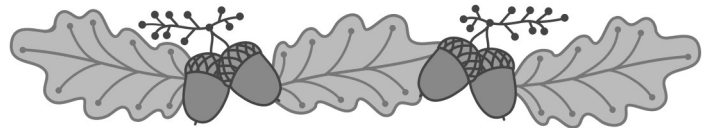
INTERESTED?

Please return the completed form found in the church entrance to Sue Williams, or leave it in the manilla envelope on the choir poster.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

QUESTIONS?

Contact Sue Williams  
815 370-6287



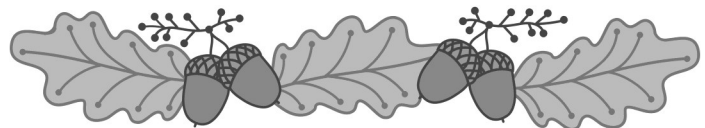
### A Prayer for Autumn's Arrival

Lord of all seasons,  
As the leaves change and the days grow cooler,  
help me embrace the rhythm of your creation.

Teach me to let go of what I no longer need  
and to trust your timing in every part of life.

Thank you for the beauty of autumn—  
for crisp mornings, golden trees,  
and the promise of harvest.

May this season deepen my gratitude,  
renew my spirit,



### UNDY SUNDAY COLLECTION —October 4 through October 19, 2025

The St. Paul CCW will again be participating in this impactful collection drive. The **new** underwear, socks, undershirts and diapers that we collect are distributed to Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet clients throughout the year to individuals and families across our community who are facing crisis or hardship. For those living in poverty, access to new, clean undergarments is often out of reach, which impacts both health and dignity. Thanks for your support!