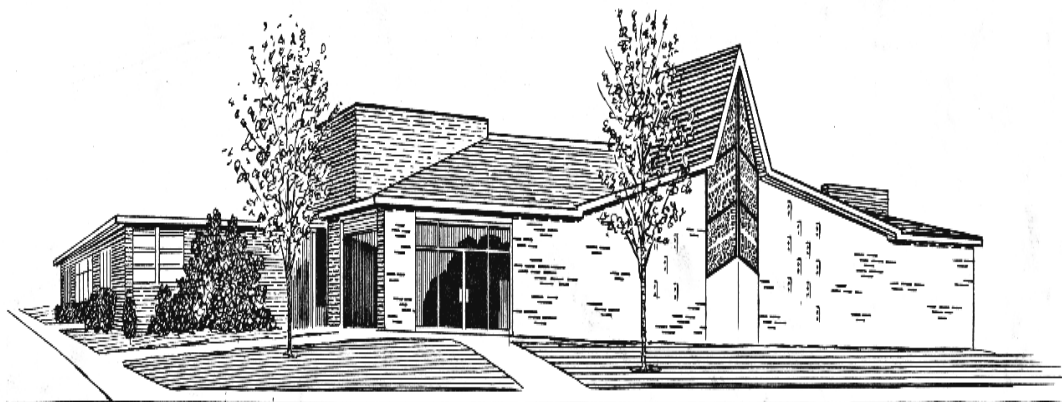




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September 6, 2026

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

This Monday, September 7, is Labor Day. A Communion Service will be held at 7:30am. The parish offices will be closed. The staff of St. Paul the Apostle wish you and your families a safe and happy Labor Day holiday!



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	9/5	3:00 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
		3:30 pm—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u>Richard W. Strubin</u> req by Al & Jan Leffelman
Sun	9/6	10:30 am—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		11:00 am—	+ <u>Roberto Davila, Sr.</u> req by the Esquivel Family and <u>The People of the Parish</u>
Mon	9/7	7:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Tue	9/8	7:30 am—	+ <u>Alexander & Ramona Fiedor</u> req by Herb & Mary Ann Batterman
Wed	9/9	7:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Thr	9/10	7:30 am—	+ <u>Patrica Motyka</u> req by Family
		6:00 pm—	<u>ADORATION</u>
		7:15 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
Fri	9/11	7:30 am—	<u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u>
Sat	9/12	3:00 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
		3:30 pm—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u>Ken Roczniak</u> req by Beecher Bunco Club and <u>The People of the Parish</u>
Sun	9/13	10:30 am—	<u>ROSARY</u>
		11:00 am—	+ <u>Louise Kotel</u> req by the James Kelly 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.

**The Altar flowers from September 5--
September 18 are given in thanksgiving for
Al & Jan Leffelman's
58th Wedding Anniversary.**



*Altar
Flowers*

If you are interested in sponsoring our bi-weekly altar flower arrangement, possibly in honor of an anniversary or birthday or in memory of a family member, **please contact the parish office for scheduling details.** The cost is \$80 and can be shared between one or more parishioners.

Our parish family extends warmest congratulations and blessings to **Ryan Reed and Megan Smaga**, who were united in Holy Matrimony on August 29, 2026 at St. Paul the Apostle.

just married!

May God bless your marriage with a lifetime of love, laughter, and shared faith. Please join us in keeping this beautiful couple in your prayers as they begin their new journey together.

**"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love.
But the greatest of these is love."
— 1 Corinthians 13:13**

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.



**Pastor's
Office Hours**



CCW 
Council of Catholic Women

"Eucharist," the 5-week Bible study, will begin on Tuesday, September 15, and continue the next 4 Tuesdays. Each session should be approximately 90 minutes.

There will be a morning session at 9:30am, and a repeat evening session at 6:30pm. Study guide booklet will be provided by the CCW. Please bring a Bible, if available.

If you did not sign up previously, or need more information, please contact Jean Adduci at jeanadd@aol.com.

Please pray for the success of this new parish endeavor!



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!



COLLECTION SUMMARY: August 29—30, 2026:

Budgeted	\$3,205.53
Sunday Offertory*	\$2,833.00
Minus	\$ 372.53
Envelopes used / distributed	64 / 468
<i>*Includes 7 Online Givers</i>	
Providing for Our Future	\$ 50.00



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.

Please remember these men and women in your daily prayers—priests, Deacons, Seminarians and Women & Men Religious in the Diocese of Joliet:

**SEPTEMBER 2026**

5 Sr. Mary-Lynn Danaher OSF, Sr. Diane Martin OSF
6 Msgr. Michael Pawlowicz, Fr. Michael Pennock
7 Sr. Sandra Duma OSF, Sr. M. Dominic Dybel OSF
8 Dcns. Rigoberto Padilla, Lindsey Parsons,
Leonard Penkala, Michael Perkins
9 Sr. Mary Therese Forst OSF,
Sr. M. Debrah Funfsinn OSF
10 Sr. Mary Elizabeth Imler OSF,
Sr. Norma Janssen OSF
11 Sr. Karen Marie Lanigan OSF
12 Fr. Grzegorz Podwysocki
13 Sr. Judith A. Davies OSF, Sr. Mary Paul Shisler OSF,
Sr. Nancy Roberta Schramm OSF

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

—Pope Francis

Please note: In an effort to keep our parish **bulletin prayer list** up-to-date, a new list was generated today, Sunday, September 6.

+++++

Please keep Arline Clark, Frances Librera Biondo, Ashley Doody, Rich Harms, Bernie Iversen, Emily Klamkin, Frances Librera, Peggy Schwiesow, Marcel Smaga, Judy Strubin, Julie Szudarski, Jean Vinezeano 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.



The Pope's Intentions for September 2026—

For the care of water—

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

The PHS Student Council is excited to partner with the American Red Cross for a **FALL BLOOD DRIVE** on Wednesday, September 16, from 1:30pm –6pm in the PHS Media Center!



We hope you'll consider taking some time out of your day to donate blood and help make a difference in the lives of others. Every donation has the potential to save lives, and we'd love to see our Blue Devil community come together to support this important cause!

And there's a fun bonus! All donors will receive an exclusive collectible Hello Kitty + Red Cross item while supplies last! So come roll up your sleeve, donate, and grab some adorable swag while you can!

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION**

On the second weekend of each month—**next 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.

Today's Gospel passage is the heart of Christ's "Discourse on the Church" we call it the Ecclesial Discourse. This passage is a profoundly theological revelation of God's mercy, the communal reality of salvation, and the mystical mystery of the Church as the Body of Christ.

The passage begins with a clear directive on addressing a sinning brother: "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone." The primary motive here is fraternal correction, which Saint Thomas Aquinas categorizes as an act of charity. The initial step takes place in strict privacy. This shields the offender's reputation and honors their human dignity. Christ specifies the objective: "If he listens to you, you have gained your brother." The aim is never retribution, public shaming, or administrative efficiency—it is the salvation of a soul.

Its ecclesial dimension is 'We Are Saved Together'. Catholic theology rejects an individualized view of faith. Sin is never purely private; because the Church is a single organic Mystical Body, the sin of one member wounds the whole body, and the spiritual health of one strengthens the whole.

When private efforts fail, Christ instructs bringing "one or two others," fulfilling the Deuteronomic law of witnesses (Deut. 19:15), before finally bringing the matter to the Church. If the offender refuses even the Church, Christ says: "let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector." Crucially, how did Jesus treat Gentiles and tax collectors? He sought them out with even greater redemptive love. To treat someone as an outsider is not to hate them, but to recognize reality: they have detached themselves from communion, and the Church's effort must now pivot toward their re-evangelization and conversion.



The Authority to Bind and Loose - The Sacramental Principle: In verse 18, Jesus repeats the solemn declaration previously given exclusively to Peter. "Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Here, Christ ex-

tends this apostolic authority to the wider body of the Apostles. In Catholic doctrine, this passage is a foundational scriptural pillar for two things: 1) The Sacrament of Reconciliation: Christ delegates His divine power to forgive or retain sins to mortal ministers. The priest, acting in persona Christi, exercises this binding and loosing to restore broken communion between the sinner, God, and the Church.

2) Ecclesial Governance: The Church possesses real, heaven-backed authority to legislate, render moral judgments, and declare parameters of communion (e.g., excommunication, which is medicinal rather than vindictive).

The Catholic theology points to the manifold Real Presence of Christ when His members unite in charity, truth, and shared prayer. The Church's prayers and judgments carry weight not because human leaders are infallible in themselves, but because Christ remains actively present within His Church. For Saint Thomas Aquinas, fraternal correction is the spiritual equivalent of pulling someone out of a burning building or treating a deadly wound. It is not an exercise of moral superiority, but a humble, prudent, and deeply loving work of mercy aimed entirely at restoring a soul to grace.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Thomas Theneth CMI

This Wednesday, September 9, at 6pm, there will be an O.C.I.A. (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) class starting at St. Paul the Apostle Parish.

If you are interested to learn more, please attend this class or invite someone who you might know who would be interested. This class is for unbaptized individuals, Christians baptized in another faith tradition, baptized Catholics who still need to complete their Sacraments of Initiation (1st Communion and/or Confirmation), and for individuals who want to deepen their understanding of the Catholic Church.

Attending initial inquiry sessions carries no immediate obligation to join the Church. Actual meeting days/times (such as weekly meetings mornings, or nights on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays) will be determined once the registrations are complete.





Most Reverend R. Daniel Conlon, Bishop Emeritus of Joliet (2011-2020), will celebrate 11am Mass at St. Paul on Sunday, September 13, 2026 in Father Thomas' absence.



Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

O.C.I.A. (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults)—formerly known as RCIA—classes for the 2026–2027 academic year are currently forming at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Peotone, Illinois.

What is OCIA? It is a spiritual formation and instruction process for adults and children (age seven or older) who want to learn more about the Catholic faith, receive un-received sacraments, or enter into full communion with the Church.

WHO IS IT FOR?

- Unbaptized individuals.
- Christians baptized in another faith tradition.
- Baptized Catholics who still need to complete their Sacraments of Initiation (First Communion or Confirmation).
- Individuals who want to deepen their understanding of the Catholic Church

WHEN DO CLASSES START? The program will begin their inquiry sessions and weekly classes after Labor Day, running through the Easter Vigil when sacraments are traditionally received. Classes continue after Easter until Pentecost Sunday.

COMMITMENT: Attending initial inquiry sessions carries no immediate obligation to join the Church. Actual meeting days/times (such as weekly meetings mornings, or nights on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays) will be determined once the registrations are complete.

To **REGISTER** or have **QUESTIONS**, to **RECEIVE** registration forms, **PLEASE** contact the parish by:

-contacting Deacon Jim Kelly at:

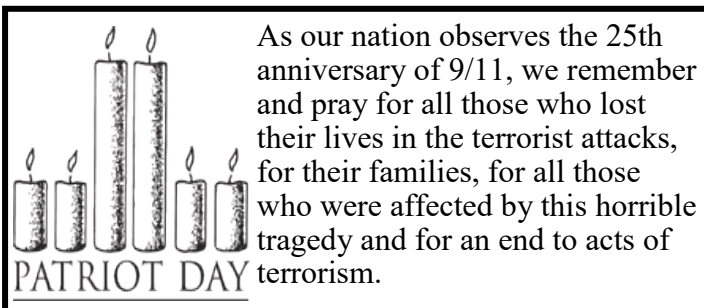
StPaulReligiousEd@stpaulpeotone.org,

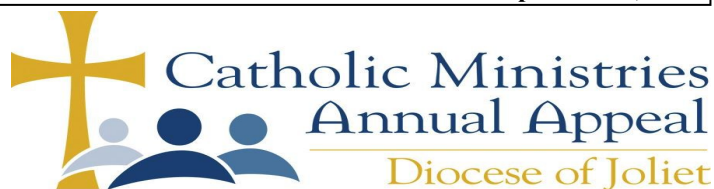
or calling 708 258-9580;

-contacting the parish office at

ParishOffice@stpaulpeotone.org;

-checking the weekly bulletin and website at StPaulPeotone.org.





Pledge Report for St. Paul the Apostle Parish as of August 30, 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 joliectdioceseappeal.org.

PARISH GOAL:	\$16,700
AMOUNT PLEDGED:	\$26,725
AMOUNT PAID:	\$24,267
BALANCE DUE:	\$ 2,458
DONORS:	90
REBATE:	\$ 5,297

She wasn't alone when she became principal

When Colleen Carroll stepped into her second year as principal of St. Jude Catholic School in New Lenox, she wasn't walking the path alone. Through the Emmaus Mentor Program, supported by your gifts to the CCMAA, Colleen was paired with veteran principal Carol Albreski, giving Colleen support and a person to reach out to with the everyday challenges of a first year in the principal's office.



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



explore
Life, faith, meaning

You're invited to
ALPHA!

Alpha is a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the **Christian faith** in a relaxed, welcoming environment.



GOOD FOOD



ENGAGING TALK



GREAT CONVERSATION

St. Joseph, Manteno, IL
207 S. Main St. • Manteno, IL

ALPHA starts this Thursday in Manteno. Please pick up a flyer in either lobby for more information.

OPERATION ANDREW DINNER

Young men and their fathers are invited to join Bishop Dennis Spies and several area priests for dinner, conversation, and testimonials about their own vocation stories.

There will be opportunity for a question-and-answer session and meeting other young men open to the priesthood.

Queen of Apostles Parish
18 Woodlawn Ave
Joliet, IL 60435

OCT 1 | 6 PM

Open to high school and young adult age
men and their fathers

SCAN ME

