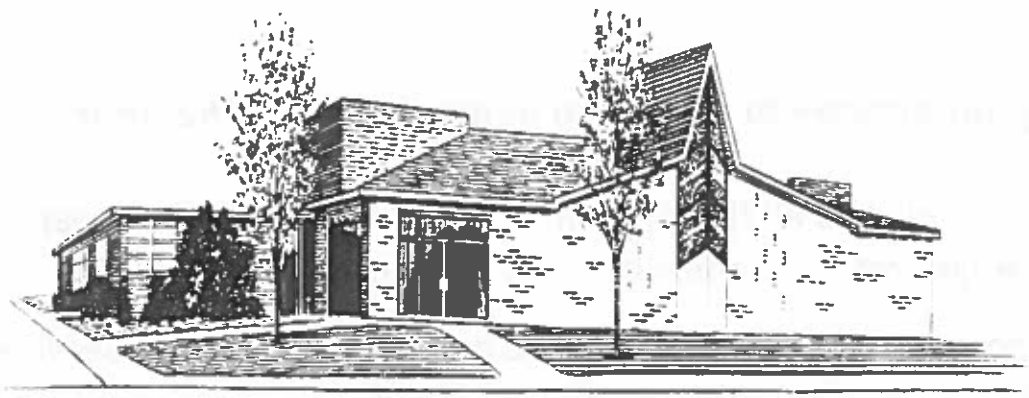






October 25, 2026

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

The Pope's Monthly Intention 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.

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

Saturday	10 24	3:00 pm—	***CONFESSION***	
		3:30 pm—	***ROSARY***	
		4:00 pm—	+***Ken Roczniak***	req by Barb Hodgett & George Schuitema
Sunday	10 25	10:30 am—	***ROSARY***	
		11:00 am—	+***Donna Dionne*** and the ***People of the Parish***	req by Tim & Cindy Reed
Monday	10 26	7:30 am—	***COMMUNION SERVICE***	
Tuesday	10 27	7:30 am—	+***Bernard Powers***	req by Family
Wednesday	10 28	7:30 am—	***COMMUNION SERVICE***	
Thursday	10 29	7:30 am—	+***John R. Tierney, Jr. & Family***	req by Family
		6:00 pm—	***ADORATION***	
		7:15 pm—	***CONFESSION***	
Friday	10 30	7:30 am—	***COMMUNION SERVICE***	
Saturday	10 31	3:00 pm—	***CONFESSION***	
		3:30 pm—	***ROSARY***	
		4:00 pm—	+***Timothy Zalewski*** and the ***People of the Parish***	req by Al & Jan Leffelman
Sunday	11/1	10:30 am—	***ROSARY***	
		11:00 am—	+***Deceased Litak & Gulik Family Members***	req by T.R. Litak

The ALTAR FLOWERS from October 17 to October 30 are given in loving memory of Mr. Dale Knickrehm, from family.

Please keep Pope Leo XIV, the Adamsick Family, Arline Clark, Frances Librera Biondo, Ashley Doody, Rev. Tom Ewing, Rich Harms, Bernie Iversen, the Janssen Family, 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.

Prayer LIST

Please note that only names given with permission oif the person or by a family member will be added to the list.

CCW Council of Catholic Women

Come over to the ***Peotone Trunk or Treat*** from 11am--2pm this Sunday, October 25 on First Street between Main and Corning. Bring the children and / or grandkids. This is a joint CCW / K of C event.

K of C

CHOIR NEWS

Choir rehearsals are starting November 7 for the upcoming Christmas season. Rehearsals will be held on Saturdays from 5--6pm (after 4pm Mass), with the exception of the rehearsal on November 14, which will be held from 2:30--3:30pm. ***Rehearsals start on November 7.*** Please attend if you are interested in joining. We welcome all new members regardless of prior musical experience!

Kristen Jester, Choir Director



In today's gospel we see "A Question Intended to Trap, and an Answer That Transforms." The Pharisees and Sadducees engage Jesus in a series of hostile debates designed to discredit His authority. The scholar of the law asks Jesus to single out the "greatest" commandment—a common topic of debate among rabbinic schools, who counted 613 precepts in the Mosaic Torah. Rather than choosing one ritual rule over another, Jesus does something revolutionary: He synthesizes the entire divine revelation into a unified, two-fold commandment of love. Jesus quotes the Shema Yisrael from Deuteronomy 6:5, which every faithful Jew prayed daily: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."

In biblical anthropology, the heart is not merely the seat of emotions, but the center of decision-making, memory, and the will. The Soul (Psyche) represents life itself—our total personhood and existence given to God. Matthew explicitly adds/emphasizes the intellect. Faith is not anti-intellectual; we love God when we use our reason to seek truth and understand His creation. The Second Commandment is the active love for our neighbor. Jesus joins Deuteronomy 6:5 with Leviticus 19:18: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." According to St Thomas Aquinas, agape (love) is defined not as a fleeting feeling, but as willing the good of the other. Loving yourself properly means desiring your own highest good such as union with God, virtue, and eternal life. To love your neighbor as yourself means actively willing that same spiritual and material good for them.

"On These Two Hang All the Law and the Prophets" Jesus shows that the commandments are not arbitrary rules, but an itinerary of love. The first three of the Ten Commandments direct our love toward God. The remaining seven direct our love toward our neighbor. If love is removed, moral law becomes legalistic burden; when rooted in love, the law becomes a path to true freedom.

In his encyclical Deus Caritas Est ("God is Love"), Pope Benedict XVI emphasizes that love of God and love of neighbor are inseparable: "If I have no contact at all with God in my life, then I cannot see in the other any more than the other, and I am unable to see in him the divine image. But if in my life I fail completely to heed others, then my relationship with God will also grow arid." Catholic theology views love not merely as an abstract concept, but as the inner essence of God Himself. God is a Trinity—a communion of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Human beings are created in the image of this God; therefore, we find our ultimate fulfillment only in self-giving love. In "The City of God" St. Augustine famously described virtue as "the order of love". Sin, in Augustine's view, is disordered love, loving created things instead of the Creator. Here Jesus reiterates to love God as the Final End, Neighbor as the Companion. According to St. Augustine: "He who loves his neighbor properly ought to urge him with all his heart to love God. Thus, love of neighbor is included in the love of God."

Yours in Christ,
Rev. Thomas Theneth CMI

COLLECTION SUMMARY--
October 17—18, 2026:

Budgeted	$3,205.53
Sunday Offertory*	$2,587.85
Minus	$ 617.68
Envelopes used / distributed	74 / 468
Includes 7 Online Givers	
Mission Sunday	$ 85.00
Providing for Our Future	$ 695.00

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.

give central

Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

Pledge Report for St. Paul the Apostle Parish as of October 18, 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:	$29.300
AMOUNT PAID:	$28.221
BALANCE DUE:	$ 1.079
DONORS:	91
REBATE:	$ 8.065



-Our "***Book of Remembrance***" is in the rear of the church near the Holy Family for anyone who would like to write the names of loved one who have died. Those who are included in this book will be included in a petition offered at Masses during the month of November;

-We turn clocks back next Saturday evening, October 31;

-Monday, November 2 is ***ALL SOULS DAY***, a day to remember all the departed souls. Mass will be celebrated at 6:30pm and we will pause to remember our loved ones and members and friends from St. Paul who have departed this earth. You are invited to bring a small photo of your loved one to place on a table that will be in the front of the church.

VOCATIONS CALENDAR--OCTOBER 2026

24 Seminarian David Molfese
25 Fr. Maciej Stelmach, Fr. Daniel F. Stempora
26 Dcns. Thomas Ross, Michael Ruddle, Kevin Ryan, Terry Safko, Thomas Sagenbrecht, Luis Saltigerald
27 Sr. Verene Girmscheid OSF, Sr. Mary Jane Griffin OSF, Sr. Mary Ann Hamer OSF
28 Seminarian Sean Czaplewski
29 Fr. Gerald Nicholas O.S.A., Fr. John Ohner O.S.A., Fr. John Sotak O.S.A.
30 Dcns. Thomas Rachubinski, Donald Randolph, David Raskowski, Thomas Rehak, Philip Rehmer
31 Sr. Barbarine Houdek OSF

NOVEMBER 2026

1 Br. Kevin Coffey OSB, Br. Guy Jelinek OSB