

ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

1 Bluff St, Council Bluffs, IA 51503

712-318-3030

www.saintpeterscb.org



March 15, 2026 Fourth Sunday Of Lent

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, March 15th

Fully Alive Youth Group
6-8pm - See Details in Bulletin

Tuesday, March 17th

Mass/Stations/Soup Supper
5:30/6:00/6:30PM - Church and Hall

Thursday, March 19th

Adoration
3-9PM - Church

Thursday, March 19th

Catholic Daughters Meeting
6pm - Social Hall

Friday, March 20th

Stations Of the Cross followed by
Adoration and Benediction
5:30PM - Church

Thursday, April 2nd

Holy Thursday
Mass of the Lord's Supper: 6:00pm
Adoration "in the garden": to 10pm

Friday, April 3rd

Good Friday
Solemn Stations: 12 noon
Passion Service: 6:00pm

Saturday, April 3rd

Candidates and Elect: 9am
Easter Vigil: 8pm

To see all events or flyers go to our
website www.saintpeterscb.org



Mass Schedule:

Weekend Masses

Saturday - 4PM
Sunday - 8AM, 10AM, & 12PM

Weekday Masses

Tuesday - 12PM
Wednesday - 8AM
Thursday - 12PM & 5:30PM
Friday - 8AM

Reconciliation:

Saturday 3-3:35PM
Sunday 7-7:45AM
Anytime by Appointment

Baptism or Wedding:

To schedule a baptism or
wedding, please call the
parish office.

Donate Using Venmo:

Scan the QR Code or find us on
venmo @saintpeterscb



Thank you for your Donation!

Prayer Request?

Scan the QR code to fill
out the prayer request
form or call Debbie Foote
at 402-669-5258.



Would you like to be part of the prayer
team? If you feel called to serve in this
ministry, please contact Debbie Foote at
402-669-5258.

New To Our Parish?

Register by scanning the QR code
below or going to our website.



Is your information current we have
on file? If you need changes made
please contact the parish office.

Parish Office

712-318-3030

Office Hours:

Mon- Closed

Tues-Thurs 9:00AM-5:00PM

Fri 9:00AM-12:00PM

Parish Staff

Pastor

Father Jacob Epstein

jepstein@dmdiocese.org

Hospital & Nursing Home Chaplain

Father Emmanuel Offiong

712-406-0094

emetof@yahoo.com

Deacons

Deacon Pat Snook

patricksnook51503@yahoo.com

Deacon Stephen Rallis

Director of Religious Education

Heather Olson

religionseducationdirector@saintpeterscb.org

Office Manager

Tracy Carlson

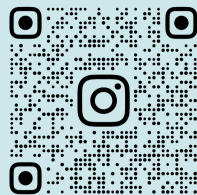
officemanager@saintpeterscb.org

Maintenance

Rob Beck

Submissions for the bulletin must be submitted by Tuesday at 4pm. All submissions are subject to edits and approval. Send to religionseducationdirector@saintpeterscb.org

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From Father Jacob

“I once was blind but now I see”

Just like last week, notice how Jesus writes the story of every soul in the story of this one man He heals. Just as God first made man out of dust and clay, so Jesus re-makes this man using clay so he can see the light and follow the Lord. The man at first knows that he has been changed, but not how. He professes that Jesus is special-a prophet. Then, by giving witness to unbelievers, he comes to call himself a disciple of Jesus, to meet Jesus and acknowledge him as Christ, and then even to worship him. In the end the ones who think they see are pronounced by Jesus the blind ones, and the blind one is the one made able to see in the most important way--he sees the light of Christ! This isn't just this one man's story, this is all of our stories as well!

Laetare (Rejoice!) Sunday

The fourth Sunday of Lent we break up our weeks of penances and rejoice in the Lord! This is more-or-less the midpoint of Lent. Perhaps it is a good time to review our Lenten prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. If things have been going well, how might I intensify this good progress over the next three weeks until Easter? If things have fallen off the rails, this would be a great time to re-commit! Don't be discouraged if you haven't kept your Lenten penances; one of the fruits of Lent can be (re)learning that we are weak and easily distracted. Restart today!

Before this Sunday the readings of Lent have focused on repentance, prayer, and fasting. After today they will focus on the leadup to the cross and what the cross accomplished for us. These next three weeks become more and more solemn and serious until we will rejoice with great joy at the resurrection on Easter Sunday!

Youth Group

Join the youth group in celebrating Laetare Sunday with dinner and putt-putt golf this Sunday! 6-8pm at Pirate Putt on 3/15!

Prayer chain

Do you need someone to pray for you? Do you want to pray for your fellow parishioners? We are happy to relaunch our parish prayer chain to connect people in need of prayer with our parish prayer warriors.

If you want to be a part of the prayer chain, contact Debbie Foote (see the first page of the bulletin, bottom left box) and let her know of your interest. You'll receive occasional emails with a summary of the prayer requests.

If you are need of prayer for yourself, a family member, or an intention, submit the request to Debbie or through our online form.

Soup Supper

We had a wonderful third soup supper this past Tuesday! Many thanks to all who brought food to share, and especially to the Social Concerns Committee who hosted this past week. The free will donation brought in **\$338**, which this week will be given to the Parish to cover associated expenses.

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, March 17

Noon Dorthy & Roger Snook +
5:30pm Peace in the Middle East

Wednesday, March 18

8am Brian Kirlin +

Thursday, March 19

Noon Tom Suden +
5:30pm Calvin Crowder +

Friday, March 20

8am Luis Villarreal +

Saturday, March 21

4pm Richard Corrin +

Sunday, March 22

8am Tom & Delwin Schnepel +
10am St Peter's Parish
Noon Harvey Family

Ministry Schedule

	Saturday 4:00pm Mass	Sunday 8:00am Mass	Sunday 10:00am Mass	Sunday 12:00pm Mass
	Mar 21, 2026	Mar 22, 2026	Mar 22, 2026	Mar 22, 2026
Altar Servers	Bianca Cihacek Ellianna Cihacek	Owen Juranek Caroline Reineke Claire Reineke	Abby Lighthipe Charlotte Noon Ali Hamilton	Mason Olson Emma Thompson
Lectors	Amber Svajgl Jackson Jim Beck	Nicole Juranek Joan Goeser	Ed Fink Eric Ely	Chris Maher Andrea Barnes
EMHC	Erik King Dylies King Mary Hazen	Mary Novotne Debbie Foote	Jennifer Lighthipe Michelle Naughton Michael Naughton	Susan Lorkovic
Ushers	Jack Gross Linda Bonham Fred Schaben William Stoshal	Sue Brownlee Russ Goeser Gary Juranek Andy Juranek	Nate Noon Mike Nielsen Dan Lighthipe Dave Bristol	Chris Olson Trevor Yanovich Rob Peters

Next Sunday's Readings: March 22, 2026

1st - Ezekiel 37:12-14

2nd - Romans 8:8-11

Gospel - John 11:1-45

CONNECTED

Organizations & Groups

- ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY**

The St Anne's Altar and Rosary Society will meet on **Thursday, April 2nd** at 5:00pm in the Social Hall. There will be no dinner served so the ladies can attend Holy Thursday Mass afterwards. All women of the parish 18 and older are invited.

- CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS, COURT ST ANTHONY #330**

The next Catholic Daughters Meeting is on **Thursday, March 19th** at St. Peter's Church. Mass starts at 5:30pm, followed by a potluck meal and the meeting. We will say a Rosary for St. Patrick parishioner, Mary Martin, who passed away on February 27 at the age of 105. She was a devoted CDA member for 20 years. May she rest in peace. Women, 18 years and older from all Council Bluffs parishes are always welcome to join us. Visit our website at www.cda330.org. Questions? Contact Brenda Dresen, Regent at 402-238-5951.

- KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

The Knights want to say a huge "THANK YOU" to all the parishioners who came and ate shrimp with us this Lent. Thank you for bringing your friends and neighbors, too! Final numbers aren't in, but we served well over 500 pounds of shrimp this year! We were very pleased to add four new members and four transfer/re-activated members at our March 1st Exemplification! What a blessing to have them join our Council. Any interested men of the parish 18 years or older are welcome to join, and are invited to simply attend any of our monthly meetings. Our next meeting is **Monday, March 23rd** at 6:00 PM in the Social Hall. Please reach out to Sean Dunphy at 402-960-6215 for information or with any questions.

- WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP**

Women's Prayer Group will NOT meet in March. Join us on **Tuesday, April 14th** at 6:30pm in the social hall as we continue to learn and discuss the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. You can bring a snack to share if you like. Bring a friend!

- MOM'S OF YOUNG CHILDREN GROUP**

Our Young Mom's Group invites mothers of young children to their faith sharing and social group at St. Francis Worship Center 238 S 6th St. on **Tuesdays from 9:30-11 AM**. Childcare is provided. For more details, please call/text Brittany at 520-373-9748. *Volunteers to help supervise the children during these gatherings are needed. You do not need to commit to every week. If interested in providing childcare, please contact Mary Stuhr at mtstuhr4vv@yahoo.com or 402-740-3423.

- YOUNG ADULT GROUP**

The Young Adult Group welcomes all adults ages 20-35, in all stages of life: college students or professionals, singles, married couples, or young families. Our last meeting was Sunday, March 8th. Stay tuned for the next event coming soon!

SEEKERS & SAINTS

Faith Formation News



FULLY ALIVE YOUTH GROUP

Do you like to play putt-putt mini golf? High school students are invited to join Fully Alive Youth Group on **Sunday, March 15th, from 6-8 PM (note the time change)** at Pirate Putt on Madison Ave. We will provide dinner too! If you can make it, please contact Heather Olson at 402-250-7073

Upcoming Dates:

March 15 - Pirate Putt/Dinner *Time Change 6-8pm

April 5 - No Meeting (Easter Sunday)

Got questions? Contact Heather Olson at religiouseducationdirector@saintpeterscb.org



EXPLORING CATHOLICISM

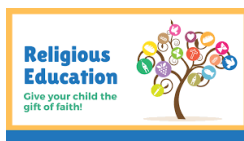
For adults interested in joining the Catholic Church!

All are welcome to join us for any of the classes! at 2pm on Sundays.

March 15 - "Breaking Open the Word" exploring the readings from Mass—St Peter

March 22 - Commandments 7, 10, 8: our duties to Things & Speech—St Patrick

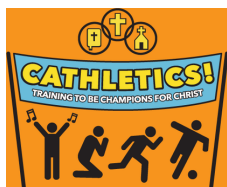
March 29 - Getting Ready for Easter--St Patrick



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Saturday, May 2nd at 6pm - Confirmation

Sunday, May 3rd at 2pm - First Communion



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Save The Date! VBS is scheduled for June 8-12 from 5:30-8:30pm. Children from 4 years of age to 5th grade are invited to join us for a Cathletics VBS where they will train to be Champions of Christ! More info coming soon.

BEYOND THE PARISH

News From Across the Diocese

• MISSION CARE

Mission Care, a 501(C) (3), nonprofit based in Council Bluffs, Iowa, is seeking a **volunteer CPA (or experienced tax professional)** to assist with our taxes-ensuring accurate preparation and filing of our organizational tax returns, maintaining compliance, and supporting financial transparency for our mission-driven work. Your expertise would directly empower our efforts to transform lives through education, health, and sustainable development for marginalized communities, especially rural children abroad. This flexible, remote friendly volunteer role requires only a few hours seasonally (e.g., during tax season) and offers the reward of impactful stewardship. If you are a licensed CPA, enrolled agent, or skilled accountant passionate about charitable service for God's children in need, please contact us! Reach Father Emmanuel or the team at missioncareusa@yahoo.com. Or 1-515-985-8331.

• SHROUD OF TURIN PRESENTATION & EXHIBIT

Join us for an amazing presentation, The Man of the Shroud, by Shroud expert Jim Bertrand, M.Ed., on **Thursday, March 19th, at 6:30 PM at St Patrick Church, Council Bluffs.** This free event features a full-size replica of the Shroud of Turin and offers deeper insight into its significance and the latest scientific research. We will also host a walk-through exhibit of the Shroud of Turin from Monday, March 16th to Thursday, March 19th, in the parish social hall (for specific times go to stpatrickcb.org). This exhibit includes 42 beautifully designed informational panels.

• 1st ANNUAL BIRTHRIGHT ARTS & CRAFT FAIR

The First Annual Birthright of Council Bluffs Arts & Craft Fair is **Saturday, March 28th from 10am-3pm at St Patrick's Church in Council Bluffs.** There is no admission charge to the public. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Are you interested in being a vendor? The cost is \$20 per table. Call Barb at 402-452-7365

DES MOINES COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

97TH ANNUAL

Spring Conference



Kali Schneiders

This year's annual conference features Kali Schneiders, a popular author ([Truffles from Heaven](#) and [Confessions of a Formerly "Wicked" Stepmother](#)), who has inspired audiences across the country by combining her wit with God's wisdom and grace into inspiring stories. Kali's lessons come from her diverse personal background: from modeling to pageants, from corporate America to stay-at-home mom, her mission has been to shine a bright light into the dark corners.

In addition to our guest speaker, attendees will have the opportunity to celebrate Mass with Bishop Joensen, enjoy lunch and fellowship with others, visit vendor/exhibitor booths, and bid on silent auction items.

Pre-register using the link or QR code below:

<https://ticketstripe.com/DCCWSpringConference>

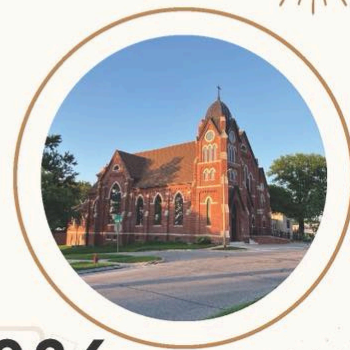
Cost: \$30

Deadline: April 1st



Questions: Please email DesMoinesCCW@gmail.com

SS Peter & Paul
Catholic Parish Center
105 West 5th St.
Atlantic, IA 50022



APRIL

11th

2026

9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Check-in begins at 8:30 AM

Mass with Bishop Joensen at 11:00 AM

Luncheon to follow

ST. JOSEPH

CATHOLIC CEMETERY EST. 1864

Where the history of Council Bluffs is written in stone.

St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery Association
1 Bluff Street, Council Bluffs, IA 51503
Cemetery Manager 712-318-1024



ST. JOSEPH

Patron of a Happy Death

O Blessed Joseph, you gave your last breath in the loving embrace of Jesus & Mary. When I take my last breath, come with Jesus & Mary to aid me. Obtain for me this solace, that at that hour I would die with their holy arms around me.
Jesus, Mary & Joseph, I commend my soul into your sacred arms.

MARCH 19 IS THE FEAST DAY OF ST. JOSEPH

When we were young we were encouraged to pray to St. Joseph for “a happy death”. That seemed strange to a young person. But as we grow older and see more of life (and death) that seems like a good thing. May our passing into eternity be easy and accompanied by God’s grace.

In addition to being spiritually prepared, it is also a good thing to be practically prepared for that moment. It is a great help to family members to know what your wishes are. Take a little time. Update your will. Visit a funeral home & preplan your arrangements. Then when that time comes, your family can spend their time comforting one another rather than trying to guess what they should do.

Contact St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery and reserve your spot where your body will rest in dignity until the Day of Resurrection.



***And please remember St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in your will.
It’s the easiest way to support this important ministry.***

CELEBRATE THE FEAST DAY

Pray to St. Joseph

Pray the *Litany of St. Joseph* or a short prayer asking his intercession for family life, work, and trust in God.

Read Scripture

Read *Matthew 1:18–25* about Joseph’s obedience and *Luke 2:41–52* about Joseph as a quiet, faithful father.

Practice Quiet Service

Do a hidden act of kindness in the spirit of St. Joseph’s humility or donate food or baked goods to someone in need.

Serving St. Peter Parish, St. Patrick Parish, Corpus Christi Parish,
and Catholics in western Iowa.

The World According To Bob

- At this time 5 years ago it was illegal for people to be within six feet of me. Sometimes I miss that.
- I only sing in the car when I am going in reverse. I'm a backup singer!
- Why did the old man fall into a well? Because he could not see that well.
- Where did Joe go after being lost in a mine field? Everywhere.
- Did you hear about the paddle deal? It was quite an ordeal.
- I wrote a book about falling down the stairs. It's a step by step guide.

March 27-28 2026 in Kansas and Missouri

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN CURIOUS ABOUT RELIGIOUS LIFE ARE INVITED

This two-day trip is an opportunity to:

- Visit several religious communities
- Attend Mass and tour convents
- Meet the Sisters and ask questions
- Learn more about discerning a vocation

Fr. Max Carson and the chaperoned group will travel together to meet the Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles, the Servant Sisters of Mary, and the Sisters Poor of Jesus in both Kansas and Missouri. A modest dress code is required.

For travel itinerary and more information, scan the QR code or visit stpatrickcb.org.

**Limited spots available
No cost to attend
Register by March 15**

TO REGISTER, EMAIL:
Fr. Max Carson
Assistant Vocations Director
of the Diocese of Des Moines
carsonm@saintalbertschools.org

*Come and see what the Lord
may have in store for you.*

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Knights of Columbus Council 1045

Meeting 4th Monday of each month at 6pm in the social hall.
If interested in membership contact Sean Dunphy at 402-960-6215 or the parish office at 712-318-3030

Knights of Columbus

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St Anne's Altar Society

Meets the 1st Thursday of the month
March - December at 6pm in the social hall.
All women of the parish over the age of 18 are automatically members.

Senior Pictures Families Events

Rob Peters Photography

712-310-2531 robpetersphoto.com Rob Peters Photography

FINNISHED CONCRETE

PETER FINN, PARISHIONER
712-310-0249