



# *St. Peter's Catholic Church*

## *a country church in the city*

Pastor

Fr Jacob Epstein  
jepstein@dmdiocese.org

Deacons

Dcn Stephen Rallis

Dcn Pat Snook

patricksnook51503@yahoo.com

Office Manager

Tracy Carlson

officemanager@saintpeterscb.org

DRE

Heather Olson

religiouseducationdirector@saintpeterscb.org

Maintenance

Rob Beck

### **Mass Schedule**

Saturday: 4pm

Sunday: 8am, 10am, 12 noon

Tues: Noon

Wed and Fri: 8am

Thurs: Noon and 5:30pm

### **Reconciliation**

Saturday 3:00—3:45pm

Sunday 7:00-7:45am

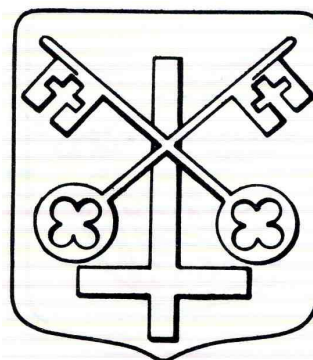
### **Baptisms, Weddings, etc**

Call or email the office!

PARISH WEBSITE [www.saintpeterscb.org](http://www.saintpeterscb.org)

PARISH PHONE NUMBER 712-318-3030

PARISH ROBOCALL NUMBER 1-800-679-0847



## **Save the Date!**

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Monday, December 8th	Immaculate Conception	<b>7am</b> , noon, and 6pm Masses
Saturday, December 13th	Knights before Christmas gala	Fr Kottas Hall, 6:30pm
Sunday, December 14th	Coffee and donuts and St Nick!	Fr Kottas Hall, after 8 and 10
Sunday, December 14th	Angel tree gift return deadline	noon Mass

## From Father Jacob

### **Immaculate Conception**

Monday (12/8) is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a day of obligation in the United States. We celebrate that, by the special grace of God, Our Lady came into being without stain of original sin or the internal division and “bent” to sin that comes with it. This great feast is very good news for all of us, not just for Mary.

**Mary’s immaculate conception makes her the new Eve.** Just as Eve listened to the fallen angel and disobeyed God, and so brought forth death for all of her children, so Mary, the new Eve, listened to the angel Gabriel and gave her obedience to God, and so has brought Life-eternal Life!-to all of her children. We are Eve’s children in the flesh and Mary’s children by grace of adoption in Jesus Christ!

**Mary’s immaculate conception protects her “yes” for all of humanity.** Mary gives the angel Gabriel her “yes” to God, the yes that will join God and man in Jesus Christ and which allows us to be joined to the life of God in Jesus Christ!

How appropriate and right that that “yes” can be a full and perfect yes, not divided or second-guessed, because Eve is preserved from the division and internal war that results in us from sin.

**Mary’s immaculate conception shows us our future!** Mary lived her free from all that would separate her from God...and God wants you to live that way too! In Christ he restores us to friendship with Him, and by walking the way of Christ he is making us saints step-by-step. Someday, please God, we will reign in Heaven with Our Lady and all of us will then be immaculate too!

Mary, the Immaculate Conception is the patroness of the United States of America, so tomorrow is our national feast day! We will have Masses:

**7:00-7:40am** -new, earlier time

**12 noon**

**6pm**-featuring music with Steve Beck

### **Historic Homes tour**

I consider us very fortunate to be included in the 2025 Historic Homes for the Holidays tour. Many thanks to Maxine Marshall who lead our church and rectory decorators and to all the dedicated parishioners who have helped make our parish beautiful for Christmas and throughout the year. Thanks also to many of you who are volunteering this afternoon to greet those who visit us!

The rectory has been beautifully decorated for the occasion. You are welcome to walk through the first floor after any of the Sunday Masses.

### **Knights before Christmas**

Remember to buy your tickets for the Knights before Christmas dinner and dance! The dance is open to anyone who wishes to attend, not just Knights. It is a fundraiser for the many good causes the Knights support.

### **Parish Directories for Christmas!**

Our new parish directories have been delivered! We will be distributing them after Masses the weekend of December 13th/14th.

### **Angel Tree**

Thank you to so many of you who have taken kids from our Angel Tree! Please remember to return your gift wrapped and with the tag attached by noon Mass on Sunday, December 14th. Please also say a prayer for your kid and family!

### **Santa**

Bring your kids, grandkids, and nieces and nephews and invite the neighbors to our coffee and donuts with Santa after the 10am Mass next Sunday, December 14th. See you there!

December 7, 2025  
Second Sunday of Advent

	Saturday 4:00pm Mass	Sunday 8:00am Mass	Sunday 10:00am Mass	Sunday 12:00pm Mass
	Dec 13, 2025	Dec 14, 2025	Dec 14, 2025	Dec 14, 2025
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Emma Rodenburg Nicolas Rodenburg	Owen Juranek Dawson Smith Morgan Garst	Sarah Lighthipe Leighton Finnegan Thomas Biederman	Evelyn Duitsman John Duitsman
<b>Lectors</b>	Erik King Dylies King	Jean Coughlin Noah Smith	Tony Peterson Mike Noon	Aubree Brandau Casey Peters
<b>EMHC</b>	Debbie Ryan Wayne Stangl Mary Hazen	Sheryl Garst Nicole Juranek	Jon Garrigan Maureen Garrigan Jennifer Lighthipe	Ellen Dewitt
<b>Ushers</b>	Jack Gross Linda Bonham Fred Schaben William Stoshal	Jeff Veit Eric Ledger Keith Wirtz Jim Havermann	Nate Noon Mike Nielsen Dan Lighthipe Margine Henry	Chris Olson Trevor Yanovich Rob Peters Mikey Donovan

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Monday, 12/8

7:00 am - Joann Kirlin †

12:00 pm -

6:00 pm - George & Pat Olson †

### Tuesday, 12/9

12:00 pm - Christine Fink †

### Wednesday, 12/10

8:00 am - Linda Schmitt †

### Thursday, 12/11

12:00 pm - Clarence Hansen †

5:30 pm -

### Friday, 12/12

8:00 am - Deceased Members  
of the Altar Society

### Saturday, 12/13

4:00 pm - Richard Corrin †

### Sunday, 12/14

8:00 am - St Peter's Parish

10:00 am - Frank Paluka †

12:00 pm - William Roarty †

### READINGS FOR: December 14, 2025

1ST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

2ND READING: Romans 15:4-9

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

### Immaculate Conception Holy Day Masses

#### Monday, December 8th

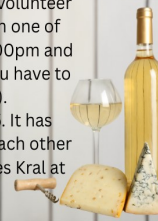
7:30Am, 12:00pm, & 6:00pm



### Volunteers Needed

We are looking for people who would like to volunteer to host one of our Wine & Cheese Parties on one of the first weekends of the month after the 4:00pm and 12:00pm Mass. It is no cost to you and all you have to commit to is one (or more if you like).

The Wine & Cheese Parties started in 2025. It has been a way for parishioners to get to know each other and visit. If interested please contact Dolores Kral at 402-639-6501



## The World According to Bob

- Running in your 40's is a great way to meet people. Today I met 2 paramedics, 3 nurses, a cardiologist and almost met Jesus..
- I just wanted to let you know that one day I will stop annoying you, but not today. Tomorrow is not looking good either.
- A man was spotted with a wheelbarrow full of horseshoes, four leaf clovers, and a rabbit's foot. He was pushing his luck.
- A good woman is there to remind you that none of this would have happened if you'd have listened in the first place.

### Father's Thought for the Week

**Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!**

**Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight his paths.**

One of the best ways we can *prepare* to celebrate Christmas, *prepare* for the second coming of Christ, and *prepare* to see Christ in our own daily lives is to **go to confession**, especially if it has been a few months or longer!

*Women's Group Christmas Party*  
**Tuesday, Dec. 9th at 6:30pm  
in the Social Hall**

**Come join us for a night of food, fun & fellowship!  
All Women of the Parish are invited!  
Please bring an appetizer or dessert.**



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Knights of Columbus  
Fundraiser

Help support our charitable programs!



Car Wash codes valid at any of the 8 locations listed on the cards, 3 in Council Bluffs and 5 in Omaha.

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Blower

These make great stocking stuffers!

Info or order email:

kofc.carwash@icloud.com

Sales End December 15th

Sales after Mass in the Social Hall  
December 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>  
after all the Masses  
December 14<sup>th</sup>  
after the 8am & 10am Mass


**THE**  
*Knights*  
**BEFORE**  
*Christmas*

*Join us for an elegant evening of fine dining, drinks, dancing & Christmas cheer.*

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 St. Peter's office

**FOR ONLINE PREORDERS:**  
 Venmo - saintpeterscb  
 Please include name and number  
 of guests in memo

**DECEMBER 13, 2025 @ 6:30 PM**  
 FATHER KOTTAS SOCIAL HALL | 1 BLUFF STREET COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA 51503  
 Email: [Knightsbeforechristmas@gmail.com](mailto:Knightsbeforechristmas@gmail.com)  
 with inquiries

Are you looking for a new form of prayer this Advent? Want to try something you might not be familiar with?

Join us every Sunday during Advent for Solemn Vespers. It begins with Adoration at 4pm and Vespers at 5pm. This is a very peaceful and relaxing prayer service to wrap up our weekend. Solemn Vespers are in English. They are lead by different priests in the city each Sunday.



## SOLEMN VESPERS

Sundays of Advent | 5:00 PM

Corpus Christi Church

*Vespers will take about 30 minutes and will be in English.*

  
**Take a Sweet**  
**PEEK**  
*at Kindergarten*

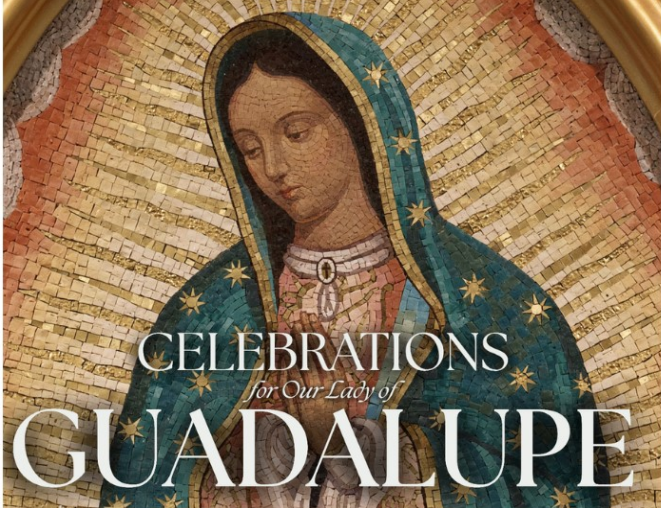
Come see what makes Saint Albert Catholic such a special place to learn and grow! Join us for a SWEET PEEK at Kindergarten - a fun and friendly event where prospective families can explore classrooms, meet our amazing teachers, and get a taste of what kindergarten life is all about on the Hill.

**Tuesday, December 9th**  
**5:00pm - 7:00pm**

Saint Albert Catholic  
 400 Gleason Ave  
 Council Bluffs, IA 51503

Learn more about Saint Albert



  
**CELEBRATIONS**  
*for Our Lady of*  
**GUADALUPE**

**December 12, 2025**

5:00AM - Las Mañanitas with Mariachi  
 8:00AM - Mass in English  
 6:00PM - Solemn Mass in Spanish  
 7:00PM - Fiesta (dancers, food, and banda)

Corpus Christi Church | 3304 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. Council Bluffs, IA 51501

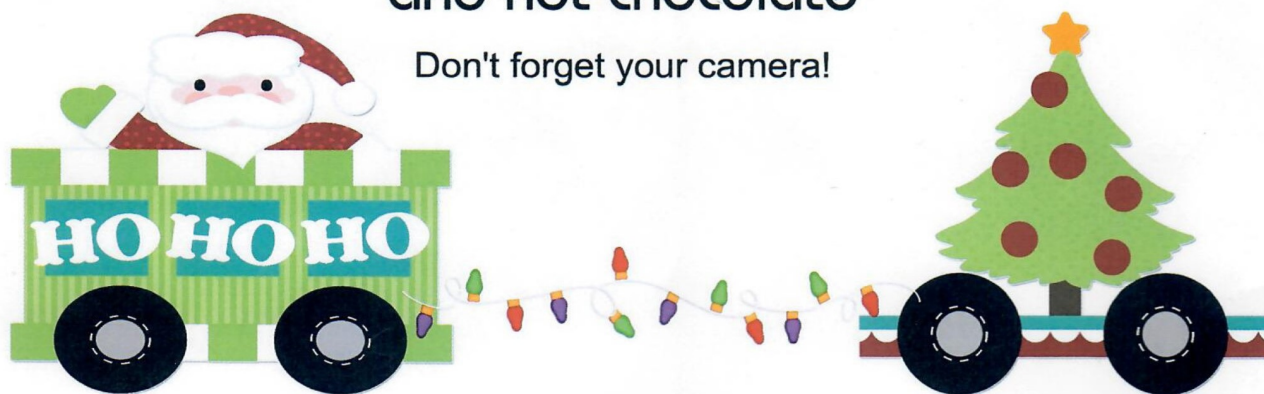


Santa Claus  
is coming to  
St. Peter's Church

Sunday, December 14, 2025  
following the 10:00 a.m. mass  
Fr. Kottas Social Hall

Visit with Santa and enjoy  
rolls, cookies, juice, milk  
and hot chocolate

Don't forget your camera!



Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and the Parish Life Committee

# ST. JOSEPH

CATHOLIC CEMETERY EST. 1864

St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery Association  
1 Bluff Street, Council Bluffs, IA 51503  
Cemetery Manager 712-318-1024  
Cemetery Manager /12-318-1024

St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery Association is pleased to offer artificial outdoor winter wreaths this year to Council Bluffs, Lewis Township, and Garner Township cemeteries. The wreaths and arrangements will be placed on the graves by Christmas and will remain until the middle of March.

To place an order, please fill out the form below and return to the St Peter's office by December 19th. You may pay when you order or we can bill you after placement. Please contact Adam Thomas at 712-318-1024 with questions.

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

24" decorated Wreath \$50.00



Please remember: Council Bluffs, Lewis Township, and Garner Township cemeteries only.

For the grave of: \_\_\_\_\_

Cemetery name: \_\_\_\_\_

Location or directions: \_\_\_\_\_

For the grave of: \_\_\_\_\_

Cemetery name: \_\_\_\_\_

Location or directions: \_\_\_\_\_

For the grave of: \_\_\_\_\_

Cemetery name: \_\_\_\_\_

Location or directions: \_\_\_\_\_

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*St Anne's Altar Society*  
*Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> 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.*

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With Our Catholic Faith*



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### Knights of Columbus Council 1045



Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> 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

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