

ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

1 Bluff St, Council Bluffs, IA 51503

712-318-3030

www.saintpeterscb.org



August 9, 2026 Nineteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday, August 11th

Women's Prayer Group
6:30pm, Social Hall

Saturday, August 22nd

Bingo Night
5:30pm, Social Hall

Wednesday, August 26th

9th Grade Confirmation Meeting
6pm Social Hall
10th Grade Confirmation Meeting
7pm, Social Hall

Thursday, August 27th

Homeschool Mass & Gathering
12pm, Church/Social Hall

Monday, August 31st

Knight of Columbus Meeting
6pm, Social Hall

Wednesday, September 2nd

First Reconciliation/Communion Parent Meeting
6pm, Social Hall
Religious Education Parent Meeting K-1,
3-8
7pm, Social Hall

Wednesday, September 9th

Welcome Back Mass & Reception for
Religious Education K-10
6pm, Church/Social Hall

Saturday, September 26th -

Sunday September 27th
Christ Our Life Conference
Casey's Center, Des Moines or
by livestream
Visit christourlifeiowa.com for more
details and for tickets.

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@dmdioocese.org

Associate Pastor

Father Max Carson

mcarson@dmdioocese.org

Hospital & Nursing Home Chaplain

Father Emmanuel Offiong

712-406-0094

emetof@yahoo.com

Deacons

Deacon Pat Snook

patricksnook51503@yahoo.com

Director of Religious Education

Heather Olson

redirector@saintpeterscb.org

Office Manager

Tracy Carlson

officemanager@saintpeterscb.org

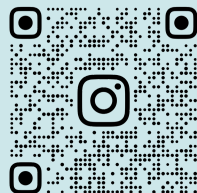
Maintenance

Rob Beck

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

Send to redirector@saintpeterscb.org

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STPETERSCB

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From Father Jacob

“Jesus went up on the mountain by himself to pray”

We have such a famous passage in our gospel today. Everyone understandably focuses on the “dramatic” part of the story where Peter walks on the water. Today I want to shift our focus a little bit and think about the beginning: “Jesus went up on the mountain by himself to pray.”

In everything he does, all the miracles, signs, teachings, and even his crucifixion, Jesus runs on prayer. He is always going off by himself to pray, and then even praying in front of everyone and with everyone. Jesus prays the night before he suffers and he even prays from the cross. Of course Jesus prays, he is *one* with the Father: he lives in communion with the Father and the Holy Spirit all the time. Jesus came so that we can live that communion too, so that we can pray.

While Jesus is praying, what are the Apostles doing? They are struggling and laboring against the waves and the wind. If they prayed, the Scripture doesn’t tell us about it. They come to know that there is something out there in the storm, but still they don’t pray. Jesus tells them who he is, and still they don’t pray, they doubt: “Lord *if* it is you...”. Peter throws himself overboard to test the Lord, and still he doesn’t pray. Finally, as he is sinking under the waves, he utters the first prayer of this episode: “Lord, save me!”

We might think of this as something foreign to our experience, but this is just what we so often spend our time doing. Life comes with plenty of waves and wind, which sometimes toss us about. We work and we work, we cast about for something to save us, we might even abandon ship. But in all this, it is when we turn to the Lord that we find “immediately” that he is there, stretching out his hand to us.

Peter could have saved himself a lot of trouble if he had led with prayer. So can we. A great start would be to make 10 minutes daily to review the day with the Lord. You will find that in whatever storms may have come that day, when you look back you will see that he was there.

Back to School Backpack Blessings

The new school year is coming soon! On Sunday, August 23rd we will have a **Backpack Blessing** for all of our parish students. Students should bring their backpacks (packed or empty) to Mass with them and we will bless them after Communion.

Mass Minister Meetings this Month

We’re so grateful to our Mass ministers who serve the parish by proclaiming the word, giving the Eucharist, and organizing our worship. We will have brief Mass minister meetings this month.

If you are already a lector, Eucharistic minister, usher, or altar server, please plan to stay after Mass on your weekend for a 5-10 minute meeting. If you would like to serve the parish in this way, please stay after as well and we will train you!

August 8-9

Lectors

August 22-23 Ushers

August 15-16

Eucharistic Ministers

August 29-30 Altar Servers

Mass Intentions

Tuesday August 11, 2026
12pm Leopoldo Mendoza +
Wednesday. August 12, 2026
8am Bill & Iona Spitznagle +
Thursday August 13, 2026
12pm Roger Wood +
5:30pm Tom Suden +
Friday August 14, 2026
8am Linda Schmitt +
Saturday August 15, 2026
4pm Richard Corrin +
Sunday August 16, 2026
8am Frank & Ruth Holzer +
10am Steve Rosman +
12pm St Peter's Parish

	Saturday 4:00PM	Sunday 8:00AM	Sunday 10:00AM	Sunday 12:00PM
	August 15, 2026	August 16, 2026	August 16, 2026	August 16, 2026
Altar Servers	Emma Rodenburg Nicolas Rodenburg Elizabeth Branson	Evan Veit Jack Veit Noah Smith	Abby Lighthipe Sarah Lighthipe	Mason Olson Emma Thompson
Lectors	Amber Svajgl Jackson Rowan Jackson	Joan Goeser Nicole Juranek	Jon Garrigan Maureen Garrigan	Mary Ramsdell Natalie Veater
EMHC	Toni Hansen Dylies King Erik King	Jim Havermann Debbie Foote	Jennifer Lighthipe Mark Naughton Michelle Naughton	Andrea Barnes
Ushers	Linda Bonham Fred Schaben Jack Gross William Stosahl	Mike Rosloneic Keith Wirtz Mike Skipton Jeff Veit	Dave Bristol Margine Henry Cole Noon Mike Nielsen	Chris Olson Rob Peters

Next Sunday's Readings: August 16, 2026

1st - Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

2nd - Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

Gospel - Matthew 15:21-28

CONNECTED

Organizations & Groups

• ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY

The St Anne's Altar and Rosary Society next meeting is **Thursday, September 3rd** at 6:00pm in the Social Hall. The meeting begins with the reciting of the Rosary followed by a meal and a meeting. Please bring a side dish, if possible. 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, August 20th** at St. Peter's Church. Mass starts at 5:30pm, followed by a potluck meal and the meeting. Women, 18 years and older from all Council Bluffs parishes are always welcome to join us. Visit our website at www.cda330.org.

• KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Our next meeting is **Monday, August 31st** at 6:00 PM in the Social Hall. 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. Please reach out to Sean Dunphy at 402-960-6215 for information or with any questions.

• WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP

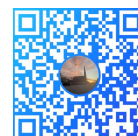
Women's Prayer Group meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm. Our next meeting is **Tuesday, August 11th** at 6:30pm in the social hall. All women of the parish 18+ are invited to join us. Bring a friend and if you want a snack to share.

• 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. Scan the QR code to join our Groupme and stay up to date.



• HOMESCHOOL MASS & LUNCH

Attention all homeschool families – Join us for our next Homeschool Gathering on **Thursday, August 27th**. We will have Mass at 12pm followed by lunch and activities. Stay tuned for more details on lunch. To be added to our list email redirector@saintpeterscb.org

SEEKERS & SAINTS

Faith Formation News



FULLY ALIVE YOUTH GROUP

All teens in 7th-12th grade are invited to join us!

Upcoming Dates:

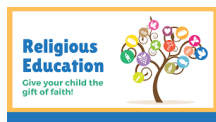
- Sunday, August 16th, 7-9pm at the St Francis Worship Center. Bring a Friend!



EXPLORING CATHOLICISM

For adults interested in joining the Catholic Church!

All are welcome to join us for any of the classes! Classes will start again in the Fall.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Catechists, Assistant Catechist, Confirmation Teacher, Discussion Group Leaders, and Helpers. For more details and job descriptions see the flyer in the bulletin. If interested or need more information contact Heather Olson at 712-318-3030/redirector@saintpeterscb.org



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy is offered during the 10 am Mass for children in PK-2nd (generally those who have not received Holy Communion). This provides an environment for young children to hear and learn about God's Word in the Sunday readings. The purpose is for children to engage and become active participants in the Mass celebration and to help them grow in their faith. Children are dismissed from Mass before the First Reading and rejoin after the Homily. There is no need to register.

BEYOND THE PARISH

News From Across the Diocese

• CHRIST OUR LIFE - SAVE THE DATE

The Christ Our Life Conference will be held September 26-27 at Casey's Center in Des Moines. Go to ChristOurLifeIowa.com to purchase tickets and for the list of speakers. In person or Livestream. The cost is \$30 for the entire weekend and 23 and under are FREE. To hear world class speakers, learn more about your faith, be inspired, worship and praise God in community and experience the joy of His presence! Come for all or stay for some. Let's Believe...Live...and Celebrate Our Faith!

• TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST RENUNION

The TEC, Teens Encounter Christ, reunion is coming and we'd love to see you there! It is on Saturday, Aug 8, 2026, 2:00-6:30 pm at Lake Anita State Park, Shelter #5 (55111 750th St; Anita, IA. Come and hear what's new with TEC, meet old friends, make new friends and share in a potluck dinner and music.

Any questions? Email Amy Peterson, youthministry@stpatrickcb.org

The World According To Bob

- Me at the restaurant: "I'd like a burger." The waitress: "Would you like the plant-based burger?" Me: "Would you like Monopoly money?"
- Did you know that if you have 5 inches of fat around your stomach you can prevent a bullet from reaching your internal organs? You're not fat; you're armored. Go get that cookie!
- A man and woman were married for many years. Their arguments were loud enough neighbors could hear them. They heard the man yell, "When I die, I'll dig my way out of the ground and haunt you for the rest of your life!" One evening the man passed away. At the funeral, the neighbors nervously asked the widow, "Aren't you scared that he might actually come back and haunt you?" She smiled and calmly replied, "Let him dig. I had him buried upside down and I know he won't stop and ask for directions."



St Peter's BINGO NIGHT

*Looking for an exciting way
to spend your evening?*

*Join us for Bingo Night at St Peter's and experience the thrill
of winning big while having a blast with friends and family!*

Saturday, August 22nd

**Doors Open at 5:30pm and
BINGO begin at 6:30pm**

**Food & Drink available for purchase (no outside food allowed).
Card Packages starting at \$8.**



**Would you like to volunteer to
help with our BINGO nights?
Contact Heather at 402-250-7073.**



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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

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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.

M WEEKLY ELECTRIC
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Senior Pictures Families Events

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Contact Adam Thomas 712-318-1024

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ST. PETER'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



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2026-2027**



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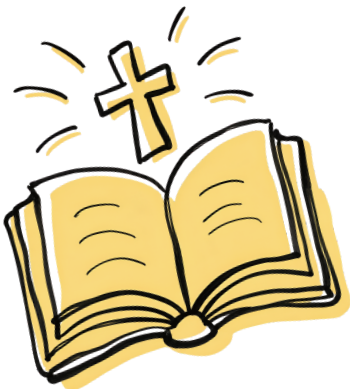


K-10TH GRADE

Register before 8/20 to receive the early bird
registration fee of \$50 (\$75 after 8/20)

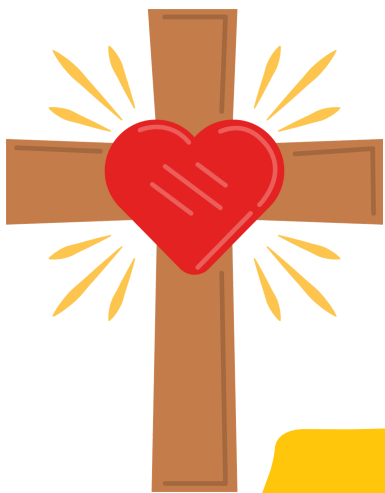
<https://forms.gle/wFtdi5Xtkgv1TMcP7>

We look forward to partnering with you in your child's faith journey!



All families within the parish should be aware of the obligation to enroll their children, from grades 1 through 10, in either the parish Religious Education program or a parochial school each year. This is essential for their ongoing spiritual growth and religious education. If your child is attending public school and is in 1st, 6th, 7th, or 8th grade this year, it is imperative that they enroll this year in order to receive the sacraments next year.

Questions? Contact Heather Olson at 712-318-3030/redirector@saintpeterscb.org



We Need YOU!

**Our Religious Education program
is looking to fill a few openings**

- **Confirmation Teacher** – Prepare and teach weekly sessions on Wednesday nights for Confirmation. This is a weekly commitment every Wednesday from 7:15pm–8:15pm.
- **Confirmation Discussion Group Leader** – Assist with leading small group discussion on Wednesday nights for Confirmation students. This is a weekly commitment every Wednesday from 7:15pm–8:15pm.
- **Wednesday Night Support/Help** – Hall Monitor, Front Door Monitor, and check in. Does not have to be every Wednesday.
- **Substitute Catechist (All Grades)** – Teach prepared lesson when the teacher is not available on a Wednesday night Faith Formation.

Make a difference
in a child's faith
journey!

If interested or for more information contact:

Heather Olson

712-318-3030

redirector@saintpeterscb.org





Oktoberfest Kurier

Save the Date

St Peter's Catholic Church 56th Annual Oktoberfest
Sunday, October 11th from 11am-3pm
St Albert Catholic School - 400 Gleason Ave

Silent Auction

We are in need of silent auction items. The best items are things you couldn't just get at a store. Some examples are homemade or specialty items (any woodworkers out there?), tickets to a game (hint hint season ticket holders), or a weekend at a cabin (own a lake house?), theme basket (ask your family & friends to help!)

Sponsors Needed

We are seeking sponsors in any amount for carnival games, rootbeer kegs, cotton candy, bounce haus, raffle prizes, polka band and more!

If you are interested in being a sponsor contact the parish office or email
officemanager@saintpeterscb.org

BINGO Prizes

Bingo Prizes Needed for All Ages
We are looking for prizes suitable for both adults and children. Here are a few suggestion: puzzles, coloring books, games and art supplies. Please ensure that all donated items are brand new.



coming soon

Be looking for ticket, raffle, and volunteer opportunities at the beginning of September.



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Have Questions?

Corpus Christi - Kendall McGrath - faithformation@corpuschristii.org
St. Patrick - Amy Peterson - youthministry@stpatrikcb.org
St. Peter - Heather Olson - redirector@saintpeterscb.org