

# ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

1 Bluff St, Council Bluffs, IA 51503

712-318-3030

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



February 28, 2026 Second Sunday Of Lent

## Upcoming Events:

### Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>

Hospitality Sunday  
(Coffee & Rolls/Wine & Cheese)  
After All Masses

### Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>

Knights Of Columbus  
New Members 1st/3<sup>rd</sup> Degree  
Exemplification 1:15pm

### Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>

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

### Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>

Adoration  
3-9PM - Church

### Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>

Altar & Rosary Society Meeting  
6pm - Social Hall

### Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>

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

### Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>

KOC Shrimp Boil  
5:30-7:30pm - Social Hall

### Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>

First Communion Retreat  
12-3pm - Church/Social Hall

To see all events or flyers go to our  
website [www.saintpeterscb.org](http://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

712-308-3030

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

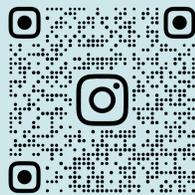
Tracy Carlson  
officemanager@saintpeterscb.org

### 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

### St Peter's Book Club

#### *The Seven Pillars of Catholic Spirituality* Chapter 7: The Rosary

This week I read the seventh and final chapter of our Christmas giveaway book by Matthew Kelley: *The Seven Pillars of Catholic Spirituality*. Let's talk about it!

The rosary is a simple prayer, although people who pray it for the first time might not think so! Kelly proposes that one reason people are reluctant to pray the Rosary might be because we think things must be complex to be effective, or at least to be effective for the complex individuals we usually consider ourselves to be. Doing a simple thing every day can be enormously powerful; think about the power of brushing your teeth, or of setting your alarm. The power of these habits comes from doing them daily, not from how complicated you make your alarm settings or tooth care routine. *Do you have daily prayer habits? Do they help you or might they be due for a change?*

Kelly puts emphasis on meditating on the mysteries, and he is right! The mysteries of Jesus's life are at the heart of the rosary along with the Scriptural words. Sometimes people get discouraged by the rosary because when we start we can't yet meditate on the mysteries, we need to first learn all the prayers and the order of the beads. Don't be discouraged! I loved the list of the mysteries along with a brief meditation on the virtue shown by each one. As Kelly said, there are many different ways to pray the Rosary. *Do you have a favorite way to pray the rosary? What does it look like?*

## Annual Diocesan Appeal

This week most of you will have received the appeal letter from the Diocese for the Annual Diocesan Appeal. **Thank you** to so many of you for your annual support. If you haven't given to the ADA before, please consider doing so in any amount this year! The ADA supports our seminarians, it provides health insurance for the priests of the Diocese, including me, it supports evangelization efforts that any individual parish couldn't sustain, it supports the work of Catholic Charities, including here in Council Bluffs, and a lot more! It is well worth our support.

Watch a short video  
from Bishop Joensen



Give to the Appeal  
online!



## Soup Supper

We had a wonderful first soup supper this past Tuesday! Many thanks to all who brought food to share, and especially to the Building and Grounds Committee who hosted this past week. The free will donation brought in **\$269**, which this week will be given to our **Rice Bowl collection** supporting Catholic Charities in the Diocese, and abroad.

## Mass Intentions

### Tuesday, March 3

Noon Roger Snook +

### Wednesday, March 4

8am Michelle Crowder +

### Thursday, March 5

Noon Leopold Mendoza +

5:30pm Deceased members of  
Altar Society

### Friday, March 6

8am Vanessa McIntosh +

### Saturday, March 7

4pm St Peter's Parish

### Sunday, March 8

8am Linda Schmitt +

10am Craig Suden +

Noon Jim Gorman

## Ministry Schedule

	Saturday 4:00pm Mass	Sunday 8:00am Mass	Sunday 10:00am Mass	Sunday 12:00pm Mass
	Mar 7, 2026	Mar 8, 2026	Mar 8, 2026	Mar 8, 2026
Altar Servers	Emma Rodenburg Nicolas Rodenburg	Joseph Schmedding Morgan Garst Noah Smith	Sarah Lighthipe Carter Rossbund Aiden Gaul	Evelyn Duitsman John Duitsman
Lectors	Jenny Van Soelen Amy Rallis	Peter Finn Sean Dunphy	Tony Peterson Mike Noon	Aubree Brandau Casey Peters
EMHC	Debbie Ryan Wayne Stangl Mary Hazen	Sheryl Garst Nicole Juranek	Ed Fink Sandy Fritzsche Patty Gantt	Cindy Bussey
Ushers	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 Mason Olson

### Next Sunday's Readings:

March 8, 2026

1st - Exodus 17:3-7

2nd - Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Gospel - John 4:5-42

### The World According To Bob

- If a king sleeps on a king mattress and a queen sleeps on a queen mattress. Does a prince sleep on an heir mattress?
- I had a great childhood, Dad used to roll me down hills in tires. Those were "good years".
- Yesterday I couldn't figure out if someone was waving at me or at a person behind me. In other news I was fired from my lifeguard job.

## CONNECTED

### Organizations & Groups

#### • ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY

The St Anne's Altar and Rosary Society will meet on Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in the Social Hall. The meeting begins with the reciting of the Rosary followed by a meal and a meeting. Dinner will be provided so no need to bring a side dish. All women of the parish 18 and older are invited to attend.

#### • CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS, COURT ST ANTHONY #330

The next Catholic Daughter Meeting is on Thursday, March 19th 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](http://www.cda330.org). Questions? Contact Brenda Dresen, Regent at 402-238-5951.

#### • KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The St. Peter's Knights of Columbus will be welcoming new members with a 1st/3rd Degree Exemplification on March 1st at 1:15 (following noon mass). All interested men of the parish over 18 years old are invited and encouraged to join. We have a deep need and a strong desire to grow our council. Please reach out to Sean Dunphy at 402-960-6215 with questions and for further details. Being a Knight is a tremendous opportunity to live your faith as a catholic gentleman.

#### • WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Women's Prayer Group will NOT meet in March. Join us on April 14th 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](mailto: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, professionals, singles, married couples, or young families. Our next meeting is Sunday, March 8th at 6pm in the social hall. All are welcome! Bring friends!

# SEEKERS & SAINTS

## Faith Formation News



### FULLY ALIVE YOUTH GROUP

Fully Alive Youth Group next meeting is Sunday, March 1st from 7-9pm at the St Francis Worship Center, 238 S 6th St. We will talk about "Listening Like Christ" from our Pope Leo Series. Meet new friends or bring a friend!

#### Upcoming Dates:

March 1 - Listening Like Christ

March 15 - Pirate Putt/Dinner \*Time Change 5-8pm

April 5 - No Meeting (Easter Sunday)

Got questions? Contact Heather Olson at [religiouseducationdirector@saintpeterscb.org](mailto:religiouseducationdirector@saintpeterscb.org)



### EXPLORING CATHOLICISM

**For adults interested in joining the Catholic Church!**

**All are welcome to join us for any of the classes!**

March 1 - "Breaking Open the Word" exploring the readings from Mass—St Peter's

March 8 - Commandments 5, 4, 6, 9: our duties to Life & Family—St Patrick

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

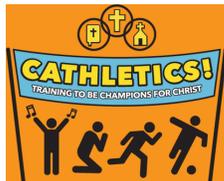
### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> is our First Communion Retreat. Students and their family will attend 12:00 Mass and then students will come to the social hall for their retreat until 3pm. Lunch will be served.



### 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://stpatrickcb.org)). This exhibit includes 42 beautifully designed informational panels.

#### • 1<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL BIRTHRIGHT ARTS & CRAFT FAIR

The First Annual Birthright of Council Bluffs Arts & Craft Fair is **Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> 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

# Knights of Columbus



## Shrimp Boil

St Peter's  
Council 1045

**Adults**  
**\$20**

**extra shrimp boat**  
**\$10**

**Kids**

**12 and under**  
**\$10**



**Friday March 6th**

**From 5:30pm-7:30pm**

**Fr Kottas Social Hall, 1 Bluff St. Council Bluffs**

### **Menu:**

**Boiled Shrimp, Cajun Roasted Potatoes, Mac & Cheese,  
Dirty Rice, Bread, and Cookie**

**Beer and wine available for purchase.**

**Take out available. Credit cards accepted.**

# Nun<sup>+</sup>

# RUN!

Explore Religious Life!

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 [stpattickcb.org](http://stpattickcb.org).

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

**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](mailto:carsonm@saintalbertschools.org)



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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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## 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

## FINNISHED CONCRETE

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