



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

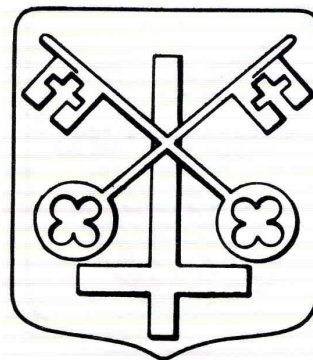
Baptisms, Weddings, etc

Call or email the office!

PARISH WEBSITE www.saintpeterscb.org

PARISH PHONE NUMBER 712-318-3030

PARISH ROBOCALL NUMBER 1-800-679-0847



Save the Date!

Sunday, November 16th	Seminarian support breakfast	9-11:30 am, Fr Kottas Social Hall
Thursday, November 27th	Thanksgiving Mass	8am, church
	No noon or 5:30 Mass on Thanksgiving	
Sunday, December 7th	Historic Homes tours St Peter's	1-4 pm, Church, Hall, and Rectory

From Father Jacob

**Lo, the day is coming, blazing like an oven, when
all the proud and all evildoers will be stubble,
and the day that is coming will set them on fire,
leaving them neither root nor branch,
says the Lord of hosts.
But for you who fear my name, there will arise
the sun of justice with its healing rays.**

Perhaps it is frightening to think of “the Day of the Lord”, since it will be a time of judgement and destruction. And God doesn’t try too hard to talk us out of that fear: Jesus goes on at length about destruction, difficulties, and judgement whenever he talks about his return in glory.

We should remember who it is that we are going to meet at the end: Jesus! It is sometimes awkward or even unpleasant to run into a coworker, teacher, or old acquaintance in public, but it is never awkward to run into a friend! We can live as friends of Jesus, and then we need not fear the end whenever it comes.

But what about all that destruction of evildoers? Isn’t that mean? No, it is not mean. I think when we think that God is being mean here we have not actually looked at or grappled with the serious evil that is in the world. Just in the past few months I have visited with several people who have been victims of horrible crimes. Hearing their stories made we want to go destroy some evildoers myself, but I know that is not my place, *because it is God’s place*.

Evil must be and should be destroyed. A sinner can be destroyed in one of two ways: a person can repent and change their ways in this life, and so destroy the sinner *by ceasing to be a sinner*, or if they will not, then they can cling to their sin and follow it into the fire, but sin will be destroyed either way, and everybody gets to choose what they will do.

In the meantime we have a privileged time in this life to destroy the sin in our own lives, to live as friends of God by the help of His grace, and so live without fear of seeing the Lord, our friend!

Advent Materials

This week we have out our wonderful Advent materials for children, teens, and adults. Please take materials home for your family! The only condition is that if you take it, you have to try to use it!

Many thanks to the Spirituality Committee for choosing and ordering the materials for us. I am excited about their choices this year!

Thanksgiving Mass

Mark your calendars and adjust your cooking schedules and join us for Thanksgiving Mass on Thursday, November 27th at **8am**.

The Mass is **the** act of Thanksgiving, when we give ourselves and all our gifts along with Christ to the glory of God the Father, so it is the perfect start to a Thanksgiving Day. I hope you’ll join us!

USCCB on immigration

The bishops of the United States had their annual meeting this past week in Baltimore, and among their usual (and usually pretty boring) business they voted nearly unanimously on a joint statement on immigration reform and immigration enforcement. It’s rare that all the bishops speak together about an issue like this (their last similar statement was in 2013). I know that issues that are political often cause a great deal of tension, but I would encourage you to read their teaching with an open mind.

You can find the bishops’ statement on immigration enforcement and reform here:



November 16, 2025
Thirty Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

	Saturday 4:00pm Mass	Sunday 8:00am Mass	Sunday 10:00am Mass	Sunday 12:00pm Mass
	Nov 22, 2025	Nov 23, 2025	Nov 23, 2025	Nov 23, 2025
Altar Servers	Bianca Cihacek Ellianna Cihacek	Noah Smith Joseph Schmedding Evan Veit	Cole Noon Connor Noon Ali Hamilton	Ben Johnsen Keegan McCaffrey
Lectors	Jim Beck Rod Nuss	Peter Finn Sean Dunphy	Jon Garrigan Maureen Garrigan	Mary Bratton Cindy Bussey
EMHC	Dylies King Eric King Toni Hansen	Jim Havermann Nicole Juranek	Eric Ely Mary Brockelsby Jeromy Brockelsby	Trevor Yanovich
Ushers	Jack Gross Linda Bonham Fred Schaben Brody Pellett	Mike Ring Velda Ring Russ Goesser Andy Juranek	Dave Bristol Bryan Carolus Jill Clevenger Peter Clevenger	Chris Olson Trevor Yanovich Rob Peters Chris Maher

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, 11/18

12:00 pm -

Wednesday, 11/19

8:00 am - Claire Kirlin †

Thursday, 11/20

12:00 pm - Deceased Members
of the Altar Society

5:30 pm - Molly Ann McGinn †

Friday, 11/21

8:00 am - Linda Schmitt †

Saturday, 11/22

4:00 pm - Rosan Doran †

Sunday, 11/23

8:00 am - St Peter's Parish

10:00 am - Christine Fink †

12:00 pm - William Roarty †



READINGS FOR: November 23, 2025

1ST READING: II Samuel 5:1-3

2ND READING: Colossians 1:12-20

GOSPEL: Luke 23:35-43

The World According to Bob

- A woman returned home to find someone robbing her house. She yelled "Stop! Acts 2:38!" He stopped in his tracks. She called the police. As the officer cuffed the robber he asks "Why did you just stand there? She just quoted a Bible verse." The robber replied "She said she had an axe and two 38's."
- My wife came home from Walmart saying the cashier was really mean. I asked her if she was in the self checkout. That's how the fight started.
- A guy goes to a Halloween Party with a woman on his back. The host asks him "What are you?" He replies "I'm a snail." The host says "Who's that on your back?" The man replies "That's Michelle."



**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS
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The next Catholic Daughter Meeting is on Thursday, November 20, 2025 at St. Peter's Catholic Church. The Memorial Mass for deceased CDA members starts at 5:30pm, followed by a potluck meal at 6:00pm, and the meeting at 6:30pm. Women, 18 years and older from all Council Bluffs parishes are always welcome to join us. Visit our website at www.cda330.org.

Father's Thought for the Week

do not be terrified, for such things must happen

When we look around and see wars, conflict, earthquakes, famines, and plagues, are we surprised? Afraid?

Why?

Such things have been happening as long as there have been humans, and Jesus tells us they are going to keep happening until the end. There's no need to be surprised by or afraid of human weakness. Instead we can trust in Divine strength.



Community Wide Thanksgiving Dinner

The Community Wide Thanksgiving Dinner is collectively provided by local churches and organizations for many in the community who, for one reason or another, need our assistance to celebrate the holiday.

The following items are needed: Cream of Mushroom Soup, Bouillon, Canned Green Beans, Fried Onions, Stove Top Stuffing, Large Roasting Bags, Ziploc Sandwich bags, Coffee

Please leave your donations in the bins marked with a turkey and
Thank you for helping others.

Additionally, we could use more volunteers to help with the following preparations: delivery coordination (thanksgiving morning & some prep Wednesday), phone reservations (Weekdays Nov 10-21), Set up on Wednesday, Nov 26th, filling and delivering orders on Thursday, Nov 27. Please email cbthanksgivingdinner@gmail.com to volunteer.

St Peter's Knights of Columbus Annual Seminarian Breakfast



Join us today from
9:00AM-11:30AM

We will be serving Biscuits & Gravy,
Sausage, Bacon, Scrambled Eggs, Fruit
Parfait, and Coffee/Juice/Milk.

The cost is Free Will Donation.
ALL proceeds collected will go directly to
the seminarians from our diocese.

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april.ely525@gmail.com

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

Saint Albert Catholic
400 Gleason Ave
Council Bluffs, IA 51503

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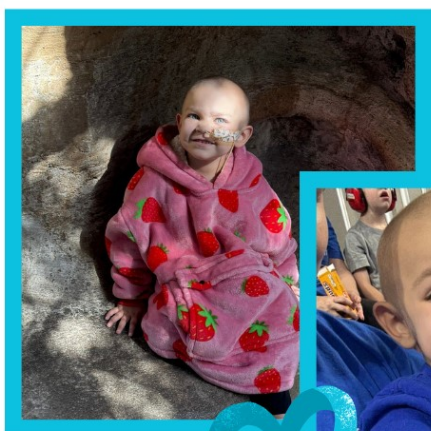
FINNLEY'S Spaghetti Feed



22 NOVEMBER 2025

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Tickets: \$15.00 Per Person



St. Patrick's Social Hall
4 Valley View Dr, Council Bluffs, IA 51503





FINNLEY'S STORY



Finnley is doing fantastic. She has started attending school full-time and sees the doctor 1 to 2 times per week. She is getting a G- button to continue obtaining nutritional needs for her kidney health. Finnley's kidney works at a max of 30% due to stage 4 kidney disease caused by chemotherapy and radiation. Finnley will need a kidney transplant in the future, but she must be 2 years post-chemotherapy treatment (August 2027). Finnley's last scans showed that she is cancer-free. There are a few spots in the colon that we are not sure whether it is cancer or not, so we are going to monitor and scan again more frequently than planned.



We are living life to the fullest with our sassy little Finnley Jean.

Special thanks to Donnie Kenkel and the Knights of Columbus insurance and St Anne's Altar Society of St Peters Catholic Church.

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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.*

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