

ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

1 Bluff St, Council Bluffs, IA 51503

712-318-3030

www.saintpeterscb.org



March 22, 2026 Fifth Sunday Of Lent

Upcoming Events:

Monday, March 23rd

Knights of Columbus Meeting
6pm - Social Hall

Tuesday, March 24th

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

Thursday, March 26th

Adoration
3-9PM - Church

Friday, March 26th

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 4th

Candidates and Elect: 9am
Easter Vigil: 8pm

Sunday, April 5th

Easter!
8am, 10am, 12 noon

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

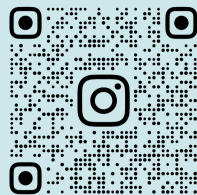
officemanager@saintpeterscb.org

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

“Lazarus, come out!”

Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead because he loved Lazarus, and to show his glory and power, but he also shows us *our* story. The story of Lazarus is the story of humanity as a whole, the story of our elect who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil, and the story of each of us individually.

First we hear that Lazarus is ill, but that it will be for God’s glory. Mankind has been collectively “ill” and bound for death ever since Adam and Eve, and so have you and I because of our individual sins. But God has always had a plan of salvation, both for the world and for you and me, and he can use even our bad situations and even our running from him for the glory of God!

Next, Jesus travels to Bethany at great personal risk, but seemingly too late. He meets the bereaved sisters, who profess faith in him. Jesus comes to be with us, too, even at the great “risk” of becoming human. He comes to heal us, but he doesn’t stop us from dying. Has he come too late to save us, after our world is so marked by sin and death? When we meet Jesus we profess faith in him even though we have seen what sin and death can do.

Finally, Jesus goes to the tomb and calls Lazarus to come out. Jesus calls us out of the tomb as well: away from the death that we were doomed for since Adam and Eve, away from the death that others would give us, and even away from the “tombs” we make for ourselves. “Come out!”

Palm Sunday

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday, when we celebrate the triumphant entry of the Lord into Jerusalem and also read the Passion. **We will begin all our Masses next weekend in the Fr Kottas Social Hall**, where we will bless and distribute palms before processing to the church for the Mass. Mass next weekend will last a little bit longer than an hour because of the extra rites. Please plan accordingly.

Why are the statues covered?

You probably noticed that our beautiful statues are covered in the church. These last two weeks of Lent are called “Passion-tide”, and in this time we prepare for the celebrations and commemorations of Holy Week. We have been veiling images during this time for about a thousand years. It helps us to enter even deeper into the fasting of Lent, it helps us to focus ourselves on the mysteries of Christ that we hear about, and it will make the beauty of the church on Easter even more striking when we can “feast the eyes” on our beautiful church images again.

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 Religious Education and Spirituality & Worship Committees who hosted this past week. The free will donation brought in **\$161**, which this week will be given to the **Rice Bowl collection** that benefits Catholic Charities in our Diocese and around the world.

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, March 24

Noon Roger Snook +
5:30pm Peace and Swift end to
the wars

Wednesday March 25

8am Ben Crowder +

Thursday, March 26

Noon Roger Snook +
5:30pm Emersyn Meeks

Friday, March 27

8am Ed Gorman

Saturday, March 28

4pm Sr Johanna Burnell RSM +

Sunday, March 29

8am Dorothy Snook+
10am Helen Crowder +
12 pm St Peter's Parish

Ministry Schedule

	Saturday 4:00pm Mass	Sunday 8:00am Mass	Sunday 10:00am Mass	Sunday 12:00pm Mass
	Mar 28, 2026	Mar 29, 2026	Mar 29, 2026	Mar 29, 2026
Altar Servers	Nicolas Moses Parker Moses Cooper Moses	Dawson Smith Joseph Schmedding Jack Veit	Sarah Lighthipe Carter Rossbund Aiden Gaul	Evelyn Duitsman John Duitsman
Lectors	Rod Nuss Jenny VanSoelen	Tyler Juranek Landon Poss	Jon Garrigan Maureen Garrigan	Cindy Bussey Susan Lorkovic
EMHC	Wayne Stangl Jaque Liston Lucile Gerjevic	Jim Havermann Norma Finn	Eric Ely Laura Cornelius Mary Brockelsby	Ellen Dewitt
Ushers	Jack Gross Linda Bonham Fred Schaben Mark Assman	Jeff Veit Eric Ledger Keith Wirtz Jim Havermann	Dave Bristol Jill Clevenger Peter Clevenger Margine Henry	Chris Olson Trevor Yanovich Rob Peters Mikey Donovan

Next Sunday's Readings: March 29, 2026

1st - Isaiah 50:4-7

2nd - Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel - Matthew 26:14-27:66

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, April 23rd** 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. 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 th 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 committ 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. Join us for our Easter Party on Divine Mercy Sunday-Sunday, April 12th at 6pm at the St Peter rectory!

SEEKERS & SAINTS

Faith Formation News



FULLY ALIVE YOUTH GROUP

Upcoming Dates:

April 5 - No Meeting (Easter Sunday)

April 19 - Faith In Action

May 3 - Saints

May 17 - Incoming Freshman Night

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



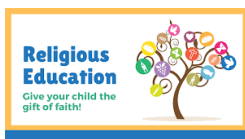
EXPLORING CATHOLICISM

For adults interested in joining the Catholic Church!

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

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

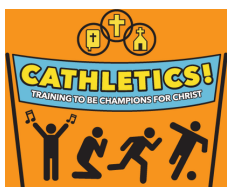
March 29 - Getting Ready for Easter--St Patrick



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.

• INVITATION TO IOWA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

There is still room to come along November 2-12, 2026, to some of the most sacred and beautiful sites in all of Europe! We'll visit great places like Venice, Padua, Florence, Assisi, Rome and so much more! Our time in Rome will include a Papal Audience with Pope Leo XIV! We'll have Mass daily in great Churches and Cathedrals along the way. This pilgrimage is for Knights of Columbus from around the State of Iowa, spouses and widows of former members. Cost for the trip is \$4,599 with departure from either Des Moines or Omaha. For a brochure and more information, contact Fr. Dan Guenther at 712-899-6870 or email frdanguenther@gmail.com

• HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF COUNCIL BLUFFS

Habitat for Humanity is now accepting applications for our Homebuyer Program! This program helps families achieve affordable homeownership through partnership, education, and sweat equity. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about qualifications, application process, and upcoming opportunities, we invite you to attend an information session. For dates and details, please visit our website, HabitatCB.org or contact our office at 712-328-9476 ext. 101.

• 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>

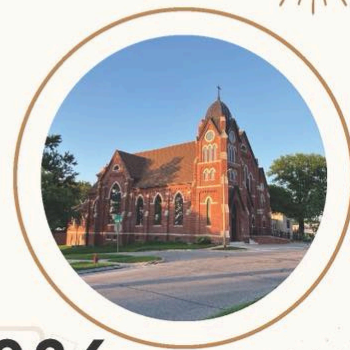
Cost: \$30

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

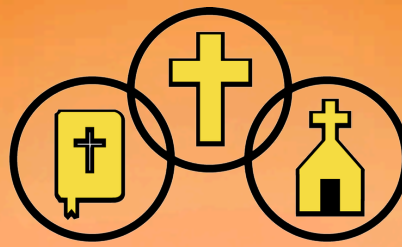
9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Check-in begins at 8:30 AM

Mass with Bishop Joensen at 11:00 AM

Luncheon to follow

crafts
faith



games
music

JOIN THE VBS TEAM

CATHLETICS!

TRAINING TO BE CHAMPIONS FOR CHRIST



Monday, June 8th - Friday June 12th from 5:30pm-8:30pm

To make Vacation Bible School a success we need your help! Whether you are an adult, high schooler or middle schooler, we have a position for you. Can't sign up for the whole week? That's okay! Childcare available.

- Crew Leader
- Assistant Crew Leader
- Music/Drama Assistant
- Station Leader
- Station Assistant
- Kitchen Helper

Yes! I want to help kids learn more about the Bible!



Scan here for volunteer sign up



Questions? Heather Olson at 712-318-3030 or religiouseducationdirector@saintpeterscb.org

The World According To Bob

- A guy tried to sell me a coffin yesterday. I scoffed "that's the last thing I need"
- People don't think grass be wet in the morning. But it dew.
- Chocolate comes from cocoa. Cocoa comes from a tree. That makes it a plant. So a chocolate chip cookie is a salad. Follow me for more.
- Historians Have discovered that technically Moses was the first person to download files from the cloud to a tablet.
- What do you call a sleep wlkng nun? A Roamin Catholic.
- I was abducted by aliens last night. They made me wash my hands, brush my hair, straighten my clothes and eat vegetables. Turns out I was on the mothership.

HOLY WEEK

MARCH 29 - APRIL 5

MARCH 29

PALM SUNDAY
*Saturday 4pm &
Sunday 8am, 10am, & 12pm*

APRIL 2

HOLY THURSDAY
*Mass of the Lord's Supper 6pm
Pray with the Lord in the
"garden" until 10pm*

APRIL 3

GOOD FRIDAY
*Solemn Stations of the Cross 12pm
Commemoration of the Lord's
Passion 6pm*

APRIL 4

EASTER VIGIL
Vigil, 8pm

APRIL 5

EASTER SUNDAY
8am, 10am & 12:00pm

St Peter's Catholic Church, 1 Bluff St, Council Bluffs, IA



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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

Donnie Kenkel, CLTC, FIC
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712-579-9066

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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

FINNISHED CONCRETE

PETER FINN, PARISHIONER
712-310-0249