



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

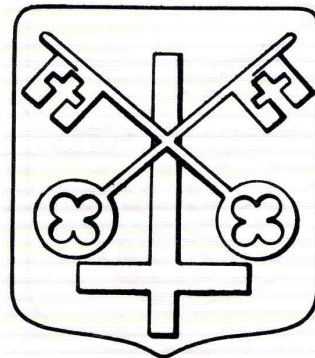
Baptisms, Weddings, etc

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!

Wednesday, September 3rd	Religious Ed opening Mass	St Peter's Church, 6pm
Fri Sept 19th & Sat, Sept 20th	Parish Misson w/the Marion Sisters	St Peter's Social Hall
Saturday, October 4th	City-wide Jubilee Pilgrimage	St Pat's to Corpus Christi
Sunday, October 12th	Oktoberfest!	St Albert Catholic School, 11-3

August 17, 2025
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

From Father Jacob

Kneeling before Mass

I love that here at St Peter's the lectors invite us all to kneel down for half a minute before Mass. What a lovely custom!

I know that some of you already have a habit of prayer established for that time, and some of you want to just be quiet and prepare to focus on the Lord during Mass-great! Keep it up! I also know that some of you are wondering what to do during that time, or maybe feel awkward kneeling there. I have an easy suggestion:

Thank you, Sorry, Please.

Thank you: We come to Mass to give thanks to God because He has so abundantly blessed us. What do you want to thank Him for from the last week? Try to be specific. For example, your family is a great blessing, but you didn't get them this last week. What *about* your family blessed you this last week? When did you experience it? Offer that blessing back to God with the Eucharist at Mass.

Sorry: The first thing we do at every Mass is ask God to forgive our sins. Do I ever actually think about how I have "gravely sinned, in my thoughts, and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do." What are you sorry for this week? Again, be specific. Sure maybe you are often judgmental, but who were you judgmental about *this* week? Bring those things specifically to the start of Mass and ask God's forgiveness.

Please: The priest always offers Mass for some specific intention, which usually is announced before Mass starts, but did you know that you can do the same? We should always have an intention in mind that we are asking God for at every Mass. That can be a loved one either living or dead, some event or blessing, or a problem or need for yourself or someone else. Ask God to receive this Mass for that specific intention.

Parish Mission

I am very excited for our Parish Mission on Friday, September 19th, 6-8pm, and Saturday, September 20th, 8am-12 noon.

The Marian Sisters are coming to give some talks, help us talk together in small groups, and to lead us in prayer. Please plan to attend!

Money Counters

We are in need of detail-oriented folks with free weekday mornings to help us count the Sunday collection. If that could be you, please talk to Father Jacob or call the office about helping with money counting.

Religious Education

The new school year is starting soon, and so is Religious Education! All students in Kindergarten through 10th grade are invited to be part of RE!

All students intending to receive their First Communion this year (Spring 2026) or their confirmation in two years (Spring 2027) are required to enroll.

The first meeting for Religious Education is Wednesday, September 3rd at 6:00 pm at the church for an opening Mass.

Exploring Catholicism

Have you been coming to Mass but have not received the sacraments?

Do you want to join the Church?

Do you or someone you know want to learn what Catholic Christians believe and why?

Sign up for Exploring Catholicism in the back of church and Father will contact you!

Classes are tentatively scheduled for Sunday evenings 3 days per month, starting in September. Exact timing will depend on your availability.

August 17, 2025
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Saturday 4:00pm Mass	Sunday 8:00am Mass	Sunday 10:00am Mass	Sunday 12:00pm Mass
	August 23, 2025	August 24, 2025	August 24, 2025	August 24, 2025
Altar Servers	Nicolas Rodenburg Jack Limpp Nicholas Moses	Audrey Garst Caroline Reineke Claire Reineke	Charlotte Noon Savannah Murray Ali Hamilton	Ben Johnsen Keegan McCaffrey
Lectors	Jim Beck Christine Beck	Peter Finn Sean Dunphy	Tony Peterson John Ross Biederman	Chris Maher Cindy Bussey
EMHC	Lucile Gerjevic	Jim Havermann Sheryl Garst	Laura Cornelius Leslie Fronc Ed Fink	Andrea Barnes
Ushers	Jack Gross Linda Bonham Fred Schaben Josie Limpp	Sue Brownlee Mike Skipton Russ Goeser Velda Ring	Margine Henry Dan Lighthipe Mike Nielsen Nate Noon	Chris Olson Trevor Yanovich Rob Peters Mason Olson

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, 8/19

12:00pm - St Peter's Parish

Wednesday, 8/20

8:00am - Allen & Alberta †

Thursday, 8/21

12:00 pm - Clergy & Seminarians of the Diocese of Des Moines

5:30 pm - Deceased Member of the Knight of Columbus

Friday, 8/22

8:00 am - Diocese of Des Moines

Saturday, 8/23

4:00 pm - Tom Mengel †

Sunday, 8/24

8:00 am - Agnes Moser †

10:00 am - Leopold Mendoza †

12:00 pm - St Peter's Parish

ARE YOU WILLING TO SERVE?

We need your help at Mass with the following ministries:

- Lectors
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Ushers
- Altar Servers

If interested, we will have signup and trainings on the following dates:

- **August 9/10** after Mass for Eucharistic Ministers
- **August 16/17** after Mass for Lectors
- **August 23/24** After Mass for Ushers
- **Wednesday, September 24** at 5pm for 5th-8th grade for Altar Servers at the Worship Center (pizza will be provided)
- **Wednesday, September 24** at 6pm for 9th-12th grade for Altar Servers at the Worship Center (pizza will be provided)

NOTE: If you are a current Mass Minister please stay after the Mass that is your ministry. Plan for only about 15 minutes as it will not be for the entire training.

If you are a current Altar Server please plan to stay after Mass on September 6/7.

READINGS FOR: August 24, 2025

1ST READING: Isaiah 66:18-21

2ND READING: Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

GOSPEL: Luke 13:22-30

The World According to Bob

- Do you know what the pirate paid for his earrings? Buccaneer
- In Jamaica a slice of pie cost \$3.50 and in the Bahamas a slice of pie cost \$5.50. These are the pie rates of the Caribbean.
- When people ask me why I don't have tattoos, I ask them, "Would you put a bumper sticker on a Ferrari?"
- After listening to people talk with masks on I finally understand what Charlie Brown's teacher was saying.

Father's Thought for the Week

In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood.

We are sometimes tempted to think of sin as inevitable, and usually someone else's fault: "I had to lie because of what so-and-so did."

It's not so! No one can ever *make* you sin, and no sin is ever inevitable. Fight! Fight not just against sin, but fight *for* the man or woman God made you to be!



Book Drive for the Jail

There are approximately 280 inmates at the Pottawattamie County Jail
80% are men, 20% are women

The jail library is very understocked. At the Pottawattamie County Jail, inmates have no access to the outdoors at all. There is no yard. They are inside 100% of the time. The St. Peter's book-drive is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support.

Items Allowed:

All books must be SOFT COVER

- Mysteries from authors like James Patterson, Michael Connolly, Steven King
- General popular fiction and novels, and non-fiction like history, war, archeology.
- Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings, and other fantasy, Sci-Fi, etc.
- Anything in the Spanish language. There are a number of inmates who don't speak English
- Self-help books
- Religious books
- Yoga and work-out books
- Meditation books
- **PUZZLE BOOKS:** Crosswords, Word-finders, Sudoku, Adult Connect-the-Dots, Spot-the-Difference Picture Puzzle Books
- **PLAYING CARDS:** regular decks of cards and UNO, etc. (Must be new and unopened at the request of the jail).
- **COLORING BOOKS FOR ADULTS:** Available at Walmart and Target. Adult coloring books have intricate designs and are proven to be calming while requiring concentration and mental engagement.

Items Not Allowed:

We have been requested NOT to give Western Books, Romance Novels, or Text Books, as they have a very high number of those books already.

Annual Diocesan Appeal

If you have not given to the Annual Diocesan Appeal, please do so by using the slips at all the exits, writing a check with Annual Diocesan Appeal clearly written in the memo, or by scanning the QR code below.



Seeking Volunteers For Our Religious Education Program

WE NEED:

- Group Discussion Leader 9 & 10
- Wednesday Night Support/Helpers

Scan the QR code for the list and descriptions of opportunities available in our program!



If you would like to volunteer or have questions
contact Heather Olson, DRE

712-318-3030/402-250-7073 /religiouseducationdirector@saintpeterscb.org

**Attention 9-12th Graders & Their Families
Come Check Out Our New Home!**

**FULLY
ALIVE**
YOUTH GROUP



Sunday August 17th from 5-7pm
St Francis Worship Center, 238 S 6th St

Incoming freshman through high school seniors and their families are invited to attend an Open House & Cookout to celebrate our new space!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION 2025-2026

FOR KINDERGARTEN-GRADE 10

"Welcome Back" Mass

Our year will begin on Wednesday, September 3rd with a Mass at 6:00pm in the church for our families. After Mass there will be a reception with cookies and lemonade in the social hall. We look forward to seeing all our families!

To register your K-10th grade student(s) scan the QR code or go to the following link. The registration form can also be found on our website:

<https://forms.gle/7aacjLyM6ewdhWBG9>



Coming Soon!!
All forms and calendars can be found on our website,
saintpeterscb.org

- Classes are held on Wednesday nights from 6:00pm-7:00pm for K-8th grade and 7:15pm-8:15pm for 9th & 10th Grade Confirmation Students.
- Classes are held at the St Francis Worship Center, 238 South 6th St.
- The fee for students in Religious Education is \$50 per child or \$150 per family of 3 or more students.
- It should be understood by all families of the parish of the obligation to enroll their children, grades 1st-10th, in either the parish Religious Education program or a parochial school each year as part of the ongoing spiritual formation and religious education for the child.

- First Reconciliation/First Communion Parent Meeting, Wednesday, August 27th at 7:00pm in the Social Hall.
- 9th Grade (1st Year Confirmation Prep) Parent/Candidate Meeting Wednesday, August 27th at 6:00pm in the Social Hall.
- 10th Grade (2nd Year Confirmation Prep) Parent/Candidate Meeting Wednesday, August 27th at 6:30pm in the Social Hall.

Questions or need more info?
Contact: Heather Olson DRE
religiouseducationdirector@saintpeterscb.org
712-318-3030/402-250-7073

Sharing Your Heart With Jesus

A Call For Everyone & How To Live It



Parish Mission with the Marion Sisters

Friday, Sept 19th & Saturday, Sept 20th

Friday Schedule

6:00pm

Dinner

7:00pm - 8:30pm

Talk & Small Group

Discussion

Saturday Schedule

8:00am

Mass

8:30am

Light Breakfast

9:00am

Talk & Small Group Discussion

9:45am

Break

10:00am

Talk & Small Group Discussion

10:45am

Break

11:00am-12:00pm

Holy Hour - Guided Prayer with Music - During this time there will be the opportunity for confessions and having a sister pray over you.

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing,
give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in
Christ Jesus for all of you.*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

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

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Knights of Columbus Council 1045

Meetings 4th Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Father Kottas Social Hall

If interested in membership contact the Parish Office at 712-318-3030 or Sean Dunphy at 402-960-6215

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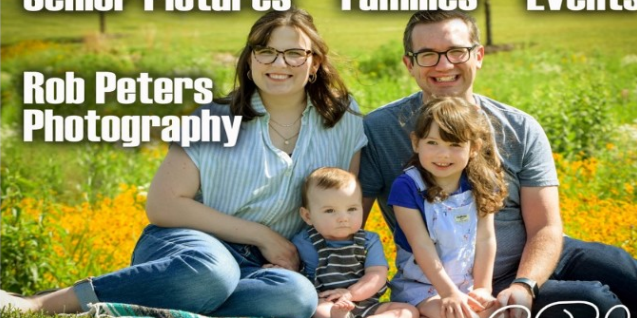
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