



THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

150 Railway St. E., P.O. Box 96, Loretto, MN 55357

Ph: (763) 479-0535 ♦ www.sspap.org ♦ sppoffice@saintsppta.org

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



MAY 17, 2026



“BEHOLD, I
AM WITH
YOU
ALWAYS,
UNTIL THE
END OF THE
AGE.”

~ MATTHEW 28:20

OUR PARISH MISSION

To form and nurture disciples of Jesus Christ in union with the Roman Catholic Church.

Weekend Masses *(All SPP weekend Masses in Church)*

Saturday

4:00pm.....Ss. Peter & Paul
5:30pm.....St. Thomas

Sunday

7:30am.....St. Thomas
9:00am.....Ss. Peter & Paul
10:30am.....St. Thomas

“Temporary” Confession Schedule

Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri7:45–8:15am @ St. Thomas
Tue, Wed, Fri3:30–4pm @ St. Thomas
Wednesdays6:15–7pm @ St. Thomas *(w/Adoration)*
Saturdays7:30–8:15am @ St. Thomas
3–3:45pm @ Ss. Peter & Paul

“Temporary” Weekday Mass Schedule

Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, & Sat.....8:30am @ St. Thomas

Welcome Visitors!

To join our parish, please go to our website, contact the Parish Office, or scan the QR code to the right to be taken to our online registration form.



Sacrament Guidelines

Baptisms:

Make arrangements with the pastor. Copy of Birth Certificate must be submitted, at the latest, one week before the baptism.

Marriages:

Make arrangements with the pastor 6–8 months in advance. Must be a registered parishioner at least six months prior to beginning marriage prep. Cohabiting couples will normally be required to separate before scheduling a wedding.

Archdiocese Victim Assistance Hotline: (651) 291-4475



This weekend we celebrate the great Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. This feast is a testament to Jesus' union with us for all eternity. Think for a moment, the Divine Word of God, descended from the Father to become one of us by the power of the Holy Spirit and was born of Mary. This alone demonstrates God's love for us and desire to unite Himself with us. His only begotten Son died at our hands to become our sacrifice for all humanity's sins. "No greater love can there be," Jesus Himself said, "than to lay down one's life for another."

From
Fr. Glen's

DESK

But Jesus rose from the dead in that same flesh born of Mary, not simply in His divinity. This glorified body of the risen Jesus shows us God's plan for us. We, too, will live forever in a glorified body through faith in Him and following His teaching.

Jesus did not return to heaven to leave us forever, leaving us to wonder what life after death in this world will amount to. When He ascended into heaven in His own glorified body, He showed us that the Father wants us to be in heaven with Him for all eternity in our full humanity, body and soul. As Jesus mounts His throne to shouts of joy in heaven, He is showing us that the gates of heaven are now thrown open to the faithful.

We, too, are called by God to be with Him forever in heaven at His side if only we believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, and follow in His ways. What a great joy this is. On this feast, God the Father is embracing us with His love and showing us His desire to have us with Him forever in heaven!

A MAINTENANCE MINUTE "ACCESS FOR ALL" PROJECT

This week, with the elevator project, we made an opening in the basement foundation for access to the future bathrooms. The foundation was completely made of rock, some granite, and some fieldstone. It took about 6 hours of cutting to get through it all. They will be digging the new footings and interior drains the rest of the week.

As a reminder, no Parishioners are allowed into the basement of the Church during Construction without authorization. This is for the safety of everyone. Please contact Gary if you need to get into the basement.

Thank you to everyone who has donated to our project. Every donation helps tremendously. Things will be moving a little faster once we get the footings poured.

Stay safe and ask me if you have any questions.

Gary



Ss. Peter & Paul Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday
9am - 4pm

Parish Staff

Rev. Glen Jensen, Pastor
frjenson@saintsppta.org

Rev. Sebastien Bakatu
Weekend Assistant

Tom Utecht, Deacon
dcntutecht@saintsppta.org

Todd Ziesmer
Parish Business Administrator
tziesmer@saintsppta.org

Sherry Elsen
Parish Office Administrator
selson@saintsppta.org

Lynn Scholtes
Administrative Assistant
lscholtes@saintsppta.org

TJ Slamkowski
Dir. of Youth
Ministry/Safe Envrnmt Coordinator
tjslamkowski@saintsppta.org

Claire Lenz
Dir. of Faith Formation
clenz@saintsppta.org

Joyce Rathburn
Parish Life Coordinator
jrathburn@saintsppta.org

Gary Zitzloff
Director of Maintenance
gzitzloff@saintsppta.org

Carrie Ferdinandt
Music Coordinator &
Ss. Peter & Paul Organist

Greg Elsen
Volunteer Choir Director

Trustees

Brad Jacobs, Lee Schlosser

Parish Council

Bill Maurer-Chair, Lark Ahlstrom,
Paul Gibson, Todd Johnson, Scott
Ritter, Tim Spaulding,
OPEN POSITION

Finance Council

Rachel Polson-Chair,
Dan Doboszenski, Randy Elsen,
Bernadette Grenzer,
Jovelyn Larson

COFFEE & ROLLS

All are invited to the Parish Center Dining Hall for coffee, juice and rolls following the 9 AM Mass.



BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Bulletin articles are due by 9:00 AM on Mondays, unless indicated elsewhere in the bulletin. All articles must be completely written before submitting.

Thank you.

SUPPORTING PARISH & COMMUNITY

FINANCIAL UPDATE (July 2025-June 2026 contributions)
 Contributions toward our renovation project are not included.

Week Ending May 10, 2026

Donation Type	W/E Collection	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference	Prior YTD Actual
Envelopes	\$6,466.00	\$339,159.73	\$337,500.00	\$1,659.73	\$294,857.17
Electronic Giving	\$989.13	\$93,200.74	\$90,865.38	\$2,335.36	\$94,570.79
Loose Plate	\$269.25	\$13,483.14	\$12,980.77	\$502.37	\$21,406.38
TOTALS	\$7,724.38	\$445,843.61	\$441,346.15	\$4,497.46	\$410,834.34



For online Sunday Offering Contributions,
 scan above QR code or go to sspap.org/online-giving.



For online Renovation Donations,
 scan above QR code.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who continues to support our youth group through your aluminum can donations! What may seem like a small act truly makes a big difference for our young people both in your example of generosity and in supporting their growing relationship with our Lord. Because of your generosity, this latest trailer of cans raised \$373.80 to help support our youth ministry programs and activities.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to the Knights of Columbus for faithfully managing and organizing the donation process. Your time and dedication make this possible, and we are truly grateful for your support of our parish youth.

Please continue to keep our youth and ministry efforts in your prayers. Thank you for investing in the faith and future of our young people!

God bless,
 TJ Slamkowski

HAUNTED HOUSE MEETING
Thursday, May 21, 6:00pm

Parties interested in the Knights of Columbus Haunted House event this October will be meeting on Thursday, May 21 at 6PM in the Ss. Peter & Paul Dining Hall. The purpose of the meeting will be to flesh out this year's storyline, establish what "Rooms" will be in the house, and to brainstorm the workings and devices that will be employed in those areas.



If you are interested in helping with or participating in this year's event, we request your presence at this meeting. For further information, contact Scott Ritter. You do not need to be a KC member to participate.

Please join the Veritas Players as they proudly present
Under the Shadow of the Rose:
the tragic triumph of Servant of God, Leonie Martin

Performances: Wednesday, May 27 & Thursday, May 28, 2026
 7: 00 P.M.

Location: The Catholic Church of Saints Peter & Paul
 150 Railway St. E.
 Loretto, MN

Free will offering is appreciated. 10% of all proceeds will be donated to the Visitation monastery in Caen for Leonie's cause.



Join us for a day of fun, fellowship, and friendly competition at Holy Spirit Academy's Spirit's Cup Golf Tournament! Held at Daytona Golf Course in Dayton on Friday, June 12th, at 11:00 AM.

Gather your foursome and enjoy a great day on the course, followed by a delicious dinner to celebrate. Early Bird pricing through 5/16!

Register at www.holyspiritacademy.org.

OUR CATHOLIC FAITH



GOSPEL MEDITATION

I recently read a book called “The Defining Decade” by psychologist Dr. Meg Jay. She convincingly argues that a person’s 20s are the most impactful decade of one’s life. For example, a twenty-something who waits until she has absolute clarity before making commitments typically drifts and regrets it later. But those who dive into something meaningful — even with doubts and questions — tend to grow and find joy and better outcomes in life. In other words, it takes courage, not perfect certainty, to move forward.

As we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord, that insight comes alive in a new way. Matthew tells us: “When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted.” (Matthew 28:17) Even standing before the risen Christ, the disciples were a mixture of adoration and hesitation. It is as though they were in their spiritual 20s...unsure, doubting, but nonetheless called to act in worship and mission.

Here is the key: Jesus does not tell them to wait until they are sure of things. He sends them anyway: “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations.” (Matthew 28:19) The mission of the Church begins not with perfect certainty but with imperfect disciples who wonder and worship. Then they get going.

That is us, too. We may feel unsure of ourselves, perhaps full of hesitation about following Christ more fully. But now is not the time to wait for perfect clarity. Now is the time to worship and to go, trusting that He is with us always, even to the end of the age.

— Father John Muir

©LPi

CATHOLIC TRIVIA—EUCHARIST

- Which feast celebrates the institution of the Eucharist?**
A) Christmas; B) Corpus Christi; C) Easter; D) Pentecost
- What is the name of the vessel used to hold the consecrated host during Eucharistic adoration?**
A) Chalice; B) Monstrance; C) Ciborium; D) Pyx
- Which prayer is said during the Mass to invoke the Holy Spirit during the Eucharistic Prayer?**
A) Theologos; B) Kyrie; C) Sanctus; D) Epiclesis
- What is “viaticum”?**
A) A person’s final holy Communion in this life; B) A special word for first holy Communion; C) A Communion made during a pilgrimage; D) Receiving holy Communion on Holy Thursday
- Catholics are obliged by the Church to receive Holy Communion:**
A) Every Sunday; B) Every time they go to Mass; C) Once a year during Easter; D) Trick question, there’s no obligation
- In 1973, the chief Advisory Board of the World Health Organization appointed a scientific commission to study the host that had miraculously turned to flesh in Lanciano, Italy. It ran this many tests to authenticate the supernatural nature of the event:**
A) 5; B) 20; C) 100; D) 500
- On October 19, 2008, a religious sister opened a safe to dispose of a host that had accidentally fallen to the ground during Mass a week prior only to discover that the host had miraculously begun to bleed in which city:**
A) Orvieto, Italy; B) Sokolka, Poland; C) London, England; D) Paris, France
- When analyzed by modern scientific means, the host that miraculously turned to flesh in Legnica, Poland, in 2013, most closely resembled:**
A) Nervous tissue; B) Epithelial tissue; C) Myocardial tissue; D) Connective tissue

*Taken from Our Sunday Visitor
Eucharistic Quiz on Liturgy
and Miracles.*

Answers:

- | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. B | 3. D | 4. A | 6. D | 8. C |
| 2. B | 5. C | 7. B | | |

NEWS & EVENTS

MASS SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

Because of ordination at the Cathedral on Saturday morning, May 23rd, morning confessions and Mass are cancelled that day at St. Thomas.



COMING SOON
Ladies:

A women's fellowship group is being considered beginning late July 2026. Topics will be chosen by the women of the group.

Wednesday's 10 AM

SS Peter & Paul Parish Center

Want to know more?

- Margie Ritter 218.341.0291
- Joni Mudge 515.559.4238



MEMORIAL DAY MASS

9 AM @ SS. PETER & PAUL

HONOR OUR VETERANS, 9:45 AM @ SS. PETER & PAUL CEMETERY



Join women from around the Archdiocese for the 4th annual Women's Day Retreat! Our speakers will talk about holy women from the Bible beginning with Our Blessed Mother, St. Anne, St. Elizabeth, Sts. Martha & Mary, Deborah, Esther, Ruth & Naomi. Learn how we can derive strength from these Holy Women, especially our Blessed Mother, and say YES to God's will for our lives!

COST: \$50 per person / \$25 Religious
REGISTER AT STPATRICK-EDINA.ORG or scan the QR Code

TWO GRAND PRIZES!
Mother Mary Leather tote bags!




Must be present to win. Grand prize will include 2 books on women of the Bible & a tumbler. (2nd entry for those who donate to SWOW)

THE RETREAT DAY WILL INCLUDE

- Coffee & light breakfast
- Four wonderful Catholic Speakers
- Mass, Adoration & Rosary
- Catered lunch by Crisp & Green (salad choices on registration page)
- Social Hour, Door Prizes & Treats
- Shopping at various Catholic Vendors

Retreatants will receive a leather journal, pen & bookmarks



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Religious and Healthcare Students are Free.


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For Catholics in Healthcare, but open to all!

Half Day Retreat for Sacred Heart
June 12, 2026
8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
St. Francis Catholic Church

Mass • Breakfast • Reflections • Adoration
Confession • Lunch • Group Discussions

St. Francis Catholic Church • 1114 3rd St SE • Rochester, MN 55904

MEN'S SILENT RETREAT



Come to a place where you can hear the voice of the Lord in the quiet and peaceful setting of Lake DeMontreville.

Join us for a three-day men's silent retreat at the DeMontreville Jesuit Retreat House in Lake Elmo, Minnesota. The retreat begins Thursday evening, July 23, 2026, and ends Sunday evening, July 26, 2026. Free-will donations are accepted.

For more information, call our office at 651-777-1311 or see our website at www.demontrevilleretreat.com.

THIS WEEK

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Sat, May 23 - 4PM

Priest.....Fr. Bakatu
 Sacristan.....JoAnn Schlosser
 Rosary.....Diane Oberg
 Ushers.....Randy & Joyce Hatcher
 Lector.....Diane Oberg
 EMHC.....Diane Oberg
 Choir EMHC.....Cindy Spaulding

Sun, May 24 - 9AM

Priest.....Fr. Bakatu
 Sacristan.....Paul & Joan Gibson
 Rosary.....Joan Gibson
 Ushers.....Paul Gibson, Jaylaan Wim-
 bush, John Grenzer
 Lector.....Amy Gallus
 EMHC.....Amy Gallus
 Cup Minister.....Christian Young
 Hospitality.....Duane & Karen Schlosser

Mass Intentions

May 19-24, 2026

Tues.....+Fr. Robert T. Monaghan
 Wed.....+Rick Gunderson
 Thur.....+Lucas Jordan
 Sat.....4:00pm...++Clemens & Susan
 Janisch
 Sun.....9:00am...Parish Cluster

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 17, 2026

Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord; 7th Sunday of Easter; World Communications Day
 Monday: St. John I, Pope and Martyr
 Wednesday: St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest
 Thursday: St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
 Friday: St. Rita of Cascia, Religious
 Next Sunday: Pentecost Sunday



JOIN A SMALL GROUP
and learn more about...

OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

Foster personal relationships, build community, and grow as a joyful missionary disciple of Christ. Learn more about the beauty of our Catholic Faith.

You do not need to be a church member to join a small group, so invite friends and family, or consider leading your own small group. Scan the QR to the right to see all groups, as more may be added.



CALENDAR

MAY

SPP = Ss. Peter & Paul
 ST = St. Thomas

SUN, May 17	THE ASCENSION Blessing of Cars After 9am Mass @ SPP Confirmation 2pm, Cathedral of Saint Paul
THU, May 21	Knights of Columbus mtg 7pm, SPP KC Rm Haunted House mtg 6pm, SPP Dining Hall
SAT, May 23	Morning Confessions & Mass @ ST - CANCELLED Men's Cancer Support Group 9am, ST Rectory
SUN, May 24	PENTECOST
MON, May 25	MEMORIAL DAY Memorial Day Mass 9am @ Ss. Peter & Paul Amer. Legion Post 154 Gun Salute 9:45, SPP Cem
WED, May 27	Summer Youth Group 6:30-8PM @ SPP
JUNE	
WED, June 3	Summer Youth Group 6:30-8pm @ SPP
THU, June 4	SPP Pastoral Council 6:30-8pm, SPP Conf. Rm
FRI, June 12	KC Card Party 6:30-10pm, KC Rm
SAT, June 13	Young Adult Swing Dance 7-11pm, SPP Gym
SUN, June 28	Ss. Peter & Paul Feast Brunch following 9am Mass
SAT, July 4	1 st Sat Devotions & Mass @ St. Thomas

JOIN US WEEKLY:

Mondays: **Choir Practice** | 6:30-8:00pm
(SPP Choir Loft)
Wednesdays: **Young Adult Study** | 6:30-8:30pm
(SPP Conference Room)
Thursdays: **Men's Social Group** | 9:00am
(SPP Dining Hall)
Sundays: **Coffee & Rolls after 9:00am Mass**
(SPP Dining Hall)



Readings for the week of May 17, 2026

Sunday:
 Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47: 2-3, 6-7, 8-9/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20

Monday:
 Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab/Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday:
 Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21/Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday:
 Acts 20:28-38/ Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab/Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday:
 Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Jn 17:20-26

Friday:
 Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab/Jn 21:15-19

Saturday:
 Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7/Jn 21:20-25

Next Sunday:
Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24 and 35, 27-28, 29b-30/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 or, for the **Extended Vigil:** Gn 11:1-9/ Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b/Ez 37:1-14/Jl 3:1-5/ Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 (see Lectionary for Mass Supplement, 62) **Day:** Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1 and 24, 29-30, 31 and 34/ 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/Jn 20:19-23

CATHOLIC UNITED FINANCIAL

Ss. Peter and Paul Parish
 Volunteer Team #056

Our Catholic United Financial Parish Volunteer Team promotes our faith and strengthens our community through various activities. We are committed to the social, service, and religious needs of our parish community.

Join Catholic United Financial by contacting Team Director, Joyce H. at 763-498-7187, or Administrative Coordinator, Joanne at 763-479-2928.



PRAYER

PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY

The Prayer Chain Ministry comprises parishioners dedicated to praying for others. To place someone on a Prayer Chain, please contact Lynn Scholtes at 612-801-1588 / lynnscholtes@gmail.com.

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY

Eric Alger—Army; Patrick Eikmeier—Army National Guard; Nick Elsen—Air Force; Dalton Pouliot—Army National Guard; Nickolas Sieg—Army; Peter Weber—Air Force.

If you would like a member of our U.S. Military listed or removed, please contact Sherry at the Ss. Peter & Paul Parish Office—763-479-0535 or selsen@saintspta.org.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Because of our need to respect the privacy of individuals/families, we must have a member of the family call us to have a name included here. Unless we hear from the family, we will take a name off after 3 months. Thank you!

- Luke Dugan (7/22)
- Dave & Sue Evensen (8/1)
- Rosie Arens (8/6)
- Maya Ojeda (6/26)
- Red Ziesmer (7/22)
- Special Intention (8/6)
- Norm Winter (8/8)

PRAY FOR THOSE DISCERNING THE DIACONATE

- Cory Plotts.....Diaconate Formation
- Todd Ziesmer.....Diaconate Formation



“In our self-centered culture and classic American emphasis on work, we often feel we have to accomplish something during our times of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. We rate our experience by how ‘good’ our prayer was, how heartfelt our devotion was, or how focused we could remain.

Yet prayer and contemplation are fundamentally God’s work, in which we are invited to participate. We need only to give Him the opening, and He will do the rest.

By coming to adoration, we are handing Him the keys to our hearts, allowing the rays of His love and grace to bathe our souls in the light of His Presence, as the rays of the sun bathe our bodies in light. If we can take the time to pull away from the busyness and distractions of life and just sit at His feet, He will lead us.”

—Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration, p. 33

Area Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

Area Perpetual Adoration is in Our Lady of Loretto Chapel, which is located in the old Convent building on the Ss. Peter & Paul Church grounds. To sign up for an hour, please contact Sherry in the Parish Office (763-479-0535) or one of the members of our Adoration Core Team listed below.

ADORATION CHAPEL CORE TEAM

Head Coordinator	Joanne	763.360.2639
Assistant Coordinator	Diane.....	612.730.9386
Night Division Leader:.....	Brenda.....	763.656.7910
Morning Division Leader:.....	Judy	763.331.5703
Afternoon Division Leaders:.....	Lill.....	612.600.2050
Evening Division Leader:	Connie.....	763.228.8330

Blessed Virgin’s Rosary Ministry

Prayer Intention for
May 2026

- That those suffering from mental anguish will find comfort and healing, and feel God’s love for them;
- For the intentions written in the Adoration Chapel Prayer Intention Book; and
- For the intentions of the participants of the Blessed Virgin’s Rosary Ministry.

New members are always welcome.
To join, contact Sherry in the Ss. Peter & Paul Parish Office or Joanne at jmschu@live.com.



Adoration Open Hours

NIGHT TIME HOURS:

Sunday2:00 AM | **3:00 AM** | **5:00 AM**
 Tuesday..... 5:00 AM
 Wednesday.... **12:30-2 AM** | 3:00 AM | **4:00 AM**
 Friday..... 1:00 AM
 Saturday 1:00 AM | **3:00 AM**

MORNING HOURS:

Thursday.....**8:00 AM** (every 3rd Thur. of month)
 Saturday **11:00 AM**

AFTERNOON HOURS:

Sunday **3:00 PM**
 Friday..... **12:00 Noon** | **3:00 PM**
 Saturday **1:00 PM** | 5:00 PM

EVENING HOURS:

Saturday 8:00 PM

For questions, or to inquire about taking an hour, go to the web-site by scanning this QR code, or call the Ss. Peter & Paul Parish Office Administrator at 763-479-0535.



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