



Saint Mary Catholic Church
32 1st St. NE
Winnebago, Minnesota



Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church
214 S. Holland
Blue Earth, Minnesota

Pastor: Rev. Peter Klein

Administrative Assistant: Pat Boettcher; Faith Formation & Youth Ministry: Angie Nagel & Pat Salic
Maintenance: Duane Rorman (SS Peter & Paul)

Office: 214 S. Holland, Blue Earth 56013; 507-526-5626 – **Website:** www.sspeterpaulmary.org

Office hours: Mon., 8 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.; Tues. 8:00 a.m. – variable; Wed. 9 am – noon; Thurs., 8:00 – noon

Sunday, Jan. 29th, 2017 – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, 5:15 p.m., SS. Peter & Paul

Sunday, 8:00 a.m., St. Mary

Sunday, 10:00 a.m., SS. Peter & Paul

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, 8:30 a.m., St. Mary

Wednesday, 7:30 a.m., SS. Peter & Paul

Thursday, 10:00 a.m., St Luke's, Blue Earth

Friday, 8:30 a.m., SS. Peter & Paul (1st Friday

Mass is followed by Holy Hour)

Please check page 3 of bulletin for any changes to the schedule

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m., SS. Peter & Paul

Sunday, 7:15 – 7:45 a.m., St. Mary

Sacrament of Baptism

Arrangements are made by contacting the pastor in advance of the date.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements for preparation & the date are made by contacting the pastor at least 6 months before.

Pastoral Care of the Elderly/Sick

Please contact the pastor when someone is hospitalized or homebound.

Prayer Network

Anyone wishing to have the prayerful support of our parish community may relay your prayer request to Ruth Kastner (943-3478) or Jeanette Verdoorn (526-2333) to initiate the calling tree.

For prayers requests for St. Mary's, call Mary Franta (893-4326) or Chris Rockers (893-3729).

Faith Formation

We have resources & activities for growth & formation of faith in all members of all ages. For our young people, we have programs & youth ministries coordinated by Angie Nagel at SS. Peter & Paul (526-5626) & Pat Salic at St. Mary (236-2195).

Joining or Returning to the Catholic Church

The rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process for adults to become members of the Catholic Church. For additional information, please contact the pastor.

To rent the Social Hall of SS Peter & Paul

To schedule activities/events, please contact Pat Boettcher(526-5626)

Bulletin notices Contact Pat by Wednesday afternoon at the office (patssp@bevcomm.net) or by phone (526-5626 or 526-3511).

PASTOR'S PARISHABLES

On Saturday, January 28, four St. Mary's children celebrated 1st Reconciliation: Loken Braunshausen, Brody Haugh, Zac Johnson, & Lysie Salic; another milestone in their spiritual & sacramental life.

Next Thursday, February 2, is Candlemas Day—an informal title for the feast of the Presentation of the Lord (which rosary users meditate as the 4th joyful mystery) & formerly known as the feast of the Purification. It was once a Marian feast because the presentation of the Lord also marked Mary's purification in the temple, 40 days after giving birth, as required by Jewish law. Years ago it was commonly called Mass of the Candles—hence, "Candlemas Day". That nickname came from the custom of blessing candles for church & home use on Feb. 2nd. It was seen as a fitting way to celebrate what the presence of Christ, the light of the world, means in our lives.

Next Friday, February 3, is the feast of St. Blase, a 4th-century bishop in Armenia. Very little is known about his life. According to various accounts he was a physician before becoming a bishop. Devotion to him spread throughout the entire Church in the Middle Ages because he was reputed to have miraculously cured a little boy who nearly died because of a fishbone in his throat. From the 8th century he has been invoked on behalf of the sick, especially those afflicted with an illness of the throat. According to tradition, the blessing is given by touching the throat of each person with 2 candles, joined together in the form of a cross. We'll do that Friday after mass.

The story of Gideon came out last Sunday because of the reference in the 1st reading to "the day of Midian." Gideon played a central role in Israel's great victory over Midian. Read all about it in Judges 6 & 7. Hearing about God using Gideon in a weakened condition brought to mind St. Paul's reflection on his own weakness: *"In order that I might not become conceited I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to beat me & keep me from getting proud. Three times I begged the Lord that this might leave me. He said to me, My grace is enough for you, for in weakness power reaches perfection... Therefore I am content with weakness, with mistreatment, with distress, with persecutions & difficulties for the sake of Christ; for when I am powerless, it is then that I am strong" (2 Corinthians 12:7-10).*

The name Gideon is familiar to some of us because of the Gideon Bible—so-called because it's the one placed in various public places by the Gideons. They're a non-sectarian evangelical group of Christians who have made it their mission to distribute the Bible & encourage its use. They are lay people from various denominations, often business & professional men, whose primary goal is

"winning people for Christ," with Bible distribution being their principal means. Gideons began when two traveling men, strangers to each other, met in a Wisconsin hotel in the fall of 1898. As they began to share evening devotions, they decided to form an association, taking the name Gideon (from that story in Judges), the leader of a small group of men dedicated to God through whom God accomplished great things. Their Bible distribution program is financed primarily through the support of evangelical churches.

The organization itself describes its link to the story of the biblical Gideon: *Gideon was a man who was willing to do exactly what God wanted him to do, regardless of his own judgment as to the plans or results. Humility, faith, and obedience were his great elements of character. This is the standard that The Gideons International is trying to establish in all its members, each man to be ready to do God's will at any time, at any place, & in any way that the Holy Spirit leads. In keeping with this symbolism, the symbol of the Gideons is a two-handled pitcher and torch, recalling Gideon's victory over the Midianites as described in Judges 7. In addition to the well-known hotel room Bibles, members of The Gideons International also distribute Bibles to members of the military of various countries, to hospitals, nursing homes, prisons, & students.*



Using the term "Gideon Bible" can be misleading I've found. As if it were a Bible other than the Christian Bible. Usually when adjectives are attached to the word "Bible", it's to specify a particular translation: The New American Bible (the "NAB", the one used in Catholic liturgy); the King James Bible (the "KJV", the standard Bible in Protestant circles from the 1600s to the 1900s); the RSV Bible (the 1950s Revised Standard Version; the 1950s revision of the 1880s "Revised Version", which was the 1st serious revision of the KJV after 250 years); the NIV Bible (the New International Version, the 1970's answer by conservative evangelical Protestants to the RSV; the 1st Bible to outsell the KJV) etc. etc. etc. So what about the "Gideon Bible?" It's actually the King James Bible chosen by the Gideons for distribution.

The Christian Unity Service planned for last Wed. was postponed until this Wed., Feb. 1, at noon at the Huntley Community Covenant Church. (Last Wednesday, we didn't know weather people would be able to travel.)

Our diocesan Vocations director, Fr. Will Thompson, will be visiting us next weekend. A few weeks back he contacted several pastors whose parishes he has not visited recently. I'm very glad to welcome him to lead us in prayer & speak about vocations.

Mass Schedule - BE=SS Peter & Paul, W=St. Mary's

Mon. NO MASS
Tue./W 8:30AM/Dolores Stevermer †
Wed/BE 7:30AM/Parents of Gary & Diane Becker †
Thur. 10:00AM/St. Luke's - Special Intention of
Marvin Boever
Fri./BE 8:30AM/Leo Rauenhorst †
First Friday - Holy Hour after Mass
Sat./BE 5:15PM/ Gene Mikolai †
Sun./W 8:00AM/ Joanne Johnson †
Sun./BE 10:00AM/ Geraldine Johnson †

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE:

Sat., Feb. 4: Servers: Jared Armon
5:15 PM SSPP Kate Armon
Ministers of Communion: Gary Armon/Mary Warner
Becky Spencer/Ann Kehr/Lorraine Hassing
Gift Bearers: Dennis & Mary Warner
Ushers: Dirk Esser Group

Sun., Feb 5: Servers: Brian Krieger
8:00 AM St. Mary's
Ministers of Communion: Jerome Behnke
Sue Behnke/Gerald Scovill
Gift Bearers: Mary Jean Perry & Leta Allevan
Ushers: Bob Grant & Rich Findley

Sun., Feb 5: Servers: Brandi Uecker
10:00AM SSPP Ashlyn Klinkner
Ministers of Communion: Jenny Armon/Lola Schultz
Margaret Haag/Arlen O'Brien/Vitres Samek
Gift Bearers: Tim & Barb Steier
Ushers: Bob Dulas Group

Knights Corner:

January 29th-Pro-life Breakfast
KC Meeting Feb. 13th at 7PM in room 1
KC Steak Fry February 18th
KC/Boy Scout Breakfast March 5th

KC Pro-Life Breakfast on Sunday January 29th at St Peter & Paul Hall. Serving from 9AM to 12 Noon. Biscuit & Gravy, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Orange Juice, Coffee, Milk. FREE WILL Offering. Proceeds going to Pro-Life.

Protect Life & Human Dignity

Thursday, March 9, 2017, Saint Paul, Minnesota
Our state faces real challenges. Assisted suicide threatens the vulnerable. Underprivileged kids are stuck in failing schools. And too many families are trapped in poverty. Christ asks us to boldly step into the public square to protect life and human dignity. Will you answer the call? Join Minnesota's bishops, dynamic Church

leaders, and 1,000+ Catholics from across the state for **Catholics at the Capitol**, a day of inspiration and advocacy at our State Capitol. Be **INSPIRED** by dynamic Church leaders and the power of prayer. Be **INFORMED** about the critical issues impacting life and human dignity in Minnesota. Be **EQUIPPED** to effectively engage your elected officials. Legislators pay attention to their constituents. We *will* impact the process. **This is our moment. Let's go!** Learn more and register at CatholicsAtTheCapitol.org or call 651.227.8777.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: Feb 17-19 at Windom, MN. Visit SouthMNWWME.org or call 507-227-8229 for more info or registration.

The Winnebago Ministerial Association is hosting an ecumenical luncheon at 12:00 on Sunday, January 29th at the First Presbyterian Church in Winnebago. There is no charge for the meal but a free-will offering will be taken to support the local Kid's Backpack Program. Following a meal of soup, salad, bread, and dessert furnished by the six area churches, there will be a brief presentation where you will have an opportunity to learn more about the program. Please plan to join us for this time of food and fellowship as we try to ensure that none of our area children go hungry on weekends.

St Mary's Rosary Society is looking for a Treasurer. Please consider helping out in this position. Contact Mary Springer if interested. Thanks

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Sacrificial Giving, SS Peter & Paul: Jan. 21 & 22:

Adult/Plate giving needed weekly: \$4,157.00
Adult/Plate giving last week: \$4,384.16
Adult/Plate giving needed yr-to-date: \$124,710.00
Adult/Plate giving fiscal yr-to-date: \$133,456.32

Sacrificial Giving, St. Mary: Jan. 22:

Adult/Plate giving needed weekly: \$1,173.00
Adult/Plate giving last week: \$1,023.80
Adult/Plate giving needed yr-to-date: \$35,190.00
Adult/Plate giving fiscal yr-to-date: \$34,163.11

FAITH FORMATION/YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Angie Nagel - 526-5626 (office) - 526-3485 (home) - 507-276-5114 (cell), angieyouthministry@bevcomm.net

January Calendar:

- 29 Joyful Noise Choir sings for 10AM Mass
God Squad Gathering -- 6-7:30PM

February Calendar:

- 1 Classes for Grades K-10
My Space -- 5-6:30PM
Butter Braid forms handed out to Gr. K-10!
First Eucharist Parent / Child Meeting,
5:30PM
- 4-5 Souper Bowl of Caring Collection
Butter Braid Orders taken after Masses
- 5 Coffee & Donuts hosted by Grades 8 & 9
- 8 Classes for Grades K-10
My Space -- 5-6:30PM
- 11 Retreat Team in Owatonna
- 15 Classes for Grades K-10
My Space -- 5-6:30PM
- 18 Team of youth to help at Kids Against Hunger
in Fairmont
- 20 Ski Trip to Mount Kato -- Gr. 6-12
- 21 FF/YM Board Meeting -- 5:30PM
- 22 Classes for Grades K-10
My Space -- 5-6:30PM

Confirmation Faith Sharing Centers

Who: Confirmation Candidates and a parent or sponsor
When: Wednesday, February 15th
Time: 4:30 - 7:00PM (The centers take about an hour to complete.)
Where: Social Hall
Snacks and beverages will be provided!

First Eucharist Parent / Child Meeting

Who: First Eucharist Candidates and a parent
When: Wednesday, February 1st
Time: 5:30 - 6:30PM
Where: Social Hall
Snacks and beverages will be provided!

Butter Braid Fundraiser

Youth will be taking orders for Butter Braids after Masses on **February 4th & 5th**. Samples will be available in the Social Hall so make sure to get your favorites ordered! They come in seven different delicious flavors. They will be delivered on Wednesday, March 15th! The cost is \$12 per Butter Braid and our

Faith Formation and Youth Ministry programs will profit \$5.00 for each Butter Braid we sell. Children and youth in Grades K-10 will receive order forms in their classes on February 1st. If a family sells 50 Butter Braids, they will receive a \$40 VISA card!

Kids Against Hunger Team Needed!

Who: Youth in Grades 7th-12th Grade

When: Saturday, February 18th

Where: Fairmont Armory

Time: Our pack time is 11:30am-1:30pm. We will leave Church at 10:45AM, do the food pack, then go out for a late lunch. We will return to Blue Earth at 3PM.

Interested?? Please contact Angie as soon as possible.

Pathways TEC Retreat!

Please join us for Pathways TEC #68 in Mankato at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church February 18-20, 2017. (Saturday-Monday).

Together Encounter Christ is a retreat for high school students and adults. Over the course of 3 days, discussion, presentations and activities will lead participants into more meaningful encounters with Jesus in the sacraments and in community. TEC has been life-changing for many as it's core is the focus on the Pascal Mystery. Participants come away with a new understanding of the limitless love of Christ, a lot of new Catholic friends to support each other, and hearts on fire to share the good news they have heard over the weekend. If you are interested in attending, please let me know!!

Ski Trip to Mount Kato!

Who: Youth in Grades 6-12! You can also bring friends from other churches!

When: Monday, February 20th (President's Day)

Time: We will leave Church at 8:00AM and return at 6:00PM.

Registration forms will be handed out to Grades 6-10 on February 1st. There will also be forms available on the Youth Bulletin board in the Church entrance.

Parents are needed to drive and chaperone for the day. If you are interested, please let me know.