

Second Sunday of ADVENT

Father Alan Wielinski, Pastor
St. Peter—(320)252-2113 Ext 2 or St. Paul—(320)251-4831 Ext 213

Combined Staff Positions

Pastoral Associate

Dcn. David Lindmeier251-4831 Ext. 205

Deacon

Bill Ritchie252-0211

Business Administrator

Mark Milam251-4831 Ext. 211

Director of Liturgy & Music Ministries

Laurie Kremer251-4831 Ext 207

Bookkeeper

Barb Lenzen251-4831 Ext 209

Parish Secretary

Judy Rudnitski251-4831 Ext 201

Office Assistant

Jean Schmitz251-4831 Ext 202

Director of Faith Formation—Youth Ministry

Geralyn Nathe-Evans251-4831 Ext 212

SPPM School Principal, Sharon Bichler251-4737 (Primary School)

Trustees

St. Peter—Mike Woods & Ginny Marso
 St. Paul—Mary Ellen Keymer & Steve Mareck

Maintenance

St. Peter—Carl Zabinski, Dan Weirens 248-6298
 St. Paul—Gredo Goldenstein, Pat Applegate ... 251-4831

Parish Nurse Ministry

St. Peter—Marva Jorgensen, Bea Gazett..... 252-2113
 St. Paul—Dee Hanisch, Judi Rassier
 Joanne Fleck 251-4831 Ext. 210

Prayer Lines

St. Peter—Kim Walz 251-2252
 St. Paul—Cathy Zulkosky 255-9957
 Email: czulkosky@charter.net

Office Hours for St. Peter and St. Paul at St. Paul's Office

Monday—Thursday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

BeFriends

St. Peter—Bill & Linda Ritchie.....252-0211
 St. Paul—Dorothy Randall654-8485
 St. Paul—Mary Spoden.....252-3921

Fax Number

St. Peter & St. Paul251-2648

Email Addresses

St. Peter.....mmilam@stpetestpaul.org
 St. Pauljrudnitski@stpetestpaul.org

Website Addresses

New Joint Website.....www.stpetestpaul.org
 St. Peter.....www.stpetes.org
 St. Paul.....www.churchofstpaul.org
 SPPM School.....www.sppm.org
 St. Cloud Diocese.....www.stclouddiocese.org

December 4, 2011

Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way.
 A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord,
 make straight his paths." - Mk 1:2b-3

Liturgy Intentions

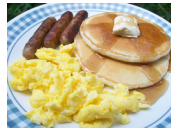
Mon, Dec 5 8:15 am SPE Word/Communion Service
 Tues, Dec 6 8:15 am SPE Art Sobania
 5:30 pm SPE Adoration
 Wed, Dec 7 8:15 am SPA George Pallansch
Thurs, Dec 8 8:15 am SPE Don Schraeder
1:00 pm SPA For the People
5:30 pm SPA Chuck Albers
 Fri, Dec 9 8:15 am SPA Charles Jernberg Sr.
 Sat, Dec 10 8:15 am SPE Word/Communion Service
 4:30 pm SPA For the People
 Sun, Dec 11 7:30 am SPE Norbert Schleicher
 9:00 am SPA Albin & Bridget Grundhoefer
 10:30 am SPE John Kaiser

From Fr. Alan...

We receive special visits from two “Advent prophets” this Sunday: St. Nicholas will appear towards the end of each liturgy (thanks St. Nick!) and John the Baptist appears in the desert of the Gospel calling us to “prepare the way of the Lord”. Both St. Nicholas and John the Baptist have important messages: St. Nick reminds us of the joy of the season, especially when we share generously and lovingly with the people around us. John the Baptist calls us to task for any of our sin and misbehaviors! A sure way to prepare the Lord’s way is to make an honest examination of our consciences, our lives. And then to come and celebrate Advent Reconciliation and to celebrate and receive again God’s gift of forgiveness. For the “early birds”, St. Michael’s service is this Tuesday, December 6 at 7:00 p.m. St. Paul’s will be the following Tuesday, December 13 at 6:30 p.m. and St. Peter’s on Saturday, December 17 at 1:00 p.m.

**St. Peter’s Parish Breakfast
 Sunday, December 11
 Serving from 8 AM to 12 PM
 St. Peter’s Parish Center**

Menu: Ham, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs,
 Hash Browns, Pancakes with Fruit
 Toppings, Freshly Baked Caramel Rolls,
 Fresh Fruit, Coffee, Juice & Milk



Adults: \$7.00 Children (ages 6-12) \$3.00
 Children (under 6) free
EVERYONE WELCOME!

ON BEHALF OF OUR FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEES

— As always we give thanks to the many parishioners of our parishes who are so generous and faithful to their stewardship. We also wish to alert you that we are running significantly **behind budget** for regular stewardship (our Sunday to Sunday income). Especially so at St. Peter’s where we sometimes have not been able to pay the monthly bills (our Focus on Facilities has been a great success, but Sunday stewardship took a nosedive). To keep this concern before you we are adding a year-to-date line for our weekly bulletin stewardship reports. **We would like to invite your special generosity and consideration of our parishes this Advent-Christmas and year end season.** We would like to invite those who have not been consistent in their stewardship on a week to week basis to use this Advent Season to recommit yourselves to the common good of our faith communities! May God richly bless you and your families with spiritual gifts beyond measure during this Holy Season.

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
SPA	\$291,757.54	\$294,389.21	\$2,631.67
SPE	\$241,725.39	\$208,993.99	(\$32,731.40)

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary

In gratitude for the gifts we have received from God, parishioners and visitors made a return to the Lord of the following gifts in the Sunday offering:

St. Peter (11/20/11)

Adult	\$6,539.00
Plate	\$123.25
Youth/Children.....	\$8.01
Electronic.....	\$1,769.25
Total Regular Contributions	\$8,439.51
Amount needed per Sunday to meet budget....	\$10,963.60
Faith Formation Donations	\$95.00
Propagation of the Faith.....	\$5.00
St. Vincent DePaul	\$90.00
Human Development.....	\$742.00

St. Peter (11/27/11)

Adult	\$6,727.00
Plate	\$157.18
Youth/Children.....	\$4.96
Electronic.....	\$1,769.25
Total Regular Contributions	\$8,658.39
Amount needed per Sunday to meet budget....	\$10,963.60
Faith Formation	\$60.00
St. Vincent DePaul	\$1,386.00
Human Development.....	\$50.00
Food Shelf	\$70.00
Focus on Facilities.....	\$5,483.00

St. Paul (11/20/11)

Adult	\$8,480.50
Plate	\$339.00
Electronic	\$3,991.23
Total Regular Contributions.....	\$12,810.73
Amount needed per Sunday to meet budget	\$13,957.00
Youth/Children	\$17.25
Fall Fund	\$5.00

St. Paul (11/27/11)

Adult	\$9,607.00
Plate	\$237.00
Electronic	\$3,991.23
Total Regular Contributions.....	\$13,835.23
Amount needed per Sunday to meet budget	\$13,957.00
Youth/Children.....	\$4.00
Summer Fund.....	\$295.00
Food Shelf.....	\$497.00
Human Development....	\$165.00
Maintenance	\$385.00

Week At A Glance

Monday, December 5

8:15 AM Word/Communion at St. Peter's

Tuesday, December 6

8:15 AM Liturgy at St. Peter's

1:00 PM Bible Study at St. Paul's

6:00 PM Children's Choir Rehearsal at St. Peter's

6:30 PM Bible Study at St. Peter's

Wednesday, December 7

8:15 AM Liturgy at St. Paul's

5:30 PM Confirmation Pizza Supper with Fr. Alan

6:30 PM All Saints Faith Formation at St. Paul's

Thursday, December 8—Immaculate Conception

8:15 AM Liturgy at St. Peter's

9:00 AM Birthday Card Club at St. Peter's

1:00 PM Liturgy with School Children at St. Paul's

5:30 PM Liturgy at St. Paul's

7:00 PM SPPM School Bd Mtg at St. Paul's

Friday, December 9

8:15 AM Liturgy at St. Paul's

Saturday, December 10

8:15 AM Word/Communion Service at St. Peter's

4:30 PM Liturgy at St. Paul's

Sunday, December 11

7:30 AM Liturgy at St. Peter's

9:00 AM Liturgy of the Word with Children at St. Paul's

10:30 AM Liturgy at St. Peter's

10:30 AM Sunday School at St. Peter's

St. Peter's & St. Paul's Christmas Flower Collection:

In your packet is an envelope for the Christmas Flower Collection. If you did not receive an envelope, and you wish to make a donation or a donation in memory of someone, please place your contribution in an envelope with your name and intention and drop it into the Sunday offering.



Muffin Sale, sponsored by the St. Paul's Christian Women will be December 18/19 after the masses. Proceeds will go to our Military Outreach in our parishes.



St. Paul's Second Collection for December 3/4 will be divided between **Place of Hope** and **Kids Against Hunger**.



Once again the **Giving Tree** will be available at St. Paul's! We are in need of hats, scarves, mittens and other items to keep men, women and children warm this winter. The generous gifts placed on (or under) the tree through December 18th. Thank you for your continued support and love of neighbor.

New Families of St. Peter's: Please bring a Christmas ornament for our "Family Tree" located in the rear of our church. Please label your ornament with your name and the year. Thank you! (Box is available in the back pew.)

Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

Faith Formation information is published in a monthly newsletter that is inserted into the bulletin. Newsletter copies are also available in the Gathering Space or Narthex by the Faith Formation bulletin boards. If you wish to receive email notices or access to our website, please contact the Faith Formation office at 251-4831 Ext 212.

Pizza Supper—Wednesday, December 7th at 5:30PM Confirmation Candidates are invited to a Pizza Supper with Fr Alan. Please call Geralyn if you can attend for food order at 251-4831 extension 212.

Confirmation Celebration—The Bishop has assigned us the date for Confirmation at April 26th at 7PM

First Reconciliation celebrations will occur December 13, 6:30 PM at St. Paul's or December 17, 1:00 PM at St. Peter's. Be sure to sign in with Geralyn at least 15 minutes prior to the service for instructions.

SPPM News

Book Fair Time — On December 6th, from 9 am to close, SPPM is holding our Fall Book Fair at Barnes & Noble Book Store, 3940 Division Street, St. Cloud, MN. Once again, you will be able to purchase books, DVDs, CDs and other gifts for your family, friends or for yourself. A percentage of the profits benefit our school. Be sure to add December 6th to your calendar and plan to visit us at Barnes and Noble.

All Saints Academy is holding an **Open House for prospective kindergarten families** at the St. Cloud Campus (formerly Sts. Peter, Paul & Michael School) for the 2012-2013 school year on January 11th. More information will follow for these families. Anyone else considering All Saints Academy for their child next fall should contact the school to arrange a visit or receive additional information regarding our PreK-6 school. We feel very confident that what we offer is an excellent Catholic education in a setting that is both challenging and nurturing. Please contact Sharon Bichler (St. Cloud) at 251-4737 for more information.

SPPM Advent Giving Trees —The Sts. Peter, Paul and Michael School children began their season of Advent with a morning retreat last Monday and will carry a theme of "Lay your gifts before the Lord" throughout this holy season. To live out this theme, as a school, we have "adopted" 10 families in need of assistance and we want to reach out to them with gifts and household items. Most of these five families live right here among us -- in our own neighborhoods -- and this is one of the ways that our school tries to live out its mission to be of service. We have ornaments on trees in the school entry ways as well as in the gathering area at St. Paul's. Each ornament will name an item desired by one of the families. Anyone wishing to purchase that item should sign their name on the master list and take the ornament. After purchasing the item, please attach the ornament to the item and return it to school. Bring your items to either of the SPPM school buildings by 4 PM on December 15th. Thank you for your gift of generosity.

Stewardship & Social Justice

Stewardship Message — “John was clothed in camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist.” - Mark 1:6

St. John the Baptist’s Advent message is, “Prepare, Prepare, Prepare.” This is very different from the media’s Christmas message of “Buy, Buy, Buy.” At this time of the year the good steward is most definitely challenged to embrace the simplicity of St. John the Baptist more than the commercialism of the season.

Choose Life—“Caring for the sick, frail, elderly and dying patient is a noble endeavor. Our future generations will use as a measure of civilization how well our society cared for the elderly and dying, how we protected our elders’ rights and dignity, and, finally, how well we strove every day to enhance their care.” Dr. Alex Kodiath in *Elder Care: Precious Presence*



As we prepare for the birth of the Christ child, may we help others to see the sanctity of life of the preborn child, we pray.

Month 9: As our spiritually adopted babies enter the 9th month of life, we joyously anticipate their births and eagerly await Christmas to celebrate Jesus’ birth. God bless all of you for your many prayers through the 9 month journey with Jesus.

Thank You to everyone who participated in the 40 Days for Life Fall Campaign. Please continue to pray for the campaign. We will be back during Lent.

SAVE the DATE: St. Peter’s will be hosting the homeless March 12-18 rather than January this year. Volunteers are needed for this opportunity to serve.

Catholics In Dialog — Open to anyone of any age. Participants speak personally of their Catholic faith, including difficulties and doubts. Interaction: attentive, patient, and loving listening and speaking. We in the dialog will seek the sublime and balanced wisdom inherent in Church doctrine. Among questions to consider: the baptized conscience, the gifts of the Spirit, the teaching authority of the Church as it represents our Lord Jesus Christ. Weekly assignment: reading your memory, heart, mind, and soul prayerfully to prepare yourself to speak and listen. Surprising variations in personal testimonies may lead to respectful dialog -- not debate, which comes later, even much later. I agree with Fr. Alan that the basic attitude in all such openness and sharing is to grow together in longing and love for God. I worked for educational publishers for eight years, and for 30 years taught philosophy and spirituality in Catholic colleges. I have been dialoging, or peacefully debating, with both believers and unbelievers for sixty years. I will make a 15 minute statement to begin each meeting, followed by one hour of sharing. Ron Lane

Meetings at St. Paul’s:

Monday, December 5, 7--8:15 PM, Community Room
Monday, December 12, 7-8:15 PM, Dining Room
Tuesday, December 20, 7-8:15 PM, Community Room

Parish Nurses

Important Gifts

This year instead of shopping for gifts for those we love, here are some ideas that mean so much more:

- The gift of **Presence**
- The gift of **Listening**
- **Respite** for a caregiver
- **Meals** for the family of a newborn or someone else in need
- A **Visit** to a person who is homebound or in a care facility
- **Forgiveness** for yourself or someone who has hurt you

These gifts cannot be purchased for any price, and yet, they are the most precious gifts of all.

Health Care Directives, Whitney Senior Center, December 6th and 20th, 11:00am.

Theology on Tap - Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Cara Sandquist, CSB alumna and local educator, will be speaking about her former volunteer work in Tanzania. Having lived and worked in an African Benedictine convent for 9 months, Cara served the sisters of Imiliwaha, Tanzania, focusing on the children housed at the local sister-run orphanage. She will share her experience working in a faithful yet impoverished community, and also the role the Catholic church plays in the Tanzanian society.

Join us for dinner, drinks, conversation, and fun. Come for great company and remember to bring a friend. Fun starts at 7pm. We are in a new location at The American Burger Bar in St. Joseph (2010 County Road 75 St. Joseph, MN). Look forward to seeing you. Come early and stay late."

MISSION TRIP—I will be going on a medical mission trip to the Philippines over spring break this year. In order to do this I need to raise \$2,500 by February. If you are willing and able to help me go on this trip, any donations would be appreciated! These are tax deductible.

Feel free to call me at (320) 248-7358 with any questions! Thank you and God bless! Please send any checks to Tricia Walz, Box 83, 1020 North 2nd Street, Atchison, KS 66002 (Tricia is a parishioner of St. Peter’s)

St. Peter’s Prayer Line is looking for some prayerful, dedicated people "to stand in the gap" for those in need of prayer. (Ezekiel 22:30) If you have a passion for prayer, God may be calling you to this wonderful ministry. If interested, please call Dcn Bill or Linda Ritchie at 252-0211.

Food Shelf Volunteers Needed for **DECEMBER, 2011.** Sign-up sheets are in the east entrance of St. Peter’s Church and in the Gathering Space at St. Paul’s. If you have questions, please contact Doug Boser at 650-1570.

Parish News and Events

St. Paul's & St. Peter's Baptism Prep Session is offered by both parishes together, for parents preparing for the Baptism of their first child. Our next class will be on **December 27, 6:30 PM** at St. Peter's in the church. Please call 251-4831 Ext 201 to register. When scheduling a date for Baptism for either St. Peter or St. Paul, please call 251-4831 Ext 201.

SNOWBIRDS—Please call the **Parish Offices for St. Peter's & St. Paul's at 251-4831 Ext 201** and let us know when you are leaving for warm weather of another state and your anticipated date of return to St. Cloud. Your cooperation means a great deal and will save your parish both time and money.



Free Book for Families: In VOLUME SIX, *Heaven Speaks to Families*, Jesus tells children, **"You were created by God the Father and He created each one of you with the most careful thought.... There are many ways to pray and they are all perfect..."** Read them as a family. Jesus explains things to our children better than we ever could. All ages will appreciate the simplicity and clarity of these messages. Available free at our church entrances.

The Knights of Columbus Council # 7057 Breakfast will be held at the St. Joe Lab School in St. Joseph, MN Today, December 4. Menu: Pancakes and Waffles with fruit toppings and whipped cream, Smoked and Fresh Sausage, Ham, Hash Browns, Scrambled Eggs with toppings, Rolls, Fresh Fruit, Juice, Coffee, Milk, Serving from 8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon. Adults (13 and older) \$7.00, Children (ages 6-12) \$3.00, 5 and under are free

Prayer Corner

Please Pray For... Victor Rothstein, Mildred Schmidt and all who have received a prayer blanket, that they may receive healing of body, mind and spirit.

Family Members in the Armed Forces—All Powerful God, you always show mercy toward those who love you and are never far from those who see you. Be with our men and women as they serve our nation in war. Shelter them with your protection by day, give them the light of your grace by night and bring them home in safety. We ask this in Your Holy Name. Amen. If you have a family member in the armed service, your parish family would like to know. Please call the Parish Offices of St. Paul's (251-4831) or St. Peter's (252-2113).

LOOKING AHEAD

ADVENT RECONCILIATION

Tuesday, December 13, 6:30 PM at St. Paul
Saturday, December 17, 1 PM at St. Peter

CHRISTMAS EVE— December 24

4:30 PM at St. Peter
10:00 PM at St. Paul

CHRISTMAS DAY—December 25

8:00 AM at St. Peter
9:30 AM at St. Paul
10:30 AM at St. Peter

CHURCH OF THE WEEK

St. Paul—December 26 through January 1
St. Peter—March 12 through March 18

PARISH SERVICES FOR ST. PETER'S AND ST. PAUL'S

Weekday Liturgies

St. Peter—Monday & Saturday—Word/Communion Service
Tuesday & Thursday—Liturgy 8:15 AM
St. Paul—Wednesday & Friday—Liturgy 8:15 AM

Weekend Liturgies—Effective November 1 through April 30

St. Peter—Sunday 7:30 and 10:30 AM
St. Paul—Saturday 4:30 PM and Sunday 9:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

St. Peter—By Appointment
St. Paul—Saturday 3:30 PM or By Appointment

Baptism — Required sessions to prepare parents for baptism. All sessions begin at 6:30 PM. Call the Parish Office to register for a session or for scheduling a Baptism date. Prefer preparation before child is born.

Marriage

Please call Parish Office to have the guidelines sent to you. You will need at least six months to complete the necessary marriage and wedding preparation. You will then meet with a priest or deacon, liturgy director and a sponsor couple.

New Parishioners

Being registered is part of Parish Life. Call the Parish Office for more information.

Hospital Visits

If you are a patient in the hospital desiring a visit from Fr. Alan, one of the deacons or parish nurses, please call either Parish Office.

Prayer Line

St. Peter—Kim Walz 251-2252
St. Paul—Cathy Zulkosky 255-9957
Email: czulkosky@charter.net

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Thinking about joining the Catholic Church, or learning more about it? Through the RCIA process, our parish communities welcome your interest and questions about the Christian Faith as it is lived and celebrated in the Roman Catholic Tradition. For more information contact:

Deacon David Lindmeier...251-4831Ext 205
Rick Koetter...249-0102