

Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Parish

411 Pioneer Seneca KS 66538

Rev. Arul Carasala, Pastor

www.saintspeterandpaul-seneca.com Email: sppchurch@carsoncomm.com

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Email: sppsecretary@gmail.com

Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic School 409 Elk Seneca KS 66538

Mr. Todd Leonard, Principal - Email: tleonard@spps.school.com

Office: 785-336-2727 Fax: 785-336-3817

Director of Religious Education Mrs. Shannon Holthaus

Email: sppchurchccd@gmail.com 785-294-1328

Baptisms: By appointment

Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30-4:30PM or by appointment

Weddings: Six months advance notice

Mass Schedule:

Weekday Mass: Monday No Mass / Communion Service Only

Tuesday: 6:00PM, Wednesday & Friday: 8:00AM, Thursday: 7:00AM

Saturday: 7:30AM; Reconciliation: 3:30 - 4:30PM; Vigil: 5:00PM

Sunday: 7:00AM, 9:00AM, 11:00AM

April 23rd, 2017



"Jesus I Trust in You" is the message for today, Divine Mercy Sunday. God is forever merciful and He wants no one to escape His merciful love. An insert in today's Bulletin explains Divine Mercy and how to receive His "ocean of graces", especially today on this Feast of Divine Mercy.

In Memoriam - The Rite Of Christian Burial was celebrated on Friday, April 21st for Lynn E. Heiman at Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Seneca by Fr. Daniel Schmitz. Let us remember Lynn and his loved ones in our prayers.

Thank You - The family of Lynn Heiman would like to thank the Altar Society Circles who donated food and the Funeral Committee who organized and served the funeral dinner for Lynn's loved ones.

Flowers - The bouquet on the Main Altar today is in memory of Gary Love on the anniversary of his death, with love from his family.



Time to Clean House!! The St Anne's Altar Society will be cleaning the Church and Fr. Arul's house this Tuesday, April 25th from 5 to 8 PM. A crew will be working at each place. Bring a dust cloth and join us for some in-depth spring cleaning. Everyone is welcome!!

Summer Schedule - The Lectors/Commentators/Servers summer schedule is being formulated. College students, we invite you to continue your ministry by texting 336-1380 or emailing sppweserve@yahoo.com to be included.

Divine Mercy Sunday 2nd Sunday of Easter



The PTO Spring Flower Sale Committee is taking last minute orders until this week Tues April 25th. Don't forget to put your order in. There will be a bright array of colors to brighten your porch or to remember Mom for Mother's Day. Grab an order form from the Narthex table and turn it in at the school office. All proceeds go to improve and maintain the children's nature playground and repair the waterfall. We would appreciate payment at time of order. Call Diana Holthaus with any questions (402-890-2475). Pick up date will be Wednesday May 3rd in the Church parking lot from 3:00-5:30 PM



Catholic Heart Work Camp Pork Chop dinner will be next Sunday, April 30 from 10 AM to 2 PM. at the K of C Hall. A 12 oz pork chop meal is \$14.00. Hot dog meal is \$3.00. Proceeds go to help our youth with transportation to CHWC. Advance tickets may be purchased at Nemaha Co. Courthouse from Kim Bontrager or from Brenda Rottinghaus 336-1266.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: For those interested in becoming a catechist or bringing Catechesis of the Good Shepherd to your parish, a course for adults will begin this summer at SPPS. Dates for the courses are June 8-11 and July 6-9, 2017. If you are already certified in Level 1, a Level 2 course will be offered on those dates as well. Please contact Angie Hammes at 785-294-0442 or angiemhammes@gmail.com



Masses for April 24th to April 30th

Divine Mercy Sunday

Monday **April 24 – St Fidelis of Sigmaringen**
 7:00 AM – Communion Service

Tuesday **April 25 – St Mark the Evangelist**
 No Life Care Mass
 6:00 PM – Communion Service

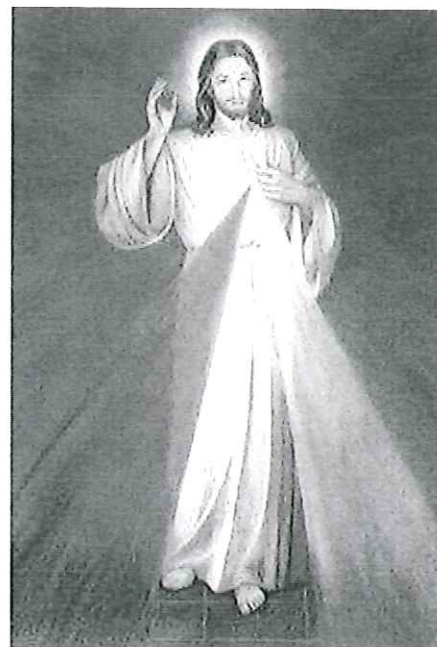
Wednesday **April 26 – Easter Weekday**
 8:00 AM – School Communion Service

Thursday **April 27 – Easter Weekday**
 No Morning Mass
 6:00 PM – Helen Schmelzle &
 L/D Members of George & Evelyn Haverkamp Family

Friday **April 28 – St Peter Chanel, St Louis Grignon de Montfort**
 8:00 AM – Jane Nordhus (Anniv) & John H Rottinghaus

Saturday **April 29 – St Catherine of Siena**
 7:30 AM – George Haug (Anniv) & Gerriann Haug Henry
 5:00 PM – Eldon Fleury

Sunday **April 30 – Third Sunday of Easter**
 7:00 AM – Norman Rethman (Anniv)
 9:00 AM – Dorothy Schraad
 11:00 AM – For Our Parish



Weekday Servers **Thurs 6 PM, Sat 7:30 AM** – Matthew & Joshua Hammes
 Fri 8 AM – SPPS Students

Servers – Saturday & Sunday, April 29 & April 30

5PM	7AM	9AM	11AM
Carter Lutz	Shayla Hammes	Amelia Olberding	Lacie Young
Marley Lutz	Laura Hammes	Hillary Stallbaumer	Julie Rottinghaus
Elliott Crabtree	Parker Wilhelm	Trista Peterson	Ea Schmelzle
Ryan Uphaus	Tyler Gerety	Trent Thomas	Marianna Hammes

Assistants at The Eucharist for Saturday & Sunday, April 29 & April 30

	<u>Lector/*Commentator</u>	<u>Communion</u>	<u>Cup</u>	<u>Cantor</u>	<u>Organist</u>
<u>5:00 PM</u>	Derek Uphaus *Bob Niehues	Paul Boeding Damian Enneking	Marilyn Boeding Mary Jane Hammes	Greg & Anna Kohake	Owen Zinke
<u>7:00 AM</u>	Kristen Hammes *Joan Henry	Rick Henry Jordan Peterson	Collin Feldkamp Camron Feldkamp	Stacy Rethman	Jan Rottinghaus
<u>9:00 AM</u>	Rebecca Haverkamp *Lydia Meyer	Susan Stallbaumer Mike Stallbaumer	Bryant Stallbaumer Mark Sperfslage	K of C Choir	Terry Nordhus
<u>11:00 AM</u>	Michelle Olberding *Colten Hammes	Lynda Cross Carrie Young	Cory Nolte Allison Rottinghaus	Allison Hermes	Deb Rethman

ROSARY LEADERS: 5:00 PM – Bob Niehues

9:00 AM – Joe Kohake

The SPSS PTO would like to thank everyone for their generous support of the bake sale last weekend. It was a huge success! Special thanks to the committee members and all the families who donated their time and delicious baked goods!



Next Rosary at the Cemetery will be on Wednesday, April 26th at 6 PM.

The Nemaha County Training Center is holding a fundraiser at the Willows on May 1st. Please reserve your table at 336-0201. Part of the proceeds will go towards helping NCTC continue to provide services to the mentally disabled. We appreciate your help.

20th Anniversary Kelly Youth Rally News!! Our parish has been invited to attend this 20 year milestone event on August 19th and is open for all youth in grades 7th to 12th in the 2017-2018 year. If your youth would like to attend and needs a form, stop by the Parish Office. All money and forms due to Shannon by May 25th.

CONTRIBUTIONS for HOLY THURSDAY April 13:

Church	Plate	\$	560.00
School		\$	600.00
Flower Offering		\$	20.00
Cemetery		\$	20.00
Lenten Mission	Rice Bowl	\$	353.00
TOTAL	Thank You!!	\$	1,553.00

CONTRIBUTIONS for GOOD FRIDAY April 14

Church	Plate	\$	211.00
School		\$	50.00
Holy Land		\$	343.00
Lenten Mission	Rice Bowl	\$	25.00
TOTAL	Thank You!!	\$	629.00

CONTRIBUTIONS for week of 4/10/17 to 4/16/17:

Weekly Budget is \$15,000.00

Church	Plate	\$	2,025.00
	Envelope	\$	5,613.00
School		\$	160.00
Lent Mission	Rice Bowl	\$	335.00
Easter Offering		\$	2,386.00
TOTAL	Thank You!!	\$	10,519.00

There is an appeal to Catholic Home Missions in your pack of envelopes for this Sunday, April 23. Your donation will be for pastoral programs in needy dioceses across the United States.

Windows Report: Our weekly report now shows a total of \$405,361.97 collected towards our \$600,000.00 goal. Thank you for the generous Easter donations and blessings to everyone who has generously donated and to those who still plan to donate.



Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary are invited to the Archdiocesan 50th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday June 4th, 2017. To receive your invitation, please call the Parish Office 336-2128.

2017-2018 Preschool classes

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

SPSS is taking pre-registrations for the following

M-W-F 4-5 year old AM & PM sessions

T-Th 3-4 year old AM & PM sessions.

For more information or to register, please call the school office at 336-2727.

Scholarships are available.

Sts. Peter & Paul is committed to making Catholic Education available and affordable to all families.



For Communion to the Sick and Home Bound. please call John & Diane Mulryan at 336-3320.

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS:

Sun Apr 30 - CHWC Pork Chop Dinner KofC Hall 10-2

Mon Jun 12 - Fri Jun 16 - Vacation Bible School

SPSS SCHOOL NEWS:

Mon Apr 24 - Track meet at NC 3:00

Tue Apr 25 - PTO Meeting 7:00 PM Dining Hall

Thu Apr 27 - Track meet at Onaga 2:00

Fri May 5 - May Crowning at 8 AM Mass

CCD NEWS:

Wed Apr 26 - Regular Class, Grade School to Dining Hall, HS to your classrooms. Monitors: Marc & Linda Hunzeker and Ben & Renee Sperfslage.

AREA EVENTS

**Annunciation Parish Frankfort Smoked Pork Chop

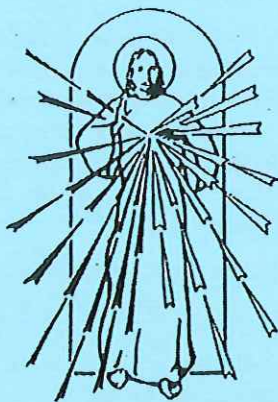
Dinner & Country Store, today, April 23, from 11-1:30 Cigna Center. Take out available, call 292-4462.

**Abundant Love Women's Retreat. April 28-30 at Camp Kateri Tekekwitha. For info go to www.camptekakwitha-womensretreat.com.

**Benefit for Bert: Roberta Morrison, re-hab employee of Crestview Manor for 22 years, has been diagnosed with cancer and is undergoing treatments. Friends and family are having a benefit Saturday May 6 at Corning Community Center from 4 to 9 pm. Pulled pork dinner from 4-7 pm followed by auction.

**Our Lady of Fatima Spiritual Retreat at St. Bede's Parish, Kelly in Church Basement, Sunday May 7th at 2:00 PM. The Fatima Story, "13th Day", based on the memoirs of one of the Visionaries will be shown. No registration fees or RSVP.

**"Save the Date"-August 4th-6th for the Midwest Family Conference in Wichita. Host of activities and speakers. Early Bird specials. See brochure on west Bulletin Board or go to catholicfamilyconference.org or 316-618-9787.



JESUS I TRUST IN YOU

THE MESSAGE

The *Message* of Divine Mercy is that God is merciful. He is love itself poured out for us, and He wants no one to escape that merciful love.

The message is that God wants us to turn to Him with trust and repentance while it is still a time of mercy, before He comes as the just Judge. This turning with trust to Him who is Mercy itself is the only source of peace for mankind. Turning to and imploring God's mercy is the answer to the troubled world. There is no escaping that *answer*.

THE RESPONSE OF TRUST AND CONVERSION

What God most wants of us is to turn to Him with *trust*. And the first act of trust is: *receive* His mercy. To trust God is to rely on Him who is mercy itself. The Lord wants us to live with trust in Him in all circumstances. We trust Him because He is God, and He loves us and cares for us.

His mercy is always available to us, no matter what we have done or what state we are in, even if our sins are as black as night, and we are filled with fears and anxieties.

The greater the sinner, the greater the right he has to my mercy (Diary 723)

But there is more we can do. As Catholics, as Christians, we can go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and be reconciled to God and to man. The Lord wants us to live reconciled with Him and one another.

THE RESPONSE OF MERCY TOWARD OTHERS

Not only are we to *receive* His mercy, but we are to *use* it, by being merciful to others by our actions, by our words, and by our prayers; in other words by practicing the Corporal and Spiritual works of Mercy.

THE MESSAGE of DIVINE MERCY: TRUST and MERCY

The Corporal Works of Mercy are feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, sheltering the travelers, comforting the prisoners, visiting the sick, and burying the dead. The Spiritual Works of Mercy include teaching the ignorant, praying for the living and dead, correct the sinners, counseling those in doubt, consoling the sorrowful, bearing wrongs patiently, and forgiving wrongs willingly.

IT'S SCRIPTURAL

The message of mercy is the content and the challenge of Sacred Scripture. In the Hebrew Bible we see a God of mercy who calls His people to be merciful. In the New Testament Jesus exhorts us:

Be merciful even as your Father is merciful (Lk 6:36 RSV).

He sets the highest goal for us and expects us to obtain it by His merciful love:

Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy (Mt 5:7 RSV).

When He comes again, He will judge us on our mercy toward one another:

Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of my brethren, you did it to me (Mt. 25:40).

IT'S THE CURRENT TEACHING OF POPE JOHN PAUL II:

The message of The Divine Mercy - Jesus Himself - is at the heart of the gospel. The message of mercy presents the truth and the call of the gospel to our present age. This message of mercy is proclaimed by Pope John Paul II, in his encyclical *Rich in Mercy*, as the message for our age.

...the Church must consider it one of her principle duties - at every stage of history and especially in our modern age - to proclaim and to introduce into life the mystery of mercy, supremely revealed in Jesus Christ (14).

MERCY - THE MESSAGE AND RESPONSE THROUGH THE AGES

The message and response of mercy is not something new. In the past God spoke a message of mercy through

the patriarchs and prophets - through Noah, Abraham, Moses, Elijah and many others.

In the last days God has spoken to us by His Son, Jesus Christ, who is Mercy personified and incarnated.

God continues to speak a word of mercy even to our generation, through the Church and its shepherds, and through Holy men and women - mystics - whom God has chosen as His vessels.

In our century He revealed Himself to Sister Faustina, a simple and holy nun in Poland during the 1930's. He called her to be His secretary and His apostle of mercy. He spoke to her of His mercy and the way He wants us to respond to it.

DEVOTION TO THE DIVINE MERCY

Our Lord not only taught Sister Faustina the fundamentals of trust, and of mercy to others, but He also revealed special ways to live out the response to His mercy. These we call the *devotion to The Divine Mercy*. The word "devotion" means fulfilling our vows. It is a commitment of our lives to the Lord who is Mercy itself.

By giving our lives to The Divine Mercy - Jesus Christ Himself - we become instruments of His mercy to others, and so we can live out the command of the Lord:

Be merciful even as your Father is merciful (Lk 6:36 RSV).

Through Sister Faustina, Our Lord gave us special means of drawing on His mercy; an Image of The Divine Mercy, a Chaplet of The Divine Mercy, a Feast of Mercy, a novena, and prayer at the 3:00 o'clock hour - the hour of His death.

These special means are in addition to the Sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation which have been given to the Church.

THE IMAGE OF THE DIVINE MERCY

Jesus appeared to Sister Faustina with rays of red and pale light streaming from the area around His heart. His hand was raised in blessing, recalling the scene of Easter Sunday night (see John 20: 19-23).

He asked Sister Faustina to have this vision painted along with the words, "Jesus, I Trust in You!"

He presented this image to remind people to trust in His mercy, and to come to Him for mercy:

I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy.

That vessel is this image with the signature: *Jesus, I trust in you* (Diary 327).

Jesus explained that the rays represented the blood and water which flowed from His pierced side and taught Sister Faustina the prayer:

O blood and water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in you (Diary 84)

THE CHAPLET OF THE DIVINE MERCY

Our Lord taught Sister Faustina a prayer for mercy that she was to pray "unceasingly."

He told her that by praying in this way her prayers would have great power for the conversion of sinners, for peace for the dying, and even for controlling nature.

We too can pray this chaplet, using ordinary rosary beads of five decades. We begin with the Our Father, Hail Mary and the Creed.

Then, on the large beads we pray:

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On the small beads we pray:

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

And at the end, we pray three times:

Holy God, Holy Mighty One,
Holy Immortal One, have mercy
on us and on the whole world.

THE FEAST OF THE DIVINE MERCY

Our Lord asked Sister Faustina to pray and work towards establishing a Feast of The Divine Mercy on the Sunday after Easter, He told her:

On that day, the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession (eight days before or after) and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment (Diary 699)

It is a day that would celebrate the paschal mystery with a focus on God's covenant of mercy. It would be a day of complete forgiveness and pardon, like the day of atonement in the Old Testament (see Lv 16) - all our sins and the punishment due to them would be atoned for.

We can already celebrate this "Mercy Sunday" by going to Confession (eight days before or after) and Communion on that day. We can honor the mercy of the Lord by our prayers and works of mercy.

THE NOVENA BEFORE THE FEAST

In preparation for the Feast of The Divine Mercy, the Lord asked Sister Faustina to make a novena of prayer from Good Friday to the following Saturday.

These nine days of prayer (the word "novena" means nine) before the Feast of Mercy are like the nine days of prayer in the upper room before the day of Pentecost: (see Acts 1:14).

For each of the nine days, our Lord gave Sister Faustina a different intention: all mankind, especially sinners; the souls of priests and religious; all devout and faithful souls; those who do not believe in Him and those who do not yet know Him; the souls of the separated brethren; the meek and humble souls and the souls of the little children; the souls who especially venerate and glorify His mercy; the souls detained in purgatory; souls who have become lukewarm.

I desire that during these nine days you bring souls to the fount of My Mercy, that they may draw therefrom strength and refreshment and whatever grace they have need of in the hardships of life, and especially at the hour of death (Diary 1209).

We, too, can make a novena of prayer for these intentions and others, especially by praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

THE THREE O'CLOCK HOUR

In his revelations to Sister Faustina, Jesus asked for special, daily remembrance at 3:00 o'clock, the very hour He died for us on the cross:

At three o'clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony: This is

the hour of great mercy for the whole world. I will allow you to enter into My mortal sorrow. In this hour, I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion (Diary 1320).

At 3:00 o'clock we can pray:

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelope the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us (Diary 1319).

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You (Diary 84).

THE SPIRITUAL LIFE OF SISTER FAUSTINA

The spiritual life of Sister Faustina was based on her humility and her obedience to the will of God. On this foundation the structure of her spiritual life was formed - devotion to the Eucharist, Confession, Mary, Suffering and Intercession.

PEACE

The *only source of peace* in our troubled world is the mercy of God. The Lord made it clear to us through Sister Faustina:

Mankind will have no peace until it turns with trust to my mercy! (Diary 300).

The essence of the message and the devotion to The Divine Mercy is: **TRUST and MERCY.**

In the words given to Sister Faustina:
Jesus, I trust in you!

In the words of Jesus in the gospel:
Be merciful even as your Father is merciful (Lk 6:36 RSV).

The Marian Helpers Center, through the Marian Press, has developed extensive material that expands on this message of Divine Mercy, including the TV cassette and 16mm film of the motion picture *Divine Mercy - No Escape*, as well as books, pamphlets and reproductions of the Sacred Image of The Divine Mercy. All these and others are available from:

The Divine Mercy Department
Marian Helpers Center
Stockbridge, MA 01263



Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will.
For further information, please call the Parish Office.

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~ II Corinthians 9:10

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