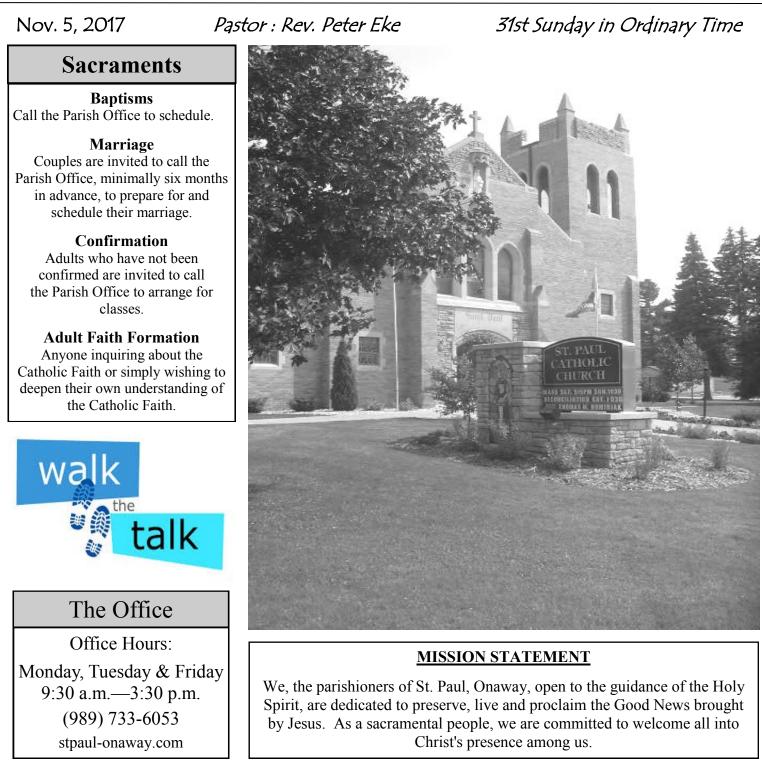


ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH ST. MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH—AFTON



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From the Pastor's Desk

Pope Francis message on All Saints Day

Dear Brothers and Sisters, good morning and happy feast! The Solemnity of All Saints is "our" feast, not because we are good but because God's holiness has touched our life. The Saints aren't perfect models, but persons run through by God. We can compare them to the windows of churches, which let the light enter in different shades of colors. The Saints are our brothers and sisters who received the light of God in their heart and transmitted it to the world, each one according to his own "shade." However, they were all transparent; they struggled to remove the stains and the darkness of sin, so as to have God's kindly light pass through. This is the purpose of life: to have the light of God pass through, and also the purpose of our life.

In fact, today in the Gospel Jesus turns to His own, to all of us, saying to us "Blessed" (Matthew 5:3). It's the word with which He begins His preaching, which is "Gospel," Good News because it is the way of happiness. He who is with Jesus is blessed, is happy. Happiness doesn't lie in having something or in becoming someone, no. True happiness is to be with the Lord and to live for love. Do you believe this? True happiness doesn't lie in having something or in becoming someone: true happiness is to be with the Lord and to live for love. Do you believe this? We must go forward to believe in this. Then, the ingredients for a happy life are called *Beatitudes:* blessed are the simple, the humble that make room for God, who are able to weep for others and for their own mistakes, they are meek, fight for justice, are merciful to all, guard purity of heart, always work for peace and remain joyful; they don't hate and, even when they suffer, they answer evil with good.

Behold the Beatitudes. They don't require glaring gestures; they aren't for supermen, but for one who lives the trials and hardships of every day, for us. Thus are the Saints: like all, they breathe the polluted air of evil that exists in the world; however, on the way they never lose sight of Jesus's trace, that indicated in the Beatitudes, which is like the map of Christian life. Today is the feast of those who have reached the end indicated by this map: not only the Saints of the calendar, but so many "next door" brothers and sisters, who perhaps we have met and known. It's a family feast, of the many simple and hidden persons that in reality help God to send the world forward. And there are so many today! There are so many. Thanks to these unknown brothers and sisters that help God to take the world forward, who live among us. We greet them with a hearty applause!

First of all – says the first Beatitude – they are "poor in spirit" (*Matthew* 5:3). What does it mean? < It means> that they don't live for success, power and money; they know that one who accumulates treasures for himself is not enriched before God (Cf. Luke 12:21). They believe, instead, that the Lord is the treasure of life, love of neighbor the only true source of earnings. Sometimes we are unhappy about something we are lacking or concerned if we aren't considered as we'd like; let us remember that our Beatitude isn't here, but in the Lord and in love: only with Him, only by loving does one live as blessed.

Finally, I would like to quote another Beatitude, which isn't found in the Gospel, but at the end of the Bible, and it talks about the end of life: "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord" (*Revelation* 14:13). Tomorrow we will be called to accompany our dead with prayer, so that they will rejoice forever in the Lord. We remember our dear ones with gratitude and we pray for them.

May the Mother of God, Queen of the Saints and Gate of Heaven, intercede for our journey of holiness and for our dear ones who have preceded us and are now part of the celestial homeland.

[Original text: Italian] [ZENIT's translation by Virginia M. Forrester]

| Mass Intentions |
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|-----------------|

Tuesday, Nov 7th @ 9am + Jim Kloosterman req. Pat Kloosterman

Wednesday, Nov. 8th @ 6pm Rod Harris req. The Fitzpatrick Family

Thursday, Nov. 9th @ 9am + Patricia Gosinski req. The Gosinski Family

Friday, Nov. 10th @ 9am + Deceased Parish Pastors req. The Parish

Saturday, Nov. 11th @ 5pm

+ Tom Ellenberger req. Bill Ellenberger

Sunday, Oct. 12th @ 10am Parishioners of St. Monica / St. Paul

| Readings for Week of Nov. 6th |
|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Mon: Rom 11:29-36 / Lk 14:12-14 |
| Tues: Rom 12:5-16ab / Lk 14:15-24 |
| Wed: Rom 13:8-10 / Lk 14:25-33 |
| Thurs: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 / Jn 2:13-22 |
| Fri: Rom 15:14-21 / Lk 16:1-8 |
| Sat: Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27 / Lk 16:9-15 |
| Sun: Wis 6:12-16 / Ps 63 / 1Thes 4:13-18 / Mt 25:1-13 |

| | | Those in n |
|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Ann Bandish | Theresa Czajka | Jackie Hanel |
| Colleen Berry | Donna Diller | Chuck Hart |
| Wayne Berry | Louise Dorton | Pat Harman |
| Mary Bower | Elvin Eagleson | Yolanda Harrison |
| Bill Breed | William Ellenberger | Jim Hayes |
| Sandra Bunk | Martha Frost | Harry Hopkins |
| Abel Canales | Donna Giessinger | Marlene Hopkins |
| Gary J. Castonia | Vicki Giessinger | Starr Ittu |
| Bob Carter | Vicki Gosinski | Nancy Madison |
| Dorothy Connors | Catherine Green | Mike Marx |
| | | |

Tuesday, November 7th Ladies Study Group 4:30pm AA 8 pm, Hall (Rm. 1 & 2)

Wednesday, November 8th Soup Kitchen 2:30—5:30 pm

Friday, November 10th Eucharistic Minster Re-certification 6:30 pm AA 8 pm, Hall (Rm. 1 & 2)

Sunday, November 12th K-12 Faith Formation 11am





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On Nov. 8th in the Cheboygan High School Auditorium Cheboygan County will be hosting a forum on the Opioid crisis in Cheboygan county. Join them at this informative event to learn more about this epidemic and what we, as a community, can do to find a solution. Wed. Nov. 8th from 6pm-8pm.

Week at a Glance

K—12 Faith Formation

Nov. 12th, 19th, 26th

Knights of Columbus Breakfast THIS Sunday, Nov. 5th 9am—12pm

Stop by and have a great Breakfast.

Altar Society Meeting Mon., Nov. 6th at 4pm in the lounge. Hope to see you there!

When I think about the ministry I undertake in my community of faith, how can I ensure that it always reflects the works of God and not my own agenda?

need of our prayers...

Brittany Maynard Dennis McGuire Sid Merchant Bob Merrick Kathy Merrick Carolyn Mousseau Patrick Mousseau Ann Osantowski **Brent Passino** Anya Pecova

David Riley Roger Rivard Diana Roaers DJ Sayers Norma Schoolcraft Carol Skaaas Frank Sobieralski Karen Sobieralski **Ray Stiles**

Adam & Cristna Sova & their Baby Walter Szymoniak Dave Tesmer Sue Tesmer Shirley Traflet **Bob Turnev** Lois Veihl

Randy Veihl Randy Weber

Bless you for your Stewardship

St. Paul: 10/29/17 Reg. \$1,435.00 + Loose \$377.00 + Fuel \$.00 = \$1,812.00

World Mission Sunday \$45.00 2nd Collection \$206.00

St. Monica: 10/29/17 Reg. \$50.00 + Loose \$0.00 +

Fuel .00 = 50.00

Financial Position as of 9/30/17

St. Paul

| Income | 49,354.03 |
|------------|-----------|
| Expenses | 36,093.78 |
| Net Income | 13,260.25 |

St. Monica

| Income | 3,972.22 |
|----------|----------|
| Expenses | 4,360.60 |
| Net Loss | (388.38) |



Our Parish Rummage Sale is just around the corner on Sat. Nov. 18th. We are now taking donations. Drop off items anytime the office is open, please No tvs or clothes. Thank you!

For those who where unable to attend the Eucharistic Minister re-certification, a second one has been scheduled for Fri. Nov. 10th at 6:30. If you would like to become a minister please come and join us.

The Knights are taking pre-orders for pasties. They will have Beef, Chicken and Apple available. They are selling them for \$4.00 apiece. How can you order? Just find a Knight or just call the office.