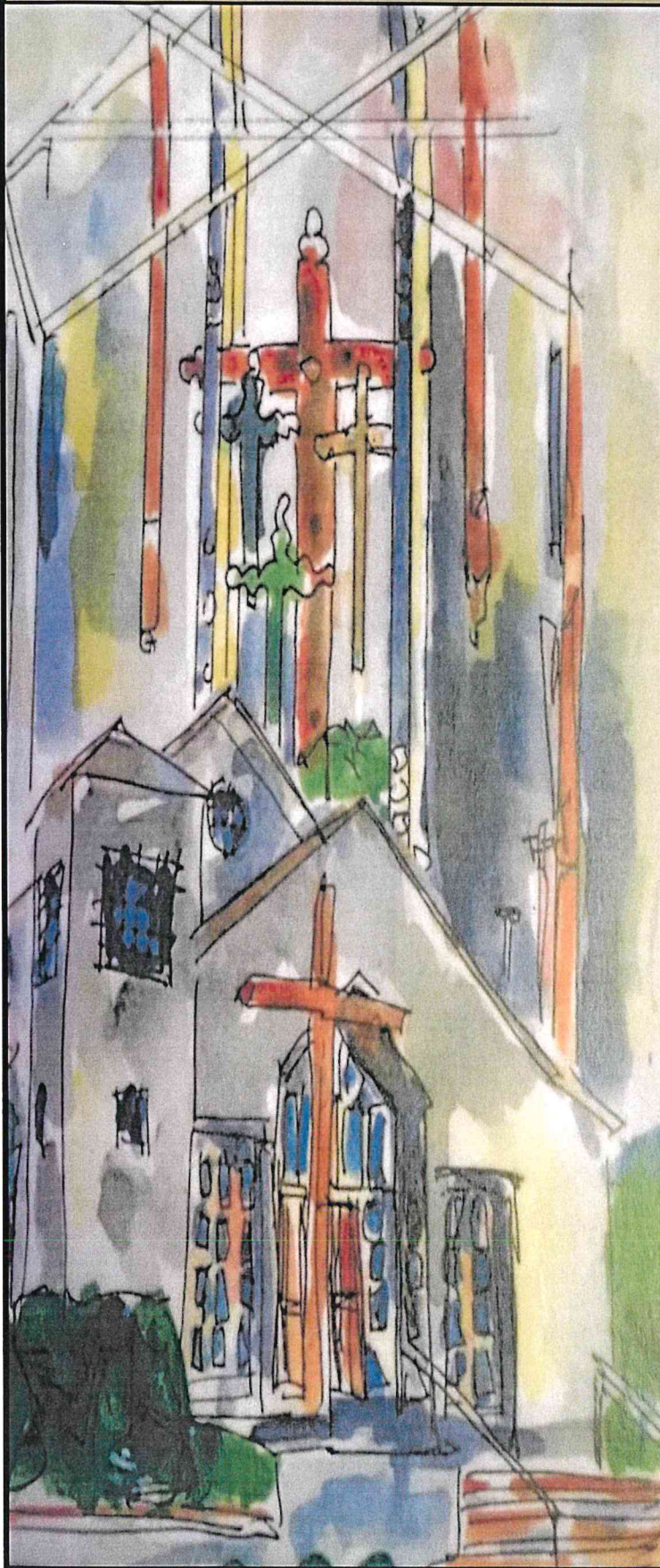


# ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

700 ODDSTAD BLVD., PACIFICA, CA 94044



## Contact Information

Parish Office	650-359-6313
Facsimile	650-359-2262
Elementary Religious Education	650-359-5000
7th & 8th Grade Confirmation	650-359-7178
E-mail	<a href="mailto:stpeterpacifica@comcast.net">stpeterpacifica@comcast.net</a>
Website	<a href="https://stpeterpacifica.org">https://stpeterpacifica.org</a>
Facebook	<a href="http://www.facebook/stpeterpacifica">www.facebook/stpeterpacifica</a>

## Sacrament of Eucharist

### Mass Schedule

#### Weekend Mass

Saturday: 4:30 P.M.

Sunday: 8:30 A.M. and 11:00 A.M.

#### Weekday Mass

Monday: 5:30 P.M.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Fridays: 8:30 A.M.

#### Holy Day Mass

Vigil: 4:00 P.M. Day: 8:30 A.M. & 7:30 P.M.

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30 P.M. — 4:00 P.M., or by appointment.

## Sacrament of Baptism

Contact Sister Hilda Sandoval, 2 months in advance.

## Sacrament of Marriage

Contact the Parish Office, 6 months in advance.

September 21, 2025

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Amos cries out against those who exploit the poor for the sake of extortion and greed. They seek to serve only themselves rather than the Lord. By giving ourselves to God rather than money, we can truly pray with blameless hands for all those in need, especially the poor whom the Lord will raise up.



# ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

## PARISH STAFF

REVEREND JEROME P. FOLEY, Pastor.

SISTER HILDA SANDOVAL, M.F.P., Pastoral Associate and Director of Faith Formation,  
[hilsandoval63@gmail.com](mailto:hilsandoval63@gmail.com).

MR. ANTONIO EIRAS, Director of Music Ministry, [tonyeiras@mac.com](mailto:tonyeiras@mac.com).

MS. VERA GONZALEZ, Office Manager

Mr. Tim Durkin, OUTREACH TO THE ELDERLY AND HOMEBOUND

PARISH COUNCIL  
Mrs. Kathleen Bissell, Chair

LITURGY COMMITTEE  
Mrs. Eileen Barsi, Chair

FINANCE COMMITTEE  
Mr. Dale Fajardo, Chair

### MASS INTENTIONS

SEPTEMBER 22-28, 2025

### MASS READINGS

Mon	22	5:30 P.M.	†Patrick Hanley
Tue	23	8:30 A.M.	†Mary Clark
Wed	24	8:30 A.M.	†Daniel J. Hurley
Thu	25	8:30 A.M.	†Steven Crowell
Fri	26	8:30 A.M.	Barbara Warda
Sat	27	4:30 P.M.	Eric Abellera
Sun	28	8:30 A.M.	†Daniel J. Hurley
		11:00 A.M.	People of St. Peter Parish

Mon	Reading <i>Ezra</i> 1:1-6
22	Responsorial Psalm <i>Psalm</i> 126:1b-6
	Gospel <i>Luke</i> 8:16-18
	<i>Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest</i>
Tue	Reading <i>Ezra</i> 6:7-8,12b,14-20
23	Responsorial Psalm <i>Psalm</i> 122:1-5
	Gospel <i>Luke</i> 8:19-21
Wed	Reading <i>Ezra</i> 9:5-9
24	(Psalm) <i>Tobit</i> 13:2-4,7-8
	Gospel <i>Luke</i> 9:1-6
Thu	Reading <i>Haggai</i> 1:1-8
25	Responsorial Psalm <i>Psalm</i> 149:1b-6a,9b
	Gospel <i>Luke</i> 9:7-9
Fri	<i>Saints Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs</i>
26	Reading <i>Haggai</i> 2:1-9
	Responsorial Psalm <i>Psalm</i> 43:1-4
	Gospel <i>Luke</i> 9:18-22
	<i>Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest</i>
Sat	Reading <i>Zechariah</i> 2:5-9,14-15a
27	(Psalm) <i>Jeremiah</i> 31:10-12b,13
	Gospel <i>Luke</i> 9:43b-45
	<b>TWENTY-SIX SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>
Sun	Reading I <i>Amos</i> 6:1a,4-7
28	Responsorial Psalm <i>Psalm</i> 146:7-10
	Reading II 1 <i>Timothy</i> 6:11-16
	Gospel <i>Luke</i> 16:19-31

**The Feast of St. Francis is celebrated  
Saturday, October 4, 2025.**



**We will bless your pet (s)  
Sunday, October 5 at 12:30 P.M.  
at the St. Francis Garden  
behind the Rectory.**



# September 21, 2025

## Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



After today's readings, we can't say we have not been warned about the dangers of mixed-up priorities. God's Word is so very clear today on the necessity of putting Him first in all areas of our lives.

We see this in the First Reading from Amos. The Lord has harsh words for those who would take advantage of the poor and whose priorities are not aligned with God's.

In the Second Reading from St. Paul's letter to Timothy, Paul gives us the antidote to the self-centeredness condemned in our First Reading. The antidote is to imitate Christ, "who gave Himself as a ransom for all." Rather than thinking of Himself and how to "get ahead," Christ gave Himself away — completely — for our sake. That is how we are to live.

In our Gospel passage from Luke, the Lord shows us how to bridge the gap between worldly thinking and priorities and eternal thinking and priorities. Jesus tells the parable of the corrupt but clever steward who is about to be fired when the master discovers the steward has been squandering his property. Realizing his imminent unemployed status, the clever steward reaches out to the various debtors of his master to wheel and deal with them, making friends who would look out for him when he became jobless.

What if we put that kind of effort into our own tasks as good stewards of all God's gifts to us? Into our ministries, into the ways we could make more time for prayer as individuals, as couples, as families, and as a parish? What if we got as creative as the "bad steward" in the use of our finances so that we could give more generously to the poor and the advancement of God's kingdom on the earth? That's our lesson and our challenge.

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2025 SECOND COLLECTION | MAINTENANCE**

For the continued upkeep in maintaining the Church to keep the facilities operational and to cultivate and care for the gardens, trees and grounds surrounding St. Peter Church.



## SELF-ESTEEM AND THE LOVE OF GOD

By Dr. Jeff Mirus

It is possible to make a circle through four rooms in my home, and I frequently pace that circle when I'm praying a Rosary or trying to work out ideas for a column. On each circle I notice a large photograph of my youngest son surrounded by six of his nieces and nephews (of which there are now ten, the oldest of which is about half his age). It is a joyful reminder to me of the important things in life, and it always strikes me as good that they all look happy to be photographed. Of course, most kids are happy to be photographed, and many people of all ages enjoy watching goofy videos of themselves on cell phones and tablets. Not to mention looking in the mirror! It seems that we are very interested in ourselves. And so we should be.

But sometimes this interest has a downside. We may be less happy than we could be because we are not so much interested in ourselves as we are preoccupied with ourselves. We may dwell too much on either our goodness or our deficiencies. We may always feel we have something to prove. We may insist on being the center of attention. And at the very same time, we may suffer from feelings of worthlessness, before others and even before God.

This is paradoxical, because the very bedrock of our self-worth is God's infinite love for us. Or to put the matter more personally, I am enabled to possess a truly healthy sense of self-worth and a deep personal happiness when I recognize that God made me for Himself and that He loves me not only infinitely but personally.

Unfortunately, there are many reasons why a person might lack this sense of God's love, even if he or she has a deep religious faith. It can be caused in us by abusive parents or by divorce, by psychological incapacities of various kinds, and by our own sins — even if we are fighting with those sins. In fact, some of the sins which are most difficult to eradicate, such as struggles with impurity, involve natural psycho-somatic responses which can create or add to a sense of shame. Like Adam and Eve, we sense our utter nakedness, and the Devil exploits our shame to make us hide from God (Genesis 3:10). Then there are people who are either ignorant of God or have been carefully taught to reject the very idea of God. Their sense of self-worth will necessarily depend on things which are far less sure than God's love.

Even when we understand that we are made for God and that He loves us, there can still be complications. Precisely because we are made for God, we feel incomplete until we are united perfectly with Him. This is supposed to spur us to seek fulfillment in the right place, but very often we interpret it wrongly.

We frequently tinker with the wrong things to "cure" our discontent. We may turn to material possessions or drugs or alcohol.

We may insist that others must change, exaggerating their perceived deficiencies as causes of our unhappiness, when in fact they are not the cause at all.

We may constantly change our occupations or other aspects of our situation, only to have the same restlessness return. We may feel sad, depressed or even desperate, all because we misunderstand this deep yearning within ourselves.



The modern secular world tends to deal with this problem by constantly teaching us that we are all wonderful, even in ways that are demonstrably false. What we might call the reflexive school of positive self-esteem proceeds by concealing the truth that we are both flawed and weak.

But since reality rears its ugly head repeatedly in everyone's life, the gap between what we are told about ourselves and our "performance" in the real world constantly reminds us that something is still wrong.

The reflexive school of positive self-esteem too often reduces self-knowledge, breeds selfishness, and fosters unreasonable expectations. Seven devils enter into a well-swept but totally empty house (Matthew 12:45)!

Against this modern background, the Christian is inclined to ask how it is possible to build self-esteem without fostering damaging illusions. Fortunately, it is precisely this question that Father Michel Esparza answers in his new book from Scepter Press, *Self-Esteem without Selfishness: Increasing Our Capacity for Love*.

## THE SECRET TO BALANCE

Fr. Esparza's book is divided into two parts. In the first, "Pride and its Difficulties", the author treats the problem of self-love intellectually. He identifies the nature of love; the genuine need for self-love; the problems posed by distortions such as pride and false humility; the potential impediments to both love and self-esteem arising from deficiencies of desire, knowledge or capacity; and the proper approach toward the ideal balance, which he calls "humble self-esteem".

This part of the book presents an analysis necessary to grasping the nature of the problem and its solution. It should help a reader to recognize false conceptions which are holding him back.

The author also explains why God is at the center of this discussion, and that we cannot possibly have an unshakable basis for "humble self-esteem" — still less accept our own faults without hating ourselves — if we do not recognize God's unconditional love, that is, *the infinite delight He takes in me*.

As important as this is, however, I would suggest that Part One does not yet speak primarily to the heart and the spirit. We learn from it, but we may not yet be led in it to experience God's embrace.

That is why Part Two is so important. Entitled "Towards a Definitive Solution", the second half of the book remedies these necessary weaknesses of human reason. Building on the earlier material, Fr. Esparza now explores the reasons of the heart: Our conversion to love, all of the various manifestations of God's love for us, and the power of God's mercy.

Here we are more likely to experience the beginnings of a sweet surrender to the Divine bands of love, a love which can be frustrated in us not by our sins, not by our constant failings, not by our bad habits, not by the deficiencies which make our personal reformations so distressingly slow — not by any of these, but only by our refusal to permit God to love us.

Only by my refusal to permit God to love me.





*Coming Soon !*

*The Holiday Boutique*

Saturday, November 8, 2025 from 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.  
and

Sunday, November 9, 2025 from 9:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

As the preparations get underway for this exciting holiday event, we are requesting your help for *Newly Purchased Donations* for the Beautiful *Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas and Children's Baskets*.

Needed are items that would be very useful for any member of the family of any age or for the home. Please consider what you would like to receive or what you would like to use.

DONATIONS ARE DUE BY MONDAY, OCTOBER 20TH.



SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY COLLECTION | SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

PARISH CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 22-28, 2025

Offertory \$4,868.50  
Archdiocese Annual Appeal \$1,555.77

ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Assessment: \$62,962.00  
Collected: \$25,896.00 Balance: \$37,066.00

WE SHARE ONLINE COLLECTION — \$1,134.11  
SEPTEMBER 6-12, 2025

Offertory	\$818.97
Maintenance	\$28.08
Church Roof Fund	\$28.08
Religious Education	\$19.07
Saint Vincent de Paul	\$28.08
Archdiocese Annual Appeal	\$145.85
Catholic University of America	\$65.98

We Share is an Online Giving tool for members to go online and provide a quick and simple way to support your parish, St. Peter. We Share is convenient, fast, easy & safe. Donors register in the privacy of their home. Donors can make a one-time donation or a recurring donation.

This saves time writing out checks or making sure you have cash on hand.

To sign-up for St. Peter's online giving, *We Share*, please visit <https://stpeterpacifica.org> and go to the Donation Heading at the top bar.

Call the Parish Office at 650-359-6313 if you need further information or assistance.

Mon 22

3:00 P.M. Chaplet of Divine Mercy  
5:30 P.M. Evening Mass

Tue 23

8:30 A.M. Daily Mass  
3:00 P.M. Chaplet of Divine Mercy  
3:45 P.M. Religious Education  
3:45 P.M. Confirmation  
7:00 P.M. OCIA

Wed 24

8:30 A.M. Daily Mass  
3:00 P.M. Chaplet of Divine Mercy  
3:00 P.M. Religious Education  
3:00 P.M. Confirmation  
7:00 P.M. Confirmation  
7:00 P.M. Choir Practice

Thu 25

8:30 A.M. Daily Mass  
3:00 P.M. Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Fri 26

8:30 A.M. Daily Mass  
3:00 P.M. Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Sat 27

3:00 P.M. Chaplet of Divine Mercy  
3:30 P.M. Sacrament of Reconciliation  
4:30 P.M. Mass

Sun 28

8:30 A.M. Mass  
11:00 A.M. Mass

The **St. Peter Gift Card Fundraiser** takes place year-round. The gift cards are very popular and are used with popular stores, including a Visa Gift Card that may be used at any retail store. They are the perfect gift for every occasion: birthdays, graduation, all holiday's, or just to say 'Thank You'.

Do you purchase groceries, gifts or items for the home? Purchasing our Gift Cards helps support St. Peter. It is a gift that allows the recipient to purchase what they want or need. These cards are also very safe and you simply discard them when the total value is used.

**Gift Cards sold after all weekend masses and at the Parish Office, Monday—Friday, 9 A.M.—5 P.M.**

Gift Card Denomination (s) for sale and the **Rebate Percentage** made by St. Peter with each card sold:

Safeway	50.00 & 100.00	<b>4%</b>	Target	25.00	<b>2.5%</b>	Ross	25.00	<b>8%</b>
Visa	50.00 & 100.00	<b>1.25%</b>	Amazon	25.00	<b>2%</b>	Starbucks	10.00	<b>4.5%</b>
Shell	50.00 & 100.00	<b>1.5%</b>	Union 76	100.00	<b>1.5%</b>	Chevron	50.00 & 100.00	<b>1%</b>





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## ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

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and click on *Resources* and then  
click on *Parish Registration*.

Print the Form, fill-out and re-  
turn to the Parish Office.

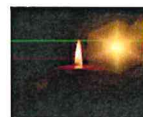
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## Space Available

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SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME