



St. Peter and Paul ACCS Pilgrimage 2025

September 6th, 2025



1. Event Purpose

The purpose of this event is to draw the attention of Scouts and other pilgrims to three items:

1. The majesty of the Cathedral of St. Paul, the seat of our Archdiocese
2. The beauty of God's creation, especially the Mississippi River valley
3. The historic nature of St. Peter parish in Mendota, the oldest continuously operating Catholic Church in Minnesota

2. Schedule of Events

Time	Event
7AM	Check-in opens outside St. Peter Church (no building access)
7:45AM	Last bus leaves for Cathedral of St. Paul
8:00AM	Regular Saturday Mass at the Cathedral of St. Paul
End of Mass through 10:00AM	Self-guided tour options of Cathedral of St. Paul
10:30AM	St. Peter main building opens
11:00AM	Tours begin of historic St. Peter Church
11:30AM	Lunch service opens in St. Peter Heritage Hall
2:00PM	Tours end of historic St. Peter Church Lunch service ends in St. Peter Heritage Hall
3:00PM	St. Peter main building closes

3. Pilgrimage Route

Pilgrims will be bussed from St. Peter in Mendota to the Cathedral of St. Paul or may arrange their own transportation.

The pilgrimage route will run from the Cathedral of St. Paul downhill along West Kellogg Street across the Wabasha Street Bridge and into Harriet Island Regional Park.

Pilgrims will then continue along the Big Rivers Regional Trail to St. Peter in Mendota. This will be a seven-mile hike. While this route is slightly longer than other options, it passes through green space for the longest duration and should provide the most pleasant route.

Limited return options will exist at the southwest corner of the parking lot you encounter as you exit Harriet Island Regional Park (about one mile into the hike) and at the Lilydale Trailhead (where Big Rivers Trail meets Lilydale Road near the Pool and Yacht Club). If you need to return to St. Peter, you should advance to the next return option and not backtrack. The return options will stop service after the last hiker passes.

4. Lunch

Lunch will be served in the St. Peter Heritage Hall. Breakfast will not be provided.

5. Emergency Response

If a dire emergency is encountered, call 911 and try to identify your location in St. Paul or along the Big River Trail in Mendota. To report non-emergency concerns (such as poor Scout behavior), call or text Pilgrimage Chairman Paul Epstein at 716-909-7339. For a pick-up outside of the return options identified above, try to work towards the main road and flag down a pilgrimage van or call Paul Epstein.