



**ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS**  
AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD

JOSHUA 24:15

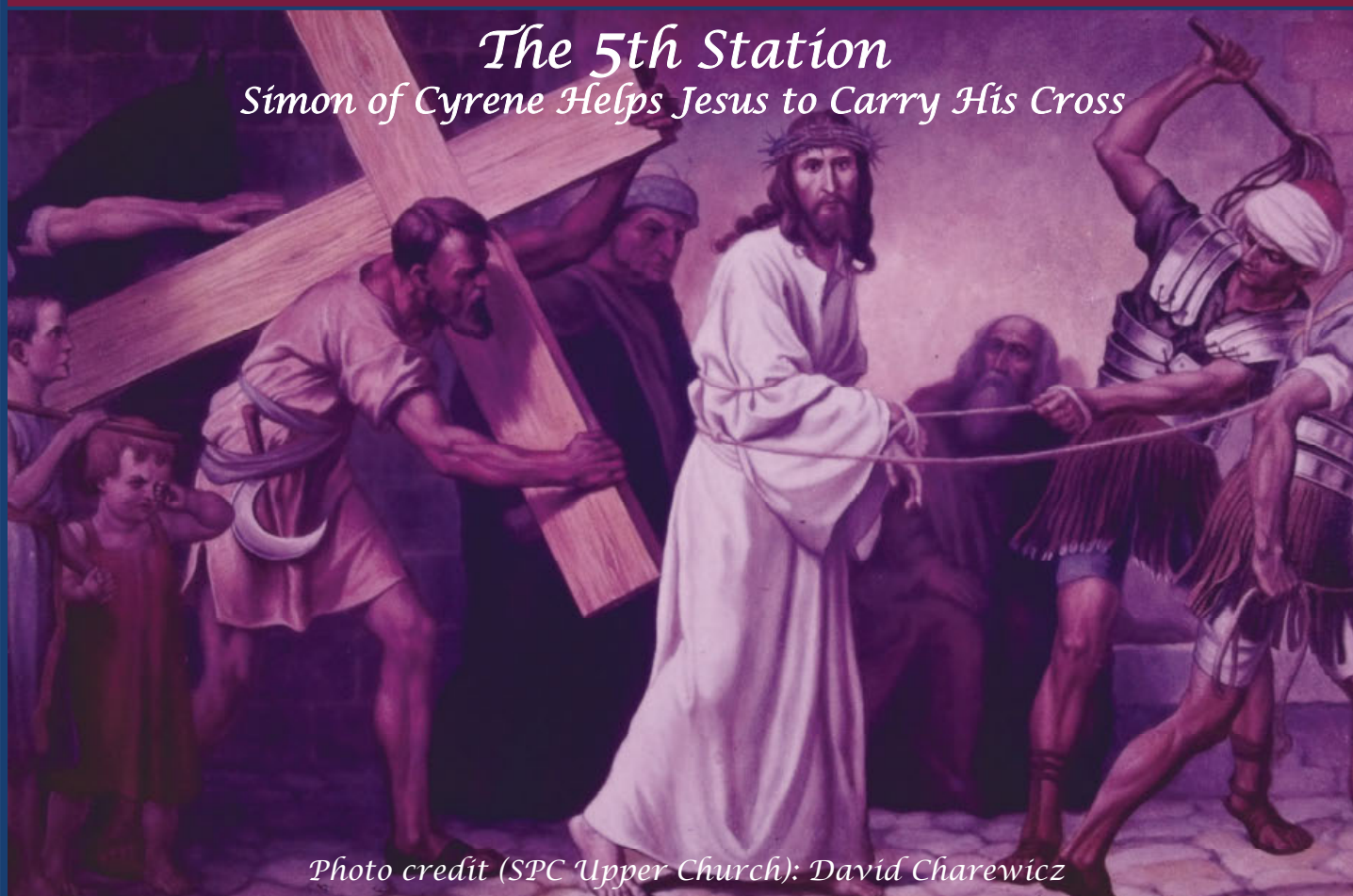
*March 26, 2023*

**5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**



*The 5th Station*

*Simon of Cyrene Helps Jesus to Carry His Cross*



*Photo credit (SPC Upper Church): David Charewicz*

*Lord, you opened the eyes and heart of Simon of Cyrene, and you gave him, by his share in your Cross, the grace of faith. Help us to realize that it is a grace to be able to share the cross of others and, in this way, know that we are walking with you along the way.*

# March 26, 2023 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



*In her grief and sadness at the death of her brother Lazarus, Martha professes her belief in Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God. As the season of Lent draws to a close, in what ways have the last 40 days strengthened your faith in Jesus as our Lord and Savior?*

## Schedule

### MASS

Monday through Friday 6:25 am  
8:30 am  
Saturday (weekday Mass) 8:30 am  
Saturday (vigil) 4:30 pm  
Sunday 7:30 am  
9:00 am  
10:30 am  
12:00 pm

### CONFESSIONS

(confessionals located in church vestibule)

Monday through Friday 8-8:15 am  
Saturday 3-4:00 pm

### FUNERALS

Monday through Saturday Morning

### WEDDINGS

Friday and Saturday

### BAPTISMS

Saturday and Sunday

All services take place in our Upper Church

## Pray for our Sick

names remain for two months



Delaney Bartz  
Sunny Greinke  
Carole Zachary



## In Loving Memory

Julie Daly  
Michelle Liskov  
Daniel Ward



## Holy Week and Easter Schedule

Please see page 13 for our Holy Week and Easter schedule of services

## Baptisms

### QUINN CLAIRE MONIRI

daughter of Arman Moniri and Meghan Freier

### BRIDIE MARIE GREGO

daughter of Ryan Grego and Sara Waite

### PIERCE THOMAS GREGO

son of Thomas Grego and Arianna Darling

### DELLA LOREEN SAMPSON

daughter of Brandon Sampson and Shannon Grego

### ROCCO BENEDICT BABBO

son of Martin F. Babbo and Amy Sauer

### GRIFFIN DANIEL WALSH

son of Patrick Walsh and Clare Griner



## Stewardship Report

### WEEKLY OFFERING (March 12th – March 18th)

Envelopes	\$12,544.00
Loose	\$6,808.01
Electronic Giving	\$11,058.50
<b>Total Weekly Offering</b>	<b>\$30,410.51</b>

### ADDITIONAL COLLECTIONS (thru March 18th)

Lenten Almsgiving	\$14,496.00
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### ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL DATA

<b>2023 Annual Catholic Appeal</b> (through March 20th)(goal: \$142,718.00)	\$87,594.00 paid (61%) \$97,037.00 pledged (68%)
<b>Sunday Giving Fiscal YTD Total</b> (July 1st through March 18th)	\$1,337,610.74
<b>Sunday Giving Fiscal YTD vs. Budget</b> (July 1st through February 28th)	+\$164,413.01

## Readings for the Week

**SUN, 3/26:** Ez 37:12-14 / Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7) / Rom 8:8-11 / Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

**MON, 3/27:** Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62 / Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 / Jn 8:1-11

**TUE, 3/28:** Nm 21:4-9 / Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21 / Jn 8:21-30

**WED, 3/29:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 / Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 / Jn 8:31-42

**THU, 3/30:** Gn 17:3-9 / Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 / Jn 8:51-59

**FRI, 3/31:** Jer 20:10-13 / Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 / Jn 10:31-42

**SAT, 4/1:** Ez 37:21-28 / Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 / Jn 11:45-56





## Letter from a Pastor to his People



Dear Parishioners,

We are blessed here at Saint Paul of the Cross with beautiful Stations of the Cross. You've been previewing some of them as the bulletin covers the last few weeks. This week's bulletin cover is the 5th Station – Simon Helps Jesus Carry the Cross. I love all of our Stations, but I particularly find this one striking. It is not my favorite Station – next week I'll reveal that secret – but I do want to make a few comments about it.

First is the presence of Simon of Cyrene's two sons – Alexander and Rufus. Mark is the only Gospel that mentions Simon's two boys. Were they actually present with the father at the crucifixion? We don't know for sure, but I appreciate the license the artist takes in asserting their presence. This is a powerful moment for the family. This is a powerful demonstration of fatherhood and discipleship.

The boys are pretty classic. The older boy, Alexander, seems to be following along, perhaps carrying a mock sword or javelin. He is upright with a sense of pride in his father's actions. He will mimic his father one day in integrity and service. The younger boy, holding his older brother's hand, looks sleepy, like he'd rather be watching Saturday morning cartoons. But Rufus isn't watching cartoons. He's with his brother and father. It might be a struggle, but there's no place he'd rather be.

And Simon, the father, would rather have his children with him than off by themselves doing something else. He wants them in the presence of God. Yes, the crucifixion was brutal and probably not appropriate for children (it wasn't appropriate for adults!), but Simon knows the benefits this will have for his boys.

Parents, a word of encouragement to you. Don't be afraid to bring your children to Mass or to talk to them about Jesus or to pray together. It might be uncomfortable and

they might squirm, but the long-term benefits of their presence at Mass is more important than the short-term agony. And don't worry if you get looks from folks around you in the pews. They don't matter. Focus on Jesus. He wants you and your children there, just like he wanted Simon and the boys.

You'll notice Simon has his reaper's sickle attached to his belt. Here is a man ready for the harvest. Well, he's already begun by witnessing to his boys. They are the first fruits of the harvest. Tradition has it that Alexander and Rufus became missionaries, which is why they were included by Mark. They became saints because of their father.

One final comment about the painting: the posture of Christ. This is the only station where our Lord "breaks the third wall" and looks directly at us. It's like he's inviting you and me to help him carry his cross. He's inviting us to be faithful mothers and fathers. He's inviting us to be harvesters.



This week's **Lenten Monday Evening of Prayer** will feature our former pastor, Fr. Britto Berchmans, who will give the talk on prayer starting at 7pm. Again, we will have Eucharistic Adoration starting at 6pm and Confessions at 6:30pm.

We are also excited to have this week's **Stations of the Cross** on Friday at 7pm hosted by the Apostolate of Women. The ladies of our parish will lead the Stations using the version, "Stations through the eyes of Mary."

Another word of thanks to all who have contributed to our **Lenten Almsgiving Project** for the Church in Cuba. We were planning this upcoming weekend to have the Archbishop of Santiago de Cuba present with us to preach on the mission, but unfortunately travel restrictions have prevented anyone from being present this weekend. Please see inside the bulletin letters from the Archbishop and the Cuban Conference of Bishops thanking us specifically for our generosity.

As I mentioned last week, if you would be interested in helping reboot a **children's Mass down in the Holy Family Chapel**, please send me an email!

Yours in Christ,

## Reflections from our Community



### FIGHTING AGAINST THE SIN OF ENVY

During Lent we seek to grow in virtue primarily by adopting or increasing our practice of prayer, fasting, and charity. Perhaps focusing on eliminating a vice by giving up something unhealthy or seeking to become detached from some earthly comfort, such as sweets. The latter is often tied to gluttony which is one of the capital sins along with pride, greed, lust, envy, wrath, and sloth. Today I want to focus on envy and a prescription for its corresponding virtue.

The catechism describes envy as a sadness at the sight of another's goods and the immoderate desire to acquire them for oneself, even unjustly. St Augustine saw envy as a diabolical sin:

"From envy are born hatred, detraction, calumny, joy caused by the misfortune of a neighbor, and displeasure caused by his prosperity." Early on in the Bible in the book of Genesis, we read

the story of Joseph and his brothers. The brothers are jealous of him and the dreams he received, and they decided to kill him but ended up selling him into slavery. Jealousy often leads to a destructive act and possibly deception to cover one's tracks. I have experienced it myself in becoming jealous of my brother priests if they are more charismatic, or better preachers, or more advanced in the spiritual life. First, we need to gain insight from God to notice how this might be happening in our life, then move to the sacrament of reconciliation.

We need the help of God's grace to grow in virtue. In this case, the antidote is fraternal charity. This means loving our neighbor, seeing them as a child of God, as a brother or sister in Christ. So, what might that look like in the case of envy? Glorify God by rejoicing in your brother's progress. For me, I am glad that my brother priest is talented and successful in ministry to win souls for Christ which is why we do much of what we do. We ask the Holy Spirit to purify our desires and order them to the things of God. Humility is a key component; hence it is vital to realize our dependence on God and have gratitude for the blessings he has bestowed on us. Ultimately, we want to abandon ourselves to the providence of God who we trust knows what is best for us.

Fr. Nicholas Cavallari, Associate Pastor

## Mass and Presider Schedule / Mass Intentions

FEAST DAY	TIME	PRESIDER	MASS INTENTIONS
<b>MONDAY, 3/27</b> Lenten Weeday	6:25 am	Fr. Nick	Dale Erickson
	8:30 am	Fr. James	Dominic Grimaldi, John and Patricia Brennan, Joe Kelly, Betty Henneman
<b>TUESDAY, 3/28</b> Lenten Weekday	6:25 am	Fr. James	Irma Hoehne
	8:30 am	Fr. Nick	Matthew Ogrodowski, Dominic Grimaldi, Alfredo del Rosario
<b>WEDNESDAY, 3/29</b> Lenten Weekday	6:25 am	Fr. James	Anne Stuerhoff
	8:30 am	Fr. James	Josephine Crawley, Molly and Michael McCracken
<b>THURSDAY, 3/30</b> Lenten Weekday	6:25 am	Fr. Nick	Mary Gormley
	8:30 am	Fr. Nick	Don and Delores Haderlein, Joanne Dawson, John Kennelly
<b>FRIDAY, 3/31</b> Lenten Weekday	6:25 am	Fr. Nick	Holy Souls in Purgatory
	8:30 am	Fr. James	Pat and Kathleen Moriarty
<b>SATURDAY, 4/1</b> Lenten Weekday	8:30 am	Fr. James	Larry Becker, Birthday Blessings for Ella Law
	4:30 pm	Fr. Nick	Joseph DiCola, Danuta Okrzesik
<b>SUNDAY, 4/2</b> Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	7:30 am	Fr. James	Robert Marshall, Gerald Rozek, Dennis Jason
	9:00 am	Fr. Nick/KG*	Vicente Llanes, Sr., Thu T. Tran, People of the Parish
	10:30 am	Fr. James	Marco DiFranco, Harry O'Brien, Patricia Murray, Healing and Blessings for Robert J. Collins
	12:00 pm	Fr. Nick	Daniel Heneghan, Michelle Liskov, Carmen Nowak

\*LEGEND: /KG = Deacon Kevin Gregus preaching



## Liturgical Ministers Schedule (please email [schedule@spc-church.org](mailto:schedule@spc-church.org) with any questions)

MASS	LECTOR	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS
<b>SATURDAY, 4/1</b> 4:30 pm	Marjorie Ochsner, Izabella Stachowicz	Karl Ochsner, Marie Oppedisano, Kathy Ramirez, Heather Rusk	Elizabeth Tworek, Tommy Fuller, Kelly Boggins
<b>SUNDAY, 4/2</b> 7:30 am	Anastasia Jakubow, Jim Johnston	Michael Angelini, Reggie Higgins Reither, Kathy Jarosch, Shirley Patras	Nolan Gradoville, Alyssa Sorce, Liam Stanton
<b>SUNDAY, 4/2</b> 9:00 am	John Tallman, Frances Johnson	Will Alicea, Margie Alicea, Donna Donovan, Sandra Hernandez	Gavin Gardiner, Katie Johnston, Patrick Sikora
<b>SUNDAY, 4/2</b> 10:30 am	Joni Haley, Susan Davis	David Dempsey, Dan Hogan, Kathleen A. McMahon, Iryna Olyva	Keenan Ekizian, Billy Fletcher, Lily Zwierczyk
<b>SUNDAY, 4/2</b> 12:00 pm	Neda Naum, Ann Solari-Twadell	Joan Keefe, Patti Nowak, Kevin Wiley, OPEN	Jack Katich, Zach Schmidt, Keenan Ekizian

## Events this Week

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Sunday, March 26th	8:30 pm	Parish Life Center Gym	Men's Pick-Up Basketball
Monday, March 27th	6:00 pm	Upper Church	Monday Evening of Prayer ( <i>prayer talk by Father Britto</i> )
Monday, March 27th	7:30 pm	Parish Life Center AB Room	Book Club: The Universal Christ
Thursday, March 30th	7:30 pm	Kinane Center	Praying with Scripture (Lectio Divina)
Friday, March 31st	7:00 pm	Upper Church	Stations of the Cross
Friday, March 31st	n/a	online	Disciple Maker Index (DMI) Survey Responses Due
Saturday, April 1st	7:00 am — 7:00 pm	American Women's Medical Center	40 Days for Life — The Beginning of the End of Abortion

### LENT OPPORTUNITIES



#### MONDAY EVENINGS OF PRAYER

**6:00 pm - 7:30 pm**

Eucharistic Adoration

**6:30 pm - 7:00 pm**

Confessions

**7:00 pm - 7:25 pm**

Special Prayer Talks:

March 27th: Father Britto

April 3rd: Deacon Kevin

**7:25 pm - 7:30 pm**

Night Prayer and Benediction

#### FRIDAY STATIONS

**7:00 pm:** March 24th and 31st

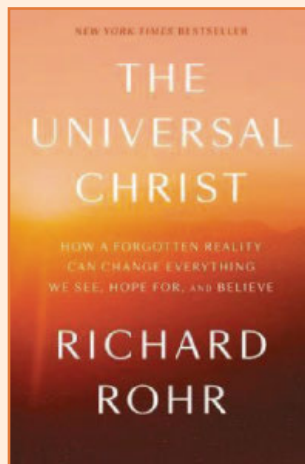
**3:00 pm:** April 7th

### BOOK CLUB

**MONDAY, MARCH 27th**

**7:30 pm**

Parish Life Center AB Room



Join us for our next book club meeting where we will be discussing **THE UNIVERSAL CHRIST** by Richard Rohr.

**All are welcome!**

### DISCIPLE MAKER INDEX (DMI) SURVEY

**Submission Deadline:**  
**March 31st**

All parishioners are invited to participate in a brief 10-15 minute confidential survey. Your input will help shape various ministries as we plan for the future and strive to be the best parish we can be.

We will share what we have learned with the entire parish.

Visit our website at [www.spc-church.org](http://www.spc-church.org) for the link to complete the survey. If you prefer a paper copy, please call the parish office at **847-825-7605**.

**Thank you for your input!**

## Additional Opportunities

### 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

**SATURDAY, APRIL 1st**

7:00 am — 7:00 pm

American Women's Medical Center  
2744 N Western Ave  
Chicago, IL

*The Beginning of  
the End of Abortion*

Come to the American Women's  
Center and pray with many  
others for an end to abortion.

St. Paul of the Cross is joining  
St. Mary of the Angels on  
Saturday, April 1st.  
Fr. Nick will be there  
from 10:00 am until noon.



### SPC BLOOD DRIVE

**PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 2nd**

8:00 am — 2:00 pm / PLC Gym

### BLOOD DRIVE NEXT WEEK!

To make it a great experience...

- Make an appointment and bring a friend!
- Eat two hours before
- Stay hydrated
- Bring a photo ID
- Fill out the Vitalant fast track form on the day of the drive

Call **Christine Perille** at **847-494-5150**  
or **Eileen Kaczmarek** at **847-533-7952**  
or visit [www.vitalant.org](http://www.vitalant.org) to make an  
appointment — use code **ORDORG08**  
for **St. Paul of the Cross**. If you have  
medical or travel questions, call  
**877-258-4825** and choose option **#1**

**Everyone will receive a Culver's  
coupon... Give a pint, get a pint!**  
**See you next week!**

### NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

**SUNDAY, APRIL 2nd**

8:30 am — 12:00 pm

Parish Life Center



Members of the

### NEW PARISHIONER WELCOME MINISTRY

will be available on April 2nd  
from 8:30 until noon to register  
new parishioners, answer any  
questions, and distribute  
welcome packets.

**Please note that Donut Sunday  
will not be held during Lent**

### THE WORD ON THE STREET

**TUESDAY, APRIL 25th**

7:00 am — 9:00 pm

Harp & Fiddle

110 Main St, Park Ridge



Save the date for our next  
**WORD ON THE STREET**  
event featuring Bishop Mark  
Bartosic and Fr. James Wallace.

**All are welcome!**  
**We look forward to seeing you!**

### FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

**SATURDAY, APRIL 29th**

11:30 am — 1:15 pm

740 Wiley Farm Court  
Schaumburg, IL 60173

The Apostolate of Women's Service  
Pillar is organizing a service event  
with Feed My Starving Children, led  
by Anna Fioravanti. Volunteers are  
needed to help pack meals that will  
be delivered to hungry children all  
over the world. Ages 5 and up can  
register; all children must be  
accompanied by an adult. Register  
for your spot at [www.fmssc.org/join-  
group?joincode=X8E4L1](http://www.fmssc.org/join-group?joincode=X8E4L1) before it's  
too late — 78 of 148 spots are  
already filled!

ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS  
**APOSTOLATE  
of WOMEN**

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS *and* LECTORS NEEDED

**FOR HOLY WEEK *and*  
EASTER SERVICES**

*(see schedule on page 13)*



Sign up sheets are in the sacristy

**Thank you for your  
commitment to serve!**



## Good Friday Opportunities

### WAY OF THE CROSS through DOWNTOWN CHICAGO

**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7th, at 8:30 am**

**DALEY PLAZA (DEARBORN/WASHINGTON)**

You are invited to the 17th annual **WAY OF THE CROSS** around downtown Chicago. Sponsored by the Lay Ecclesial Movement Communion and Liberation, and joined by auxiliary bishops, seminarians, and diocesan priests, this procession attracts hundreds of people each year, making the event an exceptional experience of the presence of Christ among us and a witness for the whole city of Chicago.

Especially in these difficult times where many have lived grief, bewilderment, and solitude, we want to re-propose this public gesture as a possibility for everyone to live and witness the communion with the Lord, who is the true loving answer to our needs and is present in our unity. **During the procession, we will follow the cross silently through the busy city, living the memory of the Passion of the Lord, with stops that include gospel readings, meditations, and choir music.**



We will gather at 8:30 am at Daley Plaza and conclude at Holy Name Cathedral around 11:45 am, stopping at the Veterans Memorial on the river walk and on Michigan Avenue in front of the Wrigley Building. The procession will be led by Most Rev. Jeffrey Grob and Most Rev. Mark Bartosic, Auxiliary Bishops of Chicago. We have scheduled the procession to conclude so that it will not overlap with other parish services.

For more information, please call **312-725-2320**, email [info@wayofthecrosschicago.org](mailto:info@wayofthecrosschicago.org), or visit [www.wayofthecrosschicago.org](http://www.wayofthecrosschicago.org). Your questions and comments are welcome.



### THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

*by Franz Joseph Haydn*

**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7th, at 12 noon**

**ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

205 N. Prospect Avenue  
Park Ridge

*Performed during a service of music and meditation by:*

**THE MONTAG ENSEMBLE**

Eleanor Bartsch, *violin* ✝ Francois Henkins, *violin* ✝ Karl Davies, *viola* ✝ Margaret Daly, *cello*

*Sponsored by the*

**Park Ridge Ministerial Association**

For more information, call **847-825-6659**

[www.stlukespr.org](http://www.stlukespr.org)

## Lenten Almsgiving

### THIS LENT, WE ARE PARTNERING WITH CATHOLIC EXTENSION TO HELP FEED THE RELIGIOUS IN CUBA FOR A YEAR

You can make a big difference by helping feed 1,000 priests, sisters, and pastoral leaders in the 11 Catholic dioceses of Cuba for a year.



Archbishop Dionisio Garcia, Archdiocese of Santiago de Cuba

The “reordenamiento monetario” (economic reform), COVID-19 pandemic, and a surge in Dengue fever have accounted for a very difficult reality for the Cuban people. Your support will help provide food to priests, religious sisters, and pastoral leaders in Cuba. People in Cuba are starving and dying in the streets. The religious in Cuba are so humble and selfless that they give all the food away to the people and will not take up the cause for themselves.

The government recently changed the currency in Cuba – which downgraded the value of the dollar. For example, 1 Cuban Peso equals .042 U.S. dollar.

A priest in Cuba\* told Catholic Extension that, “this has been one of the most difficult years for everyone on the island, due to the profound financial crisis as a result of our country’s ‘reordenamiento economico’ (economic reform) which, far from benefiting our suffering people, has placed us in extreme poverty, and this has affected the Church as the inseparable and incarnated part of the people, that we are. Everything has been affected even

more due to the pandemic. May God bless you and give you back 100%, as stated in the Holy Scripture. We have you in our prayers always. Let us pray for each other.” “With the economic reform, salaries were considerably elevated, but the price of goods was elevated even higher making it very difficult to obtain basic need items and food. Your support will make it possible for priests, religious sisters, and pastoral leaders to conduct their pastoral work at their best capacity, without worrying about not being able to purchase food. Thank you for making this help possible and we pray for all of you.” – a women religious serving in Cuba\*

Catholic Extension is able to provide support to the Cuban people through diplomatic channels through the Vatican. Each time Catholic Extension has helped rebuild a church in Cuba, people fill that church, and they flock to that church for support, both spiritual and humanitarian. Let’s help feed those that are feeding the hungry on the island of Cuba!

*\*Names not disclosed due to privacy*



Please use the envelopes provided in the pews to make contributions and place it in the collection basket on Sundays during Lent or drop it off at the rectory. Donations can also be made online via GiveCentral at the link below:

[www.givecentral.org/location/133/event/29561](http://www.givecentral.org/location/133/event/29561)

CATHOLIC  EXTENSION

Building Faith | Inspiring Hope | Igniting Change

*Thank you for your support and generosity!*



## Lenten Almsgiving (continued)

### THANK YOU FROM THE ARCHBISHOP OF SANTIAGO DE CUBA



Fr. James Wallace

Parish of St. Paul of the Cross

*English translation*

Dear Fr. James Wallace,

Greetings from the Archdiocese of Santiago de Cuba. We would like to express to you our deepest gratitude for you, the parish of St. Paul of the Cross and God for all the generous collaboration that you have shown to our archdiocese and the entire Cuban church throughout the years.

Concretely, we would like to mention the essential financial help you have extended to our priests, religious men and women, deacons and pastoral agents who guarantee the pastoral and missionary work throughout the archdiocese.

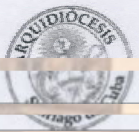
Your invaluable help has been an extraordinary aid in the midst of the difficult circumstances experienced by the Cuban people, and an unquestionable support to the task of evangelization.

The pilgrim church on this land needs you and we thank God for your service. We ask you for your continued prayers for Cuba.

Fraternally in Christ the Priest,

Mons. Dionisio García Ibáñez

Archbishop of Santiago de Cuba



Sanchez Hechavarría No. 607. Apartado  
Santiago de Cuba, 14 de marzo de 2023

A: Pbro. James Wallace  
Parroquia San Pablo de la Cruz

Estimado P. James Wallace:

Desde la Arquidiócesis de Santiago de Cuba le agradecemos a Ud., a la Parroquia San Pablo de la Cruz y a Dios por todas las muestras de generosa colaboración que a través de los años han ofrecido a nuestra arquidiócesis y a toda la Iglesia cubana.

De forma precisa, podríamos mencionar su imprescindible ayuda económica a sacerdotes, religiosos, diáconos y agentes pastorales, quienes garantizan el trabajo pastoral y misionero en toda la arquidiócesis.

Su invaluable ayuda ha sido un auxilio extraordinario en medio de la difícil situación que vive el pueblo cubano, y un apoyo incuestionable en favor de la evangelización.

La Iglesia que peregrina en esta tierra les necesita y damos gracias a Dios por su servicio. Le encomendamos a usted la oración por Cuba.

Fraternalmente en Cristo Sacerdote,

+ *Dionisio García Ibáñez*  
Mons. Dionisio García Ibáñez  
Arzobispo de Santiago de Cuba



## Fr. James' Lenten Reflections

### The Fifth Sunday of Lent

"Lord, if you had been here,  
my brother would not have died."

*John 11:21*

Martha and Mary both independently make the same above statement to Jesus about Lazarus. They must have said this to themselves before Christ arrived, as if they were rehearsing their upcoming conversation. Jesus does not directly respond to their statements. He focuses on the future. "Your brother will rise," he says.

If. It is a word we often say. *If I had received that promotion... If I had said yes... If I didn't have that tragedy... If I wasn't alive.* We might be suffering, but 'if' is a word from the enemy's lexicon, meant to separate us from God. 'If' tells us the past is forsaken; that God is not present now; that the future is bleak if not hopeless.

There are no 'ifs' with God. God did not say to himself *"If I had been present with Adam, he would not have eaten the apple... If I had counseled David better, he would not have sinned... If I had spoken to Judas, he would not have betrayed me."* No. God simply moves forward to redemption and restoration.

Jesus was in control in Bethany. So too in our own Bethanies. When we are troubled, Christ is with us. He weeps with us, and he raises us.

**Directed Prayer:** Pray with your troubles or your unfulfilled hopes. Listen to our Lord's response to you now. What do you really want in the present moment? Let Jesus give that to you as you sit at his feet.

### Monday of the Fifth Week of Lent

"Jesus bent down and began to write  
on the ground with his finger."

*John 8:6*

The scene of the woman caught in adultery about to be stoned took place the day after the Feast of Tabernacles had concluded. This autumn feast lasted seven days, and it was believed that the Messiah would appear during this week. Each day of the feast a priest would take a pitcher of water from the pool at Siloam and pour it through the streets of Jerusalem, symbolizing the cleansing of the nation to prepare for the Messiah. It was on the last day of the feast that Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "I am the living water!" When he bent down to write in the dust before the Pharisees and the accused woman, he was further emphasizing he was the cleansing water for the nation.

"He straightened up..." Jesus does not stay mingled in the dirt. As the Red Sea waters stood up to save Israel, so too did he stand to save the woman and the people. The living water entered the heart of the woman and healed her. She was indeed guilty of adultery – she had been "caught in the very act" as the Pharisees lodge – but she was freed of the punishment. The Messiah is not in the business of condemning, but of giving life. As Isaiah prophesied, "for I put water in the desert and rivers in the wasteland for my chosen people to drink."

**Directed Prayer:** Lent is nearing its end. We've given up things, but have we drunk the living water? Have we drunk from the pierced side of Christ? Imagine yourself dry, cracked, and thirsty. Feel the waters of Christ wash over you, revitalize you, heal you, and push you out.

### Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Lent

"We have sinned in complaining  
against the Lord and you."

*Numbers 21:7*

After passing through the Red Sea, Moses intentionally took the Israelites on a long detour. His goal was to bypass a territory possessed by the Edomites. The Edomites were distant relatives of the Israelites (they were descendants of Esau, who was the brother of Jacob). Moses did not want to provoke this clan into battle, as the Edomites would have been frightened by an approaching army. Moses' circumvention meant longer time in the desert, and more suffering, but it prevented potential warfare. The Israelites didn't know, or didn't care, about Moses' rationale, and complained about the detour.

When the Israelites came to their senses, after being attacked by the seraph serpents, they realized in complaining about Moses, they were actually complaining about God. In doubting and distrusting Moses, they were doing the same to God.

Complaining is the work of the evil one. It serves no purpose. If there truly is a problem, the righteous person confronts the issue. Or, they take their concern to God, pray for the wisdom to see, and wait patiently. When we are inclined to complain, the invitation Jesus offers us is not to speak, but to look upon the cross. It will heal us as the bronze serpent on the pole healed the Israelites. The point isn't to suppress our consternation, but to appropriate it in a healthy way. The healthiest way is always with God in prayer.

**Directed Prayer:** Bring to God what is bothering you of late. Ask for the grace to not complain about that issue



## Fr. James' Lenten Reflections (continued)

to another person. Ask him for the grace to receive clarity about what he is calling you to do.

### Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Lent

"Nebuchadnezzar exclaimed, 'Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who sent his angel to deliver the servants who trusted in him; they disobeyed the royal command and yielded their bodies rather than serve or worship any god except their own God'."

*Daniel 3:95*

The King of Babylon came to praise the one true God because of the simple witness of the three young men. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego did not eat unblest meat from the king's table. They ate vegetables instead. And when they were thrown into the fire, they did not cry out in fright or beg the king for pardon. They calmly sang a long canticle of praise to God.

Take note: it was not convincing arguments, a winning personality, a mighty feat, or some other exceptional act that prompted conversion. It was a simple remaining true to one's belief. When we live our faith out authentically – not necessarily imposing it on others, but just living it ourselves – we influence the world. When we look to please only God and not men, then we inspire others to do the same.

"Learn to appease the king," Diogenes said condescendingly to Socrates one day, "and you will not have to live on lentils." "Learn to live on lentils," Socrates responded, "and you will not have to appease the king."

**Directed Prayer:** Read from the Old Testament Daniel 3:25-90, Abednego's prayer he sung while in the fire with his two companions. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you praise God the Father and to see his beauty in everything. Ask Mary to help your love of God be an instrument of evangelization.

### Thursday of the Fifth Week of Lent

"Abraham your father rejoiced to see my day;  
he saw it and was glad."

*John 8:56*

The Jews, who did not have the benefit of the idea of time travel, were clearly confused by Jesus' words about Abraham. We probably would be too.

Let us simply take the statement at face value. Abraham was rejoicing at that moment in time in 33AD when Jesus was preaching in the temple in Jerusalem. This meant Abraham, who died in 2,000 BC, was alive in the afterlife.

Abraham waited his entire earthly life for such a day, the way a Chicago Cubs fan waited over a century to see a World Series win. Interestingly too, Abraham also waited some of his eternal life for the day, like those Cubs fans who died before 2016 "waited." Eternity, somehow, is both ever-present and changing. It is like a painting with layers of colors added after one coat is dry. The painting is not undone with addition. It is enhanced.

Jesus is always adding on to our life, making it better. The day God changed Abram's name and gave him the covenant was a glorious day, but not as glorious as this. The day Abraham's son Isaac was at last born was also a great day, but not as great as this. The day Abraham died was beautiful, but not as beautiful as the day he tasted the resurrection.

Our days have been good, but there is something better to come. Jesus desires to give it to us.

**Directed Prayer:** See the goodness and beauty of Jesus Christ – what he's said and done... what he says and does. Let the spirit of joy wash over you as you settle into prayer. Ask that spirit of joy to break you out of your own self-centeredness and into the world to proclaim the good news.

### Friday of the Fifth Week of Lent

"He went back across the Jordan to the place where John first baptized, and there he remained."

*John 10:40*

Relapse. Rejection. Failure. Everyone experiences it. So too did our Lord.

After Christ's dramatic moment of teaching and healing in Jerusalem during Tabernacles, having laid everything out clearly to the people that he is the Messiah, and performing signs to back his claim, Jesus returned humbly to where it all began. He did not continue to the throne of Israel. He went back to the swamp of the Jordan. Christ wasn't rejected only in Nazareth. He was rejected in Jerusalem. This latter rejection on the high stage could have been seen as the ultimate defeat, like losing the Super Bowl.

But Jesus did not retire. He tried once again in Jerusalem the following spring. And he was rejected a third time.

An individual might have a bad fall after a long stretch of sobriety. The message from Jesus' example is clear: do not quit. Starting from the beginning is not a defeat. The origin is where God first sent us. When we return to the origin, we prime ourselves to be sent again. Only through

## Fr. James' Lenten Reflections (continued)

relapses and perseverance can we make it to the tomb and emerge from it resurrected.

**Directed Prayer:** Today's psalm opens with, "I love you, O Lord, my strength" (Psalm 18). Our strength, our love, our joy is not in our successes or holiness. It is in God. And God is with us always, regardless of our success or failure. We allow him, actually, to be closer to us in our failure – our return to the Jordan River. Pray Psalm 18 and return to the beginning of your journey in your heart.

### Saturday of the Fifth Week of Lent

"If we leave him alone, all will believe in him,  
and the Romans will come and take away  
both our land and our nation."

*John 11:48*

Ancient Rome always had a certain respect for the nation of Israel. It was an older nation than Rome and it was not a nation interested necessarily in conquest, like the Greeks, Persians, Parthians, or Carthaginians were. Israel's religiosity was also something that intrigued Rome, who similarly had a healthy respect for the divine. So, while Rome had conquered Israel, it had allowed Israel to exist in peace, maintaining its own culture and almost its own system of governance. Rome had even permitted the existence of a king of Israel (Herod).

If Israel changed, so too would the Romans' tolerance. This is precisely what Caiaphas and the Sanhedrin feared in Jesus of Nazareth, the paragon of change... or, rather, of conversion. A new nation with a new order would not garner the sufferance of Rome.

Yet the whole history of Israel was one founded on the hope for change. Every prophet spoke of a new and better time. "I will make them a new nation upon the land," said the prophet Ezekiel. "I will give them a new heart," said Jeremiah.

The Romans inevitably took away both the land and the nation of Israel. It happened in 70AD. It was not that the Sanhedrin could not prevent change. It was, rather, that they could not change. In stopping Christ, they betrayed their identity. Ironically, the Romans would have respected Israel with Jesus. They might have even become Jewish. They became Christian, after all.

**Directed Prayer:** Speak to the Lord about a possible change you sense he is proposing to you in your life. Acknowledge openly your fears around that change, as well as your hopes. See if the Lord can show you an even better life he wants for you. Ask for the grace to trust in the Lord's plan for change.

### Coda to the Fifth Week of Lent

"So the Lord said to Cain: Why are you so resentful and crestfallen. If you do well, you can hold up your head; but if not, sin is a demon lurking at the door: his urge is toward you, yet you can be his master."

*Genesis 4:6-7*

Cain did not listen to God's advice. He could hear the words but could not truly appropriate them. The apple didn't fall far from the tree. Cain's father heard God's admonition about the tree and chose instead to listen to the serpent.

When Jesus restored paradise, walking around Galilee performing miracles, he healed a deaf man by putting his fingers into the man's ears, spitting, and breathing on him. "Be opened," he proclaimed. It was the way God had used his fingers, breath, and voice to create the first man. But with our Lord, this man was actually able to listen and receive. Same with us. We can actually hear and be moved by the divine symphony. We can heed the beauty and reject the ugliness of the demon's lies.

Adam holds both his wife and his dead son, Abel, in William Adolphe-Bouguereau's 1888 painting, *Premier Deuil* or 'The First Mourning' (see image below). Adam, clutching his rib, feels the pain of Eve. While the image resembles Michelangelo's *Pietà*, there is a striking difference in the two. Here outside of Eden is despair. Eve's complexion is pallid like her son, and she buries her face. Mary, on the other hand, exudes a somber confidence. She is able to hear the assuring voice of God. Mary is our mother.



**Directed Prayer:** Invite Jesus to place his fingers in your ears. Tune out the noise of anger, doubt, shame. Enjoy the divine sounds.

# Easter Appeal

Dear Parishioners,

Thanks be to God, we are an Easter people! That means that the Resurrection of Jesus Christ – the very fact that He lives today – guides every aspect of our lives. For us, Easter isn't simply a day of remembrance – it is a way of life. And we have a mission, given by Jesus to the apostles and handed down to us in our own time, to invite others into that same way of life.

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Your Easter gifts are an important part of bringing our shared mission to life. In fact, contributions shared during the Easter season constitute a significant portion of our annual budget and our ability to fund vital ministries and areas of operation for our parish. I humbly ask that you make an Easter gift of any amount to help fund our parish ministries and operations. You can send your gift to our parish office, or online at [www.givecentral.org/location/133/event/30045](http://www.givecentral.org/location/133/event/30045). If you are able to increase your weekly contribution, you may do so through GiveCentral as well.

I also invite you to give of your time. As we renew our local Church, our Lord invites each of us to discern how to offer our gifts of time and talents so that our community is enriched by our mutual participation in the life of the parish.

If you are unable to make a financial gift at this time or to serve in other capacities, please continue to pray for our parish family and know that I am praying for you. You are a gift to our parish family and your mere presence in the pews on Sundays and Holy Days to worship our Lord and gather around the Eucharistic table means more to our local Church than you might realize.

An abundance of graces upon you and your loved ones during this joyous Easter season!

*Fa. James*

## Holy Week and Easter Schedule

### HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2023

**Morning Prayer:** 8:30 am — UC

**Mass of the Lord's Supper:** 7:30 pm — UC\*

\* Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in church at the altar of repose immediately following Mass until 11:00 pm



### GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2023

**Morning Prayer:** 8:30 am — UC

**Confessions:** 12:00 - 2:00 pm — UC

**Stations of the Cross:** 3:00 pm — UC

**Passion of the Lord Service**

**(Veneration of the Cross):** 7:30 pm — UC

*Please note that our rectory offices will be closed this day*

### HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2023

**Morning Prayer:** 8:30 am — UC

**Easter Basket Blessing:** 11:00 am — UC

**Easter Vigil:** 7:30 pm — UC

### EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2023

**Mass Schedule:**

7:30 am — UC

9:00 am — UC and Gym

10:30 am — UC and Gym

12:00 pm — UC

*A note from our ushers: Due to the large attendance expected at our Easter services, we ask that all families be seated at one time. Out of respect for everyone, no seats can be reserved for family members arriving late.*

*We thank you for your cooperation.*

*Please note that confessions will not be held on Holy Thursday or Good Friday at 8:00 am nor on Holy Saturday at 3:00 pm*

*Please note that our Eucharistic Adoration Chapel will be closed for the Triduum from 6:00 pm Holy Thursday until 10:00 pm Holy Saturday*



# Adoration Chapel

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL

**COME SPEND SOME TIME WITH JESUS!**

*Due to an insufficient number of overnight adorers,  
we have temporarily closed our Adoration Chapel  
from 11:00 pm until 5:00 am daily.*

Our current adorer schedule is pictured to the right. Red boxes indicate where there is at most one committed adorer. We need at least two committed adorers for each slot before we can reopen during the night. Yellow slots are times throughout the day when we have only one committed adorer; additional commitments are needed here to fortify the daytime schedule. Green indicates two or more adorers are present. If you would like to sign up for a timeslot, please call the parish office at **847-825-7605** or email [adorationchapel@spc-church.org](mailto:adorationchapel@spc-church.org)



	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
12:00 AM							
1:00 AM							
2:00 AM							
3:00 AM							
4:00 AM							
5:00 AM							
6:00 AM		clean		clean		clean	
7:00 AM							
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11:00 PM							

## Adoration Reflections

I have been visiting the chapel for several years now.  
It is one of the greatest gifts this parish has to  
offer its members and guests.  
In years past, I would visit as a substitute at the 3:00 am  
hour. Never before have I felt so much like I was truly  
in the presence of God.  
I now have two journals filled with reflections and  
answers for my prayers. Thank you to St. Paul of  
the Cross for maintaining the Adoration Chapel!  
— Scott Lynch, K. of C.

We would love to hear from you regarding your experience in our Adoration Chapel. How might you be blessed through your time with Jesus? Please share your reflection, or perhaps you are inspired to write a poem or prayer, etc. Reflections should be roughly 350 words. Reflection forms can be found on the table in the Adoration Chapel foyer or on our website. Submit reflections to [sandylabouvie@spc-church.org](mailto:sandylabouvie@spc-church.org) or place it in the collection box in the Adoration Chapel.  
Thank you to all those who've already contributed!

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**When:** 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
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To register for upcoming meetings, scan the code or contact Katie Hazen at [khazen@archchicago.org](mailto:khazen@archchicago.org).



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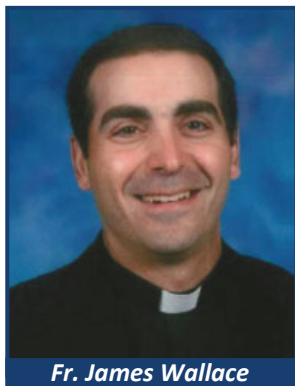
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[www.givecentral.org/location/133/event/29950](http://www.givecentral.org/location/133/event/29950) or send a check to our rectory with a note in the memo line stating **"Holy Land."**



# Archive Corner *with Mark Miller*

## SPC HISTORY, 1975 - PRESENT (part 5 of 5)

### *Fr. James Wallace becomes our new pastor*



**Fr. James Wallace**

Upon Father Britto's retirement in 2021, the archdiocese installed a young and dynamic priest to become our 9<sup>th</sup> pastor. Fr. James Wallace was born in Winnetka. He attended Saints Faith, Hope & Charity grammar school, New Trier high school, and George Washington University in Washington D.C. He then attended seminary at the Pontifical North American College in Rome and was ordained in 2012 for the Archdiocese of Chicago. He came to our parish after serving as pastor at St. Juliana's just down the street from us. He received an immediate warm welcome from our parish faith community. He and Fr. Nick Cavallari, who was also recently appointed to our parish, have the daunting task of managing the weekly and weekend services with no additional Associate Pastor. They are very busy. Since the pandemic, our Mass attendance is gradually increasing, sometimes having services with over 700 in attendance.



**Fr. Nick and Fr. James at a morning coffee event**



**Our clergy with the seminarians from Mundelein**

Serving as a professor of canon law and spiritual director at Mundelein, Fr. James has introduced seminarians to our parish. This has brought a fresh addition to our services. The parish will see Deacon Kevin Gregus ordained a priest this May 2023. Martin Nyberg, who completed his pastoral internship with the parish last spring, will serve as a deacon from May 2023 until May 2024 when he is ordained a priest. The following year, we will be blessed to have seminarian Lee Noel, from Cheyenne, Wyoming, serving as a deacon. The seminarians have been serving Masses, teaching Religious Education classes, helping with the Young Adult Ministry, and leading sessions for RCIA, Faith & Film, GriefShare, and other groups.



Saint Paul of the Cross School, following the pandemic, has reached maximum enrollment with well over 700 students. A new STEM program has brought in numerous awards and recognitions for the school, and our graduating students continue to excel in high school and college.

Parish life is also getting back to normal, resuming many activities of the Men's Club, the Apostolate of Women, Bible Study, etc. The Adoration Chapel has reopened, and Candlelight Rosaries and Donut Sundays have also returned. A new series "The Word on the Street" was introduced where priests interact with parishioners at a local restaurant. Fr. James also instituted Monday Evenings of Prayer and *Vespers*.



**Ash Wednesday 2022 overflow**

Over the past 113 years, our parish has been truly blessed with good shepherds, the right priests at the right time. They have contributed to making St. Paul one of the largest parishes in the archdiocese as well as a great place to worship our Lord.



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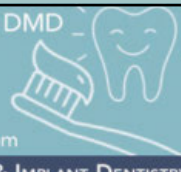
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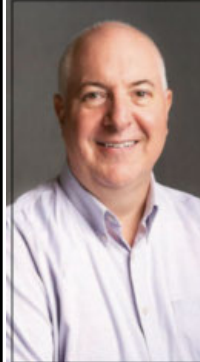
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frjames@spc-church.org

**REV. NICK CAVALLARI, ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

frnick@spc-church.org

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## *St. Paul of the Cross Parish*

320 S. Washington  
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phone: 847-825-7605

### **RECTORY OFFICE HOURS**

Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm\*

*\*closed for lunch from 12:00pm—1:00 pm*

Saturday 9:00 am—1:00 pm

Sunday Closed

*Please note that our rectory office will be closed on Good Friday, April 7th*

### **DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS**

Sandra Labouvie: sandylabouvie@spc-church.org  
847-825-7605 x2249 / [www.spc-church.org](http://www.spc-church.org)

### **EVANGELIZATION AND CAMPUS MANAGER**

Nick Testa: nicktesta@spc-church.org  
(847) 825-7605 x2250

### **DIRECTOR OF CATECHESIS**

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(847) 692-2758 / [www.spc-catechesis.net](http://www.spc-catechesis.net)

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(847) 692-6767

### **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

Edward J. Eicker: edwardeicker@spc-church.org  
(847) 825-7605 x2253

### **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

Andrea Bartolomeo: andreabartolomeo@spc-church.org

### **ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

Erika Mickelburgh: emickelburgh@spc-school.net  
(847) 825-6366 / [www.spc-school.net](http://www.spc-school.net)

### **RCIA**

rcia@spc-church.org

### **SPACE RESERVATIONS**

calendars@spc-church.org

### **VIRTUS**

virtus@spc-church.org

### **LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULING**

schedule@spc-church.org

### **BULLETIN EDITOR**

spcbulletin@spc-church.org

### **UPCOMING BULLETIN CONTENT DEADLINES**

April 2nd issue: Friday, March 24th

April 9th issue: Wednesday, March 29th

## *Schedule*

### **MASS**

*All Masses are in our Upper Church*

Monday through Friday 6:25 am  
8:30 am

Saturday 8:30 am - daily Mass  
4:30 pm - vigil

Sunday 7:30 am  
9:00 am  
10:30 am  
12:00 pm

*Please see our Holy Week and Easter schedule on page 13*

### **ADORATION**

Adoration Chapel open 5:00 am until 11:00 pm daily

Email [adorationchapel@spc-church.org](mailto:adorationchapel@spc-church.org)

to sign up for a timeslot

### **CONFESSION**

*Confessions take place in our Upper Church vestibule*

Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 8:15 am

Saturday 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

*Please see our Holy Week schedule on page 13*

### **FUNERALS**

Monday through Saturday Morning

### **WEDDINGS**

Friday and Saturday

*Call the parish office at least 6 months in advance*

### **BAPTISMS**

Saturday and Sunday

*If this is your first child, baptism prep class is required and provided on the fourth Thursday every month at 7:00 pm.*

*Please contact the parish office at 847-825-7605 to register.*

### **NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION**

*and*

### **DONUT SUNDAY**

First Sunday of Every Month Unless Advertised Otherwise  
8:30 am to 12:00 pm

*Please note that there will be no Donut Sundays during Lent*

### **ANointing OF THE SICK**

Please call Rectory Office (847-825-7605)

### **COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND**

Please call Rectory Office (847-825-7605)

### **ROSARY**

After 8:30 am Daily Mass

### **LENTEN MONDAY EVENINGS OF PRAYER**

Monday evenings throughout Lent  
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm — Upper Church