# MASS TIMES

St. Paul Church, 485 Alling St., Kensington Saturday 4pm Vigil Sunday 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am & 12pm Sacred Heart Church, 48 Cottage St., E. Berlin

Sunday 9:30am

Weekday Mass at St. Paul Church Monday-Friday 7am & 5pm All Masses are live streamed

# CONFESSION

Saturdays 8:30am-9:30am and 3:00-4:00pm

HOLY HOUR

Tuesdays 4:00-5:00pm

Baptisms: 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month Baptismal Instruction: Last Tuesday of the month

# PARISH OFFICE

Monday-Friday 9am-4pm #860 828-0331 Email: <u>ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org</u> Mailing Address: 467 Alling St, Kensington CT 06037 St Paul Parish Kensington CT

saintpaulparish

Website: https://stpaulkensington.org



# FRANCISCAN FRIARS & DEACONS



Fr. Joseph Benicewicz, OFM Conv. Pastor frjoseph@stpaulkensington.org



Fr. Michael Englert, OFM Conv. Parochial Vicar & Guardian frmichael@stpaulkensington.org



Fr. Peter Tymko, OFM Conv. Parochial Vicar <u>frpeter@stpaulkensington.org</u>



Fr. Raymond Borkowski, OFM Conv. In Residence <u>frraymond@stpaulkensington.org</u>



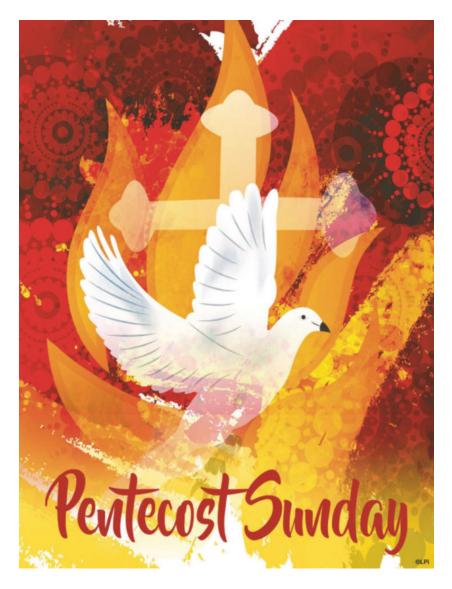
Deacon Don Philip deacondon@stpaulkensington.org

# + St. Paul Catholic Parish

A Franciscan Family of Faith

St. Paul Church - 485 Alling St, Kensington CT 06037 Sacred Heart Church - 48 Cottage St, East Berlin CT 06023

> June 5, 2022 Pentecost Sunday



"Let the Church always be a place of MERCY and HOPE, where EVERYONE is WELCOMED, LOVED and FORGIVEN." **Pentecost & 2022 Ministry Fair -** Today we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles. We too receive the Holy Spirit and need the Holy Spirit to know how to lead our lives. The Pastoral Council has worked very hard in putting together our Parish Ministry Fair. I hope that you will take the time to stop over the school gym to talk with some your fellow parishioners and learn how you too can share the gifts and talents the Holy Spirit has given you with our parish community as well as the larger local community. On the page opposite, see the many parish ministries and organizations that are in need of your gifts and talents.

The Pastoral Council, led by Nancy Timbrell and her committee, have been working hard on this event. On Saturday, come on over and have some pizza and make your own ice cream sundae and then peruse the displays for all of the parish ministries and organizations. On Sunday, there will be a FREE Continental Breakfast after all of the Masses. On both days there will also be some free door prizes as well. There will be no hard sells, just an opportunity to gather information and then take some time at home to pray over how the Holy Spirit might be calling you to share your gifts and talents. Also, this is an opportunity to see how some of these very same ministries, programs and organizations might be of service to you and your loved ones. Let us be open to the workings of the Holy Spirit in our lives for our own good and of the world around us. Come Holy Spirit!!!

**Congratulations Class of 2022!** - As you read this the Class of 2022 will have received their diplomas, but at the time I am writing this the graduation has not happened yet so I will offer more comments on the Class of 2022 next week.

**Chapter Report -** Thanks to Fr. Charles for his assistance to Fr. Peter last week while some of us were at the Provincial Chapter meetings in Baltimore. All went well as we discussed plans for the next four years and began to develop that plan. Our new Minister Provincial, Fr. Michael Heine, OFM Conv. was installed and his council was elected. This was the first session of the chapter. The second session will be July 11-15 and once again Fr. Charles will be back to assist Fr. Peter. It is during the second session that changes in the Friars' assignments takes place. In the meantime, Fr. Peter is off to Poland until July 6. During this time he will go on retreat, meet with friars in Poland, and lastly but so importantly see his mother and family. May his time home be renewing and relaxing.

**Retirement Party for Diane Funk -** As previously announced we will have a retirement party for Diane Funk, the former Business Manager for the Parish and School on Sunday, June 26th. Following the 12 Noon Mass, we will proceed to the Gym for a reception hosted by the Home & School Asso-

ciation from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. There will be a brief program at about 2:00 pm. All parishioners are invited to attend the reception. So that we can have an idea for food ("heavy hor d'oeuvres) please RSVP by June 20. See page 8 for more information about the reception.

2022 Parish Raffle - \$68,000 in AE Gift Cards - Now in its fifth year, we will once again be part of a multi-parish raffle that is hosted by St. Roch's Parish in Greenwich, CT. The raffle was a great success for us last year as the parish made \$25,050 on the raffle! Over the last two years, we have had 4 of the 23 winners. This year's Raffle is better than ever! The Grand Prize is still \$30,000, but the 2nd and 3rd prizes have been increased to \$10,000 and \$8,000 and another eight (8) \$1,000 prizes have been added for a total of 23 chances to win \$68,000 in total prizes! Once again this year you will receive four tickets in the mail. St. Roch's parish bears the expense of the mailing and ALL other costs associated with the raffle. You should receive your tickets in the mail in early June. The drawing will take place on August 13 at 8 pm at the St. Roch Festival. You will be able to watch the drawing live at www.parishraffle.com. Tickets are \$25 apiece and more will be available on line and at the Parish Center. Please support this one and only parish fund raiser of the year and good luck too!

**No Parking -** This is one of those items that needs repeating from time to time. Recently, the police noticed cars parked near the church and on the corners where NO PARKING signs are posted. They were very considerate of the violators, but the signs should be obeyed. In the past, police and ambulance crews have had to park up near the school to get to the church to tend to someone. So please obey the parking restrictions on Alling Street and Peck Street. This includes spaces right in front of the church. This applies to the week day Masses as well. Sometimes just a minute or two makes the difference between some one living or not so please leave the front of the church clear for emergency vehicles. Thank you in advance for your consideration of others.

**Save the Date - June 29 - Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul -**Our feast day as a parish is June 29<sup>th</sup>. As we did last year, we will try to celebrate this day with a little more pomp and circumstance. The evening Mass on Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup> will be at 6:15 pm instead of 5:00 pm. Immediately after Mass we will host an Ice Cream Social out on the Parish Green. All are invited! Bring the kids and grand kids. Hopefully it will be a nice evening, but if not we will eat the ice cream in the Church Hall. The 7 am morning Mass will be held as usual. The "1<sup>st</sup> Friday Breakfast Crew" will provide breakfast in the church hall following the 7:00 am Mass on June 29 as well.

# INTENTIONS

#### Blessed Mother Candles will burn this week for

+Mary Keeney by Adeline D'Angelo and family
 +Mieczyslaw Przybysz by family
 +Alice Hall Birthday Remembrance by husband
 +John Brian Gaffney by the Gaffney family

#### Sanctuary Candles will burn this week for

+Maria Teresa Gionfriddo
 7th Anniversary with love mom and dad
 +Michael Hall by father
 +Frank Mascolo 6 Year Anniversary by family

# In Loving Memory

#### +Lilea Maria Gorneault

#### **†**Rita Desrochers

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

#### INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR PARISH?

Our next Registration night is **Monday**, <u>June 6th</u> in the St. Paul Church Hall (downstairs) beginning at 7pm. Please let us know if you plan to attend. Call 860-828-0331 or email us at ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org.

**TO REQUEST A LOW GLUTEN HOST** Please arrive for Mass about 10 minutes early, go to the sacristy, & let them know you need a low gluten host. Sit near the front of the new wing. Before Communion, look for a Eucharistic Minister to come forward with a consecrated host for you.

#### Saint Michael the Archangel,

Defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits,



7	Saturday, June 4, 2022 Pentecost Sunday						
	4:00 <b>†Guy Lombardi</b> 2nd Anniversary by Pat and family						
	Sunday, June 5, 2022 Pentecost Sunday						
	7:30 <b>†Mario D'Amore</b> by Marie and children						
	9:00 Parishioners of Saint Paul Parish						
	9:30 <b>†Klara Komorowski</b> by children Christine and Ed						
	10:30 <b>†Virginia Colossale</b> 4th Anniversary by Gayle Gregorzek						
	12:00 <b>†Dick Percival</b> Birthday Remembrance by family						
	<u>Monday, June 6, 2022</u> The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church						
	7:00 <b>†Kieran Egan</b> by wife Margaret and children						
	5:00 <b>† Jill Verret</b> by Emilie Albert						
	Tuesday, June 7, 2022 Weekday						
	7:00 <b>†Helen Loss</b> Birthday Remembrance						
	by Karen and Stephen Henry						
	<b>†Souls in Purgatory</b> by Linda and John Nappi, Jr.						
	<b>†Donald M. (Mac) McIntyre</b> Birthday Remembrance						
	by the Kennedy family						
٦	<b>+Orsaline Badolato</b> by Florence Conner and family						
	<b>†Ut Nguyen and †Dinh Ho</b> by the family						
	5:00 <b>†Joseph Casso</b>						
	by Ushers and Eucharistic Ministers from 7:30 Mass						
	Wednesday, June 8, 2022 Weekday						
	7:00 Living Friars, Families, Friends						
	and Benefactors of the Friars						
	5:00 <b>+Lucy Devin</b> by Ginny and family						
	Thursday, June 9, 2022 St. Ephrem						
	7:00 <b>+Gerald Vanty</b> by Linda and family						
	5:00 <b>+Vincent Durante</b> 13th Anniversary by Roz and family						
	+Michael Zarotney Birthday Remembrance						
	by Linda and Joe Cimadon						
	John Nappi, Jr. by wife						
	+Angela Angileri by Giuseppa Angileri						
	<b>†Fr. Nicholas Cesaro</b> by Chris and Marge Banach						
	Friday, June, 10, 2022 Weekday						
	7:00 +Maureen S. and +Daniel P. Stepeck, Sr.						
r	Wedding Anniversary Remembrance by family						
N	8:45 <b>+Alice Hall</b> Birthday Remembrance by husband						
	5:00 <b>†Sherry Lee Shepherd</b> 13th Anniversary						
_	by Carrie-Lyn Lauria						
	Saturday, June 11, 2022 The Most Holy Trinity						
	4:00 <b>†Deacon Carmen Guzzardi</b> by Roy and Judy Earley						
	Sunday, June 12, 2022 The Most Holy Trinity						
	7:30 +Corrado Burgio, and +Angela & +Daniel Burgio						
	0:00 <b>theon Wrobol Ir</b> , by family						
	9:00 <b>+Leon Wrobel, Jr.</b> by family 9:30 <b>Parishioners of Saint Paul Parish</b>						
	J.JU FAIISIIUIEIS UI JAIIIL FAUI FAIISII						

- 9.30 Failshohers of Saint Fai
- 10:30 **+Elizabeth Frederick**

by friends, the Maerz and White families 12:00 **†Josephine Feole** by Maria Geremia

<u>Please Note</u> The deadline to submit information to be posted in the bulletin is the <u>Friday</u>, <u>one week prior</u> to the weekend in which you would like your information to appear in the bulletin.

# **READINGS FOR JUNE 5, 2022**

For this week's readings online, visit https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/060522.cfm

# First Reading: Genesis 11:1-9

**Responsorial Psalm**: Psalm 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 *Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.* 

Second Reading: Romans 8:22-27

# Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel: John 7:37-39

On the last and greatest day of the feast, Jesus stood up and exclaimed,

"Let anyone who thirsts come to me and drink. As Scripture says:

Rivers of living water will flow from within him who believes in me."

He said this in reference to the Spirit

that those who came to believe in him were to receive. There was, of course, no Spirit yet,

because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

# PASTOR'S COLUMN (continued)

**Garden Club Thank You!** - Once again this spring, and throughout the year, our dedicated Garden Club led by Kathy Ginotti and her husband Carl, have made our campus so very beautiful. When you get back around the church you can admire their labors as well. Thanks also to Marge Banach, Priscilla Ersernia and Lynn Fazinna for all of their work. They are looking for folks to join them in this under taking. If you have a green thumb and enjoy gardening the parish and this group could use your help. If interested, visit the Ministry Fair this weekend or email Kathy at <u>cknginotti@comcast.net</u>. Thanks also to Bill, Emily and Gabe and their efforts to keep our property looking great!

**Final Thoughts -** I am not a fan of the NBA, but congrats to all of you Celtics fans as they head to another Championship series. Their storied history boasts playing in 21 Championship series and winning an incredible 17 times! The Warriors of course will make them earn #18. The Orioles held their



own against the Yankees and Red Sox going 4-4, but now face teams of their own caliber. When they faced the Tigers they got swept. I hope to see you at the Ministry Fair! Have a blessed week everyone! - Fr. Joe

"Finally, draw your strength from the Lord and from his mighty power. Put on the armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the tactics of the devil.
For our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with the principalities, with the powers, with the world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens.

Ephesians 6:10:12

Recommendations for digital Bible readings, guides and reflections are below. Contact our friars with any questions about whether a program is aligned with Catholic doctrine.

- Universalis <u>https://universalis.com/mass.htm</u>
- USCCB: <u>https://bible.usccb.org</u>
- Magnificat: <u>https://us.magnificat.net</u> (subscription)
- Bible Evangelista: <u>https://www.biblestudyevangelista.com</u>
- Bible In A Year: <u>https://ascensionpress.com</u>
- Laudate app for your smartphone or tablet.

Parish Collection May 24-30, 2022

In Church SP	\$ 7,443
Office	\$ 1,471
In Church SH	\$ 392
Online Giving	\$ 3,956
Total	\$ 13,262

2022 Saint Paul Summer Camp is Open to the Public! Mid June - August 12th

Date contingent on the last day of school

Ages 3-13. All Are Welcome! Half Day and Single Day Programs Available



Sports, Arts & Crafts, Activities on our Parish Green, Water Activities, Games, Dairy Queen Treats and More!

Following CDC Guildelines

LEARN MORE AT: ourschool.stpaulkensington.org summercamp@stpaulkensington.org 860-828-4343

# SAINT PAUL SCHOOL NEWS

#### SAINT PAUL SCHOOL NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS 2022-2023 ACADEMIC YEAR For more information visit our school website https://ourschool.stpaulkensington.org/ or call 860-828-4343 x103. To download an application, click on this link: https://bit.ly/34oxKOV



You may also email our Admissions Director, Kelly Esposito, admissions@stpaulkensington.org.

Grade 4 held their annual Lemonade Stand raising \$1200 for Save the Children and Children's Medical Center. Pictures below include previous 4th Grade teacher, Miss Sullivan with current 4th Grade teacher Mrs. Corriveau. Thank you all for your support!



Thank you to our SPS students and parents for marching in the Memorial Day Parade! We are so thankful for our school community for showing their support and honoring all those who have sacrificed for our country.



#### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

Tomatoes, squash, peppers, and lettuce were planted the morning of Saturday, May 28, in the Saint Paul plot at the Hatchery Brook Community Garden!

Religious Ed students will weed, water, and harvest the veggies, which will be donated to the Town of Berlin and our Saint Clare Food Pantry. This would be a wonderful Family Faith Activity and would also be <u>a GREAT service</u> event opportunity for Confirmation students!

You can access the Sign Up Genius form on our parish website's **Confirmation Service Event** page and **Family Faith Activity** page.



#### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE**

Monday - Thursday 8am - 2pm Phone 860 828-0331 Website: <u>https://stpaulkensington.org/religious-ed</u> St Paul Parish Religious Ed Berlin CT Email: religioused@stpaulkensington.org

Mailing Address: 467 Alling St, Kensington CT 06037



Robin Veronesi, Director of Religious Education (860) 828-1934 ext 109



Christina Norton, Administrative Assistant (860) 828-1934 ext 125

#### **PRAYER LIST**

Bobby Adamowicz Jacob Ahlquist Jose Arcia Zulma Barbien Wyatt Bernard David Borselle **Cheryl Brown** Mark Camilleri **Richard Carlson** Silas Cipollone Doug Clarke Lorraine Clark Sophie Conti Carol Corriveau Tom Coss Amanda Coyle Robert Czerwinski Adeline D'Angelo Ramiro Dagna Uly Dagna Fr. Anthony DeFronzo Constance DiLorenzo Bill Dobbs Nicole Donzello Nick Donzello Mary Ann Dorsey Bernadette Dumond Dorothy Durgan Fannie Farrell Simon Fitzpatrick Helen Flannelly Nancy Fleming Deb Follett Maureen Freemen Rose Garuti Patricia Gebhardt Dominic Gionfriddo Jennifer Gionfriddo Jonathan Gionfriddo Rosemarie Gionfriddo Gail Gombatz Liz Goryl-Phillips Donna Goulette Madison Gray Chester and Pat Haber Linda Hannold Lily Harzewski-Burl Evan Hill Pat Jahn Brenda Kidd Barbara Killius Sylvia Kratka John G. Kumitis, Sr. Mary Lamkins Maria Lauria Laura Lemke Connie Lombardi Dominica Lopreiato Linda Luongo

Ronald Maldon Lisa Mangiafico Fr. Paul Mangiafico Carol Marold Robert Mazzaferro Lorraine McCarthy Brandi McWade Viola Mercadante Vinny Mercadante Michael Mihalko Tom Modifica Evelyn Modzelewski Helen Morrissey Nancy Motulko John Murphy Helen Murphy Thomas Norris Gabriella Ogar Michael Ogar Esther Ouellette **Our Military Service Members** Emma Pagano Judy Pappalardo **Cvnthia Paradise** Richard Paskiewicz John Pink **Richard Rampone** Care Rich Frank Rich Mary Rich Rita Richter Randy Ripley Steven Ripley Carlos Rivera Viola Salonia Joan Schwartz Raul Seipel **Guy Simeone** Alfred Simon Rev. Arkadiusz Skwarek Donald Spilka Kevin Stanowski Matthew Stimac Ken Stokowski Sandy Story James Swiatek Julia Szczvola Luke Szul Alfred J. Tee **Beverly Veley** Brian Veley Scott Veley Tom Vest Louise Webb Thaddeus Wojtusik Molly Yardley Carrie Zangari

**PRAYER LIST** Thank you for praying for the members of our parish family who are on our weekly Prayer List. If you would



like to add someone to the Prayer List, please call the Parish Office to let us know. Monday-Friday 9am-4pm. 860-828-0331. Please be sure to ask for permission from the person to be added.

Also, please let us know if someone on the list is no longer in need of special prayers or if they have passed away, and we will take them off the list. Thank You.

To make a prayer request through our **Daughters of Jairus Prayer Line**, please call Terry 860-828-6667 or Gloria 860-828-1525 with your confidential request. Please give the first name of the person to be prayed for & the intention.



"There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot resolve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary." -Sr Lucia of Fatima

Don't know how to pray the Rosary? Visit the home page of our website <u>https://stpaulkensington.org</u> or the USCCB's Rosary page: <u>https://www.usccb.org/how-to-pray-the-rosary</u>.

WORD SEARCH

DO	EVENING DOORS PEACE		BREATHED FIRST CLOSED		SIDE FORGIVE DAY		DISCIPLES FATHER RETAIN		
R	E	Н	т	А	F	D	E	Т	s
D	D	G	N	Т	Ν	E	v	E	R
Y	1	E	F	Т	т	R	Y	J	0
0	s	E	н	Ĩ	N	I.	s	А	0
J	с	v	R	т	Т	E	т	А	D
D	I	Т	Р	E	А	с	E	Y	E
Т	Р	G	E	Y	т	E	о	D	s
s	L	R	J	ο	E	R	R	0	0
с	E	0	т	s	R	L.	F	в	L
E	s	F	0	J	Y	0	D	Α	с

Thank you for keeping these members of our parish family in your prayers.



Come to our Ministry Fair! It will be held after all Masses <u>this weekend</u>, on the Feast of Pentecost, June 4 and 5, in the Saint Paul School gym after all Masses.

Consider how the Holy Spirit might be calling you to share your gifts and abilities to help build up the Body of Christ here at St. Paul Parish.

At the same time, please use the Ministry Fair as an opportunity to see how these same organizations, programs and ministries *could be a service to you or a loved one*.

Come to the Ministry Fair and meet fellow parishioners and see the good that is being done and how you can strengthen what is already happening here at St. Paul Parish!



following the 12 Noon Mass

St. Paul Parish families are invited to join us in thanking Mrs. Funk for her many years of tireless dedication to our parish and school.

A reception with hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be held from 1:00-3:00pm in the school gym, and a brief presentation will begin at 2:00pm. Please RSVP by June 20th using this form (drop in collection Basket or at the parish office) or by using the online form located on the home page of our parish website.

Yes, I will attend. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total # of people in your group, including yourself: \_\_\_\_\_



Throughout May, June, July, and August the Men's Group will continue to meet every other week for breakfast, fraternity, and discussion

on a topic presented by one of the men. A new TMIY Fall Semester will begin on 9/24/2022. Meetings are held on Saturday mornings from 6:30-8:30am in the Church Hall. New members are always welcome!. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact one of the members below or visit www.TMIY.org.

Rick Dighello - rdighello1@sbcglobal.net 860-655-0714 Frank Ciarcia - frank@crcchrome.com 860-655-1414 Bud Volz - budvolz@comcast.net 860- 681-8355 Corey Whiteside - coreyswhiteside@att.net 860-719-7021 Adam Zangari - adamzangari@yahoo.com 860-541-0698



Our Helping Hands volunteers address the concerns of our senior parishioners. If you are interested in joining this ministry, we'd love to have you join us. Please contact Mark Duplin: 860-666-0162 or mfduplin@outlook.com.



**AAA** The 2022 Archbishop's Annual **TRONGER** Appeal is now underway in our parish. All funds contributed to the AAA are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the

Appeal literature. No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements. For information or to make a donation, visit https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/



**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** Our Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 1pm in the St. Paul Church Hall. The next

meeting is June 14th. We purchase yarn and knit or crochet prayer shawls to give to individuals who may be homebound. ill or in need of comfort, to let them know God's love always surrounds. New members welcome. Call Marv at 860-828-5478. The Prayer Shawl Ministry will not meet for July and August and will resume activity in September.



QUILTERS' GROUP Our Quilters Group will meet on Thursday, June 9th at 9am in the St. Paul Church Hall. Anyone working on another

project or who has a different type of craft (origami, jewelry, scrapbook, genealogy, etc.) is welcome to join us!. Please call Barbara at 860-930-0310 with any questions.

**REMINDER: St. Paul Parishioners have** FORMED FREE access to great digital content through FORMED! Visit https://stpaulkensington.formed.org and enter your Name & Email to create an account and start enjoying movies, programs, books and audio instantly.



Join our new Women of Faith group, where all women of our parish can come together for Faith, Friendship & Fellowship. Gather with other Catholic women, share stories, and strengthen your Spiritual journey.

Please join us Thursday, June 16th from 7-8pm in St. Paul Church Hall. If weather permits, our June gathering will be held in the Prayer Garden next to the Parish Green.

To learn more, please contact one of the group organizers below at womenoffaith@stpaulkensington.org

Cheryl Pagano, Lynn Misteri & Karen Cyr

# FCODSHARE ST. CLARE FOOD PAN MOBILE FOODSHARE **ST. CLARE FOOD PANTRY &**

Volunteers will be needed on Thursday, June 9 at 9:30am to transport food from St. Paul to Sacred Heart and to set up for distribution. Volunteers are also needed on Friday, June 10 at 11am at Sacred Heart Church to help with distribution. For transportation to FoodShare at Sacred Heart, call the Berlin Senior Center 860-828-7006.

For information regarding the St. Clare Pantry or Food-Share including volunteering, contact Nancy at 860-601-7866 or n.timbrell@stpaulkensington.org.

Our volunteers would like to express their sincere gratitude for your continued support of our St. Clare Food Pantry!

There are currently over 100 clients who come to the food distribution for assistance. Fewer donations along with this increased demand has resulted in some empty shelves at the Food Pantry. Your donations are greatly appreciated!

The Pantry is currently in need of the following items: cereal, oatmeal, pancake/waffle mixes, pancake syrup, muffin mixes, peanut butter, jelly, preserves, pop tarts, and protein/granola bars.

**OUR LADY OF CALVARY** offers *Directed Retreats* in June and September. A directed retreat is a personally guided prayer experience in which the retreatant listens for God's personal spoken word through the Sacred Scriptures. Each retreatant is assigned a director with whom the retreatant meets daily for reflection and spiritual discernment. Choose a full week or a long weekend. Open to both men and women. For details, visit https://www.ourladyofcalvary.net



**ONLINE GIVING** Thank you to all of you who continue to financially support our St. Paul Parish Family! Online Giving is a secure, easy & effective way to support our parish!

# What are Novenas?

If you mention novenas, you're likely to get mixed reactions, with extremes at both ends of the scale.

Some view novenas as extraordinarily powerful prayers with guaranteed results — like a legal contract with God: if you fulfill the conditions, God grants your request.

Others feel that novenas are simply a waste of time — an outdated form of prayer practiced by overly pious people looking for spiritual magic.

As is often the case, neither extreme is accurate, though each reflects some truth. Making a novena is indeed a valid, powerful way to pray, but if misunderstood can become an act of superstition rather than prayer.

# What It Is

The word "novena" comes from the Latin meaning "nine each." It is a prayer or Holy Mass that is offered for nine consecutive days.

Scripturally, novenas take their origin from the nine days of prayer before Pentecost. After the Ascension, the apostles and disciples, in obedience to the Lord, gathered in the upper room and devoted themselves to constant prayer, together with Mary, the Mother of Jesus (Acts 1:4-5).

The nine days of prayer can also be considered as a representation of the nine months of Jesus in the womb of Mary. Like Jesus our Head, we His Body are also to be born of Mary and the Holy Spirit. The nine days of prayer were gestation prior to the birth of the Church on Pentecost. Since then, each novena can be considered as a time of gestation before a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

#### What It Is Not

Over the centuries, the practice of making novenas grew in popularity, and inevitably, abuses developed like weeds in a garden.

One abuse is absolute guarantees of positive results. There are no absolute guarantees. Prayer must always be made according to the will of God. Even Christ Himself prayed, "Not my will, Father, but Yours be done."

We pray with trust that God will give us what He knows is best for us.

Another abuse is the guarantee that a particular novena will never fail if we publish the novena prayer. These mistaken ideas can often cause great confusion and lead to superstition.

#### **Persistent Prayer**

Novenas should be considered persistent prayer. Jesus exhorted us to continually ask, seek, and knock for what we need (Lk 11:10), and he gave us strong examples of the value of persistence in prayer — like the widow who kept pleading with the judge (Lk 18:1-8) and the man who woke his neighbor in the middle of the night to give him bread (Lk 11:5-9).

St. Faustina also gives us a powerful example of persistence in prayer. Novenas were an important and regular part of her spiritual life. She made novenas of different kinds and for various needs. For her they were times of intense and persevering prayer.

For us, too, novenas can be times of persevering prayer for special needs and of preparation for solemn feasts.

Novenas also can help us to focus our intentions so that we can more effectively give thanks for God's response to our needs — whatever they are — placing ever greater trust in the Lord Jesus.

Article from website of The National Shrine of The Divine Mercy (<u>https://www.shrineofdivinemercy.org</u>) from an article in Marian Helper magazine, Fall 1993.

**St. Paul Parish Custodian Position** 20 hours/week. Hours flexible but require some evening and weekend support. Great role for local college student! Position supports indoor/outdoor maintenance & repair work, event setup needs, organizational projects, running video equipment, and other work as needed, under the direction of the Parish Facilities Manager. Respectful, clear communications, the ability to work independently, flexibility in schedule, and being able to take direction are all very critical to this role. For full description, visit <u>http://www.stpaulkensington.org</u>



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