

## **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: [ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org)

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](mailto:frjoseph@stpaulkensington.org)



Fr. Michael Englert, OFM Conv.  
Parochial Vicar & Guardian

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Parochial Vicar

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Fr. Raymond Borkowski, OFM Conv.  
In Residence

[fraymond@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:fraymond@stpaulkensington.org)



Deacon Don Philip

[deacondon@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:deacondon@stpaulkensington.org)



# **St. Paul Catholic Parish**

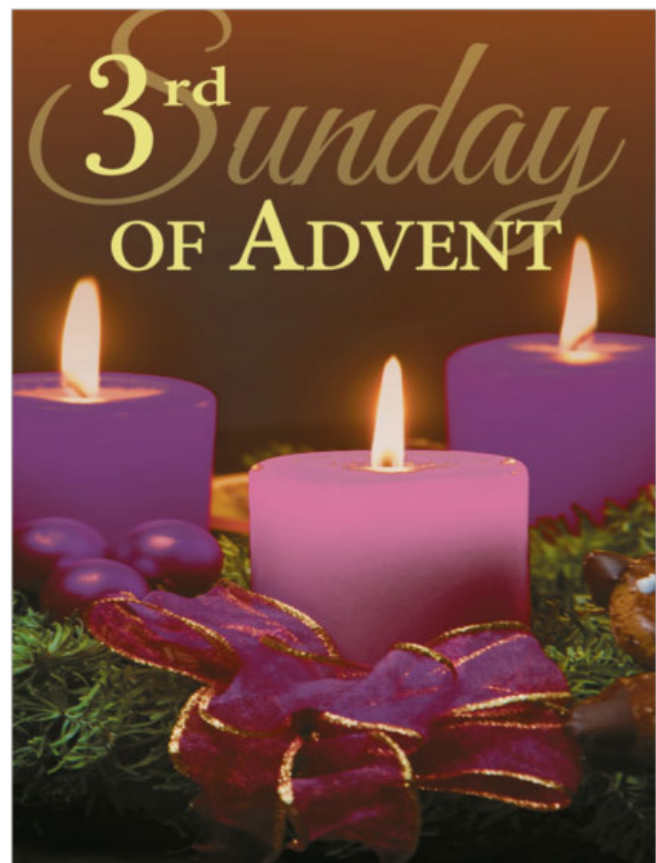
*A Franciscan Family of Faith*

St. Paul Church - 485 Alling St, Kensington CT 06037

Sacred Heart Church - 48 Cottage St, East Berlin CT 06023

December 11, 2022

Third Sunday of Advent



*"Let the Church always be a place of MERCY and HOPE,  
where EVERYONE is WELCOMED, LOVED and FORGIVEN."*

*-Pope Francis*

**Guadete Sunday - Rejoice!** - Already we have come to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent which is known as *Gaudete* Sunday (which is Latin for rejoice) from the Entrance antiphon for the Mass which says "Rejoice in the Lord, always: again, I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." This joyful spirit is marked by the third candle in our advent wreath which is rose colored. In the first reading the prophet Zephaniah says "The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in his love, he will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals." In the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading St. Paul wrote to the Philippians "Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!" "Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Do we live our lives rejoicing? Can we help others rejoice by treating them as God treats us? Can we remove the anxiety in our lives by trusting a little more in God's love and care for us? You might say 'I have nothing to rejoice about.' Sometimes the events and circumstances of life make us feel less joyful. But we need to recall Jesus is Emmanuel, "God with us", and especially in the moments when life is toughest God is ever the more with us. So as Advent quickly moves on take a moment to rejoice in the love that Jesus has for you. Rejoice in the good things he does for you. Do not let the challenges of life Hinder Him Coming to You again nor let those things hinder you from going to Him with all that might weigh you down. "Rejoice in the Lord, always: again, I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near!"

**Christmas Concert/Live Nativity (Greccio) on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>** - I hope you are planning on joining us next Sunday for our Christmas Concert and Live Nativity. As you might remember, it was St. Francis who first re-enacted the Nativity with the people of the little town of Greccio in Italy in 1223. Join us for this Franciscan Christmas tradition next Sunday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. This will be done by some of our youth and will be interwoven with our Christmas concert led by the Parish choir and our Youth choir *Exaltations*. So help set the tone for the week before Christmas by joining us next Sunday in St. Paul Church.

**Mercy Mondays - Confessions Prior to Christmas** - *"Mercy will always be greater than any sin, and no one can place limits on the love of God who is ever ready to forgive."* - *Misericordiae Vultus* This Monday, December 12 and next, December 19, four confessors will be available from 7pm to 8pm. Our regular confession schedule is every Saturday morning from 8:30am to 9:30am and every Saturday afternoon from 3pm to 4pm. On Christmas Eve confessions will only be heard in the morning. On the Mercy Mondays we will

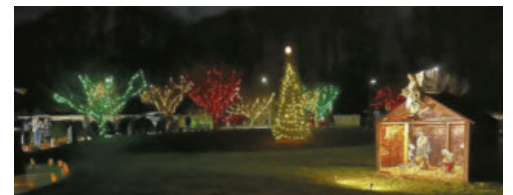
have Eucharistic Adoration during that time as well. Come and experience the forgiveness that God offers you and the joy of getting a fresh start.

**Christmas Mass and Parish Center Schedule** - See page 4 for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Mass Schedule. The parish offices will be closed Dec. 26 and Jan 2.

**Christmas Memorials** - The Christmas Memorials will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. If you missed the December 9<sup>th</sup> deadline they will be included in a later bulletin.

**Lighting of the Parish Green** - The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Lighting of the Parish Green took place last Saturday evening after the 4pm Mass. The rain that fell most of the day ended by about 2 pm and with the temperature in the mid 50's even with a bit of a breeze it turned out to be okay weather-wise. Special thanks goes out to Julie DelMartino Scalora, the school's Development Director for coordinating the event, producing the program and especially for the calligraphy on each bag. Thanks to the school parents led by Sarah Santone for their work and once again this year to the Kacperski family for providing the refreshments. The Confirmation candidates were a big help serving the hot chocolate and handing out cookies and placing all of the luminaries in their proper order. Thanks to everyone who donated a luminary, there were more than 300! The parish folk group led by Maura Liegeot with Jeff Batter led us in a few Christmas carols. When the switch was flipped and all of the lights came on, the work of Bill DiCicco and Patrick Walsh certainly shone round about and still does each night. Our four year old

Christmas Tree that is a permanent addition and the manger scene that was added



last year round out the display very nicely. We hope to build off the tradition of this event and enhance it for next year.

**Anointing of the Sick** - Two weekends ago about 286 people received the Sacrament of the Sick after all of the Masses. While we were happy to share the grace of this Sacrament with so many at that time, know that the priests are always available to anoint when needed. If you know you are going in for major surgery either call the parish office or see a priest after Mass if you need to be anointed. If a loved one has become weaker or advanced in illness or has been newly diagnosed do not wait to call for a priest to come and anoint you or a loved one. **Recall too that if someone is admitted to the hospital the family has to inform us of that since the hospitals do not share that information because of HIPAA regulations.**

*Continued on page 4*

## INTENTIONS

### Blessed Mother Candles will burn this week for

**†Helen Szumski**

5th Anniversary by family

**†Bernadette Przybysz**

Birthday Remembrance by Mary Ann Imundo

**†Nancy Dannahey**

1st Anniversary by daughter and family



**†Michael A. Nowek, Sr.**

*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.*

**Reminder:** Our friars will be happy to visit you or your loved one in the **hospital** if you kindly let us know when you are there. Please call the parish office at 860-828-0331 or email [ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org).

**TO REQUEST A LOW GLUTEN HOST** Please arrive for Mass about 10 minutes early, go to the sacristy and 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.

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.



2nd Collection Dec.11: Retirement Fund for Religious

**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,*

*who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.*



Saturday, December 10, 2022 Third Sunday of Advent

4:00 **†Lewis Gay** Birthday Remembrance by family

Sunday, December 11, 2022 Third Sunday of Advent

7:30 **†Joanne Kuzniecki** 5th Year Anniversary

by mom, dad and family

9:00 **†Fabio Birritta** 22nd Anniversary by mom and dad

9:30 **Parishioners of Saint Paul Parish**

10:30 **†Deceased Members of the Michno Family**

by the Tabaczynski family

12:00 **†Vicente Carbonell and †Christina Morant** by family

Monday, December 12, 2022 Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:00 **†Rose & †Vincent Micacci and †Lucille Micacci**

by Anthony Micacci

5:00 **†John Slowikowski** 5th Anniversary

by Debbie Slowikowski

Tuesday, December 13, 2022 St. Lucy

7:00 **†Richard and †Catherine Binder** by a friend

**†Souls in Purgatory** by Linda and John Nappi, Jr.

**†Maria Verillo** by husband Peter

**†Kevin Brian Sweeney** by DHS Friends

**†Richard Lewicki** Birthday Remembrance by mom

5:00 **†Rosalja Stachelek** 80th Anniversary by family

Wednesday, December 14, 2022 St. John the Cross

7:00 **†Carole Volz** 4th Anniversary by the family

5:00 **†DeBlasio and †Dougherty families** by family

Thursday, December 15, 2022 Advent Weekday

7:00 **†William Finnegan** by his sisters

5:00 **†Souls in Purgatory** by Emanuele Lombardo

**†Bernardo Caseno** by Rachela Caseno

**†Michael B. DeMaio** by the family

**†Edward Hawrylik** by wife Carole

**Nickolas Family** Christmas Remembrance

by daughter and family

Friday, December 16, 2022 Advent Weekday

7:00 **Gail and Susan Shaheen** Birthday Blessings

by the Shaheen family

5:00 **†Stacey Dastoli** 10th Anniversary by mom and dad

Saturday, December 17, 2022 Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:00 **†Thomas Stregowski** 21st Anniversary

by wife Elva, son and grandson

Sunday, December 18, 2022 Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30 **Sara Jones** Birthday Celebration

by the Tabaczynski family

9:00 **†Stacey Dastoli** 10th Anniversary by mom and dad

9:30 **Parishioners of Saint Paul Parish**

10:30 **†Mary and †Ted Young, Sr.** by Ted and Patti Young

12:00 **†Joseph Tirinzoni** Birthday Remembrance by children

**Parish Collection**  
Nov 29-Dec 5, 2022

In Church SP	\$ 8,441
Office	\$ 1,634
In Church SH	\$ 476
Online Giving	\$ 5,475
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 16,026</b>



**Forward With Faith Update** - It has been a few weeks since I gave an update on our progress with the *Forward With Faith* Campaign. As of December 5, pledges and donations now total \$1,080,618 which is 10.8% over our goal of \$975,000 and is 90% of our need of \$1.2 million. These donations have come from 303 donors with the average gift being \$3,566. Pledge forms can still be dropped off at the parish office, mailed in, or placed in the collection basket. Just a reminder, that when making payments on your pledges make all checks payable to Forward with Faith. Once again thank you to all of the donors and may the Lord bless you abundantly for your goodness!

**Annual Giving - End of Year Donation** - Thank you to everyone who has already returned their Annual End of the Year gift for the parish. The parish relies on these gifts as part of our budgeted income and helps fund the many ministries and programs the parish offers and assists in taking care of our property and buildings. The parish's fiscal year ends on December 31 so if you make your Annual gift by then that would be most helpful. If not, make it when you can. Thank you for your support!

**Final Thoughts** - The Redcoats continued their undefeated season with a resounding win over Rockville to advance to the Class M championship game against Notre Dame (West Haven) on Dec. 10. The Bills had a good Sunday after their win on Thursday against a lackluster Pats offense as KC, Jets, Dolphins and Titans all lost moving them up to the # 1 seed for the moment. Speaking of lackluster, that is the state of the Ravens offense too that might now be without Lamar for a while. Can their defense carry them into the playoffs? MLB Hot Stove is heating up and I am looking forward to what the Orioles will do. In the midst of the holiday rush do please take some time to rejoice this week in just how much God loves you! Have a blessed 3<sup>rd</sup> week of Advent! - Fr. Joe



L to R: Patrick Walsh, Bill DiCicco & Emily Armetta, the Parish Green lighting team!

The drawing for the Quilt Raffle was held on December 7th, prior to the printing deadline for this bulletin. Winners will be announced in next week's bulletin.

## READINGS FOR DECEMBER 11, 2022

For this week's readings online, visit <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/121122.cfm>

**First Reading:** Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10.

*Lord, come and save us.*

**Second Reading:** James 5:7-10

**Alleluia:** Isaiah 61:1

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor.*

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Gospel:** Matthew 11:2-11

When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ, he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus said to them in reply, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me." As they were going off, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John, "What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? Then what did you go out to see? Someone dressed in fine clothing? Those who wear fine clothing are in royal palaces. Then why did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you. Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve – Saturday, December 24

Christmas Vigil Masses at St. Paul Church  
4 pm, 6 pm & 10 pm



Christmas Day – Sunday, December 25

Mass at St. Paul Church - 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12 Noon  
Mass at Sacred Heart Church – 9:30 am

Christmas Week Daily Masses - December 26 - 30

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday - 7:00 am ONLY  
Tuesday - 5:00 p.m. preceded by Holy Hour at 4:00 pm  
(All at St. Paul Church)

PARISH OFFICE: - Closed on Monday, December 26

**SAINT PAUL SCHOOL  
NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS  
FOR THE 2023-2024 ACADEMIC YEAR**

For more information visit our school website

<https://ourschool.stpaulkensington.org/>

or call 860-828-4343 x113.

To download an application, click on this link:

<https://bit.ly/3qO2X9J>



You may also email our  
Admissions Director, Kelly Esposito,  
[admissions@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:admissions@stpaulkensington.org).



*Kindergarten Mitten Tree Drive...  
Give the Gift of Warmth!*

Our Kindergarten class is holding their Annual Mitten Tree Drive. The class is collecting mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves for those in need this winter.

Please help fill the tree, located in our school lobby, with these much-needed items for both children and adults. Donations will be given to the Prudence Crandall Center in New Britain. The Drive will run from **December 1st -20th**. Thank you in advance for your support and generosity!

Congratulations to all of our Middle School students who were named to the academic Honor Roll for the first trimester!

**GRADE SIX**

High Honors:

Cody Douglas  
Anthony Esposito  
Malachi Felton  
Vihaan Iyer  
Luca Kaczynski  
Wilson Ronda  
Marco Tine  
Kayla You

Honors:

Jakub Gawecki  
Maxwell Loukopoulos  
Maana Patel  
Kira Sorensen

**GRADE SEVEN**

High Honors:

William Chyra  
Tyler Ebrahimi  
John Kelly  
Ruby Kuselias  
Kaily Lesny

Honors:

Evan Byrne  
Jack Gibson  
Dylan Gunning  
Rachel Hart  
Ava Orzel  
Gabriel Puskarz  
Simon Szymanowski  
Emery Tarry

**GRADE EIGHT**

High Honors:

Kaitlin Bertolami  
Kiley Bohn  
Alexis Bourque  
Julia Gujda  
Elijah Hairston  
Joanna Jarombek  
Anna Morrissey  
Katherine Parulski  
Conrad Yakimishan  
Valerie Yakimishan  
Alexandra Kuszaj-Zalewski

Honors:

Wyatt Bajorski  
Olivia Carlson  
Maddox Dow  
Camryn Fraello  
Marcin Kacperski  
Sienna Liebler  
Abigail Mullison



Our students have been busy making Advent crafts!



First grade students in Mrs. Rutkowski's class did a great job on their Advent wreaths! At left are Harper and Harper. Above is Alisia.

Below are students from Mr. Pelosi's third grade class displaying their Peace On Earth wreaths.  
(Top photo Andrew and Joshua)



Lots of smiles in Mrs. Little's fourth grade class!





## PARISH PRAYER LIST

Bobby Adamowicz  
Jacob Ahlquist  
Gilda Alberti  
John Anderson  
Elaine Andrews  
Jose Arcia  
Donna Baranowski  
Zulma Barbien  
Sue Begin  
Olivia Belfonti  
Wyatt Bernard  
Peter Bocompani  
David Borselle  
Cheryl Brown  
Mark Camilleri  
Richard Carlson  
Silas Cipollone  
Doug Clarke  
Lorraine Clark  
Sophie Conti  
Carol Corriveau  
Tom Coss  
Arlene Cotrona  
Amanda Coyle  
Janet Crossman  
Robert Czerwinski  
Mary Daleski  
Adeline D'Angelo  
Ramiro Dagna  
Uly Dagna  
Maria DeFazio  
Fr. Anthony DeFronzo  
Constance DiLorenzo  
Bill Dobbs  
Nicole Donzello  
Nick Donzello  
Mary Ann Dorsey  
Bernadette Dumond  
Fannie Farrell  
Lilia Fernandez  
Simon Fitzpatrick  
Helen Flannelly  
Nancy Fleming  
Deb Follett  
Maureen Freeman  
Rose Garuti  
Patricia Gebhardt  
Dominic Gionfriddo  
Jennifer Gionfriddo  
Salvatore Gionfriddo  
Rosemarie Gionfriddo  
Liz Goryl-Phillips  
Donna Goulette  
Madison Gray  
Grochal Family  
Pat Haber  
Linda Hannold  
Lily Harzewski-Burl  
Evan Hill  
Pat Jahn  
Barbara Killius  
Evan Kimmel  
Sylvia Kratka  
John G. Kunitis, Sr.  
Mary Lamkins



Maria Lauria  
Mary Leinen  
Laura Lemke  
Connie Lombardi  
Ronald Maldon  
Lisa Mangiafico  
Fr. Paul Mangiafico  
Carol Marold  
Robert Mazzaferro  
Lorraine McCarthy  
Brandi McWade  
Luis Mendoza  
Viola Mercadante  
Michael Mihalko  
Tom Modifica  
Evelyn Modzelewski  
Helen Morrissey  
Nancy Motulko  
Cheryl Murphy  
John Murphy  
Helen Murphy  
Thomas Norris  
Arlene O'Neill  
Esther Ouellette  
Our Military Service Members  
Emma Pagano  
Antoinette Pandolfi  
Judy Pappalardo  
Cynthia Paradise  
Richard Paskiewicz  
John Pink  
Richard Rampone  
Care Rich  
Frank Rich  
Mary Rich  
Rita Richter  
Randy Ripley  
Steven Ripley  
Carlos Rivera  
Phyllis Rubbo  
Viola Salonia  
Joan Schwartz  
Raul Seipel  
Guy Simeone  
Rev. Arkadiusz Skwarek  
Donald Spilka  
Kevin Stanowski  
Ken Stokowski  
Sandy Story  
James Swiatek  
Gabe Szczygla  
Julia Szczygla  
Luke Szul  
Alfred J. Tee  
Beverly Veley  
Brian Veley  
Scott Veley  
Tom Vest  
Louise Webb  
Thaddeus Wojtusik  
Molly Yardley  
Mary Ann Watrous  
Miriam Zacharias  
Carrie Zangari

Please call the Parish Office if you would like to add someone to our Prayer List 860-828-0331. (M-F 9am-4pm.) Please also be sure to ask for permission from the person to be added.

*"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



For A Guide to Praying the Rosary, visit:  
<https://stpaulkensington.org/how-to-pray-the-rosary>

## FOODSHARE ST. CLARE FOOD PANTRY & MOBILE FOODSHARE

Volunteers will be needed on **Thursday, Dec. 22** at **9:30am** to transport food from St. Paul to Sacred Heart and to set up for distribution. Volunteers are also needed on **Friday, Dec. 23** 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 FoodShare including volunteering, contact Nancy at 860-601-7866 or [n.timbrell@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:n.timbrell@stpaulkensington.org).

*Thank you to all who continue to support this ministry!*

The Pantry is currently in need of the following items:  
*Juice, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, iced tea, and miscellaneous beverages.*

## WORD SEARCH

PRISON  
BLIND  
LAME  
LEPERS

CLEANSED  
LIFE  
HAPPY  
CLOTHES

PALACES  
PROPHET  
SCRIPTURE  
WOMEN

B	Y	D	P	R	O	E	P	H	S
L	P	N	O	S	I	R	P	E	O
I	P	I	T	L	O	U	H	P	C
D	A	L	A	P	E	T	I	P	L
N	H	B	H	A	O	P	P	Y	E
P	W	E	H	L	L	I	E	P	A
A	T	O	C	A	Y	R	F	R	N
L	S	I	M	C	P	C	I	I	S
A	E	E	T	E	P	S	L	S	E
C	L	E	A	S	N	E	D	E	D



## WOMEN OF FAITH

*To Support and affirm our faith  
as Catholic women in today's changing times.*

Women of Faith is a place where we come together once a month to share our common threads; our journey in life, and how it impacts us. Our difficulties, strengths, sorrows and attributes, and how our faith helps us get through it all.

Testimonials from a few of our members:

*"I am very happy that I joined the Women in Faith Group. This is where anyone can come and share any issues/concerns they may have regarding family, children, work and Faith, etc. without any judgment. The group is very supportive. In this unsettling world in which we live today, it is nice to come together with other women who share the same values."*

*"As Catholic women today, living our faith includes both struggles and rewards. One often seeks other like minded women to share concerns, discuss issues and share joys that we experience along our daily faith journey. To strengthen and grow our faith, it is important to refer to scripture, share testimony and make time for prayer. For me, the Women of Faith group provides an opportunity for us to do these three things. At the same time, I enjoy the fellowship and support I experience at each meeting."*

*"The Women of Faith group has become a welcomed source of support during a time of uncertainty and upheaval in my life. It's put my faith and Catholic beliefs back in the forefront of my actions and perspectives. Of most note, is the comfort the attendees are made to feel, allowing them to authentically share their thoughts in a forum completely devoid of judgement. It doesn't get much better than that!"*

Come and experience how the St. Paul Women of Faith can influence you!



For any questions or schedule of meetings, please email us at: [womenoffaith@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:womenoffaith@stpaulkensington.org)

The next meeting will be **Thursday, January 12th** at 7pm.

## PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The November meeting of the Pastoral Council was held on Monday, November 28, 2022 with an opening prayer offered by Father Martin that included a remembrance of Paul Miano who had died on November 21 and had served as a Council member. In attendance were our friars, current council members as well as the newly welcomed members: Dwight Davis, Ronald Levandowsky, Fayne Molloy, Ed Schmitt and Bud Volz. Each of these members will serve on the Pastoral Council for a three-year term. Current council members will begin to leave the council, two at a time over the next three years, creating opportunities for other parishioners to serve.

Guests at the meeting included Jill Conaway, principal of the school, Robin Veronesi, DRE, and Deacon Julio, the Parish Manager. These individuals gave the council an update on the school, religious education program, the financial state of the parish, and newly signed contracts for an electric supplier (63% increase) and snow removal (12% increase). Our school currently educates 254 students while 550 students are enrolled in our religious education program. The parish and school were beginning the process of undergoing the every three-year financial audit that is mandated by the Archdiocese of Hartford. The parish and school continue to maintain fiscal stability.

The future work of the council will include reviewing the recommendations from the Archdiocesan Synod and forming committees to address those initiatives and specific ones as determined by the parish. Our new parishioner orientation program, which is held monthly, continues to welcome new parishioners, and in some cases, students to our school. Father Joe updated the council on the Forward with Faith Campaign as well as the end of the year appeal. Father Joe and Father Michael reviewed the Christmas activity schedule and the status of our Evangelization groups including RCIA, Scripture Studies, Adult Confirmation, Men's Group and the Women of Faith. The closing prayer was offered by Father Michael. The council's next meeting will be held on January 16, 2023.

## INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR PARISH?

Our next Registration Meeting is **Monday, December 12th** in the St. Paul Church Hall (downstairs) at 7pm. Please let us know if you plan to attend. Call 860-828-0331 or email [ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org). Thank you!



To receive the bulletin in your email inbox every week, please complete our simple online form at <https://stpaulkensington.org/our-bulletin>.

Use this same link to let us know if you'd like our monthly parish newsletter to be sent to your email address as well!

thank you

Dear Rev. Benicewicz,

Thank you for your donation of \$350 dated November 7, 2022. We are especially grateful for your generosity and including Carolyn's Place in your 40 Days for Life outreach.

It is through kind contributions, like yours, that we are able to continue providing assistance to our mothers and families. The Earn While You Learn and Second Blessings parenting programs have continued in person and are also offered virtually. We continue to provide personal needs items to our families. Youth Programs and talks are offered on and off site.

We are sincerely appreciative of your continued spiritual and financial support. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
John L. Lynch  
Executive Director



Dear Father Benicewicz,

Thank you for your parish's donation of diapers, wipes, clothing, play set, baby food, books, formula, and \$350 to Two Hearts Pregnancy Care Center. Gifts such as yours, as well as the prayers and financial assistance of our generous donors, enable us to continue to provide care and support for God's precious children and to fulfill the mission work of Two Hearts.

We assist families with housing, diapers, wipes, formula (when we have it), baby food, clothing cribs, mattresses and miscellaneous baby products donated to the Center. Every mother and child who visits the Center will be touched by your grace, prayers and generosity. Please know that your gift is truly appreciated and is a blessing to our clients.

Please continue to remember Two Hearts and their clients in your prayers, and may God bless you and your parish family.

In His Love and Service,  
Lynn Reynolds  
Executive Director



If you'd like to get involved or learn more about our Culture of Life Ministry, please email Ashley at [respectlife@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:respectlife@stpaulkensington.org).

**ANGEL TREES** Thank you to all who took an Angel from our 2022 Angel Trees! Reminder: Please return all gifts, *with the Angel attached*, by **Dec. 11th**. The gifts will be distributed to several local organizations including Klingberg Family Center, Worthington Manor Retirement Center, Ledgecrest Health Care Center, CCARC, and more. The gifts listed on the Angels were specifically requested by clients/residents at these local facilities



The Angel Tree Project is also supporting Boxes to Boots this year. Parishioners are invited to purchase \$25 Walmart gift cards for this charity. Printable angels to accompany the Walmart gift cards can be found online. Visit our Angel Tree page for details! <https://stpaulkensington.org/angel-tree>

Our Parish Social Action Committee has begun planning the 2023 **HomeFront** project. Applications are now available for individuals/families who are interested in receiving help maintaining their home.



HomeFront is a community-based home repair program that helps homeowners who are financially unable to maintain their homes. Repairs are made by sponsoring teams of volunteers at no cost to the recipients, primarily in a one-day effort. The 2023 day is the third weekend of May.

More information and applications can be found at the church entrances and on the HomeFront website::

<http://www.homefrontprogram.org/drupal7/homeowner-application>



**KNITTERS NEEDED** Our Social Action Ministry is looking for volunteers to knit youth sized winter hats for children ages 10-17. The hats will be donated to the Underground New England, a grass-roots, faith-based initiative dedicated to ending sex trafficking and sexual exploitation throughout New England. There is yarn at the church available. All finished hats can be placed in the plastic bins located near the elevator entrance of St. Paul Church. Any questions, please call Cheryl Pagano at 860-218-3177.



**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 **Dec. 13th**. 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 Mary at 860-828-5478.



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](mailto:mfduplin@outlook.com).





## **BREAKFAST with SANTA**

**St. Paul School Gymnasium**

**Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

**8:30 AM to Noon**

**Visit with Santa**

**Take pictures**

**Enjoy fun activities!**

**Free-will donations accepted**

Stop by  
after the  
Children's  
Mass!



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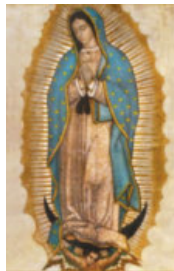
The Grotto Cafe at the Shrine  
of Lourdes in Litchfield is taking or-  
ders for **Christmas cookies..**

One & two-pound trays available. Gluten free also available.  
Orders must be placed by **Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>** and will be available for  
pick-up on Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> between 11am and 1pm. To order, visit  
[www.shrinect.org](http://www.shrinect.org) or call 860-567-1041. The Shrine will also  
host a **Living Nativity** on Sunday, **December 11<sup>th</sup>** at 2pm.

### **December 12th - Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

The feast in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe goes back to the 16th century...

A poor Indian named Cuauhtlatohuac was baptized and given the name Juan Diego. He was a 57-year-old widower, and lived in a small village near Mexico City. On Saturday morning December 9, 1531, he was on his way to a nearby barrio to attend Mass in honor of Our Lady. Juan was walking by a hill called Tepeyac when he heard beautiful music like the warbling of birds. A radiant cloud appeared, and within it stood an Indian maiden dressed like an Aztec princess. The lady spoke to him in his own language and sent him to the bishop of Mexico, a Franciscan named Juan de Zumarraga. The bishop was to build a chapel in the place where the lady appeared. Eventually the bishop told Juan to have the lady give him a sign. About this same time Juan's uncle became seriously ill. This led poor Juan to try to avoid the lady. Nevertheless the lady found Juan, assured him that his uncle would recover, and provided roses for Juan to carry to the bishop in his cape or tilma. On December 12, when Juan Diego opened his tilma in the bishop's presence, the roses fell to the ground, and the bishop sank to his knees. On the tilma where the roses had been appeared an image of Mary exactly as she had appeared at the hill of Tepeyac.



<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/>

### **CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL HONORS**

The following students who are alumni of Saint Paul School and/or members of St. Paul Parish have been named to the Honor Roll for the first quarter of the 2022-2023 school year at our local Catholic high schools.



*Congratulations! Keep up the great work!*

#### **MERCY HIGH SCHOOL** Middletown

##### Highest Honors

Grace Szeghy - 9

##### High Honors

Alana Talamona- 11

Amelia Andruskiewicz- 11

##### Honors

Abigayle DeVivo- 12

Rose Szeghy- 11



[www.mercyhigh.com](http://www.mercyhigh.com)

#### **SAINT PAUL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL** Bristol

##### First Honors with Distinction

Anna Guzda - 11

Jacob Krzynowek - 10

##### First Honors

Victoria Chandler - 12

Sydney Kallaughner - 11

Samantha Sein - 11

Madalyne Bielecki - 10

Liam Gaffney - 9

Luke Kelly - 9

Kevin Little-Davis - 9

##### Second Honors

Matthew Downes - 12

Reiyako Pigeon - 12

Tyler Turner - 12

Matthew Bishop - 11

Rebecca Kelly - 11

Julia Lawson - 11

Matthew Sein - 10

Alessia Gianni - 9

Mason Pachica - 9

Paige Soudier - 9

Ava Tierpack - 9



[www.spchs.com](http://www.spchs.com)

#### **XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL** Middletown

##### High Honors

Daniel Drumski - 12

Richard Smith - 12

##### Honors

Patrick Clements-Dolan - 10



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

**Saturday, December 10**

6:30am TMIY Men's Group SPH  
 8:30am Confessions  
 9:00am JV Home Basketball Games  
 2:00pm Set-Up: KofC Breakfast with Santa  
 3:00pm Confessions

**Sunday, December 11**

8:00am Angel Tree Sorting/Packing SPH  
 8:30am K of C Breakfast With Santa - Gym  
 9:00am 1st & 2nd Yr Confirmation classes-SPS  
 9:00am Children's Mass

**Monday, December 12**

8:45am Parish Staff Meeting  
 1:00pm Confessions Gr 4-8  
 3:00pm Girls JV Basketball Practice  
 4:30pm Boys JVB Basketball Practice  
 6:00pm Boys Varsity Basketball Practice  
 7:00pm Mercy Monday - Confessions SPC  
 7:00pm Registration for New Members

**Tuesday, December 13**

8:45am PreK/K Christmas Concert  
 11:30am Funeral +Miano SPC  
 12:00pm 13th of the Month Rosary  
 1:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry SPH  
 4:00pm Holy Hour Adoration  
 4:30pm Boys JVA Basketball Practice  
 6:00pm Girls Varsity Basketball Practice  
 6:30pm K of C 3rd Degree Council Meeting - SPH  
 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal - PC-LL  
 6:30pm Gr 1-5 Christmas Concert

**Wednesday, December 14**

2:00pm Ladies Guild Executive Board Meeting - PC1  
 3:00pm Cheer Practice (Gr 1-8)  
 3:00pm Drama Club SPH  
 4:30pm Boys JVB Basketball Practice  
 6:00pm Rosary at Sacred Heart  
 6:00pm Exultations Youth Choir practice -SPC  
 6:30pm AWAY Varsity Basketball Games  
 7:00pm Social Action SPH

**PARISH CALENDAR**

Deadline for  
 Angel Tree  
 Gifts  
 Dec. 11

Holy Hour  
 Tuesdays 4-5pm

**Thursday, December 15**

9:00am Quilters - SPH  
 3:00pm Girls JV Basketball Practice  
 3:00pm Drama Club - SL  
 3:00pm Girl Scouts  
 4:30pm Boys JVA Basketball Practice  
 5:45pm Staff Christmas Party - SPH  
 6:00pm Girls Varsity Basketball Practice  
 7:00pm RCIA - PC-1

**Friday, December 16**

3:00pm CoEd JVC Red Basketball Practice  
 4:30pm CoEd JVC Gold Basketball Practice  
 6:00pm HOME Varsity Basketball Games  
 7:30pm AA Meeting - SPH

**Saturday, December 17**

8:30am Confessions  
 9:00am JV Home Basketball Games  
 3:00pm Confessions

**Sunday, December 18**

7:45am Gr. 1-8 Rel Ed Session 1-SPS  
 9:15am Gr. 1-8 Rel Ed Session 2-SPS  
 10:45am Gr. 1-8 Rel Ed Session 3-SPS  
 1:15pm Baptisms  
 5:00pm Christmas Concert & Greccio - SPC

Join us for our  
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 Concert and  
 Greccio on  
Dec. 18th!



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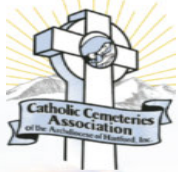
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