

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

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. Martin Kobos, OFM Conv.
Parochial Vicar

frmartin@stpaulkensington.org



Fr. Raymond Borkowski, OFM Conv.
In Residence

fraymond@stpaulkensington.org



Deacon Don Philip

deacondon@stpaulkensington.org



St. Paul Catholic Parish

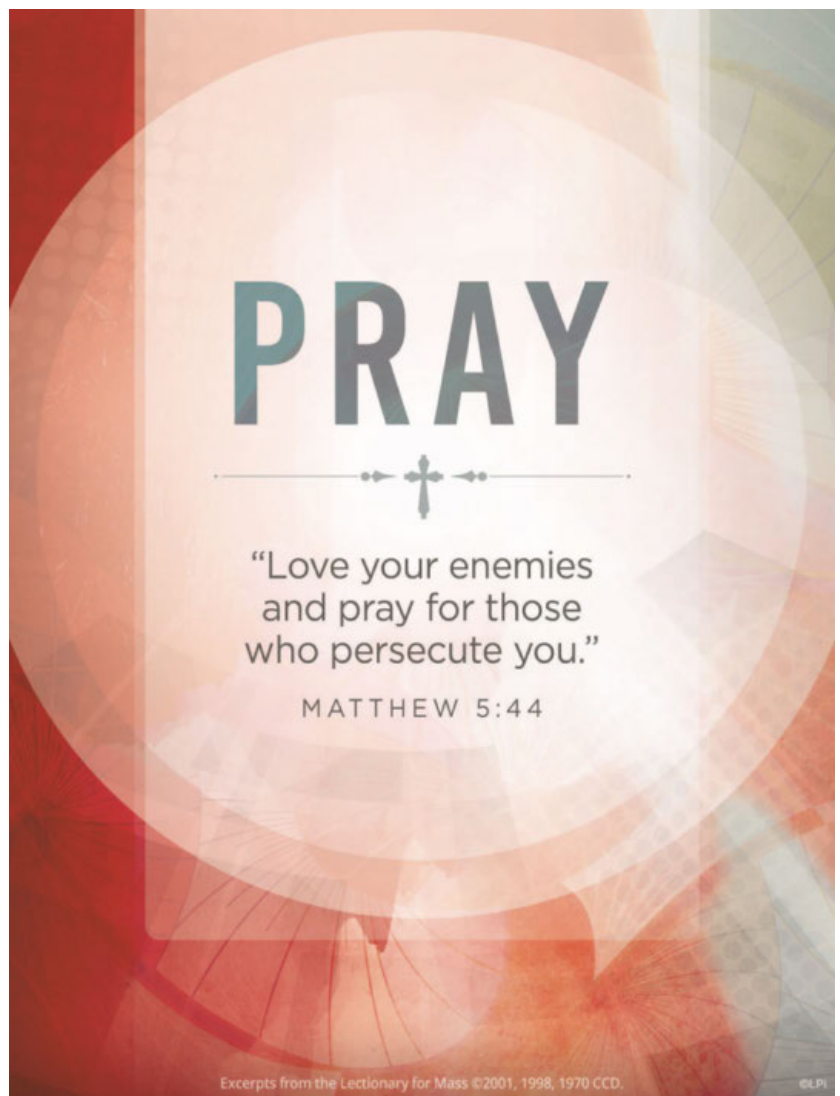
A Franciscan Family of Faith

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

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

February 19, 2023

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

-Pope Francis

Lent Begins Wednesday - Inserted in this bulletin is our **Lenten Schedule including the Mass schedule for Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. The Church's requirements as regards fasting and abstinence can also be found there.** These practices are reminders to us of our need for self-sacrifice and, yes, discipline in our lives. Last week I wrote about using these days leading up to Ash Wednesday for each of us to put together our own individual plan for this Lent. Hopefully we will each have it ready to use beginning Wednesday. If you are still working out the final touches on that plan the Church's tried and true template of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving is always a good starting point.

Matthew Kelly, the author of *Rediscovering Catholicism* and other books, says that in order to be our best self, to be holy, we have to strive for excellence. We are not perfect now and will not be in this life. But in admitting we are not perfect do we sell ourselves short? In saying we cannot be perfect do we aim too low in our spiritual life, in our relationship with others, in our relationship with God? As Deacon Don mentioned last week in his homily, do we excuse our sins by saying I am only human. Yes we are, but the Lord calls us to live holy lives. **Lent is about aiming higher.**

Can you set aside at least 15 minutes of prayer each day of Lent? I hope you took home a copy of the *Lenten Companion* that we passed out last weekend. The brief daily meditations can be a starting point for those 15 minutes of daily prayer this Lent and a deepening of your faith and growth as a Catholic and Christian. Of course there are other ways to enhance your prayer life. Maybe you could make time to attend daily Mass (7am and 5pm) every day during Lent or some days. These Masses are about 25-30 minutes. A few weeks ago I mentioned the idea of reading the entire Gospel of Matthew during Lent since that is the primary gospel for this year's Sunday Gospel readings. The Friars will lead a three day Evening of Reflection (March 14-16) with the Sermon on the Mount as the basis for the reflections. Attend the Stations of the Cross on Fridays. See below for more about this devotion.

Beginning next Sunday as a parish community, in conjunction with all parishes in the Archdiocese, we will pray in earnest for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Prayer cards will be given to everyone with the hope that you will pray this prayer everyday so that more of our young people will be open to answering the Lord's call to service in his Church. I will have more to share about this next week.

Stations of the Cross - Are you familiar with the Stations of the Cross? When was the last time that you took notice of them on the walls of our churches? From the earliest of days, followers of Jesus told the story of his passion, death and resurrection. When pilgrims came to see Jerusalem, they

were anxious to see the sites where Jesus had been including the way he took up to Calvary. Following in the footsteps of the Lord along the *Via Crucis* (Way of the Cross) or *Via Dolorosa* (Sorrowful Way), became an important part of the pilgrimage visit. The stations, as we know them today, came about when it was no longer easy or even possible to visit the holy sites.

Lent is a very appropriate time to pray the Stations of the Cross though they can be prayed any time during the year. By praying the Stations we make a little pilgrimage along the *Via Dolorosa* being reminded of just how much Jesus went through on his way to Calvary and just how much he loves us. I invite you to join us in praying the Stations during Lent. **Once again this year, we will pray the Stations each Friday of Lent at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Church.** Since the merger of the parishes, the Stations had been held at Sacred Heart Church, but the attendance was not strong. Last year saw an increase in attendance with the Stations being held at St. Paul. The school children come over on Friday afternoons at 2:00 p.m. to pray the stations, except on March 24th since they do not have classes that day. Everyone is most welcome to attend these Stations, just know that they are geared to children. I encourage you not to pass up these opportunities to contemplate, and enter into, the mystery of Jesus' love for you.

Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center - The Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford offers many opportunities for retreats during the year. They have given me a \$325 voucher for any man who has never made a retreat there. Call or send me an email and I will pass it on to you.

Adult Confirmation Program - Please refer to the information on page 7 of this bulletin for information about our six session Adult Confirmation Program that will begin on March 16th and is for adult Catholics, 18 years of age and older, who have been baptized and received 1st Holy Communion, but have not been confirmed. Recall that those who are asked to be a godparent for Baptism or a Sponsor at Confirmation must have received the Sacrament of Confirmation in order to take on those responsibilities. **The deadline to register is March 6th.**

Church Sound System Update - One of the local projects that was funded through your donations to the *Forward With Faith* Capital Campaign was an updating of the St. Paul Church sound system. This project is well under way with some of the new equipment already delivered. The installation will begin in March and we hope to have it fully installed before Easter. This project will be followed by an updating of our live streaming.

Continued on page 4

INTENTIONS

Blessed Mother Candles will burn this week for

†**Chester Stachelek** Birthday Remembrance by family

Special Request by anonymous

The Bread for the Poor will be Offered this week for

Special Request by anonymous



†**Richard A. Fiori**

†**Gary A. Kelly**

†**Roland Edward Mailloux**

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.

Parish Collection Feb 7-13, 2023	In Church SP	\$ 8,850
	Office	\$ 1,992
	In Church SH	\$ 740
	Online Giving	\$ 5,248
	Total	\$ 16,830

2nd Collection February 18/19:
Catholic High Schools of the Archdiocese of Hartford

To make a prayer request through our **Daughters of Jairus Prayer Line**, 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 and the intention.



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, February 18, 2023 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 †**Michael J. Sokolowski** by the Cormier family

Sunday, February 19, 2023 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 †**Mary Curry** 1st Anniversary by the Guzzardi family

9:00 †**Joseph V. Janik** by family

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

10:30 †**Maryann and †Raymond Dorsey** by Ron

12:00 **Lori Pietraszewski** Birthday Celebration
by Tabaczynski family

Monday, February 20, 2023 Presidents' Day

7:00 †**Martin P. Sheehan** by daughter

5:00 **NO 5PM MASS**

Tuesday, February 21, 2023 St. Peter Damian

7:00 †**Paul Miano** by Mark and Maura Chasse

†**Kathryn LaVette** by Mark and Maura Chasse

†**Barbara Zapor** 3 Year Anniversary
by Sawyer and Zapor families

†**Walt Smoluk** by wife Joyce

†**Walter Krysztopik** by family

5:00 †**Deceased Members of the Corcoran Family** by family

Wednesday, February 22, 2023 Ash Wednesday

7:00 **Anita Fitzsimmons** Personal Intention
by Bob and Susan D'Ambrosio

8:45 †**Kevin R. Laroche** by a loved one

12:00 †**John and †Vilma Stifel** by Terry Tonina

5:00 †**Chester Stachelek** Birthday Remembrance by family

7:00 †**Genowesa and †Joseph Dajczak** by Padykula family

Thursday, February 23, 2023 St. Polycarp

7:00 †**Steven Kowalski** 1st Anniversary Remembrance
by brother Edward Kowalski

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

John Nappi, Jr. by wife

†**Katherine Farr** Anniversary Remembrance
by mother and family

†**Gus Rancourt** by Ginny and Lisa

†**Krystyna Kolesinska** by Szczygla family

Friday, February 24, 2023 Friday after Ash Wednesday

7:00 **Carol and Al Simeone** Personal Intention
by Bob and Susan D'Ambrosio

5:00 †**Domenica Lopreiato** by Domenic Lopreiato

Saturday, February 25, 2023 First Sunday of Lent

4:00 †**Ann Porcaro** Anniversary Remembrance
by husband Joseph

Sunday, February 26, 2023 First Sunday of Lent

7:30 **Parishioners of Saint Paul Parish**

9:00 †**Paul Miano** by DiMartino and Miano families

9:30 †**Deceased Members of the Woja Family** by family

10:30 †**Alfred Simon** by Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Simon

12:00 †**Dino Zovich** by Theresa and family

Reminder: Our friars will be happy to visit you or your loved one in the hospital if you kindly send us a request. Contact the office at 860-828-0331 or ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK, FEBRUARY 26, 2023

For readings online, visit

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/022623.cfm>

First Reading: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17
Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Verse Before the Gospel: Matthew 4:4b

One does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry. The tempter approached and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." He said in reply, "It is written: One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God." Then the devil took him to the holy city, and made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written: He will command his angels concerning you and with their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone." Jesus answered him, "Again it is written, You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test." Then the devil took him up to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence, and he said to him, "All these I shall give to you, if you will prostrate yourself and worship me." At this, Jesus said to him, "Get away, Satan! It is written: The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve." Then the devil left him and, behold, angels came and ministered to him.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS Those who have made the offering for the intention for each Mass are invited to present the bread and wine during the Offertory for that Mass. If they would like to do so, they should arrive at least ten minutes before the scheduled start time of the Mass and go to the sacristy to let the sacristan know that you would like to bring up the gifts. If no one comes forward by that time, other parishioners will be invited to bring up the gifts for that Mass. The exception will be the Children's Masses where students will always bring up the gifts.

The bread and wine are placed on the shelf attached to the front pew of each wing. The gifts are placed on whichever side of the church that the priest and servers enter from each weekend.



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

PASTOR'S COLUMN (continued)

Before this happens, our many connectivity issues throughout all of our buildings on the St. Paul campus also need updating and that work is beginning this weekend in the school while they are off for Presidents' Day.

Saint Paul School Auction - The school's annual auction will be held on **March 25th** to benefit the school. This is a fun event and we know it is for a good cause! See page 5 and check out their auction page. Hope to see you there!

Save the Date - Polish Dinner - The Knights of Columbus will hold their annual Polish Dinner on Saturday, April 15th in the school gym.

Final Thoughts - Super Bowl LVII will be a memorable one. The Chiefs reign supreme having been led by MVP Patrick Mahomes. The surprise of the game, I thought, was neither team recording a sack other than Hurts being run out of bounds once just short of the line of scrimmage. These sack happy defenses respected the opposing QB too much to really go after him. A turnover for a TD and a great punt return were the difference. The City of Brotherly Love is the bridesmaid again. Not likely that the Flyers or 76ers will come close to breaking those Philly hearts even more. Spring training



campus are open, but MLB decides to make the ghost runners in extra innings permanent. An abomination to this fan. Now let us turn our attention to getting Lent off to a good start. Have a blessed week and holy Lent everyone. - Fr. Joe



The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, February 20.

Available Masses for March are listed below. There are still Masses available on Tuesday at 7am and Thursday at 5pm as well. To reserve a Mass, please call the parish office 860-828-0331, M-F 9am-4pm.

- Tuesday, March 14 - 8:45am
- Tuesday, March 21 - 8:45am
- Monday, March 27 - 7:00am
- Tuesday, March 28 - 7:00am or 8:45am
- Wednesday, March 29 - 7:00am

INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR PARISH FAMILY?

Our next Registration Meeting is **Monday, March 13th** 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.

SAINT PAUL SCHOOL NEWS

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.

Mrs. Oppel's preschool students enjoyed their special Valentine's STEM activity. They used popsicle sticks and heart candies to build structures and make shapes and letters. It was great to see their creativity!

Our school auction will be on March 25th! Save the date and see the information below:



↓
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!



**\$40 PER PERSON
INCLUDES BEER, WINE AND DINNER**

TO PURCHASE TICKETS, A SPONSORSHIP, OR AN AD, PLEASE VISIT:

ourschool.auction/2023SPSWildWildWest



Please consider donating a gift card, a new, unused item, your services (hairstylist, mechanic, lawn care, etc) or purchase a sponsorship or ad to make this the best year ever!

email: juliescalora@stpaulkensington.org

RELIGIOUS ED NEWS

In preparation for their upcoming First Reconciliation, our Religious Education and Saint Paul School 3rd grade students met with Fr. Michael. He helped familiarize them with the church and inspire them to look forward to receiving the sacrament! Pictured below, Fr. Michael demonstrated to the children what going to Confession looks like with a student volunteer. One of the highlights for the children was being able to tour the confessionals. Fr. Michael is a wonderful friar, teacher, and tour guide!

Also pictured are some of the volunteers from our Children's Mass on Sunday, February 12: Jax Andrukiewicz (gr. 3), Juliana Ginolfi (gr. 4), and Katelyn Tierney, one of our 2nd year Confirmation students. We very much appreciate all of our student volunteers! Everyone did a great job!



We were so blessed by our Children's Choir, directed by Cheryl Kramer-Tierney.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

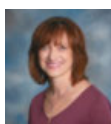
Monday - Thursday 8am - 2pm Phone 860 828-0331

Website: <https://stpaulkensington.org/religious-ed>

 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 320



Christina Norton, Administrative Assistant
(860) 828-1934 ext 321

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Bobby Adamowicz
Jacob Ahlquist
Gilda Alberti
John Anderson
Elaine Andrews
Jose Arcia
Donna Baranowski
Zulma Barbien
Olivia Belfonti
Wyatt Bernard
Peter Bocompani
David Borselle
Cheryl Brown
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
Michael Frakel
Fr. Anthony DeFronzo
Bill Dobbs
Nicole Donzello
Nick Donzello
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
Frank Grandone
Madison Gray
Grochal Family
Pat Haber
Linda Hannold
Lily Harzewski-Burl
Tom Higgins
Evan Hill
Pat Jahn
Barbara Killius
Evan Kimmel
Sylvia Kratka
John G. Kumitis, Sr.
Mary Lamkins



Maria Lauria
Mary Leinen
Laura Lemke
Connie Lombardi
Ronald Maldon
Lisa Mangiafico
Fr. Paul Mangiafico
Carol Marold
Jackie Martin
Robert Mazzaferro
Lorraine McCarthy
Brandi McWade
Luis Mendoza
Viola Mercadante
Michael Mihalko
Tom Modifica
Evelyn Modzelewski
Sam and Esther Motta
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
Marilyn Puopolo
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
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
Mary Ann Watrous
Miriam Zacharias
Carrie Zangari
Foster Zucchi

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.

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.



OUR CRAFTERS & QUILTERS GROUP meets weekly on **Thursday mornings** from 9 to 11am 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 with questions: 860-930-0310.



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Visit the parish website for details!

The **Knights of Columbus** will award college scholarships to graduating high school students. Deadline **April 1st**.

The **New Britain Council of Catholic Women** will offer two, scholarships to 8th graders planning to attend Catholic High School or high school seniors planning to attend college.

Submission deadline is **May 5th**.

The **Robert T. Kenney Scholarship Program** offers scholarships for 4-year college, 2-year college, or technical/vocational school. See details at <https://www.asfdn.org>

WORD SEARCH

EYE
RESISTANCE
CLOAK
NEIGHBOUR

TOOTH
CHEEK
BORROW
ENEMY

WICKED
TUNIC
LOVE
CREDIT

E	O	K	A	O	L	C	T	O	M
N	C	L	W	O	R	R	O	B	E
A	I	E	Y	E	E	U	O	L	E
T	N	D	D	N	E	O	T	H	T
S	U	I	E	V	I	B	H	O	O
I	T	M	O	K	A	H	O	K	O
S	Y	L	O	M	I	G	H	E	T
E	C	N	A	T	S	I	S	E	R
R	E	C	H	K	E	E	W	H	O
S	I	N	U	T	I	N	I	C	E

Adult Confirmation-Six Session Program begins **March 16th**

Are you an adult who never received the Sacrament of Confirmation? – If so, St. Paul's Adult Confirmation Program (ACP) will prepare you to be Confirmed in the Spring of 2023. The reception of all of the Sacraments is about helping us journey through this life to life eternal. The Sacrament of Confirmation is a confirming and strengthening of our Baptisms. Through the Sacrament you are sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and Confirmation provides additional graces to help us live out our adult lives as faithful followers of Jesus and strengthens our bond with the Church. *Those who are asked to be a godparent for Baptism or a Sponsor at Confirmation must have received the Sacrament of Confirmation in order to take on those responsibilities. Likewise, those to be married in the Catholic Church should be Confirmed.* St. Paul Parish is implementing this six (6) session ACP so that those adult Catholics who were never Confirmed can be fully initiated in the Catholic faith.

Catholics who are at least 18 years old and have already been baptized and received their 1st Holy Communion may participate in the ACP. If married, you must be in a valid Catholic marriage. If you were married outside the Catholic Church (meaning in a civil ceremony or in a non-Catholic Church without the appropriate permission) and would like to discuss how you can have your marriage recognized in the Church contact one of the Friars and they will be happy to discuss with you your situation. Your preparation for Confirmation can be done simultaneously with the preparation to have your marriage convalidated in the Church, but the convalidation must be concluded before the actual Confirmation ceremony. Generally speaking, this can often be accomplished.

There is no monetary cost for the program. To register, email Dan Tome at d.tome@stpaulkensington.org or call the parish office at 860-828-0331 and ask for Dan or complete our simple online form at <https://stpaulkensington.org/adult-confirmation-rcia> Registration deadline is **March 6**. Once we know how many are interested, we will work out the details of the program. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact Dan or one of the Friars. *If you know of a family member or friend who has not been Confirmed, please share this information with them.*

LADIES' GUILD MARCH MEETING

Come join us for a
Lenten Movie and Popcorn!



Wednesday March 1, 2023
6:30 pm in the St. Paul Church Hall

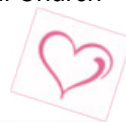
Donation item for the food bank is paper products

WELCOMED IN BAPTISM

Samantha Viola Farrell

Baptized on February 5, 2023 at St. Paul Church

Welcome to our Family of Faith
God Bless!



Our St. Paul Parish **CHILDREN'S CHOIR**

rehearses on Wednesday evenings in church from 6:00-6:30pm. All are welcome to join! If you would like your child to sing with the choir or if you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Kramer-Tierney 19ckt64@gmail.com



Save the Date:

CT MARCH FOR LIFE

Wednesday, March 22
in downtown Hartford.

12pm–Rally at the Capitol.

1pm –March for Life



Visit <https://marchforlife.org/connecticut-march-for-life/>

If you'd like to get involved or learn more about our St. Paul Culture of Life Ministry, please email Ashley at respectlife@stpaulkensington.org.

BIRTHRIGHT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Birthright is an emergency pregnancy center offering free pregnancy tests and caring and practical support. Our guiding principle: It is the RIGHT of every pregnant woman to give BIRTH and the RIGHT of every child to be BORN. Birthright volunteers have served in CT since 1972. Thousands of expectant mothers have received the help they need to bring their babies into the world. There are seven Birthright chapters in CT. Please call 1-800-550-4900 for the Birthright nearest you. Training is provided. Spanish speaking volunteers are especially needed. Thank you.

FOODSHARE ST. CLARE FOOD PANTRY & MOBILE FOODSHARE

Volunteers will be needed on **Thursday, March 2** at **9:30am** to transport food from St. Paul to Sacred Heart and to set up for distribution. Volunteers are also needed on **Friday, March 3** 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.

Thank you to all who continue to support this ministry!

The Pantry is currently in need of the following items:

Mayo, mustard, ketchup, dressings, marinades, **tomato sauce**, cooking oil, spices, pickles, relishes, and **pancake syrup**. Low salt / No salt items have also been requested.

**Items in bold are staples that are always needed.*

thank you

A NOTE FROM NANCY TIMBRELL, FoodShare Coordinator
I often reflect on the generosity of St. Paul parishioners in making it possible for St. Clare's Pantry to serve the growing numbers of recipients at the distributions.

Let's start with the parishioners and St. Paul students who regularly contribute food and funds to the cause. Next, thanks to those who take the time after every Mass to bring the carts of food items to the pantry, check the expiration dates, and place the items by category on the shelves. Then, those who show up every other Thursday to load trucks and SUVs for transport to Sacred Heart and set up for Friday's distribution. Also those who show up every other Friday, no matter what the weather, to load bags of food from St. Clare's for the recipients and to assist in the distribution from the FoodShare truck. Last Friday's distribution was no exception. Despite the freezing weather our volunteers were there to lend support to the 102 people who arrived to receive food. What a team!!!

These efforts are not going unrecognized. Two weeks ago I received an email from Foodshare with a heads-up that Executive Director Jason Jakubowski and Chief of Staff Jennie Hirsch would like to visit our site because they had been made aware of "how well run our site is and how friendly and accommodating everyone is from the volunteers to the parishioners and how they provide additional resources to the attending guests." Newly elected State Representative Jack Fazzino was also there and extended an offer of support.

The Social Action Committee's **LENTEN COLLECTION** will be from **February 22 to April 2, 2023**. Please join us in our efforts to help families in crisis and in need by donating to Prudence Crandall or Family Promise. Please leave items at the church entrances. **ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW, UNUSED, NOT EXPIRED, AND IN ORIGINAL PACKAGING.**

PRUDENCE CRANDALL WISH LIST: laundry detergent, twin sheets and comforters, standard size pillows, towels (bath, hand, and face), baby wipes and diaper cream, toilet paper, paper towels, hand soap, dish soap, over-the-counter medicine, (ibuprofen, cold and flu, allergy, etc.) shower curtains, bath mats, toilet bowl cleaner & brushes, men's, women's and children's underwear, flatware. Gift cards are also appreciated: Stop & Shop, Aldi, Big Y, Target, and Walmart. (Please put gift cards in an envelope marked Lenten Collection and drop in the collection basket at church or leave them at the parish office.)

FAMILY PROMISE WISH LIST: shampoo, conditioner, bath soap (regular, unscented, sensitive skin), deodorant, body lotion/cream, cocoa butter, Vaseline, hair products, toothbrushes, paper towels, toilet paper, dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent, fabric softener, dryer sheets, Clorox/Lysol wipes, bleach, cleaning supplies.

THE UNDERGROUND NEW ENGLAND: The Social Action Committee is also accepting gift cards from Walmart and Stop & Shop for The Underground New England, a faith-based initiative dedicated to ending sex trafficking and sexual exploitation throughout Connecticut and New England.

ST. PAUL PARISH CHOIR:

Did you know that singing is good for your health!?



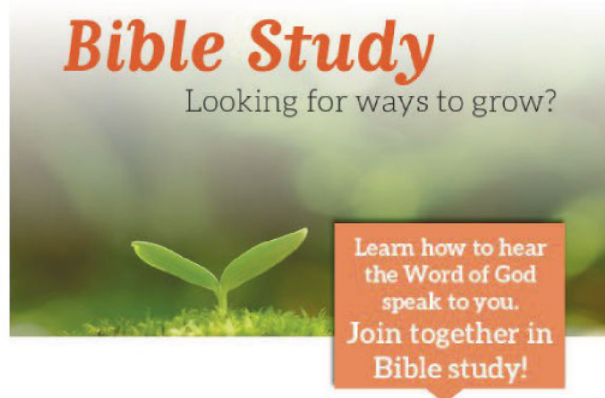
With Lent and the Easter Season upon us, now would be the perfect time to start singing and practicing with our choir as we prepare for the Holy Season.

Contact jeffbatter@stpaulkensington.org for details.

Calling All Young Adults!

CROSSROADS4CHRIST

Join other young adults from across the state for a "weekend away" of rest, rejuvenation, and exploring the faith! The Crossroads 4 Christ Young Adult Retreat will take place on **March 10th-12th** at the Immaculate Conception Center in Putnam, CT. Enjoy inspiring talks, small groups, social time, Mass, Adoration, and opportunities for Confession. Registration opens on February 3rd. Cost: \$150 per person. Open to young adults, ages 18-39. Check out <http://crossroads4christ.org> for more info and registration!



WHAT'S THE PURPOSE: The foundation of our Catholic faith is in the scriptures. The Bible is the book of the Church. The more we know the Bible, the better we are able to understand the readings at Mass, explain our faith to others, teach it to our children and use it to form our lives.

HOW DOES IT WORK?: We use *Little Rock Scripture Study Program*—an improved way to study the Bible with fellow Catholics which consists of:

1. Personal reading and reflection of scripture.
2. Small group meetings of 8 for discussion, sharing and prayer.
3. Instructional lectures.
4. A wrap-up lecture by Father Michael at the conclusion of our study.

WHAT IF I DON'T KNOW THAT MUCH ABOUT THE BIBLE?:

The manner in which this program is designed will appeal to those who have never studied the Bible before, as well as those who have been reading the Bible for quite a while. You do not need to worry if you lack understanding or experience. We will all be learning together and supporting one another in this rewarding adventure.

WHEN IS THE NEXT STUDY?: The next study, *The Book of Genesis (part two)* will begin the week of March 13, 2023 and consist of 5 biweekly meetings plus the wrap-up lecture with Father Michael. You can choose between Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday evening meetings which will be either in the St. Paul Parish Center or at Sacred Heart Church Rectory from 7:00pm to 8:30pm.

HOW CAN I LEARN MORE AND HOW DO I SIGN UP?:

Join us for an **Information Meeting** on **Thursday, March 2** in the Church Hall at 7pm to learn the details, ask questions and register. Email Mark Chasse at mchasse1@comcast.net with any questions. Go to littlerockscripture.org for resources and information on studying the Bible.



THANK YOU!!!!

For the many cards and good wishes I've received from parishioners regarding my retirement, I am most grateful. My 18 years as Parish Secretary at St. Paul's have been nothing short of enjoyable and fulfilling. I have always considered it a privilege to have worked with the Friars and Office Staff, who, over the years, have become like family, and I will miss the comradery we all shared. I will especially miss the wonderful people of St. Paul Parish, whom I was blessed to serve; and I want you to know that I will always hold a special place in my heart for all of you.



Thank you, once again, for your kind thoughts and good wishes and know that my love and prayers will be with you always.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Flora

ADULT LITERACY MINISTRY Enrich your life by spending one hour a week with an adult who needs to learn to read, write, and speak English. An initial interview and orientation will be provided. The Siena Learning Center will supply all the materials. If you are interested please contact Nancy Rodriguez, Director at 860-348-0622. This adult literacy ministry is supported by the Dominican Sisters of Peace.

FRANCISCAN HOME CARE & HOSPICE CARE,

in Meriden, is seeking volunteers for its hospice care program. Hospice volunteers receive training that enables them to be present to others in a very special way supporting the individual and family through a difficult time. There is continuing education and support as well as social events for the hospice volunteers throughout the year. Volunteers provide a variety of services such as visiting patients, reading, sharing stories, praying or being a quiet presence for the patient as well as clerical support. Contact BJ Raby: 203-238-1441 or braby@franciscanhc.org.



WOMAN'S RETREAT *All Creation Is Groaning in Labor Pains, Even Until Now* (Romans 8:22)

St. Paul reminds us that the pain we experience is the very place where hope is born. How do we allow the difficulties and darkness to lead us to a new way of being? Our Lady of Calvary Retreat House in Farmington invites women from St. Paul Parish to a weekend retreat on **March 10-12**. "Together we can ponder this question as we enter into a deeper listening to God's voice in our heart and in the reflections of one another." For details or to register call 860-677-8519 or visit www.OurLadyofCalvary.net.

Saturday, February 18

6:30am TMIY Men's Group SPH
 8:30am Confessions
 10:00am Funeral +Mailloux SPC
 11:30am Memorial Mass +Morrissey
 3:00pm Confessions

Sunday, February 19

9:00am RCIA SPH
 9:00am 1st & 2nd Yr Confirmation classes-SPS
 1:15pm Eucharist Minister/Lector Meeting
 1:15pm Baptisms

Monday, February 20

NO SCHOOL Parish Office Closed
 3:00pm Girls JV Bball Practice
 3:00pm Robotics - SP Church Hall
 4:30pm Boys JVB Bball Practice
 5:00pm No 5 PM Mass
 6:00pm Boys Varsity Bball Practice
 7:00pm Pastoral Council Mtg. - SPH

Tuesday, February 21

NO SCHOOL
 4:00pm Holy Hour Adoration
 4:30pm Boys JVA Bball Practice
 6:00pm Girls Varsity Bball Practice
 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal - PC-LL
 6:45pm Gr. 4-8 Confessions-SPC

Wednesday, February 22—Ash Wednesday

8:45am School Mass
 1:00pm Greccio Planning Mtg-PC1
 3:00pm Cheer Practice (Gr 1-8)
 3:00pm Drama Club SPH
 3:15pm Mock Trial practice
 4:30pm Boys JVB Bball Practice
 6:00pm Boys Varsity Bball Practice
 6:00pm Rosary at Sacred Heart

Thursday, February 23

9:00am Quilters SPH
 3:00pm Girls JV Bball Practice
 3:00pm Drama Club - SPH
 4:30pm Boys JVA Bball Practice
 6:00pm Girls Varsity Bball Practice
 6:30pm 1st Communion Parent session - SPC
 7:00pm RCIA - PC-1

Friday, February 24

2:00pm Stations of the Cross: Gr 6-8
 3:00pm CoEd JVC Red Bball Practice

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Holy Hour
Tuesdays
4-5pm

**Friday, February 24 (continued)**

4:30pm CoEd JVC Gold Bball Practice
 7:00pm Stations of the Cross
 7:30pm AA Meeting - SPH

Saturday, February 25

6:30am TMIY Men's Group SPH
 8:30am Confessions
 3:00pm Confessions

Sunday, February 26

7:45am Gr. 1-8 Rel Ed Session 1-SPS
 9:00am RCIA SPH
 9:15am Gr. 1-8 Rel Ed Session 2-SPS
 10:45am Gr. 1-8 Rel Ed Session 3-SPS
 1:00pm Baptism - SPC
 2:30pm 2nd Yr Conf retreat-SG/SPC

A Missing Peace Men's Retreat at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center - [March 17-19, 2023](https://www.holyfamilyretreat.org) Peace is something we crave but rarely find for more than a short time. This season at Holy Family, we'll explore the theme, A Missing Peace, in the hope that together, through prayer, presentations, and discussions, we can come closer to understanding how to achieve the peace Jesus meant for us to have, and equally important, to share in our families and in our world. For more information visit <https://www.holyfamilyretreat.org> or call 860.760.9705. At Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford, each retreat begins with a buffet dinner from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. on Friday evening and concludes Sunday with the celebration of Mass at 10:45 a.m. followed by a hot brunch at noon. Families of retreatants are most welcome to attend the Sunday Mass and brunch at no extra charge. What is a retreat? Retreat is a gift to yourself - a way to step aside from everyday concerns to relax and care for your soul. We provide time for rest, reflection, prayer, and discussion. Your retreat can be as structured or as unstructured as you like. You can catch up on some rest, reconnect with a friend, stroll the labyrinth, spend time in meditation, or be inspired by a dynamic speaker. Most weekend retreats begin Friday evening with dinner at 6:00 pm and end on Sunday at noon. Retreats at Holy Family are comprised of conferences, workshops, prayer services, and free time. While the schedule is open for everyone, all the programming is voluntary. Participants are encouraged to attend the activities that interest them.

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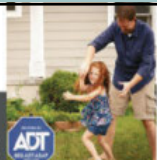
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