

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

Baptism Instruction: 3rd Wednesday 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



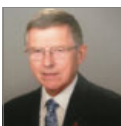
Fr. Martin Kobos, OFM Conv.
Parochial Vicar

frmartin@stpaulkensington.org



Fr. Raymond Borkowski, OFM Conv.
In Residence

frraymond@stpaulkensington.org



Deacon Don Philip

deacondon@stpaulkensington.org



St. Paul Catholic Parish

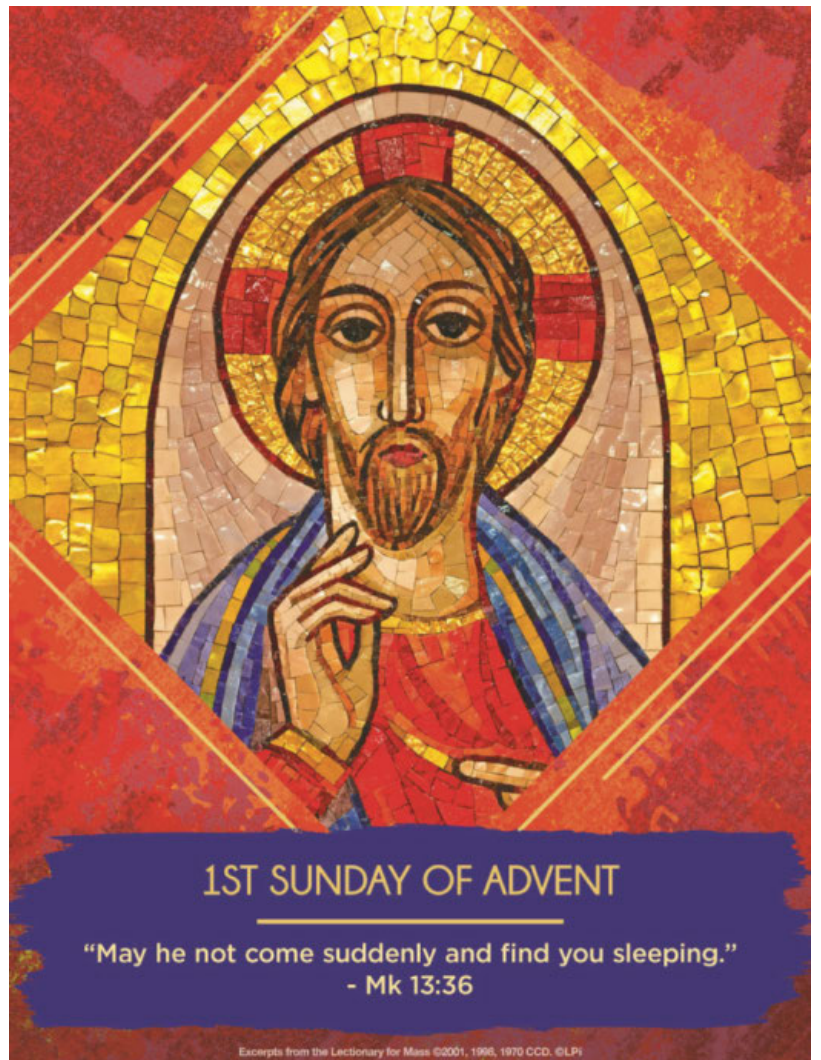
A Franciscan Family of Faith

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

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

December 3, 2023

First Sunday of Advent



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

-Pope Francis

O Come, O Come Emmanuel - Advent is the time when we prepare to remember Jesus' first coming as well as to prepare for His second coming. It is a season of Hope. These first weeks of Advent continue the theme we have had the last few weeks of the liturgical year. That is, the coming of Jesus again at the end of time. Then in the latter part of Advent we recall all of the marvelous events that led up to Jesus being born one like us. This year our time of Advent is very short. The 4th Sunday of Advent is Christmas Eve and so we only have three weeks and one day of Advent this year! So how do we best use this time of Advent to be watchful and ready as our Gospel today advises us?

Do not allow the hustle and bustle to completely take over your life. Take a deep breath and be more attentive to your personal prayer. To give you a bit of assistance, the ushers will be passing out a copy of the *Magnificat Advent Companion* booklet to each parishioner as you leave Mass this weekend. I hope you will find it useful. A very simple prayer to use for Advent is "Come, Lord Jesus." Come, Lord Jesus in the moments I am tempted to leave you out of the most hectic part of my day. Come, Lord Jesus when my hope wains and I do not trust in your promises and try to rely too much on myself. Come, Lord Jesus when I... Consider a few concrete things that you can do get your spiritual house better prepared to welcome Him? See the next item and avail yourself to His love and mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If we can make good use of Advent, short as it is this year, we will certainly be better prepared to celebrate the day of his birth in Bethlehem on December 25th.

Mercy Mondays - Pope Francis said: *"Have you thought about God's patience, the patience he has with each one of us? That is his mercy. He always has patience, patience with us, he understands us, he waits for us, he does not tire of forgiving us if we are able to return to him with a contrite heart."* (Angelus, 3/17/2013) The Sacrament of Reconciliation helps us realize the truth of this observation by Pope Francis. No matter the length of time away, the sins committed, the repeated nature of some sins, God's mercy has no limits and no sin need go unforgiven. So I invite you to make a good confession before Christmas. **Four confessors will be available on Mondays, December 4, 11 & 18** from 7 to 8 pm. *I remind you that we also hear confessions every Saturday from 8:30 to 9:30 am and again from 3 to 4 pm.* On the Mercy Mondays we will also have Eucharistic Adoration. These Holy Hours are in addition to the Tuesday Holy Hours (4 to 5 pm).

Angel Giving Tree - The response, once again this year, to this initiative of our Social Action Ministry has been very heartwarming. **There are more angels to be taken, but there is just one week left as all gifts need to be received by next Sunday, December 10th.**

Feast of the Immaculate Conception - Friday, December 8th



is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and a **Holy Day of Obligation**. The patron of our nation is Mary under her title of the Immaculate Conception, so ask Mary to intercede for our country in special way this week.

There will be a Vigil Mass at 4 pm on Thursday, December 7.

On Friday, December 8 there will be Masses at 7 am, 8:45 am (School Mass-all are welcome), **12 Noon, and 7 pm.**

*There will **not** be a 5 pm Mass on December 7 & 8.*

Would You Like to Come to Mass with Me? - Hopefully you have already received in your home my Christmas letter and a copy of our full Advent and Christmas liturgical schedule. An additional copy of the Liturgical Schedule is included as an insert in today's bulletin. I suspect that we all know someone who does not attend Mass any longer. It might be a family member or neighbor who has been away from the Church for awhile. Maybe it is someone who is just going through a difficult time and is struggling in their faith. Maybe the Lord wants to use you to reach out to them with His love and words of welcome. Invite them to come to Mass with you and sit with them. You could also share with them our schedule and let them decide what Mass they would like to attend if coming together with you is not possible. Additional copies of the schedule are also available near the bulletins. Take as many as you need and freely share them.

Retirement Fund for Religious - Next weekend there is a second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. There is a bulletin insert this week explaining the collection. The Franciscan Friars who staff St. Paul Parish are among the religious communities who benefit from this collection. Please support the collection as your means allow as an expression of gratitude for the ways you may have benefitted from the ministry of religious priests, brothers and sisters over the years. Thank you!

Christmas Memorials - The Christmas Memorials are due by next Monday, December 11 to meet printing deadlines for the Christmas bulletin. Please use the envelope that was in your monthly pack. Memorials received after Dec. 11 will appear in a bulletin **after** Christmas.

Continued on page 4

INTENTIONS

Blessed Mother Candles will burn this week for

†**Chester Stachelek** 11 Year Anniversary by family

McLoughlin Family by family

†**RoseMary Chapple** by Theresa Zovich and family

A Sanctuary Candle will burn this week for

†**Constance M. DiLorenzo** by Mr. & Mrs. Salvatore Gionfriddo



†**Michael F. Bergeron**

†**Mary Buckley**

†**Theresa DeMay**

†**Joan C. Marsh**

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 send us a request. Call 860-828-0331 or email ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org.

Reminder: Those who made the offering for the intention for each Mass are invited to present the bread and wine during the Offertory for that Mass. 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, others will be invited to bring up the gifts.

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,

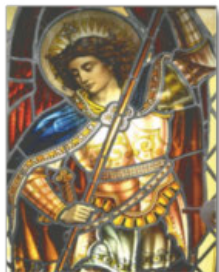
O Prince of the heavenly hosts,

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, December 2, 2023 1st Sunday of Advent
4:00 †**Dolores F. Nugent** 4th Anniversary and Birthday
by Pat and Jean

Sunday, December 3, 2023 1st Sunday of Advent
7:30 †**Chester Stachelek** 11 Year Anniversary by family
9:00 †**Domenic and †Domenica Lopreiato** by children
9:30 **Parishioners of Saint Paul Parish**
10:30 †**Ray Kramer** by daughters Cheryl and Donna
12:00 †**John, †Vilma, and †Mariann Stifel and †Justin Longo** by Terry Tonina

Monday, December 4, 2023 St. John Damascene
7:00 †**Robert J. Fitzsimmons** by wife Anita and children
5:00 †**Walter Zaniewski** 55 Year Anniversary by family

Tuesday, December 5, 2023 Advent Weekday
7:00 †**Gladys and †Stephen Choluj** by Sophia Choluj
†**Nellie Melaika** by Minor and Shaheen families
†**Gail Caldwell** by John and Jeanne
†**Monica Maciag** by Rita Szymanoski
5:00 †**Maria Lombardo** by Emanuele Lombardo

Wednesday, December 6, 2023 St. Nicholas
7:00 †**Alice Hall** 6th Anniversary by husband
5:00 **John Nappi, Jr.** by wife

Thursday, December 7, 2023 St. Ambrose
7:00 †**Gerald Vanty** by Linda and family
4:00 †**Walter Lagocki** by family

Friday, December 8, 2023 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 †**Kieran Egan** by wife Margaret and family
8:45 †**Fannie Farrell** by Theresa Zovich
12:00 †**John Peshka** by Mary Jane DuPont

7:00 **Parishioners of Saint Paul Parish**
Saturday, December 9, 2023 2nd Sunday of Advent
4:00 †**Lewis Gay** by family

Sunday, December 10, 2023 2nd Sunday of Advent
7:30 †**Paul Martin** by Joe and Star Michaud
9:00 †**Maria Verrillo** by husband
9:30 **Parishioners of Saint Paul Parish**
10:30 †**Michael B. DeMaio** 13th Anniversary by family
12:00 †**Deceased Members of the Giachello Family**
by Tabaczynski family

Parish Collection Nov 14-20, 2023

In Church SP	\$ 7,812
Office	\$ 822
In Church SH	\$ 644
Online Giving	\$ 5,050
Total	\$ 14,328

Parish Collection Nov 21-27, 2023

In Church SP	\$ 7,833
Office	\$ 1,348
In Church SH	\$ 387
Online Giving	\$ 4,533
Total	\$ 14,101

Donation for St. Clare's Food Pantry - Right before Thanksgiving we were blessed to receive a check for \$1,171.88 for our St. Clare's Food Pantry. (See the picture on page 10.) This very generous gift came through the Kensington Berlin Rotary Club and Liberty Bank in conjunction with the recent clothing drive. Special thanks to Deborah Schander, President of the Rotary Club, and all Rotarians.

Christmas Wafers (Oplatek) - Those of Polish and Slavic ancestry may be familiar with the sharing of the *oplatek*, (pronounced o-pwa-tek) at Christmas and in particular at the evening meal (*wigilia*) on Christmas Eve. *Oplatki* are available on the table between the two wings of the church at St. Paul's, in the vestibule at Sacred Heart, as well as in the Parish Center. Free will donations will be gratefully accepted.

Looking for New Altar Servers - There will be a training session for new altar servers on Tuesday, December 12th at 6:30 pm at St. Paul Church. The session will last about 75 minutes. All children in the 4th grade or higher who have received 1st Communion are eligible to serve. Servers choose which Mass that they would like to serve and then become part of a team for that Mass which is led by a Master of Ceremonies. **Parents, I encourage you to give a nudge to your children to become part of something that is very special and will also help them be more involved in the Mass.** They will also be of assistance to the priests and deacon as well as the congregation as a whole. There are opportunities to serve at Sacred Heart Church in East Berlin in addition to St. Paul Church. To sign up, go to our parish website or click here: <https://stpaulkensington.org/altar-servers>. Forms will also be available in Religious Education classes and at Saint Paul School. **ALL current servers and MCs should attend the training. You will meet Mr. Joshua Kay, our new Youth Minister and review current procedures.**

Final Thoughts - There are now just six weeks left in the regular season for the NFL. All of the division leaders, except ATL/NO whose records are 5-6, are in good position to make the playoffs even if they do not win their division, think Ravens here. They have a tough schedule down the stretch and lack consistently solid play. The rest of the division



leaders will prevail. This area has numerous fans outside the geographical zone and there might be more now that everything above Philadelphia is done for this year. Have a blessed Advent! - Fr. Joe

INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR PARISH FAMILY?

Our next Registration Meeting is **Monday, December 11** in the St. Paul Church Hall at 7pm. Please let us know if you plan to attend: 860-828-0331 or ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK, DECEMBER 10, 2023

For readings online, visit

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/121023.cfm>

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

Alleluia: Luke 3:4, 6

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:

All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Charity Starts at Home - If you know of a family in the parish or in the neighborhood who is in need of help please let us know. You can put their name and address on a piece of paper and drop it off at the office or put it in the collection basket or mail it in to the parish office.

FOODSHARE ST. CLARE FOOD PANTRY & MOBILE FOODSHARE

The Pantry is currently in need of the following items:
Soup, canned fruit, canned beans, peanut butter, cereal/oatmeal, canned tuna/chicken, pasta and sauce/tomato products.

Volunteers will transport food from St. Paul to Sacred Heart and set up for distribution on **Thursday, Dec. 7 at 9:30am**. Volunteers will also help with food distribution on **Fri., Dec. 8 at 11am** at Sacred Heart Church. *For transportation to FoodShare at Sacred Heart, call the Berlin Senior Center 860-828-7006.* For information regarding the St. Clare Food Pantry or FoodShare program including volunteering, contact Nancy at 860-601-7866 or n.timbrell@stpaulkensington.org.

SAINT PAUL SCHOOL NEWS

SAINT PAUL SCHOOL NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2024-2025 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.

Saint Paul's Middle School Science Fair was highlighted on Channel 8's *What's Right with Schools*. Thank you to Laura Hutchinson, co-anchor of Good Morning Connecticut, for visiting with us and featuring our Science Fair! To watch the segment, visit our social media pages or click on this link <https://shorturl.at/aiwxU>.



Congratulations to the students below who were named to the Honor Roll for 2023-2024 Trimester I. Keep up the great work!

Grade 8

High Honors: William Chyra, Tyler Ebrahimi, John Kelly, Ruby Kuselias, Kaily Lesny, Ava McEvoy, Gabriel Puskarz, Emery Tarry

Honors: Evan Byrne, Jack Gibson, Dylan Gunning, Christopher Harper, Rachel Hart, Chace King, Daniella Paradis, Simon Szymanowski

Grade 7

High Honors: Cody Douglas, Anthony Esposito, Malachi Felton, Vihaan Iyer, Maana Patel, Wilson Ronda, Marco Tine, Yogev Yerushalmy, Kayla You

Honors: Adam Alvarez, Luca Kaczynski, Krystan Nadeau, Anthony Tine

Grade 6

High Honors: Bradley Cameron, Nicole Rios Escobar, Gabriela Jarombek, Jessica Mangiafico, Olivia Mokhiber, Noah Mota, Peter Pace, Kaitlyn Patterson, Nicholas Wicik, Kyle You, Sandra Zbroja

Honors: Benjamin Dreher, Victoria Moczadlowska, Aubree Miano, Madyson Morant, Michela Paul, Peyton Thaxter, Charlotte Tabaczynski

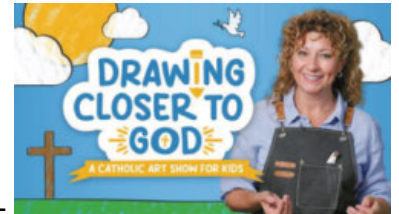
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

The wonderful resources on Formed.org include Advent activities and videos.

FORMED

All St. Paul Parishioners have FREE access to great digital content through FORMED! Go to formed.org, select "Sign up as a parishioner", type in "St. Paul Kensington CT" and follow the simple prompts to set up your account.

Journey through Advent with the whole family! Join art teacher Ms. Kim as she teaches children to draw different scenes from the Christmas story, including the Annunciation, shepherds' visit, the Nativity scene, and more. With compelling storytelling, Ms. Kim points out key details from Scripture and Catholic tradition.



As kids follow along and learn new art skills, they also learn to see the connections between the big picture of God's story and their place within it.

As kids follow along and learn new art skills, they also learn to see the connections between the big picture of God's story and their place within it.

Brother Francis leads us on a daily journey in this special seasonal celebration of the coming of the Lord! Featuring meditations, prayers, and suggested activities to keep our focus on Christ this Christmas.



LIGHT THE PARISH ADVENT WREATH!

During Advent, at the beginning of each weekend Mass, we will light the candles on the Advent Wreath at both St. Paul and Sacred Heart Church.



Parishioners are invited participate in this special tradition by lighting the candles before every weekend Mass!

Light a candle for Hope, Faith, Joy, or Peace!

To view the Mass schedule and sign up, click on this link,
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C49A5A628A0F94-46009669-lighting#/>

or visit our website, or scan this QR code



If you have any questions, please email
ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org.

QUILT RAFFLE! Tickets are now on sale for our Quilters' Group Annual Christmas Quilt Raffle!

Take a chance to win one of FOUR beautiful quilts, made right here in our parish. Each quilt has a unique design. Tickets will be sold after all Masses this weekend (Dec. 2/3) at St. Paul & Sacred Heart.



Tickets are also available online!

Scan the code to the right or click here:

<https://www.stpaulkensington.org/quilt-raffle>

The drawing will be held Wednesday, December 6. at the Ladies' Guild Christmas Party. Thank you for your support!



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA!

Saint Paul School Gymnasium

Sunday, December 10th
8:30 am to Noon



Visit with Santa, take pictures, and enjoy fun activities!

Free will donations accepted.



Sponsored by The Msgr. Thomas L. Greylish Council of the Knights of Columbus

ANGEL TREES 2023

All are invited to take an angel (or two) from the Angel Tree to help those in need during the holidays. Simply take an angel, purchase the gift noted on the back, and return the gift, with the Angel attached, by **December 10th**.



The gifts will be distributed to several organizations this year:

- **A Franciscan mission** initiative, organized through our friars with their associate friars in Baltimore, to provide hand-warmers and foot-warmers to the homeless.
- **Underground New England**, a grass-roots initiative dedicated to ending sex trafficking and exploitation throughout New England. There will be 'baby booties' on the Angel Tree (in addition to angels) for UNE. The gifts noted on the booties will be distributed to three women who are facing crisis pregnancies and who are receiving help from UNE. The organization will give the mothers your gifts by holding 'baby showers' for them. One of the women is carrying twins.
- **Boxes to Boots** is a local organization that sends care packages to members of our military who are deployed overseas. Their goal is to 'bring smiles to our soldiers who cannot be home with their families for the holidays.'
- **Local organizations** such as the Friendship Center, Klingberg Family Center, Worthington Manor Retirement Center, Ledgecrest Health Care Center, and CCARC.

ONLINE! For those who find it more convenient to print an angel from home rather than take an angel from the Angel Tree in the church, there are two online options:

1. **Boxes to Boots—Gift Cards.**
2. **Winter Gloves for the Homeless.**

Visit the Angel Tree page of our website for all the details! →

<https://www.stpaulkensington.org/angel-tree>



Questions may be directed to Joan Baker, from the Social Action Ministry, at jmb7000@comcast.net.

First Saturday Devotion Our Lady asked us to take specific actions on the first Saturday of each month, for 5 consecutive months in reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. These actions include Confession, Holy Communion on the First Saturday, The Holy Rosary, and Meditating for 15 minutes on the Mysteries of the Rosary. For information about this devotion, visit <https://fatima.org/first-saturday-devotion/>

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CEREMONY Surrounded by family and friends, the Knights of Columbus welcomed six new 3rd Degree Members through the Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity on November 20, 2023.



The Knights of Columbus are Catholic men who lead, serve, protect and defend. We share a desire to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors and role models, and to put charity and community first. We come from many places, backgrounds, and stages in our lives, but we are all of one faith. Find out more about what we do at www.kofc.org or contact Bud Volz, Grand Knight, Msgr. Thomas L Greylish Council #3675, budvolz@comcast.net.

CELEBRATING THE LORD'S NATIVITY
AT ST. PAUL PARISH

**GRECCIO'S
800TH ANNIVERSARY
SPECIAL EVENT**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023

4:00 pm-7:30 pm

Honor Jesus' birth and the poverty of Bethlehem by bringing a non-perishable food item to our Greccio celebration.

Greccio Under the Stars

4:00 pm ~ 4:45 pm

St. Paul Church

Outdoors In Front of St. Paul Church

Living Nativity Scene

*Featuring Joseph, Mary, Baby Jesus, Live Animals,
Live Music featuring local performers, and more.*

Bring the children for a great family photo op!

Remember to dress warm!

Christmas Concert and Pageant

5:00 pm ~ 6:15 pm

St. Paul Church, Old Wing

Children's Nativity Play, Scripture Readings
and Narrations, and Musical Performances by:

St. Paul Parish Choir

St. Paul Children's Choir

Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist

Bring your family's nativity "Baby Jesus"
for a special blessing!

Reception and Rejoicing!

6:15 pm ~ 7:30 pm

St. Paul Church Hall

Hot Beverages, Cookies and Holiday Treats,
Door Prizes, Nativity Slideshow, Music and a
Special Greccio Keepsake Gift from our Friars!

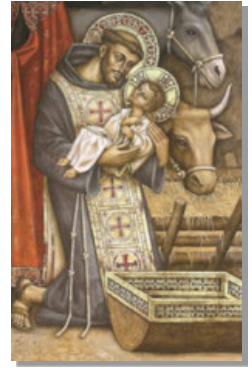
Visit us online to learn more:



<https://stpaulkensington.org/greccio-800th>

★ **Nativity Slideshow**

Parishioners,
As part of Greccio's
800th Anniversary Event,
you are invited to email
a close-up photo of your
home nativity set,
either with or without
your family in the photo,
by **Sunday, December 10th**
to ourphotos@stpaulkensington.org



A slideshow featuring all of these unique nativity sets from our parish family will be presented at the Greccio Reception on Sunday, December 17th.

★ **Greccio Plenary Indulgence**

A Plenary Indulgence has been granted to all the faithful who visit a church entrusted to the pastoral care of the Franciscan Friars and who pray before the nativity scene there. Learn more about this special 800th Greccio Anniversary indulgence online at <https://stpaulkensington.org/greccio-800th>

HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

When people hear or read about our parish Helping Hands Ministry, many think about the care, services, and friendship that it provides for our elderly parishioners. While that is certainly an accurate way to view this ministry, there is much more that comes into play. The personal bonds that are created and nurtured between volunteer and senior are as important as anything else that this ministry provides. While Helping Hands volunteers provide some day-to-day practical help, they also integrate with that the spiritual support that many of our seniors need. Here are some beautiful words from one of our volunteers, describing what this ministry has meant to her and her family.



"February will be 2 years we have been together. It started as just a phone call on Sunday afternoons but quickly we just had to meet. Now we still have our Sunday calls but also have visits whenever we can and more calls here and there. We can talk FOREVER and we do. We know each other well by now and even our families know how special we are to each other. I'm so happy I became part of Helping Hands because she is such a special part of my life now. It isn't about doing "volunteer work" or even "helping" out... we are just family now."

Whenever we do Our Lord's work, good things happen. To learn more, contact Mark Duplin at 860-666-0162 or mfduplin@outlook.com.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Bobby Adamowicz	Dominic Gionfriddo	Esther Ouellette
Jacob Ahlquist	Jennifer Gionfriddo	Our Military
Gilda Alberti	Salvatore Gionfriddo	Anna Pac
Emilie Albert	Rosemarie Gionfriddo	Emma Pagano
John Anderson	Judy Giove	Judy Pappalardo
Jose Arcia	Liz Goryl-Phillips	Cynthia Paradise
Zulma Barbien	Lenore Gourley	Ada Payamis
Lawrence Barker	Frank Grandone	John Pink
Theresa Baxter	Edward Grapes	Marilyn Puopolo
Dick Benson	Madison Gray	Lisa Ransom
Don Benza	Grochal Family	Care Rich
Wyatt Bernard	Linda Hannold	Frank Rich
Sue Besaw	Lily Harzewski-Burl	Rita Richter
Rita Beaulieu	Tom Higgins	Randy Ripley
Peter Bocompani	Evan Hill	Steven Ripley
David Borselle	Pat Jahn	Carlos Rivera
Cheryl Brown	Gina Kahn	Susana Rodreguez
Nancy Carlson	Barbara Killius	Susy Romero
Richard Carlson	Evan Kimmel	Lillian Rose
Silas Cipollone	Sylvia Kratka	Ed Rudnick
Doug Clarke	Pam Kulas	Viola Salonia
Lorraine Clark	Wilma Kulas	Joan Schwartz
Sophie Conti	John G. Kunitis, Sr.	Raul Seipel
Carol Corriveau	Mary Lamkins	Guy Simeone
Tom Coss	Maria Lauria	Rev. Arkadiusz
Arlene Cotrona	Ray LeClair	Skwarek
Amanda Coyle	Mary Leinen	Carolyn Smith
Janet Crossman	Laura Lemke	Jocelyn Soto
Robert Czerwinski	Lorenzo Leone	Kevin Stanowski
Mary Daleski	Connie Lombardi	James Swiatek
Martin Dagna	Mary Jane Lynch	Gabe Szczygla
Ramiro Dagna	Ronald Maldon	Julia Szczygla
Uly Dagna	Lisa Mangiafico	Luke Szul
Maria DeFazio	Fr. Paul Mangiafico	Alfred J. Tee
Fr. Anthony	Carol Marold	Andy Timbrell
DeFronzo	Jackie Martin	David A. Vandrilla
Kathleen Deliman	Janet Michaud	Kathleen Vandrilla
Bill Dobbs	Robert Mazzaferro	Linda Vasquez
Nicole Donzello	Lorraine McCarthy	Beverly Veley
Nick Donzello	Brandi McWade	Brian Veley
Judith Doyle	Luis Mendoza	Scott Veley
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John Frigeri	Robert Namnoum	Foster Zucchi
Janet Galasso	Candace Nguyen	
Rose Garuti	Thomas Norris	
Patricia Gebhardt	Arlene O'Neill	



YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

All Children of the parish who are in 4th grade and up who have received the Sacraments of Baptism and First Holy Communion are invited to join our Altar Server Ministry!

- * Training for **ALL NEW and CURRENT Altar Servers** will be on **Tuesday, December 12** at 6:30pm in St. Paul Church.
- * *Come meet our new Youth Minister, Joshua Kay!*

This gathering will offer refresher training for our veteran altar servers, a welcome to all new servers and an introduction to Joshua who will lead this ministry for our youth. New servers, please sign up online at <https://stpaulkensington.org/altar-servers>.

IT'S BACK!

A Winter Break **COLLEGE DINNER** for all of our college students will be held on **Thursday, January 4th** at 6:00pm in the St. Paul Church Hall.



Mark your calendars and spread the word! We hope to see you there.

Please RSVP on our website so we can be sure to have enough food! Bring a friend & meet our new Youth Minister!

Interested in Volunteering with our new Youth Ministry?

St. Paul Parish is looking for adult volunteers who are passionate about working with young people! Beginning in January 2024 we are launching our new Youth Programs: "Life Teen" for high school students in grades 9-12 and "EDGE" for middle school students in grades 6-8. No matter your age, state in life or background, if you have a desire to help grow the future of our church, volunteering with our youth ministry programs is for you! Interested? We will be hosting a Core Team Volunteer information meeting on **Tuesday, December 19th** at 6:30pm. We look forward to seeing you there! Please email Josh Kay, Director of Youth Ministry, at j.kay@stpaulkensington.org to express your interest

Young Catholic Professionals Networking Happy Hour



Young Catholic Professionals Central CT will be hosting their 1st Networking Happy Hour on December 12. Network and connect with other young adult Catholic professionals from all over Central CT as well as some of CT's most inspirational seasoned professionals. Open to all professionals age 18-39.

- East Rock Brewing Co., 285 Nicoll St, Suite 103, New Haven
- Tues, Dec 12th from 7 - 9PM

E-mail info@ycpcentralconnecticut.org to learn more. RSVP via QR code or



https://ycp.glueup.com/event/networking-happy-hour-92842/?pk_campaign=widget-event-list

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!



Thank you to all who supported the *40 Days for Life* Baby and Maternity Items Collection that was sponsored by our Culture of Life Ministry. Your donations were delivered to local pregnancy centers which provide tangible assistance and support to expectant mothers and their babies.

Pictured is the coordinator of our Culture of Life Ministry, Ashley Cuomo, amidst all of your generous donations!

WOMEN OF FAITH All women of the parish are invited to join our Women of Faith group which meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month in Faith, Friendship and Fellowship. Come together with other Catholic women, share stories, & strengthen your Spiritual journey. For our next gathering on Thursday, **December 14th**, Fr Martin will be leading Adoration at 7 pm in St. Paul Church. If you have any questions, please email womenoffaith@stpaulkensington.org.



AVAILABLE MASSES The following January 2024 dates are available for Mass Intentions. If you would like to book a Mass, please call the Parish Office at 860-828-0331.

January 6	Saturday	4:00 pm
January 7	Sunday	7:30 am or 9:00 am
January 9	Tuesday	7:00 am, 8:45 am
January 11	Thursday	5:00 pm
January 12	Friday	7:00 am
January 16	Tuesday	7:00 am, 8:45 am
January 19	Friday	7:00 am
January 21	Sunday	9:00 am or 9:30 am Sacred Heart
January 22	Monday	5:00 pm
January 23	Tuesday	7:00 am, 8:45 am
January 25	Thursday	5:00 pm
January 26	Friday	7:00 am
January 30	Tuesday	7:00 am, 8:45 am
January 31	Wednesday	7:00 am

ROTARY CLUB OF KENSINGTON-BERLIN AND LIBERTY BANK JOIN FORCES TO PROVIDE BOUNTIFUL THANKSGIVING DINNERS FOR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

The Kensington Berlin Rotary Club has continued its tradition of joining forces with Liberty Bank to Raise Funds at Thanksgiving for area food banks. This year, Kensington Berlin Rotarians, Individuals in the Berlin Community, and Berlin Community Organizations raised \$1,875 for the 2023 Thanksgiving Drive. These donations were increased by a 25% match from the Liberty Bank Foundation resulting in a total amount of \$2,343.75 which was split between the St. Clare Food Pantry and the Town of Berlin Food Bank.



Pictured (L to R): Rotarian John Roman, Ana Alexandre, Liberty Bank Branch Manager, Rotarian Elaine Pavasaris, Nancy Timbrell, St Clare Food Pantry Organizer, Robin Evans, Town of Berlin Social Worker, and Father Joseph Benicewicz, St Paul Parish Pastor .

ROSARY MAKERS

Our Rosary Makers Ministry will gather on **Monday, December 4** at 1pm in the St. Paul Church Hall. All are welcome to join this special ministry. Please contact Lynn Misteri (860) 913-5448 with any questions.



OUR QUILTERS GROUP is participating in the VFW Craft Show at the Berlin VFW on Saturday, December 9th from 10am—2pm. The Quilters have made many table runners, baby blankets, placemats, ornaments, aprons and more. The VFW is located on Massiro Drive in Berlin. Come see us!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Siena Learning Center, a tutoring center for ESL adults is in need of tutors. The Center location is 29 Edson Street in New Britain (former St. Joseph School). This ministry is supported by the Dominican Sisters of Peace. The Center has a large number of Ukrainian refugees who want to learn English. If you are interested, please contact Director Nancy Rodriguez at 860-348-0622. You may also contact parishioners Nancy Peasley Driska at 860-989-2516 or Deb Sanders at 860-416-3102. *Tutors do not need prior experience as SLC will provide training and materials.*

Saturday, December 2

6:30am TMIY - SPH
 8:30am Confessions
 10:00am Children's Rosary SHC
 10:00am Funeral + Padelli
 2:00pm Lighting of Green Set-up - SG PG
 3:00pm Confessions
 5:00pm Lighting of the Green

Sunday, December 3 First Sunday of Advent

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

Monday, December 4

8:45am Parish Staff Meeting
 10:00am Funeral +Buckley SPC
 11:30am Funeral +Manion SPC
 1:00pm Rosary Makers - SPH
 2:30pm Christmas Shopping Fair Set Up - Gym 3:00
 7:00pm Mercy Monday - Confessions - SPC

Tuesday, December 5

Children's Christmas Shopping Fair

4:00pm Holy Hour Adoration
 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal - PC LL

Wednesday, December 6

12:30 Dismissal - Faculty PD
 3:00pm Cheer Practice (gr 1-8)
 3:15pm Mock Trial practice
 4:30pm Boys JVA Basketball
 6:00pm Boys Varsity Practice
 6:00pm Rosary at Sacred Heart
 6:00pm Exultations - SPC
 6:30pm Ladies Guild Party
 7:00pm K of C Leadership Mtg

Thursday, December 7

Retake day - G&B Photos
 9:00am Quilters - SPH
 10:00am First Thursday Calls
 3:00pm Boys JVB Basketball
 3:00pm Robotics - SPH
 4:00pm Vigil Mass
 4:30pm Girls JV Basketball
 5:30pm Staff Christmas Party
 6:00pm Girls Varsity Basketball
 7:00pm RCIA - PC-1

PARISH CALENDAR

Friday, December 8

7:00am 7am Mass
 8:45am School Mass
 11:45am FoodShare SHC
 12:00pm Mass
 3:00pm CoEd JVC Red Bball
 4:30pm CoEd JVC Gold Bball
 7:00pm Mass
 7:30pm AA Meeting - SPH

Saturday, December 9

6:30am TMIY - SPH
 8:30am Confessions
 11:00am Set-up: Breakfast with Santa SG
 3:00pm Confessions

Sunday, December 10

7:00am Breakfast With Santa - Gym
 9:00am Social Action Angel Tree Sorting - SPH
 9:00am Confirmation classes
 7:00pm Men's Holy Hour



Gracious God,
 as Advent dawns upon us,
 we invite hope and anticipation into our hearts.
 We trust in Your promises and eagerly await
 the arrival of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
 Fill us with the wonder of this season, and
 let Your light shine brightly through us.
 May others be inspired by our hope
 and drawn closer to You.
 We make our prayer through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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