#### **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**

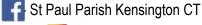
Tuesdays 4:00-5:00pm

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: <u>ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org</u> Mailing Address:

467 Alling St, Kensington CT 06037





Website: https://stpaulkensington.org



#### FRANCISCAN FRIARS & DEACONS



Fr. Joseph Benicewicz, OFM Conv. Pastor <a href="mailto:frioseph@stpaulkensington.org">frioseph@stpaulkensington.org</a>



Fr. Michael Englert, OFM Conv. Parochial Vicar & Guardian <a href="mailto:frmichael@stpaulkensington.org">frmichael@stpaulkensington.org</a>



Fr. Martin Kobos, OFM Conv. Parochial Vicar <a href="martin@stpaulkensington.org">frmartin@stpaulkensington.org</a>



Fr. Raymond Borkowski, OFM Conv. In Residence <a href="mailto:frraymond@stpaulkensington.org">frraymond@stpaulkensington.org</a>



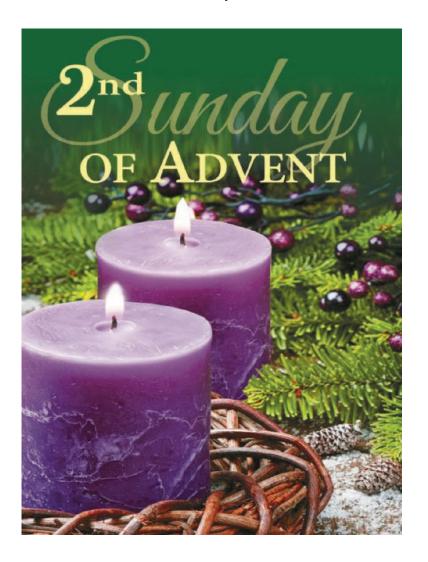
Deacon Don Philip deacondon@stpaulkensington.org

# † 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 10, 2023
Second Sunday of Advent



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

#### **PASTOR'S COLUMN**

#### 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 11 and next, December 18, four confessors will be available from 7 pm to 8 pm. Our regular confession schedule is every Saturday morning from 8:30 am to 9:30 am and every Saturday afternoon from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm. 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.

**Greccio 800 -** This year we celebrate the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first re-enactment by St. Francis of the first Christmas in the little town of Greccio in Italy. On Christmas Eve 1223, in the small village of Greccio, Italy, Saint Francis gathered with his friars and townsfolk in a mountaintop cave to reenact the scene of Jesus' birth. This event was the beginning of the endearing custom of live Nativity pageants, and eventually Christmas cribs with statues. The event begins at 4:00 pm. Be sure to bring your children and grandchildren and help them get in touch with the Reason for the Season. See page 7 for a full outline of the events.

Looking for New Altar Servers - There will be a training session for new altar servers this 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 their 1st Communion are eligible to serve. Servers choose the Mass that they would like to serve and become part of a team for that Mass that 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. To sign up, go to the parish website and click on Ministries and then Altar Servers and complete the online form. ALL current servers and MCs should also attend. You will meet Mr. Joshua Kay, our new Youth Minister, and review the current procedures.

4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas Mass Schedule - Since Christmas falls on a Monday this year, the 4th Sunday of Advent overlaps with Christmas Eve. Therefore, for the 4th Sunday of Advent we will have a modified Mass schedule. Our regular 4:00 pm Vigil Mass will be held on Dec. 23 and there will be three (3) Masses on the morning of Dec. 24th at 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 am that fulfill the Sunday obligation. The morning Masses on December 24th DO NOT fulfill the obligation for Christmas. See page 9 for the complete Christmas season Mass Schedule.

Annual End of the Year Appeal - Hopefully you have received a letter from me in the mail concerning the parish's Annual End of the Year Appeal. Your Annual gift helps the parish maintain our many programs and ministries while also taking care of our property and buildings. If you make your Annual gift by December 31st that would be appreciated, but if after the New Year is better for you by all means make the gift then. Thank you!

**2024 Parish Calendar -** 2024 Calendars are available as you leave church today. Special thanks to Carolyn Smith and Berlin Memorial Funeral Home and Peter Hansen and Erickson-Hansen Funeral Home of Berlin for underwriting the cost of the parish calendars!!

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

Christmas Wafers (*Oplatek*) - Those of Polish and Slavic ancestry are likely 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, while the supply lasts, on the table in between the two wings of the church at St. Paul's, in the vestibule at Sacred Heart, as well as in the Parish Center. A free will donation will be gratefully accepted.

**Lighting of the Parish Green -** The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Lighting of the Parish Green took place last Saturday evening after the 4 pm Mass. With the temperature in the mid 50's and no rain or wind, it was a very pleasant evening. Special thanks goes out to Denise Nowakowski, the school's Development Director for

coordinating the event. Thanks to the school parents for their help especially with 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! Jeff Batter and Maura Liegeot and the parish folk



group led us in a few Christmas carols. When the switch was flipped and all of the lights came on, the work of Bill DiCicco, Emily Armetta and Caleb Uliasz shone round about and still does each night. Our Christmas tree, now five years old, and the manger scene, that was added two years ago, was also blessed and reminds us of our Lord's humble birth. Thanks to everyone who attended and added to the joy of the season.

#### **INTENTIONS**

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

**†Theresa Fellows** by Richard and Gail

#### **Sanctuary Candles will burn this week for**

#### **†Raymond Kramer**

1st Anniversary Remembrance by wife and family



+Joseph Gerald Ayotte +Barbara Larese +Priscilla Luth

**+Kathleen Manion** 

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: 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, others will be invited to bring up the gifts for that Mass.

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,



and all the evil spirits,
who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

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

Monday, December 11, 2023St. Damascus I

7:00 Living Friars, Families, Friends and

#### **Benefactors of the Friars**

5:00 **†Rose Marie Malec** Birthday Remembrance by daughter Tuesday, December 12, 2023Our Lady of Guadalupe

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

by Anthony Micacci

**†Richard and †Catherine Binder** by a friend **John and Jeanne Wischenbart** 

50th Wedding Anniversary by Barbara Simpson

**†Sheila Labickas** Anniversary Remembrance

by husband and children

Barbara Simpson 90th Birthday Celebration

by John and Jeanne

8:45 **†Kathy Manion** Birthday Remembrance

5:00 **†Ken Stokowski** Birthday Remembrance

by David and Ann Nowak

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 St. Lucy

7:00 †Edwin and †Pamela Szymanoski by Rita

5:00 **†Bernardo Casano** by Rachel Maltese

Thursday, December 14, 2023 St. John of the Cross

7:00 †DeBlasio and †Dougherty Families

by Bill and Arlene DeBlasio

5:00 **†Carole Volz** 5th Anniversary by the family

**†Eugenio Ricciardi** by Emanuele Lombardo

**†Edward Hawrylik** by wife Carole

John Nappi, Jr. by wife

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

Friday, December 15, 2023 Advent Wednesday

7:00 Living and +Deceased Members of the

#### **Dorsey Family** by Ron

5:00 **†Daniel Mahoney** 1st Anniversary by the Mahoney family Saturday, December 16, 2023 Third Sunday of Advent

4:00 **†Joseph Tirinzoni** Birthday Remembrance by children

Sunday, December 17, 2023 Third Sunday of Advent

7:30 **Sara Jones** Birthday Celebration by Tabaczynski family

9:00 Melissa Tardif by family friend

9:30 Parishioners of Saint Paul Parish

10:30 †Deceased Members of the Rascoe and Navarro

Families by Mr. and Mrs. Louis Rascoe

12:00 **†Vicente Carbonell** Anniversary Remembrance

by wife and children

#### **PASTOR'S COLUMN (continued)**

**Baptismal Instruction -** Beginning in January the monthly Baptismal Instruction program will now be held on the third Wednesday of the month in the Parish Center at 6:30 pm. Baptism instruction is required for all first time parents and godparents. Pre-registration is required.

**Final Thoughts -** While the Bills and Ravens enjoyed their bye week there were a number of interesting upsets last week. The Ravens have a formidable schedule ahead with the Rams who are on a four game winning streak, followed by three division leaders (Jags and Dolphins with the 49ers in the middle on Christmas night) and they end with the



Steelers. The worse thing that happened to the Bills last week was KC losing, who the Bills play this week. I do not suspect that the Orioles will make too much noise at the Winter Meetings. Have a blessed 2<sup>nd</sup> week of 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.

**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.

**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.

Parish Collection						
Nov 28-Dec 4, 2023						

In Church SP	\$ 9,468
Office	\$ 1,156
In Church SH	\$ 380
Online Giving	\$ 5,330
Total	\$ 16.334

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.

#### **READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK, DECEMBER 17, 2023**

For readings online, visit https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/121723.cfm

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2A, 10-11

Responsorial Psalm: Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54

My soul rejoices in my God.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

**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: John 1:6-8, 19-28

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him. "Who are you?" He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, "I am not the Christ." So they asked him, "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered. "No." So they said to him, "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?" He said: "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord," as Isaiah the prophet said." Some Pharisees were also sent. They asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

# 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. 21 at **9:30am**. Volunteers will also help with food distribution on Friday., Dec. 22 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 <a href="https://ourschool.stpaulkensington.org/">https://ourschool.stpaulkensington.org/</a> 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.

Our annual Lighting of the Green community celebration took place on Saturday, December 2nd after the 4pm Mass.

The event included the Blessing of the Manger, Christmas Caroling, cookies and hot chocolate, the Lighting of the Green, and the walkways were lined with a beautiful display of Luminaries of Love and Remembrance. Thank you to all who were involved in this wonderful community event.









Saint Paul School has begun to celebrate the Advent season!

Congratulations to the members of the 2023-2024 Student Council

#### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

Students in Donna Rutkowski's first grade class colored Advent wreaths as part of the Dec. 10 lesson on the season of Advent.



Also, the Rutkowski family lit the first candle on the Advent wreath at the 10:30 am children's Mass on Dec. 10.



At the Children's Mass on December 3rd, Fr. Martin talked about Advent and preparing ourselves by doing good deeds while we are waiting. He compared it to tending to a plant and waiting for it to bloom, using his amaryllis as a prop.



#### **Upcoming Children's Masses**

January 7 - 10:30 am and January 28 - 9:00 am

If your child would like to participate in a Children's Mass, please email us at <a href="mailto:religioused@stpaulkensington.org">religioused@stpaulkensington.org</a>



# BREAKFAST WITH SANTA!

Saint Paul School Gymnasium

Sunday, December 10th 8:30 am to Noon



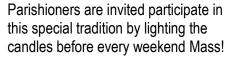
Visit with Santa, take pictures, and enjoy fun activities! Free will donations accepted.



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

#### 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.





Come light our Advent candle for Hope, Faith, Joy, or Peace!

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

or visit our website, or scan this QR code

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



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.



November 17, 2023

Dear Rev. Benicewicz,

We are most grateful for your recent gift of \$350.00, check No. 8932, dated November 13, 2023.

As Carolyn's Place continues to grow the number of individuals served in 2023, know that your gift has been instrumental in making this a reality, right here in the Greater Waterbury Area. Your gift is an encouragement to all of us that work to guide mothers, support their babies and eliminate abortion in our community.

We are pleased to have your support of our ministry. God Bless you and keep you safe as you enjoy the fall season.

Sincerely yours Kim Halmose Business & Project Manager

In this season of giving thanks, all of us at Klingberg Family Centers extend our sincere gratitude for your generosity of spirit in support of our mission.

Thanks to you, we are able to extend hope and healing to children and families in our communities.

#### Father Joseph,

Thank you so much for the college care package! I am a freshman at Fairfield University and it was such a great surprise. I also want to say a huge thank you to everyone involved in making and distributing the package. It is so nice to know our church cares for its college students and I am so grateful to be a part of this wonderful parish.

Thanks again, Alivia

#### **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 1st Saturday, The Holy Rosary, and Meditating for 15 minutes on the Mysteries of the Rosary. For information about this devotion, visit <a href="https://fatima.org/first-saturday-devotion/">https://fatima.org/first-saturday-devotion/</a>



800<sup>TH</sup> 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**

 $4:00 \ pm \sim 4:45 \ pm$  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

Children's Nativity Play, Scripture Readings and Narrations, and Musical Performances by: St. Paul Parish Choir

St. Paul Children's 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!



#### **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 Indulgance 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 <a href="https://stpaulkensington.org/greccio-800th">https://stpaulkensington.org/greccio-800th</a>

To learn more, click or scan here:

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



#### **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 to provide hand-warmers and foot-warmers to the homeless.
- Underground New England,
- Boxes to Boots
- 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 <a href="mailto:imb7000@comcast.net">imb7000@comcast.net</a>.

#### **PARISH PRAYER LIST**

**Bobby Adamowicz** Jacob Ahlquist Gilda Alberti **Emilie Albert** John Anderson Jose Arcia Zulma Barbien Lawrence Barker Theresa Baxter Dick Benson Don Benza Wyatt Bernard Sue Besaw Rita Beaulieu Peter Bocompani **David Borselle** Cheryl Brown Nancy Carlson Richard Carlson Silas Cipollone Doug Clarke Lorraine Clark Sophie Conti Carol Corriveau Tom Coss Arlene Cotrona Amanda Coyle Janet Crossman Robert Czerwinski Mary Daleski Martin Dagna Ramiro Dagna Uly Dagna Maria DeFazio Fr. Anthony DeFronzo Kathleen Deliman Bill Dobbs Nicole Donzello Nick Donzello Judith Doyle Josefina Fernandez Bill Filomena Simon Fitzpatrick Helen Flannelly Nancy Fleming Deb Follett Michael Frakel Maureen Freemen John Frigeri Janet Galasso Rose Garuti Patricia Gebhardt

Dominic Gionfriddo Jennifer Gionfriddo Salvatore Gionfriddo Rosemarie Gionfriddo Judy Giove Liz Goryl-Phillips Lenore Gourley Frank Grandone **Edward Grapes** Madison Gray **Grochal Family** Linda Hannold Lily Harzewski-Burl Tom Higgins Evan Hill Pat Jahn Gina Kahn Barbara Killius Evan Kimmel Sylvia Kratka Pam Kulas Wilma Kulas John G. Kumitis, Sr. Mary Lamkins Maria Lauria Ray LeClair Mary Leinen Laura Lemke Lorenzo Leone Connie Lombardi Mary Jane Lynch Ronald Maldon Lisa Mangiafico Fr. Paul Mangiafico Carol Marold Jackie Martin Janet Michaud Robert Mazzaferro Lorraine McCarthy Brandi McWade Luis Mendoza Viola Mercadante Janet Michaud Michael Mihalko Tom Modifica Nancy Motulko Cheryl Murphy John Murphy Helen Murphy Robert Namnoum Candace Nguyen

**Thomas Norris** 

Arlene O'Neill

**Esther Ouellette** Our Military Anna Pac Emma Pagano Judy Pappalardo Cynthia Paradise Ada Payamis John Pink Marilyn Puopolo Lisa Ransom Care Rich Frank Rich Rita Richter Randy Ripley Steven Ripley Carlos Rivera Susana Rodreguez Susy Romero Lillian Rose Ed Rudnick Viola Salonia Joan Schwartz Raul Seipel Guy Simeone Rev. Arkadiusz Skwarek Carolyn Smith Jocelyn Soto Kevin Stanowski James Swiatek Gabe Szczygla Julia Szczygla Luke Szul Alfred J. Tee Andy Timbrell David A. Vandrilla Kathleen Vandrilla Linda Vasquez Beverly Veley **Brian Veley** Scott Veley Tom Vest Louise Webb Mary Willametz Thaddeus Wojtusik Mary Ann Watrous Miriam Zacharias Carrie Zangari Eliana Zorrilla Foster Zucchi



#### YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING Attention Parents! 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 NEW and CURRENT Altar Servers will be held 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

#### CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

#### 4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 23 and Sunday, December 24 (Modified Weekend Schedule)

Saturday Vigil Mass at 4:00 p.m. Sunday Masses at St. Paul Church 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

On Dec. 24 there will NOT be a 12 Noon Mass nor will there be a 9:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart.

#### **Christmas Eve**

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Vigil Masses at St. Paul Church – 4 p.m., 6 p.m. & 10 p.m.

### **Christmas Day**

Monday, December 25

Masses at St. Paul Church 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. & 12 Noon Mass at Sacred Heart Church – 9:30 a.m.



Tuesday, December 26 through Friday, December 29

Tuesday - 5:00 p.m. preceded by Holy Hour at 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday - 7:00 a.m. ONLY

#### **Feast of the Holy Family**

Saturday, December 30 and Sunday, December 31 (Regular Weekend Schedule)

Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:00 p.m. at St. Paul Church Sunday Masses at St. Paul Church 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. & 12 Noon Sunday Mass at Sacred Heart Church – 9:30 a.m.

#### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

New Year's Eve – Sunday, December 31

There will not be a Vigil Mass.

New Year's Day - Monday, January 1

Masses at St. Paul Church 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. ONLY

#### Feast of the Epiphany

Saturday, January 6 and Sunday, January 7 (Regular Weekend Schedule)

Saturday Vigil Mass at St. Paul Church - 4 p.m. Sunday Masses at St. Paul Church 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. & 12 Noon Sunday Mass at Sacred Heart Church – 9:30 a.m



**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 9 Tuesday 7:00 am, 8:45 am

January 12 Friday 7:00 am

January 16 Tuesday 7:00 am, 8:45 am

January 19 Friday 7:00 am

January 23 Tuesday 7:00 am, 8:45 am January 30 Tuesday 7:00 am, 8:45 am

January 31 Wednesday 7:00 am

**HELPING HANDS MINISTRY** If you would like to volunteer

with our Helping Hands Ministry, or if you would like to learn more about this ministry which assists with the concerns of our senior parishioners, please contact Mark Duplin at 860-666-0162 or <a href="mailto:mfduplin@outlook.com">mfduplin@outlook.com</a>. We would love to have you join us.



#### **WORD SEARCH**

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#### Saturday, December 9

6:30am TMIY - SPH

8:30am Confessions

9:00am Cheer Practice

**CALENDAR** 

**PARISH** 

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 1st & 2nd Yr Confirmation classes-SPS

7:00pm Men's Holy Hour - SPC

#### Monday, December 11

8:45am Parish Staff Meeting

1:00pm Confessions Gr 4-8

4:30pm Boys JVA Basketball Practice

6:00pm Boys Varsity Practice

6:30pm School Auction Meeting-SC

7:00pm Mercy Monday Confessions

7:00pm Registration - New Members

#### Tuesday, December 12

8:45am School Mass Gr. 3-5

1:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry SPH

3:00pm Boys JVB Basketball

4:00pm Holy Hour Adoration

4:30pm Girls JV Basketball

5:30pm Evang. & Faith Form. Mtg

6:00pm Girls Varsity Basketball

6:30pm Choir Rehearsal - PC LL

6:30pm Altar Server Training - SPC

7:00pm Social Action - SPH

#### Wednesday, December 13

1:30pm Christmas Concert Setup

12:00pm 13th of the Month Rosary

3:15pm Mock Trial practice

6:00pm Rosarv at Sacred Heart

6:00pm Exultations - SPC

6:30pm K of C 3rd Deg. Council Mtg

#### Thursday, December 14

8:45am PreK-K Christmas Concert

3:00pm Girl Scouts

3:00pm Robotics - SPH

6:30pm Christmas Concert Gr 1-5

7:00pm RCIA - PC-1

7:00pm Women of Faith- SPC& SPH

#### Friday, December 15

8:30am Ambassador Mtg

Office Conf Rm

3:00pm CoEd JVC Red Basketball

4:30pm CoEd JVC Gold Basketball

6:00pm Family Christmas Movie Night

7:30pm AA Meeting-SPH

#### Saturday, December 16

6:30am TMIY - SPH

8:30am Confessions

9:00am Greccio Reception Setup SPH

3:00pm Confessions

#### Sunday, December 17

7:45am Gr. 1-8 Rel Ed

Session 1-SPS 8:00am Greccio Recep-

tion Setup SPH

9:15am Gr. 1-8 Rel Ed

Session 2-SPS

10:45am Gr. 1-8 Rel Ed

Session 3-SPS

1:15pm Baptisms

4:00pm Greccio 800th

Anniversary

Special Event

New England Chamber Choir and Instrumental Ensemble Richard Wm. Donohue. Conductor

#### **Presents Music for Christmas**

 Sunday, December 10 at 4:00 pm. Our Lady of Mercy Parish at St. Colman Church, 170 Hubbard Street, Middlefield

• Sunday, December 17 at 4:00 pm. Congregational Church, 59 Main St. East Hampton

Members of St. Paul Parish will be singing in this concert!

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** Siena Learning Center, a tutoring center for ESL adults, located at 29 Edson St in New Britain, is in need of tutors for a large number of Ukrainian refugees who want to learn English. If you are interested, please call 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. This ministry is supported by the Dominican Sisters of Peace.



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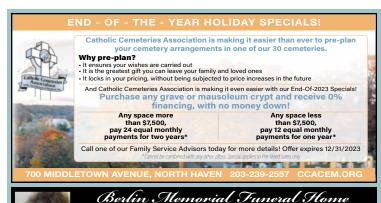
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