

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

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Deacon Don Philip

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St. Paul Catholic Parish

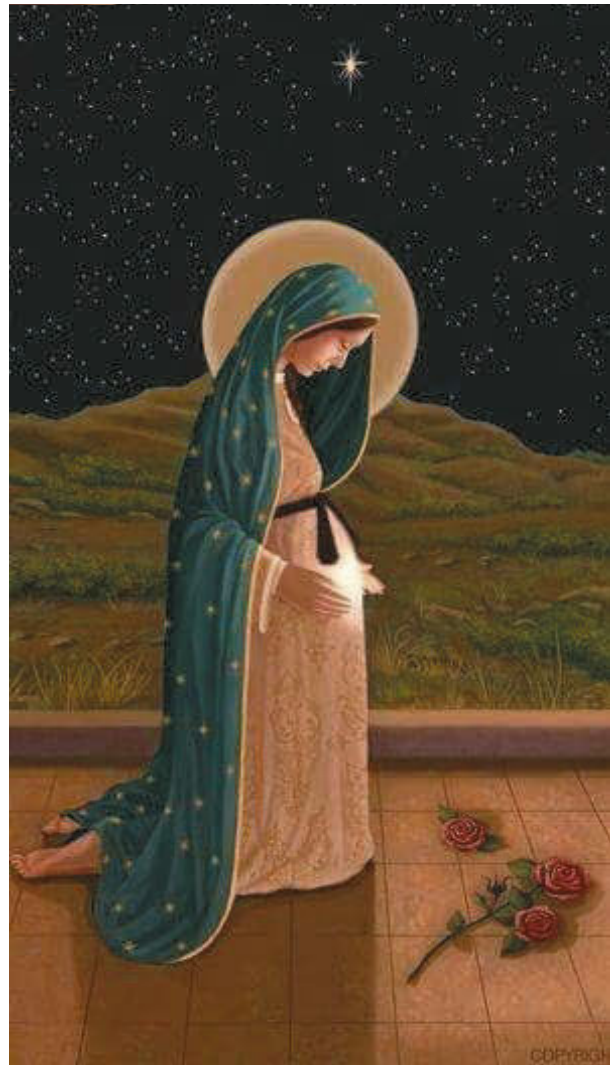
A Franciscan Family of Faith

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

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

December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent



'Mother of Life' Nellie Edwards

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

-Pope Francis

Guadete Sunday - Rejoice! - This 3rd Sunday of Advent is known as *Gaudete* Sunday (which is Latin for rejoice) from the Entrance antiphon for the Mass which says "Rejoice in the Lord, always: again, I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." This joyful spirit is marked by the third candle in our advent wreath which is rose colored. Though we celebrate the 3rd Sunday of Advent today we are only a week away from Christmas Eve. In the first reading the prophet Isaiah says "I rejoice heartily in the LORD, in my God is the joy of my soul." In the 2nd reading St. Paul wrote to the Thessalonians: "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus." Do we live our lives rejoicing? Can we help others rejoice by treating them as God treats us? Can we remove the anxiety in our lives by trusting a little more in God's love and care for us? So as Advent quickly moves on, take a moment to rejoice in the love that Jesus has for you. Rejoice in the good things he does for you. Do not let the challenges of life hinder him from coming to you again nor let those things hinder you from going to Him. "Rejoice in the Lord, always: again, I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near!"

Greccio 800 and Christmas Concert Tonight - As you have been reading about for awhile, this Sunday evening, December 17th, we celebrate the 800th anniversary of the first re-enactment by St. Francis of the first Christmas in the little town of Greccio in Italy. It was Christmas Eve 1223, that Saint Francis gathered his friars and the townsfolk of Greccio 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. Our celebration 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. **Fr. Martin and the Greccio Committee invite you to bring the baby Jesus from your home manger scene to be blessed this evening.** The next item includes a blessing for your home manger scene. This is a great faith activity for all families, from "1 to 92"! See page 7 for a full outline of the events that are part of the Greccio and Christmas Concert.

Blessing for Your Home Nativity Scene - I hope all families have a manger scene in their homes. I encourage you to gather as a family, or as an individual, and pray the blessing below before your manger scene.



One of the home nativity photos submitted for our Nativity Slideshow

A Blessing for your Manger Scene
God of every nation and people,
from the very beginning of creation
you have made known your love:
when our need for a Savior was great
you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary.
To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love.

Lord, bless all who look upon this manger;
may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus,
and raise up our thoughts to him,
who is God-with-us and Savior of all.
We pray that Jesus, Mary, and Joseph will
guide, love, and protect our family.
We make this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

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 at St. Paul's that fulfill the Sunday obligation. The morning Masses on December 24th DO NOT fulfill the obligation for Christmas. *Please see page 9 for the complete Christmas season Mass Schedule.*

Would You Like to Come to Mass with Me? - As I wrote two weeks ago, I ask you to very seriously consider inviting someone you know to come to Mass with you on Christmas who you know no longer attends Mass. It might be a family member or neighbor who has been away from the Church for a while. 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. You might be surprised how impactful your personal invite could be.

"Guest in the house, God in the house" - Next week, we as a Parish will have the opportunity to welcome many people into God's House. Some will be family and friends of parishioners visiting for Christmas. Others may be those who tend to come to church for the major holidays. *I hope some will be someone you have personally invited this week to come to Mass with you; see the item above.* And of course last, but not least important, there will be all of you who are here every week. It will be so very good to have each and every person with us. Here are a few simple things that you can do to make all who join us feel a little more at home and welcomed and maybe join us more frequently. *Continued on page 4*

INTENTIONS

Blessed Mother Candles will burn this week for

†Jimmy McDermott by dad and Maureen

†Christina Morant and †Vicente Carbonell by family
Kirsten Owen Krause and baby girl by grandparent Krause

Sanctuary Candles will burn this week for

†Mariann Stifel Birthday Remembrance by sisters

†Harry P. Misteri Birthday Remembrance by Misteri family

The Gift of Wine will be offered this week for

†Joseph Tirinzoni Birthday Remembrance by children



†Charles R. McDonald

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,

who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.



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

Monday, December 18, 2023 Advent Weekday

7:00 †Joseph Janik by a friend

5:00 †Andrew and †Helen Dobek by Pam and Kevin

Tuesday, December 19, 2023 Advent Weekday

7:00 †Ines Tee by brother

†Anna Sheehan by Cindy

Angelica Szczygla for Healing

by family and grandmother

8:45 †Amedeo Francalancia by family

5:00 †Jonathan Jahn Birthday Remembrance by mom

Wednesday, December 20, 2023 Advent Weekday

7:00 †John G. Hubbard 13 Year Anniversary by family

5:00 Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life

Thursday, December 21, 2023 St. Peter Canisius

7:00 †Elsie Quarty and †Louise Kogelman

by Linda and family

5:00 †Mariann Stifel Birthday Remembrance by sisters

†John Slowikowski 6 Year Anniversary

by Debbie Slowikowski

†Jim McDermott Birthday Remembrance

by Maureen and Dad

†Souls in Purgatory by Emanuele Lombardo

John Nappi, Jr. by wife

Friday, December 22, 2023 Advent Weekday

7:00 †Deceased Friars, Families, Friends and

Benefactors of the Friars

5:00 †Christina Morant by daughter and family

Saturday, December 23, 2023 Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:00 †John Stankevich 8th Anniversary by a friend

Sunday, December 24, 2023 Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30 †Maureen Fritz by Ludger and Patty

9:00 Parishioners of Saint Paul Parish

9:30 NO MASS at SACRED HEART

10:30 †James A. Perry, Sr. 31st Anniversary

by daughters and family

12:00 NO 12 NOON MASS

Sunday, December 24, 2023 Christmas Eve

4:00 Intention of Celebrant

6:00 Christmas Novena

10:00 Intention of Celebrant

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.

- 1) Engage people with a friendly smile and a few warm words.
- 2) When you enter the church, sit in the middle of the pew so people do not have to climb over you to find a place to sit.
- 3) Greet people at the beginning of Mass. Even offer a nod or smile as people enter your pew and introduce yourself.
- 4) At the sign of peace, say your name and ask them theirs, and use it at the end of Mass to say good-bye.

Confessions Prior to Christmas - The final Mercy Monday in this abbreviated Advent season is tomorrow, Monday, December 18th from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. The last regularly scheduled time for confessions prior to Christmas is this coming Saturday, December 23rd from 8:30 to 9:30 am and 3:00 to 4:00 pm. All those waiting to confess will be accommodated at each of these sessions. It is for this that Jesus humbled himself to come to earth to be our Savior.

Parish Center Holiday Schedule - The Parish Center will be open as usual this week, but will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, December 25 and 26th and on Monday, January 1.

Christmas Memorials - The Christmas Memorials will be included in the bulletin next week. If you missed the Dec. 11 deadline a supplemental list will be printed in January.

Annual Giving /End of Year Donation - Thank you to everyone who has already made their Annual End of the Year gift for the parish. The parish relies on these donations as part of our budgeted income and helps fund the many ministries and programs the parish offers and assists in taking care of our property and buildings. If you can make your gift before December 31 that would be great, but if not, make it when you can. Thank you for your support!

Parish Calendar - Parish Calendars for 2024 were passed out last weekend. Additional copies are available near the bulletins. Feel free to take what you need. We are grateful to Berlin Memorial and Erickson-Hansen Funeral Homes for once again covering the cost of the calendars.

Final Thoughts - \$700 million, who can possibly think that makes any sense. Recall, that Ohtani will not pitch next year coming off Tommy John surgery, but I am fine with him moving to the NL. I found Patrick Mahomes outrage over an obvious penalty very over the top. I guess it is always a lot easier to smile when you win. The Bills kept their playoff hopes alive. The Ravens, while eventually winning in OT, I do not think put fear in any team. If you will be out of town for



Christmas I pray that you have safe travels and wonderful celebrations with family and friends. In this last week of Advent, make some time for a little quiet and reflection as you prepare for the Savior's birth. Have a blessed week. Fr. Joe

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK, DECEMBER 24, 2023

For readings online, visit

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/122423.cfm>

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Alleluia: Luke 1:38

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.

May it be done to me according to your word.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR PARISH FAMILY?

Our next Registration Meeting is [Monday, January 8](#) in the St. Paul Church Hall at 7pm. Please let us know if you plan to attend: 860-828-0331 or ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org.

Due to early deadlines, the Parish Collection amounts for last week will be published in an upcoming bulletin.

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.

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.

Mrs. Buchholz's 3rd grade students dissected owl pellets last week during science class. What a fun educational project!



The Berlin Police Department partnered with Berlin Social and Youth Services for their annual "Shop with a Cop" event.



We are so proud to see SPS students participating in this special event and giving back to the community.

Our varsity basketball teams kicked off the new season last week playing against St. John Paul II (Middletown). Both the boys and girls teams got the W! Go Lions!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Congratulations to **Jeshua Mathew**, a 5th grader in our Religious Ed program, who is the winner in the age 8-10 division of the Knights of Columbus *Keep Christ in Christmas* poster contest!

Seven Religious Ed students submitted entries, which were judged according to their age division. Everyone did an excellent job!! Thank you for participating!



Jeshua Mathew - Grade 5 (Age 8-10) WINNER!



Thomas Nowak - Grade 4 (Age 8-10)



Carolina Foster - Grade 6 (Age 8-10)

See more posters throughout this bulletin!

PASTORAL COUNCIL- NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

The Pastoral Council met on Monday, November 27, 2023. In attendance were Fathers Joe, Michael, and Martin, Mary Corrigan, Bud Volz, Betty Lasker, Maura Chasse, Dwight Davis, Elaine Pavasaris, Ed Schmitt, Nancy Timbrell, Robin Veronesi.

Robin Veronesi shared an update on the Religious Education Program. She brought a sample text, The Word of Life, which is currently being used by the students in the program. This scripture based program contains a text book, online lessons, and resources that can be accessed at home. There are 570 students in the program along with 40 catechists, 13 substitutes, and 2 volunteers who track the home school students. Students receive direct instruction every two weeks. On the off weeks, parents instruct their children using The Word of Life lessons. Response to the new curriculum has been very positive with teachers and parents sharing that they too are learning a lot.

Robin went on to share that the children's Masses are scheduled twice a month. The children's choir has started back up and sings at some of these Masses. Confirmation, at the cathedral, has been set for Saturday April 20th at 10am and First Communion will be scheduled at five (5) Masses during the first and second weekends in May. To date, there are 12 individuals enrolled in the special Sacrament preparation.

The Confirmation students are actively engaged in performing their service hours. They served at Italian Night and will be helping out with the Lighting of the Parish Green, Breakfast with Santa, and Greccio which is scheduled for December 17th.

Robin continues to participate in deanery meetings where she is able to share best practices with members of other parishes. Father Joe noted that there is a great amount of complexity in overseeing a Religious Education Program as large as ours and thanked Robin for her expertise and dedication. The parish is fortunate to have such a valued individual leading this program.

Jill Conaway, principal of St. Paul School, presented a written report to the council. Enrollment in September of this year was 238; in November it was 233. The change can be attributed to some families choosing to take advantage of special education services offered in the public school. Other changes are due to personal family issues.

For the 2024-25 school year the PRE K-3 class has 15 students enrolled with a waitlist of 13. Thirty-five of the 42 slots are currently filled for the PRE K-4 class and the Kindergarten class is full with 28 students.

Seventeen new computers have been installed in the school. The cost of half of those computers was covered by a St. Paul parishioner. Five Smart Boards have been replaced with Smart Panel TVs funded by grant money secured by the school. New padding for the stage is due to be installed and is being funded by the Athletic Booster Club.

The NWEA Map Testing indicated an increase in growth and achievement in grades 3-8. The scores are reported in comparison to a national percentile where scoring at the 50th percentile

is the median score. Our students scored between the 59th to 75th percentile in math and the 60th to 75th percentile in reading, thus well above the national average.

A system of numbering of all doors, windows and sides of the school building in conjunction with the Berlin Police Department is being undertaken.

Father Joe shared that Josh Kay, the newly hired Youth Minister is here working through a hybrid model as he and his family settle into the Berlin area. Josh will be introducing himself at all the Masses the first weekend in December.

Father Joe shared the Advent and Christmas schedules. Each family will be receiving a mailing outlining the activities and times for each throughout the Advent and Christmas season. The annual end of the year appeal letter will also be forthcoming.

Council members received updates on previously held activities within the parish. The Appreciation Reception was well attended; however, efforts will be made to involve more parishioners at next year's event. Parishioners were pleased to welcome Archbishop Coyne to the parish on November 4th. His homily was well received. That weekend over 250 individuals received the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Nancy Timbrell reported on St. Clare's Food Pantry and the increased number of families that it is currently serving. Although we continue to receive food and monetary donations, the number of people receiving food may prove to be unsustainable unless we are able to secure additional donations. Members of the Social Action Committee are working with Father Joe to explore alternative means to best meet the needs of those who are in need of assistance. Father Joe reminded council members that anyone who is in need or knows of someone in need of assistance can contact the Parish Center.

Each of the four sub-committees of the Pastoral Council, Spiritual Life and Worship, Parish and Community Outreach, Youth, Family and Community Life, and Evangelization and Faith Formation, gave a quick summary of their accomplishments, action plans, and progress thus far and for the coming year. Details of planned events will be published in the bulletin.

Fathers Martin and Michael gave updates on each of the Adult Faith Formation Groups, the Scripture Study, the Men's groups, and the Women of Faith group. Each continues to have a good number of parishioner participation.

Father Joe noted that the parish expects, in December, to receive approximately \$54,000 from the next installment of the Forward with Faith Campaign. This money will be used to renovate the parish center. Meetings with the architects are ongoing. Recently, repairs to the roofs at both St. Paul and Sacred Heart churches were completed. The cost of these repairs was covered through the parish budget.

The next Pastoral Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 15, 2024 in the church hall. All parishioners are invited.

Betty Lasker
Secretary

PLEASE JOIN US TO CELEBRATE
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

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

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!



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>

To learn more, click or scan here:

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



LIGHT THE PARISH ADVENT WREATH!

It's not too late! Sign up to light the Advent wreath at the beginning of Mass!



To view the Mass schedule and sign up, visit our website, scan this QR code, or click on this link below. If you have questions, email ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C49A5A628A0F94-46009669-lighting#/>



Thank you to the Mathew family for lighting the Advent candle last weekend!

QUILT RAFFLE THANK YOU to all who purchased tickets for the 2023 Christmas Quilt Raffle. Your participation in this fundraiser allows our Ladies' Guild to support charitable causes within our parish and within our local community.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2023 Quilt Raffle!

- * Kathy Pacinda
- * Mary Healey
- * Robinson
- * Cathie Jat



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	Angelica Szczygla
Ramiro Dagna	Ronald Maldon	Gabe Szczygla
Uly Dagna	Lisa Mangiafico	Julia Szczygla
Maria DeFazio	Fr. Paul Mangiafico	Luke Szul
Fr. Anthony	Carol Marold	Alfred J. Tee
DeFronzo	Jackie Martin	Andy Timbrell
Kathleen Deliman	Janet Michaud	David A. Vandrilla
Bill Dobbs	Robert Mazzaferro	Kathleen Vandrilla
Nicole Donzello	Lorraine McCarthy	Linda Vasquez
Nick Donzello	Brandi McWade	Beverly Veley
Judith Doyle	Luis Mendoza	Brian Veley
Josefina Fernandez	Viola Mercadante	Scott Veley
Bill Filomena	Janet Michaud	Tom Vest
Simon Fitzpatrick	Michael Mihalko	Louise Webb
Helen Flannelly	Tom Modifica	Mary Willametz
Nancy Fleming	Nancy Motulko	Thaddeus Wojtusik
Deb Follett	Cheryl Murphy	Mary Ann Watrous
Michael Frakel	John Murphy	Miriam Zacharias
Maureen Freeman	Helen Murphy	Carrie Zangari
John Frigeri	Robert Namnoum	Eliana Zorrilla
Janet Galasso	Candace Nguyen	Foster Zucchi
Rose Garuti	Thomas Norris	
Patricia Gebhardt	Arlene O'Neill	

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

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.

COLLEGE DINNER

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

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 mfduplin@outlook.com. We would love to have you join us.



Abigail Rutkowski - Gr. 2 (Age 5-7)

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.

Christmas Week

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.

FOODSHARE

ST. CLARE FOOD PANTRY & MOBILE FOODSHARE

The Pantry is currently in need of the following items:

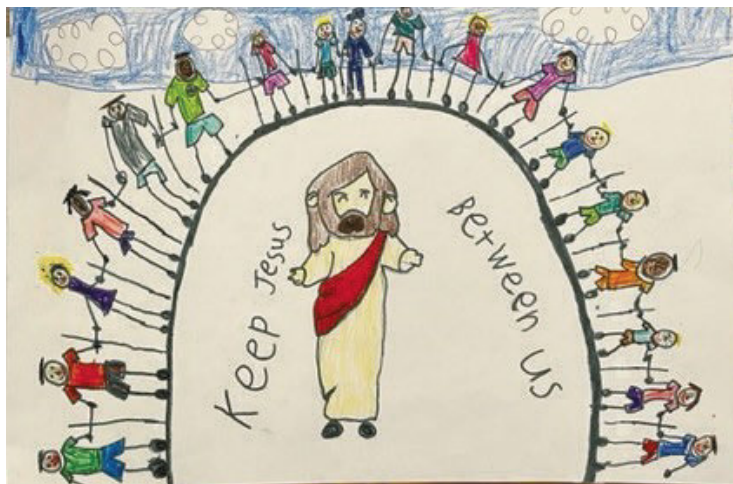
Soup, canned fruit, canned beans, peanut butter, cereal/oatmeal, canned tuna/chicken, pasta and sauce/tomato products.

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.



REMINDER! St. Paul Parishioners have **FREE** access to great digital content

through **FORMED!** Go to <https://formed.org>, select "Sign up as a parishioner", type in "St. Paul Kensington CT" and follow the simple prompts to set up your account and start enjoying movies, programs and more.



John J. Muzyka - Gr. 1 (Age 5-7)



Sophia Buccheri - Gr. 1 (Age 5-7)

Saturday, December 16

6:30am TMIY - SPH
8:30am Confessions
9:00am Greccio Reception Setup SPH
9:00am **Home Games - JV Basketball**
3:00pm Confessions

Sunday, December 17

7:45am Gr. 1-8 Rel Ed Session 1-SPS
8:00am Greccio Reception 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

Monday, December 18

8:45am Parish Staff Meeting
4:30pm **Boys JVA Basketball**
6:00pm **Boys Varsity Practice**
7:00pm Mercy Mon. Confessions

Tuesday, December 19

8:45am **School Mass Gr. 6-8**
3:00pm **Boys JVB Basketball**
4:00pm Holy Hour Adoration
4:30pm **Girls JV Basketball**
6:00pm **Girls Varsity Basketball**
6:00pm Baptism Prep - PC-1
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal - PC LL
6:30pm Yth Ministry Core Tm Mtg

Wednesday, December 20

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

Thursday, December 21

12:30 **Dismissal-NO AFTER CARE**
3:00pm **Boys JVB Basketball**
4:30pm **Girls JV Basketball**
6:00pm **Girls Varsity Basketball**
7:00pm RCIA - PC-1

PARISH CALENDAR



MUSIC MINISTRY UPDATE

Our Music Director, Jeff Batter, will be introducing new Mass settings after Christmas. To listen and/or to learn the revised music ahead of time (for *Holy, We Proclaim Your Death, Save Us, Amen*), please visit the New Music page of our website:
<https://www.stpaulkensington.org/new-music-at-st-paul-church>

The new settings are from the "Mass of St. Mary Magdalene" written by Sarah Hart.



XAVIER HONOR ROLL

Congratulations to our young parishioners William Weber, Patrick Clements-Dolan, and Jonathan Litke on being named to the Honor Roll during the first quarter at Xavier High School!



Saint Paul School participated in the First Annual Berlin Lions Club Christmas Tree Walk at the Berlin Fairgrounds last weekend.

What a beautiful, new tradition!



Joseph Buccheri - Gr. 4 (Age 5-7)

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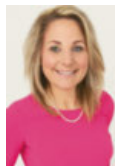
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