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 St Paul Parish Kensington CT

回 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 <u>frraymond@stpaulkensington.org</u>



Deacon Don Philip deacondon@stpaulkensington.org

+ St. Paul Catholic Parish

A Franciscan Family of Faith

St. Paul Church - 485 Alling St, Kensington CT 06037 Sacred Heart Church - 48 Cottage St, East Berlin CT 06023

> February 18, 2024 First Sunday of Lent



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

PASTOR'S COLUMN

Lent - Liturgy and the Worship Space - To help us pray and enter into the season of Lent, our liturgies are to reflect the spirituality of the season. For this reason the organ and other musical instruments are only used to assist the singing of songs. Therefore, no music is played without singing. The Alleluia is not said or sung during Lent. In its place there is a Gospel acclamation.

Our weekend liturgies during Lent will employ two options that are not always used. For the penitential rite at the beginning of Mass, we will pray together the "Confiteor" that is the prayer that begins "I confess to almighty God." In this prayer of contrition we acknowledge together to God that we have sinned by what we have done and what we have not done and that my sins are my fault (*mea culpa*), not anyone else's. We implore Mary, the Angels and Saints, and each other to pray for each other. Let us travel through this season of Lent together as a parish family.

Also, in place of the Nicene Creed, we will pray the Apostles' Creed. The Apostles' Creed is so called because it is rightly considered to be a faithful summary of the apostles' faith. As pointed out in the Catechism, "Its great authority arises from this fact: it is "the Creed of the Roman Church, the See of Peter, the first of the apostles, to which he brought the common faith." There are 12 articles of belief that are expressed in the Creed.

Lastly, the worship space is also to speak to us about this season of penance. Altars are not to be decorated with flowers. The liturgical color for the season is purple and thus some purple cloth will be used to set the tone in the sanctuary.

Mercy Mondays - Beginning February 19th, the six Mondays during Lent will once again be Mercy Mondays. All four friarpriests will be available from 7 to 8 pm to hear confessions. Mercy Mondays are throughout the Archdiocese with many parishes offering confessions from 6 to 7 pm. It is always best to check with the parish to see which church building and time. Pope Francis in his 2016 Lenten Message for the Jubilee Year of Mercy wrote: "God shows himself ever rich in mercy, ever ready to treat his people with deep tenderness and compassion . . ." As priests hearing your confession, we will do our absolute best to be His ministers of that deep tenderness and compassion.

Lenten Evenings of Reflections - We will have a three night series of reflections for Lent on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, March 5, 6 and 7. The speakers this year will be three Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist (FSE) from Meriden. On Tuesday, Sister Sophia Peters, FSE will lead off the three evenings with her talk "Sacrament of Love." Wednesday, will be a bit of a hands on experience led by Sister Anne Thérèse Yuen, FSE. Using a century old machine, Sister will demonstrate how hosts are made. Sister will use Christ's analogy of unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies and the host-making experience to learn about the stages of Eucharistic Process. She will make application to our spiritual practices during this Lenten season and beyond. This presentation will be in the school gym given the messiness in making the hosts. The hosts made on Wednesday will be used for the Mass on Thursday. The three evenings will conclude with a focus on Mary. Sister Faith Marie's presentation is entitled "Lessons from Mary as a Eucharistic Witness." This talk is a meditation on the example of our Blessed Mother and the qualities that made her particularly apt to bring the presence of Christ to the world.

Each evening will begin at 6:30 pm with Mass celebrated in St. Paul Church by one of the Friars who will offer a brief homily (3-4 minutes) on that day's readings. On Tuesday and Thursday, the evening will include some quiet time before the Blessed Sacrament and conclude with Benediction. Each evening will wrap up by 8:15 pm. There will be a light social in the church hall on Thursday. All are welcome to join us for all or some of the evenings. Each evening's reflection is independent of the other. I encourage everyone to attend and make some time to lift your heart and mind to God.

Little Rock Scripture Group - I invite you to join our parish Scripture Study Group. See page 7 of the bulletin for more information about our Scripture Group including details about the Information Night this Tuesday, February 20th at 7:00 pm in the St. Paul Church Hall. This next series of meetings will consist of just four (4) sessions. They will begin the week of March 4 and will meet bi-weekly concluding in April. In these sessions, those attending will delve into the second half of the Book of Exodus. You can be part of these sessions without having participated in the sessions that covered the first half of Exodus. Mark Chasse, who gives leadership to the Scripture Study Group, can always be contacted for more information at mchasse1@comcast.net.

Finance Council - The parish Finance Council, along with the Parish Trustees, met on Wednesday, January 31st to review the parish's financial statements for the first six months of FY 24 for both the parish and the school. John Roman, chairperson of the Finance Council, has prepared a summary report that you can read on page 10. Thanks to your ongoing support, including your support to the Annual Appeal that I report on in the next item, the parish continues to enjoy a positive financial bottom line while also tending to the spiritual and temporal needs of the parish.

INTENTIONS

	Saturday, February 17, 2024 First Sunday of Lent				
Blessed Mother Candles will burn this week for	4:00 + Janet Crossman by sister Donna Jolly				
+Chester Stachelek Birthday Remembrance by family	Sunday, February 18, 2024 First Sunday of Lent				
	7:30 Parishioners of Saint Paul Parish				
In Thanksgiving by anonymous	9:00 +Joseph V. Janik by wife and children				
†Florence DiMauro Birthday Remembrance by daughter Amy	9:30 +Gary Kelly by mother 10:30 +Paul & +Paula Martin and +Joseph Michaud				
+Florence Suchecki 2nd Anniversary and	by family				
+Peter Suchecki - Birthday Remembrance	12:00 +Kathleen Manion by Joan Vancour				
by loving family	Monday, February 19, 2024 Lenten Weekday - President's Day				
+Richard Waskiewicz Birthday Remembrance by wife Diane	7:00 Lori Pietraszewski Birthday Celebration by Tabaczynski family				
Sanctuary Candles will burn this week for	5:00 NO 5PM MASS Tuesday, February 20, 2024 Lenten Weekday				
+Ronald Schmitt 9th Anniversary by wife	7:00 †Edward Monahan 1st Anniversary by son Mike Monahan				
Prayers for Healing - Andrew and Dean by family	+Walter Krystopik Anniversary Remembrance by family				
Trayers for freaming - Andrew and beam by family	+Michele Adlece Palumbo by Antonio Del Sesto				
The Bread for the Poor will be Offered this week for	5:00 †Martin P. Sheehan 10 Year Anniversary by Cindy				
Favor Received by anonymous	Wednesday, February 21, 2024 St. Peter Damian 7:00 +Mary Aurigemma by Saint Paul Ladies Guild				
	5:00 +Maria Calafiore by Emanuele Lombardo				
+Richard Waskiewicz Birthday Remembrance	Thursday, February 22, 2024 The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle				
by children and grandchildren	7:00 +Chester Stachelek Birthday Remembrance by family				
	8:45 Living and Deceased Members of the				
	Tabaczynski Family by family				
¥.	5:00 +Souls in Purgatory by John and Linda Nappi, Jr.				
💐 In Loving Memory	John Nappi, Jr. by wife				
	+Genowefa and +Jozef Dajczak by Podykula family +Barbara Zapor 4th Anniversary by Sawyer/Zapor families				
	TAlice Malave by Ginny and family				
†Johanna Z. Davis	Friday, February 23, 2024 St. Polycarp				
(Mother of Heidi Calderone)	7:00 +Lucille Micacci and +Rose & +Vincent Micacci				
	by Anthony Micacci				
†Elizabeth Donnelly	5:00 +Brother Alex Delaney, M.S. by Anop family				
(Mother of Danielle Harris)	Saturday, February 24, 2024 Second Sunday of Lent				
	4:00 +Marie Tirinzoni 5th Anniversary and				
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light	+ Joseph Tirinzoni 15th Anniversary by children Sunday, February 25, 2024 Second Sunday of Lent				
shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the	7:30 +Giuseppe and +Gemma DelSesto by Antonio Del Sesto				
faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.	9:00 Parishioners of Saint Paul Parish				
	9:30 †Jessica Kelly 1st Anniversary by Janet Vukas				
	10:30 +Larry Mangini and +Marie Musso 5th Anniversary				
Saint Michael the Archangel,	by family				
Defend us in battle.	12:00 +Ralph Loschiavo Anniversary Remembrance by wife and children				
Be our defense against the	by whe and children				
wickedness and snares of the Devil.					
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,	In Church SP \$ 8,252				
and do thou,	Parish Collection Office \$ 1,291				

and do O Prince of the heavenly hosts, Val. by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits,

who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

2nd Collection Feb. 18: Catholic High Schools

Total

Feb. 6-12, 2024

In Church SH

Online Giving

\$

\$

\$

368

5,248

15,159

PASTOR'S COLUMN (continued)

The other members of the Finance Council are Rick Dighello, Colleen Lynch, Jim Newman, and Corey Whiteside while the Trustees are Ed Janik and Maura Chasse. Together they provide a great service to our parish for which I am most grateful. Work has begun on the school's budget for next year prior to its adoption before Easter.

Annual End of the Year Donations - Included in this week's bulletin is a listing of all who have made a gift to the parish's Annual (End of the Year) Appeal. As of February 12th, this honor roll includes 387 parishioners who have made donations totaling \$80,149!! The average gift is \$207. If you still have the intention of making a gift, you can do so at any time. The generosity of so many is so very helpful to the parish so that we can continue our wide array of ministries to so many people in the parish. Thank you to everyone who made a gift and for all that you do to support our parish!

CT March for Life - The Connecticut March for Life will take place on Wednesday, March 20th in Hartford. See page 19 for all of the information.

Save the Date - Polish Dinner - The Knights of Columbus will hold their annual Polish Dinner on Saturday, April 20th in the school gym.

Presidents' Day Holiday - Monday, February 19 is Presidents' Day. One Mass will be celebrated Monday at 7 am. The parish office will be closed.

Final Thoughts - *What did one cannibal say to the other while they were eating a clown? "Does this taste funny to you?"* Super Bowl LVIII was another good game, unlike that joke, and one where the defenses made themselves known. The Chiefs are the 9th team to win back-to-back Super Bowls and Patrick Mahomes continues to add to an already impressive resume taking home the MVP for a third time in five years. That all said, a fumble on their opening drive, a muffed punt, and a missed extra point by the 49ers proved to be the difference. Spring training camps are open with the regular season beginning on Holy Thursday (other than the two



games in South Korea a week earlier). Spring training and Lent match up nearly identically. Now let us turn our attention to getting Lent off to a good start and improving our spiritual lives. Have a blessed week and holy Lent everyone. - Fr. Joe

JOIN US FOR "COFFEE AND"



<u>THIS</u> Sunday, February 18th after the 9am Children's Mass. **All are welcome** to join

us downstairs in the St. Paul Church Hall after the 9am Mass to enjoy some light refreshments and fellowship!

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK, FEBRUARY 25, 2024

For readings online, visit <u>https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/022524.cfm</u>

First Reading: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

Second Reading: Romans 8:31b-34

Verse Before the Gospel: Matthew 17:5 From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

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.

FOODSHARE ST. CLARE FOOD PANTRY & MOBILE FOODSHARE

The Pantry is currently in need of the following items: Protein/granola bars, canned pasta, canned beans, oatmeal, peanut butter, rice and rice sides, and baking items and mixes.

Volunteers will transport food from St. Paul to Sacred Heart and set up for distribution on Thurs., Feb. 29 at **9:30am**. Volunteers will also help with food distribution on Fri., Mar 1 at **11am** at Sacred Heart Church.

For transportation to FoodShare at Sacred Heart, call the Berlin Senior Center at 860-828-7006.

For information about the St. Clare Food Pantry or Food-Share program including volunteering, contact Nancy at 860-601-7866 or <u>n.timbrell@stpaulkensington.org</u>.

SAINT PAUL SCHOOL NEWS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 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/3gO2X9J



You may also email our Admissions Director, Kelly Esposito, admissions@stpaulkensington.org.

Happy Valentine's Day from Mrs. Oppel's PreK class!



Garden Gala Auction

Join us at Casa Mia at the Hawthorne on Saturday, March 23rd! Starting at 6pm and going until 10:30pm, we have an exciting lineup of events!



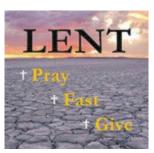
https://ourschool.stpaulkensington.org/2024-garden-gala

- * After the live auction, led by Eric Hummel of Hummel Bros., school parent, DJ Aaron Hairston will keep the party going, ensuring the dance floor stays lively!
- We invite you to become a sponsor, contribute an item, or * inform a friend. By doing so, not only will you support our students, but it will also elevate your visibility within our school and parish community.
- * Online bidding for silent auction items will open to the public on Friday, March 15th, while live auction items will only be available to those attending the auction. Don't miss the chance to bid on a wide variety of amazing items and experiences.
- * Make sure to purchase your tickets and secure your spot for a delightful evening!



Observing the Lenten Season

Jesus fasted and prayed for 40 days and nights in the desert and resisted the devil's temptations (Matthew 4: 1-11). We can follow Jesus' example of sacrifice and prayer to help us resist temptation, especially during Lent.



Giving up something you enjoy during Lent is a way to show self-discipline and remember the sacrifices that Jesus made for us. Another option is to do something good for others. Here are some ways children and their families can make this happen:

Things you might "fast" from:

- Electronic devices, social media or television shows for a few hours each day, a whole day, week or weekend.
- □ Favorite foods such as desserts, sugary breakfast cereal or junk food snack.

Things you might do for others/new habits you can adopt:

- □ Clean your room or help others with household chores.
- Donate toys you no longer play with to a homeless shelter or children's hospital.
- □ Make a list of things you are grateful for and share it with your family.
- □ Make a "Lenten Jar", collect spare change and donate to a worthy cause.
- Do something special for a neighbor, like bring in their trash cans.
- □ Have a special family dinner on Fridays during lent.
- □ Attend Church on weekends as a family.
- □ Make time to pray each day.
- Read a Bible Story.

See our Children's Lenten Calendar on the next page!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

Monday-Thursday 8am - 2pm

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

F St Paul Parish Religious Ed Berlin CT Email: religioused@stpaulkensington.org

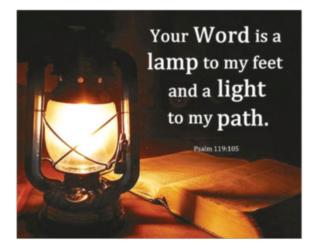


Robin Veronesi **Director of Religious Education** (860) 828-1934 ext 320

Linda Beaudoin Administrative Assistant (860) 828-1934 ext 321



		1	2	3	4	5
		ASH WEDNESDAY	Help clean the kitchen or wash dishes.	Give up some food as a sacrifice.	Read or watch a video about a saint!	1st Sunda of Lent
1	f.	Wednesday 2/14/2024	Thursday 2/15/2024	Friday 2/16/2024	Saturday 2/17/2024	Sunday 2/18/2024
12	11	10	9	8	7	6
2nd Sunday of Lent	Read or watch a video about St. Paul!	Give up some screen time today.	Unexpectedly, offer to help mom or dad!	Pray for all children who are hurting.	Compliment someone at school today.	Say Grace before each meal today.
Sunday 2/25/2024	Saturday 2/24/2024	Friday 2/23/2024	Thursday 2/22/2024	Wednesday 2/21/2024	Tuesday 2/20/2024	Monday 2/19/2024
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Pray a Hail Mary before school.	seems sad or lonely.	Wear a cross, saint medal, or religious item.	Say a prayer to your Guardian Angel.	Give up desserts today.	Attend the Children's Rosary at Sacred Heart	3rd Sunda of Lent
Monday 2/26/2024	Tuesday 2/27/2024	Wednesday 2/28/2024	Thursday 2/29/2024	Friday 3/1/2024	Saturday 3/2/2024	Sunday 3/3/2024
26	25	24	23	22	21	20
Laetare (4th) Sunday	Read orwatch a videoabout St.Patrick.	Drink water instead of juice or soda today.	Write down things you are thankful for.	Sit with some- one different at lunch.	Pray for people who are in jail today.	Sayan OurFather beforeschoo
Sunday 3/10/2024	Saturday 3/9/2024	Friday 3/8/2024	Thursday 3/7/2024	Wednesday 3/6/2024	Tuesday 3/5/2024	Monday 3/4/2024
27	28	29	30	31	32	33
Pray the Glory Be prayer before school.	Look at a crucifix and thank Jesus for His sacrifice.	Text or call a friend / relative to say hello.	Offer to do something nice for someone.	Give up tv / videos today,	Read or watch a video about St. Francis!	5th Sunda of Lent
Monday 3/11/2024	Tuesday 3/12/2024	Wednesday 3/13/2024	Thursday 3/14/2024	Friday 3/15/2024	Saturday 3/16/2024	Sunday 3/17/2024
40	39	38	37	36	35	34
Palm Sunday	Pray for those who are sick. Visit if you can.	Say nice things to three people today.	Clean up your room.	Say a prayer for all pregnant moms.	Read or watch a video about St. Joseph.	Pray the Act Contrition before schoo
Sunday 3/24/2024	Saturday 3/23/2024	Friday 3/22/2024	Thursday 3/21/2024	Wednesday 3/20/2024	Tuesday 3/19/2024	Monday 3/18/2024
Holy Week	Holy Week	Holy Week	Holy Thursday	Good	Holy	
nony meek	noty neek	Holy HEEK	noty mulsuay	Friday	Saturday	RISEN
	10113			ALC: NO		RISEN



SCRIPTURE STUDY AT ST. PAUL PARISH!

How would you like to join one of our small groups and study a part of the Bible?

You may have thought about it, especially after hearing one of the readings during Mass that caught your interest. Well, it's easy, spiritually invigorating and fun. Our study groups have been involved in scripture study at St. Paul for 14 years, and we'd love to have you join us. We have it organized well and utilize the commentaries and study guides from Little Rock Scripture Study Program. Check them out at http://www.littlerockscripture.org.

Our next study will be **The Book of Exodus** (part 2). This study involves a little reading on your own and participating in 4 small group meetings twice a month in the parish center or at Sacred Heart's rectory beginning the week of March 4th.

The study of the book of Exodus is the central event of the entire Old Testament. Part Two of this study covers chapters 16-40 of Exodus. Beginning with the insecurity of the desert wanderings, to encountering God on Sinai and then constructing the tent of dwelling, God's people learn what it means to be part of a covenant with the one who liberates and also gives the Law to guide and direct them. Each participant will receive a study guide with commentary and thought provoking questions. We will also have access to summary lectures on-line.

Would you like to learn more or sign up? There will be an informational meeting on **Tuesday, February 20** in the St. Paul Church Hall at 7:00 pm where you can learn the details, ask questions and register. You man also email Mark Chasse at <u>mchasse1@comcast.net</u> with any questions.

For resources and information on studying the Bible, visit littlerockscripture.org



We hope you will take the next step to build your relationship with God and study along with us.

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!

Thank you for attending our February Registration Meeting. Welcome to our Franciscan Family of Faith!

~ God Bless ~



INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR PARISH FAMILY?

Our next Registration Meeting is Monday, March 11 in the St. Paul Church Hall at 7pm.

Please let us know if you plan to attend:

- Call our Parish Office at 860-828-0331 or
- Email us at ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org.

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 <u>ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org</u>.

Available Masses for March-May are below. To reserve a Mass, please call the office 860-828-0331, M-F 9am-4pm. Please note that there are also additional Masses available on Tuesday at 7:00am and Thursday at 5:00pm.

March 5	Tuesday	8:45am
April 29	Monday	7:00am, 5:00pm
April 30	Tuesday	7:00am, 5:00pm
May 1	Wednesday	7:00am
May 9	Thursday	7:00am, 8:45am
May 10	Friday	7:00am
May 13	Monday	7:00am
May 14	Tuesday	8:45am
May 23	Thursday	7:00am
May 28	Tuesday	7:00am
May 31	Friday	7:00am

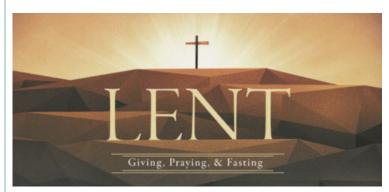
PARISH PRAYER LIST

Bobby Adamowicz Jacob Ahlguist 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** Norma Cacchillo Grace Callegari Mark Camilleri Nancy Carlson Richard Carlson Silas Cipollone Doug Clarke Lorraine Clark Sophie Conti Carol Corriveau Tom Coss Arlene Cotrona Amanda Coyle 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 Alyssa Dutkiewicz Josefina Fernandez **Bill Filomena** Simon Fitzpatrick Helen Flannelly Nancy Fleming **Deb Follett** Michael Frakel Maureen Freemen Janet Galasso Rose Garuti

Patricia Gebhardt Dominic Gionfriddo Jennifer Gionfriddo Salvatore Gionfriddo Rosemarie Gionfriddo Judy Giove Liz Goryl-Phillips Lenore Gourley Edward Grapes Madison Gray Grochal Family Linda Hannold Lily Harzewski-Burl Lorie Hebert Tom Higgins Evan Hill Pat Jahn Gina Kahn Barbara Killius Evan Kimmel Svlvia 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 Joe Maxwell Khylee Melius Janet Michaud Robert Mazzaferro Lorraine McCarthy **Cathline McKinnon** 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 Linda Page Judy Pappalardo Cynthia Paradise Ada Payamis Marilyn Puopolo Roberta Pupecki 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 Angelica Szczygla Gabe Szczygla Julia Szczygla Luke Szul Alfred J. Tee Sandra Tinti David A. Vandrilla Kathleen Vandrilla Linda Vasquez Brian Veley Scott Veley Tom Vest Louise Webb Mary Willametz Thaddeus Wojtusik Mary Ann Watrous Miriam Zacharias Carrie Zangari Eliana Zorrilla Foster Zucchi

PRAYER LIST If you would like to **add** someone to our Prayer List or to let us know that a name can be **removed**, please call 860-828-0331 or email <u>ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org</u>. Please be sure to ask for permission from the person to be added to the list. Thank you.



LENTEN COLLECTION

The Social Action Ministry's LENTEN COLLECTION, will take place from February 14 to March 24, 2024. Please join us in our efforts to help families in need. This Collection will benefit the Prudence Crandall Center and Family Promise (both in New Britain).

Please leave all donated items at the church entrances.

PRUDENCE CRANDALL WISH LIST:

- Dish detergent
- Laundry detergent
- Maxi pads and mini pads (no tampons)
- Razors
- Deodorant
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Shower gel or body wash
- Blankets—twin, full, or queen size

FAMILY PROMISE WISH LIST:

- Body soap
- · Body wash
- Dish detergent
- · Ladies deodorant
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Toilet paper
- · Paper towels

• Grocery gift cards

- Stop & Shop
- Aldi
- Big Y
- Target
- Walmart

Please put gift cards in an envelope marked "Lenten Collection" and put them in the collection basket or drop off at the Parish Office.

> All items must be new, unused, not expired, and in original packaging. Thank you!

Thank you for your unwavering support and generous contributions to Prudence Crandall and Family Promise!

WOMEN OF FAITH

All women of the parish are invited to attend the next meeting of our **Women of Faith** group on Thursday, March 14th at 7pm in the St. Paul Church Hall.



Fr. Martin will lead us in the Stations of the Cross.

We gather on the second Thursday of every month. Come meet new friends and enjoy our conversations! Join us as we support one another in **Faith, Friendship and Fellowship**. If you have any questions, please feel free to email us at <u>womenoffaith@stpaulkensington.org</u>.

THAT MAN IS YOU!

Spring 2024 Session: Feb 3—April 27



That Man Is You is happening every Saturday morning in St. Paul Parish. It is never too late for you to join us. Each week we discuss a different topic with good Christian men, and you are welcome to attend any session that interests you. A full list of speakers and topics can be found on our website: <u>https://stpaulkensington.org/that-man-is-you</u>

That Man Is You may also be the perfect activity for you this Lent. Don't just give up eating dessert this Lent. Take some time to deepen your understanding of what it means to follow Christ and how to share that experience with your family and friends.



TMIY starts at 7am every Saturday in the St. Paul Church Hall with a 30 minute video presentation followed by 30 minutes of discussion. You are welcome to arrive at 6:30am to join us for coffee and a light breakfast before the program begins. Why do we do this so early? We do not want you to miss time with your family. Chances are you will be home before some of them are out of bed.

Many men will set their alarm on a Saturday morning to make a tee time or go fishing. This Lent, set your alarm to attend TMIY! Come and see why this program has been so successful at our parish for the past 5 years. Contact Bud Volz: <u>budvolz@comcast.net</u> or 860-681-8355 for more info.

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!

Adult Confirmation-Program—Spring 2024

Are you an adult who never received the Sacrament of Confirmation? If so, our Adult Confirmation Program (ACP) will prepare you to be Confirmed in the Spring of 2024. The reception of all of the Sacraments is about helping us journey through this life to life eternal. The Sacrament of Confirmation is a confirming and strengthening of our Baptisms. Through the Sacrament you are sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and Confirmation provides additional graces to help us live out our adult lives as faithful followers of Jesus and strengthens our bond with the Church. Those who are asked to be a godparent for Baptism or a Sponsor at Confirmation must have received the Sacrament of Confirmation in order to take on those responsibilities. Likewise, those to be married in the Catholic Church should be Confirmed. We are implementing this six session ACP so that adult Catholics who were never Confirmed can be fully initiated in the Catholic faith.

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

This six week ACP program, begins on March 3, 2024. Sessions will be held on Sunday mornings, 10:15-11:45am. Registration deadline is Monday, February 26.

There is no monetary cost for the program. To register, email Joshua Kay at <u>j.kay@stpaulkensington.org</u> or call the parish office at 860-828-0331 and ask for Josh or complete our online form: <u>https://stpaulkensington.org/adult-confirmation-rcia</u>.

If you have questions, please contact Josh or one of the Friars. If you know of a family member or friend who has not been Confirmed, please share this information with them!

ROSARY MAKERS

All are welcome to join our Rosary Makers at their next meeting which will be held on Monday, March 4th at 1:00pm in the St. Paul Church Hall.



Contact Lynn Misteri at 860-913-5448 with any questions or to learn more about this ministry.

Finance Council Summary - January 2024

The St Paul Parish Finance Council met on January 31, 2024 for its regularly scheduled quarterly meeting. The minutes of the October 24, 2023 meeting were approved, and the minutes of the January 24, 2024 Investment Sub Committee meeting were reviewed.

The Council reviewed fiscal year to date Parish and School investment balances and performance. As of December 31, 2023, Parish investment balances totaled \$2.5 million while School investment balances totaled \$1.5 million. During December, the investment mix within Parish Investments and School Investments were adjusted to reduce exposure to stocks and to align investment mix with the Parish and School Investment Policy Statements. It was noted that investment performance was very favorable during the October to December 2023 period.

The Parish December 31, 2023 balance sheet and quarter end income statements were reviewed. Parish assets on December 31, 2023 totaled \$6.4 million. It was noted that Offertory Income for the July to December 2023 period increased slightly. Offertory Income was bolstered by the generosity of long term and new parishioners but at the same time donations were lost by those moving away or passing away. Parish income and expenses are operating within the approved budget.

The School December 31, 2023 balance sheet and Fiscal year first half 2024 income statements were reviewed. School assets totaled \$2.7 million on December 31, 2023. It was noted that the School had received a very generous donation for new classroom furniture and that the new furniture had been installed. School tuition income is on track to meet budgeted amounts and expenses are running close to budget. School expenses are well controlled with income and expenses operating within budget.

It was reported that the Parish had received its third Forward with Faith disbursement from the Hartford Bishops Foundation representing the Parish portion of pledges fulfilled during the January to June 2023 period. This disbursement was in the amount of \$42,000. The Forward with Faith disbursements will continue to be received semiannually through June 2028. Forward with Faith funds are earmarked for upgrades to the Church sound system, which are well underway, as well as Parish Center building and technology improvements. It was noted that our investment advisors from Bank of America and Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors will present at the next Investment Sub-Committee meeting on April 17, 2024. The Council Members were reminded that there will be a Special Finance Council meeting held on March 20, 2023 for the sole purpose of approving the St Paul School budget for fiscal year 2025.

CHILDREN'S ROSARY—FEBRUARY 3

Our Children's Rosary group meets at 10am at Sacred Heart Church on the first Saturday of each month.



Consider joining us on Saturday, March 2nd as we honor Our Blessed Mother. All are welcome. The children lead the rosary, and others who are present pray along. To learn more, please contact Cheryl Batter at <u>cherylbatter@att.net</u>.

CHILDREN'S MASS

The next Children's Mass will be Sunday, March 17 at 10:30 am.

If your child would like to participate, please sign them up using this link:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C49A5A628A0F94-childrens9#/

PRAYER LINE

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.

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в	E	т	т	N	E	Ρ	E	R	E		
А	s	0	G	А	G	D	Т	D	R		
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John Roman, Finance Council Chairperson

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL Parents, if you are considering Catholic High School for your 7th/8th grader, or considering a transfer for your current high school student, contact an Admissions representatives today to learn how your child can receive an excellent Catholic education and so much more! Ask about financial assistance!



*East Catholic, Manchester <u>http://www.echs.com</u>

*Mercy, Middletown http://www.mercyhigh.com

*Northwest, W. Hartford https://www.northwestcatholic.org



St. Paul, Bristol https://spchs.com



*Xavier. Middletown https://www.xavierhighschool.org

Thank you for supporting our local Catholic High Schools through your donation to the second collection this weekend!

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY



The New Britain Council of Catholic Women is

pleased to offer two, \$1,000 scholarships to either 8th graders planning to attend a Catholic High School or high school seniors planning to attend college. The Council is only accepting digital applications which can be obtained by emailing a request to <u>nbcouncilcatholicwomen@gmail.com</u>. The deadline for submission is May 4th.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The **Knights of Columbus** Msgr. Greylish Council # 3675 will award college scholarships to graduating high school students:



- Alfred Greco Scholarship—student is required to live in Berlin and have father or grandfather who is a Knight.
- Terrence Lescoe Scholarship—student must live in Berlin.

Visit the parish website for applications. Deadline April 1st.

XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

Congratulations to the young men listed below, members of our parish, who were named to the Honor Roll for the 2nd Quarter



of the 2023-2024 academic year at Xavier High School in Middletown. Keep up the great work!

- * William Weber
- * Patrick Clements-Dolan

YOUTH MINISTRY

OLIFE **TEEN**

LifeTeen Night! Sunday, February <u>25</u>th

All <u>high school</u> students in grades 9-12 are invited to join us for our next LifeTeen Night on February 4 from 6:30-8:00pm in the St. Paul Church Hall. *Bring a friend!*

Topic: "Retro" This night will present how God's original plan for humanity, as reflected in creation, was lost to original sin and how sin impacts our lives today.





EDGE Night Sunday, March 10th

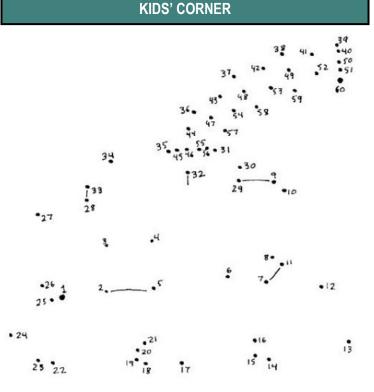
All middle school students in grades 6-8 are welcome to join

us on Sunday, March 10th, 6:30-8:00pm in the St. Paul Church Hall for our next event.....



"Road Trip" Join us for a night where we introduce the importance of the Eucharist and how it can map our lives every day!

Bring a friend and we hope to see you there!



What was the story mentioned in today's first reading that talks about God washing away the sins of the world and making a covenant with His people? Connect the dots to find out what the story was about!

Thank you

Rafael Adames * Nancy Adamowicz ^ David and Paula Alkas * Mark Anderson ^ Anonymous P (3) Anonymous + (2) Anonymous # (6) Anonymous * (18) Anonymous ^ (13) Ann Marie Anop * Paul and Cynthia Argazzi * Jerald and Teresa Atkinson # Michael and Mary Jane Ayotte ^ John and Nancy Baccaro ^ Joseph Bajorski ^ Ken and Marcia Baker * Joan Baker P Maxine Balinskas * James and Barbara Banasiewicz * Dean and Cheryl Baruffi ^ Gloria Baruffi ^ Arlene Basarab * Thomas and Carlene Battaglia * Jeff and Cheryl Batter # Louise Bechard * Frank and Susan Berardi ^ David and Carmen Bittel * Kevin Bobrowski # Pamela Bobrowski # Maria Bogacz ^ Marie Bogdanski * John and Ruth Bogden ^ Dean and Margaret Boissoneau ^ Robert and Barbara Boland # Christine Borkowski * Elaine Borselle * Barton and Donna Bovee * John and Karen Brancato * Edward and Christine Bratina * Cheryl Breindel * Christopher and Sahar Brochu ^

Thank You to all who contributed to our 2023 Year-End St. Paul Parish Appeal

Rita Brochu * Fernand and Laura Brochu * Phyllis Brown-Roncaioli # Theodore and Linda Bruttomesso # John Burns * Michael and Alicia Calafiore ^ Heidi Calderone ^ James and Karen Caplik * Maureen Carlson P Gloria Casner * John and Deborah Catalano ^ Paul and Nancy Cavaliere # Mark and Maura Chasse # Mukuka and Nokafu Chipanta * Stanley and Irene Chlastawa * Thomas and Susan Chyra * Doug and Wendy Clarke ^ Peter and Marcelyn Clarke + David and Jessica Colello * Edward and Anastacia Como * William and Sheryl Conticello * John and Carmelina Cooper II * Andrew and Diane Coppa ^ Mark and Mary Corrigan * Kenneth and Susan Corso * Georgianne Cote * Arlene Cotrona ^ Gary and Lynn Cotto ^ Matthew and Carol Courtney * Carl and Kathy Cowles # Esther Criniti ^ Tim Cunha ^ Todd and Jill Cusano * Edward Czapla ^ Frank and Diane D'Addabbo ^ Edward and Patricia Daleski * Robert and Susan D'Ambrosio * Daniel D'Amico + David Darigis * John and Laurie Dauphin * William and Arlene DeBlasio ^

John and Melissa DeFeo * Antonio Del Sesto # Nancy DePalma P Anthony and Helen deRito + James and Maria Dieli ^ Ashley Dorsey ^ Piotr & Jadwiga Drozdzowski * Michael and Megan Drzata * Thomas and Marlene Drzata # Richard and Kathleen Dunn ^ Rosalind Durante ^ John and Gail Dwyer ^ Jeffrey and Gail Erickson * Mary Ann Fagan * Robyn Filomena * James Fiori ^ Andrea Fiori-Brandl # Susan Fitzgerald * Anita Fitzsimmons * Peter and Louise Fliss * Eric Folta * Marlene Fongemie # Emmanuel and Mairead Forde * Francesco and Enza Formica * David Forsythe ^ David and Rosemary Fox * Erin Foy ^ Bill and Diane Funk # Steven and Andrea Furtado + John Gabes ^ Jacob and Kathleen Gacek * Mary Lou Gaffney P Gary and Lucy Gajewski ^

- L Leadership \$5,000+
- P Pillar Gift \$1,000~\$4,999
- + Sustainer's Circle \$500~\$999
- # Benefactor's Circle \$250~\$499
- * Helper's Circle \$100~\$249
- ^ Friend's Circle \$1~\$99

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Thank & you

Ann Gamelin ^ Ellen Gentile * Maria Geremia ^ Joseph and Caroline Gigante ^ Carl and Kathleen Ginotti ^ John & Judy Giove ^ Joseph and Shirley Giove ^ Louis and Aida Grabowski # Robert and Carolyn Graham * Paul and Kristina Guzzardi * Linda Guzzardi P Koichi and Carolyn Hamada/Beaudin P Rita Hart # David and Saundra Heckman # Alexandra Heslin * Robert and Cindy Hetu # Timothy and Krista Hilbie P Eleanor Hill * Annette Hines ^ Kevin & Amber Hines P Judith Hope ^ Louis and Diane Houle ^ Jean Hughes # Edward and Gloria Janik P Raymond and Anna Jarema [^] Bohdan and Janina Jeske * Anthony and Janice Johnson * Frederick and Catherine Jortner ^ Sandra Julius * Jay and Jennifer Jurgen ^ Paul and Rose-Marie Kaczor + Mark and Faith Kaczynski * Lawrence and Sheila Kelleher * David and Luane Kelly * Murielle Kelly # Michael and Nancy Kennure * Kenneth and Mary Kidd ^ Camillia Kimmel * Sandra Kindelan * Kenneth and Karen King * Robert and Shiela Klapatch *

William and Laura Kohl ^ Edward and Linda Kozlenko ^ Michael and Susan Kozlowski * Donald and Roberta Kramer * Joseph Kropf ^ Patricia Ksiazkowski * Philip and Marsha Kulas * Lester and Darlene Kurpiewski ^ Royal and Mary Lamkins * Catherine Lapollo * Linda Laviana * Steven Lescoe # James Lescoe + Norine Lescoe P Gerald and Jean Letendre * Ronald & Susan Levandowsky # Theresa Levasseur ^ Helen Lewandowski ^ Maura Liegeot * Jose and Carmen Lima * Christopher & Joanna Link + Michael and Janet Linnon * Deborah Lobb * Nick and Sylvia Lococo # Gregory and Jodi Lombardi * Patricia Lombardi P Emanuele Lombardo * Donald and Janice Lombardo + Anthony and Gina Lopreiato * David and Joan Lukowsky * John and Mary Jane Lynch * Enzo and Rachele Maltese ^ Lawrence and Rosann Mancini + Ginny Mangiafico * Carlo and Chirstine Marotta * Joseph and Sheyla Marranca ^ Milton Martin * James and Mary Ann Massirio * John and Elaine Matulis ^ Gerald and Kathleen McAuliffe # Richard and Mary McCarthy ^

Lorraine McCarthy ^ John and Judith McCormack ^ James McDermott * John and Katherine McGeever ^ Theresa McGuire ^ Francis and Lillian McLoughlin * Robert and Joyce McMillan * Nora McRoberts * Phyllis Miano ^ Lucia Micacci-Bantle P Gary and Heidi Michaud ^ Beverly Miller ^ George and Andra Lou Millerd # Lvnn Misteri + Mark and Tricia Modifica * James & Marilyn Morrill * Ryan and Leticia Morrissey P David and Anne Moskal # Patricia Muli * Kathleen Nadolny ^ Andrew and Ursula Napierkowski * Brian Natwick # Eric and Deborah Nelson ^ Ngoan Ngoc and Dau Nguyen * Thinh Nguyen & Hannah Tran Nguyen * Robert and Evelyn Nogiec # Judith Novak * Denise Nowakowski ^ Michael and Virginia O'Connor * Richard and Christine Olson P Fred and Karen Ortola * Thomas and Carol Pac ^ Vincent and Maria Pace *

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Thank you

Thank You to all who contributed to our 2023 Year-End St. Paul Parish Appeal

Michael and Katherine Pacinda # Cheryl Pagano * Edward and Christine Palasek * Joanne Palmieri ^ Evelyn Pampuro ^ Gerald and Marian Paradis P Donald and Dolores Paris * Ezzio and Deborah Partesano ^ Donald and Elaine Pavasaris * Nancy Peasley-Driska * Gregory and Clarice Pelkey * Chris Pelosi ^ Fred and Mary Pera ^ Kathleen Percival ^ Roger Peterson ^ Dennis and Sharon Phaneuf # Gregory and Jeanne Picklesimer # Raymond and Lynn Marie Plourde * Joseph and Agnes Pohlmann * Joseph Porcaro ^ Carol Potash * Charles and JoAnne Powell * Allen Procko ^ Shirley Pulcini ^ Laurie Pulito ^ George and Claire Quaggin * Kevin and Mary Eleanor Quinn ^ Lorraine Rakowski * Geneva Ramsey ^ Robert and Idalmi Ramsey ^ John and Virginia Rao * Theresa Rapacky * Louis and Lynn Rascoe ^ Richard and Carol Rease ^ Paul and Mary Reinert # Frank Rich ^ Sean and Elizabeth Rigsby * Barbara Rival # James and Doris Roche ^ Christopher and Susan Roddy * Kenneth and Carmela Rodin ^

John and Janet Roman * August and Diane Roncaioli * Peter and Theresa Root * Ken and Karen Ross # Peter and Laurel Rosso * William and Donna Rudge # Edward and Barbara Rudnick ^ Mary Ann Rusczyk * Barbara Ryba ^ Daniel and May Sabia, Jr. # Dorothy Sak * Nicholas and MaryAnn Salerni ^ Joseph and Susan Salerno * Marion Sangeloty ^ Paul and Christine Sarrazin ^ Sebastian and Norma Scarfe * Rita Scheyd ^ Richard and Cheryl Schlichting # Edward and Margaret Schmitt ^ Ann Schmitt * Kathy Simcik ^ Patricia Simcik * Gary and Mary Sirois * Francis & Rosanne Slogeris and Alicata ^ Michael and Karoll Wiater + Debra Slowikowski ^ Peter Sokolowski * Richard and Joyce Solek * Brian and Nancy St. Jarre ^ Regina St. Jarre ^ Robert and Jadwiga Stangarone * Bernard Stankevich * Zigmund amd Barbara Stanowski * John and Karen Stanton # Michael and Donna Stanton P Elva Stregowski ^ Veronica Sullivan * Gary and Ellen Suprynowicz * Miroslaw and Stanislawa Szczygla ^ Andrzej and Julia Szczygla ^ John and Mary Szozdowski # Rita Szymanoski ^

Eugene and Maria Tanski ^ Christine Taylor * Charles and Deborah Tencza # Lawrence and Patricia Tomascak * Ronald and Joan Vancour + Linda Vanty * Thomas and Lisa Vanty L Paul and Linda Vasques * Ralph J. and Janet Veenema ^ Esther Veley * James and Vita Veronesi * Lionel and Robin Vinas * Paul Virostek * Francis Volz * Janet Vukas ^ Daniel and Cynthia Wagner # John Waleszczyk # Dorothy Walker ^ Robert and Nancy Walsh * Charles and Patricia Warner * Diane Waskiewicz P William and Elaine Wass # Clifford and Lois White # John and Jeanne Wischenbart # Norman Wnuk # James and Christine Wrobel * Theodore and Patricia Young * Adam and Jacqueline Zangari * Audrey Zelek ^ Thomas and Nella Zelek ^ Theresa Zovich #

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ST. PAUL PARISH LENTEN DEVOTIONS 2024



"Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel"

Mark 1:15

DAILY MASS

Monday to Friday - 7:00am & 5:00pm

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturdays, 4:00pm Vigil Mass Sundays, 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am & 12:00pm at St. Paul Church

9:30am at Sacred Heart Church

Children's Masses

Sunday, February 18 at 9:00am Sunday, March 17 at 10:30am

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays of Lent at 7:00pm St. Paul Church February 16, 23, March 1, 8, 15, and 22

Stations with Saint Paul School Students - All are Welcome

St. Paul Church Thursday, February 15 at 2:00pm—Grades 3-5 Friday, February 23 at 2:00pm—Grades K-2 Friday, March 1 at 2:00pm—Grades 6-8 Friday, March 8 at 2:00pm—Grades 3-5 Friday, March 15 at 2:00pm—Grades K-2 Thursday, March 21 at 2:00pm—Grades 6-8

Saint Paul School Gym Thursday, March 28 at 1:45pm—Living Stations (8th grade students act out the Stations)

CONFESSION

Mondays of Lent February 19, 26, March 4, 11, 18, 25 7:00pm – 8:00pm

Tuesday of Holy Week, March 26 7:00pm – 8:00pm

> *Saturdays* 8:30am – 9:30am 3:00pm – 4:00pm

HOLY HOUR

Mondays 7:00pm - 8:00pm Tuesdays 4:00pm - 5:00pm

LENTEN EVENING REFLECTIONS

Reflections with a focus on the Eucharist will be presented by the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday March 5, 6*, 7 St. Paul Church

> 6:30pm - Mass 7:00pm - Reflection

*March 6 (only) - Reflection will be held in the school gym. March 7 (only) - Reception will follow in the Church Hall.

The regular 5pm Mass will NOT be held on these days.

All events are at St. Paul Church unless otherwise noted.

Abstinence and Fasting During Lent

Catholics age 14+ are obliged to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays in Lent and Good Friday. Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting means only one full meal is to be eaten. Other food eaten on a Fast Day should not equal a full meal.

"Sacrament of Love" Tuesday, March 5

The Eucharist is the greatest gift of our faith. This presentation will focus on how can we more effectively participate in the life giving grace offered each time we are present at Mass and receive the Eucharist. How can we become more Christ-like each time we receive the Eucharist? How can we grow in our awareness to allow the Eucharist to transform and sustain us? See how the lives of several holy witnesses have given clear examples and inspire deeper dedication to love and live as Christ.



Sister Sophia Peters, FSE, from Windsor, CT, is a Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist, who has lived in Guatemala, Spain, Italy and Chile and has worked at the Vatican for the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization. She currently works at the Franciscan Life Center, as a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. She completed her BA in International Studies and Spanish at Washington University in St. Louis. She has an MS in Marriage and Family from Central Connecticut State University and a Post Masters Certificate in Theology from Holy Apostles College and Seminary.

"Eucharistic Process" Wednesday, March 6

John 12: 24 says that "...unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit". In this second session, we will use Christ's analogy of the grain of wheat and a host-making experience to learn about the stages of Eucharistic Process and their application to our spiritual practices during this Lenten season and beyond.



Sister Anne Thérèse Yuen, F.S.E. from Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada is in Temporary Vows with the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist. She holds a Masters of Science in Integrated Studies in Land and Food Systems (a.k.a. Agriculture). In her current mission, she serves as one of the receptionists at the Franciscan Life Center and facilitates host-making experiences for First Communicants at local parishes.

Tuesday, March 5

6:30pm Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7:10pm "Sacrament of Love"
7:45pm Litany of the Holy Eucharist and Quiet Prayer
8:10pm Benediction
Wednesday, March 6
6:30pm Mass
7:15pm "Eucharistic Process" in the Saint Paul School Gym
8:10pm Closing Prayer

- Thursday, March 7
- 6:30pm Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- 7:10pm "Lessons from Mary as a Eucharistic Witness"
- 7:45pm Litany of the Holy Eucharist and Quiet Prayer
- 8:10pm Benediction with Reception to follow in the St. Paul Church Hall

"Lessons from Mary as a Eucharistic Witness" Thursday, March 7

This talk is a meditation on the example of our Blessed Mother and the qualities that made her particularly apt to bring the presence of Christ to the world. It goes on to explore ways in which we are called to participate in this extraordinary mission.



Sister Faith Marie grew up in Michigan and met the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist while attending Grand Valley State University where she earned a Doctorate in Physical Therapy. She was also blessed to obtain a Masters in Theology at Holy Apostles College and Seminary. Sister currently works as a physical therapist for Franciscan Home Care and Hospice Care and helps care for the Sisters' orchard.

CONFESSION

(take this with you ... it's really okay)



BEFORE YOU GO

Examine your conscience, that is, reflect on what sins you've committed. To guide you, just Google "examination of conscience" and you'll find resources to help you. It's even all right to make a list to bring with you if that helps.



INTRODUCTION

When you come before the priest, begin by making the Sign of the Cross (praying the words out loud), and continue by saying, "Bless me, Father, I have sinned. It has been (how long) since my last confession. These are my sins..."



CONFESSION

List the sins you've committed that came to mind during your examination of conscience. Don't be too general ("I haven't been a good person"), but a lot of detail isn't necessary (you don't need to tell the whole story of how a sin came about). If you're not sure if something is a sin, ask the priest. This isn't counseling, so unless you ask, the priest likely won't give you advice. He'll just move on to ...



PENANCE

The priest will suggest something for you to do or pray as a response to God's mercy. You'll have to remember what this is and do it after the confession is over, so pay attention.



ACT OF CONTRITION

The priest will then ask you to pray out loud your "Act of Contrition," to demonstrate your sorrow for your sins: "My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy."



ABSOLUTION

Don't get up to leave after that prayer, because the best part is yet to come: The priest will extend his hands in your direction and he will pray the Prayer of Absolution: "God, the Father of Mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son, has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins. Through the ministry of the Church, may God grant you pardon and peace. And I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen." You respond: "Amen."



CONCLUSION

The priest will then likely say something like, "God has freed you from your sin. Go in Peace." To which you can respond: "Thanks be to God." Don't forget to do your penance. If it is saying certain prayers, it's best to do it right away in the church before you forget.

busted halo 🛤

A Thank You From Br. Michael Duffy...

On behalf of all the staff members of The Franciscan Center of Baltimore and the many people we serve, a most hearty Thank You and a God bless you to all who were so generous and kind with their Angel Tree donations for our urban ministry to the poor. Your wonderful gifts came at a most providential time. Our supply shelves were nearly empty from high demand during these past two months. Providing warmth to the poor and homeless with the winter socks and hand/foot warmers is a blessing! Clothing the sockless and warming the cold... fulfilling the mandate of Jesus! Thank You and God bless you ever so much for your kindness and generosity!



Br. Michael (right) with Franciscan Center staff and volunteers.

Angel Tree Gifts Arrive in Baltimore

Last Week. Fr. Martin drove to Baltimore to deliver the 23 cases of assorted winter socks and hundreds of hand/foot warmers from St. Paul Parish to The Franciscan Center of Baltimore (FCB). The gifts were made possible through the generosity of St. Paul's annual Advent "Angel Tree" initiative. The FCB is a new social outreach ministry of the Franciscan Friars, Our Lady of the Angels Province.

The Franciscan Sisters of Baltimore began their ministry in 1891. They fed the hungry and cared for orphans. For over

130 years the sisters provided a ministry of increasing and various human services to the needy. Cornerstones of their ministries were recognizing the dignity of each human being and serving all people who came to them. The FCB has grown and developed into a tri-fold outreach: Empowerment Services, Culinary Services



Volunteers fold clothes for the homeless.

and Responsive Services (Outreach Teams). Education opportunities, culinary classes, and a clothing distribution program are just some of the services offered at the FCB. In recent years, the Sisters realized that they could no longer maintain their corporate presence due to an aging and diminishing membership. A happy resolution was found when the Franciscan Friars accepted the



sisters' invitation to assume the leadership role to this outreach ministry to the poor. On November 29, 2023, the friars of Our Lady of the Angels Province formally assumed corporate sponsorship of The Franciscan Center of Baltimore from the Franciscan Sisters of Baltimore.

Br. Michael Duffy, OFM Conv. serves as the Provincial's delegate to the FCB Boards and the Strategic Planning Committee, and is a member of the Responsive Services/ Outreach Team to the homeless encampments in the area. The team visits and makes welfare checks on the people they find there. Folks may be living under highway overpasses, in abandoned vehicles or along grassy areas under tarps. Self-care packages (toilet paper, wipes, chap sticks and tissues) as well as snack packs (cheese/peanut butter crackers, power bars, bottle water etc.) and hand warmers/socks are distributed. Additionally, toilet bags and feminine care

products are also given out.

Given his nursing and medical background, Br. Michael has developed a rapport with these clients and also offers creams and self-care products for skin infections inherent within this population.



Fr. Martin with Franciscan Center staff and volunteers

Thank You St. Paul parishioners for helping fulfill the mandate of Jesus: "What you do for the least, you do for me!"

Visit the Center at: https://fcbmore.org. See our social media pages for video!



Franciscan Center help clients develop professional cooking skills while feeding those in need.





Save the Date

CT March for Life! Wednesday, March 20, 2024



The March will be held at the grounds of the Connecticut State Capitol, 210 Capitol Ave in Hartford.

- 12:00 p.m. Rally at Capitol
- 1:00 p.m. March for Life around Bushnell Park

To learn more, visit <u>https://marchforlife.org/connecticut</u>.

The St. Paul Parish Culture of Life Ministry strives to help build a culture that cherishes and protects *every human life*.

If you would like to get involved or learn more about this ministry, contact Ashley at respectlife@stpaulkensington.org.



Pregnancy Resources

- Birthright of Greater Meriden
 39 Center St., Meriden
 <u>https://birthright.org/greatermeriden</u>
- Carolyn's Place Pregnancy Care Center, 137 Grandview Ave, Waterbury <u>https://carolynsplace.org</u>
- Two Hearts Pregnancy Care Center, 116 Grove St., Torrington <u>https://twoheartscenter.com</u>

Rachel's Vineyard Weekends for Healing

Those suffering from an abortion are invited to experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat weekend, March 8-10 in Litchfield. Participation is totally confidential. Come experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. Men and women of all ages have attended past retreats. The fee is \$175 for meals, private room and materials. Financial assistance available. Contact Marie at 203-631-9030 or mlaffin@prolifeministry.org or visit https://www.rachelsvineyard.org.

Matt Birk Pro Life Video

Click or scan below to view an Inspiring life-supporting video from Matt Birk, Super Bowl champion and 15-year veteran of the National Football League. Matt is a graduate of Harvard University with a degree in economics. He is now a CEO, author, speaker and much more, as well as a father of eight children.

https://vimeo.com/903370570





"There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot resolve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary."

-Sr Lucia of Fatima



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Birthright. Birthright is an emergency pregnancy service offering free pregnancy testing,

friendship, and practical support. Our guiding principle: It is the RIGHT of every pregnant woman to give BIRTH and the RIGHT of every child to be BORN. There are seven Birthright chapters in Connecticut. Please call 1-800-550-4900 for the Birthright nearest you. Training is provided. Thank you.



A Men's Retreat will be offered at the Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford, March 15-17, 2024.

The retreat theme "Only Say the Word..." is based on the belief that God can – and will – heal us, and all of creation. We will ask: where is healing needed, in us and in our world? Visit <u>https://holyfamilyretreat.org</u> for details or to register. Please contact Ted Jastrzebski with any questions at 860-760-9705 or tjastrzebski@holyfamilyretreat.org. Holy Family's payment policy is "More if you can, less if you can't"

Courage Support The Archdiocese offers a Courage Support Group. *Courage International* is a Catholic network of confidential support groups for men and women who experience same-sex attraction and seek to live chaste lives in Christ. *EnCourage* is an apostolate which provides pastoral care for families and friends of people who experience samesex attractions and/or gender discordance. Archdiocese of Hartford: Inquire about our local Courage chapter at <u>Fr.gutierrez@aohct.org</u> or call 860-224-2411 and our local EnCourage chapter: <u>friarairmj@yahoo.com</u> or 860-828-0331.

ANOTHER LOOK AT ABORTION

Uniquely You From your first moments of existence, you had all the DNA that would determine your sex, facial features, physique, and the color of your skin, hair, and eyes. At 24 days, your heart began beating. By 8 weeks, all your organs were present, and your unique fingerprints were forming. Ultrasounds show that by 18 weeks, you could swim, somersault, suck your thumb, and even cover your ears if you heard loud music. If you'd been born just 23 weeks after conception, your chance of survival would be 50-80 percent; by 25 weeks, it's over 90 percent, and that's still months before full term birth.

Now, if someone takes an innocent person's life after he or she is born, it's against the law; just minutes before birth, it's legal in many states and called abortion.

Abortion and the Law The Supreme Court's decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization ended the nearly fifty-year nationwide regime of abortion on demand that was ushered in by the Roe v. Wade decision in 1973. This regime was based on the indefensible view that the U.S. Constitution forbids government from protecting the preborn child in the womb from the violence of abortion. The Supreme Court in Dobbs concluded that there is nothing in the Constitution's text, history, American legal tradition, or the Court's precedents that justified the extreme holding of Roe.

In Dobbs, the Supreme Court returned the issue of abortion to the people's elected representatives at the Federal and State levels. It will take time for the Dobbs decision to play out and there is great variation in how states treat abortion. In the meantime, abortion is legal in more states than not, and more work is needed in the coming months and years.

Effects of Abortion Abortion results in the death of a child. For many mothers, abortion causes severe and long-lasting emotional, psychological, and spiritual trauma. Many women experience overwhelming guilt, shame, and grief. Other effects have also been documented: depression, withdrawal from others, eating disorders, self-punishing behaviors like "cutting," sexual dysfunction and problems with intimacy, alcohol and drug dependency, problems bonding with other or subsequent children, abortion-related nightmares, and other sleep problems.

Family relationships may suffer as the aborted child's father, grandparents, or other family members experience their own guilt, grief, or loss. Even if the mother keeps her abortion secret, family members can be distressed by changes in the mother's behavior and mental or emotional health.

What the Church Teaches The Church has consistently taught that every human life is precious and worthy of protec-

tion. Every intentional abortion is gravely wrong. In April 2018, Pope Francis wrote: "Our defence of the innocent unborn ... needs to be clear, firm and passionate, for at stake is the dignity of a human life, which is always sacred and demands love for each person, regardless of his or her stage of development."

The Church does not approach difficult pregnancy decisions with a false "either/or" mentality, pitting mother against child. For example, a baby conceived in rape is not an aggressor deserving death by abortion. She is innocent, like her mother. They both deserve compassionate care and support, not more violence. Abortion doesn't bring healing or peace, but both can be found in the courageous decision to give birth to the baby.

Today, many babies diagnosed prenatally with a disability are aborted. Frightened parents, unsure of their ability to care for such a child, can trust that God gave them this child for a reason. Parents raising children with disabilities often write about the unexpected joys and transformative effect on their families.

Even when the disabilities are so severe that the baby is likely to die before or soon after birth, "many parents who carried their children to term say that protecting their baby and honoring his or her natural life, no matter how brief, was profoundly healing."

Very rarely, continuing a pregnancy may put a mother's life at risk—for example, because of a tubal pregnancy or aggressive uterine cancer. It is morally licit to remove the threat to the mother's life by removing the cancerous uterus or the fallopian tube where the child implanted, even though it is foreseeable that the child will die as an indirect and unintended result of such surgery.

But abortion—a direct and intentional taking of a child's life—is never morally permissible.

What Are We to Do? Love them both! Support women who need help during and after difficult pregnancies through the work of your diocesan Respect Life office and local pregnancy care centers.

Educate yourself and others about struggles some experience after abortion, and find out where to refer those seeking help at www. hopeafterabortion.org. If you feel called to support your local ministry, contact your diocesan Project Rachel Ministry office for ways you might help.

Stay informed about key federal legislation and the voting records of your elected representatives by visiting www.humanlifeaction.org and www. usccb.org/prolife. Stay updated on state issues by signing up to receive information from your state Catholic conference or diocesan pro-life office.

Most importantly, pray daily for the end to abortion, that all mothers and children experience the loving support of the Church community, and that all who suffer after abortion find healing and peace All parishes in the Archdiocese of Hartford are required to post the document shown below in the bulletin at least once per year.



Archdiocese of Hartford Office of Safe Environment 467 Bloomfield Ave. Bloomfield, CT 06002



HOW TO REPORT AN INCIDENT OF SEXUAL ABUSE TO THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD

If you have knowledge or suspect that a minor or vulnerable adult (an adult with an intellectual disability) has been sexually abused, in any manner, by personnel of the Archdiocese of Hartford, you are urged to report this information to:

Faith Vos Winkel, MSW Victim Assistance Coordinator 860-541-6475 faith.voswinkel@aohct.org

In addition, you will be asked to follow up in writing with a detailed description of the facts involved in the incident. Specifics of this written report can be found in the <u>Policies and Procedures of the</u> <u>Archdiocese of Hartford Relating to Allegations of Sexual Misconduct Involving Minors and Vulnerable</u> <u>Adults</u>. This document is also available online at <u>www.archdioceseofhartford.org</u>. The Archdiocese of Hartford will report any and all incidents to the proper civil authorities.

Mandated reporters in the State of Connecticut are required by law to report any incident of sexual abuse involving a minor or vulnerable adult. We encourage any Non-Mandated persons to report such incidents to the proper authorities as well. We support your right to do so.

Incidents involving sexual abuse of minors (persons under the age of 18) should be reported to: State of CT Department of Children and Families Care-line 1-800-842-2288

Incidents involving sexual abuse of vulnerable adults aged 18 – 59 should be reported to the: State of CT Connecticut Department of Developmental Services AID Division for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities 1-844-878-8923

Incidents involving sexual abuse of vulnerable adults aged 60 and over should be reported to: State of CT Department of Social Services Division of Protective Services for Elders 1-888-385-4225

Once a written report of an incident of sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult has been received, an investigation will be undertaken by, or on behalf of, the Archdiocese of Hartford.

Saturday, February 17

PARISH CALENDAR

8:30am Confessions

6:30am TMIY - SPH 9:00am AWAY JVC RED(2nd Grade) Basketball Game 11:00am AWAY JVC GOLD (3rd Grade) Basketball Game 1:00pm AWAY JV Girls Basketball Game 3:00pm Confessions 4:30pm AWAY JVB Boys Basketball Game 5:40pm AWAY JVA Boys Basketball Game Sunday, February 18 1:15pm Baptisms 4:00pm Grades 4-8 Confessions - SPC Monday, February 19 NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day Weekend Parish Office Closed 7:00am Mass 8:45am NO Parish Staff Meeting PRESIDENT'S 5:00pm NO Mass 6:00pm Boys Varsity Practice (gr 7&8) 7:00pm Mercy Monday Confessions - SPC **Tuesday, February 20** NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day Weekend 3:00pm Boys JVB Basketball Practice (gr 4&5) 4:00pm Holy Hour Adoration 4:30pm Girls JV Basketball Practice (gr 4,5&6) 6:00pm Girls Varsity Basketball Practice (gr 7&8) 6:30pm Garden Gala Auction Committee Meeting 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal - PC LL Learn how to hear 7:00pm Scripture Study Info Mtg the Word of God Wednesday, February 21 speak to you. Join together in 10:00am Funeral +Fairwood Bible study! 3:00pm Cheer Practice (gr 1-8) 3:15pm Mock Trial practice 4:30pm Boys JVA Basketball Practice(gr 5&6) 6:00pm Away Game - Varsity Basketball vs Saint James 6:00pm Rosary at Sacred Heart 6:00pm Baptism Prep Lesson PC1 6:00pm Exultations - SPC

6:30pm 1st Communion Part I Parent Mtg-SPC 7:00pm Social Action - SPH

Thursday, February 22

8:45am School Mass: Gr. 6-8 9:00am Quilters - SPH 1:30pm Finance Committee Mtg - PC1 2:30pm Sports Picture Day - School Gym 3:00pm Boys JVB Basketball Practice (gr 4&5) 3:00pm Robotics - SPH 4:30pm Girls JV Basketball Practice (gr 4,5&6) 6:00pm 1st Golf Open Committee Meeting 6:00pm Girls Varsity Basketball Practice (gr 7&8) 6:30pm Special Sacraments-SPS/Rm 3 7:00pm Pastoral Council Mtg. - SPH 7:00pm RCIA - PC-1

Friday, February 23

2:00pm Stations of the Cross: Gr. K-2 3:00pm CoEd JVC Red Basketball Practice (gr 2&3) 4:30pm CoEd JVC Gold Basketball Practice (gr 2&3) 6:00pm HOME Game-SENIOR NIGHT vs Immanuel Lutheran 7:00pm Stations of the Cross - SPC 7:30pm AA Meeting - SPH Saturday, February 24 6:30am TMIY - SPH

8:30am Confessions 9:00am HOME JVA and JVB Basketball Games 9:00am AWAY JVC GOLD (3rd Grade) Basketball Game 10:00am AWAY JVC RED(2nd Grade) Basketball Game 10:00am Funeral - +Banasiewicz SPC 3:00pm Confessions Sunday, February 25 9:00am 1st & 2nd Yr Confirmation classes-SPS

10:30am Special Sacrament prep - SPS/Rm 3 6:00pm 1st Reconciliation rehearsal-SPC

6:30pm Life Teen - SPH

OLIFE TEEN Sunday, Feb. 25! 6:30pm!

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