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

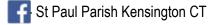
Tuesdays 4:00-5:00pm

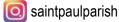
Baptisms: 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month Baptism Instruction: 3rd Wednesday of the month

PARISH OFFICE

Monday-Friday 9am-4pm #860 828-0331 Email: ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org Mailing Address:

467 Alling St, Kensington CT 06037





Website: https://stpaulkensington.org



FRANCISCAN FRIARS & DEACONS



Fr. Joseph Benicewicz, OFM Conv. Pastor frioseph@stpaulkensington.org



Fr. Michael Englert, OFM Conv. Parochial Vicar & Guardian frmichael@stpaulkensington.org



Fr. Martin Kobos, OFM Conv. Parochial Vicar frmartin@stpaulkensington.org



Fr. Raymond Borkowski, OFM Conv. In Residence frraymond@stpaulkensington.org



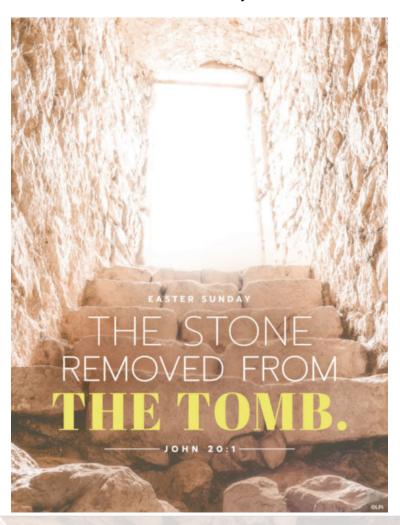
Deacon Don Philip deacondon@stpaulkensington.org

t 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

> March 31, 2024 Easter Sunday



He bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place.— John 20:5-7

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

PASTOR'S COLUMN

The Lord is Risen! Alleluia! Alleluia! - Through the Paschal Mystery, that is the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus, we come to learn that God never gives up on us. We learn that God is love and his love knows no bounds for those he has created in his own image and likeness. Through the Paschal Mystery we come to learn that sin, death and evil never have the final word. Jesus out of love for His Father and us has overcome all of it by his complete self-sacrifice.

Today we recall God's plan for our salvation. His suffering and death should also challenge us to live our lives in such a way that others will see the image and likeness of God through us. Today we renew our Baptismal promises. A new Paschal (Christ) Candle stands tall in the sanctuary representing Christ, the Light of the World. Let us once again resolve to live as children of the Light who have been saved and redeemed by Jesus. Let us not give into the ways of the world, but rather let us bring Christ's Light where there is darkness, hope where there is doubt, and faith where there is fear. Let us bring love and charity to replace selfishness and self-centeredness. Let us rejoice and be glad for the Lord is Risen Alleluia, Alleluia!! In the name of Frs. Michael, Martin and Raymond, Deacon Don, the entire parish staff, and my own, have a very Blessed Easter and Easter Season over these next 50 days!

Welcome! - A warm word of welcome to all who join us this day! Whether you are with us every week, or are here visiting family and friends, or you fell out of coming to Mass during COVID, or have drifted from the practice of your faith we are so glad that you are with us today. If there has been anything keeping you away from a more regular participation in the life of the parish, know that the Friars are most willing to help you however we can.

As a parish what we have to offer you each week, and indeed every day at Mass, is nothing that truly comes from us, but rather comes from Jesus himself in the Eucharist. This greatest of gifts can be received no where else. We gather as a worshiping community to give praise to God and thank him for his blessings. We gather not as those who have no sins, but as those traveling this life needing spiritual nourishment to reach where God is calling us to be with himself in heaven. We know we cannot do that without his help and we do so by praying with and for each other. You are invited by Jesus and us, this local worshiping community, to join us each week to be strengthened and nourished in Word and Sacrament. So once again, welcome and thank you for joining us today! We hope to see you again next week!

Paschal Candle - The Paschal Candle, made from pure beeswax, is the preeminent symbol of the Easter season and represents Christ, the Light of the World. The Paschal Candle

(referred to simply as Candle hereon), also called the Easter Candle or Christ Candle, is first lit at the Easter Vigil outside the church from a new fire. The inside of the church is completely dark until the Candle is brought in procession into the church. Gradually the tapers (little candles) that all of the baptized are holding are lit from the Candle, and slowly but surely the church is filled with light. The Candle is lit for all Masses and other liturgical celebrations for the entire 50 days of the Easter season. During the rest of the year it is lit at all baptisms and funerals.



Unless you come up close to the candle you miss some of the symbolism that is incorporated into the Candle. On the



center of the Candle there is a cross. Above the cross is the Greek letter Alpha, the first letter of the Greek alphabet, and underneath the cross is the last letter of the Greek alphabet, Omega. In the Book of Revelation 22:13 Jesus says: "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last,

the beginning and the end." The numerals of the current year

are oftentimes in the nooks where the cross is formed or as it is on ours, below the cross. At the four ends of the cross and in the middle five large grains of incense are inserted representing Christ's five wounds (hands, feet and side). In the missalettes beginning on page 39 you can read the words that are prayed at the Easter Vigil as the Candle is blessed and marked with its symbols.



The Paschal Candle is a powerful symbol of the risen Christ's victory over sin, death and darkness and that He is the Light of the World. It also reminds us that by virtue of our own baptism, we are to carry Christ's Light into the world. As we look upon the Paschal Candle this Easter season may we be inspired to live as witnesses of Christ's Resurrection and to share the Light of Christ with all those we encounter.

Paschal Candle Memorial - We express our gratitude to the Thomas J. Higgins Family made a donation of \$340 to cover the cost of this year's Paschal Candle. The donation was made in Memory of Jeanne B. Higgins, Maureen B. Liegeot, Helen A. Kurnik and Margaret J. Staus. Thank you, Tom for your generosity and may these loved ones rejoice now in the presence of the Risen Lord.

Easter Monday - The Parish Office will be closed on Easter Monday, April 1st.

INTENTIONS

Blessed Mother Candles will burn this week for

†Victoria Galati Anniversary Remembrance by her children **†Vincenzo Pappalardo** by Rosetta Pappalardo

†Richard Valerio by Cliff and Lois White

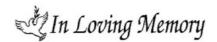
Sanctuary Candles will burn this week for

†James A Perry, Jr. 28th Anniversary and **†Richard G. Perry** 4th Anniversary by sister and family **†Euclide Albert** by family

†Ray Kramer by grandchildren Matthew and Katie **†Lois Gadzik** by Women of Faith

The Bread for the Poor will be Offered this week for

Special Intentions by anonymous In Thanksgiving for Our Friars by Evelyn Nogiec



†Constance Buxton

†John J. Caragliano

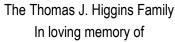
†Dominic J. Lopreiato

†Augusto Oliviero

†Henry J. Piaskowski

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.





†Jeanne B. Higgins †Maureen B. Liegeot **†**Helen A. Kurnik †Margaret J. Staus



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, March 30, 2024 Easter Vigil - Holy Saturday

No Intention 8:00

Sunday, March 31, 2024 Easter Sunday- Resurrection of the Lord

7:00 **†Maureen Liegeot** by Mary Beth and Larry Anderson

8:45 **Easter Novena**

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

10:30 **†Mario D'Amore** Birthday Remembrance

by Marie and family

12:15 Living and †Deceased Members

of the Tabaczynski Family by family

Monday, April 1, 2024 Monday within the Octave of Easter

7:00 **Easter Novena**

5:00 **NO MASS**

Tuesday, April 2, 2024 Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

7:00 **NO MASS**

5:00 **Easter Novena**

Wednesday, April 3, 2024 Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

Easter Novena 7:00

5:00 **NO MASS**

Thursday, April 4, 2024 Thursday within the Octave of Easter

Easter Novena 7:00

5:00 NO MASS

Friday, April 5, 2024 Friday within the Octave of Easter

Easter Novena 7:00

NO MASS 5:00

Saturday, April 6, 2024 Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday

4.00 **Easter Novena**

Sunday, April 7, 2024 Second Sunday of Easter **Divine Mercy Sunday**

7:30 **+Joseph Janik** by Terry Tonina

9:00 **†Florence DiMauro** by daughter Amy

Easter Novena 9:30

Parishioners of Saint Paul Parish 10:30

12:00 +John, +Marcella and +Richard Carroll

by Carroll family

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS Those who have made the offering for the intention for each Mass are invited to present the bread and wine during the Offertory for that Mass. To do so, 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.

HOSPITAL VISITS Our friars will be happy to visit you or your loved one in the hospital if you kindly send a request. Call 860-828-0331 or email ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org.

TO REQUEST 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.

PASTOR'S COLUMN (continued)

Weekday Masses this Week - There is one weekday Mass per day this week. There will be a 7:00 am Mass on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. On Tuesday the usual Holy Hour will be held at 4:00 pm followed by the 5:00 pm Mass.

Easter Memorials - In this weekend's bulletin is the listing of all who donated toward our Easter Memorials that were received in time to meet the printing deadline. We will print any memorials that were received after March 18th in an upcoming bulletin. The Easter Novena Masses are for all of these intentions. May all of our loved ones now share in the Lord's Resurrection!

Archbishop's Annual Appeal (AAA) - Thank you to all who have already made a gift to the AAA, *Do This in Memory of Me!* Remember all gifts, no matter the amount, will help provide for the needs of our less fortunate sisters and brothers in Christ. *Thank you for your generosity.*

Knights of Columbus Polish Dinner - The Knights are holding their annual Polish Dinner on Saturday, April 20th in the school gym beginning at 5:00 pm. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased in the Parish Center or by contacting Tom Drzata at 860-965-1373 or Tom@WDKinsurance.com. The deadline to purchase tickets is April 13th.

Youth Ministry and Steubenville East - Our Youth Ministry Program for middle school students, *Edge*, and *Life Teen*, for high school students, is up and running again after a change in Youth Ministers. Joshua Kay, our current youth minister, is working hard to build these programs back up again. There is information on page 7 about these programs as well as a summer program for all those currently in grades 8 - 12. I invite and encourage all of our youth to check out these programs as well participating in the Steubenville East program in July in Springfield, MA.

Final Thoughts - I will be away a few days to visit my sister and family in Baltimore and to catch an early Oriole game or

two. The early printing deadline makes any other comments out of date, but hopefully all UConn fans are still rooting on the ladies and men. Rejoice! The Lord is Risen! Have a Blessed Easter everyone! - Fr. Joe



INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR PARISH FAMILY?

Our next Registration Meeting is Monday, April 8 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.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: APRIL 7, 2024

For readings online, scan or visit https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/040724.cfm

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,

his love is everlasting.

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

Alleluia: John 20:29 *R. Alleluia, alleluia.*

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord; Blessed are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel: John 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

The New England Catholic Biblical School invites you to come visit an in-person or virtual class to see how studying all 73 books of the Bible can change your life! Visit anytime through May 1st. For information, call 860-242-5573 or visit: www.NewEnglandCatholicBiblicalSchool.com.

Collection amounts for March 19-25 were not yet available at press time. They will be printed in next week's bulletin.



Christ is risen! "Alleluia!"

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

At the Last Supper which we commemorated on Holy Thursday, Jesus took bread and wine and instituted the Eucharist, instructing the Apostles to "Do This in Memory of Me." (1 Cor. 11:24)

When we come together for the celebration of Mass, we not only experience our unity as living members of the Body of Christ, but we also receive Him — body and blood, soul and divinity — in the Holy Eucharist. This is so, precisely because He is not to be found among the dead, but among the living, and that is our Easter joy.

During this Easter season, we are called to recognize the greatness of His sacrifice and the incredible gift of life and salvation that He has won for us. The death and resurrection of Christ are the turning point of history and the foundation of our faith. Through His death, He bore the weight of our sins, offering Himself as the perfect sacrifice to reconcile us with God. His resurrection is the victory of life over death, of light over darkness, of good over evil. In His resurrection, we find hope for our own lives, knowing that through, with and in Him we too can find newness of life and the promise of eternity.

Just as the Apostles, seeing the Risen Christ, were moved from despair to rejoicing, we too are called to let God's love transform our minds and hearts.

My prayer this Easter Season is for all of the members of our Archdiocese to experience the redemptive love of

Christ through participation at Sunday Mass. From there we are sent forth to be loving, merciful and charitable toward others, to share the good news of Jesus Christ by joining our voices with those of His first disciples in acclaiming, "The

Lord is risen! He is truly risen!"

May the peace of the Risen Christ truly be with you, and may the great joy of Easter fill your hearts and lives in this season and throughout the year. "Alleluia!"

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ deanew P. Blow

Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair Archbishop of Hartford



SAINT PAUL SCHOOL

Our Middle School Mock Trial team did a great job arguing their case last week in the Civics First 2023-2024 Connecticut Middle School Mock Trial Competition in West Hartford. The Civics First organization aims to incorporate citizenship education into the curriculum. It also promotes students' critical thinking and public speaking skills. Mock Trial is an after-school activity at SPS and our students spend months preparing for trial. Congratulations! We are so proud of you!







RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The St. Paul Religious Ed school year is coming to a close. The final two Grade 1-8 class dates are April 21 & April 28. Pictured below are some of our first and second grade students proudly displaying their spring crafts and activities.



Above: Mrs. Rutkowski's Grade 1 class made St. Patrick's Day crosses. Below: Mrs. Hilbie's & Mrs. Kennure's Grade 2 class planted cucumber, tomato, and green and yellow squash seeds that once sprouted will be planted in the Berlin Community garden plot that St. Paul Parish tends to over the summer. The produce harvested is donated to the Berlin Community food bank.

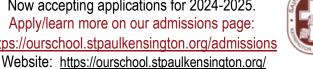


On behalf of the Religious Ed staff and catechists. we wish all of the students, their families and parishioners a Blessed Easter.



SAINT PAUL SCHOOL

Now accepting applications for 2024-2025. Apply/learn more on our admissions page: https://ourschool.stpaulkensington.org/admissions









Kelly Esposito Admissions Director 860-828-4343 x113 admissions@stpaulkensington.org.





Monday-Thursday 8am - 2pm Website: https://stpaulkensington.org/religious-ed

> If 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



CHILDREN'S ROSARY Our Children's Rosary group meets at 10am at Sacred Heart Church on the first Saturday of each month. Consider joining us on Saturday, April 6th as we honor Our Blessed Mother. All are welcome! The

children lead the rosary, and others who are present pray along. Questions? Email Cheryl Batter: cherylbatter@att.net.

CHILDREN'S MASS The next Children's Mass will be Sunday, April 21 at 9:00 am.

If your child would like to participate, please sign them up! Scan the code or click here:



hildren

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

KIDS' CORNER

Find the words in CAPITALS and use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks at the end.

> JELOVEDSTU CLOTHSIMON FIRSTCSAMA BNITDRCGBP EESOAIIDEK LNENRPPAMI IWEEKTLLPN EDEADUEETS VISMARYNYR EISEPETERN

Early on the FIRST day of the WEEK, when it was still DARK, MARY and Mary MAGDALEN and some other women went to bring spices to Jesus' TOMB. They wondered who would roll away the STONE. But when they got there, they saw it was already moved, and the tomb was EMPTY! They ran and told the disciples. SIMON PETER and the other DISCIPLE, whom Jesus LOVED, ran to the tomb and found it as the women had said. The LIN-EN CLOTHS were lying there, and the NAPKIN that had been on Jesus' head was folded up. Then they began to BELIEVE, because they hadn't known the SCRIPTURE that said that Jesus must RISE from the DEAD.

Source: https://thekidsbulletin.com

YOUTH MINISTRY



EDGE

Sunday, April 7th* *Note the date change!

All middle school students in grades 6-8 are welcome to join us on Sunday, April 7th, 1:00-2:30pm in the St. Paul Church Hall for our next event.

Topic: "Point of Interest" Join us for a night all about the focal point of the mass; the Eucharist! We will explore how the mass came to be and why we still celebrate it every day!

Bring a friend, and we hope to see you there!



LifeTeen!

Sunday, April 14th

All high school students in grades 9-12 are invited to join us for our next St. Paul LifeTeen Event: "Create and Inspire" on Sunday, April 14 from 2:00-4:00pm at the Art Studio of

Connecticut. Join us and bring a friend! High School Students: This event is an opportunity to paint a piece of art, inspired by our Catholic faith with your friends. Join us at the Art Studio of Connecticut for a day of painting, faith, friends and food.



The cost is just \$5. You must register to attend. Scan the QR Code or visit https://stpaulkensington.org/lifeteen for more information or to register. We hope to see you there!

Steubenville EAST Youth Conference!

July 26-28, 2024

Calling all high schoolers! Join hundreds of Catholic teens at Steubenville EAST to be illuminated in the light of Christ.



All high school students from rising HS freshmen through rising COLLEGE freshmen are invited and encouraged to attend this retreat that includes Chick-fil-A, a service project, a t-shirt and more! Registration is now open!

The event will be held at the MassMutual Center in Springfield, MA. To learn more, scan the QR code or visit us at https://stpaulkensington.org/go-to-steubie

Contact Josh Kay, Youth Minister, at i.kay@stpaulkensington.org if you are interested in attending. Space is limited. Register today! See the flyer on the next page...



THE DARKNESS, AND THE DARKNESS HAS NOT OVERCOME IT." - JOHN 1:5



STEUBENVILLE EAST

the darkness has not overcome it." - John 1:5

South Conference

JULY 26-28, 2024

Join your friends from St. Paul's and thousands of other teens from the northeast for this life-changing weekend. Details can be found by scanning the QR Code above.



PRAISE & WORSHIP



Make New
LIFE-LONG FRIENDS

Saturday, March 30

6:30am TMIY - SPH

PARISH CALENDAR

8:00am Morning Prayer - St Paul Green

9:30am Blessing of Food – Parish Green (gym if rain)

10:00am Altar Servers Practice - SPC

10:00am Candidate Practice for Vigil

1:00pm Blessing of Food - SPC

2:00pm Blessing of Food - SPC

8:00pm Mass - Easter Vigil - SPC

Sunday, March 31

Happy Easter!

Monday, April 1

No School Parish Office Closed

7:00pm Evangelization & Faith Formation - SPH

7:00pm Scripture Study

Tuesday, April 2

7:00am No Mass

3:30pm Scripture Study

4:00pm Holy Hour Adoration

6:30pm Choir Rehearsal

7:00pm Parish & Community Outreach - SPH

Wednesday, April 3

3:30pm SPS Dev./Adv. Committee Meeting SC

5:00pm No Mass

6:00pm Rosary - SHC

6:00pm Exultations - SPC

6:30pm Ladies Guild SPH

7:00pm K of C Leadership Mtg - SC1

7:00pm Scripture Study - SH Rectory

Thursday, April 4

9:00am Quilters - SPH

10:00am First Thursday Calls

10:00am Funeral +Percival SPC

3:00pm Robotics - SPH

3:00pm Wedding Rehearshal - SPC

5:00pm No Mass

6:30pm Parish Picnic Mtg - PC2

7:00pm RCIA - PC-1

Friday, April 5

9:00am First Friday Calls

3:00pm Wedding - Barrows/Grabowski SPC

5:00pm No Mass

7:30pm AA Meeting - SPH

Saturday, April 6

6:30am TMIY - SPH

8:30am Confessions

10:00am Children's Rosary SHC

3:00pm Confessions

Sunday, April 7

10:15am Adult Confirmation - PC-2

1:00pm Edge- SPH

1:30pm Baptisms

7:00pm Men's Holy Hour - SPC



LADIES' GUILD

All ladies of the parish are invited to our next meeting on Wednesday, April 3rd at 6:30 pm in the St. Paul Church Hall.

We are pleased to announce Monsignor Joseph DiSciacca will be our guest speaker for the evening. Some of you will recall that he served at St. Paul's from 1978-1984.

From there he was a faculty member at the Archdiocese Seminary for 10 years and has been a pastor at several parishes in the state. In February of 2019 he was named a Monsignor by Pope Francis and has since retired. We hope to see you there to welcome him back to St. Paul's.



Food bank contribution: Canned goods

SPRING 2024 BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

St. Paul Parish invites parishioners and others to participate in the 2024 Spring "New Day" Support Group. Gatherings will be held in the St. Paul Church Hall (basement—wheelchair accessible) on



Thursday evenings, 6:30–8:00 pm from April 11– May 23. he program offers a supportive atmosphere of care and understanding for those grieving the loss of a loved one.

Registration brochures are available at the church entrances.

THAT MAN IS YOU! Spring 2024



Guys, 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. Every Saturday morning we discuss a different topic, and you are welcome to attend any session that interests you. Details at: https://stpaulkensington.org/that-man-is-you. or contact Bud Volz: budvolz@comcast.net 860-681-8355.

FOODSHARE ST. CLARE FOOD PANTRY & MOBILE FOODSHARE

The Pantry is currently in need of the following items: Tuna, beef stew, chili, canned ham or chicken, peanut butter, soups, and beans/lentils.

Volunteers will transport food from St. Paul to Sacred Heart and set up for distribution on Thurs., Mar. 28 at 9:30am. Volunteers will also help with food distribution on Fri., Mar 29 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 our parish St. Clare Food Pantry or the FoodShare program including volunteering, contact Nancy at 860-601-7866 or n.timbrell@stpaulkensington.org.

PASTORAL COUNCIL February Meeting Minutes Summary

The Pastoral Council met on Thursday, February 22, 2024. In attendance were Fathers Joe, Michael, and Martin, Mary Corrigan, Bud Volz, Betty Lasker, Roland Baikal, Maura Chasse, Dwight Davis, Ron Levandowsky, Fayne Molloy, Elaine Pavasaris, Ed Schmitt, Nancy Timbrell and guest Josh Kay.

Josh gave a summary of the Life Teen and Edge Programs. He highlighted the mission of the groups which is to create an environment that leads students into a relationship with God through Jesus Christ and His Church. This is accomplished through celebration of the Eucharist, dedication to prayer, teaching of Christ and the Church with an emphasis on the relationship between the culture that students live in and their faith, and experiencing being loved and accepted by accompanying youths in all aspects of their lives. Josh explained that the success of these programs depends on a strong Core Team, youth participation, and support from the parish. He encouraged anyone interested in joining the Core Team to contact him. Josh's other responsibilities include sacramental preparation and teaching classes at the school.

Mary Corrigan reviewed the recent Coffee Ands at St. Paul and Sacred Heart. She thanked everyone who participated in any aspect of the events. She highlighted the school auction scheduled for March 23rd as well as the Ministry Fair scheduled for the weekend of May 18/19. She recognized Nancy Timbrell as this year's recipient of the St. Joseph Medal. Nancy has been a dedicated volunteer to the parish for many years and is well deserving of this honor.

Father Joe reported on the Deanery meeting he recently attended with Coadjutor Archbishop Coyne. As the Archbishop prepares to lead the diocese, he will continue to meet with pastors to share his goals and objectives. At this time there were three topics that Archbishop Coyne addressed with the most significant being the topic of the number of Masses that a parish has each weekend. As parishes merged or otherwise re-configured sometimes an appropriate realignment of the number of Masses has not fully occurred. In most of these situations there is only one priest and a reliance on retired priests to help out. When a pastor is sick or otherwise not available it has become very difficult to find adequate coverage. The Council members offered some initial thoughts about our own Mass schedule even though we currently have multiple priests assigned to the parish. The other two topics raised by Archbishop Coyne addressed parishes that might still being holding onto any of the COVID protocols that are no longer needed and the desire that Holy Communion be available under both species (Host and Cup) at at least one Mass a weekend. As to the COVID protocols we as a parish have been back to normal for awhile and we

will consider how we can share the Cup as well. As had been the practice here prior to COVID, Holy Communion will be available under both species on Holy Thursday.

Father Joe went on to highlight the Lenten activities planned including the Lenten Reflections, Mercy Mondays, and Holy Week. He went on to say that this weekend the Archbishop's Annual Appeal will kick off. The goal for our parish has been increased from \$108,000 to \$120,000. The parish and school continue to operate in the black thanks to the generosity of our parishioners and good financial planning and investing by the finance committee.

Each of the four subcommittees of the Pastoral Council, Spiritual Life and Worship, Parish and Community Outreach, Youth, Family and Community Life, and Evangelization and Faith Formation summarized the progress each has made on their respective goals. Details of planned events will be published in the bulletin and on the church website.

Up and coming events include the March for Life on March 20th, a seminar on End of Life Decisions (date to be determined), a summer concert on the parish green, (mid July) and a Blue Mass for first responders scheduled for Sept. 29.

Fayne Molloy reported on a day long conference on raising an awareness for the importance of vocations that she and Tony DeRito recently attended. The archdiocese sponsored this conference with the objective of providing each parish with resources that can be used to raise the awareness of the call to religious and married life. The resources are meant to help a parish create a culture in which the need for vocations is incorporated throughout various ministries. More details about this initiative will be forthcoming.

Robin Veronesi submitted a written report to the Council high-lighting the Sacrament season and her work in preparing both the students and parents for First Reconciliation and First Communion. Jill Conaway also submitted a written report with up to date enrollment figures (234 students) and an update on the events held during Catholic Schools Week. She also highlighted the ongoing steps being taken to address safety improvements that are being made as a result of the recent safety audit conducted.

The next pastoral council meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 15, 2024. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

"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

Visit our website for a printable How to Pray the Rosary Guide

POLISH DINNER!

Saturday, April 20, 2024 Saint Paul School Gym 5:00 - 8:00 pm

Tickets are \$25 per person.

Tables of 6, 8 or 10 can be reserved.

Authentic Polish Cuisine from Michael's Catering. BYOB

Tickets available through:

- Tom Drzata 860-965-1373
- Bud Volz 860-681-8355
- Tom Sullivan 860-505-8128
- Parish Office 860-828-0331

Get your tickets early as last year was sold out! Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council #3675

2024 SPS Summer Camp Registration is OPEN! June 17-Aug.9. Ages 3-13.

Contact us at summercamp@sptaulkensington.org

or visit https://ourschool.stpaulkensington.org/summer-camp

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 deadline for submission is May 4th. The Council is only accepting digital applications which can be obtained by emailing a request to nbcouncilcatholicwomen@gmail.com.

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.

PARENTS: Contact our nearby Catholic High Schools today to learn about all that these great schools have to offer!









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

*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

CT MARCH FOR LIFE Thank you to the members of our Culture of Life Ministry who participated in the CT March for Life in Hartford on March 20th! Thank you for representing our parish and defending the dignity of every human life, from conception to natural death.

If you would like to get involved in our Culture of Life Ministry, please email Ashley at respectlife@stpaulkensington.org.





Before I formed you in the womb I knew you.. Jeremiah 1:5





PARISH PRAYER LIST

Bobby Adamowicz Jacob Ahlquist Gilda Alberti **Emilie Albert** John Anderson Jose Arcia Zulma Barbien Lawrence Barker Theresa Baxter Dick Benson Don Benza Wyatt Bernard Rita Beaulieu John Blankenship Peter Bocompani **David Borselle** Cheryl Brown Norma Cacchillo Sallie Caliandri Grace Callegari Mark Camilleri Nancy Carlson Richard Carlson Janet Carroll Silas Cipollone Doug Clarke Lorraine Clark Sophie Conti Carol Corriveau Tom Coss Stephanie Costanzo Chick Costanzo Arlene Cotrona Amanda Covle 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 Michael Frakel Maureen Freemen Janet Galasso

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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 ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org. Please be sure to ask for permission from the person to be added to the list. Thank you.

WOMEN OF FAITH

All women of the parish are invited to attend the next meeting of our Women of Faith group on Thursday, April 11th at 7pm in the St. Paul Church Hall



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 womenoffaith@stpaulkensington.org.

HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

Our Helping Hands Ministry assists with the concerns of our senior parishioners. If you would like to volunteer or learn more about this ministry, please contact Mark Duplin at 860-666-0162 or mfduplin@outlook.com. We would love to have you join us!



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.

BLUE MASS—SAVE THE DATE!

A Blue Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, September 29, 2024 at St. Paul Church. This Mass is an



opportunity for our St. Paul Parish family to show gratitude to first responders and their families. All are welcome to attend the Mass which will honor those who are actively serving as police, fire and EMS personnel, as well as those who are retired from active service, their family members, friends and supporters. We will also remember those who died in the line of duty. A reception will follow the Mass. More details coming

PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES—AVAILABLE NOW!

soon! Questions? Email bluemass@stpaulkensington.org.

We invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print and/or a digital ad! Contact Mary Hoffman, our LPi Ad Representative: 860-836-8486. MHoffman@4lpi.com



Eliana Zorrilla

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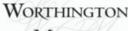
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