

SAINT PAUL CATHEDRAL PARISH

SERVING GREENFIELD • HAZELWOOD • OAKLAND

REMEMBER | CELEBRATE | BELIEVE

DECEMBER 27, 2020 | THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH



PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE



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ghocatholics.org



[facebook.com/stpaulpgh](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulpgh)



twitter.com/saintpaulpgh

PARISH WORSHIP SITES

Saint Paul Cathedral

Fifth Ave & Craig St
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Saint Regis

3256 Parkview Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Saint Rosalia

411 Greenfield Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Saint Stephen

5115 Second Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

MISSION STATEMENT

The Catholic Community of Greenfield, Hazelwood and Oakland seeks to proclaim, witness and share the Good News of Jesus Christ with everyone. Empowered by the Holy Spirit and nourished by the Eucharist, Saint Paul Cathedral Parish welcomes all to come and to join us on our mission to deepen our faith and holiness, grow in our love for God and others, and extend charity to all, especially the poor and those in need.

WWW.GHOCATHOLICS.ORG

BISHOP OF PITTSBURGH

Most Reverend David A. Zubik, D.D.

CLERGY TEAM

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Reverend Daniel L. Walsh, C.S.Sp.
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Deacon Thomas J. Berna, Ph.D.
Deacon
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THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday, December 28

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs -
1 Jn 1:5—2:2 * Mt 2:13-18

Tuesday, December 29

Saint Thomas Becket,
Bishop and Martyr -
1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35

Wednesday, December 30

Sixth Day within the Octave of the
Nativity of the Lord -
1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40

Thursday, December 31

Saint Sylvester I, Pope -
1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18

Friday, January 1

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God -
Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Saturday, January 2

Saints Basil the Great
and Gregory Nazianzen,
Bishops and Doctors of the Church -
1 Jn 2:22-28 * Jn 1:19-28

Sunday, January 3

Epiphany of the Lord -
Is 60:1-6 * Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 * Mt 2:1-12

PARISH INFORMATION

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 28

8:15 am	St. Paul Cathedral	Philomena Pompeo and Marco Pompeo
10:00 am	St. Rosalia	The Victims of Abortion
12:05 pm	St. Paul Cathedral	Agnes Simback

Tuesday, December 29

8:15 am	St. Paul Cathedral	Ed Pickett
12:05 pm	St. Paul Cathedral	James P. McKinney

Wednesday, December 30

8:15 am	St. Paul Cathedral	Mary McCrory
10:00 am	St. Rosalia	Father Stubna and Clergy of Our Parish
12:05 pm	St. Paul Cathedral	Mr. and Mrs. Michelangelo and Clelia Sciulli
7:00 pm	St. Paul Cathedral	NO NOVENA

Thursday, December 31

8:15 am	St. Paul Cathedral	Karen Durham
12:05 pm	St. Paul Cathedral	Charles Casturo
6:30 pm	St. Rosalia	For Our Families

Friday, January 1

8:15 am	St. Paul Cathedral	Blessings on Our Parish Family
10:00 am	St. Paul Cathedral	Blessings on Our Country
12:05 pm	St. Paul Cathedral	NO MASS

Saturday, January 2

8:15 am	St. Paul Cathedral	Thomas Tunney
12:05 pm	St. Paul Cathedral	Richard and Barbara Fisher
4:00 pm	St. Rosalia	Timothy Berdar
6:00 pm	St. Paul Cathedral	Pennie Roller

Sunday, January 3

6:30 am	St. Paul Cathedral	Fred and Ruth Egler
9:00 am	St. Rosalia	Michael Labishak and Labishak Family, Deceased
10:00 am	St. Paul Cathedral	Helen Aikens
12:00 pm	St. Paul Cathedral	Elizabeth Bender
12:00 pm	St. Rosalia (Spanish)	People of the Parish
6:00 pm	St. Paul Cathedral	Kathryn Clapper

LITURGY SCHEDULE (CURRENT)

Mass Times

St. Paul Cathedral
Saturday Anticipated: 6pm
Sunday: 6:30am, 10am, 12noon & 6pm
Weekdays (Monday - Saturday):
8:15am & 12:05pm

St. Rosalia
Saturday Anticipated: 4pm
Sunday: 9am & 12noon (Spanish)
Weekdays (Monday & Wednesday):
10am

Confession Times

St. Rosalia Parking Lot
Friday & Saturday: 12noon - 1pm

Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

St. Paul Cathedral
Wednesday: 7pm - 8pm
Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration: 7pm
Novena Prayers & Benediction: 7:30pm

Televised Mass

Live on Comcast - Cable Channel 95
Live Streamed Online - ghocatholics.org
Weekdays (Monday - Saturday): 8:15am
Sunday: 10am

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator: 412-456-3093 (Office); 1-888-808-1235 (Hotline)
PA Child Line: 1-800-932-0313 — Call 9-1-1 immediately if a child is in danger

REFLECTIONS

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

It seems appropriate that the Feast of the Holy Family falls in the octave of Christmas. As the familiar carol reminds us: There is no place like home for the holidays! This is the time when families are reunited, and we celebrate the gift of family and the love that joins us together. The Catechism of the Catholic Church speaks of the family as “the domestic Church,” a “community of faith, hope and charity; a communion of persons, a sign and image of the communion of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.” The family is a place of grace and blessing.

There are three things that we learn about the gift of family today. First, we do not find salvation alone; we need one another. Each of us is placed in some sort of family that can help us to become who we were meant to be – sons and daughters of God. The readings instruct us in how Christian families are to live. The great lesson here is that each member of the family has a responsibility for the others. The Church speaks of the family as “the first and most important school of learning.” The greatest lessons of life and faith are received in the home: respect for others, the ability to forgive, patience, compassion, kindness, understanding, and love. The Feast of the Holy Family speaks of the child Jesus going up to Nazareth where he grew in wisdom and grace. Families must always work to help each of its members grow in wisdom and grace. We are responsible to help each other achieve salvation.

Second, families are called to be places of holiness and faith. Families must be places, above all, where the faith is lived and taught. Parents assume a great responsibility before God for the spiritual welfare of their children. We can all too easily get caught in advancing their temporal well-being, but we neglect their souls. Families must make time to pray together, to read the Scriptures, to pray the rosary and most importantly to attend Mass together each Sunday. Our homes need to be places where the Catholic faith is experienced: holy water fonts, crucifixes, images our Lord and our Blessed Mother and the saints. Visible reminders of our faith are good and important. It is true that families who pray together stay together. Saint Paul’s instruction in the Scripture today can cause some to bristle, but the meaning these words convey is profound. Husbands are called to love their wives completely, to be faithful in marriage, and to be selfless in love. Wives are called to love their husbands in the same ways as both work to create a marriage and a home that reflect the love of God. Children must be obedient to their parents, respectful and patient, always working to give back the love that they have first received unconditionally.

Third, families must be connected to the Church. Mary and Joseph knew that they had to bring Jesus to the temple to be consecrated to God and to offer their prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord. The temple was the place where the importance of Jesus’ mission for the whole people of Israel and the Gentiles becomes manifest. It is no different for each of us. The Church helps us to remain faithful to God, to put the Lord above all else in our lives. This is no easy task as we navigate in a world that is so often secular and lacking in allegiance to the ways of God. Making sure your family gets to Mass and receives the sacraments

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“True peacemakers, then, are those who love, defend and promote human life in all its dimensions, personal, communitarian and transcendent. Life in its fullness is the height of peace. Anyone who loves peace cannot tolerate attacks and crimes against life.”

~ Pope Benedict XVI

SOCIAL MEDIA

For parish updates, news, and more find us on Twitter and Facebook:

twitter.com/saintpaulpgh

facebook.com/stpaulpgh

THE FR. VANYO LIBRARY

The Father Vanyo Library is closed until further notice. You can visit librarycat.org/lib/vanyolibrary to view the books and resources available.

ONLINE GIVING

Giving has never been easier! Visit ghocatholics.org and click on the "Donate to St. Paul Cathedral" page under the "Resources" tab. First-time users will need to create a new account. Schedule recurring gifts or make one-time donations.

FOR THE MOST UPDATED INFORMATION

on the diocesan response to COVID-19, please visit diopitt.org.

FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP

A word of thanks to all who give so generously to support our parish and its many services.

Sunday, December 6:

4:00 pm:	\$300.75
6:00 pm:	\$479.10
6:30 am:	\$854.00
9:00 am:	\$610.00
10:00 am:	\$2,144.00
12:00 pm:	\$751.25
12:00 pm (Spanish):	\$270.00
6:00 pm:	\$184.00
Mail-In:	\$8,374.00
Total:	\$13,967.10

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Please remember to keep in your prayers the following couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage:

II - Lee Sasala and
Allison Joyce

REFLECTIONS

is a duty and responsibility of the highest importance for every parent. There is no greater responsibility a parent has than to lead their children to the heart of Jesus Christ, to help them on their way to salvation, and to instill in them a love for the Body of Christ, the Church.

As we begin a new year, there could be no greater gift to celebrate than the gift of our family. Our New Year's resolutions should focus on helping each other to be a better follower of Jesus Christ and on creating a family environment that will help each member to grow in holiness, and to deepen their love for each other, for God and for the Church. May the example of Joseph, Mary and the child Jesus be a source of inspiration and strength to each of our families as together we seek to build communities of faith and love in each of our homes. May God bless our parents and children!

FROM THE HEART OF OUR PASTOR, FATHER STUBNA

1. **A SPECIAL WORD OF THANKS** to all who helped to decorate this year. We had a number of volunteers who gave of their time and talent in planning the Christmas decorations and actually doing the work. Everything looked spectacular this year, and so many of those who came to Mass on Christmas expressed their appreciation for the beauty of our Churches. It was a source of immense pride for me as your pastor and I want to thank everyone who helped. Thanks to all who contributed with flower donations in memory of loved ones as well. A very special word of thanks goes out to all those who worked behind the scenes and helped in so many ways to get ready for Christmas. What a great work you did! God bless you.
2. **AS WE COME TO THE END OF THIS CALENDAR YEAR**, I want to thank every single person who has contributed financially to our parish over the course of this past year. I am so very grateful for your good and faithful stewardship. Our parish provides so many services and ministries that benefit our parishioners and others from around the diocese and the larger community. We could never accomplish all we do without the immense generosity of the faithful, particularly your support in the Sunday offertory collection. To all who contribute regularly I want to express my deepest appreciation. To all our benefactors and those who have helped to support a number of important projects over the past year, I extend my deepest thanks and ask God's abundant blessings on you and your families. All of you are remembered in a special way at the celebration of Mass each day. May God bless you.

OUR MONTHLY AFTERNOON OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION will be held **TODAY, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27** on the Feast of the Holy Family at Saint Paul Cathedral. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration at the conclusion of the 12 Noon Mass until 5 pm. Solemn Vespers and Benediction begin at 5 pm until 5:30 pm, followed by the 6 pm Mass. Please consider making this part of your new year's resolution to come and join us for these wonderful afternoons of prayer and adoration before our Lord in the Holy Eucharist.

PARISH NEWS

MAKE TIME FOR FAMILY PRAYER. It is true that the family that prays together stays together. "Prayer needs to become a regular habit in the daily life of each family. Prayer is thanksgiving, praise of God, asking for forgiveness, supplication, and invocation. In all of these forms the prayer of the family has much to say to God." (St. John Paul II, *Letter to Families*, §10) "For the People of God, Mary represents the model of every expression of their prayer life. In particular, she teaches Christians how to turn to God to ask for his help and support in the various circumstances of life. Her motherly intercession at the wedding in Cana and her presence in the Upper Room at the Apostles' side as they prayed in expectation of Pentecost suggest that the prayer of petition is an essential form of cooperation in furthering the work of salvation in the world. By following her model, the Church learns to be bold in her asking, to persevere in her intercessions and, above all, to implore the gift of the Holy Spirit." (St. John Paul II, *Audience*, Sept. 10, 1997, §4-5).

THANK YOU ONE AND ALL for the cards, food, and gifts that you brought to the rectory for the priests and staff during this Christmas holiday. Your kindness and thoughtfulness to us is greatly appreciated. May God bless you.

A SPECIAL BLESSING AND PRAYERS are extended to all members of our parish family who are homebound, hospitalized, or in a nursing home or rehabilitation center. You are close to our hearts in prayer this Christmas season. We remember you and your intentions in prayer at every Mass we celebrate in our parish. May God bring you healing, peace, comfort, and strength. You are an important part of our parish family and you are remembered always in our thoughts and prayers. A blessed Christmas to you and to your families and may this New Year bring much health, happiness, and peace.

MANY THANKS AGAIN FOR THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE CHRISTMAS FLOWERS at both Saint Paul Cathedral and our Saint Rosalia site. They are beautiful again this year. We remember the names of everyone for whom the flower donations were made in the prayers and Masses we say throughout the Christmas season. This week we are including the names of those who were remembered with flower donations that have come in recently.

A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT IS AVAILABLE FOR ALL WHO SERVE AS A VOLUNTEER. Please stop into the sacristy to pick up your gift. This includes LECTORS, EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, ALTAR SERVERS, CANTORS, CHOIR AND HANDBELL CHOIR MEMBERS, USHERS, GREETERS, HELPERS IN THE CHURCH, TELEVISION MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS, FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS, RCIA TEAM, ADULT AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY TEAM MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS, CLEANERS/SANITIZIERS and any others. Please stop in this week and pick up your gift. This is a small but important token of our appreciation for your service to the parish. Many thanks and may God bless you.

ST. PAUL CATHEDRAL SANCTUARY CANDLE

This week, from December 26 through January 1, the Sanctuary Candle at St. Paul Cathedral is being offered for:

**MR. MICHAEL PELUSO, SR
AND FAMILY**

May they rest in peace.

ST. PAUL CATHEDRAL BLESSED MOTHER VIGIL LIGHT

This week, from December 26 through January 1, the Blessed Mother Vigil Light at St. Paul Cathedral is being offered for:

STEVEN BENSO, LIVING

SUBSCRIBE TO RECEIVE EMAILED BULLETINS

Visit our website (ghocatholics.org) to receive email notifications when new bulletins become available on Saturday evenings. To subscribe go to the "Bulletins" page under the "About" tab at the top of the screen. Once there you can view our latest bulletins and click on the "Subscribe Now" button to sign up to receive email notifications when new bulletins are available.

SANCTUARY CANDLES AND BLESSED MOTHER ALTAR CANDLES

can burn in memory of a deceased loved one or for a special intention at both St. Rosalia site and St. Paul Cathedral. Only those intentions that have actually been requested with an offering will be listed in our weekly bulletin. Please call the parish office if you want to request an intention.

VIGIL CANDLES CAN BE LIT AT OUR CHURCHES

by sending in your donation and the intention that you want to offer. We are happy to light the candle and say a prayer for that intention on your behalf.

PARISH NEWS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1 IS THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD. We honor the Blessed Mother in her role as the Mother of God and the Mother of Jesus Christ. From antiquity, Mary has been called "*Theotokos*", or "God-Bearer" (Mother of God). The word in Greek is "*Theotokos*". The term was used as part of the popular piety of the early first millennium church. It is used throughout the Eastern Church's Liturgy, both Orthodox and Catholic. It lies at the heart of the Latin Rite's deep Marian piety and devotion. This title was a response to early threats to 'orthodoxy', the preservation of authentic Christian teaching. A pronouncement of an early Church Council, The Council of Ephesus in 431 A.D., insisted "If anyone does not confess that God is truly Emmanuel, and that on this account the holy virgin is the "*Theotokos*" (for according to the flesh she gave birth to the word of God become flesh by birth) let him be anathema." (The Council of Ephesus, 431 AD). The Council's insistence on the use of this title reflected the effort to insist on the Church's teaching that Jesus was both human and divine, that the two natures were united in his One Person.

JANUARY 1 also marks the World Day of Prayer for Peace, a special day dedicated to peace in our world and among all peoples. It is held on January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Blessed Pope Paul VI established it in 1967, being inspired by the encyclical *Pacem in Terris* of Pope St. John XXIII and with reference to his own encyclical *Populorum Progressio*. The day was first observed on 1 January 1968. We share the following Prayer for Peace by Pope Francis:

Lord, God of peace, hear our prayer!

We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced; how much blood has been shed; how many lives have been shattered; how many hopes have been buried... But our efforts have been in vain.

Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts, and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!"; "With war everything is lost". Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace; enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister. Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace, our trepidation into confident trust, and our quarreling into forgiveness.

Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last, and may the words "division", "hatred" and "war" be banished from the heart of every man and woman. Lord, defuse the violence of our tongues and our hands. Renew our hearts and minds, so that the word which always brings us together will be "brother", and our way of life will always be that of: Shalom, Peace, Salaam! Amen.

JANUARY 1 is a holyday. Masses will be celebrated in our grouping as follows:

Thursday, December 31 (Vigil):

6:30 pm St. Rosalia site

Friday, January 1:

8:15 am St. Paul Cathedral
10:00 am St. Paul Cathedral

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO 12:05 PM MASS ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 1.

OUR RECTORY OFFICES ARE CLOSED ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 1 and will reopen on Thursday, January 2.

CONGRATULATIONS to the newest member of our parish who was baptized recently:

ELIZABETH McDUNN, daughter of Patrick and Madeline (Kulp) McDunn

WISHES FOR A HAPPY AND BLESSED NEW YEAR are extended to all our parishioners and visitors. May 2021 bring health, happiness, and many graces and blessings from God to you and to your families. As you make some resolutions for the New Year, be sure that some of them focus on how you can deepen your life of prayer, grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ, help others around you especially those in need, and how you can use your gifts and talents to serve the Church. Happy New Year!

AS WE BEGIN A NEW YEAR, EACH FAMILY IS INVITED TO BLESS THEIR HOME and to use chalk to mark the main doorway(s) of your home. The home blessing can be done as follows:

Use the blessed chalk to write:

20+C+M+B+21

above the main doorways of your home: 2021 for the year;

C, M, B for the 3 Magi Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar –

and also for *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*,

Latin for “May Christ Bless this House.”

As you are writing, pray the following prayer:

May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is Lord, forever and ever. Amen.

You can also bless yourself with holy water and sprinkle holy water on each door.

REFLECTION FROM POPE FRANCIS. “At the beginning of a new year, the Church invites us to contemplate Mary’s divine maternity as an icon of peace. In her, the ancient promise finds fulfilment. She believed in the words of the angel, conceived her Son, and thus became the Mother of the Lord. Through her, through her “yes”, the fullness of time came about. The Gospel we have just heard tells us that the Virgin Mary “treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart” (*Lk 2:19*). She appears to us as a vessel filled to the brim with the memory of Jesus, as the Seat of Wisdom to whom we can have recourse to understand his teaching aright. Today Mary makes it possible for us to grasp the meaning of events which affect us personally, events which also affect our families, our countries, and the entire world. Where philosophical reason and political negotiation cannot reach, there the power of faith, which brings the grace of Christ’s Gospel, can reach, opening ever new pathways to reason and to negotiation. Blessed are you, Mary, for you gave the Son of God to our world. But even more blessed are you for having believed in him. Full of faith, you conceived Jesus first in your heart and then in your womb, and thus became the Mother of all believers (cf. Saint Augustine, *Sermo 215,4*). Send us your blessing on this day consecrated to your honor. Show us the face of Jesus your Son, who bestows upon the entire world mercy and peace.”

FOOD PANTRY CONCERNS. We are always grateful for donations to our food pantry, but we need your help to ensure our safety and the safety of our patrons:

1. **We can never accept any food that has expired.** Please check the expiration dates. It causes our volunteers a great deal of extra work and anything with a past expiration date has to be thrown in the trash. We cannot use it.
2. **Please do not donate any perishable items.** We received pineapples, lettuce, other fruits, and vegetables – all of which is a danger to our safety measures and has to be thrown away into the trash.
3. **Please do not donate any partially used or open food items.** We received half empty boxes of cereal, pasta, cookies, and crackers. This has to be thrown into the trash which causes a great deal of extra work for our volunteer and maintenance staff.
4. **We do not accept clothing (except during our annual coat drive).** Please make your donation of clothing to the St. Vincent de Paul Society or Goodwill. We cannot take clothing of any kind.

Please be attentive when donating food items to the food pantry. It is for the safety and security of everyone.

PARISH NEWS

MANY THANKS TO SEVERAL FUNERAL HOMES in our parish for donating the 2021 calendars for our parish this year. They are available at the doors of the Church. We have some calendars in Italian and Spanish as well. We ask that you take one copy with you so that everyone has an opportunity to get a calendar for their home. Many thanks to those who made these calendars possible:

JOHN E. ELACHKO FUNERAL HOME
JOHN A. FREYVOGEL FUNERAL HOME
EDWARD P. KANAI, III FUNERAL HOME

CONSIDER REMEMBERING SAINT PAUL CATHEDRAL PARISH in your own estate planning and will. It is a wonderful way of helping to use your resources long after you are gone for the many good works of the Church which touch the lives of so many people.

BOOK REVIEWS. CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PARISHIONER, DAVID BELCZYK, who has just published a new book entitled, *The First Act of Creation*, a set of "Advent Stations" that can be prayed like Stations of the Cross. I would like to recommend this book to the members of our parish and offer a brief review. This will be our 17th book in our series. Instead of following the path to Calvary, these stations follow the path of God's creation from Genesis through the Nativity, in expectation of the Messiah. The First Act of Creation lyrically and contemplatively explores the mystery of our existence and the beauty of humanity in light of the incarnation. Proceeds from sales of the book go to Holy Family Hospital, steps from the site of the Nativity in Bethlehem, which treats diverse mothers and babies regardless of their ability to pay. Designed for both private prayer and public devotion, these fourteen Advent stations are deeply and eloquently steeped in the words of Scripture and the intimate rhythms of personal prayer. They truly bring the drama of our salvation to life and direct us, mind and heart, to Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. It is our hope next Advent to hold an opportunity for us to come together in prayer during the seasons of Advent and use David's new book as our devotional.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK. December 28 is the feast of the Holy Innocents. "A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more." During this octave of Christmas, the Church celebrates the memory of the small children of the neighborhood of Bethlehem put to death by Herod in a jealous attempt to kill the newborn King of the Jews, the child Jesus. Sacrificed by a wicked monarch, these innocent lives bear witness to Christ who was persecuted from the time of His birth by a world which would not receive Him. It is Christ Himself who is at stake in this mass-murder of the children; already the choice, for or against Him, is put clearly before men. But the persecutors are powerless, for Christ came to perform a work of salvation that nothing can prevent; when He fell into the hands of His enemies at the time chosen by God it was to redeem the world by His own Blood. Our Christmas joy is tempered today by a feeling of sadness. But the Church looks principally to the glory of the children, of these innocent victims, whom she shows us in heaven following the Lamb wherever He goes. It is hard on this feast day not to think of all the innocent children who have been massacred in our own country through the great sin and evil of abortion and other children whose lives have been lost through abuse, poverty, and neglect. May they rest in peace.

PART TIME WEDDING COORDINATORS NEEDED FOR SAINT PAUL CATHEDRAL. We are seeking one or two people who might be interested in serving as part time wedding coordinators for Saint Paul Cathedral. This would involve one or two weekends a month. This person would be responsible for coordinating Friday afternoon weddings at 2:30 pm (along with a Thursday evening rehearsal at 4:30 pm) and the wedding rehearsals on Friday (typically from 4:00 pm through 7:00 pm) and the weddings on Saturday afternoon (typically from 1:00 pm until 6:00 pm). Training would be provided. Must be a practicing Catholic and have some organizational skills. We currently have several people who are helping with this ministry, but we need to find one or two more. Compensation is provided per wedding. Please contact Father Stubna if you are interested (kstubna@diopitt.org) or call the Cathedral rectory.

PASSING FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE. We remember in our prayers the soul of **IDA DIULIIS**, sister of Antonio D'Andrea, who passed away in Italy recently. May she rest in peace.



WHAT IS FLOCKNOTE? Flocknote is an easy and efficient way for St. Paul Cathedral Parish to communicate with parishioners and parish groups through email and text messages. It allows us to reach our members at a moment's notice, resulting in higher attendance at Mass and parish events, increased stewardship, and a more connected parish community. But Flocknote can only be effective if you sign up! There are two ways to join Flocknote:

1. Visit our unique URL: <https://StPaulCathedralParishPGH.flocknote.com/everyone>
2. Text to join by texting the word CATHEDRALPGH to 84576

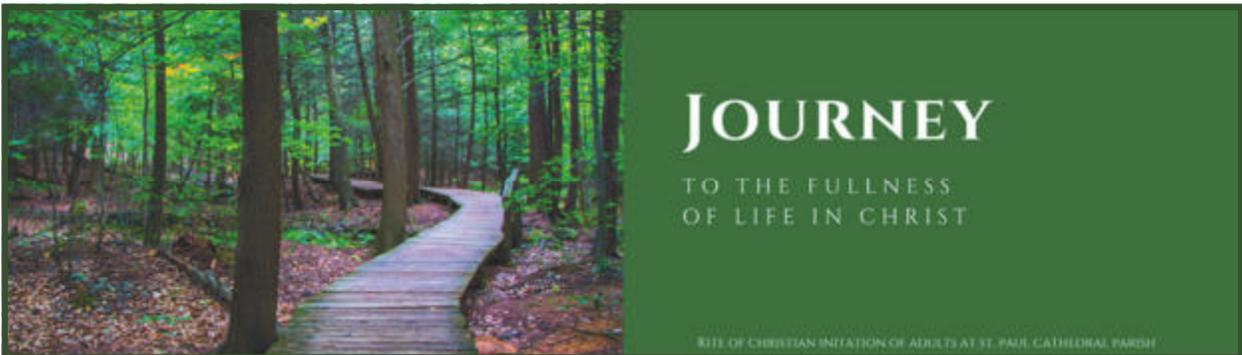
PRO-LIFE CORNER

AS WE CELEBRATE THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF POPE SAINT JOHN PAUL II'S ENCYCLICAL EVANGELIUM VITAE, "THE GOSPEL OF LIFE," we want to share a quote from that document each week in our Pro-Life Corner. Thanks to Birthright of Pittsburgh for helping to coordinate this effort. From the "Gospel of Life" #73: "Abortion and euthanasia are crimes which no human law can claim to legitimize. There is no obligation in conscience to obey such laws; instead, there is a grave and clear obligation to oppose them by conscientious objection. ... In the case of an intrinsically unjust law, such as a law permitting abortion or euthanasia, it is therefore never licit to obey it, or to 'take part in a propaganda campaign in favor of such a law or vote for it.'" ~ **Pope Saint John Paul II**

SAINT PAUL CATHEDRAL PARISH RAFFLE. We are hoping that everyone in our parish community will consider supporting this parish-wide fundraiser to help with our parish expenses. This raffle is based on the daily three-digit pick three evening PA lottery. Tickets are numbered from 000-999. Tickets are \$5 each and the number is eligible for the entire month. Most days the winner will receive \$50 however, there are specific days each month that the winning ticket is worth from \$100-\$250. The prize for winning on the last day of each month is \$500. Ticket stubs must be returned by the final day of the previous month with the ticket stub filled out completely and legibly. Tickets are available in the rectory office or can be mailed. Payment of cash or check is accepted. If you have a favorite number(s), you can reserve it/them each month if available. All proceeds benefit our parish. For more information or to obtain tickets please contact the parish office. We sponsor this raffle in the name of Saint Paul Cathedral Parish, our legal entity name, for which we have a small games of chance license that allows us to operate this raffle.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY CORNER

FIRESIDE FAITH. Join the Young Adult Ministry on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 pm in Saint Paul Cathedral's Synod Hall for conversation and fellowship. All young adults are welcome.



DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

Are you looking for more in your life?
Is becoming a Catholic something you've thought about?

We're here to listen at any time of the year.

Reach out to Erica at egamerro@saintpaulcathedral.org.

PARISH NEWS

ONLINE STUDY GROUP FOR MEN AND WOMEN. Want to dig deeper into the Sunday Mass Scripture readings? Join other parish members for an online study group every Sunday from 8:00 to 9:00 pm. High school age and older are welcome. Contact Regis Flaherty for additional information or to register (412-287-4007; regisflaherty@gmail.com).

MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO – 27 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2020 – LA SAGRADA FAMILIA. La Navidad es familia, es calor de hogar, es pureza de corazón. La Liturgia nos ayuda a recordar la belleza de este tiempo y las miradas son puestas en torno a la Sagrada Familia. La familia es convocada, ahora más que nunca, a ser valorada y enriquecida con lazos de comunión. Debe estar cimentada en la fe. Como ejemplo de esa fe tenemos a Abraham, Simeón y Ana. Ellos supieron cumplir sus deberes de fe y confianza plena en Dios. Bendiciendo y alabando a Dios por tener la oportunidad de recibir a Jesús en sus brazos. *“Ahora, Señor, ya puedes dejar que tu siervo muera en paz, como le has dicho. Porque mis ojos han visto a tu salvador”.* (Lucas 2:29-30) La familia es un don de Dios. El Papa Francisco en diferentes ocasiones ha dicho lo siguiente sobre la familia: *“En su camino familiar, ustedes comparten tantos momentos inolvidables: las comidas, el descanso, las tareas de la casa, la diversión, la oración, las excursiones y peregrinaciones, la solidaridad con los necesitados... Sin embargo, si falta el amor, falta la alegría, y el amor, y el amor auténtico nos lo da Jesús”.* Y añadió en otra de sus frases: *“Cuando nos preocupamos por nuestras familias y sus necesidades, cuando entendemos sus problemas y esperanzas... cuando sostienen la familia, sus esfuerzos repercuten no sólo en beneficio de la Iglesia; también ayudan a la sociedad entera”.* La familia de estos tiempos es convocada a valorar y vivir una Iglesia doméstica auténtica, donde el centro sea Jesús. ¿Es tu familia como la de Nazaret? ©LPi

CHILDLINE PARA REPORTAR SOSPECHAS DE MATRATO DE NIÑOS: 1-800-932-0313
LE LA DIOSECIS PARA ASISTENCIA A VICTIMAS: 1-888-808-1235

FROM OUR NEIGHBORS

“CHILDREN’S RESPONSES TO VIOLENCE” FREE VIRTUAL WORKSHOP, JANUARY 9, 2020, 10:00 AM TO NOON. Learn how children and teens sometimes respond differently to acts of violence depending upon their gender. How does family and community violence impact a child’s mental health and emotional development? Why is the rate of suicide among teens rising? This workshop includes resources for parents and educators. Presenters: Dr. Paula Marie Powe, Child/Adolescent Psychiatrist and Medical Director Matilda Theiss Early Childhood and School-Based Behavioral Health Center; Ms. Gina Pelusi, Everytown Survivor and Media Lead; Ms. Nicole Molinaro, President/CEO, Women’s Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh. To register contact Dr. Mary Ann Hvizdos, Blessed Be Educators Program Director by email or phone: mahvizdos@verizon.net; 412-807-1611. This workshop, which is approved for PA Act 48 Professional Development Hours, is jointly sponsored by six local faith-based organizations.

SOME PEANUT BRITTLE IS STILL AVAILABLE FOR SALE. Please stop by the rectory to obtain the bags of brittle at a cost of \$10.00 per bag. We have only a few left so get them as soon as you can. All proceeds from this fundraiser will go to the renovation fund for Synod Hall. Thanks for all the support from so many people. Please stop by the rectory to get your peanut brittle before it runs out! Excellent gifts for Christmas.

TOTAL BAGS MADE: 1468

TOTAL BAGS SOLD AS OF DECEMBER 18 (date this bulletin had to go to the printer): 1435

TOTAL BAGS REMAINING TO BE SOLD: 33

PRAYER for 2021

Dear Jesus,

As we enter 2021, I'd like to pray for not only myself, but the whole world, and that with this new beginning we can find hope, healing, and prosperity.

Please watch over us and give us the strength to continue moving forward. I pray that the world may overcome this pandemic and that you help to heal all of those who have suffered in any way throughout this year.

Jesus, please help me to use what I learned throughout this year's hardships to better me, the world, my community, and my relationship with you. I pray that I will continue to grow closer to you and that my faith will flourish.

Thank you for helping me to get through the year and giving me the opportunity to enter into a new one. I pray that this new year is filled with joy, peace, love, and hope. Please continue to watch over me and guide me as I embark on this journey.

In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

pinterest.com/faithfilledyou

THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY



What are the Corporal Works of Mercy and how can we live them out?
by Deanna Bartalini

1 FEED THE HUNGRY



So many people in our world do not have enough food. Ways we can help include: not wasting food, donating food to food banks, cook/serve for a soup kitchen, donate money.



2 GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY

Being thirsty is not just about wanting a drink. It is also about having clean water that you can drink and use for cooking and cleaning. We can help by not wasting water in our homes, donate money to a clean water project, carry water bottles in cooler in our car to give to homeless people.



3 SHELTER THE HOMELESS

Many people live on the streets or in their cars instead of a home. We can donate supplies to homeless shelters like pillows, sheets and blankets; cleaning supplies and food.



4 VISIT THE SICK

It is never fun to be sick, even with a cold, is it? We can take time to be kind to those who are sick by visiting them, calling them, sending a card or gift. This lets them know we are thinking of them so they will be less lonely.



5 VISIT THE PRISONERS

Even though they are in prison; they are still a person to treat with respect. Not everyone can actually go to prison to visit but we can pray for them and donate things to the prison.



6 BURY THE DEAD

No one really likes to think about death, especially of the people we love. If we know someone who has had a death in their family, it is nice to tell them that we are sorry the person has died. You can send a card to let them know you are praying for the person who died and for them too.



7 GIVE ALMS TO THE POOR

Giving alms is another way of saying help the poor. It can be money, food, clothes, toys, books, time or anything else that people need. It is important for those who have all they need to share with those who do not.



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St. Paul Cathedral Parish Additional Christmas Flowers Donations 2020

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Sally Keeley
Toni Kichi
Joe and Kay Kichinko
Ann Lebanik
Jane Loufek
Helen McHale and Family
Lena Pagani
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Gloria M. Rosato
Nicholas Rosato, Jr.

Salata Family
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Gina and Falco Sciulli
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Sciulli Family
Martin "Tim" Sheerer
Jack and Dorothy Zagorski

In Honor of:

Mary Bellisario
Bernard and Catherine Garvey
Andrew and Donna Novak
Francis and Kathryn Quirin



PARISH NEWS

MANY THANKS TO JOE AND JUDI NOCITO for their kind and generous gift in funding our new outside creche. It is a beautiful addition to Saint Paul Cathedral and helps us all to celebrate the glory of Christmas. God bless you for your support.



SAINT PAUL CATHEDRAL
MONTHLY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2020



THE HOLY
FAMILY

The child grew and became
strong, filled with wisdom;
and the favor of God
was upon him.
- Lk 2:40

Excerpta from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1995, 1970, CCD. WAP

ADORATION BEGINS AT 1:00 PM
IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE 12:00 NOON MASS.
SOLEMN EVENING PRAYER AT 5:00 PM,
CONCLUDING WITH BENEDICTION OF THE
MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT.
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Season of Perpetual Hope

I saw a segment on the news tonight about how COVID-19 shutdowns have affected those with disabilities. Lives have been turned upside down. The segment showed the struggles a mother was having with her adult son who could not go to his day program. He had a seizure disorder and other issues. He could not speak. He is totally confused and is refusing to eat. He has lost 30 pounds since this virus started affecting his life. His mom takes him for a ride on a golf cart every day to get him out of the house. She is exhausted and feels all the gains he had experienced are disappearing.

I am also reminded of another story I heard recently about an individual who could not go to his day program for several months. When it was time to return, it took him weeks to be able to go into the building and back on schedule. Now, he would be back home again.

My son Jeremy lives in a group home. In my son's case, they told us that, if we take him to our home, he cannot return to his group home again until all this is over. So, we sacrifice seeing him so his routine at his home will not be interrupted. Recently he has tested positive for COVID-19 but, fortunately, has no symptoms. His father and I were terribly worried when we got the news. He and housemates and staff have been on lockdown for two weeks. The staff is exhausted. Fortunately, Jeremy has been described as "a real trooper" during this ordeal...a prayer answered.

I cannot imagine the pain this situation is causing so many who have disabilities. Students in special needs programs who miss working with their teachers, having difficulty learning via computer. Parents having to work at home while their child is struggling to learn at home. Adults isolated from their families and friends on whom they depend.

Like many people, I am hoping this all ends soon, especially since a vaccination is on the horizon. How long will it take for our loved ones to make up for lost time, relearn what they have not been able to retain, is anyone's guess. It will be tough for all of us but for those with disabilities, who have so many hurdles in their lives already, it will seem overwhelming.

But I am always amazed at how resilient Jeremy has been over the years so don't underestimate a person's ability to overcome what seems to be unsurmountable odds... Jeremy has done that over and over again. Plus, this has been a real trial for all of us, but I do believe we all will get through it. There was a time I thought Jeremy had lost 12 years of hard work and struggle, only to watch it all come back years later. For families of those with disabilities, it may feel like you are losing the war, but it is only one long battle.

I find strength in my faith. In the knowledge I am not alone in my struggles and neither is my son. Christmas is the season of perpetual hope. I cling to that hope every day, for all of us, but especially for those for whom life has been such a struggle, even before COVID-19. Please keep them in your prayers too!

Linda Marino, Special Needs Advocate for Saint Paul Cathedral Parish

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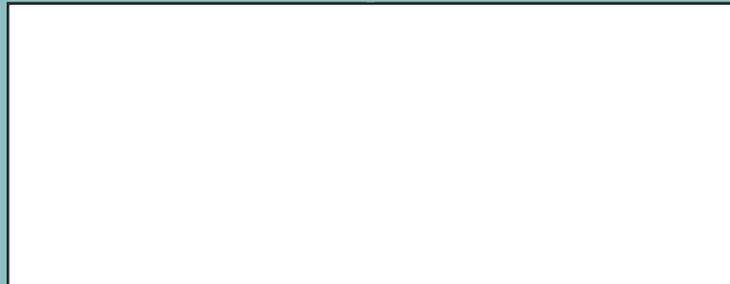
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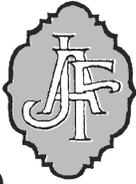
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