

SAINT PAUL CATHEDRAL PARISH

SERVING GREENFIELD • HAZELWOOD • OAKLAND

REMEMBER | CELEBRATE | BELIEVE

NOVEMBER 28, 2021 | FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE



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ghocatholics.org



facebook.com/stpaulpgh



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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

Very Reverend Kris D. Stubna, S.T.D.
Pastor and Rector
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Reverend John S. Odeyemi
Parochial Vicar
jodeyemi@diopitt.org

Reverend Daniel L. Walsh, C.S.Sp.
Parochial Vicar
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Reverend Steven M. Palsa, M.Div., M.A.
*Part-time Parish Chaplain
In Residence*
spalsa@diopitt.org

Deacon Thomas J. Berna, Ph.D.
Deacon
tberna@diopitt.org

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

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday, November 29

Advent Weekday -
Is 2:1-5 * Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday, November 30

Saint Andrew, Apostle -
Rom 10:9-18 * Mt 4:18-22

Wednesday, December 1

Advent Weekday -
Is 25:6-10a * Mt 15:29-37

Thursday, December 2

Advent Weekday -
Is 26:1-6 * Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday, December 3

Saint Francis Xavier, Priest -
Is 29:17-24 * Mt 9:27-31

Saturday, December 4

Saint John Damascene,
Priest and Doctor of the Church -
Is 30:19-21, 23-26 * Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday, December 5

Second Sunday of Advent -
Bar 5:1-9 * Phil 1:4-6, 8-11 * Lk 3:1-6

PARISH INFORMATION

LITURGY SCHEDULE AND MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, November 29

8:15 am St. Paul Cathedral Edith Sarneso

10:00 am St. Rosalia Dolores Belcastro

12:05 pm St. Paul Cathedral Barbara Ling

Tuesday, November 30

8:15 am St. Paul Cathedral Mr. Anthony Viglione

12:05 pm St. Paul Cathedral John Kosar, Jr.

Wednesday, December 1

8:15 am St. Paul Cathedral Michael Martuccio

10:00 am St. Rosalia Dolores Belcastro

12:05 pm St. Paul Cathedral Aurelia Hvizdos

7:00 pm St. Paul Cathedral Novena and Benediction

Thursday, December 2

8:15 am St. Paul Cathedral Mary V. Dobies

12:05 pm St. Paul Cathedral Kaniecki and MacNeil Families, Living

Friday, December 3

8:15 am St. Paul Cathedral Fred M. Butch

12:05 pm St. Paul Cathedral George Clapper, Jr.

Saturday, December 4

8:15 am St. Paul Cathedral Howard Hanna, Jr.

12:05 pm St. Paul Cathedral Dennis Dinardo

4:00 pm St. Rosalia Frank Quirin

6:00 pm St. Paul Cathedral Glynn and Marie Moss

Sunday, December 5

6:30 am St. Paul Cathedral Patrick Spano

9:00 am St. Rosalia Victor Kender

10:00 am St. Paul Cathedral Loretta Sullivan

12:00 pm St. Paul Cathedral Mary Duff

12:00 pm St. Rosalia (Spanish) Alfio and Felicia Bucci

6:00 pm St. Paul Cathedral People of the Parish

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. Paul Cathedral

Friday & Saturday: 12:45pm

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:

Channel 95 (In Pittsburgh)

Live Streamed Online:

ghocatholics.org/tv-ministry

facebook.com/stpaulpgh

Weekdays (Monday - Saturday): 8:15am

Sunday: 10am

Finance Council: Thomas Bainbridge, Kathleen Carey-Knecht, Robert Cunningham, Ralph Massaro, Judi Nocito, and Daniel Williams

Pastoral Council: Janet Aland, Lynn Bainbridge, Patricia Blume, Desmarie DeCuir, Ryan Dreliszak, Joseph Deluliis, Thomas Mangan, Susan Massaro, Andrew McCabe, Frances Quirin, Lisa Sciulli, John Tague, and Gregory Thomas

REFLECTIONS

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Today's readings exhort us to be vigilant for Advent. This is not a time for passivity, for God is at work, fulfilling his promises and crafting signs and wonders attesting to His glory. "The Lake Isle of Innisfree," William Butler Yeats' poem begins, "I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree." We Christians may not be going to Innisfree, but we must arise and go to Our Lord for He comes to us. And, thematically similar to the three quatrains of this famous poem, with their specific needs for food and shelter, peace, and reconciliation with the inner life and the physical world Christ, early Christian writers remind us, comes thrice: He comes into our hearts, He comes into the world in the flesh, and He comes at the end of time.

In the first reading the Prophet Jeremiah prophesied that God would fulfill his promises to his chosen people. Centuries later do we believe that God is faithful to His promises in our lives, in our situations, in our times? Some of our ancestors believe and accepted God's faithfulness; others did not. We Christians believe that Christ is the fulfillment of this prophecy. Jesus Christ redeems the world and our belief in Jesus redeems us. This Advent, this coming of Christ, requires our active participation, too.

The 1st Letter to the Thessalonians pinpoints the strengthening of hearts in holiness as important. We want to be ready to receive Our Lord in love, to live well and to please God. Ultimately, this means for us to learn to love as Christ loved us we must prepare for and during this time on earth and in the life to come.

The Gospel of Luke wants us to be prepared for our personal death and the end of the world. We can only be prepared when we recognize that we need God above all else in our lives. Leo Tolstoy once remarked about the knowledge of a person's imminent death in a half hour that the time would in all likelihood not be spent engaging in trivial or stupid things. If one had foreknowledge a half century before one's death, would that make one's actions any different from a half hour? We are invited to begin again in this time of Advent. We prepare our hearts and minds to receive the perennial divine presence. Let us spend time during this Advent Season listening with "the ears of our hearts." May the transformation of our lives begin. Come, Lord Jesus!

FROM THE HEART OF OUR PASTOR, FATHER STUBNA

- ADVENT BEGINS TODAY.** This is a season of special grace that calls the faithful to be alert and be prepared for the coming of Christ. Our minds focus immediately on the coming of the Lord at Christmas as we prepare to commemorate the birthday of our Savior and the mystery of the Incarnation. Advent calls us to be attentive and to be careful that we keep Christ in Christmas. All around us are the pulls of secularism, commercialism, and materialism. Our response must be one to remind the world of why we have this season – it is to remember and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ into the world, the mystery of God becoming one like us in all things but sin, so that the darkness of sin could be eradicated by God's saving power and human redemption won through the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross. Be careful not to water down Christmas. We must unapologetically and passionately

PARISH STAFF

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Part-time Wedding Coordinators:

- Patricia Edwards
- Katrina Malaski
- Liz McKenna
- Joanne Wall

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"When trying to evangelize, no tool is more effective than that of personal witness. Humbly sharing our own struggles which have been overcome by God's great love and mercy can soften even the hardest and most stubborn of hearts. People can argue with points of doctrine, but no one can argue with a personal testimony!"
~ St. Francis Xavier

SOCIAL MEDIA

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

twitter.com/saintpaulpgh

facebook.com/stpaulpgh

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.

FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP

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

Sunday, November 7:

4:00 pm:	\$1,017.00
6:00 pm:	\$744.00
6:30 am:	\$1,670.00
9:00 am:	\$1,608.00
10:00 am:	\$2,665.00
12:00 pm:	\$1,831.00
12:00 pm (Spanish):	\$307.00
6:00 pm:	\$767.00
Mail-In:	\$4,518.00
Total:	\$15,127.00

BANNS OF MARRIAGE.

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

III - Aaron Polsin and
Mary Claire Kunkle

II - Christopher Callaghan and
Kaylei Applegarth

I - Quinn Lundberg, III and
Alexandra DiCenzo

I - Daniel Urtz and
Sarah Vula

I - Timothy Barnum and
Shaina Herman

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).

PARISH NEWS

remind the world that Christmas is a Christian holiday – one in which we take great pride celebrating – because it is the birthday of our beloved Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, the Lord of all Life, Prince of Peace and Father Forever.

I encourage everyone, especially our families, to make this season of Advent a time of holiness and grace. Prepare well to celebrate the birthday of Christ by growing in faith. Read the Scriptures; pray the rosary and reflect on the mysteries of Jesus Christ; light the advent candles at home on your table and pray that God's light will slowly diminish the reality of sin in your own life and in the world; go to confession and receive the healing power of God's grace to prepare your heart to receive Christ in the Eucharist; attend Mass at least one additional day each week in Advent and realize the fruits that come to those who come to Mass daily. Make this season a time of preparation so the Christ-child will find a worthy place in your heart and home to dwell more completely with his love.

- Some immediate changes are necessary given the loss of our parochial vicar, Father John Odeyemi. Effective Monday, December 6, 2021, the two daily Masses at St. Rosalia celebrated on Monday and Wednesday at 10:00 am will be suspended.** If there is a funeral at St. Rosalia, those Masses are typically celebrated at 10:00 am and open to all the faithful. We have two daily Masses at Saint Paul Cathedral at 8:15 am and 12:05 pm where a significant number of people gather each day, but there is plenty of room for anyone who desires to attend daily Mass. This change is simply unavoidable and necessary at this time given the loss of one priest. If anything would change regarding an additional parochial vicar, we can revisit the daily Mass schedule. The Mass intentions scheduled for those two Masses at St. Rosalia will be added to the 8:15 am or 12:05 pm Masses at St. Paul Cathedral to be satisfied. The impact of one less priest is not easily absorbed so I am grateful for your understanding, prayers, support, and patience.
- For the first time, this year, we made peanut brittle for four days (two Fridays and two Saturdays). We could not have done it without each and every one of our volunteers. So many people returned to help this year and we had many new volunteers who helped us for the first time. It was hard work for sure, but everyone had a great time. I know because no one was in a hurry to leave at the end of the evening as we had our pizza and wine! This project has brought so many people from our parish together which is such a blessing. The project brings together people who attend different Masses on the weekend and from all four of our neighborhoods that make up the parish. Thanks to everyone who made this such a successful and fun time.

We made 1,736 bags of peanut brittle last year – the most ever. This year we set a goal of 1,800, although some of our brittle makers thought the goal should be 2,000. We ended up with our **grand total of 2,178 bags of peanut brittle.** This far exceeded our expectations. Our team blew it out of the water. Now we need to sell the brittle and are hoping that all of you can help us in this

effort. We continue to sell brittle after every Mass and are looking for sellers and buyers. Brittle is available at the rectory or after the Masses on the weekend. Thank you for all your support in this effort.

Many thanks to Larry Clapper for coordinating this project for us again this year. Many thanks to our anonymous donor who pays for all the ingredients and allows our sale to be total profit. All proceeds will go to the Synod Hall renovation project. If we sell it all, we will make \$21,780 for Synod Hall. Awesome! A special thanks this year to another anonymous donor who donated all the pizza for four days to feed our volunteers. Most of all, thanks to each and every one of you – who took the time and joined in to make this project such a success. We really did have fun and got to know each other and make new friends. That is really the most important thing of all. Please know of my deep appreciation and my prayers for you and for your families. What a privilege and honor it is for me to serve as pastor and rector of Saint Paul Cathedral parish. What a great group of faith filled, loving people we have! We did it.

OUR ADVENT WREATH in the sanctuary will remind us of the four weeks of preparation and the call for each of us to become the light of Jesus Christ and to shine more brightly with his Truth and Love in the darkness of the world.

OUR MONTHLY AFTERNOON OF EUCHARIST EXPOSITION AND ADORATION, WITH VESPERS AND BENEDICTION, will take place today, Sunday, November 28. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed after the 12:00 Noon Mass and Eucharistic adoration will take place from 1:00 – 5:00 pm. We will close with Sung Vespers and Benediction at 5:00 pm which is always a beautiful and inspiring prayer. Please consider taking time to spend in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, one of the great riches and blessings we have as Catholics. Jesus in the Real Presence will touch your heart with his healing and saving love if you make time to devote to adoration. The Cathedral hosts this monthly afternoon of Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction on the last Sunday of each month from 1:00 until 5:30 pm. Please consider joining us.

WINE, CHEESE, AND THE GOSPEL – FALL 2021. Father Stubna will host the third evening of the Fall 2021 edition of Wine, Cheese, and the Gospel on **Monday evening, November 29.** We will meet in the Cathedral Social Hall for wine and cheese at 6:30 pm, followed by the presentation and discussion at 7:00 pm. Father Stubna will talk about **Love of Neighbor: Commandments 4 – 7.** Please join us via livestream as well on the Cathedral Facebook page ([facebook.com/stpaulpgh](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulpgh)). All are welcome.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER: "Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage, creativity and the power of the Holy Spirit."

ST. PAUL CATHEDRAL SANCTUARY CANDLE

This week, from November 27 through December 3, the Sanctuary Candle at St. Paul Cathedral is being offered for:

CARL ANTHONY RAIDERS

May he rest in peace.

ST. PAUL CATHEDRAL BLESSED MOTHER VIGIL LIGHT

This week, from November 27 through December 3, the Blessed Mother Vigil Light at St. Paul Cathedral is being offered for:

EDNA AIKENS AND EDNA CLAPPER

May they rest in peace.

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

ADVENT IS A SEASON OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION and calls each of us to examine our consciences to see how we have fallen short in living out our faith. The Sacrament of Reconciliation, one of the great sacraments of the Church instituted by Christ himself, offers to us the gift of the Father's mercy, unconditional love, His compassion, and peace. When we come to the sacrament with sorrow for our sins and a sincere desire to amend our lives, all of our sins are washed away through the power of Christ. As we prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas and prepare as well for the second coming of the Lord as well, we need to go to confession regularly. Confessions are normally scheduled at the Cathedral on Friday at 12:45 pm and on Saturday at 12:45 pm.

THE LIGHT IS STILL ON FOR YOU! Haven't been to confession in a while? Interested, but worry you don't remember how to make a good confession? Visit diopitt.org/the-light-is-on-for-you and read "A Short Guide to Confession." **Stop by SAINT PAUL CATHEDRAL on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15 from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm.** The priests in our parish will all be at the Cathedral for those three hours that evening. Consider making a commitment this Advent to experience the healing grace of God's forgiveness and love. Please consider coming to confession that evening and get the message out to others that the light is still on for them as well. This will be a great opportunity to get to confession in preparation for Christmas. One confessor will be able to hear confessions in Spanish as well.

ADVENT FAMILY INSERTS will be in the bulletin for each of the four Sundays of Advent. These are published by Our Sunday Visitor and are a way that our parish can invite our parishioners and our families to participate more fully in the Advent season and help to make Advent a time of prayer, penance, and preparation for our celebration of the gift of Jesus at Christmas.

WINTER CLOTHING AVAILABLE. Do you need a warm coat, gloves, and scarves, or a cozy sweater? The Ladies of Charity of the St. Paul Cathedral Parish are offering all of the above free of charge! Come to the Spartan Center on Saturday, December 4 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. The address is: 134 E. Elizabeth St., Pittsburgh, PA 15207. We send a big thank you to all the Parish members who donated winter coats, sweaters, etc. to our Coat Drive in November!

KATHEDRAL KONFECTIONS is a fundraising project organized by a group of volunteers at the Saint Paul Cathedral parish. Once again, this year, our **DELICIOUS HOMEMADE HOLIDAY PEANUT BRITTLE** will be sold in time for Christmas. All proceeds will be used in support of our *Building a Future of Hope Campaign*, particularly our project to renovate the Synod Hall building. It is our hope that the Synod Hall building can become our pastoral center, upgraded with accessibility including an elevator, heating and air conditioning, and office and meeting space for the parish center. **Peanut brittle is now being sold after the Masses at both Saint Paul Cathedral and Saint Rosalia churches and is available at the rectory throughout the week.** All orders of the delicious brand of peanut brittle will be filled on a first come, first served basis until the peanut brittle is gone. Please consider purchasing some peanut brittle for the Christmas holidays and at the same time help to support the needs of our Building a Future of Hope Campaign and the plan to renovate Synod Hall. We hope we can count on your support.

OUR WEEKLY NOVENA TO OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP will be held this Wednesday, December 1. Due to a number of scheduled events in the month of December, **please note that the novena will not be held on:**

Wednesday, December 8
Wednesday, December 15
Wednesday, December 22
Wednesday, December 29

The novena will resume after the New Year on Wednesday, January 5.



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: StPaulCathedralParishPGH.flocknote.com/everyone
2. Text to join by texting the word CATHEDRALPGH to 84576

MANY THANKS TO DIANA GLADSTONE who helped to decorate the altar for Thanksgiving and the Advent wreath at Saint Paul Cathedral and to **JEAN MALEK** and **MADISON MOCK** for decorating the altar for Thanksgiving and the Advent wreath at Saint Rosalia. Many thanks for your service to the parish.

MANY THANKS TO THE FREYVOGEL FUNERAL HOME for providing Saint Paul Cathedral parish with Thanksgiving prayer cards that were distributed this year to our families for Thanksgiving. We appreciate your kindness.

SAINT OF THE WEEK. December 4 marks the feast of the great doctor of the Church, **SAINT JOHN DAMASCENE**. John was a chief financial officer for the leaders of Damascus when he felt called to religious life and became a monk at the monastery of Saint Sabas, near Jerusalem. He battled the Iconoclastic heresy which denounced the veneration of images and wanted to cleanse the Churches of statues, icons, crucifixes, and images of any kind. His great defense of Catholic doctrine helped to defend the Church against this heresy. As he wrote, "When we see the crucifix, we remember Christ's saving passion. We fall down to worship not the piece of wood, but the One who is imaged, Christ crucified." He was a leading theologian and writer including the great work "On the Orthodox Faith," which presented a summary of the teachings of all the Greek Fathers. St. John wrote many hymns of praise as well and was devoted to the Blessed Mother. He was a man of great and immense intellect, skilled in many areas of life, and yet choose to use them all in service to God and the Church.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS will help us to provide the beautiful flowers that will be in the sanctuary of the two Churches being used for regular Sunday worship: St. Paul Cathedral and St. Rosalia. You can make donations in memory of your loved ones and friends who will be remembered in a very special way during the Masses on Christmas day and throughout the Christmas season. Please use the envelope provided with your offertory envelope or mark your intentions on a piece of paper with your donation in any envelope and drop them in the collection basket or drop them off at the rectory. We ask that you write the names legibly so that we can properly list them in the bulletin. The names of those remembered will be published in the bulletin on December 19 but **they must be in by FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, due to early publication deadlines**. Any that come in after that will be published in the December 26 and January 2 bulletins. Please get your donations in as soon as possible. Your help in making our Church look beautiful for Christmas is a great blessing for which I am deeply grateful.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

"The Gospel of Life is not for believers alone: it is for everyone. The issue of life and its defense and promotion is not a concern of the Christian alone. Although faith provides special light and strength, this question arises in every human conscience which seeks the truth, and which cares about the future of humanity. Life certainly has a sacred and religious value, but in no way is that value a concern only of believers. The value at stake is one which every human being can grasp by the light of reason; thus, it necessarily concerns everyone." ~ *Pope John Paul II*

PARISH NEWS



SAINT PAUL CATHEDRAL HAS A HEARING LOOP to help those with hearing loss hear our services better. If you have a T-Coil equipped hearing aid, please switch your hearing device to the T setting. For those without hearing aids, wireless headsets are also available. You can find more information on our website here: ghocatholics.org/hearing-loop.

THE FATHER VANYO LIBRARY will be reopening with an exciting brand-new look! Volunteers have been working hard this past year and a half to refresh not only the collection but also the interior and feel of our parish library. We have added new materials including DVDs, children's books, and Father Stubna's recommended titles. We have upgraded the seating space to include plush reading chairs, a coffee station, and new shelves for parishioners to browse the collection. We hope you'll stay and read in our new, comfortable environment. Our children's space includes a place to play and for parents to read aloud. Old space, new look. Come in and browse. The library will be open in person every Sunday morning from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm in Synod Hall. Other times are available by appointment by calling the rectory. You can view the library catalog online at librarycat.org/lib/vanyolibrary to see the books and resources available.

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.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION – Sunday, December 5 – “Preparing the Way of the Lord.” Families with children (grades K – 8) are invited to a special 10:00 am Mass and event on Sunday, December 5, at St. Paul Cathedral. Family Faith Formation is a monthly gathering for our families and students who are home schooled or attend a Catholic school or who attend our own parish Faith Formation program. This is an opportunity to gather as a parish family to listen attentively to God's Word in the Scripture and share the Eucharist at the Table of the Lord! After Mass, an informal breakfast is offered at the Cathedral Social Hall with muffins, donuts, bagels, juice, milk, and coffee. Later, one of our priests or our deacon will give a talk to the parents while the children will focus on a learning project. The focus this time will be on **Advent: “Preparing the way of the Lord!”** Families should sign up responding to the Flocknote invitation or by emailing info@saintpaulcathedral.org. All are very welcome even if there was not a chance to respond!

OPLATKY [Oplatki, Oplatek] is a Christmas wafer tradition with roots in Poland and other Eastern European countries. The wafers are baked from flour and water, and are usually rectangular or round in shape, and very thin, with a taste very similar to the altar bread that becomes the Eucharist during Mass. The wafers are embossed with Christmas related religious images, such as a nativity scene. Gathered around the table for the Christmas Eve meal, the oldest member of the family breaks off a small piece of the oplatky to begin the ritual. The remaining wafer is passed to another member while a prayer for loved ones is said as a sign of family unity. While doing so each member of the family is kissed and is wished a joyful feast. The other family members then greet one another in the same way. This continues until everyone at the table has a piece of the wafer. Finally, the family members quietly consume their piece of wafer. Some dip their wafer in honey or garlic before consuming. Then the traditional Christmas Eve meal continues. Oplatky is available at the administrative office throughout Advent for \$1 for a pack of 5 wafers. It will also be sold after the weekend Masses at St. Paul Cathedral and St. Rosalia Church.

PLEASE NOTE that the Oakland Catholic High School parking lot will be closed on Sunday, December 5.



OUR WEEKLY NOVENA TO OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP. At Saint Paul Cathedral on Wednesday evenings the Eucharist is exposed on the altar at 7:00 pm and the novena prayers and Benediction begin at 7:30 pm until about 8:00 pm. Please consider attending and bringing your needs and prayers to the attention of Our Blessed Mother who always hears our prayers and desires to lead us to the loving heart of her Son, Jesus Christ.

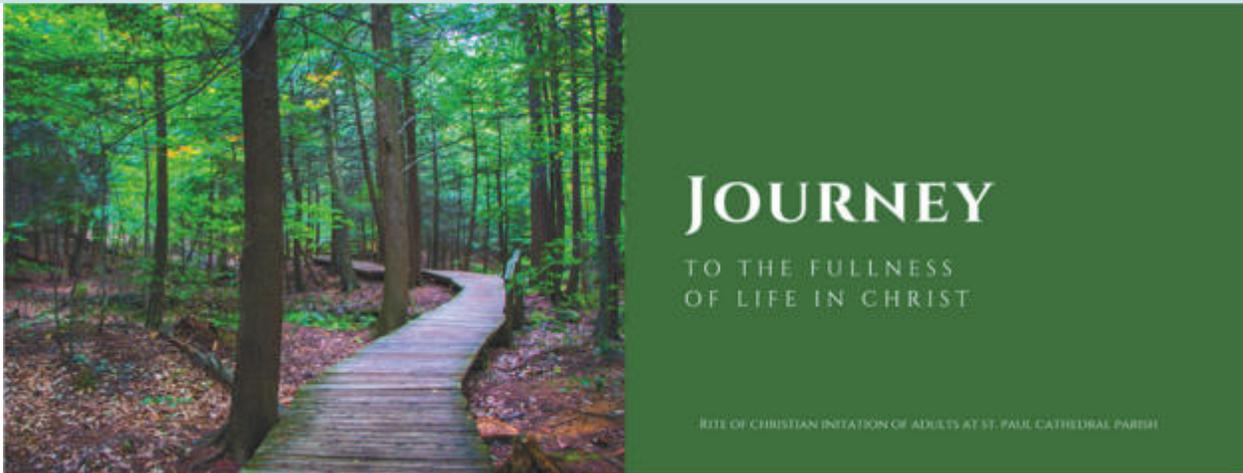
PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS (PGC 3.2) UPDATE. Special thanks to our employees and volunteers who completed the revised PGC 3.2 Workshop Required Training these past three months. Close to 50 percent accomplished this task. Thanks also to Mrs. Jean Malek, Parish Secretary, who helped several volunteers without internet access. **Anyone who has volunteered for Saint Paul Cathedral Parish for three years or more, please visit www.virtusonline.org. Log in to your account. Click the block which reads "Current Training" and you should be taken to the training module. Please try to complete the PGC 3.2 by the end of the year.** If you have volunteered for the Cathedral parish for less than three years, I will be arranging for you to receive an email invitation to complete this training over the next few weeks. ~ *Mary Ann Hvizdos, Safe Environment Coordinator*

PASSING FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE. We extend our deepest sympathies and prayers to the families of those who were buried from our parish recently. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

St. Paul Cathedral

EDWARD OSWALD

We extend our sympathies to the family of **EDWARD SKIRTICH**, especially his mother Loretta and his brother Father John Skirtich, who passed this past Saturday and was buried from St. Gabriel Church. Ed and his mother regularly came to Mass at the Cathedral on Sunday. May he rest in peace.



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 egammerro@saintpaulcathedral.org.

ATTENTION MEN. Are you looking to deepen your relationship with God? Be a better husband? Become a more loving father? Build friendships with other like-minded men? And seek to be the best man you can be? Then come to *"That Man is You!"* at the Cathedral, Saturday mornings after the 8:15 Mass in Synod Hall. You can register online at admin.paradisusdei.org. For additional information contact Regis Flaherty at 412-287-4007 or regisjflaherty@gmail.com.

PARISH NEWS

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.

MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO – 28 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2021 – 1^{ER} DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO. Estemos preparados o no, hoy empieza el Adviento. Y es importante que notemos los siguientes puntos importantes para una mejor participación cuando asistimos a la Eucaristía. Estrenamos el Año Litúrgico e iniciamos un período de cuatro semanas dedicadas a prepararnos para la Navidad. Durante casi todo el año, escucharemos con gozo el Evangelio escrito por San Lucas, en el cual nos presenta a un Jesús muy sensible a los necesitados y muy compasivo con los pecadores. Describe la infancia de Jesús y la presencia de María en algunas de las narraciones. En este primer domingo de Adviento, Jesús nos trae la liberación de todas nuestras ataduras. Si estamos atentos y con el corazón abierto, la Palabra de Dios tocará nuestro corazón logrando que le hagamos caso al Señor y que demos un nuevo comienzo a nuestra vida. El papa Francisco nos da algunas pautas para levantar la mirada hacia el Señor, quien ya viene a nosotros: *“En Adviento, no vivimos solamente la espera navideña, también estamos invitados a despertar la espera del glorioso regreso de Cristo. Durante estas cuatro semanas, estamos llamados a despojarnos de una forma de vida resinada y rutinaria y a salir alimentados de esperanza y sueños para un futuro mejor. Estar despiertos y orar: he aquí como vivir este tiempo desde hoy hasta la Navidad. Rezar, esperar a Jesús, abrirse a los demás, estar despiertos, no encerrados en nosotros mismos. Pero, si pensamos en la Navidad en un clima de consumismo, de ver, que puedo comprar, Jesús pasará y no lo encontraremos. Nosotros esperamos a Jesús y queremos esperarle en oración vigilante”* (12-2-2018). ©LPi

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GIVING TREE 2021. During the season of Advent, we are reminded about the Cathedral's Giving Tree Project. Through your generosity, Christmas gifts will be provided to Angel's Place, Providence Connection, St. Joseph's House of Hospitality, and Birthright of Pittsburgh. Additional information about each of the organizations can be found online in the November 7 bulletin (ghocatholics.org/bulletins-1).

This weekend, November 27-28, will be the last to select one of the ornament tags from the trees at either St. Paul Cathedral or St. Rosalia Church. Additional guidelines are available when you select an ornament. **NOTE: All gift cards are due next weekend, December 4-5,** and should be placed in the collection basket/bin in the church, dropped off at the parish administrative office, or mailed to:

St. Paul Cathedral Parish
ATTN: Mike Pittek/Kathleen Garvey
108 N. Dithridge Street
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If you have any questions, please contact Kathleen Garvey via email at kathleeng721@gmail.com or leave a message at 412-781-2132.

SAINT PAUL SEMINARY VISITATION

Saint Paul Cathedral and Saint Rosalia site
Sunday, November 14, 2021



Week 1

EMMANUEL IS COMING

ADVENT PREPARES US

The Gift of Holiness

Luke 21:25–28, 34–36

It is the First Sunday of Advent, a time of preparation, a time of anticipation.

The word “Advent” stems from the Latin *Adventus*, which means “coming.” During this special season, we await two important events: the celebration of the birth of Jesus on Christmas and the return of Jesus at the end of the world.

Advent is also a time to reflect on the gift of holiness. Today’s readings tell us that the path of holiness is truth, justice, humility, kindness, and consistency. We are encouraged to grow in love, to strengthen our hearts, and to conduct ourselves in ways that are pleasing to God. We are reminded to stay alert, be vigilant, and pray for strength because our redemption is at hand.

Holiness is a gift of grace that begins at our baptism and invites us into deeper union with God. How we respond to the gift of holiness is always a free choice. If we accept, God draws us more deeply into his love. If we refuse, God continues to extend the invitation with the hope



Image: Adobe Stock

that one day we will respond.

“Do not be afraid of holiness,” Pope Francis tells us in his apostolic exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate* (“Rejoice and Be Glad”). “It will take away none of your energy, vitality, or joy. On the contrary, you will become what the Father had in mind when he created you, and you will be faithful to your deepest

self” (32).

Each person is called to holiness in a way that is personal and unique. Everyone has a God-given mission in life, and the Holy Spirit gives us the gifts and talents we need to accomplish our mission. Pope Francis suggests that we become holy when we live our mission with joy.

PRAYER

Gracious and loving God, thank you for the gift of holiness. Give us the grace we need to respond to your love. Help us to understand our God-given mission in life. Allow us to use our gifts and talents in ways that are pleasing to you. Amen.

“The days are coming,
says the LORD, when I
will fulfill the promise
I made to the house of
Israel and Judah.”

— JEREMIAH 33:14



Happy New Year

The First Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of the liturgical year in the Catholic Church. Unlike the secular year, which merely marks the passage of time, the liturgical year celebrates the sacred mysteries of the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We begin the liturgical year in anticipation with reflections on the ancient longing for the coming of the Messiah.

A MANGER LINED WITH LOVE

Make your efforts to prepare the way of the Lord tangible for everyone in your family. Set up a Nativity scene in a prominent spot in your home. Each day, as part of dinner or your Advent wreath meditation (see page 10), talk together about ways that you each did God's work in the world that day. Those actions might be grand, community-wide gestures, or they might be small acts of exceptional kindness, or even acts of internal prayer. For each way in which you've prepared for Christ's coming, ask the children to add a piece of straw to the manger. In this way, you're creating a soft bed for the arrival of Baby Jesus as well as a strong faith that brings Jesus' ministry to the world.

QUIET REFLECTION

Time should be taken during our Advent preparation to reflect on ways we can quietly, spiritually be closer to Jesus and our fellow man. Consider these questions:

- What sins do I want to fight and remove from my life?
- What people or situations need greater patience from me?
- How can I be more generous and kinder in my hospitality to others?

Saint Paul Cathedral Parish 2021 Advent Schedule

First Sunday of Advent – November 28, 2021

Blessing of the Advent Wreath

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Vigil Tuesday, December 7: Mass at 6:30 pm (St. Rosalia)

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Masses: 8:15 am (St. Paul Cathedral),
12:05 pm (St. Paul Cathedral), and 6:00 pm (St. Paul Cathedral)

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe – Monday, December 13, 2021

Saint Paul Cathedral

Holy Hour 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Mass with Bishop Zubik at 7:00 pm

BLESSING OF THE INFANT JESUS STATUES

Families are invited to bring the Infant Jesus statues from their home crèche to be blessed after each of the Masses **on the weekend of December 18 and 19**

CONFESSIONS

Regular Schedule – Friday at 12:45 pm and Saturday at 12:45 pm

No Confessions on December 24 and 25, 2021; January 1, 2022

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Confessions at Saint Paul Cathedral:

6:00 – 9:00 pm

Confessors who speak Spanish and Portuguese as well

SAINT PAUL CATHEDRAL
MONTHLY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2021



1ST SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

— G I O —
“Then they will see the Son of
Man coming in a cloud with
power and great glory. But when
these signs begin to happen,
stand erect and raise your heads
because your redemption is at
hand.” - Lk 21:27-28

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. RLP

ADORATION BEGINS AT 1:00 PM
IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE 12:00 NOON MASS.
SOLEMN EVENING PRAYER AT 5:00 PM,
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MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT.
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PRESENTS

WINE, CHEESE, AND THE GOSPEL

WHEN:

Monday, November 29, 2021
6:30-7 PM: Wine & Cheese
7-8 PM: Presentation & Discussion

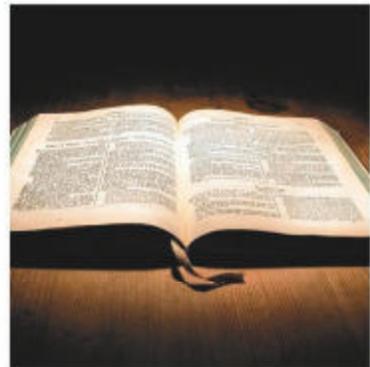
TOPIC:

Love of Neighbor:
Commandments 4 - 7

WHERE:

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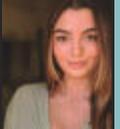
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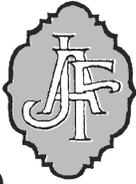
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