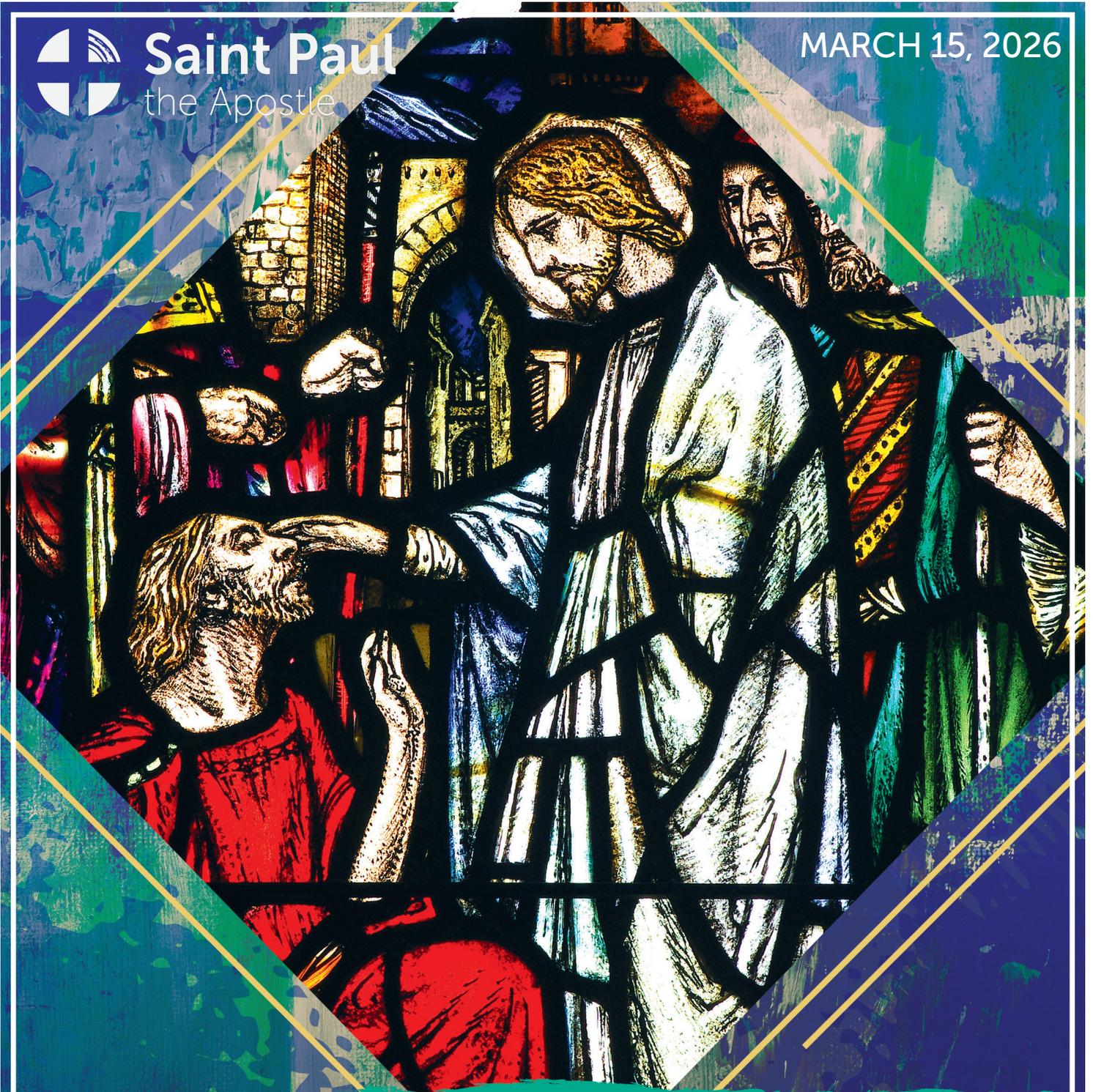




Saint Paul
the Apostle

MARCH 15, 2026



4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

The Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see.
He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I
washed, and now I can see." - Jn 9:15

Dear SPA Family,

Today is the fourth Sunday of Lent, known as the Laetare Sunday, which invites us to rejoice because half of the Lenten journey is already behind us. For this reason, when a more joyful character is desired, the color of the liturgical vestments may be pink (rose) instead of purple.

The midpoint of this liturgical season can be a good opportunity to ask ourselves some questions. **How am I living Lent?** Do I bring it up in family conversations? Do I come to church for Mass or parish events? Do I use radio, television, or internet broadcasts to strengthen myself spiritually? Do I look at the Bible on my shelf, on my table, or on my smartphone?



In this weekend's Gospel, we read about the blindness of a man blind from birth and about the blindness of the Pharisees. Physical blindness is a very sad thing, especially if it is a person's condition from birth. A blind man cannot enjoy watching the world around him, loved ones, blooming crocuses, and nature awakening to life. This is the kind of man Jesus meets and takes pity on him. He heals him and restores his sight. But Jesus wants to heal not only the blind man's physical eyes. He wants the eyes of his heart to be healed as well. This mud that Jesus puts on his eyes is probably a symbol of everything that weighs on a man's soul. **Spiritual blindness is sadder than physical blindness.** The Pharisees, in particular, suffered from this disease. Those affected by it did not see the promised Messiah in Jesus.

The eyes of the heart can become blind through fear, violence, isolation, and sin. Then we see ourselves, other people, and the world in a negative way; we look with a gloomy gaze that speaks of deep sadness, and sometimes even a negation of life. **Without opening our hearts to God, we can be spiritually blind for many years;** we cannot see another person, and we cannot have the ability to be for others. Such blindness is pure selfishness and a lack of love. Then we can live the time of Lent like a spiritually blind man, without changing anything in ourselves, without letting God's light into our hearts, without seeking a personal relationship with Jesus, without deepening it through prayer, the word of God, and the sacraments.

Or we can live in spiritual blindness, immersed in our own infallibility - like the Pharisee in the Gospel - and not see the need to change ourselves. With such an attitude, a person becomes increasingly spiritually blind; even throughout his life, he can remain in the illusion and be convinced of his perfection. **Spiritual blindness means closing oneself to the truth about oneself and living in delusions;** it does not allow us to admit our dark and sinful affairs.

To break free from spiritual blindness, we need to open ourselves to Jesus and accept His light, allowing us to discover the truth about ourselves. Reading the Gospel, personal prayer, and the sacrament of penance are good ways to receive a new vision from Jesus. If we break with sin and open ourselves to the gift of new sight, we will see the beauty of our spiritual rebirth.

This opening to God's light will help us see more clearly what God has given us, what He has planned for us, and the path He proposes to us today. Surely this is the only way in which we can find true goodness and happiness on earth and thus reach full happiness in eternity. Will you be open to this gift? The choice is yours!

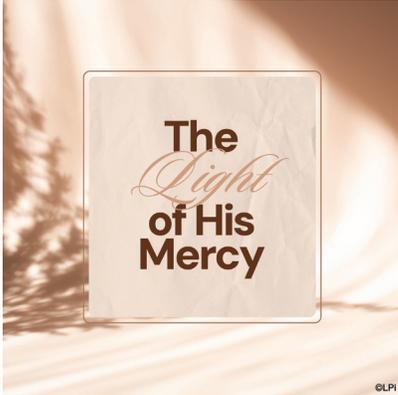
Have a blessed second half of the Lenten Season,
Fr. Chris

To read Mary Penich's Something to Think About...
please visit our website, click "Media" on the homepage, then click "Mary's Reflection"

YOUR SUNDAY WORSHIP AID

4th Sunday of Lent

GOSPEL MEDITATION



If you are like me, it's easy to fixate on our shadows: failures, guilt, shame. Especially when we suffer, it is easy to want to blame ourselves or others. In this week's Gospel, Jesus' disciples ask about the blind man, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents?" (John 9:2) They, like us, focus on blame. But Jesus sees the entire situation differently: "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him." He does not deny sin, but he sees deeper — through the light of mercy, not the lens of judgment. The scene hinges on Jesus' strange claim: "I am the light of the world" (John 9:5). He sees things differently than everyone. They see shadows and light. He is the light.

Thought experiment: imagine you are the sun looking at everything on the earth. What do you see? Everything. What do you not see? Shadows. Everything is illuminated. If you see it, it is illuminated. For the light, nothing is dark.

Because he is the light, Jesus sees us in the glow of his redemptive love. Even our sin becomes a place where his glory can shine. The man's healing is not just about sight — it is about seeing as Christ sees. Lent is not a season of staring into darkness. It is a time to step into the light — to let Christ's gaze reframe how we see ourselves and one another.

Lenten challenge: Spend 10 quiet minutes this week asking Jesus to show you how he sees you. Not through shame or fear, but through the light of his mercy.

— Father John Muir ©LPI

MASS HYMNS

Opening Song: **Broken Vessels (Amazing Grace)** by Joel Houston, Jonas Myrin, and John Newton

At Sunday 5:00pm: **What Wondrous Love Is This (WONDROUS LOVE)**, arranged by Josh Blakesley

Responsorial Psalm: **The Lord Is My Shepherd** by Sarah Hart

Gospel Acclamation: **MASS OF THE DESERT** by Tom Booth

Preparation Song: **Spirit & Song #355 The Heart of Worship** by Matt Redman

Eucharistic Acclamations: **THE GLENDALOUGH MASS** by Liam Lawton

Communion Songs: **Spirit & Song #356 The Breastplate of Saint Patrick** by Sarah Hart and Bob Halligan, Jr.

At Sunday 5:00pm: **Spirit & Song #265 Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone) (NEW BRITAIN)**; verse lyrics by John Newton, refrain music and lyrics by Chris Tomlin and Louie Giglio

Closing Song: **Spirit & Song #265 Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone) (NEW BRITAIN)**; verse

lyrics by John Newton, refrain music and lyrics by Chris Tomlin and Louie Giglio

At Sunday 5:00pm: **Broken Vessels (Amazing Grace)** by Joel Houston, Jonas Myrin, and John Newton

READING I*1 SAMUEL 16:1B, 6-7, 10-13A*

The LORD said to Samuel:
 “Fill your horn with oil, and be on your way.
 I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem,
 for I have chosen my king from among his sons.”

As Jesse and his sons came to the sacrifice,
 Samuel looked at Eliab and thought,
 “Surely the LORD’s anointed is here before him.”
 But the LORD said to Samuel:
 “Do not judge from his appearance or from his lofty
 stature, because I have rejected him.
 Not as man sees does God see,
 because man sees the appearance
 but the LORD looks into the heart.”
 In the same way Jesse presented seven sons before
 Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse,
 “The LORD has not chosen any one of these.”
 Then Samuel asked Jesse, “Are these all the sons you
 have?”
 Jesse replied, “There is still the youngest, who is tending
 the sheep.”
 Samuel said to Jesse, “Send for him; we will not begin
 the sacrificial banquet until he arrives here.”
 Jesse sent and had the young man brought to them.
 He was ruddy, a youth handsome to behold
 and making a splendid appearance.
 The LORD said, “There—anoint him, for this is the
 one!”
 Then Samuel, with the horn of oil in hand,
 anointed David in the presence of his brothers;
 and from that day on, the spirit of the LORD rushed
 upon David.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*PSALM 23: 1-3A, 3B-4, 5, 6*

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

READING II*EPHESIANS 5:8-14*

Brothers and sisters:
 You were once darkness,
 but now you are light in the Lord.
 Live as children of light,
 for light produces every kind of goodness
 and righteousness and truth.
 Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.
 Take no part in the fruitless works of darkness;
 rather expose them, for it is shameful even to mention
 the things done by them in secret;
 but everything exposed by the light becomes visible,
 for everything that becomes visible is light.
 Therefore, it says:
 “Awake, O sleeper,
 and arise from the dead,
 and Christ will give you light.”

GOSPEL*JOHN 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38*

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth.
 He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva,
 and smeared the clay on his eyes,
 and said to him,
 “Go wash in the Pool of Siloam” — which means Sent —.
 So he went and washed, and came back able to see.

His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a
 beggar said,
 “Isn’t this the one who used to sit and beg?”
 Some said, “It is,”
 but others said, “No, he just looks like him.”
 He said, “I am.”

They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees.
 Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath.
 So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to
 see.
 He said to them,
 “He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see.”
 So some of the Pharisees said,
 “This man is not from God,
 because he does not keep the sabbath.”
 But others said,
 “How can a sinful man do such signs?”
 And there was a division among them.
 So they said to the blind man again,
 “What do you have to say about him,
 since he opened your eyes?”
 He said, “He is a prophet.”

They answered and said to him,
 “You were born totally in sin,
 and are you trying to teach us?”
 Then they threw him out.

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out,
 he found him and said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”
 He answered and said,
 “Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?”
 Jesus said to him,
 “You have seen him, and
 the one speaking with you is he.”
 He said,
 “I do believe, Lord,” and he worshiped him.

*They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees.
 Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath.
 So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see.
 He said to them, “He put clay on my eyes, and I washed,
 and now I can see.” — Jn 9:13-15*

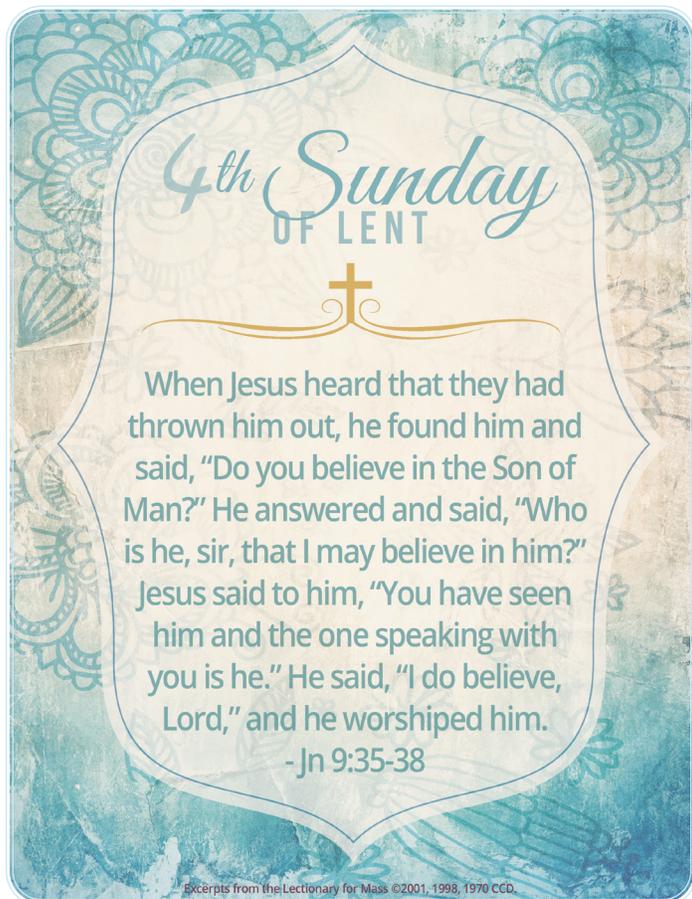
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
*who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,*
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God,
the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/
Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/
Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn
5:17-30

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and
29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-
51a

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn
7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53

WEEKDAY PSALMS

Monday: Psalm 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b
I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me..

Tuesday: Psalm 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9
The Lord of hosts is with us; our stronghold is the God
of Jacob.

Wednesday: Psalm 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18
The Lord is gracious and merciful.

Thursday: Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29
The son of David will live for ever.

Friday: Psalm 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23
The Lord is close to the brokenhearted.

Saturday: Psalm 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12
O Lord, my God, in you I take refuge.

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Lent

Tuesday: St. Patrick, Bishop; St. Patrick's Day

Wednesday: St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of
the Church

Thursday: St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Next Sunday: 5th Sunday of Lent

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Bill Vasilius | Lawrence Doan Pham | Celso Balita Castor | Gerena O. Monis | John Carter Bennett | Augustin Vazquez | Scott Kohler | Austria & Martinez Families | Anastasio Menchavez | Shirley Wilson

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026

7:30am: Victor Peccioli | Ben Serrano | Joseph Falotico | Don Borzick | Larry Lesza | Terry Nieman

9:30am: Erin Hickey | Melissa Miller | Kinga Szymoniak | Donna Schachtner

11:30am: Bob & Harriet Sutton | Chuck Gresser | Hector B. Brual, Jr. | Celia J. Auguste | Yolanda Abante | Gregorio Durban | Nena Cagalitan

5:00pm: Gopal Jayaraman

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026

7:30am: Olga & Edward Grzesik | Conception Jomoc | John Irish Tapac

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026

7:30am: Joshua Reyes | Eden M. Landicho

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026

7:30am: Judy Russell | Manuel Kalaw

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026

7:30am: Edsel Doreza | Lidwina Duka | Bobbie Mendlik

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026

7:30am: Gladys & Ambrose Klein | Frederico Cagalitan

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Lawrence Doan Pham | Gerena O. Monis | John Carter Bennett | Walter & Emily Macrowski | Diana Yedinak Scola

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026

7:30am: Judy Russell | Ben Serrano

9:30am: Craig Nielsen | Luisa Bardales | Ron Taylor

11:30am: Hector B. Brual, Jr. | Celia J. Auguste | Joseph & Yolanda Leahy | Silvestre & Crescencia Elefanté | Paulina Negrillo | Michael Velasco

5:00pm: Bob & Harriet Sutton

DONATIONS SUMMARY

Week of March 8, 2025

Sunday- \$13,553 Online Sunday- \$11,628

Sharing- \$25 Online Sharing- \$804

SVdP- \$677 Online SVdP- \$502

Lenten Almsgiving - Catholic Extension- \$4,604

Month to Date - February

Sunday- \$61,919

Online Sunday- \$43,950

Sharing- \$1,518

Online Sharing- \$2,495

SVdP- \$2,316

Online SVdP- \$1,812

Souper Bowl- \$9,057



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Obdulia Elizalde	Mark Wilson
Jovita Menes	Pat Gundrum
Reginald Dulaca	Mary Thachil
Melody Cook	Daniela Gaborik
Brian Smolicek	Amy Patterson
Roberto Movilla	Melissa Fernandes
Shani Stahnke	Emily Meryer
Abby Swygard	Kathy Hunt
Rod Reyes	Laura Hopkins
Betty Falotico	Bill O'Brien
Keith Kellogg	Katie Travelstead
Lisa Mischke	Shanklin
David Zilligen	Roman Stankiewicz
Eduardo Perez	Charles Brown
Maria Domitila Zambrano de Polanco	Reginald Dulaca
Rafael Gloria	Melody Cook
Collen Wishall	Jeanne Tan
Silvia Pinedo	Gemma Olaiz
Consuelo Vargas	Giovanni Deligero
Juan Miguel Currea	Holly Wall Freund
Gloria de Cardenas	Maureen Hisel
Helena Sznicer	April Grandgeorge
George Lawrence	Eileen Boyle
Michael Miller	Toni Mengarelli
Cynthia D. Caudell	Dan Garrett
Glafira Bunsen	Rosa LaBellarte
Jackie Herrera-Giron	Sharon Browning
Gino LaBellarte	Donna Kalinoski
Dianne Scirri	Dan Garrett
Pat Wilson	Ruth Blood
Kimmy Cozart	Kay Breuscher
	Rachel Ciullo
	Charlie Lucas

Please know that we pray for all of the sick at every Mass. However, if you would like your name or that of a sick loved one to be included in the list above, please email or call

Catherine in the Parish Office:
info@spa.church or 847-918-0600



In loving memory of our recently deceased parishioners. May God's perpetual light shine upon them.

Loretta Carr

John Lotka

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026

HOSPITALITY WEEKEND

8:30AM VISITATION - CARR

9:30AM FUNERAL - CARR

9:30AM CIRCLE OF WOMEN

11:00AM RECONCILIATION

1:00PM WEDDING 50TH ANNIVERSARY-
NAVARRO

3:00PM WEDDING - WATTELET

5:00PM MASS

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026

7:30AM MASS

9:00AM OCIA

9:00AM FF | SUN K-6

9:30AM MASS

11:30AM MASS

3:30PM CF 1-2-HS & SCU2

4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL

5:00PM MASS

6:00PM LIFETEEN NIGHT: LIFENIGHT

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026

7:30AM MASS

7:00PM LENTEN HOLY HOUR

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026

7:30AM MASS

8:00AM HOLY HOUR

2:00PM FAITH SHARING

5:00PM CHILDREN'S CHOIR REHEARSAL

6:15PM HANDBELL REHEARSAL

6:30PM SPRED

7:00PM KNIT PURL PRAY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026

7:30AM MASS

11:00AM SENIOR LUNCHEON

6:30PM GRIEF SUPPORT - PM

7:00PM KOC - 4TH DEGREE OFFICER MTG

7:00PM ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026

7:30AM MASS

8:00AM HOLY HOUR

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026

7:30AM MASS

7:00PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026

6:30AM MEN'S LEGACY

11:00AM RECONCILIATION

5:00PM MASS

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026

7:30AM MASS

9:00AM OCIA

9:30AM MASS

11:30AM MASS

4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL

5:00PM MASS

MARCH 21/22 | LITURGY SCHEDULE

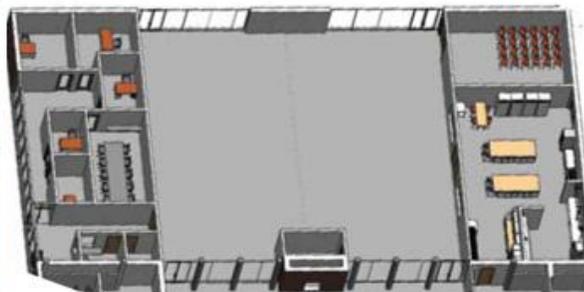
	USHERS	LECTORS	COMMUNION MINISTERS	GREETERS	PRESIDER
SATURDAY 5:00PM	A. Barrie G. Johnson M. Mohrfeld T. Rusnak OPEN x 2	Judy Macrowski Brad Bonham	Drexler Grzesiak Hauck Minich Rusnak	D. Wells Open	Fr. John Dn. Brent
SUNDAY 7:30AM	J. Siegel G. Aranas P. Rothacker R. Sekany R. Dizon S. Bilas	Bill Murphy Elsa Kurien	Azcueta, R. Kurien Janik O'Neil, D O'Neil, M	J.R. Delgado P. Bland	Fr. Martin
SUNDAY 9:30AM	D. Scheffler K. King OPEN x 4	Cathy Latza Matthew Schwarz	Belk Brennan Latza Moriarty Ignacio, Aeron	M. Maus T. Maus	Fr. Chris Dn. Mike
SUNDAY 11:30AM	C. Karl G. Galano P. Watson R. Cuasay R. Terrazas OPEN	Gerald Galano Maribeth Hilo	Auguste Galano Richardt Colcol Tebbetts	D. Moseley T. Guziec	Fr. Chris Dn. Rod
SUNDAY 5:00PM	M. Deniz B. Marchioni J. Plamoottil K. Deniz OPEN x 2	JJ Plamoottil Teen or Lector 1	Crow Gayton Plamoottil Deniz Serek	T. Marlowe J. Cruz	Fr. Martin Dn. Andy

Additional Parish Projects | \$1.5M+

At St. Paul the Apostle, we are truly blessed by the generosity and faith of our parish community. With the remaining funds from our \$3M *Ignite the Future* campaign goal, we envision creating spaces that foster connection and strengthen our mission by expanding the Upper Gathering Space and centralizing Parish Administration. We have begun working with architects and contractors to bring this vision to life. Parishioner support will help shape the scope of these projects, and the parish will also explore additional funding options to make them possible. We are committed to keeping our parish family informed about all updates.

Expand Our Upper Gathering Space

As our parish community continues to grow, so does the need for more versatile and welcoming spaces to gather, connect, and deepen our shared faith. With over 74 active ministries and faith formation programs, St. Paul the Apostle is a vibrant center of spiritual life and service. To support this flourishing activity, we are **expanding our current upper gathering space into a banquet-style hall** capable of hosting 250-300 guests equipped with a full-service kitchen and dedicated storage.



The updated space will enrich our community experience by:

- Offering greater opportunities for fellowship
- Improving accessibility
- Creating an open and versatile space for large parish events and small group gatherings
- Providing space to strengthen ties with local community organizations
- Alleviating scheduling challenges due to space constraints

Centralize Parish Administration

To better serve our growing parish community, St. Paul the Apostle will relocate its administrative offices from the Parish House to the newly renovated west side of the Upper Gathering Space. This move will centralize parish operations and enhance accessibility for parishioners and visitors.

Benefits of this transition include:

- **Improved accessibility:** Staff and services will be easier to reach in a central, welcoming location.
- **Expanded ministry space:** Parish House, specifically the Great Room with a new restroom, will continue to be used for parish meetings. Meanwhile, the priests will reside in the rectory side, with small offices which will provide them with a quiet space to prepare for the liturgy. Also, this format will allow for ample space for visiting clergy.
- **Streamlined operations:** Reducing confusion and improving efficiency for all who engage with our parish.



SPRED EASTER CANDY SALE ONE WEEKEND ONLY MARCH 21ST & 22ND!

SPRED is bringing the popular candy and nut sale back for Easter during the weekend of March 21st and 22nd.

High-quality chocolates, cashews, and mixed nuts will be available for purchase after all the masses.

Proceeds will support St. Paul's SPRED program.



JOIN US FOR THE...
Senior Luncheon

**WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 18TH**

11AM-1PM

Bingo After Lunch
No Reservations Taken
After March 15th
Appreciate and Accepting
Free-Will Donations
RSVP with Name and
Phone Number to
Murquhart@spa.church
or call 847-816-8677



Join Us for
Bible Study

JOIN US ON WEDNESDAYS

Wednesday Bible Study will begin March 25 at the Parish House. We will be doing a 9-week overview of the Wisdom Books: Sirach, Ecclesiastes, Proverbs, and the Book of Wisdom, and applying it to practical areas of our life like relationships, speech, finances, aging, making decisions, and finding God's will. The lectures by Jeff Cavins are excellent, and there is a workbook/journal for \$25 payable at class. The 2 classes at 9:30 AM and 6:30 PM are the same material; please specify which class when you sign up on the Church website. Questions and sign-up can also be sent to Barbara Wagner (847) 767 - 1202 or barbarawagner25@earthlink.net.

All are welcome, even if you are new to the Bible!

WWW.SAINTPAULTHEAPOSTLE.CHURCH

DINE FOR A CAUSE

PRIMO
RESTAURANT & BAR

FATMANS
BBQ, MEXICAN, ITALIAN, HALL

LAKEHOUSE
BAR • GRILL • BANQUET

Jolee's
TACOS, STEAKS

POJO'S
MOTORCYCLE
SUPPER CLUB



Visit any of our locations during Lent
and 10% of your food bill will be donated to
Knights of Columbus- Divine Mercy Council 11112 charities

**Knights of
Columbus**
Fundraiser benefitting
St Paul The Apostle, Gurnee

All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry
Every Friday Night
at Fatmans & LakeHouse Restaurant

Make a reservation
www.khayatenterprises.com

Valid during Lent
Must present this ad at the time of ordering.



Knights Corner



Divine Mercy Council will collaborate with the Khayat family of restaurants again this Lent to benefit our Knights' charities. You must present this flyer (image left) to any Khayat restaurant on any day during Lent, and 10% of your food bill will be donated to our charities. Additionally, the following restaurants are participating: Limoncello and Twyla's Lounge in Gurnee.

St Paul's will host a Fish Fry, community dinner on Friday, March 27 th. 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm. You will need to purchase your pre-sale dinner tickets on weekends beginning March 7 th, or through the parish website. You can also use the QR Code below. There will be a limited number of tickets available on the day of the Fish Fry. Dinner is \$15, and will include fish filets, French fries, Cole slaw, beverage, and dessert.



You are cordially invited to the 2nd informational session to learn more about the Ignite the Future Campaign.



scan to register

Please join us on

March 30th at 6:30pm in the Lower Level.

The meeting will include a presentation, a Q&A session, and a time to hear participants' opinions, and will also help build momentum and increase awareness on the given topics.

Please register on our website.

We look forward to sharing this important event with you.



OPERATION RICE BOWL 2026



Once again, our parish family is uniting to combat hunger in this world of ours. Our religious education students are leading this effort by doing their best to fill Rice Bowls this Lent. They'll do extra chores, share their allowances, and anything else they can think of to lead us in this year's campaign. If you'd like to help, please pick up a Rice Bowl in the gathering space or use any container at home to store the loose change (and cash, of course!) that you can spare to feed the hungry. You can also give online on the parish website. Our parish family never misses an opportunity to help others. This Lent, conditions in this world and here at home indicate that our help is more crucial than ever. Thank you for all we know that you'll do to help!

Lenten Holy Hour
Monday 7pm

Stations of the Cross
Fridays 7pm

Parish Reconciliation Service
March 16th
7pm

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

TOGETHER WE BRING LIGHT

© Vatican Media

2026 Annual Catholic Appeal

The Annual Catholic Appeal theme for 2026 is *Together we bring light*. It stems from Jesus' words to his early disciples and to us: "You are the light of the world." (Matthew 5:14) We understand our responsibility to bring light to a world that seems often covered in darkness. Contributions to the Appeal enable us to bring light to those in need. We do not do this alone but together as the Body of Christ. Our Church finds the fulfillment of her mission when we support the Appeal and the ministries of teaching, sanctifying, and bringing pastoral care to those in need. Truly, together we do bring light.

Please consider supporting this year's Appeal. Your generous contribution will be a source of blessing for many people, for yourself, and for your loved ones.

To make a gift by phone: 312.534.7959

To mail:
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In partnership with Catholic Extension Society, St. Paul of the Apostle Parish is supporting **the missionary priests and Catholic communities of Wyoming**. Your Lenten almsgiving helps sustain priests who serve vast rural areas, strengthens parish life, and plants seeds of faith in young people who are discovering God's love.

Your generosity this Lent will help raise up future missionaries and support faith-filled communities that persevere despite distance, isolation, and limited resources.

What Is It Like to Be Catholic in Wyoming?

Wyoming is a land of breathtaking beauty—and extraordinary challenges for the Catholic Church.

- Wyoming spans **98,000 square miles**, and the **Diocese of Cheyenne covers the entire state** (*That's 70 times larger than the Archdiocese of Chicago!*)
- Only **586,000 people** live in Wyoming, compared to **9.4 million** in the Chicago area
- There are just **36 Catholic parishes and 34 missions** statewide
- That means **one Catholic church every 1,380 square miles**
(In Chicago, there's one every 4 square miles)



**St. Edward Mission Church, Kinnear, WY
(Population 44)**

Life for Catholics in Wyoming looks very different from life in urban dioceses.

If you've never been to Wyoming, it's hard to imagine the vast distances.

The Diocese of Cheyenne describes itself this way:

“Our state is a land of wide-open spaces and sparsely populated towns, but our people are faith-filled and tightly-knit, bound together by a love of God, country, community, and a Western spirit unique to this special place.”



Fr. Chris Ciastoń leads parishioners of Mary Queen of Heaven Mission in prayer during Catholic Extension Immersion Trip to the Diocese of Cheyenne, Wyoming

KNIT, PURL, *Pray*



Our prayer shawl ministry "Knit Purl Pray" creates shawls, blankets, and other items to comfort those in need within our parish community and its outreach.

Meetings are held in the lower-level gathering space on the 1st Tuesday (1-3 pm) and 3rd Tuesday (7-8:30 pm).

The next meeting is on Tuesday, March 17th at 7pm.

Questions? Contact the parish office: info@spa.church

Grief Support and Encouragement Group

March 18th at 6:30 pm
in Room 32

Contact
Sandy Gbur, Certified
Grief Educator
sgbur@spa.church
708-217-2209



SHARE YOUR VOICE
SUPPORT OUR PARISH

The **Disciple Maker Index (DMI) Survey** is a great way to reflect on your own spiritual growth while helping our parish plan for the future.

Please help by completing the short, 10 minute survey as soon as possible. Visit **our website** or scan the code below.

There are also opportunities to complete the survey after daily and Sunday Mass. You can obtain a paper copy in the Gathering Space.

The survey is available from **Ash Wednesday, February 18 to March 31** and will ask you to consider your spiritual growth and provide feedback on our parish's efforts to help you grow.

All responses are **anonymous** and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole. We will receive the results this spring/summer, at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish.

Don't miss this opportunity to be heard.

Thank you for helping our parish!



Ministers of Care

What is the Ministry of Care? It is a group of parishioners who have been trained and commissioned to visit, pray with, and bring Holy Communion to members of our parish who are sick and unable to attend Mass, including those who are homebound, in the hospital, or in a nursing home.

We have several Ministers of Care available to bring Holy Communion to those unable to attend Mass. Please contact Doug Nieman at 847-715-6798 or dougnieman791@gmail.com, and one of our ministers will be in touch to schedule a visit.

For those interested in joining this ministry, please contact Doug Nieman. Training opportunities will be available in Lake Zurich in April 2026; more details will follow in future bulletins.

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MEN OF CHRIST,
3/14/26,
LET'S GET A CARPOOL.
<https://menofchrist.us1>

Amen & Omelets
FRIDAY, 3/27/26, 7:30 AM
MASS AT SPA FOLLOWED
BY FELLOWSHIP AT
RIVERSIDE CAFE.



You are cordially invited to join the **Waukegan 40 Days For Life Campaign** for a special closing event on Day 41 of the spring 2026 campaign to end abortion featuring Fr. Jim Heyd and Victor Vallejo.

What: Light the Night Waukegan Day 41
Where: Waukegan Planned Parenthood
1601 N. Lewis Ave., Waukegan
When: Monday, March 30th at 7:00 pm
Notes: Bring your own light.
Ample Parking Available at
Tony's Fresh Market.

Questions: Contact Leslie at (847) 951-1064
40daysforlife.com/waukegan



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MARCH 18, 2026 6:30PM
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CHILDREN'S HOMILY

Deacon Mike will offer a Children's Homily Sunday, March 22, at the 9:30 Mass. As always, all our parish children -and adults!- are welcome to listen!



847-347-0832

EMERGENCY AND TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE, FISCAL SUPPORT, HELP WITH LOCATING AVAILABLE RESOURCES AND OTHER SERVICES AIMED AT ADDRESSING ALL ISSUES A PERSON OR FAMILY MAY BE FACING WITH THE INTENT OF SUPPORTING SUSTAINED POSITIVE CHANGE.

Crisis Support Resources

DOMESTIC ABUSE

A Safe Place Hotline: 847-249-4450

Sexual Abuse: 847-872-7799

PREGNANCY SUPPORT:

Aid for Women: 847-249-2700

POST-ABORTION

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT:

Project Rachel: 800-SWE-CARE

EMERGENCY SHELTER:

PADS: 847-689-4357

Catholic Charities: 847-782-4000

COUNSELING:

Holbrook Center: 312-655-7725

SUICIDE PREVENTION

Emergency: 911
988

FOOD PANTRIES:

Avon Township: 847-546-1446

Holy Family: 847-782-4166

Saint Anastasia: 847-623-2112

Warren Township: 847-244-1101



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PARISH OFFICE

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
HOURS: 9:00AM - 5:00PM
FRIDAY HOURS: 9:00AM - 12:00PM
847-918-0600

BUSINESS OFFICE

HOURS: 9:00AM - 4:00PM
MONDAY & WEDNESDAY
FRIDAY HOURS: 8:30AM - 12:00PM
847-918-0600

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
HOURS: 8:30AM - 3:00PM
FRIDAY HOURS: 8:30AM - 12:00PM
847-816-8677

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKDAY MASS:
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
7:30AM

SATURDAY EVENING:
5:00PM

SUNDAY:
7:30 | 9:30 | 11:30AM | 5:00PM

ADORATION

TUESDAY/THURSDAY MORNINGS
8:00AM

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS IN THE BLESSED
SACRAMENT CHAPEL
11:00AM

CLERGY

FR. CHRIS CIASTOŃ | PASTOR
frchris@spa.church

FR. MARTIN SZCZYPULA | ASSOCIATE PASTOR
frmartin@spa.church

FR. JOE CURTIS | WEEKEND ASSISTANCE
frjoe@spa.church

FR. JOHN GUTHRIE | WEEKEND ASSISTANCE
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