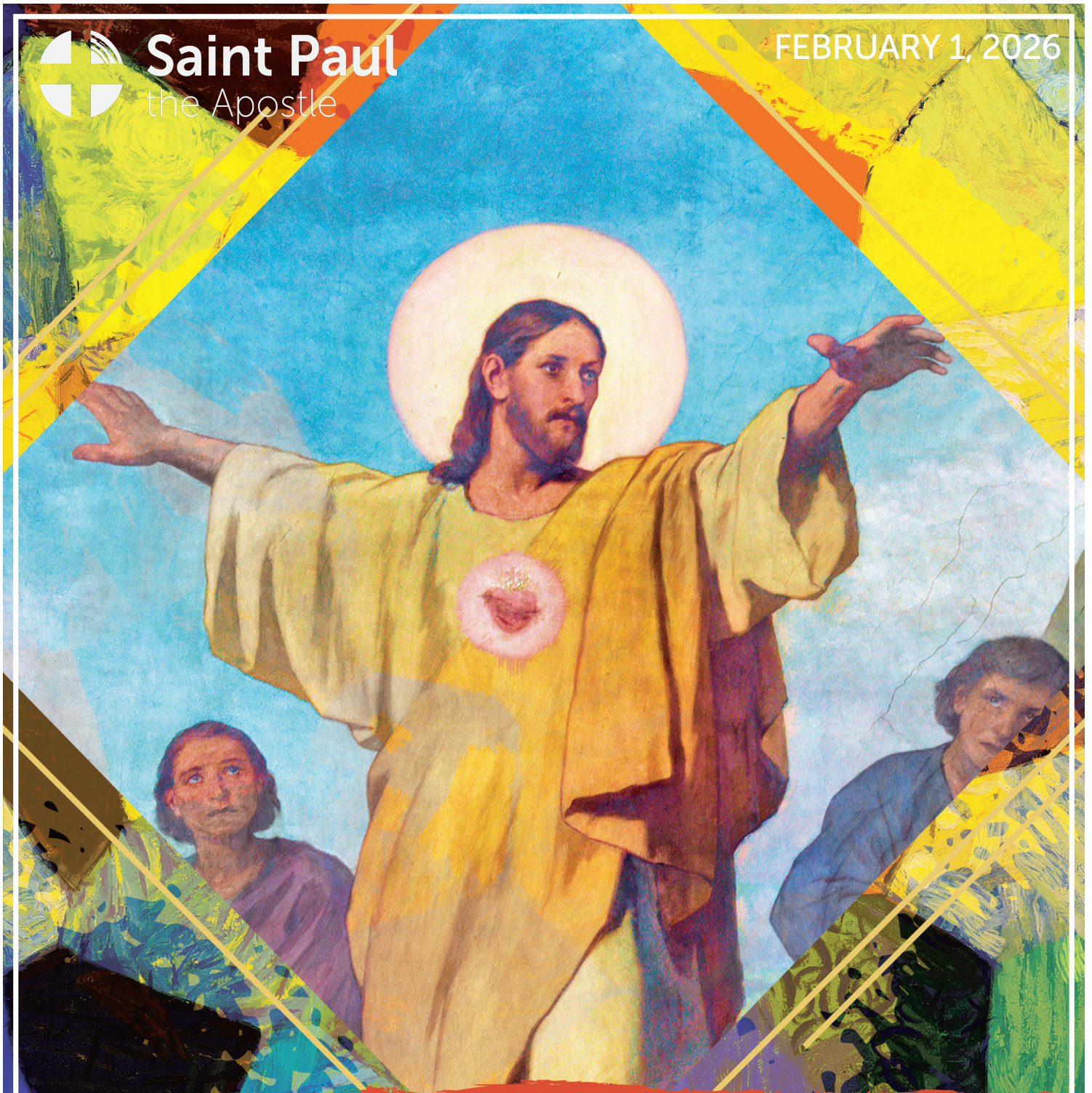




**Saint Paul**  
the Apostle

FEBRUARY 1, 2026



## 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Blessed are you when they insult you and  
persecute you and utter every kind of evil against  
you falsely because of me.” - Mt 5:11

# Dear SPA Family,

None of us wants to lose our lives, and we don't want this life to become a series of failures and suffering. I believe each of us dreams of tasting happiness and joy. But unfortunately, we also have another dream: to make it easy and effortless, with no difficult requirements. Meanwhile, everyday life tells us that there is no easy happiness. But we Christians, fortunately, have a path that will lead us to true happiness. This is how it's presented in the Gospel of the Beatitude. The Eight Beatitudes is sometimes perceived as a kind of moral code. Instead, it is rather a promise that Jesus makes to his disciples. Indeed, following Jesus can cause fear: will I be happy if I follow this path? Jesus responds to these fears with a firm 'yes.' Jesus' words even imply that those who follow Him are 'condemned' to be happy.



Yes, the followers of Christ sometimes lose some of the little happinesses that this world gives, but they gain a great happiness, which is stronger than any loss that may be incurred by choosing this way. Dear friends, let us dwell today on just a few of Christ's promises: *Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.* I'm thinking about my grandparents here. They sure are celebrating today. Saints who preached to me with their lives and the wonderful love that united them.

The testimony of God's presence in their lives was so clear that they needed no words to preach the Word. The meek are those who can preach the Word of God with the accuracy of their daily choices - and choose only what is God's. Notice one more of the eight beatitudes: *Blessed are they who weep, for they shall be comforted.* Today's people cry because they are ill, because they have failed in life, because they do not have an apartment, they cry because they were wronged at their workplace. They believe they will find comfort when, thanks to God, they regain their health, suddenly make a career change, get an apartment, and are told about a raise. It's not just about that. There is comfort in understanding that what we fear and run from can bring us closer to God. What a pity that modern people who cry do not always cry when examining their conscience. And they'd have to cry more than once. After all, every day we learn anew that not every course of action leads us to win life.

Today's world and today's ideologies or social media are often paths to painful failures and disappointments. In order to win life on earth, we need such clear rules of the game as the Blessings - they tell us about the proven principles that lead us to happiness: *do not put anything or anyone in the place of God, be quiet, calm, trust in God, try to follow the path of justice, be a person of peace, do not pass by indifferently towards those in need, control your impulses and desires, overcome evil with good and lies with truth.* Finally, *invite God into your life, and share your joys and sorrows with Him.*

Perhaps you will say - these indications in the Blessings are unnecessary, too difficult, not for today's times, after all, today we are brought up stress-free, without effort, without discipline - know that the first people had such hopes before you - they also wanted to achieve happiness without working on it, but failure and disappointment awaited them. Meanwhile, Christ came to give us the way to true happiness. He showed us the way to victory, not only after death, but also here and now. This is the way of love and truth - and they are contained in the Beatitudes. Remember, if you want your life to be truly happy, the Beatitudes are the way to that happiness. And one more important lesson from the gospel: St. John Paul II once said: *great happiness costs a lot, because it always costs what is of great value.*

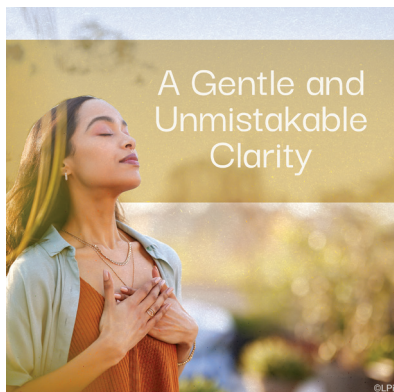
## Have a blessed week, Fr. Chris C.

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 in Ordinary Time

### GOSPEL MEDITATION



A priest I know was once falsely accused of a terrible crime. The claim was wild and easily disproved, but for a while, it didn't matter. In the atmosphere shaped by the abuse crisis of the early 2000s, the public assumption was guilty until proven innocent. His name was dragged through the mud, and his ministry placed on hold. I had the privilege — and the burden — of walking closely with him during that time.

He was angry. He was confused. He felt abandoned and deeply disoriented. The last thing on his mind was the words of Jesus in today's Gospel: "Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me ... Rejoice and be glad" (Matthew 5:11-12). Rejoice? He felt anything but.

And yet... something holy slowly grew in him. Not overnight, and not without pain. But as the truth came to light and his name was cleared, I watched him become more Christlike — more patient, more compassionate, more detached from human approval.

Maybe you haven't faced something so dramatic. But where do you feel judged? Misrepresented? Overlooked? Maybe someone else got the credit or the promotion. Maybe someone you love isn't getting their due. In those moments, the Cross of Jesus is near. When we feel accused, that's when we ask him for the grace not just to endure, but somehow, mysteriously, to rejoice and be glad.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

### MASS HYMNS

Opening Song: **Spirit & Song #335** **Open the Eyes of My Heart** by Paul Balloche

Gloria: **MASS OF RESTORATION** by Josh Blakesley and Grae McCullough

Responsorial Psalm: **Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit** by Mary Kate Westrich

Gospel Acclamation: **MASS OF THE DESERT** by Steve Angrisano

Preparation Song: **Spirit & Song #336** **Overflow** by Matt Maher

At Sunday 5:00pm: **Litany of Humility** by Thomas Muglia

Eucharistic Acclamations: **MASS OF RESTORATION** by Josh Blakesley and Grae McCullough

Communion Songs: **Blessed Are You** by Sarah Hart

Closing Song: **Go Into the World** by Tom Booth

At Sunday 5:00pm: **The Blessing** by Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe and Steven Furtick

## READING I

*ZEPHANIAH 2:3; 3:12-13*

Seek the LORD, all you humble of the earth,  
who have observed his law;  
seek justice, seek humility;  
perhaps you may be sheltered  
on the day of the LORD's anger.

But I will leave as a remnant in your midst  
a people humble and lowly,  
who shall take refuge in the name of the LORD:  
the remnant of Israel.  
They shall do no wrong  
and speak no lies;  
nor shall there be found in their mouths  
a deceitful tongue;  
they shall pasture and couch their flocks  
with none to disturb them.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*PSALM 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10*

Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven  
is theirs!

## READING II

*1 CORINTHIANS 1:26-31*

Consider your own calling, brothers and sisters.  
Not many of you were wise by human standards,  
not many were powerful,  
not many were of noble birth.  
Rather, God chose the foolish of the world to shame  
the wise,  
and God chose the weak of the world to shame the  
strong,  
and God chose the lowly and despised of the world,  
those who count for nothing,  
to reduce to nothing those who are something,  
so that no human being might boast before God.  
It is due to him that you are in Christ Jesus,  
who became for us wisdom from God,  
as well as righteousness, sanctification, and  
redemption,  
so that, as it is written,  
"Whoever boasts, should boast in the Lord."

## GOSPEL

*MATTHEW 5:1-12A*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain,  
and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him.  
He began to teach them, saying:  
"Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are they who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the land.  
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be satisfied.  
Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.  
Blessed are the clean of heart,  
for they will see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.  
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of  
righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you  
and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because  
of me.  
Rejoice and be glad,  
for your reward will be great in heaven."



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## GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.  
We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the Glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

## 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:** Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146:6c-7, 8-9a, 9b-10/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a

**Monday:** Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

**Tuesday:** 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mk 5:21-43

**Wednesday:** 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 6:1-6

**Thursday:** 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Mk 6:7-13

**Friday:** Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51/Mk 6:14-29

**Saturday:** 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/Mk 6:30-34

## WEEKDAY PSALMS

**Monday: Psalm 24:7, 8, 9, 10**  
Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

**Tuesday: Psalm 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6**  
Listen, Lord, and answer me.

**Wednesday: Psalm 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7**  
Lord, forgive the wrong I have done.

**Thursday: 1 Chronicles 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd**  
Lord, you are exalted over all.

**Friday: Psalm 18:31, 47 and 50, 51**  
Blessed be God my salvation!

**Saturday: Psalm 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14**  
Lord, teach me your statutes.

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday:** 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Monday:** The Presentation of the Lord, World Day for Consecrated Life

**Tuesday:** St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr; St. Ansgar, Bishop

**Thursday:** St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

**Friday:** St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

**Next Sunday:** 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Marriage Day

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2026

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Tristyn Karl | Gerena O. Monis  
Lawrence Doan Pham | Marybeth & Charlotte Hilo | John Carter  
Bennett | Scott Kohler

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026

7:30am: Judith Burley | Victor Peccioli | Michael Kinahan | Lupe  
Barcebal  
9:30am: Robert Chester Buttrey | Maria Dominguez  
11:30am: Bob & Harriet Sutton | Hector B. Brual, Jr. | Joseph  
Richardt | Mark Bonislawski  
5:00pm: Our Parish Family

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026

7:30am: Our Parish Family

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2026

7:30am: George Herrmann

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026

7:30am: Our Parish Family

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026

7:30am: Ryan Matthew Balbag

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026

7:30am: Bob Sr. & Judy Russell | Maria Dominguez

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2026

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Nancy Martin | Alice De Silvia  
Lawrence Doan Pham | Gerena O. Monis | John Carter Bennett

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2026

7:30am: Lupe Barcebal  
9:30am: Renato Carino | Dolores Latza  
11:30am: Chuck Gresser | Hector B. Brual, Jr. | Rosario Montas  
Rhyre Yousif | Joleet Desho | Shmoni Poulus | Yakob Desho  
Yalcob Sana  
5:00pm: Bob & Harriet Sutton

## DONATIONS SUMMARY

### Week of January 26, 2025

Sunday- \$10,423	Online Sunday- \$4,711
Sharing- \$20	Online Sharing- \$186
SVdP- \$1,125	Online SVdP- \$115
Christmas- \$50	
Retirement fund for Religious- \$5	

### Month to Date - January

Sunday- \$73,978  
Online Sunday- \$33,554  
Christmas- \$5,362  
Sharing- \$845  
Online Sharing- \$1,800  
SVdP- \$2,490  
Online SVdP- \$2,036  
Retirement fund for Religious- \$180



## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Kinga Szymoniak	Jackie Herrera-Giron
Chris Lucy	Gino LaBellarte
Donna O'Brien	Dianne Scirri
Norilyn Querubin	Pat Wilson
Rey Querubin	Kimmy Cozart
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
Glaflira Bunsen	Rosa LaBellarte
	Sharon Browning

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](mailto:info@spa.church) or 847-918-0600



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

*Marilynn Fahey  
Nadine Lubera-Stetson  
Barbara Kapple  
James Conaway  
James Hansen  
Maria Sas*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2026** **MINISTRY WEEKEND -** **EVANGELIZATION & SPIRITUAL** **COMMISSION**

**6:30AM** MEN'S LEGACY  
**11:00AM** RECONCILIATION  
**12:30PM** BAPTISM - ARREOLA  
**1:00PM** BAPTISM - PEREZ-SCHAUER  
**5:00PM** MASS

### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 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, FEBRUARY 2, 2026**

**7:30AM** MASS  
**7:00PM** ADORATION - PRAISE & WORSHIP

### **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2026**

**7:30AM** MASS  
**8:00AM** HOLY HOUR  
**1:00PM** KNIT PURL PRAY  
**2:00PM** FAITH SHARING  
**6:30PM** SPRED  
**7:00PM** FIREPLACE TALKS- MARY PENICH

### **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

**7:30AM** MASS  
**3:00PM** GRIEF SUPPORT  
**7:00PM** ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL

### **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026**

**7:30AM** MASS  
**8:00AM** HOLY HOUR  
**7:00PM** BAPTISM PREP CLASS  
**7:00PM** K OF C OFFICERS MEETING

### **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026**

**7:30AM** MASS

### **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2026** **SOUPER BOWL**

**6:30AM** MEN'S LEGACY/PAUL'S GARAGE  
**8:30AM** LEGAL CLINIC KICK OFF  
**11:00AM** RECONCILIATION  
**1:30PM** FIRST SATURDAY PRAYER GROUP  
**5:00PM** MASS

### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2026**

**7:30AM** MASS  
**9:00AM** OCIA  
**9:00AM** FF | SUN K-6  
**9:30AM** MASS  
**11:30AM** MASS  
**4:00PM** TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL  
**5:00PM** MASS

## FEBRUARY 7/8 | LITURGY SCHEDULE

	USHERS	LECTORS	COMMUNION MINISTERS		GREETERS	PRESIDER
<b>SATURDAY</b> <b>5:00PM</b>	M. Mohrfeld A. Barrie A. Rusnak T. Rusnak G. Johnson OPEN	Andy Thiel Judy Macrowski	Drexler Rago Herchenbach	Smith Wells	D. Wells P. Fening	Fr. John Dn. Ivan
<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>7:30AM</b>	J. Siegel B. O'Brien B. Murphy P. Rothacker R. Sekany S. Bilas	Bob O'Brien Lyla Chandy	Chandy Janik Nelsen	Azcueta, R. Wodek	J.R. Delgado K. Sekany	Fr. Martin Dn. Mike
<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>9:30AM</b>	T. Mengarelli D. Tomasiewicz Deb. Tomasiewicz B. Kibitlewski P. Mengarelli OPEN	Lisa Seifried Nancy Tayborn	Estorque- Deligero Ignacio, Arnold	Ignacio, R Martinez, E Martinez, N	G. Rajchel R. Rajchel	Fr. Martin Dn. Brent
<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>11:30AM</b>	G. Galeno C. Karl C. Haines P. Watson R. Cuasay R. Terrazas	Emery Colcol Melissa Fernandes	Auguste Colcol Parreno	Ramirez Tebbetts	B. Moreno D. Moseley	Fr. Joe Dn. Andy
<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>5:00PM</b>	No 5pm Mass	No 5pm Mass	Crow Holland Marino	Robb Roberts	Teens	Fr. Chris Dn. Bob



**St. Paul's Annual Baby Bottle Campaign and Baby Shower is coming!** Please take a baby bottle home on the weekend of January 17th and 18th. Fill the bottle and bring it back on the weekend of February 21st and 22nd. You may also donate online through the parish website.

"Aid for Women" is in need the following items: Diapers, bibs, infant gowns, baby bath towels, long sleeve onesies, baby wash and lotion, baby socks, pacifiers, wipes, as well as Walmart or Menards gift cards.

Labeled "Baby Shower" carts will be in the upper and lower levels for items dropped off beginning January 17th and 18th.

Thank you in advance for your continued generosity! God Bless!

## Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament

(with Praise and Worship music)

Monday, February 2 at  
7:00 PM



## FIREPLACE TALKS

### MARY PENICH

How to Minister to those who have left the faith and navigating religious tension with the family

**TUESDAY - 7PM - 2.3.25**



All adults are invited to Fireplace Talks this Tuesday at 7:00pm in the Gathering Space. Our speaker will be Mary Penich who will speak about how to minister to those who have left the faith and navigating religious tension with the family. Wine and snacks will be served.

## 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, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1pm.

Questions? Contact the parish office:  
[info@spa.church](mailto:info@spa.church)

**You are cordially invited to  
a special informational session  
to learn more about the  
Ignite the Future Campaign.**



scan to register

**Please join us on  
February 10th at 6:30pm in the church.**

**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.**



### GRIEF JOURNEY MINISTRY

"What we have once enjoyed deeply, we can never lose. All that we  
love deeply becomes a part of us."  
-Helen Keller

**You are invited to join with us as we gather with  
others who have lost a loved one. Here you will  
find support and encouragement in abundance.**

**The next meeting is January 21, 2026 at 3pm.**

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

All is confidential; facilitated by a professional counselor

### BAPTISM PREP CLASS

The **Baptism Preparation Ministry** prepares parents  
for their children's baptisms by reflecting upon the  
Sacrament of Baptism, parents' and godparents'  
roles after children are baptized, and the family's  
place in our faith community. First-time parents are  
requested to attend before their child's baptism.

**THE NEXT CLASS IS  
FEBRUARY 5, 2026, AT 7 PM  
IN THE CHURCH.**



### Circle of Women

We, the Circle of Women, are women rooted  
in faith, called to share our faith with others.  
The group meets monthly on Saturday  
mornings, from 9:30 to 11:00 A.M.  
at St. Paul's lower level.

**The next meeting is on February 14th.**  
Each month is a different topic, each session  
is separate, so consistent attendance is not  
required. Come as you are, share with us, or  
listen if that is what you need. Our  
cornerstones come from the word saint: safe,  
accepting, inclusive, nurturing, and trusting.  
Our space is sacred, and what we share at  
Circle of Women stays at Circle of Women.  
All women are welcome- bring your friends!

## MINISTRY SUNDAY - Jan 31 & Feb 1– Evangelization & Spiritual Life Commission

**The Rosary in a Year:** In Ascension's Rosary in a Year podcast, Fr. Mark-Mary Ames, CFR, guides listeners in a step-by-step journey that will change the way you pray. Listeners will find themselves falling more in love with this powerful Marian devotion. Listen to how to build a daily habit of prayer and how to form a relationship with Jesus and Mary.

**FORMED:** FORMED brings beautiful and faithful Catholic content to parishes, families, and individuals. There is something for everyone here: award-winning studies and parish programs, inspiring audio content, movies, e-books, and family-friendly kids' programming. Led by the Augustine Institute and Ignatius Press, and in collaboration with over 100 content providers, this site reaches more than one million subscribers worldwide.

**Men's Legacy:** A Ministry of men at St. Paul the Apostle who seek to be better husbands/fathers/brothers/colleagues/men by living the gospel every day. Fr. Ray Clennon, our founder, envisioned a community of men who knew their brothers in Christ, affirmed their faith journeys & welcomed every man who sought to foster his relationship with the Lord in their journeys. There are no evaluations, no performance reviews, no competition, no comparisons. Just room to think, laugh, & pray. Room to listen, ponder, share & contemplate in great company. Men's Legacy incorporates several ways for men to meet with each other.

**Circle of Women:** We, the Circle of Women, are women rooted in faith, called to share that faith with each other. The group meets monthly on Saturday mornings, from 9:30 – 11:00 A.M. in the lower level. Each month is a different topic, each session is separate so consistent attendance is not required. Come as you are, share with us, or just listen if that is what you need. Our cornerstones come from the word saint: safe, accepting, inclusive, nurturing, and trust. Our space is sacred and what we share at Circle of Women stays at Circle of Women. All women are welcome- bring your friends!

**Fireplace Talks:** This event is for a large group gathering that gives adults in the community a chance to have a drink, eat some snacks, and hear an engaging talk about a topic in the Church that speaks to their lives. All are welcome. We meet every other Tuesday from 7-8:30 PM in the Gathering Space. Fireplace Talks is great for those seeking to continue to grow in their faith and for people who are "seeking" a relationship with God.

**Faith Sharing:** The faith sharing group works toward understanding the meaning and the message of the Sunday Mass readings as they apply to our lives. We meet weekly to review and discuss the scripture readings for the following Sunday. Discussions are guided by Living the Word, a book for use by small Christian communities. This group includes people of all ages.

**First Saturday Prayer Group:** The First Saturday Prayer Group meets to pray the decades of the rosary every 1st Saturday of the month at 1:30pm. We gather for prayer in response to the request of the Blessed Virgin Mary to the three shepherd children at Fatima to establish in the world devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary for the salvation of souls and world peace. We sponsor activities such as retreats to bring us closer to God and fundraisers to help those in need.

**Brotherhood of Christian Business People & Professionals:** We are a community of business people and professionals committed to living out Christian values and being change agents in the marketplace. We accomplish this through a process of on-going personal conversion, a commitment to professional excellence, community, and nation-building, the practice of justice and integrity, and responsible care for all entrusted to us. Meeting at the Lower Level every 4th Saturday of the month at 9am-11am (prayer, free breakfast and witness talk).

**Curious Catholic:** Adult Ministry nights. A series called "Curious Catholic" features an academic setting to learn catechetical topics - beliefs, dogmas, doctrines, practices of our faith, Liturgy, Church history, Saints, and more.

The St. Paul the Apostle Legal Aid Clinic opens **Feb. 7, 2026**.

Our team of volunteers believes justice should be available to all, not just the rich.

For a one-time copay of \$30 our clients will get clear legal guidance and support on next steps.

We serve all types of cases:

Family Law  
Landlord / tenant  
Debt / collections  
Estate planning  
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## CANDLE MASS



**Candle Mass -  
Presentation of the Lord  
on February 2<sup>nd</sup> at the  
7:30 am Mass.**

We will bless the candles to be used in the church for the coming year. We invite you to bring your own candles to be blessed for use in your homes.

**St. Blaise's throat blessing** will be offered on February 3rd also at the 7:30 am Mass.

## SOUPER BOWL 2026 UPDATED FAN ALERT!

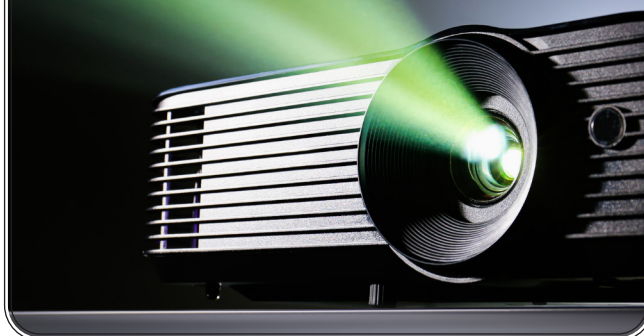


This is Deacon Mike. NOW we know who'll be playing in the Big Game on February 8! The New England Patriots and Seattle Seahawks worked really hard to make it. My fellow deacons and I are working hard, too! Our opponent is even more fierce than NFL teams. Our opponent is HUNGER! Will you help us to transform Super Bowl LXI Weekend into SOUPER Bowl Weekend here at St. Paul the Apostle? You can join us today by picking up an envelope on the way in or out of church. On SOUPER Bowl Sunday, drop it in the SOUPER Bowl pots or the collection bins. You can also donate online. As always, 100% of the funds collected will be given to Holy Family and St. Anastasia Food Pantries in Waukegan to assist in blocking hunger in a big way! Thank you in advance for your consistently amazing and heartwarming generosity!

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We will not be offering the Precious Blood from the 1st Sunday of Advent until Palm Sunday, for health reasons during cold and flu season, to avoid potential virus transmission. A Catholic does not have to receive both the Body and Blood of Christ, as receiving either one is a full reception of the sacrament. Receiving only one form is a valid and common practice, and provides the same graces as receiving both; we receive the entirety of Jesus in the Eucharist.

During the Communion Procession:

1. Approach the Priest, Deacon, or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.
2. The Sacred Host will be lifted and shown to you, and the Priest, Deacon, or Communion Minister will say, "The Body of Christ".
3. Extend your hands or tongue and say "Amen".
4. Whether you receive on the tongue or the hands -- DO NOT MOVE -- until the Sacred Host is placed on your tongue or hands.
5. PLEASE DO NOT step to the side, but consume the Host immediately in front of the priest, deacon, or Communion Minister.
6. Then, you can return to your seat.

- If you do not receive communion and want a blessing, come, cross your hands over your chest to receive the blessing.

Thank you for your understanding and for enhancing Catholic beliefs.

PRAYER – FOR EVERYDAY  
AND EVERYBODY

*Bless Us, Lord*

Jesus,

You are good and gracious,  
every moment of every day.

You invite us to be meek,  
merciful, clean of heart,  
peacemakers. Give us the  
grace to seek these virtues,  
and to seek you. May your  
blessing accompany us on  
our way. Amen.

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## 2025 Tax Statements

Here are two ways you can  
request your tax letter:

1. Complete your information on the Tax Request sheet on the table in the gathering space.

2. Send an email request to  
[info@spa.church](mailto:info@spa.church)

We will send the tax letter back to the same email address you used to request it.

As always, we thank you  
for your generous  
support of our parish.



## CATHOLIC TRIVIA JUST FOR FUN!

### Question:

*Who were the very  
first people to vis-  
it Jesus after he was  
born?*

### Answer:

*Two local shepherds  
who were told about  
Jesus by an angel.*

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## SAINT BIO

### St. Blaise | February 3

You may be familiar with the annual "blessing of throats" that many parishes in the United States use to commemorate the beloved bishop and martyr. St. Blaise lived in the fourth century in Turkey and Armenia. Due to religious persecution, he was forced to flee and hide in a cave in the back country in order to save his life.

History has it that one day a group of hunters stumbled upon where St. Blaise was living. They found the bishop kneeling in prayer, surrounded by wolves, lions, and bears that he had tamed. The legend has it that as the hunters dragged Blaise off to prison, a mother came with her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. At Blaise's command, the child was able to cough up the bone and thus lived.

Today we remember the saint on his feast day by taking two candles, crossing them against the throat, and saying the following prayer:

Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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## STREET SCENES 2026 FEBRUARY 6 & 7 6 P.M. - 12 A.M.

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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:

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Holy Family: 847-782-4166

Saint Anastasia: 847-623-2112

Warren Township: 847-244-1101



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## 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  
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