



Saint Paul
the Apostle

FEBRUARY 15, 2026



6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother
will be liable to judgment.” - Mt 5:22a

Dear SPA Family,

In our times, perhaps more than ever, louder than before, even baptized people demand a change of the Decalogue. They demand to have God in second place when it comes to morality, or the right to abortion, and the right to shorten the suffering of the terminally ill by euthanasia. Today, probably more than ever, people think that if they arranged the world according to their laws, the world would be better, and life would be much easier. Today, at various demonstrations and marches, it's demanded that the Church change God's law, even though it's not written directly on the banners.



A question may arise in the heart of a believing Christian as to what attitude to take and how to defend oneself against all these attacks and accusations. This Sunday's liturgy of the word gives us a clue. In the history of humankind, **there was no greater revolutionist and reformer of the existing law than Jesus.** He Himself speaks to us today about Himself: *Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill* (Mt 5:17).

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, also warns, *whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do so will be called least in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the kingdom of heaven* (Mt 5, 19).

So why do people demand a change in God's law? Probably because they are unwilling to take the trouble to uphold it. Think, Brother and Sister, what the world would look like if we, at least slightly, changed these ten sentences of God. Would life on earth really be paradise? I think not. I am convinced that we would have even more broken rules, more liars, thieves, and murderers.

So why do people demand a change in God's law and say it's too hard to keep? **I think one reason may also be that someone notoriously and knowingly breaks one of the Ten Commandments.** Then the entire Decalogue seems to be an unbearable burden. If people cheat on their spouses and enter into new relationships, that is, if they deliberately remove the sixth commandment from their lives, then keeping the other nine commandments in such a situation becomes much more difficult than if they continued faithfully in marital love. If the driver with the best and newest car unscrews one of the four wheels or loosens the bolts in one of the wheels, we know that he will not get far. The Decalogue is a wholeness. The more I try to keep the individual commandments, the easier it is to live according to God's law.

The Church has not changed the Decalogue for centuries and will not change it, because it was not the Church that gave it to us, but God Himself. **The Church was established to guard this law and to teach it, to preserve it and not changed, as Christ reminded us.** The Church is supposed to show people the way to heaven, not to hell, to eternal happiness, not temporary pleasure.

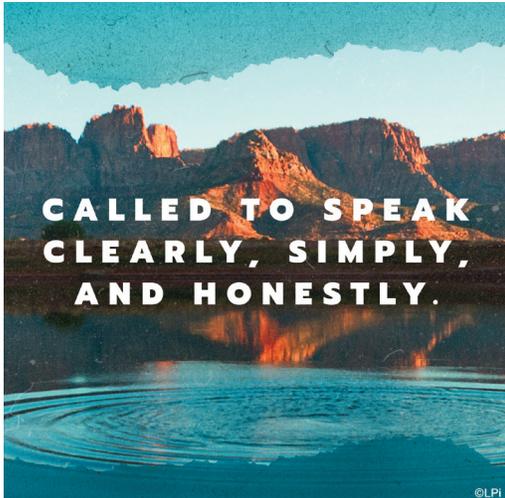
Have a blessed week,
Fr. Chris C.

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

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

GOSPEL MEDITATION



A few years into my priesthood, I hit a wall. I had taken on too many commitments: Masses, meetings, ministries, projects. I couldn't keep up. I was double-booking, forgetting things, running late, and letting people down. My boss at the time, a wise priest, and our shared secretary, noticed. For my birthday, the two gave me a stack of 100 flashcards, each with one word printed in a different language: "NO." It was funny, but also painfully true. If I couldn't say no, my yes was in danger.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says, "Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the Evil One" (Matthew 5:37). He's not just giving advice about polite speech. He's showing us something about the freedom of Christian discipleship. The follower of Christ is called to speak clearly, simply, and honestly. There is joy in that kind of freedom.

The Church Fathers often linked this kind of straightforward truthfulness with spiritual maturity. The devil is the father of lies, but Jesus is the Word made flesh. When we hedge, flatter, exaggerate, or avoid, we open space for the shadows to creep in. That little stack of flashcards reminded me that God does not want us enslaved to the expectations of others or to

the fear of disappointing them. He wants us to enjoy the peace of saying yes and meaning it, and saying no, and meaning it, too.

Lenten Challenge: Practice one moment of honest, peaceful speech this week. Maybe it's a sincere "yes" to something important, or a humble "no" to something you cannot do. Let it be a quiet step into the freedom Jesus offers.

— Father John Muir ©LPI

MASS HYMNS

Opening Song: **Spirit & Song #226 Our God Is Here** by Chris Muglia

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

Responsorial Psalm: **Blessed Are They** by Josh Blakesley

At 11:30am: **Love Be with You** by Kathy Sherman

Gospel Acclamation: **MASS OF RENEWAL** by Curtis Stephan

Preparation Song: **Drawn to You** by Sarah Hart

At Sunday 5:00pm: **Spirit & Song #368 We Belong to You** by Trevor Thomson

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

Communion Songs: **Pan del Cielo** by Iván Díaz, Estela García-López, and Tom Booth

At Sunday 5:00pm: **Leaning** by Matt Maher, Jacob Sooter, Lizzie Morgan, and Brian Elmquist

Closing Song: **Spirit & Song #206 Blessed Be Your Name** by Matt Redman and Beth Redman

At 11:30am: **Holy Fire** by Kathy Sherman

READING I*SIRACH 15:15-20*

If you choose you can keep the commandments,
 they will save you;
 if you trust in God, you too shall live;
 he has set before you fire and water
 to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand.
 Before man are life and death, good and evil,
 whichever he chooses shall be given him.
 Immense is the wisdom of the Lord;
 he is mighty in power, and all-seeing.
 The eyes of God are on those who fear him;
 he understands man's every deed.
 No one does he command to act unjustly,
 to none does he give license to sin.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*PSALM 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34*

Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

READING II*1 CORINTHIANS 2:6-10*

Brothers and sisters:
 We speak a wisdom to those who are mature,
 not a wisdom of this age,
 nor of the rulers of this age who are passing away.
 Rather, we speak God's wisdom, mysterious, hidden,
 which God predetermined before the ages for our
 glory,
 and which none of the rulers of this age knew;
 for, if they had known it,
 they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.
 But as it is written:
 What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard,
 and what has not entered the human heart,
 what God has prepared for those who love him,
 this God has revealed to us through the Spirit.

For the Spirit scrutinizes everything, even the depths
 of God.

GOSPEL*MATTHEW 5:17-37*

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. Amen, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or the smallest part of a letter will pass from the law, until all things have taken place. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do so will be called least in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the kingdom of heaven. I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

"You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment. But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; and whoever says to his brother, 'Raqa,' will be answerable to the Sanhedrin; and whoever says, 'You fool,' will be liable to fiery Gehenna. Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar, and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Settle with your opponent quickly while on the way to court. Otherwise your opponent will hand you over to the judge, and the judge will hand you over to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Amen, I say to you, you will not be released until you have paid the last penny.

"You have heard that it was said, You shall not commit adultery. But I say to you, everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one of your members than to have your whole body thrown into Gehenna. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one of your members than to have your whole body go into Gehenna.

"It was also said, Whoever divorces his wife must give her a bill of divorce. But I say to you, whoever divorces his wife - unless the marriage is unlawful - causes her to commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

"Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow. But I say to you, do not swear at all; not by heaven, for it is God's throne; nor by the earth, for it is his footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. Do not swear by your head, for you cannot make a single hair white or black. Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the evil one."

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: Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34/1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

Monday: Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76/Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19/Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32

WEEKDAY PSALMS

Monday: Psalm 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76
Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live.

Tuesday: Psalm 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19
Blessed the man you instruct, O Lord.

Wednesday: Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17
Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Thursday: Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6
Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.

Friday: Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19
A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.

Saturday: Psalm 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6
Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth.

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: Presidents' Day

Tuesday: The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

Wednesday: Ash Wednesday

Saturday: St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Next Sunday: 1st Sunday of Lent

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2026

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Bill Vasilius | Rita Kleinow | Lawrence Doan Pham | Gerena O. Monis | John Carter Bennett | Augustine Vasquez | Scott Kohler | Salvador Pangilinan

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2026

7:30am: Lupe Barcebal | Casis Family
9:30am: Oscar & Anna Morien | Maria Sas | Steven Ortiz
11:30am: Bob & Harriet Sutton | Hector B. Brual, Jr. | Celia J. Auguste | Yolanda Abante
5:00pm: Phyllis Harmon | Luz Marina Cabrera | Our Parish Family

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2026

7:30am: Our Parish Family

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026

7:30am: Scott Kohler

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026 - ASH WEDNESDAY

7:30am: Our Parish Family
7:00pm: Our Parish Family

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

7:30am: Our Parish Family

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2026

7:30am: Our Parish Family

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Amelia B. Dizon | Lawrence Doan Pham | Gerena O. Monis | John Carter Bennett | Mark Zblewski | Valeria Nichols

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026

7:30am: Victor Pecciole | Lupe Barcebal | Sam Falotico
9:30am: Michele Dulak Beye | Edmund Kana | Matilda Castro | Kinga Szymonizk | Jack Legener | Gary Braun | Maria Sas
11:30am: Rose Lundberg | Hector B. Brual, Jr. | Celia J. Auguste | Angelo Yee | Trifina Yee | Kristin Yee
5:00pm: Bob & Harriet Sutton | Our Parish Family

DONATIONS SUMMARY

Week of February 9, 2025

Sunday- \$17,705	Online Sunday- \$11,782
Sharing- \$327	Online Sharing- \$1,144
SVdP- \$370	Online SVdP- \$467
Souper Bowl- \$6,512	

Month to Date - February

Sunday- \$29,577
Online Sunday- \$11,781
Sharing- \$1,283
Online Sharing- \$1,144
SVdP- \$606
Online SVdP- \$467
Souper Bowl- \$6,512



PRAY FOR THE SICK

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
Glafira Bunsen	Rosa LaBellarte
Jackie Herrera-Giron	Sharon Browning
Gino LaBellarte	Donna Kalinoski
	Dan Garrett
	Ruth Blood

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.

*Newton Adolphe
Carlo Mathelier
Juan Perez
Steven Ortiz
Phyllis Harmon
Tom Donahue*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2026

HOSPITALITY WEEKEND

9:30AM CIRCLE OF WOMEN
11:00AM RECONCILIATION
12:30PM BAPTISM - HIGAREDA
5:00PM MASS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2026

7:30AM MASS
9:00AM OCIA
9:30AM MASS
11:30AM MASS
11:30AM SPRED - 1ST COMMUNION
12:30PM SPRED RECEPTION
1:00PM BAPTISM - PIOQUINTO
4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL
5:00PM MASS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2026

7:30AM MASS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 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 CURIOUS CATHOLIC
7:00PM KNIT PURL PRAY

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

ASH WEDNESDAY
6:30AM ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
7:30AM MASS
12:00PM ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
3:00PM GRIEF SUPPORT
4:00PM ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
5:30PM FF | WED K-6, SCU 1
5:45PM ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
7:00PM ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

7:30AM MASS
8:00AM HOLY HOUR

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2026

7:30AM MASS

7:00PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026

11:00AM RECONCILIATION
12:30PM BCBP LENTEN RETREAT
5:00PM MASS
6:00PM SSSC - NEW BEGINNINGS & WARM CONNECTIONS - A LUNAR NEW YEAR SOCIAL

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026

7:30AM MASS
9:00AM OCIA
9:00AM FF | SUN K-6
9:30AM MASS
11:30AM MASS
11:30AM SPRED - 1ST COMMUNION
12:30PM SPRED RECEPTION
1:00PM BAPTISM - RAPHEAL
3:30PM CF 1-2-HS & SCU2
4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL
5:00PM MASS
6:00PM LIFETEEN NIGHT: LIFENIGHT

FEBRUARY 21/22 | LITURGY SCHEDULE

	USHERS	LECTORS	COMMUNION MINISTERS	GREETERS	PRESIDER
SATURDAY 5:00PM	T. Rusnak A. Rusnak G. Johnson M. Mohrfeld K. Gaston OPEN	Brad Bonham Kevin Lowe	Drexler Boswell Hauck Minich Rusnak	H. Gloria I. Safiejko	Fr. Chris Dn. Mike
SUNDAY 7:30AM	B. O'Brien J. Climaco J. Siegel R. Sekany R. Dizon T. Shurtleff	Jan O'Brien Jeff Bautista	Azcueta Chandy Janik O'Neil, D O'Neil, M	M. Pieper P. Bland	Fr. Martin Dn. Brent
SUNDAY 9:30AM	P. Mengarelli D. Tomasiewicz Deb. Tomasiewicz B. Kibitlewski K. King T. Mengarelli	Jeff Rediger Claress Pettengill	Belk Brennan Latza Maus Moriarty	C. Fossier J. Fossier	Fr. John Dn. Rod
SUNDAY 11:30AM	C. Karl G. Galeno P. Watson R. Cuasay R. Terrazas OPEN	Gerald Galano Bruce Marchioni	Auguste Galano Deneke Schoenherr Tebbetts	B. Moreno D. Moseley	Fr. Chris Dn. Andy
SUNDAY 5:00PM	J, Plamoottil B. Marchioni K. Deniz M. Deniz OPEN x 2	Cathy Roberts Teen or Lector 1	Crow Gayton Plamoottil Roberts Serek	Teens	Fr. Martin Dn. Bob

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 17th at 7pm.

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

We are seeking Projectionists to run the projections at all Masses.

You don't need to have any advanced technological education or knowledge of computers or software. We have scripts for each Mass and need people who can click on images so they can appear on the walls during the services.

Email - jjester@spa.church



FIREPLACE TALKS

TOM WATTELET

Lent

TUESDAY - 7PM - 2.17.26



All adults are invited to Fireplace Talks this Tuesday at 7:00pm in the Gathering Space. Our speaker will be Tom Wattelet who will speak about the season of Lent: particularly scripture, practices, and stories of faith experiences to help us dive deeper into this penitential season. Wine and snacks will be served.

40 DAYS
FOR LIFE



Do something bold and exciting this Lent!

From Wednesday, February 18th - Sunday, March 29th, you're invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life - 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion in our community. You're also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside Waukegan Planned Parenthood, [1601 N. Lewis Ave., Waukegan, IL](https://www.40daysforlife.com/waukegan), from 7 am to 7 pm daily, and also to help spread the word about this important community outreach. Planned Parenthood's own records indicate a 70% no show rate for appointments when people are praying in front of the abortion center. Your prayer in the public right of way and fasting matter. If you'd like more information - and especially if you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact Leslie at (847) 951-1064 or www.40daysforlife.com/waukegan.

Ash Wednesday

Mass - 7:30am & 7pm

Service - 6:30am, 12pm,
4pm & 5:45pm

God always forgives us



ASH WEDNESDAY FAMILY SERVICES

On Ash Wednesday, February 18, a Children's Homily will be offered at the 4:00 and 5:45 services.

Deacon Mike looks forward to beginning the Lenten Season with you. Please join us to begin our Lenten walk with Jesus.

MISSIONARIES OF ST CHARLES
SCALABRINIANS



ASH WEDNESDAY

MASS & PROCESSION
WITH CARDINAL BLASE CUPICH
MIÉRCOLES DE CENIZA
MISA Y PROCESIÓN
CON EL CARDENAL BLASE CUPICH



WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18

6 PM MASS + 7 PM PROCESSION
OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL
1101 N 23RD AVE. MELROSE PARK, IL
RSVP: bit.ly/CSPLashWed

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
February 18th, 2026 at 3pm.

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

All is confidential; facilitated by a professional counselor

π day is coming!

Bakers are needed to make pies to sell on March 14/15. Any pie will do, chocolate, apple, strawberry, baked or icebox. The pie you make that everyone who knows you asks you to bring to their party. To let us know what pie you will be sharing or for more information, email:

Julie: jherchenbach@libertyville.com

Sue: Susantebbetts@gmail.com

Igniting Our Future Together

From St. Paul's humble beginnings to the vibrant, expanding community it is today, our parish has long been a place where every person is welcomed, valued, and loved. As we look ahead, we recognize the evolving needs of our growing parish family and the importance of preparing a spiritual home that serves us today, tomorrow, and for generations to come.

Now, we are called to deepen this mission by renewing our sacred spaces and strengthening our ministries through *the Ignite the Future: For Us, For Them, For Him* Campaign. With a vision to our needs today and what our parish could be in the future, the following projects have been identified as priorities for our capital campaign:



Beautifying Our Sanctuary

A series of thoughtful updates to our spiritual centerpiece will address both practical needs and aesthetic enhancements, including adding a tabernacle to the sanctuary, introducing new sacred artwork, and replacing worn doors and carpeting.



Transforming Our West Entrance*

A covering added to the west entrance will greatly improve accessibility and safety for all parishioners and visitors.



*The areas identified in green represent early renderings of "Transforming Our West Entrance" and "Expanding Our Upper Gathering Space."

Expanding Our Upper Gathering Space*

To support our growing parish, we plan to expand the Upper Gathering Space into a versatile banquet hall with a full kitchen and much needed storage.

Centralize Parish Administration

As part of the expansion of the Upper Gathering Space, parish administration offices will be moved from the Parish House to within the church to better serve all those that enter our doors.

Archdiocesan Support

St. Paul joins the Archdiocese of Chicago's Generation to Generation: Answer the Call Campaign, uniting in a shared mission to strengthen the future of our Church. Through our support of the Archdiocese we help form future priests, support priests throughout their lives, invest in parish vitality, and provide scholarships for students.

.....GENERATION
TO GENERATION:
ANSWER THE CALL.....

PLEASE DIRECT ANY QUESTIONS TO FR. CHRIS AT CCIASTON@SPA.CHURCH



COME WITNESS AND CELEBRATE WITH US



SPRED Mass Celebrates Holy Communion

St. Paul's SPRED (special religious development for special needs children and adults) program invites you to a special celebration on Sunday, February 15 at the 11:30 am mass when eight spread friends will receive their First Holy Communion. Father Martin and Father Joe will co-celebrate this special mass. Please join us for this important Eucharistic celebration and keep our Spread friends and families in your prayers.

SINGLE SENIORS SOCIAL CLUB

55+ Active Singles - A new way to meet friends or partners!



Celebrate the Lunar New Year with the Single Seniors Social Club. Enjoy an evening of traditional Lunar New Year-inspired refreshments, activities, and cultural traditions that honor new beginnings, good fortune, and meaningful connections - without pressure or expectations.

Saturday, February 21st @ 6:00pm \$20pp

St. Paul the Apostle Church - Lower Level
Register by 2/18 @ saintpaultheapostle.church;
 Select Single Senior Social Club; Lunar New Year

Questions? Please call or email:
 Mary Ross 847.912.0033 mary_ross@comcast.net

Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals (BCBP)
 Chicago Chapter and Chicago North Mission

LENTEN RETREAT

Fr. Ramil Fajardo
 (Retreat Master)

February 21, 2026 (Sat. 12:30 to 4:30 pm)
 St. Paul the Apostle Church (LL) 6401 Gages Lake Rd, Gurnee, IL

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!

Spiritual director Paula Kowalkowski will look at three ways Jesus came in contact with wood in his lifetime:

- in the manger,
- as a carpenter's son, and
- his death on a cross

This evening will include a lecture, visual and musical offerings, and questions for contemplation and journaling.

MONDAY, MARCH 16 7:00PM
 St. Edna Church
 2525 N. Arlington Heights Rd.
 Arlington Heights
All are welcome!



Paula is a certified spiritual director, and part of the Council of Spiritual Directors at Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House in Barrington, IL.



Sponsored by Contemporary Theology for Women
contemporarytheology4women@gmail.com



Simbang Gabi Thank You Message

Our hearts are overflowing with gratitude for the beautiful Simbang Gabi celebration we shared on December 23, 2025 here at our parish Saint Paul the Apostle. More than 1,300 faithful from our parish and neighboring communities gathered in prayer, song, and joyful anticipation of Christ's birth — a true testament to the vibrant faith that unites us at Saint Paul the Apostle.

We are especially grateful to our associate pastor, Fr. Martin, who presided for the first time and experienced his very first Simbang Gabi with us.

To everyone who joined us, and to all who served with such generosity — our volunteers, liturgical ministers, choir, donors, and organizers — thank you for offering your time, talent, and love. Your dedication transformed the evening into a celebration filled with hope, unity, and the light of Christ.

As we continue to walk in His light, may the spirit of that night inspire us to carry Christ's joy and peace into our homes, our parish, and the world.

May God bless you abundantly. **With deepest gratitude and blessings, The Simbang Gabi Group**

PRAYER - FOR EVERYDAY AND EVERYBODY

Blessing of Love

Heavenly Father,
 Ignite us with Your love.
 Reveal to us Your will,
 guide us in Your path.
 Pour Your blessings upon us,
 You who are the giver of every
 good thing.
 Help us to live, work, act, and
 speak
 in ways that bring honor and
 glory to You.
 Amen.

©Pi

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

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:

What are the names of the three theological virtues of the Catholic Church?

Answer:

Faith, Hope, and Love (Charity).

©LPI

SAINT BIO

St. Josephine Bakhita

The saints are more than lovely pictures on a holy card. If we dig a little deeper, their lives can challenge and transform our own. On February 8th, the Church celebrates St. Josephine Bakhita. As a young girl, St. Josephine was kidnapped from her family in Darfur and sold into slavery at age nine. She was introduced to Catholicism as an adolescent and experienced a profound love for Jesus Christ. St. Josephine eventually gained legal freedom and entered religious life. Though she bore over one hundred scars beneath her habit, St. Josephine forgave her enemies and became known in the convent for her humility and joyful spirit.

Author Fr. Jeff Kirby writes, "Saint Josephine gives us all a scarred and human face to the evils of human trafficking, racial tension, and of the brutality found in the peripheries. Her life demands a response." As we approach the season of Lent, let us recall our own call to conversion and an active concern for those who suffer.

Lpi

Soles For Jesus is an organization that distributes shoes to the underserved people in sub-Saharan Africa. Collected shoes will provide hope and diminish disease for these people.

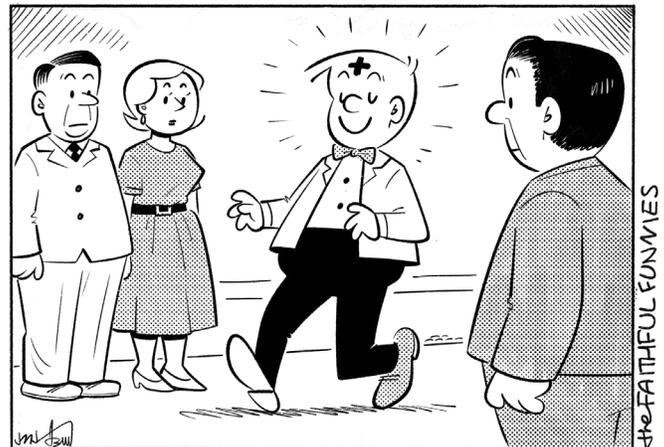


We are collecting new and gently used shoes. Please drop off your donations in the box in the gathering space. All sizes are needed: Toddler thru Adult.

Thank you for your donations in the past months.

visit: SolesforJesus.org

"There's a certain Wednesday during the year when you can easily tell who's Catholic."



"I doubt you need to **Ash** me which one that is."



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



Saint Paul the Apostle

847-918-0600
6401 GAGES LAKE RD
GURNEE, IL 60031

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
jpguthrie@usml.edu

DEACON MICHAEL PENICH
mpenich@spa.church

DEACON IVAN SIAP
isiap@spa.church

DEACON BOB BIRCK
bbirck@spa.church

DEACON ROD REYES
rreyes@spa.church

DEACON ANDY BAKER
abaker@spa.church

DEACON BRENT BERTKE
bbertke@spa.church

PARISH OFFICE

CATHERINE KARL | OFFICE MANAGER
info@spa.church

JAN O'BRIEN | COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR
jobrien@spa.church

BUSINESS OFFICE

JOE PERRY | BUSINESS MANAGER
jperry@spa.church

FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS

TAMMY OBERSTAR | ADMIN ASSISTANT
toberstar@spa.church

MARY JO URQUHART | ADMIN ASSISTANT
murquhart@spa.church

AMY RUSSELL | K-6 CHILDREN'S COORDINATOR
arussell@spa.church

CASSIE BERTKE | CONFIRMATION COORDINATOR
cbertke@spa.church

TOM WATTELET | YOUTH & ADULT MINISTER
twattelet@spa.church

MUSIC LITURGY

RUTH PECK | DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY
rpeck@spa.church

JULIE JESTER | DIRECTOR OF LITURGY AND MUSIC MINISTRY ASSISTANT
jjester@spa.church

ANCILLARY STAFF

CESAR VICARIO | FACILITIES MANAGER
cvicario@spa.church

KERI SEKANY | BULLETIN EDITOR
bulletin@spa.church



Connie J. Crawford, O.D., P.C.
Parishioner
James R. Crawford, O.D.
Laura L. Cretors, O.D.
Christian J. Crawford O.D.
Annika C Crawford O.D.

Family Eye Care
Contact Lenses
Laser Surgery Co-Management
(LASIK)

Evening & Sat. Appointments
31 North Ave., Antioch
847-395-4090



24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE
Full Service Plumber
You Can Trust!

FREE Estimates (847) 672-9928



847-620-5120
Thomas J Robb
Your Local Agent
License #2162638

1113 S Milwaukee Ave Ste 200
Libertyville, IL 60048
trobb@farmersagent.com



Call for a free estimate!

Bill Juenger - Owner

- Commercial & Residential
- 24-Hour Emergency Service
 - Complete Tree Removal
 - Tree & Shrub Pruning
 - Plant Healthcare
 - Lot & Land Clearing
 - Stump Grinding



whymonster.com **847-595-1954**
25 Year St. Paul Parishioner 10% St. Paul Discount

Beautiful 55+ Active Community
Located in Southwestern Florida

*Close to the Coast 2692 NE Hwy. 70 | Arcadia, FL 34266



Arcadia Village



- 18 Hole Executive Golf Course
- Tennis & Pickle Ball Courts
- Two Clubhouses for Social Activities
- Exercise Room, BBQ Area, Nature Trails
- 2 Large Heated Swimming Pools & Spas

Ron, Owner/Parishioner

New & Pre-Owned Homes | www.arcadiavillage.com
Lakeview and Golf Course View Homes Available
Call or email for more information!
Sales@arcadiavillage.com • 1-800-538-2590



5101 Washington Street, Gurnee
(872) 337-8466
www.destino-ristorante.com

THE ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF GURNEE, P.C.

Dog • Cat • Horse
Boarding & Grooming

John R. Hanover, DVM
John J. Hanover, DVM
Zoya Malitsky, DVM

847-360-1630

38028 N. Dilley Rd., Wadsworth

SUE DUNNIGAN
REAL ESTATE AGENT



24 YEAR ST. PAUL PARISHIONER

Complimentary Professional Staging
Comparable Market Analysis
Experienced Negotiator

Contact me today!
224-627-5910
sdunnigan@atproperties.com



Learn more about me!



Gurnee Place
Memory Care

506 Hunt Club Rd.
Gurnee, IL 60031
(847) 855-1380

WADSWORTH ELECTRIC COMPANY



Family Owned & Operated
QUALITY YOU CAN COUNT ON
Free Quotes:
847-508-8836

Delicious Sandwiches & Homemade Soups!

Freshly Made Daily at

EUROPEAN FOOD & GIFTS

34500 US-45, Unit S
Third Lake, IL 60030
United States



10% OFF

of the entire order when You



Like + Share!
Follow us on Facebook for updates, promotions and more!



and TAG three of your Friends

Dine in • Take out • Call ahead!
Come taste the warmth of Europe in every bite.
Made with fresh ingredients and love
Call us to order today!

BUILDMAX REMODELING INC.

Windows • Doors
Garage Doors • Kitchens
Baths • Basements & more...

630 742-0951 • Darek Dziejowski • Gurnee, IL
Fully Insured & Bonded - Free Estimates • Reasonable Rates

COMFORTABLE COUNSELING

OVERWHELMED?
LIFE... WORK... SCHOOL...
LET OUR THERAPISTS HELP YOU REACH YOUR GOALS,
BUILD HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS, REDUCE STRESS,
AND FIND PERSONAL GROWTH



CONTACT ONE OF OUR COUNSELORS TODAY
847-748-2019
info@comfortablecounseling.com
111 Barclay Boulevard, Suite 180
Lincolnshire, IL 60069
www.comfortablecounseling.com

ComForCare HOME CARE

- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Meal Preparation
- ♥ Light Housekeeping
- ♥ Transportation
- ♥ Personal Care
- ♥ Medication Reminders
- ♥ Safety Supervision
- ♥ Family Respite Care



Patricia "PJ" Arthurs 847-616-8007
comforcare.com/illinois/lake-county

Woody's Tree Service

Professional Tree Trimming
Removals • Stump Grinding • Firewood
FULLY INSURED

ASK FOR MARK 847-362-5545

PO Box 91 Libertyville, IL 60048
woody@woodystreeservice.com
www.woodystreeserviceonline.com

Discover Vibrant Senior Living

Best-in-class care meets a personalized lifestyle.

ASSISTED LIVING • MEMORY CARE • SHORT-TERM STAYS



Book a tour by calling 224-476-2282
SunriseGurnee.com

Dignity MEMORIAL

Marsh Funeral Home

CREMATION PRE-ARRANGEMENTS

847-336-0127



WWW.MARSHFUNERALHOME.COM • 305 N. CEMETERY ROAD • GURNEE
Owned and Operated by SCI Illinois Services, Inc.



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St. Paul the Apostle, Gurnee, IL

A 4C 01-4091