



Saint Paul

the Apostle

MARCH 30, 2025



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, it is to have a more joyful character, the color of liturgical vestments may be pink (rose color) 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 of masses or services to be able to strengthen myself spiritually? Do I look at the Bible that is on my shelf or table or in 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 part of a person 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 physical eyes of the blind man. 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 especially 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 look which speaks deep sadness, and sometimes even 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 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 heart, 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 more and more spiritually blind, even all 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 get out of spiritual blindness, **we need to open ourselves to Jesus and accept His light,** which allows 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 to see better what God has given us, what He has planned for us, and what 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 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 of Lent

GOSPEL MEDITATION



A man looking a bit downtrodden approached me as I filled my car's gas tank. He asked, "May I share with you my testimony about how good God is?" "OK," I skeptically answered. He went on to tell me that he had been an alcoholic and drug addict, and that God had healed him; now he was four years sober. He said, "I didn't deserve it, but now I'm a different person. God is so good! Have a terrific Tuesday!" A few minutes later, as I drove away, I saw him smiling and handing a homeless person some money. I was confronted with a choice: either he was a total fraud or God had changed him. Something had happened to him, and it didn't seem fake. Maybe it was God.

When Jesus heals the man born blind, the man becomes a challenge to everyone who meets him. They must decide. Is he the same blind person who they knew before? Who healed him and how? And what is the status of the one who can heal such infirmities? We shouldn't be surprised at the storm of doubt, hatred and animosity that swirls around the healed man — so it often goes when Jesus heals someone even to this day.

Like we often do, the religious leaders confronting the healed man declare that God is not at work. They ask with mocking superiority and dismissive disdain, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" (John 9:34). And they cast him out. When Jesus clearly works in our lives, in us or around us, we should accept it, and give praise and thanks for this wonderful manifestation of his goodness.

Lenten challenge: Think of one way the Lord has healed you. Perhaps he healed a form of selfishness, a physical ailment, or something else. This week, find a person to whom you can share that testimony, and share it. Don't worry if they don't accept it was God who did it.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

MASS HYMNS

Opening Song: **Who You Say I Am** by Ben Fielding and Reuben Morgan

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

Gospel Acclamation: **MASS OF SAINT MARY MAGDALENE** by Sarah Hart

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

At Sunday 5:00pm: **Spirit & Song #337 Open My Eyes** by Jesse Manibusan

Eucharistic Acclamations/Agnus Dei: **THE GLENDALOUGH MASS** by Liam Lawton

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

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

Closing Song: **Give Us Clean Hands** by Charlie Hall

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

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

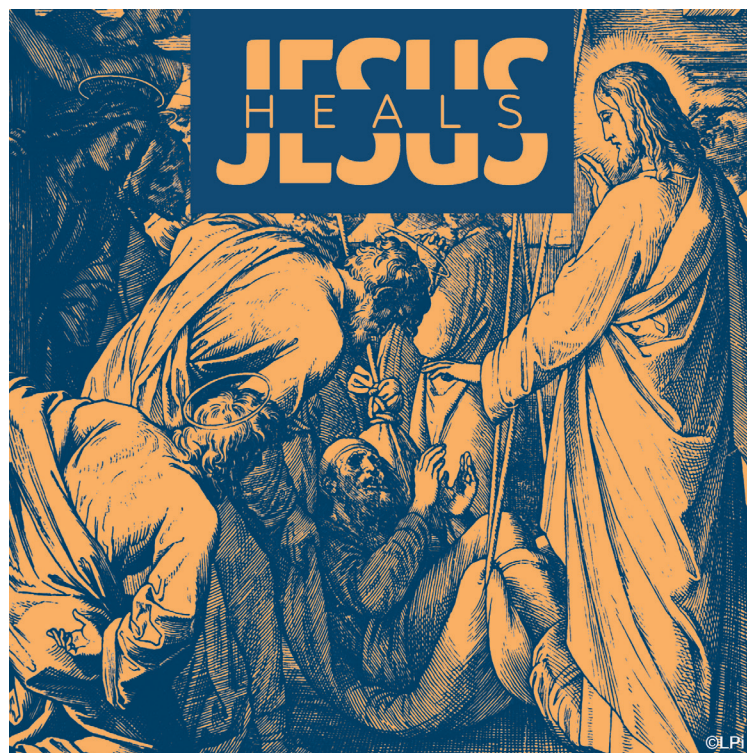
EPHESIANS 5:8-14

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 9:1-41

Please listen to the Story of the Blind Man.



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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: Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 (9a)/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Scrutiny: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/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: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47

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 106:19-20, 21-22, 23
Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.

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: April Fools' Day

Wednesday: St. Francis of Paola, Hermit

Friday: St. Isidore, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Saturday: St. Vincent Ferrer, Priest

Next Sunday: 5th Sunday of Lent

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2025

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Jack & Marion Henderson | John Carter Bennett | Walter & Emily Macrowski | Gerena O. Monis
Paul F. Brunder

SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025

7:30am: Rosa Kressek | Ben Serrano | Charlotte V. Siegel
9:30am: Harold & Edna Maricle | Mark Ofenloch | Rita Ann Gravel
11:30am: John Robertson | Julian Banzon
5:00pm: Kay Hill | Our Family Parish

MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2025

7:30am: Our Family Parish

TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2025

7:30am: Anselmo Cabuay | Scott Kohler

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2025

7:30am: Our Family Parish

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2025

7:30am: Salvatore DeLuca | Tom & Rosemary Vallely

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2025

7:30am: Pat Glatz

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Loida Busa Phelps | Edward Skowron | John Carter Bennett | Gerena O. Monis | Tom Vallely

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2025

7:30am: Bernice Martin | Rosita Aguilar | Michael Kinahan | Linda Sue Shepard
9:30am: Elizabeth Johnston | Thomas R. Rajchel | Maria Dominguez | Robert Chester Buttrey | Maria G. Wisdon
11:30am: John Robertson | Linda Lillington
5:00pm: James Vallely | Our Family Parish

DONATIONS SUMMARY

Week of March 24, 2025

Sunday- \$16,343	Online Sunday- \$9,646
Sharing- \$150	Online Sharing- \$488
SVdP- \$358	Online SVdP- \$346
Let There Be Light- \$130	
Catholic Extension- \$1,959	
Church in Central/East Europe-\$150	

Month to Date - March

Sunday- \$61,139
Online Sunday- \$31,698
Sharing- \$381
Online Sharing- \$2,030
SVdP- \$2,968
Online SVdP- \$2,343
Let There Be Light- \$324
Catholic Extension- \$2,924
Church in Central/East Europe-\$1,067



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Jane Heraty	Laura Hopkins
Jacob Bereles	Rosa LaBellarte
Bob Franz	William Otero
Cortney Kinahan	Marcy Davis
Rod Reyes	Emily Meyer
Betty Falotico	Laura Hopkins
Carmen Torres	Rosa LaBellarte
Daniel Alfaro	Ruben Querubin
Luis Fernando Mathieu	Rachel Ciullo
Dorothy Stratten	Patricia Freeman
Keith Kellogg	Toni Lynn Mengarelli
Lisa Mischke	Shannon Bremmer
Loretta Miranda	Karen Swazas
Dave Erickson	April Grandgeorge
Darrel Alfonso	William O'Brien
Carla Irwin	Alma De Torres
Alice DeSilvia	Stephanie Rappe
Richard Kot	Vicki Shafer
Adriana Aparicio	Ruth Blood
Pearla Villareal	Maria Delannoy
Suzelle Conze	Tom Asma
Kathy Hunt	Natalie Hycner
Jackie Herrera-Giron	Karla Arce
Kaz Wilk	Jeanne Sypien
Rose Scarpelli	Glenn Garamoni
Portia Tinker	Daniel Schmelz
Donna Kalinoski	Kathleen Stolarik
Kathy Pozniecki	Russell Yanow
Frank Shade	Victoria Sofia
Roberto Dacumos	Luquez Mogollon
Alfredo "Doy" Martija	Kinga Szymoniak
Antonio "Tony" Alvarado	
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.

*Judy Russell
Kathleen Stolarick*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2025

9:00AM BCBP - LENTEN RETREAT
11:00AM RECONCILIATION
3:00PM WEDDING - WOLKOBOR/BONG
5:00PM MASS

SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025

7:30AM MASS
9:00AM RCIA
9:30AM MASS
11:30AM MASS
4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL
5:00PM MASS

MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2024

7:30AM MASS
6:30PM HANDBELL REHEARSAL
7:00PM LENT HOLY HOUR WITH
RECONCILIATION AND TAIZE MUSIC

TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2024

7:30AM MASS
8:00AM HOLY HOUR
10:00AM DAYTIME CHOIR
REHEARSAL
11:00AM KNIT PURL PRAY

2:00PM FAITH SHARING
5:00PM KID'S CHOIR REHEARSAL
6:30PM SPRED
7:00PM FIREPLACE TALKS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2025

7:30AM MASS
9:30AM BIBLE STUDY
3:00PM GRIEF SUPPORT
5:30PM FIRST COMMUNION 2 &
SACRAMENTAL CATCH UP RETREAT
6:30PM BIBLE STUDY
7:00PM ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL
7:00PM LIFETEEN CORE TEAM MTG

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2025

7:30AM MASS
8:00AM HOLY HOUR
6:00PM K OF C OFFICERS MEETING
7:00PM BAPTISM PREP CLASS

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2025

7:30AM MASS
7:00PM STATIONS OF
THE CROSS

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025

6:30AM MEN'S LEGACY/PAUL'S
GARAGE
11:00AM RECONCILIATION
12:00PM BAPTISM - SKRZYPCZAK
12:30PM BAPTISM - TERRAZAS
1:00PM BAPTISM - BEDOLLA
5:00PM MASS

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2025

7:30AM MASS
9:00AM RCIA
9:00AM FF | SUN K-6
9:30AM MASS
11:30AM MASS
12:30PM BAPTISM - LINDBURG
1:00PM BAPTISM - LOPEZ
1:30PM BAPTISM - MERCADO
3:30PM CF | 1 & 2 & HS | 7-8 & HIGH
SCHOOL GRADES
4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL
5:00PM MASS
6:00PM LIFETEEN NIGHT: LIFENIGHT

APRIL 5/6 | LITURGY SCHEDULE

	LECTORS	COMMUNION MINISTERS		GREETERS	PRESIDER
SATURDAY 5:00PM	Larry Kolaczowski Judy Macrowski	P. Balmes T. Boswell K. Gorajski	C. Wicinski E. Wicinski	Julie Wedell Pam Balmes	Fr. John Dn. Andy
SUNDAY 7:30AM	Jan O'Brien Doug Nieman	T. Burns K. Kouba L. Holland	D. Mumm D. Nieman	Mary Pieper Pat Bland	Fr. Chris Dn. Ivan
SUNDAY 9:30AM	Cathy Latza Matthew Schwarz	C. Anderson J. Bautista R. Gbur	M. Klemann P. Moriarty	George & Renee Pratscher	Fr. Chris Dn. Bob
SUNDAY 11:30AM	Conchita Manalo Manny Bautista	S. Estorque M. Fernandes G. Galano	A. Stahl A. Richardt		Fr. Joe Dn. Mike
SUNDAY 5:00PM	Gianna Gayton Teen or Lector 1	C. Bertke C. Crow M. Gaytan	T. Marchioni T. Robb		Fr. Christian Dn. Brent

Lenten Reconciliation Service

**Monday March 31 at
7:00pm in the church**

**We'll begin with Exposition of
the Blessed Sacrament and
singing of Vespers
(Evening Prayer).**

**This will be followed by a
Communal Examination of
Conscience and individual
Confessions during Adoration
and will conclude with
Benediction.**



Congratulations to our OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults, formerly known as RCIA) catechumens (those preparing to be baptized) and candidates (those preparing to complete their initiation in the Catholic Church) who, together with their sponsors, attended the Archdiocese of Chicago Rite of Election of Catechumens and Call to Continuing Conversion of Candidates presided by Cardinal Blasé Cupich at Holy Name Cathedral on March 9.

Our catechumens are: David Brito, Jordan Gonzalez, Vika Lukowski, Tyler Mickelsen and Ariana Renfro, and our candidates are: Stuart Anthony, Cary Denecke, Margarita Salgado, and Rose Ann Terrazas. Also participating are our confirmation candidates: Megan Dickman and Rene' Giangiorgi.

The catechumens, now referred to as "the elect", will participate in further liturgical rites called the Scrutinies on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent during the 9:30am and 11:30am Masses as part of their intense spiritual preparation for their baptism at the Easter Vigil.

Please pray for all our catechumens and candidates as they continue their journey of faith toward the Easter sacraments.



Knit Purl Pray Ministry

Do you knit, crochet, or have an interest in learning?

Join the St. Paul Knit Purl Pray Ministry on Tuesday, April 1, at 11 am in Room 30.

The ministry members create prayer shawls, blankets, and other items to comfort those in need in our church community.

All ages and experience levels are welcome — and we even have supplies to get you started on your project!

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

FIREPLACE TALKS

TOM WATTELET

Welcoming at the Banquet

TUESDAY - 7PM - 4.1.25



All adults are invited to join us for Fireplace Talks this Tuesday at 7:00pm in the Gathering Space. Joining us will be our Youth and Adult Minister, Tom, speaking about his talk titled "Welcoming at the Banquet". The talk will focus on how we can evangelize our faith by both inviting and welcoming people to God's banquet.

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

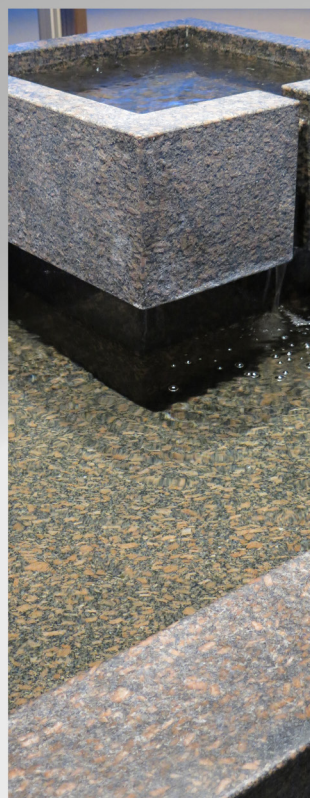
**You are invited to join with us as we
gather with others who have lost a
loved one. Here you will find
support and encouragement in
abundance.**

The next meeting is
April 2, 2025 at 3pm.

Sandy Gbur,
Certified Grief Educator
sgbur@saintpaultheapostle.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
April 3, 2025
at 7pm in the
Church.**



KNIGHTS CORNER

Divine Mercy Council will collaborate with the Khayat family of restaurants again this Lent to benefit our Knights' charities. Flyers are available in the gathering space. You must present the flyer to any Khayat restaurant any day during Lent and 10% of your food bill will be donated to our charities.

St Paul's will host a Fish Fry, community dinner on Friday, March 28 th . Doors will open at 5:30 pm, and dinner will be served at 6 pm. You will need to purchase your pre-sale, dinner tickets on mass weekends beginning March 7 th , or through the parish website (<https://saintpaultheapostle.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2781966>). Dinner is \$16, and will include fish filets, french fries, cole slaw, beverage, and dessert.

We welcome those men 18 years or older to join our council to continue our mission to serve our St Paul community. Please contact a member of our council or scan the QR code.

Vivat Jesus,

Greg Johnson,

Grand Knight, Divine Mercy Council
#11112



SPRED EASTER CANDY SALE ONE WEEKEND ONLY APRIL 5 AND 6

If you missed our holiday chocolate and nut sale, you are in luck. SPRED is bringing the popular candy and nut sale back for Easter during the weekend of April 5 and 6. High quality chocolates, cashews and mixed nuts in decorative boxes will be available for purchase after all the masses. Proceeds will support St. Paul's religious development program for special needs children and adults. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



DINE FOR A CAUSE

PRIMO
ITALIAN AMERICAN CUISINE

FATMANS
BBQ PIZZA VOLLEYBALL

LAKEHOUSE
BAR + GRILL + BANQUET

Lola's
TACOS & TEQUILA

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**

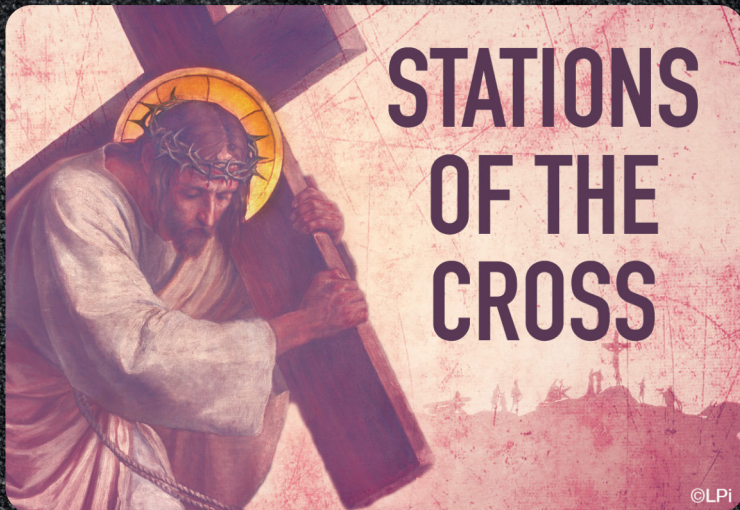
Fundraiser benefitting
St Paul The Apostle, Gurnee

Valid during Lent 3/5/25 thru 4/17/25
Must present this ad at the time of ordering.



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

Make a reservation
www.khayatenterprises.com



**Friday,
March 28
7pm**



First Saturday Prayer Group

For the last 20 years, the First Saturday Prayer group have prayed together without fail all the decades of the rosary every first Saturday of the month.

Prayers on April 5, 2025 will be hosted by Edwin and Nida Martinez at their house. For more information please contact Nida Martinez at (847)208-0814. Prayers are from 3:00PM – 6:00PM

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

I am planning 3 outings to Feed My Starving Children in Libertyville. They are all in the final weeks of Lent. Consider joining one of the sessions to add to your Lenten practice. Please go to the Feed My Starving Children website and use the codes provided to join the St. Paul the Apostle team.

Tuesday, April 8 7:15-8:4pm code:N8N9NX
Friday April 11 2:00-3:45pm code:59545P
Saturday, April 12 7:15-8:45pm code:D13W31

Contact me if you have any questions,
Sue Tebbetts smmjet@comcast.net



St. Paul packing session during the summer.

Question: Lent always seems to help me renew my relationship with God and strengthen my religious practice. Do you have any suggestions as to what I could do to achieve that the rest of the year?

Answer: The obvious answer may seem to be to do whatever you do during Lent all year round. But part of the power of Lent is that we focus as a community on renewing our faith and preparing for Easter. Our Lenten practices have a purpose and a goal. Therein lies the secret. When we focus our efforts on one virtue, or try to change one bad habit, or seek to deepen our understanding of one aspect of faith, we focus our efforts and give our full attention to what we are trying to accomplish. We tend to be more successful achieving our goals. More importantly, it has a ripple effect in our lives: one thing changes or is added to the spiritual mix of our lives and many aspects are changed.

All too often we leave our spiritual growth to chance and the practice of faith to habit, and then wonder why we have no sense of growth or progress. Think of it in terms of exercise. We walk, lift weights, bend and stretch to attain the maximum benefit from what we do. In addition, to keep those benefits, we eat healthful food and get enough vitamins and rest. Spirituality requires the same kind of attention: we pray, fast, read the Bible, receive sacraments, and do charitable work to maximize the benefits of practicing faith. Keeping Lent year round keeps us in spiritual shape!

©LPI

OPERATION RICE BOWL - 2025



Catholic Relief Service's Operation Rice Bowl 2025 is about to begin, and our entire parish family is invited to participate! Our religious education students will receive Rice Bowls which they'll do their best to fill during Lent. Every cent collected will be used to feed the hungry here in Lake County and throughout the world.

The rest of us can join our kids in helping by picking up a Rice Bowl in the gathering space of the church. Just fill it with whatever you can on a daily or weekly basis. You'll be amazed at how much your generosity will add up to by the end of Lent! Thank you in advance for taking this Lenten project to heart. Your generosity toward those in need will truly be lifesaving!



The Holy Communion is our most important act of worship together. The REAL PRESENCE OF CHRIST in the Eucharist is our Catholic doctrine that Jesus Christ is present in the Eucharist in a true, real, and substantial way, not just symbolically or metaphorically.

The doctrine states that the whole of Christ is present in the Eucharist, including his body, blood, soul, and divinity, under the appearance of bread and wine.

If you want to receive communion, extend your hands or tongue.

If you want to receive a blessing, cross your hands on your chest.

Please, never take communion and then leave it in a pew or hymnal. You cannot also take communion home without permission from a priest.



**SERVING GOD
SERVING HIS PEOPLE**

TRAININGS:

April 12 - 9am

April 14th - 7pm

The registration sheet is located on the desk in the Gathering Space.



Ushers & Greeters



**CATHOLIC
EXTENSION
SOCIETY**

LITERACY WAGON

GIVE ALMS

online on our website
or use envelopes
from the exit tables.

Together with Catholic Extension, we support the LITERACY WAGON in the Diocese of Yakima, WA, which is fighting summer learning loss among the children of migrant farmworkers. Each summer, migrant workers come to the Yakima Valley to harvest apples and cherries.

The Literacy Wagon, a mobile summer education team, brings books and education to these children, helping with literacy, fluency, and vocabulary while their parents work in the field.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP



So you never have been that serious about a stewardship way of life? It's not that you have been greedy or unloving toward others. You give of yourself when you determine there is a real

need. However, you haven't intentionally worked toward surrendering all you are, all you have, and all you do to your God. It's hard because when you compare yourself to others, you seem pretty good. You aren't some prodigal child who needs to return to God because you have lived a life full of sin and selfishness.

Yet, there lies the problem. We can easily feel we aren't so bad, so why change anything? We can lull ourselves into a belief that we will probably get to heaven, therefore why do more? Assurance of salvation is another topic, but basically we can look at our life as a series of transactions with God.

However, we shouldn't determine our actions based upon what we get. The actions of a loved one are due to the love for one's beloved. Jesus gave his life out of love for us. He has shown us what complete surrender looks like. He does not need our surrender but wants it because that is what those in love do. This Lent, perhaps our prayer should not be to simply be better stewards, but to love Him more. Then our motivation will not be based upon what we should do but on what we are moved to do out of love.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

PRAYER – FOR EVERYDAY
AND EVERYBODY

Prayer of a Father's Blessing

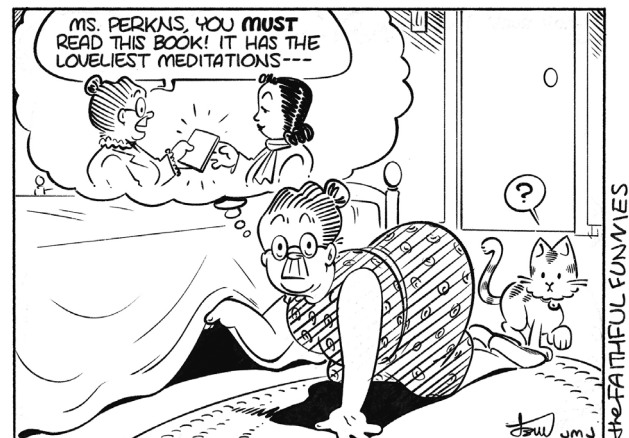
**God who wills good things for
your children, Help me to
trust that You will be faithful.**

**God who will not leave me,
Help me to seek You, too. God
who is ever-waiting for me,
Help me to run straight
towards You.**

Amen.

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"Why couldn't the grandma find her
prayer book?"



"She forgot it was **Lent.**"



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EMERGENCY AND TRANSITIONAL
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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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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

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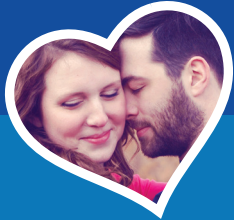


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