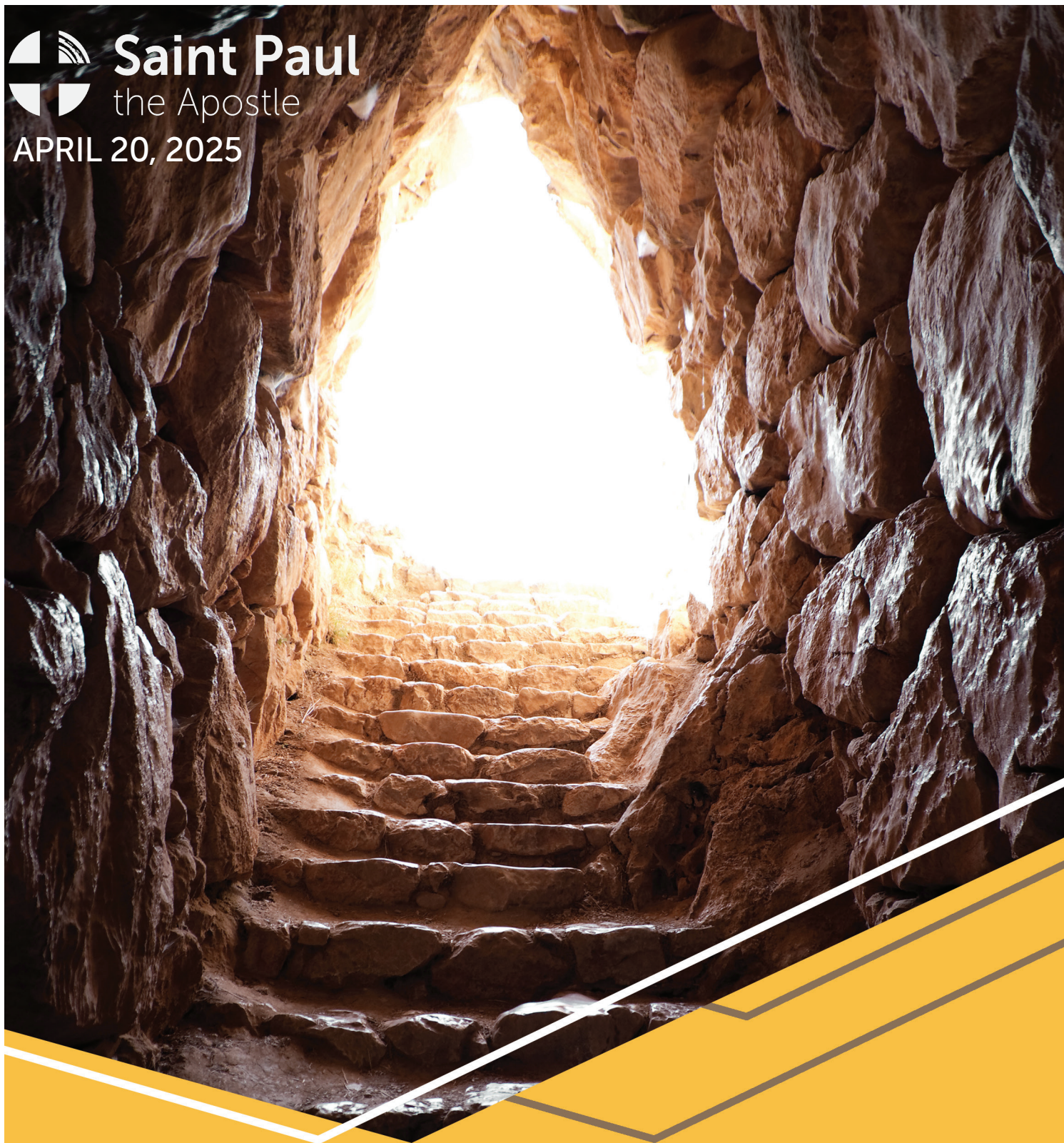




Saint Paul

the Apostle

APRIL 20, 2025



EASTER SUNDAY

The women who had come from Galilee with Jesus took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb; but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

- Lk 24:1b-3

Dear SPA Family,

Easter is an invitation to experience the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection, as well as an invitation to the family table at which we share wishes and a dyed egg - a symbol of reborn life. This Holy Day is associated with the joy of the first delicate spring green. Life awakens from its winter sleep. Yellow forsythia on hills, marsh marigolds on wet meadows, and daffodils of the same color growing in the home garden are an inseparable image of returning Easter memories.



However, **Holy Week** puts the charms of the natural world to the background. The cleaned and decorated churches exude the solemnity and joy of Easter Sunday. The atmosphere of ecclesiastical solemnity also sets the rhythm of the holiday cleaning at home. Everything needs to be cleaned, scrubbed, and washed. It's a lot of work, but there needs to be enough time to participate in church services.

Holy Thursday is the day of the institution of the Eucharist. Holy Mass during which the priest, in the image of Christ during the Last Supper, washes the feet of twelve chosen parishioners. **Good Friday** is filled with painful seriousness. Through fasting and prayer, we join this suffering.

On **Holy Saturday**, the joy of the resurrection slowly prevails. From the very morning, children and adults with colorful and fragrant baskets gather in churches to bless Easter foods. Among the sausages, hams, cakes, and Easter eggs, joy emanates from everywhere. The lips are still silent, but the hearts are already singing a joyful Hallelujah. The rich liturgy of Holy Saturday, through the blessing of fire, paschal water, and the singing of the Exultet, brings us closer to the mystery of Easter morning. However, full of power, the joyous Alleluia will sound on **Sunday morning** at the Resurrection Mass: **Hallelujah, Christ is risen.**

The event that took place in Jerusalem on the morning of the first day after the Sabbath tells us about the possibility of victory over death. Mary Magdalene went to the tomb of Jesus and found it empty. This fact was confirmed by the apostles. **The empty tomb spoke for itself**, giving a feeling that something extraordinary had happened. Then the Risen Christ appeared to the apostles and many other disciples. Christ is risen, He has conquered death and is alive. Moreover, He said that whoever believes in Him will also live.

Having such faith, we look at death differently. It is like a change of place of our residence. At the Easter table, we will probably mention our relatives who 'changed their place of residence.' Thanks to Christ's death and resurrection, this new place is a place of life, not death.

Happy Easter! Wesolych Świąt Wielkanocnych!
¡Felices Pascuas! Maligayang Linggo ng Pagkabuhay!
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

Palm Sunday

GOSPEL MEDITATION



When I was a young boy, my parents told me about their wedding. Then a few years later, they showed me my mother's wedding dress and my dad's suit. It was astonishing to see and touch garments that connected me to the event that led to my existence. Of course, I already believed they were married based on their word. But these holy garments made the event real and tangible for me.

Something like this is at play when St. John reports encountering in Jesus' tomb, "the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place" (John 20:7). Those two separate cloths, for his head and for his body respectively, meant a great deal to St. John and to the early Christians. Some years after the resurrection, there surfaced reports of two cloths with unusual characteristics, one bearing the image of a crucified man's body, another smaller one with the image of a wounded man's face. Some call them the Shroud of Turin and the Veil of Manoppello; they both can be seen today.

These two cloths have a long and complicated history, and scholars debate aspects of them. If you're curious, I encourage you to read about them. To be clear, I believe in the resurrection of Jesus because of the testimony of eyewitnesses and the gift of faith in the Church. Nevertheless, seeing these two mysterious cloths have made the life-giving event of Jesus' resurrection more real and tangible for me. Maybe they will for you, too.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

MASS HYMNS

Opening Song: **Gather #457** Jesus Christ Is Risen Today (EASTER HYMN)

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

Responsorial Psalm: **Let Us Rejoice and Be Glad** by Ben Walther

Easter Sequence: **Christians, Praise the Paschal Victim** by Craig Colson

Gospel Acclamation: **Festival Alleluia** by James Chepponis

At 9:30am: **MASS OF SAINT KILIAN** by Curtis Stephan

Sprinkling Rite: **Springs of Water from MUSIC FOR THE RITES OF INITIATION** by Tony Alonso

At 9:30am: **Spirit & Song #12** I Saw Water Flowing from **MASS OF RENEWAL** by Curtis Stephan

Preparation Song:

At 7:30am: **Gather #440** Alleluia! Let the Holy Anthem Rise (HOLY ANTHEM), lyrics by Edward Caswell

At 9:30am: **Now the Green Blade Rises (NOEL NOUVELET)**, arranged by Kevin McChesney

At 11:30am: **Gather #442** Sing with All the Saints in Glory (HYMN TO JOY) by Ludwig van Bee-

thoven, Edward Hodges, and William J. Irons

Communion Songs: **Forever (We Sing Hallelujah)** by Brian Johnson, Christa Black Gifford, Gabriel Wilson, Jenn Johnson, Joel Taylor, and Kari Jobe | **Surely the Presence** by Lanny Wolfe | **Spirit & Song #181** Christ Is Risen by Matt Maher and Mia Fieldes

Closing Song:

At 7:30am: **Because He Lives (Amen)** by Chris Tomlin, Daniel Carson, Ed Cash, Gloria Gaither, William J. Gaither, Jason Ingram, and Matt Maher

At 9:30am: **Celebrate Resurrection Day** by Chris Muglia and Leia Wasbotten

At 11:30am: **Hallelujah Is Our Song** by Sarah Hart, Sarah Kroger, Josh Blakesley, and Trey Heffinger

READING I

ACTS 10:34A, 37-43

Peter proceeded to speak and said:
“You know what has happened all over Judea,
beginning in Galilee after the baptism
that John preached,
how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth
with the Holy Spirit and power.
He went about doing good
and healing all those oppressed by the devil,
for God was with him.
We are witnesses of all that he did
both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem.
They put him to death by hanging him on a tree.
This man God raised on the third day and granted
that he be visible,
not to all the people, but to us,
the witnesses chosen by God in advance,
who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.
He commissioned us to preach to the people
and testify that he is the one appointed by God
as judge of the living and the dead.
To him all the prophets bear witness,
that everyone who believes in him
will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.”

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and
be glad.

READING II

COLOSSIANS 3:1-4

Brothers and sisters:
If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is
above,
where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.
Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.
For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ
in God.
When Christ your life appears,
then you too will appear with him in glory.

GOSPEL

JOHN 20:1-9

On the first day of the week,
Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning,
while it was still dark,
and saw the stone removed from the tomb.
So she ran and went to Simon Peter
and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told
them,
“They have taken the Lord from the tomb,
and we don’t know where they put him.”
So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to
the tomb.
They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than
Peter
and arrived at the tomb first;
he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did
not go in.
When Simon Peter arrived after him,
he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there,
and the cloth that had covered his head,
not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate
place.
Then the other disciple also went in,
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,
and he saw and believed.
For they did not yet understand the Scripture
that he had to rise from the dead.



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: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/
Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/
Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22/Jn
20:11-18

Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Lk
24:13-35

Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Lk
24:35-48

Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a/Jn
21:1-14

Saturday: Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-
21/Mk 16:9-15

WEEKDAY PSALMS

Monday: Psalm 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11
Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

Tuesday: Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22
The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

Wednesday: Psalm 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9
Rejoice, O hearts that seek the Lord.

Thursday: Psalm 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9
O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the
earth!

Friday: Psalm 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a
The stone rejected by the builders has become the
cornerstone.

Saturday: Psalm 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21
I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me.

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Easter Sunday

Monday: Monday within the Octave of Easter

Tuesday: Tuesday within the Octave of Easter; Earth Day

Wednesday: Wednesday within the Octave of Easter;
Administrative Professionals' Day

Thursday: Thursday within the Octave of Easter

Friday: Friday within the Octave of Easter; Arbor Day

Saturday: Saturday within the Octave of Easter

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2025 - EASTER VIGIL

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Martha Wagner | Bryan Karl | Bob & Joanne Yerkes | Gerena O. Monis | John Carter Bennett

SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2025 - EASTER SUNDAY

7:30am: Edward Skowron | Loida Busa Phelps | Antonina & Franciszek Cizek | Agata & Stanislaw Plewa | Maria & Jan Tylka | Anna & Josef Plewa | Sean Surke | Andrej Plewa | Jan Plewa | Krystyna & Josef Mrozek | Dariusz & Maria Kotodziejewski

9:30am: Joseph Prosen, Sr. | Helen Rusnak | Louie & Marie Vasehoff | Celso Balita Castor | Michael Needham | Toni Regacho | Ken Schaefer | Armand & Conchita Somera

11:30am: Vincent D'Souza | Charlie Washburn, Sr. | Charlie Washburn, Jr. | Celso Balita Castor | Crescencia & Silvestre Elefanté | Paulina Negrillo | Michael Velasco | Lydia Vergara | Rosalina "Lina" Lopez | Cesar De Leon | Adrian Aromin

5:00pm: NO 5PM MASS

MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025

7:30am: Our Parish Family

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025

7:30am: Kayla Hortelano | Scott Kohler | David Myers | Michael Bena

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025

7:30am: Nenita Bilaro

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025

7:30am: Mary Joseph | John Larson

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025

7:30am: Jennifer Hilo

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Elizabeth Vasilius | Gerena O. Monis | Scott Kohler | Kathryn Kohler | John Carter Bennett

SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025

7:30am: Winston Casis | Fr. Ferrell Kane

9:30am: Mark Ofenloch | Virginia Misiore

11:30am: Edward Donlan Perry | Lewandowski Family

5:00pm: Lisa Wong | Dolores Chow | Our Parish Family

DONATIONS SUMMARY

Week of April 14, 2025

Sunday- \$21,542

Sharing- \$110

SVdP- \$220

Catholic Extension- \$864

Let There Be Light- \$30

Flowers- \$650

Online Sunday- \$12,650

Online Sharing- \$1,005

Online SVdP- \$602

Month to Date - April

Sunday- \$37,724

Online Sunday- \$19,452

Sharing- \$135

Online Sharing- \$1,083

SVdP- \$615

Online SVdP- \$706

Catholic Extension- \$2,802

Let There Be Light- \$53

Flowers- \$650



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Jane Heraty	Charlie Lucas
Jacob Bereles	Laura Hopkins
Bob Franz	Rosa LaBellarte
Cortney Kinahan	William Otero
Rod Reyes	Marcy Davis
Betty Falotico	Emily Meyer
Carmen Torres	Laura Hopkins
Daniel Alfaro	Rosa LaBellarte
Luis Fernando Mathieu	Ruben Querubin
Dorothy Stratton	Rachel Ciullo
Keith Kellogg	Patricia Freeman
Lisa Mischke	Toni Lynn Mengarelli
Loretta Miranda	Shannon Bremmer
Dave Erickson	Karen Swazas
Darrel Alfonso	April Grandgeorge
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	Russell Yanow
Kathy Pozniecki	Victoria Sofia
Frank Shade	Luquez Mogollon
Roberto Dacumos	Kinga Szymoniak
Alfredo "Doy" Martija	Chris Lucy
Antonio "Tony" Alvarado	Donna O'Brien

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.

Michael Needham

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2025

6:30AM MEN'S LEGACY
7:30AM MORNING PRAYER SERVICE
11:00AM RECONCILIATION
2:00PM BASKET BLESSING -
ŚWIĘCONKA
7:00PM EASTER VIGIL MASS

SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2025- EASTER SUNDAY

7:30AM MASS
9:30AM MASS
11:30AM MASS

MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2024

7:30AM MASS

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2024

7:30AM MASS
8:00AM HOLY HOUR
2:00PM FAITH SHARING
6:30PM SPRED

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025

7:30AM MASS
9:30AM BIBLE STUDY
5:30PM FF | WED K-6, SCU
6:30PM BIBLE STUDY
7:00PM ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL
7:00PM LIFETEEN CORE TEAM
MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025

7:30AM MASS
8:00AM HOLY HOUR
6:00PM LECTORS - NEW
ORIENTATION

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025

7:30AM MASS
5:00PM WEDDING REHEARSAL -
MCGRUN/HART

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025

8:30AM BCBP MEETING

11:00AM RECONCILIATION

12:00PM BCBP - LENTEN RETREAT
12:00PM WEDDING - LUKOWSKI
1:00PM WEDDING - BALBAG/SHAW
3:00PM WEDDING - MCGURN/HART
5:00PM MASS

SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025

7:30AM MASS
9:00AM FF | SUN K-6
9:30AM MASS
11:30AM MASS
1:00PM BAPTISM - CARDENAS
1:30PM BAPTISM - LOGUIDICE
3:30PM CF | 1 & 2 & HS | 7-8 & HIGH
SCHOOL GRADES
3:00PM DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
HOLY HOUR
4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL
5:00PM MASS
6:00PM LIFETEEN NIGHT: LIFENIGHT

APRIL 26/27 | LITURGY SCHEDULE

	LECTORS	COMMUNION MINISTERS		GREETERS	PRESIDER
SATURDAY 5:00PM	Debbie Williams Jackie Senger	S. Grzesiak P. Balmes M. Minich	N. Hortelano B. Rago T. Rusnak	Dawn Wells Pam Balmes	Fr. Joe Dn. Andy
SUNDAY 7:30AM	Sue Lucas Lyla Chandy	L. Chandy M. Janik C. Karl E. Nelsen	T. Rafael- Azcueta D. Mumm T. Zdenanlik	Bob Zorc Mary Zorc	Fr. Chris Dn. Ivan
SUNDAY 9:30AM	Lisa Seifried Jeff Rediger	T. Brennan J. Farber E. Martinez N. Martinez	C. Nielsen C. Pettengill P. Wilson	George & Renee Pratscher	Fr. John Dn. Mike
SUNDAY 11:30AM	Maribeth Hilo Anna Richardt	R. Auguste E. Colcol T. Denecke- Dattalo	L. Lechowicz M. Ramirez J. Schoenherr S. Tebbetts		Fr. Chris Dn. Brent
SUNDAY 5:00PM	Bruce Marchioni Teen or Lector 1	C. Bertke C. Karl G. Murawski M. Murawski	JJ Plamoottil T. Robb A. Wattelet		Fr. Chris Dn. Rod

Come to the Feast of Divine Mercy!



Did you know that in the 1930's Our Lord Jesus, Himself requested through St. Faustina that a very special Feast of Divine Mercy be established in His Church and solemnly celebrated on the First Sunday after Easter every year?

In the Jubilee Year 2000, after many years of study, Saint Pope John Paul II established this special Feast of Divine Mercy!

Please join us **SUNDAY, APRIL 27TH, at 3PM** in the church for adoration, recitation of the Chaplet of Mercy, and celebration of God's Mercy and forgiveness.

If you are interested in joining our Lector Ministry here at St. Paul The Apostle, there will be a New Lector Orientation in church on Thursday, April 24th at 6:00 p.m.

Please contact our Parish Office at info@spa.church for additional information. Registration in advance is suggested.

SINGLE SENIORS SOCIAL CLUB

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

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR APRIL & MAY

MOCKTAIL MIXOLOGY PARTY

Friday, April 25th

6:30pm—9:00pm

Gurnee location TBA
upon registration

Happy Hour doesn't need booze to be brilliant! Join us for an evening of fun experimentation with delicious alcohol-free drinks and snacks. **Register by Wednesday, April 23rd.**

Cost: \$15pp

VOLUNTEER at

NO. IL FOOD BANK

Wednesday, May 21st

5:00pm—7:30pm

Followed by pizza at
The Silo Restaurant, Lake Bluff

We have 25 spots reserved at Northern Illinois Food Bank's Lake Forest Center. Afterwards we can meet for pizza & beverages. **We must fill these slots no later than Wednesday, May 7th.**

Cost: \$15pp for pizza.
Beverages on own

Register for either or both events at: stpaultheapostle.church; Select Single Senior Social Club; Mocktail Party and/or Volunteer

Questions? Please call or email:

Mary Ross 847.912.0033 mary_ross@comcast.net

Devotions, Explained!

SEVEN SORROWS OF MARY

The Seven Sorrows of Mary helps us to unite our own sufferings with those of Jesus, following Mary's perfect example, as we meditate upon the great sufferings endured by Our Lord and his Blessed Mother.

©LPi

We need your help! Calling all culinary enthusiasts!

Taste of St. Paul will be on Saturday, May 10, 2025 from 6-8pm

Let's see how many delicious foods we can bring to the table!

We are looking for chefs willing to share 100—150 samples for the evening. They should be an equivalent of \$0.50 to \$2 in portion size. We will provide sampling cups, sporks, 6" plates, and napkins.

NAME _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

NAME OF DISH _____ COUNTRY OF ORIGIN _____

WILL YOU NEED: 6" Plates _____ Sporks _____ Small cups _____ ?

Let us know what you can bring for the taste at our website,

SaintPaulTheApostle.church/parish-life or email Charlotte Nielsen at cnielsen@spa.church.



OPERATION RICE BOWL RETURNS

Thank you very much for supporting Operation Rice Bowl! Religious Ed students, please give your rice bowls to your teachers. Everyone can also place them in the baskets in the gathering space of the church. You can also put a check or cash in the envelope that came with your Rice Bowl (or in any envelope marked "Rice Bowl") and drop it into the collection basket, mail it to St. Paul's, or give online. Make checks payable to St. Paul the Apostle Parish. We will send one check to Catholic Relief Services. Though checks and cash are helpful, Deacon Mike will happily make a trip to the bank's coin machine with all your Rice Bowl change! Know why?

Because, every year, Deacon Mike is amazed by your generosity! He can't thank you enough for taking this project to heart and for caring for God's most needy children. Every penny donated helps in a very big way!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

St. Paul the Apostle Craft Show & Sale 2025

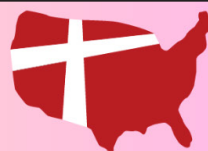
Saturday, Nov. 8th 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

6401 Gages Lake Rd., Gurnee, IL

(lower level Gathering Space)

Application available at cnielsen@spa.church





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.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Vicariate I Ministry Commission

Formation and Training for NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Presenter: Fr. Joe Curtis

When: Saturday, May 31, 2025

Where: St. Paul the Apostle, 6401 Gages Lake Rd., Gurnee 60031

Time: Check in at 8:30 a.m. | Training 9 – 11:30 a.m.

Register at: bit.ly/VIEMspr25

A follow up session will take place in your parish that will include any particular practices for your parish.

This training meets the archdiocesan requirements for mandation and remandation.

Questions? Contact Marie Paul at mariep@sttheresachurch.org.





Congratulations to St. Paul the Apostle's 2025 Confirmation Candidates!

Elizabeth Victoria Mary Magdalene Aguilar
Valeria Alejandra Teresa Alarcon
Giovanni Francis Alonso
Zander Maximillian Maximilian Bautista
Abigail Claire Therese Beaman
Declan Michael Declan Berge
Brayden Christopher Sebastian Brickler
Elle Taylor Joan Chapman
Immanuel Alexis Robert Chavez
Monica Guadalupe Laura Colunga
Alexander Steven Gregory Crambes
Ashley Nedret Angela Cunningham
Keira Marie Katherina von Bologna Dallstream
Connor William Michael Daugherty
Amando Jude Dominguez
Julia Anne Cosmas Dowling
Madeline Marie Madeleine Sophie Ecker
Elvin Peter Ericks
Leila Joyce Veronica Foss
Adrian Michael George Fossier
Ava Gabrielle Ava Fournier
Alec Wilson Sebastian Fournier
Averie Carol Catherine Frank
Tyler Robert Joseph Frisch
Sadie Beth Gianna Fugelseth
Lucas Francisco Justin Kirby Garcia
Josephine Gloria Cecilia Garcia
Hope Shannon Helena Gaston
Ava Frances Joan Hardel
Jacob Sebastian Hinojosa

Vivian Jacel Maria Hiso
Ella Marie Abigail Hoffeller
Caitlin Janelle Catherine Panisa Hormillosa
Imani Jayleen Teresa Hughes
Owen Adrian Sebastian Infanzon
Ciciliya Hannah Cecilia Kakkassery
Cameron Matthew Michael Kovach
Madelyn Jane Adjutor Leibfried
Joshua Nathaniel Crispin Luna-Nunez
Jacob David Ivo Maliszewski
Samuel Robert Michael Maliszewski
Anthony Louis John Paul Mendez
Asher Gray Roch Merritt
Evelyn Dymphna Mora Garduño
Dylan Andrew Christopher Parada
Jay Dylan August Augustine Parent
Matt Jacob Edward Placido Pasco
Connor Thomas Patrick Patterson
Sofia Valentina Dymphna Pereyra
Julia Elizabeth Francis Pogorzelski
Allison Rosa Ignatius Rodriguez
Ella Jo Veronica Rossie
Makayla Marie Germaine Rowe
Manuel Clarence A. Joseph Sison
Annika Kathryn Cecilia Tendick
Michaela Ignatius Untalan
Veronica Felicia Cecilia Widlak
Maya Elizabeth Grace Wilson
Elizabeth Lynn Elizabeth Zajac
Adriana Teresa Zavala



Office of the Archbishop
835 North Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611-2030
312.534.8230
archchicago.org

Easter 2025

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

For more than a thousand years, the Church has sung five words that capture the message of Easter: *Christ our hope has risen.*

This simple phrase powerfully expresses the conviction that our hope is the very person of the Risen Christ. He not only rose from the dead two-thousand years ago but is present and active in our world today. As the Risen One, he shares with us his victory and triumph over sin and death, drawing us into the fullness of life that God has ever desired for humanity. Yes, indeed Christ our hope has risen.

We recall this core belief in this Jubilee Holy Year when Pope Francis has called us to be *Pilgrims of hope*. This is an invitation to be a people who journey together, confident that we are sustained by this closeness to the Risen Christ as we face the challenges of life. As pilgrims of hope, we walk with the Risen One and lean on his presence for personal support, but we also discover the power to bring hope to our world, our families, communities, workplaces, and nation. This is a great grace and responsibility.

May our Easter faith that Christ our hope has risen grow stronger, so that we will join in his work of bringing hope to our world with new enthusiasm, putting aside all of our fears and anxieties, in the knowledge that by conquering death, the Risen Lord has given us the sure hope and promise that we too have risen with him and will live forever. Yes, Christ our hope has risen and so have we. Happy Easter!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Blase Cupic, Archbishop
Archbishop of Chicago

Question:

How do I discern if a call to do something big is really from God?

Answer: Each day we face plenty of decisions about following God: whether or not to pray, how to treat people, and how to prioritize our time. Sometimes there can be something much more significant we discern: a vocational call, a promotion at work that requires a move, or a new ministry position at church. In addition to a pro-con list or a cost-benefit analysis, here are a few things to prayerfully consider and to talk over with trusted individuals.

Does it conform to God's will revealed in the Church? God doesn't call us to do something that contradicts the moral law. Will it encourage spiritual growth? Sometimes we need to choose between multiple good options. Consider the personal impact on you and others you are responsible for, like family. Other times we might be invited to do good for others, but when we assess our other life commitments, we see that saying yes to this would actually impede our prior responsibilities in the long run. Does the call seem consistent? This isn't to say that God won't do something new. Even so, consider if the call is consistent with your gifts and abilities. Can you see a "through-line" so to speak, with how your experiences have led you to this point? Do others confirm it? Share your reflections with trusted, insightful confidantes. Have they seen the same things you have, or are they bringing up new points to consider? Humbly add their relevant points to your considerations. Don't forget your gut. After you've carefully considered everything in your mind, don't neglect your instincts. Does your heart say yes or no?

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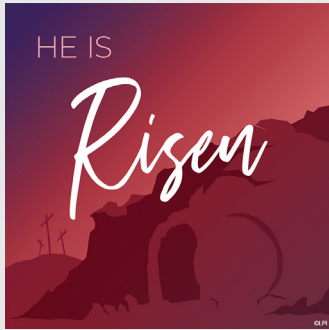


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Leave It in the Tomb

Today, on the most important day of the liturgical year, the Apostle Paul is calling us out.

"I see you hiding in that tomb," he says. "I see you baking with that old, stale yeast, thinking no one will notice."

He says it a little more elegantly, I'll grant you. But the message is this: If you want to be raised with Christ, you'd better be ready to step out of the shadows. Seek what is above — not what is on earth.

I can feel myself responding almost reflexively, "Great idea, Paul — but I'm pretty comfy here." Because sometimes, it's just easier to stay in the tomb. It's easier to crouch in the shadows and look outward at everyone else, thinking of the changes they could make or the sins they could overcome.

Today we are called to embrace newness. New hearts, new lives, new futures, new chances. If there's anything keeping you from that, you need to leave it in the tomb. It's a little scary, sure — maybe Jesus thought so before he stepped into the light of that first Easter morning. But no loaf of bread worth eating was ever baked using stale yeast that wouldn't rise. No new life worth having was ever lived through the broken sins of yesterday. No Easter morning ever dawned without the tomb sitting empty.

Step into the light. He is waiting for you.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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"What's the difference between Jesus and pizza?"



"Jesus can't be topped!"



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SUICIDE PREVENTION

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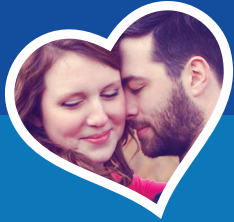


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