



Saint Paul
the Apostle

FEBRUARY 22, 2026



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

The tempter approached and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." - Mt 4:3

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT - THE SEASON OF LENT... THE SEASON OF LOVE!

BY MARY PENICH

Recent encounters here at church have unexpectedly set the tone for my approach to Lent 2026. I smiled often as I watched some of our youngest parishioners enjoying themselves in the gathering space. I couldn't help sympathizing with the dads and moms and grandparents who did their best to slow them down and quiet them a bit. I often offer words of encouragement in these situations because I recall my own efforts with our sons and our grandchildren. My dear husband and I always slept well when our sons were young, just as we do after a day with our grandchildren. Since I've shared that morsel with you, will you stay with me as I wander further down Memory Lane?



When our first child was born, I caught a glimpse of God's love. I couldn't imagine loving anyone more than I loved that little boy. When Mike and I discovered that his little brother was on the way, I wondered if I could love another child as much as I loved Mike. When Little Brother arrived, I answered my own question with a resounding "Yes!" You see, our grandchildren and their parents draw more love from me than I thought I had to give. A recent gathering with all eleven of us indicated to me that, as I journey through Lent 2026, I must focus on love. If this humble heart of mine can love so completely, imagine the depth of God's love for you, for me, and for every one of us. God's love leaves me awestruck! How can I not try to share a bit of that love with others?

Think back to the Lents of the past. We habitually viewed these forty days as a time of penance and contrition. True as this is, God's love convinces me that there is far more to this sacred season. While we all have reason to feel regret and remorse and to improve ourselves, we also have reason to rejoice as we focus on Jesus' journey toward Easter. In all that he said and did, Jesus made it crystal clear that we are loved and cared for by our gracious and merciful God. Jesus celebrated this reality whenever he stole away to spend quiet time in conversation with his Father. Jesus did the same in the relationships he shared with his closest friends and all those he met along the way. Jesus' love for God's people was no accident. This is the reason Jesus chose to bring God's love for each one of us to his every encounter.

During Lent 2026, we can share Jesus' lessons in love. We can each choose something to do or something

to give up that will turn our attention to all Jesus did for us and to God's love for us. In addition to our personal efforts, we can join our parish family in opportunities that will guide us all on our way to Easter. Our Lent schedule cards will help. Our Rice Bowls will remind us that we're all disciples who walk at Jesus' side and that some of us need a bit of help along the way.

Today, after hearing the story of Jesus' temptation in the desert, let's finalize our plans for our Lenten journeys. Next week, after listening to the story of Jesus' transfiguration, we might consider how we will be transfigured through our own efforts this Lent. Perhaps what we choose to do will also transfigure the circumstances of those around us or of someone in need whom we'll never meet. Either way, change will occur! On the Third Sunday of Lent, we'll listen to the story of Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well. Jesus peered into her heart and filled the void there with love. That week, maybe we can fill a bag with food for the hungry or fill a sad friend with hope. The Fourth Sunday of Lent features the gospel of the man born blind whom Jesus healed. Though his physical healing was important, Jesus healed that man's spirit as well. Perhaps we'll put something extra into our children's rice bowls or into our sharing parish envelope. There are so many who need us! Perhaps having enough will replace their despair with hope! The Fifth Sunday of Lent, we'll celebrate Jesus' raising of Lazarus from the dead. What will we do to bring new life to those who need it most?

Whatever we choose to do or to give up this Lent will draw our attention to the reason for this special season. With every sacrifice we make and every good deed we perform, we'll also be taking the time to savor God's love for us. Every bit of our effort will deepen our relationships with God and will inspire our love one another. So, together, let's take every opportunity to share God's love with all those we meet along the way. Yes, this is our journey for Lent 2026 and for every day until we meet Jesus in the heavenly home he's prepared for us all!



the best is yet to come

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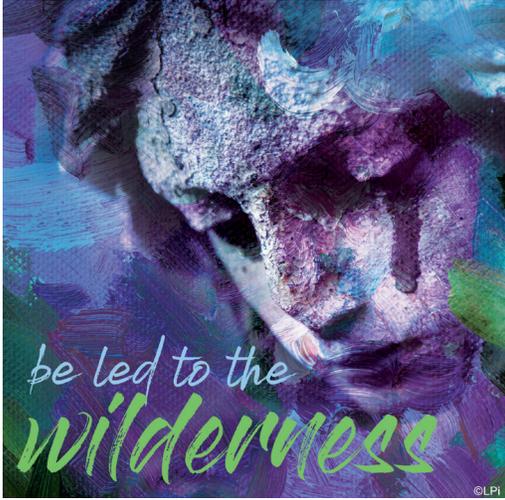


To Read Fr. Chris' Weekly Letter
please visit our website: www.saintpaultheapostle.church

YOUR SUNDAY WORSHIP AID

1st Sunday of Lent

GOSPEL MEDITATION



In my second-to-last year of seminary, I woke up one September morning to devastating news: two beloved classmates had died in a car crash. I was overwhelmed with grief and anger like I had never known. I entered therapy for the first time and had intense conversations with my spiritual director. For months I felt lost in a spiritual wilderness. But something unexpected happened: I encountered Christ there. The fear and sorrow didn't destroy me. In fact, that spiritual desert was a time of intense growth in faith.

Today's Gospel begins: "Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil" (Matthew 4:1). The word "led" denotes a gentle, humble submission to the Spirit. Jesus does not send himself into this desolate place where wild beasts roam and Satan tempts. Who wants to be around roaming, wild beasts? The Church Fathers saw them as symbols of our inner chaos: fears, temptations, wounds. The Spirit leads us there, sometimes against our wishes. But those same Fathers also saw that this deserted place is also where angels ministered to Jesus, amidst his great trial and temptation.

Lenten Challenge: This Lent and throughout life's struggles, the Spirit leads you and me into the wilderness. Name one "desert" into which the Spirit has led you: perhaps grief, fear, silence, change, disappointment. Ask for the grace to go there willingly. The beasts may be real, but they will not harm you. There, the angels are waiting to minister to the Christ living in you, who always goes where the Spirit leads.

— Father John Muir ©LPI

MASS HYMNS

Opening Song: **In These Days of Lenten Journey** by Ricky Manalo
At Sunday 5:00pm: **Spirit & Song #386 Here I Am to Worship** by Tim Hughes

Responsorial Psalm: **Be Merciful, O Lord** by Curtis Stephan

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

Preparation Song: **Spirit & Song #344 Renew** by Sarah Hart and Marc Byrd

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

Communion Songs: **Turn Our Hearts Around** by Trevor Thomson
At Sunday 5:00pm: **I Journey on My Way** by Sarah Hart and Francesca LaRosa

Closing Song: **Gather #397 The Glory of These Forty Days (OLD HUNDREDTH)** by Louis Bourgeois
and Saint Gregory the Great
At Sunday 5:00pm: **Spirit & Song #391 Lead Me Home** by Matt Maher

READING I

GENESIS 2:7-9; 3:1-7

The LORD God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and so man became a living being.

Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and placed there the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the LORD God made various trees grow that were delightful to look at and good for food, with the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the animals that the LORD God had made.

The serpent asked the woman, "Did God really tell you not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?"

The woman answered the serpent: "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; it is only about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden that God said, 'You shall not eat it or even touch it, lest you die.'"

But the serpent said to the woman: "You certainly will not die!

No, God knows well that the moment you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods who know what is good and what is evil."

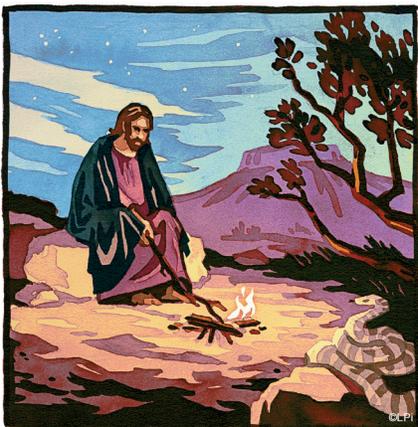
The woman saw that the tree was good for food, pleasing to the eyes, and desirable for gaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.



READING II

ROMANS 5:12-19 OR 5:12, 17-19

Brothers and sisters:

Through one man sin entered the world, and through sin, death, and thus death came to all men, inasmuch as all sinned.

For if, by the transgression of the one, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ.

In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so, through one righteous act, acquittal and life came to all.

For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so, through the obedience of the one, the many will be made righteous.

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 4:1-11

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil.

He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry.

The tempter approached and said to him,

"If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread."

He said in reply,

"It is written: One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God."

Then the devil took him to the holy city, and made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down.

For it is written: He will command his angels concerning you and with their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone."

Jesus answered him,

"Again it is written,

You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test."

Then the devil took him up to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence,

and he said to him, "All these I shall give to you, if you will prostrate yourself and worship me."

At this, Jesus said to him,

"Get away, Satan!

It is written:

The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve."

Then the devil left him and, behold, angels came and ministered to him.

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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: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48

WEEKDAY PSALMS

Monday: Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 15
Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

Tuesday: Psalm 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19
From all their distress God rescues the just.

Wednesday: Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19
A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.

Thursday: Psalm 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8
Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

Friday: Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8
If you, O Lord, mark iniquities, who can stand?

Saturday: Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8
Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: 1st Sunday of Lent

Monday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

Friday: St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent



MASS INTENTIONS

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 Peccioli | 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 | Julia Lally
5:00pm: Bob & Harriet Sutton | Our Parish Family

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026

7:30am: Cynthia Kielp

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026

7:30am: Our Parish Family

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026

7:30am: Our Parish Family

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026

7:30am: Scott Kohler | Remigio Reyes

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

7:30am: Our Parish Family

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2026

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Lawrence Doan Pham | Gerena O. Monis | John Carter Bennett | Winston Casis | Mercedes Gozun

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026

7:30am: Michael Kinahan | Ben Serrano | Joseph Falotico
9:30am: Robert Chester Buttrey | De Guzman Family | Alberta Irene Presensky
11:30am: Bob & Harriet Sutton | Hector B. Brual, Jr. | Gaspar Siap
Celia J. Auguste | Angelo Yee | Trifina Yee | Kristin Yee | Roza Basan
Mariano M. Nazareno
5:00pm: Our Parish Family

DONATIONS SUMMARY

Week of February 16, 2025

Sunday-	\$18,023	Online Sunday-	\$11,423
Sharing-	\$135	Online Sharing-	\$603
SVdP-	\$1,015	Online SVdP-	\$411
Souper Bowl-	\$ 1,374		

Month to Date - February

Sunday-	\$47,562
Online Sunday-	\$23,204
Sharing-	\$1,418
Online Sharing-	\$1,747
SVdP-	\$1,621
Online SVdP-	\$877
Souper Bowl-	\$7,911



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 Correa	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.

*Eden M. Landicho
Vicki Shafer
Sue Farm
David Vallari*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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
 1:00PM BAPTISM - RAPHEAL
 3:30PM CF 1-2-HS & SCU2
 4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL
 5:00PM MASS
 6:00PM LIFETEEN NIGHT: LIFENIGHT

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026

7:30AM MASS
 7:00PM LENTEN HOLY HOUR

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026

7:30AM MASS
 7:00PM LIFETEEN CORE TEAM MEETING
 7:00PM ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026

7:30AM MASS
 8:00AM HOLY HOUR

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2026

8:30AM BCBP MEETING
 11:00AM RECONCILIATION
 5:00PM MASS

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026

7:30AM MASS
 9:00AM OCIA
 9:00AM FF | SUN K-6
 9:30AM MASS
 11:30AM MASS (CHILDREN'S CHOIR)
 3:30PM CF 1-2-HS & SCU2
 4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL
 5:00PM MASS
 6:00PM LIFETEEN NIGHT: LIFENIGHT

FEBRUARY 28/MARCH 1 | LITURGY SCHEDULE

	USHERS	LECTORS	COMMUNION MINISTERS	GREETERS	PRESIDER
SATURDAY 5:00PM	G. Johnson A. Rusnak T. Rusnak M. Mohrfeld OPEN x 2	Mike Mohrfeld Warren Kati	Balmes Grzesiak Gorajski Wicinski, C Wicinski, E	J. Amezquita P. Balmes	Fr. Chris Dn. Mike
SUNDAY 7:30AM	R. Dizon B. O'Brien P. Mikols P. Rothacker T. Shurtleff T. Burns	Elsa Kurien Keith Kouba	Burns Kurien Mumm Nieman Pieper	R. Azcueta T. Rafael- Azcueta	Fr. Martin Dn. Brent
SUNDAY 9:30AM	T. Mengarelli D. Scheffler K. King P. Mengarelli R. Reed OPEN	Tom Maus Mike Fournier	Anderson Bautista Beaudoin Gbur Klemann	D. Shuppert R. Shuppert	Fr. John Dn. Rod
SUNDAY 11:30AM	R. Cuasay C. Karl C. Haines G. Galano P. Watson S. Fragassi	Conchita Manalo Sheila Tinetti	Denecke-Dattalo Tebbetts Hilo Mozny Stahl	A. Brown T. Guziec	Fr. Chris Dn. Andy
SUNDAY 5:00PM	M. Deniz B. Marchioni J. Plamoottill K. Deniz OPEN x 2	Gianna Gayton Teen or Lector 1	Crow Marino Plamoottill Robb Wattelet	Teens	Fr. Martin Dn. Bob



CURIOUS CATHOLIC
PRESENTS



Dr. Maria Barga

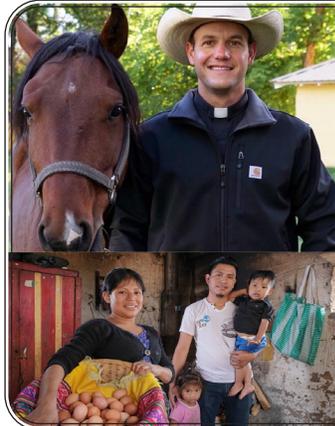
2.24.26 @ 7:00pm

Suffering in the Bible: Modes
of Suffering and What they
Reveal/Teach

All adults are invited to Curious Catholic this Tuesday at 7:00pm in the Gathering Space. Our speaker will be Dr. Maria Barga who will speak about Suffering in the Bible: Modes of Suffering and What they Reveal/Teach. Maria is an Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies at the University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein Seminary. Wine and snacks will be served.

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

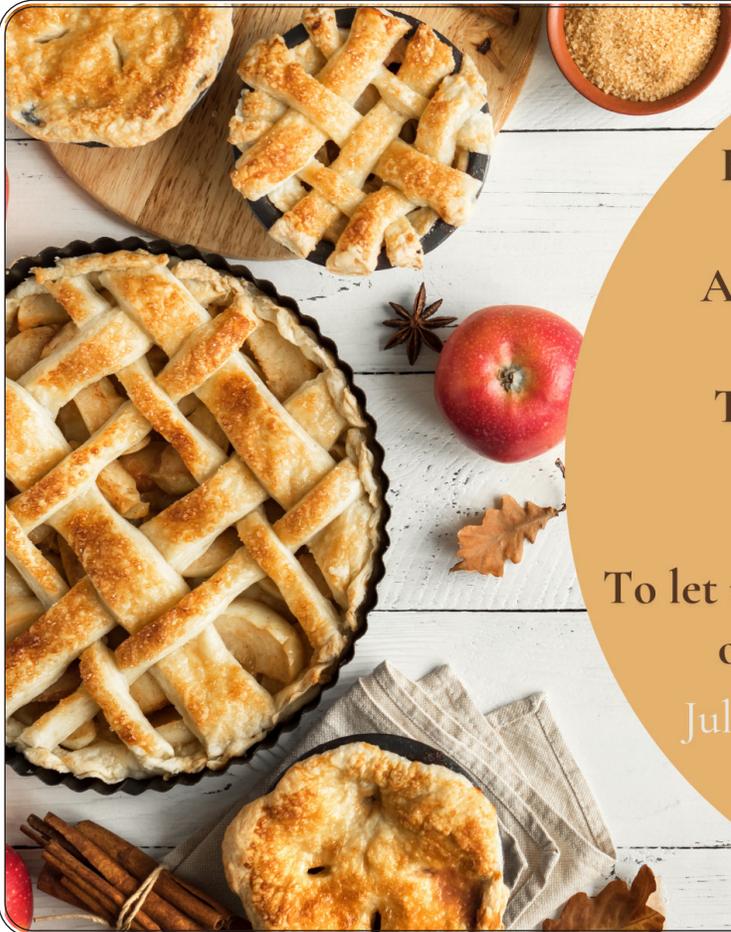


**CATHOLIC
EXTENSION
SOCIETY**

**for priests in
WYOMING**

ALMSGIVING

**CRS RICE
50 YEARS BOWL**



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

Thank you can't begin to express how We, at St. Vincent de Paul/Gurnee, continue to be amazed by the generosity and support during the "2025 Week of Giving". Your contributions continue to touch the lives of those within our community, who have been less fortunate with their circumstances in life.



This year's appeal exceeded the initial goal. Thanks to all the "angels" who contributed with donations and prayers, as over \$56,000 was raised!

On behalf of the SVdP Board and all of our Members, God Bless all the angels at St. Paul the Apostle Church for making the campaign our best year ever!

Peace, Maryalice Smith, SVdP 2025 Committee Chair

St. Vincent dePaul – Gurnee Conference Summary of Activity for the Year Ended September 30, 2025

Opening cash balance – October 1, 2024:	\$4,960
Contributions received:	\$109,960
Assistance payments to Friends in Need: (\$102,262)	
Administrative expenses:	(\$3,284)
Ending cash balance - September 30, 2025:	\$ 9,374

SINGLE SENIORS SOCIAL CLUB

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



Impact Fuel Room and TCM Events present **The Very Big Show: A Night of Comedy and Magic** with Wes Barker and Simon King.

Tickets: \$38 pp

Saturday, March 21st at Austin's Impact Fuel Room, 481 Peterson Rd, Libertyville
Doors open at 7:00 pm, Show at 7:30 pm

**Register by 3/4 @ saintpaultheapostle.church;
Select Single Senior Social Club; The Very Big Show**

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

Wednesday Bible Study starts March 25
"Wisdom Books of the OT"
Details to come!

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



TOGETHER WE BRING LIGHT



2026 Annual Catholic Appeal

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

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

To make a gift by phone: 312-534-7959

To mail:
835 North Rush Street, Chicago, IL 60611

To give online:

annualcatholicappeal.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

JOIN US FOR THE...

Senior Luncheon

WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 18TH
11AM-1PM

Bingo After Lunch

No Reservations Taken After March 15th

Appreciate and Accepting
Free-Will Donations

RSVP with Name and
Phone Number to
Murquhart@spa.church
or call 847-816-8677



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.

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



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Feast of the Holy Child Jesus, Señor Santo Niño –

With hearts full of joy and gratitude, we thank everyone who joined us in celebrating the Feast of the Holy Child Jesus, Señor Santo Niño on January 18, 2026 here at our parish Saint Paul the Apostle. The devotion to the Holy Infant Jesus reminds us of God's tender love and invites us to embrace the humility, trust, and simplicity of the Child Jesus.

To all who participated in the celebration — our parishioners, families, friends, and visitors — thank you for your presence and your prayerful devotion. Your faith brought warmth and vibrancy to this special feast day.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to our clergy, volunteers, liturgical ministers, choir, organizers, and generous donors whose dedication made the celebration meaningful and grace-filled. Your service reflects the very spirit of the Santo Niño: love offered with joy, humility, and a willing heart.

As we honor the Holy Infant Jesus, may His light guide our steps, strengthen our families, and deepen our trust in God's loving providence.

Viva Pit Señor! With gratitude and blessings, The Holy Child Jesus, Señor Santo Niño Group



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

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

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

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

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

Don't miss this opportunity to be heard.

Thank you for helping our parish!



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:
According to the Acts of the Apostles, who was selected to replace the Apostle Judas?

Answer:
St. Matthias.

©LPI



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**, 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.

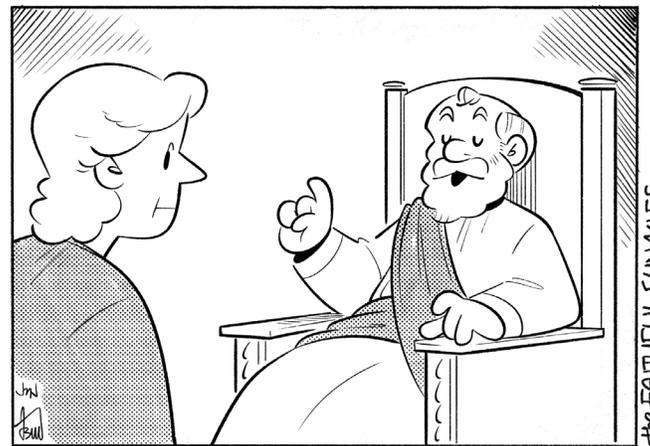
ST. PAUL'S SOUPER BOWL 2026 HITS HISTORIC HIGHS!!!



People of St. Paul's, you never cease to amaze us!!! You have made history!!! We can't thank you enough for your generous response to our SOUPER Bowl 2026 Appeal. Though we missed seeing our local heroes in Super Bowl LX, our deacons didn't miss witnessing your amazing support of our 2026 SOUPER Bowl! Your donations totaled over \$8,000!!! This is our highest SOUPER Bowl score yet! This a huge win for Holy Family and Little Flower (St. Anastasia) Food Pantries. THANK YOU!!!

WWW.SAINTPAULTHEAPOSTLE.CHURCH

"What was papal infallibility called when St. Peter was the pope?"



"Simon says!"

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Stations of the Cross

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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

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PARISH OFFICE

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FRIDAY HOURS: 9:00AM - 12:00PM
847-918-0600

BUSINESS OFFICE

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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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frchris@spa.church

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

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