



Saint Paul
the Apostle

MARCH 22, 2026



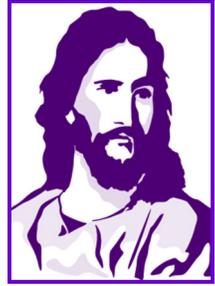
5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

And when he had said this, he cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" - Jn 11:43

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT - WE'RE NEVER EVER ALONE!

BY MARY PENICH

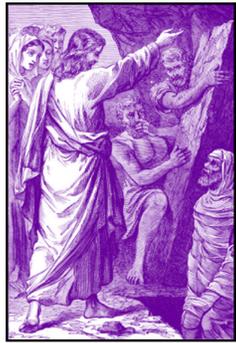
It's tough to witness the suffering of those we love. Whether we're at their bedsides, offering encouragement over the phone, or sending cards of encouragement, it's tough to be unable to do more. Whether it's an uncertain prognosis or the certainty of the pain to come that burdens those who are ill, our hearts ache as we watch their attempts to cope. Though the passage of time sometimes allows this to become routine while we become more accepting of what is to be, this road is tough. Our faith tells us that a terminal illness's outcome is eternal life. Still, we long to take away the pain of our loved ones.



Sometimes, our own pain persists as well. John's gospel (11:1-45) tells us that Jesus experienced the same when his friend, Lazarus, endured a terrible illness and then died...

Lazarus was the brother of Martha and Mary. As his illness worsened, they knew Lazarus wasn't long for this world. In a desperate attempt to help, Martha and Mary sent word to Jesus. John's gospel tells us that, when Jesus received this news, he knew Lazarus would die. Jesus also knew that his friend's death would allow him to reveal the promise of eternal life to all who would see or hear of this miracle. So, Jesus delayed his journey to his friend's bedside. Jesus arrived in Bethany four days *after* Lazarus was buried. At this point, Jesus' genuine concern for Lazarus, for his family, for his disciples, and for you and me became more apparent than ever!

Though Jesus knew what he planned to do in response to Lazarus' death, he was overwhelmed by what he found at his friends' home. Martha and Mary were



weeping bitterly over the loss of their brother. Jesus himself was moved to tears, not only by the loss of Lazarus, but also by the pain that loss caused Lazarus' sisters. Jesus couldn't help entering into the suffering of Martha and Mary, just as he had with so many others so many times before. You see, just as you and I are moved to ease the suffering of our loved ones, Jesus was moved. Just as you and I so often turn to God for strength, Jesus turned to his Heavenly Father. In that moment, eternity became the present, and Lazarus returned to his earthly life!

Before I jump up and shout, "Wow!" over Jesus' miracle, I must acknowledge that Jesus had begun the work of filling those he encountered with new life soon after he took his first breath. As a baby, Jesus complicated Joseph's and Mary's lives by being born while they were traveling to fulfill King Herod's demand for a census. In the process,

little Jesus awed nearby shepherds and the Magi who'd traveled hundreds of miles to meet him. The Magi were the first of many who were transformed by this infant turned toddler, turned young man, turned rabbi, turned messiah. Jesus gave new meaning to the lives of so many! Mary Magdalene, Nicodemus, the man born blind, the lepers, the hemorrhaging woman, Lazarus, Mary and Martha, his twelve apostles, hordes of followers, and Dismas who hung on a cross next to him were but a few. The scriptures and church history are teeming with testimonials to the life-giving nature of a relationship with Jesus. Closer to home, if we look carefully, I think we'll find even more evidence of such transformations within ourselves!

Very soon, the pain our world endures today will echo in the suffering of our dearest friend. We'll return to the Jerusalem of two millennia ago to walk with Jesus who is always with us as he endures the unimaginable. Though Jesus and we *know* the miraculous outcome, the pain that will come first is very real. Jesus' closest friends will be so paralyzed with fear that they'll do nothing to save him. No one will keep the soldiers from nailing him to the cross. They'll run as far as possible from Jesus to save themselves. Passersby will gawk at the blood dripping down Jesus' face from the thorny crown embedded in his scalp. No one will dress the torn flesh that once covered his back. No one will speak up to attest to his innocence. No one will prevent the death that brings life in abundance to this world. No one will do a thing to help, unless you and I choose to do so...



There's still time for us to attend to the miracle of Jesus' presence in our lives. Though Jesus' suffering will be our focus during Holy Week, it is the life of love, compassion and forgiveness that preceded his suffering that gave Jesus the strength to endure. Every time Jesus embraced a sinner, fed the hungry, cured the sick, or simply listened to a grieving heart, Jesus touched humankind with the very Life of God. What better way is there to acknowledge Jesus' generosity than to share it as only we can with those we've been given to love? Thirteen days filled with possibilities remain before Easter. Each one of those days will provide new opportunities to acknowledge Jesus' love for us by touching the lives of those around us, both nearby and faraway, with that love. Just as was the case with Lazarus, one act of kindness may be all that is needed to bring life to a withering soul. For Jesus' sake and our own, let's try! Remember, Jesus will be with us all the while!

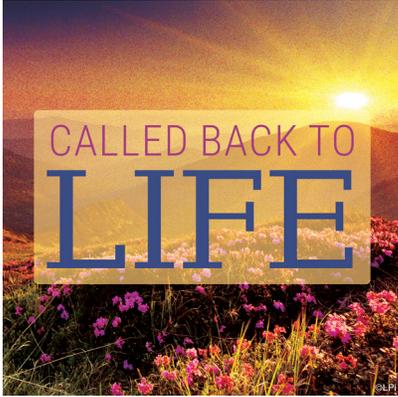
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To Read Fr. Chris' Weekly Letter
please visit our website: www.saintpaultheapostle.church

YOUR SUNDAY WORSHIP AID

5th Sunday of Lent

GOSPEL MEDITATION



A friend of mine wrote an imaginative reflection on the raising of Lazarus that caught me off guard. She proposed that when Jesus called Lazarus from the tomb, the man was not joyful but angry and annoyed. After so much suffering, maybe death felt like a release. He had finally escaped the pain. And then, suddenly, Jesus' voice cuts through the silence: "Lazarus, come out!" (John 11:43) The light stings his eyes. The pain returns. And now he is dragged back into a world that had broken him.

It startled me at first, but the more I sat with it, the more it made sense. Sometimes, people do not want to be raised. Not at first. Think of those in the grip of addiction, despair, or numbness. The tomb can feel safer than the risk of living again. Yet Jesus, moved by the grief and faith of others (Martha, Mary, the community) calls the dead man out. Lazarus obeys. But he is still bound, head to foot. Jesus says to the bystanders, "Untie him and let him go" (John 11:44).

That is often how healing happens: slowly, reluctantly. Not just by a personal decision, but through the love and persistence of others. Resurrection is not always euphoric. It may begin in protest and confusion and only later turn to gratitude and freedom. But Christ's voice breaks through, anyway.

Lenten challenge: Who in your life needs to be called back to life? Pray for them. If that person is you, listen for the voice. It is calling even now.

— Father John Muir ©LPH

MASS HYMNS

Opening Song: **Spirit & Song #270 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)** by Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman

Responsorial Psalm: **With the Lord There Is Mercy** by Jesse Manibusan

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

Preparation Song: **Spirit & Song #168 Above All** by Paul Baloche and Lenny LeBlanc

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

Communion Songs: **Gather #822 I Am the Bread of Life** by Suzanne Toolan

At Sunday 5:00pm: **Memorial** by Ike Ndolo, Matt Maher, and Jacob Sooter

Closing Song: **Gather #593 On Eagle's Wings** by Michael Joncas

At Sunday 5:00pm: **At the Cross (Love Ran Red)** by Ed Cash, Matt Armstrong, Chris Tomlin, Matt Redman, and Jonas Myrin

READING I

EZEKIEL 37:12-14

Thus says the Lord GOD:
O my people, I will open your graves
and have you rise from them,
and bring you back to the land of Israel.
Then you shall know that I am the LORD,
when I open your graves and have you rise from them,
O my people!
I will put my spirit in you that you may live,
and I will settle you upon your land;
thus you shall know that I am the LORD.
I have promised, and I will do it, says the LORD.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

READING II

ROMANS 8:8-11

Brothers and sisters:
Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.
But you are not in the flesh;
on the contrary, you are in the spirit,
if only the Spirit of God dwells in you.
Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not
belong to him.
But if Christ is in you,
although the body is dead because of sin,
the spirit is alive because of righteousness.
If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead
dwells in you,
the one who raised Christ from the dead
will give life to your mortal bodies also,
through his Spirit dwelling in you.

GOSPEL

JOHN 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33B-45

The sisters of Lazarus sent word to Jesus, saying,
“Master, the one you love is ill.”
When Jesus heard this he said,
“This illness is not to end in death,
but is for the glory of God,
that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”
Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.
So when he heard that he was ill,
he remained for two days in the place where he was.
Then after this he said to his disciples,
“Let us go back to Judea.”

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus
had already been in the tomb for four days.
When Martha heard that Jesus was coming,
she went to meet him;
but Mary sat at home.
Martha said to Jesus,

“Lord, if you had been here,
my brother would not have died.
But even now I know that whatever you ask of God,
God will give you.”
Jesus said to her,
“Your brother will rise.”
Martha said,
“I know he will rise,
in the resurrection on the last day.”
Jesus told her,
“I am the resurrection and the life;
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.
Do you believe this?”
She said to him, “Yes, Lord.
I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of
God,
the one who is coming into the world.”

He became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said,
“Where have you laid him?”
They said to him, “Sir, come and see.”
And Jesus wept.
So the Jews said, “See how he loved him.”
But some of them said,
“Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man
have done something so that this man would not have
died?”

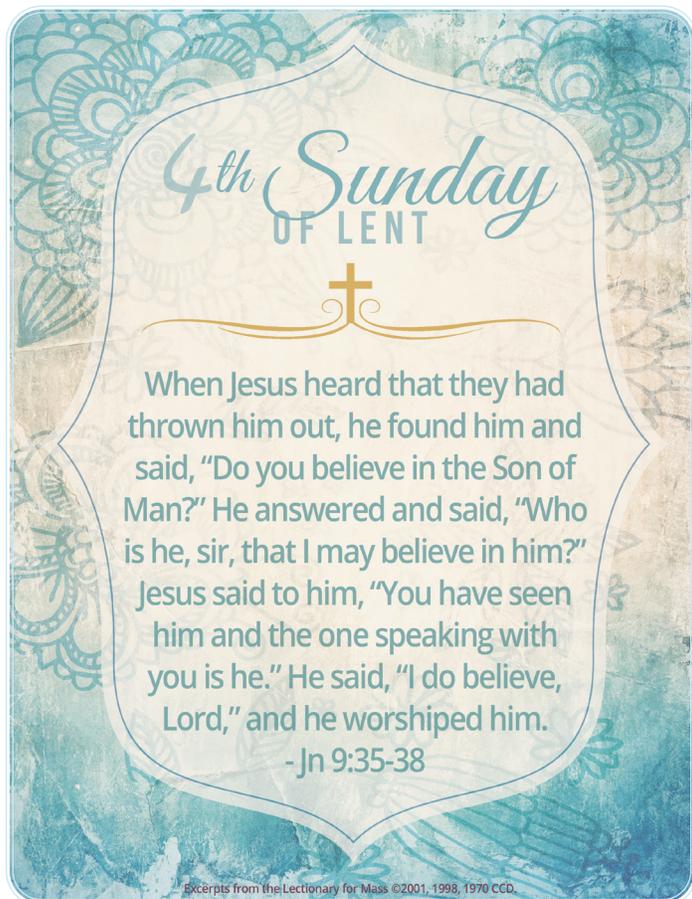
So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb.
It was a cave, and a stone lay across it.
Jesus said, “Take away the stone.”
Martha, the dead man’s sister, said to him,
“Lord, by now there will be a stench;
he has been dead for four days.”
Jesus said to her,
“Did I not tell you that if you believe
you will see the glory of God?”
So they took away the stone.
And Jesus raised his eyes and said,
“Father, I thank you for hearing me.
I know that you always hear me;
but because of the crowd here I have said this,
that they may believe that you sent me.”
And when he had said this,
He cried out in a loud voice,
“Lazarus, come out!”
The dead man came out,
tied hand and foot with burial bands,
and his face was wrapped in a cloth.
So Jesus said to them,
“Untie him and let him go.”

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary
and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

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.



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jr 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56

WEEKDAY PSALMS

Monday: Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6

Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.

Tuesday: Psalm 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21

O Lord, hear my prayer, and let my cry come to you.

Wednesday: Psalm 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11

Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

Thursday: Psalm 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Friday: Psalm 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7

In my distress I called upon the Lord, and he heard my voice.

Saturday: Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13

The Lord will guard us, as a shepherd guards his flock.

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: 5th Sunday of Lent

Monday: St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

Wednesday: The Annunciation of the Lord

Next Sunday: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord; Holy Week begins

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Lawrence Doan Pham | Gerena O. Monis | John Carter Bennett | Walter & Emily Macrowski | Diana Yedinak Scola | Jarek Nieplocha

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026

7:30am: Judy Russell | Ben Serrano

9:30am: Craig Nielsen | Luisa Bardales | Ron Taylor | Maureen Conroy | Maia Wisdom | Selina Suarez | Devy Lee | Miguel DeGuzman

11:30am: Hector B. Brual, Jr. | Celia J. Auguste | Joseph & Yolanda Leahy | Silvestre & Crescencia Elefanté | Paulina Negrillo | Michael Velasco

5:00pm: Bob & Harriet Sutton

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2026

7:30am: Karen Rader

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2026

7:30am: Scott Kohler | Zenaida Lantin

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2026

7:30am: Stanley Strum, Jr. | Tom Roser

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2026

7:30am: Lily Sarol | Jesusa Cuasay

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2026

7:30am: Kathleen & Stanley Strum

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Jaime Gorospe | Isabel Gorospe | Lawrence Doan Pham | Gerena O. Monis | John Carter Bennett | Walter & Emily Macrowski

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026

7:30am: Rose Kressek | Alice De Silvial | Ben Serrano

9:30am: Joe Prosen, Jr. | Harold & Edna Maricle | Mark Ofenloch | Casis Family | Kinga Szymoniak | Miguel DeGuzman

11:30am: Bob & Harriet Sutton | Hector B. Brual, Jr. | Celia J. Auguste

5:00pm: Leroy Klein | Rizalina Macavinta | Jose Rull, Jr. | Our Family Parish

DONATIONS SUMMARY

Week of March 16, 2025

Sunday- \$20,911 Online Sunday- \$11,869

Sharing- \$500 Online Sharing- \$602

SVdP- \$1,534 Online SVdP- \$897

Lenten Almsgiving - Catholic Extension- \$4,458

Month to Date - March

Sunday- \$ 47,623

Online Sunday- \$ 23,497

Sharing- \$ 650

Online Sharing- \$ 1,406

SVdP- \$ 2,596

Online SVdP- \$ 1,399

Lenten Almsgiving - Catholic Extension- \$ 11,289



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Reginald Dulaca

Melody Cook

Brian Smolicek

Roberto Movilla

Shani Stahnke

Abby Swygard

Rod Reyes

Betty Falotico

Keith Kellogg

Lisa Mischke

David Zilligen

Eduardo Perez

Maria Domitila Zam-

brano de Polanco

Rafael Gloria

Collen Wishall

Silvia Pinedo

Consuelo Vargas

Juan Miguel Currea

Gloria de Cardenas

Helena Sznicer

George Lawrence

Michael Miller

Cynthia D. Caudell

Glafira Bunsen

Jackie Herrera-Giron

Gino LaBellarte

Dianne Scirri

Pat Wilson

Kimmy Cozart

Mark Wilson

Pat Gundrum

Mary Thachil

Daniela Gaborik

Amy Patterson

Emily Meryer

Kathy Hunt

Laura Hopkins

Bill O'Brien

Katie Travelstead

Shanklin

Roman Stankiewicz

Charles Brown

Reginald Dulaca

Melody Cook

Jeanne Tan

Gemma Olaiz

Giovanni Deligero

Holly Wall Freund

Maureen Hisel

April Grandgeorge

Eileen Boyle

Toni Mengarelli

Dan Garrett

Rosa LaBellarte

Sharon Browning

Donna Kalinoski

Dan Garrett

Ruth Blood

Kay Breuscher

Rachel Ciullo

Charlie Lucas

Lynn Malorey

Maria LaBellarte

Tony LaBellarte

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.

Miguel De Guzman

Janusz Karwat

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026

6:30AM MEN'S LEGACY
7:30AM BCBP CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM
11:00AM RECONCILIATION
12:30PM BAPTISM - GALLAGHER
5:00PM MASS

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026

7:30AM MASS
9:00AM OCIA
9:30AM MASS
11:30AM MASS
1:00PM BAPTISM - CRITCHTON
1:30PM BAPTISM - KNEELAND
4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL
5:00PM MASS

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2026

7:30AM MASS
9:30AM FUNERAL - DEGUZMAN
6:30PM ITF RECEPTION
7:00PM LENTEN HOLY HOUR

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2026

7:30AM MASS
8:00AM HOLY HOUR
2:00PM FAITH SHARING
6:15PM HANDBELL REHEARSAL

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2026

7:30AM MASS
9:30AM BIBLE STUDY
6:30PM BIBLE STUDY
7:00PM KOC - 4TH DEGREE GENERAL MTG
7:00PM ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2026

7:30AM MASS
8:00AM HOLY HOUR

FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2026

7:30AM MASS
5:00PM KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - FISH FRY
7:00PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 2026

7:30AM BCBP CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM
11:00AM RECONCILIATION
12:30PM BAPTISM - ESCOTO
1:00PM BAPTISM - LORENZEN
1:30PM BAPTISM - OKCZYK
5:00PM MASS

SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2026

7:30AM MASS
9:00AM OCIA
9:30AM MASS
11:30AM MASS
4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL
5:00PM MASS
6:00PM LIFETEEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS

MARCH 27/28 | LITURGY SCHEDULE

	USHERS	LECTORS	COMMUNION MINISTERS	GREETERS	PRESIDER	
SATURDAY 5:00PM	T. Rusnak A. Barrie A. Rusnak K. Gaston G. Johnson M. Mohrfeld	Kevin Lowe Warren Kati	Balmes Fening Gorajski Herchenbach Hortelano Minich Rago	H. Gloria I. Safiejko	Fr. Joe Dn. Ivan	
SUNDAY 7:30AM	J. Siegel G. Aranas P. Rothacker R. Dizon S. Bilas T. Shurtleff	Bob O'Brien Tom Krissek	Chandy Kurien O'Brien Wicinski, C. Zdenahlik Calendo Pieper	M. Zorc R. Zorc	Fr. Chris Dn. Mike	
SUNDAY 9:30AM	P. Mengarelli B. Kibitlewski D. Scheffler K. King T. Mengarelli OPEN	Claress Pettengill Jeff Rediger	Anderson Farber Ignacio, Aeron Maus Pettengill Ignacio, R. Ignacio, Arnold	G. Pratscher R. Pratscher	Fr. Martin Dn. Brent	
SUNDAY 11:30AM	G. Galano C. Haines R. Terrazas S. Fragassi C. Karl OPEN	Conchita Manalo Arleen Siap	Denecke Galano Ramirez Podgorski Parreno Mozny Stahl	B. Moreno T. Guziec	Fr. Martin Dn. Andy	
SUNDAY 5:00PM	B. Marchioni C. Johnson J. Plamoottil OPEN x 3	Bruce Marchioni Teen or Lector 1	Crow Gayton Holland Plamoottil	Roberts Robb Wattlet	T. Marlowe OPEN	Fr. John Dn. Bob

SPRED EASTER CANDY SALE ONE WEEKEND ONLY MARCH 21ST & 22ND!

SPRED is bringing the popular candy and nut sale back for Easter during the weekend of March 21st and 22nd.

High-quality chocolates, cashews, and mixed nuts will be available for purchase after all the masses.

Proceeds will support St. Paul's SPRED program.



You are cordially invited to the 2nd informational session to learn more about the **Ignite the Future Campaign.**



scan to register

Please join us on **March 30th at 6:30pm in the Lower Level.**

The meeting will include a presentation, a Q&A session, and a time to hear participants' opinions, and will also help build momentum and increase awareness on the given topics.

Please register on our website.

We look forward to sharing this important event with you.



Join Us for Bible Study

JOIN US ON WEDNESDAYS

Wednesday Bible Study will begin March 25 at the Parish House. We will be doing a 9-week overview of the Wisdom Books: Sirach, Ecclesiastes, Proverbs, and the Book of Wisdom, and applying it to practical areas of our life like relationships, speech, finances, aging, making decisions, and finding God's will. The lectures by Jeff Cavins are excellent, and there is a workbook/journal for \$25 payable at class. The 2 classes at 9:30 AM and 6:30 PM are the same material; please specify which class when you sign up on the Church website. Questions and sign-up can also be sent to Barbara Wagner (847) 767 - 1202 or barbarawagner25@earthlink.net.

All are welcome, even if you are new to the Bible!

WWW.SAINTPAULTHEAPOSTLE.CHURCH

DINE FOR A CAUSE

PRIMO

FATMANS
880 ANZA AVE. GURNEE, IL

LAKEHOUSE
BAR • GRILL • BANQUET

Jolee's
TACOS & TEQUILA

POJO'S
SUPPER CLUB



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
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



Knights Corner



Divine Mercy Council will collaborate with the Khayat family of restaurants again this Lent to benefit our Knights' charities. You must present this flyer (image left) to any Khayat restaurant on any day during Lent, and 10% of your food bill will be donated to our charities. Additionally, the following restaurants are participating: Limoncello and Twyla's Lounge in Gurnee.

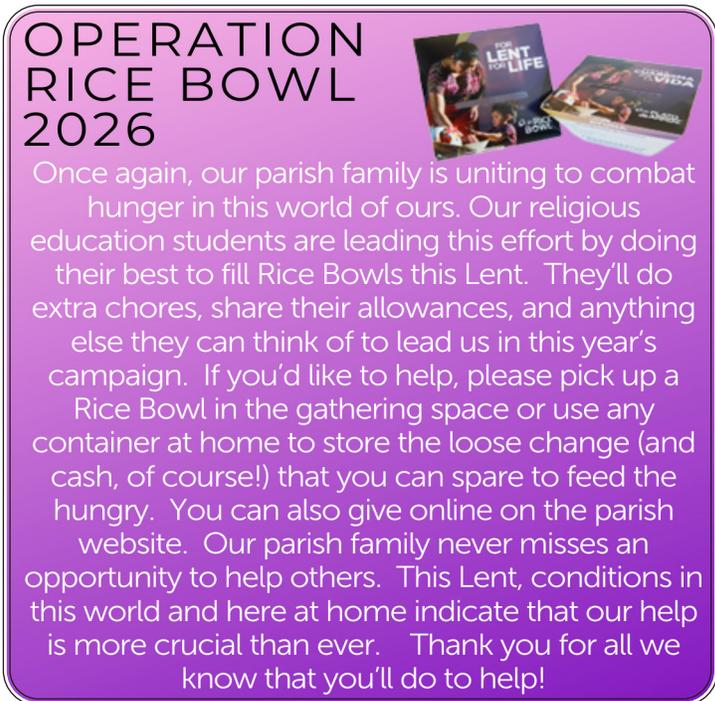
St Paul's will host a Fish Fry, community dinner on Friday, March 27 th. 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm. You will need to purchase your pre-sale dinner tickets on weekends beginning March 7 th, or through the parish website. You can also use the QR Code below. There will be a limited number of tickets available on the day of the Fish Fry. Dinner is \$15, and will include fish filets, French fries, Cole slaw, beverage, and dessert.





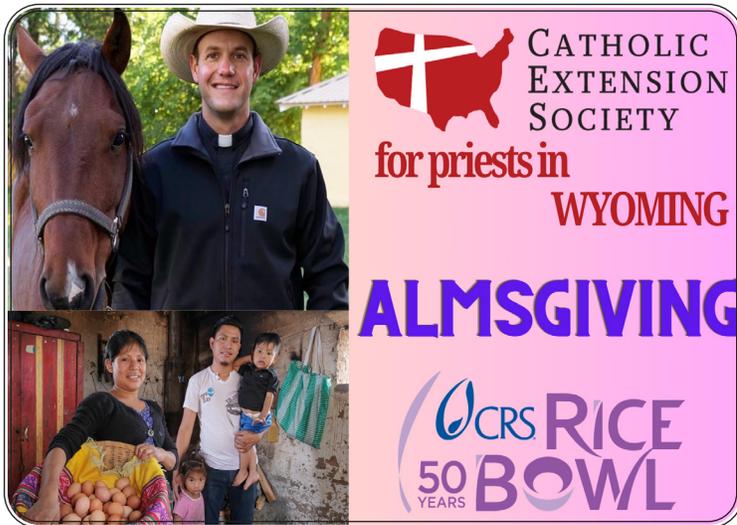
Lenten Holy Hour
Monday 7pm

Stations of the Cross
Fridays 7pm



OPERATION RICE BOWL 2026

Once again, our parish family is uniting to combat hunger in this world of ours. Our religious education students are leading this effort by doing their best to fill Rice Bowls this Lent. They'll do extra chores, share their allowances, and anything else they can think of to lead us in this year's campaign. If you'd like to help, please pick up a Rice Bowl in the gathering space or use any container at home to store the loose change (and cash, of course!) that you can spare to feed the hungry. You can also give online on the parish website. Our parish family never misses an opportunity to help others. This Lent, conditions in this world and here at home indicate that our help is more crucial than ever. Thank you for all we know that you'll do to help!



CATHOLIC EXTENSION SOCIETY
for priests in **WYOMING**

ALMSGIVING

CRS RICE BOWL
50 YEARS



Saint Paul
the Apostle



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



Dear St. Paul the Apostle Parishioners,

I received a call from Bishop O'Malley this week, informing me that I have been named the pastor of St. Anne in Barrington effective July 1, 2026. Bishop O'Malley and Cardinal Cupich have entrusted me to lead the faith community there, a responsibility for which I am both humbled and grateful.



This is bittersweet for me. I am so very grateful for my time spent with you in Gurnee. I am proud of the strong, faith-filled community we have. Together, we have done much to serve God, one another, and our surrounding community. I thank you for all that you have shared with me in my time here.

Please know that this assignment is a direct appointment made by the Cardinal. I was not seeking any reassignment, nor was I in the archdiocesan Placement Board's 'pastors pool.' Though I am saddened by the thought of leaving, I feel honored that Cardinal Cupich trusts me and my pastoral skills—the skills you have taught me. I am very grateful to you for being my fellow parishioners and coworkers in this beautiful vineyard of Christ's, which we so lovingly call SPA.

Fr. Andrew Wawrzyn has accepted the appointment as pastor of St. Paul the Apostle, effective July 1. Fr. Wawrzyn is enthusiastic about serving our community, and he and I are meeting so he can learn as much as possible about St. Paul the Apostle before he moves in on July 1, 2026.



Know that you will always be in my prayers, and I kindly ask that you keep me in yours as I embark on this new journey in July.

Have a blessed day. Fr. Chris



Saint Paul
the Apostle

Faith That Endures the Distance



Fr. Brian Hess drives 150 miles every Sunday between 3 parishes in rural WY

Missionary priests often travel hundreds of miles to bring the sacraments to their people.

For example, **Fr. Brian Hess**, pastor of three parishes, drives **150 miles every Sunday** to celebrate Mass in each community—often in difficult weather conditions. Despite these challenges, Catholics in Wyoming deeply cherish their parishes. In small towns with few Catholics, the parish becomes family. This spirit of faith bears fruit. **Fr. Lee Noel of Cheyenne** credits the St. Paul's Newman Center in Laramie with helping him discern his call to priesthood. The **University of Wyoming**, the state's only four-year university, is also home to the **only campus ministry for young adults in the entire**

state. Youth and young adult evangelization is essential—and it depends on outside support.

How Your Lenten Almsgiving Helps

100% of the funds collected will go directly to supporting missionary priests and parish communities in Wyoming.

Lenten Wish List

- \$5,000** – Salary support for a Campus Ministry Coordinator
Establish student leadership teams and community engagement
- \$2,000** – Support the Religious Education program in Riverton, WY for one year
Curriculum, books, supplies, and catechist training
- \$1,500** – Provide dinners for 13 RE students for one year
- \$800** – Vestments and linens for missionary priests
- \$600** – Sponsor a young adult to attend a retreat
- \$500** – Sponsor a middle school student to attend a youth gathering
- \$300** – Improved phone and internet access for a mission parish cluster
- \$100** – Gas for Fr. Hess' 150-mile Sunday travel
- \$80** – Gas for a priest traveling 60+ miles to a mission church
- \$60** – Books and supplies for one RE student
- \$35** – Groceries for a family at a mission church
- \$20** – Devotional kits for families
- \$15** – Soccer ball for a youth group

Thank you for your generosity and for being part of God's work in Wyoming this Lenten season.

Prayer Shawl Request

Are you or a loved one in need of a prayer shawl? Please complete the following information and place in the collection box at any of St. Pauls' weekend masses. You will be contacted regarding pickup/delivery of the shawl.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

eMail: _____



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!



Lenten Day of Prayer: Paying Attention



BELLARMINÉ
Jesuit Retreat House

March 30, 2026
9 am - 3 pm
Day of Reflection for Adults

Many artists, poets, and mystics believed that attention was central to the spiritual life, to our experience of God and the world around us. We'll spend this day of reflection drinking deeply from the well of their wisdom, with time to enter into the fullness of God's loving gaze upon us and to practice turning our own loving gaze upon others and upon the wonders of creation. We'll be nourished, together, by the intertwined mysteries of prayer and attention.



Retreat Leader: Cameron Bellm

Contemplative author of "Prayer for a Pandemic" and publisher of "A Consoling Embrace: Prayers for a Time of Pandemic," an e-book collection of prayers, with 23rd Publications.



To register for this retreat, scan the QR Code or visit jesuitretreat.org/retreats



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Ministers of Care

What is the Ministry of Care? It is a group of parishioners who have been trained and commissioned to visit, pray with, and bring Holy Communion to members of our parish who are sick and unable to attend Mass, including those who are homebound, in the hospital, or in a nursing home.

We have several Ministers of Care available to bring Holy Communion to those unable to attend Mass. Please contact Doug Nieman at 847-715-6798 or dougnieman791@gmail.com, and one of our ministers will be in touch to schedule a visit.

For those interested in joining this ministry, please contact Doug Nieman. Training opportunities will be available in Lake Zurich in April 2026; more details will follow in future bulletins.

*St. Mary of the Annunciation
is offering a Lenten Reflection.*

**I WAS THERE: REFLECTIONS AT THE FOOT
OF THE CROSS.**

On Friday, March 27th at 7:30 p.m.

All are welcome to attend.



40 DAYS FOR LIFE.
THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION.

You are cordially invited to join the **Waukegan 40 Days For Life Campaign** for a special closing event on Day 41 of the spring 2026 campaign to end abortion featuring Fr. Jim Heyd and Victor Vallejo.

What: Light the Night Waukegan Day 41
Where: Waukegan Planned Parenthood
1601 N. Lewis Ave., Waukegan
When: Monday, March 30th at 7:00 pm
Notes: Bring your own light.
Ample Parking Available at
Tony's Fresh Market.

Questions: Contact Leslie at (847) 951-1064
40daysforlife.com/waukegan

40 DAYS FOR LIFE.

Mid-life Singles (mid-30s to 50s):
Are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose & belonging? Register today for a life-changing REFLECT weekend retreat at the Carmelite Spiritual Center, in Darien, IL (in the southwestern suburbs), on April 17-19, 2026. Take a chance and get involved... you won't regret it! Visit www.ReflectRetreat.com, e-mail reflect.chicagoland@gmail.com, or call (630) 222-8303 for details.

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT



847-347-0832

EMERGENCY AND TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE, FISCAL SUPPORT, HELP WITH LOCATING AVAILABLE RESOURCES AND OTHER SERVICES AIMED AT ADDRESSING ALL ISSUES A PERSON OR FAMILY MAY BE FACING WITH THE INTENT OF SUPPORTING SUSTAINED POSITIVE CHANGE.

Crisis Support Resources

DOMESTIC ABUSE

A Safe Place Hotline: 847-249-4450

Sexual Abuse: 847-872-7799

PREGNANCY SUPPORT:

Aid for Women: 847-249-2700

POST-ABORTION

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT:

Project Rachel: 800-SWE-CARE

EMERGENCY SHELTER:

PADS: 847-689-4357

Catholic Charities: 847-782-4000

COUNSELING:

Holbrook Center: 312-655-7725

SUICIDE PREVENTION

Emergency: 911
988

FOOD PANTRIES:

Avon Township: 847-546-1446

Holy Family: 847-782-4166

Saint Anastasia: 847-623-2112

Warren Township: 847-244-1101



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MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
HOURS: 9:00AM - 5:00PM
FRIDAY HOURS: 9:00AM - 12:00PM
847-918-0600

BUSINESS OFFICE

HOURS: 9:00AM - 4:00PM
MONDAY & WEDNESDAY
FRIDAY HOURS: 8:30AM - 12:00PM
847-918-0600

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
HOURS: 8:30AM - 3:00PM
FRIDAY HOURS: 8:30AM - 12:00PM
847-816-8677

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKDAY MASS:
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
7:30AM

SATURDAY EVENING:
5:00PM

SUNDAY:
7:30 | 9:30 | 11:30AM | 5:00PM

ADORATION

TUESDAY/THURSDAY MORNINGS
8:00AM

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS IN THE BLESSED
SACRAMENT CHAPEL
11:00AM

CLERGY

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frchris@spa.church

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

FR. JOE CURTIS | WEEKEND ASSISTANCE
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