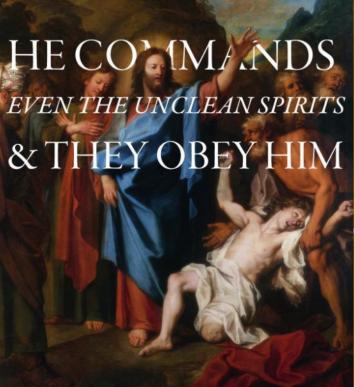
Inspired by Saint Paul · Centered on Christ · Called to Holiness



SAINT PAU THE ADOST E January 28, 2024

January 28, 2024
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Weekend Masses

Saturday (Anticipated)-4 PM Sunday-8 AM, 10 AM, Noon, 5 PM

Daily Masses

Monday, Wednesday, Friday-6:40 AM
Monday - Saturday-8:30 AM
Thursday-6:15 PM
We livestream Sunday 10 AM, Saturday 4 PM, and
8:30 AM Masses, and weddings, funerals, and special events upon request at stpacc.org/livestream.

Mass Times for Holy Days

Please refer to the parish website or call the Parish Office to confirm Mass times.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursdays at 9:15 AM (after the 8:30 AM Mass) until 5:55 PM unless otherwise noted.

Rosary

After the 8:30 AM weekday Masses Mondays at 6:30 PM in the Church First Saturdays at 7 PM at stpacc.org/onlinerosary

Divine Mercy Chaplet

Monday - Friday-3 PM

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

If you are interested in information about becoming Catholic, getting married in the Church or having your children baptized, please turn to page 5 of this bulletin.

Featured

First Friday Adoration

We invite you to spend time in prayer and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursdays anytime from 9:15 AM (following the 8:30 AM Mass) until approximately 5:55 PM. Beginning in this week, we will also have Adoration on the First Friday of every month from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM. Come and just "be" in the presence of God.



Saint Paul the Apostle Catholic Church

313 N. State Street Westerville OH 43082 614-882-2109 · stpacc.org · stpaulchurch@stpacc.org



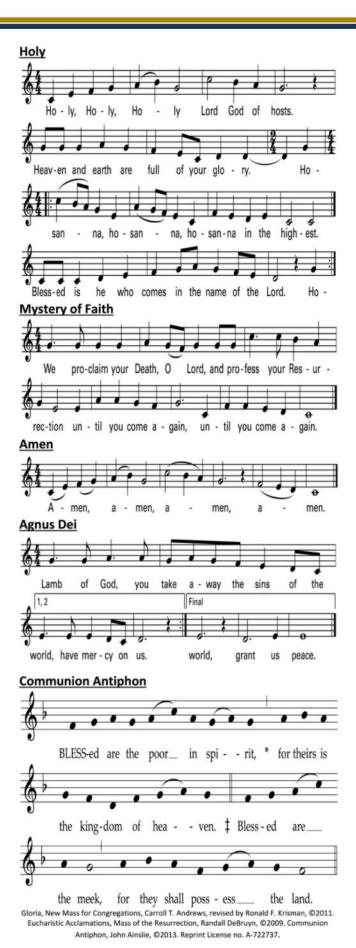
Worship Hymnal Readings - 1119

Hymns

Entrance - Praise My Soul the King of Heaven #610 Offertory - O God You Search Me #580

Choir Anthem Lyrics may be found in this bulletin.





2

Choir Anthem Lyrics

Offertory Anthem - The Call Of Wisdom

Lord of wisdom, Lord of truth, Lord of justice, Lord of mercy. Walk beside us down the years, 'till we see You in Your glory.

Striving to attain the heights.
Turning in a new direction.
Entering a lonely place.
Welcoming a friend or stranger.

I am here, I am with you.
I have called, do you hear Me?
I am here, I am here, I am with you.

Silver is of passing worth, gold is not of constant value. Jewels sparkle for a while. What you long for is not lasting.

Rulers govern under Me. With My insight and My wisdom. Those who know Me know My Love. Those who seek Me find their answer.

God, the Father and the Son. Holy Spirit, coeternal. Glory, glory, be ascribed to You. Now and to the end, to the end of ages.

Canticle of Praise - A Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester

O holy Jesus, most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, May I know Thee more clearly, love Thee more dearly, And follow Thee more nearly, And follow Thee more nearly. Amen.



The Pastor's Corner

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Staying informed: If you do not have Flocknote, I ask that you to please consider getting the app so you are "in the know!" To secure the Flocknote app, just go to stpacc.org/flocknote or text STPACC to the number 84576.



Reflections on the 51st Annual March for Life:

I am grateful for the opportunity to have travelled to Washington DC to participated in the 51st March for Life. It was my 18th year participating in the March. St. Paul Youth Ministry joined the St. Francis de Sales High School "Stallions for Life" bus for the March. While Roe vs Wade has been overturned it is painfully obvious that the cause to protect all human life from conception until natural death is not over. The March for Life remains as relevant as ever. The battle for Life has simply moved from the Supreme Court to the Capitol, and to every state. Having suffered a major defeat for Life in the State of Ohio in November, we are called to continue to pray, fast, and witness to the beauty and sanctity of every human life. If our dignity and worthy is dependent on being chosen then we can't really speak of human dignity and worth. Laws won't change until human hearts do. Each day is an opportunity to build a culture of life and civilization of love by serving the human dignity of all human persons, born and unborn. The joy of our young people witnessed to the great gift of life. I return from the March for Life encouraged that the Lord is continuing to raise up a Pro-Life Generation. We are better than abortion.

Our Sunday Offering: I want to sincerely thank the very many who regularly give of their time, talent, and financial support to our parish. Numerous parishioners have found that WeShare Online Giving is a secure, and convenient platform. Just text stpaulohio to the number 800-950-9952 or go online to www.stpacc.org/donate. If you have any questions about your parish offertory or WeShare, please contact Parish Accountant Deb Hawking at either dhawking@stpacc.org or 614-882-2109 ext. 229.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Wilson

Sunday, January 28, Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 18:15-20; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28

8:00 AM Betsy King (Intentions of)

5:00 PM † Eddy Lott

Monday, January 29

2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Mk 5:1-20

8:30 AM † Mildred Stevens

Tuesday. January 30

2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3; Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mk 5:21-43

8:30 AM † Therese Wesner Neff

Wednesday, January 31, Memorial of Saint John Bosco, Priest

2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7; Mk 6:1-6

6:40 AM Intentions of the Shomo Family

8:30 AM People of St. Paul the Apostle

Thursday, February 1

1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; 1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd; Mk 6:7-13

8:30 AM † William Wlse 6:15 PM † Mary Yannon

Friday, February 2, Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22-32

6:40 AM † Mary Lou Del Bianco

8:30 AM Leandro San Juan Tamez (Living)

7:00 PM All consecrated religious (Living)

Saturday, February 3, Memorial of Saint Ansgar, Bishop, and Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr

1Kgs 3:4-13; Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14; Mk 6:30-34

8:30 AM † Sam Rizzo

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (anticipated)

4:00 PM † Mary Yannon

Sunday, February 4, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Tlme

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; Ps 147: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39

8:00 AM † Rebekah Lemmeyer

5:00 PM † Brian James Tierney

**Mass with incense.

NEW TO ST. PAUL?

Here's what you need to know:

Welcome to Saint Paul the Apostle Catholic Church. Inspired by our patron Saint Paul, we are a parish of disciples of Jesus Christ called to bring His truth and love into our community through humble, collaborative service that is faithful to the Word of God, filled with the Holy Spirit, and centered on the Holy Eucharist.

Welcome Home

Whether you are brand new or returning after a while, we are excited to welcome you to Saint Paul. We look forward to seeing you at Mass and around the parish!

Stay Connected with us

We would love to stay connected with you! There are always new and exciting things happening at Saint Paul. Sign up for our Flocknote newsletter to receive email and text updates from our parish!



STPACC TO 84576



Interested in Becoming Catholic?

If you are curious about Catholicism or seeking to enter the Church, we invite you to get involved in our preparatory program for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). We're happy to accompany you! Find more information about the program at stpace.org/rcia.

Get Involved

Looking to get involved in a vibrant Catholic community, or serve the Lord and our local Westerville community? We invite you to get to know one of our community opportunities and explore our many ways to serve among all our parish ministries. This week's schedule can be found in this bulletin. More can be found at stpacc.org/ministries

St. Paul School

Want to give your children a Catholic education? Discover our St. Paul Catholic School (preschool and grades K-8) dedicated to teaching, living, and learning in the light of Christ. stypaulk-8.org

Inspired by Saint Paul - Centered on Christ - Called to Holiness

Our Parish Staff

Rev. Jonathan F. Wilson stpaulchurch@stpacc.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Antony Varghese avarghese@stpacc.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Daniel Olvera dolvera@columbuscatholic.org

Parochial Vicar Emeritus

Rev. David Gwinner Retired Chaplain, Navy

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Joe Ciaciura 740-549-2116

Deacon (Retired)

614-890-2468 Rev. Mr. Mickey Hawkins

Director of Parish Ministry

Andrew T. Burson aburson@stpacc.org

Director of Religious Education

Susan Streitenberger sstreitenberger@stpacc.org

Director of Parish Administration

Rev. Mr. Dean Racine dracine@stpacc.org

Parish Business Analyst

Aron Aziz aaziz@stpacc.org

Pastoral Associate

Jeff Adair jadair@stpacc.org

Coord. of Marriage & Family Life

Dr. Laurie Navin Inavin@stpacc.org

Stewardship Director

Andrea Lopez alopez@stpacc.org

Coordinator of Youth Ministry

Nathan Forsthoefel nforsthoefel@stpacc.org

Principal

Andrea Pore apore@stpaulk-8.org

Asst. Principal

Stephanie Speed sspeed@stpaulk-8.org

Asst. Principal/Dean of Students

Luke Patterson lpatterson@stpaulk-8.org

Music Director

John Bryan jbryan@stpaulk-8.org

Parish Accountant

Deb Hawking dhawking@stpacc.org

Parish Secretary

Pat Kitzler pkitzler@stpacc.org

Parish Office Manager

Dee Shomo dshomo@stpacc.org

Communications Professional

Andy Long along@stpacc.org

Census Coordinator

Annette Ramos aramos@stpacc.org

Marian Gift Shop Manager

Ellen Sullivan mariangiftshop@stpacc.org

Facilities Manager

Michael Larkins mlarkins@stpaulk-8.org

Parish Office Hours

Our Parish Office is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

Parish Registration

If you will regularly be worshiping with us, we encourage you to register at stpacc.org/register.

Baptisms

Families wishing to have their child baptized should contact Annette Ramos at aramos@stpacc.org.

Matrimony

If you would like to be married at St. Paul the Apostle, please visit stpacc.org/weddings to begin planning.

Confessions

9:15 AM on Thursdays; at 2:30 PM on Saturdays. The confessionals are located in the Church.

Marian Gift Shop

Our Marian Gift Shop is located in the Church and is open from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM on Sundays; closed on Mondays; open on Tuesday and Thursdays from 2:30-6:30 PM; and on Wednesdays, Fridays, and also on Saturdays from 9:15 AM until 12:30 PM. 614-882-5257; stpacc.org/shop

Bulletin

Articles for the bulletin must be submitted two weeks in advance to stpaulcommunications@stpacc.org. Thank you!

Important Contacts

Parish Office 614-882-2109 St. Paul School 614-882-2710 614-394-9731 Preschool Parish School of Religion 614-882-5045

Prayer Line stpaulprayerline@stpacc.org

St. Vincent DePaul Helpline 614-973-9772

Young Professionals StPaulYoungProfessionals@gmail.com

Spirit of Peace Counseling stpacc.org/counseling-services

Pregnancy Support Resources

Women's Care Center 614-251-0200 Birthright 614-221-0844 **PDHC** 614-444-4411 Mommies Matter 614-723-9308

Option Line optionline.org 1-800-712-4357

614-445-8400 Stowe Mission, Columbus Pregnancy Resources of 740-417-9358

Delaware County

THE CATECHETICAL CORNER



As a native of the Diocese of Youngstown, I have witnessed first-hand the number of parishes closing, merging, changing names, etc., due to a decline in parishioners. It is a sad reality for many parishes. When a parish has more funerals than baptisms, there is a problem. However, this unfortunate reality can be fixed. It will take all of us to do it, but I know it can be done. The only way that we will keep our church doors from closing in the future (St. Paul included, we are not immune) is to welcome young families, especially those with young children.

If you are a parent of young children, I do not have to tell you that bringing them to Mass is a monumental task. Getting out the door to get to Mass is an even larger task. You must get yourself ready for Mass, then chase your kids around the house to get them dressed, feed them so that they do not become "hangry" during the homily, etc. Then, once you finally get to Mass (probably right as the priest is walking in), you need to find the perfect seat where you are at the end of the pew in case Junior needs to go to the bathroom because he didn't go at home after you told him 45 times to go before you left.

Attending Mass with young ones is a challenge. The restlessness, the fidgeting, the occasional whispers - these are moments that might test our patience and concentration during the sacred liturgy. However, we must not lose sight of the profound importance of having children present here, in this sacred space. Remember, Jesus welcomed all the children. He reprimanded his apostles for keeping them away. He did not say, "only bring me the quiet children who can sit still." No, he welcomed all children (without behavior requirements). We, too, must welcome children and their parents and thank them for bringing their children to Mass.

Jesus urges us to be like them and embrace their innocence, curiosity, and unguarded faith. When children attend Mass, we allow them to experience the love of God tangibly.

They may not fully understand all that happens during the Mass, but their presence here is invaluable. It is an opportunity for them to witness the communal prayer, the rituals, and the Eucharistic celebration, laying the foundation for their spiritual journey.

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As parents, grandparents, and guardians, we are the primary educators of our children in matters of faith. By bringing them to Mass, we provide an environment where they can encounter the living Christ. In this sacred assembly, they witness the reverence, the prayers, and the Word of God, which shapes their understanding of our Catholic beliefs and traditions.

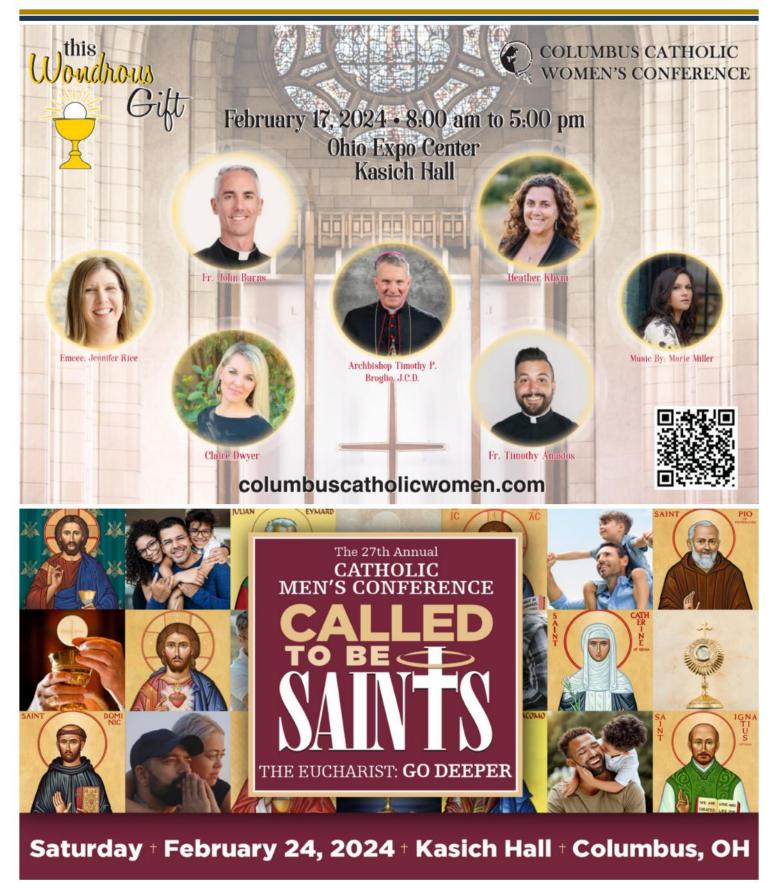
Moreover, the presence of children enriches our faith community. Their joyful innocence, questions, and simple gestures remind us of the purity of heart and the genuine love Christ calls us to embody. Let us welcome them with open hearts, knowing their presence here is a blessing. I can personally tell you, there is nothing more disheartening than finally getting to Mass, finding a pew, and then having someone sitting around you get up and move, assuming for no other reason than you have young children (you know who you are...).

Yes, it can be challenging to manage their energy and attention during Mass, but let us view these moments as opportunities for growth - both for our children and for ourselves. We should engage them in conversation about the Gospel readings or the symbols and rituals they witness, guiding them gently in understanding the faith.

Let us strive to create a welcoming environment where children and parents feel at home in the house of the Lord. By doing this, families will continue to worship at St. Paul, and our doors will remain open for generations to come, unlike so many other parishes and dioceses. Remember the old saying, "if the Church isn't crying, it's dying."

Andrew 7. Burson

Andrew T. Burson, Director of Parish Ministry



Register here: <u>www.catholicmensministry.com/2024conference</u>

This Week in Our Parish Sunday, January 28

Guatemalan Coffee Sale Parlor 1

Guatemalan coffee will be available for purchase after the morning Masses.

11:30 AM – RCIA Klinger Center

Interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith? Learn more about the RCIA process at style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: square;">style="style-type: style-type: square;">style="style-type: style-type: style-type:

2:30 PM - Youth Choir Rehearsal Choir Classroom

The Youth Choir program begins in September and ends with its service at the 10:00 AM Easter Sunday Mass. stpacc.org/ministries/youth-choir

6:00 PM - Alcoholics Anonymous Room 2 (Parish Office)

Alcoholics Anonymous holds twice-weekly Sundays and Fridays in Room 2 of the Parish Office.

6:30 PM - High School Youth Ministry Klinger Center

Our Youth Ministry's mission is to bring the youth of our parish into a deep and personal relationship with Jesus by giving opportunities to have an authentic encounter with Christ through His Church. Ends at 8:00 PM. stpacc.org/ym

Monday, January 29

3:00 PM – Divine Mercy Chaplet Church

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed every weekday at 3 PM in the church. Join us in praying this devotion to the mercy of God! Learn the prayers at stpacc.org/chaplet

6:30 PM - Rosary Church

Join us in this timeless prayer, enriching your spiritual life as we contemplate the life of Christ through the eyes of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

6:30 PM - Walking With Purpose Lower Level Room 3 (Church)

Walking with Purpose (WWP), the heart of our women's ministry, is our parish-based Bible study program for adult women. stpacc.org/wwp

7:00 PM - Nar-Anon Room 1 (Parish Office)

Tuesday, January 30

9:15 AM – Walking With Purpose Lower Level Room 3 (Church)

2:30 PM - Youth Choir Rehearsal Choir Classroom

3:00 PM – Divine Mercy Chaplet Church

7:00 PM - EMHC Training Church

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion training will take place in the church on Tuesday, January 30, at 7:00 PM. This training is required for current and new EMHCs. stpacc.org/emhc.

Wednesday, January 31

9:00 AM - SVDP Sandwich Drop-Off Church Circle Parking Lot

3:00 PM - Divine Mercy Chaplet Church

4:45 & 6:45 PM -PSR Classes St. Paul School

Parish School of Religion is part of the educational arm of the parish community, responsible for providing religious instruction, formation and sacramental preparation to children attending public or non-Catholic private schools. stpace.org/psr

4:45 & 6:45 PM – The Chosen Parlors

6:30 PM – That Man is You! St. Peter Room

Rosary at 6:30 PM; meeting at 7:00 PM That Man is You! honestly addresses the pressures and temptations that men face in our modern culture, especially those relating to their roles as husbands and fathers.

stpacc.org/tmiy

6:45 PM - High School Youth Ministry Lower Level Room 3 (Church)

7:00 PM — Overeaters Anonymous Parish Office Room 2

Overeaters Anonymous (OA) is a Fellowship of Individuals who, through shared experiences, strength and hope, are recovering from compulsive overeating and compulsive food behaviors.

Thursday, February 1

6:30 AM – That Man is You! St. Peter Room

9:15 AM - Confessions Church

Catholics can experience healing through forgiveness of sins and reconciliation with God and His Church. Catholics are always welcomed back to receive this sacrament - whether it has been two weeks or two decades since the last Confession. stpacc.org/sacraments/reconciliation

9:30 AM – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Church

Spend some time in the real presence of Jesus after the 8:30 AM Mass. Adoration concludes with benediction at 5:45 PM.

3:00 PM – Divine Mercy Chaplet Church

7:00 PM - Adult Choir Rehearsal Church

7:00 PM Young Professionals Bible Study Lower Level Room 1 (Church)

Young Professionals is a group of young Catholics looking to grow in faith and fellowship. Anyone ages 18 to 40 is welcome to join us for our meetings. stpacc.org/ypm

7:00 PM - Sacred Heart Monthly Meeting Lower Level Room 3

7:30 PM Al-Anon Room 1 (Parish Office)

Friday, February 2

9:00 AM - First Friday Adoration Church

Adoration follows 8:30 AM Mass and concludes at 4:00 PM.

3:00 PM - Divine Mercy Chaplet Church

7:00 PM - Candlemas Solemn Mass Church

Join us as we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Learn more on page 11 or at stpacc.org/candlemas

7:30 PM-Alcoholics Anonymous Room 2 (Parish Office)

Inspired by Saint Paul - Centered on Christ - Called to Holiness

Saturday, February 3

7:00 AM - Men's Prayer Breakfast St. Peter Room

Join us the first Saturday of every month for Breakfast, prayer and fellowship. stpacc.org/menbiblestudy

9:00 AM Catholic War Veterans St. Peter Room

10:00 AM - Prayer Shawl Ministry Lower Level Room 4 (Church)

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets four times a month on the first and third Saturdays and the second and fourth Thursdays.

2:30 PM - Confessions Church

Sunday, February 4

Coffee and Doughnut Sunday Lower Level Room 3 (Church)

Join us downstairs for coffee and doughnuts after all AM Masses.

11:00 AM - RCIA Klinger Center

Interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith? Learn more about the RCIA process at stpacc.org/rcia

12:00 PM - Scout Sunday Church

All Scouts to be recognized at the noon Mass. Reception to follow in Klinger Center.

1:00 PM - 6:00 PM PAC Spaghetti Dinner Miller Hall

2:30 PM - Youth Choir Rehearsal Choir Classroom

1:30 PM - Pre-Baptism Workshop St. Peter Room

6:00 PM - Alcoholics Anonymous Room 2 (Parish Office)

6:15 PM - Middle School Youth Ministry Klinger Center

Our Youth Ministry's mission is to bring the youth of our parish into a deep and personal relationship with Jesus by giving opportunities to have an authentic encounter with Christ through His Church. Ends at 7:45.

stpacc.org/ym

Save the date and join the fun!



Start the summer with a splash, and dive into VBS!

St. Paul Vacation Bible School June 10-14, 2024

Look for Registration and Volunteer Information in March 2024.



Sunday, Feb. 4, 1 - 6:00 PM Miller Hall

Adults (13 & up) \$12 Children (6-12) \$8 Children (5 & under) Free Free desserts!



SCAN QR code to pre-pay!

http://tinyurl.com/2vnpc239

NEW
THIS YEAR!
Dessert included with your meal! and 50/50 Raffle!

Volunteer still needed!

Donated baked goods appreciated!



The Second Promise

Through St. Margaret Mary, Jesus gave us 12 special promises for those who keep a loving devotion to His Most Sacred Heart.

You're invited to join us for 6:15 Mass then attend the Sacred Heart of Jesus monthly meeting on Thursday evening, Feb. 1, 7-8:30 PM, Lower Level Room 3. Emily Jaminet, author of *Holy Habits From the Sacred Heart*, will discuss the Second Promise: "I will establish peace in their families."

Visit welcomehisheart.com to learn more about the Sacred Heart devotion and enthronement of your home to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.



Blood Drive St. Paul Catholic Church

Miller Hall 313 N. State Street Westerville, OH 43082

Saturday, February 17, 2024 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

To schedule an appointment go to RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: SaintPaulCC

Caring for The Hungry

Looking for a family service project?

On the last Wednesday of each month we ask for donations of single serve snack cups (i.e. fruit, pudding, etc.); water bottles; fresh fruit; flip-top cans of meats, soups, and veggies; and ready-made bologna and cheese sandwiches.* All donations will be accepted on Wednesday, January 31 in front of the Church from 9:00 AM until 11:00 AM. (Monetary gifts are also most appreciated.) All items will be taken to the St. Lawrence Haven and the Holy Rosary/St. John Community Kitchen to share with those in need.

*Assembling the sandwiches is really quite simple! For each sandwich, please use two slices of white bread. On top of the bread, place a slice of American cheese (kept in the plastic wrap) before putting a slice of bologna on top of the cheese to ensure that the sandwich does not become soggy. Please put each sandwich in a zip-locked baggie.

Please remember to pray for those who'll receive the food! Thank you!

St. Paul the Apostle's Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Our Recent Mass Attendance & Offertory Collection

Week Ending	Attendance	Collection \$49,425.93			
December 24	2,921				
December 31	3,136	\$148,949.09			
January 7	3,186	\$53,197.15			
January 14	3,139	\$85,827.50			

Year to Date Collection Summary through January 14 2024

Note: Collection totals vary primarily due to the timing of online contribution reporting.

Summary for Week # 28	Actual	Budget	Difference	1	Last Year Actual	Pr	ior Year +(-)
Sunday & On-line Collections	\$ 2,087,602	\$ 2,190,785	\$ (103,183)	\$	1,870,585	\$	217,017
Christmas	\$ 86,204	\$ 85,000	\$ 1,204	\$	83,197	\$	3,008
Easter	\$ 873	\$ 100	\$ 873	\$	757	\$	116
Major Collection Totals	\$ 2,174,679	\$ 2,275,785	\$ (101,105)	\$	1,954,538	\$	220,141
Prior Week Totals	\$ 1.949.161	\$ 2.112.542	\$ (163,382)	S	1.852,772	\$	96,388

Special Collections To Date Include:

 St. Vincent DePaul
 \$ 51,446

 WARM
 \$ 46,394

 Missionary Appeal
 \$ 16,855

*Church Building Fund Envelopes:

\$ 54,689

Church Loan Balance: \$3,668,005 *Parish fiscal year is July 1 to June 30

Our Offertory Weekly Goal is \$78,244.

This amount includes weekly withdrawals for:

Accelerated Principal Payments on Debt of \$ 7,750 Savings Deposit to our Emergency Fund of \$ 7,900



10

Why use offertory envelopes when you can give online via WeShare? It's a safe and convenient platform. Text stpaulohio to 800-950-9952 or simply go to stpacc.org/donate.



Join Us in Celebrating the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord!

Note: Mass will be celebrated at 7 PM this Friday, February 2, and will be preceded by the Blessing of Candles and a solemn procession. If you wish, please bring your personal prayer candles to be blessed before Mass. Candles will also be available (donations appreciated) to be blessed and to take home for family prayer.

What is Candlemas?

February 2 is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also called Candlemas. Forty days after the birth of Jesus, the Holy Family traveled to the temple in Jerusalem in accordance with Jewish law. There, they met Simeon and Anna, who prophesied that the newborn Child would be "a light for revelation to the nations, and the glory of the people of Israel." As the last of the feasts linked to the Lord's Nativity, traditionally this day marked the end of the Christmas cycle of the liturgical calendar.

What do we do on Candlemas?

All the various candles used in the church throughout the year are blessed on this day. Following the blessing, a procession takes place from the location at which the candles were blessed to the altar where Mass will be celebrated, with everyone carrying lighted candles. During the procession, the choir sings the Canticle of Simeon (Luke 2: 29–31), also known as the Nunc dimittis, alternating with the people singing the antiphon Lumen ad revelationem gentium et gloriam plebis tuae Israel. ("A light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel").

What do the candles symbolize?

The lighted candles symbolize the revealing of God's plan of salvation through the birth of Jesus, who is shown to be not only the long-awaited Messiah of the Israelite people and the physical presence of God returning to the Temple ("the glory of your people Israel"), but a Savior for all humanity ("a light for revelation to the Gentiles").

This sounds a lot like what we do during Holy Week. Why?

The liturgical year is shifting focus. We are moving from the mystery of the Incarnation (the focus of Christmas) to the mystery of our Redemption (the focus of the Sacred Paschal Triduum and Easter). The liturgy of Candlemas connects these two great mysteries through signs and symbols that prepare us for Holy Week.

On Palm Sunday, we will bless palms and carry them in procession, recalling the Lord's entrance into Jerusalem. At the Easter Vigil, we will bless the Paschal Candle before carrying lighted candles into the church, commemorating His Resurrection. We will sing in honor of "Christ, King and Redeemer" and acclaim the "Light of Christ" vanquishing the darkness of sin.

By the echoing of these symbols through the liturgical year, the Church reminds us that, as Bishop Fernandes often preaches, "God became flesh to save us." This is why the shepherds, the Magi, and Simeon all adored the Infant Jesus. Christmas points us toward Easter.

What else do I need to know?

Candles will be available to have blessed and take home. We encourage you to have a place in your home for family prayer with a crucifix, icon of the Sacred Heart, or another sacred image where you can place one of these blessed candles and light it at times of prayer. When you arrive for Mass on February 2, feel free to take one of the boxes of candles from a volunteer, write your name on the box, and place it on the table in the narthex with the other candles that will be blessed. After Mass, please pick up your newly blessed candles as you leave.



Around the Diocese

Nursing and Teaching Scholarship Opportunities

The Laihr Teaching & Galbraith Nursing Scholarships provide funds for four years of college tuition for graduating Catholic, high school seniors in good standing at their parish, pursuing degrees in teaching and nursing.

The Catholic Foundation's applications for Scholarships will open on January 29th and close February 26th. Since 2007, The Catholic Foundation has awarded over \$1.3 million in scholarships empowering over 200 young people to continue their academic and vocational studies. For more information and to apply, please visit https://catholic-foundation.org/grants/scholarships/. If you have any questions about our scholarship process, please feel free to contact Dan Kurth, VP of Grants, at 614-443-8893 or dkurth@catholic-foundation.org.

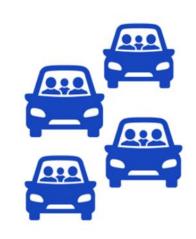
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stpacc.org/seminarian-support

Catholic Men's Luncheon

Come Friday, February 2, 2024 to St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus for a luncheon to award the 2024 Catholic Man of the Year. The award will be presented by Bishop Earl Fernandes. The luncheon is sponsored by The Order of Foresters, a Catholic Fraternal Benefit Life Insurance Society since 1883. More information is available at www.catholicforester.org or contacting Mike Dippold at (614) 847-0649.

If you are interested in sponsoring a luncheon, contact Pat Foley at foleyp513@gmail.com. Holy Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 am followed by lunch at 12:10 pm and Bishop Fernandes' presentation of the award. No reservations are necessary. \$12 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend! Our next luncheon is Friday March 1, 2024, and will feature a presentation by Michael Fry about Archbishop Fulton Sheen.



WOMEN'S CONFERENCE CARPOOL

Heading to the conference on February 17th? Meet up in front of Mary, we will head out at 7:00 am. Bring your van or big car for others that need rides!

More Information: Contact Sarah Price

(614) 371-7021

sarahmprice.22@gmail.com

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From www.mycatholic.life



Reflecting on the Gospel for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 28, 2024

First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

It's interesting to note that this unclean spirit immediately knows Who Jesus is. This is because each of two opposites emphasizes the other very clearly. For example, the color black is most clearly seen when it is placed in front of something white. Or something hot is most noticeable after experiencing something very cold. And a loud noise is most jarring when someone is sitting in silence. And so it is with Jesus and evil. Jesus, the Holy One of God, is most clearly seen when He comes in contact with an unclean spirit.

This fact gives us some wonderful insights into our journey toward the heights of holiness. Oftentimes, when one experiences a profound and transforming conversion, it is because they were first living a life of sin. When one who is living in sin encounters the saving grace of God, it is quite noticeable. And that is good.

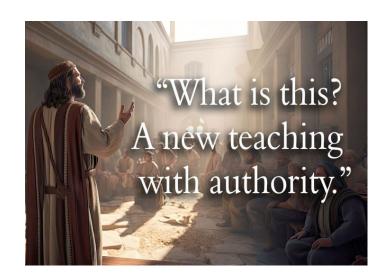
But there is also another spiritual insight we can take from this. To further the analogy, it is also true that when the color black is put next to something dark blue, or something hot is touched after holding something quite warm, there is less notice taken. So it is with the spiritual life. When we are striving to obtain true holiness of life, and when we are already living the many virtues to which we are called, the next step closer to God might not be nearly as noticeable. Instead, growth in perfection for one who is already striving for perfection will be very subtle. And that is also good.

This is important to understand because sometimes, when a person has gone through a powerful conversion earlier in life, they want to return to the experience they had when they initially converted. But that should not be our goal. Instead, we should continually strive to experience these more subtle changes that take us from a life of holiness to one of even greater holiness. In this case, if you do not sense a powerful contrast of spiritual experiences within you, that may be simply because there are no serious sins you are trying to overcome.

Thus, the ideal for every Christian is to eventually experience less contrasting spiritual experiences and more that are gentle and subtle as our Lord continues to gently perfect you in many ways.

Reflect, today, upon your own spiritual journey toward holiness. If you do see serious sin in your life, know that God wants to profoundly free you and draw you through a major conversion. If you do not see serious sin in your life and if you already strive daily to become holy, then rejoice if your spiritual consolations and communications from God are much more subtle and, at times, undetectable. Keep working at perfection and rejoice that you are on the correct path.

Lord of all holiness, please continue to draw me into the life of perfection. Help me to grow in every virtue and to continually be aware of every gift of grace I am given. Please help me, especially, to be attentive to every small and subtle grace and to respond to those graces with a truly open and grateful heart. Jesus, I trust in You!



Readings for each day and links to daily reflections can be found at stpacc.org/readings

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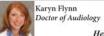
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