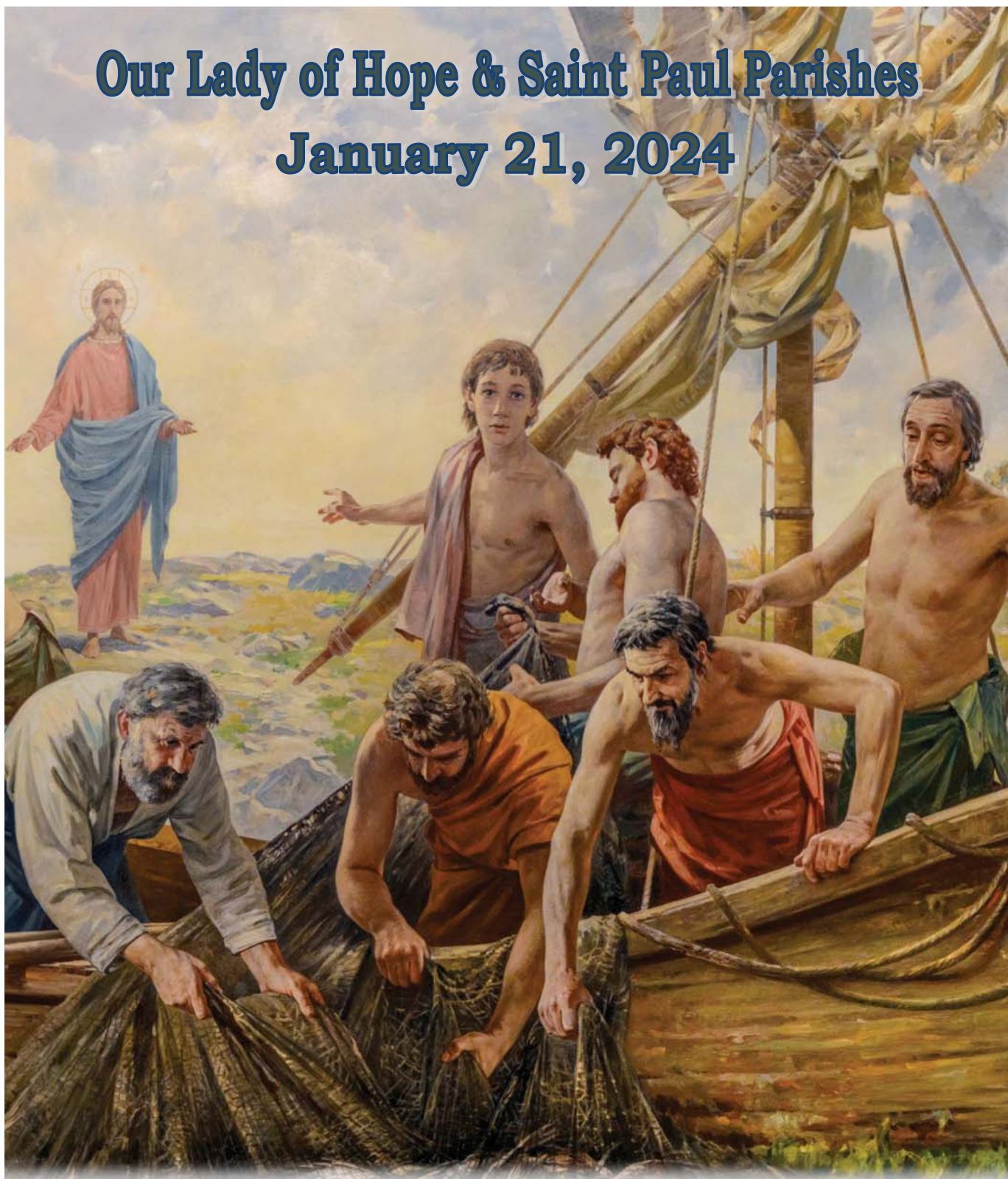


Our Lady of Hope & Saint Paul Parishes

January 21, 2024



3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Mark 1:17

OUR LADY OF HOPE / SAINT PAUL DIRECTORY

OUR LADY OF HOPE PARISH

1 Pineswamp Road
Ipswich, MA 01938
978-356-3944

WEBSITE: www.ourladysaintpaul.org

EMAIL: ourlady@ourladysaintpaul.org



Handicap Parking and ramp into the church is located on Pineswamp Road on right side of Church.

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY:

4:00 pm: Our Lady of Hope (OLOH)

SUNDAY:

7:30 am: Saint Paul (SP) ~ No Music

9:30 am: Saint Paul (SP)

11:15 am: Our Lady of Hope (OLOH)

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

9:00 am: Monday & Tuesday (OLOH)

9:00 am: Thursday & Friday (SP)

SACRAMENTS

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS 3:00—3:45 PM at Our Lady of Hope or by appointment at either church.

BAPTISM

If you are planning a baptism in the future, please call the parish office to make arrangements.

MARRIAGE

If you are an engaged couple, please call Fr. Brogan *directly* at least 6 months prior to the intended date.

PASTORAL VISITATION: The Eucharist and the Anointing of the Sick can be brought to our parishioners confined to their homes.

OCIA & FAITH FORMATION

Questions regarding current, upcoming programs and/or sacramental programs available at our parishes, please contact the parish office.



Hearing Assist Boxes are available at Our Lady of Hope. Let the Priest know if you would like one before Mass when attending Mass at OLOH.

NEW TO OUR PARISH?

If you are new to Our Lady of Hope or Saint Paul, please introduce yourself to Fr. Brogan following Mass. To formally register at one of our parishes, contact the parish office or go online to register through our website.

SAINT PAUL PARISH

50 Union Street
South Hamilton, MA 01982
978-468-2337

WEBSITE: www.ourladysaintpaul.org

EMAIL: stpaul@ourladysaintpaul.org



Elevator for Handicapped Access to the Saint Paul church is located in the rear of the building.

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR: Fr. David A. Brogan

PRIEST IN RESIDENCE: Fr. John G. Kiley

MUSIC MINISTER:

John Maher 978-500-6789

jmaher@ourladysaintpaul.org

BUSINESS MANAGER, OUR LADY OF HOPE:

Joanne DiNatale 978-356-3944

ourlady@ourladysaintpaul.org

BUSINESS MANAGER, SAINT PAUL:

David McLean 978-468-2337

stpaul@ourladysaintpaul.org

PARISH SECRETARY, SAINT PAUL:

Lucy Cronan 978-468-2337

stpaul@ourladysaintpaul.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

OUR LADY OF HOPE: 978-356-3944 EXT. 28

Kindergarten through Grade 11

Elisa St. Clair estclair@ourladysaintpaul.org

SAINT PAUL: 978-468-3617

Grades 1 through 5

Kristen Monahan kmonahan@ourladysaintpaul.org

Grades 6-8

Debra Brown dbrown@ourladysaintpaul.org

Grades 9-10

John Cusolito jcusolito@ourladysaintpaul.org

STAY UP TO DATE THROUGH EMAIL

When important information is sent to registered parishioners, it is conveyed through email. Please let us know when your email has changed.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Please accompany your child downstairs to the church hall or to restrooms. For their safety, please be sure they are always accompanied by an adult family member. Child safety is everyone's responsibility. Thank you for your cooperation.



COLLABORATIVE MASS INTENTIONS**Saturday, January 20**

4:00 pm Vigil— Daniel Beals (OLOH)

Sunday, January 217:30 am— Parishioners (SP) *NO MUSIC*

9:30 am— Beth Gerolamo Rebello (SP)

11:15am- Weekend Mass (OLOH)

Monday, January 22

9:00 am— Weekday Mass (OLOH)

Tuesday, January 23

9:00 am —Weekday Mass (OLOH)

Wednesday, January 24 No Daily Mass**Thursday, January 25**

9:00 am — Weekday Mass (SP)

Friday, January 26

9:00 am — John F. Conley (SP)

Saturday, January 27

4:00 pm Vigil— Joan Looby (OLOH)

Sunday, January 287:30 am— Weekend Mass (SP) *NO MUSIC*

9:30 am— Parishioners (SP)

11:15am- Weekend Mass (OLOH)

Please contact the parish office to schedule a Mass intention for your deceased loved one.**OLOH SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:
FUEL COLLECTION**

The Fuel collection is a great help in funding the anticipated cost of the parish heat and utilities this winter. This collection will continue to be taken up during the month of January & February. Donations can be mailed, put on rectory porch or dropped in the weekend collection baskets.

Thank you in advance for your generosity to this important collection that supports Our Lady of Hope Parish.

GRAND ANNUAL COLLECTION

The 2023-2024, Grand Annual Collection is well underway. If you have not made your donation yet, there are extras on the exit tables of the Church and rectory porch. We are grateful to all who have already generously contributed to this important collection. As of this past weekend we have received \$85,649.00 in donations.

The Grand Annual is a vital collection for the financial needs of the Parish. The Grand Annual will help us to continue to take care of the additional costs of running the Parish and keeping up with necessary repairs.

PRAYER REQUESTS**WE ASK PARISHIONERS TO PRAY...**

† For all those who are sick, especially Cameron Cyr, Kathy Bartlett, Blanche Zak, Ruth Butnan, Mathew Faino, Kim Donohoe, Mia Angelis, Philip Abodeely, Juilett Carlson, Cameron Gagnon, Cathryn Lally, Denise Polli, Gerrie O'Brien, Melissa Faino Palelli, Arline Thornell, Irene Stackpole, Connie Donovan, Patricia Foley, J. P. Quinn and all those infected with the Covid-19 virus

† For all our parishioners who are sick, homebound and those confined to nursing facilities and hospital

† For the all students and teachers.

† For peace in our world, especially in the Ukraine and Middle East

† For Jean Hart and all the deceased members of our parishes

† For the safety and good health of all missionaries

† For all who serve our country in the Armed Forces, especially Marine 2nd Lt. Thomas Monahan and Air Force 2nd Lt. Will Hogan

† For the unborn children

† For all those affected by natural disasters

PLEASE NOTE: In order to keep our prayer list current, names will remain on the list for four weeks. Please resubmit by contacting the parish office. Names should be submitted by the individual or immediate family member.

**ONLINE GIVING**

We offer this convenience to our parishioners and visitors. Online giving is an easy and secure way to make contributions to support our parish. You may contribute using direct withdrawals (ACH) or credit cards. Visa, MasterCard and American Express are all accepted.

SAINT PAUL

If you prefer the convenience of giving your donation online, please call the parish office or enroll online at: <https://churchofsaintpaul.churchgiving.com/>

Parish envelopes for your weekly donation allows us to keep a record for your tax purposes. If you would like to receive weekly envelopes, please call the parish office.

OUR LADY OF HOPE

To contribute using online giving, simply visit our website: ourlady saintpaul.org and follow the instructions. For assistance, call the parish office..

If you make an offering/donation to the collection basket at Mass with Parish (specific) contribution envelopes or put your donation in an envelope writing both Parish name and your name on the front, your donation will be transferred to that Church. Cash donations outside of an envelope will remain in the parish where you made your donation. If you have any questions, call the parish office.

PARISH MINISTRY CONTACTS

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB

Bonni Berkowitz, President | 617-549-2744
berky000@gmail.com

MUSIC MINISTRIES

John Maher | 978-500-6789
jmaher@ourladystpaul.org

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

James McCarthy, President | 978-992-6151

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

James Foley | 978-360-2799

***For more information, contact the parish office.
 Consider sharing your gifts and talents.***

COLLABORATIVE PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Bonni Berkowitz
 Joanne Bialek
 Richard & Diane Bostrom
 Pat Donahue
 Stephen Dowd
 Martha Driscoll
 James Foley
 JoAnne Kelleher
 Linda Murphy
 Alana Mitchell
 Phil Monahan
 Jim Moynihan

MEN'S GROUP AT OUR LADY OF HOPE

The Men's Group invites you to come join them on Saturday mornings from 7:15-8:30 am in the church hall at Our Lady of Hope for light refreshments and Christian fellowship in an easy-going, informal atmosphere.

KNITTING MINISTRY—TIME CHANGE



St. Paul's Knitting Ministry knits baptismal blankets for St. Paul's and baby blankets and hats for Project Linus which are donated to local hospitals. If you knit, crochet or quilt and would like to join us, we meet generally on **the first Saturday of the month from 1PM to 3PM in St. Paul Church hall.**

HOMEBOUND

If you or someone you know is homebound and wishes to receive Holy Communion, please call parish office to make arrangements.

ADULT CHOIR

Music Director John Maher is looking for choir members to sing at the 9:30am Mass at St Paul's on Sundays, or the 4pm Mass at Our Lady of Hope on Saturdays. Time commitment is minimal. Whether you have sung with a choir in the past or have never done it before, all are welcome! Reach out to John at jmaher@ourladystpaul.org or call 978-500-6789.

PARISH ROSARY GROUP -OUR LADY OF HOPE

Praying the Rosary for those affected by abortion

Please join us beginning January 9, 2024 every Tuesday and thereafter at 7 PM in the upper Church at Our Lady of Hope for reciting the Rachel Rosary, intercessory prayer for victims of post-abortion syndrome. Rachel Rosary is a positive and appropriate means of praying for those affected by abortion.

All are welcome to attend each week or as you are able.

SVDP Holiday News:

"Blessed are the poor" is a call to action.

Our local chapter of the Saint Vincent DePaul Society is a collection of parishioners inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness, and building a more just world through personal relationships with and serving people in need. The Society of women and men join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering. All are welcome to participate in this mission as we meet at 7 PM the first Monday night of every Month in the OHL parish hall.

Our SVDP chapter will, as we have for some time, provide Thanksgiving and Christmas greetings and assistance to those who have had sad and unforeseeable life circumstances befallen them here in our Ipswich/Hamilton/Wenham community. Your poor box donations allow us to provide such holiday assistance to families in financial distress, the elderly, the unemployed, and those with illness.

Pre-Covid, we delivered holiday meals each Thanksgiving and Christmas. Still, since then, we have collaborated with other people of goodwill and referred those in need of meals to the many wonderful agencies in our area that focus specifically on food distribution to those in need. We have instead focused on providing modest financial support that may help make the Holiday more blessed, allowing for the purchase of diapers, clothes, or appropriate gifts for the children. As is our custom, we honor one of the core values that the Society holds sacred, that friendship, a person-to-person service that encompasses listening, is critical. We hand deliver our gifts to each recipient, representing ourselves as members of our Catholic Community seeking to bring material support and the joy of Christ to those most in need during what is a very joyous time for most of us.

Thank you again for thinking of those less fortunate during this and all seasons and donating to the Poor Boxes on your way out of Our Lady of Hope Church. Please get in touch with us if you have a family or individual in Ipswich/Hamilton/Wenham who could benefit from a visit from your SVDP Society this holiday season. Also, please visit our website for additional details:
<https://svdpipswich.blogspot.com/>

Remember God's will in yours...

When you leave a bequest to the Church in your will or estate plan, you express your commitment to the future of your parish. You also return some of the blessings God gave to your life and leave an eternal message of what is important to you. Please consider including Our Lady of Hope Parish and Saint Paul Parish when preparing your will.

For more information contact Fr. Brogan or call /email the parish office.



CELEBRATION OF CONVALIDATION



Married couples desiring holy matrimony in the Catholic Church are invited to convalidate their marriage on World Marriage Sunday, February 11,

2024 at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston at 3:00 PM with Bishop Mark O'Connell as the celebrant.

A convalidation ceremony is an opportunity for couples married outside of the Church to enter into a marriage covenant in the Catholic tradition.

For more information, email Emily_Elliott@rcab.org or visit our registration page at <https://bit.ly/Convalidation>

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Let the Lord transform your marriage. Give your spouse a gift. Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. You can find one by looking up WWME.org. Some of the dates to sign up are:

February 9-11, 2024 in Huntington, NY

March 15-17, 2024 in Upton, MA

Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Joe & Ginny Vatile at 978-870-5646 or <https://wwmema.org/>.

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS: A WORKSHOP TO EMPOWER PARENTS JANUARY 24 (FREE)



Join Mookie Manalili, a Catholic psychotherapist from Boston College together with retired psychologist Fr. Jim Ronan and mental health clinician, author, and parent Suzanne Muldoon for a panel discussion on how parents can best support and care for their children and themselves in the midst of mental health concerns. The panelists will address various diagnoses, recommendations, and how faith can play an integral role in healing. There will be opportunities for questions following the panel discussion.

This virtual workshop is complimentary. A Zoom link will be provided to registrants before the event

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

All volunteers who minister in the Archdiocese must attend the Protecting God's Children and receive the Code of Conduct form. In addition, all current volunteers and new volunteers must complete a CORI Form. Those who need to follow this requirement are anyone who helps in building our church in any way. This list of volunteer includes: staff, teachers, assistants to religious education, lectors, eucharistic ministers, ushers, Finance and Pastoral Council members, etc.

Please consider sharing your gifts and talents in our new collaborative at Our Lady of Hope and St. Paul's by attending this training to be ready to serve.

Please sign up by logging onto:

Go to <https://www.virtusonline.org/>

- Click on "First-Time Registrant"
- Click on "Begin the registration Process"
- From the pull-down menu, choose "Boston, MA (Archdiocese)," ONLY
- When asked, "Have you previously registered with VIRTUS Online?" click "NO"
- Create a username and password when asked to do so and click "Continue"
- Fill in all the required fields for contact information on the next screen and click continue
- From the pull-down menu for "Location," choose "Our Lady of Hope Ipswich " or "St. Paul Hamilton" or wherever else they are coming from
- When the roles appear, choose a primary role and an additional role
- Add a Title (what you do for parish/school) in the box at bottom and click "Continue"
- On the next page, you may choose YES or NO depending on whether you want to associate your name with an additional school or parish
- Answer the four Yes/No questions on the next page and click "Continue"
- When asked "Have you already attended a VIRTUS Protecting God's Children Session?" answer NO.
- On the next page, choose date and church to attend Protecting God's Children for Adults"

Confirm and you are done!

If you register for a training, please let us know once completed and forward a copy of your completion certificate to the rectory office. Thank you

FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF PAUL THE APOSTLE JANUARY 25

When the Jewish Pharisee Saul set out from Jerusalem to Damascus, his aim was to persecute the fledgling Christian community. The dramatic story of St. Paul's miraculous conversion is told several times in the Acts of the Apostles and New Testament letters. Paul became the apostle to the Gentiles and carried Christ's message around the Roman Empire. He also shares a feast day with St. Peter on June 29. The January feast was known as the "translation" of St. Paul in the martyrology of St. Jerome: it may originally have commemorated the moving of Paul's relics. Now, it appropriately closes the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Paul is the patron saint of Greece, Malta, and the Cursillo movement.



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2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Please let us know if you would like a 2023 statement of the contributions you made with your weekly/monthly contribution envelopes, contact the parish office to request your statement. For those who have been making contributions through Online Giving, you are able to print a statement yourself when logged into your account. The Parishes are also able to issue contribution statements for donations that include those made through Online Giving. If you are not currently receiving envelopes and would like to, let us know.

WINTER STORM CANCELLATIONS

When there is inclement weather, there is concern for the safety of parishioners and visiting priests traveling to our parishes and our ability to clear the parking lot and walkways to make them safe and free of snow/ice. When conditions are extreme and the Ipswich, & Hamilton-Wenham School system cancels classes, we will also follow this same decision and cancel celebrating daily Mass. In addition, when there are extreme conditions or roads are unsafe we will also post cancellations of parish events, religious education and weekend Masses on our website. In addition to this you are also able to check cancellations on Channel 7 (NBC), Channel 56 (CW) and by logging onto www.whdh.com.

North Shore Sacred Harp Group

Greetings, Music Lovers!

I'm writing to invite you to come attend a gathering of the North Shore Sacred Harp group on **Sunday January 21st**, at Our Lady of Hope Church in Ipswich, from **2:00 - 4:30 p.m.**

We'll have a 20-30 minute explanation of the shaped note tradition, where it originated, where it is today, and how the music is sung. We'll then sing various songs for another two hours, with a break for light refreshments midway. There will be a free will offering to help defray building upkeep. No previous experience is required. We'll have loaner hymnals available.

In past years our North Shore group has met at the Don Bosco manse (now NE Biolabs) in Ipswich, elsewhere in Newbury, Newburyport, and most recently in Salem at the Tabernacle Church. Both co-hosts at the Salem church have had life changes and have themselves relocated, so we've been searching for a new venue. We believe we may have found a new "home" for our group, at OLOH. Our numbers have declined since Covid, so we're reaching out to area music ministries and others by word of mouth and/or email, and we'll have an entry in our local newspaper's calendar of events.

If you are unaware of the shaped note genre and are curious, I invite you to google "Sacred Harp Ireland" and watch a few YouTube videos, and/or explore Fasola.org, our national website. There are other videos on SH history, primarily based in Southern Appalachia. We also have a presence on Facebook. All best,

George Howe
978-356-3252
gehowe@comcast.net

IPSWICH KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization. It was founded by the Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1882, and named in honor of the navigator Christopher Columbus. Originally serving as a mutual benefit society to low-income immigrant Catholics, it developed into a fraternal service organization dedicated to providing charitable services, promoting Catholic education, and actively defending Catholicism in various nations.

The Knights of Columbus is not just a fraternity in name. It is a brotherhood of Catholic men who each play a part in improving the world around them, one community at a time. They are dedicated to upholding the principles they cherish: Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. The Knights stand together in faith and lend their support to the parish, home, and fellow Knights. From charity for worldwide causes, to helping closer to home with volunteer activities, to a top-rated insurance program that protects those closest to you, the Knights make the most of its brotherhood. All men in the parish are welcome and should consider joining the Knights of Columbus. We'd love to have you! For more information on joining the Knights, please contact Jim Foley Grand Knight of Ipswich Council 498 at: Jamesfoley2233@gmail.com.

**Knights of Columbus****The Open Door Food Drive**

The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a food drive for The Open Door Food Pantry in Ipswich. Please leave your donations near the front entrance of Our Lady of Hope Parish in the food donation box. The Knights will be transporting the food once a week and they

Thank you for your donation.

Most needed items at

The Open Door (no glass!):

Peanut Butter • Canned Tuna, Chicken & Turkey • Healthy Snack Items •

100% Juice/Juice Boxes • Breakfast Cereal •

Hearty Soups • Canned Vegetables & Fruits

• Spaghetti Sauce • Macaroni & Cheese •

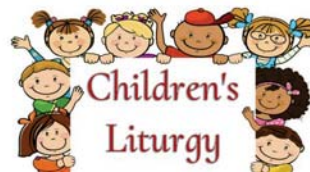
Rice, Noodles, & Pasta • Cake, Muffin &

Pancake Mix

SAINT PAUL PARISH HAPPENINGS

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

On the First Friday of the Month following the 9:00 am Mass there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession until 10:00 am at Saint Paul Parish, Hamilton.



**CHILDREN'S
LITURGY**
NEXT WEEKEND,
JANUARY 21
AT 9:30 MASS

Children are invited to join Mrs. Monahan for before the First Reading in the church hall for a children's liturgy including the First and Second Readings, as well as the Gospel and a children's discussion afterwards. Children will return upstairs to the church after the Homily for the remainder of the Mass.

COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS

Please join us for coffee and doughnuts in the church hall following the 9:30 Mass.

Sunday, January 21, 2024



Saint Paul Men's Prayer Group

St Paul's Men's Prayer Group meets Saturday mornings in the church from 7:30 to 8:30. The meeting includes praying from the Liturgy of the Hours and a discussion of the Sunday readings. Contact the parish office for further details."



The date for The First Penance Celebration has been re-scheduled to

**Sunday, January 21st at
1:00 pm**

in the church at St. Paul's.

Please pray for our First Communicants as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Sacrament of First Holy Communion in the coming months.

EDGE Classes
for Grades 6-8 will resume
Tuesday, January 30
&
Wednesday, January 31

SECOND FRIDAY COFFEE AT ST. PAUL'S

Following the second Friday Daily Mass, coffee will be served in the church hall. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet with parishioners from St. Paul and Our Lady of Hope.

STARTING FEBRUARY 3

ST. FRANCIS HOUSE CLOTHING DRIVE

Cleaning out closets? Please keep St. Francis House in mind!

Kindly donate gently used clothing, such as:

Fresh Threads—regular everyday clothing

- • Men and Women's coats (bigger sizes preferred)
- • Men and Women's sneakers, shoes, boots (no high heels)
- • Men and Women's jeans, khakis, cargo pants
- • Men and Women's sweatshirts, hoodies
- • Men and Women's polos, long sleeve shirts
- • Men and Women's t-shirts
- • Men and Women's winter hats
- • Men's belts
- • Backpacks, duffel bags

**No children's clothes, no household items,
and no used socks, underwear, undergarments will be accepted.**
Specially marked boxes for your donations are at the church entrances.
Together we can make this a huge success for Saint Francis House!



SHARE YOUR FAITH COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA AT MASS (JANUARY 23-24)

For over 50 years, Catholics in the United States have participated in the Collection for the Church in Latin America as a concrete expression of solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Central and South American and the Caribbean. This year the needs of the Church in Latin America are even greater in the wake of the COVID pandemic. Your contribution to the collection on the weekend of January 23-24, no matter how small, is a chance for you to support religious education, evangelization, and formation of priests and religious sisters and brothers throughout the Americas. Join the conversation on Twitter #1church1mission and connect with us on Facebook and Instagram. Learn more visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.

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3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Some of the best students at our school never stop trying until they master a skill or complete an assignment or achieve a goal. It is a determination that stays focused, overcoming obstacles, solving problems, and learning skills. Success comes to those who are persistent and attentive to their goals.

Motivated by love, people can be very persistent in finding help for a loved one, working for a better job, or struggling to create a better place to live and learn. Our motivation is an important part of what drives us towards our goals. It is a reason to sacrifice, work and try again until we succeed. We want what's best for those we love.

God wants what's best for His people. So, when God calls us to love one another, we are graced and motivated to achieve great things. Our hearts are always restless as we look for God's Presence and hold on to the hope of salvation. It is not always an easy journey. But together we persist, overcoming sin and temptation to find the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit. Success will come to those who answer God's call.

~James Gaffney © Pilot Bulletins

READINGS & OBSERVANCES 2024 YEAR B

3RD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME Jan 21	Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/1 Cor 7:29-31/ Mk 1:14-20
MONDAY Jan 22	Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26/Mk 3:22-30
TUESDAY Jan 23	Saint Vincent, Deacon and Martyr; Saint Marianne Cope 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Mk 3:31-35
WEDNESDAY Jan 24	Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church 2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30/Mk 4:1-20
THURSDAY Jan 25	The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2/ Mk 16:15-18
FRIDAY Jan 26	Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Mk 4:26-34
SATURDAY Jan 27	Saint Angela Merici, Virgin 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Mk 4:35-41
4TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME Jan 28	Dt 18:15-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

Pilot Bulletins



Readings To-Go!

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 21, 2024

Scan QR code to see
this week's readings!

Saint Agnes

DIED CIRCA 304
FEAST DAY — JANUARY 21

Agnes may have been only 12 or 13 when she died a martyr's death in Rome. According to tradition, she refused to consider marrying and consecrated her maidenhood to God. When a persecution broke out, she left home and offered herself for martyrdom, probably dying by being stabbed in the throat, a common form of Roman execution. She was buried in a cemetery in the Via No mentana, where a church honoring her was built about 350. Her name and feast date were listed in a calendar of martyrs in 354. She is the patron of girls.



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SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter "Aperuit illis" establishes that "the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God".

"Aperuit illis" are its opening words of St Luke's Gospel, where the Evangelist describes how the Risen Jesus appeared to His disciples, and how "He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures".

Pope Francis invites local communities to find ways to "mark this Sunday with a certain solemnity". He suggests that the sacred text be enthroned "in order to focus the attention of the assembly on the normative value of God's Word". In highlighting the proclamation of the Word of the Lord, it would be appropriate "to emphasize in the homily the honor that it is due", writes the Pope.

The Bible is not meant for a privileged few, continues Pope Francis. It belongs "to those called to hear its message and to recognize themselves in its words". The Bible cannot be monopolized or restricted to select groups either, he writes, because it is "the book of the Lord's people, who, in listening to it, move from dispersion and division towards unity".

The Pope uses the scene of the Risen Lord appearing to the disciples at Emmaus to demonstrate what he calls "the unbreakable bond between Sacred Scripture and the Eucharist". Since the Scriptures everywhere speak of Christ, he writes, "they enable us to

believe that His death and resurrection are not myth but history, and are central to the faith of His disciples".

When the sacraments are introduced and illumined by God's Word, explains the Pope, "they become ever more clearly the goal of a process whereby Christ opens our minds and hearts to acknowledge His saving work".

It is the Holy Spirit who "makes Sacred Scripture the living word of God, experienced and handed down in the faith of His holy people". Pope Francis invites us never to take God's Word for granted, "but instead to let ourselves be nourished by it, in order to acknowledge and live fully our relationship with Him and with our brothers and sisters".

The Pope defines "the great challenge before us in life: to listen to Sacred Scripture and then to practice mercy". God's Word "has the power to open our eyes and to enable us to renounce a stifling and barren individualism and instead to embark on a new path of sharing and solidarity".

The Letter closes with a reference to Our Lady, who accompanies us "on the journey of welcoming the Word of God", teaching us the joy of those who listen to that Word – and keep it.

Sources: Vatican News: <https://www.vaticannews.va/> and Apostolic Letter: www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/motu_proprio/documents/papa-francesco-motu-proprio-20190930_aperuit-illis.html



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