



ST. PAUL PARISH

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 7, 2024



ST. PAUL CHURCH

Mon.-Fri. 8:00am

Saturday 8:00am & 4:30 p.m.— Vigil Mass

Sunday 8a.m. & 10:30a.m.

ST. CLARE CHURCH

Eucharistic Adoration & Rosary

Monday-Friday 4p.m.-5p.m.

Rosary begins at 4:30 p.m.

Rev. Mon. Neil J. Van Loon, V.F., Pastor

St. Paul Staff

Rita Cicco - Director of Religious Education

Robert Fitzsimmons - Sacristan

Eugene Mentz - Director of Liturgical Music

Marci Stevens-Scanlon - Administrative Assistant

Phoebe Wilson - Operations Manager



**YEARLY STATEMENT
Reminder**

All registered parishioners will receive a yearly statement of giving in January 2024. Many people enjoy using Christmas and Year's End as a special time to give to their favorite Catholic institutions and also positively

impact their Federal and State Income taxes. Christmas and Year End giving provides many advantages to you, the donor.

- All gifts made on or before December 31st are tax deductible for the tax year 2023
- A year end donation can be used to memorialize a loved one for the holidays.
- If you itemize, your gift will lessen your tax liability for 2023.
- If you do not itemize, your Christmas gift may be just the right decision to allow you to itemize and lower your tax bill (check with your tax advisor).

If you would like your tax deductible contributions to show on your 2023 statement, we must receive the money by JANUARY 15, 2024.

St. Paul Church

Corner of Penn Avenue
and Marion Street,
Scranton, PA 18509

St. Paul Rectory

1510 Penn Ave.,
Scranton, PA 18509
Phone: 570-961-1549
Fax: 570-961-0335
Office Hours: Mon-Fri
8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE

CONFESSIONS- Sat.-4pm
8 am Mass ~ Mon.-Sat.
4:30 Mass ~ Sat. (Vigil)
8 am & 10:30 am ~ Sun

St. Clare Church

2235 N. Washington Ave.
Adoration and Rosary
Monday ~ Friday
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Rosary at 4:30 p.m.

FOOD PANTRY

FRIDAYS: 3pm ~ 4:30 pm
St. Clare Church Basement

JOIN US FOR MASS

Join us on Facebook at St.
Paul's Parish for our
live-streaming of the
Celebration of Mass.
info@stpaulscranton.org
Facebook ~ Saint Paul's
Parish Scranton
www.stpaulscranton.org

**Sacrament of
Baptism**

All first time parents are
asked to attend
a baptismal preparation
meeting prior
to the Baptism.
Please call the parish
office to schedule dates.

**Sacrament of
Matrimony**

A meeting with the
parish priest should
precede all other
wedding plans.
Contact the parish
office at least six months
before the
date of the intended
marriage.

**Sacrament of
Holy Anointing**

All who are seriously
sick, hospitalized,
or having surgery can
receive this sacrament.
Please call the rectory
if you wish to be
anointed.

Sponsor Cards

Sponsor cards for
Baptism or Confirmation
will be issued to
parishioners who attend
Mass regularly;
are Baptized and
Confirmed Catholics;
are married in
conformity with the
laws of the Church.

ST. PAUL MASS INTENTIONS

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Saturday, January 6 Vigil: The Epiphany of the Lord

4:30 p.m. † Sr. Mary William Philbin
(Mike & Cindy Donovan)

Sunday, January 7 The Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 a.m. † Lindsay Doherty (Family)

10:30 a.m. † Shirley Cook (Connie Nealon)

Monday, January 8 The Baptism of the Lord

8:00 a.m. † Marjorie R. Brown (Children)

Tuesday, January 9 Weekday

8:00 a.m. † Mary Jean Walsh (Jim & Ann Marie Walsh)

Wednesday, January 10 Weekday

8:00 a.m. † Paul McCrone (Family)

Thursday, January 11 Weekday

8:00 a.m. † Tim Earley (Lisa Gardier)

Friday, January 12 Weekday

8:00 a.m. † James P. Kennedy (Family)

Saturday, January 13 Vigil: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. † Beth Fueshko-Barry
(Jim & Dian Connery & Family)

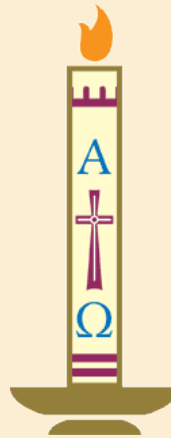
4:30 p.m. † The Quinlan Family (Family)

Sunday, January 14 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. † Donna DePaola Ross
(Jim & Ann Marie McCrone)

10:30 a.m. † Scott Eshelman (Mom, Dad Todd & Blake)

REMEMBERED AT THE ALTAR:



St. Paul's Sanctuary Candle

In Loving Memory of:

† **Damian Flasser**

With Love From:

Nancy Longo

St. Paul's St. Joseph Candle

In Loving Memory of:

† **Daniel Finnerty**

With Love From:

Family

St. Paul's Marian Candle

In Loving Memory:

† **Mary Murtaugh**

With Love From:

The Wilson Family



St. Paul's Wine & Host

In Loving Memory of:

† **Sr. Mary William Philbin IHM**

With Love from:

St. Paul Parish

Food Pantry Hours: Fridays 3-4pm

Food Pantry Volunteers for Friday January 12

Marilyn Carlonas, Mary Kryzanowski, Noreen Rowland, Jody Maloney, Barbara Burkehouse



RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Anne Kearns, Rita Stahl, Mary Tunis & Loretta Flanagan**. May their souls and all of the souls of the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in peace!

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things, And I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen.



Generous, consistent, and widespread parish support continued to enable the pantry to make more than 1000 distributions in 2023 to appreciative clients as their need grew!

The recent highlight, of course, was the December 22 drive-through, when, on that day alone, 60 families, composed of 160 individuals, were gifted with hams, paper products, clementines,

and Mollie's

Mittens...

Much thanks to you all!



December 24th Collection

Offertory Total: \$ 9,812.00

Online Total: \$3,669.00



December 31st Collection

Offertory Total: \$ 2,947.00

Online Total: \$5,455.00

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

January 7, 2024-The Epiphany of the Lord

A stranger in a foreign land, I was exhausted and homesick as my summer Spanish immersion ended in Guatemala. The rusty minivan arriving outside my small residence filled me with joyful hope. I was flying home to the U.S. and would be, at long last, completely happy. Or so I thought. After about half an hour of being home, I thought to myself, "This place is boring. I want to go somewhere." So, I hopped in my car and left to see my friends. As I drove, I wistfully wondered, "Where am I truly at home?"

The feast of Epiphany has a lot to do with our notion of home. Where is our origin? Where are we going? When is our wandering done? Saint Matthew tells us of the Magi, "They were overjoyed at seeing the star." This star will bring them home, to a place where their questing will end, and they will be satisfied. Their real home is neither in the East nor in the earthly Jerusalem. Somehow, their home is wherever this boy and his parents are.

If you're a teenager or older, you probably know by now that every physical home we have is temporary. So, we look up at the countless stars in our proverbial skies: things which bedazzle and beckon us to follow toward peace. The Gospel invites us to behold that — at long last — God has sent us a star to follow home, one that whispers, "Follow me! I will take you home!" Perhaps that star is your spouse. A friend. An opportunity. A cause. An intuition about a new direction. A prayer group. What is it for you? How will you know? It will lead you to Mary and Joseph and their son, and you will be home. -Father John Muir ©LPi



SCAN TO REGISTER
College Age +

EZRA 10:4

A RETREAT FOR MEN DISCERNING THE
PRIESTHOOD

Rev. Alex Roche



Holy Family Spiritual Renewal Center, Nanticoke

Hosted by the Diocese of Scranton Vocations Office

MARCH 1-2, 2024

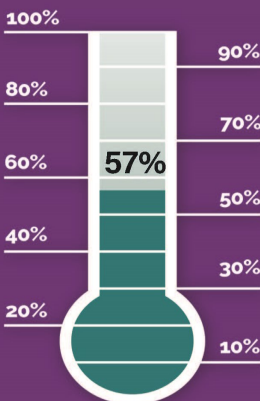
REGISTER AT [DIOCESEOFSCRANTON.ORG/VOCATIONS](https://dioceseofscranton.org/vocations)



OUR CALL TO
SERVE
DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL



PERCENTAGE OF
GOAL ACHIEVED



Total as of Dec. 8, 2023

THANK YOU

to those who have given to the
2023 Diocesan Annual Appeal.

Those whose lives you change
are grateful for your gift.

Saint Paul Parish has a
parish goal of \$66,000 and
has raised 57% to date.



To donate, scan the QR code, visit
annualappeal.org or call (570)207-2250

For your past generosity, prayerful consideration and
future sharing — thank you and God bless your loved ones!

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of January 7, 2024

Sunday:

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13
see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Monday:

Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3)/1
Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

Tuesday:

1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/
Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday:

1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a,
8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday:

1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/
Mk 1:40-45

Friday:

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/
Mk 2:1-12

Saturday:

1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday:

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10
(8a, 9a)/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for
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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A stranger in a foreign land, I was exhausted and homesick as my summer Spanish immersion ended in Guatemala. The rusty minivan arriving outside my small residence filled me with joyful hope. I was flying home to the U.S. and would be, at long last, completely happy. Or so I thought. After about half an hour of being home, I thought to myself, "This place is boring. I want to go somewhere." So, I hopped in my car and left to see my friends. As I drove, I wistfully wondered, "Where am I truly at home?"

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— *Father John Muir*

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."
- Mt 2:1-2

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

Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

Isaiah foresaw a future when the Lord would use Israel as His instrument to shine His glory into the world. What could you do this week to show God's glory to others?

Second Reading

Paul met a lot of resistance when he spoke of God's "revelation" that Gentiles are "coheirs" and "copartners" with Jews in the divine promise fulfilled in Christ Jesus. How welcoming are you to outsiders?

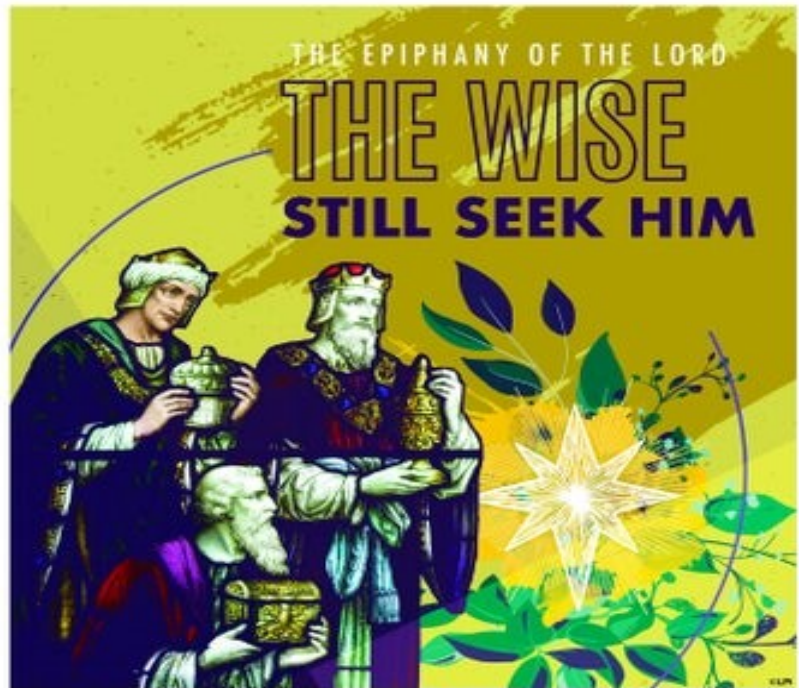
Gospel Reading

In the story of the magi's visit, we see the prophecies of Isaiah (our first reading) fulfilled with the treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh given to the Holy Family. What gift do you give to the Lord?



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Please show your support for your parish by also supporting our advertisers. We wouldn't be able to bring you our bulletin every week without them. Please encourage and remind others to show their support and shop local.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024 | THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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Notice Regarding Reporting Sexual Abuse of a Minor: It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or you may contact them electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis. It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USSCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mary Beth Pacuska at (570-862-7551).