



ST. PAUL PARISH

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 22, 2023



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

He said to them, "Come after
me, and I will make you
fishers of men."

- Mt 4:19



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

ST. PAUL CHURCH

Mon.-Sat. 8:00 a.m.- Daily Mass
Saturday 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
Deacon John A. Hanni

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



St. Paul Parish

Lord God, you appointed Paul your apostle to preach the good news of salvation to the nations. May his example and prayers inspire the faithful of our parish to be more fully Alive in Christ.

Fill our hearts with the spirit of your charity so that we may please you in our thoughts, words and deeds and be witnesses to hope that does not disappoint.

May the prayers of St. Paul and all the saints be our constant encouragement so that we may walk worthily as disciples of Your Son.

Amen



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
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

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, January 21 Vigil: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
*St. Agnes

4:30 p.m. † Frank, Veronica & Lucille Shimkus (Family)

Sunday, January 22 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. † Members of the Parish
† Sylvia Schmidt Odgers (Family)

10:30 a.m. † Paul Dougherty (Alicia Dougherty)

Monday, January 23 Day of Prayer for the Unborn

8:00 a.m. † Sam Cottone (Family)

Tuesday, January 24 St. Francis de Sales

8:00 a.m. † Jean Sweeney (Ann & Alana Buntz)

Wednesday, January 25 Conversion of St. Paul

8:00 a.m. † Orlando Barbetti (Mike & Donna Barbetti)

Thursday, January 26 Sts. Timothy & Titus

8:00 a.m. † Jean Sweeney (Tom & Maureen Moran)

Friday, January 27 Weekday

8:00 a.m. † Intentions of Chris & Mara O'Neil
(Tom & Maureen Moran)

Saturday, January 28 Vigil: Fourth Sunday
*St. Thomas Aquinas

8:00 a.m. † William Haggerty (Regina & Family)

4:30 p.m. † Joseph P. McCormack (Wife, Anne & Family)

Sunday, January 29 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. † Members of the Parish
† Patrick Dougher (Dougher & Angeloni Family)

10:30a.m. † Stanley & Blanche Bednarz (Stan & Betty Bednarz)

REMEMBERED AT THE ALTAR:



St. Paul's Sanctuary Candle

In Loving Memory of:

† Pete Herie

With Love From:

Wife, Peggy

St. Paul's St. Joseph Candle

In Loving Memory of:

† Jerome Leeson

With Love From:

The Bartlebaugh Family

St. Paul's Marian Candle

† Mary Rose Salerno Smith

With Love From:

Salerno Family

St. Paul's Wine and Host

† Ann Chermak & George

Chermak

With Love From:

Joan Yontas



Food Pantry Hours: Fridays 3-4:30pm

Food Pantry Volunteers for Friday January 27

Jen Clark, Sandi Cadden, Sally Walsh, Nancy Wilson, Jody Maloney, Barbara Burkhouse

St. Paul Food Pantry Donations



In Loving Memory of:

† Robert Timlin

With Love,

Tom & Lenore McGowan

In Loving Memory of:

† Samuel M. Azzerelli

With Love,

Elizabeth & Robert Troy



RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the repose of the souls of those recently deceased. May their souls and all 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.



We ask for your ongoing prayers for Deacon John Hanni of our parish as he convalesces.

The first meeting of "Kindness for Karen" will be held at 5:30pm on Monday, January 23rd at Stirna's Restaurant, 120 W Market St, Scranton, PA

Anyone interested in helping to plan this fundraiser for parishioner, Karen Finnerty is encouraged to attend.

The fundraiser will be held at La Buona Vita 200 Reilly St, Dunmore, PA on March 15th

Please email mecoleman7@yahoo.com or text/call 570-766-7385 if you can make it. All are welcome!

THANK YOU
FOR ALL YOUR
**GENEROUS
SUPPORT**

January 22, 2023
OFFERTORY:
\$5,755.00
ONLINE: \$2,264.50

Help us reach our Annual Appeal Parish Goal!
OUR PARISH IS AT
64% OF OUR \$66,000 goal
*Our parish is reimbursed 75% for any gifts
made to the Appeal in excess of our Appeal goal.*

Donate now at:
annualappeal.org
or click the QR code below



GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

January 22, 2023: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



When I was a young seminarian, I asked a wise old priest how to pray better. He said simply, "Don't lie when you pray." He helped me to see the energy I waste in trying to appear acceptable to God when I pray. For me, prayer was showing off for God and hiding what was ugly. It's stunning that the Gospel of Matthew tells us of Jesus, "He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali..." This isn't just the Lord's relocation up north. It's His moving into places of shame and defeat. This region was where the enemy invasion of Israel began centuries before. Jesus left the comfortable confines of Nazareth and sought out a place of darkness, not to bring shame, but to announce the dawning of His light.

When we pray, we usually prefer Jesus to stay put in our little Nazareths- where we feel comfortable, successful, and in control. But He moves. He re-locates into the Zebulons and Naphtalis of our shame, embarrassment, fear, and sense of being defeated. The question for us is: will we allow Him to take up residence in those places in our prayer time?

Will we talk to Him honestly about our places of darkness?

If we do, we're no longer lying when we pray. Father John Mui ©LPi



Move your favorite
pastor chefs up these
collar-nary
leaderboards
TODAY!

A FOOD FIGHT VS. HUNGER!

**\$10 =
1 VOTE!**



WHO: 32 brave Diocese of Scranton priests, or, as we like to call them, **PASTOR CHEFS**, on 24 teams!

WHAT: Rectory, Set, Cook! II: Turning Up The Heat!

WHEN: Jan. 10, 2023, through noon on Fat Tuesday, Feb. 21, with winners announced by 5 p.m.

WHERE: Any desktop, laptop or mobile device/ cell phone

WHY: To feed the hungry within the Diocese of Scranton while also supporting our parishes.

HOW:

1 Click on the **OUR CHEFS** tab. On mobile devices, find this tab by scrolling down to the bottom of the page, past the sponsor logos, to see the pastor chef pages and view the videos.

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR THOSE USING PHONES:

If you cannot see the videos, click **VIEW**, then 'Read More' (under the small rectangular image beneath 'Donate to Vote') to reveal the **PLAY** key.

2 Click on a chef's (or team of chefs) page, select **DONATE NOW** and make at least a \$10 gift to cast one vote. Cast as many votes as you wish as often as you wish for as many chefs as you wish!

3 Watch your name appear on our donor walls and your pastor chef's/chefs' page! (Or check the anonymous option when donating.)



Diocese of Scranton's

International Student Leadership Institute

A Peer-Facilitated
Leadership Retreat
for High School
Students

**FEBRUARY
17-19, 2023**

@ Holy Transfiguration
Retreat Center, Dalton

For More Information:

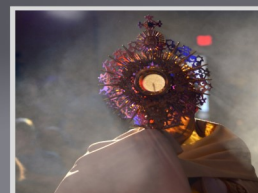
Further details and
applications are
available online at
Dioceseofscranton.org

or call (570) 207-2213
x1155 for more info.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Sponsored by the Diocesan Offices for Parish Life and Vocations



**Thursday,
February 2nd
7:00 PM**

St. Maria Goretti Church
42 Redwood Drive - Laflin

**SPEAKER, RECONCILIATION,
AND SOCIAL.**

LIVE MUSIC BY JOEL KANKIEWICZ



Financial Transparency FAQ

Through the Diocese of Scranton's listening efforts during the Synod on Synodality in 2022, one of the main themes that emerged from online surveys and in-person listening sessions was a broad demand for greater transparency from church leadership in all matters of importance.

One of the areas frequently mentioned is parish financial matters.

On August 31, 2022, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera signed a decree instituting "Norms for Annual Parish Financial Reporting" which are to be considered law in the Diocese of Scranton. *Each year beginning in 2023, on the second weekend in*

January, every parish in the Diocese will be required to publish a five-year financial trend analysis in its bulletin, which will include a narrative to help people understand the document. (narrative can be found on following page.)

While a pastor/parish life coordinator is primarily responsible for the day-to-day supervision of a parish's financial and physical resources, they receive assistance from a Parish Finance Council. The Parish Finance Council is a consultative body of laypersons that advise a pastor in matters pertaining to the financial affairs of the parish. It is widely accepted that an active, well-informed Parish Finance Council strengthens accountability and assists the pastor with his responsibilities.

Parishes are much more expensive to maintain now than they were in the past. As the Diocese of Scranton continues in its Vision 2030 Pastoral Planning Process, striving to meet the opportunities and challenges of the coming decade, it is critical for parishioners to have an understanding of the financial position of their parish. It is the hope that by having more financial transparency between a parish and its parishioners, there can be greater trust and cooperation to further the mission of the Church. Pastors and parish staff must be open and consultative in the conducting of affairs and parishioners must accept responsibility for their parish and contribute generously to its programs and projects.

Parish Financial Report St. Paul - Scranton TREND ANALYSIS

| | Fiscal Year July 1 - June 30 | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 |
| Revenue | | | | | |
| Collections | 513,597 | 489,374 | 525,584 | 574,785 | 617,129 |
| Faith Formation Fees | 4,913 | 3,750 | 5,341 | 5,407 | 6,095 |
| Fundraising/Development | 40,824 | 17,232 | 43,537 | 33,365 | 52,352 |
| Other Income | 74,650 | 87,054 | 95,202 | 96,924 | 87,435 |
| Designated Income/Grants/PPP Loan | - | - | 4,276 | - | - |
| Transfers Savings Account/Other | 69,976 | 22,333 | 41,098 | 19,063 | - |
| Diocesan Special Collections | 28,343 | 14,913 | 23,557 | 29,030 | 35,662 |
| Total Revenue | 732,303 | 634,656 | 738,595 | 758,574 | 798,673 |
| Expenses | | | | | |
| Administration | 299,682 | 251,256 | 260,772 | 254,880 | 272,489 |
| Rectory | 21,342 | 33,461 | 32,341 | 34,855 | 58,608 |
| Liturgy | 58,397 | 62,155 | 53,794 | 94,994 | 81,449 |
| Faith Formation | 32,883 | 40,223 | 46,044 | 53,532 | 56,567 |
| Social Justice | 12,076 | 9,535 | 11,127 | 15,731 | 9,903 |
| Operation & Maintenance of Plant | 106,268 | 69,933 | 121,495 | 109,295 | 109,406 |
| Fixed Expense | 25,171 | 26,173 | 23,218 | 22,326 | 23,646 |
| Debt Service | - | - | - | - | - |
| Capital Outlays | - | - | 16,032 | 22,464 | - |
| Designated Expenses /Transfers Out | 43,391 | 13,368 | 10,861 | 16,587 | 15,276 |
| Catholic School Assessment | 98,090 | 112,875 | 108,535 | 103,387 | 108,624 |
| Diocesan Special Collections Remittance | 10,542 | 10,425 | 17,642 | 26,809 | 30,226 |
| Total Expense | 707,842 | 629,404 | 701,861 | 754,860 | 766,194 |
| Parish Surplus/(Deficit) - CASH Basis | 24,461 | 5,252 | 36,734 | 3,714 | 32,479 |
| (Increase)/Decrease In Unpaid Diocesan Obligations | *(14,824)* | 26,324 | (9,209) | (23,056) | 1,897 |
| Actual Parish Net Surplus/(Deficit) | 9,637 | 31,576 | 27,525 | (19,342) | 34,376 |
| **NOTE** | | | | | |
| Outstanding Diocesan Obligations could include: Diocesan assessments, School assessments, health insurance, self-insurance, pension and other expenses. | | | | | |
| End of Year Unpaid Diocesan Obligations | 38,752 | 23,928 | 50,252 | 41,043 | 17,987 |
| Beginning of Year Unpaid Diocesan Obligations | 23,928 | 50,252 | 41,043 | 17,987 | 19,884 |
| (Increase)/Decrease In Unpaid Diocesan Obligations | (14,824) | 26,324 | (9,209) | (23,056) | 1,897 |
| Diocesan Loan/Debt | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

Understanding Your Parish Financial Report

Revenue

- **Collections** include all offertory envelopes, online giving and loose collections, including for holidays, Holy Days and any special collection (flowers) envelopes.
- **Faith Formation Fees** include all registration and program fees for both faith formation and adults programs.
- **Fundraising/Development** includes any gifts or donations that are not regular parish offertory, bequests and memorials, parish activities (dinners, picnics, bingo, lottery, etc.), donations from parish societies and any parish rebate from the Diocesan Annual Appeal (75% over goal is refunded to the parish).
- **Other Income** includes rental of facilities, insurance refunds, interest income, sale of assets, funeral/wedding perquisites or any other income.
- **Designated Income/Grants/PPP Loan** includes donations or grants specifically earmarked for a designated purpose, reimbursements from linked parishes to help cover expenses and any Paycheck Protection Plan grant income.
- **Transfers Savings Account/Other** includes transfers from bank accounts that are excluded from operating income or have already been reported as operating income.
- **Diocesan Special Collections** are special collections (Care & Education of Priests or Emergency collections following a natural disaster) which get remitted back to the Diocese.

Expenses

- **Administration** includes clergy salary and benefits, office staff salary and benefits, administrative expenses, telephone, computer services, postage, printing, envelopes and the Cathedralicum (9.5% parish assessment to the Diocese) and Clergy Care and Wellness Assessment.
- **Rectory expenses** include the costs to run and maintain the rectory, as well as household expenses for the pastor(s).
- **Liturgy** includes salaries and benefits for musicians and liturgical staff including directors, musicians and sacristans. This also includes all liturgical equipment and supplies (printed materials, candles, flowers, decorations, etc.)
- **Faith Formation** includes salaries and benefits of faith formation director and staff, including family and/or youth director. This also includes the cost of all textbooks and supplies, retreats, etc.
- **Social Justice** includes all social justice salaries and benefits, as well as the cost of all social justice expenses.
- **Operation & Maintenance of Plant** includes salaries and benefits of all maintenance staff. This also includes the occupancy costs of the parish buildings, including electricity, heat, water, cleaning, janitorial, repairs and maintenance, and any plant and maintenance supplies.
- **Fixed Expense** includes insurance premiums from the Diocesan self-insured program for property, liability and workers compensation, real estate taxes (if any) and rental of facilities.
- **Debt Service** includes the interest and principal payments paid on outstanding parish debt.
- **Capital Outlays** includes any major repairs on the parish building or site or any new construction costs.
- **Designated Expenses/Transfers Out** includes all expenses designated for a specific purpose (i.e., food pantry) or transfers out to savings/building fund.
- **Catholic School Assessments** paid are included here. These represent the parish's portion allocated for the support of the Diocese of Scranton Catholic School System which are 14.5% for a parish with a Catholic School in its county and 8% if there is no school in its county.
- **Diocesan Special Collections Remittance** are the remittals of the Diocesan collections above.

Parish Surplus/(Deficit) - CASH Basis

- This line represents the increase or decrease in parish cash balances from the beginning of the year to the end of the year on a CASH BASIS based on actual expenses paid.

(Increase)/Decrease in Unpaid Diocesan Obligations

- This amount represents the change in the parish's unpaid obligations over the year. If there is an increase in unpaid obligations, this number will be negative. If the parish reduced its unpaid obligations, this will be a positive number.

Actual Parish Net Surplus/(Deficit)

- This value is the sum of the Parish Surplus/(Deficit) and the (Increase)/decrease of Unpaid Diocesan Obligations. The cash balance represents the net effect of operating activity on a cash basis. If a parish is current on all of its obligation, there would be no difference between the Cash and ACTUAL Parish Net Surplus/(Deficit). However, if a parish is unable to stay current on its obligations, the increase of unpaid obligations will reduce their CASH Basis Net Surplus/(Deficit) by the amount of the increase in unpaid Diocesan obligations.
This Actual Parish Net Surplus/(Deficit) reflects a parish's true ability to pay its current obligations.

Outstanding Diocesan Obligations

- This section highlights the change in a parish's unpaid Diocesan obligations over each fiscal year. If a parish has an increase in unpaid obligations for the year, this will result in a lower Actual Parish Net Surplus/(Deficit) as these are an annual obligation of the parish that was not paid in the current year.

Diocesan Loan/Debt

- This is the amount of outstanding loans of the parish.