



ST. PAUL PARISH

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 19, 2023



7th Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME



*"You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father."
- Mt 5:43-45a*

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, February 18 Vigil: Seventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time

4:30 p.m. † Domenico Piraino (Rita Cicco)

Sunday, February 19 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. † Members of the Parish

† James P. Kennedy (Family)

10:30 a.m. † Deceased Members of the Martin Family (Family)

Monday, February 20 Weekday

8:00 a.m. ♥ Special Intentions for Dr. Arthur Jordan, Sr.

Tuesday, February 21 Weekday

8:00 a.m. † Meg Cullen Brown (Family)

Wednesday, February 22 Ash Wednesday

8:00 a.m. † Maryclaire Jordan (Dr. Arthur Jordan, Sr.)

12:10 p.m. † Mary Theresa Cantafio (Helen, Robbie & Noel)

5:00 p.m. † Robert T. Cron (The Cron Family)

Thursday, February 23 Thursday after Ash Wednesday

8:00 a.m. † Robert Holtham (St. Paul Parish)

12:10 p.m. † Alice Grogan (Billy & Mari Donnelly)

Friday, February 24 Friday after Ash Wednesday

8:00 a.m. † Joan Shaffern (Shaffern Family)

12:10 p.m. † John & Anna Sochovka (Anne McCormack)

Saturday, February 25 Vigil: First Sunday of Lent

8:00 a.m. † Robert Wagner (Family)

4:30 p.m. † Harold Schmidt (Family)

Sunday, February 26 First Sunday of Lent

8:00 a.m. † Members of the Parish

† Margaret Boland (Mary Walsh Dempsey)

10:30 a.m. † Dr. Eugene & Ann Roe (Tara & Jim Mulligan)



RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the repose of the soul of those recently deceased. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in peace!

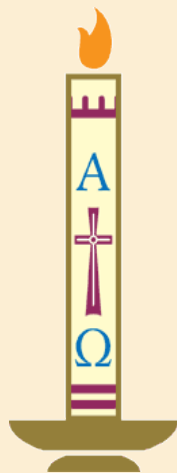
An Act of Spiritual Communion

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.

REMEMBERED AT THE ALTAR:



St. Paul's Sanctuary Candle

In Loving Memory of:

† Claire & Jack Scanlon

With Love From:

Family

St. Paul's St. Joseph Candle

Happy Birthday in Heaven:

† Anthony Cantafio

With Love From:

Mom & Family

St. Paul's Marian Candle

In Loving Memory of:

† Maria Catena Keating

With Love From:

The Wilson Family



St. Paul's Wine and Host

In Loving Honor of:

† Anthony Cantafio

With Love From:

Joanne & Family

There are still many memorial candles & Masses available throughout the 2023 Mass Book. If you would like to honor or memorialize your loved one in this way, please call the rectory at 570-961-1549 to schedule the Mass day or Candle week. (Many daily Masses still available.)

Food Pantry Hours: Fridays 3-4:30pm

Food Pantry Volunteers for Friday February 10

U of S students, Noreen Rowland & Barbara Burkhouse

St. Paul Food Pantry Donations



In Loving Memory of:

† Ryan O'Malley

With Love,

Helene & Jack O'Malley

Did you know...???

SNAP (food stamps) cannot be used for toilet paper, paper towels, cleaning supplies, and similar non foods.

Consequently, these items are especially welcome donations!





February 12, 2023

OFFERTORY:
\$5,091.00
ONLINE: \$2,306.50

Help us reach our Annual Appeal Parish Goal!

OUR PARISH IS AT
68% 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



Ash Wednesday– February 22, 2023

The reception of ashes is not mandatory nor required. It is within each individual's own internal disposition and intention to repent and start over.

That is the best fruit of Ash Wednesday and the ashes are an external sign of that internal reality. Individuals may enter into Lent with a repentant heart even if they decide that receiving ashes is not the right thing for them this year.



DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES

Any person may take Blessed Ashes to home bound parishioners, using one of the formulas: "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel" or "Remember you are dust and unto dust you will return." You may pick up ashes after Ash Wednesday services. Pre-filled envelopes will be provided.

What is Lent?

Wednesday, February 22, 2023 - Thursday, April 6, 2023

Lent is a 40 day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving alms; and we practice self-control through fasting. We are called not only to abstain from luxuries during Lent, but to a true inner conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully. We recall the waters of baptism in which we were also baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and evil, and began new life in Christ.



Many know of the tradition of abstaining from meat on Fridays during Lent, but we are also called to practice self-discipline and fast in other ways throughout the season. Contemplate the meaning and origins of the Lenten fasting tradition in this reflection. In addition, the giving of alms is one way to share God's gifts—not only through the distribution of money, but through the sharing of our time and talents. As St. John Chrysostom reminds us: "Not to enable the poor to share in our goods is to steal from them and deprive them of life. The goods we possess are not ours, but theirs." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2446). In Lent, the baptized are called to renew their baptismal commitment as others prepare to be baptized through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, a period of learning and discernment for individuals who have declared their desire to become Catholics.

CRS Rice Bowl or St. Paul Parish Helping Hands Food Pantry Collection are just two ways Catholics can enhance their Lenten fasting practice by giving up meals and donating the cost of those meals to Catholic Relief Services, internationally or to St. Paul Parish Food Pantry, locally, in order to help those who do not have enough to eat.

Diocese of Scranton 2023 Lent and Easter Guidelines

Regulations on Fasting and Abstinence

All faithful of the Diocese of Scranton are reminded of Diocesan Statute No. 41, which addresses the penitential aspect of Lent:

"The season of Lent is penitential in nature and during Lent penance should be not only internal and individual, but also external and social (Sacrosanctum Concilium, No. 5, 109). Pastors are obliged to avoid scheduling activities in the parishes which in any way could possibly detract from the external and social penance required by Lent."

Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023, marks the beginning of Lent.

The following fast and abstinence regulations are observed:

-FASTING is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, April 7, 2023, by all Catholics over 18 years of age to the beginning of their 60th year. On days of fasting, one full meal is allowed. Two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's needs, but together should not equal another full meal, unless dispensed or excused.

-ABSTINENCE from meat is to be observed by all Catholics who are 14 years of age or older.

Ash Wednesday, all of the Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday are days of abstinence.

How to return to confession

If you have been away from the church, or if you have been reluctant or unable to see a priest for confession, you are invited to experience the reconciling peace of Christ through the grace of this sacrament, also called the sacrament of reconciliation. Peace is the watchword, said Sean Ater, director of the Center for the New Evangelization for the archdiocese: "This year it's about no stress — just peace!"

6 steps for a good confession

- Examine your conscience – what sins have you committed since your last good confession.
- Be sincerely sorry for your sins.
- Confess your sins to the priest.
- Make certain that you confess all your mortal sins and the number of them.
- After your confession, do the penance the priest gives to you.
- Pray daily for the strength to avoid the occasion of sin, especially for those sins you were just absolved from.

How to make a confession

Whether you confess your sins in a confessional booth or face to face with a priest, the process is the same:

- Make the sign of the cross.
- Say, "Forgive me Father, for I have sinned, it has been (period of time) since my last confession."
- The priest will welcome you and may read briefly from scripture.
- Tell the priest your sins, and how often you have done them. Talk with the priest about your actions, if he invites you to. If he doesn't, or after you have done so,
- Say the act of contrition prayer.

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you, and I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell; but most of all because they offend you, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of your grace, to confess my sins, to do penance and amend my life. Amen.

- The priest will give you a penance — prayers to say, or something to do in reparation for your sins and to help you refrain from sinning again — and ask if you will do it. If you can't do what the priest asks, tell him and he will assign you another penance.
- The priest will then extend his hands and absolve you of your sins. He does this, not himself, but standing in the place of Christ for you to see and hear. It is Christ who forgives you.

We invite you to dive deeper into the mystery of Christ's passion this Lent in praying the Way of the Cross

St. Paul Parish

The Stations of the Cross is a reminder of the struggle and humiliation that our Lord Jesus Christ went through on His way to crucifixion and His ultimate resurrection.

Join us each Friday evening at 5:30 p.m. during this holy season of Lent (February 24th-April 7th) at
St. Paul Church 1510 Penn Ave., Scranton PA 18509

St. Paul Parish HELPING HANDS

Lenten Food Drive

Helping Hands Lenten Food Drive is a tradition of Almsgiving at a local level.

We ask you to take a bag and make your donations during the Lenten season. Suggested Items much needed for the Food Pantry are listed on each bag. Food can be placed in the returned bag in the vestibule of St. Paul Church or brought to the rectory. Grocery store gift cards are also a great item to give.

You are the Hands of Christ in our community.

Thank you so much for your continued support!

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Our Office Will Be

CLOSED

on

MONDAY ~ February 20th

In Observance Of



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. It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. 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 electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis. 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 USCCB 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.