



ST. PAUL PARISH

First Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023



Third Sunday of **ADVENT**



***Christmas Mass Schedule listed on following page.**

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



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & Christmas Mass Schedule

The 4th Sunday of Advent falls on December 24 which is also Christmas Eve.

So, you get to go Mass twice this weekend to fulfill your obligation!

**Choose one Mass for the
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

4th Sunday

Saturday December 23rd

4:30pm

OR

Sunday December 24th

8:00 am or 10:30 am



**Choose one Mass for
Christmas Eve or Day**

CHRISTMAS

Sunday December 24th

Christmas Eve Vigil

4:00 pm or 10:00 pm

OR

Monday December 25th

Christmas Day

9:00 am or 11:00 am

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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Saturday, December 16 Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent

4:30 p.m. † Genevieve Pocius (Jim & Kris Pocius)

Sunday, December 17 Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. † Ann Coleman (Kathleen & Walter Hoban)

10:30a.m. † Julia Budza (Granville & Miller Family)

Monday, December 18 Weekday

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

Tuesday, December 19 Weekday

8:00 a.m. † Linda Munley (Helen, Robbie & Noel)

Wednesday, December 20 Weekday

8:00 a.m. † James Pappas Jr. (Washo & McGinnis Family)

Thursday, December 21 Vigil: Immaculate Conception

8:00 a.m. † Jim Dempsey (Walsh- Dempsey Family)

Friday, December 22 Late Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. † Mollie M. Conway (Mark & Children)

Saturday, December 23 Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. † Anne & Daniel Penetar (Family)

4:30 p.m. † Giovina Salerno (Salerno Family)

Sunday, December 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. † Lindsay Doherty (Family)

10:30a.m. † Thomas J. Quinn (The Walsh Family)

Sunday, December 24 Vigil: The Nativity of the Lord

4:00 p.m. † Robert McAndrew (Family)

10:00p.m. † Sirgany & Millie Families (Love, Karin)



RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the repose of the soul of
Damian Flasser & Mildred Yurechko .

May their souls and all of the souls of the faithful
departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in peace!



ADVENT



HOPE. LOVE. JOY. PEACE.

Third Sunday of Advent
Memorial Candle:



In Loving Memory of:
**Marie & Jerry Mauck &
Aldona & Ed Pocius**
With Love From,
Jim & Kris Pocius

REMEMBERED AT THE ALTAR:



St. Paul's Sanctuary Candle

In Loving Memory of:

† **Robert McAndrew**

With Love From:

Family

St. Paul's St. Joseph Candle

In Loving Memory of:

† **Harry McGrath**

With Love From:

Wife, Joell & Family

St. Paul's Marian Candle

Happy Birthday in Heaven:

† **Sister Mary William**

With Love From:

Cantafio Family



St. Paul's Wine & Host

In Loving Memory of

† **Harry McGrath**

With Love From:

Wife, Joell & Family

Food Pantry Hours: Fridays 3-4pm
Food Pantry Volunteers for Friday December 22
(Drive through only)

St. Paul Food Pantry Donations

In Loving Honor of:

† **Msgr. Van Loon**

With Love,
Christian Grady

In Loving Memory of:

† **Frank & Alice**

Fontinell
With Love,
Richard Fontinell

In Loving Memory of:

† **Clarence & Shirley**

Cook

With Love, **Dan Cook**

In Loving Memory of:

† **Patricia Mellody**

With Love,

Todd & Liz O'Malley



In Loving Memory of:

† **Lelucci Myaly Carlucci**

With Love,

Thomas N. Carlucci



We know that families, now more than ever,
will struggle to make ends meet during this
holiday season.

A 30 dollar donation helps to buy one juicy
ham for a family in need and helps create holiday
memories! Please mail donation to: St. Paul Parish -
1510 Penn Ave. Scranton, PA 18509 and note
"Helping Ham" or drop in offertory basket at Mass.
We thank you in advance for your generosity!



December 10th Collection

Offertory Total: \$ 6,087.00

Online Total: \$2,531.50

RECENTLY BAPTIZED:

Jack Finkernagel, child of Christopher & Kelly, has recently received the sacrament of baptism at St. Paul Parish.



We welcome Jack to our parish community!



FROM THE CATECHISM *Who Forgives Our Sins?* (Para 1441-1445)

When we receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and hear that our sins are forgiven, do we realize that it is actually God forgiving our sins?

“Only God forgives sins,” the *Catechism* asserts.

But as the Son of God, Jesus shared His divine authority with His apostles, and gave them the power to forgive sins.

“Christ has willed that in her prayer and life and action His whole Church should be the sign and instrument of the forgiveness and reconciliation.” says the *Catechism*. Jesus not only forgives sins, He integrated the sinner into the company of the people of God.”

“A remarkable sign of this”, states the *Catechism*, is the fact that Jesus receives sinner at His table, a gesture that expresses in an astonishing way both God’s forgiveness and a return to the bosom of the People of God.” The power to forgive sins was expressed in the power that Jesus Bestowed on Simon Peter, when He gave Peter the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven -Peggy Stanton, DM



St. Paul Parish offers members the opportunity to remember their loved ones by purchasing a Christmas Poinsettia to be used in decorating the church during the Christmas season.

Anyone interested in remembering a loved one at Christmas with a memorial gift of poinsettias may use their “Christmas Flower” envelope, place the name of the person to be remembered and who it is from, along with \$15, in an envelope marked “Christmas Flowers” or cut out & complete the form here and place it in the collection basket or drop off at the rectory. Names and donations may also be emailed to info@stpaulscranton.org

Deadline extended to Monday Dec. 18th

In Memory of:

Requested by:

Number of Poinsettias: _____ (@ \$15 ea)

Donation enclosed : _____

***Give them eternal rest, O Lord,
and may Your light shine on them. Amen.
Names of those remembered will be listed
in our Christmas Bulletin & Online***

Congratulations to those who made their First Reconciliation this past weekend. What a joyous occasion for their families and our Parish!

We are so proud of you and your dedication to your faith.

We continue to pray for you on your journey to the Eucharist in May.

A big thank you to all who helped and continue to help our students prepare!

FIRST PENANCE CLASS 2023

Ryan Adcroft
Callie Bender
Adalyne Bertocki
Mazie Boles
Helena Boris
Anna Boyanoski
Abigail Butler
Alex Cantafio
Clare Corbett
Declan Corbett
Emma Dennebaum
Luke Escobar

Jemma Fairclough
Sarah Feeney
Addison Gorczyk
Hudson Grant
Luca Healey
Norah Hoffner
Anne Jordan
Anna Judge
Leland Kearney
William Kolata,
Theodore Kramer

Seamus Lynady
Maddie McGowan
Harry McGrath
Genieve Nealon
Molly O'Malley
Matthew Phillips
Christian Saunders
Anna Shumbres
Charles Trapper
Annie Tripodi
Reese Yazinski
Emilia Yeager





*Lend a Helping Ham
this Holiday Season*



Your seasonal generosity means families in need will enjoy a delicious meal that includes this delicious holiday staple—a ham! We know that families, now more than ever, will struggle to make ends meet during this holiday season. Lend a hand to our St. Paul Parish community food pantry patrons with

the Lend a Helping Ham program.

A 30 dollar donation helps to buy one juicy ham for a family in need and helps create warm holiday memories!

Please mail donation to : St. Paul Parish -1510 Penn Ave. Scranton, PA 18509 and note “Helping Ham” or drop in offertory basket at Mass.

We thank you in advance for your generosity!

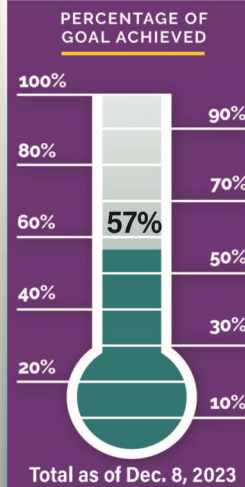


THANK YOU

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!

RECTORY OFFICE CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

The Parish Office will be closed for Christmas on Friday December 22nd and re-open December 26, 27th & 28th from 8:30-12pm

RECTORY NEW YEAR SCHEDULE

The Parish Office will be closed Friday December 29th & resume regular office hours on Tuesday January 2nd



OPLATKI— Christmas Wafer

Many Slavic homes celebrate the tradition of the Christmas Wafer. On Christmas Eve the family joins in a supper of special foods with the highlight of the meal being the breaking and distribution of the wafer bread to each other. It is a sign of love and friendship that is especially appropriate at Christmas time. The offering is \$3.00 per envelope. Oplatki will be in the back of the church or at the rectory.

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 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).