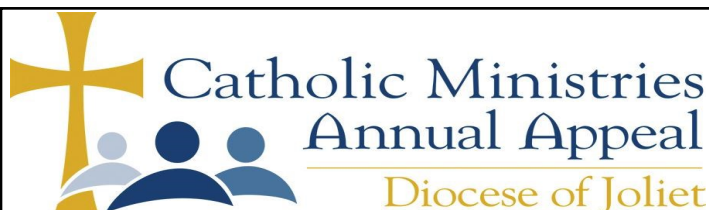




**COLLECTION SUMMARY: August 9—10, 2025**

Sunday Offertory*	\$3,104.00
Budgeted	\$3,205.53
Minus	\$ 101.53
Envelopes used / distributed	73 / 531
<i>*Includes 10 Online Givers</i>	
Providing for Our Future	\$ 10.00

Secure and convenient **ONLINE GIVING** is available at **GiveCentral.org**. Please put in zip code **60468** to find the St. Paul portal.  
A credit card or bank account can be linked.



### CMAA Pledge Report for St. Paul the Apostle Parish

Monthly payments for CMAA pledges should be made in the next few days. It is very important that these pledges be paid. Since we have reached our goal in paid pledges, 70% of the amount over goal will be returned to our parish for our needs. As of 8/10/25:

<b>PARISH GOAL:</b>	\$15,600
<b>AMOUNT PLEDGED:</b>	\$39,942
<b>AMOUNT PAID:</b>	\$35,847
<b>REMAINING BALANCE:</b>	\$ 4,095
<b>NUMBER of DONORS:</b>	121
<b>2025 REBATE:</b>	\$14,173

**A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER**

Loving God, thank you for the rest and relaxation we enjoyed over the summer.

Today, we pray for our children as they begin their new school year.

Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning. Watch over all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy.

Grant teachers wisdom, patience, and joy in serving their students.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.



The **O.C.I.A. (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) PROGRAM** is the ordinary way by which adults who were not raised in the Catholic faith become fully initiated—through the Sacraments of Initiation—into the one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic Church. Perhaps someone who was

baptized Catholic but never received any other sacraments or instruction, maybe someone was baptized into a different faith—or for that matter, was never baptized at all—and is now curious about the Catholic church. Or maybe a fully initiated Catholic simply wants to learn more about the Catholic faith. The O.C.I.A. program is open to all these people!

Please contact the Religious Education Office at **StPaulRe@att.net**, call the office at 708 258-9580 or speak with Deacon Jim if you are interested in learning more *or if you have children in need of sacraments. Classes are scheduled to begin in September.*

There will be a **FINANCE COUNCIL** meeting this Tuesday, August 19 at 5:30pm;  
There will be a **PARISH COUNCIL** meeting this Tuesday, August 19 at 6:30pm.

# Mass Intentions For The Week

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Sat	8/16	3:00 pm—	<b><u>CONFESSION</u></b>
		4:00 pm—	+ <b><u>Gladys Meyer</u></b> req by Bob & Helen Lewis and <b><u>People of the Parish</u></b>
Sun	8/17	11:00 am—	+ <b><u>Bruno Latoza</u></b> — <b><u>108th Birthday Remembrance</u></b> req by Ann Nagel
Mon	8/18	8:30 am—	<b><u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u></b>
Tue	8/19	8:30 am—	+ <b><u>Betty Knickrehm</u></b> req by Tom & Lou Hagemaster
Wed	8/20	8:30 am—	+ <b><u>Arlene Joanne Kwain</u></b> req by Family
Thr	8/21	8:30 am—	<b><u>COMMUNION SERVICE</u></b>
		6:00 pm—	<b><u>ADORATION</u></b>
		7:30 pm—	<b><u>CONFESSION</u></b>
Fri	8/22	8:30 am—	+ <b><u>Therese Kelly</u></b> req by the James Kelly Family
Sat	8/23	3:00 pm—	<b><u>CONFESSION</u></b>
		4:00 pm—	+ <b><u>Tom Adamsick</u></b> ; + <b><u>Estelle &amp; +Wilbur Zirzow</u></b> ; + <b><u>Rudy &amp; +Rosemary Adamsick</u></b> req by Family
Sun	8/24	11:00 am—	+ <b><u>Robert, Sr. and Mary Silkowski</u></b> req by Family and <b><u>People of the Parish</u></b>

*If you are attending a Mass that you requested an intention to be said for, please sign the gift bearer book in the rear of the church and let an usher know you are here if you wish to bring up the gifts.*

## PARISHIONER ANNIVERSARIES— beginning in September!

On the second weekend of each month, Fr. Thomas will offer a **special blessing** to couples celebrating an anniversary in that month. Couples who want to participate will be asked to stand at the end of Mass for the blessing.

If you would like your names and anniversary date **printed in the bulletin**, you need to register in the **registration book in the lobby**. Couples who register will also receive an anniversary card.

HAPPY  
Anniversary

**Sheela Jose**, Rev. Tom Ewing, Michael Doyle, Mary Ellen Hanlon,, Ashley Doody, Luke Payne, Dave Castaneda, Greg Napleka, Norman Andrews, Kathleen Callahan, Deacon Mark Otten, Jeff Furtek, Charles Claxton, Tina Butler, Mary Jane Szewka, Elaine Doyle, Karen Haave, Joyce Svatos, Dorothy Simikowski, Deacon Milt Leppert, Joe Ladislav, Scott Rosenberg, Arline Clark, Mary Jo Fry, Gerald Adcock, Laura Valenti, Samantha Digiacomio, Julie Szudarski, Owen Ruhbeck, Sharon Andrews, Sue Gomez, CJ Ogalla-Arebalo, Aris Tomac, Bob Johnson, Pete Henrisey, Claudia Merrifield, Harry & Pam Carpenter, Ray Romito, Francesca Librera Biondo, Mike Wilczynski, Fran Rewers, Geri Mokry, Pastor Richard Young, Jeanne Vinezeano, Frances Librera, the Adamsick Family, Cassidy Novak, Lavergne Sigrist, Charlie Kooy, Rita Hall, Rose Bailey, Julie Hayes, Emily Klamkin, Lorianne Mihelic, the Robert Polacek family, Rich Harms, TJ Stefanski, Linda Galica and those that go unnamed.

**Please note that only names given with permission of the person or family member will be added to the list.**

The **Peotone Senior Assistance Center** serves clients by appointment only this **Thursday, August 21** from **10am—3pm**.

This is part of our Respect Life Ministry, whose mission is to protect the vulnerable and provide seniors, low income and disabled persons with assistance from county, state and federal programs, including Medicare, Social Security, IL License Plate Discounts, and services offered through Catholic Charities. We are also a certified SHIP site (Senior Health Insurance Program). The center is staffed by volunteers who serve the community without cost.

For information on specific services, please leave your name and phone number at 708-258-6917 then press 5.

**Please make an appointment.**



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**A BLESSING** for all students, teachers, administrators and school personnel starting the new academic year will be offered at Masses this weekend.



***Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time***  
***Jer.38:4-6, 8-10; Heb 12:1-4; Lk 12:49-53***

Today's Gospel gives us a challenging passage that demands our attention and serious reflection. It contains some of the most startling and seemingly contrary statements attributed.

When Jesus says, "I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled," he is not speaking of a literal, physical fire to consume the world. Rather, this "fire" is a metaphor for a profound and transformative event. In the Old Testament, fire often symbolizes divine judgment and purification. The prophet Malachi, for example, speaks of the coming Messiah as "a refiner's fire and a launderer's soap" (Malachi 3:2).

This "fire" is the challenging, sometimes painful, reality of the gospel. It consumes what is false and worldly, purifying us from sin and self-deception. Jesus is expressing a deep longing for this process to begin, for the kingdom of God to be fully established and for the world to be transformed by its purifying power.

Jesus' statement about a "baptism to undergo" points directly to his impending suffering and death on the cross. This is not a reference to water baptism, but a metaphorical "baptism" into suffering, a complete immersion in the agony and darkness of the world's sin. He feels a sense of urgency and "constraint" until this mission is completed. This highlights his unwavering commitment to his salvific work.

The "fire" of judgment and purification is not an abstract force; it is inextricably linked to Jesus' own suffering. He does not just inflict the fire; he is consumed by it. He bears the full weight of sin and its consequences, offering himself as the ultimate sacrifice. This profound connection between judgment and suffering is central to the Christian understanding of atonement.



The "peace" Jesus offers is not a superficial, worldly peace that avoids conflict at all costs. His peace is a profound spiritual peace with God, which can only be achieved by confronting and overcoming sin and the powers of darkness. This spiritual peace often comes at the cost of worldly peace.

The division Jesus describes is the inevitable result of a person's decision to follow him. It demands an absolute commitment that can be at odds with the values and priorities of the world, and even with the expectations of one's own family. This division is not something Jesus desires for its own sake, but it is a necessary consequence of the choice between the kingdom of God and the kingdoms of this world.

Ultimately, this passage is a powerful call to radical discipleship. It forces us to confront the reality that following Jesus is not a comfortable or easy path. It may require us to stand against the tide of popular opinion, and even to face opposition from those we love most.

Jesus is warning his followers that their loyalty to him must supersede all other loyalties—even the most sacred of family ties. This is not a call to abandon or disrespect our families, but to ensure that our primary allegiance is to Christ. This is a powerful and uncomfortable reminder that the gospel demands our all, and that the "peace" we seek is found not in avoiding conflict, but in faithfully following the one who embraced suffering for our salvation.

Yours in Christ,

*Fr. Thomas Theneth, CMI*

The parish office email was compromised, so a new email has been created as of August 1. If you sent anything to the parish office since that date, please resubmit to: ***StPaulPeotone@att.net***.

***Knights of Columbus St. Liborius Council 14562*** will be having a fundraising dinner for ***Peter Ebere Cardinal Okpaleke*** at Scrementi's this Thursday, August 21 (Cash bar and cocktails at 6pm / Dinner at 7pm). The Cardinal will be speaking at Mass on Sunday, August 17 at 8:30am at St. Boniface and at 10:30am at St. Liborius about the extreme poverty and homelessness in his diocese as well as the violence.

Tickets will be sold this weekend at St. Paul after Masses.

Please join us for a wonderful time and an opportunity to support a good cause. Tickets cost \$75 and all proceeds will go to support the Cardinal's efforts.

