

December 31, 2023

ST. PAUL the APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
 511 N. Conrad Street
 Peotone, IL 60468-9290

CHURCH OFFICE TELEPHONE: 708 258-6917
CHURCH OFFICE FAX: 708 258-3061
CHURCH OFFICE E-MAIL: StPaulOffice@att.net

PASTOR: Rev. Roger D. Kutzner
 708 989-0565

DEACON: Mr. James Kelly
 708 373-0311

DEACON E-MAIL: jimk3163@sbcglobal.net

PARISH BUSINESS MANAGER: Paula Prium

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON:

CCW PRESIDENT: Maura Culver

GRAND KNIGHT of K of C: Patrick Frencl

BUILDING & GROUNDS: Steve Maltese

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON:

WORSHIP COMMISSION: Paula Prium

CHRISTIAN FORMATION / EDUCATION COMMISSION:

SOCIAL SERVICES COORDINATOR: Mary Ann Battermann

MINISTERS OF CARE: Barb Egelski

DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Dcn Jim Kelly
RE OFFICE E-MAIL: StPaulRE@att.net
RE OFFICE PHONE: 708 258-9580

FAITH FORMATION (RELIGIOUS ED) CLASSES:
 Grades K through 8: Sunday from 8:45am-10:15am

Find us—

Facebook: **"St. Paul the Apostle Peotone"**
 Website: **StPaulPeotone.org**

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM: By appointment
RECONCILIATION: Thursday: 7:30pm to 8pm
 Saturday: 3pm to 3:45pm
 Any time by appointment

FIRST RECONCILIATION: t / b / a
FIRST COMMUNION: Sunday, April 28, 2024
CONFIRMATION: Saturday, May 11, 2024
MARRIAGE: By appointment only
 Please call at least 6 months in advance

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: Call anytime
 Please call the parish office to inform us of an illness or hospitalization of a parishioner or family member. Privacy laws prohibit hospitals from releasing information to clergy about hospitalized church members without the specific consent and request of the patient or their immediate family.

ORDINARY MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday: 4pm
Sunday: 10:30am
Daily Mass: Mon, Wed, Thurs and Fri 7:15am
Communion Service: Tuesday 7:15am


Holy Days of Obligation: Please see the bulletin
Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday 6pm to 8pm

Communion Calls: If you or someone you love is ill or homebound and would like to receive Communion, please call the parish office to make arrangements for regular visits.

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 12:30pm to 5pm
 Regular time to make appointments, registrations, etc.

Regular bulletin deadline: Wednesday by 12pm

All 2023 contributions must be received in the church office TODAY, December 31, 2023 to be included in your 2023 contribution statement. Thank-you for your generosity!

 **The Mission Statement of St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church**
 As disciples of Jesus Christ, we strive to grow in relationship with Him, live the Faith, and share His Good News with others.

COLLECTION SUMMARY: December 23—24, 2023

Sunday Offertory*	\$3,230.00
Budgeted	\$3,365.38
Minus	\$ 135.38
Envelopes used / distributed	74 / 528

***Includes 11 Online Givers**

Immaculate Conception	\$ 20.00
Providing for Our Future	\$ 140.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$ 20.00

COLLECTION SUMMARY: December 24—25, 2023

Christmas	\$8,119.00
Envelopes used / distributed	84 / 528



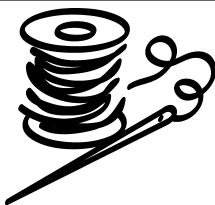
Secure and convenient
ONLINE GIVING is
available at

GiveCentral.org.

Please put in zip code
60468 to find the
St. Paul portal.

Are you a Catholic man 18 or older? Do you want to volunteer for your church and community? Are you ready to put your Faith into Action?

Come learn about the Knights of Columbus! You can obtain information by contacting Membership Coordinator Dan Mott at 708 277-7086 or mottd@rushenterprises.com; contacting Grand Knight Patrick Frencl, visiting with any current member of the Knights or visiting our website at www.kofc.org.

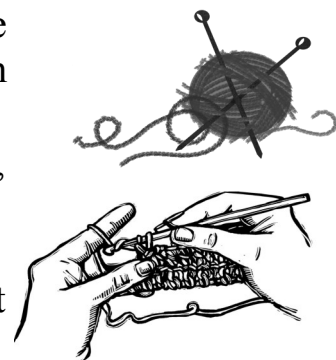


The ***Clothe God's Children Group*** would like to invite you to a workshop on **Wednesday, January 24th** from 10am – Noon, no skills required!

We'll be measuring & cutting fabric for walker bags, shoulder wraps, clothing protectors and blankets.

Bring scissors if you have them. *Lunch will be provided!*

Patterns will be given to anyone wanting to knit or crochet at home.



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Arline Clark, Mary Jo Fry, Gerald Adcock, Laura Valenti, Samantha Digiacomio, Julie Szudarski, Joe Ladislav, Owen Ruhbeck, Sharon Andrews, Sue Gomez, CJ Ogalla-Arebalo, Aris Tomac, Joe Rojas, Terry & Mary Urbanek, June O'Flynn, Bob Johnson, Pete Henrisey, Claudia Merrifield, Harry & Pam Carpenter, Ray Romito, Francesca Librera Biondo, Mike Wilczynski, Fran Rewers, Harry & Geri Mokry, Carole Reichert, Deacon Milt Leppert, Pastor Richard Young, Joseph Terri, John Fahs, Jeanne Vinezeano, Frances Librera, Mary Ann Librera, the Adamsick Family, Cassidy Novak, Lavergne Sigrist, Charlie Kooy, Rita Hall, Rose Bailey, Julie Hayes, Emily Klamkin, Lorianne Mihelic, Irene Manning, the Robert Polacek family, Rich Harms, TJ Stefanski, Linda Galica, all affected by COVID-19 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.

Today's Gospel gives us the only real glimpse we have into the life of the ***HOLY FAMILY*** during the childhood of Jesus. Here we see a family in crisis. A son is lost and frantic parents search and search until they finally find him. We hear these words from the mother of Jesus: "*Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety*" (Luke 2:48). We can only imagine the distress felt by Mary and Joseph. Their love for their son brought them to their wits' end. Let us take the opportunity this day to ask the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph to intercede for us in times when our families experience anxiety and fear.



Mass Intentions

Sat	12/30	3:00 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u>Jim & Mary Lou Kelly</u> req by Elaine Doyle and <u>People of the Parish</u>
Sun	12/31	10:30 am—	<u>Blessings on</u> <u>Frank & Mary Jo Fry</u>
		2:00 pm—	<u>Davis / Raymond Wedding</u>
Mon	1/1		<u>Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God</u> <u>(not a holy day of obligation)</u>
		7:15 am—	+ <u>Daryl Schwiesow</u> req by Family
Tue	1/2	7:15 am—	<u>Communion Service</u>
Wed	1/3	7:15 am—	+ <u>Patricia Motyka</u> req by Family
Thr	1/4	7:15 am—	+ <u>Bernard Powers</u> req by Claude & Etta Werner
		6:00 pm—	<u>ADORATION</u>
		7:30 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
Fri	1/5	7:15 am—	<u>Celebrant's Intention</u>
Sat	1/6	3:00 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u>Duane Kapp</u> req by the Kapp Family
Sun	1/7	10:30 am—	+ <u>Hank & Sophie Kudlo</u> req by Larry & Nancy Pilotto and <u>People of the Parish</u>

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.

Please consider remembering
St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church
when preparing your will.
For more information,
contact the parish office.

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS for JANUARY 2024: For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.



Would you like to remember your living or deceased loved ones at one of our Masses? Perhaps for the anniversary of their death, to celebrate their birthday, wedding anniversaries or for their health. We have Mass cards, on request. For more information, please call the office at 708 258-6917.



BANN OF MARRIAGE III

Kevin Marc Davis

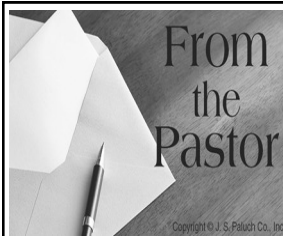
Angelina Rose Raymond

—2024 CALENDARS, courtesy of **Fedde-Helfrich-Cross Funeral Home**, will hopefully arrive by next weekend. Thanks for your patience!;

—The CCW would like to gift each family with a copy of **THE ROCKING CHAIR PROPHET**, by Matthew Kelly. Copies of the previous book, **BEAUTIFUL EUCHARIST**, are also in the lobby.



St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.



A few centuries before Christ, Alexander the Great conquered almost all the known world through military strength, intelligence, and diplomacy. Legend has it that one day Alexander and a small company of soldiers approached a strongly defended, walled city. Alexander, standing outside the walls, raised his voice, demanding to see the city's king. The king, approaching the battlements above the invading army, agreed to hear Alexander's demands. "Surrender to me immediately," commanded Alexander. The king laughed. "Why should I surrender to you?" he called down. "We have you far outnumbered. You are no threat to us!" Alexander was ready to answer the challenge. "Allow me to demonstrate why you should surrender," he replied. Alexander ordered his men to line up single file and start marching. He marched them straight toward a sheer cliff that dropped hundreds of feet to rocks below. The king and his soldiers watched in shocked disbelief as, one by one, Alexander's soldiers marched without hesitation right off the cliff to their deaths. After ten soldiers had died, Alexander ordered the rest of his men to stop and to return to his side. The king and his soldiers surrendered on the spot to Alexander the Great.

Even on a human level, obedience is powerful. But when the one we are obeying is God himself, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, obedience is truly a life-changing virtue. It leads not just to temporary victories here on earth, but to the everlasting victory of the Resurrection, as Jesus himself proved by his obedience unto death on a cross.

Christian obedience is the obedience of friendship. Friends don't have to force themselves to do what's best for each other. When our friendship with Christ is deep and natural than doing God's will becomes our second nature. Avoiding anything that will harm that friendship - evil, sin - becomes easier and easier as the friendship gets deeper and deeper. And when we make a habit of daily prayer, our conscience will always be able to tell how is our friendship with Christ. May we journey throughout this coming year 2024 growing ever closer to our Lord, Jesus Christ. Happy New Year.

+ Rev. Roger D. Kutzner

The EUCHARISTIC
MINISTER / LECTOR
schedule for

January 6-7 to

February 24-25, 2024 is in the lobby
of the church. Please sign-up where
you can!



OSV Newsweekly, under the name of *Our Sunday Visitor*, was founded in 1912 by Father John Francis Noll. OSV Newsweekly speaks the truth in a way that seeks unity in our increasingly polarized world and is an indispensable source of information and formation for Catholics who love their faith. *Complimentary copies are available in both lobbies.*



Joyful Again! is a spiritual program for widows and widowers who want to resolve the normal grief they feel after losing their spouses and who want to begin to start to live fully again.

This self-help process toward healing is fostered by trained volunteers who have experienced the pain of loss themselves and have moved forward in their healing journey.

Joyful Again will be conducting a retreat at St Mary's Retreat House (14230 Main Street / Lemont, IL) April 13-14, 2024. More information can be found at www.joyfulagain.org.



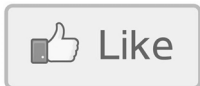
CMAA Pledge Report for St. Paul the Apostle

Monthly pledge payments for CMAA pledges should continue to be made. It is very important that these pledges be paid so that our parish will fulfill our pledges. 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 December 24, 2023:

PARISH GOAL:	\$16,700
AMOUNT PLEDGED:	\$31,805
AMOUNT PAID:	\$30,905
REMAINING BALANCE:	\$ 900
# of DONORS:	117
2023 REBATE:	\$ 9,944

Thank-you for your generosity!



St. Paul is on Facebook

Stay connected and be involved. Find us at

“St. Paul the Apostle Peotone”

and like our page to have news of parish events and updates from other Catholic interests sent to your home computer or mobile device. It's a great way to know what is going on and maybe even get to know your fellow parishioners better.

Next weekend is the Solemnity of the Epiphany—prayer, blessed chalk and holy water, will be available in the lobby for a donation of your choosing next weekend.

20+C+M+B+24

Kitchen Coordinator Wanted

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet is hiring a Kitchen Coordinator at their Day-break Center shelter in Joliet.

This full-time position includes preparing menus, supervising kitchen volunteers, and ensuring that the facility is stocked and organized.

To learn more and to apply, visit catholiccharitiesjoliet.org and click on "employment."

Catholic Charities is a faith-based organization providing service to people in need and calling others of good will to do the same.







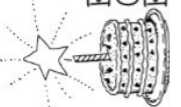
The ***Sacrament of Reconciliation*** is offered on Saturday from 3—3:45pm, on Thursday from 7:30—8pm or by other arrangements with Father. Please call the parish office at 708 258-6917 or e-mail StPaulOffice@att.net.

There will be no RE / FF classes on Sunday, December 31. Classes resume on the Solemnity of the Epiphany, Sunday, January 7, 2024. ***We hope to see all families at Mass during the Christmas season and beyond.***

Please join us
next Sunday,
January 7,
after the



10:30am CLASS / FAMILY Mass for
SNACK & CHAT, sponsored by the
Council of Catholic Women and hosted
by the Beecher Manor Ladies.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<p>1 SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (not a Holy Day of obligation) MASS at 7:15am only</p>	<p>2 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 7pm</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 ADORATION 6-8pm RECONCILIATION 7:30-8pm </p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 RECONCILIATION 3-3:45pm</p>
<p>7 THE EPIPHANY of the LORD REIFF CLASSES CLASS / FAMILY MASS SNACK & CHAT</p>	<p>8 THE BAPTISM of the LORD</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 CLOTHE GOD'S CHILDREN 9:45-11am</p>	<p>11 ADORATION 6-8pm RECONCILIATION 7:30-8pm</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 RECONCILIATION 3-3:45pm</p>
<p>14 NO REIFF CLASSES</p>	<p>15 </p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 SR ASSIST CENTER 10am-3pm ADORATION 6-8pm RECONCILIATION 7:30-8pm</p>	<p>19 MARCH FOR LIFE 2024 WASHINGTON, DC</p>	<p>20 RECONCILIATION 3-3:45pm</p>
<p>21 REIFF CLASSES </p>	<p>22 DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE LEGAL PROTECTION of UNBORN CHILDREN</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 CLOTHE GOD'S CHILDREN WORKSHOP / LUNCH EVENT 10-NOON</p>	<p>25 THE CONVERSION of ST. PAUL ADORATION 6-8pm RECONCILIATION 7:30-8pm</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 RECONCILIATION 3-3:45pm</p>
<p>28 REIFF CLASSES </p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 HAPPY 59th BIRTHDAY FR. ROGER! </p>	<p>31</p>	