

# ST. PAUL'S CHURCH



783 Hard Road, Webster, New York

**December 17, 2023 Third Sunday of Advent**

## Mission Statement

St Paul's Parish Family exists for the purpose of witnessing and proclaiming the message of Jesus Christ, that message proclaimed in word, worship, service: love God, love your neighbor as yourself.



### Mass Times

Saturday at 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

### Daily Masses

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday &  
Thursday at 8:30 a.m.

### Confession

Saturday at 2:00-3:00 p.m.  
or by appointment

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.

### Live Stream Mass via YouTube

Saturday at 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

## Upcoming Events



### **Monday, December 18**

#### **Late Advent Weekday**

8:30A Mass

### **Tuesday, December 19**

#### **Late Advent Weekday**

8:30A Mass with anointing  
12:00P Rosary Group

### **Wednesday, December 20**

#### **Late Advent Weekday**

8:30A Mass  
9:00A Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
7:00P Choir rehearsal

### **Thursday, December 21**

#### **Late Advent Weekday**

8:30A Mass

### **Friday, December 22**

#### **Late Advent Weekday**

No Mass

### **Saturday, December 23**

#### **Late Advent Weekday**

2:00P Confession  
4:00P Mass-choir sings

### **Sunday, December 24**

#### **4th Sunday of Advent**

9:00A Mass  
**Christmas Eve**  
4:00P Mass  
6:00P Pre-service caroling  
6:30P Mass

### **Monday, December 25**

#### **The Nativity of the Lord** **Christmas Day**

10:00A Mass

## Parish Staff

**Pastor:** Fr. Paul Gitau

fr.paul.gitau@dor.org

**Deacon:** Mark Robbins

mark.robbins@dor.org

**Administrative Asst.:** Jodie Hickey x21

jodie.hickey@dor.org

**Adult Faith Formation Coordinator:**

TBD

**Business Manager:** Kasey Baker x30

kasey.baker@dor.org

**Director of Faith Formation:** Anselm Mesue x27

anselm.mesue@dor.org

**Coordinator of Music:** John Gaspar

john.gaspar@dor.org

**Faith Formation & Liturgy Assistant:** Helen Stirpe x26

helen.stirpe@dor.org

**Facilities Manager:** Ben O'Brien x28

ben.obrien@dor.org

**Multi Parish Finance Director:** Joan Sullivan: 671-1100 x107

joan.sullivan@dor.org

**Finance Council Chair:** Tom Napoli

**Parish Council Chair:** Linda D'Antonio

**Parish Trustees:** Forest Shick & George Hanley

## Office Hours

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Friday

(closed for the lunch hour from 12:00-1:00 p.m.)

**Phone:** 671- 2100

**Emergency Number:** 369-9687

**Website:** www.stpaulsrcc.org

**Diocese of Rochester:** www.dor.org



## Financial Snapshot

	November 2023	July-November 2023
Collections	\$36,211	\$193,822
Donations/ other revenue	\$2,531	\$26,984
Expenses	\$42,947	\$237,360
Operating surplus/deficit	(\$4,205)	(\$16,555)

## **Let Us Pray for Those in the Military**

Jason Aman

Josh Bartlett

Bryan Gross

Cydney Blong

Tom Weisenreder

Michael J. Desiato

Mason Serrano

Daniel Thomas

Andrew Zani

Robert Wright

Jay Riesenberger



*This week the  
Sanctuary Lamp burns for  
Louis Spina  
From  
Wife, Fran & family*

# Seeds for the Journey

## "Rejoice in the Lord Always!"

Happy "Gaudete" Sunday! On this third Sunday of Advent we light the rose colored candle in the Advent wreath and we direct our spiritual focus on joy.

Rejoicing in the Lord is not just a matter of thanking and praising God. I think it means more than that. Trust is the first thing that comes to my mind. Life is not always easy, we all have difficulties, troubles, worries and anxiety. Turning your worries into prayers not only helps but it works. I find that, placing my trust in God through prayer and asking him to see me through the darker times in life brings me joy and peace so that I can focus on what lies ahead. St. Paul said, "Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God" (Philippians 4:6).

Rejoicing can also be shown through acts kindness. For example, if you did purchase one or two of the items on the Giving Tree list earlier this month it will bring joy to a child in our community or even lending a hand to a neighbor in need. Again, St. Paul said: "Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near."

As our Advent journey continues and as we approach the celebration of Christmas, I wish you peace and joy.

### A PRAYER FOR THE Third Sunday of Advent

Joy-filled Giver of Life,  
let the anticipation of your birth  
fill us with overflowing joy.  
May our excitement and anticipation  
be a sign to the world  
that you are always near.  
Amen.



Jodie



## From the Pastor's Desk

First of all, please know that I am delighted as I continue serving you here at St. Paul's parish. We desire to be a family of believers centered upon the Holy Eucharist, the Word of God and helping to serve the poor. I would like to thank the 202 donors who have contributed \$45,450.45 for Catholic Ministries Appeal as of December 8th. That is 44% of our total goal of \$102,000. I am appealing to those who have not yet given their gifts for CMA to please give something so that we can reach our goal before the end of this year. Some parishes have already reached their goal and we have to take good care of our St. Paul's parish. I personally thank you for your continued support of our parish as you truly make Christ alive and present for others here at St. Paul's Church and beyond. With every best wish and a promise of my prayers for you and your loved ones during this Advent season. And please also remember that God loves you and so do I.

*Fr. Paul*

## Time is Running Out!

There are just a few days left in 2023 to make a year end contribution to St. Paul's.

As another year comes to a close and we thank God for the many blessings we have received throughout the year, please remember St. Paul's in your Christmas generosity. It's through your donations that we are able to carry on our work.

Please drop your donation in the offering box or in the slot at the back of the church, or mail it in, or you can also make your donation online. Click on the "Donate" link on our web site at [stpaulsrcc.org](http://stpaulsrcc.org). Statements will be mailed to all donors by the end of January.

We are deeply grateful for your support. Have a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

## 4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas Mass Schedule

4th Sunday of Advent Masses  
Saturday, December 23 @ 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday, December 24 @ 9:00 a.m.

### Christmas Eve Masses

4:00 p.m.  
6:00 p.m. Pre-Service Caroling  
6:30 p.m.

### Christmas Day Mass

10:00 a.m.

## Closing/Cancellation Notifications

We follow the Webster Central Schools weather closings so if Webster schools close due to the weather, St Paul's will be closed as well.

The info will be posted on our website. Please contact your ministry leader if you are not sure of the status of your activity.

Please be safe, if you are not comfortable driving in the inclement weather please stay home. We will see you once the weather is passable.

**THANK YOU  
SO MUCH**

YOU ARE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!

Good Sam Outreach wishes to thank St. Paul's parishioners for the tremendous response to the recent Used Clothing Drive which benefited Rochester Hope. We collected three full car loads of items that will help new refugees and immigrants. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

## Everyday Stewardship

### Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

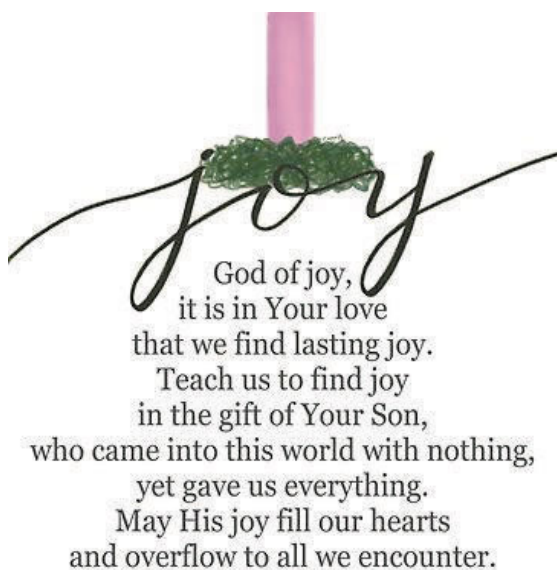
#### A Constant Companion

As Christians, we are called to a life of prayer. This is not just during seasons like Advent, but all year long. When we talk about being prayerful everyday stewards, we are speaking about cultivating an awareness of God being with us at all times. Each day we begin by offering God the entirety of our day. Each night we rest in Him and hope that the hours that passed gave Him glory.

During this busy time of Advent, it is hard to cultivate this life of prayer, but without it we can too easily lose sight of the reason for the season. It is during this time of year we need to heed the words of St. Paul more than ever when he wrote to the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." This is how we will be able to avoid the pitfalls of consumerism and secularism and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Bring Jesus with you into the office Christmas party. Take him with you shopping for gifts in the department store. Be aware of him when you sit down to watch television specials you have seen every year of your life. Give him all your time and let his presence fill your every moment. By striving to be connecting with Jesus at all times, you will bear greater fruit and the joy you experience will be much greater than you could imagine. You might even spend a few less dollars and spend more time with those you love, particularly the one who loves you the most, the Incarnation himself.

~Tracy Earl Welliver, MT ©LPi



## From the John Walsh Library

### Jukes, Andrew Four Views of Christ

Dr. Jukes freely acknowledges that the four Gospels differ from one another in many aspects. He argues that each author had a distinct and specific purpose in view in writing his account. **Matthew** had been an official of the Roman Empire; he had been accustomed to contemplating a vast kingdom. Thus he represents Jesus in connection with a certain kingdom: as the Seed of Abraham and an heir of an elect Kingdom. **Mark** was the Apostle's servant. In Mark's Gospel, Christ stands as the Patient Servant who sacrifice for others. **Luke** sees Jesus as the Son of Adam or the Son of Man, not so much connected with a kingdom, as the One whose sympathies linked Him with Adam's fallen and ruined children. **John**, who leaned on the bosom of his Lord, sees Him as the Son in the bosom in the Father, as One "not of this world." (Call No. 266.06-JUK)

### Adult Faith Formation Job Posting

St. Paul's is looking for a part time Adult Faith Formation Coordinator. This person will collaborate in implementing the mission of the parish, through the comprehensive planning and implementation of the parish Adult Faith Formation program. This will be done by developing opportunities for spiritual development for the parish such as Advent & Lenten retreats, recollections, Scripture study, and spiritual direction or pastoral counseling for individuals or groups in the parish. The AFF Coordinator will also coordinate the parish outreach to the home-bound.

#### Qualifications

- Masters or Undergraduate degree in Theology or Religious Studies or appropriate certification/ experience.
- Active membership in a faith community of the Roman Catholic Church in the Diocese of Rochester.
- Willingness to work occasional weekends and evenings, or to be available as needed.
- Organizational skills, including time management, delegation, planning and budgeting.

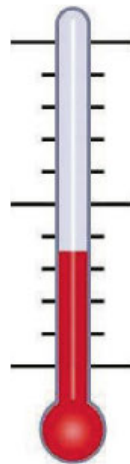
Please contact Kasey Baker for more information at Kasey.Baker@dor.org or 671-2100 x30.

## Ministry Schedule for December 23 & 24, 2023

The schedule below is the Fourth Sunday of Advent only. There are separate ministry schedules for Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Masses. If you have questions or would like to volunteer for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses please contact your ministry coordinator.

Thank you for all you do for St. Paul's!

	4:00 PM	9:00 AM
<b>Acolytes</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b> <b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Maggie Milner <b>Volunteer Needed</b>
<b>Cantors</b>	Cindy Rutan	Tom Napoli
<b>EMHC</b>	Bob Frank Ellen Oinen	Jack Black Karen Napoli
<b>Greeters</b>	Patrice DeAngelis Jerry Healey	DA Hutnick Forest Shick
<b>Lectors</b>	Barb Robbins	Laure Barr
<b>Linens</b>	No linen pick up this week	
<b>Sacristans</b>	Christine Grant	DA Hutnick
<b>Stream Team</b>	John Kosel	Sue Muto
<b>Ushers</b>	Bill Green Alice Bower	<b>Volunteer Needed</b> <b>Volunteer Needed</b>



**Goal**  
**\$102,000**

**Pledged**  
**\$45,450.45**

**44.56%**  
**of our goal**

Your CMA gift supports ministries that affect every Catholic in our Diocese. Thank you for supporting St. Paul's in this year's campaign.

### Saint of the Week



Blessed Maria Franziska Schervier was a German Catholic nun who devoted her life to serving the poor and the sick. She founded the Franciscan Sisters of Aachen and began chapters in the United States where she and her sisters also founded a number of hospitals.

### Prayer

Almighty, just and merciful God. Blessed Frances Schervier spent her whole life giving to You all the gifts that You had given her. She cared for the poor and the sick and radiated Your loving presence to all that she met. We beseech You now to glorify Your servant, Frances. Give her the honor of sainthood if it is in accordance with Your will.

We ask this through Jesus, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever.  
Amen!





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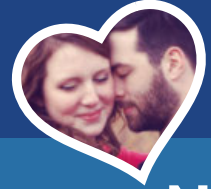
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