

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH



783 Hard Road, Webster, New York

February 18, 2024 First Sunday of Lent

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.

**Monday, February 19****Lenten Weekday****Parish Office Closed**

8:30A Mass

Tuesday, February 20**Lenten Weekday**

8:30A Mass with anointing

12:00P Rosary Group

6:00P Parish Pastoral Council

Wednesday, February 21**Lenten Weekday**

8:30A Mass

9:00A Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00P Choir rehearsal

Thursday, February 22**The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle****Day of Penance & Mercy**

8:30A Mass

9:00A-8:00P Eucharistic

Exposition & Adoration

9:00A-11:00A Confession

12:00P-4:00P Confession

6:00P-8:00P Confession

Friday, February 23**Lenten Weekday****Abstinence**

No Mass

Saturday, February 24**Lenten Weekday**

2:00P Confession

4:00P Mass

Sunday, February 25**2nd Sunday of Lent**

No SOR classes

No Confirmation Prep classes

9:00A Mass

11:00A Mass-choir sings

**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.stpaulsrc.org**Diocese of Rochester:** www.dor.org**Financial Snapshot**

	January 2024	July-January 2024
Collections	\$66,432	\$310,114
Donations/ other revenue	\$6,452	\$38,737
Expenses	\$67,710	\$322,864
Operating surplus/deficit	\$5,175	\$25,987

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
Chuck Dettman
From
The Dettman family*

Seeds for the Journey

We have started Lent recalling how the Holy Spirit drove Jesus into the desert where he remained for 40 days fasting and praying. He was tempted by the devil. And then he began his preaching with a call to conversion, telling the people, "The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." And Pope Francis in his message for Lent 2024 said "Lent is a time of conversion, where the desert can become a place where our freedom can mature in a personal decision not to fall back into slavery" of sin.

As the Lenten season continue, we are reminded that through the Holy Spirit and the waters of baptism we are washed free from the slavery of sin and promised the eternal life in the kingdom of God. However, we remain sinners. And since Jesus and saints were tempted, we can't escape temptations. That is why we need repentance and the sacrament of reconciliation that we can receive any day by appointment, Saturdays at 2pm and the **Diocesan-wide Day of Penance and Mercy on Thursday, February 22. The time for confessions here at St. Paul's will be: 9:00-11:00 am, 12 noon-4:00pm and 6:00-8:00pm. We shall have the Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration the whole day 9:00 am-8:00pm.**

The church has given us 40 days of Lent for repentance and spiritual renewal. 40 is a number harkening to the time of rain which caused the flood, the years Israel spent wandering in the desert, and the days Jesus faces the temptations in the desert. His victory was achieved through prayer, fasting, and obedience to the word of God. We too, journey into the spiritual desert through **fasting, prayer, and almsgiving** with humble hearts that recognize our sinfulness. We seek God's mercy and forgiveness.

Pope Francis in his message invites us to pause for prayer and to assist our brothers and sisters in need. **We can do this by donating gifts towards CMA, contributing money towards our St. Paul's parish, participating in CRS Rice Bowl, Good Sam's Lenten Food Drive to help Sister Regis Food cupboard, Eastern Service Workers, St. Joseph's House of Hospitality, Webster Hope, Webster Backpack, and Williamson Come-Unity Center.**

"Faith and Charity," Pope Francis said, "take hope, this small child, by the hand. They teach her to walk, and at the same time, she leads them forward." So, Lent is a time to change our own lives and to change the lives of others, especially the poor. We repent through prayers, sacrifice, and charity. The Holy Spirit was with Jesus in the desert during his battle to defeat the devil who tried to destruct him from his mission. And the Holy Spirit will be with us too in our struggles. And just as the angels helped and guided God's people wandering in the desert, the angels ministered on Jesus, and angels will help us too. The kingdom of God is at hand, but it is not yet fulfilled. Let us pray for its coming. "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

Fr. Paul

FROM THE *Pastor's Desk*

My Brothers & Sisters, Jambo!,

I wish to thank you immensely for a very successful Pasta Dinner on Saturday February 10, 2024. Your generous donations, your purchase of dinner tickets, your purchase of raffle tickets, your moral support and your presence all contributed to a very successful dinner. Our coming together as a family for the dinner not only supports the Confirmation program and our parish financially but more importantly, it helped to build and foster our Christian community. As Pope Francis intimates in *Christus Vivit*, parish communities should cultivate environments of joy. Our parish pasta dinner last Saturday was certainly a great occasion of joy. I was very pleased to see the smiles on the faces, the camaraderie among the attendees and relationships that were built.

The dinner was also an opportunity for our Confirmation candidates to do service to the community. They did a very good job and thanks for allowing them to serve you. I wish to thank their parents for bringing them to St Paul's for their faith formation. I also want to thank them for the various services they provided during the dinner: some of them helped in the kitchen serve food, some of them assisted with the baked goods, some of them helped with the take-out, some of them stayed late to do the clean-up and wash all the dishes and pots. I am really grateful for the sacrifices.

In a special way I wish to thank the following:

The Knights of Columbus were our great partners to ensure a very successful dinner. Not only did they provide the food, they came in early to cook, serve and also helped with the clean-up. Thank you very much to the Knights.

I wish to thank Karen Napoli, Suellen Terranova and her mom for preparing the beverages.

I wish to thank George Hanley and Allisson Thomas for assisting with the Elevator.

I wish to thank the various ministries and school of religion classes for the raffle baskets. You will all agree with me that the baskets were wonderful. They all put a lot of work and effort into it. Thank you very much.

A very special thank you to the Marthas and all those who provided the desserts.

A special thank you to Paul Brunswick, Kevin and Melissa Nuwer, Tom Napoli, Michelle Heisinger and Betty Becker for all the cleaning they did.

Last but not the least, I wish to thank immensely Dave Galleazo for his leadership and service. Dave was one of the pillars behind the dinner's success, sacrificing time for the planning, coming in very early to help with the set-up and cooking and staying late to ensure everything was in order before leaving. Thank you, Dave. Dave, Kasey Baker, Anselm Mesue and I met several times to plan for this pasta dinner. Thanks to PPC and Finance council that met last year to put ideas on: "Fund-raising and Friend-raising." The pasta dinner was an example of Friend-raising precedes Fund-raising. People brought with them their time, talents, energy and money. All four are equally valuable to our St. Paul's parish.

I wish to thank you for everything. May God who sees all you do bless you abundantly.

I wish you all a very fruitful season of Lent.

Jr. Paul

Good Sam Outreach 2024 Lenten Food Drive Week 1

Sister Regis Food Cupboard

The Sister Regis Food Cupboard is located in the Bay Street area of Rochester providing neighborhood residents with help securing their daily food needs. They are requesting the following:

Cereal
Ketchup
Canned Meat (tuna, chicken, ham)
Pasta, spaghetti sauce
Peanut butter & jelly
White rice (1 or 2 lb. bags)
Coffee & sugar

Please place your bagged donations in the collection box in the Narthex.

Donation lists are published weekly in the bulletin and are available on our website.

What are you doing THURSDAY February 29th at 5:30 p.m.?

If you answered going to St' Paul's Soup Supper and Trivia night... THAT'S THE RIGHT ANSWER. you are exactly who we are looking for.

Join us for a fun night of 20 trivia questions while we enjoy some soup and laughs.

Sign up to bring a soup/mac and cheese/bread and be ready to have some fun with the people at your table for some low key high stakes trivia....

What year was St Paul's built?

What country is the current bishop from?

What color is Fr. Paul's car?

Please call the parish office or sign up on the bulletin board outside the main office.

St. Paul's Question of the Week

Question to the editor: Dear editor why is Lent 40 days long?

The number 40 is mentioned 146 times in the Bible. It generally symbolizes a period of testing, trial or probation.

In the Old Testament, Moses lived 40 years in Egypt and 40 years in the desert before God selected him to lead His people out of slavery. Moses was also on Mount Sinai for 40 days and nights, on two separate occasions (Exodus 24:18, 34:1-28), receiving God's laws. He also sent spies, for 40 days, to investigate the land God promised the Israelites as an inheritance (Numbers 13:25, 14:34). The prophet Jonah powerfully warned ancient Nineveh, for 40 days, that its destruction would come because of its many sins (Jonah 3:4).

In the New Testament we find the number 40 is significant in the life of Jesus: Jesus fasted 40 days and nights (Matthew 4:2); Jesus was tempted 40 days by Satan (Luke 4:2, Mark 1:13); Jesus remained on earth 40 days after Resurrection (Acts 1:3).

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that because of the above, "by the solemn 40 days of Lent, the Church unites herself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert" (n. 540).

From the John Walsh Library

Lozano, Neal

Unbound

(A Practical Guide to Deliverance)

Deliverance, in its broadest sense, means "salvation". Our awareness of the devil and the work of evil spirits in our lives is often minimal. The author believes that 98 percent of deliverance from evil is resisting temptation, repenting of sin, renouncing the devil, forgiving those who have harmed us, and learning the truth—of who God is, what He has said, and what He expects of us. This book is not so much about evil spirits as it is about acknowledging the doors we have left open to the influence of evil and learning how to close them. We need renewed resolve to welcome God's grace into our everyday lives, recognizing the gift of salvation that Christ's death on the cross has already achieved for us. (Call No. 235.4-LOZ)

JW Library Highlighted Books

The cart in the Library has been updated with a selection of writings from **Contemporary Authors**. They are easy reads and include the following popular authors:

- * **Bishop Robert Barron** – founder of *Word on Fire* and nicknamed the "Bishop of the Internet", he writes on theology and spirituality, as well as lectures internationally
- * **Joan Chittister** – speaker and writer, Joan is a Benedictine nun whose books deal with justice, equality, women in church and society, interfaith, peace, and other topics.
- * **Matthew Kelly** – an Australian motivational speaker, founder of Dynamic Catholic Institute with a mission of "re-energizing" the Catholic Church. His books promote spiritual growth.
- * **Father James Martin** – Jesuit priest and *New York Times* bestselling author, editor of the magazine *America*, he writes about social justice, love, compassion, inclusiveness, as well as humor.

Hopefully you are inspired to become familiar with the writings of one of these authors or *America* magazine, which is also available in the library.

Ministry Schedule for February 24 & 25, 2023

If **TBD** or **Volunteer Needed** is listed, please contact the ministry coordinator to see if that position still needs to be filled. Thank you for all you do for St. Paul's!

	4:00 PM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
Acolytes	Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	Maggie Milner Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed
Cantors	Cindy Rutan	Elizabeth Randisi	Tom Napoli
EMHC	TBD TBD	TBD TBD	TBD TBD
Greeters	Volunteer Needed Patrice DeAngelis	Cory Volo Jeanne Leo	Anne LaClair Bella Pumputis
Lectors	Margie Richardson	Kay Vargo	Melanie Mancuso
Linens	Marilyn Merrigan (no specific time for pick up)		
Sacristans	Sue Dettman	Jane Adams	Laure Barr
Stream Team	John Kosel	Lou Rotundo	Chris Yuskiw
Ushers	Sue Dettman Alice Bower	Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed



Diocesan-wide Day of Penance & Mercy

Thursday, February 22

Confession Times at St. Paul's:

9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Noon-4:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration from

9:00 am-8:00pm.



A Season for Reflection

During this holy time, we are called to pause and pay closer attention to our relationship with God and our neighbors. Reflect on how the Lenten pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving can guide your journey and how the Eucharist helps us to live in solidarity with our sisters and brothers around the world. Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more and read this week's Story of Hope. Rice Bowls will be distributed after Masses next weekend.



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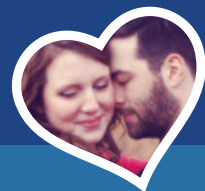
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