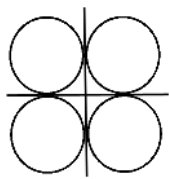


ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

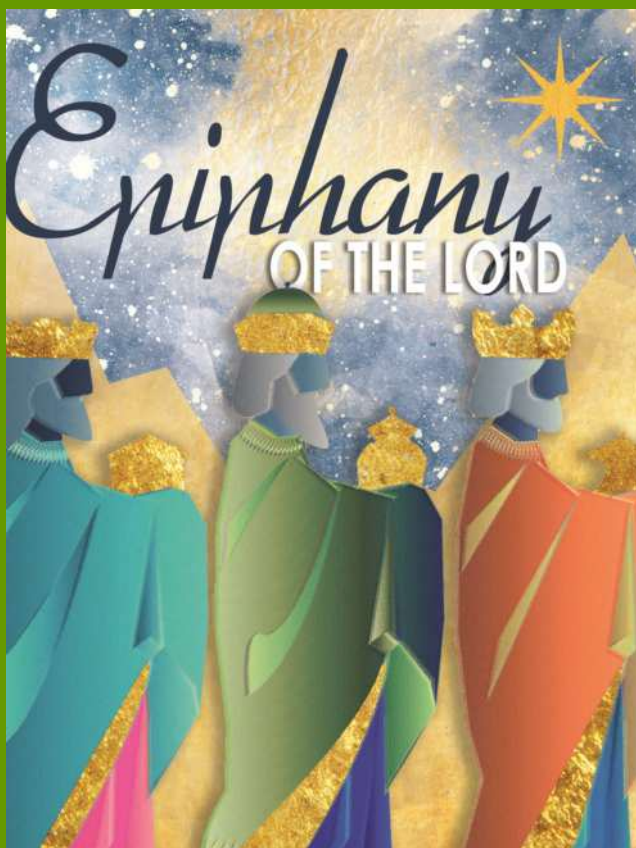


783 Hard Road, Webster, New York 14580

January 4, 2026 The Epiphany of the Lord

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.

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, January 5
St. John Neumann, Bishop
 8:30A Mass

Tuesday, January 6
Christmas Weekday
 8:30A Mass with anointing
 12:00P Rosary Group

Wednesday, January 7
Christmas Weekday
No Choir Rehearsal
 8:30A Mass
 9:00A Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, January 8
Christmas Weekday
 8:30A Mass

Friday, January 9
Christmas Weekday
 No Mass
 8:30A Vac Pac

Saturday, January 10
Christmas Weekday
 2:00P Confession
 4:00P Mass

Sunday, January 11
The Baptism of the Lord
 9:00A Mass
 10:00A SOR classes
 10:00A Confirmation Prep class yr. 1
 10:30A SOR Parent mtg.
 11:00A Mass
 12:00P Confirmation Prep class yr. 2



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
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
Funeral Planning: Bonnie Serio	bonnie.serio@dor.org
Facilities Manager: Ben O'Brien x28	ben.obrien@dor.org
Finance Office:	webironfinance@dor.org
Finance Council Chair: Jack Black	blackj1969@rochester.rr.com
Parish Council Chair: Patrice DeAngelis	
Parish Trustees: Forest Shick & George Hanley	

Parish Office Hours

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

Phone: 671- 2100
Emergency Number: 369-9687
Website: www.stpaulsrcc.org
Diocese of Rochester: www.dor.org



Financial Snapshot

	November 2025	July-November 2025
Collections	\$28,959	\$190,767
Donations/ other revenue	\$10,195	\$22,601
Expenses	\$33,683	\$225,959
Operating surplus/deficit	\$5,471	\$(12,591)

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
 the parishioners of
 St. Paul's*

Seeds for the Journey

The interesting thing about legends is that, even if they hold only a particle of truth, they draw us in, invoke curiosity and touch our imaginations. A perfect example is the story of the three wise men or Magi or kings, who came to visit the baby Jesus. These mysterious individuals are the subjects of carols, paintings and stories, and occupy a good deal of space in our manger scenes. However, we know very little about them, who they really were and where exactly they came from. Still, it's hard to imagine Christmas without a mention of them and their epiphany experience in the presence of baby Jesus.

Speaking of legends and epiphanies, I recently had an epiphany of my own as I was searching the internet. Have you ever wondered what was behind the lyrics of the famous Christmas carol "The Twelve Days of Christmas?" What do turtle doves, French hens, swans a-swimming, and leaping lords have to do with the birth of Jesus? Well, I recently discovered a possible answer to that question.

As legend has it, between ~1560 to 1830 Catholics in England were not allowed to publicly express their faith. To that end, The Twelve Days of Christmas carol was written with lyrics encoding the basic beliefs of the Church, enabling children to learn and proclaim their Catholic beliefs. Below is an overview of the supposed encoded verses and the meaning behind the lyrics.

1. The partridge in a pear tree represents Jesus Christ.
2. The two turtle doves are the Old and New Testaments.
3. Three French hens stand for the theological virtues: faith, hope and love.
4. The four calling birds represent the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
5. The five golden rings recall the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Old Testament.
6. The six geese a-laying stand for the six days of creation, as God rested on the seventh.
7. Seven swans a-swimming represents the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit: Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, and Fear of the Lord.
8. The eight maids a-milking are the eight beatitudes found in Matthew 5:3-12.
9. Nine ladies dancing recall the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit found in Galatians 5:22-23: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
10. The ten lords a-leaping are the ten commandments laid out in the book of Exodus.
11. The eleven pipers piping stand for the eleven *faithful* disciples (minus Judas).
12. The twelve drummers drumming symbolize the twelve tenets of belief in the Apostles' Creed.

Now, how much truth there is behind the legend of the carol The Twelve Days of Christmas no one knows for sure. It is believed that the carol originated as a poem written by a member of the clergy as a means of instructing children during a time of persecution in England and was later put to music. There are, however, some who disagree with the legend and the internet is not lacking for insights.

If nothing else, the legend of the encoded lyrics makes the carol more interesting to listen to.

What do you think?

Deacon Mark

St. Paul's Memorials

Did you know that St. Paul's offers a few different ways to honor/remember your loved ones?

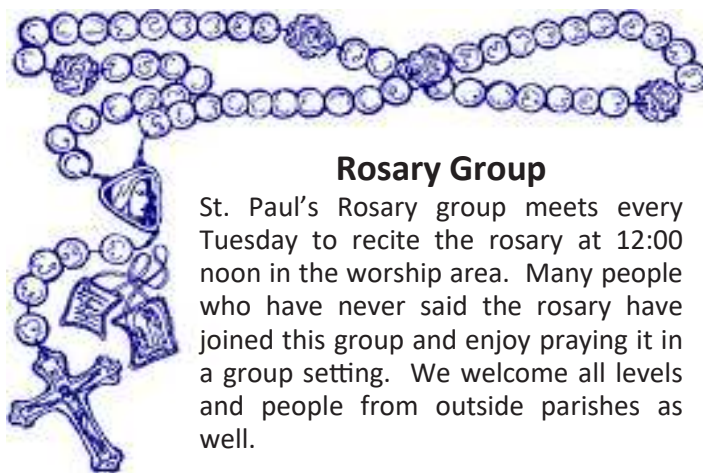
Votive Candles: As you say a prayer to our Mother Mary, you may light one of our votive candles that twinkle in the corner of the worship area. Candles can be lit at any time. Once a candle is lit it will automatically stay luminated for five days. Envelopes for your free will donation are located on the tower shelf close to the kneeler.

Sanctuary Lamp: Our sanctuary lamp in the worship area can be booked in honor/memory of your loved one a week at a time. We will begin booking the lamp on Monday, January 5th for 2026. The donation for the lamp is \$15 and the name of your loved one is published in the bulletin. .

Sanctuary Flowers: On Monday, January 5th, we will be booking Sanctuary Flowers for 2026. Flowers are on display in the sanctuary on any available weekend of your choice. The minimum donation for flowers is \$50. Your loved ones name will also be published in the bulletin.

Memorial Donations: You may make a Memorial Donation in honor/memory of someone at any time throughout the year. If you would like an acknowledgment to be sent please include the name and address of the next kin.

To reserve flowers and lamps, or for more information regarding the memorial options, please contact Jodie in the parish office at 671-2100 x21 or via email jodie.hickey@dor.org



Rosary Group

St. Paul's Rosary group meets every Tuesday to recite the rosary at 12:00 noon in the worship area. Many people who have never said the rosary have joined this group and enjoy praying it in a group setting. We welcome all levels and people from outside parishes as well.

Adult Faith Formation Save the Date

ST. BERNARD'S
ON THE ROAD

Technology as Gift and Challenge:
How to Engage Technology
Thoughtfully and Prayerfully

presented by Matthew Kubner, Ph.D.

Thursday, January 15th, 2026
6:00pm

St. Paul's Church
783 Hard Rd.
Webster, NY

For questions related to this event, please contact:
Anselm Mesue at: Anselm.Mesue@dor.org

ST. BERNARD'S
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

stbernards.edu

2025 Donation Statements

Due to diocesan guidelines, we will be sending 2025 donation statements to all who have made donations this year. We have to have them out by January 31 and hopefully much sooner. So if you made a donation in 2025, you will receive a statement.

Thank you!

Help Needed!

St Paul's is looking for a new member to join our Collection Count Team.

This volunteer opportunity would be Monday morning after mass once a month.

If you are interested in helping, please email:
Lisa.Hendershot@dor.org.

Email Phishing

Scamming has no season, but it seems there is an uptick on phishing scams.

Please know, that Fr. Paul or staff members here at St. Paul's Church will never email you asking for gift cards or donations of any kind.

If you receive a questionable email check the email address and confirm with the parish office before taking any action.

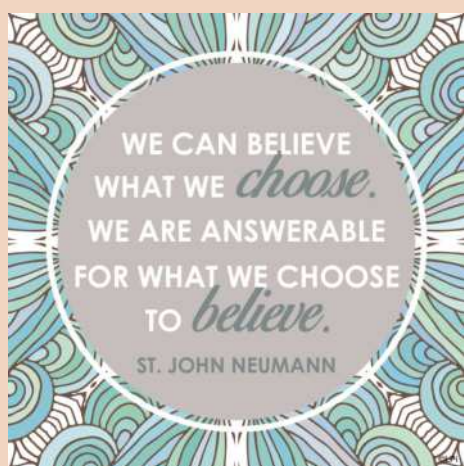
St. Pauly Box Update:



Thank you for your continued donations to our St. Pauly box. We have come to depend on the revenue that we receive as they pay us .04 per pound. We receive an average of \$300 per month which really helps in these difficult times.

- **What to donate:** used clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, linens, pillowcases, blankets, curtains, and stuffed animals
- **What NOT to drop off:** furniture, electronics, books, toys, pillows, household items, fabric scraps, and rags.

In addition to benefiting St. Paul's, the donations directly benefit the needy in the U.S. as well as around the world. St. Pauly Textile distributes throughout 44 countries. Thank you for your support!



March for Life

Washington D.C.

Bus Trip from the Diocese of Rochester

January 22 – 23, 2026

Buses Depart: 10 pm (1/22)

Return: Approx. 1:00am (1/24)

\$80 per person

For more information, visit <http://march4life.gmsander.info>
or call/text Gerry Sander, 585-503-3256

Knights of Columbus 14th Annual "Coats for Kids" Ministry

Once again, Trinity Council #4618 of Webster, with your donations and that of area businesses and residents, raised enough funds to purchase **552 (46 dozen)** NEW children's winter coats for distribution to children of need in Monroe and Wayne Counties. With funds left, after purchasing coats, we will purchase and distribute new Sneakers for Children in spring '26, to many of the same groups the received coats.

The New Coats were distributed over the first two weeks of December to 32 charitable organizations, school districts, and churches, which helped identify children as having a true need for a warm coat. Those receiving coats for distribution were: Webster Hope House, Villa of Hope, Webster Community Chest, Sister Regis Food Cupboard, Matthew's Closet, Focus Pregnancy Center, St. Michael's Church, St. Andrew's Food Cupboard Rochester, Jennifer House, St. Peter's Kitchen Rochester, Mary's Place, Willow Domestic Violence Center, Center for Youth Services Rochester, Catholic Family Center of Rochester, Coldwater House Gates, Saint's Place Outreach, Women's Care Center Rochester, The Margaret House ER, School of the Holy Childhood, Blessed Trinity Ministries Wolcott, Williamson Come-Unity Center, Webster Central School District, Fairport Schools, Williamson Central School, Wayne Central School, RCSD Early Childhood Education Center, RCSD Roberto Clemente School #8, RCSD Enrico Fermi School #17, RSCD Abelard Reynolds School #42, Marion Central School Dist., Saint Max Ontario Christmas Sharing Program, and Green Angels of Wayne County.

THANK YOU from the Webster Knights of Columbus, to all who made a donation to this charitable program.

Ministry Schedule for January 10 & 11, 2026

Due to the bulletin being sent to press early, some ministry schedules have not been completed yet. If **TBD** or **Volunteer Needed** is listed, please contact the ministry coordinator to let them know your availability.

	4:00 PM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
Acolytes	TBD TBD	TBD TBD	TBD TBD
Cantors	TBD	TBD	TBD
EMHC	TBD TBD	TBD TBD	TBD TBD
Greeters	Ellen Oinen Don Oinen	Lucille Frisicano Pat Amedeo	Anne LaClair Jean Van Apeldoorn
Lectors	Margie Richardson	Crissy Picca	Jann Armantrout
Linens	Barb Mongiovi No specific time for pick up		
Sacristans	Sue Dettman	DA Hutnick	Laure Barr
Stream Team	TBD	TBD	TBD
Ushers	Sue Dettman Alice Bower	TBD TBD	Dallas & Joanne Miller Volunteer Needed

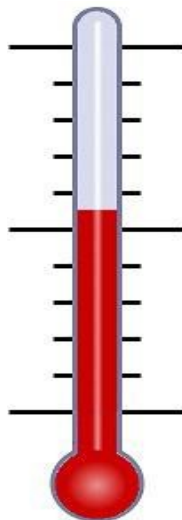


Total as of:
12/22/25

Goal
\$108,000

Pledged
\$59,184

%54.80
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.

2025 Faith Formation Advent Food Collection Benefiting Rochester Hope





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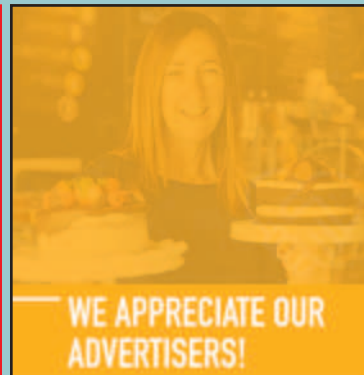
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