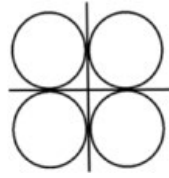


# ST. PAUL'S CHURCH



783 Hard Road, Webster, New York

**March 5, 2023 Second 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.



## 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

His face shone  
like the sun and his  
clothes became white  
as light. - Mt 17:2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

### 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, March 6**  
**Lenten Weekday**  
8:30A Mass

**Tuesday, March 7**  
**Lenten Weekday**  
8:30A Mass  
12:00P Rosary Group

**Wednesday, March 8**  
**Lenten Weekday**  
8:30A Mass  
9:00A Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
6:30P Eucharistic Revival Series:  
Guest Speaker: Fr. Peter Mottola "Elements of the Eucharist in the Old Testament"  
7:00P Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, March 9**  
**Lenten Weekday**  
8:30A Mass

**Friday, March 10**  
**Lenten Weekday**  
**Abstinence**  
No Mass  
6:00P Confirmation Prep class:  
Stations of the Cross years 1 & 2

**Saturday, March 11**  
**Lenten Weekday**  
9:00A First Reconciliation Workshop  
2:00P Individual Confession  
4:00P Mass

**Sunday, March 12**  
**3rd Sunday of Lent**  
**Daylight Saving Time begins**  
9:00A Mass-choir sings  
10:00A SOR Classes  
10:00A Confirmation Prep Class years 1 & 2  
11:00A Mass

## Parish Staff

**Pastor:** Fr. Paul Gitau  
**Deacon:** Mark Robbins  
**Administrative Asst.:** Jodie Hickey x21  
**Adult Faith Formation Coordinator:** Katie Van Damme x24  
**Business Manager:** Kasey Baker x30  
**Confirmation Minister:** Anselm Mesue x27  
**Coordinator of Music:** John Gaspar  
**Coordinator of SOR & Facilities Cleaning:** Helen Stirpe x25 or 671-2110  
**Maintenance Coordinator:** Ben O'Brien x28  
**Multi Parish Finance Director:** Joan Sullivan: 671-1100 x21  
**Finance Council Chair:** Tom Napoli  
**Parish Council Chair:** Linda D'Antonio  
**Parish Trustees:** Forest Shick & George Hanley

fr.paul.gitau@dor.org  
mark.robbs@dor.org  
jodie.hickey@dor.org  
katie.vandamme@dor.org  
kasey.baker@dor.org  
anselm.mesue@dor.org  
john.gaspar@dor.org  
helen.stirpe@dor.org  
ben.obrien@dor.org  
joan.sullivan@dor.org

## 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 12:00-12:45 p.m.)

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



## Financial Snapshot

	January 2023	July 2022-January 2023
Collections	\$56,880	\$298,277
Donations/ other revenue	\$1,897	\$41,290
Expenses	\$43,525	\$355,833
Operating surplus/deficit	\$15,251	\$(16,165)

## Let Us Pray for Those in the Military

Jason Aman      Josh Bartlett  
Zach Bartlett      Andrew O'Brien  
Bryan Gross      Cydney Blong  
Tom Weisenreder      Michael J. Desiato  
Mason Serrano      Daniel Thomas  
Andrew Zani  
Jay Riesenberger



This week the  
Sanctuary Lamp burns  
for Margaret Gaspar  
From  
Bill & Bev Empey

# Seeds for the Journey

Today the universal Church commemorates the second Sunday of Lent. Lent is a season of Grace, a penitential season, during which we are called to pray, fast and give alms. During his homily on Ash Wednesday, Fr Paul outlined some ways through which we can participate in alms giving during Lent. During the season of Lent, Catholics are called upon to practice penance. Penance is integral to the Christian life because we have been redeemed by Christ's passion, death and resurrection. Penance is not an 'optional extra' that some may choose to do from time to time: the law of God obliges all people to do penance. The Church, following the lead of Pope Paul VI, sees fasting and abstinence as part of the larger concept of penance. For Pope Paul VI, fasting and abstinence have a privileged place among the forms of penance. As Bishop Matano indicated in his Lenten Guidelines of Fasting and Abstinence letter, "these Lenten practices unite us to our savior, Jesus Christ, who through His sacrificial death upon the cross wrought our salvation." During this season of Lent, we are all called to make personal acts of penance and to devote ourselves in special ways to prayer, works of piety and charity and to self-denial. We should spend more time reading the scriptures, attend stations of the Cross and also go to Confession. We are invited to join our Confirmation candidates for Stations of the Cross on Thursday March 30 at 6:30pm. We are all called to repentance.

During this season of Lent, the Gospel accounts all have a very special focus. Last Sunday, the First Sunday of Lent, the Gospel Reading was focused on the Temptations of Jesus by the devil. Next Sunday, the Third Sunday of Lent, the Gospel recounts Jesus' encounter with the Woman of Samaria at the well. During the Fourth Sunday of Lent, which is Laetare Sunday (Rejoice Sunday), Gospel recounts Jesus' encounter with the man who was born blind. The Gospel reading for the Fifth Sunday of Lent is on the Raising of Lazarus. Today's Gospel Reading from Matthew's Gospel account is on the Transfiguration.

Jesus went up a high mountain with Peter, James and his brother John where he was transfigured. He was seen conversing with Moses symbolizing the law, and Elijah, symbolizing the prophets. Christ is the Word of God in the Law and in the Prophets. He is the fulfilment of the Law and the Prophets. Pope Francis in his 2023 Lenten message calls on us to listen to Jesus. According to Pope Francis, "Lent is a time of grace to the extent that we listen to him as he speaks to us." There is no better way that Christ speaks to us than through the readings during Mass. According to St Augustine, Jesus himself shone as the sun, signifying that he is the true light that enlightens all of us. As Christians, we should radiate this light of Christ wherever we find ourselves especially during this season of Lent. We can bring this light of Christ to others by praying for them, by giving alms, by voluntary self-denial, and by helping to bring back to St Paul's parishioners, family members and friends who no longer attend Mass here. We can make an impact on the lives of others. We can make our parish better and stronger.

Anselm



## Remembering Pope Benedict XVI:

### A Synopsis of His Life, Thoughts and Works Part 7

In the last series, we introduced Pope Benedict's special interest on the Liturgy. We stated that Pope Benedict or Ratzinger the theologian, made the Liturgy a top-notch priority, which he considered, a crucial element in the love of God. The Liturgy is the highest form of worship in the Church; it surpasses all forms of worship for it is an action of Jesus Christ himself, the high priest. Liturgical celebrations supersede all forms of private and personal devotions.

In his writings on the Liturgy, Pope Benedict sought to restore to its rightful pride of place, the concept of the Holy Mass as an action of Christ Himself acting in and through the priest to bring the Paschal Mystery to our midst once again. The Paschal Mystery refers to the events of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus. The Eucharistic Liturgy (the Holy Mass) is a representation of Christ's Calvary Sacrifice. The Mass is therefore a memorial; it is not just a remembrance, but we are re-living what happened on Calvary, where Christ voluntarily offered himself. During Mass, the priest celebrant acts *in persona Christi capitis* (in the person of Christ the Head). Christ is acting through the priest, who has been chosen from among us to offer sacrifices to God on behalf of the community. Pope Benedict sought to restore the centrality of the Eucharistic Liturgy in the lives of the faithful, for as the Second Vatican II taught, the Liturgy is the source and summit of our Christian life and mission.

Pope Benedict believed that the love of God in the liturgy needed to be a priority and the love we express and receive would then flow into our ordinary lives. As a result, we too shall share this love with others in our various families, in the community, at our jobs, at school, at sporting events and with whoever we meet. Whatever we do in the Liturgy should be focused on God. God should always be at the center and should be our focus and not us. Pope Benedict was weary of the dangers of self-worship infiltrating liturgical celebrations. He warned against the Liturgy becoming "a feast that the community gives itself, a festival of self-affirmation. Instead of being a worship of God, it becomes a circle closed in on itself." These are some of the dangers the faithful need to avoid falling into. We need a God-centered liturgy, one where we encounter God in Spirit and in Truth. The Liturgy is transforming and we can only benefit fully from the fruits of the Liturgy when we celebrate with genuine piety, devotion and with an openness to encounter the Triune God with fidelity and with love.

This ends our series on the life and works of Pope Benedict. Of course, we have not examined a tenth of his thoughts

and works; however, what we have covered have given us a glimpse and an idea of Pope Benedict's theological enterprise.

He was a great theologian, teacher and Pope. His teachings and his works are being studied by Catholic and non-Catholic theologians, by seminarians, Christians who want to deepen their faith in God, and others out of intellectual curiosity. His teachings and works will be beneficial for generations to come.

The series on Pope Benedict XVI for St Paul's Church was prepared by Anselm Mesue, our Confirmation Preparation Coordinator. If you have any questions, you can direct them to him.

### Youth Lenten Retreat

All those from 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join the Confirmation candidates for their Lenten Retreat on Saturday March 25, from 10 am to conclude with the Saturday evening Mass. We shall provide a donut breakfast, lunch and snacks. This will be a great spiritual opportunity to spend time with God in prayer, recollection and spiritually prepare for Easter. Registration forms are available on the bulletin board.



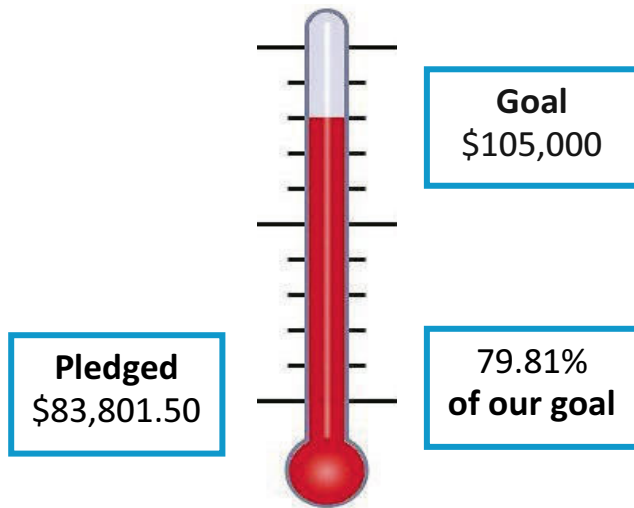
Join us for St. Paul's Lenten Soup Supper on Thursday, March 16th from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. in the parish hall. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board across from the parish office.

After the Soup Supper you are invited to attend Deacon Mark's presentation on the "Seven Last Words of Christ" in rooms 7 and 8.

### Doctrine Question and Answer Section

There shall be a Question and Answer (Q&A) section as part of our bulletins, beginning with the March 11/12 bulletin, which shall focus on relevant doctrinal or faith-based questions. If you have any doctrinal or faith-based questions you would like included in the Doctrine Q&A section, kindly email your questions to either Jodie Hickey at [jodie.hickey@dor.org](mailto:jodie.hickey@dor.org) or Anselm Mesue at [anselm.mesue@dor.org](mailto:anselm.mesue@dor.org).

## St. Paul's CMA Update



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

### Operation Rice Bowl Soccer & A Broken Reservoir



In the Dry Corridor of Honduras, climate change causes persistent drought, making farming nearly impossible. With support from Catholic Relief Services, Rony, a farmer, repaired an old reservoir and installed a new irrigation system to improve his harvests. Now Rony can send his son to a soccer academy to pursue his dream of becoming a professional

player. How can you work like Rony to support others' needs and dreams? visit St. Paul's website and look for the CRS Rice Bowl slider on the home page.

### Eucharistic Revival Speaker Series

Writings of the New Testament reveal to us the deeper meaning of stories in the Old Testament. The Eucharist itself was revealed and made known in the Old Testament. We invite you to attend The Very Reverend Peter Mottola's talk on Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM entitled, "The Hidden Roots of the Eucharist in the Old Testament". Fr. Mottola is a professor at St. Bernard's School of Theology, Pastor for Peace of Christ Parish, and the Judicial Vicar for the Diocese.



## From the John Walsh Library

**Rogers, Carole Garibaldi**

### Fasting

Fasting, the partial or complete abstinence from food or drink for a specified length of time, has been part of almost every religion and tradition from ancient pagan practices to Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and Native American. In this book, we learn some of its history, and the rituals and motives associated with fasting as practiced by various religions and cultures. Ms. Rogers also explores some of the nonreligious reasons—personal, political, and holistic—for which contemporary persons fast. Part of each chapter includes first person accounts by real people who fast at least occasionally.

(Call No. 204.47-ROG)

### Easter Flowers Memorials

An Easter Flower envelope has been included in the March/April envelope packet. The flower memorials will be included in the Easter bulletin.

We will use the parishioner info from the front of the envelope to note who the memorial is from, so if you want something different listed, please write that as well.

Please make checks payable to "St. Paul's". You may send it in any time, with a deadline of **Monday, March 27** to be included in the bulletin. If you have any questions please call Kasey or Jodie at 671-2100 or by email [kasey.baker@dor.org](mailto:kasey.baker@dor.org) or [jodie.hickey@dor.org](mailto:jodie.hickey@dor.org).

### Good Sam Outreach Lenten Food Drive Week 2

#### Eastern Service Workers has requested the Following items for this week:

- Canned stew, chili & hearty soups
- Canned meat (tuna, chicken, ham)
- Cereal
- Coffee, tea & shelf stable milk
- Peanut Butter & jelly
- Rice

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

Donation lists are published weekly in the bulletin and are available on our website. Thank you for your support.

## Ministry Schedule for March 11 & 12

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
<b>Acolytes</b>	Morgan Tara Emma Rosa Andrew Rosa	Maggie Milner <b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Katie Yuskiw Chris Yuskiw
<b>Cantors</b>	Tom Napoli	Bonnie Serio	Bob Slon
<b>EMHC</b>	Mary Beth Speicher Ellen Oinen	Jack Black <b>TBD</b>	Ellen Santora <b>TBD</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	Bill Galbraith Patrice DeAngelis	Linda D'Antonio Jerry Healey	Ellen Santora Anne LaClair
<b>Lectors</b>	Toni Lynn Swinson	Leo Van Damme	Jann Armantrout
<b>Linens</b>	Pat Rotundo (No specific time for pick up)		
<b>Sacristans</b>	Christine Grant	Turner Family	Sharyn LiPari
<b>Stream Team</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	Sue Dettman Alice Bower	<b>Volunteer Needed</b> <b>Volunteer Needed</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b> <b>Volunteer Needed</b>



### Registration is Open!

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

July 17-21 9:15am-12:15pm

Ages 4-12

\$50/child with \$125 family max  
(3 children or more)

Registration deadline is June 1st

Registration forms can be printed off our website or forms are available on the bulletin board across from the parish office.  
Cash or check only please.

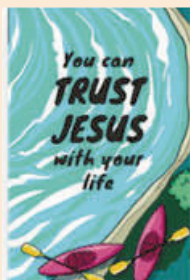
Theme for  
day 1



Theme for  
day 2



Theme for  
day 3



Theme for  
day 4



Theme for  
day 5







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