October 19th, 2023

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The Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Pastor's Column



Does Peace Have a Chance?

What is happening in Israel and the Gaza Strip is horrific and I've been struggling to find the right words to share with you on this. There really are no words but let me try. The acts of savagery and violence Hamas has inflicted on the innocent in Israel, particularly children, is unspeakable. So too is the fate of those innocent victims who live in Gaza and are facing constant aerial bombardment as Israel seeks to neutralize Hamas. For the citizens in Gaza, there is nowhere to go, the borders are closed, electricity and water has been cut off. Millions of people are told to move South to safety, only to be bombed there as well. Then, a hospital is destroyed. Everyone is pointing fingers and the Arab world is in an uproar. The whole world is on the edge it seems.

Here at home, I am deeply aware of the pain of our Jewish neighbors on the Upper West Side. I see notices in Central Park and in Subways stations of

loved ones who have been kidnapped by Hamas. At time, I have felt a sense of mourning and unease in the area. On the streets around town there are dueling demonstrations of Israel and Palestine, which ratchet up the anxiety and animosity locally. At a recent meeting of Manhattan pastors, there were questions about where humanitarian relief should be directed, and there were strong and conflicting sentiments of parishioners who have families in the impacted areas on both sides of the border.

What to do? First, we can't pray enough for leaders to come to the table to find a way to stop the violence. To that we add our prayers for those injured, the grieving and the deceased. May the mercy of God be with them. Then solutions need to be found to get at the underlying obstacles to lasting peace. This is probably a prayer that God is vexed in answering. Secondly, we need to respond with humanitarian relief. While the UJA can be a conduit for humanitarian relief to the victims in Israel, I am waiting to hear of avenues for aid to those in the Gaza Strip.

Another important action is to try to understand the situation. Fr. Mike McGarry, CSP, who lived and ministered for over 12 years at the Tantur Ecumenical Institute in the Holy Land shared some reflections with us Paulists. The situation he said was "painful, sickening, and disgusting and there should be no excuses for Hamas." That said, he was very clear that Hamas is not the Palestinians, and we must be careful not to conflate the two. He noted how difficult it was for him not to be drawn into the false dialectic of "Who has suffered more?" or "Whose side is God on?" or "if you are going to be my friend, you must hate the people I hate" while he lived on the border of Jerusalem and the West Bank. We may be struggling with these issues ourselves. Fr. Mike suggests two books that he found helpful:

- The Only Language They Understand: Forcing Compromise in Israel and Palestine by Nathan Thrall (Metropolitan Books, 2017)
- *The Two-State Delusion: Israel and Palestine A Tale of Two Narratives* by Padraig O'Malley. (Penguin Books, 2016)

Perhaps nothing I write on this will be satisfying, but I felt the need to try. I am eager to hear your thoughts and feelings. As a child of God, sinking into hopelessness is never an option in any situation, including this one. Our better angels are looking after us as a human family. Let us call upon them at this moment as we seek to be peacemakers locally and globally.

Peace to all,

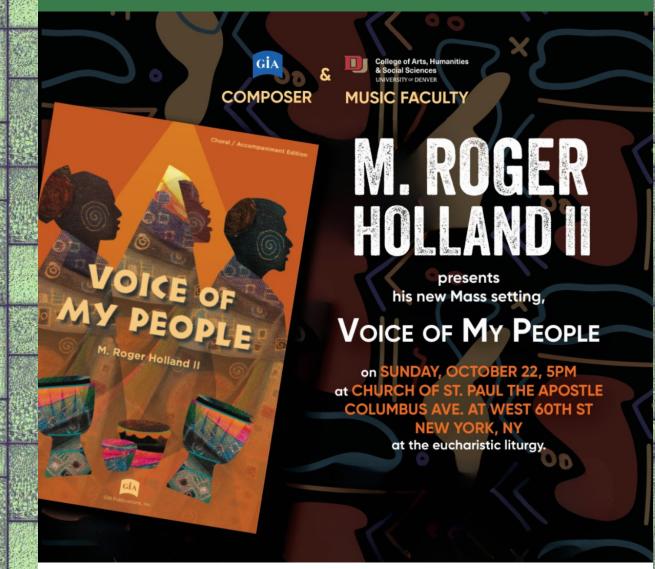
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Reverend Eric Andrews, CSP

Pastor, St. Paul the Apostle

Special Announcements



A New Mass Setting Premiers at St. Paul's

St. Paul's is excited to announce that we will be host to M. Roger Holland II and a group of singers from the five boroughs for a debut of his newly composed mass setting, "Voice of My People." Members of our Music Ministry will accompany our city's singers for the debut of this new work at our 5PM mass this Sunday, October 22nd.

An alumnus of the Manhattan School of Music and the Union Theological Seminary, <u>M. Roger Holland II</u> served as Artist-in-Residence and director of the Union Gospel Choir for over 13 years and Minister of Music for Our Lady of Charity Roman Catholic Church in Brooklyn, NY for 12 years. He is the Music Director for the NY Archdiocese Office of Black Ministry, has travelled internationally with the The Boys Choir of Harlem, and has published many original compositions and mass settings through GIA.

We are grateful for the opportunity to bring together singers from throughout the diocese, sharing our spiritual home with them to make this sacred space a place for new liturgical music to flourish. We look forward to praying with you on Sunday!

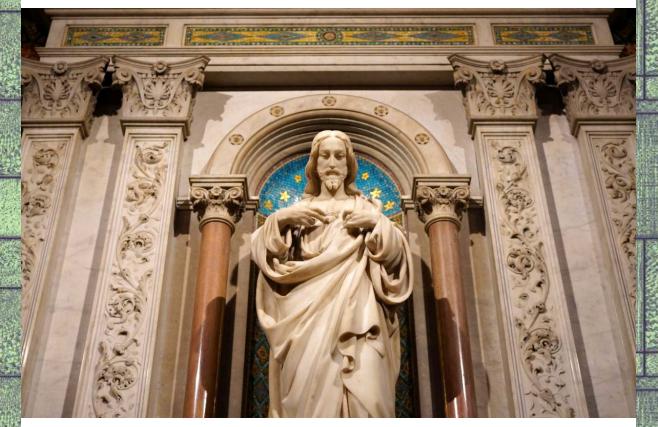
All Saints' Day NOVEMBER 15T

Feast Day Masses

All Souls' Day

VEMBER 2ND

In honor of All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day, we will hold special masses on Wednesday, November 1st, and Thursday, November 2nd at 7:30 AM, 12:10 PM, and 6:30 PM. Our 12:10 PM and 6:30 PM masses will be live-streamed to Virtch Church on our website, our YouTube page, and our Facebook page.



All Souls Remembrance Board

November 2 is the day that the church commemorates all the faithful departed. The Feast of All Souls Day will always remind us of those who were once a part of our lives and are now a part of our memories.

This year, we invite you to bring in a picture (up to 5"x7" in size) of your dearly departed so we can create a remembrance board in our Sacred Heart

Memorial Chapel for all who have gone to the next life. Pictures can be dropped off at our Welcome Center Bookstore (located to the left of the church entrance) through Sunday, October 29th.

Please note that we will not be able to return your photo to you after the board is disassembled, so bring in a copy of your photo if you want to keep the original. If you cannot bring a photo by, you are welcome to send an email of a printable picture to welcomecenter@stpaultheapostle.org, including the name of the deceased in your correspondence.

This display will remain in the Sacred Heart chapel for prayer and reflection until November 30th.



The Paul Taylor Dance Company wants to be the most inclusive group at Lincoln Center. Given the role spirituality plays in so much dance across time and cultures, they are making a special effort to invite congregations across the city to join them as they light up the Koch Theater stage!

Parishioners are invited to register to receive free tickets to their upcoming performance in Lincoln Center on Thursday, November 9th at 7PM. These performances will share the magic of Paul Taylor's unparalleled repertory alongside fresh premieres from Resident choreographer Lauren Lovette as well as a beloved classic from Ulysses Dove, *Vespers*, which speaks directly to his mother's religious life.

Reserve your tickets for November 9th by filling out our sign-up form here Since seats are limited and need to be reserved, *each ticket must be reserved separately with a working email* so we can confirm your reservations and give you instructions of how to retrieve the ticket. A Sneak Preview of Christmas: The Notre Dame Christmas Concert!

Come see the Notre Dame Glee Club and Symphony Orchestra as the two ensembles join together for a program of holiday favorites! They will perform right here at St. Paul's on Wednesday, December 20th at 7:30PM.

Although the sleigh bells and icicles of Christmas are a long way off, tickets will sell out fast, so buy your tickets now while they're still available! Save the date and register for the event by clicking here.

Around the Parish

Amzzing Grace

Amazing Grace, Sung by the St. Paul's Choir

Last Sunday at the 10 AM mass, the St. Paul's Choir treated parishioners to a goose-bump inducing rendition of Amazing Grace -- to give it a listen, watch the video above!

Upcoming Events

ST. PAUL'S OCIA

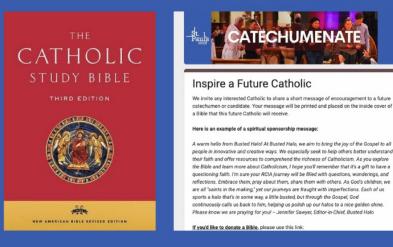
SPIRITUAL SPONSORSHIP

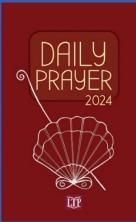


gift a Bible, a prayer book, or leave an inspiring message



<u>www.stpaulbookstore.org</u> DONATE BY SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22





Sponsor a Future Catholic Program for OCIA

Each year, our parish accompanies a group of adults who seek to become Catholics. One of our traditions is to gift a new Catholic with a Bible. This year, we are inviting parishioners and interested Catholics to become spiritual sponsors by doing any of the following:

- 1. Donate a Catholic Study Bible
- 2. Donate a copy of LTP's Daily Prayer book for 2024
- 3. Leave a short inspirational message, which we will put inside the front cover of a gift Bible or prayer book Spiritual sponsorship is a way of personalizing the journey of faith.

It reminds us of our connections to each other as members of the body of Christ. This is a simple and beautiful way to share faith. If you would like to donate a Bible or a Prayer Book, please visit the Welcome Center Bookstore in person or online at <u>www.stpaulbookstore.org/donate</u>.

If you would like to leave a short inspirational message, please <u>click this</u> <u>Google form link here</u> or scan the QR code below.

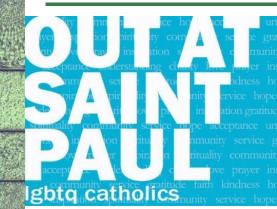
We are in need of donations by Sunday, October 22.



For any questions, please feel free to contact Dave, director of OCIA, at david.de.la.fuente@stpaultheapostle.org Thank you for your sponsorship, and remember to pray for us!

COMMUN

SPIRITUALITY



OSP Halloween Party

Following the 5 PM Mass on Sunday, October 29th, join OSP members in the Parish Center for a fun and frightful Halloween party! Games, light snacks, themed drinks and fellowship await. Costumes are welcome, but not required ... but highly encouraged.

Author Talk: William Glenn

Join OSP Members on Thursday, November 2nd at 6:00 PM in the Parish Center for a discussion of *I Came Here Seeking a Person: A Vital Story of Grace* with the author, William Glenn.

Recently published by Paulist Press, the book is a contemporary account of a spiritual journey by a sober, gay, ex-Jesuit clinician and community leader writing at the complicated intersection of faith, psychology, sexuality, culture, and exponential social change. The book's themes are both "of the moment"

and universal; they are difficult, and yet hopeful.

We look forward to seeing you there!



After-Mass Social

Join our young adult community **next Sunday**, **October 29th**, **after the 5PM mass** for a little meet-and-greet for our new Apostolist members! We'll meet in the back of the church after mass then step out for some fun and fellowship.

A forgotten classic on saints, women, and the Church in the modern world from the Nobel Prize-winning author of *Kristin Lavransdatter*.

STAGES on the R.O.A.D SIGRID UNDSET Foreword by Elizabeth Scalia

St. Paul's Book Club

Join us via Zoom on Monday, October 30th at 6:30PM for our discussion of *Stages on the Road* by Sigrid Undset

Please RSVP to welcomecenter@stpaultheapostle.org to receive our meeting link! Sigrid Undset is among the great modern writers of the twentieth century and was an adult convert to Catholicism. This forgotten treasure from the Nobel Prize–winning author of *Kristin Lavransdatter* is a fascinating collection of saints' lives and a surprisingly contemporary take on being Catholic — in particular a Catholic woman — in a sometimes-hostile secular world.

Stages on the Road is a series of essays about the relationship between the Church and the modern world. In the spirit of G. K. Chesterton and C. S. Lewis, Undset points to inconsistencies, hypocrisies, and blind spots of the modern secular mindset by introducing readers to the stories of somewhat-forgotten Catholic figures like St. Angela Merici and the English martyrs Margaret Clitherow and Robert Southwell — people who stood fast to their faith in the face of both intellectual and political hostility. Undset tackles such topics as religious freedom, Christian/Muslim relations, and the vocation of women.



Laudato Si for You & Me!

Have you been waiting to see what we at St. Paul the Apostle can do to address Global Warming and the Climate Crisis? Join us for 4 sessions to discern how we may advance and implement Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si' and his recent exhortation Laudate Deum (October 4, 2023).

We will meet on November 14th, 28th, December 5th, and December 13th in the Parish Center from 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM. Copies of Pope Francis encyclical and exhortation are available at no cost through the Vatican's archives; you can read them by clicking the links below:

Laudato Si' (2015) Laudate Deum (2023)

Sign up for our first discussion by filling out this form. We will cover 2 chapters of Laudato Si' in each session, reserving Laudate Deum for the last. Send any comments and questions you have to Fr. James DiLuzio, CSP no later than

Monday, November 13; he can be reached via email at <u>lukelive@lukelive.com</u>.

If you would like more inspiration, watch the documentary THE LETTER (2022), which we screened several weeks ago at the church.

"This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!" Psalm 118: 24

Holy Humor

"Adam, did you partake of the forbidden fruit?"

" . . . no."

Faith Formation

Join us for a **Come and See** Discernment Retreat at our new seminary in Washington, DC.

PAULIST FATHERS paulist.org

October **27 - 29** 2023

Come & See Retreat HECKER HOUSE THE PAULIST SEMINARY

3001 4TH ST. NE., WASHINGTON, DC 20017

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For details on how to register, please contact: **Paulist Fr. Ed Nowak**, our vocation director, at **vocations@paulist.org** or **917-763-7899**

Paulist "Come & See" Discernment Retreat

You've attended Paulist masses, you've listened to Paulist homilies -- but have you ever considered becoming a Paulist? If the answer is yes (or even if you're considering the question for the first time), consider joining the Paulist discernment retreat!

The retreat will be held at the newly-renovated Hecker House in Washington D.C., from October 27-29th.

Paulist vocation director Fr. Ed Nowak would be happy to answer any questions or chat with anyone interested in exploring a vocation -- just send him an e-mail at <u>vocations@paulist.org</u>.

Prayer Requests

Grant eternal rest to Zdenko Dujmović, George & Marguerite LaMarque, Anthony Gjon Ndrei, Mary Quigley, Roderick Orlina, Corazon Pilares

Prayer Requests

Anthony Gjon Ndrei, Mary Quigley, Roderick Orlina, Corazon Pilares Manalastas, Ramon M. Perez Del Orbe, Kari Guercio, Larry Coleman, and Norma Ramos Sanchez.

Grant health or healing to Christopher Henderson, Bill Devine, Eileen Schreiber, Christopher McElroy, John David Pride, Lee Jacobson, Dr. Timothy Putty, Diane & Bill Lyndon, Antoinette Cinturati, Vanessa Belsito, Denise Abady, Claudia Morgan, William Hughes, Deacon Wally Valderama, Dilaria Ayse Osman, and Joan McGrew.

Grant peace and well-being to Clarissa Torodoff, Donna Marie Henderson, Nuala Quigley, Rev. Samuel Perrins, Tricia Musa, Isabelle Masarweh, Monique Williams, Hilda Ojeda, Damianus Aditya Christie, James Golka, the Gorelick family, and the Miller family.

Have someone you would like our parish to pray for? You can submit prayer requests through our online form below. The names in your intentions will be shared with the parish here and will remain in our virtual newsletter one month after submission.

Click the button below to fill out our prayer request form:

Submit Your Prayer Requests

Mass Intentions

Friday, October 20th 7:30AM † Francis Grissom 12:10PM † Oraci Belvedere Saturday, October 21st 9:00AM † Tyrone T. Cabalu, MD 5:00PM † Raymond Lussa Sunday, October 22nd 8:00AM - For the Souls in Purgatory 10:00AM † Emilie Roa Korionoff 12:30PM † Ada Maldonado 5:00PM † Mariann Kelly

Monday, October 23rd 7:30AM - Julia Hughes & Family 12:30 PM † Anna Mollane Tuesday, October 24th 7:30AM † Shannon Baker 12:10PM † Phyliss Mann Wednesday, October 25th 7:30AM † Paula Mellett 12:10PM † Robert Bazile Thursday, October 26th 7:30AM † George Roff 12:10PM † Shannon Baker

Parish Information

Church Hours

<u>Monday-Tuesday, Thursday - Friday</u> 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM <u>Wednesday</u> 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM <u>Saturday</u> 9:00 AM - 6:30 PM <u>Sunday</u> 7:00 AM - 6:30 PM

Mass Schedule

<u>Monday - Friday</u> 7:30 AM and 12:10 PM <u>Saturday</u> 9:00AM and 5:00 PM <u>Sunday</u> 8:00 AM - Mass Without Music 10:00 AM - Mass With St. Paul's Choir 12:30 PM - Misa con Coro en Español 5:00 PM - Mass With Inspirit Ensemble



Donate flowers for weekend masses and special occasions to beautify our sanctuary!

Make a gift in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Their name - and even yours, if desired - will be acknowledged on our weekly newsletter and social media. Our parish staff will order the arrangements on your behalf in order to coordinate with the liturgical seasonal colors.

This weeks altar flowers were generously donated in loving memory of Julie "Jules" Lee, and for the intentions of Barbara Abady.

Click Here to Learn More





Happy Fall!

Given that it's prime apple-picking season, we know you might not always be around to celebrate with us. Stay connected to the parish you love and take St. Paul's with you wherever you go through Virtch Church!

Whether you're home sick, enjoying a long weekend, or just need a spiritual vacation in the middle of the workday, you can always pray with us on Virtch Church.

Join us Monday-Friday at 12:10PM, or on Sunday at 10:00AM and 5:00PM. Our masses are live-streamed to our <u>website</u>, our <u>YouTube page</u>, and our <u>Facebook page</u>. In addition to these platforms, <u>check out our Instagram</u> to never miss what's happening at St. Paul's!



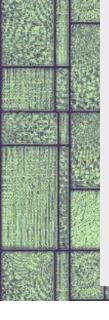
Our services, along with the readings and hymns for the day, can be found on our <u>SPA app</u> - you can download it by scanning the relevant QR code above! Our app also has an online "copy" you can access through your phone's browser in case you have difficult accessing it. Find it at <u>https://stpaulny.web4uapps.com</u>.

Help Support Your Parish!

Consider donating to St. Paul's. Your support is the primary means through which we can continue to serve the parish community. To donate online go to <u>stpaultheapostle.org</u> and click on "Make a Donation" in the top right corner. Please remember that you can have your donations go directly to the ministry of your choice!

Or with the Faith Direct Text-TO-GIVE platform, you can text a donation to make a quick gift to help support The Church of St. Paul the Apostle.

Just text NY539 to the number (646) 859-1860 to enroll.





You can also find us on Venmo. Just scan the QR code above, or search for <u>@stpaulsnyc</u> to donate now!

The Church of Saint Paul the Apostle | 405 West 59 Street, New York, NY 10019

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