

September 28th, 2023



The Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Pastor's Column



Photos by Jim Anness/Fordham University

### Sr. Helen in the house...

We are still buzzing from last Friday evening's hugely successful presentation *Sister Helen Prejean on Dead Man Walking: Opera, Activism, and Faith* that we co-sponsored with Fordham University. As I mentioned to Fordham President Tanya Tetlow: "We haven't seen a crowd this big since Easter." Ever more momentous, for maybe the first time ever, we three neighbors on Columbus Avenue, the Metropolitan Opera, Fordham University, and St. Paul the Apostle, joined together for a common effort. But let's be honest, it took an 84-year-old woman religious from Louisiana to make it all happen.



The gathering was an opportunity to discuss the opera *Dead Man Walking*, based on Sr. Helen's bestselling memoir, which premiered this past Tuesday evening at the Met. Also lifted up was the on-going efforts of Sister's ministry to advocate for the abolition of the death penalty. There is good news to report here. According to the New York Times, in 1994, 80% of Americans favored the death penalty. Last year, it was down to 55%. Death sentences and executions have both plummeted from their peaks. Sr. Helen further pointed out how Church teaching has developed in the past 25 years. In fact, Pope Francis revised the Catechism of the Catholic Church in 2018 to call the death penalty "an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person" and deeming it "inadmissible" in all cases. Her tireless ministry and advocacy no doubt encouraged this development of doctrine.



A force of nature isn't the right way to describe Sister Helen. She's more like a beam of warm sunshine that you are naturally drawn to. Sr. Helen comes from that Southern Cajun culture where connections and relationships are what matter the most. We shouldn't have been surprised that she arrived in the nick of time for the talk as she was schmoozing all the way from the Met to St. Paul's, completely missing the pre-event reception in the parish center. For

her, taking time to talk to neighbors, strangers, parishioners, even enemies anywhere, anytime is a way of life. Befriending the friendless on death row is in her DNA.



Sr. Helen animated the conversation with mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato, who plays her on stage, and composer Jake Heggie. She framed her reflections on human dignity and forgiveness both as core Catholic values and universal human values which invited the other participants to reflect on a deeper level than they might have otherwise. Heggie and DiDonato both commented that one of the marvels of the Opera is exploring Sr. Helen's story, especially from her initial, naïve efforts accompanying those on death row, to her growth in understanding of the pain and suffering of the victims and their families as well as the families of the perpetrator, and ultimately her discovering the humanity in the perpetrator themselves. Sr. Helen was adamant that we must stop the cycle of violence that the death penalty perpetuates and seek a path of reconciliation and forgiveness so both the offended and the offender may find peace.

It was an amazing night and the crowd roared in applause when it concluded. What was truly inspiring to me was that after the event, Sr. Helen remained in the church and talked to everyone who wanted to meet her, speak to her, and have her sign their book. Her smile, her charm, her energy, her sense of humor never wavered. We pray that her vision of a world where the rights and dignity of all persons are cherished and respected may be realized!

God Bless,

*Fr. Eric*



Reverend Eric Andrews, CSP  
*Pastor, St. Paul the Apostle*



PS: I'll be travelling West this weekend to celebrate the 65th birthday of our former pastor Fr. Gil and for Paulist Meetings being held in Los Angeles from Oct. 3-5. I'll be back for First Friday!

## Special Announcements



# THIS OCTOBER: Three Big Changes Coming to St. Pauls!

## Expansions & Additions to Our Schedule Coming Soon

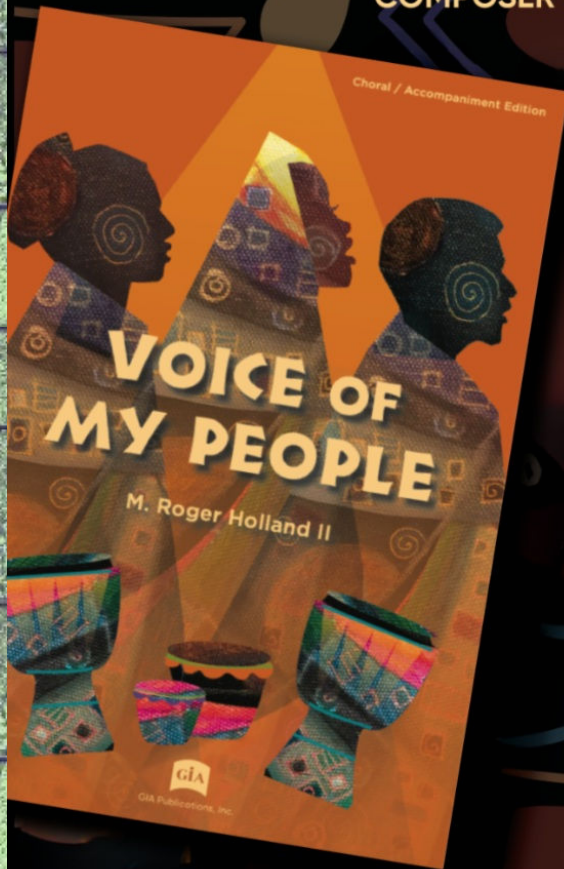
We wanted to remind parishioners of three big expansions and additions to our parish schedule debuting next month!

- **Starting on Friday, October 6th, we will resume weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Paul's.** Every Friday, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament following our 7:30 AM mass; Adoration will conclude with a Rite of Benediction at 11:45 AM. Note that when there is a Friday morning funeral, other liturgy or event scheduled, Adoration will be cancelled - we will do our best to inform the parish of this ahead of time!
- **Starting on Saturday, October 7th, we will resume offering a Saturday morning mass at a new time, 9 AM.** On Ordination Day in May or on the occasion of other significant Saturday morning events, we would cancel the Saturday morning Mass. Notice will be given in advance when this may occur.
- **Starting in the first week of October, our Parish Center will have expanded hours on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.** The Parish Center will be open until 8:30 PM on these days only; the church will still close at 5 PM on Tuesdays and 7 PM on Wednesdays.

We look forward to having more opportunities to pray and grow in faith with you all!

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GIA & College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences  
UNIVERSITY OF DENVER  
COMPOSER & MUSIC FACULTY



# M. ROGER HOLLAND II

presents  
his new Mass setting,

## VOICE OF MY PEOPLE

on **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 5PM**  
at **CHURCH OF ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE**  
**COLUMBUS AVE. AT WEST 60TH ST**  
**NEW YORK, NY**  
at the eucharistic liturgy.

### A New Mass Setting Premieres 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 Inspirit Ensemble will accompany his choir for the debut of this new work at our 5PM mass on Sunday, October 22nd.

An alumnus of the Manhattan School of Music and the Union Theological Seminary, [M. Roger Holland II](#) 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.

Upcoming Events



## Celebrating New (and Old) Leadership for SVDP

Join our Saint Vincent de Paul Conference members to meet and congratulate our new SVDP Conference President, Gabby Sacci Adickes! The reception will be held on Sunday October 1st immediately following the 10am and 5pm masses. Come say hello to Gabby and mingle with our SVDP Conference members and volunteers.

We'll also have a chance to thank the outgoing SVDP Conference President, Todd Piorier. Todd has worked tirelessly over many years to serve the poor and needy of our community. We are so grateful for all of his efforts to make SVDP a thriving service ministry at our church.

We look forward to seeing you on Sunday; don't miss it!



Due to inclement weather last weekend, our annual fundraising event, the Friends of the Poor Walk, was re-scheduled last week to this Saturday, September 30th. Our St. Vincent de Paul Society Conference here at St. Paul the Apostle Church (SVDP SPA NYC), needs your help so that we can continue to help our sisters and brothers in urgent need.

Our Conference continues to meet with our community neighbors who are seeking resources for assistance. Many have never had to ask for help before, and the need continues to grow and grow. **Needs come in a multitude of ways** and may include food, shelter, eviction prevention, financial compromises, utility assistance, education, medical assistance and so much more. All the support the Conference gives is only possible by the generous donations we receive.

Please give what you can. No amount is too small. Please visit our SVDP Conference's website at [www.svdpspanyc.org](http://www.svdpspanyc.org) and click on the 'DONATE NOW' button to donate. If you prefer to send a check, please make it payable to SVDP Conference SPA NYC. You can mail it addressed to SVDP Conference SPA NYC, or drop it off at the Parish Center: 405 West 59th Street; NY, NY 10019.

Thank you for your continued support to help us reach our campaign goal!

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### **Diocesan Walking Pilgrimage**

**Saturday, September 30 - 10:00am-5:00pm @ Met Cloisters**

Join with other Apostolist Members and the Archdiocese of New York with an ecumenical walking pilgrimage of the length of Manhattan! Check out historic sites and sacred spaces across Manhattan Island, as you make new friends and connect with old friends. Snacks will be provided throughout the route, followed by dinner. Bring your own lunch to enjoy in Central Park.

For more information, email [Kaitlyn.Colgan@archny.org](mailto:Kaitlyn.Colgan@archny.org).

### **Volunteer at Xavier Mission's Welcome Table**

**Sunday, October 1 - 12:00pm-4:00pm @ Xavier Mission  
55 W. 15th St., New York, NY 10011**

Located near Union Square, [Xavier Mission](http://Xavier Mission) serves thousands of New Yorkers



in need, every weekend. This opportunity involves the staffing of Xavier Mission's INDOOR & TAKEAWAY meal service at its Welcome Table soup kitchen and support the Welcome Table by preparing and helping to serve over 1,000 meals to guests!

Volunteers will either be on the serving line plating the day's hot meal or moving around the hall transporting meal bags & distributing hot meals or coffee to our guests. All volunteers conclude the day with clean-up.

We have one spot left if you would like to join Apostolists this Sunday! [Please sign up by clicking here.](#)



# Blessing of the Animals

On the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi

October 4th, 2023  
at 8AM, 12:45PM, and 7:00PM

## Celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi

Every member of God's creation can benefit from a blessing, even those with scales and fur! Bring your pets to the entrance church on **Wednesday, October 4th** after our 7:30AM & 12:10PM masses, and at 7:00PM so they can receive a special blessing from our priests.

**OUT AT SAINT PAUL LGBTQ CATHOLICS** **COMMUNITY SERVICE SPIRITUALITY**

understanding charity love prayer inspiration gratitude faith kindness charity  
gratitude faith kindness hope acceptance understanding gratitude faith  
community service hope acceptance understanding spirituality community service  
love prayer inspiration spirituality community service hope acceptance  
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Our next community mass will be on Wednesday, October 11th at 7PM in the church. The seasonal masses are a great opportunity to connect with the OSP membership - or to reconnect if you've been away for a while. Please join us!

## Author Talk with Rev. Lynn Walker

As a follow up to the fabulous event we hosted this past Sunday, Rev. Walker will join us again on **Wednesday, October 18th at 7PM in the Parish Center** to discuss her book "Forward!". Join us for an engaging conversation on the intersection of faith and identity.

ST. PAUL'S OCIA

# SPIRITUAL SPONSORSHIP

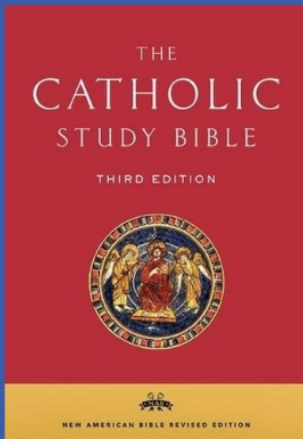


gift a Bible, a prayer book,  
or leave an inspiring message



[www.stpaulbookstore.org](http://www.stpaulbookstore.org)

**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.

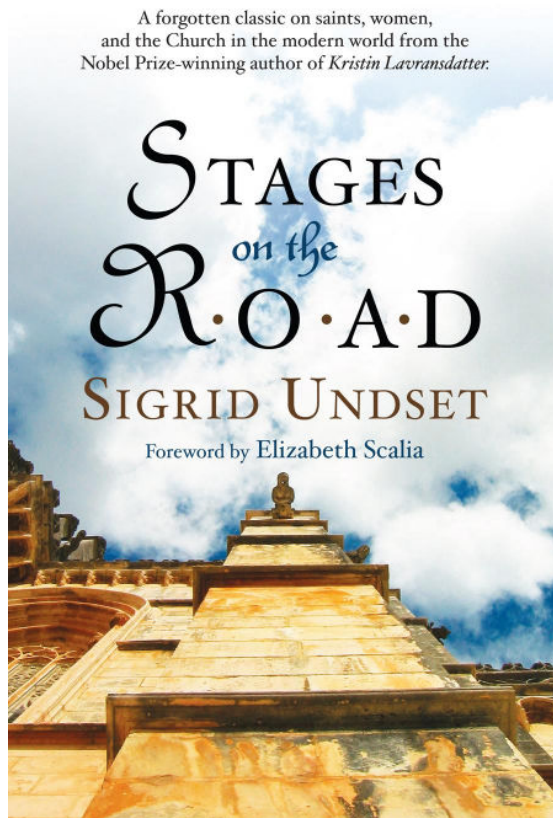
It reminds us of our connections to each other as members of the body of Christ. This is a simple and beautiful way to share faith. If you would like to donate a Bible or a Prayer Book, please visit the Welcome Center Bookstore in person or online at [www.stpaulbookstore.org/donate](http://www.stpaulbookstore.org/donate).

If you would like to leave a short inspirational message, please [click this Google form link here](#) 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](mailto:david.de.la.fuente@stpaultheapostle.org). Thank you for your sponsorship, and remember to pray for us!



## 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](mailto: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.

## Holy Humor



## Faith Formation

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



**October  
27 - 29  
2023**

# Come & See Retreat

HECKER HOUSE

THE PAULIST SEMINARY  
3001 4TH ST. NE., WASHINGTON, DC 20017



For details on how to register, please contact: **Paulist Fr. Ed Nowak**,  
our vocation director, at [vocations@paulist.org](mailto: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 Heckler 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 [vocations@paulist.org](mailto:vocations@paulist.org).

**Prayer Requests**



# Prayer Requests

**Grant eternal rest** to Zdenko Dujmović, Gertrude Yarrosch, George & Marguerite LaMarque, Anthony Gjon Ndrej, Mary Quigley, Roderick Orlina, Corazon Pilaes Manalastas, and Ramon M. Perez Del Orbe.

**Grant health or healing** to Michelle Gorelick, George Lindhjem, Christopher Henderson, Jeanne Connors, Dilara Ayse Osman, Bill Devine, Eileen Schreiber, Christopher McElroy, John David Pride, Lee Jacobson, Dr. Timothy Putty, Diane & Bill Lyndon, Antoinette Cinturati, Vanessa Belsito, and Denise Abady.

**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, the Gorelick family, and the Miller family.

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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, September 29th

7:30AM + Maria Francisca

Clavel

12:10PM + Fred Brueger

Saturday, September 30th

5:00PM + Fatima Nuñez

Sunday, October 1st

8:00AM - For the People

10:00AM + Warren Birch

12:30PM + Bernado Gonzalez

Perez

5:00PM + Marcin Broda

Monday, October 2nd

7:30 AM + Jenny Corbo

12:10PM + Ralph Fuster

Tuesday, October 3rd

7:30AM + Robert Zelazinski

12:10PM - John Onacilla

Wednesday, October 4th

7:30AM + Michael Francis Byrne

12:10PM + Lucas Aponte

Thursday, October 5th

7:30AM - For the People

12:10PM + Lillian Carroll Gerlich

## Parish Information



### Church Hours

Monday-Tuesday, Thursday - Friday

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Wednesday

7:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Saturday

9:00 AM - 6:30 PM

Sunday

7:00 AM - 6:30 PM

### Mass Schedule

Monday - Friday

7:30 AM and 12:10 PM

Saturday

5:00 PM

Sunday

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](#)



# Virtch Church ONLINE MINISTRY



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 [website](#), our [YouTube page](#), and our [Facebook page](#). In addition to these platforms, [check out our Instagram](#) 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 [SPA app](#) - 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 <https://stpaulny.web4uapps.com>.

## 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 [stpaultheapostle.org](http://stpaultheapostle.org) 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 [@stpaulsnyc](https://www.venmo.com/@stpaulsnyc) to donate now!

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

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