

November 2nd, 2023



The Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Pastor's Column

Despite what your calendar says, November is the last month of year as far as the Church is concerned. As such, this is the time to focus on the end times, our mortality, and preparedness for eternal life--all those fun subjects we rather not deal with. We here in the Catholic Church like to take these topics head on. Why not? We believe that through our Baptism and our participation in the life of Christ, heaven is our destiny! Why get all angsty about it, for goodness sake?

Thank you Father Pollyanna for that saccharine assessment of death and dying. Fact is, this is difficult for all of us, at one time or another, especially if someone is dealing with a difficult health diagnosis, grieving the loss of a loved one, taking care of an ailing relative, or suffering from depression or loneliness. Not to mention real world situations which make worrying about the End Times more approximate. Namely, things like global climate catastrophe, horrific wars in the Holy Land, Ukraine and elsewhere, toxic polarization, and so on.

Might I suggest five ways we can make this month more spiritually enriching, and less gloomy. Try these 5 R's: **Remember, Reflect, Respond, Reconcile, and Rejoice.**

REMEMBER those who have gone before us. Pray for the dead and ask for their prayers in return. Visit our altar of remembrance, write the names of your loved ones who have died in our book of the deceased, recall a favorite memory of someone you lost. Remember that every time we participate in Mass, the souls of the faithful departed are with us at the altar, closer to us than we can imagine. As we enter into this sacred remembering, the gulf between this world and the next will become smaller and less scary.

REFLECT on your relationship with God and with others. God surprises us all the time. When was the last time God tapped on your shoulder in a surprising way? How connected do we feel to our friends and family, to those around us? What one step could we take to better tune into God's presence? What one step could we take to come closer to those who we care about and who care about us?

RESPOND. Take those steps. Here's one for those who might be struggling with grief and loss. Starting in the new year, we will launch the St. Paul's Bereavement Support Group. In addition to supporting each other, the group will talk about various coping strategies and practice some exercises to assist one another on the grief journey. To inquire about this program, contact us at bereavement@stpaultheapostle.org. Someone from the team will be in touch. Grief is difficult and takes time. Know there are resources!

RECONCILE. The sure path to wholeness and to heaven is to live at peace and in right relationship with God and our neighbor. As the scriptures will tell us in these last Sundays of the Church year, don't wait! Now is the time to set things right. Make amends with someone you've hurt sooner rather than later. Forgive yourself for mistakes you've made. Avail yourself of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) and talk it out with Jesus, who's always ready to forgive. We carry around a lot of baggage. Let it go! It only weighs down the Spirit. FYI, while the Paulists are the kindest confessors in town, my favorite place to go for the sacrament is St. Francis of Assisi on 31st Street near Penn Station. Further note that Monday, December 18th is Confession Monday in New York City. Every parish in town will open its doors to you from 2pm-4pm, and 6pm-8pm. You've got time to wrap your head and heart around this concept!

REJOICE! I pray that if you have worked through the first four R's the fifth will come naturally. Jesus promises us and reassures us that God loves us no matter what. We are priceless in God's eyes. We will not be forgotten. We are surrounded in by the saints, a cloud of witnesses in heaven, who are cheering us on as well as preparing a place for us at the heavenly banquet. We don't have to be perfect, just connected to the source of all Love, Jesus the Lord.

Happy November!

Fr. Eric



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

P.S. Here is one more reminder to attend our Parish Town Hall meetings coming up this week! You can attend as many sessions as you wish; please RSVP ahead of time for our virtual meeting on Thursday to receive the invitation link.

- Sunday, November 5th: 2:30pm – 4:30pm Parish Center (in English)
- Thursday, November 9th: 7:00pm – 9:00pm Zoom (in English)
- Sunday, November 12th: 1:30pm – 3:30pm Parish Center (in Spanish)

[RSVP for our town hall here.](#)

Special Announcements



New York's Newest
Holiday Tradition!

Christmas Time

in the City

December 7, 8pm

The Church of St. Paul the Apostle, Columbus Circle

The Church of St. Paul the Apostle will present New York's newest holiday tradition, *Christmas Time in the City*, a holiday concert celebrating the magic that lights up the city at Christmas. Using the backdrop of our beautiful, historic church, the evening features new, Broadway-style arrangements of beloved Christmas music performed by Broadway stars, a 25-piece orchestra, and a 70-voice, cross-borough community chorus.

Featuring



George Abud



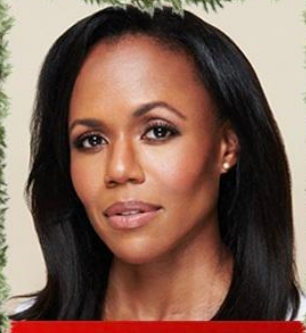
Mikaela Bennett



Klea Blackhurst



Kerry Butler



Nikki Renee Daniels



David Damane



Jason Danieley



Christine Ebersole



Jason Gotay



Dorcas Leung



Benjamin Pajak



Max Von Essen

The stars include George Abud (*The Band's Visit*), Mikaela Bennett (*West Side Story*), Klea Blackhurst (*Party Face*), Kerry Butler (*Beetlejuice*), David Damane (*The Unsinkable Molly Brown*), Jason Danieleley (*The Full Monty*), Nikki Renee Daniels (*Company*), Christine Ebersole (*Grey Gardens*), Jason Gotay (*Gossip Girl*), Dorcas Leung (*Hamilton*), Benjamin Pajak (*The Music Man*), and Max Von Essen (*An American in Paris*).

The concert is produced by Joey Chancey who also serves as musical director. Jack Cummings III directs; Hannah Oren is creative producer.

Christmas Time in the City will be performed Thursday, December 7, 2023, at 8pm at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle. Tickets, which are on sale now, start at \$50. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit christmastimeinthecity.org.



THIS SUNDAY: Turn Your Clocks Back!

Daylight Savings Time officially ends in the early morning **this Sunday, November 5th**. Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour before bed on Saturday.

What is your consolation prize for the longer nights and colder days of winter? An extra hour of sleep and more time to get ready for mass on Sunday! We look forward to praying with you then :)

Around the Parish



All Souls Remembrance Board

Today on All Souls' Day, the Church commemorates those who were once a part of our lives and are now a part of our memories. This year, we are constructing a remembrance board in the Sacred Heart Memorial Chapel so parishioners can pray in a special way for all of our dearly departed that have gone to the next life.

On this remembrance board, photos of our beloved deceased will be on display throughout the month of November, and the Book of Names will be housed in the Sacred Heart Memorial Chapel during this time as well. We hope you'll stop by for a few minutes of quiet reflection in the coming weeks.

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



The OCIA Journey Formally Commences:

Some Treasures to Savor

Every fall, our OCIA program begins with a period of inquiry that provides space for adults to explore whether the Catholic faith is right for them. They're ready to take the plunge! As Father Eric put it in his homily last Sunday, we're now welcoming the 2023-24 class in the "School of Love." I personally want to stay in school forever both professionally and spiritually, so I am excited for what will continue to unfold. To our parish community, I'd like to say three brief things: 1) thank you and wait for more soon, 2) school is still open, and 3) join our catechumens and candidates in savoring some of the treasures of our faith.



Thank You, and More Soon

Thank you for extending such a wonderful and prayerful welcome last Sunday! Our newly welcomed catechumens and candidates all expressed how moved they were. That said, there will be more! If you are able, please join us again in person or virtually this Sunday, November 5 at our 5 PM Mass for our second Combined Rites, during which we will welcome another six people as catechumens and candidates.

School is Still Open for Catholic Sponsors

Because the cohort this year is large, we will be in need of additional people to potentially serve as sponsors. This is a wonderful opportunity to not only deepen your faith but also to build community by supporting one of our catechumens and candidates on the road to Easter. You do not need any special knowledge or training: you only need to be a fully initiated Catholic who is excited to share, to learn, and to build faith. Please feel free to contact me to learn more about the possibilities.



SPONSOR A NEW CATHOLIC



What to Expect

- Join for November sessions, 11:30 AM to 1 PM
- After pairing with a sponsee, attend and check in once a month with sponsee
- Participate in liturgy and enjoy fresh catechesis
- Ideally, attend Easter Vigil

Any fully-initiated Catholic can serve as an OCIA sponsor

Questions? Contact Dave at
david.de.la.fuente
@stpaultheapostle.org

About OCIA

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA), also called the Catechumenate or Adult Initiation, is our parish's ministry that invites, accompanies, and prepares new adult Catholics. OCIA not only makes **new** Catholics, but often **renews** the faith of existing Catholics by deepening our participation in liturgy and our appreciation for the treasures of our faith. This is a great way to build community, grow in faith, and to experience the liturgical year like never before.

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Savoring the Combined Rites

Last Sunday, we were able to witness our catechumens (those who await baptism) and candidates (those already baptized) experience the signing of senses with the Sign of the Cross, and they also symbolically expressed their acceptance of the Gospel by reverencing the Book of the Gospels. I invite our entire parish to savor these signs ourselves: whenever we cross ourselves, we are invoking the powerful love of God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—on our bodies, our minds, our hearts. Next time you do so, take to heart how close God is to you.

So thank you again! See you again soon, and don't forget to savor what you see and feel during these rites.

Dave de la Fuente

Director, OCIA at St. Paul's

david.de.la.fuente@stpaultheapostle.org



Luigi, Moses, and Pikachu walk into a church...

Thanks to all parishioners that attended our Out at St. Paul's Halloween Party last Sunday!

Upcoming Events

BLESSING OF THE RUNNERS

Marathon Runners:
Join us on **November 4th at 5PM Mass**
for a special blessing and well wishes
from our parish. **Godspeed!**



tcs
NEW YORK CITY
MARATHON



We want to give a special shout-out to Paulist President, Fr. Rene Constanza, who will be in the crowd for a blessing during Saturday's mass - he'll be running his first marathon this weekend alongside thousands of other New Yorkers. He is pictured below after his half-marathon completion earlier this year; we wish him double the grace for this race!





Interested in Bible Study?

Following the parish's Summer of Scripture, we are thinking about how we may bring back Apostolist Bible Study. Are you interested in participating? If so, please fill out this brief survey so we can plan a program that makes the most sense for our community: <https://forms.gle/v9tC5AXidHiFir5s6>. Thank you!

LAUDATO SI'

CLIMATE DISCUSSION GROUP

Meetings at 7:00PM

NOVEMBER 14TH

NOVEMBER 28TH

DECEMBER 5TH

DECEMBER 13TH

in the Parish Center



**Contact Fr. James DiLuzio with any questions
at lukelive@lukelive.com**

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 lukelive@lukelive.com.

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*



Fordham University Lessons & Carols

Saturday, December 2nd at 7:30PM

Lessons and Carols is back at St. Paul's with a program full of joyous music and reflection. Join us for the annual celebration of the season with the combined University choirs, dancers from the Ailey/Fordham B.F.A. in Dance, and the Bronx Arts Ensemble. No tickets or RSVP required!



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](#)

Holy Humor

Me: Sometimes when I kneel my butt touches the seat, so I'm not really kneeling but I'm not really sitting either

Priest: once again kind of weird but not a sin



Prayer Requests



Grant eternal rest to Ramon M. Perez Del Orbe, Kari Guercio, Larry Coleman, Norma Ramos Sanchez, Valerie M. Hicks, Lorraine L. San Filippo, Imogene Regan, Ann P. Kelly, Lorna Marin, Larry Coleman, William T. Hughes, John Jesse Wilkins, and the deceased of the Engelhart family.

Grant health or healing to Lee Jacobson, Dr. Timothy Putty, Diane & Bill Lyndon, Antoinette Cinturati, Vanessa Belsito, Denise Abady, Claudia Morgan, Christopher Henderson, Deacon Wally Valderama, Deacon Wally Sandoval, Dilaria Ayse Osman, Joan McGrew, Keon Whyte, Maria Farrel, and Sofia Salazar.

Grant peace and well-being to Elise Wilkins, Donna Marie Henderson, Hilda Ojeda, Damianus Aditya Christie, James Golka, Andrew R. Moynihan, the Wilkins family, 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, November 3rd

7:30AM - Marilyn Martino
12:10PM † Francisco Abat

Saturday, November 4th

9:00AM † Alfredo Bolo Duran
5:00PM - The Bayoran Family

Sunday, November 5th

8:00AM - For the People
10:00AM † Kyle J. Mulrooney
12:30PM - Sandra Dastagirzada & Family
5:00PM † Antonio Sison

Monday, November 6th

7:30AM - Salvatore T. Calio
12:30 PM † Eloisa & Ana Burgos

Tuesday, November 7th

7:30AM - In Thanksgiving
12:10PM † Rosa Marina Vidal

Wednesday, November 8th

7:30AM - John Balbi
12:10PM - Maria Sorobay Shtohryn
& Family

Thursday, November 9th

7:30AM † Alicia Abat
12:10PM † Hector Santiago

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

9:00AM and 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 Kyle Mulrooney.

[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 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

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