

December 7th, 2023



## Second Sunday of Advent

### The Pastor's Column



### Some Advent Thoughts.

Welcome to the shortest Advent Season possible! With Christmas falling on a Monday this year, there isn't a fourth week of Advent, just one day. This means our time to prepare ourselves spiritually for Christmas is shortened.

To truly experience the joy of Christmas, we need a good Advent. Here's some friendly advice on how you might do that. Consider spending some time discerning the presence of Jesus, our Savior, in your life. In what way does the world need a Savior right now; how do I need a savior to intervene in my life? Jesus asks us to be prepared, watchful, and ready for his second coming. How's that going for me? How have I followed Christ's two great commandments: Loving God fully and completely and loving your neighbor as yourself? This is the litmus test on what ready and watchful look like. Advent is

all about looking to the future with hope. Is this your outlook? If not, what might change that?

If reflection questions aren't your bag, perhaps silent meditation is. It is a very good way to pray and get away from the noise and demands that come this time of year. Create a quiet meditative space at home or come to Church for a quiet visit. Try to still yourself as best you can, repeating the Advent mantra "Come Lord Jesus" to keep you focused. If the quiet moment leads to a nap, so be it! You might need one. If the quiet conjures up uncomfortable thoughts or feelings, seek out a trusted friend to discuss it. If you get an amazing insight, write it down and savor it! Finally, prayer and reflection must lead to action. What is the Holy Spirit calling you to do? As you pray to love your neighbors as yourself, how can you give the gift of yourself to someone in need of your time and attention?

My hope is that we all find some time to get away from the hustle and bustle of December and care for our souls. It's the one gift we can give to God, ourselves, and others all at the same time!

Next week I'll answer the million-dollar question: Do I have to go to Mass two times Christmas Weekend?

Until then,  
Advent Blessings,

*Fr. Eric*



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

## Parish Spotlight



## TOMORROW: Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Friday, December 8th is the Church's celebration of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. This special feast is a Holy Day of Obligation - or, as many of the priests like to call it here, a Holy Day of *Opportunity!* - so we will hold an additional mass.

You can celebrate mass with us at 7:30AM, 12:10PM, and 6:30PM. The latter two masses will be live-streamed to our [website](#), our [YouTube page](#), and our [Facebook page](#). Hail, Holy Queen!



There's still time to join us for Christmas Time in the City!

Due to your feedback - and a sold-out house - we are adding live-streaming to our Christmas Time in the City concert tonight, and tickets are now available for \$34.95.

To get your livestream tickets, go to [www.christmastimeinthecity.org](http://www.christmastimeinthecity.org) and click "Buy Tickets Now", or click the button below! Shortly before the performance, you will be sent a private streaming link to view the performance live, through midnight on Friday, December 8th.

[Get Tickets](#)



### Advent Mini-Retreat

Join us on Saturday, December 9th this Advent as we prepare the way of the Lord as Christmas draws near! We will have a range of opportunities to reflect on scripture and pray together. The retreat will run from 10 AM - 5 PM in the Parish Center (405 W59th Street).

[Please RSVP here.](#) We are looking forward to sharing this time together!



## TUESDAY: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Join our Hispanic Community on Tuesday, December 12th at 7PM for a mass to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe. This festive mass will be celebrated with *flor y canto*, flowers and music. The liturgy will even be accompanied by a mariachi band! The mass will also be livestreamed.

We hope to see you there!

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# 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](mailto: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 our upcoming sessions to discern how we may advance and implement Pope Francis' recent exhortation Laudate Deum.

Our final meeting will be held on December 13th in the Parish Center from 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM. Copies of Pope Francis exhortation are available at no cost through the Vatican's archives; you can read it by clicking the link below:

[Laudate Deum \(2023\)](#)

Send any comments and questions you have to Fr. James DiLuzio, CSP; he can be reached via email at [lukelive@lukelive.com](mailto:lukelive@lukelive.com).

## Advent Announcements

# Christmas 2023

## Mass Schedule

### Reconciliation Monday

**Monday, December 18th**

Confessions Heard From 2 PM - 4 PM, 6 PM - 8 PM

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

**Saturday, December 23rd**

5:00 PM Vigil Mass\*

**Sunday, December 24th**

8:00 AM, 10:00 AM Masses\*

12:30 PM Mass (Español)

### Christmas Masses

**Sunday, December 24th**

5:00 PM Vigil Mass\*

11:00 PM Christmas Concert\*

12:00 AM Midnight Mass\*

**Monday, December 25th**

10:00 AM Mass\*

12:30 PM Mass (Español)\*

### Feast of the Holy Family

**Saturday, December 30th**

5:00 PM Vigil Mass\*

**Sunday, December 31st**

8:00 AM Mass

10:00 AM Mass\*

12:30 PM Mass (Español)\*

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

**Sunday, December 31st**

5:00 PM Mass\*

6:30 PM NY Festival Singers Concert

**Monday, January 1st**

10:00 AM Mass

\* Livestreamed to [www.stpaultheapostle.org](http://www.stpaultheapostle.org)



## Giving Tree 2023

For many years now, the Church of St. Paul the Apostle has remembered those in need at Christmas through the Giving Tree. This year, the gifts will go to foster care children and teens at Abbott House, Catholic Guardian Services, and seniors at Encore Seniors.

**Giving is easy!** You can donate online via our charity registries, or visit our tree in the back of the church at the end of the month to grab a gift tag. Make sure to order from the online registry **OR drop off your unwrapped items at the Parish Center by Sunday, December 17th** to ensure your gift arrives by Christmas!

To donate online or learn more about our charities, [visit our Giving Tree website here](#). Thank you for your generosity!

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"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man."

Psalm 118: 1,8

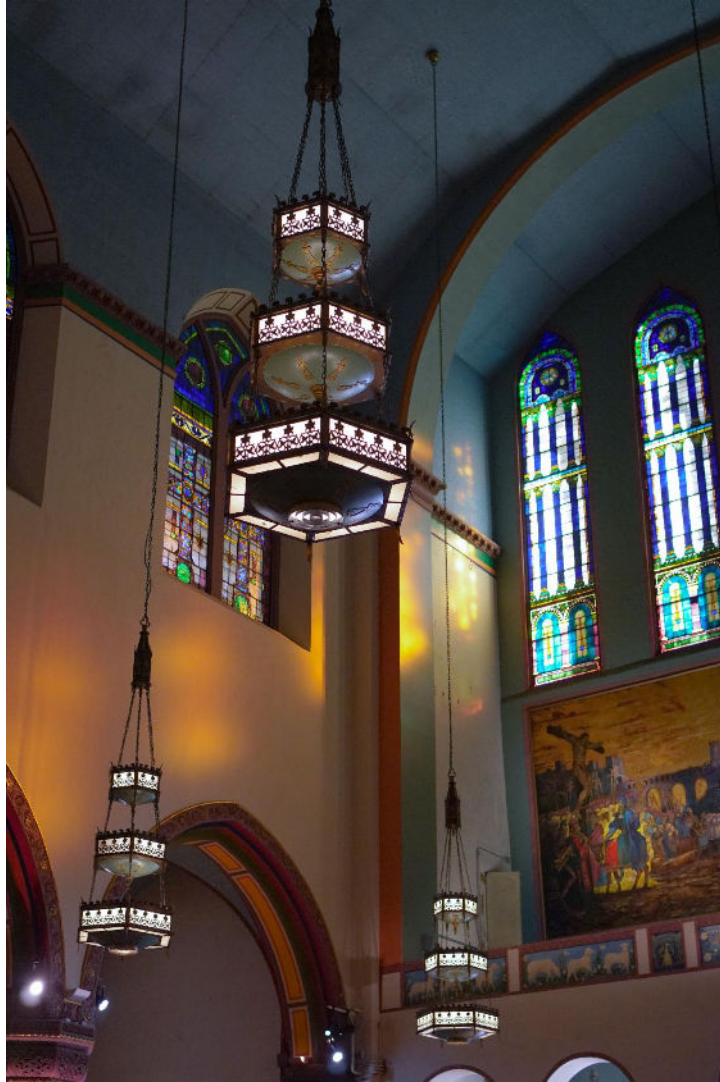
# December 7

## St. Paul's Advent Calendar

For this year's Virtual Advent Calendar, we'll be posting a brief excerpt from the day's readings every day to help us anticipate the joy of the Christmas season and everything that it brings.

In lieu of chocolate, every day's post also includes a beautiful photo of the art and architecture in our church (like the one below). You can save it to your phone or desktop - it makes a great phone background or screensaver!

Be sure to check in every day for our latest calendar post, or go to our website to see everything we've put on the calendar so far: <https://stpaultheapostle.org/advent-calendar/>



## Poinsettia Donation

Help us brighten up the church and beautify our sanctuary during Christmas with a basket of poinsettias!

Donations can be made with the intention of your choice - these intentions will be acknowledged in our eBlast newsletter and on our social media.

[Donate Here](#)



## Make a Gift to St. Paul's

Your support is the primary way that we can continue to serve the people of St. Paul's - **we've put some information below about how you can give back if you are able to.** Please remember that you can have your donations go directly to the ministry of your choice!

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!

## Parish Spotlight



The church was packed last Saturday night for Fordham University's annual Lessons and Carols!

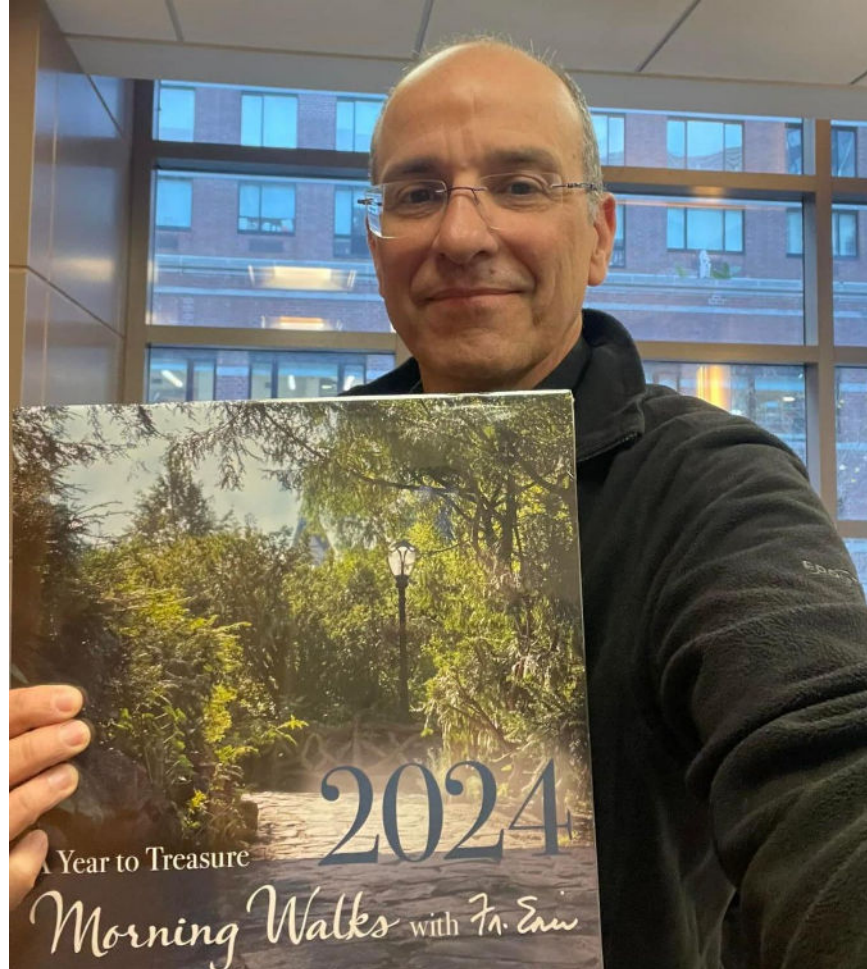


University president Tania Tetolow, JD - pictured below - even joined the choir for a beautiful rendition of O Holy Night!



A special thanks to parishioners and volunteers from across our ministries that gave their time to help us set up for our Christmas Time in the City concert!

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### *A Year to Treasure 2024 Calendar*

Now that it's Advent, we're officially allowed to share a suggestion for this year's Christmas gifts! Fr. Eric's **2024 Calendar** is available for purchase now in the Welcome Center Bookstore, and [online at our St. Paul's Bookstore website](#).

Each page features gorgeous idyllic pictures taken by our pastor during his walks around the city (and beyond) that are sure to spark joy in your day. The calendar makes a great gift to your loved ones - and to yourself - plus all of the proceeds from sales directly help to support our parish.

[Click here to order your copy!](#)



## Upcoming Events

# Winter Coat Drive



### St. Vincent de Paul Conference of SPA Winter Coat Drive

Please help St. Paul's parishioners and neighbors stay warm this winter! During the next two weeks, SVDP will be collecting new winter coats for those in need.

There are two ways to donate! You can place a new winter coat in the marked box in the back of the church, or you can go to our Amazon "Wish List" and order one - just click the button below!

If you need assistance, SVDP can be reached at: [www.svdpspanyc.org](http://www.svdpspanyc.org). Thank you and God bless you!

[Donate a Coat Online](#)

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# Christmas Eve Prelude

DECEMBER 24, 2023 | 11:00 PM

**The St. Paul's Choir Christmas Eve Prelude**  
Saturday, December 24th at 11PM  
Free Admission

Hear your favorite Christmas carols, traditional melodies with exciting arrangements, and beautiful new compositions before celebrating Midnight Mass. All are welcome to attend! We will live-stream the concert for those who aren't able to join us.

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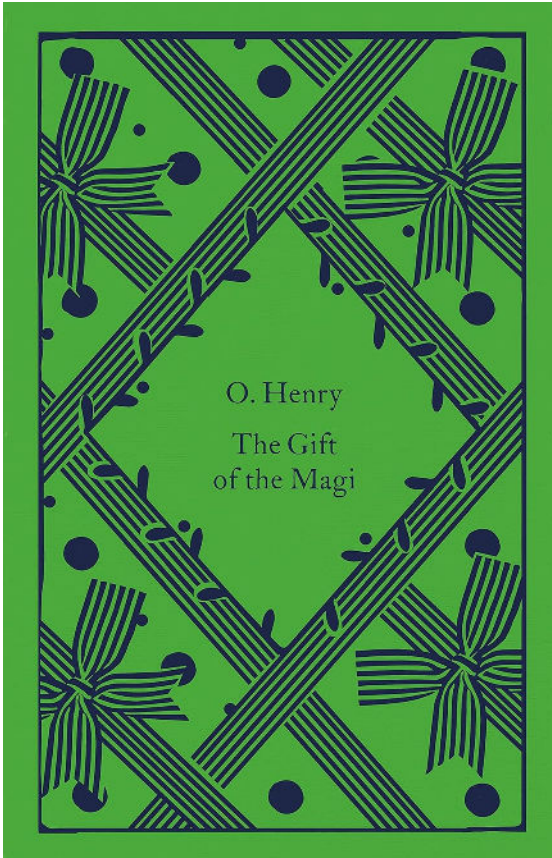


## Notre Dame Christmas Concert

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.**

Tickets are selling fast, so buy yours now while they're still available! Save the date and [register for the event by clicking here](#)

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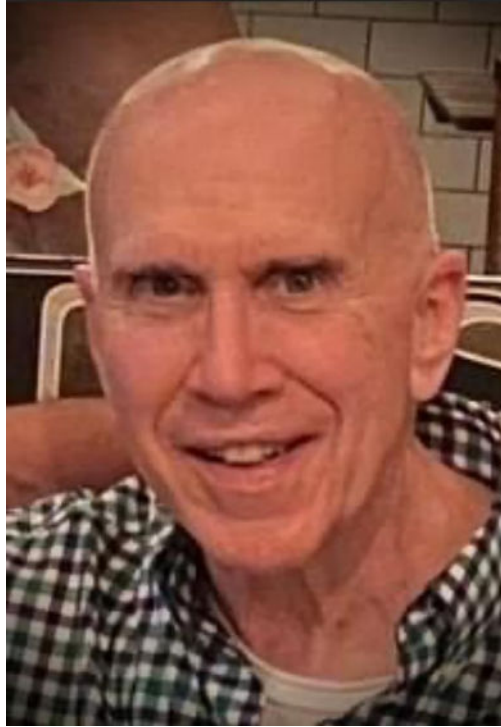
### St. Paul's Book Club

Join us via Zoom on  
**Monday, January 8th**  
**at 6:30PM**  
for our discussion of  
*The Gift of the Magi*  
by O. Henry

Please RSVP to  
[welcomecenter@stpaultheapostle.org](mailto:welcomecenter@stpaultheapostle.org) to  
receive our meeting link!

O. Henry is one of the most popular American writers of the twentieth century and a true master of the short story. This selection of tales ranges from Christmas in New York to the cattle-lands of Texas, taking in con men, clerks, shop assistants, tramps and tricksters. They all highlight O. Henry's comic eye, his gift for evoking speech and setting, and his unique approach to life's quirks of fate.

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On Friday, January 12th at 7PM, please join in the Celebration of the Life of Steven Harris, a former Paulist Father who died on November 2nd.

Steven was Associate Pastor here in the 1990s. A Memorial Service - to honor this remarkable man who gave so much to so many - will be held at St Paul's.

In lieu of any flowers, his family asks that we please consider a donation in Steven's name to [Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS](#).

## Holy Humor



## Prayer Requests



## *Prayer Requests*

Grant eternal rest to Reginald & Torrance Jean Black, Christine Resman, Geraldine Gillen, Anna Loiacono, Igor Mencos, Luis Raul Ortiz, Sylvia Popkin, Nelly Gomez, James & Peggy John, Walter J. Yarrosch, Angelina Smith Gray,

and Mario Viernes Locquiano.

**Grant health or healing** to Josephine Andrews, Andrew R. Moynihan, Eileen Kent, Evangelina Villaraza, Grace Pettijohn, Archdeacon Fr. Michael Suvak, Archimandrite Fr. Christopher Calin, Fr. Nicholas Garklavs, Bishop Nikodhim Preston, Teddy Suvak, Tripp Jones, Anne Troy, Ashley Oken, Isaac Morales, Alex Nelson, Alexandra Evans, Ariela G., Sara Lissa Paulsson, Vanessa Belsito, Seamus Miller, Maureen Moriarty, Rev. Ronald Yarrosch, Samuel Perrins, Donnie Strickland, Daniel L. Rodriguez, Ricardo Cameron, Paolo Struff, Christopher Henderson, and Stephanie Boccuzzi.

**Grant peace and well-being** to Elise Wilkins, Hilda Ojeda, Damianus Aditya Christie, James Golka, Andrew R. Moynihan, Mary & James Miller, Mary Neven Marsh, Freda Q. Malanyaon, Genevieve Brockway Kuhar, the Wilkins family, and the Gorelick 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, December 8th

7:30AM † Michael Gilbert Loanzon

12:10PM † Robert O'Connor

6:30PM - For the People

### Saturday, December 9th

9:00AM † Stephen Harris

5:00PM † Jack Cahill

### Sunday, December 10th

8:00AM - For the People

10:00AM † Mary Flowers

12:30PM † Ana Lucia Hernandez

5:00PM † Erich Kollmar

### Monday, December 11th

7:30AM † Jenny Gentile

12:10 PM † Raymond Sullivan

### Tuesday, December 12th

7:30AM † Marvin Malachowski

12:10PM † Linda Jo Galasso

### Wednesday, December 13th

7:30AM † John Patrick Atkinson

12:10PM † Louis Jean-Marie Rouchon

### Thursday, December 14th

7:30AM † Willy Previl

12:10PM † Fr. Patrick G. Burns

## 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 season's colors.

This week's altar flowers are donated in loving memory of Paul McDonough Jr.

[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>.

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

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