

April 4th, 2024



## Divine Mercy Sunday



### The Pastor's Column

Dear Friends,

As we are still in the Octave of Easter, a week of Easter Sundays, this is a holiday week and everyone around here is in the afterglow.

He is Truly Risen! That said, I still need more time to sleep it off.

So, I'll save all my reflections on our wonderful Holy Week and Easter celebrations until next week. In the meantime, enjoy some wonderful photos captured by stream team member Charlie Friedlander.

Continued Blessings for a HAPPY EASTER!

With Pascal Joy,

Fr. Eric



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

## Event Spotlight

The Metropolitan Opera

FORDHAM



The critically-acclaimed opera premieres at the Met, and director Lileana Blain-Cruz joins us for an evening of conversation on art, faith, and justice

A Christmas story at Easter time? That's essentially what the Metropolitan Opera is doing in presenting the company premier of John Adams's *El Niño*. But the opera-oratorio's focus on the experience of the refugee and the migrant—how they struggled to find acceptance in Biblical times—could not be more contemporary, and urgent. The composition incorporates sacred and

secular texts in English, Spanish, and Latin, from biblical times to the present day, in an extraordinarily dramatic retelling of the Nativity.

The vivid new production also marks the Met debut of celebrated theater maker Lileana Blain-Cruz, resident director at Lincoln Center Theater, who joins us to talk about the opera and the importance of staging art that matters for our world today. She will be joined by Fadi Skeiker of Fordham's theater department and Fordham theology professor Leo Guardado. David Gibson, director of the Center on Religion and Culture, will moderate the discussion with the panelists and the audience. **St. Paul's has been granted the opportunity to give away several tickets to *El Niño*, you can enter for a chance to win a trip to the Met Opera during the program.**

Join us for this talk at our church on Friday, April 19th at 6PM. Admission is free and open to all; [please RSVP by filling out this form on Fordham's website](#)

## Scenes from the Week



Last week, we shared with you moments from our Palm Sunday liturgy. It was an excellent way to begin Holy Week, but the best was yet to come...

After preparing our hearts on Reconciliation Monday, the Sacred Triduum was finally upon us.



We celebrated the instantiation of the Eucharist on Holy Thursday, where our Paulist priests renewed their vows and Pastor Eric performed the *mandatum*, known as the washing of the feet.



The evening's liturgy concluded with a trip to the Garden of Gethsemane. The procession to the high altar [ended with the adoration of the eucharistas](#) the congregation reflected with Christ on what was to come.



Good Friday was full of somber devotions, starting with the [Stations of the Cross](#). At [Seven Last Words](#), members of our community shared poignant reflections on



Our service celebrating [the Passion of Our Lord](#) included solemn adoration of the cross and an austere, moving chanting of the Passion of John.





Many gathered later in the day for [Tenebrae](#), an evening of candlelight scripture reflections accompanied by a beautiful string quartet.





Finally, the celebration of the Resurrection [began at the Easter Vigil](#), where in the darkness of Jesus' passing the light of His triumph over death shone in the church, illuminating the pews.

This joyous occasion was a big night for our OCIA candidates. **15 people were baptized into the faith, praise be to God!**



In total, 22 people were confirmed...



... and all of them received their First Holy Communion, too!



The great celebration continued on Easter Sunday. At our 10AM mass, the church was packed to the brim; every pew was filled, and our side altars, aisles, and open space around the baptismal font was full of parishioners! It was a wonderful way to celebrate the Resurrection.





There are so many people to thank for making this journey through Holy Week as prayerful and seamless as it was.

We are grateful to our leaders in ministries who led and organized our Lenten events; to our Saint Vincent de Paul ministry for organizing the Welcome Weekend food drive; to Tania Chebli for organizing the Easter Basket drive; to all of our bakers for the post-Easter Vigil cupcake feast (and to Dana, Sheila, and Mark for bringing it all together); to Dave de la Fuente, director of OCIA, for preparing this year's candidates and catechumens; to the "stream team" Michael Corrado and Charlie Friedlander for our broadcasts and digital media; to our incredibly dedicated staff and maintenance workers; and, finally, to Kathy Zirnhelt for making everything come together!

We also want to thank Joey Chancey, Director of Music, Joey Rodriguez, our music administrator, J. Oconer Navarro, composer of so many pieces of music we rely on, and all of the talented singers and musicians from our Music Ministry who lifted our prayers to the heavens through their glorious gifts.



## Upcoming Events



### Day at The Met

Saturday, April 6 - 1:00 PM

@ The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Join Apostolists for a Saturday Met Museum outing! Whether you are a frequent gallery-goer or a first-time visitor, we invite you to come be inspired as we explore the collections together. Tickets are pay-what-we-wish but must be purchased ahead of time on [The Met's website](#). We will meet at the Southeast End of the Stairs at 1 pm. Look for folks with Apostolists shirts!

For communications purposes, please let us know [here](#) if you plan on joining us this Saturday.

## **Apostolist Laudato Si Homebase** Wednesday, April 10 - 6:30 PM-8:00 PM @ Parish Center

Meet us at the Parish Center for our regular Apostolist gathering (second and fourth Wednesday of the month)!

Have you heard that St. Paul's is starting a Laudato Si group? Curious to learn more about Pope Francis's encyclical calling us to care for our common home and this international movement to reverence, respect, and nurture our planet as God commanded us to do? As we prepare for Earth Day on April 22, come learn more about these topics and the parish's start-up efforts with special guest Fr. James DiLuzio (via Zoom)!

Whether or not you can join us, you are welcome to learn more and stay updated on Laudato Si at St. Paul's by [signing up for the group's email list](#).

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## *Visiting Voices*

St. Paul's hosts groups of young musicians on tour around the country, offering free concerts to the public in our church. Enjoy the talents of these young artists at any of the listed times in the next image -- no tickets or RSVP required!

**Our upcoming groups of Visiting Voices, the Sylvania Southwest HS Choir, will perform on Saturday, April 6th at 10 AM. Find our full schedule below:**

April 11th

Brookfield Central HS Choir - 9:30 AM  
Upper Arlington HS Choir - 1:30 PM

April 12th

Worthington HS Choir and Orchestra - 1 PM  
Marion Harding HS Choir and Orchestra - 4 PM

April 13th

Strongsville HS Choir - 10 AM

April 19th

Hunt HS - 1 PM  
Franklin HS - 3PM

April 26th

Lebanon HS Jazz Band - 3 PM



### Fine Art Book Sale!

Over 50 high quality art books will be for sale to benefit Openings Summer Residency Scholarships. Most are high end exhibition catalogues in excellent condition, many are hardcover. Some are rare. All books will be heavily

discounted.

The sale will take place one day only, on Saturday, April 13 from 1-4pm in the Parish Center.

No reserves; first come first served. All credit cards accepted!

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### **NEXT SUNDAY: First Holy Communion**

This year's group of children from Religious Education will receive the sacrament of communion for the first time on **Sunday, April 14th at the 10AM mass.**

Participation in the eucharist is one of the most joyous and nourishing acts in the Catholic life of prayer. Join us in celebration as they make this exciting step in their faith journey!

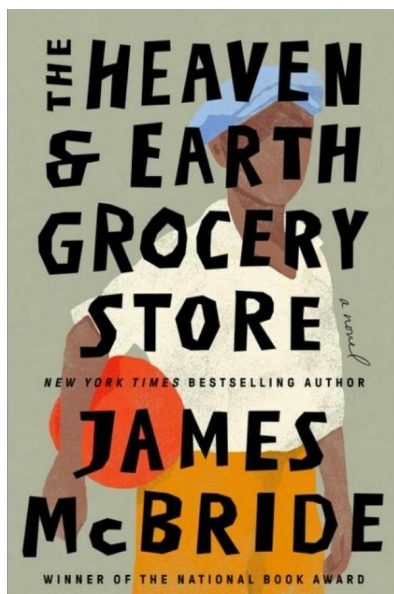
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## APRIL 15th: Manhattan College Performs Vivaldi

The Manhattan College Orchestra & Singers will join us for the second year in a row for an exciting performance! This year, the group will perform Vivaldi's *Gloria* in full.

Hear them perform this beautiful and uplifting piece on Monday, April 15th at 7:00 PM. Admission is free; we look forward to seeing you there! Those of you who can't join in person can tune in on Virtch Church through our usual channels.



## St. Paul's Book Club

Join us via Zoom on  
**Tuesday, April 23rd**  
**at 6:30PM**

for our discussion of  
*The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store*  
by James McBride

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

From James McBride, author of the bestselling Oprah's Book Club pick *Deacon King Kong* and the National Book Award-winning *The Good Lord Bird*, a novel about small-town secrets and the people who keep them.

In 1972, when workers in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, were digging the foundations for a new development, the last thing they expected to find was a skeleton at the bottom of a well. Who the skeleton was and how it got there were two of the long-held secrets kept by the residents of Chicken Hill, the

dilapidated neighborhood where immigrant Jews and African Americans lived side by side and shared ambitions and sorrows. As these characters' stories overlap and deepen, it becomes clear how much the people who live on the margins of white, Christian America struggle and what they must do to survive. When the truth is finally revealed about what happened on Chicken Hill and the part the town's establishment played in it, McBride shows us that even in dark times, it is love and community—heaven and earth—that sustain us.



## **The Paulist Fathers' 4<sup>th</sup> Spirit of Hecker Awards**

will be broadcast on Facebook and YouTube  
on Saturday evening, April 27, 2024.

The program will honor exemplary leaders and volunteers  
from the parishes, centers, and ministries we serve —  
in the spirit of our founder, Servant of God Isaac Hecker.

The theme of this year's program is  
"Advancing God's Mission Through Our Charism and Community."

The broadcast will be at 8:30 p.m. Eastern,  
7:30 p.m. Central, 6:30 p.m. Mountain, and 5:30 p.m. Pacific.

Links and updates will be shared at: [\*\*paulist.org/HeckerAwards\*\*](https://paulist.org/HeckerAwards)





## St. Paul the Apostle Reunion

It's been fifty years since St. Paul the Apostle School closed. It's a sad anniversary, but also an opportunity to celebrate the students that we were, the Holy Cross Sisters who labored indefatigably, the Paulist Fathers who supported and visited our classrooms, and the Parish of St. Paul the Apostle.

**On May 4th at the 5:00pm Mass, we will have our anniversary celebration, followed by a reception in the parish center** (which didn't exist when we were at St. Paul's). If you can be present, please send your first and last name, email and year of graduation to Linda Ocasio ([linda@geb.net](mailto:linda@geb.net)). If you cannot come but wish to make a donation to the parish send it to: School Anniversary, c/o St. Paul the Apostle, 405 W. 59th Street, NY, NY 10019. If you have a question, send it to [mission@pemdc.org](mailto:mission@pemdc.org).

Let's celebrate who we were -- and who we are!





## The Road to Holy Week



**Well, it has been quite the journey!** The forty-day trek through the Lenten desert was busy, enriching, and prayerful. Here's a recap of how we got here from Ash Wednesday:



Our Lenten journey began with one last "Evening of Alleluias" from the Notre Dame Folk Choir and a wonderful parish Mardi Gras party.





We entered into the holy season of fasting and prayer on Ash Wednesday.



Weekly devotions, including Adoration of the Eucharist and the Stations of the Cross, were hosted by many of our parish ministries. Evening Stations began in Lent with guidance from OCIA as a large crowd of parishioners and soon-to-be-Catholics walked the footsteps of Christ.



Other ministries we thank for their presentations of the Stations of the Cross include St. Vincent de Paul, Apostolist, OSP, and the Laudato Si Group.



Additionally, several of our Lenten masses were capped off by special presentations to our parish.



We were blessed to hear from high ranking members of Sant'Egidio about how they conduct outreach to our most vulnerable populations in New York.

St. Paul's was also host to acclaimed author Arthur Brooks, who gave an

inspiring talk on integrating our faith deeply into our lives and - as a result - finding our happiness.



This year's parish retreat, *Oasis*, was a spiritual wellspring in the desert of Lent, helping more than 100 parishioners engage deeply in the message of the season.



Throughout Lent, catechumens from this year's OCIA class joined us often at Sunday liturgies for scrutiny rites which prepared them for their baptism at the Easter Vigil. They also received the pillars of our faith in the form of the Nicene Creed and the Our Father at Wednesday evening masses.



Leading into Holy Week, the Stations of the Cross came to life through the work of Tony Lopresti and parishioners that acted out each station in tableau:



The hard work of many volunteers and generous parishioners let us bring together hundreds of Easter Baskets on Palm Sunday for the benefit of foster children and teens served by Abbot House and Catholic Guardian Services.



Palm Sunday was truly a sight to behold, beginning with a Procession of the

Palms and punctuated by a soul-stirring musical setting of [the Passion of Our Lord According to St. Mark](#).

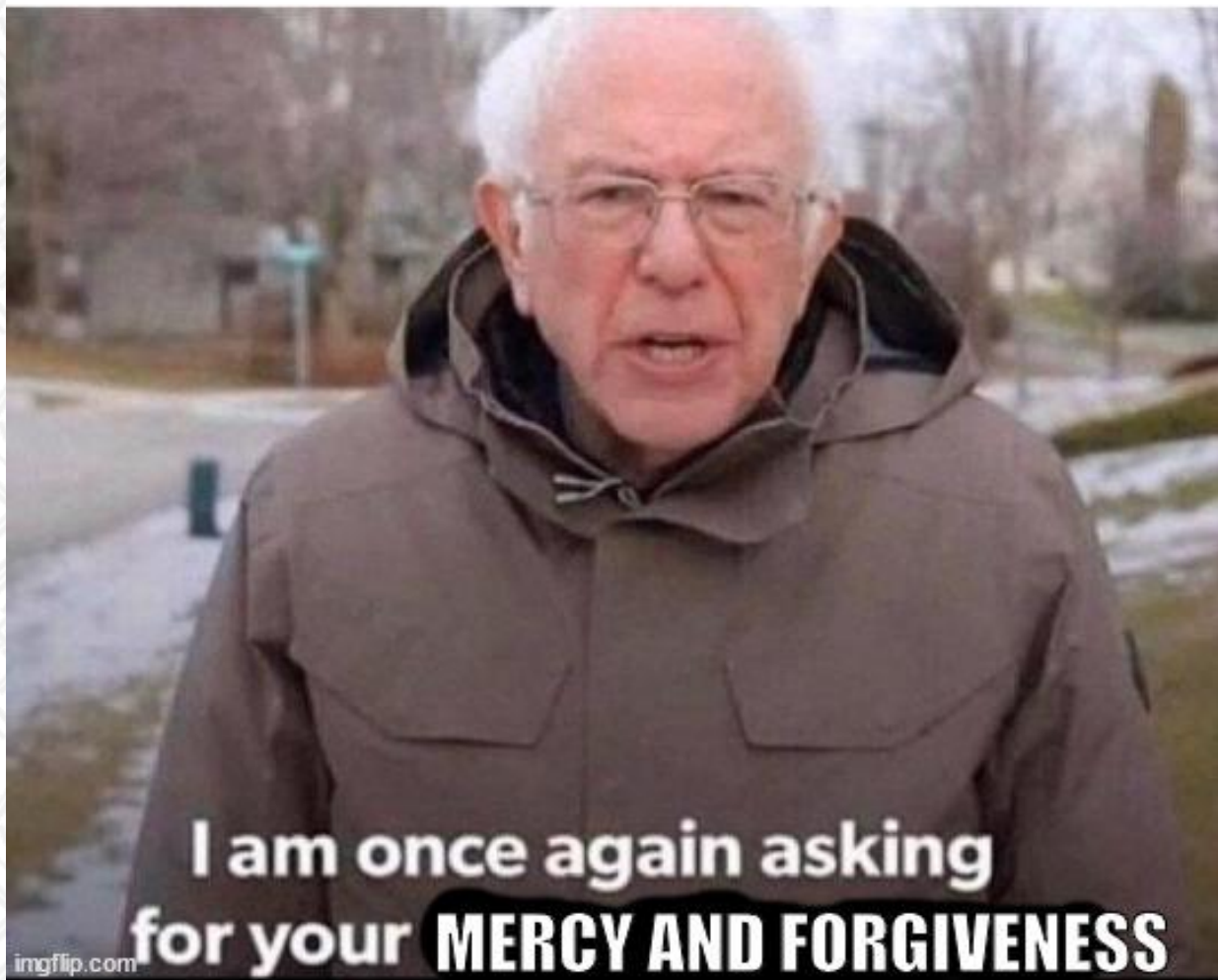


Thanks to all who came on the journey with us!

## Holy Humor



ME ON DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY AFTER ANOTHER 365 DAYS OF BEING A SINNER:



I am once again asking  
for your **MERCY AND FORGIVENESS**

Prayer Requests



*Prayer Requests*

Grant eternal rest to Santina & Alfred Montana, Tom Moore, Angelina Maddonni, Divaldo Camara, John M. Padron, Thomas Schneider, Fernando Castillo, Dominico Fernandez Ratuiste, and Felicia P. Manzon.

Grant health or healing to Delores Desso, Maureen Moriarty, Stephanie Boccuzzi, Sean Timothy Tanega, Christopher Henderson, Jeanne Connors, Bryon Gordon, Tracie Matsueda, Rafael Antonio Gayoso, Eileen Schreiber, Kathleen Friel, Donnie Strickland, TJ Cameron, Josephine Mahon, Sandy DiMola, Jessica Broaddus, Deacon Wally Sandoval, Fr. John Barton, Jr., and Nenita Garrovillas.

Grant peace and well-being to Reggie Whitehead, the Wilkins family, the Gorelick family, the Hicks family, and the Whyte 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, April 5th

7:30AM - Pope Francis  
12:10PM † Emily DeMartino

### Saturday, April 6th

7:30AM - Michael Stafford  
12:10PM † Catalino Real

### Sunday, April 7th

8:00AM - Peace in Israel & Ukraine  
10:00AM † Celida Medina  
12:30PM † Ana Lucia Hernandez  
5:00PM - For the People

### Monday, April 8th

7:30AM † Mariano Oscar Velez Ramiez  
12:10PM † Jerry Foley

### Tuesday, April 9th

7:30AM - For the People  
12:10PM - Jonathan Amores

### Wednesday, April 10th

7:30AM - For the People  
12:10PM † Zenaida Mariano

### Thursday, April 11th

7:30AM - For the People  
12:10PM † Maria Catalina Nuñez

## 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

### Daily Mass Monday - Friday

7:30 AM and 12:10 PM

### Saturday

9:00AM

### **Sunday Mass**

### Saturday

5:00 PM (Vigil)

### 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

# Virtch Church ONLINE MINISTRY



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>.



## Make a Gift to St. Paul's

As Holy Week comes to fruition, please consider donating to support the work of our church.

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.



**venmo**

You can also find us on Venmo. Just scan the QR code above, or search for [@stpaulsnyc](#) to donate now!

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

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