

March 7th, 2024



Fourth Sunday of Lent



*Hello from Knoxville, Tennessee!*

I am down here this weekend to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Paulist Fathers in East Tennessee. I served as Campus Minister and Pastor of St. John XXIII University Parish on the campus of the University of Tennessee from 2000-2009.

In the meantime, I am pleased Fr. Evan is this week's "Guest Columnist"!

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

## The (Associate) Pastor's Column

When is a haircut more than just a haircut? Certainly time is a factor here as by the time this is published, I will likely have had my first haircut in four years. I

know that my ponytail and long hair have been much loved by many, though not universally and I respect that. However, just as Ecclesiastes says “There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens” (Eccles. 3:1), it is time for Fr. Evan to get a haircut.

So why the long hair in the first place? Those who knew me when I was helping at St. Paul’s as a seminarian or when I was first ordained I had a pretty normal length haircut. So what happened between 2019 and now? Well, the answer to that question is not much of a surprise as it’s something that has affected all of our lives in a myriad of ways: Covid.

Just like the rest of the world in March of 2020, I was not going out and living life as normal, and this of course included haircuts. We saw stories of many learning to cut their own hair or the hair of those they lived with, but no one in the Paulist house in Columbus was feeling up to that task. As we emerged from total isolation and could return to such things as haircuts, I was pretty shaggy. However, God invited me to something unexpected as a form of prayer in light of the pandemic. God invited me to not cut my hair as a sacrifice and intentional prayer for the end of the pandemic.

In short, God was inviting me to do something seemingly foolish for him, to be a fool for Christ. I have long appreciated the fools of Christ, saints who do seemingly outlandish things to proclaim the Gospel. One can easily consider John the Baptist not cutting his hair as part of that tradition. My favorite example is Simeon the Stylite who lived atop a pillar in Aleppo and preached to passersby. While I don’t consider my lack of a haircut as bold, it was still somewhat unconventional and certainly a sacrifice, as anyone with long hair can attest to the difficulty of managing said hair.

And thus, I let my hair continue to grow without touching a razor to any of it. However, As the world rolls on and successful vaccination efforts have been rolled out to ensure equity and healthcare access around the world, Covid is much less of a threat. In 2023, Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus, the Director-General of the World Health Organization, declared that Covid is over as a global health emergency (though he cautioned that it is still a global threat). The CDC has shortened quarantine to 24 hours of being fever-free. While Covid is here to stay with us, we have by and large moved into a new stage of life, and as such, my prayer tied up with my hair is moved into a new stage as well. So, for now, it is time to say goodbye to my lengthy locks and return to a shorter hairstyle (don’t worry, the hair will be appropriately donated).

God Bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Evan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



Reverend Evan Cummings, CSP  
*Associate Pastor, St. Paul the Apostle*

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### **SPRING AHEAD: Clocks Change This Weekend**

With the Spring season fast approaching, it's time for us to spring our clocks ahead one hour. **Daylight Savings Time begins this Sunday, March 10th!**

Although we did warn you, life does get in the way sometimes! If you sleep through morning mass, join us for our live-streams on our [website](#), our [YouTube page](#), and our [Facebook page](#), or stop by our 12:30PM Spanish mass and 5PM mass.

We'll see you this weekend!

## **Event Spotlight**



## **SATURDAY AND SUNDAY: Welcome Weekend**

After all masses held on March 9th and 10th, our St. Vincent de Paul ministry will host our monthly Welcome Weekend festivities in the back of the church!

**In the spirit of almsgiving we are called to during Lent, we are asking for donations of canned tuna and boxes of mac & cheese to support our Loaves & Fishes food pantry.** You can bring your donations by at any mass this weekend; collection areas will be set up near the entrance of the church at our Welcome Weekend table.

We look forward to seeing you there, and thank you in advance for your generosity.

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**#RevealChristsLove  
#1Church1Mission**

## Second Collection for Catholic Relief Services

We will take up a second collection for CRS this Sunday, March 10th in support of their ministries. The Catholic Relief Services Collection is your opportunity to improve the lives of the most vulnerable people around the world and here in the United States. Your support funds organizations that aid travelers, people affected by war and natural disasters, others whose work or unique cultural circumstances require special pastoral support, and migrants and refugees displaced by conflict, persecution, or political instability.

Contributions to The Catholic Relief Services Collection are distributed to these six organizations:

- [Catholic Relief Services](#) for international relief and development.
- [Migration and Refugee Services](#) for refugee resettlement.
- [Catholic Legal Immigration Network Inc. \(CLINIC\)](#) for immigration legal services.
- [Department of Justice, Peace, and Human Development](#) for advocacy.
- [Holy Father's Relief Fund](#) for emergency relief.
- [Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church](#) for evangelization and ministry

To learn more, [visit the USCCB website here.](#)

**Scenes from the Week**



welcome

bless

embrace

lent 2024 | st. paul the apostle



Last night, acclaimed author and Harvard Business School professor Arthur Brooks, PhD, gave an inspiring talk on finding your place and happiness in life. Despite the rainy weather, many people bravely ventured to the church for the talk! Special thanks to Deacon Chris Lawton for asking insightful questions during the discussion portion of the evening.

This talk was the first in our conversation series, *Finding Faith in Unforeseen Places*. We look forward to hosting more great speakers in the near future.



This Easter, God willing, a dozen catechumens will be baptized into the Church, and more than a dozen Catholic candidates will be brought into full communion with the faith. It is truly a blessing to be a part of their formation and witness the many ways God calls each of us to a deeper understanding of His Love.

Last Sunday at 10AM, the Elect participated in the first of three Scrutiny Rites which take place in the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of Lent.



At the base of the Annunciation altar in the south aisle of the church, there is a book that includes the names of this year's class of catechumens and candidates. We ask that you keep them in your prayers as they journey through Lent towards the sacraments. **The next time you're in the church, consider stopping by the altar and offering the following prayer:**

Good and gracious God, you call all of us to seek you, know you, and love you. Bless and protect our catechumens as they await their baptism. Guard them from all evil, purify and heal them by your grace, and deliver them into the company of your faithful.

Guide our candidates to the fullness of faith, strengthen them in their vocation, and activate the grace of their baptism as they journey to full communion.

We pray also for all who seek you with a sincere heart. By your Holy Spirit, lead them by their conscience to all that is good, beautiful, and true.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us all during this Lenten season, so that by the spirit's inspiration, we may know, follow, and love Jesus more closely, accept our crosses, and participate in the Paschal mystery.

Through Christ our Lord, Amen.



# How to Do Lent at St. Paul's



## Journey - Encounter - Reflect

This Lent, journey with us to encounter the mercy of God, reflect on our blessings, and help each other carry our burdens.

Christ endured the harsh sands of temptation through His total reliance on the love of God; we too are not alone in our forty day journey of prayer. We are journeying with the seeker, the poor, friends and stewards of creation, those who need a place, and those who long for peace.

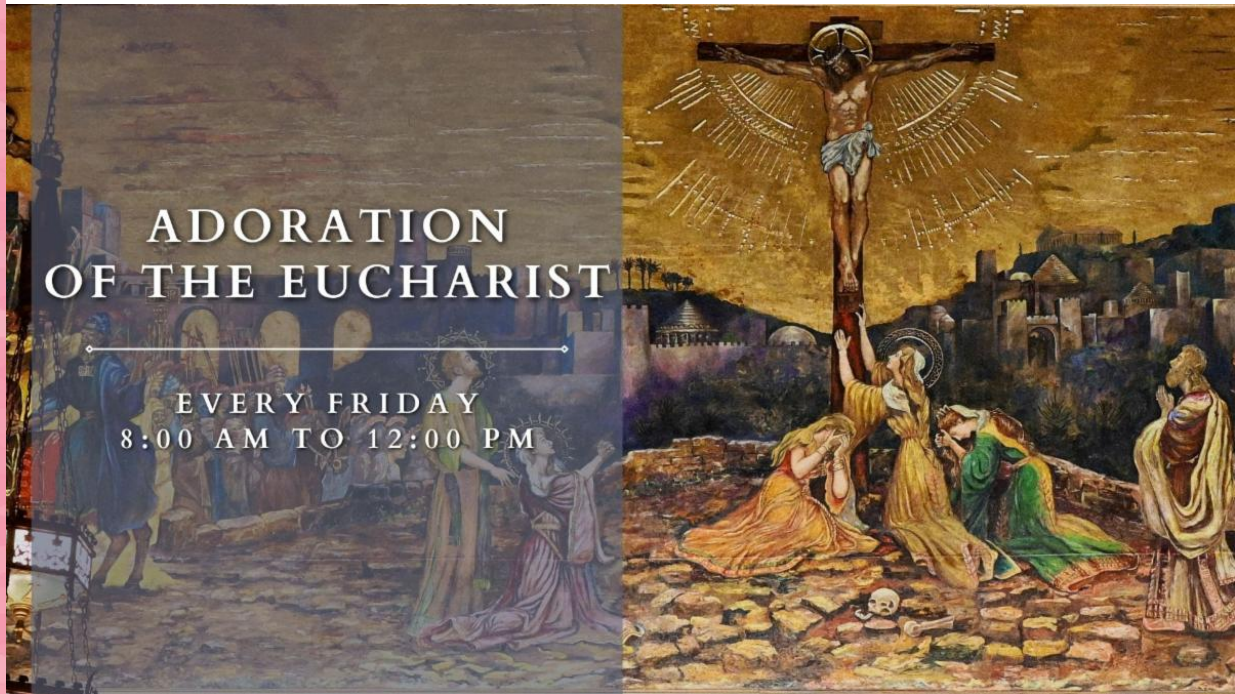
## Weekly Devotions



## More Ways to Pray

Every Wednesday night in Lent, we will hold an additional mass at 6:30 PM.

There is no better way to keep the spirit of Lent in your heart! Come by after work for a mid-week celebration of holiness and sanctity. Each mass will be followed by a brief talk



## Spend Time with the Lord this Lent

Deepen your faith in Jesus's astounding gift of His Real Presence - body, blood, soul, and divinity - during Adoration of the Eucharist, held every Friday from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

MINISTRY-SPONSORED  
STATIONS AT 6:30PM



EVERY FRIDAY IN LENT  
FEBRUARY 16TH — MARCH 22ND

12:40 PM | 6:30 PM  
7:30 PM (EN ESPAÑOL)

FEBRUARY 16TH: OCIA

FEBRUARY 23RD: ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

MARCH 1ST: LAUDATO SI

MARCH 8TH: OSP

MARCH 15TH: APOSTOLIST

MARCH 23RD: LIVING STATIONS

## Walk in the Footsteps of Christ

Stations of the Cross are held every Friday after 12:10 PM mass, at 6:30 PM, and at 7:30 PM (en Español).

To better journey with every facet of our parish community, our 6:30 PM Stations of the Cross will be led each week by a different St. Paul's ministry. They will offer a unique set of reflections relating to their mission during the

devotion. These 6:30 PM Stations will be live-streamed to allow everyone access to participate, or use the playbacks as part of a weekly devotion.

## Parish Initiatives



# 2024 Easter Basket Drive

*for the benefit of Abbot House Charity  
and Catholic Guardian Services*

**Help us reach our goal of donating 400 Easter Baskets to teens in need!**

Our Easter Basket Drive for Abbot House Charity and Catholic Guardian Services is back! We are asking for the parish's help to collect baskets for the benefit of foster teens throughout New York City. You can find information about [how to make an Easter basket on our website here](#)

Please bring your Easter Baskets back to the church on Palm Sunday, March 24th! Make sure to stop by the blessing of the baskets after our 5PM Palm Sunday mass - it is a sight to behold.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!



Members of Saint Paul's parish are eager to invite you to participate in our start-up efforts to become [an official Laudato Si International Parish](#). Currently there are over 1,100 Laudato Si parishes worldwide, dedicated to reverencing, respecting and nurturing our planet as God commanded us to do. Want to learn more? [Sign up here to receive information on our group](#)

## A Meditation from your Laudato Si team

Review each day in your evening prayer this Laudate Deum quotes from Pope Francis: “For ‘we are part of nature, included in it and thus in constant interaction with it,’ and thus ‘we [do] not look at the world from without but from within’” (LD 25)

From first waking in the morning until now, God, help me review my day from my place within creation. Pay attention to what moments rise to the top of your memory as you reflect upon these questions.

- How did my actions reflect a sacred, affectionate, and humble respect to our “universal family” of all of God’s creation? How did they not? (LD 67)
- Did my actions build up or break down a “healthy and harmonious relationship” with creation and all God’s creatures? (LD 27)
- How did I interact with “institutions [such as banks, schools, companies; who] preserve the rights of the more powerful without caring for [the rights] of all”? (LD 43)

Access the [full Laudato Si examen by clicking here](#)



Part of the journey of Lent involves living as Jesus did during the forty days in the desert. **Every year, we like to remind parishioners of the designated days of fasting and abstinence.**

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics aged 18-59. Fasting is defined as taking one full meal during the day, and two smaller meals to maintain physical strength. Those small meals should not equal a full meal in quantity. Abstinence forbids the eating of meat and poultry; this is compulsory on Fridays in Lent.



## Help Grow Our Parish

**Much like our time and our mental energy is precious to us, material gifts are a form of sacrifice that can make a big impact.** Any donations you are able to make during Lent help us tremendously to continue our ministries, support our priests, and maintain our building.

To donate online, go to [www.stpaultheapostle.org](http://www.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.

**We look forward to growing in faith with you all during this forty-day Lenten journey!**

## Upcoming Events



### **Lenten Reflections Small Group**

Sunday, March 10 - 3:30 PM-5:00 PM  
@ Parish Center

We are excited to offer weekly audio reflections and small group faith-sharing discussions during the season of Lent. The sessions will be on Sundays at the Parish Center at 3:30 pm. You're invited to join us for weekly, small group gatherings during this season of fasting, prayer, giving and contemplation. Conversation questions will also be provided for our group.

Following our discussion, there will be the opportunity to attend the 5 pm Mass together. Our next session will be held on March 17. Even if you were not able to join us for previous sessions, we would love to see you at this or any of these later dates.

### **Apostolist Homebase**

Wednesday, March 13th - 6:30 PM-8:00 PM  
@ Church of St. Paul the Apostle

Stop by our regular Apostolist gathering (held every second and fourth Wednesday of the month) on March 13th! During Lent, we will first attend the 6:30 pm Mass together and then meet at the back of the church to go to the parish center as a group.

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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 Hilltop Band & Choir, and the Sycamore High School Orchestra, will perform on Friday, March 8th at 1PM and 3PM respectively. Find our full schedule below:**

# Concert Times

**March 8th**

Hilltop Band and Choir  
at 1 PM  
Sycamore HS Orchestra  
at 3 PM

**March 11th**

Austin HS Orchestra  
at 10 AM

**March 15th**

Lee County HS Orchestra  
at 4 PM

**March 16th**

Cedar Valley Choir  
at 1 PM

**April 6th**

Sylvania Southwest HS Choir  
and Orchestra at 10 AM

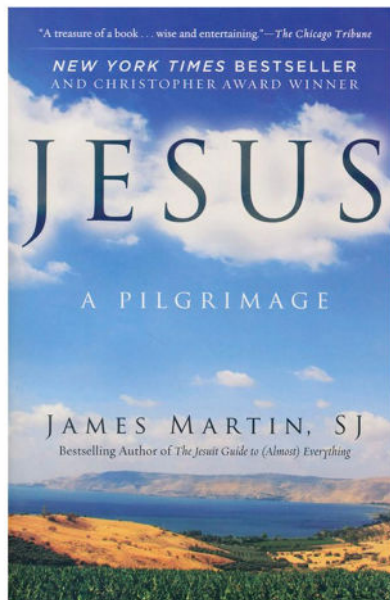


## Give to the 2024 Cardinal's Appeal

The mission of the Archdiocese of New York is to live and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, aware of the local area and the world, the spiritual and the material, the present and the future. The archdiocese serves 2.5 million Catholics across the New York City boroughs of Manhattan, Staten Island, and the Bronx, as well as in the counties of Dutchess, Orange, Sullivan, Westchester, Ulster, Rockland, and Putnam.

The Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal, a critical component of the archdiocesan mission, raises funds to sustain the various ministries, institutions, and outreach programs that serve thousands of individuals and families throughout New York. [Learn more or donate at their website here](#)





## St. Paul's Book Club

Join us via Zoom on  
**Tuesday, March 19th**  
**at 6:30PM**

for our discussion of  
*Jesus: A Pilgrimage*  
by James Martin, SJ

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

### About the Book:

James Martin, SJ, gifted storyteller, St. Paul's parishioner, and New York Times bestselling author of *The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything*, brings the Gospels to life and invites believers and seekers alike to experience Jesus through Scripture, prayer, and travel.

Father Martin ushers you into Jesus' life and times and shows us how Jesus speaks to us today through combining fascinating insights of historical Jesus studies with profound spiritual insights about the Christ of faith, recreating the world of first-century Galilee and Judea.



The Living Stations of the Cross, held on Friday, March 22nd at 6:30 PM, presents real people - St. Paul's parishioners - in tableaux expressing the

essential action and emotions of Jesus and those around Him as He made His way to the cross. This experience is moving for performers and spectators alike.

## *Holy Week Mass Schedule*

### PALM SUNDAY

SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD  
5:00PM\* (CHOIR)

SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH  
8:00AM  
10:00AM\* (CHOIR)  
12:30PM (ESPAÑOL)  
5:00PM\* (CHOIR)

### RECONCILIATION MONDAY

MONDAY, MARCH 25TH  
CONFESSION | 2PM - 4PM, 6PM - 9PM

### HOLY THURSDAY

THURSDAY, MARCH 28TH  
MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER | 7:00PM\*

### GOOD FRIDAY

FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH  
STATIONS OF THE CROSS | 12:00PM\*  
SEVEN LAST WORDS | 1:00PM\*  
PASSION OF THE LORD | 3:00PM\*  
SIETE ÚLTIMAS PALABRAS | 5:30PM  
TENEBRAE | 7:00PM\*

### HOLY SATURDAY

SATURDAY, MARCH 30TH  
EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT | 7:30PM\*

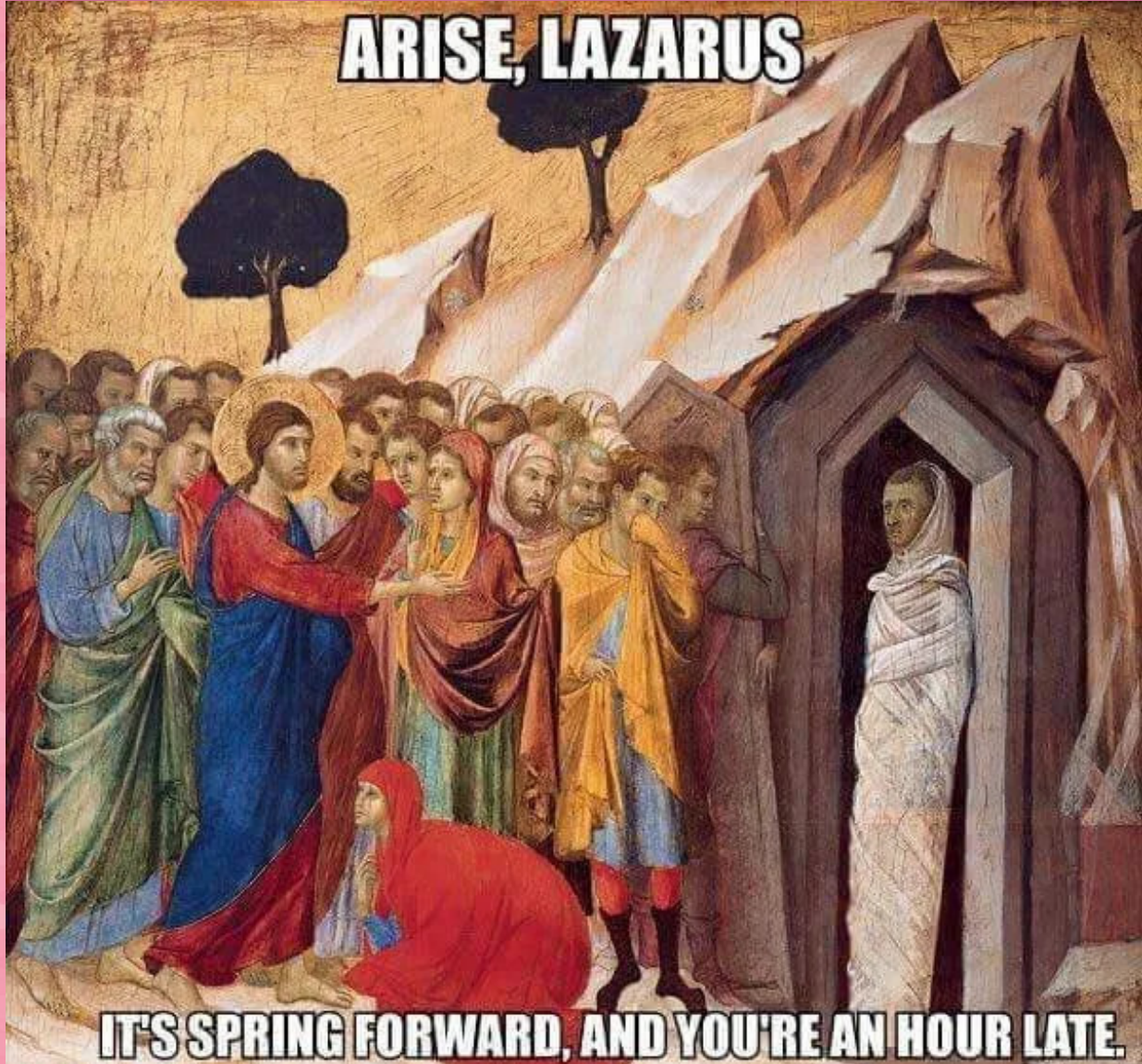
### EASTER SUNDAY

SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST  
8:00AM

10:00AM\* (CHOIR)  
12:30PM (ESPAÑOL)  
5:00PM\* (CHOIR)

\*LIVESTREAMED AT [WWW.STPAULTHEAPOSTLE.ORG](http://WWW.STPAULTHEAPOSTLE.ORG)

## Holy Humor



Prayer Requests



## Prayer Requests

Grant eternal rest to Julie "Jules" Lee, Michael Bloom, Robert Celtus Driscoll, Christopher Battaglia, Rafael Montero, Maria Veronica Trota, Rodrigo Ospina, Adriana Cardona, Felice Bernardi, Santina & Alfred Montana, Tom Moore, Angelina Maddonni, Divaldo Camara, Dominico Fernandez Ratuiste, Felicidad P. Manzon.

Grant health or healing to Jim O'Brien, Jacqueline Dinella, Ashley Johnson, Marissa Casimiro, Fernando Sanchez, Jane Dengel, Betty Daly, Tom Moore, Karen Jackson, Daniel Wilson, Liliana Gherzi, Domenico S., Howard Grater, Denise Abady, Margie Fretz, Anna Eakin, Tiffani Nelson, Vanessa Belsito, Karen Potter, Delores Desso, Maureen Moriarty, Stephanie Boccuzzi, Sean Timothy Tanega, David Mixner, Lis Kasyanto, Cathair Cashin, Martin Lally, Kathleen Friel, Donnie Strickland, TJ Cameron, Joseph Mahon, Eileen Schreiber, Byron Gordon, Sandi DiMola, and Jessica Broaddus.

Grant peace and well-being to Jean Remyana Rodriguez, Felix & Anthony Mayusa, Nicholas, Melissa and Hazel Mae Montana-Walkonis, 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, March 8th

7:30AM † Anders Trygg  
12:10PM † Josephine Andrews

## Saturday, March 9th

9:00AM † Divaldo Camara  
5:00PM † Alfred Flowers

## Sunday, March 10th

8:00AM - For the People  
10:00AM † Celida Medina  
12:30PM † Ramona Ortiz  
5:00PM † Patricia Joan Tolkin

## Monday, March 11th

7:30AM † Fr. Louis Cameli  
12:10PM † Thomas & Bernadette McHugh

## Tuesday, March 12th

7:30AM - Doreen Tiu  
12:10PM † Danielle Marton

## Wednesday, March 13th

7:30AM † Brenda Kane  
12:10PM † Irene Dean  
6:30PM - For the People

## Thursday, March 14th

7:30AM † Raffaella Gambardella  
12:10PM - For the People

# 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



## Make a Gift to St. Paul's

As our Lenten season is underway, 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.



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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