

April 10th, 2025



## Palm Sunday



### The (Associate) Pastor's Column

#### An Important Choice this Palm Sunday

“Gut-wrenching.” This is how Archbishop Timothy Broglio, President of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) described the [decision](#) of the USCCB to end its refugee resettlement programs this week.

For the last fifty years, the USCCB (and its predecessor organizations) has worked in collaboration with the U.S. government to resource programs that meet the needs of refugees fleeing violence, war, and religious persecution in countries around the world. These programs only aid refugees who undergo extensive screening before legal migration into the U.S.

The USCCB is one of a small number of faith-based organizations that, with the help of federal funding, do the majority of refugee resettlement work in our country. In January, the Trump administration [suspended](#) funding for

resettlement agencies, blocking this legal pathway for new refugees and ending funding for food and shelter for those who have recently arrived. Approximately 26,000 refugees to the U.S. (including children) currently receive aid. The administration stated that the U.S. “lacks the ability” to absorb more refugees and that refugee admission will only begin again if it “aligns with the interests of the United States.”

With the loss of federal funding, Archbishop Broglio explained that it has become impossible for the USCCB to financially sustain its programs alone. In a [guest commentary](#) in the Washington Post on Monday, he wrote:

“This is a painful end to a life-sustaining partnership the Catholic Church in the U.S. has had with our government that has spanned decades across administrations of both political parties.”

I am heartbroken and deeply concerned by this news, first and foremost for all those who desperately need our aid. I am also grateful to the USCCB staff who have sought to continue this work as long as possible.

While there is much happening in the political life of our country, the halting of this funding and its downstream effects demand our attention as this manifests the intentional federal dismantling of work that should represent the very core of our identity as Catholics and as Americans.

Processing this news brought to mind the events we will recall on this Palm Sunday. In two Gospel passages from Luke, we will hear cheers about Jesus from two different crowds. In the first (Lk 19:37-38), a crowd of disciples joyfully and lovingly welcomes Jesus as He enters Jerusalem. In the second (Lk 23:18-21), from the Passion narrative, another crowd in the city, amidst fear and division, rejects Jesus entirely, leading to his death.

Archbishop Broglio has emphasized that the Catholic Church in the US must remain committed in all possible ways to serving those seeking refuge from unimaginable circumstances. Our prayers in conjunction with the ongoing work of [Catholic Charities](#), our [parish's efforts](#) for our local community, and advocacy to our elected officials, are just a few ways we can contribute.

If we really believe our Gospel call to welcome Christ present especially in those most vulnerable, what crowd will we be in this Palm Sunday and in the months ahead? The first, which welcomes Jesus? Or the second, which is complicit with His demise? The choice is ours.

God Bless,



## The Sacred Season of Lent

**SWALLOWED  
UP BY  
SINFULNESS?**



**ANCHOR  
YOUR HOPE  
IN CHRIST**



ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE, NYC

# LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS



The Living Stations of the Cross presents real people in tableaux expressing the essential action and emotions of Jesus and those around Him as He made His way to the cross. Coreographed by Tony Lopresti, each station embodies a profound and deeply human walk through the Passion of Christ in what is sure to be an immersive and prayerful experience.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH  
AT 7:00 PM IN THE CHURCH**

# PALM SUNDAY

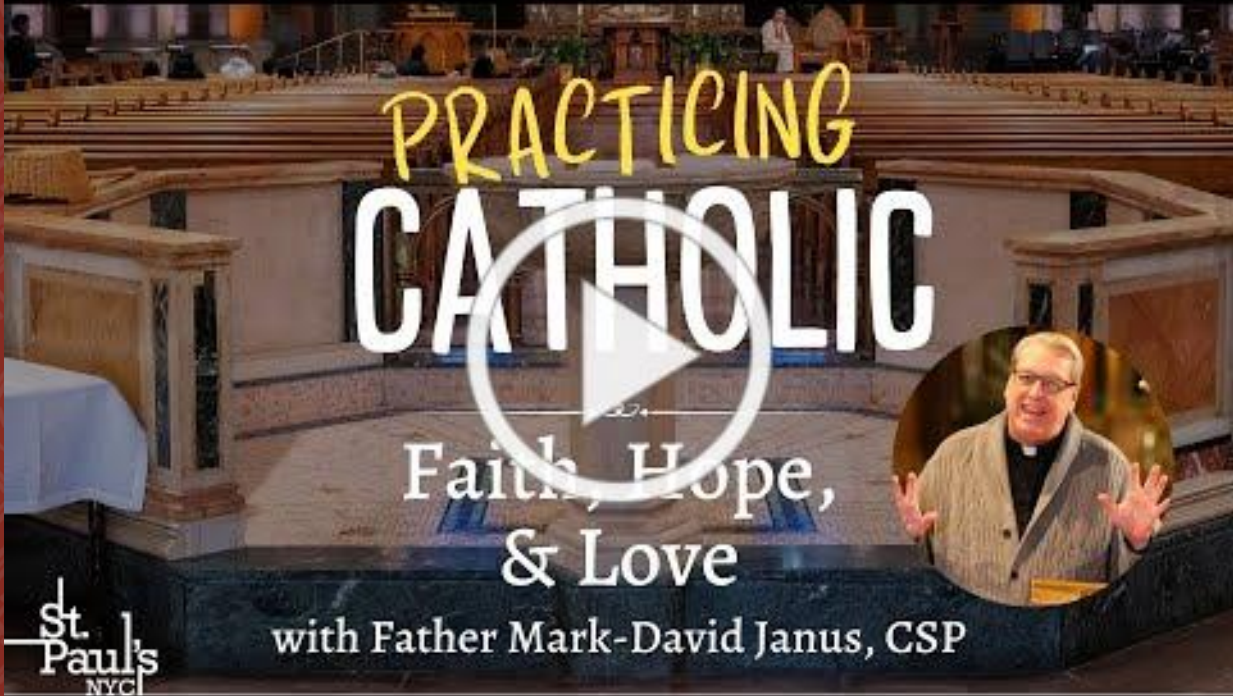


This Palm Sunday, we will have the rare opportunity to listen to a sung recitation of this year's Passion narrative taken from the Gospel of Luke. St. Augustine once said that "he who sings prays twice," a phrase that is especially fitting for this dynamic, emotional, and deeply human presentation of the scripture. The musical setting for this year's liturgy was composed by J. Oconer Navarro with music direction by Joey Chancey and will be delivered by many of our talented music ministers.

Hear the Passion prayed in song on  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH | 5 PM MASS**  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH | 10 AM & 5 PM MASS**

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Here's the latest episode of *Practicing Catholic!*  
Click below to watch.



## How to Do Holy Week at St. Paul's



Holy Week is, in many ways, the apex of the liturgical year.

Starting on Palm Sunday and continuing through Easter, this eight-day period brings us through all of the mysteries of our faith, celebrating the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The focal point of the Church's prayer next week will be the Triduum, which begins on Holy Thursday and extends through our celebration of the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night on Saturday.

Though the celebration spans from Thursday to Saturday, **the Triduum is regarded as a single liturgy that unfolds over the course of three days**, closely mirroring the timeline of the salvific drama the first disciples bore witness to. You will notice that there are no dismissals blessings at the conclusion of mass, and our Friday and Saturday liturgies "pick up" where the previous day's service left off. Experiencing these sacred liturgies in succession helps us appreciate how we are called to carry our own crosses and truly immerses us in the faith. **We strongly encourage you, if your schedule permits it, to attend each service and in doing so participate fully in the great mystery of salvation.**

Here is a breakdown of our Holy Week schedule at St. Paul's:

## Palm Sunday | April 13th



Our Holy Week journey begins with Christ's triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. We will celebrate this during our usual Sunday liturgies; **join us for a Saturday vigil mass at 5 PM, or on Sunday at 8 AM, 10 AM, 12:30 PM, and 5 PM.**

The Palm Sunday liturgy begins with the procession of the palms - please arrive at the church early so you can meet us up at the High Altar! When the procession begins, we ask that parishioners follow behind the priests and return to their seats through the center aisle.

**At mass, we will hear The Passion According to St. Luke proclaimed in song.** The work was composed by J. Oconer Navarro and will be a soul-stirring presentation of sacred scripture. We will close out Palm Sunday after our 5PM mass with a blessing of the Easter Baskets!

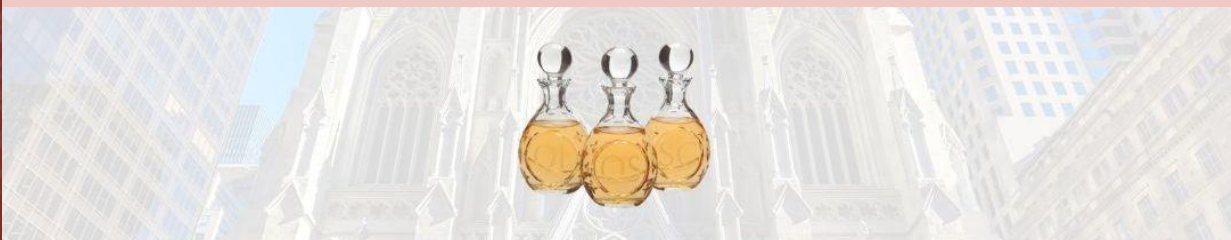
## Reconciliation Monday | April 14th



As Catholics, we are encouraged to enter into the Triduum with a penitent heart so we can fully participate in the liturgy. God's unending mercy is graciously expressed through the sacrament of reconciliation; if you haven't been to confession in a while, Holy Week is a great opportunity to do so.

**Confessions will be offered in all parishes throughout the Archdiocese of New York and the Diocese of Brooklyn on Monday, April 14th from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM, and from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM.** For what it's worth, we like to say that the Paulists are the kindest confessors in the city!

## Holy Tuesday | April 15th



**Holy Tuesday is the day the Archdiocese of New York holds its Chrism Mass.** The sacred oils we will use throughout the year to anoint the sick, the

confirmed, and the ordained will be consecrated at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Several members of our parish staff will be in attendance to receive the oils in anticipation of the Triduum!

You can watch a livestream of the Chrism Mass on Virtch Church through our social media channels, YouTube, and website! The mass will be broadcast on Tuesday, April 15th at 4PM.

## Holy Thursday | April 17th



Holy Thursday starts our Triduum liturgy, recounting the first celebration of the Eucharist. **Our mass celebrating the Supper of the Lord will begin at 7:00 PM.** Mass is followed by a period of Adoration of the Eucharist, where our choir will lead us in meditative hymns as we accompany Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Because Holy Thursday is the beginning of the Triduum liturgies, there will be no masses held earlier in the day, though the church will be open for prayer. As we mentioned, the three-day Triduum is also considered one long liturgy; **because of this, we ask that you leave the church in silence at the conclusion of each liturgy on Thursday and Friday to maintain a prayerful atmosphere.**

## Good Friday | April 18th



Christ's ultimate sacrifice for the redemption of humanity is commemorated in the Good Friday liturgy.

Good Friday has a rich tradition of additional devotional services which we will offer this year. Here is our full schedule:

- **Bi-lingual Stations of the Cross will be held at 12:00 PM.** Meditating on the fourteen stations, walking in the footsteps of Christ to Golgotha gives us a deeper understanding of the suffering we may encounter in the world.
- **The Seven Last Words will be held at 1:00 PM in English, and at 5:30 PM in Spanish.** The "Seven Last Words" service is based around the sayings of Jesus upon the cross as recorded by the four Gospel writers. Each phrase will be offered alongside a reflection; traditionally, the seven sayings speak about the themes of forgiveness, salvation, relationship,

abandonment, distress, triumph, and reunion.

- **Our main service, the Passion of the Lord, will be held at 3:00 PM.**The service will include the premiere of a newly composed setting of the Passion According to St. John from J. Oconer Navarro. The liturgy includes the Veneration of the Cross and communion.
- **In the evening, a Tenebrae service will be held at 7:00 PM.** *Tenebrae*, named after Latin word for darkness, has a rich tradition of history in the church and was often celebrated in the three evenings preceding Easter Sunday. Nowadays, the service consists of readings paired with sacred music. After each one, a candle is extinguished. Following the service, there will be additional time for Veneration of the Cross.

If you can't make it to the church for any of these events, all of our Holy Week devotionals will be live-streamed to our website and social media channels.

**Additionally, it's always good to have a reminder that Good Friday is an obligatory day 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.

## Holy Saturday | April 19th



The Easter Vigil mass in the Holy Night is perhaps the most moving liturgy in the Church calendar. Plunged into darkness after Christ's sacrifice on the cross, we are guided by the shining light of the word present throughout the evening's readings and psalms to His victory over death. Fallen and then redeemed, we celebrate the joy of the resurrection and the promise of new life.

**Our Easter Vigil service will be held at 7:30 PM.** God willing, more than a dozen catechumens will be invited to share in new life through their baptism; an additional group of candidates will be confirmed alongside them.

**Earlier in the day, we invite you to St. Paul's at 11:30 AM for the traditional Świąconka blessing!** Świąconka, or the Blessing of the Easter Meal, is an ancient Catholic tradition dating back to the paschal celebrations of 7th century Polish communities. Food is blessed as an expression of "gratitude to God for all His gifts of both nature and grace."

Finally, we have a favor to ask you to make our Easter Vigil celebration even more special!



## **BAKERS NEEDED: Help Us Welcome New Catholics at the Easter Vigil**

We are the friendliest parish on the West Side of Manhattan, so let's welcome our newly baptized and confirmed Catholics into the fold on the Easter Vigil. This is the 21st year of our beloved tradition - we pray together at mass... and then eat cupcakes!

St. Paul's needs your help! **We need volunteers who can bring cupcakes or Easter cookies for our post-Vigil reception on Saturday, April 19th following our 7:30PM service.**

It's been a long Lent, so we are going to need a feast. If you're able to help bake Easter cupcakes or cookies, [please fill out this brief form](#) to volunteer. We usually do an old-fashioned e-mail chain to share ideas, prayers, and fun. A little bit of Hecker flour goes a long way!

## **Easter Sunday | April 20th**



Holy Week concludes with the celebrations on Easter Sunday! **Masses will be held on Sunday, April 20th at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:30 PM (in Spanish), and 5:00 PM.** The church will be packed as we celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord, so we recommend anyone planning to attend at Easter arrive at the church at least 15 minutes early to secure a seat in the pews.

**Find a compact version of the Holy Week schedule below!  
We look forward to praying with you all during this sacred season.**

## **PALM SUNDAY**

*April 13th*

Vigil Mass on Saturday at 5:00 PM\*  
Masses on Sunday at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM\*,  
12:30 PM (en Español), and 5:00 PM\*

## **RECONCILIATION MONDAY**

*April 14th*

Confessions held on Monday, April 14th from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM,  
and 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM here and throughout the Archdiocese.

## **HOLY THURSDAY**

*April 17th*

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 PM\*

## **GOOD FRIDAY**

*April 18th*

Bilingual Stations of the Cross at 12:00 PM\*  
Seven Last Words at 1:00 PM\*  
The Commemoration of the Passion of the Lord at 3:00 PM\*  
Siete Ultimas Palabras at 5:30 PM\*  
Tenebrae at 7:00 PM\* followed by Veneration of the Cross

## **HOLY SATURDAY**

*April 19th*

Blessing of the Easter Meal at 11:30 AM  
Easter Vigil in the Holy Night at 7:30 PM\*

## **EASTER SUNDAY**

*April 20th*

Masses held at at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM\*,  
12:30 PM (en Español), and 5:00 PM\*

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

# Upcoming Events

# SVDP Needs Your Help!

Greetings! The St. Vincent de Paul Society at our church assists members of our parish community in their time of need.



With your support, we have distributed over \$50,000.00 of direct aid to the most vulnerable among us. Some of the things we help with are eviction prevention, utility payments, medical emergencies, clothing and food.

Currently, the need in our community is growing at a rapid pace and we must ask for your help. Please consider donating to our organization so that we can continue our work.

**Monetary donations can be made online at [svdpspanyc.org](http://svdpspanyc.org), by drop off to the Parish Center or by mail to: SVDP at St. Paul the Apostle Church 405 West 59th Street NY, NY 10019. You can also scan the QR Code below.**

Reach us by phone at 203-493-4021. God bless you!



**Scan Here to  
Donate Now**



# 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 below - no tickets or RSVP required!

## March 27th

Franklin High School Choir and Orchestra - 3:00 PM

## April 4th

Delaware Hayes High School Orchestra - 1:30 PM  
Harrison SFA High School Orchestra - 3:00 PM

## April 9th

Western Branch High School Choir - 4:00 PM

## April 10th

Western Branch High School Band - 9:30 AM

## April 11th

Pallisades High School Choir - 1:00 PM  
Dixon High School Choir - 3:00 PM

## May 3rd

Liberty High School Band & Choir - 10:00 AM

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# Make - Your - Own Easter Basket

**Are you a family with children ages 5 through 12  
looking to spend a fun morning together?**

Bring some supplies to make an Easter Basket with you to the Parish Center! You can decorate an Easter cupcake, hear a story about the Easter Bunny, and make your basket for the drive.

We'd love to have you!

## Saturday, April 12th

**from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM**



[RSVP Here](#)

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## Last Call for Easter Basket Donations!

Support the children and teens at Abbot House and Catholic Guardian Services! Baskets are due to the church this Sunday, April 13th.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

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Rebuilding Peace  
in the Holy Land

## PONTIFICAL GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

Friday  
April 18  
2025

Every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken up in Catholic Churches to support the work of the Franciscans working in the Holy Land. Christians there rely heavily on the help that comes to them from this worldwide collection.

The Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land have the unique responsibility to care for the Holy Places as well for the “Living Stones,” the Christians living there. It is vital that we support Christians living in the Holy Land, in order to maintain a Christian presence in the very land made holy by the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus. This collection will support upkeep of the holy sites, social and charitable activities, schools, and pastoral activities through the Franciscan order. [Learn more by clicking here; thank you in advance for your generosity!](#)



# blessing of the easter meal

HOLY SATURDAY AT 11:30 AM

**Come to St. Paul's on Holy Saturday at 11:30 AM for the traditional Świąconka blessing!**

Świąconka, or the Blessing of the Easter Meal, is an ancient Catholic tradition dating back to the paschal celebrations of 7th century Polish communities. Food symbolic of Easter - such as eggs, lamb, bread, and salt - is blessed as an expression of "gratitude to God for all His gifts of both nature and grace. As a token of this gratitude, the bounty at one's dinner table is sanctified with the hope that spring, the season of the Resurrection, will also be blessed by God's

goodness and mercy."

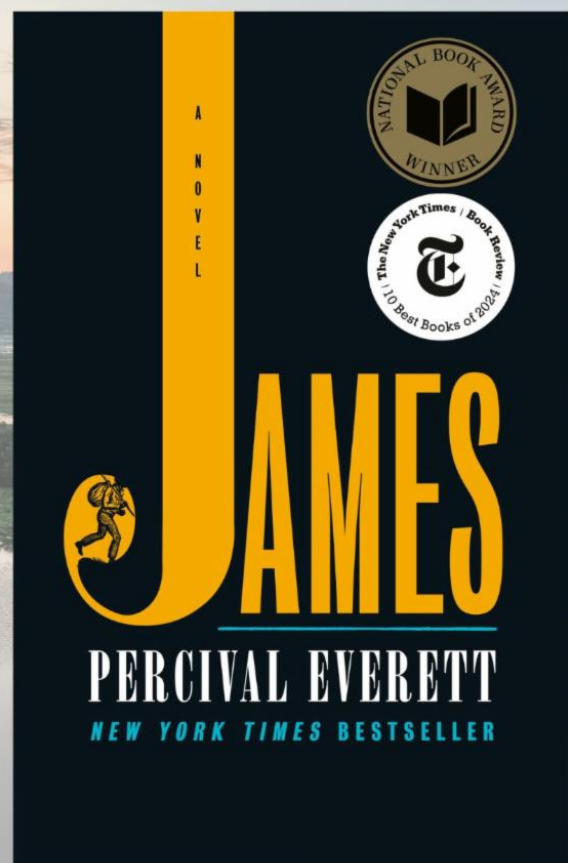
Regardless of what you will cook for yourself or your family, you can bring any food you will serve at your Easter Sunday meal to the church for a blessing. Join us for this wonderful expression of gratitude and joy!

# April BOOK CLUB

A brilliant reimagining of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*—both harrowing and satirical—told from the enslaved Jim's point of view.

Brimming with nuanced humor and lacerating observations that have made Everett a literary icon, this brilliant and tender novel radically illuminates Jim's agency, intelligence, and compassion as never before.

Winner of the 2024  
National Book Award.



TUESDAY, APRIL 29TH  
at 6:30PM in the Parish Center  
RSVP to [welcomecenter@stpaultheapostle.org](mailto:welcomecenter@stpaultheapostle.org)

# Poets@StPaul

## In-Person Gathering



For more information, contact: [tholahan@paulist.org](mailto:tholahan@paulist.org)

Poets@StPaul meets monthly to learn more about poetry writing as well as sharing recent work. All are welcome to our poetry gatherings: poetry writers, poetry lovers and the poetry curious. Bring a poem you have written or a favorite by another! Reading and discussion to follow.

**Wednesday, May 21st**  
at 7:00 PM in the Parish Center



THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE

MUSIC MINISTRY

*is proud to announce the first ever*

PILGRIMAGE  
to ITALY

September 16 - 25, 2025

FLORENCE | ASSISI | ROME

# Musical Pilgrimage

*a once in a lifetime experience*

The Music Ministry at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle in New York City is making their first-ever Pilgrimage to Italy this September! These singers and musicians graciously dedicate themselves each week to creating the richest faith experience possible through the gift of music. This Pilgrimage is our opportunity to live out our Ministry's mission of sharing our music far beyond our home of New York City and going abroad to the historic and sacred cities of Italy.

## Donate Now

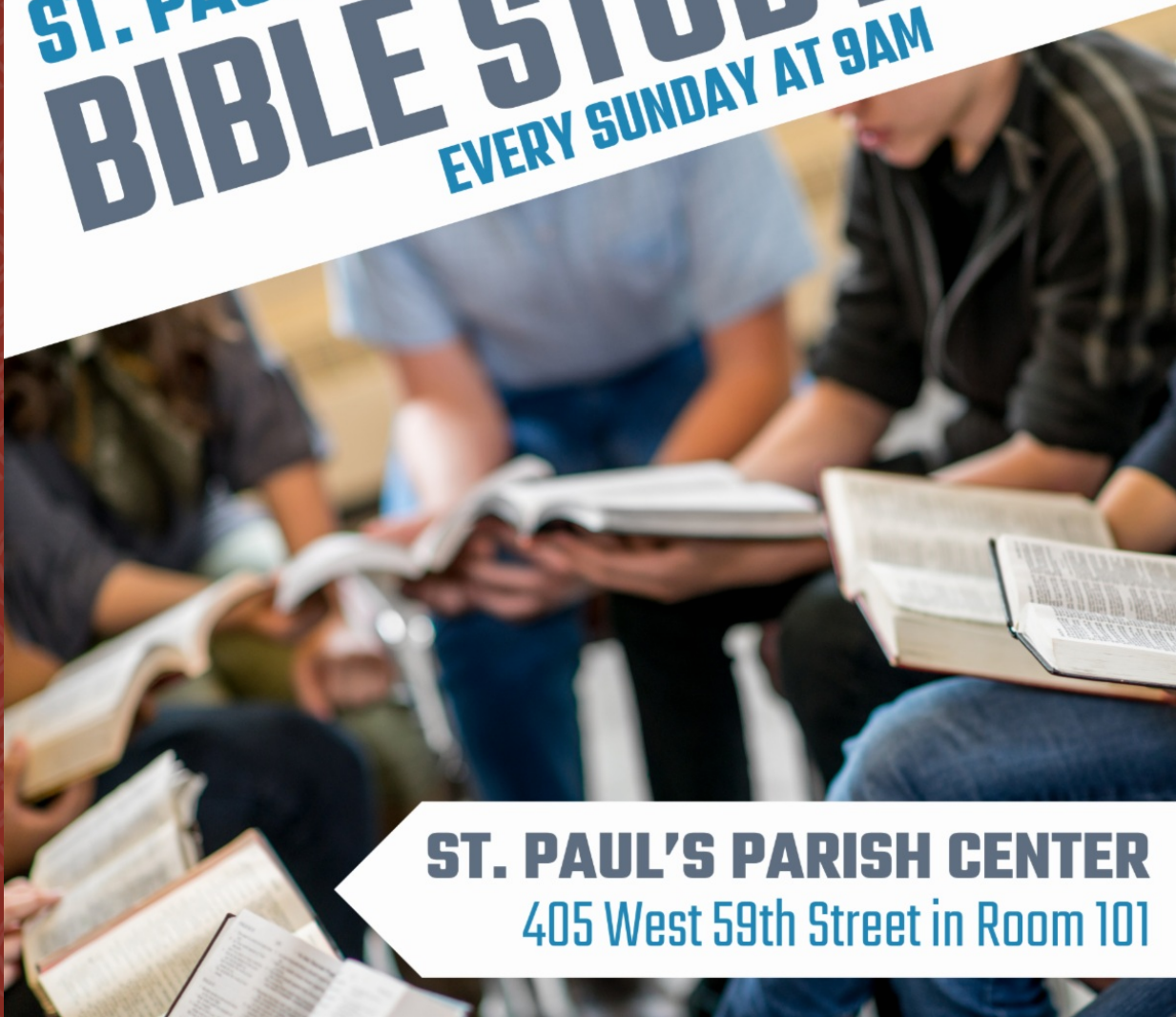
*to make our pilgrimage a reality*

More info & links to our donation pages at  
[www.stpaultheapostle.org/2025-pilgrimage](http://www.stpaultheapostle.org/2025-pilgrimage)

[Learn More](#)

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**ST. PAUL'S**  
**BIBLE STUDY**  
EVERY SUNDAY AT 9AM



**ST. PAUL'S PARISH CENTER**  
405 West 59th Street in Room 101

# Laudato Si

## Ministry at St. Paul's

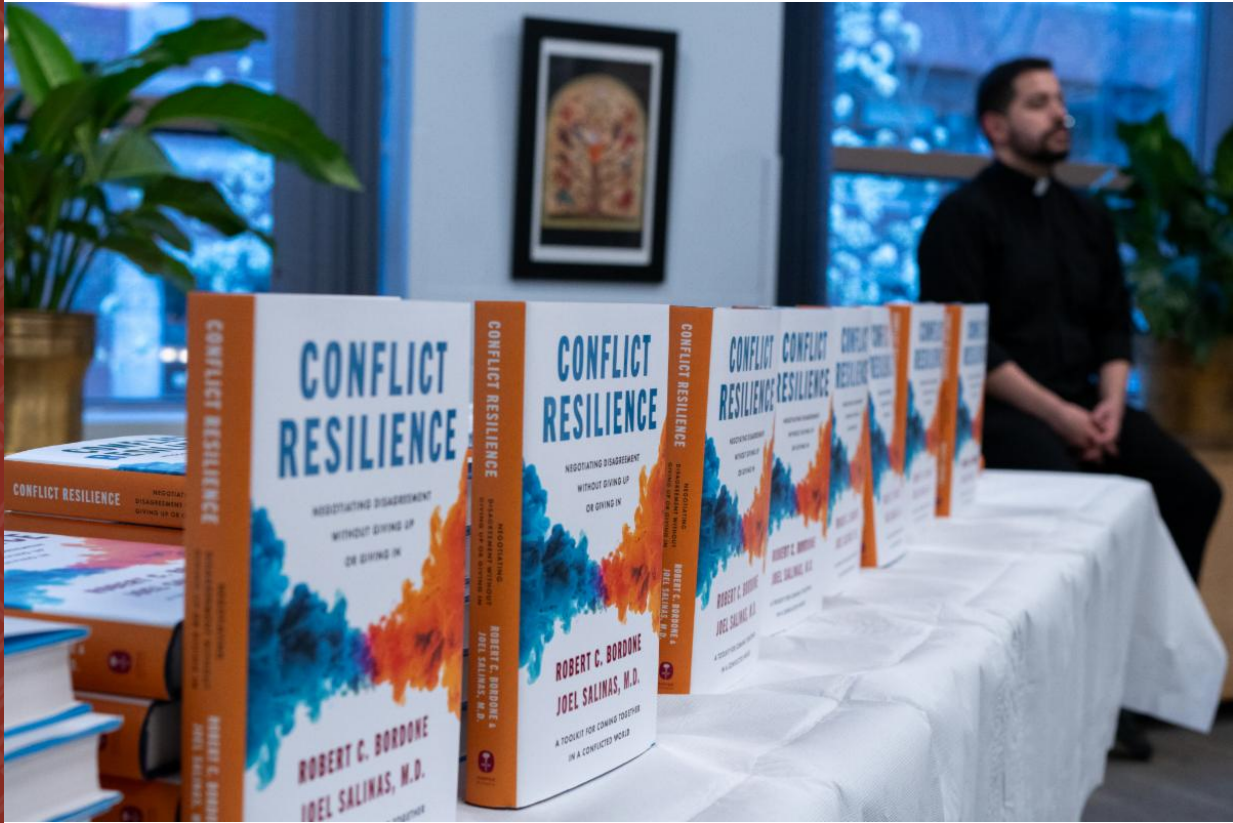
[CLICK HERE TO READ  
OUR WEEKLY REFLECTION](#)

### Scenes From the Week



We had a great crowd come out on Sunday evening to hear Bob Bordone

speak about *Conflict Resilience* and the ways to navigate tough conversations. A big thanks to Bob for sharing his excellent insights!



The parish gave a blessing to this year's catechumens and candidates as they underwent the final Rite of Scrutiny before the Easter Vigil. Please pray for them and their sponsors in their final days of preparation!

## Parish Donations

<b>Collections</b>	<b>Week Ending in 4/6/2025</b>	<b>Week Ending in 4/8/2024</b>
Total	\$10,449	\$7,699
In-Pew	\$10,449	\$7,699
Faith Direct	N/A	N/A
YTD* (+19.04%)	\$767,819 (2025)	\$645,007 (2024)

\*Financial Year begins on September 1st and ends August 31st

<b>Monthly Church Operating Budget</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>
March Operating Budget	\$291,500	\$233,333
April In-Pew Collections Total	\$10,449	\$33,149
YTD Surplus/Deficit (end of February)	+\$290,885	+\$186,762

## Holy Humor



Me: Proud of my palm folding job...



People coming in for Spanish mass...

made with mematic

Getty Images

[See More](#)

Prayer Requests



## Prayer Requests

Grant eternal rest to Jonathan Gagne, Eileen Schreiber, John Annoreno, Bro. Gary Eck, S.M., Giuseppe Ciavarella, Rev. Msgr. Michael Crimmins, Sabrina Clauss-Ehlers, John Freitas, Zdenko Dujmovic, and Therese Anne Walles

Grant health or healing to Neal Hitzig, Isha Clarke, Robbin Kemp, Christine Becker, Tiffani Nelson, Liliana Rohrer, Denise Abady , Don Belsito, April McDonald, Daniel Wilson, Rev. John Krivak, Jewel Amond, Luke Nedza, Christopher Henderson, Nick Burriesci, Margaret Pietsch, Julia Horan, Dr. Adria Gallup-Black, Daniel and Linda Wilson, and the Assante Family.

Grant peace and well-being to Keon Whyte, Rev. Samuel Perrins, Karolina Jiménez , Kyle Frank, Rick Frank, Bridget Frank, Marcine Stephenson , Antoinette Cinturati, Patrick Brennan, Leonardo Canas, Baby Elias, and Mariana de los Angeles Sevcek.

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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 11th**

7:30 AM + Theresa Rosano  
12:10PM + Julio Juan Valentin, Jr. Mateo

**Saturday, April 12th**

8:00AM + Mark Vincent Dizon  
5:00PM + Luz Hernandez de la Rosa

**Sunday, April 13th**

8:00AM + Stella Maddaloni  
10:00AM + Sue Buckland  
12:30PM - Albertos Paredes  
& Giovana Malasquez  
5:00PM - Kenneth Jaszczak

**Monday, April 14th**

7:30 AM - Chan Cheng Fou  
12:10PM + John Marinelli

**Tuesday, April 15th**

7:30AM + Brenda Kane  
12:10PM + Mario Domingo R. de Vera  
& Benjamin F. Ramos

**Wednesday, April 16th**

7:30AM + Elisea & Jesus Loanzon, Jr.  
12:10PM Peter & Joanne Luccerelli

**Thursday, April 17th**

7:00 PM - No Mass Intentions

## Parish Information



### Church Hours

Monday-Tuesday, Thursday - Friday

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Wednesday

7:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Saturday

8:30 AM - 6:30 PM

Sunday

7:00 AM - 6:30 PM

### Mass Schedule

**Daily Mass**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

7:30 AM and 12:10 PM

Wednesday

7:30 AM, 12:10 PM, and 6:30 PM

Saturday

8:30AM

**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





TAKE ST. PAUL'S WITH YOU  
WHEREVER YOU GO!

*Masses Livestreamed*

WEEKDAYS AT 12:10 PM

SATURDAYS AT 5 PM

SUNDAYS AT 10 AM & 5 PM



Virtch Church on the St. Paul's  
Website

Virtch Church on YouTube

Virtch Church on Facebook



Our services, along with the readings and hymns for weekends, 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

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!



Try email marketing for free today!