



March 17, 2024

# Fifth Sunday *of* Lent

**ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS**  
AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD

JOSHUA 24:15

320 South Washington Street  
Park Ridge, Illinois, 60068



# March 17, 2024

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

### Schedule

#### WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Upper Church

Monday through Friday 6:25 am  
8:30 am

Saturday (weekday Mass) 8:30 am

Saturday (vigil) 4:30 pm

Sunday 7:30 am

9:00 am

10:30 am

12:00 pm

#### MONTHLY FAMILY MASS

Holy Family Chapel

2nd Sunday Family Mass 10:30 am

#### TEEN MASS (open to the public)

Upper Church

Sunday, May 19th @ 12:00 pm

#### CONFESSIONS

in vestibule of Upper Church

Monday through Friday 8-8:15 am

Saturday 3-4:00 pm

#### FUNERALS

Monday through Saturday Morning

#### WEDDINGS

Friday and Saturday

#### BAPTISMS

Saturday and Sunday

### Baptisms

#### Alexander James Niles

Son of Philip Niles and  
Rita Tome

#### Maggie Drew Hyland

Daughter of Nicholas C.  
Hyland and Amanda K.  
Liberatore

#### Blake Bridget Burian

Daughter of Matthew  
T. Burian and Delanie C.  
Dineen

#### Mack Richard Hastings

Son of Micheal Hastings  
and Tammi Triptow

#### Charlotte Ryan Radke

Daughter of Craig M.  
Radke and Christine A.  
Barzano

#### Jackson Daniel Urquhart

Son of Jack D. Urquhart  
and Christina A. Tanzi

#### Jakob James Bachmeier

Son of Jakob Bachmeier  
and Laura Pagliari

### Pray for our Sick

Names Stay in Bulletin for 2 months

Delaney Bartz

Julie Benedetto-Wilcox

Ray Benedetto

Fr Dan Fallon

Julie Finan

Donald Izban

Georgiana T. Glennon

Laura

Stanislaw Kazmierczak

Vince Ross

Charlene Widmaier

Carole Zachary

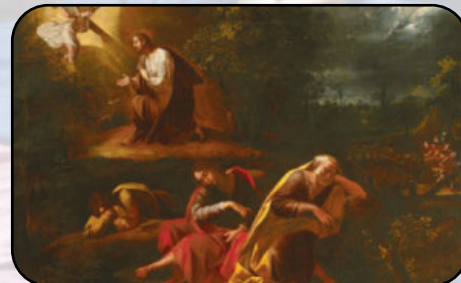
### In Loving Memory

Please pray for the souls of  
the faithful departed in our  
SPC community.

Patricia Libby

Fr. Dan Fallon

June Kerber



### Stewardship Report

#### WEEKLY OFFERING (March 3rd - March 9th)

Envelopes	\$13,136.00
Loose	\$5,466.23
Electronic Giving	\$21,511.86
Total Weekly Offering	\$40,114.09

#### LENTEN ALMSGIVING

Through March 9th	\$22,253.50
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#### ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL DATA

Sunday Giving FY24 Year to Date (July 1st through March 9th)	\$1,258,200.79
Sunday Giving FY24 vs Budget (July 1st through January 31st)	+\$46,016.00

### Readings for the Week

Sunday:	Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 (12a)/ Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33 Scrutiny: Ez 37:12- 14/Ps 130: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8- 11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45
Monday:	Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c- 62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday:	2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Wednesday:	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42
Thursday:	Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59
Friday:	Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42
Saturday:	Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56
Next Sunday:	Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/ Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

# Letters from a Pastor to his People



Dear Parishioners,

In our Gospel scene this weekend we hear about some Greeks wanting to see Jesus. When a Greek wants to “see” someone, they don’t just want to see their face. They want to see the person’s soul. Because the Greeks are philosophers (think of Plato, Aristotle and Socrates, who said “the unexamined life is

not worth living”), they want to really know who Jesus is. They want to see if Jesus is worth loving and following.

This simple scene of Greeks coming to Philip, who was Greek as well (Philippus is a Greek name), lets us think about the three aspects of religion. Let’s call them the Greek, the Roman, and the Hebrew aspects.

The Greek aspect, as we have mentioned, is philosophy. Catholicism has a great philosophical tradition, which would be our theology. Thomas Aquinas, for instance, used Aristotle and Plato in his thinking. Our understanding of God and our beliefs aren’t irrational and random. They make sense and they are beautiful.

The Hebrew aspect is worship. The Jews, of course, were monotheistic and had the whole system of ritual in place around the temple and feast days. Catholics follow, in many ways, the temple ritual and festal cycle. Our form of worship helps us be in touch with God and helps give us grace to live our lives in a fruitful way.

Finally, the Roman aspect is the structure of law and culture. Romans had a sophisticated legal and political system, which they needed to govern the vast empire. They organized armies, built cities and roads, and had an established network of commerce. In Catholicism we have a governing structure with the pope, bishops, and priests. We have a codified system of canon law. We have parishes and buildings and schools and charitable efforts and on and on. This is the “institutional side” of the church. The institution often is denigrated, but it’s necessary to ensure the mission. The Greek and Hebrew components might be more elegant, but, remember, the Romans conquered both the Greeks and Jews.

Only in Catholicism do we have all three components. The inscription above the cross that Pilate had made--INRI (Jesus the Nazorene the King of the Jews)--was actually written in three languages: Greek, Hebrew, and Latin. And

not only are these three present in our church generally, they are present specifically in the Eucharist. We worship the one God here at the Mass (Hebrew). We receive deep fulfillment from receiving Jesus (Greek). And the Eucharist has laws and regulations around it to ultimately give us the means to go out and help bring others into relationship with God (Roman)

Saint Patrick of Ireland, whose feast we celebrate today, demonstrates the tripartite aspect of Catholicism well. He set up a system of churches and a culture in Ireland (Roman). He taught about the worship of one God and the Trinity to the pagan Celtic peoples (Hebrew). And he instilled a spiritual life, or a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, in the Irish people (Greek). Saint Patrick, pray for us that we can see the face of Jesus and live.

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The parish **Griefshare** program begins this Tuesday, March 19th at 6:30pm. If you are mourning the loss of a loved one and could use both some wisdom and fellowship from fellow mourners, consider joining our group. A special thank you to Deacon Andy and the leaders.

Please note there will be **no Wednesday morning Scripture Seminar** this week on Wednesday, March 20th. We will be off the next few weeks due to Holy Week and Easter. We will resume on Wednesday, April 10th.

Please keep in your prayers our **RCIA candidates and catechumens** who will be entering the Church at the Easter Vigil and completing the sacraments of initiation: Jack Leach, Rose Kosatka, Jamie Russo, Alyssa O'Donnell, Renee Mark, Max Wagner, Jonathan Lopes, Jenesis Lopez, Luis Vargas, Alfredo Torres, Delaney Starwalt. Congratulations to you all and a special thank you to Beshar Bahjat and his RCIA team for leading these individuals to God.

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week. Please be sure to check the schedule in the bulletin and note there are no morning Masses on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Yours in Christ,

*Fr. James Wallace*



# Community Reflections



A middle-aged woman sat on the couch in my parish office and recounted to me a shocking list of terrible calamities in her life: addictions, terminal illnesses, financial loss, broken relationships, and so on. She smiled as she did so. “Please forgive me,” I asked, “but you seem to be smiling as you share this.” She said, “Father John, I am totally overwhelmed. But I’m smiling because I just can’t wait to see what good things God does with this mess.” She expected God would manifest His glory when she most needed it.

This week in the Gospel, God speaks from heaven for the third and final time in Jesus’ earthly ministry. It’s at a tough moment. Gentiles seek Jesus, who announces his terrible suffering, and then boldly prays, “Father, glorify your name!” John then writes: Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it and will glorify it again.” Was the task of drawing the whole non-Jewish world to himself overwhelming? Or was it the terrible specter of crucifixion? Whatever it was, the crushing weight triggers his turning to the Father with an unshakeable expectation of divine glory to burst through. And indeed, it did on Easter Sunday. In our burdens, our greatest strength is to turn to God and boldly ask Him for His glory.

Lenten challenge: This week, I invite you to list out everything which is a burden to you. Write it down. Then add these words: “Father, glorify Your name in all these things!” Put that paper in your pocket or purse when you come to Holy Week liturgies next week. You might smile at the most unlikely times.

— Father John Muir  
©LPi

# Adoration Chapel

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL

COME SPEND SOME TIME WITH JESUS!

Our Adoration Chapel is open from 5 am until 11 pm.


Our current adorer schedule is pictured below.

Red boxes indicate where there are no committed adorers. We need at least two committed adorers for each slot before we can reopen during the night. Yellow slots are when we have only one committed adorer; additional commitments are needed to fortify the schedule. Green indicates two or more adorers are present.

If you would like to sign up for a timeslot, please call the parish office at 847-825-7605 or email [adorationchapel@spc-church.org](mailto:adorationchapel@spc-church.org).

	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
12:00 AM							
1:00 AM							
2:00 AM							
3:00 AM							
4:00 AM							
5:00 AM							
6:00 AM		clean		clean		clean	
7:00 AM							
8:00 AM							
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11:00 PM							

# Mass Schedule

FEAST DAY	TIME	PRESIDER	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	MASS INTENTIONS
<b>MON, 3/18</b> Saint Cyril of Jerusalem	6:25 am UC	Fr. James			Daniel Caniff, Joseph Hickey
	8:30 am UC	Fr. Nick			Max Diaz, Myrtle Reckert, Dorothy Fialkowski, Judy Kieser, Lucille and Bernard Phillips, Susan and John Harrison
<b>TUE, 3/19</b> Saint Joseph	6:25 am UC	Fr. Nick			Healing and Blessings for Gabryela Kuczmarska
	8:30 am UC	Fr. James			Joseph Bontempo, Joseph Roy, Timothy "Bo" Kemper, Joe Jaqiello, Matt Dolatowski, Birthday Blessings for Bill Maloney
<b>WED, 3/20</b> Lenten Weekday	6:25 am UC	Fr. James			Tony Zach, Holy Souls in Purgatory
	8:30 am UC	Fr. James			Lauren Kurkowski, Louise Sottile, Rev Daniel Smilanic, Healing for Judy Flynn
<b>THUR, 3/21</b> Lenten Weekday	6:25 am UC	Fr. Nick			James and Frances Grace
	8:30 am UC	Fr. Nick			Susan Harrison, Marion MacKenzie, Margaret Schmidt, Raymond Pontarelli, Birthday Blessings for Kaylee Dolatowski
<b>FRI, 3/22</b> Lenten Weekday	6:25 am UC	Fr. James			Margie Ebert
	8:30 am UC	Fr. Nick			Mark DuBrock, Teryl Aquina, Mary Kay Mackenzie, Healing and Blessings for John Ahern Jr
<b>SAT, 3/23</b> Saint Turibius	8:30 am UC	Fr. Nick			Joseph Hickey
	4:30 pm UC	Fr. James	Gail Wilkening, Ann Solari-Twadell	Mary Jack, Pat Lawlor, Paul Ziegenhorn, Mary Heinz	Elizabeth Miniscalco, Dr Joseph and Elaine Cari, Henry, Mary and Richard Nowak, Rita Bahr, Dr. Eric Labouvie, Timothy Prindiville, Mike and Primet Rotondo, Ronald Walker, Maureen Bazel, Raffaella Tatar
<b>SUN, 3/24</b> Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	7:30 am UC	Fr. Nick	Paul Tingalia, Armand Andreoni	Lisa Orzada, Mark Orzada, Patty Bacci, Reggie Higgins Reither	Mary Newell, Robert (Bob) Bauer
	9:00 am UC	Fr. James	John Tallman, Anne Scialabba	Linda Swoboda, Thomas Swoboda, Margie Alicea, Donna Donovan	Dora Ferro, Richard DiPietro
	10:30 am UC	Fr. Nick*/MN	Debby Usher, Patty Beaudet-Frances	Iryna Olyva, Laura Manos, Joan Keefe, Katheen A. McMahon.	Eugene DiVito, Deacon Al and Bet-te Memmel, Gerald Schorr, Feliza De Jesus, Patrick Brennan, Patrick Tinley, Anthony Dombrowski, Healing and Blessings for Cindy and family, Healing and Blessings for Juli Smolinski Radz, Healing and Blessings for Patricia Weyna
	12:00 pm UC	Fr. James	Patti Nowak, Brianna Santucci	Neda Naum, David Dempsey, Katie Johnson	Ervin and Caterina Palacz, People of the Parish

\*LEGEND: /MN = Deacon Martin Nyberg preaching

# Opportunities at St. Paul of the Cross

## HIRING MAINTENANCE WORKER

St. Paul of the Cross is looking for someone to fill a full-time Custodian/Maintenance Worker position.

Primary responsibilities include cleaning, snow removal, and room setup and tear downs. This job calls for demanding physical labor, including heavy lifting.

If interested, please contact:  
Nick Testa, Campus Manager

847-825-7605, x2250  
nicktesta@spc-church.org

## NO SCRIPTURE SEMINAR *with* FATHER JAMES THIS WEEK

**Thank You St. Paul of  
the Cross for donating  
1,033 pairs of socks to  
Uncle Pete's Ministries**



RESPECT **LIFE** COMMITTEE

**MARCH MADNESS**  
THURSDAY, MARCH 21st at  
6:00 pm  
Harp and Fiddle  
110 Main Street, Park Ridge

St. Paul of the Cross Men's Club March Madness 2024 basketball watch party will be at Harp and Fiddle on March 21st beginning at 6:00 pm. For \$60 per person, our members will receive 3 HOURS of OPEN BAR and quality appetizers and brotherhood.

Lastly, one of the goals for the Men's Club in 2024 is to grow enrollment in our highly desired Club. Please grab a buddy and use this event as an entree for a new member. Let's let others see everything the Men's Club represents - camaraderie, service, faith, and tomfoolery.

Contact: Randy Bull at  
rbull29@gmail.com

## Blood Drive Next Week!

Come help us save lives!

**Sunday, March 24th from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
in the Morello Parish Life Center**

To make donating a great experience .....

- Make an appointment and bring a friend!
- Eat 2 hours before
- Stay hydrated
- Bring a photo ID

Fill out the online Vitalant Fast Track health form on the day of drive ([donors.vitalant.org](https://donors.vitalant.org))

For appointments or questions, contact Christine Perille, at 847-494-5150 or visit <https://www.vitalant.org> and use code ORD0RG08 For medical or travel questions, call (877) 258-4825 option #1.

**YOU'RE  
SOMEBODY'S  
TYPE**

# Announcements

## HOLY WEEK/EASTER SCHEDULE

### HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 28

\*note- no morning Mass  
9am- Morning Prayer  
7:30pm- Mass of the Lord's Supper

### GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29

\*note- no morning Mass  
9am- Morning Prayer  
12pm- Sacrament of Reconciliation  
12pm- Stations of the Cross  
3pm- Passion of the Lord Service  
with Veneration of the Cross

### HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 30

\*note- no Morning Mass  
9am- Morning Prayer  
11am- Easter Basket Blessing  
7:30pm- Easter Vigil Mass

### EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31

7:30am- Mass in Upper Church  
9am- Mass in Upper Church  
9am- Mass in Gym  
10:30am- Mass in Upper Church  
10:30am- Mass in Gym  
12pm- Mass in Upper Church

## OTHER EVENTS THIS WEEK

### Pick Up Basketball

Sunday, March 17th @ 8:30 pm  
Morello Parish Life Center Gym

### That Man is You

Monday, March 18th @ 7:30 pm  
Kinane Center

### Praying with Scripture (Lectio Divina)

Thursday, March 21st @ 7:30 pm  
Kinane Center

### Stations of the Cross

Friday, March 22th @ 7:00 pm  
Upper Church

# Father James' Lenten Reflections

## The Fifth Sunday of Lent

"Our friend Lazarus is asleep, but I am going to awaken him."  
John 11:11

Lazarus was a close friend of Jesus. Our Lord loved him. He also loved Martha and Mary. And he lets them all suffer. Some friend, huh?

Suffering is the way to resurrection; the way to a newer and better reality. The friendship and affection between Jesus, Martha and family was a good and holy one. But there was something more Jesus wanted to give them. There was a deeper kind of love to experience. This new love--a love in the spirit--would make the old love look like nothing. It would make Lazarus appear to be "sleeping." Friends love each other and see each other as an essential part of their life. 'Part' is the key word, however. A 'part of their life,' not their whole life. The deepest love for our Lord is more than friendship. It is an all-consuming, fundamentally identifying kind of love.

"Roll away the stone," instructed our Lord. Yes, roll away the stone that keeps you back from that deepest love. Roll away the stone that

keeps you stuck in the comfortable relationship you have with Jesus now. Let God bring you to the tomb to raise you.

Directed Prayer: Jesus, I am a field of dry bones, as the Prophet Ezekiel saw. I lack creativity, energy, passion. Put flesh on those bones. Give me blood. Breathe life into me. Make me into your disciple who will go out and set the world on fire.

## Monday of the Fifth Week of Lent

"Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin any more."  
John 8:11

Today's two readings connect two women: Susanna from the Old Testament and the woman caught in adultery in the New Testament. They are both saved, but both, on the surface, do not appear to have the same level of guilt. Susanna was objectively innocent. She resisted the lustful advances of the two elders and is falsely accused. The woman caught in adultery was objectively guilty. She was "caught in the very act of committing adultery." And yet both are innocent.



# Father James' Lenten Reflections (continued)

Why? Because their hearts are pure.

Susanna shows the purity of her heart when she prays to God in the midst of her entrapment. "Yet it is better for me to fall into your power without guilt than to sin before the Lord," she says.

As for the woman caught in adultery, we can presume her pure heart. When the crowd disperses, "she stands before the Lord." Only the pure of heart will see God. Christ wasn't in the business of pardoning everyone. He condemns Bethsaida, Chorazin, Capernaum, the Pharisees, Herod, and many others. They are guilty because their hearts are not pure. Not external perfection, but a humble and contrite heart is what our Lord desires.

Directed Prayer: Jesus, I expose my heart to you. Yes, I am a sinner, but I desire to be pure. I desire to be all yours. Please bend down to me and write with your finger upon my heart. Please write your poetry of love.

## Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Lent

"We are disgusted with this wretched food!"  
Numbers 21:5

My father had two words he would say often to us children. They were very powerful and formative. "Stop whining."

We'd be complaining about our mom's dinner, that the TV remote wasn't being shared, that we had to do chores, that the referees were unfair, that our clothes were out of style. Stop whining. Those two words broke me out of the spirit of entitlement, control, and pride that fostered negativity. It broke me out of myself. It helped me appreciate what I did have and not what I didn't. And 'stop whining' had credibility when it came from my parents, who actually had something legitimately to whine about, as their upbringing was much more difficult than ours.

The Israelites whined against God and Moses in the desert. There's no water, there's no food, we're tired of the stale water, we're tired of the manna, we're tired of the quail. The bronze serpent upon the pole was Moses' version of "stop whining." Just look at this object. Broken from their navel-gazing, they could now be healed.

Lent is a breeding ground for whining... no meat on Friday, no sweets, no alcohol, no TV, more prayer, more charitable giving, longer Gospels at Mass. And so Lent is the best opportunity to look upon Christ and be saved.

Directed Prayer: Lord, I acknowledge that I whine and I want more. I surrender those complaints. I trust that you are enough. Please show me how I can serve you and serve others.

## Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Lent

"Nebuchadnezzar ordered the furnace to be heated seven times more than usual and had some of the strongest men in his army bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and cast them into the white-hot furnace."  
Daniel 3:19

The evil king of Babylon is an unwitting means of grace for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, a conduit of the Holy Spirit. The sevenfold, white-hot fire purifies the three young men and allows them to see the "Son of Man," who appears miraculously in the cauldron. Seven, of course, could be seen as a reference to the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the white is of God (think of the blinding white of Jesus at the Transfiguration). The three Jews are strengthened in their resolve to be faithful to their God by this experience. They then go on to serve as conduits of grace themselves, as Nebuchadnezzar, witnessing their preservation, is converted.

We need purification. Let us pray to be plunged into the fire of the Holy Spirit. We want to see Jesus more clearly and be intimate with him. Let us pray the Holy Spirit surround us. We want to help others be converted. Let us pray the fire will remain in us to warm the icy hearts of others.

Directed Prayer: Come, fire of love, fire of Holy Spirit, fire of Tabor, fire of Hermon, and melt the ice around my heart. Blaze passionately within me. Shine out through my eyes, my hands, my feet. May your warmth pour forth from me and out into others.

## Thursday of the Fifth Week of Lent

"I will maintain my covenant with you and your descendants after you throughout the ages as an everlasting pact, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you."  
Genesis 17:7

As the season of Lent goes on, the focus becomes less on ourselves and more on Christ. The Scriptures at Mass no longer emphasize the themes of our sinfulness or holiness. Rather, Christ and Christ's messages become the main theme. We see this, for instance, in the long discourses in the Gospel of John that we read. Jesus takes the spotlight. He speaks of his compassion on sinners, his desire for union with all of us, and how he is "I AM."

When God first said "I AM" to Moses in the burning bush, Moses was drawn into relationship with God. Moses was entranced. He forgot about himself and his sinfulness and weakness. He became one with the Lord and then was sent out



on mission.

Abraham experienced a similar encounter with God several generations prior to Moses. God spoke the covenant to Abraham, and the man from Ur was hooked into union with the divine. Abraham was then given his mission.

God is so good, and when we come in touch with him, like Moses and Abraham, we never want to leave his side. Living in our heads, focused only on ourselves, is a hellish way to live. Living out of ourselves and for God and others is where beauty and joy lie.

Directed Prayer: Jesus, I give you praise and thanks this day. Thank you for overwhelming me with your beauty and goodness. You are always by my side. You are eager to pour goodness into your life. May I receive your love and share it with others.

### Friday of the Fifth Week of Lent

"I have shown you many good works from my Father. For which of these are you trying to stone me?"  
John 10:32

The people who had experienced Christ's works personally--those who were blind or ill or crippled and received the miracle--knew Christ was the Messiah. They did not attempt to stone Jesus. They became, instead, his followers. Those who had not experienced the words of Jesus were the ones who tried to kill him.

The point? We need real experiences and not just theories to be disciples.

If we want to believe, we need to experience personally the works of Jesus. Our Lord as Messiah does not work on the macro level. Upset with the state of affairs of the country, the world, the Church, the parish, your family? Don't expect Christ to fix it. He's not interested in "the country" or "the Church." He's interested in your soul. He's interested in the souls of your fellow Americans or Catholics. The Messiah works on the individual, personal level.

Your soul is the acting ground for our Savior. It is where he will walk and talk and perform miracles. If you don't want other people to stone Jesus, then show them your heart.

Directed Prayer: Jesus, I have family members who don't believe in you or who have fallen away from your Church. I want them to come back. I want them to have faith. Please give me the courage to witness to them your beauty. May I not preach at them. May I love them and show them the good you've done in my life.

### Saturday of the Fifth Week of Lent

"What do you think? That he will not come to the feast?"  
John 11:56

Yes, Jesus would come to the feast. On his third and final Passover, he entered Jerusalem pub-

licly, riding on a donkey to shouts of "Hosannah." Our Lord always comes to the feast.

Many of our spiritual disciplines can be driven by shame and guilt. If we don't go to daily Mass, then we are a sinner, we think. If we don't make it through a rosary without being distracted, then we are a failure. If we are sinners and failures, then we are unwanted and we will be forgotten. If we are forgotten then we will be alone. And being alone is one of our greatest fears.

But those are all lies. We will never be alone. We are wanted and we are known by God. Just as no failure or weakness can take that away, no success or achievement can earn that. Going to Mass, praying without distractions, fasting and almsgiving do not make us loved by God. That is the whole point of unconditional love.

The reality of unconditional love is a feast. A feast is enjoyable, lighthearted, and peaceful. Drivenness by shame or drivenness by success are not aspects of the feast, and the Lord will not come to that feast.

Less is more in the spiritual life. Praying when we feel the tug to do more is where we will find the Lord.

Directed Prayer: Jesus, as we enter Holy Week, please make my heart a joyful celebration. I might be more recollected and solemn this week, but may my soul exude glory for you. I want to be a joyful disciple. You are my life and love, and with you by my side, I will always be happy.



# Lenten Almsgiving

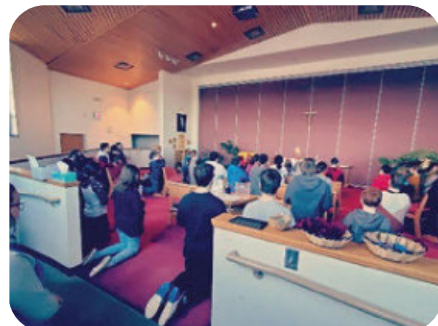
**You can make a big difference by helping the missionary priests and parish communities. Let's be a part of God's grace working in the faithful people in Wyoming.**

In the Diocese of Cheyenne, WY, one of their biggest consistent challenges are sprawling distances, a lack of resources, and a lack of consistent or paid youth ministers in parishes. To overcome these challenges the diocese must truly unite and find ways to offer opportunistic retreats that the parishes can not facilitate or pursue on their own. These retreats shall be focused on creating a space for deeper encounter with our Lord and the Church and cover a variety of ages and spiritual maturities, while keeping expenses at a minimum, with food, lodging and logistics being the major cost. Your support would go towards helping make these youth opportunities affordable and possible for everyone.

The Diocese hopes to host a Wyoming High School Catholic Youth Rally. This would be an entry level retreat for high school youth encompassing multi-cultural representation, music & fun, sacraments, and prayer experiences. They also hope to host a few Junior High events. They have found that areas of the diocese that facilitate or require confirmation retreats for their junior high students seem to show a deeper conversion in the hearts of students. While the Diocese recognizes the benefit and impact of this space for conversion and encourage parishes to commit to offering these to their students, most parishes in Wyoming do not have the population or resources to make this happen. Their plan is to engage "High School Helpers" to help model their faith and provide another opportunity for leadership and nourishment.

The "Young Church" is deeply starved for relationship, friendship, and community, essentially longing for Christ without recognizing it. It is critical that youth begin to think and see beyond themselves and their small communities, especially in a state with such a low population. State-wide gatherings allow them to practice forming new relationships prior to college and help them to see that there are others that share their same faith. The goal for these youth opportunities are - to create a space for encounter for young people away from their busyness and daily secular interactions; to teach them how to pray and develop deeper roots in their faith; to help them encounter God's will for their life and consider vocational callings; and to build leadership amongst young people by helping them grow stronger, develop connections and relationships, and develop a sense of ownership and co-responsibility in the Church.

**Thank you for your support and generosity!**





# Seminarian Lee's Lenten Almsgiving Presentation

Last Wednesday, Seminarian Lee gave a presentation about Lenten Almsgiving to the children of St. Paul of the Cross Catholic School. He spoke about the incredible work the priests in Wyoming are doing—how they travel numerous miles to conduct masses each Sunday. The children were enthused and had some great questions for Deacon Lee. Here are some images from the event.

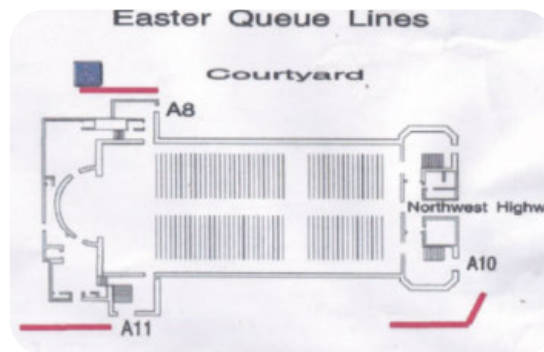




## Easter Note from the Ushers

We are expecting large crowds for all services this Easter. The Church has added 2 Masses in the Gym as well as providing a simulcast in the Holy Family Chapel for all Easter Services. We ask that when entering the Church please move to the center of your pew, allowing room for all. We must also ask that there is no standing in the aisles. Once the upper Church is at capacity, we ask that you attend the HFC Simulcast or Gym Services. To be considerate to all, **saving seats will not be allowed.**

Services may still be in session when you arrive. We will have three queue lines set up off the parking lot, on Northwest Highway and in the courtyard handicap entrance. Bring a coat or umbrella in case we have inclement weather. Let's all pray for nice weather.



## Social Service Ministry Corner



**The Ministry of Care** is an active ministry at St. Paul of the Cross with more than twenty friendly volunteers ready to bring Communion to parishioners at home. Whether you reside in a house, apartment or senior living community, they are happy to work with your schedule and bring Communion to you. The relationship can be short term or long term; either way participating will make you feel more connected to the St. Paul of the Cross Community.

For more information or request a visit, please contact Ann Vidovic, our coordinator and lead for this ministry at [viddesign4@gmail.com](mailto:viddesign4@gmail.com) or (224)436-4646.

God Bless You!  
Leni Duffy, SSM Director





# Thank you!

We are grateful to everyone who has made a gift to our **2024 Annual Catholic Appeal**, an occasion to bridge our efforts to support parish life, Catholic schools, programs of religious education, and various other initiatives across the Archdiocese of Chicago. As we come **"Together at the Table,"** we join in a unified sense of purpose.

There is still time to make a gift if you have not already done so.

See the various giving options below or scan the QR code to the right to make your gift online today!



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- Mail to — Annual Catholic Appeal, 835 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2030
- Charitable Gift Funds — Legal Name: The Catholic Bishop of Chicago, Federal tax ID #36-2170826

## PANTRY NEEDS THIS WEEK

\* Crackers

\* Cookies

\* Strawberry jelly

\* Shampoo (no bottles of conditioner-only please)

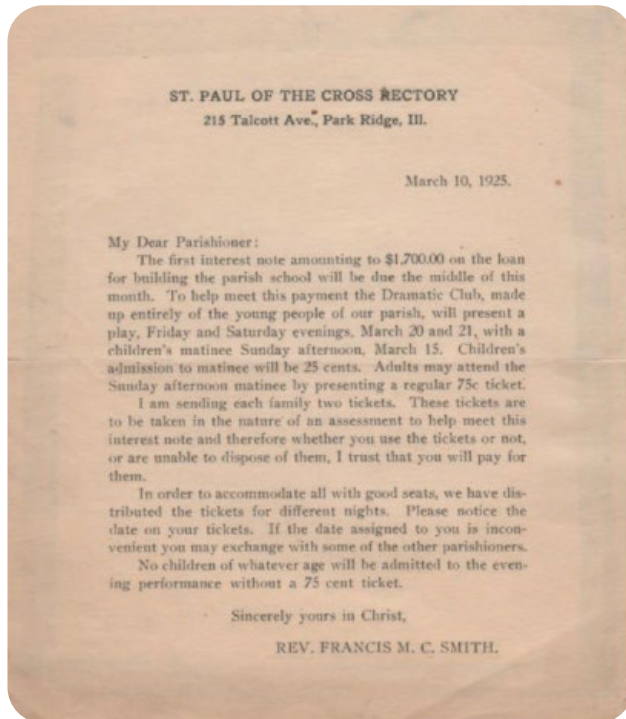
(Please remember that we ask for standard, family sized packages...no jumbo/commercial multi packs please. Thanks!)



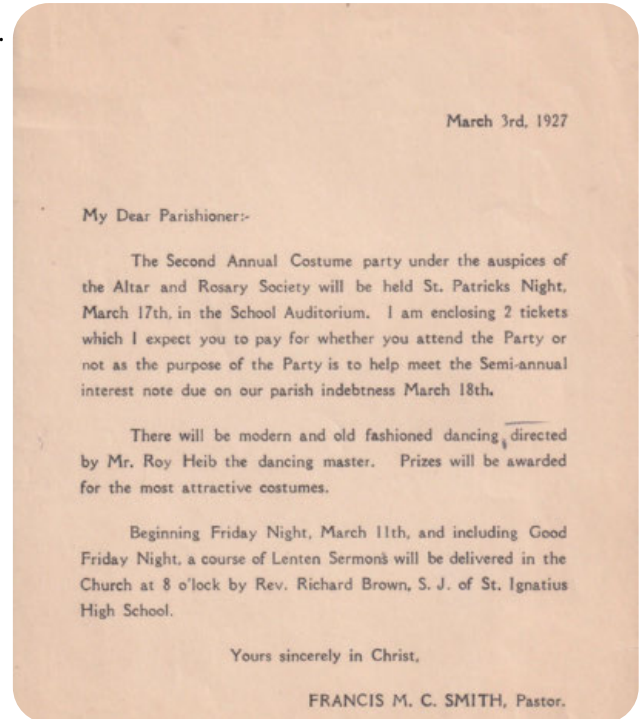
# Archive Corner with Mark Miller

This week, we explore three events held during the month of March in the 1920s and 30s. This was one way Father Smith, our third Pastor, raised funds while simultaneously providing enjoyable activities for the parishioners.

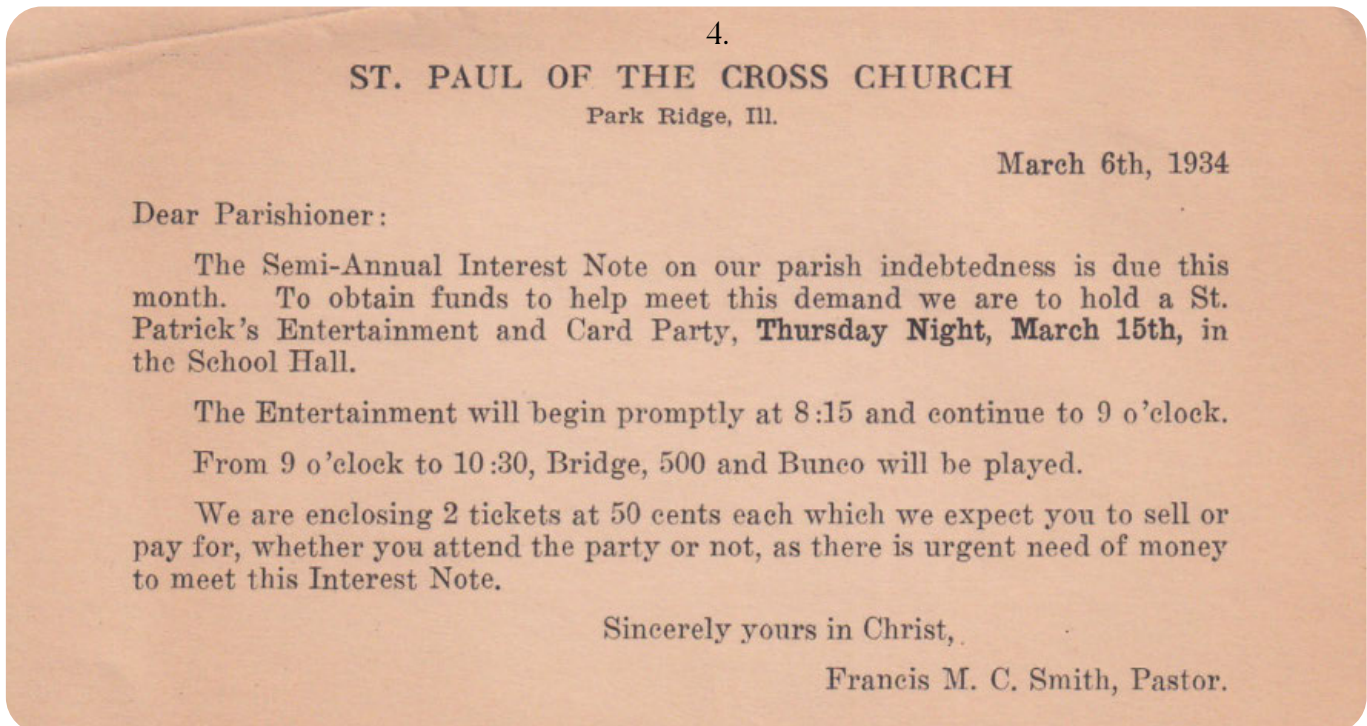
1.



2.



3.



4.

1. A 1925 Play
2. A 1927 Saint Patrick Day Party
3. A 1937 Card Party



# Kid's Corner

## GROWING WITH THE Gospel CYCLE B



### COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



5th Sunday of Lent • John 12:20-33



### PUZZLE

Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

grain	wheat	dies
suffer	glory	voice
give	life	serve

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oicev      \_ \_ \_ \_ \_



### MISSION

Look for ways to be helpful in your family. Help set the table. Take the trash out. Put away your toys and books without being asked. When your family notices you being so helpful, tell them you are trying to follow Jesus' example.



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# Ministry Corner

## New Parishioner Welcome



Greetings! New Parishioner Welcome typically occurs during the first Sunday of each month at the St Paul of the Cross (SPC) Parish Life Center. Two volunteers at each shift greet the new parishioners and transcribe their pertinent family data in our SPC registration cards. The first shift of volunteers starts at 8:15 AM and the second shift takes over at 10:15 AM through 12 noon. The volunteers answer questions from registrants regarding the parish and distribute SPC New Parishioner folders. The folders contain valuable information about church ministries, volunteer opportunities, social organizations throughout the parish and SPC school tuition including the extended day program. Our parish is truly fortunate to have volunteers meet and greet our new parishioners. If you would like to meet new people, share your SPC experience and commit two hours every four months to volunteer, then we would love to have you join our New Parishioner Welcome ministry. Please call me at 847.823.0930 and I can share more information about this fulfilling ministry.

Maria Mehl

*Maria Mehl*

### FAITH FORMATION MINISTRIES

Bible Study—George and Sue Kirkland—george@georgesue.com  
 Book Club—Dawn Golembiewski—golembiewski.dawn.renee@gmail.com  
 Catechesis—Anna Mae Parkhill—annamaeparkhill@spc-church.org  
 Disciples in Mission—Susan Clifford and Sue Feldman—disciplesinmission@spc-church.org  
 Evangelization—Nick Testa—nicktesta@spc-church.org  
 Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel—Ben Paoelli—adorationchapel@spc-church.org  
 Praying with Scripture—Beshar Bahjat—beshare@hotmail.com  
 RCIA—Beshar Bahjat—beshare@hotmail.com  
 That Man is You!—Will Gohl—wmgohl@gmail.com  
 Vacation Bible School—Anna Mae Parkhill—annamaeparkhill@spc-church.org  
 Vocation Ministry—Jerry White—jerrywhite56@gmail.com  
 Walking with Purpose—Megan McLaughlin—walkingwithpurposespc@gmail.com

### LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Servers, Arts and Environment, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion,  
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Bereavement—Margaret Teich—mfteich@yahoo.com  
 Liturgy Committee—Deacon Andy—andycameron@spc-church.org  
 Ministers of Care—Ann Vidovic—viddesign4@yahoo.com  
 Music Ministries—Ed Eicker—edwardeicker@spc-church.org  
 Ushers—Steve Bozek—sbozek@sbcglobal.net

### MARRIAGE AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Baptismal Preparation Class—Deacon Andy—andycameron@spc-church.org  
 Fun, Faith & Music—Anna Mae Parkhill—annamaeparkhill@spc-church.org  
 Wedding Ministry—Joyce Johnson—jmj323@comcast.net

### PARISH SERVICE MINISTRIES

Altar Linens, Mass Intentions—Donna Ebert—donnaebert@spc-church.org  
 Apostolate of Women—Melissa Poindexter and Jessica Armour—aow.spc@gmail.com  
 Collection Counters—Mike Angelini—angelinimike9@gmail.com  
 Home and School Association—Dr. Erika Mickelburgh—emickelburgh@spc-school.net  
 Inclusion Committee—Debbie Russo—russonet@sbcglobal.net  
 Knights of Columbus—Robert Gawronski—kofcmaria4836@gmail.com  
 Men's Club—Randy Bull—rbull29@gmail.com  
 New Parishioner Welcome—Maria Mehl—msmehl@gmail.com  
 Parish Finance Council—Robb Armour—rarmour123@gmail.com  
 Parish Pastoral Council—Patti Nowak—pattinowak56@gmail.com  
 Parish Records—Marianne Armstrong—mariannearmstrong@spc-church.org  
 Respect Life Committee—Cecilia Klein—cmklein817@gmail.com

### SOCIAL SERVICE MINISTRIES

Centennial Garden, Domestic Abuse Awareness Group (DAAG), Food Pantry,  
 General Assistance, GriefShare, Holiday Outreach, Lenten Almsgiving,  
 Our Lady of the Angels Mission, Sharing Parish/St. Benedict the African,  
 Sunday Night Supper—Leni Duffy—leniduffy@spc-church.org

### YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

Boy Scouts—Steve Knapp—knapp1415@gmail.com  
 Cub Scouts—Ken Kulas—kulasken@gmail.com; Ken Kapst—kapstk@aol.com  
 Girl Scouts—Karen Huber—hubekar@gmail.com  
 School Athletic Board—Kelly Spanos—kspanos@spc-school.net  
 Young Adult Ministry—Beshar Bahjat—beshare@hotmail.com



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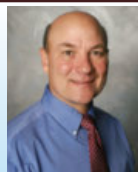
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**REV. NICK CAVALLARI, ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

frnick@spc-church.org

**DEACONS: ROBERT BULGER, ANDREW CAMERON, MARTIN NYBERG**

**SEMINARIANS: LEE NOEL**

**320 S. Washington  
Park Ridge, IL 60068  
phone: 847-825-7605**

**RECTORY OFFICE HOURS**

Monday through Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm\*  
\* closed from 12:00pm—1:00 pm  
Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Sunday Closed

**DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS**

Nick Testa: nicktesta@spc-church.org  
(847) 825-7605 x2250

**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS**

Mark Hutchinson: markhutchinson@spc-church.org  
847-825-7605 x2245 / www.spc-church.org

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

Sandra Labouvie: sandylabouvie@spc-church.org  
847-825-7605 x2249

**DIRECTOR OF CATECHESIS**

Anna Mae Parkhill: annamaeparkhill@spc-church.org  
(847) 692-2758 / www.spc-catechesis.net

**DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICE MINISTRY**

Leni Duffy: leniduffy@spc-church.org  
(847) 692-6767

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

Edward J. Eicker: edwardeicker@spc-church.org  
(847) 825-7605 x2253

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

Andrea Bartolomeo: andreabartolomeo@spc-church.org

**ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

Erika Mickelburgh: emickelburgh@spc-school.net  
(847) 825-6366 / www.spc-school.net

**RCIA**

rcia@spc-church.org

**CAMPUS SPACE RESERVATIONS**

calendars@spc-church.org

**VIRTUS**

virtus@spc-church.org

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULING**

schedule@spc-church.org

**BULLETIN EDITOR**

spcbulletin@spc-church.org

**UPCOMING BULLETIN CONTENT DEADLINES**

March 24th issue: Thursday, March 14th

March 31st issue: Friday, March 22nd

**WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE**

(Upper Church)

Monday through Friday 6:25 am - 8:30 am\*  
Saturday 8:30 am\* - daily Mass  
4:30 pm\* - vigil  
Sunday 7:30 am  
9:00 am  
10:30 am\*  
12:00 pm

\* Livestreamed services. Our 10:30 am Sunday Mass is also simulcast to our Upper Church vestibule and Holy Family Chapel

**MONTHLY FAMILY MASS**

(Holy Family Chapel)

2nd Sunday Family Mass 10:30 am

**TEEN MASS (open to the public)**

(Upper Church)

Sunday, February 18, 2024 12:00 pm

**ADORATION**

Adoration Chapel open 5:00 am until 11:00 pm daily  
email adorationchapel@spc-church.org to register

**CONFESSION**

(Upper Church vestibule)

Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 8:15 am  
Saturday 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

**FUNERALS**

Monday through Saturday Morning

**WEDDINGS**

Friday and Saturday

Call rectory office at least 6 months in advance

**BAPTISMS**

Saturday and Sunday

If this is your first child, baptism prep class is required and provided on the fourth Thursday every month at 7:00 pm. Please contact the parish office at 847-825-7605 to register.

**NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION**

(8:30 am - 12:00 pm)

and

**DONUT SUNDAY**

(after 9:00 am and 10:30 am Masses)

First Sunday of Every Month (unless advertised otherwise)

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

Call rectory office at 847-825-7605

**COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND**

Call rectory office at 847-825-7605

**ROSARY**

After 8:30 am Daily Mass