

# SAINT PAUL

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

193 Wyckoff Avenue, Ramsey, NJ 07446  
Parish Center: 201.327.0976 // Fax: 201.327.6197



## Schedule of Masses

Saturday: 9 am

Saturday Eve: 5 pm (Sunday Obligation)

Sunday: 7:30 am, 9 am, 10:30 am, & 12 pm

Weekdays: Monday-Friday 7:30 am & 12 pm

Holy Days: 7:30 am, Noon & 7:30 pm

National Holidays: 9:00 am

Spanish Mass: 7:00 pm, Second Saturday Each Month

*Jesus said to his disciples:*

*"No one can serve two masters.  
He will either hate one and love the other,  
or be devoted to one and despise the other.  
You cannot serve God and mammon.*



*The Parish is Served by*

*Rev. John Gabriel, Pastor*

*Rev. Paul Houlis, Parochial Vicar*

*Rev. Stefano Hong, Parochial Vicar*

*Mr. Tom Flanagan, Deacon*

*Mr. Jeremiah K. Rehse, Deacon*

[www.stpaulrcchurch.org](http://www.stpaulrcchurch.org)

**Mt 6:24-34**

**FEBRUARY 26, 2017**

**EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

This coming Wednesday is one of the most pivotal (and one of the most popular) days in the Liturgical Year: *Ash Wednesday*. On this day, Catholics and other Christians throughout the world will mark themselves with ashes as a sign of renewal and faith. People who do not typically come to Church regularly will come on Ash Wednesday (even though curiously enough it's not a Holy Day of Obligation). What is it that draws people to this day? It is perhaps the only day in the entire year that other people will know we are people of faith because we will be wearing a sign on our foreheads. If we do not speak to them of Christ throughout the rest of the year, or if they don't see anything different in our ways of speaking and acting that mark us out as Christians, one wonders what they will think when they see us wearing ashes on our foreheads. *Ashes mean little unless they are an outward sign of an inner transformation (or at least the desire for that transformation)*. Let us pray that this year the signing of our foreheads with ashes will be one small way of proclaiming Christ to the world that we will back up with many other signs in our lives that others can witness!

As we begin this *holy season of Lent*, we invite you to take part in a number of parish opportunities for growth and renewal (in addition to your own personal program of renewal). I invite you to join me on Monday mornings at 6:30 a.m. in the Rectory living room for *Lectio Divina (Divine Reading)*. During these mornings we will reflect on the Gospels for the following Sundays and allow the Word of God to lead us into deeper silence and prayer. Our first meeting will take place this Monday February 27<sup>th</sup> as we reflect on the Gospel for the First Sunday of Lent. We will finish by 7:15 a.m. so that participants can attend 7:30 a.m. Mass, or get to work on time, or perhaps go on back to bed! Those who attended during Advent truly had a special experience!

There are other Lenten opportunities for spiritual renewal during Lent as well: why not join *an Oremus Group* or attend *Holy Mass* during the week more frequently or come to our *Friday Evening Stations of the Cross*? Next Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, our children will gather in the Church at 6:30 p.m. for *a Lenten Children of Hope*, a time of Eucharistic Adoration for children with a Lenten theme. This could be a wonderful Lent prayer experience for our children. And, traditionally, Lent has been a perfect time for a retreat: I invite all men of the parish to prayerfully consider if God might be calling them to attend *Men's Cornerstone on March 3 and 4*. A Cornerstone Retreat is the perfect way to come to know other men in St. Paul Parish, to join together in friendship and mutual support, and to deepen your relationship with Christ. Whatever excuse you have for not attending, Christ has the answer! To those who say 'I'm too busy that weekend' Christ says 'Seek first the Kingdom!' To those who say 'I'm too tired on weekends' Christ says 'Come to Me and I will give you rest!' To those who say 'Weekends are family time' I guarantee you that the best thing you can do for your family (your spouse, your children) is to be holy yourself! An overnight retreat away is a great gift to give yourself and your family, and also a great gift you can give Our Lord! And on Sunday Evening, March 12<sup>th</sup> *the Mystery Players from Notre Dame Church in North Caldwell* will be with us to lead us in an evening of prayer and reflection. We invite you to take part in some or all of these activities! May this season of Lent be a time of true grace, a time to challenge ourselves, and a time to grow in relationship to Christ and one another.

*In Peace,  
Father John.*

## ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK 2017 LENTEN REGULATIONS

The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.

On the day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted, and two (2) smaller meals, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity.

Those between aged of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.

On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.

The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is serious obligation.

The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.

The time of fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty\*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, March 5, 2017** to **The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, June 18, 2017.**

*\*Canon 920, §1. All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*

## SIGN UP FOR ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

All Extraordinary Ministers, Lectors and Altar Servers are asked to sign up for Ash Wednesday Services. The sheets are in the Penance Room in the Main Entrance of the church.

## HOMEBOUND VISIT

If you or someone you know is home bound and would like a visit from one of our Priests or Deacon, please call the parish office to arrange.

## RESPECT LIFE

**LET US PRAY:** *Lord, God, guide our efforts as we launch a Respect Life Ministry at St. Paul parish. Grant us the wisdom and courage to do your will; and the grace to speak and to witness with love and understanding. Mary, our Mother, pray for us. Saint Paul, pray for us.*

**St. Paul Parish is launching a Respect Life Ministry under the spiritual direction of Fr. Paul Houlis.**

**The first meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 28th at 7:30 pm in the Parish Center.**

**Please consider attending this start-up meeting. All are welcome ... from high school students to seniors!**

*"You are called to stand up for life! To respect and defend the mystery of life always and everywhere, including the lives of unborn babies, giving real help and encouragement to mothers in difficult situations. You are called to work and pray against abortion."*

*~St. John Paul II ~*

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Come to St. Paul's Stations of the Cross, every Friday in Lent, beginning at 7:00pm in the Church.

This is a wonderful opportunity for all (adults and children alike) to pray and reflect on the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior — who accepted the cross for each of us.

March 3	The Way of the Cross with St Paul
March 10	Mary's Way of the Cross
March 17	The Way of the Cross with Scripture
March 24	Pope Francis' Stations of Mercy
March 31	Stations of the Cross with St. John Paul II
April 7	St. Faustina's Way of the Cross
April 14	Good Friday: The Seven Last Words of Christ

## SAVE THE DATE

Our next Children of Hope "Eucharistic Adoration for children" is scheduled for Sunday, March 5 at 6:30 pm with Fr. John Gabriel.

## 2017 SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS ANNUAL APPEAL

This weekend is the start of the 2017 *Sharing God's Blessings* Annual Appeal. Our parish goal this year is \$116,913.00. Please be as generous as possible. We appreciate your support.

## 2017 STEWARDSHIP PROJECT

### Needed: New or Used Communion Dresses and Suits

The Archdiocese of Newark will be organizing their fourth annual collection of gently used and new communion outfits. First Communion is usually celebrated when children are between the ages of seven and eight. It marks the first day on which a child is admitted to receive the Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Christ, the sacrament that unites us to Christ throughout our lives. A child's First Communion is a special day for any family and the Archdiocese of Newark along with St. Paul Parish is trying to make sure financial hardship does not stand in the way of it being as special as it can be.

We will be collecting gently used, in good condition, Communion dresses/veils, suits and shoes for our inner city parishes, the Religious Sisters at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart who know families in need, and any parishioner in need of one for their child. Last year over 400 dresses and 200 suits were distributed.

All items can be dropped off to the Parish Center beginning Monday, February 27 through March 24 between the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM (Fridays until Noon). We will distribute the outfits in April.

Questions? [dschifano@stpaulrcchurch.org](mailto:dschifano@stpaulrcchurch.org) or call the Parish Office at (201)327-0976.



Please make sure  
all outfits are free  
of stains and  
clean.



## MONTHLY HOLY HOURS & DISCERNMENT GROUP



Thinking Priesthood?

[www.NewPriestNJ.com](http://www.NewPriestNJ.com) - Archdiocesan Office of Priestly Vocations  
973.313.6190

Know someone thinking about priesthood?  
Invite them to our

### Monthly Holy Hours & Discernment Group Spring 2017: Mar. 8 & Apr 19\*

A time for prayer, discussion, and fraternity for men thinking about a call to serve as a Diocesan Priest in the Archdiocese of Newark.

During the academic year (September-April) we meet on the second Wednesday of the month from 7:00pm-9:00pm at Immaculate Conception Seminary, Seton Hall University.

Registration suggested: 201-327-0976 Fr. Stefano or e-mail: [shong@stpaulrcchurch.org](mailto:shong@stpaulrcchurch.org).

\*April 2017 falls on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

## CRS RICE BOWL

### ENCOUNTER LENT

Join our faith community—and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey of encounter with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl at the church doors, and don't forget to download the CRS Rice Bowl app! May these 40 days better prepare us to encounter ourselves, our neighbors and our God.

## STEWARDSHIP TREASURE

WEEKEND of February 18 – 19

**\$19,408.00**

**\$13,334.00 Collection**

**\$6,074.00 from Faith Direct.**

Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) and use our church code: NJ654 to sign up for Online Giving.

Thank you for your continued support.

## MEN'S CORNERSTONE

*Saint Paul Church*  
Men's Cornerstone: March 3-4, 2017  
*"Be Not Afraid"*



- *Over 600 St. Paul Men have experienced Cornerstone*
- *An experience of discovery, renewal, and healing.*
- *Peaceful, relaxing environment for men at every stage of life*
- *Escape pressures of the world for 27 hours of contemporary Christian faith*

### For Information Contact

<i>John Nunziata</i>	<i>Pastoral Associate</i>	<i>jjnunziata@verizon.net</i>	<i>201-327-0976</i>
<i>Eddie Scholl</i>	<i>Lay Director</i>	<i>emsbuilding@hotmail.com</i>	<i>201-697-7461</i>
<i>Amato Spagnoletti</i>	<i>Facilitator</i>	<i>amatospagnoletti@gmail.com</i>	<i>952-381-1027</i>
<i>Father Paul Houlis</i>	<i>Spiritual Director</i>		
<i>Father John Gabriel</i>	<i>Pastor</i>		

## NOCTURNAL ADORATION

Nocturnal Adoration: Friday, March 3rd from 8:00 to 9:00 at the Adorno Fathers Chapel. Women, men, young adults, and new members invited. For further information, please contact Vince Marella at 201-327-7512.

# JESUS THE HEALER

**"A Living Meditation on Healing"**

*Presented by*  
**The Franciscan Mystery Players**



*of*

Notre Dame Church  
North Caldwell, NJ

**SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2017**  
**SAINT PAUL R.C. CHURCH**  
**RAMSEY, NJ**  
**8:00 P.M.**

**RECEIVE THE GIFT OF  
HEALING THIS LENT**

## GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY

Girl Scout Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, March 12 at the 9:00 am Mass. It is a chance for us to celebrate scouting and to show appreciation to St. Paul Parish for supporting our Girl Scouts. Please join us dressed in your uniform at 8:45 at the front of the church. We will take a picture with the celebrant after mass at the altar.

## FISH FRY

FISH FRY FRIDAYS starts next Friday March 3rd and will continue through April 7th.

The St. Paul Fish Fry, together with our Youth Group, offers an opportunity for parishioners to come together and share a meal. The menu is served a la carte and includes Fish & Chips, Corn & Clam Chowder, Fresh Pizza, Tossed Salad, assorted beverages, and weekly Pasta, Fish, & Dessert Specials! Eat in for the community feel or enjoy the convenience of take-out. Food is served from 5:30pm until 8:00pm. Visit the parish website for more information and pricing.



**SPECIALS for March 3:**

Pasta Special - Eggplant Rollatini

Fish Special - Herb Encrusted Tilapia

## "FREE THROW SHOOTING CONTEST"

The Knights of Columbus Council #3962 will be hosting our annual Free Throw Shooting contest on Sunday February 26th at 3pm at the St. Paul's Gymnasium. This is open to all girls and boys, ages 9 to 14, as of Jan. 1st.

The winners will progress through to local, district, and state competitions. For more information please see the flyers posted in the vestibules or contact Ray Dunleavy at [rdun24@aol.com](mailto:rdun24@aol.com)



**St. Patrick's Day Fundraiser Party**  
Friday, March 10, 2017  
7 PM till Midnight

*Presented By The*  
**Ramsey Knights Of Columbus**  
Food, Drinks, & Music!



**\$50 per person**  
Limited Seating  
Call Matt at: 917-699-0556  
[mattmcarath23@verizon.net](mailto:mattmcarath23@verizon.net)



*Live Music and Entertainment Provided By*

**The Connolly Brothers**

**Will O'Connor and Alex Stecyna**

**The Early McLaughlin Irish Step Dancers**

Performance Begins at 7:30 PM



**At The Hall**  
(Northwest Bergen Columbian Club)  
48 Mechanic Street  
Ramsey, NJ 07446



[www.ramseykofc.org](http://www.ramseykofc.org)

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## SOCIAL CONCERN

**Food Certificate Program** - St Paul Food Certificate Program currently aids 50 local families per month by supplementing their incomes with the donation of a food certificate. Donations towards purchasing food certificates are greatly needed as we have seen an increase in need for local families and a decrease in funds for the program. Shoprite of Ramsey offers the Parish a 5% bulk discount when purchasing our monthly allotment of food certificates. Your contribution will help us to continue our efforts in supporting local families in need. Please make checks payable to St Paul Parish and indicate Food Certificate Program in the memo section. If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact Elieen Wimberger at 201-825-0413.

**Food Pantry** - The St Paul Food Pantry is supported through generous donations from St Paul parishioners. The pantry is located in the front vestibule of the church and is available for all in the community in need. The Food Pantry is open on **Tuesday's from 11:30am - 12:00pm**. Please contact the Parish Center at 201-327-0976 if you need to make special arrangements to access the Food Pantry. Place all food donations in the wooden donation boxes located at the side entrances of the church. We are always in need of the following Items:

Juice, Ice Tea Mix, Snacks/Cookies/Crackers, White Rice, Canned Meat (Tuna, Chicken, Ham), Can Fruit (Peaches, Pears, Fruit Cocktail), Cereal, Peanut Butter, Spaghetti Sauce, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Soup, Canned Vegetables (No Peas Please), Paper Products (Tissues, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels), Bath Products (Soap, Shampoo, Deodorant, Toothpaste), Coffee and Tea.

**Please no perishable items...**

**Harrison House**—Twice monthly the committee provides a home cooked meal for eight people with the AIDS virus, who live in a home on the grounds of Bergen Regional Medical Center. Volunteers are needed to prepare and deliver a meal for: Sat. March 4, Sat., April 1, Fri., April 28, Sat., May 6 and Fri., May 26.

If you are able to help, call Debbie at 201-825-7856.

## WEIGHT WATCHER CLASS

An ongoing Community Weight Watcher class takes place on Wednesday evenings at 6 pm in the Parish Center. If interested, call the parish office or contact dschifano@stpaulrcchurch.org.

## YOUTH GROUP NEWS



**Upcoming Events:**

**Fish Fry Volunteers Needed**

Every Friday During Lent!

**Passion Play**

Friday, April 14

Our most prominent community faith building event and the play serves as a form of worship for parishioners. It doesn't matter if you've been the lead role in the school play or are afraid to read in class, there is a place for you in this play. The youth group performs one of several rotating formats of this play each year and each year we learn something new about ourselves and our faith. Rehearsals begin March 5 and are held every Sunday in the church from 2:00pm to 4:30pm. On Good Friday participants need to be at the church for a final dress rehearsal at 4:30pm. The performance begins at 7:30pm sharp on Good Friday. Youth interested in helping out with this event must register by March 5. For more information attend youth group meetings.

**The Cotillion Ball**

Friday, April 7

The Cotillion Ball is a semi-formal dinner dance to honor teenagers in the youth ministry programs throughout the diocese. Each year, two members of the youth group are selected from St. Paul's to be honored at the event. The individuals selected exemplify the youth ministry mission statement through their commitment to the various programs run throughout the year and their dedication to live the Gospels in their every day action. The awards are an honor. The dancing is just plain fun. Registration fee and form to be submitted March 21. For more information attend youth group meetings.

**Mark Your Calendar**

**Holy Thursday Lock-In**

April 13 -14

**Check Out Our Website!**

Go to [www.StPaulRCChurch.org](http://www.StPaulRCChurch.org), scroll over "Ministries", and click on "Youth Ministry" to get information about meetings, retreats, events, community service, and all the fun activities we do every year!

**High School Youth Group**

Meetings are scheduled for Tuesdays from 7:30 until 9:00 pm; gather at 7:15 pm.



# PARISH SCHOOL NEWS



187 Wyckoff Avenue, Ramsey // Phone: 201-327-1108 //

Email: [gritchie@academyofstpaul.org](mailto:gritchie@academyofstpaul.org) // Website: [www.academyofstpaul.org](http://www.academyofstpaul.org)

**Academy of St Paul is our parish school! Make a Catholic education a priority for your family.**

Academy of Saint Paul, a 2015 National Blue Ribbon School, provides academic excellence in an atmosphere of love and Catholic Christian values through scholarship, spirituality and service. Our rigorous curriculum and exemplary teachers prepare our students to take their place as faith-filled stewards in the Church and the world. Let us partner with you in your child's school success and in the development of their Catholic identity. Call 201-327-1108 to arrange a tour. For more information, visit [www.academyofstpaul.org](http://www.academyofstpaul.org).



## Academy Happenings

Academy of Saint Paul held their STREAMS (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art, Math, Social Studies) during Catholic Schools Week. Representatives from St. Joseph Regional High School gave a Robotics demonstration. Representatives from Immaculate Heart Academy gave Engineering presentations. Academy of Saint Paul students showcased their projects for representatives from the Archdiocese of Newark schools office, family members, and the local community. Students in Pre-K - 8 used the Engineering Design Process to develop solutions for problems throughout the world by connecting to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Pre-K focused on healthy eating; Kindergarten focused on clean water; First Grade focused on climate challenges; Second Grade focused on protecting life under the water; Third Grade focused on protecting life on land; Fourth Grade focused on renewable energy resources; Fifth Grade spread awareness about e-waste by creating board games; Sixth Grade developed solutions for citizens of Italy who are victims of earthquakes; Seventh Grade developed solutions to reduce the incidence of Chronic Kidney Disease in farmers in Nicaragua; and Eighth Grade developed cities of the future focusing on the "Power of Public Space". The Eighth Grade students will represent the Academy of Saint Paul with their Future City models at the Archdiocese of Newark STEM Expo in March.



## PARISH STAFF INFORMATION

**Rev. John Gabriel, Pastor**  
*jgabriel@stpaulrcchurch.org*

**Rev. Paul Houlis, Parochial Vicar**  
*phoulis@stpaulrcchurch.org*

**Rev. Stefano Hong, Parochial Vicar**  
*shong@stpaulrcchurch.org*

**Mr. Tom Flanagan, Deacon**  
*tflanagan@stpaulrcchurch.org*

**Mr. Jeremiah K. Rehse, Deacon**

**John Nunziata, Pastoral Associate**  
*jnnunziata@stpaulrcchurch.org*

**Kristin Dabaghian, Director of Music Ministry & Liturgy**  
*kdabaghian@stpaulrcchurch.org*

**Donna Schifano, Director of Outreach**  
*dschifano@stpaulrcchurch.org*

**Eric Erler, Director of Youth Ministry**  
*eerler@stpaulrcchurch.org*

**John Weiss, Business Manager**  
*jweiss@stpaulrcchurch.org*

### SCHOOL OFFICE

**187 Wyckoff Avenue, Ramsey, NJ 07446**  
**Phone: 201-327-1108**

**Website: [www.academyofstpaul.org](http://www.academyofstpaul.org)**  
**Gail Ritchie, School Principal**  
**[gritchie@academyofstpaul.org](mailto:gritchie@academyofstpaul.org)**

### FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

*[faithformation@stpaulrcchurch.org](mailto:faithformation@stpaulrcchurch.org)*  
**Phone: 201-327-8010**

**Colleen Jagde, Director of Faith Formation**  
*[cjagde@stpaulrcchurch.org](mailto:cjagde@stpaulrcchurch.org)*

## MISSION STATEMENT

*We are Catholic Christians  
who embrace the plan of God for our salvation.*

*We come together in faith  
to worship in a loving community.*

*We are moved by the Holy Spirit  
to witness to the life, death, and  
resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

*We wish to live out the vision of Jesus  
expressed in the Beatitudes  
as it unfolds in our daily life,  
through time, talent and treasure.*

## SACRAMENT INFORMATION

### Baptism

Parents, please contact the Parish Center during the pregnancy, or prior to adoption, to begin preparing for your child's baptism.

### Penance

Saturdays 1:00-2:00 pm or by appointment.

### Marriage

Arrangements must be made one year in advance.

### Anointing of the Sick

At two special Eucharistic Liturgies in Church during the year. Visitation of the sick at home any time.

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

For those interested in becoming a Catholic. Call the Parish Center for information.