

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)

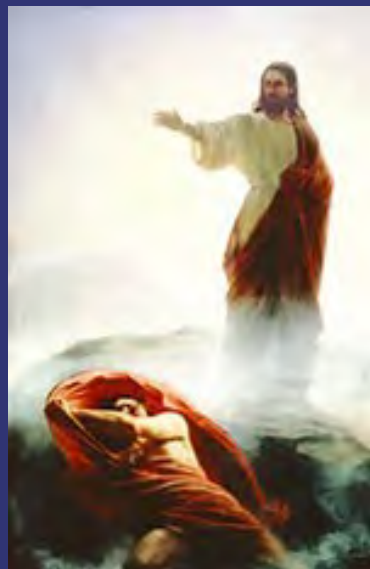
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9 am, 10:30 am, & 12 pm

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



At this, Jesus said to him,

"Get away, Satan!

It is written:

*The Lord, your God,
shall you worship and
him alone shall you
serve."*

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

Mt 4:1-11

MARCH 5, 2017

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, March 6

7:30AM **Marie Vachon** ~ *Jim Rogers*
12:00PM **Novena of Masses**

TUESDAY, March 7

7:30AM **Norma Theting** ~ *Jim Schuetz*
12:00PM **Michael Moreschi Sr.** ~ *The Family*

WEDNESDAY, March 8

7:30AM **Donald Markey** ~ *Joyce Hoffman*
12:00PM **Josephine Nigri** ~ *Eleanor Marmo*

THURSDAY, March 9

7:30AM **Novena of Masses**
12:00PM **George D'Elia** ~ *Mary D'Elia*

FRIDAY, March 10

7:30AM **Donald Markey** ~ *Jane & Barry Coyle*
12:00PM **Richard Franks** ~ *10:30 A.M. Choir*

SATURDAY, March 11

9:00AM **Dorothy Fesen** ~ *Gino & Dolores Francini*
5:00PM **Donato D'Angelo (Father of Donato Sr.)** ~
The Family
7:00PM **Hispanic Mass**

SUNDAY, March 12 ~ Second Sunday of Lent

7:30AM **People of the Parish**
9:00AM **Deceased Members of Holy Name Society**
10:30AM **Deceased Members of Day Family** ~
John & JoEllen Bianci
12:00PM **Caterina & Anthony Florio** ~ *Teresa Buccisano*

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 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. |

LENTEN CHILDREN OF HOPE

Sunday, March 5th, 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.

DEVOTIONS AND MEMORIALS

To have a loved one remembered please call
the Parish Center
Sanctuary Lamp ~
Bread and Wine



SANCTUARY LAMP

Giovanna Altadonna ~ *Anna Ramos*

ALTAR BREADS

Don Markey ~ *Barry & Jane Donnolly*

ALTAR WINE

Mary Jane Brondi ~ *The Remy Family*

PRAYER REQUESTS

Military

All the women & men who serve in our armed forces.

Sick

Baby Mateo Ventrudo, Baby Tommy Fitzpatrick, & Genny Huss.
For those names that are listed on the altar.

Deceased

Axel Humbert & Jennie Palmisano.

LECTIO DIVINA

READING THE SCRIPTURE, REFLECTING ON THE MEANING, RESPONDING THROUGH PRAYER, RESTING IN GOD, RESPONDING IN ACTION...

We invite you to join Fr. John Gabriel Monday mornings from 6:30 a.m. to 7:15 a.m. in the Rectory living room during Lent.

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

In His letter to the Church for **Lent 2017**, our Holy Father Pope Francis wrote: *"Lent is a new beginning, a path leading to the certain goal of Easter. Christ's victory over death. This season urgently calls us to conversion. Christians are asked to return to God 'with all their hearts' (Joel 2:12), to refuse to settle for mediocrity and to grow in friendship with the Lord. Jesus is the faithful friend who never abandons us. Even when we sin, He patiently awaits our return; by that patient expectation, He shows us His readiness to forgive..... The Word of God is alive and powerful, capable of converting hearts and leading them back to God. When we close our heart to the gift of God's word, we end up closing our heart to the gift of our brothers and sisters. Dear friends, Lent is the favorable season for renewing our encounter with Christ, living in His word, in the sacraments and in our neighbor."*

Often in his writings and speeches Pope Francis speaks of a **Culture of Encounter**. This culture the Church (and each member of the Church) must create, a culture of inclusion that includes a passion for facilitating that encounter between Christ and others. This we call the **New Evangelization**, called for by Pope St. John Paul II and reinforced through the teachings of Benedict XVI and Francis. **Fasting, prayer and almsgiving** are a wonderful program for Lenten renewal (as the Church reminds us) but we need to make sure that their effects are not just interior ones. **Fasting** can include more than just food: perhaps we can fast a bit on the time we spend in front of the television or computer screen, the time we spend with our noses buried in our cell phones, the time we spend murmuring and gossiping about others. Instead, perhaps we can spend that extra time in reaching out to others, volunteering to assist a person in need, joining a ministry in the parish, and being more present to those with whom we live and work. If our only reason for fasting is to lose weight so that we can look better in that suit or dress, then we have missed the point! If someone admires our weight loss, we have already received our reward. Fasting as a spiritual discipline designed to make us holier so that our lives can speak to the world of God is what our fasting should be about! **Prayer** is that intimate encounter with God within and around us. While prayer enlarges our own hearts, it does so not solely for our own sakes, but so that we may emerge from our time of prayer changed and renewed in our willingness to encounter others and help to change our world. **Almsgiving** helps us to recognize what we have and understand that some of what God has given to us is really meant for us to share with others who have less. But are we just giving from what we have left over, or will we give sacrificially to others. Mother Teresa always used to encourage people to *'give until it hurts.'* After all, this is the way Christ has given to us.

In his **Lenten Message**, Pope Francis concluded: *"May the Holy Spirit lead us on a true journey of conversion, so that we can rediscover the gift of God's word, be purified of the sin that blinds us, and serve Christ present in our brothers and sisters in need. Let us pray for one another so that, by sharing in the victory of Christ, we may open our doors to the weak and the poor. Then we will be able to experience and share to the full the joy of Easter."*

While there are many opportunities for spiritual growth available in our parish for Lent, may I highlight our **Friday evening Stations of the Cross**? This traditional Lenten prayer is a powerful way to journey with Christ along the road that led through suffering to salvation. Please come and join us as we join with Him! May Holy Lent be a time of true conversion, deeper faith, all-encompassing love!

*In His love,
Father John*

JOIN OUR PARISH BOOK CLUB

AS WE BEGIN OUR SECOND BOOK THIS YEAR:

"THE SEVEN STOREY MOUNTAIN" *The Autobiography of Thomas Merton.*

Read Chapters 1 and 2 for Meeting on Wednesday March 22, 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Library

NOTE: The Ramsey Library is graciously reserving extra copies of this book under the title "St. Paul's Book Club" In order to borrow a book, a Library card will be required. Books should be available on Wednesday March 1st. A limited number of books will be available.

MONTHLY HOLY HOURS & DISCERNMENT GROUP



Thinking Priesthood?
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@stpaulrchurch.org.

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

DIVINE MERCY

In the early 1930's, Saint Faustina Kowalska, a young Polish nun received visions of our Lord – and was asked by Jesus to share the urgent message of Divine Mercy with our troubled, modern world.

Her mission consisted of three main tasks:

**to remind the world and the Church of the truth of God's mercy for every human being

**to request/intercede for the whole world through devotional prayer to the Divine Mercy

**to proclaim Divine Mercy and the practice of works of mercy.

As we begin this season of Lent – we invite you to explore this devotion. Pamphlets containing additional information are at the doors of the church – and more information will follow in future bulletins.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Would you like to help plan the Easter Egg Hunt for the children of parish? Please call 201-327-0976 or e-mail dschifano@stpaulrchurch.org.

RESPECT LIFE

LET US PRAY: Lord, God, may we all come to see – *as you see* – the precious gift of life that you grant.

*"I knew you before I formed you in your mother's womb.
Before you were born I set you apart
and appointed you as my prophet to the nations."*

Jeremiah 1:5

Mother Teresa said, "The baby in the womb is the beautiful creation of God, created in His image and likeness for greater things ... to love and to be loved. The baby in the womb, being so small, so weak, so dependent and so unable to defend its life, is the poorest of the poor."

The Respect Life Ministry invites *your* participation in helping the poorest of the poor – all are welcome: from high school students to senior citizens! Watch the bulletin for updates or contact Fr. Paul for more information.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION NEWS!

In addition to Eucharistic Adoration that is held in the church on the First Friday of every month, we hope to expand this schedule and also offer Eucharistic Adoration on the third Monday of every month, following the noon mass through 7:30 pm, concluding with Benediction.

For this beautiful opportunity for prayer to be available, **two (2) volunteers are needed per hour** (12:30-1:30pm, 1:30-2:30pm, etc. ... through 6:30-7:30pm).

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is a special way to offer personal praise and worship of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. The sacrifice of your time will only draw you closer to our Lord, and allow others the opportunity for the same. Please consider joining this ministry. Contact Diane at the3flynn@aol.com or (201) 891-9237 to sign up or obtain for more information.

PETER'S PENCE

Next week, our second collection will be for Peter's Pence, which provides Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous. For more information, visit www.usccb.org/peters-pence.

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

Jesus the Healer depicts Jesus' healing ministry and Passion and death on the cross, this moving, dramatic meditation connects with individuals who are experiencing suffering their lives. The play is now in its sixteenth year of production, and thousands of people have been touched by its message of comfort and love. This event promises to be a high point in our parish's spiritual journey—we strongly encourage our adults and your people to attend! **(Note: since the play addresses subjects of suffering and death, some parents may find the play unsuitable for children under the age of 7.)**



Saint Joseph Dinner

Saturday, March 18, 2017

Location: Parish Gymnasium

6:30 – 10 p.m.

Dinner ... Cappuccino ... Pastries ... Espresso

Bring Your Favorite Wine

Entertainment by Michael Roselli

TICKETS: \$25.00

CHILDREN: \$10.00 (12 & under)

**RSVP @ stpaulrcchurch.org by March 15th or call
(201)327-0976**

Tickets for St. Joseph dinner will be available at the Parish Office beginning Monday, March 6. Tables of 10 are available or single seating. Please join us for this special evening. For more information, contact dschifano@stpaulrcchurch.org or call (201)327-0976.

CRS RICE BOWL

ENCOUNTER INNOVATION

We encounter the Singh family in India, where a mother and father are using innovative farming techniques to feed their family amidst a flood. How is God inviting us to think outside the box in service to others this Lent? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

MEN'S CORNERSTONE 2017 ~ THE SPIRIT LIVES ON



Over the course of this weekend more than 130 men of the parish were active as participants and team members in the 30th Anniversary of Cornerstone at Saint Paul Church. The theme was "Be Not Afraid". In these tumultuous times in our world, Cornerstone provided an ideal respite from and recipe to deal with all the worry and stress. Lay Leaders Eddie Scholl, Amato Spagnoletti, Mickey Sebes, and Bill Kessler provided the inspiration over the past year of preparation. Spiritual Director Father Paul was also part of the team development and gave an inspiring talk on the Eucharist. He concelebrated the closing liturgy with Father John and Father Stefano. Father John gave the Reconciliation talk in preparing the men to experience the sacrament. All three priests were joined by priests from neighboring parishes to hear confession. We give special appreciation to our wonderful music ministry under the direction of Denis Mullins with participation by Kristin Dabaghian and members of our parish choirs. Scott Deas, John Bomma, Patrick Mottola, Eddie Scholl, Carlo Pellicciari, Ben Mamola, Father Paul and Father John gave witness talks. There were dozens of other men (too numerous to mention) who gave of their time and talents.

2017 SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS ANNUAL APPEAL

If you have not yet made a pledge to the *Sharing God's Blessings* Annual Appeal, there is still time. Just complete a pledge envelope and drop it in the collection basket, or bring it to the parish center. If you have already made a contribution, thank you.

FISH FRY

FISH FRY FRIDAYS continues this Friday, March 10. 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 10:

Pasta Special - Vegetable Lasagna

Fish Special - Southern Style Shrimp and Grits

HOW CAN I MAKE LENT MORE MEANINGFUL FOR ME?

Begin now to Prepare Your Heart to Embrace the Love of Christ!

To aid you in your Lenten spiritual journey, please check out the newly stocked LIGHTHOUSE CATHOLIC MEDIA Kiosk now located at the entrance closest to the rectory. The titles for adults and children include the following:

CD TITLES

1. Glimpses Along the Way of the Cross by Msgr. James P. Shea
2. Love Hurts: the Truth Behind Redemptive Suffering by Matthew Leonard
3. Meditations on the Stations of the Cross by Dr. Ron Thomas
4. My Beloved Son: Meditations for Lent by Bishop Robert Barron

Booklets

1. What Happened at Fatima?
2. Our Lady Untier of Knots
3. Stations of the Cross with Pope Francis
4. Lent with the Saints
5. Why Go to Mass?

Books

1. Mother Teresa of Calcutta: A Personal Portrait by Fr. Leo Maasburg
2. Bible Basics for Catholics by Dr. John Bergsma
3. Saint John Paul the Great by Jason Evert
4. Meet your Mother by Dr. Mark Miravalle

If possible, donations for the materials are suggested to help defray the cost.

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. and April 1.

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

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.

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, 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 // Website: 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.



Academy Happenings

The First Grade celebrated the 100th Day of School on Friday, February 10th! The children began counting the number of days starting with our first day in September. To celebrate, we colored crowns and strung necklaces with beads that we counted into groups of ten. It was a fun celebration!



SOCIAL MEDIA MINISTRY

We are in the process of looking for people who are interested in helping our parish with Social Media. This ministry will help us revamp our website, Facebook and perhaps Twitter also. We invite you to join us on Tuesday, March 7 at 7:30 in the Parish Center.



STEWARDSHIP TREASURE

WEEKEND of February 25 – 26

\$20,462.00

\$14,504.00 Collection

\$5,958.00 from Faith Direct.

Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: NJ654 to sign up for Online Giving.

Thank you for your continued support.

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
Gail Ritchie, School Principal
gritchie@academyofstpaul.org

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

faithformation@stpaulrcchurch.org
Phone: 201-327-8010

Colleen Jagde, Director of Faith Formation
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.