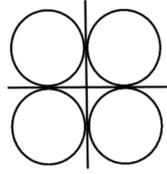


ST. PAUL'S CHURCH



783 Hard Road, Webster, New York

April 5, 2020 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Mission Statement

St Paul's Parish Family exists for the purpose of witnessing and proclaiming the message of Jesus Christ, that message proclaimed in word, worship, service: love God, love your neighbor as yourself.

PALM SUNDAY

And when he entered Jerusalem the whole city was shaken and asked, "Who is this?" And the crowds replied, "This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee." —Mt 21:10-11

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

"This is also a good time to remind ourselves of the important principles of stewardship, which will keep our parish vibrant during this difficult time. Through stewardship, we thank God for all our blessings by returning to God a portion of the time, talent, and treasure given to us. Your financial support of St. Paul's Church is vitally important, perhaps more important than ever, during this period of uncertainty. Thank you for your continued and ongoing stewardship and generosity."

Father Paul

Donation Options

Donate online through our website at stpaulsrcc.org and click on the **DONATE** link at the top right of the page.

- This will take you to our "Donations" page.
- Then click on the blue DONATE NOW button to go to our secure page where you can make a one time or recurring donations.
- After you choose the amount, frequency, and start date for your donation, the next page will ask for your name, address, and credit/checking/savings information.
- Then if you would like to save your profile, you will chose a password. This is recommended as it will enable you to return to change or stop a recurring donation as well as view your donation history.

Set up an electronic funds transfer (EFT) from your bank to the church/parish account.

- You may establish an automatic payment with your bank through its online banking function. Please contact your bank for more details.

Mail your check to:

• St. Paul's Church
783 Hard Road
Webster, NY 14580

Please include your name, address and envelope number (if known) with your check.

- Kindly do not mail cash.

If you wish to make your gift to the CMA online

- visit www.dor.org/cma.

Parish Staff



Pastor: Fr. Paul Gitau
Deacon: Mark Robbins
Confirmation Prep. Coordinator: Bonnie Serio x27
Religious Ed. & Youth Coordinator: Sue Ward 671-2110
Business Manager: Robin Martz x30
Rectory Housekeeper: Helen Stirpe
Maintenance Coordinator: Ben O'Brien
Administrative Asst.: Jodie Hickey x21
Finance Council Chair: Tom Napoli 872-0678
Parish Council Chair: Paul Pumputis
Parish Trustees: Deb Urtz-Gleason & Dave Galeazzo
Multi Parish Finance Director:
 Joan Sullivan: 671-1100 x21

fr.paul.gitau@dor.org
 mark.robbins@dor.org
 bonnie.serio@dor.org
 susan.ward@dor.org
 robin.martz@dor.org
 helen.stirpe@dor.org
 ben.obrien@dor.org
 jodie.hickey@dor.org
 tanapoli@live.com

joan.sullivan@dor.org

Office Contact Info

The staff is working remotely when possible. The best way to get a hold of us is via our email addresses above. If you cannot send an email and would prefer to call the office please do so and leave a message for Jodie x21 and she will forward the message along to the staff member you are trying to reach.

Phone: 671- 2100
Emergency Number: 369-9687
Website: www.stpaulsrcc.org
Diocese of Rochester: www.dor.org



FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

	Feb-20	Jul 2019 - Feb 2020
Collections \$	47,806	* \$ 374,379
Donations / Other Revenue \$	6,544	\$ 48,753
Expenses \$	(52,950)	\$ (426,338)
Operating surplus (deficit) \$	<u>1,400</u>	<u>\$ (3,206)</u>
Average Weekly Mass Attendance	488	482

*Feb. collections include annual contributions totaling \$11,000

YTD collections include Christmas collections of \$16,938

St. Paul Church relies on the generous contributions of our parishioners to continue providing the programs and ministries of the parish.

Let Us Pray for Those in the Military



Jason Aman
 Zach Bartlett
 Bryan Gross
 Tom Weisenreder
 Mason Serrano
 Andrew Zani
 Jay Riesenberger

Josh Bartlett
 Sean Black
 Andrew O'Brien
 Cydney Blong
 Michael J. Desiato
 Daniel Thomas

This week the
 Sanctuary Lamp burns
 for
 George Snyder
 From
 Family

Seeds for the Journey

As I write this article it is nearing the 5th Sunday of Lent. The number of Coronavirus cases in the county and state continues to increase, Monroe County is in a state of emergency, and the Diocese of Rochester has suspended all Masses along with other diocesan and parish activities. Frankly, I am lost for words. On the phone the other day my mom, who lived through the great depression, WWII, and multiple other economic and social upheavals, said she has never experienced Mass being suspended for any reason, other than snow. Nor have any of us! Yet here we are. Even Easter Sunday Mass, the most holy of all liturgical celebrations, has been suspended, except for our priests who will, as Bishop Matano stated, celebrate Mass "for all entrusted to their pastoral care."

As my sister Sara, never one lost for words, said on Facebook, "This is surreal". I think that about sums it up. The world around us has changed dramatically in a few short weeks. Businesses and schools are closed, social events are canceled, the NCAA tournament is canceled, major league sports are suspended, the stock market crashed at an unprecedented rate to levels not seen in many years, and hand washing and social distancing are the most frequently heard remedies to the crisis at hand. It's like living in a dream. But the situation is very real and very serious, and we are all encouraged to follow the guidelines offered by our health professionals and Church leaders.

For most of us in the U.S., what we are experiencing on a social level is new. But long lines and empty store shelves are normal for millions of people around the world. I thought about that as I, out of curiosity, visited a handful of stores between Webster and Williamson one day last week. I'd seen the images on social media but I wanted to experience it myself; rows and rows of empty shelves, signs limiting the purchase of items, customers shaking their heads in frustration and disbelief as they walk the empty aisles. What if this were the norm, I asked myself. What if this is what we had to deal with on a daily basis at the supermarkets? The thought was a little unnerving. Yet, what is likely a temporary inconvenience for us is the daily norm for millions of people around the world. I want that thought to settle in my heart – in all of our hearts.

Today, Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, the final leg of our Lenten journey. No doubt it will be a Holy Week like no other we've experienced in the past. While there will be opportunities to celebrate Liturgies online (<https://catholiccourier.com/articles/list-of-parishes-with-live-streams-available>), the physical interaction will be absent, e.g. foot washing, venerating the cross, the sprinkling rite, and Holy Communion. What awaits us, then, is an opportunity to celebrate the Paschal Mystery in a new way, and I invite everyone to embrace this opportunity and allow Christ to speak to us in the quiet of our own homes as the Passion narrative unfolds for us.

As a starting point for our celebration of Holy Week I suggest we reflect on the fear, uncertainty, inconvenience, and perhaps illness that has been a part of our lives in recent weeks. What may be an aberration for us is a daily occurrence for millions around the world. What does that say to us in the light of Jesus' command to his disciples at the last supper, after washing their feet, "as I have done for you, you should also do?" How can we better serve those who lack the basic necessities of life, especially in this time of crisis?

One way we can serve the needs of others is through CRS Rice Bowl. Your contributions to Rice Bowl will make a difference in the lives of many people, including those suffering from the coronavirus pandemic. As we come to the end of our Lenten journey you may be wondering what to do with your Rice Bowl. With the church offices being closed, please keep your Rice Bowls home and continue to use them until life returns to normal in our community. Another option is to count the money in the Rice Bowl and pay on-line at CRSRicebowl.org. Click on the "Give" icon to go to the payment page. You may make your contribution in the name of St. Paul's.

May our unique celebration of Holy Week this year unfold for us the mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection and enable us to experience, in a very real way, our own dying and rising in Him, with Him, and through Him.

Deacon Mark

Parish Staff Update

As you know, the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent closure has impacted the parish financially. As a result, we have had to make some major staffing changes.

With the elimination of the weekend liturgies and adult faith formation programs, Katherine and Tom have been laid off. Jodie, Ben, Sue, and Bonnie have had their hours reduced.

Jodie is continuing to do the bulletin and maintain communication with our parishioners, which is vitally important at this time. The bulletin is available online. Our web site is updated regularly as are our Facebook and twitter accounts.

If you are not receiving our parish communication emails and would like to be put on our list, please email Jodie at Jodie.hickey@dor.org

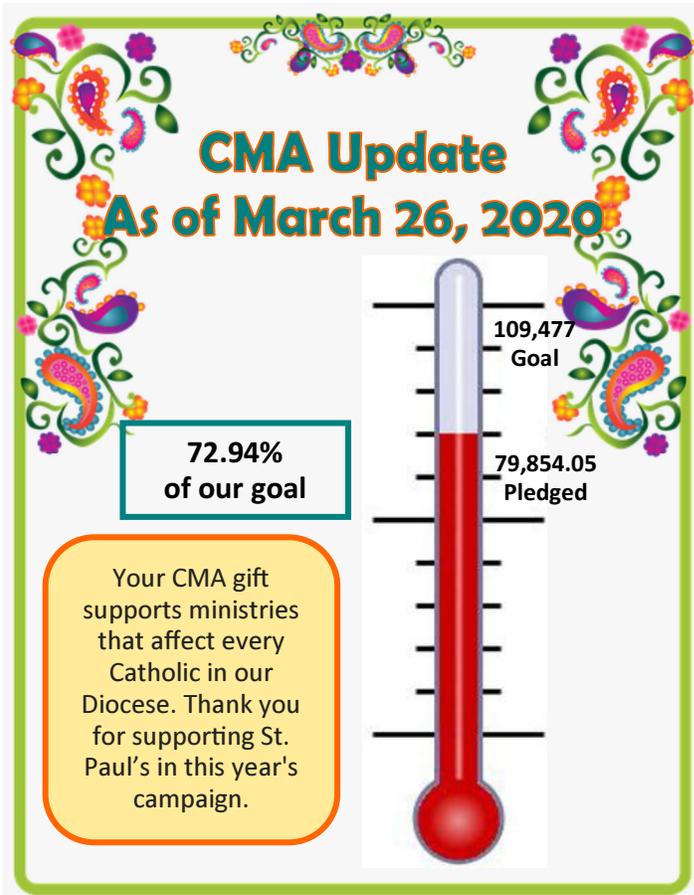
Sue and Bonnie will be continuing their current programs online, as much as possible. They may need some time to get everything set up but if your child or youth is in SOAR, Youth Group or preparing for sacraments you will be hearing from them about this.

We are working from home so to contact us please either send us an email or call the main office number (671-2100) x 21 and leave a message and Jodie will pass it on.

Thank you for your continued support. Please stay home and stay healthy!

A PRAYER FOR PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

*Jesus, Lord of Life, show us how to live.
When we are afraid, angry, sad or rejected,
teach us to live deeply into difficult experiences,
that we might find meaning and purpose
even in the moments which require dying.
May our deaths be just another step in our living.
Amen.*



Suggestions for Viewing Daily & Weekend Mass



Word on Fire Daily Mass

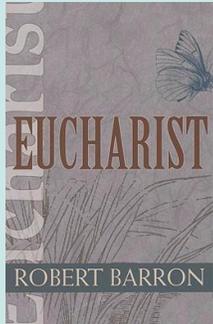
In an effort to continue the practice of our faith in these trying times, we invite you to join us online for daily Mass from Bishop Barron's chapel via their website wordonfire.org. Please continue to pray for all those affected by the coronavirus.

Sunday Mass

The televised "Mass for Shut-Ins," airs each Sunday on News10NBC (WHEC-TV) at 5:30 a.m. In addition, the Mass will air every Sunday at 8 a.m. on MeTV (over-the-air channel 10.2 and Cable channel 1245) and will be streamed at WHEC.com.

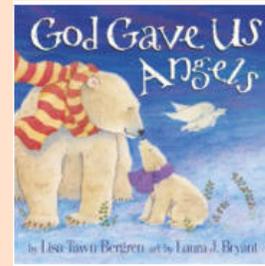
Have You Read...

Barron, Robert
Eucharist



When Bishop Barron distributed communion at Mass in St. Peter's Square to scores of people, he was struck anew by a truth deep in the Catholic tradition: the Eucharist is not a luxury, but a necessity, for without it we would, in the spiritual sense, starve to death. It is the great meal of fellowship that God wants to establish with His people and also the embodiment of Jesus' great act of sacrificial suffering on the cross. Bishop Barron uses imagery from the film "Babette's Feast," which depicts a great feast prepared at great sacrifice, as a metaphor for the Last Supper. The sacrificed Christ makes the Messianic banquet possible; it is at that banquet that we feast on His flesh, which is real food, and on His blood, which is real drink. On Holy Thursday, we commemorate Jesus Christ's institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper, and we relive these Eucharistic themes of banquet, sacrifice, and real presence at every Mass. (Call No. 234.163-BAR)

For the Children



Bergren, Lisa Tawn
God Gave Us Angels

"What do angels do all day, Papa?"

When Papa finds Little Cub looking for angels, it gives him a chance to tell his beloved child about those that may be in their midst, even when they can't be seen. Exploring their exhilarating Arctic world as they talk, Papa lovingly answers all of Little Cub's questions about angels—and as usual, she has a lot. She wants to know what they do, how they look, how they guard God's loved ones, and best of all, how they serve the Creator of the world.

'God really created angels to serve him more than us, Little Cub. They love him and would do anything for him.'

This uplifting tale will encourage young hearts by exploring the glory and design of God's messengers, while turning toward him with praise." E BER Ages 4 and up

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**
In re Diocese of Rochester Case No. 19-20905

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, On September 12, 2019, the Diocese of Rochester ("Diocese") filed for protection under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code").

The Bankruptcy Court has established August 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. (prevailing Eastern time) as the deadline to file proofs of claim against the Diocese (the "Bar Date").

If you have a claim against the Diocese, including, without limitation, a claim related to sexual abuse committed by any person connected with the Diocese, you must file a claim on or before the Bar Date.

Please visit <https://case.stretto.com/rochesterdiocese> or call (855) 347-3773 for more information on how to file your proof of claim.

IF YOU DO NOT TIMELY FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM, YOU MAY FORFEIT YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ON ANY PLAN OF REORGANIZATION AND TO SHARE IN ANY DISTRIBUTIONS MADE TO CREDITORS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEBTOR'S CHAPTER 11 CASE.

Blessed is He
who comes in the name
of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest.

~Bessie May~



CRS Rice Bowl Collection Delayed

With the Diocesan and Parish offices closed, the CRS Rice Bowl Collection has been delayed until we return to our normal parish Mass schedule and the offices reopen.

At this time please do not return any Rice Bowl alms to the church.

If you wish to donate now, please do it directly to the CRS Rice Bowl office at this link: crsricebowl.org and click on the DONATE button in the top right (or the GIVE circle at the bottom) to go to the payment page.

There are options for credit card as well as donating by phone or mail.

If you pay by credit card, you have the option to include the name of your faith community.

If you have any questions please contact Robin at robin.martz@dor.org or call 671-2100 x30 and leave a message.

Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester

Any concerns related to financial fraud can be reported anonymously:

Financial Fraud Hotline
1-800-388-7177 x1266

Reports may also be made in writing to:
Internal Audit Department—Diocese of Rochester
1150 Buffalo Road—Rochester, NY 14624

Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester

Victims of sexual abuse should always report to the civil authorities. To receive help and guidance from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester, contact our Victim Assistance Coordinator:

Deborah Housel
585-328-3228 x1555
Toll-free: 1-800-388-7177 x 1555
Or by email, victimassistance@dor.org

USCCB Reflection and Prayer

With the worldwide outbreak of the coronavirus, we are confronted once more with the fragility of our lives, and again we are reminded of our common humanity — that the peoples of this world are our brothers and sisters, that we are all one family under God.

God does not abandon us, he goes with us even now in this time of trial and testing. In this moment, it is important for us to anchor our hearts in the hope that we have in Jesus Christ. Now is the time to intensify our prayers and sacrifices for the love of God and the love of our neighbor. Let us draw closer to one another in our love for him, and rediscover the things that truly matter in our lives.

United with our Holy Father Pope Francis, let us pray in solidarity for our brothers and sisters here and around the world who are sick. Let us pray for those who have lost loved ones to this virus. May God console them and grant them peace.

We pray also for doctors, nurses, and caregivers, for public health officials and all civic leaders. May God grant them courage and prudence as they seek to respond to this emergency with compassion and in service to the common good.

In this time of need, I invite all the faithful to seek together the maternal intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and I share this prayer with you:

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe,
Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas.
We fly to you today as your beloved children.
We ask you to intercede for us with your Son,
as you did at the wedding in Cana.
Pray for us, loving Mother,
and gain for our nation and world,
and for all our families and loved ones,
the protection of your holy angels,
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted,
we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe
away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church
to love one another and to be patient and kind.

Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our
hearts. We come to you with confidence,
knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother,
healer of the sick and cause of our joy. Shelter us under the
mantle of your protection,
keep us in the embrace of your arms,
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus.

Amen.