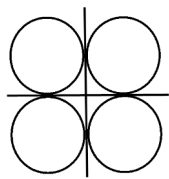


ST. PAUL'S CHURCH



783 Hard Road, Webster, New York

August 16, 2020 Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.



SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour. - Mt 15:28

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

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Mass Times

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Confession

Saturday 2:00-3:00 p.m.
or by appointment

Weekday Masses

Tuesday, Wednesday &
Thursday at 8:30 a.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.

Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Paul Gitau
Deacon: Mark Robbins
Confirmation Prep. Coordinator: Bonnie Serio x27
Faith Formation & 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
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

joan.sullivan@dor.org

Office Contact Info

The parish office is still closed to visitors, however we are in the office to answer phone calls on Monday-Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Thursday & Friday from 8:30 a.m. to Noon.

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

Financial Snapshot

	July 2020	YTD July 2020
Collections	\$38,412	\$38,412
Donations/ other revenue	\$3,045	\$3,045
Expenses	\$(59,820)	\$(59,820)
Operating surplus/deficit	\$(18,363)	\$(18,363)

Expenses include quarterly invoices paid in July.

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



Lots of additional information is available on **St. Paul's web site**, stpaulsrcc.org. Below are a few important items you might want to check out:

- Sign up weekly to attend week-end Mass
- Watch Sunday Mass live streaming on Facebook
- Read the weekly bulletin
- Donate online
- Contact a staff member
- Explore the Family Zone Newsletter



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



Seeds for the Journey

Two Women Who Changed Jesus' Mind

This Saturday is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and when we celebrate it as a Holy Day we are treated to a meditation on the Magnificat of Mary in the Gospel reading. The Sunday after is the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, and the Gospel reading for that day shows Jesus healing the daughter of a Canaanite woman. Both women play a pivotal role in revealing and advancing the mission of Jesus in moments when he seems set on another course. They changed his mind.

You'll recall how at the wedding at Cana, when Jesus' mother approaches him with her not-so-subtle encouragement to do something about the diminishing wine supply, Jesus rejects the idea with the words, "How does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." In spite of her dismissal, Mary instructs the servers to do whatever Jesus asks them to do. He asks them to bring jars filled with water—they bring six (holding 20-30 gallons each), their contents now miraculously containing wine, and the wedding guests enjoy the best wine they've had all evening! And so begins the public revelation of Jesus.

In today's Gospel reading, after a contentious interaction between Jesus and the scribes and Pharisees who are tracking him, Jesus withdraws into Gentile territory with his disciples for some rest and solitude (The Jews would never follow him there because they considered this an unclean area). A pagan woman searches them out and begs Jesus to heal her daughter, who is sick at home. At first Jesus ignores her pleas and then explains that he is "sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." She persists. He seems to insult her by comparing her people to dogs. She is not deterred; in fact, she turns his argument on its head, which brings Jesus to acknowledge her great faith and how, because of that faith, her daughter has been healed. So now Jesus' mission includes the Gentiles, which, of course, St. Paul is later called to fulfill as one of the Apostles.

In reference to Mary, I'd like to add an excerpt from an essay entitled, "The Value of a Person" by Catholic educator and writer Alice Camille. She explains how the 1950 dogmatic statement of Pope Pius XII on the Assumption of Mary affirmed the dignity and value of every human person in the wake of the unspeakable destruction of life from World War II. You might notice some parallels to the extraordinary time we are living in now:

"The world of 1950 still struggled up from the ashes of a traumatizing global war. An estimated 3 percent of the human population, between seventy and eighty-five million people, lost their lives as a result of World War II. Civilian deaths were double the military losses: due to war crimes or war-related diseases and famine. Whole cities lay in ruins. Those who returned home were permanently shattered, adding to the toll the conflict took on the human community. Few neighborhoods on earth were not mourning personal losses. In the aftermath of such horror, 1950 may seem a peculiar moment for a pope to make a dogmatic statement about Mary....[however, in his statement, Pius XII lamented] how cheaply human bodies had been treated, how little a life had been valued. Wasn't it the right moment to affirm that every part of Mary was precious to God? That the body that carries the life of God becomes a holy vessel, never to be discarded? Mary's entire person had been recovered for heaven. Because to the one who created us, flesh and blood is not trash. How might we treat each person today, if we saw them as sacred vessels of God?"

Sue

Giving Options

Go to our web site
(stpaulsrcc.org)
and click on the
DONATE link.

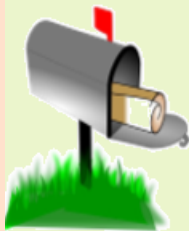
Or give through your
bank's online bill pay
feature.



Try the
GIVEPLUS⁺
MOBILE APP



To donate by text,
send your
contribution amount
to 833-931-1892



Mail your check:
St. Paul Church
783 Hard Road
Webster, NY 14580

Diocesan Mission Sunday Second Collection

Due to the Pandemic, we were not able to celebrate Diocesan Missions Sunday in May. Bishop Matano has given permission to honor the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Sisters of Mercy working in Brazil and Chile on the weekend of August 22-23. Many people already have supported the Sisters by mail to the parish, online giving during the past months. We are most grateful to you but we would like to give everyone the opportunity to help the missionary works of the sisters.

The church is called to proclaim Jesus Christ, who was crucified, died and is risen: through him God bestows "new life" that is divine and eternal. This the "Good News" which changes people and history, and which all people have a right to hear.

We cannot be content when we consider the millions of our brothers and sisters who don't know Christ and the love of God yet. "As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard." (Acts 4:20)

If you wish to support the Sisters of St. Joseph & Sister of Mercy next weekend, please make your check payable to St. Paul's, adding Diocesan Mission Collection in the memo. Please drop your check in the collection box or slot with your regular offertory donation. Thank you for your support.

Webster Backpack Program Needs Your Help!

As many of you know, St. Paul's has been assisting the Webster Backpack Program for several years via our Lenten Food Drive. This program provides weekend food for the children in the Webster schools and they are gearing up for the upcoming school year.

On Saturday August 22 they will be accepting donations from 9 AM to 2 PM in the parking lot behind the Immanuel Lutheran Church at 131 W. Main St., corner of Daniel Drive in the village of Webster. Volunteers will take the food from your car so you need not interact with others.

Suggested items are kid friendly food such as: peanut butter, jelly, mac & cheese, canned tuna and chicken, pasta, spaghetti sauce, cereal, instant oatmeal, soup, ramen noodles, canned vegetables, juice boxes, shelf stable milk, granola bars, fruit cups, applesauce cups and pudding cups. Many thanks for your generosity!!!

First Communions Have Resumed!



We are happy to announce that we are now celebrating the First Communions that were delayed due to the Covid-19 closures. Fr. Paul has agreed to celebrate them during the week as well as at the weekend Masses.

One is scheduled for next Sunday (August 23), and given the number of attendees in that party, as well as our current seating limitations, we might reach our seating capacity quickly for that Mass. So, we are suggesting that anyone wishing to attend our weekend Masses, particularly the Sunday Mass, should sign up early!

First Communion families need to register online also. If extended family are attending, please register each family separately and then note in the "comments section" (next to number attending) that they are in the First Communion party. We will seat families adjacent to each other as much as possible. If you have out-of-town attendees, please remind them that masks are required and that social distancing guidelines must be followed. (Please take photographs outside the church after Mass.)

We Need Ushers!

Do you enjoy helping people? And could you use a little exercise? If so, do we have a job for you!

We are in great need of ushers, at both masses but particularly at the 10:00 AM. The duties consist of directing folks where to sit when they enter, keeping an eye of everyone during mass for anyone needing assistance, directing communion traffic, and assisting with dismissal. (OK, it's not a lot of exercise but you are getting up and down a lot.)

The only other consideration is we request you arrive 30 minutes prior to the beginning of mass to assist with the seating. (But this means you are guaranteed a parking spot!)

Clearly there are many benefits to this volunteer job so if you are interested please call Jodie or Robin in the office at 671-2100. George Hanley is the Head Usher and he can also give you more information. The first five new ushers each get a Peppermint Pattie! Thank you!



We would like to congratulate **Ella Boneberg, Theodore Corriveau & Katelyn Talbot** who celebrated the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. May you both feel the warmth and comfort of the Lord's love with you everyday.



Please join us in congratulating and praying for the Confirmation class of 2020!

**Hanna Atallah
Quentin Auinger
Madelyn Brunswick
Gretchen Coffed
Christopher Devlin
Sean Devlin
Jenna DiSalvo
Sara Fetter
Janelle Fullone
Alec Gilbert
Daniel Graf
Lucia Johnson
Sofia LaManna
Jackson Mulcahy
Sarah O'Connor
Gabriel Parisi
Ava Scheible
Shanna Smith
Alana Spano
Shawn Trevett**

These twenty young men and women have worked very hard to prepare themselves for their last Sacrament of Initiation, enduring hardships never imagined. We look forward to their involvement, their witness of faith and their leadership in our parish. We pray that the Holy Spirit will always provide them with courage, guidance, protection and inspiration!

Confirmation Prep

Registration and program Information for Confirmation will be published in the bulletin of September 5-6. Depending on state guidelines and committed to keeping our students healthy and safe, we are making plans for a "hybrid" program. Classes will begin in October, 2020. Thanks for your patience, trust and understanding. If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie at Bonnie.serio@dor.org

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

Thus says the LORD:

Observe what is right, do what is just;
for my salvation is about to come,
my justice, about to be revealed. (Is 56:1)

PSALM:

O God, let all the nations praise you! (Ps 67)

SECOND READING:

Just as you once disobeyed God
but have now received mercy because of their
disobedience,
so they have now disobeyed in order that,
by virtue of the mercy shown to you,
they too may now receive mercy. (Rom 11:30-31)

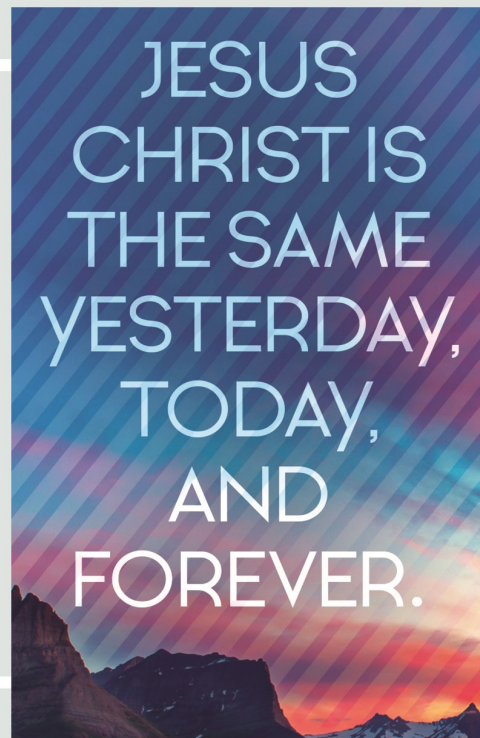
GOSPEL:

Jesus said to her in reply,
"O woman, great is your faith!
Let it be done for you as you wish."
And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour.
(Mt 15:28)

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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 16, 2020

Sunday: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wednesday: St. John Eudes, Priest
Thursday: St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church
Friday: St. Pius X, Pope
Saturday: The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Next Sunday: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time



REFLECT

FIRST READING

After Israel's return from their captivity in Babylon, Isaiah prophesied the Lord's salvation to all people of faith and good will, not just Israel. Why do you think some people resist the idea of God's impartiality?

SECOND READING

Paul sees the rejection of Jesus by the Jews as the vehicle for God's mercy to all, both Jew and Gentile alike. When has God turned a negative into a positive in your life?

GOSPEL READING

Jesus initially reacts negatively to the Canaanite (Gentile) woman in a manner familiar to most Jews of that day. But Jesus showed the disciples that faith in him transcends the historic divide between Jew and Gentile. When have you allowed your faith in Christ heal a division?