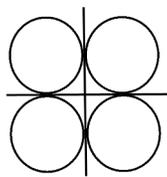


# ST. PAUL'S CHURCH



783 Hard Road, Webster, New York

**December 27, 2020 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

## 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.



## THE HOLY FAMILY



The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom;  
and the favor of God was upon him. - Lk 2:40



**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  
**Coordinator of Music:** Tom McGary x31  
**Faith Formation & Sacramental Prep Coordinator:**

fr.paul.gitau@dor.org  
 mark.robbins@dor.org  
 thomas.mcgary@dor.org  
 Sue Ward 671-2110  
 susan.ward@dor.org  
 robin.martz@dor.org  
 helen.stirpe@dor.org  
 ben.obrien@dor.org  
 jodie.hickey@dor.org

**Business Manager:** Robin Martz x30  
**Facility Cleaning Coordinator:** Helen Stirpe  
**Maintenance Coordinator:** Ben O'Brien  
**Administrative Asst.:** Jodie Hickey x21  
**Finance Council Chair:** Tom Napoli  
**Parish Council Chair:** Scott Rutan  
**Parish Trustees:** Deb Urtz-Gleason & Dave Galeazzo  
**Multi Parish Finance Director:** Joan Sullivan: 671-1100 x21 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

*Upcoming Events*

**Tuesday, December 29**

**5th Day Within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**  
 8:30 a.m. Mass

**Wednesday, December 30**

**6th Day Within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**  
 8:30 a.m. Mass  
 9:00 a.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Thursday, December 31**

**7th Day Within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**  
**New Year's Eve**  
 Parish office closed  
 8:30 a.m. Mass

**Friday, January 1**

**The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
**New Year's Day**  
 Parish office closed  
 10:00 a.m. Mass

**Saturday, January 2**

**Sts. Basil the Great Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church**  
 2:00-3:00 p.m. Individual confession  
 4:00 p.m. Mass

**Sunday, January 3**

**Epiphany of the Lord**  
 10:00 a.m. Mass

**Financial Snapshot**

	November 2020	July 2020-November 2020
Collections	\$35,473	\$176,870
Donations/ other revenue	\$3,838	\$20,144
Expenses	\$25,648	\$231,073
Operating surplus/deficit	\$13,663	\$(34,059)

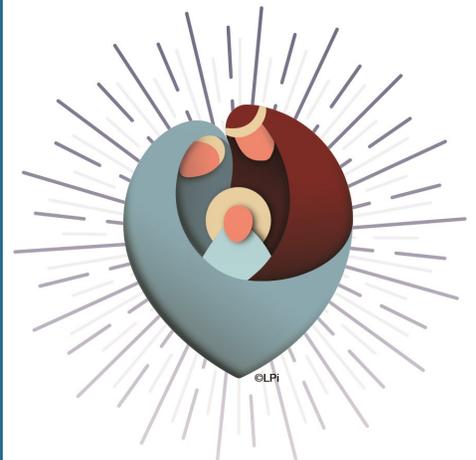
Expenses include quarterly invoices paid in July & October. St. Paul Church relies on the generous contributions of our parishioners to continue providing the programs and ministries of the parish.

**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



# Seeds for the Journey

## Still Waiting...

Liturgically speaking, this message is more appropriate for a weekend during Advent when we relive the experience of waiting for the birth of Christ within us and within our world. Yet, although Christ is here, we are still waiting for the arrival of so many things: relief from the paralyzing fear of the pandemic, hope that our way of life will be restored by the vaccine, calm after so many anxious months over how much our children have missed during this shut down, open up, go to school, stay at home time in their lives. Grandparents and grandchildren wait longingly for the chance to embrace again.

We are waiting for so many things to change, and we don't even know what that change will look like when it comes. Recently I had a conversation with Fr. Paul about how this time feels like the *dark night of the soul* described by St. John of the Cross in his treatise by the same name. He reminded me that Mother Teresa also suffered a long period of spiritual darkness that fit the profile of this dark night. Although we are experiencing external difficulties now, the real struggle here, the real suffering, is taking place within us. We are being changed from the inside out. John of the Cross tells us that during times like this when we can't see our way through the darkness, all that's being asked of us is to just *endure*. Simply endure what comes—wait for God to finish His work. And when He's done, we will be different. We will be a little closer to union with our Father through Christ. As the Apostle John wrote, "Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is." (1 John 3:2)

Recently, during our Saturday confessions I was helping to disinfect the Confessional after each penitent, and to occupy myself in between I decided to grab a book from our library and just open it up. A little book entitled, *Seven Sacred Pauses: Living Mindfully Through the Hours of the Day* by Macrina Wiederkehr caught my attention, and I opened to this description of keeping vigil—of waiting—during the darkness:

*"There is something lovely about the darkness. When I say the angel of night lights a candle in my soul, I am not talking about the kind of candle that takes the darkness away. Rather, in the darkness and in the great silence I discover that my soul has an eye that can see in the dark and an ear that can hear in the silence. With my soul's eye, what needs to be seen is revealed in a new way; with my soul's ear, what needs to be heard is felt in a new way. It is a way of seeing with the heart and of listening with the soul, a way of understanding."*

As a last word, I'd like to pay tribute to the remarkable and impressive library we have at St. Paul's. I've never seen such breadth and depth of subject matter and authorship in a church library. Unfortunately, however, due to safety concerns during this time of pandemic, it is currently closed. So, to enjoy all it has to offer, we'll just have to *wait*...

*Sue*

### Time is running out!



This is the last weekend in 2020 to make a year end contribution to St. Paul's. As this year comes to a close and we thank God for the many blessings we have received, please remember your church.

Statements will be mailed to all donors by the end of January. If you have any questions please contact Robin in the office at 671-2100 or robin.martz@dor.org.

We are deeply grateful for your support. Happy New Year!



### Closing/Cancellation Notifications

We follow the Webster Central Schools weather closings so if Webster schools close due to the weather, St Paul's will be closed as well.

The info will be posted on our web site as well as via the local media as noted below:

**TV:** Channel 10 (News 10 NBC)

**Radio:** NewsRadio WHAM1180, 98PXY, 92.5 WBEE, 98.9 The Buzz, 96.5 WCMF.

**Online:** stpaulsrcc.org, whec.com, 13wham.com

Please note that channel 13 has designated churches as "web only", so if you prefer to look for closing information on the television, please check channel 10 (NBC). If you would like to get an email when we have a weather related closing, go to [www.whec.com/closings](http://www.whec.com/closings) and click the Link that says:

"Register to Receive Alerts Via Email"

Enter your email, check the box, and click "Agree" On the next page, click on the blue "Subscribe" button. Find the Business or School you want to get the info on (in this case, St. Paul's Webster or St Paul's Webster School of Religion) and click "Subscribe" You can add more than one if you want.

Then when we have a closing, Channel 10 will send you an email.



### Bethany House Wish List for December

#### Food for Christmas Baskets:

Canned green beans, canned corn, mac & cheese, boxed mashed potatoes & rice

#### Stocking Stuffers:

Small bottles of hand sanitizer, hand lotions, chapstick, candy/mints & fuzzy socks

Please place your donations (in a paper bag) in the collection box in the Narthex during Mass. **(Enter the narthex via the door on the left and remember to wear your mask and to social distance!!!)** The Good Sam Outreach Committee will deliver our donations to Bethany House at the end of the month. Thank you!

**2021 calendars are available as you leave church!**

### Many thanks to our sponsor: Falvo Funeral Home

1295 Nine Mile Pt.  
Webster  
872-1010

1395 N. Goodman St.  
Rochester  
266-1320

These calendars are very useful as they note the holy days as well as the liturgical seasons.

# Did you know?

The tax law allows individuals who are 70 ½ and older to make contributions directly from their individual retirement account (IRA) to a qualified charity. These qualified charitable contributions (Charitable Rollovers) are income tax free for the donor. St. Paul Church and the Catholic Ministries Appeal are qualified charities for purposes of the charitable rollover rules. Please consult your income tax advisor to see if this might benefit you.

# CMA Update As of December 17, 2020

Your CMA gift supports ministries that affect every Catholic in our Diocese. Thank you for supporting St. Paul's in this year's campaign.



**47.09%**  
of our goal



Dear God, Thank You that You make all things new. Thank You for all that You've allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need You and rely on Your presence filling us every single day. We pray for Your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year.  
Amen!

## 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<sup>+</sup>**  
**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**

### 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](mailto:victimassistance@dor.org)

### 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

## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### FIRST READING:

The Lord took Abram outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so," he added, "shall your descendants be." (Gn 15:5)

### PSALM:

The Lord remembers his covenant for ever. (Ps 105)

### SECOND READING:

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; he went out, not knowing where he was to go. (Heb 11:8)

### GOSPEL:

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. (Lk 2:40)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.  
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.*

### OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 27, 2020

Sunday:	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Monday:	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Tuesday:	St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
Thursday:	St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve
Friday:	Mary, The Holy Mother of God; New Year's Day; World Day of Peace
Saturday:	Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
Sunday:	The Epiphany of the Lord; National Migration Week



## REFLECT

### FIRST READING

The story of Abram and Sarah and their struggle to have a family centers on Abram's faith in the Lord. When have you needed to rely on faith when it comes to your family?

### SECOND READING

The author of Hebrews holds up Abraham as a model for the faith. When have you had to unconditionally trust in the Lord?

### GOSPEL READING

Only Luke records the presentation in the Temple of the baby Jesus. Simeon reveals to Mary and Joseph insights into Jesus and his destiny. How do you imagine Mary and Joseph understood Simeon's words?