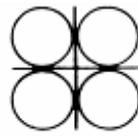


ST. PAUL'S CHURCH



783 Hard Road, Webster, New York

February 2, 2020 The Presentation 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.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel." - Lk 2:34a

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

FEBRUARY 2ND THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4
 Second Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18
 Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

FEBRUARY 9TH FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 58:7-10
 Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
 Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16

CMA Update As of January 28, 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.



62.22%
of our goal

Mass Times

Saturday 4:00 p.m.
 Sunday 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses

Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.
 Friday-Communion Service 8:30 a.m.

Individual Confession

Saturday 3:00-3:30 p.m. or by appointment

**Saturday, February 1****Weekday**

9:30A Prayer Shawl
3:00P Individual Confession
4:00P Mass-Blessing of Throats

Sunday, February 2**The Presentation of the Lord****No Confirmation Prep****No Youth Group**

9:00A Mass-Blessing of Throats
9:00A CLOW
Coffee & Donuts
10:00A SOAR
11:00A Mass-Blessing of Throats,
CLOW & SOAR Rite of Enrollment
Coffee & donuts

Monday, February 3**Weekday****Saint Blaise, Bishop & Martyr,
St. Ansgar, Bishop**

8:00A Rosary
8:30A Mass
4:30P SOAR

Tuesday, February 4**Weekday**

8:00A Rosary
8:30A Mass
9:15A Coffee & Catholicism

Wednesday, February 5**St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr**

8:00A Rosary
8:30A Mass
9:00A Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament
7:00P Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 6**St. Paul Miki & Companions,
Martyrs**

8:00A Rosary
8:30A Mass
9:00A Vac Pac

Friday, February 7**Weekday**

St. Peter's Soup Kitchen
8:00A Rosary
8:30A Communion Service

Saturday, February 8**Weekday****Public Policy Weekend**

3:00P Individual Confession
4:00P Mass

Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Paul Gitau x29
fr.paul.gitau@dor.org
Deacon: Mark Robbins x23
mark.robbins@dor.org
Pastoral Associate: Katherine Cappuccio x24
katherine.cappuccio@dor.org
Coordinator of Music: Tom McGary x31
thomas.mcgary@dor.org
Confirmation Prep. Coordinator: Bonnie Serio x27
bonnie.serio@dor.org
Religious Ed. & Youth Coordinator: Sue Ward 671-2110
susan.ward@dor.org
Business Manager: Robin Martz x30
robin.martz@dor.org
Rectory Housekeeper: Helen Stirpe
helen.stirpe@dor.org
Maintenance Coordinator: Ben O'Brien x28
ben.obrien@dor.org
Administrative Asst.: Jodie Hickey x21
jodie.hickey@dor.org
Finance Council Chair: Tom Napoli 872-0678
tanapoli@live.com
Parish Council Chair: Paul Pumptis
Parish Trustees: Deb Urtz-Gleason & Dave Galeazzo
Multi Parish Finance Director:
Joan Sullivan: 671-1100 x21
joan.sullivan@dor.org

Office Hours

8:30-4:30 Monday-Friday (closed for the
lunch hour from 12:00-1:00 p.m.)
Phone: 671- 2100
Fax Number: 787-8907
Emergency Number: 369-9687
Website: www.stpaulsrcc.org
Diocese of Rochester: www.dor.org

We warmly welcome all new
parishioners and visitors to St. Paul's.
To register please fill out a "request for
registration" form available at all
church entrances. Return it to the do-
nations slot at the back of the church
or to the parish office. A member of
our pastoral staff will contact you to
complete your registration.

**FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT**

	December-2019	December 2019
Weekly Collections	\$75,012 *	\$284,055
Donations / Other Revenue	\$7,027	\$31,751
Expenses	\$(50,357)	\$(312,662)
Operating surplus (deficit)	\$31,682	\$3,144
<i>Average Weekly Mass Attendance</i>	490	481

*December collections include Christmas collections of \$15,656

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
Shawn Reidy
Andrew O'Brien
Cydney Blong
Michael J. Desiato
Daniel Thomas



This week the
Sanctuary Lamp burns for
Marlene DiNapoli
From
Mary Madlen

Seeds for the Journey

The Grace of the Refiner's Fire and the Fuller's Lye (Mal 3:1-4)

God is like the refiner's fire, or the fuller's lye. You wouldn't find a fuller job posting anymore. Fullers cleaned, shrunk and thickened new wool or linen. In Hebrew "fuller" means "to trample" or "to tread". They repeatedly stomped on the fabric with their feet or bats. Then they used lye in water to remove the gummy impurities in the material. The lye was washed out by treading over and over again in running water. Finally the material was stretched out to bleach in the sun. The refiner used a blast oven to melt the metal so impurities could be removed. So God is like a blast furnace and a trampler? Why does Malachi use these startling images of burning and beating for God? Why would I want that?

Malachi spoke to a community returned from exile, trying to renew worship in a rebuilt temple. He saw so much social injustice, there couldn't be genuine renewal in their worship. The sacrifices offered by the priests for the people didn't please the Lord. They're insincere and therefore impure. God is coming, like the refiner's fire, or like the fuller's lye. But why would they want that? Malachi proclaims God will never give up on his people! This faithful God longs to bring "life and well-being" (*Mal2:5*). God will burn away or cleanse us of our impurities, what we might call our faults or our sins. We may like the idea of being clean but do we really want to be changed? We might have to let go of some things to receive the newness God is ready to offer. Why would we want that?

Well, like the people of Malachi's time, we believe we're created in the image and likeness of God. Our pure center is the image of God but sometimes we cling to the dross, the impurities that need to be removed. A refiner will sit purifying silver until the metal takes on a mirror like quality. Refiners see a reflection of their image in the liquid metal. So God will purify us so we are able to reflect the divine image. The fuller's patient work not only cleans but also strengthens the material. I want that. I want God to strengthen the fabric of my being.

There is more to the story for us because we know God would go through the fire and the water too. God, in the person of Jesus took on our human image. In him, we see the reflection of God's image in his life of goodness and justice. He is the merciful and faithful high priest who was tested through what he suffered, so he is able to help those who are being tested (*Heb2:17-18*). Someone who truly understands what it's like to be me? I want that! In Christ, all of God's strength and fire reveals God's love and mercy. We all have our own sufferings and trials when we long for God's help. These are often times of purification for those of faith. God comes to make the place of chaos a place of transformation.

Just like the people of Malachi's day, we always stand in need of purification and renewal. Each of us can ask, do my actions reflect God's love, faithfulness and mercy? Where they don't, God continually offers us the grace of the refiner's fire and the fuller's lye. Most visibly, God acts through the Sacraments to purify and strengthen us. The Spirit makes us clean with the water of Baptism. Through the Eucharist we are nourished and strengthened. In Confirmation we reaffirm the gift of the living flame of love and through Reconciliation, we are renewed over and over again. Being made clean is a gradual process and like the fabric, we will experience the many washings of the fuller. The life-giving relationships we share with God and with each other are strengthened. Our capacity to receive and give love grows with God's grace. Why wouldn't we want that?

So you see, the refiner's fire and the fuller's lye aren't for punishment. God seeks to transform the very character of the one making an offering to the Lord. If the lives we lead don't reflect the image of God, Malachi would say, why worship at all? He knew the practice of religion had to make a difference in the practices of life. When Mary and Joseph presented Jesus in the temple, they made a pleasing sacrifice to the Lord in character with all the other actions of their lives. At Mass we offer the bread and wine to become the Body and Blood of Christ praying it "may be acceptable to God". We make this offering in union with Christ but we do not offer Christ alone. We present ourselves, our lives, our sincere efforts to reflect Christ's life of goodness and justice. God wants that!

Katherine

Warm Outerwear is Needed



Please continue to donate your warm coats, scarves, mittens and boots for children, teens and adults for those in need at local agencies. Donations can be left in the chest downstairs by the south stairway. For more information or if you know of any other agencies in need of warm outerwear please call Marie DeMarco at 545-0468. Thank you for your generosity.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Statements for 2019 donations were mailed in January. If you did not receive yours, or have any questions, please contact Robin in the office at 671-2100 x30 or via email at robin.martz@dor.org.

Thank You!

Thank you to all who contributed to Good Sam's Giving Tree Fuel Money Fund. As a result of your generosity, \$3,175 was sent to St. Francis Xavier Cabrini Parish in Rochester to help local residents pay their heating bills. With the cold winter we are experiencing, this is much appreciated! If any additional donations come in, they will be forwarded as well. Thank you!

Envelope Mayhem: The Saga Continues



You may recall that we switched envelope companies in November to save money. Unfortunately, cheaper doesn't always mean better. After only four months we have had delivery, billing, and communication issues.

The good news is that our original company wants us back and matched the great rate that we got when we switched. (Yes, I know we should have asked first.) So we have decided to go back!

The bad news is that the second company still owes us the missing February envelopes, for February 16 and 23. And just to confuse things, the packet will also include March 1 and a special collection for March 1 (Black, Native American, & Hispanic Collection). (Their insistence on including the first envelope of the following month was a red flag that they might have delivery issues that I should have heeded). We have been told that these are "in production" and will be mailed shortly.

And, to confuse things further, the company that we are returning to will start with the March/April envelopes, also including March 1st envelopes. I possibly could have eliminated these from this mailing, but kept them given the chance that we won't receive any more envelopes from the company we left. Plus we were dealing with last minute deadlines from each of the companies.

This leaves us with 2 scenarios:

1. The remaining envelopes arrive as do the new ones and as a result everyone receives double envelopes for Sunday March 1 and the Black, Native American, & Hispanic special collection.
2. The remaining envelopes don't arrive and no one receives envelopes for February 16 and 23.

Neither scenario is ideal. If we do get double envelopes for the March 1 weekend, please dispose of the duplicates. And if we don't get the February envelopes, we will have blue pew envelopes at all the doors. I apologize for this confusion and promise to never change envelope companies again!

Our Children Need You!

We have an immediate need for volunteers to facilitate Children's Liturgy of the Word during our 11:00 a.m. Masses. You do not need any experience. All materials, readings, and lessons are provided for you—you just need a love for God and His children! Please call Sue Ward at 671-2110 for more information or to sign up.

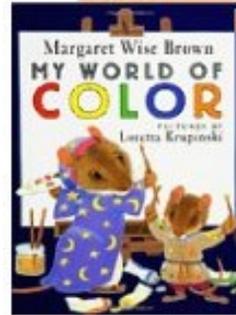
Have You Read...

Beckett, Sister Wendy
Sister Wendy's Bible Treasury
(Stories and Wisdom Through the Eyes of Great Painters)

Sister Wendy, a contemplative nun from Norfolk, England, is a frequent presenter on art for the BBC and the author of several books. In this book she discusses some of the stories in the Bible, both the Old Testament and the New Testament, and the masterpieces that were inspired by them. The Old Testament describes some of the most dramatic episodes and memorable characters as illustrated by such paintings as *Moses and the Burning Bush* by Raphael or *David and Goliath* by Edgar Degas. In the New Testament the focus shifts to Jesus with his compelling parables and miracles, birth and suffering. Sister Wendy reflects on many of these works such as *The Mystic Nativity* by Sandro Botticelli, *The Good Samaritan* by Eugene Delacroix, and *The Last Supper* by Leonardo da Vinci, giving new insight into familiar territory. (Call No. 755.4-BEC; "New")

For the Children

Brown, Margaret Wise
My World of Color.



This book of rhyming verse introduces the concept of color to young children. Things that are red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, brown, black, gray, white, and pink are described with lyrical text and imaginative paintings. "Pink as pigs/Pink as toes/Pink as a rose/or a rabbit's nose." A fun read to learn colors! E BRO Ages 2-5.



An invitation to help Coffee & Donuts

There is an opportunity for you to use your time and talent by helping this Social Ministry. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board in the Jambo Java Café.

THANK YOU to all the individuals and families who have served an hour of their Sunday to help keep the coffee brewing in the Café.

May 31, 2020 will be the last day for Coffee & Donuts and there are quite a few slots still open. Helen will be there each week and would love the help. Feel free to email her at helen.stirpe@dor.org



*Congratulations to Gabriel Milner
 who made his First Penance on
 January 25, 2020*



CMA
Question & Answer
Session

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER
 2019-2020 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL



Sunday, February 23, 2020
12:00 p.m. in the parish hall
Coffee & Donuts will be served

Guest speakers:
Colleen Brade & Doug Mandelaro
from the Diocese of Rochester

Ministry Schedule for February 8 & 9, 2020

	4:00 PM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
Acolytes	Hannah Brodt T.J. Swinson	Nicola Bleier Lucca Picca	Lucy Rynkiewicz Bella Pumputis
Ushers	Alice Bower Kevin Nuwer	Bernie Schimmel Bill Isaac Tim Thomas	Sandra Happ George Hanley
Sacristans	Jane Adams	The Lyons Family	Sharyn LiPari
Lectors Commentators	Dan Bower Linda Pratt	Maureen Keegan Crissy Picca	Gene Mancuso Melanie Mancuso
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Kevin Nuwer Nancy Dillon Mark DeBacco Trisha DeBacco Sue Dettman Jill Cosgrove	Marianne Ferrara Jack Black Pat Amedeo Peter Pellittieri Mary Catherine Zona Christine Lyons	Anne LaClair Rose Riefer Braden Pumputis Janet Slusar Bill Green Michele Cheeseman
Greeters	Joseph & Gale Lovejoy Volunteer Needed	Corrine Volo Nancy Willard Barb Rehberg	Forest & Julie Shick Volunteer Needed
Linens	Volunteer Needed		

**Music for February 1 & 2
The Presentation of the Lord**



Sing Of Mary (*Pleading Savior*).....No. 457
 I Want To Walk As A Child Of The Light (*Houston*)
No. 593
 Love Divine, All Love Excelling (*Hyfrydol*).....No. 641
 Now O Lord Dismiss your Servants (*Lauda Anima*)
No. 104
 Readings: No. 1195
 Psalm 24: Who Is This King Of Glory.....No. 1195

**Public Policy Weekend
February 8 & 9**

**Catholics Speak Out for the Vulnerable:
Oppose Physician Assisted Suicide in NYS**

Next weekend after all masses you will have the opportunity, if you choose, to sign the diocese-wide Public Policy Weekend petition in opposition to physician assisted suicide. The petition will read:

"I strongly oppose any legislation to legalize assisted suicide in New York State. Allowing doctors to prescribe a lethal dose for patients to end their lives devalues human life. There is also significant potential for abuse. I urge you to focus instead on improving palliative care, to ensure compassionate, comprehensive care and pain management for those who are terminally ill. We need to accompany rather than abandon them."

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

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