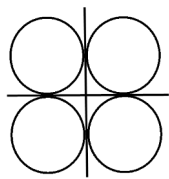


ST. PAUL'S CHURCH



783 Hard Road, Webster, New York

March 7, 2021 Third Sunday of Lent

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.

3rd Sunday OF LENT



And to those who sold doves he said,
"Take these out of here, and stop
making my Father's house a
marketplace." His disciples
recalled the words of Scripture,
*Zeal for your house will
consume me.*

-Jn 2:16-17

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

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.

Live Stream Mass via YouTube

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Visit our website, stpaulsrcc.org for the YouTube link**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**Financial Snapshot**

	January 2021	July 2020-January 2021
Collections	\$42,977	\$304,631
Donations/ other revenue	\$2,979	\$26,787
Expenses	\$52,796	\$329,856
Operating surplus/deficit	\$(6,840)	\$1,562

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

**UPCOMING
EVENTS****Tuesday, March 9****Lenten Weekday**

10:00A Zoom Staff Mtg.

Wednesday, March 10**Lenten Weekday**

8:30A Mass

9:00A Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, March 11**Lenten Weekday**

8:30A Mass

Saturday, March 13**Lenten Weekday**

2:00-3:00P Individual confession

4:00P Mass

Sunday, March 14**Third Sunday of Lent**

10:00A Mass

**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
Brian Roberts

From

Kathy McSweeney

Seeds for the Journey

Jesus Refuses the Personality Cult

This Sunday's Gospel tells the story of Jesus cleansing the Temple area of buyers and sellers and money changers who had commercialized his "Father's house" and turned it into a marketplace (John 2:13-25). At the time, Jesus was in Jerusalem for Passover, and while the Synoptic Gospels record a cleansing of the Temple toward the beginning of Jesus' last week of life, John records an earlier cleansing toward the beginning of his ministry. John's narrative sets the stage for the tension between Jesus and the Jewish authorities that intensifies as the Gospel unfolds.

That said, when I re-read this passage recently, it was the concluding verses that really struck me (vs. 23-25):

"While he was in Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, many began to believe in his name when they saw the signs he was doing. But Jesus would not trust himself to them because he knew them all, and did not need anyone to testify about human nature. He himself understood it well."

Jesus didn't need anyone to explain to him the human dynamic that was operating here: if the people were attracted to him and attached themselves to him because of the amazing things he was able to do, they would in short order make an idol of him. Always the master psychologist, he understood this aspect of human nature. Jesus never wanted to be the center of a personality cult, and he refused to let his identity and mission be about his own personality or powers. (It's interesting to recall that the three temptations Satan hurled at Jesus when he was fasting and praying in the desert sought unsuccessfully to challenge this very premise.)

Jesus was sent to reveal the Father and the Father's love for His own, and he never violated the sanctity of that purpose. Later in John's Gospel, after the miraculous feeding of the 5,000, he resisted the crowd's attempt to exalt him: *"When the people saw the sign he had done, they said, 'This is truly the Prophet, the one who is to come into the world.' Since Jesus knew that they were going to come and carry him off to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain alone."* (6:14-15)

Rather than constellate a group of admirers around himself, Jesus chose to humble himself as the servant of all and invited his followers to serve one another in that same spirit (see Mark 10: 35-45). Jesus is our example of *servant leadership* par excellence, so for all those called to leadership *in any arena of life*, this is how it's done. This is leadership's proper spirit and role.

Sue

Good Sam Outreach Lenten Food Drive



The following items will be collected on March 13/14 for **Eastern Service Workers**

- Canned meat (tuna, chicken, ham)
- Canned chili, stews, hearty soups
- Peanut butter & jelly
- Mayonnaise
- Canned beans (black, pinto)

Please drop your donations off in bags before Mass at the Food Drive area in the Narthex. If you are not attending in person on the weekend, the Narthex doors are also open Tuesday and Thursdays from 8:00 to 8:30 am (prior to morning Mass) and 9:00 to 9:30 am (after Mass).

A reminder each week we will have a new recipient and wish list in the bulletin for the following week-end. This info is also on our web site. Check out the Good Sam Outreach Page; it is under the "Social Justice" tab for additional info on all our outreach to help the needy! Thank you!

A Message from St Pauly Textile:

Here is the year end information for your clothing shed:

- 130,590 pounds of clothing were donated to St Paul's shed in 2020.
- This was enough to clothe an estimated 10,415 people all over the world.
- Based on this volume, St Paul's received \$5,223.

Thank you so much for continuing to partner with us and get us through this challenging year. We truly appreciate all the support you've given to this program and to our team!

Sincerely,
The Team at St. Pauly Textile, Inc.



Easter Flowers

An Easter Flower envelope has been included in the March/April envelope packet. The flower memorials will be included in the Easter bulletin.

We will use the parishioner info from the front of the envelope to note who the memorial is from, so if you want something different listed, please write that as well.

You may also request an Easter Flower memorial through our web site, through the link on the front page. On the processing page there will be a text box to enter who you wish the flowers to be in memory/honor of. Please note there is a 50 character limit, if you can't fit everyone in please call or email us and we can adjust.

Please make checks payable to "St. Paul's". You may send it in any time, with a deadline of Monday, March 22 to be included in the bulletin. If you have any questions please call Jodie or Robin at 671-2100 or by email jodie.hickey@dor.org or robin.martz@dor.org.

Second Collection for Catholic Relief Services

Next week, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRSC). Funds from this collection help provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to all people here at home and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the CRSC, and help Jesus in disguise!

If you wish to support this collection, please make your check payable to St. Paul's, adding "Catholic Relief Services" in the memo. Please drop your check in the collection box or slot with your regular offertory donation. Thank you for your support.

Operation Rice Bowl Sustainability in El Salvador



Drought has become a big problem across El Salvador, making it difficult for farmers to produce enough crops to support their families. But new farming techniques—and a new generation of young farmers—are making a difference. What would you do if your livelihood was threatened? How can you support young people in your community and around the world? Visit csrcebowl.org to learn more.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

In six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth,
the sea and all that is in them;
but on the seventh day he rested. (Ex 20:11)

PSALM:

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life. (Ps 19)

SECOND READING:

For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom,
and the weakness of God is stronger than human
strength. (1 Cor 1:25)

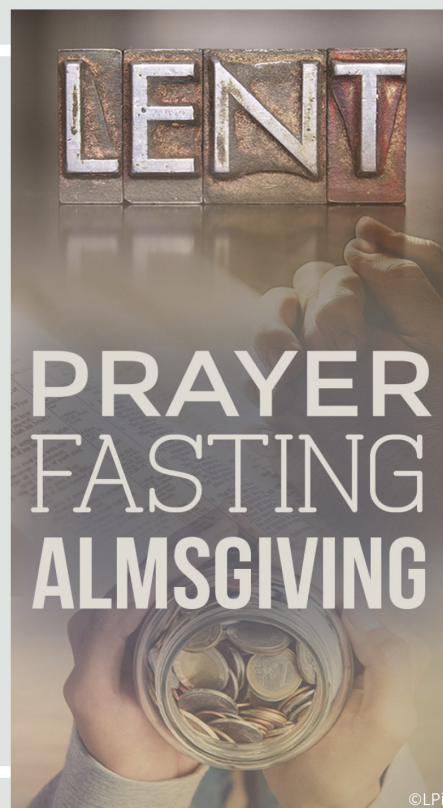
GOSPEL:

"Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up."
(Jn 2:19)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 7, 2021

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent
Monday: St. John of God, Religious
Tuesday: St. Frances of Rome, Religious
Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Lent;
Daylight Saving Time begins



REFLECT

FIRST READING

In God's revelation to Moses of His "10 Commandments," seven of the ten Commandments regulate how we are to relate to each other. Which of these seven Commandments challenges you most?

SECOND READING

Paul speaks of Jesus as both the "power of God and the wisdom of God." How could you prove Paul's assertion to a non-believer?

GOSPEL READING

John connects Jesus' cleansing of the Temple in Jerusalem to Jesus' bodily resurrection from the dead with a quote from Psalm 69: "Zeal for your house will consume me." During this season of Lent, how passionate is your faith?

Giving Options-Thank You!

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

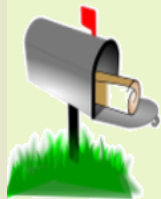
Or give through your
bank's online bill pay
feature.



Try the
GIVEPLUST⁺
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

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



CMA Shortage Challenge

As of March 1, we are still behind our CMA goal by \$45,000. However, we have exciting news: a group of parishioners have offered a challenge to help us meet our goal without using our savings.

They will match, dollar for dollar, all CMA Shortage donations between March 1 and April 30, up to \$20,000!

If you give \$100, it will be matched by \$100, yielding a \$200 donation. If the challenge is successful we will have raised \$40,000 and nearly meet our goal! We are very grateful to this group for stepping up and pray that the challenge will be successful.

If you are able, please consider helping us meet this wonderful challenge by mailing your donation to the parish (checks payable to "St. Paul's" and note "CMA Shortage" in the memo line) or online through our web site. Thank you!

Please check our website for updates on how the Challenge is going.

Because not everyone reads the bulletin or our web site, we are mailing letters with the details of the Challenge. If you receive one after you have donated, please disregard.

If you have any questions, please contact Robin in the office at 672-2100 Ext 30. Thank you!

