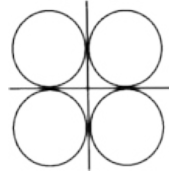


# ST. PAUL'S CHURCH



783 Hard Road, Webster, New York 14580

**March 9, 2025 First 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.



## 1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

The devil said to him, "All this will be yours, if you worship me." Jesus said to him in reply, "It is written: You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve." - Lk 4:6a, 7-8

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

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### Mass Times

Saturday at 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

### Daily Masses

No daily Mass March 10-31

### Confession

Saturday at 2:00-3:00 p.m.

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

No Adoration Wednesday  
March 10-31

### Live Stream Mass via YouTube

Saturday at 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.



**Monday, March 10**

***Lenten Weekday***

**No Mass**

3:00P Finance Council mtg.

**Tuesday, March 11**

***Lenten Weekday***

**No Mass**

12:00P Rosary Group

**Wednesday, March 12**

***Lenten Weekday***

**No Mass**

**No Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

7:00P Choir rehearsal

7:00P Good Sam Outreach mtg.

**Thursday, March 13**

***Lenten Weekday***

**No Mass**

5:30P Lenten Soup Supper

6:15: Presentation by Deacon Mark

**Friday, March 14**

***Lenten Weekday***

**Abstinence**

**No Mass**

**Saturday, March 15**

***Lenten Weekday***

9:30A Adult Faith Men's Group mtg.

2:45-3:00P Confession

4:00P Mass

**Sunday, March 16**

***2nd Sunday of Lent***

9:00A Mass

10:00A SOR classes

10:00A Confirmation Prep class yrs. 1 & 2

11:00A Mass



**Parish Staff**

**Pastor:** Fr. Paul Gitau

fr.paul.gitau@dor.org

**Deacon:** Mark Robbins

mark.robbins@dor.org

**Administrative Asst.:** Jodie Hickey x21

jodie.hickey@dor.org

**Adult Faith Formation Coordinator:**

TBD

**Director of Faith Formation:** Anselm Mesue x27

anselm.mesue@dor.org

**Coordinator of Music:** John Gaspar

john.gaspar@dor.org

**Faith Formation & Liturgy Assistant:** Helen Stirpe x26

helen.stirpe@dor.org

**Funeral Planning:** Bonnie Serio

bonnie.serio@dor.org

**Facilities Manager:** Ben O'Brien x28

ben.obrien@dor.org

**Finance Office:**

webironfinance@dor.org

**Finance Council Chair:** Jack Black

blackj1969@rochester.rr.com

**Parish Council Chair:** Patrice DeAngelis

**Parish Trustees:** Forest Shick & George Hanley

**Parish Office Hours**

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

**Phone:** 671- 2100

**Emergency Number:** 369-9687

**Website:** www.stpaulsrcc.org

**Diocese of Rochester:** www.dor.org



**Financial Snapshot**

	February 2025	July 2024-February 2025
Collections	\$55,815	\$347,425
Donations/ other revenue	\$6,235	\$30,390
Expenses	\$36,313	\$353,041
Operating surplus/deficit	\$25,737	\$24,774

**Let Us Pray  
for Those in the Military**

Jason Aman

Josh Bartlett

Bryan Gross

Cydney Blong

Tom Weisenreder

Michael J. Desiato

Mason Serrano

Daniel Thomas

Andrew Zani

Robert Wright

Jay Riesenberger



*This week the  
Sanctuary Lamp burns for  
Dorothy Bufano &  
Joe Pilato  
From  
Daughter & Wife*

LENT, the Christian season of reflection, sacrifice, and service, is one of my favorite times of the liturgical year. As Faith Formation Coordinator years ago, I was challenged to convey the “Lent lesson” to the children in the catechetical programs. The tradition of “Burying the Alleluia” used in the catechetical program, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd proved to be the perfect answer.

During the entire 40 days of Lent, the word “Alleluia” is completely absent from the liturgy of the Church. “Alleluia”, rooted in the Hebrew expression meaning “praise the Lord”, is found in many of the Psalms and is associated with joy and celebration. That is why it is NEVER said during Lent, a time focused on the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross. It is, however, a very important word, deserving of a proper send-off before resuming its use at the Easter Vigil. (Articles from USCCB.org and Aleteia.org)

Our students had beautifully decorated small paper banners containing the word “Alleluia” and placed them in a bejeweled chest. In a very solemn procession, the children walked the box to the stone baptismal font, that had been drained and filled with sand and stones, looking like a bleak desert. The parish liturgist dug a small hole and we all sang one last “Alleluia”, then solemnly buried the chest, covering it with sand and rocks.

Throughout the weeks that followed, our children would come to Mass with their families, whispering as they walked in front of the font and pointing to “the spot” where the chest was buried. In class, we discussed how we were quietly changing ourselves through prayer, serving others, and “fasting” from a favorite thing. This memorable tradition became truly joyous when the “Alleluia” was brought back to life at Easter.

Now, years later as an older adult, I find Lent a time of prayerful reflection on my life, a deeper dive into my faith, and an examination of my relationship with others. The difficulties and challenges seem daunting at times, but I know St. Paul's has much to offer those in need. These “buried treasures” remind me of those “Alleluias”, unknown by some but waiting to bring the joyful presence of the Risen Christ into their lives. Here are opportunities available for the sick, the dying, and the bereaved in our families and circle of friends.

**For those who are sick in body, mind, and spirit: call Parish office – 671-2100:**

Our Lady of Compassion Ministry – Eucharistic Ministers who visit the Homebound and those in hospitals and nursing homes bringing them Holy Communion and a compassion presence.

Anointing of the Sick – Persons suffering from illness at home or hospitalized can be anointed by Fr. Paul. Call the parish office if you or family member desire to receive this sacrament.

Tuesdays at the 8:30 morning Mass- Fr. Paul anoints anyone in need of the sacrament of healing.

Prayer Shawl Ministry – Gifted volunteers who knit and crochet shawls and lap coverlets as they pray for the recipients of each work of love. Shawls and coverlets available upon request.

**For those who have died: consult parish website [stpaulsrcc.org/sacraments/funeral-planning](http://stpaulsrcc.org/sacraments/funeral-planning)**

Funeral Planning – Assistance is provided to guide families through the process of planning a funeral liturgy for a loved one with the information found on the parish website and a personal meeting with a funeral coordinator.

**Preplanning Funeral Your Own Funeral:**

To plan your funeral liturgy in advance; choosing readings, hymns, that are meaningful to you while you are alive

To ease the stress and sadness of surviving family members during their time of grieving your death

**Support to the Grieving:**

Together in Grief – A grief support program meeting monthly on Thursday mornings provides a caring listening environment for those grieving the loss of a loved one

Funeral Team – Compassionate volunteers who assist at funeral liturgies as greeters, ushers, acolytes, sacristans

Martha Ministry – Generous volunteers who provide warm, welcoming receptions following funeral liturgies

Finally, throughout these 40 days of Lent, my prayer for all of us is that as we strive to follow Christ's will for us, we keep in mind the promise of the buried “Alleluias”. Let us pray in gratitude for our parish as we prepare our hearts for the joyful resurrection of our Savior.

*Bonnie*



## 2025 Jubilee Pilgrims of Hope Pilgrimage to Saint Michael Church & Pantry: Receive and Share Mercy

As part of our activities for the season of Lent, the Confirmation Program and those in Grades 6 and 7 of School of Religion of our parish will be making a pilgrimage for the 2025 Jubilee Pilgrims of Hope to the beautiful Saint Michael Church in inner city Rochester. There, the kids will have the opportunity to bring hope to the poor by volunteering at their food pantry for a few hours, we will get to tour Saint Michael Church and participate in other spiritual activities. The pilgrimage will take place Saturday, March 29 from noon to 5pm. If there are any middle or high school students interested who are not in the Confirmation program or attend School of Religion and would like to attend, kindly contact our Director of Faith Formation at [anselm.mesue@dor.org](mailto:anselm.mesue@dor.org) or by phone at 671-2100 ext. 27 or at one of the weekend Masses.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please note that on Saturday, March 15th the time for confession will be from 2:45-3:45 p.m. Only on this day.

### Good Sam Outreach 2025 Lenten Food Drive Week 1

#### Sister Regis Food Cupboard

The Sister Regis Food Cupboard is located in the Bay Street area of Rochester providing neighborhood residents with help securing their daily food needs. They are requesting the following:

- Cereal
- Ketchup
- Canned Meat (tuna & chicken)
- Pasta, spaghetti sauce
- Peanut butter & jelly
- White rice (1 or 2 lb. bags)
- Coffee, tea & sugar
- Canned fruit & vegetables

Please place your bagged donations in the collection box in the Narthex. Deliveries will be made at the beginning of the following week.

### CRS Rice Bowl

#### A Recommitment to End Hunger



Since 1975, Catholics across the United States have come together each Lent to respond to global hunger through the CRS Rice Bowl program. Learn how people like you have made a local and global impact on the lives of our sisters and brothers in need and why our prayers and almsgiving are still needed today. During this holy season, let us recommit to sharing bread for life with our global family so that all people can reach their God-given potential. Visit [crsricebowl.org/week-1](http://crsricebowl.org/week-1) to read this week's Story of Hope.

## St. Paul's Lenten SOUP Suppers



Pray  
Fast  
Learn  
Give

March 13  
March 27  
April 10



5:30-6:15 p.m. in the church hall

Bring the whole family and your favorite soup, bread or macaroni and cheese to share! Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board across from the parish office.

### Adult Faith Formation Programs During & Following the Soup Suppers

March 13 @ 6:15 p.m.:  
Presentation by Deacon Mark Robbins

March 27 @ 5:30 p.m.:  
Trivia about the Catholic Faith & St. Paul's Parish during the Soup Supper

April 10 @ 6:15 p.m.:  
Stations of the Cross

## First Sunday of Lent



Over the Jubilee Year we will explore the themes of Hope, Pilgrimage, and Jubilee, always ending with a question for you to consider over the week.

Jesus in today's Gospel undertakes a pilgrimage of sorts. His journey through temptation prepares him for his public ministry. It truly is an outward journey reflecting an inner movement.

**Ponder Point:** How can you make this Lent a pilgrimage? In other words, what inner movement are you undertaking this Lent?

## Question of the week

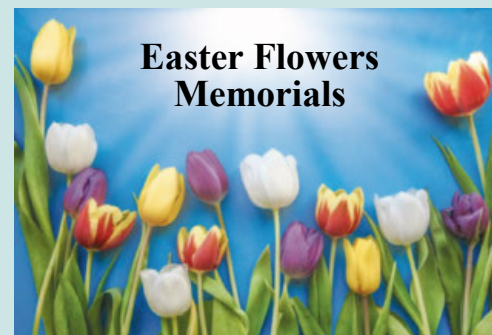
**Question to the editor:** Dear editor, how can we practice Almsgiving during Lent?

Almsgiving is one of the three traditional practices of the season of Lent; prayer, and fasting are the other two. Almsgiving in this context is contributing financially to those in need. Some parishes employ a means whereby the donation is given to assist the parish in the care of the poor. Here at St Paul's, we do the Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl collection, Good Sam does a Lenten Food Drive, and the School of Religion and Confirmation programs will also do their own Lenten Collections. However, everyone has the ability to relieve the needs of those who are underprivileged through their local parish, diocesan or community shelters and soup kitchens. This can be done through a monetary or material contributions. When we give up certain foods, things and activities for Lent, the money we would have spent on those foods or things should be kept and then put together and given to the poor or to those in need during Easter. In effect, each person can do their own individual Lenten collections. Individuals can also decide to donate more to their weekly church contributions.

## From the John Walsh Library

### Father Dave Pivonka Hiking the Camino 500 Miles with Jesus

Fans of the movie "The Way", starring Martin Sheen, will enjoy reading Father Dave's memoir of his walk along *El Camino de Compostela*, the ancient pilgrim path to the tomb of Saint James the Apostle in Santiago in northwestern Spain. In this book he details the physical reality of walking every day for thirty-one days, life along the *El Camino*, encounters with other pilgrims – the lessons learned from his time with them – and reflections from his own contemplation and prayers. He opens his heart and shares deep revelations, as well as humor, from his pilgrimage. His first lesson learned came in relation to the weight of his pack. He was so concerned with it until he finally realized that maybe that is where he needed to begin. "Lord, perhaps this is where we begin. Not with my pack but with my heart, my very life. What is it that you want me to get rid of? How do you want to empty me? What excess luggage am I carrying in my soul?" His Camino hike holds real lessons for your own life's journey. (Call No. 263.04 PIV).



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.

Please make checks payable to "St. Paul's". You may send it in any time, with a deadline of **Monday, April 7** to be included in the bulletin. If you have any questions please email Kasey at [Kasey.baker@dor.org](mailto:Kasey.baker@dor.org) or Jodie at [jodie.hickey@dor.org](mailto:jodie.hickey@dor.org).

## Ministry Schedule for March 15 & 16, 2025

If **TBD** or **Volunteer Needed** is listed, please contact the ministry coordinator to see if that position still needs to be filled. Thank you for all you do for St. Paul's!

	4:00 PM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
<b>Acolytes</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b> <b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Luca Picca <b>Volunteer Needed</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b> <b>Volunteer Needed</b>
<b>Cantors</b>	Tom Napoli	Elizabeth Randisi	Bob Slon
<b>EMHC</b>	Sue Dettman Mary Beth Speicher	Trisha DeBacco Margaret Milner	Ruth Prinzivalli Fred Compertore
<b>Greeters</b>	Bill Galbraith Diana Kemp	Jeanne Leo Lucille Frisicano	Anne Hauber Ellen Santora
<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Jack Black	Jann Armantrout
<b>Linens</b>	No linen pick up this week		
<b>Sacristans</b>	Christine Grant	Pat Rotundo Mary Fitch	Sandra Happ
<b>Stream Team</b>	Rod Campbell	Jerry Healey	Tom Napoli
<b>Ushers</b>	Sue Dettman Alice Bower	Dan Milner Don Black	Charlie & Nancy Carson Fred Compertore

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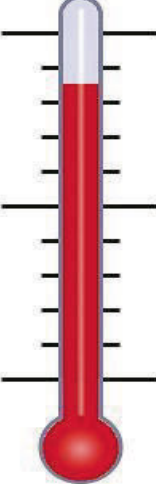
**Don't forget to pick up a bulletin next weekend with the Panera flyer that you can present at checkout.**

2024-2025 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

**Extending Christ's Mission**  
*through the Catholic Ministries Appeal*

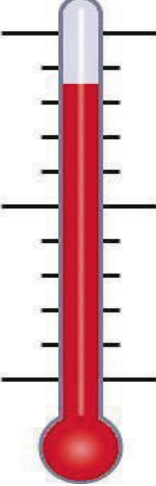



**Totals as of:**  
3/4/25



**Goal**  
\$100,000

**Pledged**  
\$85,450



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**of our goal**

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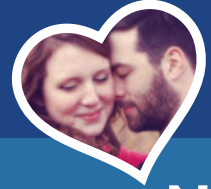
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