

SAINT PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

EAST NORRITON, PA

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Baptized in Jesus, we the parishioners of St. Paul respond to the call of Christ. Loving God, praying with one another, especially through the Mass and the Sacraments. Proclaiming and sharing our Faith and Mission in Jesus Christ. Assisting those in need by seeing Christ present in each person. Creating unity through Christ by nourishing, empowering, and involving one another. Teaching the message of Christ to all by word and by daily personal witness. May God bless us, placing our efforts in hands greater than our own.



*First Sunday of Lent
February 18, 2018*



MASSES:

Sundays: 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM
(5:30 PM Vigil on Saturday)

Monday—Saturday: 8:00 AM

Holydays: 7:00 PM Vigil, 8:00 AM & 12 Noon
(unless otherwise noted in the bulletin)

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:

Saturdays: 4:15 PM—5:00 PM

RECTORY: 610.279.6725

2007 New Hope Street, East Norriton, PA 19401

email: stpaulparish.eastnorriton@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday—Friday: 9:00 AM—12:00 PM *
1:00 PM—4:00 PM

* *Office closed from 12:00 PM—1:00 PM for lunch*

Evenings & Weekends: by appointment

SCHOOL: Holy Rosary Regional School

Principal: Ms. Lisa Hoban 610.825.0160

3040 Walton Road, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

Meg Farrell 610.279.6725

Rev. Harry E. McCreedy, Pastor

Sister Rosellen Bracken RSM, Services Ministry

Mary Rose Edmonds, Business Manager

Meg Farrell, Director of Religious Education

Patty Petrosky, Administrative Assistant

Visit Our Parish Website:

stpaulcatholicchurcheastnorriton.net

Our bulletin can also be viewed online

BAPTISMS are celebrated on the second and fourth Sunday of each month at 12:15 PM. Parents are required to attend the pre-Baptism class called Pre-Jordan sometime before the child is born. The godparents' letters of eligibility should be brought to this class. After attending the class and presenting the eligibility letters a date can be set for the Baptism by calling the Rectory.

WEDDING arrangements must be made in person at the Rectory at least six months in advance. All couples must attend the archdiocesan sponsored Pre-Cana Program. For info: <http://phillycatholiclife.org/marriage-and-family/preparing-for-marriage>.

THE SICK and permanently homebound are encouraged to receive communion regularly at home. Eucharistic ministers are available, please contact Sr. Rosellen Bracken at 610.277.0827. Hospitalized parishioners are encouraged to receive the sacraments from the Catholic chaplains assigned to all hospitals. Urgent requests for anointing of the sick at home are accepted at anytime - call the Rectory.

TO BE A PARISHIONER one must be registered and living within the parish boundaries. Call the Rectory to make an appointment to register or see the pastor in church after Sunday Mass. We cannot issue letters of eligibility or references if one is not formally registered. Registered parishioners are requested to notify the Rectory if they are changing their address.



**EXPOSITION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT
EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT
FROM 8:00 AM MASS UNTIL 7:00 PM
STATIONS OF THE CROSS**



Every Friday during Lent we pray St. John Paul II's Stations of the Cross. These will be prayed in the context of exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and conclude with Benediction. The stations booklets will be available in the back of the Church. We ask those attending to return them at the end of devotions each Friday. **The Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 7:00 PM.**

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION ON THE FRIDAYS OF LENT

During Lent, we have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament all day, beginning with the 8:00 AM Mass until Stations of the Cross at 7:00 PM. We ask all those who regularly spend time in adoration, during the morning and afternoon hours to continue to do so. **HOWEVER, WE NEED PEOPLE TO SIGN-UP FOR ADORATION FROM 4:00 PM UNTIL 6:30 PM.** If you are willing to offer a half-hour or hour of your time in sacrificial adoration, please, sign-up on the table in the vestibule of the church.

FAST AND ABSTINENCE AND OTHER ACTS OF PENANCE FOR LENT

The Bishops of the United States prescribe, as minimal obligation that all persons who are fourteen years of age and older are bound to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, February 10th, and all the Fridays of Lent and on Good Friday. Further, all persons eighteen years of age and older, up to and including their fifty-ninth birthday, are bound to fast by limiting themselves to a single full meal on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday, while the other two meals on those days are to be light.

All the faithful are encouraged, when possible, to participate at Mass and to receive the Holy Eucharist daily, to celebrate frequently the Sacrament of Penance, to undertake spiritual reading, especially the study of the Sacred Scriptures, and to participate in parish Lenten devotions as well as Lenten education programs. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is especially recommended.

All are encouraged to participate in "Operation Rice Bowl," which has aided countless hungry persons here in the Archdiocese as well as throughout our nation and our world.

CLASS OF PREPARATION FOR BAPTISM

Should be attended prior to the birth of the child. The Godparents' letters of eligibility are to be brought to this class. The class is held in the Rectory Meeting Room adjacent to the Rectory garages (ground level entrance). **The next class is March 18th and May 20th at 11:30 AM. Call the Rectory today at 610.279.6725 to make a reservation to attend. A date for Baptism cannot be set until the class is attended and the godparents' letters of eligibility have been submitted.**

PRAY THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The way of the Cross probably started soon after Our Lord's death. Surely His mother, Mary, and the Apostles walked over the same sorrowful route many times afterwards. Even today, devout pilgrims tread the "Via Dolorosa", the Sorrowful way, from Pilate's Praetorium, to Calvary. Since it was impossible for most Christians to visit the original site, reproductions of the Way began to appear. In the 15th century, Blessed Alvarez, a Dominican, erected in Spain groups of Chapels in which were painted Passion scenes. The Franciscans probably are responsible for the Way of the Cross devotion. Throughout Europe, they erected the Stations in their churches, obtaining rich indulgences for them. However, a uniform number was never used, and at one time 37 stations were erected.

Pope Clement XII fixed the number at 14 in 1731. All that is necessary for the Way of the Cross devotions are fourteen blessed wooden crosses, but the faculties are obtained from the Minister General of the Franciscans. In most modern churches, these are accompanied by images or paintings of the scene commemorated. In "making the way" we spiritually accompany Our Lord on His sorrowful journey to Calvary, meditating at each scene of His passion and death.

Those who devoutly make the Stations of the Cross may gain a plenary indulgence under the usual conditions (i.e., receptions of the Sacraments of Penance and Eucharist within a reasonable period of time). The sick and homebound also may gain this indulgence if they devoutly pray the stations in their homes and spiritually unite themselves with those praying the Way in their parish churches.



Our faith community is participating in Catholic Relief Services' Lenten program *Operation Rice Bowl*, as part of our Lenten observance. Throughout Lent, *Operation Rice Bowl* will help us **pray, fast, learn** and **give** in solidarity with those in need around the world and in our archdiocese. We encourage you to be part of this Lenten journey at home with your family and loved ones.

The cardboard rice bowls and accompanying material can be picked-up from the tables at the doors of the church. Returns can be made weekly or all at onetime on Palm Sunday. There will be special receptacles in the back of the church to receive the offerings. On Holy Thursday, the collection at the Mass of the Lord's Supper will be for Operation Rice Bowl.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY HERE AT ST. PAUL'S

Are you looking for a meaningful Lenten activity? Consider joining St. Paul Bible Study, "Reflecting on Sunday's Readings." This Bible Study helps participants learn the deeper meanings within the familiar Lenten readings one hears at weekend Masses. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we are learning to "interpret our experiences by sacred Scripture" instead of "interpreting sacred Scripture by our experience." The Bible Study meets each Wednesday in the Rectory Meeting Room, 7:30 PM—9:00 PM. For more information, please contact: Lucy Boardway, lwoz1@yahoo.com at 610.246.5535 or Maria Sacco, mrsqas.sacco@gmail.com at 610.275.7194.

LENT

Lent is a time of intense spiritual combat, but always looking forward to the final victory. Just as the slow grinding out of yardage reaches its victorious climax in a score, so the self-discipline and hard work of Lent are directed with confidence to the victorious climax of Easter. A touchdown gives meaning to the struggle for down-by-down yardage; only the Paschal Victory can light-up the significance of Lent.

No victory is won without a combat. The Paschal Victory is no exception. Lent is an intense effort of forty days' duration. It is a struggle to keep in spiritual training, but somehow the demanding routine of training for victory takes some glow of the victory itself. Here are some of Lent's main ideas. Because they keep repeating themselves all through the readings of the Lenten liturgies, we'll call them "themes":

THE DESERT THEME

When the Hebrews crossed the Red Sea to escape the slavery of Egypt, they journeyed forty years in the desert before reaching the Promised Land. So a Christian, by Baptism, becomes free—free of sin and slavery to sin which is part of the human condition. But the inclination to sin remains, and so he too must struggle across the desert before he reaches the eternal promised Land of heaven.

Our Lord deliberately chose a desert for His forty days of prayer and penance before setting out upon His public life. Just like Moses, who was a "type" of our Lord, Jesus wanted to prepare Himself for the fulfillment of His mission by spending the days and nights in solitude close to His Father. Lent serves the same purpose. It is our sojourn in the desert. Like Moses and Christ, we learn to contact God in prayer, and prepare ourselves to share God's life of grace now, even before we have entered God's kingdom for good.

THE BAPTISM THEME

In the early centuries, the Church used the forty days of Lent for the final intensive course of convert instructions. The entire Catholic community, on the night of the Easter Vigil, welcomed the converts into the family of God, and then in a most impressive way repeated their own baptismal vows.

We are not surprised, therefore, in view of these ancient customs, that many references to baptism are found in the Lenten Masses. The readings are often taken from The Old Testament to show how God prepared the way for the sacrament itself by types and prefigurements of Baptism, and then from the New Testament as well to bring out how these types and prefigurements were fulfilled.

THE PENANCE THEME

Lent was also a special time for another group of early Christians—the publicly known sinners. For serious and public sins known to the Christian community, the public sinners were expelled until public penance followed by absolution could bring them back into the family of God. Lent was judged the perfect time. Reconciliation came through the absolution granted by the Bishop or his representative on Holy Thursday. The lost sheep were welcomed back into the fold so they might again share the Paschal Victory of Christ along with the community.

The practice of sprinkling the public sinners with ashes at the beginning of Lent was a carryover from Hebrew customs. The story of Jonah and the people of Nineveh tells how the prophet counseled the sinful Ninevites to acknowledge their sinfulness by dressing in sack cloth and sprinkling themselves with ashes. But, of course, as the prophet made clear, all these meant nothing unless it was inspired by a real change of heart. In later years, since everyone must admit sinfulness before God to one degree or another, all Christians began to accept ashes on Ash Wednesday as a symbol of their sorrow and penance for sin.

THE JERUSALEM THEME

At the very outset of Lent, the Gospel introduces a Lenten theme which is packed with meaning. Christ is breaking the news of His coming death to the apostles: "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all the things that have been written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man will be accomplished." (Luke 18: 31-32)

In the Lenten liturgy, the phrase "going up to Jerusalem" represents everything that is going to happen to Christ on His Redemptive Mission. The Jerusalem theme, therefore, is a symbol of all that the apostles, and we too, are invited to share with Christ. If we "go up to Jerusalem" with Him, as the apostles had courage enough to do, then we too will share in His resurrection and glorious entry into His kingdom, which lies beyond the immediate prospect of suffering and death.



On Friday, March 2nd—7:30 PM

"The Way of the Cross"

A dramatic multi-media presentation of the Passion and Death of the Lord will be offered by the Franciscan Mystery Players here, at St. Paul Church, on Friday, March 2nd, at 7:30 PM. Fourteen actors are featured in this presentation.

Please, don't miss this moving Lenten Experience. This is a devotion from which persons of all ages can experience peace and grace. **Admission is free**, but good-will offerings will be accepted as you leave the church that night.

Please... everyone! Join us in observing this meaningful Lenten Portrayal of Christ's love for us.

The Annual Archdiocesan Mass Honoring the Gifts of Persons with Disabilities, the Deaf Community, Family, Friends and Caregivers

Saturday, March 24, 2018 ~ 10:30 AM

Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul
18th and Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia

Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., will be the principal celebrant and homilist. There will be a reception immediately following the Mass. All are welcome! **To RSVP go to: www.opdarchphilly.org, or call 215.587.3530.**

INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES AND AUTISM HELP-LINE

Do you need help accessing services and supports for someone with an intellectual disability or Autism? A collaboration of Catholic Social Services—Developmental Programs, The Office for Persons with Disabilities and the Schools of Special Education of the Archdiocese is offering this convenient help-line to assist families connect to disabilities services provided by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. **To reach the Help-Line call: 484.472.5041 or email: IDDhelp@chs-adphila.org.**

Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Men's Spirituality Conference 2018
Saturday, March 3, 2018

Neumann University, Aston, Delaware County

CHRIST CRUCIFIED—THE POWER AND WISDOM OF GOD

In his **First Letter to the Corinthians** St. Paul exhorts them to “keep firm to the end,” “consider your own calling, brothers,” and to “be united in the same mind and the same purpose.” For “we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, Christ the power and the wisdom of God!”



As we prepare for the **10th Annual Men's Spirituality Conference** we build upon our themes of recent years of **Transforming Men, Transforming Families** and instilling a sense of **Men on a Mission**. This year our conference emphasizes the centrality of **Christ Crucified** as the underpinning of our faith and mission.

We are excited to announce that **Seth Joyner**, former Philadelphia Eagle and Pro Bowler, will be our Keynote Speaker sharing his journey of faith. We are also bringing back three of the most dynamic speakers from past conferences to highlight this theme, **Jim Towey** who served as the personal attorney to St. Teresa of Calcutta, **Don Saleski**, member of the Stanley Cup winning Philadelphia Flyers, and **Mark Forrest**, internationally renowned Irish tenor, who will again lead a meditative Eucharistic Adoration. Singer and songwriter **Marty Rotella** will perform throughout the conference. **Archbishop Charles Chaput** will celebrate the closing liturgy.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered and the conference will conclude with Mass celebrated by the Most Reverend Archbishop Charles Chaput. **Register at www.manupphilly.com.**

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Are you celebrating a special anniversary this year? The annual Archdiocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass will take place on **Saturday, April 28, 2018** at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul at the 5:15 PM Vigil Mass with Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M., Cap. Presiding. This mass is to pray for and with all married couples who are newlyweds, or who have been married 25 years or more, or 50 years or more. Friends and family are welcome and encouraged to attend.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

To register visit: www.phillycatholiclife.org
or call: 215.587.0500

Mass Intentions

MON., FEB. 19TH

8:00 AM PAT O'BRIEN

TUES., FEB. 20TH ~ SAINTS FRANCISCO & JACINTA MARTO

8:00 AM JAMES DREA

WED., FEB. 21ST ~ SAINT PETER DAMIAN

8:00 AM ROCCO VALENTI, SR. & JR.

THURS., FEB. 22ND ~ THE CHAIR OF ST. PETER THE APOSTLE

8:00 AM DANIEL J. MACHON

FRI., FEB. 23RD ~ SAINT POLYCARP

8:00 AM HELEN TOTH

SAT., FEB. 24TH

8:00 AM ENIS SIDERIO

5:30 PM LIDUA & DOMINICO CAPODIZI

SUN., FEB. 25TH

8:30 AM THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

10:30 AM THE D'ORAZIO FAMILY



THE SANCTUARY LAMP IN CHURCH WILL BURN
IN MEMORY OF GEORGE PFANDERS

OUR TITHING REPORT

On the second weekend of February last year \$7043.00 was contributed. **THIS YEAR \$6519.00 WAS OFFERED.**

Anthem Live

The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry
St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
146 Rector Street, Philadelphia, PA

Saturday, February 24, 2018 / 7:30 PM—9:00 PM

“There’s a lot demanding our attention. The best thing to cut through the noise? Space to hear God speak. You don’t need a crowd of people or a big cathedral to have a conversation with God, but there’s undeniable power in experiencing prayer together under one roof—especially when there’s a powerhouse of young adults from Philadelphia. Join us for a night of worship and adoration led by Sean Forrest and John Niven.” For young adults ages 18—35.

**HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL NEWS
ANNUAL LADIES BINGO**

Friday, March 2nd @ 7:00 PM ~ Grady Hall
(Doors open @ 6:00 PM)

Ladies, are you ready for a fun filled night of bingo games where each prize values at over \$100, fabulous raffle baskets, and one of the largest 50/50 take home amounts? Please join us for Holy Rosary’s Annual Bingo Night! Tickets are \$30 per person. Contact Beth Fish at thefishheads@verizon.net to reserve your spot.

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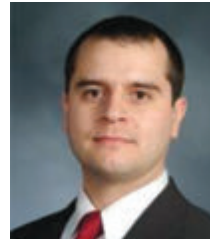
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Dr. Zavala's clinical training was completed at Columbia University Medical Center/New York Presbyterian Hospital and he practiced as an audiologist there until July 2007. Until a few years ago he was the Audiology Director at Columbia University Medical Center's Eastside Faculty Practice. His main interests include the diagnosis and management of hearing disorders and he is certified by the American Speech-Language Hearing Language Association (ASHA). Voted best Hearing Center by the readers of the Times Harold in 2015, 2016, and 2017.



Jorge S. Zavala, Au.D., CCC-A
Doctor of Audiology



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