

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.



Third Sunday of Advent
December 17, 2017



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 god-parents' 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.



“Rejoice”

Good Christians “rejoice” because every day is a day closer to our salvation. Christ Jesus, our Messiah, comes to all who love Him and to all who constantly prepare their hearts for Him through daily prayer and sacrifice.

How easy it is for us to forget that the purpose of the Advent season is not merely to prepare us for Christmas. Christmas comes anyway, whether we are ready or not. The ultimate purpose of Advent, Christmas and all that lies beyond is: to prepare us for heaven; to direct our attention to the Christ who came from His heavenly throne to make it possible, by His life, death and resurrection, for us to be heirs with Him of a heavenly home. We must always keep alive that hope.

A host of angels was sent by God to herald the good news of “peace on earth, good will toward men,” made possible by the coming of “A Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”

To a sin-sick world, Christ brings healing. To a downcast humanity he brings hope. Can the unfolding happiness of the holidays be an on-going reminder “the best is yet to come?”

Oh, where shall joy be found?
Where but on heavenly ground?
Where the angels singing
With all His saints unite.
Their sweetest praises bringing
In Heavenly joy and light
May we praise Him there!
May we praise Him there!



**EXPOSITION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT
EVERY FRIDAY FROM
8:00 AM MASS UNTIL 3:30 PM**

HOWEVER, THERE WILL BE NO EXPOSITION THIS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22ND, AS WE PREPARE THE CHURCH WITH ITS CHRISTMAS DÉCOR. EXPOSITION WILL RESUME ON DECEMBER 29TH.

2018 CALENDARS ARE AVAILABLE

Please help yourselves to our annual parish calendars that are available on the tables at all the doors to the church. They'll be available until they run out! Help yourself today!!

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

CONFESSIONS

CONFESSIONS ARE HEARD EVERY SATURDAY, FROM 4:15 PM TO 5:00 PM AND ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21ST 7:00 PM TO 8:00 PM

LITURGIES

CHRISTMAS EVE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH ~ 5:00 PM

BECAUSE CHRISTMAS EVE IS ON A SUNDAY THIS YEAR, PLEASE BE MINDFUL THAT ATTENDING MASS ON CHRISTMAS EVE (SUNDAY NIGHT) DOES NOT SATISFY THE OBLIGATION TO ATTEND SUNDAY MASS. THE CHRISTMAS EVE MASS IS FOR MONDAY'S SOLEMNITY OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST. ONE MUST ATTEND MASS ON SATURDAY EVENING (DECEMBER 23RD ~ 5:30 PM) OR SUNDAY MORNING (DECEMBER 24TH ~ 8:30 AM OR 10:30 AM) TO FULFILL THE SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION. ONE CANNOT FULFILL BOTH OBLIGATIONS BY GOING TO ONE MASS.

CHRISTMAS MORNING

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

MASSSES AT 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD JANUARY 1ST

AS THIS IS NOT A HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION THIS YEAR, THERE WILL BE NO VIGIL MASS ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31ST. ON MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST, MASSSES WILL BE AT 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM.

~ Please Note ~

On Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24th, Our Vigil Mass is at 5:00 PM, not at the usual hour of 5:30 PM. As usual on this evening, our Choir will sing and, at the end of Mass, children will be invited to gather around the Baby Jesus with birthday greetings and a procession to the stable.

Again, Mass is at 5:00 PM.

An Advent Reflection

During this holy season of Advent, our minds already are rushing to thoughts of Christmas. While making all the necessary preparation for the joyous holiday, it would do us well to reflect a little more on the spiritual (or rather... RE-AL) aspect of what's celebrated.

If you really delve into the reason for Jesus' birth, some startling realities come to light. Most notably, reason leads us to discover that the condition of humanity apparently was so deteriorated... so many souls apparently weren't getting to heaven at the completion of their life's journey... that God Himself, literally, had to "put on his boots," "come down" and help us. That's how bad things had gotten!!! He had to come and rescue us from ourselves and from the power of the Devil, who, otherwise, was raking-in souls. The Lord didn't come because all was well, and He didn't come to give us heaven on earth. As He said before Pilate, "My Kingdom is not of this world." He came to rescue us from all the temptations that were keeping us out of heaven, as life was leading us nowhere in which we'd delight.

Watching how multitudes celebrate Christmas... and observing what little affect it has on their lives during the rest of the year, it's no wonder there is rarely any "peace on earth" in peoples' lives. You'd think Jesus was Santa Claus, just a jolly old gift giver with no strings attached... someone who has come to be everyone's good luck charm in life. No, He had a specific purpose in coming: to correct our ways, to bring us to heaven.

The Gospels give us insight to what Christmas is all about. Notice the emphasis on Christ's birth in the darkness of night. This darkness symbolizes the condition of the humanity to which He had come. He came to disperse the darkness of our sins. He was the Light, as St. John calls Him. And notice how He rejects everything people value so much: comfort, wealth, luxury, convenience, the "good times," "party-party" mentality that so many pursue. Instead, he comes in poverty, with no place to stay, in the cold of night, and with no extended family around.

The Gospels give us so many other insights into the night He came. Imagine! The first time the world laid eyes on Him, He was lying in a feeding device (a manger, the trough from which the animals were fed). And, He was born in Bethlehem, which means "House of Bread." Any thoughts of the Eucharist coming to your mind? It's obvious that the real Jesus is the Jesus of the Eucharist, the Jesus we experience at Mass where and when we receive the Bread of Life He offers us. Remember, as He matured He said "I am the Bread of Life... whoever eats this bread will live forever"... and "the bread I will give you is my flesh for the life of the world." (Read John's Gospel, Chapter 6).

This holy season of Advent is a good time to reflect on whether you and Jesus are on the same page. Are you both going in the same direction? Are His interests yours? Will Christmas have the impact in your life that it should when all the partying has died down?

Let's all think a little more this Christmas... and get that "peace which the world cannot give" (John 14:27).

Christ's peace to all of you!

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 on January 14th 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.

Retrouvaille

Rediscover the love in your marriage! Is your marriage going down the right road... or is it a little off track? Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage. Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you to learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. **The next program begins the weekend of February 16th at the Family Life Center, Malvern, PA.** Additional weekends will be held in April and August. For more info or to register, visit: www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call 1.800.470.2230. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

Grief to Grace ~ Healing the Wounds of Abuse **February 18—23, 2018**

This is a fully integrated spiritual and psychological program for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual, or spiritual abuse. This 5-day program offers a very unique process for helping survivors of abuse to grieve the past and discover healing and transformation. This retreat is helpful to people of every religious background and practice as well as those who have lost their faith in God because of the betrayal of abuse. For more info contact: Jeanne ~ 610.203.2002 or at info@griegtograce.org. You can also visit our website at www.griegtograce.org.

ST. PAUL'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Our weekly Wednesday evening gatherings will take a break during the remainder of the Advent season and during the Christmas holidays. Gatherings will resume on **January 17th, at 7:30 PM**, in the Rectory Meeting Room. For more info about our Bible Study, contact Lucy Boardway: 610.246.5535/ lucyboardway@gmail.com or Maria Sacco: 610.275.7194/ mrsagas.sacco@gmail.com.

AT ST. CHARLES SEMINARY

We are very excited and pleased to announce that, on Monday, January 29, 2018 at 7:00 PM, we will be hosting Bishop Robert Barron, our featured speaker, as part of the seminary's Cardinal Foley Lecture Series. It is important to note that tickets will be required for this event. For more info & tickets, please visit www.scs.edu or contact Sharon Presta at spresta@scs.edu or call 610.785.6287.

HOLY ROSARY REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

3040 Walton Road, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
610-825-0160

NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION 2018-2019

Monday, January 8, 2018 8:00-10:00 AM

Wednesday, January 10, 2018 5:00-7:00 PM

Thursday, January 18, 2018 1:00-3:00 PM

* Child must be at least age 4 by 9/1/2018 to register for Pre-K.
Child must be at least age 5 by 9/1/2018 to register for Kindergarten.

Child must be at least age 6 by 9/1/2018 to register for Grade 1.

To complete the application process, the parent/guardian will need to provide copies of the following:

- Birth Certificate
- Certificate of Baptism
- If your child has received additional sacraments, we must have their complete dates
- Immunization Record
- K-8 Registration Fee – \$100 per student (nonrefundable); Pre-K4 Registration Fee - \$100 per student (nonrefundable - includes supplies and snacks for the year)
- Letter of subsidy payment from your pastor, if applicable
- Custody Papers, if applicable
If your child has an IEP, please submit the Evaluation Report and most recent IEP.

Please note that for K-8 families there will also be a technology fee of \$100 per student (with a family cap of \$250) and a lunch duty fee of \$50 per family. In addition, there is an iPad insurance fee in **grades five through eight** of \$75 per student that is due prior to the student receiving his/her iPad. If you have any questions regarding registration, please feel free to contact Beth Sheldon at bsheldon@holyroaryregional.com. Thank you.

FOR CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS

Metanoia is an active community of Catholic young adults in western Montgomery County, PA. The group supports Catholics in their 20s and 30s who are looking to deepen their faith and meet fellow Catholics in the area. Contact metanoiayoungadults@gmail.com for more information.

Tuesday, December 19: Christmas Party @ Appalachian Brewing Co., Collegeville; Doors open @ 7:00 PM, Talk Starts @ 7:30 PM.

****No Holy Hour in December**

Saturday, January 6: Rock Climbing @ Philadelphia Rock Gym in Oaks, \$10/person arrive by 11:45am.

Tuesday, January 9: Bible Study @ St. Rose of Lima, North Wales.

Tuesday, January 16: Theology on Tap @ Appalachian Brewing Co., Collegeville, Doors open at 7:00pm, Talk Starts at 7:30pm.

Tuesday, January 23: Holy Hour @ Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Parish, North Wales.



MON., DEC. 18TH

8:00 AM..... PAUL PROUD

TUES., DEC. 19TH

8:00 AM..... CASIMIR GRAYAUSKIE

WED., DEC. 20TH

8:00 AM..... GARY DEMEDIO

THURS., DEC. 21ST ~ SAINT PETER CANISIUS

8:00 AM..... MATTHEW MCNAMEE

FRI., DEC. 22ND

8:00 AM..... MARIA & JOSEPH ODORIZZI

SAT., DEC. 23RD ~ SAINT JOHN OF KANTY

8:00 AM..... ROCCO VALENTI

5:30 PM..... ELAINE MOLNAR

SUN., DEC. 24TH

8:30 AM..... DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE PISANO & TRAVE FAMILIES

10:30 AM..... FRANK & MARY HOOVER



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

OUR TITHING REPORT

On the second weekend of December last year \$8171.00 was contributed. **THIS YEAR \$8293.00 WAS OFFERED**, with an additional \$1847.00 given to the collection for the Immaculate Conception.

FOOTBALL MANIA ~ WINNERS

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>TICKET</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
WEEK 13:	ROSE KORKAS	\$200.00	2929	117

FOR MORE INFO VISIT: WWW.CHARITYMANIA.COM TO SEE OFFICIAL GAME RULES, FAQs OR TO VIEW WINNING GAME CARDS.



Christmas Flowers



Envelopes to make an offering for the altar decorations at Christmas have been included in your monthly envelope mailing. There are additional envelopes available at the side doors and in the vestibule of the church. Offerings can be made for the living or deceased, for special intentions or just an act of devotion. All the names and intentions you submit will be placed on the altar during the Christmas season and will be remembered in all the Masses during the Season.

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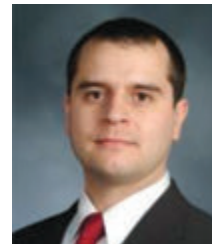
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Dr. Zavala's clinical training was completed at Columbia University Medical Center/New York Presbyterian Hospital and he practiced as an audiologist there until July 2007. Until a few years ago he was the Audiology Director at Columbia University Medical 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 Herald in 2015, 2016, and 2017.



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

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