

St. Paul Parish Newsletter

March 2016



Rev. Fr. Mark J. Niznik - Pastor
Masses: Saturdays 4pm
Sundays 7:30am, 9am & 11am
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Parish News



Annual Meeting

Our Annual Parish Meeting was held on Sunday, February 21st. Officers, Board of Directors, Auditors and Tribunal positions were voted on. A letter has been sent to our Diocesan Bishop Stanley Bilinski, for the approval of these positions. The results will be posted in next month's newsletter.



Holy Week Schedule



Maundy Thursday:

March 24th
10:00am



Holy Saturday Service:

March 26th 10:00am
Blessing of Easter the Baskets

Easter Vigil Mass:
4:00pm

Easter Sunday:
March 27th

Easter Masses:
8:00am and
11:00am



Good Friday Pre-Sanctified Service

March 25th
10:00am



Stations of the Cross will be at 10:00am on the following Friday dates:

March 4th, 11th

March 18th at 7:30pm

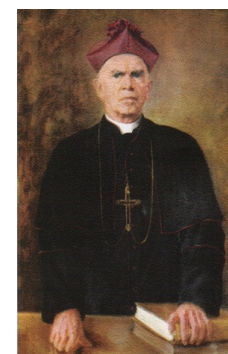
Institution of the PNCC

Each year, the second Sunday in March is designated for the Institution of the Polish National Catholic Church. Below are some facts of our organizer, Bishop Francis Hodur.

His Beliefs: Father Hodur was devoted to Christianity, and believed that Christ's ideals should be lived by everyone. He sought to promote the human dignity of the Polish people.

Love for the Polish people led him to encourage their unity in God and loyalty to America while maintaining deep respect for Poland.

For more information on Bishop Hodur and the PNCC, please go to the website: pncc.org



Rt. Rev. Francis Hodur
PNCC Organizer

Confirmation Class YMS of R Men's Group



The next YMS of R meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 16th at 9:00am at Cal's Restaurant in Belleview. All men from the parish are encouraged to attend. If you are new to the parish, this is a good opportunity for you to meet some of the men of our parish.



The Confirmation Class meets weekly with Father Tom Basta following the 10:00am Thursday Bible Study Class with Father Mark inside the social hall.

We have a fantastic, spirited choir here at St. Paul's, under the direction of Charley Stoykovich. We are still looking for singers for our Saturday and Sunday Masses. Anyone interested in joining the choir can meet here at the church on Tuesdays at 6:00pm for practice.

St. Paul Choir



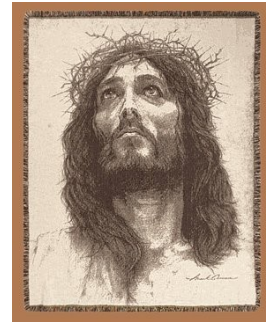
Ladies Adoration Society

Prayer Blankets



A heartfelt thank you to the ladies of St. Paul's who quietly take the time to knit or crochet the most beautiful Prayer Blankets. Each one is blessed by Deacon Angelo and then given to offer comfort and support to those in need. To date we have given over 100 blankets from Belleview to Orlando, Tampa, Chicago, Wisconsin, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and New Jersey to name a few. I just thought you would like to know. I wish you God's choicest blessings.

*Dori Canfield,
Prayer Blanket Coordinator*



I enter the church and quietly kneel.

I gaze upon You on the cross.

I cannot explain the emotions I feel

As I gaze upon You on the cross.

I look at the Stations and the story they tell,

Depicting Your anguish each time You fell.

The crown of thorns they placed on your head,

Bloody and beaten to the cross you were led.

You died to save us from our sins that day.

Your resurrection has shown us the way.

Let our candles glow and church bells ring.

We rejoice this Easter Day and Your praises we sing!



Father Mark is conducting bible study class on Thursdays at 10:00am here at St. Paul's social hall. This ongoing class is for everyone interested in finding out more about their faith. Father Mark brings us many pearls of Scripture each week and whether you are a first time bible reader or an astute learned scriptural connoisseur, there's something special in the Word of God for everyone. You are encouraged to bring a friend.



Greeting Card Club

The date for the next Greeting Card Club meeting will be announced by Father Mark and an email with the date will also be sent out to everyone. If you haven't had the chance to find out about our greeting card program, please join us that day for a fun and worthwhile outreach project. The Lenten Season is a perfect time to put your faith into action in this easy and creative way.



Backpack Program

Our mainstay charitable program provides local homeless school children with personal care/hygiene items all year round. Please drop off items anytime on the rectory porch or at church on Sundays in the bins at the back of the church.



Birthdays

- 1st** Donna Custer
Debbie Emmerson
- 2nd** Lucy Dowling
- 3rd** Fran Chadwick
- 4th** Joseph Berdechowski
Alex Yackowski
- 6th** Joanne Q. Doran
- 7th** Ed Ball
- 11th** Marie Brown-Hurley
- 18th** Josie Runnels
John Junker
- 19th** Rosalee Stein
- 20th** Nancy Kirschenbaum
- 21st** Diane Duguay
- 22nd** Jack Doblosky
- 23rd** Helen Marie Lee
- 24th** Jim Long
- 25th** John DalNegro
- 27th** Michael Luttrell
- 29th** Meghan Cimini

Special Offering Envelopes



For the month of March please use your envelope for "**Easter Flower Fund**". This offering will be used for the Easter Lillies that will be in the church on Easter Sunday.



Anniversaries

- 5th** Michael & Gloria Luttrell
- 8th** Bob & Emily Maciok
- 10th** Ed & Debie Ball
- 14th** Will & Sue Nordman
- 12th** Helen Marie Lee & Mark Statler
- 29th** Ken & Caroline Hoffmann

* Members: if your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please inform Debbie Niznik.

Golf League



Our church golf league meets each Tuesday of every month at 8:30am at Spruce Creek Del Webb in Summerfield. Golfers are paired into groups of 4 players in scramble format. If any men or women are interested in joining our fun league, please contact Susan Hilt at 352-307-2129. Bring your friends. All are welcome. Sign up sheets will be posted in the social hall.



Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour on March 13th.

Spaghetti Dinners



Come and bring your friends to our weekly all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinners on Fridays from 4:00-7:00pm. Dinners include salad, roll & butter, and your choice of a free beverage - either coffee, iced tea, or lemonade. Adults are just \$6.00 and Children 12yrs and younger are FREE. There are also homemade desserts from our Ladies ANS Society for only \$1.00 each. If you are bringing a large group, please contact Bob Canfield at 352-454-8673. Please let him know how many are in your party and what time you will arrive, and he will reserve your table(s) for you.

Finding Peace in the Face of Loss Support Group

Father Mark has approved the establishment of a support group here at St. Paul's to be led by Diane Hollinsworth. This is not a traditional bereavement group as the scope of the program includes any kind of loss. The next meeting will be held in the social hall following the Saturday 10:00am morning Mass for Anointing of the Sick & Intentions for Departed on March 5, 2016.



Name Badges

We have name badges for all the members here at St. Paul Parish. They are magnetic badges, not pins, so they will be easier to wear. We encourage you to wear your name badge each week to church, so everyone will know each other! We also encourage you to wear them at any of our church functions. If you have joined the church in the last month, your name badges are on order.

Words for Thought

*God wears Himself out through
the infinite thickness of time and space
in order to reach the soul and to captivate it...
The soul, starting from the opposite end,
makes the same journey that God made
towards it. And that is the cross.*

Simone Weil

2016 Offering Envelopes



For those members: who have not yet picked up their 2016 offering envelopes, please see Membership Chairman, Debbie Niznik

Lenten Adorations

There is a Lenten Adoration sign up sheet in the social hall for anyone who would like to come into the church, sit and pray for an hour following the Stations of the Cross on Friday mornings. The prayer times are from 11:00am - 5:00pm. You do not have to be a member of the Ladies Adoration Society. Men of the church are also welcomed to pray.

Member Info

To all members:

If you have moved, have a new phone number or email address, please inform Debbie Niznik of these changes so she can update your record information.

Thank you.





ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT IN AN EASTER BASKET FOR HOLY SATURDAY

(Candies and toys are also acceptable):



- **EGGS** - Brightly decorated eggs are a symbol of the New Life that is ours in Christ. Eggs are a sign of hope and resurrection. Jesus comes forth from the tomb as the chick breaks the shell at birth. Because of the special meaning, it is fitting that the eggs to be blessed be decorated with symbols of Easter, Alleluia, etc...
 - **PASCHA** - The Easter Bread - A sweet, yeast bread rich in eggs, butter, etc... Symbolic of Christ Himself who is our True Bread. Usually a round loaf baked with a golden crust decorated with a symbol indicative of Christ. Sometimes a cross (+) of dough is placed on top encircled by a plate, giving it a crowned effect or Greek abbreviations for the name of Christ. The letters XB indicate the Polish for Christ is Risen.
 - **KIELBASA** - A spicy or mild, garlic sausage of pork products, indicative of God's favor and generosity. Sausage is an ethnic addition to enhance the celebration; its links remind us of the chains of death which were broken when Jesus arose.
 - **BACON** - A piece of uncooked bacon cured with spices. Symbolic of the overabundance of God's mercy to us.
 - **HAM** - Ham celebrates the freedom of the New Law which came into effect through Jesus' resurrection, in distinction to the Old Law which forbade certain meats. This fresh meat is popular with the Polish as a main dish because of its richness and it is symbolic of the great joy and abundance of Easter. Some may prefer Lamb or Veal. This is usually well roasted or cooked as well as other meats so that the festivity of the day will not be burdened with preparation and all may enjoy the feast!
 - **CHEESE** - A custard-type cheese shaped into a ball having a rather bland but sweet taste indicative of the moderation of Christianity. Also, creamed cheese is placed in a small dish and both are decorated with symbols made out of cloves of pepper balls.
 - **HORSERADISH** - Represents the bitter herbs prescribed in the original Passover meal as a reminder of the bitterness and harshness of life in Egypt. It reminds us of the bitterness and suffering of Christ which culminated in the Resurrection.
 - **SALT** - Reminds us to flavor our dealings with others by the example of Christ.
 - **LAMB SHAPED BUTTER** - This favorite dairy product is shaped into a figure of a Lamb. The lamb is the ancient Passover food by whose blood the Israelites were saved. Jesus is our Paschal (Passover) Lamb by whose blood we are saved. It also reminds us of the goodness of Christ that we should have toward all things.
 - **WINE** - Wine is the drink of the Passover meal and the Last supper. Its sparkle reminds us of the glory of Easter. Wine gladdens our hearts and helps us enter into the joy of the Resurrection.
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