



Rev. Fr. Mark J. Niznik - Pastor
Masses: Sunday 11:00am
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From the Desk of Father Mark:

Greeting and salutations dear children of God! It is my hope and prayer your well being is good, safe and sound.

As September is upon us, this year earmarks the 20th anniversary of 9-11, a day in infamy, when we declared “We will never forget.” I remember standing in the living room of our previous rectory, watching the second plane crash into the twin towers in New York City. This day shocked the world as it witnessed such devastating planned terrorist actions in NY, the Pentagon and Pennsylvania. Nearly 3,000 people died from this onslaught and the emptiness of the sky where the Twin Towers were, is always a reminder that freedom has to be vigilant against those wishing to wipe it away. Here at St. Paul’s we remember Susan Ancona-Pinto and Joseph Grillo Jr. who died from the collapse of the World Trade Center on 9-11, both being children of parishioners, who have now passed into the Bosom of Abraham and are with each other in the Kingdom of heaven we pray. May their spiritual reunion be that of rejoicing where prior agony and tears once were.

September also brings us an unfortunate renewal in the COVID pandemic; ravaging primarily against those who have been unvaccinated, and even worse, children now have become increasingly more vulnerable to the disease. Last month at a doctor’s appointment, my physician told me here in Marion County, he was losing an average of one person a day to the virus. He said that most of them did not have any underlying conditions, and a significant portion of them were under 50 years old and most importantly, every single one of them were unvaccinated. He is on the front lines of this pandemic as his office works with the county Board of Health Office in attempting to combat this disease. May God bless him and his staff as they remain in harm’s way in their service to us. These are the reasons why I keep encouraging everyone to get vaccinated. It has nothing to do with politics or personal freedoms. I respect those, but more and more of the voices defending these principals are no longer here to be heard. And I don’t consider their deaths a sacrifice for freedom either. Fear has been the most major component against people protecting themselves with the vaccine. The problem is that the virus is air-borne, so there really isn’t any way to completely avoid the air. Simple protections can be utilized to help reduce transmission, but the vaccine is the best protection with the highest rate of success. We all know no vaccine or medicine for that matter is 100 percent risk free, but where would we be without these medicines. If you have any doubts about how a virus can gut the world, remember or research what Small-pox did. Over the fifty-year period of fighting it, Small pox- claimed well over 200 million lives on a planet with way less people to begin with. Some estimates have been as high as 500 million.

We only want the best for one another in our church family. That’s what makes us special. We are all praying for the souls we have lost and heaven has gained, and we all pray for the health and protection of those of us carrying on in service to the gospel of Jesus and His Church. We continue to strive to secure and improve our church campus, so that it is pleasing to God and a place we can be comfortable when inviting others to this experience at St. Paul Parish.

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I have been in touch with our bishop, Rt. Rev. Jerry Rafalko with updates and progress reports as we continue to struggle with donations as our church attendance has dipped to averaging about 60 per Sunday now as opposed to more than double that during pre-pandemic times. Everyone who has hung in there, whether in person or at home viewing the Mass online and sending in contributions is so appreciated as you are the heartbeat of the parish. I longed for the day we could reopen our doors and now that we have, I long for the day we will flourish once again. The best way to work toward supporting these goals is to keep talking about how wonderful the experience is here. Word of mouth is the most effective means for growth and our future. Always be looking for someone you can share our journey to Jesus with, as He is the true destination for us all. Keep on loving out there ☺. May God bless you and may God be with you always.

In Christ, I remain your Pastor,
Father Mark



Special Offering

The month of September is designated for the ***Spojnia Manor Fund***. Please use a Love Offering envelope located in the church pews and mark it "***Spojnia Manor Fund***". This fund is used for an assisted living home for the elderly.

YMS of R Men's Group

YMS of R meetings are cancelled until further notice.



Ladies Adoration Society

On Wednesday, August 18th, 2021, our Ladies Adoration Society hosted a women's luncheon at Pasta Faire inviting the women of St. Paul's and friends. The group gathered for fellowship, food and fun! Father Mark gave the invocation and proceeded to speak about the origins of the Adoration Society in the Polish National Catholic Church where women were given a place of prominence during the worship service, while holding lit candles symbolizing the light of Christ. The spirit was fantastic over the course of the afternoon, where our women shared stories about what brought them to St. Paul's, how their spirits have been uplifted, how they have learned so much about the bible and our faith and especially in the reading and partaking of the Holy Eucharist. ANS President Dori Canfield made everyone feel at home as she called upon Paula Sassano to explain the details of the latest ANS fundraiser, "Purses, Pillows and Pretties." The group seemed thrilled and have already begun participating in organizing for the upcoming event scheduled for the weekend of October 9th and 10th here in our St. Paul's Social Hall. If anyone has any purses or pocketbooks and throw-pillows, scarves and jewelry, all in excellent condition, please bring them in for donation before or after the 11am Sunday Mass into the social hall. Prices are going to be incredibly less than you'd pay for the same items online or anywhere, so don't miss out on finding your treasure at the October event.

Pasta Faire did an incredible job on the day, delivering service par excellence along with delicious meals at every place setting. If you haven't been to Pasta Faire in a little bit, they are right up the road from the church, just before the construction area of the new Publix. Please tell the General Manager, Brandon or owners Kathy and Travis that Father Mark sent you! Pasta Faire's daily specials are phenomenal deals along with their regular prominent menu items.

The afternoon was also highlighted with two \$50 Pasta Faire gift card door prizes! It was an exciting yet relaxing afternoon riddled with giggles and praises to the glory of God. If any woman who is a member here at St. Paul's wishes to find out more about possibly joining our Adoration Society of the Most Blessed Sacrament, please contact Dori Canfield at your convenience.

A great day put together by some great women. Blessings!



Father Mark's bible study class has been cancelled until further notice.

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 front of the church.



Birthdays

- 3rd Veronica Phillips
- 5th Donna Beach
- 6th Rich Mason
- 7th Joyce Walczak
- 8th Karen Burden
- 9th Gail Lazenby
- 12th Dottie Edmiston
- 15th Maura Mack
Jane Wdowiak
- 18th Dave McKeon
- 20th Jeanne Arruda
- 22nd Louis Mancuso
Michalina Ryk
- 23rd Jack Adinolfi
Dian Gerstner
Kelly Hunter (Altar Server)
- 24th John Rykaczewski
- 25th Elaine Beckler
Charlotte Stoykovich
- 27th Paula Derkowski
Fred Dowling
- 29th Joan Waldo
- 30th Dennis Wozniak



Anniversaries

- 13th Dave & Sandy McKeon
- 17th Jim & Linda Blazick
- 23rd Paul & Brandy McNeill
- 26th Ivan & Mary Jane Madore
- 27th Alan & Sally Kilshaw
- 30th Dennis & Cindy Wozniak

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

Blessing of the Animals



On Saturday, October 2nd at 10:00am, we will have a service for *Blessing of the Animals*. We encourage everyone to attend this service with your beloved pets. It will be held outside under the canopy in front of the church.

Words for Thought

The remarkable truth is that our choices matter, not just to us and our own destiny but, amazingly, to God Himself and the universe He rules.



Philip Yancey

RMF

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CLEAN KIDS BACKPACK PROGRAM

DONATIONS

TOP NEEDED ITEMS



No Rinse Shampoo



Deodorant



Dental Care Supplies

Other important needed items:

- backpacks
- family size tents
- sleeping bags
- sleeping mats
- socks & underwear
- feminine hygiene products
- baby wipes
- diapers (assorted sizes)
- shaving supplies

Please make sure that donations are **new and in original packaging.**

Thank you!