

# Who's Knocking? Who's Answering?

**Last week, we reflected on the whole idea of Faith Formation in the Family — that parents are the primary instructors/teachers and witnesses to their children in the way of Faith. The Church is in a supporting role, however there tends to be a lot of confusion surrounding those specific roles. Naturally, one of the very sad consequences of those roles not being taken care of responsibly or adequately is that some children grow up as victims of Spiritual Neglect!**

*Our goal as a Parish is to combat that malady by providing programs and processes for the whole family — parents and children, alike. Children tend to practice what they see!*



A friend shared a story of when her eldest child started kindergarten, he was asked to fill out a sheet of “Mom’s Favorite Things” for a Mother’s Day gift. Her son listed “laundry” as her favorite thing to do. Wow! There was a great deal of laundry to do, and she realized that must be what he saw her doing most of the time. So, she started being more deliberate in her schedule of chores and necessary, but mundane things. She planned her day as if her children were watching every move to see what they themselves should be doing. She began to realize the importance of her witness to them, and this changed her attitude/perspective about Eucharist and matters of Faith.

Let your child see how important Faith is in your life. Let them see you pray. Let them see you serve in a Ministry, and volunteer in their Religious Ed class that they may see you learning and growing with them. Then, you can have great discussions about Faith/God at home, because you were both present. As they grow into the teen years, some of our youth have followed friends to social and spiritual programs in other denominations. We have great activities fulfilling several areas including Instruction, Friendship, Spirituality, and Service. We have a great deal to offer as well. If you, as a parent, are more involved, you can have input into the programs, you will be better aware of all we have going on, and you can help your children be more involved. The objective we have in mind at St. Paul is Whole Family Catechesis!

We do have an increase in the number of children enrolled in our Religious Ed programs, and that is great! The mission of these classes is to help the children and youth experience the love of God. We want them to grow closer to God and carry His Word and Love with them every time they leave St. Paul Church. We are shifting our focus to better prepare the children for First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation so those are now a two-year Sacramental preparation program. They are so important in our understanding of the Catholic Faith and the development of our intimate relationship with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

— Fr. Gerry

**Mass Intentions Week of  
September 25—October 1**

- 7:30 am Monday — Mike Moeller (RIP)  
 7:30 am Tuesday — Communion Service  
 6:00 pm Wednesday — Fr. Patrick Noonan (RIP)  
 7:30 am Thursday — Anna DeMarco (RIP)  
 7:30 am Friday — Phillis March (RIP)  
 5:30 pm Saturday — Fr. Patrick Noonan (RIP)  
 8:00 am Sunday — John Hill (RIP)  
 10:30 am Sunday — Tommy Mitchell (RIP)

**Prayer Requests — Special Intentions**

Patty Davis  
 Rosina Ready  
 Jim Welch, father of Tonya Sweeney

**Prayer Requests — Repose of the Soul**

Dunlap Peeples  
 Fr. Patrick McDermott  
 Dorothy Gross, mother of Deb Scott  
 Christopher Overman, grandson of Linda Overman

Submit prayer requests to: [liturgy@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com](mailto:liturgy@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com)

**Adoration This Week: Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm** (No Wednesday evening adoration during the summer months)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 4:30-5:00pm or by appt.**

**New Announcements — Visit our website for more details.**

- \* **Armed Forces Support Ministry Collection next weekend** — We are accepting donations to send care packages to our deployed parishioners and deployed family members. Drop your contribution in the helmet Sept 30th & Oct 1st.
- \* **Retreat “Knowing Myself in Christ”** — October 8-10 — Using the backdrop of the story of the Samaritan woman's encounter with Jesus at the well, the retreat will explore the thirst of all of us “to be known without feeling judged.” Presented by Fr. Henry Shelton at the Dwelling Place. Begins with 6:30 dinner on Sunday evening and goes through Tuesday. Donation: \$200 Call 662-738-5348 or email [dwellpl@gmail.com](mailto:dwellpl@gmail.com)
- \* **31th annual St. Joseph Catholic Church GermanFest** — Sunday, September 24, 2017 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Reminders**

- \* **Altar Server Training on Sunday, September 24th @ 2:00 pm** — everyone who has made their First Holy Communion is invited to serve in this Ministry. We need more Altar Servers at all the Masses — boys and girls in grades 3-12 are welcome. After training, all new servers will be scheduled with an experienced server for their first months.
- \* **Confirmation Retreat on Sept. 24th-10:30-4pm** All Confirmation Students are to meet for Mass at 10:30am and join us for lunch and retreat day in the Family Life Center.
- \* **Habitat for Humanity 33rd Catholic Build will be held on Oct. 7, 2017.** Sign up this weekend in the back of church to help with the build or to provide food items. Contact Lonnie Graeber @ [l.pgraeber2@comcast.net](mailto:l.pgraeber2@comcast.net) or 769-798-4694.
- \* **Big Deal Concert Event — Air 1 Positive Hits Tour on Oct. 8th 7:00pm** - Cory Head has a limited number tickets for \$20 each. We will meet at the Family Life Center and travel together to the concert. See Cory on Wednesday night or email [him-youth@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com](mailto:him-youth@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com)
- \* **Women’s Guild Meet & Greet on Sept. 25th @ 11am** — Lunch provided, discussing upcoming events & plans for the year.
- \* **Women’s Guild Annual Wine Tasting on Sept. 25th @ 7pm** — Wine & food pairing. All ladies over 21 are invited. We will be collecting coffee, creamer, sugar, laundry detergent, and individually wrapped snacks for the Opportunity Center.
- \* **RCIA/Discovering Christ Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm** — registration is now closed
- \* **Religious Ed classes Sundays @ 9:15 am** — Ages 3yrs-6th grade meet in the Atriums. Adults meet in the Front Lounge.
- \* **Big Deal Youth Group Wednesdays @ 6-8:30pm** — Ages 7th–12th grades

**Altar Flowers / Blessed Mother Flowers & Financial Report**

**Altar Flowers this week** *In Memory of Dylan and Jack Gordy; Donated by Frances Gordy*

*(Altar Flowers may be reserved on our website under Registration Forms)*

**Weekend Collection**

*Weekly offering for September 16/17 — \$20,107*