

Mass Intentions ~ February 11-17, 2019

Monday @ 7:30 am — Communion Service

Tuesday @ 7:30 am — Communion Service

Wednesday @ 6:00 pm — Communion Service

Thursday @ 7:30 am — Communion Service

Friday @ 7:30 am — David Ballering (RIP)

Saturday @ 5:30 pm — Karen Mohindroo (Sp Int)

Sunday @ 8:00 am — Patrick Hurley (RIP)

Sunday @ 10:30 am — People of the Parish

New Prayer Requests

Special Intentions:

Lillie Brown, mother of Bonnie Alford

Fr. Kevin Slattery

Sr. Paula Blouin

Joan Millington

Janys Canizaro

Repose of the Soul:

Josephine Cannon, mother of David Cannon

(see the full prayer list on our website & prayer board)

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 4:30-5pm **Adoration this week:** Monday—Friday, 8am-12noon

Altar Flowers & Blessed Mother Flowers are in honor of the People of this Parish

~ notes ~ dates ~ events ~

Catholic Service Appeal 2019 — Our annual Catholic Service Appeal is well underway. Thank you to all those who have made a commitment to the Appeal. Each and every person's gift is important. It is not too late to send in your pledge, please join us in supporting the programs and services of the Diocese. For more on information about the Appeal or to donate online please visit www.jacksondiocese.org.

February 16th Annual Drawdown, 7pm-11pm in the Family Life Center — Tickets are on sale after all weekend Masses until sold out. Stop by the table near the offices to get your ticket today.

Bingo Night February 23rd, 7 pm — The Women's Guild is sponsoring Bingo for adults in the Family Life Center. Cash prizes. Snacks and beverages provided. BYOB.

St. Dominic Ministry February 26th, 10 am — Sign up at the information table today to donate lunch items for families of I.C.U. patients.



*Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid;
from now on you will be catching men"
When they brought their boats to the shore,
they left everything and followed Him.
- Luke 5:10-11*

Office phone: 601-992-9547 Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com



Our mission is to invite everyone into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

February 10, 2019

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Going with the Flow

"The source and summit of the life and mission of the Church" — that is what the Second Vatican Council named the celebration of the Eucharist. They explained the other sacraments, ministries, and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. "For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself." When we understand the Eucharist, and the meaning of all the Mass celebration contains, our way of thinking is attuned to the Eucharist, and the Eucharist in turn confirms our way of thinking.

David DesOrmeaux wrote a great little book titled, "Mass Appeal: The Depth and Beauty of the Eucharistic Celebration at an Understandable Level." He wrote the book as a "cure for Catholics who believe Mass is boring." His motivation was hearing so many Catholics saying Mass is boring, or they never get anything out of it.

DesOrmeaux writes, "If so many people are bored during Mass, there must be something wrong with it, right? We get excited about shopping...We get excited about sports...We get excited about many things, but Mass doesn't excite us...We could change the Mass to make it more exciting...We don't need to change the Mass; we need to be changed by the Mass!"

On Monday, when someone asks what we did over the weekend, our answers probably often feature shopping and sports, but do we mention Mass as a highlight of our weekend? We naturally want something dramatic — like this weekend's Gospel — I want the Lord to show up at my boat, command me to lower my nets at the right spot, and He will fill them to nearly tearing the nets and sinking my boat! How might I feel so passionate about Him blessing me just as abundantly during the Sunday Eucharist? We sit in our boat with our fellow missionaries, and the Lord presents Himself that He may fill us so amazingly that we are astonished!

Our Liturgy Committee has been prayerfully reflecting on our St. Paul celebrations for quite some time. We have asked the Lord to bless us with wisdom and insight that we might lead in a way that inspires rich ministry, beautiful liturgy, and engaged parishioners. How do we inspire our ministers that they may, in turn, inspire more people to ministry? The quote above nails it — "We don't need to change the Mass; we need to be changed by the Mass!"

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So, we are focused on improving the flow of the Mass — a reduction in distracting behavior helps everyone stay focused on the miracle before us. The Gospel this weekend invites us to lower our nets — in fact every week we come together at St. Paul, we are invited to lower our nets for a catch. Do we leave with a full catch? Our attention can easily be pulled away by voices and noises and unexpected movements — both on and off the altar.

Our desire is that all who serve in our Liturgical Ministries feel blessed, believe in what they are doing, understand what they are doing and the importance of their role, and bring great joy to their ministry and to those whom they are serving! Serving at Mass because we have done so for years and we are doing a fair job is simply functioning in maintenance mode. We want to celebrate that we are on a Mission and serve because we are a part of His Mission! That is why we decided to provide the Lector Workbooks for all Proclaimers of the Word one week ahead of their day to serve, that they may study and reflect on that Word which they will be proclaiming in our presence! Our best proclaimers have studied and prayed over the Word during the course of the week, and when they stand before us they are not merely reading sentences. The Holy Spirit speaks through them that we may hear God's Word speaking to our hearts.

Lack of participation and engagement in the congregation also keeps us in maintenance mode. Our objective is to experience celebrations that are rich and meaningful — praying the words with our hearts, singing joyfully with all of our brothers and sisters — having a genuine sense of excitement about who we are and what we are doing. This is our story! It's a story we can proudly share with our family and friends throughout the week.

We believe that improving the flow of the Liturgy can greatly enhance the experience for every one of us. Therefore, we are evolving the Ministry of Community Leader to a position of leading the entire celebration, rather than only leading the congregation in select pieces of the Mass. Beginning next month, our new Community Leader will be dressed in an alb, similar to the white robe worn by the altar servers and by the priest under his vestments. The alb is a symbol of our Baptism — an outward sign that we are called and claimed in Christ. Just as we place a white garment on the newly baptized, we dress appropriately for this special occasion of serving at the table of the Lamb, the feast of the King.

The Community Leader will continue to welcome everyone and introduce the Liturgy. He/she will also process with Father, the Lectors, and the Altar Servers, and remain on the altar for the entire Mass. This will provide reassurance to our young servers who may be a little nervous and forget a step, and will provide assistance to Father for any special needs during the service. The Community Leader will lead the Prayers of the Faithful, introduce all the songs, and recess down the center aisle with Father, the Lectors, and the Altar Servers at the conclusion of Mass.

Next week, we will continue to reflect more on our Mission, the meaning of the Liturgical Ministries 'around the table,' and other roles in the Eucharistic Celebration.

Maintenance...to...Mission

Our Mission There really are a great number of parts to our Mission! There are those internal portions which are applicable to St. Paul parish members, and have to do with the healthy functioning of our parish as a family. Then, there are the external aspects which have to do with our relationship with the outside community — our local community, the diocesan community — how we engage the outside world. Today, I would like to focus on our relationship with the diocesan community.

I am sure by now that you all have an awareness of The Catholic Service Appeal (CSA). It is the annual appeal to all members of the Jackson Diocese asking us to become involved in the works of the diocese through prayer and financial support of its programs. This is a great way for each of us to extend our Mission by lending support to the development and expansion of the great ministries which the diocese provides. St. Paul Parish has a rich history of effective participation in the CSA. May we continue this healthy tradition.

I spoke at the Masses last weekend about a new process that is coming into existence this year, and I would now like to provide you an explanation of that process. For a few years now, there has been an attempt to more effectively streamline this process of the CSA because it is pretty clear that some parishes put a great deal of effort into supporting it, and some did not. Accordingly, a goal has been set for each parish to attain, in order to more equitably share the process through the diocese. That number is approximately 5% of the parish's annual income, determined by the weekly income of the parish.

In addition to the Catholic Service Appeal, each parish is also taxed an annual fee for the operations of the diocese, so that the diocese can function as a healthy entity in itself. This is a practice that is in place in every diocese throughout the Country. This tax is known as Cathedraticum, (from the word 'Cathedral' — which comes from the word 'Cathedra' — which means 'Chair' — in other words, the chair from which a bishop presides over his diocese). The annual Cathedraticum amount for each parish equals approximately 10% of the parish's annual income.

The simplest explanation of the new streamlined process is as follows: If we generate a wonderful response from our engagement in the Catholic Service Appeal and exceed our stated goal of \$70,518.92 for St. Paul Parish, then everything we attain over and above that goal goes toward the payment of our Cathedraticum! Now that gives us great reason to attain, and even exceed ,our Catholic Service Appeal goal!

So, I greatly appreciate your participation in this wonderful endeavor, which is a real expression of our desire to be a Parish with a Mission that goes out beyond our own selves and our own needs! Thank you for choosing to join us in this venture.

—Fr. Gerry