

Mass Intentions ~ January 20-26, 2020

Monday @ 7:30 am — Carl Rainey (RIP)

Tuesday @ 7:30 am — Roy McMillan (RIP)

Wednesday @ 6:00 pm — Angela Graham (Sp Int)

Thursday @ 7:30 am — Fr. Patrick Noonan (RIP)

Friday @ 7:30 am — Mary Lalande Harkins (RIP)

Saturday @ 5:30 pm — Vocations to the Priesthood

Sunday @ 8:00 am — People of the Parish

Sunday @ 10:30 am — Roseanne Elser (RIP)

Contact the Church office to schedule Mass intentions and to add names to our prayer list.

Sacrament of Reconciliation — Saturday @ 4:30-5:00 pm (or by appointment — call the Church office)

Adoration this week: Monday & Friday, 8 am — 12 pm

New Prayer Requests

Special Intentions:

Richard Viberg

Kevin Smith

Ben Ticknor

Sister Gemma Dittle

Ryan Kaiser, nephew of Amy Kaiser

(see website for full prayer list)

ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ EVENTS ~ INFORMATION

Early Learning Center Panera Bread fundraiser — Tuesday January 21st Must present a flyer when ordering. Flyers are available on the information table. Use code "PRFUND" if ordering online.

Rescheduled for Saturday, February 8th, 10 am to 12 noon — Introduction to Genealogy presented by Paula Perez.

Knowing our ancestors is one way to consider a spiritual genealogy. What is the religious affiliation, or lack thereof, of our ancestors? Who passed the faith on to us? It is also a great way to pray for healing in your family tree. Generational healing is real and positive. It all starts with knowing our family. All women are invited.

2020 Contribution Envelopes: We have generic envelopes available on the information table for your use until our 2020 contribution envelopes arrive. Please fill out your information on these envelopes each week or write your envelope number on the memo line of your offertory checks. Thank you!

New Capital Campaign Pledge Cards are needed by the end of January. We are still very short on responses.

Please pick up a white envelope from the information table if you do not have one. All members are asked to carefully read the letter, complete the pledge card, and return it to the Church by the end of January. You may place it back in the envelope and drop it in the Offertory at Mass, or return it to the church office during the week, or mail it to the church office.



Feb. 8th — Mustard Seed Volunteer Day

March 21st — Abbey Youth Fest

June 28th-July 3rd — Summer Works Mission Trip to Birmingham, AL

Text @bigdeal to 81010
email youth@spaulcc.org

FINANCIAL REPORT — Offertory Collection for January 11/12:

Regular collection \$23,367.04 Capital Campaign Collection \$2,250.83

****Please note we will have a Second Collection THIS weekend for the Mississippi Catholic newspaper.**
Each household is asked to pay \$20 for the subscription.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PLEDGE REPORT — To date:

Goal \$3,000,000.00

Pledged \$876,978.00 (78 pledges of money & 9 pledges of prayer received so far)

Balance \$2,123,022.00 (needed to reach goal)

****Every household is asked to turn in a NEW Pledge Card by the end of January. The new pledge cards are available on the back counter, information table, and in the Church Office. You may return your completed card in the weekend Offertory Collection or the office during the week.**

PH: 601-992-9547 www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm



January 19, 2020



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

NEW CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PLEDGE CARDS

need to be completed and turned in by the end of January.
We have had a low response, as shown in the chart below.

Please pick up a white envelope from the information table if you do not have one. All members are asked to carefully read the letter, complete the pledge card, and return it to the Church by the end of January. You may place it back in the envelope and drop it in the Offertory at Mass, or return it to the church office during the week, or mail it to the church office.

our progress capital campaign



Building our faith & securing our future

This is it. This is our last appeal to build a new church. We need a response from every household by the end of January.

If we do not receive New Capital Campaign Pledge Cards that total \$3 million in committed donations to be paid over the next five years, we will NOT build a new church under the pastorship of Fr. Gerry Hurley. We will remain in our current worship space, and continue with needed repairs.

If you want to help us build a new church, please fill out a new pledge card.

If you do not want to help us build a new church, please fill out a new pledge card.

If you already responded on the yellow Decision Cards, please fill out a new pledge card.

If you never responded to any recent Capital Campaign appeals, please fill out a new pledge card.

If have any questions, please do not hesitate. Ask now! Then, please fill out a new pledge card.

Where do we find fruit in Ordinary Time?

We are entering the weeks of Ordinary Time that fill the space between Christmas and Lent. The grand celebrations of Christmas and New Years Eve, which capture and enthrall the whole world, are over.



We celebrated and re-committed ourselves to being more attentive to His blessings, and being more generous and loving to others. Many spent more time in prayer and worship during Advent. Now, the decorations are all put away. Buildings and homes which had been decorated with lights and sparkle now seem almost dull. Even the altar comparatively looks stark and barren.

We put so much time, energy, money, and effort into these relatively few extraordinary days. Yet, the bulk of our lives are lived in the ordinary moments. Do we look for God there? Why wouldn't we seek Him in the many-numbered days of Ordinary Time, and in the many-numbered ordinary life moments? These are the bulk of our hours on earth, moments that are not particularly extraordinary. Will we seek to recognize them as treasured God moments, or might they be missed moments of Grace?

Can I hear Jesus speak to me in the quiet, first sip of coffee moment in the morning? Can I see Jesus in the busy, chaotic, evening grocery run, when I stretch to reach for my favorite blend of coffee and another shopper bumps into my cart? Am I a generous and loving Christian in these ordinary moments? Am I attentive to His blessings there?

The term "Ordinary Time" doesn't mean plain and unimportant time. It comes from the Latin word "ordinalis" — which means numbered in a series. It's the order of the life of the Church when we, as a people, aren't feasting, and we aren't in a period of fasting and penance. We are walking our "ordinary" daily-ordered disciple's walk which is anything but ordinary! This is a great time to feed ourselves on His Word. To focus on our relationship with Him. To seek and see God's presence in our day-to-day activities. We can think of the green color on the altar as the fertile ground to grow in relationship with Father, Son, Holy Spirit. We can think of walking a green path of discipleship to help grow more disciples, as we encounter ordinary people in our ordinary days and help spread the Good News across the world.

The Lord is growing our parish, and granting extraordinary blessings upon us. We have had hundreds participate in our ongoing ChristLife Sessions. Over 100 people are involved in our current Alpha Sessions. Dozens of Small Groups are bringing people together to support and encourage each other on this journey of Faith. Stop by the Family Life Center on a Sunday morning or Wednesday night and see the young children, teens, and adults who are hungry for God, and devoting extra time each ordinary week to feed their souls. It's actually extraordinary!

God is answering our prayers over these years of invoking His Holy Spirit to be present and move our St. Paul family from Maintenance to Mission. Let us pray for His continued blessings upon our parish. May this be an extraordinary Ordinary Time!

Last year, Fr. Gerry invited us to follow along the Journey to Jerusalem in the Gospel of Luke, and read the Gospel text all the way through, to fill in the gaps between the Sunday Readings. For many, this sounded like a daunting task. How could we find the time to read an entire Gospel? Some of us prefer to just catch the Gospel Readings during Mass each week, and let Father tell us what they mean. But, it is so different when we get the whole story progression.

Once again, Fr. Gerry has invited us to read the whole of Matthew's Gospel — all 28 Chapters. This Gospel is the focus of our current Cycle, Year A. Have you begun? What if we all make the effort to set aside quiet time each day, sit in a moment of silence, seek the Lord's guidance and teaching, and read some passages of Matthew's Gospel? What might happen? How might we be changed? God reveals so much to us today in His Living Word. We do not need theology degrees or sacred vows to gain insight and wisdom from Sacred Scripture. The message holds something for each of us, individually.

Our Sunday Readings will pick up next weekend with Matthew 4:12, the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. Give yourself a gift. Take the time this week to review the starting chapters of Matthew's Gospel, which has not all been covered in Mass. Begin with Chapters 1-2, only 48 verses total. You will be immersed in the beautiful story as it unfolds — the Genealogy of Jesus, the Birth of Jesus, The Visit of the Magi, the Flight to Egypt, the Massacre of the Infants, the Return from Egypt. Chapter 3 consists of only 17 verses, and introduces John the Baptist as he preaches the coming of Jesus and ultimately baptizes Him. Finish your week with Chapter 4 — the Temptation of Jesus and the Beginning of His Public Ministry.

What a wonderful year we have in store for us! Here is an overview to help better understand the wonderful Gospel writing in Matthew!

Did you know?

- The Gospel of Matthew was written around the year 85 and is based on the Gospel of Mark (written between 65 and 70), the "Q Source" (a later manuscript compiling sayings of Jesus), and the "M Source" (an unattributed source).
- The author of this Gospel did not identify himself, and though it bears his name is not Saint Matthew the Apostle who had likely died many years prior to this writing.
- This Gospel was written by an educated Jewish Christian residing in a community made of Christians who fled the Roman occupation and fighting.

Format

- First of the Four Gospels in the New Testament recounting the life and death of Jesus Christ.
- Opens with a narrative prologue telling the genealogy of Jesus, the story of His birth, and covering His infancy years. (Only Matthew and Luke contain an account of Jesus' birth and infancy.)
- The middle of this Gospel contains five narratives with a major discourse after each.
- The Gospel ends with a narrative epilogue of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus.

Features

- Heavy reference to the Old Testament showing Jesus as the fulfillment of what was foretold. Written to help the Jewish people recognize that Jesus is the Messiah, the One they had long awaited. Jesus — Son of God and Son of David — is presented as a suffering servant.
- A realistic presentation of the Disciples as true believers and companions of Jesus who struggle to understand the depth of His teachings.
- The End of the World is not viewed as imminent, and so this Gospel ends on a forward, positive note with the Great Commission to "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.....I am with you always, until the end of the age." We look forward to hearing these words at the end of our year-long study of Matthew. We have reminder of our Mission painted on the wall for all to see as we depart Mass each week.