

### Mass Intentions ~ January 28—February 3, 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 @ 10:00 am — Healing Mass

Saturday @ 5:30 pm — Patrick Hurley (RIP)  
Sunday @ 8:00 am — People of the Parish  
Sunday @ 10:30 am — Jack & Dylan Gordy (RIP)

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

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

*Blessed Mother Flowers this weekend are donated by Linda & Cliff Russell, in memory of Mrs. Doris Jones.*

### New Prayer Requests

**Special Intentions:**  
Elouise Winstead, sister of Dot Autrey

**Repose of the Soul:**  
Larry Temple

### ~ notes & new activities ~

**End of the Year Giving Statements & 2019 Offertory envelopes** — Please pick these up from the table on your way out and save the Church the expense of mailing them. These are alphabetized by last name.

#### **Catholic Schools Week — January 28th - February 1st**

- **The Early Learning Center** says “Thank you, Fr. Gerry and St. Paul Catholic Church, for your love and support. We are grateful for our Learning Center and ask for your continued prayers. Please enjoy the children’s art by the Learning Center!”
- **St. Anthony Catholic School** will be hosting Open Houses each day from 8:00 am – 10:00 am. If you can’t make any of those times, private tours are available. Please contact Michele Warnock for more information: (601)607-7054.

**Healing Mass & Brunch — February 1st** beginning at 10:00 am

**Armed Forces Support Ministry Rosary — February 2nd** at 4:45 pm in the Chapel

**Catholic Service Appeal 2019 — The annual collection will be next weekend.** We must remember that we are one with other parishes in our diocese. Once a year, our Bishop asks us to respond in gratitude by making a commitment to support the work of our diocesan programs and ministries that provide services that no one parish could provide on its own. Through the CSA we all work together to care for the Church by sharing the gifts God has granted us. Please experience the joy of giving and join us as we work to continue God’s work. To learn more visit [www.jacksondiocese.org](http://www.jacksondiocese.org).

**Women’s Guild Sewing Activity — Thursday, February 7th from 10:30 am -12 noon** Please join us in cutting fabric to make dresses for *Dress A Girl Around the World* in the FLC, Room 112. We will be sewing on a follow up date. The goal is to gather to sew and distribute dresses to girls in need around the world. The Women’s Guild is sponsoring this activity.

**Drawdown Time — February 16th, 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.

**Abbey Youth Fest — March 23, 2019** — Join our youth and thousands of other Catholic youth for a full day of fun, fellowship, and prayer. Register now! Contact Cory Head by email at [youth@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com](mailto:youth@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com)

**Our Church website is loaded with up-to-date information, calendars, ministry schedules, bulletins, Fr. Gerry’s Homilies, and more.**

**Visit [www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com](http://www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com)**

**Office phone: 601-992-9547**

**Office hours: Tuesday — Friday, 8:00 am — 4:00 pm**



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

January 27, 2019

## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



***change happens in circles, not pews***

### **Greetings Parishioners, from your St. Paul Small Group Ministry Team!**

It is hard to believe that almost one year has passed since we kicked off our parish-wide study, *What on Earth Am I Here For?* by Rick Warren. It has been a year of tremendous growth and blessings for our Small Group Ministry here at St. Paul.

Father Gerry and the Senior Leadership Team have been hard at work ensuring that all of the ministries in our Parish are aligned with our Mission to Live as the Body of Christ inviting everyone into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. We are all called to carry out the Great Commandment, to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength; and to "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Jesus left us, His followers, with the Great Commission, to "Go and make disciples of all nations." We are proud to say that our St. Paul Small Groups have been busy doing just that! Our Parish family is growing mature, intentional disciples!

We currently have almost 30 active small groups meeting regularly in homes. Each group is unique. Some meet weekly, some bi-weekly, some have a dedicated host home while others rotate homes; some serve meals while some share snacks.

Many groups have members who are their neighbors, some who are not members here at St. Paul, and some who are from other denominations. Each Small Group operates independently, with the support of our Small Group Ministry Team. We provide curriculum from our ever-growing library of group studies, and on-going guidance on addressing issues that may arise in groups.

This weekend, we invite everyone to consider joining a Small Group, and we are here to answer any questions you may have. Registration is also open on our website.

*(continued on next page)*





**GOALS** — We hope to see our Groups grow into "24/7" groups. This means that, not only do they meet for our two annual parish-wide studies, they also stay available to each other through fellowship, worship, and mission work — both within our parish, and outside the walls of St. Paul in our community.

### **Our Small Groups are:**

- **A center for discipleship**
- **A launch pad for evangelism**
- **A setting for worship and relationships**
  - **An opportunity to offer support, encouragement, healing**
  - **A source of health and growth**
- **A safe environment for vulnerability**
  - **The very heartbeat of our Church**



**OPPORTUNITY** — If you are not already a member of a group, we urge you to consider hosting a group in your home, or joining an existing group. Our hosts are not "teachers." They are people who are answering God's call and opening their homes to friends old and new for prayer, worship, and fellowship outside of Mass. We invite you to pray about this — when the Holy Spirit prompts you with a desire, the Lord will provide a way. If you have 2 or 3 interested friends, you can be a host. It is that simple! We will connect everyone who is seeking a group with groups who have room for more members. Most groups have about 8-10 members, making it easier to accommodate and to give more opportunity for sharing.

**RETREAT** — The Small Group Ministry Team will be providing a Retreat Day for our hosts and co-hosts on Sunday, February 10, in the Family Life Center, beginning at 2:00pm and ending with a supper and social time. Please note, this Retreat is open to our current hosts and co-hosts, as well as anyone interested in becoming a host!

**LENTEN STUDY** — We are excited to announce our 2019 Lenten Small Group Study of the book, *Respectable Sins, Confronting the Sins We Tolerate*, by Jerry Bridges. This study will take a deeper look at unthankfulness, frustration, pride, judgmentalism, and sins of the tongue — to name a few! We will begin the week of February 24. The Church will order the books for all groups who wish to participate, so be sure to let us know you want to join us in this intriguing Lenten Study!

## Meet the Small Group Ministry Team



Sarah O'Donnell

Sarah has been a St. Paul parishioner since the year 2000. She served on staff as Coordinator of Religious Education prior to moving into the position of Director of Fellowship for the Parish. She has truly enjoyed developing this new ministry. Sarah was born in Mobile, AL, and is married to Kevin O'Donnell. They have two daughters; Kaitlin O'Donnell Matranga and Kacey O'Donnell.

Contact Sarah at [fellowship@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com](mailto:fellowship@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com)

Kelly has been a parishioner of St. Paul since 2011, serving as an active volunteer in our Religious Ed Program and Small Group Ministry. Kelly was recently hired as the new Parish Office Manager. She is excited to serve the Church now on a professional level, and invites you to the office to say hello! Kelly is married to Bill McBride. They have three daughters, Jenna, Michelle, and Caroline, and two granddaughters.

Contact Kelly at [office@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com](mailto:office@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com)



Kelly McBride

### Here's what people are saying about Small Groups:

A friend invited me to her Small Group. We have been friends for years but this was a bit intimidating, as I had never before been in a setting of learning and discussing my faith on an adult level. My schedule is crazy busy, and I was worried about committing to this because it would take me away from my children and their activities. My schedule revolved totally around theirs. On the very first night of Group, after watching the teaching video, someone made a comment that really broke the ice for me. She was feeling the same things as me, but I was too shy to say them out loud. I thought I was the only one who felt that way! My group has been so great for me, and I also came to realize that I was teaching my children one of the best lessons of their lives — that "Mom is making her relationship with God a priority — taking time to grow and learn and giving herself something important." That is priceless! —Christy

For many years, we came to Mass on Sundays and went home feeling like strangers. Don't get me wrong, people were very friendly, but we didn't really feel like we knew anyone other than superficially. One day we considered that maybe WE were the problem. Maybe it was time for us to get more involved. But, when ChristLife started we were hesitant and waited for a year or more before we got finally did it and it was great! It opened us up to wanting more intimate spiritual experiences. So, when Small Groups were being formed, we quickly joined one. It has been a wonderful time. While we've had several good studies, I think the thing I enjoy most is the fellowship. We like to cook and eat in our group! And the prayer time has helped us all open up, bringing us together in a special way. I highly recommend that everyone be in a Small Group! —Al & Debbie

My small group has meant more to me than I can adequately express. I see them as extended family who I trust and love. They have cared for me emotionally and physically, as I have been recovering from surgery. They have lifted me up spiritually and prayed for me along the way. They make me want to dig deeper into our Readings as well as work harder on my personal relationship with God. I am forever grateful for them. —Monica

I have always heard good things about being in a Small Group — the fellowship, the worship, and how it can change your life. I wondered what it would be like to join one, so I joined a Saint Paul Small Group though I'm not Catholic. My experience has been much more than I could have ever expected. I have met some amazing people here, some who have quickly become lifelong friends. Not only have I learned more about myself, it has strengthened my faith, and has brought me closer to God. For that I am truly grateful. —Layla

Prior to joining my Small Group I was barely involved in Church. My family would bounce around from place to place, and we weren't consistent in going every Sunday. Small Group has really changed all of that! We have settled into a local church that we really feel is our church home. I have never felt that now.

I truly feel the Holy Spirit working in me recently. Which, if I'm being honest, I didn't really realize that was what was happening, until talking about it in our Small Group discussions. It is so amazing to be able to connect with people that way, and to be able to talk about the things we do, without fear of judgement. God truly puts people in your life at the right time. I am forever grateful for my Small Group.

Now that my faith is stronger than ever, and we are committed to Church, I am seeing it blossom in my child as well. There is no better feeling than to hear your child talking about God and requesting church music, aka K-Love, on the radio. I am totally renewed in my faith! —Ashley