

Mass Intentions ~ July 29-August 4, 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 — Mildred Jordan (RIP)
Sunday @ 8:00 am — Betty Ann Lockwood (RIP)
Sunday @ 10:30 am — Mike Brown (RIP)

New Prayer Requests

Special Intentions:

Landon Lamonis
Jo Giamalva
Reneé Carpenter
Harry Miller, husband of Maxine Miller
Kenny Starita, son of Matilda Pavolini
Marguerite Cook, sister of Joni Savage

Repose of the Soul:

Gil Matranga, uncle of Matt Matranga

Altar Flowers were donated by Paula Young, in memory of Irma Bourdier.

Sacrament of Reconciliation — Saturday @ 4:30-5:00 pm (or by appointment — call the Church office)
Adoration this week: Monday — Thursday, 8 am - 12noon; Friday, 8-10 am

Announcements

- First Friday Healing Mass** — Friday, August 2nd @ 10:00 am (No Brunch this month.)
- Big Deal Kayak Trip** — Saturday, August 3rd Last weekend to sign up!!! All 7th - 12th graders are invited.
- First Saturday AFSM Rosary** — Saturday, August 3rd @ 4:45 am in the Chapel. Join us to pray for our nation and all serving in the US Armed Forces.
- Our Saint Paul Early Learning Center Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, September 6th** at Bay Pointe Golf Club. For more information, please call the Learning Center at 601-992-2876, or pick up a brochure on the information table near the Church offices.
- Discovering Christ Daytime Session** will be offered at St. Richard Catholic Church Foley Hall. The 7-week Series will be held on Thursday mornings, 10am-Noon, August 29th to October 10th. Lunch will be provided. Childcare provided, if needed. Register ASAP at www.saintrichard.com/christlife Questions: Call Nancy at 601-942-2078 or Tiffany at 601-842-0151.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Weekly Offertory Collection for July 20/21:

General Fund = \$20,588.63
Second Collection = \$125.00
Building Fund Collection = \$11,826.33

*Have you made a pledge to pray and/or donate to the renovation of Our St. Paul Home?
It's not too late!
Please respond. We need to hear from everyone!*

Office Phone: 601-992-9547

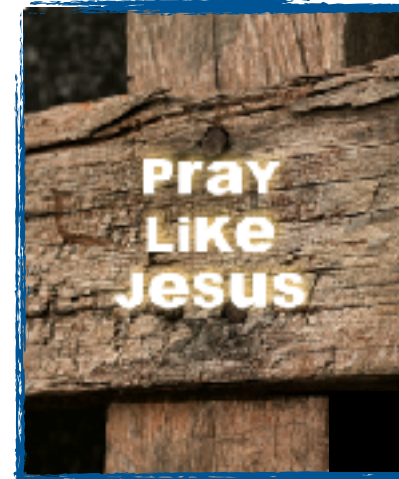
Summer Hours: Tues-Thurs, 8:00 am-4:00 pm; Fri, 8:00 am-noon

www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com



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

July 28, 2019
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread and forgive us our sins for we ourselves forgive everyone in debt to us, and do not subject us to the final test."

Jesus and His disciples are on the road again. They have a long way to go, yet Jesus takes time to stop and pray. When He had finished praying, one of His disciples said to Him, Lord, teach us to pray. He was their teacher, their Rabbouni (the Jewish name for master/teacher), always teaching by word and example the way to life with God. The Disciples recognized Him as teacher. They had spent enough time with Him to know this, and to ask Him to teach them. So He teaches them to pray. (Luke 11:2-4)

Saint Luke takes his time along the "Travel Narrative" as it is often called — actually 10 chapters, more than one-fourth of his Gospel. References of the Journey to Jerusalem in Mark and Matthew give the Journey a comparatively small mention. Luke takes his time to highlight the significance of Jesus, obedient Son moving from the "old" to the "new" in Jerusalem. From Jerusalem, the Christian Mission will go forth to the ends of the earth.

Last week, Saint Luke allowed us to peek into the Lord's visit with sisters Martha and Mary (Luke 10:38-42). They welcomed Him to take pause of His travels and receive rest and refreshment in their home. We learned that hospitality is a good and necessary action, but it is even better to sit at the feet of Jesus and listen to Him. Chapter 11 shows us why and how.

We sit at the feet of Jesus and listen because He is our teacher. Jesus prayed to His Father, who is also our Father. Notice that Jesus didn't stop with the *how* to pray, just giving the disciples the words to say. Jesus explained *why* we pray. After introducing The Lord's Prayer, Jesus speaks about being persistent. He compares praying to being persistent with a friend when we need help. (Luke 11:5-8)

God is our friend. We need to be persistent in our friendship with Jesus. We pray (dialogue) with Him often....repeatedly pray to Him, ask of Him, seek Him....He answers. It is so important to sit with this teaching of Jesus. Listen carefully to what Jesus is saying to His disciples, and to us:

**And I tell you, ask and you will receive;
seek and you will find;
knock and the door will be opened to you.**
(Read Luke 11:9-13)

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PRAY LIKE JESUS

Take breaks throughout your journey each day — stop and pray.

Seek God the Father. Ask. Ask again....and again.....and again.

Keep asking. Keep seeking. Keep knocking. You will receive. You will find Him.

We see in our First Reading how Abraham asked, and asked, and asked....to the point when he *begs* the Lord not to be impatient with him. (*Genesis 18:20-32*)

God doesn't lose patience with Abraham — or us. He didn't just cut to the chase and tell Abraham, 'Hey, be realistic. You won't find 50 innocent people in this city. You'll be hard pressed to find even 5!' Instead, the Lord is patient.

On His way to Jerusalem, Jesus makes many stops along the way to spend time with people and teach them. Jesus sits with those who seek relationship with Him. He listens to those who ask for His help. He doesn't say no.

This portion of the Gospel is more than a teaching on prayer. Jesus teaches how to live and act as His followers. He lets us know we have a loving Father who will give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him. Have you asked for this Gift? Do you persistently ask for the Holy Spirit to come into your life?

Setting a daily reminder to join us at 12 noon, wherever you may be, in praying the Holy Spirit prayer is being persistent is seeking this Great Gift. Welcome the light of the Spirit into your life.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Fill the hearts of Your faithful and kindle in us the fire of Your love.

*Send forth Your Spirit and we shall be created,
and You shall renew the face of the earth.*

Let us pray.

*O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit instructs the hearts of the faithful,
grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise*

and ever rejoice in His consolations.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAY LIKE JESUS

The Lord's Prayer "Our Father" as we pray each Mass is made up of seven petitions. (Luke's version is a little shorter.) Let us look closely at this beautiful prayer given to us by Jesus. We begin by placing ourselves in the presence of God our Heavenly Father. Our hearts are moved with love and blessing as we pray. In Mass, the priest invites the people gathered to pray by saying, "At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say....." God calls us as our Father. We dare to respond as His children. We do not pray to get something, we pray to unite with the Most High. The words carry us toward Him for His sake.

May we not take these words for granted as we can easily slip into a mere recitation of a familiar prayer. Rather, may we pray what we believe, and believe what we pray.

Preceding the seven petitions, we connect with God relationally:

"Our Father who art in Heaven..." *Do we feel He is truly our Father? Do we relate to Him confidently as a child to this loving Father?*

The first three petitions draw us toward the Glory of the Father, and focus on Him. We do not mention ourselves or our needs. We pray these petitions that have been done in the saving sacrifice of Christ, with hope toward their final fulfillment. The last four petitions we present our desire to be fed & healed.

I. *We worship His name:*

"...Hallowed be Thy Name..." *We acknowledge His name as Holy. Do we speak His name in a truly Holy way? God's name is on all creation. Do we see this truth?*

II. *We claim His reign over the world:*

"...Thy Kingdom come..." *The Kingdom of God is proclaimed throughout the Gospel, and came about through the Death and Resurrection of Christ. It bears fruit in the Eucharist we celebrate to carry on His Mission in this world.*

III. *We claim the will of the Father has been perfectly fulfilled once for all through Jesus.*

"...Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven..." *We ask our Father to unite us to Jesus in order to fulfill His plan of salvation for our world. Do we seek His will or ask Him to bless the plans we make on our own?*

IV. *We trust our loving Father to provide to us, His children.*

"...Give us this day our daily bread..." *We acknowledge our dependence on Him for everything and confidently trust in His covenant to provide for our needs, both material and spiritual. We receive the Bread of Life, the Body of Christ, to nourish us for the Mission.*

V. *We open our hearts and boldly ask for redemption for our sins that we may be made more Holy.*

"...Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us..." *We confess that we have sinned and ask His mercy. Our hearts must also open to forgive our brothers and sisters that all may be reconciled through His Divine Grace.*

VI. *We invoke His protection when we are tempted by evil.*

"...And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil..." *We cannot save ourselves or anyone else. We ask God to save us and set us free from our sin.*

VII. *We close with confidence in God's saving power.*

"...For the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory are yours, now and forever."

AMEN!

Our "Amen" means, Truly I believe!

Pray The Our Father