

Church website: [www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com](http://www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com)  
Church office phone: 601-992-9547  
Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 8:00am-4:00pm; Friday 8:00am-12noon



**Mass Intentions ~ June 25-July 1, 2018**

Monday @ 7:30 am — Bridget & Michael Hehir (RIP)

Tuesday @ 7:30 am — Francine Gilmer (RIP)

Wednesday @ 6:00 pm — John Reiss (RIP)

Thursday @ 7:30 am — Marie Lodes (RIP)

Friday @ 7:30 am — U.S. Armed Forces (Sp Int)

Saturday @ 5:30 pm — Marie Lodes (RIP)

Sunday @ 8:00 am — Marjorie Middleton (RIP)

Sunday @ 10:30 am — People of the Parish

Adoration this week: Mon—Fri 8am-12noon

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

**New Prayer Requests**

**Special Intentions:**

Cheryl Gardner

Carol Duggar, sister-in-law of Cindy Allmon

Bob Lathan, nephew of Maxine Miller

**Repose of the Soul:**

Jim Prator, father of Jennifer Henry



*Altar Flowers this week are donated by Donna Lee Reiss  
in Memory of John Reiss*

**Announcements — Events — Announcements — Events — Announcements**

**June 24 — Children's Liturgy Volunteer Training** @ 1:30pm in the Family Life Center. We are in need of more volunteers for this special ministry that presents the Liturgy of the Word to our young children during 10:30 Mass. The more volunteers we have, the fewer times any one will need to serve. All parents who have a child participating in Children's Liturgy are asked to assist in some way.

**June 26 — St. Dominic Ministry** — sign up today to help us provide lunch items for families of I.C.U. patients. All food needed in the FLC kitchen by 10:00 am June 26th. Thank you!

**July 1 — K of C 4th of July Boston Butts ready for pick up** — Order yours today! See a Knight before or after mass.

**June 30 — Sign up begins for Big Deal kayak trip** — Youth grades 7th-12th are invited to kayak on Saturday, July 14th. Cory has the details and can be reached at [youth@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com](mailto:youth@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com)



*Being included in God's family is the highest honor  
and the greatest privilege you will ever receive.*

# June 24, 2018 ~ The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

**Right here, right now**

Dear Fr. Gerry,

Hope you all are enjoying Halifax and being filled with the Holy Spirit. We miss you all.

Here is a note on the school / hospital discussion:

**“The Church, which is often described as a hospital,  
contains too many patients who fail to get well.  
The Church, often described as a school,  
contains too many pupils who fail to learn”.**

I have had a hard time relating to this quote but have spent much time thinking about it and enjoyed responses to it in the hospital / school Wednesday discussions.

The thought that slowly came to mind is that the church seems to focus on the world to come and not much on the joy and peace that comes from seriously practicing our faith today ***right here and now.***

I have learned in recent years that the more I attend daily and Sunday mass, truly listen and participate in our ministries, serve as a volunteer when asked, join in groups like the school / church dialogue, Christ Life, and our small groups my life is enriched. When I interact with my church family, I find that I am happier, more at peace and able to deal with suffering better than ever before. In other words, I get benefits from our hospital and our school ***right here and right now.***

My two cents worth is that Catholic churches everywhere might be better hospitals and schools if we could get out the word that there are huge benefits to practicing a spiritual life ***right here and now.*** There are so many books on how mindfulness, exercise, diet, the power of positive thinking, how to get rich, yoga, the art of conversation, how to win friends and influence people, etc. etc. But we already have a powerful tool to get happiness and peace. Practicing, practicing, and practicing will help hone spiritual skills that give more peace and happiness in practical ways ***right here and now.***

And certainly, we can still hope and dream of the pure joy believing that death is not the end but the new beginning of eternal joy, peace and belonging in the kingdom to come.

Your brother in Christ,

Jim Mathews

Thank you, Jim, for your contribution to our dialogue. I look forward to sharing our Halifax experience with the parish and how the Holy Spirit is moving us along from Maintenance to Mission!

~ Fr. Gerry