

Mass Intentions ~ March 18-24, 2019

Monday @ 7:30 am — Leroy Salazar (RIP)

Tuesday @ 7:30 am — Nolen Hughes (RIP)

**Wednesday @ 5:30 pm — Blanche Stauss (RIP)

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

Friday @ 7:30 am — Fr. George Boxelaar (RIP)

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

Sunday @ 8:00 am — People of the Parish

Sunday @ 10:30 am — Family of Sarah Favara (SI)

New Prayer Requests

Special Intentions:

Lalande Harkins

Danny Hassin

David Mangialardi

Sandra Olson, sister of Clyde Staley

Dr. Kevin Bailey, friend of Sherry Pitts and John Colette

PJ Stevens, son of Bill & Sylvia Stevens

Juanita Mayfield

Repose of the Soul of:

Charlie Richardson, uncle of Jason Richardson

Darrell Wilks, family member of Monica Walton

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 4:30-5pm

Adoration this week: Monday—Friday 8:00 am — 12:00 noon



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

Second Sunday of Lent

March 17, 2019

~ notes ~ dates ~ events ~

Religious Ed Classes on Spring Break — Big Deal Youth Group resumes on Wednesday, March 20th, @ 5:30 pm Mass.
— Sunday Morning Classes resume on Sunday, March 24th.

March 20th — Wednesday night Mass will begin at 5:30 pm, rather than 6:00 pm. Please note this change for Mar 20 only.

Women's Lenten Day of Reflection — Saturday, March 23rd @ 8:30 am – 2:30 pm in the Family Life Center
Register by March 18th to ensure appropriate headcount for materials and lunch. No cost for the day which will include praise & worship, along with presentations on caring for mind, body, and spirit. Donations accepted for our March Charity: "Adopt A Room" Catholic Charities Domestic Violence Center. Contact Reneé Carpenter @ 601-214-9547 or email wgstpaul@gmail.com

Baptism Preparation Class — Sunday, March 24th @ 9:15 am in Room 110 of the Family Life Center
For all parents wishing to have a child baptized in the near future. Expectant parents welcome.

40 Days for Life — Wednesday, March 27th — some St. Paul parishioners will gather to pray at the local abortion clinic.
Please contact Linda Granger @ 601-260-5326 to sign up for a one-hour time slot and for details.

Catholic Schoolhouse of Hattiesburg Open House — Thursday, March 28 from 9:00-12:15. Catholic Schoolhouse is designed to help homeschool families enrich their learning experience by a classical approach to education in a Catholic environment. Please contact Anne Kathryn DeViney for more details at 601-606-5685.

Stations of the Cross — every Friday during Lent @ 6:00 pm in the Church.
followed by a fish dinner in the Family Life Center.

Live Stations — Friday, April 12th @ 6:00 pm.

Reconciliation Service — Monday, April 8th @ 6:00 pm

Daily Reflection Videos posted to our Website, Facebook, YouTube Channel!

Like, Share, Comment — Join the Conversation! Invite others to join in too!



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

Why not Consciousness ?

Last week we reflected on the parallels between Consciousness and Conscience. We noted that as Catholics we are very familiar, since our youth, with the Examination of Conscience.

However the thread of thought that we were following was that an Examination of Consciousness may realistically be much more valuable for us as a spiritual development tool, than the examination of conscience. Why not Consciousness?

Many of the reflections during the course of this week regarding the sins we tolerate (Anxiety, Frustration, and Discontentment) have centered around the intensity and driven nature of our world. Those sharing on our daily videos regularly referenced the demands of the world, the expectations of others, and a general Unconsciousness of God, as being factors that contribute to Anxiety, Frustration, and Discontentment.

Our Holy Father during one of his daily homilies spoke of this struggle in terms of 'two spirits vying for our attention. "We have this great gift, which is the Spirit of God, but we are fragile, we are sinners and we also have the temptation of the spirit of the world," he said.

In 1966 a popular song 'the 59th Street Bridge Song' was released by Simon and Garfunkel. It became better known as the 'Feeling Groovy' song because of the repetitive mantra at the end of each verse. Feeling Groovy in the mid-60's was what it was all about. Groovy was a sort of catch-phrase for being in touch, having a sense of purposefulness, being able to relax and take in life.

I have often wondered if the song was born out of a 'Consciousness' that everything was just being ramped-up to a state of intensity which threatened to overwhelm us and cause us to become human-doings rather than human-beings. There was a keen awareness of the importance of slowing-down,pacing oneself. Look at us more than 50 years later life has never been more intensePERIOD.

How much more can we possibly endure? The sage advise in the opening stanza of that 1960s song is even more important today:

"Slow down, you move too fast, you got to make the morning last"

Wow ! How it all flies by so quickly almost UnConsciously !

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Why not Consciousness ?

The late Fr. Henri Nouwen often highlighted in his writings the importance of slowing down being able to 'stop and smell the Roses'. We are not, he tells us, separate from the events that make up the world news each day. What we see and hear reflects what is going on inside of us. When we see instances of injustice, bigotry, racism, greed, violence, murder, and war on our T.V screens we feel a natural sense of indignation. We begin to realize that fear and paranoia are at the core of those issues; and we can resonate with that fear and paranoia in our own lives.

Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI, observes :
 "We aren't, as we want to think, stuck in a bad political climate wherein we can no longer talk to each other and live respectfully with each other. Rather we ourselves have become so rigid, arrogant and sure of ourselves that we can no longer respect those who think differently than we do. We are a bad political climate and not just stuck in one."

Living Consciously, and with greater awareness of His abiding presence, and the love Our creator has for us, holds the power, and the key, to change everything!



Doing our Part — with PRIDE

This week in our Small Group Faith Study regarding the sins we tolerate, we are reflecting on PRIDE and SELFISHNESS. The author of the book, *Respectable Sins* points us to specific areas of Pride and Selfishness that he wants us to be attentive to:

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| Pride of Moral Self-Righteousness | Selfishness of Presence |
| Pride of Correct Doctrine | Selfishness of Time |
| Pride of Achievement | Selfishness of Money |
| Pride of An Independent Spirit | Selfishness of Inconsiderateness |

Wow! What great challenges are inherent in this section of the material. How easily I can see the issues of Pride and Selfishness in another, and at the same time be blind to them in myself.

All of us have been raised on issues of Pride — be proud of yourself, your family, your country, your work, your commitment, your participation, et al. So, we may have a little conflict in trying to make appropriate distinctions here. The reality is that there is a Pride that is good and generative, and there is a Pride that is negative and diminutive.

As we have spoken of many times lately, it is best to see sins and especially both of these sins (Pride and Selfishness) on a continuum. Where am I on such a spectrum?



On one side of the scale, it may not be sinful at all. In fact, it may be very healthy — e.g. "Pride in myself, my work, family, etc." "Self-care; attending to myself and my needs."

On the opposite side of the scale, it may take me to a space that is not at all healthy — e.g. "Pride; as self-righteousness." "Self-care becomes self-absorption."

This year, the Diocese of Jackson set new goals and standards for all parishes in regard to the Catholic Service Appeal — the annual giving campaign of the Diocese of Jackson to support educating seminarians, Catholic Charities, campus ministry, mission parishes and schools, formational ministries, priest retirement and clergy assistance, evangelizing and communications.

Every parish pays a percentage of its total income each year to the diocese for its operational services. The amount traditionally has been in the region of 9.2-9.5% of each parish's annual income. This figure is still in place for every parish, and is called Cathedraticum — the annual tax, if you like, that supports our diocese and its programs.

This year, that figure is connected to the Annual Catholic Service Appeal. A goal is set for each parish to contribute 5% of their total income for the Catholic Service Appeal. The 2019 goal set for our parish is \$70,519.92. Accordingly, we are asking you to join in a partnership in this Appeal, so that we may attain our goal. As you can see from the table below, based on the past five years we are below our potential in terms of number of respondents. I sure would appreciate your support of this Appeal because it benefits our diocese. Attaining said goal also benefits our parish because, one way or another, we are going to be liable for that designated amount, just like every other parish.

Our St. Paul Parish Cathedraticum note this year is \$148,041.75. The good news is that if we exceed our Catholic Service Appeal goal of \$70,519.92, whatever we attain over and above that amount will go toward our Cathedraticum payment. I encourage you to join with us and participate at whatever level you can. Thank you for your faithfulness in this great matter of service beyond our own parish needs.

Let's be proud of our participation in supporting the ministries of this diocese. There's no sin in that Pride!
 —Fr. Gerry

St. Paul Parish, Flowood Catholic Service Appeal 5-year comparison

Year	Goal	Total Pledged	Total Collected	Total Uncollected	Total Donors
2019	\$70,519.92	\$51,995.94	\$35,345.52	\$16,610.42	164
2018	\$67,000.00	\$61,273.33	\$61,085.83	\$187.50	173
2017	\$65,000.00	\$70,272.72	\$69,891.72	\$384.00	179
2016	\$60,000.00	\$66,151.35	\$65,041.35	\$1,110.00	179
2015	\$63,000.00	\$59,910.00	\$59,730.00	\$180.00	203

