



God's motive for creating you was His love.
This is what real worship is all about – falling in love with Jesus Christ.

Mass Intentions ~ May 7-13, 2018

Monday @ 7:30 am — Tommy Autrey (RIP)

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

Wednesday @ 6:00 pm — Tommy Autrey (RIP)

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

Friday @ 7:30 am — Tommy Autrey (RIP)

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

Sunday @ 8:00 am — Mayrene Messer (RIP)

Sunday @ 10:30 am — Joan & Bill Catherwood (RIP)

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 4:30-5:00pm

New Prayer Requests

Special Intentions:

Chris Nix

Blanche Stauss

Jasper Garland, father of Kristina Gamberini -Garland

Repose of the Soul:

JoAnn Richardson, former parishioner

Deborah Tregle, aunt of Renee Borne

submit prayer requests to the office

More on our website www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com Church office @ 601-992-9547

office hours: Tuesday — Thursday 8:00am-4:00pm; Friday 8:00am-12noon



Altar Flowers this week: In honor of the People of this Parish

**Blessed Mother Flowers this week: In Memory of Tommy Mitchell,
donated by Alice Mitchell**

— UPCOMING EVENTS — UPCOMING EVENTS — UPCOMING EVENTS —

May 6 — May Crowning of Mary at the beginning of 10:30 Mass; all children are invited to participate; meet in the Family Life Center at 10:15 am to receive a flower and instructions.

— **Last day of Religious Ed**; Happy Summer Break!

May 9 — Last day of Big Deal Youth Group; Happy Summer Break!

May 13 — Second Collection for the Catholic Communications Campaign learn more at www.usccb.org/cc

May 16 — Parish Dialogue on Church as Hospital / School 6:30 pm in the Family Life Center. Light fare will be offered. RSVP to the office so we can prepare an appropriate amount of food!

May 19 — Prison Reentry Training 8:30 am - 3:30 pm in the Family Life Center; learn more about helping prepare the incarcerated to be successful returning citizens through the "Getting Ahead While Getting Out" program. Register by calling Marvin Edwards 601-594-8254 or Sr. Madeline 213-215-6103.

May 20 — Pentecost Sunday 10:30 am Mass & picnic on the hill (No 8:00 Mass, 5:30 Vigil in the Church)

June 1-3 — 40 Hours of Adoration sign up will begin at on Pentecost Sunday! We invite everyone to sign up for one hour of Eucharistic Adoration during this time to pray for our Parish and your personal needs. More info coming soon.

!!! stay informed !!!

**website: www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com — for most up-to-date news
like us on Facebook and see our videos on YouTube**



May 6, 2018 Sixth Sunday of Easter



Church — Hospital — School

As we reflected upon the quote by James Kennedy, — The Church, often described as a hospital or a school where many people fail to get well or fail to learn — we share with you the following thoughts.

In Mark 2:17 Jesus says, "Those who are well do not need physician, but the sick do. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners." Every time we attend Mass and prepare to receive Him in the Eucharist, we pray together, "Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed." How comforting to know that our Divine Physician has come to save us and is ever present to us.

The Catholic Church has professed the faith proclaimed by Jesus over 2,000 years. The Church in its wisdom develop the Catholic School system to minister to students both spiritually and academically. It has produced outstanding Christians who have become devoted lay people, priests, and Religious, who continue to minister in the name of Jesus. Much of our success has been because of the faith dimension of our schools with an emphasis on character formation. The Catholic school is not failing if we continue to prepare our students to live the faith in a dynamic way so that the faith is passed on to future generations. Our schools need to continue "to teach as Jesus did."

The Church is a place where we come together as Community for spiritual healing, for celebrations, for support, and for witnessing to the Triune God — Father, Son, and Spirit.

At different times in our lives we are called to accept Jesus in different ways through the reception of the Seven Sacraments. It is there that He brings healing to each of us as we struggle to become more like Him.

Here at St. Paul Parish we have experienced the forming of a dynamic community of one mind and one heart as we have "Discovered Christ together, Followed Christ together, and Shared Christ together."

We are called and we are chosen Become the Body of Christ. That is our Mission Statement, and we ARE THE PEOPLE THAT BRING THIS TO LIFE.

Life is a process of being and becoming, and it is through our walking together in faith that we are nourished and we nourish one another on the journey to eternity. As Rick Warren stated in his book What On Earth Am I Here For? — "Life is a preschool, a time of preparation for eternity."

Here in our Parish at St. Paul, we do not feel like we have become like a hospital or a school that contains sick or ignorant people who have failed to get well or learn. We are a vibrant community of disciples who continue the journey to eternity.

Your sisters in Christ,

Catherine Lottinger and Paula Blouin

JOIN IN THE DIALOGUE — MAY 16TH @ 6:30 PM
WE WILL HAVE 6:00 PM DAILY MASS IN THE
CHURCH THEN MOVE TO THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER
FOR A LIGHT SUPPER AND CONVERSATION!

Father Hurley,

Maybe we should look at the Church as a hospital that fails to cure the sick or a school that fails to educate the students. Maybe it's the way that the medicine is administered or the way curriculum is taught. People come to Church willing to find a cure and to learn but find neither. Is it because of the way Catholic Churches engage not only parishioners but the general public?

I have always had an on-an-off relationship with God but never really considered my relationship with Jesus. Then along came the Discovering Christ Series. Not only did it bring me into a relationship with Jesus but also a closer relationship with our Church and fellow parishioners. I found a friend in Jesus but also found new friends. And this led me to become a member of a small Bible study group that meets every week. We share a meal plus share our life and the Bible with each other. This made it very easy to do the Small Group Lenten study this year. Not that I agreed with everything in the study but it did bring up very good discussions.

First Friday Healing Mass and the group luncheon also bring our parishioners closer together. But changing it from a senior luncheon to a fellowship luncheon hasn't seemed to change who comes to it. Still just mainly seniors. While keeping the senior luncheon maybe there could be a fellowship brunch at a time when more of the younger parishioners could attend.

I believe our Church is changing the way the medicine is administered and the curriculum is presented thus making a positive impact on our community. I wish everyone could experience the entire ChristLife Series and hope that becoming members of small groups will strengthen their faith and we will all become part of the Body of Christ.

Kenneth Weikum

Keep your letters coming!

I honestly believe that Jesus jumped the disciples in that gale, not because they woke him up from the back of the boat, but rather because he expected one of them to jump up in the bow of that boat and say, "The Son of the living God has told me to go to the other side, so peace be still!"

They were still learning, some were still hospitalized. When I was a member of the Baptist church, a group of us decided to learn by going out and witnessing at certain events. We sought pastoral approval and were told not to do so. The pastor said, "That's why we have Training Union, so that you can learn." Seven sociological generations later, they are still training. We pray for one another in sickness and sorrow. We should pray for one another as the hands and feet in God's quest for new subjects for the kingdom of heaven. We can always rely on the support of the Holy Spirit but we are the hands, the feet, and the mouth. If I am sick, I hear the Holy spirit say, "Get up and walk boy." If I'm afraid that I don't know enough, I hear God say, "I will fill your mouth son." Jesus said, "..... and greater things will ye do because I go to the father." Well he's with the father now but our current level of faith seems to suggest that we go genuflect but don't expect guarantees. I am the guiltiest one I know. I become afraid, I get tired, I get depressed and physically sick and sometimes I forget that I have the same power of faith that our Lord transferred me two thousand years ago.

So when I ask God to fix it, whatever it is, I forget that the Father wants me to jump up in the bow of the boat when I hear his Spirit say, "Use the faith I gifted you with. You do it." Many times I wonder if I could get over the fear of death if faced with it in the name of Jesus. Well I guess I need to get over the fear of embarrassment, loss of dignity, being and looking different, first. It may take us 20 years from now to get humanly ready and yet we're 2000 years late starting by the power of God. Yes Fr. Hurley. It's time for us to move. Let's make our plans based on what God has already said, then allow him to order our steps. Of course as Christians we have to take the first step out in faith. If we hear ourselves wondering, "Should I ...?" The answer is yes. Jim Suber

thank you for your responses!!

The description of the church as a hospital comes from some one who was probably frustrated by the lack of zeal in the church. There is another way of looking at this. We are all in various stages of growth. We go to church to pray together and there is safety in numbers when people gather together for a common purpose. The Priest and the Congregation offer a spirituality that is absent in the secular world.

Kierkegaard's stage one (Aesthetic) is a really bad place to be. The church offers its members access to stage two (Ethical). The step from one stage to the next is huge and difficult. The third stage (Religious) is one where an individual must really hunger for it. Maybe that is what Jesus meant when he said that we should "gnaw on his flesh".

In medicine there are incurable diseases but there are also medications that can extend life and allow someone to remain productive. The same is true for our church. The Mass is a medication that allows us to go on in an imperfect way in an imperfect world. Our physical world is imperfect and will therefore not last forever. We are just passing through. God likes to work with large numbers.

Jesus mentioned in a parable that seeds may be spread over many types of ground but only a small number are productive and grow. We are lucky that this is the age of mercy and not of judgement. As long as we keep going to church it demonstrates that we have not given up. We are still trying. When the judgement comes it will be just. Our dissatisfaction with our progress is a reminder that we can do better.

Steve Larkin