

Mass Intentions ~ October 22-28, 2018

Monday @ 7:30 am — Francine & Bubba Gilmer (RIP)

Tuesday @ 7:30 am — US Armed Forces (Sp Int)

Wednesday @ 6:00 pm — Rosie Morris (RIP)

Thursday @ 7:30 am — Bill Cahill (RIP)

Friday @ 7:30 am — Ron Barry (RIP)

Saturday @ 5:30 pm — Mary Null Hammond (RIP)

Sunday @ 8:00 am — People of the Parish

Sunday @ 10:30 am — Cindy Miller (RIP)

New Prayer Requests

Special Intentions:

John Mathew

Esther Cowell, friend of Jo Bowden

Jerry Snell, friend of Jo Bowden

Gail Davis, sister-in-law of Kate Medlock

Bill Hipp, brother of Rodney Hipp

Repose of the Soul:

Fidella Espinoza, sister-in-law of Rosina Ready

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 4:30-5:00 pm

Altar Flowers this week are donated in memory of Edna Mangialardi, donated by David and Michelle Mangialardi.

Blessed Mother Flowers this week are in memory of Rose Marie Morris, donated by the Morris Family.

New Announcements

St. Dominic Ministry — Tuesday, October 23rd Please sign up today to donate lunch items for the families of ICU patients. This is the only weekend to sign up. Lunch will be delivered to St. Dominic Hospital on Tuesday.

Big Deal Halloween Party — Wednesday, October 24th. Reminder to parents that classroom Small Groups will begin at 6:00 pm, so please arrive on time. Dinner and party will be after Small Groups. (No class October 31st.)

Mass of Remembrance — November 15th @ 6:00 pm Please check the list for the name of your loved one who passed during the course of this past year. If they are NOT on the displayed printed list, please fill out the information sheet and place in the basket. You will receive a personal letter with details for our celebration of life.

Sacramental Notice: Our First Communion & Confirmation students must complete the two year preparation in order to receive these Sacraments. Contact Renee if your child is in 1st grade or 10th grade, and they are not enrolled in the program this year. Otherwise, they will not be allowed to receive the Sacraments next year.

Protection of Children — Virtus Protecting God's Children, Teaching Safety lessons will be presented to all children this week. Parents, if you would like your child to opt out, forms are available at the front counter in the Family Life Center.

Food Pantry Ministry Needs — Supports the Stewpot Food Pantry in Jackson, the Center for Violence Prevention Abuse Shelter in Pearl, and individuals who request food assistance at the Parish. Please donate non-perishable food to complement traditional holiday meals or canned stew, chili, and soup. Checks or gift cards also accepted. Please place your contributions in the baskets near the entrance doors.

Reminders

Second Collection this weekend for World Mission Sunday. We are called to be part of the Church's missionary efforts, supporting mission priests, religious Sisters and Brothers, and lay catechists who provide loving service to those most in need.

Monday, October 22nd — Women's Guild luncheon @ 11:00am with guest speaker LeeAnn Henderson from St Dominic's New Directions Program. They will also be discussing the upcoming Rummage Sale, and lunch will be provided. The Charity Box for this event will be Birthright, so please bring baby wipes and/or newborn diapers!! Hope to see you there!

Tuesday, October 23rd — Discovering Christ begins! Register online.

Friday, October 26th at 7:30 pm until — 5th Annual Trunk or Treat All are welcome to join us for food & fun times.

November 10th & 11th — Rummage sale hosted by the Women's Guild in the Family Life Center gym. The sale will also feature a Bake Sale, Food Sale, and a Children's Craft table. Donations accepted Oct 20th, 27th, and Nov.3rd, 9am-12pm.

**October 21, 2018
Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Where is God?

How does He manifest Himself in my daily life?

How does He act, look, and show Himself to me?

Is He there just sometimes — or always?

Where was He when such-and-such happened?

Why did He not do something to prevent that accident or that tragedy from happening?

Sometimes, you hear the additional observation attached to those questions — *Why should I believe in such a God who does nothing in the face of these terrors, these horrible actions, this destruction that constantly unfolds in our world?*

These questions and observations sound like very realistic questions in the midst of all the unrest in the Church and in the world at the present time. Awareness of the depth and breadth of the Sexual Abuse Crisis in the Church and all of the subsequent cover-ups, deception, and lack of transparency have caused many people to experience a tailspin in terms of their relationship with the Church, and their relationship with God. Being shaken to the core by such events is a cause for concern in itself because it brings to the fore many other serious questions, such as —

Is it God I really believe in, or is it the Church?

Or, is it the Magisterium (Teaching Authority), the Pope, the Priest, the Church Community?

What / where is my purpose?

When I encounter obstacles in life, how do I deal with them? Do I experience them as a collapse of my life and all that I believe in, or do I view it as an opportunity for new and wonderful growth in my life? I am reminded once again of Rumi's wise counsel:

“Where there is ruin, there is hope of treasure.”

Rumi was a 13th Century Persian, Sunni Muslim poet, jurist, Islamic scholar, theologian, and Sufi mystic. I often marvel at his wisdom and influence, which have not dimmed over these past seven centuries. Sometimes, when reflecting on his wisdom and insight, I find myself amazed and musing as to where it all came from. He must have had an extraordinary grasp of the complexities of life.

When I ponder where he got it all from, I just think he must have taken in a huge amount of life, of love, of creation, or relationships. I believe his great understanding has something to do with the expansiveness of his vision, his overall view of life, his broad perspective, his not being tethered to simplistic ideologies of right and wrong. He had that great ability to see both sides of the coin, not just one side. What a Grace! The enormous thirst he had for drinking in life — all of life — and not just parts that were aligned with his particular perspective.

Rumi had a broad view and a broad reach in life. What a difference that makes! Just reflect on this observation of Rumi: **“Your task is not to seek for love, but merely to seek and find all the barriers within yourself that you have built against it.”**

(more on the next page)

**Church website: www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com
Office phone: 601-992-9547**

Where is God? Our children know the answer!

When we ask the question, "Where is God?" it sounds like He is lost and we must find Him. But, He never leaves. He never shifts His gaze away from us. But, we surely do shift ours!



During my time in Eucharistic Adoration — God is fully present in the Blessed Sacrament, whether the Sacred Host is locked away in the Tabernacle or exposed in the Monstrance. He speaks and lives and works miracles, just the same in either location. The difference is me.

When Our Lord is on the altar, I am more aware of His abiding presence. My posture is more reverent. I listen more intently. I am more open to hearing the whisper of my name as His beloved son/daughter.

This year, we are delighted to see the fruits of our implementation of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) program in our Religious Ed curriculum. Seven years ago we began CGS, and we have a huge investment in leadership, training, creators of materials, builders, etc. Those first students have now entered the Wednesday Night Big Deal Youth Program. Their instructors report that this class is more aware of what it means to be a child of God. They know the Good Shepherd and they hear Him call their names as His beloved sheep. They are engaged and enjoy discussing and exploring their faith more deeply. They know and understand relationship with Jesus Christ!



It's not that He is more present to these children than those who have not been through the CGS classes. The CGS children are more present to Him, and more aware of His presence in their lives. They have had a rich, experiential education in the Atriums.

The Atrium is a place of prayer, in which work and study spontaneously become meditation, contemplation and prayer. Each child grows in understanding that he/she has a unique relationship with God. The growth of this relationship is assisted by adults, but is directed by the Spirit of God within the child. The only Teacher in the Atrium is Christ; both children and adults place themselves in a listening stance before His Word, and seek to penetrate the mystery of the liturgical celebration.

During our most recent First Communion Mass, I asked the children who is Jesus? Many hands shot up in the air. They were eager to share and confident of their answers, despite the church being full, and this being during my Homily — not your typical scenario. Nonetheless, they each gave a beautiful, unique answer. They appreciate a relationship with Him.

This week, we begin the new Alpha Series with our high school seniors. They will, in turn, present Alpha to our Confirmation class as they assist with their Sacramental preparation. We are hopeful and anticipate a richer experience for these students as they move into a deeper personal relationship with our Lord. Alpha will help them be more open to the Holy Spirit and accepting the fruits granted each of them.



These 11th & 12th graders will also have the experience of faith-sharing in a Small Group once they leave for college or work. They will move to adulthood with new awareness in the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. They will appreciate being able to call upon the Holy Spirit to guide them in the workplace and in social relationships. They will better understand the value of processing in the Small Group setting with their peers, sharing and growing in faith.

The Lord is truly pouring out His blessings on our Parish.

May we all be more aware of His presence in our lives, and draw ever closer to Him!

Let us pray for all of our students, but especially those who are preparing for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation.

The students listed below are enrolled in their second year of preparation for the Sacrament.

First Communion Candidates

Tyler Burns
Matthew Duffy
Jake Gaspard
Levi Gatlin
Caroline Gordy
Bridget Haag
Madilyn Holley
Tyler Johnson
Christopher King
Bella Langley
Mary Reagan McCarty
Bella McFadden
Addison McReynolds
Kinsley Mitchener
Rives Moody
Aubrey Morrison
Natalie Pace
Emory Pollard
Samuel Smith
Carter Temple
William Torres
Olivia Walker
Melia Zinke



First Reconciliation will be November 13, 2018
First Holy Communion will be April 28, 2019

Confirmation Candidates

Gage Beard
Hailey Borne
Aysha Celestin
Kaleigh Cohen
Logan Files
Chloe Parker
Lauren Flood
Courtney Head
Brian Heintzelman
Morgan Kaminski
Emma Ladner
Aubrie Mangum
Frida Melo
Amy Nguyen
Thien Phan
Greyson Swartzfager
Grace Trouard
Christopher Walton



Confirmation will be May 8, 2019