

**Mass Intentions ~ September 17-23, 2018**

Monday @ 7:30 am — Geraldine Simpson (RIP)  
Tuesday @ 7:30 am — Fr. Noel Prendergast (RIP)  
Wednesday @ 6:00 pm — Ty Cannon (RIP)  
Thursday @ 7:30 am — Don Harris (RIP)  
Friday @ 7:30 am — Tommy Autrey (RIP)  
  
Saturday @ 5:30 pm — Marie Lodes (RIP)  
Sunday @ 8:00 am — People of the Parish  
Sunday @ 10:30 am — John Reiss (RIP)

**Adoration this week: Mon—Fri 8am-12noon**  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 4:30-5:00 pm**

**New Prayer Requests**

**Special Intentions:**

Richard Gieger  
Darrell Edwards, brother-in-law of Monica Walton  
Emily Davis, niece of Monica Walton  
Kristi Davis, daughter of Sally Jordan  
Blake Walker, fiancé of Kristi Davis  
Debbie Edwards, sister of Dennis Deister

**Repose of the Soul:**

Gene Phillips  
Roy Lynn, father of Richard Lynn  
Greg Daly, stepson of Joe Daly  
Baby Benjamin Davis, great-nephew of Monica Walton  
Ken Lively, brother of Jo Bowden  
Ansley Harkins, brother of Lalande Harkins

**Altar Flowers & Blessed Mother Flowers this week are in honor of our St. Paul Catechists & Students.**

**New Announcements**

**Friday Sept. 21st** — Please join the Knights of Columbus in the Chapel at 6:00 pm to pray the Rosary before the Silver Rose in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe. All are welcome.

**Sunday Sept. 23rd** — Brunch with the Adult Sunday Study Class at 9:15 am. All adults are welcome to meet the class and hear about what will be offered this year. Parents are encouraged to join us while the children are in class.

**Monday Sept. 24th** — Please join the Women's Guild for 2 events with Fellowship and Fun!  
**11:00 am** they will be hosting a Meet and Greet Luncheon in the Lounge of Family Life Center.  
**7:00 pm** they will be having their annual Wine and Food Pairing Tasting in the gym.  
Our Charity box for these events will be in support of The Center for the Prevention of Violence. Donate pencils, crayons, small games, fruit gummies, candy & small snacks. Thank you for your support.

**33rd Habitat for Humanity Catholic Build** — Save the Date for Saturday, October 13. Our parish will be building on Greenview Drive in Jackson again. This street has had so much improvement with the builds! Sign-up will start in two weeks, and more information will be available then. Contact Lonnie Graeber with any questions at l.pgraeber2@comcast.net.

**Reminders**

**Religious Ed Class & Parent Orientation — Sunday, September 16th @ 9:15 am.**  
**Big Deal Youth Group & Parent Orientation — Wednesday, September 19th @ 6:00 pm.**  
\*\*\* One parent must attend with their child. Meet in the gym. \*\*\*

**RCIA & ChristLife Online Registration** open during month of September on our website.

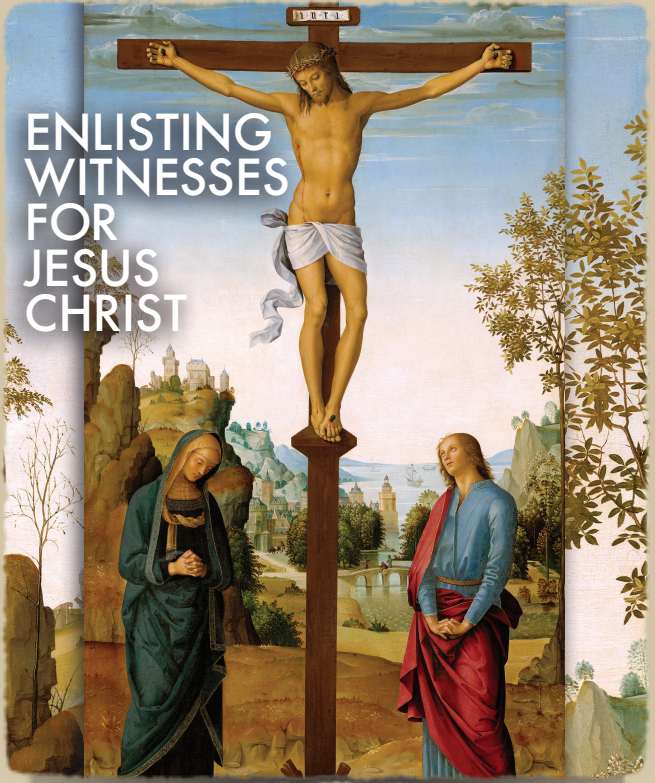
**2019 Contribution Envelopes Sign Up** — If you are not currently receiving offertory envelopes, sign up at both main exits. You may also call or email Michelle at 601-992-9547 or office@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com to set up an automatic bank draft. If you received 2018 envelopes, yours will automatically be renewed. Envelopes will be ready in late November.



**Church website: [www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com](http://www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com)**  
**Office phone: 601-992-9547**



**September 16, 2018**  
**Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Catechetical Sunday**



**Lord God, we ask You to bless our brothers and sisters who have offered themselves as catechists for Your Church.**

*Our Catechists, and indeed the Catechists of most parishes tend to be among the most under appreciated ministers within the whole parish system. One could never overestimate the importance of these Missionary Disciples!*

*Have you ever wondered what inspires these individuals to give themselves in service to teach, to instruct, to lead our children, our youth, our adults in their growth and understanding of Faith and relationship with God? Be assured that is the work of the Holy Spirit!*

*Have you ever attempted to imagine what we would do without these inspiring leaders? Please reflect on this for a moment.....If we did not have these outstanding volunteers, how would you guide your children in the way of Faith? Would you do the teaching and witnessing? Would you go somewhere else? — Where?*

*Thank God for His touching the minds and hearts of our Catechists who say YES to our Church in service. I am confident He is calling more people — perhaps they are afraid or feel overwhelmed by the possibility and responsibility. Could He be calling you?*

*Fear not! Those whom He calls — He also equips!*

—Fr. Gerry





**Our mission is to invite everyone into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. This weekend we celebrate our Catechists — our brothers and sisters who embody our mission by devoting themselves to catechesis of children, youth and adults here at St. Paul. Read on to learn more about this celebration.**

**What Does the Word “Catechetical” Mean?**

The word might be more familiar than you think. Many Catholics have used the word "catechism" for years, and they know it has something to do with the compendium of the Church's teachings. The root word, "catechesis," is from a Greek word meaning "to echo, or resound." Catechesis is the act of resounding or bringing the Church's teachings to the world.

**What is a Catechist?**

A catechist is one who teaches in the name of the Church. The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines catechesis as "an education in the faith for children, young people, and adults which includes especially, the teaching of Christian Doctrine imparted, generally speaking, in an organic and systematic way, with a view to imitating the hearers into the fullness of Christian life." (CCC 5, CT 18)

**Why does the Church have a special day designated as Catechetical Sunday?**

The Catechism states, “Catechesis is intimately bound up with the whole of the Church’s life . . . her inner growth and correspondence with God’s plan depend essentially on catechesis” (no. 7). In 1935, the Vatican acknowledged the importance of the Church’s teaching ministry and honoring those who serve the Christian community as Catechists. Therefore, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops designated the third Sunday in September as Catechetical Sunday. We invite the entire Church community to celebrate our leaders in teaching the faith and our continual growth in knowledge, understanding, and relationship with God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It also gives us each time to pause and think about our responsibility to share our faith with others.

**What does it take to be a Catechist at St. Paul?**

We are blessed to currently have nearly 30 catechists for our children and youth Religious Education Classes. Plus, we have nine catechists leading the R.C.I.A. and Adult Study team. All have said YES to God’s call to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to all attending the classes offered in our Parish. They live the Catholic Faith and give credible witness to the Gospel. They have all committed to be present in class weekly, to teach and to share the ways God has been present in their own life. Some have children in the program, but not all. We have a diverse group of college students, young adults, and professionals. Those who are certified in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program have completed 90 hours of training for each of the three levels. All catechists are also given the opportunity for catechesis training through our Diocese, plus workshops, seminars, guest speakers and retreat opportunities. We also have many classroom helpers who volunteer once or twice a month, prepare Atrium materials, cook & serve meals, help with special events, mentor, or just be a supportive presence. Our church community will grow if we all commit to do some small part!

**"The word of God nourishes both evangelizers and those who are being evangelized so that each one may continue to grow in his or her Christian life."  
(National Directory for Catechesis [NDC] [Washington, DC: USCCB, 2005]**

**—from Renee Borne, St. Paul Director of Religious Education**

*Being a teacher for many years provided me with the experience to lead others. Looking back on my experiences, I know that God had a plan to lead me where I am now because I now am given the opportunity to lead others closer to Christ. Being a catechist means being able to share my faith with others. It also means personally growing in my own faith and understanding of the Catholic Church. It is being able to witness the spiritual growth of the child, and acknowledge the continuing development of their relationship with Jesus Christ.*

*I would like parents to know and understand that catechesis is an ongoing process that must be nurtured and maintained. We are here to help each child grow in their faith, but this must be done in conjunction with parents leading and teaching faith in the home. Children learn from what they see. In the Religious Ed Classroom at the Church, we have limited time with your child. The majority of their time your children are with you. What example of your faith are they seeing? What are they learning from your faith experiences? Parents are the primary teachers. I encourage you to be an educator, and a witness of the faith!*

*I ask everyone in the parish to pray for the success of our programs and events. Pray that the Holy Spirit is with each Catechist, guiding them throughout the year. Pray for our students, that they grow in their faith and strengthen their relationship with Jesus Christ by knowing Him and His Word. Throughout the year, please pray for our First Communion and Confirmation students. How wonderful it is to give your support by attending these Sacramental celebrations, and other events presented throughout the year, such as Live Stations of the Cross and our Ash Wednesday Youth meal.*

**— from Deacon John McGregor**

*When I was in my early thirties, following a profound encounter with Jesus, I realized just how little I knew about my faith. I began to take classes and attend seminars. Eventually, I was asked to do a presentation at RCIA. I received a lot of positive feedback on my presentation, and soon I was asked to do other presentations. I guess I sensed the call to Catechesis through the encouragement of others in the Christian community. My experience is that the more I share my faith with others, the more it grows. Faith grows when you give it to others.*

*The influence of Church Catechists pales in comparison to the parents’ everyday witness to their Christian faith in the home and outside the home. If parents are not participating in adult faith formation, what message does that send to the children? — That you already know everything? Or, that it is really just not that important? Pope John Paul II emphasized that the primary form of catechesis is adult formation, not pedagogy (catechesis of young people). He explained that this is because adults have the greatest responsibility to live out their faith in their everyday environment. (Catechesi Tradendae, 43) I think the Pope’s point is that we witness to our families and others constantly by our words and actions. What kind of witness do your children see in you?*

*And, to the parish at large, I encourage everyone to participate either in the adult study class or as a volunteer catechist. This Parish has so much to offer you. Invite others to go with you and participate. Take some initiative in cultivating your faith. Make prayer an intentional priority in your life — a body can sooner survive without air, than a Christian without prayer. Do some spiritual reading. Join a Small Group. Experience or assist with the ChristLife Series or RCIA. Do everything you can to nurture your faith, and then be willing to share it with others.*