

Mass Intentions ~ September 24-30, 2018

Monday @ 7:30 am — Nolan Hughes (RIP)
Tuesday @ 7:30 am — Francine & Bubba Gilmer (RIP)
Wednesday @ 6:00 pm — Patrick Hurley (RIP)
Thursday @ 7:30 am — Tommy Autrey (RIP)
Friday @ 7:30 am — Andrew Hehir (RIP)
Saturday @ 5:30 pm — Mayrene Messer (RIP)
Sunday @ 8:00 am — Robert Phipps (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

Altar Flowers this week are donated by Donna Lee Reiss in memory of John Reiss.

New Prayer Requests

Special Intentions:
Debbie Naumann, mother of Carmen Lewis
Lynne Prator, mother of Jennifer Henry
Helen Sterling, sister of Iris Harrison
Dwayne Wilks, brother-in-law of Monica Walton

Repose of the Soul:
Charles Bryan II

New Announcements

Wednesday Sept. 26th — Month's Mind for Pat Hurley at 6:00 pm Mass, light reception following.
Sunday Sept. 30th — Parish Back to School Picnic after 10:30 am Mass on the hill behind the church sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and the Religious Ed Program. Lunch & refreshments will be provided, plus fun games for the family. All are welcome. We will also have a raffle with proceeds going provide school supplies for students at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Forrest. If you have any extra school supplies you would like to donate, please bring them to the picnic! Thank you!

Reminders

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 — Meet and Greet Luncheon in the Lounge of Family Life Center.
7:00 pm — 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.
Tuesday, October 4th — Sharing Christ begins! Register online.
Saturday, October 13th — 33rd Habitat for Humanity Catholic Build Sign-up this weekend at the table near the office area. Our parish will help with the build and provide food items. We will also have a Second Collection for Habitat on October 13 & 14th. Contact Lonnie Graeber with any questions at l.pgraeber2@comcast.net.
Tuesday, October 16th — RCIA begins! Register online.
Tuesday, October 23rd — Discovering Christ begins! Register online.
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
Office phone: 601-992-9547



September 23, 2018
Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Paul Women's Guild Photos



*You are invited to celebrate the **Month's Mind for Pat Hurley**
Wednesday, September 26, 2018 @ 6:00 pm Mass
(light reception following Mass in the Learning Center cafeteria)*

What is the Month's Mind you may ask? Well, it is a long-standing tradition and practice in the Irish Culture. I am not sure of any other places that celebrate the Month's Mind, but I do hear of clusters of Irish families in places such as England, Australia, and the U.S. who hold onto the practice.

The Month's Mind is an opportunity to gather and celebrate a memorial for a loved one who has died, sometime around a month after that person's burial. The practice is born out of the reality and awareness that quite often the time of the funeral is a period of shock and disorientation for the family. Many people on leaving the services pledge to the immediate family they will pray for and support them. Sometimes, friends & neighbors say, "If you need anything at all, just call me. I will be there for you!" It is not surprising that such a generous offer is rarely acted upon.

The Month's Mind is a practice to bring that sort of support and invitation more into perspective, and to renew support of the immediate family. It is also a recognition that some of the shock may be wearing off, and the reality is setting in. This is a good time to gather anew to show support and love for the family. Since I cannot be with my family in Ireland for the Month's Mind, the staff is hosting one here with my St. Paul family. Please join us if you can! —Fr. Gerry

The St. Paul Women's Guild

We are featuring the St. Paul Women's Guild this weekend as they kick off the year with fun and fellowship. This is a group of women who love the Lord, desire to serve the parish and community, and have fun together. Read on to get to know this group better, and to understand their purpose and opportunities. The women of the parish are invited to join us this Monday for our first day of events for the new year. See the back page & our St. Paul website for details.

History ~

The Women's Guild began as the Catholic Women's Association (CWA) in 1978, around the same time our Parish was established. The archives for the CWA outline their activities as cleaning the parish kitchen, caring for the altar linens, preparing weekly meals for the pastor and monthly meals for the YMCA Hospitality House, visiting the elderly, funding a nursery during Sunday Masses, sponsoring flowers for special celebrations, providing food and service for parish receptions, fund raising, Bible Study, and social activities. They purchased appliances for the parish kitchen, contributed money for a Nativity Scene, plant decanters for the altar, church pews, and a lending library.

This organization has evolved over the years in response to the needs of the parish and the women. Some of their activities and services have changed hands and even moved into separate parish ministries. Throughout their history, what has remained is the women's commitment to the parish. Reading the archives clearly reveals how active they have been in the life of the parish since its beginning. They have always had a great love for St. Paul Parish, the community and each other, which is an expression of their strong love for God. Many of the first officers and members are still present and active in the Women's Guild today!

Today ~

The Mission of the Women's Guild today is to "build fellowship and community by encouraging lasting friendships among the women of the parish through spiritual, social and charitable events." Their means of accomplishing this mission is by **1) providing spiritual enrichment; 2) participating as a group in a social service activity; 3) developing deeper Christian fellowship; 4) sponsoring one fundraising activity per year 5) participating in Guild and parish activities through attendance, prayer and talents.**

The Women's Guild does not require membership and they do not pay dues. Participation in the Guild is open to all women over the age of 18. They have elected officers and Committee Chairs. Any woman may attend any event or activity with no further obligation. Female parishioners, non-parishioner family members and friends are welcome. Various programs are offered from **September to May** each year.

Why not give it a try? You just may find a new life-long friend! Friendships formed by a spiritual bond provide nourishment to women in companionship with other women. Their journey is unique in the way they offer each other encouragement, prayer, and emotional support.

Our Guild is currently under the leadership of President Cheryl Marsh who describes the group as women who love the Lord, desire to serve the parish and community, and have fun together. This year, there is **emphasis on women's spirituality with three special events** in the works:

- ◆ *Advent Retreat Day "Hospitality of the Soul" at St. Mary of the Pines in Chatawa, presented by the Jackson Diocese*
- ◆ *Spring Day of Reflection and Healing for women of the Parish in the Family Life Center*
- ◆ *Overnight Retreat at St. Mary of the Pines with facilitator Fran LaVelle May 3-5, 2019*

Invitation to the Parish ~

We are really excited to promote and host these opportunities that nurture and nourish women's spirituality. We are eager for women to join us and look forward to feedback as to ways to grow and develop women's spirituality.

We recognize that Saint Paul is a very active parish, and that there are numerous activities competing for our parishioners time and talents.....especially time. Our Parish offers Bible Studies, Religious Education, ChristLife, RCIA, and all the Ministries around the altar. There are so many choices vying for your time, energy, and attention. **We respectfully invite all women to join us for one, or more, activities, and enjoy the fellowship of like-minded women. The Women's Guild is working to be more deliberate and focused in our programming, and we are working to provide a mix of service, charitable and fun activities. We seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit in planning and executing our programs. We have prayer and a Charity Box at each meeting. Attendees are asked to donate an item suitable for the featured charity.**

Fruits of Membership from the President ~

Cheryl Marsh has been a member for more than four years, and is currently serving her second year as President of the Women's Guild. Prior, she served two years as the chair of the Devotional Committee, and has been active in the Craft Sale, Bereavement Committee, Serving Food to the Opportunity Center, and serving at the RCIA and First Communion Receptions. She said, **"Being new to this parish, the Women's Guild was a wonderful way for me to jump right in and get involved, meeting people and volunteering. The women were very welcoming, and I soon found a way to be more involved. Being new to a community and a parish, and transitioning from working full-time to retirement, it was life-saving for me to find a place where I was welcomed and invited to be an active participant. This group has enhanced my faith experience because I met women who openly share their faith experience and their life journey. Women openly shared their stories — the ups and the downs — with an eye and ear to how God is working in their lives.**

"In many ways, being active in Women's Guild is like being in a Small Group of Faith Sharing. We don't focus on formal teaching, but rather on lived experiences. I have learned so much from these women. Through it all, there is a love and laughter that is life-sustaining. I can get formal faith experiences from a variety of sources, I can only get the personal experience in relationship with others. It is different being in a group with all women than in a mixed group. Both are good, but the intimacy of faith-sharing with other women is just special and precious. I appreciate the Women's Guild for being there, and I pray I can pass on to the next newcomer what I, myself, have received."

Seeking your gifts & talents ~

We are open to fresh, new ideas; we need volunteers to help with cooking, baking, serving, cleaning. We especially need someone to head the Fundraising Committee, and women to help us prepare for a Rummage Sale with organizing donations, pricing, and setting up.

Keep up with the latest ~

FaceBook — search St. Paul Women's Guild **Band APP** — by invitation only; join at a meeting

Email — send a note to wgstpaul@gmail.com and we will add you to the mailing list

Bulletin Notes & Flyers & Website Notices & Mass Announcements

Everyone 18 years and older is invited to **Bingo Night** on October 19th. Cash Prizes!

All ages are invited to the **Rummage, Food, and Bake Sale** on November 10-11th.