 MASS SCHEDULE
Out of deep pastoral concern for the most vulnerable, public celebration of Masses has been temporarily suspended.

St. Paul's Church is open for silent prayer Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. till 6:30 p.m.

We are a parish family that strives to live our Catholic faith by vibrant worship of God and loving service to others, all through God’s grace.
St. Paul's Catholic Church

St. Petersburg, FL

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

Monday, April 13th
Russell Benfanti Sr.

Tuesday, April 14th
Mary Anne Barnes

Wednesday, April 15th
Viola Schmalz and Margaret Bauer

Thursday, April 16th
Olga "Micki" Barnes

Friday, April 17th
Peggy & Jack Aldrich and Jim Aldrich

Saturday, April 18th
Angeline & Vincent Sadosky

Sunday, April 19th
For St. Paul's Parishioners
Intentions of Bill & Lee Ann Kinzler and family

9:30 a.m.
(On-line Mass).

Stewardship

a way of life

Is what I do after I say “I believe”...

Offertory total for April 5, 2020:

145 Envelopes ........................................ $ 9,963.00
Loose ........................................................ $ 1,673.00
AOP (debit) .............................................. $ 14,622.00
AOP (credit card) ...................................... $ 16,554.17
ConnectNow Online .................................. $ 11,023.50
Offertory Total ........................................ $ 53,835.67

The Lord is truly risen, alleluia.
To him be glory and power.
(Entrance Antiphon, Easter Sunday)

Thank you to our parishioners
for your generosity at Easter.

Parish Website ........................................www.stpaulstpete.com
Parish Office 727.822.3481 parishoffice@stpaulstpete.com
Admin. Assistants ____________________________Liz Embree & Mary Carney
Pastoral Associate ___________________________Annamaria Carnahan
Outreach Ministry ......................................Sr. Kathleen Stagnaro, OSF
Youth & Young Adult Minister ............................Audrey Kovacic
.....................................................audrey@stpaulstpete.com
Organist & Choir Director ........................................Catherine Cole
St. Vincent de Paul Society ...............................ext. 50
Children’s Center ........................................Crystal Hernandez ext. 18
.....................................................crystal@stpaulstpete.com
Prayer Team .............................................auntdebbie50@aol.com
Bulletin Contact .........................................bulletin@stpaulstpete.com
School ........................................................Genny Callier, Principal
.....................................................stpaul1930.org 727.823.6144
Counseling Ministry ...Mary Ann Holtz, LMHC 727.327.5045
Facebook ..................................................www.facebook.com/my.stpaulstpete
Twitter ......................................................@StPaulStPete

From the Pastor

Clear out the old yeast,
so that you may become a fresh batch of dough . . .
For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed.
Therefore, let us celebrate the feast,
not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness,
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
(1st Corinthians 5: 7-8)
(Second Reading, Easter Sunday Mass)

Rather than complain about the stay-at-home order that came down from the public officials, I decided to make hay while the sun shines, as they say. I told myself, “Let’s not fritter away this down time, Robert, but let’s get serious about clearing out junk and clutter that has accumulated over time on campus.”

So I asked our parishioner Shawn Fernald to loan me a dump trailer. He parked it by the Rectory garage on the Friday before Palm Sunday, the day I’m writing this column. I have every intention of making a substantial dent in my long-delayed, long-avoided clean-out project. We’ll see how it goes.

Easter, the celebration of the Lord’s Resurrection, is all about new life, new birth, hope, change, renewal, being forgiven, rising up, conquering death, joy, glory.

We don’t know what life will be like after the pandemic dissipates. But we sense it will be different. May it be different in a good way. May this down time we are now experiencing cause us to reflect on what in our life is the old yeast that needs to be cleared out. May this reflection prompt us to change things for the better, and foster in us deeper bonds of reverence, solidarity, compassion, and friendship.

Msgr. Robert C. Gibbons, Pastor

Easter Mass will be live-streamed Apr. 12

Sunday Mass for Easter Sunday will be live-streamed from St. Paul's Convent Chapel on Sunday, April 12th, at 9:30 a.m., on our parish Facebook page. It will be available starting at approximately 9:20 a.m. If you do not have a Facebook account, you can access it on your computer, tablet, or phone by using this link: www.facebook.com/my.stpaulstpete/ Following the conclusion of Mass, the full video will be available on the parish’s YouTube page. Search for “St. Paul’s Catholic Church St. Petersburg” on YouTube.

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com
From Msgr. Gibbons’ e-mail Inbox

Msgr. Gibbons received this e-mail message from a parishioner on Monday of this past week. She wrote, “I just want to send my heartfelt thanks to the parish staff and parishioners for all that is being done to keep our parish feeling connected during this unprecedented time. The online Masses, the live-stream rosary, the on-line prayer line… it’s bringing some normalcy to a very strange time. But the palms distribution on Palm Sunday especially touched me, actually choked me up as I drove through the line and saw all the faithful parish staff waving and smiling, and heard the bells ringing. It was just what I needed and another reminder of how very blessed we are to be a part of St. Paul’s.” Thank you to everyone for keeping our St. Paul’s family spirit alive in these days of social distancing.

Diocese’s APA supports new homeless project in Tampa

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic (and at the request of the City of Tampa), Charities of the Diocese of St. Petersburg has opened Hillsborough Hope, a 200-bed shelter for the homeless, modeled on Pinellas Hope. Thank you to our parishioners who are still supporting the Diocese’s Annual Pastoral Appeal for 2020, despite the unsettled times. Pledges from St. Paul’s families now number 164. The total amount pledged is $58,779. The average pledge is $358. Thirty-seven (37) families have pledged $500 or more to the campaign. The APA is vital in helping our parish meet its $183,485 annual assessment obligation to the Diocese. Your APA contributions reduce the assessment dollar-for-dollar. Plus, you support the ministries of our Bishop and the Diocese. To make an APA pledge or donation online, go to https://s.dosp.org/give. Or you may use the pledge materials or envelopes you received by mail. APA envelopes are also available in the Church vestibule.

Easter Egg Distribution on Easter Sunday

Since we can’t have our traditional St. Paul’s Easter Egg Hunt on the playground this year, we’re planning a drive-thru distribution of colorful plastic Easter Eggs for the children (with surprises inside!) in the St. Paul’s parking lot on Easter Sunday, April 12th, between Noon and 1 p.m. Note: Cars should enter the parking lot from the north end (by the cafeteria) and exit by the south end. This will facilitate the flow of traffic.

K of C Offers Special Service

St. Paul’s Knights of Columbus would like to offer our parishioners a special service during the Coronavirus disruption: If you for any reason are unable to leave your home and need pickup and delivery of essential items from the grocery or drug store, a member of the Knights will do the pickup and delivery. You simply pay the cost of the items to the Knight; the pickup and delivery service is free. The items will be left at your door, to maintain social-distancing. Please call the Parish office between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. (Monday thru Friday) if you need this service. Phone 727.822.3481.

Registration of New Parishioners

We normally register our new parishioners at a welcome meeting on the first Sunday of the month. Since public Masses are suspended at present, and gatherings not allowed, we invite all those who wish to register in the parish to e-mail their mailing address to parishoffice@stpaulstpete.com. We will then send you the registration form in the mail. If you have questions, phone the parish office at 727.822.3481.

Church is Open for Prayer

Remember that St. Paul’s Church is open for prayer, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. till 6:30 p.m. You are welcome to stop in to pray in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament reserved in the tabernacle. You may also pray at the Grotto.

Palm Sunday Drive-thru Last Week

Parishioners turned out in full force for the drive-thru distribution of palms and food collection. The number of cars that rolled thru St. Paul’s parking lot was 305! Word was that cars were backed up all the way to 22nd Ave N. Parishioners responded super-generously to the food drive during the distribution of palms. We filled three trucks with donations for the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry.

2020 Vacation Bible School Canceled

It was a difficult choice to cancel VBS for this summer. VBS requires a substantial up-front financial investment, plus weeks of planning, plus the need to recruit many volunteers ahead of time. Under the present uncertain circumstances, when we are not able to determine when restrictions on personal interactions and gatherings might be lifted, it seemed the prudent course to cancel VBS for this year. However…there is some good news! There will be a Parish celebration, sometime this Summer, to mark the reopening of our Parish activities and the reuniting of our Parish families! Details and particulars to follow, but keep connected to us. We will let everyone know of the plans when we are given the OK for gatherings, and a date has been set. Please stay safe, until we are all together again!
Please Pray for the Healing of the Sick, especially:

Michael Angelo
Kathy Grabowski
Ladaisha Kelzer
Mary Kay Thornton
Madison Stagnaro
Father Jerome
Jean Shafer
Luis Antonio Gaviria
Amy Revennaugh
Nancy Kirk
Betty-Jo Wray-Fears
Marcello Moreno
Brian Nelson
Jane Huffman
Decker Sawicki
John Mazzella
Florentino Rodriguez
Monica Gray
Cherie Marceano
Cassidy Otto
Karson Galloway
James and Lucia Martin
Brittany Newton
Darryl Trosclair
Mark Shames
Lisa Romeo
Barbara Callahan
Rose Multer
Janet Kincaid
Mark Borden
Lorraine Kreiger
Jesus Moreno
Gene Brock
Carol Baer
Cody Deso
Mike Gordon
Ashlea McDaniel
Erin Patrick Huffman
Bill Glim
Mary Ann Mauceri
Deborah Burke
Lee Fulmer
Scott Greu
Carlen Maddux
Lawrence King
Patty Thornton
Declon Newton
Richard Brannelly
Kay Sherman
Eric Nelson
Edward Igoe
Brian Kuhn
Mike Becker
Pauline Wilkens
John Heuer
Ken Ford
Don Parker
Michael Baer
Susan Johnson
Jim Locher
Janet Sousa
Serena Seasioba
Faith Kriner
Sean Murphy
Brian Schauder
Irene Zon
Eleanor Jonasson
Becky Clark
Jackie Blosser
Aloyse Larson

To add a name to this list, please contact the Parish Office.

Please Pray for Our Military


Resources for Deepening Faith at Home

To help our parishioners stay connected to our Catholic faith and practice during this time of Coronavirus, here are some links to valuable spiritual resources:

- A website where you can find Catholic Mass and other Catholic broadcasts on the web: [http://www.catholictv.org/](http://www.catholictv.org/)
- Many options for viewing religious materials are available at Formed.org. Follow these steps to gain access: (1) Go to Formed.org/signup. (2) Select our parish by entering our code, DF767R, or search by our parish name, St. Paul, and choose the St. Paul parish with our address (1800 - 12th St N, St. Petersburg, FL). (3) Enter your name and e-mail address to complete the faith formation videos, children’s videos, and audio talks.
- Two popular booklets are offering complimentary access to their online versions during these difficult times. “Give Us This Day” can be accessed at: [https://giveusthisday.org/Digital](https://giveusthisday.org/Digital). “Magnificat” is available at [https://us.magnificat.net/home](https://us.magnificat.net/home). These two resources include brief daily Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer, inspirational short biographies of saints, daily Mass texts, and daily reflections.

Daily Mass Intentions

Daily Mass intentions listed in the bulletin will be remembered at Masses offered by Msgr. Gibbons and Fr. Josh Hare each day in the Rectory Chapel and at the Sunday 9:30 a.m. Mass streamed from the Convent Chapel.

Making a Spiritual Communion

If we are unable to participate in Mass and receive Holy Communion during the pandemic, we should make what is called a “spiritual communion.” This practice consists of consciously raising our heart and mind to God in prayer, contemplating his presence in the Holy Eucharist, and saying the following or similar words:

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Regarding spiritual communion, St. John Vianney wrote: “If we are deprived of Sacramental Communion, let us replace it, as far as we can, by spiritual communion, which we can make every moment; for we ought to have always a burning desire to receive the good God.”
Practical Suggestions about Prayer
By Msgr. Mike Muhr

Many years ago, a friend of mine made the following critique about most of the homilies he had heard over the years. He said, “You priests do a great job suggesting what we could do to grow spiritually, but you stop before you show us how to do it.” He suggested more homilies with a “How to” approach. That’s what I would like to offer here: “Some Practical Suggestions about Prayer.”

The first thing that the spiritual masters of our Catholic heritage would mention is the need for silence and quiet. Unless we find a way to turn off the noise and distractions outside our bodies and inside our hearts and minds, we’ll never hear God who comes to us like to Elijah as “a small, still voice.” 1Kgs 19:12

You may say, “How can I find the time for silence. Life is so busy, so crazy busy?” I remember years ago visiting a Trappist monastery where the priest began his homily by saying, “I want to apologize for this message today. I have been so busy…” I thought to myself—Wow! If a MONK in a MONASTERY does not have enough time, something is really wrong!

It isn’t easy to find the time, but the counsel to develop the habit of silence remains. The experts would say that even if I had only 15 minutes to pray and it took 12 minutes to become somewhat quiet and peaceful leaving only 3 minutes to speak and listen to the Lord, it would be worth it and more beneficial than forcing our conversation earlier.

But what if it just seems too hard to quiet the inside noise and distractions that seem to bombard us when we pray? That’s what I’d like to consider in next week’s article: “Coping with Distractions.”

Msgr. Muhr is Director of Ministry to Priests in the Diocese of St. Petersburg and Administrator of St. Brendan’s Church, Clearwater Beach.

St. Paul’s on-line Faith Sharing Group

Since we can’t gather as a parish community in-person at the present time, we have launched an on-line faith sharing group on Facebook. It focuses on the Sunday Readings for the upcoming Sunday’s Mass. To find the Group, search for “St. Paul’s St. Pete Weekly Faith Sharing Group” on Facebook. Thanks to parishioners Jeff Johnson & Caitlin Johnston for spearheading this initiative.

33 Days to Morning Glory, an at-home mini retreat

Our parishioners are invited to participate in “33 Days to Morning Glory,” an at-home mini-retreat. The purpose of the retreat is to prepare us to consecrate our lives and our families to Jesus through Mary, based on the teachings of St Louis de Montfort. The retreat started on Good Friday (4/10) and concludes on the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima (5/13). It consists of one, 75-min weekly meeting via Zoom on Wednesdays at 7 p.m., as well as a few pages of daily reading about Marian devotion as taught by St. John Paul II, St. Teresa of Calcutta, St. Louis de Montfort, and St. Maximilian Kolbe. Contact parishoffice@stpaulstpete.com for more information or to register. It is not too late to join the group.

From Our Counseling Ministry

Mary Ann Holtz watched this video from a grief expert who worked with Elizabeth Kubler Ross, and recommends it to our parishioners: https://youtu.be/pSOZAnbzFuA
This is an article from another favorite grief expert: https://www.centerforloss.com/2020/03/coronavirus-six-needs/

More Photos
“Drive-thru” for Distribution of Palms and Food Drive on Palm Sunday, April 5

Laurie Johnson Mason is second from left in this photo of the health care team doing Coronavirus testing at Raymond James Stadium.

Theatre Professor Jessica Thonen shows off the type of mask she and her students at Eckerd College are creating for health care workers in the community.

Maggie Hand (no. 13) has been named to the All-County girls basketball team (honorable mention). A student at St. Petersburg Catholic High School, she is an alumna of St Paul Catholic School.

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Pray often for the souls of your loved ones and please consider joining us at the Month’s Mind Mass on the last Saturday of every month at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel of the Resurrection.

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