

Please Pray For . . . Sophia Shaw, Eutawna Clark, Rita Pooler, Thomas Queen, Carol LaMontagne, Carolyn Dutton, Marie Magill, David Sceggell, Lisa Carey, Beth Rebello, Paul Hegarty, Glen Brotchie, Donna Wilson, Linda Wilson, Terry Plourde, Isabella Buccafusca and all who are ill, in nursing homes, and for those who are hospitalized,

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 25

4:30 pm

Sister Mary Sullivan

Sunday, July 26

8:00 am

Marianne Camarda

10:15 am

Michele Epstein

6:30 pm

Alice Halter

Monday, July 27

9:00 am

Andrzej Bortkiewicz

Tuesday, July 28

9:00 am

John Cox

Wednesday, July 29

9:00 am

Robert Greeley

Thursday, July 30

9:00 am

Fank Selvitella

Friday, July 31

9:00 am

James Murphy

Saturday, August 1

4:30 pm

Jean Larkin

Sunday, August 2

8:00 am

Thomas Mullen

10:15 am

Ronald Johnson

6:30 pm

For the Parish

Second Collection – This Weekend

The second collection on the weekend of July 25th & 26th supports the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. While the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union endured decades of communist oppression, the church suffered grave wounds to its spiritual life and its ability to serve the people. Through this collection, Catholics can now build bridges to these countries, spread God's Word over vast areas with modern communications media, train Church leaders of tomorrow, help needy families materially and spiritually, rebuild churches that have fallen, and support the sisters and brothers who have suffered for the faith.

Eucharistic Adoration

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for your adoration in the chapel on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The Blessed Sacrament will be reserved in the tabernacle for your adoration at all other times. The lit sanctuary lamp is always a sign of the presence of the Lord and is an invitation to all who wish to come and spend some quiet time with the Lord.

Respect Lifeline

Children deserve to grow up with a healthy understanding of sexuality and its proper place in human relationships. They should be spared the degrading manifestations and the crude manipulation of sexuality so prevalent today. They have a right to be educated in authentic moral values rooted in the dignity of the human person. This brings us back to our consideration of the centrality of the family and the need to promote the Gospel of life. What does it mean to speak of child protection when pornography and violence can be viewed in so many homes through media widely available today? We need to reassess urgently the values underpinning society, so that a sound moral formation can be offered to young people and adults alike.

Pope Benedict XVI, Celebration of Vespers and Meeting with the Bishops of the United States of America (April 16, 2008)

Home Visits

In the spirit of reaching out to those in our parish who are confined to their homes, in the hospital or other care facilities, or to those who would just like a visit, we here at St. Paul's are visiting individuals and couples, Catholic and non-Catholics alike. If you would like someone to visit you or know a friend, a relative or neighbor who would enjoy a visit, this may be an opportunity to bring them a measure of enjoyment. Please call the rectory at 978-468-2337 if you are interested.

Prayer for Our Troops

Father, hold our troops, especially **Adrian O'Neill** in your loving hands and protect them as they protect us. Be with them and comfort them with your loving presence while they are away from their homes. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need and grant us all peace, both as individuals and as a world community. We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son, with faith that you will hear and answer all our prayers according to your will. Amen

PREP 2009 - 2010 Enrollment

If you are new to the parish or have a child entering Grade 1, please email Jeanne Abbott at jeanne.abbott@verizon.net. If you are new to the parish and have a child entering Grade 7 - 10, please contact jackiemartin101@verizon.net

PREP registrations are now due. PREP forms and calendars have been emailed to all families who are currently enrolled in Religious Education classes. Please send in forms ASAP so we can plan classes for the fall. Forms can be sent to Jeanne Abbott at 50 Union Street, South Hamilton, MA 01982

First Communion Pictures

First Communion portraits are ready. Please pick up your portraits outside the PREP office located in the church hall.

Men's Prayer Group

Men's Prayer Group meets Saturday morning at 7:30 a.m. in the church. Please join us.

Presentation of Gifts at Mass

If you are having a special Mass intention on the weekend, please see an usher five minutes before Mass if you wish to bring up the gifts during the Offertory.

Grand Annual Goal: \$90,000

We thank all who have contributed to this year's Grand Annual Appeal. If you have not yet made your contribution, we hope that you will consider doing so. We need your help. Grand Annual envelopes are available at the entrances to the church.

Altar Servers

Altar Server schedules for the summer are posted on St. Paul's website (www.churchofsaintpaul.net) From the homepage, choose the CALENDAR tab, then the SCHEDULE tab.

Music and Resource Library

There are many spiritual books and CD's for all ages in our library which is located in the chapel. These resources are available for borrowing. Please be sure to sign out the materials being borrowed and return them in a timely manner for others to use.

We Welcome New Members to St. Paul's

If you are new to our parish, we wish to welcome you and hope that you find St. Paul's to be a warm and caring community. To register as a member of our parish, please call the rectory office at 978-468-2337. Registration can be completed in a few minutes over the phone or a form can be mailed to you or you can register on-line at www.churchofsaintpaul.net. See the Register tab.

JULY 19, 2009

BANNS OF Marriage

II

Stephanie Lynn Schroot

and

Gregory Joseph Sullivan

People's Prayer for Priests

Dear Lord,
we pray that the Blessed Mother
wrap her mantle around your priests
and through her intercession
strengthen them for their ministry.
We pray that Mary will guide your priests to follow
her own words,
"Do whatever He tells you" (Jn 2:5).

May your priests have the heart
of St. Joseph, Mary's most chaste spouse.
May the Blessed Mother's own pierced heart
inspire them to embrace all who suffer at the
foot of the cross.

May your priests be holy, filled with the fire of
your love seeking nothing but your greater glory
and the salvation of souls.
Amen.

I was hungry and you formed a humanities club to
discuss my hunger.
I was imprisoned and you crept off quietly to your
chapel to pray for my release.
I was naked and in your mind you debated the morality
of my appearance.
I was sick and you knelt and thanked God for your
health.
I was homeless and you preached to me of the
spiritual shelter of the love of God.
I was lonely and you left me alone to pray.

You seem so holy, so close to God.
But I'm still very hungry, and lonely and cold.

(anonymous)

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

There is a certain fast-food company that sells hamburgers. In their advertising, they claim that their product has the ability to satisfy our cravings. In fact, several television ads depict their hamburger calling people up on the phone, ostensibly getting them to stop whatever it is they are doing to satisfy their craving. Nothing can resist them! Is this company creative? Perhaps; but a better question might be, is their product fulfilling?

For a brief period our hunger is satisfied, but as with all urges and cravings, they soon return.

Today's Gospel reading is the only miracle story told in all four Gospels, the feeding of the five thousand. It is theorized by some that one aspect of the miracle was Jesus' belief in our ability to share. As the baskets of fish and bread were passed, the people took what they needed but shared some of what they had, as well. But the greater symbolism to take away from today's reading is that Jesus Christ, the bread of life, removes all hunger and all needs and continues to nourish us forever.

All that we crave truly resides in the loving arms of the Son of God.

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 2002), God has placed in all of us a longing for truth and goodness that only he can satisfy. "God immediately touches and directly moves the heart of man." The five thousand people had finally arrived at their destination, seeking to have their souls fed through the teachings of Jesus. And just as he instructed them to lie down in the grass, rest and be fed, so too are we to take this and every Sunday as an opportunity to rest, reflect, and be nourished by the Word of God.

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