

Mass Intentions and Parish Events**SATURDAY, December 19th**

3:30-4:30 PM Confessions (Church)

5:00 PM Mass (Church) *Potenciana T. Dayrit+***7:00 PM Mass (Church) *Perseveranda Vergara Reyno+*****FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - December 20th****8:00 AM Mass (Church) *James Reilly+***

9:15 AM RCIA (FLC2)

9:30 AM Faith Formation (School)

10:30 AM Chaplet of Divine Mercy (St. Joseph Chapel)

11:00 AM Mass (Church) *People of St. Paul's*

2:00 PM Monthly Movie (St. Joseph Chapel)

5:00 PM Spanish Bible Study (Conference RM)

5:00 PM Youth Spanish Bible Study (FLC3)

6:00 PM On the Road to Bethlehem (Grounds/FLC)

MONDAY December 21st**8:00 AM Mass (Church) *Stephen & Mary McHale***

7:00 PM Prayer Group

TUESDAY, December 22nd**8:00 AM Mass (Church) *Thomas J. Weiss+***

9:30 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry (Atrium)

5:00 PM Rehearsal (Church)

WEDNESDAY, December 23rd**8:30 AM Mass (Church) *Thomas Stanton+***

12:00 PM Wedding & Reception to follow (Church/FLC)

6:00 PM Gospel Choir (Church)

THURSDAY, December 24th**OFFICE CLOSSES AT 12:00 PM****4:00 PM Children's Mass (Church) *James A. Crowe+*****6:00 PM Mass (Church) *Susan & Rex Harwood+*****8:00 PM Spanish Mass (Church)****9:00 PM Posadas (FLC)****12:00 AM Mass (Church) *People of St. Paul's*****FRIDAY, December 25th NATIVITY OF THE LORD****OFFICE CLOSED****10:00 AM Mass (Church) *John Engeman and Francis Allen+*****SATURDAY, December 26th**

3:30-4:30 PM Confessions (Church)

5:00 PM Mass (Church) *People of St. Paul's***7:00 PM Mass (Church) *Lambonao Brothers & Sisters***

*To schedule a function in parish space or activities in the atrium, please contact **Dedra Hicks** at 638-1984. Facilities setup should be submitted **3 weeks** in advance of your event.*

Welcome New Parishioners

Have you recently moved into the area? Not so recently moved into the area? Have attended St. Paul's for several years and just never had the chance to register? Registration is very simple - just call the church office during regular business hours.

Ministers of the Liturgy**Saturday, December 26th****5:00 PM Mass****Reader:**

Fletcher Walsh and Dottie Dunham

Eucharistic Ministers:

Jan Conaty, Noah Fisher, Denise Smith, Ann Tetreault and Sandy Oxford

Servers:

Kyle & Sabrina Dupas, Jacob Fisher, Anthony Rossi and Eric Storniolo

7:00 PM Mass (Hispanic)**Sunday, December 27th****8:00 AM Mass****Reader:**

William Dove and Beverly Hartung

Eucharistic Ministers:

Chick Natella, Tom & Paula Hartman and Nancy & Richard Tomasik

Servers:

Ryan Miller, Ginnie Mae, Katlyn & Robert Montedonico, Shane Murphy and Elizabeth Ann Snapp

11:00 AM Mass**Reader:**

Mike Genovese and Tiffany Dove

Eucharistic Ministers:

Bert & Suzanne Linkonis, Mary Ann Clay and Hannah & Clark French

Servers:

Harrison & Sam Cho, Alexander Fravor, Danielle Hunter, Chelsea Lashgari and Megan McLaughlin

ATTENTION ALTAR SERVERS

Please sign up to serve a Christmas Mass. The sign-up sheet is in the priests' vesting room.

Daily Readings

Week December 20th to December 27th

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Monday: Sg 2:8-14/Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17,22-25/
Mt 1:1-25

Friday: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10/Mt 10:17-22

Sunday: Sir 3:2-7, 12-14/Col 3:12-21/Lk 2:41-52

*The Pastor
Jots it Down*



As you read this I am in Raleigh making the last (I hope) of my Home Mission Society Appeals. There are seven Masses, two in Spanish and five in English; it will be the most Masses I have preached at in many years. Please pray that this Mission Appeal will be a success; there are many poor congregations throughout eastern North Carolina that depend on it.

Your generosity to last Sunday's appeal for The Religious Retirement fund was most generous. Our parish gave \$11,500.00. This is outstanding and I thank all of you. When I was ordained in 1961 Religious Sisters teaching in our schools were paid \$50.00 per month for nine months. With stipends like this you can understand why they were never able to save for their retirement years. The generosity of our people around the country is helping to make up for this need. In 1972 Sisters' stipends began to grow and only in the 1980's did the stipends begin to be a living, saving stipend. Of course, most of this stipend goes to the Community for the care of elderly sisters, not to the individuals.

I am almost embarrassed, but not really, to mention that the first collection for our Priests' Retirement Fund is at the Christmas Masses. I know that you will as generous as you can be to this important fund.

Since I will miss seeing you this weekend, I take this opportunity to wish all of you who will be away for Christmas a safe trip and a most blessed and happy Christmas.

Love, blessings and Merry Christmas to all!
Monsignor Gerald Lewis
Administrator

**PRIESTS RETIREMENT FUND
COLLECTION**

There are currently 25 retired Raleigh Diocesan Priests. These men have served the faithful of North Carolina for a life time and now need our support. In the 1940's, '50's and 60's they received only a meager stipend and were not able to save for their retirement, so we must care for them. Our parish assessment this year is \$55,128.00 for the Retirement Fund. Please be as generous as you can be.

**UPCOMING BULLETIN
ANNOUNCEMENT DEADLINE**

January 3rd bulletin announcements due by 4:00 PM on **December 21st**

Please email your announcements to Debi at stpaulsecretary@suddenlinkmail.com

Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24 Vigil Mass

4:00 PM Children's Mass

6:00 PM

8:00 PM in Spanish

December 25, Christmas Day

12:00 Midnight

10:00 AM

The Saint Paul Church Office

will be closed beginning at 12:00 PM on

Thursday, December 24, 2009

and will reopen on

Monday, January 4, 2010.

Phone messages and mail will be checked regularly.

The St. Paul Staff

Wishes you a very Merry Christmas

and

A Joyous New Year!

Feeding the Hungry

Our next **St. Paul Food Collection** to assist our Latino brothers and sisters will be held **this** weekend December 19th & 20th. Some great items to consider are powdered milk, juice boxes, fruit snacks, beans, rice, sugar, peanut butter, canned meats, spaghetti, oil, instant potatoes, masa for tortillas and toilet paper. Please make note that this special food collection is taken up the 3rd weekend of each month. Thank you all for your kindness, generosity and openness in helping to continue our mission to put an end to hunger!



Please Pray for the Loved Ones of Our Recently Deceased

Jean Kantner

Frank Cuff

John Schoenwaelder

and

Reverend James Dull

Parochial Vicar of St. Catherine Church

Wake Forest, NC

SAINT PAUL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Notes from Mrs. Mahoney

Today we celebrate the 4th Sunday of Advent. Emmanuel - "God is with us", rings in our hearts as we prepare to receive our Lord once again this Christmas Day. Christmas is not about the presents or the shopping or the dinner or the parties. Christmas is about the love and joy that Jesus brings to each of us. I feel this love and joy in the children who attend our school and parish.

Our Christmas Concert last Wednesday evening, was a celebration of the season of anticipation and love. What a joy to see and hear our band, our strings orchestra and all our children singing.

Join us at the 4:00 Mass on Christmas Eve to feel the children's excitement and joy of our Lord's birth. It is always touching to hear the children sing, and watch as little children visit the Nativity scene for the first time during the Christmas season.

May God give each of us a child's wonder and awe of Christ's birth.



St. Paul School

ON THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM

Come join us...ON THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM *this* Sunday, December 20th, 6:00pm to 7:30pm. We will have Live nativity in front of the church, Advent / Christmas Carols and Scripture Stories in Church and Refreshments in the Family Life Center! Bring your family and friends and enjoy the beauty of the true meaning of the Holy Season. For more information, please call Joy Harsen, 229-2394.

CHRISTMAS CHURCH DECORATING

Come join the joy of the season and help decorate our church for Christmas on Monday, December 21st beginning at 9:30 AM. We are in need of bow makers, ornament hangers and all around decorators. This is always a fun time as we watch the transformation of our Church! If you can spare some time, please join us! Students in grades 3 and above are welcome and earn service hours. The festivities generally wrap up around 2:00 PM.

Let's Help Build A School Together!

Earlier this year an invitation was extended to the young adults in our diocese who may have a desire to share their time and talent in Honduras to help build a school. Our parish has been blessed with a parishioner, Tony Lackey, who has responded to this call. **Now our help is needed!** The school cannot be built without resources so the Knights of Columbus will be accepting **our** donations at the church entrances **this** weekend, December 19th and 20th. Thank you for your generosity.

FAITH FORMATION INFORMATION

December 20 - Regular Class
December 27 - Christmas Holiday *No Class*
January 3 - New Years Holiday *No Class*

Youth News

Confirmation and Spy are on break! We will resume classes on January 10th in the FLC at 5.30 in the evening. We certainly hope that everyone enjoys their holidays!

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY LITURGY

Children's Sunday Liturgy held during the 11:00 AM Mass will follow the same schedule as the Faith Formation schedule during the holiday season.

Managing Money According to God's Principles

On Saturday, January 9, 2010 there will be an Explanation Meeting with a short explanatory video in the conference room. The meeting will begin at 10:00 AM, the same time the course will be presented. Please come prepared to purchase necessary books should you decide to participate. The books will cost \$45 for a single person and \$55 for a couple.

The course itself will begin on January 23, 2010 and will run for 10 weeks. It will meet in the conference room on Saturday mornings from 10:00 AM until noon. This course gives practical help with your finances. The Bible has 2,340 references to money or wealth. During this 10-week course, you will learn how to apply God's Wisdom to your own financial situation. A small group format is used for discussion but you will never be required to divulge your own particular financial information.

11th Annual Rally, Breakfast and March for Life 2010

Prayer Breakfast for Life

January 16, 2010

Holiday Inn Brownstone Hotel

1707 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC

\$25/clergy, student or senior 65+, \$30/person, \$50/
married couple

9:30 AM Buffet/ 10:00 AM Program

Rally and March

Nash Square - Hargett and McDowell Streets

January 16, 2009 at 1:00 PM

Featured Speakers:

Angela Franks, Ph. D., author of *Margaret Sanger's Eugenic Legacy: The Control of Female Fertility*

Deanna Jones, author of *To Be a Mother... Adopting God's Heart*

Vocalist

Alyse Player

www.alyseplayer.com

Registration Forms available in the Atrium

For travel assistance, please contact the church office

Share the Spirit

By now, the gifts under the Share the Spirit Tree have been distributed. Parish families, Coastal Women's Shelter, the Pregnancy Center, Catholic Charities, Senior Pharmacy and the residents of area nursing homes have received generous gifts from the family of God here at St. Paul. On behalf of all those who received the gifts of your sharing - thank you for your generous giving spirit. Thank you, too, for "sharing the spirit" with St. Paul School by using the Script program to purchase gift cards as well as using cards to purchase needed items.

We are grateful to the many volunteers who shared their time so that this wonderful St. Paul tradition of sharing with the local community could continue. Merry Christmas to each of you, and may the Christ Child be born anew in your heart this Christmas morning. Mike and Karen Moore



GRIEF GROUP

The loss of a loved one is, for most of us, the most painful and profound experience. We would like to extend our deep sympathy and prayers at the loss of your loved one. The grieving journey is one that can not be taken alone. Bev Redding (former Oncology/Hospice Nurse and Therapist in private practice dealing with grief and loss) and I would like to invite you to come for 7 Wednesdays - January 20 & 27; February 3, 10 & 24; March 3 & 10. We will not meet on Ash Wednesday, February 17. Each session will be held from 10:00 - 11:30 AM in the St. Joseph Chapel. If interested, call Irene Swanteson, Third Order Dominican (assistant) at 638-9306 or the church office 638-1984. Facilitators: Sr. Monique Dissen, IHM and Bev Redding.

Movie of the Month

"Mary's House"

In July 2006, Pope Benedict XVI celebrated Mass in Ephesus, near Selcuk, Turkey to declare a certain place as a shrine of Virgin Mary and a place of pilgrimage for Christians and Muslims, who also revere Mary. Every August 15 a ceremony is held there to commemorate the Assumption of Mary into Heaven. Where is this place? It is Mary's House to which it is believed the Apostle John took Mary to live and be cared for as his "mother" after the death of her Son, Jesus until her own death some years later. Join us on **Dec. 20, at 2:00 p.m. in the Chapel** to watch this film. All are welcome!

Washington March for Life

The Raleigh Respect Life Group is reserving buses for the Annual March for Life on Friday, January 22, 2010. The cost of the trip is \$45.00 per person. Make your reservation through email address: blk4jnj@juno.com. Reservations and payments are due no later than Monday, January 4, 2010. If you have any questions, please call Kathy Klein at 815-1369 or Bob Klein at 815-3237.

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

All new parents and soon-to-be new parents are invited to attend a Baptism Preparation Class to be held in the Family Life Center Room 2 on Sunday, January 10 from 2:00-4:00 PM. Preparing for your first child's baptism is not only a requirement of our diocese but a great beginning to your child's faith journey. Please call the church office to make a reservation, 638-1984.

Stewardship is a way of life that we choose to live, using the gifts entrusted to us by God, based on the teachings of Jesus Christ.

**Combined Offertory & Building Income
July 1, 2009 to December 13, 2009**

Total budgeted amount:	\$1,255,013.00
Average weekly total needed to meet budget (includes Holy Days):	\$ 24,134.87
Actual average weekly total to date (includes Holy Days):	\$ 21,186.73
Weekly average deficit :	\$ 2,948.14
Monthly Mortgage Interest	\$ 18,361.93
Mortgage Principal	\$ 16,765.63
Total Payment	\$ 35,127.56
Total Mortgage debt:	\$3,389,893.86

Offertory for:
December 13, 2009
Sunday Offering: **\$16,598.49**
Debt Reduction Fund: **\$3,360.99**
Religious Retirement Fund Collection: **\$11,568.29**

2010 MASS INTENTIONS

Mass intentions for 2010 are now available. Intentions are being scheduled for the months of January through June in the church office during regular business hours. Due to the limited number of weekend Masses available, only one weekend Mass may be scheduled.

**Single/Single Again Ministry
15th Anniversary Mass**

Fifteen years ago, a Dominican Friar presided at a Mass for a newly formed group of people in the Raleigh diocese – single, divorced or widowed persons over 35. We will celebrate this important milestone for the ministry at a Mass celebrated by the Dominican Fathers at Cardinal Gibbons High School on Sunday, JAN 24, 2010 starting at 5 pm. Dinner will follow mass. For more information, contact Celia Keator at 267.4759 or ckeator@nc.rr.com. Visit our website - <http://www.singlesingleagain.com/> - to learn more about this ministry.

Please pray for the members of our parish who are hospitalized and for those who are homebound. We also ask for prayers for our relatives, friends and neighbors serving in the Military. May God bless them all.

Thank You

Thank you to all the CDA members, the school families and children and to all our Parishioners who baked such wonderful things, as you usually do. If it wasn't for the wonderful Community spirit at St. Paul's it wouldn't have made our Christmas Bake Sale such a wonderful success! Thanks also for helping to set up and to all of you who volunteered to sell the "Goodies". The money earned will be a gift from all of us to the St. Paul's school and to the Children. We wish all of you a very Blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year with all of God's Blessings!

When the last few coins were counted the Catholic Daughters Boutique brought in \$15,000. Again many thanks to each of you for your hard work, participation, and support.

Parish Council Members

Mary Spano, Chairperson	633-4768	Thomas Hartman	636-0101
Marcie McLure, Secretary	633-2539	Pat Johnson	638-8930
Claude Cote	514-0032	Chick Natella	633-4370
Jim Dunham	638-9034	Dena Sierocki	638-9327
Joan Fisher	288-5440	Gerald Stallings	633-1096
Hannah French	638-2195	Richard Tomasik	633-9014
Mary Ann Harper	633-3473	Elena Turner	637-2852