

Saints Peter and Paul Parish

March 15, 2026
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Jn 9:1-41

1325 E. Boot Road
West Chester, PA 1938098

Office Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Friday 9:00 AM to Noon

We close for lunch from 12:15 PM to 1:15 PM Monday through Thursday

Phone 610.692.2216
Fax 610.692.7103
www.sspeterandpaulrc.org



“You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.”

Pastor

Father Michael Reilly

Parochial Vicar

Father Ganong Suh "Fr. Joseph"

Weekend Assistant

Rev. Dennis McGowan O.S.A.

Deacons

Deacon Patrick Stokely

Deacon Robert Pierce (Retired)

Secretary

Peggy Anne Fox ext. 238

Business Manager

Mari Lyons ext. 258

Director of Adult Faith Formation

Judy Magee ext. 263

Facilities Managers

David Leitch

Don Loudon

Director of Liturgical Music

Anna Marie Snader ext. 265

Principal of the School

610.696.1000

Nicole Pontious ext. 202

Vice Principal: Jennifer Peacock ext. 230

Advancement Director: Gwynne Gorr ext. 262

Administrative Assistant: Ro D'Angelo ext. 201

Business Manager: Elizabeth Walls ext. 205

Coordinator of Religious Education (CRE)

484.473.8315 or 484.473.8334

Michele D'Alessandro ext. 236

CYO

Joe Rodia, Athletic Director

jsrodia@comcast.net

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Finance Council Members

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1325 E. Boot Road
West Chester, PA 19380
Phone 610.692.2216
Fax 610.692.7103

www.sspeterandpaulrc.org

Church@Guest2015



Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM
Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, & 11:30 AM
Saturday: 8:30 AM
Weekdays: 8:30 AM

The 9:30 AM Mass on Sunday will be streamed permanently.

Baptisms

Baptisms are held on the second and fourth Sunday of every month, following the 11:30 AM Mass. A two hour Baptism Prep Class is mandatory if it has been more than 4 years since your last child was baptized. Classes are held on the third Sunday of every month. For more information or to register, please contact Judy Magee at:

jmagee@sspeterandpaulrc.org.

Eligibility to be a Sponsor

For a person to act as a sponsor for Baptism/Confirmation, they must receive a letter from the parish to which he or she belongs, stating: he or she is at least sixteen years old, must have already received all the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist). He or she must be able to fulfill the responsibilities involved with being a sponsor. A sponsor who is married must be married in accord with the laws of the Catholic Church.

Confessions Tuesday, March 24; 7:00 PM

8:00 to 8:20 AM Saturday

3:00 to 4:00 PM Saturday

Devotions

The Rosary- following the 8:30 AM Mass Monday through Fridays.

The Miraculous Medal Novena-following the 8:00 AM Mass on Saturdays.

Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

First Fridays following 8:30 AM Mass.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesdays following the 8:30 AM Mass, ending at 3:00 PM with a quiet repose of the Blessed Sacrament BARRING no funerals.

First Friday Holy Hour

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7:00 to 8:00 PM including music, private prayer and Benediction.

Sanctuary Lamp Intention
The Week of March 15, 2026
In Memory of Brian O'Leary



Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 14, 2026

4:30 PM Brian Kealey by the Family

Sunday, March 15, 2026

7:30 AM Adele Fox by Sara Fox

9:30 AM Intentions of Emma Morrissey by John Morrissey

11:30 AM Crista & Eric Zimmerman 30th anniversary by Treisbach Family

Monday, March 16, 2026

8:30 AM Mary Brennan by Mary & Lloyd Foss

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

8:30 AM Davis Cappelli by Eileen Paffett

Wednesday March 18, 2026

8:30 AM Josephine Jasons by Carrelli Family

Thursday, March 19, 2026

8:30 AM Denise Roussino by Laura & Rick Ruzzini

Friday, March 20, 2026

8:30 AM Tommy & Joan Gallagher by Tom Quigley

Saturday, March 21, 2026

8:30 AM Robert W. Sample by Jackie McPeak

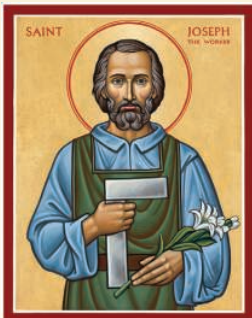
4:30 PM Matthew Mastrangelo, 15th ann.by Treisbach Family

Sunday, March 22, 2026

7:30 AM Anna Mae Cipollini by Tony Cipollini

9:30 AM Paul C. Coleman by Annette Coleman

11:30 AM Victoria Vaitulevich by Justin Pasquale



A Time to Heal

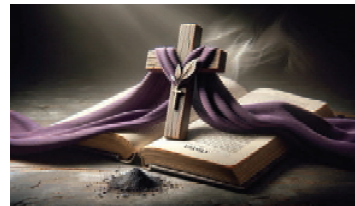
Carolann Allen, Tom Andino, Samantha Arland, Ave Beatty, Mary Brockson, Sue Ciorletti, Lorraine Colgan, Dante Danilshenko, Lorraine Della Franco, Cass Donze, Debbie DeFelice, Fran Dickens, Toby Didciullo, Marjorie Donoghue, Denise Fennelly, Nancy Flanagan, John J. Flanagan, Marguerite Finn, Sean Gallen, Sr. Sheila Galligan, IHM, Lorena and Helena Gerondi, Gillespie Family, Cory Gray, Joseph Gilligan, John & Mary Lou Geis, Mindy Grear, Lillian Houlahan, Carol Hroza, Mary Huff, Keith Johnson, Richard Keenan, Joan Langan, Diane Lemon, Vickie Letulle, Joe Loftus, Sonny Luminello, Lydia Maier, Theresa Macri, Maryann McCauley, Mary McCormick, Helen Mc Monagle, Ann McNally, Eileen McStravick, Joseph Mitchell, Marietta Moody, Maryann Mosley, Phyllis Naccarella, Franny Bernhardt Noll, Michael O'Connor, Joshua Paulina, Dorrie Ritchie, Robert, Margie Roos-Dil, Rosemary Sanders, William Schlichtig, Marie Scheivert, Martha Smoczylo, Anne Smith, Bob Smith, Mark Speiser, Norma Sullivan, Ann Taylor, Len Trainor, Kevin Wallace.

A Time to Serve



Please keep the following family members in your prayers as military and first responders in dangerous places throughout the world.

David & Elizabeth Barbato, Robb Bassett, Jeremy Boone, Sean Bradley, Ryan Corcoran, Michael Coteleses, Steve Di Maio, Marc Doucette, Annie Dudrear, Josh Elliott, Bill Fletcher, Dylan Golden, Steven Grunza, Riley Harsh, James Heisler, Kevin Jensen, Evan Thomas McBride, John Mc Elvenny, James O'Brien, Alyssa Pannucci, Peggy Pinto, Eri Reigner, Timothy & Mary Alice Riemann, Eric Savini, John Paul Snook, Walter Snook, Christian Troutner



Celebrants for Next Weekend
March 22, 2026

4:30 PM Fr. McGowan
7:30 AM Fr. McGowan
9:30 AM Fr. Reilly
11:30 AM Fr. Joseph

News from Fr. Reilly's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Laetare Sunday!

In the book of Samuel, God gently rebukes Samuel for judging with the eyes and measure of the world, reminding him and us that Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance, but the Lord looks into the heart. Our hearts are our inner sanctuary, and we only open them to those we truly trust – those closest to us. God is so close to us that he knows and sees what lies in our hearts.

Knowing this about God can be both scary and overwhelming. Scary when we think about our sinfulness: the fruitless works of darkness, the less than charitable thoughts we entertain, the unholy desires in which we indulge in our minds or when no one is around. Overwhelming when we consider that despite knowing the darkness that lies in the human heart, God was not repelled, he did not recoil. Rather, God, in Jesus Christ, assumed a human heart, bringing his light into it and illuminating our own to free us from this darkness. How blessed are we to be so loved!

Knowing ourselves to be so loved should prompt us to do as St. Paul exhorts us to do: to live as children of light. That is, our lives should abound in goodness and righteousness and truth. At our baptism, we received the light of Christ; our hearts were enlightened by Christ and we were urged to keep that light burning brightly. For this light to burn brightly requires effort on our part. But for every small effort we make, the Lord offers exponential help through his abundant grace which he freely offers. Especially in the sacraments, God comes to meet us and lead us into deeper faith, as he did the blind man in the Gospel.

When Jesus first encountered the man born blind, Jesus made and smeared clay on his eyes and instructed him to go wash in the Pool of Siloam. The man might have found this a bit strange, but he seems to have kept an open mind and gone along. How thrilled must he have been to see for the first time! But then he faced scrutiny and interrogation to which he responded with an increasing level of understanding, reflecting his own deepening awareness of what had happened to him, culminating in his affirming his belief that Jesus is the Son of Man, the Lord.

This is a powerful story and one that unfolds in our own lives: a pattern of encountering the Lord, obeying his commands, being transformed, facing challenges, finding ourselves sought out by the Lord and led into a deeper faith. Whatever stage we find ourselves in this story, we proceed in the knowledge that the Lord knows us, loves us, and is here to help us.

A great example of this story is the great saint we honor this week, St. Joseph. On March 17th -19th at 7pm we as a parish family will have a St. Joseph Triduum where we will honor St. Joseph. Each night there will be Exposition, Benediction, Devotions and Specific Prayer Intentions. Our homilists each night are 3 men who will be ordained priests this May and June, whom I have been blessed to have in my life; as well as 2 who have blessed our parish. March 17th ~ Deacon Alex Cross (prayers for the family) March 18th ~ Deacon Juan Colon (prayers for priests) March 19th ~ Deacon Declan Cole (prayers for employment and litany)

I pray you can take some time out of your busy schedule and join us to honor such a great man who watches over all of us.

God Love Ya!
Fr. Reilly

Fr. Reilly's Liturgical Tidbit

Veneration of the altar and the presence/coming of the Lord

When the entrance procession reaches the sanctuary space and the ministers have made their reverence of the altar, the preside (priest) approaches the altar and kisses it. We are occupied with singing the entrance hymn, so we probably don't pay too much attention to this profound gesture. Yet it is full of meaning. This gesture dates at least to the fourth century and probably has its origin in ancient culture; often families would kiss the table before a meal began as a kind of greeting. Thus, one interpretation of the veneration of the altar by a kiss is that the presider is greeting Christ who is present among the assembly. In ancient times this gesture of the presider kissing the altar was directly linked to the exchange of the kiss of peace among the faithful. At its dedication the altar was anointed with holy chrism and thus became a symbol of Christ's presence. We begin liturgy, then, with a gesture that reminds us of Christ. And we are at the same time reminded that we are the Body of Christ, now gathered around the Head who is present. We also prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ in both word and sacrament. So there is a kind of "already" and "not yet" at play in the veneration of the altar with a kiss. Christ is present, yet we anticipate Christ still to come.

Finance

Sunday Collection Weekend February 22, 2026

Loose and Envelopes	\$ 16,914.50
Electronic Giving	\$ <u>11,759.01</u>
Total	\$ 28,673.51



Night At The Races

Saturday, April 25, 2026 6:30 PM

Ladies, don your favorite bonnets, and gentlemen, your best ascots, and join us on Saturday, April 25 for an evening of fun, food, and friendly chance. Enjoy exciting races, a 50/50 drawing, and prizes for the best bonnet, best ascot, and top race Winner! See the bulletin board for more details.

Adult Faith Formation

Mark Your Calendars

- March 17-19: St. Joseph Triduum. A series of homilies and devotions to honor St. Joseph by Deacon Cross, Deacon Colon and Deacon Cole. 7:00- 8:00 PM in the church.
- April 10-12 The Malvern Retreat House is hosting a weekend Divine Mercy Retreat with Bishop Efren Esmilla, Fr. DeLacy and Kathleen McCarthy. Please go to www.DivineMercyRetreat.com for details.
- April 15- Presentation by Fr. Chris Walsh: Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit. 7:00-8:00 PM in the Church.
- April 29- Our annual Saints Peter and Paul Parish Retreat at the Malvern Retreat House, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Mary Bea Damico will be presenting on The Life and Work of St. Carlos Acutis. Cost is \$45 and includes breakfast and lunch. Please see our parish website to register.
- May 3- Donut Sunday
- May 4 - May Procession



Librarian recommendations from the Monsignor Foley Library located in the Narthex

You Are the Beloved: Daily Meditations for Spiritual Living by Henri J. M. Nouwen, 2017; call number 248.3 NOU in the Prayer/Devotions section. This daily devotional is a compilation of meditations by the world-renowned Dutch born Catholic priest, pastor, and professor. Nouwen was author of over thirty books on spiritual life.

The Hiding Place, 35th anniversary edition, by Corrie Ten Boom with Elizabeth and John Sherrill, 2006; call number BOO in the Biography section. Corrie Ten Boom was a Dutch watchmaker who was active in the Resistance. She and her family and friends participated in extraordinary efforts to save countless lives during the Nazi occupation of Holland. She and members of her family were eventually sent to a concentration camp and endured horrific treatment. Her unwavering faith in God's love was the foundation for her strength, ingenuity, and resilience. She was the only member of her family to survive, and dedicated the rest of her life to traveling the world and sharing her story while helping refugees and others to overcome their extremely traumatic experiences.

David and Goliath: Adapted from the Bible and illustrated by Leonard Everett Fisher, 1 st ed., 1993; call number FIS in the Children section. This illustrated children's book retells the Bible story in which a Hebrew shepherd boy kills the giant Philistine warrior, Goliath, with a slingshot.

The library is self-service. Please feel free to browse the shelves and sign out/sign in your borrowed items using the binder. Returned items may be placed in the Return Basket.

*Please note that the library has limited space and is not accepting donated items.

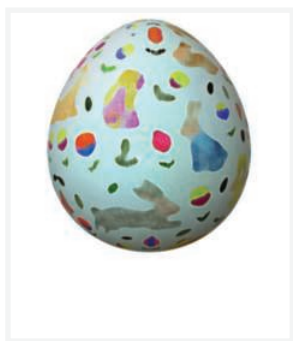
Enrich your Lent:
Partners in Outreach; Operation Easter Outfit

DUE THIS WEEKEND!!

Please return clothing on hangers labeled with the child's name and ID code to the Narthex on or before **March 15, 2026**.

Recommended items: dresses for girls, khaki pants and collared shirt or polo shirt for boys and no accessories, please. Contact Barb

Quinn, relay51@aol.com, if you have any questions. Easter blessings to you all and THANK YOU!



Baptism Volunteer Opportunity

Looking for a meaningful way to offer your time and talent in our parish? Our baptism volunteers warmly welcome young families to the celebration of this sacrament and assist the priest and sacristan in making everything run smoothly. Please email Judy Magee at jmagee@sspeterandpaulrc.org if you are interested in being a part of this important ministry.

The Women's Evening Café

Monday, April 13, 2026 6:30 PM

The Women's Evening Café welcomes Rosanne Terzian, Health and Wholeness Coach who will speak on the seven pillars of Integrative Health as they are inspired by St. Hildegard of Bingen on April 13, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Free will donations are welcome. Bring cash for a 50/50 raffle and beverages or snacks to share. For more information, contact cmkrieman@gmail.com.



Saints Peter and Paul Parish Retreat

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Why not take a spiritual health day and join us on Wednesday, April 29 for our annual parish retreat at the Malvern Retreat House from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM? Mary Bea Domico, founder and director of the St. Carlos Acutis Shrine and Eucharistic Encounter at Malvern will be our guest speaker.

- Discover how the Lord revealed His Plan for an expanded mission for Malvern Retreat House centered upon the life and work of Blessed Carlo Acutis.
- Learn about the documented and scientific findings of Eucharistic Miracles from around the world, spanning more than 1,200 years.
- Gain new insights into the extraordinary life of this ordinary boy, and the call to sainthood on each and every life.
- Expand your understanding of Eucharistic Miracles – and more importantly the Miracle of the Eucharist.
- Deepen your personal encounter with the Living Heart of Jesus in the Eucharist. Cost is \$45 and includes a continental breakfast and a hot lunch. Prior registration is necessary no later than April 22. To register, please visit our parish website or scan the QR code.



Around The Archdiocese

Drivers Needed!

Fiorenza's Food For Friends (F4), is seeking volunteer drivers to collect food donations from multiple Wawa locations in Exton, Lionville, West Chester, Downingtown, and Chester Springs areas and deliver the donations to multiple non-profit organizations in Coatesville or West Chester.

This is a once a month volunteer opportunity that will take approximately 2 hours to collect and transport food donations on Saturdays or Sundays.

Volunteers will be part of a 4-5 person team that enable you to swap dates each month, if needed.

If you are interested, please contact F4 at: 610.955.7090.
Thank you!

Brenda Russell, CEO



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Healing Retreat for Young Adults (ages 21 – 39) Camino Farms, Bally PA

Thursday, May 28 through Sunday, May 31, 2026

How do anxiety, compulsive behaviors, or emotional wounding get in your way of the meaningful and authentic relationships you were made to experience?

God desires to bring us restoration and healing so we will live from the truth that we are His beloved sons and daughters. He desires the restoration of womanhood and manhood to their full glory, empowering us to embrace our unique gifts and complementarity.

Through unique, facilitated healing encounters, our Lord gently invites us into a fully integrated experience – mind, heart, body, spirit, soul. We will follow the Holy Spirit's promptings as He reveals the memories, moments, and circumstances that caused dis-integration within us. It is there that our Lord longs to meet us with His mercy and His love, which are the true balm for our wounded hearts. Come...and let Him Restore you!

Retreat Leaders: Father Stephen DeLacy, Vicar, Office for Faith Formation with Youth and Young Adults, Archdiocese of Philadelphia and De Yarrison of You Are Made New Ministry

More info: <https://youaremadenew.com/restore-retreats/> or email De at de@youaremadenew.com.



BINGO
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Contact Mike Reitman
genereitman@gmail.com
Contact Jim Evans
jim8646@comcast.net



School News
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Donate used items to support the
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Accepted Items:

- Clothing (Men/women/kids)
- Shoes & accessories (belts, bags)
- Small toys (less than 2ft.)
- Stuffed animals
- Towels, sheets & pillowcases
- Bikes, scooters, strollers

Collection Info

Thursday April 16, 2026	SS. Peter & Paul School Parking Lot	7:30 AM - 10:30 AM
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Items NOT Accepted:

- Bedding & blankets
- Car seats, high chairs, large toys
- Furniture, electronics
- Board games, puzzles, sports equipment

More Information

TINA BOLLENBACH
KWISNI@YAHOO.COM
(215) 518-2358



PREP

Parish Religious Education Program

Dear Families,
 In today's Gospel, we Jesus healed a blind man. Instead of being happy for the man, the Pharisees not only focused on the fact that Jesus healed the blind man on the Sabbath, they also were upset that the man was healed because the man was a sinner. Even if the man was a sinner, Jesus, once again shows us that He loves us, mistakes and all. He came to save all of us. Like we said last week and like we hear at confession, His mercy endures forever!

God is Good! All the Time! All the Time! God is good!

Miss Michele



PREP Registration is Open!

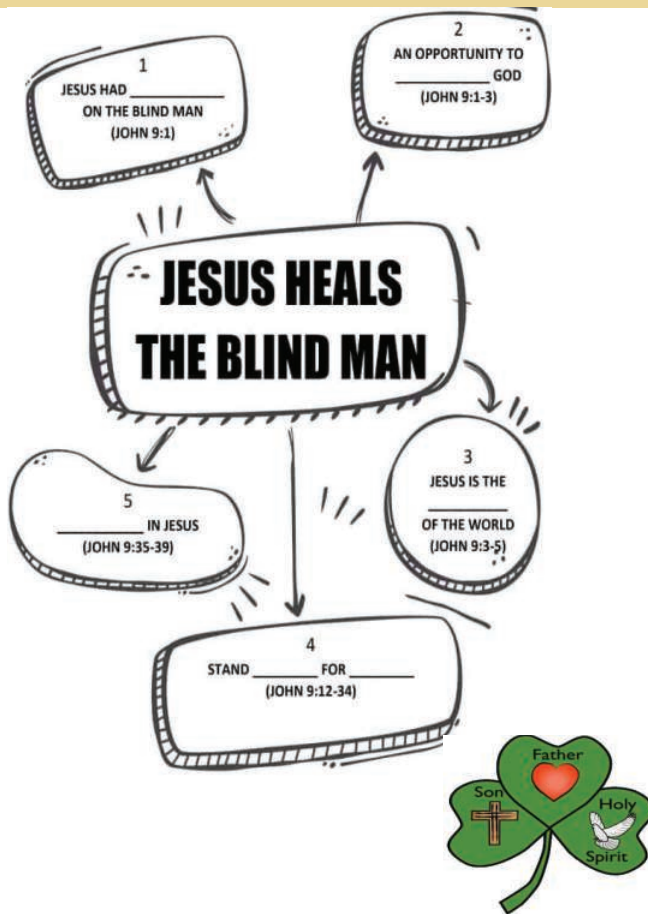
PREP registration for rising First through rising 7th graders in public, non-Catholic private schools or children who are home-schooled, is now taking place. PREP starts the week of June 15th. Please spread the word to your friends who may not be aware.

Our format is: One week in June, 4 Sundays, 4 Spiritual Activities and 4 Works of Mercy/Service Activities throughout the year. Children receiving their Sacraments, will meet additional times to focus on the this as well as have a retreat.

Returning families will receive a link via email. New families should go to Parish Website and click on the link for new families to register or use this link:

<https://www.onesimplifiedforms.com/userf=0AE04645B916F0BD86448574A06B000D623FD3BA9694FB2C567520ADA192315C3FB0FBC22373F9DC64E892BB26AF419D>

If your child is of PREP age but hasn't started, please reach out! Same if your child has learning differences. Together, we can work on a plan! Reach out with any questions!



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Did you know that St. Patrick's Saint Patrick was born in England? When Saint Patrick became a priest, he went to Ireland as a missionary so that he could teach the people about God. Saint Patrick compared the Trinity to a shamrock. He said that the shamrock has three leaves, but it is only one plant. In the same way, God is three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—but one God

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CALL FOR A Hero

Brett Wenger, born and raised in Delco (Upper Darby PA) - a proud member of the St. Lawrence and Highland Park community - needs our prayers and the help of a hero. Many know him from his years with the Highland Park/Kirkland Athletic Association, where he followed in his father's footsteps. He's the proud husband to his wife Solange and loving dad to his two sons, Tyler and Matthew. Brett has been recently diagnosed with liver failure and is now in need of a living donor to save his life. The wait for a deceased donor can take years and time is our biggest enemy, however there is hope.

Scan the QR code for additional information on how a Living Donation Works. If you chose to help, use this QR code to begin the process. Please be sure to note Brett Wenger as the liver recipient.

Share Brett's story, Pray for Brett, Solange, Tyler and Matthew

Let's help Brett get healthy again with his family, friends, and his church. Together we can find the hero he needs.

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