



*If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.*



ST. PAUL PARISH · MARCH 8, 2026

216 NASSAU STREET · PRINCETON, NJ · 08542 · 609-924-1743 · WWW.SPP.CHURCH

WELCOME HOME



PASTOR

FR. CHRIS DAYTON

pastor@stpaulsofprinceton.org



PAROCHIAL VICAR

FR. KERLY FRANÇOIS

kfrancois@stpaulsofprinceton.org



COORD. OF OCIA

DCN. FRANK CRIVELLO

fcrivello@stpaulsofprinceton.org



PARISH MINISTRY

DCN. JOHN ITALIA

jitalia@stpaulsofprinceton.org

CONNECT WITH US

OUR MISSION

We, the Catholic Community of Saint Paul in Princeton, honor our tradition of welcoming God's sons and daughters from different cultures and backgrounds to hear and live the Good News of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Baptized and formed into the people of God, we continue to grow in the Apostolic tradition of worship, word, and service: Worship through our participation in the Eucharist and celebration of sacraments; Word, in our commitment to Catholic identity through Scripture and catechesis; and Service through living as disciples who share God's love with all by working together for peace and justice to advance the coming of the Kingdom of God.



WEBSITE/LIVE STREAM
stpaulsofprinceton.org



FACEBOOK
[@spp.church.princeton](https://www.facebook.com/spp.church.princeton)



INSTAGRAM
[@spp.church](https://www.instagram.com/spp.church)



FLOCKNOTE
sppchurch.flocknote.com/ThisWeekStPaul



609-924-1743
Office Phone



609-924-7510
Office Fax

RECEPTION HOURS

MON, WED-FRI: 9:00am-4:00pm*
TUE: 10:30am-4:00pm*

**Closed for lunch 12:00pm-12:45pm*

REGISTER AT
OUR PARISH



MASS TIMES

DAILY (MON-SAT) 8:15am*
(MON-FRI) 12:10pm

SATURDAY 5:30pm

SUNDAY 8:30am, 10:00am
11:30am, 5:00pm
1:00pm en español

**INDICATES A LIVE STREAMED MASS*

DAILY ROSARY

MON-SAT 9:00am

FOLLOWING 8:15AM MASS IN CHURCH
OR VIA ZOOM (SCAN TO JOIN)



RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY 4:00pm

AND BY PRIVATE APPOINTMENT

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is available by scheduling an appointment.

Please contact Monica Heucke:
mheucke@stpaulsofprinceton.org

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

SATURDAYS 7:00am-8:00am

FIRST FRIDAYS 9:00am-12:00pm

Bulletin Section
of Website

Scan here to visit our Weekly Bulletin site which includes our Mass Intentions, sacrament celebrations, and more!



ADMINISTRATION

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Yani Reyes RECEPTION
frontdesk@stpaulsofprinceton.org

Interested in getting involved in a parish ministry? Please be sure to check the website or browse the bulletin for the right ministry head or staff member to reach out to. Become a part of our parish's flourishing!

SUPPORT ST. PAUL PARISH

The fastest and most secure way to give online is through Parish Giving. Autopay options ensure you never need to remember your envelopes again! Not enrolled yet? Scan the QR code here to set up your account:



Are you visiting St. Paul Parish this weekend? We are so thrilled to worship with you! Interested in making a one-time gift? Scan the QR code here:



STEWARDSHIP REPORT

GIVING 2/21-2/22

\$24,000

Budget

\$7,685

Identifiable Gifts

\$3,233

Loose Cash

\$10,714

Online Giving

\$21,632

2025-2026 YTD

\$816,000

Budget

\$435,373

Envelopes/Loose Cash

\$399,904

Online Giving

\$835,277

102.4%

2024-2025 YTD

\$816,000

Budget

\$407,106

Envelopes/Loose Cash

\$368,567

Online Giving

\$775,673

95.1%



At St. Paul Parish, we are deeply committed to creating a safe, welcoming environment for all children and youth. In partnership with the Diocese of Trenton, we follow the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* by requiring background checks and VIRTUS training for all clergy, staff, and volunteers.

If you are new to a parish ministry or feel called to serve, we would love to have you join us! Together, we can keep our parish a place where every child feels safe and supported.

To get started with the VIRTUS process, please email Jaime at SafeSpace@stpaulsofprinceton.org.

A COMMUNITY OF PRAYER

MASS INTENTIONS

5:30pm Sarah Crivello | Lee & Linda Brennan

Sunday | 3rd Sunday of Lent

8:30am The People of the Parish

10:00am Albert & Cythia Tedeschi | Daren Tedeschi

11:30am Leonarda Absulio | Cedenio Family

1:00pm Spanish Intentions

5:00pm Pirone Nittorio | Giovanni Carolina Di Donato
Vincenzo & Ninfa Catanzaro | Caldarella Family

Monday

8:15am Angela P. Bechtelheimer | Giallella Family

12:10pm Pete Doviak | Lucille Doviak & Family

Tuesday

8:15am Katlyn Wilson | Patterson Family

12:10pm Giuseppina Sacchetta Venta | Maria Lapko

Wednesday

8:15am Living and Deceased members of the Princeton Knights of Columbus Council 636

12:10pm Steve Smith | Jeanine & Andy Loh

Thursday

8:15am Vincent Ziccardi | Patterson Family

12:10pm Sarah Jouki | Calderone Family

Friday

8:15am Michael Stone Mathews | Patterson Family

12:10pm Albrina Mangone | Rosina Carnvale
William & Rosalie Popadenitz | Lee and Linda Brennan

Saturday

8:15am Jeryl Campbell | Lee & Linda Brennan
Sarah Jouki | Patrick, Jean Tedesco & Family

OUR SICK

Bob | Chrissy DeLuca | Eileen Dormouth | Dick Graham | Rob Ingram | Fidelis Machado | Colette McGregor | Ann Menendez | Hanna Paczynska | Doris Paetow | Mary Agnes Procaccini | Anna Marie Revilla | Dan Roach | Annmarie Sabb | Christopher Joseph Stull

**If you would like your loved one added to the sick list, please email bulletin@stpaulsofprinceton.org*

INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO

For disarmament and peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

OFFERTORY HYMN

I Will Be Your God

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It includes a Refrain, Verses 1-3, and Verse 4, each with lyrics underneath the notes. The score ends with a 'to Refrain' instruction.

REFRAIN

I will be your God, you will be my peo-ple. *Fine*

I will give you a new heart, my spir-it with-in you.

VERSES 1-3

1. I will sanc ti fy my name, O peo - ple, all
2. I will gath er you from all the na - tions, and
3. Clean wa ter I will pour up - on you, and

VERSE 4

1. na - tions shall know I am God. 4. I will put my
2. bring you to your own land.
3. cleanse you from all your sins.

4. spir - it with-in you, and make you to live by my law. *to Refrain*

WEEKLY WORSHIP

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday March 8, 2026

Today's readings can be found on page 610 of the hymnal. Please visit the livestream section of our website for more resources about this week's Mass.



FOCUS ON THE READINGS

Third Sunday of Lent

In the first reading, Isaiah calls upon the people of God to cease doing wrong, to make justice their aim, and to be reconciled with God. He says, though your sins be like scarlet, they may become white as snow. In the Gospel, Jesus condemns the scribes and Pharisees for their failure to practice what they preach and for their lack of humility.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

A message from Fr. Chris Dayton

This Third Sunday of Lent, the Church gives us one of the most beautiful and personal encounters in all of Sacred Scripture: the meeting between Jesus Christ and the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:5-42).

It is not by accident that the Church proclaims this Gospel every year when we celebrate the First Scrutiny with those preparing for baptism at Easter. The story is about thirst and about the only One who can truly satisfy it.

We meet a Samaritan woman at the well coming to draw water at noon, the hottest and loneliest part of the day. She carries her jar, but she also carries her past — her disappointments, her broken relationships, her unfulfilled hopes. And there, seated at the well, is Jesus. He begins with a simple request: "Give me a drink."

In that moment, barriers collapse. Cultural divisions, old resentments, personal shame — none of it stops Christ from speaking directly to her heart. He does not shame her. He does not avoid the truth of her life. Instead, He reveals that He already knows her story and He remains.

This is the heart of Lent.

Lent is not merely about giving up small comforts. It

is about allowing the Lord to meet us honestly at the well of our own lives. We all come carrying something: regrets, worries, habits that bind us, longings we have tried to satisfy in so many ways. Like the Samaritan woman, we often lower our jar again and again into wells that cannot truly quench our thirst.

For our Elect celebrating the First Scrutiny this weekend, the Church prays that any obstacles to grace may be gently uncovered and healed. The Scrutinies are not examinations; they are moments of liberation. They remind us that Christ desires not perfection, but openness. He desires hearts willing to be known and transformed.

Yet this Gospel is not only for those preparing for baptism. It is for all of us. Lent invites every baptized Christian to examine the "jars" we cling to — the things we think will finally satisfy us. Success, comfort, control, approval — none of these can give what only God can give.

The Samaritan woman leaves her water jar behind and runs back to her town proclaiming, "Come see a man who told me everything I have done." She is no longer hiding. She is no longer ashamed. She has encountered mercy.

That is what Christ longs to do in us this Lent. As we continue our journey toward Easter, may we have the courage to sit with the Lord at the well. May we allow Him to speak truth with love into our lives. And may we discover again that the living water He offers is not temporary relief, but eternal life.

Be assured of my prayers for you and your families during this holy season. Let us walk together toward the joy of Easter with renewed faith and trust in the One who alone satisfies our deepest thirst

In His peace,

Fr. Chris Dayton
Pastor

PARISH LIFE

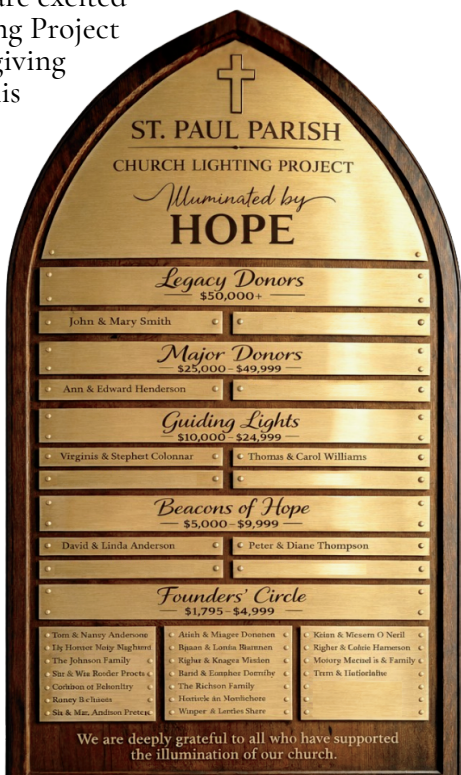
DIAMOND JUBILEE

Celebrating our Church for 70 Years

On March 24, 2026, we will mark 70 years since the laying of the cornerstone of our current church building. One year later, on March 24, 2027, we will celebrate 70 years since the dedication of the church by Bishop Ahr—a milestone in the life of St. Paul Parish and a beautiful opportunity to give thanks for generations of faith, sacrifice, and worship in this sacred space.

In the months ahead, we will begin sharing ways the 2026–2027 year will highlight the history of both St. Paul Parish and the church building that has been entrusted to our care. Our Diamond Jubilee year will include a parish-wide Mass and reception in March 2027, along with additional moments throughout the year that will invite us to remember our story and celebrate what God continues to do among us.

As an important step toward that season of celebration, we are excited to offer a Lighting Project Mass of Thanksgiving and reception this year for all Lighting Project donors. At this event, we will also preview the donor recognition plaque we plan to commission, which will include names at each giving level and serve as a lasting expression of gratitude. All giving levels are still accepting donations, and there is still time to be included.



**Illustration only; this is not the final design
Still accepting donations at all levels.*

If you are interested in making a gift to the Lighting Project and are able to do so by March 17, we would be honored to include you in the Mass of Thanksgiving and reception.

COFFEE & DONUTS

Sunday, March 8

Following all Sunday morning Masses on March 8, parishioners are invited to the Spiritual Center for coffee and donuts. Join us for complimentary refreshments, an opportunity to welcome new parishioners, and time to reconnect with familiar faces as we enjoy fellowship together as a parish community.

PILGRIMAGE MASSES

at the Station Churches of Mercer County

This Lent, many Catholic churches throughout Mercer County will participate in a program inspired by the Station Churches of Rome. You are invited to make a pilgrimage across our county by attending special Lenten Masses at participating parishes, gathering in prayer while experiencing the beauty and history of our local Church.

St. Paul Parish will be a pilgrimage stop on Tues., Mar. 10 at 7:00pm and will host the pilgrimage Mass on Tues., Mar. 31 at 7:00pm. We encourage you to take part in this Lenten journey of faith.

Mon., Mar. 9 | 7:00pm | St. Gregory the Great, Hamilton Square
Tues., Mar. 10 | 7:00pm | St. Paul Parish, Princeton
Thurs., Mar. 12 | 7:00pm | Sacred Heart, Trenton
Fri., Mar. 13 | 6:00pm | Our Lady of Good Counsel, West Trenton

Wed., Mar. 18 | 7:00pm (Creole) | St. Anthony, Trenton
Thurs., Mar. 19 | 6:30pm | St. Raphael, Hamilton
Fri., Mar. 20 | 7:00pm | St. Joseph, Trenton

Mon., Mar. 23 | 7:00pm | St. David the King, Princeton Junction
Tues., Mar. 24 | 7:00pm | Incarnation, Ewing
Wed., Mar. 25 | 7:00pm | St. Ann, Lawrenceville
Thurs., Mar. 26 | 6:00pm Holy Hour; 7:00pm Mass | St. Joachim, Trenton

Mon., Mar. 30 | 7:30pm | Chrism Mass at St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral, Freehold

WEDNESDAYS WITH

Msgr. Nolan

Join us once again this month with our Pastor Emeritus, Msgr. Nolan, for an afternoon of catechesis, reflection, and fellowship. Following the 12:10pm Mass on March 11, all are invited to gather in the Spiritual Center for lunch and a time of conversation, learning, and shared faith.

8 MINUTES @ 8:00PM

A simple guide during Lent

Looking for a simple way to dive a bit deeper into this Lenten season? Join Laura Sarubbi online for 8 minutes at 8:00pm for 8 weeks.



Each evening, Laura will offer a brief reflection designed to help you stay focused on what truly matters during this holy season. No pressure—no camera, no microphone, no stress. Simply log on, listen, and pray. When the 8 minutes conclude, you're welcome to log off or remain for a few additional minutes of optional conversation about our Lenten journey.

This is a simple and accessible opportunity for parishioners of all ages to remain centered on what is most important this Lent.

SOUP + SALAD

Friday evenings during Lent

Join the Knights of Columbus for a complimentary dinner of simple, meatless soup and salad on Fridays during Lent at 6:00pm in the SPS Cafeteria. All are welcome to gather in fellowship before heading to Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm in the Church.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday evenings during Lent

All parishioners are invited to join us each Friday during Lent at 7:00pm in the Church for Stations of the Cross. Each week, a different parish ministry will host the evening by leading the prayers, readings, and reflections, offering a unique opportunity to pray together as one parish family. Come and meditate on the Way of the Cross as we journey toward Holy Week, drawing closer to Christ through prayer, reflection, and community.

STAINED GLASS TOUR

Following the 8:15am Mass on Saturdays

Join us for a one-hour guided tour of the beautiful stained-glass windows of St. Paul Church. Each

window tells part of the story of our faith through the interplay of light and color. Come explore the artistry, symbolism, and spiritual meaning found throughout our church. Tours gather at the baptismal font immediately following the 8:15am Mass:

Tour dates and themes:

March 21 – Rose Window

April 18 – Large Church Windows

May 16 – Altar Clerestory Windows

All are welcome.

LOAVES & FISHES 2026

Save the date and start planning!

Loaves and Fishes is a local outreach program that serves hot meals to the local Trenton community on the last two Saturdays of every month. This June our parish will distribute more than 500 meals and donations to homeless and low-income residents living in the Trenton area.

Save these dates:

Friday, June 19: Donation Collection at SPS Cafeteria
Saturday, June 20: Meal Service at St. Mary Cathedral in Trenton

First planning meeting:

Sunday, April 12 after 10:00am Mass during Coffee and Donuts.

FINANCIAL AID SCHOLARSHIP

to Notre Dame High School

For several years, our parish has offered a limited number of partial scholarships to parish students attending Notre Dame High School. These scholarships will again be awarded this year and may be renewed annually for up to four years, provided students maintain academic performance and participate in school and service activities. Requests for an application must be received by Friday, May 1, 2026. For more information or to request an application, please scan the QR code or contact Gina Merendino at gmerendino@stpaulsofprinceton.org.



ST. PAUL SCHOOL

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

A message from Mrs. Kim Clauss

Over the course of the week at St. Paul School we had the joy of celebrating Family Week, a special time dedicated to the families who form the heart of our community. Throughout the week we enjoyed many wonderful events, including the Father/Daughter Dance, Mother/Son Outing, Special Person's Day, and more. It was a beautiful reminder that our school is strengthened by the love, support, and faith lived out each day within our families.

This year, our PTA also introduced daily opportunities for families to grow together in faith, including activities to share at home and a chance to submit family prayer intentions. It was inspiring to see so many members of our community participate and lift one another up in prayer. We are grateful to everyone who helped make the week such a meaningful celebration of the domestic families that together form our SPS family.

God bless,
Mrs. Kim Clauss

Please scan here to visit the Gala
website for ticketing
information, event details, and
sponsorship opportunities.



SCHOOL STAFF

Mrs. Kim O. Clauss PRINCIPAL
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Mrs. Karen DelleFave ADMIN. ASSISTANT
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Mrs. Mary Beth Wells BOARD CHAIR
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Mrs. Megan Melnick & Mrs. Jackie Franciscus PTA CO-PRESIDENTS
ptapresident@spsprinceton.org



CONNECT WITH US

 **WEBSITE**
spsprinceton.org

 **FACEBOOK**
facebook.com/spsprinceton

 **INSTAGRAM**
@spsprinceton

PHONE NUMBERS

SCHOOL OFFICE 609-921-7587

SCHOOL FAX 609-921-0264



A DIOCESE OF TRENTON SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

OUR YOUNG CHURCH

FROM THE DRE'S DESK

A message from Mrs. Jaime Gostkowski

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus speaks with the Samaritan woman at the well - a surprising encounter, since Jews did not associate with Samaritans, and she herself was an outcast. Yet Jesus meets her with dignity, knows her past, and offers her "living water," the gift of new life in Him.

This story reminds us that God's mercy has no limits. Jesus does not exclude - He reaches out.

Parents, this is a reminder that our children learn how to care for others by watching us. When we model patience, kindness, forgiveness, and inclusion - especially toward those who may feel left out - we reflect Christ's love in a very real way.

Students, if you have ever felt left out or misunderstood, remember: Jesus sees you. He knows your heart, your struggles, and your gifts - and He loves you completely. And just like the woman at the well, you are called to share that love with others, bringing them to Him through simple acts of kindness and courage - whether it's offering a kind word, sitting with someone who is alone, or standing up for someone who is excluded.

This week, ask yourself: Who needs encouragement? Who feels alone? How can I share Christ's love?

May our families be places where everyone feels welcomed, known, and loved.

Many blessings,
Mrs. Jaime Gostkowski

ACTS OF FAITH

Passport Opportunities

Please remember that all students are expected to participate in our Acts of Faith Passport program. This applies to PREP students, Summer Academy students, and all students preparing for sacraments. For families' convenience, here are the upcoming opportunities for the coming weeks:

Sunday, Mar. 8 - Coffee & Donuts after morning Masses (Parish)

Monday, Mar. 9 - Parish Penance Service 7:00pm (Liturgical)

Friday, Mar. 13 - Soup & Salad 6:00pm (Parish)

Friday, Mar. 13 - Stations of the Cross 7:00pm (Liturgical)

VACATION BIBLE CAMP

For children in PreK-2nd Grade

Each summer, we offer a morning program for children in PreK-Grade 2 designed to help our youngest parishioners grow in faith and friendship. By popular request, we will be offering two separate weeks of VBC this year, and families may register for one week or both. This program provides children with a joyful opportunity to grow in their relationship with Jesus while building community with their peers. Registration will open in mid March 2026.

Program Dates and Times:

June 22-June 26, 9:00am-12:00pm

July 6-July 10, 9:00am-12:00pm

SUMMER ACADEMY PREP

For students in 3rd-8th Grade

Our full-year Religious Education program is condensed into one intensive week and is open to students entering grades 3 through 8. It's a wonderful option for families who prefer to prioritize catechesis during the summer while remaining active in the parish throughout the year. Students will attend full-day catechesis during the week of July 6-10 from 9:00am-3:00pm. Attendance is mandatory each day due to the intensive nature of the curriculum.

Registration will open in mid March 2026.

SPY (ST. PAUL YOUTH)

SPY 4:12 (7th grade Confirmation ONLY)

This month, SPY 4:12 for 7th grade will take the form of a pilgrimage on March 14 to the Shrine of St. Carlo Acutis at St. Dominic Church in Brick. Canonized in October 2025 as the Church's first millennial saint and named a patron for youth and Catholic schools in the Diocese of Trenton, Carlo is a powerful model of faith for young people today. The day will include prayer, a presentation, veneration of St. Carlo's relic, and an opportunity for Reconciliation. Any 8th grader who did not attend a Confirmation retreat experience (DYC or other) should plan to participate in this pilgrimage.

stpaulsofprinceton.org/pilgrimage-to-carlo-acutis-shrine

PASTORAL HISPANA

MENSAJE DEL P. CHRIS *Pastor de San Pablo*

En este Tercer Domingo de Cuaresma, la Iglesia nos presenta uno de los encuentros más hermosos del Evangelio: Jesús y la mujer samaritana en el pozo (Juan 4:5-42).

La mujer llega al pozo cargando no solo su cántaro de agua, sino también su historia, sus heridas y sus esperanzas. Jesús le habla con sencillez: “Dame de beber.” Con esas palabras, rompe barreras y le muestra que Él conoce su vida y aun así permanece con ella.

Este es el corazón de la Cuaresma. No se trata solo de renunciar a pequeñas cosas, sino de permitir que Cristo nos encuentre tal como somos. Todos llegamos al “pozo” con nuestras propias preocupaciones, errores y deseos, buscando algo que sacie nuestra sed.

Pero solo Cristo puede ofrecernos el agua viva que realmente satisface el corazón.

Que en este tiempo de Cuaresma tengamos la valentía de encontrarnos con el Señor, escuchar su voz y permitir que su gracia transforme nuestras vidas mientras caminamos hacia la Pascua.

Espero que todos tengan una excelente semana y que siempre sepan de mis oraciones por cada uno de ustedes.

En su paz,
P. Chris Dayton
Pastor

RETIRO DE CUARESMA *Jesús, Hijo de David, ten misericordia de mí*

Le invitamos a participar en nuestro Retiro de Cuaresma, un tiempo especial de oración, reflexión y encuentro con el Señor mientras caminamos juntos hacia la Pascua. Este retiro será guiado por el Padre Andrés Serna y ofrecerá la oportunidad de renovar el corazón y profundizar en la misericordia de Dios durante este tiempo santo.

Fecha: 14 de marzo de 2026
Horario: 8:30am-2:00pm
Dirige: Padre Andrés Serna

PEREGRINACIÓN A ITALIA

Con el Padre Chris y el Padre Kerly

La parroquia invita a todos a participar en una peregrinación a Italia del 4 al 14 de enero de 2027. Durante este viaje de fe visitaremos Milán, Florencia, Siena, Asís y Roma, recorriendo basílicas, catedrales, plazas, museos y otros lugares históricos de gran significado para nuestra fe. La peregrinación incluye vuelo redondo desde EE. UU., alojamiento en hoteles de primera clase, Misa diaria, desayuno todos los días, dos almuerzos y seis cenas, transporte en autobús privado y entradas a los lugares incluidos.

Costo: \$4,800 por persona (ocupación doble) o \$3,900 sin vuelos. Habitación privada disponible por \$1,000 adicional. Se requiere un depósito no reembolsable de \$300, con pago final antes del 25 de septiembre de 2026.

Más información y reservas: journeyoffaithtours.com/italy27.

ESFUERZOS DE PROTECCIÓN INFANTIL *Capacitación VIRTUS y de Ambientes Seguros*

En la Parroquia de San Pablo estamos profundamente comprometidos en crear un ambiente seguro y acogedor para todos los niños y jóvenes. En colaboración con la Diócesis de Trenton, seguimos la Carta para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes, que requiere verificaciones de antecedentes y la capacitación VIRTUS para todo el clero, personal y voluntarios.

Si eres nuevo en un ministerio parroquial o sientes el llamado a servir, ¡nos encantaría que te unas a nosotros! Juntos podemos mantener nuestra parroquia como un lugar donde cada niño se sienta seguro y apoyado.

Para comenzar el proceso de VIRTUS, por favor envía un correo electrónico a Jaime a SafeSpace@stpaulsofprinceton.org.

PASTORAL HISPANA

Informaciones de contacto

Padre Kerly François
kfrancois@stpaulsofprinceton.org

FAMILY LIFE

LENT PRAY40

Hallow + St. Paul Parish Partnership

This Lent, St. Paul Parish invites you to take part in Hallow's Lent **Pray40** prayer challenge, which began on Ash Wednesday. Available on our parish page in the Hallow app (whether or not you have a subscription), Lent Pray40 offers our entire parish community the opportunity to journey together in daily prayer and reflection throughout the season.

The Lent **Pray40** challenge is underway on our parish page in Hallow.

A Kids' Lent Challenge is also available and begins on Ash Wednesday, providing families with an engaging and meaningful way to experience Lent together. You can join that waitlist today as well.

As a parish partnered with Hallow, our parish page is a place to participate in prayer challenges, share intentions, and grow in faith alongside one another. We invite you to join Fr. Chris and the entire St. Paul Parish family as we walk together into Lent.

DO YOU LOVE HALLOW?

Become a Hallow Herald!

Have you enjoyed using the Hallow app? Would you like to help others grow in their prayer life? We are looking for parishioners of all ages who are willing to serve as Hallow Heralds—sharing their enthusiasm for Hallow and helping fellow parishioners access the app after Mass and at parish events. No special experience is needed—just a love of Hallow and a desire to encourage others in prayer.

If you are interested, please email Laura Sarubbi at lsarubbi@stpaulsofprinceton.org.

Hallow

A HOME FOR FAMILIES

A Message from Laura Sarubbi

St. Paul Parish is blessed to have so many engaged couples celebrating their weddings with us. More than 40 are scheduled for this year. This weekend, our PreCana team hosted 25 couples for the day. Keep these couples in your prayers as they continue their journey toward the Sacrament of Marriage. At a time when many young couples choose not to marry in the Church, we are especially grateful for those who make God the foundation of their love.

Do you ever find yourself thinking back to your young adult years, praying for a husband or wife, discerning marriage? Those were the days of dating, not “talking,” which now mostly means texting. Remote work and digital socialization can make it harder than ever to truly connect with someone.

Every generation has its joys and its crosses. Some of us may have married, struggled, and now find ourselves alone. Some are grieving the loss of a spouse and learning how to navigate a new chapter we never expected. Others may still be waiting and wondering what God has in store. In all of these seasons, we hold onto God's promise, “For I know well the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for woe, so as to give you a future of hope.” Jer. 29:11.

Whether preparing for marriage, longing for it, healing from it, or grieving its loss, we trust that the Lord is guiding each heart with purpose and love.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Little Hearts Playgroup and More!

Families with young children are invited to gather in the Spiritual Center for connection, shared experiences, and support in the joys and challenges of raising little ones. For more information, please contact Sara Fremin at saracweill@gmail.com, Emily Rossino at emilyc8@gmail.com, or lsarubbi@stpaulsofprinceton.org.

- Sundays 9:30-10:30am
- Tuesdays 10:00-11:00am

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for children ages 3–6 meets in the Atrium of the Spiritual Center on Sundays from 9:45–11:00am. Upcoming dates include February 15, and 22.

FRIENDS OF ST. PAUL

THE AQUINAS INSTITUTE *Princeton University Catholic Campus Ministry*

We provide Princeton University students with Mass & confession on campus, small group bible studies, formation in Catholic life and thought, and vibrant student community! Check out princetoncatholic.org for more details and for upcoming events.

SAVE THE DATE

Pilgrimage to Italy

Join St. Paul Parish for a pilgrimage to Italy, January 4–14, 2027, with spiritual directors Fr. Christopher Dayton and Fr. Kerly Francois. Pilgrims will visit Milan, Florence, Siena, Assisi, and Rome, with daily Mass and guided visits to some of the Church's most beautiful basilicas and sacred sites.

More details and registration information are available at journeyoffaithtours.com/italy27

FRANCIS HOUSE OF PRAYER

Diocesan Spiritual Center & Retreat House

Personal Retreat Day

Wednesday, March 11 • 9:30am–2:30pm

Come to Francis House for silence, personal prayer, and optional spiritual direction. The day begins and ends with a brief prayer together. Please bring a bag lunch.

Donation: \$10; \$40 with spiritual direction.

The Screwtape Letters

Thursday, March 12 • 9:30am–1:00pm

C.S. Lewis gifts us with a cleverly written treatment of the discernment of spirits. His insight and wit are remarkable. We will use *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis to guide our discussion. Come and enjoy this classic. Donation: \$25, includes lunch. Zoom: \$20.

The Imitation of Christ: The Beatitudes Edition

Tuesday, March 17 • 9:30am–1:00pm

Enjoy the wisdom of this timeless classic by Thomas à Kempis, translated for us in this special version, *The Imitation of Christ – The Beatitudes Edition*. Listen as Jesus speaks directly to you as a friend offering loving advice. Time will also be given to contemplative prayer.

Donation: \$25, includes lunch. Zoom: \$20.

Ignatian Contemplation: Place Yourself in the Scene

Wednesday, March 18 • 9:30am–1:00pm

Sometimes a morning of prayer is just what you need to keep going in life. This will be a morning of deep prayer. Ignatian contemplation may be a new way to pray for you.

The Gospel story is about you. Intimacy with Jesus follows, along with healing and meaning in your life. Wonderful for Lent. Donation: \$25, includes lunch. Zoom: \$20.

Please check www.FHOP.org for dates, registration, directions, and for our other offerings! All programs will be offered online and in person unless otherwise indicated.

FOUNDER'S DAY MASS

Mt. Carmel Guild

All are invited to the Mt. Carmel Guild Founders' Day Mass on Saturday, March 15 at 2:00pm at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church. The Mass will be celebrated by Msgr. Thomas J. Mullelly, with a reception to follow. This annual celebration gives thanks for the vision of the Guild's founders and the ministry that continues to serve neighbors in need throughout Mercer County. Founded in 1920, the Mt. Carmel Guild provides food, assistance, and compassionate support to individuals and families across our community. For more information, visit mtcarmelguild.org or call 609-392-5159 ext. 111.

PARENT PARTNERSHIP

Supporting Families Impacted by Addiction

When parents or caregivers recognize that a loved one is struggling with substance use or addiction, it helps to connect with others who have "been in our shoes." Parent Partnership meetings, led by volunteers with lived experience, offer a safe, confidential, and welcoming space for support. You are welcome to attend once, occasionally, or as often as you wish. Parent Partnership meets Mondays from 7:00–8:15pm in the St. Paul Parish Spiritual Center. For more information: Michelle King – mokingnj@gmail.com | 609-468-8708.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Serving the Princeton Community

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul serves members of the St. Paul community and our Princeton neighbors who are experiencing need. Volunteers meet personally with those seeking assistance, offering support with confidentiality, dignity, and respect. Assistance may include help with rent, utilities, food, clothing, medical care, or counseling. Donations may be placed in the church poor boxes or mailed to: Society of St. Vincent de Paul, 216 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08542. If you or someone you know needs assistance, please call (609) 924-1743 ext. 250.

LENT 2026



PRAYING THROUGH LENT

The first of the three pillars

Over these forty days of Lent, we focus on what are often called the Three Pillars: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It's no accident that prayer is first on that list. We often get preoccupied with the "fasting" component of Lent—what we're giving up—but Lent is first and foremost about our relationship with God.

In the Book of Hosea, God tells His people, "I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings." Above all else, God desires that we love Him and come to know Him.

Knowing and loving someone—even God—begins with spending time together. Prayer is a relationship, after all. And one of the most important things we can do with anyone we care about is simply spend time in one another's presence.

It was in the Middle Ages that the devotion of Eucharistic Adoration began to grow in popularity. At that time, many Catholics received the Eucharist only once a year during Easter. Out of that reality came what was sometimes called "the gaze that saves"—simply gazing upon Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

That devotion remains powerful today. But if we're out of practice—or if we've never really taken part in Adoration—it can feel unfamiliar, even a little stressful, to sit quietly in the presence of Jesus.

St. John Vianney once spoke about a man in his parish who stopped in the church every day to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament. Curious, the saint asked him what he said to Our Lord during those visits. The man replied simply: "I say nothing to Him. I look at Him and He looks at me."

Isn't that often how it is with the people we love most? Sometimes nothing needs to be said at all. Simply being together is enough.

There are many ways to grow in prayer, and Lent is a wonderful time to renew that commitment. For some, that might mean spending time in Eucharistic Adoration. For others, it may mean building a more consistent daily prayer habit at home. Tools like the Hallow app can be a great help for many people who are trying to grow in their prayer life and establish a rhythm of prayer each day. (You can find more information about Hallow on page 11 of this bulletin.)

However we choose to pray this Lent, the goal is the same: to spend time with the One who loves us. To look at Him—and to let Him look at us.

Scan here to hear more about Lent as a process and not an event from Fr. Mike Schmitz



Sat
7

Individual Confessions
every Saturday at 4:00pm

Sun
8

First Scrutiny
For OCIA Elect & Candidates
at 10:00am

Mon
9

Penance Service
with Individual Confessions
7:00pm in the Church

Mon
9

Pilgrimage Mass
with Mercer Co. Station Churches
7:00pm at St. Gregory, Hamilton

Tue
10

Pilgrimage Mass
with Mercer Co. Station Churches
7:00pm at St. Paul, Princeton

Wed
11

Weds. w/Msgr. Nolan
following 12:10pm Mass
in the Spiritual Center

Fri
13

Soup & Salad Dinner
6:00pm in the SPS Cafeteria

Fri
13

Stations of the Cross
English 7:00pm | Espanol 8:00pm

Sun
14

St. Patrick's Day Mass
11:30am Sunday Mass