

*The Lord is my shepherd:
there is nothing
I shall want.*



ST. PAUL PARISH • MARCH 15, 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

PARISH STAFF

Rich Albanese BUSINESS MANAGER
ralbanese@stpaulsofprinceton.org

Ernie Andreoli MUSIC MINISTRY
eandreoli@stpaulsofprinceton.org

Mynor Arriola FACILITIES
mynor@stpaulsofprinceton.org

Jaime Gostkowski RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
jgostkowski@stpaulsofprinceton.org

Monica Heucke PARISH ADMIN. ASSISTANT
mheucke@stpaulsofprinceton.org

Nancy Jackson FINANCE ADMIN. ASSISTANT
njackson@stpaulsofprinceton.org

Kait Mayer MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS
kmayer@stpaulsofprinceton.org

Teresa Kalina REL. ED. ADMIN. ASSISTANT
tkalina@stpaulsofprinceton.org

Gina Merendino PARISH ACCOUNTANT
gmerendino@stpaulsofprinceton.org

Laura Sarubbi FAMILY MINISTRY
lsarubbi@stpaulsofprinceton.org

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 2/28-3/1

\$24,000

Budget

\$7,963

Identifiable Gifts

\$4,719

Loose Cash

\$6,660

Online Giving

\$19,342

2025-2026 YTD

\$840,000

Budget

\$448,055

Envelopes/Loose Cash

\$406,563

Online Giving

\$854,618

101.7%

2024-2025 YTD

\$840,000

Budget

\$423,757

Envelopes/Loose Cash

\$378,750

Online Giving

\$802,507

95.5%

LOVE that
Strengthens

Diocese of Trenton • 2026 Annual Catholic Appeal

Our Parish 2026 Goal: \$119,000
Current Progress: \$98,935 (83%)
Donors: 101

Incentives:
Reach Goal: Receive 50% of surplus
Obtain 282 donors: 5% (\$5,950) rebate

We have officially launched the 2026 Annual Catholic Appeal — an invitation to strengthen our parish family and sustain ministries that serve those in need across our Diocese. Your participation today helps us begin this Appeal with confidence and joy. Make your gift at giveaca.org

More details about the Appeal's impact can be found at stpaulsofprinceton.org/annual-catholic-appeal



A COMMUNITY OF PRAYER

MASS INTENTIONS

5:30pm The People of the Parish

Sunday / 4th Sunday of Lent

8:30am Diane Hoehn | Staff of Several Sources Shelters

10:00am Maryann Rickerhauser | Jennifer & Calvin Lee

11:30am Frank Porcaro | Maria Pirone & Family

1:00pm Spanish Intentions

5:00pm Giovanni & Cesina Procaccini | Costantino & Flora Procaccini

Monday

8:15am Kenneth Princiotta | Marian Princiotta

12:10pm Ercole and Rocco Carnevale | Rosina Carnevale

Tuesday

8:15am Paul Daly | Ryan Family

12:10pm Ercole Carnevale and Carmela Armenti | Rosina Carnevale

Wednesday

8:15am Mary De Cillis | Laura & Denise De Cillis

12:10pm Giuseppina Sacchetta Venta | Maria Lapko

Thursday | Sol. of St. Joseph

8:15am Frank Fahy | Eileen Fahy

12:10pm Vito & Adalgisa & Isolina Toto | Rosina Armenti & Family
Giuseppina Venta | The Venta Family

Friday

8:15am Sofia Flores | Xavier Valenda

12:10pm Frederick Cestare | Marianne Kelly

Saturday

8:15am Kevin J. Moore | Carole Moore

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.

LAETARE SUNDAY

What makes this Sunday so special?

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally called Laetare Sunday. The word laetare means "rejoice" and comes from the Entrance Antiphon of the Mass: "Rejoice, Jerusalem."

In the middle of our Lenten journey, the Church invites us to pause and remember that our sacrifices are leading us toward the joy of Easter. Even as we continue our practices of prayer, fasting, and charity, this Sunday reminds us that Lent is ultimately about the new life Christ offers us through His Resurrection.

For this reason, rose-colored vestments may be worn and flowers may appear on the altar as a visible sign that the celebration of Easter is drawing near.

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.



WEEKLY WORSHIP

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday March 15, 2026

Today's readings can be found on page 613 of the hymnal. Please visit the livestream section of our website for more resources about this week's Mass.



FOCUS ON THE READINGS

Fourth Sunday of Lent

At the Lord's command, Samuel travels to Bethlehem where he anoints David, son of Jesse, as God's chosen king. Paul exhorts the Ephesians to live as children of light and to reject the works of darkness. In the Gospel, Jesus heals a man born blind. After the man is questioned by the Pharisees and eventually thrown out of their presence, Jesus finds him and invites him to believe in him, revealing himself to be the Son of Man.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

A message from Fr. Chris Dayton

This Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally called Laetare Sunday. The word laetare means "rejoice," taken from the entrance antiphon of the Mass: "Rejoice, Jerusalem." In the middle of our Lenten journey, the Church invites us to pause and remember why we began this pilgrimage in the first place. Lent is not simply about sacrifice or discipline; it is about the joy of the new life God desires to give us.

This Sunday's Gospel tells the remarkable story of the man born blind. When Jesus heals him, the miracle is about far more than physical sight. It becomes a story about learning to see—truly see—who Jesus is. At first, the man calls Him "the man called Jesus." Later, he says Jesus is a prophet. By the end, he professes his faith and worships Him as the Son of Man. His sight grows not only in his eyes, but in his heart.

Lent invites us into that same journey. Each of us has areas of blindness—places where we fail to recognize God's presence, where fear or habit clouds our vision, or where we struggle to see others with compassion. Through prayer, fasting, and charity, the Lord gently opens our eyes so that we may see more clearly.

For those in our parish preparing for baptism and full initiation at Easter, these Sundays are especially meaningful. The Scrutinies are moments of prayer that ask God to strengthen them and free them from anything that holds them back from Christ. As a parish family, we accompany them with our prayers and encouragement.

Faith is not first about having every answer. Often it begins simply with the willingness to let Christ touch our lives. When we allow Him to do that, our vision changes. We begin to see grace at work even in ordinary moments. We see our neighbor not as a stranger, but as a brother or sister. And we come to see our own lives as part of God's larger story of redemption.

As we move into the second half of Lent, may the Lord open our eyes more fully to His love and mercy. And may the joy of Easter—already shining through this Sunday—strengthen us for the road ahead.

In His peace,

Fr. Chris Dayton
Pastor

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.

We encourage you to take part in this Lenten journey of faith.

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 | 7:00pm Mass | St. Joachim, Trenton

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

PARISH LIFE

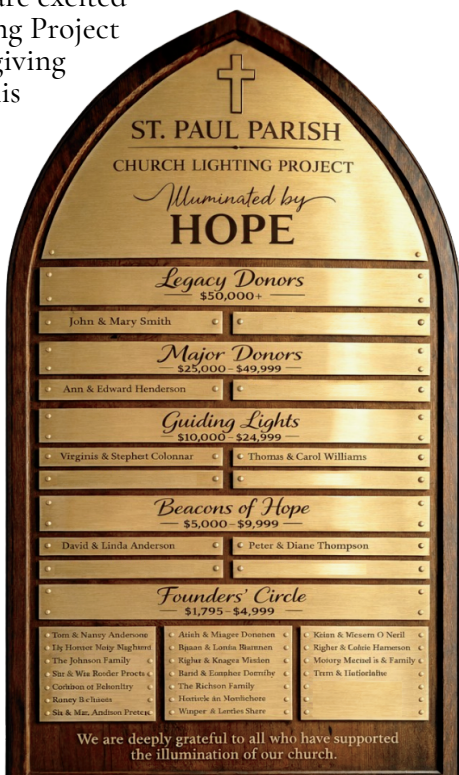
DIAMOND JUBILEE

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. Donations are still being accepted at all giving levels, 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.

ST. PAUL ATHLETICS

Spring 2026 Registration Now Open

This spring, SPAC is offering Tennis (grades 1–8), a Basketball Clinic (coed, grades 1–2), Golf Clinic (grades 5–8), Track (grades 4–8), and Soccer (boys and girls teams, grades 5–8).

Early bird registration closes March 22. All registrations are completed through TeamSnap. For questions, please contact Mr. Harris at athletics@spsprinceton.org.

SPAC is currently seeking head coaches for Track, Tennis, and Boys Soccer, as well as assistants for all sports. Your involvement helps make these programs possible for our students.



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.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 28 at 10:00am

St. Paul Parish's Annual Easter Egg Hunt, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, will take place on Saturday, March 28. The hunt begins promptly at 10:00am and will be held on the St. Paul School playground (rain location: the Spiritual Center).

Children are invited to bring a basket or container for collecting eggs. We look forward to celebrating this joyful Easter tradition with you!

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 of Friday, June 19 for Donation Collection (SPS Cafeteria) and Saturday, June 20 for Meal Service (St. Mary Cathedral in Trenton).

First planning meeting will be Sunday, April 12 after 10:00am Mass during Coffee and Donuts.

BABY ITEM DRIVE

By the Knights of Columbus | April 11-12

The Knights of Columbus Council #636 at St. Paul Parish will be collecting essential baby items before and after all Masses the weekend of April 11-12, outside the main entrance of the church. Donations will support two local crisis pregnancy centers, Legacy of Life and Life Choices, and will be presented at the Knights of Columbus Centennial Chapter Pro-Life "Baby Shower" hosted here at St. Paul Parish on Saturday, April 18.

Items needed include diapers (all sizes), baby wipes, bottles, blankets, new baby clothing (newborn-12 months), and other new baby essentials.

If you have questions, please contact Bill Hart at 609-955-1625 (call or text) or bill@hartpe.com. Thank you for your generosity in supporting mothers and their children.

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 be awarded again this year and may be renewed for up to 4 years, provided students maintain strong academic standing 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 contact Gina Merendino at gmerendino@stpaulsofprinceton.org or scan the code.



ST. PAUL SCHOOL

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

A message from Mrs. Kim Clauss

Our sincere thanks to the PTA for organizing wonderful events during this year's Family Appreciation Week. We hear the Father-Daughter Dance was fabulous and the Mother-Son Outing was a ball! It was also a joy to welcome our Special Persons for Mass and the reception on Thursday—moments that strengthen the bonds of our school community.

As we prepare for Easter, students in grades 3 through 8 will celebrate the Sacrament of Penance this coming Thursday. Please keep them in your prayers as they encounter the Lord's mercy.

Next Friday and Saturday, our students will present Newsies Jr. They've been working incredibly hard, and we can't wait to see it come to life. We hope you'll join us to cheer them on.

God bless,
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
kclauss@spsprinceton.org

Mrs. Shannon Rooney VICE PRINCIPAL
srooney@spsprinceton.org

Mrs. Michele Cano ADMISSIONS & ADVANCEMENT
mcano@spsprinceton.org

Mrs. Karen DelleFave ADMIN. ASSISTANT
kdellefave@spsprinceton.org

Mrs. Mary Beth Wells BOARD CHAIR
spsboardchair@gmail.com

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 week's Gospel, Jesus heals a man who was born blind. At the time, many people believed that sickness or disability resulted from someone's sin. But Jesus shows that this is not true. Instead, He uses this moment to reveal God's love and power.

The real message of this story is not just about physical sight - **it is about learning to truly see**. The man who was blind comes to recognize who Jesus is and believes in Him. Meanwhile, the religious leaders who think they "see clearly" refuse to believe and remain spiritually blind.

This Gospel reminds us that sometimes we can miss what God is doing around us. When we choose kindness, stand up for what is right, forgive others, or include someone who feels left out, we are learning to **see with the eyes of faith**.

During Lent, we are invited to slow down and ask Jesus to help us see more clearly - seeing others with compassion, noticing where we can do good, and growing closer to Him each day. Just like the man in the Gospel, our faith grows when we open our hearts to Jesus and allow Him to help us see the world with love.

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:

Friday, Mar. 20 - Soup & Salad 6:00pm (*Parish*)

Friday, Mar. 20 - Stations of the Cross 7:00pm (*Liturgical*)

Friday, Mar. 27 - Soup & Salad 6:00pm (*Parish*)

Friday, Mar. 27 - SPS Mime 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. This program provides children with a joyful opportunity to grow in their relationship with Jesus while building community with their peers.

By popular request, we will be offering **two separate weeks of VBC** this year, and families may register for **one week or both**.

Registration opens March 16 through June 15, 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

This week-long intensive program fulfills a full year of catechesis and is ideal for families who wish to prioritize faith formation during the summer while remaining active in the parish throughout the year. **Because of the intensive nature of the curriculum, attendance is required each day.**

Registration opens March 16 through June 15, 2026.

Program Dates and Times: July 6-10, 9:00am-3:00pm

Students who participate in Summer Academy are expected to take part in parish events throughout the year. This is especially important for students preparing for **Confirmation (7th and 8th grade)**. Families are asked to consider this commitment when deciding if Summer Academy is the best choice for their student.

SPY (ST. PAUL YOUTH)

SPY 4:12 (8th grade Confirmation ONLY)

Our next 8th-grade SPY 4:12 session will take place Saturday, Mar. 21, following the 5:30pm Teen Mass in the Spiritual Center and will conclude at 8:00pm. All 8th-grade students are to attend and watch this section of the bulletin for future sessions and updates.

PASTORAL HISPANA

MENSAJE DEL P. CHRIS *Pastor de San Pablo*

Este Cuarto Domingo de Cuaresma es llamado Domingo Laetare. Laetare significa “alégrate” y proviene de la antífona de entrada: “Alégrate, Jerusalén”. En medio de nuestro camino cuaresmal, la Iglesia nos invita a recordar que la Cuaresma no es solo sacrificio o disciplina, sino la alegría de la vida nueva que Dios desea darnos.

El Evangelio nos presenta al hombre ciego de nacimiento. Al sanarlo, Jesús realiza algo más que un milagro físico: inicia en él un camino de fe. Primero lo reconoce como “el hombre llamado Jesús”, luego como profeta, y finalmente lo adora como el Hijo del Hombre. Sus ojos se abren, pero también su corazón.

También nosotros tenemos áreas de ceguera: momentos en los que no reconocemos la presencia de Dios o nos cuesta mirar a los demás con compasión. Por medio de la oración, el ayuno y la caridad, el Señor ilumina nuestra vida y nos ayuda a ver con mayor claridad.

De manera especial, acompañamos con nuestras oraciones a quienes se preparan para el Bautismo y celebran los Escrutinios, pidiendo que el Señor los fortalezca y los acerque más a Él.

Al entrar en la segunda mitad de la Cuaresma, pidamos que Dios abra nuestros ojos a su amor y misericordia. Que la alegría de la Pascua, que ya comienza a vislumbrarse, nos fortalezca en el camino.

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

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

We have two beautiful feast days this week: St. Patrick's Day on March 17 and St. Joseph's Day on March 19. Our parish, like many in our diocese, was built by faithful families from Ireland and Italy who brought with them a deep love for the faith and its traditions.

Everyone is Irish on the 17th, and we will remember St. Patrick at the 11:30am Mass this weekend. St. Joseph's Day has its own cherished customs. At the Sarubbi house, that means setting the St. Joseph's table, making the trip to Staten Island for sfingi (from Buono Bakery, of course), and preparing a special dinner. There is something beautiful about traditions lovingly passed down through generations.

Lent itself is rich in tradition. The sacred days of the Triduum—Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday—have always been close to my heart. Even now, the minor chords of Lenten music bring me back to singing Tantum Ergo a cappella with my mom and aunt while walking the outdoor Stations of the Cross through midtown Manhattan. For a few days, it felt as if the world stood still.

What traditions shaped your childhood? Which ones have you continued? In these remaining weeks of Lent, may we rediscover the rhythms that draw us more deeply into prayer as we approach the Triduum and the joy of Easter.

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 9:00-10:00am

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Children ages 3–6 are invited to meet in the Atrium of the Spiritual Center on Sundays from 9:45–11:00am. Upcoming dates include March 8, 15, 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

The Imitation of Christ: The Beatitudes Edition
Tuesday, March 17 · 9:30am–1:00pm
Let's 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 to you as a friend offering loving counsel. 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. This will be a morning of deep prayer. Ignatian contemplation may be a new way for you to pray. The Gospel story is about you. Intimacy with Jesus follows. Healing and meaning in your life follow as well. A beautiful way to enter more deeply into Lent.
Donation: \$25, includes lunch. Zoom: \$20

Echoes of "Yes": A Retreat Inspired by the Annunciation
Wednesday, March 25 · 9:30am–1:00pm
Embrace God's invitation with Mary's courage by stepping away from the noise of your life and entering a sacred space of reflection, hope, and trust. This retreat invites you to accompany Mary at the moment of the Annunciation, where her openness to God's will changed everything. Discover how saying "yes" can transform your life, deepen your faith, and open your heart to new possibilities. Through prayer, quiet, and community,

experience the echo of Mary's courageous response and prepare to encounter God's invitation anew. Led by JoLynn Krempecki.

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

Prayer of Abandonment: The Beauty of Surrender
Friday, March 27 · 9:30am–1:00pm

We need to abandon ourselves to God more than ever. God has repeatedly proven Himself trustworthy. This Lenten retreat invites us, like Jesus, to grow in trust as we lay down our burdens and surrender our future to the loving providence of God. We will use Charles de Foucauld's Prayer of Abandonment to guide our prayer. As Lent draws to a close, spend this sacred time with the Lord.

Donation: \$30, includes materials and lunch. Zoom: \$20

Personal Retreat Day

Wednesday, April 15 · 9:30am–2:30pm

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

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

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.

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



GIVE SOMETHING UP... FAST!

The second of the three pillars

This week, we turn to the second of our three Lenten pillars — and the one that tends to get the most attention: fasting.

If you grew up Catholic, you probably know the basics. We fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. And if we're honest, many of us have at least once tried to "work the system" — quietly calculating what counts as a regular meal, what qualifies as a small meal, and how close we can get to the line without crossing it.

Here's something helpful to know: the Church actually gives us more space here than we sometimes realize. The Code of Canon Law simply says that fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. In the United States, we commonly describe that as one regular meal and two smaller meals that together don't equal another full one. But that language isn't straight from canon law — it's guidance. The heart of the law is simple: observe the fast.

And the point? That it be penitential. That it mean something. That it cost us a little.

Aside from abstaining from meat, the Church does not hand us a calorie chart. We fast because Jesus loves us — and because He gave everything for us (see John 3:16). Fasting is our small way of entering into that love. So if you're anxious about whether you're "doing it right," take a breath. The Church is not trying to trap you. But if we find ourselves looking for loopholes, that may be a sign to check our hearts.

There are, of course, exemptions: those under 18, those over 59, anyone who is pregnant or nursing, and anyone whose health would be harmed by fasting. The Church is a mother. She does not ask of us anything that would cause real harm.

But fasting isn't only about those two required days.

Every Lent, someone will ask, "So what did you give up this year?" That self-imposed fast — chocolate, social media, TV, coffee, even homework (I see you, middle schoolers) — is another way we practice discipline and desire. For forty-ish days, we say "no" to something good so that our "yes" to God can grow stronger.

I've had Lents where I overcomplicated things. I chose something abstract, hard to measure, and even harder to sustain. But one year, I landed on something concrete. As an undergrad with a meal plan, my weakness was fountain soda. I had it at nearly every meal. It was basically a study companion in the library. My senior year, I gave it up for Lent — every day except Sundays and solemnities.

It was harder than I expected.

Every time I walked up to the soda fountain and filled my cup with water instead, I tried to remember why I was doing it: because Jesus loves me. That small act of restraint became a daily reminder.

And something surprising happened. I felt profoundly connected to the Church. Sundays became little celebrations. I don't think I had ever cared so much about the Solemnity of St. Joseph or the Annunciation. Those feast days felt like real joy because the fast had been real.

There is something beautiful about fasting from something that (even figuratively) stings a bit. It sharpens our awareness. It makes feast days feel like feasts. It reminds us that Lent is not about misery — it's about love.

And there is truly nothing like celebrating with the Church.

Sun
15

Second Scrutiny

For OCIA Elect & Candidates
at 10:00am

Sun
15

St. Patrick's Day Mass

11:30am Sunday Mass

Wed
18

Pilgrimage Mass

with Mercer Co. Station Churches
7:00pm at St. Anthony, Trenton

Wed
18

8 Minutes at 8:00pm

Casual Lenten chat with
Laura Sarubbi via Zoom

Thur
19

Pilgrimage Mass

with Mercer Co. Station Churches
7:00pm at St. Raphael, Hamilton

Fri
20

Pilgrimage Mass

with Mercer Co. Station Churches
7:00pm at St. Joseph, Trenton

Fri
20

Soup & Salad Dinner

6:00pm in the SPS Cafeteria

Fri
20

Stations of the Cross

English 7:00pm | Espanol 8:00pm

Sat
21

Individual Confessions

every Saturday at 4:00pm