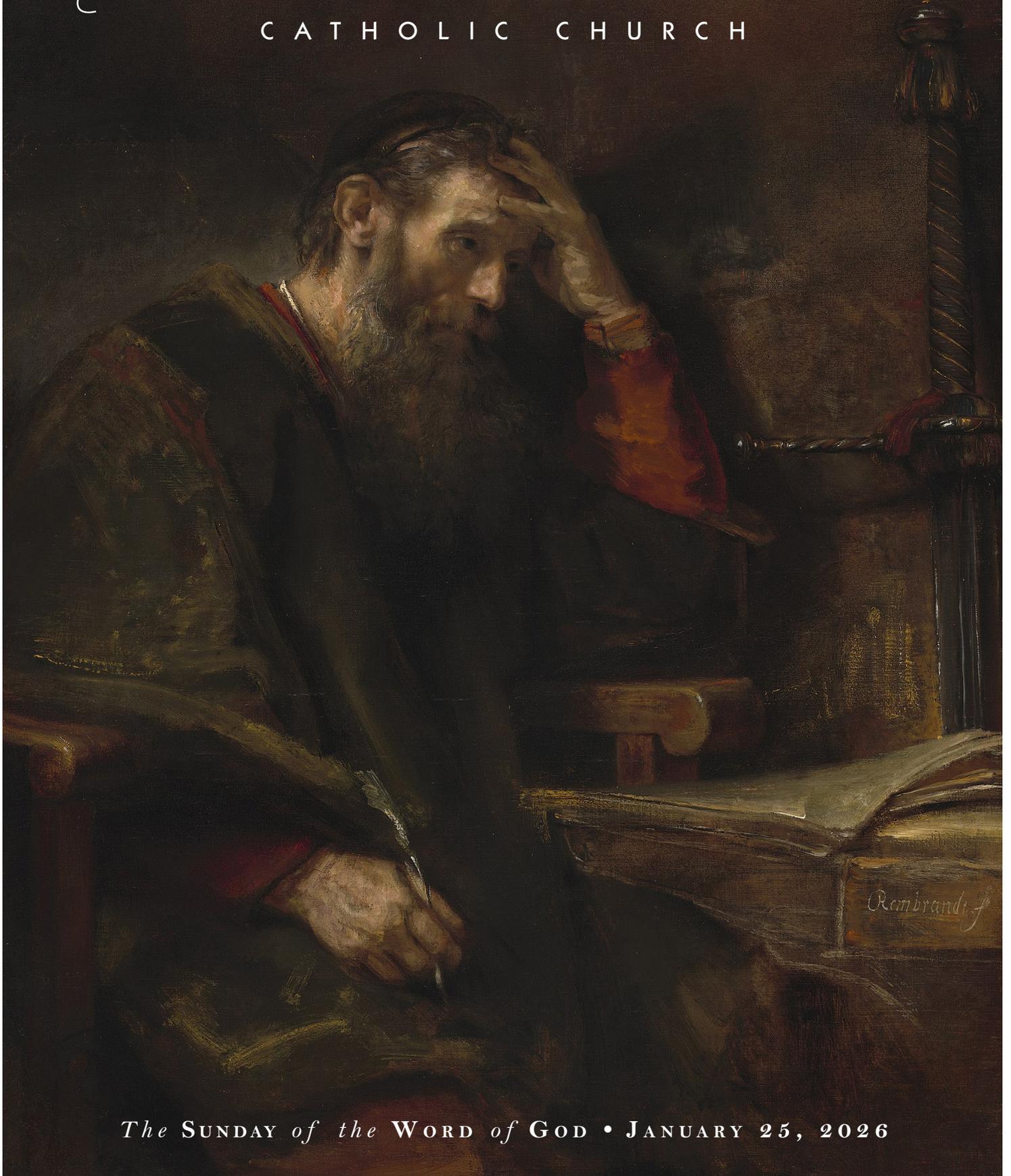


NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

CATHOLIC CHURCH



The SUNDAY *of the* WORD *of* GOD • JANUARY 25, 2026

ABOUT

Parish Mission | Announced December 7, 2024

Our new parish mission, formulated by our Pastor, Fr. Rolf Tollefson — as a response to the suggestions of One Nativity 2035, parish staff, the pastoral council, and other valued lay leaders — is three-fold, aligning with the liturgical seasons of Advent and Christmas and centering upon, fittingly, the celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord itself:



- 1.) **Prepare** the Way of the Lord,
- 2.) **Celebrate** “God With Us,” and
- 3.) **Shine** with the Light of Christ.

Learn more about our new parish mission at nativitystpaul.org/mission.

LEADERSHIP

Pastor | Fr. Rolf Tollefson (651) 696-5401

Parochial Vicar | Fr. John Paul Erickson (651) 696-5440

Deacon | Rev. Mr. Don Tienter (651) 696-5401

Parish Administrator | Beth Giese (651) 696-5430

Head of School | Kate Wollan (651) 699-1311

Early Learning Center Director | Nicole Clausen
(651) 696-5437

Dir. of Marketing & Communications | Isaac Huss
(651) 696-5425

Parish Secretary | Beth Erickson (651) 696-5401

Volunteer Coord. | Sonny Herrington (651) 696-5401

Facilities Director | Steve Boatman (651) 696-5434

Accounting Specialist | Nick Erickson (651) 696-5436

Director of Music | Brian Carson (651) 696-5401

Nativity Choir Director | Rob Pontious (651) 245-5969

Assistant Director of Discipleship - Small Groups and Youth Ministry | Emily Meyer (651) 696-5401

Discipleship Admin., Sacramental Records
Marian Layman (651) 696-5443

Lay Trustee | Christina Crow (651) 696-5401

Lay Trustee | Tom Tucci (651) 696-5401

Finance Council Chair | Tom Margarit
tmargarit2024@outlook.com

Pastoral Council (651) 696-5401

Chris Nei (chair)

Lanita Brandt

Martha Conners

Judd Fenlon

Nate Hughes

Stephen Maas

Lucas Tucker

INFORMATION

Pastor

Father Rolf Tollefson (*pictured*)



Church

1938 Stanford Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota 55105

Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 8:30am-4:30pm

Lannan Parish Center (Parish Office)

Phone: (651) 696-5401 | Fax: (651) 696-5458
1900 Wellesley Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105

Website | nativitystpaul.org

Email | info@nativitystpaul.org

Staff Email Directory | nativitystpaul.org/parish-staff

   @NativityStPaul

School Office

(651) 699-1311 | school@nativitystpaul.org
1900 Stanford Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105

STANDARD MASS & PRAYER TIMES

See back page calendar for this week's schedule.

Lord's Day Mass

Saturday: 5pm vigil

Sun.: 7:30am, 9am (*Family Mass*), 11am (*w/incense*), 5pm

Daily Mass (**denotes newly updated time*)

Monday-Saturday: 8:15am

Tuesday, *Wednesday, and Friday: 5pm

Confession

Tuesday, *Wednesday, and Friday: 4:15-4:45pm

Saturday: 3:30-4:30pm

Adoration

Sat.: 6-9pm; Sun: 6-11pm; Mon.: *6am-8am, 9am-12am

Tues. and *Wed.: 12am-8am; 9am-5pm, 5:30pm-12am

Thurs.: 5am-8am, 9am-12am

Fri.: 4am-8am, 9am-5pm, 5:30-9pm

Anointing of the Sick

Emergency Line (24 hours) | (651) 696-5401

(Press 1 at the recording)

First Saturdays: 8:45am (*and by appointment*)

Prayer Line (9am-7pm)

Mary Kay O'Rourke | (651) 698-5638

Lucy Plunkett | (612) 817-0351

Pastoral Care

(651) 696-5401

St. Vincent de Paul Society

(651) 334-2935

FUNERALS

Our Faithful Departed

Please remember in your prayers:

Robert Marshall

May his soul and those of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace, amen.

Funeral Information

Please always contact the parish office when anyone has died at (651) 696-5401 or info@nativitystpaul.org. Please also tell us if you or someone you know is near death, has experienced a significant decline in health, has entered palliative or hospice care, or is having surgery, and we will arrange a sacramental visit from a priest.

BAPTISM

Preparation and Scheduling

Baptisms are typically celebrated on Sundays at 12pm, and an informational class is required for first-time parents. Contact the parish office at (651) 696-5401 or info@nativitystpaul.org for more information.

HOLY MATRIMONY

Cana Dinner | Register by Thursday, January 29 (*update*)

Engaged couples, married couples, widows, and widowers all are invited to our annual Cana Dinner on Saturday, February 7 to celebrate and lift up the good news about being married. We'll begin with Mass at 5pm followed by a social hour, catered buffet dinner, wine and dessert. Guest speakers Peter and Theresa Martin will present on their book, *The Rule: St. John Paul II's Rule for a Joy-Filled Marriage of Divine Love*. All entrees are gluten free, and vegan dinners can be arranged by request.



Register at nativitystpaul.org/cana-dinner via the QR code by this Thursday. Tickets are \$30/person (\$60/couple), except for couples engaged or married within the past year, whose registration is free of charge! Free babysitting will be available to all, courtesy of 7th and/or 8th graders, who will be supervised by a Virtus-trained adult.



Marital Discernment & Wedding Planning

In order for Nativity of Our Lord to best help individuals and couples discern vocations to sacramental marriage, we encourage active participation in parish life, including registering as a parishioner, at least six months prior to requesting a wedding date. Contact the parish office at (651) 696-5401 or info@nativitystpaul.org to learn more.

LITURGY

Candle Blessing for Candlemas | February 2 (*new*)

All are invited to bring candles to be blessed at a special 8:15am Mass, including music, on Monday, February 2 for the feast of the Presentation of Our Lord, also known as Candlemas. Just bring them to the main entryway beforehand and you can pick them up again afterwards.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Registration Now Open | February 27-28

All women of the parish are invited for Chosen & Beloved, a two-day (but not overnight) retreat at Nativity of Our Lord, led by our Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus. We will start with the 5pm Mass on Friday and end at 9pm, then begin again on Saturday with 8:15am Mass and end at 4pm. The retreat will also include time for Adoration, Confession, and fellowship and will be held in the church and Steiner Hall.



Come learn how God has created us as women, the particular gifts and struggles we tend to have, and how they affect our spiritual life. The Handmaids will also discuss the identities of women and give us tools to help deepen our prayer and overall relationship with Our Lord.

Registration is \$60 at nativitystpaul.org/womens-retreat via the QR code and includes all meals. Financial assistance is available — no one will be turned away! Just make a request through the form, or contact Marian Layman at m Layman@nativitystpaul.org or (651) 696-5443 to learn more. (*We also invite you to consider sponsoring a fellow parishioner, and there is an opportunity on the online form to do so. Thank you!*)



NATIVITY WOMEN

Fireside Chat & Social: Friendship | February 5

Join us for our next Fireside Chat & Social: What is Friendship? An academic conversation on Thursday, February 5 at 6:30pm in Steiner Hall with Dr. Billy Junker, Nativity of Our Lord parishioner and University of St. Thomas Catholic Studies Professor and Graduate Program Director.

Everybody knows that friendship is important in life, and everybody wants to be a good friend, but what is friendship, exactly? Are there different kinds of friendship? Are some better than others? More than 2,000 years ago the Greek philosopher Aristotle sought to answer these questions, and his answers still can provide us with a lot of insight into friendship, and into ourselves today. Bring a friend and register now for this enlightening evening at nativitywomen.org!

FOR MEN

Calling All Nativity Men *(new)*

Men of Nativity of Our Lord have many opportunities to grow in their faith as well as serve the parish. One of the best? A weekly late night or early morning Adoration commitment. We need you for these “night watchman” hours Thursday-Monday so we can return to 24x7 Adoration. Why not get a friend or family member and share an hour? Visit adorationpro/nativity and click “Weekly Commitment” to see open hours and to sign up.

Exodus 90 | Tuesdays at 8am or 5:30pm

Men, are you up for a challenge in 2026? Exodus 90 is a journey of prayer, asceticism, and brotherhood that has helped over 100,000 men break free from bad habits, distractions, and lukewarm prayer. Guided by Fr. Boniface Hicks, a Benedictine monk and seasoned spiritual director, you'll receive daily reflections and practical tools, along with support from other men here in the parish, between now and Easter Sunday. The challenge began January 5, but it's not too late to join. Discover what true freedom in Christ feels like. Learn more at exodus90.com.

Our parish's Exodus 90 fraternity meets weekly every Tuesday in Steiner Hall. There's no need to register; just join us at either the morning (8-9am) or evening session (5:30-6:30pm). Contact Matt Bannick at (651) 492-1945 or Matt.bannick@gmail.com for more information.

Sport Shirt Stag w/Mike Modano | Fri., Jan. 30, 6pm
Attention men of Nativity of Our Lord: The 45th Annual Nativity Men's Club Sport Shirt Stag is this Friday in the School gymnasium. Doors open at 6pm, with the event from 7-9pm. This year, radio and podcast personality Matt “Rookie” Michalski returns, and our guest speaker is NHL superstar and Hall of Fame player Mike Modano! Brats and beverages will be served. A free will donation is appreciated, and this is a great opportunity to make your annual NMC dues payment of \$20. This Stag is gonna be huge! All men of the parish 21+ are invited, as well as friends and neighbors.

RESPECT LIFE

Book Discussion and Potluck | February 19 *(update)*

Join in reading and discussing the inspirational memoir, *Two Patients: My Conversion from Abortion to Life-Affirming Medicine*, by Dr. John Bruchalski, M.D. on Thursday, February 19 from 6-8pm in Steiner Hall. This amazing story highlights how a physician who practiced abortion came to question the medical status quo and to pioneer an approach to reproductive medicine that respects female fertility. A second discussion will be offered on February 13 with our Minneapolis friends. Please join us!

To RSVP for either event and/or to buy (\$7.50) or borrow a copy of the book, please contact Karen McCann at (612) 964-4522 or karenmccann3@gmail.com.

SMALL GROUPS *(new)*

New Lent Small Groups

Make this Lent your best ever! Lent is coming on February 18 and it's the perfect time to focus on growing in our faith. Why not do it together in a small group, for friendship, support, and consistency? Here are some new small groups that are looking for participants. Sign up for these groups at bit.ly/3vAtTzg or contact Emily Meyer at emeyer@nativitystpaul.org, or Randall McClure at randallmcc715@gmail.com.

Enriching Sundays with JP2 | February 22; March 1, 8

This study group of Pope St. John Paul II's apostolic letter on the meaning of Sunday and the reasons for living it as a day set apart will deepen our understanding of this rich and holy day. “In learning to celebrate Sunday and its fullness,” says the late Pope, “our relationships and our entire lives cannot help but become more profoundly human.” We'll meet on three Sunday afternoons: February 22, March 1, and March 8 from 3-4:30pm.

Reclaim Sundays. Seriously! | Tuesday evenings in Lent

Archbishop Hebda is encouraging local Catholics to rediscover the beauty, peace, and rest of Sundays, set apart as the Lord's Day. The Archdiocese has provided monthly videos and ideas for reclaiming Sundays, highlighted in our Family Corner items in the bulletin. It's a good idea, but have we made use of these resources? Let's pursue this together. We'll discuss our successes and struggles with Sundays, and learn ways to make them more fruitful on Tuesday evenings in Lent from 7:30-8:30pm.

Visio Divina Small Group | Thursday evenings in Lent

We will meet on six Thursday evenings during Lent and be led through lectio divina on the coming Sunday's Gospel paired with visio divina on a painting from the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. Five sessions will meet in home with a trip to the MIA for the final Thursday. Everyone is invited to join this unique small group opportunity. For more information, contact Katy Wehr at kathrynwehr@gmail.com.

COMMUNICATIONS

Early Deadlines | Tuesday, January 27, 9am

Bulletin content is typically required by Monday at noon for the following Sunday's bulletin. Please note the following early deadlines:

- *(Submissions for the 2/1 bulletin are past due.)*
- Submissions for the Sunday, 2/8 bulletin are due this Tuesday, January 27 at 9am.

Visit nativitystpaul.org/content-submissions for more information, or to submit copy for the parish bulletin, website calendar, social media, and email newsletter.

— Isaac Huss, Comms. Director and Bulletin Editor

PARISH LIFE

Donuts Every Sunday | Sunday, Jan. 25, 8am-12:30pm

Join us this Sunday morning as the Hospitality Team at Nativity of Our Lord continues hosting donuts and coffee every Sunday (when the Men's Club is not hosting their popular Sunday morning events) after all morning Masses in Steiner Hall. To volunteer for a shift or donate to this ministry online, visit nativitystpaul.org/hospitality-sunday via the QR code. Thank you!



Scouts Pancake Breakfast | February 8

The 9am Mass on the second Sunday in February is dedicated to and celebrates Scouting. A delicious "all you can eat" breakfast consisting of pancakes, sausages, OJ, coffee, and more will again be served from 8am-12:30pm. Everyone is welcome. Proceeds support the Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts at Nativity of Our Lord. Learn more, buy tickets, and/or sign up to help flip pancakes at nativitymen.org/pancake-breakfast.

STEWARDSHIP

The Live Auction Committee Needs Your Help!

Do you have a vacation home, cabin, or time share of which you'd be willing to donate the use to a winning bidder at Nativity of Our Lord's Night to Shine Gala? This annual event is the premier spring fundraiser for Nativity School, uniting parents, alumni, business leaders, and community members in support of our mission which is rooted in faith, academics, and character development.

Please contact us at nativityliveauction@nativitystpaul.org if you would like to contribute. And save the date for this year's Night to Shine: World of Wonder on Saturday, April 18!

Online Giving

Electronic giving is available on our parish website at nativitystpaul.org/online-giving via the QR code at right for our general parish "Stewardship" fund, as well as for special collections and other targeted giving options. Nativity of Our Lord simply could not carry out its mission without our faithful parishioners and generous donors. Thank you!



Parish Collections | December 2025 (*new*)

	Monthly Actual	Fiscal Year to Date Actual	Fiscal Year to Date Budget
Envelope & Electronic Giving	\$308,169	\$956,134	\$950,000
Plate Collections	\$13,071	\$46,498	\$50,000
Total	\$321,240	\$1,002,632	\$1,000,000

PASTOR'S CORNER

Events highlighted by our Pastor himself, Fr. Rolf Tollefson

Miriam Dinner | Tuesday, January 27, 6-8pm
Young women 16-35 discerning consecrated life are invited this Tuesday for an evening of prayer and conversation with our Bishops as well as consecrated women sharing testimonies at the Archdiocesan Catholic Center (777 Forest St., St. Paul). Visit 10000vocations.org/miriam-dinner for details and to register.

Newly Married Retreat | February 7 (*new*)
All couples married up to seven years are invited to enjoy speakers Renzo and Monica Ortega, as well as time for couples to engage in discussion and dialogue and time for prayer, Confession, Mass, and a renewal of vows on Saturday, February 7 from 9am-2:30pm at Maternity of Mary in St. Paul. Visit archspm.org/events/nmr for details and to register for \$60 per couple.

Archdiocesan Men's Conference | March 21 (*new*)
All men of the Archdiocese are invited to a free half-day retreat with Archbishop Hebda and Bishop Kenney at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Hastings on Saturday, March 21 from 8am-12:30pm. Visit archspm.org/events/archdiocesan-mens-conference for details.

IMAGES

Cover Image
The Apostle Paul by Rembrandt van Rijn (and Workshop?)
Circa 1657 | Oil on canvas | CC0 1.0
National Gallery of Art | Washington, D.C., U.S.A.
nga.gov/artworks/1198-apostle-paul

PASTORAL CARE

Food Collection | Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 31 - Feb. 1
Please bring non-perishable food with you to Lord's Day Mass next weekend. All food collected is donated to Keystone Community Food Shelf. Thank you!

Anointing of the Sick
Anyone who is seriously ill is encouraged to contact the parish office at (651) 696-5401 to receive the sacrament of Anointing as soon as possible, and if anticipating major surgery to make an appointment prior to the operation. The sacrament is now also offered immediately after the 8:15am Mass in the church on the first Saturday of each month, unless otherwise noted.

Holy Communion Off Campus
If the weather, an illness, on any other reason prevents anyone from attending a Mass, and he or she would like to receive Holy Communion sometime in the week that follows, contact the parish office at (651) 696-5401 or info@nativitystpaul.org and we'll come to them (or you)!



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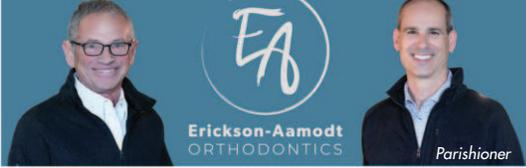
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A 4C 02-4012

CALENDAR • JAN. 26 - FEB. 1, 2026

Mon., 1/26	Tues., 1/27	Wed., 1/28	Thurs., 1/29	Friday, 1/30	Sat., 1/31	Sun., 2/1
Mass: •8:15am	Mass: •8:15am •5pm	Mass: •8:15am •5pm*	Mass: •8:15am	Mass: •8:15am •5pm	Mass: •8:15am •5pm (vigil)	Mass: •7:30am (no music) •9am (Family Mass) •11am (with incense) •5pm
Rosary for Life: •8:45am	Grandparents Rosary: 8:45am	Rosary for Life: •8:45am	Rosary for Life: •8:45am	Rosary for Life: •8:45am	Confession: •3:30-4:30pm	
Newly updated	Confession: •4:15-4:45pm	Confession: •4:15-4:45pm		Confession: •4:15-4:45pm		
<i>Liturgy times reflect the current week. See page 1 for standard schedule.</i> <i>All morning Masses and Saturday at 5pm are livestreamed and recorded and available at nativitystpaul.org/online-liturgies.</i>						
Adoration: 6am*-8am, 9am-12am	Adoration: 12-8am, 9am-5pm, 5:30pm-12am	Adoration: 12-8am, 9am-5pm*, *5:30pm-12am	Adoration: 5-8am, 9am-12am	Adoration: 4-8am, 9am-5pm, 5:30-9pm	Adoration: 6-9pm	Adoration: 6-11pm
<i>Sts. Timothy and Titus</i>	<i>St. Angela Merici**</i>	<i>St. Thomas Aquinas**</i>			<i>St. John Bosco**</i>	<i>The 4TH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME</i>
	Men's Fellowship Small Group Steiner Hall 6:45am				Lay Carmelites Council Meeting Gather Room 9-10am	Hospitality (Donut) Sunday Steiner Hall 8am-12:30pm
	Exodus 90 Meetings Steiner Hall 8-9am, 5:30-6:30pm	Faith Formation, OCIA Meeting School 6:30-8pm		Sport Shirt Stag Gym 6-9pm		Lay Carmelites Meeting Steiner Hall 12:30-4pm
**Nativity relics on display in Heritage Room						High School Youth Night Steiner Hall 6-8pm
Catholic Schools Week					Food Collection	
<i>Changes to the parish schedule since last Tuesday, and sometimes even earlier, are not reflected here. Pulpit announcements share the most up-to-date information, followed by the e-newsletter and website. When in doubt, contact the parish office.</i>						

MASS INTENTIONS

Masses Available

Due to the newly reinstated 5pm Wednesday Mass, in addition to last year's decision to make intentions for Sunday Masses available, we have a number of upcoming liturgies available for Mass intention requests for a suggested donation per Mass of \$7-10, which helps offset our practical liturgical expenses. If you would like to request an intention, please stop by the parish office, or contact us at info@nativitystpaul.org or (651) 696-5401.

This Week's Schedule

		7:30am	8:15am	9am	11am	5pm
Mon.	1/26		Nick Erickson			
Tues.	1/27		Melissa Racine Martinez +			Maureen Wolfgram +
Wed.	1/28		Sally Rindfleisch +			Robert Marshall +
Thu.	1/29		Louise Roth			
Fri.	1/30		Jay Erickson			Rick Johnson
Sat.	1/31		Terese Peine			Erin Suek +
Sun.	2/1	Bishop Peter Christensen		Stephen Boyum and Laura Salazar Gonzales	For the People	The Youth of Nativity

MASS READINGS

Sun: Is 8:23-9:3; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17
Mon: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-8, 10, 21-22, 25-26; Mk 3:22-30
Tues: 2 Sm 6:12-15, 17-19; Ps 24:7-10; Mk 3:31-35
Wed: 2 Sm 7:4-17; Ps 89:4-5, 27-30; Mk 4:1-20
Thu: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29; Ps 132:1-5, 11-14; Mk 4:21-25
Fri: 2 Sm 11:1-10, 13-17; Ps 51:3-7, 10-11; Mk 4:26-34
Sat: 2 Sm 12:1-7, 10-17; Ps 51:12-17; Mk 4:35-41