

# Saint Paul the Apostle and Saint Stanislaus Church

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**Parish Website:** [www.warrenmass.org](http://www.warrenmass.org)

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## February 26, 2023

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Whether it's an annual check-up with the doctor, a tune up of your car or a review with your boss, we have periodic assessments to evaluate performance and to make adjustments so as to maximize the likelihood that we and the things we use can accomplish their intended end. The same is true in our faith lives.

Lent is a time of self-examination and adjustment that better prepares us to celebrate Easter and to attain the end for which God created us, Heaven. The measure of that examination is the Gospel, including the Commandments and the Beatitudes.

Over time, the demands of daily life, the currents of our culture and sin can cause us to drift, lose focus and neglect our proper spiritual priorities. We can slacken in our zeal for the faith, fidelity to prayer and selfless love of God and neighbor. Lent calls us back. It is a holy season that through deeper prayer, more focused penance and greater almsgiving re-orient us to a life centered on Christ, the abundance of His spiritual blessings and a selfless generosity towards others. In that call and in our response, we find a deep joy, meaning and a hope that the world cannot give. We also find strength.

In today's Gospel, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert where He fasted for forty days. He was tempted by the Devil with bodily comforts (bread), pride (putting God to the test) and power (all the kingdoms of the world). All those temptations He rejected pointing us towards greater comforts (the Word of God), humility (trusting, not testing God) and true strength (worship and service of God). Rejecting those temptations and focusing on those greater goods, the Devil fled and angels ministered to Jesus. Similarly, when we undergo these forty days of prayer, penance and almsgiving, reflecting upon God's promises, trusting in Him and giving Him our praise, worship and honor, we will be strengthened in our faith, hope and love. Unlike Jesus, we are sinners and our forty-day Lent should include a good confession so that in that act of faith and humility we can experience the great peace of His mercy.

I pray that we all may make the most of Lent so that at Easter, renewed in our faith, we may celebrate the joy of the Resurrection not just as Christ's triumph but as the hope and promise of all who follow Him.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus  
Bishop of Worcester

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PASTORAL PLANNING:** As Father Reidy mentioned during the meetings after Mass earlier this month, our pastoral planning committee made up of the parish councils, finance councils and property committee of both of our parishes has met four times since the Fall to evaluate our parishes and plan for the future. As mentioned in the meetings after Mass, we have come to the conclusion that we should sell Saint Thomas Aquinas Campus. Our goals continue to be to continue Mass in English and Latin and to provide for pastoral care and outreach to all the people of Warren within the means of our parishes. We continue to work on how that might be configured. Our next pastoral planning meeting will be held this Wednesday, March 1 at 6:30 pm at Saint Paul's Church. As in earlier meetings, we will begin with fifteen minutes of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament exposed in the monstrance and then adjourn to the lower hall to discuss recent developments and the condition and needs of both Saint Paul and Saint Stanislaus Churches. **All are welcome to attend Wednesday evening's meeting.**

**LENTEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Each Friday of Lent we will pray the Stations of the Cross at 7 pm at Saint Stanislaus. Please join us for this traditional Lenten devotion that powerfully and movingly calls to mind the depths of God's love for us.

**WORCESTER CATHOLIC MEN’S CONFERENCE:** Men (of all ages, including teens and college students) are invited to this important in-person conference, scheduled for Assumption University on Saturday, March 25, 2023. Come and hear dynamic talks from outstanding Catholic leaders: Bear Woznick, Jeff Joaquin, Msgr. Jim Moroney, David Niles, Adam Minihan and Fr. Chris Alar, MIC. Visit the conference website at [www.catholicmenworc.com](http://www.catholicmenworc.com) for information and to purchase tickets online. For further information, call Fr. José Rodriguez at 978-537-3016 or Shawn Shields at 508-523-2224. For assistance with the purchase of tickets call Corinn Dahm at 508-835-8551. Adult tickets are \$50 until March 13th, afterwards \$65, including at the door. Student tickets are always \$30.

**PARTNERS IN CHARITY 2023:** Our diocesan agencies and ministries are sources of help and hope to thousands of people across our diocese. Your pledge or one time gift is a tangible way to be a ‘face of Christ’ to the world through your support of the agencies and ministries which rely on this appeal for the funding each year. And you, in turn, share in the joy of bringing hope into the lives of those we serve. Text giving is hands down the easiest and most secure way to give. If you know how to send a text message, you can make a gift to Partners in Charity in seconds on your phone. Best yet, Saint Paul and Saint Stanislaus parishes will receive credit! Text donate to 84576. In addition to giving you can also view the 2023 appeal video. You can also make your gift online at [partners-charity.net](http://partners-charity.net). Gift envelopes are available in the church entrance. Thank you for your continued support! We couldn’t do it without you!

### **READINGS:**

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11; “Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned” (Psalm 51:3a)  
2 Corinthians 6:1-10; Matthew 4:1-11

### **MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS:**

Confessions on Saturdays from 2:30 – 3:15 PM; Tuesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 PM at St. Stanislaus Church; Sundays after the 12:00 PM Mass at St. Paul the Apostle Church.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesdays from 5:00 to 8:00 PM at St. Stanislaus Church.

Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet on Wednesdays at 5:00 PM at St. Stanislaus Church.

<b>Date</b>		<b>Time</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>Intention</b>
Sat, 2/25/2023	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent	4:00 PM	(S, E)	Genster Family by Nancy Urban
Sun, 2/26/2023	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent	8:30 AM	(P, E)	For the people of the parishes
Sun, 2/26/2023	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent	12:00 PM	(P, L)	†William Girouard by Marie Girouard on the first anniversary of his passing
Mon, 2/27/2023	Lenten Weekday	8:00 AM	(S, E)	Michelle Backstrom by the Pacek family
Tue, 2/28/2023	Lenten Weekday	8:00 AM	(S, E)	Bishop Robert McManus by the Pacek family
Wed, 3/1/2023	Lenten Weekday	8:00 AM	(S, E)	Special Intention by Mike Sullivan
Thu, 3/2/2023	Lenten Weekday	8:00 AM	(S, E)	Special Intention by Sandy Wylie
Sat, 3/4/2023	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent	4:00 PM	(S, E)	†Witold Misiaszek by the Pacek family
Sun, 3/5/2023	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent	8:30 AM	(P, E)	For the people of the parishes
Sun, 3/5/2023	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent	12:00 PM	(P, L)	

Key: (S) St. Stanislaus Church; (P) St. Paul the Apostle Church; (E) English Mass; (L) Latin Mass

### **GIVING:**

St. Stanislaus, 2/20/2023 — \$147

St. Paul the Apostle, 2/21/2023 — \$1,151

Your support of the parishes is needed and appreciated!