



Monday, January 5th

7:00 A.M. Intentions of Daniel Dwyer

Tuesday, January 6th

7:00 A.M. James Lennon

Wednesday, January 7th

7:00 A.M. James Lennon
8:15 A.M. Claire and Philip Kirby

Thursday, January 8th

7:00 A.M. Richard Mallory

Friday, January 9th

7:00 A.M. James Lennon

Saturday, January 10th

8:30 A.M. Living and Deceased Members of the
O'Brien and Thornton Families
5:30 P.M. Erna Adams

Sunday, January 11th

7:30 A.M. Debbie Liebert
9:30 A.M. Intentions of St. Paul Parishioners
11:30 A.M. Bernard Misner
6:00 P.M. Richard Mallory



Is what I do after I say "I believe"...

Offertory for Sunday, December 21, 2008:

302 Envelopes.....	\$ 11,885.25
Loose.....	\$ 2,519.00
AOP (debit).....	\$ 1,876.00
AOP (credit).....	\$ 0.00
Total.....	\$ 16,280.25

*'We have seen his star in the east,
and have come with gifts to adore the Lord'
(Communion Antiphon, Feast of the Epiphany)*

As faithful stewards,
we present our gifts of Time, Talent, & Treasure
to the newborn King.

Thank you for your generosity.

- Websitestpaulstpete.com
- Parish Offices.....727-822-3481
- Pastoral Associate.....Annamaria Dickhaus
- Admin. Assistants.....Charie Wassmer & Mary Carney
- Outreach Ministry.....Sr. Kathleen Stagnaro, OSF
- Youth Ministry.....Gail Marinari
- Organist & Choir Director.....Paul Dixon
- St. Vincent de Paul Societyext. 50
- Children's Center.....Valerie Gervais, ext. 18
- Prayer Team.....727-894-8846 or jhdmay@aol.com
- School.....Mrs. Elizabeth Fulham, Principal
727-823-6144
- Counseling Ministry.....Mary Ann Holtz, LMHC
727-327-5045



*The wise men followed the star,
and found Christ who is light from light.
May you too find the Lord
when your pilgrimage is ended.
(Solemn Blessing, Feast of the Epiphany)*

If the Magi had stayed at home, they never would have found the Lord. But they had pilgrim hearts and felt the tug of the star. They were searching for something more in life than what they knew. To find it, they were willing to set out for an unknown land. And, finally reaching their destination, the house of the newborn king, they were *overjoyed*.

Our life is meant to be a pilgrimage. We are a *pilgrim church*. We should always feel the tug calling us to move from where we are, to search for something more. The tug, of course, is the call of Jesus, *'Follow me.'*

But we have a tendency to like the comfortable place we're used to, and we'd prefer not to set out for an unknown land. We resist the tug. Movement and change are hard, too scary. We're satisfied with our old routines and habits, the familiar and the safe. That's true in the day-to-day issues, as well as in the ultimate issue of death.

But if we stay put, if we don't follow the call of Jesus, if we don't set out on the pilgrimage, we don't get to the land we're destined for. We don't find the house of the newborn king. We miss out on the joy.

Msgr. Robert C. Gibbons, Pastor

New Parishioner Registration meeting is TODAY, January 4, after the 9:30 a.m. Mass in the Parish Center. Current parishioners and staff members will be present to welcome newcomers and answer questions about parish services and activities. These meetings are held on the first Sunday of every month.

Amazing generosity. Thanks to all who participated in the **Giving Tree**. The parish's St. Vincent de Paul Society was able to distribute, in addition to wrapped gifts, over \$4000 in gift cards to needy families in the parish. Four happy children even got bicycles! Over 300 families were helped, through the Giving Tree, to have a brighter Christmas.

Stewardship Reflection. Today we remember the three wise men from the East who came to pay homage to the infant Jesus, bringing Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The gifts we bring – our time, service, and some share of what we earn for the work we do – are equally precious in His sight.



St. Paul Says

Brothers and Sisters:
**“You have heard of the stewardship
of God’s grace that was given to me
for your benefit.”**

Ephesians 3:2

Msgr. Gibbons’ mailbox. Monsignor received the following message in a Christmas card, from a family that moved from St. Paul’s to the Midwest in 2007, after being here for less than two years: *“We wish we had the gift of verbiage so that we could authentically communicate how grateful our family is to St. Paul’s. Our experience at your parish guided us to a path of renewed faith and deepened our spiritual relationship with God. . . . We know how to lead a faith-centered life because of St. Paul’s. You, the school, and the parishioners were our teachers and leaders. We would still be lost, floundering in our faith, if God had not led us to St. Paul’s. Our new parish is definitely NOT St. Paul’s, but there are good people here with a strong dedication to the church.”* See what an impact you had on a family in a short time! Thanks to all St. Paul’s parishioners for fostering a welcoming environment where people can be renewed in their faith.

O.B.I.C. YOUTH NEWS

High School will meet tonight (Sunday), Jan. 4th, at St. Paul. See you at 7:15p.m.

Middle School will meet this Wednesday Jan. 7th at Holy Family! See you at 7:00p.m.

“Unstoppable” - High school retreat - Jan. 16 -18. Come join us as we together experience St. Paul’s conversion! \$75 for the weekend - we leave on Friday evening and return Sunday evening to end our weekend with Mass at the St. Paul’s 6 p.m. Liturgy.

Confirmation classes will begin Sunday, Jan. 11th, from 4 - 5:30 p.m. in the youth room! If you have not yet registered, please do so asap. Registration forms are located on the tables in the church or you may call the parish office.

Jubilee Year of St. Paul Open House. It is the 2000th Anniversary of the birth of the great apostle, preacher and teacher. In keeping with the spirit of this great year, a one week “Open House” will be held here at St. Paul’s Church. All are welcome to join in this week of “Prayer for Christian Unity.” The church will be open for prayer Monday, January 19, through Friday, January 23, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and again from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. A prayer service will be held at 7:00 p.m. each evening.

Loaves and Fishes volunteers served 230 people a wonderful Christmas holiday meal of ham with all the trimmings, including home-made desserts, at the St. Vincent de Paul Food Center the week before Christmas. Everyone loved the meal and all the tables were full! The St. Paul’s Girl Scouts baked cookies, served, passed out toiletries collected through the parish and school, and entertained with Christmas music during the dinner. THANK YOU to everyone who helped host this event!

A new Financial Peace University class will begin on January 25, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 11:00 a.m. in the Parish Center. This 13 week video based small study group teaches families and individuals how to beat debt, build wealth and give like never before. We will have two orientations: January 4th at 10:30 (after 9:30 Mass) and January 11th at 12:30 (after 11:30 Mass). Both orientations will be in the Parish Center and will last approximately 30 minutes. Contact Tom at tbaggett@pscufs.com with questions.

Looking for a New Year’s resolution? Your **Green Team** suggests: “Pray for a heartfelt love for creation; accept and respect your role as stewards of creation; become educated about ways in which you can reduce your personal and larger domain environmental impact; and then work conscientiously toward making your dwelling place, local community and Florida more environmentally healthy places in which to live.” (**Florida Catholic Conference**)

SMILE! Lifetouch Photography will be here during the month of February capturing parishioner portraits for our next St. Paul Parish 2009 Photo Directory. While portraits will be available for purchase, no purchase is necessary for the session to have your portrait included in the photo directory. To schedule your session date and time, it’s easier than you think. Just go to www.stpaulstpete.com where you’ll find “St. Paul Parish 2009 Photo Directory” info. Click on “LifeTouch Appointment Link” where you can view the session calendar and chose the time slot that is most convenient for you. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Rachel Dudley @ 433.1887. Also, if you have any church event or ministry photos you would like to see included in our next directory, please e-mail them to marykins777@tampabay.rr.com. We would like to have every ministry represented. An automated phone message will go out to all parishioners in January as a reminder to schedule their photo session.

Study program of an enlightening encyclical. Interested in learning about what the Catholic Church REALLY teaches about the dignity and vocation of women? – In this, the 20th anniversary of JP II’s encyclical, Mulieris Dignitatem, come join the women of St. Paul’s and St. Raphael’s for some scholarship and fellowship. This eight-week study will meet on Mondays, from 6:30 - 8pm, starting 1/5/09. Cost is \$10! Contact Maura Buete at 688.6952 for information and registration.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

St. Paul Parish Mission. In keeping with the spirit of this great year, to honor our Patron, St. Paul, we invite you to join our parish family on March 9 and 10, 2009, for a two-night mission. We will focus on the life and teachings of St. Paul, and how we can carry his message to the world today. Fr. Timothy Sherwood will be the key presenter on Monday, March 9. Fr. Thomas Spillett will be the key presenter on Tuesday, March 10. Both evening programs will be held in the church. Visitors are always welcome, so bring a guest.

MARRIED COUPLES: "We thank God every day that at last there is a positive program to strengthen marriage in the world today, which we can enjoy now and which will help our children to live in a better world". Register now for a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and be counted among those who have chosen to grow closer and more in love with one another each and every day. The next WWME weekend is Jan. 16-18, 2009. For information call (813) 270-7832 or go on-line at www.wwme-tampabay.org.

A Retreat for Physically Challenged Adults: "Challenged by Christ Retreat," is a diocesan retreat for physically challenged adults (18-65) will be held on Saturday, January 10th, from 9 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., at St. Jude's Parish Center. Our theme is "Advent of New Hope". We attempt to provide an atmosphere where those who are physically challenged may share their faith comfortably with others who experience similar challenges in life. It is a time to grow in faith, build community and come closer to God in His Church. For more information or applications, please call Sr. Phyllis at 727.347.9702 x 303. RSVP by Jan. 5.

SENIOR CLUB. Meeting January 6 at 1:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. Short business meeting, presentation to St. Paul School of the funds raised from the Senior Bake/Craft Sale and the Children's Christmas Sale, followed by a social. Next meeting is January 20, 2009. All seniors are welcome to attend.

St. Paul School Registration

"Catholic Schools have proven to be of priceless value to generations of children, teaching them to know, love and serve God and preparing them to take their place with responsibility in the community." Pope John Paul II

The mission of Catholic Education has been a vital part of the faith communities of St. Paul and Blessed Trinity Parishes since the opening of St. Paul Catholic School in 1930. On Monday, January 12, 2009, St. Paul Catholic School will open registration for the 2009-2010 school year. ***Returning school families with children who hope to enter our programs for EC 3 & 4 year olds, and Kindergarten for the 09-10 school year, will register on this date. New families for grades EC3 through eighth grade will register on this date as well.*** This registration will be held in the school from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Families with children presently in St. Paul Catholic School grades K-8 will receive re-registration information January 23, 2009. Please note the registration details below and if you have any questions do not hesitate to contact Sister Joan at 823-6144.

Registration Facts:

Children entering the 3 year old program must be 3 on or before Sept. 1, 2009.

Children entering the 4 year old program must be 4 on or before Sept. 1, 2009.

Children entering Kindergarten must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2009.

Children in the Early Childhood program must be toilet trained.

For registration to be considered the following documentation must be presented at the time of registration: child's original birth certificate, original Baptismal certificate, social security card, health records (blue form) dated within the last 12 months, and a physical (yellow form).

If there is a custody agreement a copy must be submitted with the registration form.

Other information needed for emergency records is the name, address, and phone number of the child's doctor, dentist, as well as the names, addresses and phone numbers of 3 relatives or friends that you delegate to be notified in case you can't be reached in an emergency.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Sacrament of Baptism: A Parent who is a practicing Catholic, should prepare for the Baptism of a child by contacting the parish office, preferably before the arrival of the child. Adults seeking Baptism or desiring to join the Catholic Church should call the parish office or contact a parish priest.

Sacrament of Holy Marriage: Couples should contact the parish office at least six months in advance. The Catholic party is expected to be attending mass regularly.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick: Those who are being admitted to a hospital should receive this sacrament at Mass whenever possible. The infirm may receive the sacraments regularly at home by calling the parish Outreach office at 727-822-3481.

St. Paul's Catholic School & St. Paul's Children's Center: Our parochial school provides an outstanding Catholic education for children from pre-kindergarten (beginning at age 3) through 8th grade. Our children's center provides quality day care for children age 2 and under.

Parish Membership: Every Catholic household is encouraged to register in the parish. You may register on the first Sunday of the month by attending the information meeting held in the Parish Center after the 9:30 a.m. mass. St. Paul's parishioners strive to be good stewards of God's gifts. Christian stewardship includes a sharing of time, talent and treasure with the parish community. Each household is expected to accept its responsibility for the welfare of the parish and its educational and charitable ministries by participation in Sunday Mass, active involvement in the parish, and by weekly use of the church support envelopes.