



Monday, March 16th

7:00 A.M. Peggy Aldrich

Tuesday, March 17th

7:00 A.M. Yvette Cote

Wednesday, March 18th

7:00 A.M. Arthur S. Gibbons
8:15 A.M. Intentions of Msgr. Robert C. Gibbons

Thursday, March 19th

7:00 A.M. James Segawa Sr.

Friday, March 20th

7:00 A.M. Prayer for Vocations

Saturday, March 21st

8:30 A.M. The Gron Family
5:30 P.M. Betty Gallaher

Sunday, March 22nd

7:30 A.M. Henry Saakes
9:30 A.M. Intentions of St. Paul Parishioners
11:30 A.M. Leonard Bronikowski
6:00 P.M. Josephine Rieman and Dorothy Ardini



*Jesus said to them,
'Destroy this temple
and in three days I will raise it up.'
He was speaking about the temple of his body.
(John 2:19, 21)*

Destroy is a strong verb. Stronger than hurt, or harm, or injure. To destroy is to annihilate, to obliterate, to wipe out.

Jesus, after he cleansed the temple, spoke of the destruction of the temple and of it being raised up *in three days*. He was speaking, the Gospel says, *about the temple of his body*.

Paradoxically, destruction itself would not destroy the temple of the Lord's body. Death and destruction would not be the ultimate victors. *In three days I will raise it up*.

Now you are Christ's body, and individually parts of it. (1 Corinthians 12:27) So we too share in the victory over death and destruction. Nothing, no matter how destructive it may seem, can destroy us if we remain united to his body.

Next Sunday is the Fourth Sunday of Lent, also called "Laetare Sunday." "Laetare" means "rejoice." It is smack dab in the middle of Lent. On Laetare Sunday, the general somberness and penance of the season is lifted. This teaches the lesson that the sadnesses of life are always lightened by life's joys. Laetare Sunday is a break in an otherwise penitential season. You will notice, for example, that we have flowers on the altar today. Otherwise, there are no flowers during Lent.

How appropriate then that we have our great Festival this weekend! Lent may be tough, life may be tough, but there is still time and space for rejoicing in the Lord and in his gift of community. Enjoy the Festival!

Msgr. Robert C. Gibbons, Pastor

The Light Is On For You. This Wednesday, March 18, all the Catholic churches in the diocese will be open for the Sacrament of Reconciliation between 5:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Please take advantage of this opportunity to make a Lenten confession, either here at St. Paul's or at another parish church.

Dispensation. Msgr. Gibbons, our pastor, has issued a dispensation for Friday, March 20. Those attending the Festival on Friday are dispensed from observing the Lenten abstinence requirement there on that date. Parishioners who make use of this dispensation are encouraged to substitute another penitential practice---for example, prayer or almsgiving---as part of their Lenten observance.



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

Offertory for Sunday, March 8, 2009:

282 Envelopes.....	\$	9,566.75
Loose.....	\$	2,682.00
AOP (debit).....	\$	1,929.00
AOP (credit).....	\$	6,402.50
Total.....	\$	20,580.25

*"The precepts of the Lord
are more precious than gold."
(Psalm 19:11)*

Our generosity of treasure indicates that we have our priorities in order.

Please remember St. Paul's Church in your estate planning.

- 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.....ext. 12
- Organist & Choir Director.....Paul Dixon
- St. Vincent de Paul Societyext. 50
- Children's Center.....Valerie Gervais, ext. 18
- Prayer Team.....727-894-8846 or jhdmary@aol.com
- School.....Mrs. Elizabeth Fulham, Principal
727-823-6144
- Counseling Ministry.....Mary Ann Holtz, LMHC
727-327-5045



St. Paul Says
*"...for the foolishness of
 God is wiser than human
 wisdom, and the weakness of
 God is stronger than human
 strength."*

1 Corinthians 1:25

Festival is coming!!! March 19th – 22nd. Set up starts TODAY, March 15th, after the 11:30 Mass. The Festival committee needs some helping hands to prepare for this parish-wide event. Discounted ride tickets and wristbands are on sale NOW through March 18 in the parish office from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday - Friday or through the school brown envelope. Tickets are \$10 per sheet and wristbands for unlimited rides are \$75.

That Man Is You! for all men of the parish, has a special Lenten focus. Programs continue every Wednesday at 5:30 a.m. in the Cafeteria, and conclude by 7 a.m.

O.B.I.C. YOUTH NEWS

High School:

March 15th - The "Other" Party: Huh? There's *another* party? This one is MUCH different than the Sacraments party...

March 22nd - NO MEETING!

Middle School!

Saturday, March 28th at 6 p.m. at Holy Family - We're back!! We're holding an open meeting for all Middle Schoolers & parents. We want to hear from YOU! What do you hope to gain from this program? What do you want to learn about your faith? Come tell us! Questions? Contact Bernie Calvert (323-8615) or Katie Muller (822-3481, katie@stpaulstpete.com). We hope to see you there!

Looking for the perfect gift for First Communion, Confirmation, RCIA, or Mother's Day? Our youth group will be selling hand-made rosaries, Catholic medals, crucifixes, and other Christian jewelry after all Masses, on March 14th & 15th. Please stop by their table and take a look at these great items! All proceeds will go toward their trip to Covecrest Catholic summer camp. *Thank you for your support!*

Congratulations to our parishioner **Reggie Wilson**. He received the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award at the diocese's Scout Recognition Sunday last week at the Cathedral, in recognition of his dedicated service as a youth ministry volunteer. Reggie works closely with our youth group and with the youth programs of the Knights of Columbus.

Please Pray for the healing of the sick and the consolation of the afflicted, especially:

Patrick Burns	Marlene Connelly	Gary L'Eon
Gerry Howe	James Schmalz	Joe McCourt
Lillian Thurline	Frederick Stagnaro	Alma Geary
Mike Cushman	Margaret Macking	
Dee Eilerman	Marianne Teska	

RCIA. THE SCRUTINIES. The word 'scrutiny' means a close examination or observation or surveillance. In the religious context it refers to extra liturgical prayers to strengthen 'The Elect' as they advance towards the reception of the Sacraments. There are three scrutinies celebrated consecutively on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent. Today we celebrate the first Scrutiny and combine it with the Rite of Dismissal after the homily. After the first scrutiny, 'The Elect' will be presented with 'The Creed'.

2009 "Year of St. Paul" Photo Directory: Back by popular demand, Lifetouch will return to the parish center on Friday, April 17th, 2:00-8:00 p.m., to take your photo for free. Join the 300 parish families who have participated so far. Free 8 X 10 and photo directory to all who participate. Photos are available for purchase; no purchase necessary. Visit the Lifetouch appointment link on stpaulstpete.com or contact Mary Rachel Dudley at 433.1887. To submit an existing family/parishioner photo to the office, send with \$10.00. Photos of homebound parishioners are free. Professional photos need signed releases. Photos are not returned. Our directory won't be complete without you! A special thank you to the volunteer hostesses, the St. Paul Columbiettes, and guests.

Senior Club will celebrate St Patrick's Day with a brown bag luncheon at 12 noon on Tues, March 17th in the Parish Center. Refreshments, music, and games are planned. Please bring 3 nickels to play the Left, Right, Center game. All senior citizens are invited. Call Harriet Calvani at 727.821.9517 for more information.

Partners With Haiti Window Display. If you are interested in purchasing any of the Haitian crafts displayed in the Church, please contact Mary-Jane Smith at 727.525.3640.

Vacation Bible School Volunteer meeting!

Vacation Bible School 2009 is fast approaching. "Under the Big Top" is the week of June 15th. Volunteers are needed, so please join us for a meeting on

**Monday, March 30th
 7 p.m. in the Parish Center**

No amount of time you have to give is too small. There is plenty to be done to provide a faith and fun filled week for our children. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting! Contact the parish office for more information.

From the Green Team: Green Catholic has developed a list of 100 steps you can take to care for the environment, <http://www.green-catholic.com/help.php>. Some of the recommendations are very easy and others require long term commitment. Do what you can, set a goal and work toward it. For this week consider switching to biodegradable cleaning products, being conscious of reducing your use of water, and avoiding buying and using Styrofoam products.

New Website Job Board. Due to the difficult economic times, many parishioners have found themselves out of work. As a parish community we would like to do what we can to help these parishioners in their job search. One way to do this is to start a job posting web page for parishioners on the St. Paul website. Available positions with job descriptions as well as skills of parishioners seeking employment would be posted here. Parishioner names and contact information would not be posted on the website, but would be available by emailing the parish office. If you have available positions or are seeking employment and would like to participate in the job board, please click the 'Website Job Board' link on the parish web site home page to enter your information.

St. Vincent de Paul Center of Hope is looking for local businesses to help those in need of jobs. A local job fair and open house will be held on Tuesday, March 17, between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. in the Center of Hope Food Center Cafeteria at 401 – 15th St. N. The event is free for local businesses to display their available job opportunities. For more information, please call 727.896.3300 or email Svdp8bgreen@tampabay.rr.com.

Good Counsel Camp Summer Adventure. Summer adventure opportunities at Good Counsel Camp, Floral City, Florida, which is owned and operated by the Catholic Diocese of St. Petersburg. This is a co-ed residential camp for ages 7-15 offering one and two week sessions. Camp brochures can be requested by contacting the camp at 550 US Hwy 41S, Inverness, Florida 34450 or by calling at (352) 726-1910 or email GoodCounselCamp@aol.com.

New Life Ministry. Diocesan support group for widowed, separated and divorced. Monthly meeting at Sacred Heart Parish Center (80th Ave. and 46th St. No.) on Wed., March 18th, at 6:30 p.m. Chinese Auction and refreshments. Call John 219.0046 or Jerry 541.3970. \$2.00 donation at door.

The Franciscan Center in Tampa presents a Holy Week retreat with Michael Cooper, S.J., S.T.D. April 8-11. The retreat features two talks each day, the Liturgical Celebrations of the Triduum, and personal prayer. For more info, email francntr@tampabay.rr.com; call 813.229.2695; visit www.franciscancenter Tampa.org

Health Care Screening Fair sponsored by the Knights of Columbus in association with St. Paul's Parish Nurses Association will be held on March 28 in the Parish Center. Appointments start at 8:00 a.m. Call the Parish Office to schedule an appointment. Packages:

- Check your Blood Pressure, Cholesterol Profile, E.K.G., Carotid & Abdominal Ultrasound (\$50)
- Echocardiogram only (\$50)
- Complete Package + Cervical Spine Evaluation by Jeffrey Raheb DC (\$75)

St. John Vianney Catholic Church in St. Pete Beach is offering the 40 Hours Eucharistic devotion March 22-24. Solemn exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place after the 11:30 a.m. Mass on March 22. Continuous, round-the-clock Eucharistic Adoration in the chapel will conclude with solemn benediction at 8:00 a.m. on March 24.

Easter Vacation Day Camp for K through 8th grade will be held at Transfiguration Catholic Church April 13-17 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuition is \$100 for the week. Call 727.527.2880 for information or to register.

Married Couples: "Renew your commitment regularly, seek enrichment often..." Take time to renew and enrich your marriage on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME weekend is May 15-17. Call 813.270.7832 or visit www.wwme-tampabay.org.

Foreign Exchange Students Need Host Families. EF Educational Homestay Programs is looking to place high school age students from Spain with volunteer host families for three weeks this summer from July 9-29, 2009. Host families are asked to provide a bed, an extra plate at the table, transportation to and from a strategically placed bus stop, and a warm welcoming environment. For more info contact the local program leader, Mary Elena, at 727.512.9285 or the regional office at 866.480.4089.

**Parish Capital Campaign Update
as of January 31, 2009**

Amount Pledged	\$2,320,514.82
Amount Paid	\$1,761,384.33
Balance	\$ 559,130.49
Number of families pledging	673
Average gift	\$3,448.02

*The campaign has been financing the renovations of our church & school buildings.
With the funds now being paid, we are paying off the cash advance loan that financed last summer's renovation of the south wing of the school.
It's not too late to make a pledge! Call the parish office or e-mail parishoffice@stpaulstpete.com*

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

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.

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.

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.

Lenten fasting. *To assist in promoting a common observance of penance during the season of Lent, the following Lenten penitential regulations have been issued for the Diocese of St. Petersburg for 2009:*

GOOD FRIDAY is a day of FAST.

On days of fast, one full meal and two lesser meals are allowed. Eating between meals is not permitted. Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are bound to fast.

ALL OF THE FRIDAYS OF LENT, including GOOD FRIDAY, are also days of ABSTINENCE.

On days of abstinence, meat may not be taken. The law of abstinence binds all Catholics fourteen years of age or older.

If members of the faithful are unable to observe the fast and abstinence regulations because of ill health or other reasons, they are urged to practice other forms of penance and self-denial suitable to their condition.