



Monday, September 1st

7:00 A.M. Max Hevron

Tuesday, September 2nd

7:00 A.M. Prayer for Vocations

Wednesday, September 3rd

7:00 A.M. Donald Ladouceur

8:15 A.M. Intentions of Dr. Luis Martinez

Thursday, September 4th

7:00 A.M. Prayer for Vocations

Friday, September 5th

7:00 A.M. Peggy Aldrich

Saturday, September 6th

8:30 A.M. Bob Sulte

5:30 P.M. Henry Torres

Sunday, September 7th

7:30 A.M. Donald Multer & Elizabeth Marshall

9:30 A.M. Intentions of St. Paul Parishioners

11:30 A.M. Bernard Misner

6:00 P.M. John Webb & Betty Genco



'Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me,' says the Lord. (Matthew 16:24)

The cross just comes. Unexpectedly. Uninvited. Not wanted. Often a total surprise. It just comes. It comes to each of us.

And then we have to make a decision. Do we deny ourselves, take up the cross, and follow Jesus? Or do we run, hide, protest, scream, become enraged? Do we embrace the cross or do we reject it?

The Letter to the Hebrews has this to say about Jesus' taking up the cross: *For the sake of the joy that lay before him, Jesus endured the cross, heedless of its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.* (Hebrews 12:2).

Because of the deep trust he had in the Father's love, Jesus sensed that the cross would ultimately lead to joy, that it would ultimately bring him to the right hand of the throne of God. His cross was far from pleasant, but *he endured it*. He looked beyond the immediate circumstance, the current shame, the present moment. He trusted in something beyond, something more, something greater than the eye could see.

In turning from self-centeredness, that is, in denying ourselves and our immediate desires and urges, and taking up the cross, we are following Jesus. And following him, even with a cross on our shoulder, leads to joy, and ultimately to the right hand of the throne of God.

Msgr. Robert C. Gibbons, Pastor

Important update on Parish Capital Campaign - We have accomplished so much as a parish these past three years, including the extensive renovation of our church, the total renovation of our school, and the establishment of a substantial tuition assistance fund. These wonderful improvements have been funded by your generosity to the capital campaign. Many of you are still paying on your pledges, and approximately \$650,000 in pledges is still outstanding. Up to this summer, we paid for the renovations with cash on hand from the campaign fund. This summer, in order to complete the school renovation prior to the payoff date of all pledges, we have drawn on a line of credit from SunTrust Bank for the necessary cash flow for the project. The parish is relying on your ongoing faithfulness to your pledges to pay off that debt. So please continue making your payments as they become due! Thanks very much! And those who haven't pledged yet, it's never too late. Call the parish office or e-mail parishoffice@stpaulstpete.com.



RCIA - RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS
beginning Sept 18, 2008

Classes are every Thursday from 7 - 8:30 p.m. in the Parish Center- 1358 20th Ave North, St.Petersburg, FL 33704



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

Offertory for Sunday, August 24, 2008:

285 Envelopes.....	\$ 6,913.25
Loose.....	\$ 2,499.00
AOP (debit).....	\$ 2,011.00
AOP (credit).....	\$ 0.00
Total.....	\$ 11,423.25

"Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God."
(Romans 12:1)

Our stewardship sacrifice of time, talent, and treasure, offered joyfully, is indeed holy and pleasing to our Creator.

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

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



St. Paul Says:

“Do not conform yourselves to this age, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God.”

Romans 12:2

Update on Annual Pastoral Appeal (APA): Thus far 272 parishioners have pledged to the diocese's 2008 APA, pledging a total of **\$52,600.99**, for an average pledge of \$193.39. (In 2007, a total of 333 parish families pledged by the time the year ended). **Thanks** to everyone who has pledged!

That Man Is You! This week's bulletin contains an insert about this fine process we'll be having at St Paul's beginning Wednesday, September 17th. It's a men's prayer breakfast, scripture study, and faith builder---all wrapped up in one. We'll meet on Wednesday mornings. Continental breakfast begins at 5:30 a.m. Program begins at 6 a.m. and ends promptly at 7 a.m. Register by e-mailing parishioner Rob Hudson at rhudson@photoscience.com or call parishioner Bill Teska at 917 804-5265.

Safe Environment Training for our parish will be held on Friday, October 10th 8:30-11:30 a.m. in the Parish Center (Blue Room). This training is mandatory for all those who wish to volunteer with youth and/or vulnerable adults. Please call the parish office to register for this training.

Playground Mulching & Equipment Painting: Please come and volunteer a few "HOPE hours" to spruce up our playground on Saturday, Sept. 13th at 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Please bring pitch forks, shovels & wheelbarrows if you can.

St. Paul Senior Club will resume regular meetings on Tuesday, Sept. 9th. Please check weekly bulletin for details.

Columbiettes: The Columbiettes are again sending care packages to service men and women serving overseas. If you have a loved one you want to send a care package to, please contact Nancy Licary at 215-5223 or inlicary@yahoo.com with the name & address by Monday, Sept 1st. To join the Columbiettes, please contact Cheryl Carver, 866-8888 or chcarver@yahoo.com, or Jean Davison, 898-8884 or civexgovjd@aol.com.

Faith and Fossil Fuels: Fossil fuel consumption is at the core of the most pressing issues that confront people and governments all over the world. Join St. Paul's Green Team and Faiths United for Sustainable Energy (FUSE) to learn how people of faith are already having an impact and how you can take action that will make a difference. Wed., Sept. 24th—Blue Room of the Parish Center 7-9 p.m.

“When man turns his back on the Creator's plan, he provokes a disorder which has inevitable repercussions on the rest of created order. If man is not at peace with God, then earth itself cannot be at peace.” (Pope John Paul II, 1990 World Day of Peace Message, no. 5, on www.vatican.va)

Congratulations to the following children, who recently joined our faith through the Sacrament of Baptism:

William Anthony Freeman
Ashlyn Lee Haworth and
Connor Ashton Haworth

Family Religious Education is a wonderful opportunity to help plant and develop the seeds of faith in our parish families. The program is designed for those children in grades K through 8th and parents who are not attending school at St. Paul's. Registration for 2008-2009 is now open. Registration forms are located in the vestibule of the church, or in the Parish office. **Please pre-register!!** The first meeting of the year will be Sept. 14th after the 9:30 Mass.

Christ Renews His Parish for Men is a spiritually rewarding retreat offered by St. Paul's. The retreat is conducted by our parish priests together with a group of St. Paul parishioners, who in the context of friendship, music and meals present the good news of salvation, expressed in prayer, scripture and faith sharing. The weekend retreat begins on Friday evening and concludes on Sunday mid-afternoon. Our next Men's retreat will be held on Oct. 17th - 19th. Further information can be obtained by contacting the parish office at 727 822-3481.

40 Days for Life!!! If you would like to sign up to participate in the 40 Days for Life campaign, you may do so after Mass in the entrance of the church. The sign up books will also be in the parish and school offices during the week. For more information please contact Francesca McEntegart at 727-452-0641 or francescattm@gmail.com

Attention All Dave Ramsey Fans: Dave Ramsey will be live in Tampa September 6 from 1-6 pm at the St Pete Times Forum. Tickets can be purchased on www.daveramsey.com For those who attended the Financial Peace University classes and those who see him on TV or hear his radio show know that his no nonsense style of money management is proven time and time again.

Pregnancy Plus Medical Center of St. Petersburg, a program of Catholic Charities, DOSP urgently needs baby supplies. We need **baby shampoo, wash, powder, & lotion; diapers (sizes NB, 1,2,3,4,5); wipes; baby food and baby cereal; receiving blankets, baby clothes 0-24 months; baby towels and washcloths.** All these items are given free to moms in need. Please call **550-4236** or **893-1314 ext. 213** for questions. We are located at the Jeff Forbes Catholic Charities center at **1213 16th St. N.**

“Courageous Love” is the theme for this years' Banquet of Life to benefit **Pregnancy Plus Medical.** Guest speaker is Rep. Trey Traviesa who recently received an award for his defense of human life from Pope Benedict XVI. The banquet will be held on **Friday, Sept. 26th** at Higgins Hall, St. Lawrence Parish. Reservations are \$50.00 a person, Inquiries and reservations call Catholic Charities 813-631-4370 and ask for Denise.