



Monday, September 15th

7:00 A.M. Anna Regeski

Tuesday, September 16th

7:00 A.M. Living and Deceased Members of the O'Brien and Thornton Families

Wednesday, September 17th

7:00 A.M. Frank Grasso
8:15 A.M. Intentions of St. Paul's School Families

Thursday, September 18th

7:00 A.M. Deceased Members of the Johnson and Hall Families

Friday, September 19th

7:00 A.M. Prayer for Vocations

Saturday, September 20th

8:30 A.M. Angel P. Perez
5:30 P.M. Mike Carvill

Sunday, September 21st

7:30 A.M. Gertrude and John Nano
9:30 A.M. Intentions of St. Paul Parishioners
11:30 A.M. Living and Deceased Members of the Women's Guild
6:00 P.M. Dorothy Kozak



*'Christians who believe in Christ
sign themselves with the sign of the cross
. . . not just as it happens, not carelessly,
but with all heedfulness, with fear and with trembling,
and with extreme reverence.'*
(Saint Symeon)

We make the sign of the cross all the time. Before meals, when coming into church, before an exam, before raising the bat at home plate, before attempting a foul shot, before going to bed, when passing a horrendous auto accident. On and on. So often that it becomes second nature, and we forget to contemplate what it signifies.

Saint Symeon (11th century monk of Constantinople) says we owe everything to the cross. It is the sign of the common resurrection we all share in Christ, he says. *All our power is in the power of Christ who was crucified; all our sinfulness is mortified by the death of Christ on the cross; and all our exaltation and all our glory are in the humility of God, who humbled himself to such an extent that he was pleased to die even between evil-doers and thieves*, he continues. His most compelling insight, for me, is that *the image of the cross shows the reconciliation and friendship into which we have entered with God.*

So when we make the sign of the cross, the sign of our holy faith, the sign that unites us as Christians, remember these things: God has reconciled us to himself, and *called us friends*. He has loved us so much that he died for us on the cross, so that we might rise with him. In that death on the cross is our life, our hope, our future glory.

Msgr. Robert C. Gibbons, Pastor



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

Offertory for Sunday, September 7, 2008:

309 Envelopes.....	\$	9,861.25
Loose.....	\$	2,212.00
AOP (debit).....	\$	2,011.00
AOP (credit).....	\$	6,172.50
Total.....	\$	20,256.75

By your cross, O Christ, you have redeemed the world.

Our stewardship offering reflects our gratitude for the incomparable gift of our redemption in Christ.

Please remember St. Paul's School Sustaining Fund in your estate planning.

**Mission Statement of
St. Paul's Catholic Church
St. Petersburg, Florida**

*We are a parish family that strives to live our Catholic faith
by vibrant worship of God and loving service to others,
all through God's grace.*

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is designed for adults who consciously and freely seek to enter the way of faith and conversion. The RCIA TEAM is all ready to lead these adults on the journey of Faith. Beginning September 18, instruction is every Thursday from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Parish Center.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Children will begin weekly sessions on Sunday, October 12th, after the 11:30 a.m. Mass, in the Parish Center. These sessions are for children who are in 3rd grade, or older, who have not received the sacraments of Baptism or First Eucharist. One parent must attend with their child/children. Please call the parish office for information or to register.

Loaves and Fishes meeting is Monday, Sept 15th at 7 p.m. in the Parish Center Gold Room.

- 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 jhdmary@aol.com
- School.....Mrs. Elizabeth Fulham, Principal
727-823-6144
- Counseling Ministry.....Mary Ann Holtz, LMHC
727-327-5045



St. Paul Says:

“Christ Jesus though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself.”

Philippians 2: 6-7a

Family Religious Education begins today, Sunday, September 14th, in the cafeteria after the 9:30 a.m. Mass. The program is designed for those children in grades K through 8th and parents who are not attending school at St. Paul's. You can still register by coming to the class today or by calling the parish office.

Youth Ministry. Is God calling you to help in youth ministry? Join us for our Youth Ministry planning meeting Wednesday Sept. 17th at 7p.m. in St. Paul's youth room. I look forward to meeting you and beginning this body building team! ~Gail~

That Man Is You! begins at St. Paul's this Wednesday, September 17th. It's a men's prayer breakfast, scripture study, and faith builder---all wrapped up in one. Continental breakfast begins at 5:30 a.m. Program begins at 6 a.m. and ends promptly at 7 a.m. All men of the parish are invited. Walk-ins are welcome, but pre-register if you can 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 from 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.

The Diocese of St. Petersburg requires that all parish and Catholic school employees and volunteers entrusted with the care, responsibility, or supervision of children, youth, or vulnerable adults comply with fingerprint policy for background screening. The Diocese has also established safe environment training programs for parish and school employees and volunteers. Anyone who has been harmed by someone serving in ministry is encouraged to contact law enforcement, the Florida Abuse Hotline at 800-962-2873, or the diocesan victim assistance minister at 866-407-4505.

Importance of hospitality. A family that recently registered in the parish wrote Msgr. Gibbons, *“St. Paul's has warmly welcomed us and we feel already as though we are long time members of your parish family.”* Thanks to everyone for all that you do to make our parish warm and welcoming, with a sense of family. People notice.

Altar Server Training. Training for new altar servers will be from 9 to 10:30 a.m., Sept. 20 and 27 in the church. Training is open to any girl or boy in grade 5 or above. A parent or guardian must accompany the child on the first day and are welcome to stay for the second session. Anyone wishing to be a server must attend both sessions. Applications are available in the Parish Office. For any questions, please call Ron Brackett at 823-1824 or email him at ron.brackett@gmail.com.

MC Training. If you are in grade 8 or above and would like to receive MC training, please call or email Mr. Brackett to set up a training time on a Sunday before the 6 p.m. Mass.

Next Sunday, September 21st, is Catechetical Sunday

when we acknowledge all those who plant the seeds of faith through religious education. There will be a special blessing at all Masses for these dedicated parishioners.

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 retreat is Oct. 17th-19th. Call the parish office for more information

Animal Blessing. In honor of St. Francis, please join in a celebration “Praising God for His Creation” on Thursday, October 2nd at 6:30 p.m. on the parish grounds. All are invited to bring their family pet for a special blessing.

St. Paul, A Bible Study Guide for Catholics is a scripture study offered by the parish as part of our Jubilee Year Celebration of the Apostle Paul. We are using the Study Guide written by Father Mitch Pacwa, S.J. Thank you to parishioners Jackie Mallory, Pat Wiand and Rhona Beettam, all former Directors of Religious Education, for conducting this study in conjunction with our Family Religious Education program. For more information or to register please call Annamaria in the parish office. It is important to pre-register so enough materials will be available. Classes begin on Sunday, October 12th, after the 9:30 a.m. Mass and will meet bi-weekly in the Parish Center Blue Room through May.

40 Days for Life!!! On Tues., Sept. 23 everyone is invited to the 40 Days for Life Vigil Mass in Our Lady's Chapel at the Cathedral of St. Jude. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will begin at 6:30 p.m. with Mass at 7:30 p.m. On Sept. 24 everyone is invited to participate in a Candle Light Vigil Ceremony in front of the abortion clinic (All Women's Health Center 4131 Central Ave) from 7-8 p.m. Contact Francesca McEntegart at 727-452-0641 or francescattm@gmail.com for more information.

Partners with Haiti Hurricane Relief. As we here at St. Paul's keep our eyes on the paths of hurricanes, we see that our sisters and brothers in Haiti have been affected by storms that have passed us by. Partners with Haiti asks the parish family of St. Paul's to designate the Fridays through the end of hurricane season as a day for prayer and sacrifice for our family of St. Isidore in Haiti. Skip a meal and/or drink only water every Friday and we will collect the money we save so they might have some meals and clean water.

Loving, helping hands needed! The Children's Center needs volunteers to assist the staff in the morning. We care for children ages 2 months to 3 years. Safe Environment training and background check is required. Contact Valerie at 822-3481 ext. 18 for more information.

St. Petersburg Catholic High School invites parents and guardians to visit and tour our campus. Experience for yourself the loving kindness and care that has helped so many young people “to live a Christian life as responsible citizens of the community.” Tours are 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. and include a continental breakfast. The following dates are available: 9/19/2008, 9/26/2008, 10/3/2008, 10/10/2008. Contact Sue McGough at smcgough@spchs.org to attend.