



# St. Paul's Catholic Church

1800 12th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL 33704

Parish Phone: 727-822-3481 | Fax: 727-822-1754 | Website: [stpaulstpete.com](http://stpaulstpete.com)

Rev. Msgr. Robert C. Gibbons, Pastor

Reverend Bob Gangolu, SAC

December 6, 2009

Second Sunday of Advent

## WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil  
5:30 p.m.

Sunday Masses  
7:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m.  
(Folk Music)

11:30 a.m.  
(Choir & Organ)

6:00 p.m.  
(Contemporary Music)

## WEEKDAY MASSES Monday-Friday

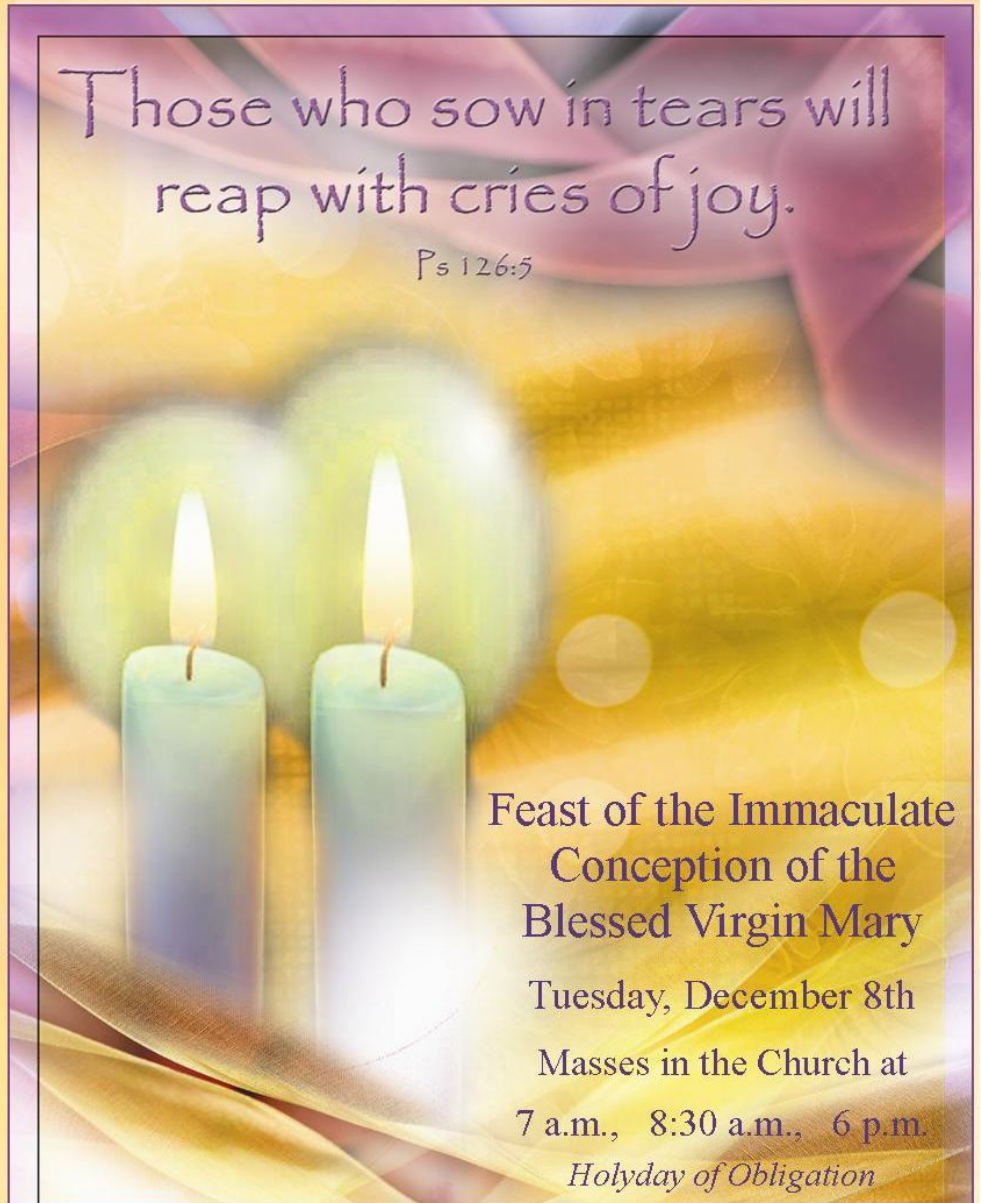
7:00 a.m.  
(School Year)

7:45 a.m.  
(Summer)

SACRAMENT  
OF RECONCILIATION  
Confessions are heard  
on Saturdays,  
4:30 - 5:15 p.m.

Those who sow in tears will  
reap with cries of joy.

Ps 126:5



Feast of the Immaculate  
Conception of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary

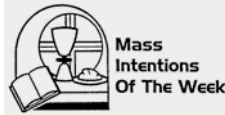
Tuesday, December 8th

Masses in the Church at

7 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

*Holyday of Obligation*

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.



- Monday, December 7**  
7:00 a.m. Michael Palinkas
- Tuesday, December 8**  
7:00 a.m. Intentions of the Blessed Mother  
8:30 a.m. Deceased Members of the Legion of Mary  
6:00 p.m. Esperanza Rivera
- Wednesday, December 9**  
7:00 a.m. Mary Lanzing
- Thursday, December 10**  
7:00 a.m. Anna Madden
- Friday, December 11**  
7:00 a.m. Living and Deceased Members of the O'Brien and Thornton Families
- Saturday, December 12**  
5:30 p.m. Charles Knoop
- Sunday, December 13**  
7:30 a.m. Intentions of Tom Carney  
9:30 a.m. Intentions of St. Paul Parishioners  
11:30 a.m. Leonard Bronikowski  
6:00 p.m. Frank Terlip



*"Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight his paths.  
Every valley shall be filled  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low.  
The winding roads shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth,  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."  
(Luke 3:4-6)*

Two weeks ago, after one of the Sunday Masses, a young man approached me as he came out the doors of the church. He said he had been raised Catholic but hadn't been to church in many years. "I am surprised," he said, "that the prayers of the Mass all came right back to me." But he seemed a little agitated, and then he blurted out, "Catholicism, what's it all about?"

The question took me aback, because it's not an easy one to answer. Since then, I've tried to come up with a better way of expressing the answer I stumbled to give him then. I would tell him that Catholicism is built upon three truths:

God comes to us in the Scriptures. God comes to us in the Sacraments of the Church. God comes to us in our neighbor.

You'll see from this that Catholicism at its core has an Advent focus: We worship a God who comes to us.

Msgr. Robert C. Gibbons, Pastor

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**Advent Blessing for the Home.** During this Second Week of Advent, you may wish to light two candles at the supper table as you begin your evening meal. Here is a suggested prayer to accompany the lighting of the candles: *"Father in heaven, the day draws near when the glory of your Son will make radiant the night of the waiting world. Open our hearts in welcome to receive Christ. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Him with joy. Keep all of us under the protection of your love. Help us to love one another. Keep us ever mindful of those less fortunate than ourselves. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen."*

**New Parishioner Registration Meeting** is today, Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, in the RECTORY. Everyone new to the parish is invited to come for parish information and registration. 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.

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception.** This Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a holyday of obligation, and all Catholics are expected to participate in Mass. Masses will be at 7 a.m., 8:30 a.m., and 6 p.m. *Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women.* (Luke 1:28)



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

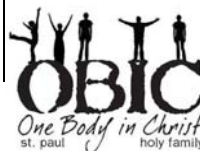
**Offertory total for Nov. 22 and Nov. 29 combined:**

530 Envelopes.....	\$ 18,829.47
Loose.....	\$ 3,408.00
AOP (debit).....	\$ 4,060.00
AOP (credit).....	\$ 0.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$ 26,297.47</b>

*The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are glad indeed.  
(Psalm 126:3)*

Stewardship is our response in gratitude for all the great things the Lord has done for us.

- Website .....stpaulstpete.com
- Parish Offices.....727-822-3481
- Admin. Assistants.....Charie Wassmer & Mary Carney
- Pastoral Associate.....Annamaria Dickhaus
- Outreach Ministry.....Sr. Kathleen Stagnaro, OSF
- Youth Ministry.....Katie Muller...ext. 12
- Organist & Choir Director.....Paul Dixon
- St. Vincent de Paul Society .....ext. 50
- Children's Center.....Laura Seyss..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



**YOUTH NEWS**

**High School.** St. Paul Youth Room, Sundays, 7- 9:15 p.m.

**Sunday, Dec. 6, "Apples to Apples" -** *"For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous."* (Romans 5:19)

**Sunday, December 13th, Christmas Party!** - *"Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel!"* (Matthew 1:23)

**Middle School.** Holy Family Room 121, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month, 6 - 8 p.m.

**Wednesday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, Advent/Christmas Party!** - Join us for a spectacular celebration! Bring your friends and be prepared to spread some holiday cheer! Things to bring: a wrapped present for our White Elephant gift exchange (must cost less than \$10... be creative!); a gift for a child at All Children's Hospital; if your last name begins with A-L, bring a drink to share; if your last name begins with M-Z, bring a dessert to share. We will provide the main meal.

**Friday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Dance at St. Paul, 7-10 pm.** Join us for our final dance of 2009! Suggested attire is "semi-formal." The cost is \$5 and a canned good. Parents: We need your help! If you are available to chaperone, please contact Katie ([katie@stpaulstpete.com](mailto:katie@stpaulstpete.com) or 727.822.3481 x12).

**Poinsettias** ordered from the Columbiettes may be picked up in the Parish Center after all Masses this weekend.

**Outreach Ministry.** *Everyone in the crowd sought to touch Him because power came forth from Him and healed them all.* (Luke 6:19) The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be offered at all Masses this weekend, Dec. 5-6. The front row pews will be the designated seating for all those who wish to take advantage of this opportunity to receive spiritual and physical strength through the anointing with the Holy Oils and the Laying on of Hands. Anyone with any need for this healing is encouraged to receive this Sacrament. *And one of them realizing he had been healed, returned glorifying God in a loud voice.* (Luke 17:15)

**Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast with Santa** will be Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> after the 7:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Masses. Children \$3.00; Adults \$4.00. Photos with Santa: \$3.00 printed while you wait. CDs for \$2.00 more.

**Advent Penance Services**

**Monday, Dec. 14,** at Holy Family Church, 200 – 78 Ave. NE

**Tuesday, Dec. 15,** at St. Paul Catholic Church

**Wednesday, Dec. 16,** at Transfiguration, 4000 – 43 St. No.

**(All Penance Services are at 7 p.m.**

and include the opportunity for individual confessions.)

*Confessions heard regularly on Saturdays, 4:30-5:15 p.m.*



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

Mickenson Cenatus      Jane Carter      James Chesser

Sr. Mary Croghan	Rita Dudley	Ellie Gallaher
Dick Gardner	Marie Grilli	Jerry Howe
John Keglovich	Jim Kirby	Geoffrey Lewis
Bishop Robert Lynch	George Locascio	Karen Marostica
Joe McCourt	Nancy Mesano	Ken Murray
Joanne Noppenberger	Chester Regeski	Terry Shannon
Beverly Smock	Maria Soule	Peter Terrana
Frederick Stagnaro	Kayle Valencia	John Venere

*If you would like to add a name to this list,  
please contact the parish office.*

**We Remember our Loved Ones Serving in the Military.**

We ask your prayers for all of the men and women serving in our armed forces at home and overseas, especially Hank Michaud, Joel Klein, Steve Chadwick, and Adam Brockway.

**The Men's Christ Renews His Parish** monthly alumni meeting will be Tuesday, December 8 at 7 p.m. in the Parish center. The focus will be on "Advent". Come and share your experiences as we learn from each other. For more information call Don Thornton at 727.459.5755.

**A Bulletin from Sister Kathleen – Outreach Ministry.**

Here is an opportunity for you to connect at a deeper level with God's loving presence in your busy life! Come and see what God may be inviting you to experience in your day to day living. This is an appropriate time of the year – the Advent Season - an early preparation for Christmas before all the hectic shopping, decorating, etc. begins. *Be still and know that I am God.* (Psalm 46)

**Fifth Annual Day of Recollection**

**The Franciscan Center in Tampa**

**Located on the Hillsborough River**

**Wednesday, December 9, 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

This refreshing day includes a continental breakfast, spiritual presentations, faith sharing, time for reflection, a delicious lunch, and peaceful walks on the grounds of the Center. Treat yourself for \$35 (payable to St. Paul Catholic Church.) Register ASAP by calling the parish office. For more information call Sister Kathleen at 727.822.3481 x17.

**St. Paul School Annual Book Fair** will be held December 7<sup>th</sup> thru December 13<sup>th</sup> in the cafeteria before and after school and on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> after all Masses. All proceeds benefit our school.

**St. Paul Catholic School**

**Middle School Christmas Concert**

Thursday, December 10

7:00 p.m. in the Church

Everyone is invited to attend.

**Advent Video Presentations.** *"Behold This Child"*, is a video presentation of the Advent and Christmas narratives in the Scriptures. Luke and Matthew's gospels tell of Jesus' birth, but each has its own purpose. Come join the viewing and discussion of the Advent/Christmas story. Jackie Mallory will facilitate these sessions in the Parish Center Blue Room: Sundays, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.; Mondays, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:30 a.m. All adults are welcome. *Prepare the way of the Lord.*

**Being a member of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul** – being a Vincentian – is a special calling by God. St. Vincent de Paul said, *Put on the Lord Jesus Christ*. It was his way of saying, *Imitate Jesus*. A Vincentian attempts to put on the attitude of Jesus, who *did not come to be served but to serve*. (Mk 10:45). As members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, we put our faith into action. Briefly, the Vincentian vocation is the call of personal service to those in need. This vocation may be expressed in many ways. Practical translation of faith into action, meditating upon it and adapting it to our changing world, is the very life of every Vincentian, the very life of the Society. Will you join us? Contact Penny Simone at [pennysimone@gmail.com](mailto:pennysimone@gmail.com) or 727.430.8964.

**Our Meals on Wheels Ministry** delivers Thanksgiving and Christmas meals every year to St. Paul parishioners who are elderly or confined to home. This is an important part of our parish outreach volunteer program.

**Pilgrimage to St. John Vianney College Seminary.** To celebrate the Year for Priests, the diocese is sponsoring a one-day bus pilgrimage to the college seminary in Miami. The seminary is named St. John Vianney in honor of the patron of all priests. The charter bus will leave St. Petersburg early on Tuesday, February 9, 2010, and return that evening. Cost is \$20. Includes tour of the seminary, continental breakfast & lunch at the seminary, presentation by seminarians, Holy Hour & Mass. For information call 727.345.3452 or e-mail [HLV@dosp.org](mailto:HLV@dosp.org).

**Married Couples:** Want to give a Christmas gift that keeps on giving? Reserve a place on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend – it's the best gift you'll ever give to each other and your marriage! The next available WWME weekend in this diocese is Feb. 5-7, 2010 at the Wimauma Convention Center. For information call 813.270.7832 or visit [www.wwme-tampabay.org](http://www.wwme-tampabay.org).

We are also taking canned and non-perishable food donations to benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Any questions or to RSVP, please contact Lori Russell at [prussell9@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:prussell9@tampabay.rr.com), 727.525.1936 or Jeanne Smith at [jms@dosp.org](mailto:jms@dosp.org), 727.251.0003. Please RSVP by Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. Can't wait to see you there!

**Health Care Debate.** The Catholic position on the health care debate, as enunciated by our bishops, includes the following points: (1) Reform should make quality health care affordable and accessible to everyone, particularly those who are vulnerable and those who live at or near the poverty level. (2) Reform should include effective measures to safeguard the health of immigrants, their children and all of society, and provide a safety net for those who remain uncovered. (3) Reform legislation should exclude mandated coverage for abortion, and incorporate longstanding policies against abortion funding and in favor of conscience rights. The bill that passed the House of Representatives does prohibit use of federal funds for abortions. Attention now shifts to the Senate. To express support for the Catholic points on health care reform, contact Senators Nelson and Lemieux by calling the U.S. Capitol switchboard at 202.224.3121 or by contacting them via [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov).

**Confirmation for Adults** (high school graduate or older). If you are a **practicing Catholic who has never received the Sacrament of Confirmation** and you would like to be confirmed, we invite you to the following three sessions:

- Tuesday, Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>
- Tuesday, Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Tuesday, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>

All sessions will be at 7 p.m., in the parish center. Confirmation will be administered on Sunday, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>, at the 11:30 a.m. Mass. Please call Annamaria in the parish office for more information, or to register.

**St. Petersburg Catholic High School Placement Test** for prospective students:

Test Date: December 12<sup>th</sup>  
 Time: 7:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.  
 Place: Meet at SPCHS cafeteria  
 Bring: \$20.00 (cash or check), 2-#2 pencils, calculator  
 Please contact Sue McGough at [smcgough@spchs.org](mailto:smcgough@spchs.org) to register or for more information.

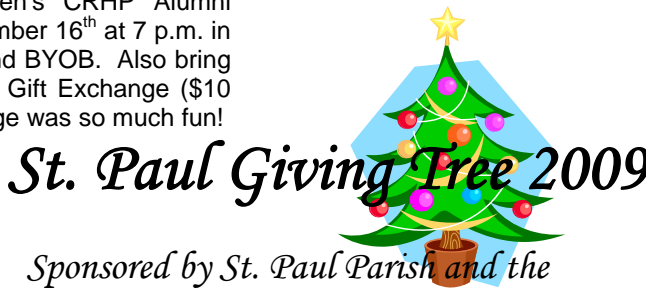
**Nursery available.** Please note that a free childcare nursery is available every Sunday, during the 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Masses, in the Parish Center. The children's center is located at the west end of the first floor hallway in the Parish Center. Experienced adult supervision is provided. Check it out!

**Annual Pastoral Appeal 2009**  
**Diocese of St. Petersburg**  
**as of November 24, 2009**

Our parish's assessment.....	\$169,022.00
Total pledged.....	\$55,658.99
Number of pledges.....	324
Average pledge.....	\$171.79

*Please prayerfully consider making a pledge or gift to the APA for 2009.*  
 You may pledge on-line at [www.diostpete.com/apa](http://www.diostpete.com/apa)

**Women's CRHP Alumni Christmas Party.** Calling all Women's CRHP Alumni! Visit old friends and make some new ones at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Women's CRHP Alumni Christmas Party on Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in the Cafeteria. Bring a dish to share and BYOB. Also bring a wrapped gift for the White Elephant Gift Exchange (\$10 limit) - be creative! Last year's exchange was so much fun!



*St. Paul conference of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul*

*St. Paul's continues the tradition of the Giving Tree as a way to spread the spirit of giving during the holiday season.*

*You can participate by taking a tag from any of the Giving trees located in the front or back of the church. Each tag represents a gift request for either a needy child or a needy adult that lives within our parish boundaries.*

*There are gift tags for the following:  
Specific gifts for children, boys and girls  
Walmart or Target Gift Cards  
Gifts for adults*

Please return the requested gift, wrapped, with the tag attached, by **Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**.  
Boxes will be located at each tree. Gifts will be distributed to the needy families by St. Paul  
Vincentians on **Monday morning, December 21**.