



Mass
Intentions
Of The Week

Monday, December 29th

7:00 A.M. Rev. Christopher R. Fitzgerald

Tuesday, December 30th

7:00 A.M. George Kissell

Wednesday, December 31st

7:00 A.M. Prayer for Vocations

5:30 P.M. Norman Heagerty, Jr.

Thursday, January 1st

10:00 A.M. For World Peace

Friday, January 2nd

7:00 A.M. Intentions of the Blessed Mother

Saturday, January 3rd

8:30 A.M. Miriam Going

5:30 P.M. James Lennon

Sunday, January 4th

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

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

11:30 A.M. Bernard Misner

6:00 P.M. Intentions of the Webb Family



*Abraham reasoned that God
was able to raise even from the dead.
(Hebrews 11:19)*

Eucharistic Prayer I describes the patriarch Abraham as *our father in faith*. At the call of God, he left his homeland and *went out, not knowing where he was to go*. He believed in God's promise that he would have children, *even though he was past the normal age--and his wife Sarah herself was sterile*. He was willing to sacrifice *his only son Isaac*, trusting in God's power *to raise even from the dead*. Always, he operated *by faith*.

We come to the end of the year 2008. For each of us, and for our world, it has been quite a year. Some good things happened, for sure. At the same time, all of us this year have experienced--to some extent or other--turmoil, instability, hardship, and loss. We worry about what the new year will bring.

Times like these require faith, like Abraham had.

In an earlier, much bleaker time, Christmas Day 1939, at the beginning of World War II, Britain's King George VI quoted this poetry to his fellow countrymen:

"I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year, "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied, "Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way."

So now, with our hand in the Hand of God, we confidently set out into another new year. Whatever it brings, we know God will uphold us.

Msgr. Robert C. Gibbons, Pastor



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

Due to holiday printing deadlines, the offertory information for the week of December 21st 2008 will be reported in a later bulletin.

Thank you for your tremendous generosity to the parish at Christmas!

Please remember St. Paul's Church & School 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.....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

**New Year's Day
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
(Holyday of Obligation)**

5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass (Wednesday, December 31)
10:00 a.m. Mass (Thursday, January 1)

New Parishioner Registration meeting is next Sunday, 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.



St. Paul Says

“By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance.”

Hebrews 11:8

Fr. Gibbons' mailbox. Weekend before last, several CRHP alumni from St. Paul's spent time working in the kitchen at Sacred Heart Church, Pinellas Park, for that parish's first Christ Renews His Parish women's retreat weekend. Fr. Gibbons got this message afterwards from a staff member at Sacred Heart: *"The women who participated in our first weekend were in awe over the love that poured from the hearts of St. Paul parishioners who were present to prepare and serve our meals. They couldn't believe that they would give up their weekend for people they didn't even know. They were so impressed by the love and fellowship that flowed from the St. Paul's CRHP brothers and sisters."* This was a good example of showing forth the light of Christ.

O.B.I.C. YOUTH NEWS

No O.B.I.C high school meeting tonight Dec. 28th.

No O.B.I.C middle school meeting Wednesday night Dec. 31st.

High School Teens retreat reminder Jan. 16-18th sign up NOW! Parents pray about giving your a teen a weekend away with God and friends! Call or email Gail!

Have a happy and safe New Year! God Bless!

Confirmation classes will begin Sunday Jan. 11th from 4 - 5:30pm 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!

From your **Green Team:** Every action has consequences for other human beings and for the earth. Become aware of the outcome of your actions, reduce your impact on others, and walk lightly on the earth. Consider these practices to be a spiritual discipline. In the weeks to come, look for suggestions from the Earthkeepers' Pledge for ways to reduce our impact on others and the earth. See <http://www.webofcreation.org>.

Dave Ramsey FPU. A new Financial Peace University class will begin on January 25, beginning at 9:00 am and ending at 11:00 am 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.

Stewardship Reflection. Joseph's obedience to God was not a one-time thing. His attention to the angel's warning kept Jesus from being murdered by Herod and led to the fulfillment of the prophecy that the Messiah would be from Nazareth. Fidelity to God's will assures the best use of my talents, too!

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 at 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.

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.

Columbiettes. Thanks to the generosity of St Paul Parish Family the Church is decorated with poinsettia plants during the Christmas Season in loving memory of:

<i>Marjorie Hiott</i>	<i>Malcolm D Driver</i>
<i>Filancia Family</i>	<i>Dr. & Mrs. L.W. Swestka</i>
<i>Myrtle Rosselli</i>	<i>Madelynn Rayne Duncan</i>
<i>Rufus Meredith</i>	<i>Deceased Peterson Family</i>
<i>Norman Heagerty, Jr.</i>	<i>Frank Grasso</i>
<i>Louis Rominski</i>	<i>Dillon - Fisher Families</i>
<i>Mary Farmer</i>	<i>Christine Ferguson</i>
<i>St. Paul</i>	<i>Private Intention</i>
<i>Josephine Ciacio,</i>	<i>Robert H Niblock, Margaret</i>
<i>Rose Franco</i>	<i>Niblock</i>
<i>Edna O'Brien</i>	<i>Gavert Family & Lawler Family</i>
<i>Josephine Konecki</i>	<i>Brogie Family & Mullaney Family</i>
<i>Philip & Claire Kirby,</i>	<i>Michael Saluda, Sr, Emma</i>
<i>Donald J Smith</i>	<i>Koeher, Arthur Ruummeley</i>
<i>Archie Lidey Sr.,</i>	<i>Stagnaro, Lennon, Carberry,</i>
<i>Boupha Sengaroun</i>	<i>McGovern Families</i>
<i>Cecile Larose</i>	<i>Mr & Mrs O'Rourke</i>
<i>Clara & Bill Frank</i>	<i>Mike Carvill, Catherine S Reuter</i>
<i>Flood, Larson & Hill</i>	<i>Deceased Members of Vath &</i>
<i>Families</i>	<i>Wiand Families</i>
<i>Howard & Joan Stull</i>	<i>M L Gallo</i>
<i>Marge Telscher</i>	<i>William Purdy</i>
<i>George Hanning</i>	<i>Richard Scholdt</i>
<i>Bernard Misner</i>	<i>Erna Adams</i>
<i>Joe Massaro</i>	<i>Terry Staton</i>
<i>Howard M Wagner</i>	<i>Albert Tovey</i>
<i>Marcia Scully, Lou &</i>	
<i>Elsie Pekrul, Peggy</i>	
<i>Gray</i>	