



## From the Pastor's Desk

The last part of the Liturgy of the Word is the Universal Prayer. This terminology may be unfamiliar to most people. In the most recent edition of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, this is the way the new translation refers to the prayers of petition that were formerly referred to as the General Intercessions. Also called the Prayer of the Faithful, these petitions are meant to bring before the Lord the needs of the Universal Church and the Local Community.

Many people may not recognize it, but there is a profound purpose attached to these prayers and a general pattern to them. This is how the General Instruction describes these petitions and their purpose:

In the Universal Prayer or Prayer of the Faithful, the people respond in some sense to the Word of God which they have received in faith and, exercising the office of their baptismal Priesthood, offer prayers to God for the salvation of all. It is desirable that there usually be such a form of prayer in Masses celebrated with the people, so that petitions may be offered for holy Church, for those who govern with authority over us, for those weighed down by various needs, for all humanity, and for the salvation of the whole world.

There are two important things that the instruction is saying here. The first is that these prayers are part of our common priesthood by virtue of our baptism. In offering these petitions, each of us is doing a priestly action. We are each actively praying as Christ himself did. We are offering the Father through our Lord the needs of the Greater Church and the Local Community of Faith.

The other important aspect that the instruction points out is the pattern of the petitions. Whether presented by the priest, deacon, or other minister, these petitions follow a prescribed pattern. Generally speaking, the first petition is always direct to the needs of the Universal Church. A petition then follows for those who exercise public office.

This may seem strange to some, but it follows a sound Biblical principle. Prayer for those in authority has always been a characteristic of the Church. It does two things at the same time. It calls upon the living God to empower leaders to be Godly in their actions, and it also says something more subtle. It says that the leader is ultimately not the one in control. They can be empowered by God, if they are willing to be led.

The remainder of the petitions tend to be addressed to both general and specific needs in the local community of faith. Usually, it is the custom to have the last of the petitions be addressed for those who have died. If there is a specific intention for the Mass of the day, there may also be a petition for the person for whom the Mass is being offered.

**February 5, 2012**  
**This Week at Saint Paul's**

Monday February 6, 2012

9:00am Daily Mass [Intention for Theresa Zacharias] (NC)  
7:00-9:00pm Bible Study (CH)  
7:00-8:15pm Religious Education (DHS)  
7:30-8:30pm Fire & Ice Retreat Meeting (for seniors giving talks)(NC)  
7:30-9:30pm 11:00am Music Group(C)

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

9:00am Daily Mass (NC)  
10:00am-12:00pm Bible Study (CH)  
7:00-8:00pm Children's Choir (C)  
7:30-8:30pm Catechist Meeting (PreConfirmation) (APR)  
7:30-9:00pm Building & Grounds Committee (REC)  
7:30-9:30pm Prayer Group (NC)  
7:30-9:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (CONF I)  
8:30-9:30pm AA Meeting (CH)

Wednesday, February 8, 2012

9:00am Daily Mass [Intention for Patrick O'Sullivan] (NC)  
9:30am-12:00pm Women's Sharing Group (CH)  
6:30-8:30pm Middle School (NC/APR/CH)  
7:00-9:00pm Fire & Ice Presentation (NC)  
7:30-9:30pm Adult Choir (C)  
7:30-9:00pm Hope Ministry (CONF II)

Thursday, February 9 2012

9:00am Daily Mass (NC)  
4:30-6:30pm Middle School (NC/CH/NARTHEX/APR/SAC)  
5:00-6:15pm Religious Education (DHS)  
7:00-9:30pm Catholic Daughters (CH)

Friday, February 10, 2012

Fire & Ice Annual Retreat (OFF GROUNDS)  
9:00am Daily Mass [Intention for Rosy George] (NC)  
8:15-9:30pm Living Stations Rehearsal (C)

Saturday, February 11, 2012

Fire & Ice Annual Retreat (OFF GROUNDS)  
7:00-8:30am Why Catholic Group (CH)  
9:30am-12:00pm First Reconciliation Retreat  
(CH/C/APR/SAC/NARTHEX/CONF I/CONF II)  
3:30-4:30pm Reconciliation  
5:00pm Mass [Intention for Dominic Pelicano]

Sunday, February 12, 2012

Fire & Ice Annual Retreat (OFF GROUNDS)  
Honduras Mission Trip  
Pancake Breakfast (after 7:30 & 9:00am Masses) (CH)  
7:30, 9:00 & 11:00am; 5:00pm Mass (C)  
7:30am Mass [Intention for Genevieve Culhane]  
9:00am Mass [Intention for Elena Fulche]  
9:00-10:00am Atrium (NC)  
9:00 & 11:00am Children's Liturgy of the Word (C)  
9:30-11:00am CIC (Conf I & Conf II)  
10:00am-12:00pm RCIA (NC)  
11:00am Mass [Intention for Helen Burke]  
12:30-2:30pm Living Station Rehearsal (C)  
2:45-4:45pm Middle School (NC/CH/APR/SAC)  
3:30-5:00pm Saint Paul Folk Group practice (C)  
5:00pm Mass [Intention for Trudy Chiantella](C)

**Legend:** C – Church, CH - Church Hall, NC - Norris Chapel, DHS - Damascus High School, DRC - Damascus Recreation Center, GR – Grounds, KIT - CH Kitchen, Conf I & II – Rectory Conference Rooms, APR – All Purpose Room in Church, SAC – Sacristy STP – Saint Paul Facilities

**SACRAMENTS**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**

3:30-4:30 p.m. Saturday or by appointment

**INFANT BAPTISM:** The Sacrament of Baptism joyfully celebrates the entrance of new members into our Catholic Christian Community. Parents participate in two baptism preparation programs and should contact the Religious Education Secretary to sign up for the program at least three months prior to the baptism.

**HOLY ORDERS/RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS:** Those interested in knowing more about vocations to the Reverend Robert Panke at 301-853-4580 or email [vocations@adw.org](mailto:vocations@adw.org)

Those interested in knowing more about religious and vocation discernment for women are invited to contact Sister Rebecca Burke at 301-853-4576 or email [rburke@adw.org](mailto:rburke@adw.org)

**If you are interested in information about the Deaconate, please call Reverend Scott Hurd at 301-853-4582**

**MARRIAGE:** In the Sacrament of Marriage, a man and a woman pledge their love and commitment to one another in the presence of God and the Church. Couples planning to be married should contact the Priest or Deacon for an appointment no less than 6 months prior to wedding date.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:** Adults interested in joining the Catholic Church, please contact Maria Stanton at the Rectory, 301-253-2027.

**CRISIS PREGNANCY ASSISTANCE:** Call Shady Grove Pregnancy Center 301-963-6223 or Frederick Pregnancy Center 301-662-5330. For post-abortion counseling call Project Rachel at 202-269-HOPE.

**MEMORIALS:** Please remember Saint Paul's in your Will.

**SICK & HOMEBOUND:** Please notify the Rectory when a member of the Parish is in the hospital or is unable to attend Church and wishes to receive Holy Communion at home or receive the Sacrament of Anointing.

**PARISH SCHOOL: MARY OF NAZARETH SCHOOL:** Grades K-8, shared with six other parishes in upper Montgomery County. Mr. Michael Friel, Principal, [www.maryofnazareth.org](http://www.maryofnazareth.org) or 301-869-0940.

**Pray for the healing of the following people:**

Ann Dimmick, Bette Marshall, Earl Rollison, Tony and Mary Liggieri, David McGehee, Edna Colbert, Rita Magee, Amy Gladhill Vallarino, Ellen Burns, Charles Garner, Carroll Podhasky, Kathleen Schmidt, Janet Keefe, Bob Leone and Pat Denu.

*Names on the prayer list need to be renewed on a regular basis. Call the office with your requests or renewals. Names will only be included on our prayer list if they have been submitted by a relative or by the person requesting prayers themselves.*



# Liturgy

## Fifth Sunday Ordinary Time

*Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care, that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace, they may be defended always by your protection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.*

**THE FEAST OF SAINT BLAZE** will be celebrated this weekend at all Masses with a general blessing of throats.

**FLOWER DONATIONS** - The beautiful flowers on the altar last week were in loving memory of Stephanie Kidwell from Donna and John Kidwell. Flower donations are always needed. If you are interested in donating flowers please use the flower envelope located in the Narthex.

**RCIA** - The Right of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process by which adults become Catholic. This process is a journey that varies with each person, depending on their needs. Anyone interested in becoming Catholic should contact **Valerie Hughes**, the Coordinator for RCIA, at **301-253-1175**. **At this time we have several adults who are preparing for the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. Please continue to pray for those in RCIA.**

**LEADERS NEEDED FOR LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN** - Saint Paul Parish is fortunate to offer Children's Liturgy of the Word every week at both the 9:00a.m. and 11:00a.m. Mass on Sunday. During the Liturgy of the Word, children from preschool through fourth grade gather in the All Purpose Room of the Church where an adult leader shares the Scripture readings with them on a level appropriate to the children's age. We always need more adults and teens to share the work of this exciting ministry. Training and resource material are provided. To volunteer, call **Elizabeth Browning at 301- 414-7552**.

**"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!"** If you have musical ability as either a director, vocalist or instrumentalist, please consider joining or leading a music group. Contact **Maria Stanton - 301-253-2027 for more information.**

**PALM COLLECTED AS WE GET READY FOR LENT:** Beginning next week we will be collecting your palm from last year to use for Ash Wednesday. Please place the palm in the basket in the Narthex. It will be burned before Ash Wednesday.



**LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS** - Living Stations of the Cross will begin rehearsal today from 1:00-2:30pm. Teens, Children and Young Adults are asked to participate in the Living Stations of the Cross which will be celebrated on Good Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. There is a sign-up sheet located in the Narthex. This is a great opportunity to share your faith through Drama. Please contact Peggy Hall at 301-792-2471 for more information.

**LENT IS FAST APPROACHING:** Our theme for Lent this year is: ***On Behalf of Christ be Reconciled to God -2 Corinthians 5:20***

**Decorate for Lent** – Thursday February 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 in the church contact Patti Hinkle for more information – 301-414-2359

**Ash Wednesday** will be celebrated on Wednesday February 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is a day of fast abstinence.

The services are as follows  
6:30 – Norris Chapel

9:00 5:00 and 7:30 – Mass in the church

There will be several opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Every Wednesday in Lent there will be the program called *Leave the Light on*. There will be a priest available for Confession every Wednesday night in the church from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

There will also be a Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 p.m. All Parishioners are encouraged to attend. Our catholic faith teaches us that we should receive the Sacrament of Penance at least once a year. Lent is a perfect time to do just that. There will be several priests available for this parish service.



# Social Concerns/Pastoral Care



**Montgomery Hospice  
Forever Yours:  
A Valentine's Day Workshop**  
A special workshop for  
widows, widowers and life

partners who want to honor and remember their  
loved ones on Valentine's Day **Monday, February  
13, 2012 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.**

Location:

Montgomery Hospice Offices  
1355 Piccard Drive, Suite 100  
Rockville, MD 20850

To register or for more information  
please call:

Montgomery Hospice  
Bereavement Care Team  
**301-921-4400**

Free and open to any Montgomery County resident.  
[www.montgomeryhospice.org](http://www.montgomeryhospice.org)  
301-921-4400

**CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS** are being collected  
for the Benedictine School for the Handicapped.  
Please put your labels in the back of the Church.



**REMEMBER OUR ELDERLY,  
SICK AND SHUT-IN:** Please  
remember our elderly, sick and shut-  
ins during the cold, snowy and icy  
months. Check on your neighbors. A  
phone call or knock on their door  
will do (especially if you haven't  
seen them in a few days). On icy  
mornings bring their newspapers  
and mail in for them, offer to take out recycling  
bins or trash. This can be a good family activity  
over the winter.



**LOBBY NIGHT – Stand Strong in  
the Public Square – Attend  
Catholic Lobby Night in Annapolis  
on February 20**

Join Maryland's bishops and  
hundreds of fellow Catholics on  
Presidents' Day, Monday, February  
20, from 3:00 – 8:00 pm, for the 28<sup>th</sup> annual  
Catholic Lobby Night in Annapolis and make your  
voice heard. Tell legislators that we all have a duty  
to serve the poor and vulnerable, build up the  
common good and respect human life and dignity.  
Lobby Night is an advocacy event that gives  
Catholic voters the opportunity to speak in person  
with their elected officials about issues including  
abortion, health care, poverty, immigration, Catholic  
schools, the death penalty and marriage.

Registration is required. Visit [www.mdcathcon.org](http://www.mdcathcon.org)  
or call the Maryland Catholic Conference at 410-  
269-1155 or 301-261-1979 to register or for more  
information.

**Father Pierce** will distribute ashes and Communion  
to the homebound on Ash  
Wednesday. Call Sherrie Wade at the  
Rectory, 301-253-2027, to make an  
appointment.



**40 DAYS FOR LIFE** – The peaceful  
prayer effort called *40 Days for Life* will  
be held at the late-term abortion facility  
in Germantown. St. Paul will  
participate again. Come out to pray for  
an end to abortion and for a renewed respect for  
human life in our community and in our country.  
This prayer effort will begin on February 22 and run  
through April 1, 2012



**CAREGIVER SUPPORT/ADULTS WITH  
MEDICAL PROBLEMS** - Eldercare of Damascus  
is a small Adult Medical Day Care Center that offers  
individualized care for adults with Alzheimer's,  
Parkinson's, iabetes, and other medical disorders.  
Licensed by the State of Maryland, a registered  
nurse is present at all times. The Center's program  
offers daily exercise, art, music, word games, and  
outings in the community to enrich lives and provide  
socialization. Door-to-door escorted  
transportation is provided. Breakfast and lunch are  
offered daily. Eldercare of Damascus provides a  
safe and stimulating environment for your loved one.  
Call: Karen Meaney 301-466-8278



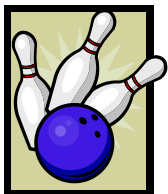
**Mark your calendars for the  
March 11, 2012 MedStar Blood  
Drive** at Saint Paul Church from  
8:30am-12:30pm in the Church  
Hall.



# Religious Education

## ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

WHEN?	WHAT?	WHERE?	WHO?
<b>Parish</b>			
Fri., Mar. 9	Parish Lenten Day of Reflection	Priest Field Pastoral Center	All men AND women age 18+
Every Sat., 3:30 pm	Confessions	Main Church	All baptized Catholics
<b>K-5 Classroom</b>			
Feb. 6 & 9	Religion Classes	DHS	K-5 Students
Feb. 13 & 16	Religion Classes	DHS	K-5 Students
<b>First Reconciliation Candidates</b>			
Sat., Feb. 11 9:30 am – Noon	First Reconciliation Retreat	Saint Paul	First Reconciliation candidates (note: Atrium candidates are retreating on a different date)
<b>Middle School</b>			
Mon., Jan. 30 7:30 pm	Confirmation II Catechist Meeting	Parish Office	All Confirmation II Catechists (please RSVP)
Feb. 8/9/12	MS Religious Education	Saint Paul	MS Students
Feb. 12/15/19	MS Religious Education	Saint Paul	MS Students
Mon., Feb. 20, 12:10-2:30 pm	MS Bowling Social	Mount Airy Bowling	MS Students



**Middle School Bowling**  
**Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**(President's Day)**  
**12:10-2:30 pm**  
**Mount Airy Bowling Lanes**

Each lane will be assigned 5 bowlers.  
 Requests may be made to Mrs. Sparacino  
 (I am not making any promises!)  
 Shoe rental, a slice of pizza, a drink and two  
 games of bowling for \$12.00 per person

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**AT ST. PAUL**  
**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**July 9-13, 2012**



## Adult Faith Formation

### PARISH LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION HAPPENING ON FRIDAY MARCH 9<sup>th</sup>

All parish men and women (age 18+) are invited to a Lenten Day of Reflection sponsored by Saint Paul Parish on Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. We'll meet for morning Mass at 9:00 am in the Norris Chapel and carpool to Priestfield Pastoral Center in West Virginia (about 50 minutes.) It's a beautiful retreat house with a prayerful Stations of the Cross walk in the woods. The day of reflection will end at 4:30 pm. Participants may carpool home that afternoon or stay overnight for some private reflection time. Please join us for worship, prayer, praise, reflection and fellowship! Contact the parish office to register. Registration deadline is February 29. The fee for the day retreat is \$21 per person, includes a hot lunch. Additional fees will apply if you are spending the night, assuming room availability.

## ADULT CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Are you a baptized adult Catholic who has not yet been confirmed? Now is the time! Saint Paul Parish will be offering adult Confirmation Preparation classes on four Sundays, from April 29 - May 20. This particular program of preparation is appropriate for anyone who is:

- Interested in knowing Jesus, our Risen Lord, in a more intimate way
- 16 years or older
- a baptized Roman Catholic who has celebrated the Sacrament of Most Holy Communion
- able to participate in the diocesan celebration of Confirmation on Sunday, May 27 at Saint Matthew Cathedral in D.C.
- able to attend ALL classes
- either already a registered member of Saint Paul Parish or wishes to become an active registered member of this parish

Anyone interested should contact our Director of Faith Formation, Lisa Nueslein, no later than April 10. Please call the parish office.

**PRO-LIFE MASS, Wednesday, February 15 at 7:30 p.m.**, hosted by Saint Rose of Lima and sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. All are welcome. Msgr. Mark Brennan of Saint Martin's will be the presider; Father Marcel Guarnizo from Saint John Neuman will be the guest speaker. There also will be a chance to hear more about the 40 Days for Life Campaign which will be occurring outside Leroy Carhart's office in Germantown during this Lenten season. **Please join us in praying for the sanctity of all life.**

**ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON MEN'S DAY** - Have you been impacted by abortion or do you know a man who lost a child through abortion? Did you pressure someone or were you both pressured to abort? Were you against the abortion? PRM of the Archdiocese of Washington is sponsoring an Entering Canaan Men's Day of Prayer and Healing – Addressing Issues Unique to Men: Saturday, February 25, 2012, 10:30am-6:30pm. For more information, call PRM: 301-853-4565. You can leave a message in the men's voice mail box, if no one is able to answer the phone or email: [hope@adw.org](mailto:hope@adw.org) Location and contacts are confidential due to the personal nature of this experience.



**MARY OF NAZARETH SCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR** -Mary of Nazareth School registration for 2012-2013 will be held on Tuesday, February 7 and Thursday, February 9, 2012 from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. on both days. Parents wishing to register their children must come to the school on one of those two days with the completed application materials. A completed application requires the application and tuition agreement, a copy of the child's birth and Baptismal certificates, a check for the registration fee, and the following if applicable: Pastoral recommendation form and copies of report card(s) and standardized testing results. Children entering Preschool must be 3 or 4 years old as of September 1, and children entering Kindergarten must be 5 years old as of September 1. Tuition assistance information may be found on the Archdiocese of Washington website, [www.catholicsschoolswork.org](http://www.catholicsschoolswork.org), or by calling the school office at (301) 869-0940 ext. 3.

## *New Orleans Dinner*

**Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 to 8:00 pm - Church Hall**

**Our New Orleans/Cajun Menu  
(for Damascus taste, Hot Sauce Available)**  
Red Beans and Rice, with Sausage  
Red Beans and Rice, vegetarian  
Chicken and Sausage Gumbo  
Jambalaya with Chicken and Sausage  
Cornbread, Tossed Salad  
Hot Dogs, Dessert  
Coffee, Tea, and Lemonade  
(Subject to Change)  
**Cake Raffle for the benefit of the  
"Garden of Life"**

### **Reservations Suggested**

Advance tickets sold after Masses February 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> or by phone before February 15<sup>th</sup>.  
Advance: Child: \$5.00 Adults: \$8.00 Family Max: \$30.00  
At the Door: Child: \$6.00 Adults: \$9.00 Family Max: \$35.00  
(Note: a family is a set of parents and their children)  
Sponsored by: St. Paul's Knights of Columbus, Council 11105  
For reservations call: Gary @ 301-253-6177