



# G.I.F.T.

Growing In Faith Together

## A GUIDE TO MINISTRY *SHARING YOUR GIFTS*

*Saint Paul Parish  
Kensington, CT*



*The Lord has blessed each and every one of us with a variety of gifts and talents, and because we are members of a community, we are called to use those gifts to help build up that community.*

## **1 Corinthians 12**

*There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service, but the same Lord; there are different workings, but the same God Who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.*



## INTRODUCTION

*St. Paul Parish is a thriving community of faith. To sustain our vitality, each member must prayerfully respond to God's call to use his or her God-given gifts to serve in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ.*

*This Ministry Guide is designed to help you prayerfully consider how God is calling you to be engaged in the life of our parish.*

*It is our hope that it will also serve as an instrument of evangelization that you can use to encourage and invite others to become part of our community of faith.*



## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

St. Paul Parish is a community of Catholics guided by the Spirit and called together to proclaim the Mission of Jesus Christ. The community enables its members to grow in their relationship with God and with one another.

The people of St. Paul build a community of faith by celebrating the Eucharistic Liturgy and the sacraments with praise and thanksgiving. A faith commitment, based on the Scriptures and love of God, leads to a caring people who advocate truth and justice. This commitment leads to service to members of the Church, and in an ecumenical spirit, to members of other faiths and to those whose faith is known to God alone.

Pentecost 2022



Dear Parishioners of St. Paul Parish:

Pax et Bonum!

For those not familiar, the above greeting is the traditional Franciscan welcome and goodbye. St. Francis of Assisi often began and ended his sermons and letters with the phrase which means “Peace and All Good.” The Franciscan Friars who staff St. Paul Parish, and all those that we minister with, offer this greeting to you whether you are a new parishioner or one who is part of the rock foundation of our parish whose beginnings go back to 1878.

St. Paul Parish has much to offer you as a parishioner. It has so much to offer because so many parishioners very generously share their time and talent with their fellow parishioners and the broader local community.

This Ministry Booklet is meant to serve two purposes. As you leaf through it, think about how the Holy Spirit might be calling you to share the gifts, talents and abilities that you have through these many ministries and organizations. “There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone.” (1 Cor. 12: 4-6) At the same time, see on these pages how one or more of these same ministries or programs might be of service to you or someone you know. By answering the Lord’s call to discipleship we invite you to discover a deeper relationship with God by serving in one or more of these ministries or by being served through them.

To ask questions about or to get involved in one of these ministries or activities just email the contact person. It might happen a change in leadership will occur before this booklet is next updated. The most current list of ministries, organizations and contacts can be found on our parish website at [www.stpaulkensington.org](http://www.stpaulkensington.org). Also, you can always call the Parish Center (860) 828–0331 and someone will be happy to put you in touch with the correct person. Thanks for taking the time to look through this booklet and may you be open to the working of the Holy Spirit in your life.

May the Lord bless you always and give you his peace!

Franciscan Friars of St. Paul Parish  
Members of the Parish Staff and Pastoral Council

## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

These Liturgical Ministries have qualifications that have to be met and training completed before one can begin to serve in these ministries. There is also a yearly Enrichment Session for these ministries.



**Youth Altar Servers & Masters of Ceremonies** - Altar Servers assist the priest at the altar while the Masters of Ceremonies, while also serving at Mass, provide guidance and leadership for the altar servers and fulfill more specialized duties. The ministry of Altar Server is open to all youth who have been Baptized and received First Communion and whose family is registered in the parish. Training and formation for the ministry of Altar Server is provided at least once a year, usually in the spring following 1<sup>st</sup> Communion, or early in the fall. Once in high school, an altar server may be invited to become a Master of Ceremony. This is a leadership role while continuing to serve at Mass and other special liturgical celebrations. For information, contact Dan Tome at [d.tome@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:d.tome@stpaulkensington.org).

**Adult Servers & Funeral Servers** - Adult Servers perform the same duties as do the youth servers, but typically at the weekday Masses. Some also prepare the sanctuary for Funeral Masses and assist the priest during a Funeral Mass. More information about Funeral Servers is below. For details, call Gloria Janik at 860- 828-1525 or the Parish Office at 860-828-0331.

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC)\*** - EMHC are properly formed, instructed and commissioned lay persons who are appointed for a given parish community to aid in the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass and to the sick and homebound when ordinary ministers of Holy Communion are unavailable. EMHC are not authorized to function apart from their parish community. Contact Gloria Janik at 860- 828-1525 to learn more.

**Readers (Lectors)\*** - Readers are lay persons commissioned to proclaim the readings from Sacred Scripture at Mass, not including the Gospel. Those who would like to be a Reader should possess the skills necessary for effective oral proclamation which is essential for this ministry. They receive careful preparation so that the faithful, by listening to the readings from the sacred texts, may develop in their hearts a warm and living love for Sacred Scripture. Contact Jeff Batter at [jeffbatter@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:jeffbatter@stpaulkensington.org)

**\*Qualifications for EMHC and Readers:** The Archbishop of Hartford regulates the ministry of EMHC and Readers and all other liturgical ministries in collaboration with the pastors of the parishes of the Archdiocese. Specifically, EMHC and Readers (Lectors) are to meet the following qualifications:

1. Be at least 17 years of age
2. Have received the Sacrament of Confirmation
3. Have a continuing relationship with the parish and regularly participate in the Eucharist, that is attend Mass each weekend
4. Strives to live a life consistent with the teachings of the Catholic Church
5. If married, are in a valid Catholic marriage
6. Have the Pastor's permission
7. Willing to attend Virtus Training and have a background check as needed
8. **Readers** must possess the skills needed for effective oral proclamation

**Guidelines for Serving as EMHC and Readers at St. Paul Parish:**

- A. Select preferred weekend Mass at which to serve and alternate, if possible
- B. Be willing to serve twice a month and on Holy Days of Obligation
- C. Attend an Orientation and Training Session before beginning to serve
- D. Attend an Enrichment Session once a year

**Adult Funeral Servers** are lay persons who assist the priest by serving as an Altar Server before, during and after a Funeral Mass. Servers work in pairs and are usually called two or three days before a funeral to see if they are available to serve at the funeral. Servers participate in a training session and learn how to set up about 20 minutes before a funeral, serve the Mass, and then put everything back in its proper place after Mass. The total time commitment for each funeral is about 90 minutes. Servers should be practicing Catholics who meet numbers 3, 4, & 5 above.

**Ushers & Greeters** are visible ministers who provide personal service and courtesies to parishioners before, during and after Mass. They share in offering hospitality while people are in church. They help parishioners find a seat or directions to other areas of the building or campus, take up the collection, and assist in the distribution of bulletins and other materials as needed. Ushers also help to assure the safety of those attending and give assistance in any emergency situation. To learn more, call the office at 860-838-0331.

**Decorating Committee** members assist in creating the appropriate liturgical environment in church. This is especially the case for the major holidays of Easter and Christmas. Fr. Raymond leads these efforts and can be contacted at [fraymond@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:fraymond@stpaulkensington.org)

## MUSIC MINISTRIES

The mission of the Music Ministry is to celebrate our Lord through music. What is necessary is a desire to praise and glorify God through song, and an interest in working in a group to provide our parishioners a connection to their faith through the celebration of music. Continue reading to learn more about the opportunities and needs in the area of Music Ministry. For more information, please contact our Music Director, Jeff Batter, at [jeffbatter@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:jeffbatter@stpaulkensington.org).



**Cantors** are individuals with a pleasant voice, good presence, and an ear for music, who lead the community in song. Cantors are selected based on experience and skill and follow a rotating schedule.

**Adult Choir** is composed of individuals with varying musical talents and sings at the 10:30 am Mass on Sundays and at other special liturgies throughout the year. Rehearsals are held weekly at the Parish Center.

**4pm Mass Ensemble** provides music for the 4:00pm Mass on Saturdays and other special occasions.

**Youth Choir “Exultations”** allows our young people to become actively involved in their faith by singing with a group at special times of the year (Christmas & Easter), leading the congregation in musical worship and prayer. (Performs Seasonally)

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## PARISH OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

**Parish Office Volunteers** provide clerical support and assist with various office projects. Knowledge of computers and other office equipment is helpful, but not necessary. Some provide regular help in this area while others assist for special projects occasionally. Call the Parish Office at 860-828-0331 or contact Joan Vancour at [j.vancour@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:j.vancour@stpaulkensington.org).



## **YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**EDGE (Middle School)** - EDGE meets twice a month during the school year, once a month during the summer, and those meetings are fluid. It is a chance for the youth of our parish and school to grow in fellowship and faith. We always incorporate a teaching and discuss it in small groups. We try to use games to reinforce the theme or sometimes the games are simply to enjoy our time together. Currently, meetings focus on service opportunities and social gatherings. These meetings sometimes happen on different days and times. You can always find the next meeting dates and times on our website and in the bulletin or email [d.tome@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:d.tome@stpaulkensington.org) and ask to be placed on our email list.

**IGNITE (High School)** - Ignite High School Youth Ministry meets twice a month during the school year, once a month during the summer, and those meetings are fluid in date and time. Our teens come together to grow closer to each other, but more importantly, to grow closer to Christ as well. These meetings are designed to help them learn about our Lord and the faith that he established so that our teens can go out to face the challenges presented in their day to day life with a fuller Catholic understanding. They fluctuate between spiritual, service, and social meetings. You can always find the next meeting dates and times on our website and in the bulletin or email [d.tome@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:d.tome@stpaulkensington.org) and ask to be placed on our email list.

**College Ministry** - Our College Ministry brings our college students together on their summer and winter breaks to share their various college experiences. A dinner is provided for them on their winter break and a cook-out is held before the fall semester begins. Care Packages are prepared for our collegians during the Fall Semester to let them know that they continue to be in our thoughts and prayers.

Parish volunteers are needed to assist the Youth Minister with the EDGE and IGNITE groups. Volunteers are also needed to help assemble the care packages.

For information about our Youth Ministry program or if you are interested in volunteering, please email Dan Tome at [d.tome@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:d.tome@stpaulkensington.org)

**Youth Protection** - All precautions are taken to provide a safe environment for our youth. All adult supervisors have been VIRTUS trained. For information about VITRUS training, please contact Robin Veronesi, Director of Religious Education, at [r.veronesi@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:r.veronesi@stpaulkensington.org).

## SOCIAL ACTION MINISTRIES

**Culture of Life (Pro-Life) Ministry** - The Culture of Life Ministry keeps before our eyes the value and dignity of human life. This ministry helps to promote the constant teaching of the Catholic Church that all human life, from the moment of conception to a natural death, is sacred and must be protected. "The love of God does not distinguish between the newly conceived infant still in the mother's womb, the baby, the youth, the grown adult or the elderly, because in each of them He sees the sign of His own image and likeness." (Pope Benedict XVI) It leads our local participation in the 40 Days for Life in October as well as activities in January near the *Roe vs. Wade* anniversary that support local agencies that assist women in bringing their child to birth. It also promotes respect for life campaigns for the elderly and other vulnerable groups. To get involved in this ministry, email [respectlife@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:respectlife@stpaulkensington.org) or call the Parish Office at 860-828-0331.



**Helping Hands** - The Helping Hands Ministry provides support to our senior citizens, many of whom who are alone or homebound or separated from their loved ones. While our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion help minister to some of these same parishioners by bringing them Holy Communion, those in the Helping Hands Ministry try to take care of some of their other needs like making a run to the pharmacy for them. On a more basic level the volunteers make contact with these parishioners by checking in on them with a phone call. Some volunteers might be able to do a little more like some chores around the yard or periodically even bring them a meal. The most important element is to be a contact on the part of the parish with our seniors to let them know that they are not forgotten and to provide a presence and connection for them. Most members in the ministry are in contact with one or two parishioners. The amount of time depends on your availability and the needs of the parishioner. To get involved in this ministry, contact Mark Duplin at [mfduplin@outlook.com](mailto:mfduplin@outlook.com) or at 860-666-0162.



**Social Action** - The Social Action Committee is a group of dedicated, hard working men and women who organize projects to help meet community needs both within and outside of the parish. Events and collections are held throughout the year. Thanks to the efforts of the committee members and the very generous support of our parishioners many of our least brethren are helped in many different ways.

## SOCIAL ACTION MINISTRIES (continued)

**St. Clare Food Pantry** - The Saint Clare Food Pantry sponsors ongoing, weekly collections of non-perishable food items that are distributed to the Mobile FoodShare Program at the Sacred Heart Church campus in East Berlin every other Friday. Volunteers are needed after each weekend Mass and occasionally during the week to bring the food from the vestibules to the pantry where they are checked, sorted and shelved. Volunteers are also needed to transport food to Sacred Heart and to help the distribution of food every other Friday. If interested, please contact Nancy Timbrell at 860-828-0331 or [n.timbrell@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:n.timbrell@stpaulkensington.org).



*Other Social Action Committee Projects throughout the year include:*

- **Thanksgiving Food Collection** in conjunction with the Town of Berlin
- **Advent Angel Tree Collection** of Christmas presents for Ledgecrest and Worthington Manor Nursing Homes, Friendship Center, Porters Pass Group Home, Klingberg Family Center, Boxes to Boots and CCARC.
- **Hot Stuff Collection** - soups/hot beverages - held before Lent begins
- **Lenten Collection** supports Family Promise, Prudence Crandall Center, and Underground New England and the people they serve.
- **Cold Stuff Collection** - cold drinks - held at the beginning of summer
- **HomeFront Day** - Volunteers help with home repairs for a local family in need. This program takes place on a Saturday in the Month of May. Skilled workers such as electricians, carpenters, plumbers, etcetera are needed in addition to general helpers.



The Social Action Committee meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. To become involved in this ministry, please contact Joan Baker at [jmb7000@comcast.net](mailto:jmb7000@comcast.net) or call the Parish Office at 860-828-0331.

## **MAKERS & BAKERS MINISTRIES**

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** - The Prayer Shawl Ministry knits or crochets Prayer Shawls which are given to those who are homebound, ill or in need of comfort, so that they know that God's love always surrounds them. Over 600 Prayer Shawls have been made and distributed giving comfort, warmth, and hope to many. Some shawls are made at home and they are prayed over when we meet and share some fellowship. Prayer Shawl Ministry meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, except for July & August. The meetings are held at 1:00 pm in the Church Hall. Mary Mezzio leads this ministry and can be contacted at 860-828-5478.

**Quilters** - Our talented Quilters work together to make beautiful items which are then raffled off at various parish events. The projects are ongoing and the proceeds are donated to various charitable causes. The Quilters meet weekly on Thursday mornings in the Church Hall at 9:30 am. To join, contact Barbara Rival at [barival@att.net](mailto:barival@att.net) or at 860-930-0310.

**Bakers** - From time to time volunteers are needed to provide baked goods for various parish events. If you can help, let us know so that we can add your name to the call list when your baking talents are needed. Please contact Lynn Misteri by email at [misteriberl@aol.com](mailto:misteriberl@aol.com) or 860-913-5448.

**Baptismal Robe Ministry** - The Baptismal Robe Makers create the white garments used during the Sacrament of Baptism. The robes are cut from a pattern, sewed, and then a symbol of Baptism is embroidered on the garment. Contact the Parish Office at 860-828-0331.

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## **ADULT SPIRITUALITY AND SUPPORT**

**Scripture Study** - The Little Rock Scripture Study Group brings together parishioners in small groups of eight or so to read, learn, reflect, and pray with the scriptures so as to better hear the Word of God in their life today. The group meets in two sessions of about six to eight meetings each year. One begins in the fall and another some time after the beginning of the year. The meetings are usually every other week from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Each session will delve into a particular book of the Bible, a section of a Book of the Bible, or a theme in the Bible. At the end of the each semester there is gathering of all of the groups for a "wrap-up" meeting. For more information contact Mark Chasse at [mchasse@comcast.net](mailto:mchasse@comcast.net) or call the Parish Office at 860-828-0331.

## **ADULT SPIRITUALITY AND SUPPORT** (continued)

**Bereavement Support** - St. Paul Parish invites parishioners to participate in our "New Day" Bereavement Support Group. The program offers a supportive atmosphere of care and understanding for those grieving the loss of a loved one. This 9-week program is held twice a year with a Spring session beginning in April and a Fall session beginning in September. Meetings are held at the Parish Center, typically on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:00pm. For information or to register, contact the Parish Office at 860-828-0331.

**Men's Group** - The Men's Group seeks support in their desire to grow spiritually in closer friendship with Jesus with other like minded men. According to each man's schedule and preference, they gather periodically to pray the Rosary, hold a Sunday evening Holy Hour before our Eucharistic Lord and socialize over breakfast on Friday mornings at a local diner.

Other programs promoted by the Men's group include:

- **Exodus 90** - a spiritual exercise based on prayer, fasting and asceticism.
- **Consecration to St. Joseph** - an opportunity to grow in relationship to our spiritual father, St. Joseph
- **ACTS Retreat for Men** - ACTS: Adoration, Community, Theology, Service
- **Themed Retreat for Men** at the Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center
- ***That Man Is You!*** (TMIY!) One of the most well attended programs is *That Man Is You!* TMIY is an interactive men's program that combines a video series which contains the best research from science with the teachings of the Catholic faith and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of man fully alive and to address the pressures and temptations that men face in our modern culture. The short, thought provoking videos stir up discussions on important matters for the men attending. The TMIY program aims to form men capable of transforming themselves, their families and the greater society. All men are welcome to participate in this extraordinary program. The group meets on Saturday mornings at 7:00 am, wrapping up around 8:15 am. Two 13-week sessions are held each year, one in the fall and one in the spring. You can learn more about the program at [www.TMIY.org](http://www.TMIY.org).

For information about any of the Men's Programs, contact Rick Dighello at [rdighello1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rdighello1@sbcglobal.net) or 860-655-0714 or email Fr. Michael at [frmichael@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:frmichael@stpaulkensington.org).

## **ADULT SPIRITUALITY AND SUPPORT** (continued)

**Women's Group 'Women of Faith'** - The St. Paul 'Women of Faith' group has as its mission to support and affirm our Faith as Catholic women in today's changing times. We share many roles as mothers, wives, daughters, sisters and friends. Through Friendship, Faith, and Fellowship we are here to support each other. All women are invited to gather together with us to share our Faith and grow spiritually in Christ. Meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month. For information email [womenoffaith@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:womenoffaith@stpaulkensington.org) or call the Parish Office at 860-828-0331.

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## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MINISTRIES - ADULTS**

**Baptism Instruction** - Baptism instruction is required for all first time parents and godparents prior to the baptism of the child. Instructions are normally held on the last Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM in the Parish Center. This is an opportunity to review the importance of this Sacrament and the very important role that parents and godparents play in the faith formation of children. Pre-registration is required. Contact the Parish Office at 860-828-0331 or email [ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org)

**Adult Confirmation Program (ACP)** - The ACP is designed for Catholics who are at least 18 years old and have already been baptized and received their 1st Holy Communion, but have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation. This program meets once a week for six (6) weeks in the fall and the spring if needed. Your Confirmation would then take place the same fall or spring that you complete the program. *This program can be especially helpful for those who are asked to be a godparent for Baptism or a Sponsor at Confirmation since you must have received the Sacrament of Confirmation in order to take on those responsibilities. Likewise, those to be married in the Catholic Church should be Confirmed.*

If married, you must be in a valid Catholic marriage. If you were married outside the Catholic Church (meaning in a civil ceremony or in a non-Catholic Church without the appropriate permission) and would like to discuss how you can have your marriage recognized in the Church contact the Parish Office and one of the Friars will meet with you to discuss how this might be able to happen. Your preparation for Confirmation can be done simultaneously with the preparation to have your marriage convalidated in the Church, but the convalidation must be concluded before the actual Confirmation ceremony. Contact the Parish Office at 860-828-0331 or [ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:ourchurch@stpaulkensington.org)

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MINISTRIES - ADULTS** (continued)

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** - RCIA is a journey of faith designed for those who are exploring the Catholic faith for the first time as well as for Catholics who are trying to deepen their sacramental life in the Church. The RCIA program is for those:

- Adults who have never been baptized
- Adults who have been baptized in another Christian tradition and want to become Catholic
- Adults who were baptized Catholic, but have had little or no instruction in the faith or have not received the Sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation.

Adults from all faith traditions or no religious background at all, are welcome to participate in the RCIA program which begins in October each year. Those participating in RCIA will meet weekly, with some breaks around holidays, with the program leaders culminating at the Easter Vigil each year. At that time, all of the Sacraments of Initiation will be completed. If you have never been baptized or would like information about how to become Catholic please talk to one of the Friars or call the Parish Office at 860-828-0331 to set up a meeting to begin the discussion.



## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MINISTRIES - YOUTH**

**Religious Education** (Elementary, Middle School & High School)

We always welcome parishioners to serve as Catechists. Their mission is to proclaim the Gospel to our youth (Grades 1-8) with courage and creativity, helping students to see God's plan of salvation for the world and how they can continue Christ's work in the present. Volunteer help is also welcomed regarding our Confirmation Program (Grades 9 & 10) to help our young people deepen their understanding of the Holy Spirit through instruction and service to others. The Religious Education Program begins early in the Fall and finishes in April. Classes meet on Sunday mornings. Volunteers are also needed for non-teaching roles. To learn more about how you can help share the gift of faith with our youth contact our Director of Religious Education, Robin Veronesi at [r.veronesi@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:r.veronesi@stpaulkensington.org) or call 860-828-1934.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MINISTRIES - YOUTH** (continued)

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC)** - Similar to the RCIA program described above, the RCIC program is geared to children who have already reached the age of reason (seven years old), but who have not been baptized or, if baptized, have been without religious instruction. Each child's situation can be unique so a plan of instruction will be developed so that if the child is not yet baptized they can be, and they can receive 1<sup>st</sup> confession and 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion if that is appropriate. If the child has been baptized in another Christian faith and now wants to become Catholic a similar plan of instruction will be developed that leads to making a Profession of Faith in the Catholic Church and the reception of any other Sacraments of Initiation as might be appropriate. For information contact the Director of Religious Education, Robin Veronesi at [r.veronesi@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:r.veronesi@stpaulkensington.org) or call 860-828-1934.

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## **PARISH COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

**Berlin Fair** - The Berlin Fair is held annually in town and run by the Lions Club. We are fortunate to have two food buildings on the fairgrounds. We need your help! The Berlin Fair is a wonderful community event for the Town of Berlin and the St. Paul Parish community. Your time and support is welcome! Volunteer help is needed before, during and after the fair which runs on a weekend in September. To help at the fair watch for information beginning in the summer and leading up to the Fair. To be part of the leadership group contact Nancy Timbrell at [n.timbrell@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:n.timbrell@stpaulkensington.org) or call the office at 860-828-0331.



**Ladies' Guild** - Saint Paul Ladies' Guild promotes valuable religious, social and educational functions in the parish and surrounding communities. The Guild is a way for women of the parish to share friendship and fellowship and to participate in activities that improve our church and community. The Guild is very active throughout the year, providing scholarships to students continuing their education at St. Paul School and helps the parish and the local community in many other ways. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month. Membership is open to all women in the parish or any other nearby parish. Call the Parish Office at 860-828-0331 or contact the President of the Guild at [ladiesguild@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:ladiesguild@stpaulkensington.org).

## **PARISH COMMUNITY SUPPORT** (continued)

**St. Paul Garden Club** helps to plan, create, and provide upkeep of our church and school gardens. Garden Club members help plant some annuals around the property each spring. They help tend to the rose bushes and the other perennials throughout the growing season as well. Members work as teams or as an individual as time allows. Thanks to the Garden Club our property is kept looking so beautiful. If you can lend a hand please contact Kathy or Carl Ginotti at 860-828-1996 or [cknginotti@comcast.net](mailto:cknginotti@comcast.net).

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## **PARISH AFFILIATED GROUPS**



**Knights of Columbus** - Founded in 1882 at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, CT by Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney, a priest of the Archdiocese of Hartford, the Knights of Columbus is a Fraternal Organization of Catholic Men. The Knights are Catholic men who lead, serve, protect and defend. We share a desire to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors and role models and to put charity and community first. Together, we're empowering Catholic men to live their faith at home, in their parish, at work and in their community. Each local council works to assist with the needs of its community consistent with the principles of the Order: charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. The local council at St. Paul Parish is the Monsignor Thomas L. Greylish Council, #3675. Meetings are held monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. Membership is open to men who are 18 years of age or older and who are "practical" (that is, practicing) Catholics and are in good standing in the Catholic Church. For information email [grand\\_knight.3675@yahoo.com](mailto:grand_knight.3675@yahoo.com).

**New Britain Council of Catholic Women** - The New Britain Council of Catholic Women, associated with the National Council of Catholic Women, acts through its



members to support, empower, and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership, and service. Membership is open to women from all Catholic Parishes in New Britain, Kensington, Berlin, and East Berlin. Through prayer and service the Council provides yearly scholarship awards to Catholic graduating students from Middle School and High School. They also conduct fund raising for local, national and international charities. For more information contact Terry Zovich at 860-828-6667.

**Boy Scouts** - Troop 441 is an established, reputable troop with a fun and exciting scout program. Boys who have completed 5th grade and are at least 10 years old can join the troop. No previous scouting experience is required. Meetings are held on Tuesday evenings from 6:30pm-8:00pm at the Berlin VFW. More information can be found on the troop website at <https://www.berlintscouts.org> or by contacting the Scoutmaster: Tony deRito, [tonyd433@gmail.com](mailto:tonyd433@gmail.com), 860-216-7424.

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## **BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

Each Board and Council have their own by-laws that govern membership. To express an interest in serving on any of the opportunities listed below please contact the Pastor at [frjoseph@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:frjoseph@stpaulkensington.org) or call the Parish Office at 860-828-0331.

**St. Paul School Board** - Advises the Pastor/Principal and provides leadership, assistance and support for the School in the fulfillment of its mission as a center of quality Catholic education within the context of the total parish mission.

**Parish Finance Council** - By Canon Law, every parish must have a Finance Council. The Finance Council is responsible for advising the pastor/team on financial matters. It is expected that there will be an ex-officio link between the Finance Council and Pastoral Council. The Pastoral Council, therefore, is not directly concerned with financial questions of the parish. In addition to the Pastor and two Parish Trustees, five (5) other parishioners serve on the Parish Finance Council.

### **Parish Pastoral Council**

The Pastoral Council is a consultative body (Canon 536, par. 2), which assists the Pastor in his leadership role as shepherd of the Parish. The Pastoral Council represents the interests and needs of the entire Parish community.

## **BOARDS AND COMMITTEES** (continued)

The Pastoral Council:

1. Serves as an instrument for sharing the Mission of Jesus, proclaiming His Word, building His community, celebrating His liturgy and serving His people.
2. Assesses the needs of the Parish and its members
3. Unifies the faith community, drawing forth the gifts and talents of the parishioners.
4. Establishes and serves as a medium of communication between pastoral staff and laity in the spiritual and material needs of the parish community.
5. Discerns changes and focuses efforts needed to make the Parish more faithful to the call of God.
6. Establishes goals and priorities to promote the common good of the Parish.
7. Collaborates with and makes recommendations to the Pastor in the development of spiritual and material matters in the parish.

Ex-officio members are the Pastor, Parochial Vicars, Permanent Deacon(s) assigned to the Parish, at least one Parish Trustee, immediate past Chair of the Council for one year, and other Staff members as deemed necessary by the Pastor and/or Executive Committee. In addition, twelve other parishioners serve on the Council for a three year term and may serve a second term.

**Technology Advisory Committee (TAC)** - The purpose of the TAC is to evaluate the current state of affairs as regards the parish's use of technology and its ongoing technological needs. The TAC offers advise and counsel to the Pastor and Finance Council as decisions are made in this area. The TAC develops and oversees a long range plan that would provide recommendations, guidance, and assistance with the acquisition, implementation, support, and maintenance that would provide for the needs of the parish. Where appropriate the needs of the school would also be incorporated into the overall plan. Sant Paul School has its own long-range plan which includes a Technology Plan. Interest in this committee should be expressed to Chuck Tenza at [tenz5@comcast.net](mailto:tenz5@comcast.net) or to the Parish Office at 860-828-0331.

**Parish Facilities Committee** - This committee consists of volunteers from many areas of expertise. Their goal is to improve the parish buildings and grounds. They take an active role in an ongoing assessment of all parish buildings and property and assist the Pastor and Finance Council in developing long-range plans for the care and maintenance of all buildings and property. For more information and to see if you can be of assistance contact Bob Fischer at [fischer.robort.dawn@snet.net](mailto:fischer.robort.dawn@snet.net).

## SAINT PAUL SCHOOL MINISTRIES



**Alumni Association** - Develops and encourages social and professional relationships among alumni of the school; stimulates interest and support in furthering the development, advancement, and prestige of the school; and provides a means of communication between the school and alumni.

**Booster Club\*\*** - Develops and encourages social and professional relationships and provides financial support for the development of extra-curricular sports and activities at Saint Paul School.

**Development Program** - Helps to secure financial resources for annual support, capital projects, and for the building of endowment of Saint Paul School.

**Saint Paul School Volunteers\*\*** - Volunteers are needed for a wide range of areas including assistance in the office, lunchroom and classrooms, reading to children in the library, and in many other ways. Please contact the principal at [j.conaway@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:j.conaway@stpaulkensington.org) or call the School Office at 860-828-4343.

**Home and School Association\*\*** - Promotes communication and cooperation between parents and school staff and conducts fundraising projects to help the school meet its annual budget objectives.

\*\*VIRTUS Training Required

**School Board** - Advises the Pastor/Principal and provides leadership, assistance and support for the School in the fulfillment of its mission as a center of quality Catholic education within the context of the total parish mission.

## **Mass Schedule**

### **Saturday**

4:00 PM

St. Paul Church

### **Sunday**

7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM & 12 Noon

St. Paul Church

9:30 AM

Sacred Heart Church

### **Weekdays**

7:00 AM & 5:00 PM

St. Paul Church

## **Confession**

### **Saturdays**

8:30-9:30 AM

3:00-4:00 PM

St. Paul Church

## **Adoration**

### **Tuesdays**

4:00—5:00 PM

St. Paul Church

Schedule is subject to change for holidays, holy days and special occasions. Please visit our website for the current schedule.

## **PARISHIONERS WHO ARE ILL, DISABLED OR HOMEBOUND**

Parishioners who are ill or confined to home and would like someone to bring them Holy Communion should contact the Parish Office at 860-828-0331. A visit by one of our priests or a commissioned lay person can then be arranged. Do not delay in calling for a priest when a loved one needs to receive the Sacrament of the Sick. If being admitted to a hospital or other health care facility please notify the parish because those institutions cannot inform us as a result of HIPAA laws.

## **PRAYERS FOR THE SICK OR OTHER SPECIAL INTENTIONS**

If you would like your family member's name to be added to our Prayer List, please call the Parish Office at 860-828-0331.

Some of the Ministries and Organizations listed in this Booklet have requirements for participation. This is especially the case for all of the Liturgical Ministries. In some cases, volunteers or members must participate in an online VIRTUS Training program to help assure the safety and protection of our youth and vulnerable adults. For information about VIRTUS, contact Robin Veronesi at [r.veronesi@stpaulkensington.org](mailto:r.veronesi@stpaulkensington.org) or 860-828-1934.

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## **PASTORAL STAFF**

**Pastor:** Fr. Joseph Benicewicz, OFM Conv.

**Parochial Vicar & Guardian:** Fr. Michael Englert, OFM Conv.

**Parochial Vicar:** Fr. Peter Tymko, OFM Conv.

**Priest in Residence:** Fr. Raymond Borkowski, OFM Conv.

**Deacon:** Don Philip

## **OFFICE STAFF**

**Business Manager:** John Thorpe

**Secretaries:** Flora Sittnick & Joan Vancour

**Maintenance:** Bill DiCicco

**Communications Coordinator:** Maura Gaffney

**Religious Education Director:** Robin Veronesi

**Religious Education Administrative Assistant:** Christina Norton

**Youth Minister:** Dan Tome

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