

AUGUST 20, 2023
**TWENTIETH SUNDAY
 IN ORDINARY TIME**

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Joyously proclaim God's salvation among all nations.

Our readings today resound with the joy that God's love brings to all. In the first reading, God tells the prophet Isaiah, all who keep the sabbath free from profanation and hold to my covenant, them I will bring to my holy mountain and make joyful in my house of prayer. The Lord is announcing that anyone, Jewish or not, who desires the goodness, justice, and love of the covenant, he will consider as his people. He will accept their offerings; he will receive their gratitude for his love, and he will welcome their prayers and sacrifices.

The joyful praise of the nations for God's blessings is found also in today's psalm. It resounds with the delight of the worshipping people in the presence of a loving God: O God, let all the nations praise you!... may your way be known upon earth; among all nations, your salvation.

Paul's message in his letter to the community in Rome echoes, in a way, that of the psalm. Paul is addressing a mix of both Gentile and Jewish Christians – that is, a microcosm of "people of all nations." In the part of the letter we heard today, his words convey that everything they are experiencing as a growing Church is part of God's design. The outpouring of God's mercy is for all.

A clear example of this is found in today's Gospel. A Canaanite woman approaches Jesus and asks for healing for her daughter. This is culturally and religiously shocking because she is an outsider and a woman. The Lord does not immediately give her satisfaction, but upon her expression of confidence and faith he commends her for it. Let it be done for you as you wish, he says, and her daughter is healed.

On one level, this is a beautiful story of the healing of an individual. But on a more profound level, following our other readings for the day, we see that it also points to the healing that God desires for all of his people. It is the grounds and justification for us to reach out in love to one another accordingly.

Where do we more deeply experience our oneness than in the body of Christ? Today, let us give thanks for the real presence of Christ and the salvation he brings for all, that we may go forth and joyously proclaim it to the world.



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| OFFICE HOURS | 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (MON, WED, THU, FRI) |
| WEEKDAY MASSES | 9:00 AM (MON, WED, FRI) |
| SATURDAY VIGIL MASS | 5:00 PM |
| SUNDAY MASSES | 8:00 AM 10:00 AM |
| HOLY DAY MASSES | 9:00 AM 7:00 PM |
| CONFESSIONS | 4:00-4:30 PM, SATURDAY OR BY APPOINTMENT |

ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

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| Saturday | August 19 |
| 8:30 AM | Men's Coffee & Gospel |
| 5:00 PM | Mass: Conversion of All Souls |
| Sunday | August 20 |
| 8:00 AM | Mass: Healing for Alfred |
| 9:15 AM | Rosary |
| 10:00 AM | Mass: Betty Salisbury (RIP) |
| Monday | August 21 |
| 8:35 AM | Rosary |
| 9:00 AM | Mass: Brian O'Reilly (RIP) |
| Wednesday | August 23 |
| 8:35 AM | Rosary |
| 9:00 AM | Mass: Healing for Ali & Margot |
| Friday | August 25 |
| 8:35 AM | Rosary |
| 9:00 AM | Mass: Souls in Purgatory |

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS

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| 5:00 PM | Mass: Living & Deceased Members of the Boivin & Robillard Families |
| 8:00 AM | Mass: Anthony Kachanis (RIP) |
| 10:00 AM | Mass: The Mosca Family (RIP) |

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
 A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST



2023 Faith Formation Classes

The new session 2023-24 Faith Formation for all grades will begin at the end of September. Registration forms will be mailed out soon. Please return them as soon as possible so that we can order the appropriate amount of materials for each class.

Faith Formation is a continuous and life-long experience. Our Formation classes begin with the first grade and continue through the Confirmation program in high school.

If you have a child entering first grade, or if you are new to St. Paul's Parish, please call or email the office at 401-647-3664 faith@stpaulsfoster.org.

Wedding Anniversary Celebration

The Office of Marriage Preparation & Enrichment is hosting the annual Wedding Anniversary Celebration to honor couples of the Diocese of Providence observing their 25th, 40th, 50th and OVER anniversaries in 2023. The celebration will be held October 22, 2023, 1:00PM at the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul.. Please let the parish know if you will attend.

Mission Appeal Talk MARYKNOLL LAY MISSIONERS

Kip Hardgrave will speak at all masses this weekend, **August 19-20** to share his mission experience as part of the Diocese of Providence's Mission Coop Plan.

The **second collection this weekend will be in support Maryknoll Lay Missioners**. Your generous donations will allow MLM to prepare and sustain laypeople in global mission and help build a more just, compassionate and sustainable world.

GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection – Aug 12/13
\$2,335.00

Monthly 2nd Collection - Aug 12/13
\$1,454.00

Thank you for your support!

Prayer Request from Fr. Laporte

So often, I have asked you to pray for the priest—pray for me as I endure 44 radiation treatments five days a week for nine weeks. I have had prostate cancer for four years, but now it is getting more serious. The treatment begins August 17 and ends October 19. With radiation, there is an 85% chance that I will be cured—so pray for the priest through these days .

Fr. Paul Laporte

The Eucharistic Adoration

As the Fruit of The Eucharistic Revival, now onwards on the last Sunday of each month, we will have The Eucharistic Adoration with the Recitation of the Holy Rosary and Benediction after the 10AM Mass, **Sunday August 27.**

Our Lord hears our prayers anywhere, but He has revealed to His servants that those who visit Him in the Eucharist will obtain a more abundance of grace. (St. Alphonsus Ligouri)

2023 Christmas Bazaar Dec 2/3

Main Raffle Prizes

- \$1000 Gift Card Tree
- Ninja Foodi Digital Air Fry Oven
- MICLON 27.5" Electric Bike
- A-Frame 17ft Telescoping Ladder

Thank you to the **26 people** who took envelopes. **We need 14 more** to donate **\$25** toward **\$1000 Gift Card Tree**. If you are able to donate please take one of the red envelopes in the entrance of the church and return your \$25 cash or check to St. Paul's either to the office or in the collection basket. **Thank you** for your support!

We will be asking for **Table Items:**
Hand Made Items
'NEW' Items for Penny Social Table
Gently Used Jewelry
Empty Jewelry Boxes

ADOPT-A-STATION

Thank you to the Parish families who signed up to adopt one of the prayer garden stations. We are very thankful for the help. The first thing to take care of is weeding around the station you choose. If we can get that taken care of by end of August then we can see what if anything is needed. Having an easy maintainable and yet beautiful space is the goal. Contact the office with any questions and or after you have had a chance to weed, let us know what supplies you might need. Thank you!

The Wonders of The Mass

Priests—Angels on Earth

God Rewards Those Who Help Priests

A humble shopkeeper lived in a small town in Ireland with his wife and son. They had very little of this world's goods, but they were devout and went to Mass as often as they could.

A young priest, through ill health and over-study, lost his mental balance and was unable to perform his priestly duties. He wandered from place to place, gentle and sweet, giving no one trouble.

The good shopkeeper proposed to his wife to give him a little room in their modest house and give him food. The priest gladly accepted their kind invitation and spent some years with them, going and coming at his will.

Before death he regained the use of his reason and, sitting up in his deathbed, called on God most fervently to bless abundantly these good people: "Give them, dear Lord, a thousandfold for all they have given me, Your priest. Bless them spiritually and bless them temporally." So saying, he died.

Wonderful to say, that modest shopkeeper grew in wealth and prosperity, so that his son became a millionaire, and four of his sisters became nuns and four of his wife's sisters became nuns. He himself lived to a ripe old age.

Those who contribute generously to the education of students for the priesthood receive great rewards, for they could not possibly do anything greater than offer a good priest to God. No one on this Earth can give God as much glory as a devout priest.

~Father Paul O'Sullivan, O.P.



Elevator Project Update

We are in need of an architect to work on our elevator project. Our original plan fell through. Please ask around if anyone knows someone who could help us out please call the office or speak to Fr. Dore. Thank you!