

**SOCIAL CONCERNS (continued)**—

A shelter for the homeless is provided on Friday evenings in the spring each year.

Each fall the committee holds a Garage Sale to raise funds in order to provide scholarships for inner-city children attending Sacred Heart School in Newark.

Many, many volunteers are needed throughout the year. Please consider joining this immensely rewarding ministry.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE**—This ministry focuses on the seven themes of Social Justice in the Catholic Church, taking action where necessary.

**ST. PAUL INTERPAROCHIAL SCHOOL**—St. Paul is one of four sponsoring parishes of St. Paul Interparochial School. We welcome volunteers to assist us in many of our fund raising and school activities.

**WEBSITE TEAM**—Participants update news stories, photos and events on the parish website. The ministry is perfect for people who enjoy computers, Church news and surfing the web.

**WHY CATHOLIC**—Why Catholic is an adult faith formation program, developed from the Catechism of the Catholic Church, exploring the

**WHY CATHOLIC**—four pillars of faith —Creed, Liturgy & Sacraments, Morality, and Prayer—in a small group setting. There are opportunities to participate or lead a group.

**YOUTH MINISTRY**—Do you feel called to work with the youth of our parish? Do you wish to have an impact on their lives? Our active and enthusiastic Youth Ministry involves students in grades 7 through 12. Adult volunteers are always needed to help in various events throughout the year.



**St. Paul Church  
Mission Statement**

*We are Catholic Christians who embrace the plan of God for our salvation. We come together in faith to worship in a loving community. We are moved by the Holy Spirit to witness to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We wish to live out the vision of Jesus expressed in the Beatitudes as it unfolds in our daily life, through time, talent and treasure.*

# St. Paul Church



## Ministry Booklet

Dear Parishioner of St. Paul:

As Church, the People of God, each member is brought into participation in the mission and ministry of Christ. Through baptism, we come into a family of faith. As members of this family, we are called to continue Jesus' work in our part of this world and at this moment in time. We have all been graced by God with gifts, interests and skills and we are called to share these diverse talents and abilities with others in our community. Community is at the heart of our mission and our Christian identity and it needs dedicated and caring parishioners like you to consciously and continually build it up through your generous, active participation.

I invite you to read through this booklet which contains brief descriptions of the many, active ministries of our parish. With an open heart and mind, prayerfully listen to God's call to ministry within your life. I trust that God will lead you to a commitment that is meaningful, rewarding and fulfilling.

Thank you for the many ways you serve and contribute to the life of our parish community. May God continue to bless you and your family, as well as your commitment and work in ministry. Remember that God will not be outdone in generosity.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. Lawrence W. Cull  
Pastor

**We invite you to read through the brief descriptions of our Parish ministries. Please complete the center response page and return it to the Parish Center. Every family member interested in serving in ministry should complete a separate form. Additional forms are available on our website at [www.stpaulparishlife.org](http://www.stpaulparishlife.org). For further information on any ministry, please contact the Parish Center at (201) 327-0976 or email at [StPaulRCChurch@yahoo.com](mailto:StPaulRCChurch@yahoo.com).**

**ALTAR SERVERS**—Altar servers assist the priest in the celebration of Mass. This ministry is open to youth in the fifth grade through adults of all ages. Adult altar servers typically serve weekday and funeral liturgies. Youth altar servers typically serve our weekend liturgies.

**BAPTISM TEAM**—Volunteers are needed to help prepare parents for the baptism of their child through prayer, reflection and faith sharing. Baptism team members also assist at the celebration of the sacrament.

**BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY**—Our Bereavement support group provides a spiritual, caring, and supportive group environment for those who grieve the death of a

**BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY (continued)**—loved one. The group meets monthly.

**CORNERSTONE**—Cornerstone is an overnight retreat for adults, held separately for men and women, which provides an opportunity for prayer, reflection, faith sharing and spiritual renewal. The retreat team is comprised of participants from past retreats who commit to sharing faith, love of the Lord, life experiences and enthusiasm with members of our faith community. The women of our parish gather the first weekend in February, the men gather the first weekend of March.

**CURSILLO**—The Cursillo retreat experience is one where participants attend a three-day weekend retreat to deepen their faith. Participants continue the experience by gathering periodically for faith sharing.

**DEVOTIONAL PRAYER --** Many prayer experiences are provided for all members of our parish. The Rosary is prayed each day after daily Mass at 12 Noon. Eucharistic Adoration is offered on the First Friday of each month, followed by Benediction. The Living Rosary is offered at various times of the year. Stations of the Cross are offered on Fridays during Lent.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (continued):**  
**CATECHIST**—

Sacramental Preparation catechists are needed for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist preparation for our 2nd grade students.

Our High School students prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation during 9th and 10th grade. We welcome catechists to work with the youth in our parish to give them example of what it means to be committed to discipleship.

**TEACHER'S AIDE**—Are you not quite ready to teach? You could always be an assistant to the catechist. We welcome volunteers from grade 6 up to adult.

**SENIOR MINISTRY**—This rewarding ministry serves and supports our senior community through networking and reaching out. It's goal is to meet the needs of the frail and the homebound, the isolated and the suffering as well as those who maintain an active and involved lifestyle. It offers many opportunities for social and spiritual gatherings, in addition to providing transportation and other assistance. The senior ministry team meets periodically to plan events.

**SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES**—Our existing small Christian communities began in conjunction with the RENEW program and continued to meet after RENEW was completed. These groups participate in scripture reflection, faith sharing and prayer.

**SOCIAL CONCERNS**—A caring, compassionate and active social concerns committee is present here at St. Paul. There are many different avenues from which you can serve on this committee with varying time commitments. The committee meets on the first Tuesday evening of each month.

Providing food and meal assistance to those in need is an important aspect of this ministry. Activities include stocking our own food pantry, cooking and serving meals at several soup kitchens, providing meals to HIV/AIDS patients, providing groceries to families at Easter and Thanksgiving, and distributing grocery certificates.

Our entire parish is reliably generous in supporting various collections organized by the social concerns committee such as the annual Christmas Giving Tree and school supplies each September.

**NOCTURNAL ADORATION**—Eucharistic adoration and prayer at the Adorno Fathers Chapel on the first Friday of each month from 9:00 to 10:00 pm.

**PARISH OFFICE VOLUNTEERS**—Do you like being in an office environment? Do you have skills you are willing to share? Volunteers are also always needed to help out with the many bulk mailings that are sent from our parish.

**PARISH PICNIC**—Our parish gathers annually with delicious food, beverages, games and entertainment. Come, enjoy and meet people! Volunteers are needed to help plan and organize the event.

**PRINCE OF PEACE PRAYER GROUP**—Meets weekly in the Church on Thursday evenings for prayer, fellowship and to be open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit. This welcoming group's focus is praise, scripture, teaching and intercessory prayer.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)**—The RCIA is the process through which adults are fully initiated in the Catholic faith community. Catechumens, those who have never been baptized in the Christian Church, meet weekly with the RCIA team

**RCIA (continued)**—for prayer, reflection, scripture study and faith sharing. Candidates, those who have been baptized and are seeking full communion into the Church, also meet weekly for spiritual and catechetical growth. Do you want to share your faith and love of God with others? Join our team. Are you interested in becoming Catholic or do you want to explore more about the Catholic faith? Become a participant.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**—Do you wish to make a difference in the lives of the children of our parish through sharing of your faith, your spirituality, and your love of the Lord? There are many ways to become involved in Religious Education. Training, materials and guidance are provided to all catechists.

**CATECHIST**—Volunteer teachers are needed in many different programs.

For children in grades Kindergarten through 4, we offer a Summer Program and Sunday Covenant Program. For our annual Summer Program, volunteers are needed to teach enrichment classes such as prayer, yoga, film, Bible stories, and art.

Our 5th grade and Junior High Program is held weekday evenings during the school year.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**—Eucharistic Ministers serve our faith community in many ways. They distribute the Eucharist at masses on Sundays, weekdays and Holy Days. Eucharistic ministers also visit and bring the Eucharist to those in the hospital or who are homebound. Eucharistic Ministers must be at least 18 years of age and go through a period of prayerful discernment before entering this ministry. Training is provided and periodic days of reflection and renewal are offered for all those who are accepted into this ministry.

**FAMILY MASS TEAM**—During the school year, Family Mass is celebrated at 9:00 am on Sundays. Join our Family Mass team which helps organize, plan and prepare the liturgies which are planned for children and their families.

**GREETERS/USHERS**—Greeters and Ushers provide a welcoming atmosphere at our liturgies by greeting parishioners as they enter our Church and distributing bulletins as they leave. The ushers assist in seating parishioners and in taking up the collection. Ushers and greeters also maintain the literature racks and bulletin boards.

**HEALTH MINISTRY**—Are you a health professional who is willing to help promote the wellness of the

**HEALTH MINISTRY (continued)**—whole person—body, mind and spirit? This ministry offers blood pressure screenings at various times of the year and also organizes blood drives.

**HOSPITALITY MINISTRY**—The Hospitality Ministry provides a warm and welcoming atmosphere at many of our gatherings and social activities. They organize and plan events such as our New Parishioner Welcome Breakfasts and Christmas Open Houses. They provide bottomless cups of coffee and delicious treats for many of our parish functions.

**JOURNEY GROUP**—Our Journey Group meets on a weekly basis and is designed to help participants grow in their spirituality through prayer, reflection, discussion and sharing. Many forms of prayer are explored and experienced and group spiritual direction is provided.

**LAZARUS MINISTRY**—Another one of our ministries which provides support to the families who have lost a loved one is our dedicated and compassionate Lazarus ministry. A member of the Lazarus ministry will meet with the immediate family to help bring comfort and to pray, to help

**LAZARUS MINISTRY**

**(continued)**—plan the funeral liturgy, and to assist at the wake and funeral.

**LECTORS**—Lectors read the Word of God and Prayers of the Faithful at Sunday and weekday liturgies. Lectors are scheduled several times a quarter for Sunday liturgies and voluntarily serve for weekday, special and seasonal liturgies. Training and materials are provided for all Lectors upon acceptance into this ministry.

**LITURGY COMMITTEE**—Members decorate the church worship space to highlight the different liturgical seasons. They also discuss ways to encourage more active participation by the assembly at Mass. Creativity and fresh ideas are welcome.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION**—Volunteers in this ministry assist engaged couples in preparing for the sacrament of marriage. The preparation consists of a couple-to-couple dynamic, whereby the sponsor couple shares their experiences and wisdom about the sacramental and practical aspects of marriage.

**MOMMY AND ME**—Moms with young children ages infant to 5 gather together with their children in a social environment to build friendships within our parish community.

**MUSIC MINISTRY:**

**ADULT CHOIR**—Our adult choir enhances our community’s worship and participation through song at our 10:30 am Mass on Sundays. Seasonal concerts are also presented. Our adult choir rehearses weekly.

**CHILDREN’S CHOIR**—Our children’s choir is open to all children in grades 2 to 5. The children in this choir, sharing their joy and faith through song, sing at our 9:00 am Family Mass during the school year. The choir also participates in seasonal concerts and our Christmas pageant. Rehearsals are weekly.

**HOSANNA CHOIR**— The Hosanna Choir is open to youth from grade 6 up through adults of any age. This joy-filled, enthusiastic, multi-generational praise group, accompanied by instrumentalists, provides music in our 12 Noon liturgy. This choir rehearses weekly and participates in seasonal concerts.

**RESURRECTION CHOIR**— This choir is another ministry that offers support and comfort to the bereaved through their presence at funeral liturgies.

**INSTRUMENTALISTS**—Can you play an instrument? Consider joining our music ministry and sharing your gifts and talents.

MINISTRY	NEW	RECOMMIT	CHANGE
Lectors			
Liturgy Committee			
Marriage Preparation			
Mommy and Me			
Music Ministry			
Adult Choir			
Children’s Choir			
Hosanna Choir			
Resurrection Choir			
Instrumentalists			
Nocturnal Adoration			
Parish Office Volunteers			
Parish Picnic			
Prince of Peace Prayer Group			
RCIA			
Religious Education			
Catechist			
Teacher’s Aide			
Senior Ministry			
Small Christian Communities			
Social Concerns			
Social Justice			
St. Paul Interparochial School			
Website Team			
Why Catholic			
Youth Ministry			

*Kindly print your personal information. We invite you to volunteer for ministry, recommit to ministries you are already involved in or change your status. Please place an "x" in the appropriate box.*

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

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MINISTRY	NEW	RECOMMIT	CHANGE
Altar Servers			
Baptism Team			
Bereavement Ministry			
Cornerstone			
Cursillo			
Devotional Prayer			
Eucharistic Ministers			
Mass			
Homebound Visits			
Hospital Visits			
Family Mass Team			
Greeters/Ushers			
Health Ministry			
Hospitality Ministry			
Journey Group			
Lazarus Ministry			