

NEW YORK CITY

*From 59th and 9th
The Pastoral Corner*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ –

Merry Christmas! As the great Christmas feast approaches, so many feel drawn back to the Church. And, we too feel drawn back to the Lord. We trust that it is the Lord who calls us!

I invite you to become a missionary this Christmas! Like our patron, Saint Paul and the founder of the Paulists, Servant of God, Father Isaac Hecker!

On November 7, 1857, the year before founding the Paulists, Father Hecker wrote a letter to his brother's wife, Mrs. George Hecker describing the Mamertime prison in Rome at which he offered mass (the prison at which Saints Peter and Paul were imprisoned by the Emperor Nero): "The pillar to which they were chained, and the fountain remains which sprang up miraculously at their feet, in whose waters they baptized their jailors and twenty-seven soldiers".

The miraculous spring reflected what was happening in the hearts of the jailors and Roman soldiers! Their hearts were opened by Christ and by the apostles' zeal! Peter and Paul baptized them! Father Hecker was inspired by the apostles' zeal and hoped that same kind of enthusiasm might be part of his mission to the people of America. The mission of the Paulists and the parish is to allow that same zeal of the apostles and now, Servant of God, Father Hecker to help us share our faith.

In many of the programs and events at Saint Paul's, we meet so many who were "once Catholic" and not anymore or people who have always wanted to come into the Church, but never found the right time or moment. By the grace of God, when a person who has been waiting for the right time to step into the Church actually comes in, perhaps it is the Lord who has called him or her.

We join the mission of Peter and Paul and Father Hecker and let the Lord use us to reach out to all who are looking for God. We offer art exhibits, concerts, a myriad of adult formation programs, a vibrant young adult ministry, a parents' "time out" to pray, a ministry to gay and lesbian Catholics, Saint Vincent de Paul programs, Loaves & Fishes soup kitchen, Homeless Shelter, a Senior Ministry program and even an occasional beer at a local bar with the opportunity to talk about faith & spirituality.

Become a missionary by participating in the mission of Father Hecker, who was so inspired by the "zeal" of Peter and Paul who baptized rough and tumble jailors and soldiers. Invite a friend or family member to Church for the celebration of the God who chose to live in us. Don't invite them to convert them, to make them better Catholics, or because we are better Catholics – invite them because we have been made brothers and sisters by the God who chose to come to us, in the flesh. When you invite someone, maybe it is in fact, the Lord, the miraculous spring who is calling them.

Christmas is less than a week away! Some will travel to family homes and some on academic break from Julliard, Fordham or Columbia will travel to visit family & friends. Be assured of our prayers for your safe travel and for joyful celebrations of Christmas.

May the Prince of Peace Bless You Always! Merry Christmas!

Father Gil

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

EVENTS @ ST. PAUL'S



Church Christmas Decorating December 19, 2010

Join us as we decorate the Church for Christmas. The Young Adult Choir will lead us in singing Christmas carols and serve snacks to volunteers. Please meet in the back of the Church **following the 5:15 Mass**.

Feast of the Nativity of the Lord December 24 - 25, 2010



Christmas Eve
**5:15 pm Children's Pageant
& Mass**
11 pm Choir Concert
12 am Midnight Mass

Christmas Day
10 am Mass (English)
12:30 pm Mass (Spanish)

New Years Eve Concert & Mass December 31, 2010

Please join us New Year's Eve as we welcome the *Empire State Sinfonia* and the *New York Festival Singers*. The group will perform Johann Strauss' Overture to *Die Fledermaus*, Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Tallis Fantasia*, and Ludwig van Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*.

"Founded in 2010, the *Empire State Sinfonia* is an exciting classical music organization dedicated to giving concert performances of the highest caliber. We're also socially proactive and firmly believe that a symphony orchestra is an integral part of its' community. To that end, we are planning to be involved in a variety of charitable endeavors throughout New York, both musical and extra-musical. It is our intent to be a resource for the New York City area, and to offer opportunities, education and enlightenment while engaging our community in an ongoing dialogue through the world of classical music."

The Concert will take place in the **Church at 7 pm** and will be immediately followed by the **10 pm New Year's Eve Mass**.

MINISTRY ACTIVITIES



Born is the King
THE APOSTOLIST ADVENT 2010 SEASON

December 19th

St. Paul's Christmas Decorating: Tis the season for helping with the decoration of the church for the Christmas season. Join us in fellowship as the Young Adult Choir leads us in carols. Snacks will also be provided. Meet in the back of church **after 5:15 pm Mass**.

For information about these and future events, go to www.apostolist.com

OUT @ STPAUL

Out @ St Paul (OSP) is the Gay & Lesbian ministry of our Parish—St. Paul the Apostle in New York City—which seeks to engage our Catholic faith through service to our community, social activities and the exploration of Catholic spirituality.

Christmas Gift Wrapping

Join the members of the OSP team in fellowship with the Apostolist Young Adult Ministry for this year's gift-wrapping party. We will be wrapping gifts given from this year's *Giving Tree* to go to the youth of the Green Chimney's community. Green Chimneys is a non-profit organization which operates residential, educational, and social services programs designed specifically for LGBTQ youth. Come join us and make Christmas brighter for these young people and experience some holiday cheer along the way. All are welcome!

Sunday, December 19th – following the 5:15 pm Mass
Meet in the back of the Church

For information about upcoming events during the Winter 2010 season, please keep checking our website for updates at www.outatstpaul.org

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

As we enter the busy Winter Season, the Liturgical Ministries committee is looking for Eucharistic Ministers for the **Sunday 8 am Mass**. Serving as a Eucharistic Minister will not only increase your respect and reverence for the Eucharist under both species, but also allow you to participate in the full ritual beauty of ministering communion to your fellow parishioners. Only **one class** is necessary. If you are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister for the 8 am Mass, please contact Douglas Benoit at benoit@stpaultheapostle.org or Ed Pouzar at ed.pouzar@gmail.com

MUSTARD SEED GUILD

Next year's mission trip to the Hogar Belén orphanages in Nicaragua is scheduled for the week of August 13 – 20, 2011. Our next planning meeting will be **Tuesday, January 4th at 7 p.m. in the Parish Center**. Anyone who is interested in participating in this ministry is welcome.

For more information about Mustard Seed Communities, the mission trip or how you can help, please email us at mustardseedguildny@gmail.com

WELCOME CENTER BOOKSTORE

Last Minute Special Gift Ideas

Gift Book Selections

The Splendors of the Magnificat: An Artistic, spiritual, and musical journey through the centuries. An Audio CD of 11 renditions of the AN ELEGANT, EASY-TO-USE ART BOOK will accompany you into the world of art, music, and meditation for **\$24.99**. This includes:

- A selection of more than 50 high-quality reproductions of art masterpieces, architecture, and sculpture.
- Penetrating commentaries on each artistic creation.
- Insightful presentations on each composer's life and works.
- Eleven inspiring meditations on the verses of the Magnificat by Father Daniel P. Barron, O.M.V

The Catholic Prayer Bible: Lectio Divina Edition NRSV in paperback or hardcover.

Christmas Gift Set: Includes a CD of the *Chants of Christmas* and *O Christmas Tree* and beloved Christmas Classics by O. Henry, Tolstoy and Dickens for **\$34.95**.

Weekly Christmas Specials

Any Nativity over \$100 retail **40% off!**

For the person with everything, give them the gifts of Christmas, Frankincense Myrrh and Gold, Candle Gift Set with Christmas Book Regularly **\$34.95**, this week at **\$25**.



SHARING OUR HERITAGE

If you are a parent raising children in the city and would like to meet other parents in order to share your faith with one another and your children, please join us. Our next meeting will be **Sunday, December 19th** following the 10 am Mass in **Room 101 of the Parish Center**. Babysitting and snacks will be provided for children and coffee and donuts for parents. Please contact Fr. Jack Collins at fatherjack@stpaultheapostle.org for more information or to sign up. All are welcome!

WHY BECOME CATHOLIC?

People decide to become Catholics because they think they will find in the Catholic Church something they are looking for. During the ceremony on November 7th, at which we welcomed them into our adult initiation program, we asked them to tell us what they are seeking. Here are the answers some of them gave:

I would like to have a spiritual relationship with God to better serve myself, my family and the community.

~ Yolanda Sandoval

In becoming Catholic I wish to learn about Jesus and practice his teachings in my everyday life. I wish to become a better person and be closer to my family. I wish to learn to better serve others and to be closer to God.

~ Art Smith

THURSDAY EVENING PRAYER GROUP

Please come and join us for prayer on Thursday evenings at 7 pm in the Parish Center Room 203. We pray for all intentions given to us during the week. If you would like us to pray for you or a loved one, please put your intentions in the "Book of Prayer" located in front of the large crucifix in the north aisle of the church. All are welcome!

PRAYER OF HEART & BODY

The new series of Prayer of Heart & Body classes will begin **February 1, 2011**. This class approaches movement prayer from a Christian perspective, following the liturgical seasons, drawing on the rich tradition of Christian chant, scripture, and contemplative meditation. The course moves progressively from week to week, as participants build strength, balance and flexibility.

Class meets **6:30 to 8:15 pm** in the Parish Center. The fee is \$15 per class (\$7 for students with ID). Please register with the receptionist at (212) 265-3495. For more information, call the instructor, Amy Russell, at (212) 496-7934 or email amy russell2@hotmail.com

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CENTERING PRAYER

Practice Christian meditation and chant as inspired by the monks and desert fathers - be drawn to a life of increased creativity, vitality and substance, in these times of turmoil and confusion. The next meeting is this **Wednesday, December 22nd, 6 - 8:30 pm** at the Parish Center. These meditation sessions are held every Wednesday evening. There is no fee - join us for whole or part session.

Please RSVP at meditativeprayer@aol.com.

UPDATE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS



If you would like to receive email updates about Parish events and activities, please take a moment to update your email address with us. Please contact Douglas Benoit in the Parish Center Offices at (212) 265-3495, ext. 344 or email benoit@stpaultheapostle.org with your full name, email address and phone number.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

WHO ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

Are you a woman 18-35 who is exploring a call to religious life? We offer a discernment opportunity for women to journey with others who are exploring entering religious life. You will have the opportunity to journey with others and meet sisters of different religious communities and get to know their community life, prayer and ministries.

Meetings will be held on FIVE Sundays during the year. Our next meeting is on **January 12, 2011** at the Villa Maria Academy in Bronx, NY. For additional information and registration, please contact Sr. Deanna Sabetta, CND at sr.deanna.sabetta@archny.org or call (212) 371-1011, ext. 2803.

CHORAL VESPERS

For the Feast of the Lord's Baptism

Please join us on **Sunday, January 9th at 4 pm** at Corpus Christi Church for a Choral Vespers concert for the Feast of the Lord's Baptism. The Church is located at 529, West 121st Street between Amsterdam and Broadway.

The Choir will perform music by Bach, Lassus and Marenzio. The choir of Corpus Christi Church is under the direction of Louise Basbas and Matthew Lewis is guest organist. For more information, call (212) 666-9350 or go to www.corpus-christi-nyc.org or . All are welcome!

STILL SMOKING?

The New York State Medicaid Benefit can help you quit smoking today. If you are enrolled in Medicaid, Managed Care, or Family Health Plus, you can get quit-smoking medications for as little as \$0.50 to \$6.00. Covered medications include nicotine patches and gum, nicotine inhalers and nasal spray, Chantix, and Zyban.

To learn more about the NYS Medicaid Benefit, please visit www.nyc.gov/quitsmokingtoday or call 311 today.

EDUCATION FOR PARENTING

Gain new information, skills and meet a supportive, understanding group of other parents who are striving to raise faith-filled children in today's world. Discover our **Leadership Training** program at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, NY. The program will be offered **Saturdays in 2011: 1/22, 2/5, and 2/12**.

Please call Eileen Murphy, the Family Life/Respect Life Office Coordinator for Parenting Education, at (212) 371-1011, ext. 3191 for a brochure or for additional information.

A TIME TO HEAL

The Frank E. Campbell Funeral Chapel is holding a series of Five Discussions on Death, Dying, Bereavement, and Loss at their 1076 Madison Avenue location. The next discussion group, "Grief and Remembering: Continuing the Connection," will take place on **March 10th** and will be led by Dr. Kenneth J. Doka, Ph.D. This session will explore the process of grief -- helping us to find healthy ways to retain a connection as we understand our journey with grief.

Please contact George Amato at (212) 288-3500 or george.amato@sci-us.com or Dominic Carella at dominic.carella@sci-us.com to register.

PREGNANCY & ADOPTION SERVICES

If you know anyone who is experiencing concerns associated with unintended pregnancy, and would like information regarding and adoption plan, please contact Catholic Guardian Society and Home Bureau's (CGSHB) Masternity Services Department. We are able to provide non-judgemental, non-directive counseling and clients will receive information on all their parenting options, including adoption. Maternity services social workers are available to schedule visits with the client at a convenient location, either and office setting, the client's home or at a site requested by the client. For information, please call (212) 371-1011, ext. 2153 or toll free at 1-800-592-4357. Bilingual services are also available at (212) 371-1000, ext. 2238.

DIRECTIVA PASTORAL

Padre Gilbert S. Martinez, CSP, Parroco

Diacono Waldemar Sandoval
Gina Delgado: Coro Hispano



Misa Hispana: Domingo 12:30 pm
Cura Ultraya Cursillista: Domingo 1:30 pm

Confesiones: Llame por cita
Telefono: (212) 265-3495

Estimado Hermanos en Cristo –

Éste es el último domingo antes de la Navidad. Encendemos los cuatro cirios de la corona de Adviento y el tono de las lecturas y las oraciones cambia. El profeta Isaías anuncia el nacimiento del Mesías y el Evangelio nos relata el encuentro de José e un angel del Señor.

El Adviento está lleno de imágenes marianas. Pero el evangelio de hoy nos da una vista de la lucha de José. En un sueño, Dios le habla por su mensajero, un angel de su vocación en una manera personal, sencilla, y directa:

“José, hijo de David, no dudes en recibir en tu casa a María, tu esposa, porque ella ha concebido por obra del Espíritu Santo. Dará a luz un hijo y tú pondrás el nombre de Jesús, porque él salvará a su pueblo de sus pecados.”(Mateo 1:22)

José creyó que era Dios que le habló en su sueño y que se cumpliría en él la Palabra del Señor, y se sometió a la voluntad de Dios. Podemos preguntarnos: "¿Estamos abiertos a la voluntad de Dios en nuestras vidas? ¿Permitimos que se cumpla Dios sus promesas o en sus sueños para nosotros?"

La Misa en español celebrando la Natividad de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo es a las 12:30 PM el próximo sábado. También este año celebramos la Misa del Gallo a las medianoche y con un concierto a las 11 PM. Todos son bienvenidos.

¡Que Dios les bendiga por su hijo Jesús, Príncipe de Paz y Señor de Señores, Hijo de Dios e Hijo de María, Jesús, Salvador y Redentor! ¡Feliz Navidad!

¡La Paz! Padre Gil

LA NATIVIDAD DEL SEÑOR

Viernes- 25 de Diciembre - Noche Buena

5:15 pm Misa para las Familias

11 pm Concierto con el Coro

12 am Misa del Gallo

Sábado - 25 de Diciembre - La Navidad

10 am Misa en inglés

12:30 pm Misa en español

DECORANDO LA IGLESIA

Vamos a decorar la Iglesia para las celebraciones navideñas el próximo domingo 19 de Diciembre después de la misa de 5:15 PM comenzando aproximadamente a las 6:30 pm. Todos están invitados. Gracias por su apoyo!

CELEBRA LAS POSADAS

Habrà una Posada el próximo domingo, 19 de diciembre después de la misa, iniciando a las 1:30 pm y terminando a las 5:00 pm. Entrada es por donación y niños son gratis. Ven y disfruten la anticipación de la Navidad comida Mexicana, piñatas, y canticos.

Lecturas para la semana del 19 de diciembre de 2010

Domingo:	Is 7, 10-14/Rom 1, 1-7/Mt 1, 18-24
Lunes:	Is 7, 10-14/Lc 1, 26-38
Martes:	Cant 2, 8-14 o Sof 3, 14-18/Lc 1, 39-45
Miércoles:	1 Sm 1, 24-28/Lc 1, 46-56
Jueves:	Mal 3, 1-4. 23-24/Lc 1, 57-66
Viernes:	En la Misa matutina: 2 Sm 7, 1-5. 8-12. 14. 16/Lc 1, 67-79
Sábado:	Misa vespertina de la vigilia: Is 62, 1-5/ Hch 13, 16-17. 22-25/Mt 1, 1-25 o 1, 18-25
	Misa de medianoche: Is 9, 1-3. 5-6/Tit 2, 11-14/Lc 2, 1-14
	Misa de la aurora: Is 62, 11-12/Tit 3, 4-7/ Lc 2, 15-20
	Misa del día: Is 52, 7-10/Heb 1, 1-6/Jn 1, 1-18 o 1, 1-5. 9-14
Domingo siguiente:	Eclo 3, 3-7. 14-17/Col 3, 12-21 o 3, 12-17/ Mt 2, 13-15. 19-23



Saturday, December 18

8:30 †Olga Gobaira de Checo
 5:15 Venerable Henriette Dellille, SSF

Sunday, December 19

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 †Elisa Quinonez
 10:00 For the People
 12:30 †Colombia Taveras
 5:15 †Norah & Douglas Horne

Monday, December 20

7:30 †Maura Pontejos
 12:10 †Mary Thomas

Tuesday, December 21

Peter Canisius, priest & doctor

7:30 †Sarno & Fentueth
 12:10 †Maria Del Carmen Seara

Wednesday, December 22

7:30 †Carmen Rose Londono
 12:10 †David Colon

Thursday, December 23

John of Kanty, priest

7:30 †Inorvia Saadee
 12:10 †Filipe & Catherine Krupa

Friday, December 24

7:30 †Kurt Brummund
 12:10 †Mick Campbell

Saturday, December 25

Nativity of the Lord

12:00 †Frances A. Pouzar
 †Amelia & Joseph Grebowski
 10:00 For the People

Let us Pray for Our Sick

Michele Blanco, Jack Cacomanolis, Jose & Clemencia Garcia, Teresa Guevara, Isabel Iondoño, Lina Melendez, Liza Ann Montero, Melba Ortiz, Juan C. & Ruth Ospina, Kathleen Ryan, Esther & Lucy Salgado, Rafael Salinas, Antonio Silva, Natan Sheyer, Leslie Smith, Abe Steingart, Ann Nolan, Mary Kovack, Francisco Gerdy, Carrie Bullock, Marie Starr, Tracy Manning, Jenny Young, Raymond Lopez, Peter O'Rourke, Joan Gonzalez, Marie Rose Marguerite Moze, Jasmin Mania, Luis Guzman, Jose Lorenzo Aegura, Enriquillo Menoz, Ramunto Iban Bosoh, Serangely, Ana Torres, Angeline Roselli, Vickie Ward, Ray Lopez, Luisa Jaquez, Nicole Giral, Tom Matovic, Myriam Garcia, Sally Ann, Maria Luisa Alfaro, & Veronica Mendoza.

Let us Pray for Our Deceased

Maria Azzona

Please remember in prayer the following Paulist fathers, the anniversary (day/year) of whose death is this week (*denotes served at St. Paul's): Joseph M. O'Looney (12/21/2006), Stanley F. MacNevin (12/21/2008), ISAAC THOMAS HECKER, Founder* (12/22/1888), J. Basil Doyle* (12/22/1969), Thomas F. Tierney (12/24/1972), Douglas R. Haggin, student (12/25/1962), & Bernard W. Lohmann* (12/25/1993).

**A Word from Servant of God, Father Isaac Hecker, CSP
 Founder of the Paulists and First Pastor of our Parish
 (1819-1888)**

“The Church will present herself to their minds as the practical means of establishing the complete reign of the Holy Spirit in the soul, and consequently of bringing the kingdom of heaven upon earth. This is the ideal conception of Christianity, entertained by all sincere believers in Christ among non-Catholics in Europe and the United States. This exposition, and an increased action of the Holy Spirit in the Church co-operating therewith, would complete their conviction of the divine character of the Church.”

Readings for the Week of December 19, 2010

Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24
 Monday: Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38
 Tuesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45
 Wednesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56
 Thursday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66
 Friday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79
 Saturday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
 Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
 Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
 Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-7, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

**PARISH SUPPORT
 Stewardship Information**

Thank you for your generosity

<u>Receipts:</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Sunday, December 12:	\$8,795	\$18,281
Collection for Retired Religious	\$3,572	

Become a Registered Parishioner

If you worship with us regularly and would like to be registered as a parishioner, please fill out the form below and return to our church offices or place in one of the collection baskets or boxes.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER(S):(home) _____

(cell) _____ (work) _____

EMAIL: _____