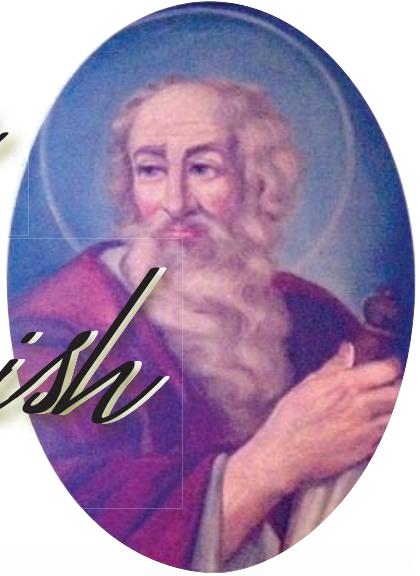


St. Paul the Apostle Parish



Lincoln Park

Fr. Leonard F. Villa, Pastor

Fr. George Valliamthadathil, M.S.F.S.

Deacon Rudolph Teng

Deacon Thomas Barbagallo

Masses

Saturday	9:00 AM	Sunday Vigil	5:00 PM
Sunday	7:45 AM, 9:15 AM, 10:45 AM, 12:15 PM		
Latin Mass	1:30 PM, first three Sundays		
	2:30 PM fourth Sunday of the Month.		
Weekdays	9:00 AM		
Holy Days	6:45 AM, 9:00 AM, 7:30 PM		

Rectory 602 McLean Ave., Yonkers, NY 10705

Tel: 914-963-7330

Fax: 914-963-1952

Religious Education Office

Jackie Barton - Coordinator of Religious Education
602 McLean Ave., Yonkers, NY 10705
Tel: 914-965-9333

Sacrament of Baptism

Sundays at 2:45pm except the 4th Sunday of each month by appointment

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00-4:45 PM. Anytime requested.

Sacrament of Marriage

Six months advance notice is mandatory.
Marriage preparation course required.
Call rectory for appointment.

Sacrament of the Sick

Call the rectory for attention to home-bound

Parish Registration

Contact the rectory

Parish

Website: www.stpaulyonkers.org

E-mail: stpaulyonkers@gmail.com

Parish Meetings

Monday	6:45 PM St. Paul's Folk Dance
Tuesday	7:30 Legion of Mary
Tuesday	8:00 PM Prayer Group
2nd Tuesday	8:00 PM Men's Group
Wednesday	7:00 PM A.A. Open Meeting
Thursday	7:00 PM A.A. Beginners
Thursday	8:00 PM A.A. Closed Meeting
Thursday	7:00 PM Al-Anon
1st Friday	9:30-11:00 Adoration
1st Friday	7:00 PM Holy Hour
Friday	7:30 PM Boy Scouts
Saturday	9:30 AM Religious Educ. PreK-8
Sunday	7:00 PM A.A. Open Meeting

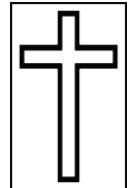
Pregnancy Hot Line

Tel: 800-640-0767



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 14, 2024



MASS Intentions

Intention:	Requested by:
<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Jan. 13, 2024</u>
5:00 Kathleen Brogan (living)	Hubert & Bernadette Burns
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Jan. 14, 2024</u>
7:45 John & Jimmy Lynch	Eileen Lynch
9:15 For the People of the Parish	
10:45 Pierina Repola	Imbrogno family
12:15 Teddy Joseph Murphy	Courtney/Tierney famly
1:30 St. Paul the Apostle Purgatorial Society	
<u>Monday</u>	<u>Jan. 15, 2024</u>
9:00 Christopher Slattery	Rose Baldi
12:00 In Thanksgiving	
<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Jan. 16, 2024</u>
9:00 Christopher Slattery	Luz Robles
<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Jan. 17, 2024</u>
9:00 Pete DiMatteo (4 th Anniversary)	Family
12:00 In Reparation for sins against the Blessed Sacrament	
<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Jan. 18, 2024</u>
9:00 Gennaro Cardone	Family
12:00 Mary Freyne (living)	
<u>Friday</u>	<u>Jan. 19, 2024</u>
9:00 Christopher Slattery	Mary
<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Jan. 20, 2024</u>
9:00 Mary Rynne	Brady family
12:00 John Freyne	
5:00 Gerry Flynn	Peggy Early
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Jan. 21, 2024</u>
7:45 Elizabeth Katt	Kathleen Jacob
9:15 Gjyste Cukaj (living)	
10:45 For the People of the Parish	Jacob family
12:15 For Holy Souls	
1:30 Faye Romano Siani	



Michael Curtin, Mary Byrne, Richard Lyons, John Mauser, Jim Donnell, Robert Bruckner, Grace Lyons, Ayanah Audrey Naron, Denyse Guariglia, Lolita Lim, Irene DiGenno, Rene Laino, Barbara Dallow, Martin Beirne, Deirdra Fallon, Cresvic Flores, Kathleen Sage, Sally Ricci, and Pattiann DelPescio.



Please remember in prayer all those who died this week especially, Ralph Damiano, Katherine Reilly, Debra Sherman, and those who mourn them.

LECTORS:

Jan. 13 th	5:00 J. Kinney
Jan. 14 th	7:45 S. Abraham
	10:45 E. Slattery
	9:15 K. Snyder
	12:15 V. Rahiman

Weekly Collection

STEWARDSHIP: Week of December 31, 2023

Total Collection	\$8,806
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Solemnity of Mary	\$2,276
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STEWARDSHIP: Week of January 7, 2024

1 st Collection	\$3,303
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2 nd Collection	\$862
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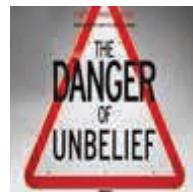
Shrines	\$215
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Online Giving	\$2,900
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Total	\$7,280
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Thank you for your continued support of our Parish and its many needs. Your financial generosity for the upkeep of our Parish buildings and programs is essential and greatly appreciated. To sign up for WeShare go to stpaulyonkers.org and click "Online Giving". Thank you for your generosity!

What Is the Cause of Unbelief?



The Gospel reveals this to us:*Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.* **20** Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. John. 3:19-20 Unbelief is sinful because the world is able to believe: the Light has come into the world and has shone in the darkness, to people is given the possibility of exiting the darkness and come into the light. But only he who freely desires it arrives at the light and people often prefer darkness to the light. What is the reason for this mistaken choice? The real reason can be found in evil deeds and in the act of the will, which can only be internal like intellectual pride. Evil deeds are not only those of gross immorality: disordered attachment to the pleasures of the senses but also a subtle immorality: the exaltation of the ego seeking human praise and the glory of the world.

So the person who does evil flees the internal light of truth that reproaches him, just like a thief flees the light of day and looks for the cover of darkness in order not to be seen. Such a one will not come to the light, and will not come near teaching (even when he knows it to be true) which condemns what he is doing. It's impossible not to think of those who proclaim observance of the Law but whose lives do not correspond to the ideal. Unbelievers love, therefore, the darkness, not in itself but to justify their outward conduct and they hate the light because it would unmask their inward, hidden perversity. Jesus Himself has affirmed that he who does the will of God will know whether the doctrine He teaches is of God or not. It's worth pointing out that the doctrine of Jesus will appear to be of God and not from the Evil One to every soul who desires what God desires and not what the devil desires, that is to say "sin."

Jesus says in chapter 8 of the Gospel of St. John: *He who is of God, hears the words of God.* The person who looks for the truth with purity of intention and aspires to this truth in daily life will be disposed to hear the word of God. The Savior unmasks His enemies stripping bare inexorably the hidden passion which corrupts them. They do not have the love of God: *I know that you do not have the love of God in your hearts.* John 5:42. Hence ambition blinds them and is for them the great obstacle to belief. Thus, it is above all pride that holds the dominant class in their unbelief. The true and in-depth reason for their unbelief is else-where: it is in themselves, in their will. *(Y)ou refuse to come to me to have life.* John 5:40 Isn't this in fact which confirms that pride is the passion that most tenaciously keeps people far away from God?

37 Even after Jesus had performed so many signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him. **38** This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet: "Lord, who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?" **39** For this reason they could not believe, because, as Isaiah says elsewhere:**40** "He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, so they can neither see with their eyes, nor understand with their hearts, nor turn—and I would heal them." [ii] **41** Isaiah said this because he saw Jesus' glory and spoke about him. John 12:37-41

In brief, evil dispositions of the will are the ultimate cause which prevents the crowd from recognizing God. The ultimate reason for unbelief is not to be found in the understanding but in the will not to believe because of an evil will indisposed morally. For this reason you can conclude that the will and an evil life are the cause of all unbelief. As the devil is a fallen angel because of an evil will (he preferred to affirm himself, damning himself rather than submit to the will of God) so unbelievers prefer the refusal of the Savior and salvation so to be able to satisfy a perverse will of earthly control. Because of this justly St. Thomas holds that a person who is good is not the smart person but the person of good will. (Sepherinus)

Some Notes on Pride

What is pride? An excessive love of ourselves, especially our own greatness or excellence.

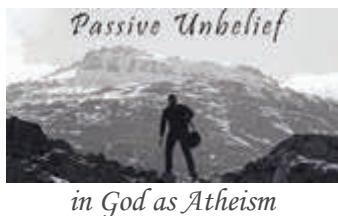
Was pride the original and most dangerous vice? Yes. It was the first sin of a rational creature, the fallen angels: "Satan was not thrown out of heaven because of fornication or adultery or theft, but rather pride has thrown him out of heaven into the deepest depths of hell."

#489 St. Paul the Apostle Page 2

Why is pride an excessive self-love? Because a well-regulated and legitimate love of self, based on truth in the sight of God, is commendable; only its excess is sinful.

What vices spring from pride? Pride begets: 1. Presumption, whereby we undertake tasks beyond our capacity; 2. Ambition, an inordinate longing for positions of dignity and honor; 3. Vainglory, an inordinate love of human praise.

Is human respect also connected to pride? Yes. Especially common today, human respect is excessive regard for public opinion, and fear of man as opposed to fear of God. To avoid the contempt and ridicule of others, one might pridefully hide his faith or neglect his rightful Christian duty; but, "whoever denies Me before men," says Our Lord, "I will also deny him before My Father" (Mt 10:33*). Schneider, Bishop Athanasius. *Credo: Compendium of the Catholic Faith* (p. 299).



It would seem that nowadays not many are grievously concerned by (God's) absence from their lives. There are Christians for whom the presence or absence of Christ from their souls means practically nothing. They move carelessly and with equal facility from sin into grace but fail to give the impression of men who have just returned from hell, or of having miraculously passed from death to a new life. One does not see in them the thankfulness, the joy, the peace and serenity of one who has, to his vast relief, rediscovered Jesus. F. Suarez, Joseph of Nazareth

The Catechism of the Catholic Church in discussing atheism points to the behavior of believers as a cause of unbelief. #2125 Since it rejects or denies the existence of God, atheism is a sin against the virtue of religion.⁶¹ The imputability (whether someone is personally guilty) of this offense can be significantly diminished in virtue of the intentions and the circumstances. "Believers can have more than a little to do with the rise of atheism. **To the extent that they are careless about their instruction in the faith, or present its teaching falsely, or even fail in their religious, moral, or social life, they must be said to conceal rather than to reveal the true nature of God and of religion.**" (emphasis added)

A **practical atheist** is a person who nominally belongs to a religion, but whose decisions and activities are not affected by religion. They live in their personal lives as if God did not exist. In his 1949 article, *On the Meaning of Contemporary Atheism*, Catholic philosopher, Jacques Maritain writes (pp. 267-268): "[...]there are practical atheists, who believe that they believe in God, but who in reality deny His existence by each one of their deeds—they worship the world, and power, and money." and (p. 279): "It is not nonsense to reproach the many people in modern times who pay lip-service to the God in whom they believe themselves to believe, for having been in actual fact practical atheists."

2123 "Many . . . of our contemporaries either do not at all perceive, or explicitly reject, this intimate and vital bond of man to God. Atheism must therefore be regarded as one of the most serious problems of our time."

2124 The name "atheism" covers many very different phenomena. One common form is the practical materialism which restricts its needs and aspirations to space and time. Atheistic humanism falsely considers man to be "an end to himself, and the sole maker, with supreme control, of his own history." Another form of contemporary atheism looks for the liberation of man through economic and social liberation. "It holds that religion, of its very nature, thwarts such emancipation by raising man's hopes in a future life, thus both deceiving him and discouraging him from working for a better form of life on earth."

2126 Atheism is often based on a false conception of human autonomy, exaggerated to the point of refusing any dependence on God.⁶³ Yet, "to acknowledge God is in no way to oppose the dignity of man, since such dignity is grounded and brought to perfection in God...." "For the Church knows full well that her message is in harmony with the most secret desires of the human heart." *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

thank you, thank you, thank you!

The priests and deacons of St. Paul's would like to extend our gratitude to you, our parishioners, for your kindness, well wishes and gifts this Christmas season. We pray for your intentions.

"Better that only a few Catholics should be left, staunch and sincere in their religion, than that they should, remaining many, desire as it were, to be in collusion with the Church's enemies and in conformity with the open foes of our faith." St Peter Canisius S.J. Apostle of Germany

FORMED

Bible Study and More! Go to stpaulyonkers.formed.org and register which gives you access to quality Catholic on line programs, movies, audios, and books. Tomorrow we as a nation honor the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his leadership in the Civil Rights Movement. Please pray for an end to racial discrimination. Watch: *A Place at the Table*: The story of six incredible African-Americans on the path to Canonization.

Save the Date - St Patrick/St Joseph Dance on Saturday, March 09th – St Paul's Parish will once again have our spring social in the gym. Details to follow. If interested in attending or helping please contact Rocco Vitulli: 347-219-2721 a/o Tom Smyth: 914-844-8533.

Mass Intentions for 2024 are now being taken. The stipend remains \$15. We ask that you limit your Sunday masses to 4 at this time. Please stop in, email stpaulyonkers@gmail.com or call the rectory between 8-12 to schedule your masses. Thank you.



With Every Woman, For Every Child.
Friday, Jan. 19th, Washington, D.C.

"We do not want, as the newspapers say, a Church that will move with the world. We want a Church that will move the world." G.K. Chesterton



Religious Ed & The Legion of Mary invite you to the Parish Coffee Hour on Sun., Jan. 21st after the 9:15 and 10:45 Masses in the cafeteria – All are welcome

Catholic Widows and Widowers of Yonkers will hold their next meeting on Thurs, Jan 18th, 12:30pm at St. Ann's Church, Father Anthony Hall. Guest speaker from the Office of Aging. New members always welcome. Info: 914.423.5331.

Healing After Abortion: Do you know someone who is carrying the grief of a past abortion? There is always hope. The pain and sorrow of abortion does not need to endure for a lifetime. A "Day of Prayer and Healing" offers the opportunity to experience the love and mercy of God and to respond to His invitation to begin the journey of healing the wound of abortion. Upcoming dates in the NYC area are: In English: Jan. 27 In Spanish: Feb. 10. For more dates, locations, and confidential registration, or just to talk to a Sister, please call the Sisters of Life at (866)-575-0075 (toll free) or email at hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org.

Sitting With God's Call - How is God calling me? Where is God leading me at this time in my life? If you are a single woman ages 18-45 and asking these questions, we invite you to join us at 84 Presentation Way in New Windsor, New York, for a day of prayer and reflection on February 3, 2024, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Contact Sister Laura Urbano at 845.564.0513 x104 or lurbano@sistersofthepresentation.org for more information or to register.

Please Take
Two decorative flower arrangements. The one on the left is red and green, resembling a poinsettia. The one on the right is white and green, resembling a carnation. Both are surrounded by green leaves.
Some Flowers



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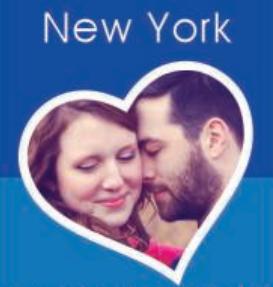
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