

St. Paul R.C. Church Ministries

Thank you for your interest in St. Paul R.C. Church. This is a brief description of the ministries currently offered through St. Paul. If you would like more information, please call 201-327-0976 or email ministries@stpaulrcchurch.org

Adult Spirituality

This ministry offers a variety of spiritual programs aimed at helping you to explore your relationship with Jesus Christ, through experience, reflection, prayer and study. Activities include: Prayer Group, Ladies night of Reflection, Parish Directed Retreat, Off-site Weekend Retreats, Bible study, Spiritual Direction and Cornerstone.

Altar Servers

Altar Servers assist the priest during Masses and Special Celebrations. Children in Grades 4 through 8th grade who have made their First Communion assist at the Weekend Masses. Adult Altar Servers assist at the weekday Masses and Funeral Liturgies.

Art & Environment

This ministry maintains the church and the sanctuary to create a beautiful and prayerful place to worship during each liturgical season, using their skills in sewing, carpentry, handy work, floral arrangements, plant care and gardening.

Baptism Ministry Team

The Baptism Team assists parents who are baptizing their children by leading Parent Preparation Sessions and assisting at Baptism Ceremonies. Some members of the team also assist in the creation of the white garments worn by the babies at baptism.

Bereavement Ministry

Twice a year, fall and spring the bereavement support group meets for 8 weeks providing a caring and supportive group environment for those grieving the loss of a loved one. Training is available at the Archdiocese of Newark for those interested in becoming a Bereavement Minister.

Bible Study

The Great Adventure Bible Study Course- is a catechetical course that strives to foster a greater love for Scripture and for meditating on and living its truths through our sacramental way of life. Class dates and registration information is published in the bulletin and on the website.

Bread Ministry

This ministry delivers bread from Panera in Ramsey to Toni's Kitchen in Montclair. Toni's Kitchen is the food ministry of St. Luke's Church in Montclair, and they are responsible for providing thousands of meals to people in need every year since 1982. We deliver once per week on Sunday mornings, and the round trip to Montclair is just over one hour. Drivers are scheduled every six weeks or so, depending on the number of volunteers in the program, and there is scheduling flexibility. With a small investment of your time, you can greatly affect the lives of those who are less fortunate.

Buildings and Grounds

Comprised of parishioners gifted with skills in plumbing, roofing, architecture, engineering, painting and general maintenance skills who share their talents to assist with and advise the Pastor on the upkeep of the Parish Buildings and Grounds.

Collection Counting

A team of parishioners count the Sunday Collections on Sunday from 10:00am to 12:30pm and Monday from 9:00am to 11:00am. Each team counts once a month.

Cornerstone

Men's Cornerstone and Women's Cornerstone begins with a 27-hour retreat at the parish. Members then participate in social, spiritual and service programs throughout the year. Weekly gatherings allow members an opportunity to spend time together praying, sharing and participating in community service projects.

Cursillo

A three-day short course in Christianity that will supply significant enrichment in our relationship with God, held at the Archdiocesan Youth Center in Kearny, NJ. Participants meet monthly to continue spiritual growth.

Devotional Prayer and Worship

Throughout the year we provide prayer opportunities for all interested parishioners. Specific details are announced in the weekly bulletin. Other celebrations coordinated by this ministry include: **CANDLELIGHT LIVING ROSARY** which is held in the Church in Honor of Our Lady of Lourdes (February), Our Blessed Mother Mary and May Crowning (May), and Our Lady of Fatima (October). **DIVINE MERCY** is celebrated in the Church on the 2nd Sunday of Easter at regularly scheduled Masses and a beautiful Prayer Service at 3 p.m. **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** is a monthly Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction held in the church on the First Friday from 7:00 –8:00PM as well as extended Adoration, concluding with Benediction, held on the third Monday from 12:30-7:30PM. **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** are prayed on Lenten Friday evenings at 7:00PM.

Eucharistic Ministers

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion assist in the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass. Some volunteers extend this ministry by bringing communion to those in the hospital or who are homebound. Volunteers are carefully trained and commissioned by the Archdiocese of Newark.

Evangelization

Assists the people of the parish in carrying out their mission to build a welcoming community, and to reach out and invite all to share our journey by Knowing the Faith, Living the Faith, Sharing the Faith, and inspiring others to do the same.

Faith Formation

Religious Education offers a meaningful faith experience to Students in grades K-8. Programs include: Sunday Morning Classes for Grades K-4, Adult and Family Sessions on Sunday Morning, Home Study for grades K-8, Evening Classes for Grades 1-5 and Sacramental Prep for First Eucharist (Grade 2) and Confirmation (Grade 10).

Family Mass Team

Team members help organize, plan and prepare liturgies for children and their families. Children participate in the liturgy, serving as lectors and ushers. The family Mass takes place on Sundays at 9:00 am during the school year.

Knights of Columbus

A Catholic Fraternal Benefit Society formed to assist those in need. Fellowship is promoted among members and their families through educational, charitable, religious, social welfare, war relief and public relief works.

Lazarus Ministry

Members are trained to assist families who have lost a loved one to prepare for the liturgy for the Mass of Christian Burial. A member of the ministry meets with the immediate family to offer comfort and compassion as they assist with the planning of the funeral liturgy.

Lectors

Lectors proclaim the Word of God at Mass and other liturgical functions. Training is provided.

Linen and Altar Ministry

This ministry cares for the altar and liturgy linens incurring the dignity of the altar, the center of worship for Catholics.

Liturgy Ministry

Participate in liturgy planning and practice throughout the year including planning for; Mass/Sunday Eucharist, Sacraments, Prayer of the Church/Liturgy of the Hours, Prayer Services, School Liturgies, Liturgy of the Word.

Music Ministry

The music ministry provides music during weekend Masses, holy days, wedding, funerals, and other para-liturgical services. St. Paul has 4 choirs; Adult Choir, Hosanna Choir, Children's Choir, and a Youth Ensemble. Music is based on liturgical seasons in a variety of styles from classical to contemporary.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

This ministry meets once to create beautiful Prayer Shawls for anyone undergoing surgery, suffering, grieving or celebrating a joyous occasion as well. Shawls are knitted prayerfully for the individual to receive it and blessed by each member of the ministry when completed.

Prince of Peace Prayer Group

Members gather each Thursday from 8:00 to 9:30 in the church to praise the Lord, listen to prompting of the Spirit through scripture and teachings, and pray for others. All are welcome.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the process for full initiation into the Catholic Church. RCIA is for unbaptized adults; adults who are baptized in another Christian faith interested in becoming Catholic; adults baptized Catholic in need of First Communion and/or Confirmation.

Respect Life Ministry

The mission of the St. Paul Parish Respect Life Ministry is to witness, by word and action, to the teachings of Jesus Christ on the respect for the dignity of each human being from conception to natural death.

The St. Paul Respect Life Ministry meets regularly on either the 3rd Monday or 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Church Meeting (Counting) room, @ 7:30pm. Meetings in July and August will only be held if necessary for planning October/Respect Life Month activities. The focus of the meeting will be to report on the status of all existing activities and discuss new ideas which are consistent with the mission and goals of the committee.

Spanish Ministry

Enables the Hispanic Community to worship at a monthly Mass said in Spanish. The ministry also assists local immigrant families by offering opportunities to participate in parish life by joining in prayer, social service and education programs.

Senior Ministry

Serves and supports our senior community through outreach and networking. In addition, seniors are offered opportunities for social and spiritual gatherings.

Social Concerns

Social Concerns Committee is an outreach group involved in a wide range of service programs and special projects to assist those who are in need. Programs include, Scholarships, School Supply Collection, Food Certificate Program, Food Pantry, Thanksgiving and Easter Meals, Christmas Giving Tree, Hackensack Soup Kitchen, Harrison House, Diaper Collection and Lighthouse Baby Bottle Campaign.

Stephen Ministry

Trained ministers to listen, pray, extend emotional and spiritual support, provide distinctively Christian care and, if appropriate, will help with referrals to professional and community resources.

Ushers serve as ministers of hospitality and provide assistance at a Mass of choice on weekends and holidays. They help with taking the collection, assisting with seating and coordinating the Offertory procession.

Youth Ministry

St. Paul Youth Group is a place for friends to gather and use the teachings of our faith to enrich our community, peers, and self. We aim to reach others through prayer, service and living the Gospel in everyday action. There are opportunities for community service and retreats as well as events just for fun.