

SAINT PAUL'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

209 Washington St., Delaware City, DE 19706

St. Paul's Official Website is: <http://www.StPaulsRCChurch.org>.

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Fourth Sunday of Lent

WORD OF GOD FOR A SUNDAY:

Today's gospel, the parable of the prodigal son, tells of a father's undying love and compassion for his son who sinned against heaven and earth. We are much like that son. God is waiting with open arms for us to come back home.

THE READINGS:

Joshua 5: 9, 10-11

The Israelites celebrate Passover by feasting on the produce of the land. No longer must they depend upon manna for their food.

2 Corinthians 5: 17-21

Through the death and resurrection of Christ, we are all reconciled to God. We are now ambassadors for Christ.

Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

The parable of the prodigal son celebrates the repentance and forgiveness of sin.

Offertory Collection March 14, 2004 \$1136.00

This weekend a second collection will be taken up for the annual Bishops' Overseas and Latin American Churches.

Next weekend a second collection will be taken up for Easter Flowers.

Lectors for next weekend's Masses are: 5 p.m. – Jean Beldyk-Byers, 9 a.m. – Michael Spinella.

The **Sanctuary Candle** is lit from March 20th – April 3rd for the Gondek & Kleamski Families (living and deceased).

Feast days for the saints for this week are: 3/23 – St. Toribio de Mogrovejo.

Eternal rest grant to Jean Woods, sister of Fr. Richard Smith, associate pastor at St. John the Beloved Church, and to Henry Grasing, Jr., brother of Fr. John Grasing, associate pastor of Holy Family Parish, and all the souls of the faithful departed.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday,	March 20,	5:00 PM (rip) Stephen Sefcik by Ruth Press
Sunday,	March 21,	9:00 AM MASS FOR THE PEOPLE (living & deceased)
Monday,	March 22,	8:00 AM (viv) Smith Family by Helen Brannon
Tuesday,	March 23,	8:00 AM (viv) Beatty Family by Helen Brannon
Wednesday,	March 24,	8:00 AM (viv) Goodwin Family by Helen Brannon
Thursday,	March 25,	8:00 AM (rip) Malio Delle Donne by Louise Meli
Friday,	March 26,	8:00 AM (rip) Alma Marie Ferris by M/M George Sterling
Saturday,	March 27,	5:00 PM MASS FOR THE PEOPLE (living & deceased)
Sunday,	March 28,	9:00 AM (viv) Rev. John Conmy, OSFS by David Smith

The next **available dates** for **Mass Intentions** are: April 17, 19, and 21, 2004. **Mass stipends** are \$10.

Catholic Forum – Tune in to Catholic Forum each Sunday morning at 10:05 on AM1150 WDEL or www.wdel.com. Next Sunday, March 28th, Dr. Bert Ghezzi will discuss his new book, "The Sign of the Cross; Recovering the Power of the Ancient Prayer." Catholic Forum is a production of the Office of Communications of the Diocese of Wilmington.

Vocations - "We are ambassadors for Christ," St. Paul tells the Corinthians in today's second reading, "as if God were appealing through us." In every generation, God calls some men to serve in a formal way as His ambassadors, preaching the good news, celebrating the Sacraments, and leading His holy people as they strive to grow closer to their Lord. If you are a man between the ages of 18 and 49 and believe that God might be calling you to serve as a priest, call Fr. Joe Cocucci, Director of Vocations, at (302) 573-3113.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church (Rt. 7 in Bear) – A **Lenten Music Concert** will be held on Sunday, March 21st from 2 – 4 p.m. The Seton Church Choir, the Seton Filipino Choir, St. Margaret of Scotland's Contemporary Choir, and the Diocesan Gospel Choir from St. Joseph's Church in Wilmington will provide the music. A "goodwill offering" will be taken up to benefit the Emmanuel Dining Room in Wilmington. All are welcome to attend.

Thursday, March 25, 2004, is 3rd Annual March in Dover from 2 – 4 p.m. for The International Day of the Unborn. Join us as we march around Legislative Hall in prayer and reparation for the sins against abortion. We pray, too, that our elected officials will make decisions that will respect the life of all human beings – born and unborn. Groups, churches, and organizations are encouraged to bring their respective banners to show our elected officials that we represent blocks of voters. For more information, call Dorothy Fuller at 302-697-8523.



Jealousy Unnecessary

Jesus, in the parable of the prodigal son, proclaims an alternative to the jealousy and bitterness that seem almost natural among siblings vying for parental approval. Both sons, the father says, have and have always had their own special places in his heart. What he gives to one takes nothing away from the other. In today's world of "three strikes and you're out," this stories is ripe for Lenten consideration.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 21, 2004