

## READINGS THIS WEEKEND

- (1) Isaiah 60, 1-6
- (2) Ephesians 1, 3-6. 15-18
- (3) John 1, 1-18

Matthew tells us the story of three astrologers from the east that arrived in Jerusalem with gifts for a new king. The news came as quite a shock to King Herod and the residents of Jerusalem. The king and his people were so wrapped up in their routine that they failed to realize that God was doing something totally new in their midst. We must always be on the lookout for the new opportunities God allows us. Each year brings us the hope of new challenges and occasions in which to invest the many gifts, talents and resources with which God has blessed us.

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Joe Brown, Sue DeWine, JP Edward, Paul Gochenouer, HO, Joe H., JP, Delores Lamont, Mary Rhodes, SS, TK, Nancy Vernet, Dottie Williams, Active U.S. Military Family & Friends of St. Paul's

**THERE WILL BE A COMMUNION SERVICE** on (Tuesday) Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>, (Thursday) Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>, (Friday) Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 AM and on (Wednesday) Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM, while Fr. Tony is away attending a Regional Forum for Pastoral Leadership.

**CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES & CALENDARS**

for 2010 are now available in the Undercroft. Please call the Parish Office (767-7450, Ext. 10) if you do not find a box with your name on it. **THANK YOU VERY MUCH!**

**CHURCH CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS** will

be taken down Monday, Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. The Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup> which ends the Christmas season. Please come and help if you are able. Thank you!

**2<sup>nd</sup> COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND (Jan. 2/3)**

is for our "Maintenance/Restoration" Fund. This will continue to take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month. Thank you, in advance, for helping us take care of our structures!

**THE LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY IS NOT AVAILABLE** at this time due to the fact that our volunteer (Anne Sidney) "has a life and works full time" and is very busy at this time of year like the rest of us! **PLEASE CHECK THE BULLETIN BOARD before entering Mass this weekend** to see if you are scheduled. Thank you very much! ☺

▼ **UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS** ▼

**COFFEE HOUR** after the 11:00 AM Mass in the Undercroft this Sunday, Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Join us!

**ECUMENICAL SERVICE** at Friends Care (150 E. Herman St., YS) this Sunday (3<sup>rd</sup>) at 2:00 PM.

**PRAYER GROUP:** Short meditative Rosary or chaplets & litanies prayed Mondays, 7:30 PM.

**ENSEMBLE MUSICIANS REHEARSAL** is on Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

**RCIA – ADULT ED** resume next Sunday, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM in the POB. All welcome!

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR MASS** is on Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM (rehearsal at 10:30 AM).

**PPC (Parish Pastoral Council) MTG. IN JANUARY** has been changed to Tues., Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

## WEEKLY COLLECTION &amp; OTHER

COLLECTION TOTALS FOR DEC. 20 – JAN. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
will be in the bulletin next weekend.

Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$ 4,500
Maintenance/Restoration Goals	
Church Air Conditioner	\$15,000
Rectory Air Conditioner & Furnace	\$15,000
Maintenance/Restoration for December	\$ 649
Maintenance/Restoration to Date	\$ 5,456

**Please remember St. Paul's in your will.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

## **NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF YOUR ACTIONS**

One day, when I was a freshman in high school, a kid from my class was walking home from school. His name was Kyle. It looked like he was carrying all of his books and I thought to myself, *'Why would anyone bring home all his books on a Friday? He must really be a nerd.'* I had quite a weekend planned (parties and a football game with my friends), so I shrugged my shoulders and went on. As I was walk-ing, I saw a bunch of kids running toward him. They ran at him knocking all his books out of his arms, tripping him so he landed in the dirt. His glasses went flying and I saw them land in the grass about ten feet from him. He looked up and I saw this terrible sadness in his eyes. My heart went out to him, so I jogged over as he crawled around looking for his glasses and I saw a tear in his eye. As I handed him his glasses I said, *'Those guys are jerks. They really should get lives.'* He looked at me and said, 'Hey thanks!' There was a big smile on his face. It was one of those smiles that showed real gratitude. I helped him pick up his books and asked him where he lived. As it turned out, he lived near me, so I asked him why I had never seen him before. He said he had gone to private school until now. (I would have never hung out with a private school kid before.) We talked all the way home and I carried some of his books. He turned out to be a pretty cool kid. I asked him if he wanted to play a little football with my friends. He said yes and we hung out all weekend. The more I got to know Kyle, the more I liked him, and my friends thought the same.

Monday morning came and there was Kyle with the huge stack of books again. I stopped him and said, *'Boy, you are gonna really build some serious muscles with this pile of books everyday!'* He just laughed and handed me half the books. Over the next four years Kyle and I became best friends. When we were seniors we began to think about college. Kyle decided on Georgetown and I was going to Duke. I knew that we would always be friends, that the miles would never be a problem. He was going to be a doctor and I was going for business on a football scholarship. Kyle was valedictorian of our class. He had to prepare a speech for graduation. I was so glad it wasn't me having to get up there and speak!

On graduation day I saw Kyle. He looked great. He was one of those guys that really found himself during high school. He filled out and actually looked good in glasses. He had more dates than I had and all the girls loved him. Boy, sometimes I was jealous! Today was one of those days. I could see that he was nervous about his speech, so I smacked him on the back and said, *'Hey, big guy, you'll be great!'* He looked at me with one of those looks (the really grateful ones) and smiled. *'Thanks,'* he said. As he started his speech he cleared his throat and began *'Graduation is a time to thank those who helped you make it through those tough years. Your parents, your teachers, your siblings, maybe a coach ... but mostly your friends. I am here to tell all of you that being a friend to someone is the best gift you can give them. I am going to tell you a story.'* I just looked at my friend with disbelief as he told about the first day we met. He had planned to kill himself over the weekend. He talked of how he had cleaned out his locker so his Mom wouldn't have to do it later and was carrying his stuff home. He looked hard at me and gave me a little smile. *'Thankfully, I was saved. My friend saved me from doing the unspeakable.'* I heard the gasp go through the crowd as this handsome, popular boy told us all about his weakest moment. I saw his Mom and Dad looking at me and smiling that same grateful smile. Not until that moment did I realize its depth. **Never underestimate the power of your actions. With one small gesture you can change a person's life ... for better or for worse.** God puts us all in each other's lives to impact one another in some way. Look for God in others.

### SCHEDULED MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	5:00 PM	Family of Will McAnaul (Jo Dunphy)
Sunday (3 <sup>rd</sup> )	11:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Paul & St. Charles Borromeo
Tuesday	8:15 AM	COMMUNION SERVICE
Wednesday	7:00 PM	COMMUNION SERVICE
Thursday	8:15 AM	COMMUNION SERVICE
Friday	8:15 AM	COMMUNION SERVICE
Saturday (9 <sup>th</sup> )	5:00 PM	Mary Ann Alexander – 9 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Jim & Virginia Alexander)
Sunday (10 <sup>th</sup> )	11:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Paul & St. Charles Borromeo

