

From the Pastor
February 9, 2020
The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Septuagesima Sunday
VARIA

Today I would like to write about various events and occurrences here at St. Paul.

OUR WEEKEND ASSISTING PRIESTS: As everyone is aware, ours is a one priest parish. Therefore, we are most grateful for the assistance of the fine and dedicated priests who help us here at St. Paul's. Since my arrival here almost seven years ago we have had different priests assisting us. When I first arrived the priests of the Marianist Congregation assisted.

At present we are blessed to have two wonderful priests assist us. I have known both these priests for many years, and I am grateful for their assistance.

Father Lachlan T. Cameron is the Chaplain at Stony Brook State University and Coordinator for all the college chaplaincies here on Long Island. Father holds a licentiate in Sacred Theology (S.T.L.) from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome (popularly known as the Angelicum). We are very blessed to have Father assisting us here.

Father Lee Descoteaux serves as the Adjutant Judicial Vicar in the Tribunal and as Vice Chancellor. Father holds a licentiate in canon law from the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross (Santa Croce) in Rome.

Both Father Cameron and Father Descoteaux are often called upon by Bishop Barres to accompany him on important missions and both serve as advisers to the Bishop. Because of their many diocesan responsibilities, both Fathers let me know which Masses for which they will be available at the beginning of each month. I make the priests' monthly schedule by presuming I will have every Mass. And then I fill in the Masses for which our assisting priests are available. They are usually available for the earlier Masses on Sunday.

May God bless and reward them.

WEEKDAY MASS TIME ON FEDERAL HOLIDAYS: The Daily Mass is offered here at St. Paul (except for Thursday) at 8.00AM. In order to give those who would normally be working on the weekdays the opportunity to attend Mass on Federal Holidays, we will celebrate Mass at 9.00AM on Martin Luther King Day, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day and Veterans Day. In England and Ireland these types of holidays are called Bank Holidays. It is my hope with the later time for Mass on Federal Holidays, more parishioners will avail themselves of attending weekday Mass.

LENT: This Sunday is traditionally known as Septuagesima Sunday because it is roughly seventy days before Easter. Thus, we are already reminded of the oncoming of the Holy Season of Lent. We should all be thinking of our resolutions and how we can use this holy time to become the saints which God wishes us to be.

ST. PHILIP NERI: Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary is actually necessary, because there is no better means of obtaining God's graces than through His most holy mother.