

DECEMBER 2022

ST. PAUL'S

Newsletter

Entering Into
The Lord's Rest

FATHER'S CORNER

Learning to enter into the Lord's Rest

Every morning all priests, nuns and consecrated persons around the world pray the liturgy of the hours, and the opening Psalm of every day is Psalm 95. In the last line of the Psalm the Lord gives quite the warning that the Church invites us to reflect on day after day, *"Forty years I endured that generation. I said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray and they do not know my ways." So I swore in my anger, "They shall not enter into my rest."* I have often meditated on the meaning of these words. They refer to the Israelites during their 40 years in the desert wandering, and God's greatest sorrow is that His people's hearts go astray, they choose their own ways, their own false gods to follow- because they refuse to listen to His voice and follow His ways. But the final word is what always remains with me, 'rest'. *"They shall not enter into my rest."*

College life can be quite busy (especially when your own priest suffers from an undue tendency towards hyperactivity)! And I must say that I've always been impressed with how hard the students at BSU work in not only their studies, but their spiritual life, community life and extracurricular activities... such as decorating the women's house with toilet paper and hotdogs in the cold of winter. They never cease to amaze me!



Needless to say, there is always a lot going on around St Paul's BSU, and for that I'm very proud. But I know that activity is accompanied by a serious warning from our Lord, "Don't let your heart go astray, don't follow your own ways, you will not enter into my rest." Being so 'busy', even for good things, can be the very hindrance to entering more fully into the fruitful ways of the Lord.

This may be the reason why this Advent, this new liturgical year, we're trying to refocus ourselves and in layman's terms, work smarter not harder. It's so important for us Catholics to learn to enter into the Lord's rest, so that we realize our true

worth comes not from what we do, but who we are. I know that begins with me, as the priest of St Paul's. In the midst of so many building projects and renovations around here, it's easy to forget that. It's easy to judge ourselves by how much we accomplish. (Although I must say I'm very impressed with the new work that has been done on our chapel, grotto, social hall, and library.... Come by and check it out if you haven't seen it yet!)

Advent is a time to 'turn back', to 'convert', to the One who is coming. Advent comes from the Latin words, 'ad venire' literally, 'turn towards the coming'. In this time, we are focusing on doing less so that we can become more in God. One way we are working on this is by observing the Lord's day with more intentionality. We moved the 5:00pm Sunday evening Mass to Saturday at 5:15pm. We recently heard an inspiring talk on how to regain the Lord's Day and a few key points were, 1. *Have time of silence*, 2. *Vibrant, Holy Liturgy*, 3. *Intentional community life*.

To help facilitate this, we are going to begin having some time for quiet prayer in the morning with adoration in the chapel before Mass, followed by an inspiring Liturgy with all the smells and bells (it's what we do!), and with our afternoons freed up we will be offering more opportunities for communal growth and relaxation together.

I want to thank you for staying involved and in touch with us at St Paul's BSU, and I invite you this Advent to consider how you yourself can more fully enter into the Lord's rest so we might all hear His Voice and follow His ways in our lives.

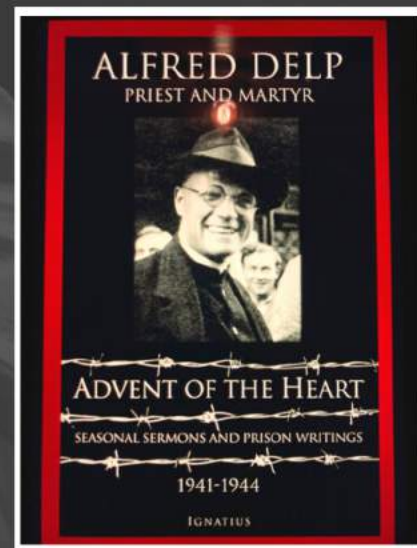
God Bless you,
Fr. Nathan Dail



50+ students and community members gather for a special candlelight Mass at Fort Boise Military Cemetery in honor of All Souls' Day. Shoutout to the altar servers and Fr. Nathan for enduring the freezing cold without gloves.



Father Nathan prays over a student during Adoration at The Father's House Retreat.



Check out the book the staff is reading this Advent- *Advent of The Heart* Fr. Nathan will be reading sections of It during Wednesday night adoration.

[CLICK HERE](#)

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

OLIVIA CAMPBELL

Olivia is a senior at Boise State University. She is a member of our Communications Committee where she helps run our social media platforms.

I came to Boise State in the fall of 2019, excited to be away from home and see everything college had to offer. I grew up Catholic, but when I came to college my faith started taking the backseat. My roommate at the time was Natalie, a small and spirited New Jerseyan. One day I was sitting in our room getting ready for another night of binge watching *That 70s Show*, when Natalie asked me if I wanted to go to bible study with her. I had seen her leave every Thursday night to bible study and return with a smile on her face, talking about how nice the women were in the group. So, when she asked if I wanted to come with I said yes.

That was my first night at St. Paul's. Natalie and I got our tea from the lobby kitchen, sat down on the cozy bible study couches, and in that hour, I encountered sisterhood in a new way. The women in that group were authentically themselves. I was shaky in my faith that first year of college. Once I started going to bible study then gradually Mass again, I saw the chasm that was coming in my life. I could keep living my morally wishy-washy life of habitual sins and holiday Masses or I could step into communion with these women desiring to know and love Jesus. And here's the thing, I am a sucker for an invitation.



Olivia (right) with friend Natalie on a FOCUS Mission Trip to Argentina.

Since coming to St. Paul's, I have been to a couple retreats, and countless Newman Nights, each drawing me closer to the Lord and community with others. However, when I think of those individuals who have impacted my life and still do, they are the women in that first bible study I attended. Sophia, Natalie, and Katie showed care and honesty towards me. But most importantly they called me higher.

Today, I am on the communications committee for the center, helping run St. Paul's Instagram account, making the weekly update posters, and posting Fr. Nathan's homilies online. I really enjoyed using what I have learned as a Media Arts major at the center. Being involved at the center has helped me grow in community with others and connect my interests and talents towards mission work. Getting involved at the center has encouraged me to grow deeper in my faith and has shown me the joys of working in the church.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

JOSEPH BUFORD

After I attended my first weekend Mass at St. Paul's my freshman year, I figured I would spend a lot of time there over the next four years. And my hunch was right. I quickly became involved in FOCUS Bible studies, the Frassati men's group, altar serving, and retreat leading. During my junior and senior years, I had the privilege to lead the liturgy department and work with other student leaders as we committed ourselves to Christ and strove to lead others to him.

One of my favorite times at St. Paul's was planning the Holy Week liturgies. Many hours were spent collaborating with the chaplain, rehearsing with other altar servers, meeting with the music ministry, and scheduling all the liturgical ministers. Although it was very busy, nothing was more beautiful than seeing all of the community's different ministries working together to create a beautiful yet solemn Triduum liturgy. or ready, the Lord wants to work through you!



After graduating in May 2021, I completed a year of service through a volunteer program with the Sisters of Mercy. I worked in Savannah, Georgia, at a health clinic for uninsured and low-income patients. I also had the chance to put my Spanish major to use, as about ninety percent of our patients were Spanish-speaking. By the end of the year, I realized that we should not feel overwhelmed to change the world. The Lord just asks us to reveal His presence to every individual we encounter. A smile here, an empathetic understanding there, intentional relationships are how we can lead others to Christ.

After spending some quality time at home, I am next planning to teach English in Costa Rica. I am leaving in January and look forward with both excitement and nerves to see what the Lord has in store for me there! Even though I will be abroad, I certainly plan to be active in a local parish and to continue living my faith the way St. Paul's challenged me to.





*And that's
a wrap*



FATHER'S HOUSE RETREAT

50+ students gather for our fall retreat titled, *The Father's House*. Students encounter the Father's love for them for maybe the first time ever.



GORETTI HOUSE

The women of the Goretti House of Discernment went to support Letizia at her fall orchestra concert.



FRASSATI HOUSE

The men of the Frassati House of Discernment spent hours blowing up 600 balloons to prank Jack during Thanksgiving break.



BLESSED BRUNCH

40 women gather for brunch sponsored by Blessed Is She. This was a great event for the women to come together and share in fellowship.



WEDNESDAY OUTREACH

Every Wednesday our FOCUS team, staff and students head out to the BSU Quad to encounter students in creative ways.

Regional Director, Carter Hawkins, joined the team for henna tattoos.



CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Christmas has arrived at St. Paul's Catholic Center! Thank you to James and Angie Harrison for donating this remarkable tree!