



Today's Stewardship Pearl

**The things which are impossible with men
are possible with God.**

-Luke 18:27

From The Zucchetto - a.k.a. Zucchini by the PiC

Several weeks ago, I asked you, the Saints of St. Paul's, to send me questions about religious matters so that, when I was bereft of ideas, I would have a question from a Saint to answer.

The first and only question I have received so far is this:

"Does the term 'repose of the soul' have several layers of meaning or does it simply mean 'rest in peace'?"

And here, with the help of AI and what is left of my brain, is the best answer that I can produce.

THE LONG ANSWER (but it could be FAR longer).

The term "repose of the soul" refers to the state of spiritual "rest, tranquility, and assurance" that arises from a genuine relationship with the Creator. This relationship is maintained and strengthened through prayer and reading Sacred Scripture. Such a relationship assures the believer that, after death, he will enter a state of eternal rest in the presence of God.

Throughout the Biblical record, believers have looked to God as their source of rest and security, finding in him the only true refuge for the soul. King David expresses this sentiment in Psalm 62:1-2 where he says, "In God alone my soul finds rest; my salvation comes from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation."

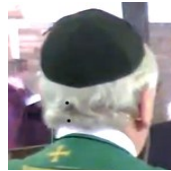
Many Old Testament passages reference Sheol as the place of the dead. While details about the afterlife before Christ's resurrection are less explicit, the faithful consistently express hope that they remain secure in the care of their Creator. The Book of Job affirms this when Job says, "I know that my Redeemer lives, and in the end, he will stand upon the earth... I will see God." This longing testifies to an expected deliverance from all sorrow and turmoil, pointing toward a greater rest to come.

The New Testament clarifies how this greater rest, this true rest, is realized-through the person and work of Jesus Christ. In Matthew 11:28, Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." This promise presents Christ as the ultimate source of the repose of the soul.

The foundational event securing this rest is the literal, bodily resurrection of Jesus. According to Paul's summary of earliest Christian belief, (I Corinthians 15:3-8) the Messiah's resurrection guarantees victory over sin and death, affirming the believer's expectation of eternal life. This victorious event is the key to the soul's repose, since Christ's defeat of death promises eternal rest in God's presence (I Corinthians 15:20-22).

A common question involves whether the believer's soul experiences rest immediately at death or only at the final resurrection. Multiple New Testament passages, such as Luke 23:43, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with Me in Paradise," suggest a conscious rest in God's presence upon physical death. Later, when Christ returns, the body is resurrected to enjoy the fullness of eternal life (I Thessalonians 4:16-17).

AND NOW FOR THE SHORT ANSWER!



From The Zucchetto continued

The repose of the soul, according to Scripture, encompasses both an immediate rest for those who place faith in God and his Son, as well as the fullness of eternal rest in God's presence after physical death and final resurrection. This repose is anchored in the covenant faithfulness of God, substantiated by the historical resurrection of Jesus, and nurtured by the Holy Spirit's indwelling presence. It is confirmed by the remarkable consistency of biblical manuscripts, corroborated by archaeological and historical evidence, and reflected in changed lives across history.

In embracing these truths, believers engage a deep spiritual rest-the soul's repose-that transforms their present experience and points toward an everlasting communion with the Lord.

As the Scriptures declare in John 14:27, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you," so the ultimate repose of the soul is found in the Savior, Jesus, who grants peace, both now and forevermore.

Thanks be to God!

And, "Thank you", Georgianna for the question.

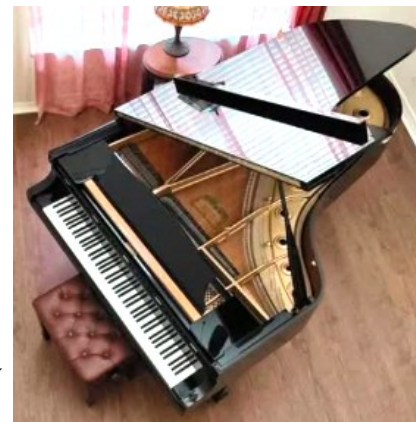
Now, whose up next?

Gary D. Hill+

We want to thank everyone who has contributed to the piano to date, and let you know **we are a 1/4 of the way to our goal of \$13,000 which includes the price of the piano, moving and tuning.**

This is the actual piano, a [7 foot 6 inch Semi-Concert Grand Piano Kawai KG-7D](#). Beautiful!

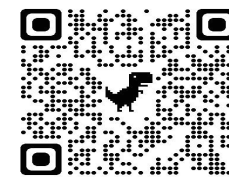
You can donate by check, cash or follow instructions below using the QR Code.



More Than Enough —Donate Digitally!

Open your phone's camera and aim it at the QR code. This will take you directly to our donation page at www.stpaulstx.org/giving where you can donate to our Giving Program including the Piano fund. Put in the amount and from the Fund drop down box select where you want the donation to go.

Thank you for your support!



EVENTS

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|-----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Aug. 11, | 6:00pm—7:00pm— | Meet the Teacher night at SPES |
| | | St. Paul's Episcopal School |
| Aug. 15, | 8:00am—Noon— | St. Joseph's Guild |
| | 9:00am—Noon— | DOK-Daughter's of the King |
| | 3:00pm—4:00pm— | Windy Hill Birthday Party |
| Aug 16, | Noon-2:00pm— | Vestry Meeting |
| Aug 30, | Potluck following service | |
| | 2:00 —3:00pm, | Greenville Gardens |

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 2, 2026



Loaves and fishes mosaic in the Church of the Multiplication at Tabgna. The floor mosaic near the altar shows a basket of loaves flanked by 2 Galilee mullet.



Beneath the altar is the rock on which is believed Jesus placed the loaves and fish when he blessed them. <https://www.seetheholyland.net/tabgha/>

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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903-455-5030 www.stpaulstx.org secretary@stpaulstx.org

Jesus Christ, *Head of the Church*

The Rt. Rev. Robert P. Price, *Bishop*

The Rev. Gary D. Hill, *Priest In Charge*

(available on Friday by appointment, 469-849-8317)

The Rev. Gordon Miltenberger, *Assisting Priest*

Nancy Kilroy, *Parish Administrator*

(Office Hours: 8am - 2pm; Wed, Thurs. & Fri.)

Christy Wolff, *Music Director*

Cathy Hargrave, *Organist*

Service Times at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church

SUNDAY

10:30 am.HOLY EUCHARIST
11:45 am.FELLOWSHIP, CLARDY HALL

MONDAY

9:00 am. CHILDREN’S CHAPEL

WEDNESDAY

10:30 am.MORNING PRAYER II
6:00 pm.BIBLE STUDY

THURSDAY

8:00 p.m. COMPLINE SERVICE <http://stpaulstx.org> select Facebook

Sunday, August 2nd

LEM/ Lay Readers	Jim Pence
Reader	Debbie Shaffer
Acolyte	Matt Wolff
Thurifer	Laurel Pence
Vestry Person of the Day:	Frank McKee, Elizabeth Porter
Intercessory Prayer:	Nancy Wyant
Tech Team:	Director-Jeff Faunce; Titles-Jennifer Faunce; Audio-Brad Mathis; Cameras- Nick Stone; Social Media-Georgianna Harrison
Altar Guild:	Jennifer Faunce, Elena Mathews, Laurel Pence, Nancy Wyant, Georgianna Harrison

Hymns and Songs for the Day

Procession:	Come Thou Almighty King	H365
Gospel:	Ancient words	A3-14
Offertory:	Love Divine, All Loves Excelling	H657
Sensing of the altar:	I will Come and Bow Down	Handout
Communion:	I Come With Joy	H304
Procession to the World:	I Will Sing, I Will Sing	A3-85

Holy Eucharist

Collect

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Holy Eucharist

First Lesson – Isaiah 55:1-5

Reader: A reading from Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: "Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145:8-9, 15-22

Read responsively by whole verse

- 8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and of great kindness.
9 The LORD is loving to everyone and his compassion is over all his works.
15 The LORD upholds all those who fall; he lifts up those who are bowed down.
16 The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, and you give them their food in due season.
17 You open wide your hand and satisfy the needs of every living creature.
18 The LORD is righteous in all his ways and loving in all his works.
19 The LORD is near to those who call upon him, to all who call upon him faithfully.
20 He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he hears their cry and helps them.
21 The LORD preserves all those who love him, but he destroys all the wicked.
22 My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD; let all flesh bless his holy Name for ever and ever.

Sung by all

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

The Second Lesson - Romans 9:1-5

Reader: A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

I am speaking the truth in Christ-- I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit-- I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel Hymn

The Gospel hymn will be announced

The Gospel - Matthew 14:13-21

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to John.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus heard this, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” And he said, “Bring them here to me.” Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Pray for the Church and the Body of Christ

The Daughters of the King are dedicated to supporting the prayer needs of 1St. Paul’s. They are available in the west corner of sanctuary every Sunday after the 10:30 a.m. worship service for private prayer. Please pray for:

Rhonda Lunney, Heather Green,
Fr. Gordon, Julia Gibson Schwartz

