

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
31 Rider Avenue
Patchogue, New York 11772

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321



Vestry

Wardens: Robin Sconzo and Cathie Pliszak

Mary Dykman, , Scott Harris, Ronnie MacDonald, , Maurine Jacobs, Barbara Ruest, Laura Cooley, Barbara Greco, Nancy Western, Teresa Julian

Clerk: Laura Cooley

Treasurer: Barbara Lapinski;

Editor: Conni Still

Parish

Phone: 631-473-3078

Email: www.stpaulspatchogue.org

Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9:30 AM- 1:00 PM Office Closed on Mondays

Rector: the Rev. Elisabeth E. Tunney

Parish Administrator: Ronny Pliszak

Parish Ministers: All the People of St.Paul's

St. Paul's Epistle

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March 2018



St. Paul's Parish Mission Statement: to be a thriving, loving, Christ-centered parish; a parish who knows Christ and makes Christ known.

We take seriously our Baptismal Covenant that says we will respect the dignity of every human being.

You are welcome to worship with us, to join with us in fellowship, and in our ministries, regardless of age, economic status, marital status, nationality, race, sexual orientation or gender identity, ability or disability, and wherever you are in your spiritual journey.

A Word from Mother Liz



There is a line in the Prayers of the People Form I that asks "For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord." The operative word is seasonable. February was kind to us with minimal snowfall for which most of us were grateful. March however is living up to its reputation of coming in like a lion. Thankfully the [new] roofs have done their jobs and the buckets in the sacristy were bone dry after Friday's Nor'easter. Another Nor'easter is predicted for the 7th and that will bring its own challenges because we are not done yet with winter.

We have also survived a third furnace malfunction and have replaced a valve that will hopefully keep us toasty until the warmer weather arrives.

Lent offers challenges of its own. Transformation is hard work and events to make us shake our heads seem to come out of nowhere. Friday evening someone broke into the parish hall, made off with a small amount of money, some cheap jewelry, and did some minimal damage, breaking a few interior windows, ripping a few screens, and making a mess of the bathroom. We are blessed that the damage was no more and by the quick thinking of Robin

Sconzo and Conni Still in calling the police and Clearview glass.

Someone has described St. Paul's as a country church in an urban setting. This setting is a significant challenge since there is no way to secure our grounds. On the other hand it is our location that offers us the opportunity to do so much ministry. Our facilities are easily accessible to those in need whether it is through the Food Pantry, the Soup Kitchen, the Thrift Shop or any of the 12-Step meetings.

We will be looking into installing cameras to provide better oversight which might increase the security of the buildings.

I hope that your Lent has been fruitful, please consider attending the Lenten program on Tuesday evenings at Christ Church Bellport.

In addition this year we will offer 3 contemplative Evening Prayer Services at 5:30 pm on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week. Services will be in the chapel. These will provide a way to enter more fully into the mystery of the Triduum, those Three Days from Good Friday to Easter, the most Holy Days of our liturgical year.

Vestry Highlights



- Welcomed new vestry members
- Date for Fashion Show set for May 12th
- Spring Fair to be June 2nd
- Plans for 175th anniversary celebration on 10/14 were discussed, to include brunch at an offsite venue
- Estimate for stairwell repair for karate school presented and re-approved
- Reviewed Diocesan training programs for Safe Church and Racial Awareness

Stewardship Committee



STEWARDSHIP

**Coming together in faithful community
to serve God in the world.**

THANKFULNESS

**“This is the day the Lord has made,
let us rejoice and be glad in it” (ps. 118, vs.
24)**

(yes, even on “bad” days or on days whose
duties we dread!)

Mother Liz’s sermon on the first Sunday in
Lent focused on quiet, alone time in the desert -
-- whatever and wherever our “desert” might be.
As each of us spends time alone this Lent, why
not focus on giving thanks.

In our daily lives crises and sad events crowd
into our thoughts --- as well they should,
especially if we are to act to ameliorate the
situation. However, when everything is going
along smoothly, it’s too easy for us to ignore
the importance of being thankful, daily. Each
morning I begin by reciting the psalm phrase
stated above, but after that . . .

In our solitude, we can focus on what we
should be truly thankful for --- not for worldly
goods or prestige, not as the Pharisee “I thank

God that I am not like other men” (Luke 18:”
9 – 14).

Perhaps this Lent I can, day by day, amass a
list of things it is important to be thankful for
and develop my own core of perpetual
thankfulness. We are by definition, stewards ---
caretakers: sometimes good, sometimes not-so-
good, sometimes terrible. Focusing on
thankfulness I hope to become a better steward
and give more positively to the life of our
faithful community.

I’ve started my list; will you?.

**“Songs of thankfulness and praise . . . “
(Hymn 135)**

Phyllis Voegeli, for the stewardship committee:
Laura Cooley, Martin Minogue, Conni Still

Looking Ahead

THE TRIDUUM

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday in which we
first celebrate the triumphal entrance of Christ into
Jerusalem. However the mood changes when we
read a narrated version of Jesus’ arrest, trial, and
execution according to the Gospel of Mark.

The Triduum, the three holiest days in our liturgical
year which begins on Thursday Evening

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On Maundy Thursday we remember the “Last
Supper” when Jesus instituted the celebration of the
Eucharist, and the commandment that Jesus gave to
his disciples, to love one another as he loved them.

Good Friday, the day on which our Lord was
crucified, is recognized as a day for fasting,
abstinence, and penitence. No Eucharist is
celebrated on this day to remind ourselves of what
the world would be like if Jesus had not become
incarnate in order to save us.

The Easter Vigil celebrates the resurrection of our Lord and the return of Light of Christ. We read the great stories of God's work in the world, beginning with creation and ending with Jesus' appearance to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary according to the Gospel of John.

On Easter Sunday we will celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord. We will light the Paschal candle at the 8:00 service and the children will participate in the flowering of the cross at the 10:00 service.

May this Holy Week lead us all to experience the joy of the Resurrection.

Blessings over Food at Easter

In some churches it is traditional to bless some of the food or wine that is to be served at the principal meal on Easter Day. If you have wine, or bread, or lamb, or others foods that you would like blessed, please bring it with you on Easter Day and during the announcements we will bless it on the altar.

Blessing in Homes at Easter

There is also an old tradition of inviting the parish priest to bless the homes of parishioners during the 50 days of Easter. I am not angling for hospitality but if you would like a blessing please call the office and make an appointment for a time that is convenient for you!

COFFEE HOUR on EASTER SUNDAY

On this "Queen of Feasts", let's have a "queenly feast" together. After each service someone will have made the coffee and set up the buffet table. We ask that each of you bring a sample of your favorite Easter morning treat for us to enjoy before we go off to our own family and friends celebrations.

Buildings and Grounds



- It was a busy month! The back of the church and the roof over the sacristy and choir room were replaced. The flat room had seven!!! layers which explains why it was leaking.
- The valve on the church furnace was replaced – it took two go-rounds so hopefully this will be it since replacing the thermo-coupler was not the solution. We had already tried that in December and again in early January.
- The floors in the parish hall and in the vestry room was cleaned and waxed.
- The interior windows broken during the robbery were replaced. Two additional screens were damaged and will need to be replaced as well.



Bill Beebe and Dee Laffin after clearing the Parish Hall to prepare for cleaning and waxing



“Christ has ... no other hands but yours”
St. Teresa of Avila

Raise the Roof

Please include in your prayers this month:

Those who are sick or in need:

Craig Shaber, Dylan & Family, Ed Smith, Linda Bocca, Mary, Mike, Marcy, Lillian Hemmert, Janis McEvoy, Lou Cooley, Nikki, Phyllis Trypuc, Johnny, Martin Gunkel, Bill Whyland, Jackie & Dick Root, Jeannine Cranor, Janice Hofmann, Ann Keyes, Barbara Ruest, Jennifer, Bruce Dimler, Adam, Laney, Dottie Krauer,

Those who are serving in the armed forces and their families:

Nicholas Lo Russo, Danny Martin, Samantha Schwartz



Lenten Forum

The Episcopal Churches of Christ Church, Bellport, St James, Brookhaven, St Paul’s, Patchogue, and the Lutheran Church of Our Savior, Patchogue

Invite you to join us for our 2018 Lenten Program

Reflecting on God’s action in salvation history as found in the Old Testament Readings from the Easter Vigil.

Bring your Bibles and something to share for the Potluck.

Join us beginning February 20

at Christ Episcopal Church
64 South Country Rd. Bellport, NY

6:00 pm Pot Luck Soup Supper

7:00 pm Lenten Program

8:00 pm Compline

20 February Creation (Genesis 1:1-2:4a)

27 February The Testing of Abraham (Genesis 22:1-18)

6 March The Flood (Genesis 7:1-5, 7:11-18, 8:6-18, 9:8-13)

13 March Deliverance at the Red Sea (Exodus 14:10-31, 15:20-21)

20 March Deliverance from the Fiery Furnace (Daniel 3:1-29)

Thanksgivings and Acknowledgments



Nancy and Tony Fava and Cathie Pliszak and all those who helped to prepare, serve, and clean up after the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Connie Still and Robin Sconzo and all those who helped to clean up and address the issues resulting from our break-in on March 2nd and special thanks to Clearview Glass for sending someone to repair the broken windows

Geppie Celauro for connecting with Rick Holborne to address our furnace problems

Bill Beebe and Dee Laffin for helping to remove the chairs and tables from the parish hall in preparation for cleaning and waxing

The members of the choir, AA and the Food Pantry who helped to put all the chairs and tables back after the cleaning and waxing of the parish hall floor

Ronny Pliszak and Ron Pliszak for dealing with an intruder in the parish hall which required calling the police

Walter Schiff for donating a chalice and paten that had belonged to Mother Paulette for use in the chapel

Richard Wallner and Judy Celauro for responding to my request for kitchen utensils

Rob and Janis McEvoy for faithfully picking up and delivering food for the Food Pantry

Theresa Julian for joining the altar guild

Pam Iovine for becoming an usher for the 8:00 Service

All those who brought in palms for preparing ashes for Ash Wednesday

The worshippers in the 8:00 service on February 18 for braving the cold and the worshippers in the 10:00 service for their flexibility in moving worship from the church to the parish hall.

Thrift Shop



St. Paul's Thrift shop deals in far more than used clothing and household goods; it also deals in conversation and through that in developing relationships and friendships among the volunteers and the customers. A network of trust and comfort is growing up around our little shop and once in a while folks feel easy enough to discuss personal issues and even to request prayer.

In addition, quite a few of our customers are drawn in to become sometime (not regular) volunteers who pop in and spend a few hours when they can to give us a hand.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannine Cranor and Conni Still

St. Clare's Guild



As of the beginning of February we will change our meeting time from Tuesday evening to Friday afternoon at 2:30 to accommodate those members of the guild who can no longer travel at night. We hope that more people will join our friendly and productive group.

Coffee Hour



Volunteers are needed to host the coffee hours after the 8 and 10 o'clock services. Sharon Minogue will give you all the instruction on how to make delicious coffee and where all the equipment is kept, and the goodies are up to your imagination and baking or shopping skills! Best of all you can be reimbursed for your purchases. Please see Sharon to sign up.



SAVE THE DATES!

Lenten Program: Soup Supper and Scripture Study of the Easter Vigil, Christ Church Bellport Tuesday Evenings at 6-8 PM

May 5, 2018 2 PM Fifth Annual Thrift Shop Fashion Show! More details to follow, volunteers needed to model, behind scenes and culinary experts.

June 2, 2018. Spring Fair. 9 AM-3PM Volunteers needed, see Cathie Pliszak.

Oct 14, 2018 is the 175th Anniversary Dinner

Watch for details!



No heat in church, Mo Liz prepares the altar
In the parish hall.



Mo Liz burning last year's palms to prepare
the ashes for Ash Wednesday.



Shrove Tuesday pancakes prepared by
Tony, Nancy, Cathie and Barbara

Empty plates, delicious Fat Tuesday evening!