

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

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Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321



Vestry

Wardens: Conni Still and Cathie Pliszak

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

Clerk: Laura Cooley

Treasurer: Barbara Lapinski;

Editor: Conni Still

Parish

Office Phone: 631-475-3078 **Thrift Shop Phone:** 631-307-9154

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 2019



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

Lent is upon us. Over the next 40 days, not counting Sundays, we have an opportunity to go deeper in our relationship with Christ through prayer, fasting, and alms-giving. I encourage you to expand your prayer life through use of the Daily Office, Forward Day-by-Day, or by using the meditations that are being made available through Episcopal Relief and Development.

You can read the Daily Office by following the directions in the back of the Prayer Book on pages 934-935 or by going to www.missionstclare.com where it is all laid out for you and even includes music if you wish to listen as well as read.

Forward Day-by-Day is available in the entrance to the Parish Hall.

I have forwarded to you the email which you can use to enroll for the Daily Lenten Meditations or paste the link below into your browser.

<https://episcopalrelief.us14.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=b78ff0ad1edb317537153e4c9&id=fd0ff5ae64>

Fasting keeps us mindful of the abundance in which we live, makes us realize our dependence on God and is a common practice in spiritual disciplines throughout the word. Jesus himself fasted during his 40 days in the desert,

Almsgiving is another way of acknowledging our dependence on God and helps us to recognize that God expects us to be merciful and generous to those in need. Episcopal Relief and Development <https://support.episcopalrelief.org/> offers a way to give to a variety of organizations and initiatives that are connected with the Episcopal Church at home and around the world.

Episcopal Ministries will soon be initiating its annual giving campaign. Episcopal Ministries is the main source for outreach funding in the Diocese. You can read about their initiatives at <http://www.episcopalministries.org/>.

Or you may have your own favorite charities or ministries. Give wherever our heart feels called to be generous, mindful that the discipline of Lent provides an opportunity to practice regular almsgiving.

Lent is not supposed to be punitive although we are expected to participate in a regular

examination of our conscience, and the Rite of Reconciliation, "Confession" as it is known in the Roman Catholic Church is available to anyone who asks. If you think you might be interested you can read through the two rites that we have in the Book of Common Prayer beginning on page 446 and call the office to schedule an appointment. In the Episcopal Church we say: *None must, All may, and Some should.* Let your conscience be your guide.

Our Lenten program *Final Words from the Cross* features a DVD narrated by Adam Hamilton and a book that expands on the material in the DVD. It is a very good program and looks at the last 7 phrases spoken by Christ on the cross as recorded in each of the 4 gospels. Hamilton looks at what these words meant then and what they can mean for us today as we try to live out our faith.

For those who are interested in learning more about the Bible but have gotten bogged down when trying to read it all the way through *The Path* offers an accessible guide to the trajectory that is the most important part of scripture, the story of how God keeps working God's plan of salvation...in spite of humanity's efforts to self-destruct. The book is readable and contains direct quotations from scripture. We will be repeating this program so if you can't make it this time the opportunity will come around again.

The same is true for the book that we will begin reading before our Wednesday Eucharist, *Walk in Love*. This book provides an in-depth look at the prayers and rites in the Book of Common Prayer and explains how the prayer book has shaped our understanding of God. This book is well-done and will become the basis for any adult confirmation classes going forward. Should you have any interest in being confirmed, now is a good time to start the process!

Vestry Highlights

- Pancake Supper scheduled for March 5 from 6-7 PM \$6 children under 3 free

- Lenten Program beginning Tuesday March 12, 7 PM to study The Last Seven Words of Christ
- Rose Sunday will be March 31. One Service at 9 AM followed by a Parish Breakfast
- The steeple is in need of repair again, the flashing has blown off and some of the shingles are curling and falling off. One estimate to repair this will be \$10,000 and we are waiting for another estimate.
- Spring Fair/Craft and Vendor Fair set for June 1. See Cathie Pliszak to rent space.
- Looking for a volunteer to assist with the Parish Audit
- Ronnie MacDonald gave a report on the grant workshop she attended to find funding for some of our projects.
- Looking for volunteers for delegates for convention.

Stewardship Committee Our Faith Community Seeking to do God's Work

Being a member of St. Paul's stewardship committee is something new for me, and I'm glad that I made the decision to join the committee. St. Paul's is an important blessing that provides needed services to the community. It is a place of comfort to people in crisis and the heart and soul of the church is our congregation. The stewardship committee works very hard to make St. Paul's a church that people want to keep coming to in good faith to experience God's love in their lives and enjoy the blessed company of all faithful people.

The leadership of our people on church committees is vital to the survival of our church. It is so important for the community at large to have the services that churches like St. Paul's offer to everybody. I feel that I have a responsibility to step up to the plate and try to make St. Paul's a home run for Patchogue and our place in the world, because sooner or later, we have something to offer everybody. It would be a terrible tragedy and loss if St. Paul's church were to falter and go away. We

offer aid to the poor, comfort to people in their times of loss, and joy to the heart.

I pray that I become a valued member of our stewardship committee. I thank God that I found such a wonderful and delightful church to be a part of and consider myself blessed. I hope to try to make being a part of St. Paul's church that others can experience the good will and company of all faithful people. For our congregation I wish blessings, joy and peace through Christ our Lord.

Respectfully submitted, Scott Harris.

Your Stewardship Committee: Phyllis Voegeli, Conni Still, Laura Cooley, Scott Harris, Martin Minogue

Buildings and Grounds



The squirrels are back! I heard them while presiding at the altar on February 24 and they have been seen entering and exiting a corner of the church roof and the Parish Hall by the folks in the Karate School. Do you have a trap you could lend us? We need to double up on our catch and relocate program quickly.



Do You Have Keys To Our St. Paul's Kingdom?

If you have keys to any door in the church or parish hall please let Ronny Pliszak parish administrator know. List your name and your contact information, phone and email. Thank you.



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

Raise the Roof

Thanks to all who have contributed to this and who continue to do so; we'll have updates for you in a couple of months. It's not too late to begin to pledge, the work is ongoing, see the office for a pledge card.

Please include in your prayers this month:

Those who are sick or in need:

Craig Shaber, Dylan & Family, Ed Smith, LindaBocca, Mike, Marcy, Lillian Hemmert, Janis McEvoy, Nikki, Phyllis Trypuc, Martin Gunkel, Bill Whyland, Bruce Demler, Mary Lou Immel, Jeannine Cranor, Emeka Azinge, Shirley Bleacher, Conni Still, Ken Cooley, Pauline Minogue, Donna T., Lucille Clark, Wilma Cooley, Lisa, Daniel Rosemary & Larry Smith, Seamus Butler, Mikki & Family, Eliana, Sandra, Lorraine



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

Samantha Schwartz, Nicolas LoRusso

Thanksgivings and Acknowledgments

- Ronnie MacDonald for attending the grant-writing workshop to help us apply for additional monies for building repairs
- Scott Harris and Bill Beebe for changing the filters on the church furnace
- Connie Still for working with the plumber about replacing the hot water heater in the rectory
- Sharon Minogue for doing double duty as an acolyte
- The Lectors for their faithfulness
- Phyllis Voegeli for compiling the liturgical schedule
- Kevin Weeks for scheduling the Lectors and the Chalice Bearers
- Martin Minogue for overseeing the Ushers, the Counters
- Laura Cooley for her work with the Acolytes
- The Thrift Shop Volunteers for all their work
- Michael Daly for his music and stepping in while we wait for Erica to receive her visa

Thrift Shop Doings

Last month the thrift shop had a very good month. Part of that success was due to the sale of a very expensive ring that had been a wonderfully generous donation. We had had much interest in that piece for quite awhile but our friendly jeweler had given us the value and we were very happy to sell it for the asking price.

Of course not every day can be like that! We have begun to keep an actual customer count for our shop statistics. Maybe it was because today was a holiday but we had twenty one customers come through our doors and our deposit at the end of the day was only \$24.48, a little more than \$1 per customer plus tax! We have three more days to catch up to our monthly goal.

Come shop for your St. Patrick's Day items!

Respectfully submitted
Conni Still and Jeannine Cranor



St. Clare's Guild

It's a new year and we need to become more regular in our attendance while we plan out our projects for year 2019.

Crochet Projects

- We usually have at least one project that is charity-driven and is in aide of some larger effort. Let's all scout around and see what is out there this year and discuss our ideas at the Friday, February 15th meeting.
- Then we need a group project we can all work on together (such as, for example an afghan or blanket) that we can sell tickets for as a fund raiser for the Christmas Fair

Commented [JC1]:

Personal Projects

- Each of us may also be working on our own personal projects which may be any sort of needlecraft, sewing, knitting, embroidery or crochet.
- We meet on Friday at 2:30 pm in the Thrift Shop. Please call Jeannine or Conni at 631-307-9154 if you cannot attend so we don't wait for you. Thanks.



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!

March 5, 2019 Tuesday- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 6-7 PM \$6 children under 3 free

March 6, 2019 – Ash Wednesday -Imposition of Ashes 12 noon and 7 PM

Lenten Program Beginning March 12 7 PM- The Last Seven Words of Christ- Coffee and Tea ONLY!

April 14-Palm Sunday

April 18- Maundy Thursday

April 19- Good Friday

April 20- Lighting of the Paschal Candle

April 21- Easter Day



Blessing of the wardens Conni Still,
& Cathie Pliszak & vestrymen Scott Harris
& and Charles Klagges



St. Patrick's Day at the Thrift Shop