

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:** Conni Still 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***

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

**Email:** [www.stpaulspatchogue.org](http://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

Vol.XVII ed.11

November 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

It is appropriate that our November Newsletter should be all about thanksgiving. In November we celebrate our national holiday of Thanksgiving and we also help others to celebrate by providing the fixings for a Thanksgiving feast. Thanksgiving celebrates the bounty of the God's creation and the hospitality of the Native Americans who welcomed those early immigrants to the New World.

As a parish we have much for which to be thankful. The 175<sup>th</sup> Celebration was a tremendous success; Bishop Provenzano pronounced it a "win." I was so relieved because the use of the liturgy from 1789 was fraught with some logistical challenges. Fortunately the Bishop was extremely flexible and helped to make this archaic liturgy meaningful. I also appreciate those who attended the service and entered fully into the spirit in which it was offered, including Laura Cooley who acolyted and helped to work out some of those logistical challenges. My knees recovered in about 24 hours. Particular thanks goes to Legislator Rob Colarco who together with his daughter worshipped with us on that day.

The luncheon was a great success, the venue was perfect and we had some gracious speeches from our Mayor, Paul Pontieri, Legislator Rob Colarco, and Neil Foley from the town of Brookhaven. Each of them presented proclamations from their respective constituencies: the Village of Patchogue, the Town of Brookhaven, and Suffolk County.

All who attended received a copy of the liturgy, the journal featuring the history of St. Paul's and ads from our many well-wishers, a crocheted cross, and an Episcopal calendar featuring St. Paul's.

Much to my amazement that souvenir journal grossed over \$5,000! Therefore thanks are due to all those who took ads, or boosters. Please remember to patronize those merchants who were so generous to us and Borello Nursery, although they didn't take an ad they donated the flowers that decorated our tables at lunch.

Yes, it was a great time and it didn't happen without the work of many hands.

Kudo's to Ronnie and David MacDonald who oversaw the whole process, especially finding a

venue and working with Lombardi's to plan the luncheon.

David also did a great job compiling the history of St. Paul's from a variety of sources for the journal, and for putting the finishing touches on the slideshow (as well as providing the projector and screen) that reflected our life together over many years.

Conni Still for compiling the pictures for the slideshow and putting together the table of artifacts, overseeing the journal ads and working with Ronnie MacDonald and Ronny Pliszak and our print vendor to put them together.

Many thanks to all those who went out and solicited ads.

Barbara Greco, Rita Hihn, and Ronnie MacDonald and all those who helped to make crosses for the journal.

Ronny Pliszak, whose expertise in organizing such functions contributed towards planning, organizing and tracking: save the date postcards, invitations, journal ads, seating arrangements, flowers, and last minute proofreading not only of the journal but of the bulletin for the liturgy.

Jeannine Cranor for writing out the placecards.

Ronnie MacDonald, Connie Still, and Ronny Pliszak for figuring out seating arrangements.

Walter Schiff for donating the St. Paul's Calendars.

The altar guild for cleaning and polishing and rearranging the space to accommodate our liturgy.

Dee Laffin, Robin Sconzo, Bill Beebe, Barbara, Michael, and Dominic Greco, Charles Polley, Dave and Ronnie MacDonald, Scott Harris, John Gilson, Teresa Julian, and anyone else whom I have forgotten to mention for the pre-event clean-up. Bushes were trimmed, weeds were pulled, trees

were felled, porches and vestibules were painted, furniture was moved, fans and air conditioners were retired, clutter was removed, and flowers were planted. This is a large piece of property and it looked well-maintained and downright attractive.

Anonymous donors who purchased tickets so that others might enjoy the festivities.

While all this was happening, our day-to-day life continued and additional thanks are due to

Mary Dykman for tackling the key project, tracking down those who have keys and weeding through the piles of keys that seemed to have no purpose and for writing up the procedures for our annual audit, a tedious but fiscally responsible endeavor.

All those who have made pastoral visits or reached out to those who have been hospitalized in the last few weeks: Dick Stevenson, Judy Celauro, Joanne and Tim Bailey, Ronnie MacDonald, Stephanie Froberg, Martin Minogue, and Charles Polley.

Steve Julian for beginning the monumental work of replacing the plexi-glass windows on the church.

Profound thanks and farewell to our former senior warden Robin Sconzo as she leaves for her new life in Paris, Texas

### **Vestry Highlights**

- 175<sup>th</sup> Celebration was a wonderful success! Thanks to all who worked so hard to make this happen.
- St. Paul's will host the Community Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 20 at 7PM, reception to follow.
- Dee Laffin will oversee Building and Grounds task force.
- We have received a donation to replace the floor in Phipps Hall.
- Exploring possible Oboe and Piano concert on December 8
- December 1 Christmas Fair preparations in progress

- Replacing the clouded plexi-glass
- Ingathering of Pledges on November 4, 2018

**Stewardship Committee**  
Stewardship

**“Our faith community seeking to do God’s work.”**

When I think about being a good steward, I associate the term with two words, duty and gratitude. Duty, in the way we offer our resources to help someone or something else. We recognize the need to give from what we have been given and there is an element of responsibility as we give out of a sense of duty.

In the biblical understanding of stewardship, gratitude is added to duty. We are grateful for what God gives us as we give back to God. November is a time of thanksgiving and I encourage you to start talking about the blessings God has given each of us, with family, health, resources, and the ground we walk on and the air we breathe. Consider the blessings God gives us every day, especially the gift of His son, sent into the world to offer us unconditional love and forgiveness.

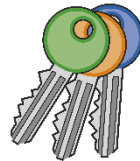
When we begin to count our blessings, we see that God has given to us abundantly. If we feel any sense of gratitude for these blessings, we want to give back to God in appreciation for all He has first given us. When a child receives a gift from someone, usually the parents encourage the child to say, “thank you” to the gift giver. In a similar way, we’ve all been given countless gifts from God and sometimes need to be reminded to say “Thank you, God”.

People in our community and around the world need to see the hope of Jesus and God’s abundance in us. “Our faith community seeking to do God’s work” is our opportunity to deliver that message of love to those around us. When we start recognizing and counting our blessings rather than our problems, spirits will be lifted and ministries renewed and

revitalized. Happy Thanksgiving, everyone!

From St. Paul’s Stewardship Committee  
Laura Cooley, Mary Dykman, Martin Minogue,  
Conni Still, Phyllis Voegeli

**Buildings and Grounds**



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

Mary Dykman has agreed to organize the keys and key holders for all St. Paul’s buildings. Please send her an email [mary.dykman@gmail.com](mailto:mary.dykman@gmail.com) with a list of keys you have to any door in the church or parish hall. 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**

Thank you for your continued support for the Raise the Roof Campaign. It's not too late to begin to pledge, the work is ongoing, see Martin Minogue for a pledge card.

Please include in your prayers this month:

**Those who are sick or in need:**

Craig Shaber, Dylan & Family, Ed Smith, Linda Bocca, Mike, Marcy, Lillian Hemmert, Janis McEvoy, Nikki, Phyllis Trypuc, Martin Gunkel, Bill Whyland, Bruce Demler, Mary Lou Immel, Lisa, John, Val & Friend, Robin, Greg Goshgarian, the Martin Family, Lillian Coulton, Alyssa, Emeka Azinge, Jaxson and Family, Jeannine Cranor, KC,

**The Departed**

Lou Cooley

**Thrift Shop**

We are in serious need of some able-bodied volunteers. Two of our best have moved, one is looking after a grandchild, one has a family crisis to deal with, one has health problems requiring frequent hospitalization and the rest are doing the best they can with our diminishing staff. Meanwhile, Conni and I are experiencing our own health-related issues resulting in a decline in our physical capabilities. We began the Thrift Shop operating on the premise that our greatest resource would be the contribution of our retired congregants. Please pray that God will send us just the right people to keep the Thrift Shop going so that St. Paul's does not lose this revenue stream. Respectfully submitted, Jeannine Cranor

**St. Clare's Guild**



As of the beginning of February we changed 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.



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!**

**November 18, 2018**

*Share God's grateful generosity by adopting a family for Thanksgiving.*



Please sign up to purchase the trimmings for a Thanksgiving Dinner. The St. Paul's Food Pantry is our most active ministry and it needs your support. We hope to provide at least (60) families with the complete fixings for a Thanksgiving Dinner. We have already been given the turkey, so all we need to provide are the fixings. **The sign-up sheet is located in the Parish Hall (window in office).**

- Stuffing**
- Gravy**
- Cranberry Sauce**
- Potatoes**
- Sweet Potatoes**

**Rolls  
Butter  
Veggies  
Pies  
Juice**

All foodstuffs need to be delivered to the Parish Hall on **Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup> by 11:30am, or Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup> after 5pm.** The St. Paul's Food Pantry will be distributing Baskets on Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.

November 20, 2018:

**The Interfaith Thanksgiving** service will be held here at St. Paul's on Tuesday, **November 20<sup>th</sup>** starting at 7:00pm. Reception will follow. If you are interested in help to arrange the reception please contact Mo Liz

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**December 1, 2018:** Christmas Vendor Fair, bring your friends and families!



A Full Church!



Bishop Lawrence Provenzano



Mother Liz offers a blessing



The altar is set against the back wall as it would have been 175 years ago.



The Bishop wore vestments similar to those worn when the church was built.



Proclamation from Village of Patchogue presented by Mayor Pontieri.



Proclamation from Town of Brookhaven presented by Neil Foley



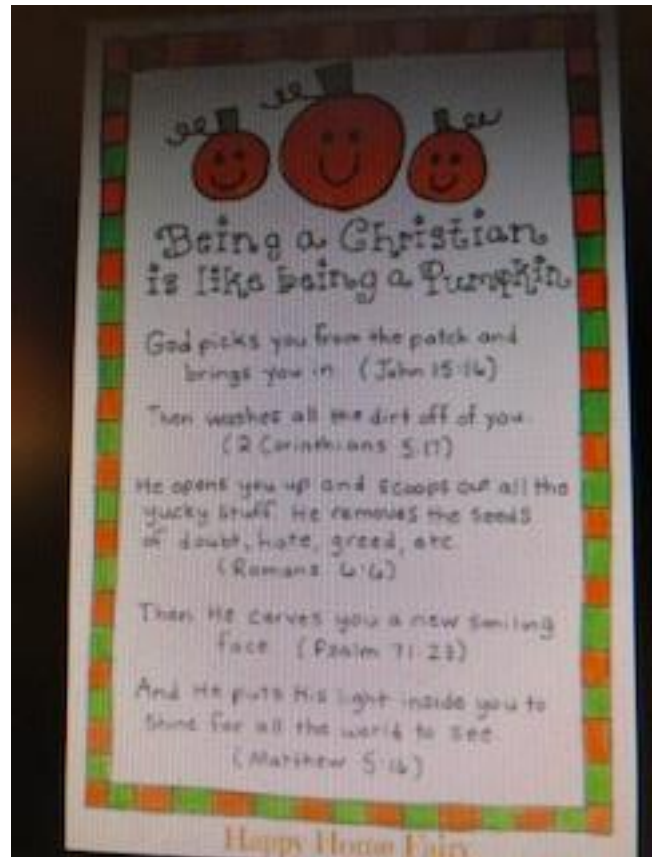
Editor's Note: Conni Still



Teresa and Steve are having a good time.



Marjorie and Meredith enjoyed the celebration too!



From the Happy Home Fairy