

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

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Vestry

Wardens: Conni Still and Cathie Pliszak

Ronnie MacDonald, Scott Harris, Maurine Jacobs, 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

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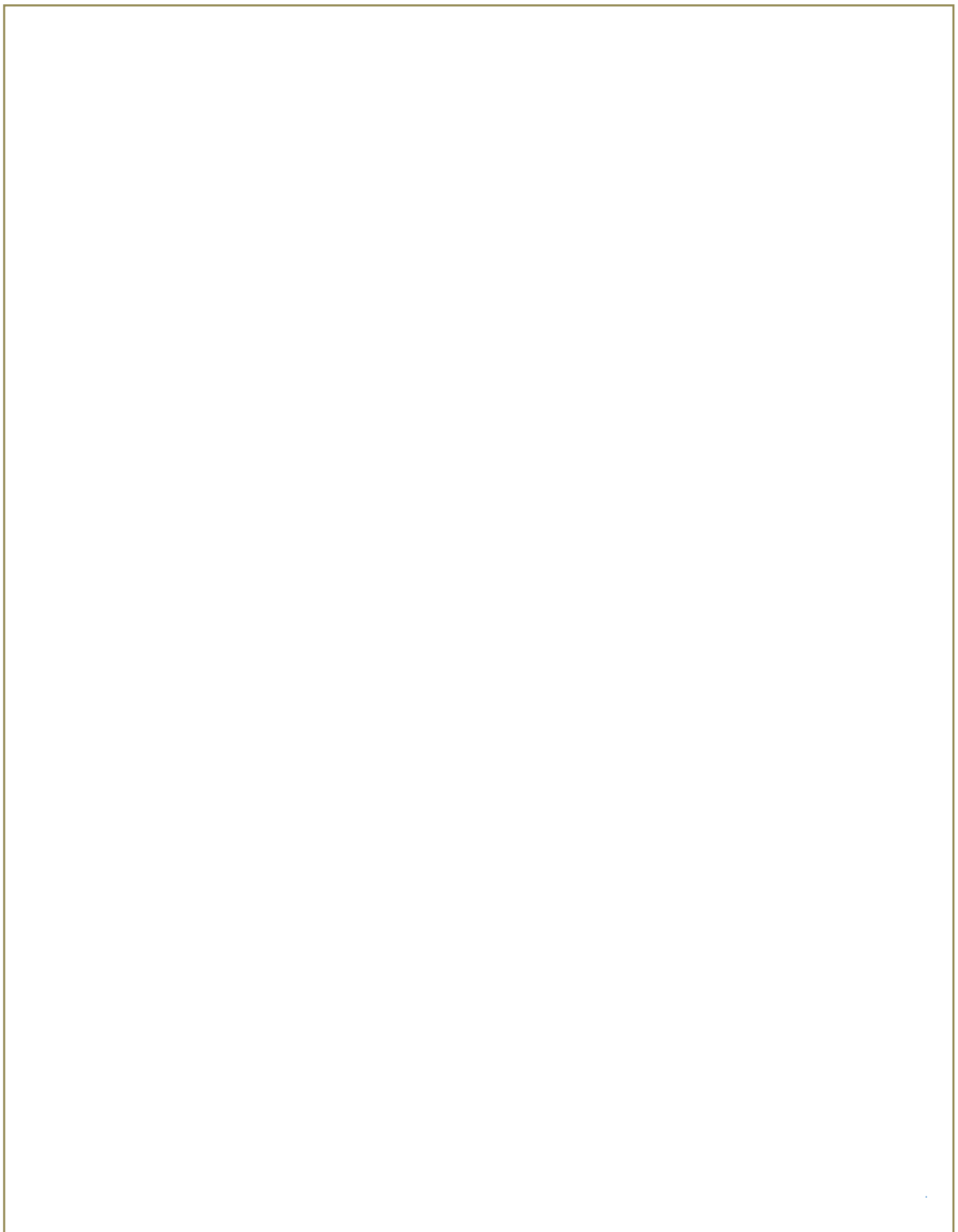
Website: www.stpaulspatchogue.com

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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JANUARY 2020



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

New Year's greetings and blessings to all in 2020!

One way to begin the New Year aright is to have a house blessing. It takes just a few minutes and a phone call to the office to arrange a time. I will come by with prayers, a bit of Holy Water, a candle, and some chalk and your home will be blessed for the remainder of the year.

Vestry Highlights

- The Stewardship Committee will follow up on Raise the Roof pledges.
- The Annual Meeting is Scheduled for Sunday, January 26, 2020, one service beginning at 9 AM with Pot Luck Brunch. There will be a recognition of the young acolytes who have been serving so faithfully.
- Several names have been submitted for nomination to open vestry positions by the committee.
- Thanks for the donations to Adopt A Family. Suggested that next year we reach out to the Senior Citizen Community in Nursing Homes
- A Tithe of \$40 was made to Island Harvest from the October Festival
- Security Light was installed over the church ramp.

- On January 5 there will be a brain-storming meeting for fundraising ideas between the 8 and 10 services. All ideas welcomed!

STEWARDSHIP

Participating in our community of faith through giving

As we look forward to the new year and new decade, the Stewardship Committee wanted to share with you some of our favorite hymns and why they're special to us. We encourage you to look these up the next time you're sitting in church waiting for service to begin. Read the words and feel God's presence.

The hymn which I reflected on is #405 from our hymnal, All Things Bright and Beautiful. I carry a memory of the children of St. Paul's singing this hymn with joy and smiles. God has created all we see and, truly, the Lord God made us all. It is a hymn of grace and glory. **Laura Cooley**

Hymn \$475 --- "God himself is with us"

Participating in corporate worship through the singing of hymns can be glorious. For me, the perfect hymn consists of words that express holy mysteries much more eloquently than most of us can in daily discourse; if those perfect words are paired with music that is beautiful on its own and greatly

enhances the meaning of the words, such a pairing elevates the hymn and us as we sing it.

The words in this hymn express profoundly God's presence with us and our desire to be present in and with God. The music lends a contemplative mood to the first two phrases and then elevates our thoughts at the end of each verse.

While I have many "favorite" hymns, this is one of the best of them Ancient words and music, still enabling us to express eloquently our deepest thoughts and desires as we sing together.

Phyllis Voegeli

One hymn that I enjoy singing is number 460 in the hymnal 1982, "Alleluia, sing to Jesus", I can say is one of my favorites. Being a member of the church choir, there are many hymns that I like to sing. But "Alleluia sing to Jesus" is a hymn that our choir can sing the tune to in parts. The tune, Hyfrydol, was written in 1830 by Welshman Rowland H. Pritchard, who was 19 years old when he wrote it. The tune has been used as a tune for at least a dozen hymns, which are metered the same. In the hymnal 1982, the tune is also the tune for "Love divine, all loves excelling" (#657)

The words to Alleluia sing to Jesus weren't written for years after the tune. The poet Chatterton Dix wasn't even born until 1837. The original words used with the tune Hyfrydol (pronounced Hev'redol) were undoubtedly Welsh, as Rowland Pritchard was a Welshman who composed a choir book for children choristers that was published in 1833. That was the first publication of the tune Hyfrydol, which is a Welsh word that means Cheerful.

I like the hymn "Alleluia sing to Jesus" also because I've managed to memorize the words to all five verses, and thus can sing in the shower. I have also memorized the tenor part and of course the melody. I always look forward to singing this hymn. **Scott Harris**

Most people know that I am involved with the Boy Scouts of America. I guess being a Scouter is a natural fit for me as I get so much pleasure from being in the outdoors. I am always in awe of and filled with a sense of wonder for the world around us. A few years ago, Sharon and I went to visit the Grand Canyon and as I walked up to the rim for the first time my very first thought was "Oh Lord, When I in awesome wonder, consider all the world thy hands have made". The first words to How Great Thou Art was not only so appropriate in that moment but in many before and since.

I find myself singing this particular hymn quite often and not just because of the natural beauty of the physical earth that God has provided for us. How Great Thou Art reminds of the vast power of God over all of his creation and also for the abundant love that he has for all of us. For me, it's a reminder to always give God the credit, to thank Him for everything and to recognize his hands at work in my life. "Then sings my soul, my savior God, to thee: How great thou art"! **Martin Minogue**

One of my favorite hymns is #234 I Sing A Song of the Saints of God. It is usually sung on All Saints Day which is my birthday, making it a sweet memory. But I have always loved the words because it mentions so many of us who are "saints" in our church. We are working so hard to show how our faith reaches out to our community and this song reminds us of all the people we touch. We might not see a shepherdess on a green, but there are those who care for people, our police and firemen and ambulance workers. We don't have a queen but do have local government officials, and we certainly have a wonderful priest. We pray always for the soldiers and our doctors, teachers, those who work in the community around us. And we pray for those who are ill and less fortunate as we minister to them with food and caring. The best part of the song is the last line, "For the saints of God are just folk like me, And I mean to be one too."

Conni Still

Respectfully submitted for the Stewardship committee.



BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Snow fencing in front of Rectory was installed. Reviewed security concerns of cleaning and paper products and purchased locks for cabinets.

Thank you to young people in Twig pick up and raking and debris removal by Scout troops.

Salt and related equipment set up in preparation for winter.

Best wishes from your B&G team



Bill Beebe, Diane Butler, Gail Davis, Scott Harris,
Teresa Julian and Dee Laffin



*“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.

Thanksgivings and Acknowledgments

Teresa Julian for her work on the altar guild in setting up for our Christmas Eve and Christmas day services

Diane Butler for tackling the maintenance of the Parish Hall refrigerator

Food Pantry volunteers for coordinating all the extra donations including clothing and toys for the Christmas distribution

Frank Getz for erecting the steeple cross on the tree trunk in the parking lot

Everyone who pledged for our 2020 Stewardship Campaign

Seamus Butler for becoming the newest volunteer in the Thrift Shop

The Monday Night Bereavement Group for contributing to the Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Pantry distributions

Buildings and Grounds and all the children who helped to collect sticks

All those who participated in greening the church and decorating the Christmas tree

All those who contributed towards our gifts for the Adopted Family

Ronnie MacDonald for coordinating the Adopted Family gifts and delivering them to St. Peters, Bayshore

The members of the choir for additional music during the holidays

Michael Daly for providing musical accompaniment and directing the choir

Daniel Minogue for his musical accompaniment on Christmas Eve

Tracy Classon for planning and directing the Children's Pageant – and the volunteers who helped on Christmas Eve

The liturgical ministers especially Katheryn Polley and Summer Immel for their roles in our holiday services

Ronny Pliszak for producing all the thank you notes for the Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Pantry Distributions

All those who have expressed care and concern for my health as I am going through treatment

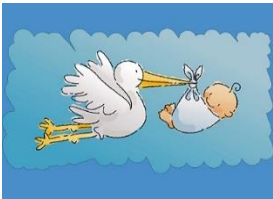
Please include in your prayers this month:

Craig Shaber, Dylan & Family, Ed Smith, Linda Bocca, Mike, Marcy, Lillian Hemmert, Janis McEvoy, Nikki, Phyllis Trypuc, Martin Gunkel, Bill Whyland, Jeannine Cranor, Steven Wallner, Emeka Azinge, Conni Still, Pauline Minogue, Rosemary & Larry Smith, Seamus Butler, Dawn, Joanne, Kenny, Janine Hope, Sharon Minogue, Laney, Sara Lonchar, Tony Bennet, Patty Lapinski, Marion Shea, Mother Liz, Colleen, Mary Dykman, Daniel & Family, Peggy Raiona, Robert Fardella, Marilyn Moonan, Matthew Briggs, Ken & Jen Russo

Prayer for the Parish

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.





Congratulations to Anthony Fava III and Alexis Marisi on the birth of Anthony Fava IV on December 16.

Thrift Shop Doings

There are so many wonderful things in our little shop! Diane Butler has been coaching Conni how to market individual items for sale on Facebook and the ads are very attractive. I do believe this will help us offer our exceptional items to a wider clientele who may “discover” our shop when they come for the advertised piece.

In the meantime, there ARE several real treasures in the shop. They will never be sold. They are our volunteers and especially Teri, Jeannine and Conni, without our treasures, there would be no shop.

Respectfully submitted, Jeannine Cranor and Conni Still



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,



Food Pantry

The Food Pantry served 307 families in November, 684 adults, 467 children and 93 over 65.

St. Clare's Guild

Due to lack of participation and cold weather coming we have decided to put St. Clare's Guild on hiatus until further notice.



SAVE THE DATES!

Monday, January 6, 2020

Feast of the Epiphany

7:00 PM Holy Eucharist with Music

The celebration of Christmas concludes with the Epiphany on January 6th.

On Monday, January 6th at 7pm, we will rejoice and remember the arrival of the Three Kings who brought the gifts of Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh to the baby Jesus. Please bring an appropriate baby gift to support Mercy Center Ministries which provides assistance to pregnant and parenting teens.

Diapers, wipes, formula, clothing, - in short anything that a baby might need. If you have young children yourself you know how expensive these items can be and how hard it is for those who are struggling to provide for their children. Won't you please join us in providing these practical necessities for those less fortunate than ourselves.

Sunday, January 26, Annual Meeting

One Service at 9:00 AM ...

followed by Brunch

Bring something to share



Thanksgiving Donation Bags 2019



Jackson was a Twig Picker



Greening the Church, Kevin is the experienced Volunteer.



Greening the Church, Mike, Dave, Warren



Dee and Gail sweep up the "greens"



Christmas Eve 2019



Thanks to Alison and young people for
Decorating the Parish Hall Tree



Car filled with Adopt A Family Gifts



Christmas Eve Pageant Participants