

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

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321

Vestry

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Emeka Azinge, Diane Butler, Barbara Greco, Charles Klagges, Martin Immel Jr., Maurine Jacobs, Teresa Julian, Ronnie MacDonald, Nancy Western

Clerk: Conni Still

Treasurer: Barbara Lapinski

Editor: Conni Still

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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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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



A Word from Mother Liz

As we continue into the third month of exile from our church building I am happy to say that there is a diocesan task force meeting to determine how we might begin to open up on July 1. There are some significant logistical issues involved in just how to re-open and what this means will be different for every parish. We need to determine how to clean between services, how to administer Holy Communion, where to hold our services: in the church or in the parish hall, how to manage traffic flow, how to provide service bulletins, as well as how to continue to provide worship for those who cannot or would not be comfortable attending in person. Fortunately we have some input on the decisions being made since Dee Laffin is a member of the task force! We look forward to hearing from them in the near future.

In the meantime we have had our first Zoom Morning Prayer Service and will continue to distribute the week's service electronically and by snail mail.

I am grateful for the faithfulness that you all have shown and appreciate your flexibility as we try to accommodate changing conditions.

Each week the bishop hosts a clergy conference via Zoom and this past week we had a presentation by a chaplain from John's Hopkins Hospital in Maryland who was talked to us about the trauma and grieving going on because of the pandemic. We all have our own losses to deal with, some matters of life and death, others more wearing, like social isolation, and still others more subtle - the general anxiety that weighs on us all in a time of uncertainty. I took away two points from the presentation: trust that God is with us in whatever is going on and don't make any major decisions that can be postponed. Apparently none of us are functioning with completely healthy brains right now so we are liable to make decisions that we might regret under normal circumstances.

I miss you all and encourage you to check in with me and your fellow parishioners. Staying in touch is probably the most healthy thing we can do right now.

Don't be shy!



VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Pledges are being kept up to date. Thank You.

No income from Thrift Shop, Karate School , donations from AA but utilities are lower and no cleaning and snow removal has helped the budget.

The Cemetery Restoration Committee has found that it will not be able to take over the St. Paul's portion of the cemetery for both legal and financial reasons. This is disappointing because it means that St. Paul's is going to have to take a more active role in its upkeep. Our ongoing challenge has been the lack of an endowment to maintain the cemetery and that it has not operated as an active cemetery so there has been no income. Mo. Liz has asked the bishop for support and he referred her to Anthony Natale the Construction Manager for the diocese about the assistance that could be provided.

The Fall Fundraiser is still in the air and the date for the October Harvest Festival will be decided at the next vestry meeting.

The Parochial Report was reviewed and accepted.

STEWARDSHIP

“Participating in our community of faith through giving.”

The past few weeks have been unprecedented. We are all struggling to cope with a new reality and new

technology. The power of our faith community has been shining more clearly than ever, as evidenced by tremendous gifts of time, talent and treasure. We would like to acknowledge as many of you as we can:

- Thanks to the entire parish for ongoing prayers! Please don't stop!
- Thanks to those of you who are continuing to keep up with your pledge offerings. These funds are critical during this time and we need everyone to be as mindful as possible to your commitment. Keep those pledges coming!
- Thanks to the vestry for your outreach and efforts to stay connected in this time of social distancing! We appreciate you!
- Thanks to the wonderful individuals supporting the Food Pantry: Judy Celauro, Diane Butler, Rita Hihn, Barbara & Michael Greco, Janice & Rob McEvoy. Apologies to anyone whose name has been left off the list, you are all brave and valiant soldiers serving our community. God bless you!
- Thanks to Dee Laffin and Gail Davis for their continued work on St. Paul's Building and Grounds. We see the fruits of your labor!
- Thanks to Martin Minogue for technology assistance! The Zoom services continue to be a joyful challenge. 😊
- Thanks to Nancy Western for her work with the Patchogue C.O.A.D. (Community Organizations Active in Disaster). Keep up the good work!
- Thanks to Robin Cooley who has been volunteering with Shopping Angels and supporting some of our parishioners by shopping and delivering groceries. She is a blessing!

There are no doubt many more of you who have been giving and supporting family members and parishioners. Please know that we are so grateful to everyone and you are loved. Our theme this year has proven so poignant, “participating in our community of faith through giving.” Congratulations, St. Paul's, well done!

From St. Paul's Stewardship Committee
Laura Cooley, Scott Harris, Martin Minogue,
Conni Still, Phyllis Voegeli

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



BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

As a result of the parish buildings being closed, or put to very limited use, the B&G Committee members have focused on improvements to the grounds and exteriors of our buildings. Our work has included:

Arrangement for a landscaping contractor to trim hedges; trim trees; cut lawn; trim shrubs; remove large fallen branches and debris from backyard area; rake and remove remaining leaves and remove vegetation between north side of Parish Hall and cyclone fence.

In addition members have:

Downsized the garden bed in front of Parish Hall; weeded; trimmed nearby trees and shrubs; created a brick border around the garden, and fertilized and planted grass seed in area formerly in front of the garden bed.

Restored garden area around the sundial located near driveway between the Church and Parish Hall.

Weeded and trimmed bushes around the foundation of the Church to remove all vegetation touching the foundation of the building. (Ongoing)

Regularly removed trash, debris, cigarette butts, etc. from Parish grounds.

Currently we are in the process of (1) removing bamboo and other vegetation from the north side of the Parish Hall and (2) installing stepping stones in front of the bins used by our Thrift Shop personnel, located in the back of the St. Nicholas Wing.

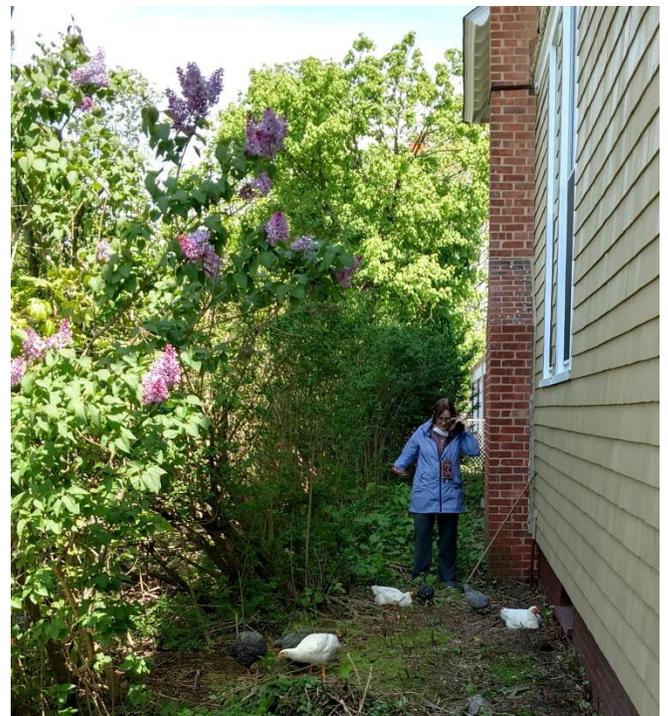
Respectfully submitted: **Dee Laffin**



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

Raise the Roof

Thank you to all who have contributed to this and who continue to do so. We gave out an update this month since we only have one year to go. It's not too late to begin to pledge, the work is ongoing, see the office for a pledge card.



Dee Laffin with some new Buildings and Grounds volunteers

Please include in your prayers this month:

Craig, Dylan & Family, Ed, Linda, Mike, Marcy, Lillian, Janis, Nikki, Martin, Bill, Jeannine, Conni, Pauline, Rosemary & Larry, Seamus, Dawn, Joanne, Kenny, Janine, Tony Bennet, Mother Liz, Peggy, Robert, Marilyn, Matthew, Liz, Val, Brucei, Kim & Family, Margaret, Linda, Bob, John, Buddy, Sharon and family, Michael and family



Prayer for the Parish

Almighty and ever living 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.

Reminder about Shopping Angels New York

Laura Cooley is one of the coordinators leading the efforts for Shopping Angels New York to connect vulnerable populations to volunteers wanting to support them.

Shopping Angels is a program designed to provide services to those populations deemed especially at-risk for the novel COVID-19 virus that is spreading throughout the United States. To help ease the uncertainty, anxiety, and fear surrounding this pandemic, we are volunteering our time to personally deliver groceries or other shopping necessities to those who may prefer to stay within the safety of their own home at no additional cost.

Shopping Angels can also deliver to individuals infected with COVID-19, but this status must be disclosed to the volunteer so that both parties can exercise strict caution during the delivery.

To volunteer or to receive assistance fill out the Google form (<https://tinyurl.com/shoppingangels-register>)* and we give that information to state coordinators.

The state coordinator(s) reaches out and asks if a volunteer can help, and then assigns the able and healthy volunteer to a client. The volunteer then receives an email regarding protocol and the client’s address. From here, the volunteer will reach out to the client to coordinate a shopping trip and delivery!

Use Laura’s phone number for questions and the email address is: shoppingangelsny@gmail.com

You can find other information on the national Facebook Page, www.facebook.com/shoppingangelsinc.



Pray For Those Who Have Died

John Daly, father of Michael Daly and Lillian Coulton, mother of Sharon Minogue

Thrift Shop Doings

The Thrift Shop is closed for the duration. I am submitting reminder notices to the local papers. We are planning how to reopen with wearing masks and gloves. Keeping social distancing and limiting numbers of customers shopping and requiring them to wear masks also. We have been in touch with our volunteers. Please keep your clean, virus free donations until we reopen.

We look forward to reopening soon and pray that everyone remains healthy. God Bless Us All.

Respectfully Submitted,

Conni Still



Food Pantry

The Food Pantry served families by bag and grab until the quarantine is over. The number of clients are getting larger each week.



SAVE THE DATES!

JULY HOPEFULLY WE WILL RETURN TO CHURCH WITH VERY STRICT LIMITS!



Zoom Coffee Hour

Conni, Mo Liz, Jeannine, Nancy, Dee, Barbara, Emeka, Tracy, and Walter



From the Editor

Mother Liz has finally been able to get our Sunday Service hooked up for Zoom. It was excellent to have so many participate and enjoy the coffee hour afterwards.

Conni