

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 Ronnie MacDonald

Emeke Azinge, Diane Butler, Tracy Classon, Barbara Greco, Martin Immel Jr., Maurine Jacobs, Charles Klagges, Barbara Lapinski, Shinaide Polley

Clerk: Conni Still

Treasurer: Barbara Lapinski

Editor: Conni Still

Parish

Office Phone: 631-475-3078

Thrift Shop Phone: 631-307-9154

E-mail: stpaulspatchogue@gmail.com

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

Word from Mother Liz

It is gratifying and inspiring to be the priest in a church that manages its ministries so successfully...and independently.

The Food Pantry has done an amazing job throughout the pandemic, adapting to safety guidelines, changing their distribution process, and feeding an increased number of families. Judy Celauro, Diane Butler, Barbara Greco, and Rita Hihn, Janis and Rob McEvoy, as well as all the volunteers Their success has paid off in the ways that they have tremendous support from the community that continued to provide donations of food and money.

Likewise, the Thrift Shop. Since opening its doors in 2013 Jeannine Cranor and Conni Still have been successful in creating a place where people come to shop not just for necessities but because they like the environment. Unfortunately, the pandemic closed their doors. Now, however it is time to re-open and progress is being made.

Originally, we had explored getting a pod and hiring College Hunks to store everything while the floors are cleaned but through great planning by Jeannine and Conni, and the muscle of Robin Krushinski and Sharon Minogue, the room has been emptied of all the clothes. The remaining racks and merchandise will fit elsewhere. They are on their way!

Lastly Dee Laffin has been an amazing force in helping our church building to re-open for worship. She convened the committee to establish our guidelines, collaborated with Martin Minogue to provide the procedures and materials for the ushers to do their work, continues to rally 8:00 worshippers to sanitize the pews for the 10:00 service and has kept apprised of the changing guidelines from the Diocese. In addition Dee has recruited Scott Harris to be co-chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee and together they are working to keep our buildings and grounds in good shape.

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

- Some ideas were tossed around for possible fundraisers for summer, fall and next winter.
- Mo Liz is working on the PPP loan reimbursement forms and also the filing of the By-Laws with the County.
- New flooring installed in vestry room/thrift shop and it looks wonderful!
- Karate School will reopen for cleaning on April 25, 2021.
- The vestry reviewed the monthly calendar of Parish Administer Ronny Pliszak. Ronny will be on sick leave to recover from surgery.
- The Buildings and Grounds Committee asked if parishioners would like to “adopt” a garden on the grounds.
- Mother Liz will plan a Bible study in the summer.
- The Thrift Shop is proceeding with plans to do some cleaning before the June reopening by hiring some help to empty then reload the shop. A grant from the dioceses may help offset the cost.

Respectfully submitted
Conni Still, clerk of the vestry

STEWARDSHIP

Participating in our community of faith through giving

As spring comes to us and spares us from the frost and snow, we really do have something to be happy about. The weather gets warmer and the days become brighter. Flowers bloom outside, and the leaves return to the trees for another season of their lives.

Spring is a good time to remember that Jesus, the light of the world, is the promise of resurrection to everlasting life. Easter falls in early spring as a symbol of renewal. It's a reminder that life springs forth, even from death. Easter would not be the same if it came in, say, August. The same could arguably be said about Christmas. It appropriately falls at the winter solstice, the darkest time of the year. Christmas is a source of joy to help people to have happiness over the birth of our Savior. It is

a comfort to help people deal with the darkness at the onset of winter.

Something else that is common in spring is rain. The sustenance that rain water provides is second only to sunlight in importance. Without either, there would be no life. And when sunlight and rain get together, often it causes there to be a rainbow. In the story of Noah's ark in Genesis, God set His bow in the sky as a promise that He would always care for us and this world. How appropriate that something as beautiful as a rainbow, a combination of light and rain, should serve as a reminder of God's love to all faithful people.

This year, spring is being made more special because we are emerging from the terrors of the corona virus and things are gradually returning to normal. Thanks be to God.

Happy spring to one and all.

Scott Harris for the Stewardship committee

Stewardship Committee

Laura Cooley, Scott Harris, Martin Minogue,
Conni Still, Phyllis Voegeli

Episcopal Ministries of Long Island 2021 Annual Appeal

Episcopal Ministries of Long Island works to help the vulnerable across the diocese, beyond our doors, in the name of Christ. During the Annual Appeal beginning this Sunday, May 1, EMLI will share stories of parishes connecting with their neighbors in need over this past, painful year. With support from EMLI, they responded in ways – big and small - that transformed the lives they touched. A simple act prompted one woman to say, "I have never felt so loved, so heard, so cared for". A simple act but a profound impact.

Make a gift to EMLI and join our collective response to care for our neighbors -- and bring God's love and light into the world. To learn more about the ministries supported by

EMLI or to make a donation, visit www.episcopalministries.org.

THANKSGIVINGS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Fr. Hickman Alexandre and St. James', Brookhaven for the food drives and financial contributions he and his parish have made to our Food Pantry,

Dee Laffin, for graduating from the Diocesan Church Development Institute the program I lead for the Diocese. It is a 2-year program that combines the methods of organization development and our Episcopal tradition to help create healthy parishes.

Barbara Greco and Rita Hihn for weeding the garden bed on the south side of the parish hall.

All those who have reached out to their fellow parishioners for food, transportation, or medical supplies.

Thanksgiving for Ronny Pliszak's successful surgery.



BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Cleared out the vestry room so that the new floor could be installed.

Keeping the grounds free of debris:

- weeding,
- trash pick-up,
- store salt and sand buckets,
- pick-up tree branches and sticks



Bill Beebe, Diane Butler, Gail Davis, Scott Harris, and 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 campaign. The official campaign is over if you still have outstanding pledges, please continue to send them in if you are able to do so.

Please include in your prayers this month:

and for those we name now. Dylan and family, Noe and family, Dorothy, Jeannine, Pauline, Dan, Greg, Larry and Rosemary, Craig, Dan B., Sol, Merri, Michael, Maureen, Diane, Michael, Tina, Anthony, Anne, Ronnie, Lorna, Joanne, Ed Smith & Family, Jackie

If you would like a **name added to those who are sick or in need of our prayers**, please let the office know. We are starting the year with a clean slate.

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.

Thrift Shop Doings

Planning to reopen June 4, 2021. Sharon Minogue and Robin Krushinski have wonderfully offered to be part time volunteers. If you would like to join our happy group in our ministry please call me or email me. Connistill@aol.com 631-472-1760.

FOOD PANTRY



The Food Pantry needs food. The Food Pantry serves families by bag and grab until the quarantine is over. They are averaging over 60 families a week. Please bring your donation in on Sunday or leave a message in the office to find out when you can do a drop-off.



SAVE THE DATES!

June 4, 2021 HOPE TO REOPEN THRIFT SHOP!!!!!!

July 24th, 2021 “Christmas in July” Rent a Table or man a parish table or thrift shop table for a fundraiser of wonderful Christmas decorations. Clean out your attics and bring them in the week of the fair!

St. Paul’s is planning “Christmas in July” on **Saturday, July 24th**. This event will feature vendors and a sale of Christmas items from the Thrift Shop. This will be an outdoor, rain or shine, event. CDC guidelines, including wearing of masks and social distancing will be adhered to. Save the date: plan on helping out, shopping, and/or rent your own space for \$40.00. Contact Cathie Pliszak at (631) 475-1117 for more information.



The Episcopal Diocese of Long Island
BROOKLYN • QUEENS • NASSAU • SUFFOLK

**COVID-19 Funeral Assistance
of up to \$9,000 available from FEMA
Applications Are Being Accepted by
Telephone Only**



**COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Line
Number**

844-684-6333 | TTY: 800-462-7585

Hours of Operation:

Monday - Friday
9 am to 9 pm EDT

Call this dedicated toll-free phone number to get a COVID-19 Funeral Assistance application completed with help from FEMA's representatives. Multilingual services will be available.

Only one application per deceased person:

If multiple people paid for the funeral, a combined application must be made on their behalf. Please note that only a person – not an institution (for example, a church) – may file an application for this funeral assistance.

APPLICANTS SHOULD KEEP

TRYING: Please note that FEMA has been receiving high call volumes and at times you may get a busy signal, or your call may not connect. There is currently **NO DEADLINE** for application.



Spring Arrives at St. Paul's! Thanks Dee.