

**Mission Statement for St. Paul's: To proclaim God's love
by word and example and to seek Christ in one another.**

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 276 Church Street, Montrose, PA 18801

Office 570-278-2954, Mon. to Thu. 8:15am to 1:00pm

stpaulsmontrose@epix.net

<http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsmontrose>

Dec 30 – Jan 5, 2019 Upcoming Events

(Events are at St. Paul's unless specified otherwise)

- Holy Eucharist Sun. Dec. 30 at 10:00am
with Rev. John Wagner
- **Happy New Year!**
- **The office will be closed on Mon.
Dec. 31 & Tue. Jan. 1.**
- Sleeping Bags Wed. Jan 9 at 1:00pm
and Sat. Jan. 12 at 1:00pm
- Vestry Mtg. Thu. Jan. 10 at 5:30pm
- DOK Sat. Jan. 12 at 10:00am
- St. Paul's Annual Mtg. Sun. Jan. 20
after the service – All Reports are due to
the office by Mon. Jan 14

This Week's Lay Ministers:

Altar Guild: Carol Lasher, Carol Marker, & Barb Undercoffler

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Camera & Broadcast: Al Leigh & Andrew Wurth

Acolyte: Benjamin Zalewski or Sean Eckert

Counters: Maggie Sock & Richard Marker

Chalice Bearer: Esther Welden

Lector: Richard Marker

Intercessor: Esther Welden

Greeter/Usher: Sandy Seeger & Robert Dunn

Hospitality: Kristina & Steve

Readings for this week

First Reading: Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Psalm: 147

Epistle: Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Gospel: John 1:1-18

The 2019 Pledge Books will be available at the back of the church for those that have pledged. If you want a book but did not pledge, please let the office know.

Thanksgivings: *Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us, especially during this past week. Amen.*

Church Closures please turn your radio dial to WPEL 96.5 FM. We will announce any closure of our church service on that station.

Our collections for the Trehab Food Bank & Women's Resource Center are the first Sunday of every month. Blessings and thanks for your support and participation.



Bread Collection Update

As you know, St. Paul's started a second collection on Sundays to provide money to buy bread for the Montrose Mobile Food Pantry once a month. We expected the cost to be about \$250 a month and that has been our goal. The monthly distribution takes place on the second Friday of each month. Thank you for your generosity. The recipients of the Food Pantry services are depending on us.

St. Paul's Cycle of Prayer: Tom & Barbara Undercoffler; Ralph Very; Edgar Warriner; Katherine Warriner

For those who are ill or have requested our prayers: Margaret Burgh, Brad Darde, Kathy Warriner, Joe & Esther Welden, Charlotte Eckert, Alice Wood, Jean Williams, Charlotte Ellis, Esther McLaughlin, Jeanette, Jeanne & Bart Conklin, Steve & Martha Kupscznk, Kristina, Richard Marker & Jane Chandler.

Pastoral Emergency: call the parish office during office hours. After hours, you may call Lynne Graham at her home 570-934-1160.

Sleeping Bag Ministry Requests:

NEEDED items are: warm hats, gloves and scarves. Fabric yardage, 1 yard minimum blankets and flat sheets (no fitted sheets please) sample size soaps, shampoo, tooth paste mini size tissues Items need not be perfect, only Clean. We are OVER STOCKED with toothbrushes, socks, and neckties. Thank you to everyone who works to make this ministry possible and all are welcome to join us on the second Wednesday and second Saturday of each month downstairs in Rm. #1. No sewing, ' only need to tie a knot !!!!!

Send Communications: minutes, special events etc. to the office, for the parish office to disperse.

Our thanksgivings: We give thanks for Charles Cesaretti and Karen Blye-McAbee who celebrate their birthdays this week. *O God,*

look with favor, we pray, as Charles & Karen begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life. Amen.

We give thanks for those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week. *Grant o God, in your compassion, that those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week may live out the covenant they have made. May they grow in forgiveness, loyalty and love, and come at last to the eternal joys which you have promised through Jesus Christ our Lord; and may the blessing of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with them this day and forever. Amen.*

St. Paul's Altar Flowers: If you wish to reserve, a Sunday please sign-up on the sheet at the back of the church. Then fill out an Altar Flower Card. Please use one card for each request, enclose your check for \$36.00 with the card in the envelope provided, and place it in the offering plate or send it to the parish office prior to the week that you are doing flowers. For those wishing to supply your own flowers please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church and fill out an altar flower card indicating you will do your own flowers. Thank you!

6 Photos this week.

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Last Sunday was the 4th Sunday in Advent. Candle number four was lit and the altar was still draped in Advent blue. Notice the Creche was still empty, waiting for the Holy family to arrive. After the service, the "Greening of the Church" took place. The lamps with candles were put on the pews and decorated with pine swags. The Creche received its visitors and the poinsettias were placed on the altar and greens placed in the windows. *O Come Emmanuel!*



Christmas Eve Service

At 5 o'clock on Monday evening, St. Paul's had its annual Christmas Eve service. This year we combined with St. Mark's from New Milford. As expected, Baby Jesus arrived in the Creche. A St. Paul's tradition, candles were lit during the singing of *Silent Night*, whose first verse Tom sang in German, and the choir did a beautiful rendition of *O Holy Night*. As we sang *Joy to the World* for our final song, it began snowing to set off a perfect evening.



