

**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

Click on link to email St. Paul's: stpaulsmontrose@epix.net

Click on link to go to our Website: <http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org>

Click on link to go to our Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsmontrose>

Dec 15 - 21, 2019 Upcoming Events

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

- Sun. Dec. 15 Holy Eucharist at 10:00am with Fr. Arthur L. Jones, III
- **Memory Luncheon Sun., Dec. 15 at 12:30 following the service**
- **Free Coat Giveaway at St. Paul's Wed. Dec. 18 & Thu. Dec. 19 from 9:00am to 3:00pm**
- Christmas Flowers by Sun. Dec. 22
- Christmas Eve Service at St. Paul's Tue. Dec. 24 at 11:00pm
- **No Sunday Service on December 29th.**
- **There will be a service on Saturday December 28th at 5:00pm.**

The Second Annual Memory Luncheon

The days and nights leading up to and during the holidays can be difficult, especially for someone grieving the loss of a loved one. Holidays are family times. When someone is missing, his or her loss is keenly felt.

Please join us at St. Paul's on Sunday, December 15 at 12:30 for our Memory Luncheon. We gather as a group who understands what each other is going through. We share memories and tell stories that inspire and lift our spirits. We discuss ways to survive the holidays by avoiding triggers that depress us. But, most of all, we are just there for one another.

A hearty brunch is provided and each family will receive a gift as a reminder of our time together.

Readings for Sunday

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10

Psalm: 146:4-9

Epistle: James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Altar Flowers this week are from John & Nancy Finlon & Vida A Kiefer In Memory of Vida Finlon.



Interfaith Christmas Dinner

We will be collecting 50 boxes of Stuffing Mix for the Christmas Dinner. We need all stuffing donations by **December 15th**. We still need 17 more!





Christmas Flowers

The cost of Poinsettias will be 22.00 per flower. Please remit your check to the office as soon as possible or place in the offering plate on Sunday. Envelopes are available at the back of the church. You may designate in memory of or in honor of someone if your wish. I must have envelopes by **Dec. 22.**

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: Richard Marker & Maggie Sock

Chalice Bearer: Vickie Calby

Lector: Cathy Hammons

Intercessor: Nancy Dooling

Greeter/Usher: Nancy Dooling & Karen Blye-McAbee



Mobile Food Pantry

St. Paul's does two collections during the offering. The standard one is made in the brass collection plates; the second is made in a wicker bread basket. We donate the money in the wicker basket to the Montrose Mobile Food Pantry to be used to purchase the bread included in their monthly distribution.

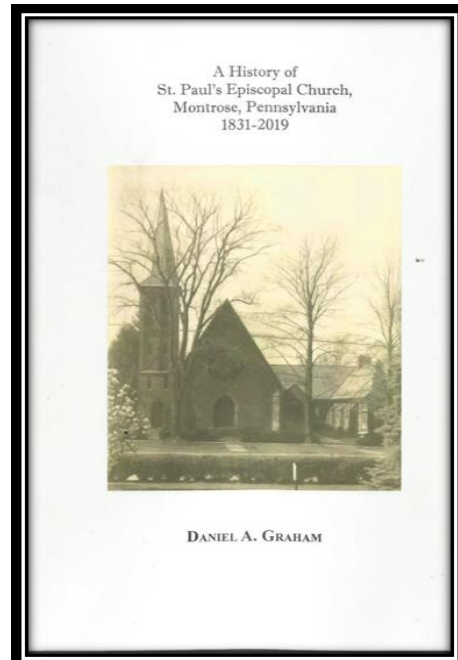
Church Closures please turn your radio dial to WPEL 96.5 FM. We will announce any closure of our church service on that station

For those who are ill or have requested our prayers: Margaret Burgh, Kathy Warriner, Joe Welden, Alice Wood, Naomi Bennett, Justin, Rita Leigh & Fr. John Wagner.

Rita Leigh is now at Meadowview recovering.

St. Paul's Church History for Sale

Just in time for Chirstmas! The 150 page *A History of St. Paul's Church, Montrose, Pennsylvania 1831-2019* has been published and is for sale in the office for \$20.00. All proceeds will go to St. Paul's. It presents the history of the of Episcopalian beginnings in Montrose in the early 1800s and the establishment and growth of St. Paul's parish and ends with the calling of Fr, Arthur in 2019. If you would like a copy please let Betty know.



St. Paul's Service Schedule

St. Paul's will have a Saturday evening service at 5 p.m. on the **FIRST** weekend of every month and no Sunday service that weekend. We will hold our regular service at 10 a.m. on the **SECOND, THIRD, and FOURTH** Sundays. Any **FIFTH** Sundays, of which there are 4 in 2020, we will gather with Christ Church at St. Mark's in New Milford at 10 a.m.

St. Paul's Cycle of Prayer: Robert & Janet Kuhn; Steve, Martha & Kyle Kupscznk; Carol & Jack Lasher; Al & Rita Leigh

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

SLEEPING BAG MINISTRY

A recent inventory of our supplies shows that we are still in need of clean blankets and the SMALL SAMPLE SIZE OF TOOTHPASTE. Thank you for all your past contributions and help. Come join us soon. Second Wednesday and second Saturday of the month!

Our collections for the Trehab Food Bank & Women's Resource Center are the Evening Service on the First Saturday of every month. Blessings and thanks for your support and participation.

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

Our thanksgivings: We give thanks for Peter Maxey & others who celebrate their birthdays this week. *O God, look with favor, we pray, as Peter & others 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.

“If you know anyone who wishes to receive the Weekly Update, please let Betty know.”

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!

10 Photos this week.

Country Store a Success

Thanks to the hard work and donations of numerous parishioners, St. Paul's Annual Christmas Store market was a success. Our crafts, nearly new, bake, stocking-making and swag-making tables were all hits and as always, the raffle baskets sold lots of tickets. The food was excellent. We made over two thousand dollars – a new high. Our store was part of the larger Christmas in Montrose Saturday, which has become a tradition. They used our Memorial Garden for horse rides for the kids. From setting up on Thursday, to collecting greens for the swags, to working the tables, to drawing the lucky winners, it was a fun day. Our profits go to local charities. Thanks to all who helped.



Thanksgiving Dinner

In keeping with the season, St. Paul's hosted a dinner on Thanksgiving that was open to anyone. Turkey and all the fixings were cooked by Martha Kupscznk and her merry band of helpers. Those turkeys sure look good.



The Baptist's Cry

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry, announces that the Lord is nigh.
Awake and harken, for he brings, glad tidings of the King of kings!

Last Sunday was the second Sunday of Advent. Ben did the traditional lighting of the second candle on the Advent Wreath. Christmas is rapidly coming. Prepare your hearts!

