

**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 22 - 28, 2019 Upcoming Events

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

- **Free Coat Giveaway at St. Paul's Thu. Dec. 19 from 9:00am to 3:00pm**
- Sun. Dec. 22 Holy Eucharist at 10:00am with Fr. Arthur L. Jones, III
- Sun. Dec 22 Greening of the Church after Service
- Christmas Flowers by Sun. Dec. 22
- Christmas Eve Service at St. Paul's Tue. Dec. 24 at 11:00pm
- **There will be a service on Saturday December 28th at 5:00pm.**
- **No Sunday Service at St. Paul's on December 29th. Combined Service at St. Mark's 10:00am.**

Readings for Sunday

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalm: 80:1-7, 16-18

Epistle: Romans 1:1-7

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

Altar Flowers this week are In Memory of Loved Ones.

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: Karen Blye-McAbee & Sandy Seeger

Chalice Bearer: Esther Welden

Lector: Dan Graham

Intercessor: Nancy Dooling

Greeter/Usher: Sandy Seeger & Vickie Calby



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.**



Mobile Food Pantry

Last Friday, December 13th, was the second Friday of the month and the distribution day for the Montrose's Food Pantry. As you know, St. Paul's supplies the money for the bread through our weekly collections in the "bread basket." Nancy said that this month 284 households received food including 137 children and 210 seniors. The distribution, which is held at the Methodist Church, is run by volunteers and can always use some help.



FRIDAY SOCIAL NIGHT

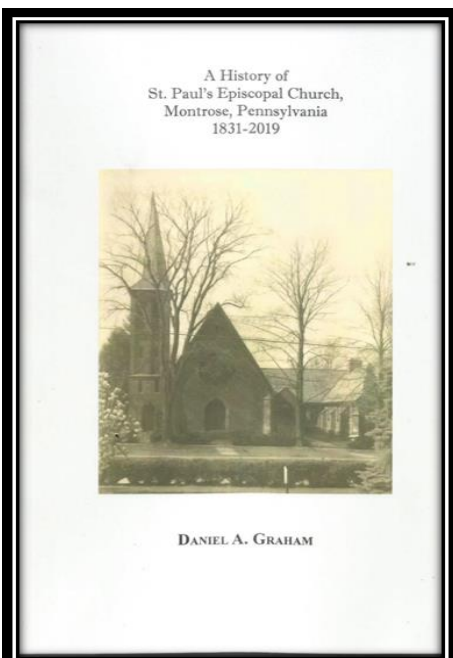
Please come, one and all, to **SOcial NIGHT** at Karen Blye McAbee's house; 93 Drinker St, Montrose, at 6pm, this **FRIDAY 12/20**. Bring a drink and a dish to pass. Karen will provide the main dish. Celebrate the Christmas season with church family!

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.

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: George & Mary Beth Manns; Richard & Carol Marker; Joel & Suzi Maxey; Karen Miller

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 Arthur Jones at 570-665-1707.

Our thanksgivings: We give thanks for those who celebrate their birthdays this week. *O God, look with favor, we pray, as they 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!

5 Photos this week.

Third Sunday of Advent

*Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us, Let us find our rest in Thee.*

Sunday was the third Sunday of Advent and Sean lit the three candles. The rose candle was number three. Christmas is in ten days.





Special Music Presentation

On Sunday, we had a special music presentation during church. Nancy Hauck gathered her students and former students for a flute ensemble. They played several French carols for the Prelude, *Song of the Bird* for the Offertory and *Carol of the Bells* for the Postlude. Our thanks to the performers for their beautiful addition to the service.



Memory Luncheon

After Church on Sunday, a Memory Luncheon sponsored by Stop the Sigma was held in the Parish Hall. After an opening Christmas carol, lunch was served. Ellen Ely led a discussion on how to cope during the Holidays by avoiding triggers and lowering expectations.

