



**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](mailto: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>

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

**May 24 - 30, 2020**

**The Readings for Sunday May 24:**

First Reading: Acts 1:6-14

Psalm: 68:1-10, 33-36

Epistle: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Gospel: John 17:1-11

**Spring!** Transformation, Hope, New Beginnings, Beauty....it's a wonderful season and it finally arrived here in the North Country of PA! I have spent 4 days of the last week visiting nurseries; flower shopping! The excitement of going on a road trip with my sisters, the fresh air and sunshine, (something we haven't seen in quite a while) the aromas of many different blooms, and all the vibrant colors.....so much to take in.

It's all God's way of saying "I love you!" It's His way of saying, "Wake up!", the long winter season of hibernation is over. "I am faithful; you can trust me." "Once again I have seen you through the dark, cold, slow season, to the light, warmth, beauty, and movement of Spring." What a gift from our Creator; He knows exactly when and what to give us.

During this time of social distancing you can still enjoy all the beauty, excitement, renewal, and transformation of Spring.

Look forward with Hope and Excitement to the Unknown of the Future! God has it covered.

Love to all and looking forward to seeing everyone soon,  
Karen Blye-McAbee

**During this time of Coronavirus, we are so blessed to have the essential workers--**the trash men, the police and EMT's, the nurses and doctors, the grocery store workers, the truckers--that it would seem now is a very appropriate time to thank them for being on the front lines for us. In NYC the people cheer from their windows as the hospital shift leaves. We cannot do that, but we could write some thank you notes. You could write your own thoughts or something like the following:

THANK YOU so much for the essential service you are providing during this troubling time. I am grateful for your dedication and hard work, making sure our community has what it needs. As a member of Saint Paul's Episcopal Church in Montrose, I want you to know we are praying for your health and safety every day of this crisis.

I've included some Montrose addresses to make it easier.

EMHS 100 Hospital Dr.

Montrose Police Dept. 115 Cherry St.

Minutemen 363 Grow Ave.

Price Chopper 6750 State Route 706

Scarfalotto's Hometown Mkt. 16749 State Route 706

How about a goal of two notes from each of us?

Lynne

**May Birthdays** Carole Canfield May 23, Gaby Warriner May 26, Katherine Syle May 28, Lucas Bartron & Jerry Sock May 29.

**Our thanksgivings:** We give thanks for those who celebrate their birthdays this month. *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.*

#### **Need a Daily Meditation Guide?**

Betty has the next issue of Forward Day by Day (May, June and July). If you would like a copy to be sent to you, please call the office at 570-278-2954 and leave a message. The meditations are written by a different author each month. The daily readings are listed for your convenience in finding them in your Bible. A scripture verse from the readings is highlighted and the author relates the passage to our lives to make it meaningful. If you have never used a daily devotional, now is an excellent time to start with Forward Day by Day.

#### **“The Father Arthur Missive” [The F.A.M.]**

Written by the Reverend Arthur Jones, III – on Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**Hebrews** chapter 11, verse 1 instructs us this way: *“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”*

Greetings, beloved friends. This is Father Arthur. Since this will be my last missive letter for an unspecified period of time, I’ll keep this brief.

**For those who are ill or have requested our prayers:** Margaret Burgh, Kathy Warriner, Naomi Bennett, Justin, Rita Leigh, Fr. John Wagner, Eric, Fr. Arthur & Mo. Jenny.

#### **Dear Fellow Parishioners,**

I realize that most of us are stuck at home with concerns about family and finances. That's the bad news, but if there were to be an upside it is this: "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." Apparently, neither has the Corona Virus prevented the USPS from delivering mail. That means that we still receive bills on a regular basis and we have payroll to make. If it is at all possible under our current conditions, please send your tithes and pledges to the church office at 276 Church St., Montrose, PA 18801. Another option would be to slip your pledge under the office door if you happen to be going by church. Thank you for your attention to this request. We will just continue to do the best we can with what we have. God's peace, Lynne

#### **Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency**

**Contact:** you can call the parish office during office hours. After hours call Lynne Graham 570-934-1160.

#### **3 Photos this week.**

Since contracting the Coronavirus, I haven't surrendered. I've continued to work as best I could. I've fought to maintain some semblance of a regular schedule. In despite of following my doctors' orders, resting frequently, and taking more medical tests than I care to count, I'm not getting better physically. I may even be getting worse.

After prayer, reflection, and several conversations with Bishop Kevin, I've decided to go on short-term disability. While this was a difficult decision for me personally, I'm confident it's the best decision. While I miss all of you; and I want very much to resume my priestly duties; I realize that the way for me to accomplish that in the near future is for me to focus solely on my health in the present. I'll be back in God's time, not my own time. While I hope that will only be weeks, time will tell. As of today, I'll be 'radio silent – meaning there will be no homilies, missive letters, mailings, emails, or virtual Daily Offices from me via ZOOM and Facebook until I've been restored to health. Know that I have the utmost trust and faith in God. In my absence, our amazing Senior Wardens: Joan, Lynne, and Todd will be able to answer any questions or handle any issues that come up – with the assistance of our Vestries. As always, I covet your prayers; especially now.

Along with this missive letter, you will find my homily from the Fifth Sunday of Easter (May 10<sup>th</sup>); as well as the Seventh Sunday of Easter (May 24<sup>th</sup>).

May the Lord be with you. May the Lord be with us all. I have faith that I'll see you soon.

I'll end with the words of our weekly Closing Prayer: *May God grant us the grace to never sell ourselves short.*

*The grace to risk something big for something good.*

*The grace to remember that the world is too dangerous for anything but truth; and too small for anything but love. Amen.*

Most Respectfully, *Arthur*+

## Easter 6

*Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.*

**“All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.”**

## Happy Memorial Day



Maggie and Jerry send wishes to St. Paul's from down in Dallas. They are living at the Masonic Village there but cannot accept visitors during the lockdown.

**In Memoriam**

**Well Done Good and Faithful Servant**



**Joseph Welden, 1925-2020**