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 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.

**Nov. 1 - 7, 2020**

**Morning Prayer Sun. Nov. 1 at 10:00 am**

**Daylight Savings Time Ends Nov. 1, turn clocks back 1 hour.**



**This Week's Lay Ministers:**

Altar Guild: May & Ben Zalewski  
 Announcements: Lynne Graham  
 Officiant: Ellen Ely  
 Counters: Tom Undercoffler & David Calby  
 Greeter/Usher:

**Readings for this week**

First Reading: Revelation 7:9-17  
 Psalm: 34:1-10, 22  
 Epistle: 1 John 3:1-3  
 Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

**Altar Flowers this week are from Katherine Warriner In Memory of Robert S. Warriner.**



**The fall season** is a magical time of year leaning towards the end of a cycle. Everything is making ready to refresh and recover itself. Plants are dropping their seeds to make way for the continuation of their respective species, or hardening off to withstand the brutally cold winter temperatures, until the spring can send a signal for regrowth. A blanket of leaves falls to help protect and insulate for the next four months and then becomes compost to aid in next year's life. Some animals are gathering nuts for their survival and others getting ready to hibernate for that long winter's nap, while others migrate south to warmer more hospitable climates. The smell of leaves in the fall evokes childhood memories of jumping in leaf piles, and the smell of burning them later, Halloween and candy corn, harvest time, and Thanksgiving with all its joy of being together with family, and delicious turkey with stuffing dinners, followed by pumpkin pie. It's the time of year for tucking in cozily for winter.

Off the coast of Vancouver Island, Canada, in the northeast Pacific Ocean, I was about 15 nautical miles off the coast, when I stepped out onto the weather deck of the ship I was on, and could immediately smell the distinct aroma of fallen leaves, even though there was no land in sight yet. It's such a warm and comforting smell. Back to Northeast Pennsylvania where everything is preparing to hunker down for a long winter, the fish in the lakes start to slow down as the waters cool, where they will school together towards the bottom deeper parts where the water is warmer.

Because their metabolism has slowed down, they don't need to feed as often. The picture here is, I believe, a sunfish happily

hopping out of the water getting a free handout of food pinched between my fingers several inches above the water surface. You wouldn't think of fish as being sentient beings, but they do possess a certain amount of awareness. In a fish tank, they do recognize their owners. Or in a lake, they'll distinguish me from a couple kids stepping out on the dock. When I step out, about 20 of them will swim out from under the dock. When the kids come out, they scatter away like grease in a pan of water from a drop of Dawn liquid detergent. Now, of course, they are not on the same level as human beings, but it gives you an appreciation for different walks of life. They even let me run my fingers along their bodies until I curl them to pick one up at which point they swim off. It could be just wishful thinking, but it seems to me like there's something at work here besides solely biology.

- John Warriner

**I do believe** that signing up on the link below will allow you to receive the daily prayers by email, but hard copies will be available with the Sunday bulletin. Lynne

## — ★ ☆ A ☆ ★ — ★ SEASON ☆ OF PRAYER: ☆ FOR AN ELECTION

Forward Movement and The Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations are calling Episcopalians and all others to join in A Season of Prayer: For an Election.

Join us October 27-November 4. Sign up for email updates below.

We come together, asking God for courage and wisdom, thanking God for love and joy. As we move toward the election of leaders for the United States, may we all join in a season of prayer, committing to offer to God our fears and frustrations, our hopes and dreams.

A novena is an ancient tradition of nine days of devotional prayers, often with a specific intention. In this case, we pray for discernment in voting and for the well-being of our nation.

Starting October 27 and continuing through the day after the election, we invite you to pray for

the election of leaders in the United States. Materials are available below in English and Spanish for use at home or to share with your congregation. These prayers, drawn from *The Book of Common Prayer*, can be printed out and tucked in a Bible or prayer journal. The prayers will also be posted daily on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#), #seasonofprayer.

<https://holycrossmonastery.us17.list-manage.com/track/click?u=efb097b8ecec363e3a548b999&id=5b4fed8fbf&e=27ca7de5bc>

### **Coats for the Community Distribution Dates:**

Christ Episcopal Church, Forest City  
Oct. 29-30 from 3pm to 6pm & Oct 31 from 10am to 2pm

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, New Milford  
Nov. 5-6

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Montrose  
Dec. 16-17 from 9am to 1pm

So again, check your closets for any warm, gently used coats you no longer need. Ask your grandchildren for their outgrown coats, too. We are accepting donations. Just leave them at church. Talk to John or Dan if you can help with distribution at St. Paul's.



### **Trehab Thanksgiving Feed A Friend**

Due to the Covid pandemic, the program is still going on but being totally restructured without the food drives. They are taking monetary donations. They will not have a designated giveaway day. Their staff will hand out Thanksgiving Food throughout the month of November and recipients will utilize vouchers at the local grocery stores to pick up their turkeys.

Trehab/Feed a Friend  
PO Box 366  
Montrose, PA 18801



### Interfaith Christmas Dinner

We will be collecting 50 boxes of Stuffing Mix for the Christmas Dinner. We need all stuffing donations no later than **Dec. 3rd**.



### Christmas Toy Tags

Starting early-November toy tags will be available. We will have 20 tags. Gifts should be valued between \$25 and \$30. Gifts are to be unwrapped with the tag securely attached. If batteries are required, please include them with the gift. All Gifts must be brought to the Church by Dec 1st.

### An Advent of Anticipation

Advent is the season that begins the new church year. This year Advent begins on Sunday, November 29 and continues through Christmas Eve. Advent is an anticipatory season as we prepare for Christmas by readying our hearts for the newborn Jesus. During this time of expectancy, we not only remember the birth of Jesus, we call to mind the promise of the second coming.

Along with Christ Church, Susquehanna, and St. Mark's, New Milford, I invite us to consider several components that will help us focus on the season: our spiritual development, community involvement, pastoral care for shut-ins, and, finally, our Christmas Eve service.

On the first Sunday of Advent, each parishioner will be offered a devotional booklet that will include the Collect for the week, a scripture reading for each day taken from the Daily Office in the BCP, a meditation which uses Lectio Divina (which will be explained in the booklet), and a time for silence and personal prayer.

Because baby Jesus is the reason for the season, we will respond to a need in the community by donating baby clothes, diapers, formula, and baby food to Interfaith and the Women's Resource Center. These items will be collected during Advent and blessed in a liturgy on Sunday, December 13.

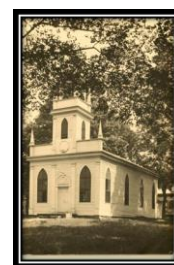
We will reach out to our shut-ins in a way that allows them to feel included and special. Please give some thought as to what this might be for our parish.

On Sunday, December 20, the three churches and anyone who cares to join us are invited to gather at 3:30 p.m. at St. Mark's for an outside caroling service. We will light candles and have a good old-fashioned sing-a-long with accompaniment.

Finally, we are delighted that Fr. Charles will officiate at our Christmas Eve services. Because of Covid restrictions and probable larger attendance at each church, we will hold services at Christ Church at 4 p.m.; St Mark's at 6 p.m.; and at St. Paul's at 8 p.m.

We hope that the season of Advent will be what each of us needs, not only to wait patiently for Christmas, but to use the four weeks to ponder the gift of the Christ child and how we can respond in love.

Lynne



### Church Histories on Sale

Betty still has some St. Paul's histories for sale in the office. They are now \$15 for St. Paul's parishioners. Just contact her if you want one. Additionally, during lockdown, Dan has written another book, this time on St. Mark's in New Milford. Entitled *St. Mark's Episcopal Church*,

*New Milford, Pennsylvania 1817-2020*, it also provides a history of Grace Episcopal Church that was located in Great Bend from 1852 to 1954. It will be printed in November. St. Mark's was one of the first Episcopal churches in Northeast Pennsylvania.

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

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

### **For those who are ill or have requested our**

**prayers:** Margaret Burgh, Kathy Warriner, Naomi Bennett, Justin, Rita Leigh, Fr. Arthur, Charlotte Ellis, Cathy Hammons, Charlotte Eckert, Nancy Finlon & Patrick Gallagher.

**Birthdays for October & November:** Carol Marker 10/31, Matthew 11/18 & Brenda Syle 11/23.

**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.*

**7 Photos this week.**

## **Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost**

### **The Greatest Commandment**

Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, "What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?" "The son of David," they replied. He said to them, "How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him 'Lord'? For he says, "'The Lord said to my Lord: 'Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet.'"

If then David calls him 'Lord,' how can he be his son?" No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions. (*Matthew 22: 1-14*)

### **Fr. Bill's Morning Prayer**

Sunday morning, the 21st of Pentecost, and we are here Lord, to pray on this Sabbath day. The Summer has gone and we are well into Fall, our prayers arise in praise to the God and Father of all.

Deuteronomy speaks today of the death of the great prophet Moses. It tells of how he could see the Promised Land from the Heights of Moab, knowing that he would never set foot in the land that Yahweh would give to his people. It must have been a bitter-sweet moment with the walled city of Jericho in sight. There Moses died and was buried in a secret place, forever hidden from the eyes of any.

It is the end of the long Wilderness Saga of Israel and the Twelve Tribes. There in those years, Israel was forged into a nation, where the tribes became united around the Ark of the Covenant. Not only did they become one people of the Law and the Covenant, but they became a mighty military force, as strong as any of their neighbors. ---We too go through Wilderness experiences in our lives Lord. From time to time we suffer misfortune, hardship and pain. We pray that you will always bring us through that desert and keep us safe in the worst of times.

Paul today writes to the Thessalonians remembering and reminding them of the good times they had when they were together. For in Thessalonica Paul and Silas were welcome and listened to with respect and warmth. Despite all, the enemies of the Faith have tried and tried to undermine Paul's work. He instructs them to be strong and hold to all that they have learned, knowing that Christ is with them and they live in his Spirit. --- It is a solid lesson for all of us, in difficult times, surrounded by grief, struggle, plague and even death. More than ever now, Lord, we have to remember this Faith in which we stand, and how it was a fortress to all Christians, who came before us. It can be, as it is, our fortress against the evils of this world, the enemies of belief and goodness and the tragedy of recent events.

And, in the Gospel, Jesus today in Matthew is again tested by the Pharisees, asking which is the greatest of the Commandments. They know the answer all too well. It is the words of the Covenant, the opening words that God gave to Moses. Jesus answers as he must correctly and confounds them with a question of his own. "Where will the Messiah come from?" They do not know. How could they? They are not seeking the Messiah, but a high place for themselves at the table in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Lord, we pray that we may seek and find you. That we not be so tied up with our own interests, that we do not see you. Let us see you in the 'Breaking of Bread' and in the eyes of all who you would serve and save. Amen. Fr. Bill

*Fr. William McGinty (Fr. Bill) of Christ Church, Forest City, writes a daily Prayer that he sends out in Email. If you would like to be on Fr. Bill's list just let Dan know.*

## **Halloween**

What's Halloween without pumpkins. We traditionally have had two coming up the ramp to the front door and they appeared again. Memories of pumpkins past remind us of our own Trick or Treating days. Anyone out there a pumpkin carver?





### **We Are Back Inside Now -- Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**

Tom Undercoffler led the service on Sunday and John, Lynne, and Esther did the Readings. Joyce Printz played the Prelude – *Blessed Assurance*, the Organ Meditation, *Jesus Spreads His Banner Over Us*, and the Postlude, *Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above*. While the roped off pews, masks, no singing and a printed service leaflet make our worship a little different than when we left, we are back inside St. Paul's just in time for the cold weather.



## Renovations At St. Matthew's

Recently, George Manns faithfully re-created, as only he can do, the exterior trim that had deteriorated above the stained glass window over St. Matthew's sanctuary. (George built St. Paul's columbarium.) While painting the trim, Bob Kimmell used a hand-made table that was inside of St. Matthew's to hold his paint can. Imagine Bob's pleasure when he finished and read this inscription from under the table. Joe is smiling I'm sure.



## Remember When?



This was taken before we moved the altar rail forward and the choir pews were still on the altar platform. What a great group!



Matthew helping to make cookies for the Country Store bake table.