



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>

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

Feb. 14 - 20, 2021

Morning Prayer Sun. Feb 14 at 10:00am
online <http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org>

This Week's Lay Ministers:

Altar Guild: Sandy Seeger & Marsha Jones
Announcements & Lector: Lynne Graham
Officiant: Vickie Calby

Readings for this week

First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12
Psalm: 50:1-6
Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Gospel: Mark 9:2-9



"VIEW FROM THE PEW"

Will You Be My Valentine?

The first time I realized that there were things called valentines was in first grade. My first grade teacher, Miss Alice Zeil, explained about Valentine's Day the week before and told the class how we were going to celebrate it – we would give out valentines to each other! Miss Zeil was the quintessential first grade teacher. She taught us everything in life we would ever need to know. With her experienced eye, she could tell early on what kind of person you would become. On my very first marking period, she wrote on my report card: "Danny

has a messy desk." Looking at my desk now, she was on to something. She had been teaching first grade forever, and as only can happen in a small town, she taught my father thirty-five years before. She lived near us and she remembered me when I would see her every now and then around the neighborhood. She would speak to me as if I was still a first grader.

A couple days before Valentine's Day, Mom took me to the Ben Franklin and we bought a package of valentines. You had to give one to everyone in the class and Mom had to help me address them and spell some of the names. On the big day, we took turns passing them out. Everybody had to put his or her head down on the desk so you couldn't see who was giving you one. Miss Ziel of course, got one from everyone too. Instead of a valentine, she gave each of us one of those candy hearts with some saying on it.

When I was a senior in high school, Mom was throwing out a bunch of stuff and low and behold, there was one of those old elementary school valentines that had never been addressed in the discard pile. I pulled it out and when Valentine's Day came, almost as a lark, I signed it and took it to Miss Ziel's house. Long retired, she was so genuinely appreciative that I was embarrassed. It didn't occur to me that anyone could get so emotional because someone had remembered them with something as simple as an old valentine. Looking back, even at a young age,

it was an epiphany. It wasn't the valentine, it was just letting her know she was remembered. It was that I had taken time to do something special for her. I guess we all need to know we are loved – it's a core human trait.

I'm sure there are a number of people whom you know that could use a valentine this Covid year -- a senior citizen, a sibling, a neighbor, an old friend, a shut-in, even someone in a nursing home that you don't know. Letting that individual know that they are not forgotten but are remembered and loved is such a simple thing. It's a small gesture but one that has immense rewards for both of you. This year, send that someone a card and a short note:

"Will you be my valentine?" ❤️

Dan Graham

And to dust you shall return

Necessity is the mother of invention. So, through some online investigation, I have learned that the service for Ash Wednesday may be lay led. This year, leadership for our Ash Wednesday livestream service on February 17 at 7:00 p.m., will be shared by the Sr. Wardens from Christ Church, St. Mark's, and St. Paul's. The service is not long, but it is powerful as it invites us to the observance of a holy Lent. We read a short history of Lent and follow, if one so chooses, with the imposition of ashes.

Ashes will be available for self-imposition at home by calling the office at 570-278-2954. You may either pick them up during office hours or ask, by February 11, for them to be mailed to you.

The service then continues with Psalm 51 and a Litany of Penitence. The readings set a solemn tone for the 40 days of Lent (which do not include Sundays.) Observance of this season by self-examination and repentance;

prayer, fasting and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word, prepares us for the joy of celebrating Easter. Join us online as we begin this holy season. Lynne

Pancake Supper Canceled this Year



A St. Paul's tradition has been that the men of the parish cook a pancake supper on the Tuesday night before Ash Wednesday. It's Marti Gras. However, due to Covid restrictions, it is canceled this year. It would have been on February 16th.

FEBRUARY SATURDAY EVENTS

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The Diocesan Task Force for Racial Justice and Reconciliation invites you to join us for virtual time of prayer, learning with experts, and reflection!

Saturdays 10:00am - 11:30am

FEBRUARY 6TH, 2021
RABBI SHOLOMO LEVY
PROFESSOR OF HISTORY AT NORTHAMPTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

FEBRUARY 13TH, 2021
REV. GREGORY EDWARDS
SENIOR PASTOR, RESURRECTED LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH, UCC

FEBRUARY 20TH, 2021
ELENA FITZPATRICK SIFFORD, PH.D.
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ART HISTORY AT MUHLENBERG COLLEGE

FEBRUARY 27TH, 2021
RAYAH LEVY
HEAD OF ADULT SERVICES AT THE BETHLEHEM AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY

For more Information contact Sandy Milien at:
sandy@diobeth.org

It's Winter Time

It's winter time in Montrose and with it comes snow and ice. If you are at church and the walks could use some salt, we have a broom and salt bucket at each door.

Important Dates for Lent

February 16 Shrove Tuesday or Mardi Gras

Brighten someone's day by dropping off a goodie or dessert to a shut-in.

February 17

Ash Wednesday service livestreamed at 7:00 p.m. or call in to listen 1-646-876-9923 and enter meeting code 978 489 1082. Please call Betty at 570-278-2954 or Lynne at 570-934-1160 to receive ashes to impose at home

February 24, March 3, March 10, March 17

"Grace in the Wilderness" by the Rev. Mark Michael. 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

A 4 week discussion of Lenten disciplines.

Free to all, but you must register online at

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/grace-in-the-wilderness-tickets-134323155173>

The day after each of the above sessions, Thursday 2/25, 3/4, 3/11, and 3/18 we will have an online discussion among those of us who attended the previous night's session.

March 28 Palm Sunday

We will conclude our collection of donations to match the \$500 grant towards Easter treats for Meals on Wheels recipients and drivers. We will include dyed eggs and a 5 piece box of Leopold's chocolates in each Easter "basket."

April 1 Maundy Thursday

Watch for details on our Holy Week service schedule.

April 2 Good Friday

Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency

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

Birthdays for February Kristina Kinney 2/24, Carol Lasher 2/27 & Nancy Finlon 2/28

MONTHLY FOOD DISTRIBUTION SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

First Wednesday of the Month: Free Soup Dinner St. Paul's Episcopal Church 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Second Friday of the Month: Montrose Mobile Food Pantry South Montrose Community Church 11:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Registration required by calling 570-533-3980

Third Monday of the Month: Free Soup Dinner South Montrose Community Church 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Fourth Friday of the Month: Food Distribution Endless Mountains Health Care

2:00-4:00 p.m. Registration required by calling 570-278-5529 or email at panderson@Endlesscare.org

****Please note** that the Free Soup Dinners are take-out only during the pandemic****Reminder** with winter comes winter weather! If there is ice or snow and there is a question about church being canceled, listen to WPEL at 96.5 FM.

For those who are ill or have requested our prayers: Margaret Burgh, Kathy Warriner, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Charlotte Ellis, Charlotte Eckert, Nancy Finlon, Patrick Gallagher, Johanna Masters & Jeannine Ball.

Our thanksgivings: We give thanks for those who celebrate their birthdays this week. *O God, our times are in your hand: look with favor, we pray, on your servants 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 lives. 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.

10 Photos this week.

Your tithes and pledges can be mailed to the church office at 276 Church St., Montrose, PA 18801.

Valentine's Day Edition



5th Sunday After Epiphany

**A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
our helper He amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.**

LOVE

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. (*Corinthians 13: 1-13*)

GIVE ME HOPE (*From Guerrillas of Grace*)

O God, This is a hard time,
a season of confusion, a frantic rush
to fill my closets, my schedule, and my mind,
only to find myself empty.

Give me hope, Lord,
and remind me of your steady power
and gracious purposes that I may live full.

Renew my faith that the earth is not destined

for dust and darkness,
but for frolicking life and deep joy
that, being set free
from my anxiety for the future,
I may take the risks of love today.

February 7th Service

A snowy morning. The February 7th live-streamed Morning Prayer service was led by Tom Undercoffler. It was the 5th Sunday after Epiphany and snowing pretty hard. The announcements and the readings were done by Lynne Graham. The part for the heating system finally came in and it was warm in church for the first time in four weeks. Mary Ann DeWitt played the organ Prelude, *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*, organ Meditation, and Postlude. If you are wondering, before the service, the team gets together to decide who is reading what. As with all our live-streamed services, you can watch it any time on YouTube.



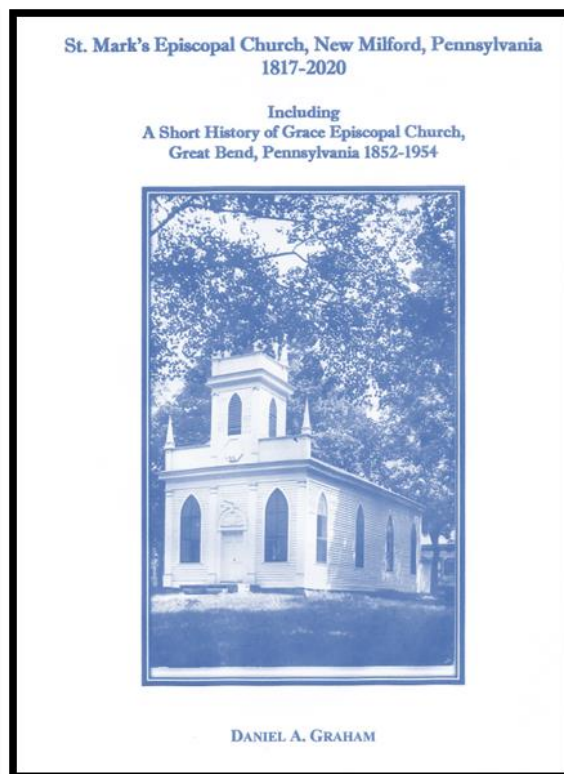
Joe Welden Video Put on Facebook

A Joe Welden video was recently put on St. Paul's Facebook page. Joe is shown as doing a rendition of his "Got a Vegetarian Woman". (Esther, is that you?) You don't need to be a Facebook member to see it. Just go to St. Paul's webpage, click the Facebook Icon and go to Posts. Take a look and sing along.



St. Mark's History Published

A history of *St. Mark's Church, 1817-2020* has been just been published by Spencer Printing in Honesdale and is on sale at St. Mark's. It is 120 pages and covers both the history of the church and the settling of New Milford. For copies, call Joan Flint at 570-879-2907. Copies of St. Paul's 146-page history are still available in the Office for \$15.



Remember When – Pancakes on Mardi gras

