



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.

March 21 - 27, 2021

Morning Prayer Sun. March 21 at 10:00am online

<http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org>

March 28 Palm Sunday 10:00AM online

April 1 Maundy Thursday 7:00PM online

April 2 Good Friday 7:00PM online

April 4 Easter Sunday 10:00AM online

This Week's Lay Ministers:

Altar Guild: Carol Lasher & Barb Undercoffler

Announcements & Lector: John Warriner

Officiant: Vickie Calby

Readings for this week

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm: 51:1-13

Epistle: Hebrews 5:5-10

Gospel: John 12:20-33

"VIEW FROM THE PEW"

Sometimes, it seems like life is full of checklists of perpetual tasks that need performing.

Growing up, it's clean your room, take out the trash, finish your homework. Then graduate from high school, get a job, and a career, along with some more advanced training or schooling. Then you may start a family, which brings a whole new set of tasks. The roles have reversed. You're the parent now telling your child to take out the trash, et cetera. From time to time there will be some less than pleasant task ahead of you that you are going to want to put off or do away with completely.

Procrastinating can be such an easy trap to fall into and never really has a desirable

outcome missed project deadlines at work, end up with a C or worse on a school term paper for examples. Recently in my case, I ended up with gutter repair and porch railing damage from letting ice buildup too long on the roof.

Now, you have to balance out a bit of procrastinating along with a healthy dose of fear and danger. Climbing a ladder that's got its feet in slippery snow, and you are about to be hanging out about 20-30 feet up off the ground in subzero wind chill. I was told in my working life to work smarter, not harder, although it seemed like in the military it was vice versa. Anyway, why not get someone about 30 years younger that can withstand the cold better and has a little more dexterity and stamina to do the same thing in much less time and with far less aggravation. As it says in 1 Corinthians 14:40 "—Let all things be done decently and in order". Your best work can be done if you take your time and work through the chore, homework, or project. Winter can be a long and arduous time of year, and the blues can take over, exasperating any kind of procrastination that may be going on.

On the other hand, don't feel forced to do something that really is not necessary to do just because someone suggested that it be done, or merely because you have already written it down on your to do list. I can be a little obsessive compulsive about it (my wife says I can be a lot of that sometimes). Not all life is about completing a task. Take the time to take pleasure in being with family and friends, or enjoying a bit of solitude.

Soon, the spring temperatures will come around, melt the ice, and bare new life into the world, and with it, purpose and motivation.

- John Warriner

Vestry Highlights March 10, 2021

We opened the meeting with prayer and approved the agenda.

We approved the minutes of the February 11, 2021 meeting.

Lynne read the Bible study scripture John 8:12-20 where Jesus explained that his testimony was valid because he spoke for two persons—himself and his Father. When asked where his father was, Jesus replied that if the Pharisees knew him, they would know his father. Apparently Jesus left the Pharisees confounded because no one arrested him.

Our three parishes will provide an Easter treat to Susquehanna Co. recipients of Meals on Wheels and their drivers. We received a \$500.00 grant to be matched by donations from our three parishes in lieu of buying things we have abstained from during Lent.

Palm Sunday service will be led by the Senior Wardens from Christ Church, St. Mark's, and St. Paul's. Palms will be distributed from each church following the service at St. Paul's. The Maundy Thursday (without foot washing) and Good Friday services will be livestreamed from St. Paul's at 7 p.m. Going forward, we will ask Todd, Sr. Warden at Christ Church, and Joan, Sr. Warden at St. Mark's, if they would like to lead the Morning Prayer service once a month.

We tabled the discussion of the July 4th breakfast until May when we hope to have more details regarding the parade and a better sense of Covid restrictions.

The Vestry voted to move ahead with putting screens and computers at the three parishes so services can be livestreamed and viewed at all parishes simultaneously. We intend to apply for a Mission Resources Grant from the Diocese. The Congregational Development Grant and Mission Resources Grant are now separate items in the Diocesan budget and together have been enhanced by a total of \$35,000. We have a grant application.

We will construct and place a Community Prayer Wall on the Chestnut St. side of the Parish Hall. Prayer requests from the community will be sent out in the weekly update so we can all pray for whatever requests are put on the wall.

We need leaders for Morning Prayer and volunteers to write articles for the *View from the Pew* in the weekly updates.

Lynne closed the meeting with a prayer about hope from Circle of Grace by Jan Richardson.

Next meeting: Thursday, April 8, 2021



Opportunity for Lenten Discipline

In preparation for Easter this year, our three Episcopal parishes are providing an “Easter treat” to the recipients and drivers of the Meals on Wheels program in Susquehanna County. Partnering with Chocolates by Leopold, we plan to provide two dyed eggs, some jelly beans, and a five-piece box of candy to each recipient. Diabetics will receive sugar free candy. Also included will be a note letting our friends at Meals on Wheels know that we care about them.

This endeavor is two-fold. First, we are delighted to offer the Easter “baskets/bags” to the recipients and drivers of Meals on Wheels. Secondly, we hope this endeavor will be more meaningful than just writing out a contribution check. When viewed as a Lenten discipline, our donations are a symbol of sacrifices we have made during Lent and an opportunity for giving to our neighbors.

At the end of Lent, please send whatever you have saved up from your observance of Lent in a sacrificial way to St. Paul's office. 276 Church St., Montrose, 18801. May you continue to have a Holy Lent.

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**

**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.

Birthdays for March: Greg Maxey 3/19, Edgar
Warriner 3/20, Katherine Warriner 3/21, Elaine
Petrzala 3/22, Robert Kuhn 3/24 & Tom
Undercoffler 3/30.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

The Gospel "For God so loved the world..."

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be **lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life**"

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life"

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the

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.*

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

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

11 Photos this week.

only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.” (John 3:14-21)

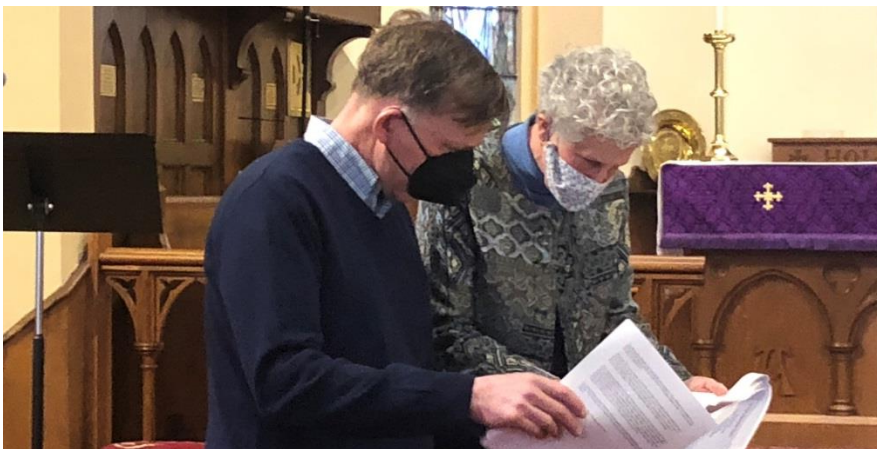
Fr. Bill’s Morning Prayer

The days are slowly getting longer. Already the Winter is beginning to recede. A new day is dawning and our hopes for the future brighten just a little with each passing day. We pray this morning that your light may come into our lives and in this season of Lent we pray for repentance. Scripture tells us that: ‘our sins are always before us,’ and we, know it all too well. We pray for forgiveness, for a cleansing of mind, heart and spirit.

You Lord Jesus are our ‘healing spirit’. Your healing does the impossible and makes it possible. ---In this season of Lent, teach us Lord Jesus, to forgive. The word spoken in haste; the unexpected quarrel; the slight; the broken promise; the unrequited love; ingratitude; anger; character assassination and betrayal; the silence of distance and the loneliness of lost friendship. Most of all we pray for healing. A healing only you can bring, when our love has run its course but your love goes on forever. With that healing bring us peace and we promise to truly repent. We repent of our sins and ask that you raise us to new life, new life in you. We pray for all who hurt us; we forgive them with all our hearts; we pray for their success and happiness and peace in their hearts. ---Amen

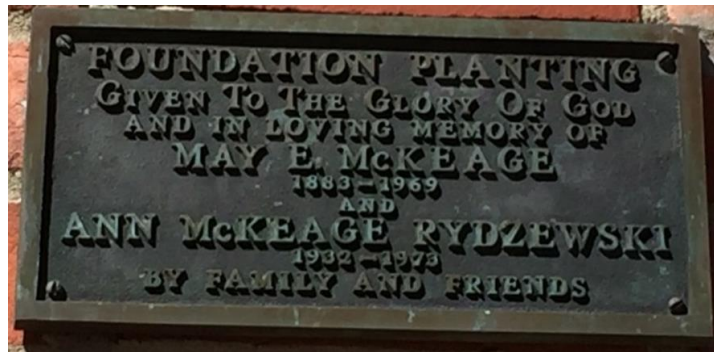
March 14th Service

The March 7th live-streamed Morning Prayer service was led by Todd Moffett, Senior Warden at Christ Church. It was the 4th Sunday of Lent. The announcements and readings were done by Lynne. Cathy Hammons played the organ Prelude, Organ Meditation and Postlude. As with all our live-streamed services, you can watch it any time on YouTube.



St. Paul's Outside Plaques

There have been a number of plaques added to our walls to recognize parishioners for their services over the years. Most are inside the church, but several are outside. How well do you know the exterior of St. Paul's Church? Here are three plaques. The first, dated 1947, is for Suzanne Warriner, who is John Warriner's great uncle's wife; the second was added in 1980 and is for Josephine Williams and Jeanne Bankes for plantings in their name. The third was for the McKeage family for the Memorial Garden's foundation plantings. Do you know where the plaques are located?



Spring comes to Susquehanna County

They say "March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb." Spring teased us last week but this Saturday, March 20th, it officially arrives. Large flocks of geese flew over town this week heading north and the red-winged blackbirds returned. The clock did its "Spring ahead" last Sunday. We had a lot of snow still on the ground the beginning of March but had a slow melt since. Except for a few snowplowed piles, the snow is gone and the brown grass appeared. All the streams were high from the melt and Salt Creek below rushing towards Snake Creek was no exception. But there was no flooding. As of last Sunday, there was still ice on Lake Montrose but water was beginning to appear. St. Francis in our Memorial Garden had lost his four-month hat of snow and looked like even he was ready for spring.



THIS WEEK

Montrose Mobile Food Pantry

It was the second Friday of the month and the Montrose Mobile Food Pantry was up and operating. The Community Church parking lot in South Montrose was a busy place. Unlike the preceeding four months, it was a beautiful day. They distributed food to over 275 families. As always, volunteers are welcome.



Swanky Swingsters

Last week we added a poster for the Swanky Swingsters Band that was playing in St. Paul's Parish Hall in 1937. Well, low and behold, we were sent a picture of the Swanky Swingsters playing on our stage. They included Joe Welden on guitar, Dwight Hollister to the right of Joe on drums and Amos Hollister on clarinet to the far right. St. Paul's apparently was a swinging place for young folks then.



Remember When

Covid has caused so many of St. Paul's traditions to take a vacation this year, they are getting hard to count. Our Lenten Bible Study was always well attended and has been missed. A simple dinner of soup and salad was prepared each week by one of the attendees and the week's study was led by a parishioner. Good fellowship, good discussion. 2017 and 2018 are represented below.



