




276 Church Street, Montrose, PA 18801
 Office 570-278-2954, Mon., Wed. & Thu. 8:10am to 2:30pm
 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.

Nov. 28 – Dec. 4, 2021

In person worship or you can watch live streamed on YouTube. Go to St. Paul's website <http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org> and click this red button  on the front page, which takes you to our YouTube page.

The Office will be closed on Thu. Nov 25 & Mon. Nov 29.



Bible Study 1st & 2nd Thursdays. We will start with a light supper at 5:00 provided on a rotating basis by one of the members of the group.



Christmas Eve Service will be at 5:00 this year. Christ Church at 4:30 and St Marks at 6:30.

This Week's Lay Ministers:

Altar Guild: Mary & Ben Zalewski
 Officiant: Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski
 Announcements: Lynne Graham
 Camera & Broadcast: Andrew Wurth
 Lector: John Warriner
 Hospitality: Marsha Jones

Readings for this week

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16
 Psalm: 25:1-9
 Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
 Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

First Wednesday of the Month on Dec. 1st:

Free Soup Dinner at St. Paul's Episcopal Church from 4:30-6:00 p.m. **Please note** that the Free Dinners are take-out only.

Vestry Highlights November 18, 2021

Deacon Liz opened the meeting with prayer and we approved the agenda.

We approved the minutes of October 14, 2021.

Deacon Liz read the Bible study scripture Matthew 20:1-16 about the workers hired to work in the vineyard. We all agreed that it would be difficult to see a latecomer receive the same pay as someone who worked all day. From another perspective, God is generous and we are grateful to be the recipients of his grace.

Deacon Liz reported that she met with Cindy Beeman at Interfaith. She has been working with the Search Committee for hiring a new

parish administrator. She recommended Advent resources which will be available on the last Sunday of Pentecost and a series of grief publications which we will order to keep on hand. Interfaith is starting a grief group in January. Her hours will be W-TH-F from 10:00-6:00 and 6 hours on Sunday. She will be in her office for anyone wishing to see her on Wednesday and Thursday from 11:00-2:00. Deacon Liz would like to meet with parishioners to get to know them better and so we get to know her. She attended clergy conference which focused on addiction, sexual abuse, and the new models of convocations.

Tom Undercoffler has agreed to chair the Stewardship program for 2022.

We voted to send a \$500 donation to Trehab Feed a Friend.

Advent begins on November 28. During Advent we will hold a modified Country Store on December 4 with a bake sale, swag sale, raffles and food with seating in the Guild Room. We will invite the community to our Memory Luncheon on December 12 at noon after the service. Parishioners will be asked to donate food for the brunch. Our Christmas Eve service will be at 5:00 on Friday, December 24.

We discussed having a Third Weekend activity for community children starting in January.

We discussed Vestry nominations for the 2022-2024 term. St. Paul's Annual Meeting will be on January 16 after the service.

We received the Treasurer's Report. We approved the Assessment and Acceptance amounts from the Diocese. The Finance Committee will hold a budget meeting in November to prepare the budget for approval at the December Vestry meeting.

Deacon Liz closed the meeting with prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Our next Vestry meeting will be **December 16** at 5:00 p.m.

Advent—New Beginnings and Old Traditions

As is the case every year, Advent, which begins on Sunday, November 28 is a time of contradictions. On one hand, we know that this season is an opportunity for quiet time and reflection as we anticipate the birth of our Savior and ready our hearts to receive Him. On the other hand, it is a time of hustle and bustle as we make preparations to celebrate Christmas. This year we have opportunities to address both.

Deacon Liz has suggested two resources for Advent which will be available the Sunday before Advent. One is a calendar which walks us through the days leading up to Christmas. The other is a booklet of meditations for daily use put out by the Church following the Way of Love. Each day offers one short idea on how to walk in love. As you wish, please take these aids and schedule a few minutes of quiet time each day to read and reflect. For those of you on the more "techy" side, there is *Advent Word* which is one word for each day received by email with a meditation.

In the weeks leading up to Christmas, several events dot the calendar. On Saturday, December 4 from 9-3, the **Country Store at St. Paul's** showcases a bake table, raffle baskets, and the North Pole Kitchen serving hot soup, hotdogs, chili, and walking tacos. This fun day of fellowship provides a day for the community to come into our church and the all the profits go to a local ministry. No need to be invited to help; we can use everyone in some capacity or another.

Our **Annual Memory Luncheon** takes place on Sunday, December 12 at noon following the service. A free lunch sponsored by Stop the Stigma gathers friends to remember and honor any loved ones in recovery or lost to addiction and those grieving any loss during the holidays. Come be with those who understand what you feel. No registration required. If St.

Paul's parishioners will each bring a "brunchy" potluck dish for the meal, we will have a feast.



Coats for Our Community has a final distribution of free, warm winter coats on Wednesday, December 15 and Thursday, December 16 from 9-6 at St. Paul's. We need someone in the Parish Hall during those hours while people choose coats. If you have a spare hour or two, please contact Dan Graham or John Finlon to spell the chiefs.

And finally, our Advent will culminate with our **candlelight Christmas Eve Service** at 5:00. All are welcome. Ask your friends and neighbors to join us for this beautiful, moving remembrance of Jesus' birth.



Trehab Feed A Friend Thanksgiving

Last year the program provided "turkey and all the trimmings" to 831 families (2,826 individuals) in Susquehanna County. As the pandemic continues, they are asking for monetary donations this year. All donations can be mailed to:

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

For those who are ill or have requested our prayers: Margaret Burgh, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Charlotte Eckert, Nancy Finlon, Johanna Masters, Jeannine Ball, Sandy Nagy, Ray Arcario, Addie Evans, Matthew Wilson, Cathy Hammons & Carol Marker.



Interfaith Christmas Dinner

Interfaith is asking for donations of stuffing mix for the Christmas Dinner give away. We have been asked for 50 boxes. **We still need 22 more by this week.** All donations need to be at the church by **Dec. 1.**



Interfaith Christmas Gifts

Gifts should be valued at \$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 5th.**

Birthday for November: Bob Dunn 11/25.

Birthdays for December: Dan Graham 12/4, James Cain 12/9, Vera Dunn 12/13 & John Warriner 12/31.

As we continue to pray for those at Christ Church and St. Mark's, please remember Adeleigh (Addie) Evans in your daily prayers. She is the 6-year-old great-granddaughter of Nina Robinson of St. Mark's. She has been diagnosed with cancer. It would be lovely if we could send encouraging cards now and throughout the year. Her address is 3 James Way, Archbald, PA 18403. Thank you.

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 \$46.00 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!



Donations You can scan the QR
Code. Or go to St. Paul's Website and click the
Donate Button for online giving. You can mail
your tithes & pledges to the church office at
276 Church St., Montrose, PA 18801

**Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency
Contact:** you can call the parish office during
office hours. After hours call Deacon Liz 212-
222-8109.

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.*

6 Photos this week.

Last Sunday After Pentecost, November 21^h

**Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.
God our Maker doth provide for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.**

THE GOSPEL- Are you the King of the Jews

Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." (John 18:33-37)

**We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
He chastens and hastens His will to make known;
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing;
Sing praises to His Name; He forgets not His own.**

Fr. Bill's Morning Prayer

In our morning prayer we thank you Lord, for another day, a day we do not wish to take for granted. The sun has gone down on so many of our friends, who now rest beneath Autumn leaves. We pray for their transcendence, the end of their journey or perhaps the beginning of their real life.

For one brief moment, they touched our lives, or we touched theirs. So many Autumns have gone by since then; so many Advents that sparked hope of 'olde Christmases' together. The warmth of the Yule Log always seems to give way to that deep cold winter, that separates and divides us, and sometimes forever.

In November we wait for the sound of the Postman, in the half hope that someone somewhere has remembered us. There is a graveyard for old friendships, where the Postman never delivers or collects.

Our faith begs us to think differently of you Lord, for in you we trust and have our being. Each day you wake us, call to us, knock on the door of our lives. We could not shake you if we wanted to. You always seem to deliver or collect, leaving us with something to sort out, something to do, even a bill to pay.

How come, we don't seem to mind because it is you? You are a constant in our lives. You connect us to so many, challenge us to go the extra mile, build bridges where we never saw the need; reach out beyond the comfort of our abilities. We need those challenges Lord, we rise for them each day. We thank you that you still deliver and that the leaves have yet to settle on our grave.

This is your season, or so they say. A season of giving and thinking of others, a season of story and reflection, family and friends. We thank you that for each of us, it is one more season to appreciate you in our lives. We ask you to give us the grace, the spirit, to deliver for others, the shut-in, the sick, the poor and the needy. Let us deliver as you would deliver, you word, your teaching, your healing.

There are days when we never hear you, but we know that you have been. You leave the gate open, and your footprints are on the porch. We pray that we can do the same and leave a footprint on the lives of others. We thank you Lord in this your holy season. Amen.

THIS WEEK

November 21th Service

The November 21th live-streamed 10:00 Deacon's Mass was led by Deacon Liz. Lynne Graham made announcements, Karen Blye McAbee was the lector and Joyce Printz was the organist on short notice. Thank you Joyce! As with all our live-streamed services, you can watch it live or any time on YouTube.

Montrose Decorated for Christmas

Well, it's that time again – decorating Montrose for the Christmas season. St. Paul's parishioners were there helping. Stephanie, Vickie, John, Nancy, Lynne, Dominic and Gaby were wrapping the

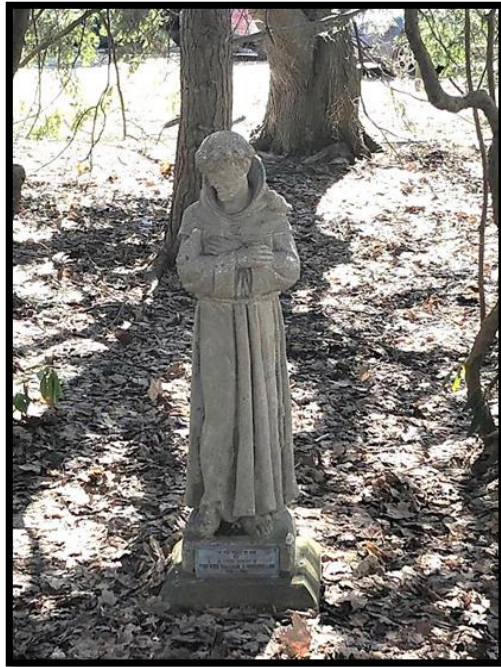
town's light posts with greens. It was a cold day but Montrose is getting ready for Christmas in Montrose, which will be the first weekend in December this year.



Late November in Susquehanna County

"We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing..." Uh Oh, on Friday the 19th, a little snow appeared. It melted quickly as the ground was still too warm to hold snow. We are not sure if this counts for the first snowstorm or not – probably not. It continued snowing off and on since. St. Francis of Assisi in our Memorial Garden has another winter to look forward to. He had a snow hat for about two months last winter. Buck deer rubs on small trees indicate a buck is in the area. They rub the "velvet" off their antlers. Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours.





Remember When

What a proud bunch of crafters. They were making Christmas stars to hang on the tree. From the looks of it, they are a very talented group.

