




276 Church Street, Montrose, PA 18801  
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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.

## Jan. 2 - 8, 2022

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 Annual Meeting is on January 16. All Reports must be in to the office by Jan. 10.**

**First Wednesday of the Month on Jan. 5th:**  
Free Soup Dinner at St. Paul's Episcopal Church from 3:30-5:00 p.m. **Please note** that the Free Dinners are take-out only.

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

### **This Week's Lay Ministers:**

Altar Guild: Mary & Ben Zalewski  
Officiant: Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski  
Announcements: Lynne Graham  
Camera & Broadcast: Andrew Wurth  
Lector: Cathy Hammons

### **Readings for this Week**

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-14  
Psalm: 84  
Epistle: Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a  
Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

**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, Carol Marker & Ellen Ely.



### **View from the Pew**

This is the time of year of the family gathering together for the holidays, like Christmas and New Years. It is wonderful to have your children, and grandchildren filling the house with their pleasant noise. After your children are out of the house for a while, you can be a little out of practice with them. When grandchildren begin to arrive on the scene, you wonder how in the world did you have the patience and wisdom to bring up our own kids. I think small and manageable expectations are the tricks. You could analogize it to building a fire. You start with small kindling to start the flames, then slowly increase the size of branches until you can add the regular sized logs after you have a nice strong foundation of hot embers. If you start too big too early, you put out the fire, just as with your expectations of your young ones.

After the reunion, then everyone is off to their respective lives and routines, leaving a hole until the next time. Also, when it's over, it's a time for new beginnings. You think of who you were, and hopefully reminding you of what

you want to be, and what's important in your life. Another year to look forward to and make some positive changes. Happy new year to everyone.

- John Warriner

**Birthdays for January:** Charles Cesaretti 1/2, Karen Blye-McAbee 1/4, Molly Brunner 1/16, Anne Shafer 1/16, Bill Rathbone 1/18, Nathaniel Syle 1/20, David Calby 1/24 & Marsha Jones 1/26.



**Reminder with winter** comes winter weather!. This is just the annual reminder to say: if there is ice or snow and there is a question about church being canceled, listen to WPEL at 96.5 FM.

### **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.*



**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

**13 Photos this week.**

### **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, December 24th**

**O Holy night! The stars are brightly shining  
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining  
'Til He appears and the soul felt its worth  
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn  
Fall on your knees; O hear the Angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born  
O night, O Holy night, O night divine!**

## THE GOSPEL -- Do not be afraid

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" [When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.] *Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)*

Silent night, holy night  
All is calm, and all is bright  
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child  
Holy infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace  
Sleep in heavenly peace

### Fr. Bill's View From the Pulpit

So, it is finally here---Christmas Day! Merry Christmas to all our fellow prayers on this icy Christmas morning. On Christmas morning 1962, the snow was thick and heavy over the Driveway and fields of Salesian College, Shrigley Park high up in the English Pennines.

Midnight Mass had been exactly at 12midnight, followed by an immediate low mass. We were barely asleep when they woke us at 6am. Another mass before breakfast, followed by a solemn High Mass at 10am. By Noon we were spiritually and physically 'massed out!'

It was the worst winter on record since 1947, and we, young boys all, were invited on a long three hours walk in the afternoon over the snow-clad moors. At Shrigley there was no Christmas break; no going home to family and friends, no presents around the Christmas tree! No, we were there for the duration--September to the very end of June.

We made our own fun; played soccer in the snow; sang church music way beyond our scope; entertained with class plays dotted across the season. We lived in a Shangri-la place, a 'Sound of



Music' existence, cut off from the real world, with our only concern, that when the fun stopped, there would be the dreaded mid-year exams of January.

Shrigley had a spirit that long outlived its life as a private school high above the Cheshire Plain. It taught you the real meaning of Christmas divorced from the bright lights of the city. Like the shepherds we gathered around the Creche and prayed, young friends together. Now the years have rolled by, but those friendships endured, so that each year, the stable reminds us of a day when all you needed was friendship.

Reach out today to anyone who needs that hand of friendship and love. To the neighbor who lives alone; the homeless and the sick. Our prayers today include Joanie who could not be at our Christ Church service and needs our prayer at this time. And for Jerry, who we prayed for at Trinity last night. Get well dear friends. To all, in our parishes and to the many friends around the world we wish you a Happy and Holy Christmas and a safe and fruitful 2022. Ad Multos Annos.----Amen.

## THIS WEEK

### December 24th Christmas Eve Service

The December 24th live-streamed 5:00 Christmas Eve Deacon's Mass was led by Deacon Liz. Lynne Graham made announcements and Tom Undercoffler was the lector. Cathy Hammons played the organ Prelude – *Song of the Bird*, and Postlude, *Join the Triumph of the Skies*, along with several hymns. A special ensemble by Nancy Houck and her students provided beautiful flute music. Dominic Golden put Baby Jesus in the Manger and helped ring the bell. Deacon Liz sang a solo, *O Holy Night* and the service ended with a candlelight rendition of *Silent Night*. Our live-streamed services can be watched live or any time on YouTube.





## First Sunday After Christmas, December 26th

The first Noel the angel did say  
 was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
 in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
 on a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
 Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
 born is the King of Israel.

## THE GOSPEL - In the beginning was the Word

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.



And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known. Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord. (*John 1:1-18*)

## THIS WEEK

### December 26th Service

The December 26th live-streamed 10:00 Deacon's Mass was led by Deacon Liz. Lynne Graham made announcements and was the lector. Joyce Printz played the organ Prelude, Organ Meditation and Postlude, along with a number of Christmas hymns. Our live-streamed services can be watched live or any time on YouTube.



### Christmas Surprise

This weekend, Martha Cobb's cow birthed a little calf. Mother and daughter are doing fine.



### End of December in Susquehanna County

*"Summer friends will melt away like summer snows, but winter friends are friends forever."* Winter came here on December 21<sup>st</sup> but it's been warmer. Instead of snow we have frost and fog, and the ponds that were frozen are melting around the edges. The week between Christmas and New Year's is always a dreary one.



### Old picture of St. Pauls's found

Several weeks ago, a picture of the Montrose House, which predated the Montrose Inn across from church, appeared. This 1906 photograph was of a portable sewing machine repairman at the House. What the fun part is, if you look hard, what you can see behind him. Notice in the blown up photo below, you can see St. Paul's Bell Tower door on the far left under the umbrella. Our main entrance door is hidden behind the white corner porch pole to the left of the middle guy. Our famous ivy is to his right. Also, the Odd Fellow's Hall, which was razed in 1927 to be replaced by the Parish Hall, is shown behind the repairman on the right. The Hall was located close to the street. Since it was three stories high and was separated from the church by a narrow alley, it must have stopped all light coming in the west windows. Again, thanks to Ginny Lewis for the views.



