




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.



### April 3 – April 9, 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.

During Lent, starting on Wednesday, March 9, we will have Bible study beginning with a simple soup supper at 5:00. This will be weekly through April 6. Thursday Bible study will be suspended until after Easter.

Altar Guild will be meeting on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, at 10am in the Guild Room to prepare the Palms with discussion for Holy Week.

### Holy Week Schedule:

Palm Sunday Service: April 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am  
 Maundy Thurs. Service: April 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm  
 Good Friday Crosswalk: April 15<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 pm  
 Starting at Holy Name of Mary  
 Good Friday Service: April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm  
 The Great Vigil Service: April 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm  
 Easter Sunday Service: April 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am

### Readings for this Week

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21  
 Psalm: 126  
 Epistle: Philippians 3:4b-14  
 Gospel: John 12:1-8



**Envelopes for Easter Flowers** are available at the back of the church. Easter Flowers are \$20.00. I will need all envelopes to the office by Monday April 11<sup>th</sup> for Memorials to be in the Easter Sunday Bulletin.

**First Wednesday of the Month on April 6<sup>th</sup>:**  
 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.

### This Week's Lay Ministers:

Altar Guild: Barb Undercoffler, Carol Marker & Carol Lasher  
 Officiant: Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski  
 Announcements: Lynne Graham  
 Camera & Broadcast: Andrew Wurth  
 Lector: Vickie Calby

### Spring has arrived and so has the resumption of Social Night!

We thought a perfect time to begin again would be this coming Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>! We are hoping everyone will turn out on Friday to help color Easter eggs for the Easter Baskets that will be given to the recipients of Meals on Wheels. Once all the eggs have been colored, we will head over to the Inn for our first Social Night in a long time. Even if you are not able to color eggs, you are still welcome to join us at the Inn. Vickie will be

making a reservation for 6:30 p.m. and will need to know how many will be attending. Please call, 570-878-3439, email, [calby53@gmail.com](mailto:calby53@gmail.com), or just let Vickie know on Sunday. We hope to see you all there! It's been a long two years!

### **View from the Pew**

Spring!!! Oh boy; we've almost made it! Almost put the long, dark, cold wintry days behind us; oh but not quite. Every year its the same little joke played on us. March arrives; it begins to stay light longer, the snow is melting and we get glimpses of green grass. We have a couple sunny warmer days; people start to shed their big, bulky winter coats. Towards the middle of March we might even get a full week of down right warm/hot beautiful days.

It's so easy to want to let go and put all that winter behind us, but those of us that have lived here long enough know that it's just a taste, a glimmer of hope of what is to come. It hasn't quite fully arrived.

So often life is like that. We get glimpses of hope in our dark times that pull us through, that gives us just the strength to persevere a little longer because we have experienced just the right dose of warmth, light and sunshine to carry us through.

I believe that this is God's way of showing us that he loves us during the long, dark days. He gives us hope in a sneak preview of what is to come and reminds us that he is in full control.

Let the sneak peak of Spring every March remind you to trust God to bring long lasting renewal, rebirth, resurrection and hope to the long, lonely, gray seasons of our lives. Spring is just around the corner!!!

### **Romans 5:3-5**

Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Love to all my church family,

Karen Blye-McAbee

### **Vestry Highlights: March 24, 2022**

Our meeting scheduled for March 17 was postponed until March 24 due to lack of a quorum.

Lynne opened the meeting with prayer and we approved the agenda.

We approved the minutes of February 17, 2022.

Mother Liz read the Bible study scripture Luke 15:4-10, which are the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin (preceding the parable of the Prodigal Son.). God, our Father, runs to meet us when we repent and return to him.

Mother Liz thanked the parish for hosting her ordination and for her beautiful white stole, which we gave her. She reported that she attended the Clergy Lenten Day conference and the meeting of Convocation I. She encouraged us to attend Gather 22, a formation event sponsored by the Diocese. She noted that archives (Vestry minutes) are missing from 1980-2010. She presented the Holy Week schedule. The memorial service for Mary Jane Syle will be on April 26 at 1:00. There will be a memorial service for Simon Pease in April or May.

The Vestry voted unanimously to donate this month's gas royalty check to St. Vladimir Ukrainian church in Scranton. They will

forward the funds to their Diocese for use in Ukraine.

We will provide Easter treats for the recipients of Meals on Wheels. Donations toward this endeavor are much appreciated. We will dye eggs on April 1 at 5:00 and then fill the treat bags with the eggs, jellybeans, and a small bag of chocolates on Sunday, April 3 after church.

We have added some communication responsibilities to Kate, our new parish administrator's, job.

We accepted the Treasurer's report. The Vestry approved an additional monthly withdrawal of funds from our interest in the DIT. We may not need these additional funds through the entire year.

Looking ahead:

Lenten Bible study continues through Wednesday, April 7 at 5:00.

Palm Sunday service 10 am

Maundy Thursday service with foot washing 6:00 pm

Good Friday Cross Walk beginning at Holy Name of Mary 12 noon

Good Friday service 6:00 pm

Easter Vigil, Saturday, 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday 10 am

Mother Liz closed the meeting with the Lord's prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Our next Vestry meeting will be May 19, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. There will be no meeting in April.

**Birthdays for April:** Evelyn Constantine 4/11, Martha Cobb 4/16, Naomi Bennett 4/27.

**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 & Rebecca Bechtel.

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

**Contact:** you can call the parish office during office hours. After hours call Mother Liz 212-222-8109.

**Church Closures** please turn your radio dial to WPEL 96.5 FM. We will announce any closure of our church service on that station.

**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

**16 Photos this week**

## Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 27th

Jerusalem, my happy home,  
When shall I come to thee?  
When shall my sorrows have an end?  
Your joys when shall I see?

Jerusalem, Jerusalem,  
God grant that I may see  
Your endless joy, and of the same  
Partaker ever be!

### THE GOSPEL- he was lost and has been found.

Now the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So Jesus told them this parable:

“There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

Now his eldest son was in the field. When he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’ ““Then the father said to him, ‘Son you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’” (Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32)

Come Thou fount of every blessing  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace  
Streams of mercy never ceasing  
Call for songs of loudest praise  
Teach me some melodious sonnet  
Sung by flaming tongues above  
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it  
Mount of Thy redeeming love

### **View from the Pulpit**

There is something about yesterday's Gospel that is strangely haunting. It was the story of the Prodigal Son from Luke Chapter 15. It is perhaps the best known of all Jesus' parables and maybe the most complicated.

It is tempting to ask where the reader situates himself in the story. Do we journey with the Prodigal to a far, far land, or do we stand at the gate with the mourning father? Or have we already cut ties with the Prodigal and all our sympathies now lie with the faithful son?

Jesus is looking into the eyes and hearts of the Pharisees and the Scribes and is asking them a deep and meaningful question. "Do you truly believe that this Promised Land, this land given to the descendants of Joseph and the Kingdom of heaven, is only for you the blessed? I tell you that you are wrong for I have come to raise up the fallen and to heal the afflicted."

We could stand at the gate of our own church and ask the same question: 'who gets in and who stays out?'

The story of the Prodigal Son is the story that answers the question: "What is the nature of the God we choose to worship?"---Faith is not about jumping through hoops. It is not a race nor a contest. It is not about status, honors nor titles. Faith is about a relationship of love, a love that conquers all.

The Pharisees do not understand, and if the Scribes comprehend it is not a concept they wish to accept. Nothing has changed in two thousand years. We still live in a world of the 'haves' and 'the have-nots'. We still live in a world where the 'blessed' look down on the 'afflicted.' We still live in a world where love is esoteric and not universal.

"Save us Lord from the love of the blessed! Give us a church of the unwashed, the prisoner, the hobo, the refugee, the sinner and O yes, the Prodigal Son. But most of all Lord, give us the Spirit of the loving father." Amen.

Fr. Bill. McGinty

### **March 27<sup>th</sup> Service – Forth Sunday of Lent.**

The March 27th live-streamed 10:00 Holy Eucharist Service was led by Mother Liz. The announcements were made by Lynne Graham who was also the lector. We welcomed Rudy Sumpter who played the organ including the Prelude and Postlude, along with four hymns. As you know, our live-streamed services can be watched live or any time on YouTube. Just go to our webpage and hit the red button.





### **Meet Rudy Sumpter**

On Sunday, the 27<sup>th</sup>, a new supply organist was at St. Paul's. Rudy lives in Harford and was supplying for Cathy. If you see him, give him a big hello.



### **Sometimes the Magic Works and Then, Sometimes it doesn't**

As you may have noticed, we had some technical difficulties getting the Bulletin and Weekly Update out last week. Kate and Kurt worked their magic and it is fixed.

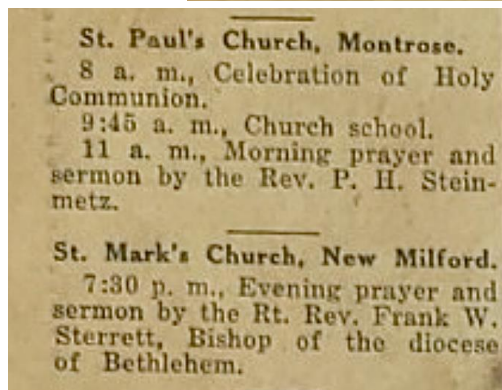
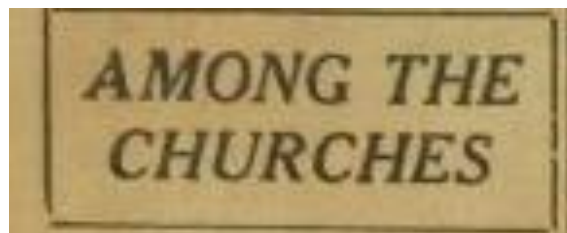
### **April 1<sup>st</sup>, Egg Dying**

We are going to be dying eggs at St. Paul's on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:00. Bring some extras to dye for yourself. These will go in the mini-Easter baskets for the Susquehanna County recipients of Meals on Wheels. Monetary donations toward the chocolates are welcome. Come join in the fun. See you there!



### Old Newspaper Found

Kate Bennett, our new Administrator, found this interesting article in an old *Montrose Independent* newspaper in the walls of a room at home she was working on. Dated October 27, 1937, the paper listed all Montrose church service times. St. Mark's was also listed. At that time, St. Paul's had two services on Sunday; 8:30 Holy Communion, and 11:00 Morning Prayer. Church School was 9:45. Rev. Steinmetz, the rector, had arrived at St. Paul's that May and would serve until 1945.



### On April 1<sup>st</sup>, Social Night begins

Covid killed a good many of St. Paul's traditions, one of which was Social Night. Someone would host, someone would drive the ones who couldn't, and a good night of comradery was enjoyed. On Friday night, after Egg Dying, social night is starting again at the Montrose Inn. Hope to see you there!





### **New Picture for Website**

On our website under parishioners, we have pictures of everyone. We just added one that was not up there – David. Take a peek on the website to see what your's looks like.



### **Good Friday Cross Walk Resurrected**

Speaking of traditions, after a two-year hiatus, we will be doing the cross-walk again this year. On Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at noon, a group of ecumenical Christians will carry a cross from Holy Name of Mary RC Church, to St. Paul's Episcopal, to the Presbyterian Church and to the chapel at Interfaith.. This cross walk, which has become a Montrose tradition, represented Christ's journey carrying his cross to Calvary where he was crucified. At each stop, a passage of scripture will be read and a hymn sung.





## END OF MARCH IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

*Springtime comes rolling round slowly. Grey skies are bringing me down. Old man winter is not done with us yet. Our church crocuses were up and the trails at Salt springs were ice free and it was a balmy 50. We had a couple beautiful sunrises – but red skies at morning, sailors take warning and wam – it got real cold and actually snowed most of Monday. The geese on Lake Montrose didn't seem to mind.*

