

# ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## Weekly Update April 7- April 13



**276 Church Street, Montrose, PA 18801**

Office 570-278-2954, Monday-Thursday 8:15am-3:00pm

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>

To proclaim God's love by word and example and to seek Christ in one another.

### **Our Vestry Members**

The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski

John Warriner, Sr. Warden

Vickie Calby, Jr. Warden

John Finlon, Treasurer

Wanda Peirce, Clerk

Jack Lasher

Dan Graham

Vera Dunn

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.



**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

### **Church Closures**

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

# View from the Pulpit: Father Bill

## “Traces of Hope.”

Easter Sunday. Today is the birthday of an old friend, Annette. How appropriate that her birthday fall on Easter Sunday. As much as we love this day, love the whole concept of Resurrection, like a new Spring, there are people, special people who we would care to linger, because they make our lives so much richer.

Today, on this day of Christian celebration, we can afford to pause in silent prayer, and remember those who we have loved and have passed to eternal life. How jealous are we, of saints and Angels, who now enjoy their presence.

Lent is over, and we are left today with the scene of Mary coming to the tomb of Jesus and finding it empty. There is something we love here: that it is Mary, who first sees the empty tomb, carries the news to the Apostles, and is the first to see the risen Christ.

We pray for these moments, do we not? We pray for the impossible to become possible. So often in history, we are faced with insurmountable odds, where we believe right will not prevail. We long for that miracle moment. Soldiers long for it in battle; prisoners unjustly sentenced, long for it behind bars; cancer victims pray for it, in their suffering.

Resurrection, Easter gives us all hope. We Christians long for it, we triumph in it. We do not care that for the vast majority of the world, and even the nation, this is just another day. The war in Ukraine will continue; the death toll in Gaza will go on; but today we believe in the Prince of Peace. We believe in the Risen Good Shepherd, who will never desert his sheep, the poor, the marginalized, victims of violence and the sick. Easter is our day of hope. Easter is the resurrection of our hopes.

More than this, hope for those who have suffered the worst of losses. The loss of a child; the suicide of a child, loved and cherished. The heartache, the pain, the grief, and suffering, the never knowing, and the constant why? is washed on this resurrection day, by the grace, of the merciful love of our God. Jesus Christ has restored hope, into our world, and into our lives.

Easter is our day of triumph; it is our day of celebration. It is our day of hope. Amen.

# View from the Pew:

I grew up in a small town outside Pittsburgh, which was founded at the point where two rivers (the Allegheny and the Monongahela) meet and form a third (the Ohio). I have cast a line in all three, but in the summer when I was ten, it was in the Monongahela that I learned the ins and outs of river fishing.

During that summer, because my mother was working and my father worked second shift, I was dropped off at my Grandparents' by my father on his way to work in the afternoon. Depending on the weather, about twice a week, he would pick my grandfather up and he would take us to a fishing spot on the Monongahela up the river from the Homestead Steel Works near where my grandfather lived. My uncle would stop after work and join us and bring dinner – potato chips, pretzels, sandwiches, a soda for me, and a six-pack for them – fish a little, and take us home.

Each of the rivers was different. The Allegheny was green and clean and you could catch smallmouth bass and an assortment of fish all the way to the point. Back then, the Monongahela was pretty dirty, coming up from West Virginia with steel mills on its shores and busy coal traffic. The water was dark and brown looking. But you could catch carp and “mudcats” (brown and yellow bullheads) and an occasional channel cat. It was catch and release as you would have to be pretty hungry to eat anything you caught.

Fishing gear consisted of a sturdy casting rod, with heavier line and lead sinkers and two hooks – one had a worm, one a dough ball. You were bottom fishing. After casting, you found a stick in the shape of a “Y” to put the end of your rod on. You had to keep the clicker of your reel off because a 10-pound carp could easily pull your rod into the water, never to be seen again. With the clicker off, it generally caused your line to be a little slack, but that was taken up by a small twig that you sat on your line near the end of the rod. The twig would move if you had a bite.

River fishing was not like trout or bass fishing -- no spinners or continual casts. Once you threw your line out, you did not keep bringing it in to look at it. The dough ball, bait for carp, was generally too fragile to survive more than one cast. This was, of course, hard for a young boy with a little ADHD. But putting more bait on a hook you'd reeled in just to look at produced a disapproving look from my grandfather. So after casting, you sat down and leaned against a log, and watched that twig and waited (and just hoped that bait was still on there.)

In the best of times, Pap was a man of few words. Sitting in his foldable aluminum chair that he brought with him, he would smoke his corncob pipe and just sit. There was of course an unstated but active competition as to who caught the most fish or the biggest one that day but overall, except during catches, we didn't do a lot of talking. We would watch the coal barges go by from West Virginia on their way to the mills, the empty ones returning, an occasional sports boat, all of which caused waves, and of course, we watched our rods.

My grandfather taught me a lot about river fishing that summer. How to tell if it was a carp or a catfish biting your bait, how to set a hook, how to get a hook out of a fish that had swallowed it, and how to unhook a catfish without its top fin sticking you and drawing blood. I look back on that summer with fondness and I realize that, in retrospect, he also taught me patience, something I'm not sure I would have learned by fishing differently. More importantly, with an appreciation that only comes as one grows older, he taught me that one could do worse while young than to spend time sitting next to your grandfather, to fish, and to just watch the world go by together.

# Sundays Service

April  
7



## Readings for this Week:

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

Psalm: 133

The Epistle: 1 John 1:1-2:2

Gospel: John 20:19-31

## This Week's Ministers:

Celebrant: The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski

Altar Guild: Gaby Warriner

Announcements: John Warriner

Lector: Ellen Ely

Hospitality: Ellen Ely & Nancy Dooling

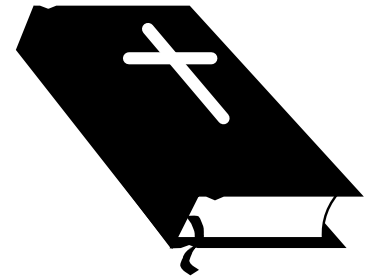
## This week's Hymns:

I have decided to follow Jesus

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks

Just as I am

I want to walk as a child of the light



## This week's Gospel according to: John

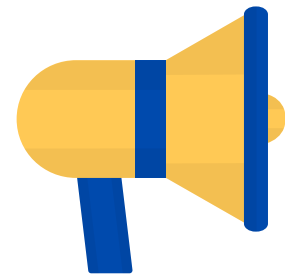
When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

# Happenings and Announcements



## **We would love for you to be included!**

Article submissions (photos, community news items, or a personal or faith story) are due every Wednesday. This is YOUR newsletter, and all congregants are invited to share their stories and photos. Please email your items to Kate at [stpaulsmontrose@epix.net](mailto:stpaulsmontrose@epix.net) or John Warriner at [jdwarri@me.com](mailto:jdwarri@me.com); post an item to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 276 Church St. Montrose, PA 18801 on Facebook; or drop a note in the offering plate.



### **For those who are ill or have requested our prayers:**

Margaret Burgh, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Nancy Finlon, Carol Marker, The Rogers Family, Victor

### **Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency Contact:**

You can call the parish office during office hours. After hours, call Mother Liz 212-222-8109.



### **This Months Birthdays:**

Evelyn Constantine 4/11, Martha Cobb 4/16,  
Naomi Bennett 4/27



### **This Months Anniversaries:**

### **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.

# Susquehanna Symphony Society

*Presents*

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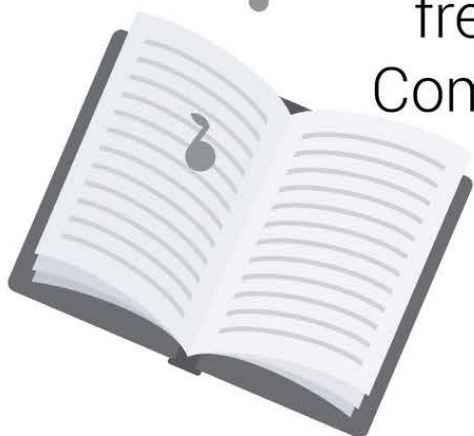
## Wyoming Seminary Madrigal Singers

**Sunday, April 14, 2014, at 3:00pm**

Tickets are \$15 for the concert,  
Pay at the door. For advance  
tickets, and for more information,  
please call

(570) 396-5813.

Children and students  
17 and under are  
free, courtesy of The  
Community Foundation  
of the Endless  
Mountains.



**Hosted by: First Presbyterian Church  
367 Church St, Montrose, PA 18801**



# Diocese of Bethlehem

**Convocation 1: Episcopal Churches of Bradford and  
Susquehanna Counties**

**Christ Church Susquehanna, St. Mark's New Milford,  
St. Paul's Montrose, St. Paul's Troy, Trinity Athens,  
Christ Church Towanda and Church of the Redeemer  
Sayre.**

**All parishioners in Convocation 1 are invited to a meet and greet with Bishop Kevin Nichols on TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024 @ 3:00 P.M. Christ Church Towanda. The agenda is a presentation from a member of the Reunification Discernment Committee, providing an update on the work of the Committee with regard to a potential reunification with the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania. Your questions and concerns are invited. Refreshments will be served.**

Safe Church classes are hitting the road and coming to YOU! After hearing your feedback, we're thrilled to announce that in-person classes are back, alongside our trusted online option. Now you can choose what works best for you! Join us at Prince of Peace in Dallas, PA (420 Main St, Dallas PA 18612) for two special sessions:

**Friday, May 10th, 1:00pm - 5:00pm**

**Saturday, May 11th, 9:00am - 1:00pm**

Registration is open! Secure your spot at the link below for the session that fits your schedule. Remember, you only need to attend one of the days.

<https://forms.gle/kPStULto3io3fQkx9>

[More than one person can register at a time at this link.]

# Last Week's Service and Events

**LAST SUNDAY – Maundy Thursday, Friday Cross Walk, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, Easter Sunday, March 27 – 31, 2024**



**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
The strife is o'er, the battle done;  
the victory of life is won;  
the song of triumph has begun.  
Alleluia!**



The March 24, 2024, 10:00 Holy Eucharist Palm Sunday Service was officiated by Mother Liz. John Warriner made the announcements and Lynne Graham served as chaliceist. Vickie Calby served as lector. Penny Jaggars played a prelude, 4 hymns and a postlude on the piano. Rich Marker, Liz and Lynne read the Passion. 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.

**Jesus Christ is ris'n today, alleluia!  
our triumphant holy day, alleluia!  
who did once, upon the cross, alleluia!  
suffer to redeem our loss, alleluia!**









## Easter Morning Sunrise

**The Soup is On**  
 April 3rd was soup day and Ham and Bean and Chicken Noodle were served. Six steaming pots of soup were donated by St. Paul's cooks. It's always fun to help make up the bags of soup, salad, applesauce, cookie, and a roll. Next month soup day is May 1st.

**Soups On!**

COME BY THE CHURCH FROM  
 3:30 TO 5:00 FOR  
 YOUR FREE SOUP!

**April 3, 2024**  
 St Paul's Episcopal Church  
 276 Church Street,  
 Montrose

Pre-Orders and Donations are appreciated  
 (570-278-2954)

Soup Pickup is on the left hand side of the church by the HO Mart

**This Month:**  
 Ham & Bean  
 &  
 Chicken Noodle  
 Comes with a small salad,  
 a roll  
 AND a cookie!

## EARLY APRIL IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

“Every day is a renewal, every morning the daily miracle. This joy you feel is life.” Lots more rain this week. The Canadian geese have arrived and are staking out nesting sites. Gertie, the piebald deer, survived hunting season and the winter and is four years old this year. She had a brown fawn last year; we will see what she has this year. Two calves appeared this week on a farm on 706. It’s birth time. Susquehanna’s first wild flower, foalfoot, a dandelion look alike, has begun appearing in the gravel on the road berms. The first of many flowers. A brief moment of sunshine shows blue skies and grass that is green. It’s the wait and see month in Susquehanna County.

