

ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Weekly Update

February 9- February 15



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

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.

Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency Contact:

You can call the parish office during office hours. After hours, call John Warriner at 570-278-2317.

Our Vestry Members

John Warriner, Sr. Warden

Lynne Graham, Jr. Warden

John Finlon, Treasurer

Wanda Peirce, Clerk

Vera Dunn

Dan Graham

Sandy Seeger



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

“The Presentation”

The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. Epiphany 4.---This is one of the most important Feasts of the Church Liturgical Year. The Presentation is that event, where under Jewish Law, the parents of Jesus must present him at the Temple for initiation into the Hebrew Judaic faith. It is also important because, coming in Epiphany, it is again a revelation of who Jesus truly is.

Our Sunday readings however begin with Malachi. We could almost expect the Malachi prophecy to appear in the season of Advent. It is Messianic, and speaks of God's messenger, a John the Baptist figure, who prepares the way of the Lord. The analogy of refining silver and gold, the most precious elements of their day, can never be lost in speaking of 'The Day of the Lord'.

Anytime I see the 'Letter to the Hebrews,' I immediately know that the story it tells will relate to Christ and man's salvation from sin and destruction. Hebrews, per se, is a letter of access. By that I mean that it is only possible for mankind to be saved, by the coming of Jesus Christ. Till that moment, the gates of the afterlife are barred, locked and shuttered.

In Hebrews, Jesus is the eternal High Priest, offering a sin -offering of himself for the expiation of our sin. It is an atonement, for he is the true Paschal Lamb that brings salvation and light to the world.

The Gospel itself comes from Luke 2:22---40 quite a long passage, when you think about it. The Presentation applied only to every 'First Born Male,' reminding Israel that it was their First-Born male' that were spared on the night of the Passover, hence they belong to God. The figure of the aging Simeon, in some ways represents all the Messianic Prophets. His speech echoes down the centuries, as a living testimony to the identity of Jesus.

“Now may your servant go in peace, according to thy word, for my eyes have seen your salvation and the glory of your people Israel.” Simeon's prophecy speaks of the future ministry of Jesus and concludes with a warning of Mary's pain.

Nor was she the only woman involved in the story of salvation, for onto the scene comes Anna. She too witnesses to the Christ and spreads the news of the Messiah. The Gospel concludes with the family returning to Nazareth, unlike the Matthew account, where they flee into Egypt.

The Presentation Story caps the Lukan Account of the Birth or Nativity stories of Jesus.

There is a Christian tradition that links Mary with Luke the Evangelist. It comes through again in this passage, such that we must ask who is the witness to the story? Who gave this information to Luke? Not Simeon or Anna, they were long dead, as was Joseph. No Mary must be Luke's secret source. This is the witness of Mary. This is a mother remembering back across the years. Amen

Sundays Service

Feb 9



Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Readings for this Week:

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-13

Psalm: 138

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

This Week's Ministers:

Celebrant: The Rev Susan Treanor

Altar Guild: Sandy Seeger

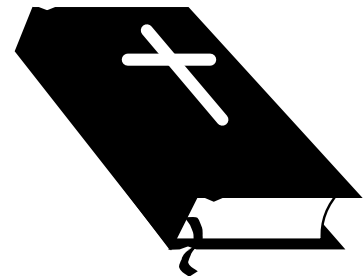
Announcements: John Warriner

Lector: Shelly Green

Hospitality:

This week's Hymns:

Lift



This week's Gospel according to: Luke

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

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.

Happenings and Announcements

Pancake Supper Right Around the Bend

Lent is fast approaching! St. Paul's Church is having its free annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper on Tuesday, March 4th, 2025, beginning at 5:30. The menu includes pancakes, eggs, sausage, applesauce, homemade desserts and beverages. Please come and join us and bring your friends. Mardi Gras costumes welcome! See you there.



For those who are ill or have requested our prayers:

Margaret Burgh, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Nancy Finlon, Carol Marker, Harry Peirce, Linda Landis, Todd Davies, Rudy Mattes



This Months Birthdays:

Wanda Peirce 2/1, Kristina Rogers 2/24, Carol Lasher 2/27, Nancy Finlon 2/28



This Months Anniversaries:

John & Gaby Warriner: 2/4/1990
Bob & Vera Dunn: 2/20/1971

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.

Last Week's Service and Events

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany, February 2, 2025

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne.

Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.

Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:

"Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by His blood."

The February 2nd, 2025, 10:00 Morning Prayer service was officiated by Vickie Calby. Ellen Ely served as lector and John Warriner read the announcements. Penny Jagers played a prelude, 3 hymns and a postlude on the piano. 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.



Coffee Hour Fellowship

Parishioners have said that St. Paul's is epitomized by our coffee hours after church. It's where you will find us – always in good company.



1922 Snow Pictures of Old Rectory

Virginia Lewis had two pictures of our old Church St. Rectory (the building that's to the west of the funeral home). These were taken in 1922 when Rev. Ralph Armfield Weatherly, our minister from December 1921 to January 1928, had just started. The man in the lower right was probably the Rev. Weatherly. He is noted as bringing a lot of energy with him. These pictures are neat because the following year the vestry came up with the money to "modernize" the house. All the old tourist rooms in the rear, which you can see, were removed and a "colonial" entrance was added to the front.



Ice Fishing

Vickie Calby, who lives on Lake Montrose, took these pictures of the ice fishermen. Sitting on a bucket on the lake in last week's weather must have been a little cold. Hope they caught some fish.



Furnace

If you were at church last Sunday, it was a little cold. We have 3 furnaces which backup each other but only one was working for the entire building. We called the furnace guy and he was able to take parts from one and get two of the three working. He ordered the other parts and hopefully, we will be back to normal soon. Thanks to the brave souls who were there on Sunday.

EARLY FEBRUARY IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

“While it is February one can taste the full joys of anticipation. Spring stands at the gate with her finger on the latch.” The sunny cold days are gone replaced by more cold, dreary Susquehanna ones. The deer are scratching up the snow to get to the grass; ponds are solid. Snow, cold and icy days this week. That’s why bears hibernate. It’s winter in Susquehanna County.

