

ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Weekly Update

March 2- March 8



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

“Doors, locks, bolts and chains.”

We are fast approaching the holy season of Lent. Originally the 40 days preparation for catechumens, before Baptism at the great Vigil of Easter. These were 40 days of ‘fasting,’ (one meal only per day), and ‘abstinence,’ (not meat).

Today, perhaps, only monks and nuns in monasteries, observe this practice, but the rest of us are encouraged to use Lent for our own spiritual growth. It is both a penitential season, in which we seek forgiveness, and healing from sin. It is also a spiritual journey, where we join with Christ, on the road to calvary. In the latter sense, we participate in the great salvific event of the trials, suffering, and death of Christ, that releases the Holy Spirit and gives birth to the Church.

We do this as ‘the Body of Christ,’ uniting as Christians in special services, and adding such practices as ‘The Stations of the Cross’ weekly. Yet, I would like to add that individually, each one of us should and must plot and plan his/her own Lent, in our inner soul. Have you been there? Have you ventured deep within your own mind, heart, and spirit, to take a good look at the state of your being? —It is hard to do. Why? Because between our ‘true self,’ and the self we show others, there are many doors, locks, bolts, chains, anchors, and barbwire.

It is only when we peel away the masks, that hide our fears, obsessions, failures, hurts, wounds, pain, that we see what God sees. There is a temptation to constantly paint over the peeling banister of our life for we fear as to what we will find if we strip it down to the wood. ---Lent invites us to do just that. Lent is a time of self-examination. Lent is a time to reject sin and replace it with a life of grace.

If you pause for one moment and think: “This does not really apply to me for I have no sin to confess or repent, nothing to change,” then you have no need for Christ. You see Christ came for the ‘sinner’; he told us so. He came to make all things new. If we say: “I have no sin!” perhaps it really means that there are too many doors, locks, bolts, chains, anchors, and barbwire, for the Christ of our salvation to break through. Perhaps it is the case that it is only I, who can open the door, turn the key in the locks, unbolt the bolt, loosen the chains, lift the anchor, and cut the barbwire, that gives Christ access to our inner soul!

Lent has a purpose. Lent challenges us to meet our true self. Lent tells us to ‘change’ and to change now, by judging ourselves now, and not waiting till that brief ten seconds, after we take our final breath. Lent challenges us to face our fears and banish them with the forgiveness and love of our God, won for us by the sign of his cross.

Decide today to plan for a good Lent. Prepare to meet the real you. Amen.

View from the Pew: Carol Marker

Finding what was Lost.....

This is a story of today and finding what was lost but found. Some might know and for those who do not, here is our story. Our son David's home was one of the first to burn to the ground in the recent California fires. We pray for each and every soul who today look for shelter and to find hope for their futures. Where do they begin? A question often asked. Many spend hours sifting through the ashes left behind hoping to find just one small treasure while waiting for their property to be cleaned out once government decides on what rules must be in force to insure safety from toxins that remain everywhere. And, so they wait.

Two of David's and his wife Deanna's grown children have spent hours sifting through the ashes at their property and at last found a treasure - David's baptismal certificate! I have been touched deeply and still hear the softness in David's voice when he gave us the news. Somewhere there is a deeper meaning attached to this little miracle that has brought a treasure from the past and hope for the future. Perhaps, a renewal of the baptismal covenant and a time of remembrance and recommitment.

For me personally, I can remember the day Pastor Neumeyer made the sign of the cross with holy water on this little chubby baby boy's forehead. I knew then and know now how the sacrament of baptism is a promise we belong to Christ Jesus forever. Nothing, even fire can separate us from the Love that passes all understanding.

Love to all!



Sundays Service

March 2



Last Sunday after the Epiphany

Readings for this Week:

First Reading: Exodus 34:29-35

Psalm: 99

The Epistle: 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Gospel: Luke 9:28-43a

This Week's Ministers:

Celebrant: John Warriner

Altar Guild: Sandy Seeger

Announcements: John Warriner

Lector: Vickie Calby

Hospitality:

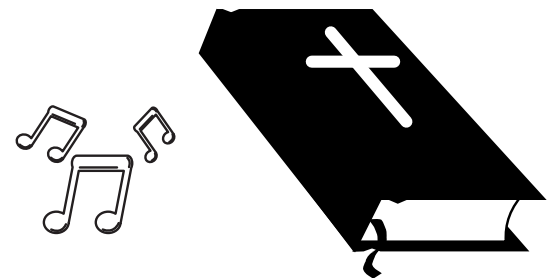
This week's Hymns:

Alleluia! sing to Jesus!

Songs of thankfulness and praise

All my hope on God is founded

Will you come and follow me



This week's Gospel according to: Luke

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"--not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

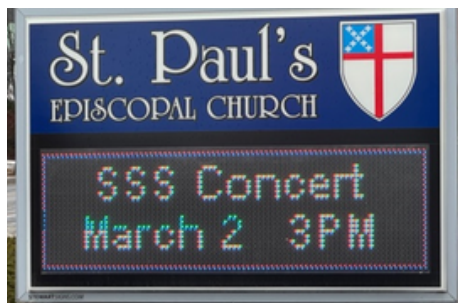
In person worship or you can watch live streamed on YouTube. Go to St. Paul's website

<http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org> and click this red button  on the front page, which takes you to our YouTube page.

Happenings and Announcements

Big Things Happening this week!

We hope everyone at church can make it to the concert on Sunday, March 2 at 3pm, and to the Pancake Supper on March 4th at 5pm. Our Ash Wednesday Service will be March 5 at 5:00pm.



Pancake Supper

FREE PANCAKE SUPPER

PANCAKES

SAUSAGE

EGGS

&

APPLE SAUCE



March 4, 2024
5:00 PM

St Paul's Episcopal Church
276 Church Street, Montrose



For those who are ill or have requested our prayers:

Margaret Burgh, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Nancy Finlon, Carol Marker, Harry Peirce, Linda Landis, Rich Nagy, John Pease, 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

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany, February 23, 2025

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

The February 23rd, 2025 live-streamed 10:00 Holy Eucharist Service was led by the Rev. Susan Treanor. John Warriner read the announcements and Lynne Graham served as lector. 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.



Old Photo

Here is a postcard of the Montrose House that was directly across the street from St. Paul's. The street going left and right is Church Street and the porch without the trees is facing Chestnut. It was taken down about 1927 and the current bank building, which was then an Inn, was built.



It's Been a Hard Winter on Trees

This has been a hard winter on trees. Trails in the area have numerous trees down across them and will have to be cut up as soon as it gets a little warmer. If you have trees in your yard, you will be picking up sticks and limbs.



LATE- FEBRUARY IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

"In the coldest February, as in every other month in every other year, the best thing to hold on to in this world is each other." The weather is beginning to break and the snow is melting. Salt Springs is always worth looking at, but particularly when the water is up. The falls froze this winter for the first time in several years but are running high now. It was a cold one this year and those big piles of wood are gone into the stove. Love that vista, lets hope it's the last one with snow.

