



## St. Paul's ePistle from McHenry

May 13, 2015

### *In this issue...*

- + Thoughts from Lori
- + Final Affairs Fair
- + Food Pantry Truck
- + Upcoming events
- + Hymns and Lessons
- + Bill's cartoon
- + 10 Reasons to be an Episcopalian



St. Paul's  
Episcopal Church

3706 W. St. Paul Ave.  
McHenry, IL 60050  
815-385-0390

*The Burial Office for  
Mary Patrícia Duncan  
will be*

*Friday, May 15, 2015  
at 7:30 p.m.*

*at Justen Funeral Home  
3700 Charles J. Miller Memorial  
Hwy  
McHenry, Illinois*



### *Thoughts from Lori*

The church calendar is full of sacred observances, many of which go unnoticed in our busy, modern times. Most are hardly worth mentioning except for us clergy types. But tomorrow, Thursday, is actually one that is very

Email:  
[stpaulmchenry@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stpaulmchenry@sbcglobal.net)

## Quick Links

[St. Paul website](#)

[Vestry Minutes](#)

[January 2015](#)

[February 2015](#)

[March 2015](#)

[Diaper Bank](#)

[Episcopal News Service](#)

[Diocese of Chicago](#)

[Lectionary Calendar](#)

[Forward Day by Day](#)

[Join Our Mailing List](#)

Like us on Facebook 

significant: the Feast of the Ascension. It always falls on a Thursday in the week between the Sixth and Seventh Sundays of Easter. That's because it is 40 days after the Resurrection, and 40 is a very symbolic number representing wholeness. But that's for another reflection, another time.

During the 40 days between his resurrection and his ascension, Jesus appeared to the disciples several times. (We'll hear about all this in our reading from Acts on Sunday: Acts 1:1-11, in case you want to read ahead.) Finally, he got everyone together and gave them instructions to go to Jerusalem and to wait for the Holy Spirit to come to them in a new and powerful way. Then, as they were watching, the scripture says, he disappeared into the skies. That's the Ascension, as in *his ascension* into heaven.

The disciples did as he asked. They went to Jerusalem and waited. For ten days they waited, until finally the Spirit of God came to them in a spectacular way. And that is the Feast of Pentecost - 50 days after the Resurrection, thus "pente" (in Latin) for fifty. We will observe that high holy day on Sunday, May 24th. It is the second most important feast day in the church; second only to Easter. (Christmas is a distant third and was added to the calendar quite late in the scheme of things.)

Many larger churches have special services on the day of the Ascension, or on Wednesday as the Eve of Ascension. Smaller churches like ours will mark the occasion on the Seventh Sunday of Easter; this year, on May 17th. We affirm this basic tenant of our faith in the Nicene Creed: "...he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father." [page 358, Book of Common Prayer]

This is one of those articles of faith that is hard for some people to swallow. They'd rather believe that he was beamed up by a space craft, as if that's easier to swallow! Others simply close their eyes (and minds) and believe it literally and blindly. What's the alternative, you might be wondering. How about this: the *mystery* of faith.

Embracing the mystery of faith does not require that we check our brains at the door of the church, nor does it require that we try to fit a square peg in a round hole - as in, trying to believe something that is fundamentally *unbelievable*. For me, the mystery of faith means holding something like this, like the Ascension, lightly and reverently; holding it in wonder and awe, and asking for (hoping for, waiting for) an open mind and heart. Faith, after all, has more to do with trust than with proof.

My own observance of the Feast of the Ascension will be this: to pray that you and I stand firmly in the mystery of faith! Blessed day. Blessed week.

Faithfully,

*Loritt*





## ***Final Affairs Fair***

St. Paul's is offering a Final Affairs Fair **this Saturday, May 16th, from 9am to noon**. There will be presentations by a local lawyer on legal matters such as Wills, Power of Attorney, medical directives, and estate planning; by a representative of the Illinois Cremation Society; and on the traditions and customs of funerals in The Episcopal Church. Materials will be provided for funeral planning. This is not just for elders! Everyone should plan and provide for your own peace of mind and for your families. **Please let the office know if you would like to attend, even if you haven't already signed up. Do come!**



## ***Mobile Food Pantry Volunteer Meeting***

In preparation for our first Mobile Food Pantry here at St. Paul's, we will have a meeting for volunteers at **6:30pm on Tuesday, May 19th**, at St. Paul's. There are two opportunities to see how other places are doing this: one is on Friday afternoon May 15th at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1320 Dean Street, Woodstock, from 1 to 2:30pm. The other is Saturday, May 16th from 2 to 6pm, First United Methodist Church, 236 West Crystal Lake Avenue, Crystal Lake.



***Final Affairs Fair*** - Saturday, May 16th, 9:00-noon  
***Food Bank Volunteers*** - Tuesday, May 19th, 6:30 p.m.  
***Vestry*** - Wednesday, May 20th, 7:15 p.m.  
***Mobile Food Truck*** - Saturday, May 30th, 10:00-noon

---

**Lessons and Hymns**  
**Sunday, May 17th**  
**(Seventh Sunday of Easter - Year B)**  
*by the Rev. William McLemore*

**THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS:**

***The First Reading:*** Acts 1:15-17, 21-26. The disciples have to replace Judas as a disciple and they select Matthias after prayer and meditation.

***The Psalm:*** Psalm 1. The righteous are like "trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season."

***The Epistle:*** I John 5:9-13. The writer states the true testimony of a believer, that "God gave us eternal life, and the life is in his Son."

***The Gospel:*** John 17:6-19. This is an account of a private prayer of Jesus, known as "the High Priestly Prayer," in which he recounts his faithfulness to God and seeking sanctification by God of his followers.

**THE HYMNS:**

***Processional Hymn:*** No. 450. "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name." The words to this hymn were finalized by a clergyman named Edward Perronet who was in the Anglican Methodist movement with John and Charles Wesley. He later broke off from the Church of England and formed his own independent chapel in Canterbury. The hymn reflects the majestic tone of the psalter and affirms Jesus as the final king, in David's line, who truly saves and redeems all people. The tune "Coronation" was composed by Oliver Holden with the descant added by Michael E. Young for this 1982 hymnal. "Let every kindred, every tribe, on this terrestrial ball, to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!"

***Sequence Hymn:*** Instead of a traditional hymn, we will sing a Celtic Alleluia before the Gospel throughout the season of Easter.

***Presentation Hymn:*** No. 380. "From All The Dwell Below the Skies." This hymn is one of the compositions of Isaac Watts on Psalm 117 which he first published in his "Psalms of David," 1719. With few alterations, it has been in the hymnal of the Episcopal Church since 1826. The tune, "Old Hundredth" by Louis Bourgeois, is the only

tune which has been preserved intact throughout the entire history of metrical psalmody-a real gem of historic church music. Purists insist on singing this hymn slowly and deliberately!

***Communion Hymn:*** No. 178. "Jesus Is Lord of All the Earth." This hymn was written by Donald Fishel born in 1950, a graduate of the University of Michigan, and a consummate musician. In a biographical sketch he writes that, after college, "I then embarked on a career in music publishing and began writing the Christian songs for which I am best known. My songs *Alleluia No. 1* and *The Light of Christ* can be found in the hymnals of the Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist, and Roman Catholic Churches." The tune name is the "Alleluia No. 1" and was composed by him and arranged by Betty Carr Pulkingham (b. 1928) the wife of the Rev. William Graham Pulkingham an Episcopal priest who lived from 1926-1993.

***Recessional Hymn:***No. 494. "Crown Him with Many Crowns." This hymn was written by Matthew Bridges, an English poet and author who lived from 1800-1894. The hymn has been tampered with many times during the years, but remains very popular among Anglicans and Episcopalians. The entire hymn tells the wonderful benefits and results of God's love in the Incarnate Christ. Hear these words from the second verse: "Who every grief hath known that wrings the human breast, and takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest." The hymn is set to music by George Job Elvey, for many years the organist at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, England. The tune reflects the majesty of God and is intended to be sung with spirit and movement!

---

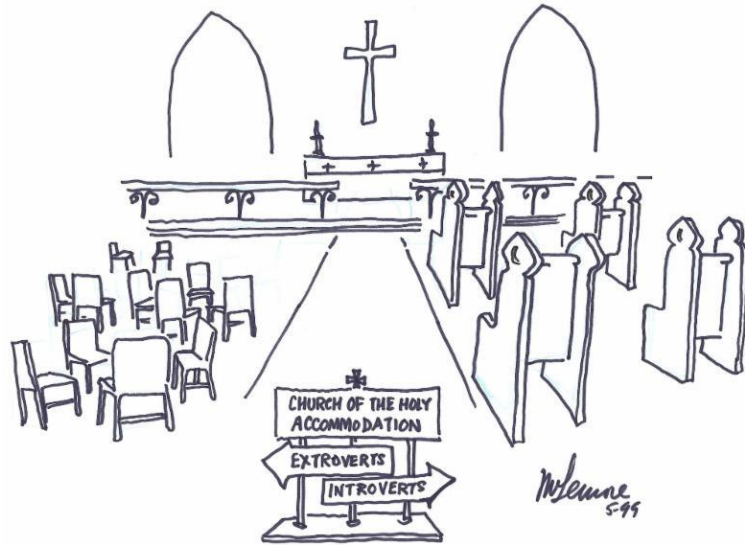
### **May 17th Servants**

Usher: Rick Carlstedt  
Lector: Judy Robel  
Intercessor: Ann Byers  
Eucharistic Ministers: Pam Dietmeyer,  
Michelle Wiejaczka  
Vestry Person of the Day: Bev Jannotta

---

From the cartoons created by  
*the Rev. William P. McLemore*  
1965 - 2014





## Top 10 Reasons to be an Episcopalian Reason #1

*"No matter what you believe, there's bound to be at least one other Episcopalian who agrees with you."*

Robin Williams  
Comedian