

## St. Paul's ePistle from McHenry May 9, 2018



### New & Notable

#### Thoughts from Lori

Some weeks it's a challenge to come up with something relevant and/or interesting to write about. This week though, three things offer themselves for reflection: Ascension, Mother's Day, and Teacher Appreciation Week. First, **Ascension**. In the church calendar, Ascension is the day on which Jesus ascended into heaven in the sight of his disciples. It comes 40 days after Easter. Forty is a symbolic number in scripture indicating wholeness or completeness. The feast day for Ascension is this Thursday, May 10th, and the Sunday after is known as Ascension Sunday. Ten days later, totaling 50 days after Easter, it will be Pentecost. But that's a different reflection.

Next is **Mother's Day**, which is not in the church calendar at all. Rather, it's a secular holiday first established in 1908, when a woman by the name of Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother at St Andrew's Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia. Her campaign to make Mother's Day a recognized holiday in the United States began in 1905, the year her mother, Ann Reeves Jarvis, died.

By the 1920's, after Hallmark had successfully marketed Mother's Day cards, Jarvis had grown resentful of the commercialization of the holiday. She had, by the way, specified that its name be in the singular possessive (Mother's) to indicate that the point was for each family to honor their mother, not the plural possessive (Mothers') as if it were to be a collective recognition of all mothers.

Although it's not a religious holiday, many denominations have adopted it as a day to be reckoned with. Here at St. Paul's, we will simply pray for our mothers.

Finally, it's **Teacher Appreciation** Week. Having been a teacher - yes, I was a high school English teacher in another life! - I do appreciate teachers. In fact, three of our six offspring are teachers. It is a noble profession, undervalued and underappreciated. Give thanks for all our teachers. On Sunday, we'll pray for teachers, too.

Thanks be to God for the Resurrection and Ascension of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God for our mothers. And thanks be to God for teachers everywhere.

Faithfully,

*Loril*

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**Sunday, May 20**  
**PENTECOST CELEBRATION**  
**AND FAREWELL RECEPTION**

St. Paul's is planning a farewell reception/luncheon for Dan & Bev Jannotta and Darrell & Karen Rowe on May 20th after our church service. We'll all enjoy a Tex-Mex theme since the Jannotta's moving to Mexico and the Rowe's are moving to Texas. Be here to celebrate the wonderful ministries of Dan, Bev, Darrell, and Karen and to wish them God's blessings in their new homes, and to celebrate Pentecost.

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*Not quite new but still notable....*

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**The Wednesday Noon Eucharist** will be discontinued until further notice. The last one will be May 16th. I'm hoping to start something new. What are your suggestions? Email me at [lorilowe@stpaulmchenry.com](mailto:lorilowe@stpaulmchenry.com). lml+

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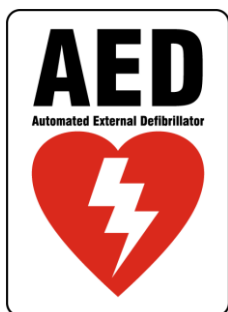


### DEB LANG ADDRESSES FAITH LEADERS OF McHENRY COUNTY

Our Deb Lang was the featured speaker at the Tuesday, May 1st, meeting of the Faith Leaders of McHenry County at the Huntley Centegra Hospital. She addressed the group in her role as a Chaplain at the McHenry Centegra Hospital. Her presentation focused on using personal values as a basis for communication and relationship. She noted the importance of discerning and appreciating values that vary between people and communicating beyond personal prejudices and judgments. The session was attended by about two dozen ministers and lay persons for various religious faiths in McHenry County.

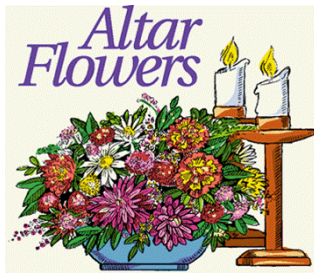
Here's a link to her sermon: <http://stgregoryschurch.typepad.com/stblogorys/2018/04/a-sermon-by-deborah-lang-objn.html>

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We were recently given a generous donation of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). We will be scheduling a CPR course, which will include instructions on the use of the AED. Look for information soon. Meanwhile, if you know you will be interested in this course, please let us know. Call or email Lisa at 815-385-0390 / [lisa@stpaulmchenry.com](mailto:lisa@stpaulmchenry.com) OR there is a sign-up in the narthex.

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## ***Altar Flower Dedications***

Our flower dedication chart is posted in the narthex. Please consider signing up to dedicate flowers for a special occasion or for a loved one. Your dedication may be "in memory of" or "in thanksgiving for" or "in honor of..." The donation is \$35, and our Flower Guild will make it look like you've given twice that amount! Your thoughtfulness and generosity will enrich the beauty of our worship. Thank you.

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## **Children's Chapel**

### **"Three Early Bishops"**

Children are invited to gather in the Children's Chapel after the service to hear a story, have a snack, and enjoy an activity.

This week's leaders are Kim Morris and Bobbi Fiali.



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## **These sentences supposedly appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services!**

*Thanks to Jim Lukas for bringing these to our attention!*

- The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.
- Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
- The sermon this morning: Jesus Walks on the Water. The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus."
- Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.
- Miss Charlene Mason sang, 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

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*The usual fare...*

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***A Word from the Rev. William P. McLemore***

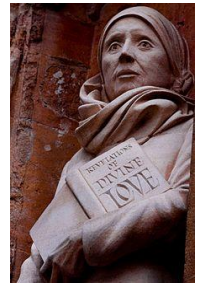
**Feast of Dame Julian of Norwich**

The feast day of Dame Julian of Norwich was yesterday, Tuesday, May 8th. Tradition has it that she was born on November 8, 1342 but very little is known of her early life. At the age of thirty, she wrote a book of her visions, which she called "showings," entitled, "Revelations of Divine Love." This is the first book in the English language known to have been written by a woman.

It was at this time, living at home, that she became seriously ill and presumed near death. She reported that she was losing her sight and felt physically numb. However, looking at a crucifix at the foot of her bed, she had several visions of Jesus and recovered from her sickness on May 23, 1373.

Soon after her recovery, Julian became a recluse, an anchoress, at Norwich, living in a small dwelling attached to the Church of St. Julian. She was famed as a mystic and spiritual counselor and was frequently visited by clergymen and lay persons.

Lady Julian's book is a tender and beautiful exposition of God's love and reveals God's incarnate spirit dwelling among people in the Passion of Jesus Christ. Many find great strength in her visions and writings, especially these words she claimed were spoken to her by Jesus: "I can make all things well; I will make all things well; I shall make all things well; and thou canst see for thyself that all manner of things shall be well."



She is reputed to have died around 1416 at the age of 74. An Order of Julian of Norwich was founded in the Episcopal Church in 1985 with the intention of providing contemplative monastic life for men and women. The order is committed to prayer, intercession, and conversion of life. They are located at the Our Lady of the Northwoods Monastery, W704 Alft Road, White Lake, Wisconsin 54491-9715. Their web address is: [www.orderofjulian.org](http://www.orderofjulian.org).

What we learn from Julian of Norwich is that our faith in the Episcopal Church has many dimensions. Beginning with the deep belief that our God is a God of love and forgiveness, there is room for meditation, reflection, and prayer in our walk with Jesus, God's son. Her collect reads, "Lord God, in your compassion you granted to the Lady Julian many revelations of your nurturing and sustaining love: Move our hearts like hers, to seek you above all things, for in giving us yourself you gave us all."

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**Lessons and Hymns for this Sunday, May 13, 2018**  
**(Seventh Sunday of Easter - Year B)**  
**by the Rev. William P. McLemore**

**THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS:**

**First Lesson:** Acts 1:15-17, 21-26. Matthias is added to the eleven apostles.

**The Psalm:** Psalm 1. Verse six presents a key to understanding this Psalm: "For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish." In this Psalm, the way of the righteous and the way of the ungodly are contrasted.

**Second Lesson:** I John 5:9-13. John writes that "God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life."

**The Gospel:** John 17:6-19. These words introduce the lengthy prayer of John chapter 17 in which Jesus continues his address to his disciples, encouraging them to confidence and hope in the face of his imminent "departure" from them because of his suffering and death on the cross.

**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:** "Celtic Alleluia." This was written and composed by Fintan O'Carroll, born July 31, 1922 in Wexford, England. On completion of his secondary school studies, he took up a position as a clerk in the national railway. He won first prize in a traditional music competition, aged 12, playing violin, and went on to study violin at home, taking lessons as the opportunity arose. His heart was in music, and he left his railway position in 1967 after 27 years of service, whereupon he completed his degree at Trinity to gain his Bachelor of Music degree.

**Presentation Hymn:** No. 460. "Alleluia, sing to Jesus." This majestic hymn was written by an English businessman, William Chatterton Dix, who sold insurance, but had a hobby of writing hymns based on his personal faith. This particular hymn is based on Revelation



5:9, "for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every tribe and nation; you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God." The tune "Hyfrydol" by Rowland Hugh Prichard is remarkable in that it limits itself to a range of only a fifth, save for the final phrase which rises to the sixth (D). Having celebrated God's "goodness and mercy," we go forth singing: "Hark! the songs of holy Zion thunder like a mighty flood; Jesus out of every nation hath redeemed us by his blood."

**Communion Hymn:** "Bless the Lord my soul, and bless God's holy name." This hymn is a 1991 paraphrase of Psalm 103 from the Taizé Community in France. It was founded by Brother Roger Schutz, with the goal of "building a life together in which the gospel of reconciliation would be a concretely lived reality." During the war he helps people in difficulty and hosts German refugees. In 1942, the Gestapo threatened to arrest Brother Roger, who fled to Switzerland until the end of the war.

**Recessional Hymn:** No. 182. "Christ is alive!" The author of this new hymn is Brian Wren (b. 1936), Emeritus Professor of Worship, Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Georgia. He is a writer, preacher, liturgics scholar, and internationally published hymn-poet. Brian is a Minister of the United Reformed Church (UK). Hope Publishing Company owns the 1975 copyrights to the text. The hymn reflects the sacrificial nature of Our Lord's Resurrection. Here is the 4th verse: "In every insult, rift and war where color, scorn, or wealth divide, he suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives though ever crucified." The tune, "Truro," is from a 1789 Psalm Book, harmonized by Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

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### **Servants for May 13th**

Patrice and Bill Braun - *Ushers*  
Rick Carlstedt - *Lector*  
Judy Robel - *Intercessor*  
Pam Dietmeyer, Jeff Zabor - *Eucharistic Ministers*  
Jeff Zabor - *Vestry Person of the Day*  
Carter Obermeyer - *Children's Crucifer*  
Nan Patnaude, Beth Lukas, Ashley Pecoraro - *Altar Guild*  
Nan Patnaude, Beth Lukas - *Flower Guild*

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### ***On the Calendar...***

**Vestry** - Wednesday, May 16, 6:30 pm  
**Pentecost and Reception** - May 20 - **Wear red!**  
**Men's Breakfast** - Saturday, June 2, 8:00 am  
**Annual Parish Picnic** - Sunday, August 5, 4:00 pm

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From the cartoons created by  
*The Rev. William P. McLemore*



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The Rector's email - [lorilowe@stpaulmchenry.com](mailto:lorilowe@stpaulmchenry.com)

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