



St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
McHenry, IL



---

## Weekly ePistle ~ May 13, 2020

---

### *Words from Wardens*

Dear All,

The end of the month and the holiday is within sight and warm weather is on the horizon. I'm excited for summer to begin and the restrictions to slowly begin to ease. If you didn't catch it in the news the McHenry Outdoor Theater opened last weekend and the line of cars stretched almost a mile. I think this was wonderful in many ways especially because the outdoor theater has been a starving business for many years. As Beth said in last weeks words from wardens, its becoming obvious that what normalcy we return to will indeed be different from before but likely for the greater good and I am eager to begin the phases.

Holy Mowers: The church lawnmower is in for repair at Novotny in Johnsburg at the moment and is expected to be fixed this week, I will contact you directly when we resume mowing duties and schedule.

I want to repeat what our Senior Warden Beth Lukas said last week and remind everyone "Gratefully, we can now hear our familiar hymns as played by Julie and posted by Lisa. We are worshipping. We are not together physically, yet we are joined spiritually through the word of God. We remain the children of God and the community of St. Paul's church."

Please continue to stay safe and adhere to social distancing guidelines.

"When doubts filled my mind, your comfort gave me renewed hope and cheer" Psalm 94:19

Sincerely,  
Jeffrey Zabor (Junior Warden)

---



**From the Most Reverend Michael B. Curry**

**Habits of Grace**  
**Monday, May 11**

Watch the video by clicking [here](#)!

Hello to everyone who is kind enough to watch and listen to Habits of Grace. I just wanted to give you an alert, not a spoiler alert, but just a simple alert that when you listen to this video you will hear in the background the sound of construction at the elementary school on the other side of our backyard. We've listened to the video and you can hear it. But I just wanted to let you know that that noise that you hear is remodeling a school so that little children can go to a school that is modern and nice and meet and right so to do. God love you and you keep the faith.

I don't know about you, but one of the things that has been a bit confusing during this pandemic has been sort of a discombobulation or a confusion about what time it is and what day it is. I found myself on more than one occasion just asking someone, "What day is today?" There's a Psalm in the Hebrew scriptures, Psalm 31. It's actually quoted in the service of Compline, which is a late night prayer service, and it's also quoted by Jesus on the cross. It says this:

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame:  
*deliver me in your righteousness.*

And then it goes on and says,  
(Lord) Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
*for you are my crag and my stronghold;*  
*for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me. . .*

Into your hands I commend my spirit,  
*for you have redeemed me,*  
*O Lord, the God of truth.*

On the cross Jesus quoted this psalm as he commended his life into the hands of the father. Into thy hands I commend my spirit. But as the psalm goes on, later on in the psalm it says, "My times are always in your hand." It may well be that if we have little reminders as the day goes on, we will have a sense of time not determined by a clock but determined by God.

In Psalm 55 the Psalmist says, "In the morning, at noonday and at evening I cry out to you, oh Lord." Maybe a little habit of grace during this time may be a moment of prayer in the morning, another one at midday, and another in the evening, whether using a prayer book or just a moment to pause and be silent. Whatever way you do it take a moment - morning, midday, evening. Father into thy hands I commend my spirit. For my times are always in your hand.

In 1931 a man named Thomas Dorsey composed a hymn, the words of which and the song have been a long-standing favorite with many people. Lyndon Johnson, President Johnson asked for it to be sung at his funeral. Martin Luther King asked that it be sung at his funeral. Mahalia Jackson sang it. Aretha Franklin sang it. B.B. King played it and sang it. Tennessee Ernie Ford sang it. Johnny Cash sang it. It was composed by Thomas Dorsey living in a time when his times were very much discombobulated. His wife died in childbirth, both she and the child died. In his time of grieving he wrote the words of the hymn that say just simply, "Precious Lord take my hand."

My times are in thy hand, oh Lord. Father into thy hands I commend my spirit this morning, in noonday, and in the evening.

God love you. God bless you. May God hold us all in those almighty hands of love.

---

***St. Paul's Prayer List***  
***Week of May 17 - May 23***

Please keep those on our prayer list in your thoughts during this time. If you wish to add to the list, please contact the church office.

**Ongoing prayers:** Yasmin, Kay, Edna, Ann, Amy, Tim, Bren, Brady, Jim, Marty, Barb, Marianne, Jim, Lucy, Vic, and Cindy

**Current prayers:** Michelle, Jenn, Bonnie, Stacy, Jeff, Keith, Shane, Bobbi, Erik, Karon, and Jenny

**For those celebrating birthdays:** Vincent Linnane (5/17), John Patnaude (5/19), and Antania Pecoraro (5/22)

---



***Readings for the Sixth Sunday of Easter***  
***Year A***

Collect: O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*The Liturgy of the Word*  
The First Lesson: Acts 17:22-31  
The Gradual: Psalm 66:7-18  
The Epistle: 1 Peter 3:13-22  
The Gospel: John 14:15-21

~~~~~

## ***Prayer for St. Paul's***

Merciful and loving God, we hold before you this parish, our beloved St. Paul's, and ask you to bless us with the courage to preach and live the Good News of your love, your healing, and your forgiveness. Guide us to be seeking you in all that we do; to be serving others in your name; and to be growing in your image. Give us, we pray, open hearts, open minds, and open doors to receive and welcome all who come here, that we may be as Christ to them as we are Christ to one another. All this we ask in the holy name of Jesus.

~~~~~

Even though we can't be together on Sunday mornings, there are a number of ways to **worship online**:

The **National Cathedral** Holy Eucharist is on Sunday at 10:15 am. You may view it **here**.

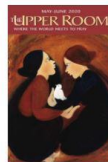
**St. Ann's Woodstock** is also hosting worship online. Here's how to view:

Tune into Facebook Live on St. Ann's Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/StAnnsEpiscopal.Woodstock](http://www.facebook.com/StAnnsEpiscopal.Woodstock) (or click **here**) at 10 a.m. Sunday, to view a live stream of worship; *you do not need a Facebook account to view this* (simply click "**not now**" if you are prompted to open a Facebook account).

---

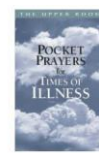
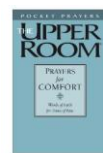
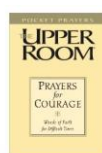
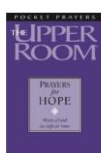
### **Holy Mowers May schedule**

Week 1 - Bill Lang  
Week 2 - Jeff Zabor  
Week 3 - Jeff Lynaugh  
Week 4 - Bill Lang



Upper Room Devotionals for May/June have arrived at St. Paul's. If you'd like one mailed to you, we'd be happy to send it out! Just email Lisa at [lisa@stpaulmchenry.com](mailto:lisa@stpaulmchenry.com) or call the church office.

Upper Room has also generously made this issue available digitally. If you'd like one emailed, please let Lisa know. Also available are these other digital booklets listed below that you may find helpful:



## *Helpful Websites*

Below are links from Bishop Curry, Bishop Lee, and others that you may find helpful:

**Episcopal News Service.** Bishop Curry's news is posted here along with Episcopal news from around the country. Subscribe: <https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/>

**Chicago Diocese website.** Bishop Lee posts his videos and letters here along with other diocese news. Very good general resource. <https://episcopalchicago.org/>

**Leadership News from Chicago Diocese:** From the diocese home page there is a link to subscribe to the newsletter. Updates come regularly and are informative.

**Episcopal Relief and Development.** Link to supportive resources: <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/what-we-do/us-disaster-program/remoteministry/>

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:** <https://www.cdc.gov/>

**World Health Organization:** <https://www.who.int/>

---

### *Questions or concerns?*

Please contact our Wardens - Beth Lukas (Senior Warden)  
or Jeffrey Zabor (Junior Warden).

### *In need of pastoral care?*

Please contact Deborah Lang, our Deacon.

---



Visit our website

Join our mailing list

Like us on Facebook!



---

Phone Number - 815-385-0390  
Fax - 815-385-3936  
St. Paul's Email - [stpaulmchenry@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stpaulmchenry@sbcglobal.net)

---

## Quick Links

*Diocese of Chicago  
Episcopal News Service  
Episcopal Cafe  
Lectionary Calendar  
Forward Day by Day*

## Vestry Minutes

*February 2020  
March 2020*

St Paul's Episcopal Church | 3706 W. Saint Paul Avenue, McHenry, IL 60050

[Unsubscribe {recipient's email}](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by stpaulmchenry@sbcglobal.net in collaboration with



Try email marketing for free today!