



St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
McHenry, IL



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## Weekly ePistle ~ May 27, 2020

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### *From Deacon Deborah*

Friends,

Despite our separation and the strangeness of our days, your vestry has been hard at work addressing the financial concerns of our parish. As you recall, several of our annual and quarterly meetings have provided an opportunity to present and discuss our issues. Overwhelmingly the option to sell our building has stood out as the decision that makes sense and will ensure the continuation of St. Paul's community.

In adherence to Canon Law your vestry has begun the first steps toward this option. This week all parishioners eligible to vote will receive a letter outlining the plan to be followed by a ballot for your vote. The vestry will also schedule a virtual meeting for discussion and questions.

This is a significant moment in the history of St. Paul's and it is a moment that will define us. Our faith, our courage and our resolve will no doubt be tested. I believe we will overcome this test if we but remember who we are, remember God's love for us, our love for each other and utterly refuse to be afraid.

This Sunday we will celebrate Pentecost; the day the Holy Spirit was breathed upon the infant church. The apostles had no idea what it meant for them or for their future. That same Holy Spirit is upon us today and will never leave us. We are forging new ground toward a new future – a future that holds nothing less than God's love.

In Christ,  
Deacon Deborah

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### *Parishioner Survey*

An email was sent out this week to parishioners concerning Zoom church services. If you haven't already, please take a moment to answer this quick 3-question survey. Thank you!

## ***Words from Wardens***

Dear All,

Wonderful news! Our lawnmower is fixed and back in action! The grass is currently mowed so beginning next week we will activate our holy mowers schedule! These warmer temps are what we've waited for since the beginning of time it seems, get outside and enjoy some fresh air!

As the stay at home order is slowly lifting and business and organizations alike begin to reopen, please heed all the guidelines for social distancing. Most public places that were once closed will be reopening at abbreviated capacity. Most importantly, please continue to be careful and safe so that we may all be together again soon!

Much like the world around us, there are changes afoot here at our beloved St. Paul's. It's important to remember that when you think or speak of the word "church" you are referring to our church family including the commune of saints, our extended family of Episcopalians and all Christians in God's family which is within us, all around us, all encompassing and never ending.

Prayerfully,

Jeffrey Zabor (Junior Warden)

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### ***Cleaning Supplies Needed!***

In anticipation of re-opening St. Paul's, we are in need of cleaning supplies! If you're out shopping and see some of these items, please consider picking up one or two so we'll be well-supplied when we get ready to open our doors! We already have a good amount of masks and gloves, so cleaning supplies (Fantastik, 409, Clorox, wipes, paper towels, etc.) and large hand sanitizer refills are what's needed. Please steer clear of off-brand products, as they tend to be less effective. Thank you!

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### ***St. Paul's Prayer List Week of May 31 - June 6***

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, Erik, Jenny, Debbie, Shawn, Michael, Bobbi, Rory, Bonnie, Brittany, and Danielle

**For those celebrating birthdays:** Anne Vonderohe (June 2)

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***Readings for Pentecost  
Year A***

Collect: Almighty God, on this day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*The Liturgy of the Word*

The First Lesson: Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30

The Gradual: Psalm 104:25-35, 37b

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21

The Gospel: John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

*In union, dear Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered to the Father, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I entreat you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.*



***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).

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### *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/>

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#### ***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.

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## Quick Links

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

## Vestry Minutes

*March 2020  
April 2020*

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

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