



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
McHenry, IL



February 22, 2023

***Sunday Worship with St. Paul's
In-person and on Zoom
10:30 am***

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/98034316249>

Meeting ID: 980 3431 6249
To dial in: 312-626-6799

Coffee and Conversation

Beginning with the first Sunday in Lent, **February 26**, we will resume an old custom of St. Paul's commonly known as Coffee and Conversation. We will use our coffee time together to discuss the lectionary readings for that Sunday. Each week, as we bring our insights, thoughts, and questions to the table, we will go deeper into what the readings have to offer. No worries! No prior theological study is required. God speaks to us all.

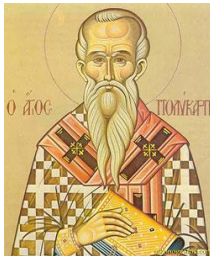


Our next outing will be Thursday, March 2 at 11:30 am. We'll gather at Bulldog Alehouse in McHenry. Hope to see you there!



Kathy Biggerstaff and I had the opportunity to attend a breakfast at MCC that was held to recognize the MCC scholarship donors and recipients for the 2022-2023 school year. As a bonus, we were seated at a table with one of St. Paul's First Generation Scholarship recipients, Ciara. Ciara is a lovely young lady who is attending her final semester at MCC. At the start of her college journey, she was uncertain as to what she wanted to do, but has now decided to pursue a career in textiles and design. Without the benefit of our scholarship, Ciara might not have been able to attend college at all. It was very humbling to hear so many stories from her, other students, and from the McHenry County College Scholarship Foundation as to how these scholarships change lives. All of us at St. Paul's can be very proud of our commitment to education, especially for our First Generation students who might not otherwise have the means to pursue a college degree. Once again, we might be small, but we are mighty and we truly make a difference!

Beth Lukas, Senior Warden



For all the Saints

Saint Polycarp of Smyrna, c. 69 - c. 155

Saint Polycarp was a disciple of St. John the Evangelist, and his life marked the transition between the Apostolic Age and the patristic age of the early Christians. He is the last acknowledged survivor of those who had personally known one of the Apostles.

- Was made Bishop of Smyrna (now the west coast of Turkey) by Saint John in 96 A.D.
- It is believed that the words in the Revelation to John which are addressed to the "angel" of the church of Smyrna refer to Polycarp. (Rev. 2:8)
- At the age of 86, violent persecution of Christians broke out. Polycarp was betrayed and rejected the opportunity to escape, saying "God's will be done." He met the police at the door and offered them supper while he prayed.
- Polycarp refused to swear by the divinity of Caesar. When threatened with wild beasts or fire, the old bishop said, "I am resolved not to change from good to evil. Why do you delay? Bring against me what you please."
- When the fire pile was made ready, Polycarp removed his outer clothes and shoes. When his executioners tried to tie him to the stake he said, "Leave me as I am. He who gives me grace to endure the fire will enable me to remain at the stake unmoved."
- After he died, Christians who witnessed the death wrote, "We took up the bones, more precious than the richest jewels of gold, and laid them decently in a place at which God granted us to assemble with joy to celebrate the birthday of the martyr."
- The record of Polycarp's martyrdom is the earliest preserved reliable account of a Christian martyr's death.

Deacon Deborah Lang

Lent / Holy Week Information

Centering Prayer – On Saturdays in Lent, Bette Chwalisz will lead a revival at St. Ann's. Centering Prayer is a method of silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of contemplative prayer, prayer in which we experience God's presence. If you have questions, please call Bette at 815-236-9193. *Details: Saturdays 9:30 am, St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Woodstock*

Compline – On Tuesday nights in Lent, please join St. Mary's for Compline. Compline is descended from the night prayers said before bed at the end of the monastic round of daily prayer. During this beautiful nightly prayer service, we thank God for the gifts of the day and ask for God's protection during the night to come. Compline will last around 10 to 15 minutes *Details: Tuesday nights (beginning February 28), 8:00 pm on Zoom. Zoom meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85315442428>, phone number: 1 312 626 6799, Meeting ID: 853 1544 2428*

Midweek Mass (Rite 1) at St. Mary's Crystal Lake starting March 1

On Wednesdays in Lent, take time out of your day to celebrate Holy Eucharist. This service will be a simple, spoken service using traditional language (also known as Rite 1). The service will begin promptly at noon and will last around 30 minutes. This is an excellent, simple Lenten discipline to help you pause midweek and remember God's work in your life. This service is a good way to experience a new type of Eucharist if you've never heard a traditional language Mass, or to revisit the traditional-language Eucharists of earlier years if you are a long-time Episcopalian. *Details: Wednesdays (beginning March 1), noon, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Crystal Lake.*

Simple Supper and Stations of the Cross at St. Ann's, Woodstock, starting March 2

On Thursdays in Lent join us for a simple supper (usually salad and soup) at 6 pm, followed by Stations of the Cross at 6:30. Stations will end by 7. You can come for supper and stay for stations, or just come for one of the two. Over the course of Lent we will use traditional Stations of the Cross, but will also pray using some variations of the traditional stations, so try coming for several weeks in a row! This ancient practice has a way of working on your soul, and is a meaningful Lenten discipline. *Details: Thursdays (beginning March 2), 6 pm, St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Woodstock*

Maundy Thursday, April 6

St. Ann's, Woodstock
Agape Meal 6:00 pm, Service 7:00 pm

Good Friday, April 7

Stations of the Cross and Good Friday Liturgy
St. Paul's, 12:00 pm

Good Friday Service at FUMC, 7:00 pm

Stations of the Cross and Good Friday Liturgy
St. Mary's, Crystal Lake at 6:30 pm

Saturday, April 8
Easter Vigil at St. Ann's, Woodstock, 7:30 pm

Easter Sunday at St. Paul's
10:30 am

Living Well through Lent

There are a few Lenten devotionals left and are available in the basket with Sunday bulletins or in the office.

Upper Room

The March/April Upper Room Devotionals are also available, either in the basket or on the table in the Narthex. Large print editions are on the table as well.

On St. Paul's Calendar

Thursday, March 2 - Ladies Lunch, 11:30 am
at Bulldog Alehouse, McHenry
Sunday, April 2 - Troop 131 Pancake Breakfast and Silent Auction

St. Paul's Prayer List

Week of February 26 - March 4

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, and Jerry

Current prayers: Rory, Bonnie, Jane, Jimmy, Cindy, Todd, Justine, Bobbi, and Glenn

For our MCC scholarship recipients: Ashley, Ciara, Julia, Yaksi, and Gavin

Questions or concerns?

Please contact our Senior Warden - Beth Lukas: Gramlukas2@gmail.com

In need of pastoral care?

Please contact Rev. Eileen Shanley-Roberts: shanleyroberts@gmail.com

or

Deborah Lang, our Deacon: DeaconDeb@stpaulmchenry.com

Office Hours

Tuesday 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

Thursday 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

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Phone Number - 815-385-0390
St. Paul's Email - stpaulmchenry@sbcglobal.net

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