



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
McHenry, IL



March 8, 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

On Sundays, we have resumed 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.



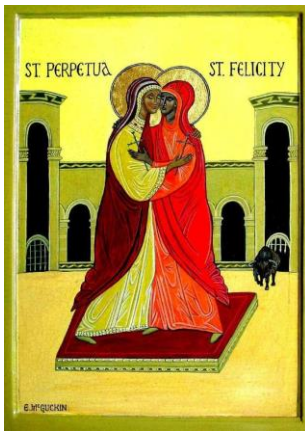
Easter Flowers

It's that time of year when we contribute to the beauty of the sanctuary with Easter flowers! You may also donate to our Food for Thought program. Order forms are available in the Sunday bulletins or you may download the form by [clicking here](#) and mailing it in. Flower orders are due by March 16.



For all the Saints

Saint Perpetua and her Companions, 181-203



One of the greatest treasures that survives from the very early church is the reliable record of the passion and martyrdom of Perpetua, Felicity and their companions. When Septimus Severus came to the throne in Rome in 198, Tertullian appealed to the new emperor for the toleration of Christians. Severus generally agreed but banned any further conversions to Christianity. In Carthage the following year, as five new converts were preparing for baptism they were arrested. The five included slaves Revocatus and Felicity (expecting the birth of a child),

Saturninus, Secundulus and young Viva Perpetua with her infant child. Saturus, their Christian instructor, refused to abandon them and voluntarily joined them in prison.

- Perpetua's diary, written during the days leading up to her execution, are the oldest surviving texts written by a Christian woman.
- Perpetua's father, a pagan, repeatedly begged her with tears to renounce her Christian faith saying, "Spare the grey hairs of your father, spare the infancy of your boy, offer sacrifice for the well-being of the emperors."
- Perpetua wrote in her diary, "When my father in his affection for me was trying to turn me from my purpose by arguments and thus weaken my faith, I said to him, "Do you see this vessel – water pot or whatever it may be? Can it be called by any other name than what it is? 'No,' he replied, 'So also I cannot call myself by any other name than what I am – a Christian."
- In her diary, Perpetua describes her period of captivity: "What a day of horror! Terrible heat, owing to the crowds! Rough treatment by the soldiers! To crown all, I was tormented with anxiety for my baby.... Such anxieties I suffered for many days, but

I obtained leave for my baby to remain in the prison with me, and being relieved of my trouble and anxiety for him, I at once recovered my health, and my prison became a palace to me and I would rather have been there than anywhere else.”

- Perpetua recorded that two deacons, Tertius and Pomponius, arranged for her and her friends to spend a few hours in a more pleasant portion of the prison outdoors.
- On the day of execution, Perpetua and her friends refused to wear the pagan clothing demanded by the soldiers. Perpetua entered the amphitheater singing Psalms.
- Perpetua and Felicity survived being attacked by a bull only to be set upon by gladiators.
- Perpetua cried out “Stand fast in the faith and love one another – and do not let our sufferings be a stumbling block to you.”
- She and Felicity gave each other the kiss of peace. Perpetua’s nervous executioner succeeded only in wounding her with his first stroke, so she guided his sword to her throat and was killed.
- It can be said that no other saints have been more uniformly honored in every church calendar from the time of their death to the present.

Deacon Deborah Lang

Lenten Opportunities

Centering Prayer

Saturdays 9:30 am, St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Woodstock

Compline

*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

Wednesdays, noon, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Crystal Lake.

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

Details: Thursdays, 6 pm, St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Woodstock

Holy Week

Palm Sunday at St. Paul's

10:30 am

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

St. Paul's Prayer List

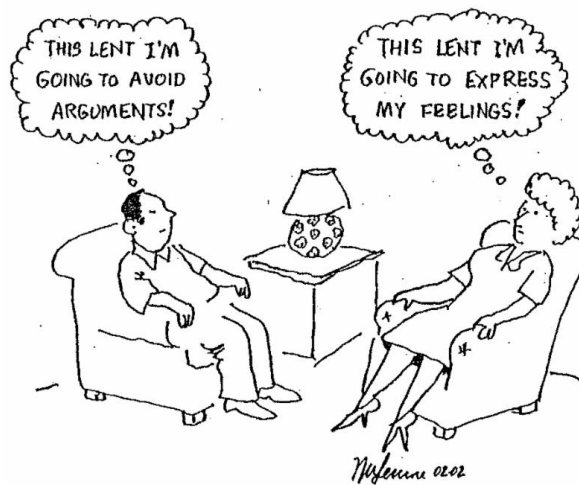
Week of March 12 - March 18

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, Glenn, Terry, and Mike

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



Cartoon by Rev. Bill McLemore

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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Contact us

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

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