

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
McHenry, IL



April 5, 2023

***Easter 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

All are welcome!



Good Friday at St. Paul's

**Stations of the Cross and Good Friday Liturgy
11:00 am**

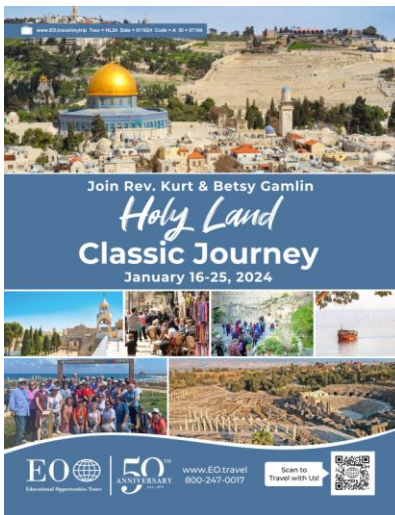
Gracious Invitation

The Vestry has adopted a practice that we are calling "Gracious Invitation". We are all familiar with the Bible verse from Matthew that I think defines "Gracious Invitation":

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

As we prepare for our glorious Easter celebration this Sunday, I am inviting all of you to practice "Gracious Invitation" and reach out to someone (a family member, a friend, or perhaps a parish member who hasn't been with us for a while), and invite them to St. Paul's for Easter Sunday. What better way to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection.

Beth Lukas, Sr. Warden



Journey to the Holy Land

Pastor Kurt and Betsy will be leading a trip to the Holy Land in Jan. 2024. There will be an informational meeting on Tuesday, April the 11th at 6:30pm and Sunday, April 16th following the FUMC morning worship in the church conference room. If you can make it, great. If you are interested and unable to attend this meeting, feel free to drop me an email at kagoffice@earthlink.net or give me a call at 630-341-1414.

Here is a link [to the brochure](#). Here is a link to [our personal web page](#) with a daily itinerary, additional information, and pictures. Also this page has a link to the sign up page.

This will be my third trip to Israel and along with the Holy Land portion of the trip I have always enjoyed one of the extensions as well.

Pastor Kurt



Our next outing will be Thursday, April 13. Please note the date change! We'll gather at Brunch Cafe at 11:30. See you there!

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.



For all the Saints

Saint Richard of Chichester, 1197-1253

Richard was born near Worcester and was the second son of well-to-do farmers. His parents died early in his life leaving the family estate to his eldest brother. Richard worked for his brother for a time and then went to Oxford to begin his studies for the priesthood. Richard lived in poverty with two other students. They had only one warm tunic and one academic gown between them, so they had to take turns attending lectures. He lived mainly on bread, water and vegetables. In later years Richard said that he had never been so happy or felt such joy and peace of soul as during his years at Oxford.

- Richard was a brilliant student. He studied at the University of Paris and then returned to Oxford to earn his Master of Arts degree. He studied Canon Law at the University of Milan, eventually becoming a professor of Canon Law.
- As a result of his outstanding reputation, he was appointed Chancellor of Oxford.
- When his friend and tutor, Edmund Rich, was made Archbishop of Canterbury, Richard took over the administration of the diocese of Canterbury.
- The Archbishop quarreled with the pope over the financial demands made on English clergy. For personal safety, the Archbishop and Richard fled to the monastery in Pontigny in France. There the friends remained until the Archbishop died in 1240.
- The new Archbishop Boniface called Richard back to England to resume his position as chancellor of the diocese.
- When the see of Chichester became vacant, Richard was the natural favorite to be elected Bishop. However, King Henry II had his personal favorite who was put forward for the position. The man proved to be entirely incompetent and Archbishop Boniface quashed the election.
- The King refused to surrender the properties and revenues of the diocese and forbade Richard from entering Chichester. Richard simply moved into a humble home near a fisherman's village and began his ministry as bishop.
- Richard was a man of deep spirituality and generosity. He was committed to raising the moral standard of the clergy, forbidding the acceptance of money for the Sacraments. He required clerical celibacy and that they wear clerical dress at all times.

- Richard's charity to the poor was extensive. When he received a complaint that his alms to the poor exceeded his income, the bishop replied, "Then sell my silver and my horse."
- Richard led a life of great asceticism. He never ate meat, fasted frequently, kept all-night vigils on holy days and slept on the floor. He would reproach himself if he was not praying at the altar before the birds began to sing.
- In 1253, his life-long wish to consecrate a church and cemetery for the poor in honor of his friend Edmund Rich was realized. The next day he fell ill and died at age of 56. He was buried before the altar at his cathedral.
- Almost immediately miracles began to occur at this shrine. It was claimed that three persons were raised from the dead. The pope sent a commission to investigate the reports. With the miracles confirmed, Richard was canonized by Urban IV in 1262.
- Richard is credited with the words to Hymn 654, made famous in the musical "Jesus Christ Superstar".

*Day by day,
Dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:
To see thee more clearly,
Love thee more dearly,
Follow thee more nearly,
Day by day.*

Deacon Deborah Lang

Holy Week Services

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, 11:00 am**

Good Friday Service at FUMC, 7:00 pm

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

Saturday, April 8

Easter Vigil at St. Ann's, Woodstock, 7:00 pm

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

St. Paul's Prayer List

Week of April 9 - April 15

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, Jimmy, Cindy, Todd, Justine, Bobbi, Mike, Patty, and Sue

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

For those celebrating birthdays: Angela Lang (April 11)



"Your Easter sermons are so wonderful;
they last me the whole year!"

Cartoon by Rev. Bill McLemore

Questions or concerns?

Please contact our church office.

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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