

St. Paul's by-the-Sea

Weekly news & updates

January 7, 2021

Sunday's Holy Eucharist Service

Yesterday, Bishop Sans lifted the suspension of in-person worship, allowing a minimal number of people in the church during services. Our Vestry, however, has decided to remain closed, on Sunday, January 10th, with a Holy Eucharist service being streamed to FB Live at 10 am.

The growing COVID 19 positivity rate in Worcester County dictates caution, making the health and well being of our congregation the priority. Church of the Holy Spirit and St. Paul's, Berlin are also remaining closed this Sunday with only a streamed service on FB Live. At the vestry meeting on Monday, January 11th a decision will be made about the nature of future services.

We are all longing for the day when we can be together on a regular basis and resume the parish life that we fondly remember. For now, however, we must be cautious. Keep hope in your heart.

[Click here](#) to read the Bishop's entire directive.

Prayer Request from Bishop Marray

Dearest Diocese of Easton,

This afternoon, I have watched the news of a group of protesters who have stormed the Capitol Building forcing a lock down situation. There have been reports of gunshots, violence and injuries in the Capitol Building.

I am asking each and everyone of us to offer prayers for the health and safety of all involved. No matter what our political views may be, the simple reality of this situation is that lives have been placed at risk. There are congressional leaders, staff members, reporters, support staff, police and visitors who are now in danger.

If you may not have words to express your thoughts and feelings, I offer the following from our Book of Common Prayer:

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.

Lord, keep this nation under your care.

To the President and members of the Cabinet, to Governors of States, Mayors of Cities, and to all in administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties. *Give grace to your servants, O Lord.*

To Senators and Representatives, and those who make our laws in States, Cities, and Towns, give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To the Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name.

For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Amen.

May God's grace be present.

Faithfully,
The Right Rev. Santosh K. Marray
Bishop, Diocese of Easton

SPBTS Book Club

The St. Paul's by-the-Sea Book Club was recently formed to encourage community and learning through reading and sharing ideas. Please consider joining us for one or all meetings! It is your responsibility to procure the book. We will meet one Thursday a month at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom. Our next meeting is Thursday, January 21 and we will be discussing *Ordinary Grace*, by William Kent Krueger. The discussion will be led by Diane Lorton and Chris Stockett.

[Click here](#) to read a review of the book.

Offering Envelopes

The 2021 offering envelopes are in the church office for you to pick up. Please call ahead to be sure the office is open 410-289-3453. If you are unable to pick them up, please let us know.

Service Schedule

This Sunday, January 10th at 10 am, Fr. Knapp will return to celebrate a Holy Eucharist service. Shirley Hailey will also be present to enliven our worship with music! The service will be streamed for everyone to watch via Facebook Live. **[Click here](#)** for a PDF version of the bulletin so you can

Memorial Brick Sale

Memorial bricks are being offered for sale. They are available in two sizes: 8x8 (\$500 each) and 4 x 8 (\$250 each) Wording is of your choice, and graphics are available.

If you are interested in ordering a brick to honor or remember a beloved one, **[click here](#)** to download a brick form. You can also contact Debbie Shuster at 410-213-9658 or **ocshu@comcast.net**, or the church office at 410-289-3453 or **office@stpaulsbythesea.org**.

follow along.

Next Sunday, January 17th, our lay worship leaders, Paul Rogers, Amy Rothermel, and Tom and Debbie Shuster, will lead a Rite II Morning Prayer service.

To view last Sunday's Morning Prayer service, [**click here**](#).

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook so you will receive notifications when we are live and when a post has been added. Click the Facebook icon below.

January Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1/2 Bob Rothermel
- 1/2 Sarah Townsend
- 1/4 Mary Bunting
- 1/4 Tammy Johnson
- 1/11 Julie Smith
- 1/11 Adam Showell, Jr.
- 1/17 Megan Smith Kennedy
- 1/20 Dan Harris
- 1/23 JeriLyn Holston Andrews
- 1/27 Paul Rogers

- 1/5 John & Karen Bunting

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Your Church

Amount: \$500.00

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Give \$50

[Click here to view the Parish Calendar](#)

