

# St. Paul's by-the-Sea

## *Weekly News and Updates*

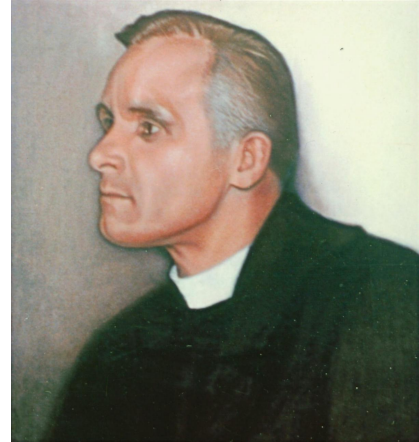
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April 19, 2024

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### Remembering Father Dewees

William Leroy Dewees was born on August 24, 1907 in Frederick, Maryland. He graduated from the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, and the Philadelphia Divinity School. After ordination, he was assigned as Chaplain to the Philadelphia Episcopal City Missions, Prisons and Hospitals.

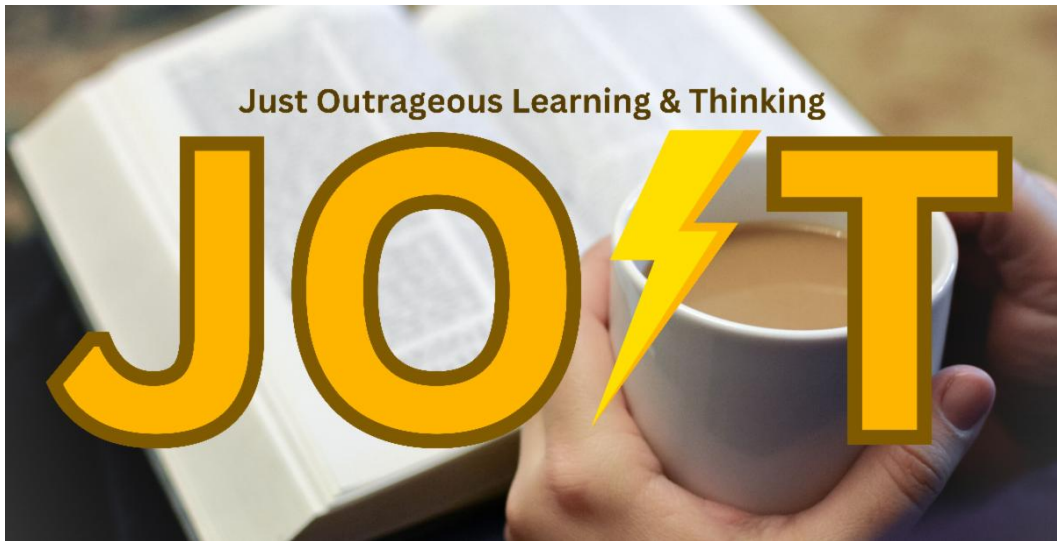


He was called to be Rector at St. Paul's by-the-Sea in Ocean City on April 20, 1941. Following the outbreak of World War II, Father Dewees served both a religious and civic role in the community. He was a teacher at Ocean City High School, wartime airplane spotter, Boy Scout leader and surrogate father to the town's youth whose own fathers were away fighting in the war. Following the war, Father Dewees helped guide the parish during a period of growth. Under his leadership the parish developed a Sunday School, Christian education, a choir, a Men's Brotherhood and two Women's Guilds, a youth group, community events and a summer resort ministry with resident assistant clergy. Father Dewees oversaw the development and fund raising for the seasonal Chapel of the Holy Spirit in northern Ocean City that was dedicated in July, 1968. The chapel would later become its own parish in 1976.

Through it all, Father Dewees, his wife Ellen and daughters remained integral members of the parish and community. He found time to serve as Chaplain of the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company, was active in the Ocean City Ministerial Association and held many positions with the Diocese of Easton. Following 33 years of selfless service to his parish and his community, Father Dewees retired in January, 1973.

After his retirement he continued to provide summer services at the Chapel of the Holy Spirit. He passed away in September of 1974. He is fondly remembered as a scholar and pastor by a loving congregation and a grateful community.

**Collect for a Pastor:** O God, our heavenly Creator, who raised up your faithful servant, William Leroy Dewees, to be a pastor in your Church and feed your people; we pray that, following his example and the teaching of his holy life, we may by your grace grow into the stature and fullness of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen



At the end of this month, our cycle of Morning Prayer on Wednesdays will come to an end because we will be making room for JOLT (*pretend like you've had a lot of coffee*). JOLT, Just Outrageous Learning and Thinking, is going to be a non-traditional Bible study that will take place on Wednesdays at 10am. Anything you think about Bible study, like sitting around in a very pious and quiet way, reading and saying all the right things about scripture ... that is probably not going to happen! We are going to learn and we are going to talk in an outrageous way because Christ came, did outrageous things, and flipped the whole world upside down. He taught and lived in an outrageous way. So, it's worth talking about and learning about since it is in our Baptism Covenant that we do so. We are going to begin on May 8th and we hope that everyone will join us.



### A Place To Be

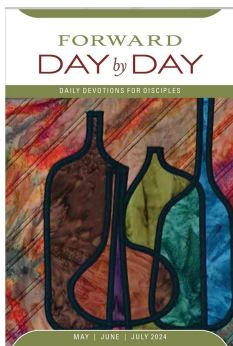
We have begun thinking about how we can offer safe and comfortable shelter to folks in our community for the hours when



Shepherd's Crook is not open during the day. So, we will begin by opening on Tuesdays from 12 to 4, and we will be calling this time A Place To Be. It's just a place to be, have coffee, sit down, relax, read a book, play a game. This is sheltering during the day from heat, from cold, from rain, from just not having another place to go. A Place To Be will start this Tuesday, April 23 from 12 to 4.

If you feel called to volunteer for this ministry please contact the Transformation Team through the church office. Remember, ministry commitments can be as short as a one hour shift.

- April 21: Good Shepherd Sunday 10am
- April 22: Finance Committee Zoom Meeting
- April 27: Boardwalkin' for Pets 8:30am
- April 28: Holy Eucharist, Rite II at 10am
- April 28: Community Italian Meal Noon - 2pm
- April 29: Vestry Meeting at 5:30pm
- May 2-5: Springfest
- May 5: New Coffee & Conversation Series
- May 8: JOLT Bible Study 10am



The new Forward Day by Day, for May, June and July, are in the back of the church. We have copies in English, copies in Spanish, and some large print copies as well. Help yourselves. Please feel free to take one to give away ... to a friend, neighbor or family member.

St Paul's by-the-Sea is one of the three members of the Ocean City Cluster churches, along with St. Paul's, Berlin and Church of the Holy Spirit in North Ocean City. This intention of having a church cluster is so that the three parishes might have the opportunity to engage with each other in a variety of ways. We are currently assessing how our involvement within the cluster might best serve our congregation. Please take a moment to answer the following questions concerning your interest in future participation.



Ocean Cluster

Thank you!

How Likely are you to participate in Ocean Cluster social gatherings?

Very Likely

Somewhat Likely

At this time, I prefer to participate in social gatherings within our parish.

How Likely are you to participate in Ocean Cluster worship opportunities?

Very Likely

Somewhat Likely

At this time, I prefer to participate in worship at our church.

How Likely are you to participate in Ocean Cluster outreach activities?

Very Likely

Somewhat Likely

At this time, I prefer to participate in the outreach activities of our parish.

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



St. Paul's by-the-Sea | 302 N. Baltimore Ave, Ocean City, MD 21842 410-289-3453

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