



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
McHenry, IL



Weekly ePistle
November 21, 2018

New and Notable

Thoughts from Bill

LOVE AND FREEDOM

Our Epistle reading this Sunday is from the Book of Revelation where we hear that Jesus “loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood...” (Revelation 1:5c)

Without love, there can be no freedom; and without freedom, there can be no love. This is the message of the Cross of Christ—God so loves our world that he gave his only Son freely into the human world. In Our Lord’s death and resurrection we find the most profound definition of love and the necessary freedom it requires.

Jesus offers the summary of the Law when he is asked about how we should relate to God: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it, you shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Loving God is allowing God to be free to be God in all aspects of our lives—heart, soul, and mind. Loving ourselves as our neighbors is allowing ourselves and our neighbors to be who they are with judging, manipulating, or assuming ownership of them.

*The Rev. William P. McLemore
Priest Associate, Retired*

Thoughts from Lori, too

In my sermon last Sunday, I referred to the 181st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago, and said that I would provide links to some of the business of the convention that would be of interest to you. At this time, however, those links are not available. If and when they become available, I'll be sure to publish them here in our e-news. Meanwhile, I wish you all a safe and blessed Thanksgiving holiday and, in fact, hope to see you tonight at our Eve of Thanksgiving service. Here is a prayer that Bill included in his morning devotional today.

Eternal God, giver of all good things; help me to look beyond my own comforts to embrace the world of need around me remembering the words of your Son, 'it is more blessed to give than to receive; through the same Jesus Christ my Lord and Savior. Amen.



St. Paul's First Annual Christmas Caroling Party!

Join fellow parishioners on **Sunday, December 9th** for St. Paul's First Annual Christmas Caroling Party. Details of this event are:

- We will meet at Carol Toft's house, 3414 Turnberry, McHenry at 3PM. Bundle up!
 - We will go caroling house to house in Carol's neighborhood. There are sidewalks and the houses are close together.
 - We will have lyrics for all for a few standard easy-to-sing Christmas carols. (So, we'll sing the same songs several times and get really good at them!)
 - There will be a chili dinner between 5:30PM and 6PM at Carol's home with corn bread and brownies.
 - Please bring some Christmas cookies (not a lot) to share.
 - BYOB.
 - RSVP to Lisa by Friday December 7th (815-385-0390 or lisa@stpaulmchenry.com).
 - Please direct any questions to the Welcome Committee: Kathy Biggerstaff, Charles Sterbis, Carol Toft, John Patnaude or Jim Lukas.
 - Please invite your family, neighbors and friends to join us!
 - Those who are unable to walk the Green Valley neighborhood (right across Green St. from the church), can remain behind at Carol's to stay warm and tend the chili and goodies!
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**St. Paul's Stewardship Reception
November 18**



Thank You

We've received many thanks from TLS (Transitional Living Services) for our grocery cart donations! They are mostly in need of paper products and peanut butter. Female veterans are in need of feminine products as well. Thank you for your continuing generosity!

In case you missed it...



We will gather as a group to clean-up and set-up the altar for the Season of Advent. The first Sunday of Advent is December 2nd. I hope you can all join us on Saturday morning, **December 1st at 10:00 am**. Please bring supplies to clean, dust and polish. Start to finish should take no more than ninety minutes.

We will set up the altar with our beautiful blue Advent vestments and set up the Advent wreath and candles. This is also a good time for us to talk about how things are going and answer any questions.

Thank you,
Deb Lang

Help Wanted

Sunday mornings don't just spring up out of nowhere! There are lots of hands, some behind the scenes and some up front, making it all happen. With the help of the Holy Spirit, our worship is TO THE GLORY OF GOD, in thanksgiving for our many blessings, and for the opportunity for us to pray both individually and corporately. Please consider participating in some of the specific roles. Here are some of the ways (as):

Ushers
Lector (one of the lessons)
Intercessor (Prayers of the People)
Eucharistic Ministers
Altar Guild
Flower Guild
Coffee Hour

Email us at the church office to volunteer (lisa@stpaulmchenry.com). And thanks.

St. Paul's at the McHenry Chamber Veterans Expo



A delegation from St. Paul's Episcopal Church, McHenry participated in the November 8, 2018 McHenry Chamber Veterans Expo at the McHenry VFW. The Church members honored and greeted Veterans and their families at this event.

Pictured are parishioners Jim Lukas, the Reverend Lori Lowe, Rector of St. Paul's, US Air Force Veteran Charles Sterbis, and US Army Veteran Justin Pecoraro.

Veterans Day Mass at St. Paul's



The usual fare...

Lessons and Hymns for this Sunday, November 25, 2018

(Last Sunday after Pentecost - Year B)

by the Rev. William P. McLemore

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

The Old Testament: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14. Daniel sees the Ancient One as God on the throne of heaven and a human being approaching on the clouds of heaven as an anointed son. *Psalm 93.* "The Lord is King; he has put on splendid apparel." *The Epistle:* Revelation 1:4b-8. God is described as the "Alpha and the Omega" who "is and who was and who is to come." *The Gospel:* John 18:33-37. This tells the story of Jesus before Pontius Pilate who questions the savior about being a king. Jesus tells him that his kingdom is not of this world.

THE HYMNS:

Processional: No. 365. "Come Thou Almighty King." Students of hymnody have searched far and wide for the true author of this hymn. Some feel it has the composition style of Charles Wesley's music. The 1982 hymnal simply calls it "Anonymous" (ca. 1757). The first three verses present each person of the Trinity and the final verse begins, "To thee, great one in three."

Sequence: No. 435. "At the Name of Jesus." This hymn was written by Caroline Maria Noel as processional music for Ascension Day. It is based on Philippians 2:9-10 which speaks of bowing the knee before Christ. Some biblical scholars think that St. Paul himself quoted it from an early Christian hymn. The tune, "King's Weston" was composed by Ralph Vaughan Williams in 1925 expressly for this hymn.

Presentation: No. 556. "Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart." This hymn was written by Edward Hayes Plumptre in May 1865 for the annual choir festival at Peterborough Cathedral. Plumptre was chaplain of King's College (1847-1868) and attained considerable respect as a translator as well as author of Biblical criticism, history, biography, and poetry. The tune, "Marion" was composed by Arthur Henry Messiter in 1883 and set to this text in a hymnal he produced ten years later.

Communion: "In the Lord I'll be forever thankful." This hymn was written and set to music by Jacques Breathier for the Taize religious community in France. 1991. It is based on Philippians 4:4-6.

Recessional: No. 544. "Jesus Shall Reign." There are about a dozen hymns in our hymnal that are my favorite and this one is close to the top of the list. Isaac Watts (1674-1748) created this happy and joyful song based on Psalm 72. The imagery of the risen Christ is certainly found in the words of this hymn, especially the 4th verse, "the prisoners leap to lose their chains." The tune "Duke Street," composed by John Hatton (d. 1793) is easy to sing and reflects the joy of Easter in its melody.

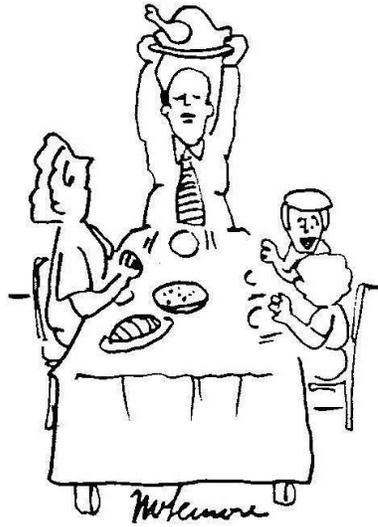
Servants for November 25th

Bill Lang, Don Jaworski - *Ushers*
Charles Sterbis - *Lector*
Terry Jaworski - *Intercessor*
Pam Dietmeyer - *Eucharistic Minister*
Kathy Biggerstaff - *Vestry Person of the Day*
Ryan Bell - *Children's Crucifer*
Marilyn Bell, Marilyn Reihansperger - *Altar Guild*
Marilyn Bell, Kathy Biggerstaff - *Flower Guild*

On the Calendar...

Eve of Thanksgiving Eucharist - TONIGHT, 7:00 pm
Men's Breakfast - Saturday, December 1, 8:00 am
First Sunday of Advent - December 2
Vestry - Wednesday, December 19, 6:00 pm

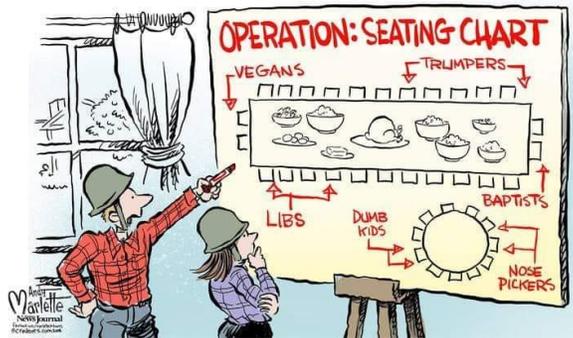
From the studio of the Rev. William P. McLemore



"Dad always gets carried away with saying the grace on Thanksgiving Day!"

Thought you'd get a kick out of this...

"AUNT MILLIE IS AN ALT-RIGHTER & COUSIN JIMMY IS A SOCIALIST, BUT IF WE SIT THE EPISCOPALIANS BETWEEN ALL OF THEM, I THINK WE HAVE A SHOT AT KEEPING THE PEACE."



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The Rector's Email - lorilowe@stpaulmchenry.com

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