



The disciples asked, 'Then who can be saved?!' But Jesus looked at them and said, 'For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible.'

- Matthew 19:25-26

The Messenger

It's Not Over.

Are we ready to reopen?

Well, if the question is "are we tired of social distancing" then, yes, we are all well past the point of being ready for this to be over.

But if the question is, "is it safe for us to gather," then we need to make sure we ask all the questions about how to make it safe and ask if it is safe for all of us.

We need to rely on everyone to be keeping safe every day, not just when they come to church. Meanwhile, compliance across America and our own neighborhoods is uneven. Can we really be safe in NY/CT if it's getting worse in a state that is only a day's car ride away? Can we be safe in our area if states not far away are having record numbers of new cases? Also, the effect of schools reopening is unclear at best; we know it has not gone well elsewhere.

In thinking about the safety of gathering we have to consider the people who are most at-risk. We can't say it's safe for some of us but not all of us and then gather by excluding people.

Question: *"But our space is so big we can all stay distanced, right?"* This is true but it is also true that after using the space we will have to clean it, all of it. We'd have to limit the restrooms to one at a time and clean it after each individual use. Volunteers?

Having a big space means more work and we would have to be thorough. Also, having the space to make it possible to keep our distance doesn't mean that everyone will. Also, ventilation is critical and if you haven't noticed, there is no ventilation in our space. No air conditioning either. Fans should not be used during this time.

The real question is, are you ready? Are you actually ready? Ready to comply with all the requirements? If everyone said they were clear on all the rules and ready to comply I'd feel more ready. Can we be fairly certain that everyone who shows up will be keeping their distance and wearing their mask?

Continued

Child Care Center

M-F 7:30am -5:30pm

Children 6 weeks to 5 years

childcaredir@stpaulsryebrook.com

(914) 939-3079

Pastor Jim O'Hanlon

johanlon.stpauls@gmail.com

Cell phone 917 803-3974

Chip Gawle, Council President

Barbara Thistle, Deacon, Administrator

Donna Smith, Secretary 914 939-8170

**Worship re-
sources**
are being
sent by
mail and email.
To receive
one or both of
these please call
the office.
Ask for
more info.

Outdoor Social
Distance
Knitters gather
Tuesdays 5:30
Bring Mask
and water

Outdoor Social Dis-
tance Gathering
Bible Study
Bring Mask and
water

It's Not Over *Continued*

Question: *"But isn't this just like the flu?"* No, no it is not. Period.

The fact is that we could be ready if certain states had not opened up too soon and set us all back. People have died. Many people who have recovered have not fully recovered. Please don't tell me this is fake news. Ask any nurse or doctor. Ask any Funeral director what they have seen.

Also, returning will have so many restrictions that many of us won't be able to hear each other, sing with each other, smile at each other, read the psalm or Lord's Prayer or anything else together. No coffee, no cake, no choir.

Online worship is not the same as in-person worship in the good old days but it does give us the ability to see and talk with each other, to pray with each other, gather to hear and consider the scripture. You can adjust the volume for your preference, make it louder, turn it off. You can use your computer or your phone. If you don't want us to see your pajamas, turn off your camera.

Prayer is the most important thing we can do, prayer informed by and in dialogue with scripture. Prayer where others can pray for us and us for them.

Choir can wait. Communion can wait. Coffee can wait. Gathering online or outside or on the phone in order to pray can't wait.

Question: *"Why are people allowed to shop but not worship, isn't that unfair?"* Shopping doesn't involve sitting in one space with a group of people pushing air from their lungs for 60-90 minutes. Many if not most people can shop in silence. Shopping is much less risky if you keep your mouth shut, wear your mask and wash your hands and keep your distance. Just as important as distance, more important really, is duration, how long you are with other people.

Continued

Part three — It's Not Over

Continued

If people are ready to worship outside I'm happy to arrange that. We need all the same precautions. We also will need to continue the online option.

Question: *"Why can people go to restaurants and not go to church? That's unfair, it's some anti-church plot."* It's not an anti-church plot, there is no such thing. And, so far as I am concerned, restaurants, as we can see them outside, to me don't appear safe and in fact we see evidence now that they are not.

Our faith can thrive and grow without many things that we have routinely focused on as church, or by substituting how we do some things. Our Christian faith cannot live and breathe without the Word of God and sisters and brothers reading and discussing and praying over it together.

So, it's not over.

We can't make it go away with prayer. We can, however, ask God to help us, as a community of faith, to be strengthened, if only in our connection, our bond as a church.

Join us for phone call/ video conference on Sunday at 9:45am

Dial +1646 558 8656, **then enter** 4290709541#

or Join on your computer or smart phone

Prayers for the families who have lost loved ones:

Paula Blanco
Bryce Costawong
Roger Ferguson
Buen-Shu Huang
Barbara Korntheuer
Steve Larsen

Offering information options:

- 1) By mail 2) Instruct your bank to send a check of whatever amount and frequency you choose.
- 3) Quickpay with Zelle -
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church at spelch@msn.com
- 4) Venmo app - [stpauls-ryebrook](#)
(Laura Chen-Schultz)

Milestones and masks



**Tina's
superpower is
healing**



Eileen Purdy

4 mins · 2

My big boy is off to kindergarten, yeah! He did a great job with preschool.



**Our Child Care Center
graduation was outdoors.**

Happy Graduation [Sydney Sullivan](#)! Watch out University of South Carolina! So proud of you!

129

73 Comments

Like

Comment



Lorna O'Hanlon

I may have to patent this one 😊



1h Like Reply 1



Edzani



Leslee Conrad Beadle

2d · 2

All our kids. We are family 💜💛💜💛💜💛💜💛



Leslee Conrad Beadle is with Ashley Sue and 3 others.

2d · 2



**Wedding of Leslee & Michael
Congratulations**



e-Church



Thank you for all the faithful volunteers, making masks, helping with Zoom. Thanks to Don for lots of yard work. Thanks to all who donate food. Thanks to all who check-in and pray and show concern.



Thousands turned out for a Black Lives Matter march in Port Chester, here are a few of the familiar faces we saw. Another march happened in Rye Brook



Protect yourself from COVID-19 and stop the spread of germs.



Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water **for at least 20 seconds**, especially before eating.



Avoid close contact with people who are sick and stay home if you are sick.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



Stay home as much as possible. **Everyone** – even young people and those who feel well.



If you must go out, **stay at least 6 feet away** from others.



You must wear a face mask or face covering in public when social distancing (staying 6 feet apart) is not possible, especially on public transport, in stores and on crowded sidewalks.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Stay Home. Stay Safe. Save Lives.
www.ny.gov/coronavirus



Department
of Health

Birthdays

September

1 Dave Brady
3 Bill Severance
4 Evin Eski
4 Philip Jenks
6 Muriel Guinta
6 Jason Hodge
8 Kevin Cosgrove
10 Thulani Boateng
11 Melinda Case
13 Lukas Patrizio
13 Kate Richardson
13 John Makowski
15 Victor Fulmore
24 Jean Fulton
24 Kara Hodge
27 Julia Rios
28 Don Weber
30 Renee Meads

October

2 David Trenck
2 Emily Richardson
7 Claudia McQueeney
7 Susan-Anne Cosgrove
10 Eric Rios
10 Inge Moeller
12 Terina Armstrong
13 Ruth-Anne Cosgrove
13 Barbara Giorgi
15 Patty Caviola
16 Donald Rollerli
17 Reinhold Vogel
18 Patty Quell
20 Kim Quell
23 Savannah Miller
24 Linda Thompson
26 Cathy Rosenfeld
27 Joe Supp
27 Cara O'Hanlon
27 Tayler Salvatore

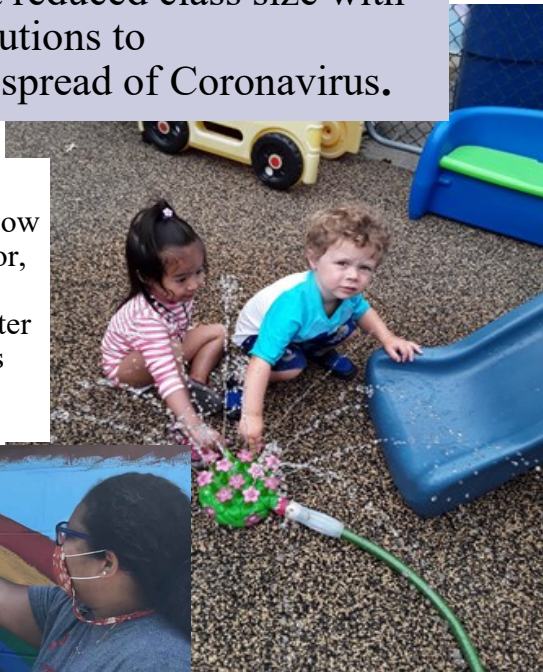
November

1 Elly Harrold
3 Brendan McQueeney
4 Tom Giorgi
7 Pastor Jim
8 Beatriz Rios
10 Pete Doykos
13 Rev. Martha M. Cruz
19 Dotty Ciminelli
19 Julia Birrittieri
20 Liam O'Hanlon
21 Joan Supp
21 Pat Williams
23 Carly Jenkins
25 Karine Larsen
27 Jessica Onofrio-Franceschini
27 Daniel Bruno

Happy 39th Anniversary Chip and Patty

**Our Child Care Center
reopened on July 6 and is
operating at reduced class size with
many precautions to
prevent the spread of Coronavirus.**

Medina Telesco, below
right, Acting Director,
demonstrates the
touchless thermometer
used for everyone as
they arrive.



facebook



Chrissie Onofrio is with Kathy Franceschini.

58m · 2

Day 60 of cyclophosphamide! 30 more to go!



#nephroticsyndromesucks

#teamjamie #JamieStrong



Jamie Onofrio-Franceschini



We pray for the people in states that are experiencing an increase in COVID cases.

Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Virgin Islands Wisconsin, and Puerto Rico.

Anyone who comes to New York from any of these states must stay in quarantine for 14 days.

Stay informed, check for updates: <https://health.ny.gov/>

We welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace.

We welcome all because God welcomes all.

We encourage young children to participate and make their presence known. We are many races and cultures, different sexual orientations, gender identities and families of various configurations and single people. We come from a wide variety of places on earth and individual spiritual journeys. We are various stages of life, differing abilities and health, and economic circumstances. Our unity is in Christ who calls for us to reject division and discrimination.

Sent with a prayer to:

St. Paul's
761 King Street at Comly Ave.
Rye Brook, New York 10573
(914) 939-8170

