

# THE VENITE – APRIL 2020

## St. Paul's Episcopal Church

The church office is closed at this time, and we are working from home. Church email is being checked daily but *we are unable to check the church voicemail, please DON'T leave voicemail at the church number.*

Contact Info:

**Rev. Kathy Thomas** cell: 317-670-5960 email: kthomas50mersey@gmail.com

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### VESTRY:

Patrick Schumacher	Senior Warden	812-764-1957 jpawpschu@hotmail.com
John Settle	Junior Warden & Outreach	317-989-0267 john.settle@gmail.com
Cristi Adams	Christian Education & Formation	
Shelly Bell	Parish Life	
Rachel Foyst	Congregational Development	
Bill Garber	Buildings and Grounds	
Vicki Gust	Worship	
Win Morris	Evangelism, Communication, and Marketing	
Teresa Woods	Parish Life	

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## **ZOOM IN FOR HOLY WEEK WORSHIP, from Rev. Kathy Thomas**

St. Paul's worship has continued even as we are quarantined. On Sunday March 22 we had a congregation of 38 people, and on March 29<sup>th</sup> we had 41 people attend the online Zoom service.

The first week we had a guest, Zak, from Denver, Colorado and this past week some friends, Gail and Mike, from Rev. Kathy's old parish in Fort Wayne. On Wednesdays, we have come together for the Stations of the Cross (April 1 will be the last one for this Lent). Best of all, in this time of quarantine we have been able to see, and hear one another, and continue to pray together.

Coming up next week is the holiest week of our Christian tradition. For many of us the rituals of Holy Week are a very important part of our spiritual lives. This year Lent and Easter are coinciding with the rare and life-altering time of a pandemic teaching us new things about death and resurrection. If we ever needed to hold onto Jesus' message that from death comes new life this is it. We are seeing old ways dying away and new ways being born. It is a time to remember and celebrate the great Paschal mystery as fully as possible.

Having waded into the water of worshipping online together, we are ready to jump into deeper water. We are going to host ALL of the Holy Week services online. They will be modified, of course, focusing on the Liturgy of the Word. However, whenever possible I would like to invite you to create a sacred space using some of the elements that are specific for each celebration (more on that below). Below I have listed some ideas to help us as we gather to pray and give glory to God.

### ***Some initial suggestions for worshipping together:***

1. Get dressed as if you were going to go to church. We can see you and we want to see you. It also helps to make the day special when they are all running together.
2. Print or have available the bulletin or the service in a BCP. Even though you are muted say the prayers out loud. You will feel more like a participant.
3. Set up a table with your "holy" objects, things that make whatever space you are using feel different and sacred. Candles, special cloths, a bible, a cross or special picture helps create a sacred space.

**PALM SUNDAY** (April 5, 2020 at 10:15) We will begin with the Blessing of the Palms. Kelli and David Thompson will hold their hands over the Palms in blessing. Following our service, they will lay them out in front of the sanctuary door (after 1:00 p.m.) where you can drive by and pick some up for your home. They will be spread out so that you are only touching the ones you take home.

Also, if someone is there when you arrive, please practice social distancing (stay apart 6 ft. or wait in your car until the people ahead pick up their palms). We have done a wonderful job of staying safe and I believe we can do this, too. Kelli and David will leave them at the church until Monday evening (6:00 p.m.) when they will take them home and let them dry out for when we return to church and we can distribute them to those who could not get them. We will read the Passion. Lectors will be contacted to participate in a Reader's Theatre format. Again, access to the bulletin will enable a fuller participation.

\*And yes, we will sing "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"☺ What is Palm Sunday without it!

**MAUNDY THURSDAY** (April 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.)

*Create a sacred space with a bowl of water and a towel to remind you of the foot washing ritual. Beside it have a candle, a loaf of bread and a glass of wine along with your bible and/or BCP.*

While we cannot participate in foot washing and the Eucharist, we can be fed by God's word and reflect on the role of servanthood in our lives. Following the liturgy, those who want can continue the meeting with a fellowship meal. Just have your dinner or a snack if you eat earlier ready for after the liturgy.

**GOOD FRIDAY** (April 10 at \*3:00 p.m.)

*Creating a sacred space with a cross, a bible, and your prayer book will be a visual reminder of this important day. No candle this day.*

\*Please note this is a change in time from our original schedule. Since most of us are home or working from home, and should be home, I would like to move the time to the traditional time of remembrance of Christ's death on the Cross. Noon -3:00 p.m. is often a time of prayer and reflection during Holy Week. The service for this day is found in the Book of Common Prayer and will include a reading of the Passion. A bulletin will also be sent to your email.

**HOLY SATURDAY: THE GREAT EASTER VIGIL** (April 11 at 7:00 p.m.)

*Set up your sacred space with a white cloth, candles, a bowl of water, and a bible.*

On this night we will light a new fire in our homes and candles from that fire as we listen to The EXULTET. We will hear the story of Salvation History through the stories of the people of Israel and renew our Baptismal vows in preparation for the celebration of Christ's Resurrection.

**EASTER SUNDAY – ALLELUIA!!** (April 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:15 a.m.)

*Bring a bell, wear an Easter hat or tie. Put a flower in your sacred space.*

Invite your family and friends to join us as we sing and hear the Good News of the Resurrection proclaimed.

**DON'T FORGET TO INVITE A FRIEND. THEY CAN "ZOOM" IN, TOO!**

## **Retirement**

### **A Message from Rev. Wendy**

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.” Ecclesiastes 3:1  
There was a time for me to prepare for and become a priest, specifically a parish priest.  
There was a time for me to come to St Paul’s as an affiliated priest working in the Diocese as a supply priest including here at St Paul’s. The time has come for me to retire and move into the next chapter of my life. I will always be a priest simply not a parish priest per se.

Several things confirm this for me.

On March 19 I celebrated my 81<sup>st</sup> birthday. I’m feeling my age and a need to do less. I am basically in great health. However, earlier in March I was diagnosed with endometrioid adenocarcinoma, and have a surgery date of May 4 for a hysterectomy. I realize I need time and quiet for preparation and healing which our current social isolation situation is making easier to do. A full recovery is expected.

In addition, I have a left knee issue requiring a partial knee replacement that I hope to schedule the end of September 2020. This means I will devote my time and energy now to healing. St Paul’s is also moving into a new chapter in its life. The role I played with you over the past 10 years has been fulfilling and fulfilled. We have been blessed.

During these next 9 months I will continue to attend and support the ministry and worship of the parish of St Paul’s as much as possible. I look forward to 2021 and the ministry the Lord is calling me to in the next decade of my life including being part of this congregation. To paraphrase a piece of wisdom I recently read, there is a time to understand more fully what one already knows. Reading the book of Ecclesiastes at this time in my life speaks to me in a way that deepens and affirms and enriches what I have learned over the years. May I be a meaningful presence in a new way. There are so many possibilities.

*O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment and the light rises up in darkness for the godly: Grant (us) in all (our) doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what you would have us do, that the Spirit of Wisdom may save (us) from false choices, and that in you light (we) may see light, and in your straight path may not stumble. Amen (Prayers for All Occasions)*

## Reflections on the Blessings of Quarantine from Rachel Foyst

It's interesting the progression from the initial shock of not just a novel disease, but a complete halt to life as usual. The negotiating from uncertainty (and a bit of fear) to lifting my heart to God from that place, like a child seeking comfort from a parent. My needs are much more basic and my requests are much simpler— "Give us this day our daily bread." I am more aware of the One who put the stars and moon in their place and who holds our days.

In this pause, I've gone from hurriedly moving from one task or duty to the next to more mindfully engaging in what I'm doing. I've already been in the habit of taking daily walks, but there's no rush to get back so I can go to this meeting or do this thing. I see more people out walking, biking, roller blading— some I've never seen before. While I'm sure they have many of the same thoughts and questions as I have, there's a friendliness when our eyes meet and an unspoken acknowledgment that we're in this together. I see a lot more teenagers on the trail.

While I'm safe at home, I've never been more engaged with what is happening in our world. My simple prayers extend across borders, oceans and continents to people I will never meet this side of heaven. This world feels much smaller and more fragile. God is holding us all.

I've rekindled relationships with family and old friends and I've checked in with neighbors I've not spoken to in a long time. I treasure life and have found a newness of appreciation for all God has given.

I'm amazed at the outpouring of heroism and courage by healthcare workers around the globe. I'm encouraged by the ingenuity and generosity of people stepping up to manufacture and provide the medical supplies that are desperately needed. I'm thankful to the workers who continue to keep stores open and the truck drivers who tirelessly keep our stocks replenished. I'm touched by the simple gestures of kindness to bring some goodness in this time of trouble.

My greatest blessing of all is my need for God. I'm grateful for Jesus Christ who intercedes on our behalf and came that we might have life and have it abundantly. May all the world be blessed through Him.

Faithfully Yours,  
Rachel Foyst

# Service Schedule

During this time, we have scheduled **both Chalice Bearers and Lectors** to read and lead prayers. See schedule, through Holy Week, below. If you will be unavailable, please email Kathi right away (stpaulscolumbusin@gmail.com) Thanks!

Date	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Psalm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Prayers of the People
<b>April 5 ~ Palm Sunday 10:15 AM</b>				
<i>Patrick Schumacher</i> (Reading during the Liturgy of the Palms)				
	<i>Cheryl Paronavitana</i>	<i>Nancy Morris</i>	<i>John Settle</i>	<i>David Thompson</i>
<b>April 9 ~ Holy Thursday 7 PM</b>				
	<i>Jill Schumacher</i>	<i>Joe Burgess</i>	<i>Ken Erickson</i>	<i>Chuck Boddie</i>
<b>April 10 ~ Good Friday 3 PM</b>				
	<i>Andrew Goldsmid</i>	<i>John DeLap</i>	<i>Sian Goldsmid</i>	(no PoP this day)
<b>April 11 ~ Holy Saturday 7 PM</b>				
(4 Readings) <i>Frank Guthrie (1<sup>st</sup>) Teresa Woods (2<sup>nd</sup>) Nick Firestone (3<sup>rd</sup>) Melissa zur Loye (4<sup>th</sup>)</i>				
<b>April 12 ~ Easter Sunday 10:15 AM</b>				
	<i>Valerie Burgess</i>	<i>John Settle</i>	<i>Chuck Boddie</i>	<i>Cheryl Paronavitana</i>

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## Lay Eucharistic Visitors

|                    |                     |                           |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>April 5</b>     | <b>April 12</b>     | <b>April 19</b>           | <b>April 26</b>     |
| <i>John Settle</i> | <i>Roxie Garber</i> | <i>Patrick Schumacher</i> | <i>Nancy Morris</i> |

## April Birthdays & Anniversaries

|   |                 |    |                    |    |                |
|---|-----------------|----|--------------------|----|----------------|
| 2 | Tracy Hosterman | 6  | Julia Christopher  | 20 | Elizabeth Bell |
| 2 | Isabelle Settle | 10 | Annetia Doll       | 25 | Bill Druen     |
| 4 | Chuck Saunders  | 14 | Cheryl Christopher | 28 | Eric Elliott   |
| 6 | Katherine Evans | 16 | Rev. Kathy Thomas  |    |                |

|                        |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| April 4 <sup>th</sup>  | Lalith & Cheryl Paronavitana |
| April 18 <sup>th</sup> | Bill & Nancy Ardizone        |
| April 21 <sup>st</sup> | Tom & Gertie Woods           |
| April 26 <sup>th</sup> | Don & Marilyn Wools          |

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Columbus  
Vestry Meeting  
February 11, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m.

I The meeting opened at 6:40 with prayer.

Present: Patrick Schumacher, Cristi Adams, Shelly Bell, Rachel Foyst, Vicki Gust, Win Morris, John Settle, Teresa Woods, Rev. Kathy Thomas, Canon Kristin White, Melissa zur Loye  
Absent: Bill Garber

II Procedural Business

Melissa zur Loye was appointed clerk of the vestry.

III Amended January Vestry minutes were approved and accepted. The correction was to remove the reference to a priest-in-charge being an interim position, which it is not.

IV Presentation by Canon Kristin White: Future Leadership Options for St. Paul's  
1/3 of the churches in the diocese are in transition, which is consistent with the situation in the national church. Nationally, there are approximately 1/10 as many priests looking for parishes as there are parishes in transition. We have two paths available for hiring our next priest. The decision as to which path and who is called is a vestry decision. The diocese will provide information and advice throughout the process. We are asked to focus on strengthening trust in the people and process we choose.

- The vestry could choose to pursue a traditional rector search process. The rector would have a letter of agreement which would not specify an end date. This process takes an average of 12-18 months. It would require the selection of a search committee of 5-7 people with some vestry representation. There is a substantial time commitment and members should expect meetings at least twice monthly. The diocese will help train the search committee. The parish will gather data from the congregation and create a parish profile which is then publicized. The search committee will then research, interview, and ultimately recommend a specific candidate. If vestry agrees, the senior warden would then extend an offer to the candidate. Canon Kristin presented a handout with a breakdown of possible budgets for the search process. We should assume \$10,000-\$30,000 cost.
- The vestry could choose to look for a priest-in-charge. This is a shorter, less expensive option. The vestry presents the diocese with results of parish data gathering in the form of a list of gifts and challenges specific to St. Paul's and skills and abilities we are looking for. The diocese puts forward possible applicants for the three year contracted position. The diocese runs background checks on applicants. Candidates are presented to the vestry one at a time. The vestry would then interview candidate. Once a candidate is chosen, they are offered a three year letter of agreement. If, after three years, the parish and the priest-in-charge want to continue their relationship they could elect him/her as rector.
- St. Paul's will be holding "Holy Conversations" as the first step in data gathering. These conversations will be facilitated by Canon Kristin. The first is this coming Sunday and will focus on what people value at church. The second will be in March and will focus on where there has been pain or disappointment. It will end with prayers of healing and

reconciliation. The third will be in April and will focus on our hopes and dreams for the future and what we will commit to do to make that future happen.

The vestry will then use this data to get clarity about the skills and abilities needed in our next priest.

## V Financial Reports

A. Revised 2020 budget which was presented at the annual meeting differed slightly from the one voted on initially by the prior vestry. A motion to vote on that revised budget was made by Patrick, seconded by Cristi Adams and approved.

B. January, 2020 financial report presented by Rev. Kathy. February is the last month Marc Vance is being paid. The diocese will assume the equity agreement he had with St. Paul's for his house. We anticipate receiving approximately \$39,000 in the near future.

C. John Settle will attend finance meetings as a vestry representative.

## VI Old Business

A. Use of Building by the Boy Scouts. Rachel Foyst presented information about Boy Scout Troop 557, who are losing their home at North Christian Church in April. They are looking at several possible places for their new home and are considering St. Paul's. They hope to decide by the end of February. If we sponsored them, it would be reviewed yearly. A motion was made by Patrick, and approved by the vestry, to table this for review and further consideration.

## VII New Business

A. John Settle was nominated by Teresa Woods to be junior warden and elected.

B. John Settle has 1 more year as convention delegate and Vicki Gust has 2 more years. Teresa Woods is discerning whether she would accept the position for a 3 year term as convention delegate.

C. Vestry liaison assignments to parish commissions were made. Bill Garber – buildings and grounds, Cristi Adams - Christian education/formation, Rachel Foyst – congregational development, Win Morris – evangelism/communication/marketing, John Settle – outreach, Shelly Bell and Teresa Woods – Parish life, Vicki Gust – worship, Patrick Schumacher – senior warden.

## VIII Reports

### A. Commission Reports

1. Formation – Tentative plans being made for weekly Bible study. Lenten Sunday forum series with DVD being planned. Mid-week Lenten Evening worship also being planned.
2. Outreach. Schmitt Elementary School 6<sup>th</sup> graders would like to volunteer around the church again. Andrew Goldsmid willing to coordinate but is looking for ideas. Vestry is asked to come up with 3 ideas and send them to Cristi by next Tuesday.

### B Sr. Warden's Report

1. Recycling/Trash pick-up. The vestry voted to have Rumpke pick up our recycling bimonthly at a cost of \$216 per year. Patrick moved, John seconded. Passed.

2. Status of exterior Cross study. Andrew researching this.

C. Interim Rector's Report

1. Current Inclement Weather Protocol distributed. Vestry asked to return next meeting with suggestions.

2. Work on updating current technology. Rev Kathy presented update from Ken Erickson. Ken donated a laptop for her use. Has been working on router, surge protector, backing up office computer, purchasing flash drives for financial records. Rev. Kathy encouraged vestry to add a technology line in the next budget.

3. Update on the Chickering piano renovation. Michelle Farnsworth asked for donations to fund the \$450 cost of new hammers and received more than required.

4. Calendar Review

a. Mardi Gras b. Lent c. February 29<sup>th</sup> workshops at Waycross

IX Meeting closed with prayer at 9:05.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa zur Loye  
Clerk

MARCH MEETING: SETTING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

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St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Columbus  
Vestry Meeting  
March 10, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m.

I The meeting opened at 6:40 with prayer.

II Procedural Business

A. Present: Patrick Schumacher, Cristi Adams, Shelly Bell, Rachel Foyst, Bill Garber, Vicki Gust, Win Morris, John Settle, Teresa Woods, Rev. Kathy Thomas, Melissa zur Loye

Guest: Michelle Farnsworth

B. There was a quorum.

C. Vestry Day Workshops were attended by the majority of the vestry and takeaways were shared about hospitality, running efficient meetings, stewardship, the mission and future of the church, liturgy, and best use of our media presence.

ACTION- Rev. Kathy asked that attendees write short reports that could be shared for further discussion and implementation. These are to be sent to Patrick by 3/29/2020.

ACTION: Shelly will send John information she gathered about stewardship.

Rev. Kathy will also check to see if we need to file articles of incorporation.

D. Patrick moved that we dispense with regular order to hear a report from our interim music director, Michelle Farnsworth.

### III Report and Proposal – Michelle Farnsworth

The baby grand has been fixed. Promised donations were in excess of the amount needed and Michelle presented her proposal that the additional funds be used to purchase a dolly for the upright piano and additional funding be solicited to purchase a dolly for the baby grand when possible. Michelle also volunteered to clean our carpets.

IV The February vestry minutes were approved as presented. Future vestry minutes will be distributed the week of the meeting for amendments. The final version will then be voted on by email. The goal being to put up-to-date information in the Venite.

### V Financial Report

- A. John reported that YTD pledge and plate expenditures are above budget and expenditures are lower so far.
- B. We received a check from the diocese for the proceeds of our loan/equity investment in Rev. Marc's house. The original amount we loaned him was \$30,000 and we received \$39,960 in return. Funds have been deposited in the checking account.
- C. ACTION: John will ask the treasurer where the \$9,960 will be tracked in future finance reports.
- D. The vestry decided to table any discussion as to spending money on the piano dollies at least until the vestry receives more information about the \$650 pledged towards the initial piano project but not yet collected.

### VI Old Business

A. Boy Scouts relocation. Patrick moved that we let the Boy Scouts know that, while we are happy they appear to have found a place which will sponsor them, we do not feel, at this time, that we could offer what they need. Bill seconded. Discussion centered around our current focus on the search for a new rector/PIC and concerns that we were not a good fit due to space concerns. The motion passed. ACTION: Clerk will write to Boy Scouts informing them of our decision.

### VII New Business

- A. Inclement Weather and Church Closure Policy Proposal. Rev. Kathy presented a policy proposal detailing who would decide about closure and how it would be communicated to the congregation and the wider community. After amending the wording to reflect that this policy would cover church closures for reasons other than just inclement weather, Shelly moved to accept the proposed policy. John seconded and the motion passed. This new policy will be presented in the Venite, the Bulletin, and on the website.
- B. EWM (Episcopal Women's Ministries) is soliciting nominations for Honored Women. Elizabeth Monette was suggested to represent us because of her long and tireless service to St. Paul's and the greater church. Kathy was going to speak with Wendy further. ACTION: It was not decided who would complete the submission by 3/15/2020.
- C. Decision as to Rector vs Priest-in-Charge (PIC). Teresa moved that we pursue PIC. Cristi seconded. After much discussion touching on cost, time involved, staffing a search committee, desire to have final decision rest firmly with St. Paul's, readiness

of the congregation to commit to another long-term relationship with a priest at this time, there was a unanimous vote to pursue a PIC. The decision as to whether St. Paul's can afford a full time PIC still needs to be made in consultation with the finance committee and the congregation.

## VIII Reports

### B. Commission Reports

3. Buildings and Grounds – We will reimburse Michelle for all cleaning supplies. The sound system is being checked tomorrow. Recycling is currently being done on a volunteer basis by parishioners. Bill Garber will speak further with Wendy Manley, who has been researching this, about having it picked up at the church. The annual cost would be \$200. Chuck and Tina have offered the church a chest freezer. ACTION: Patrick will check with the fire marshal as to location and if the regular electrical outlets are sufficient. vestry was very grateful for the donation. The Schmitt Elementary School 6<sup>th</sup> graders came and worked cleaning both the inside and the outside of the church property yesterday. Bill Garber, Andrew Goldsmid, and Ken Erickson supervised. This was a successful project and will probably be repeated again.
4. Shelly Bell is gathering information about the Agape group and the individuals who help with funerals, weddings, etc. There is also a card ministry.
5. John Settle reported that Outreach gave \$431 to Turning Point as a result of our Mardi Gras dinner on Shrove Tuesday.

### C. Interim Rector's Report

1. Next Holy Conversation March 29<sup>th</sup>. Topic will focus on where we have been disappointed or hurt by my faith community and will end with a reconciliation service. Will include lunch. ACTION: Parish Life will coordinate lunch.
2. Wendy Manley is stepping back from being the "on call" pastoral care person. The suggestion is that the LEVs be brought into the discussion about how to fill this ministry gap. There has been discussion as to how to bring the Eucharist to those in nursing homes or the hospital since the COVID19 restrictions have been put in place.
3. Rev. Kathy shared communication from the diocese with new recommendations since the escalation of the COVID19 pandemic. The vestry and Rev. Kathy decided, at this point, to leave it up to individuals who come up for Eucharist as to whether they wish to have wine. Parish members will not intinct.
4. Forums continue with topic of Forgiveness for next 3 Sundays.
5. Stations of the Cross continue on Wednesday evenings.

IX Meeting closed with prayer at 9:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa zur Loye  
Clerk



# April 2020

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 5:30 pm Stations of the Cross ZOOM	2 11:30 am Ladies Lunch on ZOOM	3 9 am AA	4
5 10:15 am Palm Sunday Service on ZOOM	6 6:30 pm AA	7 9 am AA	8	9 7 pm Holy Thursday Service on ZOOM	10 9 am AA 3 pm Good Friday Svc. on ZOOM	11 7 pm Holy Saturday Service on ZOOM
12 10:15 am Easter Service on ZOOM	13 6:30 pm AA	14 9 am AA	15	16	17 9 am AA	18
19 10:15 am Liturgy of the Word on ZOOM	20 6:30 pm AA	21 9 am AA	22	23	24 9 am AA	25
26 10:15 am Liturgy of the Word on ZOOM	27 6:30 pm AA	28 9 am AA	29	30	May 1 9 am AA	2

## Notes

All on-site church activities have been suspended indefinitely.  
All Liturgies will be held online (ZOOM meeting ID 2912120372).