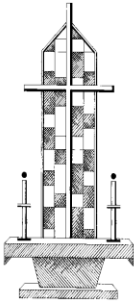


ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE

April 2010



Dear Friends,

You are receiving this letter during Holy Week. This week signals the end of our Lenten journey and points to the inevitable crucifixion of Jesus and beyond. It is important to confront this most dreadful act of the slaying of Jesus in order to truly understand the unimaginable love of God for us.

Jesus died because he refused to be silent in the face of injustice and oppression. His voice and his powerful witness throughout his life caused the powers to be fearful of his influence. They feared revolution; they feared an upheaval of the status quo. They had to rid the world of this message which was and is and will always be grounded in God's love for all people.

The death of Jesus is not the last Word. God will not let death or fear or pain ever be the last word of our lives. As God raised Jesus from the dead to finally overcome all that is evil and deadly in the world, God raises all humanity to that same glorious Resurrection.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ signals the triumph of God's will upon the earth. At his birth heaven came to earth and through his Resurrection heaven remains. As people of the Resurrection we are called to do the work of pointing out the heavenly gifts around us and to be instruments in bringing about heavenly values all around us.

It is impossible not to weep at the foot of the cross as we ponder the shame and injustice of the killing of Jesus. It is impossible not to wonder about the wild and extravagant love of God as we regard the lifeless body of Jesus. The darkness of that dreadful day seeps into our souls and engenders a profound love and gratitude for Jesus Christ in our lives.

We know the end of the story is glory! God will never let the end of the story be otherwise. God's will for Jesus and for us is glory. We share in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus through our baptism. The resurrection belongs to us. It offers us grace to live in hope, to have deep faith in God's love, it is a sign that all shall be well, it is guarantee that God works toward our well being in all things.

Easter is almost here. It is inevitable because of God's love for us. It is the great act of God which redeems all humanity. The light and glory of the Resurrection shines on us all forever and ever. It is a day to celebrate the glory of God, the gift of Jesus Christ and the powerful inspiration of the Holy Spirit in all we do.

Blessings to you all, my dear friends, for a blessed and joyous Easter that we celebrate everyday of our lives.

Meet the Vestry



DAVID WOODWARD

David has lived in Bedford and been a member of St. Paul's for a year and a half. Growing up as one of five children near Woodstock, NY, he was raised in the Episcopal Church, as his grandfather was a priest. After confirmation, he stopped going to church, but later became more involved when he attended college at Colgate University. David met Mary Curlew at St. James Church in Cambridge. It was here that they wed; they have been married for ten years. David and Mary have two sons.

David works in the Budget and Planning Office at Brandeis University. When not working, he enjoys wrestling with the kids and going camping. Also, he and Mary enjoy "date nights" where they can explore new restaurants and share a delicious dinner together. When asked what kept him coming back to St. Paul's, David commented, "It struck me as a very healthy, active and welcoming parish." David is involved in the Choir, Men's Group, and Vestry.

VESTRY CORNER

Dear friends,

Happy Easter! The vestry will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, **April 20, at 7:30pm**. All are welcome to attend.



LISA HAFER

Lisa has lived in Bedford for ten years and been a member of St. Paul's Church for about eight. She and husband Brad spent eight great years in Chicago before heading back east to be closer to family and to pursue Brad's career in the high-tech industry. Lisa grew up in northern NJ with her parents and four sisters, and spent summers in the Adirondacks in Brant Lake, NY (where the family still gathers for reunions - 12 adults and 16 grandchildren in all). She was baptized, made her first holy communion, got confirmed, and was married in the Catholic Church. She attended Gettysburg College in PA, where she majored in English, and spent close to ten years working in the cable television industry. Lisa and Brad met through mutual friends, and have been married for 17 years. They have three sons. Most weekends are spent on a field or court of some sort, as all the boys are active in soccer, basketball, and baseball. The family also loves to ski together whenever possible.

All three Hafer boys attended St. Paul's Nursery School and loved it. It was here that Lisa heard such wonderful things about St. Paul's parish, and Father Frank in particular. Lisa found the church to be warm and welcoming - like a second family. She has chaired the Advent Fair for six years, has also served on the Vestry previously, currently serves on the Fundraising Committee, and helps out in Catechesis when time permits. To get her "girl fix," Lisa currently babysits for an 18-month-old three days a week.

Catechesis Corner



We have enjoyed March in the Atrium, learning together about Lent and Easter. The big 'City of Jerusalem' model is back, helping the children situate the events in space. They also love looking at a book of pictures of the Holy Land. Another favorite lesson is the 'Last Supper'. You may wonder as the children receive the Eucharist in church whether they understand what it is all about. Yes, they do! All seem quickly to make the connection between Jesus' last meal with his friends, with its special words, and what happens at the altar. And on Easter they will know and rejoice with the rest of us that 'Christ has died, but Christ is risen'!

Looking ahead to April, we will have some special liturgies of our own related to Easter and Baptism. These children really like processions, and candles!

There will be no Catechesis on Easter (April 4th) or on April 19th (Patriot's Day weekend). We hope all children will join the church services.

Looking ahead, we have just learned about a great local opportunity for interested youth or adults to learn more about the Catechesis program. An introduction will be given **May 1st, 9 am to noon at Church of our Redeemer, Lexington.**

Please contact either of us for details if you think you might be interested in attending.

Also, please be sure to attend **Family Sunday on May 2** – sadly, the last with Father Frank, so important for the children.

Happy Easter to all!
Ellen Ryan and Amanda Hubbard

Notes from the Nursery School



Many thank you's to the parishioners who worked so hard in the basement during the Great Flood of 2010! We are fortunate that the nursery school only lost recyclable materials used in art projects. These are easily replaced. It could have been much worse if not for the hard work of the parishioners. Thank you all again.

As we look forward to April we will enjoy taking the bikes outside, planting flowers, making kites and blowing bubbles. The hint of spring has put huge smiles on all our faces. A field trip to Chip-In Farm to see the baby chicks will be a highlight this month.

Enrollment for next year continues. We have openings in our three day program and our two day program. We have received a number of inquiries about school the past few weeks. Hopefully, these will lead to some more applicants. If you know of someone with a three or four year old child looking for a preschool, please send them our way. Thank you.

Lee Frank

Stewardship Update

Recently, several parishioners have come to me and offered to increase their pledges for 2010. I am very happy to inform everyone that we have exceeded the 2009 pledge goal. Some of you may recall that 2009 was the highest pledge amount in St Paul's history. Well, the 2010 pledge surpasses that. The current 2010 pledge is 154,545 versus the 2009 pledge of 154,331.

Thank you to everyone who has pledged to St. Paul's. If you haven't pledged and would like more information, please see me at coffee hour or call.

*Paul Ciaccia,
Chairman of the Stewardship Committee*

Long Range Planning Committee

The Long Range Planning Committee would like to thank everyone who attended one of the three focus groups in February and the middle and high school youth for their input. We had great attendance and shared our views on many different issues as we addressed what is going well in the parish, what could be improved and what we would dream of - were there no limitations. Additionally we were able to discuss the qualities we would like to see in a new rector.

Currently the committee is compiling and summarizing all of the input. When this step is complete, we will share the information with the parish. This information should also be helpful as we begin the process of searching for a new rector and as we take the next steps in developing a long term plan for St. Paul's.

Please contact any member of the Long Range Planning Committee if you have any questions.

Betsey Anderson, Paul Ciaccia, Paul Kruger, Suzanne Johnson, Ken Larson, John MacPhee, Barbara Perry, Louisa Saladino-Kuhl, Frank Fornaro

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

On March 14th, a group of us set off for Worcester at 7:00 am to volunteer at the Special Olympics basketball site. Our tasks included score-keeping and timing games, getting water for the athletes, sweeping the floors, packing more than 300 bag lunches, and cheering on the teams. It was an amazing experience, led again by Suzanne Johnson! Special thanks to our "rookies," Carly and Carolyn Martin, Karin Baker, Lisa, Justin and Nolan Hafer (no one ever swept the floors that well), Natalie and Ben Wicks (there is an athlete somewhere who cannot stop talking about his new Mario friend), Philip and Scott Thompson, Casey LaGrassa and Matt Laferriere. And we couldn't have done it without our seasoned veterans, Carrie Mathews, Bruce, Sima, Ariana and Jacob Seymourian, Elle Thompson, Natalie Schalick (who won the "picked up the most trash award" for the second year in a row), Eric Wicks, Ben and Jeff Johnson.

A few comments on what the experience meant to our volunteers:

"I volunteer because I like basketball and it's fun to see other kids enjoy the game. My favorite part was seeing the athletes' reactions as they played the games." - Ben Johnson

"I volunteered because I wanted the athletes to have a good experience and have fun. I enjoy watching them have fun. I thought the scoreboard was fun because I got to work the machine and watch the people having fun playing basketball." - Eric Wicks

"I volunteered because my family was going too. My favorite part was playing games with one of the competitors." - Ben Wicks

"I volunteered because I wanted to start doing more community services. I liked timing the games and watching the players be so happy on the court." - Philip Thompson

"I wanted to help people enjoy playing basketball. I liked keeping score and was impressed how the players never gave up." - Scott Thompson

"In past years, helping at the Special Olympics has been uplifting and inspiring. I enjoy the players' positive attitudes and true enjoyment for being in the game." - Elle Thompson

"We volunteered because we had heard such wonderful things from others about the Special Olympics experience. Our favorite parts of the day were seeing the excitement on the faces of the players when they made a basket and meeting a bunch of the Mustangs' teammates (who were so friendly, smiley, & appreciative -- the boys, Nolan, Justin and Ben Wicks in particular made friends with and played DS with one of the adult players)." - Lisa, Justin and Nolan Hafer

Upcoming activities:

- The 2nd annual St. Paul's Easter Egg Hunt will be held after the Easter Sunday service on Sunday, April 4th. Similar to last year, children in the 5th grades and under will be divided into 3 age groups: nursery - Kindergarten; 1st-3rd grades; and 4th and 5th grades. Please watch for emails from Mrs. Mathews so you can help out at this fun event!
- Our next in-class discussion will be held on April 11th in the library. Please make every effort to attend!

Happy Easter!

Mrs. Mathews and Mrs. Baker

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Confirmation classes continue in April, after church on April 11 and April 25. Confirmation and reception will be held on Saturday, May 22, at Christ Church, Waltham. We'll recognize our confirmands and those who were received during the service on Sunday, May 30.

Thanks,
Emily

Annual Women's Brunch



*Please join the women of St. Paul's Church
on Sunday, April 11, 2010 at Noon
for fellowship and brunch
at the home of Sharon Healey*

We will enjoy brunch and discuss future activities of the Women's Group.

All women and girls of the parish are welcome at this annual event.

A donation of \$3.00 is requested to cover costs.

**Sign up at church or RSVP to the Church Office at
781-275-8262.**

Family Walk sponsored by the Women's Group April 18th, 2:00 pm

Please come and enjoy an early springtime afternoon family walk in the Landlocked Forest, sponsored by the Women's Group, and led by Judy Wright. The walk will take about 1 ½ hours, give or take some depending on the size and interest of the group. Terrain is light to moderate and there will be mud, so wear good sturdy boots. For more information about the woods and directions, please visit:
<http://www.landlockedforest.com/> .

We will meet at the power lines on Turning Mill Rd. in Lexington, just past Grimes Rd. To get to Turning Mill Rd., take Page Rd to Lexington, where it becomes Grove St. The first left on Grove is Gould Rd. Follow Gould to the end and the road turns sharply to the right and becomes Turning Mill Rd. The power lines are about .2 miles down on Turning Mill. There is ample parking on the street along the power lines.

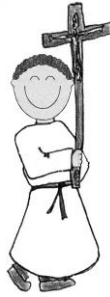
The rain date is April 25th. Contact Judy with any questions.



Parking Lot!

Please remember that the clergy space in the parking lot is reserved only during the week, not on Sunday mornings. Feel free to park there before the worship service, particularly if you need to be closer to the front door. Overflow parking is also available across the street on Dana Road or along the back drive.

Attention Altar servers (and their parents)



New and experienced servers, we thank you for your faithful service. Frank has requested that **torchbearers, gossellers and crucifers be scheduled throughout the summer.** If you will be away, please let Caroline know. Remember, once scheduled, it will be your responsibility to find a replacement if you cannot serve.

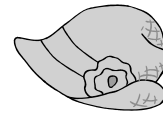
Please remember to make a note on the schedule in the robe closet if you make a switch.

Calling all Gardeners (or prospective gardeners) of St. Paul's



Do you enjoy gardening and have a few spare hours to donate? I am looking for some parishioners to sign up for garden maintenance for St. Paul's. This would just be for few hours every few weeks to keep the grounds weeded, deadheaded and just looking spruced up! Please give me a call if you can lend a helping hand. Thanks!

Rene Seaton



It is that time of year ladies; get out your Easter bonnets! Please proudly wear a hat to Church for Easter Sunday. If you have an extra hat you wouldn't mind sharing please bring it along to share on Palm Sunday or Easter morning. Immediately after Easter service please gather on the alter for a picture with Frank.



Don't forget to click through!



If you planning to do a any Amazon shopping in the near future, don't forget to visit the St. Paul's website first! Go to **www.stpaulsbedford.org** and click the Amazon link on the left sidebar. You'll be directed to Amazon's site, where you can shop as usual -- but every purchase you make will earn a little money for St. Paul's. Thanks for your support!

GOLD PARTY Fundraiser! Monday, April 26th, 7 - 9 PM. Refreshments served and fellowship encouraged! What is a Gold Party you ask? Well, Gold is selling at a high rate right now, and these parties were developed as a way for you to profit from gold's value! You just bring in any pieces of gold (broken, lone earring, unwanted) and you leave with a check for the value of the gold in the pieces! The church receives a percentage of the total paid out that evening. For more details, please see Sharon Healey. Please come and Bring a Friend!

OUTREACH NEWS



Blanket Sunday April 25

Turn in those blanket squares! Remember, we need time for our dedicated blanket volunteers to stitch and crochet them together. We will be dedicating blankets on April 25.

Moving Mountains China

Thank you to the Girl Scouts who assisted the parish in raising enough money for our sponsored Chinese student, Yan Fei, to attend another year of High School.



Mugs for sale – coffeehour April 25

1000 mugs for South Africa is raising money for public education in the Khethani township, South Africa. Through the sale of a thousand handmade pottery mugs, they are raising money for a school library. Marlene Nelson's dream of making and selling a thousand mugs to support children in South Africa was carried out with the help of her clay colleagues and friends at Harvard's Ceramics Program. Bishop Shaw, who is himself a potter, has been involved with this effort.

For more information on this project, contact Katie West.

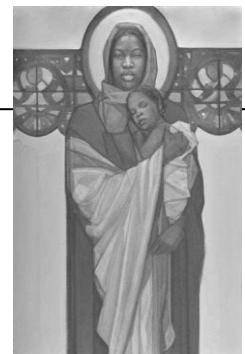
SAVE THE DATE FOR THE ANNUAL JUBILEE DINNER

"Jubilee Celebrates Africa," on May 1 at 6:00 P.M. at the Church of the Redeemer in Lexington. It will be an evening of traditional African food, music, storytelling, and fellowship, with live and silent auctions and a marketplace of handmade African crafts. All proceeds benefit the Jubilee Ministry of the Diocese of Massachusetts in supporting education, nutrition, health care, and economic stability in East Africa. Jubilee feeds 4,000 orphans and vulnerable children weekly in Kenya. We teach good farming practice and have opened an internet café to raise money for the seminary we are supporting. And so much else. Be part of Jubilee. Contact the Rev. Maggie Geller for reservations and more information at mgeller@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 351.



Art exhibit at Bethany

In April, artist Janet McKenzie will pack up several of the luminous, sometimes haunting paintings of holy people that she is renowned for, and drive them down from her home in Vermont to Arlington where they'll go on display at the Order of St. Anne's Bethany Convent and Bethany House of Prayer.



Janet McKenzie's art, featured in the last issue of the Diocesan newsletter, (<http://www.diomass.org/diocesan-news/qa-artist-janet-mckenzie>) will be part of an all day retreat at Bethany but note that there will be an open viewing following the retreat on Saturday April 10 in St. Anne's Chapel from 4:00 -5:30 pm. Bethany House of Prayer, located in Arlington, is a ministry of hospitality and prayer of the Sisters of the Order of St. Anne-Bethany.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
100 Pine Hill Road
Bedford, MA 01730

Sunday Service of Holy Eucharist: 10:00 a.m.
Office hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Telephone: 781 275-8262
Fax: 781 687-9070
E-mail: info@stpaulsbedford.org

Staff:

The Reverend Francis Fornaro, Rector
Tracy Lane, Parish Administrator
Joan Reddy, Music Director
Bob Godoy, Sexton

Officers:

Emily Mitchell, Senior Warden
Paul Ciaccia, Junior Warden
Betsey Anderson, Treasurer
Carol Hokana, Clerk

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Easter Prayer
A New Zealand Prayer Book

Christ, you are risen from the dead.
We are risen with you.
May our life never deny
This eternal life,
this peace and hope and joy.
Praise and glory to the God of life
who is stronger than all kinds of death. Alleluia.



Holy Week Worship Schedule

March 28th - April 4th

Palm Sunday (March 28th)
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday (March 29th)
7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Tuesday (March 30th)
7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist



Wednesday (March 31st)
7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday (April 1st)
7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist
Foot washing and
Stripping of the altar

Good Friday (April 2nd)
12:00 noon Way of the Cross
3:00 p.m. Children's Service
7:30 p.m. Good Friday Service

Saturday (April 3rd)
7:30 p.m. Easter Vigil

Sunday (April 4th)
6:30 a.m. Bedford Ecumenical Service at Fawn Lake

Easter Sunday (April 4th)
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Spring Cleanup day - April 17, 2010



This will be held on during the week of April 12-17th. A number of volunteers will be preparing the gardens during that week. However, we will need a large number of volunteers on Saturday morning April 17th. The focus that day will be spreading mulch on all the gardens. If you can spare a few hours during the morning, please put your name on the sign up sheet on the bulletin board. We will need people with wheel barrels, shovels and rakes to spread 12-15 yards of mulch. As always, we will have coffee, juice and bagels available.

Thanks for your help in making the gardens of St. Paul's look beautiful.

2nd Annual St. Paul's Easter Egg Hunt!



Organized by the Middle School Youth Group, the second annual **St. Paul's Easter Egg Hunt** will be held after the Easter Sunday service on April 4th. We will organize in the parish hall during coffee hour and similar to last year, children in the 5th grade and under will be divided into 3 age groups for the hunt: nursery - Kindergarten; 1st - 3rd grades; and 4th and 5th grades. Please bring your basket (or a bag will do!) so you can take home your treasures!

2010 Ecumenical Easter Dawn Service Announcement

Don't forget the Ecumenical Dawn Service on Easter morning, April 4th, 2010 at 6:30 AM at Fawn Lake. This is the 59th year of this ecumenical event, which is faithfully planned and presented on Easter morning by representatives of Bedford's Christian communities. Each year, Christian churches in Bedford are asked to send a lay representative to present a particular portion of the service. This year our congregation is represented by: Jan Gurley

After the service, attendees are cordially invited to enjoy a free Easter breakfast prepared by the Congregational Church Senior High Youth Group and their resource adults. It takes place in the Upper Fellowship Hall at the Congregational Church, 25 The Great Road.

This is an inspiring and enjoyable way to begin your family's Easter Day! Please plan to attend with your family and friends. If it rains, the service will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 100 Pine Hill Road.