

Friday, January 8th, 2021

Good afternoon, St. Paul's,

One might say that it's been a week with too much public excitement inside and outside the Capitol buildings of our southern neighbours, protesting against a rather clear democratic election. And in our own Canadian province it's been too long since our own legislators met to fulfil their legislative duty. But in the midst of it all we have been blessed by prudent Public Health officials who, along with healthy protocols in many areas of public life, have allowed for public worship to continue. We have healthy space for up to 100 parishioners. The Rector, Wardens, and SafeR Church Committee of the parish invite you to sign in at the door, review the protocols, and join them for worship this Sunday at 10.00 a.m.

Your pastor,

Paul+

A-WEEK-AND-A-BIT AT ST. PAUL'S: 8 - 17 January 2021

Weekdays Parish Office is open 9-4;
Church Doors opened for duties and appointments only.

FRIDAY 9:00 am	8 JANUARY Hybrid Matins <i>Zoom</i>
SATURDAY 9:00 am	9 JANUARY Matins <i>Zoom</i>
SUNDAY *10:00 am	10 JANUARY Baptism of The Lord Eucharist <i>Nave & Chancel</i> Afternoon: Ante-Communion Video emailed *Genesis 1.1-10; Psalm 29; Acts 19.1-7; Mark 1.1-11
MONDAY 9:00 am	11 JANUARY Matins <i>Zoom</i>
TUESDAY 9:00 am 12:00 am	12 JANUARY Matins <i>Zoom</i> Noon Theology <i>Zoom</i>
WEDNESDAY 9:00 am 11:00 am 12:00 pm	13 JANUARY Matins <i>Zoom</i> Eucharist <i>Chancel</i> Rector's Lunch (Take-out) <i>Coffee Zone</i>
THURSDAY 9:00 am 9:30 am	14 JANUARY Matins <i>Zoom</i> Women's Bible Study Group <i>MacPherson Residence</i>

FRIDAY 9:00 am	15 JANUARY Hybrid Matins <i>Zoom</i>
SATURDAY 9:00 am	16 JANUARY Matins <i>Zoom</i>
SUNDAY *10:00 am	17 JANUARY Epiphany II Eucharist <i>Nave & Chancel</i> Afternoon: Ante-Communion Video emailed *I Samuel 3.1-20; Psalm 39; I Corinthians 6.12-20; John 1.43-51

PARISH NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST. PAUL'S 2020 ANNUAL REPORT! Our AGM will be the first Sunday in March this year which means that the office would appreciate all reports to be submitted by Friday, February 5th at the latest please. This gives Gail time to collate and print so that the parish can enjoy two weeks of reading time before the AGM. Thank you.

THE ST. PAUL'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME 2021 deadline is approaching: Applicants are asked to reflect on how their spiritual lives integrate with their scholastic pursuits and to present their understanding of the connection in their application submission. More details as well as the application form sample are posted on our Notice Board or you can email the office for the electronic version and then also to submit your application (note the deadlines below). If anyone has questions re: the St. Paul's Scholarship, please speak to Dr. Margaret Bateman Ellison. All written parts of submissions must be sent electronically to the Parish Office. *All must include the Cover Page with their submission and meet the required deadlines.*

1. **Submit intention to apply by January 15, 2021**
2. Submit application including form/cover page provided by March 15, 2021
3. Committee review completed by April 30, 2021
4. Award recipient{s} announced

ST. PAUL'S JOURNAL! We have five great submissions for the next issue of our parish journal and would love to include some more ... whether it be a poem, song/hymn lyrics that touch you, artwork, recipe, etc. Inspirations from a variety of people create a wonderful compilation of the broad range of personalities within our parish. This publication welcomes the input of everyone ... a 'trained scribe' you need not be!

PARISH DIRECTORY: The office is in the process of updating its Parish Directory once again. Please contact us if you've had a change in your contact information! Thank you.

THE FAITH SHARING GROUP will resume with a Lenten focus on engaging with the spiritual disciplines on Feb. 14th, 6:30pm. More details to follow. Email Kate (katy.r.crane@gmail.com) at any point for general info about the group.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS: The office wishes to apologize for unintentionally omitting these memorials from our Christmas publications: in loving memory of our parents and of Dave Logan from John Ferguson and Carolyn Tomlin. In loving memory of Reta & Bill Palmer given by their family.

THE RECTOR'S FAMILY Talia, Anya, Janet, and Paul thank all the parishioners who have sent them Christmas greetings for cheering their spirits. And the family's canine companion, Zamber the Duck Toller, thanks all those responsible for delicious crumbs that have fallen from their table.

ALL VISITORS MUST SIGN IN: Please remember the importance of signing in to the LOG at the Welcome Desk in the Narthex ANY time you enter the church; and please log your time in/out of Parish House as well and submit to the office. **THIS IS MANDATORY.** Thank you.

THE ZOOM MATINS GROUP continues to meet on-line, Monday to Saturday at 9.00 and we are back to hybrid Friday Matins! Please feel free to join those who pray and read Scripture together at 9.00, whether daily, weekly, occasionally, or with some other pattern.

HOLLY HOUSE OUTREACH: You can always donate gift cards (*mail them or drop them off to the church office who will forward to our Women's Group*) for this parish outreach. The cards appreciated are: Shoppers, Dollarama, or No Frills in increments of \$10 or \$20. You can also deliver them to the mailbox at 6818 Edward Arab Ave. Thank you everyone!

THE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP has begun an 8 week study of Philippians. We meet in-person from 9:30-11:30 at Isobel MacPherson's apartment. We always welcome newcomers! If interested, contact Mary Dempster at dempstermary@gmail.com or Margaret at briarwoodbob@aol.com.

FROM OUR PRAYERWEB CO-ORDINATOR: It really does not matter who or what the need is, what matters is that in our quiet times, we are interceding on their behalf through prayer. In *Job 5:8* we hear him say, 'But, if it were I, I would appeal to God, I would lay my cause before him.' That is what we do through intercessory prayer; we look for and find the hope, the beauty and the love. We're linked by email and pray over shared intercessions in our own home. If you'd like to join us, please contact our Rector, Paul Friesen (rector@stpaulshalifax.org) and me (isobelmacpherson@gmail.com). We would love to welcome you into our prayer web. Blessings, Isobel MacPherson.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS: If you're interested in being added to the youth group e-list, you can contact Benjamin von Bredow, Katherine Lee, or Adriel Driver through the parish office. All youth are encouraged to join us at any time!

THANK YOU! To all who volunteered and helped make our Christmas services a success (at the last minute)! Many hands make light work ... indeed. The parish staff & Executive & Rector would like to wish everyone a loving, safe, healthy 2021!

THE ZOOM NOON THEOLOGY GROUP meets on Tuesdays. If you're interested in joining in our weekly **Tuesday 12.00-1.00 pm** discussions, please let the parish office know. We continue with our collection of C.S. Lewis' writings on Christian spirituality recently published as *How to Pray: Reflections & Essays* (2018). The groups next 'alphabetic rotation selection', to be discussed beginning Tuesday 26 January, is Rowan William's *Anglican Identities*.

ZOOM MATINS GROUP NEWS: This group, with a variety of members on any given day, meets daily, Monday-Saturday at 9.00 am by Zoom to pray 'Matins' and discuss Scriptures and faith. If you're not on the Matins list and would like to drop in, you're welcome to join in as frequently or as infrequently as makes sense to you. Just let the parish office know. *We will resume our Chancel-Zoom hybrid Matins January 8th, 2021.*

IT'S REALLY OK TO ENTER ST. PAUL'S CHURCH but ... when you are leaving could you remember to pull the outside doors tightly shut behind you? During the fall and winter seasons it is easy to leave our swollen wooden doors not quite completely latched on exit and leave the building at risk.

PROVINCIAL HEALTH UPDATE: On Wednesday, Dec. 16th, Dr. Robert Strang announced some changes to the Public Health Guidelines to help deal with the rising number of COVID-19 infections in Nova Scotia. Churches were given three weeks of public worship, with a maximum assembly size of 100. Our Wardens, Officers, Staff, and SafeR Church committee strategized to plan our return to in-person worship, and our adherence to the Public Health protocols put in place in August at St. Paul's, and to add a few more. So, until January 10, 2021, or further Public Health notifications:

- Office Hours: Hours as usual, outer doors locked. Open for staff and parish volunteers on parish business. Masks on/off per Public Health protocols on site. All parish committee and group meetings and events by Zoom or electronic means, under the direction of the staff and volunteers already leading them.
- Wednesday 11am Eucharists have resumed (no need to pre-register with 100-person maximum). Wednesday take-out lunches and grocery trips as usual. Indoor cold weather spacing organized by volunteers. Guests immediately leave with lunches and/or for Sobeys if on the list for the week.
- Sunday Eucharists in St. Paul's, resumed Dec. 27th while maintaining the 100-person maximum.
- Sunday School resumed in Parish House January 3rd with distancing when we're at our tables and masks when we move around.

The SafeR Church Committee monitors the situation carefully and tries to keep all parishioners informed. With thanksgiving for all of God's goodness, at all times, and in all places—and with thanks to you, our Lord's servants ... and in prayer for those in frail health, physical and mental,

The Rector & Wardens of St. Paul's, Halifax

PARKING: Thanks to the City of Halifax & SONCO, we have two more areas for parking: 9:30-11:30 on Sundays for both lots: a) next to 1718 Argyle/beside Parish House AND b) the upper part of the lot at the corner of George and Barrington (the entrance on Granville is gated but the gate will be up on Sundays). You **MUST** sign-in for a **St. Paul's Parking pass**, however, and have this pass **CLEARLY** displayed on your dash to avoid ticketing/towing. We look forward to resuming in-house services and using these parking spaces once again.

FROM OUR PROPERTY CHAIR: Parish House is in need of some upgrading/replacing of the doorknobs/locks on its many interior doors. We are blessed to have this historic building so very busy with a variety of outreach, mission, art, music, counselling and Sunday School! Any help with this project will be appreciated by many people. Please contact the office if you (*or someone you know*) has lock-smithing experience & can assist by sharing suggestions.

OUR FISH COFFEEHOUSE TEAM supported by our Property Chair, Sexton, SafeR Church Committee, and other volunteers is continuing their wonderful job of redecorating, refurnishing, and preparing Parish House for a Coffee House reopening as soon as possible. Renovations usually take longer than anticipated, and the welcoming space for FISH has been no exception.

ALTAR FLOWERS AT ST. PAUL'S: St. Paul's has a long history of having altar flowers pledged for every Sunday throughout the year. We sincerely appreciate all the donors who remember a loved one or a special occasion with flowers. Having altar flowers every Sunday for 52 weeks, however, does not just happen. Over 50 people are needed annually to pledge flowers. We thank those who do pledge year after year but new donors are needed and welcome to support the Flower Programme. A single order is \$50.00 and a double order is \$100.00. Special dates to be remembered can be selected on the Flower Calendar at the beginning of the year. Or, preferably, at least three months in advance. Is this something YOU would like to do? The names of donors and people remembered appear in the weekly leaflet the week that the flowers are on the altar and are visible also when we are in 'virtual mode' in the pre-recorded Sunday Videos, as well as on Facebook and our website. For more information, please contact Diane in the office!

PWRDF: The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund is the Anglican Church of Canada's agency for sustainable development and relief. With the support of Anglicans across Canada, PWRDF partners with organizations working to increase healthy pregnancies and births, reduce gender inequality, relieve hunger and break the cycle of poverty in the world's most vulnerable communities. Against a backdrop of climate change, PWRDF strives to address the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for 2030. For more information, please visit <https://pwrdf.org> or call 416-822-9083. Thank you to everyone who continues to pray for and support the ongoing work of the PWRDF!