



Pietro Perugino, *Transfiguration of Christ*, 1448-1523

THE EPISTLE

OF SAINT PAUL'S PARISH—K STREET

AN EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

JULY-AUGUST 2012—VOLUME XXV NUMBER 7

From the Rector

SUMMER IS A TIME OF RECREATION — OR, BETTER, RE-CREATION

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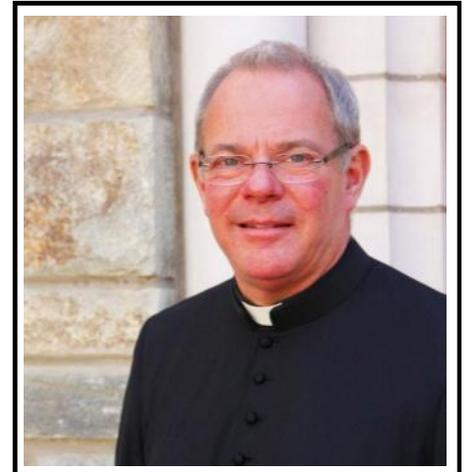
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My dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Paul's,

As usual, the summer issue of the Epistle will be a double month, namely July and August – in Washington certainly the “dog days of summer.” Our life together takes on its usual complexion. We had originally thought that we would have no choral music after July 1st on Sunday morning. However, as you will have read in parish notices, through a series of visiting choirs and through the generosity of two parishioners who have pledged money in addition to their annual pledge to help cover expenses of the choir, and of course through the gift of the time and talent of our volunteer musicians, there will in fact be a choir at both the 9 and 11:15 Masses throughout the summer.

Our schedule in the summer, as you well know, remains completely unchanged, and that includes Solemn Evensong and Benediction on Sundays at 6 p.m. The Office will be sung and Benediction will be offered with the assistance of a Cantor and the congregation will be doing the main part of the singing. While it is always wonderful to have the beauty of our choir school and sometimes our parish choir



THE REV'D ANDREW SLOANE

at Evensong outside of the summer, I would say that to sing simply the Divine Office and the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is a joy and a privilege, glorious choral music aside! I would urge your participation in Evensong and Benediction during the summer months.

As noted in the last Epistle, we will have as a visiting fellow, Fr. Peter Anthony, from Oxford, for most of July. The parish staff will be taking their usual vacations. Robert McCormick will be gone in the first half of July. Fr. Humphrey will be gone in the second half of August, and I shall be gone, at my usual time, from

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Parish Administrator Melva Willis

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Michael Welch (2013)
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the middle of July to the middle of August – specifically, from July 19 to August 18 – for my usual trip to the South of France with friends.

One working event for these months will be a morning with the new Canon for Congregation Vitality in the Diocese of Washington, Canon Joey Rick. Canon Rick will be leading a workshop for our Vestry and other leaders on Saturday, August 25, in the parish. This is a follow-up from my remarks at the Annual Meeting (see the full text of this pages 4-8) which, as you will remember, centered around the challenges for our parish growth. I am hoping that this will be followed by a similar workshop in September or thereabouts. I think it is important that we have outside perspectives that can help us look at our blessings, our challenges and our opportunities for growth.

Even with our vacations and absences, as most of you know, the summer is also a time for preparation for the next program year and this work will be already well underway by the time you receive this Epistle. One recent development, as noted in the Annual Meeting, is the development of a Ministries Council which is comprised of the heads of ministries, who will be getting together approximately four times a year for scheduling, better communication, reflection and training. The first of these meetings, on Monday, July 16 at 6:30 p.m., will be to schedule events for the program year that runs from September of this year through June of next year. I am grateful to Linda Wilkinson for her willingness to be the first Coordinator of the new Ministries Council and I am grateful to all who have already given their time and talent to enable this exciting new initiative in our common life.

Summer is a time of recreation – or, better, re-creation. I do hope that everybody has an opportunity for some rest and relaxation and

reflection and a slight lessening of the pace. Our unchanged liturgical schedule reminds us that the discipline and joy of regular corporate worship is the context for our life as Christians. Our faithful attendance at these services is simply a reflection of God's eternal faithfulness towards us. On the whole, people in this city and in this parish lead lives that are entirely too busy, too full and too hectic. I do hope that these summer months provide an opportunity to push, as it were, the "Pause" button on our lives as individuals, households, families, as well as the Body of Christ in this place. The rhythm of life is not a monotony but, should be, I think, a kaleidoscope and creative tension of work and play, rest and reflection, quiet and action, alone and together, personal and corporate.

This comes, as always, with my gratitude and my love in Christ.

Father Andrew +



Fun Times for Choir School

Christopher Lynch, Organ Scholar

It's been a busy and fun time for the Choir School as they finish out their "season." On Friday, May 11, the choristers worked with Dr. Martin Neary, former Master of the Music of Westminster Abbey. Afterwards the choristers walked to St. Mary's Court, a senior-living facility located a few blocks away from St. Paul's. The choir sang several anthems and a *Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis* by Peter Hurford for the residents. The residents

then joined the choir in singing a rousing version of Happy Birthday to our youngest member, who was turning seven!

On May 19, some of the youth of the parish and members of the Choir School went to Six Flags in Maryland for a fun day of roller coasters and water slides. Mr. McCormick even joined in the fun, wearing a squid hat won at the park (which looks suspiciously like a Bishop's mitre!).



Annual Report 2012

Since we are first and foremost a Eucharistic community, I always like to begin these remarks with thanks. Thanks first to Almighty God for his many blessings to us in this particular place. More on that shortly.

We have managed another year with no change in our paid staff – a sign, I like to think, not only of important stability, but also, dare I suggest, of happiness and fulfillment. I hope I am not being unrealistic in thinking that this is indeed a happy place to work! Overworked, underpaid – of course – but happiness, even contentment. I believe all 5-1/2 of our staff see our work in terms of vocation rather than work. In other words, we believe that God has called us to our particular work in this particular place. God is our reason for being here, and the goal of our work is to give him glory, to upbuild his church and to extend his kingdom. We do that together as a team, with very flexible job descriptions! And together with the people of this parish church. So I give thanks, as I know you do, for Fr. Humphrey, Melva Willis, Robert McCormick, Fred Murdock and John Bohl.

With our financial challenges in this fiscal year – both Murdock’s and John’s positions were initially precarious, to the point where both of them were put on notice that they might be given notice of termination because of lack of funds.

This most drastic scenario was averted. The budget has allowed us to keep Murdock on through the end of the year, but we were not able to continue his part-time assistant, Michael. The bad news is that Murdock now carries the maintenance of all the buildings on his own, with no help, at the same compensation. The good news is that at this stage in his life he was not laid off. John also has fared

better than we feared. The budget allows the position of Assistant Music Director to be filled up to about now! However, supporters of our music program have stepped up with pledges in addition to their annual pledges to fund the position until the end of this calendar year. This was done without any public solicitation of funds, and I hope we are all grateful to those who have made this possible.

But we do need to be realistic that, a massive increase in pledge income next year notwithstanding, the position of Assistant Music Director will not be filled next calendar year. That will mean major adjustments in our expectations for music next year, and I shall do everything I can to protect Robert’s well-being in his almost compulsive drive to offer the most extraordinary repertoire at the highest standards – no matter what! In addition to John’s brilliant presence on the organ bench, he also does a lot of administrative work behind the scenes. In fact, I dare to say (!) that most of you do not have the foggiest idea as to the amount and complexity of the work which goes into serving in this parish one of the finest music programs in this country with laughably small resources. And most people do not have a point of real comparison. We shall have to be careful as we proceed not to undo not only what is a very important and successful and fruitful program in the parish, but also one that offers so many opportunities that are unique in our city, not only for adults but also for children and young people. And, of course, a program that is an essential part of our offering of Catholic worship, whose goal is a transforming encounter with the living, transcendent God.

We also, of course, have unpaid volunteer staff – what I call “slave labor.” Again, I hope you are aware of

what we get for nothing:

No less than 10 honorary clergy:

Fr. Tom Bauer
Fr. Bob Gillespie
Fr. Douglas Greenaway
Fr. Randy Haycock
Fr. Tony Lewis
Deacon Eric Lobsinger
Fr. Randy McQuinn
Fr. J. Peter Pham
Fr. Perrin Radley
Fr. Charles Walthall

These clergy give of their time and talent not only to maintain our rigorous schedule but also to share their pastoral gifts and their remarkable fraternal support of the two full-time clergy.

Chris Lynch has been our organ scholar for the past academic year. While having the Lounge available to Chris for his accommodation, he has received no remuneration for his full-time work in the music department. In addition, Chris has become very much a part of our community, and with his involvement in the Pilgrims Class was confirmed at the Great Vigil and so became a formal member of this parish church. He is also a regular worshipper at the 7 a.m. Mass on weekdays. He has been a joy and delight. His departure will not only make a significant impact on our music program, but we shall be poorer as a community. We wish him well with his graduate work in Indianapolis and thank him for sharing his self and his gifts with us here.

In the “slave labor” category, we also need to acknowledge and thank Bob Motes, who serves as our Honorary Assistant Director of Music. Bob works quietly and effectively behind the scenes with no remuneration and no applause. His role will, of course, become even more crucial with the departure of Chris and John, but, as with Robert, I am determined that we must adjust our expectations so that we do not abuse the dedicated and brilliant gifts of our volunteers nor

overload an already very full, full-time position.

New to the team this past year has been Patrick White as Volunteer Assistant Parish Administrator. Retired from organizing hundreds of lawyers in a large law firm here in the city, he now takes on the formidable task of helping to organize us. His generous gift of three days a week (and more!) contributes enormously to our common life.

Eddie Davis has served as our Parish Catechist for the past 14 years. If you were at the 9 a.m. Mass on the Feast of Pentecost, you will have witnessed our tokens of appreciation to her upon her retirement. While there is some public role to this ministry, like the ministries of the clergy, most of the bulk of the ministry is unseen and hidden. Literally hundreds of you can attest to the effectiveness of Eddie's ministry among us. Life without her in Pilgrims is going to be challenging in every way!

There are literally hundreds of you who likewise work devotedly and effectively behind the scenes. You know who you are. On the whole, you perform these ministries without any desire for recognition, but it is important that you know that the whole parish is blessed by your work and witness and grateful to you, the on-the-whole-unseen heroes and heroines!

We have just this week begun to compile a "master list" of volunteers. I wonder if it will come as a surprise for you to learn that on that list are over 300 entries. Even with duplications, that is extraordinary. And yet there seems always to be a cry for "more help" in many of our areas of ministry. This can mean we have too much going on and even so generous a pool of volunteers is therefore stretched. It certainly means that we have a "program" equal to other large parishes in Washington, but without the same financial resources (and in most cases without the same endow-

ments!). Many essential administrative tasks performed by paid staff in those parishes are performed here by a host of volunteers. Do we trim our program? Do we grow our volunteer base, and, if so, how?

I am concerned about our volunteers. We have hundreds of people volunteering in many ways and yet there are always cries for "more volunteers." I met last evening with heads of ministries – just under 30 of you – to talk about the attraction, assimilation and care of volunteers. As a result of this we plan to establish a "Ministries Council" which will meet quarterly for mutual support, communication, training and planning. I plan to attend these meetings as Rector, and I am grateful to Linda Wilkinson, who has agreed to serve as the initial Coordinator. She will do this for one year and she will model "volunteerism" for us by having an assessment of her ministry at the end of the program year as well as bringing alongside and training a successor for that position in this first year. Stay tuned!

Here I would also like to record my and our thanks to those members of the Vestry who, after dedicated and effective leadership in challenging financial times, are rotating off:

Preston Winter, Junior Warden
Betty Ajueyitsi
Larry Cook
Mark Pierzchala

Part of our staff is our Seminarian Assistant, not himself paid but supported from income from the Richards Fund donated to the Virginia Theological Seminary.

In my years here, and for many years before me – just look at Fr. Tony Lewis, who was a Seminarian Assistant when Fr. Richards was here, and our recent visitor, Bishop Dorsey Henderson, Seminarian when Fr. Daughtry was Rector, for example – we have had a succession of fine seminarians who have brought their own

considerable gifts to bear on our common life, just as our common life and our vital Anglo-Catholic tradition has gifted them with vital tools for their priestly ministries.

Along these lines, St. Paul's, along with 5 other very diverse parishes in the Dioceses of Washington, Virginia and Maryland, has been selected to work with the Virginia Theological Seminary, the Lilly Foundation and each other in the Ministry Resident Program. To that end, Jean Beniste and his family will formally join us for at least two years beginning in September of next year.

Also, as most of you know, through the joint cooperation of our parish, the Virginia Theological Seminary and the Diocese of Milwaukee, our Seminarian for the last two years, Deacon Kyle Oliver will join our staff in a non-stipendiary role as of July 1 as "Assistant for Pastoral Care." He will also be threaded into our liturgical schedule as deacon and eventually, of course, as priest. All this will not exceed 8 hours per week. His focus will be on our more effective work of pastoral care and will begin with a thorough review of what we are currently doing and how well, and identify the successes, challenges and solutions. In this area, as in any other, there can be no room for any notion of control of any particular "fiefdom" and this will be rooted out, if it exists, to enable effective "one anothering" as a caring community.

Both these appointments speak of the health of our parish and of God's call, I believe, for us to be a "teaching parish." There have been and will be relationships and ministries bearing much mutual fruit, and we are again blessed by God beyond measure.

I should also add here our pride in and ongoing support of our own Matthew Welch as a postulant for Holy Orders in this diocese; and indirectly, Bernard Anderson, now a postulant in the Diocese of Maryland.

And I hope we could claim not a little influence in Elizabeth Locher, recently graduated from VTS and ordained to the diaconate, and who, along with certainly our very own, her husband, Ben, are shortly to embark on missionary work in Tanzania for a year.

Validating this, too, is our ongoing “Fellows-in-Residence” and “Visiting Fellow” program, whereby clergy, seminarians, lay people, church musicians come to stay with us for a time at their own expense in order to be immersed in our common life and worship. We are grateful to Foster Mays, a “rising Senior” seminarian at Sewanee, also with us here now in his final week of tour. Here again is a multiplicity of blessings, and our visitors bring their own gifts and different perspectives to bear on us and we in turn provide opportunity for reflection and renewal and transformation. That is an amazing thought, I suspect, for those of us who live and move and have our being here full-time – amazing, and humbling and encouraging at the same time.

Now I would like to make some important comments and ask some critical questions as we approach a new program year and a new vestry. These revolve around the core challenge of “growing the parish.” What I say here is not by way of a “dictat” or even a full summary, but by way of stimulation of ongoing conversation and encouragement of resulting concrete action and tasks.

Three questions:

WHO ARE WE, REALLY?

A sense of identity and self-awareness is essential for the well-being and functioning of any individual or community. I wonder what your answer to that question is? Here is the beginning of mine – and of course it is telling if it bears any relationship to what your answers would

be!

- We are a community that “seeks to restore all people to God and to each other through sacramental worship and Christ-like living.”
- We are a community where the daily recitation of the Divine Office and the at least daily celebration of the Mass is central to who we are and what we do, and that there is an appreciation and understanding of this even among those who are not present for such (in fact, the vast majority!). We understand that what we are and what we do flows from and moves toward that worship.
- We are a welcoming community that embraces all people. We value and make commitment to the concrete service of community. This commitment is made in the knowledge of the challenges faced by a geographically far-flung community with three different principal congregations on a Sunday.
- We are a congregation that seeks authenticity in our worship and our witness by commitment to our ongoing formation as Christians and to minister one to another and reach out beyond our walls at home and abroad.
- We are not only an “educated” congregation, we are a congregation that is committed to an ongoing, deeper formation in Christian faith and practice.
- We are a community of diverse ideologies that is united in prayer, worship, fellowship and ministry
- We offer a full, effective and mutually demanding catechumenate program for adults and the excellent Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program for children.
- Thanks to a lot of hard work on the part of our Committee for Evangelization, we have a very effective new website and much improved electronic communications and social media networks.
- There is a commitment by our

congregation to ministry to and with the students of GWU.

- It would be legitimate to characterize our worship as both joyful and devout.
 - The congregation is “intentional” in its worship, ministries and mission. As one person in our Pilgrims class recently put it, “we are not a hollow force.”
 - We have a tradition of excellence in music in this community and it has a place of priority, and as such enhances our witness to the importance of the transcendent, mysterious and imaginative in our worship and encounter with God. Music, liturgy and preaching are very much in our “shop window” and, while not appealing to all, do attract, I believe, the largest number of our visitors and newcomers. It was interesting that at our final Pilgrims Class of this year, 13 of the 19 people who offered two-minute testimonials to their belief in Jesus Christ attributed their direct involvement in church music as a key to their relationship with God.
 - We offer through our Choir School an outstanding program for children and young people – more than 30 at this time – which shapes them not only as musicians but also as Christians and is unique in this wider community.
- And what would your answers be?

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES TO BEING WHO WE ARE??

- We have to tackle and commit funds to ensure the easiest possible and most accessible parking arrangements.
- There is always the danger in our Anglo-Catholic tradition that worship can become an end in itself – we “worship the worship” – and that liturgy is reduced to a mere and narrow “aesthetic experience.”
- Because of our high standards of liturgy – and music as a handmaid of

this – we assume that this is “just the way it is supposed to be” with no understanding of the logistics, the work and the interests.

- Because we are accustomed to the highest standards, we develop a “silver platter” attitude of expectation but not of doing the “grunt work” ourselves.

- The reality is that some 80 percent of our membership does not live in the District of Columbia. To attend church activities, a few walk for 5-10 minutes, many face a hard commute with terrible traffic, even on Sundays.

- We take for granted the blessings we receive and the unseen work of many without expressing our appreciation.

- Again, because of our high standards and expectations – all good – we are too quick to be critical of ourselves and others within and outside our community.

- There is a lack of financial and human resources. The pool for such at the moment does not match the expectations of the schedule and program of our common life.

- I think we underestimate the unusually high levels of commitment that we currently have.

- I think in the living out of our own identity we lack informed and helpful comparisons.

- Have we really looked at who we are called to be realistically as an urban downtown congregation? Do we beat up on ourselves too much for “not being like others,” instead of embracing different offerings and possibilities that we may be uniquely placed to offer?

- There is, I think, a “disconnect” between the equally important services offered on a Sunday, including and perhaps most especially Even-song. We underestimate there our effective and significant work with young people and children. We un-

derestimate the appeal as a “seeker service.” Most people here on a Sunday morning would, I suspect, be shocked to discover that from time to time there are as many, if not more, people present at 6 p.m. as at 9 a.m. We in fact have three principal Sung Services, not two. Likewise, I think most participants and even leaders in Sunday morning activities would be astonished at the daily work of formation of children and young people that goes on in the afternoon and evenings Monday to Friday.

- Do we too often respond from places of perceived scarcity and anxiety rather than places of blessing and abundance?

And what would you add?

IN WHAT WAYS IS GOD CALLING US TO GROW, COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS, FACING HEALTHILY OUR CHALLENGES AND FAITHFULLY UNCOVERING AND ARTICULATING HIS VISION FOR THIS COMMUNITY OF FAITH?

- To get to know one another better outside of our usual spheres of ministry and worship, and above and beyond predictable social contact.

- To help one another engage: with God in Christ; with one another, including by reaching out to “the periphery” of the parish in ministry, so that every member of the parish sees him or herself as a baptized member, equipped with spiritual gifts by the power of the Holy Spirit, and also by scheduling more events for the whole parish family to come together for fun and fellowship; and with the stranger, visitor and newcomer.

How? Through

- Every member being generous in the offer of welcome and hospitality

- Everyone being engaged as a greeter and a member of the hospitality team to create many more opportunities for welcome and fellowship.

- Assisting everyone, especially the

handicapped, those with young children, and newcomers to find parking.

- Generously welcoming families with young children at all our services. We are the family of God coming together for transcendent worship, not an audience at a performance, or members of a select club.

- Committing to training ourselves, as individuals and as a community, to evangelization.

- To commit ourselves without exception to generous and sacrificial giving of time, talent and money and avoiding what I might call the “someone else will . . .” syndrome.

- To promote more effectively our excellent programs for children and young people. Train more adults for such formation.

- To develop a core curriculum for the effective formation of adults in say a five-year scheme and transformation ministries

- To offer two tracks for Baptism, Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation: One using the nine month catechumenate model already successfully employed, plus a shorter course for those who cannot or will not make such a large time commitment.

- To continue to develop the effectiveness of our communications within and outside the parish.

- To continue to develop the live audio “podcasting” of our sermons and consider other developments along these lines.

- To partner with the Bishop, the Diocese, other parishes and other resources for church growth.

- To continue to partner with the Diocese to find more effective means for campus ministries.

- To provide regular opportunities for learning and godly conversation about potentially divisive issues, such as the place of ordained women and matters of sexuality, using balanced and independent resources so that we as a parish will be in a healthy place to

make important decisions about such matters upon the eventual retirement of the current Rector. I commit myself to this as part of my goals as I approach my 60s and eventual retirement.

- To develop a Ministries Council to assist and encourage growth in the number and care of our large group of volunteers who are essential to the running of our not inconsiderable ministries and programs and for mutual training and encouragement.

- To support a reinvigorated Commission on Mission in providing opportunities across the board for involvement in current and new ministries of outreach at home and abroad by every individual and family and household offering time and talent to ensure such. Thereby we will live out the commission of each of us not to “hide out” (in the Vicar’s words) but to be “sent out”. Such is one of the authenticating marks of “Christlike living.” Such programs would engage participation at specific and convenient times and places and be about “doing mission, not only supporting it.

- To do a better job of “marketing” the wonderful opportunities we have on offer.

- By the Vestry undertaking to make sure that every parishioner hears from someone in leadership multiple times a year and not just at the time of the stewardship drive! This would be a sign of loving and prayerful support for each other. To do a better job at “cross-fertilization” of programs and ministries.

And what else would you add to this “to do” list?

And each of these ideas must be followed by the task-oriented question, “How?”

And so I hope that my comments here (and they are only mine, all be they “educated guesses” based on work with the vestry and staff and

volunteers) will inspire us to, yes, continue the conversation across the board in formal groups such as the vestry, committees, guilds, councils, commissions and others, but also more informally in other and many settings, as well as in practical workshops – but also to take some action along these lines. I and the lay leadership must and shall commit time and energy to identify, implement and support action items that will address the “how?” and the question above. To that end we shall of course look for wise counsel from those resources available to us from outside the parish – for example in the Diocese of Washington, not only to assist us in identifying what needs to be identified, but also to give us a new and objective perspective as to who we really are, who we are called to become and the challenges, opportunities and aspirations involved. I have already scheduled the new Diocesan Canon for Congregational Vitality, Joey Rick, to lead a workshop for our new vestry and staff and ministry leaders on Saturday, August 25. It is my hope that this will be followed by a similar gathering with our Bishop, who has dedicated herself and her ministry to grow and renew our parishes.

I hope you will receive these comments, then, not as any kind of “gripe” or “grumble” but rather as a clarion call to faithful growth with all the zeal, excitement, joy and abandon that so manifestly characterize our authentic living in the Spirit.

I am grateful to you for the privilege of serving as your Parish Priest and for the joy of together, as enthusiastic (that is “engodded”) and faithful and humble and open as we can be, we may unfold and make incarnate the Divine Vision for this parish church and its future in joy and confidence.



AIDS Quilt with St. Paul’s Panel Displayed at Folklife Festival

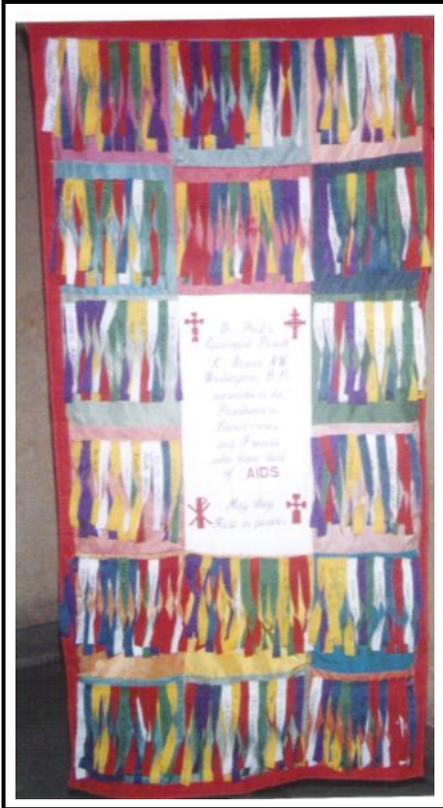
One of the themes of this summer’s Folklife Festival is Creativity and Crisis, centering on the artistic response to the AIDS epidemic in this country. This year marks the 25th anniversary of The AIDS Memorial Quilt and 30 years of life with AIDS. With the introduction of The Quilt in 1987, The NAMES Project Foundation redefined the tradition of quilt making in response to contemporary circumstances.

Through hands-on panel-making activities, individuals and communities come together to remember loved ones, grieve, find support and strength, and engage in dialogues for change. This program features the remarkable artistry, inspiration, and impact of The AIDS Memorial Quilt and provides the public with an unparalleled opportunity to experience this highly charged symbol of the AIDS crisis and the largest community art project in the world.

Today, The Quilt contains nearly 48,000 panels, and it has been viewed by more than 18 million people. It extends for 1.3 million square feet and weighs over 54 tons. It would take 33 days to view the entire Quilt, spending just one minute per panel. More than 91,000 names are incorporated into The Quilt. Quilt panels have been assembled from a variety of materials, both conventional and unconventional. On average, one new panel is added to The Quilt every day of the year.

A portion of the AIDS Quilt is displayed throughout the Festival. A

panel made by St. Paul's Parish is on display June 27-30.



The panel remembers 365 specific names. At a special AIDS Requiem at St. Paul's, people were invited to write the names of loved ones on ribbons. The ribbons were offered and presented at the altar and were then sewn with gold thread onto the St. Paul's panel. In the center of the panel, these words are embroidered:

St. Paul's
Episcopal Parish
K St. NW
Washington, DC
Remembers Its
Parishioners
Loved Ones
And Friends
Who Have Died
Of AIDS
May they
Rest in Peace

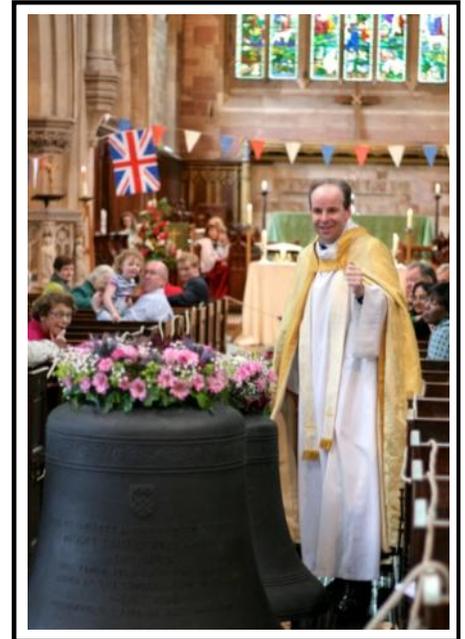


What former Fellow-in-Residence Fr. Jeremy Dussek has been up to

Lighting a Queen
Elizabeth II Jubilee
Beacon in Moseley



Dedicating a new peel
Of 10 Bells for Moseley

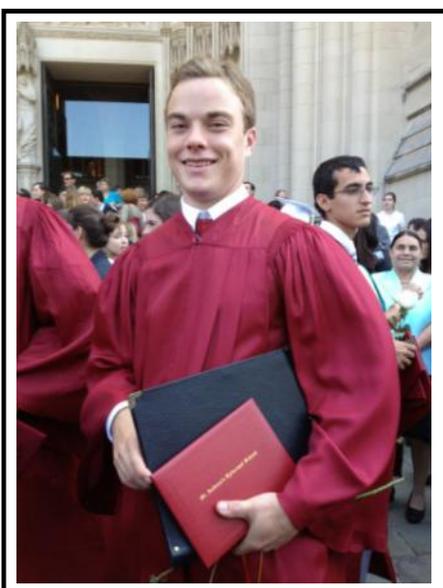


SUNDAY ADDRESS

TRINITY SUNDAY

3 JUNE 2012

**BENJAMIN COLEMAN,
GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL
SENIOR**



I am honored to give the traditional senior address this year, where I have to answer the question what St. Paul's has given me that I will take to college life. For me, this is almost impossible to answer in just five minutes, but I will do my best. The first thing that I have learned from St. Paul's is how to format a sermon: Fr. Andrew has told me many times that the best sermons contain an introduction, which is usually a little story, three major points, and a conclusion, so my address today will follow that. Accordingly, I begin with a story.

In front of everyone, I was banished to the "boring row" – the place where fidgety choirboys were sent during rehearsal by our former music director, the terrifying Dr. Jeffrey Smith. It was just before my eighth birthday and my first service singing in the choir at St. Paul's. I felt a sinking feeling in my stomach and was thoroughly humiliated. Little did I know then that this moment in my life was just the beginning of profound development for me as a person.

To say that I would not be who I am today without the influence of St. Paul's K Street would be an understatement. Over the past decade, St. Paul's has provided me many opportunities to learn and grow. As a result, I have formed several core values that I will take with me when I go to Boston University next fall, in particular, an appreciation of diversity, the desire to lead others toward making a difference, and spirituality that many of my peers will not have.

What makes St. Paul's special to me is its diversity. Members are young, old, black, white, straight, gay, homeless, and wealthy, running the gamut of social, political, and cultural perspectives. Through this community, I now have a real understanding and appreciation of diversity. With all the types of people that come to St.

Paul's, I see our parish as a microcosm of the world around us. However, all of us here today are part of St. Paul's because we are all attracted to its mission, to restore all people to God and to each other through sacramental worship and Christ-like living. Despite the things that would normally divide us, St. Paul's unites all of us in a common purpose of serving God and serving others. This appreciation of diversity will be indispensable in the city of Boston and in Boston University, where I will meet many people who come from different backgrounds but have similar interests, passions, and goals.

Through music at St. Paul's, I learned discipline, responsibility, and leadership, not only in music, but also in all aspects of my life. As years passed, I grew very close to Dr. Smith as I developed my passion for music. Eventually I was appointed the Head Chorister, a recognized leader in a church at the age of eleven, with real responsibility in leading, tutoring, and disciplining younger choristers. Even when my voice broke, St. Paul's gave me the opportunity of leadership and of service in the search committee for a new music director after Mark Dwyer left, where I was the youngest member by far. In addition to giving me a passion for music, the music program at St. Paul's has given me real experience in leadership roles, which will give me an advantage as I start college.

My musical experiences not only taught me leadership, but also the importance of working within a team, with a purpose to serve others through music. As I see it, service is the foundation of St. Paul's because we are deeply committed to our community and the world through service in our daily lives. Role models, like Jeffrey Smith, Robert McCormick, Father Humphrey, and Father Andrew, who live lives of service, have inspired me to pursue a career where I will serve

SERMON RECORDINGS ONLINE

You can listen to this address, as well as sermons preached at St. Paul's, online. Sermon podcasts are also available.

[HTTP://WWW.STPAULS-KST.COM/SERMONS](http://www.stpauls-kst.com/sermons)



society. Although I am still unsure what exactly this career will be, I know that whatever I do will involve service, as St. Paul's has shown me that a life marked by service is one of the most fulfilling and meaningful lives one can choose to live.

Finally, St. Paul's has given me spirituality and faith that many people my age do not have. Before coming to St. Paul's as a member, my family went to another parish, where I reluctantly went to morning services and Sunday school. In addition to having to wake up early on a weekend, I did not feel anything spiritual in these services. For high school, I went to St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac, Maryland. As an Episcopal school, there was a chapel service every Wednesday that everyone needed to attend. If I still went to my former parish or if school chapel were the only Christian service to which I was exposed, frankly, I would not have the spirituality or faith that I have now. Simply, St. Paul's has made me feel the presence of the living God. Now, I truly see why Fr. Andrew told me many years ago that St. Paul's is where we belong. Through its smells, bells, music, people, outstanding preaching, and ministries, my senses were bombarded, enabling me to feel the presence of God in our service to Him and those around us. I will undoubtedly take this faith in God to college.

Another facet of my spiritual journey is my personal struggle with reconciling my faith with science, which

is one of my passions and my planned major. To ignore the contradictions between the Bible and findings in science would be foolish. Through St. Paul's, I have learned to embrace these contradictions, believing in the Big Bang and evolution and believing that God created the heavens and the Earth. After hearing and participating in the music at St. Paul's, I cannot accept that music is simply waves in the air and my reaction to it has to do with psychology. After hearing the bells' ring, listening to the organ's fanfare, and seeing the lights come back on after waiting in the darkness during the Easter Vigil service, I cannot believe that death is eternal nothingness. Through my experiences at St. Paul's, science and religion can coexist in my life.

In his book, *The Prophet*, Kahlil Gibran speaks of parents as, "the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth." St. Paul's is one of the bows that is sending me on a path to college and beyond, where I will embrace diversity, lead others toward making the world a better place, serve humankind through my passions in music and science, and continue my faith in God. The lessons learned at St. Paul's have shaped me to be the person I am, and will propel me toward the person I will become. For this, I am eternally grateful to God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, on this Trinity Sunday.



Farewell from Gerry Senechal

Gerry Senechal, Music Fellow-in-Residence

I wish to extend my deepest thanks the staff and congregation of St. Paul's for welcoming me into your parish life for a portion of my sabbatical from St. George's, Nashville. My time at St. Paul's was truly a mountaintop experience; participating in and observing preparation for your rich worship life was incredibly beneficial to me. Thanks to the encouragement and invigoration of seeing the Cathedral tradition so vibrant and fruitful at St. Paul's, I have returned to Nashville convinced that now is the time for our chorister program to blossom, and this Fall I hope to lead our choristers in a program structured after your fine model. I have never been so excited about the direction and potential of our music ministry at St. George's.

I wish to especially thank Robert, John, and Christopher not only for their fantastic musicianship but for allowing me to be in their way for two weeks; truly, you all are blessed with some of the finest musicians in the nation who also happen to be first-rate gentlemen whom it was a pleasure to come to know. Also, Bob and Sara Lee Menzer were incredibly generous to allow me to stay in their condo just across the street from St. Paul's; their kindness is overwhelming. I cannot speak highly enough of my experience with you; thank you for opening your parish to others like me. By doing so, you are sharing your incredible gifts with many other parishes. I will remember my time at St. Paul's for the rest of my life; may God bless you all in your continued life and work.



Recent Pilgrims Tell the Story of their Journey

Amy Roden and Scott Ganz



Amy and Scott as part of the 2012 Pilgrims Class, with thanks to Janet Wamsley Photographer

Q How long have you attended St. Paul's? How do you find the parish? What parish and tradition did you transfer from?

We began attending St. Paul's in the spring of 2010. A coworker of ours mentioned that he had been attending St. Paul's with his girlfriend and encouraged us to check it out. At that time, we hadn't found a church home—and were trying to find a place where we both felt comfortable, given our different faith backgrounds.

Amy's story: I grew up in a conservative evangelical family in rural Arizona and was baptized in a Baptist church. I attended Wheaton College in Illinois and came to DC after graduating to work at a think tank. Throughout college, I became increasingly uncomfortable with the fundamentalist/evangelical tradition but I also felt my faith life was an incredibly important part of me. Although I felt judged and confined by a faith community that was very black and white, I feared that a more "liberal" tradition would not feel authentic to me.

Then along came Scott. We started dating at the time when I felt compelled to Christianity but lost within it. As he explored his faith, it challenged me to question many assumptions I held about different traditions and points of view. It was a very healthy and liberating process to question these assumptions, but it was also a little scary at the time.

When we came to Saint Paul's, it was the first place where I felt there wasn't a strong pull toward liberal or conservative. There seemed a healthy balance between theological groundedness and an acknowledgement that there are many shades of grey when it comes to faith life. I remember a homily that Fr. Andrew gave where he talked about "big tent theology" and how everyone is welcome at St. Paul's, no matter where you come from or what you believe. I remember we walked out and said to each other, "I like big-tent theology," and I think that's when we decided St. Paul's was the right place for us.

Scott's story: I was raised in a secular Jewish family in New York City. I had always assumed that one

day I would develop my spirituality more seriously, although I expected in a Jewish spiritual tradition. When I met Amy, my plans changed, and my spiritual journey began in earnest. As we started attending different churches, I became increasingly confident that Christianity would provide me with a fulfilling spiritual home once we found the right place for both of our faiths to flourish.

And then we came to St. Paul's. What immediately attracted me to St. Paul's was how the worship appealed to all of the senses: light, incense and, of course, beautiful music. From the first week, it was clear that St. Paul's was a place for inquirers, searchers, and even doubters. Then, a week later, the townhome at 10 Snows Court was put up for rent, and I became a neighbor. For the next year and a half, I attended St. Paul's on Sundays with Amy, feeling increasingly like we had found a spiritual home with each passing week.

Q What keeps you coming back to St. Paul's?

Amy: St. Paul's is a place where I feel safe and not judged. I feel it's a warm and welcoming community that has enabled me to explore and deepen my faith, without making me feel like I have to have the "right" answers.

Scott: Since moving to California, I wish that I could keep coming back more! I think what keeps me coming back are the small surprises—a new way to think about an old parable from a sermon, a particularly moving piece of liturgy, or even just a twinkling in an organ interlude. These are the little nuggets that reinvigorate my faith and re-center my mind.

Q What Sunday Mass do you usually attend?

11:15.

Q How did you decide to embark on the Pilgrims' journey and how did you find the experience?

Amy: I was actually quite nervous about making the commitment to do Pilgrims, but I'm very glad that I did. It has provided me a safe community to ask questions and explore, and it has given me the opportunity to meet a lot of people in the Parish that I wouldn't have met otherwise!

Scott: I had my own special Pilgrims journey, thanks to Deacon Eric, Edie Davis and John Orens. I was leaving for graduate school at the end of the summer of 2011 and had decided that I wanted to be baptized at St. Paul's. Eric, Edie and John held a standing weekly discernment meeting which lasted the length of the summer—a not-so-crash course on Christian theology and the history of Anglo-Catholicism with lots of time to ponder nagging questions, express our most deeply-held beliefs, and prepare for my baptism.

Q Did the Pilgrims' journey lead you to a specific ministry in the parish? If so, can you tell us a little about the ministry or ministries?

Amy: Unfortunately, I'm moving to California in July so I won't be able to invest in a specific ministry at this time. I did have the opportunity to do grate patrol through Pilgrims and it was an amazing experience.

Q What is your job outside of St. Paul's?

Amy: I currently work for Special Olympics International, which is headquartered here in DC. But I am job hunting in Northern California!

Scott: I'm a PhD student at the Stanford Graduate School of Business studying Organizational Behavior.

Q Where do you live?

For the past year, Scott has been in a PhD program at Stanford. Amy lives right behind the church in Snows Court, but will be joining Scott in

Northern California in early July.

Q What are your interests or hobbies outside of St. Paul?

Scott: Baseball (coaching, playing and watching), reading novels, beer.

Amy: Long-distance running, yoga, swimming, hiking, wine.

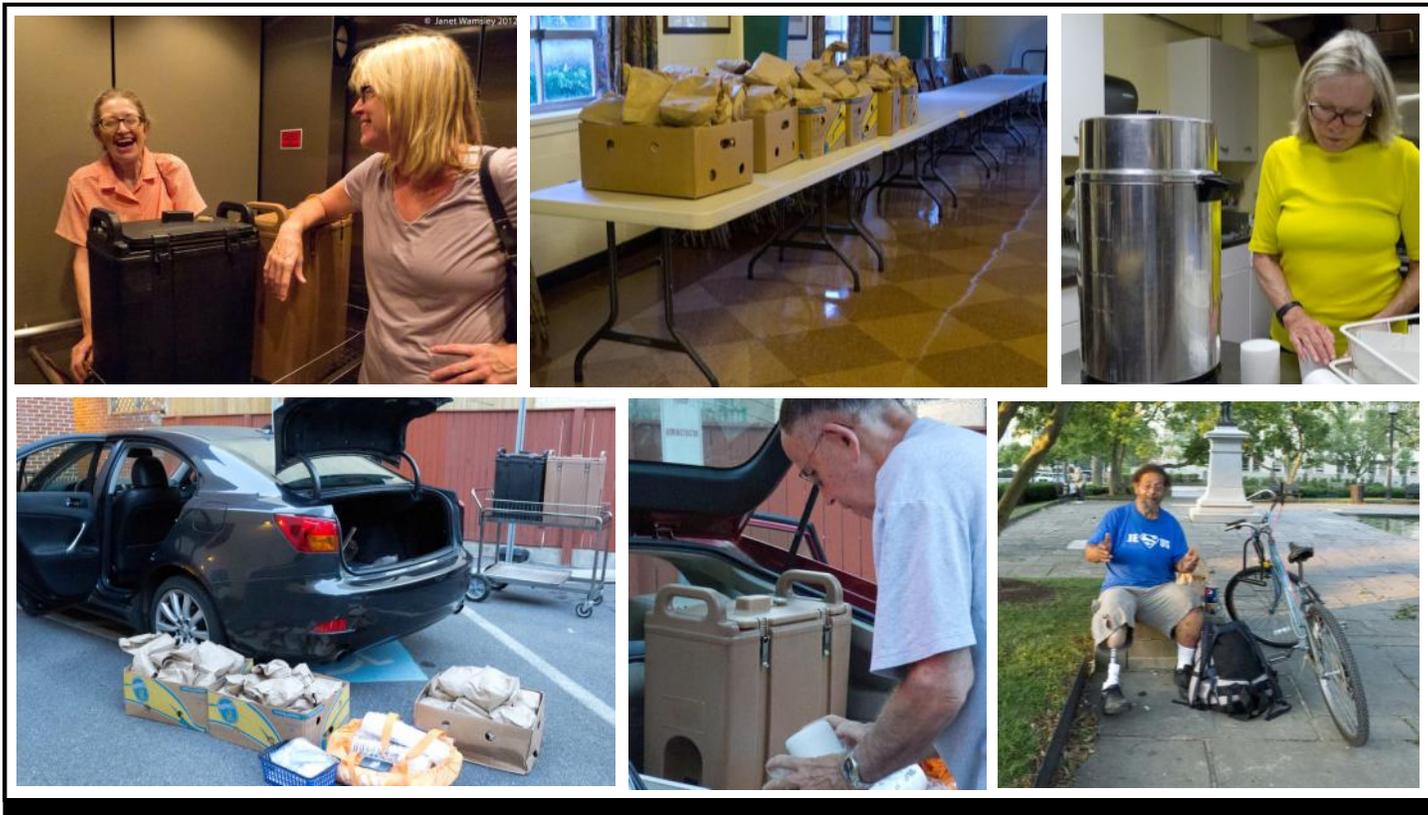
Q Where did you grow up? Tell us about how you ended up in the D.C. area.

Amy: I grew up in Prescott, Arizona, and went to Wheaton College in Illinois. I moved to DC after graduation for work and have now been here for four years.

Scott: I grew up in New York City, and went to Amherst College in Massachusetts. After college, I came to DC to study tax policy at a think tank (which is where I met Amy). All told, I spent four years in DC, and I wish I could have stayed longer.



Janet Wamsley Grate Patrol Photo Micro-Essay



Vestry Report: Energy Efficiency, Parish Growth Top

Robert Eikel, Vestry Secretary

At its April and May meetings, the Vestry discussed a small but persistent budget deficit, energy efficiency, and parish growth.

Parish income is lower than budgeted for this point in the year, both because the parish has received approximately \$17,000 less in pledges than budgeted, and because payments of those pledges are running behind. This has been partially offset by lower-than-expected utility bills, but the parish still is running an operating deficit of just under \$12,000 as of the end of April. Despite the deficit, generous designated giving by several parishioners will now enable the parish to maintain the Assistant Music Director position through the

end of 2012.

The parish continues to pursue greater energy efficiency to cut its utility bills, which are among the highest per square foot of physical plant among churches nationwide. The parish is working with its heating and cooling contractor to measure the energy consumption of the climate control system and adjust the system accordingly.

The Vestry also endorsed Kyle Oliver as the new part-time Assistant for Pastoral Care. Kyle, who was a seminarian at St. Paul's for the past year and now is employed as a Digital Missioner by Virginia Theological Seminary, will work at St. Paul's for eight hours per week, at no cost to the parish.

Finally, the Vestry decided to

pursue three pilot projects to spark parish growth: neighborhood social events, a parish picnic, and improved parking solutions.

The Vestry continues to focus on parish growth, which is the key to sustaining the worship, music, mission, and ministry that make St. Paul's so special. Please share your thoughts and concerns about parish growth, or any other parish matters, with one or more Vestry members, whose names and email addresses can be found on the parish website at <http://stpauls-kst.com/vestry> or on the Vestry bulletin board in the hallway in Pillsbury House.



YOU ARE NEEDED! - CAN YOU HELP

St. Paul's strives to apply our talent, time, and treasure to reach out and uplift those in need both in our neighborhood and across the world. We welcome your involvement in:

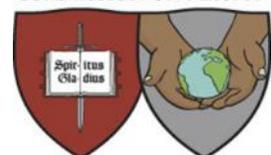
Grate Patrol – Delivery of Breakfast to Washington's homeless population

- Food Preparation: 2.30-4.30pm every Friday; Contact Lucky Ajueyitsi: akpoyoma@hotmail.com
- Food Delivery: 5:30am each Saturday & Sunday, Contact Glenn Marsh: Marsh_Glenn@emc.com
- Bag Set-up: Anytime before 3pm Friday; Contact Tina Mallett (202-965-9324 or tmallett@si.edu).

First Fridays – On the first Friday of each month, St. Paul's provides an evening meal for 100 homeless persons to be delivered from a special Salvation Army vehicle. Preparation help is needed (5:30 - 7:00 pm in the church kitchen). Contact Nancie Majkowski at (nmajkows@ngs.org, 202-857-7115 or 301-513-9563).

Washington Interfaith Network (WIN) is committed to training and developing neighborhood leaders, to addressing community issues such as homelessness, poverty, and injustice, and to holding elected and corporate officials accountable in Washington. Volunteers are desired to join in advocacy efforts and represent St. Paul's at meetings. Contact Deacon Eric Lobsinger: elobsinger@stpauls-kst.com

SAINT PAUL'S PARISH
COMMISSION ON MISSION



Deaths:

Joseph Gordon Vaeth died March 11, 2012
Margaret Louise Caldwell Haynes died April 27, 2012
Dexter Adams died April 18, 2012
Sally Hardy died June 3, 2012

Transfer Out:

Philip and Gay Merrill to St. Peter's in Arlington, VA
Joseph Rawson and Thomas Turner to All Souls in Washington, DC
Bruce F. Lowery to All Souls in Washington, DC

JULY/AUGUST ON K STREET

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS AT ST. PAUL'S PARISH

JULY	
1 Susan Moore	3 Hilary Malson
1 Robert Slough	4 Kendall Simmons
3 Joseph Hobson	5 Mary Beth Bakke
4 Sharon Boyd	5 Richard Giarusso
4 Christopher Ring	5 Alice Tilson
5 Thomas Leggett	7 Michael Barrientos
6 W. Page Dame	7 Michael Davis
6 William Hall	7 John O'Dowd
8 Paul Onstad	8 Marjorie Tweed
9 Sara Mixter	9 Roy Byrd
10 Laura Schnorrenberg	10 Oghenekevwe Ajueyitsi
11 Ann Hyde	10 Marcia Stanford
11 Kathryn Killeen	11 Ernst Latham
13 Gillian Britton	13 Bernhard Anderson
15 Andrew Humphrey	13 John Evans
15 Anne Windle	14 Clay O'Dell
17 Morgan Sammons	15 Alice Hord
18 John Gettys	16 Allison Mondel
19 William Cox	16 Dennis Hensley
19 Michael Vreeland	18 Rugel Chiriboga
20 Nathan Humphrey	18 Anna Margaret Hanson
21 Hannah Leggett	18 Caitlin Breen
21 Elizabeth Nevius	18 Louise Oliver
21 Gary Newsome	19 William de Michaelis
22 David Boulet	19 Emily Nobile
22 Hugh Gouldman	20 R. Brian Siebeking
22 Matthew Welch	20 Marilynn Wilson
23 Trevor Fortenberry	21 Peggy Battle
24 Robin Meigel	21 Mary McAllister
26 Kyle Babin	22 Virginia Northen-Cole
26 George Eatman	22 Antoinette MacAlulay
26 Carey Lafferty	23 Eileen Johnson
28 Barbara Williams	24 Percival Quintyne
29 Phillip Landis	25 Edith Davis
29 Amy Roden	25 Beverly Guishard-Jackson
31 Andrew Zelno	26 Charles Fleming
	26 Michael Houdek
	27 Lindsay Robinson
	29 Terrence Guishard
	29 Brian Nahodil
	30 Frances Eikel
	30 Eric Lobsinger
	31 Kelly Blank
	31 Catherine Braun
	31 Grant Hildebrand

AUGUST

1 Matthew Britton
2 Marlon Guishard
2 George Keeler
2 Daniela Braw-Smith
2 Noah Wallner
2 Jillian Wallner
2 Katie Wallner



MAJOR FEASTS

Sunday, July 1, 2012: The Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles (secondary Patronal Feast)

7:30 a.m.: Morning Prayer

7:45 a.m.: Low Mass

9:00 a.m.: Procession and Sung Mass

11:15 a.m.: Procession and Solemn Mass

6:00 pm: Solemn Evensong and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, July 25, 2012: The Feast of St. James the Apostle

Low Masses at 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Monday, August 6, 2012: The Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord

Low Masses at 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Sunday, August 5, 2012: The Feast of the Transfiguration

7:30 a.m.: Morning Prayer

7:45 a.m.: Low Mass

9:00 a.m.: Sung Mass

11:15 a.m.: Solemn Mass

6:00 p.m.: Solemn Evensong and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, August 15, 2012: The Feast of St. Mary the Virgin

6:45 a.m.: Morning Prayer

7:00 a.m.: Low Mass

5:30 p.m.: Prayers at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

5:45 p.m.: Evening Prayer

6:00 p.m.: Low Mass with Hymns

Friday, August 24, 2012: The Feast of St. Bartholomew the Apostle

Low Masses at 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.





SAINT PAUL'S PARISH

K STREET — WASHINGTON

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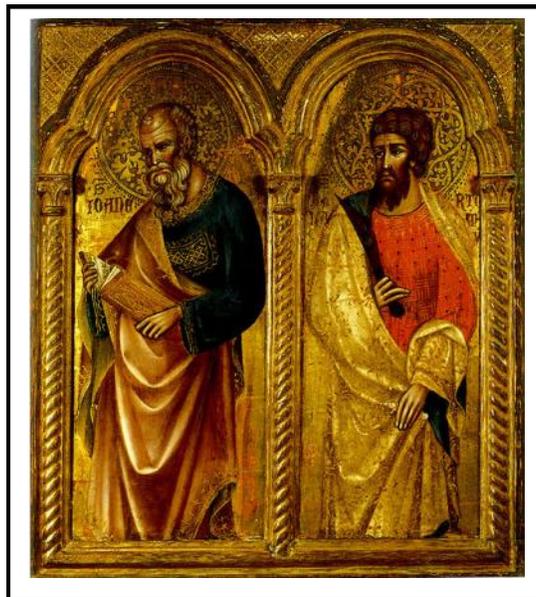
PAID

Washington, DC

Permit No. 9962

Remember to Mark your Calendars!

Sunday, July 1, 2012: The Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles



Paolo Veneziano, Apostles St. James and St. Bartholomew 1345