



Presentation of Christ
Melchior Broederlam, 1393-1399

THE EPISTLE

OF SAINT PAUL'S PARISH—K STREET

AN EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

FEBRUARY 2013—XXVI NUMBER 2

From the Priest-in-Charge

Familiar Faces, New Roles...and a Preview of Things to Come!

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Paul's,

With the departure of Fr. Sloane, we are entering a new chapter in our common life. The transition to a new rector will entail several phases. The first is the period between now and the arrival of the yet-to-be selected interim rector, when I will be serving as your priest-in-charge (a.k.a. "PIC"). You are more or less familiar with what that looks and feels like, as I filled this role for six months when the rector was on sabbatical in 2011. The difference, of course, was that then, we all knew he would be coming back. Now we all know that he won't be!

For now, in addition to me, all of the faces of the leadership are familiar ones: the senior warden and junior warden, the vestry, and our honorary assistant clergy. The only change in our cast members is the vacancy in the office of rector. Our remaining cast will now in some instances be playing new roles, or their roles will take on additional responsibilities and dimensions.

Take the senior warden, for instance. Some of the administrative (but none of the spiritual or liturgical) authority that belongs by canon law to the rector is transferred to him during a vacancy. (The spiritual and liturgical authority reverts to the bishop, who through mutual negotiation with the



THE REV'D NATHAN HUMPHREY

vestry has delegated it back to me as PIC.) The senior warden will maintain this authority under an interim rector, who does not have the canonical authority of a rector. Until the vestry elects a new rector, the senior warden will serve as chair of the vestry. This leaves me free to focus on the priestly and pastoral dimensions of St. Paul's, while being engaged as appropriate in the administrative side of things through my continuing membership on the Executive Committee, which has oversight of day-to-day operations within limits set by the vestry between its regular meetings.

Much of that is more or less "back stage." The more visible changes will be in the roles that our clergy leadership will be fulfilling. I am happy to

IN THIS ISSUE

MINISTRY RESIDENT PROGRAM—HOW TO THRIVE: SURVIVAL AND THE FIRST MENTOR

Part IV of Fr. Alvin Johnson's introduction to the Ministry Resident Program—page 4

FRIDAYS IN LENT SERIES FOR FAMILIES

Fr. Humphrey restarts the Fridays in Lent Series with "The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe"—page 5

LENT MADNESS

Jeanne Smith shares the Press Release for an online devotional practice for Lent and invites us to participate—page 6

FR. LEWIS RETIRES

VTS Dean Markham pays tribute to Fr. Lewis—page 7

SERMON SERIES

Matthew Welch, postulant from St. Paul's, gives an address at General Theological Seminary on "Christmas in the context of tragedy"—page 8-9

VESTRY REPORT

Steven Chlapecka reports on December Vestry meeting and transition process—page 10

THE EPISTLE

Priest-in-Charge
Co-Editors
Parish Administrator

The Rev'd Nathan J.A. Humphrey
Katherine Britton, Cathy Downes
Melva Willis

THE PARISH

Priest-in-Charge
Assistant for Pastoral Care
Assistant for Christian Formation
Deacon
Director of Music
Parish Administrator
Maintenance Manager
Address

Phone
Fax
Email

The Rev'd Nathan J.A. Humphrey
The Rev'd Kyle Oliver
The Rev'd Tony Lewis
The Rev'd Eric J. Lobsinger
Robert McCormick
Melva Willis
Frederick Murdock, III
2430 K Street Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20037-1797
202.337.2020
202.337.7418
info@stpauls-kst.com

THE VESTRY

Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Secretary
Treasurer
Members

David Schnorrenberg (2013)
Matthew Leddicote (2015)
Steven Chlapecka
Ann Schnorrenberg
Pattie Kindsvater (2013)
Scott Spaulding (2013)
Michael Welch (2013)
Patricia Byrd (2014)
Kris Brown Coleman (2014)
Rhoda Geasland (2014)
Geoff Suiter (2014)
Edith Coakley Stowe (2015)
Richard Best (2015)
Sarah Stoycos (2015)

EPISTLEEDITOR@GMAIL.COM
HTTP://WWW.STPAULS-KST.COM/EPISTLE

The Epistle is a monthly publication of St. Paul's Parish. We invite you to submit your articles, photos, and suggestions. Email us at epistleeditor@gmail.com. **Our deadline is the first of each month** (for the next month's issue) and articles accepted for the Epistle are subject to editorial revision. Please submit your content in Microsoft Word format. © 2013 St. Paul's Parish, K Street, Washington.

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT [HTTP://WWW.STPAULS-KST.COM](http://www.stpauls-kst.com)

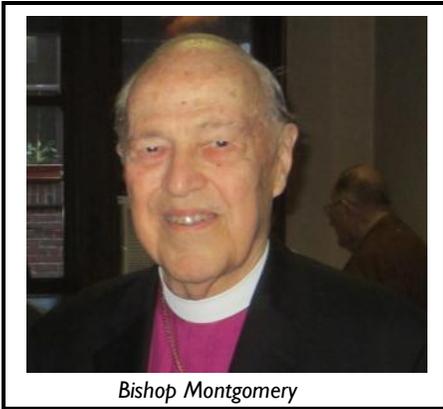
announce that Fr. Tony Lewis has agreed to take up the mantle of being the priestly presence on the teaching team of Pilgrims in Christ. He will also celebrate more Masses during the week and be seen more frequently on Sundays. Pilgrims is extremely blessed to have such a distinguished New Testament scholar and sensitive pastor as their guide, one who already knows and loves St. Paul's and has had a relationship with this parish since he was our seminarian.

Another priest who has known us since he served as our seminarian, but of much more recent vintage, is Fr. Kyle Oliver. I am happy to announce that Fr. Oliver has agreed to take up the mantle of being the priestly presence for both the Commission on Evangelization and the *ad hoc* Task Force on Children's Christian Formation. His position with the Center for the Ministry of Teaching at Virginia Theological Seminary, as well as his particular gifts and skills, will make him a valuable and effective asset to the parish as we move forward in these two key areas. Fr. Oliver will also be taking on more liturgical duties during the week, in addition to his work as Associate for Pastoral Care.

I am enormously grateful to Fr. Lewis and Fr. Oliver for being willing to take on these added roles and responsibilities, as well as to our other honorary assistant clergy, who give so generously of their time and talents to this parish. We will have more familiar faces visiting us in Holy Week and Eastertide, but before I get into that, I want to look ahead from where we are at the beginning of February:

Diocesan Convention falls on Candlemas this year, so we will be observing the feast in the evening on Sunday, February 3. That evening, our dear friend the Right Reverend James Winchester Montgomery, retired bishop of Chicago, will be with us to bless the candles before Evensong & Benediction. I will be the officiant at Even-

song, and Bp. Montgomery will offer Pontifical Benediction.



Bishop Montgomery

Since February 3 is also the feast of St. Blaise, in the morning we will observe the venerable tradition of blessing throats with crossed candles following the 11:15 a.m. Solemn Mass. I have been known to lose my voice in Lent, so I thought it might be a good precaution to observe this custom in our parish. This past year, I managed to get through Advent and Christmas without losing my voice, and intend to maintain this streak of good health at least through Pentecost, so I can use all the saintly help I can get! I am sure there are others who would appreciate their blessings, as well, as we approach an early Lent.

It's hard to believe there are only *nine* days between my first Sunday as PIC on February 3 and Ash Wednesday on February 13! I have decided it would be wise to take some time away while I still can, and so will be out of town the weekend of February 9 and 10, refreshed and ready, I hope, upon my return to the office on February 12.

Ash Wednesday is one of only two days in the liturgical year on which we hold a Noonday service (the other being Stations of the Cross on Good Friday). In addition to the service at 12:00 p.m., on February 13 we will have our usual morning Mass at 7:00 a.m. and the Solemn Liturgy of the Day at 6:45 p.m. All will feature imposition of ashes, and clergy will be available to hear confessions following the

noon Mass and prior to the evening Mass. In addition to these liturgies in the Church, Fr. Oliver and I will be available at the Foggy Bottom Metro Station offering imposition of ashes and literature inviting people to the observance of a holy Lent at St. Paul's and in their home and work lives.

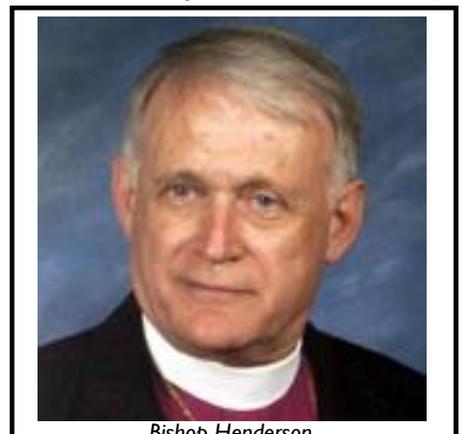
Elsewhere in this issue you will read of my Fridays in Lent program. Plans are still afoot for what had been called the Rector's Forum, but which will now be known as the "Parish Forum" between the services. I hope that the lay and ordained leaders of this parish will use this time in various ways as we prepare both for a joyful Eastertide and look over the long term toward our future.

Wednesdays in Lent will continue this year in its usual format of Evening Prayer, Low Mass, a meatless potluck in the Dining Hall, followed by an edifying presentation. This year, we will be focusing on the various ways we are called as a community and as individuals to share our faith in word and deed with others, and how we might best invite people into relationship with Christ through this parish community. To say that this will be a series on "Evangelism for Anglo-catholics" might be equivalent to some people to saying that it is a series on "Extroversion for Introverts," but this would be to play into stereotypes both about the nature and modes of "evangelism" and the cultural traits often associated with the catholic tradition in Anglicanism. I believe, however, that at its best, St. Paul's represents a vital and welcoming form of Anglo-catholicism. For my own part, I was raised in an evangelical church and pressured constantly to invite people to my church, but only after I became an Episcopalian did I actually find it natural and joyful to do so. Those who love something naturally want to share it with others; and this series will explore how Anglo-catholics have done so in the past, as well as

how we might do so in the present and in the future.

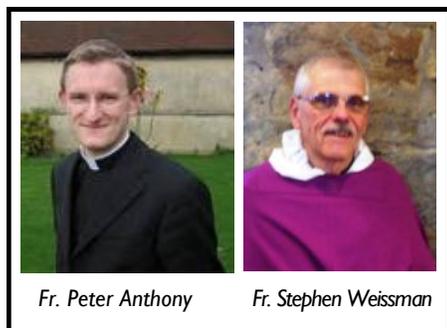
To this end, I have lined up the following speakers: On February 20, parishioner Prof. John Orens will present on the history of Anglo-catholic evangelism. On February 27, Jason Evans, the diocesan missionary for young adults, will be focusing on how we might best reach out to the George Washington University, as well as strengthen our appeal to the many young adults who might choose to make their pilgrimage of faith with us. On March 6, Fr. Kyle Oliver will present on evangelism and storytelling, and on March 13, Canon Joey Rick will talk about evangelism and congregational vitality. Finally, the series will close on March 20 with David Gortner, Professor of Evangelism and Congregational Leadership at Virginia Theological Seminary, in exploring with us what have we learned and where we feel called as individuals and as a community to go from here. Whether or not "evangelism" is "your thing," I encourage you to attend these sessions and to experience the perspectives of this talented group of people. As a Lenten discipline, I can promise that this series will be individually and corporately transformative, if approached with an open heart and listening ears. "Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches" (Revelation 2:7).

In Holy Week, we will again welcome the Right Reverend Dorsey



Bishop Henderson

Henderson, retired bishop of the diocese of Upper South Carolina, who will be with us from Palm Sunday through Easter Day. This is the third year in a row that Bp. Henderson will be with us, and he will be doing all of the same things he did the past two years. In addition, past Fellow-in-Residence Fr. Peter Anthony will be back with us that week, pitching in as needed and otherwise available for pastoral care and spiritual direction. Upon their departure, we will see former Fellow-in-Residence Fr. Stephen Weissman take up residence in the Rectory, for the sole purpose of lending a liturgical hand through Ascension Day.



Fr. Peter Anthony

Fr. Stephen Weissman

So there is plenty to look forward to, as usual, in Lent. I look forward to serving you in my newest capacity, and hope that you will feel free to be in touch with me for any reason as we “Keep Calm and Carry On” in this new chapter of our common life.

Yours in Christ’s Service,

N.J.A. Humphrey+
Priest-in-Charge



Ministry Resident Program—How to Thrive: Survival and the First Mentor

The Rev. Dr. Alvin Johnson, Director



Sometimes needs are so strong that we are driven first to our knees, then to God, then to reach out in ways we might never had anticipated. That was true for me. Bishop Montgomery invited me to start a new church in Bloomingdale, Illinois, and so I set about that task not knowing one thing about what to do. Intuition and instinct helped as did a group of supporters from two neighboring Episcopal churches, but after that I was on my own. It didn’t take long for me to learn that intuition and smarts were good, but experience and guidance were even better and I had little to none of that...neither did any one else in our diocese. After a pretty good start on Palm Sunday in 1982, we were soon beset with organizational challenges and needs. I attended a new church development conference for mainline denominations and there met Arlin Rothauge of the Episcopal Church. He became my first mentor.

The Episcopal Church was about to offer a similar workshop for clergy who were starting churches, and I petitioned him to join the team. He challenged me to articulate my gifts, and I did. He responded with an invitation to participate which became an opportunity to learn, to grow and to collaborate. His presence, friendship and mentoring renewed my faith in leadership, in the church and in my-

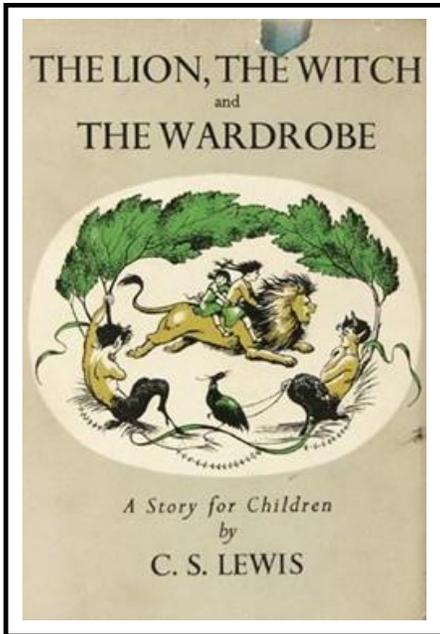
self. New churches in 1981 were cutting edge in the Episcopal Church. The Lutherans and Evangelicals were doing well, but we could not figure this vision in such a way as to make the vision work. And what happened at the first New Church Development Conference is that bishops sent clergy who were in stuck situations believing that new church work could save declining, existing congregations. Didn’t happen! Won’t happen! But being there gave me a chance to form a relationship with Arlin that became the source of guidance through the next seven years of growing a new church...and for many years after. The mentoring relationship was a combination of learning, colleague discussion, and measured growth. Accountability for work was key, but also accountability to someone for actions and results proved to be an extremely helpful motivator.

The value of these first two weeks, however, is that the relationship with a visionary bishop who understood the abilities of one of his clergy and an effective mentor in the field were able to help a struggling, young priest to find his way in a complex and challenging profession.

The goal of MRP is to bring forth similar results. However, there are three critical ingredients that will help integrate vocations, residents and congregations into a sure fire opportunity to impact the church, enliven the local church and challenge individual clergy to grow as persons, priests and leaders. Next month we explore ingredient one: the power, influence and authority of a teaching congregation.

You are always welcome to write me at: ajohnson@ministryresidentprogram.org or call at 847-651-1323.

Fridays in Lent Series for Families Begins Again with C.S. Lewis' *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*



Original Cover Design

For the past seven years, Fr. Humphrey has taken us on journeys into Narnia during Lent, through the Wardrobe and aboard the Dawn Treader, on quests in *The Silver Chair*, *Prince Caspian*, and *The Horse and His Boy*, through *The Magician's Nephew*, which tells the story of Narnia's creation and fall, and finally through the apocalyptic vision of *The Last Battle*. This year, Fr. Humphrey will begin again with the book that

started it all: *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. If you already experienced that book seven years ago, come and see what a difference returning to the same book makes. You are older (presumably wiser), and the presentations themselves will have some fresh content and a new look. If you haven't experienced a journey through C.S. Lewis' classic tale, this is the perfect opportunity to step through the Wardrobe into a new world that has bearing on how we live in this world.

Beginning on the *second* Friday in Lent, February 23, Fr. Humphrey will again lead this family-oriented program over five Friday nights from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. It will follow Mass and Stations of the Cross in the church, beginning in the Dining Hall with a potluck supper and continuing with an hour of multimedia presentation and intergenerational activities, including drama, discussion, crafts, and small group interaction.

As in years past, Fr. Humphrey will select readings and gear activities to all developmental levels, keeping younger children particularly in mind. At the same time, even though the program is oriented toward fami-

lies with children, knowing that past programs have attracted a wide spectrum of participants, Fr. Humphrey will again be designing this year's program so as to have the broadest possible appeal.

Though not strictly necessary in order to enjoy the program, Fr. Humphrey recommends individuals and families read the first four chapters in advance of the first session. Please bring your book with you to the program.

Fr. Humphrey is grateful for the able assistance for the sixth year in a row of Kristin Davidson, as well as the creative vision and talent of other parishioners, who will be transforming the Dining Hall into Narnia! To volunteer to help with any aspect of the series (food, decorations, or technical assistance), please contact Fr. Humphrey.



The perfect opportunity to step through the Wardrobe into a new world that has bearing on how we live in this world.

Lent Madness — Serious Fun

Jeanne Smith invites us to participate in Lent Madness. She says, “I voted all during Lent last year, and it was fascinating, inspirational, and lots of fun. I heartily recommend it.”



Information released by Forward
Movement

Contacts: The Rev. Scott Gunn and the
Rev. Tim Schenck

Lent Madness 2013

The Sainly Smack Down

What do you get when you combine a love of sports with holy saints? Lent Madness, of course. Based loosely on the wildly popular NCAA basketball tournament, Lent Madness pits 32 saints against one another in a single-elimination bracket as they compete for the coveted Golden Halo. But it is more than that: Lent Madness is really an online devotional tool designed to help people learn about saints.

Lent Madness began in 2010 as the brainchild of the Rev. Tim Schenck, an Episcopal priest and rector of St. John's Church in Hingham, Massachusetts. In seeking a fun, en-

gaging way for people to learn about the men and women comprising the church's calendar of saints, Schenck came up with this unique Lenten devotion. Combining his love of sports with his passion for the lives of the saints, Lent Madness was born on his blog "Clergy Family Confidential."

Schenck, says "Lent Madness is about getting people to connect with and be inspired by some amazing people who have come before us in the faith. Some are already household names and others are virtually unknown, but we can all learn something from the unique ways they followed God. Plus, there's no rule that says Lenten disciplines have to be dreary."

Starting last year, Schenck partnered with the Rev. Scott Gunn, Executive Director of Forward Movement (the same folks that publish *Forward Day by Day*), and Lent Madness went viral, reaching over 50,000 people and getting mentioned in everything from the *Washington Post* to *Sports Illustrated* (seriously). Gunn says, "Here is a chance to show that being a Christian, even during Lent, does not require us to give up our sense of humor....we hope to spread reckless joy and contagious discipleship with even more people this Lent."

Here's how it works: on the weekdays of Lent information is posted about two different saints on www.lentmadness.org, and then participants vote to determine who goes on to the next round. Each pairing remains open for a set period of time – usually 24 hours – and people vote for their favorite saint. 16 saints make it to the Round of the Sainly Sixteen; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship;

and the winner is awarded the Golden Halo. The first round consists of basic biographical information about each of the 32 saints. Things get a bit more interesting in the subsequent rounds as we offer quotes and quirks, explore legends, and even move into the area of saintly kitsch. It's fun, it's informative, it's the saintly smack down!

To win in 2013 will take grit, determination, holiness, and perhaps some good old-fashioned luck. This year Lent Madness features a slate of saints ancient and modern, Biblical and ecclesiastical including John the Baptist, Martin Luther King, Hilda of Whitby, Luke, Dorothy Day, Benedict of Nursia, Martin Luther, and Harriet Tubman as they vie to fill the shoes of 2012 winner Mary Magdalene.

This all kicks off on "Ash Thursday," February 14, and will continue throughout the 40-day season of Lent. To participate, log onto www.lentmadness.org, where you can also print out a bracket and fill it out to see how you fare or "compete" against friends and family members. Like that other March tournament, there will be drama and intrigue, upsets and thrashings, last-minute victories and Cinderellas.

If you're looking for a Lenten discipline that is fun, educational, occasionally goofy, and always joyful, join the Lent Madness journey. Lent needn't be all doom and gloom. After all, what could be more joyful than a season specifically set aside to grow closer to God?



Tribute to Fr. Lewis on his Retirement from VTS

Dean's Commentary, December 14, 2012
Reprinted by Permission of VTS

Tonight we will honor a distinguished scholar, teacher, and faculty member. The Rev. Dr. Lloyd Lewis (otherwise affectionately known as Tony Lewis) was a student here (1969-1972), a faculty member (twice), and a dedicated advocate for the Seminary. He was the first African American student at St. Stephen's School; he was one of the initial African American students at the Seminary; and he was one of the first African American faculty. His journey has reflected the journey of the United States and the journey of the Episcopal Church.

Tony is first and foremost a priest. This is his primary identity. He has faithfully served the people

of God through Word and Sacrament; he loves to bring to the people of God the gift of the Good News of Jesus Christ; and he loves serving at the altar. Over the last eighteen months, he has been a Faculty chaplain, making himself available to students as problems arise. He embodies gentle compassion.

Tony has given his life to this Seminary. With his enormous gifts, he could have so easily had other opportunities within the Church. But his passion for the Seminary became his priority. He wanted to ensure that the Seminary would flourish.

Perhaps among his many legacies is the passion that he transmitted for the learning of languages. Tony wanted students to learn the original language of the New Testament - to read

beyond the English translation and understand just a little better the mindset of the author. Tonight there will be an Evensong in his honor. Tonight we will unveil the portrait which will hang in the refectory depicting Tony in his Yale academic regalia standing next to the baptismal font at St. Paul's K Street. He is holding "Lift Every Voice and Sing." The great themes of Tony's life are captured in the handsome portrait. Tonight is an opportunity for the Seminary to honor greatness. Tony Lewis has been remarkable; tonight we will celebrate his many achievements.

The Very Rev Ian Markham
Dean and President



Do you recognize the Baptismal Font in the portrait below? You should!



Photo by Susan Schillinglaw

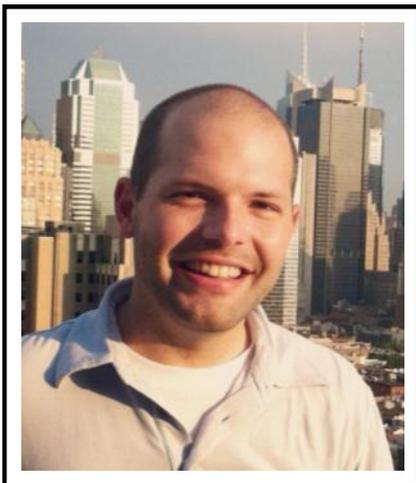
Fr. Lewis with his mother, Alice Holland, and the artist, Richard Fennell

CHRISTMAS IN THE CONTEXT OF TRAGEDY

SERMON SERIES

31 DECEMBER 2012,
GENERAL THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY, NEW YORK

Matthew Welch,
Postulant from St. Paul's



Matthew Welch

Like many of you, I have shared in the national grieving following the senseless shooting in Sandy Hook, Connecticut. As we celebrate the arrival of the Christ Child this year, 28 families will bury their own sons and daughters. And they are not alone: 321 people have died to gun violence since the shootings in Sandy Hook, according to the best estimates. For all those families, the Prince of Peace must feel so distant.

I suspect many of us have tried subconsciously to disassociate these tragedies with the Christmas season. We try to create some space between these horrible things and the joy we so look forward to this time of year. We defend our merriment. We shrug our shoulders and lament that this is the way it's always been. And it is true, in many ways. On Friday we remembered the Holy Innocents: the slaughtering of the baby boys of Bethlehem whom King Herod—driven by his fear—ordered to their deaths. Jesus was born into a most frightening time and place.

These two experiences, the loss of the children and teachers in Sandy Hook, and the martyrdom of the children in Bethlehem, I believe become bookends for the Nativity narrative. They frame the wretched context in which Jesus is born and in which his ministry was and remains relevant. And in that context, Jesus Christ is not simply a one-time gift from God—*Jesus is an invitation*. God gives us Jesus not simply so that we can bask in the generosity of God, nor marvel at God's humility and love for us. It must be more than that. Jesus is a road map, a survival guide in the wilderness. He is the light of the world precisely because we need that light to get out of this darkness.

Luke's Gospel tells the story of the angel speaking to the shepherds in the

fields. These shepherds are frightened by the angel's visitation, and I posit they at first wanted nothing to do with the affairs occurring on the other side of town. Their world is one of cruel government, of war and conquest, of unfair laws and unjust treatment of one another. And they are fine with this. But then the Holy Spirit tells them, "Trust me on this." They are invited to partake in the most ridiculous of stories: a virgin girl giving birth to the Son of God in the back of a barn. And the amazing thing is, they say yes. And in so doing, they are changed forever.

This story is, in so many ways, about us, and I think it reflects the world we live in. A curious thing happened a few weeks ago here in New York City. We went more than 24 hours without a shooting or stabbing incident. It was on the front page of all the papers, because, sadly, this has not happened in years. Violence is the norm, and what is worse, we have come to accept it as the way things are. We look away from those elements of our society that foster violence, hate, and desecration, because we are fairly certain we cannot do much about it. We protect the sheltered lives we have created for ourselves and we cross our fingers everything will be all right.

We are the shepherds, content in our ways and intent on preserving them. Like the shepherds, we have become comfortable with injustice, discord, and division. But God too tells us, "Trust me on this." And so in this Christmastide, we are invited into this most ridiculous of stories: a man born of a young girl, fathered by God himself, through whose life and death and resurrection we also live, die, and rise to claim our seat in the kingdom of heaven.

One of the aspects of the Christ-

mas story that always bothers me is that Mary and Joseph are turned away at the inn. I feel bad for Mary and Joseph, but I also always feel bad for the inn keeper. His inaction makes me wonder what opportunities is God presenting me that I am ignoring. Where is Jesus in my world that I don't see? Where is he in yours? Who are the people in our lives crying out for help and we are silent? Who are the Marys—who are the Adam Lanzas—that we turn away?

God has a bias towards the poor and unassuming. He loves the lowly and weak, the hurt and the innocent more. When we draw a line between "us" and "them," God is always on the other side of that line. So, every time we encounter one another—and I argue particularly when we encounter the homeless, the vulnerable, and those who struggle with failings of the mind and body—God is asking us to accept the invitation that he extends through the Nativity narrative and love them, to love all of us, unconditionally. God is rooting for us—he puts his hope in you and in me—to follow the path that this babe in the manger makes for us. To love radically, even if it gets us in trouble. To

forgive relentlessly, even if we are hurt in the process. To give ceaselessly, even when we are convinced we have not a penny or minute left. To make no peace with injustice, intolerance, apathy, or hatred. Because we cannot love just a little, we cannot forgive up to a point, and we must never give just enough.

This is *how* we answer that invitation, just like Mary, just like the shepherds. It is not easy—it will at times be the most difficult challenge of our lives—but we were made for this! We celebrate Christmas not just because Jesus was born but because through Jesus, we are born. This is our birth too. We have our meaning and life in Christ alone. We are commissioned through our baptism to love Christ as he loves us. And in so doing, we are members of the greatest movement humankind has ever known: a relationship with one another based on a relationship with God himself.

This is the meaning of Christmas, I believe. We mark this holiday with gift giving. (Incidentally I both gave and received a scarf this year.) But it's not too late to give new gifts this Christmas: gifts of mercy, of reconciliation, of healing, of pardon, of re-

morse, compassion, mercy, tolerance, pity, empathy—of tears when they come—of love. Of hope. Hope that we, in our infinite fallibility, have more room in our hearts for good than evil. Hope that obstinate, stubborn love can conquer any hate. Hope that an unfathomable loss in Connecticut right before Christmas can bring us together so that we can make the world we live in a better place.

New York is filled with funny people. One humorist I know once said, "I always give money to the homeless people in New York because I never know which one of them is Jesus in disguise." He said, "I like to give them a dollar and then whisper, 'psst...I know who you are! You're not fooling anyone!'"

May we constantly, persistently seek out Christ in one another. May we honor and respect the Christ we see in you, in me, in everyone whose lives are linked with ours no less than we do to this child in the manger. May we all embody the spirit of the Prince of Peace.

Amen.



St. Paul's, Christmas 2012 — Photo by Barbara Barry

Vestry Report

Steven Chlapecka, Secretary of the Vestry

The Vestry continued its work on the upcoming parish transition, while it conducted its regular business and prepared for setting the annual parish budget in January.

The Vestry appointed Andrew Darmstadter to the Endowment Board following the end of Lynn Walker's term on the board.

During a special meeting on the parish transition, the Vestry formed a task force to make specific recommendations to the Vestry on forming the search committee and setting a timeline for calling the next rector.

The Vestry is grateful for all who supported St. Paul's in 2012 and who have already made a commitment to a 2013 pledge. One of the Vestry's pri-

mary responsibilities is to establish and execute the annual budget based upon total pledges received from the stewardship campaign, and to ensure the financial health of the Parish. As of mid-January, St. Paul's has received commitments of \$763,286 in pledges for 2013. This is approximately \$160,000 less than our budgeted income for 2012. The Vestry passed a resolution to fund the parish through January, while it works to set and approve the 2013 budget. To prepare for approving the 2013 budget, the Vestry held two budget workshops in January before its regular meeting. The Vestry also approved Fr. Humphrey's housing allowance for 2013.

The Vestry also expressed its sincerest thanks to Fr. Andrew for his

ministry and service to St. Paul's at his last Vestry meeting.

If you have any thoughts or concerns on any parish matters, please feel free reach out to one ore more of the Vestry members. Their names and emails can be found on the Parish website at <http://www.stpauls-kst.com/vestry> or on the Vestry bulletin board in the hallway in Pillsbury House, as well as on page 2 of this issue of the Epistle.



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:

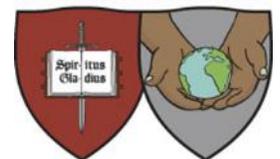
Grate Patrol – Delivery of Breakfast to Washington's homeless population

- 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



FEBRUARY ON K STREET

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS AT ST. PAUL'S PARISH

4	Jeremy Wintersteen	16	Esme Pierzchala Constance Watts
5	Adrienne Hensley Alexander Malson Eugene Wilhelm	17	Aitzol Azurtza
6	Andrea Benn	18	Drew Peterson Nancy Work
7	Solange Beniste Maryan Darmstadter Rachael Dickey	20	Sybil Boggis C.B. Wooldridge
8	Pattie Kindsvater	21	Martha Evans
9	Elizabeth Freeland C. Perrin Radley	22	Matthew Leddicotte Peter Schlatter Stasia Schlatter
11	William Taylor	24	Oghene-Bruru Ajueyitsi Jenny Brake
13	E. Brooke Reasoner	26	Kathleen Cameron
14	William Burns Annelise Beniste George Buzby Karin Tooze	27	Sharon Watkins
15	Rebecca Wood		✠ ✠ ✠

Births:

Dec. 30, 2012 — Arthur James Farwell Stowe to Edith and John Stowe

Dec. 31, 2012 — Virginia Elizabeth Eikel to Kate and Robert Eikel.

Jan. 18, 2013 — Anna Julia Cecere to Courtney and Keith Cecere

Baptisms:

William Palmer Zehfuss — 1/6/2013

Jacob Winston Simpson — 1/6/2013

Charles George Baumgarten — 1/13/2103

Transfer Out::

Matthew McGarvey to St. James Cathedral, Chicago, IL

Sarah M. Powell and Zoe E. Kline to St. Matthews Episcopal Church, Hillsborough, NC



MAJOR FEAST DAYS

Sunday, February 3, 2013:

The Feast of Candlemas Observed

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. Procession, Solemn Evening with Blessing of Candles and Pontifical Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, with the Rt. Rev. James Winchester Montgomery, retired Bishop of Chicago

Wednesday, February 13, 2013:

Ash Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Low Mass

12 noon Low Mass,
Confessions following

5:00 p.m. Confessions

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

5:45 p.m. Evening Prayer

6:45 p.m. Solemn Liturgy of the Day
*Imposition of ashes at all Masses**

*

Parishioners are expected to receive their ashes at one of the Masses in Church and not at the Foggy Bottom Metro Station's evangelistic outreach initiative, except for good cause made known to the clergy. — Fr, Humphrey





SAINT PAUL'S PARISH

K STREET — WASHINGTON

2430 K Street NW 202.337.2020
Washington, D.C. 20037 <http://www.stpauls-kst.com>

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Washington, DC

Permit No. 9962

**Remember to mark your Calendar—
February 3 Feast of Candlemas, Presentation of Christ in the Temple
February 13 Ash Wednesday**



Duccio di Buoninsegna, 1308-1311