



Parish of Saint Paul
1135 Walnut Street
Newton MA 02461
(617)527-6642

The Rev. Dr. Carol Flett,
Priest-in-charge

office@parishofstpaul.org

The Epistle

June 2007

Upcoming Events

June 9

Organ Recital (7:00pm)

June 10

No Church School

Contemplative Service (8:15am)

Joint Service at Congregational Church (10:00am)

Ridge and Miller Wedding (12:30pm)

June 11

Salvation Army Dinner (4:30pm)

NOLA Meeting (7:00pm)

June 13

Knitting (7:00pm)

June 17

Summer Schedule Starts with an Outdoor Service (9:30am)

Carol Flett Reception (11:00am)

June 20

Summer Office Hours Begin

Vestry Meeting (7:15pm)

June 21 - 27

New Orleans Mission

Updates to event schedules are available at the website, parishofstpaul.org

Letter from the Priest-in-charge

Dear Friends:

It is with sadness and gladness that I write to you in this my last month with you. There is gladness because I am so pleased and proud of St. Paul's and its ministry. I have boasted of your generosity of spirit and good will, and of your faith and courage to my colleagues and friends. St. Paul's is a wonderful community and serving you has been a life-changing experience in my ministry. So there is also sadness because I had hoped to complete this period of parish discernment with you. As you know, unexpected changes in my life have required my husband and me to move to the Washington, DC area. My daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter will move there in October and we are eager to live near our children and grandchildren, who apparently are not moving back to Boston. George is still searching for a job there and I found a job sooner than expected. This experience has taught me once again, that life takes unexpected turns, and we must listen and follow where God leads us. Over the past two years, I have preached to you many times of the need for St. Paul's, and all Christians, to be watchful and to listen for "signs" of the leading of the Holy Spirit as St. Paul's discerns the options that will enable it to carry out its ministry most faithfully and effectively in the future. Little did I know that I was preaching to myself, and that the Holy Spirit would lead me to a new parish in a new city and a new diocese. On many evenings, George and I talked and asked ourselves and God, "what shall we do?" It took faith, courage and hope for George and me to make this decision.

We feel a bit like Abraham whom God sent out on a journey without a map or clear destination and yet he went because God promised to provide for him along the way. I hope that our example will also serve as a model for you so that you may follow where you are led, either personally, as a family, or as a parish, trusting that God will provide for you along the way. Many of you have told me that you used to live in DC or travel to DC to visit family or friends, and will contact me if you are in the area, so I hope to see some of you again. I will keep in touch with you by email and let you know how it all turns out – I hope you will do the same with me!

What will happen with St. Paul's over the summer? There will be one service at 9:30 am, as usual in the summer. Dates for services in the Meditation Garden have been chosen. The first one will be my last Sunday with you - June 17, 9:30 am in the Garden! Pray for sunshine, and wear a hat a sunglasses! A party in my honor will follow the service. I will continue to serve you on the weekdays following my last Sunday, but I am taking June 24 as my last earned vacation Sunday. So beginning Sun. June 24, there will be a "supply priest" who will preach and celebrate Holy Eucharist and provide pastoral care on the weekdays following the service, until the next Sunday. Reiko Akasaka will take four Sundays of vacation this summer, as usual, so there will be a substitute organist on June 24 and July 1 and a couple of Sundays in August. Please attend during the summer. Children are welcome to attend with their parents. Keep the spirit of St. Paul's community strong and hopeful.

With much love and affection, Carol

Wardens' Report

The vestry met twice since Carol's resignation announcement. Our May 23rd meeting at Richard Pearce's was an important as we met with Greg Jacobs, our diocesan contact, to discuss the replacement process. All vestry members participated as well as Chris Meyer and Carol. Greg explained that our first course of action is to get a supply priest for the summer. Carol reviewed the list supplied by the diocese and contacted three priests who are willing to be our supply priests during the summer. Phil Whitbeck will assist the supply priest with pastoral care.

At the next meeting on June 5th, we voted that a priest in charge is more appropriate during this time of our discernment. We believe, a priest in charge will help us to realize our goals of growth, continued celebration of our parish's gifts, and exploration of possible joint efforts with St. John's. A priest in charge is also eligible to be called as the rector. We are processing the priest in charge request form to be sent to Greg Jacobs. Phil Whitbeck and Carol have each identified a possible candidate for our next priest in charge. This is very encouraging news for us.

The remainder of the May 23rd meeting involved each vestry person sharing their thoughts about Carol's resignation. Like our parishioners, we were surprised and saddened as she has become a valued and integral part of parish life over the last three years. This was a helpful exercise for the vestry members, as our role is to lead the parish through this time of uncertainty with a sense of hope and positive ness.

We discussed the program for the Spaghetti supper we hosted on May 31 and the completion and distribution of the FAQs (frequently asked questions) regarding the effect of Carol's resignation to be shared with the parishioners. Other items discussed included Carol's farewell party on Sunday, June 17th following the 9:30 a.m. service, a present for Mark McKone Sweet who was ordained on Saturday, June 2, a reception following Reiko's concert on June 9 which Lee and Ellie generously agreed to organize.

We agreed on a June 5th date for the make-up vestry meeting to discuss parish business postponed due to the Greg Jacob's visit. The meeting was held at Lee Hatfield's home. Betty Murray was the only absent vestry member. Tim Dunn reviewed his proposed spirituality initiative with us. Tim has some exciting and creative ideas, and we are looking forward to working with him. Richard Pearce outlined goals for the parish affairs initiative. These included the formation of a finance committee, clarification on accessibility to investments, financial requirements for successful spirituality and evangelism programs and bathroom and kitchenette construction. The plan is to move forward as soon as possible with construction of a handicap accessible bathroom and new kitchen on the main floor of the parish hall. Betty Murray will present her evangelism goals to the vestry at our July meeting. We continue to search for the Christian Education Director. Our hope is to find someone who can work on Sunday to support our dedicated teachers. If you have any thoughts or leads on a possible candidate please contact Margaret Hummel. Leases for the tenants in the rectory and Down Under Yoga will be renewed in the fall. We do not anticipate any changes in our tenant status. The vestry voted to let the Vineyard Church of Wellesley use our church on Sunday evenings during the summer to hold services. This request came through Betty

Murray. They will not use the organ or any of our liturgical equipment. Finally, we are thrilled that "Beyond the Daily Grind", the very successful forum program Amy Radin has been running for the past two years, will return next year with plans for a forum in the fall and spring.

The vestry is very aware that this is a time of uncertainty for the parish and we want to assure everyone that we will do everything possible to move us forward towards normalcy as quickly as possible. We appreciate all your prayers and support during this time.

Please do not hesitate to contact any of the vestry members if you have any questions or concern. We will keep the parish updated via e-mail on all important news regarding the supply priest and priest in charge search.

Joan Brandmahl and Bernice Cramer

Christian Formation

TRINITY SUNDAY 2007

A CELEBRATION OF THE MINISTRIES OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS OF ST. PAUL'S
&
DEACON MARK MCKONE-SWEET

Preachers of the Word: Matt Vertescher & Lucia Grigoli

Lectors: Nicole Vertescher & Sean DiMarco

Acolyte: Gabriella Sinclair

Chalice Bearer - Isabella Grigoli

Gift Bearers – Ushers – Bell Ringers - Choir

Jack Sinclair, Maggie DiMarco, Crane Friedman, Suzanna Anderson, Alexander Pearce, Burke Lanzillo

Acolytes at the Ordination to Diaconate of Mark on Saturday June 2: Alex Powers-Patey & Jesse Powers Patey

Riding for "Bikes Not Bombs" on June 3 Greg Gruener & Sasha McDargh-Dunn

Adult Formation

Tuesday evening "Bible Study" continues a 6-week unit on the Lord's Prayer, "Lord, Teach Us How to Pray", from May 1- through June 12, 7-8:30 pm. Each week we talk about one of the verses of the prayer: God, the Kingdom, obedience, feeding ourselves, forgiveness and crying for help. Come and learn how to make the Lord's Prayer more meaningful in your daily life.

Worship Notes

Newton Highland Village Day – Sunday June 10

St. Paul's congregation will worship with the NH Congregational Church at 10 am
Holy Eucharist will be offered at St. Paul's at 8:15 am so we can all walk to the NH Congregational Church together.

There will be a combined Choir with Newton Highlands Congregational Church and trumpet on Sunday, June 10.

Combined Choir Rehearsal -- Wednesday, June 6 at 7:30 pm at NHCC

Combined Choir Rehearsal -- Sunday, June 10 at 9:00 am

Outreach Committee

St. Paul's Outreach activities are beginning to wind down for the summer but there are a few more volunteer opportunities ahead.

June 11th we will be cooking and serving dinner at the Salvation Army dining room in Framingham. The building is across the street from The Fabric Place. We have a corps group to shop for food and begin cooking but we need volunteers to help serve meals, clean up and bake chocolate cakes. If you would like to join us please call Charlotte Stafford for details.

Money collected in the 1st Sunday plate in June will be donated to support the Belize Mission Trip.

If you would like to make a donation to the backpacks which we provide for the incoming fifth graders at The Epiphany School please contact Charlotte or Ellie Pandorf.

Plan ahead! The Outreach Committee will be barbecuing hamburgers at the Waltham Community Day Center early in the fall. We would love to have you join us.

Our next meeting is June 6th at the Stafford's.

Faith and the Environment

Behold, my brothers, the spring has come/The earth has received the embraces of the sun/and we shall soon see the results of that love! Every seed is awakened and so has all animal life/It is through this mysterious power that we too have our being/And we therefore yield to our neighbors,/Even our animal neighbors/The same right as ourselves, to inhabit this land.

Sitting Bull, 1813 - 1890

Earth Day 2007 Aquarium Trip

In late April a delightful trip to the New England Aquarium started our celebration of Earth Day this year. After spiritual preparation, which included tribute to Rachel Carson's upcoming 100th birthday anniversary in May, and brown-bag lunches, twenty of us set forth.

On our ride the Blay kids, Jack and Abigail, taught us the Bob-it! game. It is a real test of coordination and dexterity--so naturally the kids are better than the adults. The goal--keep up with the Bob-it! instructions. You receive commands, given in random order, either to bob it, pull it, or twist it. If you follow the commands accurately, you will win points. If you're not fast enough or make a mistake--the game is over! When we arrived at the Aquarium we played the human version of the game. The kids were the Bob-its! and the adults practiced bopping, pulling, and twisting the kids' arms--amidst peals of laughter. Guess what? The adults got better and better!

As the kids and adults walked through the Aquarium they took part in a couple of scavenger hunts. One focused on the Amazing Jellies exhibit and had the kids searching for a range of interesting facts about jelly fish. (Did you know that increased numbers of jelly fish represent a threat?) The other scavenger hunt, which covered all of the exhibits in the Aquarium, presented more challenges.

If you haven't visited the Aquarium recently you're in for a big surprise. What an awesome experience! From the Adelie penguins to the hands-on display of marine life, to say nothing of all the educational signage. Rachel Carson would be thrilled. (Want to know why not to use pesticides on lawns? See visually why not.)

All in all, all those amazing creatures from God's Creation enhanced a joyful time for St. Paul's kids and adults.

Laura Powers-Patey and L. Maeve Ward



About the Meditation Garden

The Meditation Garden is open to people of all faiths. It was designed by Gordon Hayward, a landscape designer, who has written several books on garden design and is a presenter at various New England garden shows.

Donations which made this garden possible were given by members and friends of St. Paul's in memory and celebration of people who had touched their lives.

The Parish of St. Paul on Sunday, October 17, 2004, dedicated and celebrated this Garden at a service of Holy Eucharist and dedication. The Rev. Dr. Maureen Kemeza, former Rector, was the preacher and celebrant. Using an aspergill, made of yellow-orange fall leaves gathered by the children, she sprinkled holy water on the altar, which was created from a piece of 400,000,000-year-old schist, as the congregation prayed.

You are welcome at any time to visit the Meditation Garden.

Elizabeth Murray



What happened to the Mother's Day Cards?

Remember signing cards addressed to our State legislators that said, "Thinking of you on Mother's Day/May 2007," followed by the statement, "...please do all you can to ensure the passage of 'An Act for a Healthy Massachusetts: Safer Alternatives to Toxic Chemicals'?" On a hot May day members of the Alliance for a Healthy Tomorrow came to and filled up the Great Hall at the State House. Speakers updated the hardworking attendees about the campaign; then everyone took large packets of the cards to their respective legislators' offices and to the Governor's office. The outcome?--we'll know soon.

THANKS go to Laura Powers-Patey for packaging the pamphlets for the Mother's Day cards and finding the scavenger-hunt forms and also to Laura and to Eliza Blay for locating free tickets for the trip.

L. Maeve Ward, Coordinator

News Notes

Organ Recital

Reiko Akasaka, organ

Works by Bach, Mendelssohn, and Heiller

Saturday, June 9 at 7:00 pm

Parish of St. Paul
1135 Walnut Street
Newton Highlands, MA

Donation
Reception will follow

This is a pre-concert for recitals that Reiko will perform in Italy this summer. As the winner of Gherardeschi Prize at the 2006 Italian Organ Music Academy-Shirakawa of International Music Festival in Japan, Reiko will tour and give two organ concerts in Italy -- one is an Italian program on an Italian style organ, and another is a German program on a German style organ. Reiko will play mostly pieces from German program for the concert at St. Paul's.



Organ Concert at Old West Church!

Recital by members of Board of Old West Organ Society in honor of the bicentennial of Old West Church building

Reiko is one of the board members and playing some Italian organ music!

Tuesday, June 19 at 8:00 pm

Old West Church
131 Cambridge St.
Boston, MA



This is an event that the Rev. Tim Rogers, Priest-in-charge at St. John's, is performing in. It should be a great event in a beautiful setting. Get your tickets soon.

The 150 voice Boston Gay Men's Chorus celebrates its 25th anniversary in a gala concert at the Boston Opera House on Friday June 8th at 8:00 pm. The concert includes some of our favorite music including songs of Gershwin, Arlen, Holly Near and more. The sensational Broadway and recording star Linda Eder joins the Chorus as special guest for a set of her favorite songs and a finale of vocal fireworks with the BGMC. The concert kicks off gay and lesbian Pride weekend in Boston.

Tickets are \$55, \$35, and \$25 and are selling quickly. Call Ticketmaster at 617-931-2787 or click here to purchase online via Ticketmaster:
http://www.bgmc.org/tickets_individual.php

Don't miss this one-night-only concert that's been 25 years in the making!
25th Anniversary Concert with special guest Linda Eder
Boston Gay Men's Chorus
Reuben M. Reynolds, Music Director
Friday, June 8, 2007, 8:00 pm
Boston Opera House
539 Washington Street, Boston, MA
Call 617-931-2787 or visit www.bgmc.org

Parish Notes

Jesse Powers-Patey's summer baseball schedule can be found at <http://www.brightonbraves.com/schedule.html>

The Blagdon and Sinclair family have an occupancy permit and are living in their house.

Celebrations

June Anniversaries
4 Maeve and Bill Ward
7 McKone-Sweet
16 Phil and Bailey Whitbeck
22 The Pandorfs
26 McDargh-Dunn

June Birthdays
4 Charlotte Stafford, Peter Cutts
5 Maeve Ward, Dana Lanzillo
9 Beth Baldwin

- 10 Ian Manning
- 11 Liza Meyer
- 12 Isabella Grigoli
- 13 Jane Lanzillo
- 15 Mark Mckone-Sweet
- 16 Arthur Talis
- 20 Elizabeth McQuillan, Rose Alviani
- 21 Robin Wadsworth
- 22 Ian Pearce
- 23 Andrew Takahashi
- 24 Frederick Makrauer, Anne Streetman
- 25 Andrew Koger
- 26 Asa Swain, Geoffrey Ward
- 28 Eleanor Pandorf, Matthew Fruhan
- 29 Gorden Vertescher
- 30 June Fine

Articles are due on the 20th for publication on the 1st
Submissions to epistle@parishofstpaul.org