



EPISCOPAL PARISH OF ST. PAUL 2016 ANNUAL GIVING



The Reverend Gretchen S. Grimshaw, Rector
1135 Walnut Street, Newton Highlands, MA 02461
www.parishofstpaul.org
617-527-6642

**Founded in 1883....
Still Standing for justice and inclusivity and marvelous music in 2016!**

This year our fall stewardship effort has two important parts.

Part I – The Annual Stewardship Drive

October 9 thru Ingathering Sunday, October 30th

*The annual stewardship drive affords the very existence of our community.
It funds our annual operating budget....almost every dime of it.*

The annual stewardship drive pays for:

- Salaries for our rector, youth minister, parish administrator, sexton & interns
- Utilities like electricity and heat and water, the phone and internet, fire alarm system and more
- Worship expenses like altar candles and communion wine and bulletins
- Music expenses like musicians, choir music, piano & organ tuning and more
- Program expenses for mission and outreach, the parish school, hospitality, and more

How You Can Support The Life of This Beloved Community

Please prayerfully consider making a pledge for 2017 that equals your 2016 pledge.
If everyone pledges next year what they pledged this year, we can put our attention on our ministry instead of diverting our energies to raise enough money to pay our bills.

- Please return your Time and Talent card on or before October 30th.
 - *Put it in the plate on Sunday or mail it to the office, the sooner the better!*
- Please consider paying with a monthly automatic withdrawal from your bank account.
- Encourage your children to make a pledge. This is a great teaching opportunity.
- Volunteer to participate in a new ministry! Host a coffee hour! Come to a work day!
- Come to church and share your thoughts about stewardship as a spiritual practice.

Part II – A Capital Campaign for Our Integrity

All Saints Day, November 1st thru the Annual Meeting, January 29th

The Capital Campaign will afford the next step of the building of our community.
The Capital Campaign is intended to support:

- A brand new, efficient, effective, flexible, affordable Creation-honoring heating (and in some spaces air conditioning) system.
- Our claim to be truly inclusive by addressing the accessibility of our facility: equal access through the front door to our worship space, equal access to the altar, and equal access to our undercroft. The funds from our capital campaign will allow us to explore these ways in which we can have more integrity when we say that we are a welcoming inclusive community. We will plan to begin community conversations around these projects in early 2017.

**We hope to raise \$350,000 for these projects
that will allow us to be more of who we say we are.**



As we prayerfully contemplate our contributions to these two life-giving stewardship efforts, let us begin from this premise: *“We are prophets of a future not our own.”* :

*It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.
The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts,
it is even beyond our vision.*

*We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction
of the magnificent enterprise that is God’s work. Nothing we do is complete,
which is a way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us. No statement says all that could be said.
No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection.
No pastoral visit brings wholeness. No program accomplishes the Church’s mission.
No set of goals and objectives includes everything.
This is what we are about. We plant the seeds that one day will grow.
We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.
We lay foundations that will need further development.
We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities.
We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.
This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.
It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an
opportunity for the Lord’s grace to enter and do the rest.
We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.
We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.
We are prophets of a future not our own.’*

Onward!

¹ *This prayer was composed by **Bishop Ken Untener** of Saginaw, drafted for a homily by Card. John Dearden in Nov. 1979 for a celebration of departed priests, as a reflection on the anniversary of the martyrdom of Bishop Oscar Romero.