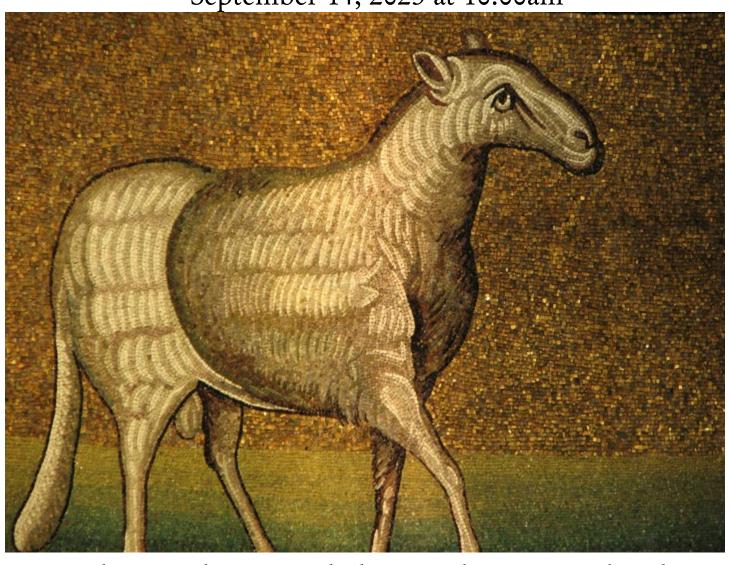
The Episcopal Parish of Saint Paul Newton Highlands, Massachusetts

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Eucharist

September 14, 2025 at 10:00am



From wherever you have come, with whatever you bring, you are welcome here.

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (PROPER 19, YEAR C) Holy Eucharist with Joyful Noise

Prelude *Musicians*

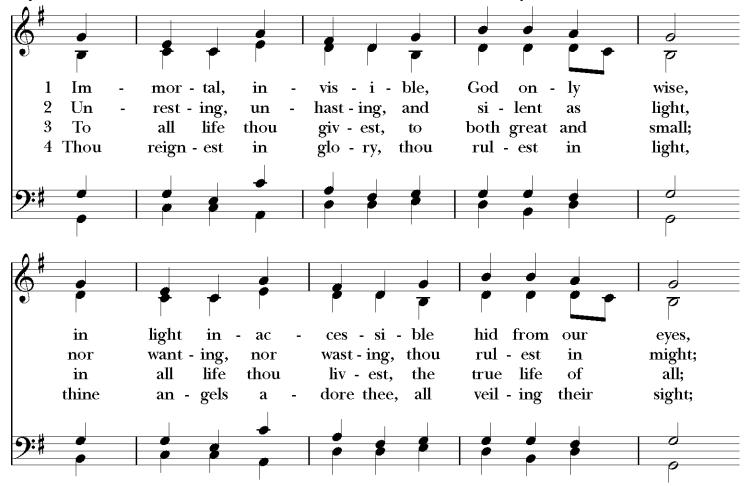
From wherever you have come, with whatever you bring, you are welcome here.

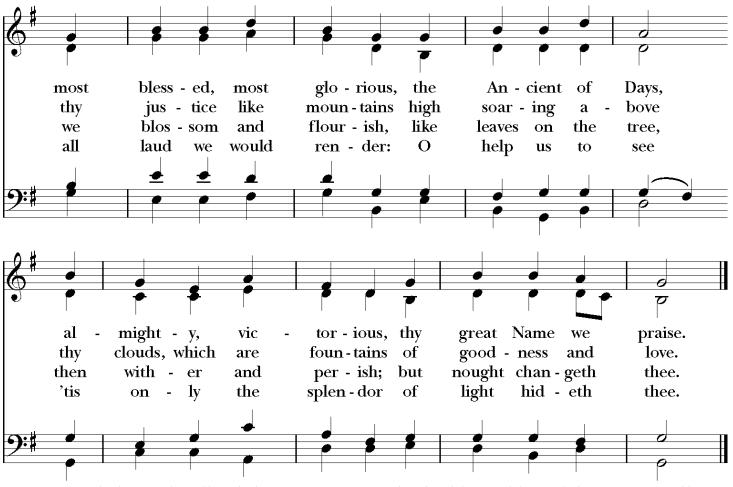
Gathering Rites / Book of Common Prayer p. 355

Gathering Hymn

Please rise as you are comfortable.

Hymnal 1982, #423 - Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise





Section: Praise to God Title: Immortal, invisible, God only wise Meter: 11 11. 11 11 Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt. Music: St. Denio, Welsh hymn, from Caniadau y Cyssegr, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822-1877); harm. The English Hymnal, 1906, alt.

Opening Acclamation

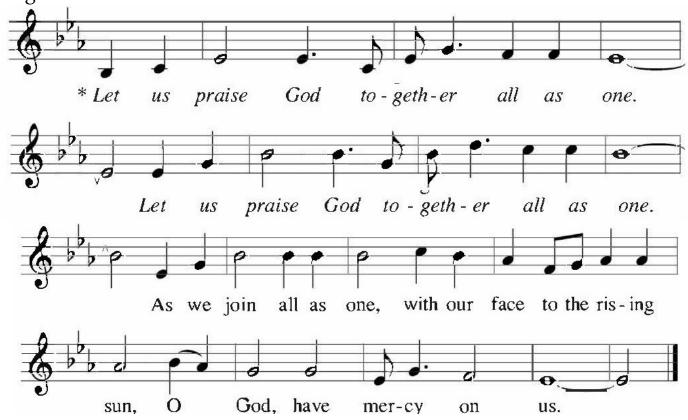
Presider Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.

People And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Song of Praise



Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

Please be seated

The First Reading

Exodus 32:7-14

God said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have

been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" God said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

But Moses implored the Holy One his God, and said, "O God, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that God brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'" And the Holy One changed their own mind about the disaster that they themself had planned to bring on the people.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.People Thanks be to God.

The Psalm 51:1-11

We will pray the psalm responsively by whole verse

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

Wash me through and through from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.

And so you are justified when you speak and upright in your judgment.

Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, a sinner from my mother's womb.

For behold, you look for truth deep within me, and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

Make me hear of joy and gladness, that the body you have broken may rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

The Second Reading

1 Timothy 1:12-17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Savior, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a person of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Savior overflowed for me with the faith

and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners-- of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in Christ for eternal life. To the Sovereign of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

Please rise as you are comfortable.

Voices Found, #95 - A Long Lost Lamb







Section: Healing, Reconciliation Title: A long lost lamb Words: Mary Nelson Keithahn Music: Carl Haywood Copyright: Words: ® 1996 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company, Nashville, TN 37212). Music: ® 2002 Carl Haywood. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Gospel Acclamation

We will sing the acclamation twice before and twice after the proclamation of the gospel.



The Gospel Luke 15:1-10

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, O Christ.

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So Jesus told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until you find it? When

you have found it, you lay it on your shoulders and rejoice. And when you come home, you call together your friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Priest The Gospel of Christ.

People Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Priest-in-Charge

A few moments of silence will be kept

Statement of Faith

Intercessor: Please rise as you are comfortable as we proclaim our Statement of Faith.

We believe in God,

whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives, whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil that waits to enslave us all, and whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom.

Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt, we put our trust in God;

and in the name of Jesus Christ we commit ourselves, in the service of others, to seek justice, and to live in peace; to care for the earth, and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness; to live in the freedom of forgiveness, and the power of the Spirit of love. And in the company of the faithful we will be the church, a community of flawed and forgiving disciples, for the glory of God alone. Amen.

Statement of Faith adapted from the Iona Abbey Worship Book, © 2001, The Iona Community.

Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Loving God, that all who praise your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for the Episcopal Church, for our presiding bishop, Sean Rowe, and our diocesan bishop, Julia Whitworth. And we pray for all ministers – lay and ordained – and we pray for our own Parish of St. Paul; Christ Church, Medway; St. Michael's Church, Milton; St. John's Church, Westwood; Trinity Church, Stoughton; and for Trustees of Donations. Either in silence or aloud, for whom else in the church do we pray today? (You are invited to add your own prayers.)

Silence

God, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the

common good. Either in silence or aloud, for which peoples and leaders of the world do we pray today? (You are invited to add your own prayers.)

Silence

God, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Either in silence or aloud, for what in the created order do we pray today? (You are invited to add your own prayers.)

Silence

God, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as Christ loves us. Either in silence or aloud, for whom and what do we give thanks in our lives today? (You are invited to add your own thanksgivings.)

Silence

God, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, and all those who may need encouragement and uplift; give them courage and hope, and bring them the joy of your peace and salvation. We pray especially for Kirsten; Nancy Williamson; Paul Friedman; Terry; Jim Nolan; David Murphy; David Tabors; Kristin; Deb; Tom; Sean and Jack; and for the peoples and ministries of the Global Village Children's Project, the Centre Street Food Pantry, AA, and NewCity Church.

Either in silence or aloud, for whom else do we pray today? (You are invited to add your own prayers.)

Silence

God, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kindom. Either in silence or aloud, whom do we remember today by name? (You are invited to offer names.)

Silence

God, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Prayer for the Social Order (BCP p. 824)

Intercessor Together let us pray.

All O God,

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Silence

Presider offers a collect.

Confession of Sin and Absolution

Presider Let us confess our sins against God, our neighbors, ourselves, and all of God's creation.

Presider and People

O God, we bring you our failure, our hunger, our disappointment, our despair, our greed, our arrogance, and our fear. We have not loved you with our whole hearts. We have not truly loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are sorry, we are humbled, and we pray that you will strengthen us with your grace. We turn to you, O God. We renounce evil, we claim love, we choose to be made whole. Forgive us and renew us now.

Silence

Presider Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive your every sin through our Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Mt. 11:28-30).

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

All And also with you.

The congregation is invited to exchange signs of peace.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

The Presider offers instructions for receiving communion, and bids the offertory sentence.

Offertory Hymn

Choir

The Doxology - Old Hundredth

Please rise as you are comfortable.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise God all creatures here below Praise God above all life and death Creator, Christ, and Holy Breath. Amen.

You are invited to rise, sit, or kneel as you feel comfortable.

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer B

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up to God.

Presider Let us give thanks to God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

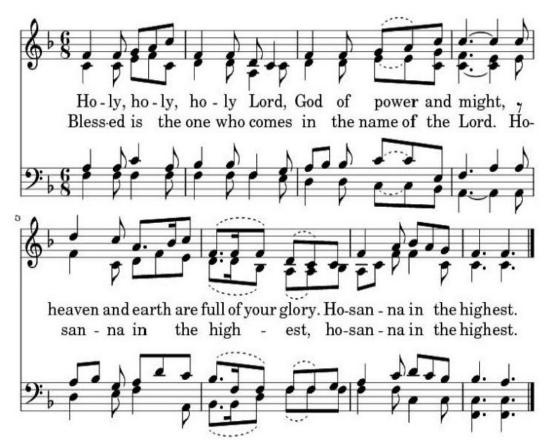
Presider

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

Presider offers a Preface.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus



The Presider continues - you are invited to rise, sit, or kneel as you are comfortable.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all, in Jesus, your Word and Wisdom made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Jesus, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Jesus, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before Jesus died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.



And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O God of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and the Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in Christ's sacrifice, through whom may we all be acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [____and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters, children all; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.



The Lord's Prayer

You are invited to say whichever version of the Lord's Prayer you choose.

Presider

As our savior Christ has taught us, we now pray

Our Loving God in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kindom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kindom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider Alleluia. We who are many are one body;
People For we all share in the one bread. Alleluia.

Presider

These are the Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived and loved, died, and rose for you, and feed on Christ in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion

Jesus says, "Come and see."

You are welcome at this Table, exactly as you are, because of who you are. If you feel called to the Table, please come forward to receive Communion.

At this time, the Parish of St. Paul offers a common cup as well as individual cups for receiving the consecrated wine. Please either take an individual cup (found on a front pew on the right as you approach the altar for communion) or go to the chalice bearer holding the common cup.

If you do not wish to receive the consecrated wine, please know that receiving the consecrated bread alone constitutes a full Communion.

If you do not desire Communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing – please cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you desire a blessing.

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

(The following prayer of Spiritual Communion is said privately and is intended for individuals participating remotely, and for individuals who may not wish to receive Communion or a blessing.)

In union, O God, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. And since I cannot receive you today in the sacrament of bread and wine, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Postcommunion Hymn

You are invited to stand, sit, or kneel as you are comfortable.

Hymnal 1982, #469 - There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



Section: Jesus Christ our Lord Title: There's a wideness in God's mercy Meter: 87. By Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863), alt. Music: St. Helena, Calvin Hampton (1938-1984) Copyright: Music: © 1977, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

Postcommunion Prayer

You are invited to stand as you are comfortable.

People and Presider

God of abundance,

you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of compassion.

You have united us with Christ,

and you have made us one with all peoples and creatures in heaven and on earth.

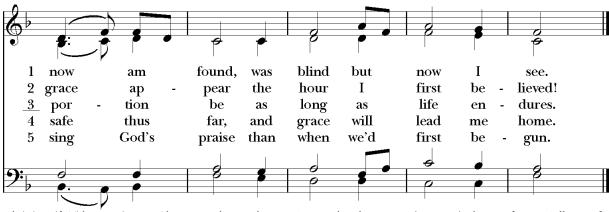
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that our lives may give birth to your love in the world, and that we may continue to make our home in your life. Amen.

Blessing

Processional Hymn

Hymnal 1982, #671 - Amazing Grace





Section: The Christian Life Title: Amazing grace! how sweet the sound Meter: CM Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt.; st. 5, from A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790; compiled by Richard Broaddus and Andrew Broaddus Music: New Britain, from Virginia Harmony 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851-1921); harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (b. 1919) Copyright: Music: Harmonization copyright © 1974 by Abingdon Press.

Announcements

Dismissal

You are invited to stand as you are comfortable.

Presider Our worship has ended, let our service begin. Go in peace to

love and serve God, God's people, God's world.

People Thanks be to God.



TODAY'S LITURGY

Participants

The Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney - Priest-in-Charge

Phil Whitbeck - Lector of First Reading and Leader of Psalm

Bernice Cramer - Lector of Second Reading

Carter Lustig - Acolyte and Chalice Bearer

Tricia Tyler - Intercessor and Lay Eucharistic Minister

Brenda Carter - Pianist

Margaret Hummel and Mary Lou Pierron - Altar Guild

Mary Lou Pierron - Usher/Attendance

David Montgomery and Kathryn Anderson - Counters

Will Holz - Tech

Front Cover Art

Eschatological symbols - sheep, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54426 [retrieved September 3, 2025]. Original source: https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54426 [retrieved September 3, 2025]. Original source: https://www.flickr.com/photos/pelegrino/344249691/.

PRAYERS

In Our Diocesan Cycle Of Prayer:

For the Episcopal Church; for Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop, and Julia Whitworth, our Diocesan Bishop; all ministers – lay and ordained – and we pray for our own Parish of St Paul; Christ Church, Medway; St. Michael's Church, Milton; St. John's Church, Westwood; Trinity Church, Stoughton; and for Trustees of Donations.

Parish Prayer List - Prayers are Requested for:

Kirsten; Nancy Williamson; Paul Friedman; Terry; Jim Nolan; David Murphy; David Tabors; Kristin; Deb; Tom; Sean and Jack; and for the Global Village Children's Project, the Centre Street Food Pantry, AA, and NewCity Church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Bishop is Coming! The Bishop is Coming!

Please save the date! On Sunday, September 28, our new bishop diocesan, the Rt. Rev. Julia Whitworth, will be doing a visitation at POSP. We look forward to welcoming her to our parish. More details forthcoming.

What's Happening at the Parish of St. Paul - Save the Dates!

- Sunday, September 14 (Today): Presentation of Diocesan Priorities (in preparation for Bishop Whitworth's visit on 9/28) after church
- Sunday, September 21: Ms. Anne Muyanga and Global Village Children's Project Presentation after church
- Sunday, September 28: The Rt. Rev. Julia E. Whitworth visits the Parish of St. Paul
- Sunday, October 5: Blessing of the Animals (time tbd)

Prayer List

If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please email Lise in the parish office or use this QR code.

Altar Flowers

If you would like to contribute altar flowers for a thanksgiving or memorial, please be in contact with Lise in the parish office.

Pastoral Care

If you desire pastoral care for a particular need, please be in contact with Rev. Meghan. It could be as simple as a private prayer request emailed to her, or an inperson conversation about something of concern. Rev. Meghan or our pastoral care intern, Jason von Ehrenkrook, are available to meet with you.

Receive the Parish Newsletter!

The newsletter is sent about once per week (occasionally more often if there is a pressing notice, for example, of snow cancellation, etc.). The newsletter contains reflections from parishioners and *lots* of information and announcements about our diocese, the greater church, and other goings-on in and around town and in the world, that are not printed in this bulletin.

Scan to access this week's newsletter



Scan to sign up to receive the newsletter



Can Redemption Volunteers

Volunteers sought to assist with can redemption for the Plenty ministry. Please connect with Christopher Gruener or speak with Rev. Meghan if you can assist.



Staff and Office Hours

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney – meghan@parishofstpaul.org. Office Hours: In-Person, usually on Wednesday, 9am -1pm and by appointment (please email Rev. Meghan directly if you would like to make an appointment).

Parish Administrator: Lise Brody – office@parishofstpaul.org. Office Hours (may vary): Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-1pm

Vestry

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to be in touch with your vestry. The next Vestry Meeting is on September 17.

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney Co-Warden: Kim Koger, mkskoger5@gmail.com

Co-Warden: David Montgomery, dmontgomery@montlegal.com

Treasurer: Richard Pearce, Richard@northinfo.com Clerk: Bernice Cramer, bernicecramer@gmail.com Kathryn Anderson, kmanderson.english@gmail.com Chris Gruener, crossroadscounseling101@gmail.com Lee Hatfield, leebateshatfield@verizon.net

Dustin Ledgard, ledgarddustin@gmail.com

Elected Parish Leaders

Delegates to the Charles River Deanery: David Montgomery and Mary Lou Pierron Delegates to the Diocesan Convention: Jack Blay and Mary Lou Pierron; alternate Kim Koger

1135 Walnut Street, Newton Highlands, MA 02461 617-527-6642 office@parishofstpaul.org www.parishofstpaul.org

