



# Tower Talk

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

*The Church with Heart, in the Heart of the City*

December 8, 2021



Why Rose (Pink)?

The third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday.

Gaudete, comes from "Gaudete in Domino semper: iterum dico, Gaudete" or "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice."

The imperative coming in the midst of what was understood as a penitential season seems odd. The pink or rose candle is lit recognizing that in Christ we see and know joy. As the season of Advent is all about hope, as we prepare for the arrival of Jesus, it is important for us to see and know the joy that comes from knowing the grace of Christ and the love of God.

The readings for Gaudete Sunday focus on the words of St. John the baptizer. Because the gospel reading is so graphic in description, we can almost see John standing in the middle of the Jordan river calling out to people to mend their ways before the arrival of Jesus.

John followed his calling with great enthusiasm even if he lacked manors and tact. He was not pastoral or loving as he addressed those who came out to see him. The people watching were not there because of their religious belief, they were there for entertainment and John was rough, strange and outer worldly. He must have been a sight that none had seen before, but his words gripped them and many were baptized.

I caution you to see that John's baptism (dunking) was quite a bit different than how we understand the sacrament of baptism now. John was calling people to "Prepare" and be "ready" by being cleansed of sin. Many Hebrew people of John's time, especially those who live in community would practice a baptism like ritual called a Mikvah which is a multi-step bath ritual that also is cleansing, a ritual immersion. In many hotels in Jerusalem, a mikvah facility is available for use prior to an important event planned for the synagogue.

John's call would have been unique, but more because of John and the idea of the coming of the expected messiah. The pink candle says to all—prepare and be joyful.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
711 South Saginaw St.  
Flint, Michigan 48502  
810 234 8637

[www.stpaulschurchflint.com](http://www.stpaulschurchflint.com)

**The Rev. Don Davidson**

priest-in-charge

**The Rev. Donna Kusky**

deacon in residence

**Barbara Mannor**

senior warden

**Becky Bennett**

junior warden

**Maggie Hart**

treasurer

**George Gibson**

Director of Finance

**Holly Richardson**

Director of Music

**Terrance Whitehead**

Sexton

### Angel Tree

Christmas is approaching quickly and our Angel Tree outreach to children in need is ready-to-go. Our Crossover partners provided us with the names, ages, and gift suggestions for 20 children. Each child will receive two gifts, one of clothing and one of a toy, game or gift-card. Monetary guideline is approximately \$50.00 per gift. Our "Angel Tree" will be set up in the church parlor beginning Sunday, November 14, where you can select a child's name on a special ornament.

Monetary donations are also very welcome. Please send your donations to the church to the attention of George Gibson. Be sure to note "Angel Tree" on your check.

If you have any questions, please contact the Angel Tree chairperson Carole Davis, phone/text 810-410-7789, email: [mauderose@comcast.net](mailto:mauderose@comcast.net). ALL GIFTS MUST BE RETURNED TO ST. PAUL'S BY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12. Crossover will begin distributing gifts to families on December 13.

Our St. Paul's Community have always been generous supporters of the Angel Tree, and the need of these children and their families is greater than ever. Let's all make this the best year ever!

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### New Wi-Fi in the building

Our New Wi-Fi provides a faster and more consistent connection to the Internet in the building. There is a new password. The password for the StPGUEST Wi-Fi in Barth Hall is L0v3Jesus.

### The Master Calendar

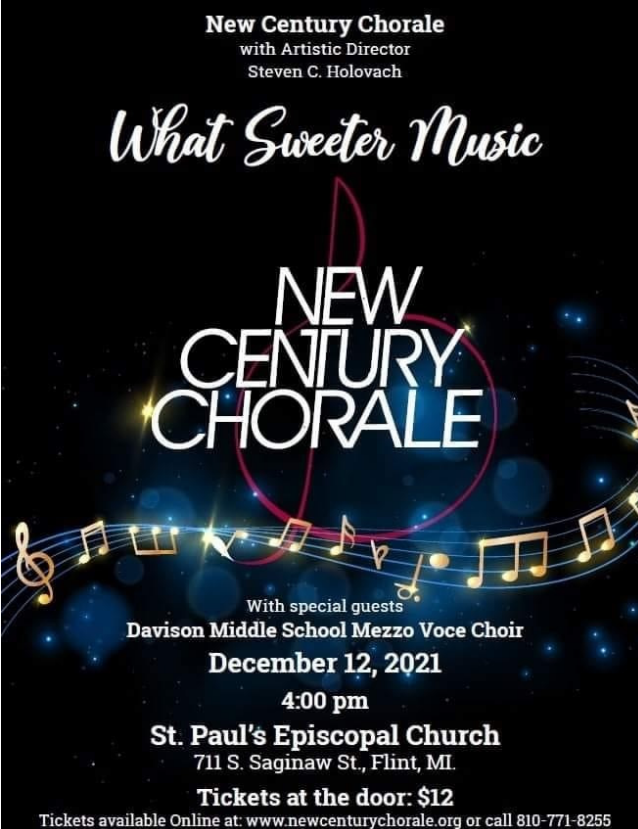
of all events, services and meetings at St. Paul's is now available on our website.

[www.stpaulschurchflint.com](http://www.stpaulschurchflint.com).

### Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of St. Paul's Episcopal Church will be held at 9:00 A.M. on Sunday, January 23, 2022. The meeting will be held in conjunction with our Sunday morning service.

If you are interested in standing election for the Vestry (a term of 3 years) please contact [TaMara Oertel](mailto:TaMara.Oertel).



New Century Chorale  
with Artistic Director  
Steven C. Holovach

*What Sweeter Music*

NEW  
CENTURY  
CHORALE

With special guests  
Davison Middle School Mezzo Voce Choir  
December 12, 2021  
4:00 pm  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
711 S. Saginaw St., Flint, MI.  
Tickets at the door: \$12  
Tickets available Online at: [www.newcenturychorale.org](http://www.newcenturychorale.org) or call 810-771-8255

If you, or someone you love would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact Fr. Don. Home visitations have not been possible during the pandemic, but with the advent of vaccinations, this can be done. Please call the office, Fr. Don or send an email to make an appointment.

## Art Walk

The Second Friday Art Walk is Friday, December 10. Audrey Stephens, the chair of this community event has arranged for Margrit Schlatter to be the featured artist, with music accompaniment on the piano by our own Holly Richardson. You can view information about the walk on our parish website. The evening will end with Compline about 9:00 P.M.

### Your Vestry:

Barbara Mannor, Senior Warden  
(seniorwarden@stpaulschurchflint.com)

*(Outreach)*

Becky Bennett, Junior Warden  
(juniorwarden@stpaulschurchflint.com)

*(Building and Grounds)*

Maggie Hart, Treasurer *(Finance)*  
(treasurer@stpaulschurchflint.com)

Ed Henneke

Ferrell Katzenberger *(Pastoral Care)*

Jan Bugbee

TaMara Oertel *(Worship)*

Walter Peake *(Stewardship)*

Dr. Elizabeth Jordan

*(Member of Diocesan Council)*

### Staff:

The Reverend Dr. Don Davidson, Priest-in-charge

(rector@stpaulschurchflint.com)

Fr. Don's cell phone: 810 836 8727

The Reverend Deacon Donna Kusky

Deacon in residence

(donna@stpaulschurchflint.com)

George Gibson, Director of Finance  
(directoroffinance@stpaulschurchflint.com)

Holly Richardson, Director of Music  
(directorofmusic@stpaulschurchflint.com)

Vacant, Administrative Assistant

Rafael McDaniel, Gospel Choir Director

Matthew Benkert, Organist

Terrance Whitehead, Sexton

Edythe Peake, Web Editor

(webeditor@stpaulschurchflint.com)

Jelesia Ford Geraghty

*(Member: Diocesan Standing Committee)*



**Blood Drive**  
**Red Cross Donation Center**  
1401 S. Grand Traverse Street, Flint

**Tuesday, December 28, 2021**  
**8:00 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.**

To schedule your appointment, log on to [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) (sponsor code GCARC) or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](https://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



Spread cheer! Come give Dec. 17-Jan. 2 for an exclusive long-sleeved Red Cross T-shirt, Ltd. qty!

Give Something that Means Something™

1-800-RED CROSS | [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App

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## St. Paul's is here and there and everywhere



Elizabeth Jordan is a member of the Diocesan Council, a Deputy (delegate) to the House of Deputies of the General Convention of the Episcopal Church meeting this coming summer in Baltimore, MD and a committee chairperson.

An article in the December 2 edition of the "Feast" the on-line newsletter of the Episcopal Dioceses of

Eastern and Western Michigan reminded Michigan Episcopalians of the process to make changes in the way in which the Episcopal Church operates, and the passage of meaningful resolutions on all kinds of topics. Thank you Elizabeth for representing all of us so very well.



# Christmas at St. Paul's 2022

## Christmas Eve

5:00P.M. with Cantata

10:30P.M. Carols,

11:00P.M. Holy Eucharist

## Christmas Day

9:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist