



Tower Talk

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

The Church with Heart, in the Heart of the City

Good Friday, 2022

You

Your family and friends are
invited to meal
Easter meal

Celebrating the Resurrection

Of the Son of God

April 17, 2022

9:00 AM



Music will be glorious!

Your friends will be delighted to
see you.

No crowds or difficulty finding a seat.

RSVP directly to Jesus in prayer

Informal Great Vigil of Easter at 8:00 P.M.

Saturday, April 16, 2022

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

The Rev. Don Davidson

priest-in-charge

George Gibson,

director of finance

Holly Richardson,

director of music

Megan Faris,

administrative assistant

Rafael McDaniel,

gospel choir director

Matthew Benkert, organist

Terrance Whitehead, sexton

Edythe Peake, web editor

June 2 Announcement

This year St Paul's celebrates its 150th anniversary with events that commemorate parish milestones and recall the impact of St Paul's on our local community. On Saturday, May 14, we will have an opportunity to re-establish relationships and get to know our neighbors better through a downtown cleanup project, and then on Thursday, June 2, we will welcome parish and community members into a conversation about how we can work together to serve local needs. Our conversation will be led by facilitators from Partners for Sacred Places. The June 2 date is rescheduled from a previous event that had to be cancelled. This is an exciting chance to imagine together how St Paul's can participate more fully in the life of the city which we are called to love and serve and to learn from community leaders what resources we have that can meet the community's needs. In John's story of the last supper, Jesus' act of humble service challenged the apostles' ideas about what service means and opened up new ways of thinking about who Jesus is and how his followers are called to be in relationship with others.

As we bring the June 2 event to prayer we can imagine ourselves in conversation with the others at that table after Christ has washed our feet, working out what such an act of service means for us, what it means for our relationships with the world around us and what it means for our future.

Joel Arnold

From Fr. Don

I cannot tell you how much I am looking forward to spending this Easter with you. For the first time in three years, our service will be nearly as we remember Easter services from the past.

The chalice has returned for those who wish to receive by mouth (no intinction). We welcome back ushers and bringing forth the gifts (wine, bread and money) forward by representatives of the congregation. We welcome back Eucharistic Ministers and Acolytes. Anyone may wear a mask and masks will be available, but no one is required to wear a mask. There are no attendance limits, we can fill the nave (now isn't that a nice thought).

We have been through so much with this nasty virus and we may feel a great deal of resentment for the toll it has taken in our distracted lives, economy, schools and the loss of human life, we pray we are near to finding its end, as we learn to live with it on the road to eradicating it.

Easter is all about celebrating God's victory over death with the marvelous resurrection of Jesus. Let us this Easter give thanks to those who guided us through this dark time: Doctors, Nurses, Technicians, First responders, chemists, biologists and thousands of others who created the vaccine, which has reduced the severity of the virus and saved thousands of lives.

In so many ways, this year is a resurrection for the world as we all emerge like the first green sprouts of tulips from the darkness through which we have traveled.

We must not forget. We must continue to be on alert, and do those things which will keep us healthy.

Yet, can you think of anything more important this year than coming together and loudly praising God in humble thanks for the light of the new day, for the gift of eternal life, for the wonder of life and for the mystery of love. Don+

Your Vestry:

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

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

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

Ferrell Katzenberger

Jan Bugbee

Walter Peake (Stewardship)

Parish Archivist

Dr. Elizabeth Jordan

(Member of Diocesan Council)

Joel Arnold (Intersection 150)

Tina Morrison (Worship)

Celeste Lord (Outreach)

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)

Megan Faris, Administrative Assistant
(megan@stpaulschurchflint.com)

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)

St. Paul's Office Hours
Tuesday-Thursday
9 AM—2 PM

Fr. Don: Tuesdays-Thursdays
(by appointment)

Greetings beloved friends,

We are gathering for Easter in the midst of so much loss. Two years of this pandemic has drained so much of our energy, individually and collectively. Globally, we have lost more than six million people. We are living in the midst of many wars including the war in Ukraine, where violence is seeming to have the last and sometimes the only word.

In the midst of so much that is broken in our human community we are reminded of this incredible story of resurrection where women, Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary, and other women, went to a tomb to care for a body. A dead body. Jesus' body. They ended up awakening to a new world view that was not familiar to them. It is not familiar to us.

That is the real story of Easter, where God breaks through and gives us a new way to be. Providence is what we associate with the gift of God. When God invites us to a new way of being, that is providence. Jesus died and was raised from the dead: providence.

Second thing I noticed in the story is also the deep courage of women who went to a tomb when there was so much controversy, so much fear, so much to be depressed about. But they moved, even in and through their grief to claim a deep resilience and courage that we are given as a gift.

Finally, I think there is this deep sense of amazement that everyone is awakened to in the story of resurrection. Where people who were totally afraid were overcome with an over encumbered joy. The joy of knowing God is with us in a very real way. Not as a baby that is vulnerable anymore, but as the risen Christ giving us the strength to face our fears, our challenges, and overcome everything that stymies us, and release us to this grace of joy.

So, my beloved friends, as you gather for your celebration of Easter this year, I pray that you will be filled with the reassurance of providence, a deep assurance of the courage that we have as followers of Jesus, and live into your joy abundantly.

Bishop Prince Singh

We Need Help

One of many painful remembrances of Covid is that many of the beloved members of our St. Paul's community are not attending. We pray everyday that they will return as we need them and we miss them.

God's love heals all wounds from the past, and that love and forgiveness can release you from the burden of anger, resentment or anything else that might be keeping you from your church on Sunday morning.

Sometimes small things become large things when they are not confronted. Our efforts at forgiveness and reconciliation in a formal way did not happen as I had hoped, but peacemaking, loving and growing is part of what it means to be Christian, especially now in our painfully divided and isolated world. I appeal to those who have not returned yet, and ask that you reconsider and

come home to your brothers and sisters, to our beautiful 180+ year old church and this year 150th anniversary of our building. I want you to know that you are loved, you are missed and you are needed.

Big needs:

Live-streaming Technicians
Lectors
Ushers and Greeters
Acolytes/Servers
Eucharistic Ministers*
Vestry (One vacant seat)*

** training or election required, to serve on the vestry a person must regularly attend, make contributions, be a baptized communicant, and at least 16 years old.*

For more news and our master calendar
go to:

www.stpaulschurchflint.com

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
711 South Saginaw St.
Flint, MI 48502