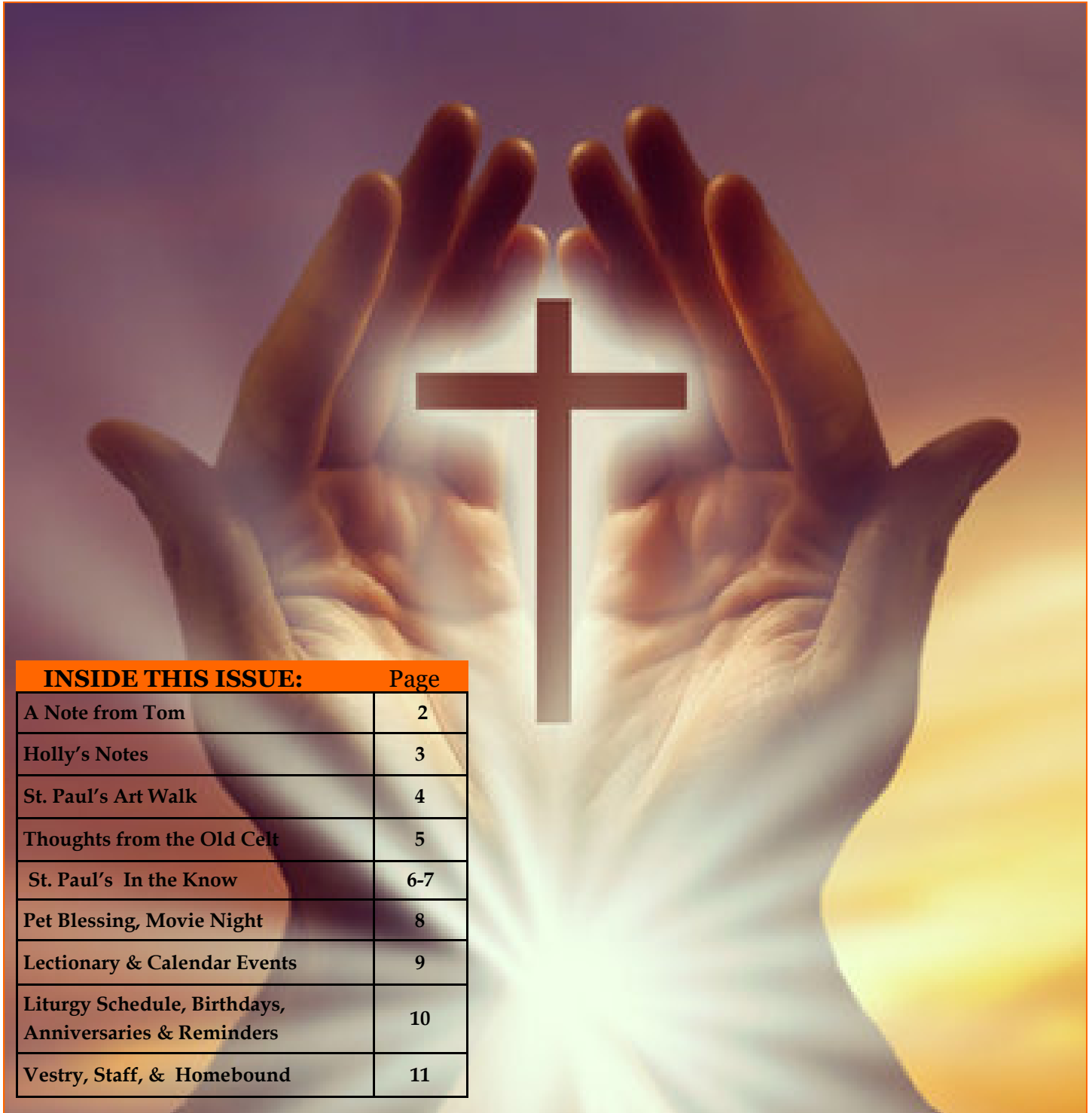




# THE EPISTLE



October  
2024



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:	Page
A Note from Tom	2
Holly's Notes	3
St. Paul's Art Walk	4
Thoughts from the Old Celt	5
St. Paul's In the Know	6-7
Pet Blessing, Movie Night	8
Lectionary & Calendar Events	9
Liturgy Schedule, Birthdays, Anniversaries & Reminders	10
Vestry, Staff, & Homebound	11



**ST. PAUL'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

711 South Saginaw St., Flint, Michigan 48502  
810.234.8637 [www.stpaulschurchflint.com](http://www.stpaulschurchflint.com)  
[STPOffice@stpaulschurchflint.com](mailto:STPOffice@stpaulschurchflint.com)



## A Note from Tom

The heavens declare the glory of God, \*  
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

-Psalm 19:1

I'd say I have a number of strong theologies – religious beliefs that I really believe in – but the strongest of them all is my belief in a *creator* God.

By this I mean that, the reason I believe in the existence of God, is because of what I perceive as the *beauty* of the world in which we live. When I look at the world, I see a beautiful creation. Now I know there are aspects of our planet that are not particularly beautiful – deserts come to mind – but when I look at the world, when I really stop to look at the planet that we call home, I am struck by one overarching thought; this world is too perfect to have just *happened*.

And this is the feeling I get each fall in Michigan. As I watch the leaves on the trees begin to change color, as I feel the cool breeze blow across my face, I am once again filled with a sense of awe at the perfection of the world. I love Autumn. And every year it serves as a reminder to me that God's in his heaven and all's right with the world.

I know that there are scientific explanations for everything. And I also understand that we have today in 2024, a much stronger understanding of the universe in which we live. But I also know that our world, our universe, and our planet possess a perfect harmony of life and beauty which seems unlikely to have just *happened*. Have you seen any of the pictures taken by the James Webb Space Telescope a couple of years ago? They are stunningly beautiful.



When I see these images, I see God. When I see the fall colors in Michigan, I see God. And when I feel that cool autumn breeze (even though I know what's coming!) I know that God is responsible for all of it. And I believe in God. Our life-giving, omnipresent, creator God.

With every blessing...

Tom+

## Holly's Notes

I went on vacation last month with my son and his family, and we had a great time. As I was people watching, I was watching quite a few multi generational families interact, and it is so interesting to see the family dynamics. Our church family can be like this too, we interact on many different levels. Do we Walk in Love? This was the Theological Statement that was in our bulletins, September 15. Do our families and our church family, Do we Walk in Love? The author of our church bulletin insert J.Davey Gerhard, said "When we walk in love, there is clarity and purpose. We move in alignment with each other and with our values." The families at the park we were at, did walk mostly in harmony, they were on vacation, as we were, they had a purpose and a vision of what they wanted to accomplish on vacation. Crying and tired children were treated as tired and crying children, with sympathy and understanding, because we were all tired. Do we as church members give each other sympathy and understanding, even when we don't know why people need sympathy or understanding? I encourage us all to walk in the love of Christ, and that we treat each other with sympathy and understanding, even when the reason is unknown to us. God knows, God understands and we show the love of God to each other through kindness, sympathy and understanding. Of course there is a song:

"Show a Little Bit of Love and Kindness" by the Collingsworth Family

*Show a little bit of love and kindness Never go around with hatred's blindness, Take a little time to reach for joy and wear a happy face*

*Sing a little bit when the days are dreary, Give a little help to a friend that's weary*

*That's the way to make the world a happy place*

*Sing a song (Sing a song) Spread some cheer (Spread some cheer)*

*There are sad and lonely people everywhere Be a friend (Be a friend)*

*Show some love (Show some love) It will lift them from the dungeons of despair*

*Offer help (Offer help) Bring some hope (Bring some hope)*

*Through the fainting and discourage on life's road, See a need (See a need)*

*Lend a hand (Lend a hand). There are many who are crushed beneath life's load*

*Sing a little bit when the days are dreary Give a little help to a friend that's weary*

*That's the way to make the world a happy place*

*That's the way to make the world a happy place*

<https://youtu.be/98iV3KyPOIE>

Spread some cheer, everyone,  
Holly Richardson, Director of Music



# Artwalk

Tom Myers and Margrit Schlatter are our October artists for Artwalk.

**Thomas Myers** (Tom) is a native of Michigan. He spent his early years in Flint, and later moved to Davidson where he graduated from high school.

Tom realized an interest in and developed a talent for art later in life. After joining a local painting group he became interested in oil painting, in particular. Tom finds the versatility of oil offers him a wide range of painting techniques over the past few years.

Tom's art evokes images of homes, farms and people of his own area. His love of family and home as well as found memories of the are all present in his paintings. None of his paintings are an exact representation of what he sees. For that, he could take a photograph. Tom's paintings are more about mood and a certain warm feeling done with creativity.

Tom has had paintings on view at the Flint Institute of Arts and A&J Gallery in Bay City. He is a member of the Greater Flint Arts Council, Grand Blanc Arts Council, Shiawassee Art Center, Fenton Art Guild as well as the Flint Institute of Arts.

---

## Margrit Schlatter

I am a self taught artist and call my art, *ART FROM THE HEART*.

I grew up on a farm in Switzerland where I spent most of my childhood outdoors. In 1976 I immigrated to the Flint area with my husband intending to stay for 1 or 2 years. 46 years later we are still here having raised 2 sons and enjoy 2 grand children.

In the late 70's a friend invited me to participate in a pottery class at The Flint Institute of Art and so my introduction to the art world began.

After working with clay for several years I felt inspired to try something new and bought colored pencils and paper and started drawing. From colored pencil I moved on to other media such as pastels and then to art markers which are my chosen tools as of now.

I like to create joyful and colorful paintings that are inspired by the beauty of the natural world but also through meditation.

Over the years I have exhibited through various art councils in the area , some restaurants and have participated in art walk several times.



## Music Performance



# MOTT COMMUNITY COLLEGE JAZZ BAND

---

# THOUGHTS FROM THE OLD CELT

At the 10:00 mass on August 18, we sang Hymn 370, which we know as St. Patrick's Breastplate. Here is some background on Patricius.

First, as most of you already know, he was not Irish, even though he's known as Ireland's Patron Saint. He was born in an affluent English family in 372 BCE. Second, he did not ban snakes from Ireland. There is no scientific history that there ever were snakes there.

In his early life he was what we would now call an "indifferent student." He was kidnapped at the age of 16 and taken to Ireland. His first indentured work was as a swineherd. A few years later he became a shepherd for the same farmer. The amount of solitude he experienced while with the sheep in the hills gave him time to process the ideas of religion and faith. He began to have dreams about sailing to England on a boat full of pigs. He walked over 200 miles to the coast, and found passage to England. His journal entries from his seven years in England show that he was spending more and more time in his search to understand his growing belief in the Christian faith. He also wrote of his regret for not being a more diligent student when he was younger. Patrick worked hard to overcome the educational building blocks that he had missed not only in school, but in Ireland.

A testament to his active and inquisitive mind, Patrick began having dreams of being called back to Ireland. He had dreams of receiving letters marked "Vox Hibernicam" which he could neither read nor understand. In his dreams he heard voices crying out, "Come to us, O Holy Youth, and walk among us." The next many years had many stops, and in 430, Pope Celestius finally consecrated Patrick as the Archbishop for the Irish Mission.

Patrick and his followers sailed to Ireland, and after a few brief stops, landed at the mouth of the Boyne River in what is now the old city of Drogheda, on the eastern mid-coast of Ireland. Next we will learn of the first Easter Vigil in Ireland, and how the lorica of the Breastplate came to be.

Slan Tamail agus Beannacht De'

Tomas'





## Reflections on the National Altar Guild Association Annual Meeting

As many of you know, I was the recipients of a National Altar Guild Scholarship to during General Convention last year. As one of the recipients I was blessed to have exposure to many holy and wonderful things. From the Revival with Presiding Bishop Curry to preparing communion for thousands, each moment was filled with warmth and understanding from the board members; current and past, as we learned new ways to do familiar things. Days were well planned with thoughtful foresight. The week couldn't have been better.

While there, I was asked to manage the Online Store for the National Altar Guild Association. Since I don't mind a challenge, I accepted the opportunity and now am on the Board of the NAGA.

Without question the best part of the week was the new relationships built with the body of Christ from all over the nation. I came home with new experiences and knowledge, but even better than that - a new family.

I end with a quote from the keynote speaker at our Annual Meeting, Rev. Anne Schnair, "We have proximity to holy things, it's an honor, joy and privilege."

Thanks be to God.

TaMara Oertel

---

## St. Paul's Community Growth

We have a 'good problem' at St. Paul's! We're growing. Our work with Sacred Places is being realized! Currently St. Paul's is being utilized by community organizations; Family Promise, National Altar Guild Association online store, GHS Trans Support Group, New Century Chorale, Community Assistance Coordinator, and Flint Residents for Stronger Neighborhoods.

This means we don't have as much extra space for storage. In the past there has been space available for 'extras', however now, we don't have the luxury of places to put things that someone *might use*. *It doesn't take long for a room to be filled with things not being used, not useful and taking up space, with no one actually knowing what is there.*

Because of this we are asking that the only things being brought in are those asked for, and going directly to the places we support - Crossover, The Angel Tree or any project that is time sensitive and will be leaving the building for it's final destination.

Thanks be to God that our vision of using St. Paul's as a space for community is beginning to happen.

With appreciation,  
TaMara Oertel  
Senior Warden



## Coming Soon - Childcare during Mass

Have you noticed that we are blessed with more little ones? Babies!! And we have a good problem, I want to offer these families the opportunity to worship without having to manage little ones during the service . AND, it takes a village. Supplying the room is the easy part. We need volunteers to supervise and care for these little ones. Diocesan guidelines require that those caring for children have Safeguarding God's Church training, which is offered via Zoom for free. The second thing is that we must have two adults in the room. I think these are reasonable guidelines. The sooner we have volunteers to manage the room, the sooner we can offer the space to our families.

If we have half a dozen people we can rotate so the same people don't have the responsibility every week.

Please contact me if you are interested in this new ministry.

With a thankful heart,

TaMara Oertel

Senior Warden



---

## Children's Formation Program

For the summer we did a Children's Formation program on Sunday mornings. It was for 30 minutes from the beginning of church to the offertory. We then had the children carry a cross ahead of the Communion gifts and the collection plates.

Each week we shared gospel stories and completed crafts before returning to church for communion. Fr Tom is very supportive of continuing this program. However, we need to recruit others to help. I am willing to lead this ministry. Our goal is to develop a program that will teach children the Bible stories and love of Jesus.

Hopefully, by offering a weekly program we will be able to reach more families with children. If you would like to help with this ministry contact Fr. Tom or myself, Barbara Mannor [mannortb@aol.com](mailto:mannortb@aol.com) or 810-315-8098. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Mannor





## Blessing of the Animals

**Sunday, October 6, 2024 | 10:00 am Holy Eucharist**

*Followed by coffee hour with representatives from the Humane Society*

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church | 711 S. Saginaw Street | Flint**

The Blessing of the Animals is a tradition in many Episcopal Churches, honoring St. Francis. Dogs, cats, birds, snakes (and once an iguana) have joined us in the past for an individual blessing. All are welcome, no exceptions. Pets are family! Blessings, water, treats, and ear scratches will be generously shared on Sunday, October 6. Outdoor restrooms are available in the front yard.

Dogs must be on a leash, other animals should be in carriers. Large animals, or those that would not be comfortable in a church can be blessed on the front lawn after the service. This would apply to horses and goats.

Please consider bringing a can or bag of pet food, cat litter, blankets or treats for donation to the Humane Society of Genesee County.

The Blessing of the Animals is a tradition in many Episcopal Churches honoring St. Francis of Assisi.

## Movie Night at St. Paul's



**Come out and enjoy a movie with us!**

**Wednesday, October 16, 2024**

**Meet at 5:30 p.m.**

**Movie at 6:00 p.m.**







## Upcoming Scripture Lessons

### for Worship

## The Revised Common Lectionary: Year B

### October 6\*

*Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost  
Feast of St. Francis of Assisi (transferred)*

Job 39:1-18

Acts 4:32-35, 5:1-11

Luke 12:13-21

### October 13

*Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost  
Proper 23*

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Psalms 90:12-17

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31

### October 20

*Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost  
Proper 24*

Isaiah 53:4-12

Psalms 91:9-16

Hebrews 5:1-10

Mark 10:35-45

### October 27

*Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost  
Proper 25*

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Psalms 126

Hebrews 7:23-28

Mark 10:46-52



\*Pet Blessing

## Calendar of Events

### October 2024

TUE	1 <sup>st</sup>	11:00 am - Building & Grounds 5:30 pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
WED	2 <sup>nd</sup>	5:30 pm - Episcopal Kaleidoscope
THU	3 <sup>rd</sup>	10:00 am - Common Threads 1:00 pm - G.H.S. Trans support 5:30 pm - Resources & Assistances Coordination 6:30 pm - Outreach 7:00 pm - Gospel Choir Rehearsal
SUN	6 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am - Pet Blessing
MON	7 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 pm - NCC Rehearsal
TUE	8 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
WED	9 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm - Technology Committee
THUR	10 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 am - Order of St. Luke 5:30 pm - Stewardship Committee 7:00 pm - Gospel Choir Rehearsal
FRI	11 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 pm - St. Paul's Artwalk
SAT	12 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am - NCC Rehearsal
SUN	13 <sup>th</sup>	11:30 am - Diversity Ministry 2:00 pm - NCC Rehearsal 4:00 pm - NCC Concert
MON	14 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 pm - NCC Rehearsal
TUE	15 <sup>th</sup>	11:30 am - Finance Committee Mtg 5:30 pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
WED	16 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 pm - Movie Night
THUR	17 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am - Common Threads 1:00 pm - G.H.S. Trans Support 5:30 pm - Spiritual Development 7:00 pm - Gospel Choir Rehearsal
MON	21 <sup>st</sup>	7:00 pm - NCC Rehearsal
TUE	22 <sup>nd</sup>	5:30 pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
WED	23 <sup>rd</sup>	6:30 pm - Vestry Meeting
THUR	24 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 pm - Crossover Board of Directors Monthly Meeting 5:30 pm - Liturgy Committee 7:00 pm - Gospel Choir Rehearsal
SUN	27 <sup>th</sup>	4:00 pm - MIHC - Concert Rubatio Trio
MON	28 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 pm - NCC Rehearsal
TUE	29 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

# October's Liturgy Schedule

Dates		Lector 1	Lector 2	Intercessor (Prayers of the People)
6-Oct-2024		Joel Arnold	Rebecca Bennett	Lanie Nix
13-Oct-2024	G	Susumu Inoue	Kim Ramirez	Rayna Hauter
20-Oct-2024	B	Tom Shriver	TaMara Oertel	Joel Arnold
27-Oct-2024		Velesia Ford	Rebecca Bennett	Pat Emenyonu

Dates		Eucharistic Minister	Crucifer	Verger	8:00 AM
6-Oct-2024		Rayna Hauter	Ed Walthers	Mike Farver	Tim Grant
13-Oct-2024	G	Bill Johnson	Rayna Hauter	Ed Walthers	Ed Walthers
20-Oct-2024	B	Tim Grant	Bill Johnson	Mike Farver	Rayna Hauter
27-Oct-2024		Jelesia Geraghty	Erynn Ford	Ed Walthers	Tamara Oertel

## Anniversaries

10/8	TIMLIN, Moses & Celeste
10/14	BOMMARITO, Mike & Debbie
10/16	STRUCK, Lawrence & Norma
10/27	PEAKE, Walter & Edythe

## October 2024

## Birthdays

10/2	DEGEORGE, Sean
10/2	SHRIVER, Thomas
10/4	KUSKY, Donna
10/7	MANNEY, Thomas
10/8	KATZENBERGER, Ferrell
10/10	OERTEL, Genevieve
10/10	MANYGOATS, Myron
10/11	STRUCK, Norma
10/16	KENNEDY, Michael
10/18	MATAR, Russell
10/22	CHERRY, Jack
10/26	MISKA, Joann
10/28	STOERMAN, Judith
10/28	WHITEHEAD, Terence
10/29	BAILEY, Zack

### FRIENDLY REMINDER:

#### SUBMISSION TO THE EPISTLE

When submitting articles to *The Epistle*, please submit via e-mail to: [STPOffice@stpaulschurchflint.com](mailto:STPOffice@stpaulschurchflint.com).

When sending in articles please make sure they are in a simple format to copy and paste.

Submission reminders go out on the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month. Submission deadlines are the 25<sup>th</sup> of every month.

Thanks!

## Your Vestry:

(all at [stpaulschurchflint.com](http://stpaulschurchflint.com))

**TaMara Oertel**, Senior Warden  
(Education) (Finance)  
(seniorwarden@)

**Jan Bugbee**, Treasurer (Finance)  
(treasurer@)

**Tina Morrison**, Clerk of the Vestry  
(clerk@) (Worship)

**Heather Gagnon** (Pastoral Care)  
(heather@)

**Joel Arnold** (juniorwarden@)  
(Intersection 150 & PSP)  
(joel@)

**Celeste Lord Timlin** (Outreach)  
(celeste@)

**Zan Milner** (Stewardship)  
(zan@)

**Karen Schaefer** (Outreach)  
(karen@)

## Staff:

**The Rev. Thomas Manney**  
**Priest-in-Charge**  
rector@stpaulschurchflint.com

**Karein Russell**  
Administrative Assistant  
Editor; The Epistle  
stpoffice@stpaulschurchflint.com

**George Gibson**,  
Director of Finance (directoroffinance@)

**Holly Richardson**,  
Director of Music (directorofmusic@)  
**Rafael McDaniel**, Gospel Choir Director  
(gospel@)

**Ed Arter**, Organist (organist@)

**Terence Whitehead**, Sexton

**Edythe Peake**, Web Editor  
(webeditor@stpaulschurchflint.com)



## For our Homebound Parishoners:

Joy Fusi, Judy Stoerman, Doris Carroll,  
Marion Leman, Richard Wooten, Greg

Worship at St. Paul's

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:00 am

Wednesday: 12:10 p.m.

The link below will take you to the St.  
Paul's Parish Calendar

<https://stpaulschurchflint.com/elementor-638/>

## Remember St. Paul's in your will:

Please consider helping the mission and ministry of St. Paul's by remembering the church in your will. You can do so by using the following wording:

"I hereby give, devise, and bequeath to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, a non-profit church, with the current address of 711 S. Saginaw, Flint, MI 48502, and its successor, the greater of \$\_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_percentage of my gross estate, to be used in such manner as determined by its vestry."



**ST. PAUL'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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