

THE EPISTLE

OF SAINT PAUL'S PARISH—K STREET

AN EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

JANUARY 2014 XXVII NUMBER 1



Baptism of Christ, by Jean-Baptiste
Camille Corot (1847)

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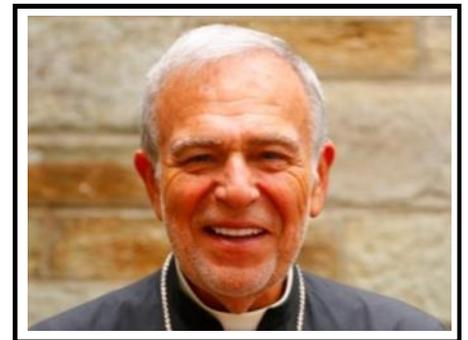
From the Interim Rector

Epiphany and epiphanies help us to see the presence of the holy within the context of life

Beloved in Christ,

As we begin a new year on the calendar, we move into the third season of the church year, Epiphany. This is a time of “manifestations” by God, beginning with the arrival of the Magi at the place where the baby Jesus is with his family, perhaps many months after the birth because of the amount of time it would have taken them to travel all the way “from the east.” There are other stories of Jesus’ infancy, including Herod’s plot to kill him (and cruelly killing every male child under age two to make sure he got him). Some of these stories are about Joseph’s dreams, each of which is a little epiphany in itself, directing Joseph to move Jesus out of harm’s way. Some years we do not hear these at all, and others they show up on the weekdays and Sundays between the Incarnation and the Epiphany.

The Sundays after the Epiphany begin and end with God’s manifestation of love and confidence in Jesus, naming him “my son” on the occasion of his baptism, and telling Jesus how pleased God is with him during the Transfiguration of Jesus. I like to think of that second powerful communication to and affirmation of Jesus as



THE RT. REV'D JIM JELINEK

very much like his ordination. It comes at a time when no one, including the disciples, seem to understand him and what he is about, and he comes away from it with a new determination and renewed confidence that he is doing what God gives him to do.

Those two powerful events are for Jesus’ sake; they are events we look in on and learn from, but they are truly for him. In between them, we have a number of different kinds of epiphanies. Some of them are about Jesus and yet are for us (or for the people of that time): John the Baptist names him the Lamb of God; Andrew says, “We have found the Messiah.” Other epiphanies are from Jesus to the people of his day, and through them to us:

THE EPISTLE

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THE VESTRY

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Patricia Byrd (2014)
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The Epistle is a monthly publication of St. Paul's Parish. We invite you to submit your articles, photos, and suggestions. Email us at epistleeditor@gmail.com. **Our deadline is the first of each month** (for the next month's issue) and articles accepted for the Epistle are subject to editorial revision. Please submit your content in Microsoft Word format. © 2014 St. Paul's Parish, K Street, Washington.

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"it is these epiphanies of light which help us to glimpse how beautiful is the 'face' of God and help us to long to see God more and more"

these include the Beatitudes, some images of light (on a lampstand, not under a bushel, and with the encouragement "Let your light shine!), discussions of commandments and the Law and Jesus seeing his life and ministry as a fulfillment of the Law, telling us to love even our enemies, and his powerful encouragement: "Don't worry about your life....do not worry about tomorrow."

A number of people in the parish and in other places I have served have told me how much they like the season of Advent. I do, too. But then, I also like Christmas, and wonder how we could live without the time of Epiphany. I am grateful for what we have, for each season of the church year is a gift to us for learning and seeing and becoming. Epiphany and epiphanies help us to see the presence of the holy within the context of life, and I wonder, if there were not such special events and moments, whether we would become very aware of what is wondrous at all.

I am reminded of St. Paul's comment, "Now we see through a glass darkly; then we shall see face to face." On one hand I agree with him very much, and on the other, it is these epiphanies of light which help us to glimpse how beautiful is the "face" of God and help us to long to see God more and more.

A blessed Epiphany to you all!

+Jim Jelinek
Interim Rector



Youth Acolytes Share their Stories

Editor's Note: We are delighted that several youth acolytes responded to a request to give a brief account of their stories as acolytes.

Henry Darmstadter has served as an acolyte since he was 12 and is now at college but still serves occasionally when he is home, including at Thanksgiving when he and his brother Paul made it possible for St. Paul's to have a full sung Mass when many servers were out of town or otherwise unavailable. He will also be serving at the 4:30 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve.

Savva Brown, now in fifth grade, and Juan Pineda, now in sixth grade, both started serving in November 2012 and have been dedicated acolytes since then, Savva at the 9:00 a.m. Mass and Juan at the 11:15 a.m. Mass. It has been a delight to see young acolytes serve at the altar and to be models for others to follow.

Henry Darmstadter

Lessons Over the Years

Joining the Acolyte Guild was a great way to introduce me to the Episcopal Church. As a youngster, I was always fidgeting in the pew so I never paid much attention to what went on during a service; but when I became a boat bearer, I had to stand at attention and perform a function. As a result, I learned a lot about how a service, the Sung Mass in particular, is conducted. The Acolyte Guild has taught me many roles over the years. My very favorite is that of thurifer. Wonderful people have crossed my path too. The Acolyte Guild has been a rewarding experience.



Juan Pineda

My First Year as an Acolyte

I became an acolyte thanks to Fr. Andrew. When I came to St. Paul's a little over a year ago, one Sunday morning, he asked me if I wanted to become an acolyte. I told him I would love to be an acolyte, and I knew that being an acolyte would be a great experience for me. I did it because I knew if I became an acolyte I would learn more about The Lord and the Mass.

I have learned from being an acolyte how to light the candles and torches. I have also learned to prepare the incense for the thurifer. What I like most about being an acolyte is that I have met new friends. One of my new friends is Bishop Jim. On his first Sunday at St. Paul's, I said to him after the Mass, "We acolytes got your back."



Savva Brown

Serving as Boat Bearer

When I serve as boat bearer, I have to be in the sacristy earlier than the rest of the churchgoers because I have to get the boat ready by crushing the incense. And, if I have extra time, I would get the coals ready inside the thurible and light them up. The thurible is a thing that the thurifer uses to get smoke everywhere and to get the good smell around the church. I go into the church with the procession next to the thurifer.

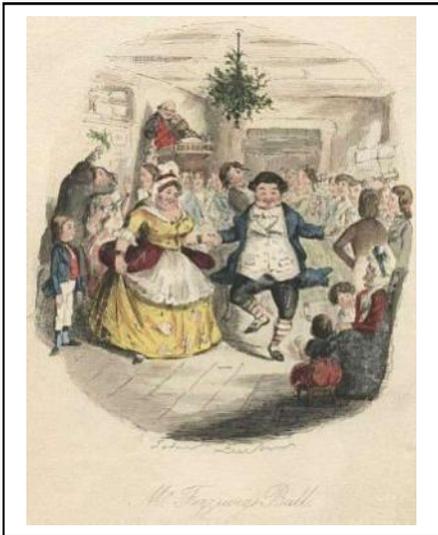
I am the youngest person on the crew but we all treat each other equally. I like that as boat bearer you get more relaxation time, more time off. During the sermon, I go into the sacristy and play with rubber bands and stuff.

The most difficult thing about doing the boat bearer job is having to stand still for so long. Being a boat bearer helped me by helping get over being nervous in front of large crowds of people. I also meet a lot of people who are very different. Like this one guy on my crew used to work in the Navy and he tells me some stories about it. I would recommend this job to kids who want to be acolytes but don't want a really hard job.



December: Activities at St. Paul's

A Christmas Carol



Nancy Work

Stephen Mead's performance of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" played to a full house thanks to the excellent publicity of the Commission on Evangelization and St. Paul's administrative staff and volunteers. Parishioners, choir parents with choristers, as well as friends and neighbors came. So did children with their cushions and rugs. Stephen was spell bindingly excellent, assuming the voice of each character and ghost in his moving drama. He instilled the joys of brotherly love and Christmastide.

The audience sang out fully on the three Christmas carols at each break during the one hour performance, then they gathered happily for a reception of punch, sherry, mince pies and ginger cookies. Someone suggested we make this an annual St. Paul's event!



GW Student Study Center

Katherine Britton

On December 9, 10, 15, 16, & 17 from 7 - 11 p.m., St. Paul's opened its doors to GW university students to provide an exam study center. We offered a quiet place to study as well as free coffee, free baked goods, and wi-fi. We hosted students each night, with ten coming on December 10, right in the middle of the exam study period — a huge success! The students all expressed real gratitude for St. Paul's willingness to open its doors to them.

Through the study center, we reached out in service and hospitality to one of our biggest neighbors, GW students. We "evangelized" simply by being present and open. We hope that this effort introduced some of our neighbors to St. Paul's making it possible for them to consider joining us in their spiritual journeys.

A very special thanks to our seminarian, Carlos de la Torre, for making this new initiative happen.



Advent Quiet Day

Fr. Lyndon Shakespeare

On the Feast of St. Ambrose, Dec. 8, Fr. Shakespeare led a quiet day on the theme of Advent and the Journey of Hope. The day included meditations on the Isaiah readings for the season, time for reflection and contemplation, followed by a period of service as bags for the homeless were packed and sorted. Hope, we learned, is a matter of desiring God, and living into God's desire of us. It names the condition of preparation particularly as we await the birth of Christ, the eternal Son of God.



Gift Bags for the Homeless



Carlos de la Torre

Through your generous donations, St. Paul's was able to put together 185 Christmas gift bags. Each gift bag consisted of items varying from socks to chap sticks to a small sweet treat. The gift bags were given out on Sunday, December 8, during the Grate Patrol's Sunday morning breakfast distribution.

Many different groups in the parish were involved in this amazing effort: parishioners who made donations, choristers who decorated bags, Youth Corps, Quiet Day participants, members of Hic et Nunc and others who filled the bags on Saturday, December 7, and Grate Patrol drivers on Sunday, December 8. This effort would not have been possible without the help and prayers of all who were involved.

Thank you all for your commitment to this ministry; thank you for being a blessing to our homeless brothers and sisters during this Advent season.



The Hereford Cathedral Choir: Washington Experiences

Mark Gacek, Hereford Chorister Tutor,
and Cathy Downes

In the December 2013 Epistle, Tom Morrison reviewed the Hereford Cathedral Men and Boys Choir's musical contributions at St. Paul's in October 2013. This article gives an overview of the Choir's visit and experiences in Washington D.C.

The Hereford choir arrived in the city on 25 October and visited the Washington Cathedral where they were shown over the damage caused by the earthquake. They then visited the British Embassy, where they had a mini-tour and history lesson. The Choir provided an impromptu rendition of "Hail gladdening light" that they had sung for Her Majesty the Queen in July. After a slow stop-start bus trip around some of the Washington sights (at rush hour), the Choir returned to the Cathedral for rehearsals for a Choral Evensong that night.

The rehearsal helped the boys to settle and blend with the men, allowing their voices to penetrate the vast space of the Cathedral (it is the 6th largest in the world).

On Saturday, 26 October, the Choir was hosted by members of the Cathedral, and the boys variously visited the National Zoo, the Air and Space Museum, and an playground adventure park with giant slides and climbing frames.

Their hosts dropped the choir members off at St. Paul's K Street in time for afternoon tea. The boys, hyped up by their day of visits, indulged in a few games of seeing how high they could throw their zoo soft toys up in the Atrium! Finally one was thrown so high it got stuck!! Rescue was at hand thanks to C.B. Wooldridge, Scott Spaulding and the great lifter used for high up decorating, and one small toy was restored to one grateful owner!



Hereford Choir and leaders at the British Embassy

After a rehearsal, the men and boys dispersed with their St. Paul's hosts, to return on Sunday morning for breakfast and another rehearsal. Arrival was a challenge in itself, as everyone—hosts, choristers and the hospitality team had to get themselves across and through D.C. in the middle of the Marine Corps Marathon!

The Hereford choir sang the 9.00 a.m. and 11.15 a.m. services. Then after an afternoon of light relief with hosts, the Choir returned late-afternoon for a rehearsal before the Evensong and Benediction service.

The Evensong was a great experience in a number of ways. The Hereford choir was joined by the three St. Paul's choirs, making a combined choir of 60 voices and creating an especially rich and powerful choral sound. Also, for the Hereford choir, it was an introduction to the very special Benediction part of the service.

After the service, the St. Paul's hospitality team (led by Juliana Wal-

ton and C.B. Wooldridge and a small army of volunteers) provided a supper for both choirs. The Hereford choristers returned home with their St. Paul's hosts and were up and away early the next morning for Albany, NY.

St. Paul's K Street has become a regular stop for the visiting UK choir tours through the good relationships maintained by Director of Music, Robert McCormick, the wonderful hospitality team efforts to support these choir visits and, in this case, the generous donations of the St. Paul's choirs.





Search Committee Update: Timeline

December 2013	January 2014	February 2014	March 2014	April 2014	May 2014	June 2014
<p>12/3 Draft of parish survey topics</p> <p>12/14 Joint meeting with vestry</p> <p>Gather data about parish and neighbors</p>	<p>Launch survey</p> <p>Begin focus group planning (including talk with Bp. Jim)</p>	<p>2/4 Review survey results</p> <p>Craft focus group questions</p> <p>Conduct focus groups</p>	<p>Draft Profile</p> <p>3/28 Text complete</p> <p>Submit text to vestry and congregation for preview</p> <p>Send draft to CH* for review and approval</p> <p>Complete OTM** portfolio</p>	<p>4/25 submit final profile and portfolio to CH</p> <p>Publish profile on website</p>	<p>Position Open</p> <p>Develop questions for initial screening of candidates (written responses in July)</p> <p>Develop probing questions for phone interviews for smaller group of candidates (August)</p>	<p>Position closes 30 days after opening</p> <p>Begin receiving names from CH</p> <p>Analyze candidate submissions, qualifications</p> <p>Discern initial group to whom written questions will be sent, update candidates</p>

*CH: Church House (Diocesan Offices)

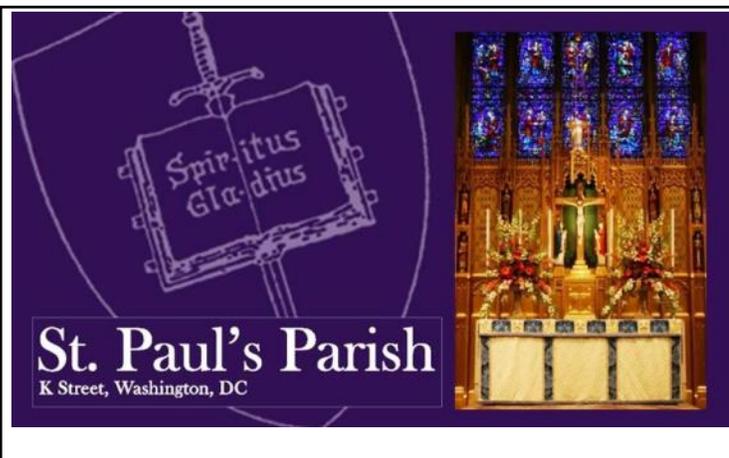
**OTM: Office of Transition Ministry at 815 Second Avenue, NYC

***Oxford Check: Criminal/financial background check for out-of-diocese candidates

For New Rector Search

July 2014	August 2014	September 2014	October 2014	November 2014	After November 2014
<p>Written responses to questions</p> <p>Review written responses and discern list of phone interviewees; update candidates</p>	<p>Schedule and conduct phone interviews</p> <p>Discern parish visit list, update candidates</p> <p>Check references</p> <p>Send parish visit list to CH for Oxford check***</p>	<p>Start visits to candidate parishes</p> <p>Discern hosting visit list, update candidates</p>	<p>Call backs</p> <p>Host candidates to meet full search committee, see parish, and meet Bishop</p>	<p>Discern finalists (consensus), update candidates</p> <p>Prepare report on finalists</p> <p>Present report to Vestry late November</p> <p>Send list to CH</p>	<p>Vestry interviews finalists, discerns new rector, negotiates letter of agreement, announces rector to parish</p>

Commission on Evangelization: Business Cards



St. Paul's Parish

A place for you, 365 days of the year.

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Washington, DC 20037
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info@stpauls-kst.com
www.stpauls-kst.com
Find us on Facebook!



Near Foggy Bottom Metro
Limited parking in rear

The Episcopal Church Welcomes You

Katherine Britton

Did you know that St. Paul's has "business cards"?

Did you wonder how you might use a St. Paul's "business card"?

See below what a difference this little item can make. Consider how you might use St. Paul's business cards to share our faith, joy and wonder with others.



Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2013

10:04 AM

To: Bishop Jim Jelinek

Subject: Thanksgiving

The Right Reverend James L. Jelinek
St. Paul's K Street
Washington, D.C

Dear Fr Jelinek,

As we approach this time of Thanksgiving, please allow me to express my appreciation and thanks for a random act of kindness by one of your parishioners.

On a recent visit to Washington, I was riding a Metro Bus into downtown Washington. I happened to be wearing my Episcopal tee-shirt which was noticed by a middle-aged woman on the bus. She asked me to what Parish I belonged, and I responded that I was visiting from West Virginia and attended Trinity Episcopal Church in Huntington, West Virginia. From her purse, this kind lady pulled out the St. Paul's Parish "business card" with map and contact information on the

back, and invited me to attend St. Paul's.

I have kept the card in my own wallet as a frequent reminder of the importance of sharing, ---especially with strangers--- the invitation to experience God in His many forms in the welcoming environment of a loving Church.

I am thankful for the kindness of this woman, and wonder how many others have been touched by her outreach. Her action on that bus has affected me more than she will ever know.

From the snowy hills of West Virginia to you in our nation's capitol, I send wishes for a very happy Thanksgiving, and may God continue to bless you and St. Paul's.

Chuck Ricks

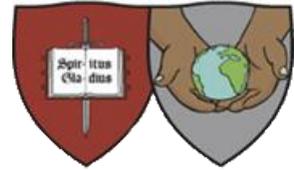
Executive Director
Cabell County Community Services
Organization, Inc.

Worship and Wonder Continues

Sunday, December 15, Worship and Wonder at 9:00 Mass: A photographic report from Janet Wamsley



SAINT PAUL'S PARISH
COMMISSION ON MISSION



DONATIONS NEEDED

Cuts in the federal food stamp program make food pantries all the more essential. Our food drive for the Foggy Bottom Food Pantry continues. Cans of fruit, vegetables or other non-perishable items can be placed in the basket near the baptismal font.



Lessons and Carols: A Thrilling Voice is Sounding



Katherine Britton

On December 1 and again on December 15, the combined choirs of St. Paul's invited us to a blessed Advent with the beloved, annual services of Lessons and Carols. I can think of no better way to describe the music of

Elgar, Handel, Willan and others that the choirs offered us than the words of the Advent hymn:

*Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding;
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say,
"Cast away the works of darkness,
O ye children of the day."*

On both Sundays, the church was full despite the fact that the second service had to be rescheduled from December 8 because snow, sleet and ice made it too treacherous to go forward as planned. On each day, visitors and parishioners alike shared this beautiful moment in our spiritual journey toward the coming of the Christ child, God incarnate.

St. Paul's is indebted to Robert McCormick, Director of Music, John Bradford Bohl, Interim Assisting Musician, and the more than 40 singers who dedicated so much time and effort into making these services a thrilling sound for all of us. We are also indebted to all who participated in the service — ushers, acolytes, readers, clergy — and all who provided the background work of program preparation which ensured that the whole congregation could participate fully.

Stand out thanks to everyone involved with the two services!



Vestry Report

Steven Chlapecka

Throughout November and December, the Vestry continued its regular work in addition to focusing on the parish transition and finalizing the stewardship campaign.

Parish income continues to be higher than budgeted for this point in the year. Utilities expenses continue to remain under budget. Roy Byrd agreed to serve as the Stewardship Committee Chair and the 2014 Stewardship Campaign will launch in December and continue through January.

In November, Search Committee Co-Chair Jeanne Smith and Search Committee Member Michael Vreeland presented to the Vestry a budget and timeline for the rector search process. The Vestry approved the preliminary budget and timeline and will work with the Search Committee in

January 2014 during Vestry's regular budget deliberations to provide the funds necessary for the search. In December, Ms. Smith reported that the Search Committee has begun drafting a parish survey that will likely be distributed in January.

The Vestry also voted to support admission of Kyle Babin as a postulant for ordination to the priesthood for the Diocese of Washington.

At the November meeting, Geoff Suiter submitted his resignation to Vestry. The Vestry offered its thanks for his service on the Vestry and his and Barbara's service and participation in the parish. The Vestry appointed Steven Chlapecka to fill the vacancy and complete the remainder of Mr. Suiter's term until the next annual parish meeting in 2014.

The Vestry elected Linda Wilkinson, Phyllis Altrogge, Jack Raffetto as alternate delegates to diocesan con-

vention. They will join delegates Steven Chlapecka, George Keeler, John Stowe and Charles Zakaib III and alternate delegate Sarah Stoycos to represent St. Paul's at the 2014 Diocesan Convention on January 31-February 1.

The Vestry continued to spend significant time identifying and discussing the parish's strengths and challenges and also held a joint meeting with the Search Committee on December 14.

If you have any thoughts or concerns on any parish matters, please feel free reach out to one ore more of the Vestry members. Their names and emails can be found on the Parish website at <http://www.stpauls-kst.com/vestry> or on the Vestry bulletin board in the hallway in Pillsbury House.



JANUARY ON K STREET

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS AT ST. PAUL'S PARISH

1 Linda DeBerry Ranell Schlatter	19 Glen Koontz
4 Thornton Nobile	20 William Heron David McGaw
6 Douglas Freeman Liz Ryon	21 John Crane Mark Freeland
8 William Buzby Frank Parlier Eric Petersen Emerson Sieverts	24 Michael Cunningham Caroline Cunningham Ann Martin William O'Brien
9 Penelope Wilhelm	26 Grace Koontz
10 Clarissa Dean Laurita Liles Atlee Shidler Jeanne Smith	27 Andrew Darmstadter
11 Peter Agnew Catherine Ballinger Linna Barnes	28 David Parker
14 Grace Buzby Edward Loucks	31 Meredith Thorberg
17 Richard Best Henry Holst	



SPECIAL SERVICES/ MAJOR FEAST DAYS

Wednesday, January 1, 2014: The Feast of the Holy Name

9:45 a.m.: Morning Prayer

10:30 a.m.: Sung Mass

Monday, January 6, 2014: The Feast of the Epiphany

5:45 p.m.: Evening Prayer

6:45 p.m.: Procession and Solemn
Mass

Sunday, January 12, 2014: The Bap- tism of our Lord

7:30 a.m.: Morning Prayer

7:45 a.m.: Low Mass

9:00 a.m.: Procession and Sung Mass

11:15 a.m.: Procession and Solemn
Mass

6:00 p.m.: An Epiphany Procession
with Lessons and Carols

Sung by the Boys' and Girls'
choirs with adults

Sunday, January 26, 2013: Patronal Feast (Conversion of St. Paul)

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

7:45 a.m. Low Mass

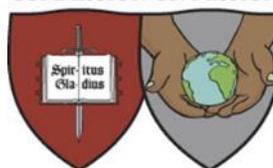
9:00 a.m. Procession and Sung Mass

11:15 a.m. Procession and Solemn
Mass

6:00 p.m. Evensong and Benediction
of the Blessed Sacrament

Got an Hour?
Give an Hour!

SAINT PAUL'S PARISH
COMMISSION ON MISSION



St. Paul's strives to apply our talent, time, and treasure to reach out and uplift those in need both in our neighborhood and across the world. We welcome your involvement in:

Grate Patrol – Delivery of Breakfast to Washington's homeless population

- Food Preparation: 2:30-4:30pm every Friday;
- Food Delivery: 5:30am each Saturday & Sunday, Contact Glenn Marsh: Marsh_Glenn@emc.com
- Bag Set-up: Anytime before 3pm Friday; Contact Tina Mallett (202-965-9324 or tmallett@si.edu).

First Fridays – On the first Friday of each month, St. Paul's provides an evening meal for 100 homeless persons to be delivered from a special Salvation Army vehicle. Preparation help is needed (5:30 - 7:00 pm in the church kitchen). Contact Cathy Downes (gwytherstick@gmail.com).



SAINT PAUL'S PARISH

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Remember to mark your Calendar:

January 1, Feast of the Holy Name: 10:30 am — Sung Mass

January 6, Epiphany: 6:45 pm — Procession and Solemn Mass

January 12: 6 pm — Procession and Epiphany Lessons and Carols

January 26, Patronal Feast (Conversion of St. Paul)



Triptych with the Epiphany by Jan van Dornicke, circa 1540