



**A Note from the Rector**  
*by The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund*

**Daylight Savings time - Set your clocks back one hour!**



**All Saints' Sunday is November 6, 9:00am Worship**

***First Sundays, Life Together at 9 am is all parish worship, one service. You are invited to come and hear from our Giving Program Team as they present our 2017 stewardship/giving program, followed by an energetic celebration of the Saints!***

*"Give to the Most High as he has given to you, and as generously as you can afford."* This passage is from the Book of Sirach, also known as Ecclesiasticus from the Apocrypha, a version of scripture that Episcopalians and Catholics include in our liturgical readings. Sirach contains writings of wisdom and guidance similar to the Book of Proverbs.

I've been reflecting on the meaning of this passage because it particularly resonates with me. I believe that God gives to each of us the maximum of generosity (God's generosity surely it is infinite!), therefore at least we can make a response to God from all God has given us. We can think about it, pray for guidance and even use math to figure out what we can afford!

That's what I've done with the numbers from my household income as I consider my 2017 pledge to St. Paul's. The process of pledging is a spiritual activity. Generosity is a fruit of the Spirit, as St. Paul tells us, and we trust in God more and more as we become more and more generous with all that God has given us.

But it might surprise you to know that the process of considering your pledge, if for the first time or for yet another year of pledging to St. Paul's, is also an administrative activity. It helps our Treasurer and Finance Ministry Team to know

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9:00 a.m.  
First Sundays

Life Together

[www.stpaulsmaine.org](http://www.stpaulsmaine.org)

**Sunday, November 6**

**All Saints Sunday**

**Look at all these saints!**



**Who will you include in this picture?**

**Draw your saint and bring your drawing!**

## A Note from the Rector *continued*

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*(Continued from page 1)*

if we are going to be able to plan our budget adequately, our income and expenses. You may know that our expenses are quite frugal for the size we are and the work we do. Doing the math to calculate our pledge to St. Paul's also helps us assess our household commitments and expenditures. How much do we spend on charitable giving? How much does it mean to my budget, my income to really sit down, give thanks to God for the things I have and then ask, "How generously am I able to give to St. Paul's?"

Our Giving Program Team (Stewardship Ministry Team) is headed up by **Paul Womer**. Thank you, Paul for giving of your time in so many ways.

**Members of the Team for whom I give thanks are Pat Ryan, Dana Baer and Caroline Russell.**

We will launch our program on **Sunday, November 6 at the 9:00am** all parish service, All Saints Sunday. A month later, **Sunday, December 4 at 9:00am, the Second Sunday in Advent** during all parish worship, we will be invited to make our pledge commitment for 2017.

Our Giving Program Team is preparing the package of materials that will help us make our spiritual commitment to St. Paul's. We have asked **Susan Tyler** to prepare confidential letters that remind each of us of our pledge from 2016. Each letter will offer a calculation of a 5% increase to help give us a beginning from which to work. We are asking for a 5% increase or more in giving for 2017.

For example, my 2016 pledge is \$90 per week for a total of \$4680. I have been increasing toward a larger proportion of giving from my "take home" income. My goal for 2017 is to pledge \$97 per week in 2017. That is about a 7% increase from last year. This is as generous as I can afford for 2017.

As a parish, we pledged about \$286,000 this year, 2016. There are 144 pledging units in our parish. That means the average pledge is \$1986 this year. The Episcopal Church records that the national

average for pledges was \$2688 for 2015. That means we are quite under the national average.

For Maine, however, the average pledge for 2015 was \$1887, so our 2015 St. Paul's average pledge is above that by about \$100. We understand that a strong, well-attended and vibrant parish such as St. Paul's, one of the top parishes in our diocese, would expect to have an average higher than the diocesan average.

I am proud of our generosity as a parish. I am proud that we are one of the very few parishes that conducts a major fund-raiser and contributes a portion of our own operating budget to Outreach giving based on our pledge amount each year. I give thanks to God for everyone who contributes to our financial stability each year.

However, we have not been able to provide a balanced budget to our vestry in the few years I have been at St. Paul's. And I am confident that we have the capacity to do this every year! I will confess to you that our Treasurer, Wardens and I live a bit nervously this time of year until we know we have the budget covered.

It would be very helpful to be able to better predict our income stream to know our expenses will be covered throughout the year. (We have examined cutting expenses which we are managing quite frugally.)

**This is when I invite you to pledge if you haven't, or expand your own giving if you are able to.**

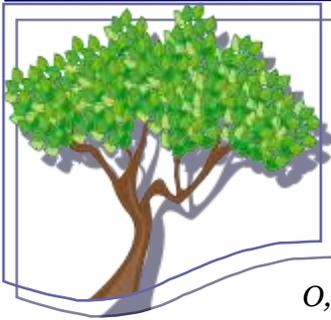
Each household has different financial circumstances. Each household encounters changing circumstances over a year's time. That's why it's important to make a good-faith calculation that is prayerful and considers all that God gives us. A commitment of a pledge helps us anticipate our cash flow and ability to cover our expenses. St. Paul's does not bind you to it if you find that your circumstances change and you have to make an adjustment.

*"Give to the Most High as he has given to you, and*

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Giving - Pledging - Stewardship - Five Percent

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*O, King of the Tree of Life*

*The blossoms on **the branches are your people***

*The whispering breeze is your Spirit...*

*May your Spirit cover all with his gentle breath*

This fall, we are asking each member of St. Paul's to consider becoming a branch - a healthy strong, leafy branch that helps feed the main tree - St. Paul's in Brunswick - one of the branches that makes the tree of St. Paul's flourish. We ask that you commit (pledge) funds for 2017. Let's repeat that: please pledge funds in 2017.

St. Paul's needs your support! We want to be clear on that. Money - that crass subject that is supposed to be the "root of all evils" can be a wonderful thing when it helps an organization do wonderful things, and St. Paul's DOES wonderful things: Your support, your contribution - a small amount of your money - is all we ask.

During the month of November, you will find in your Sunday service bulletin or see displayed around the church or via the weekly email various flyers: Worship, Infrastructure, Outreach. Mention of them will be made at services throughout November. Are they important to you? Is even one of the issues important to you to warrant your financial support?

During the past year, St. Paul's outreach and front line efforts produced window inserts for the needy; addressed the issue of teenage homelessness; provided a safe haven for AA, Al Anon, WIC (Women-Infants-Children), other support groups and churches; sponsored a forum on interfaith understanding; was a joyful venue for Juneteenth; has been a source of funds for Genesis which helps socially-oriented non-profits get started, and many, many other programs. We have newly designed pro-

grams for adult and children Christian Education. We hired a new director of Music Ministry: Parishioners now linger after services to hear the organ put through its paces - the Spirit via the music has been inspiring and uplifting. These are only a sampling of what St. Paul's offers to its parishioners and community.

Aside from the above, there are also the mundane aspects of infrastructure. Do you know that we spend nearly \$20,000 annually for natural gas to heat our building? Or, that in 2015, we incurred costs in excess of \$20,000 to repair our heating system; that this year we spent \$7500 to improve our security and lighting and \$8500 to repair the roof on the Barnes building? We pay the rector's salary, the salaries of the church administrator (Susan), the office assistant (Melanie), sexton (Aubrey), Music Director (Randy) and contribute towards health and retirement plans. And there is the painting, repairs, snow removal and salt application, garden and lawn maintenance, etc., etc.

You might ask: How can I help? Did you commit (pledge) last year? If so, we suggest a modest 5% increase in your pledge. - five cents on the dollar. Does the above mean enough to you to provide your support to keep the Spirit alive and flourishing in Brunswick?

Why commit (pledge) funds? The answer is simple: financial planning and management. If an individual gave funds last year, but did not commit to giving a set amount, it hampers our financial planning. A commitment is something the rector, wardens, finance committee and treasurer take very, very seriously. Pledging is critical to our budget planning and its status is reviewed continually throughout the year as we manage funds for both planned expenses and unexpected costs. If you did not pledge last year, now is the perfect time to start. All pledges are important, regardless of the sum. Prayerfully consider what St. Paul's and its role in your life means to you, and then determine how much you can contribute to become one of the branches that keeps the Spirit alive at St. Paul's.

In peace, your Giving Ministry

## Sunday School at St. Paul's

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*There is a place is prepared for you.  
Come when you can; come as you are.*

Jesus tells his disciples that he will “go and prepare a place” for them, reassuring them that although they may not show up for awhile, there’s always a place for them at the table in God’s kingdom.

That’s what we’re trying to do at St. Paul’s on Sunday morning. Every week, the Table is prepared for the Eucharist – sometimes three times! -- and there’s always a place for everyone. Whether you’re able to be there every week or once a month, there is a place prepared.

This is also true of our Christian formation program for the children of St. Paul’s. In our changing world, with so many calls on everyone’s time and energy, we know it’s just not possible for a lot of families to show up every week, but the tables in each classroom are prepared with lesson plans, props, books, art supplies – and two teachers for each age group, two people who delight in the children and youth they have volunteered to shepherd.

So whether you are heading to church on a Sunday morning or coaching a game or claiming one more uninterrupted family hour at home, always know that whenever your child does come, there is a place prepared. We’d love to see everyone every week, of course, but God’s invitation is an open one for whenever you can make it.

St. Paul’s is committed to welcoming everyone to the Table, and to the classroom. Come when you can, bring your children when you can, and pull up a chair.



## A Note from the Rector *continued*

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*(Continued from page 2)*

*as generously as you can afford.*” We can see that we are following God’s lead out to the community, as we care for our own aging members and new families who are joining us in our vigorous and spiritual work for Christ’s sake.

Our budget for 2017 will be at about the same level we asked you to fund in 2016. For the sake of our ministry teams and the work God has called us to, I invite you to make a generous pledge for 2017 if you don’t pledge. If you do pledge, I invite you to expand generously for 2017. If your circumstances

allow for you to keep your pledge as it is or if you must make a decrease, please know how generously you are giving and that we thank God for you!

Yours in hope and gratitude,

*Carolyn+*

## Christian Formation Director Opening, Part-time

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St. Paul's, Brunswick, Maine seeks a part-time Christian Formation Director (CFD) for a vibrant, community-oriented, historical parish located in the heart of Brunswick, Maine.

The duties of the CFD will be to enhance formation programs for a growing membership of families with small children and youth. The three most important criteria for the candidate are:

- one who delights in children
- is organized
- and has a passion to help families grow in the Christian faith.

**Weekly Sunday Family Worship** is growing because of new families with young children. We seek a CFD to further develop our ongoing Church School classes that teach stories from scripture, stories with ethical lessons, songs, and the meaning of worship. Church School classes for Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade have a relatively new curriculum while Middle and High School youth have recently reorganized their meetings with the goals of building community, offering contemporary worship, and serving our neighbors. See <http://conta.cc/2fe96tK> for an example of our weekly parent postcard with news of Family Worship and Church School.

The CFD will work with the Family Ministries Team to support parents and to nurture new families in the faith and in their spiritual lives. Though the classes and programs are underway for 2016 and 2017, and our teams of teachers are already in place, we search for a candidate who is experienced in choosing creative lesson plans as well as recruiting, training and nurturing our teachers. We seek a candidate who is inspired by the developing spiritual lives of children and their parents. The best candidate will plan engaging activities and offer critique of Family Worship for accessibility. It is important for the CFD to publicize Church school events, particularly using electronic media

The CFD will be required to have or take "Safe Church" training, and will have a modest Continuing Education budget for professional development. Please email cover letter and resume to St. Paul's Church; Attn: CFD Position, [stpauls@stpaulsmaine.org](mailto:stpauls@stpaulsmaine.org)

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Holy Eucharist  
Thanksgiving Day  
November 24, 2017  
10:00 a.m.



# From the Music Desk...

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Do you know how many days or weeks till Christmas Eve? Well, not enough! Last week an advertisement on my computer screen declared exactly how many days until December 25; frankly, I was pleasantly shocked. Why? Because my planning for Christmas begins in January. Yes, January, the month when prior Christmas Eve services and Advent programming are reviewed and ideas offered for future services. Seasonal music is gleaned from summer workshops and a plethora of catalogues. In September or October rehearsing begins. Somewhere along that timeline it is easy to take for granted that time will stretch on and on....but not so!

So on the cusp of November there are several matters to share with you.

- In a few days my **first full year** at St. Paul's will be completed. Thank you for all the joy and support you've offered as I've begun this journey with you. How grateful I am for the active participation by singers from age 5 and up who've helped lead worship nearly every week, even in the summer, whether indoors or out-of-doors.

- **NAVE @ 9** Have you seen the posters around the church? The first ones have gone up, and my thanks to Susan Tyler for adding her artistic and technological know-how to the final product. If you are ages 5 and up, child, youth, adult, summer singer, visitor, or regular choir member, not the days and times you may join me in the choir transept in the Nave (where the organ console sits). We will prepare specific pieces for selected services throughout the year. Join for one or more of those occasions that fit your schedule. Let's all find our voice!! (NAVE @ 9 time slot? 9-9:20 a.m.)



- **Annual St. John the Baptist Lessons and Carols** – December 4, 2016 Music has been purchased and placed in folders for those wishing to sing with the ecumenical choir for what has become a tradition in Brunswick. Ray Cornils, First Parish's Music Director and Organist, will be conducting his last set of carols with us. If you wish to sing, please contact me by phone or e-mail so a folder can be set aside for you. Watch for further rehearsal information in the bulletin.
- **Christmas Eve Services 2016** Are you available to help swell our choir membership on Christmas Eve? Do you have musical family or friends as guest during the holidays? Let me know of your interest in adding voices. Music is available for those who will 'sign up' and be in town.
- **Music Office Has Moved** The Music Ministries Office is now relocated to the room across from Susan Tyler's abode. This space will be shared with the leadership of Christian Formation.

In closing, may the voice each of you finds to praise God be a reality for you as this year closes.

Shalom,

Randy Day

Director of Music Ministries

## Reflection on “An Interfaith Encounter”

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I thought we had such a great turnout for this exciting program on October 30, over 90 people! I am so glad so many of you were there. Thank you for supporting it with your participation and the special way in which many of you helped out with specific tasks.

Months before the program, I wrote a little piece for the Messenger about the power of listening. I intended it as a kind of get-ready challenge. I sensed there was a lot of good listening that went on during that Sunday afternoon in October. I have thought some more about the importance of listening, and I have one additional thought I would like to share with you.

Early in October I was reading something about The Cloud of Unknowing, and what occurred to me is that part of what hampers our listening to one another is our being so quick to “know.” Not knowing is so uncomfortable for most of us, I guess because it means we are not in control. But in many ways we find the path before us only when we admit that we don’t know, when we are willing to risk the descent into the uncomfortable darkness of unknowing. That surely is one of the paradoxes of the spiritual life. So often we instantly think we know the right answer, the right relationship, the right commitment. What if we were able to be open to the possibility that we don’t know? If we do that, something much bigger than our imag-



ining might be envisioned.

I heard a lot of that openness of not knowing coupled with attentive listening on the afternoon of October 30. It was reflected in the questions people asked and in the small-group discussions. And because of it, I sensed that we were able to move beyond the tension (How can I embrace the Muslim or the Jew when their beliefs are so different from mine as a Christian?) to a vision that holds the fullness of things. For me the encounter that afternoon was a blessing; I hope it was for you, too.

*Pam Nugent*

Adult Christian Formation

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## Nominating Committee

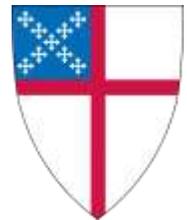
The Vestry is pleased to announce the Nominating Committee for 2016:

Pat Ryan

Linda Ashe-Ford

Emily Levine

The Nominating Committee is receiving names for 3 three-year terms to the Vestry, 1 one-year term to the Vestry, 5 one-year positions for Diocesan Convention delegates, and 3 one-year positions for alternates. If you wish to know more, please contact one of the Nominating Committee members, the Wardens or Rector.



*Communicants in Good Standing are qualified to be nominated: All communicants of this Church who for the previous year have been faithful in corporate worship, unless for good cause prevented, and have been faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God, are to be considered communicants in good standing.*

## What's on Tap for November? Adult Formation

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### Pope Francis's Encyclical on the Environment: "Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home"

We have a special program for Advent: Three evenings of discussions, facilitated by the rector, on Pope Francis's Encyclical on the Environment.

Pope Francis has declared September 1 as World Day of Prayer for Creation. Its designation follows his papal encyclical released on May 15, 2015, "Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home."

During this season of Advent at St. Paul's, The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund will lead three discussions for people of faith that explore relevant points contained in Pope Francis's earth care encyclical.

The first session will focus on the peril the earth is in and the disproportionately negative effects the degradation of the earth has on the poor. The second session will focus on the meaning of incarnational theology and what the Incarnation of Christ says to us regarding our belonging to the material world. As the Christmas season focuses more and more on "insatiable consumerism" and "maximization of profits," we will consider the

"scandalous level of consumption" in our nation and in the world. Finally, as the Season of Advent points to the nativity of Christ, we will discuss the Pope's call to the people of God to strengthen our spirituality and to prepare for action in order to care for and protect our common home.

Please join us for these lively classes..

When: Three Tuesdays in Advent—November 29, December 6, 13; 7:00 p.m.-8:15 p.m.

Facilitator: The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund

Pam Nugent

Adult Christian Formation





# ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2016

9:00 am – 2:00 pm

LUNCH SERVED FROM 11:00 TO 1:00

## WHAT CAN I BUY?

- Frozen Gourmet Meals
- Evergreen wreaths
- Knitted Items
- Stitched Items
- Christmas Cards
- Advent Calendars
- Religious items
- Country Store specialties
- Christmas Decorations
- Treasures of all kinds
- Jewelry
- Delicious baked goods
- **State of Maine** Cheese
- **Silent Auction** Table items
- ST. PAUL'S VINTAGE NEW COOKBOOKS
- Fish Chowder & lunch specials

## WHAT ELSE IS THERE?

- Have your picture taken with Santa
- Visit the Children's activity table
- Free sweetened English Tea
- Door prizes
- Cash, checks (made out to St. Paul's), or charge cards accepted



**ALL FAIR PROFITS GO TO CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS – LOCALLY & BEYOND!**

**Bidding begins Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> for the Silent Auction following both services.**

Thank you for supporting the Fair!

**Saturday, December 3**

9:00 – 2:00



## An Invitation

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November 12

Day of Quiet—Meditation and Prayer  
Christ Episcopal Church, Norway

10 AM - 2 PM

We invite you to join us at Christ Episcopal Church, 34 Paris Street, Norway, for a day of quiet meditation or prayer, an opportunity to refocus your heart, mind and soul from all the busy-ness of this fall season and prepare to enter into the holy seasons of Advent and Christmas with a peaceful, open and joyful spirit. The day will include opportunities to learn some new prayer/meditation practices or simply take the time to shut out all distractions and be still. Lunch will be provided (donations accepted to offset the cost).

Please RSVP to [christchurchnorway@gmail.com](mailto:christchurchnorway@gmail.com) or 743-6782 no later than November 9.



## Looking Ahead

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Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24

Family Holy Eucharist, 4:00 p.m.

Solemn Holy Eucharist

7:00 p.m. Prelude - Choir music, instrumental music  
and hymn-singing.

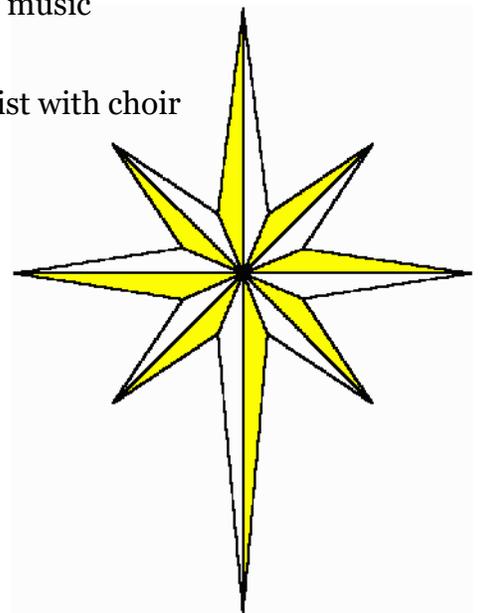
7:30 p.m. Solemn Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist with choir

Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25

Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.

New Year's Day Sunday, January 1

Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.



## Birthdays and Anniversaries

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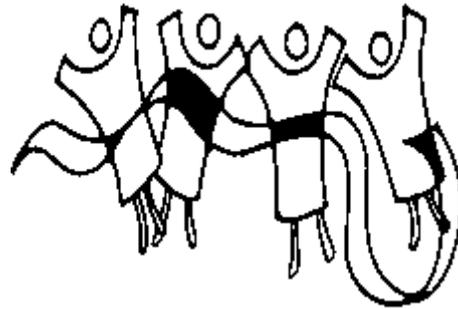
### Happy Birthday!

11/04 Jean Chiquoine  
11/04 Beverly Nickerson  
11/04 Caroline Savage  
11/04 Susan Tyler  
11/05 Claude Brancart  
11/07 Ariana Edwards  
11/09 Priscilla Rooth  
11/09 Helen Sturm  
11/10 Sarah Judd  
11/11 Linton Studdiford  
11/12 Jada Ford  
11/13 William Hills  
11/14 Claire Leonard  
11/15 Asha Leigh  
11/15 June Nering  
11/15 Robert Patterson  
11/18 Sam Waddle  
11/19 Sarah Ludlum-Sullivan  
11/20 Peter Colburn  
11/20 Lisa Rendell  
11/21 Meg Warren  
11/22 Bill Heyda  
11/23 Louise Colburn

11/23 Maddy Harrison  
11/23 Ruby Harrison  
11/24 Peter Burt  
11/28 Josephine Belknap  
11/28 Stephen McCausland  
11/28 Stephanie Rendell  
11/29 Diane Munro

### Happy Anniversary!

George & Ada Moore 11/12  
Bill & Lil Heyda 11/22  
Stephen & Lynda Chandler 11/27



If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please let the office know so that we may update our files.

*The Messenger* is published monthly, excluding January and with a combined July/August issue. It is emailed to the parish. Paper copies are available at the church for those who prefer them. It is also mailed to those who do not have email. **Please send submissions for the December issue by November 18.** Articles may be emailed to [stpauls@stpaulsmaine.org](mailto:stpauls@stpaulsmaine.org) or placed in Susan Tyler's box in the parish office.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH  
NOVEMBER 2016

27 Pleasant St.  
P.O. Box 195  
Brunswick, Maine 04011  
Phone: 207-725-5342  
E-mail: [stpauls@stpaulsmaine.org](mailto:stpauls@stpaulsmaine.org)

The Rev. Carolyn Eklund, Rector  
The Rev. Mary Lee Wile, Deacon  
The Rev. Chick Carroll, Deacon  
Pat Ryan, Senior Warden  
Paul Womer, Junior Warden  
Randy Day, Music Ministry Director  
Susan Tyler, Parish Administrator  
Melanie Chicoria, Administrative Assistant  
Kimmy Edwards, Nursery Caregiver  
Aubrey Farmer, Sexton

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We're on the web!

[www.StPaulsMaine.org](http://www.StPaulsMaine.org)  
and Facebook

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## All Saints' Sunday, November 6

**First Sundays, Life Together at 9am**

**All Parish Worship at 9:00am in the nave.**

Families with young children have the option of listening to worship while doing an activity in the Lions Classroom where worship will be broadcast. Then join us for Eucharist in the Church.

After worship, join us to create Saints banners and your own "saint" portrait.

