



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH IN NANTUCKET

TIDINGS

Winter 2022

Letter from Our Rector

And the angel said unto the shepherds, "Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people." – Luke 2:16

Bringing good tidings of great joy — isn't that a natural for our St. Paul's Church Family? So often on the sidewalks of town, in social settings on island and at the church door on Sunday mornings, folks express to me their gratitude for the joy they have experienced through us. They experience joy in our compassionate service to the community; they experience joy in our worship and music, in person or broadcast; they experience joy in our loving presence. When there is so much out there that inspires fear, like the angel, we share the joy of God abiding in us.

The serenity of the off-season has settled over our beloved island. In general, the pace has slowed, but our parish's staff, committees, and cadre of dedicated volunteers remain busy 12 months of the year. Whether seasonal or year-round, there is always a place at the table and a spot on the team for you.

Come share the joy!

Love, Max




ANNUAL MEETING

Mark the Annual Meeting on your calendars for January 23rd immediately following the 9:30 service. It will be held in person in the church and streamed on Zoom, Facebook and YouTube.

There will be discussions of parish finances, committees, election of new Vestry members and a celebration of our shared ministries.

All are invited and encouraged to attend.

love  and...joy!



Our Annual Meeting

JANUARY 23rd

IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOWING
THE SUNDAY

9:30
SERVICE

ALL

ARE

WELCOME!





Our Staff

The Rev. Max Wolf, *Rector*
 Joe Hammer, *Music Director*
 Christine Borneman,
Parish Administrator
 Curtis Barnes, *Verger*

Our Vestry

Executive Officers are elected for a term of one year.

2021–2022:

Bob Felch, *Warden*
 Libby Tracey, *Warden*
 Martin McKerrow, *Treasurer*
 Peter Greenhalgh, *Clerk*

Members of the Vestry are elected for a term of three years unless they fill a term that has been vacated.

Kirk Baker	2022
Beverly Hall	2022
Sandra Keys	2022
Phil Smith	2022
Peter Barnes	2023
Robert Inglis	2023
Jan Jacobi	2023
Jay Riggs	2023
Susan Coffin	2024
Lucy Leske	2024
Yvette St. Jean	2024
Patsy Wright	2024

Our Church is blessed
 by the guardianship of
 staff and volunteers.



Parish Committees

The committees of St. Paul's Church in Nantucket welcome your participation:

Altar Guild

Dottie Gennaro, chair

Campus Oversight Committee

Robert Inglis and Libby Tracey,
 co-chairs

Capital Planning Committee

Ken Beaugrand and Bob Felch,
 co-chairs

Communications Committee

Patsy Wright, chair

Finance Committee

Kirk Baker, chair

Hospitality Committee

Olly Wolf, chair

Mission Committee

Bob Felch and Frank Robinson,
 co-chairs

Stewardship Committee

Peter Barnes and Patsy Wright,
 co-chairs

Ways of GIVING and SUPPORTING
 St. Paul's have never been easier.



Securely on our website,
www.stpaulschurchnantucket.org
 Click on Donate Now at the top of
 the Home page.



Download a 2022 pledge card and
 Stewardship brochure on the
 Donate Now page.



Mail in or drop your pledge card
 in the collection plate.



Download the purple **MinistryOne™** app
 for St. Paul's from your app store.

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Amazon donates 0.5% of the price
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 Visit smile.amazon.com.
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 St. Paul's Church in Nantucket

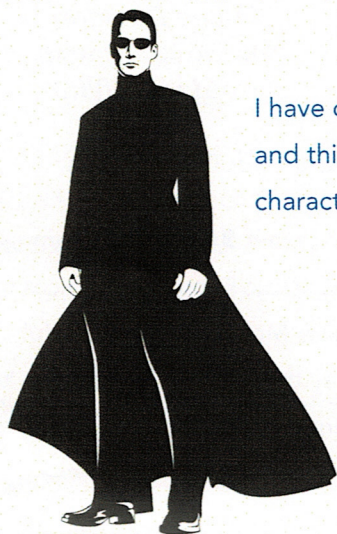
Thank you! ←



Time★Talent★Treasure

by Andrew Cromartie

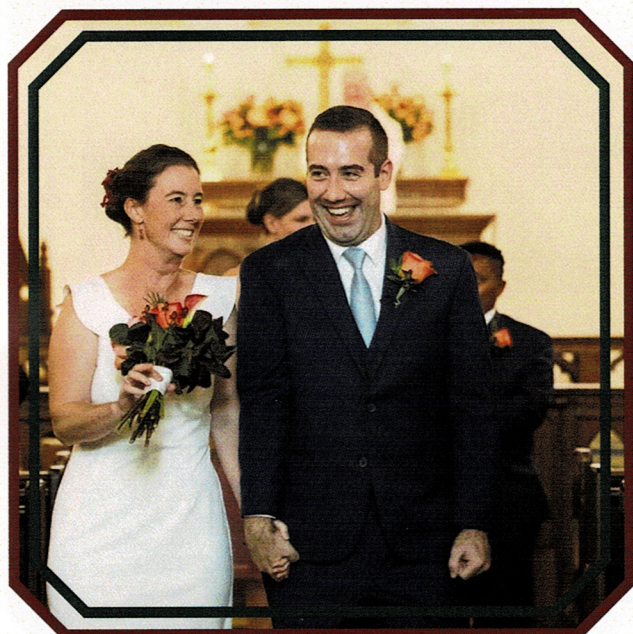
In 1999, I remember sitting at St. Paul's with the choir and my mother, Victoria Harvey. Father Andrew Foster was the Rector and Richard Busch was the Music Director. Occasionally I found my 14-year-old shy-self in Gardner Hall waiting for my mom to drive me home while she socialized with fellow parishioners.



I have one memory of staring at myself in a full-length mirror with just my black choir robe on and thinking, "Whoa, I look like Neo. That's awesome!" Neo is a fictional superhero-like character from the movie *The Matrix*, which had just been released.

As I grew older, my St. Paul's attendance waned, and I only went to the major holiday services —and eventually none at all until 2018.

It was then that my sister and I, with a lot of help from the parish, held a Christian/Hindu memorial service for my mother, who had passed. To keep that feeling of closeness to my mother, I rejoined the choir. But shortly thereafter, the pandemic hit. Initially, our first remote services were broadcast from Father Max's cell phone. The response to these services was so positive that I was asked to configure a system for the church to broadcast weekly services remotely. For the first few months, you should have seen me huddling with a computer behind Joe Hammer's pipe organ. I'm still amazed that I didn't lose any hearing! Every now and then Joe would beckon me to lend a voice and sing at a service while at the same time I scrambled to keep the mics under control when I wasn't at the controls!



Finally, on October 23rd, 2021, one day after the third anniversary of the passing of my mom, I married Janet Forest in St. Paul's Church, the greatest day of my life!

Looking to the future, I am excited to be considered for bigger roles at St. Paul's, including standing for the Vestry in 2022. There are so many blessings that I am grateful for — I feel like I have come home!

Andrew, you are a
SUPERHERO!
Thank you!

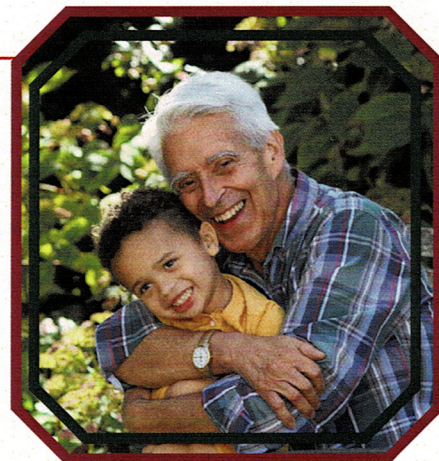


Our Music by Joe Hammer, Music Director

Music Notes: Looking forward — 2022 and St. Paul's Music Program

Pandemic challenges notwithstanding, 2022 promises to hold interesting and exciting music prospects at St. Paul's. While the status of the pandemic will undoubtedly dictate timing, a primary goal this year is to rebuild the choir program after an almost two-year forced hiatus. This effort will include encouraging previous choir members to resume their participation and to recruit new singers.

(Please note: previous choral experience and reading sheet music are not prerequisites for singing in the choir. The "musts" for participating are a desire to sing, learn and have fun while raising a "joy!ful sound.")



*Music Director
Joe Hammer with
grandson Killian*



This rebuilding effort also includes St. Paul's hand bell choir tradition and the Youth Choristers.

A highlight for St. Paul's parishioners — year-round and summer — will be the premier of a new **Jazz** Mass commissioned by Father Max and St. Paul's. The Mass, funded through the Nancy Tompkins Broll Music Fund, is being composed by Tony Nalker. Tony, a longtime friend of Father Max's and the accompanist for Bob McDonald's successful concert earlier this year, has sent initial "drafts" of various portions of the Mass, and to say the least, it's great! The Mass will feature Bob, a soprano, a jazz quartet and St. Paul's choir. The world premier is currently scheduled for early August. Additional details will be forthcoming.

And finally, St. Paul's music program will continue to collaborate with parish, Nantucket community and visiting musicians for Sunday services and special concert performances. As the saying goes — "stay tuned!"



Adrift by Josie Martin



The last year and a half have been difficult and unpredictable. Like everyone else, our family faced challenges and struggles. We were luckier than most, but we felt the isolation and fear that the pandemic brought to the world. So many of our familiar comforts were gone: no socializing, no celebrations, no volunteering, and no church. Our routines were upended, and we felt adrift.

The ability to pray in church with others is an important part of my spiritual life and I missed it more than I could have imagined. Missing the sacrament of Holy Communion every Sunday left a huge void. St. Paul's offered such comfort during that hard time. From the beginning, I started watching Prayers from the Attic every night. I would get into bed late and watch the recording on Facebook. I typed in comments and greetings, and it helped me feel connected to a meaningful prayer life. Fr. Max and Olly gave us a beautiful gift every night and as time went on and the pandemic did not abate, I leaned into this special prayer time even more. As I think back on it, this was an extraordinary effort that they both made to help us, and I will never forget it.

My mother taught us that the best way to get through our worst times is to help someone else going through theirs.



When we got to Nantucket, we started baking desserts; I joined Father Max, Bob, Sheila, Libby, and a group of stalwarts packing up the dinners on Wednesday nights. We wore masks and gloves and greeted each other at a distance. It was a relief to be able to help people in Nantucket who were struggling. It meant as much to me to be part of it as the dinners did for those in need of nourishment.

I was blessed to be able to come back to church this summer and experience the *joy* of Holy Communion. I feel God in my life all the time. But I need a community to experience my faith in a deeper way. St. Paul's gives me that opportunity. ✦

St. Paul's invites anyone who would like to share their personal perspective about St. Paul's, in about 200 words or less. Please submit it to either: Peter Barnes, peterbarnespersonal@gmail.com or Patsy Wright, vintagepatsy@comcast.net



A Word from Our Wardens by Libby Tracey and Bob Felch

It seems there is never a quiet time of year for your Vestry. As you already know from this information-packed edition of *Tidings*, we are focused on ending the year on a high note — spiritually and financially. Our Stewardship momentum is a testament to the generosity of our wonderful church community as we continue to stand high through the ever-changing challenges of the COVID pandemic.

Of course, our spirited and cheery Rector, Max, along with the ever-glowing Olly, serve as our navigators. But your Vestry always has its sleeves rolled up and ready to address the important needs of our parish and the broader Nantucket community. Since this past summer, the Campus Committee has been diligently working with local contractors to repair and upgrade all of buildings. In addition, we continue to direct our energies to those in need on the island with our St. Paul's Suppers, Laundry Love, Community School Snacks and Fairwinds support, among other activities.

We often talk at our monthly Vestry meetings about the need to "mine" hidden talent among our parishioners. After all, it's all about volunteers, volunteers, volunteers. Got it!

Ask *both* what St. Paul's can do for you and what you can do for St. Paul's! Join in our Mission Committee work or bring your financial, organizing and special skills to our attention. It will bring you and others *joy!*

As we look to 2022, we're optimistic that, with your help, we'll shine St. Paul's welcoming spirit on even more people, young and not-so-young, on Nantucket. Happy New Year!

Paragons of Virtue



Father Max with Wardens Bob Felch and Libby Tracey

Being Servants of Our Community by Libby Tracey and Bob Felch, Wardens

Thanks to your generosity, St. Paul's, mainly through its Mission Committee, has been able to increase both the number of programs it sponsors for our neighbors as well as the output of certain programs. Here are details on some of them:

St. Paul's Suppers provides free meals weekly to families and parishioners in need. It is currently supplying about 60 meals a week, with distributions expected to rise to more than 100 a week because of job losses for seasonal workers and the pandemic. At the end of 2021, the program expanded to include about two dozen meals weekly to the clients of A Safe Place Nantucket, which assists victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Since we launched St. Paul's Suppers in 2019, it has served more than 5,000 meals. **It is seeking more volunteers to help prepare and deliver meals, as well as to bake desserts.**



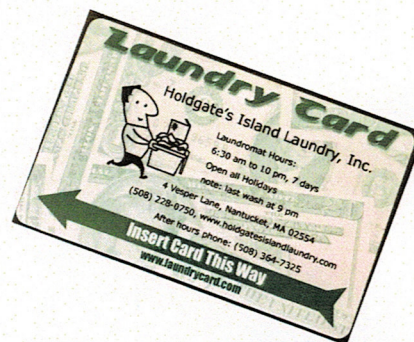
Gift Cards for

Fairwinds

Nantucket's Counseling Center

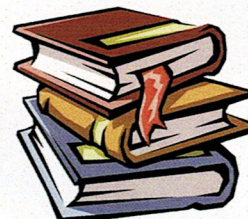
provide 27 \$50 cards every other month for staff to support them in their lifesaving work. In December, it provided 25 additional cards of \$25 for clients of the center.

Laundry Love mails 37 laundry cards worth \$25 apiece each month to island families that need assistance paying to clean their clothes and linens. We will return to distributing them in person at Holdgates Island Laundry once the pandemic subsides.



School Snacks provides snacks monthly to about 100 elementary school students in Nantucket.

The church is expanding its work with them through a new reading program.



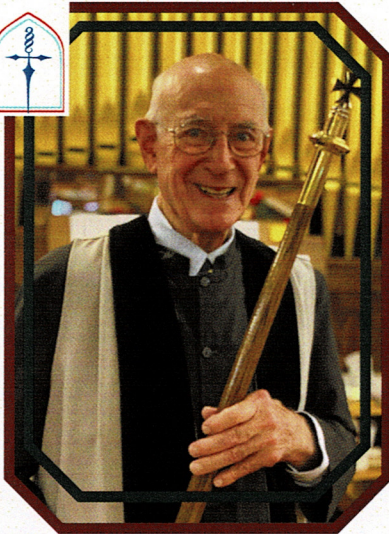
The Food Pantry receives about 20 bags of groceries a month in donations from parishioners. **We need volunteers to staff the Food Pantry and drivers to make deliveries of food.**



serve†



On The Verge PART III by Curtis Barnes, St. Paul's Verger



People often ask me, "What's that big stick that you carry as the Verger?"

The answer is fairly obvious. The stick is called a "Verge," and it's the symbol of the office of the ecclesiastical Verger. The term Verger comes from the Latin "verga," which means "stick" or "staff."

The Verge and the office of Verger have their roots in ancient Church history. The Verger was responsible for leading the ecclesiastical procession from the Chapter House to the Cathedral for religious services. The job of the Verger was to use the Verge to clear the pathway in front of the procession from "chicken, pigs, and peasants" that might impede the progress of the clergy to services.

The Verge is not unlike the symbols of office carried in other ceremonial processions. Consider the Mace, which is often carried by the University Marshall in academic processions. In ancient times, the Mace was a formidable weapon of war, not to be taken lightly. Or there is the long Baton, usually carried by a Drum Major to provide leadership and direction for a marching band.

One is for war; the other is for leadership. The Verge is for peace and goodwill among all people.

Interestingly, Verges come in all sizes and shapes. Many are smaller than the St. Paul's Verge, usually looking more like batons rather than "big sticks." You will often see Verges of this size used by Vergers in cathedrals to direct lectors and clergy to their proper places during religious services.

The St. Paul's Verge has a very special place in St. Paul's history. Long overlooked, it was discovered in the back of a closet in the church undercroft by the late Dual Macintyre several years ago, and he lovingly restored it before putting it back into service for use during our liturgy.

It is important to note that the Verge is the symbol of the office of the Verger, not of the individual who currently uses it. Thus, it is hoped that our newly restored Verge will continue to serve the people of St. Paul's for many years ahead.





Did You Know? by Peter Greenhalgh

Crèche: *A model or tableau representing the scene of Jesus Christ's birth, displayed in homes or public places at Christmas.*

Some folks refer to it as a nativity scene, and others call it a crèche or a manger. So what IS the difference?

No matter how you might refer to this special Advent display, we are blessed at St. Paul's to own beautiful and historic figures, presented each season under a picturesque white birchwood stable. For the past twenty-something years, I have had the good fortune of being part of the team that greens the church each Christmas, which includes installing our crèche and positioning the Holy Family.

Many years ago, I interviewed lifelong parishioner and island historian David Wood, and one of my questions to him was, "Where did our wonderful Holy Family figures and crèche come from?" His simple and honest response was, "Well, they have always been here." Charming but not terribly helpful! Upon further investigation, the archives of the Nantucket Historical Association include a photo series of St. Paul's, and one image dated December 1939 shows our same crèche. "St. Paul's Church as it was decorated for Christmas by Clinton T. Macy," the caption reads. Eighty-three years later, the figures appear identical. Though now somewhat faded with slight chips in the plaster and paint, these variations only lend to the historic charm and permanence of such special pieces. So however you might refer to this special Advent display, St. Paul's remains honored to be the steward of such unique and distinctive antiquities.



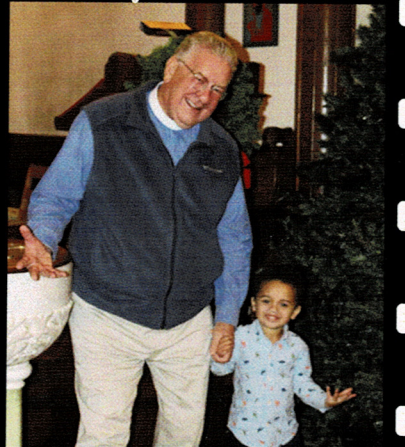
DECKING



THE



HALLS



2021

joy!

Our Christmas Greening Committee pauses for prayer.



In Praise of Advent at St. Paul's by Jan Jacobi

I had the Advent blahs, and didn't know what to do about them. Ginger and I are teachers and the kids were off the wall. We were fighting with our daughter over the guest list for her wedding. We went to get our Christmas tree, and there were slim pickin's. The one we chose shed half its needles on the way home. When we started to clean the house for the arrival of our grandchild, we found everything coated with two inches of dog hair. Our neighbor threatened to call the police to stop our dogs from barking. And the worst of it came when we learned that a bishop in Italy had announced to a group of small children that SANTA CLAUS DOES NOT EXIST. Christmas is about Jesus. There was intense wailing and gnashing of little teeth. While his message was right, his approach was all wrong. Please don't take away their joy. Where was Advent in the middle of all this? Your Tidings reporter was down in the dumps. And then the light bulb popped on! I needed to tune in to the St. Paul's Advent services.

On the first Sunday, when we celebrate not only the coming birth of Christ, but also his second coming, Fr. Max turned all the images of destruction into ones of fulfillment. God gathering all his creation unto Himself. I started to breathe more easily.

On the second Sunday, when we learned of John the Baptist's mission ("Prepare ye the way."), Fr. Max told us of his visit to a class at the high school where the students were tuned out—some with their heads down on their desks, others on their cell phones or computers, and the mean girls in the back row making snarky comments. No candidates for repentance there. How can we ever make the love of God known to them? I started sinking back into the abyss (but more to come).

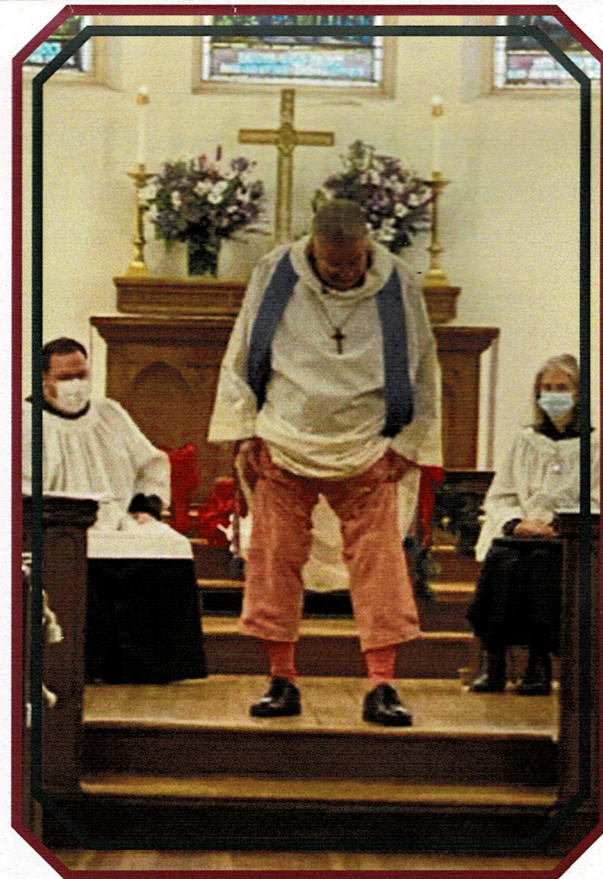
The third Sunday was the traditional Lessons and Carols. The superbly presented readings moved me more deeply than ever before, and the music glistened with the message of redemption and holiday cheer.

On the fourth Sunday, Fr. Max and the congregation celebrated Mary's words in the Magnificat and admired her courage in becoming the mother of Jesus.

For our final Advent piece, Ginger and I listened to the Christmas Stroll holiday concert. What a wonderful mixture of the meditative and the joyful. What other church would include "Frosty the Snowman"? There's always that sense of fun and play at St. Paul's.

And so St. Paul's did it again. It never fails. As I write this, I am filled with the hope and joy and contemplation that are the heart of Advent.

And I have a thought for Fr. Max. If the light of St. Paul's can continue to shine on our beloved island, those callous students may one day come. When those seeds that Fr. Max planted take hold, they will come to St. Paul's for the joy and for our rector who still believes in Santa Claus and who shows off his Nantucket reds on Gaudete Sunday and his blue socks with stars to honor the gentle woman who bore the baby Jesus.



NANTUCKET REDS™ are featured
on Rose Sunday





Our Stewardship Report

by Peter Barnes & Patsy Wright,
Annual Stewardship Campaign Co-Chairs

Once again, parishioners and supporters of St. Paul's have shown their generosity through record pledges and by giving more time and talent to our church, its ministries and its programs. As of December 31st, we were blessed to have received \$426,000 in pledges from 147 parishioners in our 2022 annual stewardship campaign, with its theme of "Love, Serve, Thrive." That is up 22% from 2021 and is 90% of our goal of \$475,000 from 200 parishioners for 2022. The average pledge so far is \$2,900, also up 22%. These contributions will provide funds to help pay for our increased mission work and our committed clergy and staff. Thank you to everyone who contributes Time, Talent or Treasure to St. Paul's, as we aspire to do more "To Make the Love of God More Widely Known" in Nantucket and the wider world.

This generosity is timely and needed. The continued risk of the pandemic and our seasonal economy mean many workers are jobless once again at this time of the year. To help them and their families, we are budgeting to make many of our new mission programs permanent, with dedicated sources of funding in our 2022 budget.

Please contact the church office if you have any questions about our 2022 campaign or about volunteer opportunities at St. Paul's. If you have not yet pledged, please do so — we need your support. Thank you again. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Give.



The littlest Steward



Our Treasurer's Report by Martin McKerrow, Treasurer

St. Paul's began 2021 in satisfactory financial condition, and we are pleased to report it finished the year in a satisfactory financial condition. Liquidity on hand and expected cash flow seem to be adequate to meet known financial obligations. The support of the parish throughout the year has been remarkable and most rewarding. And as a result, we have been able to meaningfully increase our community Mission spending, with 2021 expenditures of about \$60,000 compared to about \$10,000 only two years ago. Much of this work has been done by volunteers from the parish. At the same time, we've made a significant investment in the maintenance and repair of our campus while maintaining financial integrity.

Looking forward, we are working on our 2022 budget and will present it to the parish at the annual meeting January 23rd. We anticipate that our Mission expenditures will continue to grow as we extend our community support, and we will have to continue to invest in our campus. Your generosity has made this possible—we thank you for it and can only ask you to continue it. We believe what we have done and will do are consistent with our Mission: "To Make the Love of God More Widely Known" in Nantucket and the world.

love  serve  thrive  ...and  joy!

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH IN NANTUCKET

20 FAIR ST.

NANTUCKET, MA 02554



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DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT MAILING ADDRESS?
CONTACT INFORMATION?
PLEASE SHARE YOUR UPDATES, EMAIL:
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WINTER 2022



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TO MAKE
THE
LOVE OF GOD
MORE
WIDELY
KNOWN



Follow With Us



Facebook Live or



zoom

- Sunday Eucharist 9:30AM
- Thursday Morning Bible Study 11:30AM – 12:30PM



Facebook Live

- Joe Hammer's Music Monday 8:30PM
- Prayers from the Attic & Sweet Hour of Prayer Wednesdays 8:30PM

▶ To join us on **zoom** please see our weekly *Parish Update* for the meeting number and password.
Please contact the Church office if you need assistance.



Our online offerings are taped and available at:
St. Paul's – Nantucket.

Watch *Sunday Eucharist*, live or taped, and videos of recent sermons and events on: stpaulschurchnantucket.org

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!



Episcopal



For Pastoral Care and other concerns:

Please contact Father Max:

- ♦ fathermax@stpaulschurchnantucket.org
- ♦ 302.542.5587



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH IN NANTUCKET