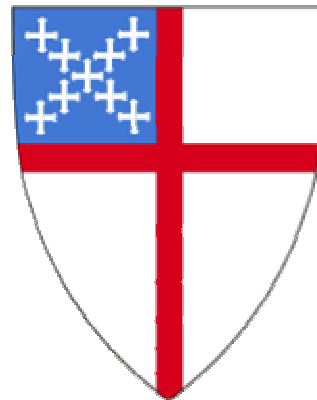


# The *Epistle*

*St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Hopkinton, MA*



**Volume 5, Number 3**

**A Message from Fr. Mike**

**St. Paul's  
Episcopal Church**

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**Worship**

Holy Eucharist – Rite II  
Sunday, 10:00 am

*Published:  
October 29th, 2005*

*Where to begin? By now I think everyone has heard at least part of the story of how Judy and I came to Saint Paul's. It has been said many times that God's plans for us are perfect. Wouldn't it be comforting if God just let us have a peek at what those plans are before we set out on our journeys? Walking in faith, trusting in God and hoping that we are doing His will, here we are. You may have heard, but you might not understand just what a blessing you are to us. Thank you to all of the Saints of Saint Paul's for welcoming us so warmly.*

*From my first visit to Saint Paul's I have been thinking on the things that our parish has to offer to the community in which we live. Here is what I see to date. Saint Paul's, by virtue of its tradition, size and the warmth of its people offers to fill very important needs for life long Christians, new converts to the faith, and to folks who are seeking a spiritual home. We offer the structure and comfort of liturgical worship of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. We offer the life changing and life sustaining grace of God through sacraments of the church, especially Holy Baptism and the Holy Eucharist. We offer a welcome and invitation into the warm and loving embrace of an extended family.*

*After Church this past Sunday we were in the parish hall, and the little boys were being little boys—running, laughing and putting themselves and others at risk of falls, bumps and bruises. For a moment, Grand Dad kicked in, and in my interaction with the  
(continued on page 5)*

**Mission Statement.**

*The mission of St. Paul's is to minister unconditionally to all in the name of Christ through shared worship, teaching, healing and service.*

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*We gather with gratitude for the extravagant goodness of Almighty God. As members of the family of God, let us rejoice and reach out in love toward one another.*

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## **Worship**

### **Sunday Worship**

For the fall of 2005 the Sunday worship schedule has been changed. There will be one service at 10AM. For the first three Sundays of the month, this service will be Holy Eucharist Rite II.

On the fourth Sunday of each month, we nod to our more traditional members, and celebrate the Elizabethan language of the Holy Eucharist Rite I service.

Once a quarter, there is a month with a fifth Sunday. On those Sundays, we'll have a service of Morning Prayer with Sermon. For those unfamiliar with Morning Prayer, it harkens back to the prayer tradition of the monasteries in the Middle Ages, and reflects the normal Sunday service of the Episcopal Church during the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

All of our services will feature traditional and contemporary music and enjoy the support of our organist and choir.

The 8AM service will be "on vacation" until the 10AM service starts to "fill up."

### **Prayer Website**

Please remember to visit the St. Paul's prayer website:

<http://stpaulhopkinton.org/prayer/>

In addition to prayer requests, the website features special prayers, book summaries

and recommendations, and links to other websites of interest. There is a special prayer request form on the website for people wishing to add their prayer requests to the site.

### **Prayer Update**

We continue to pray each week during the Sunday service for both residents of specific streets in Hopkinton, and residents of neighboring towns. We'd also like to add different professions to this list each week (firefighters/teachers/store employees/accountants/nurses) so if you'd like to add your profession or that of a loved one, please leave a message with the church office.

### **Flowers on the Altar**

Flower offerings may be made at any time of the year to the Glory of God, in thanksgiving for a specific blessing or in memory of a loved one. The flowers or plants enhance the chancel and remind our parishioners of a specific blessing or memorial. After the services the flowers/plants can be taken home by the donor or can be delivered to sick/shut-in parishioners.

If you'd like to dedicate flowers on the altar, please contact [Ruth Warner](#) at 508-435-6349 or the church office at 508-435-4536.

### **Upcoming Memorials**

October 30 – in memory of Jenny Ramsley by Sue, Ken and Chris Ramsley.  
November 6 – in memory of Roy Vosburg by Paula, Mike and Marijka Vosburg.  
November 13 – In memory of all Veterans who gave their lives in service to our country by Peter, Nick & Leah Dittman.  
November 20 – In thanksgiving for their loving family by Ruth and Jim Warner.  
November 27 – open  
December 4 – In loving memory of Ed Camilla and Ed Holohan by Beth Holohan

## **Upcoming Events**

### **OCTOBER**

#### **Halloween Party – October 29**

The fun begins at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall, we will have games and crafts, etc. for the kids and some fun for the adults as well!

The older youth (Rite-13 and J2A) will be setting up for the party beginning at 3pm on Saturday. Because of this community building activity, there will be **No Rite-13 and No J2A Sunday School on Sunday October 30<sup>th</sup>**. (All other Sunday School classes will be held).

### **NOVEMBER**

#### **Brunch for Fr. Mike –November 6th**

Please join the Vestry in welcoming Fr. Mike and his wife, Judy at a welcome Luncheon, catered by Ciao Time Catering, to be held after the service on November 6<sup>th</sup> in the Parish hall.

#### **Rite 13 Ceremony – November 6th**

On November 6<sup>th</sup>, we will be holding the Rite 13 Ceremony. The Rite 13 Ceremony is an important liturgical rite of passage that is designed to recognize our youth as they grow through adolescence.

There will be no Sunday School classes on that day, though Caroline Correia has offered to provide babysitting for younger children. Parents should bring their children downstairs to the nursery area.

#### **St. Nicholas Giving Tree – November 20<sup>th</sup>**

Every Advent, St. Paul's celebrates St. Nicholas with a Giving Tree. On this day, the parish children choose stars from the Giving tree with names/ages of needy children. Their gifts are returned at the feast of St. Nicholas celebration on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **DECEMBER**


#### **Feast of St. Nicholas – December 4<sup>th</sup>**

St. Paul's celebrates the feast of St. Nicholas with the presentation of the gifts for the St. Nicholas Giving Tree. The children bring their gifts (unwrapped) to the 10AM service



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and place them at the altar. It is a great time for our children to live the gift of giving.



## **A Filled Heart**

Syndicated columnist Bill Ellis often writes about such important days as Christmas, Easter, Memorial Day and others. A few years ago he offered these thoughts just before Thanksgiving:


“When a heart is filled with gratitude, there is little room for such things as grudges, unforgiveness, hatred, envy, jealousy, greed and the like. A sense of gratitude does well for both the spiritual heart and the physical heart. Consider that many heart attacks may be precipitated by stress, worry, pressure and anxiety. Let gratitude fill your heart.”



## **Rummage Sale**

The Rummage sale held at St. Paul’s on October 22<sup>nd</sup> was a great success – bringing in over \$1000 for the church, and providing Project Just Because with some much needed supplies and donations.

Many thanks to all who helped to make it all happen!



## **Stewardship Kickoff**

We are pleased to announce our stewardship drive will begin on Pledge Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. Your annual support provides the majority of St. Paul’s budget and by pledging you allow vital financial planning to take place for the coming year.

We are excited about recent changes at St. Paul’s including the arrival of Father Mike Billingsley and the Pot Luck dinners we’ve begun having. Along with these changes, the core of St. Paul’s remains a constant – it’s the giving heart that supports families in our community with a meal at a time of loss

or basic necessities for those in need through Project Just Because or Serenity House. These missions along with worship, education and other important activities continue through your generous support.

Over the coming weeks, you will be receiving more information about the stewardship drive and we’ll be having discussions with about how to strengthen our family and church community. So, please feel free to contact us with any questions or comments you may have.

Chris Estey and John Diercks, Stewardship co-chairs



## **Sunday School News**

### **J2A Update**

During a recent meeting with the Sunday School teachers and Fr. Mike, the group decided to have the J2A group meet on Sunday Evenings (perhaps 6:30pm-8pm) and with the first few months lead by Fr. Mike and Chris Estey.

Chris brings his experience and dedication of having worked with your children when they were in Rite-13 last year, and Fr. Mike brings his experience as a Youth Minister, not to mention much more. Ruth and Gretchen Carr have also volunteered to help out where needed.

If you have any concerns or reservations please feel free to discuss it with any of us.

For the short term – here’s the schedule:

Saturday, Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> – This is the Halloween party. The J2A and Rite-13 kids will help decorate and set up. They should be at the Parish Hall by 3pm that Saturday.

Sunday, Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> – no Rite-13 or J2A since the youth will have been there Saturday doing ‘community work’ for the Halloween Party.

Sunday, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> – Rite-13 Ceremony (no Sunday School classes).

Sunday, Nov 13<sup>th</sup> – Proposed start date of the new J2A format – 6:30pm class; location to be determined.

We're very excited that we have come up with a plan to provide a stable J2A program for your children for the next few months.

Our hope is that we can draw on another adult to take over for Fr. Mike once the program is established.

### **Sunday School Notes**

Our current class configurations are; 3yrs to 1<sup>st</sup> grade in Godly Play, 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> grades for Primary Living the Good News, 4/5<sup>th</sup> grades for Intermediate Living the Good News, 6<sup>th</sup> /7<sup>th</sup> grades in Rite-13 and 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> grades for J2A (Journey to Adulthood).

Thank you to all the teachers and substitutes who are dedicating their time, energy and talent to this wonderful program.

Kata Pavlov	Nursery
Jo Rector	Godly Play
Alyssa Sarno	Godly Play
Eileen Slater	Godly Play
Robin Bloomer	2/3 grade
Caroline Correia	2/3 grade
Cindy Farrell	4/5 grade
George Garabedian	4/5 grade
Chris Estey	Rite-13
<open>	J2A
Vicki Jacobson	Coordinator

We're still in need of a Godly Play teacher and someone to cover the J2A group.

- Vicki Jacobson

### **Recipe of the Month**

A favorite from the Pot Luck Dinner, held on October 15<sup>th</sup> in the Parish hall, Chris Estey was generous to part with his prized cookie recipe.

### **Chocolate Truffle Cookies**

4oz Unsweetened chocolate  
¾ stick (6 tablespoons) unsalted butter, cut into small pieces  
2 cups semisweet chocolate chips  
½ cup all purpose flour  
2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder (not Dutch)  
¼ teaspoon baking powder  
½ teaspoon salt  
1 cup sugar  
3 large eggs  
1 ½ teaspoons vanilla

- Melt unsweetened chocolate, butter, and 1 cup chocolate chips in 1-quart heavy saucepan over low heat, stirring occasionally. Cool.
- Stir together flour, cocoa, baking powder and salt.
- Beat together sugar, eggs and vanilla with an electric mixer until pale and frothy, about 2 minutes. Mix in melted chocolate mixture and then flour mixture at low speed until combined well. Stir in remaining cup of chips. Chill, covered, until firm, about 2 hours.
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
- Roll heaping teaspoons of dough into 1-inch balls with dampened hands and arrange 2 inches apart on ungreased baking sheets. Bake in batches in middle of oven until puffed and set, about 10 minutes. Transfer to racks to cool.

Makes about 6 dozen cookies. Enjoy!

### **Note from Fr. Mike** *(cont. from pg. 1)*

*boys it was possible to forget for a little while that our grandchildren are 1109.31 miles (Mapquest) south of Hopkinton. As we get to know you better and better, you become part of our family. As you get to know us better and better, we slowly become part of your family. And the neat thing*



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*about family is that even though they know who you are, they still care about you. What a wonderful gift Saint Paul's has to offer to a world that hardly knows what family means.*

*There is a lot to do this fall. **J2A** needs new adult leaders. There is a **Pledge Drive** to do. The **2006 Budget** needs to be drawn up to reflect our best guess at our financial realities. There are **Christmas** services to plan.*

*There are options for **Adult Christian Education** to consider for 2006. And, underlying all these, there is a **story to tell** of Saint Paul's walk through the last 20 years or so.*

*We will work on all of these things. But we won't forget that what we offer to the world is our liturgical worship, the sacraments of the church, and most of all, the warmth of family.*

Mike+

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## Happy Birthday!

### November Birthdays include:

Peter Dittman	November 6
Kate Litchfield	November 10
Mary Chase	November 11
Brittany Lunny	November 16
Edward Holohan	November 17
Angeline Garabedian	November 17
Susan Cholakis	November 18
Cathryn Timpany	November 18
Ashley Faden	November 20
Carolyn Garabedian	November 22
Pam Jones	November 27
Jim Warner	November 27

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## Rite 13

The Rite 13 Ceremony is an important liturgical rite of passage called "The Celebration of Manhood and Womanhood".

The ceremony is being held during our 10AM Eucharistic service on November 6<sup>th</sup>.

In our culture, the line from childhood to adulthood is blurry at best and it's hard to know when we are "grown up". The Rite-13 Liturgy is designed to welcome the teens to the journey of becoming adults and celebrates publicly, and in the midst of our worship, God's gift of manhood and womanhood. The ceremony is a liturgical cornerstone of the Journey to Adulthood (J2A) program and is a wonderful way to acknowledge the changes that are happening to your teens.

The Rite-13 Ceremony is not the same thing as Confirmation. Rite-13 is meant as a celebration of God's gifts of power bestowed at puberty: power to create and power to destroy, and the power to choose between them. The hope is that Rite-13 help the teens develop wisdom and skills necessary to decide if Confirmation (assuming responsibility for one's own baptismal vows) is a choice they want to make.

We sometimes take for granted that our teens feel accepted and appreciated at St. Paul's, but during these years of adolescence – this time of change and uncertainty – our young people need to hear from us that they are *extraordinary*. In this, we want to affirm the unique and wonderful gifts that each teenager offers:

Nick Dittman  
Sean Donahue  
Christine Garabedian  
Alice Gillin  
Chelsea Jones  
Katie Lichtenstein

You are encouraged to pray specifically for these teenagers as they stand on the brink of adulthood.

We hope you will make plans to join us in this celebration.

-Chris Estey

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## Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is a Parish ministry that is responsible for keeping the Church ready for its Sunday worship. They arrange for the flowers (memorials and/or thanksgivings) on Sunday mornings, and perform many other behind-the-scenes tasks to ensure the celebration of the Sunday Eucharist.

Altar Guild is looking for new members for the fall. Training can begin anytime. For more details, talk with Ruth Warner.

## Choir

The choir is also looking for people who enjoy singing or play an instrument. If you have an interest, you can contact Janet Moorman, Gretchen Carr or Carol Spengler for more information.

## Hospitality

Coffee hour after Sunday's worship are hosted by the hospitality crew. There's a sign-up sheet in the Parish hall.

## Outreach

### ***Project Just Because...***

Please continue to remember St. Paul's community outreach program with **Project Just Because**.

#### ***.... Needs...***

- Household items
- toiletries
- Clothes (adult and children) in good condition.
- Blankets
- New underwear and socks
- Kitchen accessories
- Towels and sheets
- Children's toys, games, and books.

You can also browse their website for additional needs:

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

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## Hopkinton Nativity Display

There is an initiative underway in Hopkinton to have a Nativity Set placed on the Town Common for the month of December. The group, being led by Serena Doyle, has received written permission from Parks & Rec Department and is planning to purchase a 50" nativity set, at an approximate cost of \$4000. The group is looking to Hopkinton families from various Christian Churches for donations - with the hope that 80-100 families will donate. Click to <http://home.comcast.net/~doyle41/nativity> or contact Serena Doyle at [doyle41@comcast.net](mailto:doyle41@comcast.net) for more information.

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## Holidays and Family Disputes

Holidays, which are meant to be days of celebration, often turn into days of stress. One family member may become offended by something said or unsaid, or by things done or not done. A small misunderstanding can quickly grow into bickering among the entire family.

At times such as those we would do well to recall the wise teacher whose method of dealing with slights or insults was to let them pass. He said, "I have only one skin which covers me very well. I don't let anyone else get under it."

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## Helping St. Paul's Church

### ***Use St. Paul's web site to buy from Amazon.com***

We constantly strive to maximize our financial resources in order to accomplish our goal of doing God's work here on earth. One of the ways we do this is in affiliation with Amazon.com.

A link to the Amazon associates page is available at [www.stpaulhopkinton.org](http://www.stpaulhopkinton.org). St. Paul's receives a percentage of the sale on all purchases on Amazon from this link.

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## Your Vestry

Janet Moorman	Senior Warden
Ruth Warner	Junior Warden
Phil Robidoux	Treasurer
Jay Jacobson	Clerk
Susan Cholakis	Assistant Treasurer
John Diercks	Stewardship
Chris Estey	Stewardship
Peter Dittman	Epistle
Sue Ramsley	Spirituality
Ralph Edwards	Outreach

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## Epistle/Communications

### ***eDevotional Suspended***

The daily emailing of an eDevotional, along with church announcements, has been suspended. There was a nominal cost to the service, and it was thought that most were no longer 'listening' (just adding to our daily email noise).

We like to hear your opinion on the devotional mailings and communication from the vestry/church.

1. Would you like the devotional mailings to be resumed?
2. What is your expectation around the Parish announcements – should they be updated daily, weekly, or some other frequency?
3. Is there other Church information that you would like to hear on a regular basis?
4. Are there other ways you can think of that we can stay connected?

Please send off your thoughts to these or any other communication-type questions to Peter Dittman at [pdittman@comcast.net](mailto:pdittman@comcast.net).

### ***Epistle***

The Epistle is being distributed electronically (as a .pdf file) and is also available on the St. Paul's Website ([www.stpaulhopkinton.org](http://www.stpaulhopkinton.org)). Hard copy is also available in the parish hall.

If you would like to receive the Epistle electronically, please send email to Peter Dittman at [pdittman@comcast.net](mailto:pdittman@comcast.net).

### ***Next Deadline for submission***

If you have articles, suggestions and/or announcements for the next Epistle, it should be submitted by November 26<sup>th</sup>, for publication December 1<sup>st</sup>.

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# Just for kids

Make a

## "Thankful Garland"




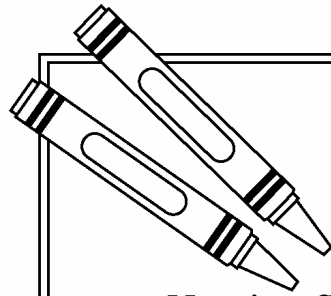
### What you need:

- construction paper in a variety of fall colors
- pencil, marker or crayons
- yarn, ribbon or raffia
- scissors 
- hole-punch
- spray bottle filled with water
- (optional) real leaves
- (optional) wooden or plastic beads, cereal with holes (Cheerios, Froot Loops, etc.) or any dried pasta with a hole



### What to do:

1. Draw or trace leaf shapes onto construction paper.
2. Lay the construction paper sheets flat and spray the paper with water from the spray bottle until the paper is completely wet. 
3. Crumple the wet paper into balls.
4. Open the crumpled paper and let the sheets dry flat.
5. When dry, cut out each leaf.
6. On each leaf, write the name of one person or one thing for which you are thankful.
7. Punch a hole in each leaf.
8. Lace the thankful leaves, beads, cereal and pasta onto the yarn, ribbon or raffia.
9. Tie the ends and hang your garland.



# Just for KIDS

## Here's a Story of a "Thankful Bunch."

We can rejoice and give thanks to God, just as many thankful people did in Bible times. Use the list of names to fill in the blank lines, and then use the leaf code to complete the verse.

**Names: Elijah, Naaman, Hannah, paralyzed man, Jairus, Moses, Rahab, Mary & Martha**



Led his people through the Red Sea.



Jericho fell, but she and her family were saved.



Her prayer was heard and she gave her son to God.



Ravens brought him food.



Cured of his leprosy, he worshiped God.



Their brother was raised from the dead.



Lowered through a roof, Jesus healed him.



Jesus brought his daughter back to life.



"SO WE ... W \_ LL G \_ VE Y \_ \_ NKS F \_ \_ EVE \_ ;  
 WE W \_ LL S \_ \_ W F \_ \_ Y \_ \_ \_ ISE  
 \_ \_ LL GENE \_ \_ NS." *Psalm 79:13, NKJV*

"SO WE ... WILL GIVE YOU THANKS FOREVER; WE WILL SHOW FORTH YOUR PRAISE TO ALL GENERATIONS." Psalm 79:13, NKJV

Answers: Elijah, Naaman, Hannah, paralyzed man, Jairus, Moses, Rahab, Mary & Martha