



# THE Cornerstone

## March 2021

Newsletter of St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Church  
107 State Street, Albany, New York

### From the Rector

#### Cross and Resurrection

*"Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him."* (James 1: 12.)

The Christian life is full of trials. St. Thomas a Kempis says, "Turn where you may, you will find the cross." As our Lenten journey continues into Holy Week, we are made aware of the final trials of Christ; His faithfulness to the Father's will in all things, even unto death of a cross. Our various trials are dwarfed by our Lord's. We are given our right perspective on the trials of the Christian life in light of the cross. We are humbled and sent back on our journey.

During the Lenten season, there can be a tendency to think of such trials in a personal way. Trials of temptation, trials of bearing patiently some affliction, trials of love, trials of forgiveness to name but a few. But there are also trials that we share together. James writes in order to encourage the whole Church in the right ways. It is a reminder that there are times when our trials are given together as one in the Body of Christ. Every generation of the Church has its special trials, and what is true for the Church is also true of a church. The Church and a church both can have times of testing. One such testing is working through a transition in clergy. Please trust that this present trial will yield a blessing.

As I was going through some papers, I stumbled on Fr. Small's newsletter article to the parish after you had called me as your rector. It was a deeply encouraging letter and it spoke the needed pastoral word. Every clergy person brings strengths and weaknesses, insights and blindnesses. A new rector will no doubt have different ones from the old rector, but there will be blessings beyond a church's present vision. Christ calls your new rector. Faithfulness is all that is required.

The "deployment process" as the expression presently goes will have trials to be sure. It is hard work and that needs to be acknowledged. There will be nuisances and disappointments, but always much greater wonders in God's providential care. Please pray earnestly for all entrusted to work through that process and discernment. Share your own perspectives and promptings of the Holy Spirit. Always have the whole parish in vision as you discern, not any one part of this beloved congregation. Remember, Jesus is Lord.

It has been an honor to serve with Mtr. Troiano. We have managed to speak into one another's strengths and weaknesses in profound ways. It has always been a sign to me that the Lord brings together what is needed well beyond what we can see. This will always be true for the care of this parish. As the choir anthem on Sunday proclaimed, "If thou but trust in God to guide thee." Mtr. Sue is a great truster and shared that with me again and again. The message of holy trust is the same for this congregation beloved of God.

Enough advice. A seasoned priest once described a parish as "the people God gives you." How true -- and that includes your future clergy. Stand firm together in that truth. This faithful Body of Christ called St. Peter's holds gift upon gift. All of you together as one will give your future clergy leadership the blessing which you gave me.

Fear not the trial. Good things are coming. New life in Christ is Easter's promise.

Faithfully, Fr. Hartt+



## From the Associate Rector

### A Different Kind of Lent...

This year is a Lent like no ever. In fact, many have stated that the past year has been one long season of Lent. It's true, because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, that our lives have been curtailed greatly. They do seem more serious, and even more stark, as we travel through life 'socially distancing' from one another. It has had a great impact on every aspect of our lives; our spiritual lives as well. It has strained our ability for corporate worship; a hallmark of our Christian faith. It has limited our gatherings for worship, pastoral care, service to others and also social connections; all of which are vital to us. It has been a great challenge for everyone in our church and also for the leadership of our church, including your clergy.

The season of Lent is often a time for deep reflection on our relationship with God. Spiritually, we take an honest look at ourselves and reckon with the Lord on our true selves; seeking his mercy first for forgiveness, next his grace for healing, and finally his power to move forward. Lent is a season where one often hits the "reset button" on their spiritual life; returning to focus on the basics of the faith in order to deepen one's commitment to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

This Lent, we have received news of the retirement of Father Hartt. Father Hartt has served us faithfully and with great care and holy devotion. I can't help but claim a Scripture passage for him at this juncture: "His Lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant.'" (Matthew 25:21). This is a time for us to rejoice over the leadership and pastoral care provided to us for these many years by our beloved Rector, and to pray for every Blessing on him as he retires from parish ministry.

The announcement of Fr. Hartt's retirement brought a unique time of Lenten reflection for me concerning my service to God and His people as a priest in The Episcopal Church. As the Associate Rector, I serve at the pleasure of the Rector. And so, his retirement must bring some changes to my ministry as well. My deep prayer, many conversations and discernment has led me to realize that my time among you is nearing its end. I have announced to Father Hartt and the Vestry my upcoming resignation from St. Peter's Church. There have been many factors that have played a part in this decision; all of which can't possibly be covered here. But please know that I am praying for the people of St. Peter's to come together and chart your course for the future after Fr. Hartt's retirement. I know God will be with you and will faithfully guide you.

I am sad to depart my beloved church community even while being convicted it is the right thing at this time. I have been serving this parish family for over a dozen years and the people of St. Peter's are deeply loved and cherished by me. I have rejoiced in a generation raised, and have mourned at a generation lost from us. You have shared the most meaningful parts of my life, including Tori's growth into adulthood, my ordination to the Priesthood and my marriage to Jimmy. You have brought me blessing upon blessing and I thank you. My deep affection for you will remain, even as my presence and pastoral care at St. Peter's will come to an end.

Remember that the Lenten journey always leads to Easter joy. Easter is about the things promised even if not fully realized. Easter Sunday will be my last Sunday to worship with you. Then, I expect us to share our joy and thanks for our Blessed Savior Jesus Christ; his sacrifice for us, his triumph over sin and death, and his promise of new life. Easter is when we claim our hope for the future - a hope anchored in the Lord's love for us. Even if our paths diverge at that point; they both lead ultimately to the same place. My love and prayers will continue to be with you always.

A Holy and Blessed Lent to each of you and I look forward to sharing Easter Joy together.

With love,

Mother Sue Troiano

# Happenings

## Daylight Savings



We “spring ahead” on Sunday, March 14th! Don’t forget to set your clocks ahead the night before so that you are prompt for church services that morning.

## Vestry Meeting

The March Vestry meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 9th at 5:15PM, via Zoom.

## Daughters of the King

The March DOK meeting will be held via Zoom on Sunday, March 14th at 12:15PM.

## Morning and Evening Prayer Videos

Please visit the St. Peter’s Facebook page for a daily Morning Prayer video with Mtr. Sue and a daily Evening Prayer video with Fr. Hartt. You can also access these services through the St. Peter’s Church Facebook page or the website’s home page.

## Lenten Evensong Videos

Every Friday evening during Lent an Evensong YouTube Video is available for you to watch from home beginning at 5PM. The YouTube Video Link is emailed to you on Friday during the day. Please let us know if you would like to be added to our email list. The video is also available on the church website home page and on the St. Peter’s Church Facebook page. We invite you to conclude your work week with this opportunity for worship and reflection.

## Wednesday Noon Services

Wednesday noon services with Holy Communion will be offered on March 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th during the month of March, by appointment only. Please call the office to schedule your appointment at 518-434-3502.

## Virtual Coffee Hour

Virtual Coffee hour is now available at 11:45AM every Sunday Morning. Please let us know if you’d like the link for coffee hour emailed to you.

## Sunday Service Videos

Every Sunday a filmed Sunday Service from inside St. Peter's Church with Fr. Hartt and Mtr. Sue is available for your viewing, it also contains music from the St. Peter's Choir. Every Sunday, St. Peter's parishioners are emailed the YouTube video link for that day’s service. Each video is also published on the church website on Sunday morning for that day, as well as on the St. Peter's Church Facebook page. The leaflet and readings for each Sunday are also available on the church website . Click on the "Info Center" tab then click on "Weekly Leaflet" or "Weekly Readings" and then click on the appropriate date for each. Both the leaflet and readings can be printed out so that you may follow along with the service.

## Children’s Videos

Every Sunday we feature a Sunday School Lesson video and a Children’s Homily video for you to watch from home. The YouTube Video Links are emailed to you every Sunday along with the Sunday Service video. The videos are also available on the church website home page under the St. Peter’s Church Facebook section.

## Readers for the YouTube Video’s

We are looking for members of St. Peter's, who would like to participate in the Taped Readings for our YouTube Church services. If you are interested please call the parish office at 518-434-3502 for more information.



# St. Francis Mission Soup Kitchen & Community Outreach

## St. Francis Mission Soup Kitchen Saturday, March 20th ~ 11:00am to 1:00pm

Hello to all. I wanted to thank each and everyone of you for sending donations of gift cards! I am just overwhelmed by the generosity of our church family. Please see the pictures below of the filled cabinets! Socks! Amazing story about the gloves ... we were getting clothes put out on a Saturday for the soup kitchen when a fellow volunteer was looking through the pocketbooks to be donated. She came over to me and showed me 86 dollars in cash found in a side pocket of a purse!! God is good! I went to Lodges where I purchased the gloves! It is an honor to serve our children and families in the community! All because of you! We will continue to take gift cards through March to continue to help the children's cafe and St. Francis soup kitchen.

Thank you again for all your support.

Blessings Laura



### Flower Memorials

During the year, our Flower Guild arranges flowers to bring beauty to our sanctuary and joy to our congregation. Those wishing to make a donation for flowers for a memorial, thanksgiving or celebration should call the Church Office to confirm available dates. During Advent, we use only greens; during Lent, the altars are bare. Other Sundays, we welcome contributions. The cost of flowers is: Main Altar is \$50, St. Mark's Altar is \$35, and the Tower Altar is also \$35. All requests are payable in advance.



### Easter Lily Requests

Parishioners and friends wishing to place lilies on the altars at Easter to honor, show thanks, or remember loved ones are asked to complete the enclosed form and return it to the church office with your donation no later than Palm Sunday, March 28th. The suggested donation is \$25.



## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

March 28th: **Palm Sunday**  
10:30AM Choral Holy Communion Service

March 29th: **Monday in Holy Week**  
12:05PM Noon Holy Communion

March 30th: **Tuesday in Holy Week**  
12:05PM Noon Holy Communion

March 31st: **Wednesday in Holy Week**  
12:05PM Noon Holy Communion

April 1st: **Maundy Thursday**  
7:30PM Holy Communion,  
Stripping of the Altar

April 2nd: **Good Friday**  
12:00PM Liturgy

April 3rd: **Holy Saturday**  
8:00AM Service

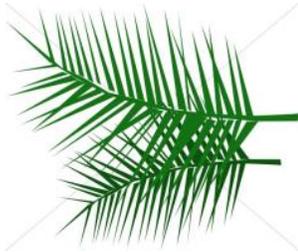
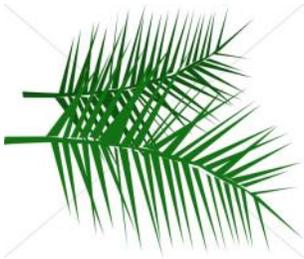
April 4th: **Easter Sunday**  
10:30AM Choral Holy Communion Service



# March 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	1	2	3 12:05pm - Holy Communion by appointment
7 <b>Third Sunday in Lent</b> 10:30am - Holy Communion  See Website for Video on YouTube every Sunday	8	9 5:15pm - Vestry Meeting	10 12:05pm - Holy Communion by appointment
14 <b>Fourth Sunday in Lent</b> Spring ahead 1 hour! 🕒 10:30am - Holy Communion 12:15pm - DOK Zoom meeting  See Website for Video on YouTube every Sunday	15	16	17 <b>Saint Patrick's Day</b>  12:05pm - Holy Communion by appointment
21 <b>Fifth Sunday in Lent</b> 10:30am - Holy Communion  See Website for Video on YouTube every Sunday	22	23	24 12:05pm - Holy Communion by appointment
28 <b>Palm Sunday</b>  10:30am - Holy Communion  See Website for Video on YouTube every Sunday 	29 <b>Monday in Holy Week</b> 12:05pm - Holy Communion	30 <b>Tuesday in Holy Week</b> 12:05pm - Holy Communion	31 <b>Wednesday</b> 12:05pm - Holy Communion

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Communion ointment	4	5  5:00pm - Evensong Service Online  See Website for Video on You Tube	6
Communion ointment	11	12  5:00pm - Evensong Service Online  See Website for Video on You Tube	13
Patrick's Day  Communion ointment	18	19 <b>Saint Joseph</b>  5:00pm - Evensong Service Online  See Website for Video on You Tube	20  11:00am - Angels in Training
Communion ointment	25 <b>The Annunciation of our Lord Jesus Christ</b>	26  5:00pm - Evensong Service Online  See Website for Video on You Tube	27
in Holy Week  Communion			

## Saint of the Month



### **MARCH 10: HARRIET TUBMAN, Social Reformer, 1913**

Slave births were recorded under property, not as persons with names; but we know that Harriet Ross was born sometime during 1820 on a Maryland Chesapeake Bay plantation, and was the sixth of eleven children born to Ben Ross and Harriet Green. Although her parents were loving and they enjoyed a cheerful family life inside their cabin, they lived in fear of the children being sold off at any time.

Harriet suffered beatings and a severe injury, but grew up strong and defiant, refusing to appear happy and smiling to her owners. To cope with brutality and oppression, she turned to religion. Her favorite Bible story was about Moses who led the Israelites out of slavery. The American slaves prayed for a Moses of their own.

When she was about 24, Harriet escaped to Canada, but could not forget her parents and the other slaves she left behind. Working with the Quakers, she made at least 19 trips back to Maryland between 1851 and 1861, freeing over 300 people by leading them into Canada. She was so successful that \$40,000 was offered for her capture.

Guided by God through omens, dreams, and warnings, she claimed her struggle against slavery had been commanded by God. She foresaw the Civil War in a vision. When it began, she quickly joined the Union Army, serving as cook and nurse, caring for both Confederate and Union wounded soldiers. She also served as a spy and scout. She led 300 black troops on a raid which freed over 750 slaves, making her the first American woman to lead troops into military action.

In 1858-9, Harriet moved to upstate New York where she opened her home to African American orphans and to elderly people. Although she was illiterate, she founded schools for African American children. She joined the fight for women's rights, working with Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, but also supported African American women in their efforts to found their 175 own organizations to address equality, work, and education. She died on March 10th, 1913, in Auburn, New York.

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### **The Collect:**

O God, whose Spirit guideth us into all truth and maketh us free: Strengthen and sustain us as thou didst thy daughter Harriet Tubman. Give us vision and courage to stand against oppression and injustice and all that worketh against the glorious liberty to which thou callest all thy children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

Lessons and Psalm James 2:14–17 Psalm 102 Luke 11:5–10

## 2021 VESTRY ELECTION RESULTS

Deborah Spath was elected for her first two-year term as Jr. Warden.

Maria Holden was elected for her first three-year term.

Ashley Closson was re-elected for an additional three-year term.

Malcolm Moran was elected for his first three-year term.

# Congratulations to all!

## 2021 VESTRY MEMBERS

**SR. WARDEN:** James Chenot

**JR. WARDEN:** Deborah Spath

**TREASURER:** George Scala

### **VESTRY MEMBERS:**

Ashley Closson, Nancy Creagan,

Christie Gordon, Fred Hershey,

Maria Holden, Mark Lundberg,

Malcolm Moran, Jeff Russom

## Coming Soon!!

### CROP Hunger Walk 2021

St. Peter's is participating yet again in the John U. Miller Memorial CROP Hunger Walk in Albany, which will take place on May 2, 2021. CROP Hunger Walks are community-based walk events held in cities and towns across the US to raise funds to respond to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster around the globe. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised are returned to the host community to support local hunger fighting efforts.

As last year, Albany's 2021 Walk will be a virtual event. Participants can walk in their own neighborhood on May 2 or any time during the month of May. Please contact Maria Holden ([msholden1@aol.com](mailto:msholden1@aol.com)) if you would like to join the St. Peter's team of walkers.

To contribute to Albany's CROP Walk and support our team, please visit our new team web page at: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/st-peters-episcopal-church-albany>

Hunger is one of the greatest injustices facing our world and our own community. Ending hunger is possible, and it is possible in our lifetime. Please consider joining the St. Peter's Team and contributing to CROP Walk 2021!



**MINUTES FOR THE VESTRY MEETING**  
**ST. PETER'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**January 12, 2021**

**Present:** Fr. Hartt, Mtr. Sue Troiano, J. Chenot, D. Spath, A. Closson, N. Creagan, C. Gordon, F. Hershey, M. Holden, M. Lundberg, T. Murphy, J. Russom, G. Scala

**Absent:** None

Opening Prayer Led by Father Hartt

**Approval of the Vestry Meeting Minutes, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

The December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 minutes were approved on a motion by F. Hershey and seconded by T. Murphy. The motion was unanimously approved by the vestry.

**Sr. Warden's Report** –J. Chenot

Jim began his report by wishing everyone a Happy New Year. This past 2020, Advent season at St. Peter's was quite challenging for our clergy and choir director. They strived to keep us connected during the season producing top notch video and audio productions that were steamed online each week as well as performing our regular services for those who have been attending in person. The online services for Lessons and Carols as well as Christmas Eve service were superb. We also had in person Christmas Eve services including a small quartet from the choir that performed some choral music. As mentioned in previous reports, our clergy continues to post Morning and Evening prayer each day and we are thankful for their efforts in this ministry as well. Overall last year was very challenging for many and we cannot thank Father Hartt, Mother Sue and Neil Keen for all their effort and work throughout the pandemic last year.

During December it was also nice to see much post on social media from many parishioners post past pictures and videos from past Advent services, from the Christmas Pageant to Christmas Eve services. It seemed and felt everyone was all doing their best to keep our Christmas traditions alive through social media and it was a great for all of us to connect with each other.

We continue to receive pledges for this year and thank everyone for their continued outpouring financial support.

We will also be conducting our annual meeting at the end of the month. Tim Murphy will be leaving his post on the vestry finishing out his two – three year term as vestry member. We would like to thank him for his dedication, support and service during these past six years, he will be missed.

As we continue to work through this pandemic, please keep those in prayer who are going through some tough times physically, mentally and financially. If there is someone that comes to mind that you have not heard from, please reach out to them. For some your call could make their day just a bit brighter. Finally, please keep St. Peter's in your prayers. In these unusual times it may be hard for some not being able to worship together at Church but we need to keep our faith strong and pray we return soon worshipping together joyfully.

Again, Happy New Year and please keep the Faith.

**Sunday Attendance** – The Average Sunday Attendance is 80.7.

**Rector's Report** - Father Hartt

I am often reminded of the weight of our church's history. The church that we call home was completed on the cusp of the Civil War. It is sobering to ponder the loss of life that ensued, the greatest loss in any American conflict, 625,000 souls. Our first church preceded the founding of our Nation. It reminds us of the hopes and ideals that founded this great experiment in Democracy under law. It rightly humbles us even to ponder this span of history.

The events at our Nation's Capital on the Feast of the Epiphany were deeply disturbing. But most disturbing to me were the manifold displays of Christian Nationalism. A Holy Bible held with skeleton gloves. Crusader crosses and a Camp Auschwitz sweatshirt, "Six million was enough insignias." Neo Nazis who truly believe they serve Jesus. Proud boys kneeling in prayer and evoking the Name of Jesus before commencing the insurrection. Signs with Bible verses justifying the state of affairs. A hasty gallows and noose within a Christian worldview. Conspiracy theories have become the new Gnosticism of the vulnerable. They even have a shanman.

None of this came out of nowhere. It is not only shameful. The Christian Church has a lot to answer for in the days to come. Our culture wars are dangerous. They always have been. As the Church seeks unholy alliances with political power to recapture its cultural significance, bad things always happen. It is the meek who inherit the earth. We believe in the cross, not Pilate. Sadly, it is a short distance from seemingly innocuous prayer breakfasts and such things and the scene at the Capital. The situation spans many administrations, not simply this one. The Christian Church should have spoken out more forcefully through the years. Your rector should have spoken out more forcefully through the years. Let us pray for the healing of the Nation and a recalibration of the interplay of civic and religious life. I am mindful that next month begins Lent. It is a good time for repentance and prayer.

The package for the Annual Meeting went out to our parishioners. It includes instruction for casting a ballot by mail. We will also have a ballot box at the parish office. Ballots must arrive by February 8<sup>th</sup>. We have made provision for anonymous voting. We will provide a return envelope with the address of the church and return address of the church. Let's encourage everyone to read their Newsletter promptly.

Christmas Eve yielded 24 at 4:30PM and 56 at 10:30PM. The Choir Quartets did a spectacular job carrying the Services. I want to thank Neil Keen especially for the artful way in which he made so much out of the Service within our safety constraints. Our good singers also did double duty as torch bears and Crucifer. Thank you. A special thanks also to Neil for the Christmas Eve video and Evensong for Epiphany. 308 views on YouTube for Christmas Eve and 40 more watched on Facebook.

The clergy and staff greatly appreciate the gifts given us by the parish. You are always so kind to remember us. Janice Chenot did wonderful work leading up Christmas on memorials and leaflets. Janice is a volunteer and we are mindful of that. Flower Guild did a great job with the Christmas Poinsettias. Jim and crew decorated the church with greens in lovely ways. We did our best to make things feel as normal as possible. The Christmas gifts to the needy at the Children's Cafe will no doubt be in the outreach report. Thank you.

We have been closed to in-person worship this month. It is still too early to decide about February, but I remain hopeful. When the infection rate exceeded 10 percent, I was most concerned. Some neighboring parishes also closed for January. We will yet be together. We give thanks that the vaccine is now being distributed to first responders and the elderly.

The online Sunday Services of Morning and Evening Prayer continue. Attendance remains good. The Average Sunday attendance for the year

closed out at 123. We would be higher if we added a further percentage to reflect households watching together. I believe this figure should move upwards.

I want to thank George Scala and Jim Chenot for their attention to our finances. We have done remarkably well because of their efforts and the faithfulness of our parishioners. Parochial Report is due March 1st.

Some roof trim has fallen at the Rectory due to the snow. Jim's snow removal people have done a great job and the repair of the light outside is much appreciated.

A final reflection is that we are not out of the Covid-19 woods yet. We may well be about to enter the worst of it. Unfortunately, we can expect some more hard decisions this new year. But we have been blessed throughout by God's good grace. We give thanks and put our trust in Him to carry us through.

#### **Finance** – G. Scala - Treasurer's Report

Offerings for the month of December were \$27,487. Year to date we finished at \$201,703 which compares to \$213,323 versus this time last year and our budgeted amount of \$232,650.

Investment accounts had a good month, Merrill was up 4.31% for the month and finished up 19.92% YTD. Key was up 3.03% and finished up 15.10% YTD. The attorney we engaged on the Key Bank issue has reached out to Key to set up a Zoom meeting but is waiting for return communication. Expenses finished the year at \$12,712 under budget.

To date we have received 30 pledges for a total pledge amount \$68,484.

Respectfully Submitted, George Scala

#### **Property** – None

#### **Outreach** – Mother Sue

Laura coordinated the collection of Gift Cards for St. Francis Mission in lieu of a Holiday Giving Tree this year. We are so appreciative of Laura for her efforts during both Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons in helping St. Peter's parishioners assist those in need during the Holiday Season. Thank you to everyone who donated and made the Holiday season a bit brighter!

Maria Holden has agreed to be this year's Recruiter for the Annual CROP Walk (scheduled for the first Sunday in May), thank you Maria. The event will be held virtually again this year, with individuals walking in their own neighborhoods. Please reach out to Maria if you would like to walk or sponsor a St. Peter's Team member.

#### **Old Business** – None

#### **New Business** – After much discussion, the Vestry has come up with the following nominations for the Vestry election:

Deb Spath will be running for her 1st two-year term as Jr. Warden.

Maria Holden who has finished Stephanie Lencewicz term, will be up for election for her 1st three-year term.

Ashley Closson has finished her 1st term and will be up for re-election for an additional three-year term.

Tim Murphy has termed out leaving his seat open.

Malcolm Moran has been nominated to fill Tim Murphy's seat.

The elections will be by mail in ballot. Parishioners should call the office to request their ballot. Ballots should be returned by Monday, February 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Associate Rector's Report** – Mother Sue

I thought the Advent season was well attended in Church (comparatively from summer/fall). I assisted at the 4:30pm Christmas Eve service which was sparsely attended, although I was told the 10pm service did have 50 worshippers at it. I support Fr. Hartt's decision to temporarily suspend in-person worship during January as our COVID cases climb locally to the highest levels since the start of the pandemic. I continue to work from home daily and go into the office 1-2 times per week to tape video services and pick up mail.

I resumed daily Morning Prayer services via Facebook during Christmastide (following Advent Wreath Prayers during Advent) and these continue today.

We had a lot of serious pastoral support needed during the Holidays (through today) which is being provided via telephone. It continues to pain the clergy that we cannot meet face-to-face with parishioners when they are sick and/or hospitalized.

The Daughters continue to meet monthly via Zoom and I maintain our Prayer List. We are so thankful to the Daughters for their continued prayer presence and perseverance! All of our prayers are making a huge difference in peoples lives.

My work with the Commission on Ministry has continued to be very heavy and time consuming with the preparation of (5) individuals for Ordination to the Diaconate at the end of this month along with the last new Applicants the Diocese has received. Again, the Bishop's forced resignation has necessitated condensed timelines and extra work over the last few months. I've had double meetings each month in order to meet canonical requirements and have dedicated countless evening and weekend hours (beyond normal office hours) for conversation, meetings and paper-work.

I believe my COM work will slow down greatly in February at which point I hope to schedule my remaining 2020 vacation time (of 2 weeks)...stay tuned! I will finalize plans after I have ended things well with Bishop Love.

We bid your prayers for Bishop Love and our Diocese as we transition at the end of the month. The Standing Committee becomes the ecclesiastical authority for the Diocese and will direct our Diocese's election process and timeline.

#### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by G. Scala and seconded by M. Lundberg, then was approved unanimously by the vestry.

#### **Compline**

Fr. Hartt led Compline.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Christie J. Gordon

## *Clergy & Staff*

The Rev. Paul J. Hartt.....Rector  
The Rev. Susan Troiano.....Associate Rector  
Neil K. Keen, F.A.G.O.....Organist & Choirmaster  
Laura Rulison..... Director of Christian Education  
Ian Mike.....Sexton  
James P. Shortall.....Assistant Sexton  
Ruth Manss..... Office Manager  
Janice Chenot.....Office Volunteer  
E. Constance Powell.....Historian & Archivist

## *Vestry*

James Chenot.....Senior Warden  
Deborah Spath.....Junior Warden  
George Scala..... Treasurer

Ashley Closson, Nancy Creagan, Christie Gordon,  
Fred Hershey, Maria Holden, Mark Lundberg,  
Malcolm Moran, Jeff Russom

## *How to Contact Us*

### **Office Hours:**

Monday -Friday

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Telephone: 518-434-3502

Fax: 518-462-4419

E-Mail:

[Receptionist@stpeterschurchalbany.org](mailto:Receptionist@stpeterschurchalbany.org)

Website:

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

## *Services*

### **Sunday**

Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.

See Website for Video  
on You Tube

**ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**107 State St.**

**Albany, New York 12207**

