

2020 has been an interesting year for everyone, to say the least, especially for St. Paul's. With the new and unparalleled restrictions on gathering due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have had to look for new and innovative ways to gather as a community. I am extremely proud of our congregation and the signs of continued vibrancy that are seen, even when the world around us is shut down.

We should all give a huge thank you to Fr. Bryan for all the extra effort that he has made to ensure continuity in worship services, even when we could not meet in person. I can tell you all that it takes a lot of work to produce the worship videos that we have been enjoying each week. I would also like to thank Leah, our Parish Administrator, for all the great and hard work that she does each week. Without Leah, our Parish would be significantly less connected.

While some see all the negatives associated with our time apart due to the pandemic, I see many positive movements within our own congregation. One new area of ministry is in nightly Compline, which is led via Facebook video by various members of the congregation, each weeknight at 7PM. This simple service has, for me, been a major help in feeling connected with our parish community as I am able to directly worship, although distantly, with other members of our Parish. What is additionally exciting about these regular worship videos is that they help to also connect our Parish with those whom we would never had been able to connect to in the past. It is exiting to see people from all around the country, and world, worshipping with our community in Middle Georgia!

I look forward to what 2021 has to offer St. Paul's and for the continued growth and prosperity of our Parish and community. As always, I would encourage each of you to serve the Parish in any capacity. There are many areas of opportunity to serve in the different ministries and with various group, and yes, even during Covidtide! If you do feel called or led to participate in any area of ministry, please do not hesitate to heed God's call and serve His Church.

- Submitted by Dustin Gilmore, Senior Warden
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