

Dear Friends,

Even during a pandemic God is good and we continue vibrant and strong. We can be proud: under lockdown and with empty pews we did not close for a single second. We rallied round and the prayers of our church and the offering of Mass continued day after day after day. Moving immediately to online platforms we figured ways of growing spiritually, sharing, supporting each other, and enriching our common life. In August we continued setting the pace and were amongst the very first churches to physically reopen our doors, while simultaneously maintaining our online presence. Our Diocese turned to us to host and broadcast Ordinations, and we are excited for the next “round” in December. Grate Patrol continues; the hungry and homeless are being fed. All this balances on the back of a tiny staff team together with the determination of so many parishioners, and your faithful financial support. We know that this vitality and relentless presence gave and gives hope and direction to countless friends near and far, and we will continue to do exactly what love requires.

Both newcomers and seasoned members will not be surprised: there is something about this place that calls forth our very best – our creativity, our resourcefulness, and, above all, our commitment. During these months we have not weakened but, in fact, focused and grown stronger. Whatever the future brings we are ready to step forward to love and serve Our Lord stronger than ever, while staying connected and attuned to the things of our city and world. We know that we enter an era where our mission and ministry will be more important than perhaps ever before. Equally, we stand on the shoulders of spiritual giants: these traditions have long brought faithfulness, agility, and endurance into harmony. Our ancestors here at St Paul’s shepherded our community through world war and economic turmoil. It is our turn to stand up, to be counted, and to be faithful: our own era of stewardship.

And now we show our collective commitment once again. There may never be another stewardship campaign quite like this, yet this is our real life now. This year our family will count on each and every one of our members and each and every dollar. Remember: the dollar amounts we offer represent our Covenant with God; to each one of us they reflect our priorities in life and our thankfulness – what matters to us, and what does not. To those hit hard financially by the pandemic, please know that any contribution no matter how small supports the life and ministry of the parish. To those who are not: we ask that you step up even more this year to support our common life.

You have always been so supportive of St Paul’s, generously giving of your time, wisdom, experience, passion, and financial resources to sustain and grow our mission and ministry. As we begin this year’s stewardship campaign, we ask to count on your support again by renewing and increasing your financial commitment. Please prayerfully consider the amount you pledge financially so we can continue to do what love requires us to do, by sharing God’s love and transforming lives within and beyond our walls.

Faithfully,



Fr. Richard Wall

*Rector*



David Schnorrenberg

*Senior Warden*