

SAINT PAUL'S CHURCH IN THE CITY OF ALBANY

21 HACKETT BOULEVARD
ALBANY, NY 12208
518-463-2257



God is at work in our world and in our lives through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In joyful response we will:

WORSHIP God with the riches of Episcopal sacraments, ceremony, and song;

ENCOURAGE one another to pray, learn, and grow in the life of the Spirit;

NURTURE a fellowship of compassion, welcome, and warmth;

SEEK and SERVE people in need in our community and the world.

In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, we invite all people to share in our parish life and ministry, including people of every race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and ability.

THE CAPITAL REGION

Albany is the capital of New York State and the largest city of the nine-county “Capital Region,” which includes the cities of Schenectady, Troy and Saratoga Springs, and a number of smaller urban, suburban and rural areas. With a population in excess of 1,115,000, the economy is diversified and shows signs of continued growth. The Capital District is currently the third-fastest growing region of New York State. The largest employers are governmental, educational and health-care institutions. The center of Albany was transformed about 50 years ago with the construction of the state government plaza which has not only buildings to conduct governmental business, but includes a uniquely sculptural performing arts center (the Egg) and the state museum. This plaza is also the focal point for certain annual events such as the concert and fireworks display every 4th of July. The State of New York employs well over 30,000 people locally and the presence of state government attracts a large number of public interest and non-profit groups to the region.

Education is a major industry in the Capital Region with ten colleges and universities, a law school, a pharmacy school and a medical school. This attracts many talented young people to the region. Education is taken very seriously by the State of New York, which has set high standards for secondary education. As a result many public school systems in the Capital Region are excellent. The Bethlehem Central School District, where the rectory is located, has been ranked in the top 100 in the nation. The Capital Region has a strong and diversified economy. A recent development is the combined initiatives of industry and higher educational institutions creating new manufacturing operations especially in the field of nanotechnology.

Albany is located about 150 miles north of New York City on the west bank of the Hudson River. It is roughly equidistant from New York, Boston and Montreal with excellent transportation available by interstate highways, air, rail and bus services.

The Capital Region has a vibrant, year-round and diverse cultural and arts scene. The MVP Arena and Palace Theatre in Albany, Proctors Theatre in Schenectady and the Troy Music Hall, known for its acoustics, attract nationally acclaimed performers. In the summer the Capital Region is the cultural

center for the entire Northeast with performances at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Tanglewood in the Berkshires and Glimmerglass Opera House in Cooperstown.

The climate is typical of the inland northeast tending to colorful brilliant autumns, cold, snowy winters, welcome springs and warm summers. With several mountain ranges, the Adirondack and Catskill forest preserves, lakes and rivers within an easy drive, outdoor activities are very popular. Camping, hiking, boating, trout fishing, tennis, golf and skiing are all readily available. In short, the Capital Region is a highly desirable area in which to live.

For additional information see: <http://www.albany.org>

PARISH SITE AND BUILDING

In 1964 the State condemned a large portion of the city's downtown area for the construction of the Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza. As a result, St. Paul's moved to a brand-new building constructed in a Diocese-owned campus known then as the Samaritan Center. The Center included a hospital, nursing home, adult home, professional medical building and a home for terminally ill children. The Diocese has since sold this and other institutions for the purpose of raising funds for the construction of a Spiritual Life Center. While the ownership and purpose of many of these institutions have changed, the area has not. The church building is located within a predominantly institutional and educational area.

Our building is of striking contemporary design; its distinctive flared side walls reflect the influence of the contemporaneous Cathedral of St. Michael in Coventry, England. Elements of the former church building, including historic stained-glass windows, are preserved in the chapel and elsewhere in the building. These were salvaged from the old church and integrated into the fabric of the new building. They provide constant reminders of the parish's long history.

The basic elements of the present building are composed of a large sanctuary that seats about 350 and incorporates a 65-rank Casavant organ; a wing for choir rehearsals and offices for the director of music; a connecting wing containing a gathering room with kitchenette, the rector's study, administrative

offices, and a library-conference room; a large parish hall with a completely equipped institutional kitchen; an education wing, which is used by the Albany Community Action Partnership's Headstart program during the week, a chapel seating about 70 people with its own organ and a columbarium. Off-street parking is virtually unlimited. The church is fully accessible to the handicapped. We extend a special welcome to worshippers who are wheelchair-bound or otherwise disabled. Ongoing stewardship by dedicated volunteers and skilled contractors have helped ease the efforts of maintaining this impressive space.

THE RECTORY

The parish owns a residence that the rector has historically occupied. The house was built in 1965. It is a garrison-colonial style house with four bedrooms, 2 1/2 Bathrooms, a living room with fireplace, family room, kitchen and dining room, with a two-car attached garage and full cellar. The house has been kept in good repair by dedicated volunteers over the years, with thorough painting and updates between occupancies. This house is 4.5 miles from the church in the hamlet of Delmar, in the Town of Bethlehem. Delmar is an attractive suburb with a well-defined "sense of place." The rectory is located in the Bethlehem Central School District, named one of the top 100 schools in the country.

For additional information see: www.townofbethlehem.org

STAFF

The staff consists of a rector, a music director/organist, a sexton, and a part time administrative assistant. Snow removal and lawnmowing are handled by a reliable contractor. Much of the additional landscaping and gardening is done by volunteers. The Albany CAP Headstart program is organizationally independent of the parish and has an entirely separate staff.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

St. Paul's would not be described as a "neighborhood church." Rather our membership is a cross-section of the region's population. It is a congregation that is inclusive and welcomes all of God's children. This policy in addition to one of the best choirs and organs in the region has attracted considerable interest

in St. Paul's by newcomers. The parish makes a constant effort to make newcomers welcome and to get them involved in parish activities from the get-go. Most parishioners pass at least one other Episcopal church on their way to St. Paul's on Sunday mornings.

WORSHIP SERVICES

For more information on our services, please visit our website: [Worship With Us](#)

MUSIC MINISTRY

Our music program is a vital and important part of our parish identity. Our emphasis on traditional Anglican liturgy and musical repertory is strongly affirmed by a congregation that sings with vigor.

[Music at St. Paul's](#)

PARISH MINISTRIES, COMMITTEES AND ACTIVITIES

- [Outreach](#)
- [Committee on Inclusion](#)
- [Additional Ministries](#)
 - The Hospitality Committee
 - Daughters of the King
 - Liturgical Ministry
 - The Altar Guild

For more information or copies of current and past budgets please contact:

Bob Walenta (bobwalenta@gmail.com)

Or by mail at

Bob Walenta, Search Committee

c/o St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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Albany, NY 12208

We invite you also to review our [OTM Parish Portfolio](#) and thank you for your interest in St. Paul's.