

April 24,2006

The Vestry St. Paul's Episcopal Church 1066 Washington Road Pittsburgh, PA 15228

## Dear Friends.

It is my pleasure, on behalf of Bishop Duncan, to appoint the Rev. Nancy Chalfant-Walker as Interim Rector of St. Paul's, effective June 8, 2006. This appointment is made in accordance with Diocesan Canon XXV, Section 1 ("The Bishop shall assume ecclesiastical oversight of each vacantparish") and Canon XXV, Section 3 ("The Bishop shall take order for supplying vacant Parishes with occasional services, at the expense of the Parish so supplied.").

I make this appointment after considerable prayer, consultation and thought. In my opinion, Nancy (who is known **as** Nano) has the necessary gifts, experience and interest to shepherd St. Paul's through this difficult transition time.

As you can see from her enclosed resume, Nano most recently has served as Interim Rector of St. Martin's, Monroeville, a parish which was facing significant difficulties. These included both spiritual and structural concerns. The facilities were in need of major repairs as a result of deferred maintenance and ongoing structural issues (A leaking roof and attendant mold problems made their Fellowship Room unusable). The parish had become aged and somewhat estranged from the Diocese. Over the years, a number of people had left St. Martin's, and many of them continued to have a complicated relationship with the parish. During Nano's tenure, the parish discovered a renewed vision, addressed its facilities problems and reconciled with a number of former members. The vestry has functioned with increasing unity and trust.

Nano is a trusted friend and colleague to clergy and lay people across theological, economic and social lines. She has a remarkable ability to encourage the cooperation of others, even in charged situations. She is spiritually grounded, with a listening ear and wise counsel.

I hope you will make her welcome at St. Paul's.

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As you know, I will soon be meeting with your Search Committee. It is my hope that we can work profitably toward the calling of a new Rector. Bishop Duncan's expectation is that there be a successful interim experience prior to the calling of your next Rector. Once you have had a significant season with an interim who is able to flourish in your midst, Bishop Duncan will be open to proceeding to the approval of a mutually agreeable candidate for election as rector, as the canons prescribe.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Canon Mary Maggard Hays Canon Missioner