My dear friends in Christ,

I feel very blessed to be pastor of a collaborative with two vibrant parishes each with long traditions of excellence in Christian service, ongoing faith formation, music and liturgy. St. Paul's and St. John's both offer many and varied opportunities to live out our faith. One of the advantages of our collaborative is that parishioners from both parishes are welcomed and encouraged to participate in events and programs sponsored by either parish. We have come to notice over time that there is a communication gap in the format of our bulletins. Parishioners at St. Paul's have not had access to information about the offerings at St. John's and vice versa. People have asked me how they can get information about opportunities at the other parish and wonder whether they are truly welcome to participate.

As a result, at the recommendation of the Collaborative Pastoral Council, we will begin next week to issue one common bulletin. Each week, parishioners from both parishes will now see both collaborative news and news from each parish. My hope is that this enhanced communication will allow all of the ministries of the collaborative to thrive and for all of you to have every opportunity to live and grow in your faith.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to Sarah Connolly, Sue Amalfi and Paula Forrest, who have done a magnificent job in producing the bulletins over the past few years. And we are grateful to Anne Mears, who has agreed to take on the responsibility of producing the newly formatted bulletin. She can be reached for questions and submissions at <u>bulletin@sjspwellesley.org</u>.

There is a lot going on in our collaborative! It is all of you who make our parishes the vital communities of faith that they are. Thank you for the inspiration you give me every day!

Yours faithfully in Christ,

Reverend James J. Laughlin Pastor