

**B****Dissolution of St. Paul's, Montour Falls as a Mission****Proposer: Diocesan Council (Rule of Order 21 (a))**

**Resolved**, that this 85<sup>th</sup> convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester, meeting in Geneva, New York, on November 5, 2016, upon the receipt of the recommendation of a majority of the members of the Diocesan Council, meeting in regular session on October 18, 2016, and in accordance with the Canons of the Diocese of Rochester, declares that the Mission known as **St. Paul's, Montour Falls** is dissolved, that its executive committee is dissolved and that its assets be dedicated in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church.

**Explanation:**

In 2004 St. Paul's request to move from parish to mission status was approved by Convention. In 2007 the church building was sold and the congregation continued to meet in the Parish Hall. The congregation has since declined and for some time now the few remaining members of St. Paul's worship at St. James, Watkins Glen. Though there is no longer a worshipping congregation at St. Paul's, the Parish Hall continues to operate as community meeting place and Episcopal presence in the Village of Montour Falls. However, St. Paul's is still paying assessments & apportionments, maintaining an Executive Committee, with regular meetings and providing annual parochial reports & audits. By dissolving St. Paul's as a canonical entity ("Mission of the Diocese") and having the Vestry of St. James, Watkins Glen provide oversight of the day-to-day maintenance of the Parish Hall, the service to the community can continue without undue administrative and operational burdens. The Diocese continues to be legal owners of all the property of St. Paul's and will work with the Trustees and the Vestry of St. James to provide:

- Annual funding to cover utilities and maintenance of the Parish Hall at Montour Falls
- Adequate property & liability insurance coverage
- Appropriate funding for major capital improvements or repairs

**Resolution B - Adopted**