



# ST. PAUL'S

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### A Sacred Space for Your Busy Life

Sunday, December 10, 2017, the Second Sunday in Advent

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We especially welcome visitors and newcomers today. Please fill out the newcomer card in the pew and place it in the collection plate or give it to a member of the clergy. Following the service, the clergy will be standing near the doors to greet you. We encourage you to join us for coffee hour in Duncan Hall. For more information about St. Paul's, please visit [www.StPaulsSanRafael.org](http://www.StPaulsSanRafael.org) or call our office at 415.456.4842.

At St. Paul's we are all called to follow Jesus together in prayer, worship, and service.

### WORSHIP

*The service begins on page 355 of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP)*

Prelude	He Hath Filled the Hungry ( <i>from Magnificat</i> )	J. S. Bach
Opening Hymn	67	Hymnal
Kyrie	S-86	Hymnal
Psalm	85:1-2, 8-13	BCP p. 708
Gradual	S-247	Hymnal
Prayers of the People	Form VI	BCP p. 392
Offertory Hymn	76	Hymnal
Doxology	<i>Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen</i>	

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. Whoever you are, wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome to receive initiation into the church through the sacrament of baptism.*

Eucharistic Prayer B		BCP p. 367
Sanctus	S-124	Hymnal
Fraction Anthem	S-161	Hymnal
Closing Hymn	65	Hymnal
Postlude	And My Spirit Hath Rejoiced	J. S. Bach

The Altar Flowers are given by Eleanor Errante to the glory of God  
and in loving memory of her mother, Jean Marie Gray.

## THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**O Antiphons** continue. These short, ancient prayers, which are texts from Isaiah that foreshadow Jesus, mark the Sundays leading up to Christmas. Today we remember Jesus's family roots.

**Christmas Flowers.** The beauty of our Church at Christmas time is legendary! But only if you help. If you would like to have flowers given in memory of someone you love, please contact Alex Elliot at [isaiah24257@gmail.com](mailto:isaiah24257@gmail.com) or call him at 415 488 7930. There is no specific dollar amount required for the flowers. If paying by check, please either send your check by mail or bring it in on a Sunday and put in the offering plate. Please specifically note what it is for and have all Christmas Flower donations in by Sunday, December 17.

**Christmas Cards to Death Row.** Addresses and Christmas Cards are available in Duncan Hall to create cards to send to the men we are in relationship with in Death Row.

**Christmas Caroling at San Rafael Healthcare.** On Sunday, December 17th after the 10am service all are invited to come sing carols a few blocks away at this convalescent home. This is an annual tradition.

**Matching Fund.** We are \$7,725 towards matching a \$10,000 gift that enables us to completely pay for the additional work on the Hardin Courtyard. Please give before the end of the year and help us meet our goal!

**Greeting Cards.** We have created high quality greeting cards with a warm and beautiful image of the inside of our church, perfect for Christmas. They sell for \$20 for a pack of 8 and are available in Duncan Hall.

**The Annual Stewardship Campaign** has begun. Please fill out a pledge card with the amount of money you plan to give St. Paul's in 2018 so we can create an accurate budget. Cards can be found in the pews.

**Sunday Spiritual Forum** is at 9:00 am in Duncan Hall. We are reading aloud poems by George Herbert and John Donne, two seventeenth century English Christian poets.

## SERVING TODAY

Preacher & Celebrant:	The Rev. Christopher Martin
Choirmaster/Organist:	Michael Struck
Acolytes:	Jim Terstegge, Dawn Rice, Demelza Rice
Readers:	Jim Terstegge, Dawn Rice, Jack Beggs
Altar Guild:	Brigitte McCulloch, Felicia Demann, Judy Rowcliffe, Holly Pritchard

## CHRISTOPHER'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

### Christmas Outreach Plus

December bears two strong and contradictory messages. The church asks us to be still and keep watch. (Jesus is coming!) Culture and family life tends to ramp up to a high pitch.

At St. Paul's, I want to largely simplify our messages this month to Isaiah and Outreach.

**Isaiah.** This book gives us many of our most beloved images and language for Jesus, including from Handel's Messiah and the O Antiphons. I will focus my preaching and teaching on this great book.

**Outreach.** There are three opportunities for you.

- **Bin for Ritter.** In the Narthex, the entrance to the church, is a bin that stands ready to receive gifts for the homeless and precariously housed. Above it stands a list of suggested gifts, such as outdoor clothing.
- **Sing for San Rafael Health Care.** On Sunday, December 17th join our annual trip caroling right after the 10am service. It's just a few blocks away. Our children have been learning carols and will lead us.
- **Death Row Cards.** Once again, there will be cards for you to send to our brothers on Death Row as well as addresses in Duncan Hall.

Finally, two other notes. First, I shared with you last week that we have been offered a \$10,000 matching grant to cover extra expenses from the Hardin Courtyard. I'm pleased to report that we have already been given or had pledged \$7,725! Please keep the gifts coming!

Also, we have created beautiful cards with a warm and compelling picture of the inside of our church. Packs of 8 are for sale for a super new price to be determined soon so come Sunday and get your set!

Blessings,  
Christopher

## PRAYER

Alex	Dawn Rice	Kevin & Tara	Mark Hardin
Arty	Della Holloway	Laurel	Mika Kappen & Family
Bill Donnelly	Grace Michael	Laurie Hubbard	Nancy S
Cathy Westover	Jennifer Fritz	Lisa R	Richard F
Dan Pollart & Family	Jim	Marcella Hermstad	Stephanie

## SERVICE

**Teen Success Breakfast:** Serve hot breakfast to at-risk youth. Contact Beverly Armstrong at 415.454.4015 or [nevbev@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nevbev@sbcglobal.net).

**San Rafael Health Care:** Services 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays, 11:00 – 11:25. Help us with the simple service. Children are welcome. Contact Sue Adamson at 415.461.1798.

**Prison Ministry:** St. Paul's has been engaged in regular visitations and correspondence for 20 years with Joseph Cook, a death row inmate at San Quentin who was confirmed by Bishop Swing as a member of our Church. The prison ministry has grown and the rector and other parishioners are now visiting Joe and six other inmates. For further info contact Richard Olive (415.259.9198 or [ollipops@comcast.net](mailto:ollipops@comcast.net)).

## ONGOING

**Plate Cash:** 1st Sunday of the month goes to the Rector's Discretionary Fund; 3rd Sunday goes to Outreach.

**Childcare:** Sundays from 9:30 to 11:00am, childcare is available in the Basement Level classroom.

**Marin Episcopal Youth Group:** Sundays from 5-6:30pm at Church of the Redeemer in San Rafael. Middle and high school students from 5 Marin churches. Daniel London, youth minister, [daniel.london@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.london@gmail.com).

**Centering Prayer:** Meditation in the Christian tradition. Join us in Duncan Hall on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, 7:00-8:30 pm. Leave a message for Chris Olson at the parish office at 415.456.4842.

**Our Spiritual Core:** Discipleship Groups are the spiritual core of St. Paul's because they are where we encourage one another to follow Jesus in worship, prayer, and service. Contact Christopher Martin at 415.456.4842 or [cmartin@stpaulssanrafael.org](mailto:cmartin@stpaulssanrafael.org).

**Altar Flower Dedications:** Looking for a way to honor a loved one, give thanks or remember a special occasion? You can by dedicating the flowers at the altar. A donation of \$40 is suggested. Contact Alex Elliot at 415.488.7930.

**Memorial Wall Plaques:** Contact the office if you would like to purchase a plaque to be inscribed with the name of a loved one who has died.

**St. Anne's Guild:** St. Anne's Guild meets Thursdays at 11:00am. All are invited - bring a bag lunch.

**Facebook & Twitter.** Please like and follow us to join the fun!

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulssanrafael>, <https://twitter.com/StPaulsSR>