



# ST. PAUL'S

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### A Sacred Space for Your Busy Life

Sunday, November 29, 2015, the First 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 worship, prayer and service.

### WORSHIP

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

Prelude	Allegro	anon.
Opening Hymn	397	Hymnal
Gloria	S-280 <i>(Service music found in front of hymnal)</i>	Hymnal
Psalm	25:1-9	BCP p. 614
Gradual	S-247	Hymnal
Prayers of the People	Form VI	BCP p. 392
Offertory Anthem	Magnificat	Benjamin Cooke

*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-130	Hymnal
Fraction Anthem	S-154	Hymnal
Communion Hymn	61	Hymnal
Closing Hymn	57	Hymnal
Postlude	Dance	anon. Renaissance

The Altar Flowers are given by Wm. Alex Elliot to the glory of God  
and in loving memory of his father, Wm. Oswald Elliot.

## THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**O Antiphons.** In each of the six Sundays leading up to Christmas we say a different O Antiphon. O Antiphons are based on verses from the Old Testament book of Isaiah that foreshadow Jesus. They may be familiar to you from the hymn 'O Come, O Come Emmanuel.'

**Children's Choir.** We're starting a children's choir with a first musical offering to be in December. Rehearsals are Friday afternoon and Sunday. Contact Alison Blume at [alisonblume@comcast.net](mailto:alisonblume@comcast.net).

**Vinnie's in desperate need of Turkeys and Hams for the holidays.** The St. Vincent dePaul Free Dining Room does Jesus' work of feeding the hungry in Marin, and this year, their donations of turkeys and hams are way down this holiday season compared to previous years. Please help if you can by donating a turkey or ham. Food donations can be dropped off at the dining room, 820 B St. between 2nd and 3rd, from 6:30AM and 2:00PM any day of the week. Or, you may send a monetary donation to: St. Vincent dePaul Society of Marin County, P.O. Box 150527, San Rafael, CA 94915 or go to [vinnies.org](http://vinnies.org) and click "Donate." Thank you!

**Your Next Spiritual Step?** There are seven weekly or biweekly ways you can learn, pray and grow spiritually at St. Paul's beyond weekly worship and regular service of the poor:

- Sunday Forum every week from 9:00am to 9:40am. We're currently exploring the nature of our souls.
- Morning Prayer every Tuesday at 7:30am.
- Bible Studies on Tuesdays (12:30pm), Wednesdays (10am) and, starting after the beginning of the year, on Thursday evenings (6:15pm).
- Christian meditation on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at 7pm.
- Discipleship Groups, which are small groups with a longer term commitment focused on spiritual maturity and loving community with the poor.

Talk to Christopher to find out more about any of these.

## SERVING TODAY

Preacher & Celebrant:	The Rev. Christopher Martin
Choirmaster/Organist:	Michael Struck
Acolytes:	Jacob Moody, Ronnie Dodds, Pamela Barnes
Readers:	Jacob Moody, Ronnie Dodds, Kay Blackwill
Altar Guild:	Brigitte McCulloch, Wendy Olson, Lena Supsupin, Judy Rowcliffe, Alex Elliot

## CHRISTOPHER'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

This Sunday is the first Sunday in Advent, the season marked by the four Sundays before Christmas. We shift to the color purple, the creche will be in the Narthex, there will be a beautiful set of four Advent candles at the front of the church and, because it is the beginning of the Christian year, we shift from reading the Gospel Mark to the Gospel of Luke.

These are among the shifts we perceive on the surface of our worship. But, as with all of our annual Christian seasons, there's an invitation for each of us to also make a subtle interior shift. Inside, we are to shift from the simple gratitude of Ordinary time to the yearning of Advent.

The yearning we are invited to feel is like wearing bifocals. We look down, and we look forward to the baby we know is coming soon. We look up, and we look out for the one who has told us he will return to make all things right. We don't know the day or the hour when he will return, but our master teaches us to stay alert at all times. And so, especially in this season of Advent, we keep watch and always say in our hearts, 'come, Lord Jesus.'

It is simple. Come this Sunday and nurture the quiet and steadfast practice of yearning for Jesus.

Blessings,  
Christopher

*Each week our rector, The Rev. Christopher H. Martin, sends an email message.  
Email him at [cmartin@stpaulsanrafael.org](mailto:cmartin@stpaulsanrafael.org) to get on the list*

## PRAYER

Alice	Gerry O	Lisa Rose	Robyne Talley,
Blaine Marshall	Helenclare Cox	Lokita	Sally Ettlting
Charlotte & Peter	Jay Taggart	Mika Kappen & Family	Sarah
Chloe H	Jennifer Fritz	Monique Unger & Family	Stephen Topol
Craig Family	Jim & Jane Passman	Norman Rosenstein	Syrian Refugees
Dan Pollart & Family	Jonathan B	People of Paris	Tim Hixon
Fire Victims	Jonathan Smith	Rachel Wilde	Walter Dods
Gael Shumway	Kathy G	Rainie Joses	
Gary Pennington	Kevin, Yvonne & Kendrick	Rich B	

## SERVICE

**Teen Success Breakfast:** Serve hot breakfast to at-risk youth. Contact Beverly Armstrong at 415.454.4015 or 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 17 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 four other parishioners are now visiting Joe and three other inmates. In the coming weeks there will be more information about this growing ministry, including opportunities for everyone to be involved in an action heralded by Christ in Matthew 25:36: "I was in prison and you came to visit me." Are you being called to this ministry, perhaps by corresponding with one of the four inmates we've been visiting? For further info contact Richard Olive (415.259.9198 or ollipops@comcast.net).

**Young Moms Marin:** On Fridays, St. Paul's is now hosting Young Moms Marin, a group for mostly teen moms and their children led by our friend Teresa Ashby. The group meets from 3pm to 5:30pm in Duncan Hall. Contact Carolyn Eitel at 415.214.2560 or ceitel@mvmgmt.com.

## 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 Nativity in San Rafael. Middle and high school students from 5 Marin churches. Daniel London, youth minister, 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 Judy Rowcliffe at 415.606.4355 or jlrowcliffe@comcast.net.

**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>