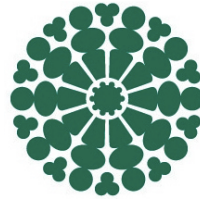


THE EPISTLE



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Following Jesus together in prayer, worship and service.

From the Rector

Dear Friends,

The school year is drawing to a close and now we enter summer. This Epistle will be the last one until just before September.

It has been an extraordinary “school year” for us. Since September we have finalized the courtyard, the parking lot and the interior renovations. We have celebrated our 150th twice and have hosted the first bi-annual PrayWorshipServe Retreat. We also made solid moves toward shared ministry with Grace Marin, Bay Marin, St. John’s, Nativity, Redeemer and St. Francis including combined worship services for Maundy Thursday, the Easter Vigil and Pentecost and significant steps toward the creation of St. Monnica’s Mutual Housing Community.

There are a few highlights for the summer. These include our choir singing the National Anthem for the Pacifics on June 21st, a picnic at Heart’s Desire Beach on July 14th and a Beatles Mass on July 29th at Nativity. But on the whole, our pace will be slower. This is as it should be. In the liturgical year we have entered what is often called “ordinary time,” where we are invited to embrace a more relaxed rhythm.

Our Bible Studies, spiritual forum and four of our five outreach efforts will continue their steady work, and we continue our round of weekly worship. It is time to relax more deeply into spiritual practice, learning again the simple but elusive virtues of presence and gratitude.

Have a blessed summer and I hope to see you often.

Faithfully,

Christopher (cmartin@stpaulssanrafael.org)



Open
House

For more information please visit our website at StPaulsSanRafael.org.
Join the community on Facebook and Twitter. Church Office Phone: 415-456-4842.

Downing Library Books of the Months

by Tom Witt

Whether you're traveling this summer or staying closer to home, now is a superb time of year to catch up on some excellent reading. And St.

Paul's has a rich supply of books to enliven your heart, soul and mind. Here are two thought starters. Both are written by British author, Karen Armstrong, known for her studies in comparative religion.

A History of God: The 4,000-Year Quest of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, Random House, New York, 1993.

"Human beings cannot endure emptiness and desolation; they will fill the vacuum by creating a new focus of meaning. The idols of fundamentalism are not good substitutes for God; if we are to create a vibrant new faith for the twenty-first century, we should, perhaps, ponder the history of God for some lessons and warnings."

Fields of Blood: Religion and the History of Violence. Knopf, New York 2015.

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St. Paul's Book Club

meets the third Friday of the month at 7 p.m. in Duncan Hall. These are the summer reading choices:

- ❖ June 15 Nightingale by Kristin Hannah
- ❖ July 20 Strangers in Their Own Land by Arlie Hochschild (One Book One Marin)
- ❖ August 17 Chalice of Blood by Peter Tremayne

Everyone is welcome!

For information contact Joy Moss 415.479.6930.

St. Anne's Guild weekly lunch

St. Anne's would be delighted to have anyone who would be interested in our group. Join us on Thursdays. We start at 11:00 in Duncan Hall and some of us knit. Bring your sandwich and we'll have tea and cookies. We have good conversation and enjoy one another.

How can I serve the least of these?

Teen Success Breakfast: Serve breakfast to at-risk youth. Contact Ginny Horton at 415.785.7011 or hornlocker@comcast.net.

San Rafael Health Care: Help lead a simple worship service with prayers and songs for the residents at the 5th Ave. Health Care center. 11:00 – 11:25 on 1st and 3rd Sunday. Children are welcome. Contact Sue Adamson at 415.461.1798.

Prison Ministry: Members of our congregation have committed themselves to a range of service associated with St. Paul's Death Row Ministry, including correspondence and visitation with inmates and hosting family members of inmates coming from out of town for visits. Contact Richard (415.259.9198 or ollipops@comcast.net).

What is Your Next Spiritual Step?

- **Morning Prayer:** Tuesday at 7:30am in the church.
- **Bible Studies** Wednesdays 10-11am: Gospel of Luke
Thursdays 6:15-7:15pm: Letters of Paul
- **Spiritual Forum:** Sundays 9-9:40am: Reading T.S. Eliot's poem, *Four Quartets*. Duncan Hall.
- **Christian meditation:** 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7pm in the Upper Room.
- **Afternoon 20-minute meditation in the church:** Tuesdays at 5pm
Thursdays at 5:45
- **Discipleship Groups:** small groups with a longer term commitment focused on spiritual maturity and loving community with the poor.

St. Paul's offers many ways for you to learn, pray and grow spiritually

**St. Paul's
History Corner**
By Joy Moss

As we celebrate St. Paul's 150th anniversary, let's take a look at some of the former church members who are memorialized with their gifts to the glory of God and in remembrance of loved ones.

The icon of Mary and the Infant Jesus placed over the entrance door to St. Paul's Church is a memorial to Sarah Jane Hasting. Sarah Jane was a long time member of St. Paul's Church. In 2006 shortly before she died, she attended a woman's retreat called "Entering the Heart of Mary" led by Rev. Mary Louise Hints. The retreat was the origin of Sarah Jane's new found interest in Mary and increasing the awareness of the female presence in the church.



Sarah Jane Hastings

The icon was written with intention by Lucia Dugliss. An icon is intended as an object of veneration and prayer. Lucia came to St. Paul's and looked at the space and with Sarah Jane in her heart, she prayerfully wrote the icon.

Sarah Jane was born in Indianapolis, in 1925. She met her husband Thomas and they married in 1961. Their son, Scott, was born in 1964. Sarah Jane was very active at St. Paul's. She was a member of St. Anne's Guild and sang in the folk choir. She also served on the vestry. Sarah Jane had always loved music and she enjoyed dancing. She would invite Father Christopher to dance at the "Wine and Spirit" dinner dance. She wrote music and lyrics for a CD called "Pieces of My Heart".



Scott Hastings

Sarah Jane died in 2006, Her funeral was at St. Paul's. The Icon of Mary and the Infant Jesus is a memorial to her life.

Children and Youth at St. Paul's

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, July 14th for St.

Paul's **Beach Day at Heart's Desire!** Kati will be there at 8am to claim our tables and grill, and you should come soon thereafter to get parking. It's \$8 per car and dogs are NOT allowed. It will be a **potluck**, so bring something to share.



- Nursery will continue throughout the summer, unless Kati emails you otherwise on a weekly basis.
- Due to previously scheduled events and travel, Kati will NOT be there on June 10th, (possibly July 1st and/or July 8th), July 29th, or August 19th.
- Sunday School will resume the Sunday after Labor Day.
- We are thinking about switching Family Sunday (the no Sunday School Sunday) to the 4th Sunday (from the 1st Sunday) because having kids at the folk choir service makes more sense. Please email your thoughts to Kati.

For more info: Kati Dombrosky: kdombrosky@gmail.com 415-846-1700

Marin Episcopal Youth Group

Marin Episcopal Youth Group will finish the school year with a **Movie Night on June 10**, going to see Solo: A Star Wars Story. Contact Rev. Gerry Caprio (415-786-3949) geraldcaprio@hotmail.com to RSVP or for more information about the Youth Group.

Books of the Months (Cont'd)

“At a moment of rising geopolitical chaos, the imperative of mutual understanding between nations and faith communities has never been more urgent, the dangers of action based on misunderstanding never greater. Fields of Blood makes vividly clear that religion is not the problem.”

These are just two of over 250 highly intelligent volumes now lining our shelves.

We invite you to visit the new Downing Library on the second floor above Duncan Hall. To borrow any book, just fill out a library card with your name, book title and author and date.

Happy reading and we hope you enjoy your summer.

Check out a Vestry Meeting

The Vestry is the governing board of St. Paul's. All meetings are open to parishioners. Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month so June 12th, July 10th and August 14th at 7pm in Duncan Hall. Meetings are either an hour or an hour and a half.



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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