



# ST. PAUL'S

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### A Sacred Space for Your Busy Life

Sunday, November 6, 2016, All Saints' Sunday

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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	Trio	Arcangelo Corelli
Opening Hymn	625	Hymnal
Gloria	S-277 <i>(Service music found in front of hymnal)</i>	Hymnal
Psalm	98	BCP p. 727
Gradual	S-247	Hymnal
Offertory Anthem	O Sacrum Convivium	Matthew Harris

*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 A		BCP p. 361
Sanctus	S-130	Hymnal
Fraction Anthem	S-154	Hymnal
Communion Hymn	526	Hymnal
Closing Hymn	293	Hymnal
Postlude	Trio	J. S. Bach

The Altar Flowers are given by Betty Hardin and family to the glory of God and in loving memory of Hugh Hardin.

## THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Gifts for the Homeless.** We will get two barrels from Ritter Center to be put in Duncan Hall for Christmas presents, one for the homeless and one for teens. There will be lists for ideas. We get them on November 11th and return them December 9th.

**Sunday Afternoons** have just gotten richer in ministry with the addition of a 5pm Eucharist. This shared ministry of St. Paul's, Redeemer and Nativity is at Nativity.

## SERVING TODAY

Preacher & Celebrant:	The Rev. Christopher Martin
Choirmaster/Organist:	Michael Struck
Acolytes:	Jacob Moody, Chris Olson, Ronnie Dodds
Readers:	Jacob Moody, Chris Olson, John Dury
Altar Guild:	Michael Green, Linda Danford, Wanda Rice, Walter Tanner, Jane Santucci

## CHRISTOPHER'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

On Sunday I began my sermon by observing how disturbed this election season was making me. I am particularly alert to how easily it crowds into my prayer space. These days, I need to be extra alert to keep praying. I am also among those who struggles against addictive behaviors during the day, repeatedly looking at websites. Many responded to me sharing similar feelings.

What are we to do? In this email, with two exceptions, I won't tell you who or what to vote for or against. But I do want to share some Christian observations that may help you negotiate the next two weeks.

First, though, I want to share my recommendation on how to vote. I urge you to vote yes on Proposition 62, which ends the Death Penalty in California, and no on 66, which accelerates it. I hope this comes as no surprise to you. San Quentin is less than five miles from our church and at least eight men on its Death Row are our known brothers-in-Christ. Our parish is called to a particularly strong and clear witness against the Death Penalty. For decades the General Convention of the Episcopal Church has also advocated, nationally, for the abolition of the Death Penalty. Please join me in voting 'yes' on 62 and 'no' on 66.

As for everything else, I intentionally leave it to you. When I first interviewed at St. Paul's over twelve years ago I was nervously asked if I preach politics from the pulpit. I replied that no, I care far more about the capacity of each of you to take Jesus into the voting booth with you than I do about what exactly you vote for.

And so, over these past dozen years, I have done everything in my power- worship in the beauty of holiness, formation classes, Discipleship Groups, Bible studies, spiritual forums, spiritual conversations, Jesus centered Outreach programs, and pastoral visits of all sorts- to help you know Jesus better. I trust you to take Jesus into the voting booth with you.

In this particularly puffed-up and rude election cycle I am deeply grateful for the ways our Episcopal Church nurtures the Christian virtues of Humility and Courtesy. I often (too often!) read articles and opinion pieces that bemoan the degraded state of our polis. One commentator writes that we are 'over politicized and under moralized' and 'it's not that we're bad, but we're morally inarticulate.' When I hear such things, I think, 'that's because our culture is not paying enough attention to churches like St. Paul's!'

At St. Paul's, we nurture the moral virtues such as humility and courtesy that lead to a healthy polis. And we are not constantly 'reimaginaing' these things. Rather, we are living them out now, in a way that has roots at least 3000 years old. To be blunt, our way of being human is among the best possible antidotes to what ails our American culture.

I ended my sermon on Sunday by sharing my belief that the accusatory tone of our politics won't end on November 9th. I believe what we are experiencing now is the new normal, at least until our culture learns to listen again to deeply rooted moral voices like ours. America, and Marin, needs us to be strong and clear. They need to hear our voice. Come strengthen your heart and your voice at St. Paul's.

The Sunday after the election, November 13th, we begin preparing for Christmas. The O Antiphons, with their chants and banners, will begin to return. Our children, with our help, will begin learning the tunes and multiple verses of our Christian Christmas Carols. And I will begin to preach a series of simple sermons that will prepare our hearts to receive Jesus by the core practice of 'working on our Belovedness.'

Come to church. Bring your friends. It's not just about you. Our culture is yearning for a way to be good. Come to St. Paul's with your friends, where it's easier to be good.

Blessings,  
Christopher

## PRAYER

Arty	Grace Michael	Mika Kappen & Family	Ruth Orovich
Bill Tate	Jennifer Fritz	Nancy S (surgery 9/6)	Sandy G
Cathy	Kairos Inside San Quentin	Peter	Syrian Refugees
Dan Pollart & Family	Laurel	Phyllis	The Rev. Stefani Schatz
Deborah	Lisa R	Rainie Joses	
Gina	Lokita	Rosa Montes	

## 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 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 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.

**Children's Choir.** Rehearsals on Friday afternoon and some Sundays. Contact Alison Blume at [alisonblume@comcast.net](mailto:alisonblume@comcast.net)

**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](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 Judy Rowcliffe at 415.606.4355 or [jlrowcliffe@comcast.net](mailto: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>