



ST. PAUL'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Sacred Space for Your Busy Life

Sunday, December 11, 2016, the Third Sunday in Advent

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 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	Adagio	Felix Mendelssohn
Opening Hymn	57	Hymnal
Gloria	S-86 <i>(Service music found in front of hymnal)</i>	Hymnal
Canticle	The Song of Mary	BCP p. 91
Gradual	S-236	Hymnal
Prayers of the People	Form VI	BCP p. 392
Offertory Hymn	59	Hymnal

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-161	Hymnal
Closing Hymn	76	Hymnal
Postlude	Allegro Vivace	Felix Mendelssohn

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

Christmas Cards for Our Death Row Nine. If you'd like to send Christmas Cards to any or all of our nine brothers-in-Christ on Death Row you have two options. You can email Christopher at cmartin@stpaulssanrafael.org and he will email you the list of addresses. Or you can come to Duncan Hall starting Tuesday and fill out cards that will be available there and then mail them.

The O Antiphons are an ancient practice for preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. They are each a verse or image from the Old Testament that reveal something about Jesus. They are best known as the verses of the hymn 'O Come, O Come Emmanuel.' Each Sunday until Christmas we will be celebrating a different O Antiphon with a chant and a banner.

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.

Re-Finance Your Spirituality. Invest in a 3-Day Weekend of discussion, laughter, music and superlative food. In return you get a lifetime of renewed joy and confidence in the future. Give you faith a chance to blossom and grow:

2017 Men's Cursillo Weekend- March 23-26

2017 Women's Cursillo Weekend- March 30- April 1

Contact Linda Bell for information. 408-373-3537. www.marincursillo.com

Christmas Service Times:

Christmas Eve Family Service	5pm
Christmas Eve Service with Choir Prelude	10:30pm
Christmas Day	10am

Although Christmas Day is a Sunday, there will be no 8am or 5pm service.

The 10am Service is followed by a Pot Luck Feast in Duncan Hall hosted by the Martins.

SERVING TODAY

Preacher & Celebrant:	The Rev. Vanessa Glass
Choirmaster/Organist:	Michael Struck
Acolytes:	Jim Terstegge, Dawn Rice, Demelza Rice
Readers:	Jim Terstegge, Dawn Rice, John Dury
Altar Guild:	Brigitte McCulloch, Joan Peterson, Felicia Demann, Ann Lisk, Holly Pritchard

CHRISTOPHER'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

Over the last five years we have been strengthening the connections among the Christian Churches of Marin. We share our campus offices and our Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday services with Grace Marin. With Episcopal Churches we share a Youth Group. In the last year we've started a 5pm Sunday Eucharist together and have started to mutually support one another's Outreach programs.

This Sunday, the Episcopal Churches of Northern Marin are going to try something new. The Priests-in-Charge of St. Paul's, St. Francis', Nativity and Redeemer are going to swap pulpits. I will be leading services at St. Francis', Novato and the Rev. Vanessa Glass will be returning to St. Paul's.

A decade ago, Vanessa served as part time Associate Rector of St. Paul's for about a year. She left when she was offered more work than we could offer at Grace Cathedral. She was much loved and everyone who remembers her, whom I have told she's returning, has been enthusiastic. In addition to our two services, she will be leading the Spiritual Forum. I've set her up with texts from Cloud of Unknowing and Canterbury Tales that describe the Seven Deadly Sins, so it should be a lot of fun!

The governing bodies of all four Northern Marin Episcopal Churches, including our Vestry, have unanimously approved a Memorandum of Agreement through Easter. We're running a variety of little experiments in the hopes of mutually strengthening our four churches, and so strengthening our Christian impact in Marin.

Please welcome Vanessa back this Sunday.

Blessings,
Christopher
p: (415) 456-4842

PRAYER

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

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 1st and 3rd 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).

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

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>