



ST. PAUL'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Sacred Space for Your Busy Life

Sunday, December 18, 2016, the Fourth 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	Norman Dello-Joio
Opening Hymn	66	Hymnal
Gloria	S-86 <i>(Service music found in front of hymnal)</i>	Hymnal
Psalm	80:1-7, 16-18	BCP p. 702
Gradual	S-247	Hymnal
Prayers of the People	Form VI	BCP p. 392
Offertory Anthem	Welcome Sweet and Sacred Feast	Gerald Finzi

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
Communion Hymns	265, 264	Hymnal
Closing Hymn	65	Hymnal
Postlude	Allegro vivo e ritmico	Norman Dello-Joio

The Altar Flowers are given by Wanda Rice to the glory of God
and in loving memory of her husband, Robert Rice.

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 your 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.

Three Things for January. January will bring Basic Christianity after the 10am service, a huge Outreach afternoon in Duncan Hall with three other churches and an Open House at the Martin's home. Keep your eyes peeled for more details soon!

SERVING TODAY

Preacher & Celebrant:	The Rev. Christopher Martin
Choirmaster/Organist:	Michael Struck
Acolytes:	Michael Green, Eric Guastavino, Chris Olson
Readers:	Michael Green, Eric Guastavino, Judy Rowcliffe
Altar Guild:	Michael Green, Joy Moss, Al Petrie, Steve Avanzino, Pamela Barnes

CHRISTOPHER'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

Last week we filled two large barrels to overflowing with much needed items for the homeless of all ages in San Rafael. Yay us!

Our next shared project is to send Christmas cards to our nine brothers-in-Christ on San Quentin's Death Row. We did this for the first time last year and the men were just blown away. For many, it was the most Christmas Cards they had ever gotten their whole lives.

There are two ways you can do this.

1. By emailing me (cmartin@stpaulssanrafael.org) or by getting the list at church, get the addresses and write the cards from home. This year, we include a brief description of each man so you can add a little personal note.
2. I've set up nine stations in Duncan Hall. At each station is a stack of cards, the addresses and descriptions, and for 8 out of the nine guys, a picture and maybe also something they've sent us- one wrote a book, three make paintings and several others have already sent us Christmas cards. The ninth man is the son of Sue, who is a friend of St. Paul's and stays every weekend at Don and John's house. There are pens, so just settle down and write as many cards as you like, up to all nine.

This is a powerful ministry. It is a great way to follow the spirit of Jesus' teaching that when we visit our brothers or sisters in prison, we visit Him.

Blessings,
Christopher
p: (415) 456-4842

PRAYER

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

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>