



ST. PAUL'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Sacred Space for Your Busy Life

Sunday, December 16, 2018, 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	Introduction	Louis Boellman
Opening Hymn	76	Hymnal
Kyrie	S-91 <i>(Service music found in front of hymnal)</i>	Hymnal
Canticle	The First Song of Isaiah	BCP p. 86
Gradual	S-247	Hymnal
Prayers of the People	Form VI	BCP p. 392
Offertory Anthem	Turn thine eyes of mercy upon us	Joseph Haydn
Doxology	<i>Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen</i>	

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. If you would like to receive a blessing, cross your arms across your chest when you are at the altar rail. 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-114	Hymnal
Fraction Anthem	S-158	Hymnal
Communion Hymns	72, 304	Hymnal
Closing Hymn	75	Hymnal
Postlude	Menuet	Louis Boellman

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

O Antiphons continue. These short, ancient prayers, which are texts from Isaiah that foreshadow Jesus, mark the Sundays leading up to Christmas. Today we recognize Jesus as the key that unlocks our prisons.

Living Buddha, Living Christ. Peace, love, compassion and mindfulness are some of the themes we're exploring in a book discussion of the classic bestseller by Vietnamese poet, Zen master and mystic, Thích Nhất Hạnh. All are invited to join us in the Upper Room of Duncan Hall, Sundays between 11:30 and 12:30 as we seek to understand the common denominators between two great spiritual paths..

Christmas Services are 5pm and 10:30pm on Christmas Eve and 10am on Christmas morning. The service is followed by a pot luck Feast in Duncan Hall hosted but the Martins, who provide a ham.

Christmas Caroling. On Sunday, December 16th all are invited to sing at the San Rafael Health Care Center 1601 5th Avenue starting at 11:30am.

St. Paul's 101 is a class that answers your questions about St. Paul's, the Episcopal Church and the Christian faith. The class will meet weekly starting on Sunday, January 13th at 11:30am in the Downing Library.

New College of Christian Practice Winter Session begins of Saturday, January 19th at 8:30am. The focus will be on doing the work God has given you to do with gladness and singleness heart.

Christmas Flowers. If you would like to have flowers given in memory of someone you love, please contact Alex Elliot at isaiah24257@gmail.com or 415 488 7930. There is no specific dollar amount required for the flowers. If paying by check, please either send your check by mail or bring it in on a Sunday and put in the offering plate. Please note what it is for and have all Christmas Flower donations in by Sunday, December 16th.

Kairos 52 in San Quentin. Tom Witt will be leading an ecumenical team of 50 Catholic and Protestant volunteers into San Quentin this coming President's Day weekend (Feb. 15-18). We would certainly welcome St. Paul's prayers of support as we share the message of Christ's agape love with those doing "hard time" behind bars.

Annual Stewardship Campaign. Stewardship pledge cards have been sent to all homes and are available at church. Please fill one out with the amount you intend to give to St. Paul's in 2019 so that the Vestry can create an accurate budget. You can mail the card in or put it in the offering plate.

SERVING TODAY

Preacher & Celebrant:	The Rev. Christopher Martin
Choirmaster/Organist:	Michael Struck
Acolytes:	Michael Green, Nan Marie Wollam, Pierce Gore
Readers:	Michael Green, Nan Marie Wollam, Judy Rowcliffe
Ushers:	Neville Armstrong, Scott Hastings
Altar Guild:	Michael Green, Joy Moss, Al Petrie, Pamela Barnes

CHRISTOPHER'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

3 INVITATIONS TO SERVE THIS WEEK

Our mission at St. Paul's is simply "following Jesus together in worship, prayer and service." Here are 3 ways you can serve this week:

1. **Buy helpful things and put them in a basket.** Go to Target or Walgreens or a similar place and buy a few of the things listed at the bottom of this email. Swing by St. Paul's and put them, unwrapped, in the Ritter Center Basket that's in the back of the church. It will be distributed by Ritter to those in need.

2. **Sing!** At 11:30am this Sunday, the 16th, go to the San Rafael Health Care Center at 1601 5th Avenue, across from Marin Academy. Accept the packet with the lyrics to classic Christmas songs. Join the pack of people from St. Paul's as they make the circuit of the care facility, singing songs.

3. **Write to those in prison.** Come to Duncan Hall any time in the next two weeks. By the piano is a long table with 13 manila envelopes. Each envelope is filled with Christmas cards, and on the cover of each envelope is the address of one of the 13 men we visit on Death Row. Grab a card and fill it out with a few warm sentences. Address the card with the name and address on the cover of the envelope and put in the round basket. Repeat as often as you like.

Remember, Jesus said "surely as you did it to the least of these, you did it to me."

Blessings,
Christopher

PS Christmas Gifts for Ritter- new and unwrapped

Children- toys, clothes, books, games

Teens- hoodies, sweatshirts, throw blankets, jewelry, art supplies, toiletries

Homeless- warm socks, flashlight and batteries, panchos, backpacks, camping gear.

Gift Cards- Safeway, CVS, Trader Joes, Restaurant

*Find out more at www.stpaulssanrafael.org

REGULAR PRAYER AND STUDY - OPEN TO ALL

Spiritual Forum	Sundays at 9am in Duncan Hall
Book Group	Sundays at 11:30am in the Upper Room
Centering Prayer Group	2nd and 4th Sundays at 7pm in Duncan Hall
Morning Prayer	Tuesdays at 7:30am in the Church
Bible Study	Wednesdays at 10am in Duncan Hall

WHO'S WHO AT ST. PAUL'S

The Governing Board (called the Vestry)

Pierce Gore (Senior Warden), Walter Tanner (Junior Warden), Ginny Horton, Janie Burtch (Secretary), Buzz Wollam, Libby Silvestri, John Schaver, Alison Blume, Meg Gorman, Tom Witt and Michael Welcome

Campus Care Steve Avanzino, Keatin Holly, Pat Curtis, David Hardin, Eric Guastavino and Larry Santucci

Finances Holly Pritchard, Lorrie Buggatto and John McDermott

Music Michael Struck

Acolytes and Readers	Dawn Rice
Ushers	Gary Towery and Larry Santucci
Altar Guild	Judy Rowcliffe
Altar Flowers	Alex Elliot

Children's Ministry	Kati Dombrosky
Youth Group	David Hardin

Downing Library	Tom Witt
Epistle (Monthly Newsletter)	Chloe Martin
Service Bulletins and Centering Prayer	Chris Olson
St. Anne's	Alice King
Monthly Book Group and St. Paul's History	Joy Moss

Death Row Ministry	Richard Olive
Teen Success Breakfast	Ginny Horton
San Rafael Health Care Worship	Sue Adamson
St. Monnica's Mutual Housing Community	Jacob Moody and Kati Dombrosky

PRAYER LIST

Abby	Cathy Westover	Laura Gordon	Olivia Monforte
Andrey	Gabriella Montes	Mark Hardin	Paradise Survivors
Anna, Marie & Donnie	Jayne F	Mary Lou	Sandy & Herbert
Beverly B	Kappen Family	Mike R	Tara
Caravan in Mexico	Larry W & Family	Miriam	Wendy & Family