THE EPISTLE



Following Jesus together in prayer, worship and service.

From the Rector

Dear Friends-

Throughout the month of May we continue our focus on becoming spiritual leaders of our own faith. Becoming leaders of our own faith is the first of the Landmarks that emerged from the work on the data from the RenewalWorks spiritual inventory that 84 of us took this last fall. Opportunities this month include a workshop on call that I led on May 4th, Confirmation classes that begin May 5th and culminate in Diocesan Confirmations at Grace Cathedral on June 1st, and Men's and women's Cursillo weekends. Starting Thursday, May 30th, the feast of the Ascension, you will have the opportunity to take the 2nd annual Assessment of 7 Core Christian Practices.

In the meantime, you may know that for many of us, our Discipleship Groups are a prime support in our spiritual growth. Take a look at the bulletin board in the conversation area of Duncan Hall to see pictures of 4 of our 8 Discipleship Groups. Might that be your next step in faith?

Faithfully,

Christopher

Special Evensong Service celebrating the Feast of the Ascension featuring a choir of



Thursday May 30

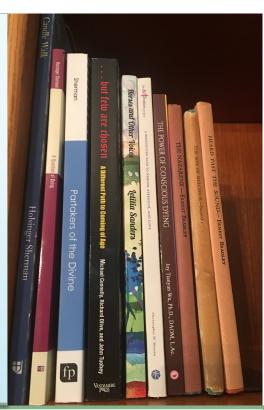
7 pm

St. Francis **Episcopal** Church

967 5th St. Novato

St. Paul's Authors

In the new Moss Archival Room upstairs we have a book shelf dedicated to authors who are or were members of St. Paul's. There are three books from former Rector Ernest Bradley (from 1905-08 and then 1920-30) and books from current parishioners Letitia Sanders, Richard Olive, Cathy Bell, Joy Tianyun Wu, Jacob Holsinger Sherman and Karin Holsinger Sherman. Finally, there's a copy of Christopher's book too.



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 Book of the Month by Tom Witt

Once again, we turn to Thomas Cahill for our featured book of the month. This time, it is Volume VI in his acclaimed *Hinges of History Series*, *Heretics and Heroes: How Renaissance Artists and Reformation*

Priests Created Our World (2013).

As it is described on Amazon:

"Thomas Cahill guides us through a time so full of innovation that the Western world would not again experience its like until the twentieth century: the new humanism of the Renaissance and the radical religious alterations of the Reformation. This was an age in which whole continents and peoples were discovered. It was an era of sublime artistic and scientific adventure, but also of newly powerful princes and armies – and of unprecedented courage, as thousands refused to bow their heads to the religious pieties of the past."

"Cahill illuminates, as no one else can, the great gift-givers who shaped our history – those who left us a world more varied and complex, more awesome and delightful, more beautiful and strong than the one they had found."

Riches of intelligence await your eyes in the Downing Library on the second floor, behind the office. To borrow any book, just fill out a card with your name, book title, author and date.

St Paul's Book Club

St. Paul's Book Club will meet on Friday May 17th at 4 **p.m.** in Duncan Hall. We will be discussing the book, <u>Little Fires Everywhere</u> by Celeste Ng. This is the story of two families: the perfect Richardsons and their tenant, Mia and her daughter, Pearl. Things start well but end badly. All are welcome. Contact Joy Moss (415)479-6930 for more information.

St. Anne's Guild 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: Breakfast served with love to hungry teens at the Community School. Contact Ginny Horton: 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. We'll be singing Christmas Carols there at 11:30 on Sunday, December 16th. Join us!

Death Row Ministry: Next Meeting is **Wednesday, May 8**--see announcement on Page 4. To learn more about the ministry and get involved, please contact Richard (415.259.9198 or olipops@comcast.net).

What is Your Next Spiritual Step?

- Morning Prayer: Tuesday at 7:30am in the church.
- **Bible Studies** Wednesdays 10-11am: Gospel of John Thursday 6:15-7:15pm: Isaiah
- **Spiritual Forum:** Sundays 9-9:40am: Coleridge's Rime of the Ancient Mariner. 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.
- **Confirmation:** Come to confirmation classes after the 10am service to prepare for confirmation at Grace Cathedral on June 1.

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

St. Paul's Forward: Katie Taggart Take Courage, Disruptive Generosity by Pat Curtis

One of the smiling people at the doors of St. Paul's is Katie Taggart, offering hospitality and Christian Love to all who enter. She is especially welcoming to new people who may not know their way around nor know how to get involved in the life of the Community.

Katie brings God's Love to many in many ways. She is on The Team for the Women's Cursillo and will be spreading her wisdom about Living the Christian Life.

She doesn't stop there. The Staff at Guide Dogs for the Blind overwhelmingly nominated her for the KPIX Jefferson Award and she was chosen! Check out the KPIX Jefferson Awards on the KPIX Website. Katie is a long time volunteer. Her love for helping others shines through all she does. Katie, at age 80, says she has finally figured it out: God is the guide post in her life and Giving without any thought of reward or recognition is the foundation for her service to others. She is indeed a Gracious Giver.

Thank you, Katie, for the wonderful inspiration you are to all of us!



Children and Youth at St. Paul's

I have great news! As my children are getting older and having different needs and as my time at St. Paul's has been spent on the board of Mutual Housing Marin, it seems time for me to pass the torch as Family Program Coordinator. Karin Holsinger (Leila and Elias' mom) will be taking over as Family Program Coordinator beginning in August. She has an amazing background in religious spirituality and education. She is also an incredible artist. If you haven't yet seen her children's book, please ask some Sunday! Thank you, Karin!

May 12th - Music Sunday School with Libby and it's Mother's Day! (Kati and girls out of town)

May 19th - Godly Play

May 26th - Family Sunday

June 2nd - Godly Play

June 9th - Pentecost and Children's Program at Nati AUGUST 10th - ST. PAUL'S BEACH DAY at Heart's Desire Beach in West Marin.

Thank you all and God Bless. Kati kdombrosky@gmail.com



Marin Episcopal Youth Group: We'll have one last service opportunity for the year on Tuesday, May 28, when we serve dinner for the homeless street chaplaincy at 1st Presbyterian Church of San Rafael. Contact Rev. Gerry Caprio at geraldcaprio@hotmail.com to find out more and sign up!

Death Row Ministry Meeting

The next meeting of the Death Row Ministry is scheduled for 5:30-6:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 8, in the upper room of Duncan Hall. In response to Christ's invitation to visit the prisoner (Matthew 25: 36, 39, 40), volunteers from St. Paul's and two other churches make visits to particular inmates on San Quentin's death row and/or maintain correspondence with them. If you are curious about the ministry or considering getting involved, you will be welcome to attend the meeting.

Death Cafe

Sunday, May 5 4-6 pm Duncan Hall
All are welcome for an open and
uplifting conversation about death and
dying, life and living.
Refreshments will be served.
RSVP:chloeadmartin@comcast.net

Men's Cursillo Weekend

The application deadline for the 2019 men's Cursillo weekend is May 10. Consider giving yourself the gift of peace and stepping away from a busy world for special time to focus on your spiritual journey.

The weekend in the tranquility of San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo is \$100, including room and board. It begins Thursday evening, May 16, and concludes on Sunday, May 19.

Besides Pastor Christopher Martin, some 35 current members of St. Paul's Church have made a Cursillo weekend. For further information please contact St. Paul's Cursillo parish representative, Richard Olive (ollipops@comcast.net) or go to www.marincursillo.com.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1123 Court St. San Rafael, CA 94901