

THE EPISTLE



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Following Jesus together in prayer, worship and service.

From the Rector

Dear Friends-

This month we are taking an exciting and decisive step together in our shared Christian Pilgrimage. Consecration Sunday invites all of us into a different relationship with our money. One of the profound pleasures for me over the last few months has been to witness so many of our leaders begin to talk about their relationship with money in a different way as we have prepared for Consecration Sunday. I see people becoming free and grateful.

Consecration Sunday is intimately connected to our collective response to last year's RenewalWorks survey. In response to the data 84 of us gave to the church about where we are in our spirit life, the RenewalWorks team set out a series of three Landmarks, each of which had three Signposts. Under the first Landmark, "Becoming spiritual leaders of our own faith," one of the three Signposts is "Share our gifts and money with gladness and singleness of heart."

Sharing "with gladness and singleness of heart" isn't something you accomplish once and then you're done. Rather, it is entering into a lifelong practice. It is much easier to enter into and maintain a practice if you are confident that people around you value the practice as much as you do. I am so grateful to see people at St. Paul's, each in their own way, giving with gladness and singleness of heart. It inspires me to do the same. I pray that the spiritual growth of your brothers and sisters at St. Paul's inspires you too so that we all may know the freedom and gratitude that are the fruits of life with Jesus.

Faithfully,

Christopher

With Gratitude for Consecration Sunday by Pat Curtis

Today, November 3, 2019, is the first Consecration Sunday and Celebration Brunch at St. Paul's. We rededicate ourselves to live in Faith, Hope and Love as we celebrate our wonderful St. Paul's Community. So many of us have built and sustained this community and benefited from it. This is a time for us to reflect with Gratitude on the many gifts we have enjoyed and the people who have played important parts in our lives. *Cont'd on page 3*



For more information please visit our website at StPaulsSanRafael.org.
Join the community on Facebook and Twitter. Church Office Phone: 415-456-4842.

St Paul's Book Club will meet on November 15 at 4 p.m. in Duncan Hall. The book we will be discussing is The Only Woman in the Room by Marie Benedict. This is the fictionalized story of the actress, Hedy Lamar. A Jewish woman, she escaped Austria for Hollywood. But there was an unknown part of her life- she was an inventor. What did she invent?
 . All are welcome. Contact Joy Moss (415)479-6930.

St. Anne's Guild weekly 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.

A Huge THANK YOU from St. Anne's

To the parishioners and friends of St. Paul's a huge thank you for your support and generosity if time during our recent book sale. With the start of setting up tables, bringing out books and helping at the sale, to cleaning up and carrying boxes at the end, a job well done! We made \$839 on our sale, but before you are disappointed, remember that paperbacks we're 50 cents and hardcovers 1 dollar. We sold well over 1000 books. Not bad! We still have many left and St. Anne's will be considering their distribution in the near future. The \$839 we made will, as in the past, be used for Outreach. We will adopt at Christmas a family with Ritter House that has two to four children. They will receive \$350. The remainder will be given to needy seniors and veterans with gift cards to Safeway and Marshalls.

Blessings,
 The St. Anne's Guild

How can I Serve the Least of These?

Teen Success Breakfast: Four days a week, volunteers prepare and serve a hot breakfast to at-risk youth at the County Community School. If you are interested in learning more about this ministry, please contact Ginny Horton: 415.785.7011 or hornlocker@comcast.net.

San Rafael Health Care: On the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, a small group of parishioners slips out of church early and heads down the street to lead a simple worship service with prayers and songs for the residents at the 5th Ave. Health Care center. 11:00 – 11:25. Children are welcome. Contact Sue Adamson at 415.461.1798.

Death Row Ministry: Members of our congregation have committed themselves to a range of service associated with St. Paul's Death Row Ministry, including correspondence and visitation with inmates and hosting family members of inmates coming from out of town for visits. If you have any questions about Death Row Ministry, feel free to contact Brigitte McCulloch (415) 497-5469, Richard Olive (415) 259-9198 or Christopher Martin

What is Your Next Spiritual Step?

- **Morning Prayer:** Tuesdays at 7:30am in the church.
- **Bible Studies:** Wednesdays 10-11am Duncan Hall.
 Thursday 6:20-7:20pm Duncan Hall.
- **Spiritual Forum:** Sundays 9-9:40am Duncan Hall.
- **Christian meditation:** 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7pm Duncan Hall.
- **Discipleship Groups:** small groups with a longer term commitment focused on spiritual maturity and loving community with the poor. Speak to Christopher.

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

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As we work to sustain and grow the St. Paul's Community, we can express our Gratitude by Giving with Gladness and Singleness of Heart. We have so many gracious Givers who have sustained our community for so many years. I have learned so much and have become a great admirer of our senior members. Their life of Faith, Hope and Love is truly inspiring.

I am learning to view giving from a Christian point of view, looking at giving a percentage of my income instead of waiting to see what I have left over after my needs and wants are satisfied. I am trying to pause and get off the Getting and Spending merry go round. I am working to recognize the gifts that have been showered upon me in so many ways and to give freely without any expectation of recognition or reward. I know this is a very worthwhile journey.

For me, the best thing about Consecration Sunday is The Consecration Sunday Team. Everyone cared deeply about St. Paul's and stepped into their roles with thoughtful enthusiasm. Many learned something from this effort and took a step forward in their own spiritual journey and in understanding the financial challenges and opportunities for St. Paul's. It was indeed a highly rewarding experience!

Children and Youth at St. Paul's

There are few things more important than the education and spiritual formation of our children and young people, perhaps especially so today. Here at St Paul's we invite everyone into this delightful work, as we warmly welcome and nurture the youngest members of Christ's body among us. Thank you, everyone, for the many ways in which you care for our children, whether through volunteering with Godly Play or offering a simple smile at the door.

This month our children's services follow the usual pattern:

1st Sunday (the 3rd): Godly Play with Exodus

2nd Sunday (the 10th): Music Sunday with Libby

3rd Sunday (the 17th): Godly Play with "the Ten Best Ways"

4th Sunday (the 24th): Family Sunday with children participation

Stay tuned for Advent Wreath-making towards the end of the month! Details and a date will be forthcoming soon.

And as always, if you have any questions about our Godly Play program or children's ministry, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Karin at karina.holsinger@gmail.com.



**Marin Interfaith Youth Gathering,
Sunday, November 17th 7:00**
at Mount Carmel Church in Mill Valley.

This is a follow up to the recent spring ice breaker we celebrated at Rodef Shalom in San Rafael. That proved to be an unexpected success and we wish to build on that for the coming year. To RSVP and find out more, contact Gerald Caprio geraldcaprio@hotmail.com

Death Cafe

Sunday, November 17
3-5 pm (NOTE earlier time)
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

Thank you,
Pierce, for all
your service to
St. Paul's.
We'll miss
you!
Godspeed,
and come
back and see
us soon!



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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