



ST. PAUL'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Sacred Space for Your Busy Life

Sunday, December 1, 2019, the First 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	Prelude	Daniel Burton
Opening Hymn	57	Hymnal
Gloria	S-86 <i>(Service music found in front of hymnal)</i>	Hymnal
Psalm	122	BCP p. 779
Gradual	S-247	Hymnal
Prayers of the People	Form VI	BCP p. 392
Offertory Anthem	Kyrie	Charles Gounod
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 instead, 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. Gluten free bread available.

Eucharistic Prayer B		BCP p. 367
Sanctus	S-124	Hymnal
Fraction Anthem	S-161	Hymnal
Communion Hymn	61	Hymnal
Closing Hymn	68	Hymnal
Postlude	Fanfare and Postlude	Jane Correll

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 call Jesus Adonai, Lord of Lords.

Ritter Barrel. Like every year, there is a Barrel in the Narthex (the entrance to the church) where you are invited to place items needed by needy Ritter Center Clients for Christmas. The Barrel will be there until Friday the 13th of December. Here are the needs. Please bring things in that are new and unwrapped:

Homeless: Warm socks, sleeping bags, mats, backpacks, flashlights, ranger, small tents. Gift cards from Safeway, Big 5 and fast-food.

Children: Toys, games.

Teens: Hoodies, sweatshirts, books, scarves, throw blankets, art supplies, toiletries, pajamas, jewelry.

Seniors: Throw blankets, large print books, slippers, toiletries, soap. Gift cards from markets, movies, gas, fast food.

Kits for the Homeless. On December 8th, after the 10am service, Kate and Karin will be leading the children in building little kits to help our homeless neighbors.

Christmas Caroling. On December 15th, after the 10am service, as has been our tradition, we will walk the small loop at the San Rafael Health Care Center singing Christmas Carols.

The Spiritual Forum, from 9:00 to 9:45 each Sunday in the conversation end of Duncan Hall, will be reading aloud and discussing ancient spiritual wisdom. All are welcome to jump in at any time.

Bible Studies. The Wednesday 10am Bible Study is reading the seven short letters from James to Jude and the Thursday 6:20pm Bible Study is reading the Gospel of Mark. All are welcome.

SERVING TODAY

Preacher & Celebrant:	The Rev. Christopher H. Martin
Choirmaster/Organist:	Michael Struck
Acolytes:	Jacob Moody, Chris Hammond, Pamela Barnes
Readers:	Jacob Moody, Chris Hammond, Kate Sprague
Ushers:	Eric Guastavino, Larry Santucci
Altar Guild:	Brigitte McCulloch, Felicia Demann, Walter Tanner, Holly Pritchard

CHRISTOPHER'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

A NEW THEME

This Sunday we begin a shift to a new theme, a theme that will continue all the way until Lent, which begins in early March. Here is a rich statement of our new theme by Jacob Moody, the head of our RenewalWorks Group:

O house of Jacob, come let us walk in the light of the Lord. (Isaiah 2:5)

The invitation from the prophet Isaiah is to us all and for us all. So far this year we walked in this light to and through the first two Landmarks of our Roadmap leading us to a Deeping Life with God where we are a people who have a faith by which we rely on God's presence and power in our daily lives.

As a reminder of the entire Roadmap and the walk we have taken and will take in turns for the next two years, here it is:

Landmark 1: Becoming spiritual leaders of our own faith.

Signpost a. Read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the Holy Scriptures.

Signpost b. Embrace a life practicing the disciplines that Jesus taught.

Signpost c. Share our gifts and money with gladness and singleness of heart.

Landmark 2: Develop a shared, visible, known and connected leadership at St. Paul's.

Signpost d. Use Scripture and the Book of Common Prayer to center all meetings.

Signpost e. Create an Organizational Chart.

Signpost f. Expand leadership through recruitment, training, and relationships.

Landmark 3: Link service to Jesus.

Signpost g. Explore what it means when Jesus says, "Surely as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me."

Signpost h. Receive the Sacrament of Bread and Wine, remembering that we, like it, are Broken and Poured Out.

Signpost i. Through service to the least, find our personal and collective witness to the Word.

Thinking back you might remember some of the individual and collective activities we have and continue to do. Most recently Consecration Sunday where we shared our promise of our gifts of money with gladness and singleness of heart. Or the large paper blueprint of the church where we indicated where we already serve and where we would like to serve. Here we began to uncover our shared and connected leadership so that we raise the visibility of this dynamic leadership. (More is coming on this activity so stay tuned.)

We now turn our souls and sight to the season of Advent where we will encounter our third Landmark: Link Service to Jesus.

During the next several weeks the RenewalWorks Group will offer ways to engage in the three signpost activities in this Landmark. We offer these first two activities:

1. Take a little Advent Action.

a. St. Paul's has several ways to do this. Filling the Ritter Barrel; joining the Crew of Carolers; helping families prepare the Prepare Kits to be given to those in need after the 10 am service.

2. In January, explore what it means in thought work and deed for you get deep into service WITH Jesus.

These are very good things to share with your Discipleship Group or any group at St. Paul's or elsewhere your Advent Christmas, Epiphany work.

O house of Jacob, come let us walk in the light of the Lord. (Isaiah 2:5)

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 Studies	Wednesdays at 10am in Duncan Hall Thursdays at 6:15pm in the Downing Library

WHO'S WHO AT ST. PAUL'S

The Governing Board (called the Vestry)

Walter Tanner (Senior Warden), Buzz Wollam (Junior Warden), Libby Silvestri, Richard Micheli, Katie Taggart, Michael Welcome, Patrick Bowen and Janie Burtch (Secretary)

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

Finances Holly Pritchard, Lorrie Bugatto 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 Karin Holsinger
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
Our Homeless Neighbors	Bobby Owen and Ginny Horton

PRAYER LIST

Bishop Marc	Joan Peterson	Mike A
Dale	Joseph Cook	Mike Z
David S	Joshua Lindsay & Family	Olivia Monforte
Dennis Rowcliffe	Justin Merriman	Sandy & Herbert
Earl	Laura Gordon	Susan Fischer
Eva Anderson	Linda Bartera	Susan Parkinson
Felicia D	Mark Hardin	Those In Border Cages
Hasan, Connie, Zachariah, Sienna & George Sume	Mary & Jim	Y.A.H.
Jaime K	Maynard W (surgery Dec.5)	