



ST. PAUL'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Sacred Space for Your Busy Life

Sunday, December 8, 2019, the Second 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	Sonata no. 1 for Cello	Johannes Brahms
Opening Hymn	65	Hymnal
Gloria	S-86 <i>(Service music found in front of hymnal)</i>	Hymnal
Psalm	72:1-7, 18-19	BCP p. 685
Gradual	S-236	Hymnal
Prayers of the People	Form VI	BCP p. 392
Offertory Hymn	59	Hymnal
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
Closing Hymn	76	Hymnal
Postlude	Fantasy Piece no. 1	Robert Schumann

The Altar Flowers are given by Eleanor Errante to the glory of God
and in loving memory of her mother, Jean Marie Gray.

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 remember Jesus's family roots.

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

Christmas Cards to Death Row. Please take a few minutes to fill out a few Christmas Cards to some of the 20 men we visit on Death Row. Please write a sentence or two in the card provided on a table in Duncan Hall. We will take care of all the rest.

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.

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.

Greening Party. Please join us to decorate the Church for Christmas on December 22 after the 10 a.m. service. We'll supply the poinsettias, greens, pinecones, ribbons, wreaths and garland – you supply the decorating talent! Alex Elliot and Holly Pritchard will be your fearless leaders!

Christmas Service Times. Christmas Eve services are at 5pm and 10:30pm. Christmas morning is at 10am followed by a Pot Luck Feast in Duncan Hall hosted by the Martins, who provide a ham to get things started.

SERVING TODAY

Preacher & Celebrant:	The Rev. Christopher H. Martin
Choirmaster/Organist:	Michael Struck
Acolytes:	Valerie Zander, Dawn Rice, Demelza Rice
Readers:	Valerie Zander, Demelza Rice, Kati Dombrosky
Ushers:	Don Smith, Buzz Wollam
Altar Guild:	Michael Green, Linda Danford, Katie Taggart, Jane Santucci

CHRISTOPHER'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

ADVENT WITH EPISCOPALIANS OF MARIN

Each year, the bonds among the 11 Episcopal Churches of Marin grows stronger. The Marin Episcopal Youth Group, Cursillo, St. Monnica's Mutual Housing and New College of Christian Practice are just a few examples.

Here are excellent events in Advent at our sister churches of Nativity, St. Columba's and Our Savior that I encourage you to consider.

- **Advent Retreat at Nativity.** Would you like to know all about your future and how to prepare for it? Attend a retreat in which Dr. Scott Sinclair will provide you with all that you need to know about death, judgment, heaven and hell. Friday, Dec. 6th, 6pm-8pm, Saturday, Dec. 7th, 9am to 4pm.
- **Street Chaplaincy Wellness Gathering.** Join Nativity and the Marin Episcopal Youth Group serving dinner to our neighbors who live outside at the Wellness Gathering at the 1st Presbyterian Church of San Rafael. Tuesday, Dec. 10th, 4:30pm.
- **Silent Retreat at St. Columba's, Inverness.** Call them for details at 415 669-1039 or email fathervncent@stcolumbasinverness.org. Tuesday, Dec. 17th.
- **Evening Prayer with O Antiphons at Nativity.** Each night of the Octave before Christmas, pray Evening Prayer from our Book of Common Prayer with the appropriate O Antiphon chanted or recited before the Magnificat. Dec. 17-23, 5:30pm to 6pm.
- **Blue Christmas at Our Savior, Mill Valley.** Blue Christmas is a gentle contemplative service for those who are carrying pain or loss during this season of celebration. The service is led by The Rev. Richard Helmer and the Rev. Kirsten Snow-Spalding. Wednesday, Dec. 18th at 7pm.

The Episcopal Churches of Marin share 7 working assumptions, one of which is "We will do better if we work together." Amen to that.

Blessings,
Christopher

Christmas Flowers. The beauty of our Church at Christmas time is legendary! But only if you help. If you would like to give flowers in memory of someone you love, please contact Alex Elliot at isaiah24257@gmail.com or call him at 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 specifically note what it is for and please have all Christmas Flower donations in by Wednesday, December 18.

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	Jaime K	Maynard W (surgery Dec.5)
Catherine C & Family	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.