



# ST. PAUL'S

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### A Sacred Space for Your Busy Life

Sunday, December 15, 2019, 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](http://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	Adagio from Sonata #6	J. S. Bach
Opening Hymn	67	Hymnal
Gloria	S-86 <i>(Service music found in front of hymnal)</i>	Hymnal
Canticle	15	BCP p. 91
Gradual	S-247	Hymnal
Prayers of the People	Form VI	BCP p. 392
Offertory Anthem	Ave Maria	Tomas Luis Victoria
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	497	Hymnal
Closing Hymn	75	Hymnal
Postlude	Prelude and Fugue	Dietrich Buxtehude

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.

**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.

**Christmas Caroling.** Today, 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:	Michael Green, Chris Olson, Nan Marie Wollam
Readers:	Michael Green, Chris Olson, Neville Armstrong
Ushers:	Neville Armstrong, Scott Hastings
Altar Guild:	Brigitte McCulloch, Felicia Demann, Walter Tanner, Holly Pritchard

# 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.

- **Silent Retreat at St. Columba's, Inverness.** Call them for details at 415 669-1039 or email [fathervncent@stcolumbasinverness.org](mailto: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](mailto: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

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

**Children's Ministry** Karin Holsinger  
**Youth Group** David Hardin

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

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