



ST. PAUL'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Sacred Space for Your Busy Life

Sunday, December 17, 2023, Third Sunday of Advent

We especially welcome visitors and newcomers today. 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	Adagio	J. S. Bach
Opening Hymn	65	Hymnal
Kyrie	S-91 (<i>Service music found in front of hymnal</i>)	Hymnal
First Reading	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11	
Psalm	126	BCP p. 782
Second Reading	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	
Gradual	S-236	Hymnal
Gospel	John 1:6-8, 19-28	
Nicene Creed		BCP p. 358
Prayers of the People	Form VI	BCP p. 392
Offertory Anthem	Ave Maria	Jacques Arcadelt
Eucharistic Prayer B		BCP p. 367
Sanctus	S-114	Hymnal
Fraction Anthem	S-158	Hymnal
Communion Hymns	437, 454	Hymnal
Post Communion Prayer		BCP p. 365
Closing Hymn	67	Hymnal
Postlude	Allegro	J. S. Bach

SERVING TODAY

Celebrant:	The Rev. Christopher H. Martin
Preacher:	Cara Meredith
Choirmaster/Organist:	Michael Struck
Seminarian:	Erin Wiens St. John
Acolytes:	Demelza Rice, Mike Green
Reader:	Joe Simmons
Ushers:	Gary Towery, Eric Guastavino
Altar Guild:	Judy Rowcliffe, Jessica Ruscello
Tech Support:	Josh Becker, Dennis DeMille
Coffee Hour:	Kari Simpson

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

O Antiphons

Every year we start our Advent preparations a little earlier than most churches. Starting in mid-November, each Sunday we sing an O Antiphon and put up a banner with an image from that Antiphon. You may know these Antiphons because we sing them in the hymn O Come, O Come Emmanuel. Each of the seven Antiphons features a word or image from the Old Testament that points to Jesus.

Singalong for Saints and Sinners

Join us on Monday, December 18th at 7pm for our third annual Singalong. This year we'll be joined by the San Francisco Boy Chorus. Each of us that attend get to vote on which secular Christmas songs we want to sing most. Bring your neighbors and friends!

Christmas Services

As happens once every seven years, Christmas Eve is on a Sunday. This means that, on Sunday, December 24th, we will celebrate the 4th Sunday of Advent at 10am and Christmas Eve that same day at 5pm. Christmas morning service will be on Monday at 10am, followed by the annual Pot-Luck Feast, hosted by Christopher and Chloe.

Transcending Contempt

This seminar, intended to help us become beacons of light and love in what is sure to be a tough election year, begins Saturday, January 6th in Duncan Hall. Refreshments will be served at 8:30am and the session begins at 9am. The sessions pair the writings of renowned thinkers such as Plato, Kierkegaard, Simone Weil and James Baldwin, with both discussion and invitations to weekly practices. There will be six sessions. The teachings will be available online after each Saturday.

PRAYER LIST

Barry B & Family	Inge B & Family	Linda S	Ukraine Victims
Bede H	Joan A	Olivia C & Family	Victims in Israel & Gaza
Colette M & Family	John D	Peter W & Family	
Corrina & John	John M	Roseanna M	
Dennis	June F	Scarlett W	

At St. Paul's...Giving is Easy!
<https://onrealm.org/StPaulsSanRafael/Give>
No login or Realm account needed



Christmas Flowers

This year our Christmas service will be as rich and joyful as ever but adjusted to these times. The beauty of our Church will still be legendary! But only if you help.

If you would like to donate to our Christmas Greening in memory or thanksgiving of someone you love, please complete the form below. No specific dollar amount required. Your gift and dedication will be acknowledged in the service bulletin.

If paying by check, please complete the form below and mail with your check to arrive at St. Paul's no later than December 17.

Your Name _____ am enclosing \$_____ for Christmas Greening.

In memory () or thanksgiving () for name of loved one(s)_____. Mail to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 1123 Court St., San Rafael, CA 94901.