



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 30, 2023 at 10:15 a.m.

Service offered both in-person and online



Online Bulletin

Welcome! Sunday Services are offered each week at 10:15am. You have the option of attending in-person or online at: www.StPaulsVentura.org/live, www.YouTube.com/StPaulsVentura, www.Facebook.com/SaintPaulsVentura.

Safety Protocols – In keeping with CDC and county guidelines, masks are not required, but still strongly encouraged. Please carefully consider what is best for you and your family. Because some among us are at higher risk and continue to need some additional distance, we've reserved the chapel side of the sanctuary for those with masks. Masks are optional on the Loma Vista side. We hope this will make it possible for everyone find a place in the church where they can feel safe and comfortable. Thank you for your understanding. You are a shining example of what LOVE looks like.

Whether this is your first visit, or you have been a member for years, we're glad you're here! This bulletin is designed to guide you through the service. We invite you to sing, pray and read along with us through the service. The words in bold are the ones we'll all say together. The best way to keep up with everything that's going on at St. Paul's is to subscribe to our Email Newsletter. If you don't receive it and would like to be added to the list, please come see us at the Welcome Table or contact the office.

Our Sunday School program (for children ages 2 years-grade 5) begins at 10am. Children are invited to join Miss Bailey and Miss Wendy to hear a Bible story and enjoy fun and engaging activities related to that story. Children return to the church to join their families for Eucharist.

Once again, welcome! We're glad that you're worshiping with us. Let us know if you have any questions, prayer requests or need the services of a priest. We are always glad to hear from you. Meanwhile, know that you are in our prayers. We wish you all a very safe and blessed week.



The angels are dancing again...

Listen carefully, you just might hear the angels dancing on the roof!

As things heat up, the beams in our beautiful church ceiling expand and creak. No worries! It's just part of this wonderful building's charm. For years, some of our members have said to each other, "Listen, the angels are dancing on the roof again!"

Today's flowers were given through the generosity of your pledge.

If you'd like to arrange for flowers given in memory or thanksgiving, please contact the church office. Thank you!

Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

Pastorale

Bernando Pasquini

Please stand as you are able at the sound of the bell.

Processional

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!

Hymnal 205

Cantor: Daniel Smithson

Opening Salutation

Book of Common Prayer p. 355

Celebrant

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

As Episcopalians, our custom is to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest Holy Scripture. You are invited to do so right here in your bulletin.

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

Please be seated.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

The response appointed for this morning is Psalm 16. We will read it verse by verse. I will read the odd verses. The congregation is invited to read the even-numbered verses.

1 The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

**2 He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

3 He revives my soul
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

**4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:19-25

A Reading from the First letter of Peter.

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

We walk by faith, and not by sight

Hymnal 209

All stand as able to sing.

Holy Gospel

John 10:1-10

Remain standing and face the Gospel.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Reverend Susan Bek

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

Nicene Creed

Book of Common Prayer p. 358

Please stand as you are able.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic¹ and apostolic² Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Please stand or kneel as is your custom.

Server

Alleluia! What was dead shall live; what was dark shall shine; what was forgotten shall be remembered, for the Lord is risen and walks among us. Let us confidently bring before God the needs of all our world, asking God for renewal, saying: Christ is risen, Christ is risen indeed.

God of life, in gratitude and great joy we laud you for the gifts of Christ's resurrection. Give us hope, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

Honoring the gift of Christ's risen body, may we rise to serve all those whose needs keep them from seeing themselves as the image of God; for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

For all who have need of the gift of Easter; for all who journey from illness to health, from despair to hope, from grief to consolation, from loneliness to love; for all our brothers and sisters, that death may have no more power over us, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

For all who suffer and all who mourn, that the Lord God will wipe away all tears, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

May we be one faith with all who have died in Christ, for our life is hid with Christ in God: for Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed.**

Celebrant

God of life, we thank you for the mystery planted in us, the paradox of life from death and community from scattered disciples. We praise you for the dying which saves us from death and for the rising which brings us life. We pray, as we live, through Jesus the risen one, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

In keeping with ancient tradition, we do not include the Confession during the season of Easter.

The Peace

All stand as they are able.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

¹ universal; all embracing

² relating to the Apostles; following their teachings

Announcements

Please be seated.

Liturgy of the Table

Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2



*Thank you for your donation, and for your pledge.
Your generosity is appreciated!
We look forward to doing great things in the name of Christ
with whatever you are able to give.*

Offertory

Psalm 23

Words: Paraphrase by H. Baker

Music: St. Columba, Ireland, arr. Marion Vree

Presentation Hymn

Savior, like a shepherd lead us

Hymnal 708

Please stand as you are able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Enriching Our Worship Eucharistic Prayer 3

The people remain standing as they are able.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
***People* And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
***People* We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
***People* It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus

Sanctus from St. Paul's Mass

Felix Eisenhauer

Translation: "Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus" - Holy, holy, holy "Benedictus qui venit" - Blessed are those who come

Sanc-tus, sanc-tus,
sanc-tus, Lord, God of power and might, hea-ven and earth are
full of your glo-ry. Ho-sa-na in the high-est Be-ne-dic-tus
qui ve-nit, in the name of the Lord. Ho-sa-na in the high-est, Ho-
sa-na in the high-est!

Please stand, sit or kneel as you prefer.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Dying you destroyed our death.

Rising you restored our life.

Christ Jesus come in glory.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with blessed Paul and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Spiritual Communion

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

Please join us in praying with our siblings in Christ who are with us online and receiving communion spiritually.

Dearest Lord Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. We love you above all things and long for you in our souls. Since we are not all together in our church today to receive the bread and wine made holy, we ask you to come spiritually into our hearts. Fill us with your light and nourish us all with your word and Spirit. Amen.

The Invitation

This is the Banquet of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often, and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who fear you have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

For in-person worshipers: Wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome at communion. Our custom is to receive the bread in your open palm. Please tell the priest if you prefer a gluten-free wafer.

Once you have the bread, you may choose any of the following options:

1. **Return to your seat without receiving the wine.** Be assured that this is a sufficient experience of communion.
2. **Sip the wine, from the common cup,** guiding the chalice gently with your hand. (This meets the current safety standards set by the Diocese of Los Angeles and our bishop because the wine contains alcohol, the chalice is silver or similar metal, and the surface is wiped and turned between communicants.)
3. **Receive by intinction** – the Eucharistic Minister will dip your wafer into the wine for you. We must place it in your hand at this time and cannot place it in your mouth.

If you'd like to come forward but would prefer not to receive, please cross your arms over your chest and the priest will offer you a blessing.

Suggestion: Before or after Communion, see the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) pp. 833-834. You'll find some wonderful prayers there. Online worshipers can find it at www.bcponline.org

Communion Music

Improvisation on the Day's Hymns

Felix Eisenhauser

You Hear the Lambs a-Cryin'

Traditional Spiritual

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the staff, with some words underlined. The score includes a repeat sign at the beginning, a first ending (1.) and a second ending (2.) with a 'Fine' marking, and a 'D.S.' (Da Capo) marking at the end. The lyrics are as follows:

You hear the lambs a - cry - in', hear the lambs a - cry - in', hear the lambs a -
cry - in' O Sher-herd, feed my sheep. You feed my sheep.
1. My_ Sav-rio spoke these words so sweet, say-in'
2. O_ Lord, I love thee, thou dost know; O Shep-herd, feed my sheep, O_
3. O_ was-n't that an aw-ful same? He_
"Pe-ter, if you love me, feed my sheep."
give me grace to love thee more. O Shep-herd, feed my sheep. You
hung three hours in mor-tal pain.

Post Communion Prayer:

Please stand or kneel as you prefer.

Let us pray.

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

When the Eucharist is being taken out to those who are sick or shut-in, we will pray together.

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we share one bread, one cup. Amen.

Blessing

Go in the peace of the Lord Jesus. May Christ's light shine in your hearts so that you may bring the joy and the hope of Easter to others; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, rest upon you and remain with you this day and forever more. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

Hail, thou once despised Jesus!

Hymnal 495

Please stand as you are able and turn to face the cross as it passes by.

Dismissal

Celebrant Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude

To all the World, Glad News We Bring

*Tune: Melchior Vulpinus
Arr. Healey Willan*

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Check out next Sunday's readings at www.lectionarypage.net

Please join us in thanking those serving this week:

Server:	Roger Crow	Lector:	Christopher Craven
Chalice:	Kara Craven	Ushers:	Eric Craven & Sally Weimer
Altar Guild:	Louise Bretz & Pam Klebaum	Flower Guild:	Grace Dunlevy & Anna Darby
Cantor:	Sophia Cotsis	Welcome Greeter:	Pat Malchak
Video Production:	Patrick Van Horn	Lock-up Team:	Rev. Susan

Prayer Intentions for the Week of April 30, 2023

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury	Our Clergy: Susan Bek, Dick Swanson
Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop	President Joseph Biden, Congress, Federal Courts
John Taylor, Bishop Diocesan	Governor Gavin Newsom, Legislature, State Courts

HEALING IN BODY, MIND & SPIRIT:

Bert, Mary Morgan, Michele, Patrick, Connor, Isaac, all refugees, first responders, and everyone affected by COVID-19, gun violence, poverty, and injustice.

THOSE ENDURING A LONG-TERM ILLNESS:

Penny, Phil, Lynn, Audrey, Dennis, Maria, Baby Z, Amelia, Rachel, Dave, Kim, Linda, Virginia, Michelle, Sheila, Jeanice, Kevin, Susan, Debbie, Carol, Vivian and Ulrich.

IN THE DISCERNMENT PROCESS FOR ORDAINED MINISTRY:

Drew Darby, his wife Anna, and their family.

FOR GOD'S BLESSING ON:

- + The Board of Supervisors of Ventura County; the city councils of the communities in which we live; public safety and emergency personnel in Ventura County
- + U.S. Armed services personnel serving around the world and wounded warriors cared for in medical centers and those returned home.
- + All who work, educate others, and pray to abolish the scourge of present-day slavery.

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- + Our partners in the Diocese of Los Angeles Deanery One in Santa Barbara County: *St. Mary's*, Lompoc; *St. Mark's*, Los Olivos; *All Saints'*, *Christ the King*, *Trinity*, Santa Barbara; *St. Peter's*, Santa Maria; *St. Michael's Mission & Campus Ministry* at UCSB in Isla Vista, *Mount Calvary Monastery & Retreat House*, Santa Barbara
- + Our World Mission Companions: *the Cathedral Church of the Ascension, in the Diocese of Wiaowo, Ghana*
- + The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: *Project Understanding and FOOD Share Ventura County*

IN MEMORIAM

Bryant Temple, Bob Campion and all those we love but see no longer.

Parish prayers for healing are listed for one calendar month but can be renewed if needed. Please contact the church office to add or extend a prayer request and to let us know how things are going.



St. Paul's Episcopal Church Staff

The Rev. Susan Bek, Rector
The Rev. Dr. Richard Swanson, Assisting
Kara Craven, Parish Administrator
Dr. Felix Eisenhauer, Music Minister
Tara Eisenhauer, Choir Director
Sara Edwards, Organist
Nadia Becker, ASL Interpreter
Joseph Wareham, Sexton

3290 Loma Vista Road, Ventura, CA 93003 (805) 643-5033 e-mail: office@saintpaulsventura.org
Website: www.saintpaulsventura.org Twitter: @stpaulsventura Facebook: St. Paul's Ventura

St. Paul's Announcements April 30, 2023

Thank you for joining us today! Please contact the church office for more information. God bless you!

We invite you to join us again next Sunday.



Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church!

Whether you're new, visiting or have been a member for years, we're so glad you joined us today. **A warm welcome to you!** Our Sunday services are available online and in-person. Please let us know if we can do anything to support you on your spiritual journey. We're always happy to hear from you!
We invite you to come back soon.



This is a brief overview of our weekly announcements. To learn about everything going on at St. Paul's and to receive weekly encouragement and ways to build up spiritual strength, please see our E-newsletter. If you don't receive it, please let us know. We'd be happy to add you to the list! You can reach us by emailing office@saintpaulsventura.org



and after church today...



Today is the FOURTH SUNDAY IN EASTER, and the celebration continues!

This week we hear Jesus explaining to the disciples that he is the gate for the sheep and that, "whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture." Jesus goes on to explain, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." Join us as we learn about the abundant life that Jesus has in mind for us. Come hear amazingly beautiful music, inspiring scripture and an uplifting message of hope and love. Come get inspired!



You are Invited to Coffee Hour

We invite you to join us in Kahler Hall (just down the stairs) for a cup of coffee, tea, or water and the chance to sit and chat with one another. In the church, we call this fellowship. It's one of our favorite parts of being on this journey of faith together.



Church Information Series - "Let's Talk about it"

TODAY at 11:45am in the Community Room and on Zoom

The Episcopal Church – how it's different, why we love it

Join us this month as we explore the history of the Episcopal church and talk about what we do, and what we don't, believe in. How can it be that we take scripture so seriously and yet welcome all, have women clergy, and embrace a wide range of belief? If you've got questions, we invite you to ask them! Let's talk about what makes this church different and how committed we are to keeping the faith. Come meet people, ask questions, and learn what makes this church so special. We offer a safe place to be yourself and explore your faith. All are welcome here! Zoom Link for those who prefer to attend online:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86439505104>



Are you new to St. Paul's or visiting us?

A warm welcome to you! We're so glad you came. We are a friendly and welcoming congregation. Our ushers and greeters will be happy to do anything they can to make your time with us more comfortable and meaningful. Please introduce yourself to our clergy, they're looking forward to meeting you. We invite you to come back soon.

	<p>Book Club – Monday, May 1 at 5:30pm on Zoom</p> <p>The First Monday Book Club is open to all. Our next selection is The Spoon Stealer by Lesley Crewe. Born into a basket of clean sheets-ruining a perfectly good load of laundry- Emmeline never quite fit in on her family’s Nova Scotian farm. The story is full of humor, family secrets, women’s friendship, lovable animals, and immense heart. Zoom Information – Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 1stmonday</p>
	<p>FIRST FRIDAYS POTLUCK AND BIBLE STUDY – Fri. 5/5 at 6pm in Kahler Hall</p> <p>Join us on the First Fridays of the Month for a fun potluck dinner and Bible Study. Bring something to share if you are able, or just bring yourself. There’s always plenty of food. We’ll pray, eat, share and support one another on this journey of faith, and study some scripture together. All are welcome, so bring a friend if you know someone who might be interested. We look forward to seeing you there!</p>
	<p>GRADUATION BLESSING AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL– May 7th</p> <p>Congratulations, graduates! If you, or anyone you know is graduating from something (anything, we’re happy to celebrate all accomplishments!), please join us for our annual Graduation Blessing and Ice Cream Social. We’ll call graduates forward for a special blessing during the service then celebrate with ice cream during coffee hour. And, for those who can’t be with us, please let us know so we can lift them in prayer and send a nice card with a special graduation blessing. Send their information to: office@saintpaulsventura.org</p>
	<p><i>We're collecting socks and glasses for people who are in need...</i></p> <p>OUTREACH PROJECT – Reach for Basic Needs</p> <p>This month, St. Paul's is collecting socks for adults and eyeglasses, too. Bring in your old, unwanted glasses and/or new reading glasses you can purchase at most stores. We will offer them to those in need and help bring the dignity of sight and clean socks to our neighbors. REACH bags are available for your convenience. Thank you for your support!</p>
	<p><i>Do you enjoy experiencing God in nature?</i></p> <p>Spirituality in Nature Group</p> <p>SPECIAL EVENT - Sat. May 13th, Sign Up Early - Tickets usually sell out!</p> <p>Come explore part Channel Islands National Park with the Spirituality in Nature Group. Whether you have been to the islands before or have never visited, this is an opportunity to experience and better understand this amazing place. This is a full day trip to Scorpion Ranch on Santa Cruz Island on Saturday May 13. There will be a moderate guided hike on the island. As always, there is the possibility of seeing marine mammals during the boat ride. RSVP required by May 1 (boat tickets usually sell out on weekends) – please contact Dan Wakelee – dan.wakelee@att.net</p>
	<p>We invite you to join us for memorial service for Doug Wied on Saturday, May 27 at 10am</p> <p><i>O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant Doug and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. And may God bless those who mourn with a sense of peace and delight at the wonderful memories they have to treasure. Amen.</i></p>
	<p>Volunteers Needed – Altar Guild and Flower Guild</p> <p>Were you impressed at how beautiful the sanctuary was for Easter services? Our teams of Altar Guild and Flower Guild members do amazing work! We could really use some additional volunteers to help with Altar Guild and Flower Guild. We serve on teams and are scheduled once a month. Some of our members have learned to do the jobs for both Altar Guild and Flower Guild. No experience is necessary. We are happy to teach you what we know. You’ll find it’s very rewarding to meet new people and work together to prepare for our beautiful worship services.</p>

	<p>LET'S GO FLY A KITE! – On Ascension Sunday, May 21st It is a long-standing tradition of St. Paul's Ventura to fly kites as we remember the Ascension. Join us at 4pm at Harbor Cove Beach (across from Ventura Harbor Village). Bring a kite, a friend, sand toys, some food or don't bring a thing. Just come have some fun as we remember and give thanks to God.</p>
	<p>MULTI LINGUAL SPEAKERS NEEDED – Pentecost Sunday – May 28 Spanish, Italian, Latin, French, Tagalog, Russian, Greek and more (please let us know if you would like to read a language not listed here) are needed for Pentecost Sunday. See Rev. Susan or call the office for your copy of John 20: 19-23 in the language of your choice. All will read together on Pentecost Sunday during the 10:15 service. And if you can, you are invited to wear red on this special day when we'll celebrate the birthday of the church.</p>
	<div data-bbox="829 541 1076 722" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>PENTECOST SUNDAY – May 28th</p> <p>Celebrate the Birthday of the Church and 134 years of mission and ministry at St. Paul's, Ventura. Beautiful Festival Service at 10:15am Followed by the Pentecost Picnic - a BBQ Lunch with the Men's Group at the grill at 11:30am in Kahler Hall and on the Fountain Patio Bring your friends and neighbors! Everyone is welcome!</p>
	<p>BAPTISM OPPORTUNITY ON PENTECOST SUNDAY MAY 28th <i>We become members of the body of Christ through the sacrament of baptism. If you have not been baptized, and would like to be, please speak with Rev. Susan to make arrangements.</i></p>
	<p><i>Would you like to pick a date to donate for the flowers?</i> Flower Arrangement Donations and Dedications Donating the flowers for a Sunday service is a lovely way to remember a loved one or celebrate a special occasion. It's quick and easy to arrange, and really helps the church too! Use an envelope from the pew rack in front of your seat or email us the information. Enclose a donation, (\$65 is suggested), or go to our website and click "Giving". Be sure to mention that it's a "Flower Donation." Give us the date on which you'd like dedicate the flowers and provide us the information about who they're given in memory of, or what you are thankful for. We look forward to remembering or celebrating with you, and we appreciate your support! If you need assistance with this, please contact the church office 805 643-5033 or church@saintpaulsventura.org</p>
 <p>This QR Code takes you straight to our Giving Page</p>	<p><i>"God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7</i> Thank you for your generosity! Donations may be made by cash, check, PayPal, or Text StPaulsVentura to 73256. You can also arrange online payments, click the "Give" button at www.saintpaulsventura.org or use this QR code. Members give of their time through many ministries and share their talents through lots of volunteer opportunities. Please contact our clergy if you'd like to get involved in something new. Generosity involves the giving of time, talent and treasure. Thank you for all the ways you give of yourself! We look forward to doing great things with whatever you are able to share. Thank you!</p>



Save the date!

Rummage Sale - Sat. June 3rd 9am - 1:30pm in Kahler Hall

You can begin dropping off items as of May 1st on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday 9am -3pm. Please contact the church office to let us know you're coming – 805 643-5033. Invite your friends to join us and help support the church for this important fundraiser. And if you can volunteer to assist us, please let us know. We really appreciate it!



5/7 Graduation Blessings and Ice Cream Social

During the 10:15am Sunday Service

5/21 Ascension Sunday

10:15am Sunday Service

4pm Kite Flying at Harbor Cove

5/28 Pentecost Sunday (Baptism)

10:15am Sunday Service

1:30am Pentecost Picnic

6/3 Rummage Sale

Donations can be dropped off starting in May