



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Online Bulletin

5th Sunday after Pentecost Proper 8, Year A July 2, 2023 at 10:15 a.m.

Service offered both in-person and online

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 –Because some among us are at higher risk and continue to want 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 are 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 Royal Fireworks Music *arr. Noel Rawsthorne*

Processional **Love divine, all loves excelling** **Hymnal 657**
Please stand as you are able at the sound of the bell. *Cantor: Sophie Cotsis*

Opening Salutation *Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 355*

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen**

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.

Hymn of Praise **O praise ye the Lord! v. 1** **Hymnal 432**

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Please be seated for the reading of scripture.

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

Jeremiah 28:5-9

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord; and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord, and all the exiles. But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet."

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

The response appointed for this morning includes portions of Psalm 89. We will read it verse by verse. I will read the odd-numbered verses. The congregation is invited to read the even-numbered verses.

1 Your love, O LORD, for ever will I sing;
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

**2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever;
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

**4 'I will establish your line for ever,
and preserve your throne for all generations.'"**

15 Happy are the people who know the festal shout!
they walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.

**16 They rejoice daily in your Name;
they are jubilant in your righteousness.**

17 For you are the glory of their strength,
and by your favor our might is exalted.

**18 Truly, the LORD is our ruler;
the Holy One of Israel is our King.**

Second Reading

Romans 6:12-23

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

Breathe on me, Breath of God

Hymnal 508

All stand as able to sing.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 10:40-42

Remain standing and face the Gospel.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple-- truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Reverend Canon Greg Larkin

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

All stand as able and together say

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 for Independence Day

Please stand, sit or kneel as is your custom.

Server

As we remember the birth of our nation, and the gifts of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, let us offer our thanks and prayers to God, the giver of all good gifts.

For the women and men who braved the long journey by sea to come to this new world,
We thank you Lord.

For the tribes and nations who inhabited this land for generation upon generation,
We thank you Lord.

For the men and women who laid the foundation of our democracy, and who pledged liberty and justice for all, **We thank you Lord.**

For those who built this country brick by brick, road by road, and town by town, **We thank you Lord.**

For the brave soldiers who have fought for our country, for all who paid for our freedom by their service, and those who paid by their sacrifice, **We thank you Lord.**

For the innovators and artists, poets and teachers, farmers and factory workers; for all who labor and provide for the common good, **We thank you Lord.**

For this land, with its peaks and valleys, coasts and deserts, fields and meadows, **We thank you Lord.**

Lord, we pray for The United States, that we might always be a nation which defends and promotes liberty and freedom, truth and justice. **We pray to you Lord.**

That we might always be a nation where all are free to worship and pray, **We pray to you Lord.**

That we might be a beacon of freedom to all those who live under the shadow of terror and hopelessness, **We pray to you Lord.**

¹ universal; all embracing

² Relating to the Apostles, following their teachings

That those who are elected to govern and lead, would be guided by you, and be ever aware of the trust that has been given them, **We pray to you Lord.**

That we would be a people who repent from our sins, and who always return to you and to your grace, **We pray to you Lord.**

For all who are needy, desolate, forgotten, suffering, lonely, and disconsolate. **We pray to you Lord.**

That all the sick may be healed, especially... *(The People may add their own petitions either silently or aloud.)* Empower us all to wait and trust. **We pray to you Lord.**

For our forgiveness for injustice, bigotry, and oppression. **We pray to you Lord.**

For our ancestors in this land, and for all the dying and the dead. **We pray to you Lord.**

Celebrant

Gracious God, Father of all nations, bless and defend us and our land; prosper the work of our hands, and increase in us your grace and compassion, and our offerings of thanks to you, our rock and our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Confession

BCP p. 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
A period of silence is observed.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

All stand as they are able.

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

Announcements

Please be seated.

Blessings for Birthdays, Anniversaries and Other Special Occasions

Year of Prayer to End Racism – In July, Pray for freedom from fears:

**“O Holy Spirit of comfort and eternal presence: spread over us, your weary and anxious people, your protective and reassuring wings, that we might be delivered from our fears of one another: that we might experience the exhilarating freedom of welcoming even strangers without defensiveness, hostility, or suspicion, but rather with openness, hospitality, and the expectation of friendship. In the Name of Jesus, who welcomes all.”
Amen.**

Liturgy of the Table

Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.



*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

The Fifers

Jean-Françoise Dandrieu

Presentation Hymn

Please stand as you are able.

The Doxology

Hymnal 380 v. 3

The Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

Eucharistic Prayer C

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.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus

Santo, santo, santo

W785

Santo, santo, santo

Mi corazon te adora!

Mi corazon te sabe decir:

Santo eres Señor.

Holy, holy, holy

My heart, my heart adores you!

My heart is glad to say the words:

You are holy Lord.

You are invited to stand, sit or kneel as is your custom.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers; God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob, Leah, Rachel, Bilhah and Zilpah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.
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 in this holy way.

For in-person worshipers: Wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome at communion. Our custom is to stand or kneel at the altar rail to receive the Eucharist. If you are unable to come forward but would like to receive, please let an usher know and we will bring communion to you.

The Common Cup will be offered on the right side of the altar rail.

Intinction (dipping) will be offered on the left (Loma Vista) side.

Regardless of which side you are sitting on, when you come forward, please go to whichever side is offering the wine in the way you prefer to receive it.

Those receiving by intinction are asked to help themselves to a small paper cup.

Please tell the priest if you prefer a gluten-free wafer.

You may also choose to return to your seat without receiving the wine.

Be assured that it is a sufficient experience of communion.

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

America the Beautiful

setting by Doug Hammer

Come and Fill

Words: Taizé Community

Music: Jacques Berthier

The musical score is written for a 3/4 time signature in the key of D major. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The first system has four measures with chords D, Bm, D, and A. The second system has five measures with chords Em, C, Em, A, and D. The lyrics are provided in both English and Latin.

English: Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.
Latin: Con-fi-te-mi-ni Do-mi-no quo-ni-am bo-nus.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al-le-lu-ia!
Con-fi-te-mi-ni Do-mi-no, al-le-lu-ia!

Post Communion Prayer:

Please stand or kneel as you prefer.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. 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

May the peace which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord: And may 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

O beautiful for spacious skies

Hymnal 719

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

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Materna

arr. John S. Dixon

Acknowledgements and Copyright Information

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

Please join us in thanking those who served today, including:

Server:	Roger Crow	Lector:	Kathy & Tim Helms
Chalice:	Miles Sexton	Ushers:	Dan Wakelee & Sally Weimer
Altar Guild:	Louise Bretz & Pam Klebaum	Flower Guild:	Sarah Lamola & Tegan Jones
Cantor:	Sophie Cotsis	Welcome Greeter:	Kay Armstrong
Video Production:	Woody Bretz	Lock-up Team:	Miles Sexton

Prayer Intentions for the Week of July 2, 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, Bob, Morgaine, Brian, Virginia, Mila, Bruno, Ron, Pam, Matthew, all refugees, first responders, and everyone affected by COVID-19, gun violence, natural disaster, poverty, and injustice.

THOSE ENDURING A LONG-TERM ILLNESS:

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

IN THE DISCERNMENT PROCESS FOR ORDAINED MINISTRY:

Drew Darby, his wife Anna, and their family.

FOR GOD'S BLESSING ON:

- + Twelve step programs of recovery and healing; especially Alcoholics Anonymous meetings at St. Paul's
- + Our local public and private hospitals, and the health care professionals who serve us
- + 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 Ventura County: *St. Columba's*, Camarillo; *Trinity*, Fillmore; *St. Andrew's*, Ojai; *All Saints'*, Oxnard; *St. Paul's/ Emmanuel*, Santa Paula; *St. Francis'*, Simi Valley; *St. Patrick's*, Thousand Oaks
- + Our World Mission Companions: *the Cathedral Church of the Ascension, in the Diocese of Wiaaso*, Ghana
- + The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: *Temple Beth Torah, the Islamic Center of Oxnard, Ventura Seventh Day Adventist Church*

IN MEMORIAM

Kim Mahr, Deborah Allen 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
Joseph Wareham, Sexton

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St. Paul's Announcements July 2, 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...

Please join us in welcoming our guest priest today, the Reverend Canon Greg Larkin

Today is the Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

July 2, 2023

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 8A, Track 2

This week's gospel lesson is from Matthew, chapter 10. Jesus assures his disciples that, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me." He teaches them about the reward of the righteous and says, "...and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward." Join us at St. Paul's where all are welcome. Come hear amazingly beautiful music, inspiring scripture, and an uplifting message of hope and love. Come to church and get inspired!



Join us for Coffee Hour

In-person worshippers are invited to join us in Kahler Hall (just down the stairs) for a cup of coffee, or tea and some refreshments. This gives us 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.







Fair Trade Sales – Sunday, July 9th

St. Paul's is an Abolitionist Congregation, committed to ending the scourge of modern-day slavery. We sell fair trade products through the Equal Exchange to support farm cooperatives around the world giving farmers a fair price and a better future. Locally our sales support ending human trafficking through the Abolitionist Committee. Please stop by our table outside near the fountain to check out delicious chocolate, coffee and tea! Cash and checks accepted. Please see Joanne Wakelee or contact the church office with questions.

Summer Sunday School!

This Summer we're presenting a series, entitled "Mending God's World". During each two week unit, we will explore the themes of: Feed, Heal, Forgive, Pray and Rest. Children from age 2 through 5th grade are invited to join us!

	<p><i>This time we're reaching out to support Ventura's kids as they go back to school...</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">OUTREACH PROJECT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Last month we REACHED for Sobriety. Thank you for all your support! <i>Your generosity is appreciated.</i></p> <p>June & July – REACH for Back-to-School Supplies We invite you to join in whatever way you can to support our current REACH project. Your prayers are welcome! REACH bags are available for your convenience. Take one with you when you go shopping and bring it back with your gifts of love and care to help support God's children. Every child in Ventura County deserves to go back to school with all the supplies they need to succeed. Thanks for helping make this happen. Your support is appreciated!</p>
	<p>Book Club – Monday, July 3 at 5:30pm on Zoom The First Monday Book Club is open to all. Our next read is <i>The Guncle</i> by Steven Rowley. A warm and deeply funny novel about a once-famous gay sitcom star who finds himself the primary guardian of his young niece and nephew and realizes he has no idea what to expect. Quickly realizing that parenting-even temporary- isn't solved with treats and jokes, Patrick's eyes are opened to a new sense of responsibility, and the realization that, sometimes, even being larger than life means you 're unfailingly human. Zoom Information – Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 1stmonday</p>
	<p>Year of Prayer to End Racism - The Diocese of West Virginia has released an inspiring and motivating series of prayers to be used throughout the year as we work and pray for an end to racism. We encourage one another to use these in our personal prayer life, and to commit ourselves to becoming more and more, day by day the people God is calling us to be.</p>
	<p>Going on Vacation? If you are on our regular schedule of Sunday volunteers (<i>Ushers, Servers, Chalice Bearers, Acolytes, Welcome Committee, Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Lock Up Team, etc.</i>) and will be away on a Sunday when you're scheduled to serve, please try to trade with someone and let the church office know who to expect that Sunday. If you need our assistance, please let us know. Thank you so much for serving the church, and we wish you a wonderful vacation! Any questions, contact the office.</p>
	<p><i>Interested in checking out a ministry this summer?</i></p> <p>Summer Ministry Experiences If you've wondered what it would be like to serve the church in some of our most important ministries or would like to learn more about the church and how it functions, you're invited to have a Summer Ministry Experience. We'll connect you with the ministry team or teams of your choice and arrange a week (or more) for you to join in and experience a ministry that interests you. No prior experience necessary. We'll be pleased to have you join us!</p> <p>CHOOSE FROM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pick Up Choir – Sing with our wonderful choir. Altar Guild - Learn about our sacred vessels and how to set the church for services Usher – Help greet worshipers and assist with the service Flower Guild - Learn how to make beautiful flower arrangements Welcome Greeter – Join one of our friendly teams that greet everyone on Sundays. <p>SUMMER SERVICES will be powerful, uplifting, and run just over an hour. Join us for interesting lessons, moving sermons and great fellowship with friends, old and new. We are so blessed to live here! Come to church and still have time to hit the beach and enjoy some summer fun!</p> <p>FANS have been installed along the outer aisle for your comfort. As things heat up in our warmer months, please feel free to turn them on. Check with those around you, perhaps the oscillating feature would be helpful. Be mindful of the needs of others. We encourage those who prefer to be away from the fans to sit toward the center of the church.</p>

	<p><i>Summer sun means pick-up choir fun!</i></p> <p>Summer Pick Up Choir</p> <p>Want to experience what it's like to be in St. Paul's Choir but can't commit year round? No problem, join us on any (or all Sundays) starting today, June 11th, to participate in our Summer Pick-Up Choir. Meet us in the choir room at 9:30am for warm-ups, vocal exercises, and to learn the communion hymn for the day. From there, we'll head over to the labyrinth for a moment of reflection and to pray the Choristers' Prayer. Then we'll take our seats in the "choir pews" (the pews across from the piano) and support the congregation in their musical worship. We don't wear choir robes over summer - keeps us cooler! Questions? Ask Felix, our Music Minister.</p>
	<p>Do you enjoy experiencing God in nature?</p> <p>Beach Walk</p> <p>Spirituality in Nature Group – Monday, July 17th at 6:30 PM</p> <p>Do you find God in nature? The goals of the Spirituality in Nature Groups are to explore nature to better understand what it means to be stewards of God's creation, and to strengthen our connection with the amazing natural world around us. We invite you to join us on 7/17 at 6:30pm. Park at Sanjon, carefully cross Harbor Blvd., and meet on the beach.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">EPISCOPAL NIGHT AT DODGER STADIUM</p> <p>The Diocese of Los Angeles will once again descend on Echo Park for Episcopal Night at Dodger Stadium on Friday, Sept. 1, for a game against the Atlanta Braves. Tickets (\$30 each in the reserved section) may be ordered through Kara in the office. Ticket requests need to be sent via email to the office before July 18th or sign up on the clipboard during coffee hours. Fireworks after the game!</p>
	<p>2024 Choir Pilgrimage Tour</p> <p>St. Paul's Choir is embarking on an adventure, a life-changing journey and YOU are invited! Learn about the choir tour and pilgrimage to Italy and Switzerland in 2024, why we are doing this, and how to support us to make this dream a reality go to https://sites.google.com/view/choirtour/home</p> <p>HOW YOUR DONATION CAN HELP</p> <p>Your donations will support the 2024 Music Ministry Tour & Pilgrimage and help to cover the cost of fundraising, as well as tour and travel expenses. Any remaining funds will support the music ministry in endeavors that may incur expenses beyond what the Music Ministry's regular budget can support. Examples would be tours, pilgrimages, performance opportunities that may have a fee, or expenses involved with traveling to sing at other venues/churches. When donating, be sure to add the memo – for Choir Pilgrimage Tour. Thank you!</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">The Rector's Discretionary Account is running low. Special Donations Requested.</p> <p>RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND: Donations to this fund are used at the Rector's discretion to help those in need. Because of your generosity, we have been able to help families who need assistance for a variety of reasons. With your help we continue to offer to bless members of the community who have nowhere else to turn. Beautiful things happen because you care. Thank you!</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></p> <p>Thank you for your generosity!</p> <p>Donations may be made by cash, check, PayPal, or Text StPaulsVentura to 73256. You can also arrange online payments, click the "Give" button at office 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>

St. Pauls Episcopal Church

FUNDRAISER AT PRESTO PASTA

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