



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Online Bulletin

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 15, Year A

August 20, 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.

By tradition, The Episcopal Church offers Holy Communion to all baptized persons. If you are not baptized, but wish to receive, we invite you to participate fully in the opening part of the service, called the Ministry of the Word, hearing God's word and reflecting on your life, enabling you to come to the table for communion, if you so choose, with a heart prepared to receive. We hope that if you feel touched by the word and sacrament and wish to learn more about the life-giving power of the Spirit of the Risen Christ, you will contact the church office to inquire about participating in Holy Baptism.

Our Sunday School program (for children ages 2 years-grade 5) begins at 10am. Children are invited to join Miss Cassidy 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 worshipping 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.

	<p><i>The angels are dancing again...</i></p> <p>Listen carefully, you just might hear the angels dancing on the roof!</p> <p>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!"</p>
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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

Prelude
His Presence Brings Peace

Flor Peters
Eric Lewis

Processional

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

Thou, whose almighty word

Hymnal 371
Cantor: Reid Edwards

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 bless the Lord, my soul, v. 1-2

Hymnal 411

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

A reading from the First Book of Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant-- these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 67

The response appointed for this morning is psalm 67. We will read it responsively, breaking at the asterisk.

1 May God be merciful to us and bless us, *

show us the light of his countenance and come to us.

2 Let your ways be known upon earth, *

your saving health among all nations.

3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *

let all the peoples praise you.

4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *

for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.

- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 The earth has brought forth her increase; *
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.
- 7 May God give us his blessing, *
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

Second Reading

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

Take my life, and let it be

Hymnal 707

All stand as able to sing.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 15:21-28

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 left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Canon Anthony Guillén

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

Please stand, sit or kneel as is your custom.

Server

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Father, we pray for your holy Church:

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble and all who suffer in mind, body and spirit, especially *(The People may add their own petitions either silently or aloud.)* Let us pray to the Lord;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest especially *(The People may add their own petitions either silently or aloud.)* Let us pray to the Lord;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Celebrant

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth; Mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

¹ universal; all embracing

² Relating to the Apostles, following their teachings

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

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

Come Before His Presence with Joy

Marc Jordan

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 Senor.**

**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

Improvisation on the Day's Hymns

Felix Eisenhauer

Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

Words: Fanny J. Crosby
Music: William H. Doane

1. Pass me not, O gen - tle Sav - ior, Hear my hum - ble cry;
2. Let me at thy throne of mer - cy Find a sweet re - lief;
3. Trust - ing on - ly in thy mer - it, Would I seek thy face;
4. Thou the spring of all my com - fort, More than life to me,

1. While on oth - ers thou art call - ing, Do not pass me by.
2. Kneel - ing there in deep con - tri - tion, Help my un - be - lief.
3. Heal my wound - ed, bro - ken spi - rit, Save me by thy grace.
4. Whom have I on earth be - side thee? Whom in heav'n but thee?

Sav - ior, Sav - ior, Hear my hum - ble cry;

While on oth - ers thou art call - ing, Do not pass me by.

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

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun, v. 1-3

Hymnal 544

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

Jesus Shall Reign

arr. Raymond Haan

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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:	Kara Craven	Lector:	Judy Gold & Judy Drew
Chalice:	Christopher Craven	Ushers:	Wendy VanHorn & Eric Craven
Altar Guild:	Grace Dunlevy & Anna Darby	Flower Guild:	Anna Darby & Grace Dunlevy
Cantor:	Reid Edwards	Welcome Greeter:	Julie Braithwaite
Video Production:	Patrick VanHorn	Lock-up Team:	Kara Craven



Sun. 8/27 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Blessing of the Backpacks

9/1 Episcopal Night at Dodger Stadium

Sun. 9/3 14th Sunday after Pentecost

9/9 SING Event – Rincon Beach Park Walk

Sun. 9/10 Homecoming Sunday

Sun. 9/17 Make a Difference Sunday

How can we serve the Lord in the name of Christ?

9/23 BBQ Line Dancing Fundraiser

10/8 Blessing of the Animals

Prayer Intentions for the Week of August 20, 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, Lisa, Andy, Susan, Tessa, Gino, 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:

- + The ministry of Family to Family; all who volunteer and/or give financially to feed Ventura's hungry
- + 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 Wiawso*, Ghana
- + The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: *First United Methodist, Trinity Lutheran, Our Lady of the Assumption churches and the Salvation Army*

IN MEMORIAM

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 August 20, 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



Please join us in welcoming our guest priest today, the Reverend Canon Anthony Guillén

Today is the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

While teaching his disciples about the importance of keeping themselves clean and acceptable to the Lord, he says, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Because what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, it shows our true nature. After this Jesus went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon where a Canaanite woman challenged him and asked him to heal her daughter. Come hear him say, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly. Come learn about these important stories of our faith. Come hear amazingly beautiful music, inspiring scripture, and an uplifting message of hope and love. Come to church and get inspired!

and after church today...



Join us for Coffee Hour and Much More Today!

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

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.



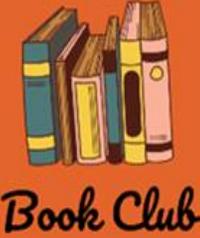
Family to Family

It's our turn tomorrow, August 21st, to help feed the hungry on the Avenue with Family to Family. We'll be packing lunches during coffee hour – all are invited to help!



Father Anthony Guillén's Trip to Cuba

Once lunches are all packed, you've made your Fair Trade purchases and picked up some coffee and snacks, join us and hear about Father Anthony's trip to Cuba. He attended the installation of the interim bishop, Bishop Rafael Morales, and was able, with our donations, to bring needed medications and food to the people of Cuba. We hope you will attend!

	<p>Next week, August 27th, at the 10:15 service: Anyone is welcome to come up for a quick Back to School Blessing. We will lift prayers for anyone facing a new beginning. St. Paul's wants to offer our support for families and pray for children, teachers, administrators, and school staff as we begin a new school year. Join us in church for a blessing during the service. All are welcome! Bring a symbol of your new beginning, if you like; we'll bless it too.</p>
	<p><i>We are all called to be faithful stewards of our many blessings...</i> 5-Week Workshop on Personal Financial Health begins Sept. 10th - 11:45am-12:45pm Join Financial Wellness Coach, Louise Bretz, for a free five-week workshop. Topics include: Addressing your motivations for wanting to change your money habits; getting to know your money; the power of planning your spending; how debt and credit work; saving and investing; managing risk through savings and insurance; legacy & benevolence. All are welcome. Pre-registration is highly encouraged. All are welcome!</p>
	<p><i>This time we're reaching out to support a Way Out of Homelessness</i> OUTREACH PROJECT Last month we REACHED for Back to School. Thank you for all your support! <i>Your generosity is appreciated.</i> Items will be donated through Family to Family. You can help by donating any of the following items: razors and shaving cream, dental floss, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner and shower gel, mouthwash, bug spray for mosquitos, sunscreen lotion, bath towels and washcloths, heavy socks, canned food, small & large dog food and cat food, notepads, pencils and journals, books & board games, individual trash cans, buckets, PPE - masks and gloves, and heavy blankets. Red REACH bags are available for your convenience. Thank you for helping us put our faith into action.</p>
	<p><i>Do you enjoy experiencing God in nature?</i> Spirituality in Nature Group -Saturday, September 9, 2023 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'll meet at 9 AM at the Rincon Beach Park (near Carpenteria). Plan to join us!</p>
	<p>Book Club - Monday, September 4th at 5:30pm on Zoom The First Monday Book Club is open to all. Our next book selection is <i>Solito</i> by Javier Zamora. A young poet tells the story of his harrowing migration from El Salvador to the United States at the age of nine. This is the One County, One Book selection for 2023 and the author talk will take place on September 30. The event will include a VIP reception with the author, and booths featuring vendors, non-profits, local authors and children's story time and will take place on the CSUCI campus. Details will follow. Zoom Information - Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 1stmonday</p>
	<p><i>Invite everyone you know - especially those who at some time attended school or church at St. Paul's...</i> Homecoming Sunday - September 10th Join us for our Fall kick-off as we celebrate the beginning of a new program year. It's time for the ministries that took some time off, or went on summer schedule, to be back in full swing again. We're encouraging everyone who's been away to come back and join in the celebration. Invite your friends, old and new, to join us too! We'd love to have everyone join us. All are welcome!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Service begins at 10:15am 11:30am All Star Hot Dog and Chili Bar in Kahler Hall Bring a Friend and come join in the fun!</p>



2024 Choir Pilgrimage Tour

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>

HOW YOUR DONATION CAN HELP

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 through PayPal or with a check, be sure to add the memo – for Choir Pilgrimage Tour. Thank you!

"God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

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 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!



This QR Code takes you straight to our Giving Page

Save the Date!

**BOOGIE, SHUFFLE
& BARBECUE**

Fundraising Event in support of
St. Paul's Mission and Ministries

Saturday, September 23 ♦ **4:30 pm–7:30 pm**

The poster features a colorful, patterned background with a white central area containing the event details. The text is in various fonts and colors, including blue, red, and teal.