



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Online Bulletin
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Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Rite II, Year B

January 14, 2024 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 several pews in the front on 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 to 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 our volunteers 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.

Today's flowers were given through the generosity of your pledges and donations.
If you'd like to arrange for flowers given in memory or thanksgiving, please contact the church office. Thank you!

Holy Eucharist *Liturgy of the Word*

Prelude

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star

Johannes Pachelbel

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

Processional

How bright appears the Morning Star

Hymnal 497
Daniel Smithson, Cantor

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. 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.

Collect of the Day

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

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, 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

1 Samuel 3:1-10

A Reading from the First Book of Samuel.

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

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

Psalms 139:1-5, 12-17

The response appointed for today is a portion of Psalm 139. We will read it responsively, breaking at the asterisk.

- 1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.

- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; *
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 13 I will thank you because I am marvelously made; *
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.
- 14 My body was not hidden from you, *
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.
- 15 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written in your book; *
they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them.
- 16 How deep I find your thoughts, O God! *
how great is the sum of them!
- 17 If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; *
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

A Reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

"All things are lawful for me," but not all things are beneficial. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food," and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

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

Gradual Hymn

O Love of God, how strong and true

Hymnal 455

Please stand as you are able.

Holy Gospel

John 1:43-51

Please 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 decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

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

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

Let us pray for the church and the world, saying, Lord, have mercy.

¹ Universal; all embracing

² Relating to the Apostles; following their teachings

Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne. For this we pray to you, O Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

Lift from all people the burdens of poverty, war and injustice. Break every rod of oppression throughout the earth. For this we pray to you, O Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Guide those who bear the authority of government in this and every land that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. For this we pray to you, O Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Strengthen us to care for the sick, the poor, the imprisoned, and all who suffer. Open our hands and our hearts to embrace all who are in need especially... *(The people may add their petitions either silently or aloud.)* For this we pray to you, O Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

We remember before you all whom we love but see no longer, especially... *(the people may add their petitions either silently or aloud)*. Give them peace and eternal rest. For this we pray to you, O Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant

O God, you revealed your will through prophets and sages. By your Holy Spirit, lead us in faith, inspire us in love and bring us together in peace with all people from every race, nation, tribe, and language. **Amen.**

Confession

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.

Prayers for birthdays, anniversaries and other special occasions.

Liturgy of the Table

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 Anthem

Take My Life and Let It Be

David H. Williams

Presentation Hymn

Let us, with a gladsome mind, v. 1-3

Hymnal 389

Please stand as you are able.

Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B
BCP p. 367

The people remain standing.

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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy

Hymnal S125

Service music is found at the beginning of the hymnal

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

The congregation is invited to stand, sit or kneel as is your custom.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary, Joseph, Paul and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, 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.

Breaking of the Bread

BCP p.364

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 cannot all be 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.

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 his 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. It can be found online at www.bcponline.org*

Communion Music

Improvisation on the day's hymns

Felix Eisenhauer

I, the Lord of sea and sky

Daniel L. Schutte

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo-ple's pain.
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

1. All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save. I, who
2. I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will
3. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est

1. made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
2. break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love a - lone.
3. bread I will pro - vide Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

1. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
2. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
3. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?



Post Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

Please stand, sit or kneel as you prefer.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. 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 Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage to find the Lord; and may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit rest upon you and remain with you this day and forevermore. **Amen.**

Recessional

Christ, whose glory fills the skies

Hymnal 7

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

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Christians Be Joyful, from the Christmas Cantata

J.S. Bach

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Please join us in thanking those serving this week:

Server:	Roger Crow	Lector:	Janet Koehn & Laura Andrews
Chalice:	Kara Craven	Ushers:	Susan & Rob Talmadge
Altar Guild:	Roger Crow & Susan Talmadge	Flower Guild:	Roger Crow & Bridget Wareham
Cantor:	Daniel Smithson	Welcome Greeter:	Kay Armstrong
Video Production:	Woody Bretz	Lock-up Team:	Woody Bretz

Prayer Intentions for the Week of January 14, 2024

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, Virginia, Pat, Kathy, all refugees, first responders, everyone affected by COVID-19, gun violence, natural disaster, poverty and injustice.

THOSE ENDURING A LONG-TERM ILLNESS:

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

IN THE DISCERNMENT PROCESS FOR ORDAINED MINISTRY:

Drew and Anna Darby, and their family.

FOR GOD'S BLESSING ON:

- + The ministry of prayer, study and service of St. Paul's Men's Group, the Daughters of the King, Bible & study groups
- + 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
- + Our World Mission Companions: *the Cathedral Church of the Ascension, in the Diocese of Wawso*, Ghana
- + The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: *Church of the Foothills*, *First Christian Church*, *Church of Christ*

IN MEMORIAM

Pauli Powers, Wes Cullins and all those we love and 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
Drew Darby, Seminary Intern
Dr. Felix Eisenhower, Music Minister
Tara Eisenhower, Choir Director
Sara Edwards, Organist
Joseph Wareham, Sexton
Cassidy Cross, Sunday School Teacher

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St. Paul's Announcements January 14, 2024

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 this week.

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



2nd Sunday after the Epiphany

In this week's Old Testament reading we hear the LORD calling out to Samuel again and again, but Samuel thinks it is Eli calling. He runs to Eli and says, "'Here I am!'" Finally, Eli sends him to lie down and when the the time comes to, say, "'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" How often do we mistake our callings for something else? Come join us as we learn to listen for the calling of the LORD. Come hear inspiring scripture, beautiful music and an uplifting message of hope and love. Come to church and get inspired!

and after church today...



You are Invited to Coffee Hour to Enjoy Fellowship. 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. So, when you're available, please plan to join us.

Annual Meeting



**Please Join Us
Sun. February
4th
at 11:30am
in Kahler Hall**

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for this very important meeting...

Annual Meeting of St. Paul's Parish – Sunday, February 4th at 11:30am

Once a year we gather to do the business of the church. Please mark your calendar and join us. The meeting will be held in Kahler Hall AND also available on Zoom (see below for Zoom information). All members of the church are encouraged to attend. We need enough members in attendance to have a quorum. At this important meeting we will elect new Vestry members and Representatives to Diocesan Convention as well as receive reports from groups and committees and review the finances and budget for the coming year.



To connect on Zoom: Meeting ID 830 1249 3862

Zoom link - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83012493862>

The Parish Rolls have been published and the list of qualified electors is available for your review in the church office upon request. You can also check whether you are listed as a qualified elector by contacting us at 805 643-5033 or office@saintpaulsventura.org

We are asking that nominations be made in advance for this meeting. For information about how to make a nomination, please see the end of this bulletin or your email newsletter. Thank you!

	<p><i>Our current outreach project is...</i> FEEDING OUR HUNGRY NEIGHBORS We're raising the funds to purchase the food and paper goods used for when we take our turn once a month at the Family to Family lunch ministry. We serve over one hundred lunches each third Monday of the month. Our goal is to raise \$5,000 to carry us through until Fall. <i>Donate in person, on the website, use PayPal or send in a check. It all is appreciated!</i></p>
	<p>Our next opportunity to serve lunch at Family to Family is Monday, January 15th. We need additional people to help serve lunch. If you can assist please meet at the Family to Family kitchen (303 North Ventura Avenue) at 10:30 am. Please contact Dan Wakelee (dan.wakelee@att.net) if you have questions or want more information.</p>
	<p>A service celebrating the life of Pauli Powers will be held at St. Paul's on Saturday, January 27th at 10:30am <i>May she rest in peace and rise in glory. And may God bless those who morn with a sense of peace and delight at the wonderful memories they have to treasure. Amen.</i></p>
	<p>Book Club – Next meeting is Monday, February 5th at 5:30 pm The First Monday Book Club is open to all. We gather on Zoom to discuss the current book selection. We choose two books to kick off the new year. The first is <i>84, Charing Cross Road</i> by Helene Hanff. This charming classic, first published in 1970, brings together twenty years of correspondence between Helene Hanff, a freelance writer living in New York City, and a used-book dealer in London. Through the years, though never meeting and separated both geographically and culturally, they share a winsome, sentimental friendship based on their common love for books. Their relationship, captured so acutely in these letters, is one that will grab your heart and not let go. The second book is <i>Flags of Our Fathers</i> by James Bradley. In this unforgettable chronicle of perhaps the most famous moment in American military history, James Bradley has captured the glory, the triumph, the heartbreak, and the legacy of the six men who raised the flag at Iwo Jima. Here is the true story behind the immortal photograph that has come to symbolize the courage and indomitable will of America. Zoom Information - Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 1stmonday</p>
	<p><i>Do you enjoy experiencing God in nature?</i> Spirituality in Nature Group – Saturday, February 10th at 9 AM 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. Join us as we watch some birds and celebrate God's creation. We will be taking a gentle walk through the Wildlife ponds at Ventura Harbor on Saturday February 10 at 9:00am. Our birdwatch will be led by former national park superintendent and extraordinary bird watcher Russell Galipeau. The Wildlife ponds at Ventura Harbor are located just off Angler Court (at Spinnaker Drive). To access the ponds, go through the gate on the south side of Angler Court. Additional parking is available across the road just past the boat yard in the lot on the right side of Spinnaker Drive. Note: in the event of rain, we will attempt to reschedule at a later date.</p>
	<p>Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Tuesday, February 13 5:30-7pm in Kahler Hall Join us for our traditional Pancake Supper prior to the beginning to Lent. Enjoy a delicious meal, learn about the tradition of burning palm crosses to make ashes, and have a great time. The Men's Group will be cooking, so you know it'll taste great! Suggested donations: adults \$10; Seniors and children under 12 \$5; Families (2 adults and up to 4 children) \$20.</p>
	<p>Giving Flowers in Memory or in Thanksgiving 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-\$100 is suggested), or go to our website and click "Giving". Be sure to mention that it's a Flower Donation. We look forward to remembering or celebrating with you, and we appreciate your support!</p>

	<p><i>Special Donations Requested...</i> RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND: Donations to this fund are used at the Rector's discretion to help those in need. Because of our generosity, we have been able to help families who need assistance for a variety of reasons. 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> 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 so much! It is great to be with you on this journey of faith.</p>

Preparing for the Annual Meeting

Feb. 4th at 11:30am

in Kahler Hall and on also available on Zoom

Why have an Annual Meeting?

To conduct the business of the church.

Who needs to attend?

All members of the church are encouraged to attend. We need enough members in attendance so that we will have a **quorum of 50 members**.

What happens at the Annual Meeting?

We vote for new Vestry members and elect our delegates to Diocesan Convention.

We receive reports from the groups and committees of the church and review our finances and the budget for the coming year.

Who can Vote at this Meeting?

Though everyone is encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting, in order to vote, one must be a qualified elector. According to the Constitution and Canons of the Church in the Diocese of Los Angeles, Canon IV 4.04 The following shall be qualified electors: Any person sixteen years of age or over and attendant upon the services of the Parish, who for the previous twelve (12) months have been registered upon the Parish Rolls as a baptized communicant in good standing of that parish;
the list of qualified electors shall be published by the Vestry
no less than 30 days prior to any special or annual meeting of the Parish.

The Parish Rolls have been published and the list of qualified electors is available for your review in the church office upon request. You can also check whether you are listed as a qualified elector by contacting us at 805 643-5033 or office@saintpaulsventura.org

Please mark it on your calendar and arrange to be with us. Thank you!



Annual Meeting of St. Paul's Ventura

Sunday, February 4, 2024 at 11:30am

in Kahler Hall and also on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82593281236>

Nominations

Rather than accepting nominations from the floor, we ask you submit nominations in advance.

You may nominate yourself or another person.

Each nominee must meet the qualifications and be willing to serve.

Delegates to Convention

The Diocese of Los Angeles meets once a year for the Diocesan Convention. The number of delegates is determined by size of the church. St. Paul's gets four delegates. Our clergy also get voice and vote at convention.

Our time together during convention is woven into a context of worship and prayer following a theme. In 2023 that theme was *Love in Action: For Healing, Housing & Hope*. This was a hybrid convention with some delegates attending in-person and others attending online. Over 700 hundred attended in all.

While gathered as the people of God in the Diocese of Los Angeles, we do the work of the church electing officers and representatives to various Diocesan positions and to General Convention. We also hear wonderful speakers and are presented with lots of updates and information about the broader church. To top it all off, there's a great exhibit hall to peruse, lots of interesting people to meet and a great time to be had.

**Diocesan Convention 2024
will be hosted at the Riverside Convention Center
on Friday and Saturday, November 9 and 10, 2024.**

We are looking for nominations for the position of Delegate to Convention. Each nominee must be a member of the church and be willing to attend convention. Typically, delegates stay in a hotel for one or two nights that weekend at their own cost. Funds are available from the Rector's Discretionary Fund for anyone for whom that presents a financial burden.

To make a nomination:

1. *Be sure the person being nominated (yourself or another) is qualified.*
2. *Be sure the person being nominated (yourself or another) is willing to serve.*
3. *Email the church office to let us know who you're nominating.*

office@saintpaulsventura.org

**All Nominations Must be Received
by 5pm on Sunday, January 21, 2024**

Vestry

St. Paul's Vestry is made up of 12 members plus the Rector; each member is elected to serve a 3-year term and 4 members of the Vestry retire each year. So, we will be thanking 4 members for their service and electing 4 to replace them.

Slate of Nominees - Each year, a Nominating Committee, made up of each of the retiring Vestry Members, the Senior Warden, and the Rector. Together, they recruit qualified members to run for a position on the vestry. That Slate of Nominees is presented for election.

We will have a wonderful Slate of Nominees for Vestry Positions and don't need any further volunteers. However, nominations may be submitted by any member of the congregation following the procedure described below.

Requirements to Serve on the Vestry

- A. **Vestry Members must meet same requirements as qualified electors** – Any person sixteen years of age or over and attendant upon the services of the Parish, who for the previous twelve (12) months shall have been registered upon the parish rolls as a baptized communicant in good standing of that parish
- B. **And be able to carry out the responsibilities of a Vestry Member** – Intend to serve the entire three-year term to which they are elected
 - Be a pledged or regular contributor to the support of the Parish
 - Attend monthly meetings (currently they are on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 6:30-8:30 pm)
 - Attend additional meetings and retreats as needed
 - Attend subcommittee meetings which vary as to day and time
 - Oversee and communicate regularly with the committees you represent to the Vestry.
- C. **Retiring vestry members must wait one year before they can run for the Vestry again unless they were originally called to replace someone and served a term of 2 years or less.**
 - **Paid Staff at St. Paul's and their spouses may not serve on the Vestry** [St. Paul's Bylaws Article IV. Section 2. ...Salaried employees of the corporation and their spouses are deemed ineligible for election to the Vestry.]

To make a nomination:

1. *Be sure the person being nominated (yourself or another) is qualified.*
2. *Be sure the person being nominated (yourself or another) is willing to serve.*
3. *Call or email the church office to let us know who you're nominating.*

office@saintpaulsventura.org

805 643-5033

**All Nominations Must be Received
by 5pm on Sunday, January 21, 2024**



February 4, 2024	Annual Meeting – 11:30am
February 11, 2024	Last Sunday after the Epiphany – Transfiguration of our Lord
February 13, 2024	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – Hosted by the Men's Group
February 14, 2024	Ash Wednesday
March 24, 2024	Palm Sunday
March 28, 2024	Maundy Thursday
March 29, 2024	Good Friday
March 31, 2024	Easter Sunday

**And while you have your calendar open,
please consider adding Sunday mornings at 10:15am.
We'd love to have you join us as we worship and praise the Lord.**

JANUARY 23 - WE'RE GOING TO THE MOVIES!

A new documentary is being released. Inspired by Episcopal Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, *A Case for Love* asks what unselfish love looks like in today's world, at a time when division, estrangement, and hatred seem to be as strong as ever. The 13 stories in the movie invite us on a personal journey, reflecting on ways in which we may experience sacrificial love, and then embody it for others in our lives, communities, and the world.

The nationwide release of "A Case for Love" will be on January 23 (one day only) at a theater near you! This event is a rare opportunity to showcase the loving, liberating, and life-giving nature of The Episcopal Church. Let us know if you're interested in going. It's showing at the Regal Edwards Camarillo Palace at 4pm and 7pm. Tickets can be reserved and purchased online!