



# ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.*



*Online Bulletin*  
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open on your device.

## **Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany**

**Rite II, Year B**

**January 28, 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](http://www.StPaulsVentura.org/live), [www.YouTube.com/StPaulsVentura](http://www.YouTube.com/StPaulsVentura), [www.Facebook.com/SaintPaulsVentura](http://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 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.*

**Today's flowers were given in loving memory of Pauli Powers.**

*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**

The Bread, the Wine, the Word

*James Southbridge*

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

**Processional**

**Ye servants of God**

**Hymnal 535**  
*Reid Edwards, 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 and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; 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**

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

Moses said: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

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

**Psalm 111**

The response appointed for today is Psalm 111. We will read it . I will read the odd-numbered verses and the congregation is invited to read the even-numbered verses.

1 Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,  
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

**2 Great are the deeds of the Lord!  
they are studied by all who delight in them.**

3 His work is full of majesty and splendor,  
and his righteousness endures for ever.

**4 He makes his marvelous works to be remembered;  
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.**

5 He gives food to those who fear him; \*  
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

**6 He has shown his people the power of his works  
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice;  
all his commandments are sure.

**8 They stand fast for ever and ever,  
because they are done in truth and equity.**

9 He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant for ever;  
holy and awesome is his Name.

**10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;  
those who act accordingly have a good understanding; his praise endures for  
ever.**

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

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

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

*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

Mark 1:21-28

*Please remain standing and face the Gospel.*

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

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

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And

the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

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

## **The Sermon**

Drew Darby, Seminary Intern

*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 catholic<sup>1</sup> and apostolic<sup>2</sup> 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.

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.**

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<sup>1</sup> Universal; all embracing

<sup>2</sup> Relating to the Apostles; following their teachings

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**

O Love

*Elaine Hagenberg***Presentation Hymn****Let us, with a gladsome mind, v. 1-3****Hymnal 389***Please stand as you are able.***Great Thanksgiving**

Eucharistic Prayer B

*The people remain standing.**BCP p. 367**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.

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*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.*

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*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](http://www.bcponline.org)*

## Communion Music

Improvisation on the day's hymns

Felix Eisenhauer

### Thank you, Lord

Felix Eisenhauer

Thank you, Lord, for these gifts, I give my - self to you.

Thank you, Lord, for these gifts, I give my - self to you.

## 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.**



*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**

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing!

*Arr. James Denton  
Tune by Carl G. Gläser*

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***Please join us in thanking those serving this week:***

<b>Server:</b>	Drew Darby & Roger Crow	<b>Lector:</b>	Ralph Armstrong & Bridget Wareham
<b>Chalice:</b>	Kay Armstrong	<b>Ushers:</b>	Steve Jones & Tegan Jones
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Pam Klebaum & Louise Bretz	<b>Flower Guild:</b>	Lisa Cross
<b>Cantor:</b>	Reid Edwards	<b>Welcome Greeter:</b>	Pat Malchak
<b>Video Production:</b>	John Loest	<b>Lock-up Team:</b>	Greg Jackson



**February 4, 2024**  
**February 11, 2024**

**February 13, 2024**

**February 14, 2024**  
**March 24, 2024**  
**March 28, 2024**  
**March 29, 2024**  
**March 31, 2024**

**Annual Meeting – 11:30am**  
**Last Sunday after the Epiphany –**  
**Transfiguration of our Lord**  
**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper –**  
**Hosted by the Men’s Group**  
**Ash Wednesday**  
**Palm Sunday**  
**Maundy Thursday**  
**Good Friday**  
**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.

## ***Prayer Intentions for the Week of January 28, 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, Virginia, Kathy, Kara, 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 spiritual, physical and moral development of our children and youth; the children, youth, and adult leaders of our Sunday School, Youth Group, Boy Scout Troop 179, La Famiglia Preschool, KinderMusik, Pulse Drumming and Ventura Charter School for Arts and Global Education
- + The Vestry's leadership that our parish's mission may be accomplished. Our 2023 vestry members and officers are Grace Dunlevy (Senior Warden), Jordan Daniels (Junior Warden), Peter Anderson (Treasurer), Lori Burke (Clerk), Kathleen Crookston, Lisa Cross, Tim Helms, Greg Jackson, Sarah Lamola, Kathy Loest, Daniel Smithson, Wendy VanHorn, Bridget Wareham, and the Rev. Susan Bek (Rector).
- + U.S. Armed services personnel serving around the world and wounded warriors cared for in medical centers and those returned home

### ***GIVE THANKS FOR:***

- + Our partners in the Diocese of Los Angeles: *Hillsides-the Episcopal Home for Children, Pasadena; Neighborhood Youth Association, West LA.; Holy Family Services, Ventura County.*
- + Our World Mission Companions: *the Cathedral Church of the Ascension, in the Diocese of Wiawso, Ghana*
- + The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: *Unitarian/Universalist, Center for Spiritual Living, An Lac Mission (Buddhist), Mormon Church*

### ***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 Eisenhauer, Music Minister  
Tara Eisenhauer, Choir Director  
Sara Edwards, Organist  
Joseph Wareham, Sexton  
Cassidy Cross, Sunday School Teacher

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# St. Paul's Announcements January 28, 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](mailto:office@saintpaulsventura.org)



Thank you to the Rev. Canon Greg Larkin for celebrating with us today!



## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany

This week we learn about a time when Jesus was confronted by a man with an unclean spirit. The spirit called out to him, "'...I know who you are, the Holy One of God.'" Jesus called the unclean spirit out of the man and the people were amazed! Who is this, they wondered. "'He commands even unclean spirits and they obey him.'" Surely he is filled with the power of God. 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  
4<sup>th</sup>  
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](mailto: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!



*Our current outreach project is...*

**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. *Donate in person, on the website, use PayPal or send in a check. It all is appreciated!*



**COLLECTING PALM CROSSES – Now through Sunday, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>**

You are welcome to return your palm crosses from last year so they can be burned to make ashes for Ash Wednesday. Please add them to the basket in the narthex (lobby) or drop them off in the church office T-W-Th 9am-4pm. Thank you!



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON ASH WEDNESDAY – February 14<sup>th</sup>**

We're making preparations for our Ash Wednesday service on Feb. 22nd and are looking for some assistance. Here's what we need: **Ashes to Go** – 3 Volunteers from 7:30-9:30am. **Noon Service** – 1 Reader, 2 Ushers, 1 Chalice Bearer **7pm Service** – 1 Reader, 2 Ushers, 1 Server, 1 Chalice Bearer. If you can assist, please let us know. [office@saintpaulsventura.org](mailto:office@saintpaulsventura.org) Thank You!



**Book Club – Next meeting is Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup> 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 *84, Charing Cross Road* 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 *Flags of Our Fathers* 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



*Do you enjoy experiencing God in nature?*

**Spirituality in Nature Group – Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> 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.



**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

**Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> 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.

*All are welcome! See you there.*



**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><i>Special Donations Requested...</i>  <b>RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND:</b> 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>  <b>Thank you for your generosity!</b>  Donations may be made by cash, check, PayPal, or Text StPaulsVentura to 73256. You can also arrange online payments, click the "Give" button at <a href="http://www.saintpaulsventura.org">www.saintpaulsventura.org</a> 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.  <b>Thank you so much! It is great to be with you on this journey of faith.</b></p>

**Preparing for the Annual Meeting**  
**Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:office@saintpaulsventura.org)

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