



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Online Bulletin

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scan this image and it will
open on your device.

Second Sunday in Lent

Rite II, Year B

February 25, 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 Miss Nairi 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 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!

Holy Eucharist *A Penitential Order for Lent*

Prelude

Prelude No. III

John Villiers Stanford

Silent Procession

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

Opening Salutation

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 351

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;
People **His mercy endures for ever.**

Celebrant Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."
Mark 12:29-31

Confession and Absolution

Please stand or kneel as you prefer.

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

All 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.

Celebrant 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.**

Liturgy of the Word

Trisagion

Please stand as you are able.

Hymnal S102

Found with service music in the front of the hymnal.

Today's Cantor: Sophia Cotsis

**Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, 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

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you

throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

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

Psalm 22:22-30

The response appointed for today is a portion of Psalm 22. We will read it responsively, breaking at the asterisk.

- 22 Praise the Lord, you that fear him; *
 stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
- 23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does he hide his face from them; *
 but when they cry to him he hears them.
- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
 I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *
 "May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, *
 and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; *
 he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
 all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; *
 they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
 the saving deeds that he has done.

Second Reading

Romans 4:13-25

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

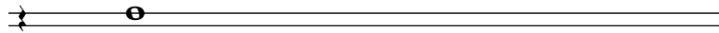
For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for

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

Please stand as you are able.

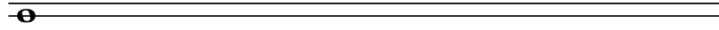
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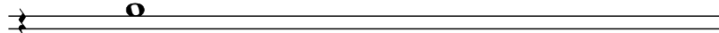
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.



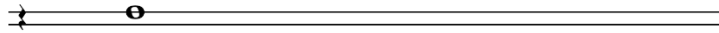
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came



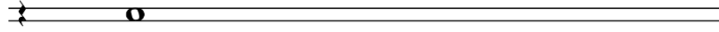
down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.



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 and apostolic 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.



A - men.

Prayers of the People

Form III, BCP p. 387

Please stand 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;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
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.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. *You're invited to add your petitions silently or aloud.*

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.**

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

I appeal to you brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. *Romans 12:1*



*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, For a Closer Walk with God

Charles Stanford

Presentation Hymn

Please stand as you are able.

Draw nigh and take the Body of the Lord

Hymnal 327

Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

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, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. Therefore, we praise you,

joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Hymnal S130

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, 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.**

Please stand or kneel as is your custom.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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

A period of silence is kept.

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

Hymn

Agnus Dei from St. Paul's Mass

Felix Eisenhauer

Lento

Ag - nus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun - di, mi - se - re - re no - bis.

Ag - nus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun - di, mi - se - re - re no - bis.

Ag - nus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun - di, do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Translation:

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

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

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

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

Metamorphosis Two

Philip Glass

Post Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

Please stand, sit 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.

Solemn Prayer over the People and Blessing

Remain standing or kneeling.

Celebrant Bow down before the Lord.

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, rest upon you and remain with you this day and forevermore. **Amen.**

Concluding Hymn

God be with you till we meet again

Please stand as you are able.

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain;
2 God be with you till we meet a - gain;
3 God be with you till we meet a - gain;
by his counsels guide, up - hold you,
'neath his wings se - cure - ly hide you,
when life's per - ils thick con - found you,
with his sheep se - cure - ly fold you:
dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you:
put his arms un - fail - ing round you:
God be with you till we meet a - gain.

Silent Recession

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

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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Please join us in thanking those serving this week:

Server:	Drew Darby, Roger Crow	Lector:	Ralph Armstrong & Bridget Wareham
Chalice:	Kay Armstrong	Ushers:	Steve & Tegan Jones
Altar Guild:	Louise Bretz & Pam Klebaum	Flower Guild:	(no flowers during Lent)
Cantor:	Sophia Cotsis	Welcome Greeter:	Julie Braithwaite
Video Production:	John Loest	Lock-up Team:	Greg Jackson



2/27/24 Lenten Potluck Supper and Sharing the Stories of our Faith

3/3/24 Third Sunday in Lent

3/5/24 Lenten Potluck Supper and Sharing the Stories of our Faith

3/10/24 Fourth Sunday in Lent

3/12/24 Lenten Potluck Supper and Sharing the Stories of our Faith

3/17 Fifth Sunday in Lent

3/19/24 Lenten Potluck Supper and Sharing the Stories of our Faith

3/24/24 Palm Sunday

3/26/24 Lenten Potluck Supper and Sharing the Stories of our Faith

3/28/24 Maundy Thursday

3/29/24 Good Friday

3/31/24 Easter Sunday

Prayer Intentions for the Week of February 25, 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, Viola, Jhana, Bruce, Cordelia, Erika, Rev. Susan, all refugees, first responders, 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, Amelia, Rachel, Dave, Kim, Linda, Virginia, Michelle, Sheila, Jeanice, Kevin, Susan, Ed, Debbie, Carol, Vivian and Ulrich.

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 2024 vestry members and officers are Greg Jackson (Senior Warden), Jordan Daniels (Junior Warden), Peter Anderson (Treasurer), Lori Burke (Clerk), Laura Andrews, Kathleen Crookston, Lisa Cross, Tim Helms, Pamela Price Klebaum, Sarah Lamola, Miles Sexton, Daniel Smithson, Susan Talmadge, Wendy VanHorn, 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

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



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Website: www.saintpaulsventura.org Twitter: @stpaulsventura Facebook: St. Paul's Ventura

St. Paul's Announcements February 25, 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



Thanks for joining us on...

Second Sunday in Lent

This week we hear Jesus beginning to prepare his disciples for what is to come. He tells them, ""If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."" Join us as we consider our role as the present-day disciples of Jesus. Come hear inspiring scripture, beautiful music and an uplifting message of hope and love. Come to church and get inspired!

and after church today, during Coffee Hour...



You are Invited to Coffee Hour

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



Fair Trade Sales - Sunday, Today!

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 if you have questions



Want to join us as we share a meal and talk about our experiences of faith?

LENTEN POTLUCK SUPPERS

Tuesday Evenings at 6pm in Kahler Hall's Community Room

You are invited to join us on Tuesday evenings during Lent to share a meal, enjoy each other's company, and share the stories of our faith. You are welcome to bring your appetite, a dish to share, the stories of your faith, and any friends who might be interested. Children are welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you there!



Thank you for helping feed the hungry!

LAST MONDAY, February 19th

Because of the generosity of this congregation, and the willing hands of all our volunteers, we were able to serve about 120 lunches and personal care packs. Thank you so much!

	<p>The next outreach project we'll take on is...</p> <p>FEEDING OUR HUNGRY NEIGHBORS – Last Call for Donations!</p> <p>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>Saturday, March 2nd, starting at noon. St. Paul's Labyrinth</p> <p>You are invited to join Certified Labyrinth Facilitator, Kim Reed, for a Lenten Labyrinth walk. During this walk you will be invited to release something that no longer serves you in a lovely, healing ritual. Before the walk, Kim will give a brief history of the labyrinth and tell of its significance.</p>
	<p>Book Club – Monday, March 4th at 5:30pm</p> <p>We are looking for some levity for this month and choose <i>You Only Call When You're in Trouble</i> by Stephen McCauley. Tom is ready to put himself first yet he does what he always does and answers the call. Thus begins a journey that will change everyone's life and demonstrate the beauty or dysfunction (or both?) of the ties that bind families together and sometimes strangle them. Warm, funny, and deeply moving. Happy Reading! Zoom Information - Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 1stmonday</p>
	<p><i>Do you enjoy experiencing God in nature?</i></p> <p>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.</p> <p>We are in the process of planning several events. We will keep you posted!</p>
	<p>EASTER FLOWERS & MUSIC: Would you like to make a donation to our Flower and Music Fund to help make our Easter services truly glorious? You can dedicate your gift in thanksgiving for your blessings or in memory of a loved one. Dedications will be published in the Easter bulletin. Place your donation in the envelopes provided in your pew and place it in the offering plate or donate online at www.saintpaulsventura.org. Click GIVE on the front page. Be sure to note "Easter Flowers & Music" and tell us how you'd like the dedication to read. Thank you for your support!</p>
	<p><i>Pick a date to donate for the flowers?</i></p> <p>Flower Arrangement Donations and Dedications</p> <p>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! Call or email us the information - date, dedication (in memory of thanksgiving). Provide a donation, (\$65 - \$100 is suggested), or go to our website and click "Giving" and be sure to mention that it's a Flower Donation. We look forward to remembering or celebrating with you, and we appreciate your support! You can reach us at church 805 643-5033 or office @saintpaulsventura.org</p> <p><i>Thank You!</i></p>
	<p><i>Which saint will win the Golden Halo?</i></p> <p>LENT MADNESS 2024 -Madness brings together exciting competition, the lives of the saints, humor, and the chance to see how God works in the lives of women and men across all walks of life. Read the biographies of the saints and cast your vote in the saintly competition. In the end, we will learn who wins this year's Golden Halo. For more information, go to www.lentmadness.org</p>
 <p>This QR Code takes you straight to our Giving Page</p>	<p><i>"God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7</i></p> <p>Thank you for your generosity!</p> <p>Donations may be made by cash, check, PayPal, or Text StPaulsVentura to 73256. You can also arrange online payments, click the "Give" button at 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.</p> <p>Thank you so much! It is great to be with you on this journey of faith.</p>