



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Online Bulletin

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open on your device.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Rite II, Year B

March 17, 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.

Holy Eucharist *A Penitential Order for Lent*

Prelude

Prelude and Fugue in G minor

J. S. Bach

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: Reid Edwards

**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.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the reading of scripture.

As Episcopalians, our custom is to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest Holy Scripture. You are invited to do so right here in your bulletin.

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to

each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

Psalm 51:1-13

The response appointed for today is a portion of Psalm 51. We will read it responsively, breaking at the asterisk.

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

Second Reading

Hebrews 5:5-10

A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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

Gradual Hymn

God be in my head, and in my understanding

Hymnal 694

Please stand as you are able.

Holy Gospel

John 12:20-33

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.**

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

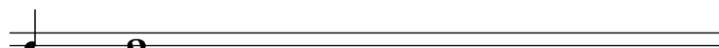
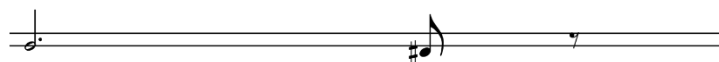
The Reverend Canon Anthony Guillén

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

Nicene Creed

Book of Common Prayer p. 358

All stand as able and together sing.



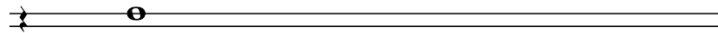
We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.



We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,



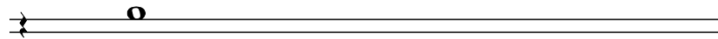
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.



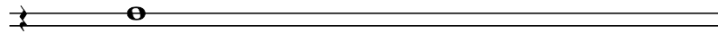
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came



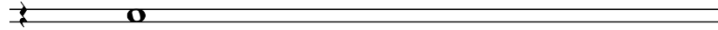
down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.



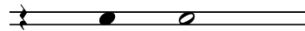
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.



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 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

This Little Light of Mine

arr. Felix Eisenhauer

Presentation Hymn

Please stand as you are able.

Lift High the Cross, v. 1-2

Hymnal 473

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. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. 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:

**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.

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

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.

Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; 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

What wonderful love is this

Hymnal 439

Please stand as you are able.

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:	Roger Crow	Lector:	Judy Gold & Judy Drew
Chalice:	Miles Sexton	Ushers:	Wendy VanHorn & Judy Gold
Altar Guild:	Grace Dunlevy & Anna Darby	Flower Guild:	(no flowers during Lent)
Cantor:	Reid Edwards	Welcome Greeters:	Pat Malchak & Julie Braithwaite
Video Production:	Patrick VanHorn	Lock-up Team:	Miles Sexton

Prayer Intentions for the Week of March 10, 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, Kathy, Kara, Erika, Rev. Susan, Rob, Iranice, Carrie, Mary, Doug, Judy, 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 ministry of Family to Family; all who volunteer and/or give financially to feed Ventura's hungry*
- + *U.S. Armed services personnel serving around the world and wounded warriors cared for in medical centers and those returned home*
- + *All who work, educate others, and pray to abolish the scourge of present-day slavery.*

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- + *Our partners in the Diocese of Los Angeles Deanery One in Ventura County: St. Columba's, Camarillo; Trinity, Fillmore; St. Andrew's, Ojai; All Saints', Oxnard; St. Paul's/Emmanuel, Santa Paula; St. Francis', Simi Valley; St. Patrick's, Thousand Oaks*
- + *Our World Mission Companions: the Cathedral Church of the Ascension, in the Diocese of Wiawso, Ghana*
- + *The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: First United Methodist, Trinity Lutheran, Our Lady of the Assumption churches and the Salvation Army*

IN MEMORIAM

All those we love 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

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

St. Paul's Announcements March 17, 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



Thank you to the Reverend Canon Anthony Guillén for joining us today!

Fifth Sunday in Lent



Throughout the season of Lent we have been making our way to Jerusalem. Today we hear Jesus explain, "Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Come learn with us about the sacrifice Jesus made for us, and about the sacrifices we make in our own lives. 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!



We're collecting socks and glasses for people who are in need...

OUTREACH PROJECT – Reach for Basic Needs

This month, St. Paul's is collecting socks for adults and eyeglasses, too. Bring in your old, unwanted glasses and/or new reading glasses you can purchase at most stores. We will offer them to those in need and help bring the dignity of sight and clean socks to our neighbors. REACH bags are available for your convenience. Thank you for your support!

 Family to Family	<p>Our next opportunity to serve lunch at Family to Family is Monday, March 18th (tomorrow). 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>Book Club – Monday, April 1st and Monday, May 6th at 5:30pm</p> <p>We picked books for the next two months at our last get together. For March, we are reading <i>The Women</i> by Kristin Hannah. This is a story of a nursing student who follows her brother into the war in Vietnam. In war, she meets-and becomes one of-the lucky, the brave, the broken, and the lost. She returns to a changed and divided America. This is a novel about deep friendships and bold patriotism. We will discuss this book on April 1st.</p> <p>The April book is <i>Lady Tan's Circle of Women</i> by Lisa See. This historical novel transports us to 15th century China and is inspired by the true stor of a woman physician born into an elite family. It is a captivating story and reimagining of the life of a woman who was remarkable in the Ming dynasty and would be considered remarkable today. This book will be the topic of our conversation on May 6th.</p> <p>Zoom Information - Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 1stmonday</p>
	<p><i>Do you enjoy experiencing God in nature?</i></p> <p>Join us as we explore and appreciate God's creation. The next Spirituality in Nature Group activity is a hike and visit to the Satwiwa Native American Indian Cultural Center in Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area on Saturday March 23. In addition to a short hike, we will explore the legacy of the indigenous people who originally inhabited our region. We will meet at 9:00 am at the Rancho Sierra Vista trailhead located off Potrero Road (follow the entrance road for Rancho Sierra Vista to the parking lot at the end of the road). Please RSVP to dan.wakelee@att.net or to our Facebook https://www.facebook.com/events/377753218360428 (please note: event will be postponed in the event of rain). Also please mark your calendars for April 13 when we will explore the new Santa Clara River Preserve - more details to follow.</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. Deadline to be included in the bulletin is March 27th. 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 email: office@saintpaulsventura.org. <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>