



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Online Bulletin

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2019 4:00 p.m.



Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

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. Hymnals, Bibles and the Book of Common Prayer are in the pews and available for your use as well.

For our Guests

- Our ushers welcome your inquiries. They can provide assisted listening devices, information about our ministries, as well as directions to the restrooms.
- Please take the brochure from the pew and learn more about St. Paul's and our traditional worship, dynamic preaching and our commitment to serving the world in the name of Christ.

On Sundays

- Sunday Services are at 8am and 10:15am. You are invited to join us for coffee and refreshments following each service. Infants and children are welcome here. Nursery care is available in Room 2 from 9:30am-noon and parents may access the nursery for their convenience. Parents are also welcome to keep their children with them. For children who need some space to move around, our side chapel has stuffed animals and children's books and is a great place for children to play. Also, the service can be heard from the narthex (lobby) and activity bags for children can be found there.
- Our Sunday School program for children and youth begins at 10:00am in the Sanctuary with a short sermon on the gospel for the day and a preview of the activity. Children move to their classrooms at 10:10 for creative programming and activities including circle time, prayer and storytelling. Ages 2-3 are in the Nursery. Pre-K, K, and 1st grade are in Room 7. Grades 2-5 are also in Room 7. Youth are in Room 8. All children and youth will return to the sanctuary at the peace to join their families for Eucharist.



Prelude

Ding Dong Merrily on High

arr. Michael P. Pavone

French Carol from Thoinot Arbeau's Orchésographie, 1588

Welcome

The Reverend Susan Bek

Passing Baby Jesus Forward to the Manger

Celebrant Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord!

Away in a Manger

Blessing of the Crèche

Celebrant Behold, the dwelling of God is with creation.

People **He will dwell with us and we shall be his people.**

Celebrant God himself is with us. Alleluia.

People **Come let us adore him. Alleluia.**

Eternal Father, you sent your only-begotten Son to take our human nature upon him, and to be born of Mary: Bless, we pray, this Crèche that it may be a sign of his humble birth; and grant that we who joyfully behold his appearing may be strengthened to greet him when he comes again in glory; even the same Jesus Christ Our Lord and Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Holy Eucharist
Liturgy of the Word

Procession

Celebrant Please stand as you are able and join us in singing hymn #83.

O come, all ye faithful V.1-3

Hymnal 83

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.

Hymn of Praise

Angels we have heard on high V.1

Hymnal 96

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Please stand as you are able and face the Gospel.

**Silent night, holy night, all is calm,
all is bright round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace.
Sleep in heavenly peace.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-14

Remain standing.

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

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

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Reverend Liz Williams

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

Prayers of the People

Please stand, sit or kneel as is your custom.

Server

My sisters and brothers in the peace of God, all the gifts we shall give and receive in these days are but small tokens of the gift that shines forth in God's word made flesh this night. From grateful hearts let us pray for all who find themselves longing for this deepest, truest gift.

Intercessor

May our heavenly Father, who loves us so much that he sent his Son to be our Savior, bless our worship with answered prayer; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Open the hearts and hands of many for the support of your Church in every place; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Touch our eyes, that we may see the glory of God in all creation; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Touch our ears, that we may hear from every mouth the wonderful works of God; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Touch our lips, that we may tell in every tongue the miracle of God's love; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Touch our hands, that we may do the things which you have taught us; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Touch our feet, that we may go for you into all parts of the world; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Touch our spirits, that as we forgive others we may receive forgiveness for our sins; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Strengthen and encourage us by your Holy Spirit to proclaim your glory in all we say and do; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

We invite you to add your own petitions either silently or aloud. *(The People may add their petitions.)*
Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen.**

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.

Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Sentence

Thank you for your donation. Your generosity is appreciated. We look forward to doing great things in the name of Christ with whatever you are able to give.

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

Offertory

Still, Still, Still

Austrian Carol arr. Norman Luboff

Presentation Hymn

Please stand as you are able.

Hark! the herald angels sing

Hymnal 87

Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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

Sanctus from St. Paul's Mass

Felix Eisenhauer



Sanc - tus, sanc - tus, sanc - tus,
(Holy, holy, holy,)



Lord, God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Be - ne - dic - tus qui ve - nit, in the name of the
(Blessed are those who come)



Lord. Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Ho - sa - na in the high - est.

Please 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

A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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 here.

All are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine made holy. The table we set is the Lord's. Wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome at communion. Our custom is to receive the bread in your open palm. Please tell the priest if you prefer a gluten-free wafer or sulfite free juice. Sip the wine, if you wish it, from the common cup, guiding the chalice gently with your hand or the Eucharistic Minister will dip the bread for you. Otherwise, cross your arms over your chest as a sign you wish a blessing from the priest.

Communion Music

Christmas in the Great Hall: A Choral Fantasy on Traditional Carols
arr. Mark Hayes
Soloists: Sophia Cotsis, alto; Reid Edwards, bass, Amy Schaffer, soprano

Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine
Traditional German Melody arr. David Paxton

It came upon the midnight clear

Hymnal 89

Post Communion Prayer

Please stand or kneel as you prefer.

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever living 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

Blessing

May you be wise like the magi,
humble like the shepherds,
obedient like Mary and Joseph.

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

Recessional Hymn

Joy to the World! (v. 1, 2, 4)

Hymnal 100

**Joy to the world! the Lord is come; let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.**

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Joy to the World

arr. Alfred Fedak

Merry Christmas!

*Thank you for joining us. We invite you to come again. Sunday Services are at 8am and 10:15am.
All are welcome here .We'd love for you to come back and join us.*

*Many thanks to all who participated in this Holy night including
the following Musicians and Choir Members:*

Hayles King, trombone; Allison McKay, oboe;
Melissa Birch, soprano, Juan Gonzales, bass; Will Carmichael, bass

St. Paul's Choir: Felix Eisenhauer, Tara Eisenhauer, Sara Edwards, Taylor Bernstein,
Mary Temple, Kellen Smith, Amy Schaffer, Allison McKay, Bridget Wareham,
Macaria Martinez, Rose Hayden-Smith, Sophia Cotsis, Daniel Smithson, Robert Kubilos,
Diego Magaña*, Robert Kubilos, Seryozha La Porte, Reid Edwards*
(*denotes St. Paul's Music Scholarship Recipients)

Serving this Christmas Eve

Acolytes	Deane, Ti and Nairi Nahabedian, Gina Trevisan
Chalice	Lori Burke, Peter Bowers
Prayers of the People	Carolyn Dolen
Ushers	Roger Myers, Elizabeth Rose, Miles Sexton
Altar & Flower Guilds	<i>A special thank you to all who came and helped with the Greening of the Church and setting of the Altar!</i>

****Save the Dates 2020****

January 12	Feast of the Epiphany (observed) celebrated at the 8 & 10:15 am services (ASL Interpretation at 10:15am) An Epiphany Pageant will be presented at the 10:15 service.
January 19	Compline – a brief, candle-lit, a capella choral evening prayer service
January 26	Annual Meeting following the 10:15 service.
February 26	Ash Wednesday
April 5	Palm Sunday
April 12	Easter Sunday

*You are invited to receive news of our special events. Please sign the guest book in the narthex (lobby)
and provide your email address or email the office at office@saintpaulsventura.org.*

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Staff

The Rev. Susan Bek, Rector
The Rev. Liz Williams, Associate Rector
The Rev. Dr. Richard Swanson, Assisting
Dr. Felix Eisenhauer, Music Minister
Tara Eisenhauer, Assistant Music Minister
Sara Edwards, Organist
Nadia Talley, ASL Interpreter
Bonnie Rubrecht, Parish Administrator
Kathleen Jensen, Administrative Assistant
Wendy Olivier, Nursery Caregiver

3290 Loma Vista Road, Ventura, CA 93003 (805) 643-5033 e-mail: office@saintpaulsventura.org
Website: www.saintpaulsventura.org Twitter: @stpaulsventura Facebook: St. Paul's Ventura



Christmas Flowers, Greens, & Musicians

Thank you to our donors

Peter Anderson

Ralph & Kay Armstrong: In honor of Elton & Ruth Brown and Carl & Dorothy Armstrong, and in thanksgiving for our children, Luke, Yvonne, Jesse & Danny

Cornelia Baer: In memory of her wife Rita Marsh.

Marilyn Beattie: In memory of her husband, Louis Beattie, their son, Andy Beattie & grandson, Trevor Beattie.

Susan Bek: In memory of my Dad and in Thanksgiving for all our family

Drew, Anna & Pippa Darby: In thanksgiving for God's blessings in 2019

Sara Edwards: In memory of Vance Patrick Edwards, Betty Montgomery Edwards, Paul Kennedy Edwards, Jean Edwards Montgomery, Kenneth Montgomery, Donald Reid Frey, Deborah Cornils

Laury Graves: In memory of Judy Graves and Lauren Graves

Rose Hayden-Smith: In loving memory of Jim Hayden, Jim Hayden, Jr., and Richard Smith.

Christine Johansson-Smith: In memory of my mother Judith Johansson, father in law Oscar Ray Spradling and our Grandparents. In thanksgiving for our children Sharla, Alexandra & Adam (son in law), Michaela (& Cody), Santiago, Evangelina and Aaliyah, and our grandchildren Lillyanne & Colton. For my nephews, nieces and my stepmom, Melinda Johansson, and Father, Ole. We are thankful for this parish family.

Bruce & Judy Kelly: With love and remembrance for our dear family and friends departed

Mary Alfriend Kennedy: With loving and eternal memories of my wonderful parents Lillian and Bill Alfriend

Ruth McCool: In memory of all those in our family who have prayed in and served this church

Norm & Pam Owens: In memory of our parents, Norman & Kathryn Owens and Harry & Dorothy Richards

Phil and Nancy Piro: In memory of our parents, Grace & Sebastian Piro and Frances & Howard Martin

Lori Redding: In memory of my Aunt Diane and Uncle Bob

Marcia Semple: In memory of Charles and Esther Semple

Rob & Susan Talmadge

Wendy Van Horn: In memory of Millie Timko

Judy Wareham: In memory of Deane Wareham

Douglas Wied and Family: In loving memory of his wife, Christine Wied and brother, Rob Wied

For Bill Danforth, who lives on in our hearts

In remembrance of Aldo Fattarelli, Al & May McNeill, Jim & Nile Sexton



Christmas Bulletin Announcements

Thank you for joining us today! We'll continue to hold you in our prayers.
Please contact the church office for more information. God bless you!



We invite you to join us again next Sunday!



*Thank you for joining us!
Please come back again soon.*

**Sunday Services at 8am and 10:15am.
Wednesday service at 9am.**

Come get Inspired!

Every Sunday at St. Paul's you can enjoy wonderful music, meaningful worship and hear an uplifting message about hope and the importance of serving the world in the name of Christ.

We look forward to welcoming you back.

Have questions about our church? Please contact us:

office@saintpaulsventura.org (805) 643-5033 www.saintpaulsventura.org #stpaulsventura



On the 5th day of Christmas...

FIRST SUNDAY IN THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS – Sunday, 12/29

Once Christmas arrives, we begin the twelve days of Christmas, or Christmastide, which runs through January 5. During this season we recognize God with us; a God who knows and understands our fears and sends forth angels who proclaim, "Fear not!" Join us as we celebrate!



REHEARSALS FOR THE EPIPHANY PAGEANT – Sun. 12/29 & Sun. 1/5

All children and youth are invited to participate. Please join us!



On the 12th day of Christmas...

SECOND SUNDAY IN THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS – Sunday, 1/5

Once Christmas arrives, we begin the twelve days of Christmas, or Christmastide, which runs through January 5. During this season we recognize God with us; a God who knows and understands our fears and sends forth angels who proclaim, "Fear not!" Join us as we celebrate!



REHEARSALS FOR THE EPIPHANY PAGEANT – during Sunday School and after church. Come join us. Who knows, you could be the "star"!



Are you new to St. Paul's or visiting us?

A warm welcome to you! We are so glad you came. We are a friendly and welcoming congregation. Our ushers and greeters will be happy to do anything they can to make your time with us more comfortable and meaningful. Please introduce yourself to our clergy, they're looking forward to meeting you. We invite you to come back soon.



BAPTISM OPPORTUNITY – January 19 The next baptism opportunity will be on the Sunday we remember the Baptism of our Lord. *We become members of the body of Christ through the sacrament of baptism. If you have not been baptized, and would like to be, or would like to arrange baptism for a child, please speak with Rev. Susan or Rev. Liz to make arrangements.*



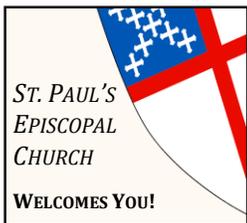
COMPLINE: An Amazingly Beautiful Service of Sung Prayers at the End of the Day Sunday, January 19 at 7 pm

St. Paul's Choir invites you to join us for our first contemplative Compline service of the season. Come calm your soul at the end of the day during our brief, candle-lit, choral prayer service. The church will remain open after the service for those who wish to continue their prayers, light a votive candle, or walk the labyrinth by candlelight. Donations will support the Music Ministry at St. Paul's, Ventura. Please help us spread the word, all are welcome!



Thanks for helping to warm the hearts and bodies of our neighbors in need!

COATS FOR ALL - Thanks so much from RoseAnn Hill and Rotary Club of Ventura to all the parishioners that have donated coats of all sizes for the annual coat drive! Many of the coats and jackets donated are brand new, and we are truly grateful for that! Many needy and homeless people in our community will be blessed with the gift of warmth from your generosity! We are continuing to collect coats and jackets until the end of the year, so please bring any more donations you have for us. Thank you, again! **SOCK DRIVE** - Socks are also in high demand at this time of year for the men and women served by the Sack Lunch Program and Family to Family ministries. (Please no dress socks or children's sizes.)



Grab a cup of coffee and come join us!

NEWCOMER COFFEE WITH OUR CLERGY – Sunday, 1/19 at 11:45am

Join us in the Community Room (the meeting room behind the kitchen in Kahler Hall). Our topic this month is: *Understanding our Worship and Exploring our Ministries*. Come meet people, ask questions and explore the faith. *All are welcome!* All are welcome! Next month's Coffee with our Clergy will be on Sunday, 2/23 at 11:45am when we'll talk about *Working Together to Make a Difference in the World*. We look forward to seeing you there!



Once a year we gather to do the business of the church. Please mark your calendar and join us.

ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL MEETING – January 26 at 11:30am All members of the church are encouraged to attend. We need enough members in attendance so that we will have a quorum. At this important meeting we will elect new Vestry members and Diocesan Convention. We receive reports from the groups and committees of the church and review our finances and the budget for the coming year. Please mark it on your calendar. Thanks!



Looking for ways to help make a difference?

MISSION OUTREACH – Donations Requested

A Note from Dr. Steve Jones: West African Medical Missions is going to Jamaica in March and are asking for donations. They need all donations to be submitted by January 15th so we can buy medication and book airline tickets. Anyone interested in going on the trip, please contact me through the church office. Thanks!



Want to get involved at St. Paul's? If you would like further information, please let us know.

THE FOLLOWING MINISTRIES ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS: Right now, we are most in need of volunteers to serve with Altar Guild and Ushers. If you're interested in learning more, please speak with Rev. Susan or Rev. Liz. Thanks! **THE FOLLOWING SMALL GROUPS WOULD LOVE FOR YOU TO JOIN:** First Monday Book Club, Lunch Bunch, Wednesday Morning Bible Study, Daughters of the King, Men's Group Breakfast and Bible Study, Women's Group Bible Study.



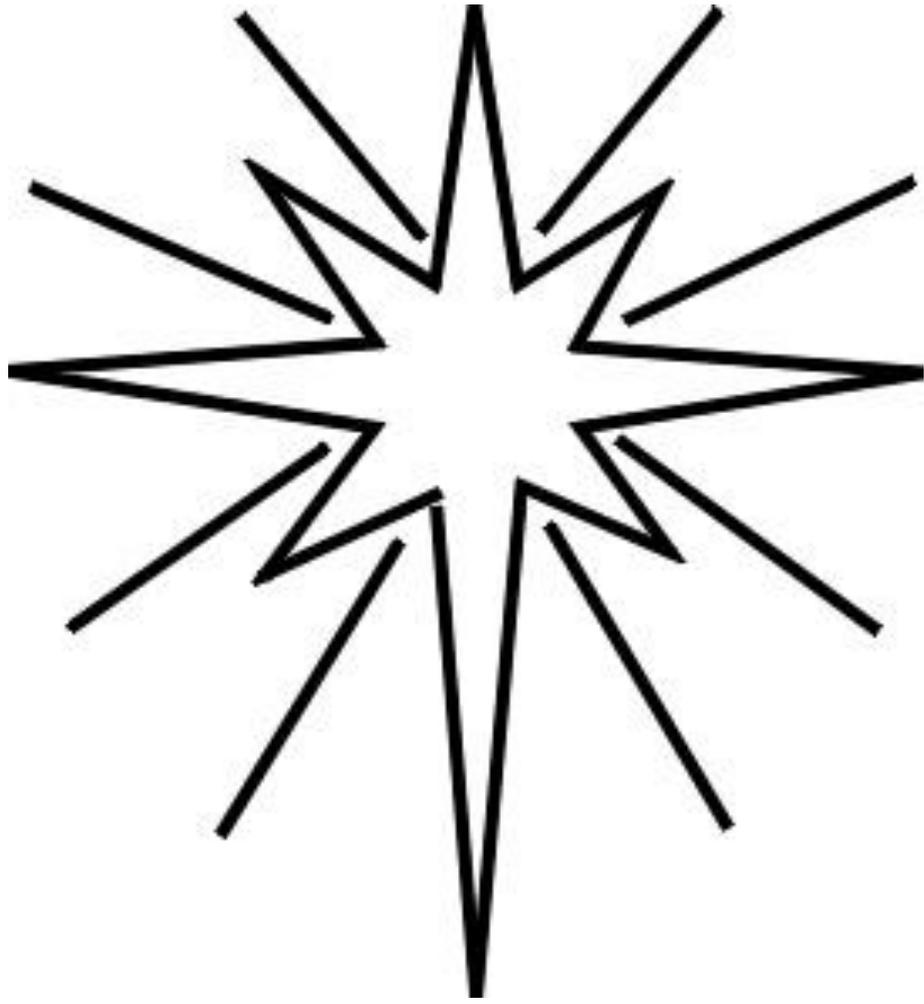
This QR Code takes you straight to our Giving Page

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

Thank you for your generosity! Donations may be made by cash, check, PayPal, or Text StPaulsVentura to 73256. You can also arrange online payments, click the "Give" button at www.saintpaulsventura.org or use this QR code. Members give of their time and share their talents through lots of volunteer opportunities and ministries. Please contact our clergy if you'd like to get involved in something new. Thank you for all the ways you give of yourself! We look forward to doing great things with whatever you are able to share. **Thank you so much! It is great to have you with us on this faith journey.**

Christmas Coloring Pages





Peace

Love

