



# THE GOOD NEWS

TO KNOW CHRIST BETTER AND TO MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN

Volume 16 Issue 3  
March 2023

TO KNOW CHRIST BETTER AND TO MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN

## Rector's Message The Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson

### CHRISTIAN AGENCY: CHOOSE LIFE

*I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.*

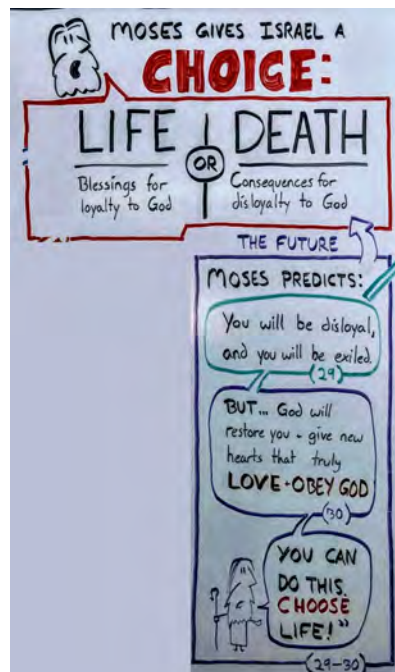
*Deuteronomy 30:19-20*



Lent is known in the church as the season during which its members are invited to take a slight pause or slowdown of the daily routines that weigh us down and detract from those things which we ought to be living into as members of the body of Christ. We can easily assume that the reasons for all this is simply to be better people or faithful Christians. Maybe we are trying to show God and ourselves that we have truly repented from our sins and hope for God's forgiveness.

This year I wish to add another source of motivation for your Lenten path. In the above quote from the book of Deuteronomy, God gives the people of Israel agency, the ability to make their own choices, and, of course, their consequences. Though the passage by itself does not seem to offer much of a choice – life vs. death - the greater picture of the relationship between God and Israel shows that time and again God invites them decide on following the path that will lead to them receiving the promises made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob or go a different way of their choosing. More on that another day.

For now, I wish to remind us that our path with God is a choice. God in Christ Jesus offers us all a clear way into eternal life, but the choice is ours. Jesus paid the price, but we have to take on our own agency. Why not take advantage of this season of Lent to clear our hearts and minds to do our best to make a decision we can live or die with. I pray that you continue choosing life.



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# LENT AND EASTER CALENDAR

## WEEKLY EVENTS

### Every Sunday, through April 2:

Lenten Series, in the afternoon on Zoom – *for details see separate section on Lenten study*

### Every Monday, February 26 through April 3:

Holy Eucharist 12:10 p.m. in Chapel

Prayer Service 7:00 p.m. in the Main Chancel – *for details see separate article on the Monday prayer service*

### Every Tuesday, February 27 through March 28:

Holy Eucharist 12:10 p.m. in Chapel

### Every Wednesday, March 1 through March 29:

Holy Eucharist 12:10 p.m. in Chapel,

Evening Prayer and Program, 6:30 p.m. on Zoom – *for details see separate section in this newsletter*

### Every Thursday, February 23 through March 30:

Holy Eucharist 12:10 p.m. in Chapel

### Every Friday, February 24 through March 31

Holy Eucharist 12:10 p.m. in Chapel,  
Stations of the Cross 6:30 p.m.

### Every Friday evening, March 10 through March 31:

Friday night walks, 6 p.m. -- *for details see flyer in this newsletter*, but before you go contact Paula to see if there are any schedule changes: [paula.hawthorn@gmail.com](mailto:paula.hawthorn@gmail.com)

## HOLY WEEK EVENTS

### Palm Sunday – April 2

Holy Eucharist 8 a.m.

Choral Eucharist 10 a.m.

Evensong 4 p.m.

### Holy Monday—April 3

Holy Eucharist 12:10 p.m.

Lent Night Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

### Holy Tuesday

No services today

### Holy Wednesday – April 5:

Holy Eucharist 12:10 p.m.

The Service of Tenebrae, 7:00 p.m.

### Maundy Thursday – April 6:

Holy Eucharist 12:10 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Service, 7:00 p.m.

### Good Friday – April 7:

The Service of Good Friday, 12:00 noon-3:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross – 3:00 p.m.

### Holy Saturday – April 8:

Circle of Peace, 7- 7:30 p.m. at Lake Merritt – *for details see separate article on this activity*

The Great Vigil of Easter 8 p.m.

### Easter Sunday – April 9:

Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m.

Festival Choral Eucharist 10:00 a.m.

For Children: Faith Quest and Mustard Seeds 10 a.m.

*Easter Potluck brunch and Egg Hunt following the 10:00 a.m. liturgy .*

## Sunday Lenten Formation Series On Zoom Reading Wisdom from the Wider World

The Bible tells us again and again that the God of Israel, to whom Jesus prayed, was the same God that made the heavens and earth. These sacred scriptures record the invaluable history of our spiritual ancestors' relationship with the God of all creation, including their struggles, failures, and triumphs, all so that we might learn from the wisdom of the past. Yet Jesus told the people of Israel that he has other sheep as well (John 10:16), and the God of all creation is at work in all things and all cultures, not merely those to whom Jesus most obviously came. The disparate religious traditions of the world with their varied perspectives on the divine all have valuable wisdom to teach us as disciples of Jesus Christ seeking deeper relationship with God. By welcoming many perspectives, we can gain a fuller picture of the whole and witness those facets of God's love and justice that we might have otherwise ignored.

This Lent, Deacon Paul Impey will be offering a series of discussions on various sacred scriptures from different religious traditions around the world. This series is primarily intended for committed Christians hoping to broaden and deepen their faith by seeking wisdom and insights from other cultures in light of their own commitments to love and serve Christ. All, however, are welcome to attend regardless of faith tradition or where you are on your spiritual journey. Paul's series will be in-person in the Chapter Room *and* on Zoom for #2. Starting with Session #3, March 12, they will be held via **Zoom only** in the afternoon, time TBD. The Zoom instructions are: "[Please click HERE](#) to register on Zoom. You will then be sent a link for the meetings." These sessions will be held on Zoom on Sunday afternoons during Lent; time and login details TBD. Handouts on each scripture will be provided a week before each session, including a summary of the scripture's context and content, brief passages to read, and questions to consider for discussion. Preparing for discussion beforehand is encouraged, but not required. The schedule for this series is as follows:

March 5: Session 2: *Bardo Thodol*: Commonly Called the Tibetan Book of the Dead

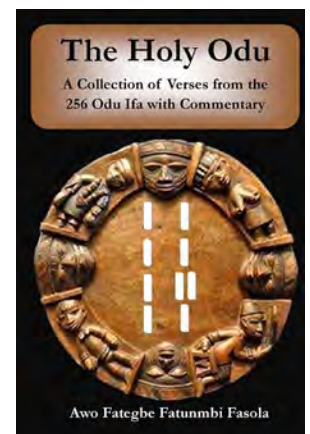
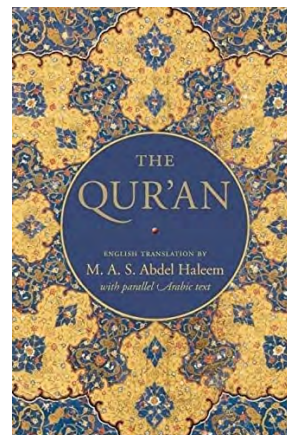
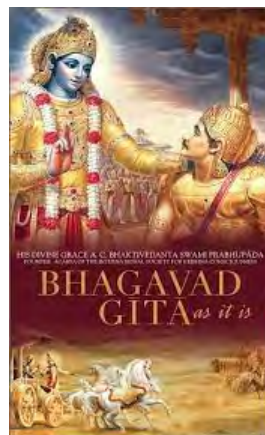
March 12: Session 3: *Bhagavad Gita*: The Song of the Lord (Krishna)

March 19: Session 4: Jesus in *The Quran*: Īsā ibn Maryam as a Prophet of God

March 26: Session 5: *Odu Ifá*: Divining the Wisdom of a Divine Community

April 2: Session 6: Concluding Reflections

However familiar or unfamiliar you may be with these scriptures, you are welcome to attend and explore them together with us. We will not unravel all of their secrets here, but together we may find some invaluable wisdom for leading the life of discipleship for Christ. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Mauricio: [rector@stpaulsoakland.org](mailto:rector@stpaulsoakland.org).





**Mondays**  
**LENT Night Prayer - Mondays @ 7pm**

**Pamela Kruse-Buckingham, facilitator**

**with music by:**  
**U2, David Gray, Natalie Merchant, Aaron Neville, Arcade Fire,**  
**Florence & The Machine, Iron & Wine/Calexico,**  
**Green Day, Carbon Leaf, Fleetwood Mac,**  
**Maggie Rogers, Vienna Teng,**  
**Dave Matthews Band & L'Anarchiste**

**And a Liturgy adapted from**  
**A New Zealand Prayer Book**

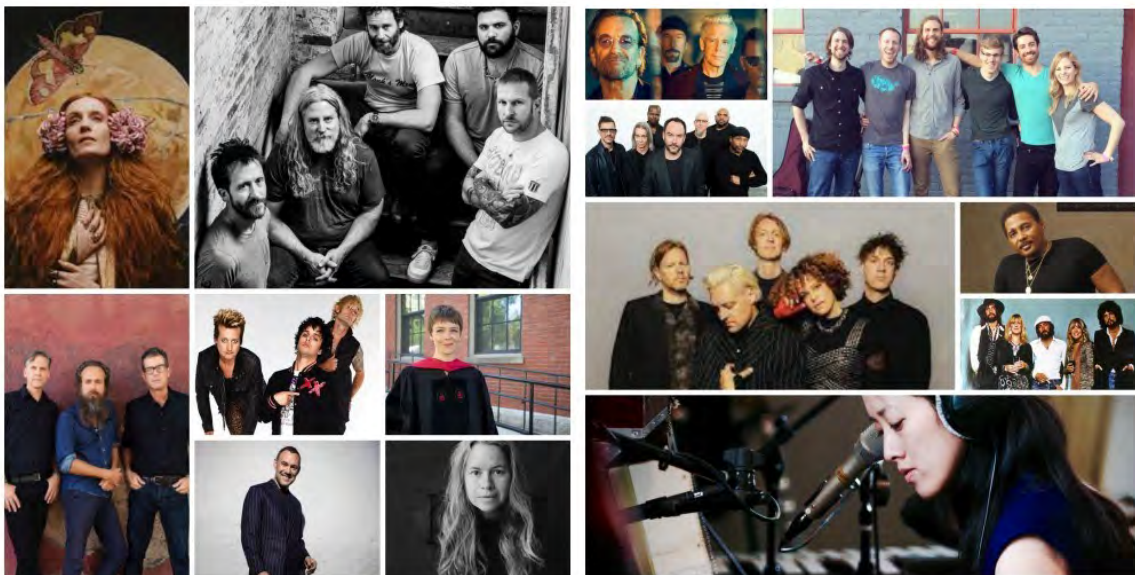
**February 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 2023**

Join us in the Church each Monday at 7pm through Lent for Lay Led Night Prayer from *A New Zealand Prayer Book* and the music on this Spotify playlist:

[https://open.spotify.com/playlist/1TkGFRDbcMU1fVIWCiFWT?si=8Xkd9fKMRceLZ88fRo4AGg&utm\\_source=copy-link](https://open.spotify.com/playlist/1TkGFRDbcMU1fVIWCiFWT?si=8Xkd9fKMRceLZ88fRo4AGg&utm_source=copy-link)

This Lent, let's pray and seek the Light of God together through this amazing liturgy and music.

For a peek at the worship bulletin, click [HERE](#).



Questions? Reach out to me at [pamela.kruse.buckingham@gmail.com](mailto:pamela.kruse.buckingham@gmail.com)

**Wednesdays**  
**Wednesday Lent Formation Program**  
Via Zoom  
**GROWING IN THE WILDERNESS**

**This is your invitation to keep a Holy Lent and to grow in your faith.** God does amazing things in the wilderness, even when the wilderness stretches on for a while! These are all wilderness stories that remind us of what God can teach there, and that good things come out of wilderness times.

Growing in the Wilderness is a 5-part video series which we will watch together on Wednesday evenings following Evening Prayer. After each short video we will discuss the topic of the week in relation to different parts of scripture and our own experiences. We encourage you to be an active participant in growing closer to God and in faith during this Holy Lent!

**WEEK 1 (1 March): CLEARER GROWING IN CLARITY**

**WEEK 2 (8 March): ORDER GROWING IN PRIORITIES**

**WEEK 3 (15 March): INTIMATE GROWING IN RELATIONSHIP**

**WEEK 4 (22 March): APPRECIATION GROWING IN COMPASSION**

**WEEK 5 (29 March): CONVICTION GROWING IN CONFIDENCE**

**Fridays**  
**Night Walks**  
**March 10, 17, 24, 31**

**OAKLAND CEASEFIRE**

**CEASEFIRE**  
**Night Walks**  
**6 p.m.**

**2023**

**Stop the gun violence!** Far too many people in our community have died before their time. Far too many people are wasting their lives in prison. Oakland Ceasefire is a movement to stop the killings without sending more people to jail. We are uniting to build a culture of peace and healing. We are walking our neighborhoods to carry this message: **We love you and we want you to be alive and free!**

(510) 382-1687  
 fineastbay.org

**FAITH IN ACTION**  
 EAST BAY

**JANUARY**  
 Jan 13 – First Mount Sinai  
 1970 86th Avenue  
 Jan 20 – At Thy Word  
 8915 International Blvd.  
 Jan 27 – St. Columba  
 6401 San Pablo Avenue

**FEBRUARY**  
 Feb 10 – First Mount Sinai  
 1970 86th Avenue  
 Feb 17 – Williams Chapel  
 Baptist, 1410 10th Ave  
 Feb 24 – St. Patrick's  
 1023 Peralta St.

**MARCH**  
 March 10 – St. Columba  
 6401 San Pablo Avenue  
 March 17 – At Thy Word  
 8915 International Blvd  
 March 24 – St. Elizabeth  
 1500 34th Ave  
 March 31 – St. Benedict's  
 2245 82nd Avenue



## Saturday Holy Saturday Circle of Peace

April 8 is Holy Saturday, the day between Good Friday & Easter. On that day we honor the day that Our Savior lay in the tomb. This is the perfect day for the church to stand in meditative prayer for peace, so we will be joining various Oakland gun violence prevention organizations in a Circle of Peace around Lake Merritt at 7PM April 8.

The candle-lit silent meditation begins at 7, we will meet at St. Paul's at 6:30 to walk to the lake together. This is just a 30 minute meditation, so we will return to the church in time for the 8PM beginning of the Easter Vigil. All are invited to attend the Vigil service!

After church on the Sundays in March, Paula and other members of the Social Justice Committee will be signing up people who would like to attend. Contact [paula.hawthorn@gmail.com](mailto:paula.hawthorn@gmail.com) for details.



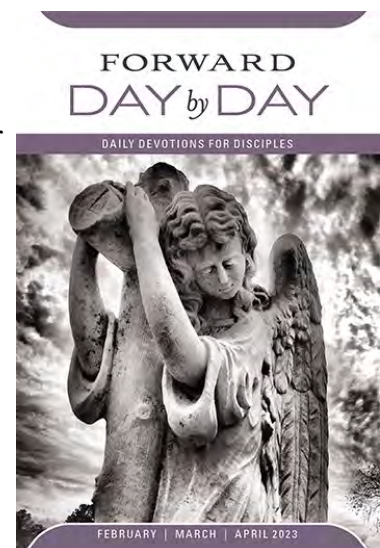
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## Additional Resources for Individual Lenten Devotions

*Forward Day by Day*, printed version, is available in the narthex. You can also have it sent to you through your email daily.

[orders@forwardmovement.org](mailto:orders@forwardmovement.org)

Living Compass: Many people appreciated using this source for Advent. For daily readings in Lent go to <https://www.livingcompass.org/lent> and scroll down to the online option.



## 40 Days of Gratitude: A Lenten Practice for the Really Busy

This Lent, the Stewardship Committee invites you to develop your gratitude practice by noticing and giving thanks for the small things in your daily life. Practicing gratitude offers a number of physical, mental and spiritual benefits. Read more about the benefits of gratitude at <https://unitedthankoffering.com/whygratitude/>

### Getting started

Take notice of some small thing in your daily life and **offer a prayer** of thanksgiving. If you aren't sure where to start, you can use this calendar of suggestions for each day in Lent. Offering a prayer of thanksgiving takes just a few minutes of your day. The practice of noticing and giving thanks is transformative.

You may be inspired to take your gratitude practice to the next level. For example, you might **document** your reflections either through a written, illustrated, or photographic journal. You can post them to our [Face-book group page](#) if you like!

Gratitude is a natural precursor to generosity. Your practice might lead you **an act of generosity** to create a blessing for someone else.

<div> <div>Lent 2023</div> <div><i>Notice and Give Thanks</i></div> <div>  <div>St. Paul's</div> <div>EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND</div> </div> </div>						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>Noticing and Giving Thanks for the Small Things in Our Daily Lives</b> Today, notice and give thanks for...		<b>Feb 22 Ash Wednesday</b> the fragility of life. Give thanks for ways resiliency comes from fragility.	<b>23</b> something so small, you normally wouldn't notice it.	<b>24</b> something you love in your neighborhood.	<b>25</b> life present in your home.	<b>26 1st Sunday of Lent</b> Sundays will be dedicated to practicing gratitude for yourself. Today, reflect on what gives you purpose.
<b>27</b> a picture of a good memory.	<b>28</b> what gives you warmth.	<b>Mar 1</b> a chore that you enjoy.	<b>2</b> something that alleviates stress.	<b>3</b> the beauty of winter.	<b>4</b> your comfort food.	<b>5 2nd Sunday of Lent</b> Today, reflect on how you've evolved and adapted throughout your life.
<b>6</b> what gave you energy today.	<b>7</b> a beautiful color in an unexpected place.	<b>8</b> something that worked perfectly today.	<b>9</b> a sign of Spring arriving.	<b>10</b> someone you encountered today.	<b>11</b> what helps you rest.	<b>12 3rd Sunday of Lent</b> Today, reflect on your hopes and dreams as the seasons change.
<b>13</b> something you created.	<b>14</b> your daily rituals.	<b>15</b> windows and what you can see through them.	<b>16</b> something challenging.	<b>17</b> a spark of magic during your day. Happy St. Patrick's Day!	<b>18</b> a favorite song, book, or movie.	<b>19 4th Sunday of Lent</b> Today, reflect on your body and mind and all that you can do.
<b>20</b> what sustains you.	<b>21</b> the night sky.	<b>22</b> the artsmanship in your home.	<b>23</b> something you used to not like but now you do.	<b>24</b> something that makes your life easier.	<b>25</b> the clouds.	<b>26 5th Sunday of Lent</b> Today, reflect on what you love about yourself.
<b>27</b> a hobby that brings you joy or purpose.	<b>28</b> a meaningful conversation.	<b>29</b> how you get where you need to go.	<b>30</b> something you've learned recently.	<b>31</b> something you've taught recently.	<b>Apr 1</b> who you live with.	<b>2 Palm Sunday</b> Today we remember the hope of Jesus' followers. Reflect on all the things that bring you hope.
<b>3</b> something in bloom.	<b>4</b> a meaningful gift you have received.	<b>5</b> someone who makes your life better.	<b>6 Maundy Thursday</b> a place to sit.	<b>7 Good Friday</b> those who have come before us.	<b>8</b> a source of light.	<b>9 Easter</b> All the ways you experience resurrection and new life.

### ANOTHER GREAT IDEA FOR LENT

Take the 40 Acts of Generosity Challenge: <https://40acts.org.uk>.

## Spirituality: Preparing for a Joyous Easter

### Anne Jensen

The best way to have a joyous Easter is to really get into a Lenten practice that opens your eyes, mind, and heart. The best Easter I ever had followed a Lent of prayer in the Ignatian practice of imagining myself in the stories of the gospel. Stories of healing and forgiveness abound, and you can easily find them by looking at the subtitles in your Bible. Imagine the scene: what did the land or sea look like; what did it smell like; who else was there? Read the passage enough times that you can lead yourself through the action. Let it unfold. You can take on the role of a character or be an observer. When you pray this way, you may find that the action deviates from scripture. That's okay. A conversation with one of the figures in the story may be your prayer. Whatever happens in the prayer, sit with your experience and feelings. What surprised you? What changed in you? What made you happy?

Perhaps you remember that Ash Wednesday was last week, but somehow time slipped away, and you haven't landed on a practice you feel called to develop. It's not too late—start now. The church calendar gives us the opportunity to focus on our relationship with God, giving us purpose and discipline when we get distracted. Even Medieval monks got distracted, we learned in a new book, *The Wandering Mind* by Jamie Kreiner. I think the human brain is wired to see what is new or simply to respond to what else is going on. The important thing is not to lose our connection with God. As John Kirkley wrote in his blog, "We forget God as our source and goal; our connection with God and all things in God." ("Paying Attention," *Awakened Heart*, Feb. 18)

May this holy season be a time of awakening to the riches of a deeper knowing of the holy One whose life gives us new life.

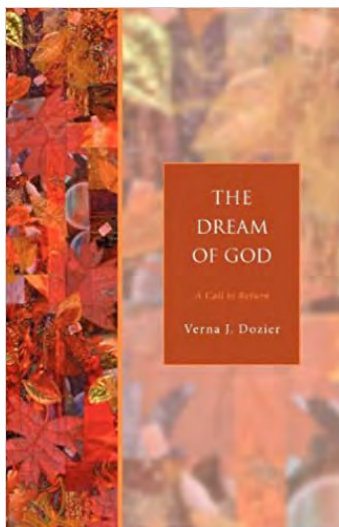
*Editor's note: Still looking for a Lenten practice? Check out the Lenten resources in this newsletter.*




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## Beyond the Word: A Reading & Discussion Group - Select Wednesdays @ 7pm on ZOOM

### Pamela Kruse-Buckingham, Co-Leader



A group of 6 gathered to discuss the second half of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *Life Together* on Feb. 8th. We had a lively discussion about Intercessory Prayers, praying for one's enemies, living in a Monastic Community vs experiencing community on Sundays and learning forgiveness. While reading Bonhoeffer was difficult for all of us, we found good value in seeing things from his very strict Lutheran perspective that gave us all a wider appreciation for the beauty of our Episcopal worship traditions.

We are taking a break during Lent, and will return after Easter with the next book in the series: *The Dream of God: A Call to Return* by [Verna Dozier](#). **We will meet on Wed. Apr 19 & Wed. May 10.**

If you attended the Absalom Jones service on Saturday, Feb. 11, you heard The Rt. Rev. Deon Johnson, Bishop of Missouri, quote Ms. Dozier and this amazing book, in [his sermon](#). I believe Verna Dozier is a prophet of our times, exploring what it means to be a servant and follow Jesus.

To join us, email [pamela.kruse.buckingham@gmail.com](mailto:pamela.kruse.buckingham@gmail.com). I will send you the orientation document and the Zoom link.



## Music

### Ben Bachmann, Music Director

Everyone seems to have a different feeling about the arrival of Lent. Some welcome it as a season to contemplate life, to quiet down a bit, and focus on an adult relationship to God, and to what God calls us in our brief physical lives. Others find it depressing, a time of sadness, sacrifice, and penitence for sins we aren't sure we've committed. I have known people who don't attend church at all during Lent and prefer to wait till Easter when the storm has blown over.

As I was listening to Fr. Wilson's sermon on Ash Wednesday, I heard an invitation to experience Lent in a new way, a way of celebrating, leaning into the idea that life is short, physical life will end, and that is what makes life on earth so precious. We've been given an opportunity to live another day. What can we do with it to make life more beautiful for our fellow travelers? As is sung in the Orthodox funeral liturgy, Glory to God for this most transient life!! I began to think about the ways in which the music of Lent can reinforce these ideas.



Here's a challenge for you: Think about some of the hymn texts we will be singing in the next forty days.

#### "The Glory of These Forty Days"

*The glory of these forty days  
we celebrate with songs of praise,  
for Christ, by whom all things were made,  
himself has fasted and has prayed.*

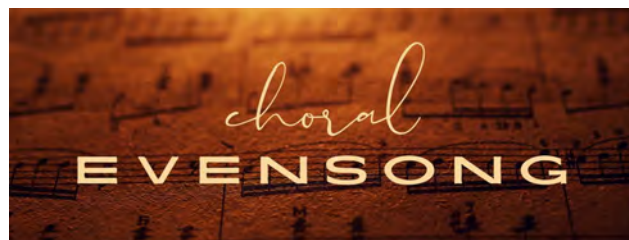
#### "My Song is Love Unknown"

*Here might I stay and sing,  
No story so divine;  
Never was love, dear King,  
Never was grief like thine.  
This is my friend,  
In whose sweet praise  
I all my days  
Could gladly spend.*

Whenever I sing "My song is love unknown," I feel something that is a mix of joy and sadness that when mixed lift my spirit to a higher place. After the service on Sunday, take your leaflet home with you, re-read the texts of the hymns and see if you find some thought or idea that resonates with you, that lifts your spirit. No matter how many Lents we've experienced, there is always something new, a spring flower where you hadn't planted seeds that will have a chance if you notice it is there and can tend to it.



If your spiritual practice includes a desire for more communal worship, I invite you to come to Evensong and Compline on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. These are wonderful services for introducing people to the Episcopal Church, so you may want to invite a friend who is on the fence about church. That's a Lenten discipline!

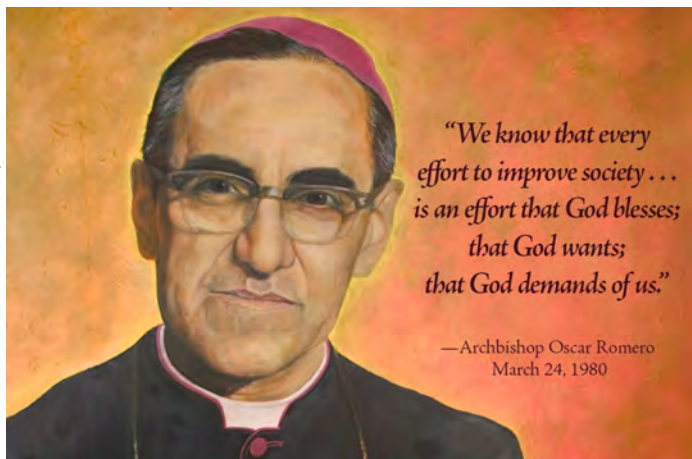


Wherever you fall on the Lenten spectrum, I hope it is a life-giving preparation for Easter.

## Óscar Romero, Archbishop and Martyr and the Martyrs of El Salvador Feast Day March 24th Robert Knapp

Óscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdámez (August 15, 1917 – March 24, 1980), was a Jesuit priest of the Roman Catholic Church in El Salvador. He later became prelate archbishop of San Salvador.

As an archbishop, he witnessed numerous violations of human rights. At first complacent, then radically converted by the murder of a fellow priest and good friend, he began a ministry speaking out on behalf of the poor and victims of the country's civil war. His brand of political activism was denounced by the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church and the government of El Salvador. In 1980, he was assassinated while consecrating the Eucharist during mass. His death finally provoked an international outcry for human rights reform in El Salvador.



In 1997, a case for beatification and canonization into sainthood was opened for Romero, and Pope John Paul II bestowed upon him the title of Servant of God. Pope Francis canonized Romero as a saint on 14 October

2018. He is considered the unofficial patron saint of the Americas and El Salvador and is often referred to as “San Romero” in El Salvador—a common reference among the Salvadorian people long before he was officially canonized. Outside of Catholicism, Romero is honored by other religious denominations of Christendom, including the Episcopal Church on March 24<sup>th</sup> in its lectionary calendar.



Maryknoll Sisters Ita Ford and Maura Clarke, Ursuline Sister Dorothy Kazel, and volunteer Jean Donovan were martyred in 1980

Also commemorated on this day are three Maryknoll nuns and a woman lay missionary killed by a Salvadoran army death squad on December 2, 1980 and, additionally, six Jesuits, their housekeeper, and her daughter, who were also murdered by the Salvadoran army on November 16, 1989.

Often, we remember martyrs of the Church from the past, either those in the Roman persecutions of the first centuries or from missionary work in the past two centuries. Archbishop Romero and the martyrs of El Salvador, ministers to the poor, are our recent history. Some will remember the news reports in the eighties of these events, when those murdered were labeled leftist sympathizers as if to justify their murders. Grace Cathedral, in 2010, had a remembrance service for Archbishop Romero. His feast day was added to the Episcopal Feast Day calendar in recognition of his Christian advocacy and service for the poor.

San Romero died because he loved and served the poor. He turned a collaborationist church into a militant one. For that he was murdered.

**A church that does not provoke any crisis, preach a gospel that does not unsettle, proclaim a word of God that does not get under anyone's skin or a word of God that does not touch the real sin of the society in which it is being proclaimed: *what kind of gospel is that?***

**--San Romero**



## Passings

### Tom Trutner: Celebrating a Life

We are sorry to share the sad news that Thomas K. Trutner, former Associate Priest at St. Paul's, passed away peacefully on Wednesday February 1, 2023, with his son Kirk and wife Roxanna by his side.

Tom was born May 25, 1935 in Oakland to Herman Cameron Trutner & Evelyn Valesta Meeks, and was raised in Piedmont, California. He received a BA from UC Berkeley in 1958, and MDiv from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1961. Tom served as a minister in the Presbyterian Church at Park Blvd Presbyterian Church 1961-65, was Ecumenical Guest Pastor in Hamburg, Germany 1965-66, a minister at Piedmont Community Church 1967-70, and an administrator at UC Berkeley from 1970-87.

Church records show Tom came to St. Paul's in April 1978 as a non-stipendiary clergyman, serving with the Rev. Donald W. Seaton. Tom was ordained deacon and then priest in the Episcopal Church in 1982 by Bishop Swing, and continued at St. Paul's as an Associate Priest and Assistant Priest until 1987. He served as an Associate Priest at St. Stephens, Orinda from 1987 until his retirement.

In the summer of 1978, Tom led the St. Paul's Youth Group on an unforgettable trip to the Grand Tetons. Two vans full of kids, along with parent-chaperones Liz & David Hunt, stayed at parishes in Nevada and Idaho. In Jackson, Wyoming, they stayed at a youth hostel and helped a local parish chop firewood for the harsh winter ahead.



The Rev. Thomas K. Trutner, October 2018



St. Paul's Youth Group trip to Jackson Wyoming, 1978. Liz Hunt Hook hasn't changed a bit! Liz is standing 2<sup>nd</sup> from the right, next to Tom Trutner.

The trip was so much fun that the following year participants began annual pilgrimages to camp at Fallen Leaf Lake that continued for more than a decade, with days full of hiking, lakes, great meals, nighttime stargazing, and long thoughtful conversations and laughs around the campfire. Parish families included the Trutners, Hunts, Crawfords, Ferrés, Howards, Tighe/Crokers, and Nuttings. As the years went on, the kids grew up, and the parents kept the tradition going every summer, welcoming St. Paul's newcomers the Larsons to the group in the mid-eighties and the Luckett/McNeals in the 1990s.

Tom was loved by everyone, providing insight and meaning to life's milestones, joys, and sorrows, for parishioners

from St. Paul's Oakland, St. Stephen's Orinda, the youth group at Piedmont Community Church, and many hundreds of Cal students and alums, golf buddies, rugby enthusiasts, neighbors, and friends.

As remembered by his son Kirk:

*My father was accomplished, a true Renaissance man – Minister, College Administrator, Counselor, Travel Advisor, Rugby Player – but he would much rather be defined by his qualities. He was joyful, inquisitive, merciful, passionate, welcoming, empathetic, playful...and so much more.*

A memorial Service will be held Saturday, April 29, 2023, 11:00am, at Lafayette Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive, Lafayette, CA 94549.



Any member of the Parish may attend Vestry meetings, which are at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month unless otherwise noted. The full minutes of the meeting are available to parish members upon request by contacting the parish administrator or a member of the Vestry.

### 2023 VESTRY

The Rev. Dr. Mauricio  
Wilson Rector

Gloria Balkissoon  
Senior Warden

Richard Larson  
Junior Warden

Pamela Kruse-  
Buckingham  
Clerk

Brian Stanke  
Treasurer

### VESTRY BY CLASS

#### Class of 2023

Fran Dibble  
Brian Stanke  
Maura Lane

#### Class of 2024

Indira Balkissoon  
Matthew Schooler

Irene Plunkett

#### Class of 2025

Pamela Kruse-  
Buckingham  
Richard Larson  
Digger Lautner

### DEANERY

#### DELEGATES 2023

Delegates

George Strait

Jeanette Dinwiddie-Moore

Dylan Versteeg

Alternates

Pamela Kruse-  
Buckingham

Paula Hawthorn

-vacancy-

## Senior Warden's Message

### Indira Balkissoon

It is a great honor to serve as Senior Warden for this upcoming year. By way of introducing myself, I thought I would answer the question Father Wilson asked when he was introducing the Vestry several Sundays ago. He asked "Why are you inspired to serve on Vestry and as Senior Warden?"

I am inspired to serve because I feel that St. Paul's is unique. It is the mix of the people, the community, the ministers, deacons, archdeacons/canons, acolytes, Vestry and Wardens. The uniqueness comes from the diverse, equitable and inclusive atmosphere. I love that St. Paul's is inclusive and equitable to all regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual orientation or socioeconomic background. I hope that we can continue to grow and build this uniqueness and share the love of God together with others through our amazing music, partnerships, and ministries.

As this is the first Senior Warden report, I don't have much to report this month. However, I wanted to mention that the Vestry had a retreat on Saturday, February 18. The purpose of the retreat was for the Vestry to get to know one another and to decide on annual Parish goals.



## Ministry recognition

On the following Sundays, the parish will have an opportunity to recognize the ministries below and to thank the participants for their service. During coffee hour following each service would be a great time to chat with these folks.

March 5: Writers of Prayers of the People, Leader Jeanette Dinwiddie-Moore



March 12: Altar Guild, Leader Pam Buckingham



March 19: Social Justice ministries, Leaders Matthew Schooler, Carolyn Bolton, Paula Hawthorn



## Vestry News

### Minutes of the Vestry - Special Meeting to Elect Officers St. Paul's Episcopal Church Feb. 7, 2023 @ 6:30 pm

Present: Mauricio, Pam, Fran, Maura, Irene, Brian, Digger, Matthew

Absent: Indira

Meeting called to order at 6:32 pm

#### Appointment of Officers

Fr. Mauricio elected Indira Balkissoon as **Sr. Warden**

Members of the Vestry unanimously elected:

**Jr. Warden** - Richard Larson

**Treasurer** - Brian Stanke

**Clerk** - Pamela Kruse-Buckingham

Vestry retreat Sat Feb. 18th in the lower school library 9am to 3pm

### Vestry Retreat Report Pam Kruse-Buckingham, Clerk

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Vestry met for its Retreat & February Business Meeting on February 18 at St. Paul's Episcopal School Lower Library. All members were present and as guests we had Doug Jensen & The Rev. Dr. Scot Sherman.

We opened our meeting with Morning Prayer.

#### Our First Session covered the following topics:

Vestry definitions and structures

Icebreaker: Getting to know each other

Church Polity: Governance Structures of the Episcopal Church

We are encouraged to read the [Canons of the National Church](#) as well as the [Canons of the Diocese of California](#) so we are familiar with what is expected of a Parish Vestry.

Parish Functions and Vestry Role

Temporal Affairs: Theory vs. Actual

Vestry Covenant

The St. Paul's Vestry adheres to the [St. Paul's Vestry Covenant](#)

Vestry Spirituality

#### Other Housekeeping

Regular Vestry meetings will be held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm on Zoom.

Will Cowart remains the St. Paul's Episcopal Church Liaison with St. Paul's Episcopal School.

#### The Second Session covered Goals and Activities

Fundraising at St. Paul's

2023 Priorities:

New MINISTRY ACTION PLAN process ( Strategic Planning)

Areas of Priority and create discernment and visioning opportunities for the Parish to participate and give input. Using the 2018-2021 plan, what can we tweak and update? Create a new plan in 2023 that is ready to launch in 2024. We want to listen with deep intent, and give up our ego state to do what is best for the Parish. Pastoral Care and Membership

Worship resources

Capital/Financial Priorities Buildings - We need a Master Building Plan

Bring Kitchen up to code?

Resolve water issues under building & replace church floors?

New roof?

New sound & video media system in the church

\$15+ Mil to bring everything our buildings need

## Vestry Retreat-continued

Complete Staffing

Loan payment ( Earthquake Retrofit Line of Credit @ Union bank via the Diocese has a balance owing of \$337,000. St. Paul's School has paid off their portion.

St. Paul's is a blessed place with an amazing ethos that is different from any other church in the Diocese of CA. We are poised to do great things! We adjourned for a walk to Whole Foods to grab lunch and came back to the table to keep talking and getting to know one-another.

### Third Session: Business Meeting

Funding of 2022 Operating Deficit in the amount of \$147,926.64 in the following manner.  
2022 Parochial Report Process

### Fourth Session: Outside Guests

Lay Discernment Committee - Doug Jensen came and talked to us about Cara Meredith's Discernment Committee work.

Vital and Thriving - Rev. Dr. Scot Sherman came to talk to us about joining the next class of churches doing the Vital & Thriving Program, which is a program for Congregational Development which asks the question: How do we go about looking and acting like Jesus? How can we unlock our capacity to discover God's promised and preferred vision of the future?

The retreat adjourned at 3:15 pm.

## February Financial Report

NET INCOME FUNDING				
	Current Balance	Realized Gains Distribution	Deficit Designation	New Balance
2540 David Farr Fund	\$ 52,604.00	\$ -	\$ 2,604.00	\$ 50,000.00
2511 Sound System	100,001.00	-	-	100,001.00
2550 Memorial Fund	200,043.00	-	-	200,043.00
2555 Hold for Assignment	32,374.00	-	32,374.00	-
2560 Guns to Gardens	(858.00)	-	(858.00)	-
3311 Building Fund	296,830.00	-	6,830.00	290,000.00
3315 Nancy/Virginia Bradford Memorial Fund	150,000.00	-	-	150,000.00
3318 New Initiatives Fund	60,000.00	-	-	60,000.00
3321 Axel Nelson Fund	25,500.00	-	5,282.64	20,217.36
3459 Bradford Fund	1,001,694.00	-	101,694.00	900,000.00
3451 Walston Endowment Fund	600,000.00	-	-	600,000.00
Total funds		\$ -	\$ 147,926.64	
2022 Net Income			<u>\$(147,926.64)</u>	

## Junior Warden's Report Richard Larson

Saturday, February 18, the vestry met for its annual vestry retreat. We met in person, which gave us a chance to renew old friendships, and introduce us to new ones. Our first meeting did not include discussions of buildings and grounds, which are the traditional purview of the Junior Warden. However, it seems a safe bet that in the coming months we will need to consider the needs and costs of at least some repairs, maintenance, and possible investments in the parish physical plant. For reference, this year, the Office Building turns 97 years old, and the Church Building will be 111 years old. Fortunately, both buildings underwent seismic renovations back in 1997, but one of these days (whether this year or not), it will be appropriate to address improvements to replace aging systems, meet new codes, make repairs, etc.

Whenever possible, I will include descriptions in advance of such upcoming plans in future editions of this newsletter, so you the parish can ask questions and offer suggestions and help. Stay tuned!

If you have any questions or would like to know more, you can reach me at [rla.designoffice@gmail.com](mailto:rla.designoffice@gmail.com)





## Youth and Family Ministry

### Carolyn Bolton



### Regional Youth Events

**“Just As I Am”**

**Diocesan High School Retreat**

**Bishop’s Ranch**

**March 3-5, 2023**

**DEADLINE 2/26/23 [but give it a try if you are interested, even after this date]**



Weekend retreat to help teenagers begin to develop a theological and personal understanding of themselves, their relationships, their sexuality, and their belovedness.

This retreat is for 9-12 grade. Cost is \$100 for the weekend. Scholarships available through the Diocese.

For more information including registration and scholarships:

**[Retreat Information - Click Here](#)**

**Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage**

**to Grace Cathedral**

**May 21, 2023**

A pilgrimage of youth from congregations in the Diocese via foot and public transportation to the Cathedral. Everyone will gather at the Cathedral by 6:00pm for Eucharist and dinner. Details and registration to follow.



**2023 Episcopal Youth Event**

**July 4-8, 2023**

**University of Maryland, College Park**



The Episcopal Youth Event is a gathering of youth ages 15-19 from around the world who assemble on a college campus to learn, laugh, and worship together. It is the single greatest and second largest event the Episcopal Church does. Since this event is held only once every three years, for many #EYE23 will be their only chance to attend.

There are scholarships available from the Diocese of California. Contact Caren Miles at DioCal for more information: **[Click here to email Caren](#)**

To find out more and register: **[EYE Registration Link](#)**

## Social Justice Ministry

### Find Yourself Saying ‘Enough is Enough? Join the Friday Night Walks!’ Cara Meredith

A couple of months ago, I joined a crew from around Oakland, Berkeley and the greater Bay Area to walk for peace.

I showed up because these are *peace* walks, and I, for one, am sick and tired of the lack of peace that too often feels like it’s shouting at me – in my neighborhood and on television, on social media and when I’m driving from one side of town to the other. Perhaps more than anything, I’m sick and tired of the gun violence that plagues Oakland.

I’m sick and tired of hearing about yet another school shooting, this time in the town many of us call home. I’m done saying, “Enough is enough.” I’m through with the fact that gun violence sometimes feels like it’s become so *ordinary* and normal, like we’ve been anesthetized to the news every time another incident happens.

I’m sick and tired of offering my thoughts and prayers, even if, on that Friday night, I offered my thoughts and prayers.

There we were, a crew of forty, fifty of us: young and old, gay and straight, Black and white, and Asian and Latino. We came from different faith traditions, maybe even for different reasons. We were a scraggly crew of rag tags brought together in the name of peace – and perhaps, in the name of the one who *is* Peace.

Some of us picked up signs. All of us put on vests. We began to walk, slowly; we crossed the street at 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenue in East Oakland, and walked half a mile up Bancroft, to one of the busiest, craziest intersections at 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue.

More than anything, this walking, it mattered. This showing folks in East Oakland, where I live, that we’re here, all of us, that we’re in this *together*, taking a stand for peace against gun violence, mattered. This walking down streets littered with broken glass and discarded paper, mattered, it mattered, it mattered.

This Lent, I encourage you to make Friday Night Walks a part of your Lenten practice. For more information, head to [Faith in Action East Bay](#).

For information on the time and locations of the walks, see the flyer in this newsletter.

A member of St. Paul’s Oakland, Cara preaches occasionally and is in the discernment process for holy orders. She is passionate about Guns to Gardens, Friday Night Walks, and other peace initiatives in the Oakland community. Connect with her on [Substack](#).



### The Pantry of Hope is in need of assistance in the following areas:



1. Assistance in transporting food from the Food Bank on Fridays .
2. Packing bags once a month on the 2nd or 4th Saturday of the month.
3. Assembling bags on Fridays.

The Pantry is also in need of bottles of juice to pack in the bags given out twice a month.

Suggested: Pints size bottles or quart sizes.

Need info? Email Carolyn Bolton at [deacon@stpaulsoakland.org](mailto:deacon@stpaulsoakland.org)

## Environmental Stewardship

### Indira Balkissoon

↙ Val



↘ Indira



First, I want to congratulate Val Behrendt on her success in getting the Stewardship milkweed seeds to grow. They are pictured here. I started some milkweed seeds as well. They don't look half as healthy as Val's. Oh well—fingers crossed.



I saw a recent article in Sunset with the headline “Some Good Environmental News” the monarchs in Santa Barbara and Pismo Beach are rebounding. In the 1980's there were millions of butterflies but in 2020 there were fewer than 2,000. This year's tally was 335,479. Here is Sunset's article for

more information <https://link.sunset.com/view/609ad087b318bf00776270a3i4nwd.40tx/811be64b>

Our St Paul's pollinator gardens are starting to perk up. We will be composting and mulching them soon. Also we will be adding more native plants.

I recently heard Doug Tallamy, professor of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, speak about his organization “Home Grown National Park”. He started this organization because the national parks are too small and separated from one another to preserve species to the levels needed and the US is losing so many species from local ecosystems, limiting their abilities to provide ecosystem services like oxygen, clean water, flood control, pollination, pest control, and carbon storage. The goal is to create 20 million acres of native plantings representing approximately ½ of the green lawns of privately-owned properties.



Home Grown National Park has created a map that enables anyone who plants natives and removes invasive plants to report their accomplishments. St Paul's two pollinator gardens have been added to the map. A link to the website is provided here so you can add your property to the map.

<https://homegrownnationalpark.org/about>

**They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season,  
and their leaves do not wither, in all that they do, they prosper.**

**—Psalm 1:3**



## Pictures of St. Paul's February Events



Blu told us about what they learned in Faith Formation.



Carolyn Bolton was installed as an Honorary Canon at Grace Cathedral. Congratulations, Carolyn!



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper returned!



The Allen Temple Men's Choir visited and provided wonderful inspiration.



The 2023 Vestry held a highly successful Retreat.

## Concerts at St. Paul's

### Prometheus Symphony Orchestra

Eric Hansen, Music Director



### Prometheus Symphony Orchestra 2022-2023 Concert Series

**Saturday, March 25, 2023**  
**3:00 PM (Preconcert talk at 2:40PM)**  
**(Note Saturday Concert)**  
**Fourth Concert**

**Louis Moreau Gottschalk • Symphonie  
 Romantique – La Nuit des Tropiques (A  
 Night in the Tropics)**  
**Igor Stravinsky • Le sacre du Printemps  
 (The Rite of Spring)**

[See our website](#) for Covid protocols, updates, and parking details.



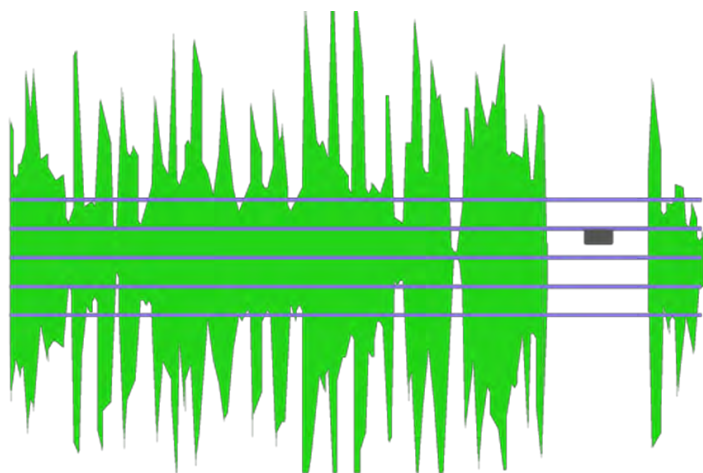
SAN FRANCISCO  
 CHORAL  
 ARTISTS  
 MAGEN SOLOMON  
 ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



### San Francisco Choral Artists Magen Soloman, Artistic Director Sound and (Not Much) Silence

4

**4:00 pm, Sunday, March 26, 2023**



Join us as we explore the ephemeral power of both sound and silence: music's ability to transform and delight, to move, comfort, and celebrate. We sing of birds, trees, and outer space, of love, pain, and laughter.

Reserve in advance and pay what you will!

(Door prices – General: \$35; Senior \$30; Under 30: \$15)

See [our website](#) for Covid protocols and more information.



## Windows of St. Paul's

### The Good Samaritan

#### Robert Knapp

In this window, a single lancet with trefoil arch, The Good Samaritan leans forward to lift the limp and injured man whose eyes are closed. The Samaritan's horse looks on from the left side. The heart in the lunette tells of the compassion of the Samaritan. (Luke 10:30-37)

*Text on Glass:* The Good Samaritan. : He had compassion for him. Luke 10:33

*Text on bronze plaque* below this window and The Valiant Woman window next to it:

In loving memory of Dr. Samuel Francis Rodolph (1816-1895) = Minna Sabina Kraft Rodolph (1831-1909)

Dr. George Walter Rodolph = Carrie Dutton Rodolph  
 Francis Bequette Rodolph = Blanche Pratt Rodolph  
 Emma Rodolph Stillman = Dr. John Maxson Stillman  
 Erwin Gustavus Rodolph = Lillian Jackson Rodolph  
 Julia Rodolph Smith = Samuel Harris Smith  
 Addie Rodolph Carson = Albert L. Carson  
 Dr. Charles Theodore Rodolph = Carolyn Merrill

[Dr. Samuel and Minna Rodolph along with their children and the children's spouses appear. I have altered the order of the names on the plaque to make the marriage relationships clear.]

Samuel Francis Rodolph, a native of Switzerland, was one of the pioneer physicians in Oakland, having come in 1857. His extensive family thrived and married well. Carrie Dutton's family came to California in 1848.

Married to George Walter Rodolph, a dentist and businessman, she was a long-time resident of Piedmont. One of their daughters was married in St. Paul's in 1924; Carrie's funeral in 1950 was in the church. Dr. John Maxson Stillman, Professor of Chemistry and one-time Vice President was one of the original faculty members of Stanford University. He also held an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from The University of California. At his death, he was one of the best-known chemists in the country.

The Cummings Studio, San Francisco, created the window in 1947; its signature is etched in glass at the lower right-hand corner. Presumably some descendant of Dr. Rodolph paid for the window.

U.S. National Good Samaritan Day is celebrated on March 13 every year. It is a day to celebrate and encourage kindness and selflessness, despite our differences.



*The Good Samaritan*  
 Vincent van Gogh

**“Which of these three proved himself a neighbor to the man who had been mugged by the robbers?”**

**The expert in the Law replied, “The one who showed mercy to him.”**

**Jesus told him, “Well then, go and behave like that Samaritan.”**

**Luke 10:36-37**





## St. Paul's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND

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### Dear Readers:

Currently, the newsletter is not being distributed by regular post. If you know of someone who does not have access to the electronic version, please contact Parish Administrator at 834-4314, Ext. 501 or [admin@stpaulsoakland.org](mailto:admin@stpaulsoakland.org). She will make a hardcopy and send it.

## Newsletter contributors sought

We are interested in hearing from writers and photographers; please email us if you would like to donate your talents. The deadline for each edition is the 25th of the month previous to publication. Please send your submissions of no more than 400 words to [csknapp@earthlink.net](mailto:csknapp@earthlink.net).

The Good News is a publication of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Oakland, California. Carolyn Knapp, editor, and Robert Knapp, composition and graphics.

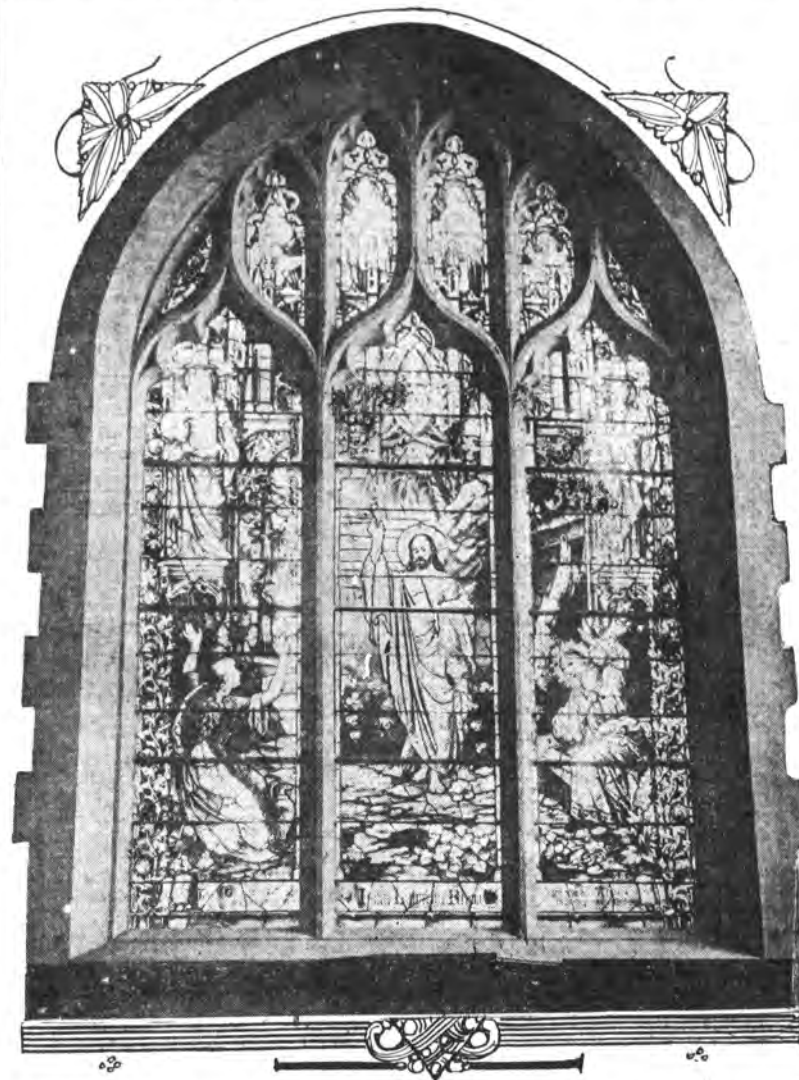
## From the Editors:

Watch the next *Good News* for

Easter Events

News on a St. Paul's Vision Action Plan

## Window Is Memorial to Isaac Requa Mrs. Requa's Gift to St. Paul's Church



BEAUTIFUL STAINED GLASS WINDOW PRESENTED TO ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH BY MRS. ISAAC REQUA IN MEMORY OF THE LATE ISAAC REQUA.

One-hundred and ten years ago this month, our beautiful resurrection window was dedicated.