

THE WEEKLY E-PISTLE

news & update



December 26, 2021 | This Week at Christ Church

Service at 10 a.m. INSIDE

For people over 12, please bring proof of vaccination or medical exemption.

Masks required and please social distance.

[TO RETRIEVE AN ELECTRONIC COPY OF YOUR CA VACCINATION CLICK HERE!](https://myvaccinerecord.cdph.ca.gov)

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GOOD NEWS & GREAT JOY for ALL PEOPLE

Christmas Eve Family Service 3 p.m.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 5:30 p.m.
Christmas Day 10 a.m.



The offices will be closed Dec 27 - Jan 2

Christmas Eve 3 pm Bulletin

Christmas Eve 5:30 pm Bulletin

Christmas Day 10 am Bulletin

CLICK HERE to join on Zoom

**CLICK HERE to watch on
YouTube**

**Click Here for SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 27 Bulletin/Order of
Service**

CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

Trask Leonard

TODAY'S SERVICE

Greeter - Mary Hufty

Usher - Tim McAdam

Altar Guild - Betsy Alexander

Lesson - Danny Alegria

Epistle - Sarah Halsey

Intercessions -

A NOTE FROM YOUR RECTOR

Dear Christ Church Family and Friends:

YES! We will be gathering in-person and online on Christmas Eve. A family service will be held at 3 p.m. in person and online. A candlelight service will be held in person and online at 5:30 p.m. There will be one simple service at 10 a.m. on Christmas Day and then our usual Congregational Christmas Lessons and Carols (without the choir) on Sunday at 10 a.m.

As a community of faith, we care about the most vulnerable among us. The Omicron variant is causing COVID-19 cases to rise and is proving to be a persistent form of the virus. We continue to monitor this situation carefully. To keep the entire community as safe as is reasonably possible. . . here is what we are doing - all in accordance with the county and Diocese guidelines:

1. Proof of vaccinations is required for all eligible persons (or proof of a medically documented exemption)
2. Masks must be worn by all indoors (exception for readers at lectern).
3. Maintain a safe distance
4. Please use the hand sanitizer when entering the church

Even though we expect lower attendance and made some changes to streamline checking vaccinations, you are encouraged to arrive early for the in person service.

While we long to all be together, that may not be the safest option for everyone. We hope you will choose to worship in whatever way seems appropriate for you and your circumstances and with respect for the most vulnerable in the community. Be where you feel safe this week. If you think you may have been exposed or are experiencing any symptoms whatsoever, please stay home and participate in online worship. We realize that for some, worship through a screen leaves a lot to be desired, but it may result in saving lives should you test positive. Regardless of how you choose to worship with us this holiday season, we hope your participation will enrich your celebration of Christmas.

I am grateful to everyone who has worked hard to keep us safe as we gather in person: Angela Hey, Dr. Danny Alegria, Penny McCulloch, and Lauren Wittine. I am also grateful to Angela Hey and Bob Wrucke for making online worship possible for those who cannot attend in person. Our Christmas traditions will be possible because of them.

We are committed to our community, our care for each other, and our thriving together. Our traditions mean so much to us because you mean so much. We experience God's grace so fully in each other and in our gatherings.

And this week, we'll once again experience new life and renewal together in celebrating Jesus' birth.

Blessings for Christmas. We look forward to being together, in-person and online.

Faithfully yours,
Beth

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Thanks to the wonderful generosity of so many of you, we were able to reach our goals for the 2021 Stewardship Campaign. We raised \$353,000 from 74 donors and are so thankful for each donation. Stewardship is the lifeblood of our parish and is what enables us to have an enduring impact in our community and beyond.

As you know, our work is never ending and we are now getting ready to kick-off our Stewardship Campaign 2022. We will be reaching out to you with 2022 pledge cards shortly. You are welcome to donate now towards the 2022 campaign or make a pledge to be paid at your convenience by December 31, 2022. Thank you for keeping Christ Church Portola Valley strong.

For those with outstanding pledges from 2021, you will be receiving an invoice from us shortly. Please reach out to wendymcadam@mac.com or admin@ccpvw.org with any questions or concerns.

NEWS FROM THE OUTREACH TEAM

Outreach decorated the house in the Narthex to remind everyone how wonderful it is to have a home. We are collecting new warm outerwear and underwear for the 120 residents of Maple Street shelter until 12th night (January 5th).

At the gingerbread house making house event last



Sunday some people donated their houses. Outreach delivered them to the very pleased residents of Silver Oaks memory care unit along with Christmas flowers. Angela Hey played her guitar and Penny McCulloch sang Christmas carols. And through SpiritCare we also delivered small gifts this week to the 200 residents of the Burlingame Long Term Care Facility.

Outreach's enthusiastic thanks to our wonderful parishioners who helped make it possible. Merry Christmas!

