



CHRIST CHURCH
PORTOLA VALLEY & WOODSIDE

THE WEEKLY E-PISTLE news & update



TODAY'S SERVICE

Flowers: Andi Mallinckrodt
Greeter: Paul & Lenore Lovoi
Altar Guild: Mary Soubirous
Acolyte: Louise Delafield
Usher: Mary Hufty
The Lesson: Sarah Halsey
The Epistle: Catherine Aragon
Intercessions: Lauren Wittine
Coffee Hour: Kathy Kennedy

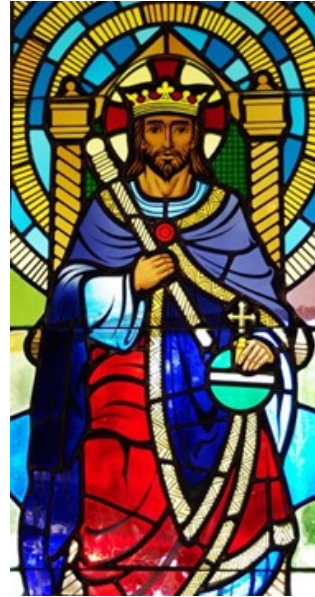
CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Birthdays

David Gorsulowsky, Grace Hunter, Mark Holmes, Lily Anna Szalay, Grace Szalay, Rory Payne

Anniversaries

Bob & Claiborne Jones



THIS WEEK'S HAPPENINGS

Sunday, November 20

10 a.m. Service
11:30 a.m. Vestry Meeting

Wednesday, November 23

10 a.m. Women's Spirituality Group



[Click Here for Bulletin/Order of Service](#)

[CLICK HERE to join on Zoom](#)

[CLICK HERE to watch on YouTube](#)

A Note From Your Music Director

Dear Christ Church Community

Like most Episcopal, Lutheran, and some Catholic churches, we follow the "Revised Common Lectionary" for our readings. This means that, on an average Sunday, you will hear the same Lesson, Epistle, and Gospel at any Episcopal church you enter, anywhere in the country. The Lectionary is on a three-year cycle; therefore, our readings for Sunday will be the exact same as those you would have heard if you attended a service at this time in 2019. Each year begins on the first Sunday of Advent and ends with the feast of Christ the King, which we are celebrating this Sunday. That makes this Sunday the New Year's Eve of the church calendar!

We are now finishing up Year C and entering Year A. Each year focuses on a different Gospel. Year A is Matthew, Year B is Mark and Year C is Luke. You might be wondering, what about the Gospel of John? John's Gospel is not neglected! It is read frequently on Holy Days (for example, Christmas) and also is commonly used to fill in gaps in Year B, since Mark's is the shortest Gospel.

Typically, the lesson is an Old Testament reading that relates to the Gospel. It might be about

a similar theme, like justice or perseverance, or it might foretell the Gospel, as it does this Sunday. It's always a fun challenge when you are listening to the readings to try and spot the connection between the Lesson and the Gospel!

The Epistle, meanwhile, generally works chronologically through the letters of Paul. We just finished up 2 Thessalonians and (after some Advent-y readings) we will start on 1 Corinthians in January.

I hope this new church year brings each of you a renewed enthusiasm for God's word as we learn together, through the gospel of Matthew, how to live holy and loving lives.

Blessings,
Lauren Wittine

God of all time,
May this new year remind us
that every day and every season
are created by you.
May it invite us
to celebrate the feasts and seasons
with color, story, symbol, and song.
As we celebrate the new Church year,
open our minds and our hearts
to learn more about you,
about your Son, Jesus,
about our comforter, the Holy Spirit,
and about all the saints
who walked in your way.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Stewardship Campaign 2023

Our 2023 Stewardship Campaign is officially launched! We have a goal of raising \$400,000 from 70 donors. The Vestry along with the Finance Committee has worked hard to determine a campaign goal that is needed and we ask each of you to consider how you can support the financial health of our parish.

Pledge cards were mailed last week. Please return the pledge card via mail or send an email with your pledge to wendymcadam@mac.com or admin@ccpvw.org. Payment can be made anytime between now and 12/31/2023.

We are immensely grateful for everyone's participation in past campaigns and hope you will join us again in this important effort.

It was fabulous to see so many of you at our Fall Carnival and we look forward to celebrating another successful campaign in 2023.

Office Closure

The church office will be closed on Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th in observation of Thanksgiving. We wish you and yours a wonderful holiday full of love and gratitude!

A Litany of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.
For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.
We thank you, Lord.

For all that is gracious in the lives of humanity, revealing the image of Christ,
We thank you, Lord.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,
We thank you, Lord.

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,
We thank you, Lord.

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,
We thank you, Lord.

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,
We thank you, Lord.

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,
We thank you, Lord.

For the communion of saints, in all times and places,
We thank you, Lord.

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;
To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

LISTENING SESSIONS - THE SEARCH FOR OUR NEXT BISHOP

To be held in each Deanery of the Diocese

The Search and Transition Committee seeking the Ninth Bishop of California has announced a series of listening sessions. These sessions will take place throughout the Diocese and will also be accessible via zoom. The Committee wants to hear what you believe the skills, qualities, and gifts our next bishop should have that will lead us forward in the next ten to fifteen years. The data gathered at these meetings will form the core of the diocesan profile—the descriptive document we will publish to seek applicants to serve as the Ninth Bishop of California.

While you can attend any of the sessions, the Peninsula Deanery's session is scheduled for Saturday, December 3rd, from 10 a.m. - Noon, at St. Paul's in Burlingame. To learn more about these sessions, their times and locations, and zoom links (as they become available), check out the [Search Process website](#).

NEWS FROM THE OUTREACH TEAM

Flowers needed for SpiritCare Thanksgiving at Silver Oaks: On **Sunday November 20th at 1:30** Christ Church will return to Silver Oaks Memory Care in Menlo Park for an early Thanksgiving celebration. Can you help? We need a few flowers or greens from your garden which we will use to make small vases of fall flowers for each resident. Oranges, yellows, reds, mums etc. Bring your posies to church on Sunday or leave them in water in the parish hall kitchen. If you have any flower arranging talent stay after church and lend a hand. Thanksgiving cards will be available for parishioners to sign during coffee hour. We also need readers and singers. Contact Angela Hey at 650-796-2377 or amhey@heymash.com. SpiritCare provides spiritual and emotional support for “forgotten” elderly and disabled residents at over 60 care centers in the Bay Area. Christ Church has partnered in this important ministry with Silver Oaks which supports 46 seniors.

Decorators wanted to transform our Narthex - On Saturday Nov. 26 at 10:30AM a few good decorators are needed to transform our church narthex into a charming winter wonderland. Why is Outreach involved? The lovely miniature house is a reminder of how blessed we all are to have a home while we remember the less fortunate this upcoming holiday season. Starting the first Sunday in Advent (**Sunday Nov. 27**) we will be collecting warm outerwear (socks, hats, scarves, gloves) and underwear for 100 adults staying at Maple Street Shelter in Redwood City. We will also be collecting small Christmas gifts (new, gently used or regifted but no nuts) for the 170 forgotten elderly residing at Burlingame Skilled Nursing. There will be more information next week. If you can help with the decorating, contact Kathy Kennedy at kennedyiti@aol.com or 650-291-9678. Meanwhile, the Outreach Committee wishes you a happy and blessed Thanksgiving.

Help Needed for Sunday Nov 27 Maple Street Shelter Dinner: Holiday weekends are hard on shelters for the homeless that depend on volunteer help. But the 100 adult residents at Maple Street Shelter in Redwood City will enjoy a chicken and rice dinner with all the sides the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Ruth Ann Wrucke is soliciting volunteer pepper and onion choppers on **Saturday Nov 26** and bakers who can deliver desserts on **Sunday Nov. 27** after church. Contact Ruth Ann Wrucke at (650) 851-8435 or cwrucke@mindspring.com to volunteer. Maple Street Shelter is part of the Life Moves network of shelters in San Mateo and Santa Clara. In late December Maple Street will be replaced by a larger shelter that will house 240 adults in units that each have a locked door for privacy.

Linen Drive for Homeless San Mateo County Families: The end is in sight!! The Christ Church Outreach Committee linen drive for San Mateo County homeless families staying in Life Moves shelters ended on Sunday November 13th. Thanks to all the many very generous donors, we have commitments for all 738 blankets, sheet sets, pillows and bathroom towel sets. ALL OF THEM plus 11% more. Unbelievable.

Last Friday bathroom towels were ribboned together into 73 sets (2 bath towels, 2 hand towels, 2 wash cloths) by the extraordinary team of Norma Cance, Andy & Eda Carlson, Kathy Kennedy, Dan & Ryan Lopez, Susan Martin, Judy Massey and Erin Miller. Linens were boxed up for delivery. On Monday the ninth van/truck was loaded with 20+ boxes of linens by Erin Miller, Kathy Kennedy and Mary Soubirous and 121 more pillows, towel sets, sheet and a few blankets were transported to the Life Moves admin offices in Menlo Park. 823 items have been delivered so far with only a few last items to be boxed up. The linens are being shared among the San Mateo County family shelters in Menlo Park, Redwood City, San Mateo and Daly City along with families at the "safe parking" RV lot in Redwood City. Questions, contact Kathy Kennedy at kennedyiti@aol.com or 650-291-9678. Life Moves provides 1328 beds each night for the homeless in 26 interim shelters in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. Clients served include veterans, families, single adults, members of the LGBTQ+ community, aging seniors and more.

GAIA World Health announces 40 new nursing students are being trained through the Nursing Scholar Program at Mzuzu University in Mzimba District, Malawi. This new cohort marks a growing partnership with the University of California San Francisco's Global Action in Nursing (GAIN) program, which is funding two-year scholarships to upgrade these students' qualifications from diploma to bachelor-level nurse-midwives. Once they have graduated, the nurses will help with GAIA's AIDS and Malaria eradication program, especially in rural Malawi. For Epiphany (starting in January), the congregation will collect "change for GAIA" to provide medical supplies for one on GAIA's mobile medical clinics.

Bag Lunches for the Coastside Homeless - On Friday November 4th the young and young at heart gathered to make bag lunches for 50 people staying at the Coast House homeless shelter in Half Moon Bay. Zesty chicken pasta salad, autumn fruit cups, finger vegetables and a homemade cookie were on the menu thanks to Bea Bakken, Alex Carlson, Kathy Kennedy, Erin Miller and Ruth Ann Wrucke. An extra couple of snacks were added since no other food was being delivered to Coast House on Saturday. Coast House is one of Life Moves newest shelters and one that has among the fewest numbers of volunteers. It provides shelter for single adults, couples and a few families in 52 former motel rooms.

Seeking Hotel-sized Toiletries: Are you on vacation or going on one soon? If you picked up any travel size shampoo, conditioner, soap or lotion during your last hotel stay, you can donate them for use by the Maple Street Shelter. Bring them to the box in the breezeway. And if you have a toothbrush or toothpaste your dentist gave you on your last visit that you have no use for, they could

use that too. Maple Street Shelter is located in Redwood City and provides housing for 100 homeless adults each night. Items best used by families or children (diapers, children's toothpaste, etc) will be delivered to Redwood Family Shelter in Redwood City which provides housing for 10 families each night.





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