

December 10, 2017
The Second Sunday
of Advent



The Parish of St. Patrick

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church and Day School

1 Church Rd.

Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

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www.stpatschurch.org

Our St. Patrick's Mission Statement:

"To love and obey God, to love each other and others and to let our light shine from this holy hill."

All are welcome to join us each and every Sunday morning for worship and to receive communion.

Rite I Worship Service: 8:00 AM

Rite II Worship Service: 10:15 with Choir & Sunday School

	At St. Patrick's	Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ	
Rector	The Rev. George Daisa	Youth Ministry Director	The Rev. George Daisa
Sr. Warden	Anna Merriman	Financial Administrator	Kathryn Walters
Jr. Warden	Debbie McDonald	Parish Administrator	Janet Enriquez
Music Director	Dr. Eric Kinsley	Sexton	Dave Mead
Children's Ministry Director	Patty Buffaloe	St. Patrick's Postulant	KC Robertson

Church office hours: Monday—Thurs from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

A Message from Your Rector

Dear Friends in Christ,

This week we are all concerned for our neighbors in Ventura, Santa Paula and Ojai, and for the firefighters and first responders who are tirelessly and selflessly fighting high winds and voracious flames in several fires in Southern California. It seems that it is first on everybody's minds and the topic of every conversation. Schools are closed in the Conejo because of terrible air pollution from the smoke, and though an unexpected free day from school is always something to celebrate, our daughter, Amelia, does not revel in the fact that her free day comes as the result of such tragic circumstances. When we look out our windows we see smoke in the air, when we look to the red glow of the western mountains at night, and when we step outside we smell the sooty air, we are mindful of the fact that, though we are safe here in Thousand Oaks for the time being, calamity and misfortune are simply the facts of this life.

"There, but for the grace of God, go I," goes the adage attributed to sixteenth century English Reformer, John Bradford, (who was burned at the stake by the way), and it is times like these that we pause the business of our quotidian lives to reflect on our own mortality and our small place in the world. In times such as these when our political, social and cultural life, and quite literally the world around us, is going up in flames, we have the opportunity to stop the busyness and the anxiety, take a knee, and recognize that others' misfortune could be our own, and, indeed has been our own from time to time, for none of us escapes tribulation in this life. By God's good providence alone do "we live and move and have our being" (Acts 17:28), and by God's grace are we given what we need in this life. We give expression to this grace and providence when we act in accordance with God's will on earth as it is in heaven. When we pray for our brothers and sisters in their calamity, when we open our homes to evacuees, when we send our financial support to relief organizations, we participate in the grace and providence of God, and we recognize our own mortality and vulnerability. We acknowledge that there will come a time when we, too, will stand in need of God's grace and providence expressed in the love and support of our neighbors, friends and families, when we, too, will go, but for the grace of God. Every day is that time.

I offered this prayer yesterday at the State of the City Address by our mayor and parishioner Claudia de la Pena. Pray with me:

Gracious God, we pray for our Ventura County neighbors, our brothers and sisters in Santa Paula, Ojai and Ventura this day, and for the firefighters and first responders who at this very moment are selflessly risking everything to preserve life and property: send your holy angels to surround them, keep them safe, and give to those who have lost homes and livelihood, your peace and succor. And, give to those of us who are not in harm's way at this moment, an appreciation of our own vulnerabilities, so that we rely on your grace and care for us always. Amen.

See you Sunday!

(The Rev.) George Daisa

Wednesday Healing Service

Join Fr. George on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. for this weekly Eucharistic celebration with healing prayers.

The Altar Flowers are Dedicated to the Glory of God

Altar Flowers

Honor a loved one (birthday, anniversary, memorial, etc.) with a floral dedication. Sign up on the flower chart at the church entrance. The suggested donation is \$40.00.

Checks to St. Patrick's Altar Guild with 'altar flowers' in the memo may be placed in the offertory plate.

For Those We Love

Anna Morris, Patrick, Mary Ann, Kathlene Stephens, Tony Stephens, John, Margaret, Jane, Lawrence, Jeff and Paula

KC Robertson, St. Pat's Postulant and Ryan Macias, Postulant

Rest of the Soul

Ted Dale, Jeffrey Mangles, Pip Murch and Lisa Shafer

Sunday School

Care for children aged 2 to pre-K is available in the sacristy wing. K-5th grade children are welcome to our Sunday School program each Sunday morning. Children gather at the entrance to church at the start of the 10:15 worship to meet with the SS Director and then process to their classes. SS registration is ongoing. This program includes bible stories, activities, games, crafts, and much more. For more details, contact Patty Buffaloe at 805-[582-2644](tel:582-2644).

Youth Group

Sr. High youth (grades 9-12) attend Sunday worship with their families or as a group. We gather on the 2nd & 4th Sundays at 4 pm in the church. Emphasis is placed on building a Beloved Community through fellowship, fun and service. Please contact Fr. George for more info regarding St. Pat's Youth Group at gdaisa@stpatschurch.org.

Isaiah 40: 1-11

Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3: 8-15a

Mark 1: 1-8

www.lectionarypage.net

Project Safe Passage

We are partnering with St. Patrick’s Day School again this year to offer Barnes & Noble Bookseller gift cards to kids who often do not have access to books for learning and entertainment. We’re collecting B&N gift cards of \$20-\$25 through Dec. 14. These cards will be delivered to the kids, who then will be bussed to our local B&N for a private shopping experience just for them, where they can purchase books of their own choosing. Purchase your B&N gift cards and bring them to the **school office by Dec. 14**. Full size Christmas stockings are also needed for gifting items to the children at a holiday party.

Sunday, Dec. 24 Services for 4th Sunday in Advent & Christmas Eve

This year, the Fourth Sunday in Advent falls on December 24, Christmas Eve. Therefore, on Sunday morning, Dec. 24, we will convene a single Sunday morning Eucharist at 9 am to celebrate the Fourth Sunday in Advent. Then, we will gather again that Sunday evening at either 5 pm for a Family Christmas Eve service, or at 9 pm for a Christmas Eve service with Choral Eucharist to celebrate the Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, AKA Christmas Eve. A full listing of all Advent & Christmas Services for 2017 can be found on the back of your worship leaflet.

Winter Shelter Program at St. Julie’s

Meals are needed for the Winter Shelter Program hosted by St. Patrick’s this Saturday, Dec. 9 at St. Julie’s in Newbury Park. Please bring an entrée to serve 10-12 people to St. Julie’s Church (2475 Borchard Rd.) by 6:00 pm. Volunteer servers are always welcome. Call Bob Bland at 498-5682 for more information.

Nativity Pageant & Potluck—Sunday, Dec. 10 at the 10:15 service

St. Patrick’s Children’s Ministry hosts the annual Nativity Pageant & Potluck. The pageant, held during the 10:15 worship, will have a part for every interested child. Following the service, gather in Hager Hall for a festive potluck brunch to celebrate the holidays. Parishioners are asked to please bring an entrée, side dish, salad or dessert to share. For information on the pageant, please contact Patty, Director of Children’s Ministry, at 805-582-2644.

Give a gift of Clean Water for Christmas

On Sept. 20, Hurricane Maria struck Puerto Rico with devastating force leaving many of the island residents with no transportation, no electricity and no clean drinking water. The Conejo Compassion Coalition has established a partnership with a team of doctors from the University of Puerto Rico who have been providing medical care, food and clean water to residents. As these missions continue, there is a need for water filters to leave with residents so that they can continue to have clean water when the team leaves. Can you provide a water filter for a family in Puerto Rico? Each water filter costs \$59.95 through Amazon.com. The CCC will place an order for filters the week after Christmas. If you can support this cause, please write a check to CCC or see a CCC member to use your credit card to purchase one or more filters. Thank you in advance for your support.

Poinsettia Dedications

Poinsettia plants will decorate the church for Christmas! Dedications in thanksgiving or memory of a loved one can be made on the clipboard at the back of the church. A donation of \$10 is suggested. Please place checks made out to St. Patrick’s Altar Guild in the manila envelope or check ‘paid cash’ on the sign-up sheet.

Greening of the Church—Saturday, December 16 - 10:00 am—Noon

Enjoy a family friendly event complete with cider and treats, music and fellowship while we ‘green’ the church with garland and seasonal decorations.

Arts at St. Pats Holiday Concert—Dec. 17

Featuring special guest, cellist Joyce Geeting, celebrate the holidays with a cello concert Sunday, Dec. 17 at 4:00 pm in Hager Parish Hall. All proceeds support the Arts at St. Patrick’s.

Sunday Service Participants

	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
Lector 1	Susan Sahlman	Pageant
Psalm	John Sahlman	Pageant
Lector 2	John Sahlman	Pageant
Intercessor	Susan Sahlman	Karen Daisa
Crucifer		Kayla Cox
Acolytes		Ashley Fisher & Erik Svitek
LEM 1	John Sahlman	Doug Holmes
LEM 2		Cindy Weaver
Ushers	Joe & Joan Maskrey	Jim and Debbie Leon Stasia Simrall
Altar Guild:	Doyllenne Johnson, Debbie McDonald, Ruthanne England and Shirley Bland	
Coffee Hosts 8:00:	Jill Murch	
10:15:	Jeff & Ken Cox	

Homeless Dinner Program

St. Pats supports the Winter Shelter Program held at St. Julie Billiard on the 2nd Saturday of the month in Dec, Jan, Feb and March. See Bob or Shirley Bland for details.

Conejo Compassion Coalition

Visit conejocompassion.org or call Bob Bland, 805-498-5682, for information on the CCC.

Manna

Bring your donations of non-perishable food & hygiene items on Sundays to the baskets in the front of church.

Mad Attic Thrift Shop

Open Tuesday-Sat., 10:00-4:00. See Mary Ann Palmquist or Ruthanne England for info or to volunteer. Please do not leave donations in the front of the church. 805-497-1990.

The Order of St. Patrick’s

Our OSP ministers provide love and connection in times of need. OSP makes phone calls to those who are ill or shut-in. If you wish to join OSP, please call Jill at 805-498-2616. If you know of anyone in need of a call, please call the church office.

Helping Hands

Helping Hands provides meals & baked goods to parishioners recovering from illness and other hardships. If you are interested in occasionally making a meal and joining this food ministry, please send your email to Jan Lyons at jelyons123@hotmail.com or call Jan at (818) 631-3089. Be a part of the pastoral team and show our love!

Yoga with Karen Daisa

Tuesdays at 10:30 am. \$12 is a suggested donation. Bring a yoga mat (non-toxic, please) and a towel. Meets in the hall.

Studies & Groups

SPECL

See Anne Van Cott for info on the St. Patrick’s Ladies Group.

St. Patrick’s Day School

Contact

St. Patrick’s Parish Day School at
805-497-1416 or
www.stpatricksdayschool.org

Support St. Patrick’s

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