

December 17, 2017
The Third 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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gdaisa@stpatschurch.org

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,

As we prepare for the celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, (aka, Christmas), the days are getting shorter, the nights are getting longer, and the busy-ness of the season is gearing-up with gatherings of mirth and merriment, your church is also gearing-up for the coming of Jesus. There are many more opportunities to spread love and make a difference between now and Christmas than you might think. Here are a few of the highlights:

The Greening of the Church – Saturday, December 16, 10:00 am – 12:00 Noon.

We began this new tradition last year – or rather, we resurrected it from years past – of gathering a week before Christmas to decorate the Church in preparation for the Nativity Feast. Folks from both services, old and young and everyone in between, come together to hang garland and wreaths, to tie red bows and clean the sanctuary. While we decorate, we sing, we eat and we enjoy hot mulled cider. It's a glorious time of anticipation and excitement, and I hope you'll make some time to join us this year. This is your church, and just as you decorate your own home, this is the opportunity to decorate your church home.

KC Robertson to Preach this Sunday, December 17, at 8:00 & 10:00 am Services. Your postulant and seminarian, KC Robertson will grace us with a word from the Lord on this "Gaudete Sunday" or "Rejoice Sunday." This is an ancient tradition dating back to the ninth century, which gives to the people of God who are observing a penitential and preparatory time in the season of Advent, a Sunday about half way through the season to celebrate, take a break from fasting – if that is your tradition – and to rejoice at the nearness of the coming Christ. This is why our third candle of the Advent Season is pink, to represent a rest from our fast and preparations. Please make a special effort to attend a service this Sunday to hear from KC and to hear from the Lord on this special day.

Christmas Eve and Day Services, December 24 & 25. Be sure to invite your friends and family to our Christmas Eve or Christmas Day Services this year. As our church is growing again, we have more to celebrate! God's abundant care for us - and for all humanity - is never more evident than at Christmas, when we celebrate and rejoice at the birth of the One who comes to save the world! Jesus brings hope in a hopeless world. He brings peace when the world sows discord. And, he is the incarnation of the Love Supreme, the Almighty God, who never abandons us or leaves us. This message of hope, peace and love in the midst of a world that seems to be headed towards disaster, injustice and hopelessness is *precisely* what the world, i.e., your friends and families, are in deep need of at this very moment. The schedule of services can be found in these announcements.

Have a great week, St. Patrick's, and I'll see you Sunday!
(The Rev.) George Daisa

Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed during the week of Dec. 24 and reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2018.

Wednesday Healing Service

The Wednesday Healing Service is cancelled on Wed., Dec. 27 due to the church office closure. The healing service will resume Wed., Jan. 3, 2018.

The Altar Flowers are Dedicated to the Glory of God and in Celebration of Sharon Lexau's 80th Birthday

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

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

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

Repose of the Soul

Ted Dale, 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:805-582-2644). **Volunteers are most welcome and invited to assist as the program continues to grow in attendance. Thank you.**

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 61: 1-4, 8-11

Canticle 15

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

John 1: 6-8, 19-28

www.lectionarypage.net

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.

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. **This Sunday is the last day to sign up.** Thank you.

No Sunday School December 31

The Sunday School program will NOT meet on Sunday, Dec. 31. SS resumes with the Epiphany Pageant on Jan. 7, 2018.

Children's Ministry Epiphany Pageant—January 7 during the 10:15

We will have our annual Children's Epiphany Pageant, Sunday, January 7 at the 10:15 service. Children of all ages are welcome; there is a part for everyone. Please bring family and friends! Costumes provided. Please contact Patty Buffaloe for more info at 805-582-2644.

The Mad Attic Needs Your Help Sunday, Dec. 17 from 12:30 to ?

The Mad Attic will install new carpet after Christmas and needs able bodied volunteers to help move the fixtures and inventory into a storage pod. Muscle is needed for the heavy lifting. If able, please help for a couple of hours on Dec. 17 at 12:30 pm at the Mad Attic Thrift Shop, 226 N. Skyline Dr. in TO.

Arts at St. Pats Holiday Concert—Dec. 17 at 4:00 pm

Featuring special guest, cellist Joyce Geeting, celebrate the holidays with a cello concert Sunday, Dec. 17 at 4:00 pm in Hager Parish Hall. Joyce and her special friends will play and lead the audience in singing along on many traditional seasonal favorites. All proceeds support the Arts at St. Patrick's.

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 also be found on the back page of your worship leaflet.**

Thank you for Your Support

A HUGE thanks to all for the amazing response for the James Storehouse Christmas gift of 1,770 diapers from our drive last month!
Jan Lyons and Jill Murch

Give a Gift of Clean Water for Christmas

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 who have been providing medical care, food and clean water to residents. There is a need for water filters so that residents can have clean water. Each water filter costs \$59.95 through Amazon.com. The CCC will place an order for filters the week after Christmas. Please support the CCC & write a check or use your credit card to purchase one or more filters. Thank you for your support.

Save the Date for the CCC Gala

The Conejo Compassion Coalition will hold their Gala Dinner & Fundraiser on Thursday, April 26, 2018 from 5:30 to 9:00 pm at the Palm Garden Hotel in Newbury Park. Watch for future bulletins with more details on this special event.

Sunday Service Participants

	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
Lector 1	Anna Merriman	Greg Gerardis
Psalm	Jan Robertson	Bob Bland
Lector 2	Jan Robertson	Bob Bland
Intercessor	Anna Merriman	Candy Shaw
Crucifer		Amy Buffaloe
Acolytes		Christine Buffalo
		Payton Mead
LEM 1	Jan Robertson	Bob Bland
LEM 2		Jim Leon
Ushers	Joanne & Patrick Justus	Greg Gerardis, Ken Cox, Doug Holmes, Bernie Honey, Anne Van Cott

Altar Guild: Muriel Karr, Mary Ann Palmquist, Paula Smith and Marilyn Teagle

Coffee Hosts 8:00: Jack & Carol Shafer
10:15: Tara & Dave Mead

Homeless Dinner Program

St. Pat's supports the Winter Shelter Program held at St. Julie Billiart on the 2nd Saturday of the month in 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

When you shop at Amazon, a donation of .05% of your purchase price is made to St. Patrick's Church & Day School. Log onto smile.amazon.com. Write in precisely: **St. Patrick's Episcopal Church and School**. Then, simply proceed with your shopping and the donation will be automatically applied. It is as easy as that. Thank you for your generosity.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMASTIDE IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 2017 AT ST. PATRICK'S

Saturday, December 16

The Greening of the Church - 10:00 am to Noon

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

Sunday, December 17 - The Third Sunday of Advent

The Holy Eucharist at 8:00 and 10:15 am

Arts at St. Pats Holiday Concert

Celebrate the season with Cellist Joyce Geeting and friends. The audience will join in singing traditional favorites. At 4:00 pm in Hager Parish Hall.

Sunday, December 24 - The Fourth Sunday of Advent

A Single Service with Holy Eucharist at 9:00 am

Sunday, December 24 - The Eve of the Nativity

5:00 pm – Family Service with Choir and Holy Eucharist

9:00 pm – The Holy Eucharist with Choir

**Monday, December 25 - The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ:
Christmas Day**

The Holy Eucharist at 10:00 am with congregational carols

Sunday, December 31 – The First Sunday after Christmas Day

The Holy Eucharist at 8:00 and 10:15 am

There will be no Sunday School

Sunday, January 7 – The First Sunday after the Epiphany

The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ

The Holy Eucharist at 8:00 am

The Holy Eucharist with Baptism at 10:15 am

with the St. Patrick's Epiphany Pageant