

# *St. Paul's Episcopal Church*

## *The Epistle*

*March-April 2026 Issue*



As I write this in the midst of the Season of Lent, I find my mind and heart troubled by events happening throughout the world, as well as in our own country. Much is made in the media about the macro issues, such as wars and policies, but little is said about micro issues, like people. Even mistaken actions, like the bombing of a school, are re-imagined as “collateral damage” in military lexicon. I find it clear in the Gospels that Jesus didn’t concern himself with macro issues but specifically focused on the people who were suffering.

I went through grammar school and high school with several boys. One of them was Tom Smith. Tom and I weren’t friends—he was athletic and outgoing, while I was bookish and withdrawn. Yet I was always impressed with Tom’s ability to be confident in his abilities, and his work ethic to achieve his goals in sports as well as in books.

When I graduated high school in 1976, I found myself adrift in an uncertain future, but Tom signed up in the U.S. Marine Corps. My Dad, being a Navy veteran of the Pacific War, always had respect for the Marines, and conveyed that respect to myself. Within 7 years of joining the Corp, Tom had made Staff Sergeant, quite the accomplishment, but not surprising to those who knew him.

Tom lost his life with 240 other servicemen in 1983 in the embassy bombing in Beirut, Lebanon. Tom, and his fellow Marines, were on a peacekeeping mission trying to help differing factions find their way to common ground and common government. The bomber was motivated by groups supported by Iran, a country on a mission to spread hate and fear throughout the world. In retrospect, it seems like 1983 was the beginning of the war on terror for those of us who have lived through these times.

When I heard of the attack that had killed the leadership of Iran at the start of the current war on terror, I confess I felt a certain amount of satisfaction that the fate suffered by Tom and his fellow Marines, and victims throughout the years, had finally been avenged, and justice served. But then, when the horror of “collateral damage” of mistakenly bombing a school full of children came out, I was quickly reminded of how mankind’s best intentions are quickly turned to loss and despair.

It seems like no matter how hard humans try to make the world better, we inevitably manage to make an even bigger mess. We may have good intentions, but chaos and, quite frankly evil, manages to turn our intentions to nought.

In these seemingly chaotic times, I find myself turning back to the root of our inner lives—our faith in our brother and Savior, Jesus. I recall that he never troubled himself with the macro-mess of his world, but focused his ministry on the micro issues of his day: the people around him who were in need of healing and forgiveness, but also in need of hope.

In our own hopelessness, we have the power to act in the world immediately around us. We can all agree that our immigration system is broken, the macro issue, but can also pray for and help those of our brothers and sisters who are suffering personally, the micro issue, in this broken system. We may be unable to end war and the related human suffering that goes with it, the macro issue, but we can pray for those who suffer every day, the micro issue.

Jesus calls his followers not to spend their time arguing about ethereal political ideas, but to take action in helping those immediately around us regardless of their status or poverty. This is what makes followers of the Way different throughout the centuries and millennia. Jesus welcomed Simon the Zealot and Matthew the Tax Collector around his campfire. Politics became meaningless, and personal relationships became paramount.

I find myself, as I remember my schoolmate Tom, praying for our servicemen and servicewomen who go in harm’s way today, risking their lives in service to this country. May God protect them and comfort their families. And may God bless America with the Spirit’s wisdom. Amen.

### *In Times of Conflict*

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* (BCP)



## Nifty Needles

Do you knit? Crochet? Sew? Other creative arts? Want an activity with others that will be a blessing to some of our neighbors?

Join the *Nifty Needles* group (formerly Knit One, Pray Too) on the first and third Monday evenings, 6 pm in the Parish Hall. Blankets, etc. may be donated to residents in care facilities or another place/ministry that the group chooses.



Questions? Contact Suzanne Antirien, 209-589-8472.

## Salvation Army Dinner at the Shelter



The Salvation Army Dinner Team made and served dinner for 75 guests and staff Sunday evening, March 15<sup>th</sup>. The new favorite item, Cowboy Casserole, went very well with most guests lining up for second helpings. We rounded out the meal with steamed

mixed veggies, peach cake with whipped cream, and milk. Though the number of guests was less than we've served in the past, all was greatly appreciated and we had full pans of the casserole, veggies, and cake to leave for them to enjoy another day.

Many thanks for the support we receive towards this ministry-prayer, contributions of money and ingredients, time and energy. The Team for this ministry includes more than those of us who prepare and serve-it is an extension of all of St. Paul's Parish.

The next time we will bring dinner to the guests and staff will be May 10<sup>th</sup>. We welcome help from everyone. For more information contact Linda Lowe, 209-496-3937, [lwlowe@outlook.com](mailto:lwlowe@outlook.com), or in the church office-209-522-3267.

## Education for Ministry (EfM)



EfM is an exciting, in-depth program of theological study. We study together in a seminar format with lots of open discussion based on thought-provoking texts. First-year students study The Hebrew Bible, second-year students study The New Testament, third-years study Church History, and fourth-years Theology and Ethics. We learn the practice of Theological Reflection. And we worship and pray together.

The course of study is provided by the School of Theology of The University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, along with required texts to be studied over the period of an academic year. Our meetings will be held from September through May at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Modesto.

If you are interested in joining us or you have questions about EfM, please contact Dr. Nancy Neufeld Silva who will be the mentor/facilitator for the course. She can be reached by phone at (209) 484-5710 or by email at [nnsilvalcsw@gmail.com](mailto:nnsilvalcsw@gmail.com).

### **Golden Corral Senior Luncheon Group**

Come one, come all.... spouses, partners, friends...all are welcome-

The more the merrier!

Phil and Anita Machado will be hosting lunch at Golden Corral, 3737 McHenry Ave, Modesto, Tuesday, April 14th at 2:30 pm.

**No reservation is required.**

The price for seniors is \$15, including drinks. Find Phil and Anita around the corner from the dessert station, ready to enjoy good company and good food.

For more information, contact Phil, 209-527-2727.



### **Celebrating March Birthdays**

Andy Su	1-Mar
Connor Verges	1-Mar
David West	2-Mar
Rex Adamson	3-Mar
Judy Thorkelson	8-Mar
Dan Bolig	11-Mar
Lynelle Hains	11-Mar
Sam Wright	14-Mar
Chuck Sheaffer	17-Mar
Mary Beth West	19-Mar
Julia Bolig	22-Mar
Charles Harrison	22-Mar
Lyndel Moody	23-Mar
Luis Martinez	25-Mar
Henry Bolig	26-Mar
Brandi Anderson	27-Mar
Jean Bertolosso	30-Mar



### **Celebrating March Anniversaries**

Chris & Danielle Verges	17-Mar
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### Celebrating April Birthdays

Rosalie Carmody	7-Apr
Gayle Ivy	7-Apr
Amy Su	11-Apr
Barbara Poth	13-Apr
Fog West	18-Apr
Theresa Grieshaber	21-Apr

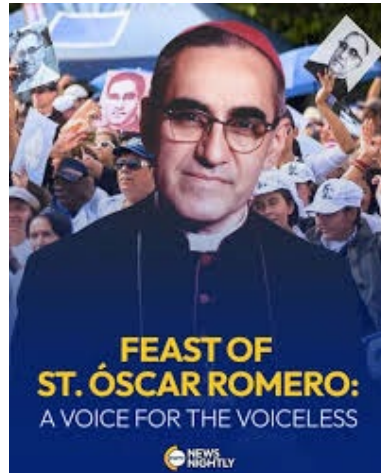


### Celebrating April Anniversaries

Sharon & Dale Hawley-Crum	14-Apr
Andy & Mary Su	17-Apr

## Archbishop Oscar Romero A Saint for Our Times

August 15, 1917- March 24, 1980



**"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, and denounce your name as evil because of the Son of Man.**

**Rejoice and leap for joy on that day! Behold, your reward will be great in heaven, for so their ancestors treated the prophets in the same way."**

**(Luke 5: 22-23)**

Oscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdemez was born in El Salvador to a family of modest means. His father was a telegraph operator and post office manager. He had seven brothers and sisters. At age twelve, he was apprenticed to a carpenter.

When he was thirteen, Oscar Romero expressed a desire to study for the priesthood, so he was admitted to a local minor seminary. Later, money problems forced him to withdraw from school. For a while he went to work in a gold mine. Fortunately, Oscar received financial aid which enabled him to continue his studies in Rome at a seminary designed to prepare priests for service in Latin America. He was ordained in Rome on April 4, 1942. World War II was raging, and Pius XII was pope.

After his ordination, Oscar Romero stayed in Rome and completed his doctorate in theology at Gregorian University, a Jesuit institution. Then he returned home to El Salvador. Oscar Romero returned to a country of about 1.7 million people whose economy was based on coffee growing, controlled by an oligarchy, and run by a repressive right wing military dictatorship under General Maximiliano Hernandez Martine. Martinez had seized power by crushing a Communist led peasant revolt in 1932. As many as 30,000 people had perished in that uprising. Poverty was widespread.

Oscar Romero settled into the life of a country priest. He spent two decades in various posts in the Diocese of San Miguel. Oscar Romero did not set out to become a human rights activist. In his ministry he stressed traditional conservative values: compassion for the poor, participation in the sacraments, prayer, obedience to the Church's teachings, personal conversion, and the importance of pursuing a holy life. His approach to his work was non-political.

In 1970, Oscar Romero was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of San Salvador. In early 1977, Romero became Archbishop of San Salvador. Conservatives were pleased,

liberals, not so much. He was not expected to make many changes, nor to make waves.

Everything changed on March 12, 1977. Salvadoran Jesuit priest Rutilio Grande and two others, a 72-year-old man, and a teen aged boy were driving on a country road to a rural parish to celebrate Mass when they were ambushed and murdered. The assassins were government security forces. Rutilio Grande was a close personal friend of Archbishop Romero and had a major impact on his thinking. Rutilio Grande was a staunch advocate for the rights of poor people, and a proponent of Liberation Theology. Liberation Theology is a controversial religious movement because it borrows some of its concepts from Marxist-Leninism. However, its notion that the Church must promote "the preferential option for the poor" has gone mainstream.

Romero was deeply shaken by his friend's death. Grande's death revolutionized Romero's approach to his work. He began protesting the government's oppression of the poor, and its brutality. He met with Pope John Paul II in 1980 and told him that the El Salvadoran regime used torture and murder. Romero watched in horror as ordinary people in his care were displaced, threatened, shot, stabbed or hacked to death by underfed, underage soldiers brandishing machetes against their own kind. The right wing, anti Communist Martinez regime was using United States government military aid stay in power. Oscar Romero's pleas to the Carter and Reagan administrations fell on deaf ears.

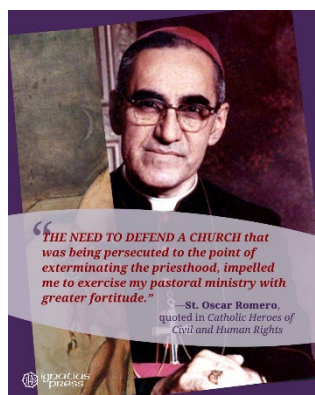
Nevertheless, Archbishop Oscar Romero persevered. He continued to speak out. Death threats multiplied. Friends and colleagues were arrested. The pressure on him was mounting. On Sunday, March 23, 1980, Archbishop Romero delivered a homily that speaks to our times.

Here is an excerpt.

Speaking to the lower ranking members of the military and the national police he said:

"Brothers, you come from our own people. You are killing your own brothers and sisters. Before a man may give an order to kill, God's law must prevail: THOU SHALT NOT KILL! No soldier is obliged to obey an order that is contrary to the law of God. No one has to obey an immoral law. It is high time that you recovered your consciences and that you obeyed your consciences, rather than a sinful order. ....I implore you; I beg you, I order you, in the name of God: STOP THE REPRESSION! " (End Quote)

The next day, March 24, 1980, as he was saying Mass before a small group of people in a hospital chapel, a sniper stood in the doorway and shot Oscar Romero dead. Oscar Romero was canonized by Pope Francis in 2018. He is venerated by Episcopalians, and Lutherans as well.



St. Paul's Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting

February 22, 2026

Members Present: Fr. Brian Dawson, Joyce Bell, Ann Mootz, Courtney Smith, Carolyn List, Alex Sarina, Peter Krewko, and Rosanne Mountain.

Staff: Brandi Anderson, Treasurer and Linda Lowe, Clerk

I. Opening

- a. Apologies for Absence-Jose Cruz and Luis Martinez
- b. In Memoriam-None
- c. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest-None
- d. Respectful Conversations-Read by all

II. Approval of Minutes-January 2026

It was moved by Ann Mootz and seconded by Courtney Smith to approve the Minutes as distributed. Motion passed.

It was moved by Alex Sarina and seconded by Carolyn List that the signatories for the bank accounts will include Joyce Bell, Carolyn List, Rosanne Mountain, Judy Teter, and Linda Lowe. Motion passed.

III. Finance

- a. It was moved by Alex Sarina and seconded by Rosanne Mountain to approve the reports for January as distributed. Motion passed. A new report was added that gives a list of the checks that were written during the month. It was agreed that this report will assist the members to understand the transactions in a concise manner.

Brandi Anderson stated that she is learning various parts of the job of Treasurer. She asked the members to review the reports when they are distributed and to contact her with questions prior to the meeting.

Fr. Brian stated that the settings on the thermostats in the church will be reviewed to prevent the waste of energy.

- b. Joyce Bell announced that Fr. Brian needs a new computer in the office as he is using his personal laptop for church business. Also needed will be updated software, including potential bookkeeping software.

It was moved by Alex Sarina and seconded by Courtney Smith to approve an amount not to exceed \$1,500 for a new laptop and \$1,500 for related software. It was noted that the computer will be owned by the parish. Motion passed.

- c. CD renewal update-The money from the CD that matured in December was rolled into the BMO Money Market account. Various options are being researched to achieve a higher interest rate for some of the funds-other banks, financial institutions, and the DFMS accounts through the Diocese. Brandi Anderson will discuss the DFMS option with Diocesan Treasurer, Deacon Greg Maszta. A concern was raised regarding access to the funds.
- d. Financial Policy Review-It was noted that the church needs to have a clear policy for use of the donations and assets of the church. It was moved by Carolyn List and seconded by Ann Mootz to approve the draft of the policy that was distributed with amendments as follows:
- The document will be reviewed by the Vestry annually, no later than February 28, 2027, for the first review.
  - Potential irregular expenses greater than \$1,000.00 will require 3 bids and Vestry approval.
  - -A new inventory of the church's assets will be done.
  - -The maximum amount for incidental expenses incurred by the staff will be \$500.00.
  - -Donations will be secured in a safe until deposited.
  - Motion passed.

Sale of the vacant lot-Fr. Brian stated that the buyer has agreed to pay the appraised value of \$1.48 million dollars. A letter of agreement could be signed in a matter of weeks with the details being handled by Chancellor Michael Glass.

IV. STRAND REPORTS-None.


V. Parochial Report for 2025

It was moved by Courtney Smith and seconded by Rosanne Mountain to approve the Parochial Report for 2025. After explanations, motion passed.

- VI. Potential fundraising and fellowship opportunities were discussed. More information will follow.
- VII. Upcoming Events-It was announced that Bishop-elect Greg Kimura will make his first official visit, June 21<sup>st</sup>. Plans will be announced when available.
- VIII. Alex Sarina closed the meeting with prayer.

**Next Vestry Meeting - Thursday, March 26, 6:30 pm via Zoom.**

Respectfully submitted, Linda Lowe, Clerk



*God willing and the people consenting,*  
*The Reverend Dr.*  
**Gregory W. Kimura**  
*will be ordained and consecrated a Bishop in the  
 one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and the  
 Sixth Bishop of The Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin*

**April 18, 2026 | 10:00 AM**

**CHIEF CONSECRATOR**  
**The Most Reverend Sean W. Rowe**  
 Presiding Bishop and Primate  
 of the Episcopal Church


*The Right Reverend David C. Rice  
 and the Standing Committee request  
 the honor of your presence at:*

**Saint James Episcopal Cathedral**  
 4147 E Dakota Avenue  
 Fresno CA 93726

*Please see next page for times and events, and to RSVP*

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**BISHOPS:**  
*Rochet, chimere,  
 and tippet*



**DEACONS  
 AND PRIESTS:**  
*White stole*

8:37 AM

03/11/26

Cash Basis

**St Paul's Episcopal Church**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**As of February 28, 2026**

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	<b>Feb 28, 26</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
1000 · BoW Checking Account-9537	76,357.69
1010 · BoW Savings Account-1513	297,409.32
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>373,767.01</b>
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	
1200 · Accounts Receivable	283.09
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>283.09</b>
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
12000 · Undeposited Funds	100.00
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>374,150.10</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
1300 · Property and Equipment	8,366.09
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>8,366.09</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>382,516.19</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Equity</b>	
30000 · Opening Balance Equity	35,313.64
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	314,932.62
Net Income	32,268.90
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>382,515.16</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>382,515.16</b>

9:42 AM  
03/18/26

## St Paul's Episcopal Church Monthly Payment Report February 2026

Type	Date	Num	Memo	Split	Amount
<b>AT&amp;T</b>					
Check	02/17/2026	16961	Account:831-001-4898-694-2/7-3/6/26	5070 · Telephone Expense	-304.25
Check	02/17/2026	16962	Feb/Mar Inv.287301205547X05547X02092...	5070 · Telephone Expense	-44.25
<b>BMO BANK N.A</b>					
Check	02/04/2026	16957	xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-9140--January 2026	-SPLIT-	-865.71
<b>Church Insurance</b>					
Check	02/04/2026	563516112	Policy:31-CP-000000650-0-Account 00004...	5056 · Property Insurance Exp.	-4,794.00
<b>Church Pension Group</b>					
Check	02/11/2026	741874	Acct:0821062868--January 2026-Paid Online	-SPLIT-	-1,134.50
<b>City of Modesto</b>					
Check	02/17/2026	16965	244733-96338/244735-165626/344735-963...	-SPLIT-	-586.08
<b>Comcast</b>					
Check	02/17/2026	16960	8155 60 074 2819694-Services 2/19-3/18/26	5070 · Telephone Expense	-262.15
<b>Diocese of San Joaquin</b>					
Check	02/02/2026	189Y2IHUHT2	JAN Payroll Invoice 2026-PR-1105	-SPLIT-	-6,391.96
Check	02/18/2026	ONLINE PMT	Treasurer's Monthly Report-January 2026	5000 · Diocese Assessment	-2,231.33
<b>Fellowship Energy Episcopal Fund II LLC</b>					
Check	02/11/2026	16959	FE00910-January 2026	5077 · Utility/Solar Power Expense	-653.57
<b>Flanders Ventures Inc.</b>					
Check	02/04/2026	16950	Invoice 1795-January 2026 + tax 1099 filing...	5034.00 · Bookkeeping Services	-445.25
<b>Forward Movement</b>					
Check	02/17/2026	16967	Invoice 10484485	5209 · Pamphlet Exp.	-25.00
<b>Gilton Solid Waste</b>					
Check	02/11/2026	16958	000816881-00 N-000/000816881-00NG-00...	-SPLIT-	-288.68
<b>Grover Landscaping</b>					
Check	02/04/2026	16955	Invoice 0346204-January 2026	5053 · Gardening Expense	-1,080.00
<b>Insect IQ</b>					
Check	02/04/2026	16953	Account: 115300000 Invoice 391485 Janua...	5055 · Pest Control Expense	-224.21
<b>Jan-Pro of the Greater Bay Area</b>					
Check	02/25/2026	16970	Invoice:33564-March 2026	5051 · Cleaning Service Expense	-1,034.18
<b>Jorgensen</b>					
Check	02/17/2026	16968	Invoice 6236035	5052 · Fire Service Expense	-605.89
Check	02/25/2026	16969	Invoice 6236914	5052 · Fire Service Expense	-683.20
<b>Modesto Irrigation District</b>					
Check	02/25/2026	16971	743165772519/543472006079/8432065715...	-SPLIT-	-1,206.51
<b>Mr. Samuel Wright</b>					
Check	02/04/2026	16952	Lights	5009.12 · Parish Hall Major Repairs	-208.46
<b>Ontel Security Services, Inc.</b>					
Check	02/04/2026	16954	Invoice 44028 January 2026	5061 · Security	-1,178.00
<b>P G &amp; E</b>					
Check	02/17/2026	16964	0682494596-5-Service 1/7-2/5/26	5075 · Utility/Natural Gas Exp.	-487.78
<b>Pacific Office Automation-PA</b>					
Check	02/17/2026	16963	500-50350774-Invoice 595745093-Phones	5070 · Telephone Expense	-378.81
<b>Payroll Taxes</b>					
Check	02/27/2026		January 2026 payroll	-SPLIT-	-211.80
<b>Power Business Technology</b>					
Credit	02/17/2026	CM 15455		5031 · Office Supplies	103.43
<b>The Church Pension Fund</b>					
Pacific Office Automation-PA					
Check	02/17/2026	16963	500-50350774-Invoice 595745093-Phones	5070 · Telephone Expense	-378.81
<b>Payroll Taxes</b>					
Check	02/27/2026		January 2026 payroll	-SPLIT-	-211.80
<b>Power Business Technology</b>					
Credit	02/17/2026	CM 15455		5031 · Office Supplies	103.43
<b>The Church Pension Fund</b>					
Check	02/11/2026	ACH-741880	564-741-82/Feb 2026	5105.0 · Rector Pension Expense	-1,977.00
<b>The Food Initiative of Greater Stanislaus</b>					
Check	02/04/2026	16951	Designated Offering-	5400.2 · Food in Faith	-50.00
<b>Toshiba Financial Services</b>					
Check	02/17/2026	16966	450-0181177-000-Invoice 5037617688	5032 · Office Equip Purchase/Repair	-140.44



**TREASURER'S MONTHLY REPORT**

<b>St. Paul's</b> _____ CHURCH	<b>Modesto</b> _____ CITY	<b>2/28/2026</b> _____ MONTH ENDING
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	Parochial Report Line #	Comments	Current Month
<b><u>Operating Income</u></b>			
a. Pledge & Plate Offerings	3		15,692.75
b. Net Investment & Endowment Income	4		
c. Rental and Fundraising Income	5	<i>Hazel's pre-school &amp; meetings</i>	6,251.55
d. Other Operating Income	5 / 6	<i>Clergy Discretionary Funds &amp; Interest</i>	582.94
e. Diocesan Assistance (see note in instructions)	7		
f. Restricted / Designated Offerings	10 / 11		30,710.00
g. Transfers from Subsidiary Funds for Operating Expenses	5		
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>			<b>53,237.24</b>
<b><u>Deductions</u></b>			
<b>Outreach</b>			
h. Outreach Expenditures			75.00
i. Allocation of Maintenance Costs due to Use of Facilities for Outreach Purposes			1,725.61
<b>TOTAL OUTREACH</b>			<b>1,800.61</b>
<b>Rental &amp; Fundraising Expenses</b>			
j. Direct Expenses applicable to Rental Income			6,411.05
k. Expense of Fundraising Events			
<b>TOTAL RENTAL &amp; FUNDRAISING EXPENSES</b>			<b>6,411.05</b>
<b>Other Deductions</b>			
l. Capital Leases / Major Expenses ( <i>Describe</i> )		<i>Printer/copier lease</i>	140.44
m. Loan Payments ( <i>Principal &amp; Interest</i> )			
n. Rental Payments		<i>Hazel's Christian Pre-School</i>	6,100.00
o. Transfers to Subsidiary Funds for Designated/Future Purposes		<i>Designated offerings</i>	30,710.00
p. <i>Clergy Support Grants/Mission Support Grants</i>		<i>Clergy Support Grant</i>	1,000.00
<b>TOTAL OTHER DEDUCTIONS</b>			<b>37,950.44</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME LESS DEDUCTIONS (BASIS FOR ASSESSMENT - SEE CALCULATION BELOW)</b>			<b>7,075.14</b>

**ASSESSMENT DUE: 876.65**

<b><u>ASSESSMENT CALCULATION</u></b>				
	Tier	Amount	%	Calculation
	1	Up to \$4,000	10.0%	400.00
	2	Over \$4,000	15.5%	476.65
	<b>Total</b>			<b>876.65</b>

**SUBMIT COMPLETED REPORT, PAYMENT, & REMITTANCE TO THE EDSJ OFFICE NO LATER THAN THE 15th OF THE FOLLOWING MONTH**

<b>PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:</b>	Notes: _____
_____ Treasurer's Monthly Report (This Form)	_____
_____ Check Payable to the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin for Assessment Due	_____
_____ Remittance Form for the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin	_____

## **Family Promise Meal Needs**

Family Promise is a nationwide program that helps families experiencing homelessness get back on their feet, reorient their lives, and find permanent housing. Modesto has participated in this program for many years, and St. Paul's was one of the host churches before the Covid pandemic shutdown. Currently families are housed at the Modesto Church of the Brethren instead of moving from place to place. We were contacted to assist with providing dinner for the guests once per month.

Here is the information about providing a meal for the families and a little background info on Family Promise. All the photos of the housing are from the local program.

<https://www.modestofamilypromise.org/>  
<https://www.modbee.com/living/helping-others/article298177648.html#newshunter>

Once a month the staff is asking that a prepared meal be delivered to the site, in disposable/recyclable pans ready to be shared, rewarmed or popped in the oven to cook.

Food can be as simple as tuna sandwiches, veggies and fruit/dessert OR Costco pizza and a bag of salad.

Examples include:

- enchiladas, rice and fruit (refried or whole beans don't get eaten!)
- sloppy joes and tater tots.
- simple casseroles, also a hit
- orange chicken from Costco, steamed rice and potstickers or egg rolls also go over well
- Macaroni and cheese is also a hit.

A note, the simpler the food the better. Food that is too spicy or out of the mainstream, like roasted sweet potatoes, curry dishes, fancy chicken salad, do not go over well.

There can be up to 30 folks for dinner, but it usually hovers around 14 to 20 max. Usually, they house 6 to 8 adults and 6 to 12 children living on campus. The staff will send a heads-up on the count with an email prior to the designated day to be able to plan accordingly.

Want to help? Sign up on the sheet in the narthex or contact the church office, 209-522-3267.

## April 2026 Ministry Schedule

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Apr 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Apr 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Apr 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Apr 26<sup>th</sup></b>
	<b>Easter</b>			
<b>Clergy</b>	Fr. Brian Dn. Greg	Fr. Brian Dn. Greg	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian
<b>Acolytes</b>	Joyce B. Evelyn B.	Nancy S. Gabe T.	Judy T. Jim P.	Nancy S. Alex S.
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	Linda L.	Alex S.	Joyce B.	Bobbi B.
<b>Lectors</b>	Stephanie H-W. Judy T.	Alex S. Nancy S.	Theresa G. Ann M.	Judy T. Linda L.
<b>Intercessor</b>	Carolyn L.	Ann M.	Peter K.	Alex S.
<b>Ushers</b>	Carolyn L. David L.	Ann M. Claudine R.	Claudine R. Carolyn L.	David L. Linda L.
<b>Greeters</b>	Carolyn L. David L.	Ann M. Claudine R.	Claudine R. Lynelle H.	David L. Linda L.
<b>Vestry Rep.</b>	Carolyn L.	Ann M.	Peter K.	Alex S.
<b>Coffee Hour Host</b>			Joyce/Sarah	Stephanie G.
<b>Sunday School</b>	No Sunday School	Linda L.	Evelyn B.	Ann M.



## Prayer and Praise

April 6, 2026

Remember those who have asked for our prayers

Cherie	Mike	Hennie	Annamary	Jose
James	Susie	Bonnie	Ishmael	Howard
Mary	Judy	Ellen	Kevin	Murray
Gayle	Ginny	Bob	Ivy	Alan
Lindsay	Mudge	Fr. Jorge	Karen	Jim
Fog	Ralph	Whitney	Cynthia	Sarah
Roy	Linda	Anita	Jean	Ashy
Marlene	Sebastian	Marlene	Faith	Kimmie
Nancy	Doug	Rosanne	Phil	Sean
Breonna	Sharon	Laurence	Ava	

Those who have been called back to God

Keith Munroe

Christine Judd

All in Our Prayers

Those in the Military

CPT Sam Birch, Army

LTC Nathaniel P. Wallace, USAF

CPT Jenavieve Campbell, USAF

CPT Fred Campbell, USAF

PO 1<sup>st</sup> Class Johnny Olmos, US Coast Guard

SGT Carson Repan, USAF-

Special Prayers The Clergy, Vestry, and Wardens

# Lay Ministry Retreat

Join us for an exploration of the spirituality and ministry of the laity.

This weekend will include introductions and training preparation for the various licensed lay ministries of the Episcopal Church, as well as information and guidance on how to become involved in lay ministry within the Diocese. Laypeople are encouraged to join us to learn more about their call!

Per person pricing for 1 night, 3 meals:

Private: \$137

Double: \$116

Quad: \$104

Day Use with Meals: \$84

Deadline for registration  
is May 16, 2026.

Retreat days are May  
29th and 30th.

# ***St. Paul's Episcopal Church***

## **Pastoral Team**

Fr. Brian Dawson.....209-897-1612.....FrBrianDawson@gmail.com  
Deacon Greg Masztal.....deacongreg66@outlook.com  
Stephanie Gilmer, Pastoral Care Coordinator.....mzgilmer@gmail.com

## **Parish Administrator**

Linda Lowe: 209-522-3267 .....stpaulsmodestoca@gmail.com

## **Other Important Contacts**

Music Director, Chuck Sheaffer .....cbshea@pacbell.net  
Hand Bells, Judy Teter .....jlpt@sbcglobal.net  
Prayer Chain .....stpaulsmodestoca@gmail.com  
St. Paul's Epistle, Barbara Vassell .....stpaulsmodestoca@gmail.com  
Social Media, Deacon Greg Masztal .....deacongreg66@outlook.com  
Finance Committee, Carolyn List .....carolynlist@sbcglobal.net  
Stewardship Campaign, Courtney Smith.....courtneyvsmith@gmail.com

## **Vestry**

Senior Warden: Joyce Bell -(215) 275-6502 .....bellj1@charter.net  
Junior Warden: Peter Krewko (707) 853-3604 .....pmkjfc@att.net

Joyce Bell, Jose Cruz, Peter Krewko, Carolyn List, Luis Martinez, Ann Mootz,  
Rosanne Mountain, Alex Sarina, & Courtney Smith.

Treasurer: Brandi Anderson

Vestry Clerk: Linda Lowe