

**The Episcopal Church of St. Martin**  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF February 4, 2024**

***This Week***

**Celebrate Candlemas This Sunday**

This Sunday, February 4, at 10am, for our “First Sunday” service, we will celebrate the ancient church custom of blessing candles and learn about this meaningful time in the church year. Please bring a candle from home to be blessed (we’ll have some on hand for those who forget). We’ll even have some special snacks during coffee hour. We will also be blessing candles at the 8am service.

**Music Notes for Sunday, February 4**

Have you ever wondered about the origins of Groundhog Day? February 2 is halfway between the winter solstice and the spring equinox and long ago was celebrated as the time people in the northern hemisphere begin to notice the lengthening of days. It was considered a time to think about the future and rejoice in the hope we place in our younger generation. In Ireland, the young St. Brigid was venerated as an image of this hope. The church honors this time of year by commemorating Mary’s purification at the temple and the Presentation of Jesus. It is also Candlemas, when the church blessed its candles to honor the light of Christ reflected in creation and to prepare the Paschal Candle for the duties lying ahead. On February 4, our First Sunday service will celebrate Candlemas with a blessing of the candles and a rousing Pop-Up Choir anthem, easy to sing and fun to learn. Come to the church at 9:30am on Sunday to rehearse.

**Singers Needed for April Choir Concert**

We know there are those of you who can read music but who can’t commit to the choir on a permanent basis. If you’d like more challenging music than the Pop-Up Choir but can’t commit to the Sanctuary Choir, you can join us for a short-term commitment by singing with us in the spring concert we are preparing. Beginning on February 8, on Thursdays from 7 to 7:30pm, the choir rehearsal will be devoted to learning **The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass**, by Carol Barnett, which we hope to present on the afternoon of April 21. From 7:30pm on, those who would like to join us on Sunday mornings are welcome to stay.

**Nursery Open on Sundays and Update on Gates**

Our nursery is open on Sundays for infants through age 5 from 9:30 to 11:30am. A question about more securely latching the gates to the nursery outdoor play area came up at Annual Meeting. We had the Davis Fire Marshall here this week to get direction on how best to address this concern. Now that we have that direction, Buildings and Grounds will have a temporary solution in place for this Sunday and a more permanent solution for the following week. Please remember that we always want to hear from you about any concerns you have with anything on our campus.

**Celebration of Abraham Meets In-Person Sunday Afternoon**

The Celebration of Abraham will be holding its annual interfaith community conversation in-person this year on February 4 from 3 - 5pm at the Lutheran Church of the Incarnation. The theme this year is “Generous Listening” and will be a conversation on listening to and hearing each other. To reserve your seat: [bit.ly/abrahamlistening](https://celebrationofabraham.net/). For more information:

<https://celebrationofabraham.net/>

### **Morning Prayer on Wednesdays at 8:30am**

Rev. Pamela and others lead Morning Prayer on Wednesdays at 8:30am in the narthex. Meet in the narthex to begin your day with this 25-minute service. All are welcome. Next Morning Prayer: February 7 at 8:30am.

### **Collection of Food Items and Toiletries for CA House and The Belfry**

Starting Sunday, February 4 and running through February 15, in addition to our weekly food collection, we will be collecting non-perishable food, drinks, and snacks (no pork products) as well as toiletries (tissue, sunscreen, toilet paper, menstrual products, dish soap, laundry soap) for CA House (home of a multifaith student living community on Russell Blvd.) and The Belfry (Lutheran-Episcopal Campus Ministry on A Street). We will have a table in the narthex this coming Sunday where you can place any donations. Questions? Talk to Ben Brophy, contact the church office, or stop by the narthex table after either service on Sunday.

### **Spirituality in Nature Gathering (SING) Postponed until March**

Due to the uncertain weather and other time constraints, we will postpone the February 10 Spirituality in Nature Gathering. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, March 16, when we will have a Celtic-themed spring nature walk. More details coming soon.

### **Next Week and Beyond**

#### **Ash Wednesday Services with Imposition of Ashes**

Lent begins on Wednesday, February 14. We will have Holy Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes at 7am and 7pm. The 7am service will be shorter than the usual Sunday service to accommodate those who need to get to work. At 12 noon we will have a brief “ashes to go” prayer service on the labyrinth, weather permitting. At 7pm, the service will be both in person and livestreamed. Our full Lent and Holy Week schedule will be available soon.

#### **Inwardly Digest: A Study for Episcopalians and Seekers during Lent**

“Have you ever wondered if there was some kind of guide to living a deeper, richer spiritual life that seamlessly incorporated scripture alongside the wisdom of the Church? There is—and you can find it in a pew rack near you! The Book of Common Prayer “...is a map to a deeper relationship with God, a framework for developing a more intentional and rewarding life of faith.” So says the blurb for the excellent book, *Inwardly Digest* by Derek Olsen.

Join Rev. Pamela and others in this exploration of the book that is at the heart of what it means to be part of the Episcopal Church. Whether you consider yourself a seeker, a newbie, a “cradle Episcopalian,” or somewhere in between, there should be something worth learning or re-learning in this class. As always, the discussion with other St. Martin’s folks will likely be the richest part of the experience. Starting February 21, we’ll meet on Zoom on Wednesday evenings during Lent at 7pm.

#### **Living Well Through Lent**

Helen Campbell will offer Living Well Through Lent starting on Ash Wednesday, February 14 and continuing on Wednesdays throughout Lent. The class will meet on Zoom from 10am - 11:30am. This year's theme is *Practicing Forgiveness with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind*. Please let the office know if you will be attending so that Helen knows how many to expect ([info@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:info@churchofstmartin.org)).

### **An Invitation to Lunch at the New Adult Day Center in Davis**

St. Martin's parishioners are warmly invited to lunch at Galileo Place, the new Adult Day Center located in south Davis, on Thursday, February 22 at 12pm. Galileo Place is a platinum-standard adult day program in a beautiful 6,000-square-foot facility with an accompanying therapy garden. It is a valued resource for caregivers and those they love. We will be served lunch, have an opportunity to interact with clients, and tour the facility. If you wish to attend, please let Diane Bamforth or the church office know by February 18. For information about Galileo place, see their website: <http://tinyurl.com/YoloAdultDay>

### **Other Announcements and Updates**

#### **Update on the Ceiling Stained-Glass Window in the Church**

You may have noticed signs of maintenance work being done on the ceiling stained-glass window in the church, including the scaffolding around the altar area, and just this week, a large piece of plastic in front of the organ pipes. The plastic is to prevent any debris that might fall into the organ pipes when the damaged panel of glass is removed. Due to illness, Nzilani Glass Restoration was not able to come last week as planned to remove the panel. But weather permitting, they will be here on Wednesday, February 7. The damaged panel of glass will be used to determine what maintenance the entire window needs. For a full update on the repairs and upgrades being done on the window, see [HERE](#). We also have copies of this update in the narthex. If you have questions, reach out to Rev. Pamela, Jr. Warden Beth Capell, or Janet Lane or Pierre Neu from Buildings and Grounds.

### **News from the Broader Community**

#### **Spirituality and the Twelve Steps Zoom Book Group Offered by Trinity Cathedral on Zoom**

Kenny Pierce and the Rev. Anne Dryden McKeever of Trinity Cathedral's Sobriety Support Ministry will facilitate a thirteen-week discussion group of Richard Rohr's book, *Breathing Under Water: Spirituality and the Twelve Steps*. The group will meet Thursday evenings via Zoom, 7 - 8:30pm, from February 22 through May 23, except for March 28, Maundy Thursday. All at St. Martin's who are interested are invited to participate. The group is open to everyone in the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California. The group welcomes people who are sober, sober-curious, and/or supporting the sobriety journey of a loved one. To register for the group and to receive your free books and the Zoom link, please let the office know ([info@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:info@churchofstmartin.org)) and we will put you in touch with the Rev. Anne McKeever.

#### **Diocese of Northern California Fearless Faith Revival in April**

On April 26 - 27, The Diocese of Northern California will be holding a Fearless Faith Revival. As explained by the diocese, an Episcopal revival is a series of gatherings that combine worship, teaching, faith-sharing, intensified prayer, and engagement with the mission of God — all for the sake of the spiritual renewal and transformation of people and of society. The Revival will take place at Trinity Cathedral downtown Sacramento and at St. John's in Roseville and will consist of workshops, a festival with food trucks and fun activities, and a worship service with the Rt. Rev. Daniel Gutiérrez, Bishop of the Diocese of Pennsylvania as the featured speaker. For more information, see the website [HERE](#).

## **Meetings and Office Hours**

### **Upcoming Meeting Dates**

**Choir Practice:** Thursday, February 8 at 7pm in the church

**Vestry:** Monday, February 19 at 7pm in the church library

**Buildings and Grounds:** Friday, February 23 at 4pm on Zoom

**Social Justice and Outreach:** Monday, February 25 at 5:15pm on Zoom

### **Rector's Office Hours**

Rev. Pamela holds office hours most Wednesdays. Her next office hours will be on Wednesday, February 7 from 4 - 5pm in the church office. To reach Pamela at a different time, feel free to contact her directly ([pamela@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:pamela@churchofstmartin.org)) or contact the church office.

### **Church Office Hours**

Monday - Friday 9am to 12pm. Stop by in person or contact the office by calling 530-756-0444 or sending an email to [info@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:info@churchofstmartin.org)

**The church office will be closed on Monday, February 19 for Presidents' Day.**