



St. Paul's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND

January 2018
Volume 12 Issue 1

THE GOOD NEWS

To know Christ better and to make Him better known

SHOCK AND AWE!

By the Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson



In western society today, it seems as if though the only things that are important are those that cause shock and awe. The daily news cycle overdoses us

and routine. Even heart surgery and organ transplants are sometimes referred to as minor. We should not be surprised then when more and more people in the world question the Christian belief system that is based on things that were at one time considered miraculous. A baby is born of an unwed mother who grows up poor and becomes a charismatic leader. He is later put to death by the rulers of his time as a reminder to all who are there to see it that they need to remember their place in society. In 2018 that is easily the plot of a telenovela or a reality show.

with things so terrible that newscasters sometimes preface a clip with the warning “some of the images may be disturbing to some viewers,” then they show them anyway. This reality is not limited to news but pervades other areas of our social lives. Video games, movies, television shows seem to be more popular if their content is explosive – literally and figuratively. Simple things in life don't seem important enough to acknowledge or even ponder. Over the last 10 years Karla and I have been clients of the medical profession for procedures that are called routine or minor. From C-sections to appendicitis and foot surgery, doctors call them minor

When we choose to be simplistic in our understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus, what we have to offer the world and those listening is minor and routine. However, the faith that has been handed down to us through the testimony of generations of prophets, apostles,

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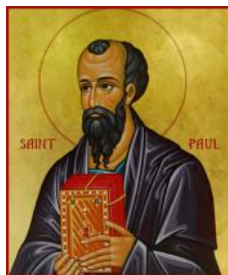
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THE FEAST OF ST. PAUL



We'll be celebrating the feast of St. Paul with a potluck in the parish hall after the 10:00 am service on January 28. Bring something to share, and bring your appetite!



JOIN ST. PAUL'S CHURCH AND SCHOOL FOR THE WOMEN'S MARCH IN OAKLAND!

January 20, 2018

9:30am - Gathering at Oakland Museum Steps (Oak St. between 10th & 11th). Look for a bouquet of orange balloons.

10:00am - March begins

The march will go from the Lake Merritt Amphitheater, down 14th St. to Frank Ogawa Plaza. It's about 0.9 miles.

-Dress in layers

-Bring water and snacks

-Ponchos are better than umbrellas in case of rain

-Posters and signs are allowed, but not with the use of wooden, plastic or metal sign posts. Instead, we encourage people to use cardboard sign posts (or rolled up poster paper). Flags are allowed, but not on a pole.

-Create a plan with your family and friends in case you get separated; remember that cell phones may not work with so many people in the area.

PANTRY OF HOPE

Item of the month

Please continue to support the work of our pantry by contributing items to its inventory.

January

Bottles of juice

February

Bottles of juice

March

Bottles of juice

Bring your donations to church and place them in the offering basket in the narthex.

Thanks!



WOMEN WHO WONDER

Women Who Wonder will meet January 9 in the Chapter Room at 6:00 pm. Please note this is a week earlier than usual. Our new book is *The Divine Dance* by Richard Rohr, a Franciscan and priest. Please read up to page 59. The book is fairly new and easily available. There will be salad makings. Please feel free to bring something to share. All women are invited to come--and we hope you will!

MEN WHO WANDER

Men Who Wander will meet on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Drake's Dealership: 2325 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94612.

CELEBRATING REV. SEMPARI'S ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

The Rev. Izabella Sempari will be back at St. Paul's next Sunday (January 14, 2018) to be our celebrant and preacher at both morning services. This will be her first time back at St. Paul's since her ordination on December 2. Celebratory coffee hour to follow.

ST. PAUL'S TO HOST DIACONAL ORDINATION

On Saturday, February 10 at 3 p.m. St. Paul's will host Bishop Marc and the other members of the Diocesan family for the ordination of Jennifer Nelson to the vocational diaconate. Reception to follow in the Parish Hall.

HAPPENING AT ST. PAUL'S

January 7, The Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ

January 21, St. Paul's Annual Meeting

During the 10 a.m. Choral Eucharist

January 28, Feast of St. Paul

Festive potluck to follow service

February 2-4, Vestry Retreat

February 10, Ordination of Diaconal Candidate Jennifer Nelson, 3 p.m.

DONATIONS TO ST. PAUL'S

Using your Smartphone, scan this QR Code to make a digital offering to St. Paul's Church. Your donation will be processed through SPEC's PayPal account.



2016 OFFICERS OF THE VESTRY

The Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson – *Rector*
 Alice Brilmayer
Senior Warden
 William (Bill) Davis
Junior Warden
 James Kadleck
Clerk
 Sandra Anderson
Treasurer

VESTRY BY CLASS

Class of 2017

William (Bill) Davis
 James Kadleck
 Yuri Sikkema

Class of 2018

Alice Brilmayer
 George Strait
 Sandra Anderson

Class of 2019

Mel Behrendt
 Pamela Kruse-Buckingham
 Irene Plunkett

DEANERY DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES 2015

Delegates

Scott Buckingham
 Paula Hawthorn
 Sheila Sims

Alternates

Izabella (Bella) Sempari
 Pam Buckingham

MUSIC AT ST. PAUL'S

SPECIAL MUSIC IN JANUARY

Sunday, January 7, The First Sunday After the Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ student chorus performing a range of music, and we may have found the perfect night of music and cheer.

10 a.m. Choral Eucharist

In the bleak mid-winter, *Darke*; Sing Lullaby, *Howells*; Das alte Jahr vergangen ist, *Bach*; Vom himmel hoch, da komm ich her, *Zachau*.

With St. Paul's Episcopal Church Choir; Christopher Kula, Music Director.

Sunday, January 7, 4 p.m.

Evensong

This short Anglican service combines the end-of-day monastic offices of Vespers and Compline. Since the latter part of the 16th century, England's greatest composers have contributed to the rich musical tradition of this uplifting and beautiful liturgy. With Chapel College Men and Boys Ensemble. Christopher Kula, Director.

Saturday, January 13, 7 p.m.

**Concert: The Yale Whiffenpoofs
The Yale Whiffenpoofs Live in Oakland**

Get ready for an exciting night of a diverse range of music, including classic jazz standards like *A Nightingale Sang in Berklee Square* and popular music such as *I'm Not the Only One* by Sam Smith. Treat yourself to Whiffenpoof classics like *Rainbow Connection* and the legendary *Whiffenpoof Song*, covered by such greats as Bing Crosby and Elvis Presley. With a wit and charm that has been honed over a century, the Whiffenpoofs are sure to delight any audience member, no matter what age. Pair them with the choir from Collegiate Preparatory School, a skilled

Ticket prices: \$30 priority / \$20 GA / \$5 Student. For VIPs: Patron of the Whiffs Package. More info here:

<https://ticketbud.com/events/0a64fee0-df84-11e7-9881-93d83ef7a601>

Sunday, January 14, The Second Sunday After the Epiphany

10 a.m. Choral Eucharist

Tribus Miraculis, *Palestrina*; O Holy Spirit, Lord of grace, *Tye*; Prelude and Fugue in E-flat from the Well-Tempered Clavier, *Bach*; Fantasia and Imitation in B Minor, *Bach*.

With St. Paul's Episcopal Church Choir; Christopher Kula, Music Director.

Sunday, January 21, The Third Sunday After the Epiphany

10 a.m. Choral Eucharist

O Lord, give thy Holy Spirit, *Tallis*; Ave verum Corpus, *Colin Mawby*; Adagio (Sonata I), *Mendelssohn*; Wie groß ist des allmächtigen Güte, *Mendelssohn*.

With St. Paul's Episcopal Church Choir; Christopher Kula, Music Director.

Sunday, January 28, The Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany

10 a.m. Choral Eucharist

O God, thou art my God, *Purcell*; Sing, my soul, his wondrous love, *Rorem*; Fantasie, *Pachelbel*.

With St. Paul's Episcopal Church Choir; Christopher Kula, Music Director.

Newsletter contributors sought

We are interested in hearing from writers and photographers; please email us if you would like to donate your talents.

The deadline for each edition is the 15th of the month previous to publication.

Please send your submissions of no more than 500 words to: halice@pacbell.net.

Sunday, January 28, 3 p.m.
Concert: Prometheus Symphony
Third Concert

Johannes Brahms · *Symphony No. 3 in F Major, Op. 90*

Felix Khuner Young Artist Concerto Competition Winner TBA

We are happy to offer free, Sunday afternoon concerts to further Prometheus' primary mission of bringing classical music to members of our community, including those who may not otherwise be able to attend a

live symphony concert. Families with children are always welcome and the facility is wheelchair accessible. There is no admission fee for our concerts but donations are gratefully accepted. Info at <http://www.prometheussymphony.org/current>

Sunday, January 28, 8 p.m.
Compline

Prayers for the end of the day. Gregorian chant and polyphony in candlelight. With St. Paul's Compline Choir. Christopher Kula, Choir Director.

COME ONE, COME ALL! TO ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE FEED AND RACES

Put on your scarves & aprons ladies and gents, and get ready to race!

We'll serve a traditional Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner with bacon, sausage, coffee & juice and all the pancakes you can eat!

Then, get ready for the competitive and really fun pancake races! Will last year's winners defend their titles? Join us to find out!

All proceeds benefit St. Paul's Episcopal Church

When: Shrove Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Where: St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Parish Hall
114 Montecito Avenue, Oakland, CA 94610

Cost: Suggested donation of \$1.00 for kids, \$3.00 for adults

Want to donate food or volunteer at the event?

We need some good pancake flippers!

Please contact the coordinator: Pamela Buckingham
pamela.kruse.buckingham@gmail.com

C: 510-904-8413

SAVE Stands-Ins
against gun
violence

SAVE (Soldiers Against Violence Everywhere) Oakland is taking a non-violent stand against the rampant murders in our community by having "Stand-Ins" from 11a.m. – noon near where a person was recently killed. Please contact Paula Hawthorn, 510-601-8388, if you would like to participate.

Contact Save@Truevine-Ministries.com to be put on the email list for future Stand-Ins.



SAINTS OF THE MONTH

Florence Li Tim-Oi, 1907-1992



*First Woman
Priest in the
Anglican
Communion,
1944*

Named by her father "much beloved daughter," Li Tim-Oi was born in

Hong Kong in 1907. When she was baptized as a student, she chose the name of Florence in honor of Florence Nightingale. Florence studied at Union Theological College in Guangzhou (Canton). In 1938, upon graduation, she served in a lay capacity, first in Kowloon and then in nearby Macao.

In May 1941 Florence was ordained deaconess. Some months later Hong Kong fell to Japanese invaders, and priests could not travel to Macao to celebrate the Eucharist. Despite this setback, Florence continued her ministry. Her work came to the attention of Bishop Ronald Hall of Hong Kong, who decided that "God's work would reap better results if she had the proper title" of priest.

On January 25, 1944, the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, Bishop Hall ordained her priest, the first woman so ordained in the Anglican Communion.

When World War II came to an end, Florence Li Tim-Oi's ordination was the subject of much controversy. She made the personal decision not to exercise her priesthood until it was acknowledged by the wider Anglican Communion. Undeterred, she continued to minister with great faithfulness, and in 1947 was appointed rector Of St. Barnabas Church in Hepu

where, on Bishop Hall's instructions, she was still to be called priest.

When the Communists came to power in China in 1949, Florence undertook theological studies in Beijing to further understand the implications of the Three-Self Movement (self-rule, self-support, and self-propagation) which now determined the life of the churches. She then moved to Guangzhou to teach and to serve at the Cathedral of Our Savior. However, for sixteen years, from 1958 onwards, during the Cultural Revolution, all churches were closed. Florence was forced to work first on a farm and then in a factory. Accused of counter-revolutionary activity, she was required to undergo political re-education.

Finally, in 1974, she was allowed to retire from her work in the factory. In 1979 the churches reopened, and Florence resumed her public ministry. Then, two years later, she was allowed to visit family members living in Canada. While there, to her great joy, she was licensed as a priest in the Diocese of Montreal and later in the Diocese of Toronto, where she finally settled, until her death on February 26, 1992.

Gracious God, we thank you for calling Florence Li Tim-Oi, much-beloved daughter, to be the first woman to exercise the office of a priest in our Communion: By the grace of your Spirit inspire us to follow her example, serving your people with patience and happiness all our days, and witnessing in every circumstance to our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the same Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

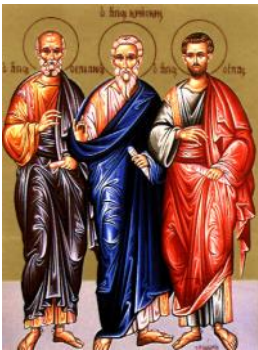
WORSHIP ROTA ONLINE

The current rota for the Sunday worship services is posted on the St. Paul's Web site at :
<http://www.stpaulsoakland.org/RotaSchedule>

The rota includes the names of readers, sub-deacons, intercessors, and lay Eucharistic ministers.

New volunteers are always welcome. Please contact Fr. Mauricio or the Ven. Carolyn Bolton to volunteer or if you have any questions.

Timothy, Titus (and Silas), Companions of St. Paul



Timothy and Silas are mentioned in The Acts of the Apostles.

Timothy's father was Greek and his mother a Jewish believer. Paul chose him as a companion for his

mission to Asia Minor but had him circumcised because the "Jews who were in those places" knew that his father was a Greek (Acts 16: 1-3) Timothy undertook missions to the Thessalonians, Corinthians and the Ephesians. Eusebius counts him as the first bishop of that city.

Silas is known by his Latinized name Silvanus when Paul cites him as his companion along with Timothy (1 & 2 Thessalonians 1:1). He was a prophet in the Jerusalem church (Acts 15: 22—35), but also a Roman citizen (Acts He went with Paul and Barnabas to deliver the decision of the apostolic council in Jerusalem (Acts that Gentile believers did not have to observe the law of Moses. Paul chose Silas to accompany him on missions to Asia Minor and Macedonia where he may have remained after Paul left (Acts Tradition has it that he died there after some years of missionary work.

Titus, a Greek, accompanied Paul to Jerusalem for the apostolic council. During Paul's third missionary journey Titus was sent on missions to Corinth from which he gave Paul encouraging reports (2 Corinthians). Paul, who calls him: "my true child in the common faith "(Titus 1:14) left him to organize the church in Crete (Titus 1 and Eusebius reports that he was the first

bishop there.

These three are celebrated on the day after the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul because of their close connections with him. Though they were all young and inexperienced, they were entrusted with missions and matters that helped form the very life and history of the Church. Faithfulness, love and devotion to Christ saw them through situations they could not have imagined.

Just and merciful God, in every generation you raise up prophets, teachers and witnesses to summon the world to honor and praise your holy Name: We thank you for sending Timothy, Titus and Silas, whose gifts built up your Church by the power of the Holy Spirit. Grant that we too may be living stones built upon the foundation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Dear Readers:

In an effort to reduce paper waste and printing/ mailing expenses, we are asking anyone who gets the on-line version of The Good News and no longer needs a paper version mailed to his or her home to let us know. If you don't get the newsletter online and would like to, or if you want to take yourself off the snail-mail list, please contact Parish Administrator at 834-4314, Ext. 501 or admin@stpaulsoakland.org. Many thanks.



St. Paul's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND

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SHOCK AND AWE

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Services

SUNDAYS

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10 a.m. Choral Eucharist

4 p.m. Evensong
(First Sundays, Oct.-June)

8 p.m. Compline
(4th Sundays only)

WEDNESDAYS

12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist
(with Healing prayer on
the 1st Wednesday of the
month)

saints and martyrs of the faith is anything but routine. The writers of the Hebrew Scriptures, which we called the Old Testament, were very intentional in describing not the history of creation, but rather the connections of creation. The purpose of the Genesis stories of creation was not to give a play-by-play of how everything happened but to assert the fact that everything that is part of creation is the result of the actions of "I AM."

We live in an era of shock and awe, and we think so highly of ourselves as a species that we would like to declare that we pioneered shock and awe, but we

did not. For example, the fact that we can explain gravity as the thing that keeps everything on our planet from flowing into outer space does not make gravity minor. The fact that we can explain how the Sun heats Earth at a constant temperature, allowing life as we know to exist without bursting into flames or completely freezing, may seem routine; but it is not. The way I see God working in creation gives me a continuous sense of witness to one unfolding miracle after another in my life, in the world, in all of creation. Open your senses to the miracles that are unfolding before you at every instant. Be in shock and awe.