

The Epistle 2020

April

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1135 12th Street
PO Box 737

Sparks, Nevada 89432
775-358-4474

www.StPaulsSparks.org

The Rev. Kirk A. Woodliff, Rector

The Rev. Chip Arnold,
Assisting Priest

The Rev. Mike Patterson
Assisting Priest

The Rev. Hal Woomer, Jr.
Assisting Priest

The Rev. Jody Lediard
Assisting Priest

The Rev. Mike Margerum, Deacon

The Rev. Linda Smith, Deacon

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WHO ARE WE?

St. Paul's is a reconciling, affirming, and inclusive Christian community. No matter where you are on your journey of faith, you belong here. Our understanding of belonging extends to those who are single, married, divorced, separated, or partnered. Belonging here has no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, economic condition, physical or mental ability. We believe that God delights in the diversity of creation and so do we. You are worthy, so come as you are.

Need Toilet Paper?

Contact the church.

Need Food?

Contact the church.

**If you need anything,
contact the church.**

From the Pile on Fr. Kirk's Desk...



Have you ever heard the phrase "You sound like a broken record!"

I know I have had that said to me a time or two and probably have even said it to one of my kids at some point.

If you really think about it, the record was not broken. Broken records can't be played. The saying should have been, "You sound like a scratched record". A scratched record actually does play. The music or story plays along as expected. All is well. Then the needle gets to the scratch. It's there that the sound gets stuck and repeats itself over and over.

Under stress and anxiety, our stories can get stuck too. We can perseverate on negative things. Our thoughts can rub up against those events that give our lives scratches. Up against life's scratches we get into our own feedback loops and our minds repeat anxious thoughts, over and over again.

Back when we had vinyl records, we would not throw one out if it got a scratch. There was a lot of life left in them to be enjoyed, so we just had to find a way to get the needle past the scratch. One way we did that was to attach a coin on the top of the arm of the record player. This would add a little pressure to the record needle and allow it to skip past the scratch.

It's times like these that we can ask the Holy Spirit to rest upon our heads. As the Spirit rests upon us, it is that positive loving pressure that allows us to skip past the fear and anxiety in our lives, allowing the goodness of God's story and our song to continue.

Let's pray together for the Spirit to come upon us with the words from *Veni Sanctus Spiritus* out of the Wonder Love and Praise hymnal #832.

Refrain: Veni Sancte Spiritus

1 Come, Holy Spirit, from heaven

shine forth with your glorious light.

Refrain: Veni Sancte Spiritus

2 Come from the four winds, O Spirit,
come breath of God;
disperse the shadows over us,
renew and strengthen your people.

Refrain: Veni Sancte Spiritus



Holy Week and Easter Worship

Check on StPaulsSparks.org
& [St. Paul's Sparks Facebook Page](#)

Gratitude Corner

Verse: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!
His faithful love endures forever.

(1 Chronicles 16:34)

Gratitude Quote: "Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of Gratitude."

-- A.A. Milne

Gratitude Exercise: While washing your hands, give thanks for the gifts of warm, running water and soap. Take a moment to remember that hand washing is an act of love.

Next Baptismal Days: Easter Season

Our next baptismal day will be during the Great 50 days of Easter.

If you or a loved one is seeking the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, contact Fr. Kirk at 358-4474 or Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org.

Memorial for Steve Geerlings

We will reschedule Steve's memorial service at a later date. Please keep Becky and the family in your prayers.

Laundry Love

This once-a-month ministry helps people do their laundry so they can use their limited funds on medicine, rent, etc. Doing a load of laundry is expensive, so we continually collect quarters (or other \$\$ that we can turn into quarters). Monetary donations can either be handed to Linda Devon or designate it in an envelope and put it in the offering plate. If you have any questions or interest in helping with this ministry, contact Linda Devon at LSD4764@hotmail.com.



Prayers of the People

This is such a trying time for everyone. We cannot emphasize enough the power of prayer. We are not praying for anyone specific but everyone as a whole. With this outbreak of COVID19 virus, all of our lives have been touched adversely in some way so everyone needs prayers now more than ever.

Please keep all family, neighbors, co-workers and people in your community in your everyday prayers and keep positive thoughts that we will be able to return to our lives as we knew them before this event took place. We need to remain vigilant in our everyday life to maintain a healthy existence physically, mentally and spiritually.

The Community Food Pantry

If you are in need of food, we will be open EVERY WEDNESDAY from 5:30-7pm until further notice. We are practicing social distance, but we will be able to get you some food. Please message us if you need further information. Location 1135 12th Street Sparks, NV (behind the Library). Our normal Wednesday 10:00 to 12:00 and Saturday 9:00



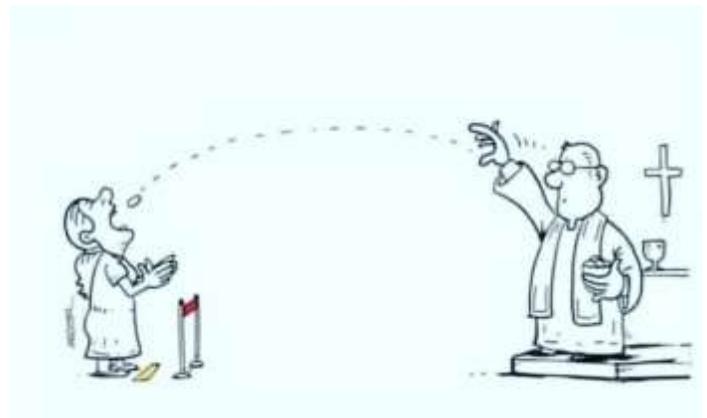
to 11:00 are still operational this is just an additional opportunity.

We might very well be in need of some volunteers for food pick-up and shelving the food, as well as pre-bagging before distribution days. If you want to help, email Barbra Monroy bmonroy0216@gmail.com.

Baptism Through Social Distancing



Social Distancing and Holy Communion



Please pray about this...

In your heart, do you believe in the importance of social distancing? Symptom free people are infecting others by continuing to enter people's homes and by giving people rides to the store. I encourage you to meditate on how social distancing is the most important way right now to love your neighbor.

Doing what is right to love your neighbor, friend, etc., has never been this hard.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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Web Site: www.stpaulssparks.org

Place Label Here



Sundays 10:00 a.m.

Online Worship: Check at StPaulsSpark.org