

# Parish Announcements

## Memorial Service for Mike Patterson: December 2<sup>nd</sup>

Please join us at 11:00 a.m. on December 2<sup>nd</sup> to celebrate the life of the Rev. Mike Patterson.

## Bake Sale and Craft Fair: December 3rd

On December 3rd following the Sunday Service, we will have a bake sale and craft Fair in the parish hall. All proceeds will benefit the Neighborhood School Supply Drive.

## Advent Classes

**Choose Your Own Adventure Advent Classes!**  
**Sundays, 11:30 to 12:30, November 26 – December 17**



If you were the kid who loved the Choose Your Own Adventure books, then our Advent classes at St. Paul's are for you! You can attend one or all of them. Choose what interests you and works for your schedule during this busy season. Just as we carefully select gifts for our children and our loved ones, be sure to give them and yourself the gift of peace and deepening spirituality during this time of waiting for the arrival of the Savior. Classes will be facilitated by Rev. Rick.

- November 26 – A Charlie Brown Christmas and make your own Advent Calendar!
- **December 3 — Sharing Advent Poems and Literature**  
Everyone will receive a book of poems and writings about Advent. After time to read and think about these, we will get together in groups to share the ones that have special meaning for us in this season of waiting.
- **December 10 — Advent Art & Music**  
Sit back and enjoy classic Christian art curated personally for our class by Professor Doug Blanchard of the Bronx Community College, New York. Accompanying the art will be some classic music pieces of the season. We'll end with an Advent hymn sing-along!
- **December 17 —One-hour Mini Quiet Retreat**  
This season is crazy busy! Do you need to find some quiet and peace in the middle of all this? Come to our One-hour Mini Quiet Retreat. We will begin together, but then you will have quiet personal time to choose different guided prayers and activities based on the Four Themes of Advent: Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

## Returning Financial Pledge Cards

If you haven't already returned your financial pledge card for 2024, please do so as soon as possible. You can place it in the offering plate on Sunday, mail it to St. Paul's PO BOX 737 Sparks, NV 89432, or drop it off at the office.

You can still make your pledge online at [www.StPaulsSparks.org](http://www.StPaulsSparks.org).

Having your pledge card helps the Vestry set next year's budget. Thank you!

## Kairos Prison Ministry Introduction: December 10th

On December 10th from 12:30 to about 1:30 we will have an introduction to our Kairos Prison ministry. If you are interested in who we are and what we do, please come. We will meet in the classroom next to the nursery, or in the youth room.



### [Special Worship Times](#)

#### **Thursday, December 21st**

6:00 p.m. Blue Christmas Service

#### **Sunday, December 24th**

10:00 a.m. Advent Lessons & Carols

#### **Christmas Eve, December 24th**

5:00 p.m. Praise Service with Holy Communion

8:00 p.m. Traditional Rite II with Holy Communion

#### **Christmas Day, December 25th**

10:00 a.m. Traditional Rite II with Holy Communion (No music)

### [“Greening” the Church: Dec 17th](#)

We will need some extra help following the 10:00 service on December 17th. If you are able to stick around and set up the Christmas Trees, etc., it would be much appreciated.

### **Christmas Altar Flowers**

The special envelope for the Christmas Altar  
Flowers are in the Narthex.

A donation to the Christmas Altar Flowers is a  
wonderful way to remember loved ones and to give thanks for God's blessings.  
Deadline for flower dedications is noon on  
Dec. 20th.

### **"Blue" Christmas Service:**

Wednesday, Dec. 21st  
6:00 p.m.

Is Christmas time hard for you? There are numerous reasons why so many people  
struggle during this time of year. If you are someone that experiences more pain than joy  
around the holidays, you are not alone.

Come and worship the Christ Child with others in the struggle. Come to our Blue  
Christmas service and  
invite those you know who might want to join you.

### **Do You Have A Church Key?**

If you have a key to the church, please consider parking in the back/west side of the  
church. For security reasons, those glass doors by the trash cans remain locked at all  
times. If you are able to park on that side Sunday mornings, this will keep others from  
having to walk all the way around the building to get into the church. Thank you.

### **St. Paul's Men's Pizza Night**

**UPDATE: Due to the Holidays, this group will NOT meet in November and the  
December meeting will be moved to December 14<sup>th</sup>.**

All the men of St. Paul's (and their friends) are invited to gather at Boulevard Pizza in  
Sparks on the last Thursday of the month from 4:30 to 6:00ish. We will share pizza,  
beer/soft drinks, and fellowship. This group communicates by group text, so if you want a  
monthly reminder or more information, email Dick Schori at [richard.schori@gmail.com](mailto:richard.schori@gmail.com).

### **Wine, Grape Juice, and Gluten Free**

We offer both wine and grape juice during Communion as well as a gluten free wafer  
option. The chalice with the grape juice will be identified. All chalices continue to be  
intinction only.

### **Park Place Worship Service**

Park Place is an assisted living home in Reno. For the past couple of years, lay members  
from St. Paul's and Trinity have been providing a weekly visit to the residents who are  
interested. There was a break over the summer, and now it's time to determine if we  
should restart this ministry.

Are you able to join a team that conducts this weekly outreach?

- Visitations have been on Mondays at 2pm.

- The visit is scripted and takes less than 1 hour. We meet with the ambulatory residents in the activity room, conduct a brief ecumenical service, and serve cookies and tea during a 5-10 minute fellowship. We then visit a few residents who are confined to bed but have requested a brief visit and/or a blessing from the team.
- An “every Monday” commitment is not needed. Once or twice per month will make a difference.

If you have any interest, please contact Robin Towne at 775-432-8574  
or talk to Father Kirk 775-358-4474.

### **Donate Your Old Computers**

The Lion’s Club is taking donations of old retired but usable Windows computers as well as old broken trash computer equipment. Working computers will be repurposed for those in need and the broken ones will be recycled.

You can bring these computers to the church for pickup by Dick Schori. If you have questions, contact him at [richard.schori@gmail.com](mailto:richard.schori@gmail.com).

### **Friday Bible Study with Zoom Option**

Come and join Fr. Kirk on Friday mornings from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
We are currently studying the Sunday Gospel lesson for the week in multiple translations.  
This study is now hybrid in-person and Zoom.

If you want to join on Zoom, email [Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org](mailto:Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org) so you can be added to the Friday Bible Study email list to receive the scriptures for the week and the Zoom link.

### **School Supply Drive**

Daughters of the King has started its School Supply Drive. This year we have added another at risk school to our giving. We will supply Robert Mitchell and Agnes Risley Elementary, which have mostly low socio-economic children enrolled. Both schools serve the Sparks Community served by St. Paul's.

Teachers have told us many times in the past that after Christmas break the cupboards are bare. The need for school supplies is often harder for parents/caregivers at that time of year, and we have decided to fill the need.

We will be accepting school supply donations through January 15th. If there is no designated box in the Narthex, please put them on the bench next to the parish office door, or if you don’t shop, we will be happy to shop for you! Please contact the church 775-358-4474 for any questions you might have.