

News for the week of Mar. 17, 2020

## The diocese comes together to worship...online



Clockwise from upper left: St. Paul's, Benicia;  
St. James', Lincoln; St. Augustine, Rocklin;  
and St. Paul's, Healdsburg



St. Stephen's, Sebastopol; St. Paul's,  
Sacramento; Christ the King, Quincy;  
and Our Saviour, Placerville

Sunday, Mar 15 marked the first Sunday on which we didn't meet in our church buildings, but that didn't keep us from worshipping together. Churches across Northern California rapidly came up with plans that allowed their members to view worship online and eventually to "meet" with their congregations or another welcoming church. This happened across The Episcopal Church from The National Cathedral, Washington D. C., to Grace Cathedral, San Francisco.

If you were on Facebook on Saturday, anticipation was palpable as clergy and lay-leaders were sending posts and messages and testing Facebook Live. Folks from all over the diocese were commenting, both on test videos and posts, encouraging people who were in their own congregations and even those who were in another church to keep at it. Anticipation for our Sunday online was building.

Congregations in our diocese started worshipping together online at 5:30 pm on Saturday evening when St. Mary's, Napa streamed their regular Saturday evening service. Sunday morning started early with a couple of 8:00 am offerings and then a flood of livestreams all the way until the late afternoon, when Grace, St. Helena live-streamed a Spanish language prayer service from their sanctuary. Again, our congregants encouraged one another with words of encouragement and love all through the day. People from outside the diocese and the state tuning in to worship with churches they'd attended in the past; and members from the northern part of our own diocese typing messages to those in the far south.

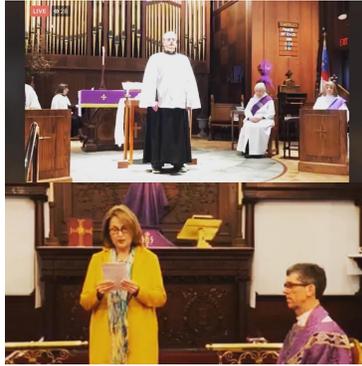
Presiding Bishop Curry was also a part of our online worship on Sunday when he

preached the sermon during the live-streamed service at The National Cathedral. You can see his sermon here: [youtu.be/brwAnPwViXI](https://youtu.be/brwAnPwViXI)

It was so beautiful to watch this outpouring of love unfold. Thank you for your encouragement to one another, your participation in worship, and your joy at the achievements of our churches on Sunday. We are the Church, we continue to "meet" together, and we walk side by side in The Way of Love.



**St. John's, Chico; St James', Yuba City; All Saints', Sacramento; and Incarnation, Santa Rosa**



**Christ Church, Eureka; St. John's, Petaluma**



**All Saints', Redding; St. Francis, Fortuna; Grace, St. Helena; and St. Mary's Napa**

## Technology grant given to each congregation



Bishop Megan has prioritized digital communication in each congregations during the time we are not able to gather physically. To that end, she has made a grant to each congregation for a subscription to the Zoom online meeting platform. Letters with details concerning the grant will go out to your leadership today. Your church could be having a virtual coffee hour soon!

To access the Zoom help page [click here](#).

## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

### Health and Safety: COVID-19

The last three weeks have been full of information shared by Bishop Megan and the Office of the Bishop about COVID-19. As we've said, information and regulations are changing swiftly and we are working diligently to navigate the current health restrictions and give direction and make recommendations.



Our webpage will be continually updated with the latest communications, links and recommendations. We will also archive links to past messages on the same page. You can access that information at: [norcalepiscopal.org/covid-19-health-and-safety](https://norcalepiscopal.org/covid-19-health-and-safety) or by clicking the Health and Safety: COVID-19 button, pictured above, on the [home page](#).

### Lenten Quiet Day resource

Our virtual Lenten Quiet day has been cancelled. In an effort to assist you with having your

own personal Quiet Day, our very own Rev. Suzanne Guthrie has shared some resources with us from her own website, which can be viewed here.

Please use these websites to facilitate your own Quiet Day:

[Stations of Reconciliation](#)

[Meditations for Holy Week](#)

We hope that once we are on the other side of the virus, we will be able to host Clergy Quiet Day with the impressive lineup that we had.

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## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### Employment opportunities highlighted on the website

There are open clergy positions in our diocese. You can access information about these openings on our [homepage](#), where you can click the Employment Opportunities button.



## NEWS AND EVENTS IN AND BEYOND THE DIOCESE

### Presiding Bishop Curry announces weekly meditations



"As we learn how to adjust our lives given the reality of the coronavirus and the request to do our part to slow its spread by practicing social distancing, I invite you to join me each week to take a moment to cultivate a 'habit of grace.' A new [video meditation will be posted on Mondays](#) through May."

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### Resources and comfort from Forward Movement



We are all moving through unknown territory as COVID-19 spreads across the globe and we want you to be aware of Forward Movement's available resources. Their mission to inspire disciples and empower evangelists does not change because of a world health issue. In fact, following Jesus is as important as ever, and our world needs to hear the proclamation of the Good News of God in Jesus Christ.

## **Resources to Support You**

In the last few days, they have released several resources to support you in this time.

- There's a free [ChurchNext](#) course, [Prayer and Worship in Our Homes](#)
- They continue to offer the [daily office on our website](#), and there's a [morning prayer podcast](#)
- [Forward Day by Day](#) is posted free every day online, and you can listen to it as a podcast
- There are [prayers for "spiritual communion"](#) for those who cannot physically receive consecrated bread and wine in the Eucharist

They are also announcing a new, free daily faith-at-home resource through Faith @ Home, a collaboration between Forward Movement and [Forma](#). Each day offers a set of activities--watch, listen, read, do--for families, based on the lectionary. You can see [the Mar. 16 edition here](#), and you can [sign up at the website for free](#).

They are working on additional offerings for individuals, families, and congregations. Their [existing catalog of resources](#) is still available, of course. You can find [ChurchNext online classes](#), and their full array of books, booklets, pamphlets, and courses is on the [Forward Movement website](#). If you're looking for joyful Christian community, [Lent Madness](#) is in full swing, and you can join the fun any time.

You might want to follow Forward Movement on social media. They'll be posting inspiring content and news regularly. You can find them on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), or [Twitter](#).

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## **Center for Anglican Learning and Leadership offers spring courses**

The [Center for Anglican Learning and Leadership's](#) (CALL) online courses are offered throughout the year and are designed so that you can participate at your own pace and at your own time.

To help continuing education and local formation students structure their programs, we offer a Continuing Education Certificate in Anglican Foundations. These courses are offered regularly to enable the student to complete the program in a timely fashion.

- Courses are open to anyone, lay or ordained, of any denomination or none.
- Review our FAQ's for more information about how online classes work.
- All courses are subject to cancellation should the minimum registration limit not be met.
- Contact the CALL office [via email](#) with any questions.

[Click here](#) for more information on their website.

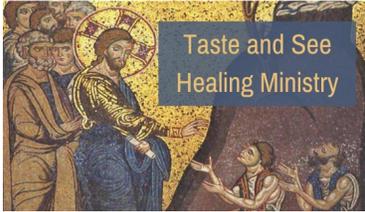


## Workshop on inviting people to church

St John's, Chico and St Nicholas', Paradise have announced that their workshop called **Inviting People to Church**, scheduled for Mar. 21, has been cancelled. Contact the office at St. John's Episcopal Church to arrange for a refund. You may contact them at [office@stjohnschico.org](mailto:office@stjohnschico.org) or (530) 894-1971

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## Healing ministry training postponed



The Order of St. Luke and Christian Healing Ministries have postponed their healing training event at Trinity Cathedral on Mar. 21. It will be offered at a future date.

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## Diocesan Partners in Ministries of Health and Diocesan Recovery cancel event

The diocesan-wide event entitled **Recovery Is For Everyone**, scheduled to be held on May 16 at St. George's, Carmichael, has been cancelled.

To submit news/events, please email [communications@norcalepiscopal.org](mailto:communications@norcalepiscopal.org). The submission deadline is the Wednesday before the Tuesday publication.

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THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

*Making Disciples, Raising Up Saints & Transforming Communities for Christ*

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