



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

This Week's Service Schedule

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 6

5 p.m. Holy Eucharist in the Celtic Tradition in the Chapel

Sunday, December 7

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist in the Sanctuary

10 a.m. Choral Eucharist in the Sanctuary

livestreamed

1 p.m. Holy Eucharist at Casa de las Campanas

Morning & Evening Prayer Services

8:40-9:10 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
in the Chapel or [via Zoom](#)

5-5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
in the Chapel or [via Zoom](#)

Tuesday, December 9

12 p.m. Midday Eucharist in the Chapel

Wednesday, December 10

12 p.m. Midday Eucharist in the Chapel

6 p.m. Advent Study & Potluck Soup Supper in the Sanctuary

Thursday, December 11

12 p.m. Midday Healing Eucharist in the Chapel

Frederick Howden, Jr.

JOIN THE SUNDAY 10 AM LIVESTREAM

JOIN THE DAILY OFFICE ZOOM



Remember Jesus

The Rev. Mother Nina Bacas

On Sunday, November 16, my group and I worshipped at the Anglican Cathedral of the Redeemer, the bishop's seat for the Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church in Madrid. Bishop Carlos Lozano invited me to join the worship party, and while we were in the clergy vesting room, he kept peeking out the door to see if any children had arrived. I wondered, Why does he keep checking? Once the service started, I realized he had been looking for a family to light the Advent wreath! But in mid-November?

This cathedral follows the Spanish Mozarabic Rite, a liturgical style established by Christians (Mozarabs) who lived under Moorish rule. In the Mozarabic tradition, there are six Sundays in Advent, and the season began

this year on November 16.

At St. Bart's, we follow the Roman style of four Sundays in Advent. Like Lent, Advent is a time of penitence and preparation for our holiest celebrations. We have a unique challenge, though. Unlike in the Mozarabic tradition, our Advent is shorter than our Lent—and it's during the busiest month of the year! How do we engage with this season?

My answer is this: Remember Jesus. Do not be a wandering sheep—keep him present in your life. Hold close in your heart the story of God breaking into salvation history, not in disguise, but as a revelation. Love your neighbor.

I challenge you to come to church more often in this busy season. Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, we gather for Morning Prayer at 8:40 a.m., Holy Eucharist at noon, and Evening Prayer at 5:00 p.m. Every Wednesday evening at 6:00 p.m., we gather for a soup supper with a program called “Walking with Mary.”

Jesus promises to always be with us. So, remember him—never alone, but with a faith community that loves you.

Blessings,
Mother Nina+

**Do you have an announcement
to add to this eNewsletter?**

SUBMIT YOUR NEWS ITEM

Adult Forum

Cathedrals of Spain, Part 1

Sunday, December 7, 9 a.m., MPR

Spain is home to many cathedrals of great cultural, historical, and spiritual significance. This Sunday, join Mother Nina for the first of a three-part series on what she learned about these beautiful sacred spaces during her recent visit to



Spain.



Advent & Christmas at St. Bart's

There will be three Christmas Eve services this year: a Holy Eucharist at 1 p.m., a Holy Eucharist with Pageant at 4 p.m., and a Candlelight Choral Eucharist at 7:30 p.m.

For a full schedule of Advent and Christmas offerings at St. Bart's, including special services and music events, soup suppers, and forums, click the button below.

[SEE SCHEDULE](#)



ST. BART'S PODCAST:

The Fig Tree

Bonus Episode: Won't You Be My Neighbor?

The latest episode of The Fig Tree Podcast is now available! This is the first of two conversations on who God calls us to love. Listen in as Father Jacob and Mike Jewett discuss biblical passages that talk about loving our neighbors.

[LISTEN](#)



CASA DE LAS CAMPANAS:

Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 7, 1 p.m., Assisted Living Activities Room

St. Bart's will hold a worship service at Casa de las Campanas this Sunday at 1 p.m. If you are a Casa resident, please join us!



Advent Study & Soup Suppers

Wednesdays, December 10 & 17, 6 p.m., Sanctuary

Each Wednesday during Advent, we'll be gathering for our "Walking with Mary" series and potluck soup supper. This three-week study will offer us the opportunity to pause and breathe, and to walk with Mary as she prepares to bear God. Through her words, her silence, her courage, and her song, she shows us what it means to believe that God is doing something new, even when we cannot yet see it. With each step of her journey, from angel's greeting to the stable's stillness, from wonder to worship, she reveals God's revolutionary love. We'll end each evening with a Compline service. Please bring a soup, salad, or bread to share.



Pick Up Your Reverse Advent Calendar

Swim against the tide of commercialism this holiday season with a Reverse Advent Calendar! Instead of counting down the days to Christmas by taking items out, put in one food or hygiene item every day. To assist you, the kids in Children's Chapel have assembled and decorated Reverse Advent Calendar boxes—

come see their work and pick one up on the patio after services! Bring your 24 items to church on Christmas Eve, or drop them off in the church office, and we'll deliver them to families in need at Interfaith Community Services.



Handel's Messiah Sing-Along

Friday, December 5, 7 p.m.

Sunday, December 7, 4 p.m.

Sanctuary

Share in the joy of the season! Join us for our annual Messiah Sing-Along in collaboration with the Greater San Diego Music Coterie, with choir, orchestra, and soloists, including St. Bart's own Sean McCormac and Danielle Evans. Bring your own score or rent one (\$5) at the door. Free admission (suggested donation \$20, \$10 for students).



A Visit from St. Nick

Sunday, December 7, 10 a.m. service,

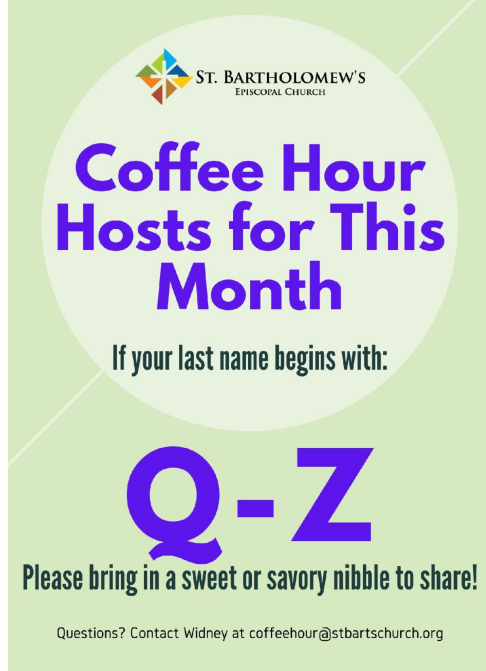
Sanctuary

Don't miss our surprise visit during the 10 a.m. service on December 7 from Jolly Old St. Nicholas himself! All ages are welcome to come meet and take photos with St. Nick, have a candy cane, and pose for photos.

December Coffee Hour Hosts

Last Names Q-Z

Coffee hour at St. Bart's is about more than just a kind treat—it's a way for us to embody our hospitality. This month, if your last name starts



with Q-Z, it's your turn to host! Bring whatever sweet or savory nibble the Spirit moves you to share (cut into serving-sized pieces, please).

Note: You can borrow a plate or platter from the MPR kitchen so you don't have to worry about retrieving your own plate later.

Questions? Contact [Widney Hawthorne](#).



Christmas Poinsettia Offering

A donation to the Flower Guild for Christmas poinsettias is a wonderful way to remember a special occasion or person, or to give thanks for family, friends, good health, or good fortune. Christmas flower envelopes will be available in the sanctuary and chapel during Advent—be sure to write the person or event you are commemorating, along with your name, on the front of the envelope. Envelopes can be put in the offering plate or dropped off in the church office.

The Flower Guild is thankful for your generosity at Christmas and all year round. For more information, contact [Bobbie Davis](#).

We Need Your Voice: EDSD Landscape Survey

Diocesan leadership has begun work on a new strategic plan to guide the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego through the next five years. Our Courageous Love plan has carried us faithfully



through major milestones—like the Good News Festival and the opening of Comunidad de Luz—as well as unexpected challenges, including COVID. Episcopalians in our diocese are invited to help shape what comes next. Your input is essential. Please take a few minutes to complete the HolyCow! Consulting Landscape Survey and add your voice to this important discernment.

[TAKE SURVEY](#)



Consider Running for Vestry!

The vestry serves as the church's board of directors and governs the business of the parish. Led by the rector and wardens, the vestry represents the congregation in every area of decision-making and welcomes ideas and feedback at any time.

Vestry membership includes 12 adult lay leaders, one youth representative, the rector, and parish officers. Members are elected to three-year terms at the parish annual meeting in January; the nonvoting youth representative serves for one year. Candidates must be confirmed, provide financial support to the parish with an annual pledge, and have been members of the parish for a minimum of six months.

To learn more, contact [Mother Nina](#) or Senior Warden [Jerry Gray](#).

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

Christmas Caroling & Dining Fundraiser

Friday, December 12, 6 p.m.

Piazza Carmel (3810 Valley Centre Dr., San Diego, CA 92130)



Help us share the gift of music with the greater San Diego community! Come and sing carols at the Piazza Carmel shopping center with the St. Bart's music ministry—all singers, young and old, experienced or otherwise, are welcome. Complimentary hot cider and cookies will be provided.

You can further support St. Bart's by dining or getting takeout at the Marketplace Grille or Royal India before or after the caroling, or any time on December 12. Print out the dining fundraiser form (provided below), mark "St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church" as the group you're supporting, and present the form to the restaurant, and our church will receive a donation of 20% of your purchase amount.

MARKETPLACE GRILLE FUNDRAISER

ROYAL INDIA FUNDRAISER



Christmas Cookie Extravaganza & Caroling

Sunday, December 14, after 10 a.m. service, Patio

You are invited to join us after the 10 a.m. service on December 14 for our cookie exchange and all-ages festive Christmas caroling! We encourage you to bring your favorite cookies to share—cookies of all types are welcome, and we are especially interested in good gluten-free cookie recipes! If your cookies contain any nuts or other allergens, please be sure to list the ingredients.

Italy Choir Tour 2027



Deadline to register is December 15

The choir is off to tour Italy in June 2027, singing in Venice, Cinque Terre, Florence, and Rome, as well as visiting Milan, with an optional extension tour to Naples and Sicily. Nonsingers are welcome to join in! Please [register by Monday, December 15](#).

REGISTER

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

John-Luke Addison's

A Christmas Cantata

World Premiere

A new work celebrating the birth of Christ, featuring choir, piano, orchestra, and soloists

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21
4:00 P.M.

Tickets \$20 (\$10 students)
stbartsmusic.org

WORLD PREMIERE:

A Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 21, 4 p.m., Sanctuary

Celebrate the joy of Christmas with the world premiere of John-Luke Addison's new masterwork, *A Christmas Cantata*, featuring the St. Bart's Parish Choir, soloists Hannah Arevalo and Sean McCormac, narrator Bob Himlin, string orchestra, and piano. Tickets (\$20 adults, \$10 students) available on the [St. Bart's Music website](#).

GET TICKETS



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:

"Joy to the World" Luncheon

Wednesday, December 24, 10:30 a.m.–2 p.m.
4227 Fairmount Ave., San Diego, CA 92105

Every year on Christmas Eve, St. Mark's City Heights and St. Bart's come together to serve a home-cooked meal to the most vulnerable members of the City Heights community. Every guest (typically 80-100 people) enjoys a Christmas feast of turkey and ham with traditional sides and desserts, all prepared fresh

or purchased by St. Bart's parishioners. Please join us on December 24 in preparing and/or serving food, or helping with setup or cleanup for the event. Setup begins at 10:30 a.m., the luncheon begins with a short Eucharist service at 11:30 a.m., and cleanup ends around 2 p.m. RSVP for the role of your choice at the link below. Contact [JD Cowart](#) with questions.

SIGN UP



Date Change for Father Isaiah's Asylum Hearing

Father Isaiah's final asylum hearing has been changed from December 18 to April 6 (Easter Monday). Please keep him in your prayers as he continues to await a decision.



Revised 2026 Pricing for Columbarium Plots/Niches

Effective January 1, 2026, prices for St. Bart's columbarium garden plots and wall niches will be increasing. This increase, the first in many years, is necessary to address the rising costs of maintaining the columbarium. If you would like to reserve a plot or niche under [2025 pricing](#), please contact the church office at (858) 487-2159.

Prayers & Squares Quilt Ministry

The Prayers & Squares ministry offers prayer quilts to all people who are in crisis and need prayer. Before requesting a quilt, **please check**



with the recipient to see if they will accept a prayer quilt, and ask them for the specific words of prayer they would like prayed over the quilt.

To request a prayer quilt, call the church office, (858) 487-2159, or email [Holly Gray](#).

Prayer Cycle

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for: The clergy and people of Church of the Good Shepherd, Bonita.

In our Military Cycle of Prayer, we pray for: Balboa Naval Medical Center, San Diego.

In the Cycle of Prayer for the worldwide Anglican Communion, we pray for: The Church of Bangladesh; the Diocese of Ruwenzori – the Church of the Province of Uganda; the Diocese of East Ruwenzori – the Church of the Province of Uganda; the Diocese of South Ruwenzori – the Church of the Province of Uganda; the Diocese of Sabah – Church of the Province of South East Asia; the Diocese of Sabongidda-Ora – the Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion); the Sacred Circle – the Anglican Church of Canada.

[SUBMIT YOUR PRAYER REQUEST](#)

Weekly Ministries

Mondays

- 6 p.m. Scouts - Sanctuary - Contact [Mike Jewett](#)
- 6-8 p.m. CAT (Cats, Art & Tea): Multigenerational art event to benefit rescue kitties! - All individuals 10+ years welcome; if younger than 16, must be accompanied by an adult - MPR - Contact [Gaby Waldorf](#)
- 7-8 p.m. Handbell Ensemble - Ed Building, Music Room - Contact [Anna Lettang](#)

Tuesdays

- 7:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Book Review - Starbucks (12469 Rancho Bernardo Rd., San Diego, CA 92128) - Contact [Jerry Blanton](#)
- 10:30-11:30 a.m. Chair Yoga & Meditation - MPR - First class free - Contact [Lisa Oakes](#) for pricing
- Noon. Wisdom Circle - 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month - MPR - Contact [Shirley Bunch](#)
- 12:15-1 p.m. (approx.) Wisdom Circle Makes Lunches for Interfaith - 3rd Tuesday of the month - MPR - Contact [Shirley Bunch](#)
- 1-3 p.m. Quilting Ministry - 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month - Ed Building, Quilt Room - Contact [Holly Gray](#)
- 5 p.m. Centering Prayer - Zoom - Contact [Parth Domke](#)
- 6-7:30 p.m. Fiber Arts Group - 1st Tuesday of the month - Sanctuary - Contact fiberarts@stbartschurch.org

Wednesdays

- 10 a.m.-noon Bible Study (on break) - Zoom - Contact [Bob Capettini](#)
- 5-6 p.m. Schola Cantorum - Ed Building, Music Room - Contact [John-Luke Addison](#)
- 6-8 p.m. Youth Crew, 6th-12th grade - Youth Room or MPR - Contact [Jacob Robling](#)
- 6-7:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study - Church Office & Zoom - Contact [Anne Snyder](#)

Thursdays

- 8-10 a.m. Food Bank Delivery to St. Luke's - Contact [Jerry Blanton](#)
- 5:30-6:30 p.m. Children's Choir School - Ed Building, Music Room - Contact [Tim McLellan](#)
- 7-9 p.m. Parish Choir - Ed Building, Music Room - Contact [John-Luke Addison](#)

Fridays

- 7:45-9 a.m. Men's Ministry - Location TBA each week - Contact [Andrew Horne](#) or [Mike Jewett](#)
- 12:30-2:30 p.m. Daughters of the King - 2nd & 4th Fridays of the month - MPR - Contact [Sandy Morrison](#)

Sundays

- 9-9:45 a.m. Adult Forum - MPR - Led by various ministries and guests
- 1 p.m. Eucharist Service - 1st Sunday of the month - Casa de las Campanas, Assisted Living Activities Room - Contact [Nancy Peterson](#)

Quick Links

[This Sunday's Readings](#)

[Prayer Requests](#)

[St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church](#)

[The Episcopal Diocese of San Diego](#)

[Faith To Go Podcast](#)

[The Episcopal Church](#)

[Episcopal Community Services](#)

[Episcopal News Service](#)

[Episcopal Relief and Development](#)

[Episcopal Journal & Café](#)

[Camp Stevens](#)

[RefugeeNet](#)

[Vida Joven de México](#)

[St. Paul's Senior Homes & Services](#)



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St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church | 16275 Pomerado Road | Poway, CA 92064 US

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