



## SACRED MOMENTS

The sacred moments of our lives are those marked by both joy and sadness. They are inescapable and an intricate part of who we are and those from whom we seek community. On February 27, I was blessed to marry the love of my life. After 8 years of living “in sickness and in health, in good times and bad,” we were able to exchange those vows in front of family and friends, solidifying the love that we have known, lived and shared. Our wedding was by far one of the most sacramental moments of my life. Little did we know that we would be experiencing another truly holy moment a few weeks later with the birth of our son, Sidney Thomas Hills. Sidney apparently had plans of his own, making his appearance some 11 weeks early (I was only 29.3 weeks along). After a week of labor, beginning the last Sunday I worshipped with you and took the youth group to St. Gregory of Nyssa, he said “enough is enough” and came screaming into the world on March 12 at 11:20pm. His birth was a humbling experience, marked again by great joy and deep sadness. At 3.2lbs and 16 inches, he was immediately taken to the Neonatal

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Intensive Care Unit, with Michelle by his side. He has made incredible progress over the past week and a half and is being taken care of by some of the most talented and compassionate doctors and nurses I have ever met. I am healing and taking the time off that I need to take care of myself and my little peanut. This involves staying at the hospital most of the day and often overnight as Michelle goes back and forth most of the day from home to the hospital making sure that Sid and I have everything we need. Michelle and I each get to hold him once a day for an hour; the rest of his day is spent in an incubator where he is kept warm and allowed to “grow.” It is likely that he will remain in the NICU until his due date of May 25, though we are hopeful that we might get to take him home a couple weeks early. Only time will tell. It is a sacramental moment marked by great joy and sadness, a moment shared with family and friends near and far. Knowing that Sidney has been prayed for by over fifty faith communities across the country, including St. Matthew’s, gives us great comfort. Please know that we have received your emails and cards, but simply don’t have the



capacity to respond at this time (both logistically and emotionally). Your continued prayers and support are appreciated more than you know. Blessings, Lindsay+

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# Youth News

## Junior High Youth Group (Grades 6-8)

*April 10, 5pm: All-Youth Event at St. Paul's- MOVIE NIGHT!! Bring your favorite movie on DVD (G, PG, or PG-13 only) and we'll vote on which one to watch. There will be pizza and popcorn.*

## High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12)

*April 3, 11:30am: Our monthly brunch!*

*April 10, 5pm: MOVIE NIGHT!! Bring your favorite movie on DVD (G, PG, or PG-13 only) and we'll vote on which one to watch. There will be pizza and popcorn.*

*April 17, 5pm: Returning to our discussion on the Baptismal Covenant, tonight we will be talking about prayer and different prayer practices. Dinner will be served.*

*April 24: No meeting.*

All meetings are at St. Paul's. During Rev. Lindsay's maternity leave, youth with questions about the meetings are invited to contact the Rev. Martha Korienek at mkorienek@stpaulsburlingame.org or (650) 458-7133.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO PABLO ROBLES, EAGLE SCOUT!

On March 1<sup>st</sup>, Pablo Robles, a member of the St Matthew's youth group, earned his Eagle Scout Award. Achieving this is no small feat. Pablo joined the Boy Scouts in first grade at the young age of 6 and throughout the last 12 years has worked very hard. He has had incredible experiences in the Boy Scouts, ranging from visiting a fire station when he was younger to sleeping in a snow cave that he made himself. He has rappelled down into a cave, lived on a schooner sail boat in Puget Sound for a week, climbed Half Dome and countless other unique and life-changing experiences. In scouting Pablo has learned not only outdoor skills but also valuable life lessons in leadership, project presentation and management, and family life. The Eagle award was given at the culmination of his project at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. If you see Pablo, don't hesitate to ask him about his scouting experiences, and when you drive by St. Paul's, stop to take a look at his project. I, Leda Girardi, Pablo's mom, couldn't be prouder of all of his achievements. Please join me in congratulating Pablo on the Eagle Scout Award!



## TAIZÉ CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

*Tuesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm*

Everyone is invited to attend this ecumenical service characterized by meditative silence, repetitive songs, scripture and prayer. Taizé is the first Tuesday of every month (year around) in the side chapel. Save the dates for future services: May 3<sup>rd</sup> and June 7<sup>th</sup>.

## SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR

The rotation for bringing treats to coffee hour after the Sunday service is as follows:

**April 3: A-D**

**April 10: E-J**

**April 17: K-P**

**April 24: Q-S**

We ask you to please put the food you are bringing on a paper plate (rather than in a package) and place it on the table in Julia Beylard Hall.

## CELEBRATE SUNDAYS!

Our next CELEBRATE Sundays will be held on April 10 (Day School Sunday), April 24 (Earth Day), and May 15 (Pentecost). Children and youth play important roles in the liturgies during the 10:15 service on these Sundays. There is no church school but the nursery is available to children under 4. Together we will learn and grow and CELEBRATE!

## FAMILY FELLOWSHIP – DINNER GROUP

*Saturday, April 9th at 6pm in Julia Beylard Hall*

How about a night out-at church! We will gather and share a potluck meal with other families at St. Matthew's. Afterwards, the children have the opportunity to play together while adults socialize. It's a win-win for the entire family. Save the date for the next fellowship gathering on May 14th.

## BAPTISMAL FEASTS!

There are four major Baptismal feasts in the Episcopal Church (five if you include our paternal feast, the Feast of St. Matthew). Pentecost, May 15 (10:15am) is the next opportunity. If you are interested in being baptized or having a child baptized on one of these special days, please contact Victoria Wolcott in the church office or a member of the clergy.

## SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK AND ST. MATTHEW'S

When you go grocery shopping, please consider picking up a few extra canned goods or other non-perishable items. You can leave your food donations either in a basket at the back of the church or at the church office. These donations will be placed in a Second Harvest collection barrel for pick-up.

We appreciate your thoughtfulness and thank you for your donations.

## WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY GROUP

*Mondays at 9am, Charles House*

Women of all ages are invited on an ongoing basis to join us for a new women's spirituality group. We will be exploring the ever-relevant challenge of Sabbath. We will be using the book *Sabbath in the Suburbs: A Family's Experiment with Holy Time*, by MaryAnn McKibben Dana, to ground our exploration and reflection. *Sabbath in the Suburbs* "...portrays the challenging quest of living the Sabbath while seeking a faithful balance in the abundance of choices and endless demands placed upon families today." - Kathleen Long Bottom, Author of *99 Ways to Raise Spiritually Healthy Children*. Books are available for purchase in the church office for \$10 or through Jennifer Buckley [jennifer.buckley@me.com](mailto:jennifer.buckley@me.com). Please contact Ginger Fortmiller by leaving a message at the church office to learn more about the group.



## RAGAZZI BOYS CHORAL CONCERT AT ST. MATTHEW'S

Ragazzi's boys and young men, along with alumni chorus Ragazzi Continuo, present Gabriel Fauré's masterpiece *Requiem in D minor*. One of the romantic-era composer's most beloved pieces, Fauré wrote that the work is "dominated from beginning to end by a very human feeling of faith in eternal rest." The Requiem's achingly beautiful *Pie Jesu* for solo soprano voice will be sung as the composer intended, by a boy treble. Ragazzi is thrilled to present this magnificent music in its entirety, using the original orchestration. In the concert's second half, Ragazzi Continuo will present music that examines humans' relationship with the natural world. Songs will explore the peace, joy and awe inspired by flowing water, forests, and gardens. Tickets range in price from \$10-28. To buy tickets online, go to [www.ragazzi.org](http://www.ragazzi.org). Online sales close the Friday morning before the performance. Remaining tickets will be sold at the door one hour before curtain.

## GO GREEN!

In an attempt to streamline our communications and be better stewards of our resources, we would like to encourage you to go green! Please complete this quick form at <http://goo.gl/forms/pNPJZwV9q5>, which will allow us to update your communication preferences.



# THE TAU CROSS

The Episcopal Church of St. Matthew  
is a family called by Christ . . .

*to live God's Love,  
to share the Gospel,  
to grow Spiritually*

***Come celebrate with us!***

*Services are 8:00 am & 10:15 am every Sunday*

*Morning Prayer, 9 am, Tuesdays & Thursdays  
Rite I Holy Eucharist, 9 am, Fridays*

UPCOMING EVENTS	
April 5	Taizé Service
April 9	Family Fellowship Dinner
April 10	Day School Sunday
April 23	Ragazzi Boys Chorus
April 24	CELEBRATE Sunday



The Tau Cross is the monthly newsletter of the Episcopal Church of St. Matthew. We welcome submissions that have a connection to the parish. Inclusion is at the discretion of the staff and may be edited for space or clarity. The deadline for articles is the 15th of the month and may be sent by email to Beth von Emster at [bvonemster@yahoo.com](mailto:bvonemster@yahoo.com) or deposited in the Tau Cross mailbox in the church office. Entries should follow these guidelines: Include title of event or article; 200 word maximum description including when, where, cost and contact information as applicable; Avoid abbreviations and other "insider" lingo; Further guidelines and tips available upon request. Tau Cross Staff: Editor, Beth von Emster; Associate Editor, Cherie Hammer; Layout & Design //dadalab.com

*Or Current Resident*

*The Rev. Eric Hinds, Rector  
The Rev. Lindsay Marie Hills, Associate Rector  
The Rev. Amber Stancliffe Evans, School Chaplain  
The Rev. Robert Caughey, Deacon*

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