

Welcome to the weekly hub of information for everything new at St. Paul's! Read on for responses to recent events, reflections from within the parish, and updates on the initial reopening of the church space, which begins tomorrow.

Tonight: Norwalk Community Town Hall

At **7pm tonight**, Mayor Harry Rilling will host faith, community, and political leaders to discuss current events and building community relationships. Guests will include U.S. Senator Chris Murphy, Senator (and parishioner) Bob Duff, and Brenda Penn-Williams, President of the Norwalk branch of the NAACP. <u>Click here to join via Zoom</u>.

Response to the Events at St. John's Lafayette Square

A message from Fr. Daniel:

"I commend to your reading and viewing two strong leadership statements by our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, and by Mariann Budde, Bishop of Washington. They call out the violence and violation of these recent disturbing events, and the presiding bishop's video clip becomes a passionate call to the president, elected leaders, and all of us to pursue the way of love and come immediately to higher ground."



- Statement from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry
- Interview with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry
- Response from the Right Rev. Mariann Budde

Going Deeper: Continuing to Respond

Tomorrow (**Thursday**) at **7pm**, join Fr. Daniel for further reflection and response to the events and statements listed above. <u>Click here to join on Zoom</u>, or <u>contact the main office</u> to connect via phone call.

Reading and Reflection: "What We Can Do About It"

Monday at 7pm, Mother Louise will lead a discussion on <u>The assumptions of white</u> <u>privilege and what we can do about it</u>, an article by Bryan Massingale. To join the Zoom conversation on Monday, <u>click this link</u>. For assistance connecting via phone call, <u>please contact the main office</u>.

Reopening to Begin Tomorrow

St. Paul's will reopen its doors for visitation and prayer on a limited schedule starting tomorrow

(Thursday). Please bring a mask and follow the posted guidelines to ensure a safe visit for all. The church has been beautifully adapted to allow for social distancing, and visitors are encouraged to explore the entirety of the church space.

The church is open for visitation Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-6pm and Saturdays from



noon to 2pm. The grounds and labyrinth remain open daily during daylight hours.

Weekly Reflection

"This is not just a white issue or a black issue. It is not something that the white community or black community must or can fix alone... Where do we start? How do we put one foot in front of the other when we might feel paralyzed by fear, rage, insecurities, biases?"

To read the full reflection, provided this week by Nikkya Hargrove, <u>click here</u>.



Community Engagement

Join the Race and Social Justice Coalition at St. Paul's

Now with over fifty members, the Race and Social Justice Coalition meets weekly to advocate for concrete change in our world. <u>Contact Bob Giolitto</u> for more information and to join. The group will convene tonight at 7pm at the Norwalk town hall <u>found at this link</u>.

Diocesan moment for reflection and prayer

Tomorrow (**Thursday**) from 3-4pm, the Episcopal Church in Connecticut will host a time to reflect and discuss responses to "the ongoing violence against people of color in America." Register in advance by <u>clicking here</u>.

Help with the St. Paul's grounds

If you would like to help the St. Paul's staff keep the church's outdoor spaces looking their best, please email <u>admin@stpaulsnorwalk.org</u>.

Norwalk Mutual Aid

Visit <u>norwalkmutualaid.org</u> for information on community support in the Norwalk area, and for opportunities to volunteer and sign up.



Person-to-Person

P2P provides emergency assistance for families in the greater Norwalk community. Support their mission <u>at this link</u>.

Social Distancing Stories

This week's parish dispatch comes from Steve, Facilities Manager at St. Paul's, who has been preparing the church for reopening.

"I couldn't help but think about all the people that have come and gone, and that have sat on those benches... I take strength in the fact that despite all the hardships, the one constant is St. Paul's. It grows and adjusts so we can too."

To read Steve's full story, and to see a preview of the soon-to-be-reopened church space, <u>click here</u>.



Weekly Recommendations

Brené Brown, in her own words, is a "researcher-storyteller" who writes powerfully about connection and empathy. Watch her TED talk about "the power of vulnerability," and its impacts on our ability to connect with one another, at this link.

For a deep dive into the systemic injustice and inequality that inform this moment in our nation's life, watch **13th**, the powerful, awardwinning documentary by Ava DuVernay. (Note: this film is rated TV-MA for mature audiences.) The full movie is available free of charge on YouTube at this link.



See more recommendations from St. Paul's on the church website.

Weekly Schedule

Throughout the week

Daily Grounds open during daylight hours8:30am Morning Prayer live on Facebook (Monday and Friday)9pm Compline live on Facebook (Wednesday and Sunday)

Sunday

11am Holy Eucharist on Facebook **12:10pm** Small group connection and conversation on Zoom

Monday

7pm "Reading and Reflection" with Mother Louise on Zoom

Tuesday

4-6pm Church available for prayer and meditation

Wednesday

11:30am Mid-Day Eucharist live on Facebook **7pm** Race and Social Justice Coalition on Zoom

Thursday

4-6pm Church available for prayer and meditation **7pm** "Going Deeper" with Fr. Daniel on Zoom

Saturday

Noon-2pm Church available for prayer and meditation

Visit our website, <u>stpaulsnorwalk.org</u>, for more information. Use the buttons below to connect to our livestream, make a donation to St. Paul's, and more.











Praying for one another

203-847-2806 admin@stpaulsnorwalk.org stpaulsnorwalk.org



