

Sunday 18th February 2024

First Sunday of Lent



Collect for the Week

Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar

10.00 am Eucharist (CW)
President & Preacher: The Vicar

10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom
Lead: Susan Powley, Link: Liz Mankelow

Hymns: I am a new creation
Who put the colours in the rainbow?
Lead us Heavenly Father, lead us
Confidence

Reading: Genesis 9.8 -17 (NIV page 10)

6.30 pm Evensong (BCP) The service begins on page 16
Minister: The Vicar

Hymn: NEH 63 All ye who seek a comfort sure
Psalm: 94 verses 1-11 (BCP page 466)
1st Reading: Genesis 2.15-17,3.1-7 (NRSV p. 2) Barbara Bourne
Magnificat: D
2nd Reading: Romans 5.12-19(NRSV page 166) Cherry Mead
Nunc Dimittis: D
Anthem: Almighty and everlasting God - Gibbons
Hymn: NEH 65 Christian, dost thou see them
Amen: 17

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY 19th

10.00 am Church at the Church Centre open for private prayer

TUESDAY 20th

Parish Office closed

10.00 am Lent course at the Church Centre

WEDNESDAY 21st

10.00 am Church at the Church Centre open for private prayer

9.00 am Play Time at St Paul's at the Church Centre

THURSDAY 22nd

10.00 am Church at the Church Centre open for private prayer

12.30 pm Lunch club at the Church Centre

7.00 pm Lent course at the Church Centre

FRIDAY 23rd *Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr c. 155*

10.00 am Church at the Church Centre open for private prayer

12.30 pm Community Larder at the Church Centre

6.30 pm Junior Choir practice

7.30 pm Full Choir practice

SATURDAY 24th

3.00 pm Squirrels sleepover at the Church Centre

NEXT SUNDAY 25th February

The Second Sunday of Lent

8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

President and Preacher: The Vicar

10.00 am Matins (BCP)

Minister & Preacher: The Vicar

10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom

Lead: Wendy Anderson, Link: Viv Littlechild

6.30 pm Parish Eucharist (CW)

President & Preacher: The Vicar

NEWS AND NOTES

From The Vicarage

Greetings to you all and a warm welcome to our services today, the first Sunday of Lent. Having started our Lenten journey on Wednesday, it is good that we can all worship together as we continue through to Easter. I pray that God would open our eyes to see him in all his works and his likeness in one another.

175th Anniversary

St Paul's Parish Church will be 175 years old in 2025. The PCC has agreed a yearlong programme of celebrations, from January to December, a committee, chaired by Chris Dobson, has been set up to plan and co-ordinate this. If you have any ideas and/or suggestions as to how to enrich the celebrations, please contact Chris Dobson via email at dgrusthall@gmail.com, or phone 07757 680165, or speak to him in Church.

Ronnie

Craft Materials

We have recently been gifted a large amount of crafting materials such as card, glue, paper, stickers etc. If your group would like any items, or perhaps you could use some for a specific event, please contact Liz Mankelow on 07840 837968 or Ginette in the Parish Office.

Mothering Sunday – 10th March

The Flower Team have kindly agreed to make the posies this year, they will be doing this in the Lodge on the Saturday. As the team is quite small it would be lovely to have some extra help. If you are able to do this or donate flowers/greenery etc please contact Daphne Hodges on 533492 or Ginette in the office. Thank you.

Confirmation 2024

This year confirmations in our area will be held at St Mark's Church on Sunday 12th May at 10 am. There are sign-up sheets in both churches. Please see Ronnie if you have any questions.

Pilgrimage to Canterbury Cathedral

St. Paul's Rusthall is arranging a one day pilgrimage to Canterbury Cathedral during Lent. The Pilgrimage, organised and led by Tim Harrold, will be on Saturday 2nd March. The walk is approximately 3.7 km long and is accessible by all, both the young and the not-so-young alike. The day will conclude with a meal of fellowship for the weary pilgrims followed by attending choral evensong in the cathedral. For more information, including details of the places of interest the pilgrims will be visiting and to register your interest in taking part, please contact Tim Harrold on 07413 805814 or by email at pilgrimage@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk.

Youth Council

Future meetings:

Thursday March 7th - Cooking on a Budget - Fajitas for supper!

We also remain focused on the challenge of obtaining a crossing on the A264 and preparing for our Bees!

All meetings are held in The Lodge on the first Thursday of the month between 6 and 7.30 pm. All years 7-13 (ages 11 to 18) are very welcome

Please see Angela Culley or Jean Kerr if you would like any further details.

Getting Ready for the Bees

The Youth Council are organising a work party to prepare the proposed bee area on Saturday 6th April at 10.00 am in the Parish Churchyard. All help and interest would be gratefully received and volunteers will be rewarded with a BBQ! We are very grateful for the donation of paving slabs and fencing. Should anyone have a small shed they no longer want we would be delighted to accept it and arrange transport! Please see/contact Angela or Chris.

Lent Course

This year we will be using a USPG resource entitled "All Things Are Possible", copies of which are in both churches.

There will be two plenary sessions each week at the Church Centre:

on Tuesday mornings from 10 am to 11.30 am, from 20th February to 19th March, and on Thursday evenings from 7 pm to 8.30 pm, from 22nd February to 21st March.

There are sign-up sheets in both churches but you can still attend even if you are not signed up.

CONTACTS

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