

Sunday 8th December 2024
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Collect for the Week

Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as
judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.

8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP)


President & Preacher: The Vicar

10.00 am Joint Christingle Service at the Parish Church

Ministers : The Vicar & Timm Harrold, Speaker: The Vicar

6.30 pm Parish Eucharist (BCP)

President & Preacher: Rev. Nicholas Burton

	<p>Altar & Font Flowers at the Parish Church</p> <p>The altar flowers are given today by Jill & Clive McAllister in memory of Stanley Hart Father & Father in Law Remembered every day with love</p> <p>The font flowers are given in loving memory of Edith Dale-Rudwick & Nelly Thurlow</p>
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THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY 9th December

- 10.00 am Church at the Church Centre open for private prayer
- 9.00 am Set up for Holmewood carols
- 7.30 pm Communion training at the Parish Church

TUESDAY 10th

Parish Office closed

- 4.00 pm Holmewood House Senior carols (rehearsals all day)
- 7.30 pm Communion training at the Parish Church

WEDNESDAY 11th

- 9.00 am Play Time at St Paul's
- 10.00 am Church at the Church Centre open for private prayer
- 11.00 am Holmewood House Junior carols
- 11.00 am Julian Meeting at Chancellor House

THURSDAY 12th

- 10.00 am Church at the Church Centre open for private prayer
- 12.30 pm Lunch Club Christmas Lunch at the Church Centre
- 2.30 pm Choir Carols at High Rocks

FRIDAY 13th *Lucy, Martyr at Syracuse, 304*

- 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 14th *John of the Cross, Poet, Teacher of the Faith*

NEXT SUNDAY 15th December

Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

President and Preacher: The Vicar

10.00 am Parish Eucharist (CW)

President & Preacher: The Vicar

10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre

Lead: Rev Nicholas Burton, Link: Rosemary Romano

6.30 pm Evensong (BCP)

Minister & Preacher: The Vicar

NEWS AND NOTES

From The Vicarage

Greetings to you all and a very warm welcome to our services today, the Second Sunday of Advent. A special welcome to our joint Christingle service at the Parish Church. As we worship together and journey through Advent, I pray that we will do so with increased patience and growing humility, even as we look forward to celebrating the birth of the Christ child, our Saviour and Lord.
Ronnie

2025 175th Anniversary of the Consecration of St Paul's Church.

We are planning to make a large banner to display on the outside of the Church Centre. This will incorporate elements from the 175 logo, (above) but with a floral theme. To do this several hundred knitted/crocheted flowers will be required so we need help from as many people as possible to make flowers for the display. The flowers can be any colour and thickness of yarn but must not exceed 10 cm (4") wide. If anyone needs a pattern or some yarn to get started, please get in touch with me on email jeak4000@gmail.com. There will be collecting boxes in both Churches. We aim to put the display up after Easter. It would be great if lots of people join in with the project.
Thank you – Jean.

Date for your Diary

On Saturday the 4th January we are having a quiz and supper evening at the Church Centre to launch our anniversary year. The cost is £10 per head, tables of 6 so £60 a table. Limited to 10 tables. The evening will begin at 6.30 pm. Please see Chris Dobson for information and tickets.

Advent 2024

We are into the second week of our Advent Course from the York series entitled '*The Life in the Comma*'. There are 2 meetings weekly, on Tuesday mornings at the Church Centre (from 11 am to 12.30 pm) and on Thursday evenings in The Lodge (between 7.30 pm and 9 pm. It is not too late to join a group. Please ask Ronnie or Tim Harrold for a copy of the course material.

St Paul's Youth Council

Our meeting on Thursday 5th December was fantastic -board games and pizza (phone free!), what more could you want. Sixteen youngsters had a super time. We also had the great news that one of our members has been elected to be a deputy member of the Kent Youth County Council. We look forward to supporting her in her role. We will be joining the choir to sing carols at Mount Ephraim House on Thursday 19th December at 4.15 pm.

100 Club

The winning numbers for December were 1st 80, 2nd 74, 3rd 22. Congratulations to those number holders.

St Paul's Anniversary Calendar for 2025

The calendar is now ready and available as part of our celebrations for next year. It is on sale in both Churches or you can contact Ginette. It is great value at £6 (or £20 for 4) and will make super Christmas presents.

Quiet Day

St Benedict's Centre in West Malling is hosting a quiet day on Saturday 14th December which will be led by the Rev Sue Smith. The day will run from 10 am to 3 pm and there is a suggested donation of £15-25. If anyone is interested in joining him at the event please contact Tim Harrold.

Playtime at St Paul's Wednesday 9 am to 11 am

We will be holding our Christmas party on the 18th December, do come and join us for fun and games and treats. We return after the holidays on Wednesday the 8th January.

Porchlight Charity Donation

The children's group took the entire service at Family Service on 17th November highlighting the important work which Kent charity Porchlight does to help and support those who are homeless. After the service we offered gingerbread people in exchange for a donation and this raised £50! Thank you so much for the generosity shown by the congregation and to the children for shining the spotlight on this wonderful charity.

Crib Service at the Parish Church 10 am 22nd December

Please get in touch if your children would like to participate in this lovely service. We have parts for all ages speaking and non-speaking and the more participants we have will really make this a truly wonderful celebration of the Christmas message. Contact Mary Holmes for more information
mary@mandmcreative.co.uk 07881371684

Children's Group at Family Service

Our last children's group before we break up for Christmas will be Sunday 15th December. We will resume on 5th January but of course all children are very welcome to come to all services at the Parish Church and Church Centre whilst we aren't running. Contact Mary Holmes for more information
mary@mandmcreative.co.uk - 07881371684.

CONTACTS

The Vicar: The Revd. Ronnie Williams 01892 521357, mobile 07796 655225

Parish Office: Mrs Ginette di Palma 01892 521447, mobile 07775 801984

Email: office@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

Website: www.stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

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