

Sunday 15th December 2024

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

St. Paul's
Church
Rusthall

Collect for the Week

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.



8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

President & 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

Hymns: Joy to the world
The Lord's my Shepherd
Give me oil in my lamp
You shall go out with joy

Reading: Zephaniah 3.14 - 20

6.30 pm Evensong (BCP)

Minister & Preacher: The Vicar



Altar & Font Flowers at the Parish Church

The altar flowers are given today
by Ginette, Mick & Daniele
in loving memory of all our family
members who we will miss at Christmas

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY 16th December

- 10.00 am Church at the Church Centre open for private prayer
- 2.30 pm The Choir sing carols at Rusthall Lodge
- 8.00 pm PCC meeting in the Lodge

TUESDAY 17th

Parish Office closed

WEDNESDAY 18th

- 9.00 am Play Time at St Paul's Christmas party
- 10.00 am Church at the Church Centre open for private prayer

THURSDAY 19th

- 11.30 am Funeral of Christopher Everett at the Parish Church
- 4.30 pm The Choir and Youth Council sing carols at Mount Ephraim House

FRIDAY 20th

- 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 21st

- 9.00 am Flower Team decorating the Parish Church
- 10.00 am The Choir sing carols in the Village

NEXT SUNDAY 22nd December

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

President and Preacher: The Vicar

10.00 am Joint Crib Service at the Parish Church

Minister: The Vicar

Followed by:

Shortened Holy Communion

President: The Vicar

6.30 pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Minister: The Vicar

NEWS AND NOTES

From The Vicarage

Greetings to you all and a very warm welcome to our services today, the Third Sunday of Advent. As we worship together and continue our journey through Advent, may we do so in humility and, like John the Baptist, speak boldly about Jesus Christ, the Light of the world.

Please join us and the Choir at the Church Centre on Saturday for mince pies and mulled wine and the singing of Carols in the village.

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 third 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

A reminder that we will be joining the choir to sing carols at Mount Ephraim House on Thursday 19th December at 4.15 pm.

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.

Dates

Please note that the office will be closed from Tuesday 24th December until Thursday 2nd January. The Vicar will be away from Wednesday 1st January until Saturday 25th January.

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.

Children's Group at Family Service

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

Email Scam

A member of our congregation has fallen victim to an email scam. They were asked to buy gift cards as surprise presents on behalf of the Church. Fortunately the bank blocked the payment. Please be alert to the risk of scams, they are often very clever and seem credible, using names known to the person targeted.

CONTACTS

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