

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December 2024**  
**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

**St. Paul's**  
**Church**  
*Rusthall*

**Collect for the Week**

God in Trinity,  
eternal unity of perfect love:  
gather the nations to be one family,  
and draw us into your holy life  
through the birth of Emmanuel,  
our Lord Jesus Christ.

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**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 Carols at the Church Centre + Zoom**

Lead: Jean Kerr, Link: Karen Miller

NB. There is no evening service today

## THE WEEK AHEAD

### **MONDAY 30<sup>th</sup> December**

Parish Office closed

### **TUESDAY 31<sup>st</sup> John Wyclif, Reformer, 1384**

Parish Office closed

### **WEDNESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> January The Naming of Jesus**

Bank Holiday

Parish Office closed

### **THURSDAY 2<sup>nd</sup>**

10.00 am Church at the Church Centre open for private prayer

12.30 pm Lunch Club at the Church Centre

### **FRIDAY 3<sup>rd</sup>**

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 4<sup>th</sup>**

6.30 pm Quiz supper night at the Church Centre

### **NEXT SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> January**

#### **The Second Sunday of Christmas**

#### **10.00 am Parish Eucharist (CW)**

President & Preacher: Rev. Nicholas Burton

#### **10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom**

Lead: Viv Littlechild, Link: Rosemary Romano

#### **6.30 pm Evensong (BCP)**

Minister & Preacher: Tim Harrold

# NEWS AND NOTES

## From The Vicarage

Warm greetings to you all and welcome to our services today, the First Sunday of Christmas. I trust that you all had a peace-filled Christmas. On this last Sunday of the year 2024, I would like to thank each one of you for your prayers, encouragement and support throughout the year. Special thanks to the Flower Team, the Marthas and cleaners of both the Parish Church and the Church Centre for beautifying and ensuring that both buildings are clean and tidy. I am indebted to you all – and we are indebted to one another and grateful to God for enabling us to minister and contribute to the work of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ and embodying his love.

As most of you know, I will be away for most of January, visiting family in Sierra Leone. Special thanks to Revds. Nicholas Burton and Anthony Hammill and Tim Harrold for taking the services in my absence. I look forward to seeing and worshipping with you all at our joint Patronal Festival.

I wish you all a productive and prosperous 2025. May Almighty God, who has promised good to us, continually encourage our hearts and strengthen our wills as we serve him and all people.

*Ronnie*

## Bon Voyage

Our love and prayers go with Ronnie as he travels back to Sierra Leone this coming week. We wish him safe travels and look forward to seeing him back for the Patronal Festival. In his absence please contact the office with any queries. **Please note that there will not be any 8:00 am BCP Communion in January.**

## Dates

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

## Removal of Pews

As you are probably aware we have removed pews from the front of the Parish Church to facilitate wheelchair/buggy spaces. This trial will end on the 9<sup>th</sup> March. We will produce a survey in the New Year to gauge the views of the congregations. The PCC would like to apply to the Diocese to make this a permanent arrangement.

## Quiz & Supper Night at the Church Centre

It is still not too late to get your tickets for next Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> January. The evening will start at 6.30 pm. £10 per head, tables of 6. There will be soft drinks for sale but wine etc is BYO. For tickets or information please contact Chris Dobson - [dgsrusthall@gmail.com](mailto:dgsrusthall@gmail.com), 07757 680165.

## **The Molyneux Almshouses in Rusthall**

We are a charitable trust providing housing accommodation for "men and women of limited financial means". There is a small one-bedroom bungalow vacant. If you are (or you know anyone who might be) interested in living at the Almshouses, please contact the Administrator Leila, on 07504 839 548, for more information. Applicants must be current or past long-term residents of Tunbridge Wells. The Trustees are hoping to fill the vacancy by as soon as possible.

### **CONTACTS**

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