

Sunday 2nd March 2025

The Sunday Next Before Lent

St. Paul's
Church
Rusthall



Collect for the Week

Holy God,
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness
and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

President & Preacher: The Vicar

10.00 am Eucharist (CW)

President & Preacher: Rev. Nicholas Burton, Minister: The Vicar

10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom

Lead: Wendy Anderson, Link: Karen Miller

Hymns: These are the Days of Elijah
There is a Redeemer
Lord Make me a Mountain
Immortal, Invisible

Reading: Luke 9:28-43 (NIV page 1039)

6.30 pm Evensong (BCP)

Minister & Preacher: The Vicar

Hymn: NEH 494 (tune 413) Christ is the world's true light
Psalm: 14 (BCP page 359)
1st Reading: Exodus 3.1-6 (NRSV page 53) Mione Palmer
Magnificat: C
2nd Reading: John 12.27-36a (NRSV page 113) Cherry Mead
Nunc Dimittis: C
Anthem: Glorious and powerful God - Stanford
Hymn: NEH 247 O gladsome light, O grace
Amen: 4

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY 3rd March

9.00 am Morning Prayer at the Parish Church – The Vicar

10.00 am Church at the Church Centre open for private prayer

TUESDAY 4th Shrove Tuesday

Parish Office closed

WEDNESDAY 5th ASH WEDNESDAY

9.00 am Morning Prayer at the Church Centre – The Vicar

9.00 am Playtime at St Paul's

10.00 am Church at the Church Centre open for private prayer

11.00 am Julian Group

8.00 pm Ash Wednesday Eucharist – The Vicar

THURSDAY 6th

10.00 am Church at the Church Centre open for private prayer

11.30 am Holy Communion at the Church Centre – The Vicar

12.30 pm Lunch Club at the Church Centre

6.00 pm Youth Council meet in the Lodge

7.30 pm Lent group in the **Parish Church**. (The following weeks in the Lodge)

FRIDAY 7th Perpetua, Felicity and companions, martyrs at Carthage, 203

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 8th Edward King, Bishop of Lincoln, 1910

10am-4pm Choristers Café in the Lodge

NEXT SUNDAY 9th March

The First Sunday of Lent

8.00 am Holy Communion

President & Preacher: The Vicar

10.00 am Eucharist with Baptism (CW)

President & Preacher: The Vicar

10am-4pm Choristers Café in the Lodge

10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom

Lead: Tim Harrold, Link Liz Goddard

6.30 pm Choral Evensong (BCP)

Minister: The Vicar

NEWS AND NOTES

From The Vicarage

Greetings to you all and a very warm welcome to our services today, the Sunday Next before Lent. I pray that God the Father would give us grace to keep a holy Lent as we journey with Christ through his passion.

Plant Sale at the Church Centre

As part of the 175 Celebrations this year there will be a Treasure Hunt, Plant Sale and Cream Tea at the Church Centre On Monday 21st April. This is the bank holiday Monday after Easter. If you are a gardener, or have friends who are, please, when planting seeds, taking cuttings or splitting plants in the next few weeks will you put any spares into pots to bring along to support this event. All types of plants would be much appreciated. Thank You.

New Electoral Roll (Full Revision)

Under the Church Representation Rules every six years every parish in the country must create a new Electoral Roll. This means everyone who wishes to have their name entered on the new Roll, whether it is entered on the present Roll or not, is requested to apply for enrolment not later than Sunday 20th April 2025. The new Roll will take effect on Sunday 27th April 2025 in readiness for the APCM on Thursday 15th May. Only those registered on the Electoral Roll are entitled to attend the APCM. Electoral Roll application forms are available at the back of both the Parish Church and the Church Centre.

Treasurer for the Parish

As you know Pat has now retired from this role and we are now looking for someone to take on this role. This can be a shared position with two or more people taking on different aspects of the job. Full training and support will be given. If you feel this is something you could do as part of the ministry of St Paul's please speak with Ronnie.

Confirmation

This year, we will be hosting the Confirmation Service for our cluster of parishes at the Parish Church **at 4pm on Sunday 18th May** and Bishop Jonathan will preside. If you or someone you know would like to get confirmed, please put your details on the list provided at both churches.

Youth Council

We are delighted to announce that when the sun came out this week so did our bees! Our next meeting is Thursday March 6th at 6pm in The Lodge when The Bee Society will joining us and we hope to open the hive and prepare for the arrival of our two NUCS. We will also decide on our jar label. All 11 to 18 year olds are warmly welcome.



The Altar Flowers
are given today by
Jane & Ian Goldsworthy
In loving memory of their parents
Kenneth & Anneliese Wooton
And Bill & June Goldsworthy

Family Service Children's Group, Church Centre

Unfortunately due to a shortage of leaders we are unable to run the Children's Group this week. Going forward we are unable to provide a group on the following Sundays: 2 March, 16 March and 13 April.

We also won't be running a group when the joint service takes place at the Parish Church on the following dates: 30 March (Mothering Sunday), 20 April (Easter Sunday). Children of all ages are of course welcome at all services when the group isn't running. We are terribly short of leaders and would love to recruit some more! If you feel you would like to help with our children's group please do get in touch with Mary Holmes: 07881371684 or mary@mandmcreative.co.uk

Lent Groups

Sheets have gone up in both the Church and Church Centre for those interested in registering for one of the Lent Groups this year. There is one group already meeting on Thursdays at 7.30 pm in the Lodge. On the sheet, along with your name and contact details, please indicate your preferred time (morning, afternoon, or evening) and Day(s). The topic for this year's Lent Course is Living Hope. If you would like more information about the course, please contact Tim Harrold (07413 805814 or timharrold@duck.com).

Pilgrimage 2025

Following in the footsteps of last year's successful, if wet, pilgrimage to Canterbury Cathedral and as part of our 175th celebrations, we will be organising another pilgrimage for Monday 23rd June. This year we will be following the Martyr's Way which will take us from Tower Bridge to St. Bartholomew the Great in the City of London. After some refreshments in Borough Market, the day will finish with Evensong in Southwark Cathedral. Please register your interest on the sheets that have gone up in the Church or the Church Centre. If you have any questions about the pilgrimage please contact Tim Harrold (07413 805814 -timharrold@duck.com).

Julian Meeting

Julian meeting on Ash Wednesday, 5 March at 11.00 at 30 Chancellor House. Please let Ann Loxley know if are intending to come. Anyone interested in a time of reflection and silence is very welcome.

Flowers for the 175 Banner

A huge Thank You to everyone who has been crocheting and knitting flowers for this. Please can I ask that all completed flowers are added to the boxes in the churches by 23rd March.

Cabin Worship a worship band from Edenbridge, provided uplifting and memorable music for Family Service last weekend. Everyone who came seemed to agree it was a truly inspiring experience and we hope they will come again later in the year. Many thanks to them for braving the road closures to get here.