

Sunday 30th November 2025

Advent SUNDAY



Collect for the Week

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the light
Of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.



8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

President and Preacher: The Vicar

10.00 am Parish Eucharist

President and Preacher: The Vicar Minister: Daphne Pilcher

10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre with + Zoom

Lead: Tim Harrold Link: Karen Miller

Hymns: Advent Candle Song (first verse only)
My Jesus, My Saviour
Fight the Good Fight
Peace is Flowing
The Spirit Lives to Set us Free

Reading: Old Testament Isaiah 2. 1 – 5 (NIV page 687)

6.30 pm Readings and Music for Advent (CW)

Minister: The Vicar

Please see separate booklet



The Altar Flowers

today were donated by Deborah Bruce.
In loving memory of her husband,
Greg Bruce.

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY 1st December *Andrew The Apostle*

- 9.00 am** Morning prayer at the Parish Church – The Vicar
10.00 am Church at the Church Centre open for private prayer

TUESDAY 2nd Parish Office closed

WEDNESDAY 3rd *Francis Xavier, missionary 1552*

- 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

THURSDAY 4th *John of Damascus, monk, teacher of the faith c. 749* *Nicholas Ferrar, deacon, founder of the Little Gidding Community 1637*

- 10.00 am** Church at the Church Centre open for private prayer
11.30 am Holy Communion at the Church Centre – The Vicar
11.30 am Communion at Mount Ephraim House – May Graves
12.30 pm Lunch Club at the Church Centre
6.00 pm CYC Meeting at The Lodge
7.30 pm Living Hope, Tim Harrold

FRIDAY 5th

- 10.00 am** Church at the Church Centre open for private prayer
12.30 pm Community Larder at the Church Centre

SATURDAY 6th *Nicholas, Bishop of Myra c. 326*

- 10.00 am - 4 pm** Choristers Café in the Lodge

NEXT SUNDAY 7th December

The Second Sunday of Advent

- 8.00 am** Holy Communion (BCP)
President and Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am** Parish Eucharist (CW)
President and Preacher: The Vicar Minister: Daphne Pilcher
- 10.00 am** Family Service Christingle - The Church Centre with Zoom
Leader: Susan Powley Link: Rosemary Romano
- 6.30 pm** Evensong
Minister and Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am – 4 pm** Choristers Café at the Lodge

NEWS AND NOTES

From the Vicarage

Greetings to you all and a very warm welcome to our services today, the First Sunday of Advent. You are especially welcome to our 6.30 pm service of Music and Readings for Advent. As we begin our journey through the season of Advent, I pray that we will do so joyfully, even as we long to welcome afresh the Christ Child.

Christingle Service, Church Centre, 10 am 7th December

Please come along to this year's Christingle Service where we will all make Christingles and hear about the work of the Children's Society. Donations will be taken on the day to be sent to the Children's Society. Please invite your friends and family for what will be a fun occasion.

Family Service Carols and Readings 14th December at 10 am

This year's Carols and Readings Service will again feature the Family Service music group and friends. If you, or anyone you know, would like to join in playing at the service please get in touch with me or Karen Miller. Music will be supplied in advance! Thank You. Jeankerr@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

Family Crib Service, Sunday 21st December 2025 10 am Parish Church

We would love as many children as possible to be part of this warm friendly service! All ages are welcome to join our cast of children with either a speaking or non-speaking role. Costumes & Christmas Treats provided. For further details please contact: Mary Holmes 07881 371684 mary@mandmcreative.co.uk

Julian Group

The Julian group's last meeting of the year will be on Wednesday 3rd December at 11 am at 30 Chancellor House. The focus of our Advent reflection will be 'Angels'. All are welcome but please let Ann Loxley know if you are planning to come. For more information please contact Vreni Gould on 01892 522185.

The St Paul's Church and Rusthall Village Cookbook

The St Paul's Church and Rusthall Village Cookbook is here! A 175th celebratory collection of recipes by village residents and businesses with all the proceeds going to our church. There's a great selection of family favourites and those who contributed recipes also share lovely memories of connections to the village. It makes a great gift - so please do get one - or two, or more! Perhaps send one to former Rusthall folks who now live around the world! Copies cost £7 and are available at both the Parish Church and the Church Centre and from the Parish Office .

Appeal from the Flower Team for Christmas Trees

This Christmas we thought we might do something a little different to decorate the Church by having Christmas trees as a major element of our decorations. If you are thinking your existing artificial tree looks a bit sad and needs replacing could you consider donating the old tree and any surplus

decorations to the flower team. We would also be grateful for battery powered tree lights.

FACE TO FAITH - a new book from Tony Rutherford

Tony's second book is called 'Face to Faith' and is designed for those who want to think about and consider those ways in which our faith can affect the way we live. Its subtitle is 'A Book for Discussion Leading to Action'. It was first on sale, at £5, at the Autumn Fayre, with £1 going to the Fayre. It will be available for this and next two Sundays at both our churches. Orders for further copies, including bulk discounts, can be made by e mailing Tony on tony.rutherford37@icloud.com The book focusses on how we can face the world and its massive problems in hope via those groups of which we are members for example our families, church, House Groups, local discussion groups and so on. Copies of Tony's first book "Meeting Christianity Again - for the First Time" are still available, also at £5.

Finance Sub Committee

The application process for sitting on the finance subcommittee has now closed. A big thank you to those who have stepped p and volunteered to be a part of this important role.

Quiz Night and Special 100 Club Draw 13th December 2025 Church Centre

Reserve your seat now. Tickets are £15 each which includes a 2 course meal and free entry to Heads and Tails. Doors open at 6.30 pm. Contact Chris Dobson or email office@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk.

Christmas Services 2025 Parish Church

21st December 2025 Sunday at 10.00 am United Crib Service with shortened Holy Communion

21st December 2025 Sunday at 6.30 pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve 24th December 2025 Midnight Mass 11.30 pm

Christmas Day 25th December 2025 8.00 am Holy Communion
10 00 am Family Service

Church Centre

7th December 2025 Sunday 10.00 am Christingle

14th December 2025 Sunday 10.00 am Carols and Readings



CONTACTS

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