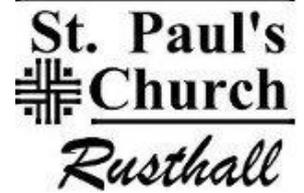


Sunday 8th March 2026

The Third Sunday in Lent



Collect for the Week

Eternal God,
Give us insight
To discern your will for us,
To give up what harms us,
And to seek the perfection we are promised
In Jesus Christ our Lord.

-
- 8.00 am** **Holy Communion (BCP)**
President and Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am** **Parish Eucharist (CW)**
President and Preacher: Reverend Nicholas Burton
Minister: The Vicar
- 10.00 am** **Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom**
Lead: Daphne Pilcher Link: Viv Littlechild
- Hymns: Shine Jesus Shine
 The Lords my shepherd
 What a friend we have in Jesus
 Bless the Lord
- Readings: John 4. 5 – 15 and 27 – 41 (page 1066 NIV)
- 6.30 pm** **Choral Evensong (BCP)**
Minister: The Vicar
- Introit: Remember not, Lord - Purcell
Hymn: NEH 376 I heard the voice of Jesus say
Responses: Radcliffe
Psalm: 43
1st Reading: Joshua 1. 1 – 9 Barbara Bourne
Magnificat: Gibbons Short Service
2nd Reading: Ephesians 6. 10 – 20 Tony Johnson
Nunc Dimittis: Gibbons Short Service
Anthem: Like as the hart - Howells
Hymn: NEH 437 Praise the Lord Ye heavens, adore him
Amen: Finzi

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY 9th March

- 9.00 am** Morning prayer at the Parish Church – the Vicar
10.00 am Church Centre open for private prayer
12 noon Cremation Service for Jane Helen Fox at Kent and Sussex Crematorium

TUESDAY 10th

Parish Office closed

- 2.00 pm** Lent Group at the Sanctuary, 53 Southwood Road, Rusthall with Tim Harrold
7.30 pm Worship Committee meeting in The Lodge

WEDNESDAY 11th

- 9.00 am** Morning prayer at the Church Centre – Tim Harrold
9.00 am Playtime at St Paul's
10.00 am Church Centre open for private prayer
3.00 pm Communion at Chamberlain Court with Tim Harrold

THURSDAY 12th *Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome 604*

- 10.00 am** 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
7.30 pm Living Hope at the Sanctuary, 53 Southwood Road, Rusthall, weekly during Lent

FRIDAY 13th

- 10.00 am** Church Centre open for private prayer
12.30 pm Community Larder at the Church Centre
6.30pm Junior Choir practise
7.30 pm Full Choir practise

SATURDAY 14th **10.00 am – 4.00 pm** Choristers Café

NEXT SUNDAY 15th March 2026

MOTHERING SUNDAY

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

- 8.00 am** Holy Communion (BCP)
President and Preacher: The Vicar
10.00 am Joint Parade Service
Minister: The Vicar Talk: Members of Girlguiding, Rusthall
10.00 am – 4.00 pm Choristers Café
6.30 pm Eucharist (CW)
President and Preacher: The Vicar

NEWS AND NOTES

The Vicarage

Greetings and a very warm welcome to our services today, the third Sunday in Lent. I hope that you will be able to join us for refreshments after the 10.00 am service and for Choral Evensong at 6.30 pm at the Parish Church. May we all be aware of God's continual leading, even as we journey through Lent.

Obituaries

Pat Lesley, the oldest member of the Parish (102 years old) died on Tuesday. Her funeral will be held at the Parish Church. Date to be confirmed.

John Masuku, a member of our Link Parish, St Peter's Mabelreign died recently. He was the editor of the Diocesan Magazine, The Trumpet.

Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends as they mourn their passing. May their souls rest in peace and rise in glory.

YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU!

We are looking for someone to serve as Secretary of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). The role of the Secretary is to:

1. Take the Minutes at the PCC meetings and circulate them to the PCC.
2. Prepare the agenda with the Vicar for the PCC meetings.
3. Prepare and distribute documents for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and take minutes for the meeting.
4. Act as the 'official' liaison between the Parish and The Diocese of Rochester.

The PCC meets for at most two hours on a 6/7 - week cycle. Please speak to Ronnie, May or Chris Dobson if you are interested to serve as the PCC Secretary.

APCM

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will take place at the Church Centre at 7.45 pm on Tuesday 12th May 2026. Papers for this meeting will be circulated in due course. During the meeting we will be looking to elect Church Wardens and members to the PCC. If you are interested to serve as a Warden or a member of the PCC please contact Ronnie, May or Chris Dobson.

The Church Youth Council

The Youth Council is busy, fun and flourishing. New members are always very welcome. We are also looking for enthusiastic and committed helpers. Please contact Angela (07779098026) or Jean Kerr (jeankerr@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk).

Future meetings:

OUR APRIL MEETING WILL BE A TREAT! To be announced.

Thursday 7th May. Talk by Anne Krisman Goldstein. The story of The Beacon

Thursday 4th June. Inspirational Talk 'Nothing is impossible!

Saturday 6th June. We are helping at the Commons Fun Day

6 pm to 7.30pm in The Lodge. All children of secondary school age welcome. Please don't feel shy - we are very welcoming and love meeting new friends!

EXCITING NEWS - "I am Mark" Production

It is with great excitement and anticipation that we can announce that 2026 will see an inaugural Shirley Barter Memorial Production. On 18th July we will be presenting "I am Mark", a daring new staging of the Gospel of Mark. Re-enacted by one person, "I am Mark" takes us through all the stories and drama in Mark's Gospel and presents it in the same way that the very first Christians would have experienced it. Performed in front of sell out audiences at both Rochester Cathedral and Edinburgh Fringe Festival, this is an event not to be missed. Tickets are now on sale via our website. See posters in The Lodge, Church and Church Centre for details. We expect tickets to sell quickly so please make sure you book yours soon.

Choir Concerts

Do not forget to purchase your tickets for the Choir's performance of **Handel's Messiah** featuring the iconic **Hallelujah chorus**. The performance will be on **Saturday 4th April at 6.30pm**. Tickets are available from the Parish Office at a cost of £10 or can be purchased online via our website www.stpaulsrusthall.org.uk, Eventbrite <https://stpaulshandelsmessiah.eventbrite.co.uk> or via the QR Code on posters at a cost of £10 plus booking fee. All proceeds go towards the Organ Restoration Fund." Tickets selling fast!

Easter Lilies

If you wish to give a lily or, lilies please complete the form below and send to the Parish Office/Helen. The minimum donation is £6 per lily. You can pay cash, by cheque (made payable to "St Paul's Church Rusthall") or by Bacs – Lloyds 30-98-77 a/c 00680470 reference "lilies". The names to be remembered will be placed on the altar for the Easter period.

EASTER LILIES 2026

Name of Person/s to be remembered:

Name of Sponsor: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Donation of £ cash..... cheque..... BACS..... (please tick)

Signed: _____ Date: _____



CONTACTS

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

Parish Office: Mrs Helen Reynolds 01892 521447, mobile 07502076320

Email: office@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

Website: www.stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales, Number 1132681