

St Paul's Church

Dear all

One more week to go until the Jubilee weekend and the services and events that are being planned. That Sunday will also be Pentecost (Whitsun) in the church calendar just as we are currently in 'Ascensiontide' which recognises the time between Ascension Day (Thursday 26th May) and Pentecost as a time when we remember the risen Jesus returning to be with the Father and leaving the disciples waiting on what is going to happen next!



As we wait for the next part of the story, we mustn't forget the many challenges that the world continues to face, not least as Ukraine continues to be under assault from Russia and as the cost-of-living crisis takes a toll on many. For most of us, dealing with the former issue is challenging, however we can help more immediately with the latter by continuing to support Foodbank collections at both St Paul's and St Nicholas' Churches. At St Paul's, Allert does a marvelous job of collecting goods and passing them on accordingly. At St Nicholas', please continue to leave donations at the porch of The Rectory as these are added to the stock held in the main hall and then collected as needed. The generosity shown by many is amazing, and everything is gratefully received, so please do keep the donations coming.

Rev Chris



Jesus went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

***"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."*** LUKE 4:16-1

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

All services are in church, zoom is available for some services.

SUNDAY 29th MAY – SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10 am Holy Communion - Canon Liz (Zoom)

SUNDAY 5th JUNE – PENTECOST

10 am Café Worship – Gwyn

SUNDAY 12th JUNE – FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10 am All-Age Communion – Rev Chris

SUNDAY 12th JUNE – SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10 am All-Age Worship – Rev Anthea

EVENTS

SUNDAY 5th JUNE

12 noon ST PAUL'S SOCIAL COMMITTEE - Queen's Jubilee Celebration (Bring & Share Lunch)

THURSDAY 9th JUNE

2.30 pm MOTHERS' UNION - Queen's Platinum Celebration Tea

FRIDAY 10th JUNE

9.30 am BABY & TODDLER GROUP - (large hall – see below)

THURSDAY 16th JUNE

2.30 pm FELLOWSHIP - Platinum Jubilee Tea Party

EVENTS @ ST MARY & ALL SAINTS, BOXLEY

SATURDAY 28th MAY

10.30am Historic Tour of Boxley Church with local historian Robin Ambrose Including an accompanied tour of the Bell Tower - All welcome, children must be supervised by an adult.

NOTICES

ST PAUL'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Despite an early morning downpour on Thursday 19th May the sun was shining by the time we left for our outing to Great Comp. The colourful gardens didn't disappoint and the earlier rain brought out the beautiful fragrances of the flowers. As usual the café was popular and added to everyone's enjoyment of the day.

Our next meeting at 2.30 pm on Thursday 16th June will be a tea party to celebrate Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. We will be sharing our memories and memorabilia of the Queen's Coronation.

Our annual membership will be due at the June meeting. Still excellent value for only £10 for the year!

A reminder that St Paul's will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a Bring and Share Lunch at 12 noon on Sunday 5th June. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of church. Transport can be provided where required. Do come and enjoy celebrating this momentous occasion with your friends at St Paul's.

For more information on any of the above please contact:

Ann 07713192369 Margaret 07985477481 Gill 01622 201839



FOOD BANK

Thank you for your very generous donations for last week's delivery. Those with access to Whatsapp will have seen the picture of a full car boot as well as items on the back seats. On behalf of the food bank, thank you so much.

The next delivery will be Friday 10 June which gives you a bit more time with the Jubilee weekend in between.

I will pray that we continue to have the means, energy and perseverance to support our neighbours in Maidstone. And if you have to stop supporting for whatever reason, please don't feel guilty or sad but be grateful for what you have been able to do.

Best wishes

Allert

PRAYER RESOURCE

week beginning Sunday, 29th May 2022

'The joy of the Lord is your strength' (Nehemiah 8: 10)

This week we rejoice:

- In the Ascension, and the knowledge that God is here among us, ready to listen to our prayers and eager to respond, ever faithful and always true.

Please pray for:

- All in our world who are lonely, neglected or afraid and ask for God's blessing on all who are struggling to survive.
- Nations caught up in violence and war and for people longing for peace with each other, with themselves and with God.
- The people of Ukraine, Russia, Eastern and Central Europe and for all who influence the welfare of our society, that they may be granted wisdom, courage, integrity and a true and genuine commitment to all who they serve.
- Our community and neighbourhood, and give thanks for all who give hospitality and care to others.
- The needs of our Parish, of Maidstone and of Kent as a whole as the newly-elected Council Members assume their responsibilities.
- The right words to say to people we meet who look to us for reassurance and hope.
- Our Church family: especially all who are struggling; and for Joan, Gilly, Barbara, Hazel, Edith, Peter, Pat, Alice, Jill, Trevor, Tony and Maureen; and in our wider church for Ruth, Joan, Helen and Megan.
- God's love to fill the hearts of all who cry out to Him.

You may like to use this prayer during the week:

Loving God, bless me and keep me in the Spirit's care.

Lead my life with love and understanding. Amen.