

St Paul's Church

Dear all,



The Platinum Jubilee weekend has arrived! I do hope that everyone has a wonderful time whatever they are doing, and I may see you at one of the various events taking place.

Sunday is also Pentecost, or some will know it as Whitsun. This is an important festival in the life of the church as it recognizes an event in the bible that is in many ways the birthday of the church. In the book from the bible, The Acts of the Apostles, we read of the disciples that had followed Jesus for the last three years (minus Judas, now replaced with Matthias) waiting together, the risen Jesus having 'ascended' to return to the Father.

The waiting ends in the dramatic events of the coming of God as Holy Spirit. There is drama as we read of the house that they are in being filled with the rush of a violent wind and then tongues of fire resting on each of them as they are 'filled' with the Holy Spirit, and they begin to speak in other languages!

The passage in Acts goes on to speak of people from many different countries with different languages being present that can understand all that they have to say. To me this speaks powerfully of the need for 'relevance' that enables others to understand what is being said – this seems to be a good principle to take hold of when we seek to speak of God to others as 'churchy' language can easily confuse. Jesus didn't aim to set up a church, he aimed to set up a movement that was about all of humanity (all of creation) ultimately reveling in the love, joy, beauty, and glory of God.

May we all revel in the joys of this coming weekend and sense the presence of God in all that we are and all that we do.

Jubilee blessings,
Rev Chris

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

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

SUNDAY 5th JUNE – PENTECOST

10 am Café Worship – Gwyn

SUNDAY 12th JUNE – FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10 am All-Age Communion – Rev Chris/Rev Anthea

SUNDAY 19th JUNE – SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10 am All-Age Worship with Baptism – Rev Anthea

SUNDAY 26th JUNE – THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10 am Holy Communion – Rev Chris

BABY & TODDLER GROUP
FREE TO ATTEND!
Fridays
9.30am - 11.30am

DATES
10th June
1st July
5th August

More details - Sarah Lavender
07934 666 865

St Paul's Church, Boxley Road, Maidstone, ME14 2AN

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

FOOD BANK

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

PRAYER RESOURCE

Week beginning Sunday 5th June 2022

As we pray, let us be open to receive from God all the gifts of the Spirit that he has lovingly chosen for us.

This week we give thanks for:

- God's gift of the Holy Spirit in whose power all things are possible; pray that through the Spirit we may be given the strength and courage we need to be God's children.
- The life of Barbara and for all she meant to St Paul's; pray for her family and friends at this sad time.
- Our longest reigning monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, and pray that God will bless and care for her and her family as she celebrates her Platinum Jubilee this weekend.

Please pray for:

- People and places torn apart by violence, unrest, destruction, poverty and climate change and pray for peace, justice and unity.
- Wisdom, discernment, love and respect from all world leaders as they face the serious and complicated issues affecting our world.
- Couples planning to marry this Spring and Summer; pray especially for Benjamin and Rachel from our Parish who are getting married on the 18th June.
- Anthea, as her date for ordination as a Priest draws near, and as she continues to juggle work, church and training.
- Our Church family, especially all who are struggling; and for Joan, Gilly, Hazel, Edith, Peter, Pat, Alice, Jill, Trevor, Tony, Maureen, Carol and Margaret; and in our wider church for Ruth, Joan, Helen and Megan.

You may like to use this prayer during the week:

Holy Spirit, unpredictable as the wind, unquenchable as fire, yet gentle as a dove: come now and breathe new energy into my life and new life into my soul, by your gracious power. Amen.