

# St Paul's Church

Dear all,

I have a serious subject for you this week, although I like to think that every week has something important to say. This week I want to highlight the legal responsibilities that we have in terms of protecting children and vulnerable adults within our communities – the heading that this falls under is called SAFEGUARDING.

The Diocese are asking us to ensure that our procedures are up to date in terms of those that have completed the relevant Safeguarding training. The level of training required is determined by the role undertaken by any individual and applies to all situations where there is contact with those who are considered at potential risk, which is pretty much any situation you can think of regarding church and its associated activities. Such training must be carried out every three years.

The roles where training is required includes those who welcome at the church door (often called Sides persons or Welcomers), those who serve refreshments, group leaders (including Bible Study Groups), Prayer & Pastoral Care coordinators/workers, worship leaders, Authorized Lay Ministers (ALM's), Parochial Church Council members, Churchwardens, Children & Families workers/ministers and Clergy. This is not an exhaustive list and other roles may be identified as we review matters and take Diocesan advice accordingly.

I have asked our Safeguarding Officers (Sarah Lavender at St Nicholas' Church and Ann Lewis at St Paul's Church) to carry out a review across the summer so that by the autumn all those that need to carry out the training have done so. Most of the training can be carried out online but where individuals do not have access to the internet arrangements can be made to make the training accessible, possibly with block sessions in church.

Both Sarah and Ann, together, will do their best to ensure that the training is accessible to those that need to undertake it, although there is a clear responsibility on individuals concerned to ensure that they make themselves available. Some of you will also have carried out Safeguarding training with other organisations, however there is still the need to undertake the Church of England training.

Let me thank all of you concerned, in advance, for your cooperation in this matter as I am sure that we all recognize the importance of this training and our legal and moral responsibility to ensure that church is a safe place for all.

Blessings,  
Rev Chris



## **FORTHCOMING SERVICES**

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

### **SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup> JULY – TRINITY 4**

10 am All-Age Communion – Rev Chris (Zoom)

### **SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup> JULY – TRINITY 5**

10 am Experimental Sunday – Rev Anthea (Zoom)

### **SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> JULY – TRINITY 6**

10 am Holy Communion – Rev Chris (Zoom)

### **SUNDAY 31<sup>st</sup> JULY – TRINITY 7**

10 am Holy Communion – Rev Robin/Rev Anthea (Zoom)

### **SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> AUGUST – TRINITY 8**

10 am Café Service – Gwyn

## **EVENTS**

### **THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> JULY**

2.30 pm MOTHERS' UNION – Maidstone & Me (Rev Robin Williamson)

### **THURSDAY 21<sup>st</sup> JULY**

2.30 pm FELLOWSHIP – Education Team – Kent Fire and Rescue Service

### **FRIDAY 5<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

9.30 am BABY & TODDLER GROUP - (large hall)

### **SATURDAY 13<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

3.00 pm Strawberries & Cream Tea

## **PRAYER RESOURCE**

**week beginning Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

*'There is nothing that makes us love someone so much as praying for them.'* (William Law)

This week we give thanks for:

- God's blessings on us and for His peace as we live out our lives for Him.
- The prayers of our young people: ask God's love and blessing on each one of them and on those who are in their thoughts and prayers at this time.

Please pray for:

- Peace in our world and comfort for all who mourn in the midst of war.
- Areas that are experiencing extreme weather patterns, such as the widespread flooding across Australia, the Italian glacier collapse and drought emergencies in many countries.
- Guidance for those working to unlock global supply chains to avert famine in poorer countries.
- The young people who speak up for those living in poverty and are seriously affected by the climate crisis; pray that they will be inspired to continue to challenge the powerful on behalf of their communities.
- The residents of the flats in Bedford following a serious gas explosion that destroyed much of the building.
- 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 for Ruth, Joan, Helen and Meaghan.
- Opportunities to show others God's love and care.

**You may like to use this prayer during the week:**

*Father God, thank you that as you call me to follow you, you equip me with the wisdom, truth, grace and passion of your Holy Spirit. Continue to bless me as I live out a life of faith in action. Amen.*

## **FOOD BANK**

**The next delivery will now be on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July - Thank you.**

