



St Paul's Church

Dear all,

At the end of this month, we will begin the countdown to Christmas as we enter Advent. It is incredible how quickly the season comes around. Many will turn their eyes to the main event of Christmas Day itself, however Advent is also important in that, like Lent, it prepares us for the significance of what is to come as we count down each Sunday. Our services during Advent will seek to reflect that sense of preparation as we spiritually connect with the 'waiting time'.

Pre-Covid we had a tradition of providing an open invitation for Christmas Rectory Suppers and we have decided to re-instate these again this year for the first time since the pandemic with an invitation to anyone for anyone from St Paul's or St Nicholas' churches who wish to come. We will be hosting these over the three evenings of Tuesday 6th, Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th December at 7pm. Sarah and I will host you here in The Rectory, in Allington, and provide a two-course dinner and drinks – all you need to do is let us know that you would like to come (and any dietary requirements). It is on a 'first come, first serve' basis as there is a limit as to how many we can accommodate each evening – if you would like to come (be assured that I do not do the cooking!) then either phone us on 01622 297307 or email rev.chris@hotmail.co.uk or sarahlavender59@hotmail.co.uk.

Rev Chris

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

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

SUNDAY 6th NOVEMBER – 3rd SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

10 am Café Service – Gwyn

SUNDAY 13th NOVEMBER – 2nd SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT - REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

10 am Holy Communion – Rev Chris (Zoom)

SUNDAY 20th NOVEMBER – SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT - CHRIST THE KING

10 am Experimental Sunday – Gwyn (Zoom)

SUNDAY 27th NOVEMBER – ADVENT SUNDAY

10 am Holy Communion – Rev Chris (Zoom)

SUNDAY 4th DECEMBER – 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10 am Holy Communion – Rev Anthea (Zoom)

EVENTS

SATURDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

9am till 1pm Christian Charity, MADM are opening their new Christian Bookshop 'Living Word' Church Street (where the old Charity Shop was). They will be serving Tea, Coffee and Cakes for a donation. Also, Christian jewellery and gifts as well as Tear Fund Christmas Cards will be on sale. Do pop in for a browse and cuppa, even if you don't want to buy anything.

THURSDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

2 pm MOTHERS UNION – Maidstone & Me – Robin Williamson

THURSDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

2 pm FELLOWSHIP – '50 ways to tie a scarf' Helen Kendall-Tobias

SUNDAY 27th NOVEMBER

Advent Bring and share lunch (a sign-up sheet will be circulated at church)

FOOD BANK

The next delivery will be on Friday 18th November.

PRAYER RESOURCE

week beginning Sunday, 6th November 2022

'Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.' (Romans 12: 12)

This week we give thanks for:

- All at St Paul's, young and old, and pray that we continue to know the love of God and each other, and to feel part of the whole church family.

Please pray for:

- All who are grieving loved ones and for the injured, following the South Korea Halloween crush.
- People living in West Africa as the region faces the worst flooding for a decade - over one million people have been displaced through unusually heavy rains, with climate change being blamed.
- The delegates attending COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh; pray that issues such as reducing emissions, helping countries to prepare for and deal with climate change and securing technical support and funding for developing countries will be fully discussed, decisions made and urgent action taken.
- The special people who have led us in the way of Christ through their words and deeds; may we, too, be a witness in our generation to the love and faithfulness of God.
- Our Church family, especially all who are struggling; and for Gilly, Hazel, Edith, Pat, Alice, Jill, Trevor, Tony, Maureen, Carol and Margaret; and for Ruth, Helen, Meaghan, Libby and Richard.
- Let us reflect this week on our attitude to those who struggle with the circumstances of their lives; when we feel impatient or judgemental, ask God to replace those feelings with his compassion.

The power of prayer may not be easily explained but it can be experienced. Thank you for your prayers.