



St Paul's Church



Dear all

Thank you to everyone who came to the Easter service last weekend. It really felt like a joyous celebration, and it was so lovely to see the church so full. I hope you all enjoyed the rest of the weekend and were able to relax and indulge yourselves.

This weekend we have something a little different. I'll be leading, but the talk will be given by Michael Cooper from Church Army. As many of you will know, we have a long association with this organisation, mostly via the late, great Capt. Graham Nunn who is much missed by us at St. Paul's. I'm sure Michael will have some very interesting things to say. The Gospel passage is the story of Doubting Thomas and Michael will be speaking into situations of fear and doubt with a special emphasis on those on the margins who were the original inspiration for Church Army.

The music this weekend will consist largely of worship songs which I know can be a bit 'Marmite'; people either love them or hate them. Personally, although I do love a good hymn, I'm looking forward to it. I know that the musicians have been practising hard, so please come and support them if you can. Two of the songs I've chosen may not be familiar to you. They are, 'What a Beautiful Name' and 'O Praise the Name of the Lord our God'. I've put links to versions of both of these below if you'd like to check them out in advance and get a feel for them.

On that note, I have to admit that it is one of my dreams to resurrect some sort of choir at St. Paul's. I know it's difficult, I know it's hard for people to find time for practise, and it can be a burden on the musicians too, but I hope it's not *impossible*. I'm just going to leave this thought here...I can't do anything without your help but if there are a small number of you who catch this vision, might we be able to put our heads together and get something off the ground? I wonder too if the wider community (hall users or local residents) would be interested in joining in?

What a beautiful name: <https://youtu.be/r5L6QIAH3L4>

O Praise the Name of the Lord our God: <https://youtu.be/LqBpifDpNKc>

Rev Anthea

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

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

SUNDAY 16th APRIL – EASTER 2 (ZOOM)

10 am Experimental Sunday – Rev Anthea

SUNDAY 23rd APRIL – EASTER 3 (ZOOM)

10 am Holy Communion – Rev Anthea

SUNDAY 30th APRIL – EASTER 4 (ZOOM)

10 am Celebrate God's Creatures – Jenny C & Rev Anthea

SUNDAY 7th MAY – EASTER 5

10 am Café Worship – Café Team

THE ELECTORAL ROLL

All Church of England parishes are required to maintain an Electoral Roll. Those people whose names are on the roll are entitled to attend the Annual Parish Meeting, attend and vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting and are eligible for election to the Parochial Church Council. The number of people on the Electoral Roll also determines how many representatives can be elected to the Deanery Synod where decisions may be taken that affect the churches within the deanery.

To be eligible applicants must be:

- a. Baptised and 16 years of age or over.
- b. Living in the parish and a member of the Church of England or a Church in communion with the Church of England.
- c. Not living in the parish but have regularly attended worship in the parish during the six months prior to enrolment.

All new applications must be received by the 29th April when the roll will be closed until after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting which is being held on Sunday 14th May 2023.

Application Forms will be available at the back of church from Sunday 16th April. Please return all completed forms to Jenny Turner (Electoral Roll Officer).

FOOD BANK

The next delivery will be on 28 April. Please see attached thank you letter from MHC.



maidstone
homeless
care

15 Knightrider Street,
Maidstone, Kent
ME15 6LP
Telephone: 01622 674064

Telephone: 01622 674064. manager@maidstonecitycentre.org.uk. www.maidstonecitycentre.org.uk

30/03/23

Dear Friend,

Thank you so much for your donation to help the work at Maidstone Homeless Care.

We really appreciate your support for our work in the community.

Your donation helps to keep our services operational which allows us to provide the right support to those who need it.

On behalf of Homeless Care, we thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Lamb', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Matt Lamb – Homeless Care Manager, Staff, Volunteers and Trustees.

PRAYER RESOURCE

week beginning Sunday, 16th April 2023

'Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.'
(Thessalonians 5: 16-18)

This week we give thanks for:

- The beauty and bounty of God's creation, and pray that we all take better care of these natural resources we've been given.
- God's blessing on each one of us from first light of day to when day is done, in our smiles and in our tears, through each day of our lives.

Please pray for:

- All who are struggling with fear, anxiety, depression and grief.
- Protection and healing: may God be our comforter, rock and refuge.
- The success of a global agreement to tackle plastic pollution, and for companies and organisations around the world to continue to take responsibility for their rubbish.
- Those who are facing major changes and challenges; give them the strength to face up to their trials and to know that you are there in areas of their lives where you are needed most.
- God's blessing on King Charles and Queen Camilla in this season of Coronation.
- Our Church family: all who are struggling; and for Edith, Pat, Alice, Jill, Trevor, Maureen, Sandra and Brenda; and for Ruth, Helen and Meaghan.
- Energy and boldness to share God's love and hope with all those you meet.

Let us pray the Renewing Hope prayer:

God our Father, renew our hope. By the Holy Spirit's power, strengthen us to pray readily, to serve joyfully and to grow abundantly, rejoicing in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.