



St Paul's Church



Photo by Amar Saleem

Dear all

If you were in church last Sunday, you'll have heard me say that from this weekend, albeit that it's Café Church, the liturgical colours at St. Paul's will switch to **green** to mark 'Ordinary Time', and this will stretch right up to late autumn.

The Church year revolves around two cycles:

1. The Christmas Cycle – Advent, Christmas, Epiphany
2. The Easter Cycle – Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost

The two periods of Ordinary Time stitch together these cycles, and when you read 'ordinary', don't imagine 'plain' or 'boring'. The term comes from the Latin *ordinalis* meaning numbered or ruled (like the numbers round a clock face), and it refers to the ongoing or rhythmical nature of the season. Our focus in Ordinary Time is on the life of the Church, remembering Christ's life and allowing his story to determine our actions in the world.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops puts it like this:

"Ordinary Time is a time for growth and maturation, a time in which the mystery of Christ is called to penetrate ever more deeply into history until all things are finally caught up in Christ. The goal, toward which all of history is directed, is represented by the final Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe."

It might be helpful to bear that in mind as we steel ourselves for a few weeks of solid electioneering in the run up to the General Election. Whichever way your conscious tells you to vote, remember to let the light of Christ illuminate your thoughts and actions as we mark the time before his return.

Rev Anthea

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

SUNDAY 2nd JUNE – Trinity 1

10.30 am Café Worship – Gwyn

SUNDAY 9th JUNE – Trinity 2

10.30 am All-Age Holy Communion – Rev Anthea

SUNDAY 16th JUNE – Trinity 3

9.15 am for 9.30 am - Bubble Church

10.30 am Experimental Worship – Gwyn

SUNDAY 22nd JUNE – Trinity 4

10.30 am - Holy Communion – Rev Anthea

EVENTS

FRIDAY 7th JUNE

9.30 am - Baby & Toddler Group

THURSDAY 13th JUNE

2.30 pm – Mothers' Union: Bingo

THURSDAY 20th JUNE

2.30 pm – Fellowship: Talk - Olive Lindsay and Gwen Walker

FRIDAY 28th JUNE

7 pm – Church Crafts

NOTICES

SATURDAY 15th JUNE AT 2.30 PM

The Friends of St Peter's Church in Boughton Monchelsea will be hosting a concert by Sonare, the superb London vocal quartet, who will be singing "The Best of British" in St Peter's Church. Come and join us for this excellent musical event. Cream teas and cakes will be available. Tickets cost £10 and are available from Margaret Greig on 01622 476705, or online from www.sonarechoir.com/concerts

SATURDAY 21st SEPTEMBER @ 3.30 PM

Friends of Kent Churches (Ride & Stride organisers)

75th anniversary evensong service - All Saints Church, Mill Street – All Welcome

FOOD BANK

The next delivery will be Friday 7th June.

PRAYER RESOURCE

week beginning Sunday, 2nd June 2024

'Prayer transforms our vision of the world, and makes us see it... in the light of God.' (Thomas Merton)

This week we give thanks for:

- The dedication of all who stand for public office in service of our communities - often at great personal cost – and those who support the process.

Please pray for:

- The people of Ukraine as the country faces its worst crisis since the war began.
- The thousands of people, displaced from other parts of Gaza and who have been sheltering in an encampment in Rafah, now facing Israeli air strikes and intense shelling.
- Our nation and the world as we approach the General Election: this is a critical moment in the life of our nation as those elected will make decisions that shape our future and affect generations to come.
- All people to treat each other with respect and kindness.
- Our Church family: all who are struggling; and for Edith, Pat, Alice, Jill, Trevor, Maureen, Sandra, Brenda, Elizabeth and Georgia; and for Ruth, Meaghan, Linda, Stephanie and Alan.
- Areas of our world where the resources of God's creation have been plundered; pray for their restoration and for courage and strength for all communities in need.

You may like to think on these words during the week:

'In the pain, in the doubt, in the loneliness, in the struggle of right against wrong, somewhere amongst the confusion there will be hope, there will be love, there will be God.'