



St Paul's Church



Dear all

Spring has finally sprung. What a long winter it seems to have been. Church members have been circulating pictures online of new buds and flowers appearing in their gardens. New life popping up everywhere. It's also been a long winter of interregnum for us at St Paul's. It is hard to believe that started in February 2023 when Chris Lavender retired. How blessed we were to have Anthea to guide and support us and how sad we were to see her go in October last year.

Relief was also provided by the wonderful generosity of retired clergy who have stepped in to assist us. Special thanks to Reverends, Robin Williamson, Brian Stevenson, Liz Walker, Paul Matthias and not forgetting Archdeacon Andrew. Also, much appreciation to Gwyn and Jenny C whose devoted service helped us through this time.

Now we wait in anticipation for the licensing of Rev Claude Gayle as Priest-in-Charge of St Paul's and St Nicholas on the 24th of this month. How will we change under her guidance, what will St Paul's be like this time next year? Exciting times!

With regard to Claude's licensing service, we will not only be joined by local clergy and dignitaries but also our brothers and sisters from St Nicholas. This will put a major strain on church parking. If you are coming to the service, please arrange to car share as much as possible. If you live close by, perhaps you can offer parking spaces at your home. If you can please advise the churchwardens.

Brian

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

SUNDAY 9 March – Lent 1

10.30 am - All-Age HC – Rev Brian Stevenson

SUNDAY 16 MARCH – Lent 2

9.15 am for 9.30 am - Bubble Church

10.30am Morning Worship – Gwyn

SUNDAY 23 MARCH – Lent 3

10.30 am - Holy Communion – Canon Liz Walker

SUNDAY 30 MARCH – Lent 4

10.30 am - Morning Worship – Gwyn

SUNDAY 6 APRIL – Lent 5

10.30 am - Café Church – Café Church Team

EVENTS

THURSDAY 13 MARCH @ 2.30 pm

Mothers' Union: Winter Memories

SATURDAY 15 MARCH 5.30 pm for 6 pm

Quiz Evening with 'Ploughman's' (pre-booking is by Sunday 9th March admin@stpaulsmaidstone.org or text 07516 159879)

THURSDAY 20 MARCH @ 2.30 pm

Fellowship: Robin Williamson

MONDAY 24 MARCH @ 7 pm

Licensing Service – Rev Claudette Gayle

FRIDAY 28 MARCH @ 7 pm

Crafts

FRIDAY 4 APRIL @ 9.30 am

Baby & Toddler Group

THURSDAY 10 APRIL @ 2.30 pm

Mothers' Union: Braille

THURSDAY 17 APRIL @ 2.30 pm

Fellowship: Easter Craft Event

ELECTORAL ROLL 2025

This year a new Church Electoral Roll is being prepared (this happens every six years). Every person who wishes to have his or her name entered on the new Roll, whether it is entered on the present roll or not may apply for enrolment.

Forms will be available in church from 16th March 2025 and must be returned by **Saturday 26th April 2025** to Jenny Turner to be included in this year's Roll.

FOOD BANK

The next delivery will be on Friday 21st March.

EASTER FLOWERS

Easter is an appropriate time to remember a loved one, relative or friend who has died. One way of doing this is to donate towards the annual cost of church flowers in their memory. During the Easter season a list will be on display in church giving the names of those in whose memory flowers have been donated.

If you would like to contribute in this way, please complete one of the forms at the back of church and hand to Charys by Palm Sunday 24th March. If anyone wishes to donate online or using the card machine, please record the donation as 'Flowers' on the 'Payments Form' next to the machine. *Thank you.*

PRAYER RESOURCE

week beginning Sunday, 9th March 2025

'God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.'

(Psalm 46: 1)

This week we give thanks:

- For a new season, and as we journey through Lent and Spring help us to notice signs of new life in the wilderness places.
- For our everlasting God who sustains our souls and renews our spirits; may we continually live in him and he in us.
- For all that we have, and pray for those around the world who have lost everything.

Please pray:

- That this season of Lent may be a time of spiritual renewal and refreshment for each one of us, and that peace will reign in our lives and in the world.
- That all people learn the way of justice as the gap between rich and poor continues to widen.
- For countries around the world facing chronic food shortages due to extreme weather conditions, poor harvests, war and conflict.
- For God's protection for humanitarian workers doing such vital and constructive work with communities in desperate need of help and hope.
- Our Church family: especially all who are struggling; and for Edith, Pat, Alice, Jill, Sandra, Brenda, Elizabeth, Carol, Di, Ray, Percy and Paul; and for Meaghan, Linda, Alan, Alison and Carol.
- The future life of our Church with our new priest-in-charge, and for our acceptance of the inevitable changes.

You may like to use this prayer during the week:

Lord, may Lent be a time of inward searching that makes me more able to look with compassion at the needs of the world. Amen.



Quiz night
12th April 2025
Weaving Village Hall
Behind the Fox and Goose
Weaving Street
7 pm for 7.30 start
Tickets £5 per head
Bring your own
food and drink

For more information please contact
Janet or George 01634 323749
Penny or Martin 07734 409140

The poster features a large question mark icon, a cartoon lightbulb character, and several smaller question mark icons in various colors.

All proceeds to St Mary and All Saints Church, Boxley

Thank you for your support