



St Paul's Church



“Why do we fall master Bruce? So, we can learn to pick ourselves up.” At the end of Batman Begins, when Bruce Wayne see and is responsible for his parents, house being destroyed and going up in flames, Bruce, now a man, speaks of regrets at destroying his father’s house.

Alfred the butler says,

“The Wayne legacy is more than bricks and mortar...Why do we fall sir? So, we can learn to pick ourselves up.”

Looking shocked, Bruce says to Alfred his butler,

“You still haven’t given up on me.” To which the reply is “Never.”

As you know, I love superheroes and watching a movie or two in my spare time, helps me to unwind. For me it’s great that script writers, knowingly or unknowingly are quoting from the Bible, or using examples from the Bible to illustrate their point.

Many of us, over the years, have experienced times when we have fallen—whether that be physically or spiritually. These moments can lead us to feel as though we have let God down. However, it is important to remember that we were never the ones holding God up in the first place. Our mistakes, our moments of stumbling and falling, are not just setbacks; they are valuable opportunities to learn and grow.

Each time we make a mistake, we gain the chance to reflect and discover how we might approach things differently in the future. When we encounter similar situations again, we are better equipped, drawing on the knowledge and experience we have gained from our past challenges.

Fans of The Lion King may recall the moment when Rafiki, the wise monkey, hits Simba on the head. When Simba protests and Rafiki goes to hit him again, Simba reacts differently, having learned from the previous experience. In the same way, we often learn more from our difficulties than we realise—sometimes, it just takes seeing things from a new perspective.

It is vital to be gentle with ourselves and recognise that progress is sometimes more significant than we think. Even if we feel we haven't made as much headway as we'd like, we should remember to show ourselves some compassion.

From God's perspective, we can love like He loves and be assured that as we stand by His word, we are growing and are learning from Him, even when it doesn't feel obvious.

SERVICES

SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER – Advent Sunday

10.30 am - All Age Service – Rev Claude & Chris Gillespie

SUNDAY 7 DECEMBER – Advent 2

10.30 am - Christmas Café Service – Café Church Team

SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER - Advent 3

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist Christmas Service – Rev Claude

SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER – Advent 4

9.15 am for 9.30 am - Bubble Church - dress-up nativity

10.30 am – Christmas Morning Praise – Gwyn

WEDNESDAY 24 DECEMBER @ 2.30 pm

Crib & Christingle Service – Rev Claude & Gwyn

THURSDAY 25 DECEMBER @ 10 am

Christmas Day Communion – Rev Claude

EVENTS

FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER @ 10.30 am

Community Café

FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER @ 7 pm

Church Crafts

SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER @ 2.30 - 4.30 pm

Craft & Plant Sale

FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER @ 9.30 am

Baby & Toddler Group

THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER @ 2 pm

Mothers' Union: Advent

THURSDAY 18 DECEMBER @ 12 Noon

Fellowship: Christmas Lunch – Toby Carvery, Langley

FOOD BANK

The next collection will be on 19 December

PRAYER RESOURCE

week beginning Sunday, 30th November 2025

'The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. For those who live in a land of darkness, a light will shine.' (Isaiah 9:2)

This week we give thanks for:

- Advent and for knowing that as we journey to meet the new-born Christ, the risen Lord comes with us every step of the way.

Please pray for:

- God's blessing on the prayer life of St Paul's, and the difference prayer can make in people's lives and in the world.
- The opportunities Advent and Christmas bring in outreach: for Street Pastors, Workplace Chaplains, Homeless Care and the Winter Shelter project and all Churches in Maidstone who regularly open their doors to others; pray that the people of Maidstone may experience God's love in some way in their daily lives.

- All who are without hope, battling with loss, worry, lonely or desperate for news of a loved one, that the light of Christ will shine in their lives; pray for a renewal of hope to be kindled in our own hearts.
- Our Church family, especially all who are struggling; and for Edith, Alice, Jill, Sandra, Brenda, Elizabeth, Carol Di, Ray, Percy and Paul; and for Meaghan and Alison.
- Our own journey through Advent; that the season may not be obscured by the commercial emphasis on Christmas, and as we make our practical preparations, may we keep sight of the spiritual.

You may like to use this prayer during the week:

Heavenly Father, as we begin this Advent journey, fill our hearts with your comfort and joy, that we may wait with confidence for the coming of your Son. Make us watchful and keep us faithful in your service, so that we may share your hope with all around us. Amen.

St Paul's Church
Boxley Road
Craft and Plant
Sale

Saturday
29th November
2:30pm to 4:30pm

THE 2025 CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL
BOXLEY CHURCH

Friday 28th November to Monday 1st December
Come and visit our Tree Topped Treasures!

Friday 28 November 10am - 4pm	Saturday 29 November 10am - 4pm
Sunday 30th November 11am - 4pm	Monday 1st December 10am - 4pm

St. Mary's and All Saints Church, Boxley
The Street, Boxley, Maidstone, ME14 3DX