



# St Paul's Church



The second Advent candle is typically the Candle of Peace, representing the prophets who spoke of Christ's coming, such as Isaiah, who called him the "Prince of Peace". When we think of Peace today, typically we think of the lack of peace between nations involved in conflict.

It's important as Christians that we are able to reflect and discern what Peace means for us. Through His sacrifice, Jesus bridged the chasm between humanity and God, offering forgiveness and peace that restores our relationship with Him. This reconciliation heals the divide caused by sin, bringing us into harmony with our Creator.

Psalm 46.10 says, "Be still and know that I am God." This is a call for us to find peace in God's presence, while Jesus promises that in Him, we have peace, despite life's troubles. We are assured that God's peace, beyond understanding, will guard our heart and minds when we pray, and we can, as those who trust God steadfastly have perfect peace and rest in His presence.

Advent calls us to pause and dwell in God, letting His peace calm fears and steady hearts, transforming our perspective amid life's storms. In God's presence, we find peace that calms our fears and steadies our hearts.

Isaiah 9.7 says, "Of the greatness of His government and peace there will be no end." Christ's eternal reign ushers in a peace that transforms hearts and nations. His government, as Isaiah prophesies, brings an unending peace that strengthens and equips us. Advent points us to this future where His rule extends globally, guiding us into paths of peace. This hope inspires us to live as ambassadors of His kingdom, spreading His peace through our works and words. This week, let's allow Christ's reign to begin in our hearts, fostering peace that radiates outward.

## **SERVICES**

### **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

### **SUNDAY 28 DECEMBER – First Sunday after Christmas**

No Service

## **EVENTS**

### **THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER @ 2 pm**

Mothers' Union: Advent

### **THURSDAY 18 DECEMBER @ 12 Noon**

Fellowship: Christmas Lunch – Toby Carvery, Langley

### **FRIDAY 30 JANUARY @ 7 pm**

Church Crafts

### **FRIDAY 10 JANUARY @ 9.30 am**

Baby & Toddler Group

## **FOOD BANK**

The next collection will be on 19 December

## **PRAYER RESOURCE**

**week beginning Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

*'Our Lord, come!'* (1 Corinthians 16: 22)

*'Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!'* (Revelation 22: 20)

This week we give thanks for:

- The miracles of nature this Winter and may we wonder anew at God's creative genius.
- The invitation to follow the star and find out what it is pointing to: the person of Jesus and the light he brings to each of us.

Please pray for:

- Peace in our world this Advent and Christmas: pray for an immediate ceasefire and an end to violence in areas around the world torn apart by conflict, and for comfort and hope for all people who are in despair, terrified, mourning and suffering.
- Humanitarian workers: for protection and strength as they provide assistance and medical help to those in need.

- People living in the most vulnerable regions of our world where climate change is having a catastrophic impact on their ability to produce food and supply water.
- All who are travelling across countries and between nations in these cold months of winter; pray that where there is fear, bring peace; where there is exploitation, bring justice; and where people suffer, bring relief.
- Our Church family, especially all who are struggling: for Edith, Alice, Jill, Sandra, Brenda, Elizabeth, Carol, Di, Ray, Percy and Paul; and for Meaghan and Alison.
- The Christmas story to be heard afresh and for those who hear it to be changed by it.

**You may like to use this prayer during the week:**

***Loving God, by the leading of a star you revealed Jesus, the Light of the World. As I follow the star, lead me out of darkness into his wonderful light. Amen.***