The Parish Church of St. Paul, Wokingham



The Advent Service of Words and Music

Sunday 1st December 2024 at 6.15pm

We stand for the hymns and sit for the choir carols and readings.

At the end of each reading, the reader will say:

"This is the word of the Lord"

and we all respond

"Thanks be to God."

Please stay after the service for refreshments and fellowship in the Parish Rooms if you can.

"Come, my breath and my life.

Come, the consolation of my humble soul.

Come, my joy, my glory,

my endless delight."

St Symeon the New Theologian

Opening Choir Anthem

Matin Responsory (Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621)

Processional Hymn (omit * verses)

26 Come thou Redeemer of the earth

The Greeting and the Advent Bidding

The Advent Collect

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Choir Advent Prose (636)

Lesson 1 Exodus 3.1-6

Moses and the burning bush

Choir O Emmanuel

E Esenvalds (1977-)

Lesson 2 Isaiah 40.1-8, 11

All people are grass,

but the word of God shall stand for ever

Poem Incarnation, by Denise Day Spencer

Congregational Hymn

29 A great and mighty wonder

Lesson 3 Isaiah 52.7-10

Be joyful- the Lord has comforted his people

Quartet This is the truth sent from above

R Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Lesson 4 Malachi 3.1-5

Behold, I send my messenger to prepare the way before me: the Lord whom you seek will

suddenly come to his temple

Congregational Hymn

12 Longing for light, we wait in darkness

Lesson 5 Isaiah 61.1-3, 11

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim

liberty to the captives

Choir Of the Father's Heart Begotten

arr. D Willcocks (1919-2015)

Congregation join in the last verse – hymn 28 omitting v6

Poem Mother and Child, by Charles Causley

Lesson 6 St Luke 1.26-45

Mary and Gabriel are met: Elizabeth and Mary rejoice

Choir Bogoroditse Dyevo (from the Vespers)

S Rachmaninov (1873-1943)

(Rejoice, O virgin mother of God, Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, for thou hast borne the saviour of our souls.)

Advent Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Recessional Hymn

11 Lo, he comes with clouds descending

The Blessing

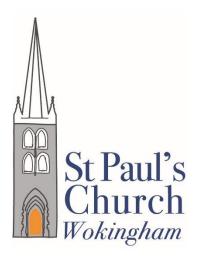
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Organ Music Overture to the Oratorio 'St Paul' F Mendelssohn, arr. W. T. Best



Since 1864 St Paul's has been a beacon in the community and a place of encounter with God, in joyful times, in times of sadness and in all of the normal routine of life.

Our Missional Vocation Statement:
Shaped by God in the Eucharist,
we are called to make the richness of his love
known to everyone in the community.



For details of forthcoming events and information on anything to do with the life of the church, please check our website www.spauls.org.uk, befriend us on Facebook or ring the Parish Office on 0118 979 2122.



Christmas 2024 in the Parish of St Paul, Wokingham and St Nicholas, Emmbrook

Sunday 22nd December

6.15pm Nine Lessons and Carols St Paul's

Monday 23rd December

3pm Christingle Service for all-ages St Paul's 5pm Christingle Service for all-ages St Paul's

Christmas Eve (24th December)

9pm First Mass of Christmas St Nicholas'

11pm Midnight Mass St Paul's

(with Choir Carols from 10.30pm)

Christmas Day (25th December)

8am Mass (traditional language) St Paul's 9.30am All Together Mass St Paul's