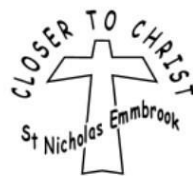


Pews News

St Paul's Church, Wokingham
St Nicholas' Church, Emmbrook



Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ to this house of prayer, especially if you are with us for the first time. Please use the hand gel as you come in.

Socially distanced seating is available towards the back of the church.

Anybody, of any age, who has been baptised in any Christian Church, is warmly invited to receive the Eucharist here- currently still in the form of the bread only, which counts in Christian theology as a full communion.

Come forward down the central aisle and then return to your seat down the side aisle. Please tell the priest if you need a gluten-free wafer. If you'd prefer to receive a prayer of blessing please come forward with everyone else and keep your head bowed at the rail.

We are a Church family committed to welcoming all those who come as God's precious and beloved child, whatever their age or race, sexuality or experience, background or confidence in Church. We only become the Church God is calling us to be when everybody is made welcome and everybody is freed to contribute and join in.
Welcome home.

18th December: Fourth Sunday of Advent

9.30am	St Paul's	Parish Mass & Baptism of Sophie Bowden	Fr Richard
		Readings: Isaiah 7.10-16, Matthew 1.18-end	
		Hymns: 21, 264, 187, 9	
		<i>Fugue et Hymne sur Ave Maris Stella (op. 28), by Flor Peeters</i>	
11am	St Nick's	Community Eucharist	Rev'd Judi Hattaway
6.15pm	St Paul's	Nine Lessons & Carols	Fr Richard & Rev'd David Hodgson

Antiphon for Advent 4: O Virgin of virgins, how shall this be? for neither before thee was any like thee, nor shall there be after. Daughters of Jerusalem, why marvel ye at me? The thing which ye behold is a divine mystery.

Collect God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Post Communion Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Week Ahead 19th – 24th December

Monday	8.30am	Zoom	Morning Prayer
		Meeting ID 753 2006 4518	Passcode 024453
Tuesday	9am	St Paul's	Morning Prayer
	7.15pm	Zoom	Bible Study
		Meeting ID 861 4762 3913	Passcode 70205
Wednesday	8.30am	Zoom	Morning Prayer
		Meeting ID 753 2006 4518	Passcode 024453
	10am	St Paul's	Crib Service
Thursday	8.30am	Zoom	Morning Prayer
		Meeting ID 753 2006 4518	Passcode 024453
Friday	9am	St Paul's	Morning Prayer
	1.45pm	Parish Rooms	Coffee and Chat
		<i>Come along to chat, and relax with others</i>	
Christmas Eve	3pm & 5pm	St Paul's	Christingle Service
	11pm	St Paul's	Midnight Mass

25th December: Christmas Day

8am	St Paul's	Low Mass	Fr Richard
9.30am	St Paul's	Christmas Day Eucharist	Fr Richard
		Hymns: 34, 22, 32, 26	
		<i>Sleigh bells across the snow, by Malcolm Archer</i>	

PARISH GIVING SCHEME UPDATE

60% of our regular givers have now transferred over to the Parish Giving Scheme, which is really great news! That does however leave quite a few donors who are still using envelopes or giving by standing order. The benefits to the parish through using the PGS scheme are very significant, not just the reduction in workload and administration, so please, if you haven't yet joined, do consider it and talk to Lyn. He would be very happy to answer any questions you may have ... and give you an application form!

Notices

Fr Richard will be giving a short **introduction to St Matthew's Gospel** over coffee **TODAY** in the Parish Rooms.

Christmas Flowers

I am planning to prepare the Church for Christmas on Friday 23rd December, meet at 10.00 a.m. Flowers will be supplied but contributions of foliage and help would be very much appreciated and any donations people wish to make.
Sue Davenport

Christmas Stockings

As part of our outreach this year Mothers' Union has given 300 knitted Christmas stockings to Children Heard and Seen, with each one holding a Lindt chocolate figure and two chocolate sprouts. The charity is now helping almost 300 children of families with a parent in prison and we hope this small gift will help with fun and self esteem.

It's always difficult to gauge numbers so we have a few stockings left which are at St Pauls for you to take and fill for Christmas. You could put a lip salve or chocolate figures in them, for the tree or the table. Please put a donation in one of the small bags and post it in the safe behind the font.

Mulled Wine and Mince Pies

After the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at 6:15 pm today, the Social Committee will be providing mulled wine and mince pies in the Parish Rooms. A few Donations of Stollen and a treat of some Home made Mince Pies would be most welcome. *Alan and Trish*

Thank you to everyone who bought books over the last couple of weeks and to the Matthews family for organising the sale. A total of £159 was raised towards church funds.

JANUARY LUNCH

Sunday 15th January, 12.30 for 1pm
Adult £12.50/Child £6/ Family £32
Sign up at the back of church ASAP

Payment by cash or BACs:

Account Name: PCC St Paul's
Sort Code: 20-11-74
Account no: 80683752
Ref: Lunch

More information from Trish or Alan:
trishgatland@hotmail.co.uk
al_harrison@hotmail.co.uk

The Winter edition of **Pathways** magazine is now available at the back of the church – do take one for yourself and one for someone else!

BOOKING NOW OPEN FOR THE LENT RETREAT

The parish retreat is set to take place at St Columba's House in Woking from **6pm on Friday 3rd to 2.30pm on Sunday 5th March 2023**

Further information and a booking form are available on the parish website:

<https://spauls.co.uk/lent-retreat-2023/>

Prayers

The sick: Angela; Phoebe; Ailsa Harvey; Mike Dyer; Roy Holmes; Niki; Connor Broad; Sandra; Doreen; Alaister; Joss; Becky; Cara; Benjamin; Úna Standen; Jenny; Margaret Newman; Dinah; Mark

The Recently Departed: Alan Povall, Rosaleen Waddell, Sheila Hill

Year’s Mind: Colin Wood; (18th) Gordon Johnson; (19th) Sarah David, Douglas Burton; (20th) Fanny Walker, Richard Billington, Lorraine Harvey, Mary Harvey, Rafe Hattaway, Sheila Jupp; (21st) Katherine Beckett; (22nd) Mary Ellison, Dorothy Trimmer, Robin Barns; (23rd) Nina Peggs, Ian Field; (24th) William Allison, Peter Shepherd

My soul magnifies the Lord!	Stars are shining
All is ready	People expecting
Stable prepared	A drama unfolding
Shepherds working	The Lord is coming
Magi journeying	To save his people
Gifts are chosen	Mary's obedience
A city awaits	Jesus' willingness
Crowded and bustling	Your gracious gift to us
	My soul magnifies the Lord!

Please note that most acts of worship at St Paul’s are now live streamed. Although cameras are focused on those leading worship, please be aware that your image may be captured and streamed. If you would like further information on where to sit, please ask the sidespeople as you arrive.

Clergy			
Fr Richard Lamey	0118 327 9116	rector@spauls.co.uk	Rest Day Sat
Mthr Cara Smart	0118 901 4365	cara.smart@spauls.co.uk	Rest Day Sat
Rev’d Jane Kraft	01276 36402	revd.janekraft@btinternet.com	Rest Day Fri
Rev’d Judi Hattaway	0118 976 1197	judihattaway@mac.com	Rest Day Fri
Churchwarden			
Peter Wells	0118 377 6351	peter.wells@spauls.co.uk	
Deputy Churchwarden			
Pippa Sutton	07814 347693	pippa.sutton@spauls.co.uk	
Deputy Warden for Mission and Spirituality			
Mary Cassidy	0118 979 5096	mary.cassidy@spauls.co.uk	
Church Administrator			
Louise Cole	0118 979 2122	church.office@spauls.co.uk	
Parish Rooms Administrator			
Vanessa Hemmi	0118 334 2668	parish.rooms@spauls.co.uk	
The office in the Parish Rooms is open on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9.30am to 12 noon			