

THE SPIRE

The Parish Magazine for St Paul, Wokingham
St Nicholas, Emmbrook and Woosehill Church



DECEMBER 2019

www.spauls.org.uk

EDITORS' MESSAGE

Christmas can be a mixed bag. For some it is a joy but for others it can be difficult. We need to accept the differences in the people close to us and go with the flow. The most important thing is to keep it simple. Don't burden yourself with the expectation of perfection and try to keep the reason why we are celebrating Christmas in the forefront of all that you do.

Here are few 'Stop Press' items:

St Nicholas' Shared Lunch – Sunday 8th December

We will be holding a Shared Lunch for our Patronal Festival after our morning service. Everyone is very welcome to join us. Please email Liz Gallagher if you are coming (lizgallagher1952@gmail.com), and if you would be willing to bring a contribution to the lunch.

Parish Office Christmas Closure – 20th December to 2nd January

The parish office will be closing at 1pm on Friday 20th December and opening again at 10am on Thursday 2nd January.

Christingle Services – 24th December

There will be two Christingle Services on Christmas Eve at 3pm and 5pm. Do please bring your children and grandchildren along for a wonderful celebration and a great start to your Christmas festivities. We'll be collecting for the amazing work of the Children's Society, which is a charity working in the UK doing hands on work with young people and campaigning to improve their lives in so many ways.

Christmas blessings to you all,
Ann Grice & Jane Clark, Editors

JANUARY 2020 EDITION

Copy Deadline:

Monday 16 December

Publication date: Sunday 12 January

Page: A4 page margins: top & bottom 1cm; left & right 1.5cm

Font: Title: Arial 16pt. (bold); Text: Arial 14pt.

Line spacing: 1.15 (approx. 450-480 words/page)

Content & Advertising: spire.editor@gmail.com



This magazine is produced and published by the Rector and PCC of the parish of St Paul, Wokingham. Opinions expressed by individuals and groups contributing content do not necessarily reflect the views of the publishers.

Come let us
Adore
Him



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Front cover: **St Paul's Church**. Image: Andy Clark

I'M DREAMING OF A GREEN CHRISTMAS

As we head into the festive season let me share with you some rather staggering statistics about Christmas - the most wonderful, and the most wasteful, time of the year.



Did you know that?

- We generate 30% more rubbish over Christmas – that is 3 million tonnes of the stuff. More waste means more carbon dioxide and methane, and that raises the temperature of the earth.
- A UK adult spends on average £330 on presents.
- A UK child receives on average 16 gifts.
- 1 billion Christmas cards are sent, and then mainly binned, rather than recycled.
- We consume 2 million turkeys.
- We buy 6 million Christmas trees – 14% of artificial trees get binned each year, rather than being re-used. The weight of real trees thrown away is 160,000 tonnes.
- According to Unilever, 4.2 million Christmas dinners are thrown away: that equates to 263, 000 turkeys, 7.5 million mince pies, 740,000 slices of Christmas pudding, 17.2 million Brussel sprouts, and 11.9 million carrots. The sprouts alone that are wasted could power a home for 3 years!
- £700 million is spent on unwanted gifts.
- 227,000 miles of wrapping paper is thrown away.
- 114,000 tonnes of plastic packaging is thrown away and not recycled.

(Statistics from www.phswastekit.co.uk)

Now that I have armed you with enough answers to win the Christmas Trivia Competition 2019, I wonder what your reaction is?

My own thoughts include a real sense of shame at this profligacy as well as a question to myself: what part I can play in reducing my family's waste?

Last year we converted to brown paper and string, with brown cardboard tags bearing fun designs – a preliminary attack on the issue of wrapping paper.

We send 'cards' electronically where we can, and for the rest I buy glitter-free cards that can be recycled. I found out, in the past, where to recycle cards; sometimes I let a residential school have them for the children's artwork.

We have crackers left from last year but, from now on, we shall buy only those that can be recycled and do not contain a lot of plastic bits-and-pieces that no one really wants.

Small changes from us all could make a big difference. I know that Jesus was born into a world very different from ours. A world where less money changed hands at religious festivals, where life was much harder in many ways, and probably one that was much less wasteful. Certainly, one that was less environmentally damaging.

As we again celebrate the Incarnation, maybe we can commit to buying a lot less, using a lot less, wasting a lot less – and recycling a lot more.

Have a wonderful Christmas, wherever you are spending it.
Warmest wishes,

Rev Judi Hattaway, Assistant Priest

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

We will be meeting at 10am on Monday 23rd December to prepare the church for Christmas.

All offers of help are very much appreciated whether it is arranging, supplying foliage, tidying up etc. Flowers are supplied. Contributions towards the cost of the flowers are also very welcome.



Sue Davenport

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REQUEST

Service of Carols and Nine Lessons After-Party
Sunday 22nd December

After the service we have a social get together with mulled wine and mince pies. The Social Committee would be grateful to receive donations of mince pies and mulled wine both alcoholic and non-alcoholic.

Geraldine Lea, Social Committee



GENERAL ELECTION 2019 WOKINGHAM HUSTINGS

Confirmed as attending:

**Phillip
Lee**
(Lib Dem)

**Annette
Medhurst**
(Labour)

**John
Redwood**
(Conservative)

Friday 6th December, 7.30pm

Wokingham Baptist Church

Milton Road, RG40 1DE

Organised by *Churches Together in Wokingham*
www.wokinghamchurches.org.uk

Doors open from 7pm.
Questions to be submitted
in writing on the night, in
time for a 7.30pm start.

Questions will be chosen
to represent a variety of
topics.



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VÄXJÖ EXPEDITION OCTOBER 2019

I was told that what happens on tour stays on tour, but we had such an amazing trip that it needs to be shared. We have had first-hand experience of our friends in Växjö, their beautiful church, their interesting town and their family lives. They really do see us as their friends; one of the first things we noticed on the wall in the extensive lobby part of their church is a display of their choir visit to St Pauls Wokingham in October 2017.



The trip was planned over several months with all those going keeping in touch via a “WhatsApp” group; helping and supporting each other with various practical aspects of the trip. Andrew became Swedish train guru. Several of us got together to book our flights and make sure that if we wanted to, we would all be on the same flights together. Penny, Tom, Andrew, Sylvia, Doreen and Peter took the opportunity to extend their holiday with a trip to Copenhagen either before or after the main visit. Despite having spent a lot of time with the choir group when they had their brief visit here two years ago I was quite anxious at the prospect of travelling to a country where although I had made an effort, my knowledge of the Swedish language was very near to zero.

For the main party it started at Wokingham train station at 5.30am on Friday morning. Richard was counting to 5 as he caught the train from Reading to Gatwick with Dawn, Penny, Susanna and myself. Alice and Maurice were on the train already and the count went up to 7. At Gatwick Airport we met up with Doreen and Peter, so Richard could still manage 9 on his fingers. After a smooth journey through security, once Peter had two boarding passes downloaded on his phone and not just one, we visited various establishments for breakfast. We had several messages from our train guru so that when we landed in Copenhagen, we had maps and pictures to guide us to the ticket machines. We met Andrew and Sylvia here, so the count went to 11 but fortunately Richard did not resort to taking his shoe off! Messages from the last of our travellers confirmed the train that they were on and that we hoped to join. Penny and Tom did an excellent job of finding an almost empty carriage where we could join them for the last two-and-a-half-hour train journey to Växjö.

Stefan met us at the train station and took us to the very impressive “parish rooms” Domkyrkocentrum, the cathedral’s equivalent beside the cathedral where we were provided with refreshments.



The final stage of the journey to Mariakyrkan (the church of Mary) was on a local bus, using the church bus card. We did this several times back and forth between the town and the church, so the bus drivers got to know this group of English people.



Their parish church is a lovely building with extensive facilities all under the same roof – the standout feature being a large dome, in contrast to our tall spire. The choir were in practice, so we got to know their state-of-the-art kitchen facilities helping to prepare the evening meal to be shared by all – tacos, a Friday night Swedish tradition called “Fredagsmys” we were told. Once the choir practice was over, I began to see familiar faces and we all got to meet our hosts for the next few days. We stayed with a range of families in a range of places including Penny and Dawn going out 30km into the countryside. Some families walked to their church, some drove, some cycled and some came on the bus. The first night was spent with our hosts in their home although we were all quite tired and so went to bed in good time – I think I remember I had time for some red wine though!

Susanna and I stayed with a choir member, Margareta Munge who had stayed with Susanna during the previous visit. We were so well looked after – an extensive breakfast with Swedish specialities followed by a guided tour in the car of some of the sights Växjö before she left us at the cathedral.



The rest of the morning was spent as a group on a guided tour of the cathedral with several people keeping an eye on the rugby score! The impressive triptych, the five organs, the tree of life, the childrens’ corner where you could dress

up as a bishop; but we all remember that we were at the new font by the door when England beat the All Blacks. Our attention was drawn back to the cathedral as we heard about St Siegfried from York who is credited with bringing Christianity to Växjö.

Back on the bus to Mariakyrkan (please ask someone about the pronunciation of this – it really isn't what you would think) where we joined the celebrations for their 40th birthday hot dogs, ice cream and a magician. The afternoon was free time when we explored the town and several of us went to visit the local museum. Here we improved our knowledge of the local glass industry and some of the inventive ways in which Sweden uses its many spruce trees.

We were on our own as a group to catch the bus back in time for a concert and had been told when it would arrive. It looked like being our first transport hiccup when the bus arrived 10 mins early but Richard had only counted to 11. If we didn't get that bus, we would be late for the concert, so Richard decided to send us ahead and wait for the other two. As the bus was pulling away from the stop we saw our fellow travellers coming down the road and 10 English cries of "they are here!" were responded to by the bus driver who stopped, opened the doors and we were back to our full compliment.

The concert was stunning. The acoustics in the church are lovely, but the quality of singing – including an introductory piece where the church bells were being rung and the choir were singing in groups of 4 around the edge of the circular seating, was impressive. It was interesting that the



concert also included a priest doing prayers, a congregational hymn and a short sermon. We shared meals, games, films, conversation and Swedish lessons in our hosts' homes that evening. I had my first ever gin and tonic, followed by a few more drinks, but that might have been the "what happens on tour stays on tour". Susanna was of course able to share it on the "WhatsApp" group!

Sunday was a very special day. Those of us who wanted to join the choir for part of the service arrived in church at 9am to practice a piece entitled "Rejoice". Johannes, their choir leader seemed happy with two run throughs and we joined up with the others to attend the service itself.



Quite an experience to sit through a mass in a language you have very little understanding of. What we did understand however was the structure and so were able to identify what part of the service we were taking part in. We sang the hymns with enthusiasm as we were provided with music hymn books and were happy by this point to have a go at the Swedish language. The choir sang two anthems during communion, one of which we liked so much that we asked for a copy of after the service. After communion the extras joined the choir for "Rejoice", stayed for the final hymn – "Guide me O thy Great Redeemer", sung in English in our honour and then processed out with them for vestry prayers in the lobby. This to me was such a privilege, the other choir members made me feel so welcome and supported. Special individual cakes had been made in the shape of the dome of their church and were consumed along with more tea and coffee. It was a great time to catch up with members of the choir who had visited Wokingham and who still had pictures of their time with us in Windsor. There was a fruitful exchange of music, including us explaining the different melody that we use for the penultimate line of "Guide me O thou Great Redeemer". This led to an impromptu sing along with the organ in the church so that they could practise the alternative. Elisabet who was the choir leader during the Wokingham visit in 2017 is now one of Mariakyrkan's organists.

The journey home meant that the counting numbers were slowly decreasing. All of us boarded the train back to Denmark, but only 11 got off at the airport as we said goodbye to Doreen and Peter who were staying on in Copenhagen. Penny and Tom had a different flight back home so the 11 became 9 as we boarded the plane. We knew that if the plane landed on time it would be a race against time to get the 9.07 train and bus replacement home. We were feeling lucky when the plane took

off before the advertised time and was landed promptly at 8.30 in Gatwick. Even with small hiccups like Dawn leaving her handbag on the plane, Andrew and Sylvia needing to collect checked baggage plus Richard and I needing to buy tickets, at 9.05 we were on the train. We were even more pleased when we realised that the next train (more than an hour later anyway) had been cancelled! We had another hiccup when Maurice and Alice both lost their train tickets when the guard came along, but he was very helpful and offered to come back later. The tickets were found after lots of turning out and we made real friends with the guard on his return – not I think with the rest of the carriage as we were, weary and quite giggly travellers! Sorry I forgot “what happens on tour stays on tour”. The rail replacement bus although adding a few minutes to our journey was smooth. At Wokingham when Alice and Maurice stayed on the bus to Reading while Andrew and Sylvia waited for another bus to Earley and Susana walked home having been met by Peter; the final 4 of us were taken to our car/homes. It was lovely getting back home and seeing on the “WhatsApp” group that everyone was safely in their own homes and ready for sleeping in their own beds.

Facebook comments reflect what an amazing experience we all had:

Dawn: “It was an immense privilege to be in Mariakyrkan in Växjö for the 40th anniversary of the consecration of the church. It was great to catch up with old friends and to make new ones as well. And it was really fun to be pilgrims together. We thank God for our friendship and for the faith we share.”

Alice: “Home in our own bed after a fantastic weekend away with a great group. Very tired but mostly from all the laughter”

There was such a real feeling of connection between the parish of St Pauls Wokingham and the Mariakyrkan Växjö, that everyone involved would like to see this grow. We are looking for an excuse to invite them on a return visit to celebrate something with us – so watch this space and we hope that more people will be able to get involved. Images: Andrew Harte

Pauline Wells

St Paul's Churchyard Working Party

1st & 3rd Saturday
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9.30am - 3.30pm

- New volunteers always welcome!
- Come for all or part of the day
- Morning coffee break and lunchtime refreshments

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CHRISTMAS IS A TIME FOR LOVE & FUN

Christmas is a time for love and fun,
A time to reshape souls and roots and skies,
A time to give your heart to everyone
Freely, like a rich and lavish sun,

Like a burning star to those whose lonely sighs
Show need of such a time for love and fun.
For children first, whose pain is never done,
Whose bright white fire of anguish never dies,
It's time to give your heart to everyone,

That not one angel fall, to hatred won
or lack of ears to listen to her cries,
Or arms to carry him towards love and fun,
Or friends to care what happens on the run
To adult life, where joy or sadness lies.

It's time to give your heart to everyone,
For God loves all, and turns His back on none,
Good or twisted, ignorant or wise.
Christmas is a time for love and fun,
A time to give your heart to everyone.

For God loves all, and turns His back on none,
Good or twisted, ignorant or wise.
Christmas is a time for love and fun,
A time to give your heart to everyone.

Anonymous, (2007) "Christmas is a Time for Love and Fun", Digressions Literary Magazine: Vol. 4, Article 15. [<https://nsuworks.nova.edu/digressions/vol4/iss1/15>]



A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

in aid of the Alexander Devine Children's Hospice

6.30pm Sunday 8th December

St Paul's Church, Wokingham

£10 on the door • Under 18s free • Fundraising collection

Featuring:

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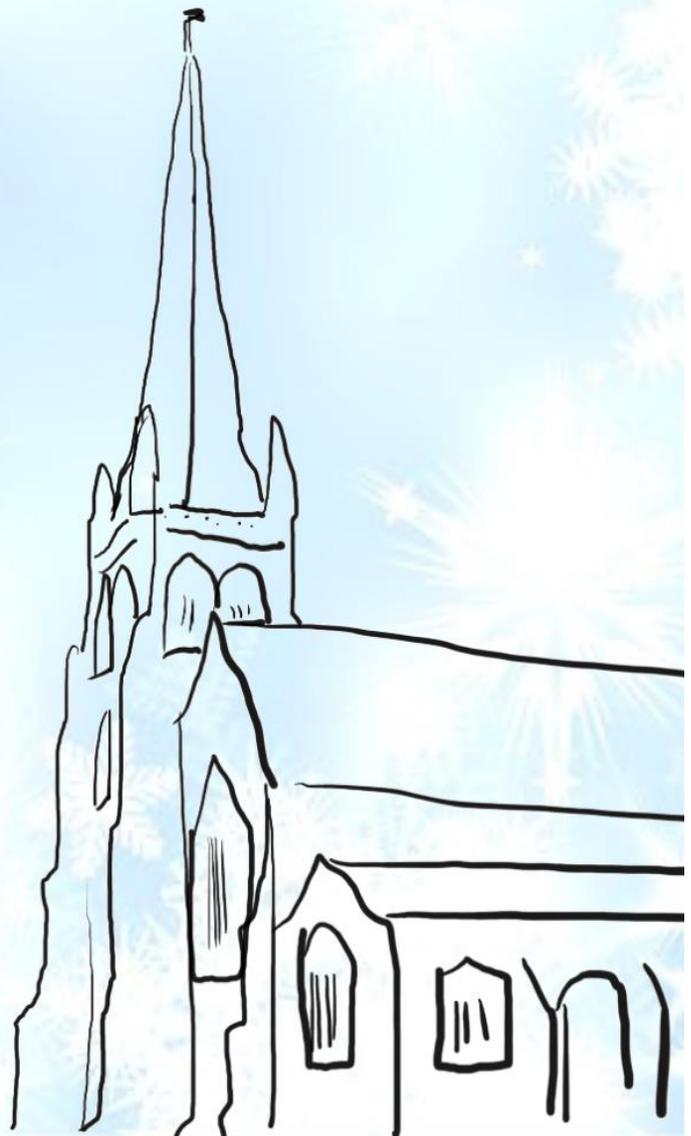
Reddam House Choirs

St Paul's Church Choir

Organist David Pether



The Parish of St Paul, Wokingham





Wokingham Choral Society



Family Christmas Carol Concert

Saturday 14th December, 2019

At 6.00pm at All Saints' Church, Wokingham, RG40 1UE

Refreshments available from 5.15pm

Tickets: £10, £5 students & under 18s, under 5s free- visit our website for details

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FIRST STEPS

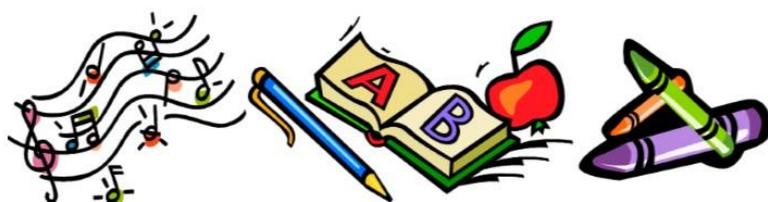
2nd Thursday of each month (Term-time only)

12 Dec 2019

9 Jan, 13 Feb, 12 Mar 2020

9.15am - 10.15am

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Liz Gallagher

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YOU'RE INVITED TO A

CHRISTMAS DAY CELEBRATION

WITH THE LINK VISITING SCHEME

On Christmas Day, we're hosting a celebration full of joy and companionship for anyone in the Borough who would otherwise be alone.

The Link Visiting Scheme along with 'Our Community First' aims to make Christmas day a happy, memorable day for those otherwise on their own. We'll have lots of delicious Christmas food, entertainment and plenty of good company. Transport can be provided if needed.

Contact the Link Visiting Scheme on: 0118 979 8019 or email: marjie@linkvisiting.org. We look forward to hearing from you!



FROM STRANGER TO FRIEND

Dickens quoted and Jesus 'misquoted' at Church of England Stranger to Friend Conference, 5th – 6th November 2019

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times,....." you know how it goes; "it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, ..." What the dickens! Apparently, this brilliant quip at the beginning of Charles Dickens' *A tale of Two Cities*, has never lost its sheen, in scrutiny of culture during and beyond himself.

In the Stranger to Friend conference's application, the Church of England faces a choice in looking at our culture's response to Jesus and the church. One can either focus on the tremendous opportunities there are in the midst of the challenges (the best of times) or focus on the seemingly overwhelming challenges evidenced in the statistics of dwindling congregations (the worst of times). And so came the parody on Luke 10:2; "The harvest is almost non-existent, the few labourers are utterly exhausted and the competition of interested people is intense. Therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to help us survive somehow"¹. Never heard it quite like that.

Churches across the country are struggling to get young people through their doors and are dealing with an ever-declining number of UK Christians. Research suggests that the average church has only three children attending, and the smallest 25 per cent have, on average, none at all. The decline in regular church attendance has continued, with average Sunday attendance reaching a new low of 780,000 people in 2016 – continuing the recent decades' trend, even if attendance at Christmas services in 2017 was the highest, at 2.68 million.

However, the research also shows that over *1 million* children attend Church of England schools which are a *quarter* of all primary schools as are over *200* secondary schools besides the *250* sponsored and over *650* converter academies. That makes the church the biggest sponsor of academies in England². That's an obvious opportunity as most of the children love to attend the services and assemblies especially at festival times when parents come along as well. The *ComRes* survey shows that *2/3* of people including respondents from other faiths and none (67%) say that there is still value in children taking part in Christian Harvest Festivals³.

¹ Revd Canon *David Male* is the Director of Evangelism and Discipleship for the Church of England based in Church House, Westminster.

² <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/education-and-schools/church-schools-and-academies>

³ <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/news/parents-still-value-harvest-festival-their-children-poll>.

Further, every week throughout the UK approximately two million babies and toddlers attend groups facilitated by around 27,000 local churches. The Family Matters Institute say that 52% of children under four years old access some sort of church-based parent and toddler group. Along with their parents, grandparents and carers that can mean up to six million people a week entering churches because of these groups. What an amazing opportunity!⁴ Not to mention 2.2 million weddings, 7.1 million baptisms and 7 million funerals. With roughly 1,000 weddings, 2,000 baptisms, and almost 3,000 funerals and average attendance of 50, every week, the Church engages with over 15 million people every year! Wow. The glass is half full not half empty. It's the best of times, whatever Jeremy Paxman says.

Apologies for many stats, but here's what I gleaned from this 24-hour National conference. It is the spring of hope amidst the challenges 'In the Bleak Midwinter'. We need to embrace the culture changes and work with them. Within the challenges of dwindling numbers, multiple cultural choices, and even outright opposition there is plenty of God given space and opportunity in schools and colleges, in churches and on the internet for us to share and tell the great story of God's love. Apart from telling it in a language that the present culture can engage with, we need to get better at what we already know and do for welcome and hospitality. As far as Church language goes, the Church of England no longer uses phrases like 'Occasional Offices' but we now communicate in terms of 'Life Events'. We shouldn't argue whether someone is seeking christening or baptisms. The semantics just put people off. 'Churchinese' needs to be toned down as it more often than not can be a turnoff. That's the word on the street.

As a minister, I am thrilled for the privilege and opportunity to celebrate people's very personal life events and must seek more and more to show my rejoicing with those who rejoice. Apparently, there are anecdotes out there about how 'priests are lovely people but they've got to lighten up'. I thought I was enlightened already! I was reminded to continue relating to people as those who are created in the image of God rather than as functional boxes to be ticked. It is such an extraordinary privilege to be with people at the beginning, during and at the end of their lives⁵.

As God's people (not just the priests) apart from steadfast confidence in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we must make room for those who are still strangers to us and to the church, remembering that they are not strangers to God. He blesses us with these encounters whether it's our intention or not. It will take much prayer and patience for God's strangers we don't know to mellow to our friendship overtures.

⁴ Claire Musters. *Impacting local communities through church-based toddler groups*, in Mothers' Union's *Families First* magazine May/June 2016.

⁵ Adapted from ++Justin Welby.

Yes, let's put them on our prayer lists as we anticipate for them to show up in our church foyers or when we meet up with them elsewhere.

We are already aware and do practice welcome and hospitality with those we encounter. We do quite well actually but cannot sit on our laurels. The big thing for me at the conference was to be reminded that, "*Hospitality is the attitude of the whole church*" not just the few "Welcome or Hospitality Teams" or ushers and sides people. Granted we are all differently gifted but surely each one could take notice of those around, smile and make a connection by saying hello. Hospitality, as PMC (Partnership for Missional Church) has reminded us *ad nauseam*, needs to be expressed and experienced at many different levels in our relations with the variety of people God brings our way. "If 1 in 50 people" it was said, "invited someone to the church and they stayed we would move out of decline into growth."

Church is not a uniform interest group, but an inclusive and mixed bag which reflects God's action amongst and through his people. The privilege of hospitality calls us not to turn anyone away by our manner, speech or behaviour whether at a Sunday service, christening, wedding, last rites or celebration of their life. Who shows visitors where the pages and the hymns are to be found? How do we serve them coffee or tea or whatever? As the Church we exist for the benefit of everyone else - especially non-members.

All of us together are God's people. We reflect the face of God and His availability for everyone. When strangers visit us, think about how much courage it takes them to go through our imposing double doors. How should we attend to them, so they don't feel they have walked into a minefield?

The second thought was in prioritising the outreach and discipleship of those under the age of 18 years. It turns out that most people begun to make sense of their faith when they were in this age bracket. Let me tackle that after the Bleak Midwinter.

Revd. Patrick Mukholi,
Associate Priest

COFFEE & CHAT

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ONE SMALL CHANGE

O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth. Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous works among all the peoples. (Psalm 96:1-3).

Advent and Christmas services, events and other activities give us an ideal opportunity to proclaim the Lord's salvation to people who do not regularly attend Church. This is the one time of year when people come to us – we don't have to go and seek them out. Of course, we will still have our witness of Carols in the Marketplace (14th December from 1000; choir from 1030). People are very welcome to get involved in this if they wish – speak to any member of the clergy or Paul Armitage, Gill Wilkins, Teri Austen, Fiona Albinson, Mary Cassidy.

For the rest of Advent and Christmas, expect to see some small differences in our services and the way events are put on. They may be quite hard to spot sometimes, but all are intended to present the Good News even more clearly than we normally do.

One change that everybody can make is to increase our welcome to visitors by being warm and open, and actively seeking how to be helpful – don't just leave it sides-people, wardens and clergy. There will be opportunities to talk about our faith – some visitors will be seeking to fill that God-shaped hole in their lives; some will be interested in us as a Community-based organisation or as good neighbours. Talking about our faith or the reasons we go to Church can sometimes feel daunting and often we feel ill-equipped to have these conversations. Just being sociable and talking about why you come to Church in the same normal way you might talk about your family or work or neighbours or hobbies will go a long way to helping people along their journey to faith. If you're afraid of saying the wrong thing - it is unlikely that one conversation will break someone's faith. And the more we practise, the better we'll get at it!! Remember, too, that you are not alone – if you feel you really are getting into difficult territory, there will be others around you who can help.

Do please let us know how you get on – we want to understand how people find having these conversations and what works best in terms of helping anyone with their questions. So speak to the clergy or email Paul Armitage, Parish Pioneer (paul.armitage@uwclub.net).

For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how

are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? (Romans 10:13-14)

Paul Armitage, Parish Pioneer

YOUNG CARERS GIFT TOKEN COLLECTION



**The
Children's
Society**

During Parish Mass on Sunday 15 December we will be collecting gift tokens in support of the Young Carers. These brave young people have benefited greatly from your support in the past and your contributions are highly valued.



Jill and John Griffin

CAROLS AT THE PUB

Woosehill Church invites you to join them for Carols at The Old Leathern Bottel. pub on 16th December @ 7.30pm.

As in previous years, we will be singing carols with our fabulous music group. All very welcome to come and join in what is always a great fun evening!

Val Weedon

Happy Christmas from Woosehill Church



Woosehill Church
Chestnut Avenue. Woosehill. RG41 3RS
Just Behind Hawthorns School
www.woosehillchurch.org

-  Advent Service - 1st December at 10.00am.
-  Carols with Readings and Poems - 15th December at 7.30pm.
-  Toddler Praise - 18th December at 10.00am.
-  Crib Service - 24th December at 4.00pm.
-  Midnight Communion - 24th December at 11.00pm.
-  Christmas Day Communion with Carols - 25th December at 10.00am.
-  Epiphany Carols - 5th January at 10.00am.
-  Christingle Service - 26th January at 4.00pm. Part of Messy Church.

A **Christian** response to Brexit

There is an important role at this time for practical expressions of love and hope by communities and individuals. Here are 12 steps we can take. Don't be limited by this checklist and don't underestimate what we can achieve together.

1. Give extra support to the food banks in your area
2. Watch out for the lonely, the anxious and the vulnerable
3. Reach out to EU nationals in your neighbourhood and workplace
4. Make sure people have access to good advice on migration and travel, debt and financial support
5. Remember the needs of our children and young people
6. Support the statutory services
7. Think about the needs of particular groups in your area
8. Work together with other churches, faith communities and charities
9. Invite the community together
10. Watch over other faith and minority ethnic communities
11. Encourage truthful and honest debate
12. Pray in public worship and private prayer.

“But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.”

Bible verse is Jeremiah 29.7 (NRSV)



a Christian response to Brexit

THY KINGDOM COME – EVENSONG SERMON 17 NOVEMBER 2019

Readings - Mark 1:14-20 and Revelation 21:1-5

Some of you will have heard me say before that, though I'm a Minister of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, Evensong takes me back to my spiritual roots, and to the little hamlet in rural Hertfordshire where I joined the parish church choir at the age of 5; where my Dad was the choir master and I practically learned to read singing the psalms from the Psalter; and then went on to sing Evensong pretty much every week of my life until I left university.

How I ended up a Baptist is another story, though I never really rejected my Anglican roots... I just grew in a different direction I think... and so I come here this evening with great affection for this service and enjoying the singing of the choir!

It's a privilege to preach as part of your series on the Lord's Prayer. I gather I'm the last in a year-long series of preachers. I fear I'm bound to repeat all sorts of things that others have said with far greater distinction, but I'll take the risk!

This prayer that Jesus taught us is really The Disciples' Prayer, isn't it? You'll know well that it's the prayer Jesus taught *his disciples* when they asked him to teach them how to pray. And I find it fascinating to think about why he chose to include what he chose to include...

I like to think that he shaped the prayer as a kind of prayer toolkit for the committed disciple, so that it outlines for us the sort of things that active, dedicated followers of Jesus will need to be praying about. About our identity as God's children, about provision, and forgiveness, guidance, protection from evil, and the things of the Kingdom of God.

And that's why I chose the first reading that we heard from Mark's gospel, chapter 1 verses 14-20. That reading describes the very beginning of Jesus' Ministry according to Mark. That moment when Jesus emerged onto the scene of history and announced His Big Project! And His Big Project was the Kingdom of God: 'The time has come', Jesus said: "The Kingdom of God has come near. Repent – turn around - re-think, change direction....and believe the good news!"

And the Lord's Prayer is the prayer that Jesus taught to the people who heeded that challenge, and changed direction.

This is the prayer for any disciple ever since, right down to you and me today...anyone who hears that call of the Kingdom, and goes with it.

It's the prayer of every person who hears Jesus' wonderful, challenging invitation to 'Come and follow me', and goes ahead and follows.

So if you've done that at any point, however tentatively, however falteringly, with whatever degree of not-quite-sure-ness or false starts or failures along the way.... then this prayer is for you. And it's full of things you'll find useful to pray along the way....

It begins of course with a wonderful message about our identity as God's children: 'Our Father' - he wants us to pray.

I was talking the other day to a friend whose parents broke up when she was very young. Indeed she had never really known her birth father...but as a teenager she tried, understandably, tentatively, hopefully, to reconnect with him. Sometimes that goes okay, but sadly, all she found was rejection, and hurtful things were said.

This friend told me that what got her through this time of her life was an increasing sense that her true Father is the God and Father of Jesus Christ, and that the community of the church is a real family for her.

As followers of Jesus you and I are invited to understand and experience that God is our Father – our ultimate parent. This is where our deepest identity is found; this is where our deepest security is found; and Jesus wants us to be reminded of it every time we pray.

Now I'm not going to go through every line of this prayer slavishly tonight. Instead I'm going to home in on the section that in some ways sets the tone for the rest...that bit about the Kingdom of God – the Big Project:

'Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.'

Now I was brought up with the idea, perhaps along with some of you, that heaven was going to be somewhere else - somewhere up there... *out* there in some way. I imbibed that theology which said: when I die, God willing I will go to heaven, somewhere else, which will be a place somewhere up in the clouds. Disembodied... With a harp! And wings! That's what so many of us learned, wasn't it! It's in the popular culture...

But the trouble is, when you have a closer look at it, what the Bible actually seems to set out is that the Kingdom of heaven – the Kingdom of God - is not and will not be somewhere else at all. Actually, Jesus was concerned, along with Belinda Carlisle, that the Kingdom of heaven is going to be a place on earth! Very earthy, with bodies, not wings!

And in his disciples' toolkit prayer, Jesus teaches us to pray into that longing... that God's Kingdom might come *on earth!*

And of course, our Second reading backs that up... those words from one of the final chapters of the Bible in Revelation 21, talk about heaven too...about heaven coming down and a renewed, restored Earth being joined together with it as one. It talks, not of humans going somewhere else, but of God coming *to earth* and dwelling among His people *here*.

This of course is transformative! Because if the basic trajectory... the direction of travel...is not *us* going *up* but of God and heaven coming *down here*....then it challenges all that false thinking that somehow our job as Christian believers is simply to wait things out: to sit and wait for this broken, twisted world to end...and not be too concerned if it's in a total mess either....because soon we're going to pop off with Jesus to somewhere else anyhow...

But this prayer Jesus taught us emphasises something different altogether. On the contrary this prayer - your Kingdom come *on earth* as in heaven - is a prayer about working *with* God's purposes – with God's earth in fact.... to bring the life of heaven to this earth, for people to enjoy in the here and now! And that has all sorts of implications for how we live now, and indeed for how we treat the planet.

Years ago, Christian Aid had a great poster slogan which said this: 'We believe in life before death'. At the time, with my faith the shape it was at the time, I used to see it and be a bit perplexed. Surely, we believe in life *after* death, and that's the focus of the gospel...

But here were Christian Aid saying 'We believe in life *before* death'.

But Christian Aid knew what they were about, of course. The slogan was clever, but also profound: it's clear from the Lord's Prayer, that the things Jesus wants you and me to focus our prayers on are actually far more about *this* life, than the life to come! And yes, of course, we believe in a life to come... But Jesus wants us to pray for God's will to be done *now*, on earth!

One thing I sometimes find helpful in praying this prayer is to replace the words 'on earth' with 'in Wokingham'.

The meaning is the same, just more specific to the place where God has put me right now!

'Your Kingdom come in Wokingham as it is in heaven.'

When we pray that prayer often enough, what happens over time is we get signed up with the project! We get emotionally and thoughtfully involved in praying for God's Kingdom to come in the place where we live!

And when that happens, we gradually get sucked in to being part of the answer to those prayers! Over time the prayer provokes us to get active in serving God in the place where he has put us.

What would it look like to see God's Kingdom in Wokingham as in heaven?

If the Kingdom of heaven is, as we heard in the second reading.... 'A place where there's no more tears, no more mourning, no more pain....' What are the things in our town that cause people pain, that cause suffering, that cause people to cry out in desperation?

For the Kingdom of God to come in Wokingham, what needs to change? What needs to be challenged? What needs to be declared? What needs to be started?

And what is *your* part in that, as a person who heard Jesus' call: 'Come, follow me'. And you got up and followed. And then He taught you *this* prayer.

Whichever local church we belong to, you and I, we all pray this prayer! And we can all pray and work together for God's Kingdom to come in Wokingham.

Our Father in heaven, may your Name be hallowed, Your Kingdom come, your will be done *in Wokingham* as in heaven.

How can you and I be part of the answer to that prayer?

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

*Revd Nick Hudson, Team Leader, Wokingham Baptist Church
Chairman, Churches Together in Wokingham*



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FIRST STEPS - NOVEMBER

Fr. Richard talked about Remembrance and Poppies at our November service. He showed us a children's Remembrance film. A beautiful animation that sees war as experienced by animals in a World War I battlefield'. A review of the film by Hannah 'happy times, then sad times, then eventually things get better'...



The children enjoyed making their Poppy Wreaths and then they looked round the church to see if they could find any other Poppies and we said a prayer at the Remembrance plaque. Text and images: Liz Gallagher

SHARED LUNCH AT WOOSEHILL CHURCH

On Sunday 3rd November a small, but select, group from all three churches met at Woosehill Church to share a meal at lunchtime.

It was so nice to sit, relax and chat together over a very good spread. There was a good selection of savouries and salads for the first course (no Death by Quiche here, Peter!) and some splendid puddings. Those who weren't able to attend the lunch missed a real treat!



Thank you so much, Lyn, and to all your helpers for organising it all; we look forward to the next get together.

Teri Austen

ST FRIDESWIDE PILGRIMAGE

The inaugural St Frideswide Pilgrimage took place on the saint's day, Saturday 19th October. Over 400 people gathered from across the Diocese to walk four routes to Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, following in the footsteps of a thousand years of pilgrims to the Shrine of St Frideswide, an important destination for medieval pilgrims.

The leaflet announcing the Pilgrimage included these words:

'People have always gone on journeys to enrich their spiritual lives. The desire seems deeply ingrained in human nature. Pilgrimage can be a way of nurturing and sustaining our inner life – and helping us to become a more 'Contemplative' Church.'

Three ladies from St Paul's were among those who walked (with Bishop Steven) the 1.5 mile "Thames Path South for Families" from Iffley Lock on a lovely day. The walk was not strenuous, and we stopped at intervals for a reading from the Beatitudes, but our group did not seem inclined to sing hymns! Conversation along the way was wide ranging but not necessarily very contemplative.

Another group from St Paul's set off much earlier to walk the much longer route from Abingdon – and managed to reach the Cathedral ahead of us! They had already had a cup of tea in the cloisters by the time we arrived. Unfortunately there was not much time to explore fully the prayer stations which had been set up in the Cathedral, but the one which particularly struck me was a tall sensory bubble tube lamp on which we



were invited to stick post-it notes carrying the names of people we knew who were in particular need of light in their lives.



The day ended with the Pilgrimage Liturgy with the Bishop of Oxford and the Dean, the Very Revd Professor Martyn Percy and we all received a pilgrimage badge, just as medieval pilgrims would have done. Images: Richard Lamey

Mary Cassidy

By entertaining good thoughts, you will keep out evil ones.

St Paul's Taverners



1st & 3rd Tuesday in the Month

12.30pm, Broad Street Tavern

Are you free on a Tuesday lunchtime? Would you welcome the chance to chat with other like minded men over a bite to eat in a relaxed and friendly setting? It's not a club or a group but a gathering over food and a highlight in the week.

Normal Menu - usually under £11

Come as often or a rarely as you are able, although it will be very helpful to know how many are planning on coming each time.

More information, contact:

Chris Rutter

0118 961 9781 or

email, chris_k_rutter@hotmail.com


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PARISH BAZAAR

Thank you! to everyone who helped in any way at the Parish Bazaar and to those who came along to support. It was good outreach, good fun and just over £2,000 was raised. There were some brilliant 'Day at the Races' costumes on show too!

Thank you to the following companies who donated prizes: Waitrose, Morrisons, Tesco, Ascot Racecourse, The Child-Beale Trust, Nike Group of Companies, Zappas. Image: Fr Richard and Becca Lamey on the Clergy Bottle Stall, John Griffin



Liz Gallagher

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Scouts came to remember the fallen and planted crosses on their graves.



STITCH
together

When & Where?

- On the 1st Wednesday of each month 16:30-19:30 in the Carpenter Room, upstairs in St Paul's Parish Rooms.
- We also meet on the 3rd Friday of each month during Coffee and Chat 14:00-16:00 in the main hall of St Paul's Parish Rooms.

Come along to sew by hand or machine, to knit, crochet and share skills!

Information: <https://stitchtogether.wordpress.com>
Email: stitch-together@outlook.com
Church.office@spauls.org.uk | 0118 979 2122

St Paul's Church
Wokingham

Images: Alexander Perry

MUSIC FOR DECEMBER

1st – Advent Sunday

9.30am Parish Mass

Hymns: 5, 11, 3, 9
Setting: St Anne's Mass, *J McMillan*
Gradual: Judah and Jerusalem
Anthem: O radiant dawn, *J McMillan*

6.15pm Advent Candlelit Service

8th – Advent 2

9.30am Parish Mass

Hymns: 12, 7, 15, Christ be our light
Setting: St Anne's Mass, *J McMillan*
Gradual: Judah and Jerusalem
Anthem: This is the truth sent from above, *R Vaughan Williams*

15th – Advent 3

9.30am Parish Mass

Hymns: 466, 16, 18, 6
Setting: St Anne's Mass, *J McMillan*
Gradual: Judah and Jerusalem
Anthem: This is the record of John, *O Gibbons*

22nd – Advent 4

9.30am Parish Mass

Hymns: 10, 185, 187, 9
Gradual: Judah and Jerusalem
Setting: St Anne's Mass, *J McMillan*
Anthem: Mary's Magnificat, *A Carter*

6.15pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

24th – Christmas Eve

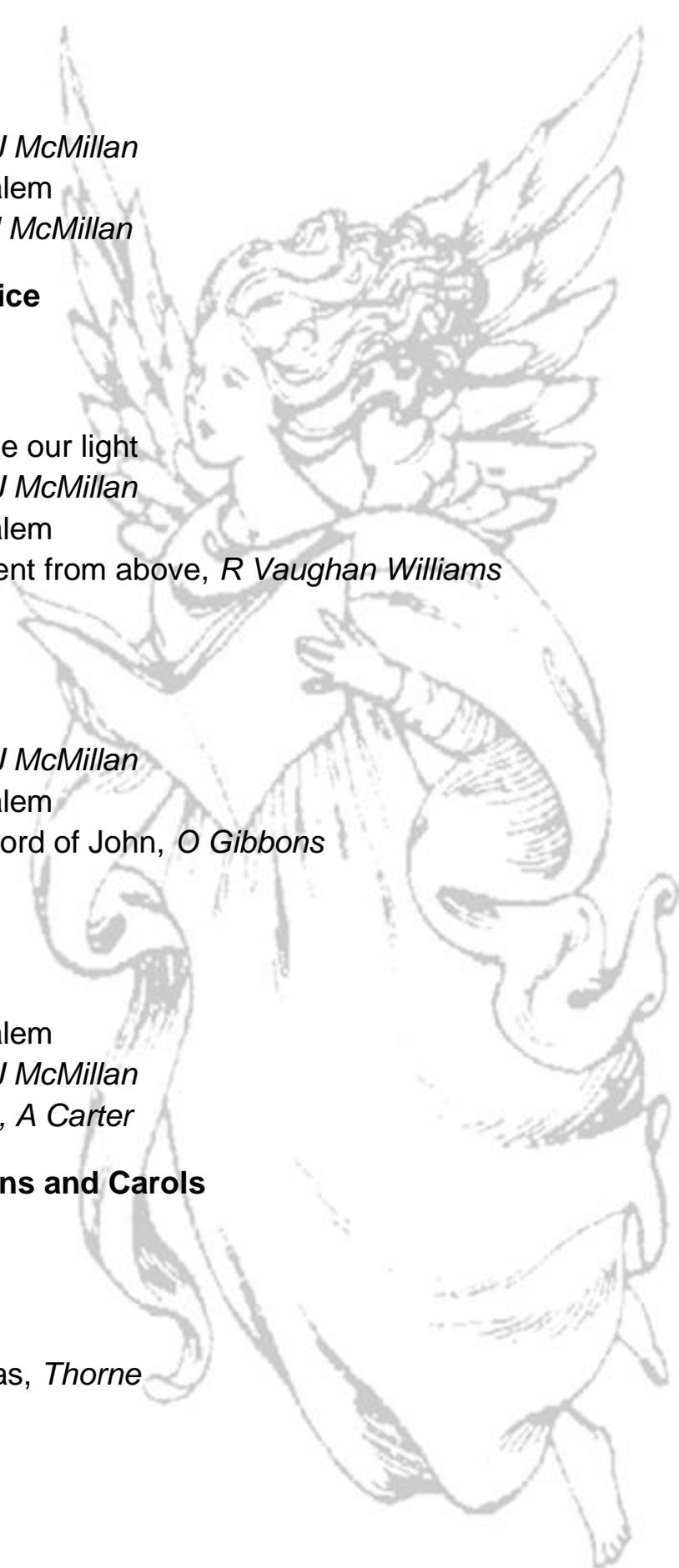
11.00pm Midnight Mass

Carols: *to be confirmed*
Setting: Mass of St Thomas, *Thorne*
Anthem: *to be confirmed*

25th – Christmas Day

9.30am Parish Mass

Carols: *to be confirmed*



Setting: Mass of St Thomas, *Thorne*
Anthem: *to be confirmed*

29th December – Christmas 1

9.30am Parish Mass

Hymns: 25, 22, 29, 39
Setting: Mass of St Thomas, *Thorne*

THE WELCOME CLUB

Tuesday 12th November 2019

Today we were entertained by Helen the Vintage Singer. It's not the singer which is vintage, but the songs, which come mainly from the 40s, 50s and 60s.

There were lots of rock 'n' roll numbers, from the likes of Bill Haley, Elvis and others, before finishing with the 'White Cliffs of Dover', and 'We'll meet again'.

She sang very powerfully, and we all knew most of the songs, so could sing along and enjoyed the show. After the singing, we had tea and home-made cakes, before the raffle was drawn.

Next month: Tuesday 10th December - we will be having our Christmas Lunch at 1:30pm. Please book in advance.

Everybody should bring a wrapped gift (worth about £2 in value), there won't be a raffle this month.

For further information concerning the Welcome Club please call Jackie on 0118 327 8739.

Steve Kallenborn



Better to wait on the cook than the doctor!

MORNING PRAYER

Starting the day in prayer is an ancient Christian tradition which people have always found to be a firm foundation for the day. It roots us in God and strengthens us for all that lies ahead. In the parish, we share Morning Prayer at 8.30am (at St Paul's on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and at Woosehill, on a Wednesday). The service lasts about 20 minutes and includes readings, prayer, and canticles. If you'd like to find out more then please speak to a member of the clergy, or to one of the congregation who already come. Or why not just turn up and join in?

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Day	Time	Service
Monday	8.30am	Said Morning Prayer
Tuesday	8.30am	Said Morning Prayer
Wednesday	8.30am	Morning Prayer at Woosehill Church
	10.30am	House Mass (see weekly Pews News for details)
Thursday	8.30am	Said Morning Prayer, with Mass at 9.30am
Friday	8.30am	Said Morning Prayer
Saturday	9.00am	Rosary Prayers
	9.30am	Low Mass

READERS & INTERCESSORS

Date	Festival	Reader	Intercessor
1 Dec	Advent Sunday	Alice Buddin	Rhoda Hart
8 Dec	Advent 2	Jacob Merchant	Alan Harrison
15 Dec	Advent 3	Jenny Ellerbeck	Chris Merchant
22 Dec	Advent 4	Janet Charlton	Teri Austen
24 Dec	Midnight Mass	Penny Wallace	Clare Coombe
25 Dec	Christmas Day	Colin Weedon	John Foster
29 Dec	Christmas 1 Holy Innocents	Lyn Austen	Janet Wickham

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

20.10.19 Grace Warren
03.11.19 Paul and Finley Atkins
03.11.19 Oliver Fishwick



Weddings

02.11.19 Anouk De Lange & Ed Brown



Funerals

06.11.19 Sheila Graham
18.11.19 Alfred Hellings
27.11.19 Peter Goodes



LUCKY NUMBERS DRAW

The November Lucky Numbers draw took place over coffee after the 11am Remembrance and community eucharistic services at St Nicholas on Sunday 10th November 2019.

The lucky winners were:

£50 No. 83 David & Janet Charlton
£25 No. 25 Jean Vaughan
£15 No. 108 Jo Gulliford
£10 No. 42 Lesley & David Ruddock



The Draw is an easy way of raising funds for repairs and renewals to the church building. One share (number) costs £24 per year and the draw takes place monthly (either at St Nicholas's or St Paul's) for prizes of £50, £25, £15 and £10. All remaining funds go to the Restoration Fund.

If you would like to subscribe, or want further information, please contact Tony Roberts (979 5351), Liz Gallagher (989 1176) or Mary Cassidy (979 5096) – or in person at church (Mary at St Paul's, Tony or Liz at St Nicholas').

Tony Roberts

The Parish of St Paul's, Wokingham

Pot-Luck Sunday Lunch



Please come and enjoy the annual
St Paul's Parish Pot-Luck Sunday Lunch

Sunday 19th January 2020

12.45pm for 1pm

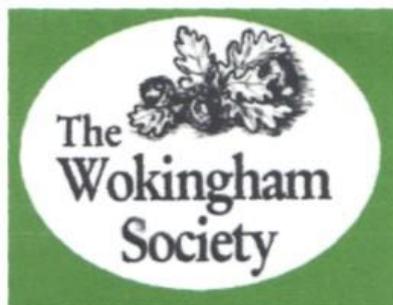
St Paul's Parish Rooms

£10/person or £25/family

Please let us know of any dietary needs when buying your ticket which will be available from the beginning of January 2020 from Janet Charlton (St Paul's), Margaret Davies (St Nicholas) and Chris Piper (Woosehill Community Church).

If you have any queries, please contact Margaret on 0118 978 7788.

Please bring your own drinks and glasses.
There will also be a Chinese raffle.



The Wokingham Society is a Civic Society committed to assisting with the conservation of Wokingham's character, history, traditions, architecture and environment.

Grants are offered to local organisations, societies and individuals planning projects which will benefit the community.

In recent years the Society has awarded Grants to St Paul's in support of major projects, most recently the Churchyard Tree Succession Project.

For more information please go to: www.wokinghamsociety.org.uk



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LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITAL

Monday 20th January, 1pm
Reading Town Hall

David Pether will be playing for the Lunchtime Organ Recital on the historic 'Father' Willis organ at Reading Town Hall on Monday 20 January at 1pm.

The programme, which will last around 50 minutes, includes an arrangement of a Vivaldi Concerto by J S Bach, plus music by Saint-Saëns, Elgar, Kenneth Leighton and Nigel Ogden.



Tickets on the door are £5

There is a reduced price of £4.50, if purchased at least one day in advance. Bookings can be made either in person at the Town Hall and Hexagon box offices, or online at www.readingarts.com

wcs

Wokingham Choral Society



Invites you to **Come and Sing** with us
at our open rehearsal, as we start the new year with:

Pergolesi: Stabat Mater;
Buxtehude: Membra Jesu nostri

Join us on Thursday 16th January 2020, at 7.30pm, at The Emmbrook
Senior School Hall, Emmbrook Road, Wokingham RG41 1JP

Call our Membership Secretary on 07810 574765 or see our website for
more information: www.wokingham-choral-society.org.uk
Registered Charity No. 274853

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

See p.24 and back page for all Christmas Service timings throughout the parish

Sun 1 Dec	6.15pm	Advent Candlelit Service, St Paul's Church
Tue 3 Dec	12.30pm	St Paul's Taverners, Broad Street Tavern
Wed 4 Dec	4.30pm – 7.30pm	Stitch Together, Parish Rooms
	7.30pm	Choir Practice
Fri 6 Dec	2pm – 4pm	Coffee & Chat, Parish Rooms
Sat 7 Dec	9.30am – 3.30pm	Churchyard Working Party
Sun 8 Dec	12.45pm for 1pm	Shared Lunch @ St Nicholas, Emmbrook
	6.30pm	A Christmas Celebration - Carol Concert in aid of the Alexander Devine Children's Hospice, St Paul's Church
Tue 10 Dec	1.30pm	The Welcome Club, Parish Rooms
	8pm – 9.30pm	Advent Course – Principles of Deep-water Fishing: God's Mission to Ephesus, Woosehill Church
Wed 11 Dec	7.30pm	Choir Practice
Thu 12 Dec	9.15am	First Steps, Children's Chapel, St Paul's
Fri 13 Dec	2pm – 4pm	Coffee & Chat, Parish Rooms
Sat 14 Dec	10.30am	Choir sing carols in Wokingham Market Place
	6pm	Family Christmas Carol Concert: Wokingham Choral Society, All Saints Church
Tue 17 Dec	12.30pm	St Paul's Taverners, Broad Street Tavern
	8pm – 9.30pm	Advent Course – Principles of Deep-water Fishing: God's Mission to Melitus, Woosehill Church
Wed 18 Dec	7.30pm	Choir Practice
Fri 20 Dec	2pm – 4pm	Coffee & Chat, Parish Rooms
	2pm – 4pm	Stitch Together, Parish Rooms
Sat 21 Dec	9.30am – 3.30pm	Churchyard Working Party
Wed 25 Dec		Link Visiting Christmas Day Lunch (p.18)
Fri 27 Dec	2pm – 4pm	Coffee & Chat, Parish Rooms
Thu 16 Jan	7.30pm	Come & Sing: Wokingham Choral Society, Emmbrook School
Sun 19 Jan	12.45pm for 1pm	Parish pot-luck Sunday Lunch
Sat 8 Feb	7pm	Quiz Night



PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Clergy			
Rector	Fr Richard Lamey**	rector@spauls.org.uk	0118 327 9116
Assistant Priest	Fr Patrick Mukholi***	patrick.mukholi@spauls.org.uk	0118 977 3397
Assistant Priest	Rev Judi Hattaway*	judihattaway@mac.com	0779 872 3232
Clergy rest days	*Friday, **Saturday, *** Monday		
<i>[We shall be grateful if you would refrain from contacting the Clergy on their rest days. Thank you.]</i>			
St Paul's Church, Wokingham			
Parish Administrator	Louise Cole	church.office@spauls.org.uk	0118 979 2122
Parish Rooms Bkgs	Vanessa Hemmi	parish.rooms@spauls.org.uk	0118 979 2122
PCC Secretary	Lesley Ruddock	pcc.secretary@spauls.org.uk	
Churchwarden	David Ruddock	david.ruddock@spauls.org.uk	0118 437 6104
Churchwarden	Peter Wells	peter.wells@spauls.org.uk	0118 377 6351
Treasurer	Lyn Austen	lyn.austen@spauls.org.uk	0118 978 9123
Stewardship	Stuart Fairhead	stewardship@spauls.org.uk	0118 979 4437
Senior Server	Peter Wells	1 Barkhart Drive	0118 377 6351
Parish Pioneer	Paul Armitage	paul.armitage@uwclub.net	
Music Director	Louise Turner	louise_turner71@hotmail.com	0118 988 2815
Choir Secretary	Lesley Ruddock	lesley_ruddock@hotmail.co.uk	0118 437 6104
Tower Captain	Ken Davenport	47 Brookside	0118 978 6554
Church Flowers	Sue Davenport	47 Brookside	0118 978 6554
Safeguarding Officer	Chris Barker	Church.office@spauls.org.uk	
Social Committee / Stitch Together	Margaret Davies	stitch-together@outlook.com www.stitchtogether.wordpress.com	
Coffee & Chat	Susanna Allen		0118 377 4133
St Paul's Taverners	Chris Rutter	chris_k_rutter@hotmail.com	0118 961 9781
Mothers' Union	Teri Austen		0118 978 9123
Welcome Club	Jackie Alexander	49 Cantley Crescent	0118 327 8739
Children's Advocate	Jason Searancke	childrens.advocate@spauls.org.uk	0790 067 8572
Senior Squad	Pauline Wells	pwells@ntlworld.com	0118 377 6351
J Club	Becca Lamey	beccalamey@btinternet.com	0118 327 9116
First Steps	Liz Gallagher	lizgallagher1952@gmail.com	0118 989 1176
Head Teacher	Julieanne Taylor	St Paul's C of E Controlled Jr School	0118 978 5219
Churchyard Working Party		churchyard@spauls.org.uk	
The Spire Magazine Editors		spire.editor@gmail.com	
The Community Church of St Nicholas, Emmbrook			
Pro-Warden	Liz Gallagher	lizgallagher1952@gmail.com	0118 989 1176
Pro-Warden	Fiona Albinson	Fiona@albinson.co.uk	0118 978 9181
Treasurer	Tony Roberts	22 Lowther Road	0118 979 5351
Secretary	Anne Armitage	anne.armitage@uwclub.net	0118 979 3533
Sunday School	Anne Armitage	anne.armitage@uwclub.net	0118 979 3533
Children's Advocate	Sally Dowling	29 Sewell Avenue	0118 978 2729
Newsletter	Lynne Judge	lynne@dadays.co.uk	



Advent Course 2019

PRINCIPLES OF DEEP WATER FISHING

November 26th God's Mission to Macedonia

December 3rd God's Mission to Greece

December 10th God's Mission to Ephesus

December 17th God's Mission to Miletus

Venue: Woosehill Church

Time: 8.00-9.30pm

Contact: church.office@spauls.org.uk 0118 979 2122

For any and everyone

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The Parish of St Paul, Wokingham

CHRISTMAS 2019 - SERVICES @ ST PAUL'S WOKINGHAM

St Paul's Church, Wokingham

Friday 20 December

10.30am Crib Service for Toddlers and Friends

Sunday 22 December

6.15pm Nine Lessons (Readings and Music for Christmas)

Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24 December

3pm & 5pm Christingle Family Services

11pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day, Wednesday 25 December

8am Mass (traditional language)

9.30am All Together Mass for Christmas

St Nicholas' Church, Emmbrook

(meeting in Emmbrook Village Hall)

Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24 December

9pm First Eucharist of Christmas

Sunday 26 January

3.30pm Christingle Service



Woosehill Church

Carol Service, 7.30pm Sunday 15 December

Toddler Service, 10am Wednesday 18 December

Crib Service, 4pm on Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve Communion at 11pm

Christmas Day Communion at 10am

