



# ST PAUL'S BECKENHAM



## E-Notice Sheet

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024

8.00am	<b>Morning Prayer (BCP) – With Rev'd Rachel Winn</b>
10.30am	<p><b>Holy Communion</b>            With Rev'd Clive Grinham and Rev'd Rachel Winn            Theme: Joy            Readings: Revelation 21: 1-5 read by Anthea Prendergast            John 15: 7-11 read by Catherine Metcalf            Prayers: Led by Clari Harrington</p> <p><i>Children's Activities in the Hall – Sunday Squad for children aged 4-11, and a stay-and-play creche that parents/carers of babies and pre-schoolers are welcome to use, if you would like to. The service is streamed in the hall.</i></p> <p><i>Prayer after the Service – If you would like someone to pray with you, members of the prayer ministry group will be available in the Chapel.</i></p>
The 10.30am service will be live-streamed and available via <a href="#">St Paul's You Tube Channel</a>	

### ***Collect (Special Prayer) for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent***

Almighty God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

<b><i>What's On</i></b>		
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	12.00pm 7.30pm	Super Soup Lunch Choir rehearsal for Carol Service
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00am 10.30am	Decorating the church for Christmas Welcare Coffee Morning with mince pie tasting
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.00am	Advent Morning Prayer – in the Chapel. All welcome
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.00am 10.00am 2.00pm 7.30pm	Advent Morning Prayer – in the Chapel. All welcome. Babies & Toddler Group Friendship Group – Marion's Music Prayer for our Parish, Community and Nation (on Zoom)
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.00am 7.30pm	Advent Morning Prayer – in the Chapel. All welcome Choir rehearsal for Carol Service
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	9.30am	Christmas Connect Café
<b>Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec</b> <i>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm 7.15pm	<p><b>Holy Communion (BCP) – With Rev'd Rachel Winn</b></p> <p><b>Dress-Up Nativity</b> With Alison Charlesworth and Rev'd Rachel Winn</p> <p><b>Community Carols</b> outside, followed by mince pies and mulled wine</p> <p><b>Carol Service – With Rev'd Rachel Winn and David Charlesworth</b></p>
Tues 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas Eve	5.00pm 11.30pm	Christingle Service Midnight Communion
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas Day	8.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) Christmas Day Celebration



## *St Paul's Notices*

**Super Soup Lunch** – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 12 noon at the back of church. Everyone is welcome! Join us for delicious homemade soup with crusty bread, and enjoy a warm, relaxing space, friendly company and conversation, and perhaps a chance to challenge yourself with a table quiz! There is no charge, although donations are welcome.

**Choir Practices for Carol Service on 22<sup>nd</sup> December** - There will be two more choir practices for the Carol Service: on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December. All welcome. 7.30pm in the hall.

**Welcare Coffee Morning with Mince Pie Tasting** – Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 10.30am – 12 noon, here in St Paul's Church Hall.

**Christmas Foodbank** - This year we will be holding our annual special foodbank collection on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December, when we are all encouraged to bring donations for Living Well and CAP. If you are able to donate some food and Christmas treats, that would be very welcome. (Please check that nothing contains alcohol, including the treats.) Please leave your donations, preferably in strong carrier bags, on the tables in the north aisle.

**Christmas Youth Event** – Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December, 4pm – 5.30-pm. There will be a special Christmas youth group event at St Paul's for those aged 12 – 16 years. We will share faith, fellowship and fun at Christmas! Bring your friends along. Grab a leaflet from the back of church.

**Knitted and Crocheted Christmas Angels and Stars** – Thank you very much to those who have been knitting and crocheting! Please put your finished angels and stars in the hamper at the back of church, by Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, and they will be given to the children in our Babies and Toddler Group at their Christmas session on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December.

**Christmas Connect Café** – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December, 9.30am – 11.30am. Join us for this Christmas edition of our popular monthly Community Café in the Church Hall! As well as the customary good coffee, good company, bacon butties, toast and marmalade, we will be serving pigs in blankets and mince pies. No charge, but donations are welcome.

**Bags for Christingle** – On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, at 10am in the church hall, we shall be putting together bags for the Christingle service. We would welcome as much help as possible!

**Annual Welcare Christmas Appeal** – The appeal has been launched, and there is a decorated shoebox at the back of church for donations. Supermarket gift cards are welcomed. Please contact Alison Dockray on [aliray1@hotmail.com](mailto:aliray1@hotmail.com) with any queries.

**Food Vouchers** – We are providing 50 x £50 food vouchers to Worsley Bridge School and the St Paul's Pre-School, to help support families suffering from financial hardship this Christmas. If you would like to support this much-needed project and contribute towards the £2,500 to fund the vouchers, please see Rosemary Dear.

**Church Office** – Next week's Notice Sheet will cover Sundays 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> December. If there is anything you would like included, please let Stephanie know by midday on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December. During Christmas week, the church office will be open on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, and in the New Year week, it will be open on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> December and Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January.

**Donations in Memory of Margaret Doubleday** can be given to the following: St Andrew's Church, Corbridge – Registered Charity No. 1133723, [www.corbridgechurch.org.uk](http://www.corbridgechurch.org.uk); Charlotte Straker Project (the care home where Margaret lived in recent months) – [www.charlottestraker.org.uk](http://www.charlottestraker.org.uk); or Mission Aviation Fellowship – Registered charity in England & Wales 1064598, [www.maf-uk.org](http://www.maf-uk.org).

**Tea and Coffee** – Many thanks to the Harris home group for serving tea and coffee on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December. On 22<sup>nd</sup> December, the Birkett home group will be on duty.



### ***Christmas Tree Tags – in support of Hope into Action***

These are an alternative to sending cards to our church friends. The money we might spend on cards is instead donated to a charity. This year the PCC have agreed the charity will be Hope into Action, which provides temporary supported living to homeless people and is a stepping stone to permanent accommodation. Hope into Action is unashamedly Christian to the core; each tenant is prayerfully and practically supported, and offered friendship and fellowship to help them sustain living independently and engage with their community.

The Christmas tree is at the back of church with tags to sign and give a donation to Hope into Action. For more information see the website for Hope into Action.

### ***Resolve Course***

We are running the Resolve Course again in January, on Monday evenings (6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> January), from 7.30pm – 9pm. Resolve is a four-week course designed to reflect on how we make and keep our New Year resolutions, and to enable conversations! All welcome. Light refreshments provided. Any questions, or to sign up, contact Keith Howick on 07747 033473.

### ***Community Notices***

**Carol Singing in aid of Welcare** – Everyone is welcome to join carol singing in the Glades, on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, 11am – 12.30pm. See the display board at the back of church or Alison Dockray for further details.

**Christmas Tree Festival** – 14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> December, at St Francis of Assisi Church, West Wickham, BR4 0PW. Come along to view the trees, listen to festive music, and enjoy refreshments. Free entry; donations in aid of Welcare in Bromley.

Opening Times: Sat 14<sup>th</sup> 10am - 1pm; Sun 15<sup>th</sup> 12pm - 3pm; Wed 18<sup>th</sup> 10.30am - 1pm; Fri 20<sup>th</sup> 10am - 1pm; Sat 21<sup>st</sup> (with children's activities) 10am - 1pm.

**Foodbanks** - Tubs for foodbank donations, which are shared between Living Well and CAP can be found in the porch, by the main church entrance. The following items are particularly needed: pasta sauces, tinned meat, tinned fruit, tea and coffee, treats, toiletries. Please ensure tins have ring pulls, as many people do not have a tin opener. Please leave donations in a strong carrier bag. *Please also double-check items are in date and do not contain any alcohol.*

### ***Welcare in Bromley Mission of the Month (Nov & Dec)***

**welcare**  
*strengthening families since 1894*

Welcare is a local charity that works with families with children up to 13 years of age. It follows Christian values, and strives to empower families, offering practical and emotional support to overcome challenges.

Welcare's experienced social workers run a Caring Dads group for fathers who wish to improve their relationship with their children, and the Welcare 'My Space' group works with children and parents who have suffered domestic abuse. They also run groups for local schools who want support for pupils with low self-esteem. Visit [www.welcare.org.uk](http://www.welcare.org.uk) for more information, and see the display at the back of church. Please pray for Welcare staff and all the families they work with, that their lives will be improved by the help they receive.

## Living Well Christmas Appeal



To help feed someone in need this Christmas, Living Well are asking for donations of the following items:

Tinned ham/Corned Beef	Long-Life Milk	Coffee	
Tinned Salmon	Rice Pudding/Custard	Teabags	Toilet Roll
Tinned Veg	Jam/Marmalade	Hot Chocolate	Shampoo
Tinned Fruit	Festive Biscuits	Cereal	Shower Gel
Tinned Soup	Festive Chocolates	Pasta	

If you would like to make a complete food parcel, please put one each of these items in a 'bag for life'. Individual items from the list will also be very welcome and Living Well will make up the bags. Please leave your donations behind the font at the back of church (not in the foodbank tubs in the porch). **The last day for food donations is 14<sup>th</sup> December.** If you would prefer to give a financial donation, that would also be most welcome. Any questions, please see Sarah Gray.

### Please pray...



- for the Super Soup Lunch on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December.
- for all the children, staff and parents who visited St Paul's for 'Experience Christmas'.
- for the preparation for all the Christmas services.
- for children and families as term finishes.
- for those affected by the wild fires in Malibu.
- for all of us this Advent, that we would take time to reflect on the themes of our Advent worship and sermon series: Thanksgiving, Patience, Humility and Joy.
- for those who will be struggling to put a meal on the table at Christmas.
- for people to be able to keep warm.
- for those affected by Storm Darragh.
- for peace and reconciliation in all areas in the world where there is war and conflict.
- for CAP and Living Well, who run the local foodbanks, and for all the services they provide.
- for those who are unwell, in care homes, hospices and hospitals, and for all the staff.
- for all who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

On our Electoral Roll we pray for John Williams, Brian Woolmer, Graham Woolmer, Louise Woolmer, Youla Yates, and for our parishioners in Braeside.

### Get in touch...

**Administrator** - Stephanie Fox: 020 8650 0501, [admin@stpaulsbeckenham.org.uk](mailto:admin@stpaulsbeckenham.org.uk)

Office hours: Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9.15am – 2.15pm

**Vicar** - Rev'd Rachel Winn: 07566 274388, [vicar@stpaulsbeckenham.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stpaulsbeckenham.org.uk)

**Churchwardens** - Anne Harkness: 07768 992559; Anthea Prendergast: 07811 530230

**Parish Safeguarding Officer** - Sandra Horner: 07701 069638; [sandrahorner53@gmail.com](mailto:sandrahorner53@gmail.com).

**Communion at Home** – If you unable to come to a Communion services but would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please get in touch with Rev'd Rachel or Anne Howick (020 8658 0808).

### Verse for the Year

'Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.' 1 Peter 5: 6-7