



Welcome

A warm welcome to everyone, and especially if you are new or visiting. Do please stay on for drinks and to meet people after the 9.30 and 11.15 services and keep this welcome sheet for your prayers this week.

Prayer

- with the Anglican Communion we pray for the Parish of the Falkland Islands; for Archbishop Justin; for Bishops Tim, Jonathan and David
- the Sisters of St Andrew in Lyon, among them Sister Katie Seal
- our mission giving: £750 for Church Mission Society (CMS), working to bring hope alongside people made vulnerable by unjust systems or difficult circumstances
- our Prime Minister and all working on the best way forward for Brexit
- the urgent need for someone to head up a small planning group for our Community Day on 11 May 2019, by mid-January at latest
- Children's Society, caring for vulnerable children; for our Christingle service today
- give thanks for our children's and youth workers Imogen Cook and Aaron Burrows, praying a blessing on them personally and on all they do in this parish
- Western, our church school, and all the schools with which we have connections
- this season of Advent, with its rich themes of watching, waiting and preparing
- keeping a sense of the deeper meaning of Christmas amid all the commercialism
- give thanks for Winchester's street pastors, the NHS, and our emergency services
- all who sleep outdoors in cold weather or worry about fuel bills
- the unwell: Caroline Behan, Christopher and Clifford Browne, Judy Golding, Andrew James, Julia Jones, Laura Liepins, Isla McGregor (age 13), Anna McKenzie (age 11), Emma and Mark Miller, Kate Morgan, Les Scott and Jane Seal (Peter's mother); all awaiting appointments or treatments
- those who have died recently, including Charlotte Ould; all who live with the pain of untimely death; God's comfort for their families and friends and all who remember loved ones

Please feel free to put prayer requests on the board at the back of church or e-mail them to admin@stmatthewstpaul.org.
St Paul's Lady Chapel is set up for prayer, either alone or with one of the prayer ministry team, after the 9.30 parish communion service.

Services today, 9 December

8 am
St Matthew's

[BCP] Holy Communion

Readings: p. 49



9.30 am
St Paul's

Family Communion with DIY crèche, Scramblers,
Climbers, Explorers, Destination and Transition

Order of service in pale blue booklet

Collect

God of our salvation,
you straighten the winding ways of our hearts
and smooth the paths made rough by sin.
Make our conduct blameless,
keep our hearts watchful in holiness,
and bring to perfection the good you have begun in us.
We ask this through him whose coming is certain,
whose day draws near:
your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Readings

Baruch 5: 1–9 [p. 738]

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,
and put on for ever the beauty of the glory from God.
Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God;
put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;
for God will show your splendour everywhere under heaven.
For God will give you evermore the name,
'Righteous Peace, Godly Glory'.
Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height;
look towards the east,
and see your children gathered from west and east
at the word of the Holy One,
rejoicing that God has remembered them.
For they went out from you on foot,
led away by their enemies;
but God will bring them back to you,
carried in glory, as on a royal throne.
For God has ordered that every high mountain
and the everlasting hills be made low
and the valleys filled up, to make level ground,
so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.
The woods and every fragrant tree
have shaded Israel at God's command.
For God will lead Israel with joy,
in the light of his glory,
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Luke 3: 1–6 [p. 740]

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

**Post
Communion**

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

11.15 am
St Matthew’s

[BCP] Mattins

Readings

Baruch 5: 1–9; Luke 3: 1–6 [p. 738]
See above

5 pm
St Paul’s

Christingle service



Services next Sunday, 16 December

The third Sunday of Advent

8 am	[BCP] Holy Communion
St Matthew's	<i>Readings: p. 51</i>
9.30 am	Parish Communion
St Paul's	<i>Readings: Zephaniah 3: 14–20; Luke 3: 7–18 [p. 741]</i>
11.15 am	[BCP] Mattins
St Matthew's	<i>Readings: Zephaniah 3: 14–20; Luke 3: 7–18 [p. 741]</i>
4 pm	St Paul's @ 4 family service, 'The birth of Jesus'
St Paul's	

Building for Life

In Advent, as we prepare to celebrate the coming of God's greatest gift, we give thanks for the numerous donations we have received in 2018.

Legacies Funding for our current *Building for Life* programme was kick-started by the generous Wilkins bequest, and we are likely to receive a boost from another legacy next year. This is encouraging news indeed, and a reminder that legacies are a natural part of our Christian stewardship: a way of giving thanks to God for the gifts of our lifetime.

Grants Applications to charities and grant-making trusts have underpinned our fund-raising work this year. Our first went off in January to the Garfield Weston Foundation and others have followed in a steady stream. To date we have received pledges worth £127,000 from seven organisations.

Community support Our Community Day in May raised £4,775. This prepared the ground for our community appeal letter, which was delivered to 2,600 homes the following month. £4,750 has been raised as a direct result. Our JustGiving community hub appeal was launched in July and has raised £1,520 so far.

Congregational fund-raising and events Much of the fund-raising from our congregation was pledged in summer 2017; those pledges have been honoured and received throughout this year and we give thanks for the ongoing generosity of our regular worshippers. Wonderful match-funding helped ensure that the Clarendon Way walk this year raised over £13,000. Other events included wine tasting, a Friends' talk and a garden party, and the ongoing Coffee Pot pop-up café.

Next steps We move towards the New Year with just over £200,000 needed to reach our total of £850,000. We hope a good part of this will come from outstanding grant applications but we need some concerted prayer and still some more from you, our congregation – money, practical support to help us raise money, and any new ideas you may have.

Further details in the December/January parish magazine.

The week ahead

Mon 10, 8.30 am	<i>Building for Life</i> steering group	Parish rooms
4.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Parish rooms
7.30 pm	Peter Symonds College carol service	Cathedral
Tues 11, 2 pm	Western School Year 4 Christingle	St Paul's
4.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Parish rooms
7.30 pm	Christian meditation	Parish rooms
Wed 12, 10 am	Advent course	St Matthew's
11 am	[BCP] Holy Communion	St Matthew's
4.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Vestry
7.15 pm	Finance committee	Orchard End
7.30 pm	Christmas carols rehearsal	St Paul's
8.30 pm	Men's group	Roebuck Inn
Thurs 13, 9.30–11.30 am	Toddler group	Parish rooms
12.30 pm	Funeral of Charlotte Ould	Chesil House
Fri 14, 9.30 am–noon	St Paul's Coffee Pot pop-up café	St Paul's
Sat 15, 10 am	Children's Christmas workshop	St Paul's
2.30 pm	Carol service	Bereweke Ct
6.30 pm	Christmas carol service	St Paul's

Diary dates

December

Mon 17, 2.30 pm	Eastacre carol service	Eastacre
Tues 18, 6 pm	Western KS2 carol service	St Paul's
6–7.30 pm	Carol singing round the parish	St Paul's
Wed 19, 10 am	Advent course	St Matthew's
Fri 21, 9.30 am	Under-fives' Christmas celebration	St Paul's
Sat 22, 10 am	Animal nativity	St Paul's
Mon 24, 3.30 pm	Nativity service	St Paul's
11.30 pm	Midnight Eucharist	St Paul's
Tues 25, 8 am	Christmas Holy Communion	St Matthew's
9.30 am	Christmas Family Communion	St Paul's
11.15 am	Holy Communion with carols	St Matthew's
Sun 30	NO 8 am service	

January

Sun 6, 9.30 am	Epiphany service with incense	St Paul's
Thurs 10	Deadline for magazine articles	
Fri 11, 9.30 am–noon	St Paul's Coffee Pot pop-up café	St Paul's
Wed 23, 12.30–1 pm	Space in the City, speaker Mark Byford	United Church
Sun 27	Bring and share lunch	St Paul's

February

Sat 2	<i>Bugsy Malone</i> musical workshop	St Paul's
-------	--------------------------------------	-----------

Coming up

St Matthew's Advent course continues on Wednesdays 12 and 19 December, 10–10.50 am, exploring how we can experience fullness of the Christian faith in our busy and messy lives.

Winchester Fusion Choir is performing at Wesley Methodist Church on Thurs 13 December, 7.30 pm, in aid of WaterHarvest, Brickworks (South Sudan) and West London Mission (helping homeless people). Tickets (£8, under-16s free) from fusionchoirconcerttickets@gmail.com.

Children's Christmas workshop at St Paul's, Sat 15 December, 10 am–noon, making decorations for the church and Christmas cards, icing biscuits, songs, Christmas story and refreshments.

Cycle Winchester mass ride On Sat 15 December, you are invited to join the second mass cycle ride, in the form of a 'bike chain' converging at King Alfred's statue at 10.40 am for two processional laps of the one-way system and a short celebratory gathering at Abbey Gardens with mince pies and drinks, finishing around 11.30 am. Full details at cyclewinchester.org.uk. Cycle Winchester aims to tackle the issues that deter people from cycling, such as lack of protected cycling routes and road layouts that don't cater well for cyclists.



Notices

Mulled wine and mince pies We would be hugely grateful for any help you can offer for the wonderful refreshments after our Christmas carol service, Sat 15 December. We welcome around 200 people to this service, which is a highlight of our year, and it's a way of showing hospitality to many folk who may not usually come to church. We need help with the following, please:

- a plate of 12 homemade mince pies (we need 12 plates)
- a plate of homemade savoury snacks, e.g. cheese straws, smoked salmon (we need 12 plates)

Immediately after the service, at 7.30ish:

- help pouring wine and mulled apple juice (we need 12 people)
- help taking trays round (we need 12 people)
- help clearing and washing up (as many as can fit in hospitality area!)

Many hands make light work, so please contact Julia Seal, 854849, julia.seal@ntlworld.com. Thank you very much.

Christmas cards for sale at the back of church: £3.50 for a pack of 8 with envelopes, raising funds for *Building for Life*.

Parish Christmas cards Thank you to all who have already delivered some bundles – nearly half way there! Please take some more from the table at the back of church to distribute to local homes.

Would you like to go carol singing? Three opportunities – do sign up at the back.
Sat 15 December, 2.30 pm at Berewecke Court with Mary Copping
Mon 17 December, 2.30 pm at Eastacre with Stephen Adam
Tues 18 December, 6 pm around the parish with Bill Lucas, followed by mulled wine

Toddler group This is such a wonderful group, with new children coming each week. Would you be able to help out on a Thursday morning between 9.30 and 11.30, for all or part of the time – to help set up, make tea/coffee, prepare snacks for the children, take part in craft activities, or chat to local parents/grandparents and carers? Either on a rota or one-off basis. We'd love to have a rota of people able to help out. Please contact Victoria McCabe, 07971 545573, vlbrooks@hotmail.com.

Basics Bank appeal for items to help Winchester residents in urgent need:

- clothing – particularly winter clothes, coats, boots, shoes
- Christmas gifts for families, including toys and Christmas food

Please drop your gifts at:

- Basics Bank, 21a Penton Place, Milland Road, SO23 0PZ, 10 am–3 pm on Tuesdays or Fridays, by Fri 14 December
- Winchester Basics Bank stall, Cathedral Christmas market, 9 am–8 pm on Thurs 13 December.



For Nightshelter residents' Christmas stockings, please leave bars of chocolate, sweets and vouchers for coffee shops, cinemas, phone airtime, Primark and other clothes shops and bookshops, in the box at the back of St Paul's.

Trinity Centre Donations of men's and women's casual clothes, shoes and warm items appreciated; contact lucy@trinitywinchester.org.uk.

Winchester women's refuge A safe haven for women and children fleeing domestic abuse. Please help by leaving towels and toiletries in the box at the back of church.

Plastic bottle tops Help reduce plastic waste and raise money for Lanterns, the nursery school on Berewecke Road. Please put washed type 2 or 4 plastic tops in the crate at the back of St Paul's.



Community Day 2019

We have a date: Sat 11 May; we have a focus for fund-raising: St Paul's *Building for Life*; we have lots of volunteers full of goodwill. What we urgently need is someone to lead a planning group. Could it be you? Please contact Peter Seal asap: 854849, peter@stmatthewstpaul.org. ***If no-one offers by mid-January we will need to cancel the 2019 event.***

Interested in meeting people/getting involved?

- *Toddler group* (0–3 years) runs on Thursdays, 9.30–11.30 am in the parish rooms: play, craft, singing, stories and snacks (coffee, etc. for grown-ups!)
- *Women's group* next meets Mon 14 January, 7 pm, at the Roebuck for supper; contact Julia Seal, 854849, julia.seal@ntlworld.com
- *Men's group* next meets Wed 12 December, 8.30 pm, at the Roebuck for a drink and a chat; please contact Chris Sharp, chrisesharp@gmail.com
- *Tea with Friends* runs on the second Monday of the month, 2.30–4.30 pm; please contact Linda Russell-Smith, 853584, or Heather Riley, 862867
- *St Paul's Coffee Pot* pop-up café next meets Fri 14 December, 9.30 am–noon in St Paul's, for real coffee, homemade cakes and a chat (donations to *Building for Life*); children welcome
- *Daytime book group* meets on the first Monday of the month at 2.30 pm; please contact Talia Hedstrom, 868728, or Christine Bennett, 852681
- *Meditation group* meets on Tuesdays, 7.30 pm in the parish rooms – come as you are and rest in God's presence
- *Tuesday homegroup* meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month, 7.45–9.15 pm; please contact James Clay, 852141
- *Wednesday homegroup* meets weekly, 7.45 pm, studying the book of Romans; please contact Susie Richardson, 07813 641646
- *Thursday homegroup* meets fortnightly, 7.30 for 7.45 pm; please contact Peter and Irene Casey, 808776

Contact us

Canon Peter Seal, Rector

854849 (h) 844878 (office) M, Tu, W, Th, peter@stmatthewstpaul.org

Revd Mary Copping, Children/Youth Co-ordinator & Assistant Priest

07921 886016 M, Tu, W, F, youth@stmatthewstpaul.org

Katy Palacio, Parish Administrator

844878 M, W, F, admin@stmatthewstpaul.org

Ursula Payne, Rector's Assistant & *Building for Life* Administrator

844878 M, Tu, Th, ursula@stmatthewstpaul.org

Parish Office (generally open M, W, F, 9.30–3), St Paul's Church, St Paul's Hill, Winchester SO22 5AB www.stmatthewstpaul.org

Please make cheques payable to St Matthew's PCC – all gifts gratefully received

Please send in any notices for the welcome sheet to ursula@stmatthewstpaul.org by Wednesday evening for inclusion the following Sunday