



The United Benefice
of Chichester St Paul and Westhampnett St Peter
ST PAUL'S PARISH CHURCH



Churchside, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 6FT ☎ 533403

Week of 6th December 2009 – Second Sunday of Advent

8.00 am Holy Eucharist

9.00 am Morning Prayer

10.00 am PARISH EUCHARIST

*Fr Richard presides and
Deacon Peter Kane assists and preaches.*

4.00 pm CHRISTINGLE Service for all the family

5.30 pm Evening Prayer



EVERY DAY in St Paul's – 9.00 am Morning Prayer – 5.30 pm Evening Prayer

Mon 7th 10.00 am CHERUBS in the Parish Centre. Play and activities for pre-school children with parents/carers.

2.00 pm – 5.00 pm Music Exams in Church

Tues 8th 8.00 am Holy Eucharist

10.00 am – 5.00 pm Music Exams in Church

5.30 pm Junior Confirmation Preparation in the Parish Centre

Wed 9th 10.00 am – 5.00 pm Music Exams in Church

7.30 pm Ladies Group Christmas Party

Thu 10th 10.00 am Holy Eucharist

7.30 pm Senior Confirmation Group at The Rectory, Tower Close

NEXT SUNDAY 13th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent

8.00 am Holy Eucharist

9.00 am Morning Prayer

10.00 am PARISH EUCHARIST

Readings: Zephaniah 3.14-20; Philippians 4.4-7; Luke 3.7-18

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

We bring our gift today to support the homeless, especially the work of Stonepillow at St Joseph's Night Shelter. Gift aided Donation Envelopes are available.

Peter Kane would like to thank all for their good wishes and support on the occasion of his ordination to the diaconate. He really appreciates it. Also many thanks for all who arranged the bring-and-share lunch.

Have you ordered your Christmas Tree?

If not, the beautiful artificial one at present in the Parish Centre, around 6 ft tall and needing a new base, is **for sale at the bargain price of £25** in aid of the Building on Success fund. Contact the Parish Office (☎ 533403).

TODAY – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10.00 am PARISH EUCHARIST – ALL TOGETHER

Introit 438 *Make way, make way*

Gradual 633 *The Advent of our King*

After Gospel 722 *verse 3 – sing twice*

Offertory 295 *How lovely on the mountains*

Communion Jesus Christ the Apple Tree *Elizabeth Poston*

Post Communion 704 *Wake up, O people, the Lord is near!*

Collect of the Day

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

First Reading Malachi 3.1-4

This messenger expects the Lord to come suddenly, heralded by another messenger to prepare his way. Christians see this fulfilled in John the Baptist, who also warned people that to encounter the Lord is not an unmixed blessing - always there is a testing and a purifying we have to face.

Second Reading Philippians 1.3-11

Paul writes warmly to his dear friends in Philippi. In expectation of the day of Christ's coming again he prays they may increase in love and understanding.

Gospel Reading Luke 3.1-6

We read from Luke these coming months, but in all four Gospels John the Baptist appears as the messenger whom ancient Scripture had expected. He is the forerunner and herald of Jesus, preparing the way of the Lord by calling people to repent and be baptized.

Post Communion Prayer

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.

Immediately after the service, refreshments in the Parish Centre, and the Ministry of Healing (prayer, laying on of hands, anointing) in the Lady Chapel.

New at St Paul's? Please introduce yourself, collect a Welcome Leaflet (details of regular groups and meetings). If you wish, fill in a yellow card with your details.

The **Bible Reading Fellowship Notes** for January to April 2010 are available from Barbara Scott (☎ 780105) from **today** and on Sundays 13th and 20th.

Next **Sunday, 13th December**, the 10.00am Eucharist will be an All Together Eucharist with three worship activities. The chairs will be rearranged – there will be *plenty* for all who wish to use them - and there will be the possibility for children and families to sit on the floor, so bring a cushion if you intend to do that.

The next **Meet'n'Eat Lunch** is on **Wednesday 16th December at 12.30 pm** in the Parish Centre, preceded by the **Eucharist and Ministry of Healing at 11.45 am** To book lunch, please contact Felicity (☎ 789214) by Saturday 12th December.

Advent Course 2009 'Watching and Waiting'

is this year's **Advent course**, led by Jon Robinson and Peter Kane **on Monday evenings**, 7th and 14th December at 7.30pm at 37 Somerstown, and also on **Thursday mornings**, 10th and 17th December at 11.15am at St Paul's. Just turn up, though it would help if you sign up on the list at the back of the church. For those who are unable to make the meetings, you can find a copy of the course notes on the church website www.stpaulschichester.org.

**Sunday, 20th December at 6.30 pm
Festival of**

NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

**Thursday 24th December
4.00pm Christmas CRIB SERVICE
11.30 pm MIDNIGHT MASS**

Christmas Dinner at home

Please tell one of the clergy (in confidence)

- 1) If you, or someone you know, would otherwise be alone on Christmas Day, but would like be with others
- 2) If you will have a place at your own Christmas dinner table and would like to invite others.

If there are offers (and requests) we will put you in touch in confidence.

St Paul's Choir is planning to visit Berlin in February: if you, or someone you know, would like to sponsor their visit, please contact Chris Larley with offers or ideas.

BUILDING ON SUCCESS

Christmas Cards of St Paul's and Notelets are on sale in the Parish Centre. Large cards are 50p each (5 for £2.00). Notelets 30p each (5 for £1.25).

An auction of promises will be held in 2010. If you have links with any companies which might sponsor the event, or donate items/ experiences, please contact Alison Firth, Jo Hunt or Rebecca Crawshaw as soon as possible (See insert for further information).

100+ Draw. Better odds than the lottery – win £50 every month. The first draw will be after the 10.00 am Parish Eucharist **TODAY**. Not joined yet? See Michael Brittain for a form and your chance to win £50.

"History of St Paul's" - Alan Green is writing a new history of the church to sell in aid of BoS in 2010. If you could lend photographs and archive material, in particular of the interior pre 1982 with chairs, and post 1982 showing the pews from St Peter the Great, contact Alan on ☎ 784915 or agreenzone@aol.com.

Church buildings – if you discover a building defect, fittings or fabric, please report it by leaving a note on Persephone's desk (or phoning the Office), so that we can deal with it quickly. (We are very grateful to Mike Lawson and Garry Long for their attempts to resolve the vestry flood!)

Your PCC took the important decision to endorse the Eco-Group's proposals to move on with our consultants with plans to use **renewable energy sources** for the church and centre (solar PV cells on the south church roof and wood pellet burning boiler, which is carbon neutral). This will involve further consultation with our architect, applications for grants for the capital outlay (we hope that this will be completely covered), and then planning applications.

Admission of baptized children to Holy Communion before Confirmation

- Early next year there will be an open meeting to clarify the reasons for the PCC decision and its implications.
- Such admission will always be at the request of both parents and children, and after a proper preparation course for children and parents together.
- The book "Let the children come to Communion" by Canon Stephen Lake is in the "Pastoral" section of St Paul's Parish Library, and available for loan.
- The next Perspectives will contain an article about the process.
- Talk with your clergy and PCC members.

A Driving Ministry?

Have you a car and an hour or so to spare? Deborah Bracken, **Deanery Family Support Worker** ☎ 07795343742, based at St George's, needs help with delivering food parcels, and people to appointments (and incidentally secretarial and other help): more information: at <http://www.familysupportwork.org.uk>

- **Stonepillow**, Chichester Christian Care, also needs the help of drivers, to collect food donations from supermarkets for St Joseph's Night Shelter, and to help with meals over Christmas. Contact ☎ 537934 – before November 30th if possible. More at <http://www.stonepillow.org.uk/support>
- **If you are going by car to Crawley** and back in mid-December, and could pick up a parcel for St Paul's, tell Fr Richard

Homeless at Christmas? Stonepillow is giving Christmas dinner at the Glassworks to homeless people. If you know someone who would be alone and would be glad to be there for Christmas, or would like to help cook and serve it, contact ☎ 537934 soon.

The funeral of Bishop Eric Kemp is at 11.30 am on Friday, December 18th in Chichester Cathedral and is open to anyone who would like to come.

Winterbourne Wonderland

Sunday 13th December 3 pm – 6 pm

fun and food for all the family outdoors at Winterbourne Road
*arranged by Immanuel Church
everyone welcome*

Table Tennis – All are welcome to play at **St Michael's Hall** every Friday. Juniors aged 13 and below, £1, 6.00pm to 7.00pm. Seniors, £2, 7.00pm to 8.30pm. All are welcome – just turn up or phone Phil Baker (☎ 533784) or Keith Pattison (☎ 771057).

The regular services at St Peter's, Westhampnett are 8.00 am Holy Eucharist 1st & 3rd Sundays; **9.45 am Parish Eucharist** each Sunday *either all together or with Junior Church*; **Morning Prayer Wednesdays 9 am.**

The current issue of **Perspectives** (the Benefice Magazine) is freely available at the back of the church.

CONTACTS at St PAUL'S

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