



The United Benefice

of Chichester St Paul and Westhampnett St Peter

ST PAUL'S PARISH CHURCH

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

www.stpaulschichester.org



Week of 20th December 2009 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

8.00 am Holy Eucharist 9.00 am Morning Prayer

10.00 am PARISH EUCHARIST *Fr John Richardson presides,
the Rev Ann Waizeneker assists and preaches.
(Activities for younger members in Parish Centre)*

5.30 pm Evening Prayer

6.30 pm FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS



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

Mon 21st **CHERUBS** will resume on January 4th

Tues 22nd **8.00 am Holy Eucharist**

Thurs 24th **10.00 am Holy Eucharist**

Thu 24th **CHRISTMAS EVE**

4.00 pm **CRIB SERVICE** *for all the family.*

11.30 pm **MIDNIGHT MASS**

Fri 25th **CHRISTMAS DAY**

8.00 am **Holy Communion**

10.00 am **PARISH EUCHARIST** *for all the family*

Sat 26th **St Stephen, Deacon and Martyr 10.00 am Holy Eucharist**

NEXT SUNDAY 27th December – The Feast of St John, Apostle & Evangelist

8.00 am Holy Eucharist 9.00 am Morning Prayer

10.00 am PARISH EUCHARIST

Readings: Exodus 33.7-11a; 1 John 1; John 21.19b-25

5.30 pm Evening Prayer

6.30 pm Joint service at Christ Church

Monday, 28th December The Feast of the Holy Innocents
10.00 am Holy Eucharist

The Parish Office will be closed from 24th December to 4th January inclusive.

At least one of your clergy will be available throughout the holiday, either on
☎ 531624, ☎ 536280, or ☎ 537121.

Your Clergy and Staff wish everyone a Happy and Holy Christmas

TODAY – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10.00 am PARISH EUCHARIST

Introit	634	<i>The angel Gabriel from heaven came</i>
Gradual	182	<i>For Mary, mother of our Lord</i>
Offertory	406	<i>Long ago, prophets knew Christ would come</i>
Communion		I sing of a maiden <i>Lennox Berkeley</i>
Post Communion	557	<i>People look east</i>

Collect of the Day

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

First Reading **Micah 5.2-5a**

Like so many of the prophets, Micah embraces both judgement and hope. In his poetic language, a new king will be born in David's birthplace, Bethlehem, and will lead his people in peace.

Second Reading **Hebrews 10.5-10**

This writer puts words from Psalm 40 into Jesus's mouth, to show that Jesus came in complete obedience to God's will, and he abolished the old sacrificial systems by which people had approached God. He has consecrated us all in his own person.

Gospel Reading **Luke 1.39-45 [46-55]**

Luke weaves together the wonderful stories of the sons born to Elizabeth and Mary. The mother of Jesus visits the mother of John, and the two are joined in the joy of what God is doing. Mary's hymn of praise and revolution is like that of Hannah in the Old Testament when she named her son Samuel meaning "one who comes from God".

Post Communion Prayer

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

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

Holy Communion at home: your clergy are pleased to bring Holy Communion to those who cannot get to church for Communion at Christmas (or at any time): ask them!

Come and sing carols (or shake a bucket) **for 20 minutes after the show at the Festival Theatre** in aid of Stonepillow and St Paul's Building Fund. Times below

Sat 19th	Mon 21st	Tue 22nd	Wed 23rd	Thur 24th	Sat 26th
3.45 pm & 9.15 pm	3.45 pm & 9.15 pm	9.15 pm	9.15 pm	3.45 pm	5.45 pm

further details from Chris Merrien ☎ 07913 353018 or Martin Phillips ☎ 07748 328372.

Carol Singing (with St Peter's) at The Mill (Westhampnett) and Sainsbury's 5.15 pm this Tuesday 22nd *Anyone welcome*

Young members of St Paul's: come and decorate the Christmas Tree at 10 am on Wednesday (23rd).

(Older members welcome too!)

Christmas Greetings – The usual board for congregational Christmas cards is now at the back of the Church (NW corner) and you are welcome to pin up your greetings to the congregation there.

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 would like to have an extra guest at your own Christmas dinner table.

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

If you have offered to help in **Sunday School**, there are vacancies in the next rota for the Explorers' Group (7 – 10 year olds). Please see Jon or sign up on the rota in the office.

ROX and SOX : the new leaders and helpers rota is ready: please sign up before you are conscripted! *Jon*

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.

The next Breakfast Taize will be on Sunday 10th January 2010 at 8.20am, at St Paul's. Do come along!

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!)

The **Bible Reading Fellowship Notes** for January to April 2010 are available from Barbara Scott (☎ 780105) **today**.

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.

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.

BUILDING ON SUCCESS

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).

"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 with chairs, and post 1982 showing the pews, contact Alan ☎ 784915 or agreenzone@aol.com.

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.

Parish Freecycle

On offer

Marketeer Shopping Trolley contact Shirley Bliss ☎ 785946 – who suggests a donation (eg £20) for Building on Success

Admission of baptized children to Holy Communion before Confirmation

- Your PCC recently decided, after much thought and discussion, to request the Bishop to allow baptized children from about age 7 in the parish to receive Holy Communion before they are confirmed.
- Such admission will always be at the considered request of both parents and children, and after a proper preparation course for children and parents. The PCC will formulate an explicit procedure.
- On **Sunday, 17th January** there will be an **open meeting at 11.30 am** after the Parish Eucharist for all, and especially families with children under 15, to clarify the meaning, reasons and implications of the policy.
- 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.
- If you have questions, you are welcome to talk with clergy and PCC members.

At St Peter's, Westhampnett the regular services are

8 am Holy Eucharist 1st & 3rd Sundays;

9.45 am Parish Eucharist each Sunday *with Junior Church or all together*

Morning Prayer Wednesdays 9 am.

SAXONS Youth Group 1st Sunday afternoons: contact Ann.

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. Contact Phil Baker (☎ 533784) or Keith Pattison (☎ 771057).

If you need some last minute Christmas Cards, why not buy some of the beautiful ones of St Paul's on sale in the Parish Centre? Large cards are 50p each (5 for £2.00). **Notelets** are also on sale 30p each (5 for £1.25).

Have you visited the Parish Websites recently www.stpaulschichester.org and www.roundaboutyouth.com ? Lots of new articles and pictures are there for you to enjoy – and tell your friends. The recent Advent Course is there too, for those who couldn't come to the course.

New Year's Day – the Feast of the Circumcision and naming of Jesus: 11.00 am Holy Eucharist

Bible Studies in the New Year: please contact Peter ☎ 537121 if you haven't taken part already and would like to join in.

Confirmation preparation resumes on January 5th (Youth) and 7th (Adults)

Have you heard of the Church Urban Fund? It was set up in 1985 by the Church and England, and £18 million was raised and spent on exciting projects in Urban Priority (ie poor!) Areas throughout the Land. There is a special meeting at St Paul's on February 9th, to update and tell us about CUF now.

CONTACTS at St PAUL'S

The Reverend Richard Hunt	☎ 531624	richard@stpaulschichester.org
The Reverend Ann Waizeneker	☎ 536280	ann@stpaulschichester.org
The Reverend Peter Kane	☎ 537121	peter@stpaulschichester.org
Youth Worker Jon Robinson	☎ 839037	jon@stpaulschichester.org
Director of Music Chris Larley	☎ 528318	chris@stpaulschichester.org
Office Manager Persephone Hagan	☎ 533403	office@stpaulschichester.org