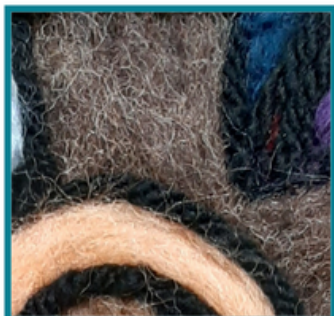




CONNECT

@ St Paul's Beckenham



www.stpaulsbeckenham.org.uk



Art Credit: Front Cover - Mel Corkill

EASTER 2023



And we're back ...

We are delighted to relaunch our parish magazine *Connect* following the pandemic. In this issue you will find information about the various events we have planned for the Easter period and beyond. We here at St Paul's love our community, and trust that in the programme of services outlined here, there is something for everyone.

With warm wishes

Rev. Simon Couper

Get in touch: St Paul's Contact Details

Vicar : Rev. Simon Couper

020 8650 3400

vicar@stpaulsbeckenham.org.uk

Administrator : Stephanie Fox

020 8650 0501

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Office Hours : 9:30 am - 1:00 pm
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

Address: St Paul's Church Office
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@stpaulsbeckenham




St Paul's Beckenham



You are warmly invited to the

Coronation Street Party, Lawn Road

Sunday 7th May - 1:00pm to 4:00pm



After the success of last year's Jubilee Street Party, St. Paul's have joined with local residents to organise the Coronation Street Party for all the local community

Bring your own lunch
Cakes, desserts, tea, coffee and soft drinks provided

Competitions for:
Best Coronation Cake
Best Children's Crown

Entertainment and Music
Treasure Hunt for the Children

For the latest details check on
www.stpaulsbeckenham.org.uk

St Paul's Connect 2023 : Save the Date

As the Parish Church for New Beckenham we organise and host events and activities throughout the year. These are for all the community.

Here are our plans so far for 2023....

Coronation Street Party

After the success of our Jubilee street party last year, we are once again joining with local residents to organise a street party on Lawn Road for the whole community on May 7th.

See page 3 for your invite.

Babies and Toddlers

An immensely popular group meeting Thursday mornings during term time, 10:00 am - 11:30 am in the church hall.

Come and meet other mums, dads, grandparents, carers, with their babies and toddlers. We enjoy music, refreshments, toys and activities. Cost £1. A friendly space for all nationalities, all languages, and all faiths.

Community Weekend

In early September there will be a weekend of community activities ranging from litter picking, to brass bands, and exercise classes. Food is a key part of this event with bacon butties, BBQs and cakes. This year there will be a special theme: caring for the environment.

Gospel Choir Concert

By popular demand we will be arranging another professional Gospel choir event to coincide with Black History Month in October

Friendship Group

The St Paul's Friendship Group meets at 2.30pm, every Thursday during term time, in the Church Hall. We enjoy talks on a wide range of topics, and there is always time for tea and a chat. Everyone is welcome.

Gardening Group

Our garden is a space for everyone. Our gardening group meets on the first Saturday of the month, 10:00 am - 12 noon.

Youth Group

Our Sunday evening youth group is for anyone in academic year 7 up (age 11+.) We meet every Sunday evening during term time, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm in the church hall. Join us for food, fellowship and fun, as we explore the Christian faith.

Church Open for Prayer

The church is open daily, from 9:00am - 4:00pm in winter, and until sunset in the summer.

Saturday Hub

A new venture starting early summer. Meeting together for breakfast, good coffee, space for the kids to play. Building friendships and community.

Community Carols

Carols around the crib and Christmas tree on the last Sunday before Christmas. We are joined by the Crystal Palace Brass Bands. Mulled wine and mince pies complete the event



Symbols of Majesty: Just a Thought

In just a few weeks' time the coronation service of King Charles III will take place in Westminster Abbey. At that service, the king will be invested with various symbols of majesty: the orb, sceptre, and crown. Yet hidden from view will be an ordinary looking slab of sandstone concealed under the throne. This is the Stone of Scone, otherwise known as the Stone of Destiny. Regardless of whether symbols are made from precious metals, or more common elements, their power is not defined by their material value. They have an imbued nobility. This is all the more obvious in the case of the Stone of Scone, given that it is literally, just a rock. Yet, of all the symbols that will feature at the coronation, it is the Stone of Destiny that most piques my attention. It does so, precisely because its "ordinariness" reminds me of a far greater coronation. In the New Testament, the passion of the Christ can be read as an enthronement narrative. Matthew's gospel recalls: *"The soldiers stripped Jesus and put a scarlet robe on him, and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. 'Hail, king of the Jews!' they said."*



Here Jesus is mockingly adorned with symbols of majesty, and yet ironically, He really is the King of kings: with a reed for a sceptre, thorns for a crown, and a cross for a throne. As the saying goes, "many a true word is spoken in jest." Easter is the coronation of the Great King, who even now reaches out to us with the most commonplace of symbols, the water of baptism, and the bread and wine of Holy Communion.

Hall Hire for community events



Looking to book a children's birthday party, or residents association AGM? St Paul's has an excellent hall, with catering facilities, available for community use on a hire basis.

The Hall has a capacity of 80 people, and has access to four toilets, one of which is wheelchair accessible. It has its own entrance on Lawn Road, with level access from the street.

The Church can be made available for suitable events such as concerts and large-scale public meetings.

To discuss fees and requirements, terms and conditions, please contact the Church Office on 020 8650 0501. More information can be found online.

Planning your church wedding?

Planning a church wedding? We would be delighted to help you in planning for your big day. Contact the Church Administrator, Stephanie Fox, 020 8650 0501 for further details.



St Paul's Pre-School Beckenham
Playing, Learning, Growing Together



St Paul's Pre-school operates from the spacious halls in Lawn Road. They have places now and from September. Call the manager Lorraine on 07528 352135 to arrange a visit, or see www.stpaulspreschoolbeckenham.org.uk for more information.



PALM SUNDAY ALL AGE SERVICE

Sunday 2nd April, 10:30am





Easter and the Arts

**Join us for a series of reflections
this Holy Week,
exploring Easter through the arts.**

Monday 3rd April, 7:30pm : The Music of Easter

Tuesday 4th April, 7:30pm : The Images of Easter

Wednesday 5th April, 7:30pm : The Poetry of Easter



Maundy Thursday
6th April, 6:30pm



Supper and Holy Communion

*A powerful evening,
recalling the Last Supper
and Gethsemane*





Good Friday

7th April, 2:00 pm

Reflections at the Cross



Easter Sunday

SUNDAY 9TH APRIL, 10:30AM

ALL AGE, FAMILY COMMUNION



HE IS NOT HERE: FOR HE IS RISEN.





EASTER SERVICES 2023

Palm Sunday - 2nd April

8:00 am	Holy Communion
10:30 am	All Age Service

Reflections in Holy Week: Easter and the Arts

Monday 3rd April, 7:30 pm	<i>The Music of Easter</i>
Tuesday 4th April, 7:30 pm	<i>The Images of Easter</i>
Wednesday 5th April, 7:30 pm	<i>The Poetry of Easter</i>

Maundy Thursday - 6th April

6:30 pm for 7:00 pm	Supper and Holy Communion
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Good Friday - 7th April

11:00 am	<i>Churches Together Walk of Witness</i>
2:00 pm	Good Friday Service

Easter Sunday - 9th April

8:00 am	Holy Communion
10:30 am	Family Communion Service