



ST PAUL'S BECKENHAM

Sunday 7th December 2025

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) – With Rev'd Rachel Winn
10.30am	Holy Communion Theme: Safeguarding Sunday Readings: Psalm 42, and 1 John 3: 16-24 read by James Bramwell Prayers: Led by Rufus Ballaster With Rev'd Rachel Winn/Sandra Horner and Keith Howick <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> <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>
12.00 noon	Setting up for Experience Christmas – All help welcome!
The 10.30am service will be live-streamed and available via St Paul's You Tube Channel .	

Collect (Special Prayer) for the 2nd Sunday of Advent

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds,
 that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour
 we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. Amen

What's On this Week

Fri 5 th Dec	12.00pm	Super Soup Lunch
Sat 6 th Dec	10.00am 7.30pm	Gardening Team (subject to weather) Crystal Palace Progress Band Christmas Concert
Mon 8 th Dec	9.30am & 1.00pm	Experience Christmas - Worsley Bridge School
Tues 9 th Dec	10.15am	Experience Christmas - St Paul's Pre-School
Wed 10 th Dec	2.00pm	Worsley Bridge School Christmas Concert
Thurs 11 th Dec	10.00am 2.00pm 6.30pm 7.30pm	Babies and Toddlers, including Experience Christmas Friendship Group – Experience Christmas and Party. All welcome. <i>(NB the earlier time of 2pm)</i> Knit & Natter, Craft & Chatter Prayer for our Parish, Community and Nation (on Zoom)
Fri 12 th Dec	9.30am & 1.00pm 7.30pm	Experience Christmas - Worsley Bridge School Choir Practice
Sat 13 th Dec	10.00am	Decorating the Church
Sun 14 th Dec <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	8.00am 10.30am 4.00pm – 6.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP) – With Rev'd Neil Fairlamb Dress-Up Nativity Service Theme: Preparation With Alison Charlesworth and Rev'd Rachel Winn Youth Group Christmas Party – At St John's Penge

St Paul's Notices

Super Soup Lunch – Friday 5th December, 12 noon at the back of church. Everyone is welcome! Join us for delicious homemade soup with crusty bread. No charge; donations welcome.

Gardening Team – Saturday 6th December, 10am – 12 noon. The Gardening team hope to be working on Saturday, subject to the weather.

Crystal Palace Progress Band Christmas Concert – Saturday 6th December, 7.30pm, here at St Paul's Church. Free entry; donations welcome towards local charity, The Maypole Project. Mulled wine, cake and raffle during interval.

Thank you to John Williams for his donation for the **sanctuary flowers**, in memory of Maureen and Rachel.

Christmas Foodbank Collection - In addition to the Living Well Christmas Appeal we will be having a special Christmas foodbank collection on Sunday 7th December in support of CAP (Christians Against Poverty), Penge. Please bring your donations on Sat 6th or Sun 7th Dec and put them in strong carrier bags on the tables in the north aisle. Any questions, please speak to Anne Howick.

Safeguarding Sunday, 7th December – We will be thinking about how important it is that we put into action protecting and caring for one another in church. We will meet our Parish Safeguarding Officer and watch a short video to encourage us to look after each other well.

Christmas Connect Magazines - The Christmas Connect leaflet delivery packs for the parish will be available on Sunday for distribution. Please look at the back of church to see if you have any allocated to you as a previous deliverer. There will be many unallocated packs which also need to be delivered, so please pick up one or more to help with the delivery effort. We have so many good things going on at St Paul's over Christmas that we want to share with our community. We need to complete delivery by 13th December. Many thanks for your help.

No Morning Prayer Services – There will be no Morning Prayer in week beginning 8th December.

Choir for Carol Service – There will be rehearsals on Friday 12th and 19th December, 7.30pm in the hall. Everyone welcome! The Carol Service is on Sunday 21st December, 7.15pm (following the Community Carols in the church garden, at 6pm.)

Decorating the Church for Christmas - Saturday 13th December, 10am. If you would like to join in and help arrange flowers, please speak to Anne Howick for further information.

Youth Group Christmas Party – Sunday 14th December, 4 – 6pm, at St John's Site, SE20 7EQ. Christmas games and activities, food and snacks. Connect, hang out and enjoy fellowship. Come dressed in something festive and fun! RSVP by 7th Dec to admin@stpaulsbeckenham.org.uk.

Christmas Tags – We are having our little Christmas tree again this year at the back of church, with tags to sign. These are an alternative to sending cards to our church friends, and the idea is that we donate the money to a charity instead of spending it on cards. The tree will be up by Sunday 7th December.

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 (email r2dear@hotmail.com or phone 07803 725134).

Date for the Diary – Sunday 25th January 2026 is St Paul's Day and we will be having a fellowship lunch together after the 10.30am service.

Tea and Coffee - Many thanks to the Harris group for serving tea and coffee on Sunday 7th December. On 14th December the Howick home group will be on duty.

Christmas Services and Events at St Paul's



Sunday 14 th December	10.30am	Dress-Up Nativity ... for everyone!
	4.00pm	Youth Group Christmas Party
Saturday 20 th December	9.30am	Christmas Connect Café
Sunday 21 st December	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10.30am	Family Communion Service
	6.00pm	Outdoor Community Carols with brass band, followed by mulled wine and mince pies
	7.15pm	Carol Service
Wednesday 24 th December	4.00pm	Christingle Service
	11.30pm	Midnight Communion
Wednesday 25 th December	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10.30am	Christmas Day Celebration



Welcare - Mission of the Month (Nov & Dec)



Welcare in Bromley began life in 1983 as a local Christian charity set up by Anglican parishes in the borough and is supported by local churches to work with families with children mainly aged between 8 and 13 years. It provides practical and emotional support to the whole family, and also offers to work with children in schools, to help them build resilience and self-esteem, in the face of difficulties at home or online. Please see Welcare's website <https://welcare.org> and the display at the back of church.

Carol Singing in the Glades - There will be carol singing in the Glades shopping centre Bromley (top floor outside Zara) on Thursday 18th December between 11am and 12.30pm, in aid of Welcare in Bromley. You are welcome to join us! Please email Alison Dockray if you are interested in coming along to sing: aliray1@hotmail.com.

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	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 are also very welcome and Living Well will make up the bags. Please leave your donations behind the font (not in the foodbank tubs in the porch), by 11th December. Any questions, please see Sarah Gray.

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

Community Notices

Copies of *Together* the free magazine from the Diocese of Rochester are available at the back.

Katy Ray Designs - Notelets and Pictures. Katy has designed notelets and pictures to raise funds to support the disabled people she and Ben work with, in Tanzania. These could make a nice Christmas present and can be found here: <https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/KatyRayDesignsTz>;

Living Well Donations Doubled! - As part of their Winter Crisis Appeal, Aviva will match online donations, up to £250 per person. To donate, go to: [Home :: Living Well, Bromley](#).

Foodbanks - Tubs for foodbank donations, which are shared between Living Well and CAP, can be found in the porch, by the main church entrance. We are particularly asking for the following: tea bags, coffee, toilet rolls, toiletries, men's safety razors, sanitary towels. Please do not leave perishable food in the box, and please check items do not contain any alcohol and are not past their expiry date. Please also ensure tins have **ring pulls**, as many people do not have a tin opener. It is very helpful if you can leave your donations in a **strong bag**.

Please pray...

- for Experience Christmas this week, for all the children and adults visiting the church and for all those taking part.
- for preparations for the Dress-Up Nativity Service on 14th December and for lots of people, especially families, to come along.
- for the Youth Group Christmas party on 14th December.
- for the church heating to be fixed soon.
- for Julia Birkett's mother's continued recovery and for the right time to return home from Japan; for all the medical decisions and practical arrangements involved.
- for all those affected by the earthquake in North West England.
- for the family & friends of the 16-year-old girl who died in a crash in Yorkshire on Monday.
- for those affected by lack of drinking water in Tunbridge Wells.
- for the families and friends of those killed or homeless following the flooding and landslides in southeast Asia, as a result of Cyclone Ditwah.
- for peace discussions with Russia.
- for CAP and Living Well, and for all who come to them for support and financial guidance.
- for the independent review of the diagnosis of mental health conditions, ADHD, & autism.
- for those in hospital, recovering from operations or having treatment and for their families.
- for all those struggling with health problems, pain and loneliness.
- for all who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

On our Electoral Roll we pray for Victoria Goode, Ishmael Gowero, Sarah Gray, Blaine Greaves, and for our parishioners in Alton Gardens.

Get in touch...

Administrator - Stephanie Fox: 020 8650 0501, 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

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

Parish Safeguarding Officer - Sandra Horner: 07701 069638; safeguarding@stpaulsbeckenham.org.uk

Communion at Home - If you are unable to make our Communion services but would like to receive Communion at home, please get in touch with Rev'd Rachel or Anne Howick (020 8658 0808).