



ST PAUL'S BECKENHAM

Sunday 14th December 2025

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) – With Rev'd Neil Fairlamb
10.30am	Dress-Up Nativity – for everyone! With Alison Charlesworth and Rev'd Rachel Winn <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>
4.00pm – 6.00pm	Youth Group Christmas Party At St John's Church, Penge, SE20 7EQ
The 10.30am service will be live-streamed and available via St Paul's You Tube Channel .	

Collect (Special Prayer) for the 3rd Sunday of Advent

God for whom we watch and wait,
 you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
 give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice,
 and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

What's On this Week

Fri 12 th Dec	9.30am & 1.00pm 7.30pm	Experience Christmas - Worsley Bridge School Choir Practice (for Carol Service)
Sat 13 th Dec	10.00am	Decorating the Church
Wed 17 th Dec	9.00am	Morning Prayer (in the Chapel)
Thurs 18 th Dec	9.00am 10.00am 2.30pm 7.30pm	Morning Prayer (in the Chapel) Babies and Toddlers Friendship Group – Christmas Music with Marion Blakely. All welcome. Prayer for our Parish, Community and Nation (on Zoom)
Fri 19 th Dec	9.00am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer (in the Chapel) Choir Practice (for Carol Service)
Sat 20 th Dec	9.30am – 11.30am	Christmas Connect Café
Sun 21 st Dec 4 th Sunday of Advent	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm 7.15pm	Holy Communion (BCP) – With Rev'd Rachel Winn Holy Communion Theme: Celebration Readings: Psalm 100 and Luke 15: 8-10 With Sarah Butler, Rev'd Rachel Winn and Rev'd Clive Grinham Community Carols – outside, followed by mince pies and mulled wine Carol Service – With Keith Howick and Rev'd Rachel Winn

St Paul's Notices

Many thanks to all who have donated to the foodbank collections this year. CAP (Penge) and Living Well are most grateful for your support.

Christmas Connect Magazines - Many thanks to all those who have delivered the leaflets to the Parish this week. There are still some at the back of church to deliver, and if you could help, please pick up a pack or two. We have lots of good things going on at St Paul's over Christmas that we want to share with our community.

Choir Practices for Carol Service on 21st December - There will be choir practices for the Carol Service on Friday 12th and Friday 19th December. All welcome. 7.30pm in the hall.

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.

Christmas Notice Sheet and Church Office - Next week's Notice Sheet will cover Sundays 21st December, 28th December and 4th January. If there is anything you would like included, please let Stephanie know by midday on Wednesday 17th December. During Christmas week, the church office will be open on Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd December, but closed between Christmas and New Year. It will re-open on Monday 5th January.

Christmas Connect Café – Saturday 20th December, 9.30am – 11.30am. Join us for this Christmas edition of our popular monthly Community Café in the Church Hall! As well as the customary good coffee, good company, bacon butties, toast and marmalade, we will be serving pigs in blankets and mince pies. No charge, but donations are welcome.

Bags for Christingle – On Wednesday 24th December, at 10am in the church hall, we will be putting together the bags for Christingle. It would be really special if people could help with this important work, so that we have enough bags ready for the service at 4pm that afternoon. Please speak to Anne Howick if you are able to help at this time.

Christmas Tags – We have 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. This year donations will be going to the charity 'Open Doors' which supports persecuted Christians worldwide.

Postage Stamps - Please don't forget to save your stamps from any Christmas cards received and put them in the box for used stamps under the notice boards at the back of church. These can be used by ICS to raise funds. Don't throw them away - bring them here!

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.

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

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 works across several South London boroughs, offering support and advice for families with children aged up to the age of 13. It seeks to mitigate the impacts of social isolation, domestic abuse, financial hardship or disadvantage through small but significant interventions which can transform the lives of vulnerable children and their families. 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.

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...

- give thanks for Experience Christmas this week and for all the children and adults who visited the church and heard the Christmas story.
- for the Dress-Up Nativity Service on 14th December.
- for the Youth Group Christmas party on 14th December.
- for students and those at school as they approach the end of term.
- for the preparation of all our Christmas services.
- for the church heating to be fixed soon.
- for Julia Birkett's mother, and give thanks that she will be able to come home soon.
- for CAP and Living Well, and for all who come to them for support and financial guidance.
- 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 Andrew and Jenny Griffiths, Clive and Margaret Grinham, and for our parishioners in Ashfield Close.

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).