



ST PAUL'S CHURCH

WINCHMORE HILL



Parish Magazine

Price 50p

June 2025

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Dear Friends

On 15th June the Bishop of Edmonton joins us once again to baptise and confirm. The 10.30am Eucharist is a little longer and bit busier than usual on this Sunday. Consequently, I suspect this is an occasion when some people *avoid* coming to the 10.30am Eucharist, and either come to the 8 o'clock instead, or don't come to church at all. Friends, the opposite should be true! This is a 10.30am Eucharist *not to be missed*.

Firstly, and most obviously, we must be there to pray for and support those who are being baptised, confirmed, or received into the Communion of the Church of England. This is not simply a special moment for the candidates and their families. This is a special moment for the people of God – the household of faith – in this place. Even if you do not know any of the candidates individually, you still have a Christian duty to support them as they take this important step in their journey with Jesus Christ. They should know and feel that the Christian community is surrounding them in prayer.

Secondly, the local church is at its most *complete* when the bishop is present. What do I mean by this? The role of the priest is to celebrate the Eucharist on behalf of the bishop, because the bishop cannot be in every church on every Sunday. So every time I celebrate the Eucharist, it is my bishop's Eucharist which I celebrate. (That is why we never 'welcome' Bishop Anderson to St Paul's; he attends as our host, not as our guest.) There is, therefore, a beauty in the Christian community gathering around its bishop, linking us in a particular way to the universal church. St Ignatius of Antioch, writing at the turn of the first century, says: 'Wherever the bishop appears, there let the people be; as wherever Jesus Christ is, there is the catholic church.'

And thirdly, our baptism and confirmation falls on Trinity Sunday in this year when we celebrate the 1,700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea and the promulgation of the Nicene Creed. As we recall with

thanksgiving how the bishops of the fourth century church gathered to proclaim and teach the doctrine of holy church, confirming the truth that Jesus is 'eternally begotten [and] of one being with the Father,' so it is wonderful that we have our bishop with us on this Trinity Sunday, baptising and confirming adults and children in that same faith today.

Please pray for all those who will be baptised, confirmed and received into the Church of England as they prepare for these rites of Christian initiation, and too for Bishop Anderson and his ministry among us. And, just as importantly turn up on 15th June!

With my love and prayers

FROM THE REGISTERS APRIL 2025



BAPTISMS

6th April Alfie Pilborough
27th April Zachary Thomas Halliwell

FUNERAL

14th April Iris Tanner

APRIL 2025 FLOWER ROTA

7th June Sally Shearman
14th June Sharon Saunders
21st June Adele Houldsworth
28th June Adele Houldsworth

Adele would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to join the flower arranging team. Both those who are experienced flower arrangers and those who would like to develop their skills would be most welcome. To contact Adele ring 020 8360 3676.

Over a five-year period, from 2023 – 2028, independent safeguarding audits are being carried out in every diocese across the Church of England. Each audit results in a report and action plan, to bring us closer to being a truly safe Church for all.

The audits will ensure that safeguarding is not just about policies and protocols but is a living thread woven through everything we do - creating churches where everyone feels safe, valued, and respected.

How you can help

A vital part of the independent audit is for as many people as possible in our church communities to complete a survey. It is important for as many voices as possible to be represented, so that the auditors gain a real picture of the culture in our diocese.

- There are several surveys, each for different groups of people.
- The surveys are anonymous, and you will not be asked to name your church.
- You are encouraged to complete as many surveys as are relevant to you.
- Each survey should only take 10 minutes.

The different surveys

You may fall into more than one group, in which case you are encouraged to complete all surveys relevant to you:

- Parish Community - parishioners, worshippers, or attendees of other activity within our church
- Parish Workforce - clergy, church officers, parish staff, volunteers, choristers and bell ringers
- Victims/survivors of church-related abuse
- Children and/or Young People
- Cathedral Worshipping Community – those who visited, attended services or worshipped at the St Paul's Cathedral

For the children's survey, parents are asked to help those under the age of 13.

To take part in the survey go to

<https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/london/>

or please scan the QR code.





Windows into St Paul

Sunday 29 June 2025

5.15pm

A devotion on the 1840s *Life of St Paul* windows, led by Fr Daniel Sandham

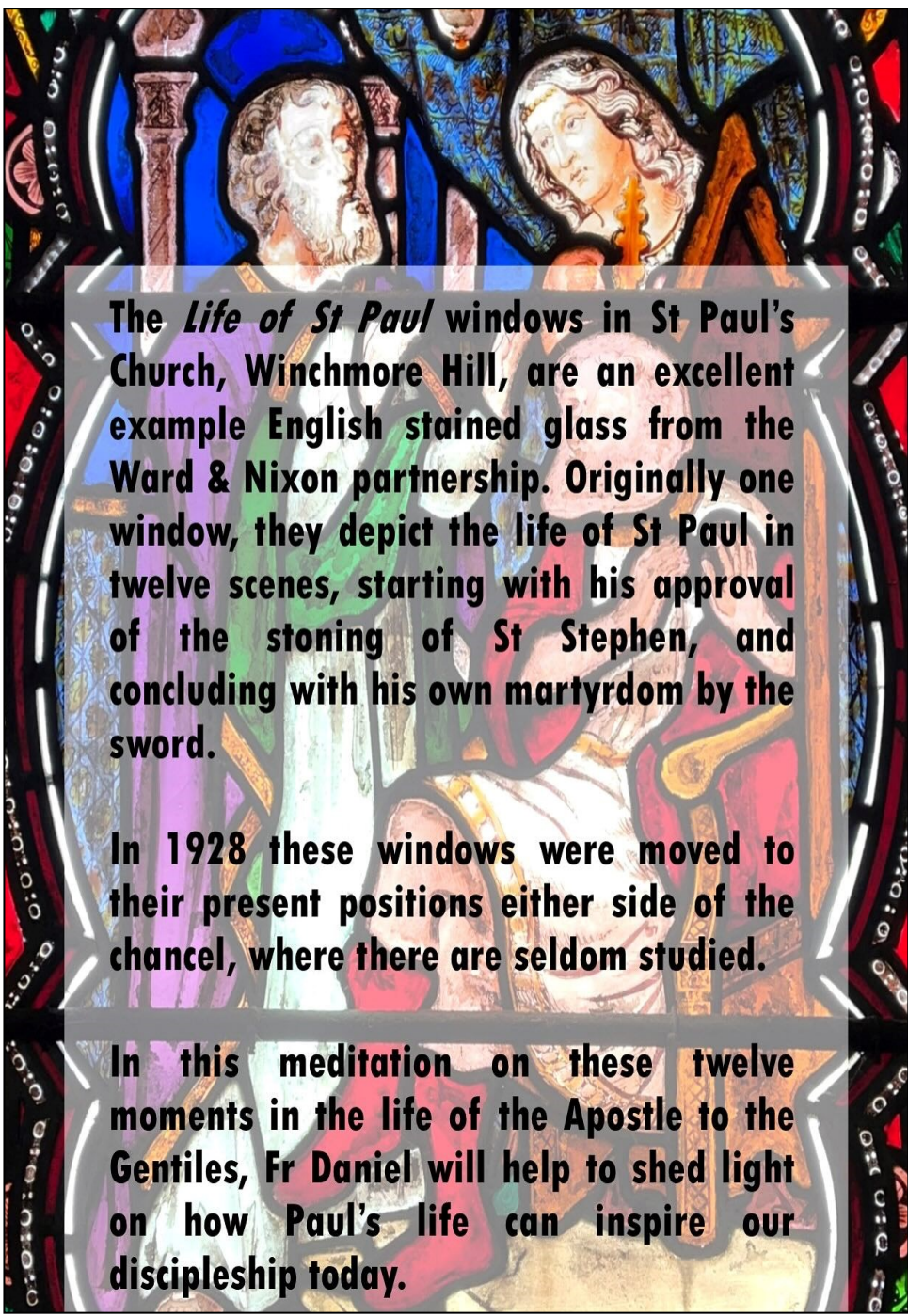
6pm

Choral Evensong for the Feast of St Peter & St Paul

Followed by summer drinks and nibbles on the piazza



ST PAUL'S CHURCH
WINCHMORE HILL



The *Life of St Paul* windows in St Paul's Church, Winchmore Hill, are an excellent example English stained glass from the Ward & Nixon partnership. Originally one window, they depict the life of St Paul in twelve scenes, starting with his approval of the stoning of St Stephen, and concluding with his own martyrdom by the sword.

In 1928 these windows were moved to their present positions either side of the chancel, where there are seldom studied.

In this meditation on these twelve moments in the life of the Apostle to the Gentiles, Fr Daniel will help to shed light on how Paul's life can inspire our discipleship today.

PART 2: DAMASCUS



We are all familiar with the notion of a Damascus Road experience – something happens which totally changes the direction of travel – a conversion experience. Saul is the archetype for this.

We learned in the previous article that full of purpose Saul had set out for Damascus with permission to stamp out any groups of followers of Jesus that were residing there. He was doing this because he understood that in order for God's kingdom to flourish and be established on earth, the people of Israel

needed to make themselves right with God and Saul understood this to mean rooting out and destroying any dangerous, pagan or unorthodox beliefs, much as the prophets of the Torah had warned Israel to do.

But something happened to him along the way. He saw a blinding light, he fell to the ground, he heard a voice whom he understood to be Jesus and everything changed!

We could try to be armchair psychologists and try to understand exactly what happened within Saul's heart and mind that day, but it is better to direct our energy in attempting to understand the dramatic transformation Saul experienced. It is most often described as a conversion experience, and that may lead you to think that Saul was converted from Judaism to Christianity, but this is a mistake. The idea of two separate religions is a much more modern invention, early followers of Jesus were faithful Jews, but they had come to understand that Jesus was the fulfillment of the promise of God to bring in his kingdom and establish it on earth; that heaven and earth were reunited through the work of Jesus. This is what they meant when they proclaimed Jesus as Messiah.

Saul had been vehemently opposed to this, and yet on that Damascus

Road, he describes receiving a revelation of Jesus Christ. The moment shattered everything he had understood up to that point, and at the same time realised all his hopes. He understood clearly in that moment that Jesus was the fulfillment of Israel's scriptures and that God the Creator had raised Jesus from the dead declaring, not only that he really was Israel's Messiah, but that he had done what the One God had promised to do himself, in person. For Saul, all of Judaism was fulfilled in Jesus. This was a shocking, blinding reality, that would change the world. Saul came to himself, but literally could not see and so was led by the hand into the city of Damascus.

He stayed in a house in Straight Street, not eating or drinking, but praying. Of course he prayed, it was what he would have always done. But what form was that prayer to take now? What would loyalty to the One God look like now? These are the questions that would have been turning over and over in his mind.

On the third day, there was a knock at the door. The small group of Jesus followers living in Damascus must have known that Saul was coming for them, but one of their number, Ananias, had received a word from God, telling him to go to visit Saul and pray for him so he could recover his sight. Ananias was rightly nervous, but also obedient to God, and so he went to find Saul. It is striking that Ananias trusted God so much that he addressed Saul as 'Brother Saul'. He accepted Saul just as he was at that moment. He prayed for Saul and something like scales fell from his eyes. Saul regained his sight – and in more ways than one. Now he truly sees! Saul was immediately baptized, a moment of putting away his old life and demonstrating he now belonged to Jesus. He eats and regains his strength. Remarkably then Saul went straight to the synagogue to declare his new found understanding in Jesus being the fulfillment of God's promises. The long-awaited Messiah has come. The local community was shocked at the sudden turnaround of this hotheaded young man, and offended by it, so Saul departed and, according to a later letter he wrote to the people of Galatia, he 'went away at once into Arabia'. What was that all about? Why did he go? The story continues next month...



Our May Fair on Saturday 10th to the dedication and hard work of all those who helped on the day. There was something for everyone: cakes, book and plants, games, painting, hot and cold refreshments, a fire engine to explore.

We hope that the May Fair raised
£4,500



May was a huge success thanks
 work of the planning committee and
 day!

everyone to enjoy - stalls selling
 to play, a bouncy castle and face
 paints, a Pimms tent and even a

Fair raised in the region of
 to £5,000!





Sunday 6th July

St Paul's annual
Vicarage Garden Party

Summer BBQ and Dessert
Vegetarian option available

£17 adult

£8 child

£45 family of 4

After the 10am All-Together Eucharist
Cash and Card Bar



ST PAUL'S VICARAGE
CHURCH HILL
WINCHMORE HILL
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HALL HIRE

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For more information contact our Facilities Manager, Ayse Eris,
at facilities@spwh.org or 07946 852 110



As a child, Dave Gunning moved to Eversley Park Road with his parents and two younger sisters and he continued to live there until moving to Blake Court eight years ago. As a young man Dave was very ecumenical in his churchmanship and attended a number of the local churches, but after his mother's death, and at her suggestion, he became a loyal member of St Paul's Church.

He soon became a well-known and much loved member of our church. He was a

Sidesman for many years, joined a house group and was a regular guest at the MU Fellowship Lunches, along with his two friends Peter Rickwood and Brian Chapman.

When he retired from telecommunications, Dave had more time for his main interests - steam railways, the Isle of Sark (which he visited twice a year until quite recently and he looked on as second home) and photography. Dave also enjoyed stage management from his school days through to the St Paul's Players.

Dave was very sociable, had a great sense of humour and he always saw the best in other's. He will be greatly missed by his family and his friends at St Paul's.

CONGRATULATIONS

It was announced on Sunday 25th May that our much loved curate, Pete Hopkins, has been appointed Priest in Charge of St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury, in the Willesden Area.

May we pray for Pete, Ingridi, Lucy and Noah as they prepare for their move to Brondesbury.

Please watch our weekly newsletter for details of how to contribute to a gift for Pete in recognition of all that he has done to promote the mission of our church.



Inagh moved to Winchmore Hill when she married her third husband John Payne and very soon became involved in the life of St Paul's Church when she and her husband joined the church choir. Inagh was also a very loyal member of our Mothers' Union branch and for many years took responsibility for welcoming and signing in members and visitors to the monthly MU meetings.

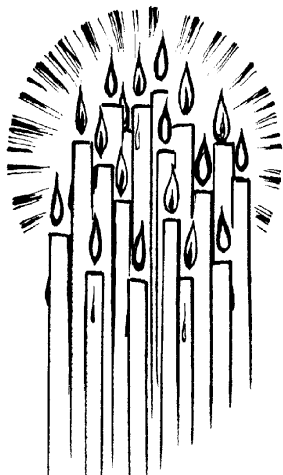
Inagh had a great love of singing and, in addition to being a member of the church choir, she also sang with the Enfield Choral Society for some time.

Inagh was understandably proud of the fact that she was the niece of Alan Turing and she spoke of her happy memories of times spent with



him, including a trip to London Zoo with 'Uncle Alan' and her sister. In recent years Inagh was invited as a guest of honour at the premier of the film 'Enigma', which retold the story of Alan Turing, and she and her sister were invited to unveil the plaque on a Great Western Railway intercity express named in honour of her uncle.

PRAYER BOARD



God be in my head,
and in my understanding;

God be in my eyes,
and in my looking;

God be in my mouth,
and in my speaking;

God be in my heart,
and in my thinking;

God be at my end,
and at my departing



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Our collection for Christian Aid
between 11th & 18th May raised
an amazing **£827.24!**

Our thanks to everyone who donated to the
work of this important charity.

PARKINSON'S COFFEE MORNING

Thank you to everyone who helped to
make my coffee morning on 3rd May
such a success. It was a beautiful sun-
ny Saturday which helped to create a
lovely atmosphere as guests enjoyed
sitting in the garden and chatting while
enjoying coffee and cakes. My special
thanks go to Sunshine Nursery,
Bounds Green, for generously donat-
ing many plants for the sale.

The total raised for research into
Parkinson's Disease was £372!

Alison Stiles



Many congratulations to
our former curate Calum
Zuckert and his wife Anna
who were married on
Saturday 24th May.



At the monthly meeting of the MU on Thursday 15th April, Lillian Gibbens talked about the rituals associated with death in England across the centuries, beginning with the customs practiced in the Middle Ages right up to modern times.



On Thursday 8th May Fr Daniel was the guest speaker at the London Diocesan Mothers' Union Prayer Hour in St Paul's Cathedral. The day coincided with the Feast Day of Julian of Norwich so Daniel read passages from her mystical writings and reflected that they were as relevant today as when they were written in the 14th century.

MOTHERS' UNION DIARY JUNE 2025

THURSDAY 19TH JUNE - MU SUMMER OUTING

THIS YEAR OUR AFTERNOON OUTING WILL BE TO
THEOBALDS FARMHOUSE GARDEN IN CREWS HILL

Following a tour of the gardens we will enjoy
afternoon tea together in the grounds.

The charge per person (including the tea) will be £20

To book a place email mothers.union@spwh.org

or ring 020 8882 0135.

**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ALL OUR MOTHERS' UNION MEETINGS AND
EVENTS SO DO COME ALONG AND JOIN US.**

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Charity Number: 293997

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Summer concert



Mozart
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 Tchaikovsky
Violin Concerto No. 1
Soloist: Flora Clapham
 Brahms
Symphony No. 2

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*Two adults and up to three children

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