ST PAUL'S CHURCH
WINCHMORE HILL

Sunday 29 November 2026

Advent Sunday

Welcome! If you here for the first time please introduce yourself to a member of the clergy or welcome team, and email us at welcome@spwh.org

Today's services

8am Said Eucharist	
Celebrant	Fr Daniel Sandham

10am All-Together Eucharist	
Celebrant	Mthr Lyanne Beckerson
Preacher	Fr Daniel Sandham
Texts for this service are on the screen	

6pm Advent Carol Service

Keep in touch

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Subscribe to our weekly newsletter by clicking 'Subscribe' on our website.
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You can **donate** to our mission and ministry by scanning this QR code, which includes options for regular giving and gift aid. There are also plates for cash donations and a contactless payment machine by the church entrance.

Today's readings

Isaiah 64.1-9 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who

works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Mark 13.24-end Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. The Lesson of the Fig Tree 'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake - for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

Notices

ADVENT SUNDAY Today's All-Together Eucharist is followed by the 3rd Southgate Christmas Fair in the church hall. This evening we have a beautiful **Advent Carol Service at 6pm**.

LECTIO DIVINA This slow and prayerful way of engaging with scripture returns for the Wednesdays of Advent. Starting at 12pm this precedes the 12.30pm Eucharist, led by members of our Ministry Team.

DIOCESE OF LONDON The London College of Bishops has recently written to clergy and church officers about the financial position of the Diocese of London and some of the decisions we will need to make together now and in the coming years to sustain ministry and mission. This Advent, the bishops are calling us to join a shared call to prayer, seeking God's guidance, provision and blessing. Find out more at www.london.anglican.org or following the links in Friday's newsletter.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NATIVITY On Sunday 13 December our children will be performing the nativity in church at the end of the 10.30am Sung Eucharist. We would like as many children as possible to take part. This is open to all children regardless of which service they normally attend. We will need the full cast including lots of angels, shepherds and wayward sheep! If you would like your child to take part email Ella at children@spwh.org.

CHRISTMAS Leaflets to be delivered to every household in the parish are now available at the back of church. Please take a pack and get delivering!

ONE-TO-ONE ENFIELD It's been wonderful to grow our relationship with this amazing local charity, both as last year's 'annual charity' and also through our new lunch club. Do come and hear the One-to-One choir at its Christmas concert on Monday 7 December, 12.30pm, at Enfield Baptist Church, during which Fr Daniel will present a cheque on behalf of St Paul's.

SPONSOR A CHRISTMAS TREE Each year we invite people to sponsor one of our two Christmas trees, perhaps in memory of a loved one. Each tree costs £70. Please contact Fr Daniel at vicar@spwh.org if you're interested. We're also exploring purchasing some twinkly lights for the festive season; again, get in touch if you'd like to contribute those.

NORTH YORKS PILGRIMAGE We are making plans for our pilgrimage 29 May-2 June, staying at Ampleforth Abbey and visiting the great pilgrimage sites associated with North Yorkshire. More information will be available soon. Meanwhile, do contact Ian Blunn at pilgrimage@spwh.org to find out more or register your interest.

CHRISTMAS CARDS The usual Christmas Post Box will be in Church this year from 29 November to 13 December. This is only for sending cards to regular members of our congregation. Sorted cards can be collected from the cross aisle. This is a free service but, in lieu of postage, you are invited to leave a donation in the top of the post box for our annual charity Medecin Sans Frontiere.

MAY FAIR 2027 Next year's May Fair takes place on Saturday 15 May. We're looking for a team of people to organise the Fair. Please get in touch with Fr Daniel at vicar@spwh.org to get involved. We particularly welcome fresh ideas and innovation!

ASSISTANT PRIEST The PCC has been considering how to resource ministry next year, when Mthr Lyanne is due to move on from her curacy, and Alison Perera is due to begin her curacy elsewhere. We are not expecting to be given another full-time title curate in 2027. Instead we plan to recruit a House-For-Duty Assistant Priest. This would be a priest who has already completed Initial Ministerial Training, and would work Sundays plus two days. They would receive housing by way of remuneration. Please do pray for this proposal, that God may send us a faithful priest to help our mission and ministry to flourish.

This week's diary

Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer are usually said publicly in church Monday-Thursday at 9.10am and 5pm. Everyone is welcome. The church is normally open every day for prayer, reflection and visitors.

		Observance	***Time***	***Service/event***	***Prayer intention***
Sunday	29	**ADVENT SUNDAY**	8am 10am 6pm	Said Eucharist All-Together Eucharist Advent Carol Service	*Our parish and its people*

Monday	30	**St Andrew the Apostle**	12.30pm	Eucharist	*Anderson, Bishop of Edmonton*
Tuesday	1				*Peace in the world*
Wednesday	2		12pm 12.30pm	Lectio Divina Eucharist	*The faithful departed*
Thursday	3				*The environment*
Friday	4		7.30pm	Choir Practice	*Carers*
Saturday	5				*HM Government*
Sunday	6	**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**	8am 9.15am 10.30am	Said Eucharist Joyful Noise Eucharist Sung Eucharist with Sunday School	*Our parish and its people*

LECTIO DIVINA *for* ADVENT

ST PAUL'S CHURCH
WINCHMORE HILL

Wednesday 2, 9, 16, 23 December

12pm Lectio Divina
12.30pm Eucharist

The Lady Chapel, St Paul's Church

Lectio Divina is a way of reading the Bible slowly and prayerfully. We will be using passages from the book of the prophet Isaiah to help us "prepare the way of the Lord."

Celebrate Christmas at St Paul's

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Sunday 13 December
10.30am Sunday School Nativity during the Sung Eucharist

Wednesday 16 December
5.30pm Carols on the Green

Sunday 20 December
6pm Nine Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve
4pm Crib Service
5.30pm Crib Eucharist
11pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day
8am Eucharist
10am Sung Eucharist

Normal 8am, 9.15am & 10.30am services every Sunday

