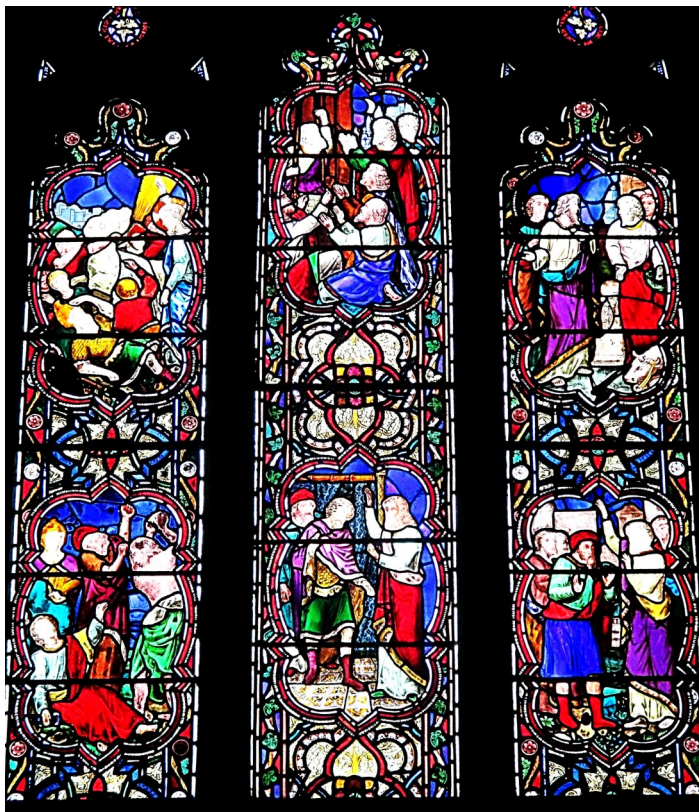




# ST PAUL'S CHURCH

## WINCHMORE HILL



WE WILL CELEBRATE THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL AT  
**OUR PATRONAL FESTIVAL ON 28<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY**

DETAILS OF ON PAGE 5

THE WINDOW ABOVE IS ONE OF TWO IN THE CHANCEL  
OF OUR CHURCH THAT DEPICT SCENES FROM THE LIFE OF ST PAUL

## Parish Magazine

Price 50p

January 2024

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Dear Friends

Many of you will be aware that I gave myself a little project in the autumn to build a model railway in time for our son's fourth birthday in December. I am chuffed (excuse the pun) with the result, which has rather exceeded my expectations. And Cosmo is pretty happy too!



It's a hobby which clearly captures people's imaginations. I've had so many conversations in the last few months with people who have fond memories of their fathers' and grandfathers' model railways. (Yes, it is a rather male-dominated hobby.) It's one of those pastimes which is delightfully *wholesome*.

I recently watched a programme in which the comedian, Julian Clary, spoke about his love of model railways. I was struck by a comment he made about how model railways allow us to create fictional idylls. Most model railways evoke charming, innocent scenes. No one's drug-dealing behind the station; no one's stabbing someone to death; no one's been hit by a passing train. There's no war or violence. There's no climate change. I guess it's a form of escapism, which is why it has such an endearing quality.

That's in very stark contrast to many contemporary hobbies. Many video games, for example, take us into a fictional world which can often be very violent, and I worry about how the cheapness of *fictional* lives is played out in actions in the *real* world. The North Circular seems to be full of drivers who think they're at a games console, rather than the wheel of an *actual* car. Knife and gun crime is rife in our city and borough.

A new year is a good time to think about how we want our society and our world to look. It's easy to be caught up in nostalgia or idealism, and neither are necessarily very healthy. But God gives us a vision of a new heaven and a new earth (Revelation 21), and Jesus teaches us to pray 'thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven'. As Christians, we are to strive for a world which is more just, more peaceful. We are to strive for a world which is more like heaven.

I pray that 2024 may be a year of blessings for us a church family, and that by our worship, prayer and action we may help make a sad and suffering world a little bit more like the heaven for which we long.

With my love and prayers

Sunday 7 January 2024

## The Epiphany of the Lord

8am Said Eucharist

9.15am Joyful Noise Eucharist →

10.30am Sung Eucharist →

To include Epiphany processions  
Children can come dressed as  
kings/magi; crowns will be  
provided!



Sunday 28 January 2024

## PATRONAL FESTIVAL

celebrating the Conversion of St Paul

10am

### All-Together Eucharist

followed by bring-and-share lunch

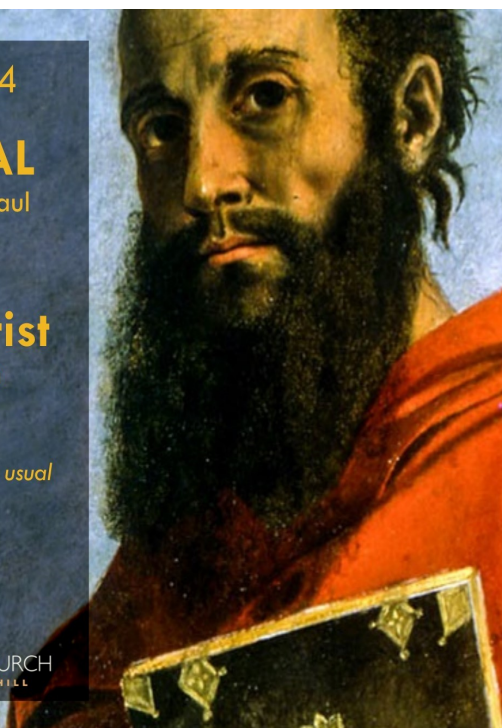
*8am Said Eucharist as normal*

*10am All-Together Eucharist replaces the usual  
9.15am and 10.30am services*

[www.spwh.org](http://www.spwh.org)



ST PAUL'S CHURCH  
WINCHMORE HILL



## COFFEE MORNING FOR OUR ANNUAL CHARITY

**SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023 FROM 10.30 TO 12 NOON**

IN THE PAULIN ROOM (BACK HALL) ST PAUL'S CHURCH

Come along for coffee and cakes and to meet old friends  
and make new ones. Children's crafts.

### Bring-and-Buy Table

for unwanted or duplicate Christmas gifts.

**ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO**



## Services in January 2024



ST PAUL'S CHURCH  
WINCHMORE HILL

Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer are said publically Monday-Thursday at 9am and 5pm

The church is open for private prayer Monday-Thursday from 9am to 5.15pm

Day	Date	Observance	Time	Services	Prayer Intention
M	1	The Naming and Circumcision of Christ			God's blessings on the New Year
T	2	Ss Basil and Gregory			Theologians
W	3		12.30pm	Eucharist	The lonely
T	4				Our families and friends
F	5				Those suffering from mental ill health
S	6				Seafarers
S	7	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	8am 9.15am 10.30am	Said Eucharist Joyful Noise Eucharist Sung Eucharist	Our parish and its people
M	8	The Baptism of Christ	12.30pm	Eucharist	All the baptised
T	9				Prisoners of war
W	10		12.30pm	Eucharist	Nations most vulnerable to global warming
T	11				Those in fuel poverty
F	12	St Aelred of Hexham			Local businesses
S	13	St Hilary of Poitiers			Uniformed organisations
S	14	THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY	8am 9.15am 10.30am	Said Eucharist Joyful Noise Sung Eucharist	Our parish and its people
M	15				Our PCC
T	16				HM Government
W	17	St Antony of Egypt	12.30pm	Eucharist	Our spiritual lives
T	18	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins			The unity of Christ's church
F	19	St Wulfstan			The Roman Catholic Church
S	20		11.30am	Burial of Ashes	The Orthodox churches
S	21	THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY	8am 9.15am 10.30am 12pm	Said Eucharist Joyful Noise Eucharist Sung Eucharist Holy Baptism	Our parish and its people
M	22				The free churches
T	23		9am	Whole School Service	St Paul's School
W	24	St Francis de Sales	12.30pm	Eucharist	Local churches
T	25	THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL	8.30am  12.30pm	Morning Prayer with Churches Together Eucharist	Conversion of live
F	26	Ss Timothy and Titus			Our ministry team
S	27				Peace in the Holy Land
S	28	PATRONAL FESTIVAL SUNDAY	8am 10am	Said Eucharist All-Together Eucharist	Our parish and its people
M	29				Our volunteers
T	30				Peace in Ukraine
W	31		12.30pm	Eucharist	Local councillors

Services times are subject to change. Please contact the Parish Office for details.

Contact the clergy if you would like to speak to someone regarding your spiritual life, or to make use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession)



## FROM THE REGISTERS NOVEMBER 2023

### BAPTISMS

5<sup>th</sup> November

Leela & Milan Lafhani Ochoa

## JANUARY 2024 FLOWER ROTA

6 <sup>th</sup> January	Sharon Saunders
13 <sup>th</sup> January	Adele Houldsworth
20 <sup>th</sup> January	Sally Shearman
27 <sup>th</sup> January	Elaine Bunce
30 <sup>th</sup> January	Adele Houldsworth

We would like to thank all of the ladies who decorated the church so beautifully for Christmas.

Our Flower Arranging Organizer, Adele Houldsworth, would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to join the team. Both experienced flower arrangers and people who would like to develop their skills would be very welcome. To contact Adele ring 020 8360 3676.

## HALL HIRE

The main Church Hall can be hired for weekend birthday parties. £52.50 per hour. 3 hour minimum for a party booking  
Discounts available for regular use. For more information, contact our Facilities Manager, Ayse Eris, at [facilities@spwh.org](mailto:facilities@spwh.org)

Any articles, information or adverts for events for the February magazine should be sent to the editor by the 16<sup>th</sup> January.

[magazine@spwh.org](mailto:magazine@spwh.org) or via Parish Office



Rev Canon Dr Anderson Jeremiah is to become the new Bishop of Edmonton. He is currently Associate Dean in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Lancaster University, having been appointed as its first Lecturer in World Christianity in 2012. He is also Associate Priest at St Paul's Scotforth, in the Diocese of Blackburn. Anderson grew up in Tamil Nadu, the southernmost state in India, as a Dalit

Christian. He is the first Dalit, and the first clergy person ordained in the Church of Southern India (CSI), to be appointed Bishop in the Church of England. He has lived across five Anglican provinces and also served across rural to urban contexts and amongst deprived and affluent communities.

On his appointment, Sarah, Bishop of London, said, "Today's announcement is a blessing for the Church in North London, which I am sure will thrive under Anderson's leadership and ministry. He brings a combination of experience – pastoral, academic, theological and strategic – which is a great gift to the Diocese of London as a whole. The perspectives he has gained through living and working in a breadth of cultures and roles will enrich the senior staff team and the life of the church in this city.

"London's Diocesan 2030 Vision sets out an ambition for racial justice: how we plan to move forward to truly representing the body of Christ in all its richness – and grow healthily. To reach every Londoner we need to be active in combatting racism and racial injustice. The contributions made by the Racial Justice Priority Group have been invaluable, and I'm in no doubt that Anderson will help lead this transformative work as we continue to tackle the evil of racism here in London."



## PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

May this New Year be a time  
Of deep spiritual growth for us,  
A time of welcoming  
Your graces and gifts,  
A time for forgiving freely  
And unconditionally,  
A time for growing  
In virtue and goodness.



Come, Holy Spirit,  
Be with us today and always.

Amen

## FOODBANK APPEAL

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to our appeal for Christmas food for the North Enfield Foodbank. Your donations will have helped many local families to celebrate with some special treats.

Sadly, the need for foodbanks is not diminishing, in fact they continue to provide a greatly needed service as 22% of people living in the UK are currently living below the poverty line and during the coming winter months many families will be turning to foodbanks for help. Any donations of non-perishable food, and also toiletries, would be very welcome and they can be left at our collection point in the church porch.

Our food collection point in the church porch is available for anyone to use - no questions asked and no referral needed. Anyone who finds themselves in need is invited to take up to 6 cans per household per visit. Surplus cans are shared with local parishes for similar purposes and with the North Enfield Foodbank.

Our stock of cans is currently running rather low so some donations would be very welcome

As usual, December was a very busy month at St Paul's Church, right from the first day of the month when the Charity Committee organized a 'Bangers & Mash' evening, which included a musical



entertainment by 'The Music Hall Madams'. Fifty guests enjoyed the meal and then sat back to watch the performance, joining in many of the choruses. The evening raised over £400, which will be shared between The Alzheimer's Association and Christian Aid.

After the All-Together Eucharistic on Advent Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December, there was the ever-popular Scout Christmas Fair, which was, as usual, a very busy event.



Later in the day the St Paul's Trust AGM took place. The guest speaker was the Area Dean, Fr Stephen Gallagher, who spoke about the work of the Deanery Synod. This was followed by a delicious tea and the AGM of the Trust. (The St Paul's Trust is a charity that was set up to support the work and mission of our church.)



Advent Sunday concluded with a beautiful candle-lit Advent Carol Service.

Throughout Advent, and for the first time at St Paul's, we had a parish posada, a Mexican tradition that re-enacts Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem 2000 years ago. Families were invited to host Mary and Joseph for a night as they travelled from house to house during Advent. The people who took part, young and older,



found it a moving experience to host the Holy Family for a night as they travelled on their way through N21.



On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December our MU organised a Christmas Fellowship Lunch for forty guests from our church and the wider community. Everyone enjoyed the traditional meal, served with all the trimmings, plus a visit from Father Christmas and an entertainment by children from the Leapfrog Nursery.

Our Sunday Schools' annual Nativity Play was performed at the Parish Eucharist on 17<sup>th</sup> December, much to the delight of the congregation.



Later the same day, the church was full for the beautiful candle-lit service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

This was followed by mulled wine and mince pies.





Our afternoon meeting on Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> December was a real treat for us! The St Paul's School Choir entertained us with a wonderful selection of Christmas Carols and songs for over half an hour. The singing was beautiful and the smiles on the children's faces a joy to see. The programme concluded with 'We wish you a Merry Christmas' sung with great enthusiasm. After the children had entertained us, they, staff members and the parents and grandparents who had come along, joined us for refreshments in the Hall. We would particularly like to thank Ms Lundy, the teacher responsible for music at St Paul's School, for training the choir and bringing them to our meeting during what is a particularly busy time of year for schools.

In addition to this afternoon meeting, the Mothers' Union organised a Fellowship Christmas Lunch for forty guests, including Father Christmas, on 7<sup>th</sup> December. (Photo on page 11) After the delicious meal, prepared by MU members and friends, we were treated to another musical entertainment, this time by the Leapfrog Nursery.

Thanks to MU committee member Anne Croxford, who organised our appeal, a superb collection of new children's books was delivered to the North Enfield Foodbank for distribution to younger members of families using that facility who otherwise might have had few, if any, Christmas presents. (See photo on page 12)

## **MOTHERS' UNION DIARY JANUARY 2024**

### **THURSDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY AT 2 PM IN THE CHURCH HALL New Year Party with a difference!**

As well as our usual January afternoon tea, quizzes and games, this year we will be entertained by 'The Music Hall Madams' singing some well known Music Hall songs for us.

There will be a retiring collection for the Alzheimer's Association.

**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ALL OUR MOTHERS' UNION MEETINGS AND EVENTS  
SO DO COME ALONG AND JOIN US ON 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY**

## WHAT IS THE MOTHERS' UNION?

The Mothers' Union (MU) is not just a group of women who meet occasionally here at St Paul's to chat over a cup of tea and slice of cake. It is much, much more than that!

The Mothers' Union is an international Christian charity that aims to demonstrate the Christian faith in action through the transformation of communities worldwide. It aims to reach out in love and service to people of all faiths and none, in 83 countries, and to promote stable family life. It has been doing this since 1876.

Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby has declared, "There is only one Mothers' Union. It is the world's oldest and largest women's movement. It is a gift of God to Anglicans and is one of the Anglican Communion's greatest gifts to the worldwide church." He has also described it as "the heart and love of the Church". However, a survey at General Synod concluded that Mothers Union is "the Anglican Church's best kept secret", so here are some facts about it.

### WHAT DOES THE MOTHERS' UNION DO?

The Mothers' Union is firmly rooted in a voluntary ethos centred on mutual respect and collaboration. Its decision making, leadership and programmes are undertaken and driven by its members within their own communities worldwide.

At the local level MU groups, like ours here at St Paul's, fundraise for the charity and run individual projects to meet specific local needs.

At the national and international level, the Mothers' Union provides resources and funding for core programmes such as the Literacy and Financial Education, Marriage Preparation and Parenting Programmes. These help women and men to develop skills to support their families.

### WHO CAN JOIN?

Our members are not all mothers, or even all women. Among our members at St Paul's are men and women, some single, some married, some are parents and grandparents and some have no children. In other words, **membership is open to everyone.**

To find out more there are leaflets at the back of church with information about this charity, or talk to one of our MU members.

Susan Chambers

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