



# ST PAUL'S CHURCH

## WINCHMORE HILL



**DETAILS OF SERVICES IN HOLY WEEK  
CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 6**

### **Parish Magazine**

**Price 50p**

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Dear Friends

What a joy it has been in our Lent group this year to go deeper into the gospel according to John. We have been using David Ford's book *Meeting God in John*, in which he encourages Christians "to become habitual rereaders of the Gospel".

John's gospel is very distinct from the synoptic gospels (Mathew, Mark and Luke). It is a gospel rich with meaning. It feels like every sentence – no, every word! – is laden with significance. This is why Ford wants us to read and reread it. Every time we do so – even with well-known passages – we will find fresh insight.

I have found that to be true this Lent, when our Sunday lectionary has included a number of encounters people have with Jesus, all of which are unique to John: Nicodemus (Lent 2), the woman at the well (Lent 3), Jesus's mother and the beloved disciple (Lent 4/ Mothering Sunday) and the raising of Lazarus (Lent 5). During Eastertide we hear passages from John on all but one Sunday. This includes more personal encounters with Jesus unique to John: Mary Magdalene at the empty tomb (Easter Day), and Thomas the Apostle, who initially doubts but then comes to the fullness of faith in Christ's presence (Easter 2).

Like Ford, I encourage you to become habitual rereaders of the fourth Gospel. "To meet God through the Gospel of John," Ford writes, "is to meet in Jesus the glory of God, who unites the deepest meaning and the deepest love." May that be our experience this Eastertide.

With my love and prayers

Fr Daniel

## Services in April 2026



Morning Prayer is said publically at **9.10am** and Evening Prayer at **5pm** Monday-Thursday. **ST PAUL'S CHURCH**

WINCHMORE HILL

The church is open for visitors and private prayer every day from 9am to 5pm

Day	Date	Observance	Time	Services	Prayer Intention
W	1	Wednesday of Holy Week	12.30pm 7pm	Eucharist Eucharist	Those who feel betrayed
T	2	MAUNDY THURSDAY	8pm	Sung Eucharist followed by Watch	Grace to watch with Jesus
F	3	GOOD FRIDAY	10am 11.30am  2pm	Children's Liturgy Ecumenical Walk of Witness Liturgy of Good Friday	Devotion to the passion of Our Lord
S	4	Holy Saturday/EASTER EVE	8pm	The Easter Vigil	The departed
S	5	EASTER DAY	8am 9.15am 10.30am	Said Eucharist Joyful Noise Eucharist Sung Eucharist	Our parish and its people
M	6	Monday of Easter Week			The joy of Easter
T	7	Tuesday of Easter Week			Grace to tell the good news
W	8	Wednesday of Easter Week	12.30pm	Eucharist	The Bishop of Edmonton
T	9	Thursday of Easter Week			Parish clergy
F	10	Friday of Easter Week			Evangelists
S	11	Saturday of Easter Week			The newly baptised
S	12	SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	8am 9.15am 10.30am 12pm	Said Eucharist Joyful Noise Sung Eucharist Holy Baptism	Our parish and its people
M	13				Our churchwardens
T	14				The homeless
W	15		12.30pm	Eucharist	Carers
T	16				Project 200
F	17				Racial justice
S	18				Victims of abuse and survivors
S	19	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	8am 9.15am 10.30am	Said Eucharist Joyful Noise Eucharist Sung Eucharist	Our parish and its people
M	20				Climate justice
T	21	St Anselm			Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury
W	22		12.30pm	Eucharist	The oppressed
T	23	St George	12.30pm	Eucharist	The people of England
F	24				Our volunteers
S	25	St Mark the Evangelist	12.30pm	Eucharist	Proclamation of the gospel
S	26	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	8am 9.15am 10.30am	Said Eucharist Joyful Noise Sung Eucharist	Our parish and its people
M	27				Our staff
T	28		9am	School Eucharist	St Paul's School
W	29	St Catherine of Siena	12.30pm	Eucharist	Vocations
T	30				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)

## PRAYER

God of glory,  
 by the raising of your Son  
 you have broken the chains of death and hell:  
 fill your Church with faith and hope;  
 for a new day has dawned  
 and the way to life stands open  
 in our Saviour Jesus Christ.



## FROM THE REGISTERS

### FEBRUARY 2026

## BAPTISM

8<sup>th</sup> February Charlie Taylor

## FLOWER ROTA APRIL 2026

5<sup>th</sup> April

Easter group flower session

18<sup>th</sup> April

Adele Houldsworth

The flower arrangers would welcome new members to the group - both those who are experienced flower arrangers and those who would like to develop their skills. To find out more, please contact Adele Houldsworth on 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 the Parish Office ([office@spwh.org](mailto:office@spwh.org) or 020 8886 4290)

# Holy Week & Easter 2026

## **Palm Sunday** 29 March

8am Said Eucharist

10am Liturgy of Palms, Procession  
and All-Together Eucharist  
*starting on The Green*

## **Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday of Holy Week**

7pm Said Eucharist and homily

## **Maundy Thursday** 2 April

8pm **Sung Eucharist**

followed by Watch of the Passion until midnight

## **Good Friday** 3 April

10am Children's Liturgy

11.30am Ecumenical Walk of Witness

2pm **Liturgy of Good Friday, with Holy Communion**

## **Easter Eve** 4 April

8pm **The Easter Vigil** *followed by champagne*

## **Easter Day** 5 April

8am Said Eucharist

9.15am Joyful Noise

10.30am Sung Eucharist

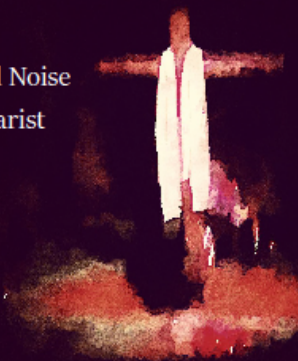
Eucharist



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WINCHMORE HILL

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During a joyful service in Canterbury Cathedral on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026, Dame Sarah Mullally was installed as the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury - the first woman to hold that position. Let us pray that she will be given grace and courage to lead the Anglican Communion with unity and compassion.

Of a particular interest to the people of this parish, was that our former vicar Will Adam and his wife Lindsay Yates, who was assistant Curate here at St Paul's, had prominent roles in the ceremony.

Will Adam, who is now the Archdeacon of Canterbury Cathedral, had the honour of

leading the new Archbishop by the hand to place her in the Episcopal Seat (or throne) of the Cathedral. Being seated in that throne marked the moment at which Dame Sarah Mullally formally became the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Lindsay Yates, as the Canon Precentor at Canterbury, has responsibility for worship, liturgy and music at the Cathedral. When interviewed on BBC4's Sunday programme the previous weekend, Lindsay

talked about her role in planning the service, including commissioning new music for the installation and simplifying the traditional liturgy so it was 'less grand'. The service was a celebration of the breadth of the Anglican community and included music, languages and even dancing from around the world. Representatives from many Christian denominations took part and leaders of other faiths were in attendance.



## St Paul's Life and Journeys: Ephesus Part 2

Tom Wright gives us two chapters to consider Paul and Ephesus. He begins the second by positing that the epistle to the Philippians was the first of the letters Paul wrote from prison. Incarcerated, Paul's mission continues: 'He declares that his imprisonment is itself serving the purposes of the gospel, since people are talking about him and his message.'

This short letter focuses on Jesus, and the need for the Philippian church to have 'the same mind that was in Christ Jesus' which is elaborated in the poem often referred to as the 'Philippian hymn'.

It 'encapsulates what Paul most deeply believed about the gospel. It is *because* of the cross... that Jesus has been exalted as Lord and that every knee shall bow at his name.' Wright goes on to explain how the poem 'suggests... a radical redefinition of *power*'. In a sense, this is a recurrent theme in Paul's letters – Wright himself quotes 2 Corinthians 4.7: 'the extraordinary quality of the power belongs to God, not to us.'

I like the way Wright explains that Paul 'is using his letters to teach his churches not just what to think, but how to think'. We are not just called to be like Jesus, or to do the things he did, but 'to have the same mind'.

Wright goes on to describe the visit to the imprisoned Paul of the runaway slave, Onesimus. Here Wright gives us some helpful thinking around slavery in the Bible, and the way in which Paul in his letters fails to denounce it. (If anything, Paul seems to condone it.) This visit leads to another prison epistle, the letter to Philemon (Onesimus' master), which Wright describes as a 'small masterpiece' in the way it reaches across the chasm between slave and master.

Wright moves on to the letters to the Colossians and Ephesians, first of all arguing why he thinks these are both genuinely Pauline.

(Yes, they are stylistically different from other letters in some respects, but that doesn't mean Paul didn't write them.) Wright explores the theme of 'Wisdom', and again there is this idea that 'Paul wants people to learn to *think* – not simply to imbibe rules and principles to learn by heart'. This is an important point for us. There are powerful strands of Christianity which encourage people *not* to think: sometimes we call this 'indoctrination' or 'brainwashing'. Wright is arguing that Paul wants followers of Jesus to 'grow us as genuine humans'. A thinking faith is a healthy faith.

Ephesians, Wright argues, is a circular. There is no greeting to a specific church at the beginning, as we find in other letters, and the way in which it is so broad-ranging in the things it covers suggests that it was not intended for one community. The first half of the letter explores the themes of God's power and the unity of those who believe in him. The second half is more practical: they are instructions for the believer. 'Be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of his power. Put on God's complete armour.'

The prison epistles give us an amazing insight into Paul's tenacity – his ability to continue to minister not despite of but because of his imprisonment. As Paul describes himself (in Wright's translation), he is 'a chained-up ambassador'.

It is often tempting for us to think that we can only do God's work when we are happy, contented, or being successful. As Paul writes and demonstrates time and time again, the opposite is often true. It is precisely when we are struggling or up against it that God works in us and through. Which, of course, takes us back to the Philippian hymn: It is from the *kenosis* (self-emptying) of Jesus which comes exaltation. As Paul writes in 2 Corinthians, 'When I am weak, then I am strong.'

Fr Daniel



*‘Celebrating 200 years and building for the next 200 years’*



At the Patronal Festival in January, we launched Project 200 which aims to turn our

vision to rejuvenate and refurbish St Paul’s Church Hall into a reality, in celebration of our bicentenary in 2028.

In just 2 months, a grand total of £180,000 has been raised, which is 40% of our target, for funds raised from our congregations, for Phase I of Project 200. This total includes £160,000 from 35 pledges, over £40,000 of which has already been paid, plus £15,000 which will come from gift aid. £5,000 has been raised by 44 families buying 260 Lego Bricks for our Buy-a-Brick pyramid at the Joyful Noise service.

This is a fantastic start to our fundraising. A huge thank you to all those who have pledged, donated and bought Lego bricks.

We still have £270,000 to raise to meet our target of £450,000 for Phase I, so if you haven’t pledged or donated yet, there’s still plenty of time and opportunities.

The project team have a desk in the church hall after the Joyful Noise (9.15am) and Sung Eucharist (10.30am) services every week, so do visit us there to see the plans, ask any questions you may have and to pledge support.

We will also have a stand at the May Fair on 16<sup>th</sup> May, which will be a major fundraising event for us, so do please come along and join the fun.

If you are not able to get to church and would like to donate, please email or phone me using the contact details below.

Lindsay Kennelly  
 Fundraising Co-ordinator  
[fundraising@spwh.org](mailto:fundraising@spwh.org)  
 07795 975980



ST PAUL'S CHURCH WINCHMORE HILL



# May Fair Help Needed

**SATURDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

**We need YOUR HELP for our May Fair!**

Would you like to sponsor the May Fair?

Does your work do Match Funding?

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Do you have any bric-a-brac / unused  
sealed beauty products/ good quality toys  
to donate?

Please get in touch with Martyn  
martyncaswell@hotmail.com  
or join our WhatsApp group!



**Your Church needs you!**



March was particularly busy month for our Mothers' Union. Many members were at the Parish Eucharist on Mothering Sunday, and during the service they gathered at the front to witness the commissioning of Theresa Davis as



our Branch Leader and the enrolment of two new MU members, Mthr Lyanne and Madeline Gleave. The newly refurbished MU toy bags, kept at the back of church for younger children, were also blessed during the service.

The following Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March, our MU hosted a Fellowship Lunch for 40 members of our church and the local community and the next day was our AGM followed by afternoon tea.



## MOTHERS' UNION DIARY APRIL 2026

**THURSDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> APRIL AT 2 PM**

'For the Love of Reading' - To mark the National Year of Reading  
Share the book that first ignited (or re-ignited) your love of reading

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO COME ALONG TO ALL MU EVENTS**



Fr Daniel has written about this year's Lent Group in his letter on page 3. During the five sessions, and guided by Mthr Lyanne, members of the group were encouraged to read and

reread, mediate and reflect on John's Gospel, thereby deepening the way they understood their relationship with God.

As is our tradition at St Paul's, on Mothering Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> March, our Scouts distributed posies of daffodils to the women in the congregation. Our thanks go to our Flower Arranging Group for creating enough posies to fill four baskets. There were even a few posies left to give to guests at the MU Fellowship Lunch a few days later, much to their delight.



A Parish Pilgrimage to St Paul's Cathedral took place on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March. The day began with a Eucharist in our Lady Chapel at 10am, and then the majority of pilgrims set off to walk the 10 miles to St Paul's Cathedral. Others joined them at various points along the way and at the Cathedral. The pilgrimage ended at the Cathedral with a



wonderful service of evensong, during which we had the privilege of sitting in the Choir. Our thanks to Fr Daniel for organising the day and we look forward to our pilgrimage to Canterbury in October .

Alison Stiles invites you to a  
 Parkinson's Coffee  
 Morning  
 In aid of research into  
Parkinson's Disease



Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

10.30 till 12

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## ST PAUL'S CHURCH LUNCH CLUB

**There is an exciting new venture starting at our church!**

In April and May we are trialling a lunch club in the Church Hall on Wednesdays after the 12.30 Eucharist. The Lunch Club will run from 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm and will include a hot, nutritious lunch, for example:

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