# ST PAUL'S PARISH CHURCH, HOOK

Our mission is to worship God, to grow as disciples, to love and care for all, and to reach out with the good news of Jesus Christ. Vicar: Rev. Jen Houghton (Day off - Friday) 07933 004460 / vicar@stpaulschurchhook.org.uk

Website: https://www.stpaulschurchhook.org.uk

The Parish Office is open Tuesday-Thursday 9.00am-12.30pm

Email: parish.office@stpaulschurchhook.org.uk Tel No: 020 8391 2362 Registered Charity No: 1163071

# Notices for Sunday 21st December - 4th Sunday of Advent 28th December – 1st Sunday after Christmas Day

Our Church Warden for 21<sup>st</sup> Dec is Alison & for 28<sup>th</sup> December is Simon.

Bible readings for 21st December are: Isaiah 7: 10-16 & Matt: 1: 18-end

Bible readings for 28th December are: Isaiah 63: 7-9 & Matt: 2: 13-end

### SERVICES - OVER CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

18th Dec Sun 21st Dec - 10am HC with Jen

- Thurs HC with Jen

24th Dec

- 3.30pm-Crib & Christingle service

-11.15pm - Midnight Mass

Both with Jen

25th Dec 28th Dec 4<sup>th</sup> Jan

- 10am HC with Jen - 10am HC with Jen

- 8.45am HC followed by 10am AAW

Both with Carolyn

#### **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

19th: Daniel.



**321 course** - Have you got questions about God, the world and you? We are running this course, starting on Weds 7th Jan from 7-9.30pm for 4 weeks. This course invites you to see life the way Jesus does. Each session involves storytelling, interactive videos and conversation that help us better understand God, the world and ourselves. Contact Jen revjenhoughton@gmail.com to find out more, or visit https://321.speaklife.org.uk

The Parish office will be closed from Fri 19th Dec & reopens on Tues 6th Jan 2026

# Advent - The four Sundays and Themes of Advent

Advent 1 (purple) – The Patriarchs & Matriarchs / Hope

Advent 2 (purple) - The Prophets / Peace

Advent 3 (pink) – John the Baptist / Joy

Advent 4 (purple) – The Virgin Mary / Love Christmas Day (white) - The Christ

POLLS suggest that up to 80% of people are open to coming to Church, but are just waiting to be invited. PLEASE think about who you might invite to our Christmas services this year. Please forward our Christmas services onto friends and neighbours now.

24th Dec -3.30pm -Crib service with Christingles...Nativity costumes optional!! 11.15pm -Midnight Mass. 25<sup>th</sup> Dec - 10am Christmas Service with Holy Communion...Christmas jumpers optional!!

Christian Basics Course St Matthew's are running this course in the New Year for anyone across the Team who is considering Baptism and Confirmation. This course will be on Sunday evenings in Jan from 6-8pm starting on 4th Jan. It's an adult class and Christian basics are explored in an open and friendly setting. Email Carolyn for more info: carolynglucas@gmail.com

St Paul's Church Emergency Contact List - We are following our Team Churches in compiling a list of all our members and an emergency name and number for every member. There are forms at the back of Church for you to fill out with details of your next of kin, or someone close. A compiled list will be created and kept in a safe, accessible place for wardens to access in an emergency situation only. They WILL NOT be on display anywhere for all to see, keeping in line with GDPR rules. PLEASE FILL ONE IN.

Our **prayer focus for December** is all the charities who have an active presence in our local community - from The Fircroft Trust to local charity shops such as DEBRA and the Children's Trust. We give thanks for all those who donate time or money to benefit the lives of others, and we pray for the flourishing of those organisations that they represent, and those who benefit from their services.

## **Archive Anecdotes - December 1976.**

# **LAUGHLINES**

Every time I pass a Church, I pay a little visit, So when at last I'm carried in, the Lord won't say "Who is it?"

Click HERE to read online the Diocese of Southwark November Edition of The Bridge.

**Foodbank** - The donation box is available at the **BACK OF CHURCH**. Kingston Foodbank would also appreciate any money donations via their website: <a href="https://kingston.foodbank.org.uk">https://kingston.foodbank.org.uk</a> **MANY THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT.** 



Your mission is simple, light up our virtual tree of 1000 lights! A donation of £10 powers a bulb, but more than that it powers the vital work we do every day in Kingston. Funds raised from this campaign go directly towards providing critical support for vulnerable, single people facing homelessness. Those who often have nowhere else to turn. £10 is a cup of coffee, a snack and a warm place to wait while your phone gets charged. £10 is an Oyster top-up allowing transport to a vital hospital visit, an appointment at the

**£10** is 20 minutes of focussed, tailored expert casework on a journey out of homelessness. **Click here to donate:** https://xmas.kcah.org.uk/



How you can support the work of KCAH - Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness

job centre and a trip to the food bank.

<u>The KCAH Winter Night Shelter</u> provides 5 months of safety and security for up to 30 rough sleepers in Kingston. They are open every night from 7pm and offer a hot meal, an evening of community, a warm, comfortable bed & breakfast. If you would like to get involved in this amazing project as a volunteer, either of your time or a home-cooked meal, please email <a href="winternightshelter@kcah.org.uk">winternightshelter@kcah.org.uk</a> Anything you can give to this much needed project will be gratefully received, and know that if you do, you will have made a powerful difference in the life of someone who needs you.

The King's Storeroom (Christian books & cards) at the Richard Mayo Centre United Reform Church, Eden St, Kingston KT1 1HZ Tel: 020 8390 5400 online: <a href="https://www.thekingsstoreroom.org">www.thekingsstoreroom.org</a>

Some of our services, will now be available on our YouTube channel. You can find this by doing a search for "St Paul's Church, Hook" or follow this link: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulschurchhook">https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulschurchhook</a>



Please make sure you are looking at our new channel with the cross logo.

## WE HAVE THREE WAYS OF 'GIVING' TO ST PAUL'S CHURCH:

- Directly through our bank account. Sort Code: 60-21-05 Account No: 96897856 Account Name: PCC of St Paul's Hook.
- Through 'Paypal' via our website <u>www.stpaulschurchhook.org.uk</u> and click on the
- 'donate to St Paul's link' or using the QR Code
- Through contactless card payments using the machine by the main church doors.

Please also complete a Gift Aid form, available at the back of church or from the Parish Office, if you are a taxpayer. YOUR SUPPORT IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.

