

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

Jen is away on leave until 21st Feb.

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 22nd February 2026 – 1st Sunday in Lent & Sunday 1st March – 2nd Sunday of Lent

Our Church Warden for 22nd Feb is Alison and for 1st March is Simon.

Bible readings for 22nd Feb are: Psalm 32 & Matt 4: v1-11.

Bible reading for 1st Mar is: John 3: v1-17.

PLEASE NOTE THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM 20TH FEBRUARY AND REOPENS ON TUES 3RD MARCH

FEB & MAR SERVICES

Sun 22nd Feb - 10am Holy Communion
26th Feb - Thurs HC @ 10am
Sun 1st Mar - 8.45am Said Holy Communion
- 10am All Age Worship
5th Mar - Thurs HC & 10am
Sun 8th Mar - 10am Holy Communion

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

22nd - Simon Mettrick
26th - Jenny Gibson

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

14th - Prue, Kathy & Sue C

In 2026, we have a monthly **prayer focus** on a different area of the world (either country or region). This month our prayer focus is on Iran. Iran has been much in the news over the last few weeks, as government forces have sought to crush demonstrations and dissent. The Christian charity Elam supports the persecuted church in Iran and has the following prayer points: for comfort for families mourning lost relatives, and for the residents of Iran to have a sense of hope despite their present suffering; for restored communications with the outside world and economic relief; for just and righteous leadership; for wisdom and courage for the Iranian church. To find out more, visit www.elam.com We would love to feature overseas areas that are special to members of our congregation as a focus in future months: if you would be willing to lead on a month then please talk to Angie M, or email the parish office.

A **SPECIAL MEETING** of the parish is called for this **Sunday 22 February 2026** to consider the cancelling of the appointment of the examiner that was agreed at the last Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and the appointment of a new examiner (Charlotte Radcliffe-Crow) for the accounts to 31 December 2025, the appointment to run until the next APCM. **This meeting will be held during the notices at the end of the 10am service.**

Lent course - starts Wed 25 Feb We will be running a 5-week Lent course on Wednesdays from 7.30-8.45pm in Mary wise room. This Lectio 365 course is based on the experiences of the Desert Fathers and Mothers, the earliest Christian pioneers who sought God in the wilderness. Come to reflect on what 'season' you are currently in, how silence can be helpful, what we can learn from others and how different rhythms can help sustain our lives of faith. Speak to Jen for more info, or just come along! You don't have to come every week.

Bible groups/Home groups – If you are interested in being part of an ongoing weekly, fortnightly or monthly Bible study/home group, please could you let Jen know? We do have some groups currently happening and Jen will be reviewing capacity and interest over the next month. Please indicate if you would prefer a daytime or evening group. Thank you.

Confirmation Service There will be a Confirmation service for our Deanery (our local area) held at All Saints Church in Kingston at 6pm on Sunday 26th April. Candidates will be prepared for this next step in faith in four sessions ahead of the service. If you are interested in being confirmed, or finding out more, please let Jen know.

Easter Flowers – It is the tradition at St Paul's that flowers displayed in Church at Easter are in memory of a loved one. All Donations to be received by Palm Sunday (29/3/26) please. Please label either your envelope (with cash) or your online donations with your loved one's name plus your name too.

PLEASE NOTE: A NEW ANNUAL LIST OF NAMES WILL BE CREATED FOR DISPLAY IN CHURCH, SO PLEASE GET YOUR DONATIONS AND LOVED ONES NAMES IN BY SUNDAY 29th MARCH.

Please also fill out one of our forms for our records (at back of Church) & add into your envelope.

Chris Hollingshurst and Danny Wignall – *Red House Rhythm & Blues Duo* are appearing Guildford Cathedral on Thurs 26th Feb 2026 – Doors open at 6.30pm – includes a meal of Homemade Beef/Chicken/Veggie Burger & seasoned fries - £25pp available via link: [Guildford Cathedral - Blues and Dinner | Thursday 26 February 2026](#) This is before Chris & Kathy move to Cambridgeshire. They are also performing at St Martin's Church, Church St, Epsom, KT17 4PX on Sat 21st Feb 2026, 4.30pm – 5.30pm – Free entry.

Future Dates for your diary

Church parades are back: As part of our All-Age service, we will be joined by local Scouting & Guiding units during 2026 on: **Sunday 1st March; Sunday 7th June and Sunday 4th October.**

Sunday 10th May – 10am service, coffee, then APCM followed by Bring & Share Lunch.

Saturday 21st June: *Music@St Paul's:* Freddie Pirotta & Band. More details to follow in due course.

Saturday 11th July and **Sunday 12th July:** Anniversary Celebration Weekend – celebrating **135 years** of Mothers' Union at St Paul's. **Join us for a cream tea in the Parish Hall on Saturday afternoon and Mothers' Union members will lead the 10am service on Sunday.**

Sunday 11th October – Harvest Festival.

Archive Anecdotes – March 1976

A Prayer for our Church

O God, make the door of this house wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship; narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride and strife. Make its threshold smooth enough to be no stumbling block to children, nor to straying feet, but rugged enough to turn back the tempter's power. O God, make the door of this house the gateway to Your eternal kingdom. Amen.

Our next music event is on Sat 21st March @ 8pm (doors open at 7.15pm). Simon Rowe (who plays guitar in our Sunday worship band) will be performing with his band Gambling Hearts, an indie 3-piece band, their influences include The Beatles, Oasis & Nirvana. This will be a fundraiser with profits being split between the Church and local charity KCAH. Tickets cost £15 / concessions £7.50 (Children, Full time students and anyone on benefits). Online booking is available on our website, or you can reserve tickets with the Parish Office, via phone or email (at top of first page).

Click [HERE](#) to read online the Diocese of Southwark **Dec 2025/Jan 2026** Edition of The Bridge.



Need a wheelchair for a short-term loan? We have one at St Paul's Church that we can loan to you, to help you in your time of need. Get in touch by ringing the office on 020 8391 2362 or email: parish.office@stpaulschurchhook.org.uk

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



[How you can support the work of KCAH - Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness](#)

The KCAH Winter Night Shelter 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 winternightshelter@kcah.org.uk 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: www.thekingsstoreroom.org

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: <https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulschurchhook>
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 www.stpaulschurchhook.org.uk 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.

