

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**

Sunday 22nd March – 5th Sunday of Lent – Passion Sunday

Our Church Warden this week is Sue Russell.

Bible readings for 22nd March are: Romans 8: v6-11 & John 11: v1-45

UPCOMING SERVICES

Sunday 22 March - 10am Holy Communion
Thursday 26 March - 10am Holy Communion
Sunday 29 March - 10am HC - Palm Sunday
- 6pm @ St Matthew's Church
Maundy Thursday 2 April - 10am Holy Communion
- 7.30pm Holy Communion
Good Friday 3 April - 9.30am - Walk of Witness
from St Paul's finishing at Chessington Methodist
for Hot Cross Buns & Easter Trail.
12-2pm - St Paul's open for quiet reflection.
2pm - Last Hour at the Cross service.
Easter Sunday 5 April - 10am Service of Holy
Communion for all ages followed by Easter egg
hunt! Please note there is no 8.45am service.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

14th - Prue,
Kathy
& Sue C

Church Working Morning - Volunteers welcome!
We're planning a Church Working Morning on
Saturday 11 April, 09:30-12:30, and we'd
love as many helping hands as possible.

There will be a variety of small jobs around the
church and churchyard: tidying, weeding,
cleaning, and general tasks to help keep St
Paul's looking its best.

Please see weekly email that these notices are
attached to, for a job advert for a cleaner for
the Parish Hall.

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 **Nigeria**. Christian Advocacy group 'Open Doors' reported that the vast majority
of Christians killed for their faith globally (years 24/25) were murdered in Nigeria. It is a horror unfolding away
from the world's gaze, the merciless murder of thousands. The World Day of Prayer (March 6th) is written by the
women of Nigeria, who quote "...that even in our struggles, we are not broken. We continue to work, to hope, to
pray for the world we know is possible". To find out more, visit www.opendoorsuk.org/persecution
Our **Lent course** is running on Wednesdays from 7.30-8.45pm in Mary wise room. This course is based on the
experiences of the Desert Fathers and Mothers, the earliest Christian pioneers who sought God in the wilderness.
2 weeks left, come along if you are interested.

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.

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 **NEXT** 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.

Safeguarding survey INEQE Safeguarding Group have been commissioned to conduct Independent Safeguarding
Audits of the Church of England to make sure dioceses and cathedrals are doing all they can to create environments
where everyone feels safe, valued and respected. As part of this, you are encouraged to complete an online
anonymous and confidential survey: <https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/Southwark/> before Weds 8th April 2026.

LADIES CURRY & CONVERSATION NIGHT – SEE OVERLEAF

IF YOU HAVE COMPLETED AN ELECTORAL ROLL FORM – PLEASE RETURN IT ASAP

Remembering Eric Heather We have had a plaque commissioned to remember with love and thanks our dear
friend Rev. Eric Heather, who served faithfully as Reader and Priest at St Paul's for over 50 years. We will be
blessing the plaque and giving thanks for Eric's faithful ministry during our 10am service this Sunday 22 March.

Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Angela Yule A service will be held at 11am on Tuesday 24 March in Church, to give thanks for Angela Yule, much loved member of St Paul's and the Mothers' Union, who died at the beginning of January. All are welcome to attend and join us for refreshments following the service.

Palm Sunday Team Service On Sunday 29 March at 6pm, there will be a Team service at St Matthew's Church Surbiton, which will be led by the Team Clergy. There will be readings and reflection with Taize music and a chance to prepare ourselves for Holy Week. Please do put the date in your diary, as this is a good chance to worship with our Team Churches, St Matthews and St George's. Please note our 10am service at St Paul's will still take place as usual in the morning.

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 26 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.

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. **Sunday 1 March** was a great success and we look forward to: **Sunday 7 June and Sunday 4 Oct.**

Saturday 18 April – 43rd UNLOCK London Walk – 9am-5pm. raising funds for Urban Churches. This year we will be visiting 7 Churches in the Kilburn and Hampstead area. The total route is 7.2 miles but there are several drop off points. If you would like more information please speak to Sue Fry, Ann Fernihough or Sue Russell.

Tuesday 28 April 2-4.30 pm – 7 week Bereavement Course @ St Matthew's Church – see posters in Church

Wednesday 13 May – Ladies' Curry Night. 7pm@North Star, 8pm@Red Rose Restaurant. There is a sign-up sheet in the Mary Wise room or do let Jen or Julie know if you would like to come.

Sunday 17 May – 10am service, coffee, then APCM followed by Bring & Share Lunch.

Saturday 20 June – Music@St Paul's: Freddie Pirotta & Band. More details to follow in due course.

Saturday 11 July and **Sunday 12 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 11 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 this Saturday 21 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).

Consultation on next Bishop of Southwark – Our Diocesan Bishop – The Rt Revd Bishop Christopher Chessun – will be retiring this summer, after many years of faithful leadership in our Diocese. The search for the next Bishop of Southwark begins and our Diocese want to ensure that your views are heard. Please contribute to this short and simple [anonymous online survey](#) by 1 April 2026.

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.

