

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 31st May 2026 – Trinity Sunday

Our Church Warden for 31st May is Alison.

Bible readings for 31st May are: Isaiah 40: 12-17, 27-end & Matthew 28: 16-end.

SERVICES

Sunday 31st May

Thursday 4th June

Sunday 7th June

- 10am Trinity Sunday Holy Communion Service
- 10am Holy Communion service
- 8.45am Said Holy Communion service
- 10am All Age Worship & Church Parade service



Our friend Elaine Lawson died on 9th May, in the Care Home in Bridgend, aged 91. May she rest in Peace with the Lord.

London Unlock Walk – A message from Sue Fry: Many thanks to everyone that took part in this year's walk, or sponsored our efforts. I am delighted to say we raised £735.00 in aid of Urban Churches.

PLEASE SEE ATTACHMENT FOR DETAILS OF MEN'S EVENTS COMING UP. PLEASE LET NEIL KNOW IF YOU ARE ATTENDING ANY OF THEM. – neilanthymeehan@gmail.com

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 **Haiti** - the poorest Caribbean nation which is beset by both natural disasters and human violence. Since the assassination of the president in 2021 Haiti has spiralled into economic chaos, a political vacuum and widespread gang warfare. It is estimated that 80% of the capital (Port au Prince) is controlled by gangs, with up to 900 schools closed due to fears of violence or political protest. Children may instead be recruited as child soldiers and 42% of Haitians face severe malnutrition. Pray for the work of Christian aid charities such as World Vision and Compassion who are active in the region, for churches who offer support to their communities, and for multinational UN-backed forces who are seeking to counter the gang strongholds.

APCM and lunch

Many thanks to all those who attended our APCM and 'Bring and Share' lunch. It was good to reflect on the past year together, and to elect our new PCC and Deanery Synod members, along with our Churchwardens. A huge thank you to all who have put themselves forward for roles in 2026-7. It is an exciting time for St Paul's, and we have a great team working in different roles across the Church; you all make a difference by your presence in our community and by your prayers. If you are interested in getting more involved in Church life, please do speak to Jen.

"FIRE EVACUATION DRILL: Please be aware that we are planning to hold a practice evacuation drill at one of the services between now and the end of July. This will involve vacating the Church and re-grouping outside. This is a necessary part of fire safety management for the Church, so we thank you in advance for your co-operation"

June sermon series

During June, we'll be sharing a new sermon series called "Why I'm a Christian" hearing faith stories from three members of our congregation: **Simon Rowe, Graham Cocks and Pam Ingram**. Please keep Simon, Graham and Pam in your prayers as they prepare to share how God has been at work in their lives, and we look forward to being encouraged and inspired by their stories.

St Paul's Players present **"Who shot the Sheriff"** on Sat 6th June 2026 at 7.30pm.
Adults - £12.00 Children – £7.00 – see attached poster

music@st paul's

Saturday 20th June, 7.30pm

Emma Field with the Freddie Pirotta Jazz Quartet.

Tickets £15, concessions £7.50 - (children, full-time students, people on benefits)

Book tickets at www.stpaulschurchhook.co.uk/music



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

PLEASE NOTE – NEW DATE - The **Kingston and Malden Scout and Guide Band** who will be playing for 15-20 minutes after the parade service, on **Sunday 4th October**, whilst we enjoy refreshments. **DO NOT MISS!**

Saturday 20th 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.

Pet Service: Join us at **4pm on Sunday 13 September** for a special **Pet Service** as we celebrate the joy and companionship our animals bring to our lives. Bring your beloved pets for a blessing, fellowship, and a time of gratitude for all creatures great and small. 🥺

Sunday 11th October – Harvest Festival.

Saturday 17th October – *Music@St Paul's* Concert with internationally acclaimed artist – Jo Harrop

PLEA FROM LOCAL NEIGHBOUR – PLEASE DON'T FEED THE CAT THAT VISITS OUR CHURCH - HE'S GETTING ILL

Archive Anecdotes – May 1980

TWO KEYS

A man who acts as a guide in one of the Minsters says he was asked by a small girl why St Peter had two keys (apparently seen in one of the stained-glass windows). When he admitted he didn't know, she suggested "Maybe one's for the front door and one's for the back door". A small boy accompanying her said scathingly, "No, silly! It's in case he loses one!".

St Paul's Birthday Book – If you would like your birthday to be recognized by Church family, then please put your name in the **green** birthday book, which can usually be found on coffee table, near office door in Mary Wise room. By putting your name in there gives us permission to put it on the notices. We cannot do this unless it's in the book!!

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.

