



ST PAUL'S 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)
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The Parish Office is open Tuesday-Thursday 9.00am-12.30pm

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

Notices for Sunday 18th October

Churchwarden for our Sunday service is Alison

Our Bible readings for Sunday 18th October are: 2 Corinthians 9: 6-end & Luke 12: 16-30

Sunday 18th October - 10am Holy Communion with Jen & Neil
Thursday 22nd October - 10am Holy Communion with Jen
Sunday 25th October - 10am Holy Communion with Carolyn
Thursday 29th October - 10am Holy Communion with Carolyn
Sunday 1st November - 8.45am Said Holy Communion with Carolyn
- 10am All age Worship with Jen & Carolyn
- Remembering & Thanking Service.
See below for timings.

October Birthdays

1st - Sophie & Ian Jarman
11th - Jane Jarman
15th - Peter Frankland
19th - Maggie Dowd
23rd - William Manley
29th - Angela Noble
31st - Izzy Hodgson

Neil Meehan was licensed as a Lay Minister/Reader in a very special service at Southwark Cathedral last Sunday evening. We are delighted for Neil as he takes on this new leadership role in the Church. Neil preaches regularly at St Paul's, and also leads our men's ministry, bible study groups and outreach to the local community via our music concerts, alongside other areas of mission and ministry. His licensing comes at the end of two years of training which he has completed alongside his full-time role as a Headteacher. We are so proud of Neil and know that he will continue to be a blessing to St Paul's over the coming years. We look forward to celebrating this new leadership role and praying for Neil on Sunday 18th October.

Our recent **Mission Action Planning day** helped us to hear from one another and from God about how we might engage with our local community. We were led to three priority areas: 1. The Church being open more for the community to drop in and better use made of the Church building and Churchyard. 2. The Church getting 'out and about' in the community more. 3. Offering different days/times of worship to attract people who are unable to attend at our current times. If you would like to be part of one of these three groups to develop specific timebound goals, please do let Jen know ASAP. We will report back to the congregation once the goals have been agreed by the PCC.

Sunday 1st November: Remembering and Thanking Service for loved ones who have died

3.30pm: Church open for quiet reflection. **4pm:** Refreshments served.

5pm: Service with lighting of candles and reading the names of loved ones.

St Paul's is holding a **Men's Breakfast** on **Saturday 7th November** at 8.15am in the Parish Hall. Come along for some tea/coffee and a bacon roll and some good company! We'll also hear from Paul Seymour of Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness telling us about the work of this local charity. Entry is just £4 (please bring cash). Please let Neil, our new Licensed Lay Minister know if you are coming by emailing neilanthonymeehan@gmail.com

St Paul's Winter Fayre – Saturday 21st November 12 noon – 3pm

We are now collecting the following: Sweets and chocolates, unloved good quality gifts (NO bric a brac), bottles - alcoholic and soft drinks for the Tombola and 'bottle gift bags' - the type you might receive a bottle in! Please see Sue Russell for more info.

In 2026, we have a monthly **prayer focus** on a different area of the world (either country or region). This month we pray for Afghanistan, which has been under the control of the Taliban since 2021. In this month when UK schools return after the summer break, we pray particularly for girls in Afghanistan, who are denied access to schooling, and for all women whose lives are severely restricted by the strict religious rules. Around 70% of the population of 35-50 million are estimated to live in poverty, and food shortages are widespread. Pray for comfort for those who suffer and see no hope for the future, and pray that change will come that enables the Afghan people to live in safety and freedom.

Dates for your diary

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

Sunday 18th October – 10am Celebrating Neil's first service as a Licensed Lay Minister

Thursday 22nd October – 7.30pm Staying safe in a digital world – hear from Cyber expert Rebecca Taylor on how to navigate scams, frauds, social engineering and AI

Sunday 1st November – Remembering and Thanking service (see notice overleaf)

Saturday 7th November – Men's breakfast in Parish Hall (see notice overleaf)

Sunday 8th November – Remembrance Sunday

Wednesday 11th November – 11am Act of Remembrance at War Memorial

Saturday 21st November – 12 noon-3pm Church Winter Fayre at the Parish Hall

Sunday 5th December – 12 noon-3pm St Paul's School Christmas Fair

Sunday 13th December – 10am Nativity service

Sunday 13th December – 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Wednesday 16th December – 7.30pm Beer and Carols at the North Star pub

Christmas Eve – 3.30pm Christingle crib service

11.15pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day – 10am Holy Communion service for all ages

St Paul's Church WhatsApp group

We have set up a St Paul's Church group on WhatsApp as an additional way of communicating with the Church. This is a 'broadcast only' group for Church to send members announcements (rather than a way for members to chat). We hope this will complement our existing ways of communicating, and messages will be sent no more than 1-2 times a week. There is no requirement to join this, but please ask if you would like to be added.

- **Click here to read online the Diocese of Southwark:** [Bridge Newspaper](#)
- 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

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.

