

NEWS

December 2018

St Paul's
HOWELL HILL

CHRISTMAS[®] St Paul's HOWELL HILL

- Sunday 16 December 6:30pm - Contemporary Carols**
A modern interpretation of classic Christmas carols
- Sunday 23 December 10am - All Age Family Service**
Everyone together for advent
6pm - Traditional Carols
Candle-lit service with readings and carols led by our choir and orchestra
Mulled wine, mince pies and live jazz afterwards
- Christmas Eve 4pm - Crib and Christingle**
A great service for children and young families
11pm - Late Night Communion
A modern interpretation of classic Christmas carols
- Christmas Day 10am - Christmas Celebration**
Celebrate the reason for the greatest party ever



Merry Christmas
and a
Blessed New Year

Come and See

The invitation of Christmas is to come and see. As the carol goes - *come and see Him lying on a bed of straw*. It then goes on to give a significant title to this baby - *The Prince of Glory is His name*.

It's a bold claim and one to be examined carefully, for if this is true, it's of the utmost importance, and if false, it needs Debunking for all our sakes.

I believe this is the greatest of all truths - that God himself was present, incarnate, with us. His purpose? The carol answers this question too:

*Mine are riches, from your poverty,
From your innocence, eternity;
Mine forgiveness by your death for me.*



The riches of eternity and forgiveness given, Bought for us by our incarnate God. For unlike Christmas decorations, Jesus wasn't put back in a box, tidied up and forgotten about for another year. He grew, matured and came to say and do the most amazing things. He claimed to be God, died a criminal's death and, central to Christian faith, we believe He rose again.

So come and see - come and examine and ponder - come and worship.

You are very welcome if this is your first time, if you are visiting family or friends, just popping in to see what it's like, or you're seeking a new spiritual home.

Do make yourself known, as we would love to get to know you better.

Martin Wainwright



Sunday 30 December 10am - All Age Service

1 hour all age service, followed by coffee and Communion.

Tuesday 1 January 6pm - New Year's Praise

Energetic and reflective worship, real stories, prayer, ending with a praise party. Refreshments from 5:45pm. saintpauls.co.uk/NYP

St Paul's Howell Hill, 15 Northey Avenue, Cheam, Sutton SM2 7HS 020 8224 9838

office@saintpauls.co.uk

www.saintpauls.co.uk

Office hours 9:30am-2:30pm Monday to Friday

Over this Christmas time, please pray for:

- those who are ill, sad or lonely.
- all those trying to resolve the relationship between Britain and the rest of Europe.
- many around the world suffering the effects of war, famine and disaster.
- us all to realise why Jesus came to earth and receive his gift of new life.

You're welcome to join us to pray at 9:15-9:45am in the Lounge (upstairs) on Monday 17 December and then in the New Year on Monday 7 January. If you would like prayer for anything over the Christmas period, please contact Sally Thomas sallyt@saintpauls.co.uk / 0208 224 7360

News & Events

Christmas Cards at St Paul's

For those who wish to give cards in the usual manner, boxes are available opposite the lift. Alternatively, there is a large card to sign and donations are invited for Angel Tree, a Prison Fellowship initiative, giving presents to children who have a mum or dad in prison (see below).

Prison Fellowship - Angel Tree

As a church community, working with the Banstead Prison Fellowship group, we have been able to support 70 women from HMP Downview. 130 presents have been wrapped and sent to their children, with the majority asking for a Christian book to be included with the present.

church@six

Join us for our new evening service, starting **6 January 6-7:15pm**, followed by refreshments. Taking Sunday into the Everyday, Bringing the Everyday into Sunday. Visit saintpauls.co.uk/six

Alone on Christmas Day?

Churches Together in Ewell are hosting a free Christmas dinner with festive activities for all who would otherwise be on their own, at Stoneleigh Baptist Church from 12:30-4:15pm. Transport available. To book, call 020 8397 7307 christmas.dinner@dsl.pipex.com

Can you help on Christmas Day?

Drivers are needed, in particular, to bring guests to the Churches Together Christmas meal (see details above), as well as table hosts and help with washing up. Contact Janet Hattam 020 8397 7307 janet.hattam3@gmail.com

Church Office

Please note that the church office will be closed over the Christmas holidays from mid-day Monday 24 December and will re-open on Wednesday 2 January.

The Hub

The Hub will close for Christmas on Friday 21 December at 1pm and will re-open on Monday 7 January.

You are welcome at any of our weekday activities at St Paul's in the New Year

Toddlers

Mondays and Tuesdays 9:45-11:15am for parents and carers with children aged 0-4 years. Toys, craft, puzzles, books, singing & coffee! Starts Mon 14 Jan & Tue 15 Jan.

Wrigglers

Mondays 2-3:30pm for mums with babies up to 9 months, with chat and swapping stories over refreshments. Starts Mon 7 Jan.

Little Church

Fridays 10-11:30am for parents and carers with children aged 0-4 years. Play, Bible story, songs, craft and biscuits! Starts Fri 18 Jan.

Refresh!

Thursdays 10 for 10:30 till 11:30am for women of all ages, encouraging each other on all levels, at whatever stage of life we are. Starts Thur 10 Jan.

Spartans

Tuesday mornings from 11am, through lunch for fellowship and gentle games for the active retired. Starts Tue 8 Jan.

Mid Week Focus

Wednesdays 11am for coffee, hear a talk from a wide range of speakers (Communion on fourth Weds) and then catch up from 12:30pm over lunch. Starts Wed 9 Jan.

Kidzone Fridays

Fridays 5:45-7pm. Fun activities for children in school years 3-6. Starts Fri 11 Jan. Once a month, we open earlier for those in Reception to Year 2, from 4:30-5:30pm starting Fri 18 Jan.

Fuel

For school years 7-13, meeting Sundays at 6pm to journey through life, build friendships and explore the big issues facing young people as they grow in faith. Starts Sun 6 Jan.

For more information about our weekday activities, please pick up a leaflet from the Welcome Area or speak to someone on the Welcome Team.

Giving to St Paul's

God's work here is funded by our church family and we encourage planned giving. Information on how to give regularly is available in the Welcome Area and online at saintpauls.co.uk/giving. There is a plate by the door for any who may wish to give today. Charity No 1128212