

# WHO WE ARE

## Our Purpose

Our purpose is to be with Jesus, become like Jesus, and do what Jesus did.

## Our Priorities

**# Prayer:** Our first calling is to be with God, to worship Him, and to know Him intimately through prayer. We want to be people who spend time with God and are filled with the Spirit. We believe that prayer matters, it not only changes us, it changes the world.

**# Formation:** We believe that the Bible is the Word of God and that it shapes who we are. We are called to be transformed into the likeness of Jesus, bearing the fruit and ministering in the power of the Spirit. Growing deeper in our love and knowledge of God through His Word.

**# Mission:** We want to be outward-looking, helping those in need, supporting our local community and engaging with world mission. Jesus is for the lonely, the poor, the sick, the marginalized and those who do not know God. We are here to share the good news of Jesus, helping people to know and follow Him. We are a resource church that longs to enable mission in other parishes.

## Our Values

**Community...** everyone welcome, everyone belonging, everyone with a part to play  
*From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. Ephesians 4:16*

**Joy...** being fully known and loved by God brings us joy in all circumstances; having fun together and bringing joy to the world.

*As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love... so that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. John 15:9-11*

**Authenticity...** being humble, vulnerable and honest to the core, so our actions match our words, our attitudes match our beliefs.

*My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. 2 Corinthians 12:9*

**Encouragement...** being generous with our words, we're creating a culture of thanking, honouring, uplifting and comforting one another.

*May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had. Romans 15:5*

**Adventure...** stepping out in faith, journeying with God and living radical lives to change the world.  
*Come follow me* Matthew 4:19

## Our Mission

Our mission is:

- to play our part in the revival of the church and the extension of God's Kingdom
  - to discern God's voice for us at this time
  - to be formed as disciples of Jesus, who make disciples
  - to share our faith and love our neighbour,
  - to be known because we are a joyful, encouraging, authentic and adventurous community.
- Above everything, we long to love God with all our heart, soul and mind.

## Our Dream

Our dream at St Paul's and St Barnabas is to join in with God in the renewal of all things. We would love our church to be a place of encounter with God, for those who have never been connected to a church and those who may have been connected to a church in the past but are no longer, for those at any stage of life, from the youngest to the oldest. A community that partners with God in what He is doing, that hopes for the future, that takes risks and reflects the love God has for us. We long to be a church family that we love being a part of, that we are proud of, and want to invite our friends, colleagues and neighbours to so they can see how amazing our God is.

St Paul's is a gathered church – we come together from different areas, and we aim to give our church family the tools to share their faith, encouragement to find their calling and a place to invite those who do not know Jesus. We want to build a culture in our church where Jesus is central, we are Spirit-led, faithful to Scripture, and have a real impact through our members. As a resource church, we aim to revitalize local communities and partner with them in building God's Kingdom. As one church that meets in two locations, we are excited about the future and the ability to share the good news of Jesus more widely.

St Barnabas is a local church – we are mainly from the immediate area, we want to build a church family where all are welcome, where hospitality, authenticity, and informality inform all that we do. We have a bias toward those on the edge, who struggle with faith, mental health and life in general. We live out our faith by serving our local community, seeking to create a hub that unites mental, emotional, spiritual and physical health. We will build on the relationships with existing charities and seek new partnerships, so that St Barnabas becomes a sanctuary for the people of Epsom where we are known as a people of hope.