

NEXT SUNDAY - 21st January 2018

10am **Open Door** with children's and young people's groups
and Holy Communion for adults

THIS WEEK

Mon	8pm	Vicar and Churchwardens' meeting
Tues	9.15am	Staff prayers and meeting
	7.30pm	Connect group with Vera
Fri	9.30am	St Paul's Toddler group
	4.45pm	Adventure Time cell group for those in Years 7-9

DIOCESE RECEIVES STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDING

Just before Christmas, it was announced that the Diocese of London has been awarded strategic development funding as part of a multi-million pound plan to renew churches in England. The Diocese will receive £4.8 million for revitalising churches and developing 'Church Growth Learning Communities' in London and £3.9 million towards training curates, to be deployed across the country to support the national Church. The Bishop of Islington, Ric Thorpe, who is responsible for church planting in the Diocese, will lead the projects.

WISDOM that WORKS: a DAY in PROVERBS

The London Institute for Contemporary Christianity's next Bible Day is on Tues 23rd January (10.30am - 4pm). It will look at how Proverbs makes it clear that wisdom doesn't begin in human autonomy, but in relationship with God, where wisdom is then worked out in different spheres of life – at the city gates and in the market squares, in our homes and workplaces – wherever God has called us. Refreshments and a light lunch is included in £20 fee. Venue is St Peter's Church, Vere Street, (Bond Street tube). Book at www.licc.org.uk

CONTACTS:

Vicar: Revd Nicholas Pye
(Days off Wednesday and Saturday)

Associate Vicar: Revd Mavis Crispin
(part-time, working usually on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday)

Children's and Families' Community Worker: Ruth Cowlshaw (part-time, working usually Tues, Fri and Sun mornings) 8349 3792

Administrator and Centre Manager:
Irene Mburu 8349 3792; office@stpaulsfinchley.org.uk
Office hours Mon - Fri, 9am - 1pm

Intern: Davi Guimaraes 8349 3792; (Days off Mon & Sat)

Churchwardens:
Maggie Barnes
Karen Fox

Website: www.stpaulsfinchley.org.uk

Welcome to



14 JANUARY 2018

We extend a **warm welcome** to all who have come to worship. If you are a newcomer, we would encourage you to introduce yourself to the service leader or a member of our welcome team. To help us view **giving** as integral to the Christian life, we usually take an offering during our worship. If you are a visitor, do feel able to pass the offering basket on without contributing.

10am **Open Door** with children and young people's groups
The service includes an act of (re)-commitment for 2018

Bible reading: John 3:11-21 (page 1066)
Theme: 3:16 - The Numbers of Hope
Preacher: Revd Nicholas Pye

Prayer for today (1st Sunday of Epiphany) Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognize him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

Please speak to the clergy if you'd like **prayer** for something or someone. There are **toilets** (including an accessible one with baby changing facilities) in the St Paul's Centre as well as in the foyer of the historic church.

BIBLE VERSE FOR 2018

We have chosen John 3:16 as a theme for 2018:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not die but have eternal life".

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THIS WEEK'S PRAYER TOPICS

- Our own openness to an on-going relationship with Christ and a deeper experience of his love so that we become fully devoted disciples and agents of hope and healing in the world.
- The Lord to enable Christians who are starting up their own businesses to be godly ambassadors as others around them see them putting their trust in Him for support and security.
- Those we know who are in hospital, have just come out of hospital, the staff of the NHS, their health and wellbeing as they serve sacrificially and the decision-makers as they make difficult decisions and seek to structure and finance a health service to support the needy.
- Those who live as disciples in the top 5 most dangerous countries for Christians - North Korea, Afghanistan, Somalia, Sudan and Pakistan - to know the Lord's peace and protection.

OPEN DOORS WORLD WATCH LIST - www.opendoorsuk.org/persecution/

Open Doors has published its 2018 World Watch list highlighting the 50 countries where it is most difficult to live as a Christian - places where disciples of Christ must keep their beliefs hidden and face beatings, imprisonment, discrimination and abuse. The list reports that over 3,000 Christians have been killed for their faith in the 2018 reporting period, more than twice as many as in the previous reporting period. Each of the top 11 World Watch List countries are now classed as places of extreme persecution – this is more countries than ever before in 26 years of the World Watch List.

SAFETY of CHILDREN and YOUNG PEOPLE on SUNDAYS

While children and young people are in their groups they're the responsibility of the group leaders. Once the service in the historic church has ended, parents/carers resume responsibility for the safety and welfare of their children on church premises and in the vicarage garden. Parents of children in *Splash!* and *Xsteam* should collect them from their group straight after the service. Older children and young people can find their parents on their own.

DEADLINE for CONTRIBUTING to our 2017 CHRISTMAS APPEAL

If you wish to contribute to our appeal but have yet to do so, please ensure we receive your gift (e.g. via cheque payable to St Paul's Finchley PCC or internet banking) in the next few days as we are keen to send off a cheque to Tearfund (www.tearfund.org) to support their work in changing the lives of women in the Central African Republic and elsewhere who have suffered unimaginably due to conflict and poverty. Every £ you give will be doubled by the government.

ADMISSION to RECEPTION CLASSES for SEPTEMBER 2018

The closing date for admissions to Year R in Sept 2018 (for those born between 1/9/13 and 31/8/14) **is tomorrow** via www.eadmissions.org.uk If you're applying for a place at St Mary's, our church school, you also need to fill in a Supplementary Information Form and return it to the school. A clergy reference is required if you are applying for a Foundation place and can only be signed where parent(s) have been worshipping at a church at least twice a month for a minimum of 18 months. See www.stmarysfinchley.co.uk/admissions-information/ for details.

CHRISTIAN CARE TRUST, GRACE HOUSE

Grace House, the Christian Residential Care Home in Nether Street, has a vacancy for a cook, from mid-March 2018, working Monday - Friday, 8am to 2pm. The post-holder must have relevant current qualifications (NVQ or City and Guilds) and be DBS checked. If you're interested or know someone who would be, contact Simon on 020 8445 5628 anytime Tuesday to Friday.

THIS MONTH'S WORLD MISSION FOCUS: the STOKER FAMILY

Dave was a member of St Paul's until 2004 when he went to serve as a CMS UK mission partner with the Anglican Church of Peru. He married Kay, a teacher, in 2008 and they've two children - Joshua and Emily. In February 2013 they went to work as LatinLink mission partners with the Evangelical Church of Peru. They're based in Cusco where Dave is engaged in youth-work, training church leaders and teaching on the use of technology in Christian mission and Kay is working with children and families, especially in developing bereavement care. We've pledged to support them through prayer and by giving them at least £2,000 a year. For more information, please contact Mavis Crispin.

QUOTE to CONSIDER

"John 3:16 is a simple text, with incredibly rich meaning. The message is clear, but the wisdom of those words are far reaching. John 3:16 is a twenty-six-word parade of hope: beginning with God, ending with life, and urging us to do the same. Brief enough to write on a napkin or memorize in a moment, yet solid enough to weather two thousand years of storms and questions. If you know nothing of the Bible, start here. If you know everything about the Bible, return here. We all need the reminder. The heart of the human problem is the heart of the human. And God's treatment is prescribed in John 3:16. He loves. He gave. We believe. We live." Max Lucado, the author of *3:16 The Numbers of Hope*.

REDUCING our CARBONFOOTPRINT

In 2008 we changed our electricity supplier to www.goodenergy.co.uk which generates renewable energy. This is part of our commitment to caring for creation and means that our electricity is 100% green and produces no carbon emissions. *Shrinking the Footprint* is the Church of England's national environmental campaign. This supports dioceses and individual churches in reducing their carbon footprint. See more at: www.churchcare.co.uk/shrinking-the-footprint

IF YOU GO into HOSPITAL PLEASE

- Let Mavis Crispin know (or, in her absence, Nicholas Pye).
- Contact the Chaplaincy Team before you enter hospital – details on NHS Trust websites.
- On admission make sure your Christian faith is noted in the paperwork and ask for a referral to a Christian member of the chaplaincy team stressing its importance for you.
- During your stay make sure you feedback to nursing and medical staff how much you have appreciated chaplaincy care.
- After your stay write a letter of thanks to the Chaplaincy Team.

This will enable us and chaplains to support you at a time of need and enable you to support chaplains, providing evidence of their often unseen and unsung ministry of love and care.

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO DIED in the FIRST WORLD WAR

We mark the 100th anniversary of the death of the people listed on our war memorials:

Lieutenant Colin **WRONG** (28/12/17) Royal Munster Fusiliers 6th Battalion, aged 21. Colin was born in British Guiana and had a brother. He enlisted as a law student. His commanding officer initially refused him a commission, due to his 'slight colonial accent'. He married Marjorie Snell in 1915. He served in Salonika and on 2/6/17 won the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry, dragging a severely wounded man back a distance of 1,500 yards, under heavy fire. He moved to Egypt in Sept 1917 and was killed in action in the Palestine campaign. He is buried in the War Cemetery, Jerusalem. His wife remarried and lived at 14 Park Avenue, Finchley.