

## **NEXT SUNDAY - 25th February 2018**

**10am** Open Door with children's and young people's groups

### **THIS WEEK**

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

### **REVISION OF THE CHURCH'S ELECTORAL ROLL**

The Roll consists of adults who are baptised and consider themselves members of St Paul's. It entitles them to vote in any elections that take place at the Annual Meeting on 29th April and receive a 20% discount off the standard prices for hiring our facilities. If you are already on the roll you do not need to do anything, If you are not and would like to join, please contact Irene Mburu, our Electoral Roll officer (office@stpaulsfinchley.org.uk).

### **QUOTE to CONSIDER**

"Jesus never wrote a book. He never wrote a gospel or a letter. The reason he didn't do that was the good news was never meant to be read, it was an experiential thing. It was always meant to be something we engage with."

### **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 all day Tues, Fri and Sun morning) 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](http://www.stpaulsfinchley.org.uk)

Registered Charity No. 1131095

# *Welcome to*



## **18 FEBRUARY 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's and young people's groups & Holy Communion for adults and Commissioning of Davi for SOMA mission trip

**Bible reading:** Matthew 21:12-17 (page 989)

**Theme:** The Journey to the Cross:  
Holy Monday - Cleansing the Temple

**Preacher:** Ro Willoughby

**Prayer for today (1st Sunday of lent)** Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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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*Becoming a vibrant and diverse community that is  
rooted in Jesus, growing together and overflowing with God's love.*

## **THIS WEEK'S PRAYER TOPICS**

- that the Iranian court of appeal will reconsider harsh prison sentences against Pastor Victor Bet Tamraz and Christian converts, Amin Nader Afshari and Hadi Asgari, for Haid to be released from prison soon, and all of three of them will know the Lord's healing.
- for the families of those killed and injured in the Florida shooting to experience God's peace and get the necessary practical help.
- that everyone who belongs to St Paul's will have a real encounter with Christ and grow in faith as we share in the re-telling of the story of his death and resurrection this week.

## **WHY LENT? HOW to ENRICH YOUR FAITH BEFORE EASTER**

Is observing the season of Lent, from Ash Wednesday to Easter Day, foreign to you? Amy Boucher Pye has posted an article on her blog that has a few ideas on how to prepare for Easter. See [www.amyboucherpye.com/2018/02/12/why-lent-how-to-enrich-your-faith-before-easter/](http://www.amyboucherpye.com/2018/02/12/why-lent-how-to-enrich-your-faith-before-easter/)

## **LENT QUOTE**

Father help me to see this Holy season of lent as a time of spiritual renewal rather than a time of deprivation. Motivate me to reach a new level of experiencing your grace.

## **WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

'All God's Creation is Very Good' is the theme this year. A service for everyone at 2pm, on Friday 2nd March 2018, Christ Church North Finchley.

## **GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS (GDPR) TRAINING**

On 8th February a number of church members including Irene, our administrator, attended a Diocese of London training session on the GDPR, which take effect from 25 May 2018. The regulations affect all organisations that hold data about European citizens and ensure that organisations act responsibly with that information. Churches must comply with their requirements, just like any other charity or organisation. Irene will be responsible for working out what we need to do to ensure that we are compliant. One of the big changes is we may need to obtain consent from those, including church members whose data we store or use. Further information on our preparations for compliance will be available in due course.

## **#LIVELENT - LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE**

*#LiveLent - Let Your Light Shine* takes you on a six week discipleship journey through the Gospel of John, exploring what it means to be a witness. For each day from Ash Wednesday (14th Feb) to Easter Day (1st Apr) there is a short reading, a pause for reflection and prayer, and an idea for a simple action that will enable the light of Jesus to shine through our everyday lives. Free copies of the material are available for teenagers and adults via St Paul's. Text Lent to 88802 and you'll get a text message with a daily reflection for free throughout Lent. To sign up for email daily reflections and/or to download the *#LiveLent* apps go to [www.churchofengland.org/lent](http://www.churchofengland.org/lent)

## **HAND IN HAND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY CONFERENCE**

As part of the national Children's Ministry Conference last weekend, Ruth, our Children's & Families' Community Worker, attended an all-day Forum on Fri 9th Feb. It covered a range of topics related to two themes: *Faith in the Home* and *the Big Story of the Bible*. We are committed to inspiring and equipping all those who are engaged in ministry among children and families and helping parents nurture the faith of their children. For details do chat to Ruth.

## **THIS MONTH'S WORLD MISSION FOCUS: Christian Care Trust**

The trust runs a residential home, Grace House at 110 Nether Street, North Finchley and is the on-going vision of Ann Gilbert, a member of St Paul's. As well as looking after residents, the trust provides home help for elderly people including, lunches and hair care. A number of the trustees are members of St Paul's, including Derek Pierson, who serves as chair. For further information contact Ann Gilbert, our link person, or log onto [www.christiancaretrust.org](http://www.christiancaretrust.org)

## **VICAR'S ABSENCE**

Following an occupational health assessment, Nicholas, our vicar, is off duty from 27th January to 3rd March inclusive so that he can rest. Please pray for his well-being and that of Amy and their children. May the Lord bring healing of body, mind and spirit to Nicholas and protect and provide for us as a church at this time. Please do not contact Nicholas while he is off duty. General enquiries should be made to Irene Mburu, our administrator. Pastoral enquiries should be made to Mavis, our associate vicar, and Karen and Maggie, our churchwardens.

## **THANK YOU from TEARFUND**

We've received a letter of thanks from [www.tearfund.org](http://www.tearfund.org) for the £1,430.80 we donated to their Christmas Appeal. The money will 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. You may recall that the government has agreed to double what is given to this appeal.

## **DAY RETREAT OPPORTUNITY**

Amy Boucher Pye is leading a retreat for women at Mulberry House, a Georgian home set within 22 acres of beautiful grounds in High Ongar, Essex, from 10am to 4pm on Tuesday 27 March. Sessions have a time of introduction and then space for prayer and quiet on your own with activities to choose from, as you wish, in gorgeous surroundings. A cracking good lunch too. Cost £22.50. Details at [nationwidechristiantrust.com/events-and-training/retreat\\_days](http://nationwidechristiantrust.com/events-and-training/retreat_days)

## **BOUGHT, BORROWED, USED AND... LENT**

Lent is the time when we remember the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness, facing challenge and temptation. It is a time when we reflect on God's purpose for our life. David Attenborough has recently brought to everyone's attention the hideous damage being caused by our throwaway society to life in the oceans – where so much of our waste eventually ends up. Over 8.3 billion tonnes of plastic have been produced since the 1950s. That's enough plastic to cover every inch of the UK ankle-deep more than ten times over. Just 9% was recycled. The Anglican Communion's Fifth Mark of Mission is 'To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth'. One way to get involved this lent is to challenge ourselves to give up single-use plastics in order to reduce damage to God's Creation and give ocean creatures a better chance to renew themselves.

## **FAIRTRADE COMMUNION WINE**

As a fairtrade church, the communion wine we use is fairtrade. It is sourced from the Stellar Organic Fairtrade winery in South Africa which ensures real benefits to its 350 employees.