

**MITCHAM
PARISH CHURCH
St Peter & St Paul**



SUNDAY 18th JANUARY 2026

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

10.00am PARISH EUCHARIST

followed by BE WELL HUB discussion on “*Coping with change*”

6.30pm UNITY SERVICE

at the beginning of the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

led by the Salvation Army

at **St Barnabas' Church Gorringe Park Road**, Mitcham

TUESDAY 20th JANUARY

10.00am SAID EUCHARIST

followed by refreshments and ‘Open Church’ until 11.30am

12.15pm FUNERAL SERVICE FOR CHRISTINA BUTLER

WEDNESDAY 21st JANUARY

1.30pm JULIAN MEETING

come and join us for prayerful silence and meditation in church

SUNDAY 25th JANUARY 2026

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

10.00am PARISH EUCHARIST

TUESDAY 27th JANUARY

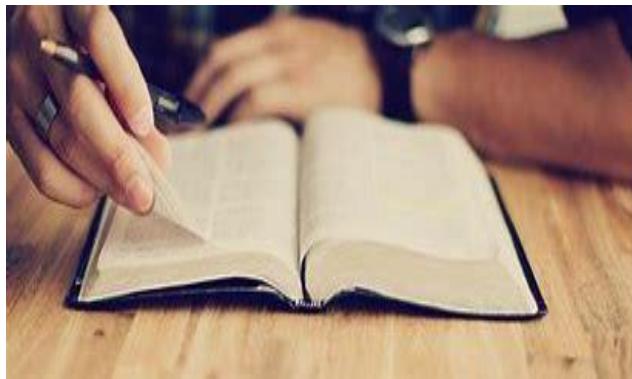
10.00am SAID EUCHARIST

followed by refreshments and ‘Open Church’ until 12noon

THURSDAY 29th JANUARY

1.30pm GAMES AFTERNOON

with the Mothers’ Union in the Parish Centre



SUNDAY'S READINGS

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

From Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, to the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind – just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you – so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

I Corinthians 1.1–9

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

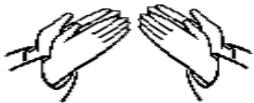
John the Baptist saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.'

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

John 1.29–42



FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Our prayer-partner Parish:

St Katherine's Church, Kingsdale
in Matabeleland, Zimbabwe.

For reconciliation and peace throughout the world

For those countries, world-wide, affected by violence, war, discrimination, prejudice or conflict, or by natural disaster.

For peacemakers, and all who work in the emergency services and relief agencies.

Those who are sick or in need:

Jesse Tomlinson, Liz Cope, Nellie Young, Alex Boorer, Samantha Davis, Gill Campbell, Elizabeth Ward, Karen Stockdale, Maryan Ahmed, John Considine, Mary Quinn, Lisa Morris, Shaghayegh Malekian, Jolliboy Coker, Elizabeth Cheshire, Mary Phillips, Sarah, Sukhi Kaur, Victor Attfield

**For all who mourn,
the unnamed who need our prayers,
and those in our Intercessions Book.**

The Departed:

- those who have recently died:

Anna Anbu, Lily Jackson, Evans Mwaura, Christina Butler, Obed Morah, Bridget Kelly, Tim Wright, Eddie Lee, Sally Lundie

Years' Mind:

We remember all those whose Year's Mind falls at this time.

Cyril Carpenter (20th); Margaret O'Sullivan (24th)

We give thanks for their lives, their love, and their example.

**℟ Rest eternal, grant them, O Lord;
and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

**Lord, in your mercy:
hear our prayer!**

COLLECT FOR THIS WEEK

Eternal Lord,
our beginning and our end:
bring us with the whole creation
to your glory,
hidden through past ages
and made known
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN

A PRAYER FOR OUR WORLD

**Be our light, God, for the New Year;
come, Holy Spirit!**

**Spirit of the risen Christ,
be with us today and always;
be our light, our guide,
and our comforter,
our strength, our courage,
and our sanctifier.**

**May this new year be a time
of deep spiritual growth for us all:
a time of welcoming your graces
and gifts,**

**a time for forgiving freely
and unconditionally,
a time for growing in virtue
and goodness.**

**Come, Holy Spirit,
be with us today and always.**

AMEN

The new copy of The Bridge is out.

It is now available in church.

You can read and download it from southwark.anglican.org/thebridge



**The Diocese of
Southwark**

Facebook: Mitcham Parish Church – St Peter & St Paul



Instagram: MitchamParishChurchSsPeterPaul



Threads: MitchamParishChurchSsPeterPaul



PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest

Rev'd Fr David Pennells
fatherdavid@btinternet.com

Tel: **020 8646 0666**

Assistant Priest

Rev'd Jackie Cockfield

Tel. **07722 568 604**

Churchwardens

Mary Coggins
Caroline Muller-Carpenter

Tel. **07860 450 754**

Tel. **07886 429 899**

Deputy Wardens

Carole Hornsby
Josie Dixie

Tel. **020 8648 9782**

Tel. **07745 124 462**

Safeguarding Officer

Jim Kirby

Tel. **07855 038 543**

The Parish Office

The Parish Centre, Church Path, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 3BN
Sara Taylor – Parish Administrator Tel. **020 8648 1566**
WhatsApp **07342 769 820** Email: mpcsspeterpaul@gmail.com



If you would like to make a donation to Mitcham Parish Church, this QR code will take you straight to our SumUp giving system.



FLOWERS IN CHURCH

The flowers we place in church (except during Advent & Lent) may be sponsored: in memory of a loved one, in thanksgiving, or for any other celebratory reason.



To sponsor the flowers
please speak to Lin Matthews –
Tel: **020 8646 3390**

We wish a very



to **Helena Vaglioni**
and to all whose birthday
is today or during this coming week!

Is your birthday coming up soon?

*Do let the Parish Office or
Clergy know, if you don't think
you are on our List!*

CHURCH STAFFING ROTA

If you are unable to do the dates given, please let Fr David know - AS SOON AS POSSIBLE on 020 8646 0666.

Thank you for being a team member & helping our church run so smoothly!

Sunday 18th January 2026 10.00am
THE SECOND SUNDAY after EPIPHANY

Welcomers	Barbara Jones Micheline Ravololonarisoa
Children Corner	Doris Maduforo
<i>I Cor 1:1-9</i>	Barbara Jones
<i>John 1:29-42</i>	Clergy
Intercessor	Mary Coggins
Euch. Asst.	Robert Willer
Refreshm'ts	Sandra Barry Diana Burrows

[No Counting]

Sunday 25th January 2026 10.00am
THE THIRD SUNDAY after EPIPHANY

Welcomers	Mercy Antwi Grace Morah
Children Corner	Chico Chamwaita
<i>I Cor 1:10-18</i>	Pam Donovan
<i>Matthew 4:12-23</i>	Clergy
Euch. Assts.	Ebele Belonwu
Refreshm'ts	Mavis Bennett Patricia Benjamin
<i>Counters</i>	David Coggins Kat Chandler

Sunday 1st February 10.00am
THE FEAST DAY of CANDLEMAS

Welcomers	Sam Lyons Alan Reece
Children Corner	Val Hylton
<i>Hebrews 2:14-18</i>	Mary Coggins
<i>Luke 2:22-40</i>	Clergy
Intercessor	Rachel Perera (set)
Euch. Asst.	Bamidele Afolabi
Refreshments	Grace Morah Esther Odum Doris Maduforo

[No Counting]

UNCLAIMED GRAND DRAW PRIZES



Do you know these people?
Prizes must be claimed in church by
(next) **SUNDAY 25th JANUARY**

WhatsApp 07342 769 820

Citizens' Be Well Hub

TALK & OPEN DISCUSSION on "Coping with change"

Sunday, 18 January 2026
after 10am Service
MITCHAM PARISH CHURCH

GAMES AFTERNOON
hosted by
Mitcham Mothers' Union

Thursday 29 January 2026
and on the last Thursday each month
from 1.30 – 3.30pm
in **Mitcham Parish Centre**
£1 per adult
(bring your favourite game)

“Concert by Candlelight”

Saturday 14th February 2026
@
7.30pm



Mitcham Parish Church
Church Road
Mitcham CR4 3BP

Gill Manly sings songs from the
worlds of Jazz, Blues,
Broadway, & Cinema
Special Guest star
NINA SIMONE'S DRUMMER
Paul Robinson



SPECIAL OFFER

Bookings:
Text/Phone: 07777
152058

Early Bird Offer
until 17th January 2026

£17.50

Thereafter full price
£20.00



Mitcham Arts Collective CIC productions

Fr David announces his retirement as Vicar at Mitcham Parish Church:

On the Feast of the Epiphany Father David, our Vicar, announced his retirement later this year - here is some of the text:

As you are all aware (and it hasn't been kept a secret), I turn 70 years of age in March – slap-bang in the middle of Lent, and there is a rule made by the Bishop in an 'Ad Clerum' – a formal letter from the Bishop to his clergy - which says that incumbents, such as myself here as Vicar of Mitcham - should prepare to stand down from being 'in charge' of a Parish at the age of 70 – to make room for a new person to come into the life of a Parish. And indeed, we have read in *The Bridge* recently that the Bishop of Southwark, Bishop Christopher Chessun, is leaving the diocese in August this year on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

Next month on Candlemas will mark my 11th year of ministry completed in the Parish in Mitcham, and with the advent of my 70th, I have been required to plan ahead, with the help of the Bishop and the Archdeacon, for my imminent retirement. As I was loathe to leave the Parish mid-way during Lent, I asked for permission to extend my time here through Eastertide into the summertime; and I am pleased to say that I shall be with you, as your Parish Priest, through to mid-July; beyond the major Festivals of our Lord - and even St Peter & St Paul's Day will be duly celebrated while I am with you!

I plan to step down soon afterwards, my final Sunday in the Parish being 19th July, and the Churchwardens are proposing a big BBQ Party to mark this transition on the previous Saturday 11th July.

To begin with, my partner Andrew and I will continue to stay in the Vicarage after I have retired, as we prepare for our next accommodation to be ready and available for us to move into. I shall not have a licence from the Bishop, however, so I will not be able to take Services (anywhere) beyond 19th July.

The PCC meets in a week's time (13th), where we shall start to discuss the hand-over and plans for the future of the Parish. The Archdeacon is planning to help out, taking Services and supporting the PCC, and other Clergy will also come in - alongside Rev'd Jackie - to ensure that the life of the Parish continues; however, a lot falls on the Churchwardens, PCC and YOUR continued support.

HOWEVER please be assured it is "*Services as Usual*" until mid-July - and I look forward to continuing to further God's plans for the Parish with you until then...

Father David



REGULAR CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER to mid-2026 at MITCHAM PARISH CHURCH, CHURCH ROAD CR4 3BP

The AFTERNOON MEETING is held at 1.30pm and will meet generally on the THIRD Wednesday each month - in church:

**21st JANUARY / THURSDAY 19th FEBRUARY / 18th MARCH / 15th APRIL /
20th MAY / 17th JUNE / 15th JULY**

The EVENING MEETING is held at 7.30pm and will meet generally on the FIRST Wednesday of each month - in church:

**7th JANUARY / 4th FEBRUARY / THURSDAY 5th MARCH / 8th APRIL /
6th MAY / 3rd JUNE / 1st JULY**

The Julian Meetings

- ⌘ are for people of all denominations – or none – who wish to join with others in contemplative, meditative prayer in the Christian tradition.
- ⌘ start with a brief reading and / or piece of music, which leads into about half-an-hour of still, totally silent, prayer. The time of prayer is gently brought to a close, with a closing prayer and is followed by fellowship, and a chance for conversation.



The Julian Meeting

- ⌘ fosters the teaching and practice of contemplative prayer & meditation in the Christian tradition
- ⌘ encourages people to practise contemplative prayer in their daily lives, and to explore ways of doing this which are appropriate for them as individuals
- ⌘ acknowledges the value of other ways of praying at other times, but a Julian Meeting has the one focus, and that is solely for contemplative, meditative prayer.