

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



**SUNDAY 18<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> JANUARY**

**10.00am SAID EUCHARIST**

*followed by refreshments and ‘Open Church’ until 11.30am*

**12.15pm FUNERAL SERVICE FOR CHRISTINA BUTLER**

**WEDNESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> JANUARY**

**1.30pm JULIAN MEETING**

*come and join us for prayerful silence and meditation in church*

**SUNDAY 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2026**

**THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

**10.00am PARISH EUCHARIST**

**TUESDAY 27<sup>th</sup> JANUARY**

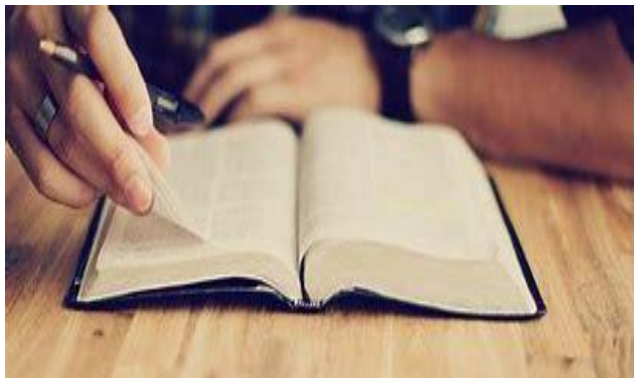
**10.00am SAID EUCHARIST**

*followed by refreshments and ‘Open Church’ until 12noon*

**THURSDAY 29<sup>th</sup> 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***

*1 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, Joliboy 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 (20<sup>th</sup>); Margaret O'Sullivan (24<sup>th</sup>)

*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](http://southwark.anglican.org/thebridge)



The Diocese of  
**Southwark**

**Facebook:** Mitcham Parish Church – St Peter & St Paul

**Instagram:** MitchamParishChurchSsPeterPaul

**Threads:** MitchamParishChurchSsPeterPaul



## PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

<b>Parish Priest</b>	Rev'd Fr David Pennells <a href="mailto:fatherdavid@btinternet.com">fatherdavid@btinternet.com</a>	Tel: <b>020 8646 0666</b>
<b>Assistant Priest</b>	Rev'd Jackie Cockfield	Tel. <b>07722 568 604</b>
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Mary Coggins Caroline Muller-Carpenter	Tel. <b>07860 450 754</b> Tel. <b>07886 429 899</b>
<b>Deputy Wardens</b>	Carole Hornsby Josie Dixie	Tel. <b>020 8648 9782</b> Tel. <b>07745 124 462</b>
<b>Safeguarding Officer</b>	Jim Kirby	Tel. <b>07855 038 543</b>
<b>The Parish Office</b>	The Parish Centre, Church Path, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 3BN Sara Taylor – Parish Administrator WhatsApp <b>07342 769 820</b> Email: <a href="mailto:mpcsspeterpaul@gmail.com">mpcsspeterpaul@gmail.com</a>	Tel. <b>020 8648 1566</b>



*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**

**HAPPY  
Birthday**

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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026 10.00am THE THIRD SUNDAY after EPIPHANY

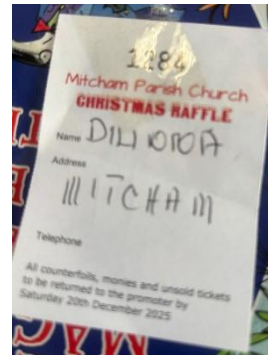
Welcomers	Mercy Antwi Grace Morah
Children Corner	Chico Chamwaita
<i>I Cor 1:10-18</i>	Pam Donovan
<i>Matthew 4:12-23</i>	Clergy
Euch. Assts.	Ebele Belonwu
Refreshm'ts	Mavis Bennett Patricia Benjamin
Counters	David Coggins Kat Chandler

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
£17.50  
Thereafter full price  
£20.00



Mitcham Arts Collectitve 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 70<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Next month on Candlemas will mark my 11<sup>th</sup> year of ministry completed in the Parish in Mitcham, and with the advent of my 70<sup>th</sup>, 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 19<sup>th</sup> July, and the Churchwardens are proposing a big BBQ Party to mark this transition on the previous Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> July.

The PCC meets in a week's time (13<sup>th</sup>), 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:

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

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

**7<sup>th</sup> JANUARY / 4<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY / THURSDAY 5<sup>th</sup> MARCH / 8<sup>th</sup> APRIL /  
6<sup>th</sup> MAY / 3<sup>rd</sup> JUNE / 1<sup>st</sup> 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.*