

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



**SUNDAY 11th JANUARY 2026
THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST
10.00am FESTIVAL EUCHARIST**

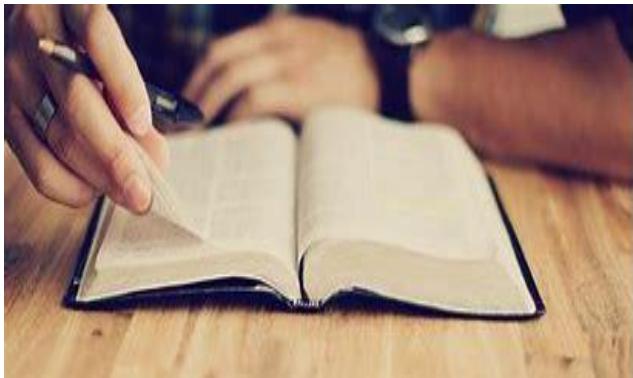


**TUESDAY 13th JANUARY
10.00am SAID EUCHARIST**
followed by refreshments and 'Open Church' until 12noon
7.30pm Parochial Church Council meets in church

**SUNDAY 18th JANUARY 2026
THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
10.00am PARISH EUCHARIST**
followed by BE WELL HUB discussion on "Coping with change"

**TUESDAY 20th JANUARY
10.00am SAID EUCHARIST**
followed by refreshments and 'Open Church' until 12noon

**WEDNESDAY 21st JANUARY
1.30pm JULIAN MEETING**
come and join us for prayerful silence and meditation in church



SUNDAY'S READINGS

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Isaiah 42.1–9

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Matthew 3.13–17



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:

Liz Cope, Nellie Young, Alex Boorer, Samantha Davis, Gill Campbell, Elizabeth Ward, Karen Stockdale, Maryan Ahmed, John Considine, Mary Quinn, Shaghayegh Malekian, Lisa Morris, 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:

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

Years' Mind:

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

Michael Law (11th), Mo Banks (12th)

William Kingston (14th), Philip Dixie (17th)

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

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

A PRAYER FOR OUR WORLD

Lord, you make all things new.
You bring hope alive in our hearts
and cause our Spirits
to be born again.
Thank you for this new year,
for all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us
a mighty flame,
so that in our time,
many will see the wonders of God,
and live forever to praise
your glorious name.

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.

This week's flowers at the Altar are sponsored by Caroline Muller-Carpenter in loving memory of her parents, FREDERICK & OLIVE MULLER



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

We wish a very



to all whose birthday is today or during this coming week!

(and apologies for missing Mary Keene from last week's list!)

**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 11th January 2026 10.00am

THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST

Welcomers	Sam Lyons Alan Reece
Children Corner	Diana Burrows
<i>Isaiah 42:1-9</i>	Sandra Barry
<i>Matthew 3:13-17</i>	Clergy
Intercessor	Josie Dixie
Euch. Asst.	Lin Matthews
Refreshments	Grace Morah Esther Odum Doris Maduforo
Counters	Lin Matthews Kat Chandler

Sunday 18th January 2026 10.00am

THE SECOND SUNDAY after EPIPHANY

Welcomers	Barbara Jones Micheline Ravolololonarisoa
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
Counters	David Coggins Kat Chandler

BIG THANKS

Are due to so many people who made such efforts to make Christmas a really happy time for so many people, both within Church and in our local / parish Community.

To the Churchwardens & Deputies, the Welcomers, Organist, Choir, Bellringers, Catering Team, Flower Arrangers, Servers, and many others...

..and to the Volunteers at the Vestry Hall Lunch on Christmas Day, which brought joy and light to nearly 90 people who would otherwise have been alone:

THANK YOU!



Lay Ministry Taster Day

Saturday 31st January

10-2pm @ Trinity House (SE1 1HW)

Come and find out more about the different types of ministries including Pastoral, Reader, Pioneer, Church Army and Children and Young People.

With guest speaker Adjoa Andoh MBE — actor, writer, director, and Licensed Reader (Parish of Herne Hill).

For more information and to book your place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org

“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

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:

last Sunday morning 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.*