

Worship this Month in our churches:

Date:	Services at St Paul's, Tadley – RG26 3PB
Sun 1 st	9am Holy Communion (Steve and Simon) 10am Church on the Green Café Worship (Steve)
Sun 8 th	10am Messy Valentines (Steve & the Messy Church Team)
Sun 15 th	9am Holy Communion in the Side Chapel (Rob) 10am Morning Worship (Rob)
Sun 22 nd	9am LEGO Church (Steve and the LEGO Church Team) 10am Church on the Green All Age Communion (Steve and Sally)

Date:	Services at St Luke's, Pamber Heath – RG26 3DX
Wed 4 th	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Cathy)
Sun 8 th	5pm Benefice Evening Community (Cathy)
Wed 11 th	10am Midweek Morning Prayer (Myles)
Sun 15 th	11am Holy Communion (Cathy and Linda)
Wed 18 th	10am Ash Wednesday Holy Communion (Cathy and Linda)
Wed 25 th	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Cathy and Linda)

Date:	Services at St. Marys, Tadley – RG26 4HQ
Sun 1 st	10.30am Morning Worship – Presentation of Christ (Chris and Lay Team)
Wed 4 th	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Steve and Charles)
Sun 8 th	10.30am Holy Communion (Cathy)
Wed 11 th	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Steve and Charles)
Sun 15 th	9am RISE (Chris and the RISE Team) 10.30am Holy Communion (Karen)
Wed 18 th	10am Ash Wednesday Holy Communion (Chris)
Sun 22 nd	10.30am Morning Worship (TBC)
Wed 25 th	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Steve and Charles)

Date:	Services at St Mary the Virgin, Silchester – RG7 2HH
Sun 1 st	8am BCP Holy Communion (Karen) 10am Holy Communion for All – Intergenerational Service (Karen)
Sun 8 th	10am Holy Communion (Karen)
Sun 15 th	10am Morning Worship (Colin)
Wed 18 th	7pm Benefice Ash Wednesday Holy Communion service in Silchester Pavilion (Karen)
Sun 22 nd	10am Holy Communion (Karen)

Please keep this sheet for reference and check for updates via email.

Like our Facebook pages: **@St.Marys.Tadley** | **@stpaulstadley** | **@silchesterchurch** or go to our websites:

<https://st-marys-church-tadley.org.uk/>

<https://www.stpaulstadley.org.uk/>

<https://www.silchesterchurch.co.uk/>



February Newsletter

Our Clergy, LLMs and Administrator

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It doesn't seem long ago that Christmas cards were in the shops, these have now been replaced by Valentine's cards. This commercial marking of the day seems far removed from St Valentine, a Christian saint who was imprisoned, beheaded and buried on 14 February 269 AD. He helped persecuted Christians and married Christian couples. While in prison he prayed for his jailer's daughter and her blindness was healed. On the day of his execution, he left her a note signed, 'Your Valentine.'

We have a special Valentine's Party at St Mary's on 13th February and you are all invited! More details inside this newsletter.

Lent, the 40-day Christian period of prayer, fasting, and repentance leading to Easter, begins on Ash Wednesday. As well as our usual Wednesday services, there is a special benefice Ash Wednesday service. Lent doesn't have to be exhausting but it must be intentional. Too often we vow to give up something trivial and our lives become miserable without things like chocolate and wine, and we see little spiritual growth. Then at the end of it we pat ourselves on the back for being miserable or berate ourselves for only lasting a week and it's got us nowhere!

I commend to you this year the practice of taking something on, rather than giving something up! Read a chapter of your bible each day. Resolve to read a good Christian book by Easter. Join a home group or invite someone in need round each week. Volunteer for one of our church rotas – we always need readers, intercessors, cleaners, servers, musicians, gardeners. Visit those in need or try to pray every morning and evening for someone you know. I guarantee the practice of sacrificing some time in order to grow your faith will bring you closer to Christ than any amount of chocolate you give up!

New Alpha Course

As a benefice we are running an Alpha course which is open to everyone, whether you've been coming to church for years or don't come to church at all. I'm sure everyone of us at some point has asked questions like 'Why did that happen?' or 'What's the meaning of it all?' We can't promise all the answers, but Alpha is a great opportunity to revisit some of the basics of our faith in a supportive environment. Do let one of the clergy team know if you would like to come along.

February 2026...

Sunday 1st – First Sunday. We will be celebrating Candlemass in our first Sunday services. Café Worship takes place as usual at St Paul's. Join us from 9.45am for breakfast followed by the service at 10.15am. Meanwhile at Silchester as well as the 8am BCP communion service, there is a new intergenerational service of Holy Communion for everyone at 10am.

Monday 2nd at 7.30pm – Alpha Introductory Session at St Paul's Tadley. Alpha is a safe place to ask questions about life, about church, about Jesus. Come to this introductory session to see if Alpha is for you. Welcome – all faiths and none!

Alpha will run at St Paul's, starting at 7.30pm, on the following Wednesdays: 11th February, 25th February, 4th March, 11th March, 18th March, 25th March, 1st April.

Wednesday 4th at 7.15pm – Tadley PCC meets in St Paul's Hall.

Friday 6th from 6.30pm to 8pm – Youth Group meets in St Mary's Hall. Join us for pizza, snacks, chat, games & films. Everyone in school years 5 – 13 is welcome.

Sunday 8th from 10am – Messy Church at St Paul's. As always there will be crafts, stories, and lots of breakfast. Our theme this month is love. Most months around 150 people gather to have messy fun, so why not come along and see for yourself?

Sunday 8th at 5pm – Evening Community. This month at St Luke's Pamber Heath.

Monday 9th from 10.30am to midday – St Paul's Morning Get-Together.

Everyone is welcome to this get-together so why not bring a friend or neighbour along for fellowship, food, and friendship? If you would like to help with the event please speak to Esther Redpath or Revd Steve.

Wednesday 11th at 7.30pm – the first Alpha session at St. Paul's. Open to all.

Friday 13th from 7.15pm – Rave in the Nave. Carbon Copy return to St Mary's for their final farewell gig and what better time than Valentine's Day eve!

Tickets are £8, a cheap date night! Good music and snacks provided, bring your own drinks. Tickets available from – Chris: 01189 813242 or Peter: 01189 812538

Sunday 15th from 9am – RISE family breakfast at St Mary's. Come with your family and enjoy a cooked breakfast, crafts, challenges, and stories as we gather for RISE.

Wednesday 18th – Ash Wednesday services. As we mark the start of the Lent season there are the usual opportunities for the imposition of ashes at our services of Holy Communion at St Mary's and St Luke's at 10am and at the Ash Wednesday benefice service being held at 7pm in Silchester Pavilion. Everyone is welcome to any of these services.

Friday 20th from 8am to 10am – St Mary's Breakfast. Join us for a cooked or cold breakfast, & lots of chat! This month we're supporting St Michael's Hospice.

Sunday 22nd from 9am to 10am – Lego Church at St Paul's. For kids (and big kids) of all ages. Come along and enjoy breakfast and building! Every brick tells the story of God's creativity. Families are welcome to stay for our 10am service.

Monday 23rd from 10.30am to midday – St Paul's Morning Get-together. The second of our Get-togethers this month. Everyone is welcome.

Wednesday 25th at 7.30pm – the 2nd Alpha session at St Paul's. Open to all.

Thursday 26th at 2pm – Let's Pray! meets at St Mary's, Tadley. A chance to pray together for our world, our community, our family, and our friends.

Saturday 28th at midday– Pub lunch in the Pelican, Pamber Heath. Everyone welcome.

St Paul's is 60! We're planning some great events to celebrate St Paul's Diamond anniversary and you can help! Do you have memories or photos of St Paul's from over the years that you can share with us? Maybe a wedding, baptism, service or event, or perhaps a photo of you in 1966 if you are old enough? If not, maybe a baby photo of you in 1976, 1986 or 1996 and we can play a fantastic game of guess the baby! We'd love to make a display of these for our 'Big O' party which is happening on 7th March when we'll be serving a delicious cream tea.

There's no charge for coming but please let us know if you'll be there so we can make sure we have enough scones and cream! Booking can be done either through the link below or on one of the sign-up sheets at the back of church.

<https://tickets.myknowchurch.co.uk/gb/MzA3MS00/t>

Please send anything to display to Steve – either by email or as photos with a name on the back, so we can return them.

Regular events every week and Home Groups

Mondays	Christian Meditation Group in Silchester St Paul's Morning get together (9 th and 23 rd February)
Tuesdays	St Paul's Gardeners meet but taking a break until spring Prayer Group meets at St Paul's, Tadley
Wednesdays	Worship at either St Luke's or St Mary's, Tadley at 10am St Mary's café is open from 8.30am The Wednesday Weeders meet outside St Mary's from 10am Living Word the online homegroup meets
Thursdays	St Luke's Coffee Morning from 10am Let's Pray! monthly prayer group (next date 26 th February) Home Group meets at 7.30pm in Tadley
Fridays	Breakfast at St Mary's (next date 20 th February) Oaks and Acorns meets at 10am in St Luke's Tadley Men's Shed meets at St Mary's Home Group meets at 4pm in Pamber Heath