

THE GRAPEVINE

JULY/AUGUST 2025

Issue - 77



ST PAUL'S CHICHESTER

SANCTUARY HOSPITALITY SPIRITUAL ENCOUNTER

WWW.STPAULSCHICHESTER.ORG



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SANCTUARY HOSPITALITY SPIRITUAL ENCOUNTER

CONTACT INFORMATION

St Pauls Church

Churchside

CHICHESTER

PO19 6FT

Office open: Mon-Fri 9.30am-12.30pm

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01243 306043

rector@stpaulschichester.org

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07934 667 804

safeguarding@stpaulschichester.org

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Chris Griffiths

01243 533403

caretaker@stpaulschichester.org

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Christopher Larley

07815 801 054

chris@stpaulschichester.org

Schools and Families Worker

Zena Matthews

07749 419475

families@stpaulschichester.org

Churchwardens

Jeannie Taylor and David Foster

jeannietaylor@stpaulschichester.org

davidfoster@stpaulschichester.org

Pastoral Care Helpline 07843 719594

We aim to respond to requests for help within 48hrs.

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE GRAPEVINE

(Note: There will be no new Grapevine in August.)

The deadline for September Grapevine is 2pm Tuesday 26th August.

Copy can be submitted by email to office@stpaulschichester.org or as hardcopy to the office. The September edition will be available from Sunday 31st August. The October issue which will be published on Sunday 28th September.

THE RECTOR'S LETTER:

"Just as I am"

Dear Friends,

July and August are often favourite times of year for many of us – once the schools break up many families manage to get away, and for sports fans there is plenty to keep you entertained (at the time of writing England have just beaten India in the first test at Headingley). The summer months are a time of rest and relaxation for many of us. And in amongst the long summer days, I think there is also an opportunity to wonder about God and to reflect on how we know his presence with us. That can be especially important when we live in what seems to politically volatile times at the moment. And wherever we stand on the ethical and social questions, both recently discussed by parliament, on abortion and assisted dying for example, there are the inevitable questions on how we encounter God in such things.

I'm very fond of Charlotte Elliott's hymn; "Just as I am," and over the years I have often thought about its words and how when I'm singing them, I have noticed a sense that God is present in that moment.

For some of us God's presence can be felt in our homes or perhaps when we are walking in the countryside or along the seashore. For others the stillness or quietness of a Church building is the only place where they can contemplate God. Yet so often we find ourselves unprepared. The daily rush of life so often getting in the way so that once we do find time to consider God, we find that we can't always concentrate. The distractions that make our mind wander can leave us feeling that God is absent, a consequence perhaps of what the Spiritual Writer Henri Nouwen called, "our Wordy World." Yet I wonder if that is always a bad thing. Are we unprepared, or can that sense of being unprepared actually prepare us to receive and encounter Jesus in a unique way? Encountering him just as we are?

I am always surprised that it is often not *how* I prepare; but that through prayer, or silence, God himself is prepared to come and meet with me, and to allow me to encounter his love.

For many Christians, and it's the same for me, there is often a closeness to God in the Eucharist. During the eucharistic prayer the bread is taken, blessed, broken and then shared. Over time I have learnt to allow God to do the same with me, to take me in his hands, to reveal to me my blessings and sometimes my brokenness and to share with him honestly my doubts or fears as he comes to meet me in broken bread and poured out wine.

Of course, it doesn't need to be at service in church that we can experience God in that way. It doesn't even need to be in moments of silence, or rest. But so often it is when we take a moment just to consider or indeed expect that God might be present, that we meet him just as we are and he reveals to us both our blessings and our brokenness, restoring and healing us through that encounter of love.

Whether you feel that you are ever prepared to discover God or not, perhaps during these summer months simply wonder how God might come and meet with you.

*Just as I am, without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.*

With every blessing

Canon Paul

WALKER

In order that people with smaller cars are able to offer lifts to church for those with walking difficulties, various people have suggested that it would be very useful if the church had a Walker available. The new four wheeled Walker is kept in the lobby area of the toilets and is available for anyone to use.

David

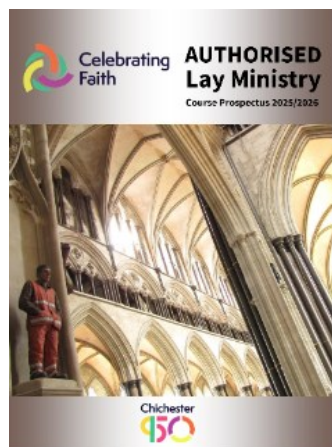
AUTHORISED LAY MINISTRY (ALM's)

In recent years the Church of England has been exploring ways to encourage members of their congregations to serve the church in public ministry. In this Diocese there are a series of courses designed to help people who want to serve in particular ways. The Authorised Lay Ministry Courses are for people who want to specialise in areas such as Pastoral Care, Preaching, Chaplaincy, or Care for the Creation/Eco church. The link below takes you to the page on the Diocesan website which contains the latest brochure which shows what courses are available, the application form and an explanation of what the training involves.

<https://www.chichester.anglican.org/authorised-lay-ministry>

If you are interested, please do speak to me. Applications go with a reference from the Rector and the backing of the PCC so chatting it through is important. Courses are held across the Diocese but If you are interested in pastoral care the course starting in January and will be held at St Paul's!

Canon Paul



SAFEGUARDING

Our commitment to safeguarding remains resolute and with Martin Tomlinson stepping down after many years dedicated service, the replacement is Mark Holl. This change is with immediate effect.

Mark can be contacted on 07934 667804
email: safeguarding@stpaulschichester.org



TUESDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP GROUP

This group meets at the home of Ian and Valerie Creswick. New members are always welcome. We meet for coffee from 7.45 pm onwards, and start our study at approx 8 pm aiming to finish by 9.30 pm.

This term we are looking at ***The Risen Christ's Final Words on Earth***. After his resurrection, Jesus interacted with many of his followers in different settings to encourage and challenge them, and give them (and us) final instructions.

There is just one session left this term, but you would still be welcome to come along as a taster to see if you would like to join us in earnest next term.

Tel: 780248 or email creswick13@tiscali.co.uk for more information or if requiring transport.

LADIES' GROUP

St Paul's Ladies' Group usually meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 2.30pm in the Parish Centre. Everyone is welcome at all of our meetings, including men. Here is our programme for July/August:

9th July Our last meeting before the summer break will be Afternoon Tea provided by Margaret Phillips and Phyllis Nichols. There will be a raffle at this meeting.

Don't forget your donations for Foodbank. Thank you for all you give.

F3A

F3A meets on the third Tuesday of the month (15th July) at 2pm in the Parish Centre. This month our topic for discussion will be ***"Sharing our experiences of praying - are we more like nagging widows or conceited tax collectors?"*** Everyone over 60 will be very welcome to join us for tea and a time to share our thoughts and feelings.

Mary Ashwin 786501

MOTHERS' UNION

Mothers' Union meets on Thursday 17th July at 11am after the 10am Eucharist at St Paul's Church. Sue Hyland will lead a quiet reflection **Refilling the Jar**. All are welcome.

There will not be a meeting in August; our usual monthly meetings recommence on Thursday 18th September.

Heather Hyde 07949799415

AFTERNOON TEA 6TH JULY, 3RD AUGUST AND EVERY FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH.

We will be very pleased to see you at St Michael's Hall to enjoy afternoon tea between 3pm-5pm, ending with Evening Prayer. No pre-booking or cost involved, just friendly company and plenty of tea and cake. For further information contact Margaret Phillips or Phyllis Nicholls.

ST MICHAEL'S HALL GARDEN

We are looking for volunteers to help maintain the garden at St. Michael's hall on an ad hoc basis.

Primarily cutting of the grass, and occasionally tidying the flower beds.

You will need to bring your own lawnmower, tools etc but a green wheelie bin is there for disposal of garden waste, so no need to take anything home with you.

Chris Griffiths, caretaker.

PARISH BARBECUE

We were blessed with glorious weather for our barbecue. So many people helped in many ways that it would take a much larger space to include all of the names. Please take this as a huge thank you to all of you who helped and for all who attended to make it such a good event. You will be pleased to know that we have also raised £550 towards helping our Mission Partners.

Chris Merrien

DIARY

All events at St Paul's unless stated otherwise

MORNING PRAYER - WEEKDAYS AT 9AM

Su 29 Jun	Ss Peter & Paul	Acts 12.1-11; Ps 125; Matthew 16.13-19
	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Sung Eucharist with St Peter's Westhampnett: with Junior Church and crèche followed by refreshments
	12.30pm	Baptism
M 30 Jun		
Tu 1 Jul	10am	Praying for St Paul's Renewed
W 2 Jul		
Th 3 Jul	10am	Eucharist followed by refreshments
	6pm	Choir Practice (Children's Choir)
	7.15pm	Choir Practice (Full Choir)
F 4 Jul	4.30pm	Ignite
Sa 5 Jul	7.30pm	Chichester Symphony Orchestra concert
Su 6 Jul	Trinity 3	Galatians 6.7-16; Ps 66.1-8; Luke 10.1-11, 16-20
	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Parish Eucharist with Junior Church and crèche followed by refreshments
	3pm	Afternoon Tea party at St Michael's Hall, concluding with Evening Prayer
	7pm	Concert: Voices of Greece: Rebetika Serenata
M 7 Jul		
Tu 8 Jul	10am	Praying for St Paul's Renewed
	8pm	Fellowship Group at the home of Valerie and Ian Creswick
W 9 Jul	2.30pm	Ladies' Group
Th 10 Jul	10am	Eucharist followed by refreshments
	6pm	Choir Practice (Children's Choir)
	7.15pm	Choir Practice (Full Choir)
F 11 Jul	4.30pm	Ignite
	7pm	Concert by Ensemble Reza—see advert on page 15
Sa 12 Jul	7.30pm	Chichester City Band Concert

Su 13 Jul Trinity 4 Colossians 1.1-14; Psalm 25.1-10; Luke 10.25-37

8am Holy Communion
10am Parish Eucharist with Junior Church and crèche
followed by refreshments

M 14 Jul

Tu 15 Jul 10am Praying for St Paul's Renewed
2pm f3a

W 16 Jul

Th 17 Jul 10am Eucharist followed by refreshments
11am Mothers' Union
6pm Choir End of Term Social

Fr 18 Jul 4.30pm Ignite

Sa 19 Jul

Su 20 Jul Trinity 5 Colossians 1.15-28; Psalm 15; Luke 10.38-42

8am Holy Communion
10am Parish Eucharist with Junior Church and crèche
followed by refreshments
12.15pm Baptism

M 21 Jul 2.30pm Chess Group

Tu 22 Jul 10am Praying for St Paul's Renewed

W 23 Jul

Th 24 Jul 10am Eucharist followed by refreshments

F 25 Jul

Sa 26 Jul

Su 27 Jul Trinity 6 Colossians 2.6-15; Psalm 138; Luke 11.1-13

8am Holy Communion
10am Parish Eucharist with Junior Church and crèche
followed by refreshments
12.15pm Baptism

VOICES OF GREECE: REBETIKI SERENATA

Join Pavlos Carvalho and Greek band Plastikes Karekles
for a night of traditional Rebetiko Music.

Music by Vamvakaris, Tsitsanis, Mitsakis and more



Sunday 6th July 2025 - 7.00pm

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH CHICHESTER PO19 6FT

Tickets: Adults £15, under 18s / students £8, children under 5 yrs free
at the Novium Box Office and on the door.

The Novium, Tower Street, Chichester PO19 1QH

Tel: 01243 816525 Website: www.thenovium.org/boxoffice

email: boxoffice@chichester.gov.uk



ST BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL WILLIAM CAWLEY'S ALMSHOUSES

BROYLE ROAD, CHICHESTER

400TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL WEEKEND
23RD TO 24TH AUGUST 2025

CHAPEL OPEN

Saturday 23rd 10.00am to Noon and 3.30pm to 5.00pm
Sunday 24th 2.00pm to 6.00pm

Sung Matins

Prayer Book Society

11.00 am

Saturday 23 August

William Cawley Chapel

Sung Evensong

with St Paul's choir

4.00 pm

Sunday 24 August

William Cawley Chapel



Talk

**The Cawleys of
Chichester**

Dr James McInnes

2.30 pm

Saturday 23 August

St Paul's Parish Centre

Followed by

Book Launch

**William Cawley's
Alms Houses**

By Alan Green

Saturday 23 August

St Paul's Parish Centre



Summer Festival 2025



**CHICHESTER SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA**

TRAVEL TO AMERICA

BOOK NOW!

5TH OF JULY

Bernstein: Candide Overture

Delius: Florida Suite

**Dvorak: Symphony No. 9
(New World)**



St. Paul's, Chichester
P019 6FT
7:30pm



ST PETER'S
CHURCH
WESTHAMPNETT

SUMMER FÊTE

IN AID OF REORDERING PROJECT

SATURDAY 2ND AUGUST

THE CHURCH PADDOCK
STANE STREET
WESTHAMPNETT
PO18 0NT

11AM - 3PM

IF WEATHER WET,
WESTHAMPNETT COMMUNITY
HALL, PO18 0PF

FREE ENTRY

ST PETER'S CHURCH



WESTHAMPNETT

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SUMMER CONCERT

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* MENDELSSOHN *
OCTET

DVOŘÁK
SERENADE
FOR STRINGS

FRIDAY JULY 11TH, 7PM. ST PAUL'S, CHICHESTER
TICKETS AVAILABLE : BOX OFFICE 01243 816525 / ONLINE
FESTIVALOFCHICHESTER.CO.UK
ENSEMBLE REZA - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1158708





HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR 'BERLIN' WEEKEND - MAY 2025

