

THE PARISH OF SAINT PAUL

DEPTFORD



'anglo-catholic, inclusive, committed to prayer & justice.'

<http://www.achurchnearyou.com/deptford-st-paul>

The Rector & Parish Priest: Fr Paul Butler

tel: 0208 6927449 email: stpaulsdeptford@btinternet.com

Welcome to S. Paul's today in church or on Zoom.

Please follow the directions of the Churchwardens & Welcomers.



Please turn off mobile phones.

No form of visual or sound recording, or any form of photography is permitted during or after the services, without express permission. Thank you for your co-operation.

WCs (& baby changing facilities) downstairs in the crypt.

Do not attend if you have Covid, symptoms, or a cold.

Please let a Welcomer know if you require a **Gluten Free Host**.

'Love one another as I have loved you', says the Lord.



Churchwardens: Ms Lavern Ford & Mr Andrew Taylor
Organist: Mr Ian Bhullar



ADVENT SUNDAY Year A
30th NOVEMBER 2025

THE PARISH MASS
SUNG
10.30am

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector

Mass of St Thomas by David Thorne

Hymns in NEH (green book)

Please join in with the Bold Type

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

The first movement of worship is to leave our homes and come to church. This is an act of faith because we come to church to meet Christ. The experience of worship is enhanced by being in church early. This provides a time of transition to free our minds from the distractions of the world and, as Psalm 46 says, "Be still, and know that I am God." We pray that God will reveal himself to you in a new way today.

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Stand

Entrance Antiphon

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted;
let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me;
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

Psalm 25: 1-3

Let us go forth in peace, in the name of Christ. Amen.

The Processional Hymn: 16

Wake, O wake with tidings thrilling (Tune: Wachet Auf)

The Greeting

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

The Introduction to the Mass

The celebrant welcomes the people and introduces the Mass.

The Blessing of the Advent Wreath

Dear friends in Christ, today we begin the season of Advent. We open our hearts to God's love as we prepare to welcome Christ into our lives and our homes.

The candles on our Advent wreath will remind us that Jesus Christ came to conquer the darkness of sin and to lead us into the light of his glorious kingdom.

The celebrant stretches out their hand towards the wreath.

Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ;
he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples;
he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us;
he is the Saviour of every nation.
Lord God, let your blessing come upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath.
May the wreath and its light
be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.
May he come quickly and not delay.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The wreath is sprinkled with holy water & then censed.

The first candle on the wreath is lit by a member of the congregation.

Prayers of Penitence

Sisters and brothers, to prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us call to mind and confess our sins.

The Confiteor

I confess to almighty God,
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do;

(And, striking their breast, they say)

through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;

(Then they continue)

therefore I ask blessed Mary, ever virgin,
all the angels and saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord, our God. Amen.

The celebrant pronounces the Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Kyrie Eleison

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Collect

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sit for the readings

First Reading from the Old Testament

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (2: 1-5)

¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
² In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³ Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴ He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵ O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 122

R. / I was glad when they said to me,
'Let us go to God's house'.

¹ I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

² Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. R. /

³ Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;
⁴ To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the LORD.

⁵ For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David. R. /

⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

"May they prosper who love you.

⁷ Peace be within your walls
and quietness within your towers. R. /

⁸ For my family and companions' sake,
I pray for your prosperity.

⁹ Because of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek to do you good." R. /

Second Reading from the New Testament

A reading from the Letter of S. Paul to the Romans (13: 11-14)

¹¹ Brothers and sisters, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; ¹³ let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand & turn to face the Gospel

Gospel Acclamation and Reading

♫ **Alleluia!** Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God. *cf. Isaiah 40: 3 & S. Luke 3:6* **Alleluia!** ♫

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

✠ A reading from the ✠ Holy Gospel according to ✠ **Matthew (24: 36-44)**
Glorify to you, O Lord.

Jesus spoke to his disciples: ³⁶ 'About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Homily

Stand

Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (Genuflect) was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made human. (Rise) For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, ✠ and the life of the age to come. Amen.

Remain standing

Prayers of Intercession

Celebrant

Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our Maker and Redeemer, let us pray to the Lord: saying, **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor 1

That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

Intercessor 2

That God may establish among the nations his sceptre of righteousness, (Celebrant: We especially remember the peoples of ...) let us pray to the Lord:

Intercessor 3

That we may seek Christ in the Scriptures and recognize him in the breaking of the bread, let us pray to the Lord:

Intercessor 4

That God may bind up the brokenhearted, restore the sick and raise up all who have fallen,

(Celebrant: We pray especially for ...)

let us pray to the Lord

Intercessor 5

That the light of God's coming may dawn on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death. let us pray to the Lord:

Celebrant

We pray for the recently departed, especially...

(Celebrant adds the names...)

and those whose anniversaries fall at this time especially...

(Celebrant adds the names...)

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord,

and let light perpetual shine upon them.

✠ May they rest in peace **and rise in glory.**

The celebrant invites us to offer our personal intentions, and then leads us in asking for the Prayers of our Lady & the Saints.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the BVM we pray: **Hail Mary...**

S. Peter, Prince of the Apostles, **Pray for us.**

S. Paul the Apostle, our Patron

S. Joseph of Nazareth, **S. Augustine** & **S. Monica**,

S. Benedict & **S. Scholastica**, **S. Francis** & **S. Clare** of Assisi,

S. Andrew the Apostle, **S. Charles** de Foucauld, **S. Francis** Xavier,

S. Barbara, **S. John** of Damascus, **S. Nicholas**

All you angels and saints

Merciful God

accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Remain standing

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Altar is prepared

The Offertory Hymn: 21

A great and mighty wonder (Tune: Es ist ein Ros entsprungen)

Remain standing

Orate Fratres

Pray my sisters and brothers, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make, gathered from among your gifts to us, and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below gain for us the prize of eternal redemption. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Here follows **the Preface** in which the celebrant praises God for his mighty acts, and all respond:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

✠ **Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

The celebrant recalls the Last Supper, and this acclamation is used:

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

The Prayer continues and leads into the doxology, to which all respond boldly:

AMEN.

¶ THE COMMUNION RITE

Remain standing

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray for the coming of the Kingdom
in the words our Saviour taught us.

**Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.**

The celebrant adds:

*Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day.
In your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all distress
as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.*

**For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Peace

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you.
Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church,
and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom
where you live for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*We share the peace with those immediately around us,
a sign that expresses peace, communion, and love.*

Agnus Dei

*during which the celebrant takes the host and breaks it over the paten,
placing a small piece in the chalice.*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Communion Antiphon

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Psalms 85: 12

Please follow the directions of the sidespeople.

The Body / Blood of Christ.

The communicant replies

Amen.

and then receives.

* At home, make an Act of Spiritual Communion *

*As you imagine yourself receiving the Bread of Heaven, be still and rest in the
love of God. Thank Him for entering beneath the roof of your soul.*

O Sacred Feast! Wherein Christ is received,
his Passion is remembered, our souls are filled with grace
and the pledge of eternal glory is received.

O Sacrum Convivium, 13th century (attributed to S. Thomas Aquinas)

After receiving Holy Communion read & pray quietly in thanksgiving.

THE JESUS PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

THE TRISAGION (Thrice Holy)

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, Have mercy on us. (x3)

The Communion Hymn: 3

Come thou long expected Jesus (Tune: Cross of Jesus)

Prayer of abandonment of S. Charles de Foucauld (1858-1916)

'The Universal Brother'



Father, I abandon myself into your hands;
do with me what you will.
Whatever you may do, I thank you:
I am ready for all, I accept all.
Let only your will be done in me,
and in all your creatures –
I wish no more than this, O Lord.
Into your hands I commend my soul:
I offer it to you with all the love of my heart,
for I love you, Lord, and so need to give myself,
to surrender myself into your hands without
reserve, and with boundless confidence,
for you are my Father.

Alma Redemptoris Mater

*The Marian Antiphon sung from the first Sunday of Advent until the Feast
of the Purification on February 2 (the original ending of the Christmas
season), this prayer tells of Gabriel's announcement, and of Mary's divine
motherhood. The text is credited to Herimann the lame (aka Hermanus
Contractus), a monk of Reichenau (1013-1054), and he is sometimes also
credited with the chant melody.*

Alma Redemptoris Mater,
quae pervia caeli porta manes et stella maris,
succurre cadenti, surgere qui curat, populo:
tu quae genuisti, natura mirante, tuum sanctum genitorem,
Virgo prius, ac posterius,
Gabrielis ab ore sumens illud ave,
peccatorum miserere.

English translation.

Loving mother of the Redeemer,
gate of heaven, star of the sea,
assist your people who have fallen yet strive to rise again.
To the wonderment of nature you bore your Creator,
yet remained a virgin after as before,
you who received Gabriel's joyful greeting,
have pity on us poor sinners.

¶ THE CONCLUDING RITE

Stand

Postcommunion Prayer

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



¶ NOTICES & ANY BANNES OF MARRIAGE.

Acclamation

With love and compassion, **come, Lord Jesus.**
With judgement and mercy, **come, Lord Jesus.**
In power and glory, **come, Lord Jesus.**
In wisdom and truth, **come, Lord Jesus.**

The Dismissal Gospel

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

A ✠ reading from the ✠ Holy Gospel according to ✠ Matthew (4: 12-17)
Glorify to you, O Lord.

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵ "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." ¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

The Solemn Blessing

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us bow our heads and pray for God's blessing.

May the almighty and merciful God,
by whose grace you have placed your faith
in the First Coming of his only Begotten Son
and yearn for his coming again,
sanctify you by the radiance of Christ's Advent
and enrich you with his blessing. **Amen.**

As you run the race of this present life,
may he make you firm in faith,
joyful in hope and active in love. **Amen.**

So that, rejoicing now with devotion
at the Redeemer's coming in the flesh,
you may be endowed with the rich reward of eternal life
when he comes again in majesty. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of God almighty,
✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal



The Recessional Hymn: 9

Lo! He comes with clouds descending (Tune: Helmsley)

The Angelus

The Angel of the Lord brought glad tidings to Mary;
And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.

**Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee,
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now,
and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

Be it unto me according to thy Word. Hail Mary...

And the Word was made flesh.

And dwelt among us. Hail Mary...

Pray for us O holy Mother of God.

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

We beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts, that as we have known
the Incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his Cross
✠ and Passion we may be brought unto the glory of his Resurrection; through the
same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

✠✠✠✠✠

Organ Voluntary

✠✠✠✠✠

∞ ∞ PLEASE TAKE THIS SHEET AWAY WITH YOU
& MAKE YOUR WAY TO THE CRYPT FOR REFRESHMENTS. ∞

✠✠✠✠✠

THE COLLECTION OF MONEY

is taken for the Mission & Ministry of the Church.

Please see the **Financial Information** Section in the **Notices** on the
back page of this Mass Sheet for further information about giving to S. Paul's.

Contactless payment and Yellow envelopes are provided for the gifts of
visitors. Please fill in the front of the envelope or enter the details on
the machine so that we can claim Gift Aid on your offering.

Regular members of S. Paul's should be giving by Direct Debit,
or be part of the parish envelope scheme.

Please see the Churchwardens or Hon. Treasurer for further details.

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THE KALENDAR

1st Sunday and Week of Advent
30th November to 6th December 2025
MASS & Other Service Times in church

SUN, 30th, MP 9am, **PARISH MASS 10.30am**, EP 5pm
MON, 1st Dec, S. Charles de Foucauld, No Public Liturgies
TUES, 2nd, Feria, EP 5.30pm, **Mass 6.00pm**
WEDS, 3rd, S. Francis Xavier, EP 5.30pm, **Mass 6.00pm**
THURS, 4th, S. John of Damascus, S. Barbara, EP 5.30pm, **Mass 6.00pm**
FRI, 5th, Feria, EP 6pm
SAT, 6th, S. Nicholas, **Mass 10.00am**, EP 6pm

DAILY OFFICE: MP = Morning Prayer, EP = Evening Prayer

7th DECEMBER 2025 - 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MORNING PRAYER at 9.00am

PARISH MASS CHORAL at 10.30am

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector

EVENING PRAYER at 5pm

THE NOTICES

Preparation class, 4th of 6, for First Holy Communion
continue after Parish Mass today, **23rd November.**
(Baptised children from 7+. Parent/carer must also attend the classes)
First Holy Communion at Parish Mass 15th February 2026.

Please also let Fr Paul know if you are interested in
HOLY BAPTISM &/or in **HOLY CONFIRMATION**

Ω S. PAUL'S OMEGA STUDY GROUP Ω

Meets some Thursdays, 8.30 - 10pm on Zoom.

Next date to be agreed. All welcome.

Info & login details on Parish website & the Rector's Weekly Email.
Open to ideas as to what we might read and discuss in 2026.

The PCC meets over ZOOM on Weds. 3rd Dec, 7.30pm

CHRISTMASS @ S. PAUL'S 2025

4th SUNDAY of ADVENT: 21st DECEMBER
CAROL SERVICE at 6pm with S. Paul's Singers

WEDNESDAY 24th DECEMBER
MASS during the NIGHT at 9.00pm
(**'Midnight Mass', a little earlier**)

THURSDAY 25th DECEMBER - CHRISTMASS DAY
PARISH MASS at 10.30am

Church Cleaning on Saturday after Mass until 12.30pm.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

'The Lord loves a cheerful giver.'

The Church, based upon biblical teaching, asks every Christian to give a Tithe,
10% of their time, talents & money to God's work, and recommends that
members contribute 5% of their income to their church. **E.g. If you earn:**
£5000 a year or, £96 a week = Give £5 a week to S. Paul's.
£10000 a year, £192 a week = £10 a week. £20000 a year, £385 a week = £20 a week.
£25000 a year, £480 a week = £25 a week. £30000 a year, £577 a week = £30 a week.
Over the year our costs run to almost £1,000 a week. We receive no external
subsidies, and all monies must be raised from the parishioners, through lettings,
or voluntary donations. **Thank you** for all financial contributions which help to
pay for: - the: Utility bills of the church, (gas, electricity, water) - Costs of maintaining
the worship, (e.g. candles, wine, wafers, incense) - Maintenance, cleaning, & repair of
our Grade I Listed church, (substantial costs) - Office costs (e.g. postage, printing,
paper) - Monthly Diocesan Parish Share to the Diocese, (80p out of every £1 we give
to the Diocese goes towards clergy stipends).

**We ask everyone, who can, to please give via Direct Debit, Standing
Order, or, via the Weekly Envelope Scheme.**

GIVING VIA DIRECT DEBIT: Please see the **PARISH GIVING SCHEME**
information leaflet and Direct Debit Form, on the Parish Website **ONLINE GIVING:**

Our **Give A Little** page is available on our website,
via the **Donate** button, or here: <https://bit.ly/spd-giving>

✠ FURTHER INFORMATION & UPDATES ✠

On the **Parish Website, Church Noticeboard** (churchyard
forecourt) & **Subscribe to the Rector's Weekly Email** directly
from the link on the website or by sending an email to:

stpaulsdeptford@btinternet.com

sent every Friday via MailChimp (GDPR compliant)