

# 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

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**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 William Parkinson with S. Paul's Singers



## 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

'Gaudete'

14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2025

THE PARISH MASS  
CHORAL  
10.30am

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector

### Mass Setting:

**Missa O Magnum Mysterium** (1592)  
by Tomás Luis de **Victoria** (c.1548–c.1611)

**Hymns in NEH** (green book).

Please join in with the Bold Type

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Choir sings the **Introit, O magnum mysterium**, as set by Tomás Luis de **Victoria** in 1572. Text from the Responsories at Matins on Christmas Day.

O magnum mysterium, et admirabile sacramentum,  
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum, iacentem in praesepio:  
O beata Virgo, cuius viscera meruerunt  
portare Dominum Jesum Christum. Alleluia.

O great mystery and wonderful sacrament  
that the animals saw the new-born Lord lying in the manger.  
We have seen the new-born child and choirs of angels praising the Lord.  
Alleluia.

### Stand

Rejoice in the Lord always;  
again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near.

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

### The Processional Hymn: 7

**Hills of the North rejoice** (Tune: Little Cornard)

\* 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.**

### Entrance Antiphon

*Cf. Philippians 4: 4-5.*

### The Greeting

### The Introduction to the Mass

The celebrant welcomes the people and introduces the Mass.

### The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true:  
to you be praise and glory for ever.  
Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth  
as a burning and shining light.  
May we your servants rejoice in his light,  
and so be led to witness to him  
who is the Leader of your coming kingdom,  
Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

The third candle on the wreath is lit by a member of the congregation & then censed.

## 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 choir sings the Kyrie Eleison

Kýrie, eléison. Christe, eléison. Kýrie, eléison.

## The Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at your first coming sent your messenger  
to prepare your way before you:  
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries  
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way  
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,  
that at your second coming to judge the world  
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
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 prophet Isaiah (35: 1-10)

<sup>1</sup> The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall  
rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,  
<sup>2</sup> and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be  
given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the  
glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. <sup>3</sup> Strengthen the weak  
hands, and make firm the feeble knees. <sup>4</sup> Say to those who are of  
a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will  
come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come  
and save you.' <sup>5</sup> Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and  
the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup> then the lame shall leap like a  
deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters  
shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;  
<sup>7</sup> the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground  
springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the  
grass shall become reeds and rushes. <sup>8</sup> A highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on  
it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools,  
shall go astray. <sup>9</sup> No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous  
beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the  
redeemed shall walk there. <sup>10</sup> And the ransomed of the LORD  
shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall  
be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and  
sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalms 146: 4-10 is sung by the choir

*Lauda, anima mea*

<sup>4</sup> Blessed is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help :  
and whose hope is in the Lord his God;  
<sup>5</sup> Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that therein is :  
who keepeth his promise for ever;  
<sup>6</sup> Who helpeth them to right that suffer wrong :  
who feedeth the hungry.  
<sup>7</sup> The Lord looseth men out of prison :  
the Lord giveth sight to the blind.  
<sup>8</sup> The Lord helpeth them that are fallen :  
the Lord careth for the righteous.  
<sup>9</sup> The Lord careth for the strangers, he defendeth the fatherless and  
widow : as for the way of the ungodly, he turneth it upside down.  
<sup>10</sup> The Lord thy God, O Sion, shall be King for evermore :  
and throughout all generations.

## Second Reading from the New Testament

A reading from the letter of S. James (5: 7-10)

<sup>7</sup> Be patient, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup> You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. <sup>9</sup> Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! <sup>10</sup> As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand & turn to face the Gospel*

### Gospel Acclamation and Reading

♫ **Alleluia!** The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. *Isaiah 61:1 (cited in Luke 4:18)* **Alleluia!** ♫

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

A ✠ reading from the ✠ Holy Gospel according to ✠ **Matthew (11: 2-11)**  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>2</sup> When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup> and said to Jesus, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>6</sup> And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' <sup>7</sup> As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup> What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup> What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup> This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." <sup>11</sup> Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'

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*

### The 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. Elizabeth** and **S. Zechariah**

**S. John** the Baptist

**S. Augustine** and **S. Monica**

**S. Benedict** and **S. Scholastica**

**S. Francis** and **S. Clare** of Assisi

**S. John** of the Cross

**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: I I

*O Come, O come Emmanuel (Tune: Veni Emmanuel)*

*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

May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray, be offered to you unceasingly, to complete what was begun in sacred mystery and powerfully accomplish for us your sacred work. 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.**

*Celebrant sings the Preface in which God is praised for his mighty acts, & the choir sings the Sanctus & Benedictus:*

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dóminus Deus Sabaoth.

Pleni sunt caeli et terra glória tua. Hosánná in excélsis.

✠ Benedictus qui venit in nómine Dómini. Hosánná in excélsis.

*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 said:*

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** is sung by the choir.

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

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

*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

Say to the anxious: be strong and fear not,

Behold our God will come, and he will save us.

*Isaiah 35: 4*

*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, 13<sup>th</sup> Century (attributed to S. Thomas Aquinas)*

Choir sings the **Communion Motet, Alma redemptoris mater a 5,**

*Antiphon to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Advent to the Feast of the Purification*

*as set by Tomás Luis de Victoria in 1572.*

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.

*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.*

*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: 5

*Hark! A herald Voice is calling (Tune: Merton)*

**Thomas Merton OCSO** (January 31, 1915 – December 10, 1968), religious name, Fr. Louis, was an American Trappist monk, writer, theologian, mystic, poet, social activist and scholar of comparative religion. He was a monk in the Trappist Abbey of Our Lady of Gethsemani, near Bardstown, Kentucky, living there from 1941 to his death. Merton wrote more than 50 books in a period of 27 years, mostly on spirituality, social justice, and pacifism, as well as scores of essays and reviews. Among Merton's most widely-read works is his bestselling autobiography, 'The Seven Storey Mountain' (1948). Merton became a keen proponent of interfaith understanding, exploring Eastern religions through study and practice. He pioneered dialogue with prominent Asian spiritual figures including the Dalai Lama, Japanese writer D. T. Suzuki, Thai Buddhist monk Buddhadasa, and Vietnamese monk Thich Nhat Hanh.

### The Quickening of St John the Baptist.

*On the Contemplative Vocation*

*Extract.*

You need no eloquence, wild bairn,

Exulting in your hermitage.

Your ecstasy is your apostolate,

For whom to kick is *contemplata tradere*.

Your joy is the vocation of Mother Church's hidden children –

Those who by vow lie buried in the cloister or the hermitage:

The speechless Trappist, or the grey, granite Carthusian,

The quiet Carmelite, the barefoot Clare,

Planted in the night of contemplation,

Sealed in the dark and waiting to be born.

Night is our diocese and silence is our ministry

Poverty our charity and helplessness our tongue-tied  
sermon.

Beyond the scope of sight or sound we dwell upon the air

Seeking the world's gain in an unthinkable experience.

We are exiles in the far end of solitude, living as listeners

With hearts attending to the skies we cannot understand:

Waiting upon the first far drums of Christ the Conqueror,

Planted like sentinels upon the world's frontier.

*Written by Merton in 1949*

### A Prayer of Fr Conrad Noel (1869–1942), sometime Vicar of Thaxted (1910-1942)

Lord Jesus, our Leader,  
we give ourselves to Thee,  
for the cause of Thy glorious kingdom;  
for joy or for sorrow,  
for success or for failure,  
for life or for death,  
now and for evermore. Amen.

## ¶ THE CONCLUDING RITE

Stand

### Postcommunion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord,

for these heavenly gifts;

kindle in us the fire of your Spirit

that when your Christ comes again

we may shine as lights before his face;

who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**



### ¶ NOTICES & ANY BANNs OF MARRIAGE



The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

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

May God the Father,  
judge all-merciful,  
make us worthy of a place in his kingdom. **Amen.**

May God the Son,  
coming among us in power,  
reveal in our midst the promise of his glory. **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith,  
joyful in hope and constant in love. **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: 408

Love Divine, all love's excelling (Tune: Blaenwern)

## 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  
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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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Society. 'Ite missa est', from Mass VIII (Missa de Angelis), Graduale Romanum, Solesmes, 1961,  
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## THE KALENDAR

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday and Week of Advent

14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> December 2025

**MASS & Other Service Times in church**

**SUN, 14<sup>th</sup>,** MP 9am, **PARISH MASS 10.30am**, EP 5pm  
**MON, 15<sup>th</sup>,** Feria, No Public Liturgies  
**TUES, 16<sup>th</sup>,** Feria, EP 5.30pm, **Mass 6.00pm**  
**WEDS, 17<sup>th</sup>,** O Sapientia, EP 5.30pm, **Mass 6.00pm**  
**THURS, 18<sup>th</sup>,** O Adonai, EP 5.30pm, **Mass 6.00pm**  
**FRI, 19<sup>th</sup>,** O Radix Jesse, EP 6pm  
**SAT, 20<sup>th</sup>,** O Clavis David, **Mass 10.00am**, EP 6pm

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

21<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2025 – 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MORNING PRAYER at 9.00am

**PARISH MASS SUNG at 10.30am**

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector

**CAROL SERVICE at 6pm**

## THE NOTICES

**Preparation class, 6<sup>th</sup> of 6, for First Holy Communion**  
after Parish Mass today.

(Baptised children from 7+. Parent/carer must also attend the classes)  
**First Holy Communion at Parish Mass 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

**CHRISTMASS @ S. PAUL'S 2025**

**4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY of ADVENT: 21<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER**

**CAROL SERVICE at 6pm with S. Paul's Singers**

**WEDNESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**  
**MASS during the NIGHT at 9.00pm**  
**(‘Midnight Mass’, a little earlier)**

**THURSDAY 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:stpaulsdeptford@btinternet.com)

sent every Friday via MailChimp (GDPR compliant)