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**Good
News!**

**in this
ISSUE!**

THE Messenger



The Baby Has Landed

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TWO

**Don't miss
The Baby!**

**from YOUR ST PAUL'S
Winter 2019**



Sunday Service
every Sunday at 10 a.m.
and Sunday Church Club for children
over 3 years old. You are invited to
join us - no experience necessary!

Mothers' Union

First Tuesday of each month at 19:30

Seniors' Coffee

First Thursday of each month at 10:00

Special events

Praise Services, Breathing Spaces,
Crown and Crooked Billet Carol Service,
Carol Service,
Childrens' Nativity Rehearsal and
Children's Nativity Service,
Christmas Communions,
Wedding Preparation Evening



www.stpaulswb.com

[www.facebook.com/
stpaulschurchwoodford](http://www.facebook.com/stpaulschurchwoodford)



Don't miss the Baby!

This Christmas, let's make time to find out who this baby really is, what happened when he grew up, and why he came to us.



In all the busyness of preparing for and celebrating Christmas, it's very easy to miss the real "reason for the season". In the story of the first Christmas, there were a number of people who missed altogether what was really going on.

First was the inn keeper. Let's imagine that the inn was indeed the local pub, rather than the family guest room. If the innkeeper had known that the baby to be born that night was to be the Son of God, I bet he would have found room! But he missed the baby. He was just plain busy with all the other visitors to recognize that this baby was the promised one who would be the Saviour of the world.

The other travellers and the people of Bethlehem missed the baby too. This gift from God was right under their noses, but they missed it. They had their own concerns. **Don't miss Jesus by being too busy.**

The next person to miss the baby was King Herod, 'though of course he really comes into the story much later. Herod was scared of this new king because he thought that he would lose his throne and his status. He missed the baby because he was scared of what he might lose. **Don't miss Jesus because you're jealous.**

The last group of people who missed Jesus were the religious leaders of the day. They were people who should have been able to recognize when God was doing something special. They knew all about the prophecies in the Scriptures that the Christ would be born in Bethlehem. But they didn't even bother to go and check out Bethlehem to see whether this special baby, God's Son, had been born! Perhaps the waiting had become a tradition. **Don't miss Jesus because of indifference.**

Jesus Christ was, and still is, the Saviour of the world, the greatest Christmas present of all. This Christmas, let's make time to find out who this baby really is, what happened when he grew up, and why he came to us.

Ola.

**19th January
and
16th February
at 17:00**



**28th December,
25th January
and
29th February
10:00-12:30**



**22nd December
at 10:00
Carol Service
in Church**



**23rd December
10:00-12:00
Children's Nativity
Rehearsal**



**24th December
at 16:00
Children's Nativity
Service**



**24th December
at 23:00
Holy Communion**



**25th December
at 10:00
Parish Communion**



**27th January
at 19:45
Wedding
Preparation
Evening**





An informal
CAROL SERVICE
at THE CROWN AND
CROOKED BILLET
on Sunday 15th December
at 16:00



This Christmas at St. Paul's

Join us to celebrate!

SUNDAY 22nd DECEMBER

10:00 Carol Service

MONDAY 23rd DECEMBER

from 10:00-12:00

**Rehearsal for the
Children's Nativity**

CHRISTMAS EVE

16:00 Children's Nativity

23:00 Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY

10:00 Parish Communion

breathing
space

Breathing Space

**St Paul's Church is
offering rest and quiet in a
busy world from
10:00 -12:30 on the
last Saturday of each
month.**

**You will be more than
welcome - without any
pressure - to pop in for
some peace and quiet in a
busy world.**

**Refreshments will
be available, and
someone will be
there to talk with
you if you want to.**





*This was outside St. Paul's – join us inside
and we'll help you on your journey to God!*

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**Good
News!**

THE Messenger



Is your business 'Good News'? You can spread it here!

Advertise in the next edition -

£40 for a full page or £20 for a half page per each edition.

Cheques to be made payable to St Paul's PCC.

Contact Mac macleonard@virginmedia.com
by 1st February advertise in the Autumn edition.



HAVE YOU BOUGHT THE PRESENTS YET?

You haven't much time - the day's nearly here!
It's time to stop thinking - so soon will appear
the great Christmas morning that now you must act:
Christmas is coming - an inevitable fact!
Start "doing" tomorrow, there's little time left
to get everything ready, or else be bereft
of the comfort and joy of the great Christmas morn
because turkey still sits in the shop, all forlorn!

Start "doing" tomorrow, not long remains
to buy presents for everyone, prepare for the strains
of coping with kids as they litter the floor
with paper and boxes - and then ask for more!
Will we be ready to greet Christmas Day?
The house cleaned and polished? The dekkies OK?
Will presents be bought? Will the turkey be stuffed?
Will all be prepared? Are we ready - or rushed?

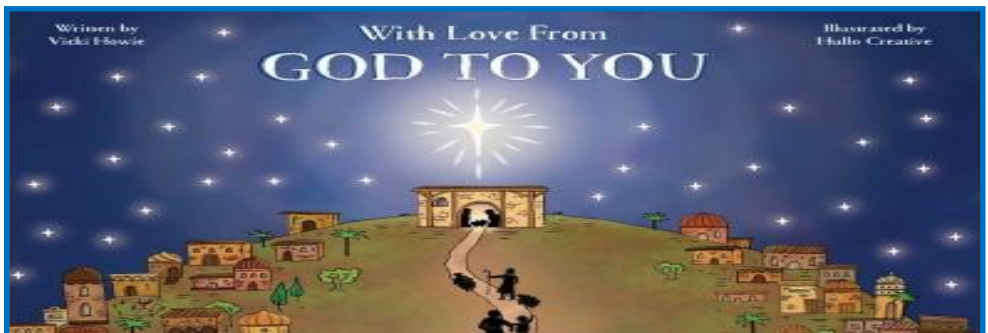
There's much preparation before the great day
so we can be happy and cast cares away:
so we can relax and be happy and free
from the worries of life in the lights of the tree.

For that's what we all want for Christmas and on
into next year, and next year, and ever beyond.
The joy we prepare for - we wish it would last
and go on for ever - not disappear fast!

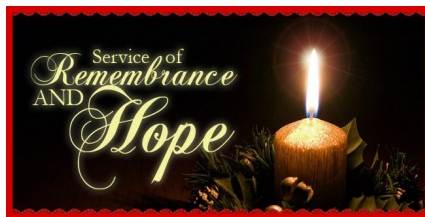
"Prepare you the way", said John Baptist of old -
the words of a prophet so noble and bold:
as he spoke to the crowds which came out to hear
he reminded them all in words firm and clear,
"Make ready your hearts", for there's one coming soon
who'll change all for the better: if you will make room
for his love in your hearts he will live and grow there
and enable you all his great love to share.

As you check out the tree lights to make sure they work,
as you buy the last presents, no task do you shirk;
As you clear out the cupboards for new to make room,
as you clean, dust and polish, with mop, cloth and broom,
prepare you, dear reader, your hearts just as well -
for the Baby of Bethlehem wishes to dwell
in them not just at Christmas, but all the year long,
to make your whole life one great Christmas song.

Make ready your hearts, the Babe to receive
as the best of all presents to those who believe:
ask him to help you, through the power of his tree
which he lit up and died on mankind to set free,
to clear from your hearts all the sin and the dross
which he died to forgive and remove on the cross.
Then you'll be ready his life to live -
the very best present to others to give!



MEMORIAL SERVICE 2019



Sunday 20th October was our Annual Memorial Service. It was a service of remembrance and reflection for those we have loved and lost. A time to just be quiet away from the strains and stresses of everyday life and give thanks something we all need. Many attended and stayed afterwards for tea and a biscuit and to chat to others.



Shoebox Service 2019

You are amazing!

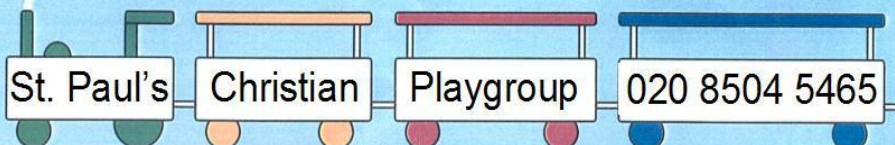
A very big thank you to everyone who contributed to our Shoebox service on Sunday 17th November. Every year I wonder if we will make the 100 box mark and every year I do not book a pick-up just in case we don't make the target. But all you lovely people work so hard and this year we took **130 shoeboxes and £188.25 in donations** up to Buckhurst Hill just as they were packing the van to go to the warehouse for onward shipping! I wasn't able to find out where their final destination will be but they are on their way.

Thank you and wishing you all a blessed Christmas.



Jill.

St Paul's Church Hall, Chigwell Road, Woodford Bridge, Essex IG8 8BT



St Paul's Christian Playgroup



Are you looking for a fun and caring Playgroup for your child, an opportunity to make new friends and learn too?

We offer flexible morning sessions from 9.15-12.15pm
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<http://www.stpaulschristianplaygroup.co.uk>

Flexible hours available
to accommodate those
entitled to 30 hours
funding





in for a penny,
in for a pound



St Paul's Toilet Fund

We need your help

At the moment we have no toilets in the church building - the nearest are at the bottom of the churchyard in the church hall. This is very inconvenient for baptisms, weddings, funerals, our other church Services and social activities beneficial to the local community.

So we're planning to have two toilet cubicles, one fully accessible for mobility impaired users, installed in church at a cost of around £80,000 - costing this much largely because the church building hasn't got a sewer pipe outlet and the nearest connection for one to be laid is at the church hall.

How you can help us

1. make a Bank Transfer donation to Barclays, Woodford Broadway Branch sort code 20-52-74
account no. 10775215
2. put your donation in a blue gift-aid envelope available in church and mark it 'Toilet'
(cheques payable to ST. PAUL'S PCC)
3. contact St. Paul's Treasurer Len Stevens
Lenstevens9@aol.com for further information.



in for a penny,
in for a pound

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*St Paul's
Toilet Fund*



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asda

argos

Please sign up to #easyfundraising and help us raise FREE funds for St Pauls Church - Woodford Green when you're doing your everyday shopping online. THIS IS FREE MONEY FOR US! Plus, when you raise your first £5, easyfundraising will match it!! And it doesn't cost you anything!!!

This short video explains how simple it is –

<http://efraising.org/cv1Wj5Bman>

Sign-up using our unique link:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/TJOZI1/7Y3C6A>

For further information contact Churchwarden Paul Malam
paul.malam@gmail.com or 'phone 07803 278365.



He made it!!

Peter left St. Paul's at 6:30 a.m., arrived at Chelmsford Cathedral as the bell struck 5p.m., and was greeted by the Vice-Dean Canon Ivor Moody.

He spent 7:32 hours on his feet

Average speed 3.2 m.p.h.

Total distance 24.4 miles

Total raised - £1284

£ per mile - $\text{£ } 1284 \div 24.4 = \text{£}52.62$

Well done Peter - thank you so much!

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Mrs Cherry



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St PAUL'S SPIRELIGHT TESTIMONIALS



December

- 1st Dylan Savage
- 2nd Sarah and Tim Cottrell
- 3rd Niall Sanders, Dylan Rose,
Theresa Burrows
- 4th Keith Self
- 6th Thomas Baker WW1
- 7th Lyndsay and Joshua Burton
- 10th Elle Hiscott,
Heather Barnbrook
- 15th Caroline Walshe
- 18th William Newman
- 19th Margi Dawson
- 22nd Hugh Medwyn Williams
- 23rd Jonathan Webb
- 24th Joyce Hardy, John Green,
Peter Poulton,
Rossa Aldorino
- 25th Ivy and Nick Nickelson,
Vera Leyland,
George Thompson,
Susan Clack
- 28th John Dickson
- 29th Sylvia Severance
- 31st Isabella

Light up St Paul's Spire!

Anyone and
everyone is
welcome to
join the
Spirelight
Testimonial
Scheme.

Choose a
date which is
special to
you - for
example
your
birthday or
that of a
loved one, or
your
marriage
anniversary.
Then
contact Len
on 020
8590 8815
for a
Dedication
Form - or
drop into the
Sunday
Service at
10:00

January

- 1st Janet Back
- 2nd Norman Barfoot,
Sheila Bennett
- 6th Owen Dawson WW1
- 7th Lilly Grace
- 8th Stella Filer
- 9th Oliver King,
Thomas Hiddleston
- 11th Andrew Williams
- 16th Myra Hyde,
Geoffrey Springbett,
Nicola Lee
- 23rd Isabella Savage,
David Stevens,
Stanley Fuller WW1
- 29th Jack Stevens
- 30th Brenda Jeffrey,
Dorothy Cottrell,
Joyce Hardy
- 31st Joan Thompson

February

- 3rd George Pleasance WW1
- 7th Doris Fenn
- 9th Joseph Langdell
- 11th Antronihi Sideras
- 14th Dorothy Cottrell,
Fred Wood,
Herbert (Tom) and
Mary Barlow,
Ivy Nickelson
- 18th Matthew Barnbrook
- 20th Eileen and Wiktor Urbanek
- 23rd Joseph Turner
- 24th Mum (Ivy N.)
- 25th Anthony Westley,
Francis Grayston WW1
- 27th Linda Savage
- 28th Christine Stone

We presently have 262 names covering 181 days of the year - three days short of having half the year covered! It's now free to add names to the journal and it would be great to have a name for every day, so only 184 days to go!

Weddings this Winter.....



18th January

**Kunle Olusesi
and
Sharon Mensah**



**Please, please
don't park on the
Church Drive at
these times
leave it clear for the
Bride and the guests!**

**What is a wedding at St. Paul's
all about? Join us at the**

***WEDDING PREPARATION
EVENING***

**19:45 on
TUESDAY
27th January**



Thinking about Baptism? Wanting a Wedding? Need to arrange a Funeral?

We believe that God's love is there for us 24/7, but St Paul's is available and delighted to help with those 'special love' times in life.

BAPTISMS (Christenings)
usually happen at 12:00 on a Sunday, but may be arranged at other times where appropriate.



MARRIAGES

God has given us a beautiful setting for marriages - we already have bookings for 2020 - and we can offer support before, during and after the 'big day'.



FUNERALS

Saying goodbye to a loved one is never easy - but we find that handing them to God's eternal love helps. We shall be delighted to share God's love and support .



In the first instance please
contact Vicar Ola Franklin
on 020 8506 0662
or at ofrank@btinternet.com



St. Paul's Contacts.....

| | | |
|---|---|---------------|
| Vicar | Rev. Ola Franklin ofrank@btinternet.com | 020 8506 0662 |
| Curates | Rev. Ian Monks irquemonachi@hotmail.co.uk | 020 8550 2390 |
| | Rev. Alan Bolding apbolding@onetel.com | 079327 97983 |
| Licensed Lay Minister (Reader) | Mr. Mac Leonard macleonard@virginmedia.com | 07831 744999 |
| Authorised Local Preacher and Pastoral Assistant | Canon Jill Leonard jillianleonard@virginmedia.com | 07778 013047 |
| Churchwardens | Mr. Paul Malam paul.malam@gmail.com | 07803 278365 |
| | Mr. Len Stevens Lenstevens9@aol.com | 020 8590 8815 |

Organisations and contacts

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|---------------|
| Organist | Mac Leonard | 07831 744999 |
| Treasurer | Len Stevens | 020 8590 8815 |
| Nicola's School of Dance | Nicola | 07956 479334 |
| Playgroup (Delia Ware) | Daily 09:15 -12:00 | 020 8504 5465 |
| Mothers' Union | 1 st Tuesday in month 19:30 | 020 8590 8815 |
| Guides | Thursday | 020 8491 6431 |
| Brownies | Thursday | 01708 768496 |
| Weekly News Sheet: | Pam Varughese pamvarughese@gmail.com | 020 8550 3406 |
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