

## Church Notices

## ST PAULINUS CHURCH, CRAYFORD

### Church Flowers - update

Unfortunately, due to the falling numbers, the flower group will be disbanded from January, if you are interested in taking this over please speak to Joan Bishop or Fr Paul. Many thanks Joan Bishop

### Sunday School

You will be please to know that Sunday School will begin on January 7<sup>th</sup> 2018 and will be led by a team of 4: Carol Demuth, Tackela Olugbuyi, Chiazon Ezenwa, and Mary Oguike. We look forward to the children joining us in the New Year.

### Baptism Stewards

We are looking for people to join the baptism stewards team. Baptism stewards attend the service to welcome the families, direct people to their seats, help to make sure the service runs smoothly, help if anyone has any difficulties, help to clear up at the end of the service and collect donations.

Baptisms are an important part of mission in our church and how we welcome families into our church is just as important. I hope that we might find some willing volunteers amongst us.

If you are interested please ask one of the churchwardens, one of the ministry team or Fr Paul.

### MU Subscription

M.U Membership is now due please £26  
Chq payable to St.Paulinus Mothers' Union.  
Pat Carter.

Epiphany Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January – Gifts for the mothers and children in the Women's refuge at Bexley – Toiletries, nappies, crayons and story books, etc, etc

Early Warning - MU Annual Meeting and breakfast on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January at 8.30am.

**Crayford Living Churchyard AGM  
13<sup>th</sup> January at 3pm in the Youth hall**

**Friends of St Paulinus Quiz Night  
10<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm. Come aand join us.**



### **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December – Holy Family Happy New Year**

A warm welcome to newcomers and visitors.  
We hope you enjoy worshipping with us today.

### **8am Low Mass & Homily**

Celebrant: Fr Paul Prentice  
Preacher: Roger Laing

### **10am Parish Mass & Sermon**

Celebrant: Fr Paul Prentice  
Preacher: Roger Laing

### **Season: Christmas**

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> January	CHURCH CLOSED
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January	
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	9.30 MASS CANCELLED
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	9.15am MASS CANCELLED
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> January Epiphany	8am Low Mass & Homily 10am High Mass & Sermon

**Fr Paul is off duty from 1<sup>st</sup> January for a week**

**FIRST READING Isaiah 61.10 – 62.3**

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

11 For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

1 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.

2 The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

3 You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the  
LORD,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

**PSALM 148**

**R Praise, O praise the name of the Lord.**

1 Alleluia!

Praise the Lord from the heavens;  
praise him in the heights.

2 Praise him, all you angels of his;  
praise him, all his host.

3 Praise him, sun and moon;  
praise him, all you shining stars. R

4 Praise him, heaven of heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens.

5 Let them praise the name of the Lord;  
for he commanded and they were created.

6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever;  
he gave them a law which shall not pass away. R

7 Praise the Lord from the earth,  
you sea-monsters and all deeps;

8 Fire and hail, snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, doing his will;

9 Mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars; R

10 Wild beasts and all cattle,  
creeping things and winged birds;

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the world;

12 Young men and maidens,  
old and young together. R

13 Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
for his name only is exalted,  
his splendour is over earth and heaven.

14 He has raised up strength for his people  
and praise for all his loyal servants,  
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.  
Alleluia! R

**SECOND READING Galatians 4.4–7**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

4 When the fullness of time had come,  
God sent his Son, born of a woman,  
born under the law,

5 in order to redeem those who were under the law,  
so that we might receive adoption as children.

6 And because you are children,  
God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts,  
crying,

'Abba! Father!'

7 So you are no longer a slave but a child,  
and if a child then also an heir, through God.

**GOSPEL Luke 2.22–40**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
Luke.

22 When the time came for their purification  
according to the law of Moses,  
Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem  
to present him to the Lord

23 (as it is written in the law of the Lord,  
'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the  
Lord'),

24 and they offered a sacrifice  
according to what is stated in the law of the Lord,  
'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name  
was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout,  
looking forward to the consolation of Israel,  
and the Holy Spirit rested on him.

26 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit  
that he would not see death before he had seen the  
Lord's Messiah.

27 Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple;  
and when the parents brought in the child Jesus,  
to do for him what was customary under the law,

28 Simeon took him in his arms and praised God,  
saying,

29 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in  
peace, according to your word;

30 for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
31 which you have prepared in the presence of all  
peoples,

32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel.'

33 And the child's father and mother  
were amazed at what was being said about him.

34 Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother  
Mary, 'This child is destined

for the falling and the rising of many in Israel,  
and to be a sign that will be opposed

35 so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed  
and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

36 There was also a prophet, Anna  
the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher.

She was of a great age, having lived with her husband  
seven years after her marriage,

37 then as a widow to the age of eighty-four.  
She never left the temple

but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and  
day.

38 At that moment she came, and began to praise God  
and to speak about the child to all who were looking for  
the redemption of Jerusalem.

39 When they had finished everything  
required by the law of the Lord,

they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

40 The child grew and became strong, filled with  
wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.