

Church Notices

ST PAULINUS CHURCH, CRAYFORD



C1 training will be held in Church on Saturday 23rd March at 10-12. Please sign up on sheet at the back of the Church, see Karen Carter or email stpaulinussafeguarding@outlook.com For further information.

Saturday Prayer Breakfast

A great way to start the weekend with a light breakfast, prayer and chat together in the Choir Vestry on the following days:

- [Saturday 13 April 8.30am](#) followed by Healing Service [at 10am](#)
 - [Saturday 11 May 8.30am](#) followed by Healing Service [at 10am](#)
 - [Saturday 1 June 9am](#)
 - [Saturday 6 July 9am](#)
 - [Saturday 10 August 8.30am](#) followed by Healing Service [at 10am](#)
 - [Saturday 21 September 9am](#)
 - [Saturday 19 October 9am](#)
 - [Saturday 9 November 8.30am](#) followed by Healing Service [at 10am](#)
 - [Saturday 14 December 8.30am](#) followed by Healing Service [at 10am](#)
- Be great to see you if you can make it. Sue Corbett.

Mother's Union

Mother's Union Eucharist & Commissioning Service at Rochester Cathedral – Saturday 23rd March.
List at the back - Please sign today.

Monday 25th March Lady Day – Day of Prayer & Thanksgiving for the work of the Mother's Union.

Holy Communion – 9.00am in church.

Coffee at the Rectory afterwards – Thanks to Vicky Prentice.

Sunday 17th March – Lent 2
Stewardship Sunday -
Sowing Seeds for the Future



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

Our common values are:

Openness, Compassion, Love, Tolerance & Growth

8am Low Mass & Homily

Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Paul Prentice

9.45am Sunday School – Youth Hall

10am Parish Mass & Sermon

Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Paul Prentice

Hymns: 610, 281, 490 and 683

Please check availability of the creche on arrival.

Season: Lent

Monday 18 th March	
Tuesday 19 th March	
Wednesday 20 th March	9.30am Low Mass – Y5 Cuthbert
Thursday 21 st March	9.30am Toddler Church 7.45pm Lent Course
Friday 22 nd March	9.15am Low Mass
Saturday 23 rd March	
Sunday 24 th March Lent 3	8am Low Mass & Homily 10am High Mass & Sermon 12.30pm Holy Baptism

FIRST READING Genesis 15.1–12, 17–18

A reading from the book of Genesis.

1 The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.'

2 But Abram said, 'O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?'

3 And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.'

4 But the word of the LORD came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.'

5 He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.'

6 And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

7 Then he said to him, 'I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.'

8 But he said, 'O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?'

9 He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.'

10 He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two.

11 And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

12 As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

17 When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces.

18 On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.'

PSALM 27

R The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

2 When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell. **R**

3 Though an army should encamp against me, yet my heart shall not be afraid;

4 And though war should rise up against me, yet will I put my trust in him. **R**

5 One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;

6 To behold the fair beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple. **R**

7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock. **R**

8 Even now he lifts up my head above my enemies round about me;

9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness; I will sing and make music to the Lord. **R**

10 Harken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

11 You speak in my heart and say, 'Seek my face.' Your face, Lord, will I seek.

12 Hide not your face from me, nor turn away your servant in displeasure. **R**

13 You have been my helper; cast me not away; do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

14 Though my father and my mother forsake me, the Lord will sustain me. **R**

15 Show me your way, O Lord; lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.

16 Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen up against me, and also those who speak malice. **R**

17 What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!

18 O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure; be strong and he shall comfort your heart; wait patiently for the Lord. **R**

SECOND READING Philippians 3.17 – 4.1

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

17 Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us.

18 For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears.

19 Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things.

20 But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

21 He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

1 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.1–9, 18–23

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

1 Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake.

2 Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach.

3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow.

4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up.

5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil.

6 But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away.

7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.

8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

9 Let anyone with ears listen!

18 Hear then the parable of the sower.

19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path.

20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;

21 yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away.

22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing.

23 But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'