

Sunday 25th January 2026

Conversion of St. Paul

10.00 a.m. Church Family Communion with Children's Church
4.00 p.m. Tea Time Church

Collect for Today

God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Service Readings

Acts 9:1-22 (*p.123*), Galatians 1:11-16a (*p.184*) and Matthew 19:27-end (*p.20*)

Please pray for

... Jo Garrick, Mark & Jan Knott, Jenny Powell and Mike and Rosemary Woodcock.

... the family and friends of Rita Brown, Elsie Rice and Gladys Martin whose anniversary of death is at this time.

... those who live and work in The Chase, The Crossways and The Drive.

... the Koens family in Papua New Guinea supporting the work of Bible translation through vehicle maintenance, teaching, missionary care.

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Financial Giving

We take a collection during our services. If you don't give regularly by standing order or the envelope scheme, please put your donation in the bag, tap the card reader on your way out, or use the QR code on the back of this news-sheet. Thank you.

Dear Friends

Our reading from the Book of Acts for today (9:1-22) records one of the most dramatic events in the New Testament. It's the account of St. Paul's conversion, on the Road to Damascus. Paul – or Saul as he was known at the time – was a persecutor of the Church; his goal was to stamp out this new faith at its earliest beginnings. Saul was a Pharisee, a Jewish leader, and he sincerely believed he was doing God's will; he was seriously deluded in the way that some religious extremists are today.

And so, Jesus – the risen Jesus - meets him on the Road to Damascus, intercepting his plan to arrest Christians and take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. Saul is blinded by the light of Jesus' presence; he hears the Lord speak to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me'? And his life is turned around. Saul the persecutor of the Church becomes Paul the Apostle to the Gentiles – the greatest missionary and evangelist the world has ever known.

Today we'll be reflecting on this dramatic encounter, and what it has to teach us today. It challenges us to look at our own 'religious delusions'; to consider what a life wholly dedicated to the Lord might look like; to open ourselves to the calling and vocation the Lord has for each and every one of us.

Let's open our hearts and mind to the Lord today, as we study his Word together.

Beverly

Mission Focus for January: ReSkilled

Reskilled works with people who have been unemployed for at least 1 year (the average of participants is almost 7 years unemployed) to learn to make things out of wood, while also learning the general skills they will need to continue on to volunteering roles or paid employment. Most of the wood they use is recycled wood (so if you are getting rid of a table or other good wood, do contact them to see if they can use it). For further information see their website at reskilled.org/ or contact piers@reskilled.org.

Notices

Tea Time Church today: We'll be thinking about the conversion of St. Paul in an interactive way.

David Garrick: The funeral of David Garrick will be held on Thursday 5th February at 11.30am here at All Saints, with the committal at Guildford Crematorium at 12.45pm, and afterwards at Seasons, Guildford Cathedral. Please pray for Jo and her family.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party: 17th February, 5pm-6.45pm in church. Join us for pancakes and all the usual lovely toppings! No booking needed, just turn up. Donations welcome.

Ash Wednesday: 18th February.

✝ Dray Court 2.30pm: Join us with the residents for a special Ash Wednesday service with communion and imposition of ashes for those who would like.

✝ St Mary's, Quarry Street 8.00pm: a beautiful service including the imposition of ashes. Canon Simon Butler will be preaching.

Lent Courses 2026: This year during Lent we'll be offering a range of different Lent Courses, rather than just one. Our Small Groups will be choosing their own Lent materials, and continuing their usual patterns of meeting during the week. If you'd like to join in with one of these groups during the season of Lent, do be in contact with one of the Small Group leaders directly, to find out what they're studying.

Stewardship Sunday: 22nd February. Each year we review our financial giving to All Saints on this Sunday and for the following three weeks. David Senior, the Diocesan Stewardship Officer, will be coming to preach at 10am and 4pm. Please do come and hear David, he is a very inspiring speaker.

Lent Lunch: 22nd February at 12 noon. Please stay on after coffee in the hall for our annual soup and bread Lent lunch. No need to book. We'll be taking donations for the Koens family in Papua New Guinea.

New bookings for the hall: As you might know, the Montessori Nursery is ending their contract with us and relocating to Onslow Infants, probably in February. This is sad news as we've hosted a nursery or play group for very many years. However, we now have an opportunity to welcome new people to the hall. Do you know people or organisations who could use the hall? Who are your contacts? What activities do you do that could use the hall? Please have a think and let Eve (bookings.allsaints@gmail.com) know of any potential bookings.

Diary for the Coming Week

Morning prayer Mon, Tues and Weds 9.15am in the Reading Room and on Zoom. Thurs Holy Communion at 9.30am in the Reading Room.

- Mon 26th Meeting with Symbiosis Architects, Zoom, 10.00am
Women's Bible Study Group, 13 Abotts Close, 12.30pm
Barnabas Group, 26 Manor Way, 4.00pm
- Weds 28th Safeguarding Team Meeting, Zoom, 6.30pm
Premises Team Meeting, Reading Room, 8.00pm
- Thurs 29th Holy Communion, Reading Room, 9.30am, Revd Paul Fenner presiding.
Choir Rehearsal, Church, 8.00pm
- Fri 30th Baby & Toddler Group, Church, 10.00am
- Sun 1st Holy Communion, Reading Room, 8.00am
Café Style Altogether Worship, 10.00am
Tea Time Church, Reading Room, 4.00pm

Daily Readings for the coming week

- Mon 26th Ps. 108, Genesis 11:27-12:9, Matthew 26:1-16
- Tues 27th Ps. 36, Genesis 13:2-end, Matthew 26:17-35
- Weds 28th Ps. 46, Genesis 14, Matthew 26:36-46
- Thurs 29th Ps. 47, Genesis 15, Matthew 26:47-56
- Fri 30th Ps. 65, Genesis 16, Matthew 26:57-end
- Sat 1st Ps. 68, Genesis 17:1-22, Matthew 27:1-10

Service Readings for Sunday 1st February:

Presentation of Christ in the temple

Malachi 3:1-5, Hebrews 2:14-end and Luke 2:22-40

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