



TONBRIDGE PARISH CHURCH

WEEKLY NEWS - SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER 2024

THIS SUNDAY

St Peter & St Paul 8am Communion Service: The fathers of Jesus: Matthew 1:18-23 10.45 Morning Service: The fathers of Jesus: Matthew 1:18-23 6pm Evening Service: Where is the King? Matthew 2:1-23	St Philip 10.45 Communion Service: The fathers of Jesus: Matthew 1:18-23	St Saviour 9.15 Morning Service: The fathers of Jesus: Matthew 1:18-23	St Andrew 9.45 Morning Service: The fathers of Jesus: Matthew 1:18-23
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CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

- **NEW There's always good news with Jesus...!** It was great to see over 40 people come into our church for the Christmas Pudding Making event. Many new faces we didn't recognise! And to have the opportunity to share something of the true meaning of Christmas with them. Lots more opportunities coming up over the next couple of weeks—do pray on! *Ben*

NEW Christianity Explored - an informal and relaxed seven-week course. For anyone who wants to think about the meaning of life. A great course if you want to brush up on the basics of the Christian faith or to invite non-Christians friends or family to. You don't need to know anything about the Bible and you won't be asked to pray or sing. You can ask any question you like, or you can just sit and listen. Whoever you are, whatever you are thinking, CE is a place for you to explore what life's all about. It might just be the best news you've ever heard. **Starting on Wed 15 Jan, for 7 weeks. Sign up [HERE](#) or via the 'Church Life' and 'Course' tab on website (or contact the Parish Office).**



- **SAVE THE DATES—Christmas services and events! (CHRISTMAS PUBLICITY NOW AVAILABLE!)**
 - **Carol Praise:** Sat 7 Dec, 3pm, St Andrew
 - **Gingerbread House evening:** Wed 11 Dec, 7.30pm, St Philip, booking essential.
Sign up [HERE](#) or via EVENTS tab on website, or contact the Parish office.
 - **Christmas Carol Singalong:** Sat 14 Dec, 4pm St Saviour.
 - **Carols by Candlelight:** Sun 15 Dec, 7pm, St Peter & St Paul.
 - **Pop up Nativity during 10.45am service:** Sun 15 Dec, 10.45am, St Peter & St Paul. Children can come dressed up ready in any Nativity costume (we will also have costumes children can borrow!).
 - **18-30s Christmas Social:** Thurs 19 Dec, 7-9pm, St Peter & St Paul, Lower Lounge.
Sign up via the EVENTS tab on the website or [HERE](#)
 - **Christingle:** Sat 21 Dec, 4pm, St Philip.
 - **Nativity:** Tues 24 Dec, 1.30-4.30pm (drop in for animals, crafts, refreshments, carols, with Nativity at 2.30 & 4pm)
 - **Midnight Communion:** Tue 24 Dec, 11.30pm, St Peter & St Paul.
 - **Christmas Day Celebrations:** 8am: Communion. Plus 10am: Christmas Celebrations in all our church buildings.
- **NEW Christmas donations** (from Christmas services) will be split between Christian Aid (disaster relief, supporting Ukraine & Gaza appeal) and Rock UK (Christian charity for children & young people, with local centre in Tonbridge).
- **NEW New group 'CONNECT' for Year 6-9 starting Thurs 23 Jan!** Like food? Like fun? Come along to our mid week Connect group! You'll find an array of games on offer, or just chill out with friends. Have some great food and listen to some great talks that help us think about what God means for our lives. Why not bring a friend, or seven! We'd love to see you all! Link to sign up - [HERE](#)
- **NEW Opportunity for all ages and stages!** Interested in helping with Connect? (see above!) Particularly with cooking/ serving tea? We'd love to hear from you if you are interested in serving this way. Do contact Ed or Alyson.
- **Save the date – Burns' Night Ceilidh** Fri 7 Feb 2025 at St Peter & St Paul: An evening with haggis supper and dancing and a short message about the Christian faith. Great to bring a non-Christian friend.

- **Opportunity to serve!** We're thankful to Maureen Gamage who is currently our Verger, faithfully supporting wedding and funerals. However, we are now looking for some more volunteers to support Maureen and our wedding and funeral services, including help with the AV desk. The commitment is usually two hours or so for each service and can be during the week or on Saturdays, intermittently throughout the year. For more information, please contact the Parish Office.

OTHER NEWS

- **Jane Austen's Birthday Celebration** will be held at The Parish Church On Thurs 12 Dec at 2.30pm. Prof. John Mullan will give the address: 'The Delights of Jane Austen's Dialogue'. Entrance for the address will be £5 on the door.
- **Donations to FEAST.** If you would like to support the work of FEAST this Christmas please drop off any donations (mince pies, Christmas cake, puddings, Yule log, chocolates , biscuits, biscuits for cheese) to the Parish Office by **THIS SUNDAY** (8 Dec). Many thanks.
- **NEW Kent Men's convention:** Sat 1 March, 10am-3pm, St Nicholas' Church Sevenoaks. 'Real Strength: Depending on God and His word through life's highs and lows'. Click [here](#) to find out more and book tickets. *If you are thinking of going and would be happy to coordinate lifts, please do contact the Parish Office.*

REGULAR GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Day	Group	Meet at...	Contact
Mon 9th	Book Club	10.15-11.45am, St Peter & St Paul	Wendy Carr / wendy.carr@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk
	Coffee lounge	10am-12pm	Parish Office / parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk
	Merry Makers	Not meeting until 13 Jan	Yvonne Burgess / bidburgess@gmail.com
	Coffee Break (inc. Thought for the Day)	10:30-11.30am, St Saviour	Alison Wise / a.wise.7@btinternet.com
	Men's Fellowship	7.45pm, St Philip	Ray Tanner / raytanner_1@btinternet.com
Tues 10th	Teddies (Toddler Group for parents / carers) Christmas Party!	9.30-11am, St Peter & St Paul	teddies@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk
Wed 11th	Tiny Acorns (parent & carer under-1's)	10:30am-12pm, St Peter & St Paul	Sara Thomson / sarajthomson44@gmail.com
	Coffee lounge	10am-12pm, St Peter & St Paul	Parish Office / parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk
Thurs 12th	Stepping Stones (Women's Bible Study with creche)	10-11.30am, St Peter & St Paul	Josephine Sinclair / josephinedb@yahoo.co.uk
	Craft Workshop	Not meeting until 9 Jan	Yvonne Burgess / bidburgess@gmail.com
	Open Door at St Andrew	2-4pm, St Andrew	Parish Office / parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk
	Church Family Monthly Prayer Meeting	7.30-9pm, St Peter & St Paul	Parish Office / parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk
Fri 13th	Church Family Prayers	9.30-9.50am on Zoom (853 4454 9144)	Parish Office / parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk
	Coffee lounge	10am-12pm, St Peter & St Paul	Parish Office / parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk
	Women's Fellowship at St Philip	7.30pm, St Philip	Marion Evans / marionevans244@gmail.com
Sat 14th	Prayer meeting	9-10am , St Peter & St Paul	Richard Roberts / richardbproberts2003@gmail.com
Various	Home Groups (for all Christians who are part of our church family across any of our four churches)	Various locations and times	John Schluter / john@schluter.ch

SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER

St Peter & St Paul 8am Communion Service: Mary's faith: Luke 1:26-55 10.45 Morning Service with Pop-up nativity: Mary's faith: Luke 1:26-55 7pm Parish Carols by candlelight	St Philip 10.45 Morning Service: Mary's faith: Luke 1:26-55	St Saviour 9.15 Morning Service: Mary's faith: Luke 1:26-55	St Andrew 9.45 Communion Service: Mary's faith: Luke 1:26-55
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Newsletter info: Tel 01732 770962 ext. 24 / email jane.thorndike@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk

Parish Office opening hours: Mon (10am-1pm), Wed (9am-12pm) & Fri (10am-1pm)