



The Parish of St. Martin & St. Paul Canterbury

Sunday 26th January 2025

Conversion of St Paul

Please consider donating to support our life and Christian mission:

- Giving regularly helps us cover our regular costs which are over £550 a day – join our giving scheme via our website or speak to a warden
- Give today with cash or card at the back of church
- Make a one-off donation via our website

Join our weekly newsletter:

To join our weekly email update please contact office@martinpaul.org

Today

9.00am Said Eucharist at St Martin's

Celebrant & Address: Reverend Lorraine Lawrence

10.30am Sung Patronal Eucharist with Sunday Zone at St Paul's

Celebrant & Address: Venerable Darren Miller

Hymns: 445, 294, 301, 848

Organist: David Rees-Williams

12noon Patronal Lunch in the Parish Centre

5.00pm Quiet Prayers at St Martin's

Parish prayers: We pray for Sophie, Harriet, Susan, Sophie, Joyce, Becky, Kate and Phillip, Bardie, Michael, and Nicola. We remember the memorial anniversary of Maurice Spillett.

Parish contacts:

We are currently in a vacancy. Please contact the Wardens via the office.

Rector-Designate: Revd Dr Mary Kells (From Spring 2025)

Parish Office Phone: 01227 768072 **Email:** office@martinpaul.org

Parish Office: Open 10-12 Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Pilgrim Post Editor: Revd Clive Barlow pilgrimpost@martinpaul.org or 784779

Tourism Manager: Jessica Morris visits@martinpaul.org or 768072.

Prayer Requests Gwyn Hartwell 451366 or Doreen Laven 760372

or on the website at www.martinpaul.org/prayers.

The Collect: Almighty God, who caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul: grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion may follow him in bearing witness to your

truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Lesson: Acts 9. 1-22:

¹Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' ⁵He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' ⁷The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' ¹¹The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' ¹³But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' ¹⁷So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.' ²¹All who heard him were amazed and said, 'Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?' ²²Saul became

increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 67:

1. God be merciful unto us, and bless us : and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us: 2. That thy way may be known upon earth : thy saving health among all nations. 3. Let the people praise thee, O God : yea, let all the people praise thee. 4. O let the nations rejoice and be glad : for thou shalt judge the folk righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. 5. Let the people praise thee, O God : let all the people praise thee. 6. Then shall the earth bring forth her increase : and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing. 7. God shall bless us : and all the ends of the world shall fear him. **(We stand for the Gloria): Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.**

Second Lesson: Galatians 1.11-16a:

¹¹ For I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin; ¹² for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. ¹³ You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it. ¹⁴ I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors. ¹⁵ But when God, who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace, was pleased ¹⁶ to reveal his Son to me, so that I might proclaim him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with any human being.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Matthew 19.27-end:

²⁷ Then Peter said in reply, 'Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?' ²⁸ Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. ²⁹ And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. ³⁰ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

Post Communion Collect: Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: by the power of the same Spirit strengthen us to witness to your truth and to draw everyone to the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

NOTICES

St Paul's Patronal Festival: Today, Sunday 26th January as we celebrate the Conversion of our patron saint, we welcome the energetic Venerable Darren Miller, Archdeacon of Ashford who will be preaching and presiding. The service will be followed by a patronal lunch in the Parish Centre – sign-up sheets are at the back of church.

SZ2 SZ2 (Sunday Zone for 11-16) will have a session during the service today. Come and help us explore what the word 'conversion' meant in the life of St Paul and what it might mean for us now.

Contemplating Candlemas: Sunday 2nd February, 5pm at St Pauls, a candlelit service of words, music and silence ending with our moving to the west door to mark our journey towards Lent.

Radio interview: Earlier in January Jess was interviewed by Radio Kent and the episode is now up on BBC Sounds <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0kk2dfr>.

A Date for your diaries and something to look forward to: **NOSH AND KNOWLEDGE. 1ST MARCH 7.30PM in St Paul's Church** It's a year since we held one, so start getting your tables organised and book with Sue Spillet.

DIARY

Monday 27th:	8.00am Daily Eucharist at Canterbury Cathedral
Tuesday 28th:	5.30pm Choral Evensong at Canterbury Cathedral
Wednesday 29th:	10:30am Prayer Book Eucharist and Coffee at St Paul's
Thursday 30th:	12Noon Midday Prayers at St Martin's
Friday 31st:	7.30pm Choir practice at St Paul's
Sunday 2nd February: Candlemas	
	9.00am Sung Eucharist at St Martin's
	10.30am Sung Eucharist with Sunday Zone at St Paul's
	5.00pm Contemplating Candlemas at St Paul's