



## The Parish of St. Martin & St. Paul Canterbury

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Epiphany

***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
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***Join our weekly newsletter:***

To join our weekly email update please contact [office@martinpaul.org](mailto:office@martinpaul.org)

### Today

**9.00am Sung Eucharist at St Martin's**

**Celebrant & Address: Reverend Diane Fawcett**

**Hymns: 89, 85, 83**

**Organist: Christopher Gower**

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

**Celebrant: Rev'd Lindsay Yates**

**Hymns: 96, 103, 99, 87**

**Address: Rosemary Walters**

**Organist: David Rees-Williams**

**5.00pm Service of the Three Wonders – St Martin's**

**Parish prayers:** We pray for Sophie, Harriet, Susan, Sophie, Joyce, Becky, Kate and Phillip, Kevin, and Nicola. We remember the memorial anniversaries of Dorothy Manklow, Patricia Ely, Betty Barker, Tom Harding, and Joan Weaver. We pray for Chris Northey, who died on Boxing Day and for his friends and family at this time.

### **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](mailto:office@martinpaul.org)

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

**Pilgrim Post Editor:** Revd Clive Barlow [pilgrimpost@martinpaul.org](mailto:pilgrimpost@martinpaul.org) or 784779

**Tourism Manager:** Jessica Morris [visits@martinpaul.org](mailto:visits@martinpaul.org) or 768072.

**Prayer Requests** Gwyn Hartwell 451366 or Doreen Laven 760372

or on the website at [www.martinpaul.org/prayers](http://www.martinpaul.org/prayers).

**The Collect:** O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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: Isaiah 60. 1-6:**

<sup>1</sup> Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup> For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. <sup>3</sup> Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. <sup>4</sup> Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. <sup>5</sup> Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. <sup>6</sup> A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord. This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 72. 10-15:**

<sup>10</sup>. The kings of Tharsis and of the isles shall give presents: the kings of Arabia and Saba shall bring gifts. <sup>11</sup>. All kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall do him service. <sup>12</sup>. For he shall deliver the poor when he crieth: the needy also, and him that hath no helper. <sup>13</sup>. He shall be favourable to the simple and needy: and shall preserve the souls of the poor. <sup>14</sup>. He shall deliver their souls from falsehood and wrong: and dear shall their blood be in his sight. <sup>15</sup>. He shall live, and unto him shall be given of the gold of Arabia: prayer shall be made ever unto him, and daily shall he be praised. **(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: Ephesians 3. 1-12:**

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— <sup>2</sup> for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup> and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup> a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup> In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup> that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. <sup>7</sup> Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup> Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the

Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ,<sup>9</sup> and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things;<sup>10</sup> so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.<sup>11</sup> This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,<sup>12</sup> in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

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

### **Gospel: Matthew 2.1-12**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem,<sup>2</sup> asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.'<sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him;<sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.<sup>5</sup> They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." <sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared.<sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.'<sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.<sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.<sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.<sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

**Post Communion Collect:** Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Anthem:** The choir will sing *The Desert* by Emma Mundella, arr. Olivia Sparkhall.

## **NOTICES**

**Are you looking to take the next step in your faith journey?** Around Easter, we are planning a special service for those who feel called to deepen their connection with God. If you're considering Baptism, Confirmation, or a child/young person wanting First Communion ahead of Confirmation, this is a meaningful opportunity to explore our shared faith. No need to have all the answers—just an open heart and a willingness to journey with God. Speak to a member of our ministry team to learn more.

**Three Wonders:** Join us tonight at 5pm at St Martin's as we celebrate the "Three Wonders." Through Gospel readings and collects, we will journey symbolically from the crib to the altar and the font. Reflect on your baptismal vows or renew your commitment to following Christ.

**Join the Mother's Union:** What is the Mothers' Union is all about? Would you like to know more or join? Chat to Sue, Jackie or any MU member to find out more, as we are having an enrolment on Sunday 19th January during the 10.30 service.

**Save the Date - St Paul's Patronal Festival:** On Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January as we celebrate the Conversion our patron saint, we will welcome the energetic Venerable Darren Miller, Archdeacon of Ashford who will be preaching and presiding. The **followed by a patronal lunch in the Parish Centre.**

**Choral Evensong and Supper:** On 19<sup>th</sup> January, 5pm join us as we welcome Revd Paulette Stubbings from St Alphege Seasalter as our guest preacher who will explore with us St Timothy and St Titus alongside our usual great music and supper afterwards.

## **DIARY**

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| <b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup>:</b>    | 8.00am Daily Eucharist at Canterbury Cathedral   |
| <b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>:</b>   | 5.30pm Choral Evensong at Canterbury Cathedral   |
| <b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>:</b> | 10:30am Prayer Book Eucharist and Coffee at St Paul's  |
| <b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>:</b>  | 12Noon Midday Prayers at St Martin's   |
| <b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup>:</b>   | 7.30pm Choir practice at St Paul's   |
| <b>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>:</b> | 9.30am MU Corporate Communion at St Paul's   |
| <b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>:</b>   | 9.00am Said Eucharist at St Martin's<br>10.30am Sung Parish Eucharist at St Paul's<br>3.30pm TeaTime Family Service at St Paul's |