

# St Peter & St Paul's Chaldon Newsletter

www.chaldonchurch.co.uk

JANUARY 2019 Edition



**HAPPY NEW YEAR  
from Chaldon Church**



## **'God's Language of Love'**

*Here are excerpts from the Christmas Day sermon from Justin Welby where he explores what the word made flesh means for all the world:*

'God's love, expressed in the word of Jesus, is not a language of sentiment and cheap comfort but a language fit for the reality of a harsh world of oppression, of cruelty, of injustice and suffering. It has a vocabulary for passion, for anger, for protest at injustice and lament. It is the language of the whole of scripture. It is the language lived by Jesus, and it starts in the manger.

Language is the tool through which we decipher and describe the world. God's language of love describes each of us, as we are, not as we pretend, claim, simulate or deceive.

God's language of love changes us as we use it. When we weep over the suffering of a friend, lament the loss of one whom we loved, celebrate new life, discover how much someone loves us, we do so more deeply when we are filled with the love of God, a love expressed in the Word that comes into our lives through this child in the manger, God's language of love.

When great events stir us, or gathering shadows in nation or world wake us in the dark hours, we bring light when we turn to God made flesh and speak the language of God's love.

When suffering overwhelms, and all answers seem vain, God's word is faithful – faithful to those who do not have the strength to hang on to God. This language is spoken even when we cannot receive it.

God's language of love is exclusive. It requires us to forget other languages of hatred, tribalism, rivalry, political advantage and of materialism, pride, greed, and so many more.

God's language of love is not mushy sentiment. In the bible we see the richness of its vocabulary. It encompasses every aspect of living, and every aspect of knowing God. Jesus the adult spoke it perfectly. The baby in the manger lives it flawlessly before He can speak a word, because by His mere existence He is the Word of God to us.

God's language of love is not just for Christians, or for the comfortable and respectable. Shepherds learned it from angels. Shepherds - awkward, often drunken, frequently violent, seldom religious in the sense the religious leaders wanted. Kings came, foreigners and outsiders, and they learned the language.

To follow Jesus is not through compulsion, for he has expressed God's language of love by being a baby, so vulnerable and weak, so easily overlooked.

To follow Jesus is not to become dull and tedious, for in him is light and life more than anywhere else in all eternity. The very heavens shake with the music of his birth.

In him is love spoken and reliable. In Him is a new language that transforms us and all around us, God's language of love

If you need to contact a member of clergy please telephone our Curate, Rev. Helen Burnett,  
on 01737 243606 or Email: [stpeterandstpaulschurch@gmail.com](mailto:stpeterandstpaulschurch@gmail.com)

FRIENDS OF CHALDON CHURCH  
St Peter & St Paul's Church  
Chaldon, CR3 5AL



## Organ Recital

**Sat 12th January 2019  
at 2.00pm**

by Mr Jeffrey Gray

Tea and cakes will be available  
Tickets £5 per person at the church door  
All proceeds will go towards the church fabric repair fund

**Wedding Preparation Morning for 2019  
26th January  
at St Paul's Church, Woldingham**

For more details please speak to Rev Helen

**Caterham Churches Together  
MORNING PRAYER 8.30am**

In January on Wednesday mornings they are meeting at Whyteleafe Free Church, Godstone Road.

## DONATING TO CHALDON CHURCH



If you want to donate to Chaldon Church online or know a friend that may have visited the church and wants to donate you can now do this by visiting our My Donate page at

<https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/chaldonchurch>

## Services During January

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Jan EPIPHANY**  
8.00am BCP Eucharist  
11.15am All Age Eucharist Service

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Jan BAPTISM OF CHRIST**  
8.00am BCP Eucharist  
11.15am Eucharist & Junior Church

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Jan 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY**  
8.00am BCP Eucharist  
11.15am Eucharist & Junior Church

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY**  
8.00am BCP Eucharist  
11.15am Matins & Junior Church

**On Thursday mornings  
all are welcome to our  
10.30am Eucharist**

## ELECTORAL ROLL REVIEW

There will be a complete review of our electoral roll in the first quarter of 2019. Those currently on the roll will be required to complete a new form together with anyone who is not currently on the roll but wishes to be added.

The criteria are stated on the forms which will be available in church from January.

Please return completed forms to our Electoral Roll Officer, Ros Rawling or one of your churchwardens, who would also be happy to help with any questions you may have.

**Service for Christian Unity  
with guest preacher**

January 20<sup>th</sup> starts at 7pm,  
St Paul's Church, Woldingham

## Bring and Share Lunch



**3<sup>rd</sup> February 2019  
1pm  
at St Luke's**

If you would like to attend,  
please put your name on the list on the  
Noticeboard (mid Jan)  
**All are welcome**

## READERS ROTA

	GOSPEL	N T
<b>6<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Matthew 2 v 1-12	N/A
Epiphany		
<b>13<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Luke 3 v15-17,21-22	Acts 8 v14-17
Baptism of Christ	<b>Ted Howard</b>	<b>Ann Howard</b>
<b>20<sup>th</sup> January</b>	John 2 v 1-11	1 Corinthians 12 v1-11
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany	<b>Mark Oswald</b>	<b>Angela Charlton</b>
<b>27<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Luke 4 v14-21	1 Corinthians 12 v12-31a
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany	<b>Peter Taylor</b>	<b>John Gilbert</b>

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

Our Zimbabwe Link Parish, St Matthew's, Gweru  
The sick: Pete Adkins, Pat Johnson and those who care for them,  
The bereaved and the departed.