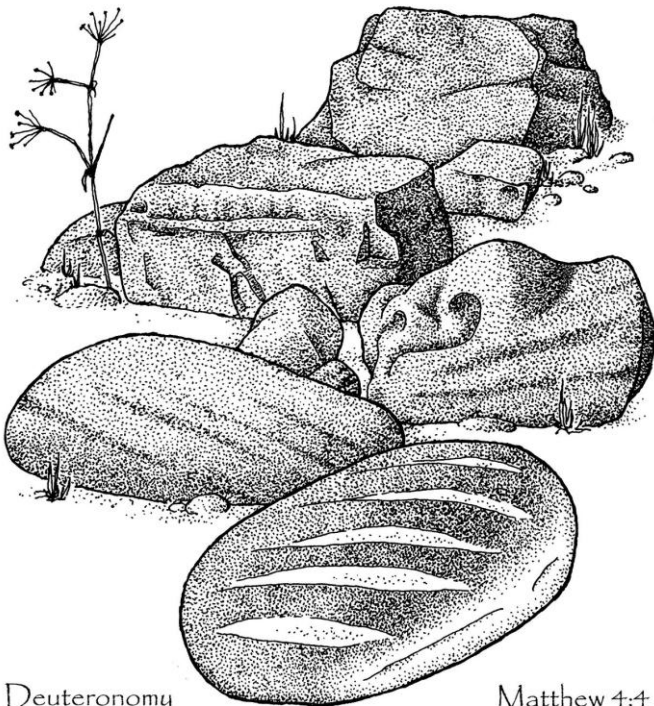


**The Parish Church of St Paul
Ansdell & Fairhaven**

Pews News Extra

Issue No 88 – February 2016



Deuteronomy
8:3

Matthew 4:4

Bread is not enough to keep us alive;
we need to feed on every word of God

CHURCH OFFICERS

Vicar

Vacant

Reader

Miss Janet Kimber

Reader Emeritus

Mr Peter Swindells

Church Wardens

Mrs Sheila Swindells

Mr Alan Wrapson

Verger

Mrs Carole Johnson

Pastoral Assistants

Mrs Rhona Robinson

Parish Secretary

Mrs Pamela Rowell

Treasurer

Mrs Loraine Lee

Organist

Mrs Linda Carrington

For a full list of Who's Who as St Paul's please pick up a list from the Parish Office, Church or St. Paul's Fundraising Shop

Parish Office

Tel No 01253 732939

Fundraising Shop

Tel No 01253 732253

Website

www.stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com

E-mail

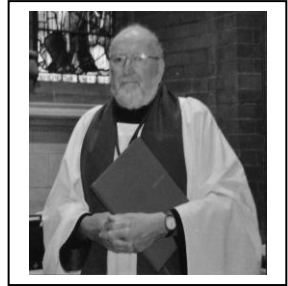
stpaulsoffice2@gmail.com

To hire the Church Hall please contact
The Parish Office (Tel 01253 732939)

A few words from your Reader Emeritus...

Dear Friends,

Well here we are again, the start of a new year 2016. By the time you read this we will be more than a month into it. However, it's not too late to wish you all, on behalf of Sheila and myself, "A very Happy New Year". Let's hope that with the changes that are bound to happen, it will bring joy and peace.



Janet, last month in the Pews News Extra spoke about 'resolutions'. I hope that you are still keeping them. No matter how difficult it can be, we can always try and try again.

Unfortunately, the flood situations and all the heartache that they have brought, are still with us. I ask you to continue to keep the people who are in difficulties in your prayers.

Our vacancy and search for a new Vicar is still ongoing. I know it may seem to be taking a long time, but I can assure you that those involved are working very hard to bring it to a successful end. Please keep our Parish and all those who are concerned with its working, in your prayers.

By the time you read this, events will have taken place, which I hope most of us will have joined in with, like the Churches Together Service held in our church and our Patronal Festival. They are celebrations that are important to us.

Looking forward to February. On February 2nd, we have the Presentation of Christ in the Temple or, as it is also known, Candlemas. This is the date when the crib is removed from church; and the end of the Christmas period.

So we move into Lent, beginning with Ash Wednesday when there will be Eucharist Services with the imposition of ashes at 10:00am and 7:30pm. Lent is another important time when we should all think and take more time to look at ourselves within the church, using prayer and Bible reading in a positive way to hopefully contribute to a better world.

Also, as has happened in the past, we will be having our Lent Lunches on Wednesdays throughout Lent. Please make every effort to attend at the different churches. It gives us again, a chance to meet with other Christians and all in a good cause.

Yours in Christ

Peter S.



A Prayer for the Vacancy

Heavenly Father, you have called us together as members of your Church in this parish. Deepen our love for you and strengthen our fellowship one with another as we face this time of uncertainty and change. Keep us faithful in prayer and worship; and fill us with your vision and energy as we seek to bring new life to our community.



Strengthen and guide Alan and Sheila, the PCC and the Parish Representatives as they take the Parish forward; and speak into the hearts of all those whom you are calling to serve in this Parish, that they may hear your call and be obedient to your calling. This we ask in the name of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



READERS' ROTA – SUNDAY (10:30am)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Reading: 1st:OT & Psalm, 2nd:NT</u>		<u>Name</u>
7th February Last before Lent	1st	Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99	Eileen Russell
	2nd	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Audrey Naylor
14th February Lent 1	1st	Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Ps 91:1-2, 9-16	Ken Pocock
	2nd	Romans 10:8b-13	Jo Pocock
21st February Lent 2	1st	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Ps 27	Bryan Nicholson
	2nd	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Charlotte Johnston
28th February Lent 3	1st	Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8	tba
	2nd	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Barbara Jackson



Hello everyone, January has been a quiet month if somewhat colder now. We have sadly lost two of our indoor members – Kath Marsh and Marion Fitton, and a former Enrolling Member – Marian Wood. We will miss them and we send our sincere condolences to the families.

At our meeting on 22nd February, we have Sue Wilkes who will talk about puppy walking and our Fellowship Meeting on 25th February with Mr John Boe. Please don't forget either date.

If you haven't yet paid your subscriptions please see either Judith or me, as we have to send our Annual Return to the Deanery this month.

As we make our way into 2016 we pray:

Heavenly Father, thank you for the seasons,
The freshness of Spring, and new life.
The colours of Autumn, nature in all its splendour.
The wonder of Winter, and the Holy Birth.
Thank you for the seasons of our lives
And the same faithfulness to us,
As in all your creation. Amen

(Margaret Royle)

Jean Lyon



EVENING PRAYER ROTA – SUNDAY (4:00pm)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Said/Sung</u>	<u>Leader</u>	<u>Preacher</u>
7th February	Last before Lent	Sung	Janet K.	Elizabeth O'Connor
14th February	Lent 1	Said	Peter S.	Peter S.
21st February	Lent 2	Sung	Janet K.	Linda C.
28th February	Lent 3	Said	Janet K.	Janet K.

February 2016

Monday 1st	<u>PCC Meeting</u> 7:00pm ~ in the Vicarage
Tuesday 2nd	<u>Beavers & Cubs</u> 6 – 8:30pm in the Church Hall
Wednesday 3rd	<u>Holy Communion</u> 10:00am in the Lady Chapel <u>Coffee Morning</u> 10:30am in the Church Hall
Thursday 4th	<u>Thursday Worship</u> 6:15 – 7:30pm in the Church Hall
Friday 5th	<u>Rainbows, Brownies & Guides</u> 5 – 9pm in the Church Hall
Saturday 6th	<u>Men's Prayer Breakfast</u> 8:15am ~ in the Shop
Sunday 7th	<u>Sunday next before Lent</u> 8:30am Holy Communion 10:30am Parish Eucharist 4:00pm Sung Evening Prayer
Tuesday 9th	<u>Beavers & Cubs</u> 6 – 8:30pm in the Church Hall
Wednesday 10th	<u>Ash Wednesday Holy Communion</u> 10:00am in the Lady Chapel <u>Coffee Morning</u> 10:30am in the Church Hall <u>Sung Eucharist</u> 7:30pm in Church
Thursday 11th	<u>Thursday Worship</u> 6:15 – 7:30pm in the Church Hall
Friday 12th	<u>Rainbows, Brownies & Guides</u> 5 – 9pm in the Church Hall
Sunday 14th	<u>Lent 1</u> 8:30am Holy Communion 10:30am Parish Eucharist 4:00pm Said Evening Prayer

Tuesday 16th	<u>Beavers & Cubs</u> 6 – 8:30pm in the Church Hall
Wednesday 17th	<u>Holy Communion</u> 10:00am in the Lady Chapel <u>Coffee Morning</u> 10:30am in the Church Hall <u>Lent Lunch</u> Time and venue yet to be arranged
Thursday 18th	<u>Thursday Worship</u> 6:15 – 7:30pm in the Church Hall
Friday 19th	<u>Rainbows, Brownies & Guides</u> 5 – 9pm in the Church Hall
Sunday 21st	<u>Lent 2</u> 8:30am Holy Communion 10:30am Parish Eucharist 4:00pm Sung Evening Prayer
Monday 22nd	<u>Mothers' Union Meeting</u> 2:15pm in the Church Hall
Tuesday 23rd	<u>Beavers & Cubs</u> 6 – 8:30pm in the Church Hall
Wednesday 24th	<u>Holy Communion</u> 10:00am in the Lady Chapel <u>Coffee Morning</u> 10:30am in the Church Hall <u>Lent Lunch</u> Time and venue yet to be arranged
Thursday 25th	<u>Thursday Worship</u> 6:15 – 7:30pm in the Church Hall <u>St. Paul's Fellowship Meeting</u> 7:30pm in the Church Hall
Friday 26th	<u>Rainbows, Brownies & Guides</u> 5 – 9pm in the Church Hall
Sunday 28th	<u>Lent 3</u> 8:30am Holy Communion 10:30am Parish Eucharist 4:00pm Said Evening Prayer



*Further details of the above events can be
found on the Weekly Pews News Sheet*

PARISHIONER'S CORNER



Christmas Shoe Boxes

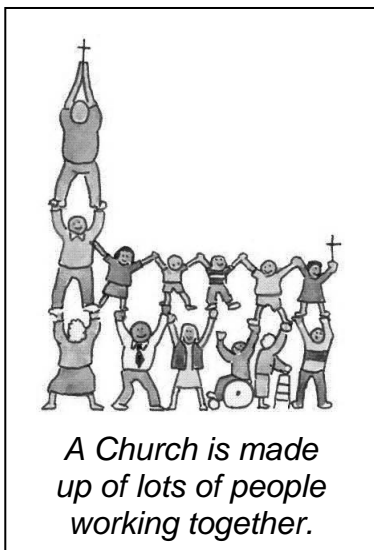
We have decided to do this again. Thanks to all those who have helped before. As it's so cold and windy now, we thought we would start with hats and gloves. There will be a box at the back of Church, as usual.

Sheila



Looking to the Future

I am writing to put you all in the picture of the situation of my role as Church Warden. I have decided, purely for personal reasons, to retire as Church Warden once again; and as a member of the PCC. This will take effect from the APCM and I hope you will all understand that it is a difficult decision I have had to make.



In looking to the future, we have successfully seen the parish through a large part of the vacancy. We now need to look for people who will take on the roles of Church Warden, but also people who will stay on, or join, the PCC. We also need people who will volunteer for certain areas of work to help the Church Wardens.

Please think hard and pray that we will achieve a team of people who will be there to keep us all going and to assist a new vicar when he or she arrives. Our APCM will soon be upon us.

Sheila



An article taken from the 'Looking at Your Community' Section of the Parish Pump:-

All the lonely old people ...

A silent epidemic is sweeping our land – the loneliness of old people trapped at home. With many families living at a distance from each other, and technology removing the need for face-to-face encounters (to collect pensions, etc) there are hundreds of thousands of older people who can get through an entire week hardly speaking to a soul.

Is there anything that we might do to help some of the lonely old people who live near our church? There is a scheme in the Highlands where a number of volunteers agree to each ring several older people each morning, just to make contact. 'Morning Call' has been praised by the medical authorities as well as the older folk, who call it a lifeline. As one lady explained: "Knowing that I would be receiving a phone call from a Morning Call volunteer gave me a reason to get out of bed ... the calls have become a much looked-forward to event."

So here is an idea: would there be any volunteers in our church who would agree to each make one or two phone calls a day, to local elderly people who would otherwise go all day without speaking to anyone? The phone call would be just to wish them good morning, and to make sure they are all right. If so, perhaps we could start, in a very small way, some sort of scheme to help our lonely local old folk. If such a scheme interests you, please let me know.



On a similar theme:

Visits and Home Communion

Members of the Mothers' Union, our Pastoral Assistant and many of our Parishioners regularly visit the Housebound members of our Church Family; but if you know of anyone who would appreciate a visit or would like to receive Communion at home, please let me know.



Janet K

NOTES FROM THE ORGAN LOFT

CHRISTMAS MUSIC

The staff and residents of Lake View Care Home were grateful to singers from St. Paul's who provided festive good cheer in their carol singing visit.



Our small choir are having genuine difficulties in getting together for practices these days, and we're grateful to them for volunteering to have two Tuesday afternoon practices so that they could offer items for the Carol Service and Christmas Eve Midnight Eucharist.

MARIAN WOOD

It was with great sadness that we received the news of Marian Wood's death towards the end of December. Marian was one of our longest serving choristers, and it was fitting that her choir long service medal was placed on the coffin during her funeral service. This medal bears the word 'persevere'. She certainly exemplified the concept of perseverance, especially in recent years when afflicted by accidents and frail health. Marian always maintained the hope that she would be strong enough to sing in the choir again, but unfortunately this wasn't to be. I knew Marian mainly through her membership of the choir, but I am well aware of the enormous contribution she had made in many facets of the church's life over the decades. Her dedication to the mission of St. Paul's was incalculable. May she rest in peace.

MARY WINTERFLOOD

We are delighted that Mary Winterflood, a contralto in our choir, was awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Year Honours List. This was for voluntary service to young people in Lancashire through the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. We have been accustomed to Mary's, and husband Ian's, absence from church because they were helping youngsters to prepare for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Congratulations, Mary, on receiving this reward for your hard work!

Linda



Saint of the Month



Caedmon - The Poetic Shepherd

Feast Day ~ 11th February

Caedmon (d 680) should be the patron saint of all farmers who enjoy humming to themselves as they do the lambing this Spring. For Caedmon of Whitby was a bit like David in the Bible – he grew up as a simple herdsman out on the hills who enjoyed composing songs and poetry for himself while watching his flocks.

Like David, Caedmon also had a keen awareness of God, and used his creative gift to express his devotion and love for his Creator.

When his poems and songs became known to others, they liked them so much that soon Caedmon left his sheep in order to become a monk. This gave him time to compose many poems based on the stories in the Bible: from Creation and Genesis, to the Exodus and entry of the Jews into the promised land, to the birth, passion and resurrection of Christ, and finally to the future Last Judgement, Heaven, and Hell.

Then one day Caedmon suddenly announced that he knew he was going to die soon. And so he did, in a state of charity and peace with everyone. There was great mourning.

Sadly, only nine lines of his poetry has survived, and we have the great historian, Bede, to thank for even that much. But in his time, Caedmon's gift of telling Christian stories in the vernacular must have been of great value in evangelising the common folk.



ASH WEDNESDAY



Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. But why 'Ash' Wednesday? The reason has to do with getting things right between you and God, and the tradition goes right back to the Old Testament.

In the Old Testament, the Israelites often sinned. When they finally came to their senses, and saw their evil ways as God saw them, they could do nothing but repent in sorrow. They mourned for the damage and evil they had done. As part of this repentance, they covered their heads with ashes. For the Israelites, putting ashes on your head, and even rending your clothes, was an outward sign of their heart-felt repentance and acknowledgement of sin. (See Genesis 18:27; 2 Samuel 13:19; Job 2:8, 30:19; Isaiah 58:5; Jeremiah 6:26; Jonah 3:6)

In the very early Christian Church, the yearly 'class' of penitents had ashes sprinkled over them at the beginning of Lent. They were turning to God for the first time, and mourning their sins. But soon many other Christians wanted to take part in the custom, and to do so at the very start of Lent. They heeded Joel's call to 'rend your hearts and not your garments' (Joel 2:12-19). Ash Wednesday became known as either the 'beginning of the fast' or 'the day of the ashes'.

The collect for today goes back to the Prayer Book, and stresses the penitential character of the day. It encourages us with the reminder of the readiness of God to forgive us and to renew us.

The Bible readings for today are often Joel 2:1-2, 12 – 18, Matthew 6: 1-6, 16 – 21 and Paul's moving catalogue of suffering, "as having nothing and yet possessing everything." (2 Corinthians 5:20b - 6:10)

The actual custom of 'ashing' was abolished at the Reformation, though the old name for the day remained. Today, throughout the Church of England, receiving the mark of ashes on one's forehead is optional. Certainly the mark of ashes on the forehead reminds people of their mortality: "Remember that you are dust and to dust you will return..." (Genesis 3:19)

The late medieval custom was to burn the branches used on Palm Sunday in the previous year in order to create the ashes for today.

The Collect for Ash Wednesday:

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; 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.



Flame of a Candle

Nigel Beeton writes: 'Many churches use candles either as part of worship, or burning in places of prayer within them, and many Christians use them at home to provide a focus for contemplation, meditation, or intercession. I was wondering, what does the flame of a candle remind us of?'

'See the candle flame a-burning
See its flick'ring, dancing light;
See how it, the darkness spurning
Burns throughout the darkest night.

Light of faith, of God reminding
As His Spirit, long ago
Lit the first apostles, finding
Faith within the Spirit's glow.

Light of life – God's life eternal
Won through Christ's atoning death
Sparing us from Hell, infernal
Granting us His living breath!

Light of hope, in God victorious
For we know that He will win
When we'll see His flames of glorious
Vict'ry o'er the pow'r of sin!

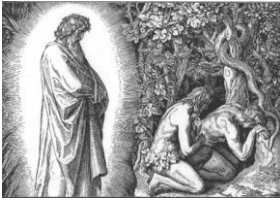
Light your candle, kneel and praise Him
Kneel and praise the Lord of Hosts;
Let your prayers and praises raise Him
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

By Nigel Beeton



Most popular Bible Stories

No. 2 ~ Adam and Eve (Genesis Ch.1-3)



This month we continue our series looking at the top ten Must Know Stories. We will look at the story of Adam and Eve (Genesis 1-3), reflecting on God's question to Adam: 'Where are you?' (Genesis 3:9).

These chapters remind us that God is our creator. He created Adam and Eve in his image (1:27), to steward the earth and enjoy an intimate relationship with each other and Himself. This remains God's purpose for our lives, despite living in a fallen world, where things have gone wrong.

We also see that God calls us to obey His commands. Adam and Eve were told not to eat the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (2:15-17). This command was for their benefit and protection, so that they could continue to enjoy fellowship of God. The story shows that disobeying this command and eating the fruit brought separation and death. When God questioned Adam and Eve they were hiding in the garden from their loving Father.

God asks us all 'Where are you?', for we all share Adam and Eve's story. The universal condition of humanity is that we have all sinned and are separated from God's love and life. Yet this story points to a second Adam, Jesus Christ, who came to bring us back into relationship with the Father. His death and resurrection enables each of us to know God personally in our lives.

The story is told of an estranged Spanish father and son. Having searched for his son in vain, the father finally puts an ad in a local newspaper. The ad read: 'Dear Paco, meet me in front of this newspaper office at noon on Saturday. All is forgiven. I love you. Your Father'. On the Saturday, 800 Pacos showed up!

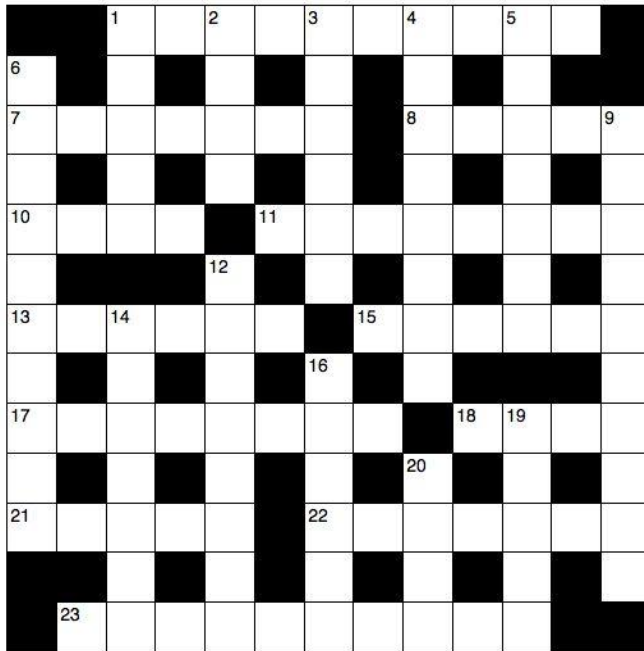


*Many of the articles and pictures in the
Pews News Extra are sourced from the
Parish Pump Website and the
Association of Church Editors monthly edition of "Ideas Forum"*



February 2016 Crossword

(The Bible version used in these crosswords is the NIV.)



Across

- 1 Success or wealth (Deuteronomy 28:11) (10)
- 7 Forbidden fruit for Nazirites (Numbers 6:3) (7)
- 8 Concede (Job 27:5) (5)
- 10 Look at (Psalm 48:13) (4)
- 11 Much in evidence after weddings (8)
- 13 Condense (Job 36:27) (6)
- 15 Breakwater (6)
- 17 Give a tan (anag.) (8)
- 18 More usually now called Pentecost, — Sunday (4)
- 21 After living for 365 years, it was said of him that 'he walked with God' (Genesis 5:23–24) (5)
- 22 Trampled (Judges 9:27) (7)
- 23 For example, Miriam, Deborah (Exodus 15:20; Judges 4:4) (10)

Down

- 1 Arrogance (Proverbs 8:13) (5)
- 2 Roman poet from first century BC (4)
- 3 So rapt (anag.) (6)
- 4 Declare again (2 Corinthians 2:8) (8)
- 5 Paul's 'fellow worker', to whom he sent two epistles (Romans 16:21) (7)
- 6 God's foreseeing care and protection (Job 10:12) (10)
- 9 Traditional form of Roman Catholic Mass (10)
- 12 'The Lord... has given the — of Israel to David and his descendants for ever' (2 Chronicles 13:5) (8)
- 14 'My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my — ' (Luke 1:46–47) (7)
- 16 The central element in Nebuchadnezzar's dream, identified and interpreted by Daniel (Daniel 2:31) (6)
- 19 'On this rock I will build my church, and the gates of — will not overcome it' (Matthew 16:18) (5)
- 20 City where Paul was under house arrest for two years (Acts 28:16) (4)



Miscellaneous observations on life and faith ...

- The old forget, the young don't know. (German proverb)
- Adversity makes a man wise, not rich. (Anon)
- Whenever you read the Gospel, Christ himself is speaking to you. And while you read you are praying and talking to him. (St Tikhon of Zadonsk)



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Time for a Smile

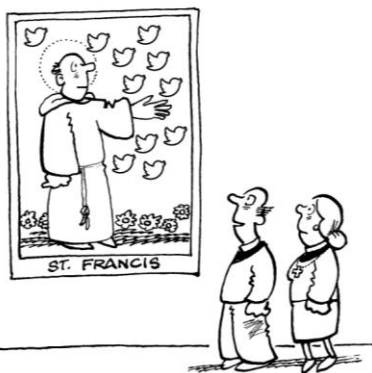
Giving up for Lent

At the end of the vicar's pre-Lent sermon he suggested, as an example to the rest of the community, that the congregation should worship in an unheated church for the whole of Lent. As they made their way into the chill Sunday air the vicar addressed one member of the congregation, asking what she had decided to give up for Lent.

"Church," she replied firmly.



"But look," said Martin, "Maltesers have hardly any chocolate on."



He's been updated. He's now the patron saint of tweeting!

In a Sack

Seen in a church magazine:

'Bring your old newspapers (and your neighbours), put them in a sack and tie them if possible.'

Judgement?

This true story concerns the visit of a visiting preacher to a little village chapel... 'He was a few minutes into his sermon when, without warning, about twenty square feet of thick and decayed Victorian plaster fell from high on one wall and crashed into a group of empty pews below. As the dense fog of dust began to settle, and it became clear no one was injured, the minister prepared to resume his sermon. Then he paused, and looked heavenward and in a slightly pained voice, asked: "Was it something I said?"'



Come and Join Us! Everyone is Welcome!

Regular Church Hall Activities

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Organisation</u>
4th Monday	2:15 - 4:15pm	Mothers' Union
	Evening	Zumba Class
Tuesday	6:00 – 8:15pm	Beavers & Cubs (Term-Time only)
	From 10:30am	Church Coffee Morning
Wednesday	8:00 - 9:00pm	Zumba Dancing
Thursday	6:15 – 7:30pm	Family Service
Friday	5:00 - 9:00pm	Rainbows, Brownies & Guides (Term-Time only)

Other Regular Church Activities

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Where</u>
1st Saturday	8:00-9:00am	Prayer Breakfast	In the Shop

St. Paul's Fundraising Shop

(Woodlands Road)

Opening Hours

**Monday to Saturday
10:00am until 4:30pm.**



***Volunteers are needed. If you can help in any way please
contact Trisha Godley on 01253 732253.***

Ansdell and Fairhaven St. Paul

Church Services

Sunday

8:30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
10:30am	Parish Eucharist (CW)
4:00pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)

Wednesday

10:00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
---------	----------------------

Thursday

6:15pm Thursday Service

(A service for the younger members of our church, including songs, Bible Stories, prayers and activities.)



(BCP ~Book of Common Prayer; CW ~ Common Worship)

'Parish Surgery' ~ *If you wish to arrange a baptism or a wedding; make a hall booking; or to discuss matters of concern, you are welcome to attend either of the following surgeries:*

Tuesday ~ 4:30-5:30pm at St. Paul's Fund Raising Shop

Wednesday ~ 9:00-9:30am at the Parish Office



Requests for Weddings, Baptisms, etc.

Anyone wishing to arrange a wedding or baptism or perhaps to make an appointment on another matter, please:

- visit our website and complete/submit the form available;
- attend one of our parish surgeries (listed above)
- speak to one of the churchwardens;
- ring or email the parish office;

All relevant contact details are provided elsewhere.

Please note that baptisms may be accommodated at any of our services with the main options being:

- during the Sunday morning 10.30 service;
- a separate family service at 12 noon on a Sunday; or
- at the Family Service on Thursday at 6.15pm.

Dates for Your Diary

February 2016



Monday 1st	<u>PCC Meeting</u> 7:00pm ~ in the Vicarage
Saturday 6th	<u>Men's Prayer Breakfast</u> 8:15am ~ in the Shop
Wednesday 10th	<u>Ash Wednesday</u> Holy Communion at 10:00am and 7:30pm ~ both with the Imposition of Ashes
Wednesday 17th	<u>Lent Lunch</u> Time and venue to be arranged
Monday 22nd	<u>Mothers' Union Meeting</u> 2:15pm in the Church Hall
Wednesday 24th	<u>Lent Lunch</u> Time and venue to be arranged
Thursday 25th	<u>St. Paul's Fellowship Meeting</u> 7:30pm in the Church Hall



*A Date
for
Your Diary*

LENT LUNCH & ORGAN RECITAL **AT ST. PAUL'S**

Wednesday 9th March at 12noon
(More details to follow.)



ARTICLES FOR THE MARCH PNE

If you have an article for inclusion in the March PNE,
please make sure that I have it by **Monday 15th February**
Thank you.

Janet Kimber



*For more information about our Weekly Services and Activities
please see pages 18 and 19*