

## Today

Welcome to **St. Paul's All-Age** Worship Service, the first Sunday of Advent. We are pleased to welcome Mike Connolly from True Vine Church Newport as our speaker today.



If you are new or visiting please make yourself known and feel welcome to join us for tea and coffee, before and after the service▲

For young people

Crèche - facilities in the back room▲

### St. Paul's Coffee Morning - Sat 9th Dec!



Gentlemen required.... Regardless of age or experience, you are hereby summoned to assist with our Coffee ('n mince pies etc!) Morning on Saturday 9th December in the Christian Centre. Speak to Ian ASAP!

*P.S. There may be 'photo opportunities' to capture men washing up and wielding tea towels!*

*Light (or should I say Dark?)* When arriving on the Isle of Wight for a month of work this autumn, I was struck by the number of advertised events to do with lights. There had previously been summer events with illuminations but they had not registered with me. When questioning God about this, the subject of light sprang to mind and was confirmed at church the following day when the speaker referred to this subject.

The precise thought I believe God gave me is that as the times grow darker, the lights that our lives potentially give off become far more noticeable and important.

In John 8, the day after the last day of the autumn festival of Sukkot (Tabernacles), Jesus was back teaching in the temple. He said in v12:

*I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light which gives life.*

The darkening days of autumn following this festival may well have enhanced the picture that Jesus was giving. His listeners may have been led to consider the contrast portrayed in Psalm 107:10-12 which says:

*Some lived in darkness, in death-dark gloom, bound in misery and iron chains, because they defied God's Word, scorned the council of the Most High. So he humbled their hearts by hard labour; when they stumbled, no one came to their aid.*

At Jesus' words their hope may have stirred when recollecting that the same passage goes on in vv13-14 to say:

*In their trouble they cried to Adonai, and he rescued them from their distress. He led them from darkness,*

## Collect

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

*from death dark gloom, shattering their chains.*

Was Jesus this awaited rescuer?

Times of Great Darkness...

It was in a time of great darkness for Israel when Jesus had made his home at Capernaum of Galilee and preached the Good News to the Israelites around the region. Because of the dark times of Roman oppression, people were looking to Adonai for the promised Messiah and would have seen Jesus' light shine out all the more clearly. These same listeners may have recalled the prophecy in Isaiah 8:23-9:1 that Matthew (4:12-16), refers to:

**Land of Z'vulan and land of Naftali, toward the lake, beyond the Yarden, Galil-of-the-Nations – the people living in darkness have seen a great light; upon those living in the region, in the shadow of death, light has dawned.**

This same picture could apply to our rebellious British Isles and many other Gentile nations today. It is such darkness into which we are surely heading more and more. But it is also in times of darkness that our own lights may become most evident.

As part of Jesus' explanation of Torah in his 'Sermon on the Mount', he told his disciples:

*You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Likewise when people **light a lamp, they don't** cover it with a bowl but put it on a lampstand, so that it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before people, so that they may see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven.*



As the darkness increases over our land, so we must let our light shine all the more!

John Quinlan▲

# This week

Date	Time	Event
Tue 5th	9:45am	Little Rascals Parent and Toddler Group for 0 - Pre-school 5's. Meets in the Christian Centre.
Wed 6th	10:15am	Holy Communion - Rev. Carol Smart.
Thu 7th	2:00pm 2:15pm 7:00pm 7:45pm	Tea & Chat - Join us in the Christian Centre 2:00pm to 4:00pm. Ladies Fellowship - See Mary or Margaret. Worship Team Practice. Christmas Choir Practice.
Sat 9th	10:00am	<b>St. Paul's Coffee Morning</b> Come along to the Christian Centre for Tea, Coffee & Mince Pies! Men in charge! 10:00am - 12:00pm.



## Looking ahead - Dates for your diary...

Date	Time	Event
Sun 10th	9:45am 10:00am	'Ignite' - Christian Centre. Worship & Communion Service - Rev. Dennis Lloyd.
Sat 16th	2:00pm	'Carols in the Square' - Churches Working Together in Newport event.
Sun 17th	9:45am 10:00am 6:30pm	'Ignite' - (Christmas Party) - Christian Centre. Worship & Communion Service - Rev. Carol Smart. Speaker Linda Sourris. Carols by Candlelight - Rev. Howard Cunningham.
Mon 18th	2:15pm	Summerfields Primary School Christingle Service.
Fri 22nd		School holidays start. (Yippee!)
Sun 24th	10:00am 9:00pm	'Messy Christmas...' - for all the family! Christmas Eve Communion Service - Canon Alan Brown.
Mon 25th	10:00am	CHRISTMAS DAY All Age Worship & Communion for Christmas Morning - Rev. Carol Smart.

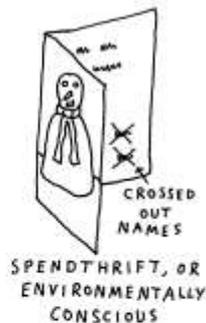
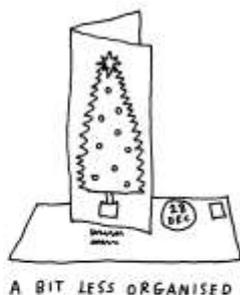


Keep up to date with News & Events at St. Paul's! You can sign-up for our weekly email on the website: Go to: Home > News and Events > Weekly Newsletter

### Contact St. Paul's

Website: [stpaulsarton.co.uk](http://stpaulsarton.co.uk)  
Email: [stpaulsarton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stpaulsarton@hotmail.co.uk)  
Tel / Text: 07817 610561  
Twitter: @StPaulsBarton

## CHRISTMAS CARDS



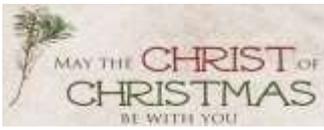
**WELCOME...**

**...for tea and chat...**

at  
St. Paul's Christian Centre  
School Lane, Barton, Newport  
2pm - 4pm  
Come and join us!

Cup of tea and cake £ 1 . 50

Tea and chat will be held on the  
**FIRST** Thursday each month



# Christmas 2017...

## This Christmas at **St. Paul's**

Staplers Road Newport

*Sunday 17th December*

**6.30pm Carols by Candlelight**

**Christmas Eve**  
**10am Messy Christmas**  
*Fun for all the family, with breakfast!*  
**9pm Holy Communion**

**Christmas Day**  
**10am All Age**  
**Worship &**  
**Communion**

[www.stpaulsbarnton.co.uk](http://www.stpaulsbarnton.co.uk)

@StPaulsBarton



The Salvation Army Isle of Wight Corps

### Christmas Day Dinner

Do you know of someone in need? Are you in need yourself or just on your own this Christmas?

**Come and join us on Christmas Day**  
at the Salvation Army, 72 Pyle Street, Newport  
for Christmas dinner and company

**Doors open 11am**

**Dinner is served at 1pm**

Transport can be organised by prior arrangement.  
If you would like to volunteer, would like more information, to add you your name or arrange transport, please either

Email: [Kay.Willett@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:Kay.Willett@salvationarmy.org.uk)

Or phone: 01983 526312



Saturday 16th  
December Carols  
in the Square -

Churches Working Together in Newport.



**St. Paul's**  
Staplers Road. Newport



**10am**

**Christmas Eve**

**Come & join us it's for all the family!**

(Children need to come with an adult)

**Text to book - 07470 959 576**

[www.stpaulsbarnton.co.uk](http://www.stpaulsbarnton.co.uk)

@StPaulsBarton



### Dementia Friendly Church Service

Newport Congregational Church,  
Pyle Street, Newport PO30 1UH

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December**  
**2.30pm – 3.00pm**

- An informal service, designed with the needs of people living with dementia in mind
- Accessible Service Booklets
- Traditional hymns and prayers
- Join us for refreshments in the church hall afterwards
- For more details please call Age UKIW on 525282 or email: [helen.lewis@ageukiw.org.uk](mailto:helen.lewis@ageukiw.org.uk)

Part of the BIG Lottery Funded Age UK IW project to create Age and Dementia Friendly Communities on the Island



Dementia Friendly Church Services Christmas 2017

- ◆ Monday 12th December, Newport Congregational Church, 2:30pm - 3:00pm
- ◆ Wednesday 13th December, St Mary the Virgin, Brading, 1:30pm - 2:00pm
- ◆ Thursday 14th December, St John the Baptist,

Ryde, 2:00pm - 2:30pm

- ◆ Thursday 14th December, All Saints Church, Gurnard, 2:00pm - 2:30pm.

There will a member of Age UKIW/Age Friendly Island staff present at each one and, more importantly, mince pies and a cup of tea will be served afterwards!

# History St. Paul's - A little bit of History...

## Concert anyone?

Hard on the heels of our recent concert to help Ben with his Wheels for the World trip to Ghana, how about this fundraiser advertised in the Isle of Wight County Press, December 17th 1892? Rev. W. H. Nutter was Vicar from 1891 to 1909. "Carriages at 10:15 sounds very grand!

Thanks to Mary for this discovery.

### More fund raising...

St. Paul's was built in the 1840's and consecrated on 1st February 1844. This report that Brian came across shows that things must have got off to a good start.

1844 - "The recently built St. Paul's Church is rapidly achieving its aim of attracting the laboring classes. The free pews are regularly taken up with over two hundred parishioners. The next Target is to raise £40 in order to purchase an organ."

Does anyone remember this card or Christmas Card or when it was taken?

Pauline found it at home, on the back it says "St. Paul's Church. Barton. IOW. Photograph by M. L. Bell Copyright" From the car in the picture possibly the 1970's

**ST. PAUL'S CHURCH RENOVATION, BARTON, I.W.**  
In aid of the above a  
**C O N C E R T**  
Of Vocal and Instrumental Music will be given in the  
**DRILL HALL, NEWPORT,**  
On **TUESDAY, JANUARY 3rd, 1893.**

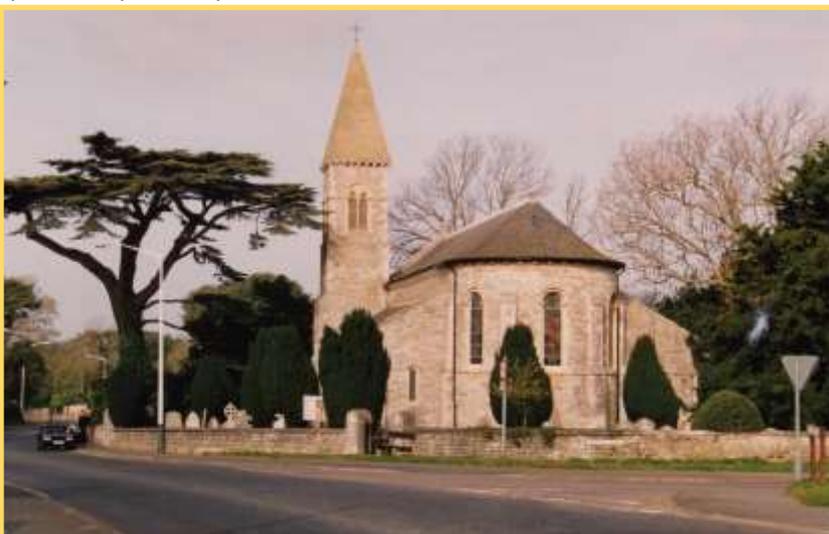
**VOCALISTS—**  
**MISS GRACE RICHARDSON,**  
Soprano (Medallist of the Royal Academy of Music).  
**MR. R. E. MILES,**  
Bass (St. Paul's Cathedral; Medallist, Royal Academy of Music; Soloist of the Crystal Palace, St. James's Hall Concerts, London, &c.)

**INSTRUMENTALISTS—**  
**MISS LOUISE BOROWSKI,**  
Pianiste (Diplomée and 1st Special Prize, Cologne Conservatorium); Soloist at the Crystal Palace, St. James's Hall Concerts, London, &c.  
**MR. WHITEHOUSE,**  
Violoncello (Solo Violoncello at the "Monday Popular Concerts" and the "Saturday Popular Concerts," St. James's Hall, London).

**PART-SONGS BY THE ST. PAUL'S CHURCH (BARTON) CHORUS.**  
The Concert under the direction of the Rev. W. H. Nutter, M. A., Vicar of St. Paul's, Barton, I.W.

Doors open at 7.30 p.m.; commence at 8. Carriages at 10.15.  
Numbered and Reserved Seats (chairs), 3s.; Family Tickets, three for 8s.; Second Seats (cushioned forms) 2s.; Back Seats, 1s.

Plan of the Room and Tickets at Messrs. Gubbins's; Unreserved Tickets also at Mr. J. G. Jones's, High-st., Newport. Bechstein's Grand Pianoforte. Orchestral Harmonium by G. L. Bauer and Co.



The last time it really snowed...

and a huge bit of our Cedar of Lebanon tree came down in the road!

Can you remember which year that was?

