

# wantage parish

## CONVERSION OF PAUL 25 January 2026

**Holy Trinity Sung Eucharist:** Mass of Ss Peter & Paul (John Ridgway)

**Hymns:** NEH 155 (tune 117), 366 (tune 445), 154 (tune 128ii), 234ii, 486

**Parish Church Choral Eucharist:** Holy Communion Collegium Regale (Herbert Howells)

**Gloria:** Mass of Ss Peter & Paul (John Ridgway) **Psalm:** 67 (John Ridgway) **Motet:** Give us the wings of faith (Ernest Bullock) **Voluntary:** Tambourin Improvisé (C Haines and J Ridgway)

**Hymns:** NEH 154 (tune 128ii), 376, 286, 486

### THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

**Saturday 24 January**

4pm Vigil Mass (Holy Trinity)

**Sunday 25 January**

#### **CONVERSION OF PAUL**

*Preacher at all services: the Curate*

8am Eucharist (Parish Church)

9.15am Sung Eucharist (Holy Trinity)

10.30am Choral Eucharist (Parish Church)

4pm Service for Christian Unity (St John's Church, Grove)

**Monday 26 January**

9.30am Eucharist (Parish Church)

*Followed by Parish Breakfast*

**Tuesday 27 January**

9.30am Old Testament Bible Study Group (*What's On Where*)

**Wednesday 28 January**

3pm–6pm Around Table (Holy Trinity) *Last orders at 5.30pm*

7pm Eucharist (Holy Trinity)

**Friday 30 January**

12 noon Eucharist (Parish Church)

**Saturday 31 January**

4pm Evening Prayer (Holy Trinity)

**Sunday 1 February**

#### **CANDLEMAS**

*Preacher at all morning services: the Vicar*

8am Eucharist (Parish Church)

9.15am Sung Eucharist (Holy Trinity)

10.30am Choral Eucharist (Parish Church)

5pm Choral Evensong with Candlelit Procession

**Morning Prayer** is said in the Parish Church at 9am Monday–Friday

**Eucharist at the Convent** Tuesday–Saturday at 10am, all welcome (space permitting).

**What's On Where:** For information about regular church groups and activities, see the church noticeboard, the link in the eNews, or scan the QR code:



## READINGS & PRAYERS

### **First Reading: Jeremiah 1.4-10**

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, 'Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, and before you were born, I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.' Then I said, 'Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.' But the Lord said to me, 'Do not say, "I am only a boy"; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.' Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me, 'Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.'

### **Psalm 67**

#### **Response: Let the people praise you O God**

God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face to shine upon us,  
That your way may be known upon earth,  
your saving power among all nations. **R/.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
O let the nations rejoice and be glad,  
for you will judge the peoples righteously  
and govern the nations upon earth. **R/.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
Then shall the earth bring forth her increase,  
and God, our own God, will bless us. **R/.**

God will bless us,  
and all the ends of the earth shall fear him. **R/.**

### **Second Reading: Acts 9.1-22**

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and 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. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul 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. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' The 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, and 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.' But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' But 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; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' So 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.' And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.' All 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?' Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

**Gospel: Matthew 19.27-end**

Alleluia

**Alleluia**

Many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

**Alleluia**

Then Peter said in reply, 'Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?' 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. 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. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

**For Your Prayers:** Sarah Clark, Lizzie, Beth, Natalie, Rowland, Sirma, Chris, Pat and Dave, Alan and Dawn, Rachel, Niamh and Orlaith, Aubrey, Kathryn, Becky, Pat, Suzan Clark, Diane Dyche, Judith, David, Gordon, Peter, Alastair, Joe, Peter, John, Elda.

**RIP:** Abby Tren, James Ritchie

Abby Tren: Abby has died peacefully at the age of 97. Please keep Judy and all the family in your prayers. Funeral details to follow.

**Please also pray for:** Contemplative (Julian) Prayer Group

**Readings & Hymns for next Sunday:**

Malachi 3.1-5, Psalm 24.7-end, Hebrews 2.14-end, Luke 2.22-40

Hymns at HT: NEH 157, 44 (tune 282), 338, 275, 33 (omit \*)

Hymns at PC: NEH 55, 33 (omit \*), 44 (tune 282), 57

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK:** The closing service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is at 4pm today (Sunday 25 January) at St John's, Grove, and all are warmly invited. In Wantage and Grove, we keep this week with our sister churches in the Church Partnership. This year, the Partnership has produced a booklet of prayers from across our traditions for you to take away and pray throughout the week. Please pick one up if you haven't already received one.

**PALM CROSSES:** Please bring last year's palm crosses to church for burning for ash for Ash Wednesday; there are baskets in both churches, clearly signed.

**PARISH CHURCH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT:** After a good turn-out for the consultation morning, the architects appointed by the PCC will be reflecting on all the discussions and the comments received as they work on the feasibility study we have commissioned. This will look at different options for meeting the needs of our worship, welcome and events now and in the future. There is still time for people to feed in their thoughts. You can send your comments to [feasibility.study@wantageparish.com](mailto:feasibility.study@wantageparish.com). More information is available on the Parish website ([www.wantageparish.com](http://www.wantageparish.com))

**BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION and/or FIRST COMMUNION:** It's not too late to take the next step in furthering your Christian commitment! If are thinking about being baptised, confirmed or (for a child), taking your first communion, please speak to Katherine or Frances.

**BISHOP OF OXFORD VACANCY SURVEY:** What are we looking for from the next Bishop of Oxford? Have your say! You are invited to share your views and opinions at [www.oxford.anglican.org/consultation](http://www.oxford.anglican.org/consultation) (or see the link in the eNews). The survey will close on Wednesday 4 February.

**ELMBROOK COURT FRIENDSHIP CAFÉ** will next be open on **Monday 26 January from 1pm**. You are invited to join them for lunch first followed by a little brain teaser quiz afterwards. All are welcome of course and if you know anybody who would benefit from having some company and a spot of lunch bring them along! For catering numbers, please RSVP to Sam at [clientrelations.ec@oaklandcare.com](mailto:clientrelations.ec@oaklandcare.com).

## CONTACT DETAILS

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**Children & Young People's Minister:** James Clarke (Rest Day: Tuesday)

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