

Parish of Central Windsor

SUNG EUCHARIST

Sunday 25th January 2026

Conversion of St Paul

(Third Sunday of Epiphany)



**A warm welcome to the Parish Church of St John the Baptist
for our service today**

On most Sundays we offer Sunday Club during the service.

Children are welcome to gather at the front of the church
after the Collect on page 5 before they go out to their activities
with our Sunday Club leaders.

If you have babies or small children with you, you are welcome to stay
in church. Please don't be embarrassed if they cry
or make a noise.

Please stand for:

THE GREETING

The priest says

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The priest greets the people

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

Please sit for:

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANY NOTICES

Please stand for:

OPENING HYMN

**Firmly I believe and truly
God is Three, and God is One;
and I next acknowledge duly
manhood taken by the Son.**

**And I trust and hope most fully
in that manhood crucified;
and each thought and deed unruly
do to death, as he has died.**

**Simply to his grace and wholly
light and life and strength belong,
and I love supremely, solely,
him the holy, him the strong.**

**And I hold in veneration,
for the love of him alone,
Holy Church as his creation,
and her teachings as his own.**

**Adoration ay be given,
with and through the angelic host,
to the God of earth and heaven,
Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

Please remain standing for:

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

We were once dead through the trespasses and sins in which we lived,
but now we are alive together with Christ.
Through him we have access in one Spirit to the Father, to whom we
humbly confess our sins.

cf Ephesians 2.1,5,18

Open our eyes to your presence in our midst.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Turn our hearts from selfish ends.

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Draw us into your company on the way.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The Kyrie Eleison is sung:

All

Tenderly 2

mp

kyrie

Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy. Christ have

mer - cy. Christ have mer - cy. Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy.

meno

piu

8

3/4

ABSOLUTION

The president says

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All

Amen.

All

Gloria

15 Joyful 2 f

Glo-ry to God in the High-est, and peace to his

23 1. 2. f

peo-ple on earth. earth. Lord God, Hea-ven-ly King Al-migh - ty God and

32

Fa - ther, We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, We praise you for your

40 f meno

glo - ry. glo - ry to God in the High-est, and peace to his

48 Reflectively mf

peo-ple on earth. Lord Jes-sus Christ, on-ly son of the Fa-ther. Lord God,

55 meno

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.

63 mf , meno

You are sea - ted at the right hand of the Fa-ther, re - ceive our prayer

Warmly



earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly one, You a - lone are the Lord, You a -



lone are the most high Je - sus Christ, With the Ho - ly



Spi - rit, In the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.



Glo-ry to God in the High-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

THE COLLECT

The priest says:

Let us pray:

Silence is kept.

Almighty God,
who caused the light of the gospel
to shine throughout the world
through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul:
grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion
may follow him in bearing witness to your truth;
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.

All

Amen

The Sunday Club are invited to gather together at the front of the church before going to their activities.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit for :

First READING

Jeremiah 1.4-10

1⁴ The word of the Lord came to me saying, ⁵ ‘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.’ ⁶ Then I said, ‘Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.’ ⁷ 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. ⁸ Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.’ ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ 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.’

At the end the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 67

The congregation is invited to sing the response

Let the peoples praise you, O God, let all the peoples praise you

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 a / mong all nations.
Let the peoples praise / you, O God;
let all the / peoples praise you. **Response**

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

Then shall the earth bring / forth her increase,
and God, our own / God, will bless us.
God / will bless us,
and all the ends of the / earth shall fear him. **Response**

Acts 9.1-22

9¹ Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and 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. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?’ ⁵He asked, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ The reply came, ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.’ ⁷The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul 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. ⁹For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, ‘Ananias.’ He answered, ‘Here I am, Lord.’ ¹¹The 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, ¹²and 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.’

¹³ But Ananias answered, ‘Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.’ ¹⁵But 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; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.’ ¹⁷So 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.’ ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptised, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, ‘He is the Son of God.’ ²¹All 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?’ ²²Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

At the end the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for:

GRADUAL HYMN

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish, as leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but nought changeth thee.**

**Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see** *W. Chalmers Smith (1824-1908)*
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee. *1 Timothy 1.17*

Please remain standing for:

GOSPEL READING

When the Gospel is announced the reader says:

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

All Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 19.27–30

19²⁷ Peter said to Jesus: ‘Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?’²⁸ 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.²⁹ 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.³⁰ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

At the end the reader says:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit for:

SERMON

Please stand for:

THE APOSTLES CREED

Let us declare before God the faith of the church in which, we pray, we may all find grace to grow.

**All I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen

Please sit for:

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy
All hear our prayer.

All Lord hear us
Lord graciously hear us

And at the end

Merciful Father,
All accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE MAY BE READ

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Please stand for:

THE PEACE

Let the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.
Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

You are invited to exchange a sign of peace with your neighbour.

*The offertory collection will be brought to the altar to be blessed.
It will be used for the ministry, mission and outreach of the church.
Please consider using the Gift Aid envelopes if you are able to do so.*

If you give regularly via the collection when you attend Sunday worship in one of our churches, but are not with us every week, have you considered giving through the Parish Giving Scheme? It is very easy to do. Details are in the weekly Keeping Us in Touch leaflet or speak to any of our churchwardens

OFFERTORY HYMN

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
lay down, thou weary one, lay down
thy head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary, and worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down and drink, and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's Light;
look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
and all thy day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my Star, my Sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till travelling days are done.

Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

*The altar is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.
The priest takes the bread and wine.*

Almighty Father,
as we celebrate this holy sacrament of our redemption
may your Spirit fill us with the light of faith;
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen

All

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.
By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks
because your Son Jesus Christ can call to his service
even those who persecute your Church,
and send them forth to the nations to preach the gospel,
teaching them the way of truth.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

All

Sanctus

108 Full of awe

mf

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord,

114

f

God of power and might. Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo-ry.

118

Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Benedictus

122 Welcoming

Bles-sed is he who comes in the name of the

126

f

Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the
forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith

All

**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins
of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious
ascension, and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Paul, St John
the Baptist, St Stephen, St Agnes and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The priest says

Believing the promises of God, let us pray with confidence
as our Saviour has taught us

*Please feel free to use either the traditional or the contemporary
version as we pray together*

All

**Our Father, who art in heaven, All
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The priest breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei

GIVING OF COMMUNION

The priest says the invitation to communion

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink
in remembrance that he died for you
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

All

Amen.

If you are confirmed or a communicant member of the Church of England or any other Christian church, you are welcome to receive communion with us this morning. Otherwise, you are warmly invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please bring the service booklet with you or simply bow your head as you approach the altar so we know you wish to receive a blessing.

Gluten free wafers are available on request.

During the administration of communion the following will be sung:

**Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

**Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

**Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

**Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

**Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
now, to be thine, yea thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

**Just as I am, of that free love
the breadth, length, depth and height to prove,
here for a season, then above,
O Lamb of God, I come.** *Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871)*

ANTHEM: Let thy merciful ears, O Lord (Mudd)

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

All **Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory
Amen**

Members of Sunday Club are invited to show their work to the congregation

Please stand for :

THE DISMISSAL

The priest says

THE BLESSING

May Christ who called Paul to his service,
and to preach the good news to the world,
strengthen you to witness to his grace and love.
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father†, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Final Hymn

**We have a gospel to proclaim
good news for all throughout the earth;
the gospel of a Saviour's name,
we sing his glory, tell his worth.**

**Tell of his birth at Bethlehem,
not in a royal house or hall
but in a stable dark and dim,
the Word made flesh, a light for all.**

**Tell of His death at Calvary,
hated by those he came to save,
in lonely suffering on the cross,
for all he loved his life he gave.**

**Tell of that glorious Easter morn,
empty the tomb, for he was free.
He broke the power of death and hell
that we might share his victory.**

**Tell of his reign at God's right hand,
by all creation glorified,
he sends his Spirit on his Church,
to live for him, the Lamb who died.**

**Now we rejoice to name him King,
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
This gospel-message we proclaim,
we sing his glory, tell his worth.**

Edward J. Burns b1938

The priest says

The Lord says, ‘Go into all the world
and make disciples of all the nations’.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen

The ministers and people depart.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY: Dieu parmi nous (Messiaen)

**Please stay for refreshments
which will be served after the service.**

**You are welcome to take this service sheet away with you
for private reflection or to give to a friend.**

If you are visiting today or attending for the first time, we hope that you have felt “at home” here, that you will be refreshed by today’s service of worship and that you will return in the future.

We shall be delighted if you decide to make our church community your spiritual home.

**If you would like to know more about the Christian faith, please ask!
You can also find out more by following the “Our Faith” link on the
Church of England website: www.churchofengland.org**

WEB SITE:

www.windsorchurches.org.uk

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