

SUNDAY, 26TH JANUARY 2025, CONVERSION OF ST PAUL



St Mary the Virgin | Finedon

A community together in faith.

Sunday Link

Connecting a community

Contacts

Rev'd Morna Simpson	07526 026794 revmorna@gmail.com
<i>Rev'd Morna's Parish days are Tues, Thurs & Sun</i>	
Churchwardens	Julie Kightley 07936 377030 Colin Needle 01933 682098

Services this week:

Sunday January 26th at 9:30am Mission Room
Tuesday January 28th at 11am in Church

Hymn Board

Proc	600 Thou art the way
Grad	426 Firmly I believe and truly
Off	573 Son of God eternal Saviour
Comm	306 I hunger and I thirst
Anth	Dear Father of Mankind Parry
Rec	494 King of Glory, king of peace

Please remember in your prayers this week:

Janice Pinnock, Jean Rochester, Christopher Munns, Barry Ireland, Amy Su Armitage, Velma Munns, Dave Cheney, Peter Fisher, Janet Maclean, Nina Beetson, Oliver Grigg, Ivan Titmus, Bob Haseldine. For those who have died, rest in peace Rita Chapman

Notices

Floodlights:

David and Mary Wilson

To celebrate the 21st birthday of their eldest Grandson, Thomas.

Heating update: — an extreme weather plan is being considered with the possibility of moving Sunday service to the Mission room until the end of February. Please make your views known to Morna or the churchwardens.

Prayer Group

We will be back praying together at the vicarage at 12noon on Friday 31st January. All welcome

Open the Book

For those who originally expressed an interest in supporting Open the Book at Finedon Mulso Junior School -

We will be holding our next visit on Thursday 13th February at 2:50pm and need 8 people for our presentation based on The Good Samaritan. There will be a meeting after church next Sunday 2nd February to allocate roles and go through the material and a run through on the following Sunday, 9th February after church. Please let me know if you are interested. Pete Grindrod.

What is coming up

Saturday, March 1st at 6.30pm in the Mission Room. Beetle Drive and Bingo with prizes, including refreshments. Speak to Julie, Julia or Joanne for Tickets, which are £5 an adult and £1 for accompanied children. Includes jacket potato plus filling. Bring own drinks, tea/coffee will be available

Summer Fete and Crowning the May Queen.

Saturday 17th May in the Churchyard.

ELECTORAL ROLL RENEWAL

Prior to the APCM on 23rd March 2025, we must renew and revise the electoral roll. This means everyone, regardless of whether you are already listed, need to complete a new registration form and return it no later than 7th March. See Churchwardens for your forms.

Contact Forms:-

The distribution of information using the contact form details has worked well recently, if you haven't completed a form. We invite you to complete a contact form ask the Churchwardens for a form. This is so we are able to contact you outside of the times we see you at Church, for pastoral reasons or to keep you up to date on things happening in the parish. full details of our Privacy Notice can be found on the website: <https://stmarysfinedon.co.uk/privacy>. Thank You.

As part of our 675 yr anniversary celebrations.

Over the next few months, we are encouraging you to "share your story". Whether its photos of a wedding, a christening or from one our many events, email them to finedonchurchmagazine@gmail.com They can be of you, your friends or your ancestors. The photos will form part of a display at our history open day later in the year.

Thanks Christian

Well Done

To Carol Hunter and Jenni who this month have written and led Intercessions for the first time.

Please note as a one off Evensong will be in Woodford Church at 6pm on February 2nd.

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Collect:- God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord.

Amen

Old Testament:- A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

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.'

Thanks be to God

Response to psalm 67:- Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

May God be merciful to us and bless us, show us the light of his countenance and come to us. Let your ways be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.

R

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.

R Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. The earth has brought forth her increase; may God, our own God, give us his blessing. May God give us his blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him

R

New testament A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Peter said to Jesus: '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

Post Communion Prayer:-

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen