St Paul's in the Park Newsletter October 2026

Sacrifice

You may be reasonably familiar with the painting, 'The Praying Hands, by Albrecht Durer, as pictured below. Legend has it that Hans and Albrecht Durer, two French brothers from a large family whose father worked as a goldsmith, wanted to study painting. The only way they could afford to do so was for one of them to work in the mines while the other completed his studies. They would then change places.

So for four years Albrecht went to Venice to study while his brother sent him money he earned in the mines. At last, Albrecht returned, now a renowned artist. It was his turn to help his brother, Hans. However, when the two brothers met, Albrecht discovered the full extent of the sacrifice Hans had made. His hands were calloused and bruised from four years of hard labour. His fingers would never be able to handle a painter's brush.

In gratitude for the sacrifice his brother had made, Albrecht used the work-ridden hands of his brother as models for what became his renowned painting.

Sacrifice lies at the heart of giving. If there is no sacrifice involved, can we really call it giving? Giving lies at the heart of being a good person and also goes a long way towards being a reasonable Christian. Give, give, give, whether it be time, goods, money, a caring gesture, word or ear. It all amounts to love and compassion.

'But if anyone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need and refuses to help – how can God's love be in that person?' 1 John 3:17.



Preaching

On Sunday November 1st, Rev Gareth Walters, King's College chaplain, will be preaching.

Christmas Services

Sunday 13th December: 7.00pm Community Carol Service
Christmas Eve: 6.00pm Family Carol Service
11.00pm Holy Communion
Christmas Day: 9.00am Holy Communion

Time for a Smile

A mother was telling her six-year-old about the Golden Rule, 'Always remember,' she said, 'that we are here to help others.'
The youngster mulled this over for a minute and then asked, 'Well, what are the others for?'

Youth Group
Last night we kicked off **The Journey of Independence**, a four-week teaching series exploring freedom and responsibility, respecting parents, choosing friends and making faith our own—with God's wisdom guiding the way.
Alongside each week's teaching, we'll enjoy:
23 October: Game Show Night
30 October: Baking / Cook-Off
6 November: Sports Night
13 November: Gaming Night
Join us Fridays, 6–8 pm at St Paul's in the Park Community Centre. Open to everyone aged 10+—bring a friend! See attached flyer.

Sound System
Our recently engaged AV service consultant, Muzzi Shalash, has completed installation of our sound system. The original installation was never completed and we also had several design problems that Muzzi has now sorted out. We are grateful for his expertise and his willingness to be on call at the drop of a hat.

Youth Group Service
Our service on Sunday 8 November will be led by our youth group.

End of an Era
The old hall might have been something of an eyesore but there was significant history and many memories associated with it.
'Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end.' Lucius Seneca, philosopher.



To Ponder
'No man can be a friend of Jesus Christ who is not a friend to his neighbour.' R H Benson

'The Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.'
See attached article by Delia.

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