



# St Margaret's Church



Photo taken by James Rudoni@rudonipphoto and website <https://www.rudonipphoto.com>

## Sunday, 2nd February

We invite you to join us for our Sunday services, led by Revd. Hannah Gordon, Rector. The theme this week is '**Presentation of Christ in the Temple.**'

9am **Morning Praise**  
10.15am **Holy Communion with Baptism**

### Contact Us

Revd. Hannah Gordon  
01737 552157  
rector@smchipstead.org  
**Admin office**  
01737 552160  
admin@smchipstead.org

## The week ahead

### Tuesday 4th February

9.15am **Morning Prayer**

### Wednesday 5th January

9.15am **Morning Prayer**

10am to 12noon

**Parish Office Open**

Please do drop in for tea, coffee, cake and a chat.

2pm to 8pm Parish Office and

Orchard booked for **Parish Conversations**

### Friday 7th February

9.30am to 11.15am

**Maggies Song** in the Orchard



### Saturday 8th February

9.30am to 4.30pm

**Vision Day at Wychcroft**

**Please see if you can share lifts to Wychcroft to reduce parking and environmental impact.**

**Please contact Jen to offer or ask for a lift.**

**Jen.smith@smchipstead.org**

# Candlemas

Observed on February 2nd, Candlemas is the midpoint of Winter, halfway between the shortest day and the spring equinox. Candlemas commemorates the presentation of Jesus at the Temple in Jerusalem, as described in the Gospel of Luke, and also the purification of the Virgin Mary, in accordance with Jewish law, 40 days after the birth of a child. At the Temple, Mary and Joseph encountered Simeon, who recognized the infant Jesus as the Messiah, proclaiming Him the “Light to lighten the Gentiles.” This moment is central to the meaning of the feast, symbolizing Christ as the “Light of the World.” The day is often marked by the blessing of candles, which are used in churches and homes to signify this spiritual light. In many Christian traditions, Candlemas also signifies the end of the Christmas season and a transition into the season of Lent, a time of reflection and preparation. The celebration emphasises themes of light, renewal, and fulfilment of prophecy, offering a moment to reflect on the ongoing journey of faith.

## New Beginnings

New Beginnings is for anyone suffering a divorce, separation or broken relationship. Its aim is to help people to come to terms with the past and make a fresh start in a friendly and supportive atmosphere.

The group begins on Thursday, 27th February at 7.45 pm. It is free, lasts 10 weeks, and is open to everyone. For more information, or if you wish to come, please contact Colin on 07855 245 619 or [saintpauls.co.uk/NB](http://saintpauls.co.uk/NB)  
[saintpauls.co.uk/NB](http://saintpauls.co.uk/NB)



## Exploring Anxiety and Depression

This free course seeks to provide helpful perspectives in a friendly, open atmosphere.

Professional and experienced speakers help us look at many aspects of anxiety and depression and we also explore what we can do to help ourselves. There is also ample time for discussion.

This free 10 week course starts on Wednesday, 26th February at 7.45 pm. If you would like to come along, or wish to discuss whether it would be right for you, please contact Colin on 07855 245 619 or [exploringanxietydepression@gmail.com](mailto:exploringanxietydepression@gmail.com)  
[saintpauls.co.uk/EAD](http://saintpauls.co.uk/EAD)



Each month, we will spotlight one of the charities and organisations that our Mission Team is supporting in 2025. This month, we are featuring '**Cry in the Dark.**'

In 1998, Steve Cooper and three friends heard about children living in dire circumstances at Doftena orphanage in Bacau, Northeast Romania and went to see how they could help. They found 26 children in appalling conditions, suffering from malnutrition and neglect. Most had serious illnesses or disabilities. Their plight moved Steve's compassion into action and the charity Cry in the Dark was born.

Romanian local authorities re-located the children to a hospital, but conditions there were worse. So Cry in the Dark worked hard to urgently raise funds, build a home and find staff. Two years later 24 children moved to Casa Lumina (House of Light) – their new home-for-life.

But the story doesn't end there. When one life changes for the better, so can entire communities; with Christian love and compassion we aim to bring hope to children and their families in isolated communities through our charity work in Romania.

### **Our Projects**

**Casa Lumina:** Casa Lumina is a fun and vibrant residential care home and family unit for 22 young people with special needs. We have had them in our care since May 2000. We provide advocacy, care, education, stimulation, holistic support and love to help re-build their lives and reach their full potential.

**Casa Albert:** Casa Albert is our volunteer and education centre in Romania.

**Hospice Lumina:** The first dedicated Pediatric inpatient unit in the whole of Romania. We offer respite care and end of life care whenever it is required by a patient or their family.

**Project Hope:** Project hope is about helping a Roma community to help themselves.

We at Cry in the Dark refuse to believe that a generation cannot be helped! We believe in a God that cares for these people just as much as anyone else God does not discriminate and neither do we.

<https://www.cryinthedark.org>

# C.A.M.E.O.

Come And Meet Each Other  
for refreshments and activities

**2-4pm on the third  
Monday of the month**

20th January 2025  
17th February 2025  
17th March 2025

In Hooley Village Hall  
St Margaret's Road, CR5 3RB



For information contact Fofo  
fofo.lappin@gmail.com

# FRIDAY YOUTH

17 JAN  
31 JAN  
14 FEB  
28 FEB  
14 MAR  
28 MAR

**6-7:30PM IN THE ORCHARD**



Email Josh to find out more...  
[youth@smchipstead.org](mailto:youth@smchipstead.org)

Are you living  
with the loss of  
a loved one?

Monthly drop-in  
**Bereavement  
Café**

@  
The Orchard,  
St Margaret's Church,  
Church Lane, Chipstead

Tuesdays  
2:30-4pm  
18Feb  
18 Mar  
15 Apr  
20 May  
and every 3rd  
Tuesday of the  
month thereafter

Come to the **Robins' Café** - a  
relaxed, safe place to share,  
laugh, cry and talk to others who  
understand how you're feeling.



St Margaret's Church



## CHIPSTEAD FOOD BANK

We are open to receive donations  
**EVERY THURSDAY**  
at **CHIPSTEAD RUGBY CLUB**  
from **11.30 to 13.30**  
by the Meads Car Park

All donations collected go to  
[www.Loveworks.org.uk](http://www.Loveworks.org.uk)  
a local food bank charity providing emergency  
food provision and working towards preventing  
food poverty recurrence

More families than ever are now in crisis, your  
donations provide help for people in need

In 2023 we collected 434 full crates  
of non-perishable goods, that went directly to  
people in trouble

Many thanks for your continued support!

## Messy Church @St. Margaret's

Join us for all-age activities, community and a chance to  
eat together at tea-time!



**2nd February 2025**

**2nd March 2025**

**27th April 2025**

**22nd June 2025**



## ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH CHIPSTEAD, CR5 3RD



### HELP WANTED



Your churchyard needs you! We  
are looking for volunteers to  
help maintain the churchyard  
on a Wednesday morning  
between 9.30am and 12 noon.  
Refreshments provided.



CONTACT JASON:

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