

St Paul's Church Reading Road

Contact details

The Parish Office on (0118) 979 2122 is open from 10am to 12noon on Monday to Thursday. Church staff are experienced in showing KS1/2 pupils around church; also congregation members can talk about being a Christian, to help children understand Christianity as a lived and living faith. Tours and discussions can be arranged for any day of the week.
www.stpauls-wokingham.org.uk



The Church

The tradition of St Paul's is catholic or 'high' Anglican, where priests wear vestments and incense is used during Mass. The church is very proud of the significant part that music plays in the life of the church. The church was founded by John Walter, the grandson of the founder of the Times newspaper. He lived at Bearwood House and paid for the building of the church, which was consecrated in 1862.



Built on Laudian principles, the church is highly decorated, with clear separation between the nave and the altar area. There is a special place for the choir to sit. There are stained glass windows, many of which tell a



story, like the one shown above of the Lake of Galilee. A booklet containing information about the windows is available in the Wokingham Information Centre at the Town Hall.

Questions to ask in this church

- Is there anything symbolic about the placing of the baptismal font? (It's near the door because it's one of the first things that you do on your Christian journey. You then proceed symbolically up the aisle towards God in the altar and sanctuary.)
- Which saint has the symbol of an eagle? (St John). What are the symbols of Matthew, Mark and Luke? (Winged man, winged lion, winged ox.)
- Who was Archbishop Laud and where was he born? (Archbishop of Canterbury who was born in Broad Street, Reading in 1573 and produced a set of principles for the building and design of churches.)
- How many angels are depicted in the church?



These photographs and more are available to download from the website:
<http://wsh.wokingham.gov.uk/learning-and-teaching/religious-education/teaching-materials/religious-education-trail>

