



St Matthew with St Paul
Pilgrims on a journey

WELCOME TO THE PARISH OF ST MATTHEW WITH ST PAUL, WINCHESTER



St Paul's Church site is in central Winchester. Right near the railway station, it boasts good transport links within the region, some useful parking and a soft-edged ethos where all are welcome.

We have three venues available for hire on site, which are the Parish Rooms, St Paul's Hall and the main church building.



St Matthew's Church site is a little further out of town on Stockbridge Road. With local parking less than a ten-minute walk away, this medieval jewel nestles in the western side of the parish.

St Matthew's Church has been serving its community for hundreds of years, and we are committed to enabling this to continue far into the future.

This special space is also available for hire.

There is a minimum hire time of two hours in all venues. When deciding how long you want to hire the premises for, you must allow for setting-up and clearing-up time, because your booking could be followed immediately by another.



St Paul's Church

This spacious Victorian church, beautifully refurbished and modified, is available for hire. The church dates back to the 1870s and in 2019–20 underwent a radical modernisation and enhancement funded by both the congregation and grant-making trusts so this lovely space can be used to host events for all the community.

The warm, flowing and adaptable space, with flexible lighting and seating, boasts underfloor heating. The attractive stone flooring in the central section is flanked by light oak in the north and south aisles.

A raised stone dais juts into the nave and creates an ideal platform for performance by choirs, orchestras, ensembles, jazz bands and soloists, the giving of lectures and other education and training, conferences and local and regional events.

It has the capacity to seat approximately 150 people on attractive, comfortable wooden chairs. There are padded stacking chairs to seat a further 50, if required.

There is full disabled access to all hireable parts of the church with a single-level ground floor throughout the nave. A gently sloping ramp has been incorporated to allow full access to the chancel at the east end. There is a lift to the first-floor gallery and meeting room.

The east end Behind the simple nave altar lies the Lady Chapel. Originally the walls were extensively covered in *sgraffito*, applied in 1904 by Heywood Sumner, illustrating the parables of the Prodigal Son, the Talents and the Good Samaritan, and with vine decoration around the east window, which at that time had clear glass. In 1998 small section of the Parable of the Good Samaritan was uncovered and restored and is all the more dramatic, enhanced as it is by the cream wall surrounding it.

This is an open but separate chapel for small group work and prayer. It may readily be incorporated into the performance area, allowing the full space on the dais to be used.

The west end This now houses a sweeping two-storey architectural gem constructed from oak and steel which enhances the acoustics of the ample church space. On the ground floor it houses the Parish Office, a fully equipped commercial kitchen (currently allowing catering for 100 plus), a utility room and two toilets (one fully accessible with baby changing). Above, accessible by both stairs and a lift to the first floor, is an open gallery space and an enclosed glass-sided meeting room with large table, chairs and a large screen. The table can be divided for breakout groups.

The gallery and meeting room may be hired separately but are included in the hire of the church.



We can provide a short training for use of our hand-held microphone, at small additional cost.

The kitchen may be hired at additional cost.

There is a good 1891 pipe organ by Foster & Andrews of Hull (which is under heritage orders) and a superb Brodman grand piano on a long loan from the Friends of Music in Winchester, which is regularly tuned. The latter is available for a separate charge.

The Resurrection Chapel, created in 2019–20, is a small chapel for private prayer and is not available for hire.

St Paul's Hall

The Hall is on the left side of St Paul's Church. This is a simple, unencumbered space which can flexibly seat up to 60 people. It has been freshly decorated in a neutral colour scheme and the flooring renewed, creating a high-quality venue.

There is a small kitchen with a foundation level of crockery and cutlery for 50 people. Hire includes use of the oven, microwave, fridge and kettles.



Parish Rooms

This is a separate building to the rear of St Paul's Church, by the church 'meadow'. There are two rooms with a small kitchenette which has a foundation level of cutlery and crockery for 20 people with use of the small fridge and kettle.

A series of interconnected spaces, the rooms offer a versatile, flowing venue or two separate rooms for hire.

In the larger room there is a pull-down screen for use with a projector, a table tennis table, 3 large tables and 20 chairs.

In the smaller room, there are currently several little chairs and tables for toddler use.

In good weather, the large fenced and gated grass meadow area can be used and is ideal for outdoor games.

Please speak to the Parish Administrator if you plan to have a barbeque.



St Matthew's Church

As part of our parish-wide Building for Life project, St Matthew's has been sensitively and beautifully re-ordered to enable a kitchenette and community meeting space with movable benches, a new toilet extension with baby changing, new efficient heating and an important improvement to fire safety with a second point of exit.

This created a self-contained all-amenity venue which punches above its weight.

By kind donation of a parishioner, it also boasts a good new electronic organ.

We have developed a range of new activities tailored to this small, ancient and beautiful building including a flower festival, open days, exhibitions, musical and vocal performances suited to intimate surroundings, visits from local schools and colleges, guided tours and regular community meetings such as book or jigsaw clubs.

