



# ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS

1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

**Good Friday Reflection** – available from 9.00am on our YouTube channel. No service sheet required – any responses are on screen.

## **Sunday Worship 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021** Easter Sunday



09.45 Service of Holy Communion at St Paul's Scotforth Road and online on our St Paul's Scotforth YouTube channel  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtJUjp8QOUAnLzbhP0rxaJA>



or if your device allows just scan the QR code  
*Please book your place for the service in church by phoning the Parish Office on Wednesday between 10am and 12 noon.*

**Wednesday at 09.15: Morning Prayer** by telephone conferencing (please contact Margaret Ives for more information – tel: 67346)

**Thursday at 21.30: Compline** by telephone conferencing (please contact Tony Walker for more information – tel: 382397)

***Worshipping God, Growing in Faith, Serving the community***

## **A message from Reverend Rebecca:**

Our Lenten journey has ended, we have shouted 'hosanna to the highest' on Palm Sunday, and now we travel through Holy Week, all while still in a time of pandemic. This year we are marking Good Friday with a reflective online service and Easter Sunday will be celebrated both in our main church building (the first since Epiphany) and online.

Over this last year, with our buildings closed and only open for short periods of time for worship, we at St Paul's have learned how to be the body of Christ in a new way. As we slowly emerge from Lockdown we carry all that we have experienced this year with us into the future.

This year more than ever, I am mindful that on Easter day, the Church is triumphant as we sing hymns of victory and shout Alleluias, but on that first Easter morning, it was the sound of Mary's weeping that broke the stillness. The joy of Easter, like the joy of meeting together as a Christian community, is often punctuated by grief.

In the days, weeks, and months to come, we as the church in St Paul's Scotforth and in Hala will have to resurrect and rebuild, much like the first disciples of Jesus who journeyed with him through Holy Week, who witnessed his death and resurrection. This Easter morning, let us join with Mary and proclaim: 'I have seen the risen Lord.' Alleluia and Amen.



## **News about our online services from Tony Walker:**



On Easter Sunday we will provide on our YouTube channel our 78th and final pre-recorded online service. We hope that all who have watched them throughout the last year

have found them helpful and have been able to keep connected with church even when locked down at home. Over 50 people have been involved in preparing, taking part in, and recording the services. We are very grateful indeed for all of the time given and effort made by so many.

With our new sound system and video camera now in place we have been able to record services for the last few weeks in church with much improved sound quality. From 11th April we will record live the 9.45am service in church every Sunday and hope to have it available to watch on YouTube by 12.00. Please have patience; it may take a few weeks to get everything right. We don't have any rehearsals and can't start again if something goes wrong!

## **Seating in church when we re-open:**

As part of our continued Covid-secure health and safety arrangements there are a number of matters we would like to bring to your attention. The reason that we are doing this is so that you know how important your safety is to us and so that you can make an informed decision for yourself and for the safety of others attending.

There will be a maximum number of people who can attend our service on a Sunday morning, this will vary between 43 individual people attending or 'bubbles' and we can seat a maximum of around 104. The actual number will be calculated following social distancing guidelines.

In order for us to calculate this we will need you to:

- Book a place in church by phoning or emailing the Parish Office on a Wednesday morning between 10am and 12 noon. We will be continuing to record your name and contact number for

NHS Track and Trace purposes. This information will be destroyed after 3 weeks in line with data protection guidelines.

Please also note the following:

- The wearing of a face covering is mandatory unless you have an underlying medical exemption.
- On entering and exiting the church building, which will remain one-way and using the kitchen door to exit – you will be asked to sanitise your hands.
- Social distancing will be maintained at all times and you will be escorted to your seat and asked to sit on a sign with a ✓ on it, please sit on this sign as it allows us to maintain the correct distances. Please do not stand up and move around the church once you have been seated.
- To note that there is still no congregational singing allowed.
- Communion will be administered in one kind (bread) only and sidespeople will instruct you when to stand and which route to follow around the church.
- Access to washroom facilities will be available during the service.
- We are still unable to offer refreshments at the end of the service and we would ask that you leave the church at the end of the service following the direction of the sidespeople. Any discussions should be held outside following social distance and government guidelines.

Please note the following additional Government advice:

- Anyone who is feeling unwell, or showing any COVID symptoms, or who has been in recent contact with someone who has COVID 19, must not enter the building, and if anyone who has visited develops symptoms please tell us immediately.
- People who are shielding should stay at home as much as possible and follow the instructions given by the government and the NHS. People who are in vulnerable groups are asked to think very carefully about staying safe.

## FOR OUR PRAYERS

**Our mission Partners:** Stephen and Marit Impey managing Wycliffe Bible Translators Ethiopian work, the work of Global Link and MIND (Lancashire).

**From our Parish prayer diary:** Larchwood, Gregory's Court, Bishopgate

**From our Church prayer diary:** The Youth Group

**Those who have asked for prayers for healing:** Alan, Kath and family, Mary Wilson, Eunice Parkinson, Marion Corkill, Katherine McHale, Pat Mitchell, John Fidler, Sarah Huddleston

**All who mourn:** Margaret Aileen Jones. Those who have died due to the coronavirus.

### **Collect for 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021:**

Lord of all life and power,  
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son  
overcame the old order of sin and death  
to make all things new in him:  
grant that we, being dead to sin  
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,  
may reign with him in glory;  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be praise and honour, glory and might,  
now and in all eternity.

### **Readings for 4<sup>th</sup> April:**

#### **Acts 10.34-43**

<sup>34</sup> Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went

about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

### **John 20.1-18**

<sup>20</sup>Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. <sup>2</sup>So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' <sup>3</sup>Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. <sup>4</sup>The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup>He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. <sup>6</sup>Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, <sup>7</sup>and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup>Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; <sup>9</sup>for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup>Then the disciples returned to their homes.

<sup>11</sup> But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look\* into the tomb; <sup>12</sup>and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. <sup>13</sup>They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' <sup>14</sup>When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not

know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew,\* 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." ' <sup>18</sup>Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

*Shared from the Lectionary app. Material subject to copyright. Please visit the About this App page for further information.*

### **Readings for next Sunday:**

Acts 4: 32-35; or Exodus 14: 10-end; 15: 20-21; or 1 John 1: 1 – 2:2;  
John 20: 19-end

### **Our Church Website:**

Our newly revamped church website should be going 'live' at the end of this week after lots of discussions, planning, meetings and some very hard work by Emily who has developed this new website for us. Our grateful thanks go to her as it has been hard work setting it all up, particularly chasing us for the wording and accompanying information – sorry Emily. We are looking forward to adding more information, photographs and video in the future but, at the moment, just making sure our content is up to date and ready for you to access.

Please take a look at – <https://stpauls-scotforth.org>



## **Church Gardens report by Maureen Leach:**

March is well and truly here and the gardening team are back in action as the weeds are starting to grow thick and fast. We are not all working on the same day but we liaise by email and are using our own tools. Our first job is to start digging and feeding the long, large bed which is not our favourite job but we always feel that we have made a good start once that bed is completed. It certainly benefits from the fish, blood and bone meal feed which is liberally sprinkled round the many shrubs in the border.

Over the last few months we have all been busy at home starting off various packets of seeds which hopefully will fill the flower beds this summer. Unfortunately, after such a severe winter all last year's geraniums which we had been overwintering in various



greenhouses don't seem to have survived. We have ordered some geranium plug plants which should help to fill the gaps. Geraniums are our favourites because they don't seem to be as popular with the slugs and don't need a great deal of watering. This week we will be bringing out the dahlia tubers which have been stored in the church cellar wrapped up in newspaper and stored in cardboard boxes. They seem to do well in the cellar because that is where the church boiler is situated so it isn't usually too cold for them. They are unwrapped and then planted into individual pots and after a few weeks of loving care in the greenhouse they will hopefully start giving out new shoots and ready for planting.

If the dry weather continues Myles is hoping to start grass cutting which will then continue weekly until October. No mean task. Meanwhile Bill and Jean are busy keeping the Parish Hall grounds under control.

The spring bulbs and primulas are looking colourful and the wall flowers and camellias are starting to flower so it's well worth taking a stroll round. So, next time you happen to pass any of the gardens just remember they don't just happen by themselves but by an extremely keen gardening team of whom I am most grateful for all their hard work.

## **A notice from Lancaster Churches Together:**

*Ideas for a Pentecost Prayer Tree and/or Self-guided Walk in the City Centre* - Lancaster Churches Together are looking for creative ideas for Pentecost (23 May) perhaps using empty shops for a prayer tree and/or other activities for all ages for a week or so.. Anyone with ideas and willing to help is invited to a zoom meeting on Thursday 8 April at 7.30 pm. To register your interest and obtain the link please email Mandy at [secretarylancasterchurchestog@gmail.com](mailto:secretarylancasterchurchestog@gmail.com)

## **Give Thanks for Your Vaccine – an article by Christian Aid:**

Perhaps you are one of those who is very grateful to have had the vaccine already and would like to give thanks in a practical way. This can be done through Christian Aid which is working to ensure that vaccines are not monopolised by the global North but are made available to vulnerable people in poor countries. When vaccination campaigns begin there, Christian Aid will support these countries by equipping local health services with data on hard-to-reach communities, mobilising communities to come forward for vaccinations, and working with faith and community leaders to share positive messages about vaccines. Thanksgiving donations can be made by phoning Christian Aid Supporter Relations on 0207 523 2493, or via the website [www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk)

## **Prayer of thanksgiving**

God of Hope, Sustainer of all life,

We give You thanks for the coronavirus vaccines,  
for the skill and wisdom of scientists, NHS staff and key workers.  
By the power of Your Spirit, may we overflow with hope and joy  
as we see our friends, families and neighbours protected.

God of Justice, Protector of the vulnerable,  
may we be your well-washed hands and willing feet.

Move us to give and act,

to challenge the injustices that anger You.

May we seek to protect all Your children,  
particularly those for whom the vaccine is out of reach.

With hope and trust we pray, **Amen**

**QUIZ - THIS IS THE FIRST LINE. WHAT'S THE TITLE OF THE SONG? (Part 1 – part 2 is for another week):**

1	You don't like crazy music, you don't like rocking band
2	The taxman's taken all my dough and left me in my stately home
3	I see trees of green, red roses too, I see them grow for me and you
4	Nothing you can say can tear me away
5	Everybody's doing a brand new dance
6	You shake my nerves and you rattle my brain
7	Friday night and everything's right
8	Oh you railway station, oh you Pulman train
9	When I see my baby what do I see?
10	As I walk along I wonder what went wrong with our love, a love that was so strong
11	I want to be your lover but your friend is all I stay
12	Come on everybody clap your hands, oh you're looking good
13	Well he walked up to me and he asked me if I wanted to dance
14	When I find myself in times of trouble
15	You can dance, you can jive
16	If you see me walking down the street and I start to cry each time we meet
17	The moment I wake up, before I put on my make up
18	People try to put us down
19	We skipped the light fandango
20	It's one for the money, two for the show
21	When I want you in my arms, when I want you and all your charms
22	If there's anything that you want, if there's anything I can do
23	You think we look pretty good together
24	Ground control to Major Tom

25	Well baby used to stay out all night long
26	I thought love was only true in fairy tales
27	Ooh you come on like a dream, peaches and cream, lips like strawberry wine
28	My tears are falling cos you've taken her away
29	One can have a dream baby
30	We don't need no education

***Prayer by the Moderator of the United Church of Canada, Richard Bott, on 'Putting on your Mask':***



Creator, as I prepare to go into the world, help me to see the sacrament in the wearing of this cloth - let it be "an outward sign of an inward grace" - a tangible and visible way of living love for my neighbours, as I love myself.

Christ, since my lips will be covered, uncover my heart, that people would see my smile in the crinkles around my eyes. Since my voice may be muffled, help me to speak clearly, not only with my words, but with my actions.

Holy Spirit, As the elastic touches my ears, remind me to listen carefully - and full of care - to all those I meet. May this simple piece of cloth be shield and banner, and each breath that it holds, be filled with your love. In your Name and in that love, I pray. May it be so. May it be so.

## Submissions for the Parish News:

The deadline each week is Tuesday at noon but we can always add contributions to the following week's Parish News. We look forward to receiving your contributions and supporting each other in the Body of Christ during this time. Please email the parish office, leave a message on the answer machine for a telephone submission or post/leave an article for the Parish Office in the Parish Hall letterbox.



If you would like to financially support the mission and ministry of St Paul's Church then please visit our online giving page by clicking on the DONATE button on our website - <https://stpauls-scotforth.org> - thank you.

•••••  
• **VICAR:** Rev Rebecca Aechtner - Tel: 749693  
• Email: [vicar@stpauls-scotforth.org](mailto:vicar@stpauls-scotforth.org)  
• *Rest day - Friday: Please try not to call except in an emergency.*  
• **PIONEER MINISTER:** Rev Claire Cooke  
• Email: [Claire@stpauls-scotforth.org](mailto:Claire@stpauls-scotforth.org)  
• *Work days are Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday*  
• **WARDENS:** Mrs Jayne Weatherill - Tel: 60597; email: [sjayneweatherill@gmail.com](mailto:sjayneweatherill@gmail.com)  
• and Mr Tony Walker - Tel: 382397; email: [walkerar@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:walkerar@hotmail.co.uk)  
• **PARISH OFFICE:** the office is remaining closed at this time, however the telephone and email will be monitored and we will get back to you as soon as possible. Tel: 01524 843135  
• Email: [office@stpauls-scotforth.org](mailto:office@stpauls-scotforth.org)  
• **BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS:** Booking enquiries - please contact the parish office or  
• Email: [lifeyvents@stpauls-scotforth.org](mailto:lifeyvents@stpauls-scotforth.org)  
• **CHURCH WEBSITE:** <https://stpauls-scotforth.org>  
• **FACEBOOK:** regular updates about life at St Paul's can be found: @scotforthstpaulschurch  
•••••