



# ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS

25<sup>th</sup> March 2021

## Sunday Worship 28<sup>th</sup> March 2021 Palm Sunday

09.45 Palm Sunday Service of the Word – National Church of England Service from St Paul's Scotforth  
(for further information please read the message from Reverend Rebecca)

**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)

### Readings for next Sunday:

Acts 10:34-43; 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11; John 20: 1-18  
or Mark 16: 1-8

**Lent Midweek Services:** *During Lent we will be providing midweek services on Wednesdays on our YouTube channel. There will be a range of different services so please take the opportunity to try ones that you are not familiar with. All of the services will be made available at 09.00 on the day and will remain on YouTube throughout Lent. If you would like to worship as part of our wider virtual church family, please do so at the times shown below.*

*Wednesday 24th February at 09.15 Morning Prayer*

*Wednesday 3rd March at 19.30 Iona Service*

*Wednesday 10th March at 18.00 Evening Prayer*

*Wednesday 17th March at 19.30 Reflective Prayer*

*Wednesday 24th March at 21.30 Compline (Night Prayer)*

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

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

This week Anderson and I have been asked to lead the national Palm Sunday service for the Church of England. It premieres at 9am on Sunday morning and we pray that people will find it a meaningful worship service. We filmed earlier in the month with the help of Jim Cooke (Rev Claire's husband) and the gardening team decorated our sanctuary with greenery, bringing the outside in.



In this time of global pandemic when we can't gather as crowds or sing praises to our King, Palm Sunday reminds us of the beauty and diversity within the Church, of everyone who calls 'hosanna to the highest.' Our liturgy blends together the Church of England with the Church of South India, a Province of the Anglican Communion. We'll go on a procession of sorts as we move around Lancaster worshipping God in different ways and places including St Thomas' Lancaster, our St Paul's Worship Centre in Hala, and Lancaster Priory.

In the tradition of Palm Sunday you are encouraged to have a cross at hand; you can download a palm frond from the internet, you may have an old palm cross around, some greenery, or, take your hands themselves and make a cross, or sign 'hosanna.'

This week we will not be posting a service on our St Paul's Scotforth YouTube channel and instead welcome you to worship along with us and the national church: simply search 'weekly online service, Church of England or click:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/news-and-media/church-online/weekly-online-services>

## 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:** Gressingham Drive,  
Gressingham Walk

**From our Church prayer diary:** All those who undertake Lay Ministry roles

**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, Barbara Hinde. Those who have died due to the coronavirus.

### **Collect for 28<sup>th</sup> March 2021:**

True and humble king,  
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:  
grant us the faith to know you and love you,  
that we may be found beside you  
on the way of the cross,  
which is the path of glory.

### **Readings for Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March:**

#### **Psalm 118.1-2, 19-end**

- 1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; •  
his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, •  
'His mercy endures for ever.'
- 19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, •  
that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.
- 20 This is the gate of the Lord; •  
the righteous shall enter through it.

- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me •  
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The stone which the builders rejected •  
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the Lord's doing, •  
and it is marvellous in our eyes.
- 24 This is the day that the Lord has made; •  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
- 25 Come, O Lord, and save us we pray. •  
Come, Lord, send us now prosperity.
- 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; •  
we bless you from the house of the Lord.
- 27 The Lord is God; he has given us light; •  
link the pilgrims with cords  
right to the horns of the altar.
- 28 You are my God and I will thank you; •  
you are my God and I will exalt you.
- 29 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; •  
his mercy endures for ever.

### **Mark 11.1-11**

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup>and said to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately." ' <sup>4</sup>They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup>some of the bystanders said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' <sup>6</sup>They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup>Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup>Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup>Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

<sup>10</sup>Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!' <sup>11</sup> Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

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**A message from Reverend Claire:** During this season of lent, I will be praying for Hala and I invite you to join me.

You might like to use the prayer below as a starting point to pray. Feel free to pray alone or with a friend over the phone, or you may like to join me on Zoom on Sunday mornings after the online

service. You can email me at [claire@stpauls-scotforth.org](mailto:claire@stpauls-scotforth.org) for the details of the zoom call.

The link remains the same for each week.

**A Lenten Prayer for Hala - based on Matthew 28:16-20**



Lord Jesus, we come to you in worship.

We come as we are, bringing our hopes and dreams, our fears and doubts, our joys and challenges.

Thank you that you welcome us.

We pause to wonder at your glory.

We recognise that we are your people.

We stand in your authority, only because you have given it to us.

Without you, our best efforts are empty.

Teach us to embrace our weakness, that in you, we may find strength.

We pause to submit ourselves to you and commit ourselves to your will once again.

We hear your command to go.

We feel the discomfort of stepping out of what is familiar to us.

We name our fear and the things we don't want to leave behind.

Teach us to follow you; that we might grow in trust in you.

We pause to count the cost and choose to obey your command.

We look to your example of making disciples, of sharing life generously.

Help us to speak well of you, to point to the work you are doing in people's lives.

We ask you to bring new life to Hala;

For answered prayers and lives lived in celebration and obedience to you.

We pause to name those we know in Hala and ask for your blessing upon them.

We are thankful of your promise to be with us, always.

We take confidence in this alone.

Your presence with us is enough, Jesus.

We pause to be still and know you are God.

We pause to recognise your love holds us and sends us.

We pause to notice how your spirit leads us today.

### **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>



### **Escape to the Tropics with Fairtrade and RSPB by Arton Medd:**

A reminder about the RSPB/Fairtrade event focusing on the



Gola Rainforest in Sierra Leone, West Africa via Zoom on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm. The RSPB has helped in a project that has not only created a rainforest national park but has also produced some delicious Fairtrade chocolate!

The programme includes a film about a group of cocoa farmers who have come together to protect the forest, and develop their communities. The film explores 'forest friendly farming', where cocoa farmers work together in a Fairtrade co-operative, farm organically, and respect the trees, animals and birds.

This is followed by a presentation by Colin Pringle, former RSPB Chief Technical Advisor on the Gola Programme with Sierra Leone Government, who will relate his experience of working on a project that has done so much to protect both wildlife and people.

If you would like to join this zoom meeting please contact me by email ([arton.medd@btinternet.com](mailto:arton.medd@btinternet.com)) by Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March and I will send you the link on Monday.

## **Re-opening of Church for Public Worship Easter Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> April for 9.45am Service of Holy Communion**



We are very pleased to be able to announce that we are re-opening our church building on Easter Sunday for one service per week at 9.45am as we did previously.

Our service will still be available on our YouTube channel initially at about 9am. Over the next couple of weeks we are going to trial recording the service live and then upload it to the YouTube channel afterwards. So whilst a service will be available it may not be until midday. Our aim is to make it feel like you are in the church alongside those attending.

Whilst the social distancing rules say we can now move down to 1 metre plus mitigations (which is wearing a face mask [mandatory unless medically exempt], sanitizing your hands on entering the building, not moving around once seated, no singing etc) the numbers who can attend is still limited.

If you would like to attend please telephone or email the Parish Office on a Wednesday morning between 10am and 12 noon to reserve a place at the service.

Whilst we are opening with restricted services we will still not be signing the green school admission cards. Admission Policies for both primary and secondary schools have been revised to take account for this scenario.

## 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.

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• **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  
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