



# ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



17<sup>th</sup> June 2021

## Sunday Worship 20<sup>th</sup> June 2021 Third Sunday after Trinity

09:45 Service of Holy Communion at St Paul's Scotforth Road  
(*there will be singing of hymns at the front of church at the end of the service*)  
and online

on our St Paul's Scotforth YouTube channel  
around 1pm



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtJUjp8QUAnLzbhP0rxAJA>  
or if your device allows just scan the QR code

11:15 Service of Holy Communion at  
St Paul's Hala Worship Centre

***Please book your place for both services in St Paul's  
Scotforth Road or St Paul's Hala by phoning or emailing  
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:**

This coming Sunday is Father's Day, which for many people is a time of thanksgiving and family celebrations, while for others it is a time of pain and a sense of loss. This pandemic has highlighted the importance of the household for emotional, physical, and mental wellbeing. Many studies have been carried out about the increased rise of domestic violence against women and children during the various lockdowns, and how women are disproportionately negatively affected by balancing family responsibilities while struggling to work from home. These are serious social issues that may take decades to recover from as we strive for greater gender pay equality and safety for all.

And yet I have also seen many men throughout the UK and farther afield, step up and mature in their roles as fathers, godfathers, uncles, brothers, guardians, and friends to women and children. Some men have learned how to plait hair, cook, bake, home-school, and nurture children through these unsettling times. At its best, Father's Day celebrates our earthy fathers and those men who have shaped our lives for the better. At its worst, Father's day reminds us physical and emotional wounds caused by men, or the loss of fathers we've loved and lost.

This Father's Day, I would like us to spend time with our Father God, our God who created the world and loves us more than we can know. Please find a moment to read through the 'Father's Love Letter: An Intimate Message from God to you' a reminder of God's great love for each and every one of us, pieced together by passages from Scripture.

# FATHER'S LOVE LETTER

An intimate message from God to you.

## *My Child,*

*You may not know me, but I know everything about you. (1) I know when you sit down and when you rise up. (2)  
I am familiar with all your ways. (3) Even the very hairs on your head are numbered. (4) For you were made in my image. (5)  
In me you live and move and have your being. For you are my offspring. (6) I knew you even before you were conceived. (7)  
I chose you when I planned creation. (8) You were not a mistake, for all your days are written in my book. (9)  
I determined the exact time of your birth and where you would live. (10) You are fearfully and wonderfully made. (11)  
I knit you together in your mother's womb. (12) And brought you forth on the day you were born. (13) I have been  
misrepresented by those who don't know me. (14) I am not distant and angry, but am the complete expression of love. (15)  
And it is my desire to lavish my love on you. Simply because you are my child and I am your Father. (16)  
I offer you more than your earthly father ever could. (17) For I am the perfect father. (18) Every good gift that you receive  
comes from my hand. (19) For I am your provider and I meet all your needs. (20) My plan for your future has always  
been filled with hope. (21) Because I love you with an everlasting love. (22) My thoughts toward you are countless  
as the sand on the seashore. (23) And I rejoice over you with singing. (24) I will never stop doing good to you. (25)  
For you are my treasured possession. (26) I desire to establish you with all my heart and all my soul. (27)  
And I want to show you great and marvelous things. (28) If you seek me with all your heart, you will find me. (29)  
Delight in me and I will give you the desires of your heart. (30) For it is I who gave you those desires. (31)  
I am able to do more for you than you could possibly imagine. (32) For I am your greatest encourager. (33)  
I am also the Father who comforts you in all your troubles. (34) When you are brokenhearted, I am close to you. (35)  
As a shepherd carries a lamb, I have carried you close to my heart. (36) One day I will wipe away every tear  
from your eyes. And I'll take away all the pain you have suffered on this earth. (37) I am your Father, and I love you  
even as I love my son, Jesus. (38) For in Jesus, my love for you is revealed. (39) He is the exact representation of my being. (40)  
He came to demonstrate that I am for you, not against you. (41) And to tell you that I am not counting your sins.  
Jesus died so that you and I could be reconciled. (42) His death was the ultimate expression of my love for you. (43)  
I gave up everything I loved that I might gain your love. (44) If you receive the gift of my son Jesus, you receive me. (45)  
And nothing will ever separate you from my love again. (46) Come home and I'll throw the biggest party  
heaven has ever seen. (47) I have always been Father, and will always be Father. (48)  
My question is...Will you be my child? (49) I am waiting for you. (50)*

## *Love, Your Dad...Almighty God*

Father's Love Letter is a compilation of the following paraphrased Bible verses presented in the form of a love letter from God to you...

- (1) Psalm 139:1; (2) Psalm 139:2; (3) Psalm 139:3; (4) Matthew 10:29-31; (5) Genesis 1:27; (6) Acts 17:28; (7) Jeremiah 1:4-5; (8) Ephesians 1:11-12; (9) Psalm 139:15-16; (10) Acts 17:26  
(11) Psalm 139:14; (12) Psalm 139:13; (13) Psalm 71:6; (14) John 8:41-44; (15) 1 John 4:16; (16) 1 John 3:1; (17) Matthew 7:11; (18) Matthew 5:48; (19) James 1:17; (20) Matthew 6:31-33  
(21) Jeremiah 29:11; (22) Jeremiah 31:3; (23) Psalm 139:17-18; (24) Zephaniah 3:17; (25) Jeremiah 32:40; (26) Exodus 19:5; (27) Jeremiah 32:41; (28) Jeremiah 33:3; (29) Deuteronomy 4:29  
(30) Psalm 37:4; (31) Philippians 2:13; (32) Ephesians 3:20; (33) 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17; (34) 2 Corinthians 1:3-4; (35) Psalm 34:18; (36) Isaiah 40:11; (37) Revelation 21:3-4; (38) John 17:23  
(39) John 17:26; (40) Hebrews 1:3; (41) Romans 8:31; (42) 2 Corinthians 5:18-19; (43) 1 John 4:10; (44) Romans 8:31-32; (45) 1 John 2:23; (46) Romans 8:38-39 (47) Luke 15:7  
(48) Ephesians 3:14-15; (49) John 1:12-13; (50) Luke 15:11-32. © 1999 Father Heart Communications FathersLoveLetter.com - Please feel free to copy & share with others.

## **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:** Scotforth Road

**From our Church prayer diary:** 16<sup>th</sup> Lancaster Beavers

**Those who have asked for prayers for healing:** Alan, Kath and family, Mary Wilson, Eunice Parkinson, Marion Corkill, Katherine McHale, Eileen Slinger

**All who mourn:** Tony Wadeson, Irene Robinson, Kathleen Margaret Bellamy, John Fidler. Those who have died due to the coronavirus.

### **Collect for 20<sup>th</sup> June 2021:**

Almighty God,  
you have broken the tyranny of sin  
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts whereby  
we call you Father:  
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,  
that we and all creation may be brought to the glorious  
liberty of the children of God;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### **Readings for 20<sup>th</sup> June 2021:**

#### **2 Corinthians 6.1-13**

<sup>6</sup>As we work together with him,<sup>\*</sup> we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says,  
'At an acceptable time I have listened to you,  
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.'

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! <sup>3</sup>We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, <sup>7</sup>truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

11 We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. <sup>12</sup>There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. <sup>13</sup>In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

## Mark 4.35-41

<sup>35</sup> On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side.' <sup>36</sup>And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. <sup>37</sup>A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. <sup>38</sup>But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' <sup>39</sup>He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. <sup>40</sup>He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?' <sup>41</sup>And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'

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**Readings for next Sunday:**  
2 Samuel 1.1.17-end; 2 Corinthians 8: 8-end; Mark 5: 21-end

***At St Paul's Hala Worship Centre the readings will be different for the next few weeks as there is a special sermon series for June. Readings will be available at the service.***

### **Loving Earth Project by Julie Forsdick:**

Following on from Margaret's talk on Environment Sunday and Arton's article in last week's newsletter you may be thinking "What can I do to help?" If you are a textile enthusiast, whether that is knitting, crochet, patchwork, embroidery, weaving or any other textile craft then you could consider being part of the Loving Earth Project.



The Loving Earth Project is a joint project of Woodbrooke and the Quaker Arts Network. They are asking for textile makers to consider three questions:

- Is there something, someone or somewhere that you know and love which is endangered by environmental breakdown?
- How does your lifestyle contribute to that threat?
- What could you do or are you doing, to help reduce that threat?

You are then invited to respond creatively to these questions and create a 30cm (12 inch) square panel illustrating your response, along with a few words (approx. 150) to accompany the panel.

The panels will then be exhibited at COP 26 in Glasgow. Panels intended for COP 26 need to be submitted by September but can be submitted earlier and included on their website or exhibited in temporary exhibitions across the country.

If you are interested you can find out more on the website:  
[lovingearth-project.uk](http://lovingearth-project.uk)

You can sign up for the newsletter by sending an e-mail to:  
[lovingearthproject@woodbrooke.org.uk](mailto:lovingearthproject@woodbrooke.org.uk)

If you are interested but are not tech savvy and would like us to run a workshop here at St. Paul's then please contact Tony Walker and depending on the response we may be able to arrange a workshop or a meeting in someone's garden.

## **Church Gardens – calling all hedge cutters by Maureen Leach:**



Over the last few weeks we have all been extremely busy growing our bedding plants from seed, including marigolds, cosmos, mesembryanthemums, and lavatera. No easy task in this changeable climate. See if you can spot where they have all been planted. The dahlia tubers wrapped up in newspaper have been overwintered in the church cellar. At the end of March they were all potted up in the greenhouse and are now planted out and hopefully all 40 of them should be flowering soon. We haven't been as lucky with overwintering the geraniums and they all died. We purchased 36 plug plants which arrived two days before the last hard frost. Despite covering them with fleece 12 of them died. However, the remaining 24, though still small have come into flower and hopefully will survive.

Though they have managed to get this far they have now had to



be watered frequently. No simple task but we have a weekly rota and hopefully that will see them through the present drought.

A couple of shrubs have been recently given to us in memory of loved ones who have died and they are now in situ as well.

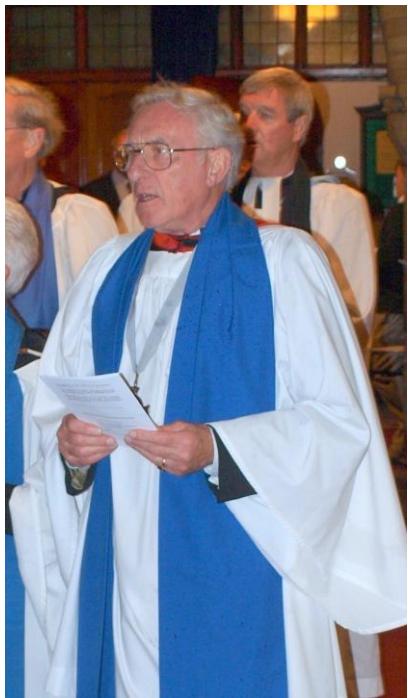
Of course all this planting doesn't leave us much time for weeding let alone cutting hedges particularly the big hedge between the remembrance garden and vicarage garden. If any of you have discovered a talent for hedge cutting during lock-down or, alternatively, if you know of anyone who could do it for us please let me know on 07531285199 asap. Unfortunately the longer it is left the bigger it gets!

## **A tribute to John Fidler 1936-2021 by John Gedge:**

John joined our parish's ministry team as a Lay Reader in

1975 and fulfilled that role diligently. On his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday he was made a Reader Emeritus. He only stepped back from active ministry in 2018 due to physical infirmity. John used his extensive knowledge of history to set the weekly readings in their proper context. As a teacher, he made his points clearly. He was adept at drawing interesting parallels between current events and those in the past. John enjoyed the more traditional types of church choral music and forms of

service. Knowing John had served as a navigator in the RAF, I was a little surprised when he published a book about battleships, but the talks he gave in aid of the roof appeal confirmed his detailed knowledge of that subject. I will miss him.



## **SLCT Prayer Walk - Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July by Christine Medd:**

South Lancaster Churches Together are hoping to hold a prayer walk this year, having missed out last year. It is still indecisive as to what the Covid regulations will be, so plans may have to be slightly altered, even at short notice. However, this is a brief plan so far!

We will meet at Trinity URC, Bowerham, either in the garden or inside church for 6.45pm on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July. The walk may have to be socially distanced and please bring a face mask if they are still required for inside buildings.

The walk will not be strenuous or too long, will be on footpaths, and will not include hills – just gentle slopes. We will stop several times for prayers and there will be opportunities to sit down.

We aim to return to Trinity URC about 8.45pm. The regulations at the time of writing do not allow a church to serve refreshments, so please bring your own drink and biscuit. If you are willing to lead a prayer, as quite a few of you have done on previous walks, please do let me know as soon as you can.

Tel: 01524 64730 Email: [arton.medd@btinternet.com](mailto:arton.medd@btinternet.com)

## **News about The Olive Branch by Tony Walker:**

At the beginning of this month the Olive Branch was awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service with a special designation recognising the support it provided to the local community during the pandemic.



The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service (QAVS) is the highest award given to local volunteer groups across the UK. It was created in 2002 to celebrate the anniversary of the Queen's Coronation. It is the MBE for volunteer groups and is

awarded for life. It is awarded to outstanding groups of volunteers whose level of initiative and impact are truly exceptional. Each group is assessed on the benefit it brings to the local community and its standing within that community.

Here at St Paul's, as one of the supporting churches of the Olive Branch, we are all delighted that this Christian charity and all its volunteers have been recognised in this way.

If you are able to help the Olive Branch by donating food this is what is needed at the moment:

- **Tinned fruit, sugar, rice, basmati rice, biscuits, toilet rolls, cereal, tinned tomatoes, tinned stew, tinned chicken, oil, juice and multipack biscuits.**

Pasta, noodles, soup and baked beans are not needed as there is a large stock of these items.

**Donations can be left at the Vicarage in the collection box.**

**Belated Golden Wedding Anniversary  
wishes go to:  
Brian and Judith Threlfall**



**A Church magazine (from Knott End) find by Sandra Makinson:  
HOW DO YOU LIVE YOUR DASH**

I read of a man who stood to speak  
At the funeral of a friend  
He referred to the dates on her tombstone  
From the beginning.....to the end  
He noted that first came her date of birth  
And spoke the following date with tears.  
But he said what mattered most of all  
**Was the dash between those years (1934-1998)**  
For that dash represents all the time  
That she spent alive on earth  
And now only those who loved her  
Know what that little line is worth  
For it matters not, how much we own,  
The cars.... The house... The cash,  
What matters is how we live and love  
And how we spend our dash  
So think about this long and hard  
Are there things you'd like to change?  
For you never know how much time is left,  
That can still be rearranged.  
If we could just slow down enough  
To consider what's true and real,  
And always try to understand  
The way other people feel  
And be less quick to anger,  
And show appreciation more  
And love the people in our lives  
Like we've never loved before.  
If we treat each other with respect,  
And more often wear a smile...  
Remembering that this little dash  
Might only last a little while.

## **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.**

**Contactless Giving in Church is now available.** Our machine will be at the back of church so that on your way out, rather than giving a cash donation, you could consider giving by card.



- **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: [lifeevents@stpauls-scotforth.org](mailto:lifeevents@stpauls-scotforth.org)
- **CHURCH WEBSITE:** <https://stpauls-scotforth.org>
- **FACEBOOK:** regular updates about life at St Paul's can be found: [@scotforthstpaulschurch](https://www.facebook.com/scotforthstpaulschurch)