



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



25th November 2021

Sunday Worship 28th November 2021 First Sunday of Advent

08.00 BCP Holy Communion at St Paul's Scotforth Road

09:45 Service of Holy Communion at St Paul's Scotforth Road
Young Church at Parish Hall

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

16.00 Advent Carol Service at St Paul's Scotforth Road

Morning Prayer in church on Monday and Tuesday and by telephone conference on Wednesdays – at 09.00.

Please contact Margaret Ives if you would like to join the telephone conference.



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

A message from Reverend Claire:

This coming Sunday marks the beginning of Advent - a season of waiting and watching, looking forwards to the coming of Christ. Advent reminds us that our faith always has a forward tilt. As we celebrated Christ the King last Sunday, we were reminded that Christ's kingdom is both here and established, we do live under his authority; and yet, it is also not fully experienced here yet.

Revelation 21:3-5 reads

³They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." ⁵He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!"

In the kingdom of God there will be no more tears, death, mourning, pain and so much more. Yet, we still experience tears, death, mourning, pain and so we continue to look to Jesus, the source of our hope and joy. We celebrate that God is both with us, because of the coming of Christ, Emmanuel, which we look forward to celebrating in a few weeks, but we also remember that we still look forward to his coming again. So we continue to pray 'your kingdom come, your will be done here on earth, as it is in heaven'. Let us keep looking to Jesus, leaning forwards into his everlasting love, joy and hope.

In the meantime, we work to bring the hope of the kingdom here in our neighbourhoods. I have been working with Rebecca Long to bring hope in the form of a food club to Hala. We are set to open before Christmas, which is a mark of the wonderful provision of God. Food clubs care for our world by redirecting good food that would otherwise end in landfill, then makes that food accessible to local households in an affordable way, boosting a weekly shop for a small cost. In both ways this lifts a light of hope where we live. I thank God for his provision of people and finances to make this possible.

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: Highgrove, Parsons Close, Lindbergh Avenue, Alderman Road

From our Church prayer diary: The Reflective Prayer Group

Those who have asked for prayers for healing: Mary Wilson, Eunice Parkinson, Marion Corkill, Katherine McHale, Maureen Thorpe, Jacqueline Gothard, Rev Rebecca, Kath Beck, Val Gedge, Olive Jenkinson, Mollie Glover, Ruth Territt, Pirrko Leong

All who mourn: Tina Bowers

Collect for 28th November 2021:

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living
and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Readings for 28th November 2021:

Jeremiah 33.14-16

¹⁴ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in

safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’

1 Thessalonians 3.9-13

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. ¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Luke 21.25-36

²⁵ ‘There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in a cloud” with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.’ ²⁹ Then he told them a parable: ‘Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³⁴ ‘Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.’

Post Communion Prayer for 28th November 2021

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Readings for next Sunday:

Malachi 3.1-4; Benedictus; Philippians 1.3-11; Luke 3.1-6

Holy Communion Service:

As we begin a new liturgical year from the First of Advent, our Thursday 9.15am Communion service will resume from Thursday 3rd December. Everyone is warmly welcome to this quiet service of Holy Communion.



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.



ST PAUL'S CHURCH,
SCOTFORTH

Advent Carol Service

'He will come like child'

SUNDAY 28TH NOVEMBER
4PM

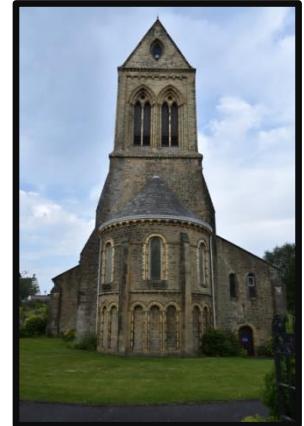
Musicians and readers from
St Paul's and Hala

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.

Church Tower Appeal:

If you would like to make a donation but don't have access to the internet then you can send a cheque to the Parish Office, St Paul's Parish Hall, Scotforth Road, Lancaster, LA1 4TS – please write 'Tower Appeal' on the reverse of the cheque. Or if you contact us then we can let you have our bank account details to make a BACs transfer. Please tell your friends and family about our appeal. If you have any questions about how you can donate or the building project then please contact either Jayne or Tony via the Parish Office.



Poinsettias for Christmas

As we once again prepare to go to Bethlehem to worship the Christ-child, we invite you to consider making a gift to St Paul's for the purchase of poinsettias for the decoration of the church at Christmas.

You may wish to make your gift as a thanksgiving for the life of a departed family member or friend, or for a particular blessing in your own life.

Forms to complete are available in church from Sunday 14th November and are also available from the Parish Office. Once you have completed the form please place this, with the suggested donation of £8 (which covers the cost of purchasing the poinsettias) into an envelope with Poinsettia written on it and either place it in the offertory plate, hand to a churchwarden or sides person or take to the parish office by Wednesday 1st December.

Let us take this opportunity to thank you in anticipation of your gift and to wish you and yours the joy and peace of the Christmas Season.

Jayne and Tony, Churchwardens

Christmas Greetings – Last Chance!

Christmas is getting nearer and you have all those cards to write. A frightening thought! One way to reduce your workload would be to send just one Christmas greeting message to everyone in the parish. This means that it will be sent out in the Parish news and displayed on the Church and Hala notice boards.

Donations will be in aid of the Tower Fund. If you would like to join us please hand your greeting (no more than 30 words) with a minimum donation of £5 to myself at 20 Newlands Rd, to a churchwarden, sides person or the Church Office. The closing date will be **December 3rd**. Any messages arriving later than this date will possibly miss the printing deadline. If you have any queries please contact Maureen Leach on 07531285199.



Parish Walk:

Our next walk will be on Sunday November 28th. As there will be an Advent Service later in the afternoon the arrangements will be slightly different from usual. **Please meet on Morecambe Prom by the**



Mother and Child Statue which is just after Happy Mount Park at 12.15. We will then have a quick lunch stop in Happy Mount Park before setting off on a **3 mile** walk which goes behind Morecambe Golf Club, along the canal, finishing for a short while on the shore. The attached photos are from last month's allotment walk some of which were easier to find than others. We saw where Arlene used to have an allotment with her husband and we also visited Canterbury Avenue allotments where I spent a lot of my early childhood as my dad had an allotment there. As we only managed to visit 5 on a rather damp day there will be a second allotment tour some time in the New Year.

For further information please contact me on 07531285199.

Maureen Leach

Christmas Tree Garlands

COP26 is now over, but the issues surrounding the climate crisis are far from being solved. There is still a great deal to do if we are to keep to the Paris Agreement and limit the rise in global temperatures to no more than 1.5° C above pre-industrial levels. What can any one person do to help? Many groups across the world have come together to create their own creative response to the issues by producing textile panels, art installations, craft exhibitions etc. to display within their communities. Such responses aim to:



- Remind ourselves and each other that climate change issues are important
- Pay attention to concepts such as reuse and recycling
- Join in a shared creative task to show that we care
- Help build a sense of community in these uncertain times

We would therefore like to suggest that at St. Paul's we could knit Christmas Trees to hang as garlands in St. Paul's Church and the Hala Centre over the Christmas season using unused left-over yarn and craft materials. In our specific context, the garlands produced would not only remind us of our care and commitment to tackling climate change issues but also produce something unique to us, our own St. Paul's and Hala homemade gift to the celebration of Christmas as a joyful rather than consumerist experience.

A pattern is given below which uses just a small amount of left-over double knitting yarn.

Trees are not always green, left-over yarn of any colour would be fine, your tree could even be striped! Feel free to add some "bling": beads, sequins, ribbons, buttons, anything appropriate that's lying around in the bottom of the craft draw unused. No DK wool spare?

Try the tree with different yarn on smaller or bigger needles; forests contain little trees and big trees.

There will be boxes out at St Paul's and Hala for you to put your finished trees into, or they can be dropped off at the Parish Office. We will aim to put the garlands up when the church Christmas trees go up, so the boxes will be out for collecting trees from now to Sunday 5th December.

Maybe you could put some up at home as well?

Christmas Tree Knitting Pattern

Materials: DK wool, 4mm needles

Instructions

Cast on 8 sts.

Knit 8 rows.

Turn. Cast on 8 sts at beginning of row and knit across all stitches.
(16 sts)

Turn. Cast on 8 sts at beginning of row and knit across all stitches.
(24 sts)

Knit 2 rows.

K2tog, knit across row to last 2 stitches, K2tog. Repeat down to 12 sts on needle.

Turn. Cast on 4 sts at beginning of row and knit across all stitches.
(16 sts)

Turn. Cast on 4 sts at beginning of row and knit across all stitches.
(20 sts)

Knit 2 rows.

K2tog, knit across row to last 2 stitches, K2tog. Repeat down to 8 sts on needle.

Turn. Cast on 4 sts at beginning of row and knit across all stitches.
(12 sts)

Turn. Cast on 4 sts at beginning of row and knit across all stitches.

(16 sts)

Knit 2 rows.

K2tog, knit across row to last 2 stitches, K2tog. Repeat down to 2 sts on needle.

K2tog.

Cast off.

Weave in the ends.

Iron or use other appropriate technique for your yarn to block the work so that it is flat.

Decorate as you wish.

Julie Forsdick, on behalf of the Hope in our Hands group.

Church Bell history?

We've have a request from someone researching the history of the Mission Church at Sunderland Point, who are at the beginning of transforming the old building into a heritage centre. There is a brass plaque that says the bell was donated by Mrs Sproat of Lancaster in memory of her father Thomas Swainson who lived at Sunderland Point. A newspaper article in 1895 recording the donation of the bell says it was originally in Scotforth Church. The extension to St Pauls in 1891 was designed by Paley, Austin and Paley (who were also responsible for the Mission Church at Sunderland Point in 1894). Perhaps during these works the bell(s) could have been replaced. Does anyone within the congregation or parish have knowledge of this bell and how it came into the possession of Mrs Sproat? If so, please contact Bill at w.morris140@btinternet.com, or contact the Parish Office so that we can put you in touch with Bill. Thank you very much for any assistance.



Parish Office Clerical Assistant – maternity cover to commence on Tuesday 11th January 2022

We are seeking to employ a Clerical Assistant for 5 hours per week to cover a seven-month period of maternity leave in the first instance. There may be an extension to this time period. The hours will be worked from 9.30am-12 noon on Tuesday and Thursday's – hourly rate is £9.50 (Real Living Wage).

The position involves a number of administrative tasks for which you would need an excellent working knowledge of Microsoft Office packages. For further information or an application pack please contact Mrs Jayne Weatherill, Churchwarden OR Miss Sarah Green, Parish Business Manager, tel: 01524 843135 or email: lifeevents@stpauls-scotforth.org

Closing Date: Wednesday 15th December 2021 at mid-day.

Interview Date: Monday 20th December 2021

- **VICAR:** Rev Dr Rebecca Aechtner –
Tel: 749693; Email: vicar@stpauls-scotforth.org
- *Rest day is Friday – if you have an urgent enquiry then please contact a Churchwarden.*
- **PIONEER MINISTER:** Rev Claire Cooke:
Email: Claire@stpauls-scotforth.org
- *Work days are Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday*
- **WARDENS:**
 - Mrs Jayne Weatherill:
Tel: 60597; Email: sjayneweatherill@gmail.com
 - Mr Tony Walker:
Tel: 382397; Email: walkerar@hotmail.co.uk
- **PARISH OFFICE:** The office is open Monday – Friday from 9.30am – 12 noon.
Tel: 01524 843135; Email: office@stpauls-scotforth.org
- **BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS:** Booking enquiries - please contact the parish office or
Email: lifeevents@stpauls-scotforth.org
- **CHURCH WEBSITE:**
<https://stpauls-scotforth.org>
- **FACEBOOK:** regular updates about life at St Paul's can be found: @scotforthstpaulschurch
- **INSTAGRAM:** @scotforthstpauls