



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



9th December 2021

Sunday Worship 12th December 2021

Third 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

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

09.15 Holy Communion at St Paul's Scotforth Road
Thursday 9th December

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 Rebecca:

During Advent, we prepare to celebrate Christmas. This third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday or Rejoice Sunday! Traditionally Advent is a penitential season, when our church vestments and advent candles are purple, the colour of fasting and repentance. During these four Sundays we reflect, wait, and prepare ourselves for the first coming of Christ at Christmas and Christ's second coming. On the third Sunday of Advent we take a gentle break and light the rose coloured candle of JOY on the Advent wreath.

A few years ago I read that rose is a softening of the penitential purple that points to the joy and celebration of the white and gold at Christmas and Easter. Gaudete Sunday reminds me of Psalm 30:5b "Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning." So let us 'rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice' (Philippians 4.4)

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: Pinewood Close

From our Church prayer diary: All those who volunteer in Community Groups

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, Pirkko Leong, Jacqueline Gothard

We pray for the parents, godparents and family of: Ellis, Connie and George who are to be baptised this week

All who mourn: Mark William Satterley

Collect for 12th December 2021:

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger

to prepare your way before you:

grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way

by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,

that at your second coming to judge the world

we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;

for you are alive and reign with the Father

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

Readings for 12th December 2021:

Philippians 4.4-7

⁴ Rejoice* in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.* ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Luke 3.7-18

⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to

Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.’ ¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, ‘What then should we do?’ ¹¹In reply he said to them, ‘Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.’ ¹²Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, ‘Teacher, what should we do?’ ¹³He said to them, ‘Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.’ ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, ‘And we, what should we do?’ He said to them, ‘Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.’ ¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah,* ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, ‘I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with* the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’ ¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Post Communion Prayer for 12th December 2021

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

Readings for next Sunday:

Micah 5.2-5a; Magnificat or Psalm 80.1-8; Hebrews 10.5-10;
Luke 1.39-45 [46-55]

Nativity Trail in St Paul's Church Garden:

Our interactive Nativity Trail, featuring Dotty the Donkey will be in our church garden from Monday 13th December. Follow Dotty as she retells the Christmas story. The trail has 12 stations and takes you on a journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem and features key figures from the Nativity to meet along the way.



The Omicron Variant:

The Church of England has issued new guidelines for us to use to ensure that our services are as safe as practicable for all to attend. We have reviewed these and can confirm that the steps that we have in place - sanitising on entry, wearing of masks, ventilation, the one-way system, communion in one kind, singing wearing masks - are still appropriate for the uncertain situation we now face. In line with Government guidance please do consider taking a free NHS Lateral Flow Test (LFT) if you are feeling any Covid symptoms.

Within the Church we believe that everyone is known and loved individually by God and that as many members within one body we are called to be responsible to and for one another, respecting the more vulnerable whose suffering is our suffering (1 Corinthians 12:12-27). Where we are now means we are being asked to take even more personal responsibility around coronavirus. If we all do this as a church family, we can enable as many as possible to join in worship.

Our Holy Communion services at 08.00 on Sundays and 09.15 on Thursdays allow for plenty of space for social distancing. There is no singing at these services. We hope that if you are feeling vulnerable or nervous at this time you may feel that these services would be appropriate for you.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST PAUL'S SCOTFORTH

This Christmas season we look forward to welcoming you to St Paul's Church, Scotforth. These services are in addition to our regular 8am and 9.45am services.

Sunday 19th December at 4pm -Christmas Carol Service

Christmas Eve:

Crib Service with Christingle at 2.00pm

Holy Communion at 11.30pm

Christmas Day:

Holy Communion (BCP) at 8am

Holy Communion at 10am

There will be no services on Sunday 26th December.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM
EVERYONE AT ST PAUL'S
SCOTFORTH**

**At the heart
of Christmas**



Tel: 01524 843135

Email: office@stpauls-scotforth.org

Web: <https://stpauls-scotforth.org>



Christmas Face Coverings:



Jennifer Couchman has generously donated 10 Christmas themed face coverings to St Paul's to raise money for our roof fund. I wore a beautiful red one on Sunday and can attest to the quality and love that has gone into each one. Please email me if you would like to purchase one and make a donation to our church. They will also be available after church on Sunday. You can see examples on Jennifer's website: www.sketchmydress.co.uk

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.

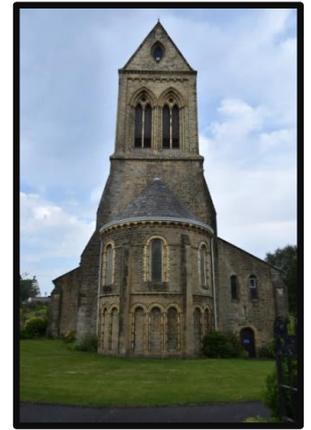
Contactless Giving in Church is now available.

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.



Do you need a Venue?

Are you thinking of organising a function, need a place to rehearse for a show, teach a hobby or even hold a meeting? Then why not use the Parish Hall? We have a number of rooms available for hire:

- **The Main Hall: £16.00 per hour**
The Main Hall is our largest space: 20x14m, with a maximum capacity of 140 adults. It's the ideal venue for larger gatherings, such as wedding receptions, concerts, productions, children's parties, and dances. There is a stage, as well as a computer projector/screen and a sound system, all of which can be hired for your event. We can even fit in a bouncy castle – please contact the Parish Office to discuss.
- **The Upstairs Studio Room: £8.50 per hour**
Our upstairs studio room is ideal for fitness classes and dance practice amongst other things, it is a large open space with natural light and mirrors.
- **The Meeting Room: £8.50 per hour**
For smaller groups, we have a sound-proofed meeting room. This room has table, chairs and an AV screen making it ideal for meetings, training days, or small classes for up to 20 people. For full day bookings the hirer can arrange for a buffet from a number of local providers.
- **Use of the Kitchen: £3.00 per hour with a hall booking or £7.00 per hour on its own**

Our letting hours are: 8am until 10.30pm, Monday to Saturday & 8am until 8pm on a Sunday

Please contact the Parish Office for availability as follows:

- by email: office@stpauls-scotforth.org
- by phone: 01524 843135 (answerphone on 24/7)



LIVING
IN LOVE
& FAITH

The LLF Course Lancaster Priory

19.30-21.00

Sundays, January 9th-February 6th

These sessions will follow Choral Evensong at 18.30

January 9th: Learning Together

January 16th: Identity

January 23rd: Relationships

January 30th: Our Bodies and Sex

February 6th: Life Together

For more information about LLF at Lancaster Priory please contact

Revd Leah Vasey-Saunders

vicar@lancasterpriory.org or 01524 382701.

Please book your place by contacting Jo Arber

office@lancasterpriory.org or 01524 65338.



www.lancasterpriory.org



**Hala Pantry is a new food club at
St Paul's, Hala.**



Food at Hala Pantry would otherwise have gone to landfill, so joining the club you can feel good that you are helping to reduce food waste while topping up your weekly shop, for a small weekly membership fee.

All food is safe to eat, but may be on a short use by date or a little after a best before date. Do come and ask us about the difference between these dates.

WHERE?

**St Paul's Hala, Hala Square
(next to Beck View)**

WHEN?

**Friday 10th Dec,
Friday 17th Dec,
Wednesday 22nd Dec,
Wednesday 29th Dec,
Friday 7th Jan...
and each Friday after that.**

WHAT TIME?

**There will be two sessions to
choose from, 5pm-6pm and
6:30pm-7:30pm.**

PRICE?

£4 per week. CASH ONLY

**Follow our facebook page for
more information or to contact
us @HalaPantry**

Tel: 07840 404814.

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: lifeyvents@stpauls-scotforth.org

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

Interview Date: Monday 20th December 2021

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• **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: sjaynewweatherill@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: lifeyvents@stpauls-scotforth.org

• **CHURCH WEBSITE:**

• <https://stpauls-scotforth.org>

• **FACEBOOK:** regular updates about life at St Paul's can be found: @scotforthstpaulschurch

• **INSTAGRAM:** @scotforthstpauls
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