



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



9th March 2023

Sunday Worship – 12th March 2023
Third Sunday of Lent

8:00am - BCP Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth Road

9:45am – Holy Communion, St Paul's, Scotforth Road

11:15am – Service of the Word at St Paul's, Hala

Wednesday at 9:15am – Morning Prayer
Please contact Margaret Ives if you would like to join the
telephone conference

Thursday at 9:15am - Holy Communion at St Paul's,
Scotforth Road



*Worshipping God,
Growing in Faith,
Serving the Community.*

FOR OUR PRAYERS

Our mission Partners: For Stephen and Marit Impey's work with Wycliffe Bible Translators International.

From our Parish prayer diary: Knowle Hill Crescent, Heversham Close, Arnside Close

From our Church prayer diary: Our Clergy Team

Those who have asked for prayers for healing: Mary Wilson, Eunice Parkinson, Reg Wollington, Mary Smith, Dorothy Camm, Lee Phillips, Denis Thorpe, Joan Guenault, John Harding

All who mourn: Marian Corkill, Jennifer Mary Clucas Kilshaw and Jacqueline Salisbury.

Parish Diary for the coming week:

| Date & Time | Name of Event |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mondays during Lent. Lent Discussion Groups: | 11am at the Hala Centre – group led by Jim Currin 7.15pm at 22 Hala Grove – group led by Richard and Tricia Impey – tel: 36617 7.30pm meeting on Zoom – contact Hugh Kidd at hugh@phonecoop.coop |
| Tuesdays during Lent. Lent Discussion Group | 10am at 65 Winchester Avenue – group led by Christine and Arton Medd – tel: 64730 |

Collect for 12th March 2023:

Eternal God,
give us insight
to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings for 12th March 2023:

Exodus 17.1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' ⁴So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' ⁵The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

Romans 5.1-11

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. ⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God

through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

John 4.5-42

⁵So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.'

¹¹The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?' ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' ¹³Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' ¹⁵The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' ¹⁷The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' ¹⁹The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' ²¹Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for

salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.’

²⁵The woman said to him, ‘I know that Messiah is coming’ (who is called Christ). ‘When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.’

²⁶Jesus said to her, ‘I am he, the one who is speaking to you.’

²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, ‘What do you want?’ or, ‘Why are you speaking with her?’ ²⁸Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹‘Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?’ ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, ‘Rabbi, eat something.’

³²But he said to them, ‘I have food to eat that you do not know about.’

³³So the disciples said to one another, ‘Surely no one has brought him something to eat?’ ³⁴Jesus said to them, ‘My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵Do you not say, “Four months more, then comes the harvest”? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, “One sows and another reaps.” ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.’

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, ‘He told me everything I have ever done.’ ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, ‘It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.’

Post Communion Prayer for 12th March 2023:

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil,
and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Readings for next Sunday:

1 Samuel 16.1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5.8-14; John 9



Support your Church to serve your local community:

Many people might be surprised to know that St. Paul's is entirely self-funded and does not get any financial support from the Church of England, the Government or the Diocese of Blackburn apart from the vicar's wages. We also fund our own running costs and maintenance.

Therefore, this is a HUGE thank you to everyone who supports St Paul's via the collection plate/card machine (however large or small), stewardship envelopes, standing order, volunteering or just by choosing St. Paul's as your church and place of worship.

Many members of St Paul's congregation prefer to support our church by monthly Bank Standing Order as an easy and convenient way instead of via the collection plate. As part of our Spring regular giving campaign, we are praying that more people will sign up to donate regularly by standing order.

If you are willing or able to give regularly in this way, there is a bank form and separate Gift Aid form (if you are a UK taxpayer) available at the back of the church which can be filled in and left in the box provided – or sent directly into the Parish Office. All the envelopes containing banker's orders or gift aid declarations are sent to the treasurer, unopened. Apart from the treasurer, the auditor and the inland revenue, no-one else knows how much any individual regularly gives to the Church. Alternatively - if you would like a standing order form emailing to you then please let the church office know by email:

office@stpauls-scotforth.org



We are thankful for your support of your local Church and its outreach.

Women's Fellowship:

Women's Fellowship will meet on the 13th March, 2:00pm at the Parish Hall. Mike Winstanley will be telling us about 'Markets to Supermarkets - and beyond, 200years of shopping in Lancaster'. All are welcome.

Jean Mount

Parish Walk:

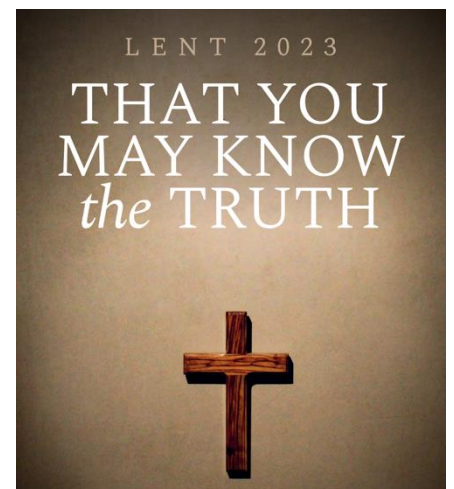
The next church walk {4miles} is to Over Wyresdale to see the crocus and possibly daffodils at the nearby Meeting House on Sunday March 19th. We will meet in the gardens at the back of church at 12:15 for lunch, and then drive up to Christ Church which is known locally as 'The Shepherd's Church'.

Maureen Leach

Lent reading: how is it going?

As many of you continue to read through the Gospel of Luke, with the reflections offered in the booklet, you'll know that we are now reading about the public ministry of Jesus.

How are you finding the reading exercise this Lent? Are you being stimulated to think about your own Christian faith? Are you challenged by what you have read about Jesus?



Although the Gospel has been broken down to a piece every day for 6 weeks, giving 10 minutes to reading each day is still quite a commitment. Don't worry if miss a few days, the booklet is designed for you to read the days you can.

The parish groups seem to be a great encouragement to those able to make them. Lots of positive comments have been heard e.g., 'I've really enjoyed the discussion'; 'this is amazing'; 'I didn't realise how relevant the Bible was' etc. The groups are not too large, and are still open to new people joining, even if you can only make one or two weeks before Easter.

The range of conversation has been brilliant, from discussing the work of the Holy Spirit then and now, to picking up an 'uncomfortable truth' and being prompted by God to do something about it. We have discussed 'what do I say when someone asks why I am a Christian?' and 'does Jesus heal today?' The discussion is far ranging and we learn from each other.

Are you finding the Lent reading a good and rewarding exercise? No doubt you have found that there is a lot to think and pray about. If you would like to discuss it, there are lots of people around to share a conversation with. So, let's encourage each other in reading the Bible this Lent, especially while we have the booklet to help us. If you can't get a paper copy from the back of church, visit 'Diocese of Blackburn/seasonal resources'.

Be encouraged as you read about Jesus

Jim Currin jm.currin@me.com

Fairtrade Easter Eggs:

Meaningful Milk Chocolate Real Easter Eggs are the only ones in the UK with an Easter story booklet for children. They are Fairtrade, have 35% cocoa (check that against the 20% - 25% of usual brands!), are palm-oil free and no plastic is used in the packaging. Cost £4.50. Contact me by email arton.medd@btinternet.com or phone 01524 64730, or sign up on the order form at the back of church by Sunday 19 March.

While on the subject of chocolate, please don't give it up for Lent and thereby deprive the cocoa farmers of six weeks (almost 12%) of their annual income. You could make sure in Lent that it is all

Fairtrade – and then keep up the habit

Arton Medd

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.



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 letter box.

Green Bins and news from the Crocus Memorial Garden:

If you appreciate all the hard work the gardening team do to keep on top of the gardens and regret that you aren't able to help. Here is your chance. Once again it is time to pay the council £41 (over £200 for 5) to have a green bin emptied. On average we can fill 4 bins a session so they are vital to our work. A donation of any amount would be much appreciated so that we can continue to keep on top of the gardening. I hasten to add that we do have 2 compost heaps as well.

Don't forget to keep an eye out for our crocus memorial garden, they should be coming into flower in the next few weeks. This year we planted another 1000 bulbs!
The Gardening Team



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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.*

● **ASSISTANT PRIEST:** Rev Catherine Haydon: contact information to follow

● *Rest day is Tuesday*

● **CHURCHWARDEN:**

● Mrs Jayne Weatherill:

● Tel: 60597 or 07986993007; Email: sjayneweatherill@gmail.com

● **PARISH OFFICE:** The office is open Monday to Friday from 9.30am – 12 noon.

● Tel: 01524 843135; Email: office@stpauls-scotforth.org

● **BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS:** Booking enquiries - please contact Jayne Weatherill through the parish office or Email: lifeyvents@stpauls-scotforth.org

● **CHURCH WEBSITE & HOW TO HIRE OUR ROOMS:**

● <https://stpauls-scotforth.org> then visit the Hiring our Spaces area at the top of the page.

● **FACEBOOK:** regular updates about life at St Paul's can be found:

● @scotforthstpaulschurch

● **INSTAGRAM:** @scotforthstpauls

● **PASTORAL CARE TEAM:** Our Clergy and Pastoral Care Team are here to listen and to pray. You can contact them by either emailing pastoral@stpauls-scotforth.org or telephoning Irene on Tel: 64701.

● **Scotforth School:** Headteacher – Mrs Katie Walsh – Tel: 01524 65379

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St Paul's, Hala Centre

Volunteers Needed!

**Have you
got a couple
of hours to
spare on a
Friday to go
on our rota?**

We need drivers, meet
and greet, setting up
help, clearing away help.



**St Paul's, Hala
Centre - Hala
Square, Lancaster,
LA1 4RW**

Friday's - times vary
according to
volunteer role



St Paul's Hala Pantry is a food club which runs every Friday at St Paul's Hala. It sources food that would otherwise have gone to landfill. Members of Hala Pantry can help reduce food waste whilst topping up their weekly shop.

For more information, contact halapantry@stpauls-scotforth.org

ST PAUL'S CHURCH
WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP



Afternoon Fair

SAT 18th MARCH 2023

2pm to 4pm

In the Parish Hall



Various stalls—Raffle—Cakes
etc.

Price £1.00 including drinks and a biscuit

Galloways

All proceeds to

Galloways

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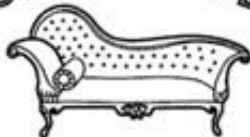
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