



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



22nd June 2023

Sunday Worship –25th June 2023 Trinity 3

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

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

11:15am –Holy Communion 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.*

Message from Reverend Rebecca:

This Sunday is Sanctuary Sunday marking the end of Refugee Week and aims to promote the [Church of Sanctuary](#) programme, building cultures of welcome, hospitality and safety in our churches. It is an ancient tradition across the world that holy places are considered places of sanctuary for those at risk of persecution. In the Christian faith this principle is enshrined in Scripture and given powerful expression in the ministry of Christ and the disciples of the early Church, who sought hospitality as they journeyed to share the Good News in dangerous times.

According to the United Nations High Commissioner For Refugees (UNHCR), around 90% of the world's refugees come from countries in or close to war and conflict, and almost 90% of all refugees live in countries neighbouring their country of origin.

Wars make refugees. In the long term, the only solution to the unprecedented numbers of refugees in the world is the cessation of war and conflict, and a world without war. This is the clear lesson from the current Russia-Ukraine conflict.

In international law there is no "illegal" or "bogus" asylum seeker. Anyone has the right to apply for asylum in any country that has signed the 1951 UN Refugee Convention, and to remain there until authorities have assessed their claim. Plans to relocate asylum seekers to another country are hostile; they penalise already humiliated people, and also contravene international law.

The criterion for determining refugee status is fleeing danger and seeking safety, not the means of travel or routes taken, not ethnicity, not the colour of skin, not nationality. All refugees have to be treated equally. Can Christians who hold to the promise of the Kingdom of God accept a situation where people's human rights, and human dignity, are deemed to disappear at a border? (https://churchofsanctuary.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Sanctuary-Bible-Study_FINAL_REVISED.pdf)

FOR OUR PRAYERS

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

From our Parish prayer diary: Avondale Road, Lonsdale Place, Trafalgar Road

From our Church prayer diary: All who volunteer in any capacity in our parish

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, Irene Harper, Jacqui Lennox

All who mourn: James Michael Edgar, Frederick Charles Tyson, Olive Hudson

Parish Diary for the coming week:

Date & Time	Name of Event
Wednesday 28 th June from 7:00pm	Refresh Ladies' Night, Boot & Shoe

Collect for Refuge Week and Sanctuary Sunday 25th June:

(Revd Dr Inderjit Bhogal)

Migrant God, free from borders, your presence spans all creation.

You take sanctuary in us, in you is our eternal sanctuary.

We behold you in community with those uprooted from their homes by war, poverty, persecution and extreme weather, especially those who make their way to these shores on small boats.

Be the shelter of their lives.

Bless their courage and resilience in seeking freedom and sanctuary.

Bring us to build cultures of welcome, hospitality and sanctuary for all;

Community where there is conflict;

Compassion where there is cruelty;

Humanity where there is hatred;

Hospitality where there is hostility;

And so, to practice and proclaim hope.

In the Name of Christ. Amen.

Readings for Sunday 25th June:

Deuteronomy 10.14-end

¹⁴ Although heaven and the heaven of heavens belong to the LORD your God, the earth with all that is in it, ¹⁵ yet the LORD set his heart in love on your ancestors alone and chose you, their descendants after them, out of all the peoples, as it is today. ¹⁶ Circumcise, then, the foreskin of your heart, and do not be stubborn any longer. ¹⁷ For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, ¹⁸ who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. ¹⁹ You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. ²⁰ You shall fear the LORD your God; him you shall serve; to him you shall hold fast; and by his name you shall swear. ²¹ He is your praise; he is your God who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen. ²² Your ancestors went down to Egypt seventy persons, and now the LORD your God has made you as numerous as the stars in heaven.

Matthew 25.31-end

³¹ When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?'

⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels;⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Post Communion Prayer for 25th June 2023:

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining
and whose power we cannot comprehend:
show us your glory as far as we can grasp it,
and shield us from knowing more than we can bear
until we may look upon you without fear;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

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Readings for next Sunday:

Genesis 22.1-14; Romans 6.12-end; Matthew 10.40-end

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. We also

fund our own running costs and maintenance.

If you would like to learn more about supporting your church by monthly Bank Standing Order as an easy and convenient way instead of via the collection plate, then please talk to the Churchwarden or a member of the welcome team to get more information. Alternatively, you can always email the church office (office@stpauls-scotforth.org) for more information

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 11.30am, 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. 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.

St Paul's Tote Bags:

Have you bought and modelled your tote bag yet?

These very useful bags are still available to buy from the back of Church, Hala Worship Centre and the Parish Office.



Tote Bag Challenge: A couple of weeks ago Rebecca issued a challenge to see where in the world our tote bag could be photographed. Want to send your 'Where in the World' photograph? Please email your photo with a short description to the parish office.

Bishop of Blackburn Interview and Installation:

In Blackburn Cathedral this Saturday (24 June) Rt Revd Philip North will be installed as the Bishop of Blackburn. His appointment was welcomed by many but it was not without controversy over his unwillingness to ordain women as priests. If like me, you wonder why he takes this stance, you can listen to an extended interview with Joe Wilson broadcast last Sunday on Radio Lancashire. In the interview Bishop Philip explains why, and he also speaks of his vision for the diocese, his political views and concern for social justice and his work with children.

On this last thought, while the formal service is proceeding in the main cathedral, there will be a children's service and activities in the crypt below. It would be interesting to read about the event in next week's Parish News from whoever has a ticket and is representing St Paul's.

The interview can be heard at:

www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0frmm26 . It begins 2 hrs and 4 mins into the programme and last about 25 minutes.

Arton Medd

SLCT Prayer Walk - 6th July:

South Lancaster Churches Together have held a prayer walk in July for quite a number of years. The walk this year will be on Thursday 6th July. It is 25 years since SLCT was formed, so this time the walk will celebrate the anniversary by concentrating on visiting the 4 contributing churches.

There will be stops along the route for prayers, and we will also sing a hymn at each of the churches. Please do come and join us: meet at St Paul's church at 6:45 pm, then via St Bernadette's church, Trinity United Reformed church, and ending at Lancaster Methodist church at approximately 8:45pm, perhaps for tea/coffee.

The walk will not be strenuous and if anyone wishes, the route can be followed by car.

Any further information from Margaret Ives or Christine Medd.



Refresh

LADIES NIGHT

COME AND JOIN US FOR
DRINKS AND FRIENDSHIP

WHEN: WEDNESDAY FROM 7PM
WHERE: THE BOOT & SHOE

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: Tel: 07723 642973;

Email: catherine@stpauls-scotforth.org

Rest day is Tuesday – if you have an urgent enquiry then please contact Rev Rebecca or a Church warden.

CHURCHWARDEN: Mrs Jayne Weatherill:

Tel: 60597 or 07986993007; Email: sjaynewweatherill@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