



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS

14th September 2023



Sunday Worship – 17th September 2023 Trinity 15

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

9:45am – Holy Communion including Baptism of Lorenzo at
St Paul's, Scotforth Road

11:15am – Holy Communion at St Paul's, Hala

12:30pm – Holy Baptisms at St Paul's, Scotforth Road

***Morning Prayer is taking a break for summer, and will return in
October***

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

Parish Diary for the coming week:

Date and time	Event
Sunday 17 th September 12:30pm	Holy Baptisms of Esmee Elizabeth and Phoebe Marie
Friday 29 th September, 11am at Cockerham Church	Funeral of Revd Canon Roger Hamblin



***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: Chiltern Court, Hastings Road, The Hastings, Kensington Road

From our Church prayer diary: The Churchwarden and Assistant Churchwardens

We pray for the parents, godparents and family of: Lorenzo, Esmae Elizabeth and Phoebe Marie who are to be baptised this week

Those who have asked for prayers for healing: Mary Wilson, Mary Smith, Dorothy Camm, Denis Thorpe, John Harding, Irene Harper, Richard Impey, Ciarán

All who mourn: Jacqui Lennox, Jean Norbury, Michael Forster, Revd Canon Roger Hamblin

Collect for Sunday 17th September:

Lord God,
defend your Church from all false teaching
and give to your people knowledge of your truth,
that we may enjoy eternal life
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings for Sunday 17th September:

Romans 14.1-12

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God.¹¹For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.'¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Matthew 18.21-35

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' ²²Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." ²⁹Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

Post Communion Prayer for 17th September 2023:

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Readings for next Sunday:

Exodus 16.2-15; Philippians 1.21-end; Matthew 20.1-16

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.



Bulb Planting for Next Spring:

If you are thinking of planting bulbs this autumn it would be lovely if you could plant a small bowl of tulips ready for a fund raising event I'm hoping to hold next spring. Thank you.

Maureen Leach

Authorised Lay Ministry (ALM):



I was rather surprised when Rev Rebecca asked me last year if I'd considered training for Authorised Lay Ministry, as I had just been thinking about that very thing! The context for our thoughts was my involvement in supporting the congregation at the Hala Centre. I had also led 'Celtic' style worship at St

Paul's (Scotforth Road) and it felt like a good moment to learn about, and gain authorisation for, leading worship in the parish.

Attending the core module showed what a wide range of roles are recognised as lay ministry – from preaching to community action to administration, and much more. It was good to find that the core module was about nurturing our own walk with God, and developing personal spiritual patterns that would flow out into our specific areas of ministry. The module on Leading Worship was full of expertise from different speakers each week. Most interesting to me were insights into how we encounter God in different ways: in nature, or through ceremony, in the Bible or through silence. Understanding these differences will, I hope, enrich the way I lead worship in future.

I would recommend ALM for anyone who wants to deepen their walk with God through inward growth and outward action in an area of church life or outreach. The modules are all about learning and there is no testing or assessment, so the commitment is very manageable and enjoyable. Do consider it!

Linda Currin

I have been coming to St Paul's for 15 years now ever since we moved to Lancaster and into the parish. Being a part of my local church is important to me, as this is the community I live in and want to worship with too. I am already involved in leading services and intercessions and along with my husband Hugh we host a home group, help at Hala Pantry and you may sometimes see us providing coffee after church.

I have a health and education background having worked as a nurse prior to moving into working at universities focusing on teaching and research around ageing and palliative care. More recently I worked in Cumbria helping set up a network of volunteer Anna Chaplains providing church based spiritual care for older people in their communities. I am now seeking to develop this ministry here in Lancashire and I teach a module on Ministry in Later Life for Blackburn Diocese's ALM programme.

Completing the ALM training for myself has enabled me to look at my own faith journey and how I nurture it in my own prayer life and study alongside with a community of Christians in the wider church. I chose to focus on Community Ministry and Pastoral Care which combined with my interest in faith in later life will enable me to continue to serve the people in our parish

Katherine Froggatt

What is Hala Pantry?

At St Paul's, Scotforth Road, you may sometimes have seen loaves of bread being given away on a Sunday, and asked, 'Where do these come from?' The answer will have been, 'Hala Pantry' – so this is an article to explain both the Pantry and the bread.



Hala Pantry is a food club which operates out of the parish's Hala Centre on Friday afternoons, from 5 to 6pm. For £3 a week, members come away with at least two carrier bags of food which otherwise would have been sent to landfill; some of it never seeing a shop floor. There is always a mix of fresh fruit and vegetables, cupboard items, fridge and frozen items. The food is not necessarily items that are on short dates, some was simply overordered or not as popular as supermarkets expected.

People coming to the Pantry fall into two groups: 1) those who are on lower incomes; and 2) those concerned for food waste. We encourage a mix of

members to ensure that there is no stigma to attending the Pantry and both aspects of the Pantry's work are recognised by the City Council as important.

The many loaves of bread are donated by a local supermarket. It is a very generous donation, collected by volunteers earlier in the day; and so generous that there is sometimes bread left over even after the Pantry's 50+ members have taken all they need. Alongside is a wide – random – selection of fresh fruit and vegetables, milk and eggs, tinned products, cheese, yoghurt, frozen meat etc; all collected from two 'supermarket surplus' networks: 'Fareshare' (Preston), and Eggcup (Lancaster).



The word 'members' is important. Hala Pantry is a 'food club' with members expected to come every week and pay £3 for 'a shop'. As such, members are often also called 'customers'. This is sustained access to cheap food giving ongoing support to those on lower incomes. This differs from a 'food bank' (like The Olive Branch) which provides emergency food for a short period to households in immediate crisis. We

receive requests from food banks for us to provide longer term support to particular households to help avoid the need for continued food bank use. Many of our members have commented that the Pantry has been a life-saver during the recent cost of living crisis.

Maureen, a volunteer, notes, 'At 5pm the fun begins as the customers come in and collect a numbered ticket, then maybe have a cup of tea and chat while waiting for their number to be called. Yes, it does get quite noisy but it is lovely to see the Centre put to such good use. Though we work quite hard some evenings, it is always a pleasure to be there, chatting with the regulars and meeting newcomers'.

Sue, a customer says, 'The food club is a social occasion. Otherwise, you get shut in your house and get a bit of a shock when you eventually come out'. So, please pray, especially on Fridays, for Sue and every member of the Pantry coming into the Hala Centre. Thank God for the team of brilliant volunteers. And finally, have a word with Rebecca Long (overall coordinator), or any of the volunteers, if you would like to find out more about this amazing enterprise in our parish, relieving both poverty and food waste.

Maureen Leach and Jim Currin

Secondary School Admissions Meetings:

We are now taking bookings for Ripley St Thomas Church School Supplementary Forms to be signed. There will be two evenings – Tuesday 10th October and Wednesday 11th October between 6.00pm and 7.30pm in the Parish Office. Please contact the office by telephone to make an appointment (9.30-12 noon Mon-Fri) or email at office@stpauls-scotforth.org

In order to make an appointment we will need the following information:

- Preferred date;
- Your name;
- Your child's name;
- Your child's school;
- Your contact telephone number.

If you email for an appointment you will receive a confirmation email stating the date and time of your appointment. Please remember that you will need to bring your school admission green card with you and the supplemental form you received in your RST prospectus pack. Please note, only one parent needs to attend the meeting in order to reduce any possible congestion in the Parish Hall.

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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: 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 Churchwarden.
• **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.
• Closed on Bank Holidays. 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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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.

"SONGS OF PRAISE" 17th September:

To celebrate 25 years of working together South Lancaster Churches Together (St. Paul's, St. Bernadette's, Lancaster Methodist and Trinity URC) are holding a special service of " Songs of Praise" at 3 p.m. on 17th September at St, Bernadette's. There will be hymns and readings chosen by representatives of all four churches and reflections on our work together over the years and our hopes for the future. PLEASE DO COME ALONG to meet fellow-Christians and take part in this celebration. (For further details, contact Margaret Ives, tel.67346).

Tote Bag Challenge: Recently 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. We are sure that your bags will be going on holiday with you somewhere.

The Olive Branch (Faith in Action): Vacancy

The Olive Branch is currently recruiting for the paid post of Project Assistant (Communications and Administration) – part-time for 17 hours per week, salary £9,777 pa. This is a new opportunity to join the small staff team who lead and support the Olive Branch's work as a foodbank and hospitality hub for people facing hardship. Full details are at www.the-olivebranch.org.uk, or contact Linda Currin (07947 122 249) for an initial conversation. Closing date for applications: 6pm on Tuesday 19th September. *Linda Currin*



Bishop's Harvest Appeal Sponsored Walk:

At our harvest festival services we give thanks for God's provision for us and bring our gifts of food to add to the decorations in church. The various food items are passed on to local people in need via the Olive Branch, Lancaster Homeless Action Service and other providers. At harvest time we are also encouraged to think world-wide and to help those in need in poor countries. To this end the Bishop of Blackburn's Harvest Appeal is for people in South Sudan – a country ravaged by civil wars and power struggles. Bishop Philip met Bishop Joseph Aba at the Lambeth Conference last year and was so impressed by the exile and persecution of him and fellow Christians that he invited Bishop Joseph to Lancashire to share his story. Bishop Joseph has a vision to reconstruct not only his Diocese of Liwolo but the whole nation and monies from the Bishop's Harvest Appeal will go towards this.

As part of his fundraising Bishop Philip and his chaplain, Rev Sam Cheeseman are walking 100Km (62.5 miles) beginning this Friday 15 September. Their route is along the Lancaster Canal from Yealand Conyers to Lancaster on Friday, Lancaster to Preston on Saturday then finishing in Blackburn on Sunday 17th in time for evensong in the Cathedral at 4.00pm. If you are able to join in for a mile or two you would be very welcome.

Details of the walk and much more information about Bishop Joseph and South Sudan, and how to make a donation are on the Blackburn Diocesan website www.blackburn.anglican.org

Arton Medd

CHARITY CEILIDH

St Paul's Church
Scotforth

Friday 13th October
7pm-9.30pm

ST PAUL'S PARISH HALL, LANCASTER
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£3 AGE 3-16
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Join us for an evening of
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All proceeds go to St
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For more information visit:
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*Please come and
join us for our*

HARVEST Service

*We also welcome our Young 'Fun'
Church and Uniformed Groups
to this service*

24th Sept at 9.45am

St Paul's Church, Scotforth

*followed by a BBQ and refreshments
(suggested donation of £1.50)*

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A 'Shocking' Report: We have recently had our five-year fixed electrical test in all our buildings. This tests every wire, circuit, switch, light etc in the building. The report that has come back for church, whilst it wasn't a surprise, has given the PCC some cause for concern. Whilst we don't have to close the building with immediate effect, we do have to carry out some major electrical work in the next 12 months in order to make it 'safe' and compliant. As with all older buildings things get added to electrical systems, some of which have been

in situ for many a long year. We have a fuse box/circuit board issue – some of which are so old they should be relegated to a museum – most of which are mounted on a nice (?) asbestos board. There are several other boards dotted around the church, quite random now but obviously logical in by-gone times, that are also in urgent need of replacement. This together with some more obvious, but must be dealt with now faults, like, for example, lights without shades/covers etc have brought an initial quotation into the PCC of £16,800.

As with all project works that go over a certain cost, we are in the process of getting three quotations and I am in the process of finding out from the company who installed the LED lights in 2018 why they weren't fitted to code and getting these repaired free of charge to us, which should in turn reduce that large quotation price a little. In the meantime, please pray for the PCC as they have to make difficult financial decisions – including where to find the money required to ensure these urgent but necessary repairs can take place.

Jayne Weatherill

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