



**ST PAUL'S
PARISH NEWS
23rd November 2023**



**Sunday Worship – 26th November 2023
Christ the King**

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 9:00am – Morning Prayer by telephone conference.
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

Parish Diary for the coming week:

Date & Time	Name of Event
Sunday 26 th November at 12:15pm	Parish Walk - Garstang



***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: Highgrove, Parsons Close, Lindbergh Avenue, Alderman Road

From our Church prayer diary: Our Welcome Team

Those who have asked for prayers for healing: Mary Wilson, Mary Smith, Dorothy Camm, John Harding, Ciarán, Ken Duckling

All who mourn: Denis Thorpe, Donald Gardner, Diane Coward, Pauline Coward

Collect for Sunday 26th November:

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory.

Readings for Sunday 26th November:

Ephesians 1.15-end

¹⁵ I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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. ³²All the nations will be gathered before

him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then 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; ³⁵for 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, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." ³⁷Then 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? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And 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; ⁴²for 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 Sunday 26th November:

Stir up, O Lord,
the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,
may by you be plenteously rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Readings for next Sunday:

Isaiah 64.1-9; 1 Corinthians 1.3-9; Mark 13.24-end

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.

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.



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 12th November and are also available from the Parish Office. Once you have completed the form please place this, with the suggested donation of £10 (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 Friday 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, Churchwarden

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: sjayneweatherill@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE: The office is open Monday to Wednesday and 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](https://www.facebook.com/scotforthstpaulschurch)

INSTAGRAM: [@scotforthstpauls](https://www.instagram.com/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

The Real Advent Calendar

Don't forget your cash this Sunday (£4.50) for a your Advent calendar – by



next Sunday three windows will have been opened! Included is a 24 page Christmas story-activity book with a page for every day of Advent and some puzzles. The milk chocolate is Fairtrade, 35% cocoa solids, palm oil free, sealed in foil, and the box and tray are also recyclable. If you want to

reserve one please email arton.medd@btinternet.com or phone 01524 64730.

Arton Medd

TV for Hala I wonder if anyone in the parish family has a large TV they can donate please to the St Paul's Hala congregation? It needs to be at least 36inches and have a HDMI connector so that it can be connected to a computer. We would like to have it available for use on Sunday mornings. Thank you very much. jim.currin@me.com

Parish Office Closure:

Please note that the parish office will be closed on a Thursday throughout November including up to and including 30th due to staff absence. Our usual hours return on Monday 4th December.

YOUNG 'FUN' CHURCH:



We would be grateful if jam jars etc, suitable for holding a candle, could be brought into church for children's advent crafts. We shall be needing them each week. Many thanks.

Church Walk

The next church walk (3-4 miles) will be in the Garstang area on this Sunday November 26th. Please meet at the back of the church gardens at 12:15pm for a picnic lunch. Transport can be shared and offered. Please message me on 07531 285199 if you will need a lift.

Maureen Leach

Festival of Nativity Scenes: Sunday 3rd – Thursday 7th December

Have you signed a form to say that you have a nativity scene which you could bring to church for a few days? If not, please do so! Are you able to be a steward or help with refreshments on Dec 4th, 5th or 6th? Please do sign the appropriate form at the back of church. Queries to Christine: phone 01524 64730 or email

arton.medd@btinternet.com



The Festival of Nativity Scenes is only a short time away, from Sunday 3rd Dec to Thursday 9.15am service on 7th Dec. This is the second time we have attempted to hold such a festival and the first one, in 2019, was very successful with many beautiful crib displays showing Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus. There were also shepherds, Wise Men, angels, animals, stars. If you have any of these, please do bring them, to make this Festival even better than the first. The support of everyone is needed.



December 3rd is Advent Sunday when we start to prepare ourselves for Christmas and the coming of Christ into the world. The Festival of Nativity scenes, and the Advent Carol service which will take place on Sunday 3rd Dec at 6.30pm, could be good ways to prepare ourselves and others for the coming season of celebration. Please be involved!

Christmas Fayre Sunday 10th December:

We are looking for any kind donations of Raffle and Tombola prizes to raise funds for church at our Artisan Fayre.

We have 2 stands left available at the fayre, £20 each if anyone knows of friends or family who are crafty and creative, and would like to exhibit.

We would love a wreath maker/ florist if anybody knows of any.

Please contact Jennifer Couchman if you would like any more information.

Contact 07929 738152 or email: jenniferpritchardbridal@gmail.com



Christmas Greetings: (Closing date Sunday December 3rd)

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 greeting's 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 Church Funds and perhaps you can gift aid your donation. If you would like to join us please give your greeting (no more than 30 words) with a minimum donation of £5 to a sidesperson or the Church Office or to myself at 20 Newlands Rd. **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 07531 285199.





St Pauls Church, Scotforth **Artisan** ★ **Christmas Fayre** ★★

Sunday 10th Dec 11am-3pm
In the Parish Hall

Enjoy Festive gifts, crafts, art, toys, baubles and more!



CHAS.

Chas Jacobs will be exhibiting and signing prints



Carols being sung at 1pm ★ Prize Raffle drawn at 2pm

£2 entry per adult Kids free

including a glass of mulled wine, tea or coffee
and a slice of cake or mince pie



Come along!

Raising much needed
Church funds



Mind the Gap - Preventing homelessness among refugees in Lancaster and Morecambe:

Refugees who are granted asylum are typically given 28 days by the Home Office to find somewhere new to live, set up a bank account, and find a job or apply for Universal Credit before they are evicted from their Home Office accommodation. You may be aware from recent articles in the press that the Home Office has now reduced the number of days' notice from 28 days to 7. This is not enough time to access benefits and find accommodation and in some big cities refugees are already becoming homeless. RAIS (Refugee Advocacy, Information and Support) in Lancaster wants to prevent this happening here. RAIS would like to set up a refugee hosting scheme which would place refugees in people's houses while they wait for their paperwork and money to be processed. During this time they must obtain their biometric residence permit from the Home Office, along with their NI number. Once they have their ID, RAIS volunteers and staff help them open a bank account to enable them to apply for Universal Credit and/or look for work. RAIS would also help them to look for rented accommodation once they have benefits and/or a job.

If you think you might be able to host a refugee as a guest in your house and would like your name to be included on a list that RAIS is complying, RAIS would provide you with a volunteer to introduce you to your guest and support you, also providing access to an interpreter if needed.

If you are interested, please contact Pat Allen on pat@rais.org.uk who will register you and invite you to a ZOOM information session to answer any questions you may have about the scheme.

RAIS sincerely hopes that there will be people willing to join them in offering help to those who have fled war, persecution and torture to find safety and new life here in the UK. "I was a stranger and you took me in "(Matthew 25,35)

Margaret Ives



Advent Carol Service

Sunday 3rd December
at 6.30pm

St Paul's Church, Scotforth



St Paul's Church, Scotforth

NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE

17TH DECEMBER | AT 6.30PM



Follow The Star
Song

Blue Christmas reflection

Thursday December 21st 2023

18.30 -19.30

St Paul's Church, Scotforth

Sometimes Christmas is difficult, whether it is because of stress, loneliness, the rawness of new grief, or the lingering pain of old grief.

Come and be with us a while as we reflect on the birth of the Christ child - who was born into a broken world like ours.



Photo by Laura Hope on Unsplash



Tote bags are still available to purchase at £5 each – they would make an ideal Christmas present. Available from the back of church or contact the Parish Office.



St Paul's Church, Scotforth

Christmas Eve Services

8am - BCP Holy Communion

9.45am - Crib Service with Christingle

11.15am - Holy Communion at St Paul's, Hala

9pm - Bethlehem Christmas Eve Communion Service



Christmas Day Services

8am - BCP Holy Communion

10am - Family Communion Service

