



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS 30th November 2023



Sunday Worship – 3rd December 2023 Advent Sunday

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

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

11:15am – Holy Baptisms at St Paul's Scotforth Road

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

6:30pm – Advent Carol Service at St Paul's, Scotforth Road

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 3 rd December at 11:15am	Baptisms of Betty and Lotty
Sunday 3 rd December at 6:30pm	Advent Carol Service



*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: Addenbrooke Close, Viscount Drive

From our Church prayer diary: The Reflective Prayer Group

We pray for the parents, godparents and family of Betty and Lotty who are to be baptised this week

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

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

Collect for Sunday 3rd December:

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Readings for Sunday 3rd December:

Isaiah 64.1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! ³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. ⁵You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. ⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. ⁸Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Mark 13.24-end

²⁴ 'But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. ²⁸ 'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³² 'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

Post Communion Prayer for Sunday 3rd December:

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Shared from the Lectionary app. Material subject to copyright. Please visit the About this App page for further information.

**Readings for next Sunday:
Isaiah 40.1-11; Psalm 85.1-2, 8-end [or 85.8-end]
2 Peter 3.8-15a; Mark 1.1-8**

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: sjaynewweatherill@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

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

The Real Advent Calendar

This Sunday is the last chance to buy your Advent calendar and its 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. Its cash only, £4.50,

sodon't forget to ring some real money! If you want to reserve one please email arton.medd@btinternet.com or phone 01524 64730.



Parish Office Closure:

Please note that the parish office will be closed on a Thursday throughout November 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.

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!

Thank you for your support- Thank you to all who are contributing in any way to the Festival of Nativity Scenes. Your support is much appreciated. Please encourage friends, family, associates to visit St Paul's when the Festival is open.

There is a slight alteration to the opening times on **Tuesday 5th December**. The church will close to visitors at 11.30am and will re-open at 2.00pm, this is due to a funeral service taking place.

To those who have displayed a Nativity scene, please collect it at any of the following times:

Friday 8th December 2.00-4.00pm

Sunday 10th December after the 9.45am service *Christine & Arton Medd*



ST PAUL'S CHURCH SCOTFORTH

FESTIVAL of NATIVITY SCENES

*Commemorating 800 years since
St Francis' first nativity scene*

**Sunday 3 December to
Thursday 7 December**

Sunday 2.00 – 4.00pm
Mon. Tue. Wed.

10.00am - 12 noon & 2.00 – 4.00pm
Thursday Closing service 9.15am

Light Refreshments

St Paul's Church, Scotforth Road, Lancaster LA1 4ST

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 greetings 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.

Exultate Ladies Choir – Christmas Carols in Church on Monday 18th December at 7.30pm. Tickets will be available to purchase from Jayne in church on Sunday 10th December and in the Parish Office from Tuesday 5th December. You can also pay at the door on the evening. Exultate Ladies Choir are donating 50% of the proceeds from this performance to St Paul's Church so it would be wonderful if we could support their concert and sit back and enjoy an evening of wonderful carol singing.





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





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.



St Paul's Hala Pantry toy appeal is now live. We are working with Hala Pantry to support local children this Christmas again. If anyone has the capacity to help this year to please get in touch with Vikki Pattinson on 07789 936406 to get involved. Options are specific assigned gift, gender, age alongside their personal interest. The actual appeal is anonymous for all parties involved.



We are also in need of wrapping paper, selection boxes for the appeal. Please note can be dropped at the parish office or after Sunday service and all to be gifted by 16th December. Many thanks in advance for your ongoing support and generosity.



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.

Crafty Christmas Nativity



Saturday December 16th 2023
14.00 - 16.00
St Paul's Parish Hall



Come and join us for a time of crafty Christmas activities, refreshments and a short time of worship.

ALL AGES welcome - children to be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Any queries contact Katherine Froggatt
on kaf@phonecoop.coop



List of Raffle Prizes for St Paul's Artisan Christmas Fayre

The raffle will be drawn at 2pm on 10th December
at the Christmas Fayre over at the Parish Hall

- 2hr yacht ride on Lake Windermere for 4 people
- "Girls Night In" Pamper Hamper
- Chas Jacobs Print
- Sketch My Dress- personalised wedding dress illustration by J Couchman
- Meal for 2 at The Strickland Arms
- Lancaster Brewery Tour
- Tropic Hamper by B Waterhouse
- Painting from local artist, V Pattinson
- £50 massage voucher from J Weaver
- Aquila Pizza voucher £25
- Home Fragrance from Sue Serenity Ray Candles
- Additional Powers with Gerald hoodie
- Diamond Hair and Beauty Voucher
- Bespoke stone house number
- Voucher from Naomi Waite Aesthetics
- Framed Photography Print by Parkinson Prints
- A bottle of fizz from The Wobbly Cobbler
- A box of chocolates and much more....

Tickets will be available on the day; or via Jen, Mandy, Maz
or Vikki after Sunday Service



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