



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS 7th December 2023



Sunday Worship – 10th December 2023 Advent 2

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

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

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

6:30pm – BCP Evening Prayer 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 10 th December after 9:45 service	St Paul's Choir Rehearsal
Monday 11 th December at 1:30pm	Women's Fellowship meeting at the Parish Hall



*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: Pinewood Close

From our Church prayer diary: The work of the Children's Society

Those who have asked for prayers for healing: Mary Wilson, Mary Smith, Dorothy Camm, John Harding, Ciarán, Jonathan Easton, Jim Outram

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

Collect for Sunday 10th December:

Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.

Readings for Sunday 10th December:

Isaiah 40.1-11

40 Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. ³A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' ⁶A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' ¹⁰See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Mark 1.1-8

1The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight"', ⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

Post Communion Prayer for Sunday 10th December:

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Readings for next Sunday:

Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-end; 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24; John 1.6-8, 19-28

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.



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.

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

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

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.



Women's Fellowship Meeting

We'll be meeting on the 11th December at 1:30pm when we'll be entertained by the Gadabouts. We'll also be paying for the January meal and also making our choices from the menu. Members and non-members are welcome to come to hear the Gadabouts. **Jean Mount**

St Paul's Parish Hall, Hala Centre and Church

JOB VACANCY

Cleaner Required

13.5 HOURS PER WEEK
Monday- Friday
£10.90 per hour
(Real Living Wage -rising on 1.4.2024)

Experience of working in a public building preferred but training will be given.

CALL NOW

FOR MORE INFO
01524 843135
or Email:
lifeevents@stpauls-scotforth

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

May the blessing of joy abide within you; May the blessing of peace rest upon you;
May the blessing of love flow out through you;
May all the blessings of the Lord be yours this Advent and Christmas season.
Love from Amali, Sundiya, Anderson and Rebecca

May you have the spirit of Christmas which is Peace, the gladness of Christmas
which is Hope, and the Heart of Christmas which is Love.
Jayne, Keith and Emily

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful
and healthy New Year. **Maureen and Stuart**

Love, peace and every happiness to everyone at St Paul's
over Christmas and throughout 2024. **Margaret Ives**

Wishing everyone at St Paul's Church and Hala Centre
peace and joy at Christmas and a healthy and prosperous 2024.
Nadolig Llawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda.
Anne Quainoo

To all my friends at St Paul's. Wishing you a vey happy and holy
Christmas and best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year.
Jean Mount

Wishing you and your family the gift of faith, the blessing of hope and the peace of
God's love at Christmas and always. Merry Christmas and happy New Year.
Michelle, David and Michael Gahan

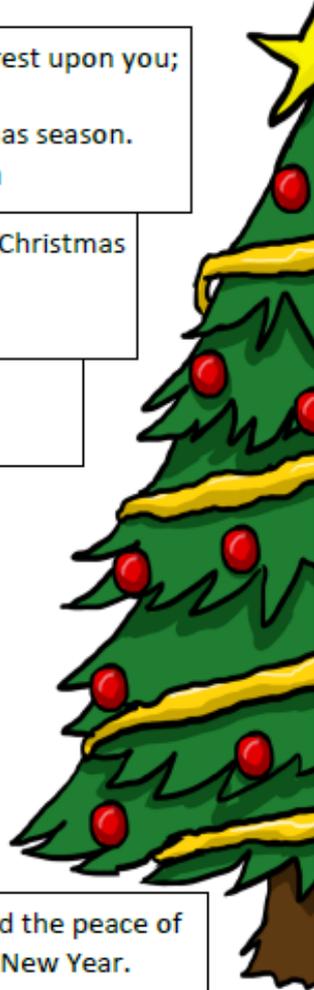
Wishing everyone at St Paul's a happy Christmas. From **Iris**

Wishing all the members of our churches a Christmas of hope and thanksgiving.
With love from **Judith Frost**



Christmas Greetings to all,
as we celebrate Light in a dark world.
From **Jim and Linda Currin**

Happy Jesus' Birthday to my lovely St Paul's family!
With love and prayers for a happy and holy Christmas
and best wishes for the New Year.
Rev Catherine (and Stanley)





Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone at St Paul's, Scotforth and Hala.
Ken and Beryl Fawcett

A happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year is wished to all my friends.
With love from **Gwen**

Christmas Wishes to Rebecca and Catherine and everyone who comes to St Paul's. Happy Christmas to you all.
With love from **Jean Nicholson**

Wishing everyone a truly joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year. **Richard and Tricia Impey**

All good wishes for a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and joyful New Year. **Jean J**

To everyone at St Paul's we wish you all a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.
Phillip and Yvonne Simpson

Dear St Paul's friends, may you find peace and joy in the message of the new-born Christ and throughout the year.
With my love **Joan G**

Wishing a happy and peaceful Christmas to everyone at St Paul's.
Arton and Christine

Ian and Sandra from Hala, wish everyone at St Paul's and the Hala Centre a joyful Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Mervyn and Vivienne Bonnett Wish all their friends at St Paul's a happy and peaceful Christmas and good health in the New Year.

With all good wishes for Christmas and the New Year.
Brian and Judith Threlfall



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 **the last date for gifting is Thursday 14th 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.

Artisan Christmas Fayre:

If anyone could give the time to bake a cake and/or cupcakes this would be very much appreciated. ***Many thanks***

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

Changes to Nativity Festival Plans

The collection times for those who have kindly displayed a Nativity scene have changed since the last Newsletter! Apologies!

Rev Rebecca would be pleased if the Festival display could be in church for Pauline Coward's funeral on Thursday 7th December at 2.00pm. So if you were thinking of taking your Nativity set after the 9.15am service, do please leave it in place.

The Vicar is also suggesting that it would be good to have the display in church on the following Sunday, 10th December. The main collection time is therefore after the 10.45am service on 10th December, but the church will be open on Monday morning 11th December, from 10.00 am to 12noon.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Arton Medd

Christian Aid's Charity Gifts

For someone who would appreciate it why not give a present on their behalf to someone who has very little? There are a few red leaflets at the back of church but for a full list you need to look up www.caid.org.uk/shop. You can choose cards and presents from £10 for antibiotic medicines which can be life-saving for children in conflict zones, fruit tree saplings for £15, £30 for a clean water pump and so on. You choose the gifts and Christian Aid sends the cards. The money given will help Christian Aid's partners in some of the world's poorest countries and, unlike some presents that surreptitiously appear in the next raffle, all will be greatly appreciated.

Arton Medd

Carol Singing, Saturday 16th December

There will be a group of people singing carols in Marketgate (possibly outside Primark) on **Saturday 16 December from 10.30 am to 12 noon**, to raise money for Lancaster and District Homeless Action Service (LDHAS).

This has happened for several years and there has always been strong support from St Paul's. So do please come along and join in the singing – words will be provided. Thank you in anticipation. *Arton and Christine*

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@phoncoop.coop



St Paul's Church, Scotforth

NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE

17TH DECEMBER | AT 6. 30PM

For the Star Song

St Paul's Church, Scotforth

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 Slope on Unsplash



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



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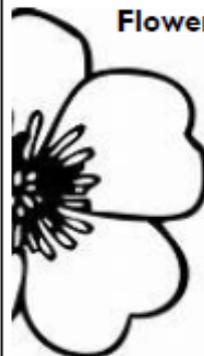


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