



**ST PAUL'S
PARISH NEWS
8th February 2024**



Sunday Worship – 11th February 2024

Sunday next before Lent/Racial Justice Sunday

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

9:45am – Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth Road
followed by St Paul's Choir Rehearsal

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.

Wednesday at 7:00pm – Ash Wednesday Service at St Paul's,
Scotforth Road

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

Parish Diary for the coming week:

Date & Time	Name of Event
Monday 12 th February at 2pm in the Parish Hall	Womens' Fellowship Meeting



***Worshipping God,
Growing in Faith,
Serving the Community.***

Message from Revd Rebecca:

This Sunday we will be marking Racial Justice Sunday. The Rt Revd Dr John Perumbalath, the Bishop of Liverpool and Chair of the Churches' Refugee Network has described the need for such a Sunday as part of worship:

"Racial prejudice plays a dominant role in the hostile approach to refugees. Racism is at the root of the 'hostile environment' that is promoted as an official policy in our country. Therefore, on Racial Justice Sunday this year, it is appropriate that we focus on the justice dimension of our hospitality to those who are fleeing persecution.

The affirmation that every human being carries the image of God regardless of their race, colour or geographical location is foundational to our Christian understanding of humanity. It is a tragic effect of our sin that a huge number among us live in poverty and conflict – which compels them to look for places of safety and security elsewhere – while many of us live in comfort and relative peace. Offering hospitality to the most vulnerable among us is part of reparation as we repent of our corporate sin.

God called out a people to be His own to serve the world that He loves and to be a light to the nations. He commanded welcome to aliens and strangers among His chosen people (Leviticus 19:34). The people of God in the New Testament are also called aliens and strangers in this world (1 Peter 2:11). We are people on a journey; pilgrims. In that sense we are not hosts, which makes others guests and at our mercy, but co-pilgrims and sojourners with those who arrive on our doorstep, seeking sanctuary."

<https://www.ctlancashire.org.uk/gs/data/uploads/documents/worship-resources/racial-justice-sunday-resources-for-churches-and-groups.pdf>

A Prayer for the King:

Father of mercies,
grant to Charles our King
comfort and sure confidence in you,
and keep him in perpetual peace and safety,
through Jesus Christ our Lord

FOR OUR PRAYERS

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

From our Parish prayer diary: Newlands Road

From our Church prayer diary: Our Young 'Fun' Church leaders

Those who have asked for prayers for healing: Mary Wilson, Mary Smith, John Harding, Ciarán, Jonathan Easton, Tony Walker, Brenda Alexander
All who mourn:

Collect for Sunday 11th February:

Holy God,
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings for Sunday 11th February:

2 Kings 2.1-12

2Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.' ⁴Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.' ⁶ Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. ⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' ¹⁰He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Mark 9.2-9

² Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. ⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Post Communion Prayer for Sunday 11th February:

Holy God,

we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:

may we who are partakers at his table

reflect his life in word and deed,

that all the world may know his power to change and save.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Readings for next Sunday:

Genesis 9.8–17;1 Peter 3.18–end; Mark 1.9–15

Are you a “pocket filler”?

You may have wondered what happens to the printed hymn sheets which we sometimes use during services. As we are all conscious of recycling, you will be pleased to know that the hymn sheets have been kept and that they are now going to be put together in folders for future use in both our churches. We now have over 100 folders with plastic pockets, just waiting for numbers to be put on the pockets, and to be filled with the hymn sheets. So helpers are needed! If you are able to assist with this easy job, please note the dates when we shall be working in the Parish Hall:

TUESDAY 13th and WEDNESDAY 14th February 2:00-4:00pm

Helpers for only one hour, or on just one day, will be as welcome as someone who feels able to help for the full time. If there are many helpers, we could hopefully finish early! To make preparation easier, please could you let me know when and for how long you are willing to help.

Christine Medd 01524 64730 arton.medd@btinternet.com

Are you a designer?

The front of the new hymn folders are, at the moment, black. They need brightening with a suitable heading and cover page. We have quite a number of artists in church, so we would like you to design the front cover of our new hymn folders – and the design chosen by the most people will be used. The size needs to be 14cm across x 21cm top to bottom – slightly smaller than A5 in order to fit into the presentation pocket.

Your design can be on paper or online, and should be in the Parish Office (office@stpauls-scotforth.org) by Monday 12th February. The aim is for them to be on display in church on Sunday 18th February.

Christine Medd

Women's Fellowship

We'll be meeting on Monday the 12th February at 2pm in the Parish Hall when the speaker will be Pat Ascroft. All are welcome both members and non-members.

Jean Mount

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.



Tulip Extravaganza

I hope that the tulip bulbs you planted in the autumn are starting to grow. I've brought mine into the light and warmth where they are coming on quite well. If you bring your bulbs along or any other tulip memorabilia to the Parish Hall on **Saturday 24th February between 1:30pm and 4:00pm** entry will only cost

you £1 instead of £3 - including refreshments.

There will be a rolling slide show all afternoon of the tulips at Keukenhof, also known as the Garden of Europe, and is one of the world's largest flower gardens. It is situated in the municipality of Lisse, in South Holland.

Keukenhof Park covers an area of 32 hectares and approximately 7 million flower bulbs are planted by hand in the gardens annually. There is a variety of 800 different tulips.

It is open from the end of March to the middle of May and can take at least 2-4 hours to walk round. Around the gardens there are also the most beautiful tulip fields in the Netherlands and it is possible to make a sightseeing tour from the park to the flower fields.

Maureen Leach

**TULIP
EXTRAVAGANZA** 
Saturday Feb. 24th

1.30 - 4.00
St Paul's Parish Hall
Scotforth Road, LA1 4TS
£3 entry with refreshments

 or £1 if you bring a tulip or tulip memorabilia.

Slide show of Dutch Bulb
fields at Keukenhof

Refreshments (included)
Tombola & Garden,
Book & Cake Stalls



In aid of church funds

Welcome to The Bereavement Journey -

Grief is hard.
Death can impact
all of life.

The Bereavement
Journey
a place to talk

7 Sessions of films
and discussion
for anyone bereaved anytime

Topics include:

- Attachment, separation and loss
- The pain and responses of grief
- Anger and guilt
- Coping with others' reactions
- Delayed and suppressed grief
- Adjusting to change
- Moving forward healthily
- Faith questions – a Christian perspective (optional)

To find out more visit:
thebereavementjourney.org

Running soon:
February 21st to March 27th and April 17th 2024
Wednesdays: 19.00 -21.30
at St Paul's Hala Centre,

To book a place :
E-mail:
bjc@stpauls-scotforth.org
or telephone:
01524 843135

St Paul's Church, Scotforth is running a 6-week course for people to explore their bereavement experience, for anyone bereaved at any time. There is a seventh optional week where we specifically at questions of faith.

The Bereavement Journey is a series of films and discussion groups that gently guide people through the most common aspects of grief and bereavement. The aim is to help you process the implications for yourselves and think about what you can do next.

We will be meeting at St Paul's Hala Centre on Wednesday evenings (19.00-21.30) starting February 21st 2024 until March 27th 2024.

To book a place, or if you have any questions) e-mail bjc@stpauls-scotforth.org or telephone the Parish Office on 01524 843135.

VICAR: Rev Dr Rebecca Aechnert: 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



We are looking for vergers to join our team in our lively, growing parish church.

This is to assist with Weddings and Funerals.

COULD THIS BE YOU?

No Qualification Required
Must be able to use Spotify
Available during the weekday

This is a paid position and is subject to our usual Safer Recruitment processes.

Interested?

For information please talk to Jayne, Churchwarden.

Tel: 01524 843135

Email: lifeyvents@stpauls-scotforth.org

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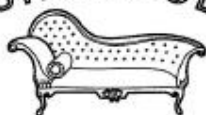
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