



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS 12TH DECEMBER 2024



Sunday Worship – 15th December 2024 Advent 3

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

Wednesday at 9:15am – 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
Thursday at 6:00pm – Blue Christmas Reflection at St Paul's,
Scotforth Road

Parish Diary:

Date & Time	Name of Event
Monday 16th December at 7:30pm	Exultate Ladies Choir Service at St Paul's Church
Thursday 19th December at 6:00pm	Blue Christmas Reflection at St Paul's Church
Sunday 22nd December 8:00am 9:45am 11:15am 6:30pm	BCP Holy Communion – St Paul's Church Holy Communion – St Paul's Church Carols at St Paul's, Hala Nine Lessons & Carols – St Paul's Church



*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: All those who volunteer in Community Groups

Those who have asked for prayers for healing: Mary Wilson, Mary Smith, John Harding, Jonathan Easton, Ian Smith, Muriel Ellison, Martin Pearson, Marit Impey, Mark Dawkins, Sonia Alexander

All who mourn:

Prayer for the Vacancy:

Loving God, we give you thanks for our church family here at St Paul's. Send your Holy Spirit amongst us at this time of uncertainty and change during the vacancy. Give us wisdom as we prepare to appoint a new vicar. May we be faithful in prayer for this process as we seek to find the next person called to lead us. Be with that person now preparing them for this place, that they would be able to lead us into greater knowledge and love of you, so that together we may discover your way for the future and see your kingdom grow here in Scotforth and Hala. Amen.

Collect for Sunday 15th December:

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings for Sunday 15th December:

Philippians 4.4-7

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry

about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Luke 3.7-18

⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.' ¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' ¹¹In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' ¹²Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' ¹³He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' ¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' ¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Post Communion Prayer for Sunday 15th December:

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

Readings for next Sunday:

Micah 5.2–5a; Cantic: Magnificat or Psalm 80.1–8; Hebrews 10.5–10; Luke 1.39–45 [46–55]

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

Please note that until the end of the year our office will be
closed on Thursdays.

Our office hours will be Monday to Wednesday 9:30 -12 noon and
Friday 9:30 – 12 noon.

Christmas Greetings

Many thanks to all who sent in Christmas Greetings. Thanks to your generosity £200 has been raised for the roof appeal.

A big thank you also goes to Judith Threlfall who had the huge task of so expertly fitting in all the greetings. ***Maureen Leach***



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.

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 please get in touch with Vikki Pattinson on 07789 936406 to get involved. Options are specifically assigned gifts by gender, age alongside their personal

interest. The actual appeal is anonymous for all parties involved. We are also in need of wrapping paper and chocolate selection boxes for the appeal.

Please note, items can be dropped at the parish office or after Sunday service and **the last date for gifting is Thursday 19th December.**

Many thanks in advance for your ongoing support and generosity.

Vikki Pattinson

Advent reading – a message from Rev Catherine:

You might remember a few weeks ago I set an advent reading challenge of reading a chapter of the gospel of Luke every day throughout December. Start today and by Christmas Eve you'll have read an entire account of Jesus' life, and wake up Christmas morning knowing who and why we celebrate!

Also available at the back of church is the diocesan advent booklet, containing a short reflection for every day in the build up to Christmas. There's also a digital version available in the diocesan app 'Fruitful' if you'd prefer to access it that way.

ADVENT 2025

THE LORD WILL COME

- Watch or listen to the Advent Devotional
- Read or listen to the integrated bible passage
- Access bonus devotional content

Fruitful
diocesan

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

Christian Aid Charity Gifts



We believe in life before death

For someone who has everything why not give a present on their behalf to someone who has little? One in every ten people across the world lives in poverty, but you could help them by choosing a Christian Aid virtual charity gift. Each gift is represented by a physical card, a print-at-home card, or an eco-friendly paperless e-card. You can personalise the card of your choice with a special message to your loved ones.

You can choose cards and presents from £10 upwards to help Christian Aid's partners in some of the world's poorest countries. A pair of chickens (£10) as the starters for a poultry business, an olive tree sapling (£20) to keep hope alive for a farmer in the occupied Palestinian territories, or the wherewithal to send a child to school (£25) are some of the gifts.. There are also larger amounts that could be given by individuals or groups. Look up www.caid.org.uk/gifts for more information.

Arton Medd

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• **VICAR:** We are currently in a period of vacancy – please contact a Churchwarden.

• **ASSOCIATE PRIEST:** *Rev Catherine Haydon: Tel: 07723 642973;*

• *Email: catherine@stpauls-scotforth.org*

• *Rest day is Friday – if you have an urgent enquiry then please contact a Churchwarden.*

• **CHURCHWARDENS:**

• Mrs Jayne Weatherill:

• Tel: 60597 or 07986 993007; Email: sjayneweatherill@gmail.com

• Mr Keith Weatherill:

• Tel: 60597 or 07986 993005; Email: keith.weatherill@gmail.com

• **PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER:** Mrs Jayne Weatherill:

• Tel: 07986 993007; Email: safeguarding@stpauls-scotforth.org

• **PARISH OFFICE:** Office hours are Monday - Wednesday and Friday from 9.30am –12 noon. We are closed on a Thursday until the end of the year.

• 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: lifeevents@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

• **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



**CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT
ST PAUL'S CHURCH, SCOTFORTH**

**THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER - BLUE CHRISTMAS
REFLECTION AT 6.00PM**

**SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER - 9 LESSONS AND CAROLS
SERVICE AT 6.30PM**

**CHRISTMAS EVE - CRIB SERVICE WITH CHRISTINGLE AT
3.00PM**

**CHRISTMAS EVE - BETHLEHEM COMMUNION SERVICE AT
9PM**

CHRISTMAS DAY - BCP HOLY COMMUNION AT 8AM

CHRISTMAS DAY - HOLY COMMUNION AT 10AM

BOXING DAY - NO SERVICES

**SUNDAY 29TH DECEMBER - SERVICE OF THE WORD AT
9.45AM**



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

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) x

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

A happy Christmas to you all and best wishes for 2025.
Maureen and Stuart Leach

Love, Joy and Peace to everyone. **Margaret Ives**

We wish a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year to all.
Arton and Christine Medd



To wish you all a very Happy Christmas,
and wishes for a Peaceful and Healthy New Year and 2025. **Jean J**

Wishing everyone at St Paul's and Hala a peaceful and joyous Christmas
and good health and happiness throughout the coming year.
from **Anne Quainoo**

To all my friends at St Paul's, wishing you a happy and holy Christmas
and Best Wishes for a happy and healthy New Year.
Jean Mount

May this holiday season fill your hearts with love, joy and countless precious
memories. Merry Christmas! With our love.
from **Michelle, David and Michael Gahan**

As many grieve in this broken world may Christ be our light and hope this Christmas.
To all at Hala and St Paul's from **Judith Frost**



Wishing everyone at St Paul's a peaceful Christmas.
from **Iris**

Wishing the Tea at Two team
a very Merry Christmas and a happy new year.
Thanks for all your hard work.
Val Outram



'Joy to the world, the Lord is come!'
 Christmas greetings to all at St Paul's Scotforth and Hala. **Jim and Linda**

Wishing everyone a truly Happy and Blessed Christmas and may 2025 bring a new awareness of God's Presence. **Richard and Tricia Impey**

With love and best wishes for a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.
 To all my friends. from **Gwen**

Whatever Christmas may feel like for you, know that you are deeply treasured, held safe within God's love, and will be forever.
 Love and best wishes, **Barbara and Bob Jones**



Wishing you all Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Ken and Beryl Fawcett

Christmas Greetings to all at St Paul's.
 Wishing everyone a joyful season and a Happy New Year.
Phillip and Yvonne Simpson

May the joy of the angels, the love of the human heart and the peace of God bless you this Christmas time.
Hugh and Katherine

To all my dear friends at St Paul's Scotforth Road and St Paul's Hala,
 wishing you Peace and Joy at Christmas,
 and Blessings throughout the New Year. **Joan G**

We wish everyone at St Paul's Church and the Hala Centre a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.
Ian and Sandra Barke

Mervyn and Vivienne
 wish all their friends at St Paul's
 a Happy Christmas
 and a healthy and peaceful New Year.

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



CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGERS WANTED:

Please join us to sing carols at all or any of the following times:

Marketgate, Lancaster

Saturday 14 December from 10.30 – 12noon to raise funds for

Lancaster and District Homeless Action Service Christmas Support.

Non-singers are also needed to help with the collecting buckets and tins.

Lancaster Royal Infirmary (RLI)

Monday 16 Dec from 7.00 – 9.00pm

Wednesday 18 Dec from 10.30 - 12 noon

Friday 20 Dec from 10.30 - 12 noon

For the RLI events please email (arton.medd@btinternet.com) or phone (01524 64730). We can then let you know where to meet when Rev Ian Dewar (RLI Chaplain) lets us know in which wards we are singing.

Copies of words will be provided but if you wish to sing harmonies *Carols for Choirs 1 (green)* would be useful.

*With thanks in advance for your support,
Christine and Arton Medd*

Tickets are for sale at the back of church. Please see a Warden or Sidesperson to purchase.

50% of the monies raised from this concert are going to church funds. If you came along last year you will know what a wonderful evening of music and singing it was.



Exultate Ladies Choir

*Christmas
Carols*

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

*Monday 16th December,
7:30pm*

*Tickets £10 (£7.50 concessions)
inc. festive refreshments*

BLUE CHRISTMAS REFLECTION



Thursday 19th December
6.00PM
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.



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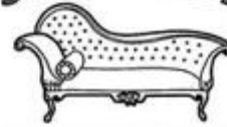
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A colorful advertisement for "BOUNCY CASTLES & MUCH MORE". It features a collage of photos showing various inflatable castles and slides. The text includes: "Bouncy Castles and much more available 365 days a year for hire." and a list of events: "Birthdays Parties", "Weddings", "Corporate Events", "School Events", and "Charity Events and much more." It also mentions "Free delivery within Lancaster & Morecambe" and provides contact information: "CALL US - 01524 733540" and the website "www.reisurehire.co.uk". There is a logo for "REISURE HIRE" at the bottom right.

To advertise here please contact the Parish Office