



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS 20TH FEBRUARY 2025

Sunday Worship – 23rd February 2025 2 before Lent

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

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

11:15am – Holy Communion 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

Parish Diary:

Date & Time	Name of Event
Sunday 2nd March	
8:00am	BCP Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth
9:45am	Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth
11:15am	Service of the Word at St Paul's, Hala
11:30am	Baptism Preparation at St Paul's, Scotforth



*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: Redcar Road, Sandown Road, Newmarket Avenue, Lingfield Close, Thirsk Road

From our Church prayer diary: 9th Lancaster (St Paul's) Brownies

Those who have asked for prayers for healing: Mary Wilson, Mary Smith, John Harding, Jonathan Easton, Ian Smith, Martin Pearson, Christopher Simpson

All who mourn: Philip Oglethorpe, Bob Cowan, Tina Nardone

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 23rd February:

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings for Sunday 23rd February:

Psalm 65

1 Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; •
to you that answer prayer shall vows be paid.

2 To you shall all flesh come to confess their sins; •
when our misdeeds prevail against us, you will purge them away.
3 Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell
there. •
We shall be satisfied with the blessings of your house, even of your
holy temple.
4 With wonders you will answer us in your righteousness, O God of
our salvation, •
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.
5 In your strength you set fast the mountains • and are girded
about with might.
6 You still the raging of the seas, •
the roaring of their waves and the clamour of the peoples.
7 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth tremble at your
marvels; •
the gates of the morning and evening sing your praise.
8 You visit the earth and water it; •
you make it very plenteous.
9 The river of God is full of water; •
you prepare grain for your people, for so you provide for the earth.
10 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; •
you soften the ground with showers and bless its increase.
11 You crown the year with your goodness, •
and your paths overflow with plenty.
12 May the pastures of the wilderness flow with goodness •
and the hills be girded with joy.
13 May the meadows be clothed with flocks of sheep •
and the valleys stand so thick with corn that they shall laugh and
sing.

Luke 8.22-25

²² One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them,
'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out,
²³and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on
the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in
danger. ²⁴

They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. ²⁵He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

Post Communion Prayer for Sunday 16th February:

God our creator,
by your gift
the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished at your table on earth
be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
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 week:

Exodus 34.29–end; 2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2; Luke 9.28–36 [37–43a]

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.

Green Bins



For once I'm not asking for more help in the church gardens but if you should feel like helping please get in touch with me (07531 285199). However, if you really feel that gardening is beyond you we also need your help to pay for the several green bins which are needed both at Church and the Parish Hall. It's surprising how many bins we fill each week despite having a compost bin. So, if you feel able to sponsor a bin at £46 a time or perhaps give some money towards one, please hand in your donation at church or the parish office . Cheques should be made payable to Scotforth St. Paul's PCC. Many thanks.

Maureen Leach



Contactless Giving in Church is available: Our machine is at the back of church so that on your way out, rather than giving a cash donation, you could consider giving by card.

- 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: sjaynewweatherill@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 - Friday from 9.30am –12 noon. We are closed
 on weekends and 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
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



**Children’s Society Collection Box
 Co-ordinator – Volunteer needed:**

Many of you will be aware that Grace has been our co-ordinator for a number of years but has, unfortunately, had to make the decision to stand down from this role.

We urgently need a volunteer who be able to advertise for the boxes to be brought to church, collect and bank the money, write an article on the amount raised for the parish news and distribute the new boxes. This is usually an annual task. If you think you may be able to help then please do talk to either Jayne, Keith or Rev Catherine or if you would like to know more information about it then you can chat to Grace and her number is: 07980 391256

Renewing The Electoral Roll 2025

We are legally required to replace our electoral roll every 6 years. In 2025 we have to create a new electoral roll. This means that if you want to remain on the electoral roll, then you must complete another form this year.

The electoral roll exists to record those who are entitled to vote at the Annual Parish Meeting [APM] which selects the Parochial Church Council [PCC]. Normally candidates must have been on the roll for at least 6 months before the APM at which they offer themselves for election to the PCC, but that rule does not apply this year because of the renewal of the roll.

The electoral roll is the foundation of the system of government used by the Church of England. Each parish is allocated a number of seats on its local Deanery Synod based on the number on its electoral roll. The lay members of the Deanery Synod elect the lay members of the Diocesan Synod and the General Synod. The General Synod effectively is the parliament which makes the policy decisions that determine how the Church of England operates.

If you are baptized, at least 16 years old, and regard yourself as a member of our worshipping community, joining the electoral roll is a good way to record that membership. The process is simple: just complete a form. **There is no membership fee.** There are forms available in church and the Hala Centre, just ask a warden or sidesperson. If you have any difficulty getting a form, you can email me on jdennyg41@gmail.com

John Gedge, Electoral Roll Officer

Helping at Fun Church – more volunteers needed



My name is Clare, and I am one of a small band of volunteers who help at Fun Church. I volunteered because I could see from attending services that the children who attended Fun Church returned to the congregation energised and wanting to demonstrate with pride what they had been up to. It looked like fun, and I wanted to help encourage the positivity.

My concerns were that I was not “religious enough”, and my knowledge of the Bible was not good. However, this does not seem to have been an issue.

After my DBS check and online safety training, I attended my first Fun Church feeling a bit anxious, but it was great! The enthusiasm the children invest in the activities is always invigorating and it’s wonderful to stay in touch with the younger members of our community and other volunteers.

Katherine manages the lesson planning which is wonderful. The lesson plans are always easy to follow, and the children enjoy the activities. My contribution is usually to help with the activity, and then tidy the room before safely returning the children to church. Why not give it a go and see whether you also like it?

There is no minimum number of sessions that you have to volunteer for; you can partake in as many or as few sessions as you like.

If you have any questions or want to chat about the role, please come and see any of the volunteers either before the 9.45am service or afterwards and we would be happy to spend some time with you. If you then would like to volunteer please have a talk to Jayne, Warden, who oversees all the safeguarding paperwork.

Clare, Young Church Leader



The **Annual meeting (APCM)** is a major event in the parish calendar. This year we are going to continue the tradition of incorporating our Annual Meeting within our 9.45am service on Sunday 27th April at St Paul's Church – there will be no service at St Paul's Hala. Copies of the Annual Report and accounts will be available on the website, sent out as attachments on the parish news weekly email and be available from the back of church and at Hala by the beginning of April.

The Annual meeting elects Churchwardens for the coming year. We also **elect the Parochial Church Council (PCC)**. On the Church Council we have four vacancies for a 3-year period and three for a 1-year period so if you are interested about the work of the PCC and only want to give it a trial then maybe the 1-year period would be of interest to you.

Please note that you have to be registered on the Electoral Roll for prior to the AGM to be eligible for election. We are in the process of renewal of the electoral roll as you will have seen from the article in this edition of the Parish News. If you would like to go on the Roll then please talk to a Churchwarden or sidesperson. If you would like to learn about being a member of the Church Council then please talk to either Jayne, Keith or Rev Catherine or pick up a nomination form from the back of church or at Hala.



Sidesperson (Welcome Team):

If you are currently a member of the Welcome Team at our 8am and 9.45am services please can you sign the list on the noticeboard at the back of church to indicate that you are willing to continue in this role for another year. Thank you for all that you do in this role; the welcome received at the front door to

church is the first impression that all visitors to our church receive and can make all the difference.

If you are interested in becoming a member of this team then you would be very welcome, there is a safer recruitment process to be followed, as with all volunteer roles in church. Please add your name and contact information to the list on the board and Jayne will be in touch with you. This list will be presented as part of the Annual Parish Meeting on 27th April and has to be completed by then for all current and new volunteers.

People who do the readings and prayers at 9.45am service:

If you would like to join the team who deliver the readings and write and share prayers with us at the 9.45am service then please sign up on the list on the board – see article about Welcome Team. If you have any questions then please talk to a Warden or Rev Catherine.



The Vicarage – volunteers needed:

As we will be showing around candidates for interview on Friday 25th April we would like to give the vicarage a dust, vacuum and mop to make it look its best – in addition to turning the heat up. If you are able to give us a hand on **Tuesday 22nd April between 10am and 12 noon** it would be very

much appreciated. If you have a vacuum, cloths and bucket you could bring that would also be very useful.

Jayne and Keith

We are invited to join a Central Lancaster Retreat in Daily Life. This is a great opportunity to deepen your experience of prayer whilst remaining at home and work.

Interested? Intrigued? A leaflet with further information and booking form is available at the back of St Paul's Church and the Hala Centre.

If you have any questions contact either Hugh Kidd, Katherine Froggatt on 01524 39018. or Tricia Impey on 01524 963422.

Retreat in Daily Life



March 23rd -28th 2025
Central Lancaster
Retreat in Daily Life

Perfect for busy people

Take some time out
Deepen your relationship with God
Explore new ways of praying
Find help with Christian discernment

HARDY SOFT PLAY HIRE

Party Packages, Bouncy Castles,
Giant Games, Soft Play,
Fun Foods and more!

www.hardysoftplayhire.co.uk
077258 34699



**yes
you can**
with
Slimming
World
& India

**LOSE WEIGHT CUTTING CALORIES NOT
COUNTING THEM WHILE NEVER GOING
HUNGRY!**

Tuesday 4.30 or 6pm
Wednesday 9.30 or 11 am
Saturday 8 or 9.30 am
At St Paul's Parish Hall LA1 4ST

**INDIA YOUR CONSULTANT
LOST AND MAINTAINED
OVER 5 STONE CALL OR
TEXT 07985960122**



 **Greg Hodgkinson**
Independent Funeral Director

Lancaster Funeral Home
99 King Street, LA1 1RH
Tel: 01524 231 900

Garstang Funeral Home
Bridge Street, PR3 1YB
Tel: 01995 601 600
(telephones answered 24 hours a day)

Your independent, family owned
Funeral Directors in Lancaster & Garstang.
www.greghodgkinsonfunerals.co.uk

To advertise here
please contact the Parish Office