



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS 13TH MARCH 2025



Sunday Worship – 16th March 2025 Lent 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

12:30pm - Baptisms at St Paul's, Scotforth Road

Wednesday

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 16 th March at 12:30pm	Baptism of Kelsyn-Lewin at St Paul's, Scotforth
Sunday 23 rd March 8:00am 9:45am 11:15am	BCP Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth All Age Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth Service of the Word at St Paul's, Hala



*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: Knowle Hill Crescent, Heversham Close, Arnside Close, Barnacre Close

From our Church prayer diary: Our Clergy Team

We pray for the parents, godparents and family of Kelsyn-Lewin Barry who is to be baptised this week

Those who have asked for prayers for healing: Mary Wilson, Mary Smith, John Harding, Ian Smith, Gwen Hanskey

All who mourn: Tina Nardone, Martin Pearson, Jonathan Easton, Gordon Hamilton, James Morley, Kevin Ireland

Message from Christopher Simpson:

I am delighted to report I have been discharged from hospital and continue to make good progress at home. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who sent cards and visited while in hospital - it was much appreciated. I look forward to returning back to church and taking an active part. Thank you.

Christopher Simpson

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 16th March:

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings for Sunday 16th March:

Philippians 3.17-4.1

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation so that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

4 ¹Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Luke 13.31-end

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' ³²He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Post Communion Prayer for Sunday 16th March:

Almighty God,

you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves:

keep us both outwardly in our bodies,

and inwardly in our souls;

that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body,

and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Readings for next week:

Isaiah 55.1–9; 1 Corinthians 10.1–13; Luke 13.1–9

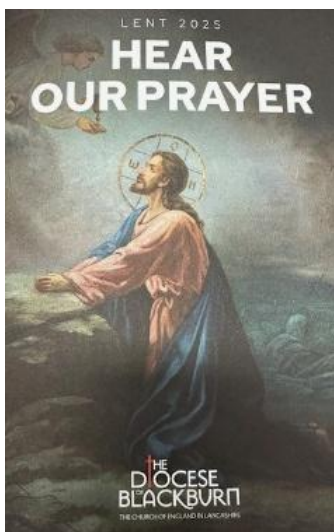
Submissions for the Parish News: The deadline each week is **Tuesday at 11.30am**, but we can always add contributions to the following week's Parish News. We look forward to receiving your contributions and supporting each other in the Body of Christ. Please email the parish office, leave a message 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 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.

Lent 2025 – Hear our Prayer:

The Diocesan 'Hear our Prayer' Lent booklet is available from the back of Church and at Hala.



Alternatively, if you would like to access the course online then the course is available on the Fruitful app which is accessible by scanning the QR code.



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THE DIOCESE BLACKBURN

- **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 - 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



Fancy a spring adventure?!

Join us on a Cross Bay Walk in aid of
The Olive Branch!

Walking from Arnside to Grange-over-Sands, a stunning 7-10 mile walk led by the King's Guide from The Guide Over Sands Trust, Michael Wilson.

Date: Saturday 3rd May 2025, 9.15 AM registration

Tickets: £20 per person and £2 for dogs

We are asking, where it is possible, for people to try and raise a further £40 in sponsorship.

Find out more and book tickets here →



<https://the-olivebranch.org.uk/latest-news/cross-bay-walk-2025>

Walk the sands of Morecambe Bay in support of The Olive Branch

Join with other supporters of The Olive Branch on Saturday 3rd May to walk across Morecambe Bay from Arnside to Grange-over-Sands. Enjoy this spectacular 3-4 hour walk across the sands, led by the King's Guide, Michael Wilson.

Tickets £20 per person, proceeds going to The Olive Branch (Faith in Action). If you can raise sponsorship money as well, that would be great! For more information or to book your place, go to www.the-olivebranch.org.uk/latest-news/cross-bay-walk-2025, or have a word with Linda Currin or Katherine Froggatt.

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 Agenda, last year's minutes, Annual Report for 2024 and the Church Accounts are now available on the website,:

<https://stpauls-scotforth.org/pcc/>

In addition, the documents were attached to last week's edition of the Parish News by email and are now available as a hard copy from the back of church and at Hala. We would encourage you to view them electronically where possible to reduce photocopying and to be more eco-friendly.

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 & Keith

Green Bins:

Many thanks to everyone who has so generously donated to our appeal for green bins. It makes our job so much easier if we have somewhere to put all the weeds etc. The gardening team has just had its start-of-the-year lunch and will be back in the gardens on Wednesday afternoons very soon. If you want to see us in action call by any time between 2:00pm and 4:30pm. The daphnes and snowdrops have been in flower for a while, the crocus are now all out and the magnolias and camelias should soon be out.



Thanks again

The Gardening Team

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

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.

Holy Week and Easter Services - 2025



Maundy Thursday: 17th April
9.15am – Holy Communion
7pm – Holy Communion
at St Paul's Church, Scotforth Road

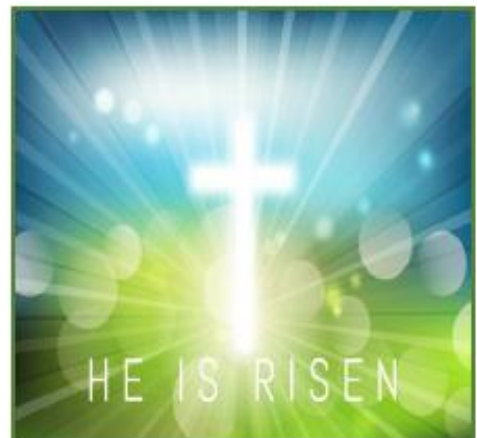
Good Friday: 18th April
11am – Good Friday Reflection
at St Paul's Church, Scotforth Road



Holy Saturday: 19th April
4pm – Service of Waiting
at St Paul's Church, Scotforth Road

Easter Day: 20th April
8am: BCP Holy Communion
9.45am: All-Age Holy Communion
at St Paul's Church, Scotforth Road

11.15am: Holy Communion
At St Paul's, Hala Worship Centre



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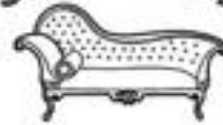
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