



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS 17th APRIL 2025



Thursday 17th April – Maundy Thursday Service at 7pm
Friday 18th April – Good Friday Reflection at 11am
Saturday 19th April – Service of Waiting at 4pm

Sunday Worship – 20th April 2025 **Easter Day**

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

9:15am – Morning Prayer by telephone conference. Please contact Margaret Ives if you would like to join the telephone conference.

Thursday 24th April – there will be no 9.15am service this week – it will restart on Thursday 1st May.

Parish Diary:

Date & Time	Name of Event
Wednesday 23rd April	Gardening with the Garden Team at St Paul's Church – all welcome
Sunday 27th April – 8:00am	BCP Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth
9:45am	Service of the Word with Annual Parish Meeting – JOINT SERVICE WITH HALA
11:15am	No service at Hala today



***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: Beck View, Slaidburn Drive

From our Church prayer diary: We pray for our parish community here at St Paul's. Give us joy in proclaiming the Easter message that Christ is risen.

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

All who mourn:

Message from Rev Catherine:

Dear Friends,

After a challenging few weeks, I want to wish you all a joyful and hope-filled Easter. This season reminds us that even in the hardest times, new life and light are always possible. The resurrection of Jesus is not just a moment in history—it's a promise that love, hope, and peace will always have the final word. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness will not overcome it.

Whether you're celebrating with others or quietly reflecting, may you know the deep peace and love of Christ, and experience afresh the joy of the resurrection.

He is risen—alleluia!

Rev Catherine

Statement from Bishop Jill:

"Many of you will have heard last week regarding the appointment of the next Vicar of Scotforth. The panel has made the decision not to proceed to interview, and we will reconvene on the 24th April to look together at next steps. I am sorry that this is not the news you were hoping for. Please be assured we will be working with your Reps and Patrons to enable St Paul's Scotforth to flourish going forward"

Bishop Jill

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 Maundy Thursday, 17th April:

God our Father,
your Son Jesus Christ was obedient to the end
and drank the cup prepared for him:
may we who share his table
watch with him through the night of suffering
and be faithful.

Readings for Maundy Thursday, 17th April:

John 13.1-17, 31b-35

13 Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' ⁷Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' ⁸Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' ⁹Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my

head!’ ¹⁰Jesus said to him, ‘One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.’ ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, ‘Not all of you are clean.’

¹²After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, ‘Do you know what I have done to you?’ ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, ‘Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, “Where I am going, you cannot come.” ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.’

Post Communion Prayer for Maundy Thursday, 17th April:

Lord Jesus Christ,
we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament
you have given us the memorial of your passion:
grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your body and blood
that we may know within ourselves
and show forth in our lives
the fruit of your redemption,
for you are alive and reign, now and for ever.

Collect for Sunday 20th April:

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Readings for Sunday 20th April:

Acts 10.34-43

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

John 20.1-18

²⁰ Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple

outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' ¹⁶Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." ' ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Post Communion prayer for Sunday 20th April:

God of Life,
who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son
to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us from the power of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Readings for next week:
Acts 5.27-32; John 20.19-end

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.



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Miss the
Sale!**

**Tote Bags
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Available from the back of church

The complex block features a promotional message for tote bags. On the left, bold black text reads 'Don't Miss the Sale!' followed by 'Tote Bags were £5 now only. £3'. On the right, a hand is shown holding a white tote bag. The bag has a circular logo with a church illustration and the text 'St Paul's Church' and 'SCOTFORTH'. At the bottom, it says 'Available from the back of church'.

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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 - 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

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Good Friday Walk of Witness 12 noon:

The only Friday Bank Holiday in the year commemorates the day when Jesus was crucified and Lancaster Churches Together (LCT) have a Walk of Witness in the city centre as a reminder of why Good Friday is a holiday. Why not join in at 12 noon in Dalton Square, finishing in Market Square by 1.00pm. On the way there will be stops for bible readings, prayers and hymns; and palm crosses and small Easter Eggs will be handed out to passers by.

You could also begin Easter Sunday at the LCT Sunrise Service in Dalton Square at 6.30am for about half an hour followed by breakfast in Lancaster Baptist Church

Arton Medd

**Christian Aid
Week 11 - 18
May 2025:**
The Myanmar
emergency appeal
continues at



www.christianaid.org.uk even though it is no longer headline news, but Christian Aid's longer term programmes need the regular funding from donors, much of which is raised during Christian Aid Week. Thank you to all those who delivered envelopes last year and I hope that you can do so again. I will be contacting people in the next couple of weeks.

Thanks also to Sammy Dawkins, who has been St Paul's church CA representative for the last few years, but I have resumed the role for 2025.

In this the 80th year since Christian Aid began 'Abounding Hope' is the theme. Despite gloomy headline media news many positive stories can be found on CA's website above. In CA Week you do two jobs in one. By delivering envelopes you will increase the number of people who will give to help the world's poor, and also show that the churches are working together to help those in need. It is only one round - you do not have to collect them back as the envelopes have instructions on where to return them.

£805 went through St Paul's CA Week account in 2024 and there will have been more that went directly online. Could you help increase our total by delivering envelopes to street or two? Walking is good exercise! Please see me at the 9.45 service on Sunday, or contact me by email arton.medd@btinternet.com or phone 01524 64730.

Arton Medd

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.uk/latest-news/cross-bay-walk-2025, or have a word with Linda Currin or Katherine Froggatt.



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>

ANNUAL MEETING



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/>

We would encourage you to view them electronically where possible to reduce photocopying and to be more eco-friendly. Hard copies are available, if required.

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 in learning more 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.

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.

Electoral Roll Review: There is a list on the table at the back of church and at Hala of everyone who completed an electoral roll form recently. Please can you check that your name is entered correctly and amend the sheet if necessary. It's not too late to go on the electoral roll, forms are still available. **The deadline for reviewing your entry is Sunday 4th May.**



Sidesperson (Welcome Team): The welcome received at the front door to church is the first impression that all visitors to our church receive. We need more people to join our team. Please talk to either Jayne or Keith if you would be interested in joining this team before the Annual Meeting.

Planning a party?



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