

# ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025

## Sunday Worship – 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025 Advent 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 - Baptism 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*

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

### Parish Diary:

Date & Time	Name of Event
<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December</b> at 12 noon	Women's Fellowship Christmas Lunch at the Parish Hall
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December</b> 8:00am 9:45am 11:15am 6:30pm	BCP Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth Service of the Word at St Paul's, Hala Evening Prayer



***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:** Addenbrooke Close, Viscount Drive

**From our Church prayer diary:** the work of the Children's Society

**We pray for the parents, godparents and family of** Vincent James who is to be baptised this week

**Those who have asked for prayers for healing:** Mary Wilson, Mary Smith, John Harding, Ian Smith, Irene Harper, Bill Haworth, Jennie Webster

**All who mourn:** Stephen Worrall, Christopher Simpson

### **Collect for Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December:**

Almighty God,  
purify our hearts and minds,  
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour  
we may be ready to receive him,  
who is our Lord and our God.

### **Readings for Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December:**

#### **Isaiah 11.1-10**

11A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. <sup>2</sup>The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. <sup>3</sup>His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

<sup>6</sup>The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. <sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on

the adder's den. <sup>9</sup>They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup>On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

### **Matthew 3.1-12**

<sup>3</sup>In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' <sup>3</sup>This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" <sup>4</sup>Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup>Do not presume 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. <sup>10</sup>Even 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.

<sup>11</sup>'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

### **Post Communion Prayer for Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December:**

Father in heaven,  
who sent your Son to redeem the world  
and will send him again to be our judge:  
give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming  
that, when he comes again,  
we may be ready to greet him  
with joyful love and firm faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Readings for next week:

Isaiah 35.1–10; James 5.7–10; Matthew 11.2–11

**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.

## **THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY**

The Children's Society Christmas card brochure will be at the back of church and at Hala from this coming Sunday along with a form for indicating your choice.



It is a few years since we have had any cards from the Society. As I look around I see that their prices are comparable with other charity cards so I hope we can get a good order in to mark our support for this very important charity.

I have also received some new collecting boxes. Whilst these days we don't use cash so much I am hoping we can build up our army of collectors again. Again there will be a form with the boxes at the back of church and at Hala for names and addresses of anyone who would like to take one.

As always thank you for your support for the important work the Society does.

***Tricia Impey***

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● **VICAR:** Rev Catherine Haydon: Tel: 07723 642973;

● Email: [catherine@stpauls-scotforth.org](mailto: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](mailto:sjayneweatherill@gmail.com)

● Mr Keith Weatherill:

● Tel: 60597 or 07986 993005; Email: [keith.weatherill@gmail.com](mailto:keith.weatherill@gmail.com)

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

● Tel: 07986 993007; Email: [safeguarding@stpauls-scotforth.org](mailto:safeguarding@stpauls-scotforth.org)

● **PARISH OFFICE:** Office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9.30am –12 noon, we are closed on a Thursday until week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> December. We are closed on weekends and Bank Holidays.

● Tel: 01524 843135; Email: [office@stpauls-scotforth.org](mailto:office@stpauls-scotforth.org)

● **BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS:** Booking enquiries - please contact Jayne Weatherill through the parish office or Email: [lifeevents@stpauls-scotforth.org](mailto: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](mailto:pastoral@stpauls-scotforth.org) or telephoning Jayne on Tel: 07986993007.

● **Scotforth School:** Headteacher – Mrs Katie Walsh – Tel: 01524 65379

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## Christmas Greetings

Many thanks to all who sent in their Christmas Greetings' messages. Nearly £200 has been raised through your kind donations for the Church Roof. Also a big thank you to Judith Threlfall for doing all the hard work. Best wishes to you all.

***Maureen Leach***



# 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**

Wishing everyone a joy-full Christmas season and a good start to 2026.

**Richard and Tricia Impey**

To wish you all a very Happy Christmas,  
and wishes for a Peaceful and Healthy New Year and 2026. **Jean J**

Wishing a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year to all.

**Arton and Christine Medd**

Happy Christmas to you all  
and best wishes for 2026.  
**Maureen and Stuart Leach**

With every blessing for Christmas  
and good health and happiness in 2026.  
**Margaret Ives**

Wishing everyone at St Paul's  
a happy and healthy Christmas.  
from **Iris**

Love and blessings this Christmas  
to all at St Paul's Scotforth and Hala.  
**Jim and Linda**



# CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

May God's love bring you and your family peace and joy over the festive season.

**Phillip and Yvonne Simpson**

Wishing Rev. Catherine and all at St. Paul's a Joyous and Blessed Christmas  
and a Healthy, Peaceful and Prosperous 2026.

NADOLIG LLAWEN.

**Anne Quainoo**

Wishing everyone peace, hope and joy at Christmas and in the year ahead.

With love from **Gwen**

To all my friends at St Paul's, wishing you a happy, holy Christmas and best wishes  
for a happy and healthy New Year.

**Jean Mount**

To all my friends at St Paul's Scotforth and Hala, wishing you peace and joy at  
Christmas and health and happiness throughout 2026.

With love in Christ

**Joan G**

**Mervyn and Vivienne**

wish all their friends at St Paul's a Merry Christmas  
and a happy and healthy New Year.

Merry Christmas Everyone!  
from **Sammy and Emily**

Wishing a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone  
at St Paul's Scotforth and Hala. **Ken and Beryl Fawcett**

May this holiday season fill your hearts with love, joy  
and countless precious memories. Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

With our love, **Michelle, David, Sachiyo and Michael Gahan**

Wishing everybody at St Paul's Church and  
the Hala Centre a very happy Christmas  
and a healthy 2026

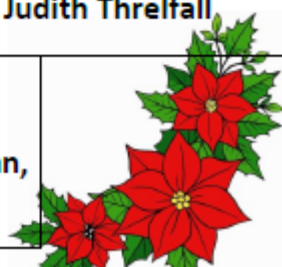
**Sandra and Ian**

With all good wishes for Christmas  
and the New Year.

**Brian and Judith Threlfall**

Happy Christmas to Rev Catherine  
and everyone at St Paul's Church.

With love and best wishes from **the Dewars - Diane and Ian,**  
**Aidan, Alice and Tay, Rory and Jem**



## A final call out to those that would like to contribute to our Hala Pantry Toy Appeal



We can allocate a child to support, and will be provided with age, gender and preferences. We also welcome any contribution to support our appeal including wrapping paper or chocolate for the

children.

The deadline to receive donations is: **15th December** this year and please reach out to: Vikki Pattinson who is coordinating the appeal on: 07789 936406.

*Thank you*

### CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING

**Marketgate, Lancaster**

**Sunday 14 December from**

**2.00 – 3.30pm.** probably by Primark. The purpose is to raise money for Lancaster and District Homeless Action Service Christmas Support. Non-singers also needed (spouses, partners, family, friends) to hold the collecting buckets and tins.



### Lancaster Royal Infirmary (RLI)

By arrangement with the chaplain, Rev Ian Dewar, we move to different wards and sing for the patients and staff.

**Monday 15 Dec from 6.30 – 8.30pm.(approx)** Meet in the restaurant in the basement of the Centenary Building

**Wednesday 17 Dec from 10.15 am** Meet on the second floor of Medical Unit 2

**Friday 19 Dec from 10.15 am** meeting as above MU2

All welcome at any or all of the sessions. Carol Sheets will be provided.

*Christine and Arton Medd*



## Exultate Ladies Choir

### Concert:

Tickets are for sale at the back of church. Please see a Churchwarden or welcome team member. Tickets are also available to buy at the Parish Office.

50% of the monies raised from this concert are going to church funds.

If you came along on previous years you will know what a wonderful evening of music and singing it was. *Jayne*







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

**THURSDAY 18TH DECEMBER - BLUE CHRISTMAS  
REFLECTION AT 6.30PM**

**SUNDAY 21ST 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 - HOLY COMMUNION AT 9AM**

**SUNDAY 28TH DECEMBER - SERVICE OF THE WORD AT  
9.45AM**





# BLUE CHRISTMAS REFLECTION



**Thursday 18th December**  
**6.30PM**  
**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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