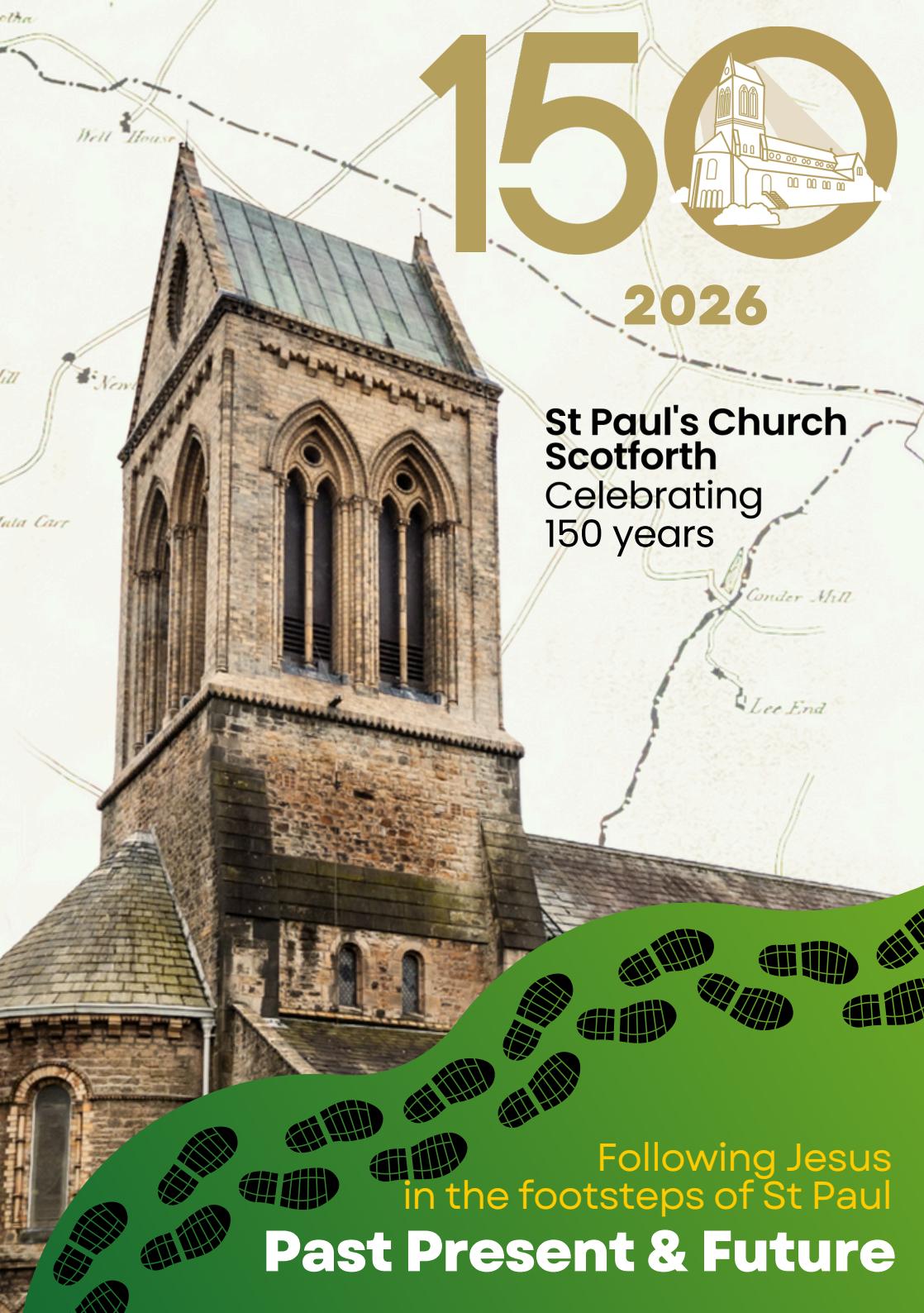


150



2026

**St Paul's Church
Scotforth**
Celebrating
150 years



Following Jesus
in the footsteps of St Paul

Past Present & Future

WELCOME TO ST PAUL'S

Welcome to St Paul's Church, Scotforth as we celebrate our 150th anniversary in 2026. Whether you've been coming here for a lifetime or if this is your first time through the door, all are welcome here. Things may have changed over the years but at the heart of all we do is a love for Jesus and our local community. We're thrilled that you are joining us as we celebrate 150 years of this unique building and the community we've built around it. Come with us as we meet with Jesus by walking in the footsteps of St Paul.



Rev Catherine Haydon



OUR 150 THEME

Our theme for 2026 is Following Jesus in the Footsteps of St Paul. We will find out more about the man our church is named after: the persecutor of Christians who became a follower of Jesus. We are invited to follow Jesus today.



OUR 150 PRAYER

Loving God, we thank you for 150 years of worship here at St Paul's, Scotforth. We give thanks for all who have gone before us, whose faith and devotion built this community. As we celebrate the past, guide us into the future. Renew us with your Spirit, that this church may continue to be a place of hope, welcome and love. Walk with us as we follow Jesus in the footsteps of St Paul, now and in the years to come.
Amen.



Our current aims are: To Worship God, Grow in Faith and Serve the Community. Where will God lead us next?



'I'm praying that St Paul's 150th will be a beautiful step up in faith'

+ Jill, Bishop of Lancaster



Following Jesus in the Footsteps of St Paul

YOUR INVITATION

Please accept this booklet as your invitation to our 150 events - or, indeed, to our regular Services, groups and activities in the Parish Hall or at St Paul's Hala Centre. We are a Church of England Parish Church, so our spiritual care is for all the people of the parish - which stretches from the river to the hills, as on the old map on the cover.

For 150 years we have offered Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, as well as community events, parties and serious moments of reflection. You are very welcome to our 150 events (see Schedule in the centre pages) and regular activities.



Photo from
a 1962
Confirmation

5576 Baptisms
1449 Weddings
5791 Funerals ...
.... since 1876!



SEE THE CHURCH VIDEO

Search St Paul's Scotforth Church on
YouTube Channel and via our
website



@stpaulschurchscotforth1861

OUR 150 CHARITIES



Parent teacher
group at
St Paul's school



'Much more than a Foodbank'



Specialists in palliative care



SUPPORT THE FUTURE

There will be lots of ways to
support the future of the
church this year.

When you do, 50% of any
profits will be given away to 3
chosen charities. And, if you
donate over £5 you will be
offered an enamel badge!

MORE INFORMATION

There is more
information on our
church website 150
page. Use this QR code.
A mobile phone camera
should connect directly.



We invite you to 'Come
and See!' Everyone is
welcome to our regular
and 150 events.

Jayne and Keith
Churchwardens



A PARISH THROUGH TIME

EARLY CHRISTIANITY

Lancaster was established as a settlement by the Romans c60AD, meaning the beginnings of our city may have coincided with the life of St Paul (c5-65AD).



The earliest evidence of Christianity in northern England comes from the Romans in the fourth century, after the conversion of Emperor Constantine in 313AD. These Christians would have been linked to the earliest church in Rome - the church St Paul wrote to in the Book of Romans.

By courtesy of Lancaster City Museum, a Roman oil lamp (featuring the Chi Rho symbol), discovered in Lancaster and dating back to the fifth century, will, hopefully, feature in our exhibition, launched Sat 14th March at 10:30.



CHI RHO

The Chi Rho is one of the earliest Christian symbols. It is a stylistic blending of Greek letters chi (X) and rho (P). Together they became an abbreviation of the word 'Christ'.



Come and find the Chi Rho on the walls of St Paul's Church!

ONLINE HISTORY DOCUMENTS

Scan the QR code to read at your leisure, online from our Parish website free.



INCLUDED FILES:

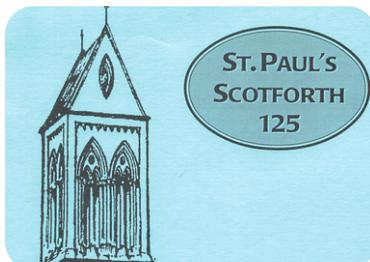
- 100 year history book
- Updated 125 history
- Our Stained Glass windows
- Link with 'Shepherd's Church'
- Our Baptisms & Weddings
- My life: 'Being a Reader'
- My 'Reflections on St Paul'
- Design of New Altar Frontal



Find the window in St Paul's



Living history is St Paul's



One of our history books



Following Jesus in the Footsteps of St Paul



CHURCH
1876



PARISH HALL
1923



SCHOOL
1890'S 3RD SITE



HALA CENTRE
1984



A photograph in our Exhibition
dated 1939

Supported generously by Mrs Julia Ripley, Edmund Sharpe was the architect, benefactor, and supervisor of St Paul's. He experimented with moulded terracotta for the stone, and Romanesque style for the design of the church.

Find his plaque in St Paul's!

EDMUND SHARPE



**There is a plaque on our Foundation
stone in St Paul's. Can you find it?
A clue: it's round a pillar!**



TALKS ABOUT EDMUND SHARPE

- 16th June: U3A History Group 2pm
- 28th September: Our Architect 7.30pm
- 28th October U3A Architecture Group 10.30
- All in St Paul's Church. £2 on the door.

WHY ST PAUL'S

His rich theology? His profound letters? Divine inspiration?

Truthfully, St Paul was chosen as our patron because his [conversion] feast day (25th Jan) happened to be the closest to the finishing of the church building.

The church was planned to be consecrated on this date in 1876, but it had to be put back a month because the bishop was unwell!



**'Faith, hope and
love. The
greatest of
these is love'**
St Paul

Join me in St Paul's
7.30pm on
Mon 28th September as
we explore Sharpe's
distinctive and
experimental 'Pot'
church design.

Zoe, our Architect



OUR COMMUNITY



OUR REGULAR WORSHIP

Sunday

8 am and 9.45am, St Paul's Church
11:15am, St Paul's Hala Centre

Thursday

9:15am, St Paul's Church

Plus
special
services

CELEBRATION CONCERT

Our Celebration Concert includes as many people as possible from our St Paul's family, celebrating the past, the present and the future. From the children in Fun Church to the rather older members in other activities. Some will be nervous, others more experienced, all enthusiastic. Come and be an appreciative audience!

**Sat 28th Feb 2026
2pm in The Parish Hall**

ST PAUL'S CHURCH SCHOOL

KATIE - HEAD TEACHER

"The link between school and church is really strong. It is really good. We can use the church and Rev Catherine comes every week to help with worship and Bible stories as we think about Jesus. It's great!"



DRAMA: 'PAUL, AN APOSTLE OF CHRIST'



Margaret Ives

One of our members at St Paul's writes a new play

'This play takes the form of an interview with Paul towards the end of his life. He looks back on establishing Christian communities, and his suffering, imprisonment and shipwreck. Based on the Acts of the Apostles and produced by Emma Rucastle of Elart Productions, the play hopes to give a coherent picture of Paul's life and his radical, life-changing message that we are all God's children'.

Sat 16th May 2.30 & 7pm in the Parish Hall



150 Banner making workshop.
Come see when finished in St Paul's



Representing all St Paul's volunteers
(Hala Pantry every week)



Following Jesus in the Footsteps of St Paul

EXHIBITION

We are more than just a building. For the past 150 years we have been a community of believers, bearing witness to the love and faithfulness of Jesus.

Being launched in March by Bishop Jill, the exhibition will be a celebration and exploration of our wonderful church, parish, and people. There will be lots to see and do with videos, pictures from our archive, exhibits, the Children's Trail and even an old wedding dress! All of them will come together to create a picture from our past and have us looking towards what the next 150 years could bring.

So come along to see how we have changed since 1876.

LAUNCH EVENT St Paul's
10:30 Sat 14th Mar Church

OTHER TIMES OPEN

Sat 14th - Wed 18th Mar 2-5pm in
Sat 11th + Sun 12th Jul St Paul's
Fri 11th - Sun 13th Sep Church



YouTube 150 video.
Search St Paul's
Scotforth Church
[@stpaulschurchscotforth1861](https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulschurchscotforth1861)



Our 'Digital Icon' of St Paul was kindly produced for us by Paul Gedge. Come and follow it on the Children's Trail!

16TH LANCASTER SCOUT GROUP

St Paul earned a living as a tent maker. This ancient skill is kept alive in our parish today, thanks to 16th Lancaster, St Paul's, Scout Group.

In the summer, the Scouts will be running a tent making session in the church gardens; whilst the Cubs and Beavers will be having a sleepover in the church itself!



"A MODERN ICON" A PORTRAIT BY VAL GEDGE

Local artist, Val Gedge, has produced a unique portrait of St Paul for the 150 celebrations. She positions the viewer from across the table of the Apostle and depicts his great achievements: new churches, writing letters and bringing others to faith in Christ.

The finished portrait will be unveiled at the Exhibition launch, and displayed in the church throughout the year.

**Revealed Sat 14thth Mar
at our Exhibition launch**



Community at St Paul's Hala Centre

WHAT'S ON THIS YEAR?

Sun 22nd Feb
9:45am

Holy Communion
St Paul's Church

A Joint Service with Bishop of Blackburn and a special choir and songs.

In Church for everyone - with a celebration cake and photograph.

Sat 28th Feb
2pm

Celebration Concert
Parish Hall

A collection of performances, both spoken and sung, celebrating our faith and life within St Paul's

Sat 14th Mar
10:30am

Exhibition LAUNCH
St Paul's Church

We will sing a new 150 song, have a reflection from Bishop Jill, watch videos, chat and eat cake!

Sat 14th - Wed 18th Mar
2:00pm - 5:00pm

Exhibition - St Paul's Church

For more dates and info see previous page

EASTER SUNDAY

Sun 5th April
Holy Communion

8am & 9:45am St Paul's & 11:15 Hala Centre

Sun 19th Apr
12:45pm

First of the Boundary Walks

3-4 mile stages around our Parish Boundary.

See Event Information

Sun 19th Apr
5:30pm

Prayer and Praise
St Paul's Hala Centre

A time to worship and wait on God with music, prayer and reflection

KEY

St Paul's Church

Parish Hall

St Paul's Hala Centre

Sat 16th May

Afternoon and evening

A new drama
“Paul, an Apostle of Christ”

Parish Hall

A new 150 drama specially written by Margaret Ives about the life and teachings of St Paul

More info: see the article Tickets from Church & Office



Sat 6th - Sun 7th Jun
Scout Tent Making
St Paul's Church

Scout tent making followed by the cubs doing a sleepover

Tue 16th Jun
1.30-4pm

St Paul's Church

First of a series of talks, this one is with U3A
£2 and guests welcome

For more information and dates see the “Our Parish Through Time” page. Also check the Parish News, Noticeboards and website for updates

Mon 9th Mar
2:00pm

Women's Fellowship
Parish Hall

A talk by Margaret Ives Visiting the sites of St Paul

WHAT'S ON THIS YEAR?

Following Jesus in the Footsteps of St Paul

**Sun 21st Jun
5:30pm**

**'Soup for the Soul'
St Paul's Hala Centre**

"The Good, The Bad and The Ugly". Reframing the controversial Paul with Rev Catherine

For more 'Soup of the Soul' events see "Our Faith" pages

Sat 11th July - 2pm

**Garden Party + Bake Off
Church Grounds**

A bake off with guest judges; Plants stall, Children's activities, Refreshments

Sat 11th & Sun 12th July

**Art exhibition
St Paul's Church**

This is the annual exhibition for Colour Wheel that meets in our Parish Hall

Sun 18th Oct - 6:30pm

Choral Evensong St Paul's Church

The Choral Scholars from Lancaster Priory join us for a service of music, prayer and reflection

Sun 15th Nov - 6:30pm

Songs of Praise St Paul's Church

We are joined by Archdeacon David Picken for an evening of worship and reflection

Sat 28th Nov - Time TBC

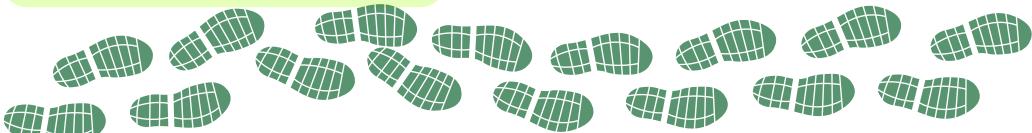
**Scot4All Christmas Fayre
Parish Hall**

Hand-made craft stalls

**Fri 13th Sat 14th & Sun 15th Nov
"What Next?" Weekend**

We plan to have a mixture of social events and planning for the next 150 years.

Keep your eyes peeled for more info on the website!



**Sat 8th Aug
12-4pm**

**Beach Social
Morecambe Beach**

Meet at the Clock Tower for fish and chips, beach games and great company

Fri 11th - Sun 13th Sep

**Community Weekend
Parish Hall +
St Paul's Church**

Heritage Weekend
Photographic Exhibition & Sale
Children's activities (Hall)

The Exhibition
Sat/Sun 2-5pm.

Sun 24th Jan 2027 - 9:45am

**Thanksgiving Commissioning Service
St Paul's Church**

On the "Feast of the Conversion of St Paul" Bishop Jill is with us to thank God for our 150 years as a church and commission us all for the next 150 years!

Fri 29th Jan 2027

Gala Dinner

The finale to our 150th year!

More exciting events will be added throughout the year, so do keep an eye on the Parish website, the church notice sheet (you can subscribe by email) in St Paul's Church and at St Paul's Hala Centre.

WHAT ARE WE FUNDRAISING FOR?

During our 150 year we are fundraising for the future work of St Paul's Church, and 3 local charities. We are grateful for all donations, large and small. You can donate via the QR code, cash at 150 events, in church or at the Office. Although we have our own needs (St Paul's roof needs replacing!), 50% of any profits will be given away to 3 chosen charities.

Thank you.



QR code to our
'Give A Little'
page.

As St Paul said, 'God loves a cheerful giver'.

2 Corinthians 9:7

WHAT CHARITIES ARE WE SUPPORTING?

We have close links with our three chosen local charities.

At the end of the year, 50% of any profits will be split between:



"Our mission is to support those suffering distress caused by addiction, broken family relationships, poverty and homelessness, and to enable individuals and families to resolve and alleviate their difficulties."

the-olivebranch.org.uk

"SCOT4ALL is a group for anyone linked to Scotforth St Paul's Primary and Nursery School. As the name suggests, it is for all members of the community and, although the primary purpose is to fundraise for much needed resources in school, it is also a group for people to be able to support each other."

scotforth-st-pauls.lancs.sch.uk/parents/fossy-pta



sjhospice.org.uk

"St John's Hospice is a local charity which provides free palliative care to patients with life-shortening conditions. Our services cover an area of 250,000 people in North Lancashire, South Lakes and parts of North Yorkshire."



Scan to donate if
you are able.

THANK YOU!



'Your generosity
will result
in giving
thanks to God'.
St Paul

Following Jesus in the Footsteps of St Paul

OUR FAITH

WHAT WE BELIEVE

We believe that all people are made in the image of God, created and loved as equal, precious children (Genesis 1:26).

As Christians we are followers of Jesus Christ. We believe that Jesus was sent to earth as a sign of God's love for us. He was sent to show how to live with one another in peace and unity, and bring us closer to God. Jesus came so that we might have life, and life in all its fullness (John 10:10).

We believe that the mission of Jesus was to show God's welcome and love for everyone, especially the marginalised and forgotten. This is our mission too, reaching out and serving our local community and beyond with the message of the breadth, length, height and depth of God's love (Eph. 3:18)

THE GOSPELS

The four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke & John) are the accounts of Jesus' life and ministry, as told in the Bible.

We would love to give you a free copy of a Gospel to read about Jesus for your self. Available from the Office or back of St Paul's Church or St Paul' Hala Centre.



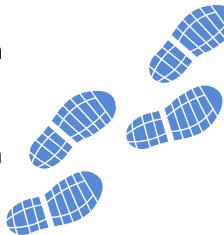
The theologian, Karl Barth, summarised his faith for students: 'Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so'.

Richard, a retired priest and member of St Paul's congregation

SCHOOL AND FUN CHURCH

Our Church of England school celebrates Christian values, worship, assemblies and teaching.

Children at the 9:45 Church service often have 'Fun Church' - a name they chose themselves!



Maita is at St Paul's Scotforth School

In our church school we light candles, have Bible stories, and say prayers. Every term we think about Christian values. At Harvest in church we collect for the Olive Branch

A NEW ALTAR FRONTAL

With a central focus on Christ - the new altar front draws on the ancient legacy of Christianity within northern England. It pays homage to the life and work of our parish, today, and offers a prayerful hope for the future of serving Jesus, in Scotforth and beyond.

The new altar frontal will be revealed at our Launch service on 22nd Feb - come and see!



For me, prayer is just talking to God, telling Him how things are, how amazing He is, knowing He is right by my side.

Michele, a member of St Paul's



Following Jesus in the Footsteps of St Paul

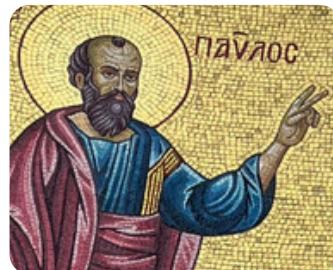
THE LORD'S PRAYER

In the Gospels, Jesus teaches us the Lord's Prayer, as an example of how we can communicate with God.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be Your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Yours is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

WHO WAS PAUL

Paul, our patron saint, was originally called Saul. As a young man he was an ardent Pharisee, hostile to the emerging Christian church. Then, following an encounter with the Risen Christ on the Damascus road, he acknowledged Jesus as the Messiah and began to proclaim the Gospel to both Jews and Gentiles.



'SOUP FOR THE SOUL' AT ST PAUL'S HALA

Nourish your understanding of the ministry of St Paul with this series of flavourful talks and discussions. Starting with a hearty bowl of soup 5.30pm there will be a short time of worship, followed by 45 minute on the topic below at the St Paul's Hala Centre.

Sun 17th May

Margaret Ives
'Let's discuss the Drama'

Sun 19th Jul

Let's look at
'Romans' - St Paul's letter



Sun 21st Jun

"The Good, The Bad and The Ugly"

Reframing the controversial Paul:
Rev Catherine

Sun 20th Sep

Visiting the sites of St Paul

What we learnt
about Paul, Jesus,
and faith

Even if you don't
usually go to church,
please feel free to
come and
find out more

OUR REGULAR WORSHIP

Sunday

8 am and 9.45am, St Paul's Church
11:15am, St Paul's Hala Centre

**Plus
special
services**

Thursday

9:15am, St Paul's Church



**'When you
come
together ..
build up the
church'**
St Paul

A final word ..

Since becoming the Vicar it has been an absolute joy to meet so many people in church, at school, and out in the local community. I look forward to meeting many more of you at our 150th anniversary events. As we look forward to the next 150 years, you are warmly invited to join us for our ongoing regular worship, activities and community events. May you know the love of God in all you do, and know that you are always welcome here at St Paul's.



Rev Catherine Haydon

SERVICES, GROUPS AND HIRING

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Concerts, Parties and other events



Contact our Parish Office
about Services, regular groups,
or to hire for your event, large
or small.

Contact the Office
for details



I was married in the church and my son was baptised in the Parish Hall. St Paul's, Scotforth, has been the backdrop to two of the most important chapters of my life.

Aidan, a member at St Paul's



I have been using the Parish Hall for 9 years now. We have about 250 people come every week to our sessions: some from the area but most from the local community, India, Slimming World Consultant



FOLLOW UP

As we have been inviting you to our special 150 events, we also extend a welcome to our regular events. We have an amazing number of community groups using our buildings, with activities for all ages. Our services of Worship are always open to all, and we are here for Pastoral Care and prayer.

The main points of contact are through the Office and website, as well as posters and noticeboards at

St Paul's Church and St Paul's Hala Centre.

See the back page for details.



EVERYONE IS WELCOME



Following Jesus in the Footsteps of St Paul

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

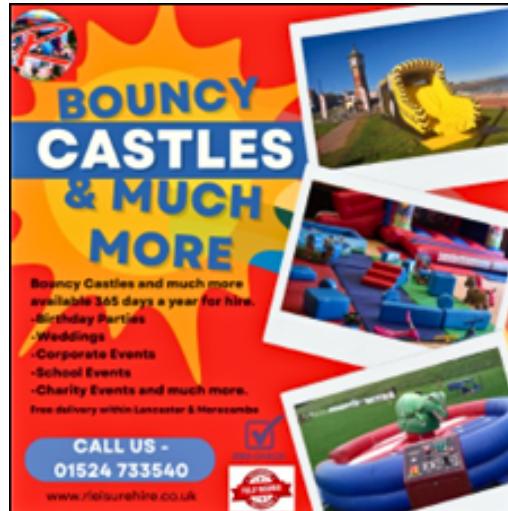


CHIRNSIDE HOUSE

Abbeyfield Close
Scotforth, Lancaster. LA14NL

Chirnside House offers a friendly, secure and homely atmosphere with 24 hour care. We encourage independence but staff are always on hand should you require assistance. Regular activities and outings organised by our dedicated activities team. Respite care also offered on a weekly basis.

To request a brochure telephone 01524 541720 or email : manager@abbeyfieldlancaster.co.uk



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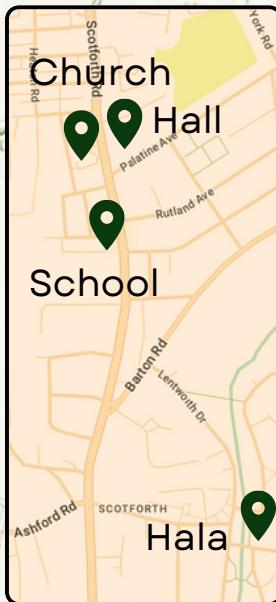
It's good to be home.



blackdragonbadges.co.uk



'We offer a badge for donations over £5 to the church. Thank you for all your support for St Paul's Scotforth'.
Happy Anniversary!



EVERYONE WELCOME



MORE INFORMATION

stpauls-scotforth.org

Office: St Paul's Parish Hall
Scotforth Rd, Lancaster LA1 4TS

01524 843135
office@stpauls-scotforth.org
Mon-Fri 9.30am-12.00pm

**Join us:
Worshipping God,
Growing in Faith,
Serving the Community**

**for another
150 years!**