



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS
12th MARCH 2026

Sunday Worship – 15th March 2026
Lent 4/Mothering Sunday

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

9:45am – All Age Service of the Word with Parade at St Paul's,
Scotforth Road

11:15am – Service of the Word at St Paul's, Hala

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
Saturday 14th March at 10.30am	150 th Exhibition Launch with Bishop Jill at St Paul's, Scotforth
Sunday 22nd March 8:00am 9:45am 11:15am	BCP Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth All Age Service of the Word 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

From our Parish prayer diary: Knowle Hill Crescent, Heversham Close, Arnside Close

From our Church prayer diary: Our Ministry Team

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

All who mourn: Pete Campbell, Brenda Stewart

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.

Collect for Sunday 15th March:

God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings for Sunday 15th March:

Exodus 2.1-10

2 Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ²The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. ³When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

⁵ The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,'

she said. ⁷Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' ⁸Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. ⁹Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

John 19.25b-27

²⁵ Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Post Communion Prayer for Sunday 15th March:

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children at the breast
you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life:
help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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About this App page for further information.*

Readings for next week:

Ezekiel 37.1-14; Romans 8.6-11; John 11.1-45

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.



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.

The Electoral Roll Annual Update 2026

The electoral roll records those who are entitled to vote at the Annual Parish Meeting [APM] which selects the Parochial Church Council [PCC]. Candidates for election to the PCC must have been on the roll for at least 6 months before the APM at which they offer themselves for election to the PCC.

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 should be 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

Green Bins:



If you appreciate all the hard work the gardening team do to keep on top of the gardens and regret that you aren't able to help. Here is your chance. Once again it is time to pay the council £46 (over £200 for 5) to have a green bin emptied. On average we can fill 4 bins a session so they are vital to our work. A donation of any amount would be much appreciated so that we can continue to

keep on top of the gardening. I hasten to add that we do have 2 compost heaps as well.

Donations can be handed in to the Parish Office or Church.

Don't forget to have a look at the crocus memorial garden, as the crocus are now in full bloom.

The Gardening Team

Confirmation Service:

We have arranged for a Confirmation Service to take place on **Wednesday 23rd September at 5pm** which will be led by Bishop Jill. If you are interested in being confirmed (adult or child) then please pick up a registration pack from either the back of church, at Hala or the Parish Office and return it to Jayne no later than **Friday 31st July.**



Classes for children, in Year 6 or above, will be held on Wednesday 2nd, 9th and 23rd September at 4.00pm until 5.30pm in Church. The rehearsal for the service will be on Sunday 20th September after the 9.45am service in church. You must be able to attend **all** the classes and the rehearsal in order to be put forward as a candidate for confirmation.

Group sessions for adults will be arranged when we know what the numbers are.

If you have any questions at all then please talk to Rev Catherine, Jayne or Keith.

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. Please can all current sidespeople sign the list at the back of church to say that you are happy to stay on the team for another year. Thank you.



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 26th 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

2025 and the Church Accounts will be available on the website very soon:

<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 a number of vacancies for both a 3-year period and a 2-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 2-year period would be of interest to you. We will also have a number of vacancies on Deanery Synod which gives membership of the PCC automatically.

If you would like to learn about being a member of the Church Council or feel called to represent St Paul's at Deanery Synod level then please talk to either Jayne, Keith or Rev Catherine or pick up a nomination form from the back of church or at Hala.



Fairtrade Easter Eggs have arrived!

Meaningful Milk Chocolate Real Easter Eggs are the only ones in the UK with an Easter story booklet for children. They are Fairtrade, have 30% cocoa (check that against the 20% - 25% of usual brands!), are palm-oil free and no plastic is used in the packaging. Cost £5.50.(cash only) They will be on sale after the

9:45am service on Sunday (15th March) or contact me by email

arton.medd@btinternet.com or phone 01524 64730, or sign up on the order form at the back of church to reserve one..

While on the subject of chocolate, please don't give it up for Lent and thereby deprive the cocoa farmers of six weeks (almost 12%) of their annual income. You could make sure in Lent that it is all Fairtrade – and then keep up the habit!

Arton Medd

Our Church School Needs Your Help:

Our Parish has an exceptional primary school at its heart. Its links with Church are very strong, but it needs help to keep and grow these links. The School Governing Body is made up of parents, school staff, Local Authority and Governors nominated by the Church. It is this last group of Governors that the School needs a number of, and you could be one of them.



The main role of the Governing Body is to ensure:

- that the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school are clearly defined
- that the headteacher performs their responsibilities for the educational performance of the school
- the sound, proper and effective use of the school's financial resources

So, as a governor, you'll:

- help set the school's vision and direction
- hold leaders to account for performance and progress
- oversee budgets and ensure resources are used wisely

You do not need educational expertise but you do need to be committed to the school, willing to ask questions and act as a critical friend.

Realistically, as a School Governor, you will need to attend one full Governing Body meeting each term. You will also be asked to serve on at least one committee which will probably meet once or occasionally twice a term. So that is about three meetings per term. You will need to read the documents and information to prepare for the meetings.

Further information on the role of School Governor can be found on the Lancashire Government website at [Become a school governor - Lancashire County Council](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/governors/become-a-school-governor) and Blackburn Diocese Board of Education website at <https://www.bdeducation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/The-Role-of-a-Governor.docx>

There are posts for 16 Governors at Scotforth St. Paul's School with 9 being nominated by the Church (these include the Vicar). To get first-hand information on being a Governor, please talk to myself, Rev. Catherine or any of the other members of the Governing Body who you may see in Church (Alison Alderson, Jennifer Couchman, Mark Hammond and Rachael Rigby). Currently there are 2 vacancies, with a number of other positions possibly becoming vacant in the next few months. Please consider whether this rewarding and vital way of giving back to the community is something you could do.

In any event please hold the School in your prayers at this time, as the Governing Body undertakes one of its most important roles, that of seeking a new Headteacher.

Keith Weatherill, Chair of Governors

Holy Week 150 St Paul's Church Scotforth Celebrating 150 years

Through Readings and Songs

Palm Sunday, 29th March 2026

6.30pm

ST PAUL'S CHURCH, SCOTFORTH

Advance Notice of Services for Palm Sunday and Holy Week:

REMEMBER: HE DIED AND ROSE FOR US!

150 St Paul's Church Scotforth Celebrating 150 years

Services during Holy Week:

Mon 30th March - Wed 1st April - 7.30pm - Compline

Maundy Thursday - 7pm - Service of Holy Communion

Good Friday - 12-3pm: 12-1 - Walk of Witness (City Centre)
1-2pm - Church open for quiet prayer
2-3pm - At the foot of the cross: a reflective service

Holy Saturday - 5pm - Service of Waiting

Easter Sunday - 8am - BCP Holy Communion
9.45am - Holy Communion
11.15am - Holy Communion at St Paul's Hala Worship Centre

VICAR: 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 to 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 Jayne on Tel: 07986993007.

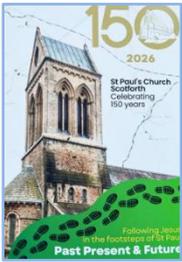
Scotforth School: Headteacher – Mrs Katie Walsh – Tel: 01524 65379

Gala Dinner – Friday 29th January 2027

For the end of our 150th Anniversary Year we have arranged a Gala Dinner at Lancaster House. Whilst it seems a long

way in the distance we do need to gauge interest for this event. The menu and cost are all outlined in the posters which are in church, St Paul's Hala and the Parish Hall, the cost will not change. If you would like to come along then please do either contact the office to express your interest or Jayne and Keith. There is no need to make menu choices or pay at this time. Although if you would like to pay during the year then it will be like having a 'free' meal next January! All payments and menu choices must be made before 31st December 2026. If you would like any additional information then please do talk to Jayne or Catherine.





150 Booklet:

Our 150 booklet is out!
With grateful thanks to
our supporters, we are
pleased to share our



Anniversary booklet as an invitation to all the people of the parish – free! We have an ample supply to be distributed free to friends and neighbours. What we need is everyone please to think about who might like one and take a bundle from the baskets at the back of St Paul's, Parish Hall and the Hala Centre.

Jim Currin

We are on YouTube!

Our 150 video 'Come and See' is on YouTube. Have a look yourself and use on any social media you have. It was launched at the 9.45 service last Sunday, and will be available throughout the year. Please have a look, comment, 'like' and and share. It is for everyone to 'Come and See' something of our life at St Paul's.



The video is 2.45 minutes long and can be found if you search YouTube for 'St Paul's church, Scotforth' or the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NpX2fbeDZz8>. Our official YT channel is @stpaulsscotforth1861.

There will be lots more video clips onscreen at the 150 Exhibition this week. Come and see if you are on!

Jim Currin

Lancaster Museum Loan:

For our Exhibition launch on **Saturday 14th March in St Paul's Church at 10:30am** we shall be having two items from Lancaster Museum - just for the morning - in a special loan. A member of the Museum staff is bringing the little Roman oil lamp that has the Christian Chi Rho symbol on it. Dug up in the Priory grounds in 1910, the 4th/5th century lamp is one of the museums 100 items on special display.

Though most likely a souvenir from the Grand Tour rather than an actual oil lamp carried by a Roman soldier from Rome, it is still a reminder of the earliest Christian presence in Lancaster and a distant link to the early church that St Paul wrote to. Come and see it!

Accompanying the Lamp is a second, mystery item from the museum. It is a piece of Scotforth history around the time our church was built and relates to faith and sadness - in a moving story we will share at the launch.

Come for some singing, cake and a reflection as we launch our 150 Exhibition. Everyone welcome.

Jim Currin

Request for help during the Exhibition:



Contributions of cakes and biscuits are now requested for use during the exhibition from **Saturday 14th March to Wednesday 18th March.**

Please drop your contributions into church at any time the exhibition is open or before the church services on **Sunday 15th March.** A table will be available to leave your items on.

There is also a rota for helping to serve refreshments during the exhibition. It is more fun

to serve with a friend - Jesus sent us out in twos! Please sign up in church or contact me by email.

Alison Alderson beaobic@hotmail.com

Update on our 150 Exhibition:

Come and join us as we launch St Paul's 150 Exhibition at 1030 on Saturday 14th March.

We will be singing the 150 Hymn 'Come Follow Me' and the 150 Song 'Footsteps of St Paul', as well as unveiling a picture: the modern icon of St Paul, specially painted by Val Gedge. We will show our 150 video 'Come and See', and begin a wonderful collection of video interviews and old pictures on screen all about our past, present and future life together.

Our displays include old documents and pictures, building plans and an unusual story about the trowel used at our foundation. Loans include a Wedding dress and Baptism dress and - bringing us up to date - the children of our church school have been doing art in the church. Their work will be on special display. Also, if you have not seen them yet, there is a colourful new 150 Banner and an amazing new Altar Frontal to see.

At the launch we are joined by Rachel Edmunds from Lancaster Museum who is bringing two special loans: a 4th/5th Century oil lamp marked with the Christian Chi Rho symbol and the 1838 hymnbook of Elizabeth Nelson. The Bishop of Lancaster will reflect on these items and declare the Exhibition open.

The launch will be followed by coffee and cake - thank you to all who are providing them - and then there will be time to have a close look at the Roman lamp and Victorian hymnbook before they go back to the museum. The Exhibition on Saturday stays open till 5pm. On Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday the Exhibition will be open 2-5pm.

Please come with your friends and join us as we celebrate 150 years of St Paul's past, present and future. Everyone is welcome and there will be some children's activities and a Trail to follow as we find out more about 'Following Jesus in the Footsteps of St Paul'.

Jim Currin

150



2026

FREE ENTRY

GRAND EXHIBITION

HISTORY - MUSIC - ARTWORK - CHILDREN'S TRAIL - TESTIMONIES
VIDEOS - PHOTOGRAPHS - AND MUCH MORE!

LAUNCHES

SATURDAY 14TH MARCH - 10:30AM

SPECIAL GUEST: +JILL, BISHOP OF LANCASTER

St Paul's Church, Scotforth

THEN RUNS [2PM-5PM] EVERYDAY UNTIL WEDNESDAY 18TH MARCH

Scan to find fascinating documents on our church history, the new altar frontal and 2 new hymns written especially for our 150th.



Scan to find out how you can donate to St Paul's. Supporting the church and parish for the next 150 years.



Following Jesus in the Footsteps of St Paul

We apologise for the poor quality reproduction of the advert in our 150th booklet, please see the new advert below:

R Leisure Hire

L I M I T E D



Bouncy Castles Soft Play Obstacle Courses Giant Slides
Crazy Golf Garden Games Red Carpets Fun Casinos
Rodeo Bulls Santa's Grotto's Vintage Games



R Leisure Hire



info@rleisurehire.co.uk



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