



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS 26th MARCH 2026

Sunday Worship – 29th March 2026 PALM SUNDAY

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

6:30pm – Holy Week through Readings and Songs
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
Monday 30th March, Tuesday 31st March & Wednesday 1st April at 7:30pm Thursday 2nd April – 9:15am <p style="text-align: center;">- 7pm</p> Friday 3rd April – 1:00 – 3:00pm Saturday 4th April at 5:00pm	Compline at St Paul's, Scotforth Road Maundy Thursday Service of the Word at St Paul's, Scotforth Road Maundy Thursday Holy Communion Service at St Paul's, Scotforth Road Good Friday Reflection at St Paul's, Scotforth Easter Saturday Service of Waiting at St Paul's, Scotforth Road
Sunday 5th April – EASTER SUNDAY 8:00am 9:45am 11:15am	BCP Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth All Age Holy Communion at St Paul's Scotforth Holy Communion 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: Gressingham Drive, Gressingham Walk

From our Church prayer diary: all Hala Pantry Volunteers

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

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 29th March:

True and humble king,
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:
grant us the faith to know you and love you,
that we may be found beside you
on the way of the cross,
which is the path of glory.

Readings for Sunday 29th March:

Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29

¹ O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; • his mercy endures for ever.
² Let Israel now proclaim, • 'His mercy endures for ever.' ¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness, • that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord. ²⁰This is the gate of the Lord; • the righteous shall enter through it. ²¹I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me • and have become my salvation. ²²The stone which the builders rejected • has become the chief cornerstone. ²³This is the Lord's doing, • and it is marvellous in our eyes. ²⁴This is the day that the Lord has made; • we will rejoice and be glad in it. ²⁵Come, O Lord, and save us we pray. • Come, Lord, send us now prosperity. ²⁶Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; • we bless you from the house of the

Lord. ²⁷The Lord is God; he has given us light; • link the pilgrims with cords right to the horns of the altar. ²⁸You are my God and I will thank you; • you are my God and I will exalt you. ²⁹O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; • his mercy endures for ever.

Matthew 21.1-11

21 When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.' ⁴This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, ⁵"Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" ⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!' ¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?' ¹¹The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

Post Communion Prayer for Sunday 29th March:

Lord Jesus Christ,
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:
give us the mind to follow you
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,
to the glory of God the Father.

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Readings for next week:
Acts 10.34-43; John 20.1-18

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

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](#) 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

Volunteer(s) needed: We are looking for volunteer(s) to lock up and secure the Parish Hall on a Sunday evening each week. The current volunteers are no longer able to carry on and we are very grateful to them for their dedication and time over the many years they have been doing this for us. If you could spare 30 minutes (times vary) and would like to know more about what is needed then please talk to Jayne or Keith. Thank you.



Gardening News:

A big 'thank you' to all who have donated towards our green bins. All donations are much appreciated and help us to continue keeping on top of the gardens. We will be resuming our weekly gardening sessions on **Wednesday April 1st from 2.00pm.**



We could always do with more help so if you are interested in lending a hand please come along and find what it's all about, or contact me (Maureen) on 07531 285199.

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.

ASSOCIATE PRIEST: Rev Clare Shepherd: Tel: 07483 376211;

Email: clare.shepherd@cumbria.ac.uk Normal working day: Sunday

CHURCHWARDENS:

Mrs Jayne Weatherill:

Tel: 60597 or 07986 993007; Email: sjaynewweatherill@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



COMPLINE

Monday 30th March
Tuesday 31st March
Wednesday 1st April

7.30pm

St Paul's Church

150 St Paul's Church
Scotforth
Celebrating
150 years

The poster features a background image of hands clasped in prayer over an open book. It includes the text 'COMPLINE' in large white letters, the dates 'Monday 30th March', 'Tuesday 31st March', and 'Wednesday 1st April', the time '7.30pm', and 'St Paul's Church'. A logo in the bottom left corner reads '150 St Paul's Church Scotforth Celebrating 150 years'.



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: - 9.15am - Service of the Word
- 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

The poster has a background of a stone wall with a cross. It features the text 'REMEMBER: HE DIED AND ROSE FOR US!' at the top, a '150' logo, and a list of services for Holy Week. The services include Compline (Mon 30th March-Wed 1st April - 7.30pm), Maundy Thursday (9.15am Service of the Word and 7pm Service of Holy Communion), Good Friday (12-3pm: 12-1 Walk of Witness, 1-2pm Church open for quiet prayer, 2-3pm At the foot of the cross), Holy Saturday (5pm Service of Waiting), and Easter Sunday (8am BCP Holy Communion, 9.45am Holy Communion, 11.15am Holy Communion at St Paul's Hala Worship Centre).



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 – we have been asked to give a rough idea of numbers as soon as possible.** 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.

150th Wooden Plaque –

**available to
purchase:**
Local charity,
Lancaster Men's
Hub, have
offered to hand
craft for us a
plaque of the
church to mark
our 150th
Anniversary.

These are made
to order and are

£15 each. They can either be hung on a wall or, if you purchase a stand, be freestanding. There is a picture with this article, but the actual plaque is in church if you would like to see it 'in real life'. There is an order sheet in church or you can email me on lifeyvents@stpauls-scotforth.org to order one.

Jayne W.



Good Friday

This year we will be marking Good Friday with a sequence of events from 12 midday to 3pm, remembering the darkened hours when Jesus was dying on the cross.

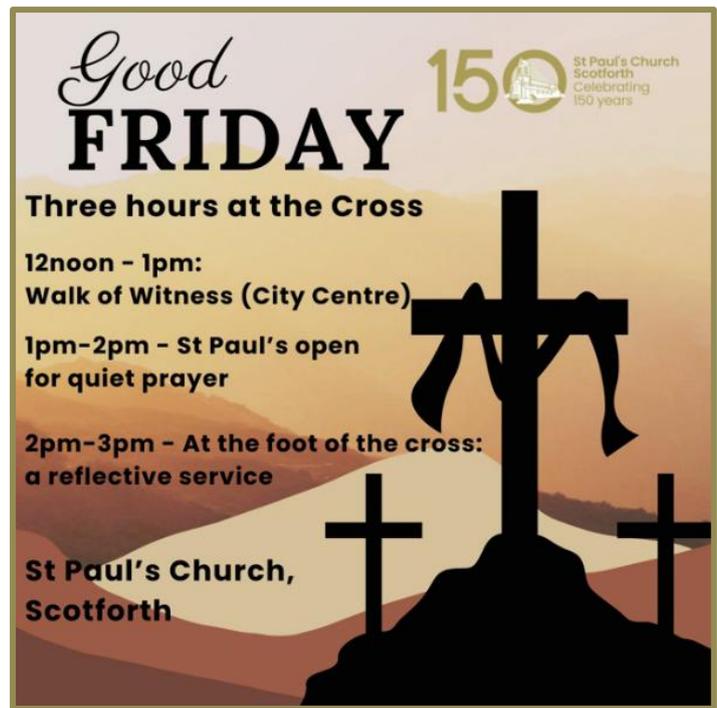
This will begin in joining with other Christians for a Walk of Witness through the city centre, organised by Lancaster Churches Together. We gather at Dalton Square to start the walk at midday.

From 1-2pm, St Paul's Scotforth Road will be open for quiet prayer, with words and images on screen on the theme of The Path to the Cross. All are welcome to join at any point during the hour, along with those returning from the Walk of Witness.

At 2pm, we will move into a service with hymns, readings and prayers focusing on the Seven Last Words of Jesus, ending at 3pm.

You are most welcome to join any or all of these opportunities to mark this most solemn and holy day of our faith.

Linda Currin



Easter Sunday

Services

ST PAULS CHURCH, SCOTFORTH AND
ST PAUL'S HALA WORSHIP CENTRE

**8.00AM - BCP HOLY COMMUNION AT
ST PAUL'S CHURCH**

**9.45AM - HOLY COMMUNION AT
ST PAUL'S CHURCH**

**11.15AM - HOLY COMMUNION AT
ST PAUL'S HALA WORSHIP CENTRE**

150



St Paul's Church
Scotforth
Celebrating
150 years



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