



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS
16TH APRIL 2026

Sunday Worship – 19th April 2026
EASTER 3

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

5:30pm – Service of Prayer and Praise
 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 – Service of the Word
 at St Paul's, Scotforth Road

Parish Diary:

Date & Time	Name of Event
Monday 20 th April at 2pm	Tea@2 at the Parish Hall
Wednesday 22 nd April from 2pm	Gardening with the Garden Team at St Paul's Church – all welcome
Sunday 26 th April 8:00am 9:45am	BCP Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth Service of the Word, joint Service with Hala – followed by ANNUAL PARISH MEETING



*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: Beck View, Slaidburn Drive

From our Church prayer diary: St Paul's Monday Rainbows

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: Stephen Wilcock, Stephen Clarke, Nigel Salisbury

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 19th April:

Risen Christ,
you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:
strengthen us to proclaim your risen life
and fill us with your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

Readings for Sunday 19th April:

Acts 2.14a, 36-41

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

³⁶Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.' ³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' ³⁸Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' ⁴⁰And he testified with many

other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Luke 24.13-35

¹³ Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' ¹⁹He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' ²⁵Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Post Communion Prayer for Sunday 19th April:

Living God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in all his redeeming work;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

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Readings for next week: Acts 2.42-end; John 10.1-10

Message from Rev Catherine:

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Easter is my favourite time of year, and the church clearly thinks so too as we celebrate for 50 days. It's a time to celebrate Jesus' defeat over death, opening for us the gates of eternal life. It's a time to celebrate new life, and look forward to what is to come, which is especially important for us during this 150th year of our parish.

Our anniversary year is a perfect opportunity to give thanks to God for all that has been and discern what the next steps might be. One way we can begin this is in our Prayer and Praise evening this weekend. It's a chance to praise God through song, to spend time in prayer, and to listen to one another and God.

If prayer isn't something you're used to, come along and find out more! It can sometimes seem intimidating, and we often don't think we have the right words to say, but prayer is simply a conversation with God. It involves listening as well as talking, and the words we use don't need to be fancy or 'holy', but from the heart. It doesn't matter how we pray, it just matters that we do.

It would be brilliant to see you all there as we dedicate this year and the future of our parish to God, who died and rose again for us.

Alleluia!

Rev Catherine

Prayer and Praise on Sunday

In our 150th year, please join us to worship and wait on God together as we pray for the parish this coming Sunday (19th April). It will be a service of Prayer and Praise at 5:30pm in St Paul's Church (NB. not the Hala Centre as in the 150 Booklet).

Come and sing some well-known hymns and songs - as well as spending time in prayer together. One feature will be an interview with Rev Catherine about her journey of following Jesus: what were the steps that led to her coming to faith and eventually becoming our Vicar? Come and find out! We will pray for the Holy Spirit's work among us and will seek God's guidance for the future years of St Paul's Church. Where is God leading us?

Let's worship and wait on God in Prayer and Praise together for this 150 year - this Sunday (19th) at 5:30pm at St Paul's, Scotforth Road.

Jim Currin

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 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 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.

Volunteer(s) for grass cutting and gardening at the Parish Hall:

Due to our current volunteers standing down after many years of dedicated work at the Parish Hall, for which we give our very grateful thanks, we are looking for 1 or 2 people who could take on this work for us. As the hall is used so much, there are time restrictions as to when the grass can be accessed, however, the flower beds are accessible all the time. We are in the process of developing a plan to re-design the garden areas to make them easier to maintain. If you have any gardening expertise and would like to be involved in the re-design then please do talk to Jayne or Keith – or talk to them if you would be interested in helping with the grass cutting/general gardening.



Thank you.

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.



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: 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: Associate Headteacher – Mr C Barnacle – Tel: 01524 65379

Boundary Walks:

The first of our Boundary walks will take place this Sunday 19th April, meeting in the Church grounds at 12:45pm for 1:00pm departure. We will be heading to the University and the walk will be 4-5 miles in length.

If you prefer you can join us at the

Hala Centre at 1:15pm. If the weather is suitable we will be crossing some

fields with stiles and possibly muddy tracks.

Things to see along the route will include where Scotforth originated, the start of the university and the plaque in memory of Elizabeth Nelson and possibly some early bluebells.

For further information I can be contacted on 07531 285199.

Maureen Leach





Christian Aid Week 10th – 17th May 2026

Christian Aid's 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 we hope that you can do so again.

With **seven days to make a difference**, every gift, act and prayer counts. **Will you support someone like Fridah to grow food, protect their children from hunger, and nurture hope?**



£5 could buy the seeds that kickstart a family's nutritious vegetable garden.

£10 could pay for the pair of chickens that produce fertiliser for an urban farmer.

£15 could purchase the hand tools that mean an urban farmer can tend their crops.

£30 could buy the trio of cone garden planters that host hundreds of plants in a tiny city space.

In this 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.

The envelopes only need posting as they have instructions on where to return them.

St Paul's Church raised £1917.51 in 2025 thanks to our wonderful volunteers.

Could you help to increase our total by delivering envelopes to a street or two? Walking is good exercise!

Please see Jan at the 8:00am service or Arton at the 9:45am service on Sunday, or contact

email mccartneyjan@hotmail.com or mob 07752 624 605

email arton.medd@btinternet.com or phone 01524 64730.

Thank you, Arton Medd & Jan Webster

Regular giving scheme to help keep St Paul's going:



Many people might be surprised to know that St Paul's is entirely self-funded and does not get any financial support from the Church of England or the Diocese of Blackburn apart



from the vicar's salary. Instead, as well as funding all its own running costs and maintenance, it has to make a parish contribution to the Diocese of Blackburn.

Therefore, this is a HUGE thank you to everyone who supports St. Paul's via the collection plate/card machine (however large or small), stewardship envelopes, standing order, volunteering or just by choosing St Paul's as their church and place of worship.



Many members of St Paul's congregation prefer to help keep it going by monthly Bank Standing Order as an easy and convenient way instead of via the collection plate so, as part of our fundraising campaign in our 150th

year we are hoping that more people will sign up to donate regularly by standing order.

If you are willing or able to do regular giving in this way, there is a bank form and separate Gift Aid form (if you are a UK taxpayer) available at the back of the church which can be filled in and left in the box provided or with a churchwarden – or sent directly into the Church Office. Alternatively - if you would like a standing order form emailing to you please let the church office know by email: office@stpauls-scotforth.org



However you are able to help St Paul's, whether it be financially, in a voluntary role or just by being part of the congregation it is much appreciated as every single person makes a difference, so thank you again.

Jon Humfrey, Gift Aid Officer/PCC Member

Paul: An Apostle of Christ:

An exciting original play, 'Paul: An Apostle of Christ' is to be performed on Saturday 16th May (14:30 & 19:00), in the Parish Hall.

Written by our own Margaret Ives the play takes the form of an interview with Paul, himself. Featuring children from a local community theatre group (ElArt Productions).

Admission is free, tickets will be available from the back of church following Sunday services, by emailing office@stpauls-scotforth.org or online by searching for the play on Eventbrite.

150

AN ORIGINAL PLAY

PAUL
AN APOSTLE OF CHRIST

BY MARGARET IVES

★★★★★

SATURDAY 16TH MAY
2:30PM MATINEE & 7:00PM EVENING SHOW

ONE DAY ONLY

ST PAUL'S PARISH HALL, SCOTFORTH

Paul, a radical man, a radical life, a radical message.

Based on true events, *Paul: An Apostle of Christ*, takes the form of an interview with the famed apostle himself.

Reflecting on being imprisoned, shipwrecked and establishing some of the earliest Christian communities in history, near the end of his ministry.

Produced by Emma Ruscastle (ElArt Productions) and featuring a chorus comprised of children she works with through community theatre. This is a play not to be missed!

FREE ADMISSION
(Donations welcome on the day)

TICKETS AVAILABLE

From St Paul's Church
Following any service.

By emailing
office@stpauls-scotforth.org.uk

Via Eventbrite
Follow the links in the QR codes.

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It's good to be home.



www.totsplay.co.uk/lancaster

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To see schedule, scan QR code or contact Lauren 07398312544



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JEFF HARLOW Electrician



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Portable Appliance Testing

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