



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS 23RD APRIL 2026

Sunday Worship – 26th April 2026 EASTER 4

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

9:45am – Service of the Word including the **Annual Parish Meeting**
at St Paul's, Scotforth Road – joint service with Hala

11:15am – **NO SERVICE** at St Paul's, Hala this week

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
Wednesday 29 th April from 2pm	Gardening with the Garden Team at St Paul's Church – all welcome
Sunday 3rd May 8:00am 9:45am 11:15am 12:30pm	BCP Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth Holy Communion at St Paul's Hala Baptisms at St Paul's, Scotforth



*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: Appletree Drive, Appletree Close, Abbeystead Drive

From our Church prayer diary: Our Fabric Committee

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 Clarke, Nigel Salisbury, Robert Wilson

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 26th April:

Risen Christ,

faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:

teach us to hear your voice

and to follow your command,

that all your people may be gathered into one flock,

to the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

Readings for Sunday 26th April:

Acts 2.42-end

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayers. ⁴³ Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles.

⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common;

⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

John 10.1-10

10 'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷ So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Post Communion Prayer for Sunday 26th April:

Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:
keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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**Readings for next week:
Acts 7.55-end; John 14.1-14**

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.

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.

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

Reflections on St Paul

The next of 'Reflections on Saint Paul' explores ideas of suffering and purpose. Copies are available on the notice table or downloadable from the Church website (see 150 celebrations).

Aidan Dewar

**Don't
Miss the
Sale!
Last Chance
Tote Bags
were £5
now only
£2.50**



Available from in the Prayer Chapel

Christian Aid Week 10th – 16th May 2026

Thank you to those who have already offered to deliver envelopes during Christian Aid Week. You will be helping to support some excellent projects to help people grow food or earn enough money to feed their children.

We still need some more volunteers to cover a few allocated streets, if you could vary your walk one day, you could improve the health of some of the world's poor and get some fresh air yourself. You only make one delivery as there are instructions on the back of each envelope where to return the envelope to or donate using the QR code.

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.



Jan Webster & Arton Medd

Blackburn Diocese is marking 100 years with a **Big Day Out in**



Blackpool — a full, joy-filled celebration for every age. With dedicated zones for families and young people, plus live music, comedy, a free hog roast lunch and a huge open-air worship gathering in St John's Square, it's set to be a fantastic day for our whole Diocese. Everyone is welcome, and pre-registration helps us plan food and spaces. **Join us on Saturday 16 May 2026 for a big party in Blackpool to celebrate 100 years of Blackburn Diocese!**

For more information or to pre-register then please visit:

<https://www.blackburn.anglican.org/events/1219/the-big-day-out-in-blackpool>

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.

Matinee Eventbrite link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/paul-an-apostle-of-christ-matinee-tickets-1984670689458?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Evening Eventbrite link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/paul-an-apostle-of-christ-evening-tickets-1987279664974?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>



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
Via Eventbrite
Follow the links in the QR codes.

ADMIT ONE

Matinee
Evening

Following Jesus in the Footsteps of St Paul