



ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS 30TH APRIL 2026

Sunday Worship – 3rd May 2026 EASTER 5

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

9:45am – Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth Road

11:15am – Holy Communion at St Paul's, Hala this week

12:30pm – Baptism Service 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
Wednesday 6 th May from 2pm	Gardening with the Garden Team at St Paul's Church – all welcome
Sunday 10th May 8:00am 9:45am 11:15am	BCP Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth Holy Communion 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: Claughton Drive, Hala Road, Cockersands Drive

We pray for the parents, godparents and family of Bonnie Mae who is to be baptised this week

From our Church prayer diary: Our wedding vergers

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: 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 3rd May:

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.

Readings for Sunday 3rd May:

Acts 7.55-end

⁵⁵But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

John 14.1-14

14 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.' ⁵Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' ⁶Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

⁸ Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.'

⁹Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Post Communion Prayer for Sunday 3rd May:

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

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**Readings for next week:
Acts 17.22-31; John 14.15-21**

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.



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



Available from in the Prayer Chapel

Christian Aid:



Thank you to everyone who has agreed to deliver Christian Aid envelopes during the week beginning 10th May. Your packages are ready for collection in the back of church now.

If there are any streets left over at the end of next week please consider taking a few envelopes.

If you want to explain about Christian Aid to children, perhaps this story will help.



Fridah is a mum and granny. She lives in a busy city called Nairobi, in a country called Kenya. Her home is made of metal sheets and has no running water or toilet. It's hard to make money, and Fridah sometimes worries that her children will go to bed hungry. But Fridah has learned to grow vegetables in a tiny space. Her farm is small but mighty. Now she feeds her family healthy veggies and sells some too.

Christian Aid is helping more fantastic people like Fridah to grow tasty food.

Taking extra steps in May, means that we can raise a few more pounds to help people going through disasters and feed some of the world's poorest people.

More information is available from:

Jan Webster, email mccartneyjan@hotmail.com or mob 07752 624 605

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

Jan Webster & Arton Medd

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 Rest day: Friday

CHURCHWARDEN:

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: lifeevents@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



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 16th 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>

Research Project at Lancaster University:

Have you recently started using a hearing aid? Would you like to take part in a research project and make some money?

- We are looking for older adults (60-85 years old), who have received hearing aids within the past 6 weeks, to take part in our current project. You must be a fluent English speaker, without any neurological, psychiatric or language disorders. You must also not have any implanted non-removable metal near your head. Please email Dr Jess Pepper for more information: j.l.pepper@lancaster.ac.uk
- Our research aims to find out whether we can boost brain resources using brain stimulation, so that adapting to hearing aids is faster and more effective.
- All participants will receive £10 per hour of the study. We will also reimburse participants for their travel costs.

Rev Clare Shepherd

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.



Let's talk Regular Giving

Financial Search

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

Ascension Day
Christ has gone up on high!

Everyone welcome!

Thursday 14th May 2026

Prayers for the city of Lancaster
7.30am at the Ashton Memorial

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

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.

ADMIT ONE

Matinee

Evening

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 with children she works with through community theatre. This is a play not to be missed!

Following Jesus in the Footsteps of St Paul