



**ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS**  
**9<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026**

**Sunday Worship – 12<sup>th</sup> April 2026**  
**EASTER 2**

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 – Evening Prayer at St Paul's, Scotforth

**Wednesday at 9:00am – Morning Prayer by  
 telephone conference resumes**

*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:**

<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Name of Event</b>
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm</b>	Women's Fellowship at the Parish Hall
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April from 2pm</b>	Gardening with the Garden Team at St Paul's Church – <b>all welcome</b>
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April</b> 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:** Ingleton Drive

**From our Church prayer diary:** All those in Lay Ministry

**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, Stephen Wilcock

### 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 12<sup>th</sup> April:**

Risen Christ,  
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:  
open the doors of our hearts,  
that we may seek the good of others  
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,  
to the praise of God the Father.

### **Readings for Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April:**

#### **Acts 2.14a, 22-32**

<sup>14</sup> 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.

<sup>22</sup> 'You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know- <sup>23</sup> this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. <sup>24</sup> But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. <sup>25</sup> For David says concerning him, "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be

shaken; <sup>26</sup> therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. <sup>27</sup> For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. <sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.”<sup>29</sup> ‘Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup> Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup> Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, “He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.” <sup>32</sup> This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

### **John 20.19-end**

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’  
Jesus and Thomas

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.’

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.’ <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

## **Post Communion Prayer for Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April:**

Lord God our Father,  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ  
you have assured your children of eternal life  
and in baptism have made us one with him:  
deliver us from the death of sin  
and raise us to new life in your love,  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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**Readings for next week:  
Acts 2.14; Luke 24.13-35**

## **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](mailto:jdennyg41@gmail.com)

***John Gedge, Electoral Roll Officer***

**\*\*Parish Office Closure:** Please note that the parish office will be closed on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April.\*\*

## Confirmation Service:

We have arranged for a Confirmation Service to take place on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 31<sup>st</sup> July**.



Classes for children, in Year 6 or above, will be held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 4.00pm until 5.30pm in Church. The rehearsal for the service will be on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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.***

**VICAR:** Rev Catherine Haydon: Tel: 07723 642973;

Email: [catherine@stpauls-scotforth.org](mailto: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](mailto:clare.shepherd@cumbria.ac.uk) Normal working day: Sunday

**CHURCHWARDENS:**

Mrs Jayne Weatherill:

Tel: 60597 or 07986 993007; Email: [sjayneweatherill@gmail.com](mailto:sjayneweatherill@gmail.com)

Mr Keith Weatherill:

Tel: 60597 or 07986 993005; Email: [keith.weatherill@gmail.com](mailto:keith.weatherill@gmail.com)

**PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER:** Mrs Jayne Weatherill:

Tel: 07986 993007; Email: [safeguarding@stpauls-scotforth.org](mailto: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](mailto:office@stpauls-scotforth.org)

**BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS:** Booking enquiries - please contact Jayne Weatherill through the parish office or Email: [lifeyvents@stpauls-scotforth.org](mailto: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](mailto:pastoral@stpauls-scotforth.org) or telephoning Jayne on Tel: 07986993007.

**Scotforth School:** Associate Headteacher – Mr C Barnacle – Tel: 01524 65379

**Church Flower Arranging:** Our flower arranger, Kay, has decided to step down after many years of carrying this task out and we are looking for a budding flower arranger. In the main, it is altar flowers – which, when in season, flowers/greenery are picked from the church garden. If you can spare half an hour a week – you don't have to be a professional flower arranger – then please talk to Jayne, Keith or Catherine to find out more information.



## Women's Fellowship

We shall be meeting on **Monday 13th April at 2pm** in the parish hall when Steve will be speaking about "Lancashire Lasses"

Anyone who would like to hear this talk is welcome join us as a guest.

*Jean Mount*

## Gala Dinner – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2027

For the end of our 150<sup>th</sup> 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 31<sup>st</sup> December 2026. If you would like any additional information then please do talk to Jayne or Catherine.



## 150<sup>th</sup> 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 150<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:lifeyvents@stpauls-scotforth.org) to order one.

*Jayne W.*



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Available from in the Prayer Chapel

## Boundary Walks:

The first of our Boundary walks will take place on 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 2026 10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

### **Volunteers Needed**

Once again, we are asking for help in delivering (**not** collecting) envelopes for Christian Aid Week.

Thank you to all those who delivered last year and we hope that you can do so again this May.

This is one way of reaching out to help people in the community across the whole world. Recently CA has helped desperate people in Ukraine, Gaza and other war-torn areas of the world. There are other countries where there is extreme poverty and mothers are trying to keep their children alive in the harshest of circumstances. Christian Aid supports some of these mothers and grandmothers to help themselves.

One such person is Fridah, whose story below explains how Christian Aid has helped her to start a garden that grows food for her children and to sell at the market.

## Where hardship means hunger... urban farmers can grow hope

In the crowded and noisy settlements of Nairobi, most parents wake every single day knowing that they must go and earn money, otherwise their children won't eat that evening.

With no formal work opportunities, heartbreakingly low pay, and no social support, it's a precarious and frightening daily struggle that no family should have to face.

The aching hunger is bad enough. The relentless stress is overwhelming.

**'When I wake up, I have a lot of worries. Sometimes I don't have food,'** says Fridah Moraa, a recently widowed grandmother determined to support her family on what little she earns.

**'Now I'm responsible for everything.'** With school costs, rent and water to cover, providing food for every meal is a problem that never goes away.



**Caption:** Fridah tends her small city plot, tucked away at the end of an alley by her home in Dagoretti  
**Credit:** David Macharia/Christian Aid

But Fridah's faith in God, and in her own ability to provide, is unwavering. With tools, seeds and specialist training from Christian Aid's partner, Beacon of Hope, Fridah's now making the most of a small space in the city to grow a steady supply of fresh vegetables that she can cook for her family or sell on her market stall.

Reflecting on her new role in life, Fridah says: **'I never thought that a woman could also be a provider.'**

With her inner strength, unstoppable resolve, and a little help from Beacon of Hope, Fridah is overcoming poverty to feed the youngest members of her family and protect them from the threat of malnutrition.

Fridah rightly takes pride in all she's achieving: **'When I harvest what I've planted, it makes me happy. Urban farming has changed my life.'**

Our annual Christian Aid collection contributes to the wellbeing of many families. Please help by delivering envelopes to a street near you. To let us know, you could sign the sheet at the back of Church or Hala, speak to a warden or sides person or contact one of us. Thank you,

**Jan Webster**, email [mccartneyjan@hotmail.com](mailto:mccartneyjan@hotmail.com) mob 07752624605

**Arton Medd** email [arton.medd@btinternet.com](mailto:arton.medd@btinternet.com) or phone 01524 64730.

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