



## ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026

### Sunday Worship – 17th May 2026 EASTER 7

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 Worship Centre

12:30pm – Baptisms 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
<b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May</b> – 2:30pm/7pm <b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May</b> at 5:30pm <b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May</b> at 2pm <b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May</b> at 7:30pm <b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May</b> from 2pm	Play: Paul an Apostle of Christ, Parish Hall 'Soup for the Soul' at St Paul's, Hala Tea@2 at the Parish Hall PCC Meeting at the Parish Hall Gardening with the Garden Team at St Paul's Church – <b>all welcome</b>
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May</b> 8:00am 9:45am 11:15am 1:00pm	BCP Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth All Age Service of the Word at St Paul's, Scotforth Service of the Word at St Paul's Hala Wedding at St Paul's Church, 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:** Hala Grove, Abbeyfield Close, Hala Crescent

**From our Church prayer diary:** The Women's Fellowship members

**We pray for the parents, godparents and family of:** Effie Jean and Spencer Jack who are to be baptised this week

**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 17<sup>th</sup> May:**

Risen, ascended Lord,  
as we rejoice at your triumph,  
fill your Church on earth with power and compassion,  
that all who are estranged by sin  
may find forgiveness and know your peace,  
to the glory of God the Father.

### **Readings for Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May:**

#### **Acts 1.6-14**

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' <sup>7</sup>He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the

same way as you saw him go into heaven.’<sup>12</sup> Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away.<sup>13</sup> When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.<sup>14</sup> All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

### **John 17.1-11**

17After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, ‘Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you,<sup>2</sup> since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him.<sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.<sup>4</sup> I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do.<sup>5</sup> So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.<sup>6</sup> ‘I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.<sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything you have given me is from you;<sup>8</sup> for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me.<sup>9</sup> I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours.<sup>10</sup> All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.<sup>11</sup> And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

### **Post Communion Prayer for Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May:**

Eternal God, giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
confirm us in this mission,  
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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### **Readings for next week:**

Acts 2.1-21; John 20.19-23 or John 7.37-39

## 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 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.



## Open Garden in aid of The Olive Branch

On **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May** (11am-3am) the garden at 122 Aldcliffe Road (opposite the canal) will be open for visitors, with plants and cakes for sale, hot and cold drinks served, and a barbecue available over lunchtime. Come and enjoy an hour or two in this lovely garden, with all proceeds going to The Olive Branch. Family friendly (no dogs please), admission free.

**Linda Currin**



## **Christian Aid Week 10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May:**

Thank you to all the volunteers who are delivering envelopes to our allocated streets this week and to those who are donating.

If you don't receive an envelope through your door, you can donate at Church – there are spare envelopes at the back and you can pop them on the collection plate or use the mailbox in the Parish Hall entrance porch. Alternatively, there is a QR code which you can use to donate using your phone. St Paul's QA code for Christian Aid is



shown for anyone to make an immediate donation. A big 'thank you' to those who are helping to raise money for Christian Aid, our churches are working together to help the world's poorest people.

Jan Webster mob. 07752 624 605;

or email [mccartneyjan@hotmail.com](mailto:mccartneyjan@hotmail.com)

**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) Rest day: Friday

**CHURCHWARDEN:**

Mrs Jayne Weatherill:

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

## 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

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.

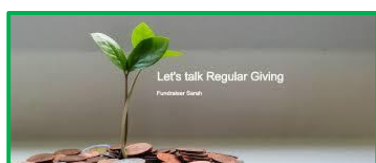


Therefore, this is a HUGE thank you to everyone who supports St. Paul's via the collection plate/card machine (however large or small), stewardship envelopes, standing order, volunteering or just by choosing St



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 150<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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*

## Soup for the Soul:

The first of the 'Soup for the Soul' events takes place at the Hala Centre on **17th May, 5:30pm.**

'Soup for the Soul' is a series of talks/discussions on the life and lessons of St Paul, to be enjoyed over a meal of... soup!

All are welcome. This is a free event.

This month, Margaret Ives shares her reflections and approach to her original play, Paul: An Apostle of Christ. *Aiden Dewar*

**150 YEARS**

**FREE EVENT**

**SOUP for the SOUL**

A Series of talks on the life and lessons of Saint Paul

**ST PAUL'S - HALA WORSHIP & COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
Nourishing Words. Nourishing Fellowship. Nourishing Food.

**Start time 5.30pm**  
A meal of soup is served, followed by a short time of worship, followed by the main talk.

**17<sup>th</sup> May**  
**Discussing the Drama**  
Margaret Ives

**21<sup>st</sup> June**  
**The Good, the Bad & the Ugly**  
Reframing the controversial Paul  
Rev. Catherine Haydon

**19<sup>th</sup> July**  
**Let's Talk Romans**  
Richard Impy

**20<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Visiting the Sites of St Paul**  
Jim Tricia & Margaret Ives

QR code

## Vacancy at St Paul's Primary School:

### Welfare Vacancy

We're recruiting!

We are looking to appoint a Welfare Assistant (Lunchtime Supervisor) to join our team at St Paul's School.

The role is for 1 hour 15 minutes per day, Monday to Friday, over the lunchtime period, supporting children and helping to ensure a safe, happy environment.

We are looking to fill this role **as soon as possible**, so if you, or someone you know, may be interested, please get in touch with the school office in the first instance (tel 01524 65379 or email [a.malin@scotforth-st-pauls.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:a.malin@scotforth-st-pauls.lancs.sch.uk)).

## The Drama of St Paul – THIS SATURDAY!

Some of us know that the life of St Paul - our Patron Saint - was very dramatic! This will be played out in the Drama production in St Paul's Hall on 16th May with a production company coming specially to perform Margaret Ives play.



A vertical poster for a drama production. At the top, it says '150 AN ORIGINAL PLAY' in gold and green. Below that, 'PAUL AN APOSTLE OF CHRIST' in large green letters, followed by 'BY MARGARET IVES'. There are two portraits: an elderly man on the left and a bearded man on the right, with five yellow stars between them. The date 'SATURDAY 16TH MAY' is in blue, with '2:30PM MATINEE &amp; 7:00PM EVENING SHOW' below it. A red box says 'ONE DAY ONLY'. The venue 'ST PAUL'S PARISH HALL, SCOTFORTH' is in green. At the bottom, there's a red box with 'FREE ADMISSION (Donations welcome on the day)' and 'TICKETS AVAILABLE' with contact info. There are two QR codes, one for 'Matinee' and one for 'Evening'. The bottom of the poster has a green banner with 'Following Jesus in the Footsteps of St Paul'.

This Drama is for all ages and not just for church people. Please see this as a major opportunity to invite family and friends, either to the afternoon or evening performances.

There are 100 free seats at each performance of just over an hour. Please get the word out and let's fill the Parish Hall. Tickets are free for donations on the door and available in church and at the office.

It would be great to have some people get the chairs out 1:15pm, and away 8:45pm, as well as be stewards on the doors, so there will be a sign up sheet at the St Paul's and Hala on Sunday.

The Soup for the Soul at Hala on Sunday 17th is 'come if you can'. It will be informal and we trust we will have the right amount of soup! Come and ask Margaret about the Drama and St Paul .. and again do invite friends and family for this free 150 event. Finally - an obvious reminder - for those

who pray, please pray that we will all discover something more about our faith in Following Jesus in the Footsteps of St Paul through these parish 150 celebration events.

*Jim Currin*

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