



**ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS**  
**21<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2026**

**Sunday Worship – 24th May 2026**  
**PENTECOST**

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

9:45am – All Age Service of the Word at St Paul's, Scotforth Road

11:15am – Service of the Word at St Paul's, Hala Worship Centre

12:30pm – Wedding of Robert and Vanessa  
 at St Paul's Church, 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 27 <sup>th</sup> May from 2pm	Gardening with the Garden Team at St Paul's Church – <b>all welcome</b>
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May</b> 8:00am 9:45am 11:15am	BCP Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth Holy Communion at St Paul's, Scotforth Holy Communion 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:** Harewood Avenue, Brantwood Drive, Lawnswood Avenue, Whinfell Drive

**From our Church prayer diary:** Our Welcome Team

**We pray for** Vanessa and Robert who are to be married 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:**

### *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 24<sup>th</sup> May:**

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father,  
ignite in us your holy fire;  
strengthen your children with the gift of faith,  
revive your Church with the breath of love,  
and renew the face of the earth,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Readings for Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May:**

#### **Acts 2.1-21**

2When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. 5 Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?' 8And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? 9Parthians, Medes, Elamites,

and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,  
<sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene,  
and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—in  
our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.’

<sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, ‘What does this  
mean?’ <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, ‘They are filled with new wine.’

<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>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is  
only nine o’clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the  
prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>“In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon  
all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young  
men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. <sup>18</sup> Even upon  
my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and  
they shall prophesy. <sup>19</sup>And I will show portents in the heaven above and  
signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. <sup>20</sup> The sun shall be  
turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s  
great and glorious day. <sup>21</sup>Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord  
shall be saved.”

### **John 20.19–23**

<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.’

### **Post Communion Prayer for Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May:**

Faithful God,  
who fulfilled the promises of Easter  
by sending us your Holy Spirit  
and opening to every race and nation  
the way of life eternal:  
open our lips by your Spirit,  
that every tongue may tell of your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Readings for next week:

Isaiah 40.12–17, 27–end; 2 Corinthians 13.11–end; Matthew 28.16–end

### 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.

**\*\* Please Note: The Parish Office will be closed for Spring Bank Holiday on Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> May \*\***

### 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*



**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

### Performance at the Parish Hall on Saturday:

Huge thanks go to Margaret Ives for writing her original play *Paul: An Apostle of Christ* based on the life of St Paul, our church Patron Saint. It was much appreciated by two audiences on Saturday when Emma Rucastle (<https://elartproductions.co.uk/>) and her Drama Group came to the Parish Hall and presented Margaret's script based on the Acts of the Apostles. Here you see St Paul considering his life as a tent maker with the actors, of all ages, depicting tents.



Later, in a very dramatic scene, after his shipwreck on the rocks of Malta, Paul lit a fire which prompted a venomous snake to come out of the brush wood and bite his arm. The locals thought this was divine retribution, until Paul showed that he had not been harmed by the encounter - so they changed their mind and thought he was a god!  
Acts 28.



Much of the play was set with Paul at a table in prison with a guard beside him. Luke, writing the book of Acts, was interviewing Paul about his life and faith in God. The play was a very accurate account of the biblical account, told in a relatively short space of time. It was discussed on Sunday in the first of our 150 series, the Soup for the Soul, when Margaret said how she realised again just how dramatic Paul's life was

when she read the book of Acts as a whole. 'Very dramatic and amazing!' she said.

The Bishop of Lancaster, came to the evening drama performance of the play, saying that St Paul is her favourite character in the New Testament. She said that we have a lot to learn from his teaching and life - the events of which testified not only to healing miracles (like the snake bite) but to thousands of sceptics becoming followers of Jesus in those first days of the church.

Emma has a Facebook page on which you can see the whole play from a camera on the side of the

hall: <https://www.facebook.com/share/1Dr14xLVua/?mibextid=wwXifr>

'Thank you' to Margaret, and Emma and her Drama Group, for bringing our Bible to life and helping us 'Follow Jesus in the Footsteps of St Paul'.

**Jim Currin**

## Christian Aid News

If you are not sure what to do with your Christian Aid envelope, you can bring it to Church or post it through the Parish Hall Letterbox until the end of May 2026. If you did not receive an envelope there are plenty at the back of Church.



If you would like to donate instantly you can use the QR code on the envelope or printed here.

Thanks to parishioners' generosity; we are half way to achieving our QR target to help families in need.

Thank you.

*Jan Webster*

150  
2026

Lancaster & Morecambe  
U3A Presents:

History  
Talk

SCOTFORTH PARISH  
NOW & THEN

TUE 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE  
2PM

ST PAUL'S CHURCH, SCOTFORTH

ALL WELCOME

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150 GUIDE

Following Jesus in the Footsteps of St Paul

L&M U3A

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