



St. Paul's Church Ansdell & Fairhaven
Working In Unity To Share The Good News Of Christ

PEWS NEWS EXTRA

Issue No 136 ~ February 2020



Church Contacts and Index

CHURCH OFFICERS

Vicar

The Rev Paul Bye

Licensed Lay Minister

Miss Janet Kimber

Church Wardens

Mrs Michele Briers

Mrs Pamela Rowell

Parish Secretary

Mr Alan Curtis

Treasurer

Mrs Loraine Lee

Useful Information

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Fundraising Shop: 01253 732253

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*For a full list of Who's Who as
St Paul's please pick up a list from the
Parish Office, Church or St. Paul's
Fundraising Shop*

Pews News Extra Index of Articles

| | |
|---|----|
| Church Contacts & Index | 2 |
| Letter from The Vicarage | 3 |
| Notes from the Organ Loft | 4 |
| Woodlands Welcome | 5 |
| Deanery Book Club & Ladies Who Lunch | 6 |
| Parish News; Deanery Event | 7 |
| Fair Trade; Church Action | 8 |
| Sharing Our Faith; GRACE | 9 |
| Joys of January; Observations | 10 |
| The Treasured Heart | 11 |
| Lent Fasting | 12 |
| Deepen Your Prayer Life | 13 |
| February Crossword & January 2020 Solution | 14 |
| Time for a Smile | 16 |
| Time for a Smile (contd.) | 17 |
| Regular Activities & Fundraising Shop | 18 |
| Parish Information | 19 |
| Dates for Your Diary | 20 |

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(Parish Office)

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or stpaulsoffice2@gmail.com

Letter from the vicarage...

Do you know what a ceilometer does? Or a galactometer? Or even a scintillometer?

They are all used for measuring things.

A ceilometer is not something a decorator uses to measure ceilings. But it's an instrument for measuring height of the cloud ceiling above the earth. A galactometer is an instrument for measuring the specific gravity of milk (why you would need that, I am less sure!). A scintillometer is not for measuring how scintillating a conversation is, but for measuring the scintillation or brightness of a star.



In life we can measure all sorts of things. Tiny, microscopic things. Huge, galaxy wide things.

To be able to measure something is to be able to put a limit on it. Thus far and no more. It is to comprehend something. To get our heads around it. To know where it begins and ends.

But that is not something we can say about God...
This is our motto text for 2020:

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (Ephesians 3:20-21)

There is something in existence which cannot be measured. It cannot be limited. We cannot fully get our heads around.

It is God the Father's ability to do more than we ask or imagine of him.

In our thoughts and prayers, we tend to put limits on God. A beginning and an end on what he can do. We show that in the way we think about him. We show that in what we ask him for.

But Paul wants us to have a much bigger view of our Heavenly Father. However big we think he is, Paul says 'go bigger!'

That is the God we are to hold before our eyes as a church this year. As we make plans, as we pray, as we seek to love and serve our community. As we seek to grow. He is bigger than we imagine him to be. He can do more than we think he can do.

So what does that mean for us? Well, why not each month – pause with our motto text and just remind ourselves of this truth. Why not reflect on the past month at ways he has surpassed what we asked or imagined?

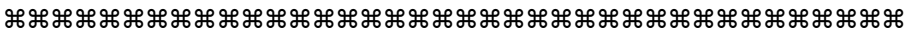
Then pray big prayers – big prayers for our own witness to Jesus among our friends and family. Big prayers for our church's witness and impact in Ansdell and Fairhaven. Big prayers for his provision of our needs.

And think big thoughts too. Of course, the Bible calls us to be wise, to consider, to plan. But at the same time, it also holds before us a God who can do more than we can imagine. So let's have big thoughts in our plans, vision and work this year!

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine...to him be glory.

With best wishes

Paul



Notes from the Organ Loft

CHRISTMAS SINGING

Thank you to all who helped to deliver our Christmas message by singing carols with the St. Paul's team in our local community in December. We were grateful to Mary and Ian once again for lending their keyboard to provide instrumental accompaniment at South Hey Community Centre and Lakeview Care Home.



A special thank you to those who entered into the festive spirit by attending practices and singing in the choir for our Carols by Candlelight service.

"SONGS OF PRAISE"

Our next "Songs of Praise" service of hymn requests will be on Sunday 29th March, the day that British Summer Time begins. Please let me have your requests by 1st March. We welcome a variety of hymn/song styles so that some can be accompanied by our music group and some on the organ.

Linda



Woodlands Welcome

Where do you go on a Wednesday afternoon if you fancy conversation, company, or someone to chat to?



Answer – one place you could head is Woodlands Welcome!

Woodlands Welcome has been running since October 2019, every Wednesday afternoon between 2pm and 4pm in the St Paul's Fundraising Shop. The door is open, and everyone is welcome. Whether you are on Woodlands Road and just happen upon it or are coming specifically for it. Some guests have come for 10 minutes, others for the whole 2 hours!

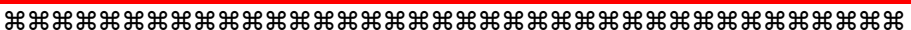
It is run by a team of 10 volunteers from St Paul's on a rota – offering free tea or coffee to any who come. Our aim is to offer welcome to the community – like our God and pointing our God.

Since October we have welcomed a regular group from a local care home, as well as people looking for company, people on the way to pick grandchildren up, people who thought the shop was open and stayed...and many more. Approximately 35 different people have been welcomed at different points.

It has been a real encouragement to make new contacts in our community, and to see it positively received. Do be praying that relationships would continue to be forged, for wisdom as we go forward, and for God to use it for his kingdom.

And why not join us? If you would like to pop in on a Wednesday – please do! Or if you know of someone locally who would appreciate a warm welcome or some company – invite them along. Better still, why not bring them!

If you are part of St Paul's and this ministry interests you, we are always on the look out for more volunteers to join us – so please do speak to Paul, the Vicar.



ARTICLES FOR THE MARCH PNE

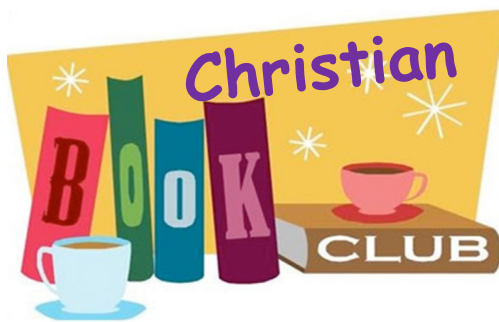
If you have an article for inclusion in the March PNE, please make sure that I have a copy by **Saturday 15th February**. Thank you.

Janet Kimber

You are invited to:

Kirkham Deanery's Book Club

We meet every other month and read a range of fiction and non-fiction Christian books to help us in our journey of faith.



To book your place, find out the dates of the next meeting and which book we are reading, contact Rev Anne Beverley

anne.beverley@btinternet.com

07841 742 022

XX

Ladies' Lunch

The next Ladies' Lunch will take place on Monday 24th February, 2020 at 12.30pm at the Bedford Hotel.

Jean Lyon

XX



Parish News

St Paul's PCC are pleased to be able to formally announce the appointment of Sarah Elstone, to a new position at our Fundraising Shop - as our Shop Supervisor. The role will be a supporting role to Deb Wills, our Fundraising Shop Manager. Sarah will support Deb in her day-to-day responsibility of managing the Fundraising Shop. Sarah will supervise the shop and volunteers at times Deb is not around, help with the training and support of volunteers, undertake shop-based tasks, as well as in time take on some specific responsibilities of her own.

Having an additional staff member enables us to have a more sustainable future, as well as to pioneer some new initiatives going forward. Sarah has previous experience working in a similar role, and we look forward to welcoming her to the team here at St Paul's. In coming months, we will have a 'Who's Who?' article so that you can get to know Sarah more. If you are in the Fundraising Shop later this month, do say hello to Sarah when she begins.

A Kirkham Deanery Event

“A Vision for Children and Young People across the Blackburn Diocese”

Monday 24th February at 7:30pm
Freckleton Holy Trinity Church

Stephen Whittaker, The Director of The Board of Education at Blackburn Diocese will present the topic which will explore how our children and young people are currently engaged within our churches. He will tell us something of the expectations and experiences of the younger generation and how the church might respond. The session will encourage, challenge and inspire churches to think about how to develop work with children and young people and evaluate just how accessible they are to the young.

Deanery business & future events will also be discussed. The evening will close with an Act of Worship led by Rev Jane Greenhalgh of Holy Trinity Freckleton.

How Do You Feel About Sharing Your Faith?

Perhaps you have been ‘gossiping the gospel’ for years? Maybe you even lead a small group, or are passionate about community outreach?

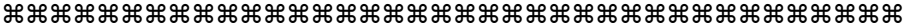
Or – perhaps you feel a quiver of panic at the very thought of talking about your faith. Society seems to be hostile, and so you struggle to know how to engage with people who think very differently from you.

If you struggle, then here is good news: Bible Society is keen to help you. It has recently launched a new website called Lumino (<https://lumino.bible/>) to do just that.

Our Faith is for Sharing

Lumino aims to support Christians who want to share the good news. It explains the different types of people you are likely to encounter, and their attitudes to the Bible and Christianity. Bible Society has found from research that “an estimated 20% of the population is open to the Bible, open to faith and interested in knowing more.

What an exciting opportunity...”



It's All in the Spelling...

At the All Age Worship on Sunday 19th January, Paul spoke to us about ‘grace’; and a congregation member offered the following acronym ...

- G** - God's
- R** - Righteousness
- A** - At
- C** - Christ's
- E** - Expense

Here are some more:-

- God's Redemption At Christ's Expense.**
- God's Riches At Christ's Expense.**
- God Ran Alongside Carrying Everything.**

The Joys of January!

In the January Pews News Extra, I set you a challenge to see if anyone could add a verse to Nigel Beeton's poem. Well, I'm delighted to publish the following verse in recognition of the organist and choir!



*Good Wenceslas' departed.
The heralds hearkened to.
Tis time to now get started
Upon an anthem new.
For organist and choir
Festivals never cease.
"We'll not do The Messiah,
We'll stick with Prayer for Peace."*

The Original Poem "The Joys of January"

Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Both clergyman and lay,
They're seldom disappointed
To get past Christmas Day!
The hectic Christmas season
Of service constantly –
There can't be better reason
To welcome January!

The Curate and the Vicar
A busy schedule keep,
As they rush, ever quicker
They don't get that much sleep.
The overworked Churchwarden
And their sidespersons team,
Who don't get time for boredom
But only seldom scream!

So, when the season's over;
The crib has been put by,
The drapes to green changed over
They breathe a heartfelt sigh!
They laugh and smile with pleasure
And sing a merry rhyme,
But short-lived is their leisure –
For soon comes Easter time!

Miscellaneous Observations on Life:

Blessed are the flexible for they shall not be bent out of shape. *Anon*

The most important things in your house are the people. *Anon*

When you get tangled up in your problems, be still. God wants you to be still so that HE can disentangle the knot. *Anon*

Faith is the ability to not panic. *Anon*

Dear God: I have a problem. It's me. *Anon*

Growing old is inevitable, growing up is optional. *Anon*

At the end of the day, love and compassion will win. *Terry Waite*

Nigel Beeton writes: Sometimes we can be terribly careless with our family and our loved ones. On Valentine's Day, it is worth reflecting upon the trust placed in us by both God and our partner when we are entrusted with the priceless gift of another person's love:

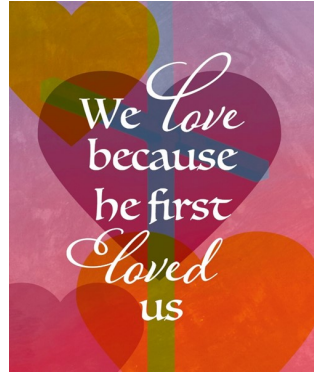
A Treasured Heart

A pearl beyond all human measure
 Your heart is such a golden treasure
 Too valuable to tell!
 Through times of toil and of leisure
 Times of sorrow and of pleasure
 I shall guard it well!

Love and trust, once they are woken
 Are more than just a heart-shaped token
 This gift from God above
 Not a treasure to be broken
 By careless deeds or phrases spoken
 This precious gift of love!

Love is patient, love is kind
 Love leaves selfishness behind
 Forgiving from the start
 Truthful, trusting, never blind
 Such are the beauties I can find
 If I just guard your heart!

By Nigel Beeton



~~~~~



***With love in mind:***  
 One loving heart sets another on fire. – *Augustine*  
 Duty makes us do things well, but love makes us do them beautifully. – *Phillips Brooks*



Lent 2020 begins on Wednesday 26th February so here are a couple of ideas that you might like to try during the Lenten season.

You are also welcome to join us for Holy Communion at either 10am or 7:30pm, which ever is best for you.

## *Lent Fasting*

*The Rev Paul Hardingham considers self-discipline during Lent.*

This month sees the start of Lent, the season of penitence, self-examination and fasting running up to Easter. Fasting can be a neglected discipline, but it plays an important part in the Christian life. Jesus began His earthly ministry by fasting in the wilderness for 40 days and He taught His disciples to fast (i.e. not *if* but *'when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen.'* (Matthew 6:17,18).

### **Why Fast?**

Firstly, giving up something in my life underlines my desire to put God first in my life. Secondly, fasting shows me how much I depend on things other than God in my life, so I can surrender my idols to Him. Thirdly, fasting encourages me to have a deeper hunger and dependency for God in my life. Therefore, fasting gives me space to humbly focus on God for His strength, provision, and wisdom and results in a more intimate relationship with Christ. It also enables the Holy Spirit to reveal my true spiritual condition, leading to brokenness, repentance, and a transformed life, with a heart more attentive to God.

### **How can I fast?**

Usually fasting involves missing one or two meals during the day, although some can't abstain from food for medical reasons. It might also include abstaining or limiting the time I give to television, alcohol or social media. However, Lent can also be a time to embrace new spiritual disciplines e.g. joining a study group, 'random acts of kindness', or giving more time to prayer and Bible study. Whatever you do, make Lent count this year!

*'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.'* (Matthew 5:6).

# *Lent - A Good Time to Deepen Your Prayer Life* ~ *By the Rev John Tyler.*

Lent is a time to take stock of ourselves spiritually. This includes setting aside extra time for prayer. Here are some helpful things to remember as you settle down to it:

People have been praying since Adam had a grandson named Enosh. The Bible tells us (Genesis 4:26) that it was during his days when 'men began to call on the name of the Lord'. They have been doing it ever since.

People have had their prayers answered by God since Genesis, too. But if you want to read some beautiful prayers – and answers to them, browse through the Psalms. Again and again the psalmist writes: "the Lord heard my cry".

So – what do you need to bring to prayer? Just the tiniest amount of faith that God is even there.... Jesus assures us that even faith as big as a tiny mustard seed will be effective.

What gives you the right to come before Almighty God? Jesus does. The Bible is clear that "there is one mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ". (1 Timothy 2:5)

The Bible makes clear that God does not stand on ceremony – in fact, He prefers our personal, spontaneous prayers. Jesus was very matter of fact about it: "When you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father,

who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you." (Matthew 6:6)

The Bible assures us that prayer will bring us good things: "we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need". (Hebrews 4:16)

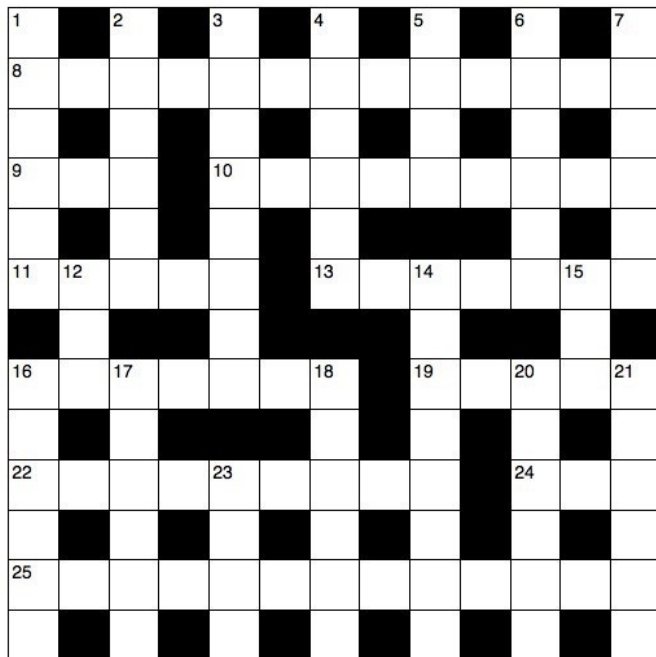
Above all, prayer must be made with a pure heart. "If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened." (Psalm 66:18) That simply means that if you know you are doing something wrong, and intend to keep right on doing it, don't waste your time praying.

Finally, what can be the results of your prayers this Lent? Well, here are seven, for starters....

1. Joy and deep happiness. (John 16:24)
2. Relief from your worry, stress and tension (Philippians 4:6,7)
3. Wisdom and more mental clarity (James 1:5,6)
4. Protection and deliverance from temptations (Matthew 26:41)
5. An ability to share the Good News of Jesus to other people (Matthew 9:38)
6. Strength to persevere when you feel under spiritual attack (Ephesians 6:18)
7. A growing thankfulness to God, who is worthy of all glory (Revelation 4:11)

# FEBRUARY 2020 CROSSWORD

(The Bible version used in these crosswords is the NIV.)

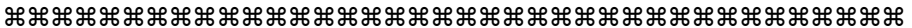


## Across

- 8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)
- 9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)
- 10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)
- 11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)
- 13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)
- 16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)
- 19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to — your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)
- 22 David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)
- 24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1)
- 25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

## Down

- 1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)
- 2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)
- 3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)
- 4 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but — him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)
- 5 One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)
- 6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)
- 7 God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: ' — salt to — your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)
- 12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)
- 14 'All day long they twist my words; they are always — to harm me' (Psalm 56:5) (8)
- 15 The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)
- 16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)
- 17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)
- 18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)
- 20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)
- 21 Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to — (Genesis 8:5) (6)
- 23 Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4)



### Crossword Solution ~ January 2020

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | O | C | K |   | S | H | A | C | K | L | E | S |   |   |
| U |   | H |   |   | E |   | H |   | O |   | L |   |   |   |
| P | L | A | Y |   | P | A | R | A | D | I | S | E |   |   |
| O |   | R |   | T |   | P |   | L |   | S |   | W |   |   |
| F | A | I | T | H | F | U | L | L | Y |   |   |   |   |   |
| T |   | S |   | E |   | P |   | E |   | L |   | U |   |   |
| E | N | M | E | S | H |   | U | N | S | E | E | N |   |   |
| A |   | A |   | E |   | D |   | G |   | W |   | E |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   | A | R | M | A | G | E | D | D | O | N |
| B |   | S |   | V |   | N |   | D |   | N |   | D |   |   |
| B | E | N | J | A | M | I | N |   | B | E | R | I |   |   |
| F |   | A |   | N |   | E |   |   | S |   | N |   |   |   |
| C | A | P | I | T | A | L | S |   | U | S | P | G |   |   |



*Many of the articles  
and pictures in the  
Pews News Extra  
are sourced from*

*the Parish Pump Website and the  
Association of Church Editors  
monthly edition of "Ideas Forum"*



# Time for a Smile



"Ready when you are, George..."

## Church notices that didn't quite get it right...!

The regular Monday night choir practise of this church will be held on Tuesday night instead of Friday night.

Children are normally collected during the Offertory Hymn.

Tuesday at 4pm there will be an ice cream social. Ladies giving milk should come early.



## Let Children Tell You About Angels.

Angels have a lot to do and they keep very busy. If you lose a tooth, an angel comes in through your window and leaves money under your pillow. Then when it gets cold, angels go south for the winter. - Sara, aged 6

Angels live in cloud houses made by God and His Son, who's a very good carpenter. - Jared, aged 8

All angels are girls because they have to wear dresses and boys didn't go for it. - Anthony, aged 9

My angel is my grandma who died last year. She got a big head start on helping me while she was still down here on earth. - Kate, aged 9

Some of the angels are in charge of helping heal sick animals and pets. And if they don't make the animals get better, they help the kid get over it. - Vicky, aged 8

What I don't get about angels is why, when someone is in love, they shoot arrows at them. - Sarah, aged 7





## Hymns for professionals

### *Dentists:*

Crown Him with many crowns...

### *Contractors:*

The Church's one foundation...

### *Golfers:*

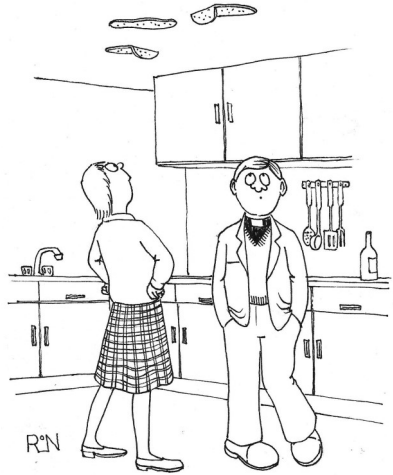
There is a green hill far away...

### *Politicians:*

Standing on the promises...

### *Librarians:*

Let all mortal flesh keep silent...



"Pancake Party?" said Simon,  
"What Pancake Party?"

## Ticket to ride

A former bishop of Exeter was renowned for his bad memory. On one occasion he was travelling by train to a certain part of his diocese. Before he reached his destination, the ticket collector appeared demanding to see all tickets.

The bishop groped his way through this pocket and that, inside his purple cassock and out, but no ticket could be found. Finally the ticket collector lost patience and said; "Tha's o'right bishop. We all know you's an earnest man. It don't matter."  
"Oh but indeed it does!" cried the bishop. "Without that ticket I shan't know where to get off this train!"



## Off

Due to the present financial situation, the light at the end of the tunnel will be turned off at weekends.



## Lot's wife

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, 'My Mummy looked back once, while she was driving,' he said, 'and she turned into a telephone pole!'

# Regular Activities at St. Paul's

| Day       | Time            | Activity/Organisation                   | Place       |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------|
| Monday    | 9:30am - 2:30pm | Cameo Lunch Club                        | Church Hall |
|           | 7:30 – 8:30pm   | Zumba Class                             | Church Hall |
|           | 3:30 -          | Youth Group<br>(Dates on weekly sheet)  | Church Hall |
| Wednesday | From 10:30am    | Church Coffee Morning                   | Church Hall |
|           | 5:00 - 7:15pm   | Rainbows & Brownies<br>(Term-Time only) | Church Hall |
|           | 7:30 – 9:00pm   | Growth Group<br>(Dates on weekly sheet) | Vicarage    |
| Thursday  | 6:15 – 7:30pm   | Family Service                          | Church Hall |
|           | 8pm — 9pm       | Ballroom Dancing                        | Church Hall |
| Friday    | 7:30 - 9:00pm   | Guides<br>(Term-Time only)              | Church Hall |
| Saturday  | 8:00-9:00am     | Prayer Breakfast                        | The Shop    |

*Come and Join Us! Everyone is Welcome!*

## St. Paul's Fundraising Shop (Woodlands Road)



### Opening Times

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| Monday    | 10am – 4pm |
| Tuesday   | 10am – 4pm |
| Wednesday | 10am – 1pm |
| Thursday  | 10am – 4pm |
| Saturday  | 10am – 4pm |

*New volunteers are always welcome.*

*If you can help in any way please contact  
The Parish Office on 01253 732939.*

# Parish Information

## Church Services

### Sunday

8:30am Holy Communion (BCP)  
10:30am Parish Eucharist (CW)  
4:00pm Evening Prayer (BCP)

### Wednesday

10:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

### Thursday

6:15pm Family Service

(A service for the younger members of our church, including songs, Bible Stories, prayers and activities.)



(BCP ~Book of Common Prayer;  
CW ~ Common Worship)

## 'Parish Surgery'

If you would like to discuss any matter with Paul, the Vicar, you are welcome to attend the following surgery:

**Wednesday**  
9:00-9:30am  
at the Parish Office

## Youth Group (Years 7-11)

Please watch out for our notices about the Youth Group which meets several times a term after school on Mondays.

## Our Other Sunday Services

### All Age Worship

takes place at 10:30am on the 3rd Sunday of the month and includes music and teaching for all ages.

### Songs of Praise

takes place at 10:30am if there is a 5th Sunday in the month

## Weddings, Thanksgivings & Baptisms

### Thanksgiving/Baptism

If you're interested in finding out about the possibility of having a thanksgiving service or baptism for your child or yourself, please contact Paul, the Vicar where he can explain the process more, or join us on a Sunday morning at 10.30am.

### Weddings

If you wish to arrange a wedding, please contact Paul, the Vicar.

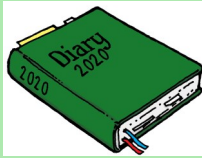
You can contact Paul about these, and other matters by:

- ⇒ telephone on 01253 734562, or
- ⇒ email at vicar.stpaulsaf@gmail.com



**Help St Paul's Church, Ansdell & Fairhaven to raise money every time you shop online.**

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# *DATES FOR YOUR DIARY*

## *Kirkham Deanery Event*

**“A Vision for Children and Young People  
across the Blackburn Diocese”**

Monday 24th February (See p.7 for details)

## *Ash Wednesday Services*

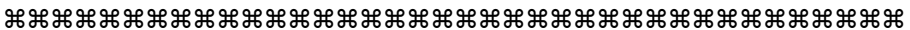
Wednesday 26th February (See p.12)

## *A Fairtrade Talk*

Tuesday 3rd March (See p.8 for details)

## *APCM*

Sunday 5th April (Palm Sunday)



St. Paul's Church Ansdell & Fairhaven  
Working In Unity To Share The Good News Of Christ

*By God's grace we are a loving family  
of wholehearted disciples making more disciples.*

*Why not come and join us!*

Our worship is varied with something for everyone;  
and we always have space to welcome you.

Our services are listed on page 19.