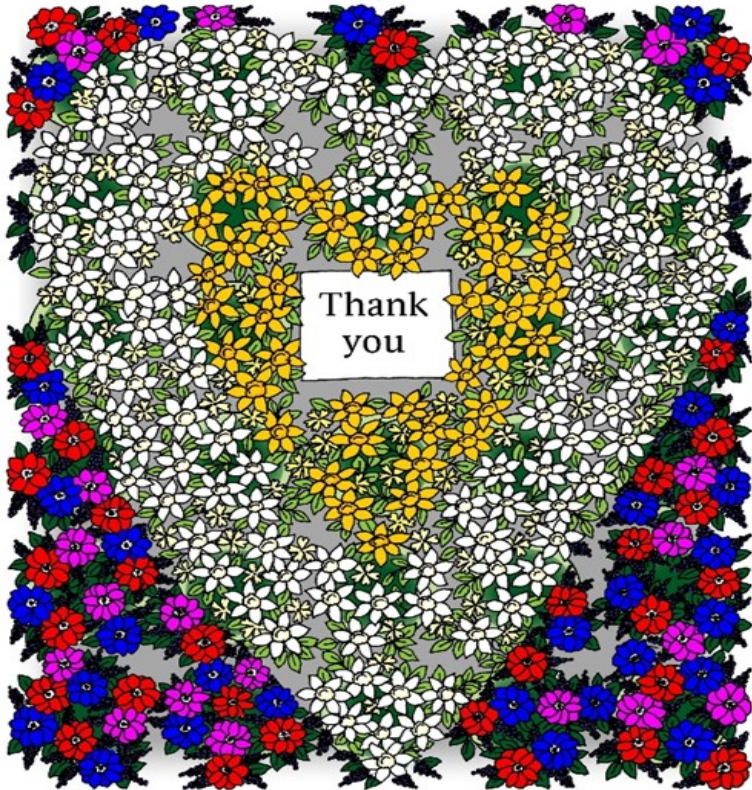




St. Paul's Church Ansdell & Fairhaven
Working In Unity To Share The Good News Of Christ

PEWS NEWS EXTRA

Issue No 137 ~ March 2020



Mothering Sunday ~22nd March

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

Vicarage: 01253 734562

Parish Office: 01253 732939

Fundraising Shop: 01253 732253

Website:

www.stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com

E-mail:

stpaulsoffice2@gmail.com

*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*

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To hire the Church Hall please contact:

Mary and Ian Winterflood

Telephone: 01253 732939
(Parish Office)

E-mail:

mary.winterflood@gmail.com
or stpaulsoffice2@gmail.com

Letter from the vicarage...

Recently I had the privilege of spending two days in Berlin. It's hard to imagine now, the city being divided. But divided it was. The coming down of the wall was a day that changed the world. Maybe the moon landings, 9/11, or the Cuban missile crisis, might also be days to go alongside it.



As we enter Lent, a reading for Ash Wednesday points to another day – still to come – which will change the world. The prophet Joel many years ago called it the ‘day of the Lord’. The Bible speaks of it as the day when Jesus comes back to this earth. To judge all that is wrong (including our wrong) and to bring those who have run to him for mercy into his kingdom of life.

How are we to be ready for that day? How does that connect to Lent?

Joel said: ‘Rend your heart, and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.’

Joel 2:13

That is what is needed of the person who’ll be able to endure that day. A returning to God which involves all of us.

In Joel’s day rending, or ripping clothes, was a sign of being sorry. But God says he doesn’t want token gestures. Empty rituals. ‘Sorry’ but with no real meaning. He wants us.

They gave all the signs of ‘sorry’ – but there was no change in seeking to trust him. And God called them from this outward following.

It is the same today. It’s very possible to give up something for Lent, to fast, or live simpler, and think I’ve done my bit.

But Joel says if that is all they are - outward signs – they’re useless.

Youth Provision Development Project



YPD
project

There are approximately 1500+ young people (11-18) living, studying or enjoying leisure time within our parish. That is a lot of young people! We connect to a small number of those, and for that we are thankful. But there are many more we do not.

The Youth Provision Development Project is a project of Blackburn Diocese to help support churches like us. It was born out of a passion to see churches connect with more young people. The team come alongside a church to walk with them and empower them to have a greater impact on the young people in the parish.

The first part of the project has begun at St Paul's in February – the formation of a 360° group. This group is made up of 10 members of St Paul's, ranging in age, length of time being a member of St Paul's, experience and includes young people and parents. The Diocese comes alongside this group, running exercises, workshops and discussions to help us reflect on where we are currently in our provision, and then to form possible next steps going forward. The group met in February and will meet in March and April.

Some highlights from other churches taking part already have been:

- ⇒ working with people of all ages to discuss the vision for the future
- ⇒ encouraging a church as they work with their local high school to initiate prayer spaces
- ⇒ helping a church plan a youth weekend away
- ⇒ being a sounding board for church leaders as they consider plans to raise the next generation

So, watch this space to see where God might take us! If you would like to feed in your reflections to the process, speak to Paul who can put you in touch with a member of the 360° group.

March Events for Your Diary

LENT LUNCH AND ORGAN RECITAL

St. Paul's will be hosting the Lent Lunch on Wednesday 11th March. This will also include an Organ Recital by our organist, Linda Carrington.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.




Ladies' Lunch

The next Ladies' Lunch will take place on Monday 23rd March, 2020 at 12.30pm at the Bedford Hotel.

Jean Lyon

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2020
Praying with Zimbabwe
FRIDAY 6TH MARCH



St. Annes
Parish Church
at 2pm.

A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE

Rise! Take Your
Mat and Walk

www.wwdp.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 23302

 **Spring Craft Fair**

Quality gifts and handmade crafts
by local designers.

St Paul's Church Hall,
Lake Road North, Ansdell & Fairhaven
FY81AG

On
Saturday 28th March
10.30am – 3.30pm
Entrance Free
Refreshments Available



In aid of Girlguiding Kilginnon Centre Building Fund Registered Charity Number 511896

A Month in the Life of the Editor

Have you ever wondered what goes into the production of each PNE?

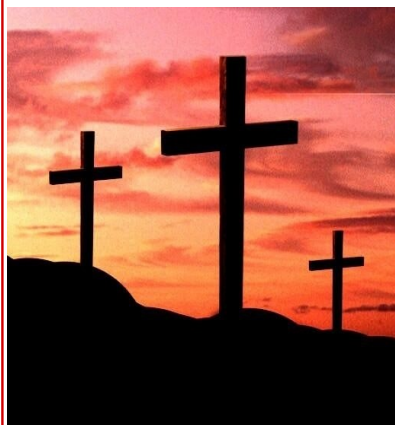
Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The monthly ACE Forum arrives via email (1st) ❖ Parish Pump publish their new online materials (1st) ❖ Editor begins to read through material and make selections bearing in mind any significant events in the church's calendar e.g. Lent, Christmas etc
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Each page of the PNE is planned in a notebook ❖ The See arrives via email from Sharon Press ❖ The Vicar's letter arrives along with any important bits of parish information. ❖ Cover pictures are e-mailed to the vicarage for comment and selection. ❖ 15th is the cut-off date for any extra articles submitted by various group of people
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The See is printed and photocopied ❖ Work begins on placing the articles within the PNE, generally all parish related material is placed at the front; and seasonal material from page 11. Some material remains static, such as the contacts page, the monthly crossword and the Time to Smile pages.
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Panic week as the Editor realises that time is running out; and the little crew of helpers, who collate and staple are waiting patiently, she hopes, in the wings! ❖ The PNE is pulled together, checked for layout, checked to make sure the colour pages will photocopy side by side, checked for mistakes (and still they creep through); and a master copy printed. ❖ A morning is spent in the Church Office, photocopying, in readiness for an evening spent collating and stapling. ❖ Fourth Sunday of the month - the PNE is officially 'published' and ready for handing out to members of the congregation, some of whom take extra copies for friends and neighbours.

Facts and Figures

- 150 copies of the PNE are photocopied each month.
- 40 copies are distributed via The Fundraising Shop.
- 12-20 copies are placed on the Church Hall information table.
- 3 large print copies of the PNE are produced.
- 20 copies of the Junior Pews News are distributed.

The Way of the Cross

The Revd Canon Paul Hardingham
considers what it means to follow Jesus.



'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow Me.' (Luke 9: 23)

These words of Jesus are spoken at a turning point in the gospel. Jesus challenges the disciples about His identity and their commitment to Him: *'Who do the crowds say I am?'* (18). It is at this point that He *'resolutely set out for Jerusalem'* (9:51). On our journey through Lent, as we look to events of Good Friday and Easter, what are our priorities as Jesus' disciples to be?

To deny ourselves: this means to saying *No* to ourselves and *Yes* to God, as we humbly submit our will to His. Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane *'not My will but Yours be done.'* (Luke 22:42). It means putting Jesus first in everything: our work, family, ambitions, possessions, marriage, finance and future. We will not be guided by self-interest, but by allowing God to show us how to live in His way.

To take up our cross: this reminds us that the disciple is not immune from suffering, as we follow Jesus along the way of cross. Just as He carried His cross to Golgotha, we cannot avoid experiencing suffering in a fallen world. Every day we are to live in way that demonstrates to everyone that we have died to ourselves, our selfish ways and ambitions, and seek to live for God. It means breaking old selfish habits and ways of thinking, as we allow God to renew us by His Spirit.

In all of this we cannot lose, because like Jesus, it is only through death that we find God's new life. *'He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep, to gain that which he cannot lose.'* (Jim Elliot)



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!

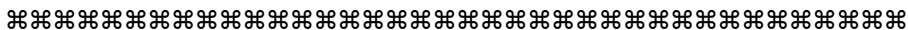
It is run by a team of 10 volunteers from St Paul's on a rota – offering free tea or coffee to any who come. Our aim is to offer welcome to the community – like our God and pointing our God.

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.



With Lent in mind:

Faith brings a man empty to God, that he may be filled with the blessings of God. – *John Calvin*

Trust the past to the mercy of God, the present to His love, and the future to His providence. – *Augustine*

When Spring Comes

By the Rev Tony Horsfall of Charis Training.
(More details at: www.Charistraining.co.uk.)

*'See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone.
Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing
has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land.'*
Song of Songs 2:11-12



March is the month that I associate with the coming of Spring, my favourite time of the year, and such a relief after the darkness and gloom of Winter. This verse beautifully describes the joy that most of us feel as the days begin to brighten, and Nature starts to awaken once again.

These words also speak to us about a new season in life, one that is filled with hope and expectation. Sometimes we experience the darkness of winter in our lives – maybe in the form of depression, bereavement, chronic illness, family difficulties, financial problems and so on. These long winter months of the soul may seem to last forever. Our joy disappears, our energy dissipates, our mood is low. A thick black cloud hangs over us and it seems as if the sun will never shine again.

Then we have this reminder that no season lasts for ever. The cold grip of Winter gradually thaws and gives way to warmer days. The sun does shine again, and the temperature rises. Birds sing and flowers blossom. The sap rises. Love is in the air.

And in the spiritual realm the same happens. Eventually we will enter a new season of the soul. Joy returns and life gets back to something like normality. No darkness lasts for ever. We experience our own awakening, a kind of mini resurrection. We start to feel alive again, to see possibilities and to dream again.



In the depths of Winter, we can look ahead to the certainty of Spring. Faith enables us to believe that the winter of the soul will soon be past as well. In the darkness we choose to hope in God.



Sometimes during Lent people meditate on a passage of scripture.

Here is Psalm 23, looked at with light-hearted modern Christian eyes....

Psalm 23

The Lord is my Shepherd – THAT'S RELATIONSHIP!

I shall not want – THAT'S SUPPLY!

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures – THAT'S REST!

He leadeth me beside still waters – THAT'S REFRESHMENT!

He restoreth my soul – THAT'S HEALING!

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness – THAT'S GUIDANCE!

For his name sake – THAT'S PURPOSE!

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death

– THAT'S TESTING!

I will fear no evil – THAT'S PROTECTION!

For thou art with me – THAT'S FAITHFULNESS!

Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me – THAT'S DISCIPLINE!

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies

– THAT'S HOPE!

Thou anointest my head with oil – THAT'S CONSECRATION!

My cup runneth over – THAT'S ABUNDANCE!

Surely goodness and mercy shall

follow me all the days of my life

– THAT'S BLESSING!

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord

– THAT'S SECURITY!

Forever

– THAT'S ETERNITY!



Oh My God, Where Are You?

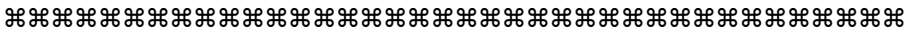
**Something
to Think
About**



Why is it that I think I must get somewhere, assume some position, be gathered together, or separated apart in the quest of my study to pray? Why is it that I feel I have to go somewhere, or do some particular act to find you and talk with you. Your presence is here - in the city, on the busy bus, in the factory, in the cockpit of the aeroplane, in the hospital, in the patients' room, in the intensive care unit, in the waiting room, in the home at dinner, in the bedroom, in the family room, at my workplace, in the car, in the car park and at the traffic light.

Lord, reveal your presence to me everywhere and help me become aware of your presence each moment of the day. May your presence fill the non-answers, empty glances and lonely times of my life.

Robert Wood



Just a Mustard Seed

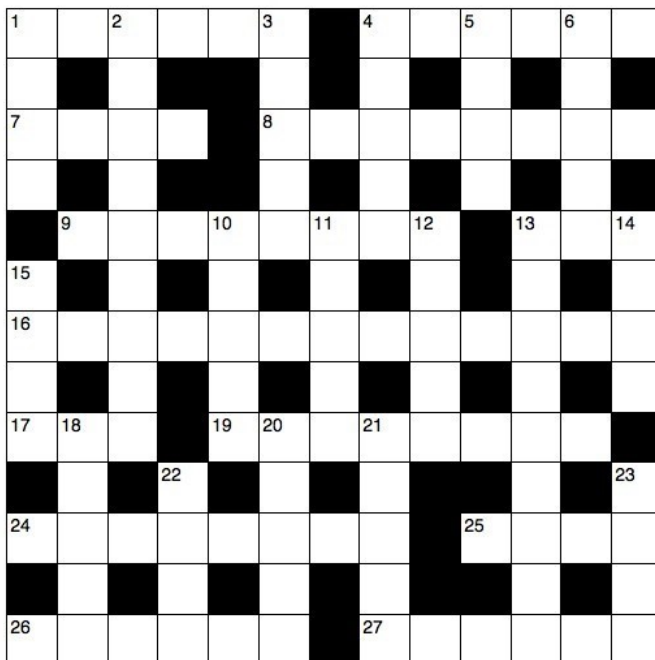
Just a mustard seed of faith to remove the mountain of doubts and difficulties which beset our often frail existence. We readily confess, Lord Jesus, that there are times when we reach out, seemingly in vain, for that mustard seed. And yet, if we did but think for a moment, in that very act or reaching out, we reveal the presence of the very seed that we seek.

Lord Jesus, we have faith in your power to heal, but lack the self-confidence to ask. We have faith in your ability to mend broken hearts, but lack the experience in our own lives. We have faith in your power to bring wholeness into lives that are incomplete, but hesitate to trouble you with our prayers. We are like children, Lord Jesus, standing here in awe of your power and love, afraid to ask that which we know is possible, because we are afraid of the consequences of our asking.

Lord Jesus, accept the mustard seed that we hold out to you, hearts outstretched. Take it and the prayers that we offer and grant us the grace to accept that our prayers are heard and answered at the moment of asking - by a God who knows our own incompleteness and is working to make us whole.

MARCH 2020 CROSSWORD

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

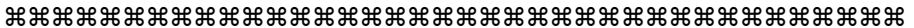


Across

- 1 The earth is one (6)
- 4 'On a hill far away stood an old — cross' (6)
- 7 'I am the — vine and my Father is the gardener' (John 15:1) (4)
- 8 The Caesar who was Roman Emperor at the time of Jesus' birth (Luke 2:1) (8)
- 9 'Your — should be the same as that of Christ Jesus' (Philippians 2:5) (8)
- 13 Jesus said that no one would put a lighted lamp under this (Luke 8:16) (3)
- 16 Involvement (1 Corinthians 10:16) (13)
- 17 Armed conflict (2 Chronicles 15:19) (3)
- 19 Where the Gaderene pigs were feeding (Mark 5:11) (8)
- 24 What jeering youths called Elisha on the road to Bethel (2 Kings 2:23) (8)
- 25 The Venerable — , eighth-century Jarrow ecclesiastical scholar (4)
- 26 8 Across issued a decree that this should take place (Luke 2:1) (6)
- 27 Come into prominence (Deuteronomy 13:13) (6)

Down

- 1 Where some of the seed scattered by the sower fell (Matthew 13:4) (4)
- 2 Sexually immoral person whom God will judge (Hebrews 13:4) (9)
- 3 Gospel leaflet (5)
- 4 Physical state of the boy brought to Jesus for healing (Mark 9:18)
- 5 Tugs (anag.) (4)
- 6 To put forth (5)
- 10 Nationality associated with St Patrick (5)
- 11 Leader of the descendants of Kohath (1 Chronicles 15:5) (5)
- 12 'After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping — heel' (Genesis 25:26) (5)
- 13 At Dothan the Lord struck the Arameans with — at Elisha's request (2 Kings 6:18) (9)
- 14 'Peter, before the cock crows today, you will — three times that you know me' (Luke 22:34) (4)
- 15 Spit out (Psalm 59:7) (4)
- 18 'When I — , I am still with you' (Psalm 139:18) (5)
- 20 Concepts (Acts 17:20) (5)
- 21 Thyatira's dealer in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (5)
- 22 Does (anag.) (4)
- 23 The second set of seven cows in Pharaoh's dream were this (Genesis 41:19) (4)



Crossword Solution ~ February 2020

O	C	H	I	E	O	O	A
C	R	O	S	S	E	X	A
E	P	L	H	A	S	D	
A	S	H	A	P	O	C	R
N	N	M	R	E	L		
S	C	I	F	I	T	P	I
B	S	L	W				
V	I	S	I	T	E	D	
A	T	A	T	U	E		
N	O	A	C	C	O	U	N
I	R	U	B	I	R	E	
S	O	V	E	R	E	I	G
H	E	E	T	G	W	E	



parish pump
www.parishpump.co.uk

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



Mothering Sunday 22nd March

Prayers

When my daughter was young, she was glad to say her prayers, but she always worried whether God would know which little girl she was. One night after the usual 'Amen', she dropped her head upon her pillow and closed her eyes. After a moment she said, "Lord! This prayer comes from 203 Seldon Ave. I'll get you the postcode tomorrow."



They had been asked to prepare poses for Mothering Sunday.



Pastoral care

The young clergyman was walking through the village when he met one of his elderly parishioners. "How's your cold?" he asked.

"Verra obstinate," came the bleak reply.

"I'm sorry." The clergyman decided to try again. "Well, how is your arthritis?"

"Verra obstinate," came the reply.

"Oh dear, I am sorry," soothed the clergyman. He tried a third time: "And how is your wife?"

"About the same."

And then....

Teacher: "What is the difference between results and consequences?"

Bright pupil: "Results are what you expect; consequences are what you get."

The Brain

The brain is amazing. It begins from the time we are born, and works 24 hours a day 365 days a year, right up to the time you get up to speak in public.

Smart money

"Dad," said the son, "what is a financial genius?"

"A financial genius," said his harassed father, "is a man who can earn money faster than his family can spend it."

Wet

Physics Professor: "What happens when the human body is immersed in warm water?"

Student: "The telephone rings."



Church Magazine Bloomers

You know what they meant, but what they said was..

- ❖ Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- ❖ The senior choir invites any member of the congregation who enjoys sinning to see the organist after the service.
- ❖ The Women's Tea for next week has been cancelled. We are sorry for any incontinence this may cause.
- ❖ The cost of the Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.
- ❖ Parish Supper Sunday at 5pm - prayer and medication to follow.
- ❖ The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.'
The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

And a couple of rather sad ones:

- ❖ Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 pm. Please use the back door.
- ❖ Weight Watchers will meet at 7 pm at the Baptist Church. Please use the large double door at the side entrance.

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 (Dates on weekly sheet)	Church Hall
Wednesday	From 10:30am	Church Coffee Morning	Church Hall
	5:00 - 7:15pm	Rainbows & Brownies (Term-Time only)	Church Hall
	7:30 – 9:00pm	Growth Group (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 (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.

Every time you shop online using the Easy Fundraising website or the Easy Fundraising app, St. Paul's will receive a donation from the online store that you visit. There are more than 3,000 to choose from and it doesn't cost you any more than the price of your purchases!
Visit: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stpaulsansdell>



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

A Fairtrade Talk

Tuesday 3rd March (See p.6 for details)

Churches Together Lent Lunches

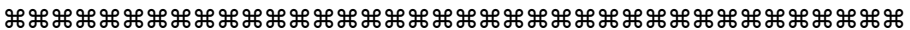
These begin on Wednesday 4th March
(See p.4 for details)

Praying with Zimbabwe

Friday 6th March, St. Annes Parish Church
(See p.7)

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.