



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

# PEWS NEWS EXTRA

Issue No 163 ~ May 2022



*Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6)*

# *Letter from the Vicarage...*

'You have just got to have faith.' Faith is a key Bible word. It is at the heart of the Christian *faith*. But what does it mean? What does it look like?

Is it a leap in the dark? A trust lacking evidence? Wishful thinking? Or something else?



This half term we are going to unpack that question a little more as we meet a man and his family whom the Bible declares is the 'father' of all those of faith. Christians walk in the footsteps of his faith. We live the benefits of his faith.

His name is Abraham. He lived a long time ago. A long way from here. He was far from perfect. His life was far from easy. Yet he followed the faithful Lord, and put his trust in him. His life was a life of faith. His story in the Scriptures, as it points us to the Lord who can be trusted, should help us understand more of what it looks like for us to live by faith.

I don't know if you followed the story of Max Woosey. He is a 12 year old boy who slept in a tent in his back garden for two years to raise money for charity. It was an impressive feat.

To live in a tent is to live somewhere temporary. It is to recognise your situation is not permanent. The writer to the Hebrews declares that of Abraham:

*"By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God."* (Hebrews 11:9-10)

Abraham moved from his homeland to a foreign land at the command and promise of God. But though this land would belong to his descendants, Abraham didn't settle down.

He lived in tents. His faith in the Lord extended beyond what he could see – the dust and soil promised to his family line. He knew his true home was in heaven, a new creation. He lived in tents waiting that more secure, permanent, lasting home of God.

Whether you would say you are a person of faith in Jesus or not, you are really welcome to join us this half term as we seek to see what faith in Jesus looks like in practice. May it lead us to be like Abraham – live in this world now with our eyes fixed on a lasting home to come for God's people.

With love

*Paul*



**St Paul's  
Tots**

St. Paul's Tots is a baby and toddler group for **0-3s**; their parents, carers and grandparents.  
With toys, songs, crafts and Bible stories.

**Tuesdays**

**10am - 11:30am (Term time)**

St. Paul's Church Hall, Lake Road North,  
Lytham St. Annes, FY8 1BZ

£1 per family, which includes a hot drink for adults.

Booking not required

[stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com/st-pauls-tots](http://stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com/st-pauls-tots)



## *Report on Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2022*

The Parishioner's Meeting began by passing a resolution to allow Church Wardens to extend their terms of service by one year beyond their maximum term. Pam Rowell and Alan Curtis were elected as churchwardens again, with Pam Rowell serving in her seventh year.

The Annual Church Meeting received the Annual Report and Church Finances, previously circulated. Reports on the buildings, the work of the PCC and Deanery Synod were presented. Stephen Whittaker gave a verbal report on safeguarding, including updating us on the changes to criminal records checks and renewal lengths. The revised Electoral roll saw nine new members join, with four removed. The Electoral Roll stands at 107 members. None of the Deanery Synod representative vacancies were filled. Three new members were elected to the PCC – Judith Fenton, Anne Scanes and Jennifer Sealey. Sides persons who help with the important ministry of welcome were re-elected.

In the Vicar's report, Paul drew attention to the unchanging nature of God – a comfort and anchor in a year of change. He brought to the meeting's attention some of the changes at St Paul's in the past year including people and patterns of services. It was acknowledged these included much joy. But some have also been difficult. Paul highlighted that some of the teaching we have covered has been hard. It is God's good word to us, given in love. But recognising and hearing it has not always been easy.

Paul shared a number of exciting encouragements from 2021, and highlighted a number of priorities for 2022:

**Establish** - Having begun a new pattern of services, it will be important to seek to establish those patterns. With all things new or different, reflection and review is needed to consider ways they can be further strengthened.

**Sustain** - With new ministries beginning, and existing ministries continuing, it is important to consider how they will be sustained in the longer term particularly through the identifying and training of leaders.

**Outreach** - The foundation from which to grow as a disciple-making church is our own growth as disciples. From this, it is important we continue to discern ways to make connections with our community, where opportunities to serve people in the name of Christ might be, with the great desire of identifying further ways to speak of Jesus. The Holiday Club is an upcoming example.

**Fellowship** – With time apart and changes in our congregation, building relationships is vital. To this end, a Link Up Lunch is planned for 15th May; and a Church Away Day in July.

**Finances** - While we give great thanks to God for his provision through his people and other means in 2021, closing the gap between our current financial situation and providing for our needs, ourselves, must be our aim in the next few years. While there have been encouragements, we continue to be in a sobering financial position.

**Fabric** - There are pressing works needed on the church hall roof. Work is under way to seek to address these.

Paul summed up the report reminding the church of its identity and vision statement, leaving the question, 'what is the Lord going to do in the next year?'

*'I, the Lord do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed.'* Mal 3:6



### **An Observation on our Christian pilgrimage**

You can become a Christian in a moment, but not a mature Christian. Christ can enter, cleanse, and forgive you in a matter of seconds, but it will take much longer for your character to be transformed and moulded to His will. It takes only a few minutes for a bridegroom and bride to be married, but in the rough-and-tumble of their home it may take many years for two strong wills to be dovetailed into one. So, when we receive Christ, a moment of commitment will lead to a lifetime of adjustment. - *John Stott*

## *A Right Royal Riddle*

Ladies and gentleman, boys and girls, welcome to the royal court of King Barney! But King Barney has a problem he needs help to solve. He has heard of a great king, a true king, a forever king, and he wants to find out all about him.

So if you are primary age at school (Reception through to Year 6), or you know of children in this age group (grandchildren, neighbours, friends) you are cordially invited to *A Right Royal Riddle*. This is a two day Bible holiday club on Tuesday May 31<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday June 1<sup>st</sup> at St Paul's Church Hall, 9.30am – 12noon

There will be lots of fun as we do activities, have games, create crafts, learn songs, and more...all as we explore King Jesus in the Bible.

Don't worry if you are not primary aged – because on Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup> at 4pm, there will be a special 'The 4', our multigenerational service, linked to *A Right Royal Riddle* for families from the holiday club to come to, and anyone else.

We ask for a suggested donation of £5 to help cover costs of the club. But if that is a barrier, please don't let it be at all. We would love you to join us whatever.

Do pass news of the holiday club on to anyone you think might be interested.

To find out more, download a booking form, or request a paper copy go to: [www.stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com/holiday-club](http://www.stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com/holiday-club)



# **A RIGHT ROYAL RIDDLE**

**A BIBLE HOLIDAY CLUB FOR PRIMARY AGED CHILDREN**

**TUESDAY 31ST MAY 2022**

**WEDNESDAY 1ST JUNE 2022**

**9.30AM-12NOON**

**ST PAUL'S CHURCH HALL, LAKE ROAD NORTH, FY81AG**

**Join us for fun activities, crafts, songs and Bible stories**

**Voluntary Contribution - £5 per child**

**To book a place, or to find out more, go to**

**[stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com/holiday-club](http://stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com/holiday-club)**



**With Sunday Special  
for the whole family  
Sunday 5th June  
4pm**



*Rose Queen  
Coffee Morning*  
St Paul's are running  
a bottle stall activity  
at the coffee morning  
for this year's  
Rose Queen.  
Please come along  
and support us.

*Lytham Club  
Day and Rose  
Queen Festival  
is on Saturday  
25th June 2022*



*Knit a Corgi for the  
Queen's Platinum Jubilee*

Thousands of people across the country are buying in light brown and white wool just now, in order to knit up a corgi in honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It is a fun way in which anyone with knitting needles can get involved in the coming celebrations.

If you google 'knitting patterns for corgis', you will find a wide variety of free patterns on offer. Knitted corgis could help decorate house windows, local shops and churches as the big day approaches.





# *The Ascension*

*Canon Paul Hardingham considers where Jesus is now.*

This month at Ascension Day, we remember Jesus ascending to 'God's right hand' (1 Peter 3:22). It's a somewhat neglected Christian festival, taking place on a Thursday, 40 days after Easter. However, this phrase is used in three different contexts in the New Testament.

## *Sitting at God's right hand*

Jesus occupies a position of power and authority at the centre of the universe, 'exalted to the right hand of God' (Acts 2:33). This position was secured by His death and resurrection, enabling us to experience the life of heaven, including eternal life, forgiveness, healing and the power to transform lives and communities. Is this our expectation and experience?

## *Standing at God's right hand*

Our experience of heaven is only partial because of the presence of suffering and disappointment in our lives. Stephen, the first Christian martyr, saw Jesus 'standing at the right hand of God' (Acts 7:56), when being stoned to death. Do we see that Jesus is on the throne and has a purpose for our lives, even when we are going through setbacks and difficulties? As a result of Stephen's death, the church grew and the apostle Paul was impacted. Where do we see the fruit of the suffering in our lives?

## *Praying at God's right hand*

Finally, we are told that Jesus is 'interceding for us' at God's right hand (Romans 8:34 & Hebrews 7:25). Jesus is on our side at the heart of the universe and fully knows our needs when praying for us. He is for us, even when we feel defeated by the wrong things in our lives. How does this help us now?

So where has Jesus gone? Because He is in heaven, the Ascension opens up the possibility that we can experience the life of heaven, both now and in eternity.

*Ascension Day*

*Thursday 26th May 2022*

## *A Sonnet for Ascension Day*

by Malcolm Guite\*

We saw his light break through the cloud of glory  
Whilst we were rooted still in time and place  
As earth became a part of Heaven's story  
And heaven opened to his human face.  
We saw him go and yet we were not parted  
He took us with him to the heart of things  
The heart that broke for all the broken-hearted  
Is whole and Heaven-centred now, and sings,  
Sings in the strength that rises out of weakness,  
Sings through the clouds that veil him from our sight,  
Whilst we ourselves become his clouds of witness  
And sing the waning darkness into light,  
His light in us, and ours in him concealed,  
Which all creation waits to see revealed.

*Malcolm Guite writes a regular column in 'Church Times' and describes himself as a poetpriest. He is a chaplain of Girton College Cambridge and this sonnet is drawn from his collection 'Sounding the Seasons', published by Canterbury Press.*



### ***With the Ascension in mind...***

*Christ was taken up into heaven, not to enjoy blessed rest at a distance from us, but to govern the world for the salvation of all believers. J Calvin*

*At His Ascension our Lord entered Heaven, and He keeps the door open for humanity to enter. Oswald Chambers*

# *The Meaning of Colours ~ Part 1*

*by The Revd Dr Jo White (Edited)*

In March, April and May this year the coloured frontal of the altar will have been changed many times. Each colour – and there can be as many as six in a church's store – has a different meaning. They reflect the significance of that day or the season.

In March, purple was used as a symbol of penitence, as we were in Lent and trying to prepare ourselves for Christ's final act of love for each of us.

Holy Week – the time of Christ's final journey – was denoted by the colour red. Red, the colour of blood, is used for feasts of martyrs as well as those for the Holy Spirit – when it more likely represents his flames of 'fire' which rested on those in the Upper Room.

Maundy Thursday, we switched to white for Communion services, as this celebrates the remembrance of the first Communion with His apostles, which He commanded us to continue.

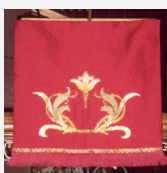
On Good Friday, we were back to red, although in some churches, the altar remains uncovered.

Then on Easter Sunday, the day of the greatest Christian Celebration, we entered to an altar bedecked in gold or the 'whitest' with the most elaborate decoration, the church possesses.

'Plain' White will be used for the Easter Season signifying purity and Christ's triumph over death until Ascension Day on Thursday 26th May. This, being a special and more significant day in the life, death and resurrection of Christ, goes to gold again: then immediately back to white for the next ten days.

On the day of Pentecost itself, Whit Sunday, 5th June, the colour will be red, representing the flames of fire.

Throughout the year the changing colours indicate the special meanings that a particular day, or season, has in the life of the church. In June it will all change again, so we'll consider those next month.



## *Prayer for May*

Dear Father in Heaven,  
As we thank you for May, this most beautiful of months, we are aware that not everything in your world is beautiful; not every attitude or action is beautiful, or kind, or just.



*Photo by Patrick Fore on Unsplash*

There is so much pain and suffering in the world that we can sometimes feel overwhelmed. Help us, Lord to remember that Jesus came to bring all this brokenness together, to bring reconciliation and wholeness. Thank you that by His life, death and resurrection Jesus overcame death for ever. Thank you that He ascended into heaven so that the Holy Spirit could come to live in believers, to give strength and power and resilience, so that Your work goes on.

Thank you that nothing in all creation - no evil attacks, no illness, no human powers, no circumstances at all - can ever separate us from Your love. We will not be overwhelmed as we keep our eyes on You.

We may not always understand, but we acknowledge You to be the Lord, who reigns over all - and we are thankful. In Jesus name. Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*



## *War in Ukraine: Appeal for more Bibles*

Bible Society is appealing for funds to send more Bibles to Ukraine. It says that Christians in the UK “can speak hope” into the crisis by providing Ukrainian pastors and churches with more Bibles with which to share “the love and power of God’s Word.”

Oleksandr, who leads the Bible Society team in Ukraine, tells the story: “A few days ago, a pastor visited our office, asking for Bibles. When he heard that we had none left, he pleaded for Bibles that were damaged or even copies with pages missing. He said, ‘These Bibles would be of immense value to my congregation and the community!’ It was heart-breaking.

“God’s Word can help bring comfort, peace, and reconciliation to our nation. We long for more Bibles.”

Details at: <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/donate/>

*Nigel Beeton writes: 'Now our thoughts are overshadowed by the terrible situation in the Ukraine. I looked at the masses of people on the station platforms, and I thought, "only a couple of months ago, each one of those people had a life, a home, a shop to buy food, perhaps somewhere to grow daffodils, maybe a church to worship God, and their own hopes and dreams for the future. Now they are just part of a mass of people shuffling towards a westbound train.'*

### **The Refugee**

All that I was, I no longer am  
All that I have, I hold in my hand  
My home, my love, my world are all gone  
One among thousands, I shuffle along.

Only last week I knew who I was  
All that has gone, and only because  
Someone in a land a long way away  
Turned life into hell one terrible day.

He started a war, his heart icy cold  
He rained down his hell on the young and the old  
I ran for my life for I had no choice  
And nobody heard the fear in my voice.

Everything's gone, and all that is 'me'  
Summed up in a word – the word 'refugee'.  
I have no control, no say in my fate  
Just one in a crowd, I stand and I wait.

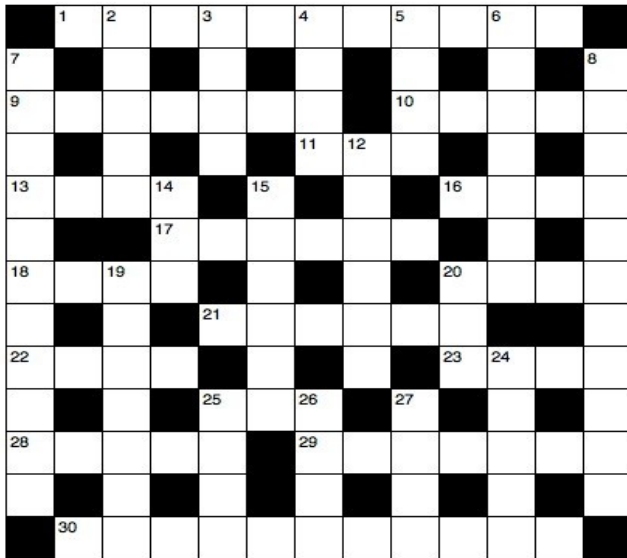
Waiting for what? The future's unclear,  
For armed men have taken all that I held dear  
Along with my hopes, and all I had planned  
All swept away by the tanks in my land.

One thing alone puts a smile on my face  
A far nicer stranger has come to this place;  
A bed for the night? A cup of hot tea?  
And - best of all - someone who sees me as me.

*By Nigel Beeton*

# MAY 2022 CROSSWORD

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



## Across

- 1 Overpowered (Deuteronomy 11:4) (11)
- 9 'The — are mantled with corn' (Psalm 65:13) (7)
- 10 'Each man—a sword to his side' (Exodus 32:27) (5)
- 11 On the death of Jesus the curtain in the temple was torn from— to bottom (Matthew 27:51) (3)
- 13 Stagger (Isaiah 28:7) (4)
- 16 'Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought—and doesn't do it, sins' (James 4:17) (2,2)
- 17 Stir up or provoke (Acts 13:50) (6)
- 18 Burden (Luke 11:46) (4)
- 20 'As far as the east is from the—, so far has he removed our transgressions from us' (Psalm 103:12) (4)
- 21 Sign (Luke 23:38) (6)
- 22 'After that, Jesus poured water into a basin and began to—his disciples' feet' (John 13:5) (4)
- 23 The nature of the seven ears of corn which swallowed up the good ears in Pharaoh's dream (Genesis 41:23) (4)
- 25 Has (anag.) (3)
- 28 'This is the account of Shem, Ham and Japheth,—sons' (Genesis 10:1) (5)

- 29 'I will...make them drunk, so that they...sleep for—and—  
awake' (Jeremiah 51:39) (4,3)  
30 Paul said of him, 'he often refreshes me and is not ashamed of my  
chains' (2 Timothy 1:16) (11)

**Down**

- 2 Worth (Matthew 13:46) (5)  
3 'A bruised — he will not break' (Matthew 12:20) (4)  
4 'Suddenly a great company of the heavenly — appeared with the an-  
gel' (Luke 2:13) (4)  
5 Slip (anag.) (4)  
6 'Take an awl and push it through his — — into the door, and he will  
become your servant for life' (Deuteronomy 15:17) (3,4)  
7 Bountiful (2 Corinthians 8:2) (11)  
8 'Therefore, as we have — , let us do good to all people'  
(Galatians 6:10) (11)  
12 Acquire (2Timothy2:10)(6)  
14 Container cover (Numbers19:15)(3)  
15 'He...became obedient to death,even death on——!' (Philippians 2:8)  
(1,5)  
19 Refrain (1Peter2:11)(7)  
20 'She began to—his feet with her tears' (Luke7:38)(3)  
24 One who worships Brahma, Vishnu or Shiva(5)  
25 'Give to everyone who—you' (Luke6:30)(4)  
26 'I lift up my eyes to the hills; where does my—come from?'  
(Psalm 121:1) (4)  
27 One of those whom the Lord said would be taken from Jerusalem and  
Judah as judgment on them (Isaiah 3:2) (4)



**Crossword  
Solution  
April 2022**



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



Many of the articles and pictures in the Pews News Extra are sourced from the Parish Pump Website.



**ARTICLES FOR THE JUNE PNE**

If you have an article for inclusion in the June PNE, please make sure that I have a copy by **Tuesday 10th May**. My contact details are on the inside back page . Thank you.  
*Janet Kimber*

# Time for a Smile

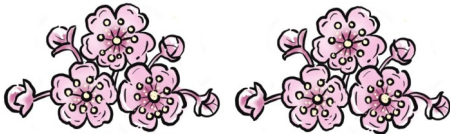
## Not Expecting This

The young minister took his wife to the Maternity Hospital and was told it would be a long labour. So, he agreed to ring at lunchtime for news. But when he phoned, he dialled the wrong number and got the County Cricket Ground. He said: "I brought my wife to your place early this morning. Is there any news?"

He was surprised to be told: "Yes, there are seven out and the last two were ducks."

## Parking Space

Angus was driving down the street worried because he had an important meeting and couldn't find a parking place. So, looking up toward heaven, he said "Lord, take pity on me. If you find me a parking place I will go to church every Sunday for the rest of my life and give up whisky." A moment later, miraculously, a parking place appeared. Angus looked up again and said, "Never mind. I found one."



## Encyclopaedias

Sorting out books for the local fete, a parishioner came across some well-worn and dusty illustrated encyclopaedias, treasured from his childhood. Unwilling to part with them, he put them on a shelf in the garage where his small grandchildren found them and spent many happy hours looking at the pictures.

These books, however, caused him great embarrassment the day the minister came to visit. One of his grandchildren suddenly said: "Grandad, can we go look at those dirty books you keep in the garage?"



*"It comes to something when the state of the pound is such that we hope to find lots of foreign coins!"*

## Cats

A Cheshire vicar has two cats. Their names are Ancient and Modern – because they are both him.



## When Children Pray and Try Their Best

- ~ Give us this steak and daily bread, and then forgive us our mattresses.
- ~ He suffered under a bunch of violets. (Pontius Pilate)

## Grannies

Grandmas are mums with lots of frosting

What bargains grandchildren are! I give them my loose change, and they give me a million pounds worth of pleasure. - *Gene Perret*

## Flower Wars



*Mrs Logan went for her atomiser and Mrs Pugh went for hers.*

## New Dog Breeds

*With all the new crossbreeds appearing, would you fancy one of the following?*

Collie + Lhasa Apso = Collapso: a dog that folds up for easy transport

Pointer + Setter = Poinsetter: a traditional Christmas pet

Great Pyrenees + Dachshund = Pyradachs: a puzzling breed

Pekingese + Lhasa Apso = Peekasso: an abstract dog

Labrador Retriever + Curly Coated Retriever = Lab Coat Retriever: the choice of research scientists

Newfoundland + Basset Hound = Newfound Asset Hound: a dog for financial advisors

Terrier + Bulldog = Terribull: a dog that makes awful mistakes

Bloodhound + Labrador = Blabador: a dog that barks incessantly

Collie + Malamute = Commute: a dog that travels to work

Deerhound + Terrier = Derriere: a dog that's true to the end

*And finally...*

*Risen and Ascended  
Lord,  
as you were raised up,  
so lift us  
into your presence  
that we learn  
a greater awareness  
of the needs of others  
and become stewards  
of your goodness.*



## **Church Hall Hire**

**We have vacancies on Monday/Thursday Evenings and all day on Saturdays. The hall is ideal for children's parties and other activities requiring large space**

**Enquiries and further information:**

**Email: [stpaulsoffice2@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsoffice2@gmail.com)**

**Telephone: 01253 732939 (and leave a message)  
or via our Facebook page**

## *Church Officers*

<b>Vicar</b>	The Rev Paul Bye
<b>Curate</b>	The Rev Kyle Mulholland
<b>Licensed Lay Minister</b>	Miss Janet Kimber
<b>Church Wardens</b>	Mrs Pamela Rowell Mr Alan Curtis
<b>Parish Secretary</b>	Vacant
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mrs Loraine Lee
<b>Organist</b>	Mrs Linda Carrington



## *Useful Information*

<b>Vicarage</b>	01253 734562
<b>Parish Office:</b>	01253 732939
<b>Fundraising Shop:</b>	01253 732253
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com">www.stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com</a>
<b>E-mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:stpaulsoffice2@gmail.com">stpaulsoffice2@gmail.com</a>



**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>

# Meeting Together at St. Paul's

## Sunday

- 9:45am Short prayer meeting (Church Hall)
- 10:30am Our morning service with a common liturgy incorporating traditional and more contemporary elements and music across each month. Refreshments served after the service.  
1st Sunday - Service of the Word;  
2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays - Holy Communion  
Sunday Club meets on the 2nd & 4th weeks for 3-11s
- 4:00pm Our new complementary, multigenerational service seeking to reach and disciple all ages of the church together with a deliberate intention of incorporating children, young people and families. Followed by refreshments.
- 5:30pm Our sung service of Evensong from the Book of Common Prayer to mark selected Christian festivals six times a year.

## Wednesday

- 10:00am Our mid-week Holy Communion service from the Book of Common Prayer; followed by refreshments.

## Thursday

- 3:30pm Our weekly service of Evening Prayer from the Book of Common Prayer, alternating between said and sung forms.

## Safeguarding

St Paul's Church takes safeguarding very seriously.  
You can view all of our safeguarding information at:-

<https://stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com/safeguarding.html>

*If you are concerned that someone you know is at risk of, or is being abused, or presents a risk to others please seek advice from the Parish or Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser or if necessary, report the matter to the Local Authority Social Care Services or the Police without delay.*