

St. Paul's  
'Serving God and the community'

June 2024

The heavens are telling  
the glory of God  
and the firmament  
proclaims his handiwork



[www.stpaulsale.co.uk](http://www.stpaulsale.co.uk)

Psalm 19: 1

Suggested donation 50p



# From a Vicar.....

A former Liverpool Manager Bill Shankly famously said, *'Some people believe football is a matter of life and death, I am very disappointed with that attitude. I can assure you it is much, much more important than that!'*

This month sees the start of the UEFA Euro 24 football tournament, which will be watched by millions across Europe and the world. Yet it also illustrates some key points about the Christian life. As Paul writes: *‘But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus.’* (Philippians 3:13b,14).

*A prize to be won:* The dream of every player in the competition is to be able to hold up the Cup themselves. For us the prize is the eternal life, God's gift of relationship with Him for now and eternity through Jesus. But there's an important difference between football and the Christian faith. To win the Euros you have to be good enough, while Christ's love for us is undeserved and is not dependent on how well we've done.

*Training to be undertaken:* If a team is going to win Euro 24, they need to have trained hard beforehand. Our training, as Christians, starts the moment we accept the gift of God's life. On a daily basis, we must train ourselves to say *no* to the wrong things in our lives.

As we build up our *godly muscles*, we are better able to choose to do what is right in God's eyes. To enable us to do all this we need to engage in the spiritual disciplines of prayer, studying the Bible and being part of a church and small group. How is your training going?





## Tuesday Group

First of all a huge thank you to Colin Hepburn for a fascinating talk on Mexico. The colours there are so vibrant! He obviously loves going and showed us pictures of the large variety of food available. Unfortunately we didn't have time to hear about the history of Mexico and so Colin has happily agreed to return sometime in the new year.

Our June 11<sup>th</sup> walk in Sale Cemetery has been postponed until the autumn as it became obvious that neither June nor July was very suitable as so many members were unavailable each month. Paula has therefore very kindly agreed that we go there on June 11<sup>th</sup> and is even promising entertainment with prizes!

Diana

Coming soon ..... more dates for the next sessions of our big clean of the church and church hall—see weekly Pew Sheet or church service notices

## Men's Society

We have been invited to join the Sale Rotary Club bowls evening on Tuesday June 18<sup>th</sup>.

The event is to be held at the Legh Arms, Sale Moor from 6:30pm with a buffet meal.

Any men interested in joining us please let myself, Clive or David V. know so numbers can be estimated.

Rodney Hadwen - Chairman



*...well you cannot fault the efficacy of the new 'Planned Giving' scheme...*





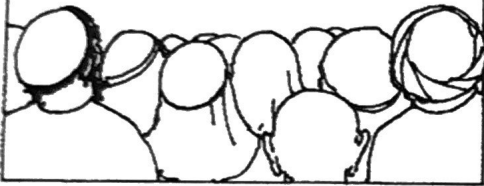
# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Ex.19:3-9,20:1-21,24:7,12-18,32:1-25,34:1-9

God rescued the Hebrew people from  
Egypt and led them to Sinai mountain.  
There He offered them a contract....

Keep My rules, and you will  
be My people and I will be  
your God and protect you.



We promise to do  
what You tell us  
and worship only You.

Moses climbed the mountain.  
God gave him two stone slabs  
with the contract on them.



Then God and  
Moses talked ... for  
40 days and nights

Meanwhile...



Aaron, that Moses isn't coming back. We  
can't worship something we can't see.



Make us  
something we  
can worship

So Aaron made a gold bull  
and the people went wild.

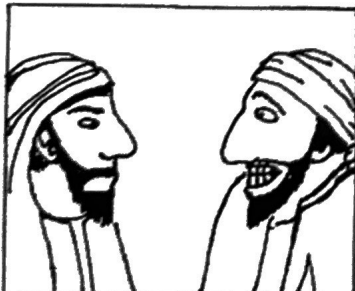


God told Moses....

Your people are already  
worshipping a statue.



Moses was so angry he  
smashed the contract  
slabs



It's not my fault,  
they made me do it.

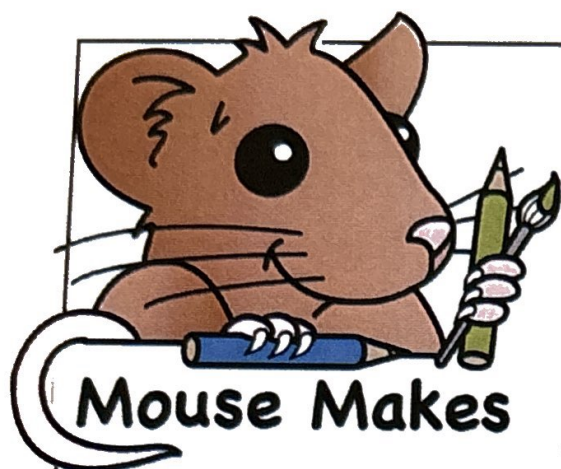
God, please, please  
forgive Your people.



So God forgave His people and gave  
Moses two more contract slabs.







## WHO IS MY FATHER?

Who was created by God  
and became  
the first father?

— — — — —  
Genesis 2:20

Who had a son  
when he was very old?

— — — — —  
Genesis 21:5

*Shem Ham and  
Japheth's father built  
a huge boat, who was he?*

— — — — —  
Genesis 6:10-14

Who gave his son Joseph  
a robe of many colours?

— — — — —  
Genesis 37:2-3

This Roman puzzle square  
reads the same from the top,  
bottom and sides and translates:  
*"Arepo the sower  
guides the wheel with skill."*

ROTAS  
OPERA  
TENET  
AREPO  
SATOR

If you rearrange the letters it  
can spell **PATER NOSTER**  
which means **"Our Father"**.

A  
P  
A  
T  
E  
R  
N  
O  
S  
T  
E  
R  
O

A P A T E R N O S T E R O

Change each letter in this  
bible verse to the letter  
**before** it in the alphabet.

TFF XIBU LJOE PG  
MPWF UIF GBUIFS  
IBT HJWFO UP VT  
UIBU XF TIPVME  
CF DBMMFE  
DIJMESFO PG HPE  
POF KPIO UISFF: POF

Solomon's father defeated a giant  
and became a King. Who was he?

— — — — —  
1 Samuel 48-50

Whose daughter was  
healed by Jesus?

— — — — —  
Mark 5:21



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

Look up the Bible verses  
to find the fathers then  
look for them and the words  
below in the word search.

FATHER • GOD  
SON • DAUGHTER  
JOSEPH • ISAAC  
MOSES • JOB  
SOLOMON  
ZECHARIAH  
ZEBEDEE



*Revd Dr Jo White considers*

## **Reflecting Faith — The Church and politics (with a small 'p')**

When you drive in the English countryside you should be able to see at least one church spire or tower from pretty much anywhere. Just about every village has its own church building.

The size and grandeur of these village churches varies greatly, and was usually dependent on who paid for them in the first place!

In the main they were built with money from the local 'Lord of the Manor' — not necessarily a 'Lord' in the titled sense, but the person who owned the majority of the land and properties. Most people would work for him and live in a house provided by him. The two went together. Often, in order to keep their job and home, they were expected to attend 'the Lord's' church.

Many such churches were constructed at a time when people assumed that the more money you gave to the church, the greater would be your place in heaven. Hence the ostentatiousness in many a small village church!

By the early 1800s society had begun to change shape rapidly. The Napoleonic Wars which had been raging in Europe for many years were concluded at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. There were new processes being discovered and invented which meant changes in working practices: the 'Industrial Revolution' was well under-way.

'Society' itself began to change with industrialisation bringing working folk into towns and away from the places, people, family members and authority figures to whom they had deferred all their lives. Politicians and Society leaders were becoming concerned that the political unrest still taking place on the continent might catch on here.



*This month:*

Have a look at a town church or a city church this month. See if you can find out anything about its history. Was there any reason for it being built where it is that reflects faith?

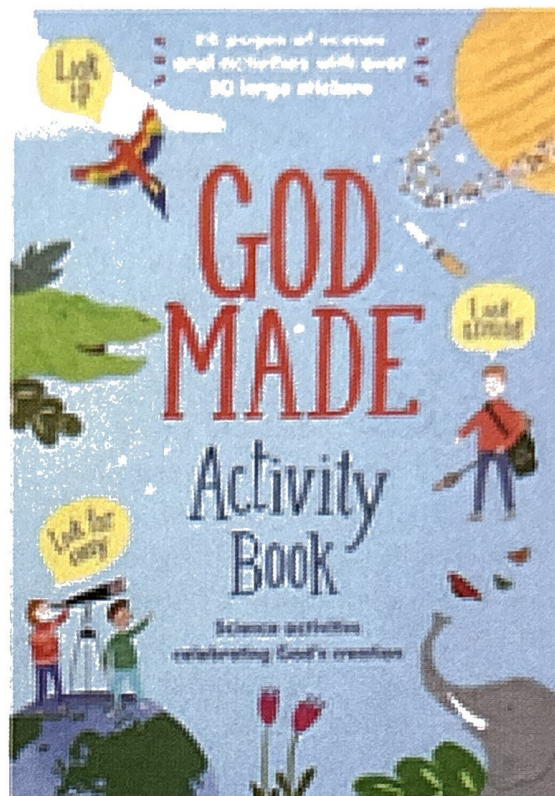


# God Made Activity Book – Science activities celebrating God's creation

By Lizzie Henderson and Steph Bryant, SPCK  
£6.99

This children's book is a fun-filled Science sticker activity book celebrating God's creation.

The 20 pages of scenes and activities engage children in celebrating the creativity and diversity of all that God made with over 30 large stickers of animals, planets and natural features.



Activities include observing the moon and stars on a starry night, charting the weather, using stickers for a pre-historic animals' scene (including dinosaurs), collecting and identifying the great variety of leaves, going on a mini-beast search expedition, identifying the planets of the solar system, growing vegetables to eat, and matching animals to their habitats using stickers.

The 'God Made' series encourages young children to explore and discover more about the world around them, and tells them about the loving God who made it all. Written in collaboration with The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, this series of picture books - God Made Space, God Made the World and God Made Animals - and activities is an ideal way to help children engage with and celebrate God and His universe. Explore further with Faraday Kids [www.faradaykids.com](http://www.faradaykids.com)

## A Prayer for June

Dear Lord,

Here we are in June. Halfway through this year already! How the years fly by and often we are so busy, so taken up with everyday concerns that we forget to take time to be still; to consciously be in your presence; to be aware of the wonders of your world.

June is such a beautiful month, so we take this moment, Lord - and we thank you for your goodness to us and your provision for us.

Especially we thank you for the gift of Jesus who is the only way to you, who is your truth and who offers us eternal life, if we will turn away from our self-centredness and put our trust in Him.

For June and for Jesus, Lord, we praise you and we glorify you. And we move into the rest of the year in hope and trust.

In Jesus name,

Amen.



# The D-Day Normandy Landings

Eighty years ago, on 6<sup>th</sup> June 1944, the D-Day Normandy Landings took place. More than 150,000 Allied troops landed on the beaches of Normandy. The Battle of Normandy ended on 25<sup>th</sup> August with an Allied victory.

The question of what the *D* stood for has never been absolutely determined: some say it just stood for Day; others maintain it was Disembarkation, because it was an amphibious operation. What is sure is that there was a spiritual dimension. General Eisenhower, the commander of Operation Overlord, urged those taking part to “beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking”, and President Roosevelt broadcast a prayer to the nation – the United States, that is.

Before June 5 – the original date for D-Day, before bad weather forced a rethink – a massive and successful series of deceptions were put in place to make the Nazis think the invasion would come elsewhere. The Germans were certainly

confused. Hitler, thinking the attack was a feint, refused to send reinforcements, and their strategy was hampered by the absence of their brilliant Commander Erwin Rommel, who was on leave.

Nevertheless, the Americans suffered over 2,000 casualties at Omaha Beach, which was the most heavily defended.

Altogether it was reckoned that over 4000 Allied troops were killed, but about

156,000 successfully stormed the beaches, and many landed behind the lines, including American paratrooper Private John Steele, who descended on to the pinnacle of the church tower in Sainte-Mère-Église, the first village to be liberated by the U S Army. Lit up by searchlights, he survived by pretending to be dead, was captured and then escaped, joining the invading soldiers.



This year handmade silhouettes of almost 1,500 servicemen were transported to Normandy for an art installation, *Standing with Giants*, to mark the anniversary.

*By Tim Lenton*



## A Distant Grave



A distant grave, a foreign land  
Kept neatly, with respect  
Though not at all what they'd have planned  
Yet what they did accept.

These youthful lads were wrenched from home -  
No one of them was old -  
Joined thousands of their fellow men  
Fought up a beach, named 'Gold'.

And some survived, though many died  
Some fought their way through France  
And, though quite likely terrified  
To Holland they advanced.

Then 'Market Garden' – a quaint name  
For brutal deeds of war;  
But no-one heard those troops complain  
In darkest forty-four.

And yet more soldiers met their fate  
Their lives cut short too soon;  
As shells fell close, to detonate  
In war's demonic tune.

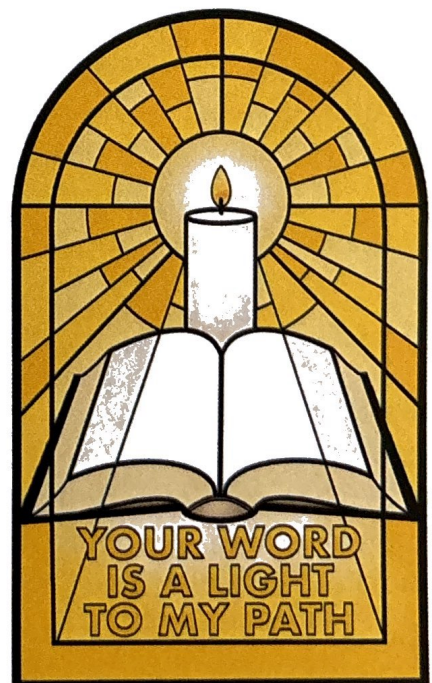
And so they lay, so far from home  
So far from kith and kin.  
But they, with fallen comrades showed  
The way to fight and win.

*By Nigel Beeton*

Nigel writes: "*It is normally my habit to submit a lighter poem, but the eightieth anniversary of the Normandy landings is not really a time for light-heartedness. Some time ago I wrote a poem about a relative of ours, Alexander Rae 1924 – 1944, who died in Holland in October 1944, but there were so many young men like him who died in the last year of the war fighting to liberate Europe from Nazi tyranny. So, I adapted the poem to reflect more generally the sacrifice of all those young men: A Distant Grave*

## Shield me

O may God shield me, and may God fill,  
O may God watch me, and may God hold;  
O may God bring me where peace is still,  
To the King's land, eternity's fold.  
Praise to the Father, praise to the Son,  
Praise to the Spirit, the Three in One.  
*From The Creed Prayer, poems of the  
Western Highlanders*





## Using Rest to Pray

Most of us think of prayer as a very demanding activity, but did you know it can be extremely restful?

One of the great verses in the Bible says this: 'Be still and know that I am God' (Psalm 46:10). It suggests we experience God most fully when we are still. When we cease rushing around, pausing for a moment of thought and recollection, we are becoming prayerful, and God is very near. Even a break for a morning coffee can be a moment of prayer, if we slow ourselves down and allow our thoughts to turn towards God.

An essential part of resting is to breathe slowly. Christian tradition has always made a connection between prayer and breathing. You can learn to pray to the rhythm of your breathing, using chosen prayer words to focus. As you breathe in, you might say 'Abba', and then as you breathe out, add the word 'Father'. Choose words which are meaningful to you, deliberately slowing your breathing so you become relaxed and peaceful.

Perhaps you have a favourite chair where you are able to unwind easily. For a few moments sit and do nothing. Simply become aware of the present moment, reminding yourself you are in the

presence of God. As you feel yourself relax, bask in the knowledge of God's love and acceptance of you. Sense His smile of approval upon you. You don't have to do anything, just 'be' for a moment. This too is prayer.

Sometimes we are forced to rest by circumstances... illness, disability, growing older and so on slow us down and we can't rush around like we used to do. Never mind. Don't fight against your

circumstances. Enter into the place of rest that God is giving you. He loves you for who you are, not for what you do. Turn your thoughts into prayer and offer them to God. You don't need to advise God as to what

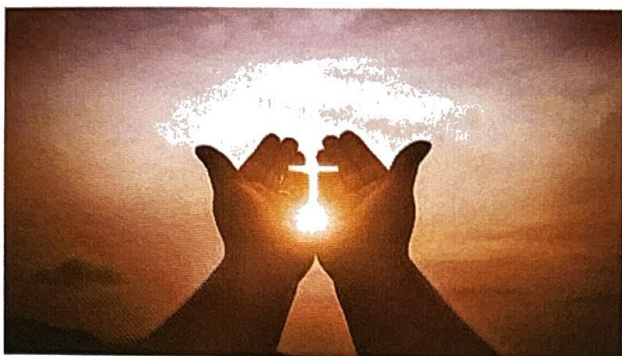
He should do; simply hold people before Him, leaving the outcome to Him.

Prayer should be a natural expression of our relationship with God. Sometimes we have words, sometimes silence is enough. We don't need to impress God with our fervour. We can relax and be rested, even as we pray.





## When there is bullying in church



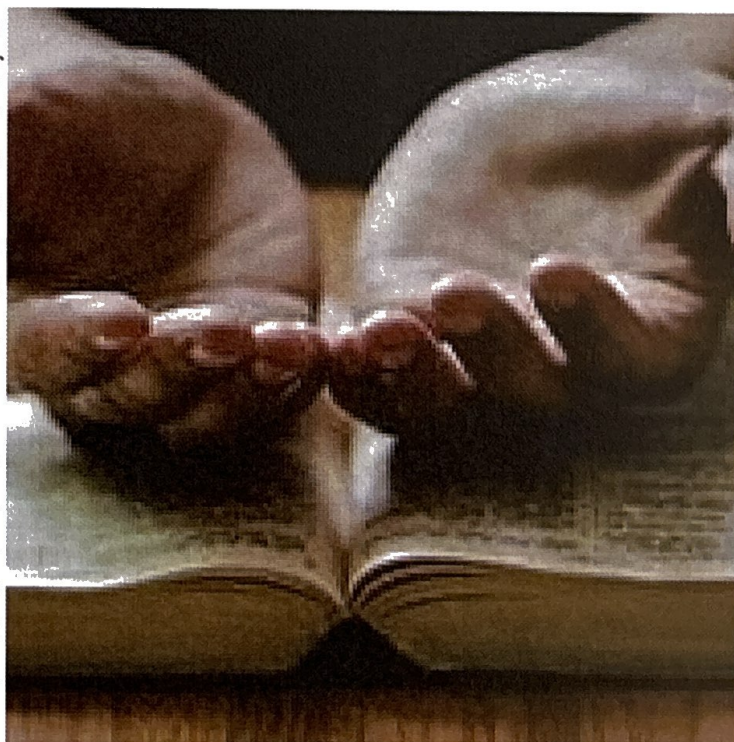
If you have ever seen churchwardens on a formal occasion, you will have noticed they carry wooden wands, sometimes called staves or prodders. These are upright poles surmounted by a bishop's mitre, or a royal crown, made of brass or silver. They date from the time when one churchwarden represented the Church and the other the State, or the people. These days we don't distinguish between them, though they are both technically officers of the bishop.

The wands were to be used, a bit like a police truncheon, to keep order in church and churchyard if the people got unruly, especially during divine service. That's a rare occurrence these days. But there's another kind of misbehaviour in church which is exercising the Church of England's General Synod. Bullying!

If clergy do it, they are subject to the Clergy Discipline Measure and rebuked. However, if a churchwarden or members of the Church Council gang up against the Vicar or another church member, there are no sanctions, unless they are breaking the law.

There are awful stories of clergy and their wives being driven to tears by aggressive churchgoers, or a key holder refusing to allow others access to part of the church, or individuals being bombarded with hundreds of harassing emails. The Synod agreed that it should be possible for lay officers to be removed from their posts if they are bullies. New rules will emerge after further investigation.

There's quite a lot in the New Testament about the need for church discipline, but even more about the standard we should aim for as brothers and sisters in Christ's family. "You are the body of Christ," wrote St Paul, "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it." Those of us who have been church members for a long time might remind ourselves of that.





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G Singer, Sale

*"It has been a pleasure dealing with you & the service I have received is second to none."*  
Vivian, Sale



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**Who's Who?**  
**Members of the Parochial Church**  
**Council (not mentioned on the**  
**back page)**

Diana Kelly	973-4578
Paula Hughes	973-5121
Joyce Green	973-0396
Eileen Craven	283-7668
Jean Law	962-6761



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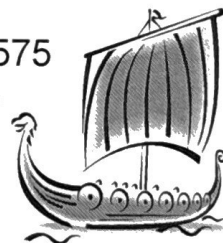


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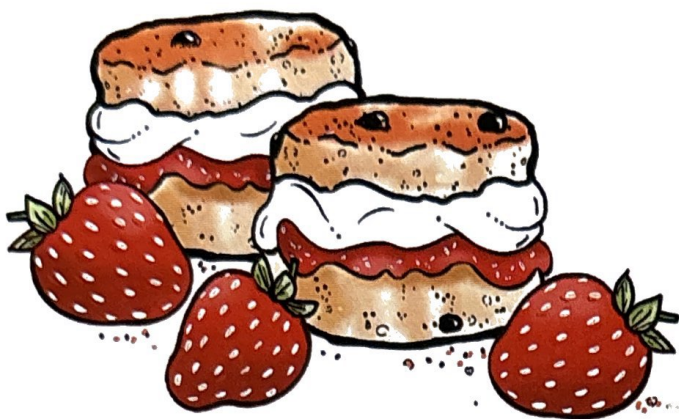
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# June 2024

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sunday	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
1 <sup>st</sup> After Trinity		6.00pm	Taize Style Evening Prayer
5 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	10.00am	Communion Service (CW)
7 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	1.30pm	Community Choir
9 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	10.00am	All Age Worship
2 <sup>nd</sup> After Trinity		6.00pm	Holy Communion

## Deadline for the July Parish News

11 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	9.30am	Babes & Tots
		1.15pm	Tuesday Group
12 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	10.00am	Communion Service (BCP)
14 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	1.30pm	Community Choir
16 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
3 <sup>rd</sup> After Trinity		6.00pm	Evening Prayer
18 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	9.30am	Babes & Tots
19 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	10.00am	Communion Service (BCP)
20 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	7.30pm	Angelicus Saxophone Concert (Sale Festival)
21 <sup>st</sup>	Friday	1.30pm	Community Choir
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Sunday	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
4 <sup>th</sup> After Trinity		3.00pm	Forest Church
		6.00pm	Evening Prayer
25 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	9.30am	Babes & Tots
26 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	10.00am	Communion Service (BCP)
28 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	1.30pm	Community Choir
30 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
5 <sup>th</sup> After Trinity		6.00pm	Evening Prayer





## Next Month — July



2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tuesday	9.30am	Babes & Tots
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Wednesday	10.00am	Communion Service (CW)
5 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	1.30pm	Community Choir
7 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
		6.00pm	Taize Style Evening Prayer

*Please check the weekly pew sheets for any service changes that may occur.  
Don't forget—email any articles for the Parish News to the Parish Office email address—*

***officestpaulsale@gmail.com***

## A Grape, a Well, a Spark, a Seed

Lord, how much juice You can squeeze from a single grape.  
How much water You can draw from a single well.  
How great a fire You can kindle from a tiny spark.  
How great a tree You can grow from a tiny seed.

My soul is so dry that by itself it cannot pray;  
Yet You can squeeze from it the juice of a thousand prayers.  
My soul is so parched that by itself it cannot love;  
Yet You can draw from it boundless love for You and for my neighbour.

My soul is so cold that by itself it has no joy;  
Yet You can light the fire of heavenly joy within me.  
My soul is so feeble that by itself it has no faith;

Yet by Your power my faith grows to a great height.  
I thank You for prayer, for love, for joy, for faith;  
Let me always be prayerful, loving, joyful, faithful.

*By Guigo the Carthusian (d.1188)*





## St. Paul's Parish Directory

Churchwardens:	Yvonne Stevenson	*	07946 644214
	Vacant		
Pastoral Workers:	Yvonne Kerridge	*	962-4066
	Karen Salisbury	*	
Treasurer to the PCC:	Joe Blaney		treasurerstpaulsale@gmail.com
Secretary to the PCC:	Karen Salisbury	*	
Director of Music:	Anne Allen	*	01925-763103
Assistant Organists:	Kevin Drury		962-7963
	Donald Brooks		
Safeguarding Officer	Carole Shakeshaft	*	969-6319
Parish Giving Officer	Brian Kerridge	*	962-4066
Electoral Roll Officer:	Yvonne Stevenson	*	283-1065
Parish News Editor:	Karen Salisbury	*	283-8309
Bible Reading Fellowship:	Rachel Lee	*	973-1282
Men's Society:	Rodney Hadwen		
Women's Tuesday Group:	Hilary Moore	*	969-1831
St. Paul's Babes & Tots	Rachel Lee		973-1282
Tower Warden:	Ian Moore		0787-670-6834
Christian Aid:	Anita Evans		973-4679
Children's Society Rep:	Sheila Clarke		962-4678
Church Hall Bookings:	Contact via the Parish Office		
4 <sup>th</sup> Sale Central (St. Paul's) Rainbows, Brownies & Guides	Vicky Williams		07986 525898
Forest Church	Revd Dr Lisa Redfern		
<b>Vicar:</b>	Revd. Becky Mathew		
Associate Ministers:	Revd. Dr Lisa Redfern (Forest Church)		
	Revd. Dr Margaret Jones		973-7790
	Revd. Shemil Mathew		217-8795
Assistant Curate:	Revd. Tom Ryan		07793 019457
(on Secondment to St. Paul's)		Email:	revtomryan@gmail.com

**Parish Office**

**962-0082**

**Parish Office e-mail**

**officestpaulsale@gmail.com**

*Names above marked with \* are members of the Parochial Church Council. Please note that **Vicar Becky** is part-time and her working hours are flexible so she might not be able to reply or respond immediately to your calls and emails. Please leave an answerphone message.*

### Parish Organisations affiliated to St Paul's

*The following groups meet in St Paul's Church Hall unless otherwise stated.*

<b>Tuesday</b>	9.30am-11am	St. Paul's Babes & Tots (school term time)
	1.15pm	Women's Tuesday Group (2 <sup>nd</sup> of every month)
	6.15pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Sale Central (St. Paul's) Brownies
	7.30pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Sale Central (St. Paul's) Guides
<b>Friday</b>	1.30pm-2.30pm	Community Choir (school term time)
	5.30pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sale Central Rainbows