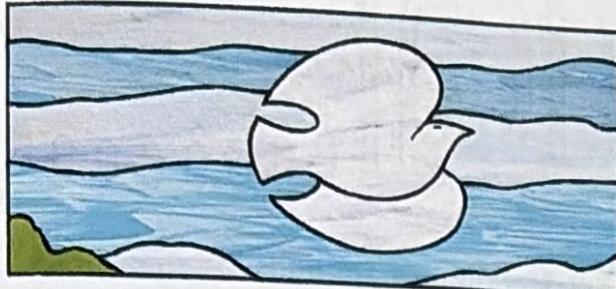


www.stpaulsale.co.uk



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

**February
2026**



Mt 4:16-17, Mk 1:10-11, Lk 3:21-22

Suggested donation **50p**

From the Vicar... 0000000

Dear Friends,

The snowdrops are emerging from their dormant sleep and daylight hours are beginning to increase. One of my children is particularly interested in weather patterns and we've been looking at weather charts to see that the sunrise and sunset hours change a tiny amount every day. We've noticed too that our chickens are awakening increasingly earlier and letting us know they're ready for their breakfast.

In the church calendar February brings us to Candlemas, the festival that marks the presentation of the 40 day old baby Jesus in the Temple thereby fulfilling

Jewish purification laws. In a moment that can be easily overlooked, Simeon and Anna, who

elderly figures who have been waiting faithfully for years, finally see what they had long hoped for: the light of God coming into the world. Simeon describes Jesus as 'a light for revelation to the Gentiles, for glory to your people Israel'.

Light is such a powerful symbol at this time of year, when we who are weary of darkness, dark mornings, dark evenings and sometimes dark news that weighs heavily on our hearts.



Yet Candlemas reminds us that God's light does not wait for perfect conditions. It shines into ordinary, imperfect, even difficult circumstances. Hope doesn't arrive with a fanfare, it often comes quietly, held gently in waiting arms.

At the conclusion of our Candlemas service we have a candlelit procession in church to remind us that Christ is the light of the world and that we are called to share that light. Our final response is to say together: 'Help us, who now go in peace, to shine with your light in the world, thanks be to God, Amen.'

During this month we're invited to pause and reflect. Before we step into the busyness of Spring and before Lent calls us to reflect once again on Jesus' journey to the Cross...there's time to ask simple but important questions:

Where have I noticed light recently?

Who has helped me to see hope when I struggled to find it myself?
And how might I be a small bearer of that light to others?

Yours in faith,
Vicar Becky



There is a lot of talk about 'mindfulness' these days, and how to find calm moments in our daily lives. Both the BBC and Classic FM have even got radio stations devoted to 'mindful' and 'calm' music. But as Christians, we have an extra, divine resource to call on..

Peaceful mind

The Bible tells the story of Jesus and His stressed disciples in a boat in a storm. Like them, we also get hit by storms in life. And like them, we can know that Jesus is also with us. Why not take a moment to ponder these promises:

Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you; He will never let the righteous be shaken. (Psalm 55:22)

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. (John 14:27)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4: 6-8)

Why not take a moment to memorise one of these verses?

Tuesday Group

Welcome back all members of Tuesday Group! This is to remind you that on 10th February we shall be having our AGM. This will be in the church hall so please arrive promptly so that we can start at 1.30pm.

I am sure you will remember that we no longer have a Leader as Hilary resigned last year. We have limped along through the year with me trying to do two jobs with the help of Jean and Carole. I am not happy for this to continue, so please have a good think about the positions and come forward to act as either Leader or Secretary.

Looking forward to seeing you on 10th February.

Diana

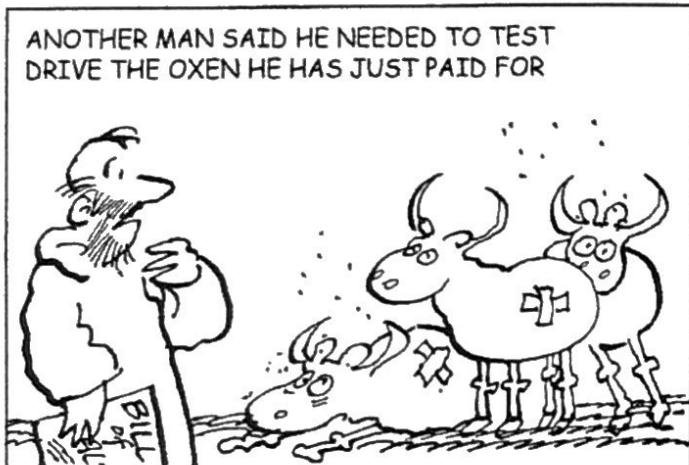
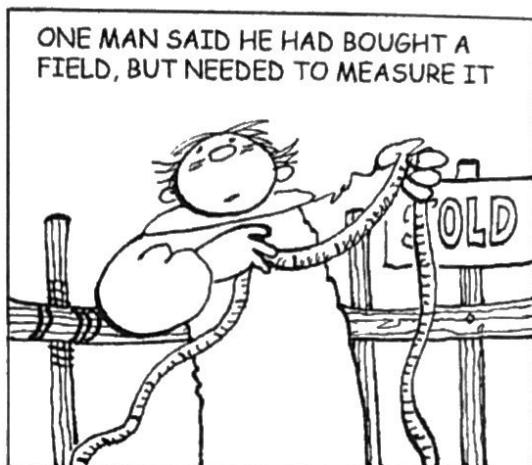
STOP PRESS –SAVE THE DATE

Saturday March 21st Table-top sale in the Church Hall. Please see pew sheets and flyers for more info.

Saturday June 20th – Foundation Day in conjunction with Sale Festival
Celebrating the innovation and ingenuity of Victorian inventors.



The Big Bash!



Experience Easter 2026

Could you help with this year's Experience Easter workshops for primary school-age children? We need at least 6 volunteers per session to help tell the story of Holy Week and Easter. Story-telling areas are set up around the church building and small groups of children, usually 6 at a time move around the story-telling areas and learn about what happened during Holy Week.

Children invited to join in with the story by participating in an activity and reflecting on part of the story. You will be provided with a story script and the activity information. Teachers and teaching assistants will be on hand too.

Please let Rev Becky know if you can help – dates will be announced in the pew sheet.

I also need help with setting up beforehand – if anyone is feeling particularly creative?

Many thanks



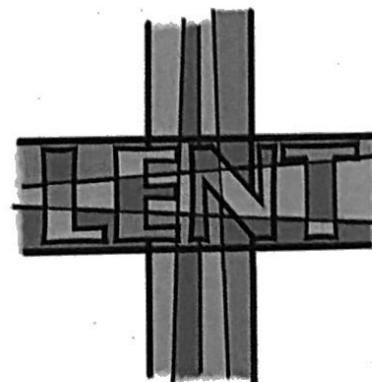
The Gift

Saved by grace lest any should boast
Such is His gift obtained at great cost,
God's Son was given to set men free,
Redemption made ours as He hung on the tree.

In wonder the angels saw Him go
From the glories of heaven to our world below,
This earth once fair now corrupt from the fall,
Fellowship broken and lost to all.

Bought back with a price that we could not pay
The taint of our sin by His blood washed away,
Reconciled to the Father, all this we have gained
Salvation His gift if we call on His Name.

By Megan Carter



St Paul's Church
Springfield Road, Sale, M33 7YA



Holy Week & Easter Services 2026

Sunday 29th March Palm Sunday

10am with Procession & Blessing of Palm Crosses -
please gather in the Church Hall for the start of the service
6pm Evening Prayer



Maundy Thursday 2nd April

7.30pm Commemoration of the Last Supper,
foot-washing, communion and vigil.



Good Friday 3rd April

2-3pm The Last Hour - a *service of reading, music and reflection.*



Holy Saturday 4th April

8-9pm Easter Vigil with renewal of baptism vows.
Please note part of this service will take place outdoors.



Easter Sunday 5th April

10am Sung Communion
6pm Taize prayer stations



For more information please take a look at our webpage: <https://stpaulsale.co.uk> or phone 0161 9620082 or email: officestpaulsale@gmail.com

Reflecting Faith: 'Breaking the Word'

For the last few months, we've been looking at the way that church services are put together. Recently we looked at the reading of the gospel, and how we honour that in our own body language (by standing up).

This month we will move on to 'The Sermon' which is often known as 'Breaking the Word'. This parallels if you like, the 'Breaking of the Bread' which follows later in the service.

The Sermon is intended to be an expansion and perhaps an explanation of the Bible readings that have been used in the service. Often it sets the scene and context for the verses which are set at what often seems quite random and disconnected.

This is particularly true of the Old Testament reading, where not only the verses may be unconnected to readings from previous services, but often they are taken from totally different books; Isaiah one week and Jeremiah another.

So what is the preacher's task here? It was once described to me as: to comfort the disturbed and to disturb the comfortable! That sounds a bit harsh, but when you think about it, isn't that what we really need from our God? When we are in difficulties, whatever the cause, we need to know He's there, and that He has our back, so to speak.

When things are going well for us, then that's a good time to be working on recognising another weakness in ourselves and working towards lessening it.

There's no sitting back on our laurels when we work for the Lord.

This month

As we start Lent this month, have a good listen to a few sermons. You can catch them in a church service or even on your computer. Most cathedrals have a website where they record their Sunday service in whole or in part, which you can listen to and take part wherever you are.

How were you before the sermon started and how did you feel at the end – was there something in it that you will think about over the coming week, or was it lovely comfort food? Whichever it was, may it bless you as you prepare for Lent.

From the Parish Registers

Congratulations to

Iris
Nova
Rosalyn
Olivia

Recently baptised, we welcome you to St Paul's and pray for you and your families as you continue to embark on a journey of faith.

St Paul's Church, Sale

Stations of the Cross



7.30pm—8.30pm
Thursday 26th February
Thursday 12th March
Thursday 26th March

A series of meditations, prayer and song as we journey around the church following the Stations of the Cross.

For more information please contact Becky on 07584604627
or email: revbmathewstpaulsale@gmail.com



at St. Paul's Sale

What?

Sunday School for 0-7 year-olds and monthly All-Age Worship.

When?

Sundays at 10am
(Sunday school is term-time only).

Where?

Sunday school: St. Paul's church hall (meet in church in the children's area).

All-age worship: in church.

I Can't wait
to see you!



No Wiggle Worship	January	February	March	April
1st Sunday	School holidays	Sunday school	Sunday school	School holidays
2nd Sunday	All-Age Wiggle Worship	All-Age Wiggle Worship	All-Age Wiggle Worship	All-Age Wiggle Worship
3rd Sunday	Sunday school	School holidays	Sunday school	Sunday school
4th Sunday	Sunday school	School holidays	Sunday school	Sunday school
5th Sunday			School holidays	

For more information, ask for **Laura** or speak to a member of the **Clergy**.

Altrincham Interfaith Group



presents an

ENTERTAINMENT EVENING

Thursday 12th February

7.00 pm

All Saints Church Hall

Hale Road, Hale Barns,
Altrincham WA15 8SP



Adults £5.00 Children under 11 yrs free

Please register using this link and then follow instructions to pay on-line.

<https://forms.gle/pdFGkHybUFgWtZN9A>

Otherwise contact secretary@altrincham-interfaith.org.uk



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STOP PRESS!!! Microsoft have now removed support for all Windows XP systems, which could affect the security of your software. If you are using XP, do give me a call for FREE & independent advice.

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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)

Joyce Green	973-0396
Eileen Craven	283-7668
Jean Law	962-6761
Joe & Laura Jackson	
Lisa Clarke	
Vicky Moore	
Gill Etherington	



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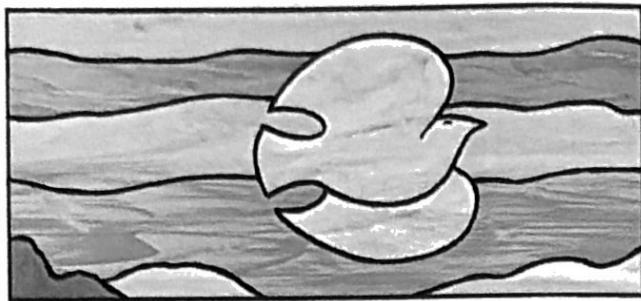


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February 2026

1 st February	Sunday	10.00am 4.00pm	Parish Eucharist Taize Evening Prayer
3 rd February	Tuesday	9.30am	Babes & Tots
4 th February	Wednesday	10.00am	Communion Service (CW)
6 th February	Friday	1.30pm	Community Choir
8 th February	Sunday	10.00am 4.00pm	All Age Worship Racial Justice and Loving your Neighbour Holy Communion
10 th February	Tuesday	9.30am 1.30pm	Babes & Tots Tuesday Group (AGM)
11 th February	Wednesday	10.00am	Communion Service (BCP)
12 th February	Thursday	7.00pm	Altrincham Interfaith Group Entertainment Evening
			All Saints Church Hall, Hale Barns – Tickets £5 (11 & under free)
13 th February	Friday	1.30pm	Community Choir
15 th February	Sunday	10.00am 4.00pm	Parish Eucharist Evening Prayer
Deadline for the March Parish News			
17 th February	Tuesday	9.30am	NO Babes & Tots
18 th February	Wednesday	10.00am	Communion Service (BCP)
Ash Wednesday		7.30pm	Holy Communion
Both Services include the Imposition of Ashes			
19 th February	Friday	1.30pm	NO Community Choir
22 nd February	Sunday	10.00am 4.00pm	Parish Eucharist Evening Prayer
24 th February	Tuesday	9.30am	Babes & Tots
25 th February	Wednesday	10.00am	Communion Service (BCP)
26 th February	Thursday	7.30pm	Stations of the Cross
27 th February	Friday	1.30pm	Community Choir

Pray

(Mt 6:5,9)

When you pray...

Words and wisdom of Jesus –
He doesn't say, *if* or *in case*,
He says, *when...* you pray.

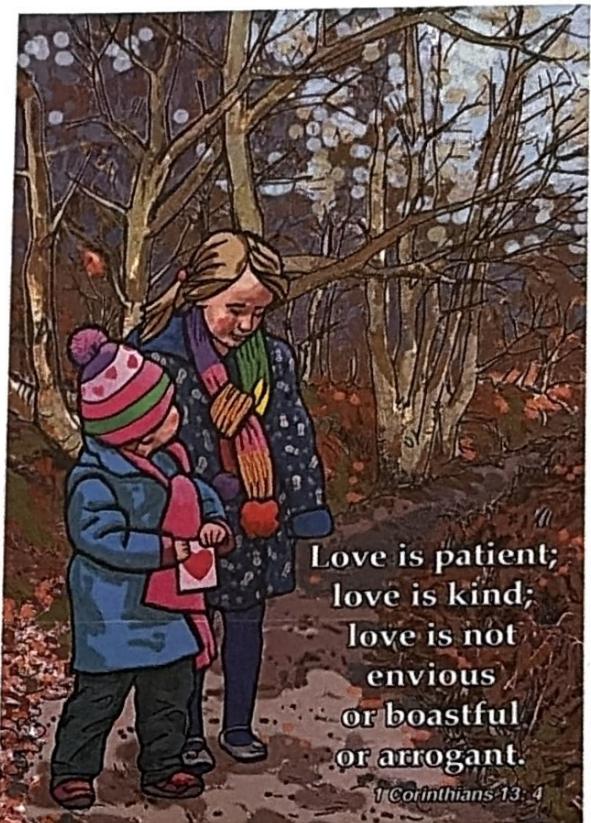
And we will.

From deep within,
Our spirit calls out to God,
Created to communicate with the Creator.

Cinemas can ban,
Statistics can suggest we won't,
But Jesus says, *when you pray...*
Say, *Our Father*,
And when we do, He hears and answers
And pours out His love,
Always.

By Daphne Kitching

The free phone-line Daily Hope continues to be a source of inspiration for many who cannot get to church:



Next Month— March 2026

1 st March	Sunday	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
		6.00pm	Taize Evening Prayer3
3 rd March	Tuesday	9.30am	Babes & Tots
4 th March	Wednesday	10.00am	Communion Service (CW)
6 th March	Friday	1.30pm	Community Choir

*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—*

offices@pauls.org.uk

St. Paul's Parish Directory

Vicar:	*	Revd. Becky Mathew	0161 217-8795/ 07584604627 revbmathewstpaulsale@gmail.com
Associate Ministers:	*	Revd. Dr Lisa Redfern	
	*	Revd. Dr Margaret Jones	973-7790
	*	Revd. Shemil Mathew	0161 2178795
Churchwardens:	*	Yvonne Stevenson	07946 644214
		Vacant	
Pastoral Workers:	*	Yvonne Kerridge	962-4066
	*	Karen Salisbury	07854 171308
Treasurer to the PCC:	*	Joe Blaney	treasurerstpaulsale@gmail.com
Secretary to the PCC:	*	Karen Salisbury	07854 171308
Director of Music:		Anne Allen	01925-763103
Assistant Organist:		Kevin Drury	962-7963
Safeguarding Officer	*	Fiona Vaughan-Thomas	safeguardingstpaulsale@gmail.com
Parish Giving Officer		Brian Kerridge	962-4066
Electoral Roll Officer:	*	Yvonne Stevenson	07946 644214
Parish News Editor:	*	Karen Salisbury	07854 171308
Eco Church Champion	*	Vicky Moore	vicky.moore@hotmail.co.uk
Bible Reading Fellowship:	*	Rachel Lee	973-1282 / 07710 717444
Women's Tuesday Group:			
St. Paul's Babes & Tots			
Tower Warden:		Ian Moore	0787-670-6834
Christian Aid:		Anita Evans	973-4679
Children's Society Rep:		Joyce Green	973-0396
Wiggle Worship	*	Laura Jackson	TBC
Church Hall Bookings:		Contact via the Parish Office	

4th Sale Central (St. Paul's) Rainbows, Brownies & Guides
Vicky Williams 0798-652-5898

Parish Office (Unmanned) 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 so might not reply or respond immediately to your calls and emails. Please leave an answerphone message.

Notices for the weekly pew-sheet please contact Revd Becky

Parish Organisations affiliated to St Paul's

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

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