



# Newsletter

## 15 & 22 February 2026



Transfiguration 15 February

Ash Wednesday 18 February

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**Services for Sunday 15 February 2026 1 before Lent: Transfiguration**

St Paul's 10am **All Age Worship** lead and preach Anthea Darlington

St Andrew's 11am **Holy Communion** preside and preach Rev Hilary Shedlock

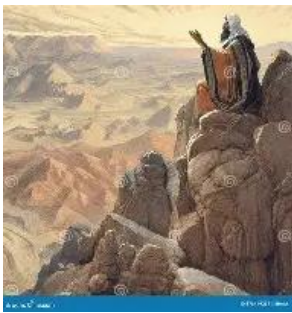
**Services for Sunday 22 February 2026 Lent 1**

St Paul's 10am **Holy Communion** preach and preside Rev Mike Dyson

St Andrew's 11am **Thinking Day service with the uniformed organisations** lead and preach Rev Avis Gordon and Debs Smith



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Readings for Sun 15 February Exodus 24: 12-end(1) *Moses on Mt Sinai*

Matthew 17: 1-9 (2) *The Transfiguration*

Readings for Sun 22 February Gen 2:15-17,3:1-7(3) *The first sin and its punishment*

Matt 4: 1-11 (4) *Temptation of Jesus*

Wed 18 Feb: Psalm 51: 1-18; Matt 6: 1-6,16-21; Wed 25 Feb: Psalm 77 Luke 11:29-32

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# Lent



The season of **Lent** begins this week on **Ash Wednesday**. Symbols of Lent include palm branches, ashes, the colour purple, the cross and the bread and wine. Here are some meaningful things to do during Lent.

- Aim to read the Bible every day
- Use the Parish Prayer Diary to pray for people and events
- Pray before starting something- work, cleaning, paperwork, having a rest
- Aim, if you can, to attend the Lent Course- important to do something together
- Put significant services in your diary (Ash Wednesday with Lisa Battye, Maundy Thursday evening meal and communion; Good Friday Walk of Witness and Reflection)
- Start a gratitude journal... write one line each day about something you are grateful for
- Take on doing something for 40 days- read a whole book, be selective about TV watching

- Throw away (or donate) 40 things for 40 days. Declutter. Get rid of all the stuff that you don't really need.
- Try to have a short walk most days
- Be more charitable.... give to your favourite charity
- Donate a tin to St James' food bank
- Write a card, email, WhatsApp or letter to someone you think will appreciate it
- Smile and say 'Thankyou' more often
- Phone someone you haven't spoken to for a while
- Give a random gift to someone e.g. a bunch of daffodils
- Don't gossip
- Don't complain – it's a season of gratitude. Put your doubts behind you: think positively



**Our Prayers.** We continue to pray for Tracy Kehoe, Maureen Roberts, Michael Teo, Malcolm West, Darren O'Dell and others known to you who are in need of prayer at this time. From Pam and Paul: 'we would like to express our deepest gratitude to the church family for all the beautiful cards and words of comfort, and the support we have received following the loss of Pam's lovely Mum. Thankyou all so much.'



### **A prayer for Lent.**

Lord Jesus, in this season of Lent, I surrender my plans and ask for Your wisdom to guide me. Show me where You are leading and give me the courage to follow, even when the way is uncertain. Help me to trust that Your plans are always for my good and Your glory. Let this time of reflection draw me closer to Your will. Thank You for walking with me every step of the way. Amen.

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**Lent course.** The first of 5 sessions (17 Feb, 3,17,24 and 31 March) takes place this Tuesday at 7pm in the Social Area. It will replace Bible Study at 5 Moorside Road which will resume after Easter on 21 April. An hour of prayer, bible study and praise beginning this week with Rule of Life. Come and join us! As it's Shrove Tuesday, there will be pancakes.

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**Events committee.** As we begin thinking about ways in which we can fundraise to pay our way while at the same time reaching out to our wider community, it's time to set up a group to spearhead this. If you are interested in being involved in planning how to move forward (it will meet as and when required, so not a regular commitment), please see Anthea or Eileen.

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**St Paul's School.** Mr Puckey our new head has now met all the governors at his first governors' meeting. Janet Wood, who retired last summer from the governing body, has received a letter of thanks from the Diocesan Board of Education for her years of service. Thank you, Janet! Staff and children are now on their half term break.



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### **Details of Services and Events for the next 2 weeks**

**Tuesday 17 February:** 7pm **Lent course 1** in St Paul's Social Area. Pancakes!

**Wed 18 February:** **Holy Communion for Ash Wednesday with ashing** 10am with Rev Lisa Battye

**Thursday 19 February:** 7pm **Homegroup** at 47 Agecroft Road West

**Monday 23 February:** **Pastoral team and Leadership Team meeting** 7pm 5 Moorside Road

**Tuesday 24 February:** 1.30pm **Time Out** Tesco local champion; favourite places (pics)

**Wednesday 25 Feb:** 10am **Holy Communion** with Rev David Cooper, Mission Community lead  
Look out for details of our Mission Community/Churches Together in Prestwich and Kersal **World Day of Prayer** on 4 March at 10am at St Paul's in our next edition.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Current Clergy Team:  
Revd Mike Dyson (Associate Minister)  
792 1098 [beardandsandals@hotmail.com](mailto:beardandsandals@hotmail.com)  
Revd Hilary Shedlock (Associate Minister)  
07817 651408 [revhilaryshedlock@gmail.com](mailto:revhilaryshedlock@gmail.com)  
Revd Andy Smith (Associate Priest)  
07496726669 [smudger1275@gmail.com](mailto:smudger1275@gmail.com)

### **All other needs:**

**David Martin** Parish Churchwarden  
0161 766 2736 [dandmartin@live.co.uk](mailto:dandmartin@live.co.uk)  
**Anthea Darlington** Parish Churchwarden, Data Officer,  
Bookings 0161 792 1780 [awdarlington@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:awdarlington@hotmail.co.uk)  
**Eileen Booth** PCC Secretary 0161 792 9960  
[eileenchriss5@gmail.com](mailto:eileenchriss5@gmail.com)

**For more information** visit our websites:

St Paul's: [www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15877](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15877)

St Andrew's: [www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15878](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15878)