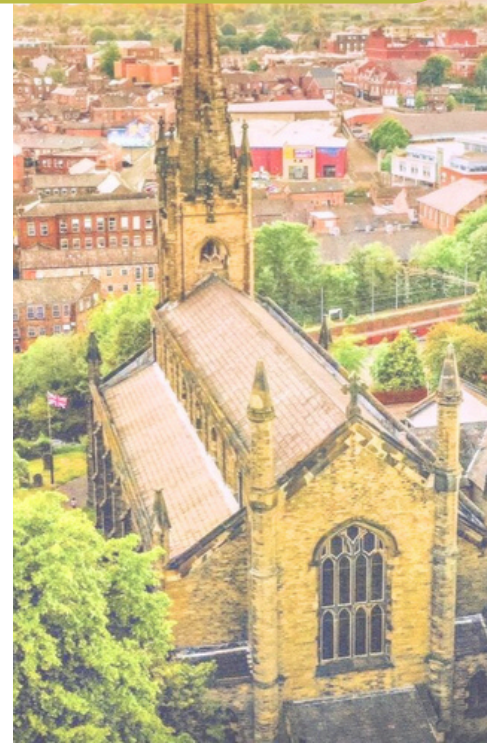




THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

# THE PARISH OF ST PAUL'S MACCLESFIELD

SEPTEMBER 2025



Here's a few pictures from our ever popular Saturday Café



Could you spare a few hours  
on a Saturday morning (once  
a month) to make tea and  
coffee, cook breakfasts, make  
toast or just chat  
to the people attending?  
If so, please let us know.  
Please contact David Furphy  
who is coordinating the  
volunteer list.

David can be emailed on  
[davidfurphy@hotmail.com](mailto:davidfurphy@hotmail.com)



Our Saturday Café is a designated 'Warm Space' and  
registered with Cheshire East Council for the Winter of  
2024/2025. Everyone is welcome to attend this vital and  
well established community asset.

## In this newsletter:

Events coming up at St Paul's  
and Rainow Parishes...

Reverend's Reflections  
Warden's Warblings  
Ramblings from a Reader

Roof Appeal &  
Fundraising Update

Services at St Paul's and  
Rainow Parishes

Saturday Breakfast Café

Family History Research

Service recordings on  
YouTube

... and much more.

Issue 50p  
(£5 per year)



*Bishop Sam & Revd Simon*

### **New Beginnings and the Enduring Need for Christ**

As we turn the calendar to September, the signs of a new term are all around us. Children with fresh uniforms, students preparing for university, and even those of us long out of education still feel that subtle pull toward fresh starts and renewed purpose. September often feels more like the “new year” than January does—a season of possibility.

New beginnings are something the Christian faith understands deeply. At the heart of the gospel is the promise that, in Christ, we are made new. “If anyone is in Christ,” writes Paul, “they are a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!” (2 Corinthians 5:17). This isn’t just a one-time event but a daily invitation. As we step into this new term—whether that’s returning to routines, starting new ventures, or simply navigating the changing season—we are reminded that God is always doing something new in our lives.

Yet as we look around Britain today, it is clear that our nation is in need of renewal. Public trust is often shaken. Loneliness and anxiety are growing realities. Many people are searching for something deeper, truer, more hopeful. And this is where Christianity still speaks with a powerful and relevant voice. The message of grace, forgiveness, community, and hope in Christ is not just ancient—it is urgent.

In times of uncertainty, the local church becomes even more essential. It is here that people can find not just answers but belonging. Not just tradition, but transformation. Not just services, but service.

I’ve been encouraged by simple but profound moments in our own setting in recent weeks: the team at St Paul’s providing breakfast each Saturday morning for the homeless and the lonely, the bustling Cosy Cuppa in Rainow is a space for people to come together and share fellowship; or the quiet but faithful commitment of those who clean, care, and prepare our churches week in and week out. These are not just “church activities”—they are signs of the Kingdom of God breaking through.

This term let’s recommit to being the kind of church and the kind of people that live out the love of Jesus in ways both bold and humble. Whether it’s welcoming someone new to our congregation, volunteering with a local charity or on a church rota, inviting a friend to church, or simply praying for our neighbours—we all have a part to play.

The needs are great, but so is the grace of God. And in Him, every beginning is sacred. As we embrace the opportunities of this new term, may we do so with open hearts and willing hands, trusting that God is already at work among us and ahead of us.

*God of all seasons,*

*You make all things new in your time.*

*As we step into this new term, renew our hearts, refresh our purpose,*

*and guide our steps in the way of Christ.*

*Help us to be a light in our community,*

*and to walk each day with faith, hope, and love.*

*In Jesus’ name we pray,  
Amen.*

Yours in Christ,  
Simon





## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST PAUL'S

### Every Week:

<i>Mondays</i>	10am-11am 5.30pm	Chair Yoga Yoga
<i>Tuesdays</i>	6.30pm 7.45pm	Brownies (term time) Guides (term time)
<i>Wednesdays</i>	9.15am-10.15am 1.30pm-3.30pm 6pm 7.30pm	Pilates Knit and Natter Beavers (term time) Cubs (term time)
<i>Thursdays</i>	2.15pm-3.45pm 6pm	Cantata - Macclesfield Afternoon Choir Rainbows (term time)
<i>Fridays</i>	10.00am-11.30am 7.30pm	Toddler Group (term time) Scouts (term time)
<i>Saturdays</i>	9.30am-12noon	St Paul's Breakfast Café



**Lunch club**  
**Thursdays**  
**11th & 25th Sept**  
**12.30pm**  
**in the Parish Centre**  
**£5 each**  
 (ring 501773 for info)

## SEPTEMBER

<b>7 SUN</b>	<b>TRINITY 12</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Parish Communion with Revd Simon</b> ( <i>Junior Church in the Centre tbc</i> )
<b>13 Sat</b>		<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>FAMILY RACE NIGHT FUNDRAISER</b> (see poster on page 5)
<b>14 SUN</b>	<b>TRINITY 13</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>All Age Service with The Wardens</b>
<b>17 Wed</b>		<b>11.00am</b>	Mid-week Communion with Revd Simon (church)
<b>21 SUN</b>	<b>TRINITY 14</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Parish Communion with Revd Simon</b> ( <i>Junior Church in the Centre</i> )
<b>28 SUN</b>	<b>TRINITY 15</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Family Communion with Canon Veronica &amp; Bev</b>

## OCTOBER

<b>1 Wed</b>		<b>11.00am</b>	Mid-week Morning Prayer with Lay Minister Robert (Parish Centre)
<b>5 SUN</b>	<b>TRINITY 16</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Parish Communion with Revd Simon</b> ( <i>Junior Church in the Centre tbc</i> )
<b>11 Sat</b>		<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>HARVEST SUPPER</b> (see poster on page 5)
<b>12 SUN</b>	<b>HARVEST</b>	<b>10.30am</b> <b>6.00pm</b>	<b>All Age Harvest Festival Service with The Wardens</b> Evensong with St Paul's and Rainow Choir
<b>15 Wed</b>		<b>11.00am</b>	Mid-week Communion with Revd Simon (church)

ALL SERVICES ARE FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP

## WHO ARE YOU?

### Family History Research

Would you like to know more about your UK ancestors?

#### How I can help you:

If your ancestors lived in England and Wales, I can carry out an online search. This will usually trace families back to the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, although this can be tricky for very common surnames. Some online records go back further. Searching in Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Isle of Man or the Channel Islands will usually incur additional costs, and records are not so readily available.

#### HEALTH WARNING:

If you would be offended to find examples of ILLEGITIMACY, INSANITY or CRIMINALITY in your family, then do not search for your ancestors or cousins. These phenomena can be found in practically ALL families! (But it can be quite interesting!)

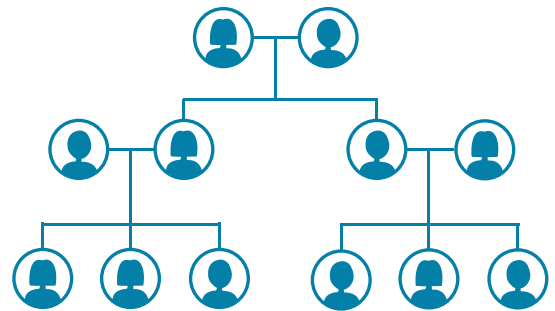


#### THE DEAL

- Tell me as much as possible about your parents and grandparents.  
(If you have any birth or marriage certificates it would be helpful if I could see them.)
- I will do the research and produce a report and a family tree at no charge to you.
- You can decide how much the work is worth to you and make a suitable donation to St Paul's.

Note: I can guarantee to LOOK, but I cannot guarantee to FIND!

*Dave Williams*



## HYMNS AND PIMMS



Our first Hymns and Pimms event took place on the last Saturday in June. Over 40 people enjoyed refreshing Pimms, lovely nibbles and hearty hymn singing on a beautiful June afternoon. We will certainly be doing this again next year. Don't miss out!





# FAMILY RACE NIGHT FUNDRAISER

A RACE NIGHT FUNDRAISER IS AN EXCITING AND ENGAGING EVENT THAT COMBINES THE THRILL OF HORSE RACING WITH THE SPIRIT OF CHARITABLE GIVING.



**SATURDAY 13  
SEPTEMBER**

**6.00PM**

**RAFFLE & PRIZES  
ON THE NIGHT**

**BRING YOUR OWN BOTTLE**

**£10 PER PERSON**

**INCLUDES HOTPOT SUPPER & PLAY BETTING MONEY**

(CHILDREN UNDER 16 FREE WITH PIZZA OPTION)

*Tickets can be booked through this link on your phone camera,  
by calling the Parish Office (501773) or email [emma@stpaulsmacc.org](mailto:emma@stpaulsmacc.org)*



**ST PAUL'S CHURCH | GLEGG STREET | MACCLESFIELD | SK11 7AJ**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME AND WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU.**

REG. CHARITY NUMBER: 1210861

## HARVEST SUPPER & BEETLE DRIVE

**SATURDAY 11 OCTOBER @ 6.00PM**

**MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

## ALL AGE HARVEST SERVICE

**with our Girlguiding and Scouting Groups**

**SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER @ 10.30AM**

After the Service there will be refreshments in the Parish Centre.

This year we will be supporting our  
Local Hostels and Food Banks

They would be grateful for staple food cupboard items  
and toiletries. Thank you.



*Churchwardens Nick & Matt and Ted*

Well, the summer holidays are now over. They certainly seemed to have gone quick this year but haven't we been blessed with some lovely weather?

We've enjoyed some time away visiting Skipton for a few days along with Ted and Joan Mott. We had a lovely day trip to the Lakes and Bowness where we found the town church serving lunches so of course we went in. It was a lovely church, very welcoming (much like St Paul's) and we had a look around and a lovely lunch. A nice chat with the Vicar too and as always, a Macclesfield connection comes up in the fact that Rev Gary Bowness helped out occasionally at the church covering services like he did for St Paul's. We also visited Liverpool Cathedral and went to the top taking in the views. Time has also been spent at the caravan and also a delightful weekend in Porthmadog in a several hundred-year-old cottage with the company of the lovely Canon Veronica and Dave. Much chatter, good food, good company and the occasional seas dip (we even persuaded Canon Veronica to join us!). We took part in short service of Holy Communion outside the cottage with the birds singing and the sound of laughter

from the neighbouring cottage. A really lovely moment of the weekend.

We hope that if you've been away you've had chance to rest and recharge.

Back to business though and September signals the start of a busy end of year with Harvest, all souls, remembrance and yes, we are saying it, Advent and Christmas as well as continuing to push forward with the roof and refurb appeal.

It was lovely to look back during the August All Age worship at photos from the last two years. So much wonderful stuff goes on in this place and you don't realise it until you look back. So much has gone on but there is so much more yet to come. The biggest of these is completing the feasibility study for the refurb project and we look forward to finalising the start date of this in the coming weeks with the Architect. The project is going to be biggest and most important decision making in the history of this place but we know what the Lord calls us to do here in this place and community.

'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future'. Jeremiah 29:11

Love, Matt & Nick xx







**SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER**

**9:30am to 12:30pm**

The building will be open for everyone to come and look around and spend some quiet time as well as hear about our plans for the refurb project.

Saturday café will be running as well so a perfect opportunity to combine visits to both.

Other buildings will be open across the town as well during the day. For more information on this see the Macclesfield Town Council Facebook page in the run up to the day.

If anyone wishes to help out on the morning to welcome any visitors, then please let Matt or Nick know asap.



**SAVE THE DATE**

Our annual **Christmas Fair** will take place on **Saturday 29 November** between 10:30am and 12:30pm.

The usual stalls and entertainment will be on hand to start off the Christmas season! We look forward to see you there!

**THANKS  
FROM  
MATT**

Matt & Family would like to thank all those who attended the Burial of

Ashes of Val recently. It meant a great deal to see so many people saying one last farewell to Val before being reunited with her beloved Hedley.



**BOOK EXCHANGE STALL**

Our book table in the hall is really popular and is a good income generator for our funds.

We appreciate donations of books for all ages - including children and adult, which are in good condition.



Please could we ask that if you bring books and the two baskets are full on the table, to please take them back home with you for another time or drop them at a charity shop rather than pile them on the baskets or leave them underneath. Thank you for your help and support.

## RUSHBEARING



On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August a healthy contingent from St Paul's went up the hill to Forest Chapel for the Annual Rushbearing Service.

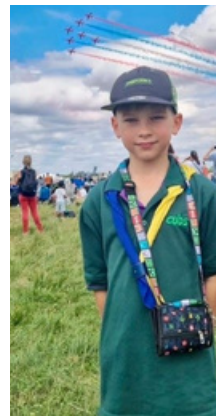
The beautiful sunny weather swelled a big congregation inside and outside the church. Here are a few photos from the wonderful service.



## SCOUTING AIR SHOW

Our Cubs, Beavers and Scouts had a trip to remember to the Royal Air Tattoo at RAF Fairford back in July. An early start from Macclesfield meant a full day exploring the show and watching the amazing aircraft displays. We have heard how amazed and inspired the children were.

Thank you to Piotr for organising this memorable trip and those that helped on the day to ensure all was safe and enjoyable.



## FEEDBACK ABOUT OUR NEWSLETTER

Here are some of the lovely reviews of our Parish Magazine which have been received:

*'Your Parish News is a credit to the team at St Paul's.'*

*'Thankyou for the latest St Paul's Newsletter. We're always interested to hear about what's going on.'*

*'Thank you for sending me your newsletter – it's brilliant, as always. Well done to the team at St Paul's.'*





The roof appeal  
fund total is:

**£46,387.93**

(end August 2025)

A reminder of what our thoughts for 'first phase' of the project are:

- *Re-roof the upper and lower rooves of the church, including modifications to the guttering to prevent water getting into the building in the future*
- *Replace and re-plaster all internal ceilings panels*
  - *Re-plaster internal walls where needed*
  - *Redecorate the building internally*
- *Re-light the building with energy efficient lighting*
  - *Modernise the sound and media system*
- *Reheat the building in an energy efficient way*
  - *Repair the spire where issues are arising*

Matt, Nick and Vicar Simon had a positive meeting recently with Architect Ed Kepzyck and Sheena Wilson (Diocesan Buildings Advisor) about how to really begin to move the project on. Lots of discussion was had around what stages we need to complete to feel ready to move to the next stage. From the meeting we are going to do the following:

- \* Create a project brief (what do we want and why)
- \* Gain PCC approval for a Feasibility Study for the project to be completed by the Architect. APPROVED BY PCC IN JULY 2025.
- \* Arrange for Quinquennial Inspection to take place to aid the study
- \* Re-meet once completed and look to send the study to the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) for first thoughts and then wider sharing to all stakeholders.

At the meeting of the PCC on 24th June, approval was met unanimously by all members to instruct our Architects to undertake a Feasibility Study. This is a costly piece of work (Approx £10,000) but a vitally important part of any project to be completed. The study will look at what we want, consultations completed, a survey of the building (above and beyond the Quinquennial inspection) options of project style including re-ordering. It is looking likely that this is something that we will have to consider extremely seriously to ensure the future of the building, ensuring worship space remains the focus but with a flexible community space to help us become a beacon of light in our community. If anyone wishes to have a look at an example study then please do ask and we will be happy to show you.

The study will take 2-3 months to complete from start date and as soon as we know when this is we will let you know and of course we will share as much of this as possible with you.

Look out in the coming weeks for an email asking you to think about and share with us what is important about the church now and what do you think we could do with the space. More in depth detail about this will be in the email once sent out.

This is really an exciting time for St Paul's as we move towards the biggest refurbishment of the building in it's 180 year history and look to secure the future of the church and have a legacy to pass on to future generations. We are both genuinely excited by the opportunities that await us.

Please do raise any questions with us (Matt, Nick, Vicar Simon) as we want to ensure everyone has the opportunity to have their say and share their feelings.



Just to tease you and get you thinking, here are some AI generated images of what the church could look like as a big open space. These are ONLY artificially generated and not final decisions of actions to be taken.

Matt & Nick



## ROOF APPEAL GIVING

**Here is the link to donate online for the roof appeal:**

**<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/9da68a7a-9297-4ebf-8046-c78a2f4c2331>**

If you wish to make a cash or cheque donation to the appeal, please put it in an envelope and hand to either the Treasurer (Malcolm Brown) or the Wardens with the envelope clearly marked 'For the roof appeal'. This then means it is placed in a restricted account just for the roof appeal and cannot be used for anything else.

Please also share whether we are able to reclaim gift aid on the donation too as this will make a huge difference for us! We can claim from HMRC 25p for every £1 donated to us at no extra cost to you or us. If you are posting a donation, please pop a note inside to the same effect.

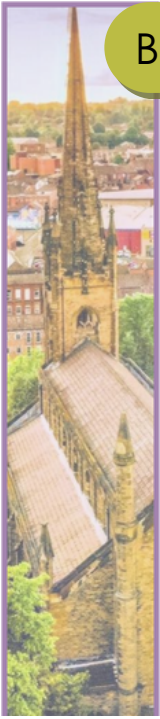
If you wish to donate via bank transfer then please do contact us for the bank details (office telephone number 01625 501773). Thank you for your support.



You can also donate by scanning the QR code



## BUILDINGS UPDATE



There has been little rain in recent weeks, but after the last rain showers we have noticed an issue around one of the north side clerestory windows of wet patches on the wall. We are going to investigate this further, hopefully with some help with someone with a drone so we can see what is going on directly above the window on the roof!

We continue to monitor the plaster work in some parts and you may have noticed a couple of pews roped off. This is due to damaged plaster that has dried out and gone powdery falling. We are looking at what remedial work we can do to remedy this. Please bear with us.

We are still awaiting Bailey Steeplejacks to come along with their big ladders to replace some of the upper level lightbulbs for us.

Electrical testing has been completed and there is some remedial work to be completed which is in hand with the contractors.

We need to look into doing some work on the Louvres of the south side of the church as these have become incredibly dislodged and will almost certainly be letting rain water in. We are going to see what funding is available to remedy this.

For a further update on the refurb project, please read the information in the roof appeal section of the newsletter.

Thanks to everyone who helps in anyway with the upkeep of the church and Parish Centre.

## COMMUNITY CHOIR



The Macclesfield Afternoon Community Choir held their summer concert in church in July. This was the best attended concert to date with over 130 in attendance. Following excellent ticket sales and on the door sales, The Community Choir make a generous donation to our Roof Appeal to which we are very grateful for.



## BEV'S MAGIC

Thank you Bev for the fantastic illustration of the Holy Trinity with your superb magic trick!

We look forward to more of Bev's magic and sermons in upcoming Family Communion Services on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month.





**The Cheshire Chamber Collective** return to Rainow Church, to present a concert of delightful music for an autumnal afternoon.

**Sunday 28th September 2025 at 2.30pm**

**Tickets £10 (children and students free of charge)**

**Interval refreshments included in ticket price**

**Tickets on the door or tel. 01625 573761**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAINOW

Every Tues	10.00 am	Cosy Cuppa
Every Wed	12.30 pm	Light in the Forest (Forest Chapel)
4 Thurs	11.30am	Holy Communion followed by a Bring and Share lunch in the centre
	1.30pm	Jolly Tots in the centre
<b>7 SUN</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Parish Communion &amp; Jr Church</b>
	3.00 pm	Celtic Style Euch. (Forest Chapel)
<b>14 SUN</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Parish Communion &amp; Jr Church</b>
15 Tues	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union meeting
18 Thurs	1.30pm	Jolly Tots in the centre
19 Fri	7.30pm	Mothers' Union Pudding Party
<b>21 SUN</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>All Age Worship</b>
	3.00 pm	Harvest Festival (Jenkin Chapel)
27 Sat	10.00 am	Saturday Café
<b>28 SUN</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Civic Service</b>
	2.30pm	Concert by the Cheshire Chamber Collective
<b>October</b>		
2 Thurs	11.30am	Holy Communion followed by a Bring and Share lunch in the centre
	1.30pm	Jolly Tots in the centre
<b>5 SUN</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Parish Communion &amp; Jr Church</b>
	3.00pm	Harvest Festival (Forest Chapel)

## RAINOW FETE

At the Rainow Fete in July on a scorching hot day St Paul's ran the 'Krazy kitchen' and they had a smashing time! Quite odd how smashing plates can be so therapeutic to do and watch! Matt and Nick were so busy they forgot to take a selfie! Thanks all the helpers.

It was great to have a presence at the fete which was a real community event enjoyed by everyone. A lot of work goes into staging the event and special mentions must go to the Warrington Family and their team for all that they do.



A huge well done also to Matt Otley for his participation in the Kerridge Climb Fell race as part of the fete. How on earth Matt completed it so quickly in the heat though!



## RAMBLINGS OF A READER

On holiday at Morecambe this summer, one day we decided to have an adventure on the train and go across the border into Cumbria to visit Ulverston. We knew the train journey would be enjoyable as it follows the coastline most of the way. We didn't know what to expect of Ulverston, but off we went, and we weren't disappointed. The day was very hot, and we could have used one of the umbrellas

that adorned the High St (as shown here) as a parasol. We had a very good chippy lunch, a great pint of beer at a fascinating pub, spent more money than we intended on three brooches, a pair of earrings, a caddy spoon, a pickle fork and a small fork (what that ones for we haven't a clue) at a small antique shop,



and had our picture taken with Ulverston famous son, Stan Laurel of Laurel and Hardy fame.

As a child I didn't think much of Laurel and Hardy, but as an adult I can appreciate their timing and brilliance.

Humour is subjective, what to one person is funny to another is not, I love Peter Kay, and the late great Victoria Wood (might be a little biased as both my grandsons were born in Bolton and live on the Bolton, Bury border) and of course Morecambe & Wise but a lot of modern comedians I have little time for, and no it isn't because I'm getting old!!

Laughing is good for us, and I'd much rather see a happy face than one with a frown on it, so why do we not see more smiles and laughter in churches? When I'm leading worship and I look out at the many congregations I have faced, all I can usually see is serious faces, looking back at me. Now I know we have an awesome God, who is to be worshiped and obeyed, and is also mighty and fearful, but he is our loving heavenly Father, who made each one of us in his image, and gave each of us the gift of laughter.

We must look far and wide to find a picture of Jesus laughing, but I do have one. It may also come as a surprise to some of you that there is a lot of humour in our bibles, unfortunately we read them with so much reverence that we can miss the humour, as much of it is very subtle.



I'd be surprised if anyone today can read the story of Balaam's donkey without thinking of Donkey from the Shrek films, and a smile appearing on their face. Or smiling at the young servant girl who instead of unlocking the door to let Peter in after his release from Prison, left him standing on the other side of the locked door while she ran to tell the other disciples, who had been praying for his release, that he was at the door.



Just a couple of stories that always bring a smile to my face, but there is one conversation between Jesus and his mother, that I see much humour and banter between mother and son in, maybe because I have two sons. I can put myself in Mary's place and see how I would have handled it. If you're wondering what story this is it's the very first miracle Jesus did, that we call 'water into wine'.

Interestingly here we have a woman telling God what to do!!

Mary is telling Jesus that the wedding host has run out of wine, an absolute disaster, and Jesus pretty much shrugs his shoulders and in modern speech says 'what do you want me to do about it', and I'm pretty sure Mary gives him the look that only a mother can give a son, in other words sort it and quickly, and Jesus does, as Mary tells the servants 'do as he tells you', what happened next, probably was not in the way that Mary thought he would sort it, but in a miraculous way he did, if you don't find humour and wonder in that, well!!

God created us, he gave us all our senses and gifts, one of those gifts is laughter.

So, let's not be afraid to bring a little laughter into our worship, or at least a smile on your face when the minister welcomes you at the start of the service.

A joke hopefully to put a smile on your face, courtesy of my later Father-in-Law.

'Why do we have a belly button. Well when God had finishing creating mankind, he went along the line, and with his finger he touches each tummy and said, you're done, you're done, you're done!!!!'

Love, Fran. x



It was a pleasure to host Minerva Daisy, a talented musician (and Helen & Peter's granddaughter!) and her band to use the church to record one of her new songs.



## MINERVA DAISY

We look forward to the final released version and we were glad that you could do this in the beautiful surrounding of our church building and we hope to

welcome you back again in the future.

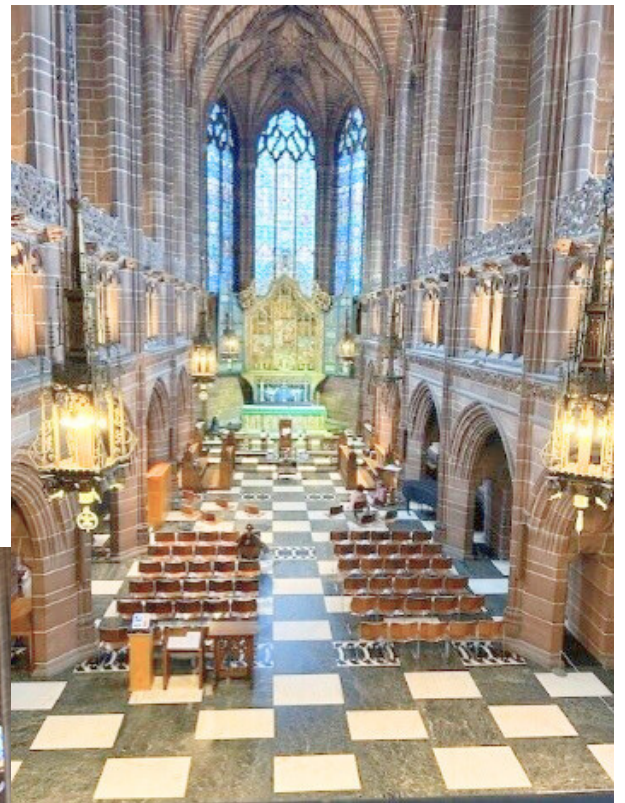
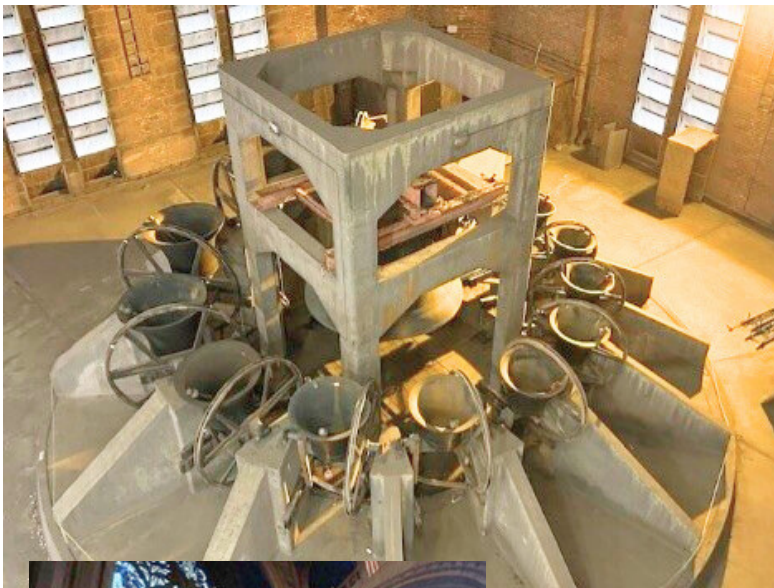
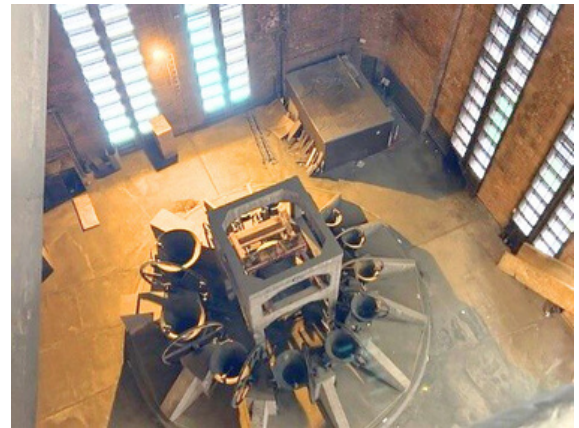
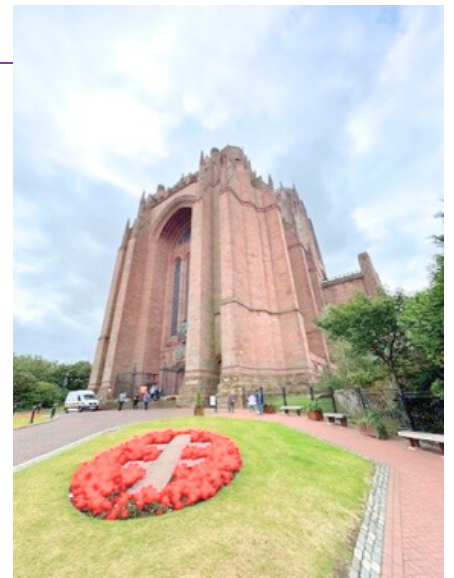
Please let us have any information or news for our **October issue by 14th Sept.**

To the Parish Office or  
[emma@stpaulsmacc.org](mailto:emma@stpaulsmacc.org)



# LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL

After a few days away in Skipton, Matt, Nick, Joan and Ted headed to Liverpool Cathedral for a visit. Liverpool Cathedral is a youngster in comparison to many other cathedrals and is a vast space with amazing views from the tower. You can pick out Chester Cathedral from the top! Here are a few pictures for you to enjoy.





# Big Summer Safeguarding Survey

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Chester

## Your Voice Matters

Please help us shape a safer Church by completing the Big Summer Safeguarding Survey. It's your chance to share your honest thoughts: to celebrate what's working well and highlight where we can do better.

It only takes a few minutes and we want to hear from everyone involved in the church, whether you're a Parishioner, a Vicar, a Youth Leader, anyone.

Use the QR code or visit [www.chesterdiocese.org](http://www.chesterdiocese.org) to begin.



**SPEAK OUT  
STAY SAFE**



## All Souls' Service

A time to remember those loved ones.  
An invitation to pause, pray and light a candle in their memory.

A thoughtful and gentle service of words and music,  
open to all.

**Sunday 19 October  
at 6.30pm**

In the service, during a time of special prayer, we will  
mention any names given in before the service.

Everyone will be invited to light a candle in memory of  
their loved ones and leave it burning on the altar as a  
visible sign of remembrance.

St Paul's Church, Glegg Street, Macclesfield, SK11 7AJ



## CAUGHT ON CAMERA

Churchwarden Matt, along with Ted, visited Ynys Llanddwyn at Newborough Beach on Anglesey recently.

The site has special Welsh cultural heritage as the island served as a site for pilgrimage for centuries.

The commanding crucifix stands tall on the island.

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

### Baptisms:

24 August | George Watson





## GIVING TO ST PAULS

We have two methods of giving at church services—so it doesn't matter if you don't carry cash around any more.



There will be a contactless card reader at the back of church to use for your offertory on the way in or out. As well as debit & credit cards, you can use your phone with Google Pay, Apple Pay or other contactless payment apps. You can put your card into the reader and use your PIN if you prefer that to contactless.



Also, there will be QR codes in your pew for you to scan with your phone's camera and key in your card details to make your offering.

Don't worry if you are not into technology and the internet. We are still delighted to accept cash or whatever else suits you best to support God's work at St Paul's!

All these facilities will let you Gift Aid your donation, if you wish, allowing us to claim an extra 25% back from HMRC at no cost to you.

If you are reading this online and would like to make a contribution towards our work in the Parish and the maintenance of the church building, you can do so by clicking on the 'DONATE' button.

**DONATE** 

Or if you prefer you can use your internet browser to go to [stpaulsmacc.org](http://stpaulsmacc.org) and scroll down to the 'DONATE' button there. THANK YOU!!



## SEASON OF CREATION

an Eco Festival of events in Macclesfield

1st September - 4th October 2025



**PEACE  
WITH CREATION**  
SEASON OF CREATION 2025

The churches of HOPE in North East Cheshire invite you to join in this period of reflection and action to cherish and protect our environment.

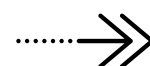
**See the calendar on the opposite page or scan the QR code for more information.**

The International Season of Creation has been celebrated by churches in Macclesfield for 10 years and is open to all local people.

In 2025, the call from the religious leaders around the world is for everyone to "create peace with creation". The hope is that Creation will find peace when justice is restored. There is still hope and the expectation for a peaceful Earth. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and be quiet, but instead to act, pray, change and reconcile with Creation and the Creator in unity, repentance and solidarity.

Action for peace can include advocacy, sustainability projects, cleaning campaigns or education to show that caring for Creation is central to our faith and how we live our lives. We must collaborate and build on diversity to achieve peace and there are opportunities in the events we have planned in and around Macclesfield to learn about, pray for and get involved in caring for Creation.

Full calendar of Season of Creation events over and on the St Alban's Church website:  
<https://stalbanmacc.org.uk/season-of-creation/>  
or contact: Bernadette Bailey [justiceandpeacemacc@gmail.com](mailto:justiceandpeacemacc@gmail.com) or 07831 647 928



# CALENDAR OF ECO EVENTS, ACTIONS AND REFLECTIONS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>31st August World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation</b></p> <p><b>Prayer Service</b> 4.00pm. To pray in an local rewilded habitat. Meet at car park at Macclesfield Leisure Centre, Priory Lane, SK10 4AF. Stall at the Treacle Market in the St Michael's Churchyard</p> <p><b>Family Cycle Ride</b> 7th along the Middlewood Way. Meet at 12.30pm below Tesco Car Park, SK10 2AB to cycle approx. 7 miles to Nelson's Pit for a picnic. Bring a packed lunch.</p> <p><b>Big Trees and Mini-Beasts—Family Fun in West Park</b> 12.00pm - 2.00pm Meet at the Rangers Hut next to the Café.</p> <p><b>Reflective Service</b> 4.30pm to celebrate the Season of Creation in the monastic garden. St. Peter's Church, Prestbury, SK10 4DG</p>	<p>Remember to say Grace before eating your meal today, and throughout the Season of Creation, thanking God for creating the food and for the people who have produced it.</p> <p><b>Care for Creation Bible Study</b> Mondays, 11.00am at East Cheshire Hospice Chapel, SK10 3DR</p> <p><b>8th</b> Have a meatless/vegan meal. Meat and cheese have a large carbon footprint. Could you do this more often during the Season of Creation and beyond?</p> <p><b>Bible Study</b> - see above</p>	<p><b>Sustainable Church Flowers Demonstration</b> 7.00—8.30pm St. Michael's Church, Market Place SK10 1DY How to provide church flowers sustainably using seasonal and local flowers and foliage. Booking required: 01625 421 984</p> <p><b>9th</b> Make do and mend rather than buying new. Find something that could be repaired and bring it to the monthly <b>Repair Café</b> on Saturday 13th September. More info email: <a href="mailto:repaircafe.macc@gmail.com">repaircafe.macc@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>15th Scoop and Scales Book Club</b> 7.30pm - 9.00pm Reading: One Garden Against the World by Kate Bradbury. Scoop and Scales. Old Sunday School, Roe Street, SK11 6UT. Sign up: <a href="http://www.scoopandscales.co.uk">www.scoopandscales.co.uk</a> <b>Bible Study</b> - see above</p>	<p>Consider how many bottles of water or soft drinks you buy. Could you replace these with tap water in a reusable bottle? Find out more: <a href="http://www.refill.org.uk">www.refill.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>Care for Creation Bible Study</b> Wednesdays, 7.00pm at East Cheshire Hospice Chapel, SK10 3DR</p> <p><b>10th</b> Remember we are part of God's creation and to take care of ourselves in the way God intended with compassion and care.</p> <p><b>Bible Study</b> - see above</p>	<p>Turn off the television, computer, mobile phone, etc. and spend half an hour going for a walk or other activity in God's natural world. Invite your family or others to join you.</p> <p><b>11th People, Planet, Pint</b> 7.00pm - 8.30pm The Snowgoose, Sunderland Street, SK11 6HN. Come and chat about local sustainability initiatives. A drink on the house for the first 10 people!</p> <p>Find out more at <a href="http://www.scoopandscales.co.uk">www.scoopandscales.co.uk</a></p>	<p><b>Foodie Friday</b> 5th</p> <p>6pm for 6.30pm St. Michael's Church, Market Place SK10 1DY 3 course meal, pay what you feel, all made from food which would otherwise be wasted. Booking required: 01625 421 984</p> <p><b>12th</b> Whilst shopping select Fairtrade, plastic free and locally produced products with low food miles. Have you shopped at <b>Scoop and Scales</b> the refill shop at the Old Sunday School, Roe Street, SK11 6UT. Find out more: <a href="http://www.scoopandscales.co.uk">www.scoopandscales.co.uk</a></p>	<p><b>6th Litter Pick</b> 10.30am. Join the monthly litter pick in Prestbury followed by tea and coffee. Meet at St. Peter's Church, Prestbury, SK10 4DG</p> <p><b>13th Repair Café</b> 10.00am - 2.00pm Community Centre, Duke Street, SK11 6UR <b>Parish Walk (4 miles)</b> Prestbury to Adlington 10.00am from St. Peter's, Prestbury, SK10 4DG. <b>Creation Walk I (6 miles)</b> 10.00am start &amp; finish at Holy Trinity Church, SK10 2PX Contact Andrea: 07366 561 955</p>
<p><b>21st Litter Pick</b> 11.30am after the service St. Peter's Church, Windmill Street, SK11 7HS All welcome. Find out more at <a href="http://www.scoopandscales.co.uk">www.scoopandscales.co.uk</a></p> <p><b>Sacred Circle Dance</b> 3.00pm - 5.00pm St. Alban's Parish Centre, Chester Rd, SK11 8DJ Booking required: 07401 003976</p>	<p>As we uphold the human right to food, clean drinking water and safe sanitation for all. Pray today for the people in the world who don't have access to these.</p> <p><b>Bible Study</b> - see above</p>	<p><b>St. Peter's Surprising Gardens</b> 10.00—12.00noon Drop in to find out more St. Peter's Church, Windmill Street, SK11 7HS</p> <p><b>23rd</b> Donate unwanted clothes to local charities or initiatives like <b>The One Project</b>. They also take a wide range of hard to recycle waste. Find out more: Facebook/oneprojectmacclesfield</p> <p><b>Bible Study</b> - see above</p>	<p>How is your money or pension invested? Does it contribute to harming creation - through fossil fuels or destroying natural habitats? Check out your bank at: <a href="https://bank.green/">https://bank.green/</a></p> <p><b>25th</b> Take stock of what you've done so far. How are you getting on with listening to the voice of Creation? What more could you do to take better care of God's creation?</p>	<p>Think about how you travel. Could your journeys be walked, cycled or by bus to reduce use of our cars? It's good for our health too! Arrange local deliveries by electric <b>cargobikes from eLOV Macclesfield</b> More at: <a href="https://elov.co.uk/about/">https://elov.co.uk/about/</a></p> <p><b>18th</b> Would you like to grow food? Come along to one of the <b>Macc Market Garden</b> weekly volunteering sessions. Find out more at <a href="http://Facebook/maccmarketgarden">Facebook/maccmarketgarden</a> <b>Creation Walk II (4 miles)</b> 6:00pm from St. John's Church, Earlsway, SK11 8RS Contact Andrea 07366561 955</p>	<p><b>19th</b> Would you like to grow food? Come along to one of the <b>Macc Market Garden</b> weekly volunteering sessions. Find out more at <a href="http://Facebook/maccmarketgarden">Facebook/maccmarketgarden</a> <b>Creation Walk II (4 miles)</b> 6:00pm from St. John's Church, Earlsway, SK11 8RS Contact Andrea 07366561 955</p>	<p><b>20th</b> <b>River Bollin Clean Up</b> 10.00am - 3.00pm Riverside Park, SK10 2SL. Drop in, families welcome. Bring your wellies and gloves.</p> <p><b>27th Visit to RHS Garden Bridgewater</b> 9.30am - 3.30pm Coach trip with discount tickets to these beautiful gardens. Info, costs and booking at: <a href="http://www.scoopandscales.co.uk">www.scoopandscales.co.uk</a></p>
<p><b>21st Litter Pick</b> 11.30am after the service St. Peter's Church, Windmill Street, SK11 7HS All welcome. Find out more at <a href="http://www.scoopandscales.co.uk">www.scoopandscales.co.uk</a></p>	<p>Pray for all those who have been affected by climate change, natural disasters and wars through injury, death of loved ones, loss of their homes or livelihoods.</p> <p><b>Bible Study</b> - see above</p>	<p><b>"Brilliant Bees" Talk</b> 7.30pm. Safely meet some amazing honeybees: taste different honeys and find out how beekeepers care for these vital pollinators. Sallyann O'Dell, Bee Keeper at Tatton Park. Macclesfield Methodist Church, Westminster Road, SK10 1BX</p>	<p>Take a break from consuming and buy nothing today.</p> <p><b>Bible Study</b> - see above</p>	<p>Come and have a go at pressing apples and enjoy some juice.. Drop in at Scoop and Scales, Old Sunday School, Roe Street, SK11 6UT. Suitable for all ages.</p>	<p><b>2nd Apple Pressing</b> 4.00pm - 7.00pm Come and have a go at pressing apples and enjoy some juice.. Drop in at Scoop and Scales, Old Sunday School, Roe Street, SK11 6UT. Suitable for all ages.</p>	<p><b>3rd</b> <b>Foodie Friday</b> 6pm for 6.30pm St. Michael's Church, Market Place SK10 1DY 3 course meal, pay what you feel, all made from food which would otherwise be wasted. Booking required—St. Michael's Office 01625 421 984.</p>
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## WATCH US ONLINE

Please **SHARE the weekly email and links** to the online services with friends and family. WE ARE GROWING the number of online subscribers and the number of people watching our services online is really encouraging.

DON'T FORGET - please hit the LIKE



and SUBSCRIBE



**SUBSCRIBE**

buttons, this gives us great feedback.

If you are reading a digital version - click on the red links to go straight to the video

**29 June: Family Communion** | <https://www.youtube.com/29June>

**13 July: All Age Service** | <https://www.youtube.com/13July>

**20 July: Parish Communion** | <https://www.youtube.com/20July>

**27 July: Family Communion** | <https://www.youtube.com/27July>

**3 August: Parish Communion** | <https://www.youtube.com/3Aug>

**Life at St Paul's Video** | <https://www.youtube.com/LifeatStPauls>

**10 August: All Age Service** | <https://www.youtube.com/10Aug>

**24 August: Short Comm. Service from Wales** | <https://www.youtube.com/24Aug>

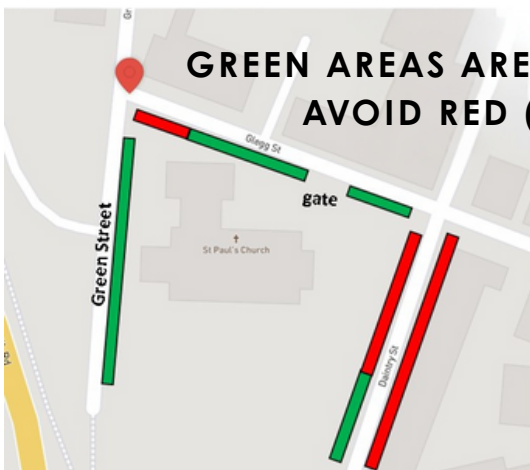


WE ARE COLLECTING USED STAMPS FOR RNIB  
PLEASE BRING THEM CUT OUT WITH AN  
APPROX. 1CM BORDER.  
THERE IS A PLASTIC COLLECTION BOX IN THE  
CHURCH PORCH.  
THANK YOU.

**RNIB**

See differently

## PARKING AROUND CHURCH



**GREEN AREAS ARE PARKING FOR 2 HOURS  
AVOID RED (RESIDENT) AREAS**



If you have a disabled parking badge (blue badge) you can park without any time limit in any of the bays and also park in the residents only bays too! You must display the badge.

*Thank you for reading!*

## KEY CONTACTS AT ST PAULS

<b>Priest in Charge</b>	Revd Simon Gowler	vicar@stpaulsmacc.org 01625 572013 (day off Mondays)
<b>Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers)</b>	Fran Hiles Robert Marshall	fhiles49@btinternet.com robert@capuchin.co.uk
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Matthew Cooper Nick Mottershead	churchwarden1@stpaulsmacc.org 07515 167469 / 07514 588012
<b>Deanery Synod Reps</b>	Anne Furphy Joan Mottershead Jean Bennett	annefurphy@hotmail.co.uk pastoral@stpaulsmacc.org jean.bennett63@ntlworld.com
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	Joan Mottershead	pastoral@stpaulsmacc.org
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Emma Dennehy	emma@stpaulsmacc.org
<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	Malcolm Brown	treasurer@stpaulsmacc.org 01625 424957
<b>PCC Secretary</b>	Gill Emptage	gilleemptage@hotmail.co.uk
<b>PCC Members</b>	Matt Cooper, Nick Mott, Joan Mottershead, Jean Bennett, Rosie Brennan, Tony Buckley, Janet Burrow	Julie Brunt, Emma Dennehy, Anne Furphy, David Furphy, Ann Harris Simon Adams (Uniform rep)
<b>Safeguarding Officer</b>	Ann Harris	07759 557834
<b>Health &amp; Safety</b>	Matthew Cooper	07515 167469

**St Paul's Parish Office:** Glegg St, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK11 7AJ

01625 501773 | email: emma@stpaulsmacc.org

Charity Reg. Number: 1210861

Usual opening times: Mon, Tues & Thurs 9.30am-2.30pm, Fri 9.30am-1.30pm

WEBSITES - **A Church Near You:** <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/9984/>  
or [www.stpaulsmacc.org](http://www.stpaulsmacc.org)

**You Tube Channel:** search St Paul's Macclesfield in YouTube or click  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQMeK5BCanr78m6\\_FuA0yFQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQMeK5BCanr78m6_FuA0yFQ)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsmacclesfield>

**Instagram:** [/stpaulsmacclesfield](#) **Twitter:** [@StPaulsMacc](#)

To link direct to the above pages, just click on the red links or press control and click.