



***The United Benefice of Slyne with Hest St Luke
and Halton St Wilfrid with Aughton St Saviour***

25th January 2026

The Conversion of Paul



Collect

Almighty God, who caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul: grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion may follow him in bearing witness to your truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Jeremiah 1.4–10

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born, I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations. Then I said, Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy. But the Lord said to me, Do not say, I am only a boy; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord. Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me, Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.

Acts 9.1–22

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? He asked, who are you, Lord? The reply came, I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do. The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so, they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, Ananias. He answered, Here I am, Lord. The Lord said to him, get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight. But Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name. But the Lord said to him, Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.

So, Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit. And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, He is the Son of God. All who heard him were amazed and said, is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?

Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 19.27-end

Then Peter said in reply, look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have? Jesus said to them, Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my names sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life.

But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **All:** Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Please remember in your prayers:

St Luke's: Pat, Julia, William, Michael, Moya, June, Karen, Alice and Julie, Chris, Hazel, Revd John Gordon (URC) R.I.P Douglas

St Wilfrid's: Katie Victoria, Marjorie, Margaret, George and Daphne, Ruby, Christine, Hilary.

May they and all those unable to be with us, feel the healing power of Jesus.

Village prayers. This week we pray for those who live and work on Hatlex Lane; Hatlex Drive in Slyne with Hest and Meadowfield, Meadowfield Close in Halton and the people of Aughton.

Notices

MU meeting

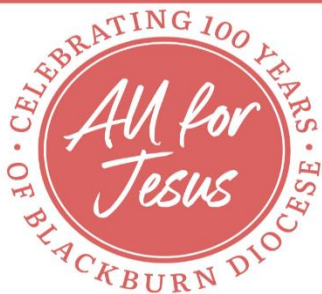
The next meeting of our Mothers' Union friendship group will be on Wednesday 28th January at 2 pm in Slyne Church Hall. The title is 'Come and join the celebration!'

Epiphany Gifts During Epiphany we are once again giving people the opportunity to make a small financial contribution towards the consumables we use in the work of our church. A list of the items for each church and their cost for a year will be displayed at the back of the Church. If you would like to make a specific donation for an item, please put your name on the list against the item you pledge to pay for. Donations can be made by cash or cheque in a labelled envelope given in the collection of to a church warden, using the card machine, or by Bank transfer.

Confirmation. Please pray for our candidates, Ava, Ebony, Emily and Evelyn from St Luke's and Angel, Bethany, Macy, Maggie and Nora from St Wilfrid's as they prepare for their Confirmation service on 22nd February. If any adults would like to be Confirmed, please talk to Revd Susan ASAP.

Calendar of services and events

25th January Conversion of Paul	9.30 am 10 am 11.30 am	Family Communion Family Communion Holy Communion	St Luke's St Wilfrid's St Saviour's
Mon	2 pm	Knit and Natter	Church Hall Slyne
Tues	9 am 9 am 7 pm	Morning Prayer Shining Stars St Saviour's PCC meeting	St Wilfrid's Slyne Church Hall Aughton
Weds	9 am 2 pm 4 pm	Morning Prayer Mothers' Union Meeting Confirmation Class	St Luke's Church Hall Slyne Church Hall Slyne
Thur	10 am 10.45 am 2 pm	Prayer and discussion group Community Coffee morning Body and Soul	Church Hall Slyne Church Hall Slyne Church Hall Slyne
1st February The Presentation of Christ	8 am 9.30 am 10 am 4 pm	Holy Communion Family Worship Family Communion Families@4	St Luke's St Luke's St Wilfrid's Church Hall Slyne



Heavenly Father,
in our Centenary year
we rededicate ourselves and our Diocese to you.
Send the Holy Spirit to give us
confidence in our witness,
generosity in our service,
and love for our neighbours,
that your Church may be renewed
and many come home to you,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Rector: Susan Seed – 01524 822128, revsusan.seed@btinternet.com

Priests: Helen Leathard

Lay minister: Martin Wakelin-07740933463, martin@racquetstringer.co.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officers:

St Luke's – Ann-Marie Lindsay 07779155839

St Saviour's – Karen Swindlehurst 07894173315.

St Wilfrid's – Children: Christine Walmsley 07788646740.

Adults: Sarah Mainwaring 01524 811430