



PARISH

Newsletter

ST PAULS CHURCH
MACCLESFIELD

MAY 2026

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Reflections

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Ramblings
from a Reader

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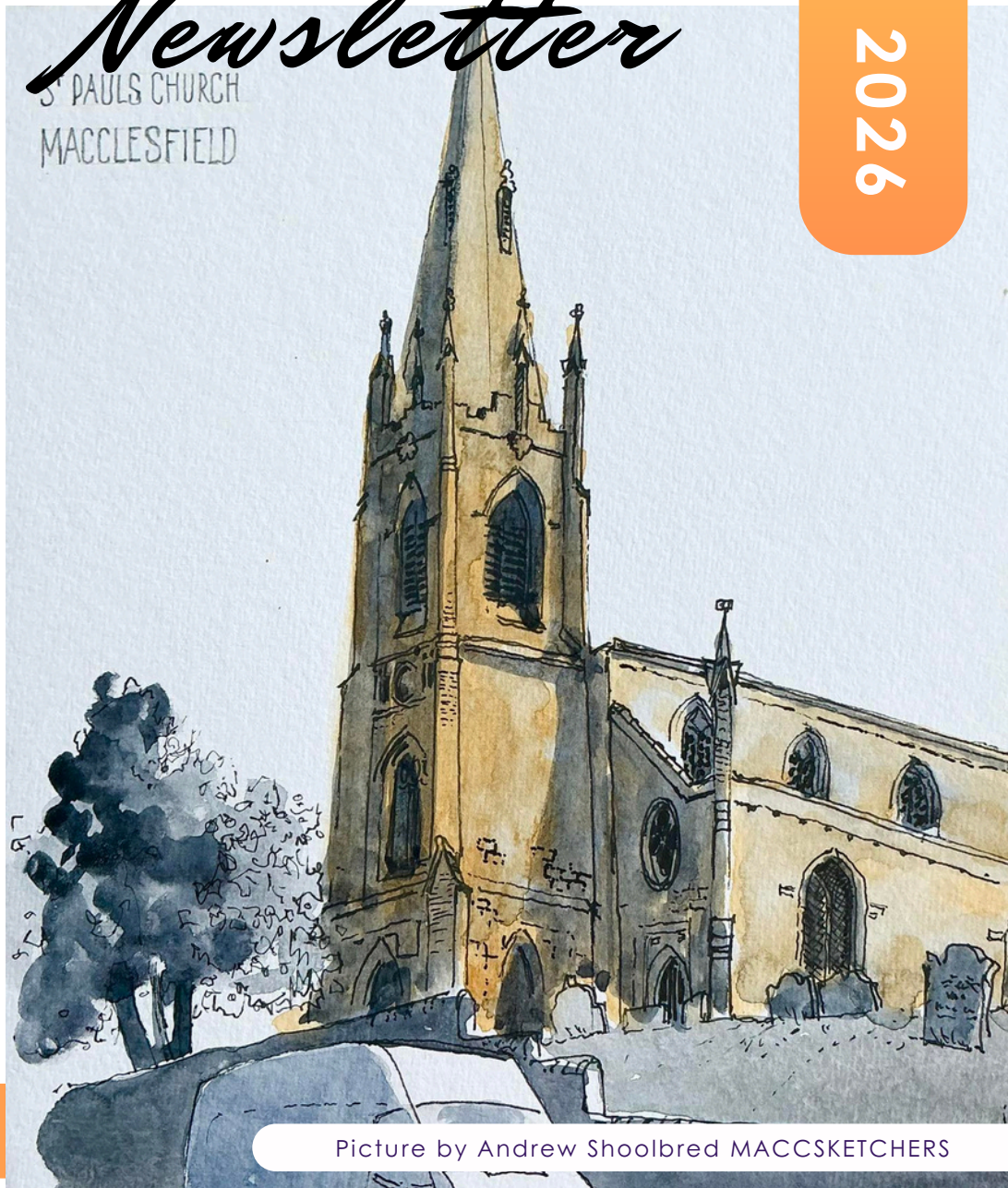
Roof Appeal &
Fundraising Update

Children & Young
People Events

Community Pages

... and much more

Issue 50p
(£5 per year)



Picture by Andrew Shoolbred MACCSKETCHERS



Here are a few important dates for your diary:

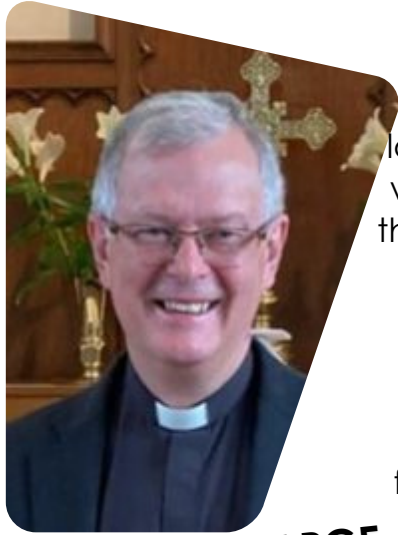
Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)
Sunday 17 May | following the 10.30am service

Confirmation with Bishop Mark (Bishop of Chester)
Sunday 14 June | 4pm

Flower Sermons

Sunday 21 June | 9:30am Parade followed by outdoor service at 10:30am





PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

*Revd. Simon
Gowler*

As May unfolds, we begin to enjoy the longer days, hopefully warmer weather, and the beauty of creation in full bloom. This is a time of year that naturally draws us outdoors—into gardens, along footpaths, and across our stunning local countryside.

There is something deeply restorative about being in nature; it reminds us of God's presence in creation and invites us to pause, reflect, and give thanks.

It is perhaps no surprise, then, that there has been a growing interest in pilgrimages in recent years. More people are discovering the value of setting aside time to walk with intention—whether for prayer, reflection, or simply to reconnect with God away from the busyness of daily life. A pilgrimage need not be a grand or distant journey; it can be something local, shared, and deeply meaningful.

With this in mind, we are delighted to invite you to take part in our "Four Church Challenge Walk."

On Saturday May 30th starting at Jenkin Chapel at 9.30 am to walk to Rainow (where bacon butties are available) and then on to Forest Chapel, then finishing at St Paul's with stops at each church along the way.

You are warmly encouraged to join us for as much or as little of the walk as you wish—whether that's the whole journey, a single section, or simply coming along to one of the churches to share in refreshments and fellowship. It promises to be a lovely day for all.

Meanwhile, the Easter season continues—a time in which we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and reflect on the hope and new life it brings. This season culminates in Pentecost on 24th May, when we remember the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples, empowering them for their mission.

In the days leading up to Pentecost, we are invited to take part in "Thy Kingdom Come," a global wave of prayer from Ascension Day (14th May) to Pentecost. This is a special opportunity to join with Christians around the world in praying for others to come to know the love of Christ. Details of our local prayer gatherings during this period can be seen on page....do come along and be part of this meaningful time if you are able to.

May this season of growth and light draw each of us closer to God, and may we find both joy and renewal in the journey of faith we share.

With every blessing,
Simon



Thy Kingdom Come (TKC) is a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus.

TKC is a movement which unites more than a million Christians in prayer, in nearly 90% of countries worldwide, across 85 different denominations and traditions- so that friends and family, neighbours and colleagues might come to faith in Jesus Christ. Every person, household and church are encouraged to pray during the 11 days in their own way.

It is our hope & prayer, that those who have not yet heard the Good News of Jesus Christ and His love for the world, will hear it for themselves and respond and follow Him.



Specifically, we again invite each and every Christian across the globe to pray that God’s Spirit might work in the lives of 5 people who have not responded with their ‘Yes’ to God’s call. Whether you have joined in ‘Thy Kingdom Come’ before or not, we invite you to take part & join in.

This year’s Thy Kingdom Come is all about the presence of God through His spirit. The God who is with us in the everyday – in the joys and sorrows of life (and everything in between) and the One who, through His spirit, longs to reveal Himself to those who do not yet know Him.

Here is our pattern of Service for the days of Thy Kingdom Come at St Paul’s and in the Rainow Parish:

Thursday 14 th	7.30pm	Deanery service for Ascension Day	St Peter’s Prestbury
Friday 15 th	10am	Morning prayer	St Paul’s
Saturday 16 th	9.30am	Morning prayer followed by Breakfast	St Paul’s
Monday 18 th	10am	Morning prayer	Rainow
Tuesday 19 th	10am 7pm	Morning prayer Compline	Forest Chapel St Paul’s
Wednesday 20 th	11am 6pm	Holy Communion Compline	St Paul’s Rainow
Thursday 21 st	10am	Morning Prayer	Jenkin Chapel
Friday 22 nd	10am	Morning prayer	Rainow
Saturday 23 rd	9.30am	Morning prayer followed by Breakfast	St Paul’s

(if you are planning to stay for breakfast after either of the Saturday services please let Simon know so that he can give the kitchen an idea on numbers.)

4 WARDEN'S WARBLINGS



CHURCHWARDENS
Matt & Nick

We have enjoyed a really purposeful and reflective lent at St Paul's which led into a very reflective Holy Week and most wonderful Agape Meal together.

Thank you to Dave and Matt for their excellent cookery skills and to Veronica for organising and leading such a moving time of worship together.

We were challenged on Easter Eve with Storm Dave! The Easter fire certainly roared in the wind and it took a few attempts to light the new stunning paschal candle. We welcomed the light of Easter into the church with bells ringing, tambourines shaking and cymbals clanging which then led into a joyous Easter morning service with good numbers attending. Thank you to everyone who helped make this time a great success.

Since Easter, we have faced a few challenges with the churchyard. Anti Social behaviour has increased significantly and is causing an issue. We are both working hard with the relevant authorities to resolve the situation. Please do talk to us if you have any questions or worries around this. We know that actions we have to take to safeguard everyone can wrestle with people's own feelings and views on things, but please be rest assured that any decision we make is not taken lightly and is taken in the best interests of all concerned. We, along with the PCC have a duty of care to ensure safeguarding of everyone.

Challenges like these do cast doubt. You doubt yourself for decisions made that can impact someone or perhaps you doubt the words or actions of others. As we shared in our recent All Age Service, Thomas had doubts about Jesus' resurrection as he did not see it with his own eyes and would not believe it until he saw Jesus face to face. When he saw Jesus and his wounds, Jesus simply said "blessed are those who have not seen, and yet still believe." We have the stories of the Bible, and we know what God's word says is true. In order to trust someone or something, we have to know that it is trustworthy. God has most definitely proved Himself trustworthy. He does what He says He'll do. His promises are real and are true.

The Bible gives us great hope. We can't see God necessarily, but we see His evidence and know He gives us life. The Bible is God's word, given to us so that we can know and believe!

With love,
Matt & Nick. x



FUNDRAISING EVENTS COMING UP

Hymns & Pimms

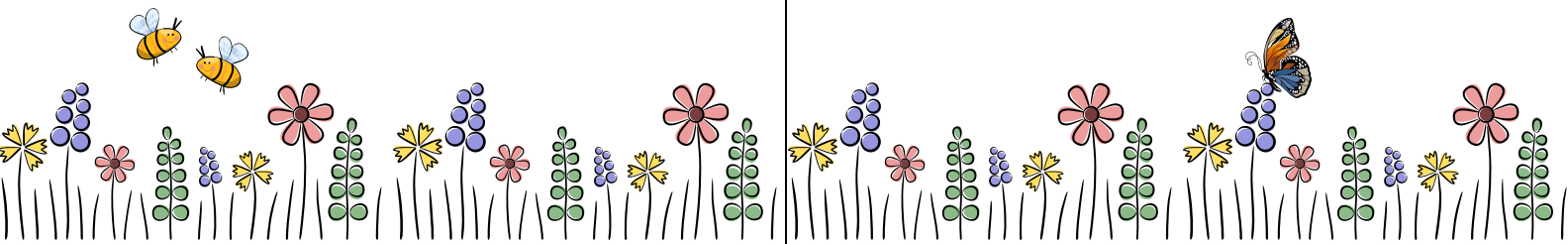
4 July | 4-6pm

Beetle Drive

17 October | 6pm

Christmas Fair

28 November 10.30am-12.30pm



	Mornings	Afternoons	Evenings
Mondays	10am Chair Yoga 11.30am Baby Signing		5.30pm Yoga
Tuesdays			6.30pm Brownies 7.45pm Guides
Wednesdays	9.15am Pilates 11am Mid-week Service (see dates below)	1.30pm Knit and Natter	6.00pm Beavers 7.30pm Cubs
Thursdays		12.30pm Lunch Club (2 nd & 4 th Thurs of the month) 2.15pm Macc Afternoon Choir	6.00pm Rainbows
Fridays	10.00am Toddler Group		7.30pm Scouts
Saturdays	9.30am-12noon Breakfast Café		

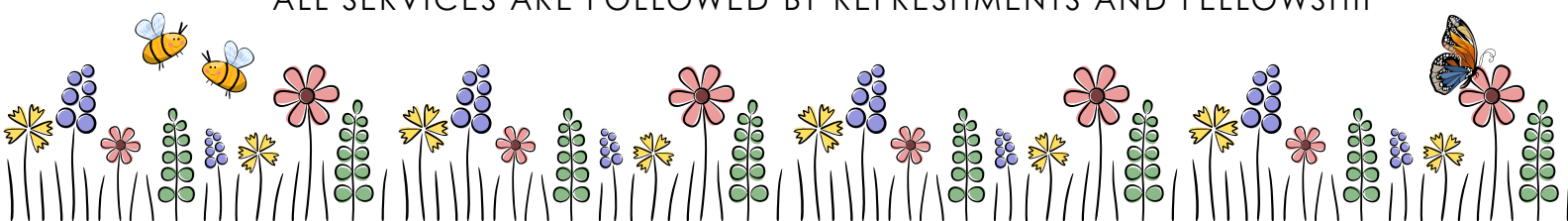
MAY

3 SUN	10.30am	Parish Communion led by Revd Simon	5th SUN OF EASTER
6 Wed	11.00am	Mid-week Morning Prayer Service led by Lay Minister Robert	
10 SUN	10.30am 4.00pm	All Age Service led by Churchwardens Fun @ 4	6th SUN OF EASTER
14 Thurs	7.30pm	Deanery Service at St Peter's, Prestbury	ASCENSION OF THE LORD
THY KINGDOM COME BEGINS until Sunday 24 May. Details of services on page 3			
17 SUN	10.30am 11.30am	Parish Communion led by Revd Simon FOLLOWED BY THE ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING	7th SUN OF EASTER
20 Wed	11.00am	Mid-week Holy Communion Service led by Revd Simon	
24 SUN	10.30am 3.00pm	Family Communion led by Canon Veronica Confirmation Group - 1st session	PENTECOST
31 SUN	10.30am 3.00pm	Morning Prayer led by one of our Lay Ministers Confirmation Group - 2nd session	TRINITY SUNDAY

JUNE

3 Wed	11.00am	Mid-week Morning Prayer Service led by Lay Minister Robert	
4 Thurs	TBC	Holy Communion Service (to be confirmed)	CORPUS CHRISTI
7 SUN	10.30am 3.00pm	Parish Communion led by Revd Simon Confirmation Group - 3rd session	1st SUN AFTER TRINITY

ALL SERVICES ARE FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP





LAY MINISTER
Fran Hiles

'There is a time for everything, a season for every activity under heaven' 'March winds and April showers, bring forth pretty May flowers.'

The above line I quoted a couple of months ago, but as you are reading this, we will be in May and hopefully pretty May flowers will be out, whether it be just ordinary flowers, or the May blossom, doesn't really matter, flowers always make me smile, and feel happy.

We use flowers for many things. To decorate our homes and churches, for wedding bouquets and to say goodbye to a loved one at their funerals, to say I love you or to say I'm sorry.

As I look out onto our garden, I see many flowers in full bloom. We are very fortunate there isn't a month goes by without something in flower thanks to our wonderful gardener, AKA Peter. We have been very fortunate that over the years many of the plants have been presents to celebrate special occasions. We moved to Macclesfield in 1977 which was Queen Elizabeth II's, Silver Jubilee, so we bought a rose, named to celebrate the Jubilee to commemorate it. Our friends and family have also bought us roses for our Silver, Ruby and Golden wedding anniversary; for the latter we were also gifted from St Barnabas church a beautiful camellia, it is named Golden Wedding, but surprisingly is white but with a gold centre, and at the moment is flowering beautifully.

Celebrating special times of the year or an anniversary is important, even if we don't always want to. A certain person has a special birthday coming up later in the year which he would rather forget!

The line that is at the very beginning of this article is from one of my favourite books in the Old Testament, and if you are of a certain age, which many of us at St Paul's

are, and you read the next few verses from the book of Ecclesiastes you may recognise them. They were made into a song in 1959, but the most famous version of it was released in 1965 by the Byrds and made the charts. Who says the bible isn't popular!!

The bible passage talks about a time for everything, just like the flowers in our garden flower at the right time, the bible passage reminds us that there is a time for everything, planting and pulling up, sorrow and joy, mourning and dancing, kissing and not kissing, finding and losing, silence and talk, loving and hating, war and peace, to name just a few.

God sets the time for things. Like me many of you will probably be thinking, ok, but isn't it time God sorted out all the fighting that's going on in our world? I have no answer for that. Hopefully the talks that our taking place as I write will come to fruition, but, as the passage says, everything has its time, and we must be patient and continue to pray and trust that in the right time God will change the hearts and minds of people of power and allow Jesus, the Prince of Peace, to walk in the streets of the world once more.

Love,
Fran x



EASTER CLEAN



Thank you to those who came to help with a quick spring clean of the church for Easter Sunday!



Thank you Easter Flower Fairies!



If you would like to donate towards the cost of the Easter Flowers please see Janet Burrow or the Churchwardens.

RAINOW ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Saturday 16 May, 10am-2pm
Community event and fundraiser

Bedding and some perennials
house plants and vegetables
containers and hanging basket arrangements

Refreshments, raffle and
garden bric-a-brac sales

Advance orders welcome. Ask for an order form from a sidesperson or the Office

Note from Richard (the man in the greenhouse!) Orders are always welcome for plants, hanging baskets or other arrangements. If you have any plants or garden related bric a brac that you would like to donate for the sale or any items that might be useful for a raffle prize on the day that would also be most helpful. Thank you.

KEEP ON RUNNING 7



It was great to hear of recent running successes for both Ann Harris and Matt Otley.

Ann took part in the Wilmslow half and Matt took part in the Oulton Park 20 mile race.

By the time the newsletter is published Matt will have competed in the London Marathon and we look forward to letting you know how he got on in the June edition.

BOOK EXCHANGE STALL

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

We appreciate donations of books for all ages - including children's books. Please can we ask that books are in good condition.

Also could we ask that if you bring books and the two baskets are full on the table, 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.



Please let us have any info or news for our **JUNE ISSUE** by **17 May**.
To the Parish Office or emma@stpaulsmacc.org

8 EASTER 2026 AT ST PAUL'S



Here are a few photos of a reflective Holy Week and joyful Easter celebration.



MAUNDY THURSDAY



FAMILY CRAFT TRAIL



(A very windy)

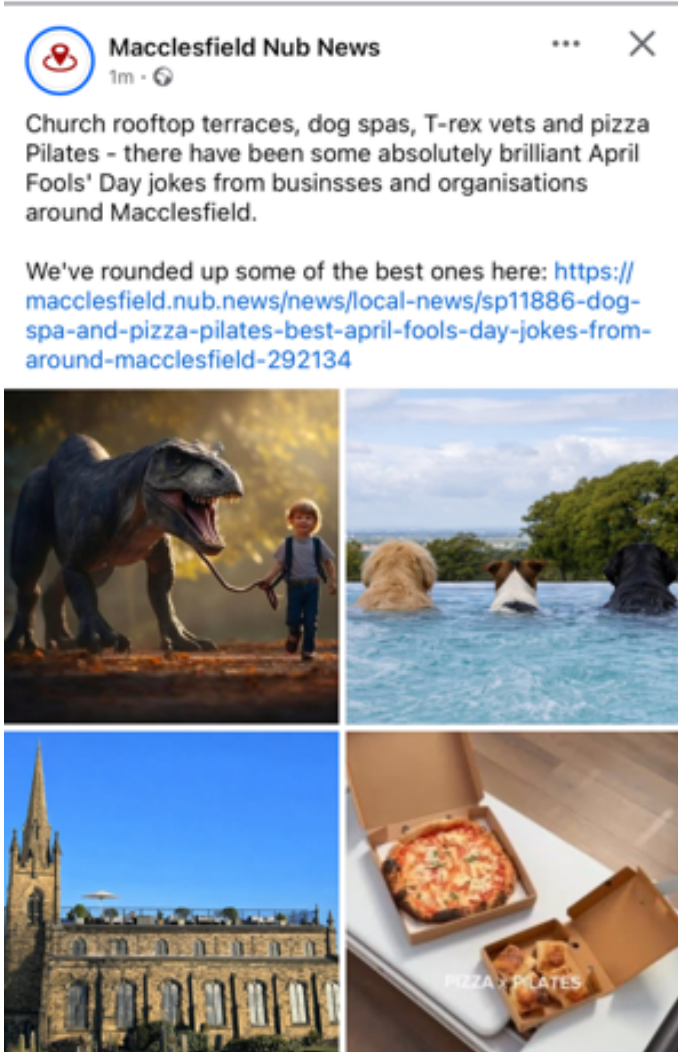
EASTER FIRE-SERVICE OF LIGHT



EASTER DAY



Did you spot our April Fool? It certainly raised eyebrows online and made the local news hub social media along with the Diocesan facebook page. I am sure there are a few of us that would love to sit on that rooftop terrace!



This was our original Facebook post:

After almost a year of planning, conversation and design in partnership with Diocese of Chester and The Church of England, we are thrilled to share with you the magnificent plans for our building!

St Paul's has received all the relevant backing to create the UK's first roof top terrace on a church! Affording stunning views over Macclesfield towards Manchester and into the Peak District, the roof top terrace will take open air worship to new heights never experienced before!

Wardens Matt & Nick had this to say "what an absolutely **Fabulous Open-air Opportunity** Lending itself to our stunning building.

We can not wait to see how this develops and takes not only worship to new levels, but what a place for Saturday Cafe too!

They'll be bursting at the seams each week.



A great way to fool proof the future of this place."



The roof appeal
fund total is:
£53,910.95
(end March 2026)

'First phase' of the project:

- 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

The PCC have approved the undertaking of a Feasibility Study by the Architects, Butress of Manchester. This is a costly piece of work (Approx £13,000) 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.

The first part of the feasibility study will have begun on 30th April with a full measured digital survey of the building and topography survey of the churchyard. This will feed into the start of pulling more major plans together.

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.

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



To be transparent as we always want to be, here is an updated timeline of activity for the roof appeal project. (on the next page)

It is important, that as stakeholders in the project, you know what is being done and when so that you can see the project is moving behind the scenes.

We are a long way off seeing physical progress at this point.

cont. →

St Paul's Macclesfield — Reroof, refurb, revitalize project.

February – March 2026

- Feasibility study to be completed – including measured survey – additional £1,100. 2-3 weeks on site then 3 weeks writing up.
- Completion of a project brief – Wardens & Vicar with PCC approval. – Mid Feb 25.
- PCC members to complete an exercise of what is important from the refurb project – extend this to wider congregation and users? Wish list exercise.
- External users to be contacted to see what types of spaces they would like to see in the refurb project.

April 2026

- Feasibility study outcomes and project design options to be made available to PCC for discussion and wider discussion.

May 2026

- Proposal of work and project options to be discussed and development of these ideas and final project plans to be agreed.

June – July 2026

- Arrange DAC visit to church and present project ideas and gain feedback.

August 2026 – December 2026

- Scope out grant funding available.
- Possible further refinement on project final outcome and DAC conversation.
- Expression of interest for project funding to be submitted to National Lottery by December 2026.

Meeting with architect every 6 weeks to maintain project momentum.

ROOF APPEAL GIVING

Here is the link to donate online for the roof appeal: [Roof Appeal Campaign](#)

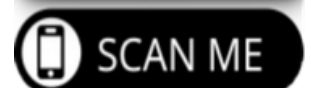
If you wish to make a cash or cheque donation to the appeal, please put it in an envelope and hand to either the Treasurer (Malcolm Brown) or the Wardens with the envelope clearly marked 'For the roof appeal'. This then means it is placed in a restricted account just for the roof appeal and cannot be 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 (email: emma@stpaulsmacc.org or tel: 01625 501773).

Thank you for your support.



You can also donate by scanning the QR code

MACCLESFIELD DEANERY

Confirmation Service

SUNDAY 14 JUNE, 4PM

ST PAUL'S CHURCH

Taking that next deeper step in your faith?

St Paul's will be hosting the service with The Bishop of Chester, Mark Tanner presiding.

During the service of celebration, Bishop Mark will give a short talk and offer prayers for those wishing to be confirmed, symbolically laying his hands on their heads to ask the Holy Spirit to bless each person in their renewed commitment to God.

For further information, please speak with Simon or Veronica directly or contact St Paul's Parish Office on 01625 501773 / email emma@stpaulsmacc.org

Revd Simon Gowler and Canon Veronica Hydon will be hosting and running informal preparation sessions which are aimed at a mixed age group.

At St Paul's on Sundays 24 & 31 May and 7 June @3pm.

With refreshments, cake and hotdogs afterwards.

If you are in year 7 or above or an adult thinking about taking this next step, please get in touch.

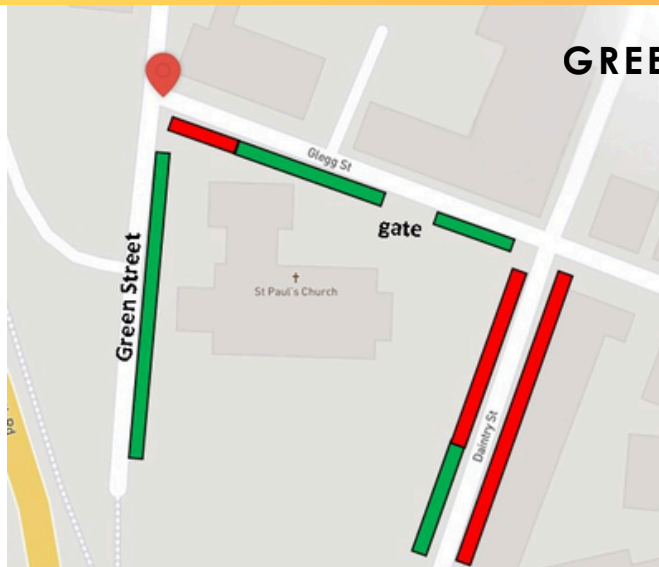
THANK YOU PETER

A great message to the passing by our church both vehicular and by foot on the Silk Road and Brook Street. Have you seen it yet?



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.

We have had issues with the centre drains blocking again. We had someone to come look at them and tree roots are a significant cause of the issue! These roots have been cut away and a special seal placed in the relevant parts which will prevent blockages for quite some time. Thank you to Patrick Maguire for his help & support with this.

We have replaced some high level lightbulbs in the church and we hope that you can notice the difference in lighting!

Thank you to those who came and helped with the Spring Clean. Lots of cobwebs were removed and all of the pews were polished and the glass in the doors cleaned! The outer doors were also cleaned which highlighted the need for attention quite soon as they are not in a great condition. We will look into what we can do for 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.

Matt & Nick.



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 (like this one) 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 and scroll down to the 'DONATE' button there.

THANK YOU!!

14 LENT: STUDY-STATIONS-SUSTENANCE

Lent groups and stations of the cross with Lent lunches have ran throughout Lent.

Thank you to everyone who has led Stations and prepared and provided lunch.

Tom Wright's book 'Lent and Easter for Everyone', provided the focus for our study group sessions this year. Starting on 24th February and meeting weekly at 10am in the Parish Centre for six weeks through to 31st March. Each week a different reading and reflection was selected, each one enabling us to relive Christ's journey from his temptation in the wilderness to the darkness of the Cross. Between ten and twelve of us took part with Veronica, Simon and Fran facilitating our discussions.

We then moved into church for Stations of the Cross, which are pictured on the side walls. Each week a different person led the quiet meditation, enabling us to engage in following in the steps of Jesus on the way to the Cross. Between sixteen and twenty took part each week. Finally, we moved back to the Parish Centre for a simple charity Lent lunch together, where we enjoyed good company and simple, nourishing food (especially the warm flan lovingly made by Joan Chadwick each week - thank you).

Donations given over the six weeks, totalled £383.00, which we decided to divide between East Cheshire Hospice and the Just Drop-in Centre. The six weeks flew by as we journeyed through Lent together, drawing closer to God through study, quiet meditations and simple lunches together.

Ann Harris



THANK YOU



Very, many thanks for the beautiful flowers and gift token you kindly gave me as I retire from the choir.

It has been a privilege to be associated with St Paul's Choir as a singer for over 50 years and as their leader for the past six years. (I was never officially made Choir Mistress!!)

I now look forward to enjoying the worship sitting at the back of church with Jeremy. Again, many thanks. Joan Chadwick

CHURCHYARD BINS

We have asked the council for a bin in the church yard that they are responsible for emptying regularly, but they have refused to do this for us.

Please can you help keep waste in the bins by the Garden of Remembrance to a minimum by taking home any waste or dead flowers that you have. We are looking into whether we can purchase a council green bin for flower and green waste collection.

We rely on the churchwardens taking home the waste bags to put in their own bins and this is not always possible if their own bins are full. If you could help by taking a bag of rubbish at some point please do let Matt or Nick know.



Every Tues	10.00am	Cosy Cuppa
Every Wed	12.30pm	Light in the Forest (Forest Chapel)
3 SUN	10.00am 3.00pm	Parish Communion & Jr Church Parish Evensong (Forest Chapel)
7 Thurs	11.30am 1.30pm	Holy Communion followed by a Bring and Share lunch in the centre Jolly Tots in the centre
10 SUN	10.00am	Parish Communion & Jr Church
17 SUN	10.00am 3.00pm	All Age Family Service Parish Evensong (Jenkin Chapel)
19 Thurs	7.30pm	Rainow Mothers' Union
21 Thurs	1.30pm	Jolly Tots in the centre
24 SUN	10.00 am	Parish Communion & Jr Church
23 Sat	10.00 am	Saturday Café
31 SUN	10.00am	Parish Communion & Jr Church

FUN@4 IS COMING BACK!

ACTIVITIES **FOOD** **GAMES** **STORY** **FUN**

You're invited to:

4PM - 5.30PM
SUNDAY
10 MAY

It's back!

St Paul's Parish Centre
Glegg Street | SK11 7AJ

For more info follow us on:

Web: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/9984/
Facebook: /stpaulsmacclesfield
Instagram: /stpaulsmacclesfield
Twitter: @StPaulsMacc
You Tube: search St Paul's Macclesfield

16 THANK YOU PETER

Thanks to Lou Mottershead for this fabulous picture of a recent sunset over the church and churchyard.



OLD RECORDS SEARCH

Thanks to Dave William's hard work digitalising all our old church registers, Emma was able to easily email a lady some family history she was researching. This is her reply:

'How lovely to receive such good news about my great grandparents wedding date and also going back to the previous generation. I am indeed very lucky and most grateful for the information provided.'

Please pass on my grateful thanks to your wonderful gentleman, his database has provided such precious information.'

THE SALVATION ARMY

NEW TASTER SESSION FREE FOOD AND DRINK

30. CREW

YOUTH CLUB

FOR 10 - 16 YEAR OLDS

FREE ENTRY

INDOOR GAMES . TEAM CHALLENGES . MUCH MORE

SATURDAY, 13 JUNE

2.30PM - 4.30PM

THE SALVATION ARMY, SK11 6UT
(USE ENTRANCE OPPOSITE CHURCHILL WAY CAR PARK)

TO RESERVE A PLACE/MORE INFO CONTACT:
HAZEL - 01625 425343
HELEN - 0797 967 4572

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

FUNERALS

10 April Dr Carl Kirby
13 April Marjorie Abbott

*May they Rest in Peace
and Rise in Glory*



SATURDAY BREAKFAST

We would like to thank all the volunteers who give their time and talents to this wonderful outreach.
Special thanks to Anne and David Furphy for co-ordinating it all.

Our Saturday Café is a designated 'Warm Space' and registered with Cheshire East Council. Everyone is welcome to attend this vital and well established community asset.

FREE to all

St Paul's SATURDAY BREAKFAST CAFE

Every Saturday

9.30am - 12noon
Last hot breakfast order at 11.30am

St Paul's Parish Centre | Glegg Street | Macclesfield | SK11 7AJ | 01625 501773

WARM PLACES Keeping Cheshire East warm
PLACES OF WELCOME
livewell Cheshire East

Everyone is welcome to attend this vital and well established community asset.

Could you spare a few hours on a Saturday morning to make tea and coffee, cook breakfasts, make toast or just chat to the people attending?

If so, please contact David Furphy who is the Lead Volunteer and Co-ordinator. Phone or text on 07887 931574.



Our Brownies celebrated their 70th birthday recently with an afternoon to reminisce over many happy memories.



At this month's All Age Worship Churchwarden Matt challenged people's thoughts and doubts with an exercise in turning 2 strips of paper into a square. Could it be done? Of course!



MAY ALL AGE WORSHIP

Sunday 10 May

Football results depending, we hope to have Macclesfield FC Striker, Danny Elliott and hopefully some other players, to come and talk about the role their faith plays in their daily lives and football.

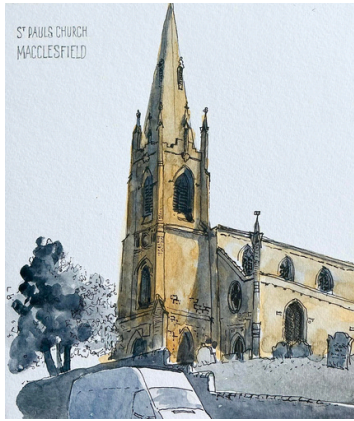
Please do encourage any Macclesfield FC fans to come along to hear what we think will be an inspiring talk and also opportunity for photos and autographs!



WE ARE COLLECTING USED STAMPS FOR ONE PROJECT MACCLESFIELD
PLEASE BRING THEM TO CHURCH (CUT OUT WITH A 1CM BORDER)
THERE IS A PLASTIC COLLECTION BOX IN THE CHURCH PORCH. THANK YOU.



Macc Sketchers are a weekly group doing exactly what the title says in sketching landmarks and places around Macclesfield. Recently we came across this stunning sketch which was made by Andrew Shoolbred.



SPOTLIGHT... MACCSKETCHERS

They meet every Tuesday morning in a chosen cafe for an optional drink and a chat before wandering off individually/groups to sketch in the chosen area. Although their base is Macclesfield they move around each week to a different local(ish) venues for some variety. They then meet back in a chosen spot to see what everyone has done and maybe stay on for more coffee or lunch.

It's all optional, go when you can make it, stay as long as you want! They're very informal, anyone of any ability is welcome and they have no rules as to what you can sketch or in what way. Just go for a coffee to say hello if you are unsure if they are for you - you can recognise them by their variety of bags and sketching stools.

There is normally a post on Sunday to indicate where to meet and in what time frame (as some cafes have different opening hours).



For further information and to see what some members have been drawing around our area: [facebook group - maccsketchers](#)



Please **SHARE** the weekly email and links to the online services with friends and family.

WE ARE GROWING ONLINE TOO!
The number of subscribers and people watching our services online is really encouraging.

JUST SEARCH FOR ST PAUL'S CHURCH IN YOUTUBE AND YOU'LL SEE THE LATEST SERVICES IN THE 'VIDEOS' SECTION

DON'T FORGET - please hit the LIKE  and SUBSCRIBE  buttons, this gives us great feedback.

29 March | Palm Sunday:
Palm Sunday Morning Prayer with
Reading of the Passion
[**Click here to watch**](#)

29 March | Palm Sunday:
Choral Evensong for Palm Sunday led by
The St Christopher Chorale
[**Click here to watch**](#)

5 April | Easter Sunday:
Easter Communion
[**Click here to watch**](#)

12 April | 2nd Sunday of Easter:
All Age Worship
[**Click here to watch**](#)

19 April | 3rd Sunday of Easter:
Parish Communion
[**Click here to watch**](#)

26 April | 4th Sunday of Easter:
Family Communion with lots of sheep!
[**Click here to watch**](#)

If you are reading a digital version of the newsletter click on the **bold** links to go straight to the video.

You shop, brands donate

It won't cost you any extra!



Help us make a difference when you shop.
Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Search for:
St Paul's Church - Macclesfield



You can download the app to your phone:



8,000+ online retailers will give us a free donation when you shop with them at no extra cost to you



“NOBODY NEEDS TO STOP LEARNING JUST BECAUSE THEY HAVE FINISHED WORKING.”

Retired from work but not from Life. Keep Active: Keep engaged: Keep Informed & Be Creative:-

MACCLESFIELD

The u3a is for people who want to keep active in mind and body, enjoy socialising, and are no longer in full time employment.

We provide around 45 popular interest groups. You will find arts and crafts, languages, literature, walking, music, card and board games, social activities, discussions, and more.

Groups meet in various venues ranging from member's homes to local halls/rooms and are informal and friendly.

Members may join any group, provided that the group has places available.

Non members may enjoy a total of two taster sessions for free. To continue, they must then join the Macclesfield U3A.

Macclesfield u3a can also be contacted by phone - 0300 102 4507

www.maccu3a.uk

TUES **CREATIVE CARD MAKING**
10:00AM - 12:00PM

DEMENTIA MUSIC CAFE
2:00PM - 3:30PM

WED **COLOURING AND CRAFT**
11:00am - 12:30pm

GAMES GROUP
10:30am - 12:00pm

FRI **KNITTING FOR CHARITY**
10:00AM - 12:00PM

CHATTY CAFE
2:00pm - 3:30pm

WHAT'S ON

For more details and updates, please visit our website or follow us on social media.

www.hopecentremacclesfield.co.uk
 The Hope Centre
 thehopecentre_macclesfield

One Project Ukraine



Supporting Ukrainians in the community, Poland and in Ukraine

Do you have any old bandages, pads, wipes, old medical equipment, which can't be returned. Clothes, bedding, towels, non-perishable food, toiletries etc.

If so, please bring them to church and pass on to David Furphy who will arrange for these to go to One Project Macclesfield, the charity supporting Ukraine. Thank you.

THANK YOU FOR READING!

KEY CONTACTS AT ST PAULS

Priest in Charge	Revd Simon Gowler	vicar@stpaulsmacc.org 01625 572013 (day off Mondays)
Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers)	Fran Hiles Robert Marshall	fhiles49@btinternet.com robert@capuchin.co.uk
Churchwardens	Matthew Cooper Nick Mottershead	churchwarden1@stpaulsmacc.org 07515 167469 / 07514 588012
Deanery Synod Reps	Anne Furphy Joan Mottershead Jean Bennett	annefurphy@hotmail.co.uk pastoral@stpaulsmacc.org jean.bennett63@ntlworld.com
Pastoral Assistant	Joan Mottershead	pastoral@stpaulsmacc.org
Parish Administrator	Emma Dennehy	emma@stpaulsmacc.org
PCC Treasurer	Malcolm Brown	treasurer@stpaulsmacc.org 01625 424957
PCC Secretary	Gill Emptage	gilleemptage@hotmail.co.uk
PCC Members	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)
Safeguarding Officer	Ann Harris	07759 557834
Health & Safety	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 9am-1pm

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

You Tube Channel: search St Paul's Macclesfield in YouTube or click
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQMeK5BCanr78m6_FuA0yFQ

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

Instagram: [/stpaulsmacclesfield](https://www.instagram.com/stpaulsmacclesfield) **Twitter:** [@StPaulsMacc](https://twitter.com/StPaulsMacc)

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