St Paul's Macclesfield

PARISH Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2026



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... and much more

Issue 50p
(£5 per year)

SAVE THE DATES

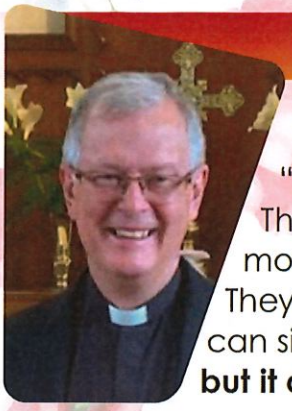
Remembrance Sunday
Sunday 8 November at 10:30am
With our Uniformed Groups taking part in the act of Remembrance. Followed straight after the service by wreath laying at our churchyard war memorial.

Churchyard carols will take place on:
Wed 23 December at 7pm
Macclesfield Youth Brass Band will lead the singing around our firepits and mulled and mince pies will be plentiful. Be ready for a firework finale!

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester

REVEREND'S REFLECTIONS

Revd. Simon Gowler



A Thread of Light

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." Those words from St John's Gospel have always struck me as some of the most hopeful words in the Bible. They do not pretend that darkness is not real. They do not tell us that life will always be easy or that grief, loss and suffering can simply be wished away. They say something deeper: **the darkness is real, but it does not have the final word.**

Perhaps that is why November can be such a significant month in the life of the Church.

We begin the month thinking particularly about those whom we have loved and lost. At Rainow we will already have held our All Souls' service at the end of October, while at St Paul's our **All Souls' service** will be on the evening of **Sunday 1st November at 6.30 pm**. It is a quiet and reflective occasion, when we remember before God those who have died and give thanks for the lives they shared with us.

There is something very moving about lighting a candle for someone we have lost. A single candle is a very small thing, but in a darkened church it makes a difference. It reminds us that even when someone is no longer physically present, the love we shared with them has not simply disappeared. We remember, we give thanks, and we place those we love into the hands of God.

A few days later, on **Remembrance Sunday**, our remembering becomes wider. At St Paul's there will be a **Service of Remembrance at 10.30am with the Uniformed Groups**. At 11 o'clock we will gather at the war memorial in Rainow, following the 10 am service in church. We remember those who have given their lives in war and conflict, and we remember too the terrible cost that war continues to bring to families and communities around the world.

Here the light is perhaps a **light for peace**. We remember not simply because we are looking backwards, but because remembering should affect the way we live today. We remember the sacrifices of previous generations and pray that we might work for a world in which future generations will not have to make the same sacrifices.

And then, towards the end of the month, something changes.

On **Advent Sunday** morning, **29 November**, we begin to look forward. At both St Paul's and Rainow we will celebrate Communion, beginning the Church's season of Advent — a season of waiting, watching and expectation. At the Rainow Service we once again look forward to the Mothers' Union presentation- which is always an uplifting and well received start to the new Christian year.

Advent reminds us that Christian hope is not about pretending that there is no darkness. We know that there is darkness in the world. We know it from our own lives, from the things we see in the news, and from the empty places left by those we have loved.

But Advent tells us to keep looking for the light.

And perhaps that is why I particularly like the fact that Advent Sunday in Rainow will finish with the lighting of the Christmas tree in the village at 6pm and the opening of our Christmas Tree Festival in Holy Trinity Church. After a month in which we have remembered those who have died and prayed for peace in a troubled world, we begin to see the lights appearing again.

One light becomes many.

cont.

A candle lit in memory.
A light held out as a sign of hope.
The Advent candle burning as we wait for Christ.
And finally, the lights of Christmas beginning to shine.

They are all part of the same story.

For Christians, the light we look for at Christmas is not simply a warm and comforting decoration. It is Christ himself — the one whom St John calls the Light of the World. And the promise of the Gospel is not that the darkness will never come, but that **the darkness will never overcome the light.**

That is a message worth holding on to, particularly in November.

Whether we are remembering someone we miss, standing silently at a war memorial, praying for peace, or beginning the joyful preparations for Christmas, there is a thread of light running through it all.

And however dark things may sometimes seem, we are not without hope.

The light shines in the darkness.

And the darkness did not overcome it.

Yours in Christ, Simon

THANK YOU

To all the people at St Paul's who sent cards, messages and donations I would like to say a huge 'THANKYOU'

You have helped me, greatly, to come to terms with the death of my beloved husband, Jeremy.

Having such loving and caring friends makes life more bearable.

Please continue to hold myself and my family in your prayers. Joan Chadwick

ARCHDEACON JANE

It was lovely to welcome Archdeacon Jane to preside over our Family Communion at the end of September. We look forward to welcoming you again soon!



FACEBOOK UPDATE - LINK TO SUNDAY SERVICE

You may notice in the coming weeks that our service links don't appear directly on our Facebook page. The owners of Facebook, Meta, have put in restrictions on business pages on the number of links outside of meta businesses that we can share. We can only share 2 links per month via YouTube.
We will still share the links via the weekly emails which will direct you to the services.

WARDEN'S WARBLINGS



CHURCHWARDENS
Matt & Nick

We say this every month, how quick is time going! We are now into the season of Remembrance and Advent is fast approaching! Our Annual All Souls Service takes place on 1st November. A poignant service to remember those we love who are no longer with us. We then move to Remembrance Sunday with our Uniformed Groups which has grown into a really reflective service.

We both enjoyed a weekend away in Wales recently and our adventurous side took us to completing the Zip Line again alongside Charlotte (Nick's Daughter) and Piotr (St Paul's Cub leader). It was a superb experience all round and we both think that Vicar Simon and maybe Canon Veronica, along with a couple of others should take this on as a roof appeal fundraiser! 😉

We have also met with local residents recently to maintain positive relationships and to address the anti-social behaviour that we have experienced in the churchyard. It is good to see a community come together and work through things positively.

Our Harvest celebrations were once again superb with the Uniformed Groups taking part and enjoying some fun but also taking home a lasting message. Let's just remind you of this:

God gives us good gifts, and bread is one of them. But we mustn't forget that as well as food, which we remember at harvest, God gives US gifts as well. Abilities and skills. Special things. But we so often forget that we are special because we have gifts. Because they are our gifts we take them for granted. We get jealous of the gifts that other people have. St Paul said that we have gifts to build one another up and encourage each other, and we each have different gifts. They come together like all those different ingredients in bread. So we need to use those gifts, and be willing to bring them together with others.

For Christians, bread has an important meaning. Jesus called himself the bread of life. That doesn't so much mean that we eat him, as its his love and power that nourishes our spirits. And bread is for sharing...so we share Jesus. We share our gifts.

In fact probably the greatest meaning comes out in the communion service when we say 'we are one body [in Jesus] because we all share in one bread'

How can you remember to say thank you to God for your gifts that you have? How can you see your gifts and abilities as ingredients that work together with your community to create something special? How can you see yourselves as part of the one bread in Jesus, who is the bread of life?

With love, Matt & Nick. x

NEXT PCC MEETING



The next PCC (Parochial Church Council) Meeting will be on Tuesday 10 Nov, 7.15pm in church.

If you have any items you wish the Council to discuss please talk to Vicar Simon, Gill (PCC secretary), churchwardens or a member of the PCC (listed on the back page) by Sun 8 Nov.

Every week in the Parish Centre	Mornings	Afternoons	Evenings
Mondays	10am | Chair Yoga 11.30am | Baby Signing Class		5.30pm | Yoga
Tuesdays	10am | Postnatal Yoga		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 (2nd & 4th 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		

= Term Time Only

NOVEMBER

1 SUN	**10.30am** **6.30pm**	**Parish Communion** led by Revd Simon **All Souls' Service**	ALL SAINTS DAY
4 Wed	11.00am	Mid-week **Morning Prayer Service**	
8 SUN	**10.30am** **6.30pm**	**Remembrance Service** Uniformed Group Parade **Evening Communion Service**	REMEMBRANCE
15 SUN	**10.30am**	**Parish Communion** led by Revd Simon	2nd SUN BEFORE ADVENT
18 Wed	11.00am	Mid-week **Holy Communion** led by Revd Simon	
22 SUN	**10.30am**	**Family Communion** led by Canon Veronica & Bev	CHRIST THE KING
29 SUN	**10.30am**	**Parish Communion** led by Canon Veronica & Reader Robert	ADVENT SUNDAY

DECEMBER

2 Wed	11.00am	Mid-week **Morning Prayer Service**	
5 Sat	2pm-4pm	Family Christmas Craft Trail	
6 SUN	**10.30am**	**Parish Communion** led by Canon Veronica	2nd SUN OF ADVENT
13 SUN	**10.30am**	**All Age Worship** with Wardens Matt & Nick Uniformed Group Parade	3rd SUN OF ADVENT
16 Wed	11.00am	Mid-week **Holy Communion** led by Revd Simon	

FOR MORE CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND EVENT - PLEASE SEE THE ADVERT ON PAGE ????

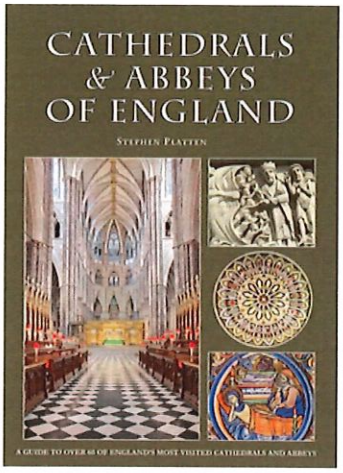
ALL SOULS' SERVICE: Our Annual service to commemorate the faithful departed, or All Soul's, will take place on: Sunday 1 Nov 6:30pm
A list will be made available soon at the back of the church to write the names of those you wish to remember. You can also email them directly to our office: emma@stpaulsmacc.org

RAMBLINGS OF A RETIRED READER

Fran Hiles



A few days before I wrote this article, I was sat in Chester Cathedral waiting to became a Reader Emeritus, so ending my Reader career which started 30 years earlier, also in Chester Cathedral. As I was waiting for the service to begin, I was looking around the building and I realised that I don't remember ever just coming to the Cathedral to look round, I always seem to be attending a service for one thing or the other. Note to myself, must visit just to look around.



Some years ago, my youngest son gave me a book, called 'Cathedrals and Abbeys of England' and Peter and I have been slowly ticking them off. Of the 67 in the book, so far, we have only done 34, but that means we are half way.

All those we have visited are similar but totally different, the one Cathedral I have a soft spot for is Lichfield. The reason, my great, great grandad on my dad's side was a stonemason, and he lived in Rugeley and worked on Lichfield Cathedral. When we visited, I was in awe of it, especially thinking about where he had worked, what part had he done, what small carving he may have made. He may only have done something mundane, but the skill in the mundane is just as important.



Earlier this year we visited Exeter Cathedral, unfortunately we were not able to go in as they had a Schools Easter Service, but we did visit the refectory, lovely coffee and cake, and of course the gift shop. Not sure if Peter was pleased, but they had a lovely church mouse made of wood, which I just had to have, this has since been joined by two others from Southwell and Chester.

A couple of months ago we visited Southwell Minster, and before you ask, no I don't know what difference there is between a Minster and a Cathedral, ask Simon, but I do know that the Minster became a Cathedral in 1884 and it is set in the smallest Cathedral city in the country. Within the Minster is a late 13th century chapter house which has the most wonderful stone leaf carvings, and is the only octagonal chapter house in England.

Cathedrals were built to the glory of God and to point people to him, I believe some have succeeded, some have done that wonderfully, but there was one that left me totally cold, I can't explain why, it just did, and no I'm not going to tell you which one, just in case it is one of your favourites.

Cathedrals, along with churches were built to help us connect with God. Some do this job very well, and some don't. I don't believe you have to be in a church building to connect and worship God. Some of the best worship I have ever been to, have been in the open air, on a sea front, in a field, at a race course singing and praising God. It doesn't matter where we are, God is always with us. We don't need a magnificent Cathedral, we just need a heart that wants to meet with him, and a mind open to what he want to say to us, and a willingness to obey, and to share him with others.

Having said that Cathedrals do usually have good refractories and gift shops!

Love,
Fran.x



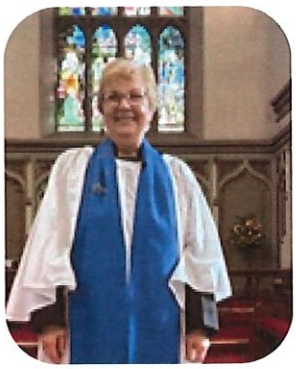
CHRISTMAS FAIR – ITEMS NEEDED

As usual, we require donations of items for the Christmas fair. We are trying to ensure that good quality items are donated to save lots of things (mainly bric-a-brac) being left over that we then have to dispose of.
Can you donate any of the following:

- **Quality Raffle Prizes**
- **Bottles for the bottlebola**
- **Good quality bric-a-bric**
- **Tombola prizes**
- **Cakes for the cake stall**

Thank you for your help.
All money raised from the Christmas Fair goes towards church general funds.

THANK YOU FRAN



We recently said a big Thank You to Lay Minister Fran as she 'hung up her scarf' as a Lay Minister at a service in Chester Cathedral. Fran's ministry has spanned over 30 years in different churches of different worship styles. Like Fran said in her final sermon, she has grown to love us here at St Paul's, we are glad Fran that you ended a dedicated ministry with us here at St Paul's and we have loved, and will continue to love you.

'A big thankyou to everyone for my beautiful flowers lovely cake and very generous garden gift voucher which I will enjoy spending.' Fran x

BOOKS AND CARDS

Please do take a look at the books on the table in the hall and also the handmade cards on the stand by the side. All donations for these go to the general upkeep of the church and hall.

Could we ask that if you bring (good condition) books and the two baskets are full on the table, please take them back home with you for another time.

Thank you
for your support.



Please let us have any info or news for our
DECEMBER & JANUARY ISSUE by Sun 15 November.
To the Parish Office or emma@stpaulsmacc.org

October's Fun@4 welcomed 14 children along with their parents for another super session. The theme was Harvest and the Parable of the Sower.



The children made bird feeders, hedgehogs and coloured in a harvest scene. We then went into church to watch a short cartoon of the Sower, then they ran around finding characters to stick onto their harvest scene.

We finished off with pizza for tea!!



Thanks to all the volunteer team who helped to make it happen.

THE NEXT FUN@4 WILL BE IN THE NEW YEAR. WE HAVE THE CHRISTMAS CRAFT TRAIL IN DECEMBER AND THE EPIPHAY PARTY IN JANUARY TO LOOK FORWARD TO!

JERUSALEM - A HYMN OF HOPE AND IMAGINATION

There are some hymns which vicars seem to have a slightly complicated relationship with, and Jerusalem is probably near the top of the list! It is wonderfully stirring, of course, and when the organ is going full blast and everyone is singing, it is hard not to be caught up in it. But there are plenty of clergy who quietly groan when it appears on the hymn sheet.
I am however very fond of it and indeed it was the one hymn I was allowed to choose for our wedding!

The words come from William Blake's poem And did those feet in ancient time, written at the beginning of the nineteenth century. Blake asks the wonderfully imaginative question:

"And did those feet in ancient time
Walk upon England's mountains green?"

The answer, historically speaking, is almost certainly "no". There is no good evidence that Jesus ever came to England as a young man, despite the legends which have grown up around the story. But I don't think Blake is really trying to write a history lesson. He is imagining something much more profound: **wouldn't it have been wonderful if Jesus had come here?**

And that, perhaps, is what makes the hymn so appealing.

Blake imagines Jesus walking through our own green and pleasant land – not some distant biblical landscape, but England. He then turns that imagination into a prayer: that we might build "Jerusalem" here. Not a literal city, but a place where God's kingdom of justice, peace and holiness might become a reality among us.

The hymn therefore has a rather lovely Christian challenge hidden within all its stirring music. We sing about building Jerusalem, but what would that actually mean? It might mean making our communities more loving, more just and more welcoming. It might mean refusing to accept cruelty, loneliness or indifference as inevitable. Above all, it means asking what it would look like for the presence and teaching of Jesus to shape the place where we live.

So, yes, a young Jesus almost certainly never walked across the hills of England. But perhaps we can still sing Jerusalem with enthusiasm – not because we believe that he did, but because we wish that he had.

And perhaps the greater challenge is this: **if Jesus isn't physically walking through our streets today, can people nevertheless encounter something of him through the way we live?**

Now that seems to me a very good reason to sing it!

Revd. Simon

ROOF & REFURB APPEAL
St Paul's
Macclesfield

The roof appeal fund total is:

£61,019.00

(end October 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 were recently presented with three design option for the refurbishment of the church. There was an awful lot of information shared, but what was evident was that we have a once in a lifetime opportunity to create an amazing legacy at St Paul's for worship in years to come. It was apparent from the meeting that there will be some changes to the Parish Centre as well as part of the funding bid to build a strong case for grants to be allocated to complete the work. The PCC have fed back their thoughts on the three design concepts and this has been collated into a document and sent to the architects. They are currently working on the feedback and will look at creating further concepts from this for discussion with the ultimate aim of arriving at a final design. Once the PCC have done this we will share this with you all. What is really important to consider is that this work taking place is to future proof the building. There has to be and will be changes – we know this won't be easy but we will keep you up to date all the way through. It really is an exciting time to be a part of St Paul's. You all have a part to play in making this happen and when it does happen, you can all say you had a part in building something special for future generations.

We are both genuinely excited by the opportunities that await us ALL as a church community to safeguard our building for the next generation and to make it a beacon of light in our local community!

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.
Matt & Nick

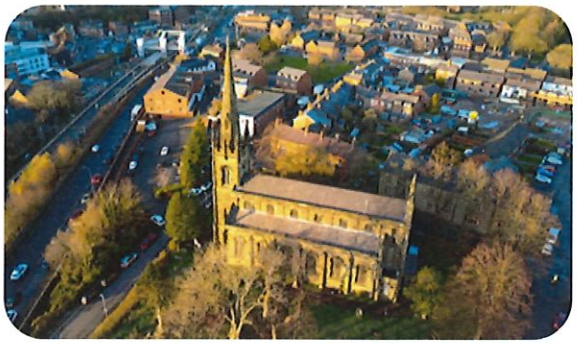
Here's what the architects have to say:

Buttress Architects have been working with St Paul's to explore an exciting and vibrant vision for the future of the church: one that strengthens its resilience, supports worship, and helps the building continue to sit at the heart of its community.

A key focus of the project will be addressing the condition of the roof and ensuring the building fabric is safe, secure and sustainable for the future. However, this is also much more than a repair project. It is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to think carefully and creatively about how St Paul's can best serve its congregation, its community and future generations.

cont.

~ from page 9



Over recent months, we have spent time listening to the congregation and wider community through consultation. This has been a really important part of the process and has helped shape the emerging direction for the project. Thank you to everyone who has contributed their thoughts, hopes and ideas so far.

The recently completed Quinquennial Inspection has helped us to better understand the condition of the church building, the priorities for repair, and the likely costs associated with caring for the fabric in the years ahead.

A full measured survey has now been completed, allowing the architects to create a detailed model of the church. This gives us a strong foundation from which to explore a number of feasibility options, looking at how St Paul's might be reimagined for worship, community use and long-term resilience.

Nothing is fixed at this stage. The purpose of the feasibility study is to explore ideas, test what may be possible, and help the church make informed decisions about the best way forward.

We look forward to keeping the church community updated as the work develops, with further news and progress shared in forthcoming parish newsletters.

Ed Kepczyk, Director, Buttress Architects.

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.

SCAN ME

You can also donate by scanning the QR code here.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

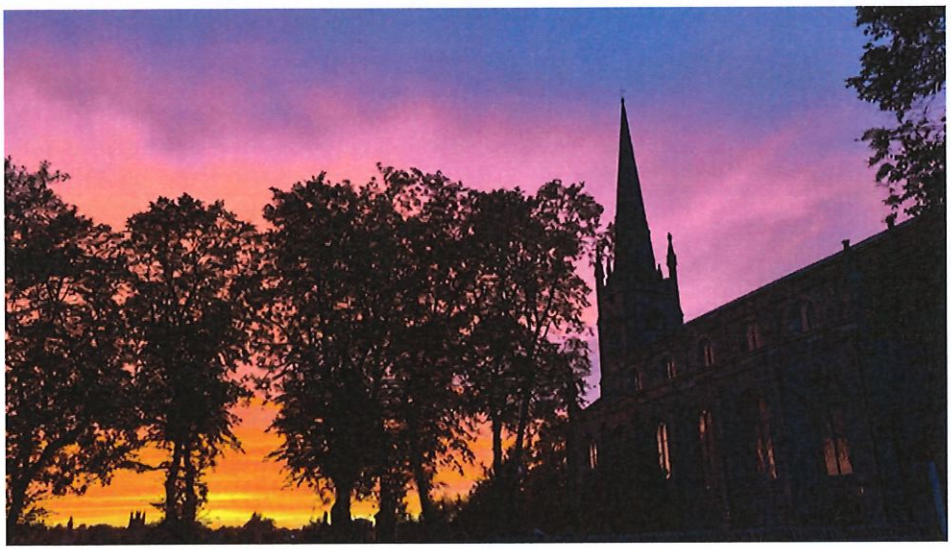
FUNERAL

2 October Jeremy Chadwick

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful
departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen."



CAUGHT ON CAMERA



Thank to our very own Ted Mottershead who captured this wonderful picture from the front door of his house.

How lucky having such a superb view 😉

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!!

WHAT'S ON IN THE RAINOW PARISH

Every Tues		*10.00am*	*Cosy Cuppa*
Every Wed		*12.30pm*	*Light in the Forest (Forest Chapel)*
NOVEMBER			
SUN	**1**	**10.00am**	**Parish Communion & Junior Church** *All Saints*
		3.00pm	Parish Evensong (Forest Chapel)
Thurs	5	**11.30am**	**Holy Communion with a Bring and Share lunch in the centre**
		1.30pm	Jolly Tots
SUN	**8**	**10.00am**	**Parish Communion & Junior Church** *Remembrance*
		11.00am	**Act of Remembrance at Rainow War Memorial**
SUN	**15**	**10.00am**	**All Age Service** *2nd before Advent*
		3.00pm	Parish Evensong (Jenkin Chapel)
Thurs	19	1.30pm	Jolly Tots
SUN	**22**	**10.00am**	**Parish Communion & Junior Church** *Christ the King*
SUN	**29**	**10.00am**	*Advent Sunday* **Parish Communion, Jnr Church & Mothers' Union Present**
		6.00pm	Lighting of the Christmas Tree and Carols round the Crib followed by the opening of the Christmas Tree Festival and refreshments in church.
DECEMBER			
Sat	5	11.00am-3.00pm	Christmas Market
SUN	**6**	**10.00am**	**Toy Service and Nativity** *Advent 2*
		3.00pm	Parish Evensong (Forest Chapel)

ZIP LINE

Towards the end of September, our crazy Churchwardens, along with Piotr (Group Scout Leader) and Charlotte (Nick's daughter) took on the fastest zip line in Europe, at Penrhyn Quarry in North Wales. An exhilarating drop on the zip wire and speeds of up to 100mph as they sped down towards the end!
Rumour has it that The Churchwardens think Vicar Simon and Canon Veronica should give it a go!





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.

Please if at all possible, do not park on the grass areas within the church grounds.

BUILDINGS UPDATE

Well, we have had rain and touch wood so far there are no signs of water creeping in at the usual leaky spots. We are sure though this will change as we head deeper into Autumn and Winter!

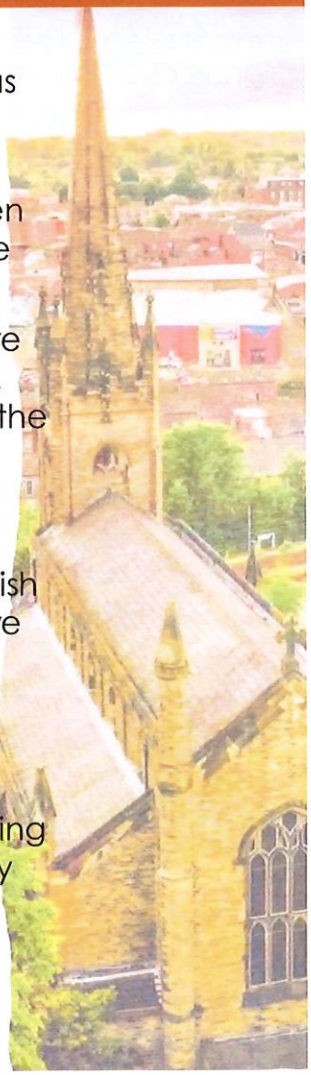
Further meetings with agencies around the anti-social behaviour in the churchyard have taken place and also with local residents. There has been some vast improvement with anti-social behaviour in recent weeks and we hope that this continues.

The Council have recently cut the grass and done some tidying up. We are going to send a request of a more through tidy up over the winter months. For a further update on the refurb project, please read the information in the roof appeal section of the newsletter.

We have tested the heating in readiness for needing it on as the weather turns chillier. Fingers crossed this milder weather lasts in to November.
We will soon be in receipt of some new audio visual equipment for the Parish Centre and we look forward to this being installed and enhancing what we can offer.

We have had to replace three of our outside security lights on the Parish Centre as it seems that these have been deliberately damaged. The damaged lights were causing the electrical circuit to trip.
We have also replaced the battery on the defibrillator (that was the beeping you could hear!) and also the electrode pads have been replaced as they expired.

Thanks to everyone who helps in anyway with the upkeep of the church, grounds and Parish Centre.
Matt & Nick.



CUBS AND SCOUTS NEWS

Cubs and scouts recently took part in an archaeological dig on a farm not too far from Jenkin Chapel.



And then Scouts have been brushing up on their cooking skills by preparing and cooking, then eating a stir fry!







SATURDAY BREAKFAST CAFE

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

Every Saturday

9.30am – 12noon

Last hot breakfast order at 11.30am

St Paul's SATURDAY BREAKFAST CAFE

Thank you to everyone who helps in anyway to provide this important community resource. Please contact David Furphy who is the Lead Volunteer and Co-ordinator if you are able to give a few hours on a rota to help. Jobs include making tea and coffee, cook breakfasts or just chat to the people attending. Phone or text on 07887 931574.

Saturday café continues to thrive. Here are some pictures from a recent café morning:







WARM PLACES
Keeping Cheshire East warm

PLACES OF WELCOME

livewell
Cheshire East

HARVEST 2026

We had a superb Harvest Service and the church was 'Buzzing' with lots of people, wonderful flowers and harvest gifts.













Huge thanks to Sue Nicholls for cooking us a fabulous hotpot supper and to the Fundraising Team for a most entertaining evening of playing Beetle!

ROOF & REFURB APPEAL St Paul's Macclesfield

















Anglican Cursillo

Do you want to deepen your faith?

CURSILLO offers a method that will enrich and deepen your relationship with Christ and will empower you for a lifetime of service to God through prayer, study, and action.

What is Cursillo?

It is a way of encouraging each other as we grow, work and live faithfully within our parishes.
It is part of the Anglican communion.

Who is Cursillo for?

People just like you, laity and clergy, committed Christians who are ... curious ... searching ... discovering ... wanting to grow ... wanting to be glad and confident in their faith.

For more information

Please use the QR code or visit our website www.chestercursillo.org.uk where you can find out more information about Cursillo in Chester Diocese and make contact with someone who would be delighted to talk to you.
You can also learn more about Cursillo nationally at www.anglicancursillo.uk

For more information, you can speak to Bev who is the Chester Cursillo Lay Director, Julie or Veronica

SNOWDOG SCULPTURE TRAIL COMING TO MACCLESFIELD THIS FESTIVE SEASON



CAN YOU FIND ALL TEN SNOWDOGS HIDDEN AROUND TOWN THIS CHRISTMAS?!

MAPS AVAILABLE FROM 24TH NOVEMBER FROM MACCLESFIELD LIBRARY, THE SILK MUSEUM, ST MICHAELS CHURCH AND VARIOUS SHOPS

EXPLORE. DISCOVER. CELEBRATE. EACH SNOWDOG IS A UNIQUE WORK OF ART - SNAP A SELFIE AND SHARE YOUR JOURNEY WITH #SNOWDOGSMACC TO BE IN WITH A CHANCE TO WIN YOUR OWN SNOWDOG

WATCH US ONLINE

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.

27 September | 17th Sunday after Trinity:
Family Communion with Archdeacon Jane
Click here to watch

4 October | 18th Sunday after Trinity:
Parish Communion with Revd Simon and Lay Minister Fran's final service
Click here to watch

11 October | Harvest Festival:
All Age Service with Uniformed Groups
Click here to watch

18 October | St Luke the Avengelist:
Parish Communion with Revd Simon
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.*

One Project ♡ macclesfield

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.

In collaboration with One Project Ukraine we will be arranging for Christmas boxes to be sent over to children in Ukraine. There are flyers like this one in the porch & hallway.
If you need any further info, please speak with Anne & David Furphy.

One Project Ukraine

Christmas Ukrainian Shoebox Appeal 2026



What to do...

- Tick Boy or Girl and age category on this leaflet
- Wrap the shoebox in Christmas wrapping, with the lid wrapped separately.
- Remove all packaging from the gifts
- Fill your shoebox with the gifts
- Attach this leaflet on top of the box
- We'll be sending the boxes over to Ukraine from October to December.
- Please return the box to St Paul's Church

Boy	☐
Girl	☐
Age 2 - 4	☐
Age 5-9	☐
Age 10-14	☐

Gift suggestions

- Cuddly toys
- Small toys/cars
- Socks/Gloves
- Sweets/Chocolates
- Skipping rope
- Hair Accessories
- Craft Items
- Slippers
- Small Games/Lego
- Toiletries/make-up
- School stationery
- Puzzles, card games



Closing date 9.12.26

If you would like to help with transport costs, please tape £1 to the box or donate via our QR code to the JustGiving page

Jeanette - mobile: 0777 597 1921
Email: oneprojectukraine@gmail.com
One Project Ukraine

FIRST LOOK AT CHRISTMAS AT ST PAUL'S

SUNDAY 29 NOV | 10.30AM
ADVENT SUNDAY PARISH COMMUNION

SATURDAY 5 DEC | DROP-IN 2-4PM
FAMILY CHRISTMAS CRAFT TRAIL (CREATIVE FUN FOR ALL)

SUNDAY 13 DEC | 10.30AM
ALL AGE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION SERVICE (WITH ST PAUL'S UNIFORMED GROUPS)

SUNDAY 20 DEC | 6.30PM
SERVICE OF READINGS AND CAROLS
THE STORY OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS IS TOLD IN SHORT BIBLE READINGS, INTERSPERSED WITH THE SINGING OF CHRISTMAS CAROLS, HYMNS AND CHOIR ANTHEMS

WEDNESDAY 23 DEC | 7.00PM
COMMUNITY CAROLS IN THE CHURCHYARD
WITH MACC YOUTH BRASS BAND, FIRE PITS, MULLED WINE & MINCE PIES

CHRISTMAS EVE
BLUE CHRISTMAS (TBC)
CRIB & CHRISTINGLE SERVICE | 4.00PM
MIDNIGHT MASS | 11.30PM

CHRISTMAS DAY
SHORT CHRISTMAS COMMUNION | 10.00AM

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS

Autumn FAIR

THE SALVATION ARMY

Money raised goes to our work in the community

SATURDAY 7TH NOVEMBER

THE SALVATION ARMY

10am - 1pm

50p entry

FOOD, STALLS, CAKES AND MUCH MORE...

The Salvation Army, Roe street
Entrance on Wellington street

THE SALVATION ARMY

Macclesfield Salvation Army

Supporting our community, changing lives

JOB SMART

Better Skills Brighter Opportunities

We are more than a Job Club

Practical support to help you get job ready and move forward.

- CV Writing & Job Applications
- Job Search Support
- Interview Preparation
- Digital Skills
- Career Guidance

- Build your confidence
- Gain new skills
- Explore opportunities
- Achieve your goals

Mondays
10:45am- 12:45pm
Drop in

Starts November 2nd 2026

FREE Online Courses available

Your Future

One step closer to your future!

Macclesfield Salvation Army
Roe Street, Macclesfield, SK11 6UT
Hazel Dibben
07766 470802
hazel.dibben@salvationarmy.org.uk
www.salvationarmy.org.uk/macclesfield

THE SALVATION ARMY

NEW

JC. CREW YOUTH CLUB

FOR 10 - 16 YEAR OLDS

FREE ENTRY

INDOOR GAMES . TEAM CHALLENGES . MUCH MORE

Saturday November 21st

3.00PM- 4.30PM

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

MORE INFO CONTACT:
HAZEL - 01625 425343
HELEN - 0797 967 4572

PBS

STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2027?

Come and take a look around our wonderful school!

9:15am

Thursday 5th November 2026



Email us at admin@pussbank.cheshire.sch.uk or give us a call on 01625 917210 to book in.

You shop, brands donate

It won't cost you any extra!

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

Booking.com · ebay · M&S · Dunelm · Argos · TUI · currys · JOHN LEWIS · Etsy · TESCO · compare the market · JUST EAT · 8,000+ online retailers

easyfundraising

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:

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store



Need advice? Citizens Advice Bureau now available at East Cheshire Hospice

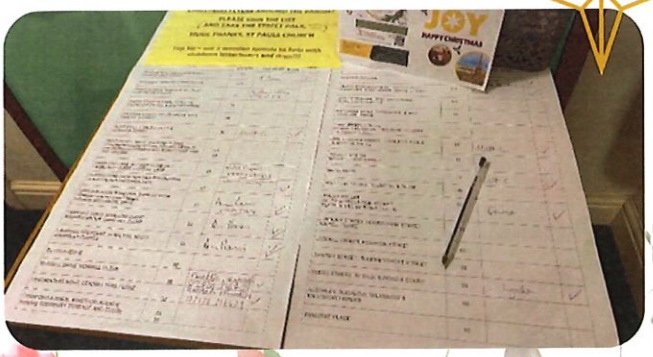
Working in partnership with Citizens Advice Cheshire East, the Sunflower Living Well Centre can help you access FREE, impartial, independent and confidential advice from Citizens Advice at East Cheshire Hospice. This service is available to: · Patients living with a palliative diagnosis or life limiting illness · Carers supporting someone with these conditions (You must be registered with a C.East GP.) You can get advice by email, telephone, or face to face on a wide range of issues, including:

- *Benefits & help with filling in forms*
- *Debt & money worries*
- *Health*
- *Employment*
- *Relationships & family*
- *Education*
- *Consumer issues*
- *Housing*
- *Charitable support*

Contact 01625 665685 or cmicb-cheshire.echospicesfc@nhs.net

CHRISTMAS FLYERS

Please help us cover every street in the Parish this Christmas. If you can deliver a pack of flyers, please sign up on the list in the porch. Thank you.



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 David Furphy Joan Mottershead	annefurphy@hotmail.co.uk davidfurphy@hotmail.com pastoral@stpaulsmacc.org
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	gillemptage@hotmail.co.uk
PCC Members	Matt Cooper, Nick Mottershead Joan Mottershead Rosie Brennan, Julie Brunt Tony Buckley, Janet Burrow	Emma Dennehy, Anne Furphy David Furphy, Ann Harris Lynda Lomas, Robert Marshall
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 9.00am-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 **Twitter:** @StPaulsMacc

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