

# JOHN PAUL PARISH MAGAZINE



**Rt. Rev. Dr. Joe Kennedy Bishop of Burnley**

**The Induction of Rev. Jordan Bentliff**

**7<sup>th</sup> September**

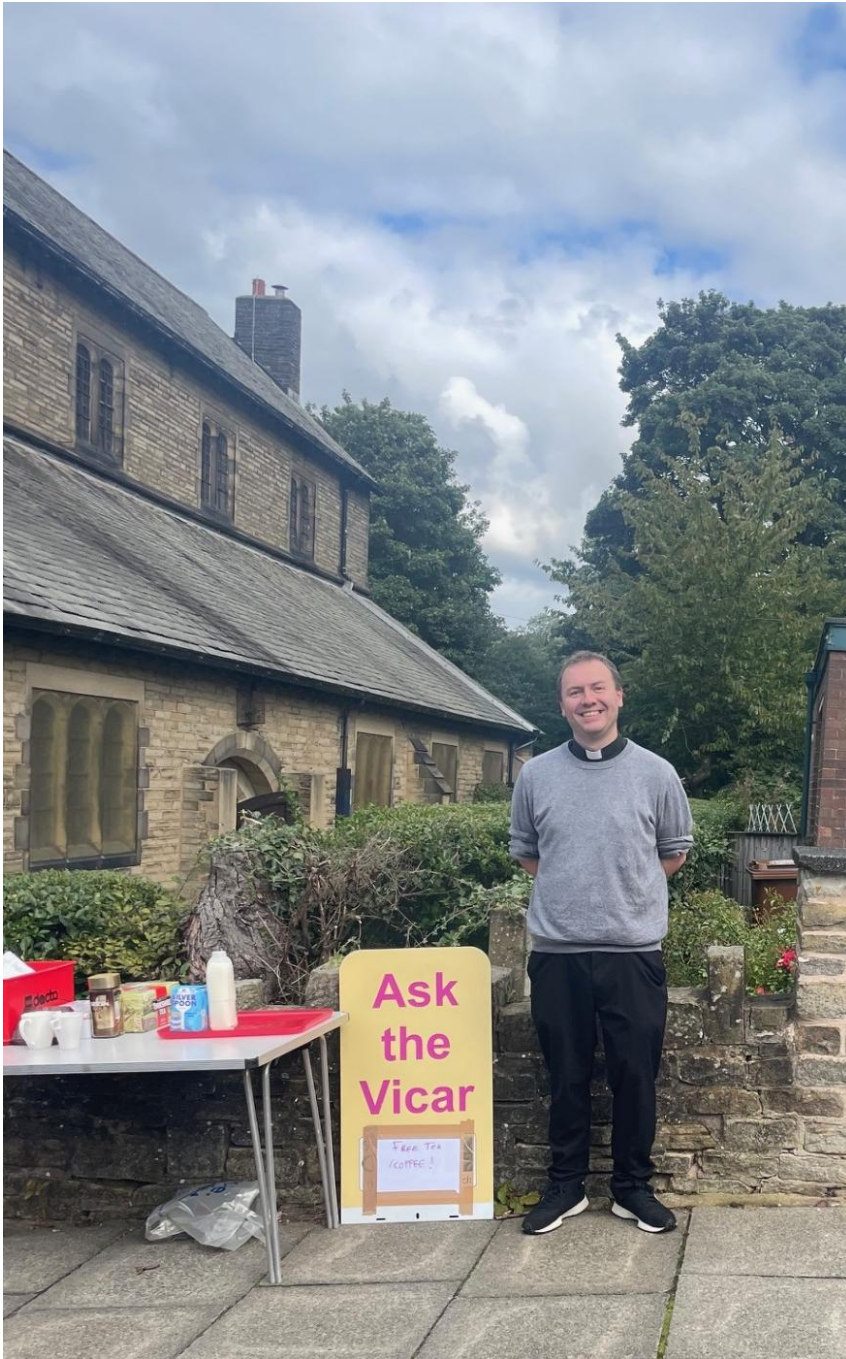
**OCTOBER ISSUE**

**£1**



## PARISH INFORMATION

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| <p>Contacts: St. Paul's wardens</p> <p>Kathleen Jones 01254 232367</p> <p>Heather Pitman 07921237592</p> <p>St. John's: Assistant wardens</p> <p>Austin Cook 07890727924</p> <p>Marion Wilkinson 07816532086</p> <p>Treasurer: Roger Longworth 07801143168</p> <p>Licensed Lay Ministers:</p> <p>Tony Hindle 07942888</p> <p>Dr Patricia Wilkinson 07966424951</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Latest news</b></p> <p>The churches can be contacted through the vicar/wardens/assistant wardens.</p> <p>The Rev. Jordan Bentliff is the Parish vicar who can be contact by:</p> <p>mobile: 07450269010</p> <p>e- mail: revjordanbentliff@gmail.com</p> <p>Note: see weekly sheets for any changes</p> <p>Service Times: St. Paul's</p> <p style="text-align: center;">St. Paul's Sunday services 9.00am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Morning worship/All Age Service/ Holy Communion. The Communion will include wafer &amp; wine</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All services will include singing hymns, Refreshments after the services</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Families @Five</p> <p>Twice a month at 5.00pm in the Church Hall</p> <p>See church notice boards for dates.</p> <p>Service Times: St. John's</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday services 10.30 am-including Children's Church</p> <p>Third Tuesday 10am to Noon in the lounge</p> <p>Communion followed by a coffee morning</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Joint Services</p> <p>There are also joint services for the two congregations. See notices</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Groups using St. Paul's Church Hall</b></p> <p>Brownies (age 7-10) Thursdays</p> <p>Angie Johnson 07523026031</p> <p>Rainbows (age 5-7) Mondays</p> <p>Kelly Johnson 07756660090</p> <p>Flowers St. Paul's</p> <p>Mrs Hilary Davis 01254301286</p> <p>Flowers St. John's</p> <p>Pam Stewart 01254382051</p> <p>Keep Fit</p> <p>Monday afternoon 01254235791</p> <p>Knit &amp; Natter 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in the month</p> <p>See weekly notices for the venue or contact 01254381 / 07527551672</p> <p>Magazine editor: Terry Jones 01254232367</p> <p>e-mail for articles and photographs mini1108k@outlook.com</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mission Statement</b></p> <p><i>We worship Jesus, welcome everyone, care for one another as family and serve God with generosity in our community</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Latest News</b></p> <p>Jesus Christ Super Star the musical is coming to Manchester in Feb. 2027.</p> <p>See details of cost and transport on the back cover. Any questions ask Patricia.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |



## Letter from the Vicar

Dear friends

It has been a real joy to begin my ministry among you, and I want to start by saying a heartfelt thank you for the extraordinary warm welcome that Becky and I have received. From conversations over coffee to kind words in church, invitations, smiles and countless little acts of kindness, we have already begun to feel very much at home. I am deeply grateful and am looking forward to getting to know many more of you in the months and years ahead.

It seems particularly fitting that my first weekend with you was our Mission Weekend. What a way to begin! It was wonderful to see our churches full of life, to welcome people from across our communities and to be reminded that the Church is at

its best when it looks beyond itself and invites others to discover the good news of Jesus Christ. There was a real sense of joy and expectation throughout the weekend and I am enormously grateful to everyone who worked so hard to make it happen. In addition, this week as I've made an effort to get to know kids and parents outside the school gates. it's been a pleasure to meet many in the wider parish! It seems that the communities in this parish are full of welcoming and friendly people, to whom it will be a pleasure to serve.

As I begin this new chapter with you, I have been thinking a great deal about **renewal**. Every Church goes through different seasons when things feel harder; seasons when

the future seems full of possibilities and seasons when we are simply to remain faithful. But throughout all of them, God is at work.

I believe we are entering a new season, and I want us to approach it with faith, hope and expectation. My prayer is that God would renew our churches from inside: renewing our worship, renewing our prayer, renewing our confidence in the Gospel, renewing our relationship with one another, and renewing our desire to serve the communities around us.

And perhaps, if we dare to pray for it, we might even pray for **revival**.

Revival is not simply about bigger congregations or more successful programmes. It is about God breathing new life into his Church. It is about people discovering Jesus for the first time, those who have drifted away from finding their way home. Christians having their faith rekindled, and our communities encountering something of the love, hope and transforming presence of God.

This kind of renewal cannot be manufactured by a vicar, a PCC, a programme or a Mission Weekend. It is the work of the Holy Spirit. We *can*, however, prepare the ground with prayer. We *can* welcome. We *can* open our doors. We *can* serve our communities. We *can* tell people the story of Jesus. We *can* become a church which expects God to do something new.

So as we begin this new season together, that is why I would love us to do: **to pray expectantly for what God might do among us.**

The prophet Isaiah gives us a wonderful image

*“See, I am doing a new thing!*

*Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?”*

[ Isaiah 43:19 ]

My hope this that we look carefully and prayerfully at what God is doing among us, while remaining open to the new things he may yet have in store.

There is much to be thankful for, much to build upon, and much to look forward to. I am incredibly excited to begin this journey with you and count it to be a privilege to be your vicar.

Please pray for me, as I will be praying for you. And above all, let us pray that our churches may become places where people encounter the living God, discover the hope of Christ, and find a community where they truly belong.

With every blessing

**Rev Jordan Bentliff Vicar**

*John Paul Parish*



# *Autumn Fair*

*In St Paul's Church*

*Barnfield Street, Accrington*

*Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November 10.30-2.00*

*Books - Cakes - Jewellery - Crafts*

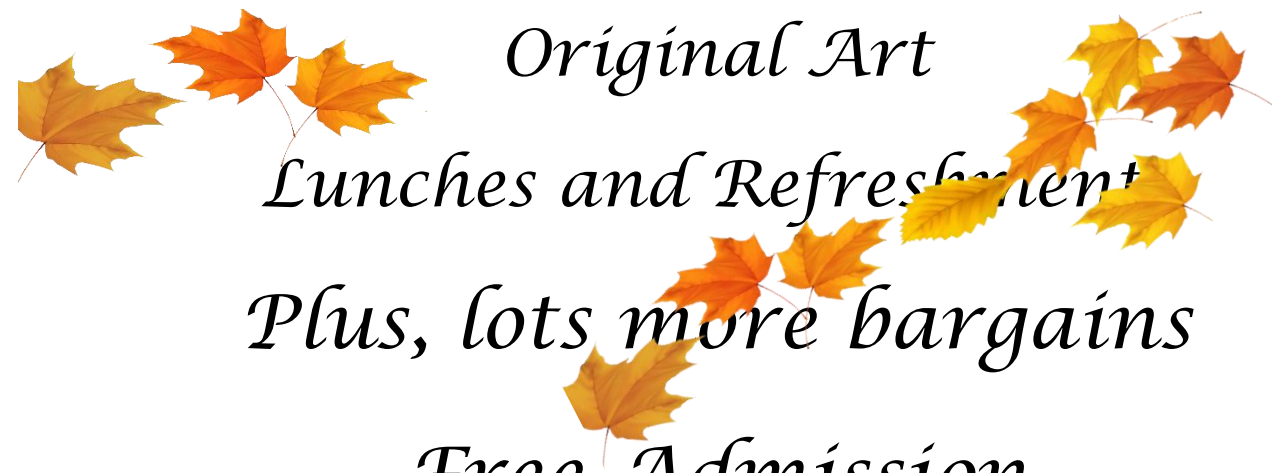
*Tombola - Face Painting - Plants*

*Original Art*

*Lunches and Refreshment*

*Plus, lots more bargains*

*Free Admission*



## Parish Mission Weekend 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> September



Saturday fun and games:





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Would you like to try THREE puddings? Silly question; see page 19



Jam Sponge





COUNCILLOR NOORAH AZIZ MAYOR of HYNDBURN, COUNCILLOR MIKE BOOTH,  
HEAD of BENJAMIN HARGREAVES SCHOOL JAMES KEWLEY.







## Bishop's Harvest Appeal



### A scene from South Sudan

Emergency Appeal from  
Bishop Philip 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026

I am writing to ask for your urgent support in addressing a humanitarian crisis that has broken out in our link Diocese of Liwolo in South Sudan.

Late on Tuesday evening,

parts of the Diocese were attacked by Ugandan troops in the most serious of a number of border incursions. As a result of this attack and the continuing presence of Ugandan troops, 10,000 people have been internally displaced. With no effective government response, they have taken refuge in the compound of Liwolo Cathedral

We have been working with Christian Aid to co-ordinate a response with their partners, the South Sudanese Development and Relief Agency (SSUDRA: Humanitarian Aid in South Sudan) . Already, aid supplies are starting to flow because of an emergency grant from this Diocese. But a great deal more is required.

I am writing in the hope that you and the people you serve might be able to make an immediate donation to the fund. All moneys given will be used at once to alleviate suffering in the Cathedral Compound where people have access to water but not to food, blankets, tents or medical supplies.

This is a very urgent situation and Bishop Joseph has sent a series of heartfelt appeals to friends and partners. If you or your congregation felt able to give, I would be very grateful.

And if you are not in the position to give, please do be praying for Bishop Joseph and his people. Yours, Bishop Phillip

Proceeds from our Harvest Coffee Morning on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> October at 10 a.m. will be given to the Bishop's Appeal.



This was a real 'look-forward-to' event. Celebrating our Mission Weekend and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Diocese of Blackburn



Patricia setting out the prayer chain



Rev. Jordan talking to Barrie Bleasdale the leader of the concert band

## Musicians warming up



Val Stephenson : playing the organ



Baxenden Concert Band





Singing their favourite songs from the first world war including *'It's a long way to Tipperary'* and *'Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag'*



View from the Choir Stalls



## In Memory of Anne Wenter

St. Paul's Church has been left a very generous legacy from **Anne Wenter** who worked hard over many years for the church she loved. Part of her legacy has been used for new chairs. St. John's have very generously given St. Paul's 50 of their chairs which have been refurbished with a new red fabric. And thanks to Chris. Heyes and his staff at CHF who have done a wonderful job with these chairs.



### Keeping You Posted

**On 29<sup>th</sup> August 2026 the marriage of Sarah Ellwood and Danny Rutherford was held in St. Paul's Church.** Congratulations to the newly married couple.

**Diamond Wedding celebration 13<sup>th</sup> August 2026** Kath and Terry would like to thank all their friends and members of our Church family for their greetings and well-wishes, cards, flowers and donations to the East Lancashire Hospice in lieu of

presents. We had a wonderful a weekend with our lovely family and wonderful friends

### Harvest Celebrations 2026

**Thursday, 1st October at 9 a.m. Benjamin Hargreaves School Harvest Service in St. Paul's Church**

**Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> October Harvest services will be held in both our churches.** Gifts from our school children and congregations will be donated to the Accrington Food Bank run on each Wednesday by Accrington Christians Together in St. James' Church from 1.30 p.m. During the Sunday services retiring collections will be held for the Bishop of Blackburn's urgent Appeal for money to support Liaolo, our link diocese in South Sudan

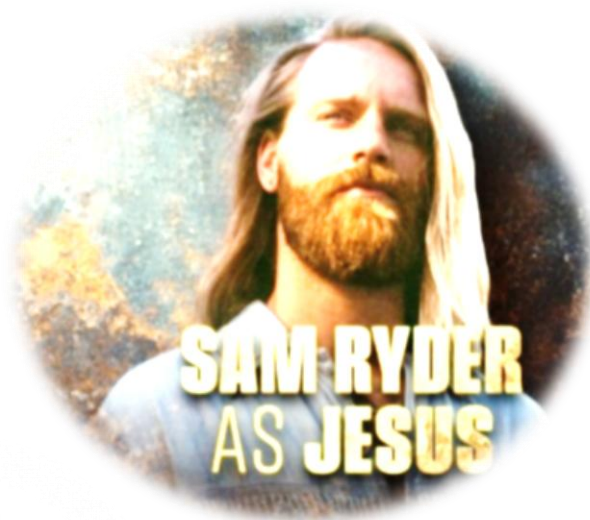
### News from the Social & Outreach Committee

**Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> October Our Pudding Extravaganza in the Church Hall from 7 p.m.** Come and taste 3 puddings of your choice and an evening of fun and friendship. Tickets cost £5 and in addition to the sweets, there will be Prosecco, soft drinks and also tea and coffee will be available. Tickets must be purchased in advance from Marion, Kath or Dorothy and Ann. Games and raffle with lovely prizes.



**Saturday, 31st October Autumn Fair in St. Paul's Church 10.30-2 p.m.**

A large variety of stalls to enable you to begin your Christmas shopping early. Stalls will include handicrafts, jewellery, cakes, raffle, tombola, books, bric-a-brac, gifts, toys and much more. Offers of help would also be much appreciated. Again this year the prize for our raffle will be a Christmas hamper. We are inviting members of our church family to donate items for the basket. We would also appreciate other gifts or prizes for the raffle and for other stalls especially the gift stall. .



**Jesus Christ Superstar Information:**

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2027 7.30pm**

**Palace Theatre Manchester**

**Coach Pick up**

1. Outside St Paul's **5.45pm**
2. Opposite Baxenden Village Club (about 10min later)

**Drop off approx. 11.15pm at Baxenden then St Paul's**

**Cost\***

**Coach** £15.70pp

**Ticket** £66.50pp

**Total** **£82.20pp**

**Payment to Patricia**

Cash (in an envelope with your name) or

Cheque (payable to Patricia Wilkinson) or

Bank Transfer (I will give you the details)

You are welcome to pay by instalments just let me know.

\* This assumes that everyone is coming on the coach