

May (just before the Christian Aid Lunch) when we will explain what we have in mind and start the ball rolling. Hope to see you there.

Spare Yarn wanted

St Michael's Mothers' Union are requesting any spare yarn that might be lurking in your house, any type, colour or amount, we can use all of it.

We are joining in with an ongoing project in the Manchester Diocese. This involves crafting small items, hearts, rainbows, crosses etc which the Hospital Chaplains have requested so they can be handed to patients and families in our local hospitals. We also knit hats and other items for the baby units in the Diocese. Please contact Frances Brough for details on 01706 659 603. Please leave any donations in your Church where Frances can collect it, or she could also collect from your house.

Welcome to No Mow May!

No Mow May is Plantlife's annual campaign calling all garden owners and green space managers not to mow during May – liberating your lawns and providing a space for nature.

A healthy lawn with some long grass and wildflowers benefits wildlife, tackles pollution and can even lock away carbon below ground – and best of all, to reap these benefits all you have to do is not mow your lawn in May!

So why not give the mower a break, and let wild plants get a head start on the summer?

Online Banking

Our bank details for direct donations are:

St Paul's	20-72-67	506 706 93
St Michael's	20-72-67	607 141 43
St James'	20-72-67	607 737 37

You may need to add 'Parochial Church Council' or 'PCC' after the church name for your bank to find and verify the account. Thank you.

No Cash with you?

All our churches now accept contactless giving, or scan here to go to St Paul's Just Giving page. Thank you.



Vicar - Rev Jason: 01706 631 050
email: revjasoncpowell@gmail.com

Wardens

St Paul's Andrew: 01706 861 942
Jenny: 01706 358 686
St Michael's Frances: 01706 659 603
Shirley: 01706 655 655
St James Hilary: 01706 356 191
David: 01706 526 917



The Benefice of St Paul's Norden, St James Ashworth & St Michael's Bamford

www.rochdalenorthwest.org

Services in May

Wednesdays 10:30am St Michael's
Holy Communion

Thursdays @7 services:

4th: St Michael's 11th: St Paul's
18th: St Michael's 25th: St Paul's

Coronation 10am St Paul's
Sunday 7th Outdoor Service in Jubilee Park
10am St Michael's
Morning Praise
1pm St Michael's
Baptism
3pm St James'
Holy Communion and Songs of Praise

Sunday 14th 10am St Paul's
Morning Praise
10am St Michael's
Holy Communion
3pm St James'
Evensong
7.30pm St Michael's
BREATHE

Sunday 21st 10am St Paul's
Holy Communion
10am St Michael's
Morning Praise
3pm St James'
Holy Communion

Sunday 28th 10am St Paul's
Pentecost Morning Praise
10am St Michael's
Holy Communion
3pm St James'
Evensong

Baptisms

Please pray for Sophia Elizabeth Surgeon and Florence Goddard who will be welcomed into the family of God through Holy Baptism this month.

Readings for May

Wednesday	3	John 12:44-end
Sunday	7	Isaiah 40.12-17,25-end.
Sunday	7	Luke 22.24-30
Wednesday	10	John 15:1-8
Sunday	14	Acts 17. 22–31;
Sunday	14	John 20. 19-23
Wednesday	17	John 16:12-15
Sunday	21	Acts 1.6–14
Sunday	21	John 12. 1-8
Wednesday	24	John 17:11-19
Sunday	28	Acts 2.1–21;
Sunday	28	John 7.37–39
Wednesday	31	Luke 1:39-49[50-56]

Coronation

We have some special events to celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III :

- **St James'** will be open from 11am until 3pm on Thursday 4th and Friday 5th May, and 11am until 2pm on Sunday 7th May for 'Jewel in the Crown' - a floral celebration of the Coronation
- **St Paul's** is holding an open air service at 10am on Sunday 7th in Jubilee Gardens (near the bus terminus / Bridge chippy / pub). This will be followed by light refreshments in the Parish Hall. If the weather is grim then the service itself will be in the Parish Hall too.
- **St Michael's** are to hold a small celebration in the wake of the coronation of King Charles, which will be following the service on Sunday, 7th May. Any contribution of tasty morsels would be most welcome, as would anyone who wishes to attend. Hoping to see you there!

Pastoral Team

Instead of our usual Pastoral Team Tea & Cakes event, at 2pm on **Thursday 4th May** we will be visiting the 'Jewel in the Crown' flower displays in St James' church. Refreshments will be provided. Everyone from across the benefice is very welcome to join us. If you know someone that may like to come please bring them along or speak to a member of the pastoral team - transport can be arranged if needed.

They do not have to be a member of the congregation, just someone who perhaps struggles to get out and meet people.

Anglican Ladies

St Paul's Anglican Ladies meeting this month, on 18th May has the intriguing title 'Three pair of knickers and a bus pass' - a talk by Paula Bradbury. More details from Sandra Schofield.

Craft Club

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month in St Paul's Parish Hall, 1.30pm - 3.30pm. This month, on 2nd, we'll be making a mouse. For more details please contact Jean Birch 01706 645211

Christian Aid Lunch

Christian Aid Week this year is 14th - 20th May. The Christian Aid Lunch will be held at 12:30pm on **Sunday 21st May** in St Paul's Parish Hall. We hope as many people as possible can support us. Tickets are now available from Jenny Short or Sandra Schofield, £9 for adults, £4 for children. There is a list at the back of church of food items we need, please - and also a list of helpers. All donations and assistance gratefully received!

Benefice Walking Group

The weekly walks have started up again. The next walk will be on Monday 1st May starting from St Paul's Parish Hall at 6.30pm. We walk once a week during the summer months with the day changing to allow different people to attend. We have a WhatsApp group to keep in touch with details of walks. If you would like to join us please speak to Jenny Short 07746 408819

Annual Church Meetings (APCMs)

St Paul's APCM is on Tuesday 16th May, 7.30pm in the parish hall with a hotpot supper.

Nomination forms for Churchwarden, Deanery Synod representatives and PCC members, the draft annual report and accounts and the updated Electoral Roll are published at the back of church. Copies are available on request to the PCC Secretary, Ian Short (ian@short.org.uk; 07734259460)

St James' and St Michael's are both holding their APCMs on 14 May, immediately after their regular services. Please speak to the PCC Secretary for details.

Heritage Open Days

Now St Paul's roof is finally fixed, we're going to hold a celebration of local creativity, art and photography in church over the Heritage Open Days in September. If you would like to help, or have ideas to contribute, please come along to a short meeting after the service on Sunday 21st