

## WHO WE ARE

Welcome in the name of Jesus to the Church of England parish of Kirkdale, Liverpool, comprising St. Lawrence church and St. Paul's church.

Everyone is welcome to attend our church services, our ushers on the door will look after you.

Our regular **Sunday** services are **10.30am** at **St. Lawrence** and **6.00pm** at **St. Paul's**.

**Coffee mornings** at St. Lawrence Wednesday's 9 to 10.30 am. Parents and Toddlers welcome.

**Prayer and Praise** at St. Lawrence Wednesday's 11.30 to 1.30pm. All welcome

Our churches are available for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

## Contact us

**St. Lawrence, Westminster Close, Liverpool L4 1XB**

**St. Paul's, 35 Celia Street, Liverpool L20 2BG**

Phone: 07561 686243

Email: [admin@kirkdale.org.uk](mailto:admin@kirkdale.org.uk)

Web: [www.stlawrencewithstpaul.co.uk](http://www.stlawrencewithstpaul.co.uk)

## ST. LAWRENCE & ST. PAUL'S

### KIRKDALE

## Christmas Magazine 2025



Associate Priest, Rev Gill Hoy

# REV'D GILL HOY

Christmas is once again fast approaching us, it is both an exciting time, but it can also be an incredibly stressful time, and for some it can even be a challenging time. I appreciate how Christmas can stir up a mixture of emotions, as some have recently experienced illness or diagnoses, some have been through bereavement, and some have concerns around employment or financial difficulties. This can all add to the stress that we have during the run up to Christmas, when our minds turn to buying presents and putting up decorations, thinking of family meals and also thinking of those who maybe won't be around our dinner table this year.

I also understand that the promises of our Lord Jesus Christ are for all people, no matter what your situation is this Christmas time. So, I want to extend my thoughts and prayers to you all at this time, I pray that you will all be able to experience some relief from the challenges and enjoy some peace and joy. I pray that as we, as a church, reach out to the community, Gods love will be shared with those who are yet to know Gods love in their lives.

Jesus came to save us; to show His love and to ensure we receive the gift of eternal life that is ours through Jesus, so we celebrate our Savours birth and His life that is the source of our freedom and hope.

May you each know the Lords richest blessing on your lives and for your loved ones.

God bless you all.



## ST. PAUL'S

Writing this now, approaching Christmas, we at St Lawrence with St Paul's have been about 17 months in interregnum. As we await a new vicar, we commend our Associate Priest, Revd Gill, for the sterling work she has done in this time, in holding us together. We give her our thanks and pray for God's guidance on her as she is soon to take up a new post, though not leaving us altogether.

Revd Gill's not had many breaks, but we would like to thank Reverends John Garner, Andrew Hetherington, and Ossie Post, who have stepped in to help when needed. Our Sunday evening services only get about 10 people on average, but those who come go away fulfilled as Revd Gill always presents a lovely service.

Two highlights during the year were our hosting of two Fit for Mission events in February and catering for about 140 people, and also church members joining Revd Gill in both churches for 6 weeks in Lent doing talks on Jesus' disciples.

I took over the Church Warden's job in June, as Ruth Smart stepped down, I moved up from deputy. Joe Kilshaw and Rob Irvine deserve special thanks for doing odd jobs on many Tuesdays. To help with the upkeep of the church we have the hall on hire quite regularly.

Our Young at Heart club has been going about 20 years once a month and still flourishes. We get on average 25 to 30 in the hall for good fun and entertainment.

I'd like to finish by asking God's blessings on all the church members, their families, and friends this Christmas.

Don Rivers, Churchwarden St. Paul's

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

### TREE & TREATS:

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024 from 12.30 to 2pm at St. Lawrence.**

Join us for a hot lunch and a chance to help dress our Christmas tree. Dress the Trees, Nativity dress up. Sweets and Cakes, Hot scouse and bread, Christmas card making. Hot chocolate and Marshmallow. Join in the family fun and get ready to celebrate Christmas. RSVP Rev Gill Hoy

### YOUNG at HEART Christmas Party

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December from 12 to 3pm at St. Paul's.**

Festive food, fun, friendship and entertainment. All welcome. Suggested donation of £4 or whatever you can afford. Contact Pauline Worthy or Don Rivers for any further information.

### CHRISTMAS LUNCH

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December at St. Lawrence.**

Full meal with all the festive trimmings. All welcome. £8 per adult, £4 per child.

## Can you help ?

We are looking for people to volunteer to help with the technology we use during our services each Sunday. We need people to

1. Operate the computers - basically this is just pressing a button to change the slides on the screens OR
2. Program the services into the computer (a bit more complicated!)

Full training will be given. We want to get more people involved so we can set up a rota and ideally, you'd only be doing this once per month.

# ST. LAWRENCE

As we look forward to the birth of our saviour Jesus, we bring to mind all that has happened this year. We thank God for all the blessings he has given us and for the people he has put in our lives.

Val and I would like to express our appreciation to Gill for her ministry and friendship throughout this time, and to thank her on behalf of the community and congregation for her continuing support and care. We will be very sad to see Gill leave us but wish her well in her new parish and will pray for her success and contentment in her new role.

We would like to thank Joe and Rob for the upkeep and maintenance of our church building. Also, for their contribution to the music group along with Bernie, Liz and Carol who delight us each Sunday with the beautiful songs and hymns they choose.

Our church is fortunate to have Paula and Elaine who cook for us a delicious meal once a month, with all proceeds going to the Potter's Village. They are very generous with their time and giving, expecting nothing in return.

Thanks to Pauline for her supporting ministry in leading our services and for her work on the computer and to our congregation who join us each Sunday as we worship together.

We look forward to 2026 to see what the year will bring. We pray that a new minister will come soon to continue the excellent work started by Gill and lead us in our worship and further God's Kingdom in Kirkdale.

Our thanks go out to you all for your help and support at this joyous time, and we wish you and your families a happy and blessed Christmas.

Barb and Val, church wardens St Lawrence's.



Spring came with welcome flowers,  
Summer brought the sun,  
Autumn gave us golden hours,  
Now the winter's come.  
The year has flashed by like a week,  
But the memories are ours to keep.

When days are dark and nights are chill,  
We sigh for summer's heat.  
We sigh - and all we get, of course,  
Are chilblains on cold feet!  
But though bad tempered and in pain,  
We know that warm days will come again.



A whole new year awaits us, Lord,  
The path we all must tread,  
And only you can see the way,  
And just what lies ahead.  
Will there be days of happiness,  
With laughter, joy and fun?  
Or times when sadness comes along,  
And darkness hides the sun?

The new year is a challenge, Lord,  
A chance to start anew,  
But we need courage, strength and hope,  
And love which comes from you.  
Please walk beside us through the year,  
And all our fears dispel,  
Then, in our hearts, we'll hear your voice:  
**"Go forward, all is well."**

Iris Hesselden

**We wish you all  
A Happy New Year**