

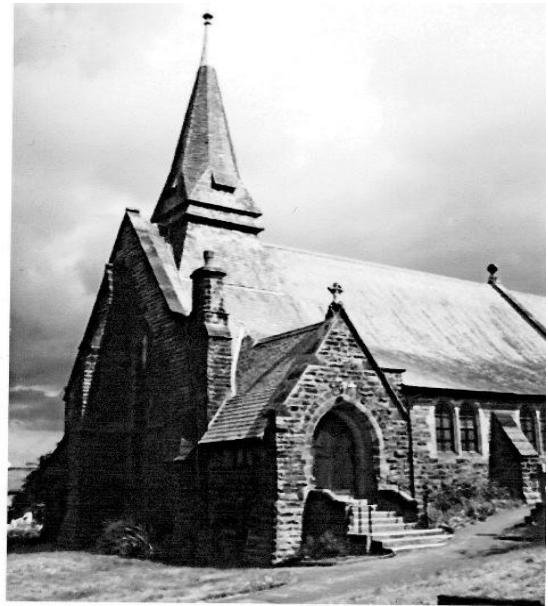
# Parish News

For the parishes of :-

**St Luke's Dunham  
on the Hill & Hapsford**



**St Paul's  
Helsby**



## August 2011

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## **Priest in Charge**

Rev. Margaret Saville  
St Paul's Vicarage, Vicarage Lane, Helsby. Tel: 01928 722151

## **Who's Who at Helsby St Pauls**

### **Reader**

Shirley Knipe                      Tele: 01928 724357

### **Church Wardens**

Joan Langton                      Tele: 01928 723895

Ken Miller                         Tele: 01928 732064

### **Organist**

Tony Green

### **PCC Treasurer**

David Johnson                      Tele: 01928 722182

### **PCC Secretary**

Barbara Atkinson                      Tele: 01928 722760

### **Gift Aid Secretary**

Joan Langton                      Tele 01928 723895

### **Church Hall Bookings Secretary**

Andrew Meakin                      Tele: 01928 724106

Web site: <http://www.stpaulshelsby.org.uk>

## **Who's Who at Dunham-on-the-hill St Lukes**

### **Church Warden**

Position Vacant

### **Organist**

Robert Fletcher

### **PCC Treasurer**

James Horncastle                      Tele: 01928 724436

### **PCC Secretary**

Judy Ford                         Tele: 01928 723748

(preferred contact)                      e.mail: [judy.ford@lmh.oxon.org](mailto:judy.ford@lmh.oxon.org)

Web site: <http://www.dunhamhillstlukes.org.uk>

Twitter site: <http://twitter.com/JudyATStLukes>

## *Priest's Corner August 2011*

Looking forward to the summer holidays? I hope so, and I hope the weather will be good enough for everyone to enjoy being outside getting some exercise or just relaxing in the garden. It's very important to have a change of routine, to relax and refresh the body, mind and spirit by doing something completely different, if only for a few days. Many people will have some sort of break away from home other perhaps may be visiting that very old place 'Ourgate' – very popular for many years in my family. We had a really good time playing with friends in the park or in our garden or in the quiet cul de sac around the corner.

Perhaps 'Ourgate' will become more popular again through necessity. Having gone through a prosperous period when holidays would be spent abroad to make sure we had some sunshine many people are having to re-think their holidays because of the changes in the economic climate. Some perhaps having to resort to 'Ourgate' and making the most of what is around us to make the most of our holiday time.

Changes occur in our lives almost every day, sometimes changes of our own choice which is great; we feel we are in control of our lives. Even so, some of those changes can be quite challenging and are helped through by the support of family and friends. All the school children will be facing changes of one sort or another when they return to school; some will cope better than others, but all will need support and encouragement.

My ministry is privileged in that I share with many people the changes that occur in their lives, the choices they make to get married in church or have their children baptised, and sometimes helping them work through difficult decisions they have to make. At other times I help them through changes that are not their own choice but nevertheless they have to deal with. Those events and experiences happen to us all from time to time; changes that we might not like but have no control over.

Those are the times when it is good to remember the constants in our lives. Perhaps for you that is husband or wife, or parents, maybe a sibling or a really good friend. There is one person we can always rely on, who is constantly in our lives, who loves us deeply and that is God, our Father. He is there to help us through those difficult decisions, will guide us through with his Holy Spirit and help us cope with our worries and anxieties over changes that we choose to make but are still a little scary. He is there to say 'thank you' to when those wonderful changes that we make bring us great joy – a wedding, the birth of a child, a new relationship, a new beginning. He is there waiting for us to speak with him no matter what our relationship with him – it is never too late to begin or deepen our relationship with God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

When we look at all the people who met with Jesus during his ministry, we see that every person was changed by him when they recognised who he was, and the unconditional love he had for them. Some of those changes occurred because they asked for them, sometimes Jesus saw their need and responded to that without their asking for help. Then were they glad when they saw the Lord for who he was and made changes in their life in response to his love.

This collect from the Book of Common Prayer reminds us of that love and support freely given by God :-

*Assist us mercifully, O Lord, in these our supplications, and dispose the way of thy servants towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; **that among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, they may ever be defended by thy most gracious and ready help; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

### **Reverend Margaret**

Aunt Emily's parrot never spoke a word for the first three years that she kept it. She simply thought it was incapable of speaking until one day she was feeding it some lettuce and it suddenly squawked "There's a maggot on it!" Aunt Emily was amazed "You can Talk" she said, "Why haven't you spoken a word for the last 3 years?"

"Simple" replied the parrot "Food's been great up to now!"

# NEWS FROM ST LUKE'S

## DUNHAM-ON-THE-HILL

### Church Draw Winners

#### July

- 1<sup>st</sup> B. Roberts
- 2<sup>nd</sup> A. Lloyd
- 3<sup>rd</sup> A. Lambert

*Attention all children at Dunham-on-the-Hill and Hapsford*

The villages are celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St Luke's Church on October 23<sup>rd</sup> this year and we want you to take part by drawing a picture of the church. The drawing can be of any part of the church, inside or outside or the whole of the church; you can imagine what the church might have looked like back in 1861 or even what you might like it to look like now, especially when we are gathered together for worship. You can use paint or coloured crayons but it must be on an A4 piece of paper or card so that we can display them in the Church Room on the day of celebration.

Please write on the back of your entry your name, address, telephone number and age. There will be a small reward for every entry and a prize for the one judged to be the best overall. Entries may be brought to church on any Sunday between now and then but must be in by Sunday October 2<sup>nd</sup> which is to be our Harvest Festival celebration. We look forward to seeing you at church with your entry in the next few months.

*Revd Margaret and all members of St Luke's Church.*

## **A Thousand years of Christianity in Dunham-on-the-Hill and Hapsford**

### **Part 6: Methodism in Dunham in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.**

In 2011 St Luke's Church in Dunham-on-the-Hill will be 150 years old. This series of articles looks back at the history of the Parish of Dunham-on-the-hill and Hapsford.

According to local folklore, towards the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century there was a falling out between two brothers in the Griffiths family, both of whom attended Dunham Hill Wesleyan Methodist Church. The result was the establishment of Hapsford Methodist Church, which was built on land belonging to Hapsford Hall between Dunham and Hapsford. The date of the deeds is 26<sup>th</sup> September 1896. Annie Griffiths, a prominent member at Hapsford and the daughter of its founder is buried in St Luke's churchyard. While Dunham belonged to the Wesleyan Methodist Connexion, Hapsford became part of the United Methodist Church when it was formed in 1907 from three smaller Methodist groups: the *Methodist New Connexion* (founded in 1797), the *Bible Christians* (founded in 1815), and the *United Methodist Free Churches* (formed in 1857 by the amalgamation of the *Wesleyan Association* and the *Wesleyan Reformers*).

Hapsford Chapel was certified as a place of public worship in 1906. An application, dated 1919, to renew its registration as a building for the solemnization of marriages (signed by Robert Jeffs, of Hapsford Hall) and the corresponding certificate from the Superintendent Registrar survive in the Methodist archives, as do lists of trustees for Dunham Hill Methodist Church from 1941 and 1958 and for Hapsford from 1972 (one year after the closure of Dunham Hill Methodist Church).

In 1932 various groups which had separated from the Wesleyan Methodists since the death of John Wesley decided to join together. This act was known as the Methodist Union, and brought into being a new body known simply as *The Methodist Church*. To distinguish this from Methodism in other countries, it is now styled the *Methodist Church of Great Britain*.

The result was that, from 1932 onwards, Dunham had two churches belonging to the same denomination. They were, however, in different *circuits*, so were dealt with separately from an administrative point of view and had a different minister and preachers.

Another interesting document from the archives is a Report of the District Development Commission, which visited the two churches in 1969 on a fact-finding mission preparatory to changes in circuit boundaries which were to bring the two churches into the same circuit in 1970. This reveals that the Methodist Society in Dunham dates back to Wesley's time (the 1770's) although the building was not erected until 1843. In 1969 there was a membership of 14 at Dunham and 19 at Hapsford (described as "on the whole, more senior"). Despite the small numbers, the churches between them held 3 services each Sunday.

Dunham Hill Methodist Church closed in 1971 and the majority of members transferred to Hapsford, with a few moving to St Luke's. Hapsford continued to serve its small congregation for a further 24 years until problems with the buildings led to its closure. The last service was a Thanksgiving Service held on August 27<sup>th</sup> 1995 - just one year before its centenary. Members generally had their membership transferred to Helsby Methodist Church, although several of those living in Dunham started to worship at St Luke's.

Next month we will look at relations between the churches in Dunham.

Dr Judy Ford

THANK YOU ALL.

I would like to thank St Lukes, friends and neighbours for all the beautiful flowers and best wishes I received after my recent operation.

Thank you all so much for your kindness it was very much appreciated.

regards Gillian Semourson.

**St Luke's Church  
Dunham-on-the-Hill  
announce their  
150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Service  
on  
Sunday October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2011  
at 9.30 am**

**Guest Preacher  
The Venerable Michael Gilbertson  
Archdeacon of Chester**

There is an open invitation to all those who live in the parish of Dunham-on-the-Hill and Hapsford and all who have a connection with St Luke's through weddings, baptisms or funerals to join us on this special occasion. If you know someone who has moved away please let them know and encourage them to come along to share this happy time with us. Wine and cake will be offered following the service with an opportunity to chat and share together.

0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0

**Wednesday Worship**

What a special time of blessing and quiet reflection I find Wednesday Worship to be. We have some worship and prayer; we have the opportunity to bring the needs of others or our own concerns to the Lord and we spend a short time studying a passage of scripture. It's great to dig a bit deeper into what God really wants us to see or to understand. We learn more about the character of God and of His Son and are humbled when we take time to stop and really think about the sacrifices that He made for us all.

It is also a time when we get to know others better and listen to some of their life experiences. We can always learn and, from hearing about the faith of others, our own faith can be strengthened. We ask lots of questions and have fun searching for some of the answers. It's a really good way to spend a little bit of time out of the weekly routine

Richard Walker

## **CAMEO**    **C**ome **A**nd **M**eet **E**ach **O**ther

You may have missed the Sunday when CAMEO was introduced to the congregation at St Paul's so I want to explain what this is all about ready for when you get an invitation.

CAMEO is one of our initiatives for this year which we hope will help members of St Paul's get to know one another a little bit better. Like most congregations that are growing, and sometimes those that don't, we rarely have the chance to find out people's names and a little bit about them. This often makes it difficult for people to really feel part of the church family and to make new friends.

The idea is to have several very informal gatherings for a few people at a time to meet each other and have a chat over a cup of coffee or a glass of wine, or maybe a light supper. As each group meets we hope that someone else will then offer to host another group of people, thus cascading the friendships throughout the church membership. We hope that when you receive an invitation you will join in this process, getting to know someone you perhaps only know by sight, thus making our church a much more welcoming and friendly place.

There is no ulterior motive and if you really feel that you don't want to participate then please say so, then you won't be continually asked by someone else! If you can't make that particular invitation then I'm sure you will receive another one later on.

If you want to know a little more about this then please have a word with one of the following people who started this off:

Revd Margaret, Joan Langton, Christine O'Neill, Pat Holder, Shirley Knipe.

We all look forward to getting to know our neighbour.

# Parish Profile



This month we introduce you to Gill Gilbert of St Paul's Helsby and also St Luke's Dunham. Gill was born in Croydon, Surrey and is an only child. She attended Purley Oaks Infant and Junior School in South Croyden before attending Archbishop Tenison's Church of England Grammar School. There she became head Girl and after taking her 'A' levels

she went to Goldsmith's College, London to train as a teacher.

As Gill started her first post at an Infant School in Oval Road Croydon, where she enjoyed teaching, her father sadly died. When another post became vacant to teach English and History for a year at her old Grammar School, she jumped at the chance. At the end of that busy year, Gill moved to a Boy's Technical in Ingram where she taught English.

In spite of a very heavy work load it was at this time that Gill started studying to be a Reader, on a correspondence course within the Reader's Board. She was inspired by the Deputy Head at Ingram with whom she had worshipped at St Augustine's Church in South Croydon for many years. The course covered Church History; the Bible; Worship and Doctrine. For each section many essays were written and posted to different tutors and there were four exams. Eventually in the Autumn of 1972, Gill was licensed as a Reader in St Augustine's Church.

After an illness, Gill was advised to take a teaching post in a more rural area, and she moved with her mother to Dereham in Norfolk. There Gill taught in an all girls Secondary School which became a mixed Comprehensive School within four years. She remained there for thirteen years, during which time she studied with the Open University for an Honours Degree and eventually enjoyed teaching the Sixth Form.

In December 1984, Gill met Rev. Sidney Gilbert who called to see her one day in connection with her work as a Reader. From this initial meeting love blossomed and they married in 1986 at All Saints Church in Beeston Regis on the Norfolk coast where Sidney was the vicar. From then on Gill worked a four day week at Cromer High School for eleven year olds and used the fifth day to help in the parish. Apart from helping with services, she arranged a Flower Festival; helped to organise the Stewardship Campaign; coped with fetes in the garden, and learned what it means to 'live on the job!'

After thirteen years in All saints, Beeston Regis – Gill retired from teaching and Sidney took up a post in LLanwyddyn, Mid Wales plus two smaller neighbouring churches. There Gill put on a Flower Festival; a Craft Exhibition and joined the WI and helped with Church services.

In 2000, Sidney retired to Wrexham but this was only a temporary measure as, in 2004, he took on a "House for Duty" post at Rode Heath, near Sandbach encompassing three churches. All the family, especially Sock (the family terrier) were very happy to be living in Cheshire. Both Gill and Sidney took services in all the churches but this came to an abrupt end when Sidney had a second heart attack. So in 2006 Gill and Sidney moved back to their home in Wrexham where, over the next few years they both helped with services at St Margaret's, Garden Village in Wrexham.

In 2010 they moved to Helsby where Gill enjoys gardening; reading; entertaining and holidays in Aberyswyth. Gill's faith means everything to her and as she says 'If you take that away – what is the purpose of life?'. She feels lucky to have been born into a Christian home and was brought up to go to Church from an early age. She believes that to be introduced to the Lord Jesus Christ at an early age is the best gift that you can give any child. She herself was confirmed at the age of eleven at St Augustine's Church, Croydon.

Gill enjoys services at St Paul's and St Luke's – she says that both churches have something different to give.

When out walking with ‘Sock’ Gill looks up at the birds and around at God’s world of nature – and everything else goes from her mind in the face of such wonder! Gill’s favourite hymn is “Teach me my God and King”. She hopes that after many moves in her life that she will have a long and happy stay here in Helsby. She believes that what is important is not how many places you have seen but whom you have met on the way. She would like to be remembered as someone who was kind.

Your roving reporter *Shirley Knipe*

### ***The Philippines – a personal view (1)***

By David Knipe

As some of you know, I like to visit the Philippines as often as I can – my trip of March/April this year was the twentieth. I have been asked to inform, and I hope, entertain you with my impressions of the country and its people.

Filipinos are the attraction, they are friendly, open, and cheerful people, easy to talk to and eager to find out about the folk they meet. But to understand the people some geography and history is necessary, since the country’s location and the events of 16<sup>th</sup> March 1521 are pertinent to issues which were prominent in the newspapers during my last visit, and which are affecting the lives of many Filipinos.

The Philippines are in South-East Asia. To the west is Malaysia, the island of Borneo, Thailand and Vietnam; to the South is Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Australia; to the North is China and Japan; and to the east is the vast Pacific Ocean. The Philippines consists of two large islands, Luzon in the North and Mindanao in the South, with a dozen or so medium sized islands in the middle and nearly 7000 small, mostly uninhabited islands scattered around.

The people went quietly about their business, trading with nearby countries, farming and fishing, and upsetting no-one, until that fateful day in 1521 when Ferdinand Magellan stumbled upon the islands and claimed them for Spain.

On Easter Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 1521 he planted a cross and said the first Mass; on the 14<sup>th</sup> April 1521 hundreds of people were converted to Christianity and baptised; and on 27<sup>th</sup> April 1521 Magellan was dead – killed by Lapu-Lapu the chieftain of Mactan Island. Those islanders who had initially befriended Magellan, now incensed by the rowdy conduct of his men and their taking pleasure with the local women, turned against them and those they did not kill fled back to their ships and left.

Lapu-Lapu became the first Filipino hero. Fish were named after him – sweet and sour Lapu- Lapu is delicious. His victory, however, was short lived, more Spaniards arrived and within Sixty years practically the whole of the Philippines had been converted to Christianity. The Church had both Ecclesiastical and Political power – the Church and the State were one. The Spanish rule of the Philippines lasted 333 years.

War between America and Spain over Cuba resulted in the Philippines, half a world away, becoming an American colony in 1898. The Philippines were granted independence in 1946. The Spanish gave the Philippines its name ( after King Phillip II) and Roman Catholicism; the Americans gave it an administration system; English as the language of government; business and education - and a taste for loud and hideously violent films!

It is said that the modern Filipino is the result of 300 years of Catholicism and 50 years of Hollywood.

More details to follow in my next overview of the Philippines.

# The Parish Registers

## Funerals

### Walton Lea crematorium

June 16<sup>th</sup> John William Leonard Smith aged 83

### St Paul's Church

June 29<sup>th</sup> Lily Roan aged 94

July 7<sup>th</sup> James Parker aged 72

*We praise and thank you, eternal God, that in Christ you have offered us the reassurance that death is not the end of who we are nor the extinguishing of all our hopes.*

## Holy Baptism

### St Paul's

June 26<sup>th</sup> Jake James Beadle

July 10<sup>th</sup> Logan George Spencer

### St Luke's

July 10<sup>th</sup> Isabel May Horncastle

July 17<sup>th</sup> Harry Ivan Shaw

*God of Love, we ask your blessing on these children as they set out on the journey of life in a world fraught with dangers and difficulties. We know that you will watch over and guide them and uphold them with your love.*

## Holy Matrimony

### St Paul's

July 9<sup>th</sup> Deborah Kathryn Louise Fisher and Olaoluwa Temitope Makanjuola Olubodun

*God of life and love, we pray that for Debbie and Laolu their wedding day will be a happy springboard for their new life together; rich in opportunity where they can grow and become the people you want them to be.*

# Dates for Your Diary

August 10<sup>th</sup> MU Lunch with Prayer Partners from  
Shavington followed by a Service in Church

August 13<sup>th</sup> Garden Party at Cliff Farm Mews 2.00 pm

September 26<sup>th</sup> St Paul's PCC Meeting 7.30 pm

September 29<sup>th</sup> St Luke's PCC Meeting 7.30 pm

October 3<sup>rd</sup> St Luke's Harvest Supper 7.00 pm  
Village Hall followed by Auction

October 7<sup>th</sup> St Paul's Harvest Supper in the  
Church Hall

October 19<sup>th</sup> Music Concert with Tony and The Choir  
St Paul's Church at 7.30 pm

## **Precious Moments June 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> 2012**

Yes, that's right. 2012! We are planning ahead for a very special weekend next year to celebrate a variety of Precious Moments. 2012 is a very special year for our Queen – celebrating 60 years of her reign; 2012 is also the year of the London Olympics. On top of that I'm sure each one of us will have Precious Moments that we want to acknowledge and celebrate. So we are giving everyone a chance to share Precious Moments through a Flower Festival and Arts and Crafts Exhibition on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.

Please book this weekend in your diary – we will need lots of support from you in so many ways but we also want to encourage groups and organisations to participate by depicting their own Precious Moment in one art form or another – through painting, photography, woodwork, embroidery, etc. You may have something to display and share with already or if not, have time to work on something between now and then.

The weekend will we hope, be full of colour and entertainment – we have the Cheshire Police Band booked for a concert on the Saturday evening and will be encouraging the schools and organists to provide entertainment during the day.

Watch out for further details about exhibiting and if you want to volunteer now to help out over the weekend please contact Revd Margaret or the churchwardens – Joan Langton and Ken Miller.

### *Come and Sing*

For the last three years a group of singers have prepared a number of carols to sing at the carol service in St Paul's Church at Christmas. This year they are planning an extra project: learning



some music for a concert in Church on Wednesday 19 October. The *Come and Sing* group would like to extend an invitation to anyone in the village to join them for this concert. You do not have to read music or be a member of the congregation, just interested in meeting with others singers for six weeks to prepare for a concert. The music will be simple to sing though will include pieces by Vaughan Williams, Karl Jenkins, jazz and

some African music; the evening will be complemented by some solo performances.

If you are interested please speak to Gary O'Neill on 723327 or simply come to one of the rehearsals which are in St Paul's church on Thursday evenings from 8.00pm.

Thursday 1 September, Thursday 8 September,  
Thursday 15 September, Thursday 22 September,  
Thursday 29 September, Thursday 6 October,  
Thursday 13 October.

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# Collects for August 2011

**August 7<sup>th</sup>            Trinity 7**

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**August 14<sup>th</sup>            Trinity 8**

Lord God, your son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake, when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**August 21<sup>st</sup>            Trinity 9**

Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day, and make her holy, strong and faithful, for your glory's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**August 28<sup>th</sup>            Trinity 10**

Lord of heaven and earth, as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer, give us patience and courage never to lose hope, but always to bring our prayers before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**September 4<sup>th</sup>            Trinity 11**

God of glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

0-0-0-0-0-0-0

Gracious Father, by the obedience of Jesus,  
you brought salvation to our wayward world:

    Draw us into harmony with your will,  
    that we may find all things restored in him,  
    our saviour Jesus Christ.

## *Services in August 2011*

### **August 7<sup>th</sup>**

St Paul	08.00 am	Holy Communion [BCP]
St Luke	09.30 am	Morning Prayer
St Paul	11.00 am	Family service

### **Trinity 7**

*10<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Worship at St Paul's 7.30 pm*

### **August 14<sup>th</sup>**

St Paul	08.00 am	Holy Communion [BCP]
St Luke	09.30 am	Holy Communion
St Paul	11.00 am	Sung Communion

### **Trinity 8**

*17<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Worship at St Paul's 7.30 pm*

### **August 21<sup>st</sup>**

St Paul	08.00 am	Holy Communion [BCP]
St Luke	09.30 am	Morning Prayer
St Paul	11.00 am	Sung Communion

### **Trinity 9**

*24<sup>th</sup> Wednesday worship at St Paul's 7.30 pm*

### **August 28<sup>th</sup>**

St Paul	08.00 am	Holy Communion [BCP]
St Luke	09.30 am	Holy Communion
St Paul	11.00 am	Sung Communion

### **Trinity 10**

*31<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Worship at St Paul's 7.30 pm*

### **September 4<sup>th</sup> Trinity 11**

St Paul	08.00 am	Holy Communion [BCP]
St Luke	09.30 am	Morning Prayer
St Paul	11.00 am	Family Service

*September 7<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Worship at St Paul's 7.30 pm*