



NEWS AND NOTES

SUNDAY 16TH

NOVEMBER

2ND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

Dear friends,

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to our Remembrance Sunday and Day commemorations. From poppies to prayers, music to ministry, everything came together beautifully - like a dream, really (even if it didn't feel that way in the planning stages!). Your care and presence made space for memory, honour, and hope.

Christmas Tree Festival
Opening Times
Come and join us at St Peter's to see the display of Christmas trees in church
Refreshments available throughout
Saturday 22nd November 11.00am - 2.00pm
Sunday 23rd November 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Christmas in Blackley 2025

Christmas Tree Festival St Peter's Church Saturday 22 nd November until Sunday 14 th December <i>see overleaf for details</i>	Christmas Services Christmas Eve 4.00pm Crib Service St Paul's 7.00pm Christmas Communion St Peter's 11.30pm Midnight Communion St Andrew's
Carol Services Sunday 7 th December 6.00pm St Andrew's Sunday 14 th December 4.00pm St Peter's Sunday 21 st December 6.30pm St Paul's	Christmas Day 10.00am Christmas Communion St Paul's JOY

Now, as we turn our faces toward Advent, there's a simple, joyful way you can help: *hand-delivering Christmas invitations around Blackley*. It's a small act with big heart - neighbours inviting neighbours to wonder, warmth, and worship. There are lists in church where you can tick off the streets you're covering. Let's share the light, one letterbox at a time.

This week's readings remind us that even when the world feels shaky - temples crumbling, systems faltering, to-do lists overflowing - God's work continues in quiet faithfulness. *Malachi* speaks of a dawn breaking with healing in its wings. *Paul* encourages us not to grow weary in doing good. And *Jesus*, even amid warnings of upheaval, calls us to endurance - not the grim kind, but the kind that holds steady with hope.

So whether you're delivering envelopes, offering a listening ear, or simply showing up again this Sunday: thank you. You are part of the quiet, radiant work of God in this place.

With gratitude and joy,

Rev'd Pam Smith

SERVING THIS WEEK

St Andrew:

Lead & Preach: Pam

Prayers: Helen

Reader 1: Colin Reader 2: Graham

St Paul:

Lead: Pam

Preach: David

Prayers: Sylvia

Reader 1: Sophia Reader 2: Nnoema

St Peter:

Lead and Preach: Sue

Prayers: Karen

Reader 1: Dot Reader 2: Bev

READINGS

Old Testament Reading

Malachi 4:1-2

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

The Great Day of the Lord

4 See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up,

says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ² But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

New Testament Reading

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

Warning against Idleness

⁶ Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, ⁸ and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labour we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹ This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Gospel Reading

Luke 21:5-19

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

The Destruction of the Temple Foretold

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, ⁶ 'As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.'

Signs and Persecutions

⁷ They asked him, 'Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?' ⁸ And he said, 'Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and, "The time is near!" Do not go after them.

⁹ 'When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.' ¹⁰ Then he said to them, 'Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹² 'But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls.

WEEKLY CHURCH PRAYERS

Collect

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed
to destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God and heirs
of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that when he shall appear in power and great
glory we may be made like him in his eternal
and glorious kingdom;

where he is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Residents and Visitors

We pray for all those on:
Wyville Drive, Yewlands Avenue, Yoke Close

Worldwide Church

The Church in the Province of the West Indies

CALENDAR

Midweek services:

Wednesdays 10.45am St Andrew's
Thursdays 11.00am St Paul's (Hub)

CHURCH MEETINGS

WORSHIP LEADERS MEETING

Weekly on Mondays at **4pm** online
Our next in-person meeting will be in
December, date to be confirmed

PCC MEETINGS

St Andrew's	25 th November, 7.15pm
St Paul's	26 th November, 7.15pm
St Peter's	4 th December, 7.15pm

DEANERY MEETINGS

Deanery Synod	February 2026 (date TBC)
Deanery Chapter	26 th November, 12.30pm

BLACKLEY CHURCH COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NEWS

Saturday 15th November

11.00am – 1.00pm

St Andrew's Christmas Fair at the Hall on
Longhurst Road

Saturday 22nd November

St Peter's Christmas Fair in church
St Peter's Christmas Tree Festival (until 14th
December)

Advent & Christmas Services

Schools Visits

15th December – Crab Lane at St Andrew's
(rehearsal)
16th December – Crab Lane at St Andrew's
(performance)
16th December – Crosslee at St Paul's
17th December – Bowker Vale at St Andrew's
17th December – Crosslee at St Paul's

Carol Services

7th December 6.00pm St Andrew's
with Blackley Band
14th December 4.00pm St Peter's
Community Carols
21st December 6.30pm St Paul's
Carol Service

Wednesday 24th December

10.45am Morning Worship at St Andrew's
(normal service)

Christmas Eve 4.00pm

Crib Service at St Paul's

Christmas Eve 7.00pm

First Communion of Christmas at St Peter's

Christmas Eve 11.30pm

First Communion of Christmas at St Andrew's

Christmas Day 10.00am

First Communion of Christmas at St Paul's

JAMAICA EMERGENCY AID

The hurricane in Jamaica may well have past now, but there is still widespread devastation across the whole island, with people still without water, power, medication, food and shelter. As some of you may know, we have a family at St Paul's who have loved ones living on Jamaica, and so the cause is very close to our hearts. If you can, would you consider helping by donating to the emergency fund through the British Red Cross that has been set up to help all those affected by the devastation. They can be found by clicking this link [Donate to Jamaica | Hurricane Melissa | Disaster Fund](https://donate.redcross.org.uk) or by navigating to <https://donate.redcross.org.uk>

They are in need of our prayers too, so please do pray for all those who are suffering in the aftermath of this disaster. Thank you.

FOR YOUR PERSONAL PRAYERS

Those getting married

- ✝ **Arooma and Petros** who will be getting married at St Peter's on 29th November
- ✝ **Latisha and Declan** who will be getting married at St Peter's in 2026
- ✝ **Ethan and Megan** who will be getting married at St Paul's in 2026

Those grieving or remembering an anniversary at this time

- ✝ Julie and Tina and the church family at St Peter's as they mourn the loss of **Eric Clark**. Eric's funeral will be at St Peter's on Friday 5th December, time to be confirmed.
- ✝ The family and friends of **Joan Nolan** whose funeral will take place on 27th November (of St Andrew's Parish)

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 rest in peace. Amen.

Those caring

- ✝ Staff, residents and visitors at Polefield Nursing Home

Our Young People

- ✝ Teachers, Support Staff, Children and Governors at Pike Fold Primary School

Those exploring Christian faith

- ✝ **Theodore** who will be baptised at St Peter's on Sunday 30th November
- ✝ **Daniel** who will be baptised at St Paul's on 1st February 2026

Those who are ill or are in hospital

Our Community Partners

- ✝ Staff and service users of The Chatterbox Project

CONTACT DETAILS

Rector: Rev Pam Smith

SSM: Rev Jane Astley

Phone: 0161 264 9982 or 07834 424568

Email: clergy@blackleycofe.church

Website: blackleycofe.church

Safeguarding Officers: Dianne McCann (St Andrew's), Taron Entwistle (St Paul's) and Karen Moores (St Peter's)

