


# Tour of St Paul's Lorrimore Square

## Covid19 Track and Trace

<p><b>Welcome to St Paul's Lorrimore Square. Inline with the Government's Track and Trace obligations we are asking our visitors to leave their contact details. This information will be scrapped after 21 days if the visitors wishes it and does not want to be contacted about other events happening within and around St Paul's LorrimoreSq.</b></p>	
<p><b>Please sign the guestbook by either scanning the barcode or entering the URL into your phone. Thank you!</b></p>	<p><b><a href="https://stpaulslorrimoresquare.org/contact-us/">https://stpaulslorrimoresquare.org/contact-us/</a></b></p>


### 1. Entrance - Picture of Former church

Welcome to our tour of St Paul's Lorrimore Square!

This building is distinguished by being one of the few Anglican churches built after the war which tries a break from the past and adopt full-blooded modernism. It replaces the early Gothic revival church of 1856 which was destroyed by incendiary fire in 1941.

For the next twenty years parishioners worshiped in a variety of venues including the "hut church" which served also as a community centre combining practical help and worship to the locals while plans for the new church took shape.



<p><b>Contact Us:</b></p>	<p><b>ADDRESS and DIOCESE</b> St Paul's Church Newington, Lorrimore Square, LONDON SE17 3QU <b>PHONE</b> St Paul's Church Office 020 7735 3506 <a href="http://stpaulslorrimoresquare.org">http://stpaulslorrimoresquare.org</a></p>	
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Its replacement was part-funded through local subscription. Today you see the church set in the contrast of old and new, surrounded by traditional Georgian terraces on the east, and the Brandon estate to the north and west.

In many ways the church has come to represent a cusp, between the past and the present, the old and the new, and the practical and spiritual as the architects, and the parish council wanted as a reflection of their work and worship from 1941 to the new Church's consecration in 1960, and continues that way to this day.

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## 2. Walk to font in middle of the nave



And this is the result of their efforts. This spiritual worship space sits on top of the practical community work space, a sort of blending of the requirements of the “hut church” in a merger of the practical and spiritual.

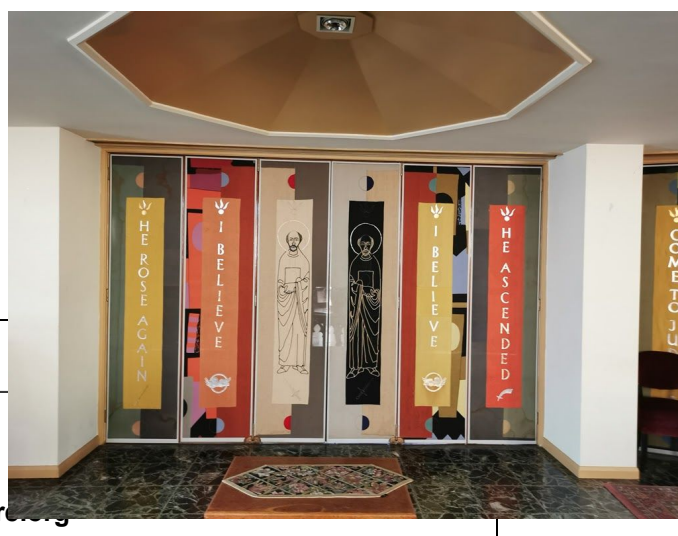
The rooms you saw below formerly housed the Crossed Swords Youth Club (opened by Sir John Mills) and are now home to a busy nursery, a help centre and various community activities.

## 3. Look down the aisle to the main altar

St Paul's Church was designed by John Wimbleton of Woodroffe Buchanan and Coulter. A devout Catholic he set about representing the Holy Trinity in every facet of its ceiling, walls and windows. You can see it represented in the triangular roof and gabled eaves. The crosses on the windows. The arched framing of the Christ Glory and of the exterior copper roof.

The roof represents the largest single section of copper ever used thus far on a roof in the UK as far as we know. Were it not for its size it too might have been subject to the spate of copper theft suffered in the UK a few years ago before legislation put a halt to it!

St Paul's Church is a Grade II listed building. It was consecrated in October 1960 and predates Coventry Cathedral (1962) - both following the modernist trend that was popular post war.



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Behind us and on the altar are textiles designed by Gerald Holtom - the creator of the CND logo. They were recently restored by a local conservationist JLT Designs who has worked on and restored many old and historical textiles. The screen behind represents the 12 Apostles and the Christian Creed.

#### 4. Walk to dias

The nave has a tremendous feeling of light, on a sunny day the sunshine streams through the honeycomb stained glass and creates beautiful patterns on the walls and floors.



The nave also has excellent acoustics, due in part to the design of the roof, which channels sound from the balcony so that speaking and singing can be heard clearly around the church. We have held many concerts here of all types.

The interior furnishings are all original, designed and built specifically for St Paul's, but the dais is a more modern addition, installed in the late 1970s designed to bring communion and the gospel into

the heart of the congregation.

#### 5. Dias altar and sculpture



See *The Risen Christ in Glory* sculpture created by Freda Skinner in 1960 carved from lime wood. 8 foot high sculpture on a 16 foot cross.

Freda studied under Henry Moore and Alan Durst and then overcame the very male-dominated art scene after the Second World War to be appointed Head of Sculpture at the Wimbledon School of Art.

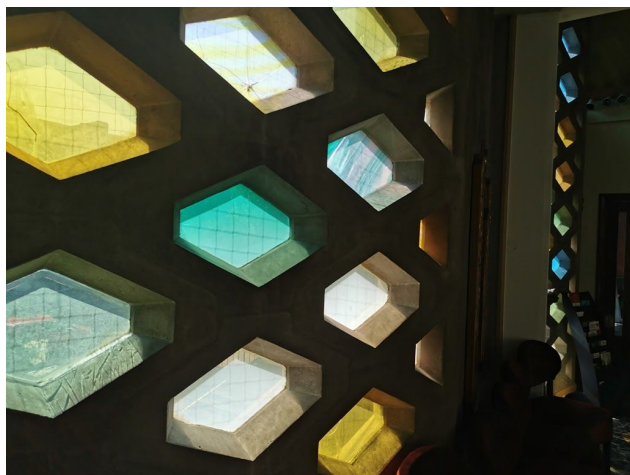
The statue displays three aspects of Christ: crucified, risen and reigning in glory. There are some photos of Freda at work and the sculpture installation in our scrap-book.



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**Facing the altar, turn right and walk towards the Lady Chapel via the south aisle**

The church is attached to St Paul's primary school (banner) on the other side of Pasley Park to the north, and a scouts club.



The stained glass windows can be seen in detail. Although this is a modern building as far as church buildings go, it has its drawbacks. As you see they are in various states of repair owing to an oversight in their original design. No thought was paid to their maintenance as they cannot be accessed without re-concreting their housings to get to them and replace them. The glass is set directly into the concrete, and you can see from this angle how a number of panes have had to be patched up to keep the building pigeon-proofed. can be seen in detail.

## The Lady Chapel


Note the contrast between this cool blue interior and the warm sunny contrasts of the main Chapel. A quiet and contemplative space which we use for midweek communion services and prayer.

**Walk along the north aisle to the door at the back of the nave.**

At the moment we are collecting for our roof fund. Despite the solid copper construction there are issues with the asphalt and joining materials which are in need of renewal after sixty years. You can see some evidence of water egress above the pulpit.

The football cage has been in operation for the last ten years and is a useful space for the young to excise their energies.



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The church runs and hosts a number of community programmes: Basketball court, nursery and other charities, Food bank, Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous

The 60th Anniversary for the Consecration of St Paul's will take place Sunday 25th October. We have our Christmas outdoor Market and Watchnight service, the dates of which will be published on our website soon.

### **Walk back into the nave**

Our scrap-book contains some interesting historical pictures.

Any final questions.

Roof collection and charity

**St Paul's Church Roof Donation - please give generously!**



<https://stpaulslorrimoresquare.org/collections-and-donations/>