

The Log



St Lawrence with St Paul
Following Jesus in Loving Community
Longridge

The Parish Magazine
December January 2024/5
£1.00

www.stlawrencewithstpaul.org.uk

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Come and join us for a festive celebration as we unwrap the real spirit of Christmas...

Events at St Paul's Church

Blue Christmas

7pm – Monday 2nd December

Christingle Service

10am – Sunday 8th December

9 Lessons and Carols

6:30pm – Sunday 15th December

Christmas Eve Crib Service

5pm-6pm – Tuesday 24th December

Events at St Lawrence's Church

Advent Carol Service

6:30pm – Sunday 1st December

Christmas Eve Communion

11:30pm – Tuesday 24th December

Christmas Day Early Communion

8am – Wednesday 25th December

Christmas Day Service

10am – Wednesday 25th December

..with services and events to suit all ages and tastes, there is something for everyone and everyone is very welcome.



St Lawrence
with St Paul
Longridge

The **Holy SPIRIT** of
CHRISTMAS
at St Lawrence with St Paul, Longridge

VICAR'S NOTES

In the events surrounding the birth of Jesus the Gospel of Luke records an explosion of the Holy Spirit's activity. John the Baptist will be filled with the Holy Spirit before he is born, the Holy Spirit will come upon Mary to ignite the birth of the Christ child within her womb, Elizabeth will be filled with the Holy Spirit after hearing Mary's greeting, and in turn Mary will burst into her Magnificat song. Soon after Elizabeth's husband Zechariah will be filled with the Holy Spirit to prophesy the words we call the Benedictus, then soon after Jesus' birth the Holy Spirit will reveal to Simeon he will not die before seeing the Messiah and because this came true we have the words of the Nunc dimittis.

As the Holy Spirit hovered over the waters and brought order out of chaos in Genesis chapter 1, so Luke wants us to see the Holy Spirit bringing a new order to the chaos of humanity at the birth of Jesus. The activity of the Holy Spirit might not always be predictable, but it is prophesied, and when God is at work there will always be new and re-creation hope for humanity. This is what we celebrate in the birth of Jesus, and it's what we need in the world today.

This is why the theme for our Advent and Christmas celebrations this year is 'The Holy Spirit of Christmas' and you can see a full list of our special seasonal services on page 3

Welcome to Janet Mortimer and Annette Walker

If you have been able to attend a service at St Paul's Church recently then you may well have met Janet. She moved into Longridge over the summer but before that she helped at St Cuthberts Church in Fulwood in her role as a Licensed Lay Minister. Then we're also delighted to introduce you to Annette who is our new Junior Choir Director and a very talented young lady. You can find out a little bit more about Janet and Annette in the 'Getting to know you' pages, 12 and 15. respectively.

Luxury Christmas Hampers

Every year it's a privilege and delight to be able to help show people and families who've had a difficult year that they are in our thoughts and that God is with them. One great way we can offer this love and support is through the delivery of our own St Lawrence with St Paul Luxury Christmas Hampers.

Therefore, if you're able to help by dropping off luxury Christmas food items (with at a best before date after Christmas Day) and other suitable items at the vicarage door every weekday from now until Friday 13th December, apart from Tuesdays, I'd be most grateful. Further ideas for items can be seen on page 6.

Foodbank

We're extremely grateful to our dedicated ecumenical Foodbank Team who always go to extra effort to make sure the Foodbank remains open during the cold winter season and this year is no exception. This means the Foodbank will be open as usual on all the Fridays around Christmas and New Year, including Friday 20th & 27th December, and 3rd January.

Ecumenical Service for Epiphany

The Churches Together in Longridge and District chairmanship passes to Father Tony Dutton in 2025, which means that the Ecumenical service for Epiphany will take place at St Wilfrid's Church on the evening of Sunday 5th January at 6.30pm.

Vicar's Notes continued.....

Jigsaw Festival

This increasingly popular post-Christmas event, which last year even attracted people from the other side of the Pennines (!) will take place over the weekend of 18th/19th January 2025. See further information on Page 28 and 29

Vision Emphasis for 2024

Finally, another special date to put in your diary is Sunday 25th January because this is when I'll be sharing our vision emphasis for 2025 in all our services. This will be based on our overarching vision of 'Following Jesus in Loving Community' and be especially relevant as we consider how we can apply the good news of Jesus in our increasingly conflicted world.

Finally, let me wish you all a happy Advent season, Christmas and New Year. May you know the Lord's blessing over this time.



THE LORD WILL COME

- Watch or listen to the Advent Devotional
- Read or listen to the integrated bible passage
- Access bonus devotional content



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CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Please help us bring some festive cheer to special families within our Parish this Christmas.

We need Luxury Christmas Foods.

Chocolate Logs – **Selection Boxes** – Tinned Meats – **Chocolate Biscuits** – Christmas Puddings – **Christmas Cakes** – Mince Pies – **Preserves** – Coffee – **Christmas Crackers** – Biscuits for Cheese – **Bottle of wine** – Decent Confectionery – **Nuts and Dried Fruits** – Savoury selections – **Crisps** – Chutney – **Pickles** – After Dinner Mints.

Any suitable good quality non-perishable Christmas food.

Donations can be left at the Vicarage door every weekday, apart from Tuesdays, from Monday 2nd to Friday 13th December.

Our Blue Christmas Service.

The Blue Christmas Service is offered for those who will be hurting or feel lost during the holidays. Often it is offered on December 21, the longest night of the year. Some come because they are mourning the death of a loved one. Some because they are far from home. Some because they suffer from illness, addiction, or estrangement. Some are lonely, struggling financially, or in conflict with another. Some hurt because of the great pain, need, and violence in our nation and our world. The reasons for coming are many and all are welcome.



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Hon. Secretary	<i>Barbara Burton</i>
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Friday	9.30—15.30 01772 783281
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Hon. Sec. St. Lawrence	Dot Little 01772 783998
	JudithKaye 01772 785114
Hon. Sec. St. Paul	Donna Rowe-Green 07880 348597
Choir	
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	paulbionicears@gmail.com
Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade	
Wednesday Nights Berry Lane School Term Times	
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	Oliviastewart@clcgb.org.uk
Crafty Café	
Last Monday each month, Centenary Room 1.30 - 3.30pm also:	
Contacts	Helen Bailey 01772 783178
	Bev Keating
	Jean Saunders 01772640146
Handbell Ringers	
Leader	Judith Kaye Park View, Fleet Street, PR3 3ED
	judithkaye@sky.com 01772 785114

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<i>Mrs Catherine Parkin</i>	
	head@longridge-cofe.lancs.sch.uk
Clerk to the Governors	
Val Morris	01524 581136 c/o the School Office
School Office	01772 782378
	bursar@longridge-cofe.lancs.sch.uk
Pre-School	01772-780078
PTFA Hon. Sec.	Katie Keighley

Children's Church	
Carolyn Barton	carolynbarton@hotmail.co.uk
Mothers Union	7.30pm on 1st Tuesday
Enrolling Member	Judith Kaye Park View, Fleet Street, PR3 3ED
	judithkaye@sky.com 01772 785114
Prayerline	If you would like our prayer team to pray for you e-mail
Muriel Anderson	12 Plessington Court, Brewery Street, Longridge
	Murielanderson33@gmail.com 07823 762089
Tuesday Club	7.30pm on 2nd Tuesday
Chairman	Fred Little 26 Hoghton Road
Hon. Sec.	Adrienne Atkinson 01772 783998
	adbil1959@gmail.com 01772 783091
Walkie Talksies	
	Hannah Green 20 Darwen Close 01772 783558
Bereavement Group	
meets on 1st Monday of the month including Bank Holidays	
	Karen Burdett 07712 440135
	karenlburdett@hotmail.com

Sidesmen and Sideswomen

Karen Boardman, Bev Keating, Janet Heap, Peter Turver, Lib Turver, Graham Kelsall, Yvonne Ball, Val Wardley, Phil Walker, Marina Walker, Emma Pettit, Carl Pettit, Becky Filder, Andrew Fielder, Lawrence Ingham, Marilyn Kinrade, Barbara Burton, Ian Cookson, Ruth Buckley, Jennifer Sturzaker, Kai Ng, Helen Eccles, Keith Thompson, Judith Singleton, Liz Hemmingway.

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Journeying through Advent



Dec

1. Give thanks that the hope of Christ shines as light in the darkness
2. Ask God to give you hope and expectation for your Advent journey
3. Reflect on how the events of this year may affect your attitude to the season
4. Consider your "to do" list this Advent. Is there scope to simplify in any way?
5. Thank God that as we journey to the new-born Christ our risen Lord accompanies us
6. Choose a Bible verse about the nativity and use it as an inspiration for prayer
7. Pray for those whose difficult lives are more hard to bear in this season of good cheer
8. Give thanks for our Prince of Peace, and for our call to be peace-makers in the world
9. Pray for the message of Christmas to be heard amidst the season's commercialisation
10. Thank God for Mary's obedience. Is there something you sense God is asking of you?
11. Pray for areas of the world where there will be no peace this Christmas
12. Choose a favourite carol and use it as an inspiration for prayer
13. How would you explain the meaning of the nativity to someone who had never heard?
14. Pray for refugees spending Christmas away from home and family
15. Give thanks that the love of Christ brings forgiveness and new mercies every day
16. As you write cards or send email greetings pray God's blessing for the recipients
17. Read an account of the nativity in a different Bible version for a fresh insight
18. On your Advent journey pray for all who are seeking Christ for the first time
19. As you taste a seasonal treat give thanks for Christ who came as the bread of life
20. Think of a good memory from a past Christmas and thank God for it
21. Pray for families who struggle to provide necessities and treats for their family
22. Reflect on what may lie ahead in the coming year. Be honest with God about your hopes and concerns
23. Pray for the bereaved and families who will be apart or in conflict this Christmas
24. Pray for the homeless that they will find shelter during this season
25. Joy to the world, the Lord has come! Let earth receive her King!

These are the texts taken from the advent calendar on mothersunion.org/resources/general-faith-resources

Dates

Dec 3rd Christmas Party 6.30pm start.

January **No meeting**

JAK



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Advent, Christmas and Epiphany Hymns and Carols for Prayer.

Advent is the season of **WAITING, EXPECTATION AND PREPARATION.**

Christmas is a season of **CELEBRATION (God with us)**

Epiphany is a season of **REVELATION:** the revealing of Christ to the World

ADVENT is a time of waiting and preparation for the Coming of Christ: at Christmas, at the end of our time and at the end of all time. He came, He comes and He is to come: to judge the world, to bring in God's Kingdom, to redeem the past and the present and to fulfil the future, in time and for eternity.

Advent has its own hymns and carols which we can use for prayer and meditation in the 4 weeks that lead to Christmas Day. Each week begins on a Sunday and has an Advent theme for each week.

I have picked out my favourite resource for prayer in Advent and invite you to read the words and meditate on the different ways in which God in Christ comes to us. The tune is "Land of Hope and Glory" or any other 11 11 11 11 11 tune. It is a hymn we sing to each other for encouragement and the dark days of winter, of world distress or personal suffering. Each verse has a two-line message at the end.

- Meet your judge and Saviour, nations near and far.
- Come for Living Water, freely drink and live.
- 'Surely I come quickly' Come Lord Jesus, come.



Christ is surely coming bringing his reward,
Alpha and Omega, First and Last and Lord:
Root and stem of David, brilliant Morning Star:
meet your Judge and Saviour, nations near and far;
meet your Judge and Saviour, nations near and far!

See the holy city! There they enter in,
All by Christ made holy, washed from every sin:
thirsty ones, desiring all he loves to give,
come for living water, freely drink, and live;
come for living water, freely drink, and live!

Grace be with God's people! Praise his holy name!
Father, Son, and Spirit, evermore the same.
Hear the certain promise from the eternal home:
'Surely I come quickly!' Come, Lord Jesus, come;
'Surely I come quickly!' Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Christopher Idle from Revelation 22
© Christopher Idle/Jubilate Hymns Ltd
11 11 11 11 11

CHRISTMAS is marked by twelve days from Christmas Day to Twelfth Night. My Christmas choice is a poem By Christina Rossetti and set to music as a Christmas carol. Gerald wrote a new tune to it several years ago, which became part of the Blue Christmas Carol Service.

Christ is the greatest Christmas present we can give or receive. He is given in love, for love, and by love. May all of our Christmas preparations be made in love: love for plea and gift and sign.



Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas;
star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead,
Love incarnate, Love divine;
worship we our Jesus,
but wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token;
love be yours and love be mine;
love to God and others,
love for plea and gift and sign.

Source: [Psalms and Hymns to the Living God #234](#)

EPIPHANY is a season of revelation and worship. It stretches from the end of Christmas to Candlemas (the arrival of Jesus in the Temple).

The hymn I have chosen is often sung at other times of the year but clearly pertains to the coming of the wise-men, bringing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to the Baby (or rather infant) Jesus.

The writer converts the gifts into gold of obedience and incense of lowliness (humility) and invites us to **“kneel and adore Him, the Lord is His name.”**

- In each season, and when you remember, read the words through 2 or 3 times.
- Ask God to speak to you through the words (and music if you have access to it.
- Pray for family and friends and those in need at this time, especially those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.
- Come to one of the services in each season and join in the worship: waiting, celebrating and the revelation of Christ

*Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before Him, His glory proclaim;
With gold of obedience and incense of lowliness,
Kneel and adore Him: the Lord is His name!*

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness,
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him the Lord is his name.

Low at his feet lay your burden of carefulness,
high on his heart he will bear it for you,
comfort your sorrows and answer your prayerfulness,
guiding your steps in the way that is true.

Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth you would count as your own;
truth in its beauty and love in its tenderness
these are the offerings to bring to his throne.

These, though we bring them in trembling
and fearfulness,
he will accept for the name that is dear;
mornings of joy give for evenings of
tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness,
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience and incense of
lowliness,
kneel and adore him the Lord is his name.

*Jubilate Hymns version of a text by
J. S. B Monsell (1811 - 1875)
12 10 12 10*

*Season's
Greetings*

From Bradford – Rev. Gill & Gerald Mack

GETTING TO KNOW YOU – Annette Walker.

Hi, I'm Annette Walker. I'm the new Junior Choir Director here in St Paul's; I'm writing in what'll be my second week on the job! It's been quite enjoyable and I'm looking forward to working with the young singers more.

When I'm not doing this, I'm a composer, percussionist, pianist, organist, and vocalist. (My favourite instrument is the drums! I did my Grade 8 in piano when I was 12, and I am currently preparing for my Grade 8 on drums. I am self-taught on the organ.) I play the organ in two Preston parishes, I play drums in several bands, and I write lyrical songs and video game music. When I'm not doing *these*, I draw and take the occasional art commission.



I was born in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where I was lucky to be formed in my faith by the late Jesuit priest and civil rights juggernaut Father Lim Ooi Chai (Father O.C. Lim). I fled Malaysia in my late teens and went to university in Hertfordshire to read law. While there, I monitored how much worse the situation in my birth country was getting. After consultation with a law lecturer who warned me that there was no rule of law in Malaysia, I endured the asylum process for eight years, and was lucky enough to eventually be granted the right to remain, which allowed me to finally get some of my life back. I feel like I'm living a longtime dream of mine with my current profession. I didn't get to study music at university, but I'm actually *doing* musical things – that in itself is something I'm grateful for.

Incidentally, I scored my first ever video game in 2016, on a voluntary basis, while I was still an asylum seeker. I also got my music played three times by BBC Introducing during my time as an asylum seeker. With regards to live performances, I've played drums with Aziz Ibrahim (of Stone Roses and Simply Red fame) a good few times now. I feel like my best is yet to come.

My hobbies include photography and filmography, writing, astronomy, fashion design, listening to podcasts, and playing video games. I also enjoy listening to my husband's deep dives into the subjects of ships, trains, astronomy history, cartography, and general history. If ever our paths cross, feel free to ask me about my hobbies, or about the piano or the drums or the pipe organ, or about my work. I'm generally happy to answer questions!

Looking forward to working with you all!

Log Distribution

This month has seen two of our long serving distributors retiring. We are very grateful to Tom Hawthorth and Val Wardley for the time and effort they have put into making sure the magazines get to the right places at the right time. Fortunately, Cath Monks and Katie Keighley have stepped in to take over these deliveries so your magazine will arrive on your doormat as usual.

Your distributors will be calling on you in February to make sure you want to continue with The Log and collect your subscription (£10).

Thank you to all our distributors and to all of you who subscribe to our wonderful magazine.

JAK



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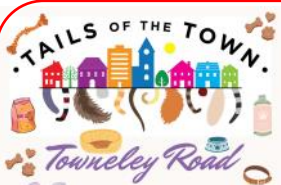
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GETTING TO KNOW YOU – Janet Mortimer

Hello – my name is Janet Mortimer and I moved to Longridge in July this year along with my husband Mark. We didn't move far having lived in Fulwood for most of our lives, working and bringing up our two sons, who are now in their thirties. Both our sons live and work in the Preston area and we have one granddaughter. I met Mark through church youth group, and we have been married for 43 years and are now both retired.



I left my admin role in the NHS in January 2021, and it was then we began to think about a move to a more semi-rural location with more of a community feel. One of our sons lives in Ribchester and Longridge seemed the ideal place to settle. We have been made very welcome both by our neighbours and at St Paul's on a Sunday morning.

I attended St Cuthbert's church in Fulwood from childhood, being involved in Sunday school, Brownies, church choir, youth group and so on and my faith in Jesus has been central to my life and my rock especially when life has been challenging.

Back in 2009 I was encouraged by our then Vicar to consider some form of Lay Ministry and in September of that year I began 4 years training to become a Licensed Lay Minister. I completed my degree in 2013 having been licensed to St Cuthbert's the previous year. I have a passion for reaching out to our community beyond the walls of the church, with the good news of Jesus, I love preaching and encouraging others to discover more of what it means to know God through Jesus Christ and through reading the Bible. I hope to continue my ministry here in Longridge in the near future.

Since we moved here, we have been busy with updating the house and garden and planning jobs to be done over the next few months. In my spare time I enjoy walking – our lovely border collie passed away last year, and we would love to get another dog soon – and make the most of the beautiful countryside in the Ribble Valley. I also love baking, knitting and am trying to master crochet!

Thank you to the congregation at St Paul's for your very warm welcome – if we haven't spoken yet, please do come and say hello on a Sunday morning – I would love the chance to get to know more of you.

GraceNotes

Yes - that merry band of songsters is about to launch into an intensive programme of Christmas entertainment around local care homes, with six presentations of Christmas Carols and songs planned between now and 18th December. After that, we'll take a short break and then re-commence in the Spring.



If you're minded to join us, you'd be most welcome. You might find it fun - and a good singing voice is by no means a prerequisite. If you enjoy singing and are free on Monday afternoons, then do please speak to Carly Fitzpatrick (07972 548684) or to me or one of the Churchwardens.

Vernon Kinrade



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SUPERB CHRISTMAS TREE FAIR RAISES OVER £3,000

Father Christmas battled through the snow, the ice and not a little rain before thankfully arriving safely at St. Paul's Church to greet some understandably excited children at our Christmas Tree Fair. Comfortably sat in his Workshop and surrounded by some hard working elves we are sure Santa enjoyed the wonderful singing and ukulele playing by the children from Berry Lane School – we all certainly did – what a tremendous opening they gave us. Thank you children, not forgetting Mr. Nixon.



At this point we should also thank elves Rie Waterman and Barbara McCormick who created Santa's Workshop and who, together with Andrew Filder and a certain Curate, worked so hard ensuring the children not only saw Santa but were given an opportunity to do some amazing craft activities as well. The workshop standing proudly on the dais certainly set the scene brilliantly.

Perhaps some of us who had also battled through the icy conditions on the Friday and seen Saturday's weather forecast had reservations about just how things would go but we needn't have worried because by the

start of the fair the temperature had risen and most of the icy conditions had gone. The rain persisted but undeterred St. Paul's Church quickly filled with people eager to view the stalls and enjoy the festive food in what was a lovely warm atmosphere – or was that the mulled wine!

For the first time ever we actually sold out of raffle tickets, not surprising when you saw the amazing array of prizes. Congratulations to Muriel Anderson who won the first prize of a luxury hamper which took two people to carry out to the car. (The full list of raffle prize winners is on display in St. Paul's)



If Santa's elves and the stall holders were kept busy so were the kitchen,

some people arriving as early as 7.30am to put the oven on to ensure the turkey crowns would be well enough. Well done to Ann Golding and her team, not forgetting Judith and Barbara on the dessert table and the people who manned the two drinks stations.

The Church Choir members had amazingly created and made some lovely items for the anything and everything Christmassy stall and Teddy Bears always seem to feature at our fairs with a teddy tombola but also the gigantic bear you can see in one of the photographs – we only hope the person who actually won that teddy has a house large enough to accommodate it!

We can't mention everyone unfortunately – but it's a team effort and that teamwork was rewarded not only through the money raised but by the encouragement of so many people coming along to support the fair.



A sincere thank you to everyone – hope to see you next year.



We are looking forward to welcoming The Valley Singers to St. Lawrence on the afternoon of the 22nd December at 2.30pm. They are a well-known, 30+ strong, 4-part harmony choir based in Longridge and perform throughout the Ribble Valley.

They are non-profit so all money raised from their concerts goes directly to the chosen cause.

The choir support well-known charities such as Macmillan Cancer Support, Heartbeat and Christian Aid, as well as smaller local initiatives such as the St Lawrence Lychgate Appeal and Hill Chapel Roof funds.

At the Lychgate Concert the programme will include seasonal songs and carols for the enjoyment of all the family and admission is free but with the opportunity to donate to the appeal. Mulled wine, mince pies, tea/coffee will be available at the interval. Additional parking is available at St. Cecilia's High School – do use this facility if you can.

We would like to thank John Wilson from the Valley Singers for working so hard to promote this concert including arranging the banner on the Lychgate.



**Christmas Family Concert
Sunday 22nd December**

St Lawrence's Church, Chapel Hill, Longridge

Seasonal songs and carols

Starts at 2.30pm

Free admission with collection for Longridge's historic lychgate

Refreshments include mulled wine and mince pies!

Additional parking available at St Cecilia's High School



If you can't go, please support the campaign at
<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/lychgate>



Your Local Non-profit Choir
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DONATIONS FOR Lychgate Restoration Appeal.

Anonymous	£50
Eileen Walker	£150
Anonymous	£40
David & Ann Halsall	£100
Anonymous	£50
Benefact Trust Grant	£1,750

(We can confirm that the appeal currently stands at £11,500. Sincere thanks to everyone who has donated and therefore helping us raise the £20,000 + estimate for the required work.)

SCHOOL NEWS – from Headteacher Catherine Parkin



On our best behaviour

We recently re-launched our Shared Attitudes and Values (school rules). Our Pupil Forum led a consultation with each class about behaviour so that everyone knows what is expected of them and what we can do better. Our worship this term linked with this theme and with Anti-Bullying Week which took place in November. These lovely, bright posters are displayed in every classroom and our school hall so that they can be referred to regularly. We like to spot people looking after others or trying their best.



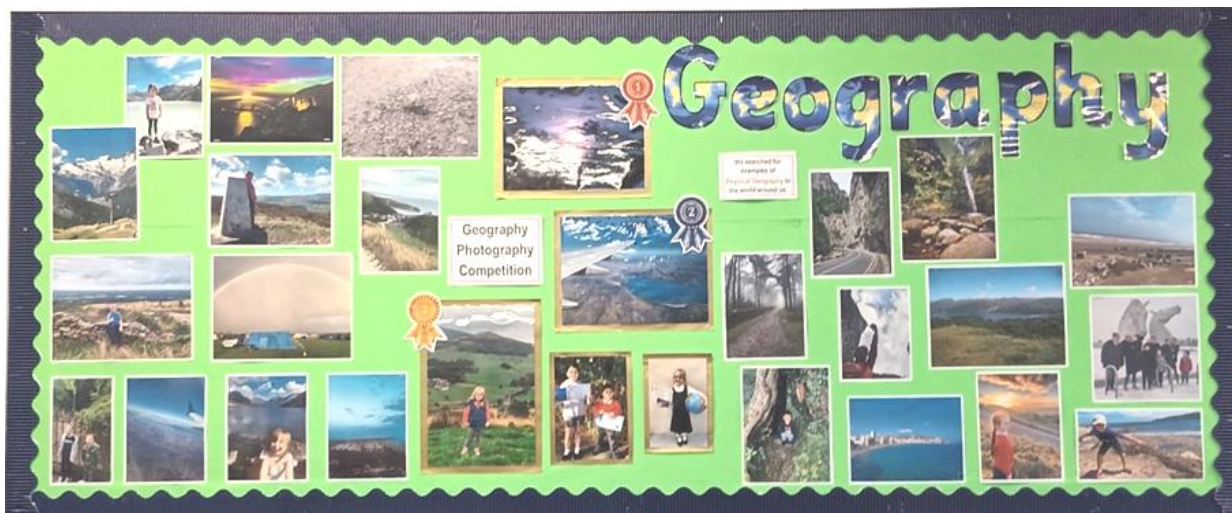
Remembrance

Thank you to our House Captains who represented school in the Remembrance Sunday Parade in Longridge recently. Year 6 also attended the short service at the war memorial on 11th November, whilst the rest of the school paid their respects by observing two minutes silence at 11am. These super wreaths were made by our Year 2 children.



Geography

Mrs Carr leads Geography in our school and she has been thinking of ways to raise the profile of this important subject. In order to get our children thinking about this subject outside of the classroom, she established a photography competition. This asked children to look at the physical features of different landscapes and send in a photograph of their favourite. The result was a collection of wonderful photographs which included a mixture of local scenery and far away places. There were dramatic skies, beautiful beaches and coastlines as well as views across mountain tops and waterways.



Come and Learn

We recently held our first 'Come and Learn' session for Reception Class. Parents were invited to come into the classroom and learn alongside their children. This term's theme was Percy the Park Keeper. Some children decorated gingerbread men to make their own Percy, while others made animal puppets using wooden spoons. In the writing area children wrote shopping lists of what they would buy to make dinner for Percy and the animals, or used pictures and writing to sequence the story. On the maths table children were busy matching the numeral to the quantity of objects.



Following our parent meeting on Early Reading and phonics, it was great to see parents coming along to our reading workshops and finding out about how to make the most of that precious 1:1 reading time at home. They spent time with their child, talking about their reading book and encouraging fluency by allowing them to read and re-read stories. Thank you to everyone who attended.



Primary School Places

Monday 15th January is the closing date for applications for primary school places for September 2025. If you know anyone who has a child ready to start Reception next September, please remind them to apply. If they attend a church, they should also fill in the supplementary application form. This is available on the school website under Admissions. Please go to <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/starting-primary-school/>

Events in December & January

Christmas lunch will take place on Wednesday 11th December. If your child does not usually have a school lunch but would like one on this day, please email Mrs McCormick (admin@longridge-cofe.lancs.sch.uk) in the school office to book.



- Tue 3rd Dec – Puss in Boots of Clitheroe Castle, pantomime at The Grand. Leaves at 9am
- Thu 5th Dec – PTFA Christmas Film Night 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas' in school hall 3.30-5.30pm
- Mon 9th Dec - Years 1 & 2 Nativity Dress Rehearsal 2pm
- Tue 10th Dec – Reception Class & 2toSchool Nativity Dress Rehearsal 10am
- Tue 10th Dec - Years 1 & 2 Nativity Afternoon Performance 2pm in the school hall
- Wed 11th Dec - Reception Class & 2toSchool – Nativity Performance 2.15pm
- Thu 12th Dec - Years 1 & 2 Nativity Evening Performance 6pm in the school hall
- Fri 13th Dec – Trophy Assembly in St Paul's Church at 9.15am
- Thu 19th Dec – School closes for Christmas at 3.30pm
- Mon 6th Jan 2025 – School opens at 8.50am

Brigade Notes



November is always a busy month at Brigade as we focus on Remembrance and participating in various parades and services. We started by supporting the local Poppy Appeal- a Huge thank you to Noah and Lincoln who spent their Saturday selling Poppies in Aldi. Members also attended the National Memorial Arboretum.

On November 2nd seven of us including Stephen Redding Janet's husband travelled to the national memorial arboretum to participate in the church brigade annual remembrance service. During the church service the roll of honour was read to members who have passed away which included Janet and John Dixon from our company. Following the service wreaths were laid in the brigade memorial garden. Stephen accompanied Mr H to lay a wreath in memory of Janet on behalf of Longridge company. Being there felt very special to me as I grew up with Janet so having the opportunity to listen to her name being read out and the wreath laid, I was very grateful for being there. – Rhiannon Green

Members took part in parades in both Longridge and London, they even made it onto the TV which is amazing. Everyone looked really smart as always and did our company proud.

Jake, Joanna, Rhiannon and Freya have been taking part in the Young Leaders Course over the last 9 months and I'm pleased to say that they have finished their final weekend, and all passed with flying colours. They are the future of Brigade, and we are all very proud of all their efforts and continued hard work and dedication to our company.

Within company nights we've been practicing our drill and marching, playing lots of fun games and welcomed some new members. The Martins and Yteam have written letters to Father Christmas and the JTC and Seniors have been busy continuing to make their Christmas themed items to sell at the Longridge does Christmas evening.



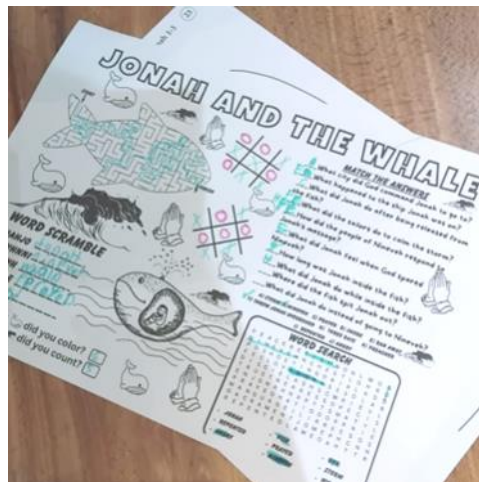
CHILDREN'S CHURCH—*Children's Church Leadership Team.*

This month we continued our series exploring the story of Jonah at the beginning of the month we focused on when Jonah is inside the belly of the whale and has time to reflect on what God is asking him, we had a fun session reflecting including having a splash with the fish in the water, playdough and a memory verse craft.

Many of our children's church members took part in the parade on Remembrance Sunday.

On Safeguarding Sunday we took a break from our Jonah series to talk about how important it is that we all feel safe and are safe in church. We thought about how it feels to 'feel safe' and who we can talk to if we feel sad, worried or unsure about something. We made megaphones to encourage us to speak out - which made for a very noisy end to that week's activities!

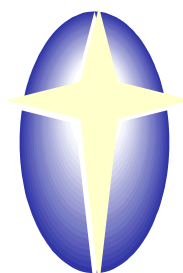
Over the next month we will be finishing our series on Jonah and exploring the Christmas story together.



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

To our wonderful church of St Lawrence with St Paul, it's a great joy and delight to be sharing the Christmas and New Year celebrations with and among you.

**Lots of love, the Bartons
(Mike, Caz, Hannah and Isabel).**



Peace
On
Earth



Merilyn and Vernon
send best wishes for Christmas
and the New Year to our
Church Family and all Log readers



Wishing you all a peaceful, happy Christmas and a joyful and blessed New Year —
with love from Simon, Tracy and Mabel

With love and blessings for Christmas and the New Year from
Rev. Gill, Gerald and all the MACK clan. XXxx

Warm Christmas wishes and grateful thanks to members of St Paul's and St Lawrence's congregation who have made a newcomer from Yorkshire so very welcome.

Love from Ann Beeby



To our church family
Wishing you all a blessed and peaceful Christmas.
With our love and prayers
Kai, Ali and Noah

To all my Church family
Love and best wishes for a Happy Christmas and
A peaceful and healthy 2025
Janet Heap



Wishing everyone a peaceful and joyous Christmas.
Barbara Burton

From Us to you All,
Wishing you a Peaceful and Joyous Christmastide, and a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year 2025
With Love Ellen & Michael Dawson



Wishing all our Log contributors and subscribers a very Happy Christmas. We look forward to sharing all our parish news through the Log in 2025.

From the Log Team

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

This Christmas song is as popular as ever and a bit of fun at party's and even Longridge Band's Christmas concert but have you ever considered how the numbers so perfectly align with biblical references. A fascinating thought to ponder next time you sing it.

- **Partridge in a Pear Tree:** The partridge represents Jesus Christ, who is seen as a symbol of salvation and peace.
- **Two Turtle Doves:** The two turtle doves are the Old and New Testament in the Bible.
- **Three French Hens:** The French hens are interpreted as being the virtues of faith, hope and love.
- **Four Calling Birds:** The birds represent the four Gospels in the Bible: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
- **Five Golden Rings:** The five golden rings are thought to represent the first five books of the Old Testament, also known as the Torah or Pentateuch.
- **Six Geese a-Laying:** The six geese refer to the six days of creation, as described in the Book of Genesis in the Bible.
- **Seven Swans a-Swimming:** The swans represent the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit also known as the seven sacraments in Christianity. These gifts are understanding, wisdom, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord.
- **Eight Maids a-Milking:** The maids are meant to represent the eight Beatitudes—the blessings listed by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount.
- **Nine Ladies Dancing:** The ladies dancing are the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit, including love, joy and peace.
- **Ten Lords a-Leaping:** The 10 lords represent the Ten Commandments.
- **Eleven Pipers Piping:** The pipers represent the 11 apostles (excluding Judas Iscariot).
- **Twelve Drummers Drumming:** The 12 drummers are meant to represent the 12 points of belief in the Apostles' Creed.



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Hymns We Love - O come, O come, Emmanuel

With the season of Advent nearly upon us (at the time of writing), so it seems appropriate to look at an Advent hymn. And one hymn that springs immediately to my mind is the hymn 'O come, O come, Emmanuel'.

Let's take a look at the words of this hymn:

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel;
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Day-Spring, come and cheer,
Our Spirits by Thine Advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,

And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Key of David, come
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of Might
Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the law,
In cloud, and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

If there was a crowd of 100 people, with a good understanding of Judaism and Christianity, and yet non-believers at the same time, I do wonder as to which of those two religions they might attribute this hymn to. After all, there are a lot of words associated with Judaism here, eg Israel, captivity, Jesse (father of King David) and Sinai. Yet this is a Christian hymn, but it takes us back to the days before Christ was born, and longs for the promised Messiah.

It is a very old hymn, although the words above were translated from Latin in 1851. The Latin text can be dated back to the 11th or 12th century, although there is debate as to whether the Latin metrical (hymn-like) version is as old as that.

The Latin text started as a series of antiphons (an antiphon being a short sentence sung or recited before or after a psalm or canticle), attached to the Magnificat at Vespers over the final days before Christmas. There were seven antiphons in this particular set, known as the O Antiphons, but the Latin hymn retains just five of them, and rearranges the ordering of them as well. The O Antiphons themselves originated in the 8th or 9th century.

Originally the antiphons were never sung together, but one on each of the seven days leading up to Christmas.

In their original Latin form, as in translation, the verses all began with a long drawn out 'O', to express longing for the Saviour. Each described Christ in a different way:

Emmanuel ('God with us'), Isaiah 7:14
Jesse Vigula ('the root of Jesse'), Isaiah 11:10
Oriens ('the Dayspring'), Malachi 4:2
Clavis Davidica ('the Key of David'), Isaiah 22:22
Adonai ('the Lord of Might'), Exodus 3:15

The refrain 'Rejoice, rejoice...' was originally translated as
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall be born for thee, O Israel

In the English speaking world, there's pretty much just the one tune used for this hymn, and is the tune works for both the Latin and English texts, so it's called *Veni Emmanuel*.

This tune was first linked with the hymn in 1851, and had a note saying the tune was from a French Missal in the National Library, Lisbon. However, no means was provided to verify this source, so there were doubts about this attribution until the mystery was settled in 1966. A British musicologist discovered a 15th century manuscript containing the melody.

So, whilst the tune is pretty old, yet there is nothing to suggest it was associated with our hymn until 1851.

Choir News.

The choir and I are in countdown mode for the two carol services in December, getting to grips with new and familiar anthems alike.

It's very nice to see Cathy back again, following her eye trouble, and we all hope she continues to make a full recovery. We're hoping that Eileen will get treatment for her knee and be able to sing with us again.

My wife, Kate, now sings with the choir for the evening services at St Lawrence's. She's unable to attend the morning services at St Paul's as she rings tower bells at St Hilda's, Bilsborrow for their morning services.

A thank you also to Emily, as she's swelling our ranks for the carol services.

Paul warren

HANDBELLS

Once again the handbells will be ringing out Christmas before the Nine Lessons and Carols service on December 15th. We will also be ringing an item with the choir during the service – it is good to be able to use the bells in church, particularly as part of the service. The bells are a wonderful asset that have been in the parish for decades but I haven't found anyone who knows for sure where or when they came. I do know, for certain, that they were made in the late 1800's and the set is made up of bells from 2 or 3 foundries.

JAK



Brew Time

Wednesday's from 8.50am-11am In St Paul's Centenary Room.

We serve tea, coffee, toast, crumpets and cakes!

And there's always a warm and friendly welcome.

Do join us we would love to see you.

Please Note! the last Brewtime before Christmas will be the 18th December. It will re-open on Wednesday 8th January, 2025.

May we take this opportunity to thank you for all your kind support over the last twelve months and wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Kath, Jacqui, Bev and John.

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CHURCHES TOGETHER IN LONGRIDGE & DISTRICT

Blessing of the Town Crib. This will take place on Saturday 7th December at 11.00am when members of the clergy will lead the short service. Once again we will have some members of Longridge Band with us to accompany our carols. Our thanks to John Spencer and his team for once again seeing to the erecting of the crib.



Change of Chairperson. Father Tony Dutton will take over from Canon Harry Doyle and will chair the meetings of Churches Together in 2025. Friday morning prayers at 7.45am will be at St. Wilfrid's commencing on 3rd January. Do consider joining us as we start a new year. Prayers are led by each denomination in turn and last approximately 15 minutes.

Ecumenical Service

The Ecumenical service for Epiphany will take place at St Wilfrid's Church on the evening of Sunday 5th January at 6.30pm. Please note! There will be no service that evening at st. Lawrence's.

Christmas Thoughts.

If I decorate my house with beautiful bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny baubles but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of mince pies, roasting a perfect turkey and lay a magnificent table but have no love for my guests, I am just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, Carol in the Nursing Home and give all that I have to charity but do not have compassion in my heart for those in need, I am just another social service, it profits me nothing.

If I decorate the tree with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes and attend a myriad of holiday parties but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child. Love sets aside the decorating to help one's wife with boring housework. Love puts the Christmas present shopping on hold in order to run the elderly neighbour to the doctor. Love is kind, though harried and tired. Love doesn't envy another's home that has more expensive presents, or even coordinated Christmas china and table linen. Love doesn't yell at the children to get out of the way; love is glad that they are there to be in the way. Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return but rejoices in giving to those who can't.

Love bears all things, even irritating relatives. It believes all things and encourages teenagers to aim high for their future. It hopes all things, endures all things, even a spouse who is depressed about their job prospects. Love never fails other people. Computer games will crash, even cashmere jumpers will wear out and golf clubs will get lost.

But the gift of love will endure forever.

The I Corinthians 13 (of Christmas) by Sharon Jaynes.

Rie's Christmas Recipe Nut Roast.

We asked Rie Waterman, a long time vegetarian, what she usually has for her Christmas Dinner and she was happy to share with Log readers a recipe she has used many times over the years. It can be eaten hot or cold so just as good on Boxing Day cold. Although there looks lots of ingredients Rie assures us its simple to make.

(She did add that if time is short the M & S Nut Roast comes highly recommended!!!)

Serves 8

- 1 or 2 medium aubergines
- Olive oil
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 40g (1½oz) butter
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 2 celery sticks, finely chopped
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 175g (6oz) assorted nuts chopped
- 100g (4 oz) fresh white breadcrumbs
- Grated rind and juice of ½ a lemon
- 100g (4oz) mature Cheddar, grated
- 100g (3½oz) frozen chestnuts, thawed and chopped
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 4tbsp chopped fresh parsley

To serve

Fresh basil or parsley

Italian-style tomato sauce – a jar from the Supermarket is fine.

METHOD

Preheat the grill to hot, and preheat the oven to 200°C/fan 180°C/gas 6. Line a 900g (2lb) loaf tin, 17cm x 9cm (6½in x 3½in), with foil and oil lightly. Slice the aubergine thinly lengthways. Arrange on an oiled tray, brush with olive oil and season.

Grill for 5-7 minutes each side until the aubergine is just beginning to turn golden. Allow to cool slightly. Use to line the base and sides of the loaf tin, with all slices in the same direction. Melt the butter in a pan, add the onion, celery and garlic and cook until soft, about 10 minutes.

Spoon into a bowl and cool. Add the remaining ingredients to the bowl, season and stir. Spoon into the loaf tin, pressing down firmly. Fold the ends of aubergine over and cover with foil. Bake for 50 minutes to 1 hour, then turn out, garnish with basil or parsley and serve with tomato sauce.

Tuesday Club

The history and work of the YMCA, the oldest and largest youth charity in the UK was explained in some detail by Simon Hemingway at our November meeting. The organisation was founded back in 1844 by George Williams and is now established in 120 countries. Today their slogan is – Here for young people – Here for communities – Here for you., with the aim of enabling people to develop their full potential in mind, body and spirit. It's an amazing organisation, helped of course by charity shops such as the one many of us are pleased to support here in Longridge.

At our meeting on the 10th December we welcome our friends 'Spellbound' with their latest production. We know it will be another wonderful evening where they will take us on journeys near and far through their superb video photography.

As it's December there's got to be some mince pies as well so do join us - it may be cold outside but a warm welcome inside is assured. St. Paul's Centenary Room – 7.30pm start. We look forward to seeing you.

As this edition of the Log covers both December and January a reminder that on the 14th January, 2025 we will welcome Mike Barnes who will speak to us on Christies Cancer Care.



THE 5TH ANNUAL **Jigsaw** **CELEBRATION**

*Constantly
changing display of
made up Jigsaws to
view and buy.*



St Lawrence
with **St Paul**
Longridge

FREE
ADMISSION

**ON SATURDAY 18TH AND
SUNDAY 19TH JANUARY, 2025**

Saturday from 10am to 4pm

Sunday from 12 noon to 4pm

*at St. Paul's Church,
Longridge PR3 3WA*

*Refreshments include: soup,
sandwiches, cakes and scones.*

**FOR MORE DETAILS,
PLEASE CONTACT:**

Dot Little on 01772 783998

5th Annual Jigsaw Celebration – 18th & 19th January, 2025.

As we store the many hundreds of made up jigsaws that have been completed over the past twelve months ready for our January Celebration we will be keeping an eye on the weather and hoping that snow and ice keeps well away from Longridge over the weekend of 18th & 19th January. The weather is something we cannot predict but what we can ensure is that everything else will be in place ready for the doors of St. Paul's Church to open at 10am that Saturday morning. Admission is free so you can pop in as many times as you like over the weekend and keep an eye on the ever changing displays as well as enjoy a soup and sandwich lunch or coffee and cake.

We have worked hard to establish this event and continue to build contacts with the main jigsaw manufacturers. Wentworth will again be supporting us by donating a number of jigsaws but also through offering special discount cards. Two lovely jigsaws have already arrived from Ravensburger and we are hopeful that Gibsons will support the event as well.

Please do help spread the word as the events success depends on attracting people from further afield as well as locally. Thankfully jigsaws remain as popular as ever and we know how many people always have a jigsaw on the go gaining much pleasure from completing them. Amazingly Jean Saunders met two ladies from Blackburn while on a cruise holiday recently and hearing Jean came from Longridge mentioned that they make an annual trip here to the Jigsaw Celebration. Whether coming from just round the corner or a reasonable distance away everyone can be sure of a warm welcome.

After Christmas please look out for the rota for people to sign up to be Stewards or to help in the kitchen and in advance can we thank most sincerely everyone who has been making the jigsaws we will have the pleasure of displaying and selling.

St. Lawrence Flower Rota.

ADVENT – No flowers

December 24th, 25th & 29th Christmas Flowers

January 5 th	Vacant
12 th	In memory of Samuel Wallace
19 th	Vacant
26 th	In memory of Revd. Peter & Doreen Furness.



St. Paul's Flowers

Christmas Flowers – Flower Group

January – Barbara McCormick



(There will be baskets in both churches for donations towards the cost of Christmas arrangements)

OUR WORSHIP AND READINGS

Following Jesus in Loving Community

Our regular Sunday 'in church' services are as below.

St Paul's Holy Communion Service with Children's Church at 10:00am (arrival from 9:30am)

St. Paul's 'All together' Service 10:00am on 2nd Sunday of the Month

St Lawrence's at 6:30pm (arrival from 6:00pm)

The readings that will feature in these services are listed below.

Our regular mid-week Holy Communion Service takes place on Thursday at St Paul's at 10am

1st December—Advent 1

10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Luke 21 : 25– 36

6.30pm St Lawrence's

Advent Carol Service

8th December—Advent 2 - Christingle

10:00 am St. Paul's-All Age Worship

Malachai 3: 1-4

Luke 3 : 1-6



6.30pm St Lawrence's

Holy Communion

Malachai 3: 1-4

Luke 3 : 1-6

15th December—Advent 3

10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church

Zephaniah 3 :14-20

Luke 3 : 7-18

6.30pm St Paul's

Nine Lessons & Carols

22nd December—Advent 4

10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1: 39– 45

6.30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalm 144

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1: 39– 45

24th December—Christmas Eve

5:00pm St Paul's Crib Service

Isaiah 9:2-7

Luke 8: 2– 20

Midnight Holy Communion

11.30pm St Lawrence's

Isaiah 9:2-7

Luke 8: 2– 20

25th December – Christmas Day

8:00am St Lawrence

Early Christmas Communion

Isaiah 52: 7-10

John 1: 1-14

All Together Service

10:00am St. Lawrences

Isaiah 52: 7-10

John 1: 1-14

No Evening Service

29th December—Christmas 1

10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church

1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26

Luke 2: 41– 52

6.30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalm 105 v1-11

1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26

Luke 2: 41– 52

Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child, Baptisms, Marriages

Arrangements for these should be made with Rev. Mike or via the Church website

Do you know anybody who is in hospital or ill at home?

If so, please let Rev. Mike or Rev. Simon know so that they may be visited.

FUNERALS

**We commend to God those who have died recently and pray
for those who mourn their loss**

Jean Wylie

Pauline Phoenix



OUR WORSHIP AND READINGS.....continued*Following Jesus in Loving Community***5th January —Epiphany****10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church**

Ephesians 3:1-12

Mathew 2: 1– 12

6.30pm St Wilfrid's Church**Ecumenical Epiphany Service ???**

(No Evening Service at St. Lawrence's)

12th January—Epiphany 1—Baptism of Christ**10:00 am St. Paul's-All Age Worship**

Isaiah 43:1-7

Luke 3 :15-17, 21,22

6.30pm St Lawrence's**Holy Communion**

Isaiah 43:1-7

Luke 3 :15-17, 21,22

19th January—Epiphany 2**10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church**

Isaiah 62:1-5

John 2: 1-11

6.30pm St Lawrence's (Evensong)

Psalm 145 v1-13

Isaiah 62:1-5

John 2: 1-11

26th January—Vision Sunday**10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church**

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

Matthew 18:21-35

6.30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalm 33 v 1-12

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

Matthew 18:21-35

2nd February—Candlemass**10am St Paul's Holy communion with Children's Church**

Hebrews 2:14-end

Luke 2:25-38

6.30pm St Lawrence's Evensong**Psalm xxx**

Hebrews 2:14-end

Luke 2:25-38



The Last Word

From the Vicar Rev. Mike Barton



It will soon be time to dust off the Christmas decorations box stored somewhere in your house and perhaps if you're like us in the vicarage you'll also find a collection of spare Christmas cards you intended to send last year, but for one reason or another you never got around to writing. Is that just me?

Perhaps on the front of these Christmas cards there will be an idyllic picture of children all wrapped up warm in the snow as they sing Christmas carols with angelic voices. This is the thing about Christmas; we have a perfect picture of what it should be like, and then there is the reality. In a recent article by the Bible Society, they point out the unrealistic picture in the first verse of the Christmas carol 'In the Bleak Midwinter'. 'If you were to believe author Christina Rossetti, you'd think Jesus was born in a blizzard, not in a Mediterranean climate.'

Again, there's the picture, then there's the reality. But here is the thing, as the Bible Society point out, before 'In the Bleak Midwinter' was a carol it was first a poem, and poems work on many levels. Take for instance the first verse:

In the bleak midwinter
Frosty wind made moan
Earth stood hard as iron
Water like a stone
Snow had fallen
Snow on snow, snow on snow
In the bleak midwinter, long, long ago

What if the wintry picture being painted is less about the earthly climate and more about the temperature of the human heart towards God – then the carol asks whether our souls are like frozen ground? This is a good question to ask, because it's often when there's a gap between the reality of our experience and the idyllic picture we paint, that such a hardening takes place.

Happily, the carol doesn't leave us cold, the final verse reminds us that even amid the imperfections of our Christmas celebrations and the things we should have got round to doing, there is one thing that truly matters: offering our hearts to Christ.

Yet what I can, I give Him
Give my heart

Jesus was born amid our imperfections to transform our thinking on many levels with the warmth of his presence. This is the reality of Christmas— not a moment of idealized perfection, but of grace breaking in and through.

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