

The Log



The Parish Magazine

July/August 2025

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Vicar's Notes

I recently had the good fortune to take my elder daughter on a minibreak to Barcelona to practice a bit of Spanish and see some of the sights of this fantastic city. We didn't see any water pistol protests that some of the press like to report but what there was all over the city were lots of amazing fireworks and some crazy late night beach parties to celebrate the Feast of San Juan which marks the start of the Catalan summer. If you're a Brit like me then it might sound odd to celebrate the start of the summer when it's already been 30°C + outside for many weeks, but such is life in a hotter climate.

All this is to say that the UK school summer holidays will soon be upon us, our July/August temperatures will certainly be more variable but maybe you too, like the Spanish, will have the opportunity to take an elongated siesta... if you do, I wish you a very happy break.

Whatever the case, there's still lots going on at St Lawrence with St Paul's Church to join in with, not least welcoming our new curate, Revd Jesse Adesina, his wife Tosin and young son Eric to Longridge. You can see a few photos from Jesse's licensing service on 28th July at Blackburn Cathedral on Page 5 so please be sure to come and meet them at our Parish Garden Party at the Old Vicarage on Lower Lane between 2-4pm on Sunday 13th July.

Dot Little and Dorothy Laver Re-Licensed as Churchwardens

In addition to welcoming new people into our church family, it comes as very welcome news that Dot and Dorothy were re-licensed as Churchwardens of St Lawrence with St Paul's Church for another year in a special service on Tuesday 17th June. This is a significant role of which they freely volunteer their time and energy and so you may like to say this special prayer for them now and in the year ahead:

'Almighty God, you have called us to serve you in your Church. We pray for Dot and Dorothy as our churchwardens, that they may be filled with your Holy Spirit, guided by your wisdom, and strengthened by your grace to fulfil their duties with diligence and love. May they be a blessing to our parish and a beacon of your love in our community. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.'

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Vicar's Notes continued**Confirmation Service**

Bishop of Burnley, Joe Kennedy is due to lead a Confirmation Service at St Paul's Church on Wednesday 16th July at 7pm. Since Covid we've been struggling to get Year Six candidates coming forward for Confirmation and this year we have two children ready to take this important step in receiving their first Holy Communion. It would therefore be much appreciated if you would be willing to come and support them by joining in the service.

In addition, if you are an adult who would like to be baptised or indeed confirm your baptismal vows at this service, please do let me know quickly. There is still time to make this happen.

School Uniform Fund

Recently there has been a much better awareness of the importance of recycling good quality second hand items of school uniform so that other children can benefit from reusing it. However, I'm also conscious that sometimes such necessary items aren't always available in the sizes that are required and families can struggle to afford the higher value badged items like blazers and sweatshirts. For this reason we have a voucher scheme set up with local supplier Mary Francis which is both simple and confidential and it is a privilege to offer the School Uniform Fund to those who may need it in either Primary or Secondary School. Please do contact me on 01772 389837 if you would like any help in this matter.

Additionally, some of you may wish to contribute financially to this important sign of community generosity. If this is the case, please either speak to our Treasurer, Graham Kelsall, or post an envelope labelled 'School Uniform Fund' though the vicarage door if you'd like to donate. Thank you ever so much.

Foodbank

In a similar fashion to the School Uniform Fund, the Churches Together Foodbank which operates out of St Paul's Church Centenary Room every Friday, 11am-1.30pm is likely to see a higher demand than normal during the school holiday period when the children are at home. Any nonperishable items you can donate will be much appreciated.

VJ Day

Earlier in May we celebrated the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day which marked the end of World War II in Europe. Coming up on 15th August it will be the 80th Anniversary of Victory in Japan (VJ) Day which commemorates the surrender of the Japanese forces which effectively ended the whole war. In the light of the many conflicts and fragile peace between some nations today, we must note that heavy reality that it was the dropping of two atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki that brought this about. You can read a little more about this on pages 22 and 23 in a piece by Churchwarden Dorothy Laver following her recent visit to Japan.

Great North Run

Many of you will be aware that two years ago I had the opportunity to participate in the Great North Run in Newcastle after gaining a free place in the ballot. Then my time for the 13.1 miles was 1:45:03 and those 3 seconds have been bugging me ever since! I have therefore successfully applied to run again in this year's race which takes place on 7th September. More importantly though, this time I'll be running to support the work of the British Heart Foundation whose funding pays for research into all heart and circulatory diseases and the things that cause them. If you feel able to support the BHF as I run then you can donate by hovering your phone camera over the QR code on the right then going to the linked page. Or use the link below.

<http://AJBellgreatnorthrun2025.enthuse.com/pf/michael-barton>



A SPECIAL DAY FOR REVD. JESSE

Saturday 28th June in Blackburn Cathedral marked the beginning of formal ministry as a priest in the Church of England for Revd Jesse Adesina, previously ordained deacon and then priested in Kwara Diocese in Nigeria.

Revd. Jesse, his wife Tosin and son Eric have now moved to Longridge and we look forward to welcoming Revd. Jesse as our Curate and to quickly getting to know them as a family.



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The Collation and Induction of Revd. Simon John King to the Parish of Penwortham, St. Leonard – 19th June, 2025.

The Order of Service began with the words **‘Welcome to an evening of joy! Today we celebrate a fresh start for the people of God in this place as a new priest begins their ministry and as we all rededicate ourselves to play our part in the worship and witness of the Church’.**

It was very special to be in St. Leonard’s, to share in what for the people of that parish must have been a real feeling of anticipation that a new chapter was about to begin. The church is modern and light and welcoming and it was also warm that evening as we were in the middle of the recent heatwave.

Revd. Simon certainly wasn’t without support from his new parishioners, nor from Longridge, 62 travelling by coach and many more by car and it was great to see him relaxed and smiling as he greeted everyone. During the Service, the Collation was conducted by the Bishop of Burnley and the Induction by the Archdeacon of Lancaster and as the 19th June also marked the feast of Corpus Christi there was a Celebration of the Eucharist. The hymns were led by the choir and with the church full the singing was truly uplifting. One of the first people to congratulate Simon was the Rural Dean of Leyland Deanery of which St. Leonard’s is part.

After the Service everyone was invited into the church hall to enjoy the most amazing buffet supper – although I suspect Simon and Tracy didn’t have the opportunity to partake of any of it as they were in the church entrance making sure they spoke and thanked everyone individually as they were leaving.

We felt nothing but warmth from the church family at St. Leonard’s and actually many of us were rather envious of the amazing kitchen facilities they have there – they undoubtedly also have some excellent cake bakers – always a good sign!!

Please pray for Simon and Tracy that their time at St. Leonard’s will be a happy and fulfilling one.

For those interested in history.....

The first church, dedicated to St. Leonard was situated at the bottom of Marshall’s Brow – it was iron clad and known locally as ‘The Tin Tabernacle’. The last service there was in 1970, the present church foundation stone being laid in 1969. For much of its history the church was linked to the nearby St. Mary’s but in 1972 it was given its own benefice. The large cross on the outside of the building was taken from the original church. We understand that the adjoining Church Hall was added later.



Clergy & Church Officers

Vicar	Rev. Mike Barton	The Vicarage, Church Street	01772 389837	revmikebarton@gmail.com
Curate	Rev Jesse Adesina			revjesseadesina@gmail.com
Retired Clergy:	Rev. John Ball		07754 771220	
	Rev. Adrian Mairs	8 Hacking Drive	01772 356015	adrian.s.mairs@gmail.com
			07899 905768	
Licensed Reader	Janet Mortimer	8 Tootle Road	07734 475762	jan.mortimer1958@hotmail.co.uk
Churchwardens	Dot Little	26 Hoghton Road	01772 783998	dotlittle003@gmail.com
	Dorothy Laver	19 The Pastures, Grimsargh	07719 389529	dorothy.laver@gmail.com
Deputy Wardens	Graham Kelsall			graham@oaktreehouse.net
	Mae Heys	29 Fell Brow	07740 068099	
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PCC Treasurer	Graham Kelsall			graham@oaktreehouse.net
Safeguarding Officer	Elizabeth Hemingway			psostlandplongridge@gmail.com
Parish Administrator	Michael Dawson	See hours below	01772 783281	secretarystlandplongridge@gmail.com
Health & Safety Officer	Vacant			

Parochial Church Council

Chairman	<i>Rev. Mike Barton</i>
Hon. Secretary	<i>Barbara Burton</i>
Hon. Treasurer & Stewardship Recorder	<i>Graham Kelsall</i>
Members:	Clergy and Churchwardens Amii Bateson, Karen Boardman, Helen Clements, Ellen Dawson, Andrew Filder, David Hartley, Mae Heys, Philip Jones, Vernon Kinrade, Terry Lewis, Rosemary Lyons, Barbara McCormick, Annamarie Rogers-Waterman, Val Wardley, Stephanie Willan.

Organisations

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Michael Dawson
Parish Office Monday and Wednesday 9:30—12:30
Friday 9.30—15.30 01772 783281

Altar Flowers

Hon. Sec. St. Lawrence Dot Little 01772 783998
Judith Kaye 01772 785114

Hon. Sec. St. Paul Donna Rowe-Green 07880 348597

Choir

Organist and Choir Director Karen Au
karen.au1990@gmail.com

Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade

Wednesday Nights Berry Lane School Term Times
Martins 6 pm, Young Members 6.30 pm JTC/Seniors 7.00 pm
Oliviastewart@clcgb.org.uk

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Last Monday each month, Centenary Room 1.30 - 3.30pm also:
Contacts Helen Bailey 07891 075023
Bev Keating
Jean Saunders 01772640146

Handbell Ringers

Leader Judith Kaye Park View, Fleet Street, PR3 3ED
judithkaye@sky.com 01772 785114

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 01772 783998
Hon. Sec. Adrienne Atkinson 01772 783091
adbil1959@gmail.com

Walkie Talkies

Hannah Green 20 Darwen Close 01772 783558

Bereavement Group

meets on 1st Monday of the month including Bank Holidays
Karen Burdett 07712 440135
karenburdett@hotmail.com

Sidesmen and Sideswomen

Karen Boardman, Bev Keating, Janet Heap,
Peter Turver, Lib Turver, Graham Kelsall,
Val Wardley, Dianne Sanderson, Muriel Anderson,
Merilyn Kinrade, Barbara Burton,
Ian Cookson, Ruth Buckley, Jennifer Sturzaker, Kai Ng,
Helen Eccles, Keith Thompson, Judith Singleton.

Duty Wardens

Ali Ng, Dot Little, Dorothy Laver, Mae Heys, Vernon Kinrade,
Barbara McCormick, Kathleen Sturzaker,
Nick Grogan, Kelly Grogan.

Longridge C of E Primary School

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head@longridge-cofe.lancs.sch.uk

Clerk to the Governors

Val Morris 01524 581136 c/o the School Office
School Office 01772 782378
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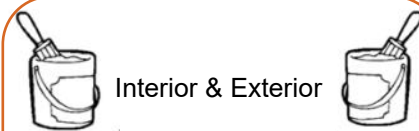
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PAUSE FOR THOUGHTCanon Adrian Mairs.

“For in Him we live and move and have our being”...Acts17v28

Most of us at some time have been asked the question Where do you live? .It is a question which has many facets..... The place you live – house, bungalow, flat but it could also be a question about time – past, present or future.

Some weeks ago I read a story told by the late Selwyn Hughes... He tells of a visitor to an old people's home, seeing a man he knew was a Christian and he said to him, “I'm sorry to see you living in this old people's home” The old man drew himself up to his full height and said “My friend I do not live in an old people's home - I live in God”



As I reflected on that story it posed the question where do I live.....

What about you?

Asking the question with reference to time, where do I live...is an interesting one. At present we are all living in difficult and uncertain times unsure of what is coming next. At times such as this there is a temptation in mind at least to live in the past, denying the reality of the present.

The following poem by Helen Mallicoat entitled I AM is perhaps a timely reminder of where we should live.

I was regretting the past
And fearing the future
Suddenly my Lord was speaking:
My name is I Am
The voice paused.
I waited.

The voice continued:
When you live in the past,
With its mistakes and regrets,
It is hard.
I am not there.
My name is not **I WAS**

When you live in the future,
With its problems and fears,
It is hard
I am not there
My name is not **I WILL BE,**

When you live in this moment,
It is Not hard.
I am here
My name is **I AM.**

To return to our text ...if we live in Him, who is I AM...(Exodus ch3. v14). ...all will be well.



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A BUSY SUMMER FOR CHURCH REPAIRS AND ALTERATIONS

Following the marvellous news that sufficient funds have been raised to enable us to go ahead with repairs to the lychgate at St Lawrence's, we are now busy making final preparations for the work to start on site. The project will be overseen by Jubb Clews our Surveyors, and the PCC have appointed Robinsons Preservation Ltd to carry out the repairs. The company is well-regarded and experienced timber repair specialists with an office based locally in Preston. The project will be quite complex to manage on site as the lychgate roof structure will need to be propped and scaffolded so that the timber repairs and replacements can proceed beneath, whilst still allowing for safe pedestrian access through to the church. The gates will be removed and transferred to the joiner's workshop for an overhaul and repairs. Decayed timber will be replaced with new oak, then stained in a colour to match the original. Some essential roof repairs will also be undertaken to replace deteriorated slates, rainwater pipes and guttering. We recently got the go-ahead from Blackburn Diocese and are looking forward to work starting on site within the next couple of months. Watch out for the scaffolding to appear on the lychgate!



Another project is shortly to get underway in St Lawrence's churchyard, to fit handrails to the steps and paths within the Garden of Remembrance. The need for handrails was first identified by regular visitors to this part of the churchyard. The gradient of the path and steps makes access difficult for anyone with limited mobility, and a recent health and safety assessment proposed that handrails should be installed in order to lessen the

risk to users. The handrails will be a simple design traditionally forged in black wrought iron, which will be appropriate to the churchyard setting. Carter & Duck Blacksmiths Ltd are based locally and have been selected to fabricate and install the handrails. They are recognised craft metalwork experts and have carried out similar projects elsewhere.

The same company will also undertake another handrails project in St Paul's Church, where for some time there have been safety concerns about the lack of handrails to help users climb the two steps onto the dais. It was for this reason that the distribution of Holy Communion at the high altar had to be suspended. Two handrails will be installed, one to each side of the dais, and this will enable easier and safer access to the chancel, choir stalls, organ and high altar rail. The rails will be fabricated in decorative black wrought iron with oak handrails fitted to the top, and they have been designed to reflect the existing architectural detailing of our grade II listed church. We are currently awaiting the final go-ahead for this scheme from the Diocese, and hope to have the rails installed at some point during the Summer.



A busy Summer for church repairs and alterations.....continued



We have been very fortunate to receive grant funding for both of the handrails projects from the Church of England Disability Project Parish Grants Fund. Both of these projects we hope will provide the welcome and sense of inclusion for disabled and older visitors that the Parish wishes to achieve.

Rosemary Lyons

Our Favourite Recipe.

Lemon Shortbread Cookies.

- 250g plain flower
- 25g cornflour
- ½ tsp. salt
- 85g icing sugar
- Zest of a large lemon
- 225g unsalted butter
- 2tsp fresh lemon juice
- ½ tsp vanilla extract

Method

1. Mix together, flour, cornflour and salt in a medium bowl and set aside.
 2. Mix the zest into the icing sugar and set aside
 3. In a large bowl cream butter and icing sugar mix until smooth and fluffy.
 4. Add vanilla and lemon juice and mix until smooth
 5. Add flour mixture and mix until well combined
 6. Divide the dough in half and roll to ¼" thick between two pieces of wax paper or baking parchment
 7. Chill for at least four hours or overnight
 8. Preheat the oven to 180c (160 fan) and line 3 trays with parchment paper
 9. Cut the shortbread into circles. (They don't spread much so no need to space them out much).
- Bake for 9-12 minutes.

The biscuits will keep for a week in an airtight container or freeze for a month.

These lemon shortbread cookies were kindly brought to Revd. Simon's leaving party by Deborah Pye and we thought they were yummy. Hopefully there will be some more at the Garden Party at The Old Vicarage on the 13th July! We recommend you give them a try.



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It Rained on our Parade!

But..... We smiled through it all.

It was as if the torrential rain shower had waited until the exact moment the drum was hit to start the parade on Longridge Field Day to drench everyone but as Mrs. Parkin mentions in her School News the sun then did come out and by



the time the parade returned to the Civic Hall people were beginning to dry out with large crowds then going on to the recreation ground to enjoy the displays on the field and the fair of course. Once again the Churches Together tent was kept busy serving tea and coffee and offering a much appreciated sit down for a few minutes – our thanks to Anthony Cowell for arranging the use of a generator which saved us carrying flasks to the tent for hot water.



We thought we would include some happy faces as well as sending our congratulations to Rie Rogers Waterman for her hard work in putting the float together and to all the children for their artwork and wonderful outfits and costumes.

Well done to St. Wilfrid's RC Primary School for gaining first place this year. It was wonderful to see so many children in the parade.





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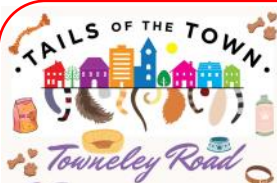
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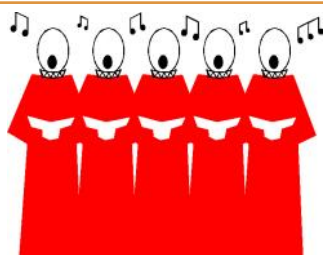
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CHOIR NOTES

Dear Log readers,

It seems unbelievable that it's been exactly two months since I first introduced myself to you. How time has flown by! I hope you've enjoyed at least some of my voluntaries - if there is anything you particularly want to hear, my arm may on occasion be twisted! This is what

various members of the choir have had to say about making music under the new regime: "We are enjoying singing a variety of hymns and some old anthems that we haven't sung for a while (Stanford - "O for a closer walk" being a favourite amongst a few), and hearing some upbeat organ voluntaries."



From Kate Warren-White

"As the newest member of the choir I've really enjoyed being welcomed by all of the others and am also delighted that Karen has taken on the organist's role.

Recently I decided to try to raise some funds for the charity "Breast Cancer Now", as this is an illness which has affected several of my family and friends. The challenge was to spend a night in a self-built shelter on the shores of Buttermere, and to have a dip in the mere itself. It's my kind of thing, but the weather wasn't all that encouraging and in fact the rain was fairly pouring down for a lot of the time! However, the camaraderie kept all of the participants in good spirits, and the mere was delightfully warm (well, above zero anyway) so the swim wasn't an ordeal at all. The surroundings were truly breathtaking, and the owls and bleating lambs kept us company all night.

The choir was very supportive and helped me to reach my fundraising target (and more!)."

From my perspective on the organ bench - I have enjoyed playing the fabulous historic Willis organ and having a four-part choir behind me (literally) to lead worship. Having a dedicated and competent group of singers is a blessing to any church organist, and at Longridge, I've come to realise how truly blessed I am. Having said all this, the choir will be having a well-earned break during August, **SO, if you think you would like to join the choir (either occasionally or permanently), this is a good opportunity for you to try it out, on a no-strings-attached basis. All you need do is turn up on any Sunday in August at 9.45 and sit in the choir stalls. If you would like to practise the hymns before the service, please come at 9.30. During this trial period in August, there is no expectation for regular attendance, it is simply a way for you to gauge if you would like to join the choir. I really do hope some of you will take the opportunity to join me.**

From your faithful organist, Karen



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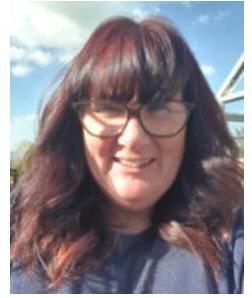
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Where Flowers Bloom, So Does Hope—Donna Rowe-Green.



A simple quote I have used many times through my work. However, today I looked up the origin of this quote, and was lead down a rabbit hole, learning about a very inspiring woman. Lady Bird Johnson, (real name Claudia) wife of US President Lyndon B Johnson and grassroots environmentalist. She understood the value of flowers and was the driving force behind the Highway Beautification Act, encouraging the planting of millions of wildflowers in cities and along highways. She talked of the value to both the environment and the people living in those areas.



Flowers can mean so much to us, be they gifted for a birthday or marking the final journey of a loved one. Our own churches can be festooned with them for Weddings, Christmas and Easter as well as the weekly displays that the wonderful volunteers on our flower team create. For us they are about emotion, be that joy, admiration of the beauty or reflection.

However, for nature, they are food. I have just enjoyed a week off work, spent entirely at home. I had planned to give my garden a proper tidy up. But when it came to it, I couldn't. As I wandered around the wild plot that is my garden, I was mesmerised by the number of insects, bees, butterflies and birds that used my garden as their own. There is an audible buzz in the garden, and the sparrows and blackbirds are still collecting random debris to make their nests.



You would be forgiven for being surprised that my career is based on



horticulture if you were to visit my garden, it truly is a random array of plants, many of which I am sure I didn't plant. Those that I have planted are the scraggy plants, left over from batches I have grown to fundraise for Rosemary and Time, but were not good enough to sell. In my little plot, they have blossomed, literally, and have become the feeding stations for valuable bees and other pollinators.

I have an invasion of strawberry plants that, every year try to commandeer my gravel pathway. They are strong looking plants and produce some lovely strawberries. I have made a deal with the birds and little mouse in my garden. I will pick the ones I can reach easily, and they may have the rest. It is a joy to see them feeding on the berries. Every year, I pull up the majority of these plants, pot them up and share them with whoever will take some, comfortable in the knowledge that the path will be reclaimed by more strawberries next year. A gentle reminder to myself that, metaphorically, no matter how much you share and give away, you will be replenished.

I fear I am rambling, a little like my garden. What I am trying to say is that every flower has value, no matter where it has come from, what it looks like or how prominent it is in your garden. This is just like you and me. God sees value in us all, no matter where we come from, how we got here and what baggage we carry. He sees the flower in each of us and encourages us to use our skills to do good. We are not all roses, some of us are daisies and buttercups, and some of us are definitely the scraggy plants, that given a chance, will blossom. How nice would it be if we all gave those plants a fighting chance by nurturing and encouraging them?



FLOWER ROTA JULY & AUGUST

ST. LAWRENCE FLOWER ROTA

July	6 th	Birthday memories of Hannah Pye
"	13 th	Vacant
"	20 th	Vacant
"	27 th	In memory of Ray Saunders
Aug	3 rd	Vacant
"	10 th	In memory of Stephen & Annie Kenyon - (Also the Feast Day of St. Lawrence)
(Remainder of the month Vacant)		

ST. PAUL'S FLOWERS

July	Donna Rowe Green & Patricia Hewitt
August	Ellen Dawson

From The Crafty Cafe

Once a month the Centenary Room opens its doors for anyone to pop in for a brew, with biscuits of course, maybe cake. Doors open 1.30pm and we aim to finish for 3.30pm so that anyone collecting children from school can come.

However the next two meetings are July 28th and August 25th in the school holidays. When the group was set up it was decided that the last Monday of the month would provide somewhere local to meet on a Bank Holiday.



The Crafty Cafe provides a space to talk all things crafty and have a good natter. If you have a portable craft please bring it along and carry on with it. We see plenty of knitting, crocheting, embroidery and patchwork. What other craft projects are there which are portable? Most importantly, you are welcome to drop in with or without a project. Come in for a chat.

Our contact details are listed in the Log, but my email is quilterhelen.hb@gmail.com or phone me on 07891075023.

Helen Bailey

Eco News

Fabric and Eco meeting

At the most recent meeting, the group was discussing the theme, 'Community and Global Engagement'. One of the points raised was how we communicate our work with our church and local community, and it was decided that in future, an article will be written for The Log after each meeting to inform our parish about what we are doing and to encourage more people to become involved with the group. We also intend to find out more about what local community groups, such as Longridge Environment Group, are doing as there may be some projects which we can support as a church.

Recycling

Thank you to those of you who brought your empty blister packs to church for recycling. These have now been sent to a plant in East Yorkshire to be recycled. However, the scheme has proved to be more expensive than anticipated, so we will not be getting another box from this company. We are looking into alternative ways to recycle these items, but until one is found, please do not bring any more blister packs to church. If you want to recycle as an individual, blister packs can be taken to Superdrug stores with a pharmacy, as these have recycling points.

Barbara Burton

SCHOOL NEWS – from Headteacher Catherine Parkin

Water Safety Week



This summer saw our first ever week-long focus on water safety. As Longridge is surrounded by reservoirs and has easy access to the streams, ponds and rivers of the countryside it felt like we should do more to ensure our children have the understanding and experience to keep themselves safe near water.



Our Year 3 and 4 children have swimming lessons in school but we added a swimming taster session for classes 1 and 2. For some children this was their first experience of being in a swimming pool. Each group really enjoyed their session at Gorlands and so did Miss B!



Year 5 had a day at Brock Bottoms and had a wonderful time carrying out investigations in the river. It was the perfect day to be outside.

Science Award



We pride ourselves on offering our children a quality and ambitious curriculum and constantly review what we teach. Over the last twelve months, Mrs Ingram has been leading the school through the Primary Science Quality Mark and I am pleased to say that school was given Gilt status which is over and above the standard award. Well done to Mrs Ingram and all the staff who took part in training and put things into practice in the classroom.

School News continued



Field Day

The heavens opened just before the start of the parade but the sun came out as we walked our circuit from the Civic Hall. Our float this year celebrated the 80th anniversary of VE Day. Everyone dressed in 1940s costumes or red, white and blue and we were accompanied by the music of the time including *It's a Long Way to*



Tipperary. Mrs RW had done us proud, as usual, and designed a fantastic float that showcased some of our children's work. School was awarded a well-deserved second place.



Year 3 & 4 Concert

The VE Day theme was also the theme for the musical presentation by Mrs Dewhurst's and Mr Nixon's classes. Following on from the



very popular choral singing lessons from Mr Spencer at Stonyhurst, these children were ready to perform! We had a wonderful afternoon of songs from the 1930s and 40s. Thank you to Harriet Sharrock and her mum for the wonderful cupcakes which our audience enjoyed. This was an afternoon to remember.

KS1 Sports Day

Our infant children enjoyed seeing how many stickers they could collect at sports day recently. It was a beautiful day and the classes were very well supported by family members who sat in the sunshine and cheered them on.



SCHOOL NEWS continues with Diary Dates for the end of term**Y6 Induction Day (LHS & St Cecilia's) – Thu 3rd July****Y3 to Blackpool Circus and park – Tue 8th July****Y2 to Blackpool Zoo – Thu 10th July****Trophy Assembly – St Paul's Church – Fri 11th July 9.15am****Y6 Leavers' trip to Level in Preston – Fri 11th July****Y4 to Knowsley Safari Park – Tue 15th July****Y5 to Liverpool Museum – Wed 16th July****Y6 Leavers' Assembly - St Paul's Church – Fri 18th July 1.30pm****School Closes – Friday 18th July 3.30pm****School reopens for the new academic year on Wednesday 3rd September 2025****MOTHERS UNION**

International Widows Day, marked on 23 June, is a day established by the United Nations dedicated to addressing the poverty and injustice faced by millions of widows and their dependents. Women in many countries experience great hardship after their husbands die, and are often shunned by society and not looked after by governments.

In countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan many women have been widowed as a result of the ongoing wars and conflict in their countries. When a spouse dies from conflict, the struggle for a widow does not stop at this loss. Traditions, customs and gender-based discriminatory beliefs lead to women being stigmatised in their own communities. This can include the loss of their home, their livelihood and their income, with their children suffering further through the subsequent loss of education. However, Mothers' Union is working to challenge this stigma.

By learning to read and write in their local language, women can access many areas of life without a man leading the household – including managing money, running businesses, and supporting their children practically.

Being able to read and write transforms the way widows engage with their communities by opening up access to knowledge, communication and opportunity. It allows them to read and interpret information, make informed decisions, and express their thoughts in a clear way. Literacy empowers individuals to have a foundation for lifelong learning – participants in the learning programme often partake in subsequent projects such as savings groups and agricultural business programmes. Literacy is not just about reading and writing. It unlocks connection, growth and change, bringing hope and opportunity to those who need it the most.

Faith in action

Mothers' Union is committed to continuing to work at grassroots level through our members to tackle issues such as poverty and injustice faced by widows. We do this through advocacy campaigns and projects such as the Literacy Programme, striving to support vulnerable women and girls around the corner and around the world.

(Full article can be read on mothersunion.org)

Dates

July 1 st	Dot & Fred Little – Picture Quiz
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Aug	NO MEETING
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Sept 3 rd	Service with Kathleen Stirzaker
----------------------	---------------------------------

VJ Day Remembered.

On the 8th May, 2025 we celebrated the 80th Anniversary of VE Day, (Victory in Europe) and now on the 15th August will mark the 80th Anniversary of VJ Day - the anniversary of Japan's surrender to the Allies following the atomic bombings of [Hiroshima](#) and Nagasaki in 1945 which effectively ended the Second World War.

On the 15th August, 2025 the Royal British Legion will hold an event at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire, which veterans who served in the Far East and Pacific will attend.

Hilary Ingham shares some memories of her cousin with us.....

My cousin Edward (Teddy) Kenyon who was in the North Lancashire based Loyal Regiment was taken prisoner by the Japanese at the surrender of Singapore.

He spent the rest of the war in horrendous conditions on the infamous Burma Railway. Following the Japanese surrender he eventually arrived home and I went to visit him. He was unrecognisable and I remember this skeleton like figure sitting by the fireside.

He eventually recovered, married happily and had a family, but all his life he suffered from nightmares and periods of depression. He was never able to talk to anyone about his experiences in captivity.

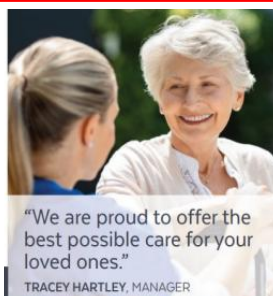
On the north wall at St. Lawrence is a framed plaque presented by John Bryan, always known as Burma Jack, who was a member of the Preston branch of the Burma Star Association and who felt passionately that the people who served in Burma (now Myanmar) should never be forgotten.

Please also read the article Dorothy Laver has kindly sent us 'Reflections on VJ Day' on Pages 22 and 23.



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Reflections on V J Day: August 1945 – Dorothy Laver

On 8 May when we remembered VE day in 1945 I thought about my late mother. She would, I expect, have joined in the celebrations 80 years ago but she must have had mixed emotions as her husband, Ben, was still away serving in the Royal Navy aboard the aircraft carrier HMS Victorious. The Victorious had joined the British Eastern Fleet in the Pacific in 1944 to assist the Americans in the war against Japan. On 9 May 1945 Victorious was hit by two Kamikaze special attack aircraft. The first damaged the flight deck and superstructure but the second Kamikaze failed to explode. A third one missed the ship and crashed into the sea. Victorious was able to launch planes within an hour and was fully operational two days later but three of the ship's company were killed and 19, including my father, were injured. My mother only received this news in a letter from Devonport in early June 1945 advising her that my father's wound (shrapnel wound to right shoulder) was "not of a serious or dangerous nature and a normal convalescence can be expected".

The war against Japan dragged on into the summer of 1945 and in August 1945 the US decided to force Japan to surrender unconditionally by deploying an entirely new weapon-the atomic bomb. The first bomb was dropped on Hiroshima on 6 August with the second bomb dropped on Nagasaki three days later. Japan announced its surrender on 15 August which is named Victory over Japan Day (V-J Day). In April this year I was fortunate to be able to join some friends on a cruise around southern Japan including visits to both these cities with their sorrowful legacy.

The first port of call on Good Friday was Hiroshima. A B29 bomber (named Enola Gay after the pilot's mother) dropped the bomb on Hiroshima on 6 August. It exploded at 8.15am at 1,900 feet above the city centre. The hypocentre was near a bridge at the confluence of two rivers as this provided a visible target for the bomb aimer. The only building in the old city to survive was the Industrial Promotion Hall. Its dome and twisted girders and gaping holes is now preserved as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Tens of thousands of people were killed instantly but the death toll rose to almost 200,000 as the after effects took hold.

Close to the hypocentre is the Peace Memorial Park which was built in the 1950s and contains various memorials including the Cenotaph and Flame of Peace. I found the Peace Memorial Hall very moving and peaceful away from the crowds of tourists. There was a film with poignant recollections from people who had survived the bombing. These people are called *Hibakusha*. Their numbers are now decreasing but several have been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for the efforts to stop this ever happening again. There is a Children's Peace Memorial depicting a young girl who died from the effects of the bomb with a crane above her. The crane is a Japanese symbol of longevity and happiness. Children from all over Japan make and send paper cranes to adorn the memorial.

Two days later on Easter Sunday the ship called at Nagasaki the victim of the second atomic bomb. There is an Atomic Bomb Museum tracing the events leading up to the bombing and a Peace Park marking the spot where the bomb was detonated. There were several groups of children in the Museum in very smart uniforms learning of the events leading up to the bombing.

Nagasaki was very unfortunate in that cloudy weather covered the primary target, the city of Kokura, and so the plane proceeded to Nagasaki. A last minute break in the clouds allowed the crew to sight the target and the bomb exploded at 11.02am. Nagasaki is set on a large natural harbour with buildings on the terraces of the surrounding hills. An estimated 75,000 people were killed in the blast with a further 75,000 in the fires that ensued. (Many of the buildings were made of timber and residential houses were near the shipyards and factories).

Reflections of VJ Day continued

I hadn't realised before my visit that Nagasaki was the only major entrance for foreign countries in Japan's period of isolation. The Portuguese and Dutch had settled in Nagasaki to trade in the 16th Century with more international trade missions (British, American, French and German) coming in the 19th Century. These missions had brought Christianity with them. The Urakami Catholic Church, one of the largest in East Asia had stood only 500 yards from the epicentre and was completely destroyed in the blast. The Church Bell was found intact and rang out across the valley on Christmas Eve 1945. The Peace Park has a reconstruction of the façade of the Church. I visited the reconstructed Cathedral nearby where the congregations were just leaving after the Easter Sunday Mass.

When we left Nagasaki in the evening a band of young Japanese children on the quayside played the ship off and then unfurled a banner saying "See you again in Nagasaki".

Eighty years on and V-J Day (15 August 2025) is to be commemorated in a mid-day service at the National Arboretum in Staffordshire with veterans and their families invited to attend.



Memorial—Hiroshima



Atomic Bomb Hypocentre — Hiroshima



Peace Memorial Park
— Hiroshima



Urakami Cathedral—Nagasaki

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

We have enjoyed continuing our series looking at the Good News we learn in Mark's gospel, this has included going back to basics to see why Jesus was sent to us. This month we have explored how Jesus called his disciples looking at Levi the tax collector and the calling of the fishermen. The children enjoying decorating their fish and adding memory verses as well as playing in the water tray.

We have also explored how Jesus rules by exploring the story of Jesus calming the storm, we had lots of fun making waves with the parachute and then building our own boats and seeing if they would float. The children also enjoyed creating 'storms in a jar' to help them remember when they have worries that Jesus is always with them.

We look forward to the final week of our current series before jumping in and exploring the book of Ephesians over the summer.



Garden Party and Special Welcome.

We always look forward to the Parish Garden Party at The Old Vicarage on Lower Lane but this year its going to be even more special as it will give us the opportunity to officially welcome our Curate Revd. Jesse Adesina, his wife Tosin and son Eric following Jesse's licensing at Blackburn Cathedral on Saturday 28th June.

The fun and games will happen between 2.00pm and 4.00pm with a Bouncy Castle, garden games and not forgetting the stocks and wet sponges. I think as Revd. Jesse has only just arrived in Longridge we should give him time to get to know us before putting him in the stocks but perhaps Revd. Mike will be a good sport and show him what he can expect.

For those less energetic there will of course be quieter areas to sit and chat and enjoy tea and cakes or an ice cream or even a glass of Pimms. We are extremely grateful to Graham Kelsall for once again allowing us to use his home and garden and hope that the weather will be kind. We always need a Plan B and if it does rain then we will move the event to the Pavilion on the Showfield.

Either way – whatever the weather do come along as we welcome Revd. Jesse and enjoy time together socially.



TUESDAY CLUB

We hope you are enjoying the Summer but also looking forward to our first evening back on the 9th September when we will welcome Bill Nelson telling us about the 1818 Auctioneers in Cumbria and giving us a few tips about antiques on the way.

Jean and Dot are pleased to report that the programme for 2025/6 is almost complete and copies will be printed and delivered to members during August.

Copies will also be available in both churches.

We look forward to welcoming both new and old members back in September.

Martins/Yteam

This month we have focused our games and activities around communication and team working skills, we've made paper aeroplanes together to see who could make the one that travelled the furthest, we've enjoyed playing many games outside in the nice weather and also listened to the Parable of the Sower- we then made little cress planters and a story telling wheel. Our Martins and Y-team are also looking forward to their end of year trip to Gulliver's World on Saturday 28th June.



Brigade members and a full church at Rev Simon's induction

**JTC/Seniors**

This month has been all about 'fun' we've played team water games, and enjoyed a night of mini challenges which involved making statues, finding impressive objects around school and making the longest line made out of items from around the playground. They have also been working really hard on their drill routine for the Festival of Music and Drill which takes place in July. Our JTC and Seniors also enjoyed their end of year trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach- everyone had a great time despite getting rather wet on some of the rides.

At the end of May our senior members volunteered at the Chipping Steam Fair which was another great success. We provided refreshments to all the stewards and volunteers that work across the 3-day event- the feedback received yet again was excellent and the committee expressed their thanks for our members hard work and support.



We were invited by the Royal British Legion to accept a certificate of appreciation for the excellent work we have carried out over the last few years in supporting the Poppy Appeal - a great achievement for us and we look forward to continuing that support.

Brigade News continued

We look forward to hopefully seeing many of you at our Bingo Fundraiser event on Saturday 16th August at the Civic Hall where we will raise money for both Brigade and St Catherine's Hospice in memory of Janet as we approach 12 months since she passed. If anyone would like to offer support in organising the event, or providing raffle prizes we would welcome it.

We break for Summer on Wednesday 9th July. We hope all our members have a wonderful Summer break and manage to stay safe whilst doing so. We take the opportunity to thank all our wonderful leaders who need a well deserved break and we thank our church family for always being our biggest supporters.

God Bless

Olivia Stewart





Prayers for the Summer Season

*There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:*

Ecclesiastes 3:1

July

Father, Creator of all, thank You for summer!

Thank you for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight. Thank You for the beauty we see all around us, beautiful flowers and gardens and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your creation. Thank You for the increased time we have, to be with our friends and family, and for the more casual pace of the summer season.

Draw us closer to You this summer. Teach us how we can pray no matter where we are or what we're doing. As we enjoy Your creation, create in us a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You.
Amen

Father, thank you for holidays and opportunity to travel far and near to experience new places. Thank you for beaches, mountains, lakes and country parks. May we use these places wisely and respectfully. Give safe travels to all who journey by road, air or sea. Give time for rest and recuperation to those unable to travel away from home. May holiday times be times of joy and refreshment and time to slow down the pace of life. *Amen*

Father, we thank you for school holidays and for our children. May the holidays be a time of rest, a time to learn from different experiences and a time for families to be closer. Give parents and carers patience and wisdom as they share in activities with the children in their care. We pray for all teachers and others who work in schools and colleges. May they have time to rest in preparation for the new term with its new challenges and opportunities. Bless our homes with your presence and your peace as families spend more time together. *Amen*



Prayers For The Summer Season continued



August

Father we pray for children as they start nursery or school for the first time - give them joy in new experiences As they move to new classes - give them confidence in growing friendships As they move to new schools - give them strength in their growing independence. And for all the teachers, assistants, helpers, carers and volunteers who teach and nurture our children and young people, we ask for your blessing, your joy, your wisdom and your patience as they start the new term.

Amen

Father, we pray for those awaiting exam results. We ask that you would guide and direct their future decisions whether they have received the grades they expected or whether they are having to rethink their options. Help them realise that you have a plan for their lives and they can trust you to lead them forward in all circumstances. We pray for those going to university for the first time, may they make good friendships and gain more independence as they study away from home. We also pray for those starting work or apprenticeships that they may settle well and be supported and encouraged by their employers. *Amen*

As we think of the 80th anniversary of VJ on August 15th, we give thanks for the end of hostilities in 1945. We thank you for those who served in the second world war, those who lost their lives and those who came back injured and traumatised by what they had witnessed. We pray for organisations that support all those who have served their country in times of conflict and may we remember with gratitude the sacrifices made in order to keep us safe. *Amen*



From the Editor.

Our thanks to Janet Mortimer for choosing those lovely prayers for us to use over the Summer. From the September issue of The Log we hope to start or perhaps re-start 'Our Favourite Hymns/ Worship Songs'. If you have a favourite hymn or a hymn which is special to you why not share it with Log readers.

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

6th July - Trinity 3 (Chosen for Reconciliation)

10:00am St Paul's Holy Communion with Children's Church

Ephesians 1.1 - 14
Luke 10 : 1-11, 16-20

6:30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalm 65
Ephesians 1.1 - 14
Luke 10 : 1-11, 16-20

13th July - Trinity 4 (The Power of Reconciliation) All Together Service

10am St Paul's and live stream

Ephesians 1.15—2.10
Luke 10 : 25-37

6:30pm St. Lawrence's (Holy Communion)

Ephesians 1.15—2.10
Luke 10 : 25-37

16th July - Confirmation Service



7:00pm St Paul's Church

20th July - Trinity 5 (Reconciliation between Peoples)

10:00am St Paul's Holy Communion with Children's Church

Ephesians 2 : 11-22
Luke 10 : 38- 42

6:30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalm 81
Ephesians 2 : 11-22
Luke 10 : 38- 42

27th July - Trinity 6 (Mystery of Reconciliation Revealed)

10:00am St Paul's Holy Communion with Children's Church

Ephesians 3.1 - 13
Luke 11 : 1- 13

6:30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalm 88 v1-12
Ephesians 3.1 - 13
Luke 11 : 1- 13

3rd August - Trinity 7 (Prayer for Reconciled Hearts)

10:00am St Paul's Holy Communion with Children's Church

Ephesians 3 : 14 - 24
Luke 12 : 13 - 21

6:30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalm 107 v 1-9
Ephesians 3 : 14 - 24
Luke 12 : 13 - 21

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 know so that they may be visited.

WEDDING

Many congratulations and our very best wishes to:

Carl Jack Doyle and Luminita Gherdan, who were married on
Saturday 7th June 2025 in St. Lawrence's Church



FUNERALS

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

Janet Hodge

Jacqueline Kilgariff



OUR WORSHIP AND READINGS Continued

Our Online Service will take the form of a Live Stream from the 10:00am morning service.

Please Note! This service is broadcast live on YouTube at 10:00am.

Visit: www.youtube.com/@stlawrencewithstpaulongridge/streams

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

For those of you who wish to follow the liturgy of the broadcasts, service sheets are downloadable from our Website:

www.stlawrencewithstpaul.org.uk under the 'Resources' tab

3rd August - Trinity 7 (Prayer for Reconciled Hearts)

10:00am St Paul's Holy Communion with Children's Church

Ephesians 3 : 14 - 24

Luke 12 : 13 – 21

6:30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalm 107 v 1-9

Ephesians 3 : 14 - 24

Luke 12 : 13 – 21

10th August — Trinity 8 (The Reconciled Community)

10 am St Pauls All Age Worship

Ephesians 4 : 1 - 16

Luke 12 : 32—40

6.30pm St Lawrence's Holy Communion

Ephesians 4 : 1 - 16

Luke 12 : 32—40

17th August — Trinity 9 (Practical Reconciliation)

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

Ephesians 4.17 - 5.2

Luke 12 : 49—56

6.30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalm 119 v 17-24

Ephesians 4.17 - 5.2

Luke 12 : 49—56

24th August — Trinity 10 (The Light Of Reconciliation)

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

Ephesians 5.3 - 21

Luke 13 : 10—17

6.30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalm 119 v 49-56

Ephesians 5.3 - 21

Luke 13 : 10—17

31st August — Trinity 11 (Reconciled Households)

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

Ephesians 5.22 - 6.9

Luke 14.1 : 7—14

6.30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalm 119 v 81-88

Ephesians 5.22 - 6.9

Luke 14.1 : 7—14

7th September — Trinity 12 (Standing Strong in Reconciliation)

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

Ephesians 6.10 - 21

Luke 14 : 25—33

6.30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalm 121

Ephesians 6.10 - 21

Luke 14 : 25—33

The Last Word

From the Vicar, Rev. Mike Barton



'Put out into deep water' were the words Jesus said to Simon in Luke chapter 5 after he'd been teaching the bustling crowd from Simon's boat just next to the shore of Lake Galilee.

These words would change Simon's life forever. Simon was an experienced fisherman, he'd been up all night fishing at the time when fishermen were supposed to catch fish but to no avail. Simon was done, the sun was getting hotter, the day was getting brighter, he'd washed his nets, and he was ready to go home to bed.

'Put out into deep water and let down the nets for a catch'. Jesus' words defied common sense, but still because Jesus said so, that's what Simon did.

But it wasn't the ensuing magnificent catch of fish that caused his nets to start to break that changed Simon's life. It was his understanding of the meaning - Jesus was Lord and Simon was being called to leave everything he knew and fish for people. In putting out into deep water Jesus would provide for his needs.

'Put out into deep water' is something I often think about when I'm holidaying in a seaside town where there's a pier and I take a wander along to the end; I look across the sea and I try to imagine the country beyond the horizon.

This is easier to do on some piers than others. For instance, at St Annes' Pier, I'm struggling to remember a time when I can recall the sea even coming in that far... something to do with the long flat beach and the tide coming in and out so quickly. In such instances 'putting out into deep water' can require the extra effort of walking for about a mile along the sand before there's any significant swell over your legs.

However, not far away up the coast on Blackpool North Pier, the deep water is so close at high tide that walking to the end of the pier can feel like a frightening experience.

Between these two piers I think we get a sense of what it can feel like for us to put out into deep water. It requires effort, it can feel frightening, and in common with the Apostle Simon's experience it can seem to defy common sense.

But unless we're willing to try 'putting out into deep water' we're not even giving ourselves the chance to dream what's beyond the horizon. So this summer maybe you'll have the chance to walk to the end of a pier, put out into deeper water with Jesus and consider what God maybe saying to you...

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