

The Log



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The Parish Magazine
March 2024

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VICAR'S NOTES

A lot is being squeezed into March 2024, by the end we'll have travelled through Mothering Sunday, Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Day. All significant days as we remember the events of Jesus' Passion and victory over death, and how each day offers a consistent, though differing expression of God's character of love. A love that now we've passed through the second anniversary of the war in Ukraine and continue to lament the fighting and violence in the same places Jesus walked, causes us to question why so many people seem bent towards evil. But then we must acknowledge what Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn once said, *'The line between good and evil runs not through states, nor between classes, nor between political parties either — but right through every human heart.'*

So in this March season of Lent, we humbly admit that we in our own way are part of the problem. Yet we are not hopeless, as Christians we're caught up into the story of Jesus and filled with the Holy Spirit to work for good. So just as part of the Lent Holy Communion prayer says, *'For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again.'* - Lots of things are out of our control but learning to live more like Jesus is something all of us have the power to prioritise.

Vision Emphasis For 2024

In accordance with our Vision Emphasis for 2024, ***'Following Jesus with the Northern Saints'***, I'm delighted to announce that the Facsimile copy of the Lindisfarne Gospels has arrived and is available for viewing during our church services and at other events. Also plans for the **Durham Pilgrimage** are going very well and it's not too late to join in. See page 6 for more details.

Fruitful App

Many of you will have started using this year's Diocesan Lent devotional booklets, 'Journey to Freedom'. Well, I'm delighted that this resource is also available, along with a brilliant 5-part Lent course, and other useful resources, for free on a mobile phone app Blackburn Diocese has produced called 'Fruitful'. You can download 'Fruitful' on a modern mobile phone by opening your camera mode and scanning the QR code on the right. When the weblink appears, click on it and you can upload it.



New Card Donation Machine For St Lawrence Church

After a successful application to the Diocese we have been granted (for a much reduced fee) a card donation machine to be trialled at St Lawrence Church. Please don't be shy about giving it a whirl when it appears!

Help With Grant Funding

The good news of the card donation machine is a good reminder that over the course of 2024 and beyond there will inevitably be repair and maintenance costs associated with running our two churches. We are already aware that the Lychgate at St Lawrence and part of the wall that leads down the side of Chapel Brow is in need of some essential maintenance. In the fairly near future these costs will have to be met by fundraising activities; however, we also know there are many grant making organisations who may be willing to contribute to such projects but presently we don't feel we are accessing these funds as much as we would like. Therefore, if any readers of the Log have experience in this area, or would be willing to investigate and learn from the example of other churches who are good at applying for grants then we would most welcome you getting in touch. Please email me or Dot Little using the contact details on page 7 to find out more.

VICAR'S NOTES – continued.....**New Safeguarding Officer**

Keeping everyone safe in church is of vital importance to our Christian care and witness and this means we need to constantly review our safeguarding procedures to ensure everyone, including the most vulnerable among us, are cared for appropriately. In this regard our new Safeguarding Officer, Elizabeth Hemingway has written a great article on page 5.

Bereavement Support

The seven week 'Bereavement Journey' course in partnership with St Bartholomew's Chipping finished on the last Thursday in February and has been very meaningful for those who were able to take part. It is anticipated that the course will run again but in the meantime if you, or anyone else you know, has suffered a bereavement of any kind and might benefit from some mutual support, under the leadership of trained counsellors then please do consider coming along to our

Bereavement Group which runs in the Centenary Room at St Paul's Church on the first Monday of every month, starting at 7.30pm.

Lent and Easter 2024

Below you can see the key dates for our special Lent and Easter programme.

Date and Time	Service	Location
10 th Mar, 10am	All Together Mothering Sunday Service	St Paul's Church
17 th Mar, 9.30am	Holy Communion with Passion readings from Mark's Gospel	St Paul's Church
24 th Mar, 10am	All Together Palm Sunday Service	St Paul's Church
25 th Mar, 8pm	Monday Compline	St Paul's Church
26 th Mar, 8pm	Tuesday Compline	St Paul's Church
27 th March, 7.30pm	Tenebrae Service (Shadows)	St Paul's Church
28 th Mar, 7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Service followed by 'The Watch'. Compline then follows afterwards	St Paul's Church
29 th Mar, 10am	All Together Good Friday Service	St Paul's Church
29 th Mar, 1.45pm	Good Friday Walk	Leaving from St Paul's Church
29 th Mar, 6.30pm	Good Friday Reflective Service	St Lawrence Church
31 st Mar, 8am	Easter Morning Holy Communion	St Lawrence Church
31 st Mar, 10am	All Together Easter Day Holy Communion Service	St Paul's Church
31 st Mar, 6.30pm	Easter Evening Celebration	St Lawrence Church

Audio-Visual (AV) Proposal Update

Thanks to your generous support, we're almost there with the funding for the AV project at St Paul's Church with only a small amount still to raise. Once all the monies have come in, we'll then be in a position to set a date for our chosen contractor www.audioworks.co.uk/ to complete the work, which I'm hoping might happen before Summer.

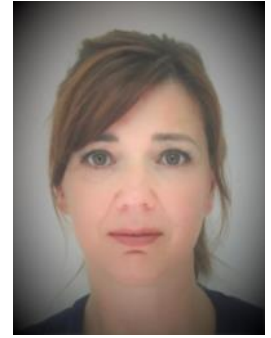
An Exciting Milestone

Finally, and he might not thank me for saying so, our very youthful looking Curate, Simon King, turns 60 on 1st March. If you see him then I'm sure he'd welcome your warm congratulations, along with any clean and appropriate jokes! Three cheers for Simon, hip hip hooray...

Safe Guarding Officer—Elizabeth Hemmingway

Hello!

My name is Elizabeth Hemmingway and I am the new Parish Safeguarding Officer for St Lawrence with St Paul Longridge. Thank you to the previous PSO Andrew Burdett for his hard work. Luckily my former role as a Police Officer and current role working in Primary Schools has equipped me with some valued experience! You may have seen my husband Chris and I in church or read about our recent travels in The Log. (Please come and say hello!)



My role is to make sure that our Parish has the correct Safeguarding measures in place and provide oversight, guidance and advice on all safeguarding matters relating to children, young people and vulnerable adults in our Parish. I deal with any safeguarding concerns or allegations involving clergy and church officials.

I work closely with The Diocese of Blackburn Safeguarding team to make sure I receive up to date training. This training enables me to provide advice and make any safeguarding referrals in line with Statutory and Diocese Safeguarding Policy.

The Parish Safeguarding Officer role involves giving regular updates and recommendations where required to the PCC.

I make sure that the church follows Safer Recruitment procedures, and that all our volunteers are subject to detailed DBS vetting and identification checks. I will also be involved in managing Safeguarding Agreements.

The welfare of everyone is a shared responsibility, our place of worship and meeting should feel safe and secure for everyone who enjoys being part of our Church.

We are fortunate at St Lawrence with St Paul's to have a fantastic caring and compassionate congregation.

Thank you to Rev Mike Barton and Rev Simon King, Emily Coolican our Young People's Champion, Muriel Anderson our Vulnerable Adult Champion, our church administrators and PCC for all their hard work.

Luckily we have a fantastic support The Diocese of Blackburn.

If you have any Safeguarding concerns or are unsure about anything, please contact!

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Elizabeth Hemmingway psostlandplongridge@gmail.com

Children's and Young People's Champion Emily Coolican em.coolican@gmail.com

Champion for Vulnerable Adults Muriel Anderson.

Blackburn Diocese Safeguarding Officer

catherine.smith@blackburn.anglican.org

Further details can be found on the Promoting a Safer Church Website: [https://](https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/promoting-safer-church-safeguarding)

www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/promoting-safer-church-safeguarding

From our Treasurer – Graham Kelsall

On behalf of Rev Mike, the PCC and the whole church family I wish to express our sincere thanks to everyone who contributes to our coffers - your continued support for Mission in and around our Parish is very gratefully acknowledged.

We no longer pass a collection plate round in the Service but there are of course a number of ways to contribute, by Standing Order, via Parish Giving, using the weekly 'brown' envelopes, using the gift aid 'yellow' envelopes, using the card machine, donating on-line, or by simply donating to the weekly collection plate at the back of church – whichever way you choose, thank you!



In the meantime, for those of you who like to use the weekly 'brown' envelopes, the new 'set' will be in Church soon.

Once again, on behalf of us all, our grateful thanks.

Graham (Treasurer)

NORTHERN SAINTS PILGRIMAGE TO DURHAM CATHEDRAL

We are looking forward to our Durham Cathedral trip which will take place on **Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd of September**, later this year. So far, 50 have signed up for the trip with 38 opting for coach travel. There are still places available if anyone has not had chance to book in. The deposits are now due on March 15th and there is flexibility and capacity to take more if further interest is expressed.

We have secured accommodation and meals at St John's College, just a short walk from the Cathedral. Please note that parking is notoriously difficult in Durham and no spaces are likely to be available at St John's College itself.

The proposed schedule will be something like as follows.

Day	Time	Activity
Saturday 21st Sep	09.00	Depart St Paul's
	10.30	Coffee Stop/Stretch
	12.00	Arrive Durham and free time
	13.00	Lunch
	14.00	Tour of Durham Cathedral
	15.30	Optional refreshments in Cathedral Refectory
	16.00	Optional extra tour about St Cuthbert
	17.30	Evensong at the Cathedral
	19.00	Evening 3 course meal
	20.30	Quiz and fellowship
Sunday 22nd Sep	08.30 - 09.30	Cooked Breakfast
	10.00	Sung Eucharist at Durham Cathedral (with Children's Church available)
	11.00	After service refreshments with the cathedral congregation followed by free time to tour Durham and have lunch of own choice
	14.00	Depart Durham
	16.30	Arrive St. Paul's



Likely prices are set out below. (The fuller the coach the less the price – there are 49 seats on the coach).

B&B Twin Standard, coach travel, lunch, dinner and tour	£206 (£103 per person)
B&B Ensuite Double/Twin, coach travel, lunch, dinner and tour	£241 (£120.50 per person)
B&B Single Standard, coach travel, lunch, dinner and tour	£125 per person
B&B Single Ensuite, coach travel, lunch, dinner and tour	£151 per person



A deposit of £50 per adult will be required by March 15th and the final payments for St. John's and the coach travel will be due by 1st August. Deposits are not required for U16 and so the deposit for couples and families will be £100. Discounts have been agreed for children and these details will be sent to those families concerned.

If you are interested or have any questions please contact
 John Keating by email on john.keating.jk10@gmail.com or by telephone on 07963195474
 or Bev by email at bev.keating14@gmail.com Thanks, Bev and John



Clergy & Church Officers

Vicar	Rev. Mike Barton	The Vicarage, Church Street	01772 783281	revmikebarton@gmail.com
Curate	Rev. Simon King	9 Willows Park Lane	07789 645138	revsimonking@gmail.com
Retired Clergy:	Rev. John Ball		07754 771220	
	Rev. Adrian Mairs	8 Hacking Drive	01772 356015	adrian.s.mairs@gmail.com
			07899 905768	
Readers	Muriel Anderson	12 Plessington Court	07823 762089	murielanderson33@gmail.com
Churchwarden	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
PCC Secretary	Barbara Burton	7 Chaigley Road		brbrbrtn6@gmail.com
PCC Treasurer	Graham Kelsall			graham@oaktreehouse.net
Safeguarding Officer	Elizabeth Hemmingway			psostlandplongridge@gmail.com
Parish Administrator	Michael Dawson	See hours below	01772 783281	secretarystlandplongridge@gmail.com
Health & Safety Officer	Chris Martin			
Electoral Role Officer	Michael Dawson			

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 Karen Boardman, Rob Bretherton,, Helen Clements, Michael Dawson, Andrew Filder, David Hartley, Philip Jones, Vernon Kinrade, Rosemary Lyons, Chris Martin, Barbara McCormick, Ali Ng, Annamarie Rogers-Waterman, Wendy Smyth, Val Wardley, Stephanie Willan.

Organisations

Parish Administrator	<i>Michael Dawson</i>	Handbell Ringers	
Parish Office Monday and Wednesday 9.30—12.30		Leader <i>Judith Kaye</i>	Park View, Fleet Street, PR3 3ED
Friday 9.30—15.30	01772 783281		judithkaye@sky.com 01772 785114
Altar Flowers		Children's Church	
Hon. Sec. St. Lawrence <i>Dot Little</i> 01772 783998		<i>Carolyn Barton</i>	<i>carolynbarton@hotmail.co.uk</i>
<i>JudithKaye</i> 01772 785114			
Hon. Sec. St. Paul <i>Donna Rowe-Green</i> 07880 348597		Mothers Union	7.30pm on 1st Tuesday
		Enrolling Member <i>Judith Kaye</i>	Park View, Fleet Street, PR3 3ED
			judithkaye@sky.com 01772 785114
Choir		Prayerline	If you would like our prayer team to pray for you e-mail
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<i>paulbionicears@gmail.com</i>			
Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade		Tuesday Club	7.30pm on 2nd Tuesday
Wednesday Nights Berry Lane School Term Times		Chairman <i>Fred Little</i>	26 Hoghton Road 01772 783998
Martins 6 pm, Young Members 6.30 pm JTC/Seniors 7.00 pm		Hon. Sec. <i>Adrienne Atkinson</i>	01772 783091
Commanding Officer <i>Janet Redding</i> 3 Chapel Street			adbil1959@gmail.com
<i>janetredding@clcgb.org.uk</i>		Walkie Talks	
Crafty Café		<i>Hannah Green</i>	20 Darwen Close 01772 783558
Last Monday each month, Centenary Room 1.30 - 3.30pm also:			
Contacts <i>Helen Bailey</i> 01772 783178			
<i>Bev Keating</i>			
<i>Jean Saunders</i> 01772640146			

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PTFA Hon. Sec. *Katie Keighley*

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Inspirational Images brought to us by Kathleen Sturzaker

When we pray, it's often a good idea to have an object to focus on; maybe a candle, a cross or a picture, to help us to concentrate and to inspire our prayers. One such painting is "The Light of the World", an allegorical painting by the Pre-Raphaelite artist William Holman Hunt (1827-1910). He painted this portrait of Christ between 1851 and 1854 and the original is in the Chapel of Keble College, Oxford where it has inspired the prayer life of students, staff, congregations and visitors.



An allegorical painting is one which has a deeper meaning than its surface



appearance and we can tell what sort of deeper meaning Holman Hunt intended if we look at the words he inscribed at the bottom of the picture. The quote is from Revelation Chapter 3:

Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him and he with me

The first imagery to note in the painting is that the door has no handle on the outside. Jesus cannot open it; it is up to us to open the door and welcome him into our lives. Secondly, there are brambles around the door. This could mean that Jesus has been waiting a long time for that door to open; perhaps we need to stop delaying and get on with welcoming him into our lives? Or, will Jesus have to fight his way through the brambles, through all the material and secular things that keep us from him to get our attention by knocking on the door? The most important imagery from the title of the painting is, of course, the light. Jesus is holding a lantern and, if we let him into our lives, he will show us the way and make the dark places light again. Also, light is appearing over his head, heralding a new dawn in our lives as he

welcomes us in to share our lives with him.

To carefully study this painting will definitely inspire our prayers and bring us closer to God.

THANK YOU

Dear Friends,

Please accept our thanks for your generous kindness expressed in conversation, cards, flowers, cakes and prayers for us in the recent death of our Grandson Daniel. Thank you so much for your support.

Adrian & Dorothy Mairs

Revd. Simon shares some thoughts as he ends his formal training for Ministry

I tapped but there was no reply, so I knocked a little louder, again silence. Had this been any other door, the powerful temptation to walk away, and postpone my visit, would have prevailed. In this instance, however, I knew the lady I was visiting was very poorly and there was every likelihood that this could be the last opportunity for a prayer or blessing. I knocked again and waited the briefest of moments, before depressing the handle and gently pushing the door open.

The room was brighter than I had expected. Both the windows and the curtains were partially opened and, from outside, I could hear the birds singing from the trees that lined the car park. Scanning the room, there was a TV, a wardrobe and an armchair but most of the small space was taken up by a hospital bed with the side rails up. The bed appeared to be piled high with pillows and covers, so much so that it took a moment to see the lady I had come to visit, who seemed very slight, cocooned as she was, in the mountain of bed clothes.

Quietly I called her name, before taking a step into the room, now there was no going back, I was committed. Putting the door too behind me, I called her name again. No response, a thought crossed my mind, maybe I am too late? Perhaps I should call the nurse or the warden? Taking another step closer I was near enough to see that the lady was breathing but was fast asleep. Relieved, I quickly decided that it would be a great shame to wake her, but it would be a wasted opportunity if I did nothing. They didn't teach you stuff like this in theological college, there was never a tutorial on what to do when visiting a nursing home and the person is fast asleep. So, taking my cue from half remembered films, I decided that a proper vicar would kneel by the bedside and say a few prayers for the lady.

Emboldened by my decision, my knees hit the laminate floor and lightly grasping the lady's hand I started to whisper:

"Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name..."

The lady's breathing changed, and I looked up. She had opened one pale eye and that one, opened pale eye was weighing me up. There was the briefest moment of silence before I filled it with a speculative "hello!"

This prompted the lady's other eye to open and she took a deep breath, before her eyebrows sank and, pointedly, she said: "I'm dead, aren't I?"

There are moments in life when we can stray so far out of our comfort zones, that the only way back is in a taxi. This sort of thing never happened on the Vicar of Dibley or Rev. The very best I could offer in the moment was:

"I can assure you, that you are most definitely not dead!" To which the lady replied: "Oh, that's a shame!"

Last week, I received a letter from the Bishop of Blackburn. In it, he expressed his delight that he was signing me off on my Curacy. That means the last six years of formal training for ministry are at an end. As far as the Diocese is concerned, I am fully formed, and ready to be released into the wild.



Revd. Simon shares some thoughts continued.....

During my curacy in Longridge, I have learned two important lessons. First is that, as a curate, almost everything that you attempt, you are doing for the first time. Which is why we wear cassocks. So that no one notices our knees trembling, and second is that you should always expect the unexpected, especially in nursing homes, and especially when faced with candid, plain speaking ladies.

I would like to say that I have loved every minute of it, but it has had its moments. From the terror of conducting my first solo funeral, to a profound but sinking realisation one hot June day, that with a woollen cassock and a bald head there was absolutely nothing to prevent the sweat trickling down my face in an unending stream, which is normally uncomfortable, let alone when stood before the bride and groom on the most important day of their lives. On that particular day, I also remember that my glasses steamed up and I couldn't read the words in the Green Book. I was profoundly liturgically challenged.

The other important lesson I have learned is that regardless of the scrapes I have got myself into



over the last three years, you, the people of Longridge have always been gracious, generous, kind and welcoming. I remember a conversation when I presided at my first ever Evensong. The churchwarden told me not to worry, because the congregation were a friendly lot. She was right. You are, and in the last three years we have eaten together, laughed together, prayed together and sometimes cried together. Along with Rev Mike, Rev Gill, Rev John and Rev Adrian, you have helped me to grow in confidence and given me the best curacy I could have hoped for.

For that both Tracy and I are very, very grateful. Right now, we don't know what the future holds, only God ever knows that for all of us,. We are praying that there may be an opportunity to stay in Longridge, but that's a long way from being certain. What I do know is we love being a part of this wonderful community and church family and my prayer is that regardless of whether we stay or go, you never change, never stop loving one another and never stop being wonderful.



Revd. Simon King

Getting to Know You – Jessica Fryer

'I came across St Lawrence with St. Paul when I was looking for a church to get married in at the end of January 2023. It was a Sunday afternoon, I had just moved to Goosnargh from Bentham near Kirkby Lonsdale and I'll be honest I was thinking about the photos! But when I stepped into St. Lawrence I knew it was more than just the beautiful building that made it so special. I began attending the 11:15am Service at St Paul's and here you are now stuck with me! You may have spotted me playing the flute in the Worship Group which has been great fun getting back to music after playing in school years ago.



Myself and my husband Callum got married in July last year with Mike and Simon conducting a wonderful service. Callum works at BAE systems along with the rest of Preston it would seem! We live with our three spaniels and the Summer weekends are spent walking in the lakes whilst the Winter months we spend shooting. I am always first in the queue at a buffet and Callum often says the only time you will see my serious side is when food is involved.

I work as a Designer for a company called Sanderson Design Group, creating designs for fabrics and wallpapers amongst other things for interiors. I have always loved being creative and painting so feel very blessed to do something I love every day. I am also an avid gardener although very amateur (always looking for tips) the quote '**Adopt the pace of Mother Nature, her secret is patience**' is something I am striving for... not yet successfully! It's often in the garden I am most reminded of God's creativity and power, the changing of the seasons, beautiful flowers growing from tiny seeds- just amazing!

I grew up attending a Pentecostal church in Bamber Bridge that my Grandad built over 50 years ago when he returned from Africa where he was a missionary with my Grandma for a number of years before starting a family. After moving up to North Yorkshire for work in October 2019 I struggled to find a church that I felt as at home in as my family church, COVID hit shortly after and I attended church online for a time. Finding this church and community has been a true blessing, being a part of the Worship Group and feeling so warmly welcomed by you all is something I thank God whole heartedly for.

So in summary... I play the flute, paint, can be found mostly in the garden and will fight anyone for the last sandwich at a buffet, but please do say hi!



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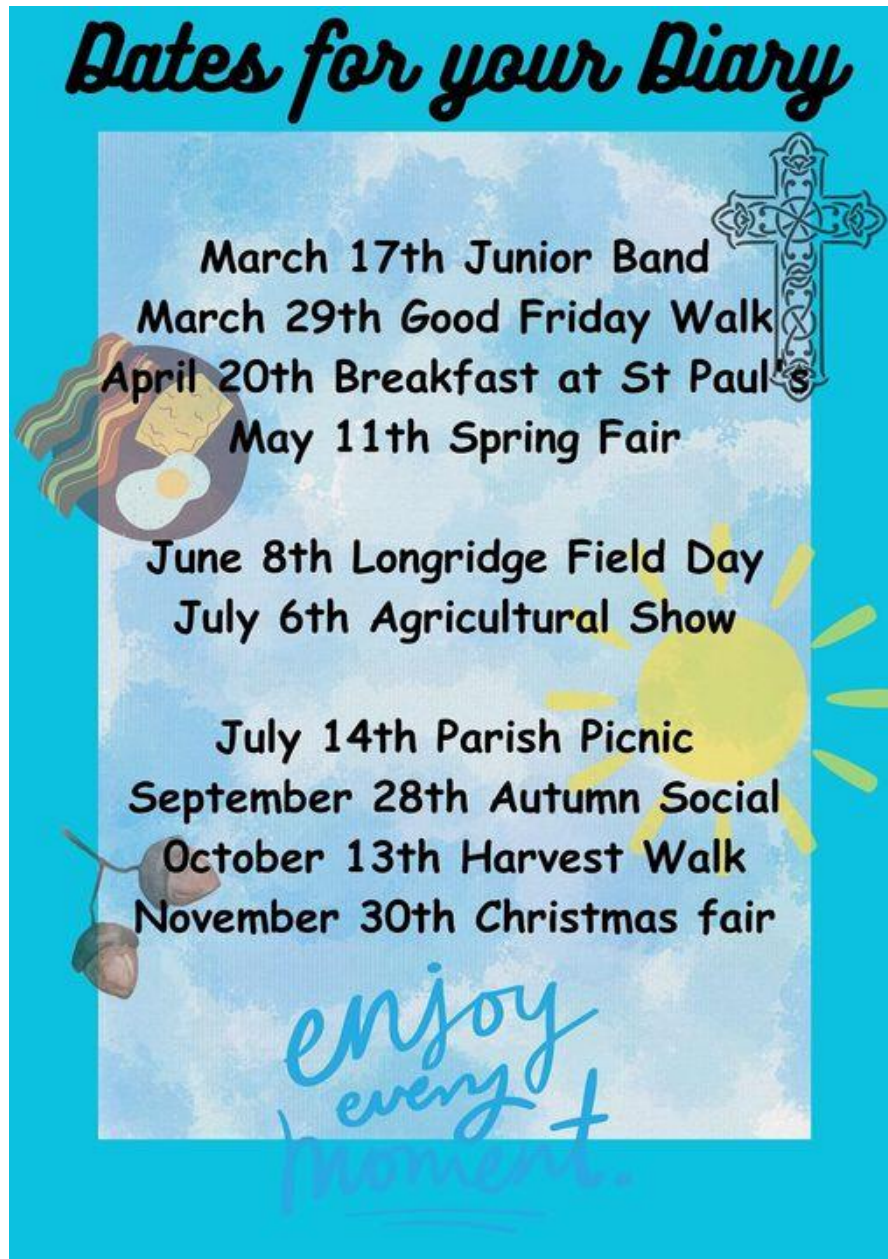
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Fellowship and Fundraising

The Fellowship and Fundraising Committee have been busy planning events for the coming months and hopefully there will be something for everyone to enjoy as well as opportunities to raise some cash for General Church Funds. Along with the dates on the poster we are planning another trip to The Cross Keys at Whitechapel in the Autumn and hopefully some other exciting events. Keep an eye on pew sheets, The Log and Facebook or if you want more information contact Wendy Smyth or a member of the Committee.

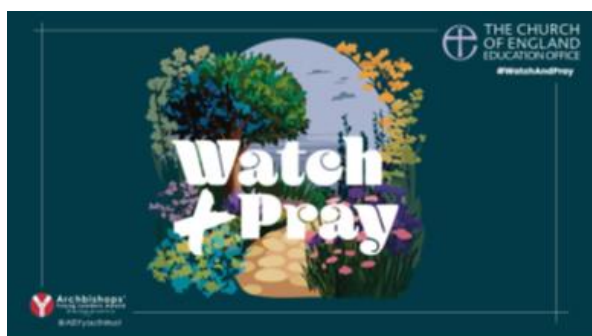


GOOD FRIDAY WALK

On Good Friday, as is tradition, we will be having our family walk led for us by Peter and Lib Turver. This will be no longer than four miles in length starting from St. Paul's Church at 1.45pm. On our return there will be jacket potatoes and various fillings, plus a sweet and tea/coffee for everyone to enjoy. Our thanks in advance to Ann Golding who will be preparing that meal for us. (If you would like to do the walk but not stay for tea that's fine, or if you prefer not to walk but would like to join us for tea around 3.45pm again that's fine but if you are having refreshments do sign the list at the back of the churches, so that we know the number to cater for.) Cost of refreshments – Adults £6, Children £3 payable on the day.

SCHOOL NEWS – from Headteacher Catherine Parkin**Bible Fun Group**

Mrs McCormick and Mrs Walker held their first Bible Fun Group recently. This club runs each week after school throughout Lent for our youngest children – Reception and Years 1 and 2. The first week was all about the beginning of Lent, with everyone enjoying pancakes with strawberries and chocolate sauce. The pancake races were really fun too!

**Lenten Worship**

This Lent we are using the Church of England's Watch and Pray materials, starting with 'Waiting Together'. We read from Isaiah 11, 6-9 to learn about the peaceful world God wants for us. We have also planted some bulbs so that we can wait patiently and then watch them grow. Our prayer for this time is here. We invite everyone to pray this with us during Lent.

Loving God,

You have created the world and everyone in it. Help us to watch out for signs of your goodness in our world, in other people and in ourselves.

Amen

**Online Safety**

We think of our school as a family and always encourage our children to care for one another and support each other. Thank you to our wonderful Year 6 who taught us all about online safety

recently. First, they presented a whole school assembly and then worked with individual classes to give age-appropriate tips on keeping safe online. The picture is of some of our Year 1 children proudly showing their certificates for completing this work.



PTFA News



The Children all had a fantastic time at the disco, there was lots of amazing dance moves!



We have a non-uniform day planned in exchange for chocolate in preparation for the chocolate bingo after Easter on the 18th April, this always raises a good amount for the PTFA. We are currently raising money for new blinds for the school hall.

We hope you have a Happy Easter.

Emily Oates



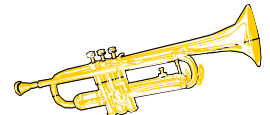
YOUTH BAND CONCERT



After the success of last year's concert, the Longridge Youth Band are excited to present their end of term concert, at St. Lawrence's Church on Sunday 17th March, starting at 2:00PM.



The music will include a varied programme from traditional brass music to pop and rock chart hits from different eras. Entry to the event is free, but any donations to the Youth Band will be greatly appreciated. Do come along and support our local young brass players.



Please Note: There will be additional parking at St, Cecilia's High School.

Jonathan Ford (Longridge Youth Band)

Tuesday Club

Tuesday Club

At our February meeting we welcomed back two of our favourite speakers Ann and Gordon Sharp with their superb Spellbound films. They have been part of the Tuesday Club programme since 2007 and always have something new to show us. This year we were taken near and far starting on familiar territory as we toured villages of the Fylde and Wyre before jetting off to Switzerland to enjoy spectacular scenery on three steam train journeys. A brand new film followed entitled Coasts, Castles & Countryside taking us up to Hadrian's Wall and Anwick before going down to Cornwall. The presentation ended with a fascinating short animation of moving bottles. Their superb photography leaving us 'Spellbound'.

On the 12th March we welcome Linda Sawley and her presentation Growing Old Disgracefully and although Linda hasn't been to Tuesday Club before she does come highly recommended. We are sure to be in for a bit of fun.

Tickets are now available for our concert and meal on the 9th April when Jeff & Lynne Hoyle will be entertaining us with some Lancashire songs and monologues. Tim Slater will again be providing the buffet meal which will be served at 6.30pm. This is very much an open evening so do come and enjoy the meal and entertainment with us. Tickets are £11 and will be on sale at the March meeting but also from Adrienne Atkinson 783091 or Fred Little 783998.

Hymns We Love - All glory, laud and honour – Paul Warren



This popular Palm Sunday hymn is a translation of verses dating from the early middle ages. It was translated from Latin (do you remember that this was the case for 'O come, all ye faithful'? The original Latin is 'Gloria, laus et honor tibi sit, rex Christe redemptor', and was written by St Theodulph of Orleans (750 - 821).

St Theodulph was born in Italy, and became abbot of a monastery in Florence, and was then brought to France by Charlemagne and consecrated Bishop of Orleans around 785. He retained this position for more than 30 years until he was suspected by the Emperor Louis I of plotting against him and was imprisoned in Angers in 818.

It is believed that it was during his imprisonment that St Theodulph wrote his hymn, which celebrates Christ's entry into Jerusalem on a donkey, as described in St Matthew's Gospel. It ran to 39 verses and was designed to be sung in the long processions which many churches had on Palm Sunday.

The English version was the work of John Mason Neale (1818 - 1866), who translated many early Latin and Greek hymns into English in an effort to restore the medieval and Catholic heritage of the Church of England. The only difference between Neale's translation and its present form is the opening line, where Neale's original text read 'Glory, and laud and honour'.

Only a small part of St Theodulph's original hymn is used (39 verses cut down to 6 verses). Neale noted that 'another verse was usually sung until the seventeenth century, at the quaintness of which we can scarcely avoid a smile'. It went:

Be thou, O Lord, the rider,
And we the little ass,
That to God's holy city,
Together we may pass.

Now let's turn to the tune used for this lovely hymn. In fact, let's explore the origins of it.

The tune is usually called St Theodulph, but some books call it 'Valet will ich', and this is part of the opening line of 'Valet will ich dir geben', a 'Sterbelied' (a hymn for the dying).

The hymn writer was Valerius Herberger, who was a clergyman in his hometown; the German Protestant enclave of Fraustadt, in Silesia, Poland, where there was an outbreak of the plague in 1613. A large proportion of the population fell victim to the illness and many fled the town. Herberger remained, however, and in the end he was often the only person, along with the gravedigger, who interred the corpses. His faith must have been an immense support to him and must have propelled him to great heights – his grievous yet hopeful prayer to God at the height of the misery is the only one he ever wrote.

The hymn's opening verse translates to:

I want to bid you farewell,
You evil, false world.
Your sinful, wicked life
It is all not pleasing to me.
In heaven it is good to dwell,
My longing is set on what is above.
Therefore God will reward forever,
The people who serve him here.



Hymns We Love - continued.....



The melody for this tune (which we now use for 'All glory, laud and honour') was written by the local cantor Melchior Teschner.

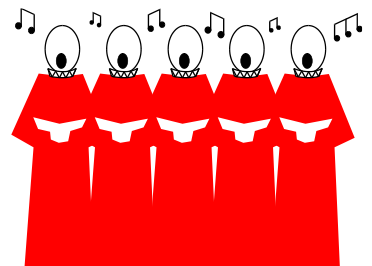
The melody Teschner wrote for the hymn does not really match the emotional charge of the words, as was common in the seventeenth century. The harmony that is used is the work of JS Bach.

Not content with having harmonised this tune (and also incorporating it into his St John Passion), he wrote two Chorale Preludes based on the melody. In both cases, the melody line is played by the feet on the pedals (representing earth) and lets the two hands employ delightful runs of notes, presumably depicting the soul longing to rise to eternal glory in heaven.

If you'd like to come and sing this hymn and think a little more about its meaning, then come along to St Paul's Church for 11am on Wednesday 20th March. I shall also play one of the two aforementioned chorale preludes.

Choir Notes from Organist Paul Warren.

First of all, a very well done to our wonderful choir, for leading the singing on the Ash Wednesday service. I had arranged for Paul Simcock to play for that service, but his car broke down on his way to the church, and was therefore unable to get there. Thus the choir led the music unaccompanied, so once again, a very well done to all of you.



Attendances at choir practice have been somewhat sporadic. Sometimes we have up to a dozen of us, but at other times only four or five of us. It's nearly getting to the stage where I want to petition parliament to ban sickness!

We're busy with getting music ready for Lent, Passiontide and Easter. Christmas and Easter are by far the busiest times of the year on the church music front.

One piece of music that I like playing at this time of year, is a piece called 'Bist du bei mir', which translates to 'when you are with me'. This music was found in the Anna Magdalena notebook (Anna Magdalena was JS Bach's second wife). The music was originally written by Heinrich Stölzel, in his opera *Diomedes*. I was told that the arrangement in Anna Magdalena's notebook was written by Bach himself, so maybe it was a love offering to his wife.

The translation of the song is:

If you are with me, then I will go gladly
unto [my] death and to my rest.
Ah, how pleasing were my end,
if your dear hands then
shut my faithful eyes!



This sounds rather macabre, but you must realise that death was a much more commonplace occurrence back in those days than it is now. Anna Magdalena had 13 children, and seven of them died in early childhood. Such were the mortality rates back in her time.

The horrible irony to all of this is that, not only was JS Bach not present at her death to close her faithful eyes (he had already died), but that she died in abject poverty on the streets.

Brigade News



We have had another busy month at Brigade. We continued with our theme of 'Love' up to the half term holiday. The JTC and Seniors worked on various crafts which have been donated to Belmont Care Home- these included hanging heart decorations which can be used over valentines, making cards and baked and decorated heart biscuits which the residents thoroughly enjoyed. We hope to continue to work closely with the Care Home to support them in the future. We also started some craft displays which will be visible in church in the run up to Easter which were created using nails, wood and wool. On Saturday 24th February several of our seniors attended a Brigade skills training day at St Marks Heyside where they took part in their introduction to the young leader training course, a course on drill and games



and a training course on dealing with children with extra learning needs and disabilities and how to deal with behaviour issues which was run by Laura and Amii. It was a fabulous day spent meeting other members from Brigade companies from around the country and allowed our young leaders to begin their formal training as they develop into the next generation of leaders and officers.



Our Martins and Yteam have been practicing their drill each week by playing a version of



Simon says. They also took part in a Glow Stick party where we spoke about Jesus being the light of the world. They created candles in craft which then made a large display which is in church for Candlemas. They have also been talking about the Baptism of Jesus and Jacob kindly shared with us his experience and we discussed how similar or different that would have been. We created some doves as the Bible reading says- 'He saw the spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him'. They also enjoyed decorating some biscuits for Valentine's Day.



As we start the run up to Easter, we will be starting to look at the story and bringing it to life through badge-work and craft which we will share in next month's Log.



Children's Church

During February, we have continued our series looking at stories of Jesus in the run up to Easter. At the end of January, we looked at how Jesus was tempted in the wilderness. The younger group enjoyed making a campfire and putting up tents in the wilderness. They made sand pictures and painted pebbles which reminded us of when Jesus spent 40 days and 40 nights in the desert and was tempted. The older group considered how they would respond to being tempted – which we practiced using chocolate biscuits!

The following week the groups explored Luke's Gospel where Jesus set about His mission to proclaim the Good News to all. The younger group played a game of 'guess who', blindfolding each other and then the other person had to give clear instructions and guide their partner. Lastly, they played an anointing game, cups of water were carried carefully to the other side of the room and then the children anointed one another.

As February started we explored Jesus' Mission where Jesus starts his ministry. We used the Bible Eggsplorers to help retell the story before completing lots of different activities in response including: making scrolls featuring everything we know about Jesus, considering what we can do to live like Jesus in the toy town. We then explored Jesus' call to his disciples and listened to the story of Jesus calling them to become fishers of men. We spoke



about how we could share the good news of Jesus with the people around us. Lots of fun was had fishing and splashing in the water tray as well as lots of other fun. The older group looked at the same topic but used fishing nets to catch mini-people as we explored the topic, playing follow the leader to consider how Jesus's disciples followed him when he called them. We love to meet new families through our children's and young people's groups. Do come and join us or feel free to contact Barbara McCormick



(barbara@her-email.co.uk) or Carolyn Barton (carolynbarton@hotmail.co.uk) if you'd like to find out more.

Bible Fun Group



During February, a new club was started at Longridge CofE Primary School for those in Reception to Year 2. It's called the 'Bible Fun Group' and runs after school on Tuesdays led by Barbara McCormick and Marina Walker. It's been wonderful to see 24 children attending so far.

We are looking at significant days leading up to Easter and playing lots of games, eating snacks, crafting, and having lots of fun! Our first session looked at the meaning behind Pancake Day. We had pancake races, pancake-related crafts, and ate some yummy pancakes of course!



CHURCH FLOWER CLUB

As I write this it is, of course, raining outside. However, I am allowing my mind to drift forwards to warm Summer days – more specifically, the second weekend in July. Why? Because we will be holding a Flower Festival. Oh yes, we are going to fill St Lawrence's Church with all kinds of floral displays.....when I say we, I do kind of mean you!



This is going to be a whole church community event, and indeed the wider Longridge community. There will be an opportunity to create miniature displays or large ensembles, as a group or as an individual. We will make room for everyone that would like to take part. We aim to make this a celebration of nature and of all your interpretations of what that means to you.

Before anyone says that they don't know one end of a flower from another, please be assured that there will be copious amounts of help to show you just how easy this is. There will be a theme to help you get started plus some workshops to guide you with your ideas. We are not looking to create professional looking flower arrangements, these will be your work, reflecting your group or individual personality. Most importantly, this will be fun.

There will be more details in next month's Log, but in the meantime, please do save the date, and be prepared for a lot of talk of seeds, teacups and sweet peas. It will make sense, I promise.



If you would like to join our monthly flower club, it is open to anyone. You do not have to arrange flowers in church to come along to our meetings. We have a range of activities and demonstrations throughout



the year on the 4th Tuesday on the month, 7.30 – 8.30pm

If you would like any information on how you can be involved with our flower team, both at St Paul's and St Lawrence's or how to help fund the blooms in church, please do give me a call on 07880348597 or email donnarowegreen@gmail.com.

Thank you so much. Donna.

Flower Rota

There are no altar flowers during the season of Lent. As we near Easter baskets will be placed in both churches for donations towards the floral displays which enhance our churches during the Easter Celebrations.

The Log Team

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The Mothers' Union aims to show faith by helping the sustainable transformation of communities worldwide, helping to nurture strong relationships at all levels, promoting peace and reconciliation locally, nationally and globally.



One of the projects in Blackburn Diocese is the caravan where we offer "Away from it all" holidays for people who are struggling. Sometimes a family who need a break are the least able to take one. The MU caravan could be the answer. It takes 6 and is fully serviced. Holidays are available for individuals, couples or families and if the caravan is unsuitable alternative accommodation may be available. Applications forms must be completed by a member of the clergy, representative of the church or a Mothers' Union member. Over the years this facility has been welcomed by many people and has been a very welcome respite from some dire situations. The caravan is funded by donations and replaced every 5 years as the site stipulates so we are confident that it is in good condition for the visitors who use it.

If you know of anyone you feel might benefit, please contact the clergy or myself to complete the form.

Dates

March 6th AGM followed by Dot Little & Ruth Buckley with their presentation - Walking the Lancashire Coastal Way (Everyone welcome)

April 2nd Speaker to be confirmed

JAK

Our Favourite Recipe – this months recipe submitted by Judith Kaye.

Traditional Easter Biscuits – Try an Easter biscuit as a change from a chocolate egg.

Ingredients

125g	softened butter	¼ tsp	ground cinnamon
75g	caster sugar, plus 1 -2 tablespoons for sprinkling	¼ tsp	mixed spice
			Zest of 1 lemon
1	egg, separated	75g	currants
200g	plain flour, sifted	2 tbsp	milk



Method

1. Preheat the oven to 200°C, gas mark 6. In a bowl beat the butter and sugar together, using a wooden spoon or electric mixer, until pale and fluffy.
2. Beat in the egg yolk, reserving the white. Then gently stir in the flour, spices, lemon zest and currants. Gradually stir in the milk until the dough starts to come together – you may need slightly less, or a little more milk.
3. Tip the dough onto a lightly floured board and knead gently until smooth. Roll the dough out to about 5mm thick and cut out the biscuits using your chosen cutter.
4. Place the biscuits on baking trays and bake for 10 minutes, (whilst the biscuits are in the oven lightly whisk the egg white) remove the biscuits from the oven and brush them lightly with the whisked egg white then sprinkle with sugar.
5. Return the biscuits to oven for a further 5 minutes, until just golden. Remove and place on a cooling rack.

These biscuits can be stored in an airtight container for 2 – 3 days.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN LONGRIDGE & DISTRICT

LENT LUNCHES

Do continue to support this year's Lent Lunches. The remaining dates and venues are listed below as a reminder. Despite wind and rain on the 21st February the lunch held in the Centenary Room at St. Paul's was well supported with £233 raised for the work of CAFOD and Christian Aid. Lunches are available from 12 Noon – 1.00pm. We have been asked a number of items how many years Churches Together have been organising Lent Lunches and although we are not absolutely sure, having spoken to past Treasurer Gertrude Holden we feel its certainly over 30 – a lot of soup and sandwiches but also a good sum of money raised over the years for our two worthwhile charities.

Wednesdays:

6th March	St. Paul's Centenary Room
13th "	St. Wilfrid's Parish Room run by Alston Lane
20th "	Christ Church Hall run by Christ Church and Grimsargh

Please Note: Brew Time will still run on the 6th March from 9.00am – 11am with Lent Lunches following from 12 Noon to 1.00pm.

A reminder that the World Day of Prayer Service on Friday 1st March, 2024 will be at Christ Church at 11am.

Passion Sunday Ecumenical Service.

There will be an Ecumenical Service at Our Lady and St. Michael Alston Lane on Sunday evening 17th March at 6.30pm to which everyone is invited. Please note there will be no service at St. Lawrence's Church on that evening.

Good Friday Ecumenical Service of the Cross.

We are once again invited to meet together at the War Memorial at 11.55am for the 12noon Service. The large wooden cross will be erected with the symbolism of the nails being hammered in – a stark reminder of that first Good Friday. Do join us for this short, yet so meaningful act of worship.

CTLD Tent.

Looking forward to Spring and Summer we can confirm that a new tent has been purchased to replace the one irreparably damaged last year. The cost has been shared between the churches. Our thanks to John Spencer for arranging the purchase for us.

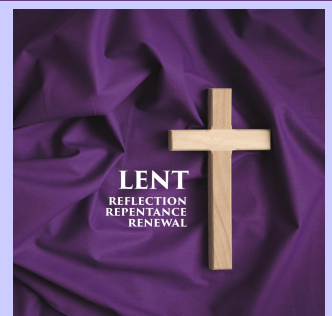
PRAYERS FOR LENT

PS.51 v10

David asked God to Create in him a clean heart and to give him a steadfast and willing Spirit. We might use these words this Lent - may it also be a **humble ..generous.. peaceful and forgiving heart.** **Rev. Adrian Mairs**

Almighty God, as we use the season of Lent as a period of reflection and correction, may we walk ever closer with you; may we reflect upon the humanity of your Son and on the way in which he was able to overcome the distractions and temptations of the world - and go on even to overcome the power of death. May we *fully* understand the value of the life-transforming gift that we have received through his patience, his goodness, his brutal death and his glorious resurrection. May we, like him, travel light, bearing only the things we need to pass through the gates of your eternal kingdom. May we deny ourselves and take up our cross. **Vernon Kinrade**

Lord this Lent, give me discipline in dealing with my faults, and gentleness in dealing with others. Renew my spirit and heart within me so that, this Lent and for evermore, I may see you more clearly, love you more dearly and walk with you more closely. **Chris Martin**



Blackburn Diocese Events 2024 – Chris Martin

If, like me, you want to learn more about your faith, but for whatever reasons, are unable to commit to academic studies involving many hours, then the Diocese of Blackburn offers various learning opportunities.

If you go on the diocese website and look under upcoming events, you can get the details of forthcoming events and, to whet your appetite, I have listed a few below.

- Come and Sing Messiah - Layton St Mark, Saturday 16 March at 7.30pm
- Pathways to Prayer Event - Whalley Abbey, Saturday 23 March, 9.30am-1pm
- Discovery Event about the Church Army - Saturday 13 April
- Abide: As You Are Youth Conference, Chorley - Saturday 27 April
- Festival of Healing and Renewal - Blackburn Cathedral - Saturday 12 October

If you want to partake in a course that is engaging and provides enlightening detail on our faith, you may want to partake in **Authorised Lay Ministry** (ALM) training. Don't worry there are no exams or tests to take!



This ALM core module aims to help individuals to develop a personal Rule of Life, and to see how this connects with the regular worship of the local church context. The modules are below. The Summer term is between April and July and are held in the evening with 6 being on Zoom and 4 being held at St Luke's, Blackburn. There may be an Autumn term but that is yet to be advertised.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Together as Disciples • Forgiveness: Baptism & Confession • Prayer • Praising God • Reading the Bible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Word Preached • The Creeds: Affirmation of Faith • The Eucharist • Sabbath • Mission
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I enjoyed going back to study, especially as access to supporting material is so readily available. There are podcasts, websites, and YouTube instantly available with recommendations given during the course. There are books also recommended but I only purchased a couple of them and could have completed the course without buying any. And I must take this opportunity to thank those in the parish who helped me in several ways, be it by lending books, one to one tuition and much needed encouragement.

The elective modules run over six to eight sessions and are shaped by the skills being taught, so are held over a series of evenings or on Saturdays, or a combination of both. Each elective will normally be held once a year. If you haven't completed the core modules, it is still possible to attend some of these electives. So why not give it a go.

Blackburn Diocese Events 2024 – continued.....

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration • Children's Ministry (begins April) • Environmental Stewardship • Later Life Care • Mission Outreach (begins April) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastoral Care (begins June) • Small Group Leadership • Worship Leading • Youth Ministry (begins October) |
|---|---|

There is plenty of detail on these courses on the Blackburn Dioceses website. Of course, first talk to Mike or Simon if you are interested in attending any of these courses. I have recently completed the ALM core course and some of the Electives and will be happy to share my experience with you. I found the courses informative but not intense. I also enjoyed spending time with fellow students and made new friends along the way.

Donations

We gratefully acknowledge the following donation to church funds.

In memory of Ian Parkinson £200

WEDDING

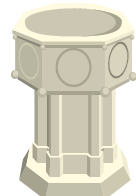
Many congratulations and our very best wishes to:

Rob Stephen Bretherton and
Andrea Janette Seed
Who were married on
Saturday 10th February
in St. Lawrence's Church

**BAPTISMS**

We congratulate and pray for those who have been recently Baptised into our Church family:

Harlow Megan McCool and Rudi Alan Hodson on the 18th February 2024
at St. Paul's Church

**FUNERALS**

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

Elaine Hayhurst

Thomas Allen Charnley

**Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child, Baptisms, Marriages**

Arrangements for these should be made with the Vicar (Tel: 01772 783281) or via the Church website
Do you know anybody who is in hospital or ill at home? If so, please let the Vicar know so that they may be visited.

OUR WORSHIP AND READINGS

Our vision is With Jesus On Mission

Our regular Sunday 'in church' services are below.

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

St Paul's Informal Service at 11:15am (not on 2nd Sunday of the month)

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

3rd March—Lent 3

9:30am St Paul's and Live Stream

Exodus 20:1-17

John 2 : 13-22

11:15am Informal Service

John 2 : 13-22

6:30pm St Lawrence's (Evensong)

Psalms 12

Exodus 20:1-17

John 2 : 13-22

10th March - Lent 4—Mothering Sunday—All Together Service

10:00am St Paul's and Live Stream

2 Corinthians 1:3-7

John 19 : 25-27



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

Numbers 21: 4-9

John 3: 14-21

17th March—Lent 5—Passiontide Begins

9:30am St Paul's and Live Stream

Passion Readings

Mark's Gospel

11:15am Informal Service

John 12 : 20-33

CTL Passiontide Service

6:30pm Alston Lane

24th March Palm Sunday—All Together Service

10:00am St Paul's and Live Stream

John 12 : 12-16

Psalms 118:1-2, 19-24



6:30pm St Lawrence's (Evensong)

Psalms 69:1-20

Isaiah 5:1-7

Mark 12: 1-12

27th March—Wednesday Evening Tenebrae Service



7:30pm St Paul's

— Various Readings

28th March—Maundy Thursday Service



7:30pm St Paul's

Exodus 12:1-14

John 13:1– 17, 31b—35

29th March —Good Friday Service

10:00am St Paul's and Live Stream

Psalms 22 :1—11

John 19:16– 42



6:30pm St Lawrence's (Evensong)

Psalms 130

Psalms 22 :1—11

John 19:16– 42

31st March - Easter Day

8:00am BCP—St. Lawrence

Acts 10 : 34-43

Mark 16:1-8



10:00am All Together Service

St. Paul's and Live Stream

Acts 10 : 34-43

Mark 16:1-8

6:30pm St Lawrence's

(Songs of Praise)

Various Readings

7th April —Easter 2

9:30am St Paul's and Live Stream

1 John 1.1—2.2

John 20: 19-31

11:15am Informal Service

1 John 1.1—2.2

6:30pm St Lawrence's (Evensong)

Psalms 143 : 1-11

1 John 1.1—2.2

John 20: 19-31

The Last Word

From the Vicar



In February the inevitable happened, the addition of another couple of mugs received as Christmas presents meant our glass and mug cupboard was bursting at the seams. We try to economise every so often but this time we were too late. In a rush I opened the glass door that keeps everything nicely packed in and out fell a lovely little Denby milk jug that we like to bring out for special occasions. Now sometimes such items don't smash when they hit the floor but this time it did. Yet another pottery casualty from the kind wedding gift that was bought for us a number of years ago.

This got me thinking about the value of pottery, I don't mean the financial value, like an Antiques Roadshow enthusiast might get excited about; I mean pottery's value to society. It turns out that the simple clay pot changed the way humans live. Because pottery provided the means to store surplus food and water reliably and allowed for more efficient cooking methods through its ability to withstand higher heats, people's health and nutrition increased so they could be fed throughout the entire year.

As communities became proficient in pottery production, Hunter-gatherers established permanent settlements near clay sources and reliable water supplies. These settlements became centres of economic activity, social interaction, and cultural innovation. This led to the development of complex societies with specialized labour roles and social hierarchies. Pottery became valued for more than just its practical use, it was a new technology and artform to be traded as part of a cultural exchange.

How fascinating then that when God wanted to show his prophet Jeremiah what was instore for his stubborn people, God told Jeremiah to visit the Potter's House, *"Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you my message." So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was spoiled in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him'* (Jeremiah 18:2-4).

In fact, it's not uncommon for the biblical prophets to describe God's people as being like clay in a potter's hand. To take this analogy further it means God forms his people for both practical and artistic use to help form and prosper society. However, if God's people neglect their design, then God is perfectly capable of remoulding them to fulfil his will, even if this proves a painful experience.

What though if you feel like you're a smashed pot for whom it's simply too late? Then maybe you've come across the Japanese technique of Kintsugi which repairs broken pottery with seams of gold. I don't think it's an accident that there's a Christian charity called 'Kintsugi Hope' who work in communities to show that a repaired pot can be turned into something even more unique and beautiful. Isn't this after all the message of the cross?



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