

The Log

The Riches of Autumn



St Lawrence with St Paul
Following Jesus in Loving Community
Longridge

The Parish Magazine

October 2025

£1.00

www.stlawrencewithstpaul.org.uk

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Harvest Thanksgiving – Sunday 12th October.

All Services at St. Lawrence Church.

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am – All Together Service

6.30pm Harvest Songs of Praise



**The Church will be open from 2.00pm
– 4.00pm for people to view the
flowers and displays and enjoy tea
and cakes.**

**The traditional Harvest walk lead
by Peter & Lib Turver will leave St.
Lawrence Church at 1.30pm and
return for mugs of soup, tea and
cakes at approximately 3.30pm**

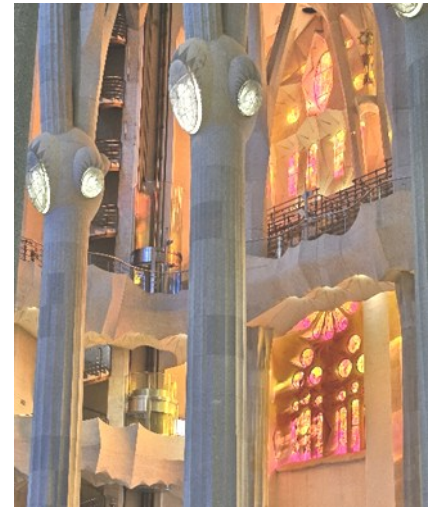




Vicar's Notes

Autumn is a season rich in colour as the front cover reminds us. It reminds me of the opportunity I had in late Spring to visit the Sagrada Família Cathedral in Barcelona. The architect, who many of you will know was Gaudi, designed the stained glass windows to reflect the different colours of the year and the windows which depict the Autumn season are perhaps the most vivid and spectacular.

I think this is a good reminder that as Christians we can be filled with vibrant optimism as we celebrate the riches of being part of the Church and reveal the good fruit of God's Holy Spirit in the community around us.



Autumn Alpha Course

The introductory session for this year's course began on Thursday 25th September but it's not too late to join in if you're able to make the second session on Thursday 2nd October. It takes place at St Paul's Church from **7.30 – 9.15pm** and runs for 8 sessions (taking a one-week break for Half Term) until Thursday 20th November. If you are interested in attending, or if you have any questions, please do email me at: revmikebarton@gmail.com

Harvest Festival 2025

This year's Harvest Festival takes place on Sunday 12th October and our theme for this year is 'The Bread of Life'. On this day all our services will take place at St Lawrence's Church as follows:

8.00 am Holy Communion

10.00 am All Together Worship

6.30 pm Harvest Songs of Praise

In the afternoon our popular family friendly harvest walk will once again leave from St Lawrence Church at 1.30pm and we're very grateful to Peter and Lib Turver for plotting a suitable route. But if the walking side of things isn't for you don't let that stop you from coming to St Lawrence Church between 2-4pm to look at the beautiful flowers and creative harvest displays while also enjoying tea and cakes. St Lawrence's Church always looks brilliant on Harvest Sunday so do visit if you can.

This year we will be especially pleased to share any financial donations you are able to give between the Bishop's Harvest Appeal (see pages 10 & 11) and the Church flower fund.

Vicar's Notes continued

Those getting the church ready for our Harvest Thanksgiving would appreciate donations of fruit and vegetables and these should be taken to St. Lawrence's on Friday morning 10th October between 9am and 11am so that they can be incorporated into the displays. There will be an opportunity for tinned, bottled or packet items to be brought up during the 10am Service. After our Harvest Thanksgiving all donated items will go directly to the local Foodbank. .

All Souls Service

This will take place on Sunday 2nd November at 6.30pm in St. Lawrence's Church. Those of you who have attended previously will know it's a beautiful and reflective service giving you the chance to remember loved ones who have died and are held close to your heart. Each year we invite those families who have suffered a bereavement over the last twelve months, but the service is open to everyone in the parish.

During the service there is an opportunity to come forward and light a candle in memory of those you love but no longer see and for their name(s) to be read out. If you would like to have a loved one remembered in this way, please do write their name on the list you will find in both churches, or email our Parish Administrator, Michael Dawson at secretarystlandplongridge@gmail.com to add their name to the order of service.

Remembrance Sunday

This year Remembrance Sunday falls on 9th November. Following the Remembrance Parade a short community service will take place at the Longridge War Memorial starting about 10.45am ready for the nation to fall silent at 11.00am.

Following this St Paul's Church will be hosting the town's Civic Remembrance Service which will start around 11.20am where we'll be joined by the Mayors, Town Councillors, uniformed organisations and Longridge Band.

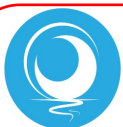
For those wishing to receive Holy Communion on Remembrance Sunday, a Parish Communion service will take place at our 6.30pm service at St Lawrence Church.

Junior Choir

A tactical shift to Longridge Berry Lane School and enlisting the help of teacher Mrs Ingram has made a positive difference to those attending Junior Choir. We look forward to hearing the enlarged Junior Choir perform at the various Christian festival services and other community events.

Winter Fair, a Narnia Wonderland

On page 22 you can find out why this year we're bringing the traditional Christmas Fair forward and hence there is a slight change of name – the shops might start selling mince pies in September but to me it seems better for a church to celebrate Christmas at Christmas.



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INSPIRATIONAL WORDS brought to us this month by Ali Ng

**‘Master’, they said ‘give us this bread - give it to us always!’
‘ I am the bread of life,’ replied Jesus. ‘Anyone who comes to me will
never be hungry!’
John 6 v34-35**



These verses follow shortly after Jesus has fed the 5000. A little time later, the crowd set off to follow Jesus but when Jesus saw them, he said ‘you aren’t looking for me because you saw signs but because you ate as much bread as you could.’ Jesus rebuked the crowd and said that they should not be looking for food, but for food that would last.

Jesus is pointing out that the crowd can’t expect physical bread on demand. It is, however, much more than this. The sign that Jesus uses of the feeding of the 5,000 is meant to lead them to the true food which is Jesus himself. God is making a demand on the crowd and that is, that in order to believe in Jesus, it requires a recognition in Jesus and in everything he is doing.

Until the crowd recognise who Jesus really is they may be fed with bread and fish but there is a deep hunger inside them which will never be satisfied.

The same is true for us today. We can be fortunate and be blessed with physical bread but until we really know Jesus there is a deep hunger inside us that can never be satisfied. A friend of mine, on describing a period of her life when she was in the wilderness and had rejected Jesus, said that it felt like there was a piece of her heart missing. When she came back to Jesus, her heart was full and she felt whole again.

So, how does the image of Jesus as the bread of life speak to our deepest needs and longings? How do we begin to understand what he can really do for us?

I pray that at this Harvest time, as we reap the physical bounty of God’s provisions that we may stop and reflect and bring those two questions before God.

As the hymn goes:

**‘I am the Bread of life.
Those who come to me shall not hunger;
those who believe in me shall not thirst.
No one can come to me
unless the Father draws them.**

**The bread that I will give
is my flesh for the life of the world,
and those who eat this bread
they shall live for ever,
they shall live for ever.’**

**So, this harvest time may we rejoice in the bread of life and come to know Him more deeply,
day by day. Amen.**

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
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	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

Parish Administrator

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 Ellen Dawson 07487 741745
ellendawson7@gmail.com

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

Crafty Café

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. vacant

Walkie Talks

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,
Marilyn 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

www.longridge-ce.lancsngfl.ac.uk

Headteacher

Mrs Catherine Parkin
head@longridge-cofe.lancs.sch.uk

Clerk to the Governors

Val Morris 01524 581136 c/o the School Office
School Office 01772 782378
bursar@longridge-cofe.lancs.sch.uk

Pre-School

01772-780078

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GETTING TO KNOW YOU – Ruth Hornsby

Hello everyone, I'm Ruth Hornsby and I am delighted to be a part of St Lawrence with St Paul's, Longridge.
Thank you all for your welcoming smiles and encouragement, very much appreciated!



I have lived in Longridge for a good number of years, and to be honest I have been a bit nomadic!

Having been to this church in the past I now feel it is the right time to settle down here.

I am married to Robert, who I met when we both worked down south. I don't have children but lots of nieces and nephews living in and around the country.

Many years ago, I trained as a Therapy Radiographer and have worked in a number of Cancer Centres, in and around London. My last Radiotherapy job was at Royal Preston Hospital. In 2013, due largely, to ongoing health challenges I decided to hang up my radiation badge for the last time!Oh, how times flies!

More recently I have focused on volunteering at various health related charities.

Now fully retired, I am taking time to settle into some sort of routine and have set up a room full of crafting items to fill my mind with all things creative! I also enjoy walking and have just started swimming and aqua- aerobics.....However did I find time to work?!!

I became a Christian when I was quite young. Looking back, I can see how God has been an ever-present help throughout my Spiritual Journey. There have been many challenges along the way, but I know that God sees and understands me far more than I do, especially when life events become difficult.

I'll finish now with a couple of book titles I have found particularly helpful along the way.

"The Return of the Prodigal Son" by Henri Nouwen. He looks in a different way at each of the three main characters in this well know parable. Challenging, reflective and thought provoking.

"The Awesome Journey" by Rev David Adams is another wonderful uplifting read.

And one for the ladies....."Sensible Shoes" by Sharon Garlough Brown. This book is a Christian novel which follows the stories of four women from different backgrounds whose lives are woven together as they are drawn into a Spiritual Formation Journey.... growing closer to God.

Once again I thank you for welcoming me into the fold. I look forward to meeting more of you over the next few months.

God bless,
Ruth



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The Bishop's Harvest Appeal 2025:
Supporting the Diocese of the Free State



The Bishop's Harvest Appeal 2025: Supporting the Diocese of the Free State

"The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it, for He founded it on the seas and established it on the waters" Psalm 24:1

It has been wonderful to see the huge increase in the amount of money that has been raised for the Bishop's Harvest Appeal in recent years and last year we donated over £23,000 to support primary schools and a women's literacy programme in our link Diocese of Multan in Pakistan.

I am writing now to encourage you to get involved in this year's appeal which will support a range of projects in another of our link Dioceses, the Free State in South Africa.

It is widely believed that the link between Blackburn and the Free State is the oldest such link in the Anglican Communion. This year, for our Bishop's Harvest Appeal, we are encouraging our parishes and schools to learn about the lives of Christians in the Free State and support a number of projects. Bishop Dintoe, Bishop of the Free State, has identified some priorities which our appeal can support. These are:

- Training and formation of vocation candidates and clergy;
- Developing ministry to boys and young men;
- Assisting the Mothers' Union and the Diocesan Gender Coordinator in Gender Based Violence workshops;
- Carrying out of environmental workshops in safeguarding the sanctity of the earth.

The Diocese of the Free State has eight archdeaconries with a total of 69 parishes. Most recently, Tash Green, a member of the Link Diocese Committee, Elisabeth Sawle and Joy Rushton visited 27 of these parishes. More information about the Free State and the Harvest Appeal can be found on our website.

Bishop's Harvest Appeal continued

Some Ways to Donate

1. The Harvest Appeal Pedal-along

To publicise the Harvest Appeal, on October 17th I am going to go on a bike ride in which I will visit and pray in one school or church in every single one of our 14 Deaneries. I will publicise the schedule in advance in the hope that some of you might be able to join me for prayer.

It would be lovely if our schools and maybe some of our parishes could also arrange a Pedal-along at some stage in the Autumn and encourage sponsorship.



2. Donations and Collections

Your parish or school may be able to organise another fundraising event or simply to take a collection at a Harvest service or event. Alternatively you personally might like to consider supporting the Harvest Appeal as part of your own giving.

There are different ways to donate:

- You can donate **online** using a credit card [by clicking here](#).
- You can donate through the **Parish Giving Scheme, from 1st October**, by [clicking here](#).
- You can donate by **cheque**, payable to 'Blackburn Diocesan Board of Finance Limited (Diocese Harvest Appeal)' and send to Blackburn Diocesan Board of Finance, Diocesan Office, Clayton House, Walker Office Park, Blackburn, BB1 2QE.
- You can **scan** the QR code on the right with your smartphone which will take you to the donation page where you can also Gift Aid your payment.

Our personal generosity is a living demonstration of our belief that the earth is the Lord's and everything in it is a gift. Please do consider supporting this year's harvest appeal so that lives can be changed and the due honour given to the God of all things.

This comes with the assurance of my prayers,

+ Philip Blackburn



MY FAVOURITE HYMN by Muriel Anderson

Like so many of us, it is difficult to choose my favourite hymn: there are few Christian hymns that I dislike! However, one of my current favourites must be King of Kings, Majesty. It demonstrates such a beautiful expression of praise and thankfulness to Jesus, with true commitment and devotion in response to such amazing love. The words speak for themselves; for all believers, what other response could there be?



King of kings, Majesty,
God of Heaven living in me;
Gentle Saviour, closest friend,
Strong Deliverer, Beginning and End,
All within me falls at Your throne.

Earth and Heaven worship You
Love eternal, faithful and true,
Who bought the nations, ransomed souls,
Brought this sinner near to Your throne;
All within me cries out in praise.

Chorus:

*Your Majesty, I can but bow
I lay my all before You now.
In royal robes I don't deserve
I live to serve Your Majesty.*

Chorus:

*Your Majesty, I can but bow
I lay my all before You now.
In royal robes I don't deserve
I live to serve Your Majesty.*

I live to serve Your Majesty. Jarrod Cooper

Revd. Mike's Great North Run Experience.

It's from the inspiration of St Lawrence we get the 'in Loving Community' part of our Parish Vision, 'Following Jesus in Loving Community'. You can read more about this on our website:

<https://www.stlawrencewithstpaul.org.uk/28/Vision-and-Values>

And if you want to see a modern-day example of loving community in action then you can't go far wrong visiting Newcastle on the day of the Great North Run. This year was the 44th year with 60,000 runners running the 13.1 miles from the middle of Newcastle to South Shields with around 200,000 spectators coming along to show their support.

It's true that the renowned Geordie welcome lives up to its reputation with crowds of all ages lining the course to chants of Oggy-Oggy-Oggy, Oi-Oi-Oi' for encouragement. And then there are official signs and handmade placards with local phrases like. 'C'mon pet' and 'Howay man' to make you laugh and smile at the local humour while you're running along.

The crowds also take great joy in providing refreshments along the route including jelly babies, ice pops, orange segments and one station that even offers free cups of beer when you've got about 3 miles to go (I didn't avail myself of this opportunity!).

Music too adds to the atmosphere with various live bands performing different genres of music to spur you on, often at times when you need that extra pick up of energy.

The other vital ingredient that makes it so worthwhile is the fact that so many runners run for charity – and some in outlandish costumes. If this year's event is like 2024 then it can be expected that over £25 million will have been raised to support various different causes and it is a humbling privilege to think that through your kind donations we managed to raise £1,275 to support the work of the British Heart Foundation. The fact many such runners will be running as I did with the names of special people on their mind and perhaps a tear in their eyes on the start line, make finishing an amazing event even more meaningful.

So as I reflect back on my experience in both 2023 and again this year, the overwhelming thing that stands out is the sheer scale of the hospitality, which from start to finish, including the Red Arrows fly past, is first class.

Such hospitality doesn't just happen naturally; it takes an immense amount of organisation and people working hard behind the scenes – even if the 2025 finishers medal did have a map of Sunderland and the River Wear as a background, the mistake can be forgiven because the run brings so much joy to so many!

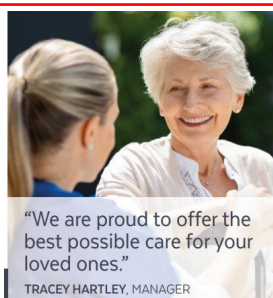
There are clearly lessons we can apply to the hospitality we offer here in our Church of St Lawrence with St Paul and one simple one would be that when whole communities gather around a unity of purpose, yes there's serious work to be done, but the more people involved, the more it can add to the sheer scale of the fun.

Finally as a footnote, I was disappointed to miss out on my target time of 1hr 45 minutes by 14 seconds, but I'm delighted it gives me a good excuse to try again in the future!



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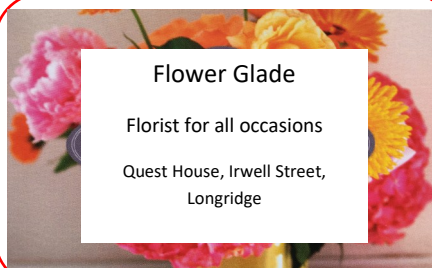
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All things Bright And Beautiful — Malcolm Welch

Every year as we celebrate harvest I always look forward to singing the harvest hymns. They can feel so comforting and reassuring that all is well with the world. Many were written at a time when life was simpler and most people lived closer to nature. To me the refrain verse in the hymn 'All things bright and beautiful' is the most important:

*"He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell, how great is God almighty,
who has made all things well "*

In our current lifestyles with the emphasis on technology and rushing around from place to place it is easy to overlook the natural world around us or at best take it for granted, Whilst on a recent holiday in Scotland I was reminded of a different kind of harvest. Every day two men in a small boat would travel down the loch to check their harvest of lobsters and crabs from pots on the sea bed. Their life was centred on the weather, the daily tides and not damaging the hidden underwater world that brings them an income and other people food. Some days the strong winds would prevent them sailing, they had to have respect for the natural world in which they lived and worked. After one particularly strong storm passed, the wind dropped and the evening was lit up by a magnificent rainbow arched across the loch. The phrase **"Be still and know that I am God"** slipped into my mind.



On a very different day of warm sunshine I stood on a rock fascinated by a shoal of small sand eels as they enjoyed the shallow water of the incoming tide where it was warmed by the white sand of the beach. These would eventually become food for sea birds, dolphins and puffins. In the world of nature everything has its particular role to play, plants, trees, insects, birds, animals and fish. The rain, sunshine, wind and even snow have a role and all live in a form of balance with each other.

Every autumn as the flowers lose their petals and leaves fall from the trees we look forward, confident that in spring nature will bring new colours and life all around us. We are able to celebrate 'harvest' because of this almost perpetual, self-renewing nature that surrounds us. Let's not confine the appreciation of the God given natural world to others but appreciate and respect that this is a fantastic and magical world that the Lord has provided for us to live in and thank him for it.

The words of the Louis Armstrong song seem very appropriate:

"WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD".

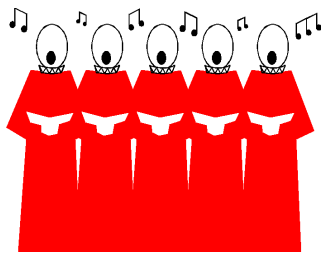
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From – Karen and the Choir.....



Well, the summer seems to have flown by and now only ten weeks to Advent Sunday, and thirteen and a half weeks to Christmas. The days shortening at an alarming rate, and the time of practising in a cold dark church has come around once again. Firstly, I'd like to thank you for the courage of those of you who responded to my open choir month and as a result have joined the choir, and I'd like to thank long standing choir members for their patience in putting up with four Sundays of chaos when no one quite knew where to sit as our numbers have expanded to fill both sides of the chancel. Also, thank you for the patience you have shown to the new/returning members whether guiding them in the mass setting or issuing sheet music (Michael and Anne) and sorting out choir robes (Ellen). These are tasks which the effort involved is not proportionate to the apparent result on a Sunday. Most people will not even notice that four extra people have seemingly miraculously appeared, fully robed and with the correct music processing into the stalls on the first Sunday of September as if they have always been there.

This leads me to reflect on one of our themes for this Harvest festival: "gifts from God". This is actually one of the most annoying things people say to me on a regular basis: "oh you are so gifted". This is on the face of it (and kindly meant, I'm sure) as a compliment, but actually it just shows the lack of understanding people have about being a musician. People have this romantic notion that artists and musicians are simply born that way, much like how most of the congregation just expects the choir members to just appear fully robed and ready to sing on a Sunday. The reality is, what you hear on a Sunday is a result of many hours over many years of practise, often in cold dark churches at antisocial times.

When I was at university and my friends were out of an evening on a Saturday, I'd be busy practising for Sunday services. Later in life, when my colleagues finished work and were about to go home and put their feet up, I'd be going to church to practise instead of having a relaxed night in, often returning home only to go to bed. This is a conscious choice we make as musicians: when one commits to doing a concert, one is committing to hours of practise in a cold dark church in the evenings and sacrificing days off. In actual fact this "gift" is also a sacrifice. And yet we keep agreeing to these sacrifices - choir members still come to church on Friday evenings in the winter, and I still put in my hours of practise on my days off. Simply because God requires it. Because it is abundantly clear in many places in both the Old Testament, the Gospels and the New testament, that God requires us to worship Him and that is what we do when we make music as church musicians. We don't do it because the Bishop is coming, or because we want to look good or impress others, we do it because we love the music that we sing to worship God. And truly it is this love of the music that is the gift, and for this gift that we share as a choir, we celebrate it by sharing it with everyone else in the act of worship.

HYMNATHON

On that note, I hope you will all join me on 26th October at 2pm for the Hymnathon. Please write your favourite hymn on the board at the back of church and leave a donation in the organ pipe next to it. This is in aid of the organ maintenance which costs just under £1000 every year. Our worship will simply not be the same without it, so I really hope many of you will support this event. There will be a fun (organ/hymn related) quiz, raffle, refreshments and you will also hear the choir sing a few of their favourite items.

DIAMOND WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS – David & Anne Halsall.

On the 25th September 1965 David and Anne Halsall said 'I do, and in sickness and in health'. They were married at St. Ambrose Church in Leyland, the reason being that Ann's church in Eccleston was having a new roof. Unfortunately there was a steel strike so the roof wasn't able to be repaired in time and although the couple were offered the Village Hall as an alternative they didn't fancy that idea.

We will let Anne tell us more about their wonderful long marriage and life together -

A little bit of background to this is that we go back to Primary School days. We both attended Cop Lane Primary School in Penwortham. I left there when I was eight as our family moved to Lytham. At the age of 11 my family relocated to live in Leyland. David meanwhile left Penwortham as his family moved to Ingol, then later to Fulwood.

The decision for the venue of our wedding was due to David now living in Fulwood and attending St. Andrews Church in Ashton. It was decided this was too far for the bride to travel to! I meanwhile thought about St. Ambrose Church in Leyland where I was Confirmed. We went to see the Vicar and it was agreed we could get married there. By this time, my father had retired from the police, hence the move to Eccleston. I had started working at the District Bank in Leyland. David came to work there on leaving the forces – so the rest is history!

After our wedding we lived in Disley, close to Lyme Park, living in the bank flat. In 1968 we returned to live in Penwortham. Our eldest son was born in 1969, our second son in 1970 and our third son in December 1973. We feel very blessed with our family, now having six grandchildren, who we adore. In 1980 we moved to live in Edgworth in Bolton, David taking up a Bank Manager role on the outskirts of Manchester - then In 1983 we moved to Longridge, so here we are in Longridge, feeling very much part of the town.

Our youngest son was a chorister at Blackburn Cathedral before we arrived in Longridge so we didn't get involved with St. Lawrence with St. Paul until he left the cathedral to go to Durham University. It was then that David and I began attending 8 o'clock Services at St. Lawrence Church. Due to mobility issues etc. we don't get to church now, which we miss greatly.

Here's hoping that we have a few more years together as we feel very blessed and are still very very happy. No big celebrations arranged, just having a family meal on the day. An excuse to have another gathering when all family members can be together.

Best wishes to anybody who knows us.

Anne Halsall

Editor's Note. *On behalf of Log readers, David and Anne, may we offer our heartfelt Congratulations on reaching this wonderful milestone. We too hope you have many more years together.*



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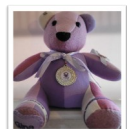
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SCHOOL NEWS – from Headteacher Catherine Parkin Welcome to Reception Class 2025



Once again our school was oversubscribed for admissions to Reception Class and September saw 30 wonderful new children start with us at Berry Lane. One of the first things they did was to paint their own portrait. These have been displayed in the corridor so that we can all get to know our new pupils.

The children were also keen to get planting in the outdoor area. Mrs Carr and Mrs Miller are both very grateful for all the

donations they've received from parents and friends to improve our outdoor area. They have big plans to make this area even more exciting!



Year 5



have taken on the responsibility of being buddies to our new starters. Below are pictures of them reading to Reception pupils. In this way they get to know each other and it means that the youngest children in school all have a friendly face to say hello to on the playground or in the hall at lunchtime.



Year 6

While our four and five year olds are just starting their school life, our new Year 6 are already working hard in preparation for high school and the Key Stage 3 curriculum. They have started Geography by looking at South America and learning about the different countries. Mrs Parkinson is linking this with their English work where they will be producing travel brochures to South American destinations.

School News continued

School Worship

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for He founded it on the seas and established it on the waters. Psalm 24:1



Our school worship this term links with Blackburn Diocese's Harvest theme and is based around Psalm 24:1. At a time of year when we traditionally give thanks for what we have, and share the gifts of the earth with others, it can come as a bit of a shock to remember that we don't actually own anything. Our food, our homes, our fields and seas belong to God. Everything was here before us and will be left after we are gone. However, there is another lesson to be taken from the Psalm – that we all belong to God. We are all His, no matter our faults and shortcomings. He wants us and we belong.

On the final Sunday of August, we learnt about putting others' needs above our own. We used Peppa Pig and her family to act out different scenarios to think about what it looks like to put others' first in our own family. When we put others' first in our family, it helps us to be a happy team working together and we practiced this using balloons, seeing how many we could all work together to keep in the air. Our craft that week wrote words onto stripy bees – we thought about how we could 'bee kind' or 'bee generous' etc.



At the beginning of the month we had a wonderful session to finish our Ephesians series exploring the armour of God. We explored the different parts we are equipped with and created our own shields to help us remember our memory verse. In the session we also thought about prayer and created our own prayer hands and prayer planes.

As we have finished our series we have now moved to following the lectionary for a few weeks as we prepare for Harvest and beyond. We have begun preparations for our Harvest display for St Lawrence with some messy paint fun. We also explored the parable of the shrewd manager and considering how we can turn difficult situations around. We look forward to celebrating Harvest this month.

Editor's Note: We send our congratulations to Andrew & Becky Filder following the safe arrival of their daughter Charlotte, a sister for Isobel and Jacob.

Children's Society Boxes

If you have a Children's Society collecting box that requires to be emptied please could you drop it off at the parish office (the back of St Paul's Church) during October.

Any problems please email me at : brimalc.1@talktalk.net

Many thanks,
Malcolm Welch

FLOWER GROUP—Donna Rowe Green

Flowers can mean so much to people. This month our team are embracing the value of flowers in remembrance, gratitude and responsibility.



We are busy preparing for the annual harvest festival with the theme of Good Gifts from God. There is so much in nature for us to be grateful for. Not only do flowers provide beauty, but they also make the development of seeds possible for multiplying crops. They provide nourishing food for bees and other pollinators who are vital for our own survival. And once those flowers fade, they can leave sweet fruits and berries for us to enjoy. That is multitasking at its most wonderful.

We all have a responsibility to protect our planet, and this month, we at St Paul's followed the lead of the inspiring team at St Lawrence's and finally tried arranging without oasis – a product that has damaging plastic within its make up. We are so glad we gave it a go – and we hope that you all are enjoying this new respectful way of decorating the church. It was nowhere near as scary as we thought! Some of us are hoping to attend the Creation Care Conference at Blackburn Cathedral, looking for more ideas on how we can cherish our planet and still decorate our church.

Finally, we remember Yvonne Ball, one of our longest standing members. We will all have our stories to share, but I will just say that she was so welcoming to me when I joined the team and offered me such valuable advice and support. She once gave me a tiny glass angel, for no reason, just because she saw it and thought I would like it. That has hung above my desk ever since and still prompts a prayer when I am struggling with a piece of work, or a 'thank you' when the penny finally drops.

Gratitude, responsibility and remembrance, all wrapped up in gentle petals and leaves – Good Gifts from God indeed.

If anyone would like to join our team, please do get in touch. You truly do not need any experience – simply the enthusiasm to have a go. If you do not fancy arranging the flowers but are a regular user of the church during the week, maybe you would like to help us maintain them by watering them – this would be equally valuable.



Judith Kaye remembers Yvonne Ball

We were sorry to hear of the death of Yvonne who was a member of the flower group from when it was first set up. Yvonne contributed to displays in St Paul's at Easter & Christmas as well as regular slots in May & September. Personally, without Yvonne I wouldn't have been involved. Some years ago on an invitation from Mae Heys I went with several people from Longridge to a flower demonstration at Blackburn Cathedral, this led to Yvonne and I arranging the flowers in St Paul's for two months of the year – initially, I was there to fetch and carry for Yvonne and fill in flowers round the back of her display where I couldn't mess it up! Gradually I did more and more, which led me to eventually, doing the flowers in the Parish Church. I'm grateful to Yvonne for what she taught me which has led me into something I enjoy which I would never have thought of doing previously. We also became good friends over our years working together, always interested in what was going on and helping if needed, I and the group will miss her greatly.

What a difference a month makes

Last months Log cover picture was of a horse chestnut tree bursting with conkers and still very green. Visiting that same tree just four weeks later most of the chestnuts had fallen as had the majority of the leaves as the tree prepared for the Winter ahead. It brought to mind one of Revd. Gill Mack's wonderful 'Patterns of Prayer' when in the October 2022 edition of the Log her theme was 'Is it bonkers to pray with conkers' and she went on to encourage us to consider the contrast between the spikey protective shell on the outside and the beauty of the smooth conker on the inside – comparing those two sides of our lives, the spikey part reflected in the difficult situations and then the beautiful smooth conker linked to the transformative power of God to change both people and situations.

May God grant us the courage to grow in Christ and attain both maturity and fruitfulness in Him. Amen.

Retirement of Irene Reid MBE

We wouldn't want Log readers to think that the retirement of Irene Reid MBE had been overlooked – unfortunately Irene's retirement presentation came just too late to include in this edition of The Log but will certainly be featured in the November edition.

Happy retirement Irene!

St. Lawrence Flower Rota

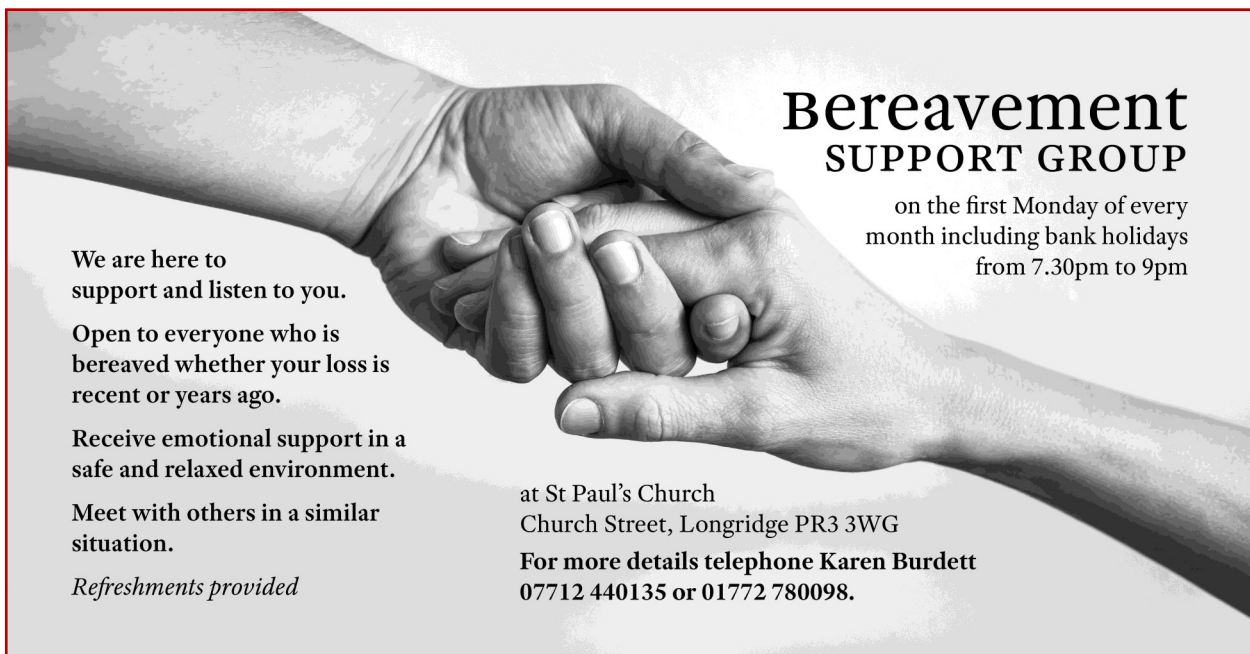
October 5 th	In memory of Dorothy Laver's family
12 th	Harvest Thanksgiving
19 th	In memory of Annie & Bill Walker and Lily Woodacre
26 th	In memory of Alan and Doreen Tweedie

St. Paul's Flowers

October	Ellen Dawson (In memory of Shaun)
---------	-----------------------------------

Baskets will be in both churches for donations towards the Harvest displays.

Donations of fruit and vegetables to go into the displays can be brought to St. Lawrence's Church on the morning of Friday 10th October, from 9am to 11am.



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FELLOWSHIP, FUN & FUNDRAISING GROUP

Autumn Family Social – Saturday 27th September.

By the time the children have tired themselves out on the bouncy castle and we adults have played dominoes, eaten our hotpot supper and solved the clues in the quiz, the October Log will be at the print stage so the report of this event will be in the November Log.

Harvest Walk – Sunday 12th October.

Peter and Lib Turver have kindly agreed to lead the Harvest Walk again this year, leaving St. Lawrence Church at 1.30pm and returning between 3.30pm and 3.45pm. It has been suggested that when the walkers return to St. Lawrence they should be greeted with a mug of vegetable soup and a piece of bread to warm everyone up and that also links with our Harvest theme of 'Bread of Life'. But don't panic – there will still be cakes. So do join us if you can – let's enjoy each others company on the walk and then look forward to the refreshments. You don't need to book in advance – just come along for a 1.30pm start.

Winter Fair – 22nd November.

You may be wondering why we are changing the name from Christmas Tree Fair to Winter Fair this year and the reason is a simple one – we wanted to avoid the Longridge Does Christmas Weekend which will commence with late night shopping on Thursday 27th November but also as Advent Sunday is not until 30th November we felt it was too early to welcome in the Christmas Season and Father Christmas. We do however have something exciting for the children as Rie Waterman, Barbara McCormick and Andrew Filder plan to create **A Narnia Wonderland** on the dais – which we suspect will involve a wardrobe but also snow covered trees and crafts for the children to make and enjoy. Andrew is busily looking for an Aslan costume – so watch this space!

The stalls and sideshows will also have that frosty Winter feel but there will still be the usual tombola's, lucky squares, not forgetting the Grand Winter Fair Raffle with a superb hamper as first prize. As well as some frost there will be lots of warmth especially coming from the kitchen with turkey bums, soup and sausage buns and lots of yummy desserts. Look out for more information in the November Log but we would welcome raffle and tombola prizes, books etc. and items for the stalls.

Jigsaw Celebration – 17th & 18th January, 2026.

With the nights drawing in and we are perhaps spending more time indoors we hope that many of you will be starting to think about completing some jigsaws in readiness for our 6th Annual Jigsaw Celebration. We have quite a stock of boxed jigsaws and some cardboard to make them on so do have a word with Dot Little if you would like to complete some. Alternatively you may have some good quality boxed jigsaws you would like to donate which we would also welcome.

As our event is in January its difficult to sell made up Christmas Jigsaws but there will be lots of Christmas Jigsaws for sale at the Winter Fair.



BREWTIME

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

We serve tea, coffee, toast, crumpets and cakes!
And there's always a warm and friendly welcome.
Do join us we would love to see you.

Kath, Jacqui, Bev and John.

We welcomed all our members back after the Summer break and its been wonderful to see everyone return and be fortunate enough to meet some new faces too!



Church Lads' & Church Girls' BRIGADE



Our Martins and Y-teams have enjoyed many games including a firm favourite of using the parachute. They've also been busy during craft time decorating crosses, and making colourful hedgehogs.

Our JTC and Seniors have enjoyed some team building activities which included making boats and testing who had made the most robust design to hold coins whilst floating on water- Sophie was our winner with her boat holding 122 coins- we may have a future engineer amongst us. They have also started to make crafts for Harvest which will be used as part of our display in Church.



We were also invited by the Chipping Steam Fair Committee to collect a very generous donation in thanks for our contribution to supporting this year's event. We are fortunate to be supported by many great organisations and members of our community. We look forward to supporting the Steam Fair in 2026.

News from our Headquarters.

Our National Headquarters hosted Reverend Elijah Mqangi Mbuthia of the ACK Diocese and Brigade Regiment of Mount Kenya. Reverend Elijah who was visiting the UK as a guest of the former Bishop of Southwark was accompanied by the Bishop's wife Barbara Butler. The purpose of his visit was to learn more about the operations, ministry and outreach of the mother organisation here in the UK. During the meeting with our Governor and NHQ staff we shared insights into our badge works schemes and learnt about the impressive work and significant Brigade membership in Kenya.



Church repairs update— Rosemary Lyons

Work to repair and replace the decayed timber sections of the St Lawrence's lychgate has continued over the last month, with our contractors Robinson's Preservation Ltd having to work around the changeable weather conditions. The timber repairs are now more or less complete and the finishing touches being applied. The gates are now back in place, having been taken for repair to the company's workshop in Preston. With the lychgate timber structure now having been made secure, the next stage is to start repairs to the roof and to fit new cast iron gutters and downpipes. This roofing work will be done by Heritage Conservation Restoration who we know well from their successful work on St Paul's roof a few years ago. The lower courses of slates will be re-laid and new gutters and downpipes fitted, ensuring good weather protection for the future. The current plastic gutters and downpipes have become rather dilapidated over the years and these will be replaced with traditional cast iron which will be much more durable, while also being more appropriate to the heritage setting of the church.

Meanwhile, up the hill at St Paul's another project is making good progress. We are looking forward to new handrails being fitted on the dais to assist people using the steps. Carter & Duck Blacksmiths are currently fabricating the handrails at their forge near Stonyhurst, and they should be in church to install them soon. The handrails they made for the Garden of Remembrance at St Lawrence have already been a great success, and we are very grateful to the CofE Disability Parish Grant Scheme for providing the funds for both these handrail projects.

**Eco News from Barbara Burton**

A few months ago, we were contacted by Blackburn Diocese about the possibility of having our churches energy audited, as currently our energy use, and therefore costs, are some of the highest in the diocese. This is in large part because of all the midweek activity that takes place in St. Lawrence and St. Paul's church buildings, but wanting to be diligent in reducing our carbon emissions and to save money, we agreed to this and requested the earliest possible appointment.

So, on Wednesday, 17th September, Dot and I met with Matt Fulford, a heating engineer from Inspired Energy, the company recommended to us by the diocese. The audit began at St. Lawrence's and continued on to St. Paul's church. Matt asked us quite a few questions about how the buildings are used, and he looked at our existing heating and lighting as well as answering our questions about the best way to make sure that our buildings are warm for the people who use them. He had plenty of suggestions and will be sending us his full report in a few weeks' time. Once we have received this information, I will let you know what he had to say.

THE TULLIS BROTHERS – LONGRIDGE CONNECTION.

Some of you may have visited the Heritage Centre on Saturday 20th September to view the displays that were part of the Heritage Open Weekend. This year's theme was 'Built on Stone' and some of the exhibition covered the Tullis Brothers – stonemasons Alexander, David and James – Alexander and James becoming part of the well respected firm Cooper & Tullis.

Cooper & Tullis were responsible for many fine local buildings, including St. Walburge's Church, Preston Town Hall, Preston New Railway Station, the Harris Library, Art Gallery & Museum. They also built Bolton Parish Church and Whittingham Asylum as well as being involved with the constructing of the Albert Dock in Liverpool. All the buildings they were involved with reflected the very highest standards and the Company became well known for their high integrity and their unlimited enterprise.

The Longridge Connection is of course linked to the Longridge Quarries and the stone required to build all those wonderful buildings, many still standing proudly today. It would seem that James Tullis was more responsible for the materials side of the operation – organising the quarrying, dressing and transportation of the stone. One of the quotes mentions that Mr Tullis spent much time finding the right colour and texture of stone required for the Harris Free Library and of course as well as the stone the Longridge railway was in operation from 1840 to transport it from the Tootle Height quarries to Preston. Cooper & Tullis also owned Chapel Hill quarry where the recycling area is today.

Alexander Tullis made his home in Preston but James spent many years in Longridge first at Rock Cottage and then Wellbrow. James and his wife Alice embraced Longridge life – we are told he was a ready friend to the poor and a staunch supporter of the Congregational cause. James erected in what is now Christ Church a stained glass window in memory of his wife Alice.

It is reported, however that his good deeds were not confined to the Independent Church but that he was always willing to give a helping hand to any good cause or any deserving and sometimes undeserving people in distress.



So what has all this got to do with St. Lawrence with St. Paul you may ask – well James and his wife Alice are also remembered in St. Paul's Church where a pair of Stained Glass Windows were installed in 1946 through a bequest by Miss Mary Elizabeth Tullis their daughter and dedicated to her parents.

The Lychgate at St. Lawrence Church was unveiled in March 1939 and was given by Agnus Ellen Smith nee Tullis in memory of her husband Thomas Charles Smith and her brother William Thomas Tullis. Agnus Ellen and William Thomas were descendants of James & Alice Tullis. Ironically Agnus died in 1937 so it was her unmarried sister Mary Elizabeth Tullis who was at the unveiling two years later. Agnus was never to see the completed structure.



A family who certainly left their mark not only in some wonderful buildings but in the way they lived their lives. James and Alice are buried in St. Lawrence Churchyard.



Away From It All: 60 years of changing lives, one break at a time

Launched in 1965, the Away From It All (AFIA) holiday scheme has been at the heart of Mothers' Union's outreach in Britain and Ireland for 60 years. What started as a simple, compassionate idea has grown into one of the most enduring and impactful projects in our movement's history.

For six decades, AFIA has responded to families facing financial hardship, trauma, illness, domestic abuse, and overwhelming stress. Tens of thousands of families have been supported, with Mothers' Union groups involved in fundraising, planning and delivering the holidays.

There are heartwarming stories from across the country of people who have enjoyed a break courtesy of AFIA. One mum shared "thank you very much from all my heart. You are angels! Also, thanks to God that I'm 100% human! Just wanted to share the impact a couple of days can have."

These powerful words are a reminder of the impact that even a short break can have on families navigating difficult seasons.

None of this would be achievable without the generosity, prayers and tireless work of Mothers' Union members and supporters. The AFIA scheme is a testament to what we can do when we come together to uplift families in need. The dedication over 60 years has made joy possible for generations of families.

Diary

October 7th Carol Spencer – Christ Church
 October 22nd Deanery Quiet Hour St Margaret, Ingol 2pm
 November 4th Speaker to be confirmed

JAK

TUESDAY CLUB.

Tuesday Club

There was a good attendance at our first meeting on the 9th September. The season started off with an informative and entertaining talk from Bill Nelson from the 1818 Auctioneers.

Bill gave us an insight into the history of how this online auction house came about and is still rapidly expanding.

It is located just off J36 of the M6 and they have an impressive range of buildings, especially a lovely café. The range of goods on offer for sale is amazing and a look at their website shows you can bid and buy almost anything.

He also gave us humorous tips as to the pitfalls of unscrupulous dealers and explained the procedures of buying and selling at this amazing auction house, plus some examples of unlikely treasures that you may have lurking in your loft.

The next Tuesday Club meeting will be on 14th October when Gordon Becket from Gideons UK (now Good News for Everyone) will tell us about this worthwhile organisation who do more than just place bibles in hotel rooms.

We look forward to seeing you at one of the meetings.

Log Distribution

We have, over the last few months been asking for help with delivering copies of our wonderful magazine – we are now back up to strength thanks to Keith Thompson (who has taken on some extra calls) Shaun Walmsley and Pam Shepherd. Thank you very much to you all, we are very glad of your assistance.

JAK

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

5th October - Trinity 16

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

2 Timothy 1: 1—14

Luke 17 : 5— 10

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

2 Timothy 1: 1—14

Luke 17 : 5— 10

12th October - Trinity 17 - Harvest Festival

10am St Lawrence's—'Harvest All Age Worship'

Deuteronomy 26 : 1—11

John 6 : 25— 35



6:30pm St. Lawrence's Harvest Songs of Praise

Deuteronomy 26 : 1—11

John 6 : 25— 35

19th October - Trinity 18

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

2 Timothy 3 : 14— 4.5

Luke 18 : 1—8

6.30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalms 149

2 Timothy 3 : 14— 4.5

Luke 18 : 1—8

26th October - Trinity Last

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

2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18

Luke 18 : 9— 14

6.30pm St Lawrence's Evensong

Psalms 119 v1-16

2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18

Luke 18 : 9— 14

2nd November - Fourth Sunday before Advent

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

2 Thessalonians 1:1-12

Luke 19:1-10



**6:30pm St Lawrence's
'All Souls Service'**

FUNERALS

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

Anne Shaw

Alan Green

Denise Lupton

Ian Simpson

Yvonne Ball

Ruth Davis

Raymond (Taffy) Nelson

Eva Wilkinson

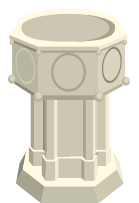


BAPTISMS

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

Molly Pippa Howson on the 28th September 2025 at St. Lawrence's Church

Lilly Isabelle Bradshaw on the 28th September 2025 at St. Lawrence's Church



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.

The Last Word

From the Curate, Rev. Jesse Adesina



If Thou Canst Believe

In Mark 9:23, Jesus speaks these powerful words: *"If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."* They were spoken to a father who had nearly given up hope. His son had been suffering from a spirit that threw him into fire and water, and nothing seemed to help. Even the disciples could not cast it out. But the father, desperate and worn, cried out to Jesus, *"If You can do anything, have compassion on us, and help us."*

Notice the shift from *"if you can"* to *"if you can believe."* Jesus was not questioning His own power; He was inviting the man to step into faith. And the man's honest response, *"Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief,"* has echoed down the centuries as the prayer of every struggling heart.

Faith does not mean we never doubt, nor that we always feel strong. Faith is bringing even our weakness to Christ and trusting that His power is greater than our fears. It is believing that no situation is beyond His reach, no life too broken for His healing touch, no prayer too small to matter to Him.

"All things are possible to him that believeth." These words do not promise that God will always do exactly what we want, but they assure us that His power is without limit and His love without measure. When we place our faith in Him, even faith as small as a mustard seed, He is able to do abundantly more than we ask or imagine.

So if you're reading this and you are struggling, you are trusting, you are getting tired, you are getting weak, you need a miracle, you need a way out, you need the Lord's touch and healing, whatever it may be and wherever you are now...

Let this be your prayer: ***"Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief, I believe You are able. Help me."***

For with Christ, possibility is rewritten, hope is restored, and what once seemed impossible becomes a testimony of His grace.

I cannot wait to hear your testimony rising from this simple prayer of faith.

Remember, *"If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."*

Blessings,

Rev Jesse Adesina

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