

## + serving God and community + Parish Magazine

St. Luke's Church & Cronton Mission



EASTER SUNDAY 10.30am HOLY COMMUNION

HOLY WEEK SERVICES see Page 13

April 2022 and May 2022 £1



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Rob Leach	via	07761672030
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Lay Chair	Barry Ingram	01514232492
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Editor Philip Lacey 07710030973 Kebbs Farm Clock Face Road Bold Widnes WA8 3XH Please submit any material, articles or adverts, via email to farnworthreview@yahoo.co.uk with attachments in Word - Arial font 12 Deadline for articles noon on 18th May 2022.

The Editor, Clergy and the Churchwardens reserve the right to omit or edit material provided for inclusion in this magazine.



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## Dear friends,

As I write this the media is full of the heart-breaking news of the latest atrocities being imposed on the people of Ukraine by the Invading Russian forces. We are all praying hard that peace might be restored soon to these poor people, many of whom have been forced to become refugees to neighbouring countries including the U.K. I know that many people are already assessing whether we might be able to offer accommodation to families who have literally had to flee with nothing.



Like me, I'm sure that all of you are sickened by the atrocity of one country invading another, the latest in a long and shameful list of 'man's inhumanity to man'. It's hard not to think that the world, far from getter better, is actually going backwards and that human society has learned nothing from its past mistakes.

You may have noticed that we are currently flying the Ukrainian flag outside church to show our solidarity with those poor people.

The writer James Carroll once made a list of reasons why we should give up trying to build a better world. Nevertheless, he insisted that though there was reason to feel this way, biblical faith teaches us otherwise. He wrote, "When the times call for resignation, the Word of God calls for boldness. Where the times give us excuses to despair, the Word of God insists that we stand firm. Faith and prayer are never more important than when they appear to be foolish and irrelevant."

The source of Carroll's optimism is the belief that Jesus Christ has been raised from the dead, and with him a fallen world. As St Paul pointed out, Christ's resurrection is the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep, the sign of the harvest that is to come and is already on the way. This is the hope that Easter brings to the faithful. This is the hope that we share. At the southernmost point of South Africa is a cape round which the storms are always raging. For a thousand years no one knew what lay beyond that cape, for no ship had ever returned to tell the tale. It was called the Cape of Storms. Many sailors believed it was folly to continue to try – they thought it impassible.

In the sixteenth century a Portuguese explorer, Vasco da Gama, successfully sailed around the cape and found beyond it a great calm sea and beyond that the shores of India. So the name of the cape was changed to the Cape of Good Hope.

Until that first Easter morning, death had been the cape of storms on which the hopes of all humankind were wrecked and no one knew what lay beyond it. But now, in the light of Easter, it has become for all who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Cape of Good Hope.

As we remember and give thanks together for the events of Easter this month let us not give up trying to build God's Kingdom. May His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy we have been born into a new and living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."(1 Peter 1:3)

Inside this magazine you will find a full list of the services we have planned for Holy week and Easter. At two of them, on Maundy Thursday and on Easter Eve we are offering the opportunity for personal prayer and anointing for anyone who would like it.

I hope that you will make a promise to yourself to make the time to attend as we journey with Jesus through the life-changing events of Holy week and the joy of Easter day.

Easter Blessings,

Bob



## A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

#### Archbishop Justin Welby Archbishop Stephen Cottrell

### EASTER DOVES

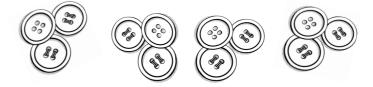
Please collect an A4 CARD DOVE TEMPLATE from church. Take it home with you and cut round the body and wings shapes. Think about what you would like to write on your dove. Perhaps just your name? Perhaps a prayer or Bible verse? Then please return the dove body and wings to church and leave them in the box provided.



Please do not attach the wings, they will be added later.

The doves will be used to make an Easter Doves of Peace display in Bold Chapel.

EASTER BUTTON CROSS



From Palm Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, there will also be an outline of a cross on the floor of Bold Chapel into which you can place a PRAYER BUTTON. There will be a basket from which you can chose a button, as you gently hold it in the palm of your hand, say your prayer into the button; then place it within the outline of the cross. This is a really powerful action. From Palm Sunday through to Ascension Day on May 26<sup>th</sup>, the cross will remain in place, as will the doves. After every service during that period, one of the Ministry Team will say a Blessing over them. Sue and Clare

#### East Widnes Team Service Rota April 2022

St Luke's church Sundays 10.30am services on Zoom Sundays 8am and 6pm in church not on Zoom Wednesdays 9.30am in church not on Zoom Cronton services in Cronton School Hall

APRIL 2022	St Ambrose	St Luke	Cronton
Sun April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	09.00 HC		
Lent 5	10.30 MP	10.30 HC	10.30 Café worship
		12.30 Baptisms	
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>		09.30 HC	
Sun April 10 <sup>th</sup>		08.00 HC	
PALM SUNDAY	10.30 HC	10.30 HC	10.30 MP
		15.00 JAM CLUB	
HOLY WEEK			
11 <sup>th</sup> Monday	7pm Compline		
12 <sup>™</sup> Tuesday	7pm Compline		
13 <sup>™</sup> Wed		09.30 MP	
			7pm Compline
14 <sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> GOOD		7pm HC followed by 'The Watch'	
15 <sup>th</sup> GOOD FRIDAY		10am JAM CLUB	
	2 - 3pm Last hour	2 – 3pm Last hour	
16 <sup>™</sup> EASTER EVE		10am – 12 o'clock Easter Vigil	
17th EASTER SUNDAY	10.30 HC	10.30 HC	10.30 Café worship
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup>		09.30 HC	
Sun April 24 <sup>th</sup>	09.00 HC		
EASTER 2	10.30 MP	10.30 MP	10.30 HC
	Ì	18.00 HC [BCP]	
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup>		09.30 MP	

MAY 2022	St Ambrose	St Luke	Cronton
Sun May 1 <sup>st</sup>	09.00 HC		
EASTER 3	10.30 MP	10.30 HC	10.30 Café worship
		12.30 Baptisms	
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>		9.30 HC	
Sun May 8 <sup>th</sup>		08.00 HC	
EASTER 4	10.30 HC	10.30 HC	10.30 MP
		15.00 JAM CLUB	
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup>		9.30 MP	
Sun May 15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 HC	10.30 HC	10.30 Café worship
EASTER 5	12.30 Baptisms	12.30 Baptisms	
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>		09.30 HC	
Sun May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	09.00 HC		
EASTER 6	10.30 MP	10.30 MP	10.30 HC
		18.00 HC [BCP]	
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>		09.30 MP	
Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup> ASCENSION DAY	7pm HC		

Ascension Day marks the moment Jesus ascended into heaven before his disciples, at the village of Bethany, near Jerusalem. <u>Acts</u> provides the longest account of Christ's farewell to his disciples, bidding them to preach the word of God and assuring them of his eventual return for the Second Coming, the day of judgement in which the virtuous will be saved and the wrongdoers condemned. "After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight," the book says. "They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 'Men of Galilee,' they said, 'why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven'." LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL, Saturday, February 12th 2022

Clare, Lesley, Alma and I attended the service of Thanksgiving at Liverpool Cathedral to say our Farewells to Bishop Paul as he retired from his post as the 8th Bishop of Liverpool.

It would have been rude of us not to visit the Refectory Café, so we began our Saturday with a very nice meal. Three of us chose SCOUSE, it came in a big bowl with red cabbage and a chunk of warm crusty bread....it was delicious. The cakes were just too nice to ignore, and again it would have been remiss of us not to try them, so we had Victoria sponge, Double Chocolate Cake and Biscoff Cheesecake, Alma was very good and resisted the temptation!



After a browse round the Shop where two of us succumbed again to temptation.. who doesn't love a book...Clare and I went off to the Lady Chapel to robe and Alma and Lesley found seats where they had a good view of the proceedings. [The chairs had been set out in rows facing inward rather than facing the main altar.]

The very long procession was formed in The Well and Clare and I actually led the Readers to seats in front of the Lectern. As Readers we are usually put in some corner so we were pleasantly surprised to have 'seats with a view'.

Following were clergy, Ecumenical guests, Representatives of other faith groups in the city, International representatives from the Triangle of Hope and visiting Bishops.

THEN the choir sang as the Cathedral Procession came forward and last of all was Bishop Paul; he looked very thoughtful.

The service was lovely. The readings were those set in the Lectionary and, as is often the case, they were entirely appropriate. In Psalm 45, the words 'clothing is wrought gold....in raiment of needle -work', and Bishop Paul spoke about the outward sign of vestments not really being important, rather what came from the heart was for more significant! How true that is.

He spoke of the Wisdom of Solomon [2 Chronicles 1:7-13] and from John 6:23 to end the verse; 'I am not alone because my Father is with me'. I think we can all relate to those verses and they speak to us in so many different ways. There were of course references to the door and the table, two themes close to Bishop Paul's heart.

At the end of the service, Bishop Paul took off his 'clothing of wrought gold, in raiment of needlework' and left them at the altar, and he passed his Bishop's Mitre to Bishop Bev for her safekeeping until such a time as a new Bishop of Liverpool is appointed.

Then, silently and completely alone, he walked deliberately and solemnly the full length of the cathedral to the huge wooden door, the door that he had knocked on to gain admittance when he was made Bishop of Liverpool seven years ago, was the very door he knocked on to be allowed out into the world. The door slammed shut with a loud bang, signifying the end of his time with us and the sound resonated throughout the Cathedral.

I cried, as did many others. This final act was so moving; I felt emotional for him and his wife Kate; they were leaving



everything behind to begin afresh...a new life in retirement and all the opportunities that brings...but as Bishop Bev said in her account he does so does so 'with Christ as his companion'. And those of us who are retired could tell him that it means that he will never know how he ever found time to work!!

We wish him and his family every blessing and happiness in this new phase in their lives and we pray for Bishop Bev as she takes on the responsibility of office.

Sue



#### Our Diocesan prayer.

Loving Father, by your grace, we long to see more people knowing Jesus, and more justice in your world. Help us to live as your disciples in the power of the Spirit and to work to your praise and glory. May God bless us all. AMEN

#### **CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES**

It has been such a joy to see families make use of our JAM Crèche. Set out as a 'child friendly' carpeted area with low tables and chairs, and with throws and cushions should the children want to be on the floor. Baskets with age-appropriate and relevant toys are available as are books and jigsaws on Biblical themes with packs of pencils, scissors. Each week a set of Children's Activities is posted on our website; these can be downloaded, making them easily accessible to

everyone, at home or in church. These activities relate to the Gospel theme of that week and typically include a craft activity, colouring sheets, word searches and mazes. [st-luke.co.uk]

The children at Cronton Mission Church also have access to the same material.

With the kind permission of her parents, here is Imogen with the boat that she made the week when we were thinking about Jesus calming the storm. Thank you and well done Imogen! We love seeing you and your little baby sister Fearne in the JAM Crèche.



#### MICHELANGELO SISTINE EXHIBITION

Clare and I 'gained our wings' when we went to view the Michelangelo Exhibition at the Trafford Centre.





It was absolutely amazing! We came away thinking that we definitely had something to add to our ongoing professional development that we are 'required' to undertake as part of the renewal of our Reader License. We were led through the Bible from Fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden to the Last Judgement and our brains were certainly on overdrive as we tried to keep up with the commentaries on the individual paintings for each section of ceiling. We learned so much about the people portrayed, The fact that Noah was the first person ever recorded to make wine and the fact that he often imbibed too much! We learned about the five sibyls who made prophecies about the progression of the Church. We marvelled at the detail and colours used and the contrasts in light and shade and we could actually see how Michelangelo's style of painting developed over the five years or so that it took him and his apprentices to complete the work. We both said that Michelangelo must have had a wonderful knowledge of the Bible.

We both agreed that the outstretched hand of Ezekiel was our favourite detail of the whole exhibition; this outstretched, open hand showed Ezekiel's readiness to receive God's word. Isn't that true for us too when we reach out and open our hands for prayer?



If you get a chance to visit this exhibition, Clare and I would both highly recommend that you go. Sue

#### TEAM SERVICE

As is our practice, when there is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the month we hold an East Widnes Team 'Team Service', an opportunity for all three of our worshipping communities to come together in one place to worship and for fellowship.

In January, we met at Cronton Mission Church where we were made to feel most welcome. There were representatives from St Ambrose, St Luke's and Cronton Mission, and what was so heartening was the number of young families who joined us that day.



Thank you to the people of Cronton Mission for setting out the School Hall for us, that is no mean feat and for finding MORE chairs as far many more people came than were expected. A huge Thank you also to those who provided and served the refreshments afterwards. We look forward to more of the same in 2022!

Dates for Team Services in 2022 are: May 29<sup>th</sup> St Luke's July 31<sup>st</sup> St Ambrose October 30<sup>th</sup> Cronton Mission

#### Judith Hughes 13.03.1937 to 06.02.2022

It was with such great sadness that we learned of the death of Judith; this came after a spell in Warrington Hospital.

We send our deepest sympathy to her family Chris and Mary, Nick ,Tracey-Jane, her grandsons Ben and Jack, and to John's partner Gwen and the extended family.

We will remember Judith fondly for her many talents, not least of all her hosting and cooking skills.



She held dinner parties, where people were wined and dined, to raise funds for one of our many Restoration projects; she baked the most delicious cakes and tray bakes for events in school and church; she was a much valued member of the Bridewell Lunch Club Team and liked nothing better than to sit after people had eaten and have a good natter with those who came.

Alongside Eddie, they planned many coach trips, both home and abroad, which will be fondly recalled by many, not only for fun they had on the coach journey itself with quizzes etc but also for the amazing destinations they visited and for the antics they got up to along the way!

A wonderful conversationalist, Judith was always ready for a good chat over a 'decent cup of coffee'; eager to keep up with the latest news and her general knowledge was fantastic; she had that warm smile and a wicked sense of humour, and she would come out with the most amusing anecdotes.

Sadly, her world fell apart when Eddie passed away in the summer of 2017; then just last year, when her eldest son John tragically died unexpectedly, she was devastated and broken-hearted, as were all the family. Such a dreadful thing with which to come to terms.

A lady who loved and thrived on contact and company, to my mind, Judith really was a victim of Covid19. At the height of the Pandemic, even though family rang her all the time and came regularly to visit and fetch groceries, she was still very anxious that they should keep themselves safe.

Even when visits from family and friends in the garden when permitted, though she was thrilled to see people, she still worried about them. Judith wasn't alone in that, it was, and still is, a difficult time for many.

A deeply prayerful lady of great faith, The Lord's Prayer was really important to her and she would often ask me to say it with her before I left. It was a privilege to do so.

Though we are poorer for losing her love and her friendship, she is now where she has wanted to be for quite a while, reunited with her beloved Eddie and her son John. God bless Judith and rest in peace. You so deserve it. **Sue** 

#### Recipe for this month.

With the permission of Judith's family, here is her hand written recipe one of my favourite cakes that she baked - STICKY BLACK GINGERBREAD.

I actually have some of my own Mum's hand written recipes and they are very precious, so thank you to the lads for allowing me to reproduce this.

Engenered. astroky Buch 8 ay Butty 8 a Salt brown Ergar 8 ay treade a 5 your Bay treade a syrup (morea) 12 of Plain flaw 2 level top gunger .... 2 beater eggs 2 dave type becarb of soda. Netter butter, sugar a sympe together Marinod Sieve from - spices in a bowl And melled matter - the beaten eggoma weel, wan he mulle - add bicarb. And is the middle a beat well. Put its greesd lened loay his 4 ×116 or 2×216. Cook for approve I her.

8oz butter 8oz soft brown sugar 8oz tro

8oz treacle and syrup [mixed]

12oz plain flour 2 level tsp ginger

2 level tsp mixed spice

2 beaten eggs half a pint of milk

2 level tsp bicarb of soda

Melt butter, sugar, syrup and treacle together.

Sieve flour and spices in a bowl and add melted mixture & the beaten eggs, mix well.

Warm the milk and add bicarb. Add to the mixture and beat well.

Put into greased, lined loaf tins. 4x1lb or 2x2lb.

Cook for approx 1 hour [170C or Gas 3]

Somehow, I can never quite do justice to this recipe and make it taste as good as Judith's did. When I last baked these cakes, I took them to London down when we went to visit my son; they 'travel' really well. Nikki, his wife, cut one cake into slices and froze them ready for my grand-daughters' packed lunches.

[I am so glad I don't have to make packed lunches any more!!] **Sue** 

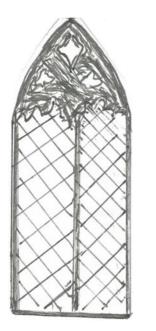
**RECIPES** If you have a favourite one please send it by email to farnworthreview@yahoo.co.uk or post to Editor. Kebbs Farm, Clock Face Road, Bold Widnes, Cheshire WA8 3XH for next edition.. material.

		FLOWER ROTA
April	3	Lent
	10	Lent
	17	Miss L Runcorn
	24	Mrs B Owen (Bold)
May	1	Mrs K Wong
	8	Mrs L Race
	15	Mrs C Harper
	22	Mr & Mrs A Humphreys

Photograph of flowers in the church porch by Andrew Seadon



Two Gothic windows in St. Luke's church by Alan Foster





You may be curious as to why I have decided to write about these two Gothic windows with early 14th century tracery. Having plain glass panels, they are not what they seem to be.

To explain the history, I need to go back to the time of the first major restoration of the Church in 1431. It was during that period when Henry, Archbishop of Canterbury, ordered the Seneschal of the Castle of Halton to repair the nave. This was the first time that the Barons of Widnes and Halton were associated with the Bold family, who were the co-founders of Farnworth Chapel.

The restoration of the chancel was carried out by Richard Bold, the son of John de Bold, who founded the Bold Chantry, the Chantry School and the day school in 1406. Richard extended the chancel on the south wall and behind the altar rail you can see where the stone is altered.

Richard's initials are shown on the two round bosses in the chancel ceiling, between a griffin passant, representing the Bold family.

In 1404, Richard married Halen Halsall, an heiress, daughter of Gilbert Halsall, whose estate covered parts of Southport and Ormskirk. According to the "County History of Lancashire", vol 3, the double window in the Bold Chapel had two figures in stained glass representing Richard & Halen.

The triple window in the chancel north wall depicted a figure, in stained glass, of a man in armour, kneeling. On his breast was a label of three points, which in heraldry represents the first-born son. At the bottom of the window as the following inscription in medieval Latin:



Translated, it reads, "Pray for the souls of Richard Bold and Ellen his wife, whose lives were reconciled to God."

What happened to these stained glass Gothic windows? I have tried to find the answer and wonder if it could be due to a visit by Oliver Cromwell and his army in 1643, after the Battle of Warrington. According to Charles Poole, who wrote the "History of Widnes and its Neighbourhood", Cromwell's army attacked Halton Castle from Cuerdley Marsh. The castle was besieged by Sir William Brereton for several weeks until July 1643, when King Charles I's troops surrendered.

One Sunday morning in 1981, a few weeks after my book on local history was published, I was stopped by a lady called Molly Colquite. She appeared to be in her late eighties, and had read my book. She queried as to why I had not written about Oliver Cromwell. I replied that I didn't feel it was relevant. She told me that she was the last publican of the Snuff Box Inn in Lunt's Heath Road, and when working there she had seen a bill of fare signed by Oliver Cromwell. It is possible that Cromwell stayed at the Inn and his Puritan army attacked Farnworth Church as they wanted to purify the Church of England from Roman Catholic influences.

The photograph shows the Snuff Box Inn on the right and the Church View Inn on the left.



## OPEN DOOR SATURDAYS



# ALL WELCOME

<u>CUPPA & CHAT</u> Every 1st Saturday 10am to 11.30am starting May 7th

# Pop into church for coffee, fellowship and prayer.

## OPEN DOOR WEDNESDAYS

Church will be open at 9.30am service (30 minutes) until 4pm

People on hand to show you around our beautiful church and chat to you over a cuppa.

## 'GAMES GALORE'

*Grosvenor Women's club is* hosting and providing refreshments

## **1.30pm to 3.30pm Wednesday**

Men welcome.

Come and join a light hearted group of people who play games - scrabble, chess, dominos, UNO and many more.



Folk getting to know each other and sharing laughter and tales recalling childhood memories of games played. Afternoons are free - donations gratefully accepted for church funds. Each Wednesday. We look forward to seeing you! Contact Pat Johnson 0151 257 7737

#### Fabric Report March 2022

There is very little to report on the Fabric of the building at the moment save that we are awaiting the delivery of the copper cable to repair the organ. Preparation for the repair will begin with some scaffolding being erected for some of the awkward places, but this will not interrupt the general running of the church and we have been assured the organ will be back in operation for the wedding on 26<sup>th</sup> March.

Fundraising has started and a Quiz has been arranged in church on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April with a raffle to be drawn on the night. Books of tickets are on sale in church and from some of the Congregation, First Prize is £100. Last year this event raised over £1.000 which will kick start the fund raising for the toilets which are essential if we are to raise money in the church with outside events.

A further addition to the church is the replacement carpet in the Chancel which was damaged in the fire last year. This now directs the eye to the view from the back of the church up to the altar and the East Window

The interior of the church is looking really good but we could always do with more help to keep it so. Please support us in our fundraising effort so that we can improve our iconic building for our future generations.

#### **Churchyard**

We have received positive comments on the improvement of the churchyard since the arrival of the Community Workers. They have done a tremendous job in all weathers and their efforts are there for all to see. I have been asked by the Justice Department if I could provide some positive comments to show that this is a successful project to help the community and to help with their rehabilitation back in to society. The Department are going to send some forms to be completed but until they arrive if anyone would like to email any positive comments to me I will pass them on

barry.horabin@btinternet.com

Remember our Motto

The Past is our Inheritance, The Future our Responsibility

#### **CHURCHYARD PHOTOGRAPHS**

#### Thanks to Andrew Seadon





Pat says "It's such a pleasure to walk down the path past the churchyard now when we pick up our granddaughter from Lunts Heath School. She loves the Spring flowers.'

Lesley found a butterfly.

SEND YOUR COMMENTS on the churchyard and PHOTOGRAPHS of the churchyard for the next magazine.





Treasurer's Repo	ort, 01/01/22	to 14//03/22	
General Fund	Adjust	<u>Total</u>	
Receipts	18889	7270	26159
Expenses	<u>(17977)</u>	<u>(11081)</u>	<u>(29058)</u>
-	<u>912</u>	<u>(3811)</u>	<u>(2899)</u>

You may recall that in my last report, we owed £26000 parish share at the end of December 2021. We have been very fortunate to receive a further Parish Share Credit from the Church Commissioners of £33270, which will be offset initially against the arrears for 2021 and the remainder against the 2022 Parish share as per my summary above. This will be the last credit that we will receive from them. The total Parish share due for January to March 2022 amounted to £21081 less credits of £7270 =£13811. We have been able to pay £10,000 towards this leaving £3811 still outstanding to the diocese at the end of March.

As has been the case for a number of years, and more so during the last two years, the donations from regular givers is decreasing, due to various reasons but mainly due to the death of the donor. Our monthly receipts would need to increase by at least £2000 per month just to break even. Please help if you can by becoming a regular giver. Donations to the Restricted funds have been amazing, in response to raising funds for the boiler and the copper cable for the organ. The extra Insurance costs have all been paid and we are almost there with funds for the copper cable.

Thank you to all who gave an extra donation when paying their magazine subscriptions towards this fund. There are a few people who haven't paid the subscriptions yet, your magazine distributor will collect it from you this month or you can pay by bank transfer as below,

please put your name as reference and the word "Mag"

Yvonne Horabin (Treasurer) St Luke's PCC Barclays Bank details. Account name:- Farnworth St Luke Parochial church council Sort code 20 91 48 Account no 30369292 .Your name as reference or by cheque payable to St Luke's PCC c/o Rev R Pearson The Rectory, 10 Hartland Close, Widnes. WA8 9FB. OR Click on QR code



#### **Cronton Mission and Cronton School**

Lent is a time of getting ready for Easter. It is a time when people make time to think carefully about their life. For Christians, this means trying to live God's way and remembering all that Jesus did. During Lent, Christians often do something different too, like praying every day or reading the Bible. Churches may look quite different during Lent. You might notice the colour purple, or there may be very few decorations or



flowers. This is because it's a time to concentrate on God and remember how Jesus gave up his life on a cross to save all of us. Because Lent is a time to reflect, church music and songs will tend to be more reflective, and services won't include the word 'Alleluia' – a joyful word to express praise for God. It's a big contrast when Easter Day arrives, when the colourful decorations come out, there's lots of celebration, 'Alleluias' and joyful music!

Prayer This day is full of promises Of everything that's good. Help me face the challenges And do the things I should. Amen

Anon [Lion Book of 1000 Prayers for Children]

#### **Brave believers**

Discover just how brave we are, how God gives us all courage and how we meet our friends near and far to make this world a better place. Implicit to the Christian faith, is the belief that God is present in every situation, which leads to great acts of courage. Courage takes many forms: it may mean facing up to opposition or personal danger; it may mean overcoming your personal fears or phobias; it could mean standing up for what's right. The Bible is full of stories of courage and bravery: David and Goliath; Daniel in the lions' den; Paul on his missionary journeys; Jesus himself in the Garden of Gethsemane.

In our service of Morning Prayer on 13<sup>th</sup> March, Lesley preached about courage. The children at school learn about a different Christian value each half term. This half term, the Christian value is also **COURAGE**.

I love to see examples like this of how our church, and school, work in unison led by our faith. We are also celebrating the start of Collective worship this half term – children learning about God together after 2 years of enforced separation. We are also planning how the school ethos group can be more involved in our Sunday services



School's Christian value after Easter is **RESPECT**.



#### "Respect - to get it you must give it" Anon

This will include learning about the importance of treating others with respect even if we sometimes do not agree with the way they behave or the things they say. Children will also be thinking about how we should treat the things that belong to us and to other peple **respectfully**.

Courage and respect have been paramount in the prayers we are offering to the people of the Ukraine at this difficult time. We each lit a candle at our Café style service on first Sunday in Lent. Debbie Doyle.





At JAM Club in March Jack got to play with his friends and was excited to make some new friends too. We all listened to the story about Jesus time in the desert and we learnt about what it means to be tempted. Our craft helped us think about the difference between right and wrong and how God can guide us to do the right thing and "win over sin". And we finished our time together sharing lots of yummy toast and jam made by Alma.

Don't tell lies ...

Don't be bad ...





... Have truthful .... Bee kind. lips Do kind th

. Bee kind. Do kind things & say kind things









...Listen. Do the right Thing



Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April 3pm In April we will be meeting for JAM Club as usual at 3pm on the second Sunday in the month, which is also Palm Sunday, so we will be waving our palm leaves and shouting "Hosanna!" Why not come and join us and rejoice with us?

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April 10am And we have an extra special treat in April, with an extra family celebration on Good Friday (15<sup>th</sup> April) at 10am, when we will be learning about what happened to Jesus during Holy Week. There will be crafts and toast and as it's almost Easter Day, perhaps some chocolate too! Everyone is welcome to come along and join in.

PAF	RISH REGIS	TER BAP	TISMS
6	Feb	St Luke	Archie Joshua Nanson
20	Feb	St Luke	Elliot John Dourley
			Arrabella Maria Brandethy
			Alfie Thomas Loseby
6	March	St Luke	Joey Stephen Thomas Dennett
			Fearne Catherine Hulme
			Neve Ada Kelly
20	March	St Luke	Arabella Louise Murray
			Betty Mary Bliss



## DAILY BIBLE READINGS April and May 2022



April		May	
1	John 7: 1,2,10,25-30	1	John 21:1-19
2	John 7:40-52	2	John 14:1-14
3	John 12:1-8	3	John 6:30-35
4	John 8:1-11	4	John 12:20-26
5	John 8:21-30	5	John 6:44-51
6	John 8:31-42	6	John 6:52-59
7	John 8:51 to end	7	John 6:60-69
8	John 10:31 to end	8	John 10:22-30
9	John 11:45 to end	9	John 10:1-10
10	Luke 23:1-49	10	John 10:22-30
11	John 12:1-11	11	John 12:44 to end
12	John 12:20-36	12	John13:16-20
13	John 13:21-32	13	John14:1-6
14	John 13:1-7,31b-35	14	John 15:9-17
15	John 18:1 to end 19	15	John 13:31-35
16	Luke 24:1-12	16	John 14:21-26
17	Luke 24:1-12	17	John 14:27 to end
18	Matthew 28:8-15	18	John 15:1-8
19	John 20:11-18	19	John15:9-11
20	Luke 24:13-35	20	John15:12-17
21	Luke 24:35-40	21	John 15:18-21
22	John 21:1-14	22	John 14:23-29

April		May	
22	John 21:1-14	22	John 14:23-29
23	Mark 16:9-15	23	John 15:26-16.4
24	John 20:19 to end	24	John 16:5-11
25	Mark 13:5-13	25	John 16:12-15
26	John 15:18-21	26	Luke 24:44 to end
27	John 3:16-21	27	John 16:20-33
28	John 3:31 to end	28	John 16:23-28
29	John 6:1-15	29	John 17:20 to end
30	John 6:16-21	30	John 16:29 to end
		31	John Luke 1:39-49

#### SUNDAY CLUB

Hi everyone, greeting from Down Under here in sunny Australia. We are here for two months visiting our daughter Holly and her fiancé Chad (they have just got engaged and we are thrilled).

This is just a short message from Sunday Club, as just wanted to say a great big thank you to two very special people who have agreed to run Sunday Club in my absence, they are Amanda Mines and Lynsey Tague who have become assistant leaders. They support me and help the children every week and are brilliant. I can't thank them enough for agreeing to give up their time, the children are in good hands.

At this time, they are getting the children ready to take part in the Mothering Sunday service where the children will talk about their Mums and why they love them. They will also sing a song and do readings and prayers and be on hand to hand out bunches of daffodils to the congregation. I know its going to be brilliant, as the children always are.

Take care everyone and it just leaves me to say G'day xx Lynn



#### MOTHERS' UNION

First of all, I would like to say how very sad we were to hear that Mary Westbury died on the 11<sup>th</sup> March, on her daughter's birthday. Mary was 90 on the 8<sup>th</sup> February and was delighted to receive a card and flowers from the MU. Mary and her husband John were a big part of St Luke's. They served in many roles. Mary was also a member of the Mothers' Union, and at one time our treasurer. Whether it was for MU or

the church, if things needed doing you would find them both doing what ever was needed. Mary was a church cleaner, and made tea in church for many years. She was always on refreshments at Fairs and MU events. She enjoyed our meetings and our annual outings. She was a lovely lady who will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers go to her daughter Susan. RIP Mary.

For our February meeting we had Marion Pope talking about the" MU and Me". Colleen took the meeting and read an inspirational letter from Jennie Barton, reminding us that Jesus is the light of the world and let us go out and spread the light. Marian Pope is the Development Officer at Liverpool Diocese. She has been an MU member for 30yrs. She was a member before working for them. For 17yrs she mainly worked from home looking after big events and conferences. She looks after safe guarding, testing craft toys, she wasn't quite sure how she got into that. She is often asked what do we get for the subs we pay. First and foremost, the MU is a charity that your money supports. You do receive the Prayer Diary and Connect magazine. Mary Sumner House hires out rooms but during lockdown this revenue was lost and staff were cut by a third. World wide we support sustainable projects, working with communities, empowering women teaching them to read. We support the women's refuge, gender justice across the world. We work in war zones and trauma healing. We try to help people be self- reliant. £3-50 for seeds can help families grow food and any surplus can be sold. Marian asked what has changed in the last 2yrs. Masks was the first response. Then there was zoom, some people started walking more, others too afraid to leave their homes. The MU members found ways of helping others. Scrub bags were made, phone calls made and letters written to the house bound, gifts of tea bags & biscuits left on door steps. There has been lots of acts of kindness during lockdown.

Marian asked us how we can make the MU more attractive to younger women. The change of name came up a few times the word union is not popular and we maybe seen as only for the elderly. Mary Sumner was a grandmother and her members were all in long black dresses of that era and they looked a formidable group of ladies. Advertising in the media is too costly. We can advertise in church, at coffee mornings, during prayers. Colleen always mentions the MU during prayers in church. They need to know what we do locally like the women's refuge, the homeless, helping in church with JAM and helping at the contact centre. You don't even have to be a mother just be willing to help others with your God given talents. At the World Day of Prayer, the heading was 'I know the plans I have for you,' you don't have to do heroic feats, sometimes the smallest gesture of kindness can make a huge difference. So put your thinking caps on and pray for inspiration to let the Mothers' Union grow.

Our March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting was a fun evening to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Chris led the meeting with prayers remembering the people of Ukraine. You can always rely on Chris to come up with great games to entertain us. The first was Open the Box. There were 6 boxes and to open them you had to answer 3 questions. Sue was up first and after answering her questions correctly (calling out from members was encouraged) Sue opened her box to find a chocolate fried egg. She will have to save it as she has given it up for Lent, but according to Revd Bob Sundays don't count. Pat won chewy dentures, Val a small bottle of wine, Janet, senior moments mints, where does Chris find these things, Lesley a potato peeler and Joy a duster. Apparently, Harold Ham Gravy was Olive Oil's first boyfriend and not Bluto as we all thought, so remember that for a future guiz. Next was a game of sorry. This is a twist on the raffle. When your number comes up you pick a prize but this can be taken away by another person whose number was drawn. You have to say sorry as you take away the prize. This continued with prizes going back and forth until all the numbers had been called. Then they could open the bag to see what they had won. There was a brown paper package that we suspected to be a pair of Arthur, Chris's husband's socks, but it turned out to be pink rubber gloves. All good fun. We had finger food to follow sandwiches. Crisps, fairy cakes & scones with jam and cream. There was Prosecco, Bucks Fizz, sparkling fruit cordial plus tea and coffee. Colleen raised a glass to toast the Queen and we all joined in. Thanks go to Chris, and thank you to all who contributed and supported the evening.

Our April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting is during Lent so Colleen will be taking Compline and Lesley will talk about flowers in church.

11<sup>th</sup> May we hopefully have Helen Parker-Jervis with a Christian Aid update.

May 19<sup>th</sup> will be our coffee morning. It is on a Thursday this time. We are starting earlier 9-11am. We are making Tea & Toast and croissants, hoping to catch the school mums. There will be a raffle and bring and buy.

Brennan Lodge was delighted with the bedding Colleen took along for the homeless. Women's refuge only want new clothes and bedding but they were grateful for the things Colleen took to them.

Tea Rota for April is Wendy Collinson & Barbara Kelsall and for May it is Alma Marshall and Lesley Runcorn.

The committee wish you a Joyous and Peaceful Easter.

From MU prayer diary

We worship our Loving Saviour who chose the way of sacrifice to make known to us the path of life. We praise our Risen Lord who fills us with hope and joy as we journey along the path of life. Amen Rita Poole

FUNERAL	REGISTER		
Date	Name	Age	Location
11/02/2022	Sylvia Hughes	83	St Luke & W. crem
18/02/2022	Ray Heapey	84	St Luke & W. crem
21/02/2022	Judith Hughes	84	W Crem & St Luke's
23/02/2022	Colin Joseph Parr	60	W. crem
24/02/2022	Edna May Thornton	89	Burial of ashes
24/02/2022	Doris Ashworth	94	W. crem
02/03/2022	Norma Rylands	80	St Luke & W. crem
07/03/2022	Muriel Ivy Woods	96	W. crem
21/03/2022	Doris Littler	83	St Luke & W. crem
24/03/2022	Russell Taylor	51	Burial of ashes
27/03/2022	Brenda Monica Simm	96	Burial of ashes

### Grant to them eternal rest .

Let light perpetual shine upon them. May the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

# MAKE CHANGE, FIGHT HUNGER

Donate to the Foodbank, and help fight hunger in our community

# The Foodbank relies on your goodwill and support.

Over 90% of the food distributed by foodbanks is donated by the public – that's why your food donations are absolutely vital to our ability to give everyone referred to us a balanced and nutritious three day supply of food. Shopping list

Long grain rice Jam biscuits/treats THANK YOU

1litre UHT juice UHT milk cleaning products Sponge puddings tinned vegetables

Widnes

bank

BRING CHURCH INTO YOUR HOME Sundays 10.30am (60 mins)

To join Zoom online Meeting ID 5095149528 For the password please contact Sue 07962012916 or Clare 07976549410 To listen to service with Zoom from landline or mobile dial 02036950088 enter password

### USED STAMP APPEAL

We never lose hope. We strive to find a

cure for MND, and to support everyone

affected by this devastating disease



We are collecting used stamps to send to MND for their fund raising campaign, [Motor Neurone Disease Association] There will be a collection box in church which will remain permanently in place so please support the appeal year round and pop in any used stamps to support this important campaign.

### At the cross by Andy Silson April 2011

I wait, and time ticks past. I gaze, made silent by the sight. I watch, as soldiers meticulously move Executing each terrible, torturous task. I gasp, still life lingers in His fragile, broken form. I flinch, as blow by blow, Nails bite deep through flesh to find wood. I stand, as He is lifted high, Silhouetted 'gainst the sky which He has made. I weep, as His cry echoes deep in my hardened, calloused heart. I wail, as He screams 'it is complete, Finished, final, said and done.' I fall, as the sky turns inky black And the sun and moon and stars forget to shine. I kneel, as worlds collide, And time ticks by; What once bound, no longer seems to hold. I bow, for part of me is gone, Kept forever on Calvary's painful peak. I wait, at the foot of the cross, to begin my journey home.

### PARISH GIVING SCHEME

It would be much appreciated if you signed up to the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) which helps our cash flow, which is crucial at this time. PGS is an established service for managing Direct Debit giving, designed to support churches to fund their mission and ministry. It reduces the burden of work on church volunteers and provides a simple and secure service to givers.

The service is freely available to all parishes, their churches and donors, within dioceses that have chosen to participate. Uptake is growing every year, with the majority of dioceses in the Church of England - and many of their parishes - now members of PGS and experiencing the benefits. The PGS makes it possible for givers to:

- Give monthly, quarterly or annually by Direct Debit
- Sign up to inflation-linked giving annually
- Gift Aid to add 25% your giving courtesy of the government
- Give securely and donate anonymously, if you prefer More information is available on our website st-luke.co.uk or contact

Yvonne, Treasurer Yvonne.rice@btinternet.com 01514249887 or Sandra, Secretary sandralacey47@yahoo.co.uk 07761672030

## FRIENDS OF FARNWORTH



Stephanie who organised online quizzes during lockdown is hosting a face to face one (hopefully no more restrictions) Friday April 8th 7pm in church £5 adult children free Bring Your Own Food and Drink please

Hope you will support this raffle -Donating prizes selling tickets and buying tickets Draw at the QUIZ on 8th April



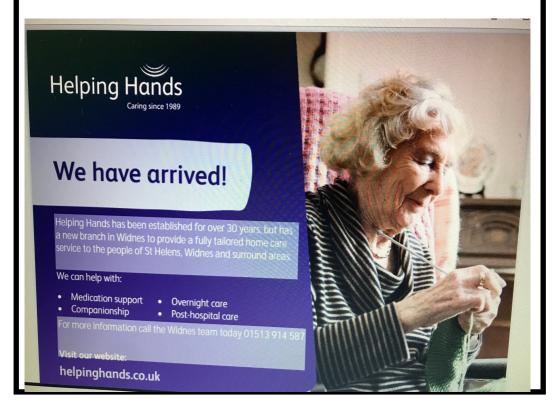
# The Sanctuary

Meets every Wed 10:30-2pm at St Ambrose Church Halton View Road Widnes

If you enjoy chatting with people in your community, or even if you just need a place to hang out, then we are here for you.

On occasions speakers on subjects surrounding health and wellbeing and it's a place to meet friends in our local community and to share our stories.

Contact David Steadman 07551399631 dwandc.steadman@virginmedia.com





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## East Widnes Team

Team Rector Rev Bob Pearson

The Rectory, 10, Hartland Close, WA8 9FB 0151 424 9762 07904320542 revbob@btinternet.com

Team Vicar Reverend Lyn McIver 07791650911 Lay Ministers Sue Smither 07962012916 Clare Liptrott 07976549410 Lesley Firth 07803148233

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### **Team Administration Lesley Howell**

07399784219 eastwidnesteam.2942@gmail.com OR use Contact Us tab on our website st-luke.co.uk

> Weddings and Baptisms Contact Lesley Howell

> > <u>Funeral</u>

Please make arrangements with a Funeral Director who will then contact Rev Bob