

Parish Magazine

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Choir Practice usually Thursdays 6pm-7pm

Tower Captain Nigel Goulding 07860632096

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Cronton C.E. Primary 01514243881

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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 2025

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

before.

I WAS:

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Benefits of joining Halton u3a

It's a great way to find and develop new interests and make friends in a relaxed environment. It doesn't cost much to join only £15.00 for the year.

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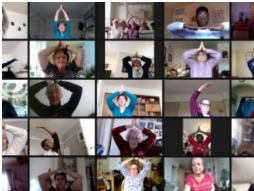
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What the u3a offer



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Our exciting schedule of online learning activities complements the local offer and connects members across the UK.



Interest Groups online

This online only u3a community has an eclectic selection of groups you can join, all from the comfort of your own home.

General Meetings for members and visitors are held on the second Thursday in the month at 1.30 pm at The Masonic Hall, Kingsway, Widnes, WA8 7QH. These meetings usually offer members and visitors the chance to listen to a speaker talking on a topic of interest, to ask questions afterwards as well as the opportunity to enjoy a cuppa and a chat.

Dear Friends,

It is always a privilege to write for our magazine and at this Eastertide I feel called to share some thoughts with you about the importance of community. Community is key to belonging, but it is also important for spiritual growth too.

Every season God provides an easy way for us to know, love, and serve Him and our wider community through cultural celebrations and as Easter is literally the reason that we have our faith, with Jesus' resurrection from the dead being the foundation of our Christian beliefs, it is therefore the ideal time, for us to pause, to examine our hearts, take stock of our lives, and seek God's guidance and wisdom.

Easter encourages reflection on the events of Holy Week, including the crucifixion and resurrection, prompting us to pray and ponder the meaning of Jesus' sacrifice and allowing an opportunity to deepen our own relationships with Jesus as well as to share the Good News of hope for eternal life and a renewed sense of purpose, remembering God's love and grace, with our fellow Christians and our wider community too.

In terms of community, God designed us to walk our faith journey with others, with like-minded individuals who share our beliefs and values, and can give us the support, encouragement, accountability, and opportunities for shared experiences that deepen faith and strengthen relationships with Jesus. This is why meeting together for worship is so important and also meeting together at other times, perhaps to explore the Bible together, for example. Some of you might have been attending the Lent Reflections Course at St Luke's, which is another good example of sharing our faith journey with others.

Another example, in fact the perfect example, of how and why community works can be seen when we look to Jesus and his relationship with His disciples, they lived moment to moment alongside Jesus — learning, failing, and growing together. They watched Him handle the questions and persecution; they heard His truth and saw Him love unconditionally, as well as watching him turn to his Father.

There was a reason Jesus walked with people the way He did - the disciples followed Him so that one day they too would be able to lead — lead others in pursuit of understanding and growth; teach others the Word, the light and the way.

And we are called / commissioned to do the same, to follow in Jesus' footsteps, to find new believers and bring them into our community, and to build up the Christian community we have, to be a strong, cohesive group, with a shared goal, bound by Christ's blood shed on the cross.

Though we are required to do this always as Christians, Easter presents a good moment for us to move into our communities to share what the occasion stands for. And, at this time, churches often hold special services and gatherings, providing additional opportunities for Christians to come together, to share faith, and strengthen the community bonds. It is also an excellent opportunity for us to share the Good News of Jesus with our friends and family who may not follow Christ.

Easter is the season of resurrection and new life, and spring is the season of new birth and new beginnings, and I hope and pray that these words will prompt us all to take this time as an opportunity to focus on community.

To welcome new and returning members into our community, so they have a place to belong and start their faith journeys, plus coming together more as a community so that we can focus on our own spirituality; so that we can grow in faith, strengthen our relationships with God and Jesus and each other, as we walk on in our faith journey together. Amen. Clare

Lord, give us new strength so that we can build places of belonging: To create a community for all to share their gifts, To know that each of us is loved, To help us to see the light of Christ in all that we serve. Let us remember that each of us is loved, each of us is needed and each of us is necessary.

Cronton 6th Form College: A-level Music RECITAL EVENING



On the evening of Thursday February 6th, we, at St Luke's, were pleased to host the Cronton College Sixth Form 'A-level music Recital Evening' Yet again, the amazing local students delighted us with their performances. Their tutor, Lucy Myers, introduced each of the students in turn and spoke a little about their chosen solo pieces. Depending upon the instrument and courses they were taking, some students had to play for ten minutes, others for five or seven. There were also several students who are currently only in the first year of their course; they came to play to give them the experience they need of performing in front of an audience in space other than that with which they are familiar....I hope that makes sense to you.

Ruben Boden and Philip Bolton both played drums. Piano was the chosen instrument of Lok Ching Maui, Erin Barthe, Amelia Daniszewska and Amelia Shotton. Advil Abdul-Aziz played violin. Isabelle Harrison performed her piece on the flute. Layla Brindle used her voice and sang.

As is always the case, they were superb and we were treated to a wide variety of styles of music and composers across the ages.

Lucy was rightly proud of them overcoming their nerves and performing so well, as indeed were family members and friends who had come along to support them. It really was a wonderful evening and we can't thank them enough.

We, of course, wish them every success when it comes to performing in front of the external examiners; if it were up to the audience there would be A* all round!

You can imagine there were the instruments and lots of technical equipment that needed to be fetched from College to church. The College 'Estate Team' brought everything that morning, Adam Bradley set everything up in the afternoon and then Liam Pickering came along in that evening to record the students and to pack down afterwards. We offer our thanks and appreciation to everyone concerned. It was a real TEAM effort.

Matt Plant and Lucy, along with Cronton College 6th form Performing Arts Students and the technical support team, will be with us again in June for a performance you definitely won't want to miss! It will be a ticketed event and details will be published in the next magazine. Sue



I am very happy to share with you some of comments I received from Pauline Lee about the 2024 Kings Cross Christmas Appeal to which you so generously gave toys and food. Sue

Pauline, who helps coordinate the Appeal said this: 'Without the tremendous support of everyone this Christmas project would be impossible. Thanks to the generosity of our local community once again we have been able to provide Christmas Hampers. We have been amazed and humbled by the tremendous response to our appeal for support. Thanks go to all who donated money, gifts and time. The committee would like to say a huge thank you to you all.

Here are some comments made by families at the receiving end of the hampers.'

Thank you so much for our hamper. It was absolutely amazing. It has made such a difference to me and my son. My husband died at the end of August and life has been such a struggle for us since that time. We wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

I am so grateful for the hamper off you. My son is severe non-verbal autistic and I am unable to work. This is going to help so much. Many thanks for everything you do.

A big thanks to you and your lovely team of volunteers for all the fantastic gifts that you provided for our young people. They were so pleased with them. We really do appreciate all the hard work that you put in to make this possible. Care leavers team

You cannot begin to imagine what this hamper and presents mean to me! Being a single mum, with four children, my three jobs just about cover bills. Thanks to you, my babies will have presents on Christmas morning.

As a Health visitor, who delivered 6 hampers, every single family was so, so appreciative. One family sent me a text 'thank you to the lovely nurses and team who have just delivered my hamper, I have just sat and cried at how generous you all are!'. This was from a working family - who were struggling to make ends meet for their little girls first Christmas so she was overwhelmed and so thankful.

I am a student social worker as part of the Approach to Social Work Programme. I was not prepared for the volume of items and the consideration that had gone into the putting together of these and yet again I have been blown away by Halton and this whole process. It was well planned and coordinated. The receiving family were absolutely delighted, spoilt for choice and began tucking in immediately. Thank you to you and your teams, you are the epitome of everything I have found Halton to be about – Kindness, generosity and giving your time in the right place and at the right time; all of this even when there are a million and one other things to do! Thank you so much for putting a smile on their faces and on mine!

One family I visited, the 2 little girls (3&4 years old) were so excited to see there was some chocolate biscuits on the top of the bag - they told me they never have any chocolate biscuits, so it well and truly made their day. Health Visitor
 These figures supplied by Pauline make sobering reading

Kings Cross Hampers Christmas 2024

Referrals

Total number of households 246

Households with children

Health & Social Care 98
 Care Leavers 17
 Schools 43
 Other 1
Total 159

Households without children

Care Leavers 87

Referrals by age	Men	Women	Total
Number of Adults	66	137	203
Number of care leavers	42	62	104
Total	108	199	307

Number of children	Boys	Girls
Total	179	381

An Easter reflection



*In the hush of a silent prayer, love's echo fills the sacred air.
 For Christ, in His selfless deed, planted love's eternal seed.
 An act so brave, a love so true, inspires hearts, both old and new.
 His resurrection, a testament clear, of love's call, always near.
 Hear its echo, feel its beat, in every challenge, every feat.
 For Easter's story, pure and thorough, resounds with love's endless echo.*

Tribute to Pat Beesley

It is still hard to accept that Pat is no longer with us. I was privileged to conduct her funeral service. Church was packed, giving testimony to the wonderful lady she was. Pat was born in Dewsbury in Yorkshire, Pat was intensely proud of her Yorkshire heritage and had so many fond memories of her childhood with her mum, dad, brother and sister and many Yorkshire cousins.



The family moved to Widnes in 1956 and Pat first attended West Bank primary school then Wade Deacon Grammar School for Girls. She was super proud of the fact that she was one of the first girls on her estate to go to university and in 1969, she graduated from Liverpool University with a degree in French, Economics and Psychology. That, however, wasn't enough and she then went to Birmingham to complete her PGCE and finally returned to Liverpool University to gain her certificate in Social Work and Probation.

Pat loved studying so much that even when, at the age of 16, she was crowned Lancashire Miners Gala Queen, instead of spending her prize money on what most 16 years olds would, she bought books!

Pat met Norman that same year; they married at St Luke's in 1971 and welcomed the birth of their two daughters Alison and Rachel later that decade.

From 1982 they lived at 'the top of Peelhouse Lane' and soon made many friends in Farnworth Village.

Pat had two professional careers both as a college Lecturer of Sociology and Social Care and as a Probation Officer for Merseyside Probation Service right up until her retirement in 2007.

Despite working full time, Pat was always involved in Alison and Rachel's dancing school, from making costumes to spending entire weekends at competitions she was always there supporting them and cheering them on.

She loved animals and could never say no to inviting stray cats

and kittens into her home to become much loved family pets; over the years, dogs and cats have been a big part of her family life.

Pat embraced life post-retirement, a restful retirement was never on the cards. She was an avid knitter, crafter, painter, singer and amateur genealogist and historian and attended lots of different groups and clubs to improve and hone her talents. She was a member of Mother's Union and they made a Guard of Honour as Pat came into church. Singing in the choir at St Luke's and attending the various services was something she loved, and we so appreciated her lovely voice...her empty place in the choir stalls is a constant reminder of what we are missing. She loved the Brass Band concerts and especially those put on by the students of Cronton Sixth Form College and was always full of praise for their performances. She and Norman also acted as Guides at Liverpool Cathedral; they both loved the contact with the interesting people they met and we can so imagine how welcome they were made to feel if the Beesley's were on duty.



Pat and Norman enjoyed Baltic cruises, short breaks and regular trips to Fleetwood, where they stayed in the same room in the same hotel for many years. Apparently wherever Pat went, her hot water bottle would also go! [She may well have needed it in Fleetwood!]

She also enjoyed visits to the theatre to watch musicals and her favourite artists Tribute Acts, especially a Kate Bush Tribute she saw at The Brindley in Runcorn. Her last family theatre trip was to see Starlight Express in London in September of 2024, she absolutely loved the show.

In 2014, she became a nanny for the first time to Carina, followed a few years later by her grandson, Jesse. She always took a keen interest in what they were doing, knitting clothes and making handmade gifts for them.

When the news of Pat's passing was shared, so many people described her as, 'such a lovely lady' and she absolutely was. Always so positive, calm and incredibly level-headed. She never got angry, shouted or argued with anyone, though apparently if

you were ever met with 'that look' and an 'hmm', it was always best to change the subject!

Pat herself wrote that she was proud of the achievements in her life, especially her family and daughters.

In their Tribute to their Mum, Alison and Rachel said this, "Mum has always been our constant, she has always been there for us; her enthusiasm and passion for life and genuine interest in other people's lives we will hold most dear. Although she is gone, she left us with the winning formula of all the things you need to be an excellent mother. If we can raise her grandchildren Carina and Jesse with the same deep rooted feeling of security and love that our mum gave to us, then we know we will have definitely inherited her title of best mum in the world."



After a private burial service in St Luke's Churchyard, many people attended the Reception at the Cricket Club; everyone had such lovely, very personal stories of what a huge impact Pat had on their lives. She has left a wonderful legacy, one of love and care and concern for others, one of sharing and generosity of Spirit. We can only guess at the gaping void she has left in the hearts and lives of those whom she loved most.

We, as a St Luke's family, send Norman, Alison and Rachel and their families our deepest sympathy, love and prayers. Sue



PCC is indebted to Pat's family who have given donations in memory of her to the Pew cushion fund. Pat loved crafting and sewing. She made costumes for her daughter's dancing shows so it is apt that the pew cushions are in her memory.

Communion before Confirmation.

FIRSTLY: Some background information.

Way back in the Spring of 2009, our congregation members were involved in long discussions about the possibility of allowing the younger baptised members of our congregation who regularly attended Sunday School, [as it was known then], to be 'admitted to receive Holy Communion before Confirmation'.

The PCC passed the motion following which I had to submit the proposed course content to the Bishop/Diocese for their approval, which thankfully was granted. Since then we have had several groups of children 'admitted'. Just before Covid struck, Rev Bob, Lynn Keeling and I, had a conversation about running these sessions again, everything was in place and then it all had to be put on hold as Lockdown was announced.

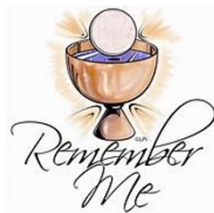
NOW: We currently have a wonderful group of boys and girls in Sunday Club, many of whom have attended since they were just three years old. They now have, thanks to Lynn Keeling and her team of Sunday Club helpers, a really good knowledge and understanding of the importance of having Jesus in their lives. So, the time is absolutely right, in consultation with their parents, to offer them bread and wine at the Holy Table.

There, they too can share in the meal that Jesus instigated with his disciples at the Last Supper in order that those who love and follow him can remember him and feel closer to him when sharing the elements. The children will make a life-long commitment to follow Jesus' ways and teaching when the Bishop confirms them when they are older.

Those of us privileged to offer wine or bread at Communion, regularly see the children looking up at us, sometimes with their hands held out ready to receive, questioning with their eyes, 'Why can't I have some?' With a gentle course of teaching and learning the significance and importance of this 'meal', there is no reason why they can't.

Rev Peter has agreed that we can offer this to our Sunday Club children. They will receive Holy Communion for the first time on Mothering Sunday, March 30th, surrounded by their own families and us, their church family. Please pray for them as they continue their walk with Jesus.

Sue



Candlemas Celebrations at Cronton School Worship

The last Friday of the month is Café Worship at Cronton School, when the parents can come along and meet their children to share worship together. The theme for our worship on the last Friday in January was Candlemas, which is celebrated 40 days after Christmas Day. So it really was a celebration for Sunday 2nd February this year, but we decided 31st January was close enough to allow us to learn about this celebration as part of our worship.

Candlemas commemorates the presentation of Jesus at the Temple of Jerusalem and his role as a light to enlighten all nations. The word Candlemas derives from *candla* meaning candle, hence Candlemas is also known as the festival of light, to honour light warding off evil and death and assuring prosperity.

This day also marks a great pivot point in the Christian year, where we turn away from the festivities of Christmas and turn towards the cross of Christ, and the empty tomb.

At that time of Jesus' birth, presentation of a baby at the Temple happened 40 days after the child's birth, the mother and the father would come to the temple for the rite of purification, which included the offering of a sacrifice — a lamb as a burnt offering and a pigeon or turtledove for a sin offering, or for a poor couple who could not afford a lamb, two pigeons or two turtledoves. Joseph and Mary made the offering of the poor (Lk 2:24).

And following this tradition, Mary and Joseph presented Jesus at the Temple and the sacrifices were made. This mirrors what would happen 33 years later, when Jesus would once again be presented to God in the presence of his mother Mary, but this time he would be presented upon the cross. Sacrifices would be made this time round too, but this time it would be Jesus who was the sacrifice, so that all our sins would be forgiven.

On that day Simeon, who had been waiting for the Messiah for a very, very long time, was at the temple. He held baby Jesus in his arms and blessed God, saying, "Now, Master, you can dismiss your servant in peace; you have fulfilled your word. For my eyes have witnessed your saving deed, displayed for all the peoples to see: A revealing light to the Gentiles, the glory of your people Israel" (Luke 2:29-32).



In saying this Simeon announced that the Messiah had come not just for the Jewish people but the gentiles too. This was such a significant action, the Presentation was a proclamation of Christ — Messiah and Priest, Lord and Saviour. It states that Jesus is the light who came into this world to dispel sin and darkness.



And for this reason, since the seventh century, candles have been blessed at church services (Mass) on this day, hence coining the term 'Candle-mas'. The Presentation at the Temple also reminds us that our parents presented us at church for our baptism, where we were dedicated to God, and given the name,

'Christian'. At our baptism we received a lit candle from the Paschal Candle, and the vicar said, "God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light. You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life."

We are now lights, and our mission is to walk in the light and to guide others to Christ by our words and our actions. In our worship we watched a short cartoon clip telling the story of Jesus being presented at the Temple and then to celebrate Candlemas and to remind us that Jesus is the Light of the



World we made our own candles to take home with us. Clare



St Luke's Ecoday 17th May 10am-2pm

Join us to understand and celebrate ecosystems in our community at St Luke's Church and Churchyard.

There will be:

Refreshments: Donations of shop bought cakes will be gratefully received.

Self guided nature trail: A new nature trail of the Churchyard.

Craft and Art Activities: Range will include making bug hotels and flower printing.

Flower arranging: Make an arrangement using recycled materials.

Games: Ladybird and Find a Bug

Plant Swap: Please donate any plants or excess seedlings you can spare for the day.

All Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

We look forward to seeing you.

**For more details please contact Sandra
sandravanezis62@gmail.com**

A DATE for YOUR DIARY



July 19th
Brass
band
concert

'Proms and Pimms'



St Luke's Sunday Club

The children have been learning how Jesus went out on the fishing boat belonging to Simon and his brother Andrew. He preached to the crowds on the shore who had come to listen to Him. Later He told Simon and Andrew to cast their nets again out to sea and they were amazed how full their nets became. Jesus then told them "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men". They immediately left their nets and boats and followed Jesus becoming His disciples.

The children acted the parts of the fishermen and Jesus and really enjoyed catching paper fish in their big net. We even used an upturned table as a boat. Later they created a picture using wool for the nets and they coloured in and cut out paper fish to catch in the net.



Another week the children learnt about the transfiguration of Jesus. Not an easy thing to explain to children. The word means a change of appearance and Jesus does change and gives a glimpse of His full heavenly glory. "His face shone like the sun and His clothes became as white as light." We talked about

how Jesus is our light and how He shines for us so the children made beautiful suns to remind them that Jesus shines.



The children have started to get ready for the Mothering Sunday service in church. They will perform a little song, perhaps do a poem too. They will also do the reading and the intercession prayers. It promises to be a lovely service. The children always do so well. I'm very proud of them all.

Best wishes Lynn

QUIZ

Thanks to Lynn Keeling for organising another great Quiz night in March at Widnes Cricket Club which raised £712 plus £500 from HSBC sponsorship. We are indebted to quizmaster Alan and his assistant Beth.

The hotpot and apple pie with custard prepared by Linda Knight was excellent. For all your catering needs contact Linda on 07388047268



'Fizzy Rascals' Clare's team won (again!)

The 49ers who won in November apologies I forgot to take a photo that night!



BAPTISMS

16th February

Willow Anne Ogden
Cecilia Emeh Higham
Jack William Robinson
Willow Rose Robinson

16th March

Beatrice Edie Kirby

We ask O Lord that these children will grow in wisdom, knowledge and understanding to know you. We ask that from henceforth, the Holy Spirit will continually be your guardian. Strengthen the family and let your love radiate over the child and the family as we welcome them into the body of Christ and the church family at St Luke's church.



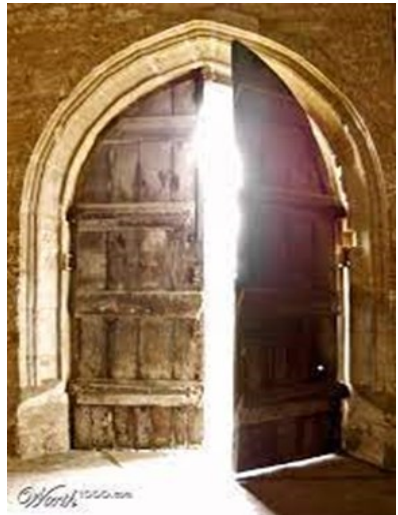


PALM SUNDAY 13th April

Foodbank Easter Appeal

Please bring donations to the service
Easter Eggs, biscuits and cakes please

OPEN DOOR - First Saturday of each month, 10am to 11.30am
St Luke's doors are open for people to drop in to look around, ask questions and chat over a cup of tea or coffee, toasted tea cakes or crumpets. Please do wander up, have some quiet time if you need it or sit and chat if you are need of company. Everyone welcome.



FLOWER ROTA			
APRIL		MAY	
6	Lent	4	Mrs K Wong
13	Lent	11	Mrs L Race
20	Miss L Runcorn	18	Mrs C Harper
27	Mrs B Owen (Bold)	25	Mrs D Humphreys

FARNWORTH CE SCHOOL

The Spring Term has been a busy one and one of the highlights for Mrs Houghton and Mrs Anthony's Y2 classes was a visit from our own Director of Music, Paul Delaney...not showcasing his music talents but with one of his BUZZ Poetry Workshops. The children were absolutely thrilled and were still 'buzzing' when I saw them later that week. In the run up to Easter, the PTA has been busy organising Fund raising events with a Non Uniform Day and the fantastic Easter Bingo which is always a sell out event.

Because of the uncertainty with the completion date for the building work in church, the children will stay in school to EXPERIENCE EASTER this year. Each class will take one day of Holy Week and create a display and related activity which each class in turn will visit.

We look forward to having them back in church next year for the full Experience Easter.



At the end of term the staff and children will be saying an 'AU REVOIR' to Mrs

Houghton as she goes on Maternity Leave; we send our love and very best wishes to Megan and her husband Neil as they prepare to welcome their new little one into the Houghton family [Many of you may know Neil, he is one of the Andale vets!]. Sue

LUNTS HEATH CP SCHOOL

When I walk past Lunts Heath school, I very often see classes of children AND their teachers, jogging around the field and playground.



They are doing their 'Daily Mile'. This is a national initiative to encourage children to lead active and healthy lives. So, at an allocated time each day, classes will leave their classrooms and, no matter what the weather, they will run or jog, either unaided or aided, at their own pace for fifteen

minutes. What a wonderful initiative that is.

The children will break up for their well deserved two week Easter holiday on April 4th. Some KS1 classes have pre planned visits to come and find out more about St Luke's church. Sue

Special Occasions – Baptism

In March the reception children at Cronton CofE Primary School have been learning about 'special occasions', such as birthdays, holidays etc. and I was invited in to support their exploration of the special occasion of baptism.

We met together in the hall, and as this is also where we meet for church on a Sunday, I was able to set up some of the 'church furniture' that we use in a baptism service and we talked through the meaning of baptism and then acted out parts of the baptism service, with children acting as the parents and godparents and a doll called Rosie as the baby being baptised. We thought about the symbols used in the service, including wearing of white as a symbol of purity, signing of the cross with oils to symbolise the Holy Spirit, water in the font to wash away sins and candlelight to represent Jesus as the light of the world.

We ended the session by looking at a selection of baptism cards and gifts and we were excited to learn that in May one of the reception children will be baptised at our church. Clare





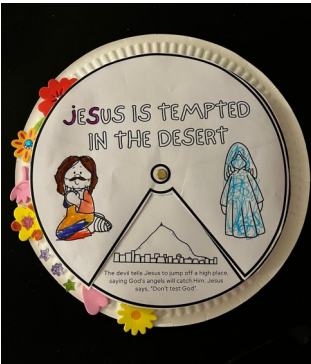
The family of Mrs Irene Hodkin would like to express their sincere gratitude for the kind donations totalling £265 received following the funeral on 24th January 2025. Due to the many years of commitment to the Mothers' Union, the Sunday School and many summer and Christmas fairs, all donations received will be used towards the new cushions that have been tailor-made to fit each of the pews in church.



Thank you to the Hodkin Family for choosing to send donations given in Irene's memory to this fund. The pew cushions will make a big difference and benefit everyone who comes into St Luke's. I think Irene would definitely appreciate the fact that each cushion will have been beautifully tailor-made. Sue

Jesus And Me (JAM) Club

At JAM Club in March we heard the story of 'The Temptation of Jesus'. Jesus went into the desert and he was there for 40 days, during this time he was tempted by the devil three times. First time the devil tried to get Jesus to turn stones into bread, the second time the devil tried to get Jesus to jump off a high pinnacle saying that the angels would save him and the third time the devil showed Jesus all the lands and said that if he would bow down to him then he could have all these lands to rule. Once Jesus overcame these temptations, he realised he was ready to begin his ministry. Temptation is a hard theme to explain to children and to help us understand this theme I used a packet of sweets, some yummy jelly babies. I put a plate of jelly babies out whilst we heard our story, with instructions not to touch. The children were excited about the sweets, but they were so good and did not give into temptation - they didn't touch the sweets. Later, I did then share the sweets with them as they busied themselves with their craft activities. They coloured in and decorated story wheels that retold the story of Jesus being tempted in the desert. Clare



Cronton Church, 16th March

At our Café Worship we heard the passage from Lukes Gospel, (Luke 13:31 to end) called 'The Lament over Jerusalem.'

This passage tells us about Jesus' unwavering commitment to his mission despite threats from Herod, highlighting his determination to reach Jerusalem and fulfil his destiny, while simultaneously lamenting the city's rejection of him, saying "How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!"

We spent some time thinking about chickens and learnt some amazing facts about them, including:

Hens communicate with their chicks while they're still inside their eggs! How adorable is that? When chickens lay eggs, the mother hen can actually make noises that chicks still incubating inside of their eggs can hear and respond to. The chicks even make tiny "peeps" back from inside of their eggs!

Some research suggests that chickens are just as clever as human toddlers.

Chickens tend to their eggs carefully. A hen turns her eggs approximately 50 times a day to keep the embryo from sticking to the side of the shell.

Chickens are living descendants of dinosaurs

Chickens can dream. They also have a sleep phase that humans don't experience called unihemispheric slow-wave sleep, where one half of the brain is asleep and the other is awake. This means that chickens can sleep with one eye open, which is especially useful for looking out for predators.

We also watched a little video to see how a hen cares for her chicks, gathering them under their wings.

We thought about how this was used as a metaphor by Jesus for the way he wanted to gather in and care for the people of Jerusalem even though he knew that they were going to betray him. We thought about how this then translates to us now, how Jesus wants to care for us, how he gathers us in and looks after us.



The children had great fun, making chicken themed crafts with moving feathered wings, to remind them of how Jesus loves us and gathers us under his wings, whilst the adults spent time thinking about the Bible passage in more detail and discussing their thoughts on a series of searching questions about the Bible passage. Clare



Cronton School - Friday Café Worship

On the last Friday of the month, we hold Café Worship at Cronton School, which is open for anyone to attend, including parents and children from the school.

In February the service celebrated 'the Transfiguration of Jesus', when Jesus was transfigured and became radiant in glory upon a mountain.

Jesus and three of his apostles, Peter, James and John, go to a mountain to pray. On the mountaintop, Jesus begins to shine with bright rays of light. Then the Old Testament figures Moses and Elijah appear next to him, and he speaks with them.

Jesus is then called "Son" by the voice of God the Father.

We thought about what it means to be transfigured / transformed / changed and how we too can reflect the glory of God. For our craft activity we made our own images of Jesus and used tissue paper which was back lit with battery operated tea-lights to simulate the glory of God shining through. Clare



Fabric Report Toilet Project

After many years of hope, setbacks etc. we are finally on the home stretch with our toilet project. It seems hard to believe but we started this eight years ago in 2017 when we applied for a faculty to begin work. Initially the application was not met with supportive comments from the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC).

Comments such as, you can't have toilets in a Medieval Church. Plans were drawn up by our Architect and a Contractor was asked to quote for the job. After some tweaking of the cost, it was decided that £130,000 was an acceptable price and all details were sent to the Diocese. Soon after this we were asked to meet on site with Diocese and the DAC to discuss the project. The first meeting was unpleasant to say the least, we were told the plans were unacceptable and unworkable. The meeting ended with some unpleasant comments with our Architects credibility being questioned.

The second meeting with Diocese was calmer mainly because the Diocesan Architect had not been invited. It was decided by the Diocese that they would make a decision after consulting with the Heritage Groups (Victorian Society and Church Care Society,) knowing full well they would object. All this took place over a two-and-a-half-year period which was a disgraceful attitude by the DAC.

A ray of hope landed through the letter box with a letter from one of the Chancellors in London who was coming North to visit family and said he would like to see a service to verify our claims on the numbers we had presented. As it happened, we had a rather large congregation that day followed by three Christenings which had 160 guests. This was followed by a ten-page letter of support from said Chancellor and a few comments which assuaged the Heritage Groups. His support for our project was crucial and his comment that the work would affect that end of the church, but the need was more important. Just as we were about to start work the Covid Pandemic struck and all churches were closed for the near future, but we were still expected to pay our Parish Share of £7,000 a month including all monthly costs, insurance etc. with no money coming in. All money for the project was used up over the two-year period which placed us in debt and the cancellation of the project. As we were about to start saving again, we had another setback when one of our new heating boilers malfunctioned and caused a fire in the boiler room.

Luckily, a few wardens were present and called the Fire Brigade and saved it being a major problem.

Unfortunately, it happened at the coldest months of the year, and this had a disastrous effect on church numbers as well as financial implications. Delays were inevitable as replacement parts came from China and this caused further delay. I was starting to think that we would never achieve our aim, but people who know me know how stubborn I can be and rarely take no for an answer.

We again started on the road of finding a Contractor and raising the required amount of money which had increased to over £200,000. During the Pandemic we had lost a considerable number of regular financial supporters but thankfully some had left legacies to the church in their wills. This gave us the start and we set about raising the required amount. Halton Borough Council supported us by obtaining grants for £34,200 but the rest came from the legacies and large donations plus a fantastic amount of work from members of the PCC who organised events to raise money so that the project could start. One person in particular raised over £2,000 in a tandem parachute jump at the age of !!! Work began in December 2024 to insert drains from the church to the mains in Coroners Lane as the church had no drains at all. Our Christmas programme wasn't affected and work started on the inside in the second week in January 2025. The work has progressed at an amazing pace to the extent we may complete two weeks early. The work force from the Contractors is first class and are all multi skilled. Each day as the work progresses, we see our vision coming to fruition which is very exciting.

After eight years of highs and lows we will soon be able to use toilets in church and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee without wondering where the toilet is.

Hopefully we will be able to open the church throughout the week to promote fellowship and support for the people of Farnworth who have supported us through our long journey with this project.

We hope to officially open the toilets on Palm Sunday when a special guest will be there to cut the ribbon. The following Wednesday there will be another official opening for those who worship on Wednesdays. At this point I feel I must thank all those who have supported us and worked to this point so our church can look to a more positive future.

My personal thanks must go to our PCC for all their hard work in getting us this far, but this is only the beginning.

I hope you will allow me to mention my wife Yvonne who is a Financial Magician in the way she has managed these massive amounts of money, not only on this project, but on the general funding of the church. It has been a Mammoth task.

And finally allow me to thank you personally for trusting me with the job of managing this project it has been a truly emotional undertaking. Barry Horabin Project Manager



On behalf of everyone in church and the community I would like to thank Baz for never wavering from his vision of toilets in church. The time and energy he has spent on seeing the vision to its fruition is simply amazing. I would also like to reiterate Baz’s thanks to Yvonne. As PCC Secretary I have been copied in all emails relating to the work - plans, grant applications, funding to name but a few topics. At the same time Yvonne has been managing the day to day finances. What a team. Sandra

PEW CUSHIONS

Following a successful request for a grant of £5,000 from the Liverpool Diocese, we now have pew cushions for all our pews. The pew cushions will make sitting in the pews more comfortable, but the main reason we were awarded the grant was to save energy as heat is lost through cold wooden pews.

We needed to fund the excess cost of £1,676. Thanks to the donations from families of loved ones who have sadly passed away we now only need £500.

Thank you to the Poole family for the donations in memory of Geoff whose anniversary is this month. Our thoughts and prayers are with Rita and her family.

If you would like to donate, this can be done either by cash in the box marked “Pew Cushions” at the rear of the church, by cheque (made payable to St Luke’s PCC) or by money transfer using the following: Barclays Account name: Farnworth St Luke Parochial Church Council Sort code: 20 91 48 Account no: 30369292 Reference: Your name along with (Pew cushions) Thank you

PHOTOS of the PROJECT as of 17th March



EWT	Service	Rota	APRIL
Date	St Ambrose	St Luke	Cronton Mission
Wed 2 nd	10.00 Sanctuary	09.30 MP	14.30 service to conclude Experience Easter
Sunday 6 th	10.30 TEAM HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE at St Luke's church		
Wed 9 th		09.30 HC	
Sunday 13 th		08.00 HC	
PALM SUNDAY	10.30 HC	10.30 MP	10.30 service with Cronton Methodists
		15.00 JAM	
Wed 16 th	10.00 Sanctuary	09.30 MP	
MAUNDY THURSDAY 17 th	19.00 TEAM HOLY COMMUNION with foot washing and Reflection at St Luke's church		
Friday 18 th GOOD FRIDAY			10.00 JAM CLUB
	14.00 TEAM Last Hour at St. Luke's church		
Sunday 20 th EASTER SUNDAY	9.00 HC		
	10.30 MP	10.30 JOINT HOLY COMMUNION	
Wed 23 rd	10.00 Sanctuary	09.30 HC	
Fri 25 th			14.30 School Worship
Sunday 27 th	10.30 HC	10.30 MP	10.30 HC
		12.30 Baptisms	
		18.00 HC	
Wed 30 th	10.00 Sanctuary	09.30 MP	

EWT	Service Rota	MAY	
Date	St Ambrose	St Luke's	Cronton Mission
Sunday 4 th	10.30 TEAM HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE at St Ambrose		
	10.00 Sanctuary	09.30 HC	
Sunday 11 th		08.00 HC	
	10.30 HC	10.30 JOINT MP at St Luke's church	
		15.00 JAM	
Wed 14 th	10.00 Sanctuary	09.30 MP	
Sunday 18 th	09.00 HC		
	10.30 MP	10.30 HC	10.30 Café Style
		12.30 Baptisms	
Wed 21 st	10.00 Sanctuary	09.30 HC	
Sunday 25 th	10.30 HC	10.30 MP	10.30 HC
		12.30 Baptisms	
		18.00 HC	
Wed 28 th	10.00 Sanctuary	09.30 MP	

MOTHERS' UNION

At our 12th February meeting we were pleased to welcome back the Musical Director for St Luke's, Paul Delaney, for Part Two of his talk. Colleen led the meeting with prayers, and it was lovely to have Paul accompany our hymn, "Be still". Colleen told us about the MU Communities of Interest, which covers a wide variety of programmes. There will be Zoom meetings, faith groups, finance, crafts, prison support and much more. One of the items which St Luke's MU supports is JAM (Jesus And Me) Club for little ones and their parents, meeting in church at 3pm on the second Sunday of each month. Would any of our members like to attend to support this project?

After prayers and notices, Paul began his talk with a demonstration on the organ. He wanted to show the variations of sound the organ can make by using the stops. He played quietly to start with, then gradually increased the volume – the organ with all the stops out is incredibly loud! He can play many hymns and songs from memory, which is just as well as he always forgets where he has left his glasses! He's now on his sixth pair!

A truly competent organist is able to use the pedals while playing the keyboard. Some pianists can perform on the organ keyboard but cannot operate the pedals. Paul demonstrated, playing a piece both with and without use of the pedals. What a difference! The pedals form the bass line and the whole piece came alive when they were in use.

At the age of 17 Paul was the organist at Our Lady's Church in Hough Green and stayed there for 13 years. He made us laugh as he recalled various tales from his time there and of the Priest – a model for Father Ted! In 1999 Paul became organist at St Paul's Church in West Derby. It was a bit of a trek but there was an average of 40 weddings a year. When he left, the choir had a treble clef ornament made for him, which he brought along to show us. Clearly the congregation there thought very well of him. When Paul moved to St Luke's, he thought it would be vastly different from the Catholic services he was used to and was surprised to find that they were similar to our own. He finds Church of England services a little more relaxed than the Catholic variety.

As well as being such an accomplished organist, Paul has added poetry to his repertoire. He read one of his poems and gave examples of the range of different voices and accents he can use. When he is "acting" like that or singing, he loses the stutter which can affect his normal speech. Shockingly, at the age of 14, he was told he should get a job where he doesn't have to speak to anyone. This left him, as you can image, quite deflated. Fortunately, a teacher saw his potential and got him to Christ College to get a degree in music. Paul now travels to many schools where he reads his poems and plays his music, both in the UK and abroad. Paul had intended to present a slide show – but we ran out of time! So, he will return to us in January 2026 for Part Three! Thanks for a very entertaining evening, Paul. We all enjoyed it very much. Our meeting on 12th March was our Spring Social. Chris was in charge of games, and she never lets us down!

We started with her prayers and Colleen updated us with events and projects relating to MU in the Diocese, nationally and internationally. Then on to the games!

Our first was “Family Fortunes”, complete with buzzer! There were two teams, and each team member took it in turns to try to press their button first and answer the question. As in the TV programme, 100 people had been asked the question – Chris tried to convince us she had been round Widnes Market for her data! A sample of the questions was “what vegetables would you pickle?” If the winner gave the top answer, they won a prize which was in the form of a voucher offering such highlights as pole dancing classes, horse riding lessons, trampoline classes, ice-skating lessons or a 2-hour hang-gliding lesson! These brought a great deal of laughter, but health & safety was never far away. Each card bore a disclaimer that the MU are not responsible for injuries and the winner of the trampoline session was advised to wear a suitable bra! All the work of our wonderful Chris, who also donated prizes of mini Easter eggs to members of the winning team. We don’t know where she gets her ideas from. More fun followed with the second game, called “Sorry”. We were all given three raffle tickets. If your number came up, you picked a wrapped prize from the selection, which was not to be opened. When all the prizes had been picked once, the next winner could take over any prize as long as they said “sorry” to the original winner. This caused a great deal of laughter as the prizes moved back and forth. At the end, when all the raffle tickets had been picked out, if you still held a prize, you could open it. Even the prizes caused more hilarity, ranging from wine, through dandelion & burdock pop, rubber gloves and washing up liquid to a yellow, rubber duster with a long handle. You wouldn’t believe how competitive our MU members can be! It was a really fun evening so thank you, Chris, for all your organisation and donations.

Forthcoming events:

9th April “My journey to St Luke’s” with Rev Canon Peter Dawkin

Tea: Lesley Runcorn & Brenda Bullock

7th May: Coffee morning/bring & buy in church, 10.00-12.00.

14th May Update on Christian Aid with Christel Langden-Griffiths.

Tea: Christine Turner & Gillian Wynn-Parle

17th May: Eco Day in church, 10.00-2.00.

“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as, in Christ, God forgave you.” Wishing you all a happy Easter. Rita Poole

Treasurer's Report, 01/01/25 to 28/02/2025

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Adjust</u>	<u>Total</u>
Receipts	22,691	2,750	25,441
Expenses	<u>(9,841)</u>	<u>(12,508)</u>	<u>(22,349)</u>
Surplus/ (Deficit)	<u>12,850</u>	<u>(9,758)</u>	<u>3,092</u>

The above figures are for the General Fund of the church, which covers the day to day running costs of the church, the amount of £12,508 is for the Parish Share for January and February 2025. As you will see from the above figures there has been enough income in the first two months of 2025 to pay the Parish Share, which is brilliant, **however** the Receipts for this period include an unexpected legacy of £10,000, and this is the only reason that payments can be made, without it there would have been only £5,600 towards the Parish share. This is an expense that we have to pay, otherwise it will affect the church having a vicar and even closing if we can't pay it.

In the last magazine I asked you to think about your giving to support the church and especially, if you are able, to make a regular donation via the Parish Giving Scheme I am sad to say that not one person has joined in the first two months of 2025.

Quite a few of you did add a donation when paying for your annual magazine, thank you so much. There are a few people who still haven't paid yet, especially if you receive it via email, please see below how to pay .

All of your donations help, so please give what you can afford.

It is so easy to set up a payment with the Parish Giving scheme, you only have to pick up the phone and call:-

0333 002 1260 and Quote our unique church code **20622101**.

One off donations can also be made this way, and you can gift aid it too.

By transfer. Barclays Account name:- Farnworth St Luke Parochial Church Council Sort code 20 91 48 Account no 30369292. Your name as reference.

By cheque payable to St Luke's PCC c/o Mrs Yvonne Horabin, 12 Buckingham Avenue, Widnes WA8 9EP, or in cash, hand to me or a Warden in church.

Thank You Yvonne Horabin (Treasurer)

Twelve Haiku poems by Paul Delaney

Old, wrinkled lady,
staring out of the window
Just remembering.

Tears roll down his face.
He wonders why she left him.
Secretly, he knows.

Cold and frosty branch.
A happy Nightingale sings.
Opera soprano.

Little boy and girl
and imaginary friends.
Parents don't believe.

Sitting in my seat.
Waiting for the film to start.
I need the toilet.

Wandering spider.
Trying to keep out of sight.
Climbing up the wall.

Shy ginger kitten.
Not allowed to go outside.
Peers through the window.

Young, shaking soldier,
sitting in the devil's lair,
gently whispers 'Why?'

Roar of Maxim guns.
Earth bathed in innocent blood.
Generation lost.

Daffodils pop up.
The old field's bathed in yellow.
Ephemeral twist.

Ancient mountain stands.
Climbers stuck in freezing snow.
Death is unprepared.

Winding river flows.
Salmon fry swim to the sea.
Food for hungry bears.

There are SEVENTEEN (17) syllables in a Japanese Haiku,
arranged in four (non-rhyming) lines...

First line: 5 syllables

Second line: 7 syllables

Third line: 5 syllables

© Paul Delaney January 2024 www.pauldelaneypoetry.co.uk

POETRY COMPETITION

Have a go at writing a poem.

Prize for the winner chosen by Paul.

Read about Paul and his poetry in MU report.

Poem can be any subject any style, although Paul says why not try
a Japanese Haiku.

Closing date May 1st.

Send entries to farnworthreview@yahoo.co.uk

Poems will be included in next edition June/July.

Prayer for Easter

Lord Jesus Christ, you are risen, you are risen indeed, alleluia!

Lord Jesus Christ, call all the nations of the world

to hear the good news of Easter,

to see the empty tomb,

and to share your risen life;

for you are risen, you are risen indeed, alleluia!

Amen.



HOLY WEEK

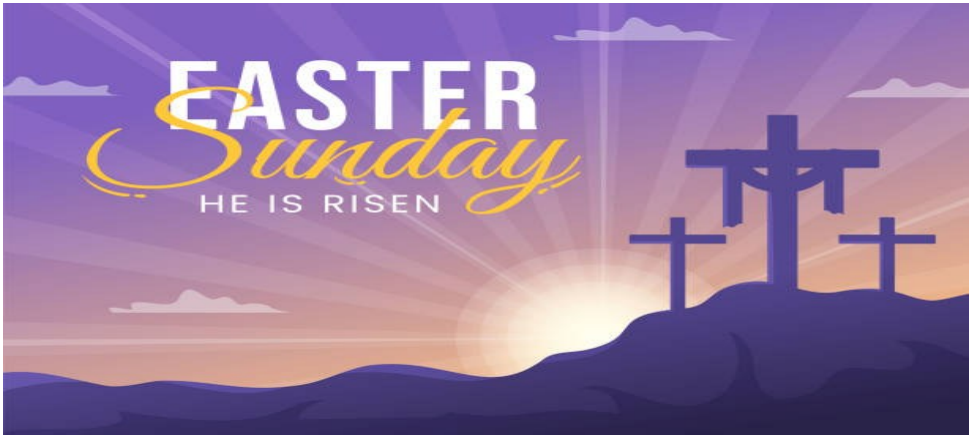
follows the story of the last week of Jesus' life, from his entry into the holy city of Jerusalem, on Palm Sunday, to celebrate the Passover Festival. This most important festival celebrates God delivering Moses and the slaves in Egypt from death and persecution.

PALM SUNDAY commemorates the entrance of Christ into Jerusalem, during which palm branches were placed in his path, before his arrest on Holy Thursday and his crucifixion on Good Friday. It thus marks the beginning of Holy Week, the final week of Lent.

MAUNDY THURSDAY The name comes from a Latin word - 'mandatum' - meaning 'commandment', because at the Last Supper Christ told his disciples 'Love one another as I have loved you'. He shared a final symbolic meal with them, and later that night was betrayed, arrested, and imprisoned.

GOOD FRIDAY is a sad day but a triumphant one, good news for us, because God is with us in the darkest place, death.

HOLY SATURDAY is a continuation of the sorrow of Good Friday, when Christians of all traditions remember the disciples' hopelessness in the wake of Jesus's death on the cross; when they are unsure whether to believe that he will rise from the dead, as he said he would.



EASTER DAY is when Christians celebrate Jesus rising from the dead, marking the beginning of a new creation. It begins a season of 50 days mirroring the original period between the empty tomb, and his appearing, his Ascension into heaven, and Pentecost when the disciples received God the Holy Spirit.



Held on the fourth Sunday in Lent, exactly three weeks before Easter Sunday, it was **a originally a day to honour and give thanks to the Virgin Mary, also known as Mother Mary.** Such celebrations required people to visit their 'mother' church - the main church or cathedral in a family's area.

At St. Luke's church the Sunday Club children will be distributing Mothering Day prayer cards at the Mothering Sunday Holy Communion service 10.30am (30th March). The prayer cards are donated by Dorothy Humphreys in memory of her dear husband Alan and great friends Bernard and Phoebe Dunbar.



...and we ALL know that is so true!

Could you spare an hour or two just once a month to help keep our church clean and tidy...spick and span?

The 'CLEAN TEAM' meet on the last Wednesday of the month, from 10.30 to 1pm. Tea, coffee, polish and dusters all provided and no experience is needed!!

IF YOU could lend a helping hand, we would really appreciate that.

Cronton Mission and school

Did you know? As a Church of England school, Christian distinctiveness always remains a priority. The current school leader for this is Matthew Tunstall, and whilst all foundation governors monitor how the Christian focus is embedded into the day to day life of the school, including the curriculum, and its impact, we have a named foundation governor, Emma Briscoe, who focuses more closely on this.

Did you also know that Clare Liptrott is actively involved in school? She has recently helped reception children learn about baptism, and is helping to plan an Experience Easter for the whole school, and an Ethos day where staff/children from all other Liverpool Diocesan Schools Trust schools will come to Cronton. Others will be able to join worship electronically from their classrooms.

Since last March, Clare continues to run cafe worship in school on the last Friday of each month at 2.30pm. It is an opportunity for parents to attend worship with their children, but also welcomes non school children and families from our wider Cronton community to come together. Numbers are increasing, taking worship to more people. If you haven't had a chance to join us at any of our Cafe workshops, why not give it a try... there is something for everyone, not just for our young children. Debbie Doyle



**A session of fun, faith and fellowship
for families and the 'young at heart'**

**Sundays 13th April and 11th May 3pm to 4pm
in St. Luke's church**

AND

GOOD FRIDAY 10am at Cronton Mission

**STORY
TIME!**

craft activities & food

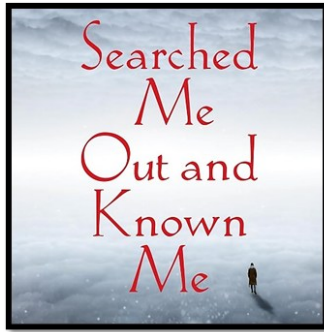
**Bring your little ones to
meet Jack**



For more information contact

Clare 07976549410

Lent Bible Study 2025



Journeying Lent with the Psalms

The Psalms can make our hearts soar and still they can accompany us through our darkest moments too – in these rich texts there is something for everyone!

Rev Peter and Rev Linda have been leading a five-week reflection happening every Monday throughout Lent.

**Each session is stand alone so there is still the opportunity to attend on Mondays
March 31st and April 7th**

Venues:

**St Michael with St Thomas Church, Ditton
12.30-1.30pm (WA8 8XR)**

**St Luke's Church, Farnworth
7.00-8.00pm (WA8 9HU)**

Week 1 Sin & Week 2 Fear are on the next pages. Weeks 3, 4 and 5 in the next edition.

Journeying Lent with the Psalms Week 1

Sin

Psalm 51

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.
- 2 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.
- 4 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in
your sight;
so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.
- 5 Surely, I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother
conceived me.
- 6 Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me
wisdom in that secret place.
- 7 Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will
be whiter than snow.
- 8 Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed
rejoice.
- 9 Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.
- 10 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit
within me.
- 11 Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit
from me.
- 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing
spirit, to sustain me.
- 13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will
turn back to you.
- 14 Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are
God my Savior, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
- 15 Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise.
- 16 You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not
take pleasure in burnt offerings.
- 17 My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite
heart you, God, will not despise.
- 18 May it please you to prosper Zion, to build up the walls of
Jerusalem.
- 19 Then you will delight in the sacrifices of the righteous, in burnt
offerings offered whole; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Questions for reflection

Does the idea of sin make sense to you or make you feel uncomfortable?

Why do you think that might be?

What does 'sin' mean to you? What kind of things does it bring to mind?

What might your 'favourite' sins be?

What might your motivation be for minimising their importance?

What sins do you think your nearest and dearest might identify in you, if you let them? What is the place of repentance in your life?

What are the things that stop you opening up your whole self for forgiveness?

Do you truly think of yourself as forgiven - or even forgivable?

Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Journeying Lent with the Psalms Week 2 *Fear*

Psalm 145

1 I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

2 Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever.

3 Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.

4 One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.

5 They speak of the glorious splendour of your majesty - and I will meditate on your wonderful works.

6 They tell of the power of your awesome works - and I will proclaim your great deeds.

7 They celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

8 The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.
9 The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.
10 All your works praise you, Lord; your faithful people extol you.
11 They tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might,
12 so that all people may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.
13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations.
The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does.
14 The Lord upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.
15 The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time.
16 You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.
17 The Lord is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does.
18 The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.
19 He fulfils the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.
20 The Lord watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.
21 My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.

Questions for reflection

When do you feel fearful?

Where might you be missing signs of plenty in your life?

Who are the scape goats in your life? In your community? In your church?

How might you adopt a stance of compassion?

What acts of kindness might you undertake this week?

Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross; grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sunday Club

meets each Sunday of the month, except the second Sunday. (none in August)

10.30am in the Bridewell

For children aged 4 to 11.

We have lots of fun learning about God's Love for us.

Please come and join us.



Sunday School
FOR ALL!



Please contact Lynn 424 3142 for further details

Summer aged 9 says "I like Sunday Club because we do fun activities and learn about God"

Alexis aged 7 says "I love Sunday Club because I like making pictures, doing sticking and playing with my friends"

"I have been going to Sunday Club since I was very little. I've had lots of fun there, drawing and making things and also reading prayers in church. It's been great learning about God" **Luca aged 13**

"I love Sunday Club because I like all the activities we do and learning about being a Christian in a fun way. I like being a role model for the younger children. And talking to the congregation, learning from them. I love performing for them at services. **Charlotte aged 13**



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The Sanctuary

**Meets every Wed 10:30am-2pm at St Ambrose
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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
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and to share our stories.

Contact David Steadman 07551399631
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