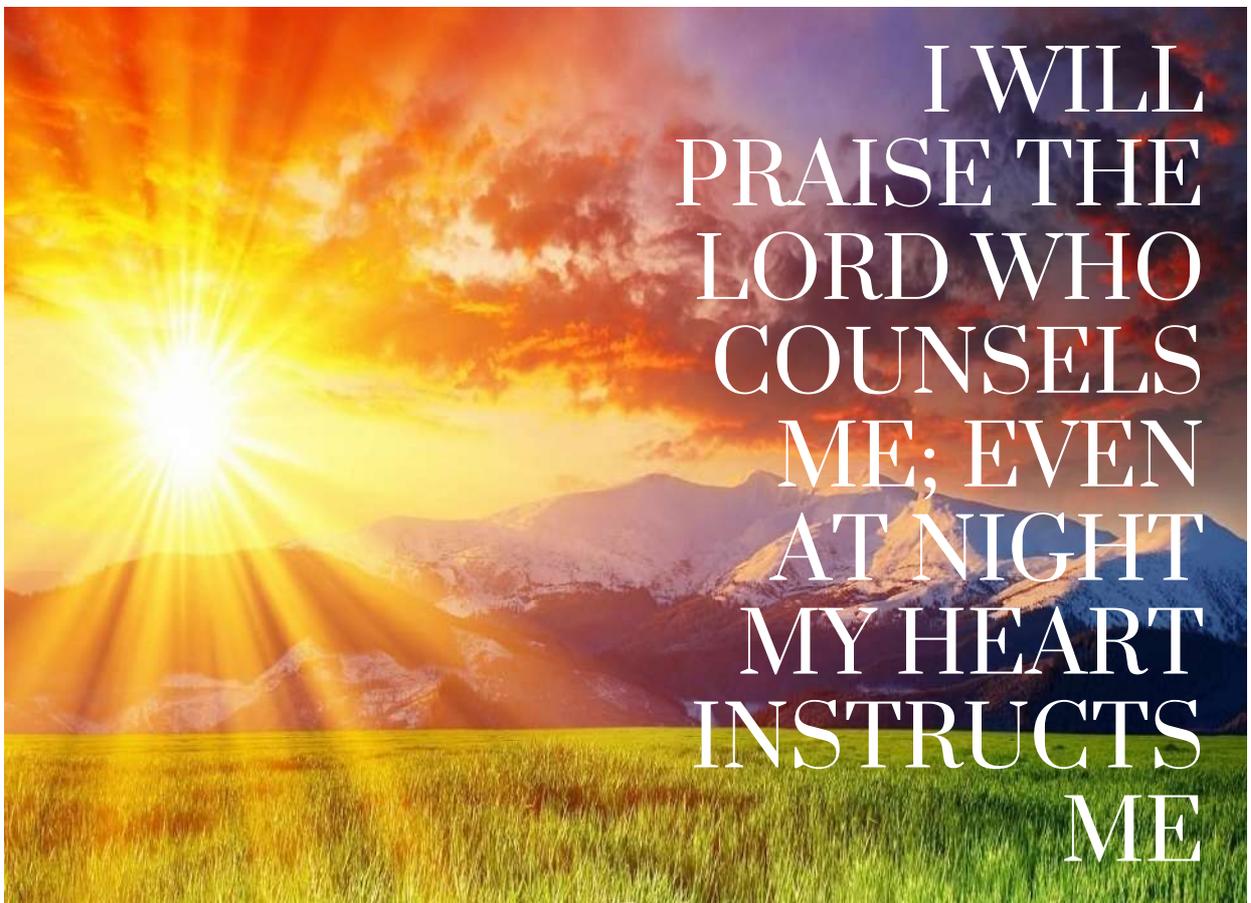


Wigan South Parish Magazine

- Holy Trinity
- St Andrew's
- St Peter's
- St Aidan's
- St Luke's
- St Thomas'

St Thomas' and St Luke's edition



January 2023

70p

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| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
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Parish Information

Baptisms

Baptisms (also called Christenings) are held around the Parish throughout the month. Please come along to the morning service at the church of your choice, and you can talk about booking a date that works well for you and church. Godparents must have been baptised themselves and be prepared to attend a baptism preparation session with the parents.

Funerals

Every parishioner has the right to a service in church, followed by a committal.

Marriage

You can marry in a CofE Church of your choice if certain criteria are shown to be met.

If you would like further information or to book a funeral, wedding or a baptism, please attend at one of our churches or see the contact details at the rear of the magazine

Magazine Deadlines

Please send any material for the magazine to your local assistant editor (see contact details at the back) or magazine@stthomasstluke.org.uk.

| | February | March | April |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Deadline for material | 19 January | 16 February | 16 March |
| Publication date | 29 January | 26 February | 26 March |

My plans for you

Although of course we will heartily wish one another a Happy New Year, we have to be honest and realise that for very many the future in general, and the new year in particular, holds a great deal to be feared. War, energy costs, inflation, we've all just come through a nasty pandemic. The future looks very frightening indeed.

So it did for the Israelites in the time of Jeremiah. Exiled to Babylon, surrounded by their enemies and by false prophets, there was nothing whatsoever for them to look forward to.

And yet, in Jeremiah 29:11-13 we read this promise by God to His people: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. You will seek Me and find me when you seek Me with all your heart." Because of our faithful God, we can truly say: Happy New Year!

Nigel Beeton

When your troubles are great
And you fear so much
When you've gone to a land far away;
When all those that you love
Are far out of touch
And you're scared of the night and the day.



*"I know," says the Lord, "of My plans for you,
"Plans for good not for ill – you will see!
"Your future and hope in My plans for you
"When you pray, and you call out to Me!"*

When the darkness surrounds
And the night is long
When the storm's blowing hard on your door;
When your bones ache with pain
And you feel so wrong
And you really can't take any more.

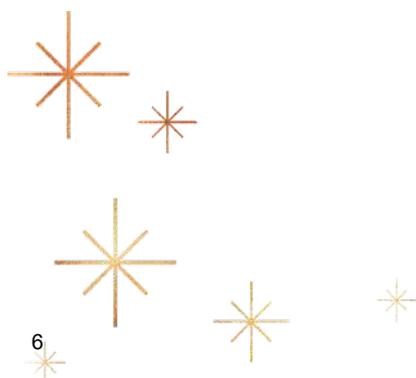


*"I know," says the Lord, "of My plans for you,
"Plans for good not for ill – you will see!
"Your future and hope in My plans for you
"When you pray, and you call out to Me!"*

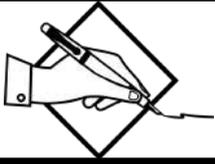
When your world has gone wrong
Though you've tried so hard
And the ends never seem quite to meet;
The betrayal of friends
Leave you deeply scarred
And it all seems to end in defeat.

*"I know," says the Lord, "of My plans for you,
"Plans for good not for ill – you will see!
"Your future and hope in My plans for you
"When you pray, and you call out to Me!"*

When you seek you shall find
If you search for Me
You be sure that I will do My part;
You know I will be found
And I'll hear your plea
When you search with the whole of your heart!



*"I know," says the Lord, "of My plans for you,
"Plans for good not for ill – you will see!
"Your future and hope in My plans for you
"When you pray, and you call out to Me!"*



A Letter from Helen

Let me start by wishing everyone a blessed 2023

We start the New Year with the season of “Epiphany” where we will be looking at a theme of “Overflowing – Year of Generosity: Our Generous God”.

We have a 4 week sermon series starting with:

- The Visit of the Magi: God’s gift – our worship
- Baptism of Jesus: Immersion in the generosity of God
- Wedding at Cana: A kingdom of overflowing generosity
- Jesus, Simeon and Anna: The joy and cost of participating in God’s generosity



Some really interesting topics for worship and things to ponder on as we start this New Year.

Many people will have started 2023 with resolutions to change things for the future. I would encourage people not to give things up but rather take up something new. Have you got a talent that you haven’t yet used? We are always looking for musicians and singers for morning worships. The pantry and outreach events are looking for helpers especially with the new warm spaces. And even something as simple as joining a church cleaning rota every few months can help. There are lots of jobs to be done and all present the opportunity to meet new people and to serve our God in new and exciting ways.

It is more Blessed to Give than to Receive: the more we Give, the More God Blesses!

Let this year of generosity bless all our churches in 2023.

Helen Weavers

Parish News



A massive congratulations to Eth Yates who was commissioned as Local Mission Leader at St Peter's on 4th December. We thank God for the gift that Eth is to us all in Wigan South and pray that she continues to be guided in her service.

Magazine Costs

Much of the production of the magazines is done by a network of amazing volunteers who gather information, print and deliver each edition. However, understandably, there are also elements of the production of these magazines which incur a cost.

We have seen a recent increase in the costs associated with the production of the magazine and this is something that is to be reflected in the price of the magazines. Therefore, the price of the magazines going forward shall now be 70p. As always, copies of the magazine shall always be available on line for you to view.

We also recognise that December - when we prepare the January magazine - is such a busy month (which is a wonderful problem to have!) and January, much quieter, and therefore we shall be reducing the number of editions to 10 a year. This means all important information shall be given in advance in bumper December and July editions, allowing for a winter and summer break. This shall also hopefully mean those printing and delivering the magazines shall not have to do so in the worst weather!

We very much continue to encourage and welcome contributions from everyone to the magazines so please do get in touch. And thank you to the wonderful volunteers who get them out the door every month!

Services in January

| | | |
|----------------|---|--|
| Sunday 1st | <p>10.00am: Holy Communion 10.30am: Holy Communion 10.30am: Morning Worship 10.30am: Worship Together 11.00am: Family Worship</p> | <p>St Aidan's St Peter's Holy Trinity St Thomas' St Luke's</p> |
| Wednesday 4th | <p>10.00am: Holy Communion</p> | <p>St Aidan's</p> |
| Thursday 5th | <p>9.45am: BCP Holy Communion</p> | <p>St Thomas'</p> |
| Sunday 8th | <p>9.00am: Holy Communion 10.00am: Sta's4all 10.30am: Morning Prayer 10.30am: Holy Communion 10.45am: Worship Together 11.00am: Holy Communion 4.00pm: Evening Prayer</p> | <p>St Thomas' St Aidan's St Peter's Holy Trinity St Thomas' St Luke's St Aidan's</p> |
| Wednesday 11th | <p>10.00am: Holy Communion</p> | <p>Holy Trinity</p> |
| Thursday 12th | <p>9.45am: BCP Holy Communion</p> | <p>St Thomas'</p> |
| Sunday 15th | <p>9.00am: Morning Worship 10.00am: Morning Worship 10.30am: Morning Prayer 10.30am: Morning Worship 10.45am: Holy Communion 11.00am: Family Worship 6.30pm: Evening Prayer</p> | <p>St Thomas' St Aidan's St Peter's Holy Trinity St Thomas' St Luke's St Thomas'</p> |

| | | |
|----------------|--|---|
| Wednesday 18th | 10.00am: Holy Communion | St Aidan's |
| Thursday 19th | 9.45am: BCP Holy Communion | St Thomas' |
| Sunday 22nd | 9.00am: Holy Communion 10.00am: Beacon Christingle 10.30am: Café Church 10.30am: Holy Communion 10.45am: Worship Together 11.00am: Family Worship | St Thomas' St Aidan's St Peter's Holy Trinity St Thomas' St Luke's |
| Wednesday 25th | 10.00am: Holy Communion | Holy Trinity |
| Thursday 26th | 9.45am: BCP Holy Communion | St Thomas' |
| Sunday 29th | 10.30am All Wigan South Service | Holy Trinity |

A date for your diary:

A concert will take place at Holy Trinity church on Friday 10th March 2023 given by Wigan Ukulele Band.

Tickets £7 including refreshments.

Tickets available mid January from

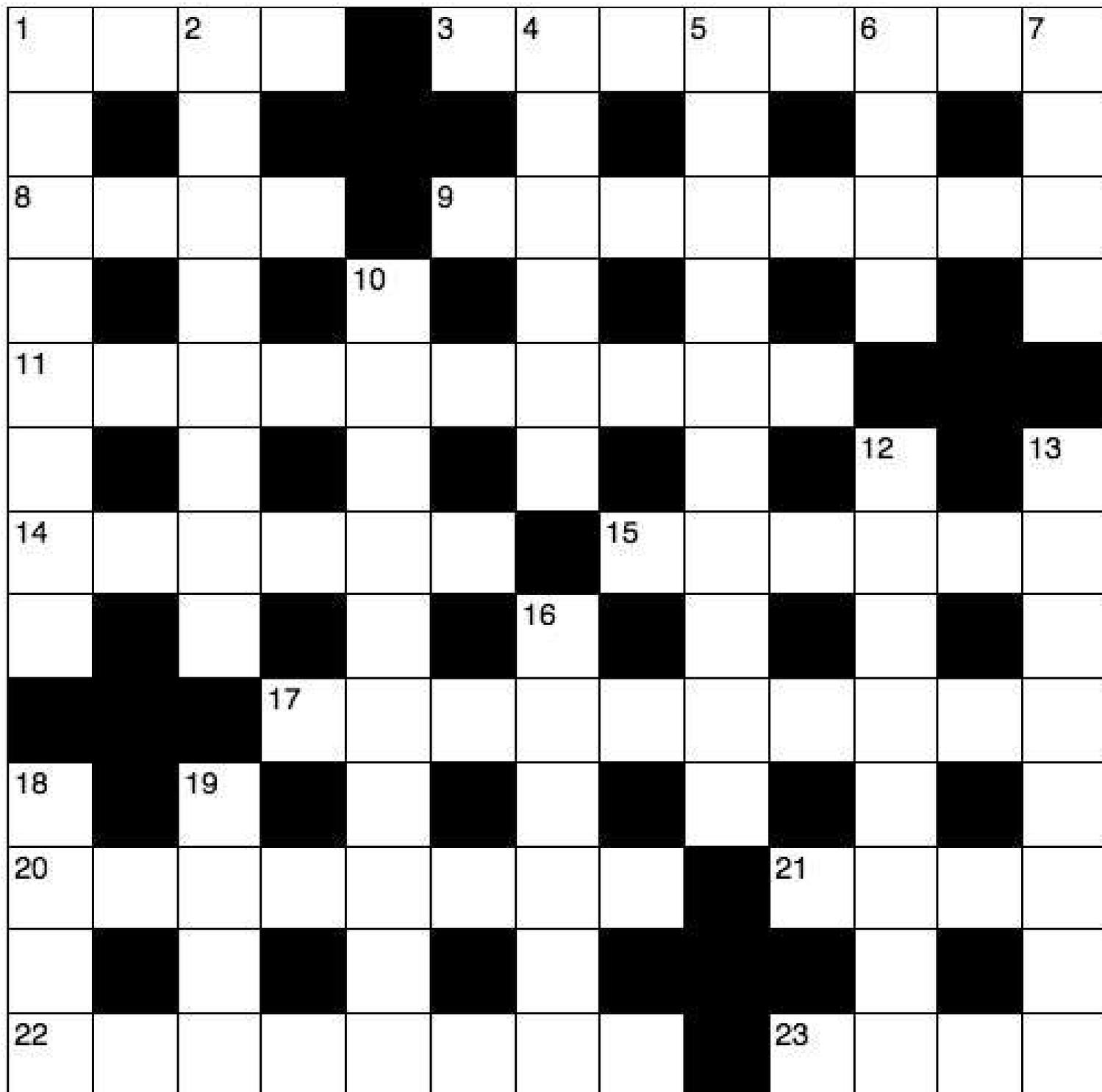
Frank Lowe 01942 728531

or from any Committee member.

Please come along for a lively evening.



Crossword



Answers on page 16

Across

- 1 'Again Peter denied it, and at that moment a — began to crow' (John 18:27) (4)
- 3 Fetters (Job 33:11) (8)
- 8 Perform on a musical instrument (1 Samuel 16:23) (4)
- 9 Paul describes it as 'the third heaven' (2 Corinthians 12:2-4) (8)
- 11 Loyally (Deuteronomy 11:13) (10)
- 14 Hens? Me? (anag.) (6)
- 15 Not visible (Matthew 6:6) (6)
- 17 Predicted site of the final great battle (Revelation 16:16) (10)
- 20 Jacob's youngest son (Genesis 35:18) (8)
- 21 One of Zophar's eleven sons (1 Chronicles 7:36) (4)
- 22 For example, London, Paris, Rome (8)
- 23 United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (1,1,1,1)

Down

- 1 Favourite church activity: Fellowship round a — — — (3,2,3)
- 2 Divinely bestowed powers or talents (8)
- 4 Pile together (1 Thessalonians 2:16) (4,2)
- 5 Commanded to justify (John 8:13) (10)
- 6 Timothy's grandmother (2 Timothy 1:5) (4)
- 7 Killed (Psalm 78:34) (4)
- 10 One of Graham Kendrick's best-known songs, — — King (3,7)
- 12 Indecency (Mark 7:22) (8)
- 13 Unceasing (Jeremiah 15:18) (8)
- 16 He prophesied 'the abomination that causes desolation' (Matthew 24:15) (6)
- 18 British Board of Film Classification (1,1,1,1)
- 19 Pans (anag.) (4)



CAN YOU HELP WRAP UP WIGAN?

As the weather turns colder, we are inviting supporters and businesses to help vulnerable families and individuals facing crisis this winter. With the cost-of-living crisis, rising energy and fuel bills, increasing food prices and rising inflation the winter months are looking bleak for many families and individuals in our borough. The harsh reality is many people will be cold, hungry, or destitute as they are plunged deeper into poverty.

We urgently need your help so families and individuals can stay warm and fed in Wigan. Can you donate any of the following to support the most vulnerable members of our community?

Electric blankets (new pls) / warm blankets
 Hot water bottles / hand warmers
 Thermal clothing (adults & children)

Padded coats / body warmers / fleeces
 Hats / gloves / socks / slippers
 Slow cookers

You can donate or collect warm winter items at any of our retail shops:

The Leigh Shop 13 Railway Road Leigh WN7 4AA Monday to Saturday 9.30 – 4.30pm
 The Wigan Shop 160 Gidlow Lane Wigan WN6 7EA Monday to Friday 9.30 – 4.30pm, Saturday 10am – 3pm

The Brick Works 4 Hodson St Wigan WN3 4EN Monday-Friday 9.45am – 4.15pm, second Saturday of the month, 9am-1pm

To request an electric blanket or slow cooker please call us on 01942 236 953 or email enquiries@thebrick.org.uk More here > <https://buff.ly/3cls76s>



Light! Sunbursts of light!

Our Team Rector, Neil, sees the Christ light of hope burning brightly across Church Wigan even through a difficult winter.

Taking place during the darkest days of the year, the ancient tradition of Advent has always drawn on images of light and darkness, recalling Isaiah's prophecy of great 'sunbursts' of hope for those living in shadow and the Fourth Gospel's poetic description of Jesus as an unquenchable light. Advent is a bright candle in the gloom of our present difficulties, and its focus on Christ's Second Coming, when he will usher in the new creation where there will be no more sickness, or tears, or even death, helps us remain watchful and hopeful even when circumstances seem to point only to disappointment and defeat.

Certainly, the Advent imagery of 'light! sunbursts of light!' illuminating the deep shadows of our current situation is apt for us in Church Wigan this winter. The cost-of-living crisis is already tightening its fearful grip on many; yet our pantries, 'Warm Spaces' and diverse hospitality offered by the church are blessing a host of neighbours both young and old. The desperate legacy of Covid in the church has been, generally, to wither Sunday attendance and traditional sources of income; yet where the church is reaching out to its neighbours in practical demonstration of God's love, there is more growth than we've seen for a long time. Moreover, income for ministries such as our 'Lifted' social justice network and Wigan Next Generation has been staggering. Light is shining brightly despite the darkness.

Difficult days are ahead, for sure. The Right Buildings Review has begun and while it is desperately needed, it will inevitably bring us some heartbreak and lament. But let the stories of hope stir up our faith that God will be with us on our journey through the shadows.

January Holy Days

6th January: Gold, frankincense and myrrh for the infant Jesus

Epiphany is also known as 'Twelfth Night', or the last night of the Christmas festival. According to the song, it is also the day when that over-enthusiastic 'true love' of yours dumps no less than 78 presents on your doorstep, among them a dozen leaping lords of the realm and a final partridge – to go with the 11 you have already been given.

In many parts of the world, 6th January is celebrated as Christmas Day. As we Western Christians are packing away our tree, the Greek Orthodox world and Catholic Spain are giving presents and celebrating the wise men, or magi. For what better time to give presents to each other, than on the day the wise men presented gold, frankincense and myrrh to the infant Jesus?

What do we make of these presents? Gold is for kingship, proclaiming a royal child. Frankincense carries a feeling of worship about it: it was used in the temple worship and indicated access to the presence of God. Frankincense is thus for worship and incarnation.

The third gift, myrrh, finds its place at Calvary. After the crucifixion, Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea prepared Jesus' body for burial, using myrrh as an embalming fluid. Thus, when the wise men visit the baby Jesus, the shadow of the cross already falls across the crib. But myrrh is also symbolic of love, so you could say that the third gift is about adoration as well as death. And Christ's death on the cross is for love of the Church, His bride.

As for the magi, they were not Jewish grandees, but foreign Gentiles. And so it was clear, from as early as the manger in Bethlehem, that Jesus was not just the Messiah for the Jews, but the Saviour of the whole world.

1st January: The naming of Jesus

Matthew and Luke tell how the angel instructed that Mary's baby was to be named Jesus - a common name meaning 'saviour'. The Church recalls the naming of Jesus on 1st January - eight days after 25th December (by the Jewish way of reckoning days). In Jewish tradition, the male babies were circumcised and named on their eighth day of life.

For early Christians, the name of Jesus held a special significance. In Jewish tradition, names expressed aspects of personality. Jesus' name permeated His ministry, and it does so today: we are baptised in the name of Jesus (Acts 2:38), we are justified through the name of Jesus (1 Cor 6:11); and God the Father has given Jesus a name above all others (Phil 2:9). All Christian prayer is through 'Jesus Christ our Lord', and it is 'at the name of Jesus' that one day every knee shall bow.

Crossword Answers

ACROSS: 1, Cock. 3, Shackles. 8, Play. 9, Paradise. 11, Faithfully. 14, Enmesh. 15, Unseen. 17, Armageddon. 20, Benjamin. 21, Beri. 22, Capitals. 23, USPG.

DOWN: 1, Cup of tea. 2, Charisma. 4, Heap up. 5, Challenged. 6, Lois. 7, Slew. 10, The Servant. 12, Lewdness. 13, Unending. 16, Daniel. 18, BBFC. 19, Snap.



Together with local businesses, we are working to reduce the amount of food going to land fill. The pantry is regularly stocked with food that is near its sell by date but can still be used to feed bellies not bins.

St Thomas' Church Hall, Ashton in Makerfield

Tuesday 11am–12pm

Thursday 3pm–4pm

Saturday 11am–12pm

Sunday 3pm–4pm

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Any additional monies shall be used to build a pantry and kitchen behind the church hall.



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Tel: 01942 272027

Danesbrook House,
21 Ladies Lane,
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Stretton House, 23 Hall Green, Upholland T: 01695 622099 • Templeton Lodge, Templeton Road, Platt Bridge T: 01942 863936
Carina Lodge, 178 Tyldesley Rd, Atherton T:01942 318025 • Century House, 6-8 Wigan Road, Hindley T:01942 318081



January Services

| | St Thomas' | St Luke's |
|----------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Sunday 1st | 10.30am Worship Together | 11.00am Family Worship |
| Thursday 5th | 9.45am BCP Holy Communion | |
| Sunday 8th | 9.00am Holy Communion 10.45am Worship Together | 11.00am Holy Communion |
| Thursday 12th | 9.45am BCP Holy Communion | |
| Sunday 15th | 9.00am Morning Worship 10.45am Holy Communion 6.30pm Evening Prayer | 11.00am: Family Worship |
| Thursday 19th | 9.45am BCP Holy Communion | |
| Sunday 22nd | 9.00am Holy Communion 10.45am Worship Together | 11.00am Family Worship |
| Thursday 26th | 9.45am BCP Holy Communion | |
| Sunday 29th | 10.30am: All Wigan South service at Holy Trinity | |



Wishing you all a Happy New Year with the hope that you will have many blessings in the year to come.

News from our churches

Toys and gifts

This year thanks to the amazing generosity of St Thomas's congregation we were able to supply 3 toys/gifts to 68 children aged 0-18yrs from the 2 homeless units, 2 women's aids, Stay Well centre and children of asylum seekers. As well as these 68 children we were able to give loads of toys for the food bank and pantry who are in a position to identify local children in need. All these children are very unlikely to receive any more presents this Christmas, so your contributions are vital. I received this message from Susan Smith-

"The scheme I work at have benefitted from your donations over the years I can't put into words how grateful we are. Faces light up when we give gifts to families who are homeless and stressed and worry how they can afford a gift for their children. Thank you"

Once again thank you for your continued support.

Patricia Hamilton

Pat came to the service at St Thomas's on 11th December and gave an explanation to the congregation of the children who would benefit from the gifts and the joy which the gifts will bring to them. She also expressed her thanks on behalf of the team working with these children and their families. Pat has been organising the distribution of the gifts following our annual Toy Service for more years than I can remember and deserves our grateful thanks for all that she does.

Finance

We face the beginning of another new year with continued difficulties we hope and pray that the worse effects of the covid pandemic are behind us but ahead we face the cost-of-living problems, and the energy price hikes. It is against this background that once again I am including this reminder of our dependence as a church on our church members for our finance. We are all having to give serious consideration to our personal budgets looking to the year ahead. Can I urge you

to also reconsider your personal response to your donation to St Thomas and St Luke's. If you use our envelope scheme and we are very grateful for your regular offerings, new sets for 2023 are being distributed for use in January.

The Parish Giving Scheme has been of great benefit to our church finances since it was set up a few years ago. The schemes can be commended for its advantages to the church. This scheme involves a payment direct from your bank in the sum that you decide however, if you are a taxpayer, we receive the gift aid tax refund within ten days of your monthly donation being received rather than having to wait for the completion of the annual claim at the end of the tax year. It also assists the Treasurer knowing what funds will be available. It is never too late to sign up to the scheme, I will be delighted to give you any additional information that you require as will Sarah and Phil our Treasurers.

December events

The month of December, Advent in our church calendar is a busy time in our churches as we prepare to celebrate the arrival of the baby who changed the world for ever.

We can look back on several events through the month, the Christmas fayre showing our church building and our people at the very best. The wreath making, the afternoon teas and the Snowman drive at St Luke's. A lot of effort by the people arranging these events and much enjoyment by all taking part. A thanks also to Maurice and Allison Smith for throwing open their home for a series of Advent celebrations in the afternoons and evenings.

The magazine will go to print before many other of our Christmas services and activities will have taken place but I would just like to thank all who arranged, attended or took any part whatsoever, where would we be without you!

A special thanks to Jess our editor for a wonderful monthly magazine produced by her hard work and dedication and finally I wish you all a happy and healthy New Year and a thanks for taking and reading our magazine.

Malcolm

Our resident historian David Fearnley has penned another article reflecting on the past of our town and its people.

204 of the 250 miners were killed leaving 93 widows and 282 orphans. Many of the deceased could only be identified by their clothing or pocket watches. The majority of the miners came from Haydock and some from Ashton and Newton. 11th – 16th June there was a continuous procession of horse - pulled hearses as 42 of the deceased were buried at St. Thomas', Ashton.

Many families lost several members since many of the younger boys were employed as pony drivers or as drawers working alongside their elder brothers or fathers taking full tubs of coal to the haulage and returning with empty tubs. The explosion was the result of a great inflow of gas, probably due to a roof fall, the cause of ignition was not determined. A relief fund was set up by Lord Derby, of Knowsley Hall, Liverpool, which raised £25,000 (£2 million, today).

THE WOOD PIT, HAYDOCK, DISASTER 7/6/1878 (Part 1)

A gravestone within the Warrington Road graveyard bears the tragic inscription - "In Memory of Catherine, wife of Nathan Boon, who died 24/3/1877 aged 42. Nathan Boon, aged 45, Isaac their son aged 21, John their son, aged 19, Thomas their son aged 18, William their son, aged 16, Joseph their son aged 14. Who lost their lives in the Wood Pit Explosion June 7, 1878".

The Wood Pit, on Vista Road, was owned by Richard Evans & Co., of Haydock. On the morning of June 7th 1878 250 men and boys began their shift at the Wood Pit. At 11am there was a terrific explosion below ground due to an ignition of firedamp/gas. The force of the explosion ran along the underground workings and up both the down and up shafts sending smoke and dust into the sky. Underground was a scene of carnage with mutilated bodies and ponies scattered throughout the tunnels and coal tubs embedded into the roof of the workings. Those not killed by the explosion succumbed to the afterdamp of poisonous gas produced by the burning gas.

Burials at St. Thomas', Ashton

11/6/1878

William Winstanley, 12, Haydock; (pony lad, Old Boston, brother of James & son of Samuel Winstanley, below)

Joseph Hindley, 15, Haydock; (pony lad, Old Boston, brother of John & James, below, father deceased, Queen Pit, Haydock, explosion 1868)

John Hindley, 12, Haydock; (pony lad, Old Boston)

Thomas Dixon, 48, Haydock; (dataller = labourer paid by the day)

Edward Sutton, 46, Ashton;

William Wilcock, 61, Haydock; (dataller, Kenyon's Lane)

Edward Waterworth, 50, Haydock; (Old Boston, father of Henry & Thomas, below)

William Smith, 33, Ashton; (Heath Road)

Thomas Winstanley, 13, Ashton, (pony lad)

Henry Waterworth, 21, Haydock (drawer, Old Boston)

12/6/1878

James Wilde, 23, Haydock; (Penny Lane)

Joseph Whittle, 26, Haydock; (Old Boston, brother of Thomas, below, both sons of James Whittle, below)

James Pierpoint, 17, Haydock; (drawer, Penny Lane)

Thomas Pilling, 28, Haydock

To be continued
David A. Fearnley

Mothers' Union



In accordance with our usual tradition there will be no meetings in January; however looking forward to our belated Christmas meal for members and friends at Bryn Masonic Hall on Friday 27th January, this is one week later than our usual date. The time for the event is 7.00pm to dine at 7.30pm. I look forward to seeing everyone there and if you haven't done so already please let me have the £21.00 cost of the meal and your menu choice no later than 8th January.

Advance Notices

Saturday 11th February is our Brunch in the Church Hall from 11.00am to 1.00pm. We will be having our usual raffle, cake stall and tombola. As always, we do rely on contributions from our members and of course your attendance at the event. Both are greatly appreciated.

Wednesday 15th February in St Thomas' Church Hall, our Annual General Meeting starts at 7.30pm. This meeting which is open to everyone gives a real opportunity for anyone interested in finding out more about the organisation and in particular the work of our branch. You can discover that the MU is active not only here at St Thomas but also more widely in the Deanery, the Diocese and overseas.

A generous response once again from our members to the provision of Christmas Presents for the residents at Coops Foyer. They were very welcome and as always very much appreciated. A big thank you from me and from the recipients.

I am aware that not all our members have had the opportunity of letting me or Pauline our treasurer have their subs for the year and it would be of considerable help if they could be paid as soon as possible. In turn a big thank you to all those who have already paid.

Reflection

The circumstances which unite people together are various whether supporting the same sports team, espousing a political ideology, bonding over a shared life event, matters of faith and many more. It is more difficult however, to work for or sustain unity where differences exist between individuals and Groups. But God calls us to live together in unity and knowing our struggles, sends us the Holy Spirit as our Helper. So at the start of a new year we can make a resolution to pray for and pursue unity, knowing we have the power of the Spirit to help us

***Wishing you a healthy and happy New Year
Love and God bless
Barbara***

Flower Guild Donations

In loving memory of our dear friend Hilda Edwardson

From

Mary Hardman

Margaret and Les Cook

Margaret Lyon

Barbara Davies

Jean and Les Johnson

Kath Pilling

Meta Laites

Linda Malley

Jean Boon



Christmas remembrance of Austin Bullen
From his loving wife Jean and family

Flowers in Church for Hilda Edwardson
Donated by the Flower Guild

Donations Information

Regular Giving: We have traditionally taken envelope donations in our plate offerings and these monies help towards the payment that has to go to the diocese each month. If you are unable to get to a service and wish to still use your envelopes, please deliver them, to Malcolm and Barbara's (32 Townfields). In the alternative, please consider switching to the Parish Giving Scheme by phoning 0333 002 1271 as we can get the tax back much quicker this way.

Donations: Please place any donations in an envelope with your full name and amount written on it. Please post this through the Vicarage door. Please make cheques payable to St Thomas' PCC. If you want the donation to be for something specific, please write clearly on the envelope.

Gift Aid: If you pay tax in the UK and would like church to be able to claim 25p for every £1 you donate, please complete a Gift Aid form or state on your envelope that you are a UK tax payer, would like church to claim Gift Aid and include your full name and address.

Wills and Legacies: If you wish to discuss any issues around Wills and Legacies please ring the Parish Treasurer, Sarah Riley, on 01942 722747.

Funds currently in use are:

- Africa Fund
- Asylum Seek
- Audio Visual
- Church Hall
- Buildings and Maintenance
- Food Ministry
- Garden of Rest
- General
- Grave Maintenance
- Heath Road Graveyard
- Heating
- Fit for the Future

Unless otherwise stated, donations will go into the General fund

Donations & Remembrance



Anniversary Remembrance (28th December) and Birthday Remembrance (31st January) of **Edna Brown**, a much loved Mum, Nan and Great Nan who is sadly missed by all.

From Geoff, Denise, Julie and their families.

In loving memory of **Piers Unsworth, Mary Alice Unsworth**
and **Clifford Harold Unsworth**

from Jack, Barbara, Ann Marie and John

Christmas Remembrance of a dear husband, Dad and Grandad, **Austin Bullen**
from Wife Jean, Karen & Keith, Jaki & Simon, Toni & Ben

Sadly missed

Christmas Remembrance of **Ken**, a dear husband, Dad and Grandad
from Meta & Family

In memory of **Doris, Walter** and **Gilbert Evans**

from Val & Roy Heaton

In memory of my lovely friend **Ron Boon**

from Barbara Myler

In memory of **Hilda Edwardson**

From Barbara and Malcolm

Donations for General, Garden of Rest, Building & Maintenance, Graveyard

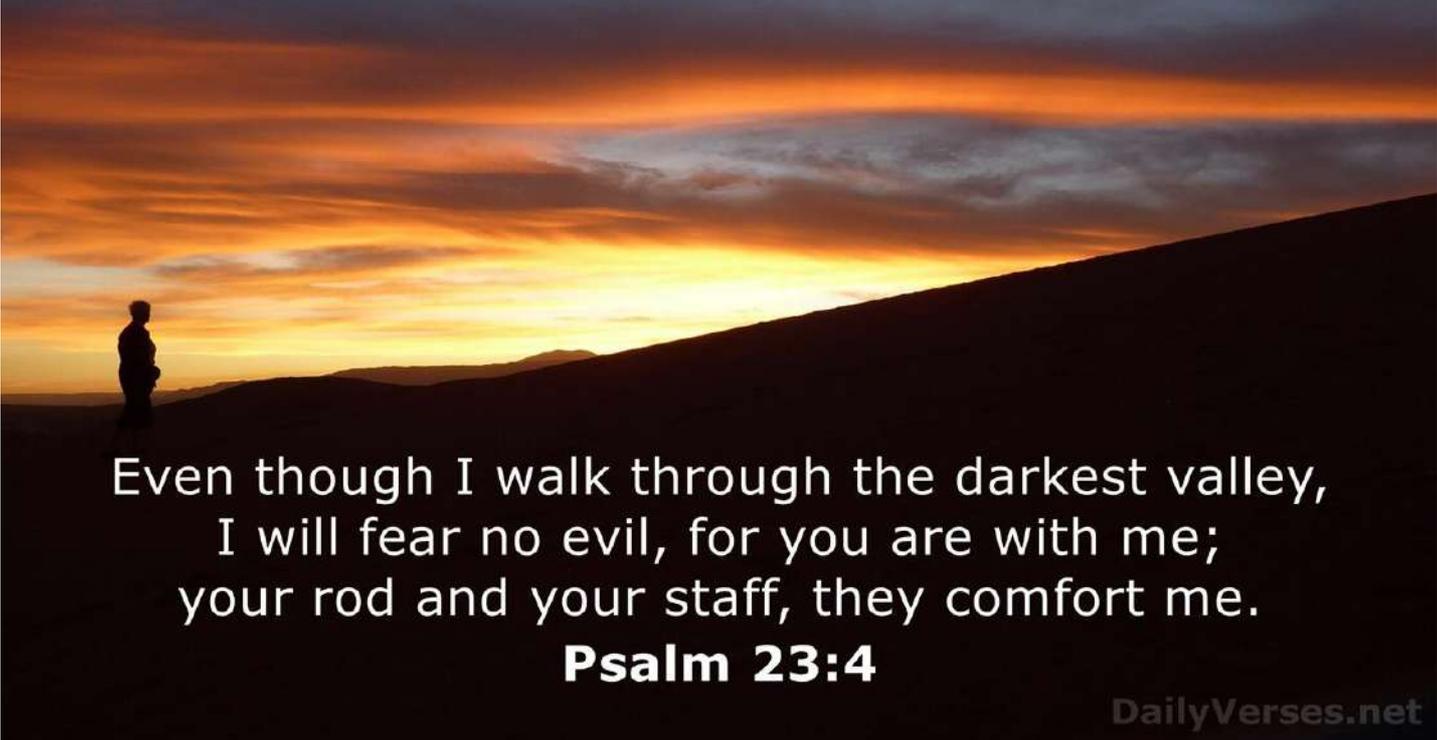


The Registers



Funerals or Burials of Ashes 'May they rest in peace'

| | | |
|-------------|------------------|----|
| 2 December | William Gibbs | 80 |
| 9 December | Doreen Grindley | 74 |
| 14 December | Yvonne Smalley | 78 |
| 19 December | Keith Sutton | 69 |
| 28 December | Margaret Gerrard | 82 |
| 28 December | Jean Darling | 90 |
| 30 December | Hilda Kimmins | 89 |



Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Psalm 23:4

DailyVerses.net

St Thomas' and St Luke's Organisations

Coffee Mornings

Tues 10am–12pm at St Thomas'
Barbara Taylor
205136

Wednesday Weenies

Wed 1pm–2.30pm in Church Hall
Jan Cornthwaite
721626

Mothers' Union

3rd Wed 7.30pm at St Thomas'
Barbara Taylor
205136

Fairtrade Stall

3rd Sun 11.45am at St Thomas'
Anne Wooff
724207

Litter Pick

3rd Sat 10am–12pm from Church Hall car park
Chris Wooff
724207

Flower Guild

Meta Laites
723679

Asylum Seeker Support

English Class
Thurs 2pm - 3pm
Social Drop in
Sun 1pm - 3pm

Bowling Club

Henry Hunter
712709

Anne & Chris Wooff
724207

For more information, please visit our website at
stthomasstluke.org.uk

Ashton Pantry Sue Thomas 07877704645

Tuesday & Saturday 11am - 12pm

Thursday & Sunday 3pm - 4pm

Youth Clubs

JYC: (for Y3–Y6) Mon 6pm - 7pm

JYC Extra: Mon 5.30pm - 6pm

Friday Youth Club: 7pm–8pm fortnightly

11–18 year olds : Sun 6pm–7pm

Children's Sunday Clubs at St Thomas' Karen Cunliffe 07721770305

Sunday 10.45am

Girl Guiding Rachel Starkie 718350

Brownies: Thursday 6.30pm

Guides: Tuesday 7.00pm

St Thomas' and St Luke's Church Officials

Sunday Morning Worship Local Mission

Leaders

St Thomas': Jan Cornthwaite 721626
St Luke's: Carole Pye 517318

Readers

Tricia Hancox 201540
Alan Harrison 718618
Carole Pye 517318
Helen Weavers 07796334457

Assistant Wardens

St Thomas': Tony Cornthwaite 721626
Paula Gillespie 711270

St Luke's: Carol Pye 517318
John Boon 204082

St Thomas' Deputy Wardens

Barbara Taylor 205136

Assistant Treasurers

St Thomas': Phil Hayton
phaytonuk@yahoo.co.uk
St Luke's: John Boon 204082

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cheryl.knowles@churchwigan.org

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Malcolm Taylor 205136

Electoral Roll Secretary

Ruth Laemmel see below

Asylum Seeker Support

Anne & Chris Wooff 724207

Children, Young People & Families

Jan Corthwaite 721626

Flowers

Meta Laites 723679

Church Architect

Bill Schafer 717300

St Thomas' Worship Group

Mary Owen 203277

St Thomas' Organist

Paul Tushingham 711085

Magazine Distribution

Vacant

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St Thomas' and St Luke's
Church, Ashton in Makerfield