

St Thomas' and St Luke's Ashton - in - Makerfield Magazine



March 2021

50p

www.stthomasstluke.org.uk

Church Services in St Thomas' and St Luke's

Sundays

St Thomas'

1st Sunday

9am Communion
10.45 All Age
Worship

2nd Sunday

9am Morning

**SUSPENDED AT
PRESENT**

in the hub
ones in the hub

at 11am

Communion

Family Worship

Family Worship

Weekdays

Thursday 9.45am
Holy Communion (BCP)
in St Thomas'

Please see weekly notice sheet or visit
website for additional services details or
exceptions.

Deadlines: Handwritten material should be given to Malcolm Taylor and email material to magazine@stthomasstluke.org.uk

Deadline	March	April
Hand Written	12th February	19th March
Emailed	19th February	26th March
Magazine Release	28th February	4th March

Contents

<u>Letter from Sue</u>	4
<u>Mothers' Union</u>	6
<u>News from our churches</u>	8
<u>Food for Thought</u>	13
<u>Crossword</u>	14
<u>Wordsearch</u>	16
<u>Bible Belt</u>	17
<u>March Holy Days</u>	18
<u>The Reality of Life and Death</u>	20
<u>Donations & Remembrance</u>	34
<u>The Registers</u>	36

Important Information

Baptisms

Baptisms normally held at St Thomas' Church at 12.45pm on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

Baptisms at St Luke's are at 11am on the 3rd Sunday.

To qualify for baptism parents should live within the parish boundaries or be a regular worshipper at St Thomas's or St Luke's. Parents and godparents should have been baptised and be prepared to attend a baptism preparation session.

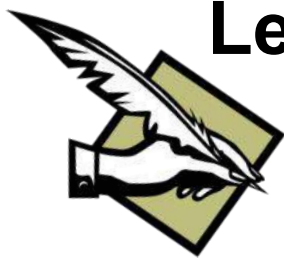
Funerals

Every parishioner has the right to a service in church (if church is open), 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 ring 01942 727275 or email office@stthomasstluke.org.uk



Letter from Sue

I love reading and watching films and I like to fully immerse myself in the story. If I start a book and am enjoying it, then I really don't want to put it down and will read into the small hours to finish it. I must also confess

that I am one of those people who would prefer to know the ending before I start to invest my time and so I check out the last few pages of a book, or the end of the film plot on-line to make sure it is relatively happy. I know that some of you will find this quite an alien concept, as does my husband, but as long as I don't give anything away to him, we can enjoy watching films together.

This year we recommended that people take up the Church of England resource #LiveLent: *God's story Our story*. I know the ending to this story on Easter morning and so don't need to look it up. However, there are parts of the story I don't know well and so I am looking forward to following it.

Archbishops Justin and Stephen have written a foreword to the book reminding us that,

"Stories take us out of ourselves.

It's not that stories give us an escape. In fact, the best stories are ones where we find ourselves in, as they tell of relating and loving, suffering and hoping, facing dangers and difficulties, holding out for change.

As Christians we have been given the most wonderful story of all. A story which on the one hand is like our own – it's about people like us. But, on the other hand, it tells us about a God we can hardly grasp.

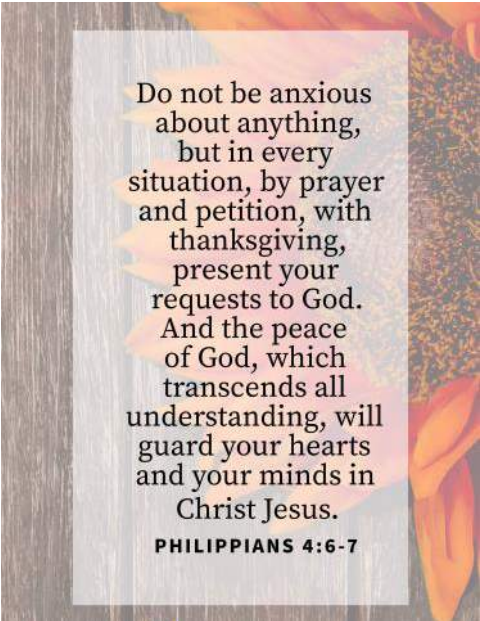
The invitation of this year's #LiveLent to all of us is to participate in God's story. To make it so much part of our own stories that our own lives become impossible to understand without it."

Please don't feel it is too late to join in. We can order a book for you for £3 (to cover postage) or better still, why not use the app that is free?

#LiveLent challenges us further, and this is the part that many of us feel uncomfortable about. Having heard God's story and through the way God works in our lives and how we respond to that, we create our own story. It could be how having God with us as we journey through a tough time, has made a difference, or how we have had prayers answered, or many other ways that knowing God has changed our lives.

It is this story, our story, that we are being encouraged to talk about. Maybe you could jot down a few different stories you might have and think about how you could use them naturally in conversations. Why not share your story with Christian friends to practise which will also encourage them, as we all like to hear more about how God changes situations. Hopefully then you will be able to *"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have"* (from 1 Peter 3:15).

Sue Thomas



Do not be anxious
about anything,
but in every
situation, by prayer
and petition, with
thanksgiving,
present your
requests to God.
And the peace
of God, which
transcends all
understanding, will
guard your hearts
and your minds in
Christ Jesus.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7



Mothers' Union

I would never have believed it but with all the help I could possibly need being available to me I decided that we should meet on zoom for our AGM. It was of course quite a short, straight forward meeting with nothing to do other than the essential formalities of the Secretaries and Treasurer report, the approval of the accounts and my report as Branch Leader. Each of which were shorter than usual having regard to our present circumstances. I was most grateful to Jan, who kindly agreed to chair the meeting and lead me through the technicalities. Also to those who passed on the message of the meeting to others and those who were able to join us.

Perhaps from this experience we could try a regular meeting with a speaker, lets see.

When June Houghton was our Diocesan President we were linked with Myanmar. June visited the country and while there she met Marilyn and Rachel. In turn she invited them to visit Liverpool. They were taken round the Cathedral and she brought them to Wigan. They had a look round the Parish Church and Deanery members joined them at the Wheel Restaurant where we had a lovely meal and evening. Unfortunately June has been unable to contact them by phone since the uprising. Please pray that they are safe and that the unrest will be over soon.





Mothers' Union

A reflective prayer for Mothering Sunday

As you join with others across the country in this prayer, take a moment after every section to bring your own response to God and to remember those you know for whom it is particularly relevant.

God of celebration,
who rejoices with those who rejoice,
we pray for those for whom Mothering Sunday
is a time of thanksgiving and joy.

God of compassion,
who weeps with those who weep,
we pray for those for whom Mothering Sunday
is a time of heartache and pain.

God of community,
who calls the children to come to him,
we thank you that your love abounds
for families of every kind.

God of comfort,
who gathers us as a hen gathers its chicks,
we thank you that your love surrounds
the disappointed and hurt.

God of every circumstance,
we bring our thanks and praise
that we belong to your family
as your beloved children. Amen

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us,
that we should be called children of God!
And that is what we are!

1 John 3:1

Love and Prayers

Barbara x₇

News from our churches

New piano

We are extremely grateful to the family of the late Audrey Watson whose funeral took place in the church hall on the 24 February. The family have very generously made a gift to the church of the piano which they made available for use at the funeral. It is a very handsome instrument and will be a very welcome addition once things return to something like normality. Although Audrey Watson lived in Birmingham the Watson family have strong connection to Ashton. I am sure that many of you will know that the houses built in Vicarage Road, St Oswald's Road etc were all originally built by the Watson building company and is still referred to as the Watson Estate.

Church progress

I am pleased to report that work on the re-order is continuing to plan. The concrete base has been laid along with the insulation and ducts for the electrics and the pipe work for the heating is now underway. When that is completed a further screed will be necessary to prepare the way for the final finish. The form which that will take is currently being considered. It is important the final flooring can be used for a wide variety of purposes. I am looking forward to the time when the current covid restrictions can be lifted and the church returned to a place of worship where we can again join together in fellowship.

Malcolm

I am sure that you will be intrigued by the latest article by David Fearnley who reveals the mystery of the missing crypt read on.

THE MISSING BURIAL VAULT BENEATH ST. THOMAS' CHURCH

The replacing of the floor in St. Thomas' church provides a rare opportunity to determine if there is a burial vault beneath the floor. In 1745 a burial vault beneath the chancel in Ashton Chapel was built by Legh Master of the New Hall, Ashton in Makerfield. The New Hall was a large mansion house that was situated on what is now the Ashton in Makerfield golf course. In 1771 Legh's son, Legh Master the younger, sold the New Hall to the Gerard family. The building became known as Garswood New Hall and remained the residence of the Gerard family until its demolition in 1921. The New Hall dates from the 15th century when it was owned and probably built by the Gerard's. In 1634 the New Hall estate was sold to John Launder of Winwick for £170. John Launder in 1615 had been an assistant to Josiah Horne, rector of Winwick. In 1716 John Launder's great-granddaughter Margaret Launder (1695 – 1733) married Legh Master of Codnor Castle, Derbyshire, and the New Hall estate passed into the ownership of the Master family. Legh made the New Hall his main residence and became the MP for Newton(1721 – 1741); Mayor of Wigan in 1726 and he had a gallery/pew in Ashton Chapel. Legh and Margaret Master(Launder) had 8 children – Legh, Richard, Streynsham, Thomas, Elizabeth, Robert, James and Anne.

Margaret Master (Launder) died in 1733 and was buried in Sir Thomas Gerard's Chapel in St. Oswald's church, Winwick. In 1745 Legh's son, Richard Master, died aged 27. Legh recorded in his diary "Richard my second son was buried in a vault built on the occasion under the chancel of Ashton Chapel 16/10/1745 with this inscription affixed "Richard 2nd son of Legh Master Esq. and Margaret his wife. Born

19/6/1718. Died 11/10/1745. Rev. Mr. Thomas Stanley, Rector of our parish performed the funeral service which was the first time it was ever performed in Ashton". This burial is the first entry in the Register of Burials for Ashton Chapel/St. Thomas'. In 1750 Legh Master died and according to the instructions in his will Legh was to "be buried in a lead coffin to be interred in my tomb in the Chapel of Ashton. I also desire that the remains of my Dear Departed Wife, Margaret, may be removed from the Parish Church at Winwick and laid in the same tomb with mine at the Chapel above". Legh's son, Legh Master the younger, recorded in his diary 4/4/1752 "my Mother's Corpse was removed out of Sir Thomas Gerard's Chapel at Winwick and deposited in the vault at Ashton Chapel near my Father's according to his request in his will".

The original Ashton Chapel dates probably from the 15th century. In 1714 the Chapel was rebuilt (the datestone 1714 is visible in the church stonework as you enter the churchyard through the iron gate in Heath Road) and in 1746 was named the Chapel of St. Thomas the Apostle in Ashton. During this period the Master vault was built. In 1782 and again in 1815 Ashton Chapel was enlarged. In 1891 -1893 the present church was rebuilt in stone using a lot of the stone from the existing Chapel. After the sale of New Hall in 1771 the Master family left the area and no other members of the Master family were buried in the vault.

No documents exist concerning the emptying and filling in of the vault. Unfortunately no burial vault has been found during the removal of the church floor. The precise location of the early Ashton Chapel is unknown, it may have been a short distance from the present church and their foundations may not coincide. If that is the case the burial vault may be somewhere under the existing graveyard and is likely to remain a mystery.

David A. Fearnley

ACT Foodbank

Thank you to everyone who has been donating food to the foodbank in these difficult times and to Andrew and his team for all their work putting hampers together and delivering them as well as distributing food on a Friday morning.

If you would like to donate any non perishable items, the please bring them to the:

- red wheelie bin outside the foodbank cabin ; or
- The food cabin on a Friday morning between 9.30am & 11.00am (food will be distributed from the church hall doorway)

Larger items can be left at the vicarage by arrangement.

If you want to leave food items for our asylum seeker friends, these can also be left at the vicarage but please make sure your bags or boxes are clearly labelled so we know who they are meant for.

Thank you very much for your support

**SOMETIMES IT FALLS
UPON A GENERATION
TO BE GREAT,
YOU CAN BE
THAT GENERATION.**

NELSON MANDELA



Litter Pick

With lockdown restrictions still in place the February church and community litter pick was organised differently. Households worked independently and separately. Around 10 households were out in different parts of the town and a large amount of litter was tidied. Well done to everyone involved—there were many thanks from local residents remarking how different the spaces looked afterwards.

The next litter pick shall be on the 21st March, please contact us for more details.



Food for Thought

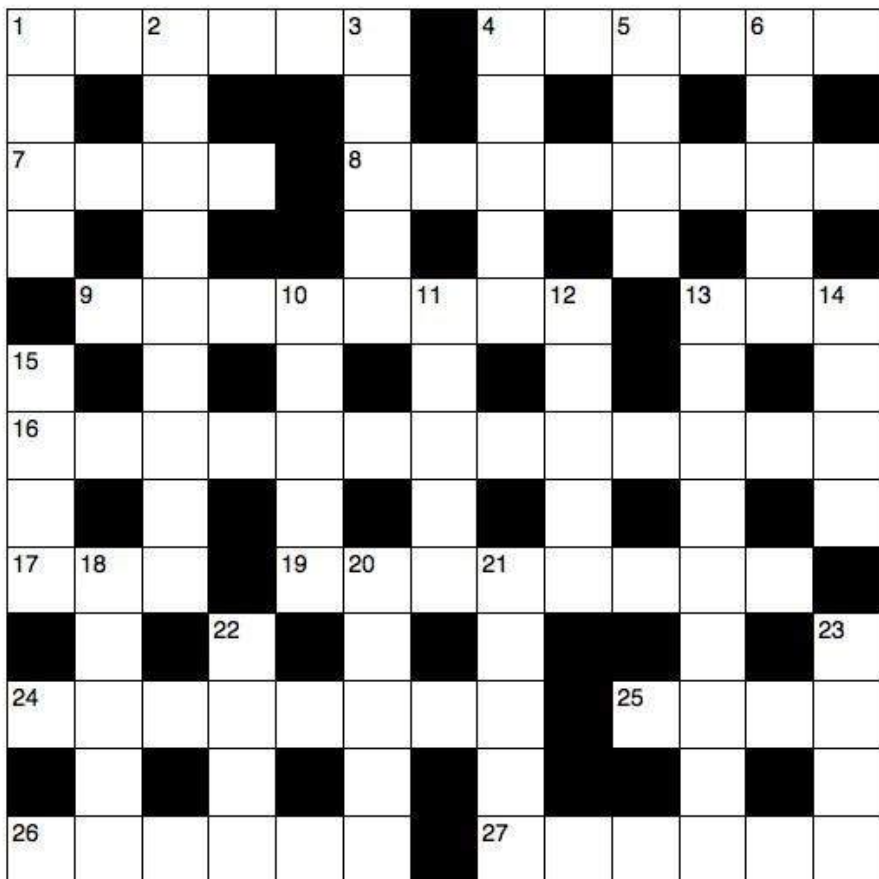
Each Sunday, from 3.30pm - 4.00pm St Thomas' Church Hall is open for anyone to come and help themselves to food that has been donated by various stores that is on or past its sell by date on a *pay as you feel* basis. Here is the recipe for a Chicken and Mushroom Pie to help make use of these foods:



- 1 large leek, chopped into 2cm pieces
 - 200g mushrooms, roughly chopped
 - 4 x 250g chicken breast fillets, cut into bite-sized pieces
 - 250ml chicken stock
 - 1 tbsp cornflour
 - 100ml double cream
 - 2 large handfuls of baby spinach leaves
 - About 6 sheets of filo pastry
1. Preheat your oven to 190°C (fan 170°C, gas mark 5).
 2. Add some oil, the leek and mushrooms to a pan and fry for 2–3 minutes until they just start to soften. Turn up the heat to high, add the chicken pieces and fry for a further 2 minutes – the chicken won't be cooked through at this point – then pour in the chicken stock and let it come to a simmer.
 3. Meanwhile, mix the cornflour with 2 tablespoons of water until smooth, then pour into the pan, along with the cream. Bring back to the boil, stirring gently, and cook until the sauce thickens. Remove from the heat and stir in the spinach, then tip the whole lot into a pie dish about 28cm x 15cm. Set aside to cool a little.
 4. Take a sheet of filo and roughly crumple it in your hands – there is no right or wrong to this method! Place the crumpled filo on top of the chicken filling in the pie dish and repeat with the remaining filo sheets.
 5. Drizzle the pastry with olive oil, then bake the pie for about 20 minutes, by which time the filo will have crisped up and turned golden brown in places.

Top Tip: you can swap the filo pastry for puff or shortcrust pastry, it may just take a little longer to cook. Or why not use up leftover potatoes and make a mash topped pie?

Crossword



Answers on page 25

Across

- 1 The earth is one (6)
4 'On a hill far away stood an old — cross' (6)
7 'I am the — vine and my Father is the gardener' (John 15:1) (4)
8 The Caesar who was Roman Emperor at the time of Jesus' birth (Luke 2:1) (8)
9 'Your — should be the same as that of Christ Jesus' (Philippians 2:5) (8)
13 Jesus said that no one would put a lighted lamp under this (Luke 8:16) (3)
16 Involvement (1 Corinthians 10:16) (13)
17 Armed conflict (2 Chronicles 15:19) (3)
19 Where the Gadarene pigs were feeding (Mark 5:11) (8)
24 What jeering youths called Elisha on the road to Bethel (2 Kings 2:23) (8)
25 The Venerable — , eighth-century Jarrow ecclesiastical scholar (4)
26 8 Across issued a decree that this should take place (Luke 2:1) (6)
27 Come into prominence (Deuteronomy 13:13) (6)

Down

- 1 Where some of the seed scattered by the sower fell (Matthew 13:4) (4)
2 Sexually immoral person whom God will judge (Hebrews 13:4) (9)
3 Gospel leaflet (5)
4 Physical state of the boy brought to Jesus for healing (Mark 9:18)
5 Tugs (anag.) (4)
6 To put forth (5)
10 Nationality associated with St Patrick (5)
11 Leader of the descendants of Kohath (1 Chronicles 15:5) (5)
12 'After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping — heel' (Genesis 25:26) (5)
13 At Dothan the Lord struck the Arameans with — at Elisha's request (2 Kings 6:18) (9)
14 'Peter, before the cock crows today, you will — three times that you know me' (Luke 22:34) (4)
15 Spit out (Psalm 59:7) (4)
18 'When I — , I am still with you' (Psalm 139:18) (5)
20 Concepts (Acts 17:20) (5)
21 Thyatira's dealer in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (5)
22 Does (anag.) (4)
23 The second set of seven cows in Pharaoh's dream were this (Genesis 41:19) (4)

Wordsearch

r	x	w	g	l	a	n	d	y	e	c	a
m	y	h	o	u	s	e	r	n	x	g	n
b	d	s	m	u	i	o	o	u	c	e	g
w	j	d	s	r	t	y	j	i	u	n	r
q	a	e	r	s	r	n	r	n	s	e	y
u	j	a	l	e	f	t	o	v	e	r	s
f	m	v	v	r	s	g	a	i	s	o	o
e	g	e	h	v	t	s	u	t	r	u	x
a	o	z	w	a	r	g	e	e	o	s	e
s	d	i	n	n	e	r	d	d	s	w	n
t	m	a	s	t	e	r	u	d	e	t	n
b	o	u	g	h	t	i	m	e	f	a	m

dinner

land

time

generous

guest

street

invited

angry

story

bought

feast

everyone

dressed

God

house

master

excuses

Jesus

married

servant

rude

oxen

town

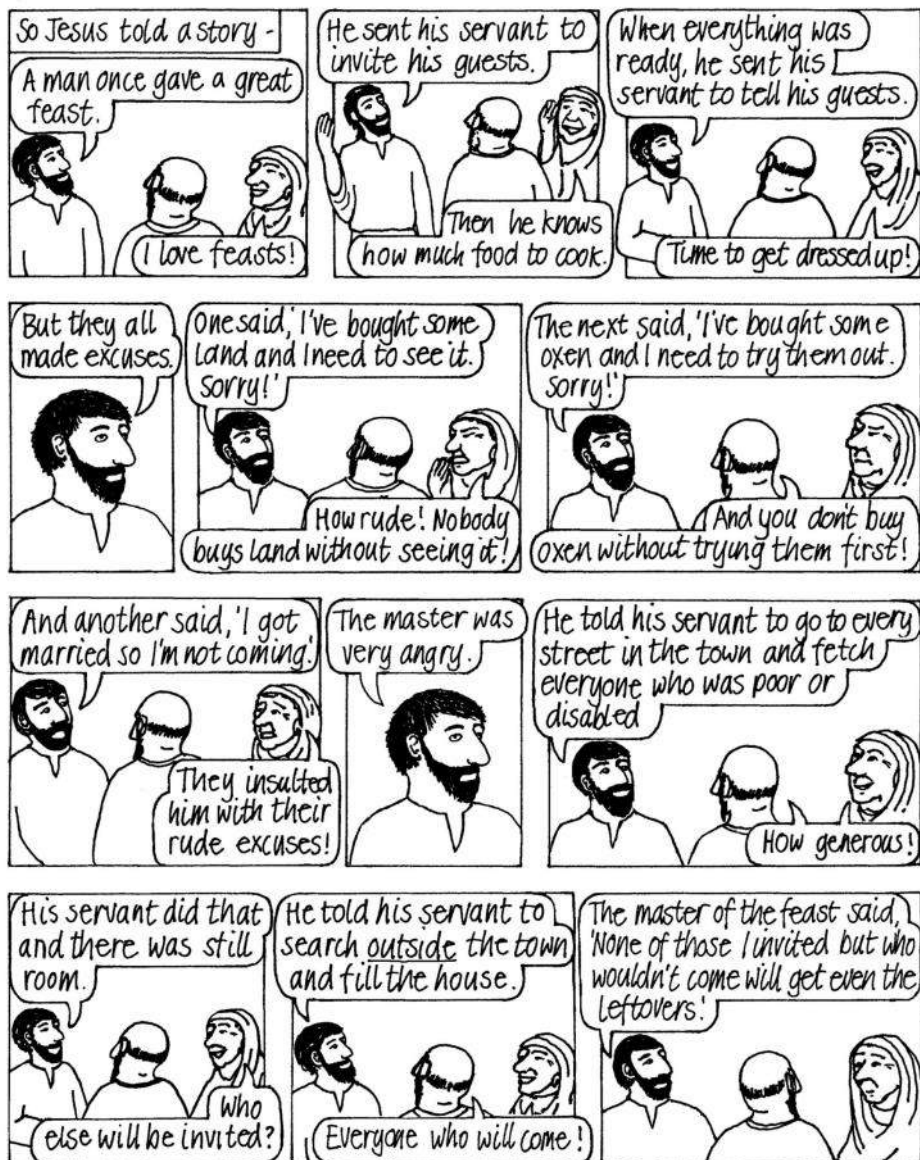
leftovers

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Luke chapter 14 verses 15-24

Jesus was at a dinner when one guest said
how good it would be to be at God's feast
for His people at the end of time.



March Holy Days

Woodbine Willie (8th March)

Here's a 'saint' that the Church of England remembers from the 1st World War – the Revd Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy MC, or 'Woodbine Willie', as everyone knew this popular, much-loved army chaplain on the Western Front.

Studdert Kennedy (27th June 1883 – 8th March 1929) had been born in Leeds as the seventh of nine children. After reading divinity and classics at Trinity College Dublin, he'd studied for ordination at Ripon Clergy College, and served his curacy at Rugby.

By the time war broke out in 1914, Studdert Kennedy was vicar of St Paul's Worcester. He soon volunteered to go to the Western Front as a chaplain to the army. Life on the front line in the trenches was a desperate affair, but soon Studdert Kennedy had hit on a way of bringing a few moments of relief to the stressed-out soldiers: as well as good cheer he gave out copious amounts of 'Woodbines', the most popular cheap cigarette of the time.

One colleague remembered Kennedy: "he'd come down into the trenches and say prayers with the men, have a cuppa out of a dirty tin mug and tell a joke as good as any of us. He was a chain smoker and always carried a packet of Woodbine cigarettes that he would give out in handfuls to us lads. That's how he got his nickname. He came down the trench one day to cheer us up. Had his Bible with him as usual. Well, I'd been there for weeks, unable to write home, of course, we were going over the top later that day. I asked him if he would write to my sweetheart at home, tell her I was still alive and, so far, in one piece... years later, after the war, she showed me the letter he'd sent, very nice it was. A lovely letter. My wife kept it until she died."

Kennedy was devoted to his men, so much so that in 1917 he was awarded the Military Cross at Messines Ridge, after running into no man's land in order to help the wounded during an attack on the German frontline.

During the war, Kennedy supported the British military effort with enthusiasm, but soon after the war, he turned to Christian socialism and pacifism. He was given charge of St Edmunds in Lombard St, London, and took to writing a number of poems about his war experiences: *Rough Rhymes of a Padre* (1918) and *More Rough Rhymes* (1919). He went on to work for the Industrial Christian Fellowship, for whom he did speaking tours. It was on one of these tours that he was taken ill, and sadly died in Liverpool in 1929. He was only 46.

His compassion and generosity in the face of the horrors of the Western Front was immortalised in the song 'Absent Friends': "Woodbine Willie couldn't rest until he'd/given every bloke a final smoke/before the killing." He himself had once described his chaplain's ministry as taking "a box of cigarettes in your haversack, and a great deal of love in your heart."

John Climacus (30th March)

Is there something down at, say, B&Q, which reminds your friends of you? John Climacus (d 649) had a thing about ladders. He was a monk in Palestine who was only seen out at the weekends (at church, not B&Q); during the week he prayed and wrote in solitude.

He wrote *The Ladder to Paradise*, a treatise of spiritual encouragement to other monks. This gave him his name 'Climacus' (= ladder), and also led to him being chosen as abbot of Sinai when he was 70. John Climacus had a helpful picture of the spiritual life: he saw it as a ladder up which the believer slowly climbed to heaven, with God's help.

The Reality of Life and Death



In one of the latest Lent reflections in a series entitled 'Encounters in the Wilderness' Sue Fulford challenges to question our own motives.

Now the man knew his wife Eve, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, 'I have produced a man with the help of the Lord.' Next she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a tiller of the ground. In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel for his part brought of the firstlings of his flock, their fat portions.

And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. The Lord said to Cain, 'Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it.'

Cain said to his brother Abel, 'Let us go out to the field.' And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. Then the Lord said to Cain, 'Where is your brother Abel?' He said, 'I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?' And the Lord said, 'What have you done? Listen; your brother's blood is crying out to me from the ground! And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you till the ground, it will no longer yield to you its strength; you will be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.'

Cain said to the Lord, 'My punishment is greater than I can bear! Today you have driven me away from the soil, and I shall be hidden from your face; I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and anyone who meets me may kill me.' Then the Lord said to him, 'Not so! Whoever kills Cain will suffer a sevenfold vengeance.' And the Lord put a mark on Cain, so that no one who came upon him would kill him. Then Cain went away from the presence of the Lord, and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

Reflection

From being a child, this story of Cain and Abel has always fascinated me. I can still remember the illustrations in my Children's Bible. I have always been so shocked that so soon in history we have the first murder. What has gone wrong – and so quickly?

Both brothers bring a sacrifice. We are told that God is pleased with Abel, but not Cain. Cain is angry with his brother and murders him. He then makes things worse by lying about it. The story ends with him being banished.

It's only a short account. If you like we are just given the bare facts. But, although short, it is a powerful account of sin and judgment, but above all of grace.

There was actually nothing wrong with Cain's sacrifice in itself. A grain offering was perfectly acceptable. The problem was Cain's attitude. Cain offered the ordinary: some of the fruits of the soil, whilst Abel offered the best: fat portions from the first born of his flock.

The quality of their offering reflects the condition of their hearts. Abel is enthusiastic in his worship, while Cain is basically uninterested. God was disappointed and yet we see the first instance of his grace towards Cain. God encourages him to change his

attitude and his actions. He tells him to “do what is right,” that is to worship him with a full heart that manifests itself in a proper offering. But he also warns Cain what will happen if he does not change. Sin will dominate him. He wanted Cain to know and to resist the pull toward violence and anger within. God warned Cain about the destructive power of sin. Cain could resist sin and find blessing, or he could give in to sin and be devoured.

We face the same choice – to listen to God’s gentle correction and guidance, or allow our sin to have the upper hand. We can only prevent sin from ruling over us by allowing God to master us first. Without God as our master, like Cain we will be slaves to sin.

It would have been easy for Cain to rectify the matter: with the help of God to take control of his life and keep sin out. But Cain is proud and hard hearted. He kills Abel because he pleased God. He allows his unrighteous anger to take control. Cain resists the controls that he perceives God trying to put on him.

And God continues to show him grace and mercy. Cain is more concerned about the punishment than the sin. God expels him to the land of Nod, a place name derived from the Hebrew verb “to wander.” Cain is fearful that once God expels him further from Eden and from his presence then he would be killed by others.

But God is merciful to Cain and protects him. He promises severe retribution on any who would harm Cain and places a mark on him to warn those who encountered Cain not to kill him.

Cain’s situation is entirely of his own making. But how often do we ignore God; how often do we find ourselves in hopeless situations entirely of our own making. Even then God’s grace and mercy find us, as they did Cain. God’s grace sustains us even when we rebel, his mercy protects us even in our defiance. His grace will not let sin and mercy completely have their own way.

Sin is destructive. But we can turn to God, resist sin and find blessing and life. We can prevent sin from ruling over us by allowing God to master us first. Without God as our master, we will be forever slaves to sin and ultimately destruction.

Sue Fulford
Associate Hub Leader
(South Hub)



Don't forget that the Church of England's #LiveLent: God's Story, Our Story is available as a free app, through email, phone and on social media. They provide reflections and activities to explore stories and themes throughout Lent and are suitable for all.

Robert Carson's Film Report

Soul (PG)

Directed by Pete Docter and Kemp Powers

Stars the Voices of: Jamie Foxx, Tina Fey, Graham Norton, Rachel House, Alice Braga, Richard Ayoade, Phylicia Rashad, Questlove, Angela Bassett, Wes Studi, Donnell Rawlings, June Squibb and Daveed Diggs



In a Nutshell: It's that time again, Pixar have a new movie out. So naturally, grab your hankies and get ready to be blown away.... Unless it's a Cars sequel, or to be fair most of their sequels other than Toy Story (yes, The Incredibles II is utterly fantastic but not in the weepy life changing way). So, after such wow factor fare as Inside Out, Coco and The Good Dinosaur... they're back to change our view on life once more (after teaching us about our emotions, and our family ties) and now they're here to tell us about our souls, literally. And it's not even close to being a surprise that once more they've pulled it off with the aid of a fine voice cast and some of the most beautiful animation that you're likely to see. Telling the simple story of a musician taken before his time and his journey to find his way back to his body... this is essentially Pixars take on A Matter of Life and Death with a sprinkling of Inside Out and Bill and Ted's Bogus Journey thrown in. The problem as ever is discussing too much without giving much away... suffice to say it's full of visual delights in the way the afterlife is presented and some of the fantastically diverse and unique characters we encounter (Graham Norton is a delight as a free spirit called Moonwind who is a massive help to our hero) plus with our hero being an aspiring Blues musician the approach to appreciating Jazz and music is very nicely handled too. As ever with Pixar, this will hit you right in the feels and is certainly one to be discovered by all ages and couldn't be recommended more. Rather than say too much, I'll simply urge you to check this one out right now if you can, you won't regret it.

Rating: 10/10

Also Seen

Free Willy II: The Adventure Home (U) (1995) 7/10

Only You (PG) (1995) 6/10

Little Women (U) (1995) 9/10

Willys Wonderland (15) (2021) 7/10

The Cloverfield Paradox (15) (2018) 4/10

The Hudsucker Proxy (PG) (1994) 9/10

The Sandlot (PG) (1993) 8/10

Retro Review

Captain America: The First Avenger (12A)

Stars: Chris Evans, Hugo Weaving, Stanley Tucci, Hayley Atwell, Dominic Cooper, Tommy Lee Jones, Toby Jones, Richard Armitage, and Derek Luke

Released: July 29th 2011

Synopsis: A young soldier named Steve Rogers, volunteers to undergo a series of experiments for a US army Super Soldier program. The military succeeds in transforming him into a human weapon, but quickly decide that their Super Soldier is far too expensive a creation to risk in combat. So, they decide to put him to use as an army celebrity and parade him across Europe to boost morale by performing in USO shows for American troops. He is even given a costume that bears the colours of Old Glory for the stage. Then, when a Nazi plot reveals itself Rogers must rise up and become the First Avenger, in order to save his country. Steve Rogers becomes Captain America and he earns his way into the hearts and souls of every American, bringing hope and justice to a war-weary nation.

The Verdict: There's been something very cool going on recently, starting with 2008's epic Iron Man and continuing via the same year's Incredible Hulk, last year's Iron Man 2 and this year's Thor... it's a very special film out next Summer called the Avengers in which all the great heroes will unite to create a super team of heroes to take on a deadly threat, and the last of these to get a movie is the big guy, Captain America. But rather than modern day USA or the otherworldly plains of Asgard, this is set in good old USA in the 1940's during the war... so immediately it's set apart from the whizz bang of Iron Man or Thor, but it's still got an explosive kick! Chris Evans is suitably terrific in the lead, embodying the spirit and courage of the character even if he should be funnier mainly because that's why I loved Evans in The Losers and Fantastic Four, his Ryan Reynolds-esque charm with a one liner. Hugo Weaving gives good Nazi as the evil Red Skull, not an amazingly deep character but a brilliant baddie nonetheless, whilst Atwell is a suitably strong female lead and there's lovely support from Tucci, a weaselly Toby Jones, Dom Cooper brilliantly channelling Downey Jr as Tony's dad Howard Stark, and a beautifully grumpy and gruff Tommy Lee Jones with all the best lines. It's essentially a gung-ho exciting boys own adventure with a touch of the fantastical via all the comic book machinations and otherworldly plot points involving Odin's cube and the laser guns, all of which leads into his team up with Iron Man and co, but how I can't say, suffice to say stick around during the credits and you'll be even more excited for Summer 2012!!

8/10

Coming in April: Reviews of Coming 2 America and Raya and the Last Dragon

Find us on Facebook!
bridgewaterdaycare.golborne



Bridgewater
Day Care
A home away from home

**ACCEPTING
NEW CLIENTS
NOW!**

An Award Winning Day Care Service

A fun and stimulating day care service providing high quality support for older people and those living with dementia.

We give time back to those with caring responsibilities.



Fun activities & entertainment

Socialisation with others

Care and support

A stimulating environment

Specialist Dementia care

"I couldn't get better day care from anywhere else, all of the staff are polite and friendly and my wife feels safe and secure"

"The day care centre is the perfect place to leave a loved one for the day"

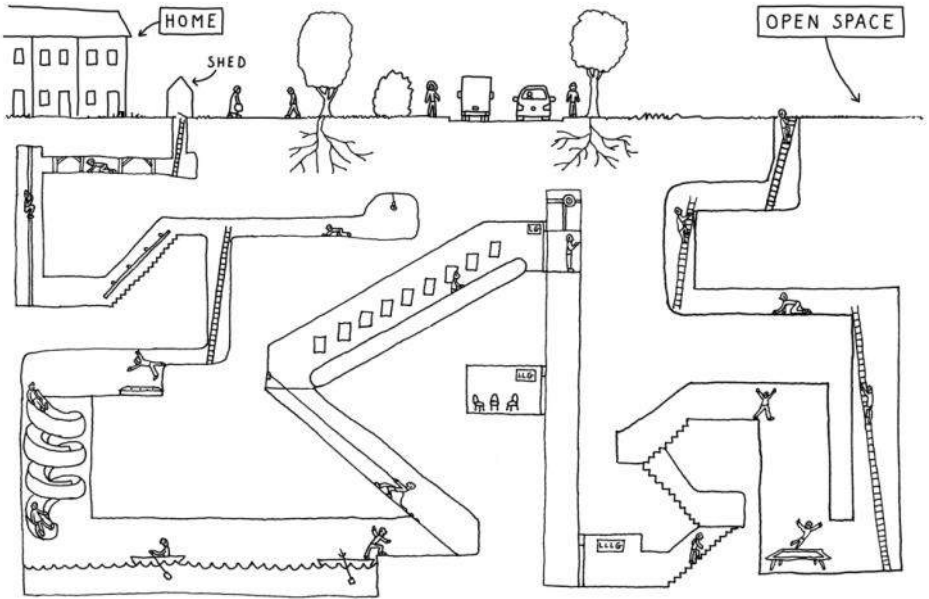
Contact us today

01942 723 115 | info@bridgewaterdaycare.co.uk

www.bridgewaterdaycare.co.uk | Bridgewater Day Care, Queen Street, Golborne WA3 3AF

EXERCISE

HOW TO AVOID EVERYONE ELSE



Crossword answers

ACROSS: 1, Planet. 4, Rugged. 7, True. 8, Augustus. 9, Attitude. 13, Bed. 16, Participation. 17, War. 19, Hillside. 24, Baldhead. 25, Bede. 26, Census. 27, Arisen.

DOWN: 1, Path. 2, Adulterer. 3, Tract. 4, Rigid. 5, Gust. 6, Exude. 10, Irish. 11, Uriel. 12, Esau's. 13, Blindness. 14, Deny. 15, Spew. 18, Awake. 20, Ideas. 21, Lydia. 22, Odes. 23, Lean.



Opening Times

Monday	9am-5pm
Tuesday	9am-5pm
Wednesday	9am-5pm
Thursday	9am-5pm
Friday	9am-5pm
Saturday	9am-4pm
Sunday	Closed Except for Mothering Sunday

Flowertime Florist

5 Bolton Road, Ashton in Makerfield, WN4 8AA

Email: flowertime.ashton@gmail.com

Tel: 01942 715716

'We use the best quality Dutch flowers for all special occasions such as Weddings, Anniversaries, Birthdays, Funeral Tributes and many more. Please call today for your free quotation'

Special Offers

- ❖ ***5% Discount on Orders Under £100 (Minimum Spend £25 to receive discount)***
- ❖ ***10% Discount on Orders Over £100***

Please present this voucher at Flowertime Florist to receive any of the above discounts. One voucher per customer.





- Quality Workmanship
- FREE No Obligation Quotes
- Trustworthy & Reliable Service
- Over 25 Years Experience
- All Aspects of Decorating Covered
- No Job Too Small

Tel: 01942 716389
Mob: 07765 078295



MOBILE SCRATCH & SCUFF REPAIR

ScratchFix Limited

IAN BOARDMAN- SMART REPAIR TECHNICIAN

Tel: 01942 274586 Mobile: 07769 717836



Mobile: 07769 717836

SCRATCHFIX LIMITED

SAVE UP TO 50% ON BODYSHOP COSTS

Don't be without your car for days.. Most repairs completed within the hour at your home or workplace

- Key and vandal scratches
- Textured bumper scuffs
- Wing mirror scrapes
- Alloy wheel repairs
- Cracked bumper repairs
- Stone chips
- Colour coded bumper scuffs
- Full body polish

Alan Jones

FUNERAL DIRECTORS LTD

Local Independent Family Business

Traditional and modern funeral services

Horse-drawn or limousine driven funeral processions

Memorial Monuments and Services

Pre-paid Funeral Plans

*Professional funeral services in the Wigan areas.
To discuss any funeral plans please don't hesitate to contact us today.*



Ashland House
87 Old Road, Ashton in Makerfield

Tel: 01942 271824 24 Hours



Danesbrook House
21 Ladies Lane
Hindley

Tel: 01942 525504

Dove Cottage
51 Johns Avenue
Haydock

Tel: 01942 724777

Millbrook House
56 High Street
Golborne

Tel: 01942 272027

info.alanjonesfunerals@gmail.com

www.alanjonesfuneraldirectors.com





☎ 01942 727985
✉ sales@eaveswaytravel.com
www.eaveswaytravel.com

5* Cruiselink Service - Private Hire - Excursions

- ▶ Eavesway Cruiselink - taking thousands of people to and from their cruise holiday each year in style and comfort
- ▶ Executive Coach Hire - perfect for school trips, sporting events and days out
- ▶ Eavesway Exclusive - the very best in luxury coach travel, ideal for corporate hospitality and special occasions

*Eavesway Travel Ltd.
Bryn Side, Bryn Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Wigan, WN4 8BT*



bowen & leeming opticians



Mon 9:00 - 17:30
Tues 9:00 - 17:30
Weds 9:00 - 17:30
Thur 9:00 - 17:30
Fri 9:00 - 17:30
Sat 9:00 - 13:00
Sun - Closed

49 Gerard Street,
Ashton-in-Makerfield,
Wigan,
WN4 9AG

01942 722386
info@bowenandleeming.com

RB | R BANKS & SON FUNERALS LTD

Brian Halliwell Dip F.D M.B.I.E.

ESTABLISHED 1921

Independent Funeral Directors • Monumental Masons

A local family run business, R. Banks & Son are one of the largest independent funeral directors in the Wigan area

Founded in 1921 and now with ten funeral homes across the Wigan area the company has established itself by gaining a reputation for excellence, professionalism and sympathetic attitude.

'Golden Charter' Pre Arrangement Funeral Scheme

- Inflation proof
- Peace of mind that painful decisions will be made rationally
- Tailored to your individual needs
- All necessary disbursements included i.e. Crematorium/
Burial fees, Church fees and Doctor's fees.
- One up front payment or monthly instalments

Golden Charter
Funeral Plans



24 hour service • Caring family firm

www.rbanksandson.co.uk

**FINANCE NOW AVAILABLE
on Funerals & Memorials**

*Subject to status,
written details on request*

**Head Office: Halliwell House, 758/768 Ormskirk Rd, Pemberton, Wigan WN5 8BB
T: 01942 222156**

Local Offices: Clifford House, 1 Grove Lane, Standish T: 01257 422011

Hallbank House, 407 Wigan Road, Bryn T: 01942 271392 • Parsonage House, 100 Railway Road, Leigh T: 01942 261415

Windsor House, 232 Scholes, Wigan T: 01942 820526 • Whitley House, 439 Gidlow Lane, Beech Hill T: 01942 829200

Elliot House, 20 Shuttle Street, Tyldesley T: 01942 887312 • Bentham House, 220 Spendmore Lane, Coppull T: 01257 793880

Stretton House, 23 Hall Green, Upholland T: 01695 622099 • Templeton Lodge, Templeton Road, Platt Bridge T: 01942 863936



C & A Hornby Ltd
Plumbing and Heating Services
11 Rydal Close,
Ashton in Makerfield, Wigan,
WN4 8AU.



Gas Safe: 11641 _

www.cahornbyplumbing.co.uk

Telephone: Phil on 01942 727890 or 07867 576164

A local family run business, established for over 20 years and CRB checked.

Contact us for:

All your plumbing needs including emergencies, repairs and replacements.



Boiler replacements and repairs including full systems and upgrades.



Gas Fire replacements and repairs.



All domestic gas work including emergencies.

Boiler and Gas Fire Service, Landlords Gas Safety Certificates,
House Move Gas Safety Certificates.



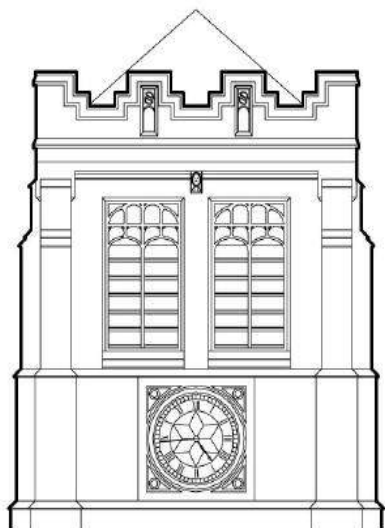
All bathroom work undertaken - complete bathroom
refurbishment with design service.



All kitchen work undertaken - complete kitchen refurbishment with
design service.



Rental Property Maintenance.



56 Belvedere Road,
Ashton-in-Makerfield,
Lancashire, WN4 8RU.

RIBA 

Chartered Practice

t 01942 717300
e info@schaferassociates.co.uk
w www.schaferassociates.co.uk

Schafer Associates | Chartered Architects



All Vehicle Repairs Carried Out

**Includes: Servicing,
Diagnostics, Clutches,
Timing Belts and more.....**

**Please phone 07845 180838
or call in for a FREE quote**

McG Auto Repairs Ltd
Cranberry Lodge Garage (behind
Macwest Motors)
Wigan Road Ashton in Makerfield
WN4 0BZ

www.mcgautorepairs.co.uk

TANGO

**TANGO at St. Marks
Church Haydock support
and resource families within
the Haydock/Ashton area
by providing food; clothing;
furniture and household
items.**



**If you have any items of furniture
that you no longer want
TANGO will collect Free
Of Charge from your
home.**



**If you want more
information about TANGO
or to arrange a collection
please ring: 01744 607388**





St Thomas' Donations & Remembrance

Please place your donation in an envelope with your full name and amount written on it. Please post through the vicarage door while church is closed. 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 are a UK tax payer and would like church to be able to claim back 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 the donation to be Gift Aided and include your full name and address.

REGULAR GIVING

Many people are asking us how they can give their usual weekly offerings. We do appreciate your concern for the finances of the church as the plate offerings help towards the payment that has to go to the diocese each month. We need to continue these payments as the outgoings of the diocese will remain the same while church is closed. Please consider switching to the Parish Giving Scheme by phoning 0333 002 1271 as we can get the tax back much quicker this way.

If you want to continue giving by envelope, please take them to the vicarage, or to Malcolm and Barbara's (32 Townfields), clearly marking the envelopes if it is for more than one week.

Funds currently in use are: Africa Fund, Asylum Seeker, Audio Visual, Church Hall, Building & Maintenance, Food Ministry, Garden of Rest, General, Grave Maintenance, Heath Road Graveyard, Heating and Fit for the Future.

Unless otherwise stated donations will go into the General

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

St Thomas' Donations & Remembrance



In loving memory of **Jimmy Cunliffe** a much missed Husband,
Dad and Grandad from Karen, Laura, Andrew, Amelia, Gary,
Leah, Mason, Alyssia and Layla

Anniversary Remembrance of **Clara Shaw** (5th March) a loving
Mum and Grandma from Barbara, Malcolm and family

Birthday (25th February) & Anniversary (3rd March) of **David Bowen**, a dearly loved husband from Isabel and family

In memory of **Allan Woodward** from Neina

Donation to St Thomas' Church Hall in memory of
Mr J Fearnley (21st February) from Mrs M Fearnley

St Luke's Donations & Remembrance

Birthday memories of a wonderful Mum and Dad, **Peggy & Billy**

Love from Kath & Barry




The Registers



Funerals - "May they rest in peace"

3rd February	Norma Fleetwood	Windsor Street	83
15th February	Lois Birkett	Birch Grove	83
24th February	Audrey Watson	Hawthorne Road, Birmingham	94
26th February	Jean Gee	Samswood House	88



*Almighty and eternal God,
from whose love in Christ we cannot be
parted,
either by death or life:
hear our prayers and thanksgivings
for all whom we remember this day;
fulfill in them the purpose of your love;
and bring us all, with them,
to your eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

Church Organisations in St Thomas' and St Luke's

<u>Coffee Mornings at St Thomas'</u> Tues 10am-12pm Barbara Taylor 205136	<u>Flower Guild</u> Meta Laites 723679
<u>Children, Young People and Families</u> Sue Thomas 07877 704645	<u>Asylum Seeker Support</u> Anne & Chris Wooff 724207
<u>Church Architect</u> Bill Schafer 717300	<u>F.W.O. Secretary</u> Vacant
<u>Wednesday Weenies</u> Wed 1pm-2:30pm - Church Hall Jan Cornthwaite 721626	<u>Messy Tots</u> Wed 1pm-2:30pm - Church Hall Sue Thomas 07877 704645
<u>Duke of Edinburgh's Award (14-18+)</u> Sun evenings Church Hall Ceri Mansell 727417	<u>St Thomas' Mothers' Union</u> 3 rd Wed: 7:30pm Barbara Taylor 205136
<u>Fairtrade Stall</u> 3 rd Sun 11.45am Anne Wooff 724207	<u>Fur Clemt Stubshaw</u> Mon 12-1pm at St Luke's Jennifer Harrison 718618
<u>Litter Pick 3rd Sat 10am - noon</u> Chris Wooff 724207	<u>Bowling Club</u> Henry Hunter 712709
<u>Girl Guides</u> Rainbows (Tues 5:30pm) Danielle Wood 07841 649475 3 rd & 4th Ashton Brownies (Thu) 3 rd Ashton Guides/Rangers (Tues 7:15pm) Rachel Starkie 718350	<u>Children's Sunday Clubs St Thomas'</u> Bubbles (Pre-School) Splash (R-Y2) Xstream (Y3-Y6) Bell Tower (Y7-Y11) Karen Cunliffe

Church Officials in St Thomas, St Luke's and Wigan South Parish

<p><u>Hub Leader</u> Rev Jeremy Thomas 727275</p> <p><u>Assistant Hub Leader</u> Sue Fulford</p>	<p><u>Sunday Morning Worship</u> <u>Local Missional Leaders (LML)</u> <u>St Thomas'</u> Jan Cornthwaite 721626</p> <p><u>St Luke's</u> Carole Pye 517318</p>
<p><u>Ordained Local Minister</u> Rev Izzy Schafer 717300</p>	<p><u>Saturday FM</u> 4pm-5pm - St Thomas' School LML Nicola Burgess 706841</p>
<p><u>Readers</u></p> <p>Tricia Hancox 201540 Alan Harrison 718618 Carole Pye 517318 Helen Weavers 07796 334457</p>	<p><u>Parish Church Wardens</u> Anita Archer 07863 298336 Paula Gillespie 07716 667763</p>
<p><u>Parish Treasurer</u> Sarah Riley 07712 584954</p> <p><u>St Thomas' Assistant Treasurer</u> Phil Hayton 273183</p> <p><u>St Luke's Assistant Treasurer</u> John Boon 728900</p>	<p><u>St Thomas' Assistant Wardens</u> Tony Cornthwaite 721626 Paula Gillespie 711270</p> <p><u>Deputies</u> Barbara Taylor 205136 Mansell High 727052</p>
<p><u>Prayer</u> Carol Foster 733263</p>	<p><u>St Luke's Assistant Wardens</u> Carole Pye 517318 John Boon 728900</p>
<p><u>PCC Secretary</u> Tricia Hancox 201540</p>	<p><u>Parish Electoral Roll Secretary</u> Sue Thomas 07877 704645</p>
<p><u>St Thomas' Organist</u> Paul Tushingham 711085</p>	<p><u>Worship Group</u> Mary Owen 203277</p>
<p><u>Church Office, Church Hall</u> <u>Bookings / Magazine Advertising</u> Sue Thomas 721484 office@stthomasstluke.org.uk</p>	<p><u>Magazine Editor</u> Jess Bradley magazine@stthomasstluke.org.uk</p> <p><u>Magazine Distribution Coordinator</u> Jack Stuart 726972</p>