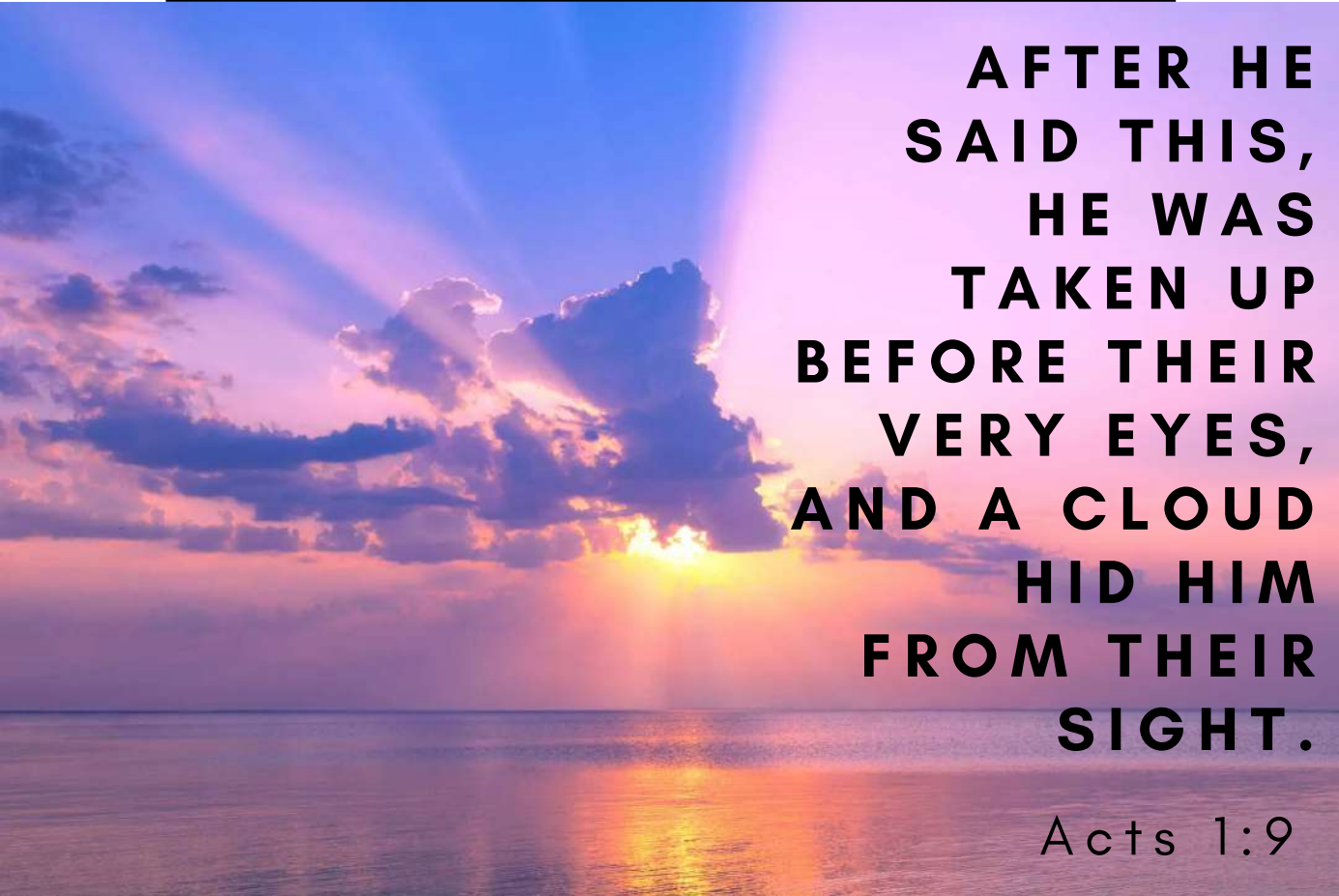


Wigan South Parish Magazine

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

St Thomas' and St Luke's edition



**AFTER HE
SAID THIS,
HE WAS
TAKEN UP
BEFORE THEIR
VERY EYES,
AND A CLOUD
HID HIM
FROM THEIR
SIGHT.**

Acts 1:9

May 2022

60p

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South Hub Church Wigan

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Parish Information

Baptisms

Baptisms are held around the Parish throughout the month. To qualify for baptism, parents should live within the parish boundaries or be a regular worshipper at one of the worship communities within the Parish. Godparents should have been baptised 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.

	June	July	August
Deadline for material	19 May	16 June	Summer break
Publish date	29 May	26 June	Summer break

The Refugee



All that I was, I no longer am
All that I have, I hold in my hand
My home, my love, my world are all gone
One among thousands, I shuffle along.

Only last week I knew who I was
All that has gone, and only because
Someone in a land a long way away
Turned life into hell one terrible day.

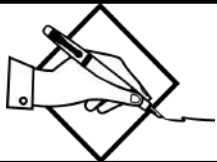
He started a war, his heart icy cold
He rained down his hell on the young and the old
I ran for my life for I had no choice
And nobody heard the fear in my voice.

Everything's gone, and all that is 'me'
Summed up in a word – the word 'refugee'.
I have no control, no say in my fate
Just one in a crowd, I stand and I wait.

Waiting for what? The future's unclear,
For armed men have taken all that I held dear
Along with my hopes, and all I had planned
All swept away by the tanks in my land.

One thing alone puts a smile on my face
A far nicer stranger has come to this place;
A bed for the night? A cup of hot tea?
And - best of all - someone who sees me as me.

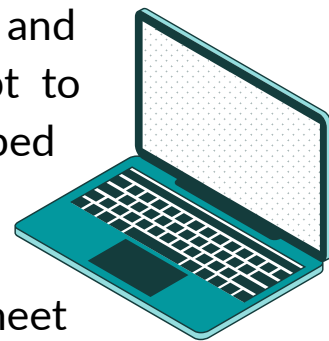
By Nigel Beeton



A Letter from Izzy

Hello Everyone,

I hope you are all well and recovering from the effects of the Corona Virus pandemic. It has been a difficult two years as we have become used to terms such as 'lock down' and 'social distancing', and washing hands and wearing face masks has become a way of life, all in an attempt to contain the virus. Thank God that vaccines have been developed and gradually we are trying to get back to normal.



It was difficult to see our churches closed, not being able to meet with friends to worship. But we were able to join with others on Zoom and through the power of technology and the Holy Spirit, many were blessed through these online services.

However, just as the world tries to get back to normal we are confronted by WAR; an unprovoked ferocious attack by Russia on its smaller neighbour, Ukraine. The devastation and killing that we witness on our television screens is tragic. Millions forced to flee, millions made homeless, crossing borders to reach safety in neighbouring countries, as we witness once more man's inhumanity to man.



Mankind never seems to learn from the mistakes of the past, in war there are no winners, only losers. And unfortunately, we too are guilty of repeating our mistakes. We confess our sins each week and the following week are guilty of committing the same sins again. Our Father knew what we needed when he sent our Saviour Jesus. The bible tells that Jesus came into the world to save sinners. And he did that on the cross at Calvary.

We have just celebrated Easter. On Maundy Thursday we remembered the last supper that Jesus shared with his disciples. On Good Friday we remembered our Saviour's passion and death but on Easter Sunday we rejoiced and celebrated that Jesus overcame death and rose again for us. He put sin to death and gave us new life an eternal life that we can share with Him.

**HE HAS RISEN
ALLELUIA**

Love Izzy x

*Above all, clothe yourselves
with love, which binds
everything together in perfect
harmony.*



*And let the peace of Christ rule in
your hearts, to which indeed you
were called in the one body. And be
thankful. Let the word of Christ
dwell in you richly.*

Colossians 3:14-16a

Services across the Parish

St Andrew's

Sunday 1 9.30am Morning Worship
Sunday 8 9.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 15 9.30am Church Cafe
Sunday 22 9.30am Morning Worship
Sunday 29 9.30am Morning Worship

St Peter's

Sunday 1 10.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 8 10.30am Morning Prayer with
 Brigades
 6.30pm Memorial Service
Sunday 15 10.30am Morning Prayer
Sunday 22 10.30am Morning Prayer
Sunday 29 10.30am Cafe Church

St Thomas'

Sunday 1 9.00am Morning Worship
 10.45am Worship Together
 6.30pm Holy Communion
Thursday 5 9.45am BCP Communion
Sunday 8 9.00am Morning Worship
 10.45am Worship Together
Thursday 12 9.45am BCP Communion
Sunday 15 9.00am Holy Communion
 10.45am Worship Together
 6.30pm Evening Prayer
Thursday 19 9.45am BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 22 9.00am Morning Worship
 10.45am Worship Together
Thursday 26 9.00am BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 29 9.00am Morning Worship
 10.45am Holy Communion

St Aidan's

Sunday 1 9.30am Holy Communion
Wednesday 4 10.00am Holy Communion
Sunday 8 10.30am Sta's4all
 4.00pm Evening Prayer
Sunday 15 10.00am Morning Prayer
Wednesday 18 10.00am Holy Communion
Sunday 22 10.00am Beacon Service
 4.00pm Evening Prayer
Sunday 29 10.00am Jubilee Service

Holy Trinity

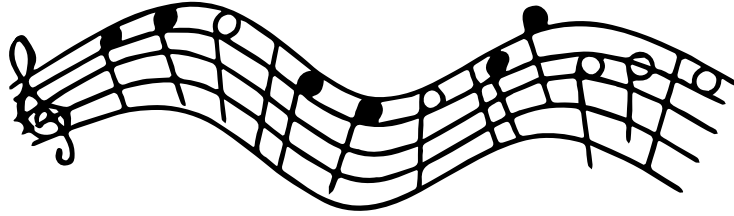
Sunday 1 10.30am Morning Worship
Sunday 8 10.30am Morning Worship
Wednesday 11 10.00am Holy Communion
Sunday 15 10.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 22 10.30am Morning Worship
Wednesday 25 10.00am Holy Communion
Sunday 29 10.30am Morning Worship
 with Songs of Praise

St Luke's

Sunday 1 11.00am Family Worship
Sunday 8 11.00am Holy Communion
Sunday 15 11.00am Family Worship
Sunday 22 11.00am Family Worship
Sunday 29 11.00am Family Worship

ALL ARE
 WELCOME
 HERE

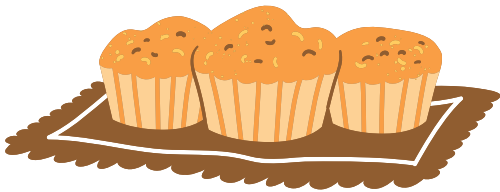
Parish News



Holy Trinity Church are holding a 'Songs and Scones' afternoon, a celebration for St. George's Day.

Saturday 23rd April at 3pm.

Tickets are £5 including refreshments, available from Committee members or Frank Lowe 01942 728531.



A Parish Meal will take place on
SATURDAY 11TH JUNE
and is open to both ladies and gentlemen
from all the Wigan South churches.
It will be held in Masonic Hall, Bryn.

Menus are available from Christine Moorfield.
Tel 01942 204150.

We want to hear from you



Did you see the Queen when she visited our town?

Have you met Her Majesty elsewhere?

Do you remember watching the coronation?

As part of our recognition and celebrations of the Queen's Jubilee, we would love to collate the accounts, photos and memorabilia of these events. If you have stories you would like to share about meeting the Queen or the coronation, please email them to magazine@stthomasstluke.org.uk or to a worship community team member. Any items we can photograph or scan shall be returned as quickly as possible.



Coventry Cathedral – 60 years on

Sixty years ago, on 25th May 1962, the new Coventry Cathedral was consecrated. The previous one had been destroyed by German bombing during World War Two. The Queen had laid the foundation stone in 1956, and she was present for the consecration.

On the night of 14th November 1940, the old Cathedral – together with much of the centre of Coventry – was devastated by incendiary bombs, but the decision to rebuild it was taken the next morning. The Provost, Richard Howard, wanted to do so as a sign of faith, trust and hope, rather than as an act of defiance.

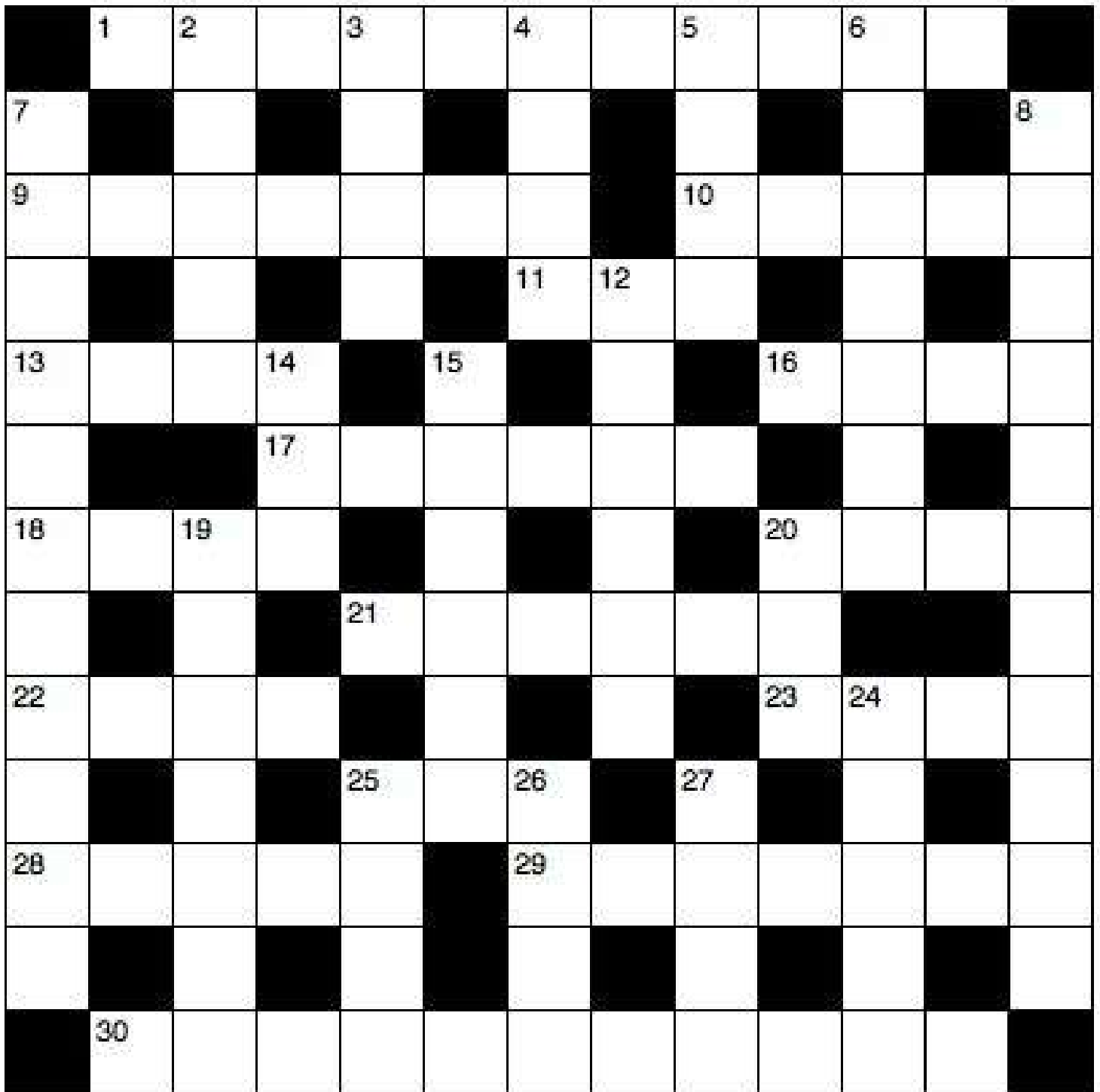
This rejection of bitterness and hatred led to the Cathedral's Ministry of Peace and Reconciliation, which continues to give spiritual and practical support in areas of conflict. It is symbolised now by the Cross of Nails, made from three nails found in the roof truss of the old cathedral and set in the centre of the altar cross.

The place now called Coventry Cathedral, on the site of a Benedictine monastery, is in fact two buildings – a joining of the old and the new. The older building, still hallowed ground, was originally a parish church, and then given cathedral status in 1918. Its 295ft (90m) spire, containing 181 stone steps, is the third highest in England, behind Salisbury and Norwich.

The 'new' Cathedral was an inspiration to many celebrated artists, most of them yet to become famous. Among those commissioned by the architect, Sir Basil Spence, were Graham Sutherland (iconic Christ in Glory tapestry), John Piper (baptistry window), Ralph Beyer, John Hutton, Elisabeth Frink and Jacob Epstein, who created the striking sculpture of St Michael defeating Lucifer.

The famous Charred Cross was created when the cathedral stonemason, Jock Forbes, saw two wooden beams lying in the shape of a cross after the bombing and tied them together.

Crossword



Answers on page 17

Across

- 1 Overpowered (Deuteronomy 11:4) (11)
- 9 'The — are mantled with corn' (Psalm 65:13) (7)
- 10 'Each man—a sword to his side' (Exodus 32:27) (5)
- 11 On the death of Jesus the curtain in the temple was torn from— to bottom (Matthew 27:51) (3)
- 13 Stagger (Isaiah 28:7) (4)
- 16 'Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought—and doesn't do it, sins' (James 4:17) (2,2)
- 17 Stir up or provoke (Acts 13:50) (6)
- 18 Burden (Luke 11:46) (4)
- 20 'As far as the east is from the— so far has he removed our transgressions from us' (Psalm 103:12) (4)
- 21 Sign (Luke 23:38) (6)
- 22 'After that, Jesus poured water into a basin and began to—his disciples' feet' (John 13:5) (4)
- 23 The nature of the seven ears of corn which swallowed up the good ears in Pharaoh's dream (Genesis 41:23) (4)
- 25 Has(anag.) (3)
- 28 'This is the account of Shem, Ham and Japheth, — sons' (Genesis 10:1) (5)
- 29 'I will...make them drunk, so that they...sleep for—and— awake' (Jeremiah 51:39) (4,3)
- 30 Paul said of him, 'he often refreshes me and is not ashamed of my chains' (2 Timothy 1:16) (11)

Down

- 2 Worth (Matthew 13:46) (5)
- 3 'A bruised — he will not break' (Matthew 12:20) (4)
- 4 'Suddenly a great company of the heavenly — appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (4)
- 5 Slip (anag.) (4)
- 6 'Take an awl and push it through his — — into the door, and he will become your servant for life' (Deuteronomy 15:17) (3,4)
- 7 Bountiful (2 Corinthians 8:2) (11)
- 8 'Therefore, as we have — , let us do good to all people' (Galatians 6:10) (11)
- 12 Acquire (2 Timothy 2:10) (6)
- 14 Container cover (Numbers 19:15) (3)
- 15 'He...became obedient to death, even death on—!' (Philippians 2:8) (1,5)
- 19 Refrain (1 Peter 2:11) (7)
- 20 'She began to—his feet with her tears'(Luke 7:38) (3)
- 24 One who worships Brahma, Vishnu or Shiva (5)
- 25 'Give to everyone who—you'(Luke 6:30) (4)
- 26 'I lift my eyes to the hills; where does my—come from?' (Psalm 121:1) (4)
- 27 One of those whom the Lord said would be taken from Jerusalem and Judah as judgment on them (Isaiah 3:2) (4)

A meal to remember!

When we gather with other Christians to celebrate the Eucharist and to make our communion, we are remembering that special meal Jesus shared with His disciples on the eve of His arrest and death. But do we always appreciate what we are doing? Sometimes the monotony of repetition and distractions will get in the way. We fail to recognise Christ's gift at communion for what it truly is.

In the 15th century the prosperous burghers of the Flemish town of Louvain commissioned the artist Dirk Bouts to paint a special altarpiece devoted to the Eucharist for the church of St Peter. Dirk Bouts, with his imagination, portrayed the Last Supper in a room looking out to his own town of Louvain. The faces of the servers in the room and the cooks looking through the hatch were modelled on the burghers who commissioned the work.

Other faces are modelled on theologians at the new university who visited the artist. They wanted to ensure he kept his theological feet on the ground while his imagination took flight. And so around the scene of the Last Supper, Bouts has painted Old Testament scenes foreshadowing that holy





communion: Melchizedek offering bread and wine in return for Abraham's offering, the eating of the first Passover, the gathering of the manna in the wilderness, and Elijah wakened by the angel to eat and drink before setting out for Horeb. Signs of sacrifice, the Passover of the old covenant, daily food and food for the journey – all key aspects of the communion we celebrate and share in.

Just as the theological faculty reminded Dirk Bouts of all these facets, so the artist is reminding us of the richness of the distinctive meal we have as Christians. When we see the bread and wine taken up and offered, we remember not only the Last Supper, when Jesus fed His disciples with the sacrifice of His life, but those occasions when God reached out to feed His people of old. We rejoice that the food our Lord gives us in the Eucharist feeds us now and enables us to make our journey through life to the eternal banquet offered in the heavenly kingdom.

Wordsearch

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

animals

dark

everything

land

made

people

sea

sorts

birds

day

fish

light

men

plants

separated

universe

creation

everyone

good

lights

night

rest

sky

women



"It comes to something when the state of the pound is such that we *hope* to find lots of foreign coins!"

Crossword Answers

ACROSS: 1, Overwhelmed. 9, Valleys. 10, Strap. 11, Top. 13, Reel. 16, To do. 17, Incite. 18, Load. 20, West. 21, Notice. 22, Wash. 23, Thin. 25, Ash. 28, Noah's. 29, Ever not. 30, Onesiphorus.

DOWN: 2, Value. 3, Reed. 4, Host. 5, Lisp. 6, Ear lobe. 7, Overflowing. 8, Opportunity. 12, Obtain. 14, Lid. 15, A cross. 19, Abstain. 20, Wet. 24, Hindu. 25, Asks. 26, Help. 27, Hero.

May Holy Days

16th May: Caroline Chisholm, helping the emigrants to Australia

If you want an example of someone who can show you their faith through their works, Caroline Chisholm is a saint for you. This doughty little 19th century English woman had such a compassionate heart that she helped tens of thousands of people, from India to Australia.

Caroline was born in Northamptonshire in May 1808. Her father William was a pig dealer, and already had 15 children, by four wives. When Caroline was about five, her father brought a poor maimed soldier into the family home and urged his children to look after the wretched man well, as he had fought for their freedom. This disinterested compassion for a poor struggling 'outsider' would become the lodestar of Caroline's life.

In 1830, when Caroline was 22, she married Captain Archibald Chisholm, of the East India Company Army. Out in Madras, Caroline grew alarmed for the young girls growing up in the barracks. She founded the Female School of Industry for the Daughters of European Soldiers, to provide a practical education.

After having two sons and working on the Indian subcontinent for a number of years, Captain Chisholm was granted a two-year furlough in 1838 on grounds of ill health. The family moved to the sunshine of Australia, near Sydney. Here Caroline was appalled at the conditions that faced emigrants, especially female, arriving in the colony. Many ended up working the streets, just to survive.

Caroline stayed for seven years in Australia, placing more than 11,000 people in homes and jobs, and in all, her Female Immigrant Home helped more than 40,000 people. Highly respected by the government, she gave evidence before Legislative Council Committees, but accepted money from no one. When Archibald left the army in 1845 he and Caroline toured Australia at their own expense, collecting more than 600 statements from emigrants that detailed the truth about the problems of emigration.

Back in England, the statements caught the attention and respect of Charles Dickens, the House of Lords Select Committees, Lord Shaftesbury, Sir Sydney Herbert, Wyndham Harding FRS and even Pope Pius IX. Caroline and Archibald went on to help more than 3,000 people safely emigrate to Australia, before moving back there themselves, where they both died in 1877. In his novel Bleak House, Charles Dickens is said to have partly based the character of Mrs Jellyby on Caroline Chisholm.

26th May: Ascension Day, 40 Days with the Risen Christ

40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day. These are the 40 days during which the Risen Christ appeared again and again to His disciples, following His death and resurrection. (Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; and John 20.)

The Gospels give us little of Christ's teachings and deeds during those 40 days. Jesus was seen by numerous of His disciples: on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He strengthened and encouraged His disciples, and at last opened their eyes to all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah. Jesus also told them that as the Father had sent Him, He was now going to send them - to all corners of the earth, as His witnesses.

Surely the most tender, moving 'farewell' in history took place on Ascension Day. Luke records the story with great poignancy: 'When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, He lifted up His hands - and blessed them.'

As Christmas began the story of Jesus' life on earth, so Ascension Day completes it, with His return to His Father in heaven. Jesus' last act on earth was to bless His disciples. He and they had a bond as close as could be: they had just lived through three tumultuous years of public ministry and miracles - persecution and death - and resurrection! Just as we part from our nearest and dearest by still looking at them with love and memories in our eyes, so exactly did Jesus: 'While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven.' (Luke 24:50-1) He was not forsaking them, but merely going on ahead to a kingdom which would also be theirs one day: 'I am ascending to my Father and to your Father, to my God and your God...' (John 20:17)

The disciples were surely the most favoured folk in history. Imagine being one of the last few people on earth to be face to face with Jesus, and to have Him look on you with love. No wonder then that Luke goes on: 'they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.' (Luke 24:52,53)

No wonder they praised God! They knew they would see Jesus again one day! 'I am going to prepare a place for you... I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.' (John 14:2,3) In the meantime, Jesus had work for them to do: to take the Gospel to every nation on earth.



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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[‡] dependent on plan chosen

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24 Carina Lodge, 178 Tyldesley Rd, Atherton T: 01942 318025 • Century House, 6-8 Wigan Road, Hindley T: 01942 318081

May Sunday Services



St Thomas'

1st May

9.00am Morning Worship
10.45am Worship Together
6.30pm Holy Communion

8th May

9.00am Morning Worship
10.45am Worship Together

15th May

9.00am Holy Communion
10.45am Worship Together
6.30pm Evening Prayer

22nd May

9.00am Morning Worship
10.45am Worship Together (All age)

29th May

9.00am Morning Worship
10.45am: Holy Communion

St Luke's

11.00am Family Worship

11.00am Holy Communion

11.00am Family Worship

11.00am Family Worship

11.00am Family Worship

News from our churches

Graveyards

What can I say of interest in this month's magazine? Well I do feel it appropriate to in a note of our thanks to the team of volunteers who have turned up on two Monday afternoons to move 40 tons of soil by the barrowful to fill in some of the holes in Heath Road graveyard which have been causing so much concern. Supervised by Graham Bailey, assisted by a number of our asylum seeker friends, organised by Sue Thomas and Henry Hunter, David Trigg and Dave Gratton, a big improvement has been achieved. We can't rest on our laurels as there is still much to be done and volunteers needed.

Graham has agreed to organise a regular Monday weekly effort in Heath Road graveyard but this depends on the magic words 'volunteers'. This takes me back to the time when I first became involved with my church. We had a Monday night group which was named the Precincts committee. It was lead and organised by John Fearnley. We met every Monday evening and worked in both graveyards. The fellowship was such that we even met in church during the winter months to carry out cleaning and general maintenance. At the conclusion of our work effort we retired to the Fleece for dominoes and black puddings. We really looked forward to meeting.

Garden of rest

Many of our loved ones whose ashes are interred in the garden will have been remembered at Easter time with floral tributes. I feel that this is an appropriate time to remind everyone that the maintenance and use of the grounds are subject to the regulations laid down by the Diocese. St Thomas' version can be viewed on our church website. It is important that we are all aware that the rules do make clear that the only floral tributes permitted are fresh flowers with the wrapping. There is a responsibility to remove these when they have died. Other tributes, which are not permitted, will be removed without notice. Sadly the necessity to remove such items does cause some upset for which we are very sorry.

Church life

I seem to be obsessed with volunteers or more particularly the lack of them. This is unfair as there are many people carrying out invaluable tasks that make our church life possible. I must redress the balance by thanking those volunteers. Who are they? Not mentioning names, each Sunday we rely on the lay leaders preparing for and leading services, others leading children's work and our own music group who also practice on Thursday evenings.



Weekly banking is done by volunteers, as is the control of the church financial situation. Refreshments are provided after all our services and in this respect we owe our thanks to our asylum seeker friends who serve the refreshments after the 10.45am service along with those willingly helping at 9.00am Sunday and 9.45 am Thursdays. They are also deserving our thanks for their willingness to help whenever asked as illustrated by what I said about the graveyard work.

Youth work is being lead on a regular basis again by volunteers. The food ministry carried on in the hall as the Food Pantry can only function thanks to the volunteers and of course the people who provided sandwiches for children during the school holidays.

This magazine depends on its editing, production and distribution to a small team. Tuesday coffee depends on those willing to provide the service on a weekly basis. The list is extensive and I apologise to any volunteers who I have missed.

Magazine

A number of former magazine deliverers have signed the list at the back of church as well as new volunteers. If you deliver magazines and haven't yet sign the list then can I encourage you to do so. If you are aware of anyone who would like to have a magazine delivered please let me know.

On the 9th April, St Thomas' Church was host to the final stop of the Always Ashton Easter Egg Hunt, an annual treasure hunt taking place around Ashton town centre.

After following a map around the various business and spotting the cleverly hidden rabbits, families were welcomed into St Thomas' to complete Easter themed crafts and have some much-earned rest and refreshments.

The atmosphere was incredible as children designed their own Easter plates and painted themed rocks whilst the adults enjoyed tea and coffee and attempted to dry out their rain soaked clothes.

It was lovely to see so many people gathered (411 adults and children) and it was a great opportunity to welcome many people into the refurbished building. It was an incredible way to open the doors to so many people and to build connections with the local community and its residents. Everybody left with a smile on their face.

Thank you to everyone that volunteered their time and to everyone who popped in to say hello. We couldn't have done it without you.

Daniel Munro



Mothers' Union



Diary

Wednesday 18th May our speaker this evening is Jean Walsh. We will meet as usual in the church hall at 7.30pm

Advance notices

We were planning to arrange an afternoon tea in Lytham and advertised the details with the limited number of places available. To date the members have not shown any interest in this event so unless I hear from you asap it will be necessary to cancel.

Having regard to the situation in Ukraine the following reflection seems appropriate for today:

Peace was a central and recurring theme of Jesus' teaching and behaviour. He often spoke of it and shared Peace with his disciples and many others in times of trouble. Although we are told that Jesus' peace passes all understanding, he has also called us to be peacemakers, calling us to seek and strive for peace and reconciliation, whatever our situation and our inter-personal relationships - and irrespective of whether peace is eventually achieved. In God and through the gift of his Son, we have been given the perfect model of forgiveness, healing, reconciliation and sanctuary.

*We draw near to the God of peace
with thanks for our reconciliation,
through the work of the cross.*

*We offer ourselves as peacemakers
in a world that cries out
to live in peace and safety.*

Amen

Keep well and God bless you all.

Love

Barbara

JOHN MOULDING, ASHTON CROSS, ASHTON IN MAKERFIELD

PART 1

Older Ashtonians may remember, in the 1960's, a small ruined house that used to stand on the Tithebarn Road corner of Ashton Cross where the rehabilitation centre is today. This was 2 Tithebarn Road and in 1901 was the residence of Thomas Kinder Moulding, his son John and daughter Ethel. Ethel was a mental health nurse at Haydock Lodge Asylum on Warrington Road, after the present Haydock Park Gardens. Haydock Lodge was formerly the residence of the Legh family of Newton. After its demolition the site was used for the Post House Hotel, now the Holiday Inn.

John Moulding was born in Wigan in 1879 and by 1901 was working as a groom and coachman in Garswood Hall stables which were next to the Hall owned by Lord William Cansfield Gerard. John was also a trooper/private in the Lancashire Hussars regiment a volunteer force set up in 1848 by Sir John Gerard in Ashton in Makerfield. At the outbreak of the Boer War in South Africa in 1899 Lord William Cansfield Gerard was the honorary colonel of the regiment. Volunteer regiments, such as the Lancashire Hussars, were not given permission to fight overseas until 1900 when allowed to do so under the name Imperial Yeomanry. However, Lord William Cansfield Gerard was also a serving officer in the Dragoon Guards and was allowed to serve overseas.

In October 1899 Lord Gerard departed for Natal, South Africa, to serve at the staff headquarters of General Sir Redvers Buller who was in charge of all the Empire forces in South Africa. Accompanying Lord Gerard, as his servants, were John Moulding, No. 9056, private, Lancashire Hussars, and Fred Farmer, No. 9057, private, Lancashire Hussars. John, as a groom, was responsible for Lord Gerard's charger/cavalry horse, and riding equipment. Fred was a footman at Garswood Hall and was responsible for Lord Gerard's everyday needs. Fred was originally from Ashford, Kent, and probably worked at Lord Gerard's Eastwell Manor residence at Ashford before being brought up to Garswood Hall. John Moulding served with Lord Gerard in the Orange Free State and Cape Colony and was present at some of the major battles of the Boer War – Belfast, Tugela Heights, Relief of Ladysmith and Laing's Nek. In October 1900 all three returned home.

Lord William Cansfield Gerard died in 1902 and was buried at St. Oswald's, Ashton. As the funeral procession passed through Garswood Hall gates onto Warrington Road the coffin was carried on a Royal Artillery gun carriage attached to a gun which was drawn by four horses of the Royal Artillery Regiment. Behind the gun carriage was Lord Gerard's charger/cavalry horse led by the two men who had served with Lord Gerard in South Africa – John Moulding and Fred Farmer. Both men were wearing long dust coats and wide brimmed sun hats as they had in the Boer War but they were now in black instead of khaki.

Lord Gerard was buried in the Gerard vault in the graveyard on the St. Oswald Road side of the church. Since it was a military funeral three volleys were fired by a firing party at the vault. Today a large stone cross marks the location of the vault.

(To be continued)
David A. Fearnley.

**Church
&
Community
Litter Pick**



Our brilliant team of litter pickers were out in full force on 16 April. They managed to fill many bags with rubbish from around Armoury Bank, King George V playing field, and the small wooded area at the junction of Alexandra Road and Wigan Road.

They always welcome more volunteers. The next litter pick is on Saturday 21st May, starting at 10am from St Thomas' church hall car park.

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



Birthday remembrance of **Clara Shaw** (29th April) a loving Mum
and Grandma

Barbara, Malcolm and family

To celebrate our Diamond Wedding Anniversary (31st March)

from Ron & Jean Boon

In memory of **Ivor Williams**

From Derek & Elizabeth



The Registers



Holy Baptism 'We welcome them into the Lord's family'	
10 April 2022	Willow Grace Peers
10 April 2022	Charlie Jospeh Shaw
10 April 2022	Remy Rita Brown Holden
10 April 2022	Vahid Khordehbolagh
24 April 2022	Thomas George Rigby - Ellison
24 April 2022	Megan Amber Marsden

Funerals 'May they rest in peace'		
1 April 2022	Sandra Green	77
5 April 2022	Doris Byron	85
14 April 2022	June Lightfoot	85
19 April 2022	Desmond Wetton	83

Please accept our sincere apologies that the following funeral was ommitted from the February edition of the magazine:

24 January 2022	Peter Haselden	81
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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

Fur Clemt Stubshaw

Mon 12pm—1pm at St Luke's
Jennifer Harrison
718618

Asylum Seeker Support

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

Flower Guild

Meta Laites
723679

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
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Assistant Treasurers

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

Administration, Bookings and Advertising

hubadmin.south@churchwigan.org

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Jess Bradley	07498323469
magazine@stthomasstluke.org.uk	

Freewill Offerings Secretary

Malcolm Taylor	205136
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Electoral Roll Secretary

Ruth Laemmel	see below
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Asylum Seeker Support

Anne & Chris Wooff	724207
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Children, Young People & Families

Jan Corthwaite	721626
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Flowers

Meta Laites	723679
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Church Architect

Bill Schafer	717300
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St Thomas' Worship Group

Mary Owen	203277
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St Thomas' Organist

Paul Tushingham	711085
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Magazine Distribution

Vacant

stthomasstluke.org.uk



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