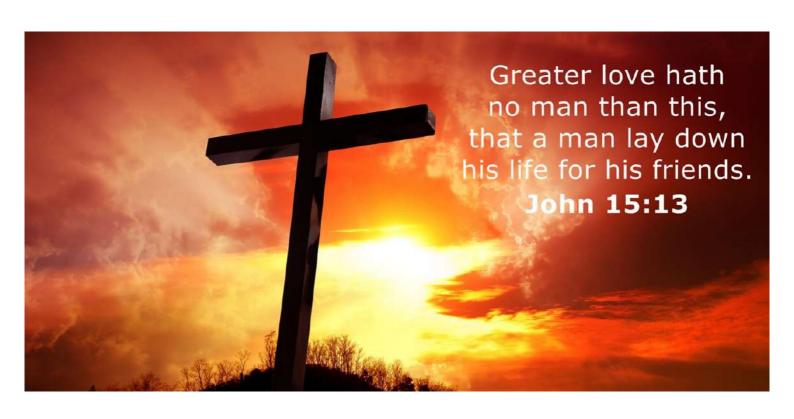
Wigan South Parish Magazine

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

St Thomas' and St Luke's edition



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Contents



You are my Memorial – my Legacy	5
A Letter from Izzy	6
Parish News	7
Services and Events in November	11
Crossword	13
November Holy Days	15
The Two Minute Silence	17
Celebrating the life of Brother Andrew	18
November Services	25
News from our churches	26
Donations and Remembrance	33
The Registers	34



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.

	December	January	February	
Deadline for material	17 November	15 December	19 January	
Publication date	27 November	25 December	29 January	

You are my Memorial – my Legacy (Some thoughts on remembering)

Remember me –
As the poppies fall on the shoulders, heads, and at the feet
Of young and old
All gathered for the Festival.

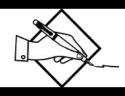
Remember me –
In the music played,
In the clapping of the audience keeping time
And uniforms so proudly worn.

Remember me –
In the stories told,
Most from the distant past, but others new,
Each one rehearsing memories stored

Remember me And if a tear should chance to flow
Then let it flow for the world in pain,
And dedicate yourself to peace

Remember me And let the sun, moon, stars, shine bright
To bring my love to you like the light
That shines in the darkness all around.





A Letter from Izzy

We have just celebrated Harvest and it was so good to see the generosity of the people of Ashton and Billinge, as our churches were filled with so much food, collected by our schools and church congregations. We welcome this much needed food which will be distributed to those families in our community who are struggling at the moment and on their behalf can I thank you all for your kindness.

The poet John Keats described Autumn as 'the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness', a time to gather in the grain harvest and the fruits for storing or preserving for the coming winter. But it is also a time when we notice a drop in temperature as the weather changes and it becomes colder.



As the temperature drops, I know that many people are anxious about the price increases for gas electricity and food and all the other price rises that seem to be happening one after another. But it is important to stay warm and whilst we can try and economise, we must not let the temperature drop in our homes to such a degree that we become ill. We should also make sure we have our Flu and Covid vaccinations and for those of us with elderly neighbours, a phone call or a visit to check on them would I am sure be welcomed.

Matt 9 v 37 says:

The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest therefore to send out workers into his harvest field.

When Jesus speaks about harvest in the bible he is often referring to the harvest of believers and with that in mind, this Autumn we are running an Alpha course at St Luke's Church, Stubshaw Cross. For those who do not know about Alpha, it is a course that helps us to understand the Christian faith better. We meet on a Wednesday evening from 7pm to 9pm and everyone is welcome. For some people who have done Alpha there is a real awakening of their faith and some people actually come to faith and begin a relationship with Jesus why not give it a try.

Love Izzy x

Parish News

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

A Christmas Tree Festival is being held at St Aidan's CE Church in Billinge. This popular event will take place on

Friday 9th, Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th December 2022.

The trees are sponsored by local businesses, groups, individuals and families. The cost to sponsor a tree is £26. We provide the tree and then it is up to you to decorate the tree as you please.

For **businesses**, it is an opportunity to advertise your business, you can leave business cards and advertisements near the tree for people to take.

For **local groups** – **Scouts/ Rainbows/ Sports Clubs, Health Clubs**, etc. this is a great time to advertise your group and encourage local people to join you!

For **families**, it is a chance to decorate the tree as you please. You may have a theme that is special to your hearts.

Everyone is welcome to come and see the church decorated by the beautiful trees over the weekend. Please see the Programme of Events.

If you are interested in sponsoring a tree, please contact Alison Corkill 07837549722 alisoncorkill@sky.com Thank You!



Dear friends, St. Andrew's Church Family would like to invite you to join them on

Sunday 27th November at 2pm in the Mission Hall, Garswood

We shall be celebrating 90 years of worshipful service within the community of Garswood. When Mission Hall was built it was a temporary building but we are still here.

Please join us for a wonderful celebration followed by light refreshments.

Blessings to you all,
Rosalyn and the Garswood Team xx

Archives: Wigan & Leigh Our Town Pop Up Exhibition Friday 11 November 1pm – 5pm, Ashton Library



Have you ever wondered what life was like in Ashton in the 1600s? How about what the symbols in the Ashton coat-of-arms mean? Archives: Wigan & Leigh are celebrating the rich history of Our Town with a brand-new exhibition exploring the archive collections of local townships, from Ashton to Orrell, launching in October.

The Archives will also be taking the collection on the road! Come join us and explore archival items covering hundreds of years of Ashton history! Whilst we are there, we will be asking you to help create a community display celebrating the history of your local area, so come on down and enjoy a unique opportunity to celebrate your local history.

You can also visit our permanent exhibition celebrating local history in Leigh Town Hall, open 10 – 4 Tuesday to Saturday.



LADIES - SAVE THE DATE

The annual Christmas meal for ladies will be held on

TUESDAY 13TH DECEMBER, 6.30PM FOR 7PM AT MASONIC HALL, BRYN.

This is always a most enjoyable evening and an opportunity to meet up with friends from other churches. Menus available from Christine Moorfield. We offer our thanks to Christine for organising this annual event.



On 16th October St Luke's celebrated 20 years since the opening of the Church on the current site. Everyone celebrated with a lovely service, prize giving for the children and a celebration lunch.

Happy Birthday St Lukes!





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

Services & Events in November

		6666		
Parish Events				
Saturday 19th	11.00am - 2.00pm: Christmas market including Christmas lunches	St Andrew's Mission Hall		
Saturday 19th	11.00am - 2.00pm: Christmas craft and cake fayre	St Thomas'		
Thursday 24th	2.00pm Friendship Group	St Aidan's		
Friday 25th	Quiz Night - £5pp (see Jan or Carol)	St Thomas'		
Sunday 27th	2.00pm Celebration of 90 years at St Andrew's (see page 8 for further details)	St Andrew's Mission Hall		
Tuesday 29th	1.30pm - 3.00pm Peace of Mind (Dementia Cafe) with Peter and his guitar	St Andrew's Mission Hall		
Wednesday 30th	Wreath Making (£15 - booking in advance necessary, see Carol Pye or Jan Cornthwaite)	St Thomas'		

	Weekday Services	
Wednesday 2nd	10.00am Holy Communion	St Aidan's
Thursday 3rd	9.45am BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
Wednesday 9th	10.00am Holy Communion	Holy Trinity
Thursday 10th	9.45am BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
Wednesday 16th	10.00am Holy Communion	St Aidan's
Thursday 17th	9.45am BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
Wednesday 23rd	10.00am Holy Communion	Holy Trinity
Thursday 24th	9.45am BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'

Sunday Services in November				
	9.00am Morning Worship	St Thomas'		
	9.30am Morning Worship	St Andrew's		
	10.00am Holy Communion	St Aidan's		
6th	10.30am Morning Worship	Holy Trinity		
	10.30am Holy Communion	St Peter's		
	10.45am Worship Together	St Thomas'		
	11.00am Family Worship	St Luke's		
	6.30pm Holy Communion	St Thomas'		
	9.00am Holy Communion	St Thomas'		
	9.30am Holy Communion	St Andrew's		
	10.30am Sta's4all	St Aidan's		
13th	10.30am Morning Worship	Holy Trinity		
1301	10.30am Morning Prayer	St Peter's		
	10.45am Worship Together	St Thomas'		
	11.00am Holy Communion	St Luke's		
	4.00pm Remembrance Service	St Aidan's		
	9.00am Morning Worship	St Thomas'		
	9.30am Café Church	St Andrew's		
	10.00am Morning Worship	St Aidan's		
20th	10.30am Holy Communion	Holy Trinity		
2011	10.30am Morning Prayer	St Peter's		
	10.45am Holy Communion	St Thomas'		
	11.00am Family Worship	St Luke's		
	6.30pm Evening Prayer	St Thomas'		
	9.00am Holy Communion	St Thomas'		
	9.30am Morning Worship	St Andrew's		
	10.00am Beacon Service	St Aidan's		
2746	10.30am Morning Worship	Holy Trinity		
27th	10.30am Café Church	St Peter's		
	10.45am Worship Together	St Thomas'		
	11.00am Family Worship	St Luke's		
	4.00pm Evening Prayer	St Aidan's		

Crossword

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Across

- 1 and 20 Down 'Lord of all _, Lord of all _, whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy' (11,3)
- 9 Mosesí question to a fighting Hebrew labourer: 'Why are you _ your fellow Hebrew?" (Exodus 2:13) (7)
- 10 Acclaimed cellist who contracted multiple sclerosis at the height of her fame, Jacqueline _ (2,3)
- 11 'At even _ the sun was set, the sick, O Lord, around thee lay'(3)
- 13 A descendant of Gad (xNumbers 26:16) (4)
- 16 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but _ for the gift my Father promised' (Acts 1:4) (4)
- 17 Clambers (Jeremiah 48:44) (6)
- 18 Peter's response to questioning by the Sanhedrin: 'We must _God rather than men!'(Acts 5:29) (4)
- 20 Christian paraplegic author, artist and campaigner, _ Eareckson Tada (4)
- 21 Bird partial to the nests of other birds (6)
- 22 'Such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat $_{-}$ '(Matthew 13:2) (2,2)
- 23 Infectious tropical disease (4)
- 25 Tree (3)
- 28 'No fear of me should _ you, nor should my hand be heavy upon you'(Job 33:7) (5)
- 29 For example, to Titus, Timothy or Philemon (7)
- 30 Week beginning with Pentecost Sunday, according to the Church's calendar (11)

Down

- 2 'O Jerusalem _ how _I have longed to gather your children together' Matthew 23:37) (5)
- 3 Way out (4)
- 4 Exhort (Romans 12:1) (4)
- 5 Done (anag.) (4)
- 6 Highest of the four voice-parts in a choir (7)
- 7 Concerning the study of God (11)
- 8 Uniquely, it has Abbey, Cathedral and Chapel (11)
- 12 Admonish (Matthew 16:22) (6)
- 14 Frozen (3)
- 15 Established form of religious ceremony (6)
- 19 Inscription often found on gravestones (7)
- 20 See 1 Across
- 24 Behaved (Joshua 7:1) (5)
- 25 Time (anag.) (4)
- 26 Lists choice of meals (4)
- 27 'For the wages of sin is death, but the _ of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord'(Romans 6:23) (4)

November Holy Days

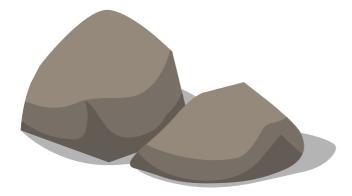
8th November: Four Crowned Martyrs

Has your boss ever tried to get you to do something that is against your Christian faith? If so, here are some saints for you. They chose to make a Christian 'stand' at work, even though it really irritated their boss.

Claudius, Nicostratus, Simpronian and Castorius were simple stonemasons in early 4th century Rome. They worked in the imperial quarries and workshops of Sirmium. They made a number of carvings for the Emperior Diocletian, who had a passion for building.

Then Diocletian decided he wanted a statue of Aesculapius, the ancient Greek god of medicine. Here Claudius, Nicostratus, Simpronian and Castorius hesitated: they were Christians, and not comfortable about making a 'god'. They demurred. Their line manager Lampadius was furious, and soon had them imprisoned for refusing to sacrifice to the gods. Claudius and his friends were in bad trouble – and then it got worse. Lampadius suddenly died. His family were distraught, and so blamed the stonemasons. Claudius and his companions were killed by drowning.

The courage of these four simple stonemasons to risk everything rather than make a stone statue of a god, was a great inspiration in the early Church. Their story was told and retold down the centuries.... eventually Claudius and his friends became the patron saints of guilds of stonemasons in England.



16th November St Margaret of Scotland

Some women have power, and some women are good. When a woman with power is also good, she can achieve an astonishing amount.

Margaret of Scotland has been called 'The Pearl of Scotland', but she began life in Hungary about 1045. She was born to the expatriate English prince Edward the Exile, and so was an English princess. The family returned to Wessex in 1057, when she was 13, and following the death of King Harold II at the Battle of Hastings in 1066, her brother Edgar Aetheling should have been King of England, but he was never crowned. Instead, the family fled north, to Scotland, where she was married to Malcolm III of Scotland by 1070. As a Scottish queen she went on to become mother of three kings of Scotland, and of a queen consort of England.

Margaret was a Christian, and became a good friend of Lanfranc, a future archbishop of Canterbury. Her biographer tells of how she read narratives from the Bible to her husband, thus helping to 'civilise' him. He was illiterate, but so admired her reading, that he had her books decorated with gold and silver. She was also credited with helping her youngest son, the future King David I of Scotland, towards becoming a just and holy ruler.

Margaret introduced the worship and practise of the Church of Rome into Scotland. She also wanted to help the many pilgrims travelling in Scotland, and so she established a ferry across the Firth of Forth, which is where the towns South Queensferry and North Queensferry got their names.

Margaret performed many charitable works for the poor, and she interceded for the release of English exiles who had been forced into serfdom following the Norman conquest. She also began the restoration of Iona Abbey.

In private life, Margaret spent much of her time in prayer, using a cave on the banks of the Tower Burn in Dunfermline as a place of devotion and prayers. St Margaret's Cave is still there today, covered beneath a municipal car park.

Margaret died in 1093, and in 1250 Pope Innocent IV canonised her. Her relics were dispersed after the Scottish Reformation, but at one time Mary, Queen of Scots, owned her head.

The Two Minutes Silence

In the month when we think about those who have given their lives in war, the Two Minutes Silence is a significant act of remembrance. The silence provides an opportunity to remember those who have suffered in war and how we can work for a peaceful world. However, we can also find ourselves thinking about lunch or whether we've switched off our phone?

Victor Frankl, a victim of Auschwitz, suggested that the most intolerable of all human conditions is not imprisonment or hunger, but lack of meaning. The two minutes of silence enables us to connect with Jesus' message, which offers true meaning to our lives and world. He spoke of giving ourselves in love for each other and the world, 'Love your enemies and pray for those that persecute you' (Matthew 5:44). He also demonstrated such love in sacrificing His own life, 'Greater love has no-one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends' (John 15:13). When observing the silence, let's use it to reflect on this sacrificial love, as we call to mind those who have laid down their lives.

In our busy lives, where so much clamours for our attention, silence gives us an opportunity to reflect on our priorities and rediscover true meaning in our lives. This is not just for Remembrance Sunday, as Jesus often withdrew to find silence to seek God (eg: Luke 5:16). Let's use silence in our lives as space to seek God's will and offer ourselves to Him, just as those who gave themselves in conflict through the years.

'They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.'

Celebrating the life of Brother Andrew (1928-2022)

Brother Andrew, the founder of Open Doors, died on 27th September, aged 94.



Famous around the world as 'God's smuggler', he began his ministry in 1957 by smuggling Bibles across the Iron Curtain in a blue Volkswagen Beetle. That trip was the beginning of Open Doors which, more than 65 years later, is now supporting persecuted Christians around the world.

The remarkable story of his Bible 'smuggling' was told in his best-selling autobiography God's Smuggler.

After the fall of the Iron Curtain, Brother Andrew turned his attention to the Islamic World, saying that the rapid spread of Islam posed the greatest challenge yet to the Christian church worldwide. He travelled to the Middle East and South Asia and had private meetings with leaders of several Islamic fundamentalist groups. However, Brother Andrew preached against retaliation – repeatedly declaring 'I sincerely love all Muslims' as a counter to the rising Islamophobia in the west.

Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands knighted Brother Andrew in 1993. In 1997, he received the World Evangelical Alliance's Religious Liberty Award, recognising his lifetime of service to suffering Christians.

But Open Doors UK reveals that "perhaps the recognition that pleased him most was the copies of KGB reports, which he obtained after the fall of the Iron Curtain. There were more than 150 pages about him, detailing his work in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Despite this, they were still unable to stop his work."

Crossword Answers

ACROSS: 1, Hopefulness. 9, Hitting. 10, du Pre. 11, Ere. 13, Ozni. 16. Wait. 17, Climbs. 18, Obey. 20, Joni. 21, Cuckoo. 22, In it. 23, Yaws. 25, Elm. 28, Alarm. 29, Epistle. 30, Whitsuntide.

DOWN: 2, Often. 3, Exit. 4, Urge. 5, Node. 6, Soprano. 7, Theological. 8, Westminster. 12, Rebuke. 14, Icy. 15, Ritual. 19, Epitaph. 20, Joy. 24, Acted. 25, Emit. 26, Menu. 27, Gift.

All Saints' Day - the feast day of all the redeemed

All Saints, or All Hallows, is the feast of all the redeemed, known and unknown, who are now in heaven. When the English Reformation took place, the number of saints in the calendar was drastically reduced, with the result that All Saints' Day stood out with a prominence that it had never had before.

This feast day first began in the East, perhaps as early as the 5th century, as commemorating 'the martyrs of the whole world'. A Northern English 9th century calendar named All Hallows as a principal feast, and such it has remained. Down the centuries devotional writers have seen in it the fulfilment of Pentecost and indeed of Christ's redemptive sacrifice and resurrection.

The saints do not belong to any religious tradition, and their lives and witness to Christ can be appreciated by all Christians. Richard Baxter, writing in the 17th century, wrote the following:

He wants not friends that hath thy love, And made converse and walk with thee, And with thy saints here and above, With whom for ever I must be...

As for my friends, they are not lost; The several vessels of thy fleet, Though parted now, by tempests tost, Shall safely in thy haven meet....

The heavenly hosts, world without end, Shall be my company above; And thou, my best and surest Friend, Who shall divide me from thy love?*

1,255 ancient English churches were dedicated to All Saints - a number only surpassed by those dedicated to the Virgin Mary.



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

[‡] dependent on plan chosen

November Services



	St Thomas'	St Luke's	
Sunday 6th	9.00am: Morning Worship 10.45am: Worship Together 6.30pm: Holy Communion	11.00am: Family Worship	
Sunday 13th	9.00am: Holy Communion 10.45am: Remembrance Service	11.00am: Holy Communion	
Sunday 20th	9.00am: Morning Worship 10.45am: Holy Communion 6.30pm: Evening Prayer	11.00am: Family Worship	
Sunday 27th	9.00am: Holy Communion 10.45am: Worship Together	11.00am: Family Worship	



Thursdays 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th November: 9.45am BCP Holy Communion at St Thomas' church

News from our churches

Harvest Festival

This year's harvest was celebrated at 10.45am on the 2 October in a rather different style to our usual Harvest Festival this one taking the form of a café church. I would like to thank all those who kindly donated much appreciated harvest gifts and the team who helped Jan to provide a memorable service.

A big thanks to our school who filled our church on the 30 September for their harvest service both with children, parents and grandparents and an abundant supply of harvest produce. We do thank the parents for their attendance and their generosity and also our school staff and the parent helpers for escorting the children to and from church.

Remembrance Sunday

We are expecting that many people will wish to show their respect in the usual manner by attending this service on the 13 November. This service is always a difficult one to plan for as we never know the number of the members of the procession through town until arriving at church. We need to reserve many of our limited number of seats for the British Legion, local councillors, and youth organisations. We apologise if you find that you are having to stand at the rear of church. Come early if you wish to claim one of the remaining seats which are available.

People to read and pray in our services

I have always found it to be a great privilege to serve our Lord when doing the readings or prayers in our church services. It is a form of personal ministry and we would like to encourage more members of our congregations to take the opportunity of joining this ministry. If you do feel that this is something that you would like to investigate please speak to me or one of our church leaders. Guidance and help can be given without any commitment until you are sure that it is for you.

Gift Aid Secretary

In these difficult financial times we are helped by the very efficient manner in which Clare Hayton has managed our gift aid records. Clare, who has carried out this role for seven years, has indicated that she wishes to retire but has given sufficient notice for us to seek a replacement in plenty time. Clare will continue until April 2023, we are grateful for this advance notice and of course for the dedicated manner in which she has quietly gone about the task of ensuring that gift aid funds are in our accounts with the minimum delay.

From this I am sure that you will appreciate that the role of a Gift Aid Secretary is an important one and you should not feel alone! You should be able to count on the support of your PCC and Hub leader and the Treasurer and assistant Treasurer, and there are other sources of help too. The Gift Aid section on www.parishresources.org.uk should tell you much of what you need to know in order to administer a Gift Aid scheme properly.

If you feel that this important role is one to which you feel called please contact me or a church leader or churchwarden.

Ashton Festival

This year we were pleased to play host to several of the festival events from a band concert, a choir concert, a songs of praise service to a history talk. We would like to acknowledge the kind donation of £240 which we have received from the Festival Committee.

We were also able to host this years Ashton Art Club exhibition in our church building exemplifying the multipurpose use to which the building can now be put.

Malcolm

Mothers' Union



Diary:

Wednesday 16th November meeting in the church hall at 7.30pm when our speaker is Doreen Fowler

Advance Notice

27th January 2023 our annual Mothers' Union and Friends meal at Bryn Masonic Hall, 7.00pm for 7.30pm. If you would like to join us, please put your name on the list at the back of church or let me know.

The Trustees are fully aware that we are currently facing difficult times financially and want me to emphasise that should any branch find it difficult to meet the following amounts please do not hesitate in contacting me. Monies are available to assist any branch who feel their members need support. Subs for Year 2023 will be £29.00 Indoor members will be £20.00

Diocesan Carole Service on Saturday November 26th 2pm The Retiring collection will be donations for Students who will be spending Christmas at Hope either because of the inability to travel home or because of family estrangement. We will hopefully be able to assist in the provision of Christmas essentials for these young people. Further information to follow. A suggestion was made that if our branch is unable to come to the service perhaps a donation plate be used at our meetings.

A Eucharist for 16 Days against Gender based Violence will be held on Monday 21st November 12 noon in the Cathedral Lady Chapel. This will be followed by lunch with a speaker. (Please note the lunch must be pre booked. Names to Cerys by November 11th)

We do hope to continue our support of the young people at Coops Foyer with Christmas gifts. Can I ask you to have this in mind as we begin our Christmas preparations. Take an unlit candle and reflect on
All victims of gender injustice who feel
In darkness, their circumstances hidden from view
Also, for all perpetrators hiding their deeds in the dark.
Then light the candle as a symbolic prayer for
God's light to shine to expose the deeds of darkness
And bring light and hope to survivors.

Love and prayers Barbara

We are once again grateful to David Fearnley for another glimpse into our past.

1845 - 1846 THE HAYDOCK LODGE ASYLUM SCANDAL

Haydock Lodge was a large mansion house situated on Warrington Road on the site of the present Holiday Inn hotel near Haydock Park. The Lodge was owned by the Legh family of Newton and Lyme Park, Cheshire. In 1844 Haydock Lodge was sold to George Coode and became the Haydock Lodge Lunatic Asylum.

George Coode provided the finance and Charles Mott became Superintendent of the Asylum. Charles Mott realised that providing private asylums for pauper/poor lunatics could be highly profitable. In 1845/6 a scandal at Haydock Lodge Asylum was reported in "The Times" and other national newspapers leading to questions being asked in the House of Commons and a major crisis for the government. An MP in the House of Commons used the term "slaughterhouse" to describe Haydock Lodge Asylum.

Mott was in financial difficulty when he arrived at Haydock. He was in debt to over £10,000 and was concerned to avoid financial ruin. A man of scandalous background and character Mott had previous experience of managing a private asylum catering for paupers, Peckham House Asylum, London, which in 1829 encountered the same problems as Haydock Lodge Asylum in 1845. At Haydock

Lodge Asylum Mott was to receive a salary of £200 a year plus board and lodgings. If the profits of the Asylum exceeded £500 then half was to be paid to Mott. This provided an incentive to reduce costs to a minimum to maximise profits.

Haydock Lodge was a private asylum taking both private patients and pauper/poor patients paid for by local authority public funds. The private patients were housed in the mansion, the pauper patients in the outbuildings and offices. The maintenance of each patient was 7s 6d (37 pence) a week. The asylum thrived due to the shortage of asylum beds especially in the existing public asylums in Lancashire, Cheshire & Yorkshire and by offering lower rates for residents who came from outside the county of Lancashire. In 1845 there were 447 patients – 42 private and 405 pauper. Both Mott and Coode were operating a scam to make money from the asylum by keeping the running costs low, embezzling resources of the asylum and expanding the asylum farm by using asylum residents as cheap labour.

The asylum was advertised and patients obtained from across the country. To maximise income Mott required only physically fit residents in the asylum. The feeble were an expendable burden on the maximization of profits. The mortality rate in the asylum was very high – in 1845 112 of the residents died. The patients diet was very poor, soup was thinned, stew was made of thin stock, rice water was a regular meal, meals were ill cooked and unpalatable and there was a shortage of milk since many of the farm buildings were being used to provide space for patients. Tradesmen refused to supply the asylum due to unpaid bills.

The building was damp, drains poor, toilets neglected and there was also vermin. There were outbreaks of dysentery and diarrhoea and a shortage of blankets and hot water for baths. Living conditions were appalling. On occasions there were 5 bodies in the asylum morgue. No inquests were requested or held. Low wages determined the quality of staff and patients were maltreated.

Mott, the Superintendent, and Coode, the proprietor, were frequently absent. Mott appointed members of his family to posts in the Asylum. Two investigations were required before all these problems came to light.

Charles Mott resigned from Haydock Asylum in 1846 with c£7,000 missing from the accounts. He was declared bankrupt with debts of £25,000. He died in 1851. George Coode was declared bankrupt 1854, Haydock Asylum having drained most of his capital. He died 1869. Haydock Lodge continued as a private asylum until closure in 1969.

David A. Fearnley.

Upcoming events

11am - 2pm on 19th November: Christmas fayre at St Thomas' church Join us for cafe, craft stalls, fair trade stall, tombola, children's crafts, face painting and much more!

7pm on 25th November: Quiz Night at St Thomas'. Tickets are £5 and include nibbles and hot drinks. Tickets available from Jan Cornthwaite and Carol Pye.



30th November: Wreath Making at St Thomas' (time and venue to be confirmed). £15 including all materials and tuition to make a wreath along with mulled wine and cake. Booking in advance needed and tickets are available from Jan and Carol.

2.30pm on 3rd December: Christmas afternoon tea at St Thomas' church. £12.50 for afternoon tea and complementary prosecco.

On 15 October, 5 of our church and community litter picking team were hard at work in lovely autumn sunshine.

They tidied around Armoury Bank and the Market.

Someone else had also been litter picking at the Market which was good to see.

Why not come along to our next litter pick, meeting at 10am on St Thomas' church hall car park on 19th November.









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



In memory of **Janet Sharkey**from Mrs Cook
from Carole & Michael Pye

For Lucille's baptism from Bill & Izzy Schafer

In loving memory of a dear husband and dad **Allan Deluce** from Elsie and Family

In memory of **Catherine Mary Hurst** who died on 29th August 1974
She is constantly in my thoughts and is very much missed
From David

Also donations to the General, Africa and Pantry Building Funds

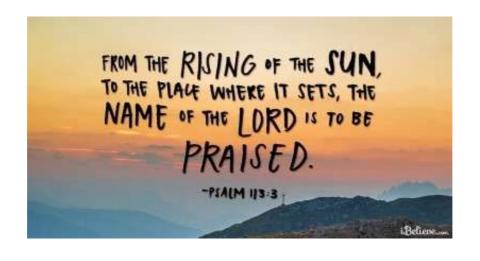


The Registers



Holy Baptism 'We welcome them into the Lord's family'			
9th October	Isabella- Grace Cranfield Oscar Andrew Parkington Amy Elizabeth Goodship		
23rd October	Ada Hollie Martin Oliver Michael Pickup		

Funerals or Burials of Ashes 'May they rest in peace'			
7 October	Doreen Bentham	75	
10 October	Joan Blinston	83	
12 October	Barry James Goulding	69	
17 October	Joan Patricia Boak	77	
17 Octoer	Margaret Hipkiss	80	
20 October	Janette Collins	78	
21 October	May French	87	
21 Octoer	Ellen Kenyon	91	
25 October	Kenny Gregory Ball	72	
25 October	Avis Bullough	92	
27 October	Barbara Elizabeth Hickson	68	
28 October	Verena Langford	89	
31 October	Mary Ann Peet	94	



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

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

204082

Sunday Morning Worship	Local Mission
Leaders	

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

Readers

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

Assistant Wardens

John Boon

St Thomas': Tony Cornthwaite 721626
Paula Gillespie 711270
St Luke's: Carol Pye 517318

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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Bill Schafer 717300

St Thomas' Worship Group

Mary Owen 203277

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Magazine Distribution

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