

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



*Ask the Lord of the Harvest
therefore to send out the workers
into His harvest field*

Matthew 9:28

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South Hub Church Wigan

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Parish Information

Baptisms

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

Funerals

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

Marriage

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

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

Magazine Deadlines

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

	October	November	December
Deadline for material	14 September	15 October	17 November
Publication date	25 September	30 October	27 November

Services across the Parish

St Andrew's

Sunday 4	9.30am Morning Worship
Sunday 11	9.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 18	9.30am Church Cafe
Sunday 25	9.30am Morning Worship

ALL ARE
WELCOME
HERE

St Peter's

Sunday 4	10.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 11	10.30am Morning Prayer
Sunday 18	10.30am Morning Prayer
Sunday 25	10.30am Cafe Church

St Aidan's

Sunday 4	10.00am Holy Communion
Wednesday 7	10.00am Holy Communion
Sunday 11	10.30am Sta's4all 4.00pm Evening Prayer
Sunday 18	10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday 21	10.00am Holy Communion
Sunday 25	10.00am Beacon Service 4.00pm Evening Prayer

St Thomas'

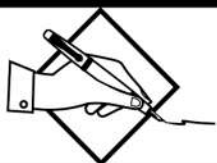
Thursday 1	9.45am BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 4	9.00am Morning Worship 10.45am Worship Together 6.30pm Holy Communion
Thursday 8	9.45am BCP Communion
Sunday 11	9.00am Holy Communion 10.45am Worship Together
Thursday 15	9.45am BCP Communion
Sunday 18	9.00am Morning Worship 10.45am Holy Communion 6.30pm Evening Prayer
Thursday 22	9.45am BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 25	9.00am Holy Communion 10.45am Worship Together
Thursday 29	9.45am Morning Prayer

Holy Trinity

Sunday 4	10.30am Morning Worship
Sunday 11	10.30am Morning Worship
Wednesday 14	10.00am Holy Communion
Sunday 18	10.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 25	10.30am Morning Worship
Wednesday 28	9.30am Holy Communion

St Luke's

Sunday 4	11.00am Family Worship
Sunday 11	11.00am Holy Communion
Sunday 18	11.00am Family Worship
Sunday 25	11.00am Family Worship



A Letter from Eth

Jess just asked me to do a letter for the September magazine, and initially I thought I wouldn't be able to do this as we are currently sat in our caravan in a field at Beadnell near Seahouses in Northumberland. Then I thought 'I am forever saying *'there is always a solution to a problem'* ' so here I am!

As I said, we are in Northumberland in our caravan; it is a beautiful place, but today the sea mist has rolled in and we are shrouded in a warm kind of cloud.

To be honest the cooler weather is a bit of a relief.

To be away like this is lovely - you get to see beautiful places and meet a great variety of people who are friendly and accommodating. It always makes us smile when we go away like this that we can survive in our box on wheels with the bare minimum of stuff around us (although my family will tell you different). It's a time to relax and take stock, a time to wonder at the beauty around us, a time to be thankful for what the Lord has blessed us with. We all need those times in our lives, not necessarily away from home, but just a time of quiet and peace.

Last week we went to our Boys' and Girls' Brigade camp in Wales. Peace there was at a premium! But we shared friendship and fellowship with all of those on the field and rekindled the camp atmosphere that has been missing for two years. Even on that field we found peace, in the evening, when things quietened down and we sat with a brew, taking stock of the day.

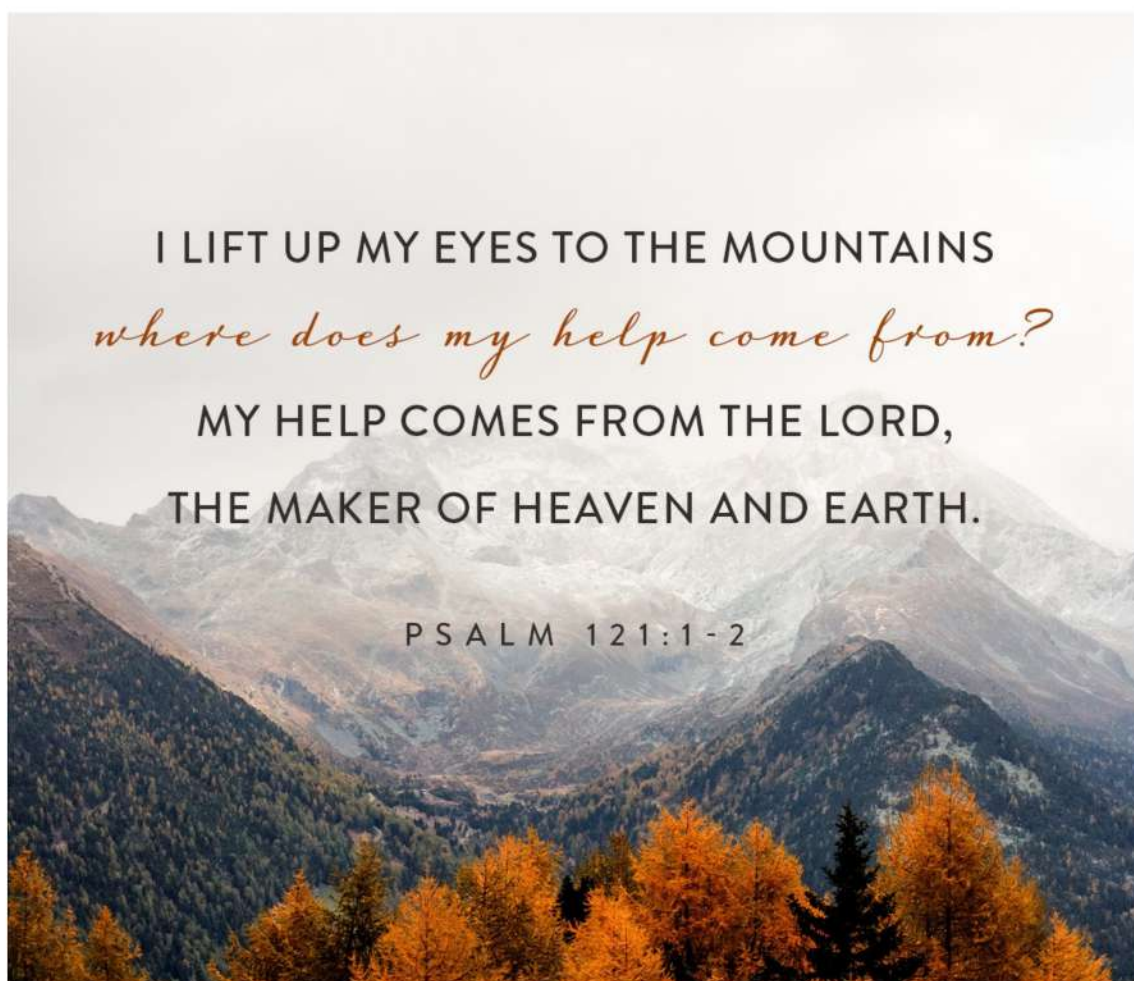


Our Lord gives us those times as a time of blessing, a time to draw closer to him and be thankful for all we have. I pray that wherever you find your peace, be it in your own home or away like us, that you will draw near to our Lord and rest in him.

When I'm away I always think of Psalm 121 - I lift my eyes to the quiet hills.

Just at the moment I can't see any because of the mist but they are there, just like our Lord, holding us safe in his peace.

Eth



PS. Peace shattered, as the farmer has just turned the cows and sheep out into the next field!

Parish News

Prayer Walk – 8th October 2022

On **Saturday 8th October 2022** Christians from different denominations across Wigan are coming together to walk and pray for our communities in and around Wigan. Groups will gather at 8 points around Wigan and walk to Mesnes Park, meeting there at 2pm. The 8 points include Abram, Ashton, Aspull, Billinge, Hindley Green, Orrell, Shevington and Standish. As people walk they will pray for the communities they pass through: that God's glory will be seen in people and places.



Please put this date in your diary and pray about how you can be involved.

We need a group of people to help plan and lead the walk from Ashton. I am happy to help with the planning but am not sure if I will be fit enough to complete the full walk – I will meet you at a point along the route.

Please get in touch with me if you would like to help.

David Sixsmith from the House of Prayer has volunteered to lead the Billinge walk. If you would like to help him or join him let me know and I will put you in touch with him.

A quick search on Google maps shows that both walks are just over 5 miles and will take around 2 hours. The routes are mainly flat.

If you cannot walk the whole route, there are a number of options; you could walk part of the route, meet the group at the start of the walk and pray with them, or travel to Mesnes Park and meet with everyone at 2 pm.

There will be more information soon, so please check your church notices.

I do hope that you will join us.

Sue Fulford

A member of our Parish, from St Aidan's church, has written a poem to give us food for thought and to challenge us all - thank you.

Lord of the morning
I'm trying to forgive myself
For the mistakes I've made.
There are too many "if only's" in my life.
If only I had been more thoughtful.
If only I had been kinder.
I blame myself for so many things
Yet I cannot turn back the clock.
I have to live for today
Even with my self-inflicted wounds.
Lord help me to live with myself.

Lord in this hour
I need to be able to forgive myself.
But I also need to be able to forgive others,
TO REALLY FORGIVE.
How often have I gone through the motions of forgiveness
Only to let my mind dwell on the wrong remembered
And even to talk about the people who have failed me.
That is not forgiveness.
I know that I cannot erase experiences from my mind
But even bitter wounds heal.
And though the scars remain
They can grow faint and be forgotten

Lord of Life
Help me to forgive and to be forgiven.

If this resonates with you, you are reminded of God's word.

Matthew 6:14-15: "For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you" But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."

Matthew 11:28: (Jesus said) "Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gently and humble in heart and you will find rest for your soul. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Reflecting Faith: a special place for a special purpose

It is sometimes thought that altar rails are the visible barrier separating the Sanctuary where the Altar or Table is placed and the Chancel; where the choir may be seated.

But there is more to the rails than simply separating these two areas in a church.

In the early days churches did not have such rails, but rather there was such a clear separation between the Chancel and the Nave that they were not required.

The Nave was used by the local community for many different community activities including the work of lawyers, accounts, indoor festivals and so on as well as people just meeting together as we would use our local community centres today. There would even be people sleeping in that part of the building overnight if they were homeless or travelling.

Hence the need for a Chancel screen of some sort to keep out the running around children, their ball games, dogs etc etc.

Originally the altar would have been in the Chancel so the activity there could be seen by the people through the screen.

However, during the Restoration, many of the chancel screens that separated the whole of the chancel from the rest of the church had been removed or destroyed and this left the altar table 'open' to everyone and everything – including the dogs. Afterwards, altar tables were removed from the middle of the chancel and placed against the East wall of the church.

Archbishop Laud (1573-1645) 'invented' altar rails to help protect the sanctuary from dogs and keep it a special area accessible only to clergy and servers.

These days many churches are turning full circle and moving their altar to be nearer the people to the front of the Chancel. But this is because largely, the activities in the church building have significantly changed and dogs, in particular, are rarely loose in the building.

- Where would you place the altar table today in your church if it were moveable?
- Would you have something surrounding it?
- Would you continue to use the 'original' altar rail to receive the bread and wine?

Keep highlighting abuses of freedom of religion and belief, bishops urge

Politicians from around the world have been urged to 'keep up the momentum' on tackling abuses of freedom of religion or belief, by the Church of England bishop who led a recent key review of Foreign Office support for persecuted Christians.

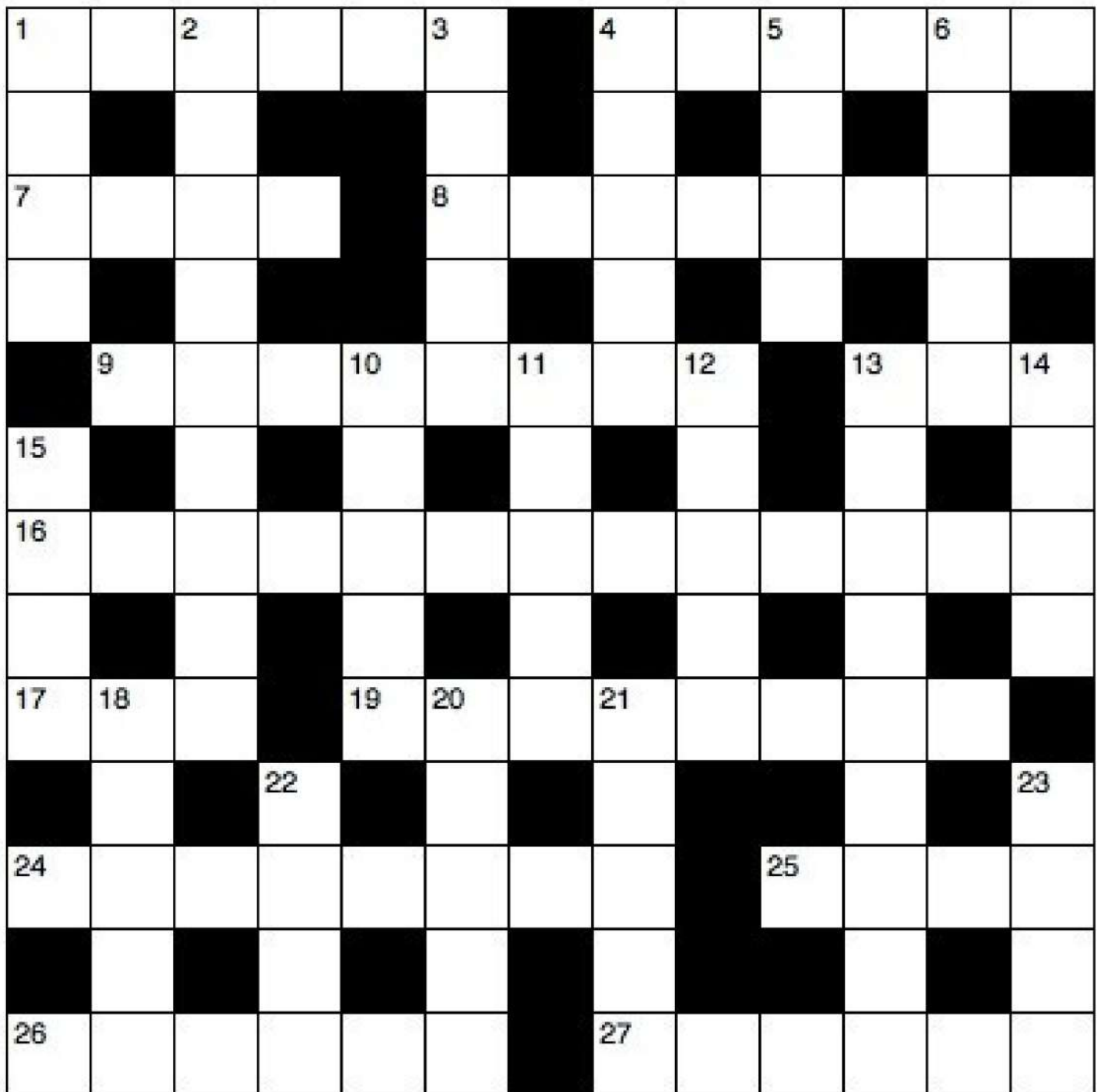
The Bishop of Truro, Philip Mounstephen, told a recent global summit on Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB) hosted by the UK Government, that there had been some good progress since the publication of the review in 2019, but 'much' still needed to be done.

Bishop Philip said: "My key message to Parliamentarians would be: understand what the main drivers behind freedom of religion or belief abuses are – we are looking at totalitarian regimes, religious fundamentalism, militant nationalism. These are really serious issues that must be addressed. So please Parliamentarians, make this a bipartisan issue, espouse it across the political spectrum."



Bishop Philip also welcomed the creation of the UK Freedom of Religion or Belief Public Forum, made since the publication of the 2019 report.

Crossword



Answers on page 18

Across

- 1 'Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders — in vain' (Psalm 127:1) (6)
- 4 Season of the year (Psalm 84:6) (6)
- 7 'My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. — here and keep watch with me' (Matthew 26:38) (4)
- 8 It came over the whole land from the sixth to the ninth hour on the first Good Friday (Luke 23:44) (8)
- 9 Paul invariably did this in the synagogues he visited on his missionary journeys (Acts 17:2) (8)
- 13 'It is God who works in you to will and to — according to his good purpose' (Philippians 2:13) (3)
- 16 Members of the Church of Scotland (13)
- 17 'Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountain side and — down' (Matthew 5:1) (3)
- 19 Mock(Luke14:29)(8)
- 24 Disgrace(Psalm44:13)(8)
- 25 First month of the Hebrew calendar (Exodus13:4)(4)
- 26 Christianity of the Britons before Augustine arrived from Rome(6)
- 27 Mean (Numbers 35:23)(6)

Down

- 1 'Whoever finds his life will — it' (Matthew 10:39) (4)
- 2 'My lord the king, let the — — on me and on my father's family, and let the king and his throne be without guilt' (2 Samuel 14:9) (5,4)
- 3 O raid (anag.) (5)
- 4 'If two of you on earth — about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven' (Matthew 18:19) (5)
- 5 Take care of (1 Samuel 17:15) (4)
- 6 What the older son heard as he came near the house the day his prodigal brother came home (Luke 15:25) (5)
- 10 'Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with — judgment' (Romans 12:3) (5)
- 11 Do ten(anag.)(5)
- 12 Architectural style first used in Greek temples in the sixth century BC (5)
- 13 Capable of being used(1Kings7:36)(9)
- 14 'Each one should — his own actions'(Galatians6:4)(4)
- 15 Among the items imported by Solomon's fleet of trading ships (1 Kings 10:22) (4)
- 18 'But I am afraid that just — — was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray' (2 Corinthians 11:3) (2,3)
- 20 Outstanding 18th-century hymn writer, — Watts(5)
- 21 One of the four sons of Asher(Genesis46:17)(5)
- 22 Be distressed(Proverbs24:19)(4)
- 23 He was the father of Gaal, who threatened rebellion against Abimelech (Judges 9:28) (4)

September Holy Days

13th September St John Chrysostom, living a public faith

John Chrysostom (347 – 407) is the saint for anyone who applies their Christianity to public life, and also for anyone who hates travelling in bad weather. Chrysostom did both, and had trouble both times.

Born into a wealthy home in Antioch, John Chrysostom studied both oratory and law. In 373 he became a monk, where his talents were soon spotted by the bishop, who put him in charge of the care of the many poor Christians in the city.

Chrysostom's oratorical skills made him a popular preacher, even when he spoke out against the riots against the emperor's taxes. The emperor, in fact, liked him so much that he had him made Archbishop of Constantinople in 397. Then the trouble began: because Chrysostom had firm moral views, and wanted to reform the corrupt morals of the court.

Nobody at court liked that at all – especially the Empress, whose make-up, clothes and behaviour were all criticised by Chrysostom. (It's as if Justin Welby began calling the Queen's dress sense or Kate's lipstick immoral.) When his enemies claimed that he had gone on to call her a 'Jezebel', the emperor had to exile him – until an earthquake scared everyone into recalling this strict Archbishop – just in case God was trying to tell them something. Even the Empress was shaken – for a while.

A few years later, Chrysostom was exiled again over another false charge – and forced to travel for many miles in appalling weather. If you've been stranded in any heat-waves or thunderstorms this summer, imagine walking up the M6 in that – for weeks on end. In the end, Chrysostom died in September, on the road to Pontus.

His body was later brought back to Constantinople, and over the ensuing centuries, the Church came to see him as having been a great church leader, in fact, one of the Four Greek Doctors (with Athanasius, Basil and Gregory of Nazianzus).

1st September St Giles of Provence, helping those damaged by life

St Giles was an immensely popular saint in the Middle Ages, and no wonder: he was the patron saint of cripples. In those days, there were many people who, once injured, were never really whole again. Even today, a serious injury – either physical or mental or emotional, can leave us damaged for months, years or even longer. At such times, we, too, find inspiration in others who, though also damaged by life, have not been overwhelmed.

St Giles was probably born in Provence, southern France early in the 7th century. The 10th century *Legenda Aurea* (Golden Legend) tells us he lived as a holy hermit deep in the forest of Nîmes, near the mouth of the Rhone. A hind, or Red Deer, was his only companion. Then one day, while out hunting, King Wamba spotted the deer, and pursued it. The hind fled back to St Giles for protection. King Wamba shot an arrow which missed the deer but pierced the saint who was protecting it. Thus the king encountered the saint. The saint's acceptance of his injury, and his holiness greatly impressed the king, who conceived a great admiration for St Giles.

In the end, much good came out of the original harm of the encounter, for the king then built St Giles a monastery in his valley, Saint-Gilles-du-Gard. The little monastery was put under the Benedictine rule and became a source of blessing for the area roundabout. In later years, St Giles' shrine would become an important pilgrimage centre on the route for both Compostela and the Holy Land, as well as in its own right.

There is a further story connected with St Giles. Another legend tells how an emperor sought forgiveness from him for a sin so terrible he dared not even confess it. While St Giles said Mass, he saw written for him by an angel the nature of the sin in question. But his prayers for the emperor were so efficacious that the letters naming the sin faded away. As Christians, we know that the Bible urges us to pray for others, no matter how hopelessly bad they seem, because Christ's mercy and forgiveness are extended to everyone who truly turns to Him and repents.

No wonder then, that St Giles, the crippled saint who helped others find wholeness with God, became patron saint of cripples, lepers and nursing mothers. In England 162 ancient churches are dedicated to him, as well as at least 24 hospitals. The most famous of these are St Giles in Edinburgh and St Giles in Cripplegate, London. In art, St Giles is represented as either a simple abbot with staff, or protecting the hind, or saying the Mass, and thus interceding for the emperor.

Back to School

September is that time of year when we get back to school after the summer break, along with our other routines. As disciples (lit: learners) we are all called to learn from Jesus and live like Him. God wants us to make a difference as disciples in our school and workplace, family and friends. As Paul writes:



‘And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.’ (Colossians 3:17).

‘WHATEVER you do’: God is at work in every aspect of our lives. He can use whatever we do to make a difference to those around. Do we believe this? Our lives shouldn’t be like an orange, segmented into the sacred and secular, but more like an apple, in which the whole is available to God.

‘Whatever YOU do’: God wants to use us to share God’s love with the people around us, wherever we spend time. We can trust Him for the resources we need hour by hour, day by day, year by year. What do we need from Him?

‘Whatever you DO’: Our work is for God alone, as a response to God’s love for us. How does this perspective make a difference when what we do seems hard, unrewarding, or unappreciated by others?

A man standing on a train platform was asked one day: ‘Who are you?’ He replied, ‘I am a Christian thinly disguised as an accountant.’ If we were asked the same question I wonder what we would say. As disciples of Jesus Christ, our identity is rooted in God and His call upon our lives. For each of us, September represents going back to school with Jesus, to learn how we can live for Him.



Canon Paul Hardingham

Wordsearch

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

seed

ever

corn

difference

thorn

sprouted

soil

water

outgrown

farmer

learn

rocks

birds

good

harvest

best

field

fantastic

path

sower

plants

grew

eaten

died



Belonging to God



How good You are, Lord, and how near You are to us –
so near that we may always talk to You,
be comforted by You,
breathe through You,
be enlightened by You,
find peace in You,
and gain spiritual nourishment from You.

Grant that my fellowship with You
may never be polluted by malice, pride, envy, greed, gluttony or
falsehood.

Grant that I may belong wholly to you.

John Sergieff
1829 - 1908

Crossword Answers

ACROSS: 1, Labour. 4, Autumn. 7, Stay. 8, Darkness. 9, Reasoned. 13, Act. 16, Presbyterians. 17, Sat. 19, Ridicule. 24, Reproach. 25, Abib. 26, Celtic. 27, Intend.

DOWN: 1, Lose. 2, Blame rest. 3, Radio. 4, Agree. 5, Tend. 6, Music. 10, Sober. 11, Noted. 12, Doric. 13, Available. 14, Test. 15, Apes. 18, As Eve. 20, Isaac. 21, Ishvi. 22, Fret. 23, Ebed.



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.

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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**

September Services



St Thomas'

St Luke's

4th September

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

11.00am Family Worship

11th September

9.00am Holy Communion
10.45am Worship Together

11.00am Holy Communion

18th September

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

11.00am Family Worship

25 September

9.00am Holy Communion
10.45am Worship Together

11.00am Family Worship

Every Thursday, 9.45am BCP Holy Communion



Take a look at the front of the magazine where all the September services, at each of the churches within our parish, are listed in full.

News from our churches

A quiet August for the magazine team but an active month in the life of our church. The Rev Sue Thomas, fresh from her ordination as a priest in June, has given the parish the additional benefit of a priest able to give communion and perform wedding ceremonies as well as continuing with baptisms and funerals. Not to mention her involvement in the food and youth ministry. Sue tackles everything with her usual enthusiasm.

It has also been good to welcome back our old friend and former lay reader, the Rev Dave Hamlett. Dave, now in retirement, is making himself available to assist in the South Parish both with communion services and funeral ministry, this has been his special interest in the later stages of his ministerial career. Perhaps we can look forward to the return of men's breakfasts! What do you think Dave?

I am not sure how many of our congregation are aware of what goes on in the parish where many volunteers are carrying out essential tasks week by week. I pose the question following my own involvement with our church during what a particularly busy week was beginning 10 July 2022. I hasten to add that this does not happen every week, and I am of course retired and have the time to serve the church. My comments must not be taken as criticism of anyone else or as self-congratulation far from that being my intention I enjoy what I do.

Sunday 10 July: 8.20 am Accompanied Barbara to church to open and set up for the 9.00am service. For fire precautions, unlock the deadlock on the vestry door. Set up tables and chairs and check microphones for sound levels. Count congregation and leave for home for a coffee. 10.15am Return for the 10.45 service; ensure that the reader and person doing prayers are in church and be available to assist when necessary. Escort the children across the road to the hall for their time. After the service help set up the chairs for the baptism. Count the offertory, including the Free Will envelopes, and prepare the FWO money for banking and create record for calculation of gift aid and forward to Clare Hayton who looks after our gift aid claims

Monday 11 July: We had a problem in the graveyard where a tree damaged a wall in C Court and needed to be felled. This was done and the wall replaced. Bricks, rubbish twigs and soil remained. I met with Graham Bailey early to work out a plan to tidy the site. We began by burying the old, discarded bricks and levelling some of the area, an hour was enough for me. This is a continuing job but not for people my age! Thank you, Graham, for your continuing efforts. More help would be appreciated.

Tuesday 12 July: 8.50am down to the hall to meet Les Johnson who kindly assists in setting up the room for the Tuesday Coffee morning. Returning at 10.30am for a coffee and tea cake before going over to church with Barbara to set up for the funeral of Jack Jones. As he was a well-known past captain and president of Ashton Golf Club, we had been warned to expect a large attendance. Tables taken down and chairs put out ready for the service. Received a Call from Rev Dave Hamlett who was taking the funeral of John Woods on Thursday asking could we meet the family to ensure that the memory stick containing photos for the service would work on our equipment. The funeral had originally been planned for Holy Trinity but changed to St Thomas for the more comprehensive audio and visual system. Spoke to Keith Stone who actively helps with the sound at funerals and arranged to meet next afternoon. Prepared for the following morning house group, a study of 1 Peter.

Wednesday 13 July: 9.00am meet the engineer from Pier Electrics due to service the hall alarm system and sort out a fault which caused the alarm to sound off. Opened the barrier to let his vehicle on to the car park and waited while he carried out the work. Returned home in time for our house group starting at 10.00am. Received a call from Church Wigan Funerals wanting to arrange a funeral on the 26th July. This presented a problem as both vergers teams were at the Keswick Convention on that date. This also applied to David and Maureen Dalton who had previously acted as vergers. I then asked Jim Miller could he help, he was also at Keswick and Graham Bailey was on a golf holiday. Attended the meeting to check the memory stick. Keith was shocked to find that whilst it played on the computer it wouldn't connect to the screens. Eventually after a couple of hours a MacBook was brought by the family which worked. It was arranged to bring it next day for the funeral.

Thursday 14th July: 8.50am on my way to church with Barbara to unlock and prepare for the 9.45am service set up for communion and test sound equipment. Check graveyard for further progress with the clear up around the new wall. Help with coffee following the service. Solved the vergers problem for the funeral on the 26th as Paul Tushingham not being required as organist at the funeral agreed that he would act as vergers. I confirmed this to Funerals Wigan.

Friday 15th July: Just M&S at Gemini!!

I am not the only one active in our church and what a state of chaos we would be in without all those many people helping on a regular basis. There are too many to name individually, but they know who they are and on behalf of the congregation I want to record our thanks. Having said that there are many opportunities for other volunteers to assist not only to lighten the burden on the existing volunteers but also to cover areas of church life that we are not currently touching. The church leaders would be glad to talk to you should you feel God's call.

THANK YOU!

I would like to mention the social activities which were planned for August and thank all those involved in either arranging running or attending. A great deal of fun and fellowship was enjoyed with firstly the Messy Church which was well received by all in attendance. This was followed by the BBQ hosted by Jan and Tony, on a glorious sunny evening some 84 adults and 11 children were welcomed and well fed. A beetle drive was the next event at St Luke's and again proved a great success. At the time of writing this article the remaining events have not yet taken place but are sure to be a roaring success and enjoyed by all.



Malcolm

Mothers' Union



Diary:

15th September we mark the start of a new season with our Holy Communion Service in Church at 7.30pm. I look forward to seeing you all.

Literature Sales

The MU have issued the new catalogue of cards and gifts available for Christmas. We have ample time to borrow and peruse the range available. Just ask me and our Literature Representative, Maureen Cook, who is waiting for your orders of Christmas Cards, calendars, books etc. Please remember that the money received by Liverpool Diocese related to turnover has a knock-on effect by helping to keep subscriptions down. This is achieved by the sale of cards etc right through the year but in particular with good Christmas Sales.



Modern Day Slavery

The MU continues to campaign globally to raise awareness of Modern-Day Slavery. This year a vigil will be held at Liverpool Cathedral on Monday 17th October in the Lady Chapel at 12 noon. The speaker following the service will be Nadine Daniel who is the campaign and strategy lead for UK Welcomes Refugees. We are asked to provide knitted chains in any colour I am told that the pattern is 1 row pearl 30 stitches then 4 to 8 rows then stocking stitch cast off with a length of wool from the cast off to tie into a link. I do hope that this will make sense to our expert knitters.

16 Days of Activism

This year the service and lunch is on Monday 21 November in the Cathedral Lady Chapel beginning at 12 noon. The speaker will be the Chief Constable of Merseyside Serena Kennedy. More details will be given soon

The deanery is planning to repeat the provision of Christmas cards for the inmates of Bickershaw prison and colouring books, crayons and sticker books for the family room at the prison. They would welcome our support for this project.

*God of creation, Lord of the harvest,
We bring you first fruits of praise.
We celebrate your goodness with thankful hearts.
All that you have made is very good
Let us steward your creation with integrity and care.*

***Love and prayers
Barbara***

Another glimpse into the history of our town prepared by our resident historian.

JOHN LAUNDER, 1634, NEW HALL, ASHTON IN MAKERFIELD

The New Hall/Garswood New Hall was a large mansion house formerly situated on the present Ashton golf course. The New Hall was built c1500, probably by the Gerard family, and was sold by the Gerards in 1634 to John Launder/Lander of Winwick for £170 (today £40,000). Who was John Launder? Little is known about John Launder. He was born c1593, possibly in Staffordshire, and married Jane Parr, at Winwick, in 1630 and they had 6 children. In 1628 he is recorded as owning lands in Winwick. In 1629 he gave £10 to the Seneley Green Free Grammar School and in 1673 bequeathed £4 to the poor of Winwick.

In a document of 1617, written in Latin, John Launder is mentioned many times along with the names of Josiah Horne and Frances and Petronella Stanley of Shropshire. Josiah Horne was the rector of Winwick and Frances and Petronella Stanley were members of the Stanley family, one of the most wealthy and important families in England. The Stanley family owned vast estates in Lancashire and the Isle of Man. Their main residence in Lancashire was Lathom

House, near Ormskirk. Lathom House was regarded as the most magnificent building in England, the equal of Hampton Court in London, the residence of Henry VIII. Lathom House was really a castle with 9 towers including the central Eagle Tower and surrounded by a wall and moat. In 1644 during the English Civil War Lathom House, defended by Charlotte Stanley, Countess of Derby, successfully defied a long siege by Oliver Cromwell's troops. In 1645 on the surrender of Lathom House Cromwell ordered that Lathom House be demolished stone by stone.

The Latin document of 1617 was the report of a court case held at Lancaster relating to the parish of Winwick. In 1563 Petronella and Frances' grandfather, Sir Thomas Stanley, Bishop of Man (Isle of) and rector of Winwick and Wigan had granted to the Stanley family the lease of Winwick rectory and all the rents and profits from the parish of Winwick for 99 years. Josiah Horne, rector of Winwick, objected to this and in 1617 brought a court case. The result was that the rents were to be shared between Horne and the Stanley family. In 1650 Charles Herle, rector of Winwick, unhappy with the result of the 1617 court decision brought a new case against the Stanley family. Six residents of Winwick were to appear before judges in Preston to give evidence as to who received rents from the parish of Winwick. The six included 5 yeomen/farmers and 1 gentleman – John Launder.

John Launder was obviously a wealthy and influential person – he could afford a large sum of money to buy the New Hall and his name appeared in legal documents. In his will of 1673 he made large financial bequests and also of lands & property at Arbury near Winwick church. In his testimony before the Preston judges John Launder stated that “in 1615 I was servant to Josiah Horne, rector of Winwick”. The word “to” implying some official/assistant capacity rather than a general servant. Possibly he was the rector's bailiff for the parish of Winwick. A long established gentry family in Staffordshire now called Landor may be the origin of John Launder/Lander. A John Launder/Lander was born in Staffordshire in December 1595.

David A. Fearnley.

Donations Information

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

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

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

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

Funds currently in use are:

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

Unless otherwise stated, donations will go into the General fund

Donations & Remembrance



Anniversary Remembrance of **Norah Brown** (17th July)
and Birthday Remembrance of **Stanley Brown** (24th July)
a much loved Dad, Grandad, Great-Grandad & Brother
from Geoff, Denise, Julie & family

Birthday Remembrance of **Arthur Shaw** (23rd July)
a much loved Dad and Grandad
from Barbara, Malcolm & family

Birthday Remembrance for **Alex Parr** 17th September

From Margaret & family

Thank you for Home Communion from Elsie Deluce

Other donations were to the General & Africa Funds,
Holiday lunches, Heath Road Graveyard, Garden of Rest
and towards the soil in Heath Road



The Registers



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

2 July	Oswald Belshaw	68
7 July	Joyce Malley	77
12 July	John Jones	90
14 July	John Woods	87
26 July	Jane Jones	92
4 August	Albert Wedge	82
9 August	William Norman	90
9 August	Elaine Prescott	56
11 August	Marjorie Belshaw	97
18 August	May Hughes	88
22 August	William Hall	88
25 August	Jean Rampling	73
30 August	Olive Prescott	87

Holy Baptism 'We welcome them into the Lord's family'

2 July	Ariella Motondo Kouamedjo
10 July	Willow Grace Finnerty Roman Joe Halliwell River Beau Halliwell
17 July	Dariusz Noshadi Moghadam Hassan Ghorbandoust Hosein Haydari Farokh Khodayari
23 July	Faith Abbie Hayton
24 July	Thomas Anthony Wadsworth Robyn Louise Haselden
14 August	Bethany Grace Gormally

Holy Matrimony 'All the days of their lives'

9 July	Alistair Iam McLeod & Abigail Taylor
23 July	Peter Lawton & Amy Elizabeth Donoghue
23 July (Wedding Blessing)	Damian Hayton & Chelsea Jane Hayton

St Thomas' and St Luke's Organisations

Coffee Mornings

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

Wednesday Weenies

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

Mothers' Union

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

Fairtrade Stall

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

Litter Pick

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

Flower Guild

Meta Laites
723679

Asylum Seeker Support

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

Bowling Club

Henry Hunter
712709

Anne & Chris Wooff
724207

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

Ashton Pantry Sue Thomas 07877704645

Tuesday & Saturday 11am - 12pm

Thursday & Sunday 3pm - 4pm

Youth Clubs

JYC: (for Y3—Y6) Mon 6pm - 7pm

JYC Extra: Mon 5.30pm - 6pm

Friday Youth Club: 7pm—8pm fortnightly

11—18 year olds : Sun 6pm—7pm

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

Sunday 10.45am

Girl Guiding Rachel Starkie 718350

Brownies: Thursday 6.30pm

Guides: Tuesday 7.00pm

St Thomas' and St Luke's Church Officials

Sunday Morning Worship Local Mission

Leaders

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

Readers

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

Assistant Wardens

St Thomas': Tony Cornthwaite	721626
Paula Gillespie	711270

St Luke's: Carol Pye	517318
John Boon	204082

St Thomas' Deputy Wardens

Barbara Taylor	205136
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Assistant Treasurers

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

Administration, Bookings and Advertising

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cheryl.knowles@churchwigan.org

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