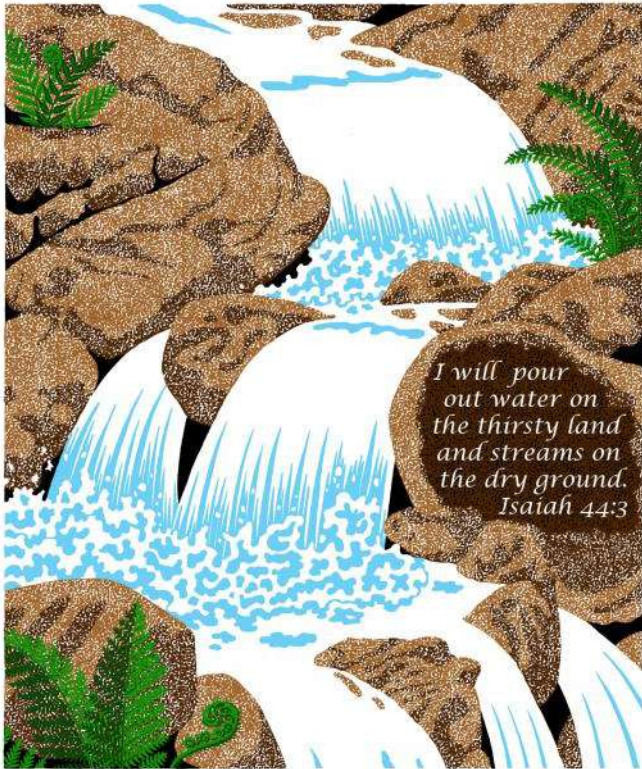


St.Thomas' and St. Luke's Ashton-In-Makerfield Church Magazine Price : 50p



March
2018

www.stthomasstluke.org.uk

Church Services in St Thomas' Parish, Ashton-in-Makerfield

Sundays

St Thomas'

1 st Sunday	2 nd Sunday	3 rd Sunday	4 th Sunday
09.00 Communion 10.45 All age service 18.30 Evening Prayer	09.00 Morning Worship 10.45 Family Worship 18.30 Communion	09.00 Communion 10.45 Family Worship 18.30 Evening Prayer	09.00 Morning Worship 10.45 Communion 18.30 Evening Prayer

For information about 5th Sunday see the notices for that week

St Luke's

11.00 Family Worship	11.00 Communion	11.00 Family Worship	11.00 Family Worship
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Weekdays

Thursday 9.45 am
Holy Communion
(BCP 1662)
In St Thomas'

Please see weekly notice sheet or visit website for additional services details or exceptions, particularly around Christmas time.

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

Deadline	April	May
Hand Written	4th March	8th April
Computer	11th March	15th April
Magazine Release	25th March	29th April

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Booking Baptisms and Weddings

We are now encouraging everyone who would like to book a baptism or wedding to come to the family service at either St Thomas (10.45am) or St Luke's (11am) and bookings will be taken afterwards.

Important Parish Information

Baptisms

Baptisms are held at St Thomas' church at 12.45 pm on the second and fourth Sundays of the month and also during the 10.45 am service on the second Sunday. Baptisms at St Luke's are at 11 am on the third Sunday.

To qualify for baptism parents should live within the parish boundaries or be a regular worshipper at St Thomas's/St Luke's. Parents and Godparents should also be prepared to undertake baptism preparation classes.

Marriage

You can marry in a C of E church of your choice if certain criteria are shown to be met. For details please contact the vicar.

Funerals

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



Daily / Weekly Events in our Church - March 2018

<u>Monday</u>	Morning prayer	9.00am
<u>Tuesday</u>	Coffee Morning (Church Hall)	10:00am-12:00pm
	Church open for prayer	7.30-8.30pm
<u>Wednesday</u>	Morning Prayer	9.00am
<u>Thursday</u>	Holy Communion	9:45am

These are the usual events in our church, please see the notices for details of other activities taking place. For details of organisations and who to contact see back page of magazine.

Streets for Prayer: This month we are praying for the people who live and work in Orchard Street, Hazelhurst Grove, Cleveland Drive, Sherwood Avenue, Glendale Close and Elway Road.

TANGO

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



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



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





Parish News



The Leprosy Mission

This year, World Leprosy Day will be on Sunday 4th March. There will be information leaflets in church, together with envelopes for donations. After the 10.45 service, there will be the usual refreshments in the Church Hall, and any donations there will also go to the Leprosy Mission.

World Leprosy Day will be supporting "Break the Chains of Leprosy". The project last year, for providing a new outpatients department for the Purulia Hospital in India, was very successful and the building is now under construction.

On behalf of St Thomas' and St Lukes', a welcome message has been sent to Mr. Paul Moores, our new Regional Manager, wishing him well in his new position

Thank you all for your support.

Barbara and Margaret

Thank you

Margaret Makinson and family wish to express their thanks for all the very sincere calls, cards and expressions of sympathy following the sad death of her husband John. Also to thank everyone for their very generous donations to St Thomas Church in his memory.

New Lights in the Choir Vestry

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Thursday Coffee fund for very generously agreeing to pay the cost of the new light fittings which have now been installed. These replace the much out dated 8 foot fluorescent lights three of which were not functioning.

Malcolm



Letter from Carol Foster

Lent is a time in which we focus our thoughts on Jesus, a season of the renewal, of soul searching and putting ourselves right with God.

It's a time in which many give something up as an exercise in prayerful self-denial. I often hear someone say, "I'm giving up chocolate" others choose alcohol, while others choose to give up television or spending too much time on the computer. The challenge for me and perhaps for you, is not the giving up of something but rather do I choose to spend more time during this period in prayer, reflection and reading Gods word. To be honest, this is a challenge throughout the year. It shouldn't be like this really because If I'm putting God first in my life then communicating with Him should be my primary focus. The thing is when I switch off the TV when I put my mobile on silent. When I find a quiet place and read scripture and spend quality time with my Heavenly Father talking to Him about everything, listening to Him as I read His word then I feel so much better. Prayer is at the heart of Transforming Wigan. In 2016 there were 24 people in the Order of Prayer, in November 2017, 70 people were commissioned. Last March many people across Wigan fasted and prayed for three days. In May and

*The
Season
of
Lent*





Letter from Carol Foster

June over 250 people joined in 40 days of prayer. This year so far 70 people from across Wigan have recently received training in setting up Local Houses of Prayer, a movement flowing out of Ffald-y-Brenin Christian retreat centre in Wales. Small groups of people adopt a local area for Jesus and pray for the breaking in of the Kingdom of God in that area.

In March there is a school of prayer for 3 days, 7th-9th led by a pastor from Korea. Over a decade ago 50 people in his church began to pray, today the church has thousands of people attending meetings.

People are praying across the whole of Wigan.

I started by saying that Lent was a time of renewal of putting ourselves right with God. We need to do this not just for ourselves but so we can pray for the communities in which we live.

Let this Lent be a real time of change in all our lives.

Carol Foster

Verses for the Year

**Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.
Isaiah 43:1b**

**I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 3:14**



Mothers Union

Branch dates:

Women World Day of Prayer

Friday 2 March is Women's World Day of Prayer the Service this year will be held in the Independent Methodist Church Garswood at 1.30pm.

Wednesday 21 March speaker Chris Wooff Church Hall 7.30



Thank to everyone who helped in any way with the Brunch, on the stalls, as waitresses, or in the kitchen, or providing food or raffle prizes. Also a general thank you to those who came along on the day and supported the event .

As the Mothers' Union theme for 2018 is 'Following in Mary Sumner's Footsteps' this prayer is from Catherine Kyle Mothers' Union Faith Development Adviser

A Prayer

We follow your footsteps Lord;
we gladly take up our cross,
Walking in faith wherever you may
lead.

We follow in your footsteps Lord;
running after you for the joy of the
race and prize that lies ahead.

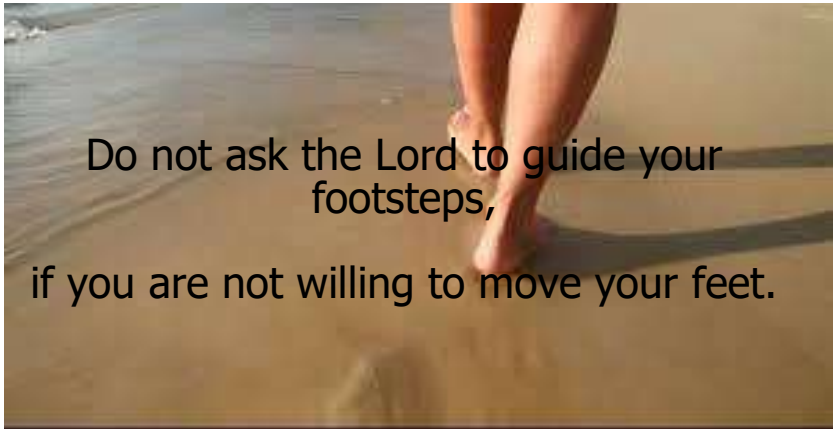
We follow you footsteps Lord;
fixing our eyes on Christ,
trusting in you to lead us home.

Amen



Mothers Union

Finally some advice I came across from an unknown author;



Love and prayers

Barbara

**For advertising in the Church magazine, please contact
Church Office on 01942 721484 or email
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**For magazine delivery please contact Jack Stuart on 01942
276972**

**Or to be added to the mailing list and receive the magazine
online please visit**

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to sign up!**



St. Thomas' C of E Primary School

Life Education

A pre – arranged visit from Life Education Lancashire took place on Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th January to further develop our pupils in Life Skills. A purpose-built caravan was parked for the two days outside the school building and the children were divided into groups, accordingly to their year. Qualified trained staff run and co-ordinated some very interesting discussions. The pupils met Harold the Giraffe puppet (Healthy Harold!) and friends. Several short films helped the children to learn about healthy eating and exercising the body as well as how their friendships and choices and behaviour can affect their dreams and aspirations.

The whole experience was extremely positive, and Mrs Jones and all the teaching staff agreed that it was an essential approach to help the pupils to build important foundations that will enable them to achieve their goals both academically and socially. Everyone enjoyed this new learning and thinking experience.





St. Thomas' C of E Primary School

Student Prayer of The Month

Thank you, Jesus,
for all the food we eat,
and the clean water we drink.
Please let us be kind and help each other.

Bless my family and friends from St. Thomas school and Church.

Amen.

James Lowe (Year 1)



Bible Verse

Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

For I know the plans for you declares the lord "*Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future*".

God's blessings be with you.

Elaine Mateus

LANCASHIRE HUSSARS, BOER WAR 1899 - 1902

The Boer War began 1899 and ended 1902. When the Imperial Yeomanry, including the 32nd Company Lancashire Hussars Imperial Yeomanry, was given permission in 1900 to serve in S. Africa the men were to serve 1 year and return home in 1901. A second wave of Imperial Yeomanry served 1901 - 1902 and a 3rd wave 1902 - 1903 arriving just as the war ended. Only the 1st wave of troops was made up almost exclusively of serving Lancashire Hussars. The 2nd & 3rd wave were made up of recruits from all over England. The Boer War memorial window in St. Thomas' church is dedicated to the 1st wave of troops who served 1900 - 1901 with 32nd Company Lancashire Hussars Imperial Yeomanry. The names on the memorial include two from Ashton and the remainder from Newton, St. Helens and Southport the traditional recruiting areas for Troop "A", "B", "C", & "D" of the Lancashire Hussars. During the Boer War more troops died from typhoid and cholera than were killed in battle. Very few towns have a Boer War memorial even fewer have a Boer War memorial window.

The name A. Ogden (Abel Ogden) appears on the St. Thomas memorial. Ashtonians may recall the name Abel Ogden from more recent times. In the 1950's/60's there was a gents barbers on Gerard Street, in the location of the present day Collingwood Gold jewellery shop, owned by Abel Ogden. Abel was the nephew of the soldier who died in the Boer War and was named after his late uncle. Abel was 19, lived in Skitters Grove, Lowbank Road and was a farm labourer. He attended Rector Melville's Men's Bible Class at Holy Trinity church. Abel died at Draghoender of enteric fever (now called typhoid). His mother received a letter from a chaplain Beck, of Sydney, Australia, who had served with the Australian forces in S. Africa. Chaplain Beck had been with Abel when he died and he wrote to Abel's mother saying that Abel had been given a Christian burial and enclosed a photograph of the grave. She also received a letter from Sergeant Oubridge, of Newton. Oubridge was a friend of Abel and later he was killed in the war and his name is on St. Thomas' memorial window as Owbridge (sic).

When a soldier died his kit was auctioned to raise money for his family at home. Oubridge enclosed a small book which he had bought at the auction of Abel's kit because he knew the value of the book to Abel and his mother. What was the small book? prayer book, bible? The answer lies in a letter in the church magazine of St Albans church, Birmingham. St Albans had a famous mission priest Father Tom Pollock who had written a small devotional book the "Daily Round" which became a bestseller.

There was a page to be read on every day of the year and then to be contemplated upon. In the St Albans magazine correspondence concerning the value of the "Daily Round" included a letter from Rector Melville of Holy Trinity who stated that he could vouch for the value of the "Daily Round" because in his Men's Bible Class, at the time of the Boer War, were several men who were going to serve in S. Africa including Abel Ogden who was to die in the war. Rector Melville gave each of them a copy of the "Daily Round", with his address inside, asking them to read it whenever possible. After the war Rector Melville received a letter from Chaplain Beck in Australia (who had also written to Abel's mother) who told him that he had been with Abel when he died and Abel had told him that he had read the "Daily Round" whenever he could and had set great value in it.

William Clark is another Lancashire Hussar whose name appears on St. Thomas' Boer War memorial window. William was killed in action at the battle of Kheis Drift 1900. He was 34, a coalminer, whose family lived on Stonecroft Terrace, Old Road. Stonecroft Terrace was a road near the Steam Engine (linking Old Road - over the stream bridge - Millingford Grove) and ran behind Old Road police station. In S. Africa a drift is a shallow crossing point on a river. At Kheis Drift on the north bank of the Orange River was a Boer camp or laager of three hundred Boers. The British Empire forces assembled on the south bank. The plan of action was for the Empire forces to cross the Kheis Drift and engage the Boers. The full company of Lancashire Hussars were positioned 6 miles upriver where there was another crossing with deep, fast flowing water where the Boers would not anticipate any crossing. As the Empire artillery guns fired the battle began. The Empire forces crossing at Kheis Drift were cut down and had to retreat back to the south bank and fire across the river at the Boers. Meanwhile the Lancashire Hussars upriver crossed the Orange River successfully despite the horses having to swim and the men to hang onto their saddles. The Hussars were now behind the Boers and charged into the camp routing the Boers. During the skirmish William was wounded and died from his wounds. All the newspapers carried glowing reports of the Lancashire Hussars first action under fire at Kheis Drift.

(To be continued)

David A. Fearnley.



This is Rosie's Story. When she was 12 years old, Rosie was struggling at school and getting into trouble with her teachers and whilst at home she was often arguing with her mum. She felt stressed and wanted to get away, so she started to run away from home. After the police were called, Rosie was referred to The

Children's

Society. Rosie's project worker met with her regularly and worked with her on a one to one basis to help her understand the risks of going missing. Rosie is now 16 and would like to work for The Children's Society in the future as a project worker. She no longer goes missing and her relationship with her mum has improved. Rosie's comment is "looking back at my work with The Children's Society it's just a massive, massive improvement. Back then when I was 12 or 13 I would not think I'd be where I am now. I don't know how to explain it. but I've proper changed .

This is only one example of the sort of work and difference that the Children's Society can and does made for young people.

Last year about 80 parishioner of St Thomas and St Luke's churches helped to fund this work, by either saving small change in a collection box or making a donation. In 2017 the total raised was **£1550.00**. I would like to thank everyone who helped to raise this amount.

On 7th January 2018 we also held our Christingle Service. This is a lovely service when we distribute the Christingle oranges and when everyone is arranged around the church the candles are lit and a carol is sung. This also raises money for The Children's Society. St Thomas's school helped a great deal by distributing collecting candles. The total raised by the church and the school was **£420.88**. Thank you to everyone who helped to assemble the Christingle oranges and to everyone who contributed to raise this amazing amount.

If you do not already support the work of The Children's Society and you would like to do so please contact me on 712709 or at church and I will arrange to get a box to you

Valerie Hunter

More about prayer

A teacher was taking her class out for a nature walk. They came to a grassy section and the teacher asked what they would like to do. "A boy aged 5 suddenly said I'd like to lie on the grass and listen to God" and that's what he did. No matter what our age God wants us to spend time with Him. When was the last time any of us can remember spending a day with the Lord? Half a day? An hour? 30 minutes? Our Heavenly Father loves us and longs for us to understand the depth of that love. He wants us to spend time with Him. Someone said to me I can't pray for an hour. Some of you might feel that 30mins is too long. I usually break the time up. Sometimes I listen to worship songs, actually I always sing along, then I read Scripture and always spend time thinking about what I've read. Is God saying something to me through His word? Then I spend time talking to God and listening.

Some people find they can spend time with God when they are out walking. A friend says taking the dog for a walk is great because it's his quality time with God. Looking at the world around, thanking God for His creation. He walks around his community and prays for that area. Prays for Gods Kingdom to come.

Prayer makes a **difference** not just in our lives but in the lives of those we pray for, those who don't yet know Jesus.

Here's a story of two ladies who lived on the Isle of Lewis, both were in their eighties and suffering from severe medical conditions. They were concerned that few people were going to church, people's hearts had turned from God. They prayed and had a vision of churches crowded with young people. So, these two ladies began to pray two /three nights a week until two in the morning. Others joined in. It wasn't easy, it was a struggle but they continued. As they prayed they felt the need to put their own lives right with God first. One evening revival came not just in the church but in the community. There was an outpouring of Holy Spirit. People were suddenly seeking God. People in church were on their knees before God. The power of prayer was being revealed before them. (The Isle of Lewis revival 1949)

Two books have stirred my heart in the past two years "The Grace Outpouring" by Roy Godwin and "Set me on Fire" by Malcolm Macdonald. I've got copies if anyone would like to borrow them.

Carol Foster



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There are 30 books of the Bible in this paragraph

Can you find them all?

This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Another friend studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or a scholar to see some of shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in the paragraph. During a recent fund-raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phi lemonade booth set a new record. The local paper, The Chronicle, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen., As Daniel Humana humbly puts it: "The books are all right in plain view hidden from sight". Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One of the revelations that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also, keep in mind that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember there is no need for a mad exodus; there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found.

God bless,



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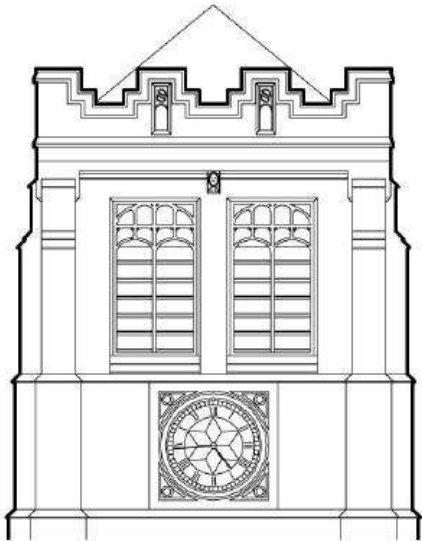
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St Thomas' Flowers

LADIES ON DUTY	
	No Flower's for Lent
30th March	All Ladies—Easter Flowers

FLOWERS IN CHURCH DURING MARCH		
DATE	ALTAR	LADY CHAPEL
11th Feb - Onwards	No flowers for Lent	No flowers for Lent

Flowers in Church during February

Birthday remembrance of a very dear Mum and Grandma
 Margaret Hilton (7th February)
 From Alison, Adrian, Becky and Chris

March's Birth month flower:



This month is synonymous with the onset of spring (in the Northern Hemisphere). Accordingly, the flower associated with this month is **Daffodil** also known as Jonquil or Narcissus. The colours of the bloom include white, yellow and orange.

St Luke's Flowers



FLOWERS IN CHURCH FOR MARCH	
	No flowers for Lent

Flower Guild Donations

Treasured memories of Sheila Lester (12th March) a much loved friend and Auntie
From Joan, Dennis and Wendy

1st Anniversary of Austin Bullen (11th March) a dearly loved Husband, Dad, Grandad and Father in Law
From Jean, Karen, Keith, Jaki, Simon, Toni and Ben.
Sadly missed

In loving memory of Austin Bullen for our Wedding Anniversary (28th March)
From his loving Wife Jean



St Thomas' Donations & Remembrance March 2018



Please place your donation in an envelope with your full name and amount written on it. Please hand in at church or post to the vicarage. Please make any cheques payable to **St Thomas' PCC**. If you want the donation to be for something specific, please write clearly on the envelope.

Thank you.

GIFT AID

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

With Thanks for Home Communion:

Gladys Jolley, Albert Cox, Harry Winstanley, Margaret Herd and Lynn Walton

With Thanks to those who have donated to
General
Building & Maintenance
Grave Maintenance
Heating
Asylum and Africa Fund's

Funds currently in use are: Africa Fund, Audio Visual, Church Hall, Building & Maintenance, Garden of Rest, General, Grave Maintenance, Heath Road Graveyard, Heating and Youth worker

Unless otherwise stated donations will go into the General Fund.

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



In loving memory of my dear Husband Albert Topping

From Emily Topping

In memory of John Makinson

L & M Makinson

In Memory of John Makinson

R & J Bradley

Doris and Ken Sutton

Meta and Ken

Dulcie and William Adamson

Jean and Les Johnson

In memory of John Makinson

From Russell and Family

In memory of John Makinson

From his loving Son Darrell, Daughter in Law Kay

Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren

Forever in our thoughts

In loving memory of loved ones

From Gwyneth and Peter Hamilton

Anniversary remembrance of John Fearnley (21st Feb)

Much loved Husband, Dad and Grandad

From Madge and Family

**Birthday and Anniversary remembrance for my dear Mum and
Nan Ena Jones**

From loving Daughter Rene and Family





**Anniversary Remembrance of a dear Mum Betty Parkinson
(12th Feb)**

From Alec and Karen

I

**Anniversary Remembrance of a dear Dad Bill Bullen
(12th Feb)**

From Karen and Alec

Birthday remembrance of Gordon Lyon (9th Feb)

A loving Husband, Dad, Father in Law and Grandad
Sadly missed

Marie, Barbara John, Madolyn and Robert
David, Sharon, Ruby and Geena

In fond memory of John Makinson

From Betty Shaw

In memory of Margaret Foster

From C Pye

In memory of Joan and Raymond Parry

From Christine Kelly, Roy Parry, Hazel Casson and Family

In memory of my Parents Reginald and Phyllis Barnett

From Sandra Ferry

In memory of Margaret Foster

From Mr and Mrs Barrack





**Anniversary Remembrance of Clara Shaw (5th March)
A loving Mum and Grandma**

From Barbara, Malcolm and Family

**In loving memory of Elizabeth Alice Winstanley (25th March)
A dear Mother and Mother in Law**

From Nancy and George

**Birthday and Anniversary remembrance of David Bowen
A dearly loved Husband, Dad, Grandad, Great Grandad and
Father in Law**

From Isabel and Family

**Anniversary remembrance of a dear Husband and Dad Billy Lyon
(9th March)**

From Margaret, Elizabeth, Beverley and Heather

**Anniversary remembrance of a dear Mum and Dad
Peggy Knocker (26th March and Thomas Knocker (3rd April)**

From Margaret and Family

**Birthday remembrance of Thomas Tagg (4th March)
A dear Grandson**

From Grandma

In loving memory of relatives and friends

From Jack, Barbara, Ann-Marie and John



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Exodus 7:14-10:29, 12:21-23, 29-33, 14:5-29

God told Pharaoh to let the Hebrew slaves leave Egypt, but he refused. God then showed his power over Egypt (and its gods)...

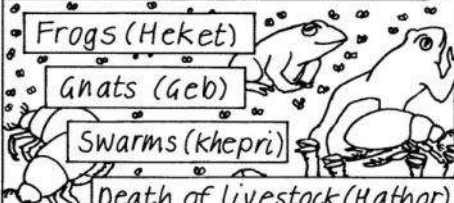
The Nile turned blood red (Hapi)

Frogs (Heket)

Gnats (Geb)

Swarms (Khepri)

Death of Livestock (Hathor)



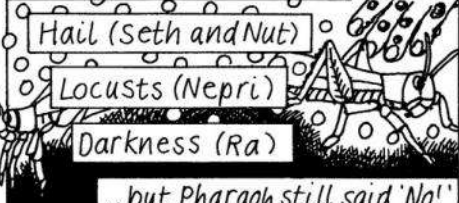
Boils and sores (Sekhmet)

Hail (Seth and Nut)

Locusts (Nepri)

Darkness (Ra)

.. but Pharaoh still said 'No!'



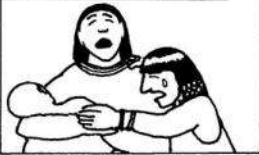
God told the Hebrews to prepare to leave, and each family to kill and cook a lamb. He told them..



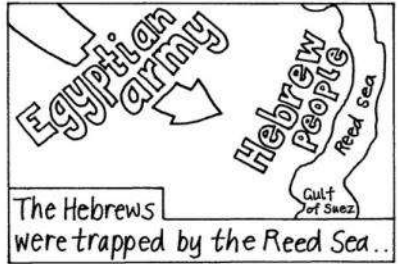
Mark your house door with the lamb's blood.



That night, in each un-marked house, the eldest son died.



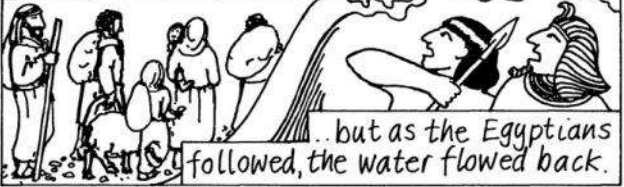
The Hebrews left Egypt...

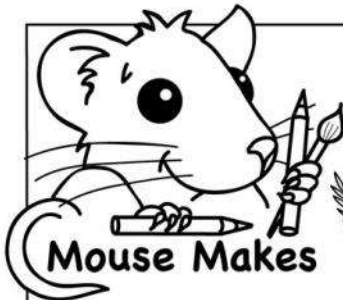


God made a cloud to hide them from the Egyptians..



and sent a wind. By morning the sea bed was dry and they walked across..





Journey to the Cross

Read the Bible - find the answers

READ Matthew 21:1-11

Where did Jesus stop on his journey? vs 1

What did Jesus send his disciples to get? vs 2

What did the crowd spread on the road in front of Jesus? vs 8

What did the people shout? vs 9

What city was Jesus going to? vs 10

READ Matthew 26:17-75

What festival did the disciples celebrate? vs 17

Which disciple denied Jesus? vs 34

Which disciple betrayed Jesus? vs 47

READ Matthew 27

When Jesus was taken to be crucified, what did the soldiers put on him? vs 28-29

What time did Jesus die? vs 45

Whose tomb was Jesus buried in? vs 57

READ Matthew 28

On the third day who rolled away the stone covering the tomb? vs 2

What had happened to Jesus? vs 6,7



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

Nile	door	house
locusts	lamb	power
army	wind	Egyptians
slaves	water	Pharaoh
gnats	swarms	hail
sea	Hebrews	blood
family	frogs	cloud
darkness	livestock	death



The Film Review

With Rob Carson



Movie Reviews

Coco (PG)

Directed by Lee Unkrich and Adrian Molina

Features the Voices of: Anthony Gonzalez, Gael Garcia Bernal, Benjamin Bratt, Alanna Ubach, Renee Victor, Jaime Camil, Alfonso Arau, Herbert Siguenza, Gabriel Iglesias, Ana Ofelia Murguía, and Lombardo Boyar

In a Nutshell: I could do a big elaborate introduction to my review, say some random thing connecting to Pixar, emotional Disney movies or just animations... but nah, I'll just say that Pixar have done it again and while it's less frequent than back in the 2000's, it's still not exactly a shocker when it happens. Taking inspiration from the Mexican festival *Día de los Muertos* and similar in its themes to the 2014 animated gem *The Book of Life* (though not too similar in plot completely to feel like it's ripping it off unlike some comments that have been made), this film deals with beautiful issues and does them in that typically sublime Pixar way of handling emotional issues in a way that appeals to all in different ways... I do feel this is the most mature of their films but it can still be handled by the whole family. The themes of love and loss are very tender and poignant and are handled beautifully as you would expect.... but as with recent of theirs such as *The Good Dinosaur* and *Inside Out*, expect many a tear to be shed come the end. The animation is beautiful and just sublime, never putting a foot wrong with every frame something belonging in a gallery that you'd want as wallpaper everywhere... whilst the voice cast are perfect, with nary a obvious celebrity voice in sight, with only the perfect voice actors picked for the perfect roles. Music plays an integral role and as such the music is fantastic too, with some great and unforgettable songs included... like was previously mentioned, it's never a surprise when Pixar hit it out of the park once more but it's a wonderful wonderful thing when they do and they really have hit the sweet spot once more this time with this beautiful gem.

Rating: 9/10

Three Billboards outside of Ebbing, Missouri (15)

Directed by Martin McDonagh

Stars: Frances McDormand, Woody Harrelson, Sam Rockwell, Lucas Hedges, Caleb Landry Jones, Abbie Cornish, Zeljko Ivanek, Kerry Condon, Peter Dinklage, John Hawkes, Clarke Peters, and Sandy Martin

In a Nutshell: Its a very true fact that some films do defy a simplistic sum up... they're their own unique beast, and trying to capture what it is that works so poetically and beautifully well is always a tricky juggle to capture. They work, oh boy do they work and



The Film Review

With Rob Carson



they hold a strange spell in the lovely weave they weave but how do you get across why it works and how? You simply start your review with that sentence is one quick way to tackle it to start with. Following on from the absolutely terrific masterpiece In Bruges and the perfectly solid Seven Psychopaths.... director Martin McDonagh cleaves near to the fantastical mastery of his earlier effort with this beguiling, shocking and yet beautiful tale that never quite takes the path you seem to be travelling, deciding every now and then to make a sharp turn into the next lane always without showing it's indicators. Bolstered by possible career best turns from McDormand, Rockwell and even Harrelson as well as terrific support walk ons for the always welcome Dinklage as well as Hawkes and the wonderful Peters not to mention some fantastic support from Cornish, Hedges and Jones... just more or less everyone is terrific but I had to single those out no matter how many because there's so much terrific work happening behind and in front of the camera.... this is a film where one minute you can giggle, then gasp, then cry and then be utterly appalled and then gripped... there's no easy paths, no simple light entertainment, this is a film that entertains yet challenges and is a mini marvel every step of the way because of it. See for yourselves and make your own mind up.

Rating: 9/10

Also Seen:

Early Man (PG) 9/10

Downsizing (15) 7/10

Darkest Hour (PG) 8/10

The Post (12A) 9/10

The Disaster Artist (15) 9/10

Also Out in March

Red Sparrow (15) (March 1st), Game Night (15) (March 2nd), Mom and Dad (18) (March 2nd), Monster Family (U) (March 2nd), Gringo (15) (March 9th), Walk like a Panther (15) (March 9th), Wonder Wheel (12A) (March 9th), You Were Never Really Here (15) (March 9th), Peter Rabbit (U) (March 16th), Tomb Raider (12A) (March 16th) Mary Magdalene (15) (March 16th), A Wrinkle in Time (PG) (March 23rd), Pacific Rim: Uprising (12A) (March 23rd), Proud Mary (15) (March 23rd), Unsane (15) (March 23rd), Blockers (15) (March 30th), Duck Duck Goose (U) (March 30th), Isle of Dogs (PG) (March 30th), God's Not Dead III (PG) (March 30th), Journeyman (15) (March 30th), Ready Player One (12A) (March 30th), Midnight Sun (12A) (March 30th)

In April's Issue:

Reviews of Black Panther and The Shape of Water



The Registers



Funerals - "May they rest in peace"

2nd Feb	Francis Davies	Crescent Avenue	84
9th Feb	Jack Melling	Princess Road	91
20th Feb	Dorothy Green	Tenbury Drive	81
22nd Feb	Alfred Peter Browne	Longmeade Avenue	80

Holy Baptism -

"We welcome them into the Lord's family"



Church Organisations in the Parish of St Thomas, Ashton-in-Makerfield

<p><u>Boys Brigade</u> Captain Gareth Hamlett 07903866501 Anchor Boys (Tues 5:45pm) Olwen Wright 389595 Junior Section (Tues 6:45pm) Kat Duckworth 07517486188 Company Section (Tues 7:30pm) Contact Gareth Hamlett</p>	<p><u>Girl Guides</u> Rainbows (Tues 5:30pm) Anne Wooff 724207 3rd & 4th Ashton Brownies (Wed/ Thu 6:30pm) St Luke's Brownies (Tues 6:15pm) 3rd Ashton Guides/Rangers (Tues 7:15pm) Rachel Starkie 718350</p>
<p><u>Children's Sunday Clubs – 10:45am</u> Bubbles (Pre-School) Splash (R-Y2), Xstream (Y3-Y6) Bell Tower (Y7-Y11) Sue Thomas 727275 sue@stthomasandstluke.co.uk</p>	<p><u>Coffee Mornings at St Thomas'</u> Tues 10:00am-12:00pm Barbara Taylor 205136</p>
<p><u>Children, Young People and Families</u> Sue Thomas 727275</p>	<p><u>Flower Guild</u> Meta Laites 723679</p>
<p><u>Wednesday Weenies</u> Wed 1:00-2:30pm - Church Hall Lynn Anderton 07725 324447</p>	<p><u>Music Group Sunday 10:45am</u> Mary Owen 203277</p>
<p><u>Duke of Edinburgh's Award (14-18+)</u> (Sun 6:30pm Church Hall) Ceri Mansell 727417</p>	<p><u>Saturday FM</u> 4:00-5:00pm - St Thomas' School Nicola Burgess 706841</p>
<p><u>Fairtrade Stall</u> 3rd Sun 12:00pm Anne & Chris Wooff 724207</p>	<p><u>St Thomas' Mothers' Union</u> 3rd Wed: 7:30pm Barbara Taylor 205136</p>
<p><u>Litter Pick 1st Sat 10:00-12:00</u> Anne & Chris Wooff 724207</p>	<p><u>Fur Clemt Stubshaw</u> Mon 12:00-1:00pm at St Luke's Jennifer Harrison 718618</p>
<p><u>Asylum Seeker Support</u> Anne & Chris Wooff 724207</p>	<p><u>Bowling Club</u> Henry Hunter 712709</p> <p><u>Messy Tots</u> Wed 10:00 - 11:30 at St Luke's Sue 07877 704645</p>

Church Officials in the Parish of St Thomas, Ashton-in Makerfield

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Vicar</u> Rev Jeremy Thomas 727275</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Church Office, Church Hall Bookings & Magazine Editor / Advertising</u> Jo Pollitt 721484 office@stthomasstluke.org.uk magazine@stthomasstluke.org.uk</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Curate</u> Rev Sam Green 389940 Rev Flic Green 389940</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ordained Local Minister</u> Rev Izzy Schafer 717300</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sunday Morning Worship St Thomas'</u> Jan Cornthwaite 721626</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sunday Morning Worship St Luke's</u> Carole Pye 517318</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Readers</u> Malcolm Bold 276379 Alan Harrison 718618 Tricia Hancox 201540 Carole Pye 517318</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St Thomas' Church Wardens</u> Tony Cornthwaite 721626 Paula Gillespie 711270 <u>Deputy Wardens</u> Barbara Taylor 205136 Marcus Roby 207131</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Prayer</u> Carol Foster 733263</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St Luke's Church Warden</u> Carole Pye 517318</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>PCC Secretary</u> Dorothy Burgess 701542 dottib.701@gmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Church Architect</u> Bill Schafer 717300</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Gift Aid Secretary</u> Clare Hayton 273183</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>F.W.O. Secretary</u> Jackie Wilson 712368</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St. Luke's Donation Secretary</u> Mike Pye 517318</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Treasurer</u> Sarah Riley 07712 584954</p>
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