

*St. Andrew's Messenger  
Parish Magazine*



*July - August 2021*

***THE PARISH CHURCH of ST. ANDREW***  
***Swiss Street,***  
***ACCRINGTON BB5 1SG***

***IN THE UNITED BENEFICE Of St. ANDREW'S,***  
***St. MARY MAGDALEN'S, & St. PETER'S, ACCRINGTON,***  
***with St. JAMES', CHURCH KIRK***

***VICAR***

***Rev. Fr. David Arnold SSC***

***St, Peter's Vicarage, 151 Willows Lane, Accrington BB5 OLR***

***Tel. 01254 399756; Mobile 07786 168261***

***Email – [frdavidarnold@gmail.com](mailto:frdavidarnold@gmail.com)***

***ASSOCIATE PRIEST***

***To be appointed***

***The Vicarage, 5 Queens Road, Accrington BB5 6AR***

***\****

***CHURCH SERVICES***

***SUNDAY***

***9.30am PARISH EUCHARIST with Holy Communion***

***THURSDAY***

***10.30am Holy Eucharist with Holy Communion***

***\****

***CHURCH OFFICERS***

***Warden: Mr Peter Blackburn: 54, Dill Hall Lane, Acc: 07958 810308***

***P.C.C. Secretary: Mr Peter Blackburn***

***P.C.C. Treasurer: Mrs Janet Counsell***

***Sunday School: Mrs Lynne Barnes: 07970 636940 & Mrs Jenny Prestage***

***Sacristan & Eucharistic Minister: Mr Peter Holden, 01254 394496***

***Altar Servers: Mr Peter Holden, Mr Daniel Barnes, Leo.***

***Adult Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Barbara Walton 07395 960319***

***\****

***Enquiries regarding Church services, Holy Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage,  
& the Sacraments of the Church etc. may be made via the Church Wardens  
or Mr. Peter Holden***

## *St. Andrew's Church Rota*

<b>DATE</b>	<b>READER</b>	<b>INTERCESSIONS</b>	<b>SIDES / FIRE WARDEN</b>
04/07/2021	JOHN	LESLEY	BARBARA / EMMA
11/07/2021	MURIEL	JENNIFER	JENNIFER / PAT
18/07/2021	JANET	ELAINE	ELAINE/SUSAN
25/07/2021	ELAINE	CHRISTINE	MURIEL
01/08/2021	JOHN	LESLEY	BARBARA / EMMA
08/08/2021	MURIEL	JENNIFER	JENNIFER / PAT
15/08/2021	JANET	ELAINE	ELAINE/SUSAN
22/08/2021	ELAINE	CHRISTINE	MURIEL
29/08/2021	JOHN	LESLEY	BARBARA / EMMA

~~~~~\*\*\*\*\*~~~~~

### ***BENEFICE SERVICES***

*St. Andrew's Eucharist*

*Sunday – 9.30 am & Thursday – 10.30 am*

*St. Peter's Mass*

*Sunday – 2.00 pm & Tuesday – 7.00 pm*

*St. Mary Magdalen's Mass*

*Sunday – 11.00 am & Friday 10.00 am*



Dear Friends

As we move into July, it is wonderful to be looking forward to welcoming Fr Jordan among us following his ordination as deacon. I know that he is very much eager to be working with us as we seek to proclaim God's love to the people of our parishes. Please do make him feel welcome, as he settles into a new place, and as he begins his ministry.

As the COVID restrictions begin to be eased, I feel we have much to look forward to as a Benefice, and Fr Jordan's arrival will be another step on the road to enabling us once more to proclaim God's love to the people of Accrington. I have now been into each of our schools, and had good conversations with the headteachers, and I know that they are all looking forward to a situation where they can get back to normality, and where we can get back to working together as Church and School.

The Feast of St Mary Magdalen falls this month, and we have planned a celebration for Saturday 24 July at 3.30 pm, in the hope that this will enable us to have a bit of a gathering afterwards. Please do put the date in your diaries! It was wonderful to celebrate St Peter's Patronal Festival last month, and to enjoy coffee and biscuits in the churchyard afterwards.

Whilst we don't fully know what the summer will bring, I hope and pray that it will enable us to get some well-earned rest, in order that we might be able to plan to take forward a vision for the future once September arrives and things begin to restart in earnest. It is great that we have some of our weekday masses once more — and I would encourage you to think about attending one or other of them, as together we commit our Benefice to prayer, and seek God's will for our future together.

I hope that, from September, we might have one joint Benefice Magazine, to go out in all three parishes, and that we can start to work closer together in engaging in mission and ministry to our communities. Our Diocesan Vision 2026 calls us to be healthy churches transforming communities, and it is my firm belief that we can only do that when we take the risk of joining together and pooling our resources, in order to ensure that what we are offering to our communities is the very best that we can.

Please continue to hold each other in prayer, confident that when we do that then we allow God to reveal to us the direction he is calling us to take. Being truly open to God's will takes courage, but does enable us to delight in his purposes for us, and to be confident that it is he who equips us for that task.

With my love and prayers

Fr David

At a time of change for us all, especially Fathers David and Jordan, I found this poem from one of our past dear friends Vera Jenkinson. Let us pray that we all embrace the new, bright future that God has in mind for us.

To Fields and Pastures New

To fields and pastures new to coin a phrase  
It almost leaves you in a daze  
The million things it conjures up  
Then suddenly you find that you've been 'sold a pup'

To fields and pastures new – a dream come true?  
Sometimes you think it is happening to you  
But, no, you find when you arrive  
It's just the same as on the other side.

Nothing is new – the pasture's as before  
The fields are just the same as in the days of yore  
The phrase I find is often an illusion  
Nothing is different – must be a delusion.

After all that moaning – just you think again  
You are wrong – trace the rainbow through the rain  
Of course new pastures are much nicer than we thought  
We're often wrong – experience should have taught.

Stop the cynical attitude and face things as they are  
Pastures new may lead to a more brilliant star  
Change can be wonderful – an ever open door  
To challenge – give us an outlook we hadn't seen before.

To fields and pastures new then – our Lord awaits us there  
Just as He does in everything – then let us be aware  
Not our selfish needs – our narrow misguided vision  
It is just as well that he makes the decision.





***IT'S BACK! A CUP OF TEA OR A COFFEE AFTER THE SERVICE AND A NATTER. OBVIOUSLY, WITH SOME RESTRICTIONS, BUT IT'S SO GOOD TO HEAR PEOPLE CHATTING AFTER THE SERVICE***

***St Mary Magdalen's Patronal Festival will be celebrated on Saturday 24 July with a mass at 3.30pm. If Covid rules are relaxed, refreshments will be in church following the service; if not, weather permitting, a garden party will be held at one of the vicarages.***



***Here are the answers for the Pentecost Crossword, just in case you managed to do it.***

***Across: 2 – Spirit; 3 – Wind; 6 – Pentecost; 7 – Extraordinary; 8 – Languages  
Down: 1 – Power; 2 – Symbolized; 3 – First Fruits; 4 – Fire***



***Finally a few 'bloopers' from Church Notices -***

***At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.***

***Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.***

***Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.***

***Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.***



## Prayer intentions for July

|               |                                     |                                            |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Thur 1        | Feria of Week 13                    | Businesses in our Benefice                 |
| Fri 2         | Feria of Week 13                    | Those preparing for Ordination (Fr Jordan) |
| Sat 3         | St Thomas                           | Those who doubt                            |
| <b>Sun 4</b>  | <b>14th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> | <b>The parish and the people of God</b>    |
| Mon 5         | Feria of Week 14                    | Our bishops                                |
| Tue 6         | Ss John Fisher and Thomas More      | Those persecuted for their faith           |
| Wed 7         | Feria of Week 14                    | Those who are homeless                     |
| Thur 8        | Feria of Week 14                    | The Royal Blackburn Hospital               |
| Fri 9         | Feria of Week 14                    | The faithful departed (requiem)            |
| Sat 10        | Feria of Week 14                    | St Peter's School                          |
| <b>Sun 11</b> | <b>15th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> | <b>The parish and the people of God</b>    |
| Mon 12        | Feria of Week 15                    | St Peter's Parish                          |
| Tue 13        | Feria of Week 15                    | Our local Doctors' surgeries               |
| Wed 14        | Feria of Week 15                    | Those who are unemployed                   |
| Thur 15       | St Bonaventure                      | Teachers                                   |
| Fri 16        | Our Lady of Mount Carmel            | The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham       |
| Sat 17        | Feria of Week 15                    | Children                                   |
| <b>Sun 18</b> | <b>16th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> | <b>The parish and the people of God</b>    |
| Mon 19        | Feria of Week 16                    | Our police force                           |
| Tue 20        | Feria of Week 16                    | Hyndburn Borough Council                   |
| Wed 21        | Feria of Week 16                    | St Andrew's Parish                         |
| Thur 22       | St Mary Magdalen                    | St Mary Magdalen's School                  |
| Fri 23        | St Bridget of Sweden                | The people of Europe                       |
| Sat 24        | St Mary Magdalen Patronal           | St Mary Magdalen's parish                  |
| <b>Sun 25</b> | <b>17th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> | <b>The parish and the people of God</b>    |
| Mon 26        | Ss Joachim and Anne                 | Grandparents                               |
| Tue 27        | Feria of Week 17                    | St Nicholas's School                       |
| Wed 28        | Feria of Week 17                    | Our Deanery                                |
| Thur 29       | Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus         | Those who serve others                     |
| Fri 30        | St Peter Chrysologus                | The Society of the Holy Cross              |
| Sat 31        | St Ignatius Loyola                  | St Christopher's School                    |

## Prayer Intentions for August

|              |                                     |                                         |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Sun 1</b> | <b>18th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> | <b>The parish and the people of God</b> |
| Mon 2        | Feria of Week 18                    | Our Cathedral                           |
| Tue 3        | Feria of Week 18                    | The peace of the world                  |
| Wed 4        | St John Vianney                     | Priests                                 |
| Thur 5       | Feria of Week 18                    | HM Government                           |
| Fri 6        | Transfiguration of the Lord         | Mission and Evangelism                  |
| Sat 7        | Feria of Week 18                    | Archdeacon Mark Ireland                 |

|               |                                          |                                         |
|---------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Sun 8</b>  | <b>19th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>      | <b>The parish and the people of God</b> |
| Mon 9         | St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross         | Our ecumenical partners                 |
| Tue 10        | St Laurence                              | Those who are sick                      |
| Wed 11        | St Clare                                 | The religious life                      |
| Thur 12       | Feria of Week 19                         | Obedience to God's will                 |
| Fri 13        | Feria of Week 19                         | The faithful departed (requiem)         |
| Sat 14        | St Maximilian Kolbe                      | Those who care for others               |
| <b>Sun 15</b> | <b>Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary</b> | <b>The parish and the people of God</b> |
| Mon 16        | Feria of Week 20                         | HM Queen Elizabeth II                   |
| Tue 17        | Feria of Week 20                         | Our Member of Parliament                |
| Wed 18        | Feria of Week 20                         | Whalley Abbey                           |
| Thur 19       | Feria of Week 20                         | Overseas aid                            |
| Fri 20        | St Bernard                               | Renewal of the Church                   |
| Sat 21        | St Pius X                                | Young people                            |
| <b>Sun 22</b> | <b>21st Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>      | <b>The parish and the people of God</b> |
| Mon 23        | Feria of Week 21                         | St Andrew's Parish                      |
| Tue 24        | St Bartholomew                           | Community Schools in our Benefice       |
| Wed 25        | Feria of Week 21                         | Accrington Victoria Hospital            |
| Thur 26       | Feria of Week 21                         | Youth organisations                     |
| Fri 27        | St Monica                                | Those who travel                        |
| Sat 28        | St Augustine                             | Those preparing for University          |
| <b>Sun 29</b> | <b>22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>      | <b>The parish and the people of God</b> |
| Mon 30        | Feria of Week 22                         | Schools, as they prepare to return      |
| Tue 31        | Feria of Week 22                         | Families                                |

### **A reading from a homily on the Gospels by St Gregory the Great (reflecting on St Mary Magdalene)**

When Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and did not find the Lord's body, she thought it had been taken away and so informed the disciples. After they came and saw the tomb, they too believed what Mary had told them. The text then says: *The disciples went back home*, and it adds: *but Mary wept and remained standing outside the tomb*.

We should reflect on Mary's attitude and the great love she felt for Christ; for though the disciples had left the tomb, she remained. She was still seeking the one she had not found, and while she sought she wept; burning with the fire of love, she longed for him who she thought had been taken away. And so it happened that the woman who stayed behind to seek Christ was the only one to see him. For perseverance is essential to any good deed, as the voice of truth tells us: *Whoever perseveres to the end will be saved*.

At first she sought but did not find, but when she persevered it happened that she found what she was looking for. When our desires are not satisfied, they grow stronger, and becoming stronger they take hold of their object. Holy desires likewise grow with anticipation, and if they do not grow they are not really desires. Anyone who succeeds in attaining the truth has burned with such a great love. As David says: *My soul has thirsted for the living God; when shall I come and appear before the face of God?* And so also in the Song of Songs the Church says: *I was wounded by love*; and again: *My soul is melted with love*.

*Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?* She is asked why she is sorrowing so that her desire might be strengthened; for when she mentions whom she is seeking, her love is kindled all the more ardently.

*Jesus says to her: Mary.* Jesus is not recognised when he calls her “woman”; so he calls her by name, as though he were saying: Recognise me as I recognise you; for I do not know you as I know others; I know you as yourself. And so Mary, once addressed by name, recognises who is speaking. She immediately calls him *rabboni*, that is to say, *teacher*, because the one whom she sought outwardly was the one who inwardly taught her to keep on searching.

**\***

***Do come to our next***

***“Friday Praise”***

***At***

***St .Nicholas’ School***

***On Fridays  
when next allowed,***

***At 3.45pm***

***“The First Of 50”***

**\***