

The Benefice of Heyside and Royton

His Story ~ Our Story

A pilgrimage around the streets of the parishes of
St Mark's Heyside and St Anne's Royton



Sunday 18th July~
Sunday 15th August

Looking back at Week Two

Thank you to everyone for your support and prayers as I set out on this pilgrimage of prayer around our two parishes of St Mark's Heyside and St Anne's Royton. It was been good to be joined in prayer by people following on Facebook and Twitter and by people coming along and joining in the walking. Thanks to Revd Ray Morris, Barbara Robertson, John Corbishley, Lorraine Brookes, Eulon Graham, Revd Brian Hartley, Revd Dougie Oates for joining me over the first week. It was also fantastic to be joined by neighbouring parish priests, The Revd David Austin at Holy Trinity Coldhurst and Fr Graham Hollowood at St Paul's Royton and we also walked to the border of St Mark's Chadderton and St Matthew's Chadderton – all bordering with St Anne's parish. Thank you to all who have interacted on social media – please continue to do so and tell your friends!

Looking forward to Week Three

Week 3 will begin at St Mark's Heyside and will walk towards our neighbouring parish Holy Trinity Shaw again, our Catholic neighbours at St Aidan's and St Oswald's, meeting up with Fr Stephen walking down towards Royton towards St Paul's parish and Salmon Fields.

SPONSORED WALK

Huge thank you to those who have sponsored the walk! My hope for the pilgrimage is that over this month there will be a wave of prayer for these parishes, that I will get to know the parishes, the people who live, worship and work here and that we might raise money for our two churches, St Mark's and St Anne's and for Dr Kershaw's Hospice. Please do share this pilgrimage with family, friends and neighbours and encourage them to donate. Please give as generously as you are able.

You can give on

St Mark's A Church Near You Page <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15990/> or

St Anne's A Church Near You Page <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15992/>

You are also able to pledge sponsorship on the sheets in church if you prefer not to give online.

You can also pay £2 and guess how many miles I will walk to win a prize!

Join us on this journey of the heart around the parishes, support us financially if you are able and pray for our churches as we make this pilgrimage and for me and those who join with me as we take on this physical as well as spiritual challenge! Click [here](#) to watch a video about the pilgrimage presented by Revd Liz.

Prayers and blessings Revd Liz

His Story Our Story Pilgrimage Prayer

His Story - Our Story

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18th July to 15th August

Be by my side Creator God,
every step I take
Be before me Saviour God,
every step I take
Be behind me Merciful God,
every step I take
Be within me Strengthening God
every step I take . Amen.

Prayer: Mary Fleenon of Lindisfarne Scriptorium
To follow the pilgrimage on social media

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Day 15 Sun 1st August: Start at St Marks church.


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Day 15

Shaw Road	High Barn Road
Albion Gardens Close	
Cocker Mill Lane	
Spring Vale Way	Crocus Drive
Hey Hill Close	Broadbent Close
Duncote Grove	Luzley Brook Road
Higham Close	Cowlishaw Lane
Westcott Grove	Swinford Grove
Kirtlington Close	Yarnton Close
Charlbury Way	

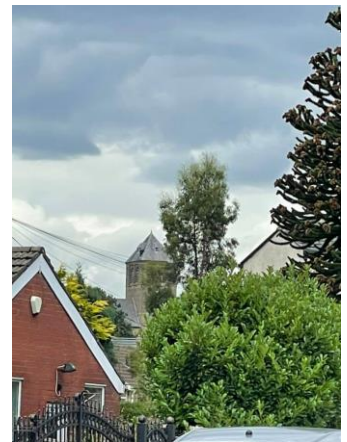
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The start of Week 3, Day 15- the half way point of #HisStoryOurStory pilgrimage. Walking in St Mark's parish, starting at the corner of High Barn Rd and Shaw Rd. Good to be joined by John, Sue, Eulon, Lorraine and Revd Doug Oates. Praying for the local shops and businesses in the area. Heading towards Shaw.

Walking down Shaw Rd toward the border with Holy Trinity Shaw- you can see the tower peeping over the houses & trees. Praying for Rev'd Katy Cunliffe and all at Holy Trinity Shaw. Fences with Mickey Mouse and the Magic Kingdom on them! Walking around

the streets off Charlbury Way, praying for all on this estate.



At the border with Holy Trinity, Shaw. Praying for all who work at the restaurant and in the hospitality industry at this time. Crossing over to walk around the streets off Spring Vale Way towards Cowlishaw. Praying for the residents of the area. Praying for all those we met and talked with, including Joan.



Walking round by the old farm. Praying for those who may be worried about future building plans on nearby land. Beautiful flowers in gardens on the main road. The road sign showing we're half way between both St Anne's and St Mark's. Giving thanks for fellow pilgrims.



Day 16 Monday 2nd August

A rest day from walking.

Day 17 Tuesday 3rd Aug: Start at SS Aidan & Oswald

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Day 17

Holden Fold Lane	Johnstone Close
Cavendish Way	Maplewood Close
Brackenwood Close	Long Clough
Water Mill Clough	Holden Fold Lane
Delta Close	Ely Clough
New Coin Street	Union Street
Brook Street	Roman Road
Brookfield Avenue	Crompton Street
Shepherd Street	Oldham Road
Vaughan Street	



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Walked from St Anne's past the park to St Aidan's and St Oswald's on #HisStoryOurStory pilgrimage to pray with Fr Stephen & Michael, a parishioner there. Good to meet up to chat and to pray together for our church communities and for Royton and Heyside.



After receiving a blessing from Fr Stephen I walked on #HisStoryOurStory pilgrimage to Ss Aidan's and Oswald's school and pre-school. Praying for all teachers, staff and pupils that the summer may be a time of rest and refreshment.



Walking down the streets off Oldham Rd and Roman Rd and praying for all who live there. The tower of Royton town hall clock can be seen in the distance, as can the tower of St Paul's Royton. Holding our neighbours at St Paul's in our prayer again. Beautiful plants against a blue sky.



Walking past a number of old mills, Delta, Vine and Grape on #HisStoryOldStory pilgrimage, all of which have been repurposed to be used by a variety of different businesses. Praying for all who work in and for these businesses. My daughter, Laura, came out of her office to see me!



Beautiful blue skies as I walk up Holden Fold Lane on #HisStoryOurStory pilgrimage and the streets running off it. Praying for all who live here. Praying for all who work at The Greyhound and for staff and children and their families at Broadway Day Nursery.



Surprised to discover as I walked along the streets of this estate a bridge over a bubbling stream. So much greenery, colour & unexpected beauty. As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. *Psalms 42:1-2*



I followed the public footpath sign at the end of Cavendish way, on #HisStoryOurStory, intrigued as to where it would lead. Prayers for all setting out on a path in life uncertain of where it will take them- may they know God's presence with them.



The path led to Chadderton, not far from St Matthew's Church Chadderton. Praying for them & for Revd David Penny as he prepares for his sabbatical in the autumn. May it be a blessed time for him. A sign of the times-a Covid testing kit on the ground. Prayers for all suffering with Covid



Walking up the final stretch of Holden Fold Lane back to St Anne's. Prayers for all who live here. I was stopped by someone who had been at a recent funeral. Praying for all who have lost loved ones recently and for Joyce, whose funeral is at her beloved St Anne's tomorrow – Wednesday.



Day 18 Wed 4th August: Jean-Baptiste Vianney Cure D'Ars

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Day 18

Oldham Road

Shaw Street

Bamford Street

Turf Lane

Turf Close

Manor Drive

Hartington Court

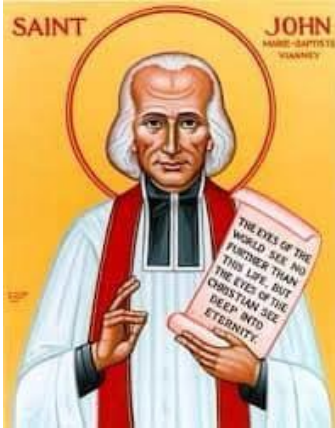


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#HisStoryOurStory pilgrimage began at St Anne's and headed towards Royton. Today the church commemorates St Jean Vianney, patron saint of parish priests. Praying for priests in neighbouring parishes, Fr Stephen at Ss Aidan's & Oswald's, Fr Scanlan at St Joseph's, Mthr Katy Cunliffe at Holy Trinity Shaw, St Mary's High Crompton and St James' Tbornham, Revd Denise Owen at St Thomas Moorside, Revd David Austin at St Stephen and All Martyrs and Holy Trinity Coldhurst, Fr Graham Hollowood at St James Barry Street & St Paul's Royton, Revd David Penny at St Matthew's Chadderton and Fr Stephen Smith St Mark's Chadderton & St Gabriel's Middleton Junction, our Bishops, retired clergy in the parish, Revd Brian Hartley, Revd Richard Hawkins, Revd Ray Morris, Revd Revd Doug Oates, Revd Hilda Wild, and sister and brother priests of the [Society of Catholic Priests](#), of which Revd Liz is a member.



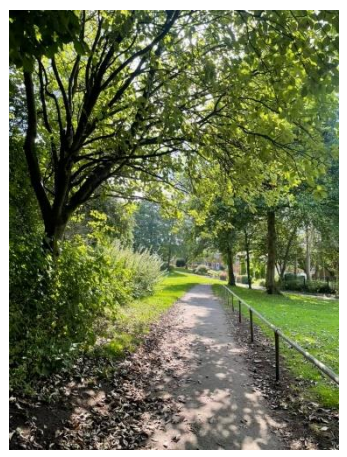
Walking towards the town centre, the town hall standing out on the skyline. Vibrant colourful flowers by the road side. Praying for all who work in the town centre. Giving thanks for the volunteers at the Forget Me Not Children's Hospice shop and for all staff, patients and families at the hospice.



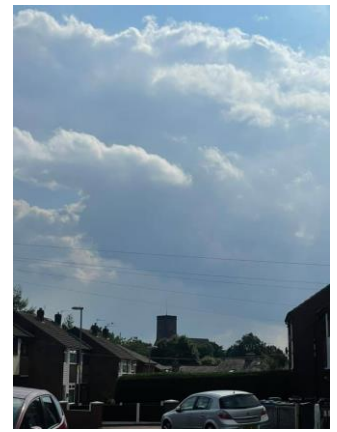
Walking around each of the streets of Royton Hall Park Estate (more than appear on the map!) and praying for all who live here. Cycle paths around the estate leading onto beautiful paths for walking and cycling around the area away from the traffic.



Finding new paths on #HisStoryOurStory. This one leads to Salmon Fields- where I'll be walking tomorrow. Giving thanks for open green spaces so close to the town. .".ask for the ancient paths, where the good way lies; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls. Jer 6:16



Walking around the bottom of Turf Lane and Turf Close on #HisStoryOurStory pilgrimage praying for the residents. Good to see St Anne's on the skyline. Praying for the staff and customers at The Carter's Arms. Walking back to St Anne's at the end of Day 18 of the pilgrimage.



Jean Baptiste Marie Vianney



Jean-Baptiste Marie Vianney was born in Dardilly near Lyons in 1786, the son of a farmer, and he spent much of his childhood working as a shepherd on his father's farm. He had little formal education but, at the age of twenty, he began studying for the priesthood which he found extremely difficult. Despite his poor academic performance, he was ordained in 1815, mainly because of his devotion and holiness. He served as assistant priest at Ecully and, in 1818, was appointed curé, or parish priest, of the remote, unimportant village of Ars-en-Dombes. From this backwater, his fame was to spread world-wide. His skills in preaching and spiritual counsel earned him a reputation as a discerning and wise priest. His visiting penitents soon numbered three hundred a day. He would preach at eleven o' clock each morning and then spend up to sixteen hours in the confessional. A Franciscan tertiary who reflected the spirituality of Francis, his compassion and understanding of human weakness often brought him to tears. His love of God and his people ensured that he remained in Ars the rest of his life, despite a call to the religious life and many offers of promotion.

Day 19 Thursday 5th August St Oswald

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Day 19
Salmon Fields

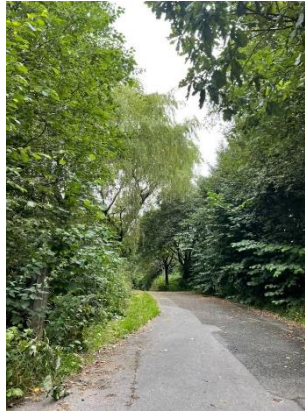


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#HisStoryOurStory pilgrimage began at St Mark's and I had Eulon as my pilgrim companion. The Church remembers St Oswald today- praying we may always bear our cross before the world and be faithful servants of the gospel. We walked to Salmon Fields to pray for the businesses there.

Walking down Salmon Fields towards St Anne's on #HisStoryOurStory pilgrimage. We've been in contact with all the businesses previously to let them know we would be holding them in prayer. I discovered where yesterday's path came out - good to discover how the communities are connected.



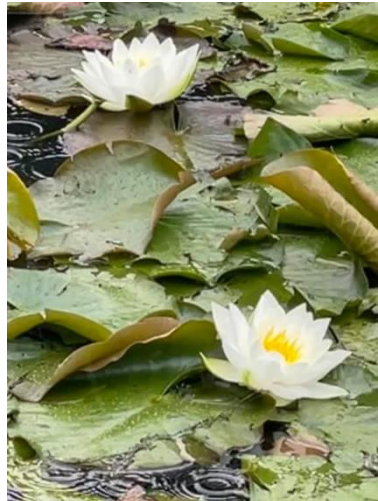
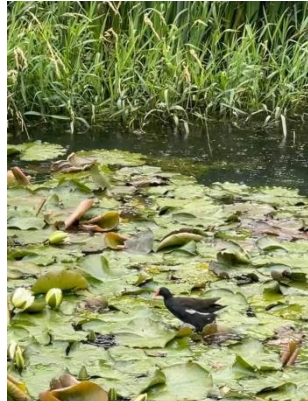
Amidst all the business units there's a beautiful pond where people fish

complete with stunning flowering lily pads. Such beauty amongst the stark landscape of an employment park. Consider the lilies...even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these." Mt6:28-29





Weather for ducks on today's pilgrimage. So thankful for these places of beauty and recreation amongst the busyness and business of the area. Beautiful reeds by the water- "a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench" Prayers for all feeling bruised and hurt.



St Oswald



This incomplete painting of St Oswald can be found on a wall at Durham Cathedral.

Born around the year 605, the son of King Ælfrith of Northumbria, Oswald was forced to leave home after his father's death and move to Iona where, influenced by the monks of St Columba, he was baptised. Returning to Northumbria in 634, Oswald defeated the British king, setting up a cross as his standard and gathering his men around it to pray the night before the battle. A man of humility and generosity, Oswald worked closely with his friend St Aidan, travelling with him on his missionary journeys and acting as his interpreter. He died in battle on this day in 642 defending his kingdom from the Mercians. St Cuthbert whose shrine is in the Feretory in Durham Cathedral and is pictured here is often pictured in art holding St Oswald's head. In 1104 when Cuthbert's shrine was transferred to Durham Cathedral, Cuthbert's body was found to be incorrupt and with it was St Oswald's head, which had been placed with Cuthbert's body for safety. The stone statue pictured is of St Cuthbert, holding St Oswald's head. Oswald's base was at Bamburgh Castle.

Collect

Lord God almighty, who so kindled the faith of King Oswald with your Spirit that he set up the sign of the cross in his kingdom and turned his people to the light of Christ: grant that we, being fired by the same Spirit, may always bear our cross before the world and be found faithful servants of the gospel; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Day 20 Friday 6th August

The Transfiguration

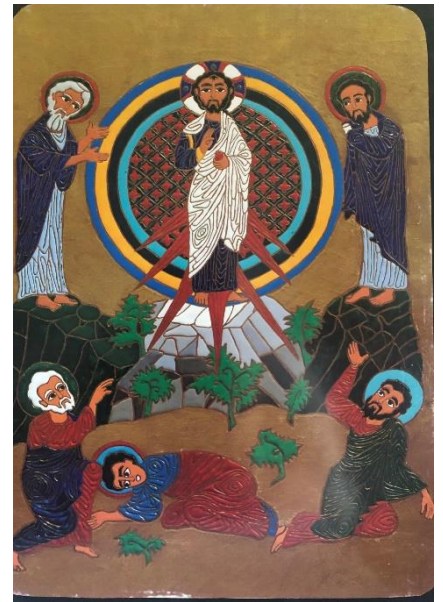
A rest day from walking

The story of the Transfiguration of Jesus on the mount is told in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, and Peter refers to it in his Second Epistle. Each time, it is made clear that that is not only the messenger but also the message: God's salvation is for all and Christ is that Saviour. The testimony of the law and the prophets to Jesus are given by the presence of Moses and Elijah and the event also pre-figures the resurrection, giving a foretaste of the life of glory.

Transfiguration by Malcolm Guite

For that one moment, 'in and out of time',
On that one mountain where all moments meet,
The daily veil that covers the sublime
In darkling glass fell dazzled at his feet.
There were no angels full of eyes and wings
Just living glory full of truth and grace.
The Love that dances at the heart of things
Shone out upon us from a human face
And to that light the light in us leaped up,
We felt it quicken somewhere deep within,
A sudden blaze of long-extinguished hope
Trembled and tingled through the tender skin.
Nor can this blackened sky, this darkened scar
Eclipse that glimpse of how things really are.

*This sonnet is drawn from the collection Sounding the Seasons,
published by Canterbury Press*



Collect

Father in heaven,
whose Son Jesus Christ was wonderfully transfigured
before chosen witnesses upon the holy mountain,
and spoke of the exodus
he would accomplish at Jerusalem:
give us strength so to hear his voice and bear our cross
that in the world to come we may see him as he is;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Day 21 Saturday 7th August.

A rest day from walking.

