

# **“THE MESSENGER”**

FOR

## **THE PARISH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

UNITING ST. ANDREW'S, ST. MARY MAGDALEN'S & ST. PETER'S ACCRINGTON

Churches' website: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/19858/>



**APRIL 2024**

# *The Parish of The Good Shepherd*

*St. ANDREW'S, St. MARY MAGDALEN'S, & St. PETER'S, ACCRINGTON,  
with St. JAMES', CHURCH KIRK*

## **VICAR**

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## **CURATE**

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## **SUNDAY SERVICES**

*8.00 am Said Mass at St. Mary Magdalen's*

*9.30 am Family Eucharist at St. Andrew's*

*11.00 am Solemn Mass at St. Mary Magdalen's*

## **Midweek Services**

*Tuesday Eucharist at St. Andrew's at 6 pm*

*Wednesday Mass at St. Andrew's at 10.00 am*

*Thursday Exposition at St. Mary Magdalen's at 5.30 pm*

*Thursday Mass at St. Mary Magdalen's at 6.00 pm*

*Friday Mass at St. Mary Magdalen's at 10.00 am*



## FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends

It seems strange approaching Holy Week, when I have been absent for the last three months enjoying my Sabbatical. I never thought the time would come when I would give up attending the Church I was Vicar of for Lent! But I am excited and looking forward to returning to the parish, and I hope and pray that together we might be able to plan for the next chapter of our life together.

I know that while I have been away it has been quite a tumultuous time here in Accrington. We have gone from being a United Benefice of three parishes to being the Parish of the Good Shepherd, consisting of our two parish churches of St Andrew and St Mary Magdalen. This gives us an opportunity to develop our working together so that our two church families can truly unite to become one people of God in this part of Accrington.

During my time in Assisi in February, I spent much of it in Retreat, and one of my particular foci of prayer was this transition of our parishes. I ask you, as we look forward to the celebration of Easter, to keep that particularly in your prayers. I am sure that there will be minor obstacles in the way, but let up hope that the risen Lord will enable us to overcome those, and be people of vision, who can truly proclaim his Good News and his risen life to the people of Accrington.

For the message of Easter is truly a message which is Good News. After the long weeks of Lent, when we have been emphasising our need for repentance and self-denial, the time of Easter gives us an opportunity to celebrate. To celebrate the overcoming of death by Jesus himself, who died on the cross for each and every one of us, and who seeks to share that resurrection life with his people.

Let us then be people of the resurrection. Let us celebrate with our confirmation candidates as they come to the Bishop for the laying-on of hands and anointing. But let us also remember our own baptism and confirmation. For it is through that baptism and confirmation that we are made members of the body of Christ and equipped with the gift of the Holy Spirit to live out our faith in our day-to-day lives. It can sometimes seem a struggle; it can sometimes feel overwhelming, but with the gift of the risen Christ; with the gift of the Holy Spirit, we can indeed overcome all things, and be the people God calls us to be.

Let us not be people of fear, but rather people of confidence – confident that God calls each and every one of us to serve him. But more than that, confident that he not only calls us, but that he equips us to fulfil the task that he would have us do in his name.

With my love and prayers

Fr David



## THE PARISH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

On 1 March, our United Benefice of three separate parishes and PCCs were dissolved and a new single parish benefice of the Good Shepherd was legally formed. This new parish consists of the same geographic area as the United Benefice, and has two Parish Churches, St Andrew's and St Mary Magdalen's. It is our hope that this move will streamline some of our administration and will enable us to be better at proclaiming God's love to the people of this place. The parish will also continue to support our four Church Schools: St Mary Magdalen's, St Nicholas's and St Peter's Primary Schools, and St Christopher's High School.

One of the first tasks we have as a new Parish is to elect our PCC. And to that end there will be a Special Parochial Church Meeting on Monday 8 April, beginning with Mass for the Annunciation of our Lord at 7.00 pm at St Mary Magdalen's Church. Please do put that date in your diaries. Having revised the Electoral roll (which is a combined roll of the three former parishes), there are 99 people enrolled, which means we have vacancies on PCC for nine representatives of the laity, and we are asked to elect two representatives to sit on the Accrington Deanery Synod.

Do please consider whether you might put yourself forward for one of these roles (or indeed for churchwarden – we will be looking for two for each parish Church!). Use this time to ask God whether he is calling and equipping you to fulfil this. If you need any further information about the roles, feel free to speak to one of the clergy, or to ask someone who has served on one of the previous PCCs.

The first substantive meeting of the new PCC will be on Tuesday 23 April, following Mass for St George's Day at 7.00 pm at St Andrew's Church. It is our hope that in addition to this we might be able to arrange a PCC away day so that we can spend some time together exploring a vision for our new parish, that hopefully we can all throw our support behind, and together seek to be God's people here.

This is truly a momentous time for the church in this place. Do keep these developments in your prayers and ask God that he will bless our work together and that he will equip us for all that lies ahead.



### PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR APRIL

Mon 1	Easter Monday	The mission of the Church
Tue 2	Easter Tuesday	Our confirmation candidates
Wed 3	Easter Wednesday	Young people of Accrington
Thur 4	Easter Thursday	Hyndburn Borough Council
Fri 5	Easter Friday	Bishop Philip
Sat 6	Easter Saturday	Our local hospitals
<b>Sun 7</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>The Parish and the People of God</b>

<b>Mon 8</b>	<b>Annunciation of BVM</b>	<b>Our Special Parish Meeting; elections to PCC</b>
Tue 9	Feria of Easter 2	Businesses in our parish
Wed 10	Feria of Easter 2	The peace of the world
Thur 11	S Stanislaus	Those who are homeless
Fri 12	Feria of Easter 2	Nursing homes in our parish
Sat 13	Feria of Easter 2	Lancashire County Council

**Sun 14      Third Sunday of Easter      The Parish and the People of God**

Mon 15	Feria of Easter 3	Our Schools as they return after Easter
Tue 16	Feria of Easter 3	Those who are homeless
Wed 17	Feria of Easter 3	HM Government
Thur 18	Feria of Easter 3	Those who doubt
Fri 19	Feria of Easter 3	The unity of the Church
Sat 20	Feria of Easter 3	Those living in fear

**Sun 21      Fourth Sunday of Easter      The Parish and the People of God**

Mon 22	Feria of Easter 4	Those who are sick
Tue 23	St George	Our Nation and His Majesty the King
Wed 24	Feria of Easter 4	Lancashire Constabulary
Thur 25	St Mark	Those who seek to spread the Gospel
Fri 26	Feria of Easter 4	The faithful departed
Sat 27	Feria of Easter 4	The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

**Sun 28      Fifth Sunday of Easter      The Parish and the People of God**

Mon 29	St Catherine of Siena	The medical profession
Tue 30	Feria of Easter 5	Our Churchwardens

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**SCHOOLS' NEWS - SIAMS INSPECTIONS**

This last Term, two of our schools have been inspected by SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools). I am pleased to report that both St Peter's Primary School and St Christopher's High School have been judged to be fulfilling their foundation as church schools, and both received positive reports from their respective inspectors. The reports are public and can be accessed via the schools' websites.

At St Peter's, inspected on 16 January, the report noted that the school's Vision is rooted in Christian values, and that leaders demonstrate a relentless determination to realise the vision for all. It praised the school for its wider curriculum, which boosts self-confidence and strengthens relationships enabling the community to flourish together. It further praised the

distinctively Christian and engaging collective worship which enables people to gain a sense of peace, belonging and connection that results in spiritual flourishing.

At St Christopher's inspected on 28-29 February, the report noted the school's strengths in its inspirational leadership enabling the vision and values to be widely understood and supporting the flourishing of all. It noted the robust monitoring by leaders and governors, ensuring students are nurtured in all areas. It further praised the relationships with local clergy and others, enabling the worshipping life to be fundamental to the school's distinctiveness, and noted the RE curriculum as being challenging and enhancing students' learning.

Can I encourage you to download and read both reports, and to celebrate the findings with both of these schools. If you would like any comments to be passed on to the headteachers, please speak either to Fr David or Fr Jordan, or any of the governors at the schools.

On the same subject, please also keep St Mary Magdalen's and St Nicholas's schools in your prayers, as they are both in the window for a SIAMS inspection in the next (2024-25) academic year.

Do continue to keep all of our schools and their headteachers, staff and pupils in your prayers, and in particular our church schools:

St Mary Magdalen's – Mrs Helen Bird, headteacher

St Nicholas – Mr Liam Noon, headteacher

St Peter's – Mrs Emma Moss, headteacher

St Christopher's – Mr Richard Jones, headmaster



### **CONFIRMATION – 7 APRIL**

On Sunday 7 April, Bishop Philip, the Bishop of Blackburn, will be coming to our parish to confirm six candidates from our parish at the 11.00 am Solemn Mass at St Mary Magdalen's. Do keep our candidates in your prayers as they approach this significant moment in their Christian lives. Masses on that day will continue as usual in both churches, but if you are able, it would be wonderful if you could be present at this mass to support them as they take this step. Let us rejoice with them as they receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, and pray that they may be equipped to live the life God has called them to.

### **SPECIAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING – 8 APRIL**

There will be a Special Parochial Church Meeting for the Parish of the Good Shepherd on Monday 8 April following Mass at 7.00 pm at St Mary Magdalen's Church. At this meeting, we are asked to elect four churchwardens (two for each church), two members of the Accrington Deanery Synod (and therefore form the electorate for the Diocesan Synod

Elections, see below) and nine representatives of the laity to serve on the PCC of the Parish of the Good Shepherd. As this meeting will also serve as our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), we will also have an opportunity to discuss the Annual Report of the parish for 2023. Please do make every effort to attend this meeting – it is your opportunity to have a voice in the running of your parish.

## **NEW BISHOP OF BURNLEY**

On Friday 22 March, it was announced that the next Bishop of Burnley will be the Revd Dr Joe Kennedy, currently Vicar of Oxton St Saviour in the Diocese of Chester. Fr Joe will be ordained Bishop at a service in York Minster on Friday 19 July, and will begin his ministry in the Diocese of Blackburn following his installation in the Cathedral on Sunday 8 September. Please do keep him and Emily, and their children David and Mary in your prayers as they prepare to take the next step in ministry in God’s Church.

## **ELECTIONS TO DIOCESAN SYNOD**

2024 is an election year for the next Triennium of the Blackburn Diocesan Synod. Each Deanery Synod elects representatives for both the Houses of Clergy and Laity to serve for three years. Nominations will open on Wednesday 1 May and close on Thursday 23 May, and for the House of Laity, any lay person on an electoral roll of a parish can be nominated for election. This is an opportunity to serve the wider diocese and church, as well as keeping up to date on developments of the Church in Lancashire. Please think about whether God might be calling you to offer yourself for election to one of the places on Synod. If you would like any further information about the work of the Diocesan Synod or its pattern of meetings, please speak to Fr David. Election to the Diocesan Synod will also give any successful candidates from our parish a place on the Deanery Synod and our PCC.



## **FROM THE CHURCH FATHERS**

*From a sermon on the feast of St George (23 April) by St Peter Damian, Bishop*

Dear brothers, our joy in today’s feast is heightened by our joy in the glory of Easter, just as the splendour of a precious jewel enhances the beauty of its gold setting.

Saint George was a man who abandoned one army for another: he gave up the rank of tribune to enlist as a soldier for Christ. Eager to encounter the enemy, he first stripped away his worldly wealth by giving all he had to the poor. Then, free and unencumbered, bearing the shield of faith, he plunged into the thick of the battle, an ardent soldier for Christ.

Clearly what he did serves to teach us a valuable lesson: if we are afraid to strip ourselves of our worldly possessions, then we are unfit to make a strong defence of the faith.

As for Saint George, he was consumed with the fire of the Holy Spirit. Armed with the invincible standard of the cross, he did battle with an evil king and acquitted himself so well that, in vanquishing the king, he overcame the prince of all wicked spirits, and encouraged other soldiers of Christ to perform brave deeds in his cause.

Of course, the supreme invisible arbiter was there, who sometimes permits evil men to prevail so that his will may be accomplished. And although he surrendered the body of his martyr into the hands of murderers, yet he continued to take care of his soul, which was supported by the unshakeable defence of its faith.

Dear brothers, let us not only admire the courage of this fighter in heaven's army but follow his example. Let us be inspired to strive for the reward of heavenly glory, keeping in mind his example, so that we will not be swayed from our path, though the world seduce us with its smiles or try to terrify us with naked threats of its trials and tribulations.

We must now cleanse ourselves, as Saint Paul tells us, from all defilement of body and spirit, so that one day we too may deserve to enter that temple of blessedness to which we now aspire.

Anyone who wishes to offer himself to God in the tent of Christ, which is the Church, must first bathe in the spring of holy baptism; then he must put on the various garments of the virtues. As it says in the Scriptures: Let your priests be clothed in justice. He who is reborn in baptism is a new man. He may no longer wear the things that signify mortality. He has discarded the old self and must put on the new. He must live continually renewed in his commitment to a holy sojourn in this world.

Truly we must be cleansed of the stains of our past sins and be resplendent in the virtue of our new way of life. Then we can be confident of celebrating Easter worthily and of truly following the example of the blessed martyrs.



## **SABBATICAL REFLECTIONS – FR DAVID**

As I entered into Sabbatical mode on 1 January, it felt particularly strange – three months of having no parish commitments faced me, and I have to confess, I was not 100% sure how I was going to deal with it. I had four weeks planned for a retreat to Assisi in Italy, but at that point the rest of the time seemed to stretch out ahead of me waiting for something to fill it.

As I look back, it is with some surprise at the speed with which those weeks have gone by. I decided in January to spend a few days in Whitby preparing for the journey to Italy, and getting into the frame of mind to be away from the parish for this prolonged time. It was a joy to be by the seaside, and to make some use of the surrounding countryside for walks along the coastal path, and spending time sat on the pier looking out over the North Sea.

On my return, my mind turned to packing and preparing to catch my flight out. The flight was at an unreasonably early hour, which meant a trip to the airport the night before, and an airport hotel for (half) a night, before heading to the terminal at 0400! All went well, and I landed in Rome and caught a train to Assisi. Then, forgetting just how far out of the old city the railway station is, I began the walk up to my apartment, which was exhausting trundling my suitcase, but did give me a true feeling of being on pilgrimage!

Waking up in the bright sunshine and relative warmth of Umbria in January, it did seem strange when I arrived at the Basilica for the first time to see an enormous Christmas tree in the Piazza, together with numerous Crib scenes which adorned the town (Christmas 2023 was the 800<sup>th</sup> year of St Francis setting up the first Crib scene in Greccio). This was because I had arrived before the end of the Christmas season at Candlemas.

I felt it was right to make a first visit to the tomb of St Francis (in the crypt of the Basilica), before doing the same across the city at the tomb of St Clare. St Francis' tomb became a regular feature of the Retreat, as I made a practice of attending Mass in the Basilica most mornings, followed by a time of prayer at the tomb. Each day would then be concluded with Vespers in the Basilica above (my Italian got to the point where I could just about join in with the liturgy and get at least the gist of some of the sermons!)

I spent the time walking around the streets of the mediaeval city, and visiting some of the places St Francis would have seen and known, Santa Maria degli Angeli, Rivotorto and San Damiano in the plain below, and the Hermitage some 5km up the mountain above Assisi. It was there that I had a profound sense of God's presence and guidance, as I sat in the silence of the chapel before the Blessed Sacrament. This guided me to pray for renewal, both of my own priestly ministry, and of our parish as we look to a new future.

It is so often in the aftermath of a strenuous journey, in the silence that follows, just like the disciples at the Transfiguration, that God's voice can be heard. And this was very much so in this moment. I remain convinced that he has great plans for the church in this place, and that we can only realise those plans if we have the courage and determination to place our trust in him, and put ourselves into his hands. I returned down the mountainside having had something of a Transfiguration moment determined to act on that voice.

I recommitted myself to the pattern of prayer I had adopted at the beginning of my time, and prayed fervently for this renewal to be realised. I would ask that we might all engage in similar prayer for renewal – the renewal of our enthusiasm for the Gospel, the renewal of our love for God's people, and the renewal of our hope in God's Church.

By the end of the four weeks in Assisi, I was wondering where the time had gone. But it had been a time of spiritual nourishment and refreshment, and I think, though it is always sad to leave a place of such beauty, both in the mediaeval streets, and in the stunning decoration of the churches, with magnificent frescos by Giotto and Cimabue, it was the right thing to do. As we were reminded in that story of the Transfiguration, we cannot stay at the top of the mountain, revelling in the glory, but rather we are called to go back down to earth and live out the experience we have had in our day-to-day lives.

Since returning to Accrington, I have spent some time in quiet reflection and reading, as well as taking time out walking in the Lake District (though with the weather, it was almost swimming!), and have had a few days on the Llyn peninsula in Wales, with opportunities for walking along the North Wales Coastal Path.

I hope I have returned refreshed and ready to get back into the swing of ministry in our parish, and I pray that the experiences I have had will inform how I seek to guide us in the next phase of our spiritual journey. It is good to return at the time we celebrate the feast that stands at the heart of our faith – Holy Week and Easter – and it is this truth that we all are called to proclaim afresh to each generation. St Francis did that in his day, in his determination to rebuild the church in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. May we have that same determination in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, that the church in Accrington might truly be rebuilt and be fit for the call to mission for many years to come.

If anyone is interested, there are a selection of photos from Assisi available online on the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/Assisi2024>

I can certainly recommend Assisi as a place for a wonderful break, whether for a couple of days or for longer. It is a very special place where you can enjoy all that an Italian city has to offer – sunshine, good food and hospitality, together with the opportunity for spiritual nourishment at the many churches and shrines in the city.

I would like to take this opportunity to offer my thanks for you understanding and good wishes as I have been away during these last three months. I appreciate that this has put extra burdens on members of the PCC and churchwardens, in making sure all that needs to be done has been done. And particular thanks to Fr Jordan, for his willingness to step in as sole priest in the parish during this time, and his good humour in dealing with the extra responsibilities these months have brought for him. It has meant so much to know that the parish has been in such good hands!



### **APRIL SUNDAY ROTA FOR ST ANDREW'S**

|         |         |           |          |
|---------|---------|-----------|----------|
| 7/4/24  | ABEL    | LESLEY    |          |
| 14/4/24 | OSASERE | JENNIFER  | JENNIFER |
| 21/4/24 | JOHN    | LESLEY    | SUSAN    |
| 28/4/24 | MURIEL  | CHRISTINE | MURIEL   |



### **MAUNDY THURSDAY SCHOOL SERVICE**

How wonderful to have the staff, children, and parents of our school in church on Maundy Thursday. As always, it was a joy to hear them taking part in the service, a presentation and prayers by children in Yr 2, and wonderful singing by all. A special thank you and well done to the two pupils who were brave enough to have their feet washed: following the example of Jesus washing the feet of his disciples. We wish them all a joyful Easter and trust they have a well-deserved break for the holidays.

### **FRIDAY PRAISE AT ST NICHOLAS'**

Friday Praise continues every other Friday during term time. On the Friday before Mothering Sunday the children and their parents, and grandparents, around 30 in total, were invited to plant seeds and watch them grow, along with the usual crosswords, word searches and posters to colour that have become a much-enjoyed part of the praise service. It is a wonderful, joyous way to praise our Lord. A big thank you goes to those who provide biscuits, and on this occasion, sandwiches, and help with the brewing up and tidying away after the service. We wish them a very happy Easter and look forward to getting back after the holiday for the final term of the year.



**YEAR'S MIND – St. Peter's and St. James' Church Kirk**  
**APRIL**

|                  |                           |                  |                                     |
|------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Stephen Charles Turner    | 20 <sup>th</sup> | Lily Ashton                         |
|                  | Ellie Katie Marie Brooks  | 21 <sup>st</sup> | Geoffrey Holt                       |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Mary Hulme                | 23 <sup>rd</sup> | Harrison Keightley                  |
|                  | Caitlin Mae Banks         | 24 <sup>th</sup> | Benjamin Cooper                     |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Elizabeth Gregson         | 26 <sup>th</sup> | Valerie Jacobs                      |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>  | Annie Dady                |                  | Nola Noke                           |
|                  | Sarah Ann Wilson          | 28 <sup>th</sup> | Fr. Terry Murnane ( <i>Priest</i> ) |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> | Betsy Anne Lamb           | 29 <sup>th</sup> | Joan Fifield                        |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | Edward McGregor           |                  | Cecilia McLoughlin                  |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | Joyce Scholes             | 30 <sup>th</sup> | Earnest Cox                         |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> | Richard Fielding Bennison |                  | Frank Jones                         |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> | Phillip Hulme             |                  |                                     |



**ST MARY MAGDALEN'S BROWNIE NEWS**

Over the last couple of months we have been busy with badge work which including growing some cress. Most of the girls were quite proud to have something on their sandwiches they had grown themselves.

We made bookmarks to give to Mums or Grandmas on Mothering Sunday and for Easter we will be making 'flowers' using yellow card with a yellow bun case stuck to it. These will be filled with some small chocolate eggs. The girls have held an Easter colouring competition which we are asking some of the congregation to judge. The winner will receive an Easter egg and there will be small prizes for all who took part.



**APRIL QUIZ**

There are lots of places in Britain whose names begin with “Saint” - Can you sort out the mixed-up words below to find them?

Eg SEBE St Bees

- 1 NSANE      2 SEND WAR      3 A HASP  
4 SLIME CHA      5 NHEELS  
6 ROSE LAND      7 BED SIR      8 BAN SAL  
9 PERT TOPER      10 STONE      11 DD VISA  
12 A! TELL US



### Answers to the Easter quiz

- 1 Judas Iscariot      2 Ostrich      3 Fifth Avenue      4 11      5 Faberge  
6 Fred Astaire, Judy Garland      7 Dublin      8 Moai statues/heads  
9 Calvary      10 March 23 April 25      11 1875  
12 Monarch's age      13 30 pieces of gold





# NOTICE OF SPECIAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Parish of Accrington the Good Shepherd  
*(St Andrew and St Mary Magdalen)*

A Special Parochial Church Meeting will be held in St Mary Magdalen's Church

on Monday the Eighth day of April 2024 following Mass at 7.00 pm.

For election of parochial representatives of the laity as follows –

1To the Deanery Synod Two (2) representatives.

To the Parochial Church Council Nine (9) representatives.

For the appointment of the Independent Examiner or Auditor.

For the consideration of:

(a) a report on changes to the Roll since the last annual parochial church meeting OR 2 a report on the numbers entered on the new Roll;

(b) an Annual Report on the proceedings of the parochial church council and the activities of the parish generally;

(c) the financial statements of the council for the year ending on the 31st December preceding the meeting;

(d) the annual report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church or churches of the parish;

(e) a report of the proceedings of the deanery synod; and

(f) other matters of parochial or general Church interest.

In this Notice, 'parish' means an ecclesiastical parish.

Signed

Minister of the parish 4

## Notes

1 Every lay person whose name is entered on the Church Electoral Roll of the parish (and no other person) is entitled to vote at the election of parochial representatives of the laity.

2 A person is qualified to be elected a parochial representative of the laity if –

(a) his or her name is entered on the Church Electoral Roll of the parish and, unless he or is under 18, has been entered there for at least the preceding six months;

(b) he or she is an actual communicant (which means that he has received Communion according to the use of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with the Church of England at least three times during the twelve months preceding the date of the election);

(c) he or she is at least 16; and

(d) he or she is not disqualified as referred to in paragraph 3 of these Notes.

3 (1) A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a churchwarden or a member of a parochial church council, a district church council or a joint council if the person is disqualified from being a trustee of a charity (and the disqualification is not subject to a waiver which permits membership of a parochial church council, district church council or joint council).

(2) A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council, a district church council, a joint council or a deanery synod if the person is included in a barred list (within the meaning of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006).

(3) A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council, a district church council, a joint council or a deanery synod if the person has been convicted of an offence mentioned in Schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 (with that expression being construed in accordance with Rule 71(2) of the Church Representation Rules).

(4) A person's disqualification under sub-paragraph (3) may be waived by the bishop of the diocese by giving the person notice in writing.

(5) A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council if the person has been disqualified from holding office under section 10(6) of the Incumbent (Vacation of Benefices) Measure 1977.

43 A scheme is in operation in this parish which provides that any person entitled to vote in the elections of parochial representatives of the laity to the parochial church council or to the deanery synod or to both may apply on the appropriate form to the Minister of the parish (or other person signing below) for a postal vote. The completed form must be received before the commencement of the annual parochial church meeting.

Notes

1 To be included in a year in which parochial representatives of the laity are to be elected to the Deanery Synod.

2 To be included in a year when a new Church Electoral Roll is prepared. Delete as applicable.

3 This paragraph should be deleted if no scheme for postal voting is in operation in the parish.

4 Or vice-chair of the parochial church council as the case may be (see rule M19(2) of the Church Representation Rules).

## NOTICE OF A MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS

### Parish of Accrington the Good Shepherd

*(St Andrew and St Mary Magdalen)*

A meeting for the election of churchwardens will be held in

St Mary Magdalen's Church

on Monday the Eighth day of April 2024 following Mass at 7.00 pm

This meeting may be attended by:

1. All persons whose names are entered on the church electoral roll of the parish and
2. All persons resident in the parish whose names are entered on a register of local government electors by reason of such residence.

Under section 5A of the Churchwardens' Measure 2001,<sup>1</sup> an appeal against the election of a churchwarden may be made by any person entitled to take part in this meeting or by a candidate in the election. An appeal may be made against the election of any person on any of the following grounds:

1. That the person was not duly elected,
2. That the person was not qualified to be a candidate at the time of election,
3. That before the election was held, the person misrepresented a material fact in connection with the election,
4. That the conduct of the election was such as to affect its outcome,
5. That it has been determined that an error was made in the roll or that question is awaiting determination, and that error would or might be material to the election result;
6. That a vote which was allowed should have been disallowed, or that should have been disallowed was allowed, but only if that would or might have been material to the election result.

Any person who wishes to make an appeal should consult the Minister or the lay chair of the deanery Synod as to the appropriate procedure.



Signed

Minister

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

*In this Notice "parish" means an ecclesiastical parish.*

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<sup>1</sup> Substituted by Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolution 2020/406, Part 2 rule 10(3) (consequential amendments) (July 2020). The full text is available at [www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/406](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/406)

# Solemn Mass *with* BAPTISM

*and*

# CONFIRMATION

*Celebrated by*

*Bishop Philip North, Bishop of Blackburn*

Sunday

7<sup>th</sup> April 2024

11am

St Mary Magdalen's Church

*Accrington, Devonshire Street*

[frjordanmcd@gmail.com](mailto:frjordanmcd@gmail.com)

07843186247



UNITED BENEFICE  
OF  
ACCRINGTON

ST ANDREW, ST MARY MAGDALEN  
AND ST PETER

An angel with long, wavy red hair, wearing a flowing purple robe, is shown in profile, looking down. The background is a dark, starry sky. The angel's right hand is raised, pointing upwards, while the left hand is extended downwards.

The Solemnity of the  
**Annunciation**  
of the Lord  
*Festival Mass*

Monday  
8<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
7pm

*Followed by the Parish APCM*

**St Mary Magdalen's**  
*Devonshire Street*

[frjordanmcd@gmail.com](mailto:frjordanmcd@gmail.com)  
07843186247

# Easter Family Celebration Mass

Sunday

14<sup>th</sup> April

11am

St Mary Magdalen's  
Church; Accrington

The whole family  
are invited!

*Followed by a warm meal...*



**UNITED  
BENEFICE  
OF  
ACCRINGTON**  
ST ANDREW, ST MARY MAGDALEN  
AND ST PETER

For more information:  
[frjordanmcd@gmail.com](mailto:frjordanmcd@gmail.com)  
07843186247



FRIDAY

PRAISE

*St. Nicholas School  
Accrington*

**Easter Celebration!**

**19<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**from 3.15pm**

*Crafts | Worship | Refreshments*

**St Nicholas School**

*Dill Hall Lane*

**frjordanmcd@gmail.com  
07843186247**



**UNITED BENEFICE  
OF  
ACCRINGTON**  
ST ANDREW, ST MARY MAGDALEN  
AND ST PETER



ΓΕΩΡΓΙΟΣ

# St George Festival Eucharist

Tuesday  
23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024  
7pm

*Followed by refreshments*

St Andrew's Church  
Swiss Street