

# St Elphin's Chronicle



## October 2025



**Vol 137**



**Price 50p**



## Services & Events at St Elphins for October 2025

<b>Wednesday 1st</b>	<b>No service of Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>8.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>8.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>8.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>12.30pm</b>	<b>Baptisms</b>
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>No service of Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>8.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>No service of Holy Communion</b>
<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October</b>	
<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Installation of the Revd Anne Dowdeswell as Rector of St Elphins – All welcome</b>
<p><b><u>Please note:</u> on Wednesdays when there is no service of Holy Communion at St Elphins services are available at:</b>  <b>St Barnabas, Lovely Lane at 10.00am and Christ Church, Padgate at 10.30am</b></p>	

# The Parish Staff

**Rector:** Revd Anne Dowdeswell  
(from 30<sup>th</sup> October)

**Contact Details:** 07706 413076  
st.elphinwarrington@gmail.com

**Churchwarden:** Janet Cliffe 07778 899492

**Assistant** Kathryn Hayes 01925-656790

**Churchwardens:** Ken Jeffery  
Dianne Rothwell stelphin246@btinternet.com

Websites:

St Elphin's: <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/15292>

Diocesan Website: <http://www.liverpoolcofe.org>

Cathedral Website: <http://www.liverpoolcathedral.org.uk>



WarringtonParishChurch (Instagram)



[www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15292](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15292) (internet)



warringtonparishchurch (Facebook)

If you would like to receive an electronic version of the parish magazine please email: stelphin246@btinternet.com and we will add you to our mailing list.

Alternatively, you can download the magazine from our website at <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/15292>

If you would like to support the work of St Elphin's contactless payments can be made by using this QR code:



You are invited to join us for the Collation of  
**The Reverend Anne Marjory Dowdeswell**  
as Rector of St Elphin's on  
*Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2025 at 7.00pm*  
*by The Rt Revd Ruth Worsley*  
*Bishop of Wigan*  
*and Induction & Installation by*  
*The Venerable Simon Fisher*  
*Archdeacon of St Helens & Warrington*  
followed by refreshments

Everyone is welcome to join us as we welcome Revd Anne to St Elphins.

However for printing, seating and catering purposes it would be really helpful if you could let us know if you will be joining us on the night.

### **Ryfields & St John's Court Communion Service**

The next service of Holy Communion at Ryfields will be on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 10.00am.

The next meeting at St Johns Court will be on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October at 11.30am. Please note that this service will be at St John's Court as usual.

If you need any further information please do not hesitate to contact me (07778 899492)

*Janet Cliffe*



Launched in 1965, the Away From It All (AFIA) holiday scheme has been at the heart of Mothers' Union's outreach in Britain and Ireland for 60 years. What started as a simple, compassionate idea has grown into one of the most enduring and impactful projects in our movement's history. For six decades, AFIA has responded to families facing financial hardship, trauma, illness, domestic abuse, and overwhelming stress. Tens of thousands of families have been supported, with Mothers' Union groups involved in fundraising, planning and delivering the holidays.

Here are just a few heartwarming stories from across our regions this summer alone:

In **Glasgow and Galway**, 10 mums and 15 children were gifted a holiday at the Field Study Centre on Isla of Cumbrae in July, made possible by our dedicated MU members and volunteers.

The three days away provided great company and lots of laughs, with new friendships formed and memories created. One mum shared "thank you very much from all my heart. You are angels! Also, thanks to God that I'm 100% human! Just wanted to share the impact a couple of days can have." These powerful words a reminder of the impact that even a short break can have on families navigating difficult seasons.

In the **Diocese of Bristol**, MU members took 136 adults and 128 children on an unforgettable day out to Weston-Super-Mare. With four coaches full of excited families, the trip was all about fun, friendship, and making cherished memories. From paddling in the sea to enjoying ice cream in the sun, the day offered families a rare chance to relax and reconnect.

In **Leicester**, 10 families were able to enjoy a much-needed holiday at Haven Mablethorpe. The trip gave parents and children time to unwind, recharge, and create precious memories away from the pressures of daily life. For many of the families attending, it was their first real break in years, providing a time of healing, laughter and restoration. A wonderful way to start the summer holidays.

And it's not just days out and holidays that AFIA can provide. In **North Devon**, the scheme provided funding for a Christian summer camp for children and young people.

None of this would be achievable without the generosity, prayers and tireless work of Mothers' Union members and supporters. The AFIA scheme is a testament to what we can do when we come together to uplift families in need. The dedication over 60 years has made joy possible for generations of families.

In today's world, the need for AFIA is still as urgent as ever, with families caught in the pressures of rising living costs, domestic instability, caring responsibilities and isolation and poverty. A break away from it all isn't a luxury; for some people, it's a lifeline. In a time when rest is often inaccessible to people in vulnerable situations, AFIA reminds people that they are seen, valued and loved.

Heavenly Father, bless the homes in our parish, especially those where there is anxiety and sorrow. We cannot ask that we be spared from difficulty and temptations, but we ask that both parents and children may in the experience of your grace, be strengthened in their faith, and grow as your loyal servants, through Christ our Lord. Amen

### **Branch meetings 2025**

Unless otherwise stated meetings take place in church at 2.00pm

Wed Oct 22 <sup>nd</sup>	St Elphin's Church 2.00pm – talk about Winchester Cathedral
November	Possible meal out date to be advised
Wed Dec 10 <sup>th</sup>	St Elphin's Church 2.00pm – Christmas meeting

### **Tea / Coffee in October**

5 <sup>th</sup>	Chris & Barbara
12 <sup>th</sup>	Wendy
19 <sup>th</sup>	Chris & Barbara
26 <sup>th</sup>	Wendy

Please sign up on the list in the kitchen if you are able to help.



# Voices of Autumn

*Featuring*

*Warrington Male Voice Choir*

*Musical Director: Russell Paterson*

*Accompanist: Elizabeth Paterson*



*and guests*

*Haydock Male Voice Choir*

*Musical Director: Nicole Boardman*

*Accompanist: Ruth Hollick*

*Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2025 – 7.00pm*

*St Elphin's Church*

*Church Street, Warrington, WA1 2TL*

*Tickets: £10 Adults \ £5 under 16's*

*Tickets <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FFIA> or Pay on Door*

**Haydock**  
Male Voice Choir



*For further information contact:  
Warrington Male Voice Choir Secretary  
01925 815095 or email: [secretarywmvc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:secretarywmvc@hotmail.co.uk)*



*[www.warringtonchoir.org.uk](http://www.warringtonchoir.org.uk)  
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## Pause for Thought with Norma Fox

### No fishing allowed

Corrie ten Boom was a remarkable woman. She shared with us, in her books, many of her thoughts and experiences. Holocaust survivor Corrie ten Boom knew the importance of forgiveness.



In her book, *Tramp for the Lord*, she says her favourite mental picture was of forgiven sins thrown into the sea. *'When we confess our sins to God, He casts them into the deepest ocean, gone forever . . . . I believe God then places a sign out there that says No Fishing Allowed.'*

She points to an important truth that believers in Jesus can sometimes fail to grasp – when God forgives our wrongdoing, we're forgiven fully! We don't have to keep dredging up our shameful deeds, wallowing in any mucky feelings. Rather we can accept His grace and forgiveness, following Him in freedom.

We see this idea of 'no fishing allowed' in Psalm 160. The psalmist proclaims that although God is just, He forgives the sins of those who repent: 'But with you there is forgiveness' (v4). As the psalmist waits for God, putting his trust in Him (v5) he states in faith that He 'Himself will redeem Israel from all their sins' (v8). Those who believe will find 'full redemption' (v7).

When we're caught in feelings of shame and unworthiness, we can't serve God with our whole hearts. Instead, we're restricted by our past. If you feel stymied by the wrong you've done, ask God to help you fully believe in His gift of forgiveness and new life. He's cast your sins into the ocean! God wants you to allow His forgiveness to set you free!

Dear Lord and Father of mankind  
Forgive our foolish ways!  
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,  
In purer lives thy service find,  
In deeper rev'rence praise,  
In deeper rev'rence praise.





## **St Elphin's 50/50 Club**



The results of the September draw are as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup>	John Hankey	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Barbara Molyneaux
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Geoffrey Billinge	4 <sup>th</sup>	Alison Hicks

£102.50 went to church funds

The next draw will take place on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October and payments must be made by Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> to be in the draw. Any payments made after that date will be assumed to be for the following month. Any cheques should be made payable to 'St Elphin's 50/50 Club'.

The more people who are in the 50/50 the more money we collect for church funds and the better the prizes for the winners.

If you are not already a member, would you consider joining?

For more information, then please speak to Janet Cliffe.



## **St Elphin's Ladies Group**



We're postponing our October meeting and will now be having our planning meeting and pot-luck supper in November.



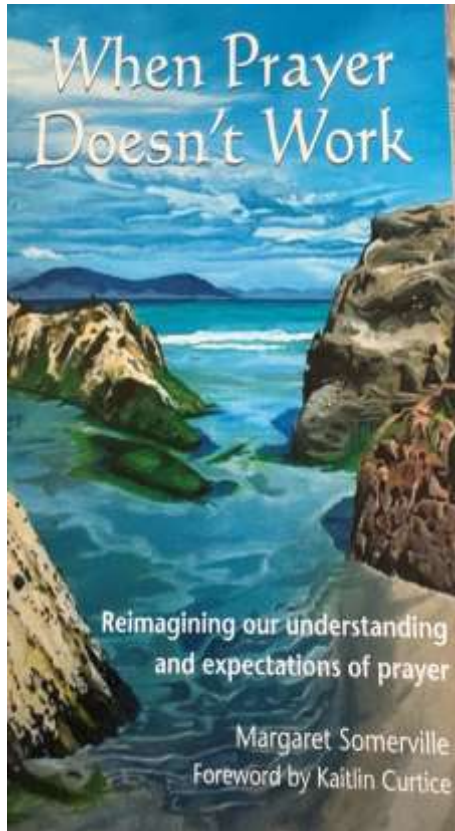
## **Big Clean**

Thank you to everyone who helped with our recent Big Clean day.

Dates for the rest of the year: 25<sup>th</sup> October and 6<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Book Review from Mara**

### **When Prayer Doesn't Work – Reimagining our understanding and expectations of prayer by Margaret Somerville**



Prayer. Is it about having the right words, using the right formula, sitting in the right pew? Are our prayers only heard if we stick to the tradition we know?

How do we reconnect when we are in a season of silence from heaven, and longing for prayer that nourishes us, rather than sitting in the disappointment of unanswered prayers?

Margaret Somerville is an interfaith minister who has lifelong connections with Iona, and uses her engagement in prayerful traditions to reimagine the presence of ordinary life as prayerful acts.

She shows through six pathways: sacred space, release, naming, wilderness, nourishment and peace – that we can find holiness in daily life.

### **Advance Notice**

Our Christmas Fayre and Grand Raffle will take place on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November and we would be grateful to receive donations of gifts for the stalls and Raffle.

We also need volunteers to help set up on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> and to help on the stalls on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> and also help us to tidy up after the Fayre.

Tickets for our Grand Raffle will be available at the back of church in mid-October.

Donations towards the prizes are also welcome.

Please speak to Dianne, Janet or Kathryn for more information.



# What Interests You ?

**If you have time on your hands or want to get out more then Warrington U3A enables you to develop your interests, make new friends and above all have fun.**

**Warrington U3A** has over 1000 members and has over 40 interest groups all organised by its own members.

You can join as many groups as you wish and joining in is made so much easier when you are surrounded by other members with similar interests.

Also, once a month, we invite all members to a general meeting where you can get together with friends, chat and listen to some really interesting speakers.

**Warrington U3A** welcomes you, whoever you are, whatever your background and whatever your circumstances.



A whole world of new experiences is awaiting you, so what's stopping you joining our groups ?

Art, Awaydays, Badminton, Latin Birdwatching, Bowling, Theatre Appreciation, German, American Square Dancing, Italian, History Guitar, Ukulele, Knit and Natter Line Dancing, Mah Jong, French Lace Making, Bridge, Badminton Literature, Guitar, Rummikub Philosophy, Scrabble, Book Club Natural History, Walking, Science Family History, Tai Chi, Spanish Film Club, Folk and Acoustic Table Tennis, Sea Shanties Photography, Patchwork Quilting and Singing for Pleasure

## **We are Warrington U3A**

**Contact :** Andrew Young

**Email me at :**  
[wu3anewreg@outlook.com](mailto:wu3anewreg@outlook.com)

**Telephone :** 07817 377238

**Our web site is :**  
[u3asites.org.uk/warrington/](http://u3asites.org.uk/warrington/)



Founded in 1981, we are part of the National U3A movement which has over 1000 branches and 400,000 members.



## **Church Finances for 2025**

For the last few years, I have been providing details monthly of the income and expenditure on the general account only. This account pays most of the church expenses including gas, electricity, insurance and clergy housing and other expenses. Therefore, this report for 2024 and 2025, now includes income and expenditure on all accounts **including fabric fund, and investments.**

Month	Income		Expenditure	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
January	23,488	9,283	4,960	7,001
February	5,621	45,237	7,453	6,257
March	6,665	37,780	11,369	10,440
April	17,601	15,080	7,060	9,072
May	8,153	8,992	14,720	8,627
June	4,679	7,939	5,930	7,310
July	13,081	8,386	7,623	7,106
August	2,966	4,846	6,735	6,663
Total	£82,258	£138,226	£65,850	£62,477

### **Income**

January 2025 income included £15,000 from the estate of Paul Nener. Feb 2024 included £40k in Legacies. April 2025 includes £2469 tax relief and £11649 bank interest, May 2025 includes £5,602 in bank interest, July includes £10,194 in bank interest.

### **Expenditure**

Expenditure is currently running about £3.4k more than the same time in 2024, mainly due to the reduction in the Parish Share, and the cost of roof repairs to the clergy vestry.

Many regular donations are now either through the Parish giving scheme or through other electronic means which means less visits to the bank and less cost to the church as banking cash and cheques incur additional charges. Thank you for those who are now using these methods, If anyone would like to know more about how to donate or about the church finances please see me.

*Wendy Bailey, PCC Treasurer, Tel: 07963 021172*

## **Donations:**

### **General Fund**

Donation in memory of Lynda Hayes from the St John's girls	10.00
In fond memory of Paul Nener from Kathryn Hayes	20.00

## **St Elphin's Prayer List**

### **All those who are ill or in need of our love and prayers:**

Daisy Easton	Margaret Lomax
Carol Shaw	Brenda Hill
Doreen Robinson	Andrew Clare
Maynard Glover	Margaret Gurney
Joy & Ray Foster	Mike Hughes
Ron Leather	Fred Allen
Sam and Barbara Sheldon	Ann Finlay
Canon John Holden	Ron Hart
Dave Prescott	Terry Buxton
Roland Jackson	Gill Molyneaux
Stan Rowe	Ron Close
Joyce Bradbury	Sharon Hopkins
Victor Moran	Don Fox
David Wood	Emily Craddock
Scarlett Keegan	

## **Parish Registers**

### **Christian Burial & Cremation in August**

16<sup>th</sup>                      Barbara Ann Burgess





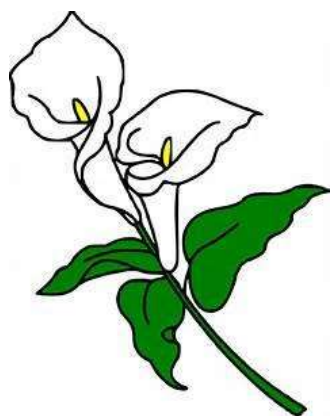


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## Coffee Bar@Holy Trinity



### Coffee Bar

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HT Coffee Bar

**Monday & Wednesday 10.00am – Noon Friday 10.00am – 1.00pm**