



**ST FAITH'S**  
GREAT CROSBY

**Harvest Festival**  
Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2025

---

### *Hymns*

415 Praise and thanksgiving  
291 To thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise  
457 For the fruits of his creation  
205 Now thank we all our God

### *Notices*

**The Blessed Sacrament lamp** burns this week in memory of James & Annie White, much loved parents of Ann Hartley. **R.I.P.**

**Giving to St Faith's:** If you do not give regularly to St Faith's and wish to join our Parish Giving Scheme (subscribing through your bank on a monthly basis), please ask David Jones for details or use this link - <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/great-crosby-st-faith-liverpool/>. All enquiries are confidential.

**Fit for Mission:** The Diocese requires the PCCs of all churches in the South Sefton Deanery to vote on whether to join their 'Fit for Mission' (FfM) initiative on the 29th of September. Prior to the PCC vote we have produced a booklet which it is hoped will help to explain this venture to the congregation. Two large copies of the booklet are available to read through at the back of church. There is also a display of the individual pages of the booklet pinned to the board above the table. If you have any questions, please approach any member of the PCC:- we will endeavour to assist! You can also access a list of Frequently asked Questions (and their answers) on the Diocesan website: <https://tinyurl.com/FfM-faqs>.

**St Faith's "Going for Bronze"** to become an Eco Church – An A Rocha UK Project. Eco-friendly living does not mean doing everything perfectly, it means making better choices, one step at a time. Start with what feels achievable for you and build momentum. Your small actions inspire others, and together we can create a more sustainable world. Here are our **Eco tips for September:** (1) Use water twice in the kitchen – try to reuse water wherever you can, for example water boiled for pasta once cooled is great for plants! (2) Only boil what you need – avoid overfilling the kettle and save money on your electricity bill.

## Events

**Seekers Group Meeting:** The next Seekers meeting will take place at Belmont, 20 Kingsway on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** at **4:00pm**. All welcome.

**Pet Service on The Feast of St Francis for Creationtide:** We will be holding a Pet Blessing Service at St Mary's on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October** at **11:00am** - this will mark both the Feast of St Francis, and the end of the season of Creationtide - more details to follow, but please put the date and time in your diary and come along if you can, whether you have a pet to bring or not!

**St Faith's Patronal Festival:** St Faith's will be celebrating its Patronal Festival on **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October** at **10.30am** - and we will be welcoming as a guest preacher The Venerable Dr Miranda Threlfall-Holmes, Archdeacon of Liverpool, and will be having celebratory refreshments afterwards, so please also put this date in your diary and join us with friends from our group of local churches to mark the occasion.

## This Week's Services

|                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>This Sunday 11:00am, Eucharist Harvest Festival</b>                                            | Fr. Dennis Smith                                                                                                             |
| <b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September, 9:30am Morning Prayer</b>                                    | Fr. Louis Johnson                                                                                                            |
| <b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September, 12 noon St Michael and All Angels</b>                        | Fr. Louis Johnson                                                                                                            |
| <b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October, 10:30am Eucharist at St Mary's</b>                           | Fr. Louis Johnson                                                                                                            |
| <b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 12 noon Low Mass</b>                                          | Fr. Louis Johnson                                                                                                            |
| <b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October, 11am Pet Service for The Feast of St Francis at St Mary's</b> | Fr. Louis Johnson                                                                                                            |
| <b>Next Sunday 10:30am, Eucharist St Faith's Patronal Festival</b>                                | Fr. Louis Johnson<br>Miranda Threlfall-Holmes<br><i>Readings: Isaiah 43.1-7, Psalm 126, Romans 8.35-39, Matthew 16.24-26</i> |

## Contacts

**Vicar:** Fr. Louis Johnson 07947 752 399 / [louis.johnson@stfaithsgc.org.uk](mailto:louis.johnson@stfaithsgc.org.uk)

**Assistant Clergy:** Fr. Dennis Smith 0151 928 5065; Fr. Bill Matthews 0151 281 4879; Fr. Peter Cowley CA Tel. 0151 426 5441, Fr. Steve Hall [steve.hall@stfaithsgc.org.uk](mailto:steve.hall@stfaithsgc.org.uk)

**Parish Reader:** Mrs Paula Lampard

**Church Wardens:** Mr Rick Walker 0151 924 6267 / 07710 226 300; Mrs Maureen Madden 0151 924 2154 / 07704 004 670

**Administrator:** Mrs Carolanne Leary 07913 873 697

*Please keep in your prayers*

**The Diocese:** Parish of Wigan East (All Saints Hindley, Saint Peter Hindley, Saint John the Evangelist Hindley Green, Saint Nathaniel Platt Bridge, Saint John the Evangelist Abram & Saint James and Saint Elizabeth Bickershaw), St Peter's School, St Mary's School, St. Philip's School, All Saints' School, St. John's School, Parish of Wigan North East (Saint David Haigh and Aspull, Saint John the Baptist New Springs, Saint Stephen Whelley, Saint Elizabeth Aspull), Sharples School, Haigh and Aspull School, Parish of Wigan North West (Saint Luke Orrell & St Francis of Assisi Kitt Green, Saint Barnabas Marsh Green), St John's School, Parish of Wigan South (Saint Peter Bryn, Saint Aidan Billinge, Holy Trinity Ashton-in-Makerfield and Saint Thomas Ashton-in- Makerfield), St Thomas' School, St. Peter's School, Parish of Wigan Central (Town Centre) (All Saints Wigan, Saint George Wigan, Saint Mark Newtown & St Michael and All Angels Wigan), The Deanery High School & Sixth Form College, St Mark's School, Parish of Wigan West (Saint Paul Goose Green, Saint Matthew Highfield, Saint James with Saint Thomas & Saint John Pemberton), St James' School, Saint Paul's School and Highfield St. Matthew's School.

**Parish:** Winstanley Road, Glenwyllin Road, Knightway, Kingswood Avenue, Parkfield Road, Royton Road, Middleton Road, Queensway, Kingsway.

**The World:** For peace in all areas of conflict in the world. For those affected by fires, floods, famines and earthquakes. For emergency workers working in disaster areas. For refugees, asylum seekers and agencies that help them. For good stewardship of the earth and its resources. For all victims of cruelty, injustice and exploitation.

**The Church:** The unity of all Christians everywhere. Archbishop Stephen, Bishop Ruth, Ven Pete Spiers, our Archdeacon, Area Dean Rev. Alex Peach, Churches in the South Sefton Deanery, and local ecumenical partners.

**Those who are sick:** Joan McKortel, Sheila Roberts, Alistair Byron, Peter Smith, Fr. Michael Brinkworth, Angie Price, Susie Greenwood, Jill Deeprise, Holly Keira Barnes, Ken Welsby, Martin Goodwin, Evie Dunne.

**Recently departed:** Steve Seneviratne, Clare Peacock.

**Those who are to be remembered at this time:** Pope John Paul I, Rowan Hawkes, Doris Halsall, Paul Nener (Priest), Roger Beresford Lucas Rankin, Francis William Killen (Priest), Bill Williams, Stanley Laybourne, Cathy Cook, Marjorie Ainsworth, Chris Price, Edna Clark, Patriarch Demetrio I, Kate Hayes, Derek James Hill, Annie Hughes, Kath Broadbent, James Martindale, Arthur Carter, Eileen Capper.

## *The Collect*

Creator God, you made the goodness of the land, the riches of the sea and the rhythm of the seasons; as we thank you for the harvest, may we cherish and respect this planet and its peoples, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## *First Reading, Deuteronomy 26.1-11*

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, 'Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.' When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.' You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

## *Psalm 100*

O be joyful in the Lord, all the earth; serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song. Know that the Lord is God; it is he that has made us and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and bless his name. For the Lord is gracious; his steadfast love is everlasting, and his faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

## *Second Reading, Philippians 4.4-9*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any

excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

### **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

You have the words of eternal life.

**Alleluia.**

### ***Gospel, John 6.25-35***

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat."' Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.' Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

### ***Benedicite***

Bless the Lord all birds of the air:

bless the Lord you beasts and cattle;

bless the Lord you beasts and cattle;

sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

O people of God bless the Lord:

bless the Lord you priests of the Lord;

bless the Lord you servants of the Lord:

sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

Bless the Lord all you of upright spirit:

bless the Lord you that are holy and humble in heart;

bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit:

sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

## *Post Communion*

Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Creationtide from 1st September to 4th October**

### **What will be going on at St Faith's and St Mary's?**

As well as there being a Creation theme in the hymns, prayers and sermons during September, there will be a few other ways in which we can observe this wonderful season:

- During the four Sundays in September, at the end of the Angelus, we will say a section from the Benedicite, which is a prayer which celebrates the beauty of Creation – thanks go to Judy Riley for this wonderful suggestion.
- A Fair-Trade Coffee and Tea Tasting will be held after today's service at St Faith's.
- A Pet Service will take place at St Mary's at 11am, on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October, which is the Feast of St Francis.