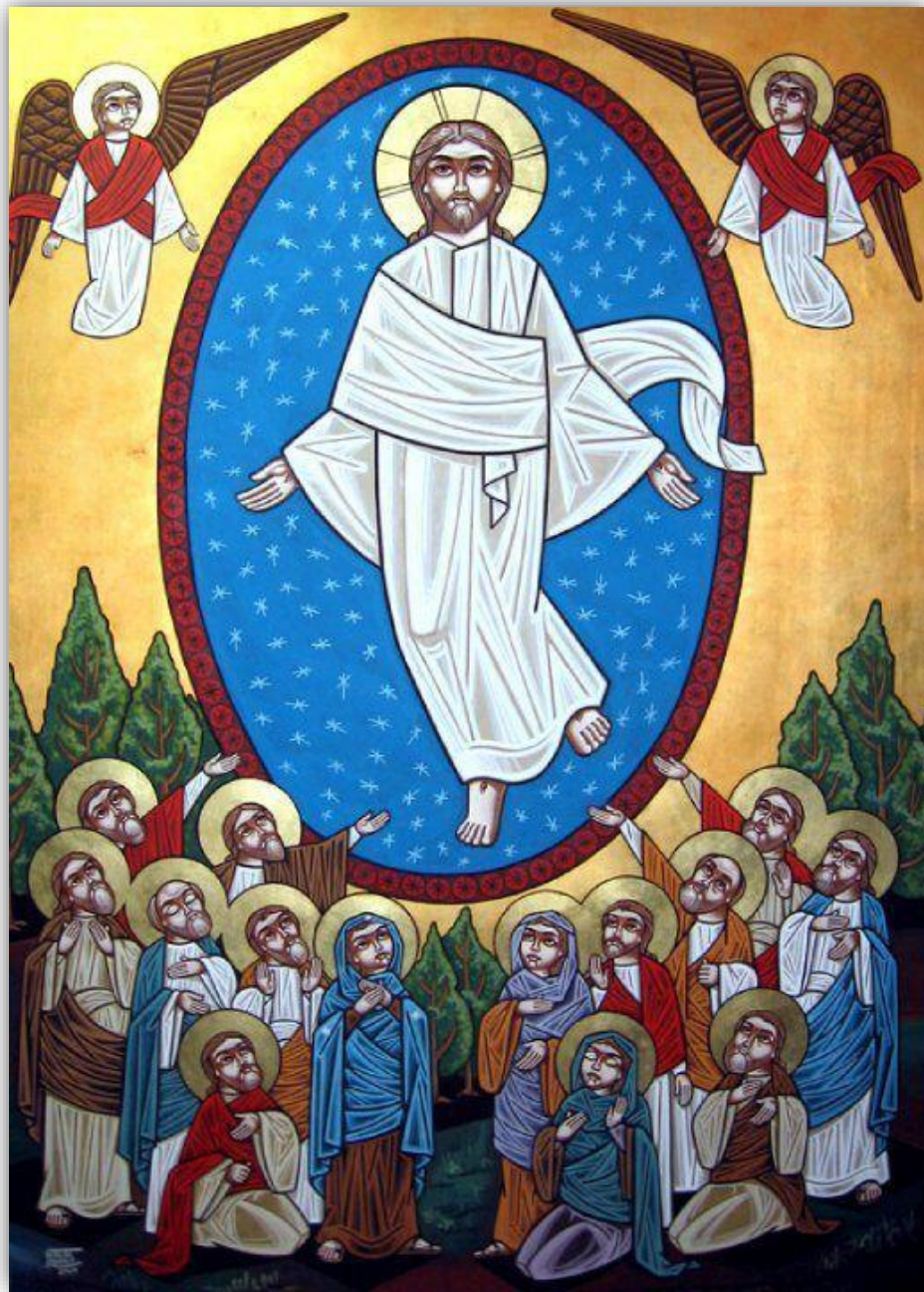


# St Elphin's Chronicle



## May 2026



Vol 138  
Price 50p



## Services & Events at St Elphins for May 2026

<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	
8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Holy Communion
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	
10.00am	Holy Communion
<b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	
10.00 – 12.00 noon	Church Opening
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	
8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Holy Communion
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	
10.00am	Holy Communion
10.30 – 12.00 noon	Church Opening
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Ascension Day</b>
10.00am	Holy Communion
<b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	
10.00 – 12.00 noon	Church Opening
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	
8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Holy Communion
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	
10.00am	Holy Communion
10.30 – 12.00 noon	Church Opening
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	
10.00 – 12.00 noon	Church Opening
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Day of Pentecost</b>
8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Holy Communion
<b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	
10.00am	Holy Communion
10.30 – 12.00 noon	Church Opening
<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	
10.00 – 12.00 noon	Church Opening and Big Clean
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Trinity Sunday</b>
10.00am	Holy Communion
10.30 – 12.00 noon	Church Opening



# The Parish Staff

**Rector:** Revd Anne Dowdeswell

07864 938898

anne.dowdeswell@parishofwarrington.org

## **Leadership Team:**

**Warden:** Janet Cliffe 07778 899492

**Safeguarding Officer:** Stephanie Freeman 07970 172520

**Treasurer:** Wendy Bailey 07963 021172

Susan Jeffery

Ken Jeffery

Dianne Rothwell stelphin246@btinternet.com

Andrew Worrall

## 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: [stelpin246@btinternet.com](mailto:stelpin246@btinternet.com) and we will add you to our mailing list.

Alternatively, you can download the magazine from our website:

<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:



## A Rector Rambles...

Hello. As the blossom and blue skies are reminding us that Spring has finally sprung, the church year is also moving on. As we continue to mark Eastertide, we are approaching Ascension Day and then, soon afterwards, Pentecost.

*Times and Seasons*, the part of our Common Worship library which helps us to mark the church year, says this about the season of Eastertide: *The Great Fifty Days of Eastertide form a single festival period in which the tone of joy created at the Easter Vigil is sustained through the following seven weeks, and the Church celebrates the gloriously risen Christ... On the fortieth day there has from the late fourth century been a particular celebration of Christ's ascension. He commissions his disciples to continue his work, he promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, and then he is no longer among them in the flesh. The ascension is therefore closely connected with the theme of mission. The arrival of the promised gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost completes and crowns the Easter Festival... On the fiftieth day of Easter, God sends his Holy Spirit to empower the Church to perform the mission which the risen Christ has entrusted to it; and he inaugurates the messianic community of perfect communication...After the Easter Vigil, the time of Pentecost was a preferred occasion for baptism in early Christian centuries, and the services of Pentecost also reflect this baptismal theme. Christ's disciples are born again of water and the spirit.*

At St Elphin's we are looking forward to two very special occasions. As a whole church we will share with our brothers and sisters in Christ as they confirm the promises made at their baptisms, with a confirmation service on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June, as well as with some of our younger fellow Christians as they are admitted to Communion in May. Please keep everyone in your prayers as they prepare for these landmarks in their journey of faith.

With every blessing

Anne

## Ryfields Communion Service

The next service at Ryfields is on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 10.00am.

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

*Janet Cliffe*



## Advance Notice



*Lindsay Michele Yates*

*to be ordained Deacon  
by Bishop Ruth Worsley*

---

*on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
at 10.30am  
Liverpool Cathedral*

---

*Reception afterwards at  
St. Peter's Pavilion  
Hurst Street, Hindley  
Wigan WN2 3DN  
from 2.00pm*

---

*Please pray for Church Wigan and West Hub  
where Lindsay will be licensed to serve.*

Lindsay would like everyone to know that they are all welcome to attend but she will come and visit us one Sunday after her ordination for those who can't make it on the day.



## St Elphin's 50/50 Club



The results of the April draw are as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Freda Wilde

2<sup>nd</sup> Michelle Butterworth

3<sup>rd</sup> Alison Hicks

4<sup>th</sup> Dianne Rothwell

£102.50 went to church funds

The next draw will take place on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April 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.



## **Confirmation Service**

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of church for anyone interested in being confirmed in June.

For more information, please speak to Revd Anne.



Envelopes and a donation bucket will be at the back of church.

If you are able to Gift Aid your donation, please fill in your details on the envelope.

An advertisement for a breakfast event. The background is a collage of breakfast items: a jar of Big Brekkie jam, a bowl of granola, a plate of toast, a cup of coffee, and a fork. The text is centered and reads: "You're invited to the Big Brekkie!" in large red font. Below it, in black font: "Want to change the world over breakfast? Then come and tuck in at our Big Brekkie! We'll be serving a delicious morning meal, while raising money to fight poverty and injustice worldwide." A white box contains the event details in red text: "Please join us for a Big Brekkie at St Matthew's Church, Stretton on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May, 9.30 – 11.30am Fresh pastries, sourdough toast, coffee, tea and orange juice – GF options available". At the bottom right, there is small text: "We and make charity no. 110855. Scot charity no. SC039150 Company no. 527026. Christian Aid Ireland: 50 charity no. NE100611 Company no. 0099154 and 001 charity no. 20014152. Company no. 426926. The Christian Aid name and logo are trademarks of Christian Aid. Christian Aid is a key member of ACT Alliance. Printed on 100% recycled paper and sourced from responsibly managed forests. © Christian Aid November 2018 360189".

**You're invited to the Big Brekkie!**

**Want to change the world over breakfast? Then come and tuck in at our Big Brekkie! We'll be serving a delicious morning meal, while raising money to fight poverty and injustice worldwide.**

**Please join us for a Big Brekkie at St Matthew's Church, Stretton on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May, 9.30 – 11.30am**  
**Fresh pastries, sourdough toast, coffee, tea and orange juice – GF options available**

We and make charity no. 110855. Scot charity no. SC039150 Company no. 527026. Christian Aid Ireland: 50 charity no. NE100611 Company no. 0099154 and 001 charity no. 20014152. Company no. 426926. The Christian Aid name and logo are trademarks of Christian Aid. Christian Aid is a key member of ACT Alliance. Printed on 100% recycled paper and sourced from responsibly managed forests. © Christian Aid November 2018 360189

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March, the Province of York held its 150th Celebration Service at Manchester Cathedral, where members came together to celebrate and reflect on this remarkable milestone. A highlight of the service was the unveiling of a plaque dedicated to Mary Sumner, organised by York Provincial President Christine Sharp. The plaque commemorates Mary's birthplace in Swinton, near Manchester, honouring her life and the legacy she went on to create with Mothers' Union. The plaque will be housed alongside the MU banner in the Lady Chapel for all who wish to see it.

The service also included tributes to people who have carried Mary Sumner's vision forward. MU Chief Executive Bev Jullien marked the occasion by lighting a candle in her honour, as a moment of prayerful reflection. The global nature of Mothers' Union was represented through a Wave of Prayer tribute, with flags from across the world on display. It was a joyful and meaningful celebration of the anniversary year, recognising both a rich history and a connected future.

During the event, the Province of York's zonal prayer capsule was passed to the Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham to begin its journey. The prayer capsule contains the York provincial prayer and a special 150th prayer written for the province by Provincial Chaplain The Rt Revd Dr John B Thomson, Hon Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Carlisle.

As the capsule travels to each diocese across the province, additional diocesan prayers will be added during short handover liturgies. It will eventually be passed on to Mothers' Union Zonal Trustee, Dr Deb Lee, in York in June. It will then be taken to Mary Sumner House and placed in the Mothers' Union archives following a short handover service.

The day also highlighted an inspiring personal challenge, as Dr Deb Lee cycled from the Diocese of Carlisle to attend the service. This was a practice run for her 150th anniversary cycling challenge in June, when

Deb will be cycling from Zone H (York) to Zone G (Canterbury), finishing at St Paul's Cathedral in London for the 150th celebratory service. Along the way, she will visit Mothers' Union branches and engage with members across the country, sharing in the fellowship of the movement.

Our Father, Thy kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven. Let us make a heaven here on earth, for all, acting as Your hands and feet, ensuring that the world is a place of plenty for all, safe for all, loving for all, comfort for all. Let Your wonderful earth be a place where all can not just grow, but flourish and become everything You wish them to be. Amen

## **Branch meetings 2026**

Unless otherwise stated meetings take place in church at 2.00pm

Wed 20<sup>th</sup> May      Meal at Farmers Arms at 1.00pm – please let Wendy know if you wish to attend

Wed 10<sup>th</sup> June      Joining the Ladies Group for a talk on Stained Glass by Simon Hardcastle

## **Tea / Coffee in May**

3<sup>rd</sup>                  Wendy

10<sup>th</sup>                Jess and Zephyr

17<sup>th</sup>                Chris and Barbara

24<sup>th</sup>                Volunteers required

31<sup>st</sup>                Wendy

## Pause for Thought with Norma Fox

### Discovering My True Self

Who am I? That's the question a faded stuffed animal asks himself in the children's book 'Nothing' by Mick Inkpen. Left in a dusty corner of an attic, the animal hears movers call him 'nothing' and thinks that's his name: Nothing.

Encounters with other animals spark memories. Nothing realises that he used to have a tail, whiskers and stripes. But its not until he meets a tabby cat who helps him find his way home that Nothing remembers who he truly is: a stuffed cat named Toby. His owner lovingly restores him, sewing on new ears, tail, whiskers and stripes.



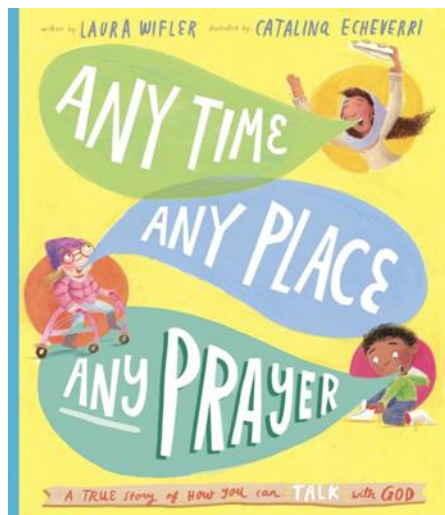
Whenever I think of this story I think about my own identity. Who am I? John writing to believers, said that God has called us His children (1 John 3 : 1). We don't fully understand that identity, but when we see Jesus, we will be like Him (v2). Just like Toby the cat, we will one day be restored to the identity intended for us, which has been marred by sin. For now we can understand that identity in part, and we can recognise the image of God in each other. But one day when we see Jesus, we will be fully restored to the identity God intended for us. We will be made new.

Still from earth to God eternal  
sacrifice of praise be done,  
high above all praises praising  
for the gift of Chris his Son.  
Christ doth call one and all;  
ye who follow shall not fall

*Hymn from Old/New*

## Book Review from Mara

### Any Time, Any Place, Any Prayer by Laura Wifler



I stumbled across a really battered, and obviously much read copy of this on a bookcase in a teeny chapel in Edinburgh recently.

The Bubble Church Warrington team of leaders have been talking about resources for parents and carers to use to encourage children to pray, so that it is a natural part of life and growth, and this certainly fits the bill.

When children have something on their minds, they tend to run to the adults in their lives. Wouldn't it be great if they also learned that they can talk to God about anything and everything because Jesus has made that possible?

This illustrated storybook, takes children on a journey from Eden and God's presence, through the fall, redemption, and the Spirit's presence with us now, to our presence with God in the future, God has always made a way for us to talk with him. This book includes the Lord's Prayer, and working together we can help children develop an understanding of prayer, why it's amazing, and that they can enjoy talking with God about anything, anytime, anywhere.



### Admission to Holy Communion

If you would like your child to be admitted to Holy Communion before Confirmation please fill in their name below along with your contact details.

Or if you would like more information about this please speak with Revd Anne.

## Church Finances for 2026

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	
	2026	2025	2026	2025
January	8,452	23,491	4,217	4,960
February	3,659	5,621	17,939	7,453
March	4,897	6,665	15,253	11,369
<b>Total</b>	<b>£17,008</b>	<b>£35,777</b>	<b>£37,408</b>	<b>£23,782</b>

### **Income**

Jan 2025 included £15,000 from the estate of Rev Paul Nener, however, despite this there is a £6,000 reduction in income compared with end of March 2025.

### **Expenditure**

Feb 2026 includes £10,307 on repairs to windows and March includes a full years insurance of £10,072. So expenditure for end of Feb 2026 is approximately £3,000 down on 2025 making adjustments for these items.

*Wendy Bailey, PCC Treasurer*

Tel: 07963 021172

Wendy\_bailey@hotmail.com

## St Elphin's Prayer List



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

Daisy Easton	Andrew Clare
Carol Shaw	Mike Hughes
Doreen Robinson	Ron Hart
Maynard Glover	Scarlett Keegan
Ron Leather	Dave Prescott
Sam and Barbara Sheldon	Roland Jackson
Gill Molyneaux	Joyce Bradbury
Sharon Hopkinson	Margaret Lomax
Emily Craddock	Barbara Barrett
David Whitfield	Joy and Ray Foster

### For those who are bereaved of:

Brenda Hill

## Parish Registers

### Holy Baptism in April

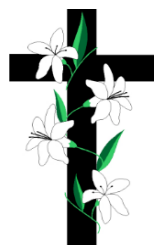
19th	Luna-Mae Lunt	Harper Lears
	Adam Dieter Himme Aslam	Aryon Albert Himme Aslam
	Freya Eleanor Cooper	



### Christian Burial & Cremation in April

2<sup>nd</sup> Bethany Kate Hewitt

Age 34





**FPA**  
FUNERAL  
PLANNING  
AUTHORITY  
REGISTERED

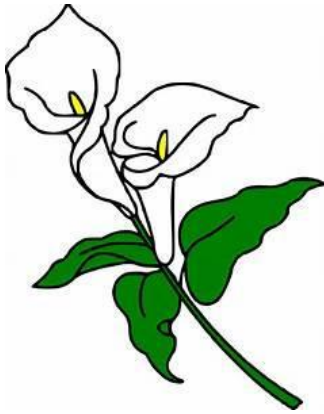


**Funeralcare**

Bewsey Road, Warrington, WA2 7LW



01925 445555



Cheshire Funeral Services

Park View Funeral Home

57 Gorsey Lane, Warrington



01925 571048

'Caring for our Community'

part of the Co-op Funeralcare group



*Louise*

*Mobile Hairdresser*



Over 30 years' experience

City and Guilds Trained

Ladies and Gents hairdressing

Perming

Colours

Cut and Blow



07771 525776



# Electrician

[www.stresslesselectrics.com](http://www.stresslesselectrics.com)

We Love  Small Jobs

- ◆ Extra Lights and Sockets
- ◆ **New Fuseboards**
- ◆ Rewires
- ◆ **Light Install Service**
- ◆ Smoke Alarms
- ◆ **Outside Lights**
- ◆ Landlord's and Home Buyers Reports (EICR)
- ◆ **Fault Finding**
- ◆ Electric Heaters
- ◆ **Car Chargers**
- ◆ New installations

- ✓ Fully Qualified, Insured and Registered
- ✓ Lifetime Guarantee on All Workmanship
- ✓ Reliable and Friendly Service
- ✓ Flexible Hours
- ✓ Satisfaction Guaranteed
- ✓ Small Jobs

**Call Adam on  
01925 699 197**



**City & Guilds**

  
**STRESSLESS  
ELECTRICS**



## Knox & Son Funeral Directors

- 24 Hour Personal Care • Private Chapels of Rest
- Pre-Paid Funeral Plans • Horse Drawn Hearse Available
- Religious and Non-Religious Ceremonies

43-45 Orford Road, Warrington



01925 633388

Golden Charter  
Funeral Plans 

## Hospice Shops



Birchwood	01925 825561
Mersey Street (Furniture)	01925 650800
Sankey Street	01925 575780
Hood Manor	01925 629494
Latchford Village	01925 415414
Lymm	01925 758057
Stockton Heath	01925 602932



## Coffee Bar@Holy Trinity



### Coffee Bar

Holy Trinity  
Market Gate  
Sankey St  
Warrington  
WA1 1XG

t: 01925 574480

[www.HTWarrington.org.uk](http://www.HTWarrington.org.uk)



HT Coffee Bar

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