



ST FAITH'S
GREAT CROSBY



Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity Sunday 20th September 2026

Hymns

95 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
117 Praise to the Holiest in the height
421 Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands
67 When I survey the wondrous Cross

Notices

The Blessed Sacrament lamp burns this week in loving memory of James Kenneth Mayberry, Judy's beloved uncle. Ken was born, brought up and married in Crosby, but later moved north. He died in Dunfermline on 3rd June, where his funeral was held, but his wish was for his ashes to be interred in the family grave at St Luke's, Crosby. This will take place tomorrow (21st), with the immediate family present. **R.I.P.**

The Blessed Sacrament Lamp is a beautiful way to honour and remember special birthdays and anniversaries in the lives of your loved ones. The diaries are now fully updated and ready for dates up to the end of the year. Please talk to Judy if there are people you would like to remember. Donations from £5, for Church Funds.

Peggy's Funeral will take place at St Faith's Church, Crosby at 9:30am on **Thursday 24th September** followed by cremation at Thornton Garden of Rest. Following this the family would like you to join them at a reception to celebrate Peggy's life at 1894 Bar & Bistro (Marine Football Club), College Road Crosby. The family will be at St Faith's from 9am on the day of the funeral. Peggy's wish is that you don't wear black / black tie to her funeral, she would like you to wear bright colours. Family flowers only please. If you would like to make a donation to the British Heart Foundation, there will be a box in Church and at the reception, thank you.

The Treasurer writes: A big **"thank you"** to everyone who changed their planned giving bank details to our new account at HSBC. It was a huge operation over the summer but made easier by everyone's willingness to respond quickly and generously. (Note: this does not affect those of you with a 100 Club subscription). If you attend St Faith's regularly and are not yet a planned giver, please join the Parish

Giving Scheme – details below. Thank you for your continued support. David.

Donations and Giving: We rely on generous individual giving for much of our income at St Faith's. If you are a UK taxpayer, donations can be Gift Aided to provide additional benefit to the church and your donation can be inflation linked. If you worship here regularly then please consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme by using this link - <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/great-crosby-st-faith-liverpool/>. There is a contactless donation point at the back of church for phone or card use.

Flowers for Creationtide: There is now a basket of flowers beside the Altar in the Lady Chapel. If you, and any children, would like to place flowers on the Altar in celebration or remembrance, please do.

Our **Care for God's Creation** will be the focus of our Liturgy throughout September. Keep a look out for some ways we have tried to make this interactive, and please feel included. There will be some new activities for children and families.

HELP! Some extra assistance is desperately required on the Refreshments Team (i.e. to set up and prepare tea and coffee after the Sunday Service). For various reasons it has become increasingly difficult for a team dwindling in numbers to be able to provide this valuable service. All that is required is to be able to arrive a little earlier on the Sunday to set up and then to serve the teas etc at the end of the Service. No washing up is involved AND this is not a gender specific role! If you think you could help please speak to Christine Spence, Maureen Madden or Fr. Louis.

Baptism Rota: We are hoping to establish a Rota of helpers for baptisms. The aim is to be on hand to assist the clergy when a baptism takes place but perhaps more importantly, to be a familiar face and to provide a welcome to the families who attend church before the baptism and (if they return) when they come back to church afterwards. If you are interested and think you could possibly help, please speak to Fr. Louis who will explain more fully.

Events

Creationtide at St Faith's: Sunday 6th September to Sunday 4th October 2026

Every Sunday at St Faith's we will be saying the Benedicite in place of the Angelus after Communion. The sermons and intercessions will all reflect the intentions and concerns of the season.

- **Sunday 20th September:**
Litter pick at St Faith's after the service. Bring your bin liners and gardening gloves, and let's see how much has blown in from the street since the Spring!
- **Sunday 4th October - Feast of St Francis/Harvest Festival:**

Please bring items for the local foodbank to be placed in front of the altar.

Christ the River of Life Joint Service: At St Michael's Church, Blundellsands on **Sunday 27th September at 4:00pm.**

Macmillan Coffee Morning at St Mary's: We will be hosting a MacMillan Coffee Morning on **Thursday 1st October 10:30am until 12 noon** at St Mary's Church. All welcome!

Bingo: Bingo with Jeanette will be returning at **1:00pm** on **Friday 9th October** at St Faith's Parish Hall. Tickets £5 in aid of St Faith's Church and The Plaza Community Cinema. Including free tea/coffee and biscuits. Great fun! Great company and you may even win a prize! As this is a fundraiser, please do try and give it your support.

Cultivate: We warmly welcome you to one of the following six-week Cultivate courses:-

- Mondays 7pm -9pm, starting on 5th October at St Nicholas, Blundellsands
- Thursdays 1pm – 3pm, starting on 8th October at St John & St James, Bootle

This Week's Services

This Sunday 11:00am, Eucharist Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity	Fr. Louis Johnson
Monday & Tuesday, 9:30am Morning Prayer	
Wednesday 23rd September, 6:15pm Eucharist	Fr. Louis Johnson
Thursday 24th September, 9:30am Funeral of Peggy Mattison	Fr. Louis Johnson Mthr. Iona Morphet
Thursday 24th September 12:00pm Eucharist	Fr. Dennis Smith
Next Sunday, 11:00am, Eucharist St Michael and All Angels	Fr. Steve Hall Mthr. Iona Morphet <i>Readings: Genesis 28.10-17, Psalm 103.19 -22, Revelation 12.7-12, John 1.47-51</i>

Please note that there will be no morning prayer at St Faith's on Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th September

Contacts

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Parish Safeguarding Officer: Mari Griffiths 07811591922 / mari.griffiths@stfaithsgc.org.uk

Please keep in your prayers

The Diocese: Bridget & St Thomas Wavertree, Lawrence Community Primary School, St John, Ainsdale, St John's Primary School, St James, St John, St Peter, Birkdale, Birkdale Primary School, St Philip and St Paul with Wesley, St Simon and St Jude with All Souls Southport, St Philip's Primary School, St Francis of Assisi, Kew, Kew Woods Primary School, St Stephen in the Banks and St Cuthbert North Meols, St Stephen's Primary School.

Parish: Local schools: Merchant Taylors', St John's, Sacred Heart, Forefield Lane, St Michael's, Chesterfield High, St Mary's College, St Luke's, St Nicholas, St Edmund and St Thomas, Waterloo Primary, Crosby High.

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. And, at this time of heightened tension, we pray for Jewish communities around the UK, particularly our friends and neighbours in the Southport Hebrew Congregation and Southport Reform Synagogue, and for peaceful, respectful, positive relationships between communities and individuals of all faiths and none.

The Church: The unity of all Christians everywhere. Archbishop Sarah, Archbishop Stephen, Bishop Ruth, Ven Pete Spiers, our Archdeacon, Interim Area Dean Louis, Churches in the South Sefton Deanery, our larger single parish, Christ the River of Light and local ecumenical partners.

Those who are sick: Joan McKortel, Alistair Byron, Jill Deepprose, Martin Goodwin, Jan Huyton, Di Jackson, Gill Welsby, David Bateson, Michael Mahon.

The recently departed: Stan Roberts, Peggy Mattison.

Those who are to be remembered at this time: Frederick Howard Keatch (Priest), George Douglas Wallace, Helena Mary Costin, Calvin Matthews, Annie White, Ethel Hill, Harold Costin, Ernest Storer (Priest), Dorothy Scott, Brian Passingham, Herbert Victor Rourke, Ken Miller (Priest), Emma Wenlock, Arthur Jamieson, Miriam Bettesworth, Nigel Williams, Helen Duggan (aged 104), Ann Jones, George Stead,

Kathleen Winstanley, Emily Eleanor Jane Hartland, John Edwin Owen, Reginald Stembridge, Henry Miller Stembridge, Ken Harding.

The Collect

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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.

First Reading, Jonah 3.10-end

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, 'O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' And the Lord said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so, Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.' But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' Then the Lord said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'

Psalm 145.1-9

Response (congregation):-

I will bless you and praise you forever, O God my king.

I will exalt you, O God my King, and bless your name for ever and ever.

Every day will I bless you and praise your name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord and highly to be praised;

his greatness is beyond all searching out.

I will bless you and praise you forever, O God my king.

One generation shall praise your name to another
and declare your mighty acts.
They shall speak of the majesty of your glory,
and I will tell all of your wonderful deeds.

I will bless you and praise you forever, O God my king.

They shall speak of the might of your marvellous acts,
and I will also tell of your greatness.
They shall pour forth the story of your abundant kindness
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

I will bless you and praise you forever, O God my king.

The Lord is gracious and merciful,
long-suffering and of great goodness.
The Lord is loving to everyone
and his mercy is over all his creatures.

I will bless you and praise you forever, O God my king.

Second Reading, Philippians 1.21-end

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well - since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Welcome with meekness the implanted Word
that has the power to save your souls.

Alleluia.

Gospel, Matthew 20.1-16

For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So, they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

Post Communion

Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



The theme for the Season of Creation 2026 is 'Living Water'. The symbol is a church surrounded by water.

Almighty and Righteous, you asked us to look after the oceans, yet instead of encouraging them to teem with life as you intended, we have filled them with our waste. Forgive us for our carelessness and ignorance. We are sorry for polluting your creation.

Benedicite – A Song of Creation

1. Bless the Lord all you works of the Lord:
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
2. Bless the Lord you heavens:
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
3. Bless the Lord you angels of the Lord:
bless the Lord all you his hosts;
bless the Lord you waters above the heavens:
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
4. Bless the Lord sun and moon:
bless the Lord you stars of heaven;
bless the Lord all rain and dew:
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
5. Bless the Lord all winds that blow:
bless the Lord you fire and heat;
bless the Lord scorching wind and bitter cold:

sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

- 6 Bless the Lord dews and falling snows:
bless the Lord you nights and days;
bless the Lord light and darkness:
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 7 Bless the Lord frost and cold:
bless the Lord you ice and snow;
bless the Lord lightnings and clouds:
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 8 O let the earth bless the Lord:
bless the Lord you mountains and hills;
bless the Lord all that grows in the ground:
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 9 Bless the Lord you springs:
bless the Lord you seas and rivers;
bless the Lord you whales and all that swim in the waters:
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 10 Bless the Lord all birds of the air:
bless the Lord you beasts and cattle;
bless the Lord all people on earth:
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 11 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.
- 12 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.