

COLLECT

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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. . **Amen.**

FIRST READING Genesis 50:15-21

A reading from Genesis

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, 'What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?' So they sent word to Joseph, saying, 'Your father left these instructions before he died: "This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly." Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father.' When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. 'We are your slaves,' they said.

But Joseph said to them, 'Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children.' And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

SECOND READING Romans 14:7-12

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone. If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living.

You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. It is written:

"As surely as I live," says the Lord,

"Every knee will bow before me;

every tongue will acknowledge God."

So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Matthew 18:21-35

Alleluia, alleluia! I do not tell you to forgive seven times, but seventy seven times. **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?'

Jesus answered, 'I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

'Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

'At this the servant fell on his knees before him. "Be patient with me," he begged, "and I will pay back everything." The servant's master took pity on him, cancelled the debt and let him go.

'But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. "Pay back what you owe me!" he demanded.

'His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, "Be patient with me, and I will pay it back."

'But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

'Then the master called the servant in. "You wicked servant," he said, "I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?" In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

'This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLACKBURN DIOCESE CENTENARY

✠ ST GEORGE'S CHORLEY ✠

NOTICES for 13th September 2026

CLERGY CONTACTS

Rev. Toby Webber E: vicar@stgeorgechorley.co.uk
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ST GEORGE'S CONTACTS

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Church Hall

REGULAR SERVICES

Wednesday 10am Eucharist
Friday 9:15am Morning Prayer
Sunday 9:30am Sung Eucharist and Sunday School

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Next Sunday – 20th – Harvest Festival at St George's.

Please bring non perishable food for the Food Bank at Living Waters and if possible a donation for the Bishop's Harvest Appeal.

Saturday 27th – Harvest Tea in St George's Church Hall.

Arrive from 5pm, bring food to share and your own drinks. Eating at 5:30pm followed by a mix of quizzes, games, songs and sketches and of course BINGO! There's a sign up sheet at the back of each church for seating purposes. See you there!

Sunday 4th – Harvest Festival at All Saints' at 11am and 4pm – at which Bishop Philip will preach.

THANK YOU to everyone who has worked hard to arrange and staff our Heritage Open Days and Assembly Bangers this weekend. Its been great!

CHORLEY LIVE WRISTBANDS will be on sale for £6 after this service and every service till October 2nd and 3rd. Please buy your wristband from church as we can keep all the sales for church funds. We are also seeking volunteers to help steward over that weekend in church – please see Lorraine or Netta if you can help.

ATTENDANCE FORMS FOR HIGH SCHOOL- For anyone putting St Michael's down as their choice of High School, please hand your completed forms to either Lorraine or Netta before the end of September. Please remember to take a copy of them before handing in.

And if your child is in Year 4 don't forget to get a form and start getting your attendances recorded and verified.

Today's hymns are noted on the special service sheet

Please remember in your prayers:

May Maiden, Marian Crossthwaite, Harold Dunseath, Linda Eubank, Jonathan Yates, Margaret Salisbury, Dorothy Treadwell, Stephen Dunseath

The recently departed
Kathleen Allman

and for those whose years' mind falls at this time:

Elsie Gilman, Michael Bond, Harold Grime, Lucy Fairclough, Joan Elizabeth Jamieson

CHRISTMAS FAIR – This year's Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday 28th November. Volunteers are needed to help make it another great event. If you weren't able to make last week's meeting but can help please see or email Sara Shingler (email shinglebelly@yahoo.com)

VOLUNTEERS WANTED for our maintenance team. Do you have any DIY skills, are you handy with any tools, a paintbrush. or general labouring. We have a great maintenance team but it is dwindling with age, moving away etc. The team only meet when required it's not an everyday/week occurrence. Please give this some thought. If you think you can offer any help please speak to the Churchwardens, Lorraine or Netta.

YOUTH CLUB – will welcome new members (Y5 and above) from 11th September. Fridays 5:30pm at All Saints' Church.

LITTLE STEPS is our toddler group and meets every Wednesday in term time in the church hall from 10:30. Do pop in with your little one!

❄️ PANTOMIME 2027 – THE SNOW QUEEN! ❄️

We are delighted to announce that this year's pantomime will be The Snow Queen! ❄️

The show will be performed during February half term on: Thursday 18th, Friday 19th and Saturday 20th February 2027
Our dress rehearsal weekend will take place on: Friday 12th – Sunday 14th February 2027

🎭 AUDITIONS 🎭

Children – Chorus & Parts
Sunday 11th October, 4:30pm in the church hall
Adults & Children Year 9 & above – Chorus & Parts
Sunday 11th October, 5:00pm in the church hall

🎭 REHEARSAL TIMES 🎭

Fridays 7-9pm (chorus only after christmas)
Sundays 3-5pm chorus / 5-7pm cast
We're looking forward to seeing lots of familiar faces, as well as welcoming anyone new who would like to join us for this magical adventure! ❄️
Hope to see lots of people there!

