

St Luke's News 11th July 2021



We are very pleased to announce that the Bishop has appointed Rev John Beswick Pallister, Assistant Curate from Betley and Madeley to be Rector of Cotes Heath, Swynnerton, Standon and Tittensor. John was born in Portugal, where he spent most of his working life. He is married to Laura, and they moved to Britain in 2013. They have three young children. The date of the move and the Institution is yet to be decided but please hold John, Laura and their children in your prayers as Rev John prepares to take up this new role.

I am so delighted to have been appointed your new Rector. It was a joy to meet several members of the churches, and to hear of the passion you have for God and His mission. I am very impressed by your hard work, especially during the interregnum and the pandemic, and I look forward to working together to live and proclaim the good news of Jesus in these wonderful communities.

With every blessing, John Beswick Pallister

Eighteen months without a minister seems rather a long time but at least the wait is nearly over. Almost eighteen months with a lockdown of one type or another really is much too long. This is my own viewpoint as an individual and not a reflection on the decisions made by the ministerial, medical and epidemiological "experts".

What it has done, however, is appreciate in more detail what we can see and hear all around us in this wonderful world. I have seen seasons come and go. I have seen weather systems come and go. I have seen new generations of wildlife come and go (although Beryl and I could do without the rabbits, squirrels and moles). I have seen traffic queues come and go. I have even seen vapour trails in the sky come and go. I have seen models and cut-outs in the village come and thankfully not go! The noise from the M6 went but sadly has now returned.

Beryl and I are in a somewhat privileged position by living out in the country away even from village life although we do feel part of the village. It is heart-warming to see all care that is being taken to keep Tittensor looking beautiful. Thank you to all who help with this.

What I have been able to do is think more about the surroundings in which we live and the amazing world. The more I look around and wonder about it, the more I think that it cannot just have happened. The scientists probe far out into the heavens, they make exciting new discoveries but they still are unable to explain the "why" it should have happened. To my mind this is where God comes in. I believe that there is a creator by whose "hand" the world came into being. It is he that made everything that we see around us. Why are we in such a mess is a question sometimes raised but again I believe that he gave humans their own free will to make their own decisions and therefore some of these will be what we might term "wrong decisions"

Many complaints have been made that "Religion" has been the cause of many evils around the world and throughout the ages but my interpretation is that the problem has been with the individual and not the religion itself. Bad decisions have been made by the leaders which have adversely affected the people themselves.

We, as Christians, are encouraged, and should live by, a short passage which we find in Matthew's Gospel the bible: - "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'" If all lived with this in mind then the world would indeed be wonderful for all its inhabitants.

Paul

Celebration Cream Tea

St. Luke's Church

Tables available inside and out

Saturday 24th July 2pm onwards

Tickets £5 available in advance or
turn up on the day.

Everybody welcome.

Contact Pam Lowe 01785 819244



Holy Communion Service at St. Luke's Church on Sunday 11th July 10.00

The service will be streamed on our new website at www.stlukestittensor.church and also, for the moment, on YouTube and on Facebook from 9.45 onwards. The recorded service will be available for 24 hours afterwards on YouTube and Facebook and for about a week afterwards on our website.

We hope that you will find it easier to use the new website at <http://www.stlukestittensor.church/>.

You can go there, click 'Watch' at the top, then the 'play' arrow and away you go.

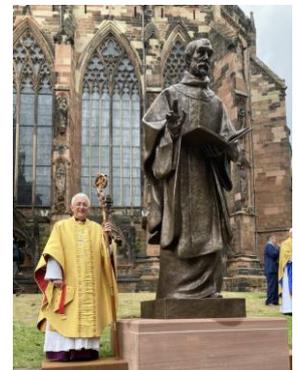
Check out who's been busy in the Children's allotment this week!



A three-metre-high statue of **St Chad, the first Bishop of Lichfield**, was unveiled in the new Hope Garden at Lichfield Cathedral on Saturday 26th June to mark the 1,350th anniversary of St Chad's death in 672.

The work of Peter Walker, artist-in-residence at the cathedral, it depicts the figure of Chad walking towards the visitor, one hand raised in blessing and the other opening the gospels. The statue was worked in Staffordshire clay and cast in bronze.

Lichfield Cathedral is one of the oldest places of Christian worship in the country. It was founded as the burial place of the great Anglo-Saxon missionary and the first Bishop of Lichfield, St Chad, to whom the Cathedral is dedicated.



Christian theology and perspectives on the environment

An online discussion on the theological backdrop to thinking about the environment on Thursday 15 July, 7.30pm-9pm. Join Steve Hollinghurst, Evangelism Enabler Environmental Focus, Rich Clarkson and Emma Cooksey to explore questions like: How are we to understand the role of humans as part of creation with all other creatures and yet as also in God's image? What is God's vision for creation? Is there a Christian understanding of climate crisis and climate justice? How does this relate to other justice issues? What are the implications of the language we use about the world around us? To register, or to suggest more questions, email [Richard Barrett](mailto:Richard.Barrett@stlukestittensor.church).

ZWITT Thursday morning worship 10.00 and Friday evening Bible Study on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3558390555?pwd=ZlNvRVcxbHZlVWRaUzhGS1Vqcy9QZz09>

Meeting ID: 355 839 0555 Passcode: 758581

Church email: stlukestittensor@gmail.com

Prayer Coordinator: Win Growcott 01782 372714

Church Warden: Peter Knight 07939 964743

Ministry team: Rev Noreen Russell 01782 372992

Paul Graetz 01782 372356

Freda Bishop 01782 372924

Alan Lowe 01785 819244

A Church Near You <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4551/>