



Produced for
the Community
by Brindle
St James'
Parish Church

**'the angel said to
them, "Don't be
afraid! I am here
with good news
for you, which will
bring great joy to
all the people.'
Luke 2:10**

Brindle Voice

**December 2025 &
January 2026**





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From the Book of Remembrance

Gone But Not Forgotten,
Those We Love But See No More



DECEMBER

3rd	JANE OLWEN GRECIC	2017
4th	BARBARA CRANSHAW	2016
8th	MALCOLM WILSON	1987
9th	ALAN BLACKBURN	1996
11th	MARY LAWRENSON	2007
16th	TIMOTHY FLEMING	2011
18th	KEITH JAMES CHARLTON	2016
	PRUDENCE BOWLING	2019
19th	JAMES LAWRENSON	2009
20th	ENID MILLS	2000
21st	MARJORIE MILLWARD	2004
25th	THOMAS COULBORN	1996
27th	NANCY HYDE	2007

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PUT A NAME IN
THE BOOK, PLEASE ASK FOR A FORM
FROM ONE OF THE CHUCH WARDENS.
THANK YOU.

*Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death, I will fear no
evil, for you are with me; your rod and
your staff, they comfort me.*

Psalms 23:4

Photos for the cover and inside the
magazine are always gratefully received.
Please email them to
sallyprice07@gmail.com

Church Flowers

THE FLOWERS IN CHURCH
FOR DECEMBER ARE
PROVIDED BY



7th ADVENT

14th CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

21st CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

28th CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR FLOWERS
FOR A SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY OR
MEMORIAL? ALL THE NAMES ARE
MENTIONED IN BRINDLE VOICE EACH
MONTH. FOR DETAILS, CONTACT JOAN
HOPCRAFT ON 01254 854465

MAY I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK
ALL THE FLOWER LADIES WHO HAVE
DONE A STERLING JOB THIS YEAR UNDER
DIFFICULT CERCUMSTANCES. I WISH
THEM ALL A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS & A
PEACEFUL NEW YEAR.

Services: December

7th	Holy Communion	10.30am
10th	Praise Service	6.30pm
14th	Holy Communion	9am
	Holy Communion	10.30am
	9 Lessons and Carols	6.30pm
21st	Holy Communion	10.30am
24th	Roving Nativity	3pm
	Midnight Communion	11.15pm
25th	Christmas Communion	10am
28th	Service of the Word	9am
	Holy Communion	10.30am

Jan

4th	Holy Communion	10.30am
11th	Holy Communion	9am
	Holy Communion	10.30am



The Lord is my rock....

November, I find can be a strange month. In the Church it is the month that marks the end of the liturgical calendar year. The liturgical calendar is how the Christian year is organised, around

the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and guides us through seasons of preparation, celebration and reflection.

The month began with the solemnity of All Saints at the morning service and remembrance and celebration of those who have, in faith, gone before us with a service to mark All Souls in the evening of Sunday 2 November. We reflected on the saints and what they had shown us through their lives of faith. As we gathered to pray for those who have died, we took time to think about how they too had influenced or guided our lives and our faith. And as we brought our lighted candles to the altar to quietly pray for our loved ones, we were reminded that it is in the darkness that we can often see the light of Jesus so clearly. 'The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it'. (John 1:5). The act of remembering those who have died is a source of hope. It helps us to think about death not with fear, but with faith and a focus on the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the promise of everlasting life for those who believe in him.

9th November marked Remembrance Sunday - an opportunity to honour those who have served in the armed forces and sacrificed their lives for peace and freedom. This usually focuses on those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the two world wars, but we also think of all the other conflicts since 1945. This year it was difficult not to think of the armed struggles currently, in Ukraine, Gaza and Israel. The day serves as a poignant reminder of the cost of war and the

importance of peace.

Our Remembrance Sunday service was supported by the uniformed organisations and the young people who carried and presented their colours, read, prayed and laid wreaths. These young people, are the present and the future and they honour the sacrifices of those who have fought and died to preserve our social, economic and political freedom. We were also joined by the family of Jimmy Ingham who recently died. Jimmy and his wife Agnes have come to Brindle St James every Remembrance Sunday since 2017, when they brought back to the village a ribbon that was made by the mother of Septimus Hunt. Septimus was killed in 1917 at Passchendaele. The ribbon was found in the belongings of James Ingham who fought alongside Septimus and it was returned to the village a century later by his grandson Jimmy.

In living our Christian lives, we are called to embody the principles of love and reconciliation, inspired by the teachings of Jesus. The Apostle Paul writes in his letter to the Philippians 'And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus' (Philippians 4:7). In our world today it seems increasingly important to seek the light of Jesus Christ and to live in community in his love and to know his peace.

Christ the King Sunday (23 November) acknowledges Jesus Christ's sovereignty over the universe. Through Christ's sacrifice on the cross he paid the ultimate price for the forgiveness of our sin and to make it possible for us to have a relationship with God. It is this act of love and sacrifice that is central to our Christian faith. We are invited to reflect on Christ as our king and our call to live under his reign. November is a time to think about our own faith, our love and trust in Christ Jesus and to give thanks for the peace and unity that knowing him brings to our

individual lives and our life as a community.

November has given me the opportunity to reflect on my own journey of faith and my ministry and the month ended with me leading my first wedding ceremony. Carl and Mariea, who have become part of our family at Brindle St James trusted me with their special day. Faith, hope and love were central to their relationship and were strongly reflected in the wedding ceremony. It was such an honour and privilege to share in their preparations and to walk alongside them as they committed themselves to one another before God in holy matrimony.

The end of November will see the start of the new Liturgical year for the Church with Advent Sunday on 30 November. Advent is the season of preparation when we look forward to the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ. And you are all warmly invited to join in our Advent discussions which will begin on Tuesday 25 November at 7 p.m. in the Cavendish Chapel. All you have to bring is yourself! There will be seasonal refreshments. It is an invitation to explore your own thoughts and feelings about Jesus Christ and the light that he brings to our lives.

Please see our poster for our events over the Advent and Christmas period - it will be lovely to see you at all or some of these events and services.

When we can prepare and celebrate the birth of the Son of Man together and experience the faith, hope, peace, love and light that comes to transform our lives as we continue to grow in knowledge, trust and love for Jesus.

Jon, Rana, myself and all at Brindle St James wish you every blessing for Advent and Christmas, may you know the love and peace of Christ. . Amen

Sam.

**** Please note that this edition of The Brindle Voice covers both December and January. This additional page includes the January dates and a letter from the Rector. ****



HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE RECTOR!

As we enter this special season, I find myself already giving thanks for all that December holds for our churches and community. We'll soon be gathering as a church family for a rich variety of services and celebrations—our Service of Nine Lessons and Carols with Brindle Brass Band and other musicians, the Christingle with Brindle St James School, our walking nativity, and more. Each of these moments carries the message of hope at the heart of Christmas, drawing us together as we prepare to rejoice in the coming of our precious Saviour on that first holy night. Details of all our Christmas services can be found on the next page.

And if you're expecting a gentle lull once January arrives, think again! Epiphany meets us at the start of the year, reminding us of the Wise Men who travelled far, following the star until it led them to Jesus. Their journey speaks to ours: Jesus continues to be made known in the world, and it remains our calling and privilege to make Him known in all we say and do. As the carol encourages us:

"Go tell it on the mountain!"

If anyone would like a visit, a conversation, the chance to ask questions, or to explore ways of connecting with church and faith in this New Year, please do get in touch.

Wishing you all a very Happy and Blessed New Year.
Jon.



From the Book of Remembrance



Gone But Not Forgotten,
Those We Love But See No More

JANUARY		
4th	MARGARET MIDDLEHURST	2004
	SUSAN BOULT	2022
10th	GEORGE ERIC HOWARD	1997
	EDITH BATTY	1999
13th	JOHN DEREK ISHERWOOD	1996
15th	ARTHUR ANTHONY	
	ORMEROD	2020
16th	DONALD SCOTT	2023
18th	RICHARD CHARNLEY	1978
19th	JILLIAN MARY MUIR	2022
20th	DORIS CHARNLEY	1980
21st	GEOFFREY PEARSON	1967
23rd	FREDERICK MORRIS-	
	ASHTON	1995
	STUART DENNEY	2023
25th	FRANK McDADE	2002
	JOHN MAURICE JONES	2017
26th	ROBERT MILLWARD	2005

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PUT A NAME IN THE BOOK, PLEASE ASK FOR A FORM FROM ONE OF THE CHUCH WARDENS. THANK YOU.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Psalms 23:4

Church Flowers



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4th
11th JENNY EVANS
18th JENNY EVANS

25th
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Services: January

4th	Holy Communion	10.30am
11th	Holy Communion	9am
	Holy Communion	10.30am
14th	Praise Service	6.30pm
18th	Holy Communion	10.30am
25th	Service of the Word	9am
	Holy Communion	10.30am
28th	Praise Service	6.30pm
Feb		
1st	Holy Communion	10.30am
8th	Holy Communion	9am
	Holy Communion	10.30am
11th	Praise Service	6.30pm

For Zoom instructions, please contact us via our website: www.brindlestjames.co.uk/

★ BRINDLE ST JAMES CHRISTMAS 2025 ★

Tues 25th Nov	ADVENT COURSE ~ LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS 4 WEEK COURSE ~ 7.00pm
Sun 7th Dec	CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRAW After the 10:30am service at the Community Hall
Sun 14th Dec	9 LESSONS & CAROLS WITH BRINDLE BRASS BAND ~ 6.30pm
Tues 16th Thurs 18th	CAROL SINGING AROUND THE VILLAGE Meet at Church – 6.30pm
Weds 24th Dec	ROVING NATIVITY ~ 3.00pm Meet at Church Sit-down option available Wet Weather Plan – Meet in Church MIDNIGHT COMMUNION~ 11.15pm
Christmas Day	CHRISTMAS COMMUNION CELEBRATION Bring a Present! 10.00am
Mon 29th Dec	AFTER CHRISTMAS QUIZ Community Hall, 6.30 for 7.00pm **Bring a festive picnic and drinks**

CHURCH BRINDLE ST JAMES

YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO JOIN US FOR A SERVICE OF

9 LESSONS & CAROLS

— WITH BRINDLE BRASS BAND —



SUNDAY 14th DECEMBER, 6.30pm

* BRINDLE BRASS BAND * LYDIA GREAVES ~ ORGANIST
* LAURA LONGWORTH & EMILY HOLT-ROGERS ~ FLAUTISTS
* ST JAMES CHURCH CHOIR

FOLLOWED BY MULLED WINE & MINCE PIES
ALL ARE WELCOME!

From August, our Wednesday evening Praise Service will move to the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, taking place at the usual time of 6:30pm.

All Sunday services remain the same.

We hope this new rhythm will provide more opportunity to develop other areas of ministry, while still offering space for worship and fellowship as a church family.

CHURCH SERVICES

1st SUNDAY

10.30am ~ Holy Communion

10.20am ~ Sunday School & Sunday Youth*

*Term Time Only

2nd SUNDAY

9.00am ~ Holy Communion (Said)

10.30am ~ Holy Communion

3rd SUNDAY

10.30am ~ Holy Communion

10.20am ~ Sunday School & Sunday Youth*

*Term Time Only

4th SUNDAY

9.00am ~ Service of the Word

10.30am ~ Holy Communion

2nd & 4th WEDNESDAY

6.30pm ~ Praise Service



Thank You for Your Support

We're so grateful for your financial support. The God-given vision and activities of St James' Church wouldn't be possible without your generous giving – of time, talent, and finances.

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There are several ways that you can give...

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 - As the offering basket arrives
 - By placing cash in the plate at the back of church
 - Using the contactless card machine
- 3. Online Giving**
You can give securely online via our online giving platform



Autumn Term at Brindle St James'

Primary School

In September, the new school year began with great enthusiasm as we welcomed our new Reception and Pre-School children into our school family. They settled into school life remarkably quickly and have already contributed greatly to the vibrant community at Brindle St James'. We are fortunate to have an excellent indoor and outdoor learning environment in Class 1. The new wooden kitchen- generously funded by the PTFA- has been a wonderful addition,

providing opportunities for imaginative role play and supporting the development of social skills.

Our outdoor provision is also enjoyed throughout the year, whatever the weather. Children are always encouraged to wrap up warm and explore our rich and

stimulating outdoor learning spaces.

Harvest and MacMillan Coffee Morning

In September we held our annual MacMillan coffee morning in the school hall. The event was run by school council who did raised an amazing £284 !



In our Harvest assembly the school community came together to watch our children thank God for all our Harvest gifts. The children sang hymns, prayed their own prayers, and performed a dance to music. All the donations were kindly taken to Over Darwen Food Bank.

School Eucharist

All the school gathered in church to take part in a whole school Eucharist led by our WABS group. Our school community also joined us for the service and it was lovely to see so many families in church Rev Sam leads our WABS group in school who share bible stories with us in assemblies and meet weekly at lunchtime.

At the end of October half term we said goodbye to Mrs Austin our Headteacher who went on maternity leave to have her baby boy. We held a special assembly to say goodbye to Mrs Austin when she was presented with cards and flowers. We are pleased to announce that baby Elliot was born in November and we are looking forward to meeting him in school for lots of cuddles!

We welcomed Mr Draper as our acting Headteacher at the beginning of the last half term who is looking after school until Mrs Austin's return.

One of the many new ideas Mr Draper has introduced is having a golden table at lunchtime on a Friday to reward children who have helped at



lunchtimes, shown care and support to their friends or simply just been good eaters all week! The children are nominated by the lunchtime staff and are treated like VIPS with golden cups and table service!

Christmas

At the beginning of December we are welcoming children from St Michael's choir and their Headteacher who is running 24 miles between C of E Primary Schools in Chorley and surrounding Villages. The event is aimed at sharing the good news of Advent and spreading hope, peace, and joy across the communities. The choir are singing for us and the school will be singing a song for the choir too! The children will be given a special advent prayer to take onto the next school and a handmade decoration for St Michael's to take back to school to hang on their Christmas tree.

Preparations are in full swing for Christmas in school including our nativity which this year is 'Wriggly Nativity!' The children and staff are busy rehearsing and we are looking forward to seeing all the children performing!

Our other Christmas events are a PTFA Christmas fair which takes place 3-6pm on Friday 12th December in our school hall everyone is welcome to come along!



We also are looking forward to our Bolton Octagon theatre trip, Christmas party and our special Christingle service in church.

We currently have pre- school places available in school on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays please contact the school if you are interested in a place for your child.

Wishing everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas from all the staff and pupils at Brindle St James' Primary School.



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- A School with Excellent Year 6 Academic Results.

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**LAST FEW PLACES
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(2025/2026 ACADEMIC YEAR)**

WAITING LIST FOR OTHER DAYS

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Brindle Historical Society

The Brindle Estate & the Cavendish family



On 17th November, Darren Cranshaw, the Society's own archivist, explained the history of the Brindle Estate and also how the Cavendish pub got its name. Darren was well placed to give this talk, since his family have been tenants on the estate for four generations. He began by noting how history is constantly evolving since he gave a talk on the

same subject 21 years previously, but then we met in the old Village Hall which is now consigned to history.

Land as part of the Leyland Hundred was originally granted by Henry III around 1200, and by 1473, Peter Gerard was identified as holding the manor of Brindle. In 1541 in defiance of the King, the catholic Thomas Gerard was supporting two priests in Brindle.

At the same time, Bess of Hardwick, one of the country's wealthiest and most powerful women, owned around 100,000 acres of land and to demonstrate her wealth, she built Chatsworth House and later Hardwick Hall in Derbyshire. Mary Queen of Scots was held captive in Hardwick Hall, and in trying to free her, Thomas Gerard was sent to the Tower of London in 1582. Whilst Thomas was banished, Sir William Cavendish, Bess's second husband,

"purchased" the Brindle estate through dubious means and for the next 250 years, the estate was passed down through the Cavendish family who became the Earls of Derbyshire.

In 1611, an extremely detailed survey of the estate was commissioned which showed that it covered a very similar area to the current parish of Brindle. The survey listed farms, fields and cottages and named all the tenants and many of the names are still found in the village today.

In 1819, the Brindle estate was transferred to a minor branch of the Cavendish family who also owned Holker Hall and Baron Chesham from Buckinghamshire was still the owner in 1915. In 1919, however, the estate was offered up for sale and considerable portions of land were sold, much of it to the de Hoghton family.

Since then the estate has remained largely intact. Lord Chesham was a good landlord visiting Brindle several times and was proactive in building the Parish Institute in 1923 on the site of the current Community Hall. The Cavendish Arms was clearly named for the Cavendish family, but prior to that was known as the Devonshire Arms, and even at one time as the Three Stags after the Cavendish family coat of arms. Brindle Band still use a stag's head on their insignia.

In the 1950s the estate was offered to each of the tenants at a price of eight times their annual rent, but no-one could afford that outlay. Instead of being broken up, a lady called Patience Aspinall bought



the entire estate for £54,000 with money she acquired through selling the mines she owned around Burnley when they were nationalised. Patience died in 1985 and the estate passed to her sister Ruth who owned a publishing house and also wrote romantic fiction. Huggarts Farm and Wilcock Cottage were sold at that time to pay death duties. Miss Aspinall visited Brindle each year from her home in Cornwall and took a keen interest in the tenants and their farms. She had no children, but named her godson, William de Hamil, as her heir and upon her death in 2012, William moved into Lady Hall Farm off Marsh Lane and has been very supportive of the estate since then. He recently moved back to his home in New Zealand but not before instructing that the farm at High Cop should be redeveloped as three dwellings to be let for a peppercorn rent to Brindle residents. These will effectively become the first alms-houses built in the UK for around 200 years.

The Brindle Estate currently comprises around 1,200 acres (down from 4,000) and is now run by land agents on behalf of William de Hamil.



The Historical Society will next meet on

Monday 19th January 2026

when Roger Price will discuss Organised Crime and Covert Policing in the 1990s.

Entry to the talk is free to Historical Society members and just £5.00 for guests which will include refreshments and a chat.

Brindle Historical Society Programme 2026

Date	Talk	Speaker	Notes
19-Jan-26	Organised crime and covert policing in the 1990s	Roger Price	Our speaker will take us through his police career with a light touch (but with some serious bits). He will explain his involvement in the world of organised crime and covert policing, giving an insight into this rarely seen world. He will also talk about his personal involvement in the famous historical case in Brinscall where an accountant was murdered by the Mafia.
16-Feb-26	Annual General Meeting		The AGM will be followed by an interesting and fun historical activity in which everyone can join. Details to follow.
16-Mar-26	Curtain Up! Theatre History	Adrian Taylor	This presentation, presented in the character of Henry Wilkinson, the Edwardian owner of the Lancaster Grand theatre (which opened in 1782) charts the development of British theatre from the Middle Ages onwards, concentrating specifically on the story of the Lancaster Grand and the many and varied acts that have performed there over the years.
18-Mar-26 2pm	Visit to the Lancs County Council Conservation Studios	Cost is £11 per person (£8 for concessions)	The visit starts with an introduction about what the conservation service does, followed by a tour of the studios where we will meet the conservators and see what they are working on at that time. The tour can last anything up to 2 hours depending on how many questions are asked, and will be followed by tea / coffee + biscuits. Places are limited to a maximum of 14 and will be accepted on a first come basis.
20-Apr-26	The History of Horwich Works	Derek Cartwright	In this presentation, we will hear the history of the Horwich Loco works which provided employment for almost 100 years. It was one of the most important loco works in the country and over the decades, 1,830 steam locos were built and over 50,000 were repaired. Our speaker started work at the site in 1978 and was one of the last millwrights to be employed there.
18-May-26	The Case of the Missing Body Live!	Tony Cunliffe	We've all heard of the Turin Shroud, but is it an authentic artifact, a hoax, or perhaps something else? In this compelling interactive presentation, everyone becomes a detective trying to unravel the mysteries behind the shroud. The audience will be provided with evidence from forensic science, historical clues and expert testimonies as the fascinating investigation unfolds.
15-Jun-26	History by Design	Chris Freeman	Tonight we will experience something completely different – a sideways look at how history and nature have shaped some of the things we may often have wondered about. Our speaker will provide explanations behind some of the really crazy reasons why certain things are as they are.
Summer	Date to be confirmed		Trip to Lytham hall, possibly including afternoon tea. Further details will be announced at the AGM
21-Sep-26	Reservoir Navvies in East Lancashire	Catherine Rousseau	Tonight's talk investigates the documentary, photographic and archaeological evidence of the navvies who constructed the reservoirs around Burnley at the end of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century. From disease to disasters, the lives of the navvies offer a fascinating view of social history.
19-Oct-26	Florence Nightingale: Her Life and Legacy	Frances Raftery	This presentation describes the life of Florence, whose destiny was realised due to a surprising turn of fate long before she was born! Follow her life from her birth in Italy, through her determination to flout Victorian convention and to her horrific experiences in the Crimean War. Fulfilling her destiny, Florence developed her system of nursing practice which founded and established the nursing profession.
16-Nov-26	Lancashire in Fifty Objects	Heather	In commemoration of fifty years of the Lancashire Museum Service in 2025, fifty objects were chosen to represent the breadth of Lancashire's History & Heritage. This illustrated talk chooses a number of these objects to tell the story of our great county
Dec-26	Not applicable	No meeting	

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1stbrindle.guides@gmail.com

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St James' Players

Susan Burgess 01772 311418

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henry.stone.t21@btinternet.com

55+ (BOFFS)

Shirley Stone 01254 854290

Gardening Club

Richard Evans 01254 852894

Brindle St. James' School

Barbara Woods bwoods5@talktalk.net

Brindle Parish Council

Mrs Austin (Head Teacher) 01254 852379

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www.brindleparishcouncil.org.uk

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