

The Magazine
of
St Paul's Church, Warton
~Serving Christ ~ Serving the Community~



"The Lord is my shepherd....."
Psalm 23

March 2024



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OF
BLACKBURN



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**Link Parish in the Diocese of Braunschweig,
Lower Saxony, Germany:
Timmerlah**



Sunday 3rd

Lent 3

09.45 Parish Eucharist

Wednesday 6th 09.30 Holy Communion
12.00-15.00 Foodbank

Sunday 10th

MOTHERING SUNDAY

09.45 Parish Eucharist

Tuesday 12th 13.30 Women's Institute
in Village Hall

Wednesday 13th 09.30 Holy Communion
12.00-15.00 Foodbank

Sunday 17th

Lent 5 PASSIONTIDE

09.45 Parish Eucharist

Tuesday 19th 19.30 History Society in Village Hall

Wednesday 20th 09.30 Holy Communion
12.00-15.00 Foodbank



Sunday 24th
PALM SUNDAY
09.45 Parish Eucharist
with Palm Sunday Procession



Holy Week

Monday 25 th March	7pm	Said Eucharist at Holy Trinity
Tuesday 26 th March	7pm	Said Eucharist at Holy Trinity
Wednesday 27 th March	7pm	Said Eucharist at Holy Trinity
Thursday 28 th March	11am	Blackburn Cathedral
		Maundy Thursday Chrism Mass
	7pm	Maundy Thursday Eucharist and Vigil at St Paul's
Friday 29 th March	10.30am	Stations of the Cross at Holy Trinity
	2pm	Liturgy of the Cross at St Paul's
Saturday 30 th March	6.45pm	Easter Vigil at St Paul's followed by fizz and nibbles at the vicarage



Sunday 31st
EASTER DAY
09.45 Parish Eucharist

The **DEADLINE**
for articles for the
APRIL magazine is
FRIDAY,
MARCH 15th

Dear Friends,

This is one of the best times of the year. Everything is starting to grow and the gardens are coming back to life. I know from the middle of January that I'm looking for signs of life in the garden. It makes me feel better - gives us all a feeling of hope. Life is still repeating itself and hope is alive!



Many years ago I had a spell of illness over Easter. So we went away and stayed on a caravan site on a small holding. When we arrived and spoke to the owners, there, in the distance in the bottom of the field, we're a few lambs. Brian told the owner I'd always wanted to hold a lamb. Ten minutes later he came over and knocked on the caravan door. He handed a lamb to me. I'm sure it helped me get better. The owners children brought the lamb for a cuddle every day we were there.

It gave me a feeling of well being. I know these days pet dogs go into hospitals and nursing homes etc., and these animals definitely sense things. My sister, who has Down's Syndrome, and many other people, have a lovely relationship with animals. Tracy's fluffer dogs are wonderful for a cuddle.

We are coming up to our special time in the Church - **EASTER**. The time that Jesus gave his life for all of us so that, if we want it, we too can have life Eternal. On Easter Day we celebrate that Jesus rose again to be with his father in heaven. A time of hope and excitement in the life of our church (as well as exciting re-growth in our gardens) Everything is coming alive!

I know we all have different seasons that are special to us. You may have guessed that Spring is one of mine. A season of renewal; renewal in the gardens and in our church life. A time when things can be put into perspective, a time of excitement in our faith.

We, here, today, are leading our church into growth. New beginnings. Or renewal. It doesn't matter if it's lambs or flowers - it's all signs of new life. And if we are true Christian people who believe, then the excitement of Easter is important to us. Our hope in the Lord never fails to help us in our daily life.

I've finished with the poem "***Little lamb who made thee***" for obvious reasons.

May I wish you a Happy and Blessed Easter full of hope and joy and love.

With love and prayers to you all,

Rev Christine

Little Lamb

by William Blake

Little lamb, who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee,
Gave thee life, and bid thee feed
By the stream and o'er the mead;
Gave thee clothing of delight,
Softest clothing, woolly, bright;
Gave thee such a tender voice,
Making all the vales rejoice?
 Little lamb, who made thee?
 Dost thou know who made thee?

Little lamb, I'll tell thee;
Little lamb, I'll tell thee:
He is called by thy name,
For He calls Himself a Lamb.
He is meek, and He is mild,
He became a little child.
I a child, and thou a lamb,
We are called by His name.
 Little lamb, God bless thee!
 Little lamb, God bless thee!



WARDEN'S NOTES

I was delighted to see so many people at the latest 'Little Café', in fact it looks like this is certainly (and rightly) a **Growth** area in our Parish life. I think that you will already know that I am committed to making it my own mission to ensure that St Paul's is not only a welcoming church but, vitally, it is an **inviting** church. I sincerely hope that all St Paul's people will join me in making sure we very *sensitively and warmly invite* those we meet to join us for worship so that we not only feed their body but also their soul. That, as Christ Himself commands, is a mainstay of the church and our little café is just one wonderful way we can very gently lead visitors.

Once again Vicky, Jack and Rob served delicious Pancakes after the recent All Aboard service and I want to say a very big thank you to them for putting on such a brilliant follow-up to morning worship.

Lent is now upon us and I do hope you are well into reading the excellent booklet entitled *Journey to freedom* provided by the Diocese. As Rev Tracy said at the latest All Aboard service, this is not a time to be negative and miserable.

Speaking of literature, may I remind you that the "Daily Bread" booklets are always available on the table at the back of church. For more years than I care to remember, these booklets (*formerly Scripture Union*) have been the backdrop to my own daily Bible reading by opening up the wider meaning and relevance of selected passages. Do speak to me if you would like to know more.

Audrey

St Paul's Little Café



Saturday 9th March 2024

10.00 – 12.00

All Welcome

FROM THE VICAR

Holy Week is approaching, and we have begun to plan our services across the Benefice. I just wanted to take some time out to explain what will be happening this year.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week there will be a quiet said Eucharist at Holy Trinity with a reflection given each evening. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday reflections on the cross and an Easter Vigil on Saturday Evening will be held at St Paul's (there will also be Stations of the Cross at Holy Trinity on Good Friday and earlier in Lent at St Paul's). Easter Sunday falls on a 5th Sunday which is usually a benefice Sunday but there will be a service in each church on Easter Sunday. Next year we will swap it around, so each church takes turns to host the services for the Easter Triduum.

Being an Anglo-Catholic myself I know the spiritual power of the altar being stripped on Maundy Thursday in readiness for the starkness of Good Friday's services so we will work that into the liturgy on Wednesday at Holy Trinity. It's a very demanding week in many ways, spiritually, emotionally, physically and practically.

Doing it this way means the ministry team, musicians and choir across both churches stand a fighting chance of making it through the week intact. It also enables us to come together as fellow brothers and sisters in Christ in both of our beautiful churches to walk alongside Jesus at this holiest of times.

On Maundy Thursday we are all invited to Blackburn Cathedral for the Chrism Mass where the Holy Oils for anointing the sick and the dying, for signing with the cross at baptism and the oil of chrism for anointing people at their Confirmation and to anoint priests at their ordination. It is also used in the consecration of altars and Church buildings are blessed by the bishop and the clergy renew their baptism vows.

If you'd like to come, please do let me know as they usually provide a light lunch afterwards and like the numbers for catering purposes.

On Holy Saturday after the Easter Vigil, all are welcome to come over to the vicarage for fizz and nibbles after the service to celebrate the joyous resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I thought you might like an overview of the Paschal Triduum or Easter Triduum as it's also known. Marking the days of Jesus' passion and resurrection, it is the most important time of the church year. It begins with the evening service of Holy Communion on Maundy or Holy Thursday, reaches its high point in the Easter Vigil, and closes on Easter Sunday evening. Prepared by the days of Lent, Christians celebrate on these holiest of days the saving work God has accomplished in Christ. From the events remembered on these days, so sorrowful and so joyful, the church learns the deepest lessons. In rites and words the mysteries of Jesus' final hours are with us again, his passion, his cruel suffering, his rising from the dead. And we discover the answer to age old questions:

Does God love us?

Is God merciful?

Does God care for us?

We have only to look and learn from Jesus Christ.

These are days for fixing our eyes on the holy mystery of his cross and filling our ears with the words of his gospel. Nowhere else does God's love appear so vividly. In the love Christ showed for a sinful world we find the beginning of our church, the source of our sacraments, the key to understanding the human story, and our hope for eternal life.

Holy Thursday marks the beginning of the Triduum with a service of Holy Communion. On this night, we recall through scripture and liturgy, when Jesus sacramentally anticipated the gift he would make of himself on the cross. His command to serve others is dramatically recalled this night in the ceremony of the washing of the feet in some churches, which he performed in the supper room for his disciples. Like the Paschal lamb, killed and eaten by the people, according to the Old Testament account which read from the book of Exodus on this evening, we realise that he is a sign of God's salvation.

The Good Friday rites centre around the reading of the Passion of Jesus. With simple dignity the story is retold, followed by prayers for the entire world, for this powerful mystery brings blessings to the world. According to ancient tradition, an image of the cross is venerated this day, and the sacrament of Christ's love for his church is received. It is a day of fasting and quiet mourning.

The Easter Vigil is the high point of the Easter triduum celebrating the passion and resurrection of Jesus. With a rich display of symbols, rites and readings, the church in worship expresses her faith in the mystery that brings her into being. The vigil opens with a service of light. The lighting of the fire and the Easter candle go back to rites that long preceded Christianity. The candle, carried with loving reverence and lyrically praised in word and song, is a sign of Christ - "the light of the world," - and celebrates the victory of light over darkness that humanity has ever longed for.

A series of readings recalls the great interventions of God in history, from creation to the redemption of Israel from Egypt, and ends with the story of Jesus' resurrection. The great "Alleluia", so absent throughout Lent, proclaims with joy the triumph of God's Son. The faithful renew their baptismal promises. The sprinkling of the blessed water signifies the blessing of new life.

Rejoice! this night says, as it brings before us the deepest symbols of our hopes and fears. The darkness, sign of evil and death, has been overcome by light. A lamp, a candle has been lit; a fire is enkindled in our hearts; a nourishing water flows through our lives; a baptism destroys what is unclean and brings to life again. Rejoice! this night says to all creation. The Word who made all things, as a new Adam, freshly proclaims God's promise of life. All creation celebrates God's love.

Rev Tracy

BENEFACTIVE HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Monday 25th March 7pm Said Eucharist Holy Trinity

Tuesday 26th March 7pm Said Eucharist Holy Trinity

Wednesday 27th March 7pm Said Eucharist Holy Trinity

Thursday 28th March 11am Blackburn Cathedral Maundy
Thursday Chrism Mass

7pm Maundy Thursday Eucharist and Vigil St Paul's

Friday 29th March 10.30am Stations of the Cross Holy Trinity

2pm Liturgy of the Cross St Paul's

Saturday 30th March 6.45pm Easter Vigil St Paul's, followed by
fizz and nibbles at the vicarage

Sunday 31st March Easter Sunday Eucharist with renewal of
baptism vows 9.45am St Paul's & 11am Holy Trinity

FROM THE REGISTERS

St Paul's Warton

Holy Baptism

Holy Matrimony

Funerals

February 15th 2024

Norman Maelzer





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FLOWER CLUB

Freckleton & District Flower Club

Tuesday March 19th 2024 at 2pm

Freckleton Village Hall, 17 School Lane, Freckleton

Demonstrator: **Kathleen Williams**

Title: **“Seasonal Influences”**

Come along to Watch, Relax and Enjoy

Flower Arrangements will be raffled.

Visitors: £6. Information - tel: Sandra 01772 465510



We were concerned our first meeting for 2024 would see very few members attending because of the heavy rain and winds, but we are made of stronger stuff, as 14 members braved storm Isha, or was it Jocelyn, to enjoy an evening with our guest speaker, Rev. Brian Mayne.

Rev. Brian started the meeting with a short communion service and then followed with a talk on the many years he spent as a prison chaplain. We were pleasantly surprised when he spoke of the offenders who have managed to turn their lives around with the help and support of the chaplaincy and the charities that do marvellous work to resettle them in the community. Not having that support on the outside of prison is one of the reasons some offenders continue to re-offend.

Rev. Brian spoke from the heart (no notes)!! It wasn't all serious because he did make us laugh with the many anecdotes he shared with us. All of us were ready for a drink and delicious chocolate cake made especially for Rev. Brian. Thank you Linda Willetts for the lovely cake.

Our raffle prizes winners were Chris Denham and Pam Cawthorne.

Here are details of our events for March and April:

- 10th March Mothering Sunday The MU will be having a Cake Stall
- 26th March Cath Greenlees A cup of cold water plus Fair-Trade Stall
- 23rd April is our Open Evening our speaker will be Dave Hoyle.

Urmilla

A PEEP AT PAST WARTON

A month or two ago we stood at the early 20th Century cross-roads in the centre of Warton, where a group of schoolchildren posed for the passing photographer. This month we see St Paul's 'Infants' having a school photograph taken with their teacher, Miss Dugdale towards the end of the 1920's.

Some thirty or so years ago, one of those photographed that day, recalled the names (save one) of her classmates. She was Rowena Derbyshire -nee Townsend- who served for many years as Secretary of the PCC, was also an active member of Warton History Society (formerly Project '70) as well as being a faithful member of the church.

L-R Back row. Miss Dugdale, Bobby Shorrocks, *A N Other*, Dick Townsend, John Proctor, Leslie Thompson and Cyril Helm.
L-R Centre row, Hilda and Ruby Gardner, Annie Fenton, Margery Hogarth, Jessie Snape and Rowena Townsend.
L-R Front row, Doris Bonney, Sydney Hutchinson and Marion Hodgson.

The photograph is just one from the collection of the late Peter Benson who was for many years Chairman of the Warton History Society.

C.P.C.



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It was a bitterly cold night for our January meeting.

Peter Langley came and gave a demonstration and talk on Heart Start Program using an AED.

Peter is very keen to pass on the message about the defibrillators and he had asked if he could present the demonstration.

An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) or defibrillator is a lifesaving device that can help save the life of someone experiencing a sudden cardiac arrest. Ring 999 and ask for an ambulance. Then, if possible, send someone for a defibrillator. The defibrillators are usually locked, for security reasons. If you need to open one, ring 999 and give the post code or number of box which is printed on the front of the box. You will be given code which you type in.

It's vital to remember that an AED does not replace CPR, it is used in addition to CPR. Don't delay CPR while waiting for someone to get an AED. As soon as an AED is available, turn it on and ensure the sound is also turned on and follow the instructions. The defibrillator box contains everything you need to start.

There are very clear diagrams which are easy to understand, listen to the prompts and instructions. Peter said it is far better to try to help someone than not to do anything at all.

Pam





Our February meeting was held in the village hall and was attended by 20 of our members. Our speaker this month was Emma Cox of Lytham Candles. She explained that she had been looking forward to coming to our meeting as she had known our dear friend Wendy. She went on to explain how she started her company in 2017 after her 5th child was born. She wanted to make candles that the people of Lytham would be proud of.

She gave us an interesting talk explaining how she started making the candles in her own kitchen. She uses wax flakes and initially experimented with fragrances to create a candle she could be proud of. She further explained that a candle needs to burn for about two hours on its first use to enable the top surface of the wax to melt completely, from the wick to the edge of the candle. This will release as much scent as possible and also stop tunneling (where the wick gets lost in a small indentation). Emma had brought along supplies of her candles for purchase.

Three of our ladies had birthdays this month and were presented with their cards and gifts. Refreshments, our usual raffle and a quiz, provided by Pauline, followed.

We held our usual competition, this month it was a folded serviette and several of our members provided entries. The winners were 1st Gwen D'arcy, 2nd Pam Smith and 3rd Pauline Mayland.

The next meeting is on 12th March at 1:00 p.m. when the speaker will be Nicola Hughes with a talk entitled "*Tax, Care & Toy Boys*" and the competition is "*A money box*". New members are always welcome.

Ann Jackson
Warton WI President

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March SUNDAY ROTAS

(9.45am services only until further notice)

Date	Sidespeople	Readers
3rd March	Amanda Barfoot Paul Barfoot	Simon Eccleston Alison Eccleston
10th March	Lynne Lake Colin Lake	
17th March	Brian Smith Lorraine Higginson	Rosemary Gilbert Stewart Hankinson
24th March	Sue Parkin June Wilkins	Lorraine Higginson Sue Parkin
31st March	Colin Bent Simon Eccleston	Margaret Jacob Colin Charnley

Date	Coffee
3rd March	Deborah Cherry Lorraine Higginson
10th March	Barbara Fenton Stewart Newall
17th March	Lynne Willetts Mike Willetts
24th March	Vicky Willetts Rob Willetts
31st March	Kathy Baptist Kate Parker



Charities we love # 2

Our second article in this series is about Fylde Foodbank, whose hub is to be found in the annexe of the United Reform church on St. George's road, St Annes, where it has settled after several local moves. Warton is an outpost of the Fylde Foodbank, as is Kirkham.

Anne-Marie has been involved since its inception in 2015 & Paul joined in 2018 . They are both vital members of the team, working very hard every week.

Our Foodbank is a member of the Trussell Trust network (not every foodbank is) and the Trust provides emergency food, support & advice as well as spending much time & effort campaigning against food poverty in the UK. They have over 1,300 centres such as our and for security they work on a referral system. Clients can be referred via their GP, Social Worker, school, advice agency etc. It ensures that food parcels go to those in genuine need.

3 million Trussell Trust food parcels went out across the UK in the 12 months ending March 2023. The cost of living crisis has caused more and more people to find themselves and their families hungry. Locally 2,606 referrals have been provided for : 1,746 at St Annes; 818 at Kirkham and 42 here in Warton. Parcels provide 3 days' emergency, nourishing food for however many people there happen to be in a needy family.

All of this relies on donations and goodwill. Local people, such as ourselves, donate useful items [shopping list below] and willing volunteers make the system work - from the Board of Trustees to the packers, deliverers, drivers and advisers.

We have a basket at the back of church for donations and Paul says that monetary gifts are also welcome - either cash or a cheque to "Fylde Foodbank".

If you or anyone you know needs this kind of support, do not hesitate to phone on 07541 227075. There is also a website www.fylde.foodbank.org.uk

- Warton is open Wednesdays 12.00 - 3.00pm
- Kirkham Monday & Friday
- St Annes Tuesday & Thursday

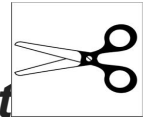
I asked Anne-Marie what her short term & long-term ambitions are for Fylde Foodbank. She said "Short term we will always be there for people in crisis" but her long-term goal reflects exactly that of the Trussell Trust itself..."There will be no longer any need for any foodbank, anywhere, for anyone."

We can all say "Amen" to that.

Sue Parkin (research by Paul Barfoot)



.....cut me out

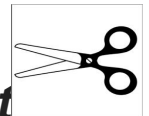


Fylde Foodbank shopping list

- A tin (meat; fish; fruit; soup; veg; pet food) **or**
- A packet (cereals; rice; noodles; teabags; sugar; biscuits. **NOT**
pasta at the moment) **or**
- A jar (sauce; juice; coffee; hot chocolate) **or**
- A toiletry item (soap; shampoo; hygiene product) **or**
- A household item (laundry; washing up; cleaning; toilet roll) **or**
- A treat (cake; sweets; chocolate)

Pop me in your purse...whack me in your wallet... clip me to your credit card!!!!

.....cut me out



A Prayer for Mothering Sunday

Dear Jesus,

We thank you for all mothers and carers around the world, and for all they do for their children. We thank you for their patience when we don't get things right. We thank you for their encouragement when we find life hard. We pray that mums would feel really special today and that you would remind us every day to show them as much love and help as they give to us.

Amen

8 facts about Mother's Day

1. Mothering Sunday was established in the 16th century to encourage people to return once a year to their 'mother church' in order to renew their faith. The pilgrimage occurred on the fourth Sunday in Lent.
2. From the 1700s, the day evolved so that going 'a-mothering' would include a visit to the family home after church, with a 'mothering cake', wayside flowers and other small tokens. For such reasons, it was often known as Refreshment Sunday.
3. A simnel cake was once enjoyed on Mothering Sunday rather than at Easter. A 17th-century rhyme penned by one Robert Herrick goes: 'I'll to thee a Simnel bring, 'Gainst thou go'st a-mothering. So that when she blesses thee, Half that blessing thou'lt give me.'
4. The original Christian values of Mothering Sunday in this country were resurrected by a vicar's daughter called Constance Penswick Smith; today, churches still hold special services on the day itself (a moveable feast as it depends when Easter falls each year).
5. The secular version of Mother's Day originated in the US in 1908 after an American woman called Anna Jarvis chose to honour her own late mother. She felt strongly that people should celebrate their own mothers personally – that's the reason why the apostrophe in 'Mother's Day' is singular, not plural.
6. Flowers are customarily given to mothers on their special day. In this country, springtime flowers, traditionally violets, are given; both Japan and Australia have adopted the American custom of carnations, though the latter also give chrysanthemums – a playful nod to the fact the flower ends in 'mum'.
7. In Serbia, Mother's Day is marked in December, and forms one of a trio of commemorations including Children's and Father's Day on consecutive Sundays. On each occasion, the subject is tied up with rope - Majka (mum) stays tethered until she agrees to supply treats to her children!
8. The French version of Mother's Day - La Fete des Meres - was first conceived by Napoleon to reward the mamans of large families, and during the First World War, medals were given to mothers of four or five children.



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When fishes flew and forests
walked
And figs grew upon thorn,
Some moment when the moon
was blood
The surely I was born.

With monstrous head and
sickening cry
And ears like errant wings,
The devil's walking parody
Of all four-footed things.

The tattered outlaw of the
earth
Of ancient crooked will;
Starve, scourge, deride me, I
am dumb,
I keep my secret still.

Fools! For I also had my hour,
One far fierce hour and sweet;
There was a shout about my
ears,
And palms before my feet.

By G.K. Chesterton

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Update on Secret Santa

Total Christmas presents **158**; St. Paul's and Holy Trinity [**80**]; and Freckleton Methodist [**78**].

Firstly, I would like to thank Sue, Don, Paul, Fred, Rev. Tracy and Anne-Marie; plus a big thank you to Audrey who does so much that people don't see; and to all the people who kindly donated to make Christmas on the streets for the homeless a lot better than it would have been. Knowing people care makes a big difference and gives people hope. I had to step back to give a bit more time to a member of my family who is poorly.

The presents from Warton and Freckleton were split between the Foxton Centre, Preston and the YMCA, Lytham for the youngsters there. Kim, the minister at Freckleton Methodist and myself went out on the 22nd December (got a handy lift from our friend, John, to the Foxton Centre with the presents, gave them out in the centre and to the homeless on the streets of Preston.

Then we went to the YMCA and dropped off some more gifts to the youngsters who stay there.

Thank you so much again for your kind Christmas presents. They have made a big difference to a lot of homeless people who would otherwise have been forgotten [plus their dog companions who got presents too!]

Love and God bless

Graham



Organisations

Day	Section Leader	Contact Number
<u>Monday</u> Guides (10-14yrs) 6.30 pm - 8.30 pm	Bridget Davison	01772 671740
<u>Tuesday</u> Cubs (8-10½yrs) 6 pm- 7.30pm	Kate Parker	01772 635514 07788 551100
<u>Wednesday</u> Rainbows (5-7yrs) 5.45-6.45pm Brownies (7-10yrs) 6.30-8pm	Catherine Potter	01772 493475
<u>Thursday</u> Beavers (6-8yrs) 5.45pm -7pm Scouts (10½ -14yrs) 7.15pm - 8.45pm	Amber Chauhan Darren Clayton	07468 616692 07876 445919
Group Scout Leader All Boys Sections	Darren Clayton	07876 445919

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