St James the Great Wrightington with Heskin



PARISH MAGAZINE



AUGUST 2025 - SEPTEMBER 2025

Useful Numbers



https://www.stjamesthegreat.net fttps://www.facebook.com/StJamesWrightington

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Material for inclusion in the magazine should be emailed to Sue Crawford at: susancrawford@fastmail.co.uk

by the 16th of the month to ensure inclusion in the next issue.

COVER SHOT: Our 30@5 children enjoying an end of term picnic.

Churchwarden's Message

Dear Friends.

I was up at the church one weekend, cutting the grass at the vicarage. It was one of those peaceful, ordinary moments that somehow gives you space to think. While I was there, I bumped into Sue Wild and we ended up having one of those simple but important chats. We were talking about how much happens behind the scenes in church life, how it's never just about the person standing up front. There's a whole body of people quietly getting on with things, often unnoticed, but absolutely essential.

It reminded me of a Bible verse that's stayed close to me for a long time -I Corinthians 12:12: "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ." I first came across it in a moment when I was questioning my own purpose in the church. I didn't feel particularly significant or special. I opened my Bible at random and there it was, as if God was saying, "You're a part of this too." That message has never really left me.

You don't need a collar or a title to matter in church life. You just need a willing heart. That's what I see every week at St James. Sue, for example, she's out there mowing, showing up, serving, just like so many others. Pauline is there unlocking the doors before most of us have even stirred our tea. Anne is faithfully keeping the rotas ticking along, and then there's the cups of tea, the readings, the tidying, the warm welcomes, the heating on a cold morning. These might seem like small things, but they're not. They're the lifeblood of our community.

We often talk about church as a family, and it's true, but like any family, it needs everyone doing their bit. You might think what you do doesn't matter, but I promise you, it does. If you've ever wondered whether you belong or whether your efforts count, let me gently reassure you, they absolutely do!

And if you're not sure what your part might be, but feel like you want to get more involved, please don't hesitate. There's always room, whether it's helping out once in a while, trying something new, or simply being present. We're stronger when we all pull together.

We're still in this period of interregnum, and yet I look around and see a church that's holding fast, loving, serving, showing up. It's a beautiful thing to witness. We are many parts, but we are one body.

Churchwarden's Message continued...

So I'd like to dedicate this message to Sue Wild, not just for the conversation that sparked these thoughts, but for all she does—so faithfully, so quietly, and with such care. Thank you, Sue. And thank you to every one of you who gives your time, your presence, your heart. St James wouldn't be the same without you.

With every blessing,

Jonathan

Our Wonderful 30@5 Group

I would just like to say a huge "Thank you" to our 30@5 parents, and of course the children. who have continued to support and keep going this very vital part of St James' Worship.

The parents have undertaken, week by week, the presentation of each session and have made sure that the content is worship led whilst being most enjoyable for the children, you can see with the numbers attending faithfully each time just how much it means to everyone.

Give yourselves a HUGE PAT ON THE BACK, you all deserve it.

Have a look at the picture on the front of this month's magazine and I'm sure you'll think this is worth giving a try.

Sessions have finished now for the summer break but will return on 7th September, so please make a note in your diaries and come along to join us at 5.00pm, to see what all the fun is about.



Mothers' Union



Our planned outing for June had to be cancelled due to lack of interest and we had to decide between not having a meeting at all or arranging an alternative. Fortunately we did manage to arrange a Theatre Trip to Southport Little Theatre but only had a few days grace to book it but could not get the date we wanted and for a limited number of tickets. We contacted those who were on the list and those who could make the change of date. Tickets were picked up by members and friends. We had a lovely evening and enjoyed an excellent performance of "My Fair Lady" by one of the amateur groups who hire the Little Theatre for performances. The production was excellent, the scenery mesmerising and the singing was as professional as you can get. Altogether an excellent night out and worth looking into for next year's June outing.

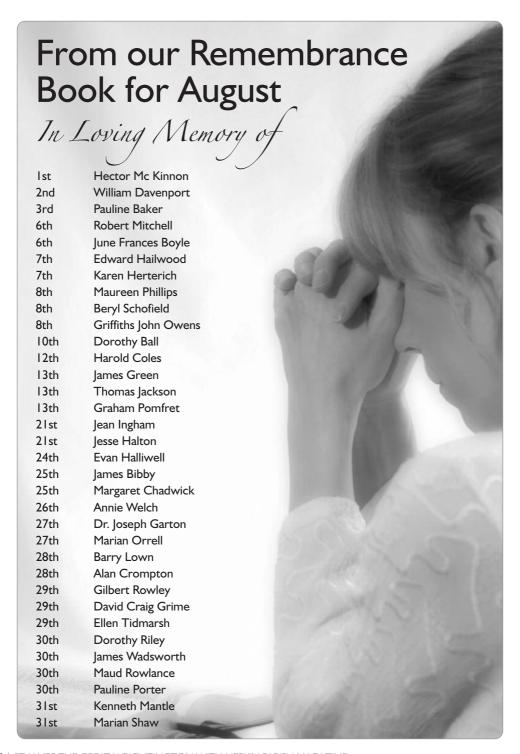
No such problems for our Strawberry Fair in July. Again, we welcomed the Croston Singers to entertain us and again they brought along a very varied programme of songs and poetry with a good number of singalong songs. Thank you to all those who came to join us, it was lovely to see all of you, those we knew and those who came along for the first time, we hope you enjoyed the evening as much as we did. Thank you also to those who helped to set up the hall, provide and serve the refreshments, clear up and wash up and those who stayed on to put away tables and chairs afterwards. We are lucky to live in a lovely community and that community spirit was alive in Wrightington that evening. Thank you all once again and enjoy your summer (at home or away).

We have no meeting in August so I hope you enjoy the break and if you are going away, I hope the weather holds out for you and you have a lovely relaxing time.

We may not be able to have communion at the start of our meeting on the 9th September as we have in the past, but we hopefully will have a catch-up natter as well as Muriel offering us some Beauty and Make-up Tips, and of course, the tea and biscuits.

God Bless you all

Marie



From our Remembrance **Book for September**

In Loving Memory og

lst	Doreen Bennett	26th
lst	Irene Rider	28th

Mary Monk 28th **Ernest Wright** 30th Alice Schofield

If you would like a name added to the Betty Lawrie Remembrance Book, please contact the

Ken Smith

Kitty Green

Vicar or Churchwarden

William Stanley Chadwick

26th Harry Green 26th Eric Hughes

Family Purse

DATE	STEWARDSHIP	GIFT AID	S.ORDERS	LOOSE PLATE
11 May	50.00	80.00		35.00
18 May	141.00	96.00	919.50	26.86
25 May	92.00	105.00		49.03
l Jun	44.00	48.41		7.70
8 Jun	230.50	118.00	959.50	25.95
15 Jun	36.00	71.00		29.72
22 Jun	50.00	74.10		25.85
29 Jun	115.50	98.70		19.39
6 Jul	73.00	74.00		9.83
13 Jul	49.00	55.50		31.00

Acknowledgements

The PCC would like to thank all those who have kindly made donations to St James' Church

donacions	to St James Charen
16 May	Fondest memories of my dear husband Gordon Milner from his wife Doreen – 100.00
18 May	Sale of Easter chicks – 65.00
30 May	Thanks for help at Cycle Jumble – 50.00
3 Jun	Donation towards Fun Day, Barbara and Michael Banks – 20.00
8 Jun	In loving memory of a dear dad and grandad (Albert Norris) from Margaret, Tom and Stuart – 50.00
13 Jul	To St James from Croston Singers – 95.00
13 Jul	In loving memory of my daughter Karen Ball, 18/07/21 – 50.00
15 Jul	Donation from Margaret Rimmer – 20.00
15 Jul	Heskin School PTFA – 130.00
29 Jun	In memory of Danny Winstone – 160.00
29 Jun	Towards Smarties – Kathleen Cooper – 20.00
Graveyard	Donations
25 May	Graveyard Donations - Towards a new strimmer - M Green £150
8 Jun	From Cathy Pass - proceeds from "miles walked" £40
15 Jun	In loving memory of husband George and son Philip Thistletwaite from Phyllis £50
29 Jun	From Attic Sale £200
10 lul	From Attic Sale - C Iones £100

36 Club Draw May 2025

PRIZE	TICKET NO	NAME
£50	138	Mervyn Saunders
£40	8	Doreen Hoddinott
£30	55	Linda Ball
£20	2	Elizabeth McAvoy
£20	48	Rachael Baron

36 Club Draw June 2025

£50	75	Linda Ball
£40	2	Elizabeth McAvoy
£30	40	Peter & Ann Rowley
£20	85	Cathy Pass
£20		Joan & Barry King

Please see Sue Wild if you wish to join the scheme.

Thank you to all our members, you have enabled us to make a donation to church funds in the following sum:

Income for year 2024/25 - £4656 (130 members)

Prizes for the year - £2560

Balance left over to give to St James - £2096

Thank you again and we look forward to your continued support in 2025/26

Subs are now due.

From the Registers

HOLY MATRIMONY

"Those whom God hath joined together"

l Jun	Matthew Sinker and Danielle Andrews
I4 Jun	Jonathan Lawrenson and Zara James
16 Jun	Robbie Hunter and Danielle Hilton

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

"May the Souls of the Faithful Departed Rest in Peace"

26 Jun Michael Danny Winstone Here is the next thrilling episode of the History of our area by Jonathan Ormesher

FAITH AND VALOR: A CIVIL WAR SAGA OF WRIGHTINGTON, HESKIN & TUNLEY

Episode 3:The Lion Roars

Wrightington & Bolton - Summer 1644. Mid-summer sun beat down on Wrightington Hall as Sir Edward Wrightington dismounted, his boots still stained with battle dust. A column of weary Royalist cavalry clattered into the courtyard. They had returned home victorious after weeks of hard campaigning - yet triumph was mixed with grim silence.

Sir Edward addressed a gathering of anxious villagers from Wrightington, Heskin, and Tunley. "Bolton has fallen to the King's forces, and Liverpool too is ours. Parliament's grip on Lancashire is broken - for now," he announced. A cheer tried to erupt, but it faltered when Sir Edward raised a gauntleted hand. "Pray for the souls lost," he added heavily.

James helped an injured neighbour off his horse, recalling the harrowing scenes he had witnessed. Only days after the relief of Lathom, he had marched with Prince Rupert's army to assault the staunch Puritan town of Bolton. The memory of that battle was seared into his mind. Royalist soldiers stormed through breaches in Bolton's walls, furious at the town's stubborn resistance. The streets ran red with blood. James had seen grim-faced Cavaliers cutting down militia who had already thrown down their arms. Even women and children were not spared in the chaos of the sack.

Inside Bolton's smouldering churchyard, James had stumbled upon a wounded Parliamentarian officer lying among the fallen. To his shock, it was Captain Thomas Wilson - his friend, barely conscious and bleeding from a sword slash. A triumphant Royalist trooper raised his sword to finish Thomas off. "No!" James shouted, rushing forward. He thrust himself between the soldier and the injured man.

"Stand aside, lad," growled the trooper, eyes wild from battle. "These Puritans deserve no mercy. Bolton's getting its due reward."

James stood firm, heart pounding. "The fight's over. He's unarmed and hurt. In God's name, no more killing." The trooper hesitated, the fire of anger in his eyes flickering uncertainly. Sir Edward's commanding voice suddenly rang out nearby:

"Enough! We are not butchers." Chastened, the trooper lowered his blade and stalked off. Kneeling, James pressed a cloth to Thomas's wound. His friend's eyes fluttered open, glazed with pain. Thomas managed a faint, wry smile of recognition. "Never thought... I'd owe you my life as well," he whispered weakly James felt tears prick his eyes. "We're quits now," he replied softly, recalling how Thomas had saved him outside Lathom. Under James's care, Thomas was passed to medics as a prisoner. James could only hope his friend would recover.

Now, back at Wrightington Hall, James still grappled with what he had seen in Bolton. Father Brennan - who had survived the earlier violence at Heskin - moved among the returning men offering blessings.

When he reached James, the young man blurted, "Father, our side took vengeance without mercy. How can God be pleased by such a victory?" He recalled the screams in Bolton's streets and shuddered. "I thought we fought for a just cause... but what I saw—

The priest placed a reassuring hand on James's shoulder. "War tests all souls, my son," Father Brennan said sadly. "Even the godly can fall to wrath. Remember, 'Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

James nodded, trying to absorb the scripture's meaning. He realised that in sparing Thomas, he had chosen mercy over hate, and perhaps that was the only way to keep his faith untarnished.

Sir Edward joined them, brow furrowed. "James, your father needs you in Heskin. Go to him - he's anxious for word." Indeed, John Molyneux had remained at home to safeguard the family and would be eager to hear of the campaign. James mounted a fresh horse and rode out, his thoughts heavy.

The ride from Wrightington to Heskin Hall took him past hamlets scarred by war. He saw burnt farmsteads and fresh graves by the roadside. At a crossroad, a tattered Parliamentary banner hung limply from an oak - a remnant of a defeated militia. James wondered how many more tears Lancashire would shed before this war ended.

Reaching Heskin Hall, James embraced his father tightly. John's eyes were filled with both relief and worry as he examined his son's weary face. Over supper, James recounted the fall of Bolton and Liverpool. "It was victory, Father," James said softly, staring into his cup, "but at what price? So much blood. I fear God's anger for the things I've seen done."

John nodded gravely. He too bore the weight of the war's moral burdens. "I received a letter from an old friend in Bolton," he said. "He described the massacre... calls Prince Rupert a devil. The Parliamentarians will not soon forget or forgive." John sighed. " This war is ripping our very land in two - neighbor against neighbor. We must hold true to our conscience now more than ever."

Late that evening, a small celebration was held in Heskin village to welcome James and other returning Royalists. Bonfires crackled and ale flowed as villagers cautiously rejoiced in the King's recent victories. Music and laughter briefly chased away the gloom of war. James even managed a smile as little children tugged at his sleeve, begging for tales of battle.

But the merriment was interrupted by the clatter of hoofbeats. A breathless courier galloped into the village green, his horse lathered in sweat, "News from the north!" he cried, dismounting shakily. "Prince Rupert has been defeated at Marston Moor. Our northern army is scattered - Parliament has won a great victory."

A hush fell over the crowd. James felt as if the ground had dropped beneath him. All their gains in Lancashire suddenly teetered on a knife's edge. John crossed himself, murmuring a prayer for the souls lost in the distant battle. Around the fire, faces turned from jubilation to fear. If the King's mighty army had been crushed in Yorkshire, what hope remained for them?

James set his jaw, standing near the flickering bonfire light. He thought of Lady Derby's unvielding faith at Lathom, of Father Brennan's counsel, of Thomas's life spared. The war was far from over and darker days might lie ahead. But he also remembered the biblical promise that "weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning." In his heart, James resolved to continue the fight for what was just and to guard his soul against despair.

As the villagers drifted home under the somber night sky, James looked up at the stars. Somewhere out there, General Oliver Cromwell and the Parliamentarian armies were celebrating their triumph at Marston Moor. The lion of Royalism had roared loud in Lancashire, but now it had been checked. Royalist victories in Lancashire now stood in peril after this defeat. What came next was uncertain.

Shouldering his musket, James silently vowed to stay true to his faith and honour, come what may. The flame of hope in Wrightington, Heskin, and Tunley would not be easily extinguished.

Diary for August 2025

3		9.00am 10.30am 5.00pm	SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY No Holy Communion Family Service No 30@5
6	Wed	10.30am	No Play & Praise Toddler Group
10		9.00am 10.30am 5.00pm	No Holy Communion Family Service No 30@5
12	Tues		No meeting of Mothers Union this month
13	Wed	10.30 to 12	Bikes/Brews & Biscuits- Church Hall
13	Wed	10.30am	No Play & Praise Toddler Group
17		9.00am 10.30am 12.00 noon 5.00pm	No Holy Communion Family Service 36 Club Draw No 30@5
19	Tues	-7-3	No PCC or Prayer Meeting this month
20	Wed	10.30am	No Play & Praise Toddler Group
24		TENTH SU 9.00am 10.30am 5.00pm	NDAY AFTER TRINITY No Holy Communion Family Service No 30@5
25	Mon	35	No Vineyard meeting this month
27	Wed	10.30 to 12	Bikes/Brews & Biscuits - church hall
27	Wed	10.30am	No Play & Praise Toddler Group
27	Wed	3.00pm	Wedding – David Laraway and Ruth Angela Laraway
31		9.00am 10.30am 5.00pm	No Holy Communion Holy Communion - David Ward No 30@5

September 2025

I	Mon	9.00am	Heskin School re-opens after holidays
3	Wed	10.30am	No Play & Praise Toddler Group
7		TWELVETH 9.00am 10.30am 5.00pm	SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY Holy Communion - to be advised Holy Communion - to be advised 30@5
8	Mon	10.00am	Craft and Chat in the church hall £3.00 - come along and join us with your choice of craft
9	Tues	7.30pm	Mother's Union – Beauty & Make-up Tips from Muriel Fox
10	Wed	10.30am	Play & Praise Toddler Group
12	Fri	7.00pm	Cathy's Quiz with BYO Drinks & Snacks In the Church Hall
14			TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
		9.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion - David Gaskell Holy Communion - David Gaskell
		5.00pm	30@5
17	Wed	10.30am	Play & Praise Toddler Group
21		9.00am 10.30am 12.00 noon 5.00pm	TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY Holy Communion - to be advised Holy Communion - to be advised 36 Club Draw 30@5
22	Mon	10.00am	Craft and Chat in the church hall £3.00 - come along and join us with your choice of craft
23	Tues	6.00pm	Prayer Meeting in the church hall
	Tues	7.00pm	PCC Meeting in church hall
24	Wed	10.30am	Play & Praise Toddler Group
28		9.00am 10.30am 5.00pm	SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY Holy Communion - to be advised Holy Communion - David Ward 30@5
29	Mon	7.30pm	No Vineyard this month



Date for your calendar - Quiz Night in September Everyone welcome including children age 8+ Lots of different rounds so something for everyone. Cost £5 adults, £2.50 children. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Brews will be served in

Dates for Fundraising Events 2025 at St James the Great. Wrightington with Heskin

the interval. Raffle prizes welcome.

October 5th Harvest Sunday service – followed by lunch and open church

> Saturday November 1st Bonfire and Firework Display Start at 5pm

November 9th Remembrance Sunday – Art Exhibition weekend

> Saturday November 22nd Christmas Fair from 12noon to 2pm (Collect grave pots - 30th November)

> > Saturday November 29th Tunley Christmas Fair

WALKING IN MAY

I am pleased to report that I achieved my personal challenge of walking at least a mile a day in May, resulting in 40 miles in total and that amount has been donated to the churchyard fund.

It was a challenge I enjoyed and felt healthier for the regular exercise. Having a goal was very motivational and perhaps next time others may take up the challenge too.

Regards Cathy - Vision Champion

BIKES. BREWS AND BISCUITS!

This is a new group which will run during school holidays in the grounds of the church hall. We are inviting families with toddlers and children of primary age (5-11) to bring their bicycles, scooters, sit on tractor, pram and doll to the church hall car park and enjoy the outdoor space. An area will be screened off so away from parked vehicles.

The garden will be available to enjoy brews and biscuits, cordial will be provided for the children. Cost is £2 per child and £1 per adult.

Dates are Wed 30th July, Wed 13th and 27th Aug. Come along anytime between 10.30 and 12 noon. For further details or to express interest please contact Cathy on 07977 519597



SMARTIES IN SEPTEMBER

This a new fundraising challenge whereby the PCC will give each Heskin Pemberton school pupil a tube of Smarties after the Waring Treat in church on 9th July. We then invite each family to refill one or more tubes with 20p's. A full tube will hold £10 and we are asking for full tubes to be returned to church anytime in September. There will be a few tubes left at the back of church for anyone else to take up the challenge.

CRAFT AND CHAT

Starting in September every fortnight on Monday mornings 10-12noon.

Bring your own craft - knitting, crochet, sewing, card making, whatever your skill is and enjoy crafting over a coffee and chat. Look out for the start date on the Sunday sheet.

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Hello from everyone at Heskin Pemberton's.

It's been a busy end to our school year with so many marvellous events taking place at school.

First, our fantastic PTFA organsised a spectacular, enjoyable and exciting Colour Run. This was a wonderful family event with over 100 runners taking part. Our 'paint throwers' ensured that everyone was completely covered by the end of the run...although one or two people got a little over excited



and a little over exuberant in their paint distribution (Mr Tranah & Mrs Stringfellow)! What a great time we had! I can't wait for the next one.



Next on the list, was our Summer Fair & Sports Pay. The weather, once again, was very kind to us and our children ran their hearts out throughout the afternoon. Watching all our children support each other and cheer each other on is so heart-warming. This really is one of my favourite events of the year. As soon as the Sports Pay had finished, our Summer Fair began, We had a many different stalls, a bouncy castle, a lovely BBQ and, more importantly, a fantastic atmosphere. What a great day!

As well as Sports Day, the Summer Term has brought a whole host of sporting events for the children of Heskin. Our two football teams won the Cluster Football Tournament at Bishop Rawstorne, our swimming Team won the Chorley & District Swimming Gala as well as the Chorley Swimming Cannon and our



Netball Team was crowned the Cluster Champions! What a sporty bunch!

Finally, we were treated to a theatrical and musical extravaganza as our children performed The School of Pop at the Church Hall. It was a moving production with great acting and wonderful singing. I know that the children worked their socks off this year and all their effort was definitely not in vain. The audiences loved the shows and the children, as always, were amazing,

I hope you've enjoyed reading about the fun and enjoyment we all share at Heskin Pemberton's. Please feel free to visit our website if you would like to know more about our school, www.heskinpembertons.co.uk Love, prayers & best Wishes, Alan Brindle, Head Teacher

The Waring Treat: Honouring Our Youngest Pilgrims

By Jonathan Ormesher, Chair of Governors & Churchwarden

On Wednesday 10th July, St James Church once again opened its doors to host one of the longest-standing traditions in our parish calendar, the Waring Treat and Leavers' Service for Heskin Pemberton's CE Primary School.

This annual event, which dates back well over a century, marks an important moment in the lives of the school's Year 6 pupils as they prepare to move on to secondary school. It's also a joyful celebration of the whole school community, from our smallest Reception children, just starting their journey, to those about to take their next big step.

As Chair of Governors, I had the great privilege of presenting Bibles to the leavers, a gift from the governing body to remind them that wherever life takes them, they carry the light and wisdom of their faith with them. Although I didn't speak during the service this time (something I hope to grow into), it was an honour simply to be part of the occasion.

The children, as ever, were a credit to the school, thoughtful, respectful, and full of the energy that makes school life such a joy to witness. There's always something deeply moving about seeing the whole school gathered in church, especially for those of us who wear more than one hat. In my case, being both Chair of Governors and Churchwarden offers a rare and meaningful vantage point, the chance to see just how closely school and church life are interwoven.

This year's service was made even more special by the presence of Andrew Waring, the guest of honour, who is direct descendant of Isaac Waring, who established the Waring Treat all those years ago. His attendance reminded us that these aren't just events on a calendar, they are threads in a much larger tapestry of shared memory and community heritage.

It's heartening to know that amidst all the changes in education, in technology, and even in church life, some traditions still stand, gently, faithfully, and meaningfully.

Let us continue to hold these young people in prayer as they move forward, and may the Waring Treat continue for another hundred years, blessing generation after generation of our village children.

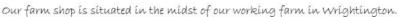




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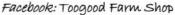
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AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2025 ROTAS

DATE	SIDESPERSON	READER	STEWARDSHIP	TEA/COFFEE
3 rd August 7 th Sunday after Trinity	G Speakman P Rowley M Barlow	M Mason A Sharples	M Taylor D Hoddinott	P Waring J Crompton
10th August 8 th Sunday after Trinity	M Rowley A Sharples J Fowler	C Pass E Gerrard	S Crawford E Gerrard	M Green C Pass
17 th August 9 th Sunday after Trinity	H Orme P Britton J Crompton	H Orme J Fowler	P Wellby J Crompton	J Deardon M Barlow
24 th August 10 th Sunday after Trinity	M Morris P Rowley M Barlow	M Morris S Crawford	M Taylor P Rowley	D Hoddinott C Hayden
31 st August 11 th Sunday after Trinity	G Speakman A Sharples J Fowler	M Mason E Nelson	A Sharples D Hoddinott	M Walsh S Crawford
7 th September 12 th Sunday after Trinity	M Rowley P Britton J Crompton	C Pass M Fiddler	M Taylor E Gerrard	P Waring J Crompton
14 th September 13 th Sunday after Trinity	H Orme P Rowley M Barlow	H Orme E Gerrard	P Wellby J Crompton	J Robinson S Wild
21 st September 14 th Sunday after Trinity	M Morris J Fowler	M Morris J Fowler	D Hoddinott S Crawford	M Green C Pass
28 th September 15 th Sunday after Trinity	G Speakman P Britton J Crompton	M Mason E Nelson	M Taylor E Gerrard	J Deardon M Barlow
5 th October Harvest Sunday 16 th Sunday after Trinity	H Orme P Rowley M Barlow	H Ome A Sharples	A Sharples P Rowley	D Hoddinott C Hayden

If you are unable to undertake your task on the rota, please either exchange with someone else or contact Anne 01257 424105/07900 633905.

If you wish your name to be added to the list please see Anne.

