

St. John the Evangelist,

Walton



Open Door

Bringing people to Jesus



St. John's, Walton

October & November 2025



Details of information in this magazine and more can be found at
www.stjohnschurchwalton.org.uk
and
www.facebook.com/stjohnswalton/



Sunday and Regular Services

Sunday /Morning Service 9.30 am

Please note new time

Morning Worship — 1st and 3rd Sundays

Holy Communion — 2nd and 4th Sundays

++

5th Sunday Holy Communion Service 9.30am

++

These services will be live streamed through our website:

<https://stjohnschurchwalton.org.uk/>

**Holy Communion
Sunday Service**

8.30 am

1st & 3rd Sundays only

**Wednesday
Celtic Service**

10.00 am

Special Services

Sunday 5th October

Harvest Festival @ 9.30 am

—

Sunday 9th November

Act of Remembrance

Lower Walton War Memorial

@ 9.30am

Remembering Service

St. John's Church

@ 4.00pm

Reminder

5th Sunday Holy

Communion Service

30th November @ 9.30am

All are welcome

If you would like to give to the work and ministry of St. John's you can use the QR code below, click on this link bit.ly/give-st-johns, or type it into your browser, to take you to our online giving website.

With many thanks.



Contact Details

Vicar: Rev. Jo Mackriell

Tel: 01925 968729

Mobile: 0735954362

Email: rev4jo@gmail.com

Lay Reader

Mr. I. Jerrard-Dinn — 01925 265 557

Lay Reader

Mr. K. Fletcher — 07359 445564

Pastoral Worker + Safeguarding Officer

Mrs. G. Povey-Robins — 07970 983 308

Church Warden

Mr. T. Robins — 01925 261 922

Church Warden

Mr. C. Lloyd — 01925 212 644

Treasurer

Mr. M. Weeks — 07972 845174

P.C.C. Secretary

Mrs. N. Chadwick — 01925 263 449

A letter to the Parish

Dear Friends,

Waiting is often difficult and stressful. I have had to wait to join you in Walton since early April and so much has happened in that time. My husband Peter and I have moved from Mid-Wales to Daresbury, Garden Village, for me to become the vicar of both St John's and All Saints' Daresbury. We are beginning to find our feet, and the million and one other things that have moved with us.

When Jesus sent out his disciples; he told them: "Take nothing for the journey — no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no extra shirt." After emptying so many boxes, I decided that Jesus definitely had a point!

We cling on to possessions in the hope that someday they will be useful, but often they just get in the way of what is really important. For me, that is my faith; God has seen me through many difficult times, I know that He is always with me wherever I am. My family and friends are important too, they know me and love me for who I am, just like the God who created me.

So, if you sometimes feel overwhelmed by stuff, stress or situations, know that God is always there for you. St John's has a service every Sunday at 9.30am and you would be most welcome to join us. I am looking forward to getting to know the people of Walton and serving God in this place.

Love from

Rev. Jo



Rev. Jo's Welcome

It was with much joy and celebration that we welcomed Rev. Jo at her service of Licensing at All Saints', Daresbury.

Her Induction as Incumbent of St. John's had taken place an hour earlier, with all the legal requirements being met at this spoken service, prior to Rev. Jo, her husband Peter, Bishop Mark, Lord Daresbury, Lay Readers Ian and Keith, Pastoral Worker Gill and our two wardens, Tony and Chris, making their way to Daresbury.

Members of both congregations, plus Jo and Peter's family and friends from further afield, filled the pews. There was much love, humour and camaraderie throughout the whole of the proceedings, whereby Rev. Jo was formally licensed as Priest in Charge of All Saints'. Representatives from both Parishes took part in the service.

The evening was rounded off with refreshments and mingling.



Have you heard?

... just some things to ponder

... on faith



"Hope is the foundation of patience."

John Calvin

"Because of God's grace, failure is never final."

Anon

"Don't give up on yourself. God doesn't. Even Moses was once a basket case."

Anon

"It is only with gratitude towards God that life becomes rich."

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Dates for your diary

Prayer Groups

2nd Tuesday Lady Chapel 6.30pm
4th Wednesday Lady Chapel 11.00am

October

Tuesday 14th
Wednesday 22nd

November

Tuesday 11th
Wednesday 26th



If you would like to join us it would be great to see you

Knit and Natter

1.30pm—3.30pm

Church Community Hall



October

Tuesday 7th
Tuesday 21st

November

Tuesday 4th
Tuesday 18th

Tuesday Group

7.15 – 9.00 pm

Church Community Hall



October

7th
14th
21st
28th

November

4th
11th
18th
25th

DON'T FORGET!!!!



Clocks move back on the
26th of October.

British summertime ends!

St. John's Church Walton

JOIN US FOR AUTUMN CRAFT MORNING

Fun, Brews, Biscuits, and Joy Await



All are welcome
18th OCTOBER 2025
10:30am-12:00noon



St John's Church, Walton invite you to their annual

CHRISTMAS MINI MARKET

Saturday 22nd November
St John's Church Community Hall
12 – 2pm

HOT FOOD SERVED

Stalls, cakes, tombola, raffle

Children's Craft
Activity

£1 to see me
from 12.30
-1pm

FREE entry



Looking forward...

**St. John's Ensemble
Christmas Concert**
6th December



Prayer pages



A prayer for our new vicar & those around her

Eternal Father, we thank you for the licensing of our new vicar Jo, and look forward to what the future has in store for our fellowship under her leadership.

We pray that you will help Jo and her husband, Peter, to settle into their new home, community and roles. Be with them as they explore Walton, Daresbury, and the surrounding area, and meet and make new friends.

We also pray for the friends and Christian communities Jo & Peter have left behind following their move here; guide them as they make decisions about their own future.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen



A Harvest Prayer

from The Trussell Trust

Loving God,

Thank you for the many ways in which you provide for us: Food, family, friendship, housing, health, happiness, and ways to use our time and talents.

We lift to you too the ways in which we remain in need of these things.

God of generosity, may your kingdom come.

We pray for people in our community and beyond: those who are facing unemployment, ill-health, isolation or money worries at this time, and especially for those who are unable to afford enough to eat.

We pray for supportive relationships, practical provision and real hope.

God of compassion, may your kingdom come.

Thank you that you call us to play our part, working with you and with others to bring about change.

We pray for political decision-makers and leaders: give them courage and insight to develop policies and systems that support the flourishing of all, so that even in challenging times, no-one goes hungry, and everyone has dignity.

God of justice, may your kingdom come.

Thank you for those who are serving and caring for others: in churches, in charities, and public services, in our neighbourhoods, in our homes, and in many other contexts. Give them strength, rest and perseverance.

As they work to support others, we ask that they too would receive all they need to thrive.

God of love, may your kingdom come.

Amen

<https://www.trusselltrust.org>

A Prayer for Remembrance Sunday 80 years after the end of the Second World War

God of all nations,
our refuge and our dwelling place,
we remember with thanksgiving all those who have died in active service.
This year we particularly reflect on those whose service and sacrifice achieved
Allied victory in Europe and the Pacific 80 years ago.
As we honour their courage and cherish their memory,
we hold before you all those who suffered
from the devastation and trauma of war,
and put our faith in your future.
Strengthen our resolve to pursue what makes for peace,
through the one in whom we are reconciled and made one,
even Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen. *(adapted from the Church of England website)*



A Prayer for Peace

O God of all hope and peace, we bring to you the needs of our broken and hurting world.
Our hearts are breaking with images of lives lost and torn apart by grief in Israel,
Palestine, Ukraine and so many other places around the globe.
We pray for an end to violence and warfare so that the challenging work
of rebuilding may begin. Help us, O Lord, to affirm our common humanity
so that in our differences we may build together for justice and peace.
In Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen *(adapted from the Church of England Website)*



Diocese and St. John's leadership and teaching

Loving God,
Thank you for all who feel called to
serve You in positions of leadership
and teaching. We pray for all Clergy,
Readers and Pastoral Workers within
the Chester Diocese and especially ask
your blessing on those within our own
midst here at St. John's — Rev. Jo, Ian,
Keith and Gill — as they minister to us
in the Parish of Walton.
We also thank you for, and ask your
blessing on, all visiting Clergy who
helped us so willingly and in such love
during our recent Vacancy. Amen

St. John's Prayer Chain



As part of our Pastoral Ministry
at St. John's some church
members make up our Prayer Chain. They
pray daily for those in need, with requests
normally being included for two weeks.
If you would like prayers to be offered on
behalf of yourself or someone for whom
you have a particular concern at this time,
then we would be pleased to do so.
To make a request please contact either
of the following:
Ian Jerrard-Dinn (Lay Reader)
on 01925 265 557
Gill Povey-Robins (Pastoral Worker)
on 07970 983 308

Collecting unwanted spectacles

Members of St John's Church have collected over 100 pairs of old spectacles. Thank you.

Sally collects and takes them to a local collection point where they are then sent on to be sorted out by Rotary Club members and then they are taken to Africa where they run diagnostic clinics to give the spectacles out to people who need them.

A big thank you to everyone and keep any old spectacles coming they can really help other people in need.

There is a tin at the back of church next to the foodbank for you to pop them in.

Thank you



Send your love with these flowers

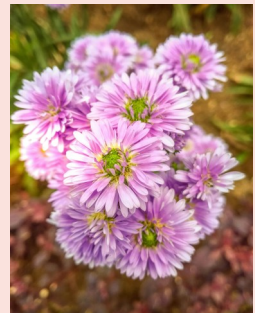
A flower used by Victorians when they wanted to send a 'hidden message' of love is making a big comeback.

It is the aster. It's popularity in bouquets has quadrupled in two years. Sales at Tesco alone have soared by nearly 350 per cent.

And no wonder: asters are vivid, fast-growing British flowers with a good vase life. They come in blue, purple, pink, dark pink, red and white – all with a bright yellow centre. They originally came from Japan and are related to dahlias and chrysanthemums.

The Victorians believed that asters symbolised love, patience, wisdom, elegance and grace. That made asters a sure winner for bearing discreet messages of affection.

More than five million were grown in the UK this year, so there must be a lot of love about!



As you tidy your garden for winter...

Gardens are preparing to go to sleep, but next Spring will soon be here. So why not consider some changes now:

- ~ Install a water butt now, to store up the winter rain for the Spring.
- ~ Reduce the hard standing in your garden. Instead, let rain soak into the soil, rather than go down a drain.
- ~ Plant something tall to create shade in your garden next year – the soil will remain wetter.
- ~ Put in more plants – the more you have, the more protection they give the ground. Try to use native species, as your local wild-life depends on them.
- ~ Consider adding a pond – it will be a great boost to your local wildlife!

What happens to Harvest Donations at St. John's?

For the past few years all donations for Harvest, that wonderful season of giving thanks for all that we have, have been shared between Warrington Food Bank and the Salvation Army.

The Salvation Army receive perishable items from which they make nutritious meals for those in need, while other gifts are warmly welcomed by the Food Bank.

In 2025 both very worthy causes will once more benefit from the generosity of your Harvest giving.

A heartfelt thank you.

Some anniversaries from **October** and **November**

750 years ago, on 27th Oct 1275 the city of Amsterdam in the Netherlands is traditionally considered to have been founded.

200 years ago, on 25th Oct 1825 Johann Strauss II, was born. This Austrian composer is best known for his waltzes, including *The Blue Danube*.

20 years ago, on 3rd Oct 2005 Ronnie Barker, TV comedian, actor and writer, died. Best loved programmes were *The Frost Report*, *The Two Ronnies*, *Porridge*, *Going Straight* and *Open All Hours*.

100 years ago, on 10th November 1925 Richard Burton, Welsh stage and film actor was born.

80 years ago, on 16th November 1945 UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, was founded.

75 years ago, on 2nd November 1950 the Irish playwright and literary critic, George Bernard Shaw, died. His best known play was *Pygmalion* was his best known work, and in 1925 was winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature.

I cried unto the Lord with my voice;... I poured out my complaint before Him; I shewed before Him my trouble. (Psalm 142:1,2 KJV)

Perhaps it is a British thing, but we do not like to complain, do we? But the psalmist was not British, so he did not mind complaining – even to God, we are told. Nowadays, most large organisations, especially public bodies, want us to complain if something is wrong, because good service standards are important. They have well designed complaints systems and independent ombudsmen to oversee it all.

The first thing is to try to resolve an issue informally. If this has not worked, use the proper procedure. You can probably find how to on the company's website.

Be precise about what you are complaining about. Be clear – use account numbers, references and dates. Put in the names of persons involved, if you know them. Do not leave it too long because most procedures have deadlines.

Keep it short, simple and to the point. Ask a friend to look at it first, to make sure they understand what you are complaining about. Be firm but polite and business-like – you are more likely to be listened to. It may be helpful to use numbered points, in date order. Keep a note of dates. Be reasonable. It may be an apology will suffice, but do not be fobbed off.

Think about what outcome you want. Is it an apology? If so, get a genuine apology. If you are told “we are sorry you felt let down” that is not an apology; “We let you down” is. Perhaps you want the organisation to change their ways so something bad does not happen to other people. And another thing: if you get a good service from someone, tell the company. It might make their day.

Remembering your loved ones at St John's

Have you thought about celebrating or remembering a special event or person by sponsoring the flowers at St. John's? We would love to hear from you.

Please contact Christine Hughes on 01925 210 792 to discuss a donation.



Baptisms

Blake Palmer

Harry Albert Patrick Dean

The Poppy Appeal – could you help by giving some time this autumn?



The 2025 Poppy Appeal is launched in the month of October.

The Poppy is a powerful symbol worn by people right across the UK to commemorate the sacrifices of our Armed Forces and to show support to those still serving today.

The Royal British Legion was first set up to help those returning from the First World War. Almost a century on, they're still helping today's Service people, veterans, and their families coping with bereavement, living with disability or finding employment.

However, the Poppy Appeal would not be able to continue without the dedication of the teams of volunteers who stand in the streets, shops and supermarkets. Each town and village has their own Poppy Appeal Organiser - also a volunteer - who runs these teams, arranges for cover, drops off and collects the boxes.

The Poppy Appeal is always grateful for the work of these dedicated people, but the volunteers say they proud to be selling Poppies to show support for those who sacrificed their lives for us.

If you want to volunteer, or if you would like a visit from a local volunteer who can speak to your community/church group, please go to:

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/volunteer>.

Health and Care Sunday 2025

19th October

Health and Care Sunday is an initiative of Christian healthcare organisations in the UK and Ireland. It aims to give local churches an annual opportunity to affirm and support the work done by the members of their congregation and local community who work in health and social care.

Most churches include someone who is a doctor, nurse, care assistant, social care worker, occupational therapist, hospital administrator, porter, cleaner, ward secretary, laboratory staff or chaplain, as well as people serving in many other roles.

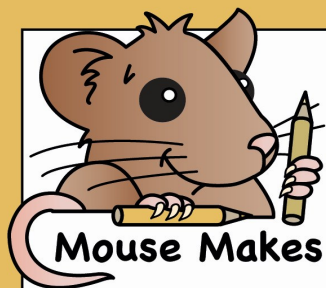
This is an opportunity for churches to pray for them and encourage them as they work in health and social care in our community.

Health and Care Sunday is sponsored by the Christian Medical Fellowship (CMF) and held on the Sunday closest to St Luke's Day (18th October). *St Luke is the patron saint of physicians.*

More info at: <https://www.cmf.org.uk/health-and-care-sunday>

For the children

(and young at heart!)



Mouse Makes

"Let us fear and respect the Lord our God.
He gives **autumn** and **spring** rains
at the right time. He makes sure that we
have the harvest at just the right **time**."

- from Jeremiah 5:24

"God... gives you **rain** from
heaven and good harvests
at the right times. He gives
you plenty of **food** and
fills your hearts with **joy**."

- from Acts 14:16-17

"May the people **praise** you **God**...
The **land yields** its harvest, God,
our God **blesses** us."

- from Psalm 67:5-6

"**Honour** the
Lord with your
wealth and the
first part of
your **harvest**."

- Proverbs 3:9

"So the one who **plants** is not
important, and the one who **waters**
is not important. Only **GOD** is
important because He is the one
who makes things **grow**."

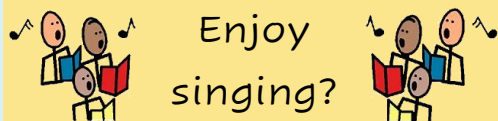
- 1 Corinthians 3:7

D	E	B	R	E	A	D	C	R	O	P	S
A	P	L	A	N	T	S	G	T	I	M	E
S	L	O	I	J	B	P	R	A	I	S	E
C	O	R	N	O	L	R	A	H	G	O	D
A	U	D	H	Y	E	I	I	A	S	L	S
T	G	R	O	W	S	N	N	R	O	W	E
T	H	A	N	K	S	G	I	V	I	N	G
E	F	U	O	W	E	Y	I	E	L	D	S
R	O	T	U	T	S	I	L	S	O	W	O
M	O	U	R	U	R	W	A	T	E	R	S
D	M	A	B	A	R	N	P	I	C	K	
S	U	N	F	I	E	L	D	R	E	A	P

Find the words in **bold** type in the bible quotes in the
wordsearch then look for the words below too!

PLOUGH • FIELD • SOIL • SCATTER • SOW • SEEDS • SUN
REAP • PICK • CROPS • GRAIN • CORN • BARN • BREAD • THANKSGIVING

Social goings on



St. John's Ensemble

meets In **Church**
on

Thursday from 7.30 pm

Why not come along and
join us?

Ability to read music a help
but not essential.



Feeling lonely?

Fancy a cuppa?



Why not come along to

St. John's Knit and Natter

(You don't **have** to do any knitting)

1st and 3rd Tuesday
of the month

Church Community Hall

1.30pm — 3.30pm

Guaranteed a warm welcome

For more details please contact

Mrs. G. Hatch on 01925 262315

OR

Mrs. G. Bruce on 07876 058934

Tuesday Group

Want to learn more about God and the Christian faith outside the formal setting of Church?

Friendly, ordinary folk getting to grips with what living in the 21st Century means for their personal faith.

If you're interested, please speak to Noelle
or contact her via noelle_briggs@hotmail.co.uk



Did you know?

St John's Church Community Hall is available for hire

Situated in the heart of Walton village

Suitable for

parties societies and clubs fitness classes a rehearsal
local community meetings

- ♦ Grade 2 listed building
- ♦ 2 rooms available for hire:
The Walton Room (capacity 49) and the Daresbury Room (capacity 27)
- ♦ Kitchen
- ♦ Disabled toilet and baby change facilities

Bookings are available for local groups or private hire.

Please contact Nina Chadwick on 07840119659 or

Christine Hughes on 01925 210 792.



Raise a smile;

Wear out

Three little boys were bragging about how tough they were. "I'm so tough," said the first boy, "that I can wear out a pair of shoes in a week."

"Well," said the second little boy, "I'm so tough, I can wear out a pair of jeans in a day."

"That's nothing," said the third boy. "When my parents take me to see my grandma and grandpa, I can wear them out in just one hour."



RIGBY LENNON & Co

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
& BUSINESS ADVISORS

Free initial consultation

The Annex, Walton Lodge, Hillcliffe Road
Walton, Warrington, WA4 6NU

Tel: 01925 636671

Email: rl@rigbylennon.co.uk

Note from the editor

Every effort is made to produce a magazine which looks inviting and contains correct information, spelling, and grammar. However, no-one and nothing is perfect (especially myself), hence errors can get missed, both in production and proof-reading (done by someone else). As you peruse 'Open Door' award yourself 5 points when you find any mistakes which have escaped correction. Have fun! Hopefully you won't find too many! No need to report back.

Microbitz Computers

THE LARGEST SELECTION OF REFURBISHED
LAPTOPS IN WARRINGTON!

iPAD AND iPHONE REPAIRS

- iPAD/iPHONE REPLACEMENT SCREENS FITTED
- WE ALSO REPLACE CHARGING PORTS ON APPLE PRODUCTS AS WELL AS ALL LAPTOPS



Tel: 01925 414 131

104 Gainsborough Road, Warrington, WA4 6BN Email: sales@microbitz.com

Printed by www.openhouseprint.co.uk

Acknowledgements

www.parishpump.co.uk — for some of the articles and graphics included

FURNESS RIGBY

**Quality cars & a professional service
since 1988**

- Independent dealership supplying cars with verified backgrounds and service history.
- Stock of over 50 cars on site.
- Cars sourced to order.
- Finance and extended warranties available.



Millbank,
Chester Road,
Walton,
WA4 6EW

Open 7 days
01925 262500

www.furnessrigby.co.uk

If you would like to
place an advert for
your business in
Open Door please
get in touch with
Nina Chadwick on
07840 119 659

Reasonable rates

1ST CHOICE HANDYMAN

FULLY INSURED

NO JOB TOO SMALL

DBS CHECKED

Any odd jobs around the home or office

Gutters cleaned/repaired/ renewed

Garden sheds re-felted

Flat Packs (IKEA, B&Q, etc) erected

Showers/Baths resealed

Joinery work

Patio/drives jet washed

Garden gates supplied and fitted

Contact Wayne on:

07808 044 383 or 01925 820 481



IN-HOUSE MOBILE OPTICIANS

**Can't get to the opticians?
We will visit you!**

Over 100
★★★★★
reviews
online

FREE NHS HOME EYE TESTS for the housebound, elderly and those with physical or mental disabilities.

● **FREE** delivery and aftercare included.

● We treat our patients with courtesy and respect.

● Fully qualified and **NHS** registered opticians.

**01925 210006 | www.mobile-optician.co.uk |
info@mobile-optician.co.uk**

Magazine issues

December/January

February/March

April/May

June/July

August/September

October/November

Open Door

Editorial Team

"Let Him lead me to the banquet hall, and let His banner over me is love."

Song of Songs 2:4

I like a good harvest festival. *'Come, Ye Thankful People, Come'*, *'For the Fruits of His Creation'*, *'Now Thank We All Our God'* and my favourite, *'We Plough the Fields and Scatter'*, the last one is not everyone's favourite but I like it. It reminds me of school assembly and a teacher who pointed out the words sound like ploughing fields and then running away. I can remember the fields near where I lived and seeing the tractor followed by flocks of birds, eager for food.

Harvest is about being thankful for God's provision and how the harvest, in this part of the world at least, never fails. No matter how dry or wet the growing seasons are, we always get a harvest.

I enjoy a good harvest lunch. We used to have really good ones in the parish, and it brought out people who were not regular church goers but occasional attenders, mainly when food was on the table. I like a buffet because you can choose what you want and how much of it, and if you are clever, you can get two helpings. My advice is let the polite people go first, as they eat little and then go for it when most people have had their fill. No! don't be greedy but do tuck in and make sure you help others.

God invites us to a banquet where there is plenty to eat for everyone and everyone makes sure all have their fill.

"For where two or three gather in My name, there am I with them." *Matthew 18:20*

You can get most things whenever you want these days. We had three services recently in one day at our local church. Not much to brag about I suppose, but for us in small rural village it was encouraging. It was hard work having several times for worship, but there is something rather marvellous about a church being used nearly all day long. Some people came once, others twice and a few three times.

More than one weekly service was the pattern of worship for centuries. There would be a continual cycle of prayer and worship, and up until quite recently there would be two or three services every Sunday. On high days such as Easter and Christmas the vicar and curate would start in the early hours, and continue through midday, afternoon and evening. I wonder what happened to change this and make a single service the norm. I suppose television happened! People wanted to stay at home and watch the box, and church attendances fell.

Perhaps we should start having more services again. It suits some of us to have an early service, because then you have the rest of the day to do whatever you like. Other people are busy during Sunday, and so an evening service fits their needs. "People will not come" or "we cannot ask the vicar" some will say. Well, what about more lay led services? Every church is different and what suits one will not work in the neighbouring parish, but what do you think?

Both the above reflections have been written by David Pickup, a solicitor.

Some words spoken by Jesus:

"... I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" John 10: Vs10