

**Newchurch, Croft and Winwick
Group Ministry**

**Readings and Services for
for Sunday 30 August 2026**

Collect

Almighty God,
you search us and know us:
may we rely on you in strength
and rest on you in weakness,
now and in all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 12.9-end

Marks of the True Christian

9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' ²⁰No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Matthew 16.21-end

Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection

21 From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' ²³But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

The Cross and Self-Denial

24 Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

27 'For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

Post Communion Prayer

God our creator,
you feed your children with the true manna,
the living bread from heaven:
let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage
until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Services this week

Tuesday 1 September @ 10.00am : Holy Communion in Newchurch
 Parish Hall

One in a Million

It is estimated that only around 30 couples in the UK celebrate their 70th (platinum) wedding anniversary each year. This rare milestone means reaching seven decades of marriage is a one-in-a-million occurrence, eligible for a special message from The Royal Family. Our dear friends *Eric and Barbara Runcorn* will be celebrating this significant and rare milestone in their lives at the beginning of September.

Next Sunday **Sunday 6th September** there will be a 10.30am service of Holy Communion followed by a special service of Thanksgiving in St Oswald's Church on starting at 12.15pm. To enable friends from across our three parishes to join Eric and Barbara for this service there will shortened 10.30am services in each of our three churches.

There will be **NO Explorers' or Deep Divers'** groups in the Parish Hall at Christ Church, Croft on Mondays at 1.30pm until **Monday 7th September**, when the subject will be: '**Greek Workshop 2.**'

There will be **NO CULCHETH Explorers' Group** in the Family Room at Newchurch, until Friday 4th September at 1.30pm. The subject will be: '**Am I really brainy?**'

Cultivate

You are invited to attend a 6 week Cultivate course on Tuesdays from 11am-1pm starting on 6th October in Newchurch Parish Hall, or on Thursdays at St Peter's Church, Newton-le-Willows from 7pm-9pm starting on 8th October. A team from the diocese will lead us in sharing ideas about how we can use churches to fulfil God's work in the community.

Evening of Conversation and Prayer

**An opportunity to get together across
The Parish of Christ the Good Shepherd
to discuss the future of the larger single
parish as well as to spend time together
in prayer.**

Joining together 7:30 to 9pm

Monday 28 September @ All Saints,
Glazebury

Monday 19 October @ St Luke's,
Lowton

Monday 30 November @ St Michael's,
Burtonwood

The Parish of Christ the Good Shepherd

