

Wigan West

**PARISH MAGAZINE**



**Look to the Lord and  
His strength; Seek  
His face always**

***1 Chronicles 16: 11***

Church



**WIGAN**

**November 2021**

# Services

## St Matthews

### November

- 4 Thursday**  
10.30 Holy Communion
- 7 Sunday**  
10.30 Holy Communion
- 14 Sunday**  
9.00 BCP  
10.30 All Age Parade Service
- 21 Sunday**  
9.00 BCP  
10.30 Holy Communion  
12.30 Baptism Service
- 28 Sunday**  
9.00 BCP  
10.30 Service of the Word

## St James with St Thomas

### November

- 7 Sunday**  
10.30 Holy Communion with  
Sunday School
- 14 Sunday**  
10.30 Service of the Word with  
Sunday School
- 21 Sunday**  
10.30 Service of the Word with  
Sunday School
- 28 Sunday**  
10.30 Holy Communion

## St Pauls

### November

- 7 Sunday**  
9.00 BCP  
10.30 Baptism Service
- 10 Wednesday**  
10.30 Holy Communion  
Refreshments from  
10.00
- 14 Sunday**  
10.30 Holy Communion with  
Sunday School
- 17 Wednesday**  
10.30 Holy Communion  
Refreshments from  
10.00
- 21 Sunday**  
10.30 Service of the Word with  
Sunday School
- 24 Wednesday**  
10.30 Holy Communion  
Refreshments from  
10.00
- 28 Sunday**  
10.30 Service of the Word



**Wellspring:** Every Wednesday:  
3.30-5pm St Pauls Hall and  
School (at present meeting 2pm-  
3pm). Please check facebook for  
up-to-date information.



**Lighthouse:** Every Friday after  
school at St James Centre. Walking  
bus going from St James School.  
Please check Facebook for up-to-  
date information.

### **MAGAZINE DEADLINE**

Please have any content to the editors  
by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Follow us on Facebook for up-to-date news and information



## Dear Friends,

As I write this, we are preparing for our Vision Day on 16<sup>th</sup> October. We will have spent a day together, to dream together and to pray together, to listen to each other and to God, to know what is on God's heart for our parish and our community as we move forward together.

As you know, I am passionate about collaborative leadership and working together as teams, so I'm excited to see people discovering that they are called by God and to be able to share in encouraging them to find out what that means and to help them to develop their gifts. We are all called by God, and we are all different, so there is tremendous diversity in what we are able to do, if we work together, each contributing as we are able.



St Paul gives us the analogy of the body in 1 Corinthians 12. Every part is equally important:

There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to all for their particular service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.

If the whole body were just an eye, how could it hear? And if it were only an ear, how could it smell? As it is, however, God put every different part in the body just as he wanted it to be. There would not be a body if it were all only one part! As it is, there are many parts but one body.

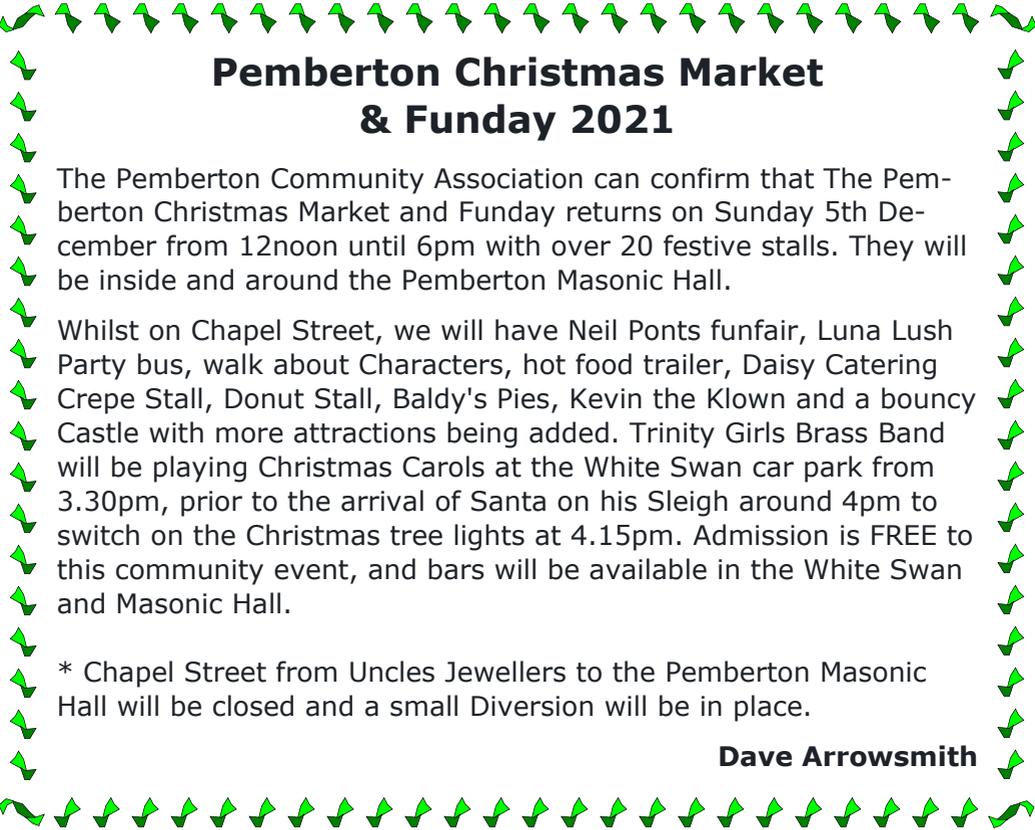
God himself has put the body together in such a way as to give greater honour to those parts that need it. And so there is no division in the body, but all its different parts have the same concern for one another. If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness (1 Cor 12:6-7; 17-20; 24-26).

As we draw towards the end of 2021, I would really like to encourage all of us to continue to invest, in prayer, in learning together, in building relationships, in the building up all of our worship communities, those that are established and those that are being planted, and in our relationships with our wider community.

Jesus said, 'By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another' (John 13:35). It has been wonderful to see how people from across our worship communities have been showing that love by serving together and supporting one another in all sorts of contexts around the parish, especially when some of us have been going through some challenging times. That practical love and support means such a lot.

Gary and I are so glad to be sharing in this ministry alongside each one of you.

***Fran***



## **Pemberton Christmas Market & Funday 2021**

The Pemberton Community Association can confirm that The Pemberton Christmas Market and Funday returns on Sunday 5th December from 12noon until 6pm with over 20 festive stalls. They will be inside and around the Pemberton Masonic Hall.

Whilst on Chapel Street, we will have Neil Ponto's funfair, Luna Lush Party bus, walk about Characters, hot food trailer, Daisy Catering Crepe Stall, Donut Stall, Baldy's Pies, Kevin the Clown and a bouncy Castle with more attractions being added. Trinity Girls Brass Band will be playing Christmas Carols at the White Swan car park from 3.30pm, prior to the arrival of Santa on his Sleigh around 4pm to switch on the Christmas tree lights at 4.15pm. Admission is FREE to this community event, and bars will be available in the White Swan and Masonic Hall.

\* Chapel Street from Uncles Jewellers to the Pemberton Masonic Hall will be closed and a small Diversion will be in place.

**Dave Arrowsmith**

If you wish to enquire about **Baptism** at our different buildings please come to:

**St Matthews** on 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month to book.

**St James** on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

**St Pauls** on the 1st Sunday of the month.

Please note that we are now booked up until March 2022.

# Our Christmas services

Our PCC and our local leadership teams have agreed our Christmas services. We are delighted to be offering so many more services than we were able to last year. However also wanted to learn from last year and use this year as a great opportunity of serving together and worshipping in many different ways. There maybe some dates and times that are different to previous years. We want you to be able to go to all the different types of services and celebrate the diversity of worship.

We are looking forward to joining together and celebrating together in the season of Advent and Christmas.

## Christmas services

### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December: St Matthews Christingle service- 6pm**

Join together as we celebrate our first Christingle service at the start of Advent, fun for the whole family.

### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December St Pauls Interactive candlelit Carol service**

A creative Carol service, bring a torch, interactive fun for all ages. Followed by refreshments

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December: Wigan West Community Carols and Hot pot 6.30pm** Outside St Matthews Church for Carols and readings followed by Hotpot provided by our local councillors

### **Saturday 18th December: St James Café and Carols 6pm**

Join us as we sing around café tables and look at the Christmas story in a new way.

### **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December:**

**9am: St Matthews BCP:** Our traditional service as we worship together

**10.30: Pop up Nativity St Pauls:** Come in a costume as we re tell the Christmas story together.

**10.30: Holy Communion St James:** Join us for our traditional Communion service with Carols

**6pm: St Matthews Carol service:** Join us for our traditional carols service of 9 carols and 9 readings, followed by refreshments in the Hall



## **Christmas eve:**

**11am-2pm: Christmas Eve Café at St James:** Join us for food and Christmas fun

**4pm: St Pauls Christingle Service:** Fun for the whole family as we build Christingles together and share in birthday cake on the final hours of Christmas Eve

**11.30pm St Matthews Holy Communion:** Come and join us for the first Communion of Christmas

**11.30pm St James Holy Communion:** Come and join us for the first Communion of Christmas

## **Christmas Day:**

**10am St Pauls Holy Communion:** Join us for Christmas day Communion

**10am St James Holy Communion:** Join us for Christmas day Communion

**10am St Matthews Holy Communion:** Join us for Christmas day Communion

**No services on Boxing day:** A number of services will be in offer across the benefice of Wigan.

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January back to normal rhythm**



# “Do this in remembrance of me.”

So far in this series, we have looked at matters on which there is broad agreement among all the mainstream churches – the basics of the Christian faith as set out in the ancient creeds, based on the revelation given in the Holy Bible.

But if there is one subject on which sincere Christians have very different views, it is the meaning of the Sacraments.

The Roman Catholic Church recognises seven sacraments: Baptism, Eucharist (Holy Communion), Confirmation, Reconciliation (confession), Marriage, Orders (ordination of ministers) and Anointing of the Sick.

Churches of the Protestant Reformation use the word, “Sacrament” for only two of these: Baptism and Eucharist.

A few Christian traditions, such as Quakers and The Salvation Army, do not celebrate Sacraments at all.

This month, I want to consider the Eucharist (also called the Holy Communion, the Lord’s Supper, the Mass, the Sacrament of the Altar, the Breaking of Bread, the Synaxis ...).

In his first letter to the church in Corinth, the Apostle Paul wrote:

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, ‘This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’

In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.’ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.  
*[1 Corinthians 11:23-26. NRSV]*

Roman Catholics, and some Anglicans, understand this in a very literal way: that in the Eucharist, when a validly ordained priest says the words of Jesus, then the bread and wine really become Jesus’s body and blood, though the “accidents” (the appearance, taste etc.) of bread and wine remain. This doctrine is called “transubstantiation.”

Some Protestants regard Holy Communion as simply an aid to help Christians remember Jesus’s sacrifice on the cross.

But many in the Reformation tradition, while not accepting the doctrine of transubstantiation, believe that the Eucharist is a very special way, instituted by Jesus himself, in which he gives himself to his Church. Jesus’s presence in this Sacrament is “real” not “unreal”, but it is mysterious and beyond human analysis. In the Eucharist, Jesus’s one sacrifice on the cross is made present

for us here and now.

Charles Wesley, hymn writer and brother of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, was deeply convinced that the Eucharist is a wonderful gift of God. In one hymn, *Hosanna in the highest*, he wrote this verse:

Angels in fixed amazement around our altars hover  
with eager gaze, adore the grace of our eternal Lover;  
himself and all his fullness who gives to the believer,  
and with this Bread, whoe'er are fed will live with God for ever.

The Ministry of the Word matters. If I didn't think it did, I would not have trained as a Reader. We need to hear the words of Holy Scripture, because we need to know the story of our creation and salvation, and we need to learn about and come to know the God whom we worship. We need good and thoughtful preaching to apply our faith to our lives, to bring people to faith and to build them up in holiness.

But being a Christian is not all about words, not all about the intellect. The word "Eucharist" simply means "Thanksgiving". We come together to worship God, to thank him for all his love for us. And when we receive our Lord in Holy Communion, we come with empty hands, we come as those without merit of our own, simply to receive God's free gift of himself, to taste and see that the Lord is good.

When we come to receive, we kneel or stand with our fellow Christians, without distinction of gender, ethnicity, status, or wealth, nor of education, ability or disability, nor even distinctions of holiness of life. The most self-denying saint kneels alongside the most unworthy but penitent sinner and receives what neither of them could ever deserve, were it not for God's free grace and mercy.

The Eucharist has been celebrated in magnificent cathedrals, with colourful vestments and elaborate ceremonial and music. It has been celebrated on a rough table in a prison cell as the noose awaits its victim. But whenever the Eucharist is celebrated, God is praised:

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. [*Common Worship, Order One, Prayer B.*]

Perhaps some of our disagreements about the Eucharist are important on one level, but first and foremost, this Sacrament is a great prayer of Thanksgiving to God for all his love for us, shown in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and the sending of the Holy Spirit. And, in a way beyond our understanding, through that act of thanksgiving, God gives himself to us and strengthens us to live for him in his world.

**Gordon James**

**west  
hub**

# **Faith at Home youth pages!**

**Story time! John 4 v4-14**

**Jesus had to go through Samaria. He came to Jacobs well at a place called Sychar. Jesus was tired from the journey and he sat down by the well. It was about noon.**

**When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" (His disciples had gone into town to buy food.)**

**The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)**

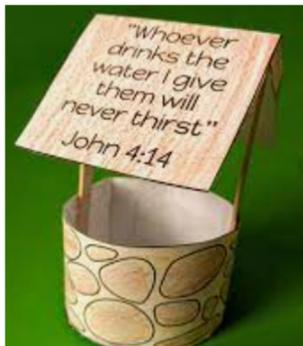
**Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." ...**

**Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."**

# Hello!

**Read along with the Bible passage, chat with your family about some of the questions and have a go at the challenge!**

**challenge**



The loving water that only God can give.

Make a little well. While you are making it pray for Jesus to give you a drink of his living water.

When it is made put your prayers or troubles in it and give them to God.

The woman at the well had her sins "washed away" by Jesus. The story shows that Jesus offers love and mercy in the living water of grace, which washes away sins and cleanses souls.



**Reflection**

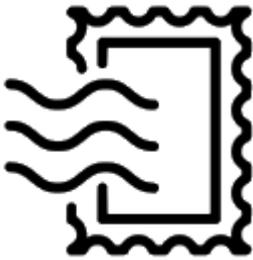
The woman went to the well to get a jug of water. Instead, she got much more, including a cleansed and refreshed spiritual life

**Dear Father in heaven,  
lead us to your living water  
help us to give your breath of life to others  
in your son Jesus Christ  
Amen**

# Notices

We collect used stamps all the year around— but this time of year is a good time to start and continue the practice. We hope to have a collection box in church in due course.

Leave a border of 1cm (half an inch) when trimming around the stamps and if possible be kind enough to sort them into British & Foreign stamps. Stamps will then be forwarded to a charity. Thank you.



Please pass all stamps  
on to  
Marjorie Latham  
41 Howden Drive  
Wigan  
WN3 5JT  
01942 234880

## **6th Wigan Town St Matthew Rainbow Guides 5 to 7-year olds**

Can you spare an hour on Tuesdays to help out at our unit? Taking part in crafts, games and working towards badges. If you can help, please ring Jennifer Halliwell 07808711490

**Jennifer Halliwell**

## **MacMillan Coffee morning**

The Macmillan Coffee Morning at St. Matthew's made £486.66. Many thanks to all who came and helped to make this wonderful amount

## **St Matthews Guides**

We are pleased to say that our Guide meetings have now restarted after a very lengthy absence and it was lovely to welcome back all the girls and some new girls and those who have joined us from Brownies.

We got off to a good start doing what we enjoy most and that's baking cakes and eating food!! The food was part of work towards a badge and was fruit and vegetable tasting blindfolded with a quiz attached to it. Some of the girls surprised that they liked some of it. We also made some Halloween food which looked good when finished and decorated.

We have soon got to half term and on our return in November we have a full programme planned up to Christmas.

**The Guiders**

## **Cuppa and Chat**

Thank you to the ladies who come to Cuppa and Chat on Monday at St. Matthew's. I have been able to give another £100 for Church funds - well done. All are welcome to come to St. Matthew's lounge on Mondays from 2pm to 3-30pm for a Cuppa and Chat

## Faith Café

Faith Café is open at the St James Centre on Saturdays, 11-2pm on a pay as you feel basis and Tom's Pantry will be open at the same time. Come along and enjoy The Real Junk Food Project experience in a lovely friendly atmosphere.



## Toy Service

On the 12<sup>th</sup> December at 10:30am service at St. Matthew's we are having our annual Toy Service. This is when we bring toys as Christmas presents for underprivileged children in the Wigan area. Last year, due to Covid, I asked for money donations to buy gift vouchers for the children to spend at a local supermarket. This will apply also for this year and I will place a container at the back of Church for your donations needed for the same date

## Friendship Group

It was the birthday of Jim, one of our members at the end of September and he celebrated by providing a hotpot with mushy peas and all the trimmings for the 20 or so of our members. Friends turned up to help him celebrate by providing a huge birthday cake on the day and the odd cork was also popped. The fire alarm system in the Parish Hall prevented us sticking 80 candles in the cake sadly, but the day went very well. The following week saw Colin's birthday and he also provided a very welcome buffet for the enjoyment of the members.

Feel free to join us on Wednesday afternoons in St. Matthew's Parish Hall. Anyone who is bereaved or lonely will be made most welcome.

## Churchyard Maintenance Group

What we had planned to be our last meeting of the year at St. Matthew's Churchyard was unfortunately cancelled due to the inclement weather. Our Ass. Warden John, who is the organiser decided that it would be silly for us all to get wet, so he cancelled an hour before our meeting. We will probably have a final meeting when the leaves have dropped so we can tidy the paths for winter.

For our past several meetings we have been provided with hot drinks and biscuits by our ladies which is very welcome. They offer them to all visitors to the Churchyard during our presence and this was taken advantage of by members of St. Paul's and St. James' which was led by Cliff.

## Food Pantry

I would like to once again thank all those who continue to support our monthly collection for our parish food pantries across Wigan. Despite the closure of our churches for a lengthy period due to the pandemic, we have still gathered a total of £7,150 over the past 21 months towards the continuing struggle against hunger in Wigan in general.

Pride may well be a sin, but you can be forgiven for a little pride in our achievement on this occasion. It is never too late to join our endeavours. If you wish to contribute regularly, feel free to contact me.

**Dave Whitter**

# Word Search

## Poppies

It was 100 years ago this month, on 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 1921, that Remembrance poppies were sold for the first time in British and Commonwealth countries to commemorate military personnel who died in war.

Amid the mud, blood and carnage of trench warfare in World War 1, tens of thousands of bright red poppies had grown, marking the graves of the fallen. This led John McCrae, a Canadian army physician who had lost a colleague, to write "In Flanders Fields",

*In Flanders fields, the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row  
That mark our place, and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly.*

This image inspired the adoption of a red poppy as the symbol of all soldiers who had died in conflict. In the UK they are sold by the Royal British Legion to raise funds for current and former members of the British Armed Forces. Around 30 million poppies are sold each year.

## Remembrance

Poppies

Sold

Countries

Commemorate

Military

Personnel

Mud

Blood

Carnage

Trench

Warfare

Thousands

Bright

Red

Graves

Fallen

Flanders

Fields

Symbol



**Across**

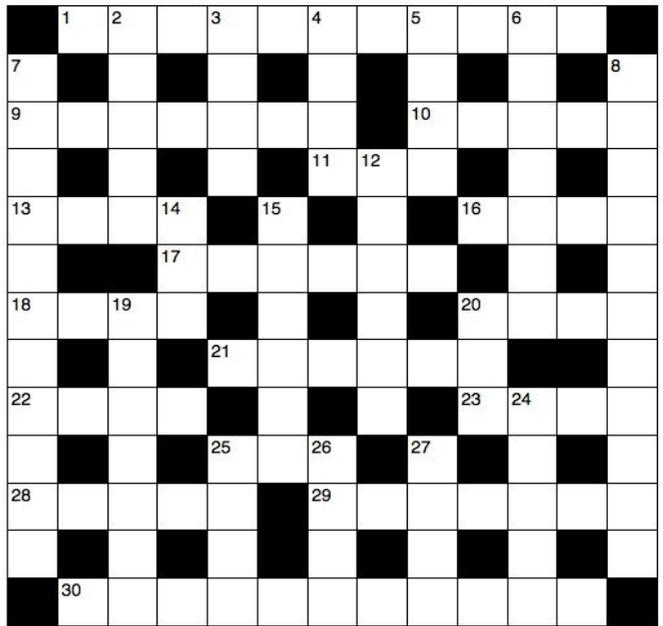
- 1 In David's battle with the Arameans, 700 of these were killed (2 Samuel 10:18) (11)  
 9 'No — , impure or greedy person has any inheritance in the kingdom of God' (Ephesians 5:5) (7)  
 10 City on the banks of the River Nile (5)  
 11 Stamped addressed envelope (1,1,1)  
 13 Taverns (4)  
 16 'Be on your guard; stand — in the faith' (1 Corinthians 16:13) (4)  
 17 'He will not always — , nor will he harbour his anger for ever' (Psalm 103:9) (6)

18 and 27 Down Where the magi came from and what guided them (Matthew 2:1–2) (4,4)

- 20 Ancient Celtic alphabet of 20 characters (4)  
 21 She married Esau when he was 40 years old (Genesis 26:34) (6)  
 22 A great-grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:7) (4)  
 23 Title accorded to certain Roman Catholic clerics (abbrev.) (4)  
 25 'My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it a — of robbers' (Luke 19:46) (3)  
 28 Annie (anag.) (5)  
 29 Plead with (Zechariah 7:2) (7)  
 30 Tenth foundation of the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:20) (11)

**Down**

- 2 'We have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by — hands' (2 Corinthians 5:1) (5)  
 3 Uncommon excellence (Proverbs 20:15) (4)  
 4 'You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine — have been poured upon me' (Psalm 92:10) (4)  
 5 — Homo ('Behold the Man') (4)



- 6 'He has given proof of this to all men by — him from the dead' (Acts 17:31) (7)  
 7 'Our — is in heaven' (Philippians 3:20) (11)  
 8 'This is a day you are to — ' (Exodus 12:14) (11)  
 12 Assault (Psalm 17:9) (6)  
 14 'Jesus found a young donkey and — upon it' (John 12:14) (3)  
 15 Liverpool dialect (6)  
 19 'Remember the — day by keeping it holy' (Exodus 20:8) (7)  
 20 Nineteenth-century German physicist after whom the unit of electrical resistance is named (3)  
 24 Nazirites were not allowed to eat this part of a grape (Numbers 6:4) (5)  
 25 'If anyone would come after me, he must — himself and take up his cross and follow me' (Mark 8:34) (4)  
 26 Evil Roman emperor from AD54 to 68, responsible for condemning hundreds of Christians to cruel deaths (4)  
 27 See 18 Across



# Christmas Magazine

## competition

For our December/January magazine we would like a cover designed. The remit is that has to celebrate Christmas, no age restrictions.

A prize for 1,2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.

If this can be emailed to Barbara at:

[barbara.poyntz@churchwigan.org](mailto:barbara.poyntz@churchwigan.org)

Or left at one of our Church Buildings.

**Deadline is Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November.**

### Small Groups

We have started to see several small groups start across the Parish which is great news both daytime and evening, below are when they meeting and where if you might be interested do let Mark or Fran know and we shall connect you into one.

Daytime (Day and time TBC) Goose Green  
Daytime (Thursday, Goose Green  
Evening: Wednesday 7.30pm, Goose Green  
Evening: Wednesday 8PM, Poolstock  
Evening: Wednesday 8pm: Winstanley  
Evening: Wednesday 7.30pm Zoom

As we have been looking in this month of vision, each one of us is called to go out and proclaim the good news and what better place to be encouraged and equipped to do this is a small group.

# Women's Fellowship

We resumed our regular meetings after the summer break on 2<sup>nd</sup> September with a "Catch up and Chat Evening".

The Evening Hour Service on the 9<sup>th</sup> Sept was an evening of Christian songs. The following week we had a Bible Quiz – How well do you know your Bible? It was a close finish as all our teams proved that they did know their Bibles. Well done everyone!!

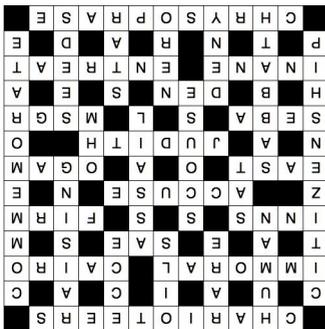
The following week, as a born and bred Highfielder I gave a talk about what it was like living in Highfield in the "olden days" when you could buy all your week's groceries within easy walking distance, and you could cross Billinge Road without risking life and limb. The "incomers" joined in with "I remember when I came to Highfield...Those were the days!!

Our final meeting in September was Holy Communion in church

Programme for November:

- 4<sup>th</sup> – Anniversary Service
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Evening Hour, Remembrance
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Poetry we know and love
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Holy Communion

Do come and join us on a Thursday evening at 8:00pm in the Parish Hall



**Sheila Highton**



**Church Wigan Worship**  
*by telephone*

**Please dial telephone number: - 0330 606 0411**

Calls charged at standard rate, free on mobile with unlimited calls or within minute allowance, landline free with certain tariffs. You will hear an automated answer requesting access code.

**Access code: 1551140 followed by#**

## Burials and Funerals St James with St Thomas

None

### St Paul's

17/09/21 Anthony Francis Heywood aged 64  
21/09/21 Jean Walker aged 85

### St Matthew

24/09/21 Elizabeth Cooke aged 61  
27/09/21 Peter Melling aged 50

## Baptisms September

Arthur Jack Coffey	St Matthews
Louie James Schofield	St Matthews
Kobi Tommy Lawton	St Matthews
Henry Oliver Eatough	St Matthews
William Stuart Mawdsley	St Matthews
Indie Rose Matthews	St Matthews
Alfie George Concepcion	St Matthews
Junior Michael Grundy	St Matthews
Isla Brown	St Matthews
Harry Lewis Paul Davies	St Matthews
Ada Willow Boon	St Matthews
Hudson Benjamin Hurst	St Matthews
Joshua George Farrell	St Matthews
Blake Anthony Szabo	St Matthews

## October

Noah Marks Thomson	StPaul's
Bailey-Mae Taylor	St James
Josie Kimberley-Anne Maddocks	St James



## Donations

In loving memory of Elsie Stockley  
**from Christine Simpson**

In memory of Alan Kirk and all loved ones  
**from his loving wife Doreen and family**

If you wish for your donation to appear in the Church Magazine could you please **PRINT** the information to be enclosed clearly on the front of your envelope and hand it into **CHURCH**, so as to avoid any unnecessary upset, or email it to one of the magazine team,

Thank you for your co-operation in the matter. *Ed*

**N.B.** *If you have occasion to make out a cheque to the parish, please make it payable to **Wigan West PCC**. Cheques made out to the old parishes will soon no longer be valid.*

### **David Brown**

We are sad to report the death of David Brown, for many years a Reader, and a leading and well-loved member of the congregation at St James with St Thomas, Poolstock. Alison, his sons Simon and Andrew and all his family are in our prayers. When the funeral has been arranged, details will be conveyed to all the worshipping communities in the Parish.

An appreciation of David's life and ministry will appear in the next edition of the magazine.

If you would like a copy of the magazine in **LARGE PRINT**

please email Barbara at

[hubadmin.west@churchwigan.org](mailto:hubadmin.west@churchwigan.org)

**The Parish of Wigan West** is the Church of England in the West of Wigan—covering Worsley Mesnes, Poolstock, Goose Green, Hawkley Hall, Winstanley, and Highfield—the former parishes of St James with St Thomas, St Pauls, and St Matthews.

We are made up of different worship communities with many different styles and settings used for worshipping God, including our own buildings of St James with St Thomas (where *Tom's Pantry* is), St Paul's and its hall, and St Matthew's and its hall.

Have a look at our Facebook page for details of everything from online coffee and chat to traditional services, as well as the latest news.

**Church Wigan** Team Rector *Revd Neil Cook* 01942 242984

### **The Parish of Wigan West**

Hub Leader

*Revd Mark Wade* 01942 494906

Curate *Fran Humphry* 07592024058

Warden *Ann Birch* 01942 227036

Warden *Martin Gaskell* 01942 741340

Treasurer *Jeff McCann* 07595 882 321

Minute Secretary

*Kathleen Moran* 01942 255741

Magazine Editors

*Gordon James* 01942 238251  
1123904@chester.ac.uk

*June Gibson* 01942 703096  
jngibson@hotmail.co.uk

*Paul Nolan* 01942 804810  
pnolan1972@yahoo.co.uk

Printing:

*Sam Rusling* sam@jesandsam.com

Distribution:

*Gordon James, John Dawson &  
Lyn Starkie* 01942 494715

### **St James with St Thomas**

Local Missional Leader

*Gordon James* 01942 238251

Assistant Wardens

*Alison Brown* 01942 740777

*Carol & Chris Simm*

Reader *Pam Bancroft* 01942 713198

Reader *Gordon James* 01942 238251

Organist *David Goulden* 01942 245710

Flowers *Iris Wright* 01942 493850

Flowers *Jean Hogan* 01942 492888

Bereavement Support

*David Berry* 01942 386987

Mother's Union

*Margaret Baxendale* 01942 238542

Sunday School *Jean Edwards*

Primary School Headteacher

*Mr G Lövegreen* 01942 703952

### **Lifelines** *St James Centre & Eliot Gardens*

Local Missional Leader

*Alison Brown* 01942 740777

### **Little Stars** *St Pauls Hall*

*Bec Jones* 07595182683

### **Wellspring** *St Pauls Hall*

Local Missional Leader

*Lucy Haigh* 07900 252 361

### **Lighthouse** *St James School*

Local Missional Leaders:

*Jes Rusling* 07827 326 290

jes@jesandsam.com

*Sam Rusling* 077 22 99 4923

sam@jesandsam.com

## **St Matthews**

Assistant Warden

*John Dawson* 01942 732526

Assistant Warden

*Andrea Wood* 07734 447699

Reader *Colin Hesketh* 07712 431105

Organist *Sue Gordon* 01942 214955

Deputy Organist

*Colin Hesketh* 07712 431105

Bereavement Support

*John Dawson* 01942732526

Bowling Club

*Keith Harris* 01942 211518

Choir *Sue Gordon* 01942 214955

Church Fellowship

*Matthew Jones* 07930 867209

Cuppa & Chat

*Barbara Jenks* 01942 213101

Friendship Group

*Dave Whitter* 07836330324

Boys Brigade

*Jim Harrison* 01942 218465

Guides:

Rainbows

*Jennifer Halliwell* 01942 218334

*Gill Marsh* 01942 207723

Brownies

*Joanne Tabener/Elizabeth Gaskell*

*14thwigantownbrownies@gmail.com*

Guides

*Helen Albers* 07960 920587

Sunday Fun Club

*Kathryn Louis* 07557 106206

Sunday School *Marian Brown*

Women's Fellowship

*Sheila Highton* 01942 217754

Primary School Headteacher

*Mrs A Barron* 01942 747818

## **St Pauls**

Assistant Warden

*Cliff Unsworth* 01942 200229

Assistant Warden

*Maureen Gower* 01942 234410

Assistant Warden

*Miriam Unsworth* 01942 200229

Reader *Arthur Hubbard* 01942 321977

Reader *Gordon Fath* 01942 621173

Organist

*Kathleen Shepherd* 01942 248683

Flowers *Pam Wilkinson* 01942 716668

Mother's Union

*Anne Hubbard* 01942 321977

Sunday School

*Jacqui Collier* 07912664754

Craft Workshop

*Gillian Greenwood* 01942 825670

Friends Together

*Lynn Conroy* 01942202249

*Linda Berry* 01942 492521

House Groups

*Linda Catterall* 01942 237333

*Anne & Arthur Hubbard* 01942 321977

*Brian & Irene Marsh* 01942 243265

*Mike & Gill Greenwood* 01942 825670

Primary School Headteacher

*Mrs A Jackson* 01942 243068

## **Need to book a hall?**

St Matthews Church Hall:

*Mr Jones* 07930 867209

St James with St Thomas:

*Alison Brown* 01942 740777

St Pauls Church Hall:

*Darren Speakman* 07456 840803

**BAPTISMS** If you wish to enquire about Baptism please attend a service and ask to speak to someone from the Baptism Team, see page 5 for availability. *Please Note we are now booked up until March 2022 in most places.*

**WEDDINGS** *Gordon Fath*: treasurer.benefice@churchwigan.org

**FUNERALS** Church Wigan Funeral Coordinator: 01942 705641, 07754 569022, funeral.coordinator@churchwigan.org

# Wardens' Corner

I write this having just returned from the Parish vision day at St James'. What a thoroughly uplifting and encouraging day, spent with friends from across all our worship communities. It was wonderful to hear testimonies from people which clearly showed that God is working through them to further his kingdom here in West Wigan.

What was also clear was that people found themselves in a place, doing God's work that they had never imagined. Carrying out tasks well out of their comfort zone. This was echoed by Neil who said that "God doesn't call the equipped. He equips the called".

If you sit in Church listening to sermons sending a message to get involved and suggestions of how you could do this and you think, that's not for me. What could I have to offer? Pray. Listen to what God is saying to you. Join a team. What might seem a small act of service is still God's work and God will work through you. The opportunities open to everyone across all our worship communities are varied and plentiful with something for everyone however big or small.

Central to us going forward as a Parish together is prayer. To that end we have a 24-hour prayer event starting at 9.00am on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November. If you haven't got involved with anything like before, this would be a great way to start.



*Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way;  
say those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come,  
He will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save  
you." Isaiah 35 v3-4*

## **24 Hours of Prayer** **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>**

Follow on from our vision day we are going to gather in prayer for the parish again over a 24 hour period virtually.

How this will work from 9am Saturday morning to 9am Sunday morning. We are asking people to commit to pray for an hour over this 24 hour period.

We shall supply some prayer needs, resources to help and also create a space to share what God has been saying in your hour so we can continue to pray.

If you would like to sign up, please sign up at your worship community or email Barbara and indicate which hour: [barbara.poyntz@churchwigan.org](mailto:barbara.poyntz@churchwigan.org)

Mark said this recently: A Church that does not pray together is a declining Church. A praying Church is a growing a growing Church, so let's pray together.

*Martin Gaskell*