

PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW WESTHOUGHTON

St Bartholomew

St Thomas

St George



SUNDAY 22ND JUNE 2025 THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Welcome to Worship today

Sunday Services

St George's Church	St Thomas' Church	St Bartholomew's Church
9:15am Service of the Word James Young	9:15am Service of the Word Christine Andrews	11:00am All Age Holy Communion Alan Morris / Revd Carol Pharaoh
		HYMNS: 276, Gloria 9 [page 14] 762, 713, Choir / 460, 476

This week we pray for:

Those who are ill: Brian Cato, Tony Dunn, Denise Gilliland, Nigel Ginniff, Judith Jackson, Hilton James, Joan James, Archdeacon Rachel Mann, Claire Pope, Kitty Pope, Winnifred Tetlow, Bishop David Walker

Those who have died: Kevin O'Reilly [Kevin's funeral service as at Howe Bridge Crematorium on Friday 27th June at 1:00pm], Eva Green Albert Fairclough, Richard McHale

And on their anniversaries this week we remember: Margaret Lee, Edith Mansfield, Bernard Norman, James Riley, Lewis Robb, Arthur Westby

NEXT SUNDAY: St Peter and St Paul

Readings: Zechariah 4. 1 – 6a & 10b - end / Acts 12. 1 - 11 / Matthew 16. 13 - 19

9:15am Holy Communion at St George's Revd Carol Pharaoh
9:15am Service of the Word at St Thomas' Revd Angela Wynne
11:00am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's Alan Morris / Revd Carol Pharaoh

Team Rector: Revd Carol Pharaoh 01942 859251 carol.pharaoh@gmail.com www.westhoughtonchurches.org.uk

Team Vicar: Revd Angela Wynne 01204 468150 – revawynne@gmail.com

FACEBOOK – locate us by searching Westhoughton parish Follow us on twitter @Wparishchurch
@Westhoughtontowerbellringers

Office Hours: First Monday of the month 9:30 – 11:00am St Bartholomew's church [drop in]
or Saturday mornings by appointment [please e-mail westhoughtonparish@outlook.com](mailto:westhoughtonparish@outlook.com)

Material for the pewsheets should be sent to westhoughtonparish@outlook.com

To receive these pewsheets or special events leaflets electronically, please e-mail westhoughtonparish@outlook.com

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Coming Up in the next week:

Monday 23rd 9:30 – 11:00am	St Bartholomew's Church	Toddler Group with Wiggle Worship
Tuesday 24th	The Birth of St John the Baptist	
Wednesday 25th 10:30 – 11:30am 3:45 – 4:30pm 6:45pm 7:30pm 7:30pm	St John's Church Wingates St Bartholomew's Church St Bartholomew's Church St Bartholomew's Church Bolton Parish Church	Talking tables Café Church – The Wise and the Foolish Man Baptism Preparation Choir Practice Archdeacon's Visitation
Saturday 28th 1:00pm	St Bartholomew's Church	Wedding



Readings for Sunday 22nd June 2025**Collect:**

God of truth, help us to keep your law of love and to walk in ways of wisdom, that we may find true life in Jesus Christ your Son. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 65. 1 - 9

The word of the Lord through the prophet:

¹I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, 'Here I am, here I am', to a nation that did not call on my name. ²I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; ³a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; ⁴who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine's flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; ⁵who say, 'Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you.'

These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. ⁶See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps ⁷their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the LORD; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. ⁸Thus says the LORD: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, 'Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it', so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all. ⁹I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

New Testament Reading: Galatians 3. 23 - 29

²³Before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed.

²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ; ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Gospel Reading**Luke 8. 26 - 39**

²⁶Jesus and his disciples arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me' – ²⁹for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' He said, 'Legion'; for many demons had entered him. ³¹They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. ³²Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. ³⁴When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹'Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.' So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

Post-Communion Prayer:

Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers: First Sunday after Trinity

Loving God,
You are our maker, our redeemer and our sustainer.
You care for all living things,
and Your wisdom surpasses anything that we can understand or create ourselves.

In our making and creating,
may we be inspired by Your Spirit –
that all we make may be filled with grace and mercy,
that everything we build may be life-giving and just,
that all we offer to others, may be good and true.

God of love,
You have poured Your love into our hearts.
May we be filled to overflowing and in compassion and generosity,
share Your love with all.
Lord God, in our afflictions will You tend us, Your children,
that we may not only endure, but know life in all its fulness.

We hold before You now,
all who are hurting,
all who are afraid,
all who have had their dignity torn and infringed,
all who have no access to the means they need to live safely and without persecution.

God in Your grace and mercy, hear our prayers for all Your children –

Lord in Your mercy
HEAR OUR PRAYERS.

God of peace,
You have poured Your peace into our hearts.
May we be filled to overflowing and in compassion and generosity,
share Your peace with all.
that we may not only know peace, but be peace makers.

We hold before You now,
all of our struggles and opposition,
all of the violence in this world,
all who are oppressed or victims to war or exploitation,
all who need Your protection.

God in Your grace and mercy, hear our prayers for all Your children –

Lord in Your mercy
HEAR OUR PRAYERS.

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God of hope,
You have poured Your hope into our hearts.
May we be filled to overflowing
and in compassion and generosity, share Your hope with all.
Lord God, in all that we long for,
may we know Your Spirit guiding us –
that we may work for Your kingdom come and Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

God in Your grace and mercy, hear our prayers for all Your children –

Lord in Your mercy
HEAR OUR PRAYERS.

Trinity of love,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
may You be glorified in all that we say and do.

Father of Glory,
as we go, may we rejoice in the peace and hope found in You.

Jesus, King of Glory,
may the abundance of Your blessings become fully alive in us and through us.

Spirit of Glory,
flood authentic and hopeful love into us, so that it overflows to all whom we meet.

The blessing and joy of the Lord;
Father, Son, Holy Spirit, pour into us all and all those we encounter, now and always, Amen.

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**THE PARISH OF
ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
WESTHOUGHTON**



Sunday 22nd June

11:00am

**The First Sunday after
Trinity**



Holy Communion

All Welcome

NOTICEBOARD

A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
Amen



Recording Attendance for School Admission

We are recording physical church attendance for school admission purposes.

Parents will need to sign registers or, in the case of St Thomas, have their card stamped if they physically attend the service – nothing else will count.

Office Hour

Mondays 9:30am – 11:00am at St Bartholomew's Church

Office Hour is now running monthly usually on the first Monday.

The next one will be next week on Monday 7th July

We're still running some limited Saturday morning appointments for booking baptisms.
Please e-mail westhoughtonparish@outlook.com for an appointment.

PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW WESTHOUGHTON

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Sunday School

We're not meeting at either St Bartholomew's or St George's this week.

Parent & Toddler Group with Wiggle Worship Mondays 9:30am – 11:00am at St Bartholomew's Church

We're running every Monday in June.

Archdeacon's Visitations

Archdeacon's Visitation for admitting Churchwardens to office: our closest one is at **Bolton Parish Church on Wednesday 25th June at 7:30pm**. PCC members and sidespeople are also encouraged to attend this service. There are alternative dates and venues on the noticeboard if you're unable to make this date.

Looking Ahead to our Archdeacons' Visitations

Over the next two months, Archdeacons' Visitations will be taking place at churches in each of our Archdeaconries. These special services are held each summer following the election of churchwardens at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), and mark the formal admission of churchwardens to their office.

Sidespersons and PCC members make declarations of support, and these gatherings are an opportunity to meet fellow churchwardens, Area Deans, and Archdeacons. It is also a chance to show our appreciation for church officers and their immeasurable contribution to the life of our parishes.

Copies of this year's Archdeacon Visitations News were handed out at the services.
The online version is [available here](#).

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June 2025 Diary ... what's coming up

	June
Sunday 22nd	Trinity 1 9:15am St George's - Service of the Word 9:15am St Thomas - Service of the Word 11:00am St Bartholomew's – Holy Communion
Monday 23rd	9:30am – 11:00am Toddler Group with Wiggle Worship at St Bartholomew's
Tuesday 24th	Birth of St John the Baptist
Wednesday 25th	10:30am St John's Church Wingates – Talking Tables 3:45pm St Bartholomew's Café Church – The Prodigal Son 6:45pm St Bartholomew's Baptism Preparation Meeting 7:30pm St Bartholomew's Choir Practice 7:30pm Bolton Parish Church – Archdeacon's Visitation
Thursday 26th	
Friday 27th	
Saturday 28th	1:00pm St Bartholomew's Wedding
Sunday 29th	Trinity 2 / St Peter and Paul, Apostles 9:15am St George's - Holy Communion 9:15am St Thomas - Holy Communion 11:00am St Bartholomew's – Holy Communion
Monday 30th	

Ignite Youth dates

Saturdays at St John's Church, Wingates from 7:00 – 8:30pm. It's for year 6 young people and above.

12th July – This is going to be the summer barbecue and will start at 6pm (note earlier start time) We are going to be inviting Year 5s going up after the summer to Year 6 and parents to this one.

Café Church

St Bartholomew's Church

Wednesdays 3:45 – 4:30pm

We're back next Wednesday 11th June as we look at the stories Jesus told starting with the Good Samaritan and continuing on 18th June with The Prodigal Son – see *rota and posters below*.

Date	Topic	Leader	Refreshments
	Creation / Stories Jesus told		
25-June	The Wise & the foolish man (Matthew 7:24-29)	Carol	Sue / Ged
02-July	The Sower (Mark 4:1-20)	Elaine	Carole / Linda
09-July	NO Café Church / School Production		
16-July	The Talents (Matthew 25:14-30)	Angela	Jean / Fran
	AUTUMN TERM Next Café Church 10th September 2025		

Café Church

It meets each Wednesday in term time at
St Bartholomew's church
3:45 – 4:30pm

The Stories of Jesus The Wise and Foolish Builders



Matthew 7. 24 - 29

Wednesday 25th June 2025

Orlando Gibbons (bapt. 25 December 1583 – 5 June 1625)

This month we mark the 400th anniversary of the death of Orlando Gibbons who was the leading English composer and organist of his day. Born in Oxford [and not Cambridge as it says on his monument in Canterbury Cathedral]. He was a member of the Chapel Royal, gained a degree in music from King's College Cambridge and in 1623 was appointed organist at Westminster Abbey where he played for the funeral of King James I.



He seems to have got on with everyone and led a relatively quiet life compared to his contemporary organists John Bull and William Byrd.

His surviving works include church anthems such as “This is the record of John” and “O clap your hands” and a number of madrigals including “The Silver Swan.” There are also a number of hymn tunes including two that we’ll sing this Sunday. There will also be some organ music by more recent composers based on his music.

As an aside, it’s said that actor Orlando Bloom was named after him.

Organ Recital

The Church of the Ascension

Saturday 28th June 1:00pm

In an act of shameless self-promotion, I’ll be playing an organ recital on the instrument at the Church of the Ascension in Lower Broughton, Salford M7 1AG on 28th June at 1:00pm.

It’s free entry with retiring collection and there will be refreshments. The church was gutted in an arson attack and a magnificent second hand organ installed in the rebuilt church.

If you want to hear it sound like a cat, a cuckoo, a swan, an elephant, various steam trains and ships with a touch of ballet and a very tenuous Ascension link, do come along. Ed

Organ Concert

Church of the Ascension,
Salford M7 1AG

EDWARD McHALE

Dir of Music: St Bartholomew's, Westhoughton

Chris Price	31st May
Edward McHale	28th June
Marc Murray	26th July
Melanie Plumley	30th August
Br Roger Briscoe	27th September

All start at 1pm

Retiring collection & refreshments

WINGATES BAND SONG AND DANCE

Sunday 13th July 2025

Doors Open 1.30pm
Concert Starts 2.00pm

Tickets £10
Including refreshments
(U16s free)
PAY ON THE DOOR

ST JOHN'S WINGATES CHURCH
CHORLEY ROAD,
WESTHOUGHTON, BL5 3PL



@StJohnsWingatesChurch
@wingatesbrassband



www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16058/
www.wingatesbrassband.co.uk



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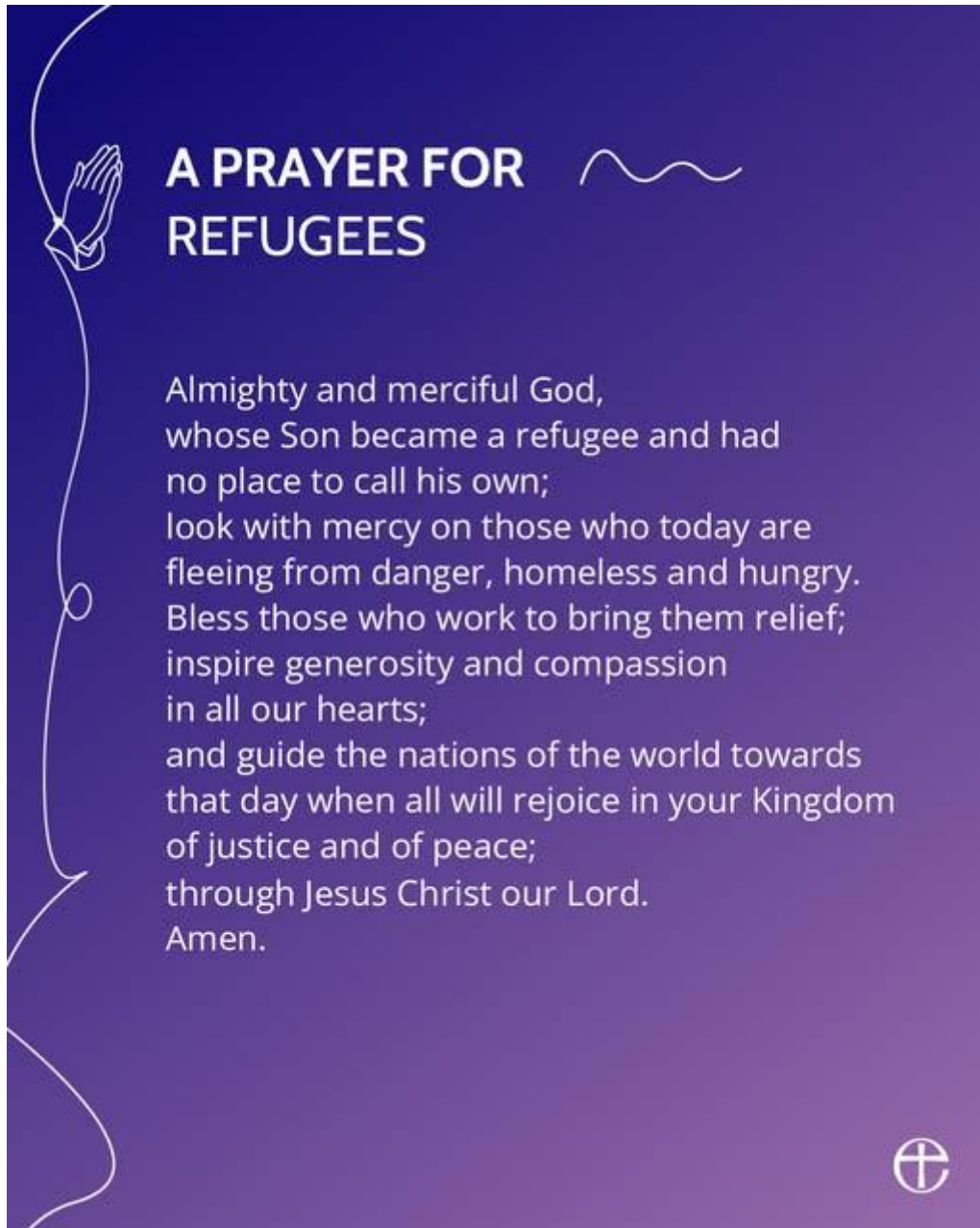
Bolton Parish Church Tuesday Lunchtime Concert Series 2025

29th April John LeGrove, Organ	17th June Lingkun Lin (RNCM), Piano
6th May Jasmine Higgs, Soprano	24th June John Powell, Baritone
13th May Emily Bowden, Saxophone	1st July Charlotte Laidlaw, Soprano
20th May Stephen Carleston, Organ	8th July Logan Ferris, Organ
27th May Hanna Csermely, Piano	15th July Dunelm Duo, Wind and Piano
3rd June Kirsty McNaughton, Soprano	22nd July Viv Chasey Trio, Violin, Voice and Piano
10th June Pupils from Junior RNCM, Piano/Organ	29th July The Apple Sellers

All concerts begin at 1-15pm and are free of charge although donations are welcome. Refreshments are served in church from 12-45pm.

From our Diocese of Manchester

The **Prayer Diary** for June is [available here](#).



CHURCH
FOR A
DIFFERENT
WORLD



A Prayer for Our Diocese

Almighty God,

we thank you for the life and witness of your people
in Manchester Diocese over many years,
and we are grateful for the signs of your kingdom today.

As we look to the future,
may we grow younger, develop more missional leaders,
and see many churches revitalised and new churches
planted.

As the gospel of Jesus is proclaimed afresh in our
generation,
pour out your Spirit and renew our parishes, chaplaincies
and schools in ministry and mission,
changing precious lives and transforming our much-loved
communities.

These things we ask for the glory of your Son, Jesus Christ
our Lord.

Amen.

Diocesan Synod

On Saturday, 7th June, Diocesan Synod met at St John's House to discuss the diocese's strategy, vocations, safeguarding, and to adopt the annual report and accounts for 2024. The opening worship was led by the Revd Canon Janie Cronin from Nelson Street, one of our new resource churches in Rochdale.

Opening Address

In his opening address, Bishop David reflected on all that continues to be achieved across our diocese because of the huge passion and commitment to the gospel demonstrated by the lay people and clergy in our parishes, chaplaincies and schools. He talked about the opportunities for our diocese as we develop our strategy and prepare to make an ambitious bid to the National Church Institutions for a major investment in our diocese over the next few years. Bishop David also welcomed the increase in clergy pensions which has recently been announced and the anticipated increase in clergy stipends, which it is hoped will have a positive impact on clergy wellbeing, as will the increased investment in our parsonages. [Read Bishop David's address here.](#)

The Diocese's Emerging Strategy

Helen Platts, COO/Diocesan Secretary, gave an update on the [diocese's strategy](#) – based on the four themes of Growing Younger, Church Planting & Revitalisation, Developing Missional Leaders and Parish Renewal – and the emerging plans in each of these areas that will form the basis of a bid to the national church later in the year. This is an opportunity for us to be bold and creative as a diocese and make the fundamental changes necessary to ensure we achieve our vision of being a worshipping, growing, transforming Christian presence at the heart of every community. Synod members engaged in lively discussions about each of the four priorities in break-out groups led by members of the Bishop's Leadership Team. This feedback will be important in helping shape our future plans as these are developed over the summer.

Annual Report and Financial Statements 2024

Synod were provided with an update on the financial results for 2024, which showed an underlying operating deficit of £1.3m. Work has been underway with parishes to increase the amount of [Parish Share](#) paid, and this is bearing fruit, although the diocese still has some way to go before returning to the break-even position. The annual report and financial statements were adopted by Synod.

Vocations

Our Director of Vocations, the Revd Canon Rachel Watts, shared her vision for vocations. She spoke about the importance of everyone, lay and clergy alike, being open to the skills and talents of those around them and encouraging them in their ministries and vocations, whatever form that might take, to enable us to build on our strong track record in this area.

Safeguarding

Abbey Clephane-Wilson, Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, updated Synod on the key safeguarding responsibilities of parishes, which was well-received. She is planning to visit all deanery synods over the coming months to provide a similar update.

[Read More](#)

Church Commissioners Increase Funding for Parishes and Clergy Wellbeing

The Church of England has announced plans to invest over £1.6 billion over the next three years to share the good news of Jesus Christ and serve local communities - a 36% increase on the national funding allocated in 2022.

This funding, distributed by the Church Commissioners who manage the Church's national endowment, will support a wide range of initiatives. These include enhanced clergy wellbeing, support for parishes, and continued investment in safeguarding and redress.

While this national funding is significant, the majority of the Church's work is made possible through the faithful and sacrificial giving of local congregations. This vital partnership remains the foundation of the Church's mission and ministry, for which we are so thankful.

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CONTACT US:

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FACEBOOK – locate us by searching Westhoughton parish

Follow us on twitter [@Wparishchurch](https://twitter.com/Wparishchurch)

[@Westhoughtontowerbellringers](https://twitter.com/Westhoughtontowerbellringers)

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