



**THE UNITED BENEFICE of ST LUKE'S,  
ENDON with ST CHAD'S, BAGNALL**

*Encounter, Encourage, Enable ...Committed to Sharing God's Love*

[www.endonstlukes.org.uk](http://www.endonstlukes.org.uk)

*Vestry (church office): 01782 502166 or 07517 653370*



**March 2023**

**INTERREGNUM Month 33**

# **LENT COURSE and MOTHERING SUNDAY**



Remember Lent course on  
Thursdays March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>,  
16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm  
in the chapter house.

## **MOTHERING SUNDAY**

March 19<sup>th</sup>

**HOLY COMMUNION 9.15am  
CONNECTIONS at 11.00am  
and at St Chad's  
10.45am FAMILY PRAISE**

## **Also... THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER March 3rd**

*Sheila writes...*The Annual World Day of Prayer Service, jointly held with Endon Methodist Church, will be on **Friday 3rd March** at 2pm at the Methodist Church. This year's service has been written by the ladies of Taiwan and the theme is , "**I have heard about your faith**". When it starts at dawn on 3rd March in Western Samoa and Tonga we will be listening to the 6 pm News on Thursday 2nd March. When it ends at sunset on 3rd March in American Samoa we will be eating our breakfast on Saturday 4th March. *See page 5.*

## MARCH at ST LUKE'S

(services continue in the chapter house)

### SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup>

9.15am HOLY COMMUNION

led by Rev Philip Robinson

11.00am CONNECTIONS

### SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup>

9.15am MORNING WORSHIP

11.00am CONNECTIONS

### SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup>

MOTHERING SUNDAY

9.15am HOLY COMMUNION

Rev David Nicol

11.00am CONNECTIONS

### SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup>

PASSION SUNDAY

9.15 MORNING WORSHIP led  
by Barrie / Roger

11.00 CONNECTIONS



## CONNECTIONS

Sunday at 11am at St Luke's CE Academy in the school hall.

THIS IS A FAMILY-FRIENDLY SERVICE

lasting about 40 minutes followed by games for the children and refreshments.

## MARCH at ST CHAD'S (see p8,9)

### SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup>

10.45am FAMILY SERVICE - KH and team

### SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup>

10.45am HOLY COMMUNION

– Rev Barry Wilson

### SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup> MOTHERING SUNDAY

10.45am – FAMILY PRAISE KH / MF

### SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup>

10.45am MORNING PRAYER KH / MF



*Don't forget  
CLOCKS GO  
FORWARD  
ONE HOUR  
Sat  
25<sup>th</sup> March*

## ST LUKE'S CHURCH OFFICE

Unless involved with funeral duties or is unwell, Barrie mans the office on Mon, Wed, and Fri from 10.30am to 1.00pm using **07517 653370**. During these times the church is open for private prayer.

## ECUMENICAL MIDWEEK SERVICES

Wednesday Holy Communion  
at 9.15am

Mar 1<sup>st</sup> at St Luke's

Mar 8<sup>th</sup> at the Methodist Church

Mar 15<sup>th</sup> at St Luke's

Mar 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Methodist Church

Mar 29<sup>th</sup> at St Luke's



## Come follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad

### Prized Nature

Churchyards are very important places for those whose loved ones are buried there, but a survey of visitors to some churchyards in Sussex found that they are often visited by people who value their peace and beauty.

The Churchyard Award Scheme has been running for over 30 years. It's run by volunteers to celebrate the work of volunteers in maintaining and developing churchyards and church gardens across the diocese of Lichfield. The Award Scheme was originally conceived as a way to encourage care, in the sense of 'grounds maintenance' and that is still an objective. But as we have become more aware of ecological issues, the scheme has devoted more attention to the role of churchyards as precious habitats, and as a diocese we have been blessed to receive lots of support and advice from 'Caring for God's Acre' ([www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk)), a conservation charity focussed on burial grounds, that habitat found in every community.

During the months of May, June, July and August a team of volunteer 'judges' visit the churchyards and gardens and make notes on a wide range of aspects and features. In September the judges meet and prepare certificates for each entrant and draw together some feedback for each individual churchyard or garden. There is then an awards ceremony, usually in October, when achievements are publicly celebrated and ideas are shared. In addition to these elements of the scheme we hold a garden tea party to which all volunteers are warmly invited as a way to express thanks to all who work hard and give time and loving care to maintaining these special places.

When steps are taken to make churchyards more 'nature friendly' this is not always consistent with perfect tidiness, but it demonstrates that the church is actively seeking to address concerns over loss of natural habitats and biodiversity. For these interventions to be appreciated information needs to be provided to explain the presence and purpose of the nature friendly elements.

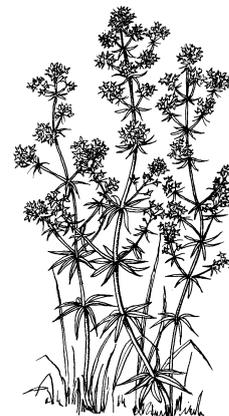
Whether large or small, rural or urban, a churchyard or garden, all are invited to participate. Entry is free – full details of how to enter can be found on the diocesan website under 'Find advice' and then 'Environment' tabs, or just follow this link: [www.lichfield.anglican.org/churchyard-award-scheme-2023.php](http://www.lichfield.anglican.org/churchyard-award-scheme-2023.php).

The closing date for applications this year is 10 April 2023.

***Dr Alison Primrose has led the Churchyard Awards team for the last five years and can be contacted on 07794 515142***



## Time for a Spring Cut?



Do you have an area of meadow or long grass within your churchyard and perhaps your garden too? If so, March may be an excellent month to give it a cut and vigorous rake. Wildflowers and fine grasses can become swamped by coarse tougher grasses, the bruisers of the meadow world, and a spring cut can make all the difference. Cutting in spring really knocks back these coarser grasses such as Yorkshire Fog and False Oat Grass, giving other meadow grasses and flowers a chance to take up the space and receive life-giving sunlight onto their leaves. The vigorous raking will expose soil and break up mats of dead plant matter, all of which allows seeds to germinate in soil and seedlings to reach the sunshine.

But, I hear you say, what about the invertebrates which need coarse grass tussocks and hollow stems to over-winter? This is where management planning is so important; can you designate an area of coarse grass, perhaps adjacent to a wall or hedge, where you can leave it uncut for a year or two? In this way you can maintain areas for over-wintering and also manage the wildflower meadow well.

That's all very well but I have spring bulbs. Ahh, in that case you don't want to do a spring cut, but don't leave areas with bulbs uncut for too long. It's a good idea to cut a meadow after 3 or 4 months growth, never more or it starts to get overrun with coarse grasses and other plants such as hogweed. If you can't do a spring cut because of bulbs then plan for one in early summer - early July or even late June. This area can fill with lovely flowers in May and June and is a **spring meadow**.

A meadow which is cut in March or April can then be left until late July or August and fills with summer flowers such as knapweed or scabious. This is a **summer meadow**.

If you have a bit of both then you'll have flowers all spring and summer long, but it can get a little complicated and it may be best to keep things simple! Have a look at our Action Pack sheet A2 Caring for Grassland (<https://tinyurl.com/22af3rpv>) to remind yourself of the timings.

All the best, Harriet Carty

*Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, [harriet@cfga.org.uk](mailto:harriet@cfga.org.uk),*

[www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk) - individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code **diomem22**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2023

**FRIDAY 3 MARCH**

A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE!



I have heard  
about your faith



**2.00pm at**

**ENDON METHODIST  
CHURCH**

**Followed by light  
refreshments**

**The Service this year has been  
written by the Christian women  
of Taiwan**

**All are welcome**

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# The Methodist Church



**LENT COURSE** with St Luke's on Thursdays 2<sup>nd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> March in St Luke's chapter house at 7.00pm.

## REGULAR EVENTS

- **Sunday 10am Worship**
  - 5 March Deacon Peter Ogle 'Pilate'
  - 12 March Dr Lynne Bradbury 'Thomas'
  - 19 March Mrs Gill Meredith 'Mary'
  - 26 March Rev Eleanor Smith 'Judas'
- **Monday 10am -1.30 Community Café**
- **Wednesday 9.15 Holy Communion**  
Alternately with St Luke's Parish Church
- **Thursday 10.30 Fit-as-a-fiddle**  
Exercise, conversation and coffee
- **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2pm – 3.30pm Bereavement Café (see below)**
- **Friday 10th and 24th March 10am – noon Carers' Café\***
- **Friday 6pm 'Blast' – youth club for 7-11 year olds (during term time)**

***\*SOMETHING NEW FOR ENDON....a notice from Rev Patricia***

***Bereavement Café - at Endon Methodist Church***

***Next one: 14.00 - 15.00 Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and continuing on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month.***

*This is an opportunity for people who have been bereaved to meet and chat over a cup of tea or coffee. This is for everyone - people of all faiths or none are very welcome.*

# FLOWER & CRAFT CLUB



Pauline's demonstration at our last meeting was a very simple one but, also, very effective. She used twigs of catkins and daffodils to create a very springlike arrangement. The arrangement was kept in place with chicken wire, which is a good method of securing an arrangement without using Oasis. Also, as flowers are so much more expensive, a bunch of daffodils goes a very long way. Our next meeting is on **Wednesday March 1<sup>st</sup>**, which is St David's Day (St David's flower is a

daffodil!) followed by another meeting on **29<sup>th</sup> March** which will focus on flowers for Easter. All are welcome, from 1pm to 3pm, to our very friendly group. We need to start planning for the Well Dressing display, so please give some thought to the theme which is **The Elements – Earth, Air, Fire and Water.**

*Sue Forrester 07854 043187*

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## PASTORAL TEAM

- **HILLSWOOD LODGE CARE HOME**

After a three year gap due to COVID, the pastoral team has re-established contact with the staff at Hillswood Lodge and last month began what they hope will be a monthly short service for the residents. Although there is limited space in the lounge area volunteers are welcome to help lead and boost the singing. There is room for about 6 or 7 of us. (We were a bit thin on the ground at the last service with only 3 showing up!)

**The next dates are all Wednesdays, March 15<sup>th</sup>, April 19<sup>th</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup> at 11.00am.** Please inform Shirley or Rev Patricia if you are able to come. The residents really enjoy these services and the chats afterwards.

- **WALKS followed by COFFEE / LUNCH**

Members of the pastoral team are also keen to arrange short walks followed by either coffee or a light lunch at a café. Listen out for details.

# ST CHAD'S NEWS

## A tribute to Roger and Dorothy Hampson...

Many of you will know that Roger and Dorothy were dedicated members of St Chad's for over 50 years. Roger died in 2020 and

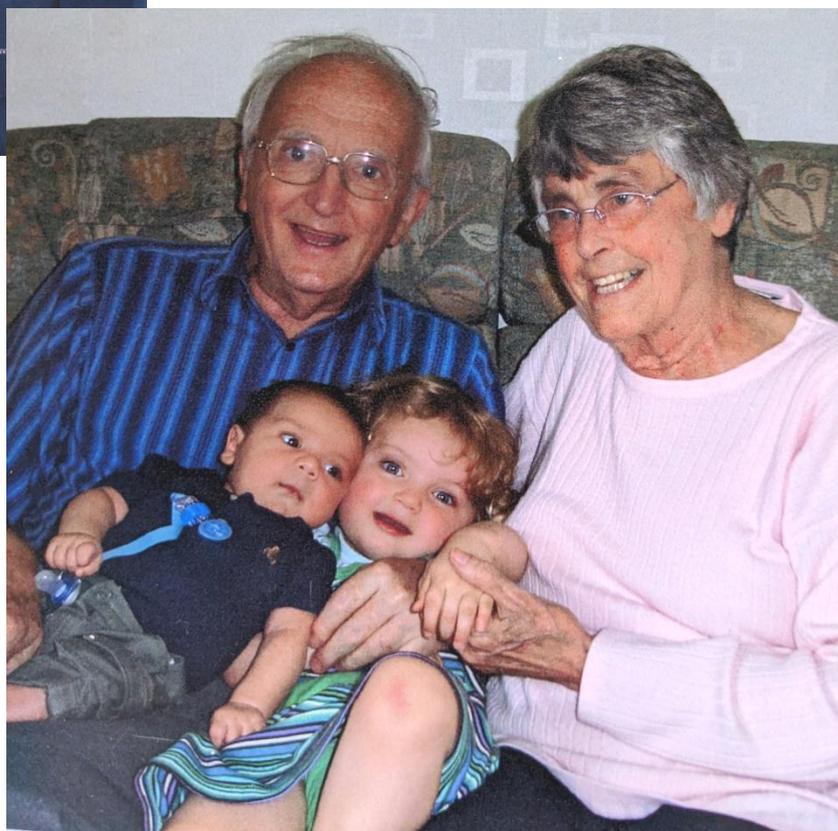


Dorothy died on 25th January this year. Roger and Dorothy married on 17<sup>th</sup> July 1965. After their marriage Dorothy and Roger prayed about where they should go to church and decided it would be a good thing to start their married life at a new church rather than choosing either of their regular churches and that is when their journey began at St Chad's and when I first met them. They were both devout Christians and servants of God. Their faith was evident to everyone and I was truly impressed by



their self discipline in Bible study and prayer. For about 50 years they worked for the church,

Dorothy was a Sunday school teacher, Roger a Pathfinder leader and lay minister. They both served on the PCC and showing her ability once again to look after the pennies Dorothy became Treasurer. They both led home Bible study groups, took Communion to those unable to come to church, ran a Christian bookstall at the Christmas Fayre, paid for a beautiful Christmas leaflet which was delivered to every house in the parish and much, much more.



They are remembered with much love by everyone at St Chad's.

*Kathryn*

# *St Chad's, Bagnall*

*A warm welcome awaits you at our special  
family service for*

## *Mothers' Day*

# "Family Praise"

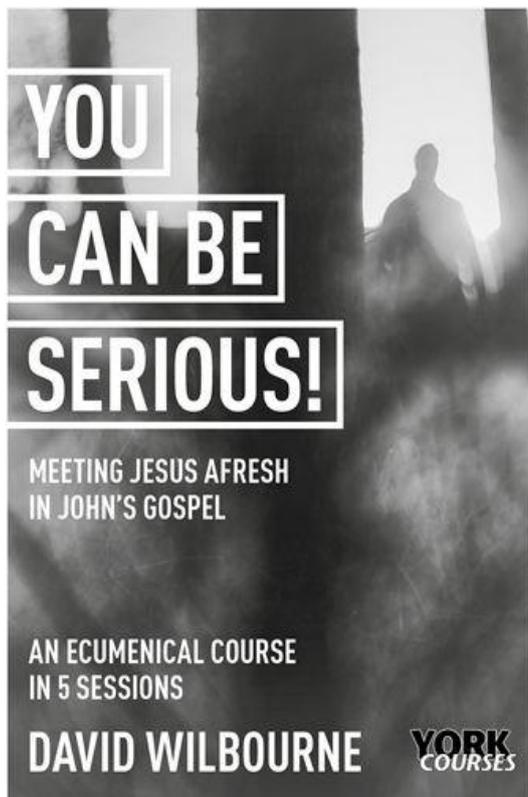
Sunday 19th March

10.45am

*Come and join us as we celebrate all those  
wonderful ladies in our lives, both past and  
present*

You are invited to wear a yellow or floral item of clothing for  
the service, as we come together with joy and mark this  
special occasion!





# LENT GROUPS begin 2<sup>nd</sup> March

This year we will, once again join with our Methodist friends. We will follow a York Course:

**YOU CAN BE SERIOUS! MEETING JESUS AFRESH IN JOHN'S GOSPEL** by David Wilbourne.

Whatever our church denomination, we all use the same Sunday Gospel from the Revised Common Lectionary. Year A focuses on Matthew, but during the first five Sundays of Lent, four of the Gospels are curiously from John. By basing each of the five sessions in this course on the previous Sunday's Gospel, David Wilbourne provides a brilliant connection to the preaching and teaching that has just taken place.

Serious yet full of life and humour, the course covers:

- **Session 1:** Temptation . . .
- On checking every word that comes out of the mouth of God
- **Session 2:** Strangers in the night . . .
- Nicodemus came to Jesus under cover of darkness: finding God in surprising places
- **Session 3:** The winner takes it all
- 'You worship what you do not know': upping our game with worship
- **Session 4:** I was blind but now I see
- 'A god who can be understood is no god'
- **Session 5:** Them bones, them bones, them dry bones, hear the word of the Lord!
- Contrasting events in John with parables in the Synoptics

The course booklet is accompanied by a lively CD, in which David Wilbourne and guests from various denominational backgrounds put forward their thoughts on the themes of the course.

**We will meet in the Chapter House at St Luke's from 7pm on Thursdays 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March.**

**Please let Barrie, Rev Patricia or Rev Eleanor know if you will be attending so we can order enough course booklets. Cost of these is £3.80 each.**



# CHRISTIAN AID WALK 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2023

*Roger writes...*

We are hoping that a group of us will be taking part in the Christian Aid Walk on 25<sup>th</sup> March to be launched by the Bishop of Stafford. This takes place at Tittesworth, and participants have the choice of either a 2 or a 5 mile walk.

We will be putting up a list for walkers and sponsors to sign up. More details later.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE CHRISTIAN AID COMMITTEE  
SPONSORED WALK AT TITTESWORTH RESERVOIR  
Saturday, 25th March 2023



### A message to all walkers

Many thanks for agreeing to take part in our sponsored walk for Christian Aid. It was great to return to Tittesworth last year after our covid interruptions and we do look forward to seeing you.

Donations and promises of financial support have already been made to cover all this year's expenses - so every penny you can collect in sponsorship will go directly to Christian Aid as usual. However, we understand that some of our

Roger welcomes as many as feel able to join him on the walk but if not please sponsor him by signing up on the notice pinned on the board at the back of the church rather than using the JustGiving facility available to internet users. This simplifies things! Please be generous. Your donations are of course even more needed at the present time in the aftermath of the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.

Registration takes place from 9.15am onwards. The walk will commence at 10.00am and we ask that walkers aim to complete the course by 1.00pm. You have a choice of **two** routes – a short 'easy' walk of approximately 2 miles or a longer walk of roughly 5 miles, both of which will be clearly signposted. As usual we will have St. John Ambulance Brigade members on duty together with our own stewards.

Tittesworth have asked that all visitors to the site – regardless of their reasons for going there – pay the appropriate parking fee as indicated on the car park notices.

If you require more of these letters and sponsor forms please ask me (tel. 01782 516137) or contact Mike Willmot at [mwillmot@talktalk.net](mailto:mwillmot@talktalk.net). Obviously, we hope that you will obtain as many sponsors as possible and please be sure to bring your sponsor form with you on 25th (unless you are only using JustGiving in which case a sponsor form is not required). Looking forward to seeing you there.

Best wishes,

*John Bamford*

(Hon. Organiser)

A message from  
**The Leprosy Mission** to all at  
St Luke's, St Chad's and beyond  
who have faithfully saved,  
trimmed and delivered many  
thousands of used stamps over  
the last 25 years or so.



Thank you so much for collecting stamps to raise funds for people affected by leprosy. You have transformed lives.

Over the years you have raised thousands of pounds and transformed lives across Africa and Asia – all with stamps! Sadly, in the last few years the value of stamps has greatly reduced, and we have made the tough decision to wind down stamps and collectibles. We'll continue to accept your collections until **March 31<sup>st</sup> 2023**. We still have a few stamp dealers willing to buy from us up until March. Therefore, the money made from your donation will support the lives of people affected by leprosy.

I wanted to share with you the difference you have made to people like Lami who are affected by Leprosy. Not long after Lami was married, she started getting nerve pain and repeated ulcers on her feet. Lami went to the Leprosy Mission Hospital in Chanchaga, Nigeria. It was here where she was diagnosed with leprosy. Lami was given the vital medicines to cure her of this debilitating disease, but unfortunately one of her legs had to be amputated to save her life.

But, thanks to your kindness, Lami has had her independence and hope restored. The incredible team at the hospital workshop built a bespoke prosthetic leg for her, helping her to regain her mobility. Thanks to you, and other supporters who share your caring heart, Lami receives healing and support from self-help groups, local churches, and the team at Chanchaga hospital.

Without supporters like you, who share your heart for people affected by leprosy, none of this would have been possible. Thank you!

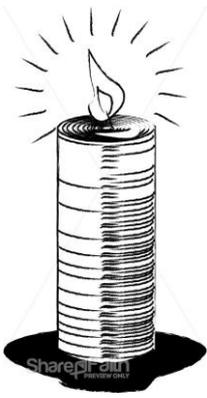
Every Blessing



Florrie Harris

Supporter Relations Administrator

P.S. We'll continue to accept your collections until March 31<sup>st</sup> 2023. You may find an outlet to sell stamps yourself, in which case I'd encourage you to do this and send a donation, so that you can continue your faithful support for people with leprosy.



# CANDLE DEDICATIONS for MARCH

For £2.50 you can keep the Candle of Hope or the Sanctuary Light burning for a week with a dedication.

**Please contact Shirley Brindley on 504089 as soon as possible if you would like a particular date in 2023.**

Mar	CANDLE OF HOPE	SANCTUARY LIGHT
5 <sup>th</sup>	Alan and Maureen Payne to celebrate the birthday of their grandson Olly (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	Barrie Jackson in celebration of Chris's birthday.
12 <sup>th</sup>	Mabel McGrath to celebrate the birthdays of son David and grandson Ewan	Barrie Jackson in celebration of Emma's birthday
19 <sup>th</sup>	Shirley Brindley to celebrate the 7 <sup>th</sup> birthday of granddaughter, Emma	Ann Boulton in loving memory of her parents
26 <sup>th</sup>	Alan and Maureen Payne to celebrate Maureen's birthday (28 <sup>th</sup> )	The candle is kept burning by Avril Weaver

**Happy Birthday!**



## MARCH GREETINGS to

Olly Payne (2<sup>nd</sup>), Steve Dale (3<sup>rd</sup>), Claire Salt (4<sup>th</sup>),  
John O'rourke (6<sup>th</sup>), Ros Benson (15<sup>th</sup>), Deb Podmore (16<sup>th</sup>),  
Vicky Barlow (17<sup>th</sup>), Chris Jackson (20<sup>th</sup>), Wendy Bardell,  
Maureen Payne (28<sup>th</sup>)

*If you would like your own or a family birthday included here please contact Ros 504137*

## Sheila H calls the Brass Cleaning team!

To prepare the church for our Easter celebrations we will be cleaning the brass on **Tuesday 4th April at 10 am**. Please let me know if you will be able to be there. New members will be most welcome. Just bring along some brass cleaner and a couple of dusters. The more on the team the quicker the job is done and the sooner we can put the kettle on!

## St Luke's PCC and APCM

The next PCC meeting will be held on Zoom on **Wednesday March 22<sup>nd</sup>** at 7.30pm. The **APCM** will be held shortly when a date has been fixed. Listen up!



Our next collections will be on  
**Sundays March 5<sup>th</sup> and April 2<sup>nd</sup> .**

Registered Charity No. 1153990 in England and Wales

## **NEWSLETTER January 2023**

Dear Friends

It's difficult to believe that the first month of the year has gone already, but here we are in February. January was a significantly quieter month than December, which is to be expected, BUT, when you look at the figures for January 2022 in brackets, you can see that the need has increased dramatically over the last year, and is likely to continue to do so.

Here are the figures for January (January 2022 figures in brackets) :

<b>Total vouchers fulfilled</b>	<b>= 126</b>	<b>(57)</b>
No. of Adults fed	= 184	(80)
No. of Children fed	= 109	(45)
<b>Total no. fed</b>	<b>= 293</b>	<b>(125)</b>

I must admit, even though I am in the thick of it most of the time, it really does stop me in my tracks when I do comparisons such as this. I think we are learning to work a bit "smarter" in order to cope with the increased workload. Thankfully, the vast majority of our referrals are now coming through electronically, (of the 126 vouchers in January only 2 were not electronic), which means that a) we have a pretty good idea of how busy we are going to be before the day and b) we can contact clients to arrange timed collections spaced throughout the day if we think we are not going to be able to manage to welcome all our clients in the two hour afternoon slot. So huge thanks to our referral agents for responding to my nagging and switching to the e-referral system.

I am going to mention Matt from Citizens Advice again, because our job would be so much harder without him. For us to be able to say to new clients, who contact us with a complex mix of negative emotions because of the situation they find themselves in, we can give you food and also practical financial advice, is so beneficial and plays a huge role in those clients trying to get back on their feet again. Our stock levels have survived the Christmas onslaught pretty well, again thanks to the amazing kindness of our supporters. During January we received 4336kg in donations and distributed 3998kg of food. This is particularly pleasing as donations do often tail off after Christmas as people feel the need to tighten their financial belts. We are so enormously grateful, thank you.

We continue to receive huge support from our two main supermarkets, Morrison's and Sainsbury's. Sainsbury's have an ongoing cash collection for us, which is then converted into £10.00 gift vouchers, which we can distribute to any clients who are in particular need, or who have complex dietary needs.

Morrison's selected us as their charity to receive donations from their Christmas Giving Tree campaign, which has resulted in an amazing sum of £1206.00. We shall be doing the first of many supermarket sweeps this afternoon to use this wonderful gift.

Our shopping list remains the same, with all items gratefully received:

<b>Longlife semi-skimmed milk</b>	<b>Fruit squash</b>	<b>Cereals</b>
<b>Pasta sauce</b>	<b>Sponge puddings</b>	<b>Tinned tomatoes</b>
<b>Tinned vegetables</b>	<b>Tinned rice pudding</b>	<b>Teabags/Coffee</b>
<b>Instant mash</b>	<b>Rice</b>	<b>Tinned meat</b>
<b>Tinned potatoes</b>	<b>Tinned fish</b>	<b>Tinned fruit</b>
<b>Tinned soup</b>	<b>Custard</b>	<b>Biscuits/snack bars</b>
<b>Ketchup/brown sauce</b>	<b>Chocolate</b>	

In addition, we distribute household cleaning products – washing up liquid, multi-surface cleaner, cleaning cloths and laundry liquid. Toiletries – shampoo, conditioner, shower gel, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, razors and shaving foam. We are seeing a lot more families with young children, so would particularly welcome donations of nappies – all sizes, along with the whole range of baby and child toiletries. Then not forgetting the four legged members of the household, with a need for wet and dry dog and cat food.

If you are a donor, please try to deliver your donations at the Foodbank on Tues and Fri between 10.00 am and 12 noon – as it gets very busy with clients after this time. Alternatively, you may use any of our Permanent Collection Points which are still available at various locations listed on our website -

**<https://leekdistrict.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food>**

We now have a new collection point in the Leek branch of Asda. We are also able to collect any large donations - please contact the Foodbank to arrange this.

If any of you would like to discuss anything relating to the Foodbank or arrange a visit, please contact me at [projectmanager@leekdistrict.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:projectmanager@leekdistrict.foodbank.org.uk) or on 07916 005064.

We continue to welcome corporate volunteers, school groups and individual volunteers, and we are always very happy to show people around and share with them the work we are doing.

Love, best wishes and blessings to you all.

***Lindsey Stockton***  
***Project Manager***

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## **FILING CABINET...FREE TO A GOOD HOME!**

If you could use a filing cabinet please get in touch with James and Ros.



**ANOTHER QUIZ!** *If you enjoyed the last quiz you may like to have a go at this one which was used recently as a fundraiser for the Leek Parkinsons Support Group. This time the clues relate to towns and cities in England. Answers next month.*

1. A lightweight boulder (12) .....
2. His Majesty's girl (5, 4).....
3. Sent here, not speaking (8).....
4. Attached to a stream (10).....
5. Someone loved props up weight (10).....
6. Film star crooner (6).....
7. Store strong red wine here (9).....
8. This mental processing centre has many branches (9).....
9. Embarrassed lady in Cornwall (7).....
10. Continue to mock (7).....
11. He must be a green US president (7).....
12. Butcher tying up the bacon (10).....
13. Sounds like a metal estuary (10).....
14. Journey on horseback (4).....
15. Ancient actor, overacting (6).....
16. Pond for swimming (5).....
17. Male trunk placed before the Queen (10).....
18. Played at a posh school (5).....
19. Essential to sail on board ship (5).....
20. A one-eyed sea dog (6).....
21. Ma, bring him for alteration (10).....
22. Beats hard at entrance to field (8).....
23. Boycott a group of typists (9).....
24. Wide steps (11).....
25. A quiet, safe place (10).....
26. Bovine crossing (6).....
27. It's safe to drink (10).....
28. Inter (4).....
29. Cockney says "Give it to me!" (7).....
30. Sister was cannibalised (8).....

# **March Prayer Focus**

- **The recent upsurge of violence in Northern Ireland**
- **The government of Northern Ireland and the border problems created since Brexit**
- **The current threat from China supporting Russia in the war in Ukraine**
- **Those in Turkey and Syria in desperate need after the devastating earthquakes**
- **All the aid agencies and volunteer rescue / recovery teams**
- **For a generous response to the appeal for donations**
- **Urgent resources for Ukraine**
- **The Ukrainian refugees**
- **Those taken prisoner by the Russians**
- **Those taking refugees into their homes in the UK and Europe**
- **An end to the war**
- **The government of our country in the light of the current industrial problems**
- **All those affected by the widespread industrial action**
- **Wisdom, good health and stamina for our new King and all working members of our Royal Family**
- **Climate change and that the COP27 conference will bear fruit**
- **Those affected by the severe floods and landslides and those trying to help them**
- **Those seeking justice for women in Iran and regime change**
- **For those on low incomes in the light of the rise in energy bills**
- **Those coping with severe weather conditions here and in other parts of the world due to climate change**
- **Avian flu and farmers affected by it as well as our wild bird population**
- **Organisations striving to get aid into Afghanistan where women have been banned from working as aid workers**
- **East African countries on the verge of famine**
- **The problem of people-trafficking across the Channel and those seeking asylum**
- **The threat of monkeypox and those currently affected**
- **All hostages still in Iran awaiting release especially Morad Tahbaz and Mehran Raoff**
- **Citizens of poorer countries who have not yet had a COVID vaccine**
- **Improved safety for women on our streets**
- **The huge problem of loneliness**
- **Refugees everywhere especially in Yemen and the US border with Mexico**
- **All suffering at the hands of deeply corrupt governments**
- **Loved ones in our parish who are currently unwell**
- **Our church wardens and worship leaders during the interregnum**
- **Bishop Matthew and Archdeacon Megan and the appointment of our next incumbent**
- **The Church of England dealing with a shortage of clergy and funds**
- **Those affected by the recent upsurge in knife crime**
- **The widespread drug problem especially in Stoke-on-Trent**
- **Lou Macari's hostel for the homeless in Hanley**
- **The problem of the millions of plastic bottles afloat in our oceans and the tons of 'space junk' orbiting our planet**
- **All who have lost loved ones recently**
- **The Trussell Trust food banks still needed as much as ever**

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For the duration of the interregnum the newsletter is available on-line as a PDF attachment and on the church website.

Paper copies are available for those without internet access.

Please contact Barrie if you would like a paper copy or know someone who would. Please submit notices for our next newsletter to Ros Benson by **Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> 2023.**

either by e-mail [jandrbenson@btinternet.com](mailto:jandrbenson@btinternet.com) or phone 504137.

## ***ST LUKE'S LENT LUNCH ...well done folks!***

*We extend a huge THANK YOU to all members of the team who provided us with a very tasty lunch on 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb. Much thought and planning had clearly gone into this event and those of us who attended as consumers were very appreciative not only of the delicious array of soups, rolls, cheese and fruit but also the attention of those who were waiting on and clearing up afterwards. Congratulations to all concerned!*

*At the time of typing the total raised stands at **£185** to help pay for the church heating. If you were unable to join us but would like to make a donation please see Sheila Hurst as soon as possible.*