



+ serving God and community +

Parish Review

St. Luke's Church & Cronton Mission

In December church will be open for Holy Communion on Sundays, Christmas Eve 11pm and Christmas Day 10am.

All services in church will be on Zoom.

The service rotas for December and January are on Pages 11 & 12



Christmas
Eve
3pm
on Zoom

December 2020 and January 2021 £1



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St Luke's Farnworth Parish

Churchwardens

Barry Horabin	12 Buckingham Ave	07471350957
Pat Johnson	17 Bridewell Court	07717522878
Colleen Harper	251 Lunts Heath Rd	07946389162
Rob Leach	via	07761672030
Deputy Warden	Barry Ingram	01514232492
Lay Chair	Barry Ingram	01514232492
Funeral Vergers	Wardens	
Project Manager	Barry Horabin	01514249887
PCC Secretary	Sandra Lacey	07761672030
PCC Treasurer	Yvonne Horabin	01514249887
Safeguarding Officer	Margaret Campbell	01514246039

**SUNDAY CLUB, CHOIR PRACTICE and
BELL RINGING PRACTICE CANCELLED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE**

Sunday Club 1030am in the Bridewell most Sundays

Sunday Club Leader Lynn Keeling 01514243142

Director of Music Paul Delaney 07778042553

Choir Practice usually Monday 6-7pm in church

Tower Captain Nigel Goulding

Bell ringing practice Tuesdays 7.30pm

Schools Farnworth C.E. Primary 01514243042

Cronton C.E. Primary 01514243881

Editor Philip Lacey 07710030973

Kebbs Farm Clock Face Road Bold Widnes WA8 3XH

**Please submit any material, articles or adverts, via
email to farnworthreview@yahoo.co.uk with
attachments in Word, Arial font 12 Bold.**

Deadline for articles noon on 18th January 2021.

**The Editor, Clergy and the Churchwardens reserve the
right to omit or edit material provided for inclusion in
this magazine.**

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Dear Friends,

**“CHRISTMAS COMES BUT ONCE A YEAR ...
AND WHEN IT DOES IT BRINGS GOOD CHEER”**

The saying which is the title of my letter this month is worth pondering for a moment. What is your first response? The first part (Christmas comes but once a year) might make some of us think, “Well thank goodness for that!”; and the second (...and when it does it brings good cheer), “I hope so - I could really do with some!”

I am always conscious that readers of this letter are experiencing a huge variety of emotions because of the particular circumstances of life’s ups and downs that you find yourselves in. Some of you are sailing along very happily and others are not. Some are very conscious of recent blessings and others of recent tragedies. Some are counting the days (or sleeps if you have youngsters) in eager anticipation of family celebrations and some are dreading a first Christmas without that special loved one.

This year, for many struggling with the restrictions placed on us because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the prospect of a very different Christmas than those we have celebrated in the past is a definite reality.

However, as we draw ever closer to the celebration of our Lord’s birth we remind ourselves of that first Christmas. The world that the infant Jesus was born into was, in many ways, very much like the world still is today.

The sickness, strife, warfare, injustice and oppression that fill our newspapers (and for some, our lives) were very much a part of ancient Israel too. Amazingly, despite these depressing realities, the message of the angel to the shepherds was one of joy, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people. Today in the city of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."

Those shepherds and the other first hearers of the good news found that somehow their spirits were lifted to a higher plain in which they were able to see how the birth of Jesus showed that God had not forgotten his promise of a Saviour. Through God's grace this can and does still happen today. My prayer for you, especially if you are not looking forward to Christmas this year, is that the message of good news would lift you up to that higher plain and that Christmas would bring you "good cheer".

I invite you to join us either in church or through the miracle of technology as we celebrate the Saviour's birth this year; no matter what the particular circumstances you are experiencing at the moment. Inside this magazine you will find a list of our Christmas services and the various methods by which you can take part. I encourage you to come and see if God's grace will lift you up as you worship him.

May you have a happy, holy and blessed Christmas and a healthy and peaceful New Year.

Your friend and vicar,

Bob

PUBLIC WORSHIP

The services in church will continue to be livestreamed via zoom for those in a vulnerable category, or simply not ready yet. I want to emphasise that if you are in one of these categories, including being over 70, then you should think carefully before attending. Of course, everyone will be welcome and no-one turned away but the choice (and potential risk) is yours alone.

If you decide to come then you will find that church services are currently very different from what you are used to.

For example:

The wearing of face masks is compulsory.

You will be required to use the hand sanitiser gel provided on entry and exit.

You will be asked to observe social distancing and sit only in the pews clearly marked.

Singing by the congregation is not permitted but the choir (socially distanced) can sing

Please use the QR code or a Warden will take a note of your name & telephone number to be kept for 21 days in case we need to trace you in the event that a fellow congregation member becomes ill.

Of course, the rules are constantly changing and no doubt, guidance from the Diocese will change as time goes on. I would ask you to join me in praying that we might make good decisions that minimise the risk to health by careful attention to detail.

May God bless you and keep you safe from harm,
Bob

DECEMBER SERVICES at ST LUKE'S CHURCH

Sun Dec 6 th 10.30am	Holy Communion Church and ZOOM
Wed Dec 9 th 9.30am	Morning Prayer ZOOM ONLY
Sun Dec 13 th 10.30am	Holy Communion Church and ZOOM
Wed Dec 16 th 9.30am	Morning Prayer ZOOM ONLY
Sun Dec 20 th 10.30am	Holy Communion Church and ZOOM
Wed Dec 23 rd 9.30am	Morning Prayer ZOOM ONLY
Thurs Dec 24 th 3pm	CHRISTINGLE ZOOM ONLY
Thurs Dec 24 th 11pm	Midnight Communion Church and ZOOM
Fri Dec 25 th 10am	Holy Communion Church and ZOOM
Sun Dec 27 th 10.30am	Holy Communion Church and ZOOM
Wed Dec 30 th	NO SERVICE

JANUARY 2021 SERVICES at ST LUKE'S CHURCH

Sun Jan 3 rd 10.30am EPIPHANY	Holy Communion Church and ZOOM
Wed Jan 6 th 9.30am	Morning Prayer ZOOM ONLY
Sun Jan 10 th 10.30am	Holy Communion Church and ZOOM
Wed Jan 13 th 9.30am	Morning Prayer ZOOM ONLY
Sun Jan 17 th 10.30am	Holy Communion Church and ZOOM
Wed Jan 20 th 9.30am	Morning Prayer ZOOM ONLY
Sun Jan 24 th 10.30am	Holy Communion Church and ZOOM
Wed Jan 27 th 9.30am	Morning Prayer ZOOM ONLY
Sun Jan 31 st 10.30am	Holy Communion Church and ZOOM
Wed Feb 3 rd 9.30am	Morning Prayer ZOOM ONLY

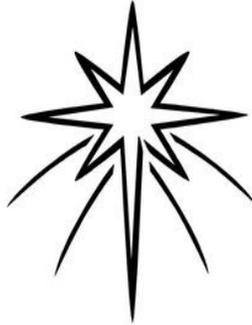
As the government announces new restrictions guidance from the Diocese may change our planned services so please check our website

st-luke.co.uk

for the latest information.

You can contact us using Contact Us tab on the website.

CHRISTMAS ANGEL and STAR TRAIL



Would you like to be involved in this?

Simply hang a star or an angel, or both, in a prominent place in your window[s]

during Advent, and leave it there for the whole of the Christmas period.

Just as the angels heralded the news to the shepherds that a New King had been born and the star guided the Kings to the stable, so we invite people to prepare to welcome the baby Jesus into **their** homes this Christmas. It is going to work a little bit like the Rainbows for the NHS. Local school children will be encouraged to count the stars and angels as they are walking around.

This is something a little bit different this year with not too much skill required. You can use bought Christmas decorations, be creative and make your own **or** collect angel and star cards from St Luke's Church during service times, these you can then colour in and hang in your windows.

If you have facilities to print, a star and an angel image may also be downloaded from the church website at **www.st-luke.co.uk**

Let us make this run up to Christmas, this season of Advent, a special time and get as many people on board as we possibly can.

SLS



Angel poem by Paul Delaney

(From his poetry book, 'I'm fed up!') (c2012)

Invisible hands grabbed my pen and danced it across the page.

The golden nib flowed with ink, scrawling a secret phrase.

A friendly voice whispered to me, from an ancient, holy place.

And as I read my secret phrase, an angel touched my face.

I read the words revealed to me and lifted up my heart.

Somebody's always protecting me, watching from afar.

They walk with me through tunnels, dark, damp and grey.

And listen to my heart, through every night and day.

When I've had enough, I'm unhappy, a moan and a groan.

I read my secret phrase and I realise, I'm not alone...

Angel from Jade and Dora



NOT EVERYTHING IS CANCELLED

sunshine is not cancelled
spring is not cancelled
love is not cancelled
relationships are not cancelled
reading is not cancelled
naps are not cancelled
devotion is not cancelled
music is not cancelled
dancing is not cancelled
imagination is not cancelled
kindness is not cancelled
conversations are not cancelled
hope is not cancelled



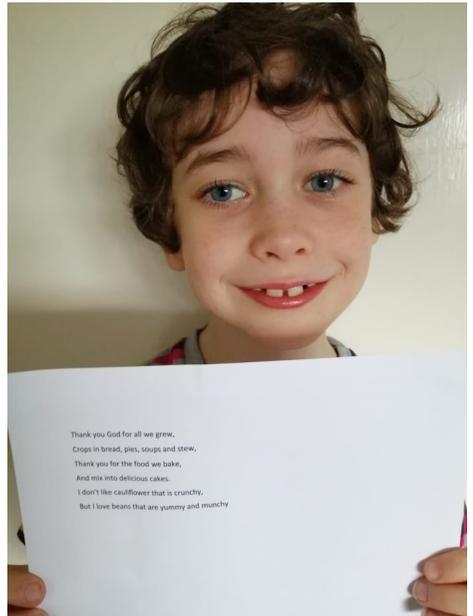
#keeplookingup
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HARVEST FESTIVAL

This year the Festival was celebrated in church and on Zoom. In church Barry Horabin provided a display of produce, mostly from his allotment.

On Zoom the Sunday Club children were involved with poems and prayers. They were brilliant, thanks to them and Lynn Keeling, their leader.

Here are a selection.





Dear Lord God

Thank you God for giving us seeds to plant

Thank you God for giving us the rain and sunshine and our wonderful farmers who make the seeds grow.

Thank you God for all the different and beautiful fruits and vegetables that you give to us at harvest.

Thank you God for giving me the food to eat so I don't know what real hunger is.

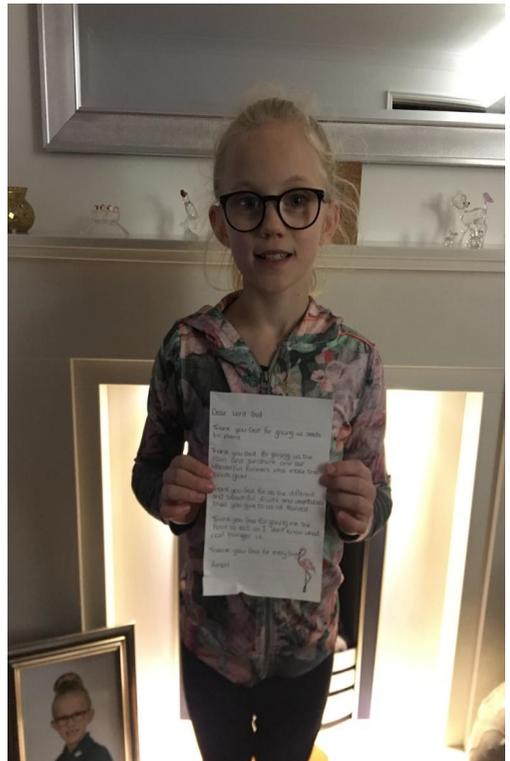
Thank you God for everything

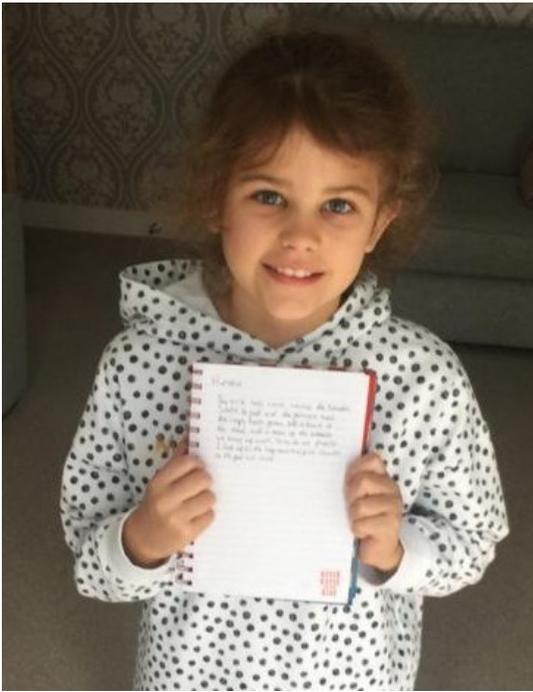
AMEN



Harvest

The time has come where the leaves start to fall and the farmers hope the crops have grown tall a touch of the wind and a blow of the breeze we wrap up warm so we do not freeze. I look up to the sky above and give thanks to the god we love.





Advent Wreath



Thank you to Lesley for making our traditional Advent wreath.

Advent Prayer by Robert Louis Stevenson

Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be your children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

MOTHERS' UNION

Unfortunately, we have not been able to meet and the way things are it has been decided we will leave it until the new year. In January we hope to have our belated Christmas social with carols and mulled wine. Something to look forward to. I wasn't expecting to have to write such sad news in the magazine. We were so sorry and shocked to hear about Doreen Whimperely who died on October 28th. A truly lovely lady. She was a member of St Ambrose Mothers' Union, but when it disbanded, she came with her friend Shelia to join our small band of members. Always willing to help and get involved with our meetings. I know she did a lot for the St Ambrose branch, happy to set up and put away as well as being involved in their meetings. She always seemed to enjoy our meetings and we will all miss her. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family.

After the shock of Doreen, we then had the sad news about Dorothy Wall who died on the 6th November. As you may know Dorothy had advanced cancer. She died in Warrington hospital with a chest infection that turned to pneumonia. Heavily sedated with morphine it was a blessing she was awake long enough for the visit from the chaplain. Dorothy loved coming to our meetings. She enjoyed the company and the speakers we had. She always had fun at our social evenings joining in with Christine's fun and games. She enjoyed our trips and looked forward to our Christmas meals. I know she struggled in lockdown as she loved company. Our thoughts are with her family. She will be missed.

On Wednesday October 21st another of our M/U members Olwen Dean was laid to rest. It has been many years since Olwen attended our meetings, some members will remember her. So sad another member has gone. Colleen attended the funeral on behalf of the Mothers; Union.

I think a lot of us are getting weary of lockdowns and quarantines however necessary they are. Quarantine isn't a new thing. During the Black Death, authorities in Venice imposed a period of isolation upon crews of arriving ships. They were quarantined on an island in the lagoon. That does sound quite pleasant. They had to stay there for 40 days and it was known as quarantena from quaranta meaning 40.

Zoom has enabled us to have a service on line. Pat Allerton the vicar at St Peter's church in Notting Hill London is the Instagram Portable Priest. During Lockdown he wanted to deliver hymns & prayers to the local communities Before lockdown he would have around 80 people attend his services, now he has 150-200 tune into his livestream on a Sunday. A lot of people are getting comfort from his on-line church service and there has been a spike in people in people googling 'how to pray'. For months the headlines have been about death rates and people are reminded that they are mortal and fragile. They are seeking comfort. He said the pandemic made him realise it is not about the church building but the people.

Usually, in November we have a craft evening. For all you talented knitters we can still do helpful things in lockdown. This pattern was given to the Methodist arts and crafts by Julie Stritch (Eva Burrows daughter).

NEW BORN BABY HATS - Red, Green and Yellow wool.
4mm (8) needles. Cast on 48 stitches, Knit 6 rows in rib (k1 p1) continue in stocking stitch until hat measures 4 inches from the beginning. Decrease for top: Knit tog (24st) purl, Knit tog (12st) purl, Knit tog (6st), cut wool leaving a long tail. Thread through remaining stitches, pull tight and sew edges together. These 3 colours are used by nurses so they can tell the needs of the baby. Smaller hats are needed in red and yellow.

We will miss our Christmas meal this year. Here is the sort of joke that we might well find in a cracker. 2 bed bugs met each other in the sheets. They fell in love and decide to marry in the spring. Oh dear it does have that Christmas cracker cringe to it.

God willing, we will meet in January for a meeting of Christmas social. Our subs are staying the same this year of £23 to be collected in January.

May the Lord be with us all this Christmas and New Year.
Rita Poole

Parish Register	Funerals	Rest in peace'	
Widnes crem	5th August	Marjorie Harvey	94
Widnes crem	12th Oct	Nancy Greenwood Cooke	92
Widnes crem	13th Oct	Merfyn Griffiths	74
Widnes crem	21st Oct	Anthony Hobday	84
Church	21st Oct	Alwyn Dean	85
Widnes crem	30th Oct	Margaret Morris	80
Widnes crem	13th Nov	Glenda Lea Burgess	66
Widnes crem	18th Nov	Fred Fisher	89
Church	18th Nov	Dorothy Wall	72
Widnes crem	23rd Nov	Marlane Small	78
Widnes crem	1st Dec	Brenda Simm	96
Church	2nd Dec	Lynn Margaret Stacey	69

Eternal rest grant upon them , O Lord and let
perpetual light shine upon them.

May the souls of the faithful departed through the
mercy of God, rest in peace.

Treasurer's Report, January –October 2020

Receipts £81,359 Expenses £105,741. Deficit £24,382

In my last report, I was hopeful that we would be able to pay the parish share for November, but this will not be possible at the moment. I will be able to review this situation once I have the Bank statements for November. The surplus funds available at the end of October towards the parish share amounted to £3,258. The estimated surplus for November based on income from Parish Giving Scheme and standing orders is £1,900, however we did have further funds banked on 2nd November from church collections on 1st November amounting to £1,636 which included a generous donation of £1,000 in memory of a loved one. Obviously there will be no more collections in church in November. Added together this leaves a possible surplus of £6,794. towards the November Parish share. The monthly parish share is £6,956.91.

Yet again, we have had quite a few more parishioners changing their giving from cash to the parish giving scheme in the last two months. Thank you.



Also if possible send cheques via Rev Bob with your regular giving envelopes, rather than cash. The bank charges us more for depositing cash than cheques.

Thank you so much for your continued support. Yvonne Horabin (Treasurer)

St Luke's PCC Barclays Bank details.

Account name:- Farnworth St Luke Parochial church council
Sort code 20 91 48 Account no 30369292 .Your name as reference or by cheque payable to St Luke's PCC c/o Rev R Pearson The Rectory,
10 Hartland Close, Widnes. WA8 9FB.

News from Cronton

LML Lesley is on sabbatical until 2021 as her work with NHS is so time consuming in these unprecedented times.



A Parish Council member laid a wreath at the Cenotaph on behalf of Cronton Mission as not possible to have our usual service.

At Cronton School the children are coping well with the situation and staff members are providing opportunities so school as 'normal' as possible. After school clubs started but then stopped because of restrictions. Debbie Doyle and Rev Bob would like to thank staff members and children for adapting to new ways of doing things. As there will be no welcome service for Reception class a video is being produced.

It is great to see so many Cronton families joining services at St Luke's on Zoom. Hope you can all join the Christingle service 3pm Christmas Eve. Usual church meeting ID and password.

Thank you for your donations to the Toy Appeal.

As Cronton Mission has not been open since March the contributions through offertory has been significantly been reduced. Debbie Doyle has giving envelopes for 2021 so if you would like a set please contact Debbie or sign up for the Parish Giving Scheme. Details can be found on our website st-luke.co.uk or contact our Treasurer Yvonne Horabin 01514249887.

CRONTON MISSION

Can I encourage all of you to please join us in this way until we can return to having our services back in the school building?

I can promise you a very warm welcome if you can either come in person to St. Luke's church or join us online if you prefer.



Even if you only have a simple landline telephone you can dial in and listen to the service.

To join us via Zoom or by telephone see Page 27.

WHATSAPP GROUPS

Cronton Mission - so that we can keep in touch with each other and I can quickly share any developments with you. If you would like to be invited to join this group please send me your mobile number on 07904320542. Rev Bob



St. Luke's church - so that we can keep in touch with each other and I can quickly share any developments with you. If you would like to be invited to join this group please send me your mobile number on 07761672030 Sandra Lacey PCC Secretary



**To support the
Children's
Society
DECEMBER
24th at 3pm
VIA ZOOM**

Due to continuing COVID-19 19 restrictions, we are **really sorry** that this year we will not be able to host our now legendary Christingle Services in St Luke's church itself.

But do not worry, we have it all in hand!

Our Christingle Service for 2020 will be an interactive extravaganza with songs, a story, a craft activity and so much more, all delivered through the wonders of ZOOM.

We are planning to make up 'Do-it-yourself packs'.. you will just need to provide an orange OR a round fruit or vegetable of some kind...be inventive in 2020!

The packs can be collected from the porch of St Luke's church between 3pm and 4pm on Friday December 18th, or on Saturday December 19th from 10am to 11am.

Last year, we gave £700 to the Children's Society from the collections at Christingles. Please donate to this worthwhile cause. To kindly donate, you can click this link:

[St Luke's - Christingle fund raising for The Children's Society](#)

Or there will be a collection tin in the porch when packs available and the contactless machine will be there too.

The Children's Society introduced the idea of a Christingle. They need our support to empower young people to make positive changes and rediscover their hope.

They work alongside young people, their families and the community to create a society built for all children. Each element of a Christingle has a special meaning and helps to tell the Christian story:

- The orange represents the world
 - The red ribbon (or tape) symbolises the love and blood of Christ
 - The sweets and dried fruit represent all of God's creations
- The lit candle represents Jesus's light in the world, bringing hope to people living in darkness.

The Meeting Log-in and ID for the Christingle service on Christmas Eve will be our usual Sunday codes which you can find below.

If you are unable to collect a pack or need further information then please ring Sue on 07962012916.

We are setting ourselves a challenge and are hoping to break our ZOOM record for the most number of families joining us.



Sundays 10.30am (60 mins)
Wednesdays 9.30am (30 mins)

To join Zoom online

Meeting ID 5095149528

For the password please contact
Sue 07962012916 or Clare

07976549410

To listen to service with Zoom from
landline or mobile dial

02036950088 enter password

Corona virus rap! May 2020 by Paul Delaney

We're on the lockdown, we can't go out.
But the sun's still shining – what's that all about?
Life has changed beyond recognition.
And humanity's searching for an act of contrition.
Prestigious cars not going anywhere.
Their badges irrelevant, a broken love affair.
Empty airports and silent blue skies.
Designer clothes that nobody buys.

And old Mrs Martin's watching the news,
Listening to experts' scientific views.
Her son's a doctor and her daughter's a nurse,
Fighting 24/7 against this curse.
She's saying her prayers for the N.H.S.
and essential workers who're sorting this mess
and innocent victims spread around the earth,
and a better tomorrow, mother nature's rebirth.

We're all caged animals, birds with broken wings.
But beginning to appreciate those little things
like family and friends, a hug and a kiss
and life's simple pleasures, the things we all miss.
Shopping till you're dropping without complications.
A cheeky gin and tonic at family celebrations.
Watching favourite sports, competing in the park.
meeting friends in the pub, drinking after dark.

I wonder, will life will ever be the same again?

CHRISTMASES PAST

I wonder how many memories this will evoke of Christmas' past from those of us who are 'of a certain age'.

This is just a few lines written by Dylan Thomas called,

'A child's Christmas In Wales'.



Bags of moist and many-coloured jelly babies and a folded flag and a false nose and a tram-conductor's cap and a machine that punched tickets and rang a bell; never a catapult; once, by mistake that no one could explain, a little hatchet; and a celluloid duck that made, when you pressed it, a most unducklike sound, a mewing moo that an ambitious cat might make who wished to be a cow; and a painting book in which I could make the grass, the trees, the sea and the animals any colour I pleased, and still the dazzling sky-blue sheep are grazing in the red field under the rainbow-billed and pea-green birds. Hardboileds, toffee, fudge and allsorts, crunches, cracknels, humbugs, glaciers, marzipan, and butterwelsh for the Welsh. And troops of bright tin soldiers who, if they could not fight, could always run. And Snakes-and-Families and Happy Ladders. And Easy Hobbi-Games for Little Engineers, complete with instructions.'

Do you remember those tins with all the different coloured paints? They were also jewel bright to begin with then the colours became 'muckier' after a few uses. I always loved to receive a tin of toffees, the picture on the lid of a cute puppy or little kitten. No plugs or batteries required for the games I grew up with, Ludo and Snakes and Ladders. How times have changed!

SLS



Christmas By M.E. Miro

Christmas is more than a day in December
It's all of those things that we love to remember
Its carollers singing familiar refrains
Bright coloured stockings and shiny toy trains
Streamers of tinsel and glass satin balls
Laughter that rings through the house and its halls
Christmas is more than a day in December
Its the magic and the love that we'll always remember,.

Christmas poem from Santa for the children by Paul

Christmas is coming and I've been watching you.
Everywhere you go and everything you do.
You're a special superstar! I'm so proud of you this year!
But don't forget to write your list.
Then Santa will appear.
Go to bed early on frosty Christmas Eve.
Snuggle up safe and warm and sleep and dream - believe!
Rudolph's pulling my sleigh now, through silver, starry
skies!
At last, it's Christmas morning so unwrap Santa's
surprise...

Toy Appeal 2020



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!
What an outstanding response we had to the Toy Appeal.

In the past, this Appeal has been limited to our Uniformed groups, particularly the Beavers and the Cubs and for several years we have been involved in leading and coordinating a special church service where the boys and girls present their gifts. But, since services are not possible this year, we expanded the Appeal to include not only the uniformed groups, but also our church and school families **and** the local community. And **YOU** have been so very generous.

We received so many bags packed with gifts of toys and chocolate and toiletries suitable for all ages from babies right through to young carers.

It took a convoy of eight loaded-to-the-hilt cars to deliver all the gifts to Trinity Kings Cross project. ...huge thanks to everyone that helped with that. There a team of volunteers will sort the donations into age categories and arrange delivery. One of their team told us that there were already in excess of 150 needy families on their list and they expected that number to rise. They will send us final details early in the New Year.

That small team of volunteers for the project have a mammoth task ahead of them and we send them our thanks and appreciation for the part they play in the distribution of these gifts, gifts that will mean so much and bring happiness to those who, because of so many different circumstances, might not have received any presents this year. So once again, 'Thank you', you have been super generous and it is so appreciated. Sue and Clare



A huge thank you from PCC to Clare and Sue for preparing this amazing service based on Time and Talents. Here are some examples of talents of our children.





Daily Bible Readings December 2020

1 st	Luke 10:21-24
2 nd	Matt 15:29-37
3 rd	Matt 7:21-27
4 th	Matt 9:27-31
5 th	Matt 9:35-10.6
6 th	Mark 1:1-8
7 th	Luke 5:17-26
8 th	Matt 18:12-14
9 th	Matt 11:28 to end
10 th	Matt 11:11-15
11 th	Matt 11:16-19
12 th	Matt 17:10-13
13 th	John 1:6-8,19-28
14 th	Matt 21:23-27
15 th	Matt 21:28-32
16 th	Luke 7:18b-23
17 th	Matt 1:1-17
18 th	Matt 1:18-24
19 th	Luke 1:5-25
20 th	Luke 1:26-38
21 st	Luke 1:39-45
22 nd	Luke 1:46-56
23 rd	Luke 1:57-66



Daily Bible readings January 2021

Jan 1 st	Luke 2:15-21
2 nd	John 1:19-28
3 rd	Matt 2:1-12
4 th	Matt 4:21-17, 23 to end
5 th	Mark 6:34-44:
6 th	Mark 6:45-52
7 th	Luke 4:14-22
8 th	Luke 5:12-16
9 th	John 3:22-30
10 th	Mark 1:4-11
11 th	Mark 1:14-20
12 th	Mark 1:21-28
13 th	Mark 1:29-39
14 th	Mark 1: 40 to end
15 th	Mark 2:1-12
16 th	Mark 2:13-17
17 th	John 1:43 to end
18 th	Mark 2:18-22
19 th	Mark 2:23 to end
20 th	Mark 3:1-6
21 st	Mark 3:7-12
22 nd	Mark 3:13-19
23 rd	Mark 3:20-21

**Daily Bible Readings
DECEMBER 2020**

24th Luke 1:67-79
 25th John 1:1-14
 26th Matt 10:17-22
 27th John 1:29b to end
 28th Matt 2:13-18
 29th Luke 2:22-35
 30th Luke 2:36-40
 31st John 1:1-18

JANUARY 2021

24th John 2:1-11
 25th Matt 19: 27 to end
 26th Luke 10:1-9
 27th Mark 4:1-20
 28th Mark 4: 21-23
 29th Mark 4:26-34
 30th Mark 4: 35 to end
 31st Mark 1:21-28

Don't forget the Foodbank at Christmas

The Trussell Trust worked with nutritionists to make sure that the food parcels supplied by food banks in our network contain at least three days' worth of nutritionally balanced meals for individuals and families. These emergency food parcels are not designed to meet long-term need – that's why food banks also offer additional support like debt advice where possible.

A typical food parcel includes:

Cereal	Soup	Pasta	Rice
Tinned tomatoes/ pasta sauce			
Lentils, beans and pulses		Tinned meat	
Tinned vegetables	Tea/coffee	Tinned fruit	
Biscuits	UHT milk	Fruit juice	

Food banks will also provide essential non food items like toiletries and hygiene products where they can.

Thank you for your continued support.



REMEMBRANCE DAY 2020

Sadly, due to the current restrictions and the fact we were in a Lockdown 2 scenario, many official Remembrance Day parades and services planned for November 8th, [the nearest Sunday to the 11th] were cancelled and those that did take place with fewer numbers seemed even more poignant than ever.

At St Luke's, we were determined to honour those who had given their lives in conflict and we actually brought our Service of Remembering forward to Wednesday Nov 4th when small socially distanced congregations were still permitted, and, via the wonders of Zoom, others were able to join us from home. Barry, as the Warden stepping down to be Assistant Warden and Collen, who was recently appointed to the role of



Warden, presented the two wreaths at the altar and individual crosses were also laid there by congregation members.

Just Bob and I were in church for the Sunday service in church on the 8th, when we once again read out all 173 names of the local men, women and boys who died in wars. That is not an insignificant number and it is such a privilege to remember each by name. We, at St Luke's, won't ever forget their sacrifice.

Later that day, I watched the very moving televised service from Westminster Abbey to mark the 100th anniversary of the burial of the Unknown Warrior. Simon Armitage, the English Poet Laureate, read a very moving poem that recorded how the unknown fallen soldier, not known by name or rank, was transported from being “broken and sleeping rough in a dirt grave” to being buried “among drowsing poets and dozing saints” in Westminster Abbey.



The staff and children of Farnworth School held their own very special ‘bubble’ version of Remembering. Every single child came out of school at 10.55am on what was a very cold and blustery November 11th, they gathered in their class ‘bubbles’ to stand in silence to remember. As the church clock struck 11, not a single peep came from those children, some of whom are only 4 years old. It was such a huge privilege to be allowed to be there to take part in and witness their absolute focus and respect.

SLS

MEASURE

To allow the Church of St John to leave the East Widnes Team there is a legal procedure. So as well as displaying the notice at church and here it was read at services. Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 Draft Pastoral Scheme The Liverpool Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee has prepared a draft Pastoral Scheme which provides for:

- 1.terminating the team ministry established for the area of the benefice of The South Widnes Team Ministry (together with reducing its area by the transfer of the parish of Saint Paul, Widnes); for the Reverend Canon Roland Harvey to continue to be the benefice's incumbent, for the future patronage arrangements for the benefice; and for altering the name of the benefice of The South Widnes Team to "South Widnes"
- 2.amending the housing arrangements for the team vicar in the team ministry established for the area of the benefice of The East Widnes Team Ministry (together with reducing its area by the transfer of the parish of Widnes Saint John);
- 3.the union of the parish of Saint Paul, Widnes and the parish of Widnes Saint John to create the new parish of Widnes Saint John and Saint Paul;
- 4.the creation of a new benefice of Widnes Saint John and Saint Paul (its area to comprise the new parish by the same name created above); and for:
 - the appointment of the first incumbent of the new benefice;
 - his place of residence; and
 - the future patronage arrangements for the new benefice all within the Diocese of Liverpool.



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Contact Rev Bob

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