



+ serving God and community +

**Parish Magazine**

*St. Luke's Church & Cronton Mission*



**Christingle services 3pm and 5pm on  
Christmas Eve more details Page 10**

**HOLY COMUNION**



**Christmas Eve 11pm  
Christmas Day 10am  
Sunday 26th  
December 10.30am**

**December 2021 and January 2022 £1**



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PCC Secretary	Sandra Lacey	07761672030
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Sunday Club Leader Lynn Keeling 01514243142

Director of Music Paul Delaney via 07946389162

Choir Practice usually Monday 6-7pm in church

Tower Captain Nigel Goulding

Bell ringing practice usually Tuesdays 7.30pm

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Cronton C.E. Primary 01514243881

Editor Philip Lacey 07710030973

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Please submit any material, articles or adverts, via email to [farnworthreview@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:farnworthreview@yahoo.co.uk) with attachments in Word - Arial font 12

Deadline for articles noon on 18th January 2022.

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

**MERRY CHRISTMAS and A PEACEFUL NEW YEAR**  
from the EDITOR.

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**PCSO Sophie Roe Widnes Local Policing Unit will be there to chat if you have any concerns.**

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## Dear Friends,

We have a lot of events and services coming up to celebrate Advent and then Christmas, a wonderful time in our Church's year and we look forward to worshipping with you!

Advent is often seen as the preparation time for the Christmas celebrations and as you read this you, along with many people up and down the country, religious or not, may be in the middle of your gift buying and Christmas card writing. I have to say that that I love it all; I am a pushover for all the glitz and frills – so long as the true Christmas message is heard as well!

Obviously, in this country the vast majority of people are very familiar with at least *some* of the Christmas message. You could argue that most people know quite a lot about the superficial and surface meanings and, to be fair, *some* of the religious meaning. But so much about Christmas has been twisted by familiarity, commercialism and the rest that if we are to hear what God is saying we still need to listen very carefully.

The Christmas message is not easily or quickly grasped. Yes, even during a global pandemic, it is party time and fun; yes, it is a time of gifts and gratitude; yes, it is a time for the family; yes, it is a time for wide-eyed wonder along with desires and hopes and expectations; yes, it is a time for happiness together with some other rather mixed emotions. But what is its secret? What is it that God is saying to us to which we must listen very hard?

Sometimes the coming of Jesus is described as the mystery of the Incarnation, by which is meant God's coming to earth as a human being. The all-knowing, all-powerful creator of the universe coming to live among us as a fragile little baby named Jesus. Though not exactly unseen, his arrival was not seen by many. A star led the way for some, a host of angels told others, and an archangel gave the news to his young mother-to-be. But for most, God's power was shown in a very subdued and easily missed way. The inner truth of Christmas that God wants us to understand is that like in the coming of his Son he most often acts silently and in such ways that his creative and redemptive work often goes unnoticed and unacknowledged: BUT IT STILL HAPPENS.

This puzzles us because when the world tries to act powerfully it is almost always noisy, sensation-seeking, dramatic and calculated to make the headlines. Some people expect God to do the same. But the coming of Jesus reveals how God acts in and through hidden-ness. This is how God's power is released into the world. It takes a lifetime to ponder such a truth. Little by little we learn not to be disturbed when we find God working: powerfully and with real purpose but quietly, unseen and often unrecognised. God's ways are not our ways.

At Christmas listening carefully to what God says and does in Jesus produces a deep response of wonder, adoration and thankfulness. As the hymn from the Liturgy of St James says:

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand,  
Christ our God, to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.*

I am aware that this magazine, both the printed and on-line version, has a wide readership and is not restricted just to believers by any means – a fact I am delighted by. So, if I could just speak for a moment to you who haven't yet decided to follow Jesus.

Perhaps you have never fully heard or understood the Christmas message; maybe something done by the church or by a church-goer has put you off the idea; it could be that you feel you have too many doubts or questions to commit yourself or that your upbringing led you to shun organised religion. If any of these categories describes your situation then let me give you my personal invitation – please, come and join us for a service or two over this festive period. There are full details of all the services inside this magazine. Come with an open heart and mind asking quietly for God to reveal his Son to you – and just maybe this Christmas may be your best ever by a long way!

With a prayer for Jesus to have pride of place in our Christmas celebrations this year,

Your friend,

Revd Bob

**Christingle is a joyful celebration that brings families & communities together to share the light of Jesus and spread a message of hope.**

Christingle has always been a popular event, a time for families & the community to come together to worship & celebrate and we are pleased to be able to share this event with you again this year.

To try to make this event as safe as possible in the current Covid pandemic Christingle this year will be a **ticket only event**, tickets will be needed for **ALL children and adults** who wish to attend. We are also encouraging all adults to undertake a **lateral flow test** in the 24 hours before the event and all adults to **wear masks** during the service.

There are two services

**3pm & 5pm on  
Christmas Eve.**

Doors will be open 15 minutes before the services begin.

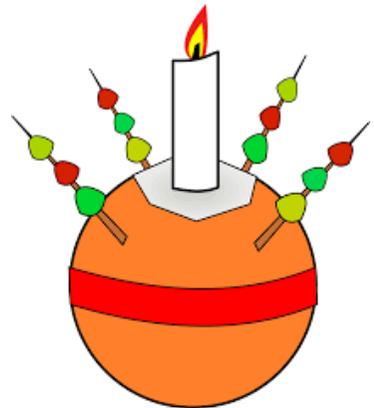
Don't forget your Christingle

The service will also be broadcast on Zoom, see church website for further information

<https://www.st-luke.co.uk/>

There will also be an opportunity to make a donation to The Children's Society and / or the life of the church (we currently have no heating, so wrap up warm!)

**Tickets are FREE go to the church website to book**



## East Widnes Team Service Rota December 2021

St Luke's church Sundays 10.30am services and Christingle on Zoom

Date	St Ambrose	St Luke	Cronton
<b>Wed 1<sup>st</sup></b>		<b>9.30am MP</b>	
<b>Sun 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9am HC</b>		
	<b>10.30am HC</b>	<b>10.30am HC</b>	<b>10.30 MP</b>
		<b>12.30pm Baptisms</b>	
<b>Wed 8<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>9.30am HC</b>	
<b>Sun 12<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>8am HC</b>	
	<b>10.30am MP</b>	<b>10.30am HC</b>	<b>10.30am Café Church</b>
		<b>3pm JAM CLUB</b>	
<b>Wed 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2pm Blue Christmas Service</b>	<b>9.30am MP</b>	
<b>Sun 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.30am Holy Communion</b>	<b>10.30am MP</b>	<b>10.30am HC</b>
	<b>4pm Carols &amp; Christingle</b>	<b>6pm Nine lessons &amp; carols</b>	
<b>Wed 22<sup>nd</sup></b>		<b>9.30am HC</b>	
<b>Fri 24<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>3pm Christingle</b>	<b>NO SERVICE</b>
<b>CHRISTMAS</b>		<b>5pm Christingle</b>	
<b>EVE</b>	<b>11pm Midnight HC</b>	<b>11pm Midnight HC</b>	
<b>Sat 25<sup>th</sup></b>			<b>NO SERVICE</b>
<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	<b>No Service</b>	<b>10am HC</b>	
<b>Sun 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>No Service</b>	<b>10.30am HC</b>	<b>NO SERVICE</b>
<b>Wed 29<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>NO SERVICE</b>	

## East Widnes Team Service Rota January 2022

Date	St Ambrose	St Luke	Cronton
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30am HC		
		10.30am HC	10.30am MP
		<b>NO BAPTISMS</b>	
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup>		9.30am HC	
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup>	9am Holy Communion	8am HC	
	10.30am MP	10.30 HC	10.30am Café Church
		3pm JAM CLUB	
Wed 2 <sup>th</sup>		9.30am MP	
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am HC	10.30 MP	10.30am HC
	12.30pm Baptisms	12.30pm Baptisms	
		6pm HC	
Wed 9 <sup>nd</sup>		9.30am HC	
Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup>	9am Holy Communion		
	10.30 HC	10.30am HC	10.30am Café church
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup>		9.30am MP	
Sun 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO SERVICE</b>	<b>NO SERVICE</b>	10.30am HC TEAM SERVICE

### FLOWER ROTA - NO FLOWERS IN ADVENT

December 26th Mrs J Hughes

Jan	9	Mrs R Collins
	16	Mrs J Edwardson
	23	Mrs S Smither
	30	Mrs O Wilde

# HARVEST FESTIVAL



The church looked beautiful thanks to the Flower Arrangers Lesley, Brenda, Joy and Vivien, who do an amazing job all year round with exceptional arrangements at special times. Brenda has been arranging flowers with Lesley for years and hopes to continue for many more but after 20 plus years she has given up her tea serving duties. PCC would like to thank Brenda for her many years of 'tea' service and her commitment to flower arranging.



thank you to everyone who donated items at our service for the Foodbank and to Barry Ingram who takes donations to the Foodbank

**Reception Welcome Service** - On a bright, sunny morning we were delighted to welcome this year's Reception class children, their Y6 buddies, parents, grandparents, younger siblings and carers to Church for their Welcome Service. The previous day, the children got absolutely drenched as they walked up to rehearse but even that did not dampen their enthusiasm. Miss Dalziel and Miss Picton's classes led the service. The boys and girls were so smiley and full of confidence as they told us all about their new experiences in School. They sang a very special song called, 'I'm a Miracle', and they truly were. Mrs Critchley and Mrs Fletcher's classes sang a song in Ghanaian to which they signed and some little buddies even joined in. It has been such a long time since we have been able to welcome the school children into church; as a church holding the Liverpool Diocese Child Friendly Church Award, we have missed them so much. We hope that this will be the first of many occasions when they will come to join with our Church family. A big THANK YOU to all children and staff members for a memorable, joyful service, there were very proud parents that day. We hope to see you again soon.

## Toy appeal 2021

Thank you so much to our St Luke's congregation members, to our Sunday Club families and many friends living in our community for your generosity in donating toys to the Kings Cross Toy Appeal. This is just a selection of the toys brought in.



So many needy local families will benefit from the amazing selection of toys and toiletries that you donated this year. THANK YOU.

It was wonderful to have Sunday Club join us in church for the whole of our service and they spoke about their own favourite toys. Well done boys and girls you were the 'Stars of the show' as usual and we so look forward to having you with us on December 19th for the Nativity service.



## JAM CLUB November 14<sup>th</sup> Theme of Remembering

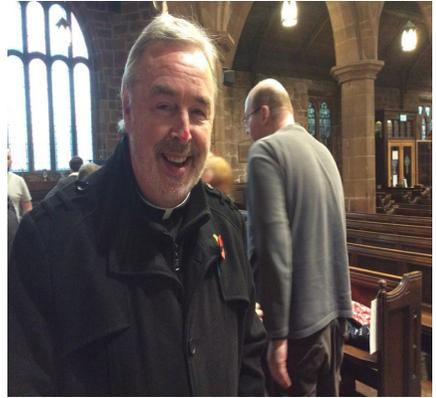
Jack was excited to be out of his box again and the children were keen to say, 'Hello!'



Happy, smiley JAM Club mum, dad and children.

We had such a busy JAM Club and I needed lots of help from the children to tell the Story of Noah. Noah had lots to REMEMBER. God had asked him to build a huge ARK so he had to REMEMBER the instruction for that. **THEN** he had to REMEMBER to gather pairs of all different types of ANIMALS to go into the ARK with him and Mrs Noah and their two sons. **THEN** Noah had to REMEMBER to SHUT THE DOOR before the rain started to pour down. **THEN** he had to REMEMBER to FEED THE ANIMALS every morning and every night. Noah must have been very tired by the time the rain stopped falling. **THEN** he had to REMEMBER to SEND OUT THE DOVE to see if there was any dry land and he had to do that TWICE. Poor Noah must have been exhausted! But **THEN** he had a wonderful reward for all his REMEMBERING because God sent a beautiful RAINBOW and a promise that he would ALWAYS look after us. We talked about having to REMEMBER that God made each of us and we are all different. Our FINGER PRINTS are UNIQUE....so we used them to fill in some of the colours in rainbow. Noah needed so much help from his family, he couldn't possibly have done it without them so we also have to REMEMBER to say THANK YOU to everyone who helps us.

We made WISE OWL Thank you cards to give to someone special who helps us. **THEN** we had a sharing time with toast and drinks and of course, we REMEMBERED to say a big THANK YOU to all the Church helpers. We could not have managed without Alma, Colleen, Pat J, Pat W and Bob who actually ended up with a red nose at one point! THANK YOU SO MUCH EVERYONE! We definitely had fun and we look forward to seeing everyone at our JAM NATIVITY on December 11<sup>th</sup>.  
Sue



### ANGELS and STARS

This Christmas we are inviting you to decorate your windows with angels and stars. That very first Christmas, angels startled the shepherds with their 'Tidings of great joy' and the guiding star led them and the Wise Men to that lowly stable where an amazing sight greeted them. Mary and Joseph with Jesus, their precious son, the Saviour of the world.

Let us share that GOOD NEWS with our neighbours with our displays. You can collect angel and star templates from church or download from website [st-luke.co.uk](http://st-luke.co.uk) or contact me on 07962012916 and I will get one to you.  
Sue



## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY November 14<sup>th</sup> 2021

As people left church, there were many positive comments about this year's service; it definitely seemed to have had a profound effect on those who attended and it was a privilege for Bob, Clare and I to lead the service. Thank you to Paul for the music he played as we gathered and to the choir, Gail Beswick and Barry Ingram for their contributions.



Baz presented our Royal British Legion Poppy Wreath this year on behalf of the congregations of St Luke's, Zoe represented our Sunday Club children along with Imogen, she is one of our youngest church members who comes with her mummy and daddy to our Crèche.

There wasn't a sound as the names of the fallen from Farnworth and Bold Parishes were read out; a sobering, horrifying total of 127 from the First World War and 45 from the Second World War and we included the name of one young local man who died in a more recent conflict. WE WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER THEM



Lastly, a special thanks to Lesley and her team of flower arrangers for the lovely displays of poppies on the font, in the choir window and out in the porch.  
Sue





**EWT Team Service**  
**St Ambrose Church, Oct 31<sup>st</sup> 2021**  
**Songs of Praise**  
**with Holy Communion**

**Words of Welcome & Opening Prayer**

Be still	40
Guide me O thou great Jehovah	148
How great Thou art	425
Servant King	120
Such love	514

**HOLY COMMUNION**

Thine be the glory

**Closing Prayer and Blessing**



On Sunday, October 31st, members of the three congregations in the East Widnes Team of Churches came together at St Ambrose Church to worship in word and in song with a celebratory Songs of Praise. Rev'd Lyn welcomed everyone and said an Opening Prayer, Clare and I introduced each hymn with some interesting facts; we included the 'old favourites' and some more modern worship songs. Dave Roberts read the Gospel and I had the privilege of preaching. We received Holy Communion and sang one final hymn before the closing Blessing. Daniel Rathbone, our previous Director of Music, didn't disappoint in playing not only the hymns but also a lovely selection of music before and after the service.

We were invited to stay for tea, coffee and 'posh biscuits', which most people did; we all really enjoyed the hospitality and the fellowship with the opportunity to mingle and chat with people from the other churches across the Team.

A huge 'Thank you' to everyone at St Ambrose for their warm welcome and the refreshments, both were very much appreciated.

The next fifth Sunday is January 30<sup>th</sup> 2022 when Cronton Mission Church will host the service, we look forward to that. Sue

## **St Luke's: A Time of Remembering    November 7<sup>th</sup> 2021**

It is always difficult to know how many people will respond to returning to St Luke's Church for a Remembering Service, especially when the pain of loss of a loved one is so intense and going back to the place where they said their last Farewells takes so much courage. But, despite the chilly evening, many families came to quietly remember their loved ones, some of whom had died recently and others some time ago.

The gentle service included prayers, hymns, readings, music with a time of reflection and the opportunity to light candles and float rose petals in memory of loved ones.



On that evening, just to be with so many others who have experienced the pain of loss was so very powerful and as I said in my sermon, the stones of St Luke's are steeped in the pain of grief and sorrow. But equally, they have known love, hope and joy and there was, by the end of the service, a real sense of healing and light.

We will continue to hold all those who came to the service in our prayers and we hope that they left feeling reassured that their loved ones are safe in God's keeping.

Sue

# Moon Meadow

## We have raised the roof!



I am pleased to be able to say that the roof repairs at Moon Meadow Scout and Guide HQ have now been completed and we are now able to use the building again!! Thank you to you and everyone who supported fundraising efforts for this project with generous donations – you are all superstars!

In November 2021, the 12<sup>th</sup> Widnes Beavers and Cubs, Aquila Explorers and 16<sup>th</sup> Widnes Rainbows began meeting at Moon Meadow for the first time since March 2020 and both our Brownie groups will be back with us very soon too. We are currently looking to put a new team of leaders together so our Scout group can also begin meeting again – if you are interested in getting involved with the Scouts or know of anyone who would be interested please let me know, it would be a shame if this group could not start up again.



There are still plenty of jobs to do but the building itself is now water-tight and we are planning to hold our Sing-Along-A-Santa event on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021, starting at 6:30pm at Moon Meadow. This event will also be the official re-opening event for Moon Meadow, we launched our 'Raise the Roof' fundraising campaign at the Sing-Along-A-Santa event in December 2017 so it seems fitting to celebrate re-opening of Moon Meadow at the same event – 4 years later!

**Clare Liptrott**



You are invited to join us at:

## **Sing-Along-A-Santa**

Celebrating the best Christmas present ever:

## **Re-Opening Moon Meadow HQ**

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021**

**6:30pm**

**Moon Meadow HQ**

- ❖ Have a look at our brand new roof
- ❖ Help us say 'thank you' those who helped raise or donated funds AND the team who completed the work
- ❖ Join us singing Christmassy songs
- ❖ Munch on some festive refreshments.

## **Birchfield Meadow Community Meadow - Remembrance Project**

On Remembrance Sunday at the Birchfield Community Meadow there was an opportunity for local families to pay their respects with a large cross decorated with poppies being placed on the fence of the meadow and a short Act of Remembrance. In the run up to this there were events to allow families to come and help decorate the cross with poppies and local schools and other local groups were invited to support this project by creating their own remembrance wreaths to hand on the fence of the meadow along with a Remembrance Cross. We hoped that young people would enjoy the opportunity to explore the importance of remembrance, whilst also being creative and getting involved with a project that is at the heart of the community in which they live, helping to grow a sense of community and responsibility in our young people.

It was a great success! With local schools, nursery and uniformed organisations getting involved and we were able to display 9 wreaths along with the magnificent poppy cross.



Lots of people from the local community came to join in with the Act of Remembrance, which was focused on being accessible for children and young people, although I think everyone, both young and old, appreciated it.

Remembrance is an opportunity to pause and reflect. In times of emergency, conflict and war, there are always people trying to help and protect others and Remembrance is a time when we remember and give thanks for these people - people who help and protect us now and those who have done so in the past, especially remembering the people who have been hurt or have died protecting us and our way of life.

The red poppy is a sign of both Remembrance and hope for a peaceful future. Poppies are specifically a symbol of new life after conflict, as they were the first flowers to grow and bloom on the battle-scarred fields of the First World War. And whilst the red poppy is the UK's recognised and universal symbol of Remembrance, not all countries choose to use poppies.

Symbols used in other countries include:

Marigolds in India and Pakistan

Cornflowers in France.





The Birchfield Community Meadow project is also symbol of Remembrance - the project began as a memorial to the horses who used to live in this field, Heather and Snaffles - and now we have new horses here! The aim of the Community Meadow is to bring floral life to the area and to encourage a sense of community and responsibility in our young people.

**Clare Liptrott**



The season of Epiphany is an invitation for each of us to reflect on the many little 'epiphanies' in our lives. The first Sunday of Epiphany is a time to reflect on the moment when 'the heavens opened' at Jesus' Baptism and we were given a glimpse of Father, Son and Holy Spirit at the heart of all things. The poem below is by Malcom Guite.

Beginning here we glimpse the Three-in-one;  
 The river runs, the clouds are torn apart,  
 The Father speaks, the Spirit and the Son  
 Reveal to us the single loving heart  
 That beats behind the being of all things  
 And calls and keeps and kindles us to light.  
 The dove descends, the spirit soars and sings  
 'You are my beloved, you are my delight!'



# COMMUNITY CAROLS

**Birchfield Community Meadow**  
**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December**  
**3 – 4 pm**



- ❖ **Come along & join in !**
- ❖ **Sing Christmas carols**
- ❖ **Wrap up warm & share Christmas vibes with your community**
- ❖ **Children (& adults) who come in nativity costumes can be part of the pop-up nativity scene.**

A big "hello" from everyone at St Luke's Church and Cronton Mission Church AND Jack!



We would like to invite you to join us at our children and family worship - Jesus and Me (JAM) CLUB on the **second Sunday in each month 3pm to 4pm at St Luke's Church. Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December.**



This time of worship will be focused on families with young children but children of any age, in fact anyone who is young at heart, is welcome to come and join in. There

will be bible story, songs and crafts and a time to share toast together. The theme for December will be Christmas.

For further information please don't hesitate to contact me (Clare 07976549410). Clare & Jack xx

## Cronton Mission

Well, we are back into our stride with weekly services at Cronton with leadership from Rev Bob, Clare, Sue and Lesley. We welcomed our wonderful new reception children and their families to Cafe style worship on the 26th September. We wish to thank Jodi Whitehouse, a parent, Ethos group leader and Governor, who donated bibles to the children on behalf of Grace Church, Halewood. The Harvest service was a little different this year - KS2 children recorded a presentation for the Church service due to the concern of bringing too many children and parents together indoors. Their teaching and prayers were amazing and we loved joining in their Harvest Samba. Donations were gratefully received for FOODBANK.



The annual service of Remembrance was again cancelled by the Cronton Parish Council.

The children laid both the school and church wreaths on the 11<sup>th</sup> November.

The Mission joined in worship at the Methodist Chapel on Remembrance Sunday - after so many months of separation. It was wonderful to share a service on such an important occasion. Their refreshments are always amazing too.



As we approach advent, we now know that the Ecumenical Village Service have again been affected by Covid 19 restrictions. Let us hope and pray that the start of the new church year and Christmas season brings the opportunities and strength for us to continue to make a bigger difference to the people in Cronton

At the start of this new church year, could I ask that you take time to consider how you support your church. St Luke's and Cronton Mission are registered with the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), this is the most efficient way of giving and is more efficient than envelopes, standing orders and cash on the plate. Full details are available on the St Luke's website, [www.st-luke.co.uk](http://www.st-luke.co.uk)

"For God loveth a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians, 9 verse 7 )  
Debbie Doyle

### CRONTON SERVICE NOVEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>.

It was such a privilege to lead the service up at Cronton on the first Sunday of November. There, in the congregation were Rev Ray and Pam and I reminded Ray that it is because of HIM I was actually standing there before them on that day. When I was put forward to train to be a Reader, Ray was the first point of contact, the first of many hurdles if you like. Had he not recommended me to go to the next step, the process would not have gone any further. So, in many ways, you have Ray to blame for my ministry among you!



There was a wonderful mix of familiar faces and also some new families I had not met before. As it was also All Souls that day, I included a quiet time of reflection in the service when people were invited to come forward to light a candle in memory of a loved one; they appreciated that.

The children quietly beavered away on the 'Light of the world' activities throughout the service and they produced some lovely pictures which they shared with us. Sue

## **Fabric Report.**

Following on from the fire in the boiler room at the end of September, estimates have now been submitted to the Insurance Company, for their approval. The cost of this work has been included in the Treasurer's report. Please support our appeal if you are able, thank you.

Unfortunately, it is looking very unlikely that the heating will be back on before Christmas. This is due to problems with the contractor being unable to obtain certain materials and parts that are required to do the work. Our Architects, who are overseeing the process with the Insurance Company on our behalf, are in contact with them to see if work can be started on the removal of the old boilers and damaged wiring and install the frames and wiring for the new boilers whilst waiting for the outstanding parts to arrive. Please continue to wrap up warm when you come into church and you can always bring a cushion with you to sit on too.

The dedicated team in the Churchyard of Community workers continue to keep our churchyard neat and tidy. I have been assured that they will be able to do this for the foreseeable future, which is great news and a fantastic help to our own churchyard volunteers.

Barry Horabin Churchwarden

## **Treasurer's Report January –October 2021**

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Adjust</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Receipts</b>	<b>66286</b>	<b>9299</b>	<b>75585</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b><u>(69908)</u></b>	<b><u>(22945)</u></b>	<b><u>(92853)</u></b>
<b>Deficit</b>	<b><u>(3622)</u></b>	<b><u>(13646)</u></b>	<b><u>(17268)</u></b>

The total Parish share due for January to October amounted to £70270 less credits of £9,299 =£60,971. We have been able to pay £38,026 towards this leaving £22,945 still outstanding to the diocese. The actual figures above refer to the monies received and paid out in the period. The adjustments in receipts £9,299 is for Parish share credits for 2021. In expenditure £22,945 is for Parish share owed to Diocese at end of October 21. No payments were made to the diocese towards Parish share in October, to enable Funds to be available to pay for the replacement boilers as below. We have been notified by the Insurance Company that the Church will be responsible for the cost of replacing the boiler that caused the fire which will be

£4910, plus the excess of £500 on our policy, making a total of £5410. The remainder of the claim will be paid by the Insurance company, which will be in the region of £28,000. Thank you for the donations so far towards the boiler fund, we still need to raise around £2,000 and 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.**

**SUNDAY CLUB**

We have been busy doing lots of activities and learning about the teachings of Jesus. The children learnt about what Jesus meant when he talked about being a servant. It means thinking about others more than ourselves and helping people with kindness. Another time we heard the story from Matthew 19:14 about how the disciples were trying to keep people away from Jesus especially the children who they didn't see as important but Jesus asked them instead to let the children come to him saying -

***'Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.'***

He wants us all to be humble like children, they have precious trusting hearts and we can learn from their innocence and see how they develop trust and love in God.

On Remembrance Sunday at the service Zoe represented Sunday Club by laying a wreath in Remembrance of those who fell. Zoe carried out her duty of laying a wreath with dignity and pride. Thank you Zoe.

We will soon be in the throes of getting ready for our Christmas nativity, which the children will perform at the morning service on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December. Please do try and join us.

But before that we will be having our annual Christmas party on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December at which we are hoping to get a visit from Father Christmas himself if he's not too busy. So very exciting and busy times ahead for us all.

So it just leaves us to wish you all a happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy 2021.

Lynn, Amanda and all of the children at St Luke's Sunday Club

# Sunday Club and creche children at the TOY SERVICE



E	D	E	E	G	A	M	O	H	T	BETHLEHEM
C	H	L	K	I	D	E	T	S	E	EAST
H	T	I	I	N	I	H	A	A	G	INFANT
I	N	H	N	H	H	E	S	T	E	KING
T	A	R	G	F	C	L	O	R	A	STAR
A	F	R	O	I	E	H	A	A	M	HOMAGE
D	N	Y	L	A	L	T	A	S	O	LEADER
E	I	M	D	R	S	E	R	R	H	DATE
S	K	E	T	A	D	B	D	Y	I	CHILD
A	R	B	E	T	L	E	M	E	M	DELIGHT
										GOLD
										MYRRH



## PARISH REGISTER BAPTISMS

3 Oct	St Luke	Lucy Beatrix Maher
	St Luke	Meadow Grace Pealing
16 Oct	St Luke	Mikey Cooke
17 Oct	Cronton	Ruben Wright
		Arlo Wright
24 Oct	St Luke	Noah William Filson
		Kamira Emira Marachino
7 Nov	St Luke	Nancy Rose Inch
		Arthur Alan Melvin
		Oscar Thomas Melvin
21 Nov	Cronton	Mason Lucas Foster
28 Nov	St Luke	Esmae Elsie Tipping
28 Nov		Teddy Stuart Davis
28 Nov		Sophia Esther May Evans

PARISH	REGISTER	WEDDING
16 Oct	Gemma Elizabeth Fitzgibbon	
	Alan Russell Cooke	

PARISH	REGISTER FUNERALS		LOCATION
12/10/2021	John Hughes	59	crem & St Luke
13/10/2021	Beryl Hudson	86	Crematorium
19/10/2021	Jessie Elizabeth Owens	93	St Luke & crem
26/10/2021	William James Lawton	95	Crematorium
28/10/2021	David Fenney	56	Crematorium
01/11/2021	Trevor Douglas Davidson	73	Crematorium
16/11/2021	Emily Rose Elizabeth Hayes	8 days	Graveside at Cemetery
22/11/2021	Vivien O'Neill	77	Crematorium
29/11/2021	Leslie Fawcett Hudson	87	Crematorium

# OPEN DOOR and GAMES GALORE WEDNESDAYS

Church will be open at 9.30am service  
(30 minutes) until 4pm

People on hand to show you around our  
beautiful church and chat to you over a cuppa.

## 'GAMES GALORE'

*Grosvenor Women's club* is hosting and providing  
refreshments

**1.30pm to 3.30pm Wednesday**

Men welcome.

**Come and join a light hearted group of people who play  
games - scrabble, chess, dominos, UNO and many more.**



**Folk getting to know each other and sharing  
laughter and tales recalling childhood memories  
of games played. Afternoons are free - donations  
gratefully accepted for church funds.**

**Each Wednesday.**

**We look forward to seeing you!**

**Contact Pat Johnson 0151 257 7737**



## MOTHERS' UNION

We were in the Bridewell for our October meeting because of the broken boiler in church. Chris took the meeting and she lit a candle to remember the members we have lost. We remembered Doreen Whimperly, Dorothy Wall, Barbara Houghton and Barbara Jones. Barbara died the beginning of October. She had been poorly in hospital and suffered from Parkinsons. She was a long- time member of the Mothers' Union, and was a member of St Ambrose but did enjoy Evensong at St Luke's. St Ambrose held a farewell for Barbara on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November with a eulogy and Barbara's favourite hymn 'The Day Thou Gavest Lord Has Ended'. It was a lovely way to remember her and she will be missed. We also prayed for Jackie, who is out of hospital at last, and Pauline O'Connor who has a fractured pelvis after a fall. We also remembered our indoor members, Mary Westbury, Joan Bean and Edna Hutchinson. Yvonne Horabin came to speak to us about the relaunch of Friends of Farnworth. It started in 2010 with the roof appeal for the Chancel & Cuedley roof. Then there was the heating and organ repairs. In 2017 2 new glass doors were put in church. The nave roof tiles are to be replaced and a new membrane that breathes has to be put in Bold Chapel, the Vestry & Tower. Now a new boiler is needed because of the fire, all of which cost an extraordinary amount of money. The Heritage Fund will only cover roofs. Halton Council has grants that have been good, but there is a lot of fundraising to do. We are also having 2 toilets and a kitchenette at the back of church where the bell ringers are. The floor will be raised for the bells and a stairs will be on the right. You will be able to make regular payments to Friends of Farnworth to help raise the money needed. Yvonne does a wonderful job as treasurer, having to deal with the daily running costs of the church plus all the renovation and restorations. We are all guilty of taking these things for granted as it all runs so smoothly. Thank you, Yvonne, Barry and the rest of the fundraising team. Barry's motto is 'The past is our inheritance, the future our responsibility.

October 28<sup>th</sup> was our Coffee morning. Thank you to all who came to support us. It may have been chilly in church but the atmosphere was warm and friendly. Music playing in the background made it very pleasant. The entry was a £1 for a drink and cake. We had lovely raffle

and plenty to buy from the bring and buy stall. A workman popped in to give a donation as he thought we do a good job, what a kind gesture. We raised £101 so thank you.

Our November meeting was held in Moon Meadow thanks to Clare Liptrott. We were able to use the hall as it was warm and we had plenty of room for our craft night. Carole did us proud again with prepared stars from card and an array of coloured silk material that we glued to the star. The result was brilliant. Everyone enjoyed it and the time went very quickly. Carole deeply cares about the environment and hates waste. Our stars were all from recycled materials. We each had another star to take home and a Willow branch that we can decorate or hang our stars on. I don't know how Carole comes up with such good ideas each year. Colleen took the meeting and gave us all a heart in 2 halves. On the left side we put our name and passed it to the person on our left. On the right side we wrote the name of someone we would like prayed for and passed it to the person on the right. We will pray for the people named on the heart, a lovely idea.

Our Christmas meal will be at The Tavern on Monday December 6<sup>th</sup> 12- 2pm. It will be a Golden Oldies 2 course meal with a vegetarian and fish & chips option for £10. There will be entertainment and Bingo. JAM (Jesus and Me) Club is held in church 3pm to 4pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday each month. They are always needing help if anyone would like to go along. We are collecting for the Women's refuge they need baby and children's clothes. If you can help, please bring them to our December meeting. Our subs £26 if you haven't already paid. Thank you



8<sup>th</sup> December is our carol service with mince pies & mulled wine. January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting will be with Sue Smither. Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.  
Rita Poole

## From Vicky, Widnes Project Coordinator

The season of goodwill is a time of gifts, fun, family and friends and good food. Sadly, there are people in our area that cannot afford even the basic meal, let alone the additional costs that Christmas brings. Widnes Foodbank continue to provide emergency food to our community throughout the festive period and we add a few lovely surprises too. Our Christmas list is tinned potatoes, tinned mixed veg, custard, chocolate bars, sponge puddings, biscuits, UHT milk and coffee. Donate if you can and follow us on social media to see how the donation of one small item can make a huge difference to those that live in hidden food poverty. The Trustees, myself, and all the volunteers at Widnes foodbank would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and wish you all a Merry and Peaceful Christmas. The Lodge at entrance to Widnes Crematorium is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.30am to 11am. On Sundays donations can be taken to church and Barry Ingram will take them to the Lodge. Thank you.



## BRING CHURCH

**INTO YOUR HOME** Sundays  
10.30am (60 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  
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## BROTHERS BAPTISED



## ADVENT 2021



Advent is a season of waiting and anticipation in which the waiting itself is strangely rich and fulfilling. Poetry can help us fathom the depths of Advent's many facets: dark and light, emptiness and fulfilment, as old as time yet ever new.

### **Advent Calendar by Rowan Williams**

He will come like last leaf's fall.  
One night when the November wind  
has flayed the trees to the bone, and earth  
wakes choking on the mould,  
the soft shroud's folding.  
He will come like frost.  
One morning when the shrinking earth  
opens on mist, to find itself  
arrested in the net  
of alien, sword-set beauty.  
He will come like dark.  
One evening when the bursting red  
December sun draws up the sheet  
and penny-masks its eye to yield  
the star-snowed fields of sky.  
He will come, will come,  
will come like crying in the night,  
like blood, like breaking,  
as the earth writhes to toss him free.  
He will come like child.

## **Tribute to Dr John Edward Hughes**

We were shocked and saddened to learn of the sudden and unexpected death of John at the age of just 59.

Judith and Eddie Hughes became the proud parents to John, their first-born son, on March 31<sup>st</sup> 1962. John attended Farnworth C of E Primary

School before taking his place at Wade Deacon Grammar School.

From an early age had many interests...sport, rugby in particular, bird watching and as a young boy, John, sang in St Luke's church choir.

That was almost a rite of passage in those days, if you attended Farnworth School and had any sort of voice, you were 'encouraged' to join the church choir. He and John Buck had even designed and constructed a display for one of the Church Flower Festivals.

Whilst at school, and in his teens, he was very involved with the local Scouting Movement, gaining his Queen's Scout Award which was presented to him by the Queen herself at Windsor Castle. He was also the proud recipient of the Duke of Edinburgh Award, no mean feat. An extremely gifted student, John went on to study medicine at Liverpool University. Originally, John had wanted to specialise in Orthopaedics but he changed his mind and did the extra training to become a GP, not just any GP but an excellent and highly respected GP and many of his colleagues attended the service to pay their respects.

John loved music, he loved to travel, he loved anything to do with cars. He maintained his interest in Rugby and acted as Club Doctor at St Helen's Rugby Club, where his skills and expertise were much valued. He was also invited to become the Doctor for the team from Tonga that participated in the 1995 World Cup. John's interest in cars also led him to be appointed as the Chief Medical Officer for Motorsport Rallies across the UK...quite a responsibility. He was certainly very active and heavily involved in many organisations. John retired 6 years ago but he was still very active; he had organised and completed a cycling tour in Yorkshire for friends and colleagues just a week before his tragic death.

It was my privilege to conduct the service and as a church family we extend our deepest and sincere sympathy to his Mum Judith, John's partner Gwen and her family, his brothers Nick and Chris and their families and his many friends and colleagues.

He will undoubtedly be sorely missed. We send them our Blessings.

Sue

	<b>DEC Reading</b>	<b>JAN READING</b>
1	Matthew 15:29-37	Luke 2:15-21
2	Matthew 7:21, 24-27	Matthew 2:1-12
3	Matthew 9:27-31	Matthew 4:12-17, 23 to end
4	Matthew 9:35-10.8	Mark 6:34-44
5	Luke 3:1-6	Mark 6:45-52
6	Luke 5:17-26	Luke 4:14-22
7	Matthew 18:12-14	Luke 5:12-16
8	Matthew 11:28 to end	John 3:22-30
9	Matthew 11:11-15	Luke 2:15-22
10	Matthew 11:16-19	Mark 1:14-20
11	Matthew 17:10-13	Mark 1:21-28
12	Luke 3:7-18	Mark 1:29-39
13	Matthew 21:23-27	Mark 1:40 to end
14	Matthew 21: 28-32	Mark 2:1-12
15	Luke 7:18b-23	Mark 2:13-17
16	Luke 7:24-30	John 2:1-11
17	Matthew 1:1-17	Mark 2:18-22
18	Matthew 1:18-24	Mark 2:23 to end
19	Luke 1:39-45	Mark 3:1-6
20	Luke 1:26-28	Mark 3:7-12
21	Luke 1:39-45	Mark 3:13-19
22	Luke 1:46-56	Mark 3:20-21
23	Luke 1:57-66	Luke 4:14-21
24	Luke 1:67-79	Mark 3:22-30
25	Luke 2:1-14	Matthew 19:27 to end
26	Luke 2:41 to end	Luke 10:1-9
27	John 21:19b to end	Mark 4:21-25
28	Matthew 2:13-18	Mark 4:26-34
29	Matthew 10:17-22	Mark 4:35 to end
30	Luke 2:36-40	Luke 2:22-40
31	John 1;1-18	Mark 5:1-20

**FRIENDS of FARNWORTH  
RESTORATION and REGENERATION APPEAL**



**present  
MIKE BLUE in CONCERT  
in church  
Saturday 18th December 7pm  
til 10pm  
Minimum age 10  
£6  
can pay on the door.**

Mike Blue finishes off his first full UK tour back in his hometown for an intimate end of year performance. Hope you can join us.

**FRIENDS of FARNWORTH  
RESTORATION and REGENERATION APPEAL**



**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE  
draw at the Mike Blue concert.  
1st Prize £100  
2nd mazing Christmas Hamper  
Other prizes include cheese &  
port hamper, whisky, gin, malibu,  
wine, candle set, beauty items,  
chocolate and biscuits  
£1 per ticket  
Tickets from church or ring 07761672030**

## FARNWORTH CE SCHOOL

It is such a privilege for Bob and I to go into school and lead Collective Worship. The VALUE for this half term is COURAGE; so appropriate during the time when the children have been remembering those who gave their lives during conflicts. Children representing the School Council took wreaths and laid them at the Cenotaph in Victoria Park and each Key Stage made a wreath using the children's handprints and handmade poppies for display at the Remembrance Service at Birchfield Community Meadow.



One of the stories I told the children was about a 6 year old evacuee called Joan, who along with her 4 year old brother was evacuated from London to Penzance. She spoke of never having been on a train, seen fields, trees and animals or the seaside before. We talked about her courage at leaving her family and the familiar surroundings of terraced streets and that of her mum, for having the courage to let her go to strangers and also the courage of the people who offered their homes to those evacuated. The children listened so intently, even the Reception children, who joined us for the very first Collective Worship, became engrossed in the story.

In preparing for the worship, I went onto the Imperial War Museum website, there is some fascinating material there [www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk) The previous week we talked about Jochabed, Moses' Mum, who was so brave in making a cradle and floating it in the river to save her son. There are so many amazing stories of people who, with God's love and his good grace, are selfless and brave and show such courage. In December, we look forward to welcoming the children into church for their Christmas Presentations; unfortunately, these will be restricted to parents only because of numbers. We send all children, staff, parents and carers of Farnworth CE School our Blessings and best wishes for Advent, Christmas and beyond. Sue

# The Sanctuary

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dwandc.steadman@virginmedia.com**



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**Team Rector Rev Bob Pearson**

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**0151 424 9762 07904320542**

**revbob@btinternet.com**

**Team Vicar Reverend Lyn McIver 07791650911**

**Lay Ministers**

**Sue Smither 07962012916**

**Clare Liptrott 07976549410**

**Lesley Firth 07803148233**

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**Team Administration Lesley Howell**

**07399784219**

**[eastwidnesteam.2942@gmail.com](mailto:eastwidnesteam.2942@gmail.com)**

**OR use Contact Us tab on our website**

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**Weddings and Baptisms**

**Contact Lesley Howell**

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