



SEPTEMBER 2024

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# PARISH PUMP

A MAGAZINE PRODUCED BY CHRISTIANS IN BLACKPOOL

SEE JESUS, SHARE JESUS!  
BISHOP PHILIP NORTH



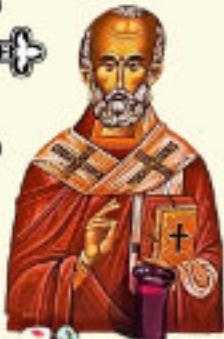
## Church of the Divine Mercy Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia

Cover supplied by Matthew Isaacs Lee

Heavenly Father unite our churches in love and inspire us by Your Spirit to  
make Jesus known in our communities - Terry Wray Blackpool Salvation Army



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St Christopher with St Nicholas Church

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01253 697937

**Curate :** Fr Ian Rushton 07539 385076

**Parish Website :**  
<https://stchristopherchurchblackpool.com>

**Registered Charity :**  
No 1130654 CCL 141889

**Mass Times :**  
Sunday Low Mass 8.30am  
The Parish Mass 10.30am  
Wednesday 10.30am  
Thursday 7.00pm  
Holydays Solemn Mass 7.00pm  
Junior Church Sunday at 10.30am

**Church Wardens:**  
Charmaine Robson 01253 696481  
Peter Lonsdale 07576056143

**Parish Treasurer:**  
Sue Charlton 07833673059

**Weekly News Sheet**  
Bill Green 07738068256 bill.  
green@btinternet.com

**Gift Aid & Stewardship Officer:**  
Bryan Bennett 01253 764299

**Organist & Additional Curates Society :**  
Bob Milner 07912255413

**Child Protection & Vulnerable Adults:**  
Bill Green 07738068256

**Magazine info: Editorial Staff :**  
Kath Vaquer | Sharon Dooley | Peter Lonsdale  
| Kath Vaquer | Yut Mekthoop & Bob Milner  
Enid Nutland Office: 07912255413

**Reporter SCBC :** Susan Charlton

**Proof Reader :** -

**Photo special effects:** Yut Mekthoop

**Magazine layout:** Bob Milner & Yut Mekthoop

**Subscriptions Secretary:**

John Creagan 07368 219135

**Technical Supervision :**

Graham Kennaugh

Orion Media 01253 467145

*The Blessed Sacrament is reserved at all times for the communion of the sick and adoration of the faithful*

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Parish  
Website

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# The Leading your Church into Growth Prayer

**God of Mission**

**Who alone brings growth to your Church, Send your Holy Spirit to give Vision to our planning, Wisdom to our actions, Joy to our worship,**

**And power to our witness.**

**Help our church grow in numbers, In spiritual commitment to you, And in service to our local community, Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**

"Leading your Church into Growth concentrates on the tried and tested - putting parish and people, evangelism and service front and centre. This is extraordinary help for ordinary churches." Rt Revd Stephen Cottrell



*Lovely Lady dressed in blue ---- Teach me how to pray!*

*God was just your little boy,*

*Tell me what to say!*

*Did you lift Him up, sometimes,*

*Gently on your knee?*

*Did you sing to Him the way Mother does to me?*

*Did you hold His hand at night? Did you ever try*

*Telling stories of the world?*

*Or And did He cry?*

*Do you really think He cares*

*If I tell Him things ----*

*Little things that happen? And Do the Angels' wings*

*Make a noise? And can He hear Me if I speak low?*

*Does He understand me now? Tell me ---- for you know.*

*Lovely Lady dressed in blue ---- Teach me how to pray!*

*God was just your little boy,*

*And you know the way.*



In honour of  
Our Lady's Birthday

## Thanks to Margaret Payne St Christopher with St Nicholas

## A MONTH'S GOOD READ!

Deadline for November edition  
12<sup>th</sup> September 2024



## Layton Methodist Church



Sunday 10.30am  
including Holy Communion  
Thursday 2pm  
F.O.G Sunday School  
Third Sunday 6.30pm  
Holy Communion

Oasis (cafe) Monday to Saturday 10am to 12 noon  
Yarn be Happy Tuesdays 10am to 1pm

## St John Vianney

The Parish of the Guardian Angels Catholic Church



Vigil Mass Saturday 5.30pm  
Sunday 9am & 11.15am  
The Syro-Malabar Rite  
Sunday 5pm  
Daily Mass  
Monday to Friday 9.15am

## St Cuthbert

The Parish of the Guardian Angels Catholic Church



Sunday Mass 10am  
Polish Mass 3.30pm  
Week days Mass  
Wednesday & Friday 12 noon

## Bispham United Reformed Church Our Lady of the Assumption



Family Worship Sunday 10.45  
Holy Communion 3rd Sunday

Vigil Mass Saturday 6pm  
The Parish Mass Sunday 10.30am  
Weekdays Tuesday & Thursday 9.30 am



## St Paul's Worship Centre

North Shore Egerton Road



Sunday: Family Communion 11.15  
Bus 3 or 7 Tram to Warley Road

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Want to know more about the magazine?  
Contact Bob Milner 07912255413

## Freedom Church Mereside

Sunday 4.30pm  
Holy Communion  
Thursday 2pm  
Morning prayer daily 9.30am  
Freedom Centre Langdale Road



## Blackpool Salvation Army Citadel

Raike Parade



Sunday Worship Meeting  
(including activities for  
children): 10.30am

## South Shore

Methodist Community Church Avenue  
Scarsdale Avenue



Sunday 10.30am

## The Parish of Holy Cross

Central Drive



Sunday : 11.00am Parish Mass  
Tuesday : 7.00pm Holy Communion  
(Book of Common Prayer)  
Thursday : 12.30pm Low Mass  
Saturday : 10am Low Mass  
Enquiries : Fr Michael Fish  
SSC CF 01253 343824

## St Anne's, Greenlands

'The Round Church' Salomesbury Avenue



Sunday 9.30am,  
Holy Eucharist  
5th Sunday each month  
10.30am joint service with St Paul's  
(venue alternates, please contact us)



**Adele Whitehead**

St Christopher with St Nicholas Church



Father, I live a life of privilege knowing your goodness. I look to you, the central figure in my everyday life. I give thanks for the gift of each new day. For you being ever present in my heart and mind. For listening to my worries and fears. For giving me a sense of peace and purpose. For the clarity and guidance in my role and what I need to do. My life is enriched when I am still and attentive to you. I thank you for your protection and love and for giving me my inner strength. I live with your positive influence with hope in my heart. May all people know your presence. May they, like me, be uplifted, renewed, restored and forgiven. A life of faith is a life of joy. May your will be always done, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Amen.



*May your will be always done, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Amen.*

*Photo Keith Tuck*

*From  
David Walker  
Bishop  
of Manchester*



*Heavenly Father,  
We thank you for the civil and democratic institutions that underpin our society,  
Giving each and every citizen a voice and place.  
Defend us, we pray, from those who turn to violence and terror,  
In pursuit of political or ideological aims; Guard our police and all who serve our communities from harm,  
Grant peace to our cities, towns and villages,  
That in harmony we can build a Britain where all are honoured,  
Even as every human being is precious in your sight, In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*



## Please Sponsor a Lamp



The lamps are located over the High Altar, the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Our Lady, the icons at the High Altar and the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Complete a form at the back of church and hand with your donation to Fr Martin.



## The Parish of the Guardian Angels



**Fr Chris  
Loughran  
Parish Priest**

# TO LIVE IS TO CHANGE

Not long after I was ordained and was on the staff of our Cathedral, I was wandering around the classes in the Cathedral Primary School. I would go into each class for 10 or 15 minutes and bore the children rigid about something or other. Well, one morning in year 5 as I was droning on and on, one little boy suddenly sprang to his feet and shouted, 'Eh up! Look at that!' And there, on the inside of the window was a butterfly. I thought, 'Well, surely they have seen a butterfly before.' But by this time half the class was crowding round the window; I couldn't see what all the excitement was about until I was told that they had 'grown the butterfly themselves' – so to speak. They had kept them in a glass thing and watched them go through the various stages of caterpillar stuff.

They had been told that these little rubbery, dead-looking things would become beautiful butterflies, which had clearly stretched the imagination and credulity of some of them. But all of a sudden here was the proof, a lovely little butterfly dancing on the window. It was education at its best.

Now, of course that caterpillar didn't have any choice in the matter, it simply had to change or to wither and die; for the caterpillar, change was just part of its life cycle. I want to suggest to you that the same is true for the Christian. You know that you are made a Christian when you are baptised, but to become what you have been made is a life time's work. The life of Christ within us is not a static thing. It is dynamic, it grows, it evolves, it changes. Or at least it will, if we have the right disposition.

A quote I am very fond of is from Cardinal (Saint John Henry) Newman. As many of you will know, he was an Anglican academic, he became the vicar of St. Mary's, Oxford, but eventually carried on his spiritual journey in the Catholic Church first as a layman, then as a priest, then as founder of the Oratory, the Oratorians, and then he was created a Cardinal. So, he knew a thing or two about change. This is what he said, 'To live is to change and to change often is to be perfect'. 'To live is to change.' For Newman therefore, one of the signs of being alive is a willingness to change: not to stagnate, not to atrophy but to change. It is one way of staying young. 'And to change often is to be perfect!' Change sometimes comes as 'whizz bang,' a great revelation. Jesus changes from being someone who is known about to someone who is known. But equally, change can be incremental, little by little, a peeling away of another layer. But whatever way we are called to change, it is always a response. It is a response firstly to the Gospel call of Jesus, 'Be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect.' But it is also a response to the prompting of the Holy Spirit. That Spirit who prompts us to pray, to live a life of virtue, to avoid vice. But it is up to us to respond. If we do not respond then our Spiritual life atrophies, droops, withers and even dies.

When I worked in hospital, one of my favourite jobs was to cut off plaster of Paris casts. It entailed the use of what looked and sounded like a circular saw but in fact was just an oscillating disc which was harmless to the skin. But I didn't tell that to big tough blokes as I slowly climbed beyond the knee joint! But what really surprised them was the comparison between their good leg and the one that had been in the POP. How that leg, because of lack of use, had atrophied: become thin and flabby. You see, because it was encased in plaster, it couldn't move and develop and it didn't just remain static, it actually went into decline. Do you see the point I am making? If we are not constantly changing to grow closer to God, then we actually begin to grow away from Him. I guess for most of us there has been a time in our lives when God has been less important to us. For some of you that could be now. Sometimes other things take over and we find ourselves wandering away from God or the things of God. Sometimes a wake-up call is needed. A wake-up call to those who have drifted. 'I want you back,' says the Lord. And a wake-up call to all of us no matter where we are in our relationship with God. He is saying, 'Draw closer, see the good things I have for you.'

Change requires wisdom. Now, not everybody views change as a good thing. My mother, after reaching a certain age, if she heard that we were to have visitors, would disappear for half an hour, to fill in all the wrinkles with, what looked to me like, a trowel and sand and cement to combat the ageing process. She could hardly keep her head upright for the weight of all the make up on it! Later on, she realised that it didn't really matter what she looked like - which as far as I am concerned was always beautiful – that people were coming to see her, and not a caricature. She gained that wisdom. Other people simply abhor change of any kind. They are the ones, very often, who are unbending; pride could be a factor making them unable to see the necessity to change; and they become fixed in a time warp. Now, as you know, wisdom is one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and these gifts are given to bring the image of Jesus to perfection within us; Jesus, who is the 'wise one', the holy one. What in fact we search for in prayer is to become a better image of JC, to grow more deeply into him, to become the 'holy person the Father wants me to be.'

In baptism and confirmation, and each time you renew your baptismal promises, you accept anew the vocation to be Christ in our world. Christ has no hands in this world other than yours, no lips other than yours, no heart other than yours. Jesus Christ lives and acts and loves in this world through you. The incarnation goes on through you. If we take a good look at ourselves, we might ask, 'Am I the best image of Christ that I can be, that the Father calls me to be? Or is there room for change? Should we not pray: 'Give me the wisdom to change'?

Although I am writing this in August on the day those lazy, hazy, crazy days were finally rolled out, I am aware that this edition of The Parish Pump won't be appearing until September when the holiday season is moving to a close with the return to school. However, for a former teacher, September is always a time of new beginnings. Yes, I know that the new year starts at different times - on the calendar, in January; for the Church, with Advent; and for tax purposes, in April. But for teachers, students and pupils up and down the country, the real start to the year is September. For some, this will be a new start with a different teacher, for others a new start in a new school, for yet others a new start in a new town as they begin life at university. But whatever the situation, the start of the new year brings with it a sense of excitement, expectancy, turning a new leaf, leaving the past behind and starting all over again.

All of this gives me the opportunity to introduce another modern-day theologian (although he would not want to be labelled as such) - Ryan Tedder, frontman of OneRepublic, who in his song Start Again sings

*Can't I just turn back the clock,  
Forgive my sins,  
I just want to roll up my sleeves And  
start again*

It is that thought of starting again that is so appealing, isn't it - recognising, that of course we have made mistakes and/or not done as much as we could or perhaps should have done, but wanting even so to turn to face the future with hope. At morning prayer each day, we say 'The night is past, the day lies open before us'. And of course it does, like a clean, new page in a diary because each new day offers us a fresh opportunity to have our eyes opened to wonders around us; to be gateways through which God can enter his creation; for us to become the signs of his presence and the agents for his activity.

But if we are being honest with ourselves, we don't simply want constant re-starts and re-settings of the compass. We really want change, don't we? I suppose that what I am saying is that there is a desire deep within us for a renewal that affects our whole person: spirit, mind, body, emotions and will. But we also know that we can't engineer this renewal ourselves - it always comes as a gift, a gift from God. It is his gift of his life, of the Holy Spirit, to us and it catches us up like a juggernaut and sweeps us along. And then that indwelling presence begins to influence us in our attitudes and behaviour because, as the prophet Ezekiel tells us, that new spirit moves us truly to want God from a heart and a person that is being made new.



Assistant Priest

**Fr Ian Rushton**

St Christopher  
with St Nicholas

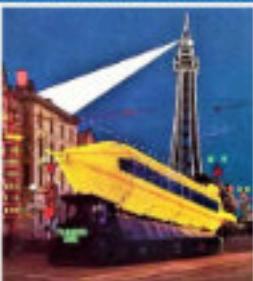


**PLEASE SPONSOR US TO WALK THE LIGHTS**



Sponsorship Form at the back of church

**TUESDAY 12TH  
SEPTEMBER A10PM**



Begins at Starr Gate  
Come and Join us!  
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at Central Pier



In aid of church funds and the  
Additional Curates Society

**Donuts & Coffee  
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Cafe afterwards**

# NEWS FROM FREEDOM CHURCH MERESIDE

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come and learn and share life experiences

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Freedom Centre  
Langdale Road  
FY4 4RT

Info: sue.taylor63@hotmail.com

## Holy Communion

1ST SUNDAY OF  
EVERY MONTH

12PM  
AT  
CHERRY TREE  
COMMUNITY CENTRE

All Welcome



Everyone's Welcome - Nobody's Perfect -  
Anything's Possible.

First Tuesday of the month  
7pm - 9pm

## Worship Night

Join us for a relaxed evening of praise and prayer

All Welcome

First Tuesday of every month  
7pm-9pm  
@ Freedom Church

## Freedom Family Service

Lunch at 1:30pm  
soup and sandwich £1 donation  
Service at 2:30pm



All Welcome

WHAT: All Age Holy Communion

WHEN: 2nd Sunday of the month

WHERE: Freedom Church @ the Freedom Centre



## Bible Discussion Group

Why not join us as we look  
at what the Bible means to  
us today!



**WHEN**  
Wednesdays  
(unless otherwise stated)

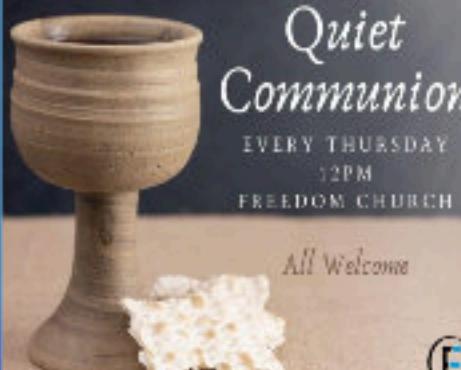
**TIME**  
7pm - 8:30pm

**WHERE**  
Freedom Church  
@ Freedom Church Centre

**freedomcentre**

MARTHA'S KITCHEN  
OPENING TIMES

MONDAY TO FRIDAY  
8.45 am  
to  
1pm



Quiet  
Communion

EVERY THURSDAY  
12PM  
FREEDOM CHURCH

All Welcome

**Morning  
Prayer  
at 9.30am  
everyday**



## The Minister

Rev Andy Halstead

Layton, New Central and  
South Shore Methodist  
Community Church

**The Methodist Church**

### Layton, New Central and South Shore Methodist Community Church

I was preaching at one of my churches the other week when someone made a comment about hymn lyrics. The comment was about a hymn which contained some words which we might find unacceptable today and I might add quite rightly so. The hymn in question begins 'Over the sea there are little brown children'. Some years ago, I conducted a funeral in Macclesfield. The family were advised to have 'All things bright and beautiful'. The funeral director downloaded the words straight from the internet and printed them in the service sheet. This meant we ended up singing the words

'The rich man in his castle, the poor man at his gate, God made them, high or lowly and ordered their estate.'

I felt like saying at the end of the hymn are you poor today? Well live with it, that's how God fixed it. The reality is the language we use does and must change not, to suit present fads and ideas, but hopefully to reflect more fully the God we see revealed in Jesus.

We need, I believe, to be mindful of the language we use and ask how does what I say, sound to someone, whose perspective and understanding is different to my own.

We are reminded in Acts chapter 2 that on the day of Pentecost as the disciples spoke, the crowd said, 'We hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!' The language we use both written and spoken should allow others to hear in their own 'language' the good news of God.

Every blessing  
Andy



## YARN BE HAPPY CLOSE KNIT COMMUNITY

Knit, Craft and natter group  
Layton Methodist Church

every Tuesday 10am - 1pm (light lunch provided) and  
Wednesday 10am to noon

Cost: donations towards the materials

ALL WELCOME,  
BEGINNERS TO  
ADVANCED

Contact Diane for more information  
Email: [diane@stitchknit.co.uk](mailto:diane@stitchknit.co.uk)  
07879 455316  
[www.laytonmethodist.org.uk](http://www.laytonmethodist.org.uk)



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## Deacon Sue Donim writes...



A missionary lost in the thicket of a jungle suddenly came face to face with a lion. The man dropped to his knees and prayed that he might be saved from a dreadful fate. As he opened his eyes, he noticed the lion was on its haunches with its front paws together, seemingly in an act of prayer. 'Oh' said the missionary, 'I see you are a Christian lion.'

'That I am', replied the Lion. 'I was saying grace before eating lunch.'

Shalom

Deacon Sue Donim



## New Central Methodist Church

"The church by the Tower"

In town? Need a coffee or tea?

Why  
Not visit

10am-3pm  
Tuesday-Saturday  
Volunteers  
very welcome

NEW CENTRAL  
CAFE



## An Inclusive Service of Holy Communion Layton Methodist Church

Sunday 22nd September 6.30 pm

ALL ARE WELCOME

Come to the Table



## SOUTH SHORE METHODIST COMMUNITY CHURCH



Diane Moden



THE MINISTER  
Rev Andy Halstead

I don't know where to start on this leg of our journey, but one word sums up Norway, STUNNING. We had a total of 26 days in Norway starting with a ferry crossing to Kristiansand, and then travelling up via Stavanger, Trondheim, Lofoten Islands all the way up through the arctic circle to Tromso.

We were absolutely blown away by the beauty in this amazing country, fjords as still as glass, snow capped mountains not only in the distance but with our route passing through them, the most amazing waterfalls which we could walk behind, midnight sun, glaciers, forests, miles and miles of amazing tunnels some with roundabouts in them, many with junctions and one being a full helter skelter, bridges, wild Moose & reindeer, football pitches on the smallest of islands and....



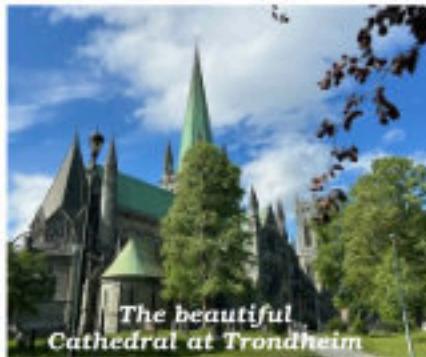
Group photo atop Priest Rock

One of our first group events was a walk up to pulpit rock, sadly Ian missed out on this as he was tending to Kizzie who was not feeling her best on this day. It seems that to beat the tourists and midday sun we were to meet at 7am, suitably kitted out in walking attire, and with a packed lunch prepared. 7am was a shock for me, as to be honest life on the move has had a more relaxed (some say lazy) pace. But not to be deterred and after less than 4 hours sleep, I was ready and prepared for the days challenge. The walk took well over an hour to reach the summit, steep and challenging in many places, but luckily most of the path is carved in massive steps which makes it good underfoot. Not all the path is as good and at times we do venture close to the edge, this gives some terrific vistas, the worst section is just before the rock itself, where the path becomes a single very narrow crossing with an unnervingly severe drop to our left, which quite proudly I managed. The rock itself at the summit gives one of the best views I have experienced, and shows the full length of the Lysefjord. Today is International Day, and all Norwegians are on holiday, the rock and route up and down are full of locals dressed in national clothing with flags, enjoying the bank holiday and bringing a party atmosphere to our day, which is lovely as we enjoy our lunch and have a good change for photos. But as they say.... What goes up must come down, and this is where the problem starts, as by now I am not keen at all to re-trace my steps over the narrow crossing and cause a small tailback of hikers, and only with the help of one of my fellow campers do I manage to crawl over to safety. Feeling a bit of a numpty and after profuse apologies to others behind me I start my descent, giving a wide berth to any other tight passes and opting for a longer retreat. Happy to report once safely down at the base I manage a coffee and cake whilst basking in the sun. So, the walk sounds a bit boring with paths and bridges, but what I am struggling to explain is the amazing beauty, as at several places we would catch glimpses of large lakes bedded into sections of the hill, and surrounded by trees and greenery, or of snow-capped mountains around the fjord,

I did mention Ian didn't make the walk as he was tending to Kizzie, the main reason was the day before, whilst snuffling in yet another hole she came face to face with a snake, and sadly Kizzie came of worse, luckily after 12 hours at a local vet we were good to bring her back home 😊, this is also the reason I only had 4 hours sleep!!.

So anyway, from here we start to move further north, and our next location brings a cider brewery into play, which is Ian's dream visit, and it brings my first attempt at cold water swimming, yes that's right, in Norway, in Spring I decide it's a good idea to take up a new sport, ably assisted by my new cold water swim buddies 😊.

a new sport, ably assisted by my new cold water swim buddies 😊. Ian suitable happy from his cider tasting (I was today on Kizzie tending duty), decides its much safer to stay on the dry dock holding towels, we take the plunge. Wow it was cold, someone has a thermometer and it registers a balmy 4 deg C, but it seems I am hooked and this "entertainment" is prolific for the remainder of our stay, the coldest dip being at the foot of a waterfall. From here our journey takes us to Flam, Geiranger, Trondheim, Saltstraumen, and onto the Lofoten Islands



The beautiful  
Cathedral at Trondheim



Stunning Norway

SOUTH SHORE METHODIST  
COMMUNITY CHURCH



Mayfield Avenue Blackpool



10-12  
Fridays



Wool and needles  
available for  
a donation

Tee and coffee £1

You don't have to be able  
to knit or crotchet can be  
taught, or just come for  
a natter and make  
new friends.





**Fr Michael Fish SSC**  
**Parish Priest Holy Cross Parish Church**  
**Blackpool**

is an excellent, well regarded chaplaincy team and I am not just saying that because I am now involved! I have been part of and experienced many other hospital chaplaincy services and with my hand on my heart, I never found one as functional and good as the one at Blackpool. I think it is a result of our modern age that chaplaincy services are under a lot of pressure to employ 'lay' chaplains or humanists. Given that, according to the NHS definition: "Chaplains promote pastoral, spiritual and religious wellbeing through skilled compassionate person-centred care" I find it difficult reconciling that definition with a person who does not have faith.

However, you may be pleased to know that Blackpool has ordained personnel serving at the hospital- so you can be assured of 'pastoral, spiritual wellbeing' during any time in hospital. Equally important is the fact that you will be cared for sacramentally, each chaplain attends to their own so, for example, an Anglican will usually see an Anglican priest - Either Fr Clive Lord or myself, the same with the RCs who usually see Fr Andrew Dawson and the Free churches. I really do think that Blackpool is fortunate - I think even the management understand us!

The chaplains are aided by a very happy bunch of volunteers who visit and help with some pastoral work. The volunteers are all shades of Christian, Roman Catholics, Anglicans, Methodists etc. There used to be many volunteers who would be allocated a ward to look after, unfortunately, after the Covid outbreak, the numbers have reduced quite dramatically and they can be quite stretched across the hospital. So, if you fancy helping for a few hours please do get in touch with the Chaplaincy service at the hospital. Every Wednesday morning the volunteers meet for prayer and fellowship in a deeply ecumenical gathering before, just like the early church, they are sent out into the hospital.

Sometime ago, the late Holy Father, Pope John Paul II wrote about healthcare chaplaincy that I record here as I cannot do any better:

*The deep interest which the Church has always demonstrated for the world of the suffering is well known. In this for that matter, the Church has done nothing more than follow the very eloquent example of her Founder and Master. In fact, over the course of the centuries the Church has felt strongly that service to the sick and suffering is an integral part of her mission, and not only has she encouraged among Christians the blossoming of various works of mercy, but she has also established many religious institutions within her with the specific aim to fostering, organizing, improving and increasing help to the sick. In her approach to the sick and to the mystery of suffering, the Church is guided by a precise concept of the human person and of their destiny in God's plan... Illness and suffering are not experiences which concern only humankind's physical substance, but humankind in its entirety and in its bodily-spiritual unity. For that matter, it is known how often the illness which is manifested in the body has its origins and its true cause in the recesses of the human psyche. Illness and suffering are phenomena which, if examined in depth, always pose questions which go beyond medicine itself to touch the essence of the human condition in this world ... For the Christian, Christ's redemption and his salvific grace reach the whole person in their human condition and therefore reach also illness, suffering and death. Pope John Paul II Apostolic Letter Dolentium Hominum Establishing the Pontifical Commission for Healthcare Workers 1985.*

The Chaplaincy service at Blackpool is a beautiful new place that the Trust has obviously been happy to spend money on. It is situated in Area 5, Ground Floor, just off the main corridor. You are always welcome there on any visit or stay in hospital. To contact the service the extension is 53876 or just ask for chaplaincy. With much love and prayer, Fr Michael



Dear Friends,

As some of you know, I have recently been made chaplain at the Blackpool Hospitals, which I would like to think about this month. According to the NHS website: "Chaplains promote pastoral, spiritual and religious wellbeing through skilled compassionate person-centred care. This is available to our patients, their families and carers, and to NHS staff, volunteers and students. They enable people to celebrate according to their religion or belief within NHS settings, and support those facing very difficult situations such as the death of a loved one, psychosis, being diagnosed with life-threatening conditions, and people who are receiving end of life care"

You might also like to know that locally, in Blackpool there is an excellent, well regarded chaplaincy team and I am not just saying that because I am now involved! I have been part of and experienced many other hospital chaplaincy services and with my hand on my heart, I never found one as functional and good as the one at Blackpool. I think it is a result of our modern age that chaplaincy services are under a lot of pressure to employ 'lay' chaplains or humanists. Given that, according to the NHS definition: "Chaplains promote pastoral, spiritual and religious wellbeing through skilled compassionate person-centred care" I find it difficult reconciling that definition with a person who does not have faith.

However, you may be pleased to know that Blackpool has ordained personnel serving at the hospital- so you can be assured of 'pastoral, spiritual wellbeing' during any time in hospital. Equally important is the fact that you will be cared for sacramentally, each chaplain attends to their own so, for example, an Anglican will usually see an Anglican priest - Either Fr Clive Lord or myself, the same with the RCs who usually see Fr Andrew Dawson and the Free churches. I really do think that Blackpool is fortunate - I think even the management understand us!

The chaplains are aided by a very happy bunch of volunteers who visit and help with some pastoral work. The volunteers are all shades of Christian, Roman Catholics, Anglicans, Methodists etc. There used to be many volunteers who would be allocated a ward to look after, unfortunately, after the Covid outbreak, the numbers have reduced quite dramatically and they can be quite stretched across the hospital. So, if you fancy helping for a few hours please do get in touch with the Chaplaincy service at the hospital. Every Wednesday morning the volunteers meet for prayer and fellowship in a deeply ecumenical gathering before, just like the early church, they are sent out into the hospital.

Sometime ago, the late Holy Father, Pope John Paul II wrote about healthcare chaplaincy that I record here as I cannot do any better:

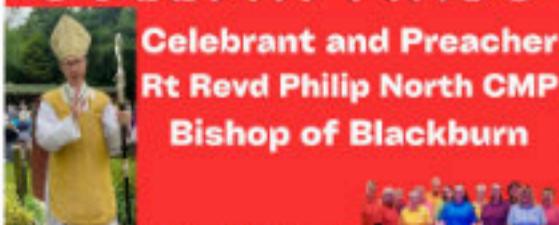
*The deep interest which the Church has always demonstrated for the world of the suffering is well known. In this for that matter, the Church has done nothing more than follow the very eloquent example of her Founder and Master. In fact, over the course of the centuries the Church has felt strongly that service to the sick and suffering is an integral part of her mission, and not only has she encouraged among Christians the blossoming of various works of mercy, but she has also established many religious institutions within her with the specific aim to fostering, organizing, improving and increasing help to the sick. In her approach to the sick and to the mystery of suffering, the Church is guided by a precise concept of the human person and of their destiny in God's plan... Illness and suffering are not experiences which concern only humankind's physical substance, but humankind in its entirety and in its bodily-spiritual unity. For that matter, it is known how often the illness which is manifested in the body has its origins and its true cause in the recesses of the human psyche. Illness and suffering are phenomena which, if examined in depth, always pose questions which go beyond medicine itself to touch the essence of the human condition in this world ... For the Christian, Christ's redemption and his salvific grace reach the whole person in their human condition and therefore reach also illness, suffering and death. Pope John Paul II Apostolic Letter Dolentium Hominum Establishing the Pontifical Commission for Healthcare Workers 1985.*



## THE PARISH OF THE HOLY CROSS CENTRAL DRIVE BLACKPOOL

**Saturday 14th September  
at 7.30pm**

## HOLY CROSS DAY SOLEMN MASS



**Celebrant and Preacher  
Rt Revd Philip North CMP  
Bishop of Blackburn**

**Special Guests  
Mereside Gospel Choir**

**BUFFET SUPPER**

**Everyone is very welcome!**



## Love God Love Others

When we pray "Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire", we had better know what we are about. He will not carry us to easy triumphs and gratifying successes; more probably He will set us to some task for God in the full intention that we shall fail, so that others, learning the wisdom by our full failure, may carry the good cause forward. He may take us through loneliness, desertion by friends, apparent apparent desertion by God; that was the way Christ went to the Father.

He may drive us into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. He may lead us from the Mount of Transfiguration (if he ever lets us climb it) to the hill of the place of a Skull.

For if we invoke Him, it must be to help us doing God's will, not ours. We cannot call upon the *Creator Spirit, by whose aid the world's foundations first were laid.*

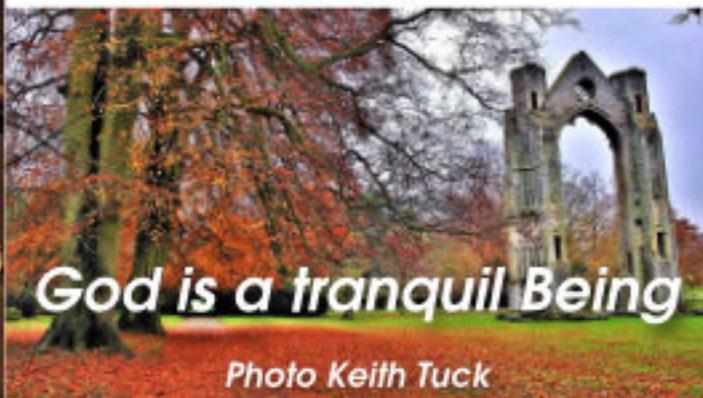
In order to use omnipotence for the supply of our futile pleasures or the success of our futile plans. If we invoke Him, we must be ready for the glorious pain of being caught by His power out of our petty orbit into the eternal purposes of the Almighty, in whose onward sweep our lives are as a speck of dust.

The soul that is filled with the Spirit must have become purged of all pride or love of ease, all self complacency and self reliance; but that soul has found the only real dignity, the only lasting joy. *Come then, Great Spirit, come. Convict the world; and convict my timid soul.*

Readings from St John's Gospel and William Temple Archbishop of Canterbury 1942 - 44

"God is a tranquil Being,  
and abides in a tranquil eternity.  
So must thy spirit become a tranquil and clear little pool,  
wherein the serene light of God can be mirrored.  
Therefore shun all that is disquieting  
and distracting, both within and without.  
Nothing in the whole world is worth the loss of thy  
peace; even the faults which thou hast committed  
should only humble, but not disquiet, thee.  
God is full of joy, peace and happiness.  
Endeavour then to obtain a continually joyful  
and peaceful spirit.  
Avoid all anxious care, vexation, murmuring,  
and melancholy, which darken thy soul and  
render thee unfit for the friendship of God.  
If thou dost perceive such feelings arising,  
turn 'by gently away from them'.

Gerhardt Tersteegan 1697 - 1769



### God is a tranquil Being

Photo Keith Tuck

**Lt Colonel  
John Pearce-Haydon**



*Catholic Reporter*

SOUTH SHORE METHODIST  
COMMUNITY CHURCH



## COME AND JOIN US!

**Sunday Church Service 10.30-11.30**

Warm welcome to everyone, coffee served after the service

**Tuesday Coffee Morning 10.15-11.30**

Everyone welcome to come along for coffee, fellowship  
and much, much more

**Tuesday Prayer Group 9.30-10.15**

1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month, everyone welcome

**Wednesday Youth Club 6pm-7.15**

All ages welcome, come and join us to meet new friends  
Games and Crafts

**Friday Knit & Natter 10am-12noon**

All welcome to Knit, Crochet or Natter, beginners  
Knitters or Natters

**Now That's What I Call Fridays 11.30-3.30**

Arts & Craft Group for adults with special needs  
Contact Dave or Phil 07359239031

For more information

Follow us on Facebook for all updates and further information  
Southshoremethodistcommunitychurch  
Corner of Scarsdale Ave & Mayfield Ave Blackpool

Today we acknowledged the help of Jesus of when he helped guide people.

In children's church we have been talking about compassion using Mark 6:30-34 as an example. Previously we learnt about the disciples who went out two by two on a mission to share the word of God. When the disciples returned, Jesus was excited to hear their story's and wanted to make sure they had a good rest. Lots of people had heard that Jesus and the disciples were returning and they waited on the beach as they wanted help and guidance. Although Jesus and his disciples were very tired from their mission work, Jesus wanted to show compassion so he helped them with care and kindness. In children's church we spoke about how we are all tired, from school, nursery and our grown-ups are tired from work so, we thought of ways we could help and show care and kindness throughout the summer holidays. We created paper plates with Jesus being in the middle and created petals around him to show different ways we could help. Everyone came up with some brilliant ideas! Some examples:

- Tidy up
- Be responsible and helpful
- Help cook tea
- Make my bed
- Help to set the table

#### Other News!

It was a shame that England lost in the final of Euro 2020 to Spain and Blackpool didn't get onto a good start as they lost 2-1 against Crawley town.

Last weekend my football team also won the plate at a tournament and I scored the winning penalty in the final!



That's all from me today, hope you enjoyed the summer holidays!

# Alex Our Junior

Editor Writes...



**CHATTERBOX CHURCH**

Our incredible Junior church  
There's always something happening!

See you there!! Sunday 10.30

Come and See

**CHATTERBOX CHURCH goes to HOLLYWOOD**

Come and meet our Special Guests!

**STAR WARS**  
15th Sunday September  
princess Leia

**Sleeping Beauty**  
20th Sunday October

**Pirates of the Caribbean**  
17th Sunday November

**Snow White**  
15th Sunday December

FROM SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER TO SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER every third Sunday at the 10.30 Parish Mass

# MAGNUM SILENCIUM TO MILDENBURY

## THE MONTHLY *mag-story*

FR GEOFF BOTTOMS, FR MARTIN DANIELS,  
KATH VAQUER & BOB MILNER

village." Immediately the minister blushed as his fellow clergy pushed him towards the microphone. For a moment he stammered and then said, "Your Lordship, brother clergy, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, I declare the new shop well and truly open and now let's enjoy an afternoon of fellowship celebrating another wonderful event in our village!" Everyone clapped. At the same time the Sainthouse Sextet struck up a stirring selection of Cole Porter favourites from the stage outside the cafe. When the musicians finished John Creggan announced, "Everyone, thank you for coming this afternoon to our little soiree. Please help yourselves to our new lines of nibbles, and, would you also complete the questionnaire as you enjoy our new teas and coffees."

Anne Marie Haswell owner of the flower shop in Walsingham Place said to John, "This is truly wonderful and it's got to be a great success. It will bring in even more visitors to the village. All our businesses will benefit from today's event." John agreed and whispered to Anne Marie, "Just wait my love, there's more to come!" Anne Marie's face lit up and excitedly replied, "I can't wait!" Then John pointed to the entrance to Walsingham Place as he said, "Here we go Anne Marie, just watch!"

A beautifully restored motor coach rolled into the square driven by Darren the village lad. He worked part time for Bulstrode who used to be the butler, gardener and chauffeur at the Big House. He now runs his own events coach company which often works along with the vintage railway. The coach pulled up at the staging erected next to the café and everyone clapped as the two retired theatre stars Doctor Diedre Pilbeam and Dame Hortense Slocombe descended from the vehicle and walked on to the stage. The Doctor sat down at the piano indicating her readiness to play. The orchestra conductor raised her baton and there followed a delightful selection of memories from the shows sung by Dame Hortense! After the warm applause for the two Grande Dames of the Theatre John escorted the ladies to a specially reserved table where the clergy and Maureen Jordan DBE, the famous writer, were already seated.

Matthew Harbours then announced, "We now have a special excerpt from the forthcoming production of *The Haunted Café* written by our distinguished writer in residence Maureen Jordan DBE. This will be presented by The Argosy Players Drama Group. Suddenly there was a loud thunderclap and the lights on the stage flashed as Mrs Handsworth, the Manor House Hotel Manager, entered, playing Mrs Bourne, an elderly widow. She cried out, "I can't take any more of these strange happenings, it's all too much! Since my husband Albert died here on the floor of the café there hasn't been any peace!" Maude Birdwhistle, playing the part of Julia, who suffers from delusions, ran on to the stage and cried out, "Mrs Handsworth, oops I mean Mrs Bourne," The audience laughed and the hotel manager scowled at her as she continued, "Mrs Bourne, I've told you there's something really strange happening here in this café! It's only a matter of time before we see your husband when he comes back to reclaim the café. He won't rest in peace!" Jackie Murdock and Richard Holmes, played by Raymond Potter (Rockin Ray) of Radio Mildenbury, with the Rev Andy's wife, Diane, playing Jackie Murdock, had been sitting in the corner discussing their forthcoming wedding. On overhearing the commotion, they stood up from behind the potted plants. As they moved to centre stage some of the plants had accidentally stuck in Richard's hair causing the audience to burst out laughing again! Richard in a very theatrical voice said, "What on earth is going on? Who's this mad woman claiming the place is haunted?" The excerpt from the play continued for a few moments until there was a loud bang when the café door burst open causing the scenery to wobble at the same time. Two voices called out, "Hello, we're Herbert and Edna Smithers, we've heard there are some strange goings on here at the café. We've been sent to help!"

# SURPRISE SURPRISE!

John Creggan, the new manager of the Locomotive Charity Shop and Café, was holding a very successful opening ceremony. John wanted to introduce himself and his business partner Matthew Harbours to the villagers and to show off the new-look shop and café. He had only recently been appointed by the Vintage Railway Trust and been given the task of revamping the facility. John and Matthew, had a background of successfully re-energising failing retail outlets. They'd come from St Annes-on-the-Sea and only recently moved into Rosary Villa on Guild Street. John turned to the local clergy who were assembled with Bishop Horatio Robertson-Hill. (The Bishop and Fr Geoff are the major trustees of the railway). The manager said, "Your Lordship and members of the clergy, thank you for being with us. Would you please officially inaugurate this afternoon's proceedings?" The bishop, gracious as always, said, "I think we should ask Rev Andy from the village Methodist Church to formally begin the celebrations.

He is our most recent addition to the Church Family here in the



**Continues page 35**



## Major Gerald Nicoll Blackpool Salvation Army



LOVE GOD  
LOVE OTHER

In last month's magazine I shared a 'letter from America' we are now back in the UK and having had a great break and experienced different ministries first hand, the children's camp at Swonkey was amazing. We took the opportunity to visit different Corps/Church and found some very different forms of ministry compared to The Salvation Army in the UK.

One of the Corps we visited was something called a Kroc Centre, the name is given to centres that stem from a donation by Ray & Joan Kroc, Ray was the executive of McDonalds and in 1998 they gave £87 million dollars to endow a community centre in San Diego, upon her death in 2003 Joan Kroc bequeathed another 1.5 billion dollars to The Salvation Army solely for the purpose of establishing centres of opportunity, education, recreation and inspiration throughout the United States to be known as "Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Centres" there are 26 such centres across the States today.

The work that's done in these amazing centres is really changing lives, we were fortunate to visit the centre in Dayton Ohio, the centre house a worship hall, a gym, restaurant, and is ready to support families throughout the city. They even boast a sports field across the road. I guess we were green with envy, imagine such facilities. However it brought me to the point of remembering the amazing ministry that has been conducted at Blackpool Citadel, which this year celebrates one hundred and forty years of ministry in Blackpool. We may not be in the league of our America friends in terms of riches but it reminds me of a story I heard.

Hetty Green, Hetty has gone down in American history as their greatest miser. It was told that in 1916 Hetty Green died leaving an estate valued at a massive \$100 million. The story goes that Hetty ate cold oatmeal because it cost to heat it. Her son had to suffer a leg amputation, because she delayed so long in looking for free treatment that his case became incurable.

She was wealthy and yet choose to live life as a pauper.

Eccentric? Certainly! Crazy? Perhaps - but nobody could prove it. It appears she was so foolish that she hastened her own death by bringing on an attack of apoplexy while arguing the value of drinking skimmed milk.

Author Warren Weirsbe uses the story and challenges us with the following thought: Hetty Green is an illustration of too many Christian believers today. They have limitless wealth at their disposal, and yet live like paupers. Don't restrict your life to any one country or moment for we are citizens of heaven and as such we should enjoy the riches that are ours, for as *Ephesians 1:3 reminds us our riches are found in Christ Jesus himself. Praise be to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.*



Photos Major Gerald Nicoll

**KIDS' COMMUNITY CHOIR**  
MONDAYS 5-6PM

FROM MONDAY 25<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

CALLING KIDS OF ALL AGES TO JOIN US IN SINGING AT OUR KIDS COMMUNITY CHOIR

PARENTS WITH UNDER 5s NEED TO STAY ON SITE!

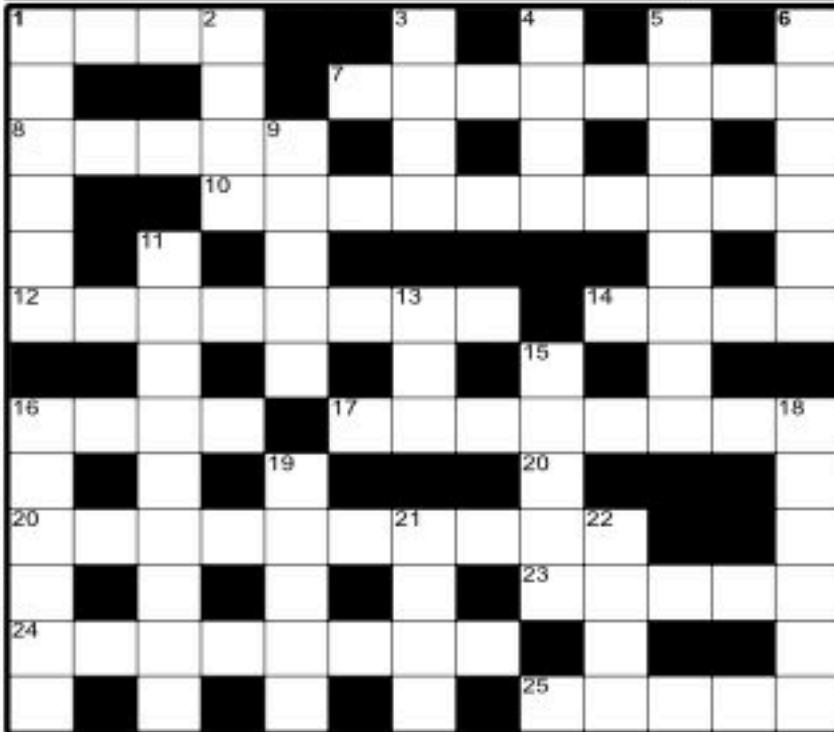
FREE ENTRY - JUICE PROVIDED

The Salvation Army, Railways Parade, Blackpool FY1 4EL (front entrance)  
Contact us on [Blackpool@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:Blackpool@salvationarmy.org.uk) or 01253 626114 for more details

**Our riches are found in Christ Jesus himself**

# PETER'S PUZZLE

Thanks to Peter Lonsdale



(both sets of clues lead to the same answer)

## Clues Across

- Heb 11: 7 (4)
- Acts 16: 14 (8)
- Of or belonging to England (5)
- See 12 across
- And 10 An apologetic or apologist (8-2-3-5)
- A mass of masonry supporting an arch (4)
- A true one is staunch, faithful and genuine (4)
- LK 22:21-22 (8)
- The Holy Spirit is the Great (this word) (10)
- Col 4: 14 (5)
- Col 4: 9 (8)
- See 9 down

## Clues Down

- Approached, get close 4 (6)
- A nimbus in a painting (4)
- Title meaning King, (of Persia) (4)
- Ex 32: 4 (KJV) (4)
- Delfic, to make Godlike (8)
- Mt 5:48 (6)
- and 25 across Singing off the same hymn sheet (2-3-5)
- See 16 down
- Gen 3: 20 (3)
- A brief summary of Christian belief (Nicene) (5)
- and 11 down Consecrated at York Minister 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024 Reverend Dr Joe Kennedy is now the 12<sup>th</sup> (6-2-7)
- One to whom a lease is given (6)
- Acts 17: 18 (5)
- IV or IIII but not V (4)
- Start again (4)

# SYLVIA'S MUSINGS

*Heavenly Father, its easy to fall into the bad habit of saying whatever I please. Give me the love and kindness of Jesus. Amen*



Thanks to sylvia Harley from Our Lady's

## Alternative clues Across

- God told him to build a boat (4)
- It did become that airy place (8)
- An English Saxon say (5)
- See 12 across
- And 10 across Title given to the monarchy, supreme governor and D.O.T.F. (8-2-3-5)
- Blackpool has 3 of them (jetty) (4)
- The colour of the Navy (4)
- A teacherous violation of a trust (8)
- With the Holy Spirit I can strive to change (10)
- His hide masks him (5)
- Bygones I must keep hidden for him (8)
- See 9 down

## Alternative clues Down

- Endear to get closer (6)
- Catch a look to see a ring of light (4)
- Hash hash for a King (4)
- Lower leg muscle (4)
- Hides div in if you want to be more God like (8)
- Male parent (6)
- and 25 across no foe becomes united, in song (2-3-5)
- See 16 down (2-7)
- The wife of Adam (3)
- A wiseacre edict shows this brief account (5)
- and 11 down. Given the acronym of B.O.B (6-2-7)
- Maybe Les can be made to see he owes rent (6)
- I cost about what is morally right (5)
- Quadr (4)
- This dore renewed becomes a new door (4)

Answers in the October edition

**Across** (1) Aaron (4) Michael (8) Lionize (9) Sodom (10) Ahab (11) Pledge (13) Keen (14) Swot (16) Shelters (17) Levi (20) Atlas (21) Station

**Down** (1) All Saints Day (2) Rhoda (3) Nain (4) Meekly (5) Cast Down (6) Audient (7) Lamentations (12) Dentist (13) Kneels (15) Cross (18) Epic (19) Sad

August  
ANSWERS

For everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven. Ecclesiastes 3:1 Is this a time to emphasise the Fifth Mark of Mission of the Anglican Communion?

A time for the leaves of the trees to become the healing of the nations. Mothers' Union has always engaged in the first four Marks of Mission. The 5th is less well known: To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth. What can we each do to treasure and safeguard God's gift of creation for future generations and families?

### Monthly prayer

As the tides of time wash over the shores of my life, bless me with the joy of living. As I sift through the shifting sands of my years, bless me with understanding. As the seasons of budding and fruiting come and go, bless me with a thankful spirit. Amen.



### Creative prayer

Collect twelve leaves of different shapes and shades of green or fallen autumn leaves in their brilliant colours. Arrange them in a circle like a clock. Touch the leaf which best reflects how you feel today. Thank God for the changing cycles and seasons of life.

Irishman is trying to get in to watch the Paris Olympic Games but has very little money. The Englishman says watch this, He walks up to the pay desk with a road grid cover in his hand. He says "Wilfred Smith, England, discusses" to the gateman, and he is let in. The Scotsman grabs a clothes prop and goes to the gateman, "Jock Mc Haggish, Scotland, Pole-vaulter" and he is let in. The Irishman grabs some netting wire, and wraps it around himself "Paddy O'Connell, Ireland, fencing"



**Brian Gore  
South Shore  
Methodist  
Community  
Church**

## Yut's Vision of the Universal Christ

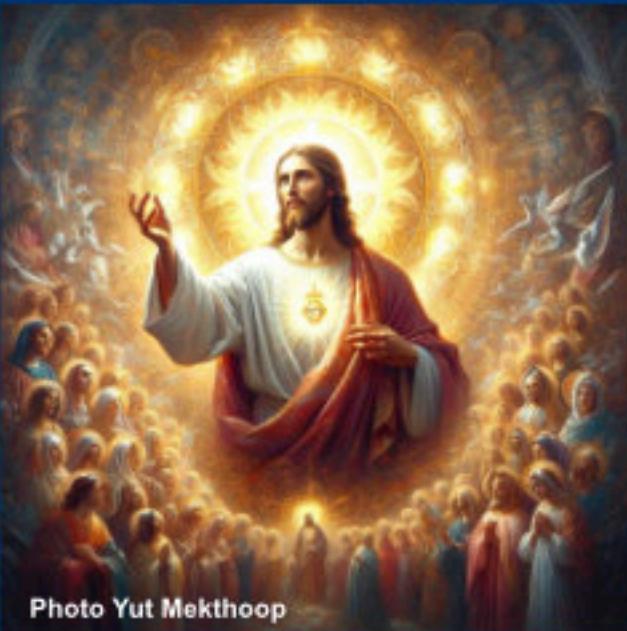


Photo Yut Mekthoop

### A universal communion of love

With thanks to Fr Geoff  
for his suggestion for a title.

### NEWS FROM ST ANNE'S CHURCH GREENLANDS BISPHAM

*Pilates at St Anne Greenlands Monday and Tuesday*

9 30am to 10 30am - 10 30am to 11 30am  
Thursday 9 30am to 10 30am and 11 to 12noon.  
£10 per session

If interested please contact Claire 07599659154

Eucharist Service with hymns at 09.30  
every Sunday followed by refreshments.

Healing Service Third Sunday of every month at  
08.45 followed with Laying on of hands during  
Eucharist Service at 09.30  
Holy Communion (said) at 18.00 every Thursday.

Mothers Union meeting second and fourth  
Wednesday of every month at 14.00

**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families



Bereavement support group meeting second Monday  
of every month at 14.00

Contemplative Prayer meeting second Monday  
of every month at 19.00



Coffee mornings first Friday and third Saturday of every  
month at 10.30



Locations of all events and changes to  
this schedule can be found in the news letter on the  
notice board at the front of church or the church  
website or 'A Church Near You' website



## Blackpool rich history of entertainment



The New Sands venue



Cooper's fez and Peter Kay's purple suit. From further back in time, the door of a Blackpool police cell from which Harry Houdini escaped in 1905, a Mr Punch puppet dating from 1850, and vintage designs from the town's famous illuminations also feature.

Blackpool was also famed for its end-of-the-pier variety shows. Exhibits from that era include suits worn by Morecambe and Wise, the uniform worn by Danny La Rue for the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 and local comedian Bobby Ball's red braces. The V&A museum in London has kindly loaned a number of items including the famous Sooty and Sweep puppets from the classic children's show. Harry Corbett initially bought Sooty from a joke shop on Blackpool's North Pier in 1948.

The chief executive of Showtown is Liz Moss who described the museum as

a "fascinating, bright, brash, bold collage of all of those stories, those entertainment greats - but done in a really innovative and colourful way."



Blackpool made a massive contribution to the social history of the UK and it's only right that the town gets to celebrate that contribution. The museum is well worth a visit.

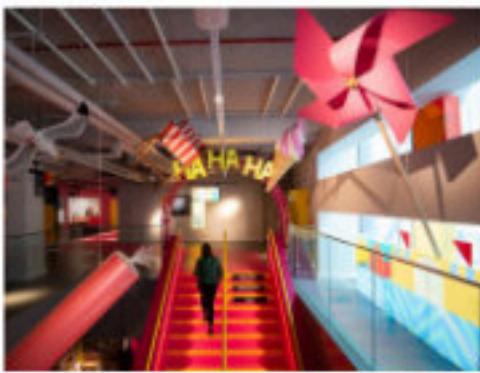
**SHOW**  
**TOWN**  
The museum of fun and entertainment

Nobody can deny Blackpool its rich history of entertainment including theatres, cinemas, and other venues. The Winter Gardens, Opera House, Odeon cinema and the three piers being just a few examples. What better way to highlight this rich history than to create a museum of fun and entertainment in the centre of town. Back in March, this vision became a reality when 'Showtown' opened its doors to the public.

The museum is situated on the first floor of the new Sands venue with its entrance on Bank Hey Street. It's undoubtedly an exciting new addition to our seaside town, Showtown sets out to celebrate the history, legacy, and future of Blackpool's rich entertainment heritage.

It covers the circus, magic shows, dancing, the celebrated illuminations, and much more. When fully up and running, the venue that cost £13 million aims to attract over 200,000 visitors each year therefore making a significant contribution to Blackpool's economy through job creation and tourism. The museum consists of six interactive fun and family-friendly galleries.

The new attraction marks the town's place as the spiritual home of ballroom dancing and 'Strictly's second home, showing outfits worn on the BBC show by former winner Stacey Dooley and professional dancers Joanne Clifton and Katya Jones. As well as Strictly Come Dancing costumes, the galleries contain a vintage Sooty puppet, Stan Laurel's hat, George Formby's ukulele, Tommy



## 'Fylde Coast Memories' with Michael Downer

St Christopher with St Nicholas

St Christopher with St Nicholas</

# MIDWEEKERS



TUESDAYS, 1-3PM

A TIME FOR ADULTS TO MEET  
WITH A WARM WELCOME, BOARD GAMES,  
DOMINOES, JIGSAWS, NEWSPAPERS &  
BOOKS AND CONVERSATION



The Salvation Army  
Dorset Street, Blackpool  
FY4 3BB - 01253 626114  
[blackpool@Salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:blackpool@Salvationarmy.org.uk)

The Salvation Army is a Church and registered Charity No. 214779



Contact us if you would like to make an appointment with me for an at-home pet euthanasia or for any other enquiries please reach out to me by any of the following methods which are best for you. Call The Loving Vet on : 07436774376 and leave a voicemail.

Send a text message or WhatsApp message to The Loving Vet on : 07436774376

Email to: [Thelovingvetbee@gmail.com](mailto:Thelovingvetbee@gmail.com)  
(Please include the nature of your enquiry or booking.) Please note - I do not answer this telephone number as I am usually on the road, or visiting poorly animals. Please leave your enquiry and your return contact details, and I will contact you at the soonest opportunity.



# YOUTH CLUB

CLUB FOR 10-14s

WEDNESDAYS  
4.30-6.30PM

FREE  
ENTRY

INCLUDING A MEAL  
The Salvation Army, Dorset St, FY4 3BB  
[Blackpool.SalvationArmy.org.uk](http://Blackpool.SalvationArmy.org.uk)

The Salvation Army registered Charity No. 214779 and its Building Subsidiary  
Social Trust registered Charity No. 215214 and its Building Subsidiary

# SUSIE'S CAFÉ

The Church Hall, Holy Cross Church  
Central Drive, Blackpool

Open 8.30am for...



English Breakfast  
Bacon sandwiches  
Egg on toast  
Tea/Coffee/Juice

## BREAKFAST

Bacon, egg, sausage, beans, tomatoes, toast  
Tea or Coffee £4

Mondays and Thursdays from 8.30am  
Closes 12noon

Children under the age of 13 must be accompanied by an adult



CASH ONLY

**Rev Paul Marley**  
**Retired Permanent Deacon**

# On being Me!



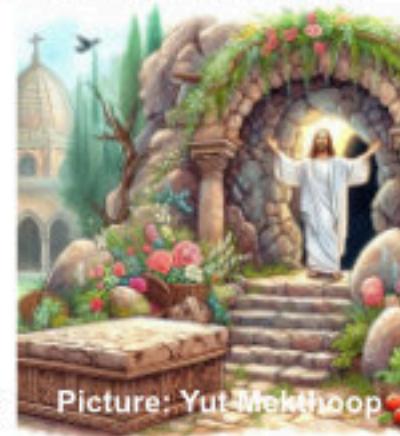
What is it that makes me me? It is an interesting and challenging question, especially for a Christian. The mysteries that lie at the basis of what it means to be human become more complex the deeper they are explored. That becomes even more self-evident when a religious and spiritual perspective is added to the search, as, inevitably, it must be. Indeed, you cannot clarify the principal issues to a purposeful conclusion without bringing God into the matter; equally it eventually becomes all too clear that without an understanding and acceptance of faith in any solution, the exploration will just go round and round in ever more complex circles without reaching an acceptable conclusion.

The Church's teaching is that man is divinely created by God with a body and a soul. Understanding what is meant by the term "soul" has occupied philosophers, theologians and academics since the days of Aristotle, Plato and others.

In essence the Church's position is that the soul is the source of human consciousness and freedom; soul and body together form one unique human nature. Each human soul is individual and immortal, immediately created by God. The values we espouse, the patterns of our behaviour, the things we choose to believe, the principles we adopt, the qualities that comprise our individual characters, all have their foundation in our souls as the expression of who we are.

The soul is indestructible; it is what goes with us when we die; the body on the other hand returns to the earthly dust from which it was made. What state the soul is in when it returns to its maker is very much the output of the freedom of will that went into its lifetime usage. God offers guidance on the principles and conduct that should govern our lives, and is more than willing to share the journey with us, but we have the freedom to live by our own whims and desires, if we wish.

Jesus' Resurrection is vitally instructive in this connection. The scriptures make it clear that his bodily form was recognisable as the person he had been in his lifetime. But equally his apostles came to realise he wasn't the same. His risen presence could come and go as he pleased; the apostles could see his open wounds, and Thomas could even put his hands into them to satisfy his doubts. Indeed, Thomas' prayerful proclamation of 'My Lord and My God' reveals Thomas new faith-filled awareness that Jesus is the Lord he had followed, but more significantly that Jesus is now, self-evidently, the divine Jesus, his God. As Jesus fulfilled his Father's will out of love, we too are challenged to fulfil it ourselves out of love, love of God and love of each other. Striving to be a person of love is essentially what should characterise our uniqueness, what truly makes me the me the Lord wants me to be.



Picture: Yut Mekhoop

## SYLVIA'S MUSINGS

*Lord, help me to use the time  
You've given me wisely.  
Thank You for life and for all  
that is available to me.  
Amen.*



Thanks to  
Sylvia Marley  
from Our Lady's



Toby Jones

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- App/Software Development
- Digital Marketing/Advertising
- VHS/Cine Film/Super 8 to Digital





## *News from England's Nazareth*



It is with great joy that the Shrine welcomes the news that the only Feast of Our Lady proper to England, Our Lady of Walsingham, is no longer simply an obligatory Memorial but now a Feast Day, following a decree by the Vatican last week. It will be celebrated as such for the first time on 24th September this year. This Shrine, which was once the focus of Pilgrimage in a land called 'Our Lady's Dowry', is now restored to the prominence it enjoyed for so long. We hope that this will encourage many more pilgrims to come and visit the Shrine where we pray daily for the Conversion of England to the Faith and to experience here a change which transforms their lives.



# 38 SWANN TOURS

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&  
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2024

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**BINGO**  
Win Prizes!

**EVERY LAST TUESDAY  
OF THE MONTH at 7pm**



Supper  
raffle!!

COME AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS  
FAMILIES ARE WELCOME

**St Christopher's Parish Centre  
Hawes Side Lane FY4 5AH**

Please can we ask your prayers for Penny who has been promoted to glory. She crossed the Rainbow Bridge on Saturday 2nd August. Please pray for Kath (Aunty Kath) Vaquer and Juan who are mourning their beautiful pet.

Kath has asked us to pay tribute to the sensitive vet and to thank her for her help at this distressing time. Please see page 18.



## St Christopher with St Nicholas Church Hawes Side Lane



Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September  
at 7pm



Eileen Lawson South Shore Methodist Community Church

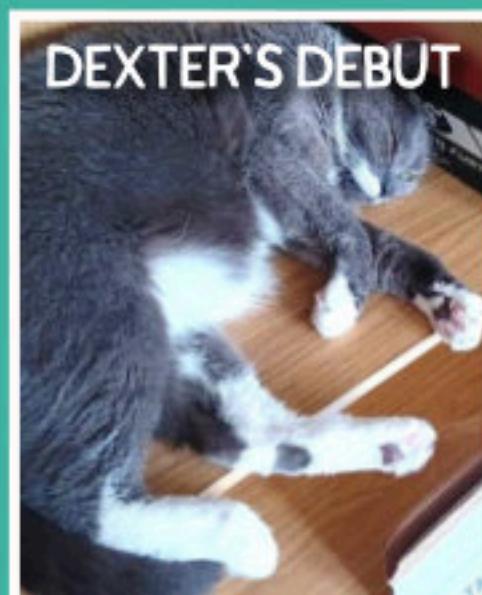


Lord, we come to ask your healing, Teach us of love;  
All unspoken shame revealing, Teach us of love.  
Take our selfish thoughts and actions,  
Petty feuds, divisive factions, Hear us now to you appealing,  
Teach us of love.

Soothe away our pain and sorrow, Hold us in love; Grace we  
cannot buy or borrow, Hold us in love. Though we see but  
dark and danger, Though we spurn both friend and  
stranger, Though we often dread tomorrow, Hold us in love.

When the bread is raised and broken, Fill us with love;  
Words of consecration spoken, Fill us with love.  
As our grateful prayers continue,  
Make the faith that we have in you  
More than just an empty token,  
Fill us with love.

Help us live for one another, Bind us in love; Stranger,  
neighbour, father, mother - Bind us in love. All are equal at  
your table,  
Through your Spirit make us able  
To embrace as sister, brother,  
Bind us in love. © Jean Holloway (born 1939)



Kindly Do Not DISTURB!!!

*St Christopher with St Nicholas Church*  
Friday 6th & Saturday 7th December 11am - 4pm  
Sunday 8th December 1.30 - 4pm

# Christmas Tree Festival

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December from 2pm



Tombola Cake Stall Christmas Craft Stalls Raffle

*Anne Marie Present*

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 10am - 2pm

Free Entry  
Tea Coffee  
and snacks

## BLACKPOOL Ladies Days

Lots of stalls selling  
kids clothes, homewares  
cleaning materials and rugs etc.

St Christopher's Parish Centre Hawes Side Lane Blackpool

ST CHRISTOPHER WITH ST NICHOLAS CHURCH  
HAWES SIDE LANE BLACKPOOL

## SONGS FROM THE SHOWS & CHRISTMAS CAROLS

SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 7PM

FYLDE CONCERT ORCHESTRA



TICKETS

ADULT £6

CHILDREN £3

INCLUDES

REFRESHMENTS

RAFFLE



BOOKING

01253 696481

Tues 21st Nov & Tues 10th Dec 7pm

*Anne Marie's*

(In aid of church Funds)

## CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP

MAKE YOUR OWN WREATH!!

All materials supplied

Advance booking essential call

07491 728169

Includes  
refreshments  
Mince Pies &  
Mulled Wine



Bring your own gloves!!!

St Christopher's Parish Church Hawes Side Lane Blackpool



## Sister Philomena Grimley

SHCJ Society of the Holy Child Jesus

to leave the fireside at night to run upstairs to wash and get ready for bed! In the morning one of the first jobs was clearing the ashes to light the fire and get warmth into the house. Then as a teenager I remember going to Manchester to stay with my cousins and experiencing what was called "The Smog". This was the industrial fog that affected cities in those days before the Clean Air Act. Blackpool only experienced occasional sea fogs, but town and city smog was horrible, a dirty yellow blanket that smothered everywhere and when you went out in it your clothes became covered in soot and grime. All that is history now, but worth remembering because it connects with perhaps the greatest challenge facing our world in the times we are living through, namely the effect of fossil fuels in the climate change crisis. We never thought that our whole way of life, our ever increasing dependence on coal and oil and gas for energy would be causing the global disasters and the destruction of the natural world that we have become aware of more and more. We might moan a bit because so far (it is July when I write this) we have not had any summer weather to speak of. Blackpool's coastline isn't eroding away. Yet if you lived on one of the Pacific Island countries you would know that ever rising tides, owing to global warming, are encroaching on the land and actually swallowing up whole island states. I do not need to remind you of news items about wild fires, droughts causing famine, floods causing landslides that bury whole villages. But I am reminding you because in the month of September we celebrate with Christians all over the world THE SEASON OF CREATION.

When I was growing up in Blackpool at the end of the Second World War one of the regular visits to our road was the coalman. His lorry would stop at our house and then he would hoist on his back a sack of coal to leave in the coalhouse or the coal bunker that was later installed at the back of the house. It was the same for all our neighbours. No one had central heating, but maybe a gas fire in one room and maybe a portable electric fire. Our coal fire stove in the small kitchen heated our hot water, so we were very fortunate to have that, with a rack that hung from the ceiling on a pulley to dry our laundry, especially in winter when you could not hang things out on the line.

No one wanted



## TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

### The firstfruits of hope

(Rom 8:19-25)

Perhaps you will be able to attend a service or an event organised locally as part of this Season. I just want to suggest an action that you might take that will be a sign of hope. The ecumenical organisers of this Season have invited all who can to sign, as an individual or as a group, the FOSSIL FUEL NON PROLIFERATION TREATY. You can find this by searching for [fossilfueltreaty.org/faith-letter](http://fossilfueltreaty.org/faith-letter) The Treaty asks governments to: End expansion of any new coal, oil or gas production; Phase-out existing production of fossil fuels in a manner that is fair and equitable; Ensure a global just transition to 100% access to renewable energy globally. As the organisers say "We hail from many faiths and beliefs, but together we can remedy the decades of negligence to safeguard our coexistence with this earth." If you sign you are in solidarity with sisters and brothers all over the world, our common home.

*Loving and Creator God, make us sensitive to the cries of the earth, the cries of all creatures and the cry of the Spirit of hope and justice that lives in us. Grant us a fresh vision of our relationship with the earth and with one another. In the name of the one who came to proclaim the Good News to all Creation, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Adapted from Season of Creation Prayer

Photos Wikipedia

# Heroes of the Faith

## Jarena Lee

woman preacher in the United States. Jarena was born into a free black family in New Jersey in 1783. She had little education and, aged seven, was sent away to be a maid to a white family. These were difficult times. Despite the pronouncement of the Declaration of Independence that 'all men are created equal' and have 'rights', prejudice persisted and, in the South, slavery continued.

Despite little religious teaching as a child, Jarena became burdened by a sense of sin. After moving to Philadelphia in 1804, she began to attend church, seeking forgiveness. She tried a white church and then, feeling out of place, went to an independent African-American church that had been started by Richard Allen after his own uncomfortable experiences of racism. Under his preaching Jarena came to faith and experienced forgiveness. Soon Jarena had an experience in which she distinctly heard a voice say, 'Go preach the gospel!' She approached Pastor Allen only to be told that the denomination did not permit women to preach. He did, however, allow her to 'exhort' people and hold prayer meetings in private homes.

In 1811 Jarena married Joseph Lee, the pastor of a Methodist church, and moved to New Jersey. The fact that her husband disapproved of her desire to preach heightened a sense of frustration. After six years of marriage, her husband died, leaving Jarena with two young children. She returned to Philadelphia, where Allen had just created the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church; a denomination destined to play an important role in America. There was, however, still no permission for Jarena to preach.

In 1818 Jarena was at a service when, at the start of his sermon, the visiting preacher faltered and stopped. On impulse, she stood up and preached the sermon instead. Allen was present and, impressed by what he had heard, declared Jarena to be gifted by God. He granted her a licence to preach and from then on, he became her ally, encouraging her to preach in churches and at conferences. As her preaching ministry grew and saw fruit, Jarena decided to become a full-time travelling preacher. In thirty years of extraordinarily demanding ministry, Jarena travelled across New England, into Canada and even down into the South, where she risked being taken into slavery. She preached to everybody, ignoring race, social level or church background. She preached anywhere – churches, homes, barns and the open air – covering enormous distances on her own or with other preachers. In one year, she travelled around 2,800 miles, much of it on foot. Despite chronic poor health, Jarena often preached several times a day. Although none of her sermons have survived, we know from her autobiography what her topics and themes were. She preached for conversions but also, in a typically Methodist manner, for a holy life. She saw many conversions, some of them dramatic, and everywhere encouraged the building up of church fellowships. Aware of social injustice, Jarena became involved in the anti-slavery movement. Yet despite her years of labour and the fruit of her ministry, her denomination refused to ordain her.

In 1836 Jarena wrote *The Religious Experience and Journal of Mrs. Jarena Lee*. The first autobiography by any African-American woman, it proved to be very influential. However, in 1852, the AME denomination ruled that women were forbidden to preach and should be removed from leadership. Whether this was a factor or not, Jarena died in 1860. In a notable, if delayed, act of contrition, the AME posthumously ordained Jarena in 2016.

Jarena Lee's ministry was marked by powerful and effective preaching, and in her autobiography, she reported experiences of conversions, some dramatic and emotional, that mirror those seen by John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. In thinking about Jarena Lee, let me point out three things. First, Jarena had a compulsion to preach. Some people talk about Jarena's hunger to preach as if she was motivated by nothing more than an ambition to achieve some sort of gender equality. The truth is otherwise: this was a woman who felt that God had called her and anointed her for preaching, and had the burning urge to exercise that gift. She was at one with Saint Paul when he wrote, 'I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!' (1 Corinthians 9:16 NIV). All the best preaching needs that God-given compulsion.

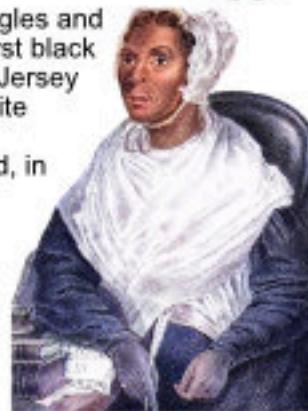
Second, Jarena showed courage in preaching. She boldly faced physical challenges as she travelled, often alone, through inhospitable country and even into areas where slavery continued. She showed another type of bravery in confronting social challenges. She was what we call today a 'marginal figure': an uneducated, poor black woman in a society dominated by well-educated, middle-class white men. Yet she stood up both for herself and for the gospel. Finally, Jarena showed a commitment to preaching. She may not have had much in life, but she gave up what she had in order to be a preacher. Dependent entirely on gifts, burdened with ill health and often greeted with hostility and prejudice, she kept pressing on for the sake of the gospel.

Our world is very different from that of Jarena Lee. Yet the virtues she showed remain essential: a divine compulsion to preach the gospel, a courage to preach to a hostile world and a commitment to keep preaching come what may. J. John Reverend Canon

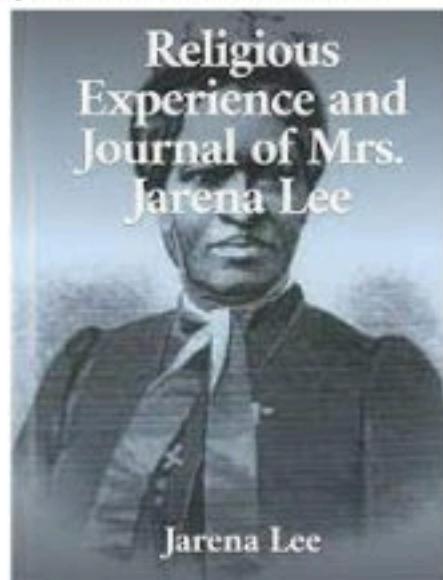
Beryl Whiteside South Shore  
Methodist Community Church



Jarena Lee overcame many struggles and much opposition to become the first black



Religious  
Experience and  
Journal of Mrs.  
Jarena Lee



Jarena Lee



Westcliffe Drive, Layton FY3 7DZ



## NEW, NEARLY-NEW AND PRE-LOVED TABLE-TOP / CRAFT SALE

Second Saturday each Month\*  
9.30am - 1.30pm

Refreshments Available

\*13 July, 10 August, 14 September, 12 October and 9 November



### Daddy Fell Into the Pond

by Alfred Noyes Next

Everyone grumbled. The sky was grey.  
We had nothing to do and nothing to say.  
We were nearing the end of a dismal day,  
And there seemed to be nothing beyond,

THEN

*Daddy fell into the pond!*

And everyone's face grew merry and bright, And Timothy  
danced for sheer delight.

"Give me the camera, quick, oh quick!  
He's crawling out of the duckweed!"  
CLICK!

Then the gardener suddenly slapped his knee,  
And doubled up, shaking silently,  
And the ducks all quacked as if they were daft, And it sounded  
as if the old drake laughed.  
Oh, there wasn't a thing that didn't respond  
WHEN  
*Daddy fell into the pond!*

Norma Rodham

South Shore Methodist Community Church

**NEWS FROM**

Layton Methodist Church



**THE BIG FOOD TRUCK**

is at Layton Methodist every  
Thursday 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

For more information and to register,  
check out [www.thebigfoodtruck.co.uk](http://www.thebigfoodtruck.co.uk)



or text your NAME to  
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To Celebrate the Life of

Lynne was a faithful Lynne Pickup  
member of

14th August 1949 - 18th July 2024

Layton Methodist Church.

She'll be

greatly missed.

May she Rest in

Peace and Rise

in Glory. Amen



Thursday 8th August 2024

In The Presence of Her Loving Family and Friends

Layton Methodist Church at 11.00 am



# September

colours on the trees.

Green turns to all shades of yellows and golds with red depending on the species of the tree. We see the evenings getting darker and bare branches appear preparing for the winter. Then we have our smell. It is the season of dying and rotting plants. The smell is a brisk, crisp, slightly sharp one. The plants, grasses and trees bury their roots deep in the ground to hide from the coming frosts.

There is much talk these days of rewilding. Introducing wild animals into areas where they have either become extinct or are very rare. The Scotland Rewilding Alliance hopes to restore 30% of the natural habitats in the country without affecting productive farmland. They have the support of Hollywood actor Leonardo DiCaprio who wrote on Instagram 'Scotland could be a world leader in rewilding its landscapes, ensuring clean air and water, storing carbon, reducing flooding, restoring wildlife and improving the lives of locals.' If you wish to find out more there is a lot of information online about rewilding not only in Britain but also Europe.

Apart from rewilding the land there are moves to rewild our seas. There have for some time been fishing quotas to prevent overfishing. But some feel this is not enough. Rewilding the seabed, salt marshes and sea grasses helps to balance the ecosystem. Also, these areas can absorb carbon many times greater than trees. Salt Flats must be protected and sea dredging must be stopped. Of course, all these ambitions take time and money but hopefully we can support these efforts.



every day. Enjoy September. We often get some good weather this month so get out and about whilst you can.

*Where are the songs of Spring? Ay, where are they?  
Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,  
John Keats 1795-1821 Ode to Autumn*

September with the onset of Autumn becomes the season of senses. These sounds are unique to this season. The fallen leaves brittle and crisp crunch under our feet. The geese say goodbye with their distinctive cry as they fly overhead to the far and distant lands. The squirrels chatter as they hunt for their acorns to bury deep underground in their winter stores. Tractors can be heard in the fields as farmers finish the harvest. Overall, however, the wind catches our attention most as it whips the leaves from the trees.

The next sense is our sight as we look at the fantastic autumn



*with Patricia Rawson*



An interesting fact I learned recently is that a baby robin does not have a red breast; it still has its sprightly stance as its parents. Its red breast appears as it matures into a fully-fledged adult. Another very strange fact. Doves eat grit and gravel.

This helps them grind up the seeds and plant material they consume. The grit provides them with calcium which helps them manufacture their eggshells. How fascinating our wildlife is. Fresh facts emerge

**Coffee Morning**  
**Tuesdays at 10.15**  
**Everyone Welcome**



**SOUTH SHORE METHODIST  
COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**Mayfield Avenue**  
**Blackpool FY4 2NT**

All pictures Yut & Bob

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## **BISPHAM STATION CAFE**

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*Stage One Now Open*

**Teas Coffees Cold Drinks  
Hot Dogs Burgers Donuts  
Ice Cream Waffles Confectionery  
and much much more!!**





## Terry & Freda Wray Blackpool Salvation Army Citadel



Jesus said the greatest commandment is to 'Love GOD with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength' and the second greatest commandment is to 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

**Thank you!**

for helping us to help others!

### If we could change ourselves

If we could change ourselves, the tendencies in the world would also change. As a man changes his own nature, so does the attitude of the world change towards him. We need not wait to see what others do.

A man is a product of his own thoughts. What he thinks he becomes. I will not let anyone walk through my mind with their dirty feet. Nobody can hurt me without my permission. Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do in harmony.

The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is an attribute of the strong. An ounce of practice is worth a thousand words. A coward is incapable of exhibiting love; it is the prerogative of the brave. Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if were to live forever.

Freedom is not worth having if it does not include the freedom to make a mistake. Service which is rendered without joy helps neither the servant or the served. If we are to teach real peace in this world, and if we are to carry on a real war against war, we shall have to begin with the children. The best way to find is to lose yourself in the service of others. In a gentle way you can shake the world.

If I have the belief that I can do it, I shall surely acquire the capacity to do it even if I may not have it at the beginning. Hate the sin, love the sinner. Glory lies in the attempt to reach one's goal and not in reaching it.

Whenever you are confronted with an opponent, conquer him with love. Permanent good can never be the outcome of untruth and violence. The future depends on what you do today. To give pleasure to a single heart by a single act is better than a thousand heads bowed in prayer. Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's needs, but not every man's greed. Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will.

You don't know who is important to you until you actually lose them. Its the action, not the fruit of the action, that's important. You have to do the right thing. It may not be in your power, may not be in your time, that there'll be any fruit. But that doesn't mean you stop doing the right thing. Your may never know what results come from your action. But if you do nothing, there will be no result.

I object to violence because when it appears to do good, the good is only temporary; the evil it does is permanent.

### From Freda

Lord, thank you for each day.  
We ask that you will guide our path  
And more specifically, our thoughts,  
Words, and actions, please be with us throughout each  
day and help us navigate whatever comes our way.  
Most importantly help us to reflect, and live our lives in  
a way that is honouring You.



*Photo Yut Mekthoop & Bob Milner*

Even if you can't change the world never doubt that you can do remarkable things to change and rearrange your little corner of it.

Gardeners will tell you that the best time to plant a flower garden was years ago...and the second best time ...is right now. The same philosophy that applies to flowers also holds true for personal goals. Just imagine this...

On this very day, even one year ago, if you had started a new goal, think how far along you would be! The best time to plant those seeds, follow those dreams, and start reaching for the sky...was back then.

The second best time to begin...is today!

### GRATITUDE

**T** is for total TRUST that we can have in our Lord.  
**H** is HAPPINESS that He brings to our lives.  
**A** is for ALWAYS He walks by our side.  
**N** is for NEARNESS by our side He will abide.  
**K** is for KING yet still He is our Friend.  
**Y** is for YIELDING our lives into His will.  
**O** is for OURS His love will always be.  
**U** is for UNENDING, yes ours unceasing.



*Lord, guide our path*

*Photo Keith Tuck*



# DID YOU KNOW?

**Peter Lonsdale**

Stephen Cottrell on Friday 19th July 2024.

The Bishop of Blackburn Rt Rev Philip North made the appointment following consultation with a representative group from the Diocese. The appointment of Joe Kennedy to become the 12th Bishop of Burnley was approved by His Majesty King Charles 3rd Defender of Faith and Supreme Governor of the Church.

The Rt Rev Joe Kennedy's installation service will be held at Blackburn Cathedral on the 8th of September 2024 at 4pm. Refreshments will be served in the Cathedral and the grounds around it after the service.

### **Rev. Dr Joe Kennedy; Biography 2011-present**

Vicar of Oxton St Saviour in the Diocese of Chester - a large parish of more than 16,000 people, encompassing suburban and estate housing. His ministry has focused on: overseeing work to transform the church's ministry to children, young

people, and families; building diverse teams of ministers from a wide range of church traditions and with different passions and gifts, all focused on a common purpose: building a strategic focus on mission, and aligning limited resources to this work. Also during this period:

2021 - present **Rural Dean of Birkenhead** 10 parishes, with widely different church traditions, from SCP to Reform. 2020 - present **Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands, Diocese of Chester**

Discernment work with prospective ordinands.

### **2015 - 2020: Lecturer and Tutor, St Mellitus College NW**

Taught missiology, apologetics, systematic theology to ordinands and independent students (including ministers from a range of denominations).

2008 - 2011 Principal, College of the Resurrection, Mirfield Overall responsibility for the College's spiritual life, for the formation of ordinands, and for the pastoral care of students.

Line managed academic and senior administrative staff, and led strategic planning, budget planning, and external promotion. Taught theology and missiology.

### **2005 - 2008 Higher Education Chaplaincy**

Dean of Chapel, Chaplain, and Fellow, Selwyn College, Cambridge, and Chaplain and Senior Member, Newnham College, Cambridge. Responsible for the worship and life of Selwyn College Chapel. Offered pastoral care to students, Fellows and staff in two constituent colleges of Cambridge University. Tutor in theology for Selwyn and Magdalene Colleges.

2002 - 2005 Assistant Curate, Diocese of Oxford 2002 - 2003, Mortimer; 2003 - 2005,

Abingdon. Ministerial experience in rural, suburban, and estate settings.

Ordained Deacon in Oxford Diocese: 2002

Ordained Priest in Oxford Diocese: 2003

Educated at Edinburgh and Oxford. Completed degrees in mathematics and in theology at Edinburgh University, and served for five years as an assistant warden in student Halls of Residence. Also gained qualified teacher status before going to Oxford where he trained for the ordained ministry and gained a master's degree and doctorate in theology. Joe met his wife Emily at Oxford University. She was studying for a degree in Classics while he was training for ordination. Married 2001. Two children: David (aged 13); Mary aged 7. Emily is a Chartered Accountant, who works as Head of External Financial Reporting for Oxfam.

Ronnie Semley

Sourced from the Church of England and Blackburn Diocesan website.

From all of us here at St Christopher and St Nicholas Parish Church, Blackpool we send our most heartfelt and very warm congratulations to our recently consecrated Bishop of Burnley Right Reverend Joe Kennedy, you are in our prayers, and we wish you a fruitful tenure. Dr Joe Kennedy's consecration service was held at York Minster by the Archbishop of York the most Rev and Right Hon



**HOLY CROSS  
PARISH CHURCH  
CENTRAL DRIVE  
BLACKPOOL**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October 11am  
HARVEST THANKSGIVING  
THE PARISH MASS  
with Parade and then:**



**Songs of Praise  
at 2pm**



**Afternoon Tea  
served 3pm**

**TICKETS FOR TEA £5  
Booking Essential 01253 343829**



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**Interested in taking a regular monthly copy?  
Interested in a Daily Bible Reading?**

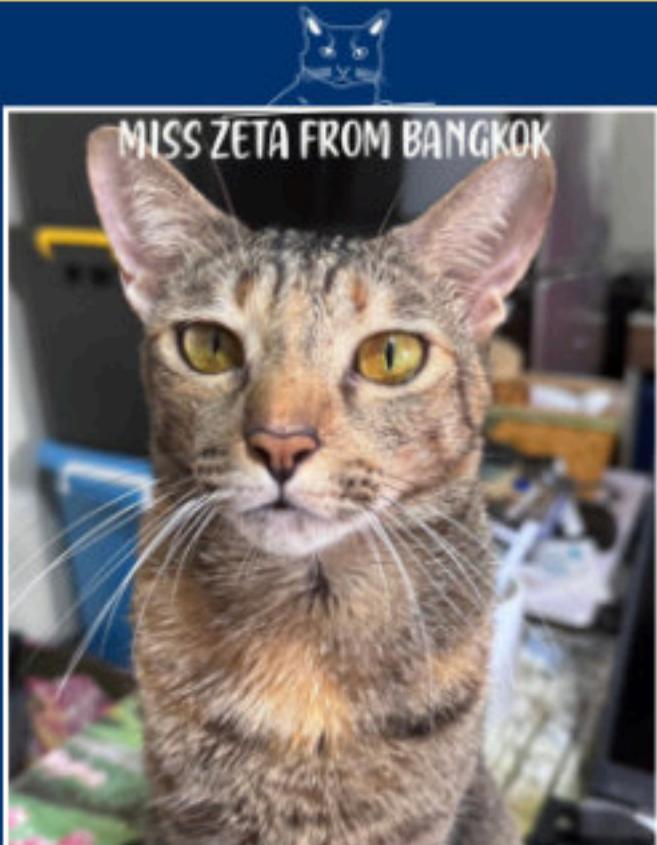
*There's some copies of the Our Daily Bread booklets at the back of church*

**Need any more information?  
See Roy or Bob**

**St Christopher with St Nicholas Church**



**Our Daily Bread  
Ministries®**



**Look, I'm the boss around here!**

## WAYSIDER PULPIT

*with our Rev Andy*

"God loved us before he made us; and his love has never diminished and never shall." Julian of Norwich



*with our Fr Chas*

The life of Christ within us is not a static thing. It is dynamic, it grows, it evolves, it changes.



**Shining Stars Toddler Group**

**free entry**

**Salvation Army**

**Mondays 10am – 11.30am (term-time only)**  
**Group for 0-4s and their parents and carers**  
The Salvation Army,  
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**messy play**      **crafts**  
**soft play**      **singing**      **and more!**

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**free entry**

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**Terry &  
Freda Wray  
Blackpool  
Salvation Army  
Citadel**



*If you love Jesus you will want to be with him. You will be glad of every opportunity to have special fellowship with him.*

## HOPE

Hope can bring you peaceful moments when the world

Around you is difficult to comprehend.

Hope is a comforting reminder that tomorrow will be here Soon, ready to give us a fresh new start.

Hope is the warm and welcomed knowledge that beautiful Possibilities exist.

Hope is all these special things and - in simply knowing this- When hope is all you've got - you've still got a lot.

Have hope. Be optimistic! And expect things to turn out for the best. Remember that beyond the clouds, the sun is still shining.

Meet each challenge and give it all you've got. Count your blessings. Climb your ladders and have some nice, long talks with your wishing stars. Be strong and patient. Be strong and patient. Be gentle and wise. Do every positive thing you can possibly do. Story of your life.

## TEMPER

When I've lost my temper, I have lost my reason too.  
I am never proud of anything which I angrily do.  
When I have talked in anger and my cheeks were flaming red.

I have always uttered something I which I hadn't said. In anger I have never done a kindly deed or wise,. But many things for which I felt I should apologise. In looking back across my life, and all I've lost or made. I can't recall a single time when fury ever paid.

So I struggle to be patient, for I've reached a wiser age. I don't want to do a thing or speak a word in rage. I've learned by sad experience that when my flies.

I never did a worthy deed, a decent deed or wish.

## THOUGHTS OF MAHATMA GANDHI 1869 - 1946

Indian Lawyer, anti-colonial nationalist, and political ethicist, who employed nonviolent resistance to lead the successful campaign for India's Independence from British Rule, and in turn inspire movements for civil rights. He died at 5.40pm, about half an hour after he was shot by the Hindu fanatic Nathuram Godse.

I cannot conceive of a greater loss than the loss of one's self respect.

You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is like an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty.



## Terry's Treasures

Don't worry about middle age, you'll grow out of it.

A parcel delivered to the Director of Music at a school in L.O.W was marked, "handle with care".

A man wrapped up in himself makes a very small parcel. Home is the place where they know us at our worst and love us. The trouble with being punctual is nobody's there to appreciate it.

## Friendship Club



## THURSDAYS EVERY WEEK

10:00am – Coffee & Chat  
(come and join us - free entry)

12 noon – Hot Lunch  
(£5.00 - please pre-book)

2:00-3:00pm – Friendship Group  
(£20 per year - either pay ahead for the year or pay as you go)

For more information email: [blackpool@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:blackpool@salvationarmy.org.uk) or phone 01253 626114

*This page sponsored by Terry and Freda Wray in blessed memory our dear friend Margaret*

# REGINALD DIXON – HIS FIRST THIRTY YEARS

Peter J Ashman



Reginald Dixon, MBE



During Blackpool's off-peak season, Reg would tour halls and cinema circuits, giving popular recitals similar to those he gave in the Tower, but this meant he was missing from the radio - an absence that always provoked much irate correspondence from his growing audiences. However, there was occasional respite, such as on 22 March 1932 when according to the "Radio Times", "Blackpool will provide four programmes for the Northern Region today". At 1.00 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. "Reginald Dixon at the organ of the Tower Ballroom". The other two programmes were provided by Laddie Clarke's Imperial Hydro Hotel Orchestra, and Bertini's Dance Band from the Empress Ballroom. Incidentally, so popular had Reg's broadcasts become, they were often of forty-five minutes' duration.



In the early 1930s there was a huge Empire audience for BBC programmes, especially for home-grown music, and the BBC soon realised they had a sure-fire winner with Reginald Dixon and the Tower organ. The sad news, for Reg, was that these broadcasts had to be made at a time to suit the recipient audience . . . not necessarily very convenient for Reg (who still had to turn up the next day for Tower audiences). The ballroom could be an eerie place at 1.00 a.m., especially when the inky blackness was illuminated by a single light over the Wurlitzer. Reg was not alone, as he had two engineers on stage with him - one operating the BBC equipment, while the other acted as a link between the BBC announcer and Reg. Most importantly, the contact had to

listen to the announcement (on headphones), and then signal to Reg when to start playing (and, when time was running out, when to stop). It was hard to believe that the sound waves were proceeding, via the North Regional relay station at Moorside, to the far-flung Empire, thousands of miles away. One of his first broadcasts to India included: "The Entry of The Gladiators"; a Puccini selection; a Kennedy Fraser tramping song; a Pot-pourri of waltzes; the popular Romberg "Desert Song"; and then the fade-out (some forty minutes later). Incidentally, the above broadcast was only one of three from the Tower Ballroom in seventeen hours - the above went to India, and two more went to different outposts of Canada.

What impressed the radio audiences (and many of his fellow organists), in the 1930s, was the facility Reg had for artistically "filling in" scores. Very little of what he was playing was written specifically for the organ, yet no liberties were taken with compositions, and all seemed perfectly in keeping. Practically every effect that could be legitimately obtained was utilised, and the variety of effect was astounding. His gift of extemporisation, and total understanding of his instrument, were profound. Incidentally, quite early into the broadcasts, engineers completed the addition of a sub-octave to the Tower organ's specification - representing as much as 30% more tonal power. The effect was immediately noticeable, and a tremendous improvement.



What was lacking from Reg's Empire broadcasts (quite noticeably) was the applause, and audible encouragement that he normally received at live recitals. As if by way of compensation for this, scores of letters began to arrive from all around the Empire, especially from Canada and India - which, incidentally, also delighted his employers. However, one should not forget just how well-known he had become in the home market, and I can recount one incident in 1932 that illustrates this. Reg was driving home through a Lancashire village very early one morning (following an Empire broadcast), when a policeman at the road-side indicated that he wanted him to stop, and then asked to see his driving licence. He looked at it, then asked: "You're not THE Reginald Dixon from the Tower, are you?" "I am", said Reg. "Blimy", said the policeman, "If I don't get your autograph for the wife, life will not be worth living." So, at three o'clock on a very cold morning, Reg was signing his name in the notebook of a surprised (and delighted) police constable on the Fylde coast.

More next month

# The Stigmata of St Francis 15th September 2023

The Chapel of the Stigmata is perched on the edge of the same sheer precipice where St. Francis stood two years before his death and was swept up into the mystery of God's overwhelming love for him and for humanity. St. Bonaventure, in his *Life of St. Francis*, describes Francis as being more inflamed than usual with the love of God as he began a special time of prayer at La Verna in September of 1224.

"His unquenchable fire of love for the good Jesus," Bonaventure writes, "was fanned into such a blaze of flames that so many waters; could not quench so powerful a love" (see Song of Songs 8:6-7).

## The Vision of a Seraph

Bonaventure goes on: "While Francis was praying on the mountainside, he saw a Seraph with six fiery and shining wings descend from the height of heaven. And when in swift flight the Seraph had reached a spot in the air near the man of God, there appeared between the wings the figure of a man crucified, with his hands and feet extended in the form of a cross and fastened to a cross. Two of the wings were lifted above his head, two were extended for flight and two covered his whole body. "When Francis saw this, he was overwhelmed and his heart was flooded with a mixture of joy and sorrow. He rejoiced because of the gracious way Christ looked upon him under the form of a Seraph, but the fact that he was fastened to a cross pierced his soul with a sword of compassionate sorrow." When the vision disappeared, writes Bonaventure, Francis was left with a "marvellous ardour" in his heart. At the same time, there "was imprinted on his body markings that were no less marvellous." These markings were the stigmata, the wounds of Christ crucified.

## More about the Seraph

There are two things to dwell on here. First is the Seraph. Seraphs are angels closest to God, burning with love as they bow before God, shouting, "Holy, holy, holy!" Their fiery wings suggest the flaming intensity of God's love that Christ communicated to Francis, which, in turn, set Francis' heart afire. The word seraphic is often used to describe Francis' passionate style of relating to God and is often applied to the Franciscan Order, which is sometimes called the Seraphic Order. Second, we focus on "the gracious way that Christ looked upon him." This is something of a repeat of the vision Francis had in the beginning of his spiritual life in which "Jesus appeared to him fastened on a cross. Francis' soul melted at the sight, and the memory of Christ's passion was so impressed on the innermost recesses of his heart that from that hour whenever Christ's crucifixion came to mind, Francis could scarcely contain his sighs . . ." (Bonaventure's *Life of St. Francis*).

## Suffering for Christ

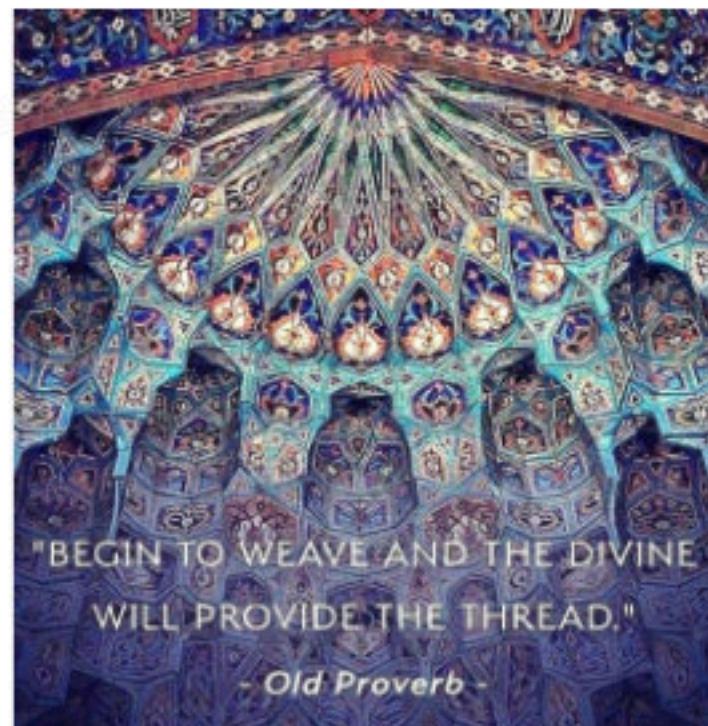
In themselves, sickness and suffering are tragic and senseless. But Christ has sanctified even the wounds of human nature. This terrible scourge can be changed into a blessing by being united to the sufferings of Christ. Many people feel that this sublime privilege does not count for them. They are not good enough. Their sickness is not that important. They believe it is a punishment. But Christ wants to take your individual suffering and unite it to his. Of all the statements about our continuing Christ's life, none is more astounding than this: "I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh, I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church" (Col 1:24). Francis received the highest proof of Christ's love and need of him when his body was literally put on a cross with Christ by the reality of the five wounds of the stigmata.

## Prayer

Lord, you promise to make all things new.

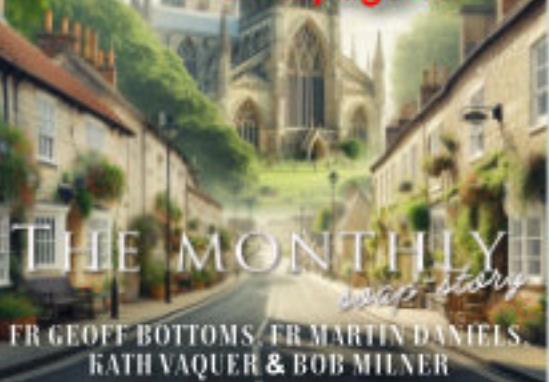
That includes me.

As I begin this journey  
to discover St Francis' way to you,  
I ask you to begin to renew  
my faith, my hope, and my love.  
Amen.



# MAGNUM SILENCIUM TO MILDENBURY

From page 13



## THE MONTHLY *war-story*

FR GEOFF BOTTOMS, FR MARTIN DANIELS,  
KATH VAQUER & BOB MILNER

vicarage. I also heard Fr Geoff mention to the bishop it was a pity that one of the Duchesses weren't free! There is someone famous coming to the village!" Suddenly from the direction of the High Street came a loud bang. There were cries of panic from the audience and Fr Martin said to Fr Geoff, "What the heck was that?"

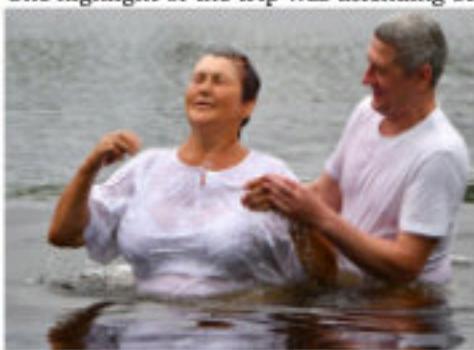
Standing in the doorway, was Angelina and Seamus Tenby once again playing parts for which they'd become quite famous. Fr Martin and Rev Andy smiled at each other as the vicar whispered, "I think we've been here before, Andy." At this point the Gertrude Sainthouse sextet struck up a very dramatic wavering chord bringing the excerpt to a close. John Creggan went on to the stage and gave a plug for the play which would be opening at the Ritz Cinema Mildenbury in October. He mentioned that tickets were going fast! Then John was joined on stage by Matthew as he said, "Everyone we have just one more announcement before we let you get on enjoying the afternoon at the café. We have agreed a lease with the Vintage Railway Trustees on the old Railway Tavern in Humble Access which is the new terminus of the railway. Please watch for news of a very exciting project coming soon! Edna Handley, the village gossip, turned to Valerie Showerbridge and remarked, "See, I was right, with what I heard in the



In June we were able to make a trip to Ukraine to visit our friends and see how they are doing. We met with all the pastors and visited most of the churches, and were welcomed everywhere with typical Ukrainian hospitality.

It was helpful to experience a bit more of daily life with the pastors and church members as they continue to live, work, lead and serve in these challenging times. One highlight of the trip was attending baptism services for the churches at Kadena Gora and Denghi (combined with Hope Church, the congregation planted 18 months ago in Cherkasy). Six people in each congregation had made the decision to give this public declaration of their choice to follow Jesus, and it was a privilege to walk down to the Dniper river with the two church families to share in these joyful events. In particular we rejoiced with Pastor Dima and his family as he baptised his own father-in-law.

Afterwards the new believers were further welcomed into the church by sharing communion with all those present. Each one was also gifted a Bible,



with a dedication written by the pastor, noting this special day. Afterwards there was an incredible feast which was enjoyed by everyone. It was such a privilege to participate in these special events, and to see how the body of Christ continues to grow in Ukraine.

Our pastors are in no doubt that the ongoing war is pushing people to ask deep questions, and many are turning to the

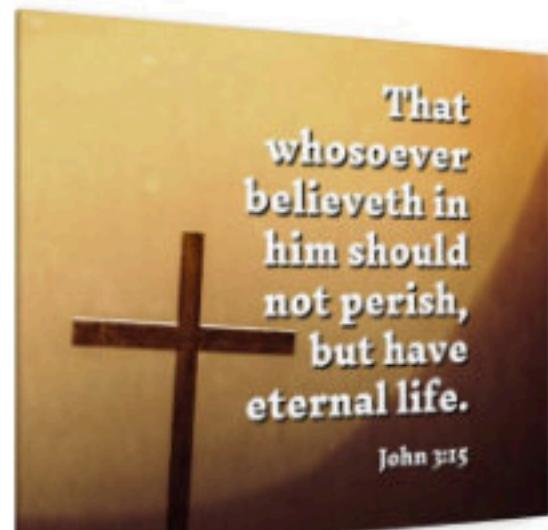
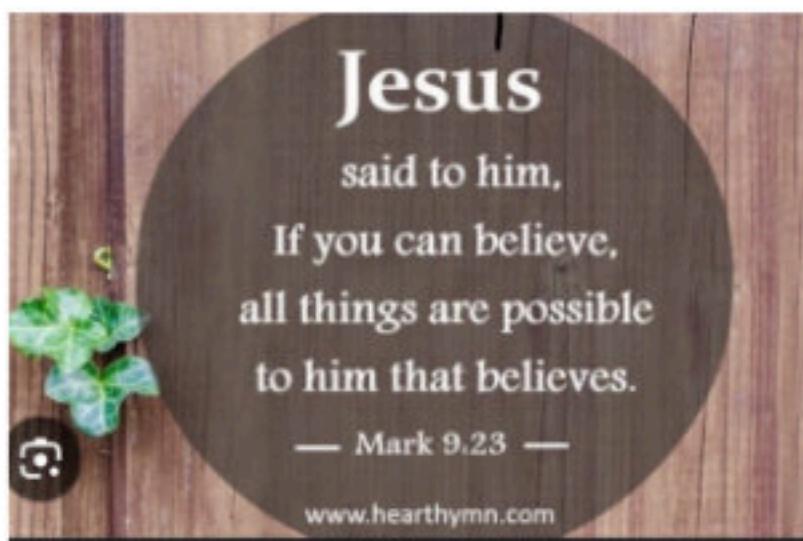


## Summer Baptisms



church for answers; in doing so, they are hearing the gospel and coming to faith. The Christian community in Ukraine is giving glory to God for how he is bringing blessings even in the difficulties. Please join us in continuing to pray for all these new believers, that they will grow in their knowledge and love and understanding of their Saviour, and that the church in Ukraine will go from strength to strength.

# *Mark Gordon St Christopher with St Nicholas*



The LORD is good,  
a stronghold in the  
day of trouble; and  
He knows those  
who trust in Him.

Nahum 1:7



**Harvest Concert**  
*including Light Afternoon Tea*  
Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 3pm

**ENCORE SINGERS**  
Music for Everyone

Sunday October 6th Harvest Parish Mass at 10.30am

**Some profits to : RNLI  
200<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

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**Tickets £5  
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07912255413**

Booking for  
Afternoon tea essential



# Fr Joshua Pollard

St Alban's Church, South Norwood & Thornton Heath  
Ordination and First Mass

Congratulations to  
Fr Joshua who has been  
one of our Guest Writers

It is with great joy that I present to you these photos documenting the remarkable journey of Fr. Joshua. From his ordination to his First Mass, and many other significant 'firsts' at Walsingham, including his inaugural Mass in the Holy House, wearing the famous 'Marie Antoinette' chasuble. These images capture the essence of his spiritual pilgrimage. As Joshua's training incumbent at St. Alban's, South Norwood, I have had the profound privilege of watching him grow in the likeness of Christ and fulfill his calling in the Lord to the Sacred Priesthood.

Isaiah 41:9 'You are my servant, I have chosen you.'



## Habemus sacerdos





**MONDAY 5TH - FRIDAY 9TH AUGUST 2024**

pilgrims then had the opportunity to venerate the relic.

The Bishop was especially moved by the reverence with which the pilgrims venerated the relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis, brought to the Youth Pilgrimage directly from Assisi. It was a beautiful evening at the Youth Pilgrimage. This was also the evening where the ministries of healing and reconciliation were offered. Our Lady of Walsingham, pray to your Divine Son, our Saviour, for these young pilgrims - these 'Little Christs'.

Our final Mass of the Youth Pilgrimage 2024 was celebrated by Fr Will Hazlewood, the Bishop of Lewes. After an ice cream incident, Fr Philip Barnes preached the homily. The young people were commissioned at the end of the service to go out into the world and share their faith. It has been such a privilege to spend the week with such wonderful young people!



Monsignor Anthony Figueiredo, STD gave a wonderful telling of the life of Blessed Carlo. The young pilgrims then had the opportunity to venerate the relic.

**Blessed Carlo Acutis  
Pray for us**

The Missionary Bishop, Fr Paul Thomas, has spent three thrilling days in the company of more than 300 dynamic, devout young pilgrims at this year's wonderful Walsingham Youth Pilgrimage. The worship was pulsating and profound; the teaching clear and strong; and the atmosphere of festival and fun truly infectious. It was a joy and privilege to welcome the relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis. Fr Rowlands prepared the young people by explaining relics and veneration. Monsignor Anthony Figueiredo, STD gave a wonderful telling of the life of Blessed Carlo. The young





**Ave Maria ora pronobis!**



# HARVEST FESTIVAL

Maximilian Isaacs Lee  
Church of the Divine Mercy

14<sup>th</sup> July 2024, the Church of the Divine Mercy, Shah Alam, located in West Malaysia, aka Malay Peninsula, celebrated Kagape, an abbreviation of Kaamatan, Gawai and Panen, the harvest festivals of Sabah, Sarawak and Indonesia respectively. We gathered together with our brothers and sisters from East Malaysia and Indonesia to give thanks to the Lord for the abundance he has provided, but more importantly, the diversity and colourful society we are, also in reflection of the universality of the Catholic Church.



Wearing traditional clothing from various ethnicities and tribes, the Holy Mass was dappled with traditional dances by young people, mostly East Malaysian students who are studying in West Malaysia, accompanied by the singing of the choir, which also consisted of mostly East Malaysian indigenous people, and me of West Malaysia.

Bishop Cornelius Piong from the Diocese of Keningau, Sabah, together with the parish priest of CDM, Fr George Harrison, celebrated the Holy Mass, and a few seminarians came visiting as well. It was a very successful and joyous day for everyone, especially for East Malaysians who have left their hometowns. Being able to find a community here means a lot to them, this helps many of them keep their faith and culture alive while away from home or making a new life here.

St Christopher's Parish Centre  
Hawes Side Lane



The Windmill  
Players

Saturday 9th November 7.30pm  
**Windmill Players**  
present  
Their annual Murder Mystery  
  
**Death at Meadowbrook Farm**

HARVEST HAVEN - a sleepy village with just a few houses, a pub a farm and a spa hotel. So, what will happen when plans are afoot to make big changes? The villagers are not happy, and emotions are about to erupt. What will become of Meadowbrook Farm - and who will DIE??



*The Windmill Players is an award-winning amateur dramatic group which has been based in Thornton Cleveleys for over 75 years.*

*Join us at St Christopher's for a great evening's entertainment, in solving their Murder Mystery. Watch the play, interview the suspects, then decide who the murderer is....*

*Prize for the winning team.*

*Tables can be booked, by ringing Annie on 07425 146 950. There will be sharing tables available so come along and meet new friends and have a fun night.*

**TICKETS £10**

**Light Supper included  
Bring your own alcohol  
soft drinks available**

**Bookings :  
contact Annie on**

**07425 146950**

# Listening Poem

Thanks to Rev Andy Halstead

**You are not listening to me when...** You do not care about me

You say you understand before you know me well enough

You have an answer for my problem before I've finished telling you what my problem is

You cut me off before I've finished speaking

You find me boring and don't tell me

You feel critical of my grammar, vocabulary or accent

You are dying to tell me something

You tell me about your experience making mine seem unimportant

You are communicating with someone else in the room

You refuse my thanks by saying you haven't really done anything

**You ARE listening to me when...**

You come quietly into my world and allow me to be me

You really try to understand me even when I am not making much sense

You grasp my point of view even when it goes against your own sincere convictions

You realise the time I have taken from you has left you a bit tired and a bit drained.

You allow me the dignity of making my own decisions, even though you think they may be wrong

You don't take my problem from me, but allow me to deal with it in my own way

You hold back your desire to give me good advice when you sense I am not ready for it

You give me enough room to discover for myself what is going on

You accept my gift of gratitude by saying how good it makes you feel to know that you've been helpful.

Anon

## A CHILD'S HOPE

**W**hen my granddaughter Eliana was just seven, she saw a video at her school about an orphanage in Guatemala. She told her mum, "We have to go there to help them." Her mum replied that they would think about it when she was older.

Eliana never forgot, and sure enough, when she was ten, her family went to help in the orphanage. Two years later, they went back, this time taking along a couple of other families from Eliana's school. When Eliana was fifteen, she and her dad went again to Guatemala to serve.

We sometimes think the wishes and dreams of little children don't carry the weight of adult hopes. But Scripture seems to make no such distinction. God calls children, as in the case of Samuel (1 SAMUEL 3:4). Jesus honours the faith of little ones (LUKE 18:16). And Paul said younger believers shouldn't let people discount them just because they "are young" (1 TIMOTHY 4:12).

So, we're called to guide our children (DEUTERONOMY 6:6-7; PROVERBS 22:6), recognising that their faith is a model for us all (MATTHEW 18:3) and understanding that hindering them is something Christ warned against (LUKE 18:15).

When we see a spark of hope in children, our job as adults is to help ignite it. And as God leads us, encourage them towards a life dedicated to trust in Jesus and service for Him.

DAVE BRANON

*How can you encourage children to believe in Jesus?*

*How can you help them grow in faith?*

*Dear heavenly Father, the children in our world need Christ.  
Please help me to encourage them to believe in You.*



**"Leave the children alone, and don't try to keep them from coming to me, because the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these".**

**The children are not the church of the future, they are the church now.**



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## FAMILY PILGRIMAGE

MONDAY 28TH TO THURSDAY 31ST  
OCTOBER 2024



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