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AUGUST 2024

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BISHOP PHILIP NORTH
SEE JESUS, SHARE JESUS!

PARISH PUMP

A MAGAZINE PRODUCED BY CHRISTIANS IN BLACKPOOL

**Church -painted in the Cenacolo Community
by a Slovakian guy: Miso**

Cover supplied by Fr Chris Loughran Parish Priest St John Vianney Catholic

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

Photo chosen by Keith Tuck



SPONSORED BY ST CHRISTOPHER WITH ST NICHOLAS CHURCH



St Christopher with St Nicholas Church

Parish Priest : Fr Martin Daniels SSC
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:
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The Blessed Sacrament is reserved at all times for the communion of the sick and adoration of the faithful

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Parish
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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



Tickets £5
including
refreshments

**THURSDAY
8th AUGUST
ADDRESS 7pm
after the Eucharist at 6pm**

**Bob Milner
A NIGHT AT
THE CINEMA**



A personal memory of the Cinema

Thanks to Margaret Payne St Christopher with St Nicholas



A MONTH'S GOOD READ!

Deadline for September edition
12th August 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
With Children's Liturgy
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

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



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**ADVERTISE
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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

**ADVERTISE
YOUR CHURCH SERVICES**

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

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



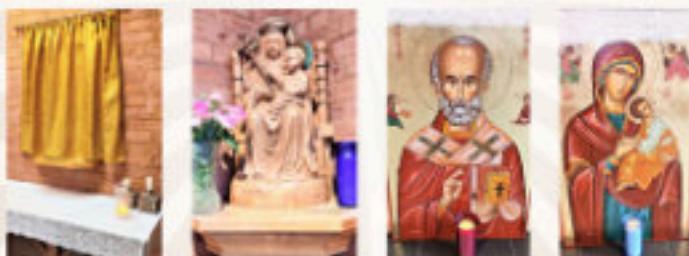
Everlasting Father, I know you are always with me. I stand humbly before you as I bow my head in prayer. Take away my doubts and failings and endless questions, when I do not understand my brief. Help me concentrate on what I do know, which is your great love, protection and promise for my future. May I do your will, making you visible through my words and actions. Motivate me always to complete my assigned tasks in your name. Thank you for enriching my life. I live in faith, hope and love with perspective and purpose. My trust is in you always. By the gift of your presence, my life is complete. In the name of my Saviour, Jesus Christ, Amen.



*Humbly before you
I bow my head in prayer*



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

A prayer for everyone

*Adapted from a prayer by James White
St Anne's Church Greenlands Bispham.*

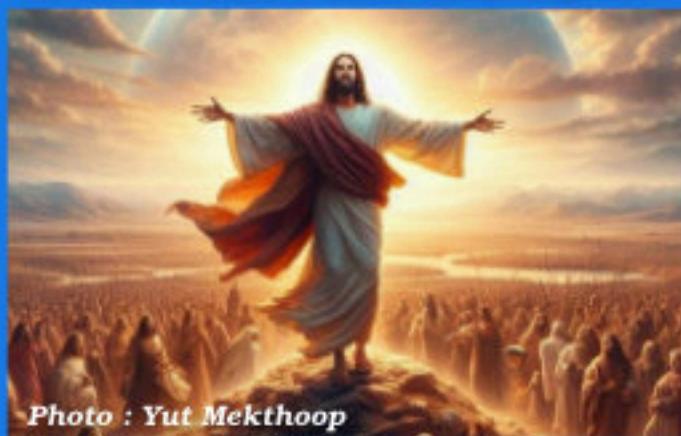


Photo : Yut Mekthoop

Be still and enjoy the loving presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Lord, teach us to love all as you do.

Lord, we pray for those that are lonely, sad or neglected or in any distressing situation.

Lord, we pray for our churches. Let everyone know that need your church it is here to welcome all who will come to meet you. Give us the strength and determination to continue to serve you. Amen.



The Parish of the Guardian Angels



**Fr Chris
Loughran**
Parish Priest

August and the Feast of the Assumption

Towards the end of the summer term, the kids in Year 6 in one of my primary schools went on a trip to London (the teachers are very brave!). Besides all the educational visits, they took in a West End production – Matilda.

I was telling someone about it and they said that a family member worked in the West End theatre scene. She told me that apparently it is the custom to have a pre-first-night run through with invited guests and journalists. They get this privileged access before the hoi polloi, probably followed by a champagne reception! or maybe Tizer?



But Mary was born free from original sin. How come? Well, in a sense, she was invited to the 'pre-production presentation,' in that God applied the merits of our Lord's saving death to her before it happened. The technical term for this is preventer grace. This gift enabled her to be the worthy mother of the Saviour, enabled her, when the moment was right, to say yes to the angel's invitation to be the Saviour's mother. And that 'yes' to God was a continuum throughout her life. That is why we are able to celebrate the feast of her Assumption into heaven. The two go hand in hand.

St Paul nails it in that second reading for the feast (1 Cor. 15:20-26). Christ was the first to conquer death by his resurrection and ascension into heaven, and after Christ, those who belong to him and that, surely was Mary par excellence. The Church teaches us that when the course of her earthly life was complete Mary was taken body and soul into heaven. Now that is the reward for every disciple. We profess it every time we say the creed. 'I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.' All Christians are disciples. What awaits them is what Mary already partakes in. She, the first and most faithful disciple of her Son has reaped a disciple's reward. And that is what awaits all Christians if they remain faith disciples. Mary, the highest honour of our race, is the forerunner. Christians are called to follow her example of faithfulness to the Lord Christ and then, they too, in the fullness of time will rejoice with the saints in heaven.

I mention this because in a vague way there is a connection to our Lady whose feast of the Assumption we celebrate in August. Not that our Lady ever trod the boards. She was not a 'luvvie', well, not in that sense. But it is that notion of getting ahead of the game, of getting in there first. And for our Lady this happens in 2 ways. We know that because of the disobedience of our first parents sin entered the world. And that 'original' sin has dogged every human being ever since. It was only when our Lord paid the price of that sin upon the cross that we could claim freedom from it through being baptised.



Sometimes clergy feel guilty about taking their hands off the reins, clearing off and letting the Parish be left to its own devices for a couple of weeks - I've learned to let everyone just get on with it! To rest is as Christlike as any other value taught in the Bible. Jesus extends to everyone His invitation: "Come unto Me, all you who are heavy-laden and over-burdened, and I will give you rest". Rest as promised by Jesus was not a new concept! Rest was God's idea in the beginning. The FACT of the matter is: God commanded rest, which you can find in Exodus 20:8-11, which is about the sabbath.

Significant is the very first word of this passage of Scripture: "Remember" - which, in the original Hebrew, meant "to bring to mind" or "to think about" - not simply a mental exercise but also with the intent of putting one's thought(s) into practice.



With a built-in attitude of devotion to God - cultivated over time - a Christian quite naturally thinks about or has brought to mind the concept of "sabbath" - not "seventh day" as some might have misunderstood the word to mean but - a day of (time of, season of, period of) "rest". The "sabbath" - a state of restfulness - was instituted at creation by the Creator Himself, when God rested on the seventh day after His six days of creative activity; so, if He can take a break, why shouldn't we? We shouldn't feel guilty about dropping everything and going off to get some time away from what we sometimes call "the daily grind". If you go at things 7 days a week with no break, it will probably happen sooner or later that you'll grind to a halt.

Since God ordained a sabbath and Jesus observed a sabbath, surely, we as God's children, feel not guilt but gratitude for God our Father's directive to observe a sabbath, a holiday (Holy-Day) and for Christ our Lord's invitation to "come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest"!

"It is tempting to do everything that everybody else is doing, be involved in everything, and be everywhere, but it isn't God's best for you. Be willing to separate yourself from obsessive compulsive activity before you come apart at the seams! Spend some quiet time with God, and with each other, and allow yourselves physical, mental and spiritual peace. So, stop filling our minds and lives with the world's noise and strife, and focus on our needs for a change. Higher and nobler things of eternal value, is to gain contentment which allows us to enjoy God's gift of rest! A butterfly, when pursued, seems always to be just beyond our grasp, but if we sit down in a quiet place, and be still, it may alight upon you.

So, as it's approaching the end of July, the schools are off and some of you take leave; may you enjoy your time away (if you are going) or merely break from your usual pattern of life and work to recharge and refresh - an extended sabbath - and remember that wherever you are God is still with you, and our prayers too.

Every blessing

Fr. Martin



Come unto Me, all you who are heavy-laden and over-burdened, and I will give you rest.

**Fr Martin
Daniels SSC**

**St Christopher
with
St Nicholas**



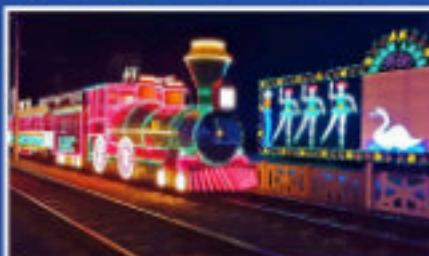
Leading your Church into Growth



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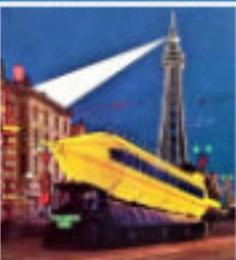


Sponsorship Form at the back of church



In aid of church funds and the
Additional Curates Society

**TUESDAY 10TH
SEPTEMBER AT 6PM**



Begins at Starr Gate
Come and Join us!
Chips, tea & coffee
at Central Pier



Donuts & Coffee
at Bispham Tram Station
Cafe afterwards

NEWS FROM FREEDOM CHURCH MERESIDE

Experience
Over 50's
but all welcome

Friendship, Laughter, Fun,
Activities, Art & Crafts, Music, Quizzes, Games, Bingo,
Trips, Talks.

Come and learn and share life experiences

Join us: Mondays 1:30-3pm
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.

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



MARTHA'S KITCHEN
OPENING TIMES

MONDAY TO FRIDAY
8.45 am
to
1pm



*Holy Communion
12 noon on
Thursdays*

**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

We were going through check in at the airport one day. A couple had just moved to one side with two very large suitcases, they were sorting through all the stuff they had and were clearly looking to dump some of the stuff they thought they could do without. It is what airlines call excess baggage. Before Diane and I go away we have weighing scales and always check the weight of each one; as I understand the cost of excess baggage can be quite costly.

Jesus said in Mark's gospel 'Take nothing for the journey no bread, no bag, no money, wear sandals but no extra shirt.' Though Jesus was talking about the mission of the Twelve maybe at times we need to ask ourselves do we at times carry excess baggage? Past hurts, regrets about things left undone. Expectations we and others place on us. Maybe sometimes we discover too late in life, that the things we have been about in life, have not actually brought us the sense of peace and achievement we expected. Like the airline analogy there is a cost to us personally if we carry excess baggage.

Here's a little exercise write down things you carry in life which they would rather not carry. Then put them through a paper shredder. Now I am not suggesting that it is always as simple as that, but sometimes taking that first step of laying the burden down, can be a step towards healing and wholeness. Jesus said come to all you who are burdened. God longs to take from us that excess baggage in order that we might know peace, wholeness and fulness of life in him.

Every blessing
Andy



Deacon Sue Donim writes...

Greetings

A young boy was sat with his father in church. The preacher seemed to be going on for a very long time. At one point the boy turned to his father and asked, 'Hasn't this preacher finished yet?' 'He's finished,' was the father's calm response, 'He just doesn't know when to stop.'

Shalom
Sue Donim



An Inclusive Service of Holy Communion
Layton Methodist Church
Sunday 25th August 6.30 pm
ALL ARE WELCOME

'Come to the Table'



**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**





Diane Moden

Life on the move - Holland to Sweden



THE MINISTER
Rev Andy Halstead

hosts and fellow travellers for the coming 36 days. Ian has taken charge of the map for this leg of the journey and for our first stop he has picked a small village called Barbel, we are facing a slight problem as it is Ascension Day and all sites seem to be full, but not to be deterred he has found us an Aire with good reviews, by 11am we have arrived and found what we thought was the last space (I say we thought, it seems Germany is so full that any spare bit of grass has a van parked within hours), we managed to find the owner and very sheepishly asked if we could stay for 3 nights and not the 2 which is the maximum stay at most Aire's, gladly she agrees and we settle down. What a jewel he has found, we are parked to the side of a Marena, and only a five minute walk from the main town. A quick look on good old Google and we come across a Greek restaurant within walking distance and they will allow Kizzie to join us in the outside terrace. We have a lovely meal and bottle of wine (or two) here, with a few extra shots of ouzo for Ian. Our waiter tells us that tomorrow is Ascension Day bank holiday, and everywhere will be closed to accommodate the celebrations and street parties. He suggests we cycle about 2km to the next town where they hold one of the largest street markets, good as gold the next day we set off, its truly amazing, the market is over 2km long and on the side of one long road, there is a great mix of home owners outside selling items, fairground rides on fields behind, food and drink as well as gifts and trinkets.



We have given ourselves a week to get from Holland to Bremen in Germany, this is where we will meet our tour hosts and fellow travellers for the coming 36 days. Ian has taken charge of the map for this leg of the journey and for our first stop he has picked a small village called Barbel, we are facing a slight problem as it is Ascension Day and all sites seem to be full, but not to be deterred he has found us an Aire with good reviews, by 11am we have arrived and found what we thought was the last space (I say we thought, it seems Germany is so full that any spare bit of grass has a van parked within hours), we managed to find the owner and very sheepishly asked if we could stay for 3 nights and not the 2 which is the maximum stay at most Aire's, gladly she agrees and we settle down. What a jewel he has found, we are parked to the side of a Marena, and only a five minute walk from the main town. A quick look on good old Google and we come across a Greek restaurant within walking distance and they will allow Kizzie to join us in the outside terrace. We have a lovely meal and bottle of wine (or two) here, with a few extra shots of ouzo for Ian. Our waiter tells us that tomorrow is Ascension Day bank holiday, and everywhere will be closed to accommodate the celebrations and street parties. He suggests we cycle about 2km to the next town where they hold one of the largest street markets, good as gold the next day we set off, its truly amazing, the market is over 2km long and on the side of one long road, there is a great mix of home owners outside selling items, fairground rides on fields behind, food and drink as well as gifts and trinkets.

From here we drive to Bremen, we arrive here a day before the group meets, as we want to explore the town, learn a bit about the Brothers Grimm fairytale, and have some time to relax, as very our life will be hectic. Before we know it, we are at the welcome party, meeting up with our hosts and fellow travellers for the first time, enjoying some drinks and nibbles in the sun, and trying to absorb lots of information about the coming weeks 😊. We are now travelling with this group for a total of 36 nights, the furthest north we will get is to Tromso, well into the Arctic Circle and all Di has packed is shorts!!

Bremen is also the last place we can purchase wine at a reasonable cost, Norway we are told is super pricey, needless to say we start our trip with a full load. Kizzie is also happy as it seems she is being joined by nine other four legged friends (well sort of happy for a grumpy old lady), she is a bit wary of all the other people who seem to have descended on her serenity, but I am sure all will change soon.



**SOUTH SHORE METHODIST
COMMUNITY CHURCH**



Mayfield Avenue Blackpool FY4 2NT

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 07350239081

For more information

Follow us on Facebook for all updates and further information
Facebook@southshoremethodistchurch
Corner of Stansdale Ave & Mayfield Ave Blackpool

Coffee Morning

**Tuesdays at 10.15
Everyone Welcome**



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

**SOUTH SHORE METHODIST
COMMUNITY CHURCH**



Mayfield Avenue Blackpool

**KNIT &
NATTER**



**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

the great persecution of Christians in Rome. The Romans saw themselves as the greatest gift to the world being a shining example of what it was like to be but underneath it all did rather horrible things to people and liked to line their own pockets (sound familiar?). By the time Laurence was around, 258 AD, Rome's barbarism and pagan practices had become a real problem. Roman authorities charged Christians of that time with "odium humani generis" (hatred of the human race) as they professed to be the great citizens of the world.

Just prior to S. Laurence's birth the Romans had arrested Sixtus, the bishop of Rome along with his deacons and beheaded them. The then, emperor, Valerian, issued an edict to the Roman Senate that all Christian clergy were to be arrested and executed. Into all this comes the deacon - Laurence surrounded by the deaths of lots of Christian martyrs. He was sentenced to death in Valerian's persecution but still managed to wind up the emperor first.

According to tradition, the deacon Laurence, who knew that there was extra hatred directed at Christians who had owned property and wealth, gave away all the Church's money and treasures to the city's poor - following Christ's teaching that they were blessed and loved. Valerian heard about this and wanted the riches for himself, so he offered Laurence a 'get out of jail free' card. If Laurence showed him where the church hid its wealth, he would spare him his life. So, Valerian was highly delighted when Laurence asked for three days to gather the wealth of the church in one place.

For the next three days Laurence gathered the poor and the needy together. They came because they were supported by the church who understood they recognised Jesus in the poor. This Laurence then presented to Valerian as the wealth of the church. Valerian was filled with rage. He immediately ordered Laurence to be executed. But not just beheaded but burned alive on a griddle. There were many witnesses to this who reported he cheerfully dealt with it - even joking with his executioners. It is said that the whole of Rome became Christian because of the life and death of this one humble deacon. He was buried in a cemetery on the Via Tiburtina. On that spot, Constantine would later build a Basilica and declare his feast day as a great solemnity - even greater than Sixtus!

Really S. Laurence serves as an example to us all. Whenever we are called to serve, in whatever capacity, we are called to demonstrate Christ's love for all his people. The church's wealth, is indeed, her people, without who the church would cease to exist. We should follow the example of S. Laurence and I would refer you to last month's passage and the first paragraph of this.

"We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop." -

Mother Teresa of Calcutta

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in service of others." - Mahatma Gandhi

"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth."

Muhammad Ali

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." - Our Lord Jesus Christ Saint Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr, Pray for us. Fr Michael

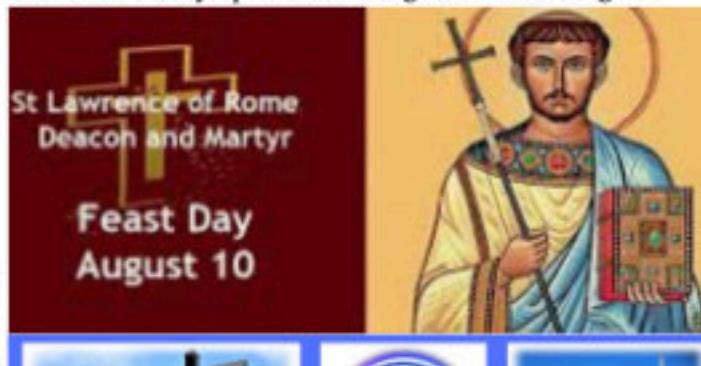


Dear friends,

You may recall that last month I spoke of the office of deacon, their role within the church and real presence they give as the workers of the church - a role that can be demonstrated by the laity in their involvement in service to the church in some degree. As I mentioned in last month's Pump, we are always looking for active volunteers..... give me a call 01253 343824 or email: fr.michaelfish@btinternet.com.

So, on the theme of deacons, the 10th August, sees the feast day of S. Laurence (or Lawrence)- not my colleague at Holy Cross, saintly as he is, but one of the seven deacons of the Church of Rome!

S. Lawrence was working for the church at the time of



The Cells of Our Lady of Walsingham
HOLY CROSS PARISH CHURCH
ST CHRISTOPHER with ST NICHOLAS PARISH CHURCH



**Pilgrimage
to
Ladyewell**

Saturday 17th August
Meet at the Shrine at 11.45
Further details from
Fr Michael Fish
Parish Priest Holy Cross
01253 343824



**Love God
Love Others**

**Lt Colonel
John Pearce-Haydon**

"A Good Read!"

There are three who dance together and are one at the heart of the Church - Love, Prayer and the Holy Spirit. All else is secondary.

Stephen Verney 1919 -2009 Bishop of Repton 1977 - 1985

who wrote the book "Fire in Coventry" 1964

In every generation the Church needs to set its sails to the wind of the Spirit.

Bishop George Appleton 1902 - 1993. Worked as a priest in East London in the bad old days of poverty and unemployment. Spent nearly twenty years in Myanmar and India. Chaplain to a Jewish Lord Mayor. Archbishop of Western Australia and was Anglican Archbishop of Jerusalem and the Middle East. Wrote a devotional book "Journey For A Soul".

Thou takes the pen - and the lines dance. Thou takes the brush - and the colours sing. So all things have meaning and beauty in that time which Thou art. How can I hold anything from Thee.

Dag Hammarskjold 1905 - 1961. Wrote the book "Markings". Swedish economist and diplomat who served as the second Secretary-General of the United Nations. Died in a mysterious plane crash in southern Africa

True discretion is impossible without true humility. Self deception is unlikely when a person is humble enough to submit to the judgement of another.

St John Cassian or John the Ascetic 360 - 435. A Roman Catholic who was a Christian monk and theologian celebrated in both Western and Eastern Churches for his mystical writing.



Time passes like silk through the hands of the weaver. It is all one substance, a single woven garment that we all wear.

The Seventh Sanctuary Daniel Easterman 1949 Author of many books

According to the Fourth Gospel, eternal life is a present gift; he who listens to Christ has eternity already. He is no longer subject to the driving of time. In him the 'now' becomes a new eternal. Time does not drive towards an endless self-repetition. Time is not meaningless. It has

a hidden meaning - salvation. It has a hidden goal - **The Kingdom of God**. It brings about a hidden reality - **The New Creation**. The infinite significance of every moment is this:

In it we decide and are decided about, with respect to our eternal salvation. Paul Tillich 1886 -1965 A German-American Christian existentialist philosopher and Lutheran Protestant theologian, who is widely known as one of the most influential theologians of the Twentieth Century

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied, "Go into the darkness and put thine hand into the hand of God. That shall be to thee better than a light and safer than a known way."

M. Louise Haskins 1875 - 1957. Quoted by King George VI in 1939 broadcast.

Be helpful when you are at the bottom of the ladder and be the lowest when you are in authority.

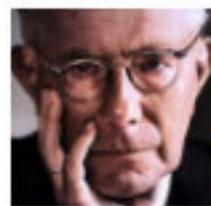
Letters to a Young disciple Columbanus 534 -615. One of the greatest missionaries of the early Catholic Church. Founded Bobbio Abbey Luxeuil Patron saint of motor cyclists.

God's grace lets us live happily and with renewed innocence

Ronald Rotheiser Roman Catholic priest

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.

Mahatma Gandhi 1869 - 1948 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.





Alex

Our Junior Editor Writes...



Hello, I'm Alex and I'm the junior church editor, today I will be talking a bit about what we do in children's church. Recently we learnt about a story in the Bible, where Jesus calmed a storm. One day Jesus and his disciples were going to cross a lake on a boat. They set off and everybody followed Jesus. When they were going across the lake, Jesus fell asleep. Whilst he was asleep a giant storm appeared out of nowhere! The boat was filling up with water and his disciples were going to drown. One of them went to go and wake Jesus and when he woke up Jesus told them to be calm and be patient. Jesus sat up and told the storm 'Quiet, be still'. Magically it stopped! Jesus was once again recognised as a hero for saving his disciples and many other people.

I went to the summer fair at the church last weekend and the stalls were really good! They had a tombola, a face painter and the junior church had some tables set up for a colouring competition. I won a few toys on the tombola and my sister entered the colouring competition. I also entered a competition to guess how many sweets were in a jar and also to name a teddy bear! It was really good fun.

Also you could of met Christopher Rabbit!



COME ON ENGLAND



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND

I hope you have all enjoyed watching the Euros's. It's amazing we have got through to the semifinals.

especially with a penalty shoot-out!!!
COME ON ENGLAND!
Let's beat the Netherlands and get to the final!!!

That's all from me today, hope you have a nice day and the sun continues to shine!

CHATTERBOX CHURCH
goes to **HOLLYWOOD**
Come and meet our Special Guests!

STAR WARS
15th Sunday September
princess Leia

Sleeping Beauty
17th Sunday November

Snow White
15th Sunday December

The Lion King
17th Sunday November

From Sunday 15th September to Sunday 15th December
every third Sunday at the 10.30 Parish Mass

MAGNUM SILENCIUM TO MILDENBURY

THE MONTHLY play story

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

sextet would have been booked to provide the introduction to the play."

Margaret Rayner, Choir Secretary, at St Matthew's whispered to Kath Valencia, from the Bull Inn, "Their playing would make it more like a nightmare if you ask me." Kath smiled as Gertrude asked, "Did you say something Margaret?" The choir secretary coughed as she stifled a giggle, then explained, "Oh Gertrude, I just said to Kath that would have been such a good idea and would have really set the atmosphere!"

Carolene Majors, the manager of the Puffing Billy, interrupted, "Ladies, we are limited to the number of people we can seat for the preview.

Maureen Jordan DBE, who has written the play, has provided the list of guests which includes the local media. Gertrude Sainthouse huffed and puffed as she replied, "No consideration has been given to the villagers. The vintage railway was rescued years ago by the people of Magnum Silencium. Some thought should have been given to this!" Carolene apologetically replied, "I totally understand how you feel. Bishop Philip West from Mildenbury, Fr Martin and Rev Andy, as committee

members from the dramatic society have been invited. Most important of all Fr Geoff Bottomley from Our Lady of the Assumption here in the village and Bishop Horatio Robertson-Hill from Notton Parva are also invited because they were the original movers and shakers for the preservation of the railway in the early days.

Evadne Handley stood up and enquired, "Who is Sir Nigel? I was in the vicarage the other day working in the kitchen and I couldn't hear very well what was being said. Fr Martin was in the study with Fr Geoff and all I could hear was every other word through the open hatch in the kitchen. I kept hearing 'Sir Nigel' mentioned I do wonder if its someone famous. Perhaps an actor or writer?" Agatha Handsworth, the hotel manager, said, "How many times Evadne have you started rumours only to find out that you have only got half of the facts?" The village gossip looked at the hotel manager and said, "Its obvious somebody important is going to be here. And, if there's going to be something happening with the railway, I think the village should have the first opportunity to be involved. Don't you all?"

Around the same time Darren, the village lad, Bill Purvis the poacher and Candice Wainthrop, Landlady from the Pilgrims Arms were meeting up with Harry 'The Handler' Harrowsmith, Elvis Starkey, Major Charles Hamilton Fosdick Boucher and Lady Violet Anstruther-Gough-Calthorpe outside the old disused coach-house at the rear of The Pilgrims Arms in the High Street. An argument between the dodgy gang, and the others had broken out. "Wadda-ya mean you can't open the coach house door Darren? Is this one of your scams? Are you trying to grab all the cash? Well, it ain't gonna work sunshine!" exclaimed Harry the Handler who had the annoying habit of constantly tossing a coin while talking. "Perhaps it would be a good idea if we went into the pub and straightened a few things out? Follow me everyone," said the Landlady leading the way. Candice looked into the lounge and continued, "There isn't anyone in the lounge so let's talk in here.

The Village Ladies Fellowship were having their monthly meeting in the Puffing Billy Café attached to the Vintage Railway Station. Joyce Crossley, the secretary for the Argosy Players amateur dramatic group, said, "The bookings for the Haunted Café at the Ritz in Mildenbury are very good. Can I suggest we organise a bus trip from the village? Perhaps if I contact Yut Mekthoop, the cinema's General Manager, we may get a discount for a block booking?" Agatha Handsworth, the hotel manager, said as the café lights began to flicker at the same time, "I've got a meeting this evening with Bob Milliner, the cinema's owner, I'm sure I can arrange that discount for us." Jean Greavesley, Chief Librarian at Mildenbury's library, whispered to Valerie Showerbridge, "I think she means she'll terrorise Mr Milliner into agreeing to the discount!" Gertrude Sainthouse of the Sainthouse Sextet mentioned, "That is very good. Has anyone managed to obtain a ticket for the special preview here at the café? I really thought my



Continues page 35



**Major Gerald Nicoll
Blackpool Salvation Army**



**LOVE GOD
LOVE OTHER**

LETTER FROM AMERICA

As I write this article, I am in the privileged position of sitting in sunshine around 84 degrees of heat. (Sorry

I know from news back home weather has been poor) But at the moment I feel a little like Alistair Cooke whose radio series ran from March 1946 till February 2004 with his Letter from America, the longest running speech programme hosted by one individual. Each week he would talk about topical issues in the US with observations and anecdote, well I don't claim to be Alistair Cooke but I share with you a few observations from my privileged spot. I am presently at Camp Swoneky in the State of Ohio, a Salvation Army children's summer camp, throughout the summer children come, often from inner city locations to enjoy the beautiful fun filled location, the camp can host up to 200 youngsters and are cared for by an effective team of employed staff and over 75

volunteer staff. There is the fun side, with everything from ropes courses to zip wires and a beautiful pool complex. There is a serious side to it as well, each day the children are given the opportunity to hear the Gospel message in various forms from skits to praising God and you should hear them sing, the week culminates with staff performing 'Jesus Theatre' the gospel brought to life in a way that even the unchurched child could understand. The youngsters 'got it!' As we stood and observed I can tell you the eyes were a little moist, as children patiently, quietly stood in line to give their lives to Jesus as the response was so great. This was in no way forced but simply presenting parables in modern context and God did the rest, you sensed the Spirit of God moving around that place! Note* Camp Swoneky is part of the Salvation Army Division of the same name. South West Ohio North East Kentucky. This is just one of a huge number of similar camps run by The Salvation Army in America.

Although I am sitting in this glorious heat and enjoying the scene around me, that wasn't the case just the other night! For the first time ever I was glued to the local news channel for several hours as there was a serious threat of a Tornado, seemingly we are in the heart of tornado country.

The Camp has a very sophisticated warning system, with information being gathered up to 20 miles away warning of impending danger. It becomes real as you watch the TV and they tell you "If you're in this neighbourhood you should now take your family to the basement or into an inner room without windows."

We watched as they followed the storm and although it increased in intensity as it drew nearer you were somewhat comforted by the fact that although funnel clouds had been spotted none actually grounded! Phew! About 2:00am we were given the all clear!

Both of these observations remind me that God is mindful of us all from the smallest child to the oldest. Psalm 8 reads....



KIDS' COMMUNITY CHOIR
MONDAYS 5-6PM

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

FROM MONDAY 25th SEPTEMBER

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

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens.

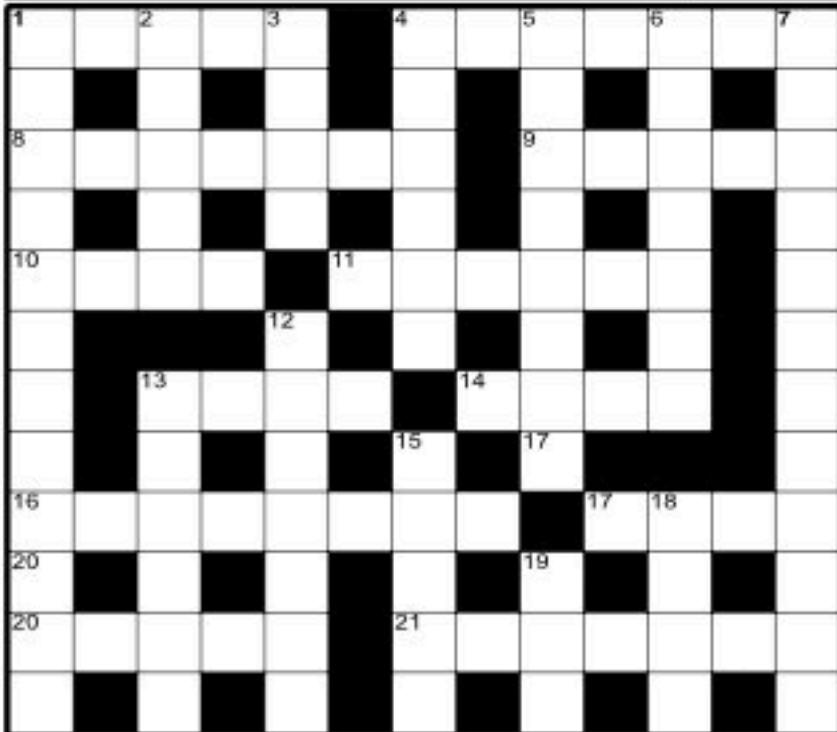
Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honour. You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet: all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild, the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

PETER'S PUZZLE

Thanks to Peter Lonsdale



(both sets of clues lead to the same answer)

Clues Across

- Num 12:1 (5) 4 Jude (7)
- Give a lot of public attention and approval to (7)
- Mt 11:23 (5)
- 1 Kgs 16:28 (4)
- An agreement, promise or toast of health (6)
- Eager or ardent to get at it (4)
- Study hard (4)
- Deut 16:13 (8)
- Mk 2: 14 (4)
- A book of maps (5)
- One of fifteen of the cross (7)

Clues Down

- Celebrated on Nov 1st is this Church Day (3-6-3)
- Acts 12:13 (5)
- Lk 7:11 (4)
- Humbly, gently or tamely (6)
- Throw out, especially demons or sin (4-4)
- A Catechumen, a hearer (7)
- Book 25 O.T. (12)
- Bends to pray (6)
- Cor 1: 17-18 (5)
- Heroic event, saga (4)
- Sorrowful, mournful, not happy (3)

Alternative clues Across

- Ron after going to the AA (5)
- He and his Angels expel the dragon from heaven (7)
- Like another million I zestfully hold a feted esteem (7)
- The other half of Gomorrah (5)
- A king in a habit (4)
- To engage solemnly, give allegiance to (6)
- I like encouragement to show eagerness (4)
- Revise hard for an exam (4)
- Lets her ship initially move to safe harbour (8)
- Live anew for this tax collector (4)
- Fabled Titan who held the world up (5)
- Catch a train bus or tram here (7)

Alternative clues Down

- For a change all stand I say in respect of this day (3-6-3)
- A hoard moved by this servant girl (5)
- Go here in an other route (4)
- Me, Ely and the first knight turn out to be humble (6)
- Don't be downcast, throw out those demons (4-4)
- Form a united way of listening to the world (7)
- Give a last mention to finding Book 25 O.T. (12)
- Ken and Les bend to pray (6)
- The shape on which crucifixion took place (5)
- An extremely large story (4)
- Seasonal affective disorder (3)

SYLVIA'S MUSINGS



Praise the Lord!
O give thanks to
the Lord, for he
is good; for his
steadfast love
endures forever.

Psalm 106:1

*Let us give thanks to the
Lord for his unfailing love
and his wonderful deeds for
men. Psalm 107*

Thanks to sylvia Marley from Our Lady's

July
ANSWERS

Across (7) Disciple (9) Isaiah (10) Zeus (11) Reillumine (12) Garnet (14) Accoutre (15) Darius (17) Pledge (20) Tychicus (22) Joyful (23) Samaritans (24) July (25) In Eden (26) Lapidate

Down (1) Vineyard (2) Acts (3) Spirit (4) Biblical (5) Palm Sunday (6) Banner (8) Elijah (13) Northwards (16) Unction (18) Equality (19) Israel (21) Yearns (22) Joseph (24) Jude

Answers in the September edition

Living Lord,
Open our
ears to
hear Your

promises and open our eyes to see Your provision. May we pursue Your call, despite obstacles. May our eyes and hearts be open to recognise and encourage the gifts of others, and may we learn to be content with our weakness as much as we rejoice in your strength. Encourage us, like Mary, to listen. Inspire us, like Martha, to serve.

Dear Lord, You created within us a capacity to love and nurture. You gave us understanding and patience in a troubled world. Walk beside us, every moment of each day. Guide us, encourage us and lead us, to reflect more and more of your life within our own. Amen

'First at the cradle and last at the cross.' Women from every walk of life continue to inspire us. Whether we are like 'Mary or'Martha', We pray to be blessed with a prayerful heart and spirit of hope that brings encouragement and light to others.

This man is walking in the northern outback of Canada by himself. From behind a large bush appears an eight-foot black bear, it is standing on its hind legs with its forearms reaching to heaven. The man thinks I can't outrun the monster; I know I'll get down on my knees and pray, as a good Christian would. When he finished praying he opened his eyes to find that the black bear was also a Christian, it too was on its knees praying with its eyes closed and its paws together. For what we are about to receive.



**Brian Gore
South Shore
Methodist
Community
Church**

Yut's Vision of the Universal Christ

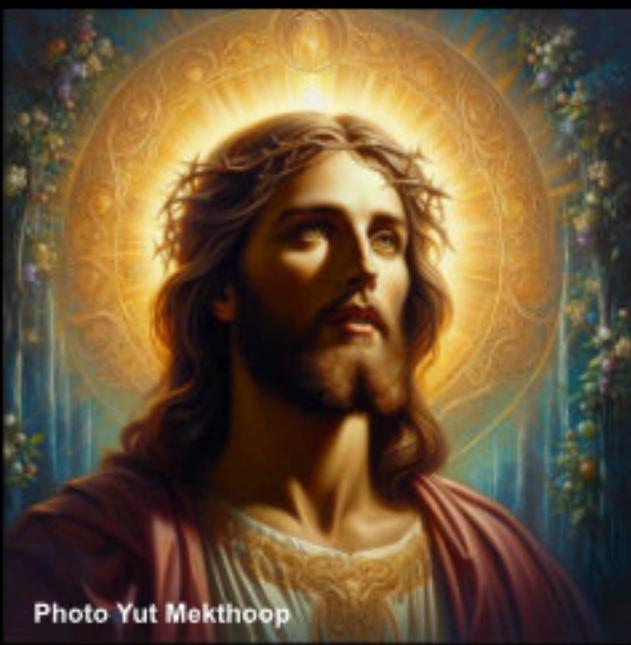


Photo Yut Mekthoep

The cosmic Christ
With thanks to Fr Geoff

NEWS FROM ST ANNE'S CHURCH GREENLANDS BISPHAM



Pilates at St Anne Greenland's 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



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



'Fylde Coast Memories' with Michael Downer

St Christopher with St Nicholas



a festival of transport with old buses, cars, motorcycles, steam engines and lots of stalls selling a whole host of transport related memorabilia. The local community really got involved with many of the local clubs and associations playing a role.

Since its inception in 1985, Tram Sunday has become a prominent celebration of transport and local heritage, attracting thousands of visitors from all over the country and beyond.

Since that time, we've attended as family on numerous occasions as a family as it has lots to offer for both adults and children alike. There's nothing better than soaking up the atmosphere whilst sat outside the North Euston Hotel listening to a jazz band in the warm summer sunshine.

Over the years, Tram Sunday has provided a much-needed boost to the local economy due to money spent in the local pubs, shops and other businesses in Fleetwood town centre.



Last month I wrote about the importance of maintaining the local tradition of 'Club Days.' This got me thinking about another of my favourite local traditions in the calendar – Fleetwood's 'Tram Sunday.' During the early eighties, I was working as a Customs Officer at Fleetwood. It was a great place to work, interesting, exciting and rarely a dull moment. I was always rather proud that, at that time, it was the only high street in Britain that had trams running down the middle of it.

Then, in 1985, they had the idea of having a 'Tram Sunday' and each year it just got bigger and better.

Literally dozens of trams made their way from Blackpool and filled the Fleetwood high street with a grand procession led by local dignitaries. As well as trams, it became



However, and as with other similar events such as 'Club days,' Tram Sunday has suffered due to a lack of support from local businesses and a significant decline in volunteers that are crucial to the successful running of the event. In addition, 'elf and safety' restrictions has resulted in a reduction in the number of trams that they allowed to trundle down the high street due to the huge crowds that they attracted.

It is hoped that this year's Festival of Transport' or as it will always be known, 'Tram Sunday' will take place on Sunday July 21st, and it is very much hoped that by the time you're reading this article in late July that a successful and popular local tradition will have again taken place and long may it continue.



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

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

I spent a minute and hope you will too.

I LOVE THE OPENING SENTENCE:

With what is going on in the world these days, Heaven could end up a ghost town.

My name is GOD. You hardly have time for Me. I love you and will always bless you.

I am always with you. I need you to spend 60 seconds of your time with Me today.

Don't pray, just praise. Today I want this message to go across the world before midnight. Will you help? Please do not delete it and I'll help you with something that you are in need of. Just dare Me! A blessing is coming your way. Please drop everything and pass it on. Why are prayers getting smaller, but bars and clubs are expanding? Why is it so easy to worship a celebrity, but very difficult to engage with God?

Think about it, are you going to forward this or are you going to ignore it because you think you will get laughed at? Forward this to all your friends, (I did), or just delete it.

80% of you won't. GOD said if you deny me in front of your friends, I will deny you on the Day of Judgment.

When one door closes, God opens two. If GOD has opened doors for you, send this message to everyone...

Thanks to Eileen Lawson

South Shore Methodist Community Church



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

The Salvation Army registered Charity No. 214779 and its Building Subsidiary Social Trust registered Charity No. 215174 and its Building Society



Holy Cross Parish Church

Suzie's Cafe

Central Drive Blackpool

Monday and
Thursday 8.30am
'til lunch.



ALL WELCOME!!

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



Bispham with Norbreck Gala has been running for the past 127 years. Each year, the four churches of Bispham take it in turns to choose the new Gala Queen and Retinue. This year was the turn of Bispham United Reformed Church, and we are delighted that Eva Kirkpatrick was representing our church and Bispham, at many of the Fylde Coast Galas for 2024.

Eva was joined by some of her friends to make up the retinue. A lot of work went into choosing colours, dresses, alterations, flowers, shoes etc. Through lots of support from church members and friends, money is raised to pay for all the items, with help also from the Gala Committee.

The URC were very proud to have Eva and her retinue representing us, especially as this year is the last year it will go to the churches, as lack of children means it will now be opened up to the local school children to take part. We are delighted to have been a major part of the Gala for the last 127 years and we wish Eva and her friends all the best in their reign. This year's Bispham with Norbreck gala was on Saturday 20th July.

Heaven's Grocery Store

I was walking down life's highway a long time ago.
One day, I saw a sign that said "Heaven's Grocery Store." As I got a little closer, the door came open wide,
And when I came to myself, I was standing inside.
I saw a host of ANGELS. They were standing everywhere.
One handed me a basket and said, "My child shop with care."
Everything a Christian needed was in the Grocery Store,
And all you couldn't carry, you could come back the next day for more.
First, I got some PATIENCE, LOVE was in the same row.
Further, down was UNDERSTANDING, you need that wherever you go.
I got a box or two of WISDOM, a bag or two of FAITH.
I couldn't miss the HOLY GHOST for it was all over the place.
I stopped to get some STRENGTH and COURAGE to help me run this race.
By then, my basket was getting full, but I remembered some GRACE. I didn't forget SALVATION for SALVATION is free.
So I tried to get enough of that to save both you and me.
Then I started up to the counter to pay my grocery bill.
For I thought I had everything to do my MASTER'S will.
As I went up the aisle I saw PRAYER and just had to put it in.
For I know when it's tough outside, I would run right into sun. PEACE and JOY were plentiful, they were on the last shelf.
SONG and PRAISES were hanging near so I helped myself.
Then I said to the Angel, "Now, how much do I owe?"
He just smiled and said, "Just take them wherever you go."
Again I said, "How much do I really owe?"
He smiled again and said,
"MY CHILD, JESUS PAID YOUR BILL A LONG, LONG TIME AGO!"

Thanks to Valerie Gore South Shore Methodist Community Church

Gala Joy for Bispham URC



Debbie, church representative.



Who are we?

100 Years old Blackpool Art Society?

In 1884 Mr George Deardon of Buchanan Street Blackpool and five young men created 'Blackpool Sketching Club'. By 1886 the club was well established and an exhibition was held in the Victoria Street Schoolrooms.

Patrons included prominent artists Sir A E Millais and Sir

Frederick Bart amongst others. The Grundy brothers, John and Cuthbert, became very actively involved with the promotion of the club with Exhibitions being held at their Grundy Art Gallery in Queen Street, and they also each served twice as President and Vice President.

The Society survived two World Wars and the difficult years afterwards. In 1939 the name was changed to 'The Fylde Art Society' and Mr Hayes, Head of Art at Blackpool Technical College, became President and steered the Society forwards for the next six years.

In 1948 another name change led to 'The Blackpool and Fylde Art Society'. A disused chapel in South Shore became a permanent Studio for the Society in 1954/55. By 1971 the present Studio was being built on Wilkinson Avenue, Blackpool, and was opened on 25th March 1972 by Sir Harold Grime, Editor of 'The Evening Gazette' and an avid Arts supporter.

In 1978 a final name change brought 'The Blackpool Art Society', now one of the oldest Art Societies in England.

"The object of the Society will be the furtherance of culture and encouragement of fine art in all its branches by bringing together all who love art and interest in it". (Quote 1905)

The same applies today.

Eileen Clough South Shore Methodist Community Church

As you read this, allow the loving presence of our Lord God with Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit to surround and calm you. Lord, we pray thankfully in this celebratory time of the Assumption of the Blessed Mother Mary when you carried all that she was body, mind and soul into heaven. Blessed Mary, Mother of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.



When we feel too ashamed or lowly be there with all the saints Mother Mary to intercede for us and guide us back to you Son Jesus Christ. We pray for all those that once followed you Lord and have now turned away from you. We pray that whatever pushed them away from faith or the Church can be forgiven. We pray that your shielding and gathering hand Lord recover those lost to sin and encourage us all to welcome back all the prodigal children to your Church. Forgive us Lord God for all the times we have not loved you as the only Lord and help us to love our neighbour as ourselves.

Amen.





36
YEARS
TRADING

**29 Stadium
Avenue
Blackpool
FY4 3QA**



DOOR TO DOOR TAXI SERVICE
www.swanntours.co.uk **349731**

TEL

HOLIDAYS & SHORT BREAKS 2022



**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**



I think I've taken my curlers
out too early!

St Christopher with St Nicholas Church Hawes Side Lane

Tuesday 27th August
at 7pm

TASTY Refreshments

SUPER RAFFLE!

COME AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS
FAMILIES ARE WELCOME



Eileen Lawson South Shore
Methodist Community Church



You showed us mercy when we were in darkness,
You showed us freedom when we were in chains;
You showed us forgiveness when we were in depths of sin
And now your life runs through our veins.

You showed compassion when we were so helpless,
You brought us healing when we were in pain;
You gave us hope when we were despairing
And now your love lifts us again.

*You are our sun in the morning, Our moons in the night,
Our energy in the daytime,
Our rest through the night.
You're our life source, our Creator,
The beginning and the end
For you are God Almighty and on you
depend!*

You show us boldness when we are uncertain,
You are our strength when we are weak;
You are our comfort when we need security
For you are God, and your face we seek.

Ian Worsfold



YOU WHAT??

Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me. Do not stop them'



*Savannah and
Oscar's baptism
Sunday 16th June
at the Parish Mass*



*Spencer's baptism 8.30 Mass
Sunday 23rd June*



Sister Philomena Grimley

SHCJ Society of the Holy Child Jesus



COME APART AND REST AWHILE

I have just returned from a visit to my brother who lives in the country, down a narrow lane, on the borders of Devon and Cornwall and on the edge of Dartmoor. At the top of the lane there is a stretch of flat moorland that locals call Harrowbeer. During World War 2 it was turned into an airfield to help protect Plymouth from invasion owing to the naval dockyards there. Now it has returned to moorland with a few sheep, sometimes a few cattle and often small groups of Dartmoor ponies grazing there. When you walk on the turf you get the lovely scent of camomile.

But you cannot help lifting your eyes to the skyline where you see some of the Tors, craggy piles of rock on top of the high moorland for which Dartmoor is famous: the nearest are North Hessary Tor, King's Tor, Sheepstor and Burra Tor. In the past I have accompanied my stalwart brother on walks and climbs; nowadays we just go gently on the flat mainly. At times you can see and hear the larks ascending, and, when I sit out in the garden at the back of the house, just enjoying the silence and all the green life around me, the acrobatic swallows will be flying overhead, those wonderful summer migrants that no one can send to Rwanda! As you can imagine this visit, in fact every visit there, has been an oasis for me. But I know it is a privilege; that there are so many people for whom such an extended away break is not possible.

However this month of August I wanted to write about the importance of that beautiful invitation from the gospel. Jesus welcomes his weary apostles back from their missionary journeys: "You must come away to some lonely place, all by yourselves and rest for a while for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat." Might it be possible for you to find some time in the day, or in the week to hear that invitation given to you to "come away" and respond? One of my ways is to go for a walk along the lower prom towards Gynn Square and then sit quietly on an empty bench, looking out at the sea and turn over in my heart some familiar Psalm words such as "Be still and know that I am God", or "I thank you for the wonder of my being, for the wonders of all your creation". Just find your "lonely place" and maybe tell Jesus, as the apostles surely did, how things are with you, what is troubling you, what is wearying you and then just listen and be still and know you are in the best of company! The invitation is always there!



Heroes of the Faith

Phillis Wheatley



Beryl Whiteside South Shore
Methodist Community Church



Phillis Wheatley, an enslaved black woman who became one of the first published writers in North America, was born in West Africa in 1753 but as a young girl was sold by a local chief to a slave trader and, in 1761, transported to North America, then still British colonies. Unfit for the agricultural labour in the South, the girl was taken to New England where slaves were mainly used as servants. There, the now nameless girl, speaking no English, in poor health and wrapped in nothing more than 'dirty carpet', was bought by Susanna Wheatley, the wife of a wealthy Boston merchant.

The Wheatleys treated their new servant with affection, naming her Phillis after the ship that had brought her. Phillis was to later write of Mrs Wheatley, 'I was treated by her more like her child than her servant.'

The Wheatleys educated their servants and here Phillis showed she was very intelligent. Rapidly learning English, she was soon devouring books, not just the English classics but Greek and Latin ones too. Acquiring the Christian faith of the family, Phillis soon possessed a rich knowledge of the Bible.

At the age of fourteen Phillis began writing poetry. Her first poems, often prompted by deaths and political events, echoed the classical English poets of the time. Published in newspapers, Phillis's poetry drew much attention in New England and, helped by her corresponding with people, she soon became well known. In 1770 she wrote a poem for the evangelist George Whitefield which was widely circulated on both sides of the Atlantic. By the time she was eighteen Phillis Wheatley, as she was now known, had gathered a collection of twenty-eight poems. To allay any suspicion that she had help in their writing, she was examined by a group of Boston celebrities who declared that she was indeed the author. Seeking funding for a book of the poems, she found that the New England colonists were reluctant to support an African poet and so turned to Great Britain, where her poems had already made her well known.

In 1773 Phillis sailed to Great Britain with one of the Wheatleys in the hope of helping her publish. There she was welcomed into the highest social circles, where she was treated not as a servant but as a celebrity. Although she met – and impressed – many influential people, her trip was cut short and she was unable to have scheduled meetings with both King George and the Countess of Huntingdon. Back in America Phillis was set free by her owners and her poetry book continued to bring her fame. Many people praised her, in some cases conceding that she had persuaded them that Africans 'could indeed write poetry'. Phillis kept writing poetry and engaging in correspondence with George Washington and John Newton, the great opponent of slavery. However, the Revolutionary War which began in 1775 and which brought uncertainty and widespread poverty to New England, proved hard times for poets. The possibility of a second poetry volume faded.

In 1778 Phillis married a free African-American man, who after failing in various careers found himself imprisoned for debt. Now impoverished, Phillis slipped into obscurity. She died in 1784, at the premature age of thirty-one. Phillis Wheatley wrote 145 poems as well as numerous letters to national and international figures. With time, Phillis became honoured as one of the very first published 'American' writers, and in the last hundred years there has been much attention paid to her as a writer who was both a woman and a person of colour. What marks Phillis Wheatley out as a hero is her sustained struggle against the slavery that had ravaged her life. Here her conviction comes over in a poem addressed to the Earl of Dartmouth:

I, young in life, by seeming cruel fate Was snatch'd from Afric's fancy'd happy seat. Such, such my case. And can I then but pray others may never feel tyrannic sway?

In her worthy battle against slavery I see three things. First, Phillis was subtle. This was the 18th century and Phillis was an enslaved black African woman. Yet given her limited power, she did what she could. As what we would today call 'an influencer' she worked effectively to change the opinions of those who did have power. Second, Phillis was strategic. By writing poems that matched European writers, Phillis demonstrated that she and her people were in no way inferior. In doing so she undermined the racist basis of slavery. Finally, Phillis was spiritual. Her Christian faith both encouraged and defined her battle against slavery. The result was that she was able to choose restraint over revolt and persuasion over protest. With skill, wisdom and grace Phillis Wheatley tackled the bitter injustice of slavery that she herself had endured, and, in doing so, made a lasting and powerful impact. She's a good role model for us all.

J.John Reverend Canon





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The Revolving Door

This is the horrible tale of Paul MacGregor James D. Cuthbert Hall, who left his home one winter's day to go to work, and in his way in manner that was strange and weird mysteriously disappeared. He left no clue, he left no trace, he seemed to vanish into space. Now listen to the fate of Paul MacGregor James D. Cuthbert Hall.

He worked, did James, as shipping clerk got Parkinson, McBaine & Burke, who in their store on North Broadway sold dry goods in a retail way. And at the entrance to their store there was a large revolving door through which passed all who went to work for Parkinson, McBaine & Burke.

Upon this day, accursed of fate, MacGregor James, arriving late dashed headlong madly toward the store, and plunged in through the spinning door. Around about it twirled and whirled and Paul was twisted, curled and hurled, and mashed, and crashed, and dashed and bashed, as round and round it spun and flashed. At times it nearly stopped, and then it straightway started up again. "I fear that I'll be late for work, and Parkinson, McBaine & Burke will be distressed and grieved," thought Paul MacGregor James D Cuthbert Hall.

He raised his voice in frantic cry, and tried to hail the passers-by. He tried in vain to call a cop. But still the door refused to stop, and so he spins and whirls about, and struggles madly to get out, while friends, heartbroken, search for Paul MacGregor James D. Cuthbert Hall. Newman Lev Norma Rodham

South Shore Methodist Community Church

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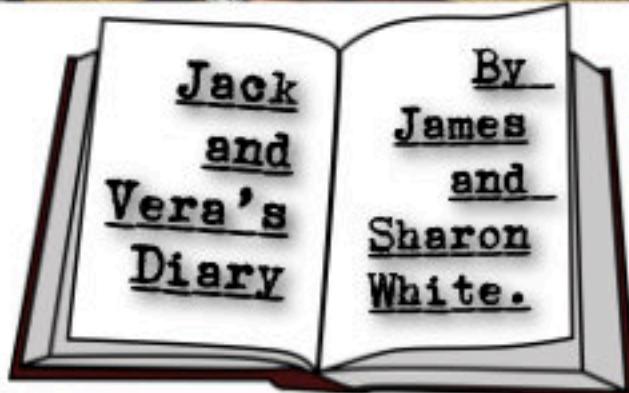
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not to laugh." Arthur finishes with a giggle. Jack chuckling and continues. "Right come on Arthur, time to get those parts for the nuke lads finished" and with that they drain their cups, Arthur collects Jacks as he makes his way back to his machine. He rinses both cups in the sink and places them on the drain board. Then returns to his own machine, as he passes the radio, he turns it back up so they can both hear it over the din of the machines. They both continue to work enjoying the repetitive movement of their tasks, anyone watching would notice that both men sway and move with the rhythm of the music on the radio. As the day continues Jack says 'Arthur guess what I found on Netflix?' Arthur looks up from his machine at Jack and inclines his head encouraging Jack to continue as Arthur continues to work. "C.H.I.P.s, I love those old cop shows" Jack finishes with a broad grin Arthur just smiles and nod while working. The noise of the machines and the rhythm of the music on the radio envelops both men as they return to concentrating on their work. As time moves on and dinner time approaches there is always a quiet of deep concentration that falls as both try and complete a task before dinner and it is in this time that Jack always recite the Lord's prayer quietly but aloud. "Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us, lead us not into temptation." And at that point to Jack's amazed when he hears Arthur's voice joining his in prayer. Something that has never happened in all the years the two men have worked together, so Jack continues as if he has not noticed Arthur joining in. "But deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever, Amen." Jack finishes and both men bow slightly continue with the job they are trying to finish. Before long Jack notices the time and signals to Arthur that it's dinner time. Not a strange but an unfamiliar silence falls as both go about washing, making the tea and finding lunch boxes from bags and settling to eat. While eating their sandwiches both men check and read any messages on their phones and Arthur digs out his newspaper from his bag and begins to read. As both read Arthur says while still hidden behind his newspaper. "I do go to Evensong now and again at the cathedral." Jack answered "I bet that's nice, we do Evensong with the ladies' choir now and then at our church you can always join us for that. It would save you driving all that way" Arthur continues "like the anonymity of somewhere out of town." Jack answers "I get that, it's part of this strange time we live in.

That to be seen to be a man of faith can be held against you somehow?" A strange but unifying silence falls as they continue to rest during dinner time. As the clock moves on Arthur stands up and goes to the toilet returning picks up Jack's cup and again rinses it as it is Jack that makes the tea for both and they both return to the work of the day. Each a little wiser and a little closer to whom they are working with.

One time I met a woman
With a basket on her arm
A basket filled with patches
And with fabric, thread and yarn

I wondered why she had it all
And so I walked a while
Watching as she greeted
Other people with a smile

I saw her greet a woman
Hanging on by just a thread
And a girl who was unravelling
With each and every step
I watched her as she stitched together
Parts all torn and frayed
And as she tied their loose ends
With the fabric she had made

And then I watched a man
Who told her that he couldn't cope
He spoke about the heartache
That had snatched away his hope

She listened to him calmly
As she measured out her thread
And then she gently held his arm
And carefully she said

"I'll hold you for a moment
And I'll treat your heart with care
And it will feel different,
But perhaps less empty there"

But as I stood and watched her
As she patched his broken heart
I noticed that her dress
Was quietly coming apart

I realised that the hat she wore
Had six or seven holes
And the boots she wore
Had barely any soles

The tights she wore beneath her dress
Were laddered and threadbare
And the jacket round her shoulders
Was in need of great repair

And now I saw it clearly:
That she spent her every day
Fixing other people
Making sure they were okay

Patching up and sewing
So that they could feel stronger
When they just couldn't keep themselves
Together any longer

But she too needed love and care
And she too needed help
Yet she was spending all her time
On everybody else

On making sure that they were fine
To chase their hopes and dreams
Whilst she slowly, without knowing
Came apart right at the seams.

Becky Hemsley Poetry
Thanks to Margaret Payne
St Christopher with St Nicholas Church

A couple of weeks later, we find Jack sat in his chair in the break room at work. Jack works for the only capstan lathe factory left in the country.

Jack's mate Arthur is finishing of telling Jack what has happened over the weekend. "So, I start to clear the plates of the table and I ask the mother 'in law did you enjoy your tea? To which she replies 'yes, those battered sausages where lovely' we didn't have battered sausages Jack, you know what we did have?" Arthur finish and Jack answers with a little laugh "Ha, I bet I know where this is going, was it a piece of crispy chicken?" "Close but no cigar" Arthur continues "we had fish fingers! Well, I just smiled at her and said 'Glad you enjoyed them' and took the plates out while watching the wife trying

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Fr David Craven SSC

Parish Priest

St George the Martyr Preston

Photos Caroline Ward & Keith Tuck



August ... a month associated with warm weather ("What's that?" I hear you say!), holidays and lots of ice cream.

For us as a family we like to take ourselves off to the lazy North Norfolk coast to enjoy some R&R. A regular place for us to visit is the beautiful village of Walsingham, best known for its association with the Blessed Virgin Mary.

During August the village comes alive on the evening of the 15th when fireworks are set off to mark the Feast of the Assumption, the celebration that recalls the spiritual and physical departure of the Mother of God from the earth, when both her soul and her body were taken into the presence of God.

It's not just the Assumption however that sees a spectacular celebration, the Shrine is a place of pilgrimage all year round to thousands of Christians eager to visit 'England's Nazareth'; there's the National Pilgrimage, the Youth Pilgrimage, the Pilgrimage of Healing and Renewal, not to mention the weekly liturgies that form the spiritual backbone to the Shrine's life and witness.

It's a wonderful place and it holds a very dear place in the hearts of many, myself included. At Walsingham countless prayers have been offered and answered. Healing has come to many,

Vocations have been fostered and a growth in discipleship is common. It's not uncommon for places of pilgrimage to be located in places 'off the beaten track'. As someone said to me recently when discussing Walsingham, "why couldn't Our Lady appear somewhere more accessible than Norfolk"? I have a degree of sympathy with that, but the act of pilgrimage shouldn't be easy, for in the sacrifice that comes from journeying we learn a deeper reliance upon God.

We're pilgrim people, all of us on a journey. The act of pilgrimage can bring with it real joys but also real pain. Pilgrimage has been at the heart of the Christian life from early times. It involves a letting go of things and an embracing of new insights and experiences. As one Christian commentator said, 'you cannot be a Christian without also being a pilgrim, travelling light through the world'.

The Bible is full of pilgrimage. The eleventh chapter of Hebrews speaks among others of Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, who are described as 'strangers and pilgrims on the earth'. 'Strangers' literally means foreigners, people of a different culture and language. 'Pilgrims' are those who live in a foreign land, away from their own people.



In the Bible the pilgrim word implies a journey – travelling home. It describes those who 'seek a country'. Biblical pilgrims live in another country alongside the resident community, but they do not fully integrate. They are 'alongsiders', soon to go home. They may accomplish great things for the benefit of the country in which they live (as Joseph did), but they never cease to be pilgrims. The concept of pilgrimage is therefore tremendously important to the Christian, giving guidance on the believer's stance in all circumstances of life. Without this concept we become unnecessarily sensitive to all the problems and trials of life. The pilgrim concept is especially vital at the present time, with increasing pressure for us to be 'culturally progressive' or 'culturally relevant'. The very word 'pilgrim' sounds a warning, reminding us of our duty to be distinctive and set apart for Christ. It's my prayer that you we may be faithful as a pilgrim people.

That, here in these parishes, we may become more like him, that is Christ, and that we may know his blessings as we grow in maturity ready for that day when he returns.





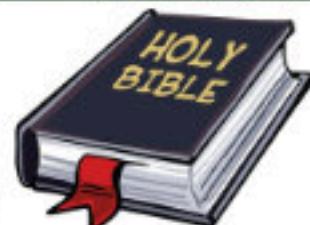
Terry & Freda Wray Blackpool Salvation Army Citadel



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!



The word Bible come from two Greek words, through the Latin, biblos, meaning book, and Byblos meaning the inner bark of the papyrus reed on which early writings were inscribed. Early Greek Christians called their scripture Ta Biblia, meaning, The Books. Later the Latin word Biblia, though plural became used as singular and so the Jewish and Christian sacred books became known as the Bible.

When the Church added to the Hebrew scriptures a collection of classical Christian writings, the two great divisions of the Christian Bible became known at the Old Covenant and the New Covenant. The Latin for Covenant was Testamentum and hence arose the familiar titles Old Testament and New Testament.

The first complete printed Bible in English was Miles Coverdale's published in 1535. The Authorised Version was added in 1611. The Complete Revised Version was issued in 1885. The Bible was first divided into chapters in 1540 and the short summaries at the head of each chapter in the Authorised Version were added in 1611. The Bible contains sixty-six books. Thirty nine in the Old Testament and twenty seven in the New Testament. The Bible (authorised version) contains 1,189 chapters, 31,173 verses and 774,746 words. The longest chapter is Psalm 119, and the shortest Psalm 117. Isaiah, chapter 37 and Kings Chapter 19 are alike. Ezra, chapter 2 and Nehemiah chapter 7, from verse 6 are alike. In Psalm 107 verses 8 - 15, 21 and 31 are alike. The last two verses on 2nd Chronicles and opening verses of Ezra are alike.

An unknown soldier in the American Civil War wrote these words;

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve,
I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey.
I asked for health, that I might do greater things,
I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.
I asked for power, that I might have praise of men,
I was given weakness, that I might face the need of God.



From Freda

O my Jesus, you're my
Saviour, you're the Lord of
life to me.

Now I come in dedication.
And give me to thee. Take
my life and sanctify me,
make me worthy of your
call.

Send your Spirit fresh upon
me as I bring to you my all.



A Nun's Prayer

Lord, you know better than I know myself that I am growing older and one day will be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all; but you know, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details, give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains, they are increasing and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by.

I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others pains, but help me to endure them with patience. I dare not ask for improved memory, but for growing humility and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken. Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint, some of them are so hard to live with, but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talent in unexpected people, and give me O Lord the grace to tell them so.
AMEN.

Anonymous –
17th century.
Found in an
old English
Church





DID YOU KNOW?

Peter Lonsdale



Did you know our Summer Fair was held on the 29th June making use of our big parish centre hall, the prop room and stage, kitchen and side room, gents, ladies and disabled toilets and spacious car park. We're so lucky here at St. Christopher and St. Nicholas Parish Church to have these usable and extensive facilities. A fun time was had by all enjoying all that was on offer consisting of cake stall and cafe, bottle stall, face painting, dancing, children's stall and children's tombola, youth organisations, raffles, Mothers' Union stall, Mark of Inspire Professional Photography, and his wife, Hayley who came to the rescue taking the role of Christopher Rabbit giving out lots of free gifts and sweets to the kids.



A mighty big thank you to everyone who helped with their voluntary contributions of gifts and most importantly time given in making the day a great success. This year there was a group of attendees from the Aysgarth Community Centre, Maz, Norma and Pauline who asked for donations of saleable items which along with their own contributions they sold on a stall at the Summer Fair and raised £96-40p to be given to Father Michael Fish, Parish Priest at Holy Cross Parish Church Blackpool to spend on the Holy Cross Food Bank and Soup Kitchen, thank you very much for your very kind gift.

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MISS ZETA FROM BANGKOK



Daddy time for a treat?

with our Rev Andy

Faith is taking the first step
even when you don't see the
whole staircase.

Martin Luther King Jr.



with our Fr Chico

Christ was the first to conquer
by his resurrection and ascension
into heaven.

St Paul



Shining Stars Toddler Group

free entry

messy play

crafts

soft play

singing

and more!

Shining Stars Toddler Group

free entry

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Scripture Measurements

Cubit approximately 1 foot 9 inches 44 centimetres. Common cubit called cubit of man (Deuteronomy 3:11) was 18 inches 44 centimetres. The Kings Cubit was 21 inches 53.34 cm. The Holy Cubit was a yard or two common cubits 36 inches 0.9144 metres. A span was half cubit or nearly 11 inches 27.94 cm. A handbreadth was one sixth of a cubit three and a half inches 8.89cm. A fathom 6 feet 1.8288 metres. A Measuring Reed (for measuring buildings) approximately 11 inches 27.94cm. A Measuring Line (for measuring lands) approximately 145 feet 11 inches 72.2 cm x 145. Sabbath Days Journey 279 paces 2,000 cubits (Exodus 16:29 Numbers 3 35:5) about 1.2 kilometres. 3 quarters mile (Mount of Olives to Jerusalem Acts 31:12). Eastern Mile - one mile (one third of English mile) 403 paces (English measure).

Holy Days Journey walk 32 -40 kilometres 20 - 25 miles. Jews permitted 2,000 1.2 kilo three quarters mile (Acts 1: 12).



Can you bank on anything in these uncertain days?

Can you trust the word of him who deals in devious ways?

Dare you lean on promises that rest on quaking ground?

Would you place your faith in things unstable and unsound?

In this world of selfishness, of anarchy and crime - the wise reach for The Book that has withstood the test of time- The Book that spreads throughout the world the Law:

God's golden rule, 'Life-line for the young, the old, the scholar and the fool.'

Patience Strong

The words that hurt you deeply, The letter that gives pain,
The wounding by your dearest friends, The call of worldly gain;
Your Heavenly Father knoweth Each happening of your way,
And no one sympathises, As He does day by day,
Amid the clouds of trial, His light of love shines through,
In unexpected blessings, His wisdom plans for you.



WISDOM

A little more joy, a little less stress,
A lot more understanding of your wonderfulness
Abundance in you life, blessings in your days, Dreams that come true, and hopes that stay. Friendship in many forms, safe journeys,
True success, and sweet rewards.
Courage with it's strength, serenity with it's calm, The ability to always hang in there and carry on. A rainbow on the horizon, an angel by your side, And everything that could ever bring a smile to your life

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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, M.B.E.



In Sheffield, Reg's mother Alice picked up the week's "Radio Times", which had just been delivered, and sat down to read it. It was June 1930, and she could hardly contain herself when she spotted an item about her son broadcasting from Blackpool. She carefully cut out the whole page, and later put it away in a safe place. In the "National Programme", the entry for 4 June 1930 included the following: "7.30 p.m. from Manchester. Organ Recital by R. H. Dixon, relayed from the Tower Ballroom, Blackpool." It was a programme lasting some 30 minutes. The die was cast. Much later, Alice passed the carefully cut out page of the "Radio Times" to son Reginald. Years later, by family insider subterfuge, the page was secretly removed from Reg's home, and then mounted in a special salver-like frame, made of wood and silver, which was then presented to him in 1955, at the Town Hall, in Blackpool, to mark his twenty-five years at the Tower. In the beginning, Reg's Sunday concerts in the Tower Ballroom were described as "recitals", and initially reflected the sabbath by relying heavily on the classics. However, within a short passage of time, the public began to request their favourites in advance - so Reg could begin to let his hair down. As for broadcasting, the "Radio Times" published details of another broadcast by him at 1.00 p.m. on 31st July 1930 which included: "Samum", "Patrol, Wee Macgregor", Selection: "Cavalleria Rusticana", "Rustle of Spring" Selection: "Potted Overtures"; "Automne", "Serenade" (Heykens), and a Nicholls number: "Shake and Let's Be Friends". At the time, this was a typical Sunday Concert menu in the Tower Ballroom. His audiences were now nationwide.



Reg started working for Blackpool Tower at Easter 1930, and he was an integral part (on the Wurlitzer) of the dance band each evening. His mastery of the organ so impressed management that, by May, he was scheduled to give solo recitals on Wurlitzer each weekday afternoon, between 2.30 and 4.30- p.m. A reporter on the local newspaper at the time wrote: "Mr Dixon is quite willing to play any number in his extensive repertoire upon request, and one can depend upon an artistic performance". As we already know, Reg had attracted the interest of the BBC, so it was only a matter of time before a recording company would want to cash in.

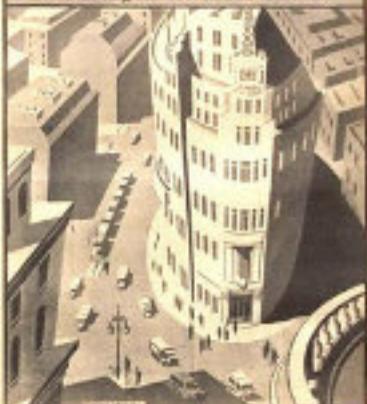
The BBC soon realised that Reginald Dixon and the Blackpool Tower organ deserved national (not just regional) airing, so he was featured on the National Wavelength on Thursday, 4 September 1930 (in the evening), and on the London Regional Programme on Monday, 29 September (from 8.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.). The 29 September programme reflected just how Reg had moved from mainly classical to what was popular: Chromatic Waltz, No. 5; Cheer Up and Smile; Sing, You Sinners; Falling in Love Again; When I Passed the Old Church Door; Exactly Like You; Gee! But I'd Like to Make You Happy; Oh, Maiden, My Maiden; Blue Is the Night. It was his style of playing that appealed to these wider audiences, and the BBC recognised that he had made a huge impact on audiences in a very short space of time.

Within just weeks of being employed at the Tower Ballroom, Reginald Dixon's name was appearing in radio programme schedules almost fortnightly - probably because his choice of programmes relied less and less upon just dance music and, as he began his second year, his programme for 3 February 1931 included:

"Classica" (a selection arranged by Ewing); a selection from "The Vagabond King" (by Campbell); Valse Triste (by Sibelius); and "Almond Blossoms" (Williams). Indeed, at the time Blackpool had such a wealth of talent that it rivalled London for quality entertainment. Perhaps with the future in mind, a spectacular show went out from Blackpool on 28 August 1931 entitled "A Blackpool Night's Entertainment" - featuring Bertini and his Dance Band, Reginald Dixon at the Tower organ, an item from "The Palace Theatre of Varieties", and an excerpt from Tom Vernon's "Royal Follies" (with Fred Emney). Perhaps this was the fore-runner for "Blackpool Night".

THE RADIO TIMES

Broadcasting House Number. Price 2d.



More next month



JOHN CREAGAN'S Saint Of The Month



Basilica of St. John Lateran, the highest-ranking and oldest among the great papal basilicas of Rome as well as the oldest public church in Rome, having been consecrated in 324 CE by Pope Sylvester I. Though it is outside Vatican City proper, it nonetheless belongs to the Holy See.

St. John Lateran rests on what used to be the palace of

the Laterani family, whose members served as administrators to several Roman emperors. Around 311 it came into the hands of Emperor Constantine I; he later gave it to the bishop of Rome. In 313 it hosted a council of bishops who met and declared the Donatist sect to be heretical. From its consecration in 324, the basilica, together with the adjoining Lateran Palace, was the centre of Christian life in the city, the residence of popes, and the cathedral of Rome.

The original church was probably not very large, and it was dedicated to Christ the Saviour (Christo Salvatori). It has been rededicated twice—once in the 10th century to St. John the Baptist, and again in the 12th century to St. John the Evangelist. In popular usage, these subsequent dedications have overtaken the original, though the church remains dedicated to Christ, like all patriarchal cathedrals. In 1309, when the seat of the papacy was moved to Avignon in France, the basilica began to decline. It was ravaged by fires in 1309 and 1361, and, although the structure was rebuilt, the original splendour of the building had been destroyed. Because of this, after the papacy returned to Rome, the Vatican Palace was constructed in 1589 as the new papal seat.

In the late 16th century, Pope Sixtus V ordered the basilica to be torn down and a replacement built, a project overseen by Domenico Fontana—another in a long continuing line of refurbishments and rebuilding of this most important of cathedrals. Further renovations took place under Pope Innocent X in the 17th century and under Pope Clement XII in the 18th century; the facade was completed in 1735. Despite being bested in architectural terms by St. Peter's Basilica, which holds most papal ceremonies thanks to its size and location within the Vatican's walls, St. John Lateran remains the cathedral church of Rome and the official ecclesiastical seat of the pope as bishop of Rome. All five Lateran Councils met there, and it was the location of the signing of the Lateran Treaty. Indeed, it is the mother church of Roman Catholicism worldwide.



MAGNUM SILENCIUM TO MILDENBURY

From page 13

THE MONTHLY *soap-story*

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

using it as a store room.

Calm down now all of you. I've worked out how much we will probably get away with. Each of you will receive a cool £3000 as long as you all pull your weight!" Little did the gang know that Graham Kenhouse and Michael Garcia, the reporters from the Mildenbury Bugle, had arrived early for their meeting with the Landlady. Mike Garcia was horrified by what he'd overheard and got up to confront them but Graham simply put his fingers over his lips and signified to Mike to remain quiet.

Harry the Handler continued aggressively as he confronted Bill Purvis. "Ok, run it past me again. What's the deal you three have come up with? I warn you my patience is fast running out and I'm not prepared to sit back and watch you set of amateurs run rings around me. The last one to try and do that spent six weeks in Mildenbury General with broken legs, two black eyes and a broken nose!" Bill Purvis stammered as he tried to explain the deal. It was obvious he was getting nowhere. Darren, the village lad then attempted to explain but he quickly backed down as the Handler grabbed him around the neck! The only person not phased by all this was Candice Wainthrop the Landlady. She calmly explained, "Look Harry, there's money in it for all of us. It simply needs organising that's all. The coach house out the back is perfect for storing all the booze from the warehouse in Mildenbury. Everyone will get their fair share of the money. I will see to that. It's the perfect time to do it with the pub closed for refurbishment. Everyone in the village knows that the coach house is disused. People will simply think that the painters and decorators are



In loving memory of



David Stephen Curtis

Our deepest heartfelt condolences go out to David's loving wife Margaret, his large loving family and friends for the very sad loss of her loving husband David who passed away on the 29th May 2024 Aged 87. David was well known here at St. Christopher and St. Nicholas Church Blackpool for his, along with his wife, being very much involved in the building of the present day church and parish centre, the running of the Thursday club which put on Summer shows and Christmas pantomimes in which David played the pantomime Dame, oh no he didn't, oh yes he did! David also was a long standing church warden who will be sadly missed by us here at St. Christopher and St. Nicholas Parish Church.

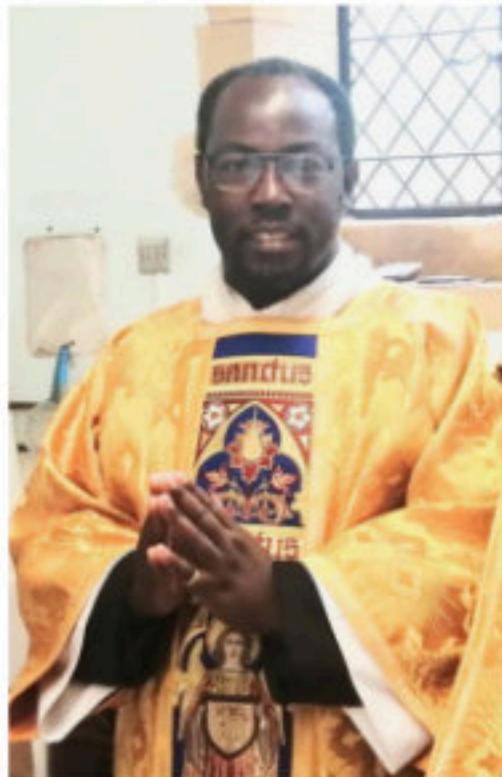
We feel so sad when those we love are touched by death's dark hand, but it would ease our sorrow if we could but understand that death is just a gateway that all people pass through and on the other side of death, in a world that is bright and new, our loved ones wait to welcome us to the land free from all tears, where joy becomes eternal and time is not counted by years.

Peter Lonsdale, Church Warden St Christopher with St Nicholas Church

Fr Jean Kouacou is the Poster Boy for the ACS The Additional Curates Society!

The very first miracle performed by our Lord in Cana was to change water into wine. His mother's advice on that occasion was echoed through Father Jean as he explored ordination. On the 30th June Bishop Philip ordained him as a priest.

Here is his story.



My name is Fr Jean (John) Kouacou. I was born in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) where I first felt the call to be a priest at the age of 9 and then strongly at the age of 18 during the retreat leading to my Baptism and First Communion. I have tried very hard to ignore it until I joined St Barnabas Church in Morecambe, and the freshly installed vicar Fr. Tom Davis SSC asked me to join the serving team (sacristy team), so I thought: "that was my calling, to be a servant of the sanctuary."

And then the voice became louder and louder with people telling me to explore the vocation to the priesthood, still I was afraid as I was trying to understand what it meant in the place where I was (in England). Then during a pilgrimage at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham as I was praying for courage, I felt Our Lady telling me to not be afraid but to do whatever her Son is asking of me. Therefore, reassured by Our Lady and encouraged by my vicar, I said "yes". Then, I was sent by my vicar to the ACS vocation conference; "Here I am 2017" where again I was encouraged by the Vocation team (Fr Darren, Bishop Norman, Joy G and Joan) and the participants. And it has been a long and worthy journey of testing, affirmation, confirmation and formation not only for me but my whole family. I have been obedient to God's call just like Our Lady and I am very excited to have reach this new milestone in my life and journey with Christ Our Lord. Moreover, for me, it is a blessing to be made priest in God's Church and to be able to celebrate the Mass.

We should continue to pray and encourage more vocation to the priesthood because without the prayers and support of people around me, I do not think I would have stepped forward.

Is Mary prompting you to offer yourself to the priesthood? Come and explore that possibility with us at our vocations conference. <https://additionalcurates.co.uk/vocations-conference-2024/>

Photos ACS and www.thenorfolkphotographer.co.uk



Fr Jean's First Mass
Monday 1st July
St Paul's Church
Adlington





News from England's Nazareth



Barn Chapel Appeal Reaches It's Target

We are extremely grateful to all those who donated towards the restoration of the Barn Chapel and the work is well under way as the target has been reached. If you were wanting to make a donation or would like to donate towards something else, we are currently in the process of updating some of our rooms to provide more en-suite facilities. Each room costs around £5000 to convert, so any donations would be extremely welcome. If you or your organisation are able to sponsor an entire room, we can also name the room as a dedication. For more details and to make a donation, please visit <https://bit.ly/3XFUxmu>



Fr Jonathan Pollard

St Alban's Church, South Norwood & Thornton Heath

Life prior to ordination was incredibly comfortable. I had a stable and respected career, an incredible wage, a place to call home. Taking the plunge to drop it all in favour of training for ministry to the Priesthood may have seemed like a somewhat risky manoeuvre. However, for me, it was an opportunity to offer my whole self, in its distinctiveness as given by God, to His service and in His Church, for the world. The decision to leave the stability of my former life would for many people seem frankly, weird and unthinkable, but, as called to be 'in the world but not of the world', I am privileged to be placed now to live out as an example of holiness, to break open the gospel of love, to feed the hungry and thirsty spiritually and physically, and to nurture the poor and needy. I am 'in the world' to orientate them to the new horizon, the eternal and divine, towards something no mere material thing of life ever grants. Yes, taking the plunge was daunting. But all I needed to do was remind myself that Christ gave His life for the world. Consecrating your life for others is a blessed thing which breaks open the new horizon, where our true joy is to be found.



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

Mark Gordon St Christopher with St Nicholas



"I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture."

John 10:9

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Romans 15:13

In a world where you can be anything, be kind.



More than many sparrows
Andy Severyn

I know a boy who once believed he was not worth much at all. If he passed exams or scored a goal, he would get some brief applause. Then back again to try again to get some more attention.

Look at me, can't you see I just want to be known.

Those words were mine but since those days, Someone showed me what I'm worth.

Just the same as any man or woman on earth. He died for me to set me free from thinking I'm not loveable. He died for you to say to you - this is what you're worth.

More than many sparrows, more than brightest gold.

You're worth more than people tell you.

So much more than people know.

Someone put a price on you, he said, "You're worth dying for Yes, you're precious in the eyes of the Lord."

So, there's no need to be afraid that we don't deserve his love. Good or bad, great or small, it's a true gift from above. So let him in, let him bring the truth your heart is waiting for. Jesus lives, Jesus gives the value of your heart.

More than many sparrows, more than brightest gold.

You're worth more than people tell you.

So much more than people know.

Someone put a price on you, he said, "You're worth dying for Yes, you're precious in the eyes of the Lord."

Our thanks to Fabio, Enzo and Nick Dalmasso
Our Lady Star of the Sea - St Annes on the Sea

A Miracle Prayer

I am praying for everyone who needs a Miracle. Only God can do the impossible, He can make a way when there seems to be no way. Today I pray God touches your health, your home, your family, your faith, and your finances.

Amen!

Thing what I wrote
Rev John Morton

AN AMAZONIAN FAN



We ordered a fan from Amazon - my wife Helen and I. It arrived a few days later as demand was not that high. We thought the time was right before it got too hot; if we'd waited for the rain to stop, we might have just forgot. The image of the fan looked very smart and swish.

It arrived, of course, in a cardboard box, so I made a silent wish: that when I got out all the parts I simply wouldn't panic ... but take my time and think things through instead of being dramatic.

The packaging was so compact around each separate part.

I circled round the opened box, but knew I had to start. For most this would be common sense to assemble all the pieces, but as I read the instruction sheet, my anxiety increases. Later that day I only had the final part to fit, but as this was now the twirly bit, I couldn't really quit. I needed tools to screw it on. Clockwise, the guidance said, but the disc would not fit on the shaft - I was starting to see red. Helen (thinking outside the box) turned it anti-clockwise, so the fan's complete, we're set for heat which *will* be a surprise!

Enjoy August



Photo Keith Tuck

August, for many, our main summer month. Schools are on their holidays and we hopefully can spend some quality time outside. However, our weather and seasons at present are fickle.

One thing for sure is that it is a very busy time for farmers. They are busy clearing the golden fields of corn and bringing in the crops grown to feed both ourselves and animals throughout the coming winter. This year, however, has not, so far, been good to the farmer and many of the crops including the potatoes have been ruined by the excess rainfall we have experienced. Other countries have also been affected by dismal weather for their crops. Many have experienced excess rainfall with floods with landslides and some have had terrible hot droughts also ruining their crops. Wildfires are around. Climate change is blamed and although there is a lot of talk about how to reverse it something drastic must be done soon as our planet is suffering greatly.



Kingdom. They consist of peat bogs, mountains, ancient woodlands, wetlands, heathlands and coastline. To find one near to where you live you can visit the internet www.wildlifetrusts.org or if you don't have access to the internet, you can visit your local tourist information office or the local library. A visit to one of these places can be very rewarding. The open air and observing nature at its best can help us put many things into perspective. I recently read an article about our strange names we use for a collection of animals. Called collective nouns they can be amusing but sometimes weird. For example: a murder of crows, a parliament of owls, a conspiracy of lemurs or a cauldron of bats. Animals are not the only ones. Humans can be caught up in this, how about a twangle of harpists.



with Patricia Rawson

Dry August and warm
Doth harvest no harm
Thomas Tusser 1524? - 1580



However, we still have lots of nature around us to enjoy and during August we can enjoy our countryside and gardens. Flowers are blooming everywhere and everywhere is a luscious green.

Unfortunately, as our plants prosper so do the brambles. Along hedgerows they are acceptable but, in our gardens, they can choke the plants. Keeping them at bay can be a problem. They creep up cheekily between shrubs and plants alike and suddenly they are showing pretty white blossoms, the forerunners of their fruit. Getting rid of them can be painful without a pair of strong gardening gloves!

August is a good month to visit our nature reserves. They are populated with many visitors from overseas. They are either passing through or have come here to breed and feed up ready to return to warmer climes during our winter.

Unbelievably there are 2300 nature reserves in the United Kingdom.

Confirmation Mass with Bishop



Congratulations to Penny, Remy,

Philip North Monday 1st July



Emma, Roy, Oscar and Savannah

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

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MSF was founded in 1971 in France by a group of Doctors and Journalists in the wake of war and famine in Biafra Nigeria. Their aim was to establish an independent organisation that focuses on delivering emergency medical aid quickly, effectively and impartially to populations in distress, to victims of natural or man-made disasters and to victims of armed conflict.

MSF (Doctors without Borders) was created in the belief that all people should have access to healthcare regardless of gender, race, religion, creed or political affiliation and that people's medical needs outweigh respect for national boundaries.



Nathan Parker is an independent published author and spoken artist from Blackpool. Proud of his northern roots, Nathan is a keen champion of northern voices, committed to enabling people of all ages to engage with words, stories and conversations.



Steve Rowland Dead Good Poets host & Admin Blog. Steve was a music journalist, English teacher, and is currently the Supporters Liaison Officer at Blackpool FC. His recent published poetry collection "From the Imaginarium" available on request

Annie Walthorn and Veronica Flete
(vocals) (keyboard)
will be your hosts for the evening, entertaining you with their musical magic



Adele Robinson Well known acclaimed local Poet and host of Lancashire Dead Good Poets. Studied English at Lancaster University. Adele is also a member of "Musica Lirica Opera"

Nathan, Steve and Adele will be joined by:
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12.00 noon Sung Mass

Principal Celebrant: The Rt Revd Philip North,
Bishop of Blackburn

2.30pm

Sermon, Sprinkling and Healing Ministries

Preacher: The Revd Canon John Hall (sometime Vicar of Fleetwood in the Diocese of Blackburn)



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