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OCTOBER 2024

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Wednesday 10.30am
Thursday 7.00pm
Holydays Solemn Mass 7.00pm
Junior Church Sunday at 10.30am

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BLACKPOOL

*It glitters by night
It shines in the day
The silver ball
On the promenade way.*

*The donkeys are there
On the golden sand
With fish and chip fare
And bingo to hand.*

*A lift up the Tower
To see the sights
Seven miles power
Of electric lights.*

*The clubs do great sound
The pubs have good beer
Stag nights abound
And girly gear..*

*Going home late
Remembering the day
Goodbye shining light
On the promenade way!*



Thanks to Eileen Clough South Shore Methodist Community Church



A MONTH'S GOOD READ!

Deadline for November edition
12th October 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
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St John Vianney

The Parish of the Guardian Angels Catholic Church



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

St Cuthbert

The Parish of the Guardian Angels Catholic Church



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

Bispham United Reformed Church Our Lady of the Assumption



Family Worship Sunday 10.45
Holy Communion 3rd Sunday

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



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



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South Shore

Methodist Community Church Avenue
Scarsdale Avenue



Sunday 10.30am



The Parish of the Guardian Angels
Catholic Church Common Edge Road

The Parish of Holy Cross



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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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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

Through you Father, all things are possible. Praise and glory be yours forever. Amen.

I pause in my day and think of you Father. I focus and explain my thoughts to you and there is no distance between us. I appreciate your understanding of any situation. You forgive my errors of judgement in our ever-changing world and I am humbled. I take strength from you and thank you for your unceasing love. I am grateful for all that I have been given. Your influence directs my thoughts, words and actions each day. You are my source of all hope. May I today achieve all that I need to in your name.



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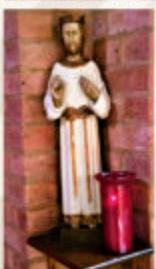
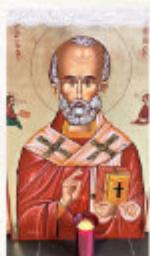
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Lord, you are the Light of the world and we turn to you now in this time of prayer as the nights draw in and the home fires are lit.

We pray for our town of Blackpool in this season. We pray our hospitality cheers the hearts of many and the Illuminations along the promenade helps dispel the darkness that can creep into us at this time of year. We pray for those that visit our town and awake in a strange bed but then dread a return to their own. Lord we pray for strength, endurance and love to fill us all who call this town home so we can comfort, welcome and restore some joy to all those that are lost in life. Lord we live on the coast where the land ends and the sea begins may we to know that you are both the beginning and the end to all things.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

Blackpool photo design Yut Mekthoop



The Parish of the Guardian Angels



**Fr Chris
Loughran
Parish Priest**

When I was at infant school, we had a formidable Head Mistress: Mother Miriam, and she insisted that all the children should know about their Guardian Angel and more than that, we had to draw a picture of the angel. Now when I was clearing my mother's house after her death, what did I find? Yes, that picture, she had squirreled it away together with the prayer that was on the reverse side. Now fast forward 30 years and I found myself working with recovering drug addicts in the Cenacolo Community and what prayer did I find them saying, yes, the one to the Guardian Angel. And if any group were I need of a GA, it was them. And indeed, it would seem that their GAs had looked after them to help get them into this place of recovery. But I have a problem with the idea of Guardian Angels prevalent today. It seems to me that our popular culture has tamed these celestial beings.

Just Google Guardian Angels and you get the most sickly images. But that is not what we find in the scripture. The Old Testament reading for the Mass of the Guardian Angels (sadly truncated), is an excerpt from the 23rd chapter of the Book of Exodus. In the bit that is omitted, God assures his people that his angel will go before them and "bring you to the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hivites, Jebusites; and I will wipe them out."

The warrior angel of Book of Exodus is perhaps not the kind of angel to which the popular culture is all that familiar. Angels have become for many blithe spirits, more akin to the good fairy than to the fierce creatures that are described in the Bible. In the Gospel of St Mark (10; 13-16) Jesus issues a warning. It runs like this, 'See that you never despise any of these little ones, for I tell you that their angels are continually in the presence of my Father in heaven.' In simple terms – don't mess with them. You do not know the power you are dealing with.

It is a big mistake to try and domesticate the angels. The Bible presents angels as fierce and frightening creatures. Angels are warriors (this is, what we refer to when we say the Sanctus: Holy is the Lord God of Hosts), they are God's army that he arrays against the forces of sin and death. The ancients believed that these angelic creatures, who stood so close to God, would be beautiful but also terrifying to behold.

You know, the Church never gives us a feast just for the fun of it. The primary objective is to praise and worship God, then to offer him thanks, in this case, for the Guardian Angels. But it is also to learn a lesson. And one of the strands of this lesson is to realise just how much God loves us. The Guardian Angels are just one more expression of his love for us. And quite a fierce expression at that.

But, as powerful as these beings are, their power and might go to waste when the individual – you and me – decide to live in a way that is contrary to God's will for us. God always wants the best for us, what father doesn't? But when we adopt a way of life that does not have God's hallmark on it we turn our backs on our GA.

I guess when my bishop chose this dedication for our new parish, (combining St John Vianney, St Cuthbert & Our Lady of the Assumption) he wanted to remind us of God's love for us. But I think and hope that it is much more than that. In the angels he sets before us various examples of how to live. The primary duty of the angels is to praise and worship God. That is what a parish community is called to. Our first duty as the people of God is to worship and praise him. But do we?

The angels, although some individual angels have particular duties, work as a community, to employ that overused term. For example at Christmas we see a 'throng' of angels attending on the shepherd. The inference is, do you play your part in this community of faith. Are you quick to volunteer your services when the need arises?

The angels were heralds of the resurrection. Is that zeal reflected in our lives? This notion of the GAs should galvanise us, spur us on to create a united community working together for the good of the body of Christ. To be involved with one another and certainly to avoid insularity. We are the Church in this part of Blackpool. And we need to show a united front so as to be credible. This is where God has brought us. This is where we need to bloom.





Harvest time is an opportunity to thank God for all that we have. It is good to focus on what we need and what makes us happy. I say this because obviously we live in a society where instead of being thankful, we are becoming more and more demanding. Isn't it a sad indictment of our society that one of our biggest problems is that we have run out of ways to get rid of the stuff that we throw away? The more we have does not mean the happier we are. Often the more we have the more we seem to need.

We all need a certain amount to get by, but not that much. Jesus knew that. Rich people are not happier because they are rich; Indeed, sometimes the worry of their wealth and what to do with it makes them very unhappy. I was once told a joke about that - that being rich doesn't necessarily make you happy, but it makes misery easier to live with!

One of the problems of living in an affluent society is we become spoilt: Luxuries which we once deeply appreciated we get to take for granted. We need to remind ourselves of how fortunate we are, and become more contented with less. He is rich not who has much, but he who has learned to be satisfied with less; quite often it is the ones with the least, who give the most. St. Mark (12:41-44) and Luke (21:1-4) give the lesson of the widow's mite.

It is so important to remember that God gave us work! I believe that everybody should have employment opportunities, we should all be able to say that we are making a contribution, and help those who cannot help themselves. Of course we should also be able to have time off, and these things, as I mentioned a couple of months back, work and rest were such an important part of creation.

The need to communicate - It seems that as we go along the road of technological advance we are communicating in all sorts of ways, by E-mail etc; but that is losing out on the human contact. Our communities have people who are very lonely and do not see other people. We are closing our shops and post offices because we don't need to go out of our houses. This is not necessarily advance.

There is a story of an African village where everybody gathered around the well to meet and share stories. Then a charity provided some plumbing to take water into their homes. Soon the villagers became upset because their village life had suffered badly. They had stopped gathering around the well. Modern advances had stolen something of their communication. There is the need to share; but that doesn't happen in our world economies. We keep the good stuff for ourselves. We have to learn how to be fair and Harvest is a time to remind ourselves of that.

In our Harvest celebrations, we celebrate the goodness of God in providing to us the bounty of earth, sea, and sky - the goodness of God who grants to us both seedtime and harvest, the goodness of God who shares with us the love that is in his heart and calls us to likewise share. We are rich beyond belief. If we have food we are so lucky. So many people starve each year. It's around 5 million people per year. That's about 30,273 per day! If we have clean water, we are so lucky. One in seven people have no access to clean water.

We all have so much more than we need. We have not just daily bread but freezers full. So, we must learn gratitude and sharing. No matter how poor we may seem, we all have some gift or contribution we can make for the betterment of all. The Gospel says it is always more blessed to give than to receive.

Our Harvest Festival Family Mass takes place on Sunday the 6th of October.

Every blessing

Fr. Martin

**Fr Martin
Daniels SSC**

**St Christopher
with
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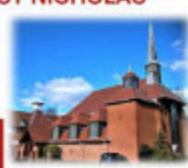


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PARISH CHURCH
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F

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All Welcome

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

Holy Communion

1ST SUNDAY OF
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AT
CHERRY TREE
COMMUNITY CENTRE

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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



Quiet
Communion

EVERY THURSDAY
12PM
FREEDOM CHURCH

All Welcome



**Morning
Prayer
at 9.30am
everyday**



The Minister

Rev Andy Halstead

Layton, New Central and
South Shore Methodist
Community Church

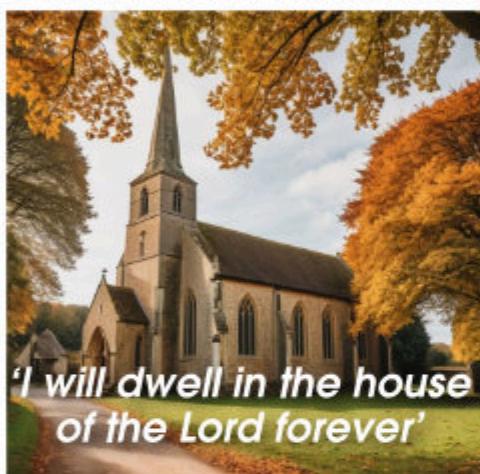
The Methodist Church

Layton, New Central and South Shore Methodist Community Church

Once when writing an essay at theological college I reflected on how Psalm 23 ends with the words 'I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.' I said this was David's certainty of a life in heaven. In my essay my tutor pointed out that for David, there was no belief in heaven or hell. When your earthly life ended you went to a place known as Sheol; literally the place of the dead. There was no eternal reward or punishment just a grey existence. Some years later at a house group at one of my churches in Macclesfield, a member of the group invited a friend of his who was an Orthodox Jew. The idea being is that we would learn something of what he believed. Part of what he said was that for his particular strand of Judaism, he did not believe in a life after death. This of course may not be true for all strands of Judaism.

Now I offer these reflections not as a discussion about the existence of heaven and hell, but more about how we live our day to day in relationship to God.

For the Psalmist David and my friend's Jewish friend, when they talk about living out their life in relationship to God, there is no eternal reward where



**'I will dwell in the house
of the Lord forever'**

one day all the suffering, pain and uncertainty will simply vanish, they have to find the fulness of life in God now. So, my reflection is do we as Christ's disciples live and cherish each moment we have on earth? From the story of Job we hear these words 'Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there; the Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.'

Finding the fulness of our life in God is what Christ came to bring.

Every blessing, Andy

Deacon Sue Donim writes...



A magician performed a trick on stage where she took a stone, held it over a glass, squeezed it and blood ran out. She asked the audience if anyone thought they could do it. One man volunteered. He came on stage took the stone and squeezed it, so much came out the glass overflowed. Astounded the magician asked 'How do you do that?'

'Easy', was the man's reply, 'I am the church treasurer'

Shalom

Sue Donim

An Inclusive Service of Holy Communion

Layton Methodist Church

Sunday 27th October 6.30 pm

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So, we land in the Lofoten islands after having a fairly rough ferry crossing, and our first stop is Sorvagen. We are here for two nights, and have the advantage of a superb view over the sea. This site has an added bonus for us weary travellers as there is a bar on site, not saying we are big drinkers, but it was a lovely way to while away an hour or three, discussing tomorrow's walk. This walk is my recommendation, and at the end with only eight of us completing it, I was sacked from the committee of walk organisers. The Lofoten islands are above the Arctic circle, and consist of a series of small islands off the North west coast of Norway, they are famous for small fishing villages, amazing coffee shops and great inlets of water to swim in 😊, we also found the famous football pitch on the island of Henningsvaer, which is quite surreal and set on the smallest island in the world. We have a total of four different sites on this series of islands. Our last night stay is on Gimsoya. It is on this island that Ian manages to get a round of golf in at the Lofoten Links Course (the most northern links course in the world), he completes this after a very drunken night spent on the beach watching and analysing the sun as it dips to the horizon and then rises again, we have now had over a week of daylight and our sleep pattern has been affected somewhat.

After leaving the Lofoten islands, we carry on travelling north making a good few stops, to our final destination in Norway which is Tromso, this is the farthest north we will go on this journey, and most probably the farthest north our little van will get in its life. We have a splendid two nights here and it's also my birthday 😊. After spending a bit of time googling "what to do in Tromso" I find a midnight cruise on offer, for those who know me, and my love for a 9pm bedtime this is quite something as we only board our boat at 10pm. Our cruise lasts about three hours and travels along the fjord, luckily, we are the only three passengers tonight and have been upgraded to a small yacht, our captain also offers us the opportunity to do some fishing, I was not very lucky at this but Ian managed to bag a Cod large enough for us to take back and enjoy over the coming days. This outing will remain with me for years, to be sat on the deck of a private yacht, at midnight seeing in my birthday with the golden sun was something I never dreamed was possible. Anyway, onto Tromso, this is a lovely island, accessible only by a bridge, our day was fairly crammed with things to do and see, and we started off with a bike ride to see the ski jumps, we have never seen these up close and even the "learner jumps" seemed very high. Next was a quick beer at the most northern brewery in Norway, and then onto the Ice Bar !!!, very cold but amazing atmosphere. Not to waste any time we then took a cable car ride up to the top of the mountain early evening where we were blown away with the amazing view of the whole island, (and the delicious apple cake). Sadly, now we have to start our return leg to Germany, we have had four amazing weeks in Norway, and only six days to get back, our days now have a lot of driving, and we are averaging 4-5 hours per day. And just because we can, we leave Norway and pop into Finland, this adds about one hour onto today's driving but it gives us a bit of insight how beautiful Finland is, we do manage to stop for lunch and a quick wander round before heading into Sweden for our first night stop over. We have four days solid driving, as we are heading towards Stockholm, phew we have two nights here, not the best site but right in the centre so we can walk round easily. Stockholm is a lovely place and we manage to make it in time for the changing of the guards' ceremony, which didn't impress Kizzie too much and she barked a bit at the nasty men in uniform 😊. We didn't manage to get into the Abba Museum (pooches not allowed), but had a lovely coffee and cake in one of the squares, and did a bit of shopping. From here we have to make our way back into Germany for our farewell meal, and this means driving over/under the Oresund Bridge, this for us started in Sweden and took us into Denmark, it is the second longest bridge in Europe and takes cars and trains, our side starts off as the bridge, we then dropped onto the island in the centre and then disappear under the sea in a tunnel, in total this is 7.5 miles long and also costly to use, but well worth the experience. And now we are in Handweitt Germany, and our last night farewell meal, what could have been a slightly sad evening was turned round a bit by the "ladies of the trip" organising a goodbye song for our tour leaders. Not fully realising the restaurant would be full of other guest we closed the evening with a rather drunken rendition of "so long, farewell" from the sound of music, much to the amusement of all other diners. And now we are back home for the summer, trying to help out family during the holidays, and also trying to get works on our home finished for winter. Not to rest for long though we are spending our evenings planning our next trips and adventures.





Fr Michael Fish SSC
Parish Priest Holy Cross Parish Church
Blackpool

Dear friends,

As I wrote this I have just returned from a pilgrimage to Walsingham in Norfolk. Along with our friends from S. Christopher's we gather together at Our Lady's shrine.



Through the vision of the Anglican priest, Fr Patten the shrine has returned to quite an ecumenical gathering. Admittedly, it is not the shrine the mediaeval visitors would have had as we now have en suite, heated, rooms and a refectory, but it is all there for the vision of Richeldis in 1061. Even, taking in to account the tragedy of the English reformation, its memory has never been destroyed and pilgrimages started returning in the 1890's.

Given this, the question still sometimes remains, why is Mary so special (in the good sense!) I would like to highlight just 4 points for us to think about:

1. Mary was the first to receive Christ. Her 'yes' was to literally receive Jesus in her womb.
2. Secondly, Mary is described in scripture as 'full of grace' as we recite in our Hail Marys or in Latin Gratia Plena. Just to get really multi lingual the expression from the original Greek is Kecharitomene – which means 'one who is and remains filled with grace' (not as some would phrase it: 'Greetings, favoured one' – that is wrong!)

The other word for grace that is used is when they stoned St Stephen and he was filled with grace but it is a completely different Greek verb meaning full of grace at that moment. Some view it as a simple, respectful greeting. History interprets it as 'God has filled her with grace' (Hence the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception)

3. If, as it is said, Jesus was the new Adam for the new creation then Mary was the first person to participate in that new creation, she is sometimes referred to as the new Eve. At the Annunciation, Mary responds, 'Fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum' (let it be to me according to your will). That word fiat (not the car) means 'let it be'

4. Mary, again one of her titles is the ark of the covenant because like the original Jewish ark she carried the word of God. So, as she carried Jesus in her womb she was, quite literally the new ark of the covenant – and Jesus being God means that she is truly the mother of God. So, what God did for her and through her we pray the same for ourselves. She accepted Jesus in her heart – expressed through her fiat – before she conceived him in her womb. So, in the same way we seek to welcome Jesus in our own hearts in order to become Temples of the Holy Spirit. Yes, we normally speak of "accepting Jesus into our hearts" as a one-time event at the beginning of our salvation. But in reality, faith is not an event, it's a life. We must abide in Christ just as the Spirit abides in us. So, we continually look to Jesus and his example of perfection, and we look to Mary and her example of perfect reception of Jesus. She took God by his word, and as a result received his Word. May we do the same, today and every day.

Fr Michael



Ave Maria

**THE PARISH OF THE
HOLY CROSS
THE CELL OF OUR LADY
OF WALSHAM**



**SATURDAY 26TH OCTOBER
10.30AM**

**MASS
WITH
SPRINKLING
EVERYONE IS
WELCOME !!**



Sprinkling at the Shrine



Love God
Love Others

EXPERIENCE OF DIVINE GLORY

From 'The Case Against God'
by Gerald Priestland

The experience of a retired Cornish mining engineer in his late seventies received when he was about forty.

One evening as I lay down to sleep I was suddenly aware of a most strange sensation of awe, fear, almost unbelievable excitement, and I wondered if I was going to find myself in the next world.

But of course I wasn't, and next morning I had to get up and get on with life. About a fortnight later, a sunny afternoon in September 1948, I nodded off in an easy chair by the open window and awoke with the sun streaming down my face - just enjoying doing nothing in particular, listening to the birds singing.

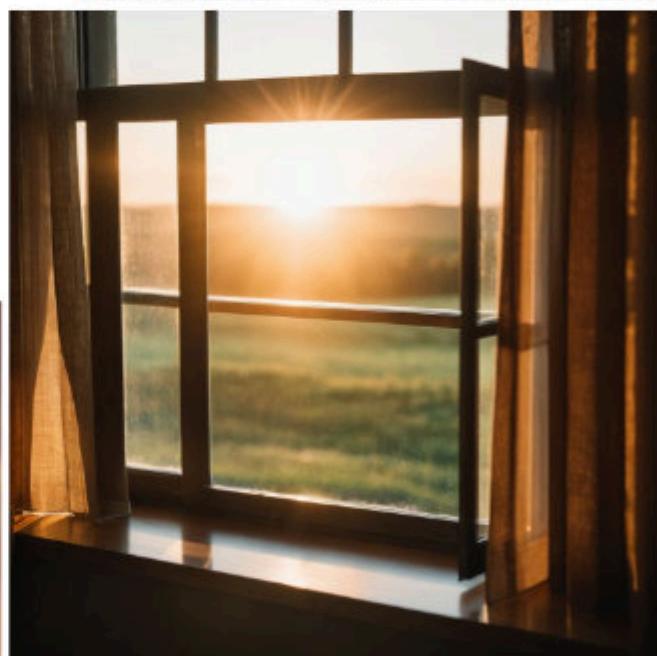
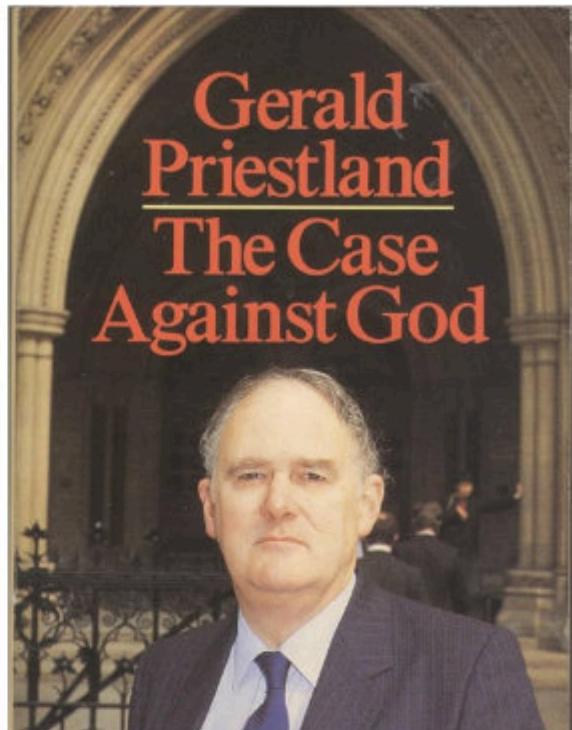
But suddenly I became aware again of that strange mixture of fear and uplift entering my mind and I had to find out what it meant.

I walked up the passage to my bedroom, went down on my knees and asked for an explanation. As I did so, the glory of the universe shone before me - I was blinded by the dazzling white light. In my heart I flung my arms before my eyes, because I knew then that man could both look upon God and live.

I was both terrified and yet uplifted - I can't explain it. I was shattered and **then I knew that I was nothing.** All my conceit and personal esteem vanished.



**Lt Colonel
John Pearce-Haydon**



So great was the Holiness that stood before me that I feared that it would never happen again. But it completely changed my life.

When I hear men in their folly say, "You can't prove that there is a God", I reply,

"You wait until He has taken half a step towards you, you are left in no doubt".

Why this happened to me, I can't understand. It may have been to arm and stiffen me for what was coming; for our world was about to collapse about our ears.



MARTIN LEIF
STACEY
11/01/52
- 21/07/24

Peter Lonsdale writes...

We at St. Christopher and St. Nicholas Parish Church wish to thank the family and friends of Martin for allowing us to say our prayers and farewells to Martin who was a faithful Christian who attended church regularly on Sunday and throughout the liturgical year here. His Memorial Service was beautifully said by Father Martin, I say this because for those who were in attendance listening to the eloquent eulogy given by Martin's nephews Marc and Josh about his magician exploit' M.C. (Master of Ceremonies) seems to be apt. We along with your loving family and friends will miss you, Rest in Peace Martin.

St Christopher with St Nicholas Church Blackpool

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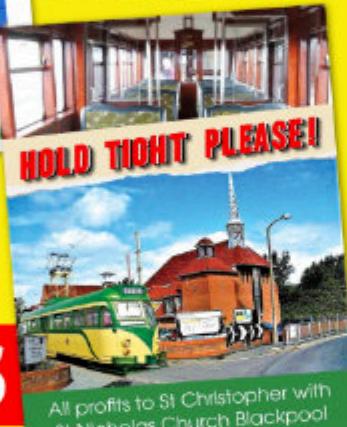
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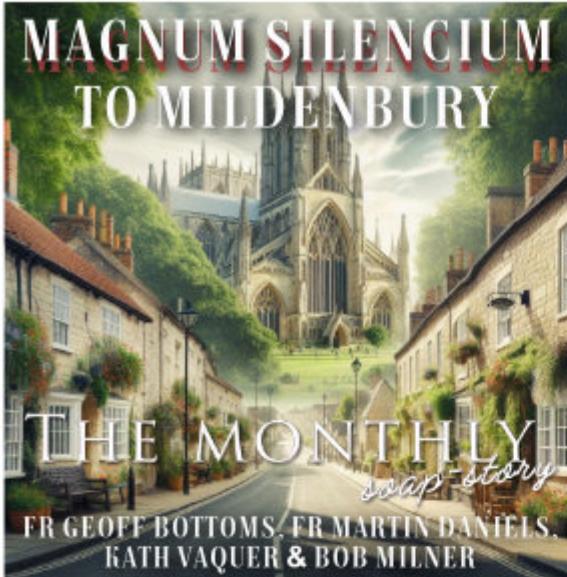
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Sunday 10.30**

**Pirates of the
CARIBBEAN**
17th Sunday
November
*Come and meet
Caroline and the gang
At our fabulous
Junior Church*
**See you there!!
Sunday 10.30**

Snow White
15th Sunday December
*Watch out for the
JEALOUS one!!*
**See you there!!
Sunday 10.30**



St Matthew's, came running into Walsingham Place with Sergeant Roy Andison, the retired policeman, who runs the Red Lion in the Thursday Market. Alfie called out to everyone,"

"There's a fire at the Pilgrim's Arms in the High Street!" Roy Andison interrupted, "No lad, it's the old Coach House behind the pub that has gone up in flames. I heard a loud explosion then it burst into flames. It was all so fast! I'd just gone past and I was talking to Graham Kenhouse and Michael Garcia, the reporters on the Mildenhury Bugle. The lads had just told me something very interesting when all hell was let loose!" At this point the bishop, priests and minister with the two reporters had met up with Alfie and Roy. Graham Kenhouse said, "Let me explain what had gone on at the pub. Michael and I were sat in the lounge waiting to interview Candice Wainthrop, the pub's landlady about the up-and-coming refurbishment when we overheard a very interesting conversation. Harry the Handler had confronted Bill Purvis the poacher who'd been trying to explain a proposed 'deal' regarding wine, spirits and cigarettes from a warehouse in Mildenhury. Bill was getting nowhere with his explanation so Darren, the village lad, also attempted to explain but he quickly backed down when the Handler grabbed him around the neck! The only person not fazed by all this was Candice Wainthrop, the landlady.

She calmly explained to Harry that there was money in it for them all and that it simply needed organising properly. The landlady mentioned the coach house out the back was perfect for storing all the booze from the warehouse in Mildenhury. Everyone would get their fair share of the money because she'd see to that. Candice said that it was the perfect time to do it with the pub being closed for refurbishment. In the village everyone knew that the coach house was disused so people wouldn't think anything amiss because the painters and decorators were using it as a store room. People coming and going wouldn't raise any suspicions. Candice had worked out how much they would probably get away with. Each of them would receive £3000 as long as everyone did their part!"

Fr Martin with a puzzled expression on his face said, "But this is Magnum Silencium. Things like this only happen on television!" The bishop added, "Unfortunately, Father, it is all too real it appears." Sergeant Andison commented, "I think I need to contact the lads at Mildenhury clink about this situation." Graham Kenhouse interrupted saying, "Roy, before you do can I just add that I'd managed to talk to Darren and Bill and I had warned them off. I don't think it would do any good getting the village bad publicity should this story get into the media. Perhaps if you made Candice Wainthrop aware that their plans, for want of a better word, have been rumoured she'd back down. I also think, Roy, with all the good work the Rev Janet Hybon has done at the Food Bank at the Belhaven Hall with that dodgy gang, Harry 'The Handler' Harrowsmith, Elvis Starkey, Major Charles Hamilton Fosdick Boucher and Lady Violet Anstruther-Gough-Calthorpe it wouldn't help her as she tries to get

SURPRISE SURPRISE, AGAIN!

John Creggan the new manager at the Locomotive Charity Shop and Café announced, "We have agreed a lease with the Vintage Railway Trustees on the old Railway Tavern in Humble Access which is the new terminus of the railway. Please watch for news of a very exciting project coming soon! Edna Handley, the village gossip, turned to Valerie Showerbridge and remarked, "I was right, with what I heard in the vicarage. I also heard Fr Geoff mention to the bishop it was a pity that one of the Duchesses weren't free! There is someone famous coming to the village!" Suddenly from the direction of the High Street came a loud bang. There were cries of panic from the audience and Fr Martin said to Fr Geoff, "What the heck was that?" The Rev Andy stood up and saw above the row of cottages in Walsingham Place a plume of smoke rising. He cried out, "It's coming from the High Street. What on earth can be happening?"

Alfie Charleston, the head thurifer from



them back on the straight and narrow!" Sergeant Andison thought for a moment then replied, "Ok, it's against my better judgement. I'll have a word with Rev Janet about what has gone on if you Graham can talk to the landlady about this situation at the same time. What the lads at the lock-up would think of me goodness only knows." Rev Andy patted the retired policeman on the back and said, "Roy I think the whole village will be grateful for your discretion." At this point the wail of sirens could be heard as two red fire engines from Mildenhury hurried up the High Street to the Coach House.

Continues page 35



Major Gerald Nicoll Blackpool Salvation Army



LOVE GOD
LOVE OTHERS

This week I had to contact two companies to make enquiries, looking on both company websites there was no telephone number to be found, but click here for contact details! Both finished up being 'chatbox' options, in case you're wondering I took the following definition from the internet.

Definition: of a Chatbox. A chatbox, also known as a chatbot or conversational agent, is an application or program that simulates human-like conversations. It is typically embedded within a website, messaging platform, or mobile app, allowing users to engage in interactive and dynamic conversations.

Well, you may understand when I say, dynamic conversation it is not! My frustrations grew by the minute, it had me saying to my wife, "this is so annoying if only I could speak to a human-being the matter could be resolved in a couple of minutes." Instead, I was forced to continue to try and get the answer I needed with a robot that was failing miserably with its programmed automated messages.

For the companies it certainly cuts costs not having a human-being on the payroll, did it do anything for real customer service? In my case it just frustrated me to the point where I would rather not use the companies in the future.

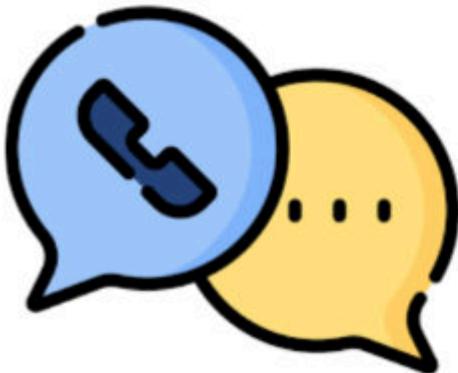


It set me thinking about 'real conversation' in this day of so-called multi-media is there a danger we don't communicate with people as we used to, we text, we send emails, we communicate by sharing messages via things like Facebook. But there is nothing like the joy of hearing a friendly voice, and for the person living alone the TV in the corner of the room is not the answer. We need to think about others because as human-beings the Bible makes it clear we are designed for connection.

Carissa Quinn made this valuable point, and yet, we live in a time and place where there is still tension between our true identity as connected beings and the reality of disconnection, pain, and suffering. It's a time when trust may not be natural and relationships are not always safe. The biblical story reminds us that

connection is what we are made for. We will be our truest selves as we meditate on God's essence as a perfect community of love and find creative and intentional ways to connect with God and others. The biblical story offers hope that despite the inevitable pain of disconnection, living into our true identity as connected beings brings wholeness.

My frustrations with chatboxes on company websites will more than likely continue as companies put profit before people, (perhaps a battle to be won there!) But in the meantime, can I encourage you to consider 'others,' the friendsthat need to hear a friendly voice and have a real conversation, the person that lives alone who would value interaction with a real human. Will you find intentional ways of communicating with others. Start a real conversation today, you never know your conversation could make a huge difference!



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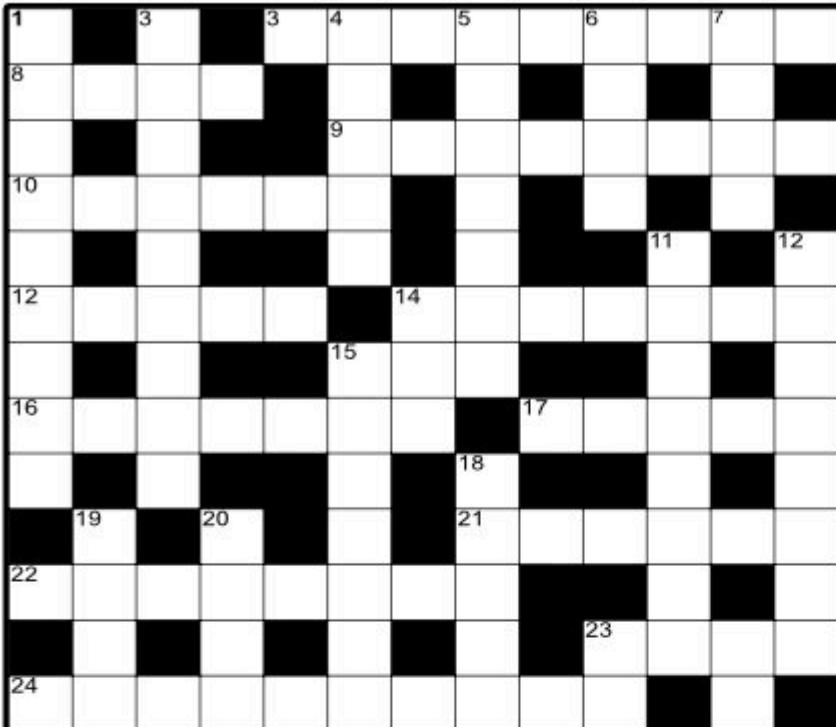
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INCLUDING A MEAL

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PETER'S PUZZLE

Thanks to Peter Lonsdale



(both sets of clues lead to the same answer)

Clues Across

- 3 Of or relating to Mt 10:2-4 (9)
- 8 Book 15 O.T. (4)
- 9 Frames or wires and beads used for counting on (8)
- 10 Of or relating to a legendary figure (6)
- 13 Gen 24 : (5)
- 14 A waiting female spirit (7)
- 15 Attila was the leader 434-453 AD (3)
- 16 Exceptional, remarkable, not habitual (7)
- 17 The holy title given to all the twelve except one (5)
- 21 From a tropical country. Remarkably strange or unusual (6)
- 22 The Great Virtue (8)
- 23 It can be said or low, or sung or high (4)
- 24 Holy, Divine or Sacred or Religious concern (9)

Clues Down

- 1 Book 3 O.T. (9)
- 2 Acts 17:19 (The City Council) (9)
- 4 "And also with you" is the response (5)
- 5 An ancient Greek relating to great courage (7)
- 6 A musical composition or put before Dei, liturgical worship (4)
- 7 An entry in an account (4)
- 11 A follower or believer of Christ (9)
- 12 Acts 20: 16 (9)
- 14 Month 8 of the Hebrew Calendar (3)
- 15 Ex 23: 16 (7)
- 18 A short wooden or wax match (5)
- 19 A small twist of straw, smoke or hair (4)
- 20 The twelfth month of the Hebrew Calendar (4)

SYLVIA'S MUSINGS

*Jesus said,
"I am the light
of the world.*

*Whoever
follows me
will never
walk in
darkness,
but will have
the light
of life."*
John 8:12



Thanks to sylvia Marley from Our Lady's

Alternative clues Across

- 3 Co-op a list to be like the first chosen by Jesus (9)
- 8 Raze raze, Book 15 O.T. (4)
- 9 More than one counting frames (8)
- 10 Celebrated supremely with gin and tonic on ice (6)
- 13 Lias actually hides him (5)
- 14 She has been chaned into a loud screaming spirit (7)
- 15 A small Hungary (3)
- 16 A faun usually hides something remarkable (7)
- 17 Changes stain glass window to be pict one (5)
- 21 An old boy or girlfriend listens unusually (6)
- 22 Sends kin strange benevolence (8)
- 23 A great quantity or amount (4)
- 24 With my last gasp I ritually keep divine (9)

Alternative clues Down

- 1 Evil is cut out, Book 3 O.T. (9)
- 2 A groups E.A. was arranged by this Althenian Council (7)
- 4 Ps 29:11 (5)
- 5 People of this ancient Greek city were courageous (7)
- 6 A composition of musical soup to unravel (4)
- 7 Time to change one (4)
- 11 Change rich stain glass windows to depict one (9)
- 12 1 Cor 16:8 (9)
- 14 Sounds like table, cable and fable in this month (3)
- 15 The most important time of the year for a crop growing farmer (7)
- 16 and 11 down. Given the acronym of B.O.B (6-2-7)
- 18 Halves tapers to hold a match to light them (5)
- 19 Take her out of a whisper, she's so thin (4)
- 20 A dark place conceals the twelfth month answer (4)

Answers in the November edition

September
ANSWERS

Across (1) Noah (7) Thyatira (8) Anglo (10) Of the Faith (12) Defender (14) Pier (16) Blue (17) Betrayal (20) Sanctifier (23) Demas (24) Onesimus (25) Voice

Down (1) Neared (2) Halo (3) Shah (4) Calf (5) Divinity (6) Father (9) Of one (11) Of Burnley (13) Eve (15) Creed (16) Bishop (18) Lessee (19) Stoic (21) Four (22) Redo

Let us not turn from the world, but be engaged within it. Where there is injustice let us strive for equality and dignity. May our actions be based upon Gospel values, our motives be to serve God alone, and through him, to transform this world. Amen

Lord, we think of those in prison in our own country and our dioceses. We thank you for Mothers' Union volunteers who go into prisons, and ask your blessing on their work. We pray they will bring cheer and love to all whom they meet. We pray today for those called to serve in the chaplaincies of our prisons. Lord, bless their work, that your Harvest is a time to thank God for all he provides for us so we can live well and enjoy his world. God also asks us to be part of his work providing for others so everyone is able to live well. But first, and most importantly, we want to start by thanking God for all his wonderful gifts to us. The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us. God has blessed us with all that is good! We bring him our thanks today. We go rejoicing in God's provision. We go to sow his love in the world that it may yield a harvest of blessing and no-one may be in want. Amen



Photo Yut Mekthoob Bob Milner

Three young lads crash a car late on Christmas Eve. They are about to go to heaven when St Peter says: Coming up to heaven so late on Christmas Eve you will have to do a Christmas forfeit. The first boy "I still have the car keys in my pocket" so he held them up and jingled them, "There you are jingle bells" St Peter say OK off you go.

The second boy says "All I have is a cigarette lighter" He flicks it to light and says "There, a candle to lighten the world" "Ok" says St Peter "In you go".

The third boy says "I have nothing" but fumbles in his pocket and pulls out a skimpy pair of ladies' knickers. "What are they?" says St Peter The boy replies "They are Carols".



**Brian Gore
South Shore
Methodist
Community
Church**

Yut's Vision of the Universal Christ

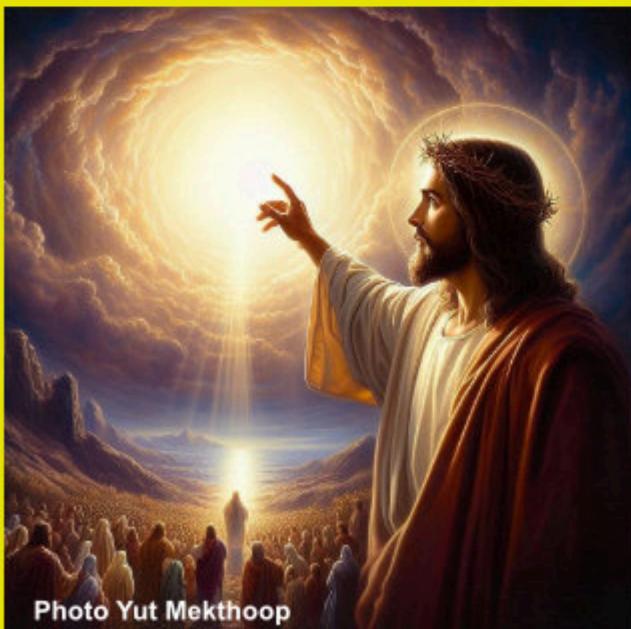


Photo Yut Mekthoob

Jesus leads all to the glory of the Father
With thanks to Fr Geoff
for his suggestion for a title.

NEWS FROM ST ANNE'S CHURCH GREENLANDS BISPHAM



Pilates at St Anne Greenland's Monday and Tuesday

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If interested please contact Claire 07599659154

Eucharist Service with hymns at 09.30
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Healing Service Third Sunday of every month at
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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

On the Fylde Coast, we like our windmills, they always catch the eye when walking or driving around the area and it's great that we still have so many.

Back in 1930, a number of them were in a state of disrepair after falling out of use. Recreated below is a wonderfully written newspaper article from ninety-four years ago that described a recent survey of the conditions of the Fylde Coast windmills with a view to their preservation. Mr H Burrows of Poulton, who represented the Amounderness Hundred on the Ancient Monuments committee wrote as follows in the Lytham St Annes Express. Mr Burrows wasn't a man who was easily impressed.



**'Fylde Coast
Memories' with
Michael Downer**
**St Christopher
with St Nicholas**



SHALL WE KEEP OUR WINDMILLS?

A Look at these "Ancient Monuments" of the Fylde—Sites for Parks?

Describing a recent survey of the condition of the Fylde windmills with a view to their preservation, Mr. H. Burrows, of Poulton, who represents the Amounderness Hundred on the Ancient Monuments Committee, writes as follows:—

By H. H. BURROWS.

sails, anyway?

Across the Moss

So far, we had drawn blanks, and the car turned south again for a delightful run across the fertile mosslands between Pilling Sands and the Wyre. A stop en-route enabled our party to have their first glimpse of an age-old industry, peat delving, which, in turn, evoked reminiscences of the finding of pre-historic "Kate's Pad", once the only and precarious passage over the moss and bog, and now buried beneath six feet and more of solid peat.

On again, through the village of St. Michaels, fast losing its old-world charm, with the influx of modern traffic conditions, and by winding lanes we made our way towards the outermost of the Fylde mills, at Clifton.

We soon came in sight of Clifton Mill, standing in stately contrast to the quaint tower of Lund Church just over the way. Here, certainly, is a building which should receive consideration. Although without tangible evidence as to date, there seems little doubt from its method of construction that it dates back to the middle or so of the eighteenth century. Not very ancient, you may say. No, but, like the rest of us, every year passing makes it older.

Relic of Roman Days.

Whilst so near, I could not resist the temptation of another peep at the Roman altar which some three years ago I found masquerading as a baptismal font in the neighbouring church of Lund and my friends being equally interested, we stood for a few minutes in contemplation of that relic of our Roman conquerors.

There, side by side, grotesque now with the ravages of time, but still holding something of that placid beneficence which endeared the "Deae Matres" the "Mother Goddesses" of the German conscripts with which Rome reinforced its legions, to the common folk of their native lands and to our peasantry. The Centurions might have their Mars and Venus, Jupiter and Apollo. The "under-dog" was content with the gentle smiles of the Nature Goddesses, under whose care came the fertile soils, the orchards and the vineyards. No wonder, then, that it needed all the terrors of Mother Church to crush the idolatry with which right into Tudor times our Fylde countryside still regarded the traditions of an earlier faith.

The Oldest Fylde Mill

A little detour brought us to our next calling point, Treales. Here again, a few years, without care, and the whole fabric will have vanished as completely as the "Peg Mills" which once stood at Hambleton and Warton. The Treales Mill, though without date, is probably about the same age as most of the Fylde mills, erected about 1750.



PREESALL.

STAINING.

WREA GREEN.

WEETON.

Only search through the estate records would show its actual age, and for the moment this is a task which must be postponed. Looking across the little valley we see outlined against a leafy background the ruined stump of probably the oldest of the Fylde mills, that on Carr Hill, Kirkham.

There are records of a mill upon this site back in the early fourteenth century, and the probability that Carr Hill formed part of the Roman settlement at Kirkham is further evidence of the antiquity of the mill site.

Continues page 20

MIDWEEKERS



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From the Westmorland Gazette 1860
Thanks to Eileen Lawson

CHURCH NEWS.

BACK TO THE OLD CHURCH.

A Canterbury correspondent writes that the Rev. G. S. Reaney, the distinguished Dissenting preacher, was ordained at Canterbury on Sunday by the Primate. Canon Blore preached the sermon. After all, writes the London correspondent of the *Manchester Courier*, Mr. George Reaney has only returned to the Church of his fathers. This fact has been forgotten by Mr. Reaney's many critics and many friends. If I mistake not Mr. Reaney's father was an organist at Huntingdon in the very church in which Oliver Cromwell was baptised, and that position was subsequently held by his brother, a singularly gifted musician, who, however, followed Mr. Reaney in his religious opinions, and thus became a pillar of the Nonconformist cause in the town. But Mrs. Reaney's connection with the Church of England is even of a closer character than her husband's. Her father, Mr. Edis, of Huntingdon, may be described as having been the clerical publisher of the county. He was a stern Episcopalian, had, I believe, many times held the position of churchwarden, and was generally regarded as one of the most powerful laymen of the town. When Mrs. Reaney was brought under an active religious influence, and when she came to believe that her mission was to take an aggressive position in Christian work, she found her friends in the Nonconformist churches — Episcopalianism had not yet received the important and sympathetic force of woman's influence in religious effort. It was thus her singularly interesting work in the Nonconformist cause commenced.



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Sunday 6th October 10.30am

**Harvest
Festival
Family Mass**
**Kids bring the
parents!!**
**Everyone is
welcome**



SYLVIA'S MUSINGS



Photo Yut Mekthoob Bob Milner

*When counting my blessings I
hardly know where to begin! Give
me a thankful heart this day.
Amen*

Thanks to sylvia marley from Our Lady's

<https://tobyjones.info>



Fylde Coast Memories from page 17

although the present stump only dates back to about 1730. It is to be hoped that the Kirkham Council will carry out their first intention of securing the mill and the hill-top for the purposes of a recreation ground. It is admirably adapted for the purpose, and the mill could form a picturesque centrepiece. The mill at Wrea Green, alone among our Fylde mills, is situated down in the plain and not perched on a hilltop. Its present surroundings are perhaps the most picturesque of any, although, unhappily, here again but a ruined shell remains, after just about two hundred years' existence. We decided not to make the long detour to Lytham Mill. Here, fortunately, there is no fear of demolition, for I am sure that the Lytham St. Annes Council are sufficiently locally patriotic to see that this relic of the past receives the care and attention which it deserves. If I might, greatly daring, offer an opinion, it is that they should convert it into a local museum, on the lines of that admirable institution at St. Michaels, to provide a resting-place for the many mementoes of by-gone days, which for want of some focus are so rapidly disappearing, through destruction and dispersal.

And the Youngest

Our next destination, therefore, was the little village of Weeton, where, perched upon the hill just outside, is the most modern of the Fylde mills, having been erected by the Winstanleys in 1812, as the built-in slab records. Here we come within the area of the Regional Town Planning Committee, and one of the recommendations which the late Mr. Bruce, the Committee's expert, informed me he was making, was that the mill should, form the centre of a "reserved area," and thus be preserved from demolition. Another pleasant little run brought us to Singleton, which, again, although un-dated, has records going back to the middle of the eighteenth century, whilst an earlier erection upon the same site is traceable for more than two centuries before. This rising ground overlooks Horse-bridge Brook, Great Marton, Great Eccleston and the Peg Mills at Warton and Hambleton. Of all these practically no trace remains. As we have seen, the mills at Kirkham and Wrea Green are mere ruined shells, and actually Lytham, Clifton, Treales, Singleton, Weeton and Staining are the only ones recognisable as windmills. To schedule them as "ancient monuments under the present law, merely deters the owners from mutilating or destroying them for a short "breathing-space, during which the Treasury decides whether the Government shall assume financial responsibility for their acquisition and upkeep, a doubtful step in the present financial position of the country. If, however, a local fund could be raised to bear this burden, the way would be smoothed for their official protection. The local authorities concerned could assist very materially, and if prompt action was taken at a comparatively small cost. To schedule the sites and some surrounding ground as "public open spaces" would ultimately entail their acquisition and in the meantime would probably assist their preservation. This solution of the problem was in the mind, I know, of the late Mr. Bruce, the expert retained by the Fylde Regional Town Planning Committee, and I commend it, therefore, to that Committee for consideration" Of course we should keep our windmills!

38 SWANN TOURS

YEARS
TRADING



HOLIDAYS
&
SHORT
BREAKS

2024

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Eileen Lawson South Shore Methodist Community Church



From the breaking of the dawn
To the setting of the sun,
I will stand on every promise of Your word.
Words of power, strong to save,
That will never pass away,
I will stand on every promise of Your word.
For Your covenant is sure,
And on this I am secure,
I can stand on every promise of Your word.

When I stumble and I sin,
Condemnation pressing in,
I will stand on every promise of Your word.
You are faithful to forgive,
That in freedom I might live,
So I stand on every promise of Your word.
Guilt to innocence restored:
You remember sins no more!
So I'll stand on every promise of Your word.

When I'm faced with anguished choice,
I will listen for Your voice,
And I'll stand on every promise of Your word.
Through this dark and troubled land
You will guide me with your hand
As I stand on every promise of Your word.
And you've promised to complete
Every work begun in me,
So I'll stand on every promise of Your word.

Hope that lifts me from despair,
Love that casts out every fear,
As I stand on every promise of
Your word.
Not forsaken, not alone,
For the Comforter has come,
And I stand on every promise of
Your word.
Grace sufficient, grace for me,
Grace for all who will believe,
We will stand on every promise of
Your word.

*Keith Getty & Stuart Townend
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family, songs@integritymusic.com)*



St Christopher with St Nicholas Church Hawes Side Lane



Tuesday 29th October
at 7pm



Norma Rodham South Shore Methodist Community Church

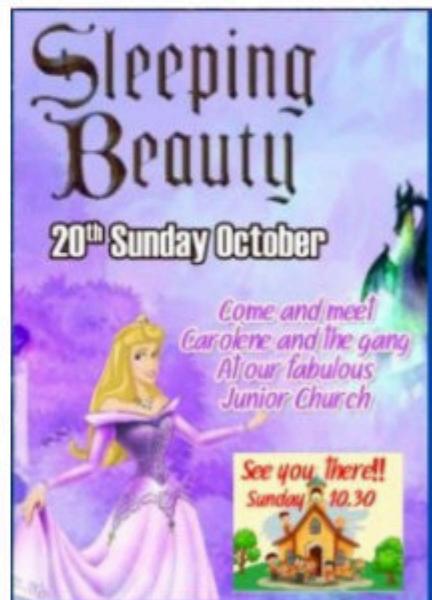
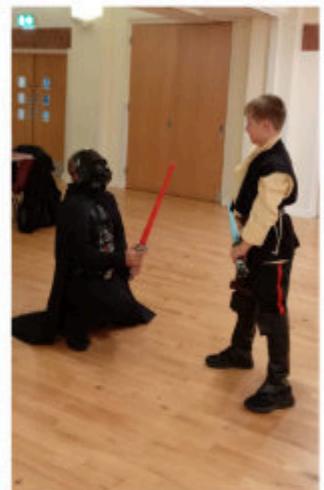
Grandpa dropped his glasses
once in a pot of dye,
And when he put them on again
He saw a purple sky.
Purple birds were rising up
from a purple hill,
Men were grinding purple cider
At a purple mill.
Purple Adeline was playing
With a purple doll,
Little purple dragonflies
Were crawling up the wall.
And at the supper table
He got crazy as a loon
From eating purple apple
dumplings
With a purple spoon.
Leroy F. Jackson



Donna, you are disturbing me!



The Star Wars themed Chatterbox Church....and Father's birthday presentation....Mad or what? Fr Martin Daniels Parish Priest



*Special thanks to
Alex Jones Merlin Cinemas
use of the proscenium arch
Plaza Weston super
Mare other photos Annie,
Jennie and Bob*



Sister Philomena Grimley

SHCJ Society of the Holy Child Jesus



AND REALITY
His Lordship the Bishop of Lancaster lays the Foundation stone of the new
Church of Christ the King, Grange Park.
[By courtesy of the Evening Gazette, Blackpool.]

A RATHER SPECIAL LOCAL STORY

I know we are living in "different" times, but I know that if I asked anyone who reads THE PARISH PUMP where exactly Jesus was born, I would get the right answer: a stable in Bethlehem! But if I asked you where the parish of Christ the King was "born", I doubt there would be many right answers! So let me tell you about our story, as we are celebrating in September being 75 years old and 10 years in our present church building attached to St Mary's and Christ the King primary school on Rodwell Walk. In 1949 a certain Father Pearson in Blackpool was trying to get permission from the Council to build a new Catholic church on the recently built Grange Park estate. At first this permission was refused. However, on the property owned by the Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus, Layton Hill Convent and school, there was a building that was being used as an outside art studio.

Everyone called it
THE SHIPPON,
meaning
cow-shed,



because that is what it had been originally!

When the sisters first came to Layton Hill, in the 1870's, they had a working farm on the land – hence a real cow-shed! This building was made available for the diocese of Lancaster to use as a temporary church. It was beautifully prepared and furnished and in January 1949 opened, with about 200 people present, as the parish church of Christ the King, to serve the people of Grange Park. In time the Council gave permission for the building of a permanent church and that was opened 4 years later on Chepstow Drive. If you pass there now all you see are very new houses. This is because 12 years ago that church building became unsafe and negotiations were entered into with Blackpool council that they would acquire the land for more housing.

This enabled us to build our present church which was opened 10 years ago. The opening took place with a wonderful procession of priests and parishioners, accompanied by a band from St Mary's School, as all the precious items for worship and service were carried from the old building to the new. So we have a lot to celebrate and thank God for over the years and joy to share with our

newer parishioners, many of whom represent other cultures and nationalities and the rich diversity that is Christianity today. However, whilst we are rejoicing in this anniversary, we are also aware of the whole Catholic Church this month of October. That is because the Second Session of the Synod on Synodality is taking place in Rome, a gathering whose members from the global

family include not only the ordained ministers, Cardinals, Bishops, priests, deacons but also many lay

people so that the whole People of God is represented there. They will have prepared once more by studying the working document that has been drawn up from all that has been sent to the Synod commission from across the world; they will once more enter into a time of retreat together and then for the next three weeks they will listen and discuss in carefully structured small groups, how the Church will endeavour to become a missionary community, living out and sharing what the Gospel calls us to be and do.



Heroes of the Faith

On Heroes and Heroism

when we use the word hero, even in the Christian context, we can blur two kinds of people. The first are those who we admire as heroes because of their supreme ability: those remarkable scientists, doctors, painters, musicians and athletes who let their skills be guided and guarded by God. Great, but the problem is that most of us don't have that sort of incredible ability. The second group of heroes, however, are more relevant. They are those who we do not just admire but who inspire us. They are the ordinary people, like us, who have somehow become extraordinary and become heroes.

But what exactly does it mean to be a Christian hero? Among many definitions, the best is one shaped by Christianity: to be a hero is 'to do something for others that you don't have to and which you are aware carries the risk or certainty of loss or pain'. It's a heroism that runs all the way through the New Testament where it is not just taught by Christ – 'love your enemies', 'turn the other cheek' – but is modelled by him. Take, for instance, Philippians 2:5-8 (NIV) where Paul writes:

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross!

Here we see Christ, the ultimate hero, choosing to come to earth to suffer and die for his people. It should move us all to praise. Yet did you notice the first sentence? 'Have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.' In other words, Christ is not simply to be the subject of admiration, but inspiration. We who follow him are to be heroes like him. Now I can hear the protest: 'I'm no hero!' But no one is born a hero; they become one by repeatedly choosing to do what is heroic. So how are we to be heroic? Let's consider that definition: 'To do something for others that you don't have to and which you are aware carries the risk or certainty of loss or pain.'

First, to be heroic is 'to do something for others': it involves caring. Christian heroism always has someone or something else as its focus. It is an expression of love, even possibly for those we don't find lovely. It is to aid someone, to stand up for what is right, or even to save something of value.

Sometimes, too, heroism is not so much a matter of doing, but of not doing something. After all, it can be heroic to refuse to take an action that is wrong. Here, of course, Christ sets the ultimate example.

Second, to be heroic is to do something 'you don't have to do': it involves choosing. Christian heroism is about getting involved. Although it's always a temptation to tiptoe away from a difficulty or problem, involvement or intervention is essential for heroism. In the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37), the Samaritan could easily have ridden on but instead stopped to get involved. Christ chose to come to save us: 'For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost' (Luke 19:10 NLT).

Third, to be heroic is to do something that 'carries the risk or certainty of loss or pain': it involves considering. The most praiseworthy heroism always involves a weighing-up of the price involved. That price may be paid in different ways. It may be physical: think of a church-worker in some dangerous estate. It may be psychological: perhaps of a PA who decides to challenge the unethical behaviour of the boss. It may be financial: imagine someone who gives up a well-paid job to work with a church or charity. It may be social: perhaps an individual who, for whatever reason, chooses celibacy or singleness. There may even be a price in terms of honour: in Jesus' Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32) the father heroically takes on shame in showing love to the lost son. It's worth remembering, too, that in this world most heroism goes unremembered. Not everybody gets a medal. Every Christian should be prepared to be heroic. But it's a hard command. For all sorts of reasons,

many people today are unheroic or – let's use a polite term – 'risk averse'.

So let me give you four encouragements to heroism.

1) Consider the fact that you're going to die sometime. Between now and then why not pack in some venture worthy of the life God has given you?

2) Think of what God is calling you to do as an opportunity to be a hero. Do you really want to turn it down?

3) Don't worry about exactly what you might achieve. God is more concerned about your aspirations than your accomplishments. Remember how Jesus praised the woman in the temple who gave away the tiny amount of money that she had (Mark 12:41-44, Luke 21:1-4). Just do it!

4) Remember that while this world may not note what you do, God does and will. Better to have his praise in heaven than have any amount of praise on earth. Ultimately, to be heroic is simply to listen to what Christ commands us to do and then do it. The road to being a hero is to take heroic actions, one step at a time.

J.John Reverend Canon

Beryl Whiteside South Shore
Methodist Community Church



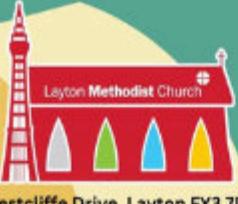
This series on Christian heroes has made me think about how the idea of heroism applies to you and me. I think that



ON HEROES
AND HEROISM



Photo Yut Mekthoob Bob Milner



Westcliff Drive, Layton FY3 7DZ



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Second Saturday each Month*
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Refreshments Available

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



**CINEMAS-DOWN MEMORY LANE
The Way They Were**

We called it going to the pictures or the flicks—that was another the Tower-Odeon and Plaza used to go there with my brother.

The youngsters say the movies that's come from the United States and there were Saturday Matinees that I attended with all my mates.

I'll take you back to those days entering that darkened space there be a lady with torch in hand to show you a vacant place.

Usually, two films were showing and one in black and white then a feature film shown in colour and a Newsreel for our delight. Back row—that was set for lovers

couples—they had double seats at the interval between the films there be a lady who had icy treats.

Who could resist a creamy a choc ice? or tub with flat wooden spoon then hurry back from the long queue as the film be starting soon.

Ash trays were provided for smokers the smoking public couldn't resist flames were seen in the darkness cinema was filled with a hazy mist.

And with entertainment over we been thrilled with all we had seen as we arose from our warm seats and stood to attention for the Queen.



With thanks to Margaret Payne St Christopher with St Nicholas Church



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

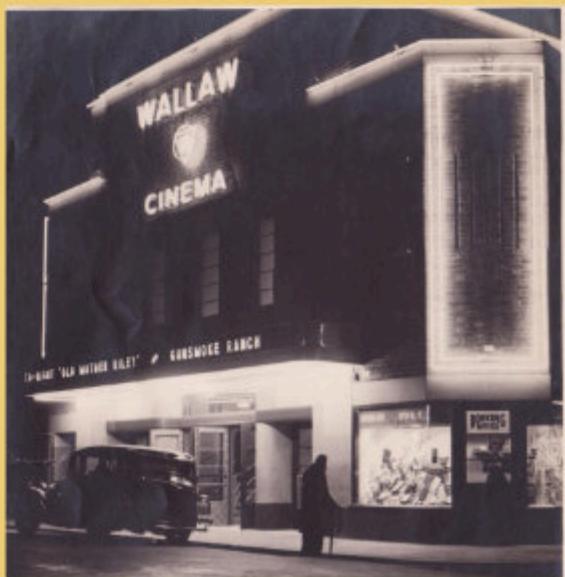
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07378 905774



**PHOTOS PETER DOUGLAS
CHIEF OPERATOR WALLAW CINEMA BLYTH**





October

American trend. Then we have bonfire night but most of all we look forward to making preparations for our Christian Festival of Christmas.

We make plans. Some bake, some make the jams and some make the cake well in advance. It is the purpose for us during some harsh days ahead.



October is an ideal month to plant new shrubs. They can be planted between April and Spring but Autumn is best as the soil is still warm. This helps the roots to establish quicker.

Waterlogged or frozen ground is not advisable. If you plant in containers remember not to water as much as in the Spring.

The same rules apply to tree planting. Autumn is best.

In this country we have many heathlands which we often call the moors. They have a diverse range of wildlife and plants. They are on Dartmoor, the Pennines, Wales and Scotland.

Although these are hilly areas they can also be found in lowlands for example in the New Forest, East Anglia and Surrey. The main characteristics for this land is acidic and poor soils with an array of dwarf shrubs including heather, gorse, bilberry, cowberry and crowberry. This land was created by humans who 5000 years ago removed the trees from infertile soil to make hunting easier. There are moves in some parts of the country in an effort to try to reverse this situation by planting back the trees. October is also a good month for those country walks before the worst of winter strikes. Enjoy.

October is our changing month. The nights become longer, get colder and the winds begin to whip the leaves from the trees. Having said that there are advantages of beauty as the leaves display beautiful shades of browns, reds and oranges. Wildlife starts to adapt. The squirrels hurry around burying their acorns and such things to make their stores for a harsh period ahead. The hibernating species feed up as much as possible to sustain them during their long sleep. We also start to prepare. We think about keeping warm and look forward to the winter festivals ahead. Halloween has recently become more popular seemingly following the



with Patricia Rawson



Photo Keith Tuck

Now have you heard of Dovetropolis? Well, a group of people in Kent are trying to help the return of the turtle doves which are becoming extinct very quickly. They are turning an old Bramley Apple orchard into what they hope can become a home for these birds. The orchard had outlived its useful life so the idea is to provide different levels of foliage on this land. The birds are a seed eating species so they will need plenty of grasses as well as a few trees for their nests. A small water course is being developed as this is essential. They winter in Africa and hopefully will return to the prepared area. We wish them luck as it is a shame that these birds are dying out.



Coffee Morning
Tuesdays at 10.15
Everyone Welcome



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and much much more!!**





Terry & Freda Wray Blackpool Salvation Army Citadel



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

Thank you!

for helping us to help others!

Just as I am

A white-haired, hard hitting Southern-Baptist preacher called Mordecai Ham was leading an eleven-week evangelistic campaign in the town of Charlotte North Carolina in September 1934. Among his crowd of listeners was a local farmer's tall good looking William Franklin Graham. He had not been too keen to attend-in religion to him was hogwash-but this evangelist held him spellbound. One night, as the choir sang 'Just as I am', the young man walked to the front, as a sign of his new-found faith in Christ, the Lamb of God, Billy Graham has since become a world figure. He has spoken to more people than any other man in history. In every continent, in his own evangelistic crusades, he has used the hymn that meant so much to him.

Just as I am, without one plea but that you died to set me free, and at your bidding 'Come to me!' O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt, fightings within and fears without,

O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am! You will receive,

will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve: because your promise I believe,

O Lamb of God, I come.

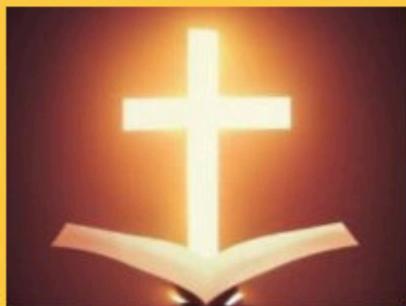
Just as I am! Your love unknown has broken every barrier down: now to be yours, yes, yours alone, O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am! Of that free love

the breadth, length, depth and height to prove, here for a time and then above,

O Lamb of God, I come.

Freda's Prayer



Thank you for protecting us through the day.
Forgive us for the things we do wrong. Thank you for loving us even when we disobey or try to do things our way.

Help us to always choose your way, God because it is always the best.

GRACE



Grace says that we are a chosen people', God's special possession. Grace says that there is nothing you can do to earn more of God's love. And there is nothing you can do to lose God's love.

When Satan says you're worthless, Grace says you're valuable. When Satan says you're useless, Grace says yes, but you're forgiven now. Satan says he's taking everything worth having away from you, grace says he can never take what you most need-God.

When Satan says you can't win, Grace reminds you that Jesus already won. Grace laughs in Satan's face, Grace overcomes fear, Grace breeds courage.

(Take Heart)

The booklet cover features the title 'BLACKPOOL CITADEL' at the top, followed by 'THIS IS YOUR LIFE' in large, bold letters. Below the title, it says 'Saturday 19th October, 7-9pm'. Underneath that, it reads 'An evening of stories and music to celebrate 140 years of The Salvation Army in Blackpool'. At the bottom, it lists 'With our Territorial Leaders, Commissioners Paul and Jenine Main' and 'The Salvation Army, Raikes Parade, FY1 4EL'. A small yellow box at the bottom right contains the text 'For more information, please contact 01253 626114 / blackpool@salvationarmy.org.uk'.



DID YOU KNOW?

Peter Lonsdale

2024 PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

Most of our group of pilgrims from Blackpool journeyed to Walsingham by coach and some by car, stopping at Wooley Edge services and The Farm Cafe for refreshments along the way. There was very little in the way of traffic delays so we made good time arriving at the Shrine for about 3-30pm. From the greeting and the handing out of our accommodation keys to leaving this most Holy Place the admin staff, the priests, the refectory workers, the gardeners, the Norton Bar staff and all were so helpful and pleasant. All of which added to our pilgrimage joy.

The accommodation I stayed in this time was full of charm with oldie world wooden beams on view in the ceilings, steepish stairs and sash windows, a contrasting experience to last year's most modern accommodation wing, which I really enjoyed. Of course, the facilities of a comfortable bed, hot water, showers, toilets (a plenty in both the accommodation wings and the complex), tea, coffee, milk and sugar supplied in your rooms and good wholesome food from the refectory looked after our biological needs very well. In fact, I talked to a person who had been coming (every year) to the Shrine since 1984, who had witnessed how different the accommodation, the refectory and the grounds were over the last forty years.

Anyway, that's enough said of our biological requirements. We enjoyed time to visit Wells next the Sea, Cromer, Wroxham and a boat trip on the Broads. Spiritually, we had a service at St. Christopher and St. Nicholas Church followed by a blessing of the coach and car before we set off on our journey to the holy Shrine. We all sang a rendition of "Hail Mary" with Father Martin taking the lead at 12 noon on the coach. On the approach to the Shrine (about the last 1-2 miles) we sang The Walsingham Pilgrim Hymn. On arrival and after enough time to drop off our bags and to freshen up in our allocated rooms we, starting at the beautiful Altar of the Annunciation and continuing into the Holy House (where I and after talking to fellow pilgrims did feel the aura of this magnificent place of worship) had our First Visit service. "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of

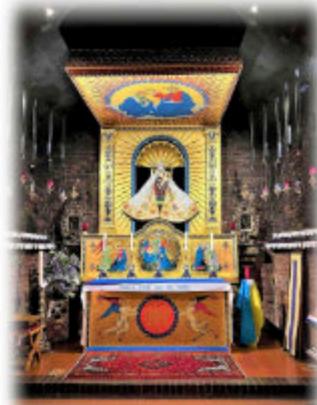


heaven" Gen 28: 17. There truly was a sense of the thousands upon thousands of pilgrims who had throughout the history of this Holy place in "England's Nazareth" prayed at the replica of Mary's home in Nazareth the Holy House asking for the intercession of Mary the Mother of God who said "Yes" to God's will. Wow! what a great start to any pilgrimage. There was an



extensive programme of worship to enjoy either personally, with your own group of pilgrims or with all the groups of pilgrims together from morning and evening prayers in the Shrine Church, rosary, compline and Mass in the Guild of all Souls, Stations of the Cross in the beautiful gardens, Sprinkling at the well, Healing ministries and Benediction, the Pilgrimage Mass, the Procession of Our Lady and Benediction, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and Last Visit. The Last Visit for me and I suspect for a lot of us among our group was that crazy mixture of feeling sad tearful joy. Once again it was such a joy to journey with pilgrims from Holy Cross Parish Church and St. Christopher and St. Nicholas Parish Church, to be a part of this year's pilgrimage to England's Nazareth.

Our many thanks and prayers to Susan for once again organising it and to Fathers Michael (Holy Cross), Martin and Ian (St. Christopher's) and retired priests Fathers Michael and Laurence for making the whole spiritual journey so wonderful and memorable.





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Interested in a Daily Bible Reading?

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

St Christopher with St Nicholas Church



**Our Daily Bread
Ministries®**



MISS ZETA FROM BANGKOK

**Daddy, I am determined to stay awake
to finish this page in the magazine!**

WAYSIDE PULPIT

with our Rev Andy

*Everyone says forgiveness
is a great idea until they
have something to forgive*
C S Lewis



with our Fr Chas

*The Guardian Angels are just
one more expression of his
love for us. And quite a fierce
expression at that.*



Shining Stars Toddler Group

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THE SALVATION ARMY

This page
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& Freda Wray The
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**Terry &
Freda Wray
Blackpool
Salvation Army
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Terry's Thoughts...

You can always find what you want you are looking for at a buffet. Every moment wasted looking back, keeps us from moving forward. You're never alone with a phone.
 History goes not give rise to hope; hope gives rise to history. Peace and justice are two sides of the same coin.
 Energy and persistence conquer all things.
 My house and my garden are built as part of nature, not over it. The human body is the most complex system ever created. Technology is best when it brings people together.

Terry's Thoughts...

I often say my prayers
 But do I often pray?
 Do the wishes of my heart
 Join with the words I say?
 So teach me what I want to say
 And teach me how to pray.
 Don't let me implore your grace
 Not feeling what I say.
 (W. Whalley)



General Knowledge (hahaha)

- A dangerous race.
 (a) The Vikings
- Q A famous Royal
- A Mail
- Q Something slippery
- A A conman

The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him.

Nahum 1:7

With thanks to Yut Mekthoop



Photo Yut Mekthoop



Singing by Heart



A dementia friendly singing group

10-11.30am on the first Wednesday of the month
£1 including a brew

Friendship Club



THURSDAYS EVERY WEEK

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

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

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

REGINALD DIXON – HIS FIRST THIRTY YEARS

Peter J Ashman



In Reg's early years at Blackpool, the weather could (and sometimes did) have an adverse effect on his broadcasting. Gales often sweep the western coast of Britain, and in the winter of 1932/33 a blizzard damaged telephone lines used for relaying the organ broadcasts to Manchester. In bitter cold, and blinding wintry drizzle, a gang of Post Office engineers worked against the clock to locate the damaged wiring (commencing at first light), and then to get it repaired before 6.30 p.m., the time scheduled for the broadcast to go out. With everything else ready, and Reg already seated at the console, a call came from Manchester to say: "We are sorry. Your broadcast will have to be cancelled. The engineers have been unable to repair the line at your end". However, they did in fact repair the line, and completed the link - just before 6.45 p.m.

Collie Knox, then columnist for the "Daily Mail" wrote in the issue dated 24 November 1933: "You are, of course, quite right - all you folk who write to me praising the organ recitals, only there are not enough of them. Reginald Dixon, who I should say - judging from readers' opinions - is the most popular of cinema organists, with Harold Ramsay of the Granada, Tooting, running him a close second, plays at 6.30 this evening. I wish to clear up a little matter that has been puzzling people, one which I have been at pains to straighten out. The reason Reginald Dixon is not heard more in the morning programmes is simply this: as he plays from the Tower Ballroom, in Blackpool, and not from a cinema, he is one of the few organists who are free to broadcast in the evening." Readers had expressed alarm at the constant silence from Reginald Dixon in the morning broadcasts - and feared the worst!

By early 1933, Reginald Dixon was going out over the air waves as many as five times in one week, and the broadcasts were no longer confined to the summer months, when the ballroom was full of holiday revellers. Of interest was the programme he played for a broadcast on 8 December 1933, from the Tower Ballroom at 6.30 in the evening: March, Pomp and Circumstance No. 1; Canadian Capers; selection "Sicilian Vespers"; Bird Songs at Eventide; Fantasy, Linke Winke. A few weeks later he was appearing in "On With The Show" at the Princes Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London - a sort of "Lancashire comes to the West End" affair, for which he played a specially-built Compton organ. "The Star" newspaper, on 21 December 1933 reported: "A colossal organ has been installed, out-trumpeting all the cinema organs that ever were. It rises from the place where the orchestra should be, and Reginald Dixon renders 'The Storm' with clamorous effects."

During the winter of 1933-34, many letters were received at Blackpool Tower, asking about Reg's absence from the radio, and on this occasion, he was touring cinemas in the north while a new ballroom floor was being laid in the Tower. Broadcasts did resume on 20 March 1934, and his programme included a novelty: "A local train journey", as well as operatic and dance numbers. Shortly after, true to his tradition of providing varied and novel programmes, he broadcast under the title: "Mainly Feminine", which programme included such numbers as "Polly"; the overture to "Rosamunde"; "Alice"; "Sylvia"; and a selection from "Rose Marie".

Public protests are not new. On 20 September 1934, Reg was broadcasting from the Tower Ballroom, for the Empire wavelength, with a 5,000+ audience when - near the end of the programme - two young men jumped up onto the stage. One of them handed a letter to Reg, while the other walked to a nearby on-stage microphone, and shouted something into it. Fortunately, no-one in the ballroom, nor any radio listeners heard anything very clearly, beyond the fact that the men were publicising something "... due to take place on the 29th". Fortunately, the microphones used for the actual broadcast were slung up near the chambers, so did not clearly pick up the protest. Incidentally, Reg had just finished playing "I never had a chance". It later transpired that the protestors were Anti-Fascists, announcing a counterdemonstration to a Fascist meeting due to take place in Manchester on 29 September 1934.



Photos Arthur Lloyd



More next month



Feastday: October 22 Patron: of World Youth Day (Co- Patron)

Birth: 1920 Death: 2005

Beatified: May 1st 2011 Saint Peter's Square, Vatican City by Pope Benedict XVI

Canonized: April 27th 2014 Saint Peter's Square, Vatican City by Pope Francis.



Karol J. Wojtyla, known as John Paul II since his October 1978 election to the papacy, was born in Wadowice, a small city 50 kilometres from Cracow, on May 18th 1920. He was the second of two sons born to Karol Wojtyla and Emilia Kaczorowska. His mother died in 1929. His eldest brother Edmund, a doctor, died in 1932 and his father, a non-commissioned army officer died in 1941. He made his First Holy Communion at age 9 and was confirmed at 18. Upon graduation from Marcin Wadowita high school in Wadowice, he enrolled in Cracow's Jagiellonian University in 1938 and in a school for drama.

The Nazi occupation forces closed the university in 1939 and young Karol had to work in a quarry (1940-1944) and then in the Solvay chemical factory to earn his living and to avoid being deported to Germany. In 1942, aware of his call to the priesthood, he began courses in the clandestine seminary of Cracow, run by Cardinal Adam Stefan Sapieha, archbishop of Cracow. At the same time, Karol Wojtyla was one of the pioneers of the "Rhapsodic Theatre," also clandestine.

After the Second World War, he continued his studies in the major seminary of Cracow, once it had re-opened, and in the faculty of theology of the Jagiellonian University, until his priestly ordination in Cracow on November 1, 1946.

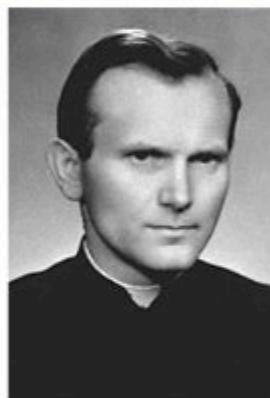
Soon after, Cardinal Sapieha sent him to Rome where he worked under the guidance of the French Dominican, Garrigou-Lagrange. He finished his doctorate in theology in 1948 with a thesis on the topic of faith in the works of St. John of the Cross. At that time, during his vacations, he exercised his pastoral ministry among the Polish immigrants of France, Belgium and Holland. In 1948 he returned to Poland and was vicar of various parishes in Cracow as well as chaplain for the university students until 1951, when he took up again his studies on philosophy and theology.

In 1953 he defended his habilitation thesis on "evaluation of the possibility of founding a Christian ethic on the ethical system of Max Scheler" at the Faculty of Theology of Jagiellonian University (It was the last habilitation before closing the Faculty by communist government).

Later he became professor of moral philosophy and social ethics in the major seminary of Cracow and in the Faculty of philosophy at the Catholic University of Lubin (where he became the Director of the Chair of Ethic, and lectured for 25 years until his election for the Pope in 1978).

On July 4th 1958, he was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Cracow by Pope Pius XII, and was consecrated September 28th 1958, in Wawel Cathedral, Cracow, by Archbishop Baziak. On January 13th 1964, he was nominated Archbishop of Cracow by Pope Paul VI, who made him a cardinal June 26th 1967. apostolic letters. The Pope has also published three books: "Crossing the Threshold of Hope" (October 1994); "Gift and Mystery: On the 50th Anniversary of My Priestly Ordination" (November 1996) and "Roman Tryptych - Meditations", a book of poems (March 2003). John Paul II has presided at 138 beatification ceremonies (1,310 Blessed) and 48 canonization ceremonies (469 Saints) during his pontificate. He has held 8 consistories in which he created 201 cardinals. He has also convened six plenary meetings of the College of Cardinals.

From 1978 to today the Holy Father has presided at 15 Synods of Bishops : six ordinary (1980, 1983, 1987, 1990, 1994, 2001), one extraordinary (1985) and eight special (1980, 1991, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1998[2] and 1999). No other Pope has encountered so many individuals like John Paul II: to date, more than 16,700,000 pilgrims have participated in the General Audiences held on Wednesdays (more than 1,000). Such figure is without counting all other special audiences and religious ceremonies held [more than 8 million pilgrims during the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000 alone] and the millions of faithful met during pastoral visits made in Italy and throughout the world. It must also be remembered the numerous government personalities encountered during 38 official visits and in the 690 audiences and meetings held with Heads of State, and even the 226 audiences and meetings with Prime Ministers.



MAGNUM SILENCIUM TO MILDENBURY

From page 13

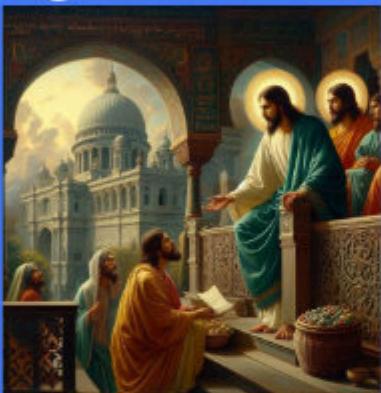
THE MONTHLY Soap-story

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

and I'm still trying to book Sir Nigel too!" Watching the firemen at work on the blaze, the village gossip, Evadne Handley, on hearing the bishop, said to Valerie Showerbridge, "Did you hear that? It looks like a famous actor is coming to Magnum Silencium!"

A Bible thought

In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you John 14:2



Messy Church

Messy Birthday Party

Saturday 19th October, 3-5pm

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140th ANNIVERSARY Celebration

★ Sunday 20th October ★

10.30am

140th Anniversary Celebration Meeting

led by our Territorial Leaders, Commissioners Paul & Jenine Main

12.15pm

Launch of the Jeremiah Homes Project

1.00pm

Shared lunch

please sign up to bring something to share!

The Salvation Army, Raikes Parade, FY1 4EL

For more information, please contact 01253 626114 / blackpool@salvationarmy.org.uk



Est. 1884

Faithful friends are ready for retirement

Shura have pastored the small church in Borguslavets since it was built almost 30 years ago, and have also had responsibility for outreach in the more remote villages of Zorivka and Lukashivka. Every year they have hosted Easter camps, summer camps and Christmas parties for children, women's meetings, and so much more. They have seen the congregation steadily grow, and have baptised many new believers over the years.



When they first moved to Borguslavets with the younger four of their five children, the church was meeting in homes while Sasha and some faithful brothers and sisters built the house of prayer with their own hands. From the beginning the church has faced much persecution from the local orthodox priest



and community, but in recent times that has eased off and unity has been forged between these churches as they have come together to serve the local military and those impacted by the war since February 2022.



Alongside this Sasha and Shura have both faced major health issues. Shura is diabetic and has to be very vigilant in managing her blood sugar levels. Meanwhile Sasha has undergone two major surgeries since the start of the year, including one on his heart, and may need further operations in the coming months. The church building at Borguslavets is now 25 years old and is beginning to need some repairs, particularly to the roof. Sasha is very keen to get the repairs done as he would like to step down and pass the church into the hands of a new leader, and it would be wonderful to do this with the building in the best condition possible. As Sasha and Shura are both well into their retirement

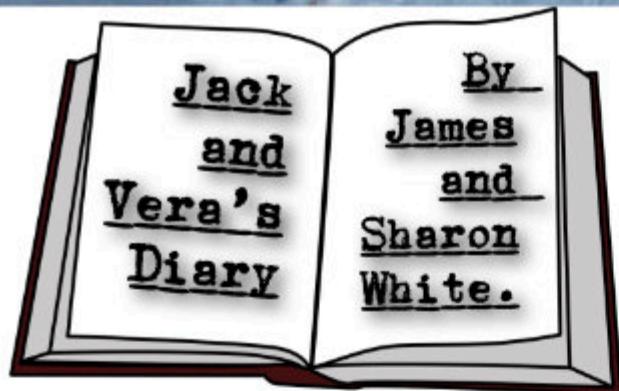


years, we are also hopeful that they will soon be able to hand over the leadership reins.



A man named Vitaly is interested in the possibility of taking on the role but is still considering the impact this would have on his family, as they would have to move from the town where they currently live to Borguslavets.

Please join us in prayer for Sasha and Shura, for continued recovery and strength to do their work; and for Vitaly, that God would show him clearly what his next steps should be.



Today we find Jack and Vera in the back yard of their terraced home. Vera is bringing Jack a cup of tea into their green house. It's custom built by Jack and is larger than normal almost filling the entire yard, in which they grow strawberries, tomatoes and cucumbers in pots on the plating tables and along the roof grows a grape vine which springs from an opening in the floor in one corner. On the other side in a large pot grows a Sassafras tree surrounded by burdock and dandelions. Empty bottles await Jack production of his homemade and legendary dandelion and burdock cordial. Two large deck chairs take some room up with a table sat between that Vera sets the tea down on and sits next to Jack. "Thanks V did you bring the biscuit tin?" Jack asks as he continues to read his book of the psalms. "It's under the table." Vera responds returning to that week's chick-lit

novel. A contented silence falls around them, only broken by the soft patter of gentle late summer rain on the glass roof. Jack gives Vera's hand a tap and points to a very cheeky Robin that has flown in through the open door only to steal a ripe berry. "Another strawberry thief" Vera comments and the cheeky bird flutters off with a broken piece of berry in his beak. Jack chuckles and rises from his chair and removes the broken berry from its stem and throws it through the open door. While on his feet he fishes out the biscuit tin and places three chocolate digestives on the table next to his cup. He immediately sees Vera reach out to steal one which Jack just replaces. As Jack stoops down to put back the biscuit tin he hears a low rumble, He becomes aware of this sound and also feels through his feet the earth begins to tremor. The glass panes around start to rattle as they shake with the growing intensity of the quake. Jack and Vera look at each other with a sense of dread realising that they are surrounded by dangerous and delicate glass. As they gaze around themselves locked in this fear the glass starts to crack. As suddenly as it started it stops and all goes silent. Still fuelled by adrenalin Jack takes Vera's hand helping her out of her chair and the quickly exit the green house. In the yard they are greeted with the sound of many home and car alarms sounding at which Jess runs to Jack claws her way up into his arms meowing loudly. As normality begins to return Vera hears the phone ringing and rushes into the house retrieving her phone as Jack pulls Jess off him as he begins to inspect the green house and then the rear of their home for damage. To his relief the house is untouched but the green house has three cracked glass panels. Vera steps back into the yard "Its Janet, she's ok just well a bit shaken. I've checked the front of the house nothing seems broken, what was that, Jack?" Jack takes his phone off the floor of the green house and checks the local news "The local group chat has Trevor saying it was a magnitude 3.8 earthquake!" He answers to which Vera just grabs Jack and they hold each other tightly. After a tender kiss and a look of reassurance Jack gives Vera he says "Well there's a lesson brought to life. 'Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.' That was the last line of Psalm 46 I read before it all kicked off!" "Oh Jack," Vera chuckles pushing Jack's shoulder. Jack continues "Well everyone's checking in on my phone as ok but shocked and surprised not much is broken and everything seems ok." "Same for me." Vera responds looking at her phone. "Can we get back to our nice afternoon now Jack?" "Yes the greenhouse seems ok I'll have to replace three panels but they're ok for now." With that they return to their chairs, the tea still warm in the cups, even the biscuits are still on the table. Settling in their chairs and draining their cups they return to their books and as Jack continues to read Psalm 46, he can do nothing but give a prayer of thanksgiving for their safety after reading 'Be still and know that I am God.' To which both give a very heartfelt Amen.

Anne Marie Present

Monday 18th November 10am - 2pm

**Free Entry
Tea Coffee
and snacks**

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Tues 21st Nov & Tues 10th Dec 7pm

Anne Marie's
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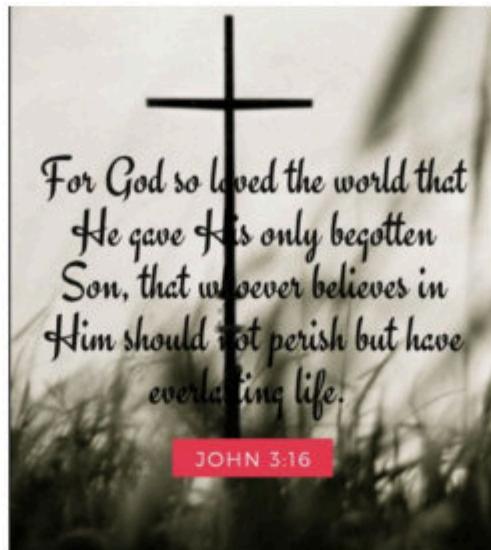
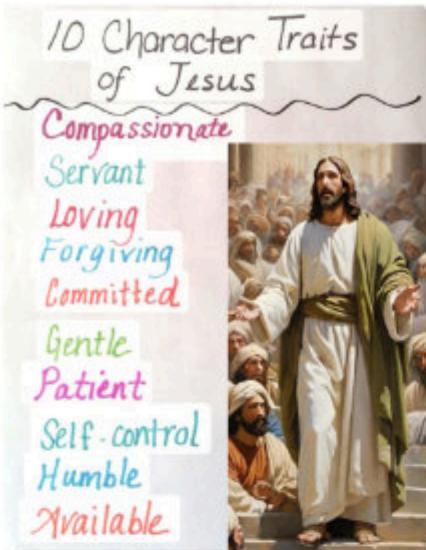
Includes refreshments
Mince Pies & Mulled Wine

TICKETS £25 ONLY

Bring your own gloves!!!

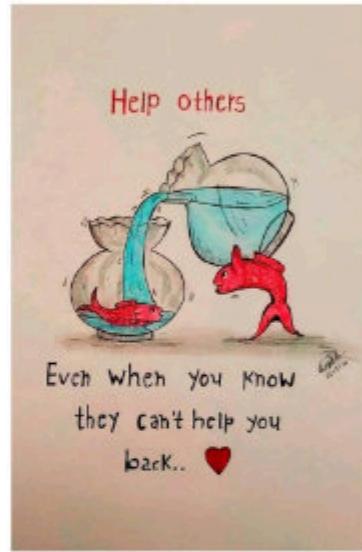
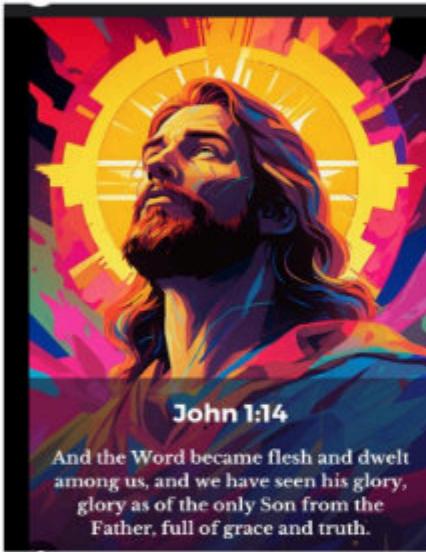
St Christopher's Parish Church Hawes Side Lane Blackpool

Mark Gordon St Christopher with St Nicholas



Love is patient,
love is kind,
it does not envy,
it does not boast,
it is not proud,
it is not selfish,
it is not angry,
it keeps no record of wrong,
it hates evil,
it loves truth,
love never fails.

- 1 Corinthians 13:4-8



BISPHAM BLESSINGS!



exactly is a sin. It was decided that if you break one of the 10 Commandments that that is a sin and burden for you to carry. To demonstrate how sins can spread and be a burden also, we put a blob of syrup on the palm of our hands and carried on chatting. Within minutes, it was spreading, on their clothes, in their hair, on the carpet and their face. .oh how it spread!

My daughter Jade works at a children's nursery and last week they discovered a hedgehog trapped in a fence. Upon freeing him and assessing that he was injured, I had the lovely job of taking him to the Hedgehog Rescue on St Anne's Road, to be looked after. The children had named him Thursday and it was lovely to see one of God's creatures, so close up.

Bye for now and Blessings from myself, Debbie, and all at Bispham URC.

Debbie Gregson writes...

Hello there from Bispham United Reformed Church. I am one of the Sunday School leaders, along with Marjorie and Jade. Before COVID we had a few more children than we have now, but we have two lovely teenage girls who attend regularly.

Last week we were talking about SIN and what



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

Christmas Tree Festival

CHRISTMAS FAIR 11AM - 3PM
SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER

Christmas Fayre

Come & Meet SANTA!

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Tombola Cake Stall Christmas Craft Stalls Raffle

St Christopher's Parish Centre
Hawes Side Lane

Saturday 9th November 7.30pm

Windmill Players
present
Their annual Murder Mystery

Death at Meadowbrook Farm

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



The Windmill
Players

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

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

Prize for the winning team.

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

TICKETS £10

Light Supper included
Bring your own alcohol
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Chapel Shackle

There's a sharp intake of breath from her when I ring her with the hymns ...
the organist from the chapel who orchestrates such things.

"Well, they'll not know the first one - it's not even in our book!"

And the next one's not that easy, but I suppose I'll take a look".

I try smiling saying "thank you", hoping it sounds fine;
but the reality is different as I grimace down the line.

"And besides", she adds acerbically, "there's not many go to church, we've lost
a few quite recently ... just fallen off their perch."

Yes, it's just the single service, but it's evening you see,
so once they draw their curtains, they sit down to watch TV".

I ask if there's a screen to help the people read,
once she had stopped laughing, she was ready to proceed.
"No"! She says emphatically, "there's nowt at all like that -
you'll need to think simplistically, and chat to steward Pat,
'coz when the preacher came last month he'd brought a three-pin plug.
Pat looked at it suspiciously - with an apathetic shrug.
'You should have said you were bringing that', Pat stated categorically.
Hands on hips, she stared him down, displaying her seniority".

"OK", I said, on the phone that day to this irate musician; this
call was rather difficult and I was struggling to listen. "Well,
are you up for playing then - or is it a waste of time?" She
said "well no, because it's you, I think it will be fine" ... for I
used to be a regular when I was vicar there - especially at
Harvest time and at their Christmas fair.

I thanked her for her patience, as I slotted in hymn swaps.

I have to say that on the day she pulled out all the stops.



Thanks to the Rev John Morton

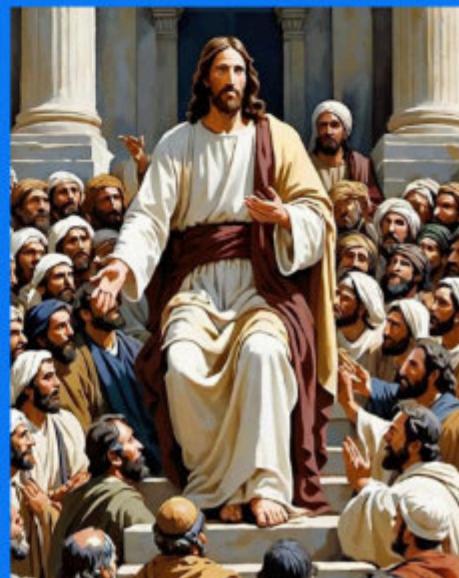
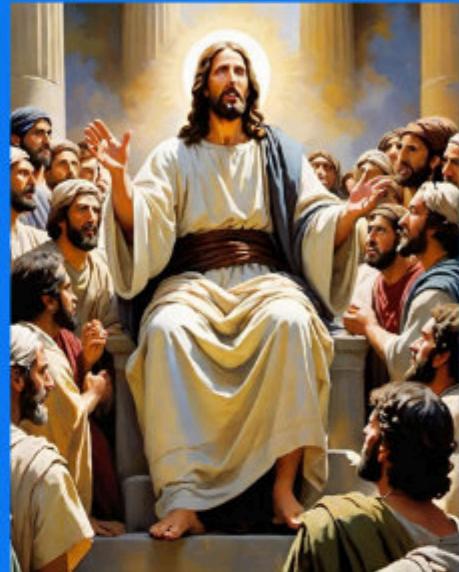


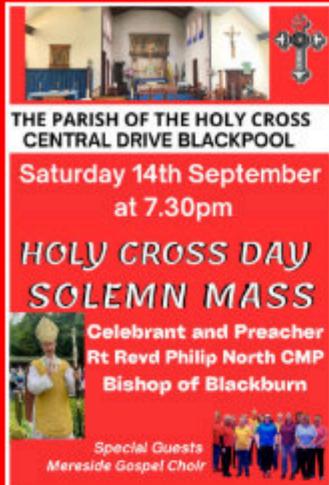
FYLD CONCERT ORCHESTRA
CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Sunday 15th December at 6pm

Another Bible thought

Mark 12-35 "While Jesus was teaching in the temple courts, he asked, "Why do the teachers of the law say that the Messiah is the son of David?"





The Vicar of Stiffkey John Creagan writes

It's not often you hear about a Church of England priest being defrocked, certainly not for fraternising with prostitutes, and even less so then ending up being mauled to death by a lion called Freddie, but that's exactly what happened to Harold Davidson, more commonly known as the Rector of Stiffkey.

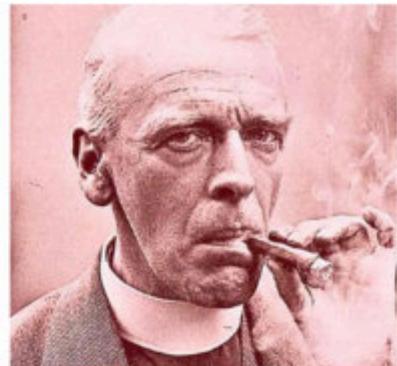
Davidson (July 14 1875-July 30 1937), who had a brief career on the London stage before his ordination in 1903, became rector of the north Norfolk parish of Stiffkey with Morston in 1906. He'd fallen on his feet – the role came with a large Georgian rectory, an income of £503 per year, rising to £800 during his incumbency, and 60 acres of cultivated land. This at a time when the population of around 350 was impoverished.

The villagers referred to him as 'Little Jimmy', on account of his 5 feet 3-inch stature, but the local gentry liked him less – particularly the main landowner Colonel Groom who was rebuked by Davidson for keeping a mistress. The rector married Molly Saurin and children were born regularly, but Davidson began to spend much of the week in London, engaged in social work and as chaplain to the Actors' Church Union which gave him occasion to go backstage in West End theatres, ministering to the needs of showgirls. He expanded this work to Paris, acting as a chaperone for dancers at the Folies Bergère.

Many out of work and would-be actresses were invited to stay at the Stiffkey rectory, often as many as twenty at a time, much to the consternation of the local landowners who feared for the morals of their farmhands. At the outbreak of the first world war aged 39, Davidson joined the Royal Navy as a chaplain, and in 1916 found himself in the Middle East on HMS Fox where he was arrested by the naval police during a raid on a Cairo brothel. He explained he was looking for a diseased prostitute who had been infecting the ship's men.

He quickly resumed his pre-war routine of spending the week in London, leaving early on Monday and returning late on Saturday in time for Sunday services. Rural trains weren't always reliable though, and sometimes he'd fail to arrive. The self-styled 'Prostitutes' Padre' focused his attention on waitresses at the capital's many teashops, which were hugely popular at the time. There is little evidence that Davidson behaved indecently, but Blythe continued, 'The Reverend Mr Davidson's downfall ... was girls. Not a girl, not five or six girls even, not a hundred, but the entire tremulous universe of girlhood. Shingled heads, clear cheeky eyes, nifty legs, warm, blunt-fingered workaday hands, most importantly, good strong healthy teeth, besotted him.' When he asserted to the Bishop of Norwich that his 'Prostitutes' Padre' moniker was 'the proudest title that a true priest of Christ can hold', his boss was less convinced and hired a private detective to follow the reverend around the seamy streets of Soho. Despite not finding any credible evidence, Davidson was found guilty of five charges of immoral conduct and defrocked in 1932. At the consistory court, his defence wasn't helped by the prosecution having a photograph of him with a near-naked teenage girl.

The former rector protested his innocence and to raise funds turned himself into a seaside performer, protesting his innocence by conducting a hunger strike in a barrel at Blackpool, pretending to be roasted on a spit by the devil and appearing in Skegness as Daniel in a den of real lions for the self-styled 'Captain' Fred Rye's animal-themed show. One night this went terribly wrong when he accidentally stood on the tail of a lion called Freddie and was mauled to death. So many onlookers came to Davidson's funeral at Stiffkey churchyard on August 3 that they had to take vantage points on walls, roofs and in trees. In Skegness, Rye saw the tragic death as a business opportunity – crowds flocked to see Freddie, now known as 'The Actual Lion that Mauled and Caused the Death of the Ex-Rector of Stiffkey'.



Well done to Fr Martin and Mike Downer with Asher the dog raising £225 for church funds and the Additional Curates Society

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