

JULY 2024

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SEE JESUS, SHARE JESUS!

PARISH PUMP

A MAGAZINE PRODUCED BY CHRISTIANS IN BLACKPOOL



**St Cuthbert's Island Lindisfarne Rev Andy Halstead
The Methodist Church Blackpool**

Sponsored by St Christopher with St Nicholas Church

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

Photo chosen by Keith Tuck



SPONSORED BY ST CHRISTOPHER WITH ST NICHOLAS CHURCH



St Christopher with St Nicholas Church

Parish Priest : Fr Martin Daniels SSC
01253 697937

Curate : Fr Ian Rushton 07539 385076

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

Registered Charity :
No 1130654 CCL 141889

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

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

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contact Bob on bobblackpool@gmail.com*

The magazine is produced by a team of volunteers. Opinions given in articles etc may not always reflect the views of the team and information given about organisations does not imply endorsement. The team is happy to pass on any enquiries.

**Visiting
Parish
Website**

Scan QR Code



The Leading your Church into Growth Prayer

God of Mission

Who alone brings growth to your

Church, Send your Holy Spirit to give

Vision to our planning,

Wisdom to our actions,

Joy to our worship,

And power to our witness.

Help our church grow in numbers,

In spiritual commitment to you,

And in service to our local community,

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

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



We all have a story
a tale to be told
of the joys we've experienced and
the hardships we've known
Sometimes we wear them
on our sleeves for all to see but
often they're hidden
as deep as they can be.
So, let us be kind
for we never truly know
the struggles and the battles
that others undergo.
May empathy and compassion be
the guiding lights we share and
may we always remember that
each story deserves care. For in our
human journey
we all need love and grace so, let
us be kind to one another and
create a better place.
Michelle Harverson

Thanks to Margaret Payne St Christopher with St Nicholas

A MONTH'S GOOD READ!

Deadline for August edition
12th July 2024



Layton Methodist Church



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

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

St John Vianney

The Parish of the Guardian Angels Catholic Church



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

St Cuthbert

The Parish of the Guardian Angels Catholic Church



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

Bispham United Reformed Church



Family Worship Sunday 10.45
Holy Communion 3rd Sunday

St Paul's Worship Centre

North Shore Egerton Road



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

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

Freedom Church Mereside

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



Blackpool Salvation Army Citadel

Raikes Parade



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

South Shore

Methodist Community Church Avenue
Scarsdale Avenue



Sunday 10.30am

Our Lady of the Assumption

The Parish of the Guardian Angels
Catholic Church Common Edge Road



Vigil Mass Saturday 6pm
The Parish Mass Sunday 10.30am
With Children's Liturgy
Weekdays Tuesday & Thursday 9.30 am

The Parish of Holy Cross

Central Drive



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

St Anne's, Greenlands

'The Round Church' Salmesbury Avenue



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

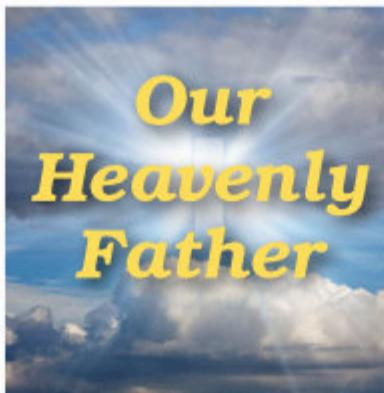
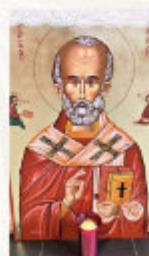


Photo Yut Mekthoop



Please Sponsor a Lamp



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



What is poetry if it isn't meant to rhyme?

I wonder what I'll write for this my second line.

The meter may be off kilter, perhaps a little askew ...

but I never count my syllables, so that is nothing new.

Some will argue that prose form is an art, so forcing lines to rhyme is infantile and lacks creative heart.

My poem Shakespeare is Nonsense created quite a stir.

I was branded a Philistine - a literary saboteur.

Yet in my writing group some agree with me, their poems also rhyme, you see, so I think that's rather key.

But when I post my poems away to try and win a prize,

I hear nothing more - there's no feedback to advise.

What I've noticed, though, is winning poems don't rhyme,

So I may stand a chance with this my final bit.



The Parish of the Guardian Angels



**Fr Chris
Loughran**
Parish Priest

For fifteen years I was involved with a community that supported, in the main, young men trying to overcome reliance on drugs. The Community has its origins in the north of Italy in a town called Saluzzo. This is where a little Italian nun, Elvira Petrossi, was moved by God to reach out to the young men she saw on the streets each day in her trips to the market (she was the cook in the convent). Eventually after many years of requests to her superiors, she was allowed to try (*ad experimentum*) to reach out to these lads.

The local commune (Town Council) gave her a ramshackle, dilapidated property at the top of the hill of Saluzzo and there was born the Cenacolo Community. She call it 'Cenacolo' (in English, Cenacle) because that was the place where Christ ate his Last Supper, where Mary and the Apostles prayed after the Resurrection and where the Holy Spirit manifested himself at Pentecost.

As she and a couple of others began to repair the property, the young men began to arrive and the restoration of that dilapidated property became a metaphor for the restoration of these young men. At first Sr Elvira offered simply a place to stay but it soon dawned on her that the lads were hungering for something more when they began to join her each morning for prayer and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

It was from this small beginning that the Community grew and grew. Now it has houses throughout the world reaching out to those who are distressed and enfolding them in a new way of living. The three tenets of the Community are: friendship, work and prayer. There are separate houses for men and women. The proposal on entry is for up to a three year stay. It had often taken many years for these boys and girls to have reached rock bottom and it requires sufficient time in the Community to learn to live a new way of life; a clean life, one that puts the 'other' first.

At the end of the period some of the boys and girls wishing to 'give something back' go and work for a while on the Missions. These are houses in south America and Liberia where orphaned children are cared for. Some of the lads have gone on to study for the priesthood. There are now 12 priests in the Community and there is also an order of Religious Sisters born out of the Community: Sisters of the Resurrection.

Sadly, the house in the UK which was at Dodding Green near Kendal, as had to close due to a combination of COVID and Brexit. As an international community, the boys and girls used to transfer between houses. This became very problematic with visa restrictions post-Brexit.

The Cenacolo Charity in the UK now 'signposts' enquirers either to the House in Knock, Ireland or to one of the other continental houses.

Each year around the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, the day when Sr Elvira entered the property in Saluzzo, there is a three day Festival of Life celebrating the great work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the men and women of the Community who embody the strapline: *From Darkness to Light*.



The 4th of July isn't just American Independence Day this Year, it will be the Day of a General Election: Given the current political situation and ideological ones in our County, I think I do need to say something about it, with a Theological bent of course. I'm a firm believer that, on the day the General Election was called, probably 80% of the people of this Country had already made up their mind about which way they were going to vote. I have to say, I am one of them, whereby even if every candidate for Parliament calls at my door, they will be told they won't persuade me, and that I made up my mind well before the election was called. That would leave 20% of "floating voters" and I'm probably wrong about the figure of 80%, but you know what I'm getting at. At a time when our culture, way of life and even our democratic rights are being threatened either by ideologies, foreign pressures, anarchists or basically by people who are either ignorant, or simply don't care, it would be a good thing to turn to the Lord for a bit of guidance and to respect what God might be saying to us.

The Prophet Isaiah says that God's ways are not our ways, (Is. 55:8-9) and you might say then "How can we know His ways if they aren't ours?" There will always be times when we may question what God is doing - yet when God is doing things we don't understand, we should respect it for God is determined to do it (Ps 119: v15).

If we want to be walking closer with God, we have to accept his precepts and instructions, and respect for what He has done. At a time when our Judeo- Christian laws seem to be being knocked on the head one by one, into some kind of post-modernist soup, it would be worthwhile praying and meditating what kind of constructive change would be brought about by a shift of government. It would not be right or proper for me to suggest what any of you should do at the ballot box, but I do believe this is an opportunity to make God's ways known again in our nation, if we have to mind to do it. Christians are being marginalised even in our own Country, but it's no good just complaining about it, we have to be do-ers and not just hearers of the word (James 1:22-25). Too often, even some 'Christians' just dismiss certain sections of the Scriptures they don't like as unintelligible, or cherry pick the bits they do like, or ignore the precepts they don't care for. So the answer? Meditate and pray that the Lord will once again be our guide in our Society, that collectively it can be blessed once again as we turn afresh to Him, for he is able to do more than we can ask or achieve by our own strength (Eph 3:20). As Steve Haskett said to our LyCIG representatives before our Mission weekend last month; "If you don't pray about it, you won't get it anyway". Love and blessings to all of you. Fr. Martin

**Fr Martin
Daniels SSC**
**St Christopher
with
St Nicholas**

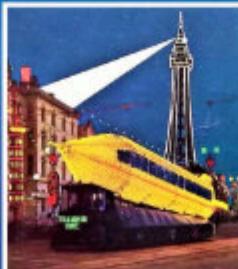


PLEASE SPONSOR US TO WALK THE LIGHTS



Sponsorship Form at the back of church

**TUESDAY 10TH
SEPTEMBER AT 6PM**



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



In aid of church funds and the
Additional Curates Society

Donuts & Coffee
at Bispham Tram Station
Cafe afterwards

CHATTERBOX CHURCH
goes to
HOLLYWOOD

Come and meet our Special Guests!



**FROM SUNDAY
15TH SEPTEMBER
TO SUNDAY
15TH DECEMBER**
every third Sunday

NEWS FROM FREEDOM CHURCH MERESIDE

Experience
Over 50's
but all welcome

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

come and learn and share life experiences

Join us: Mondays 1:30-3pm
Freedom Centre
Langdale Road
FY4 4RT
Info: Sue.taylor63@hotmail.com

**SHINE
SENSORY
CHURCH**
Exploring Through the Senses

All age
INCLUSIVE
sensory play
based learning of
The Gospel

9:30-11:00
LAST SATURDAY OF
THE MONTH

Freedom Centre, Langdale Road
Mereside, FY4 4RT

**BANNER
MAKING**

Let's get crafty together using different skills
materials and mediums
knitting, crochet, sewing, quilting.

3rd Friday of the month
9:30am
Freedom Centre, Langdale Road

Holy Communion

1ST SUNDAY OF
EVERY MONTH

12PM
AT
CHERRY TREE
COMMUNITY CENTRE

All Welcome



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

Freedom Family Service

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

Service at 2:30pm



All Welcome

WHAT: All Age Holy Communion

WHEN: 2nd Sunday of the month

WHERE: Freedom Church @ the Freedom Centre



Bible Discussion Group

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



WHEN
Wednesdays
(unless otherwise stated)

TIME
7pm - 8:30pm

WHERE
Freedom Church

@ Freedom Church Centre

freedomcentre

MARTHA'S KITCHEN
OPENING TIMES

MONDAY TO FRIDAY
8.45 am
to
1pm

Holy Communion
12 noon on
Thursdays

**Morning
Prayer
at 9.30am
everyday**



The Minister

Rev Andy Halstead

Layton, New Central and
South Shore Methodist
Community Church

The Methodist Church

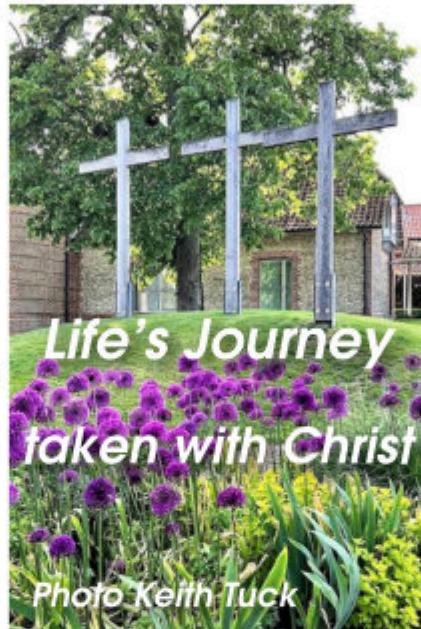
Layton, New Central and South Shore Methodist Community Church

I wonder what you make of the story of Noah, was there really a guy who built a huge boat and took two of every living creature into until the flood has passed. Well, the reality is there are people in both camps those who believe the story happens just as the Old Testament says and those who see it more of a theological story to reveal something about God. But here's the thing. Noah would not have known about light refraction. You know what light refraction is don't you? Well in case you need an update it is when the visible light we see is broken into the colours which make it up. Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo and Violet.

You see for me I know the science I know the colours I see in the rainbow are just the white light broken into its various colours. But then when I see a rainbow I don't think about the science I think about the promises of God. In a hymn by Graham Kendrick he writes this 'He walked where I walk He stood where I stand He felt what I feel He understands He knows my frailty Shared my humanity God with us, so close to us God with us, Immanuel!' Life's journey is taken with Christ. So, whatever you face in life today remember the promises of God.

The rainbow shot across the sky reminds us of his ever presence and faithfulness, in each day of our life.

Amen Andy



YARN BE HAPPY CLOSE KNIT COMMUNITY

Knit, Craft and natter group
Layton Methodist Church

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

Cost: donations towards the materials

ALL WELCOME,
BEGINNERS TO
ADVANCED

WOOL & NEEDLES
CAN BE PROVIDED

Contact Diane for more information
Email: diane@stitchknit.co.uk
07879 455316
www.laytonmethodist.org.uk



Charity No. 1194986

Deacon Sue Donim writes...



Hello everyone

There was a new family that had just moved into town. Their son came to Sunday School but seemed upset. His teacher asked him if anything was wrong. The boy replied no, that he was going to go fishing but his dad told him that he needed to go to church instead. The teacher was very impressed with the boy's parents and asked the boy if his father had explained to him why it was more important to go to church than to go fishing. The boy replied, "Yes he did. My dad said that he didn't have enough bait for both of us."

Shalom Deacon Sue Donim

An Inclusive Service of Holy Communion Layton Methodist Church

Sunday 28th July 6.30 pm

ALL ARE WELCOME



New Central Methodist Church

"The church by the Tower"

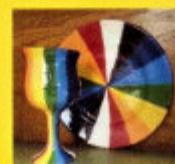
In town? Need a coffee or tea?

Why
Not visit
10am-3pm
Tuesday-Saturday
Volunteers
very welcome

NEW CENTRAL
CAFE



'Come to the Table'





Diane Moden

As we travel round, we find a lot of sites tend to be located outside the towns or villages on our route, and without our trusty bikes visiting these places would be very difficult. Holland, we find is a cyclist's dream, with dedicated cycle lanes adjacent to every road, and miles of dedicated cycle routes along the coast and through the nature reserves. And as we found out cyclists have right of way at most junctions and roundabouts, which for us was extremely nerve racking especially in the first week or so.

During our 4 weeks in Holland, we managed to cycle over 200 miles, which for us was amazing, and gave us additional freedom to roam around and find hidden treasures. One of my favourite trips was the day after the Keukenhof gardens, we followed the cycle lane from our camp site towards the coast, and then found one of the dedicated cycle routes. This followed the coastline for over 30 miles, the additional beauty of this trip was that the cycle path at times would veer into the nature reserve on the opposite side from the beach, bringing us very close to nature and the local deer. And for Ian the bonus of finding a bar part way round for a quick beer or two.

We did find as we cycled more and more, that they also have cycle cafes on many of the routes, not only for refreshments and comfort breaks, but also having cycle repair stations, should you encounter a problem (or need to charge your battery). These were a very welcome stop for us and we frequented a good few along the way.

Kizzie adores being in the basket on the front of my bike, and loves being able to see where we are going, she also loves the attention she gets from passing cyclists who often stop for a tickle or cuddle when we stop, she also at times becomes a "film star" with many people wanting a photo with her. Sadly,



A beautiful spot for lunch



THE MINISTER
Rev Andy Halstead

The food & Culture tour - Part 3 Cycling



her basket started to show signs of wear and tear after so many miles so we had to look for a replacement.

Holland bike facts:

There are over 23.9 million bikes, with a population of around 17.6 million, averaging 1.4 bikes per person 😊

There is over 153 thousand kilometres of cycle paths, versus 139 thousand kilometres of roads.

The longest cycle route is 786.37km long and goes by all the heritage sites in Holland.



**SOUTH SHORE METHODIST
COMMUNITY CHURCH**



Mayfield Avenue Blackpool FY4 2NT

COME AND JOIN US!

Sunday Church Service 10.30-11.30

Warm welcome to everyone, coffee served after the service

Tuesday Coffee Morning 10.15-11.30

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

Tuesday Prayer Group 9.30-10.15

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

Wednesday Youth Club 6pm-7.15

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

Friday Knit & Natter 10am-12noon

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

Now That's What I Call Fridays 11.30-3.30

Arts & Craft Group for adults with special needs

Contact Dave or Phil 07359239031

For more information

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

Coffee Morning

**Tuesdays at 10.15
Everyone Welcome**



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

**SOUTH SHORE METHODIST
COMMUNITY CHURCH**



Mayfield Avenue Blackpool



**10-12
Fridays**



**Wool and needles
available for
a donation**

Tea and coffee £1

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





Fr Michael Fish SSC
Parish Priest Holy Cross Parish Church
Blackpool

Unfortunately, the permanent diaconal order has, to a large extent disappeared although some do still exist in the Roman Catholic, Anglican and Methodist churches.

This is unfortunate because deacons perform a very real, incarnational ministry in the church. The office of deacon is described in the first letter of Timothy (3:1-13). They were originally chosen to assist with the charitable work of the church. The load had become too great for the apostles and assistance was required in the more practical aspects of ministry. The detail is to be found in Acts 6 : 3 Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them 4 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

So, you will see that the office of deacon is very ancient, venerable and of great importance to the church. Deacons are often placed in places such as hospitals, social care settings etc where there is a real need for practical ministry. Priests should never forget that they were ordained deacon before priest and that ethos of loving service should follow through their ministry. However, just like the apostles + modern day red tape means most priests and ministers are hard pressed and more and more of the diaconal work falls on 'willing' volunteers within the church.

Just like the early church, with St Stephen, Holy Cross Parish, runs a soup kitchen and foodbank every Saturday evening 4.30-6pm. Along with other churches and the Salvation Army we try to alleviate the need of those less fortunate than ourselves. So, the appeal is this - inspired by the works of the early church, the examples of Stephen and Phoebe (Romans 16:1-2) we serve the community of Blackpool. However, just like the early church we need willing volunteers to help us in our mission(s). Please support us in our work that we are called to do in the name of Jesus Christ. I am sure if you contact any of the priests/ministers/officers in this Parish Pump they will be only too happy to accept your support. The need is real.

Please consider helping, even if only for an hour. With every blessing, Fr Michael



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

**Pilgrimage
to
Ladyewell**



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

Dear friends,

20 years ago, on the feast of S. Thomas, I was ordained into Holy Orders as a deacon in Blackburn Cathedral by the Rt Revd Nicholas Reade. He had not long been consecrated as the Bishop of Blackburn and I became one of his first deacons. If you look at the Acts of the Apostles you will read about the church's first deacons being ordained by the apostles - St Stephen being the more famous one. St Francis of Assisi was also a deacon.

Normally, when a person wishes to become a priest, they have to serve a while as a deacon beforehand. These are called transitional deacons before they become priests. Originally the office of deacon was a separate order and there would be permanent deacons serving the church.



Holy Cross Parish Church
Central Drive Blackpool

Summer
Fayre

Saturday 6th July
1030-1330.

Games, Stalls, Raffle, Tombola, Refreshments, Bouncy Castle, ... and more



**Love God
Love Others**

**Lt Colonel
John Pearce-Haydon**

At the feet of a saint

HIS face was gaunt, rather like a character from an El Greco canvas. Yet it held me, not because of its surface beauty but because the gauntness emphasised the look in his eyes. They burned with an intensity of purpose and his gaze seemed to penetrate beyond the earthly to the heavenly.

He was, however, a man of the people, giving all his time and energy to their needs. The largeness of his frame, once erect but now stooped, was bent like a branch which had seen many winters. This was the testimony to the physical demands made upon this man through the years.

Permission

He was a man of most gracious demeanour, often requesting permission to transact the most trivial of business. His quiet enquiry belied the steel of gentleness which was his strength.

It was my privilege to hear him speak in public on three occasions. The first was an officers' residential council. The subject was the preaching of the word. He became a man possessed, as his customary gentle voice became one of authoritative power, and we were left in no doubt as to what he saw to be one of the prime functions of his life. His fervour compelled all of us to do better with our own preparation and proclamation.

Retirement

The next time I heard him speak was again at officers' councils held at Swanwick in the year of his retirement. He told of his early days as an uneducated youth who experienced much of the world's sin. He spoke of his conversion and his years of service as a Salvation Army officer—years which included sharing with his people the tragedy of Aberfan. His voice was gentle but the man became the message; we listened with rapt attention and not a few had tears in their eyes as they shared company with a loyal servant of Jesus Christ.

**Character
cameos by
Major John
Pearce - Haydon**

The last occasion was a divisional holiness meeting. This man chose to preach about the love of God. His words seemed so simple yet they were profound. His voice rose and fell, persuading by its inflection that to hold the love of God in our hearts was the greatest necessity in life. He turned to one side as in his enthusiasm he emphasised a truth, and I had opportunity to see his face. Its gauntness remained but it was a face made luminous by his holiness. In the still silence which remained at the conclusion of his address I looked on him and saw the Christ.

God, in that most precious of moments, revealed to me that I had experienced something rare. I had sat at the feet of a saint.

**{ GOD IS
LOVE.
WHOEVER
LIVES
IN LOVE
LIVES
IN GOD
AND GOD
IN THEM.
-1 JOHN 4:16**



When he spoke they listened

HE was small limbed, of medium build and with a sallow complexion which conveyed a man of fragility. He seemed even less than ordinary.

But his Christian commitment was total, being demonstrated by many years of faithful service, some of them fraught with difficulty. This unassuming and very private man had the knack of always being where he was needed at the right time.

Responsibilities

He was a local leader of a Salvation Army corps, with administrative responsibilities. He kept very much in the background. His contemporaries were most capable, highly intelligent and employed in demanding and responsible situations. They were people who wanted and expected things to happen quickly and if they didn't then they moved heaven and earth to ensure that they did.

By contrast he was a store-keeper, and to the ignorant observer appeared slow and incapable of swift decision and movement. He rarely spoke, but his words had a quiet calm effect. His

**Character
cameos by
Major John
Pearce - Haydon**

colleague Christian peers accepted his unassertive spiritual authority without question.

I well remember the evening when a most emotive subject was being discussed with raised voices. Then, when the clamour for a decision was at its peak, he spoke. Total silence descended upon the room—his counsel accepted.

I commenced this cameo by saying he seemed to be even less than ordinary. On reflection he was extraordinary. A man of pure gold—his eyes shone with transparent goodness. Jesus met a man like him. It is written in the gospel story, 'Jesus saw Nathanael... and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile' (John 1:47 AV).

This Christian taught me one of life's greatest lessons. Efficiency and speed may have their place in Christian service, but to be without guile has a far greater influence and an everlasting effect.

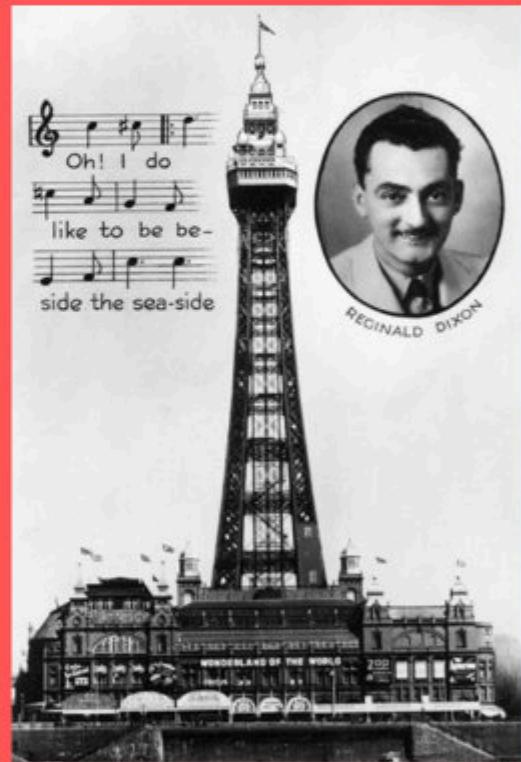




A LOCAL TREASURE!



Right on our own doorstep, the beautiful Tower Ballroom. Bob, our reporter, with Angela Denby recently visited on a Tuesday morning and the atmosphere was electric! Phil Kelsall MBE, Principal Organist, has been resident at the Mighty Wurlitzer Organ since 1977 was playing for dancing in that style made popular by his famous predecessor, Reginald Dixon MBE. He was resident from 1930 to 1970. Phil continues in Reginald Dixon's tradition and it's obvious that it is just as popular now as it was when 'Mr Blackpool' was resident at the Mighty Wurlitzer!! If you haven't been then make a point of going! We are already planning our next visit!



MAGNUM SILENCIUM TO MILDENBURY

THE MONTHLY *soap-story*

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

Doctor William E Sangster?" Angelina replied, "There's a newspaper section in the library and I spent some time looking through the old papers. All I had to do was memorise everything and, being the brilliant actress that I am, it wasn't too difficult. The organist was the famous cinema organist, Reginald Foort, who in the Thirties came to the Congregational Church in the village and officially opened the new organ." Seamus asked, "Ok, and the preacher? Who is he?" Angelina replied, "The Mildenbury Bugle carried the details of the rededication service for the refurbished church in 1925.

The minister in question was the famous Methodist preacher, the Reverend Doctor William E Sangster who was their special guest at the service." Seamus replied, "That's fascinating.

I really think you deserve a slap-up meal for all your hard work. We're nearly at The Bull Inn. It's ages since we've seen Kath and Juan Valencia at The Bull! There's a parking space outside the pub. Let's go for it!"

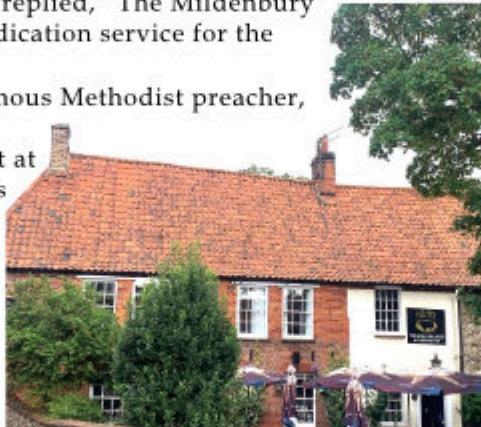
Joan Angus on returning to the lounge said, "I really hope Mrs Tenby will be all right. She looked quite white as she got into their car." Rev Andy replied, "I'm wondering where she got all that information from?" Fr Martin interrupted saying, "I think I can answer that one Andy. Recently, I'd been in the Locomotive Charity Shop and Café in Walsingham Place.

I wanted to meet John Creggan, the new manager. John has just moved into Rosary Villa on Guild Street. While I was there, Jean Greavesley, Chief Librarian at Mildenbury Central Library, and Valerie Showerbridge, her assistant, came in to put up a poster for the Am Dram's latest offering, *The Haunted Café*.

I heard them mention the Tenbys and Jean said that they'd put their names down for parts in the new play. Jean also said that Angelina had spent a whole afternoon checking through old papers. No doubt getting some background for the part she was going to audition for in the play. She had asked about the Puffing Billy café and why was it attached to the vintage railway and its origins. She'd also asked about the churches in the village and especially the converted Congregational Church on Egmore Road. Angelina had been invited there by Joan Angus who owns the new house in what was the church. Joan and Michael had recently joined the dramatic society.

EVEN MORE CURIOUS

Joan Angus was very concerned as she escorted Angelina and Seamus Tenby to the front door. She remarked, "I hope Angelina you will be ok. It's been all too much for you. Maybe now we know where the screaming is coming from. Thank you for coming." As Joan entered the lounge, Beryl Greenside enquired, "Tea anyone?" As Angelina and Seamus drove off in their car he remarked, "You were incredible today my dear." Angelina smiled and replied, "Yes, but it was a very strange audition. Where was Joyce and Deborah Crossley from the Argosy Players?" Seamus said, "I did wonder that too. Andy, the minister, and Fr Martin are on the management committee of the Am Dram Group. Perhaps they were standing in for Joyce and Deborah? I've got to ask you, Angelina, where did you get all the information for your audition?" She laughed and replied, "Oh, that was easy! An afternoon spent in the local history section of Mildenbury Library was very interesting." Seamus, with a puzzled look on his face, enquired, "Who was Reginald, the organist and the Reverend



The play, written by Maureen Jordan DBE, the famous writer, is to have a special preview performance to selected guests at the Puffing Billy Café in September prior to its month's run in October at the Ritz Cinema in Mildenbury. I saw Bob Milliner at Mass last Sunday and already bookings are healthy. It's the local interest caused by our popular vintage railway and the writer who lives in Highfield Cottage in Lane Ends. This has probably generated all the bookings the cinema is receiving! Yut Mekthoop, the cinema manager, also said to me on Sunday that he's monitoring the situation and may extend the play's run. So, I think Mrs Tenby's 'performance' as the medium was a set-up, having got her information from the papers in Mildenbury Library?"

Continues page 35



Major Gerald Nicoll Blackpool Salvation Army

Over the years my wife and I have had the tremendous privilege of visiting Normandy and many of the sites associated with D-Day. Last year we visited the new British

Normandy Memorial at Ver-sur-Mer, its breath taking, humbling and certainly for us a place of deep emotions as your eyes become fixed to each of the columns carrying the 22,442 names of the soldiers that died between 6th June and 31st August 1944 in the battle for Normandy. Young men in the prime of their life, some didn't even make it off the beach, its right to remember because we should never forget their sacrifice, the debt of gratitude we owe them for the freedom that we have been able to enjoy.

On another trip we had visited a war cemetery the pristine white grave stone, row after row, as we looked at some of the stones the first thing that strikes you is the ages of those that died and my wife and I both were stopped in our tracks as we looked at three stones next to each other which carried the names and ages of those who had fallen, what brought us to a standstill? The ages and the realisation that they were the ages of our three sons at that time and of course it made us realise had our boys been around in the war years, that could have been them and I can tell you we certainly shed a few tears. That great verse of scripture comes to mind. ***Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13***



We have visited the Pegasus Bridge Museum again a very moving visit, you are amazed at the precision of the glider forces and how close they landed to their objective capturing the German forces by surprise. Then you are moved as you move around the museum by the personnel items including letters between family members

KIDS' COMMUNITY CHOIR

MONDAYS 5-6PM

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Contact us on blackpool@salvationarmy.org.uk or 01253 626114 for more details



WAR AND PEACE

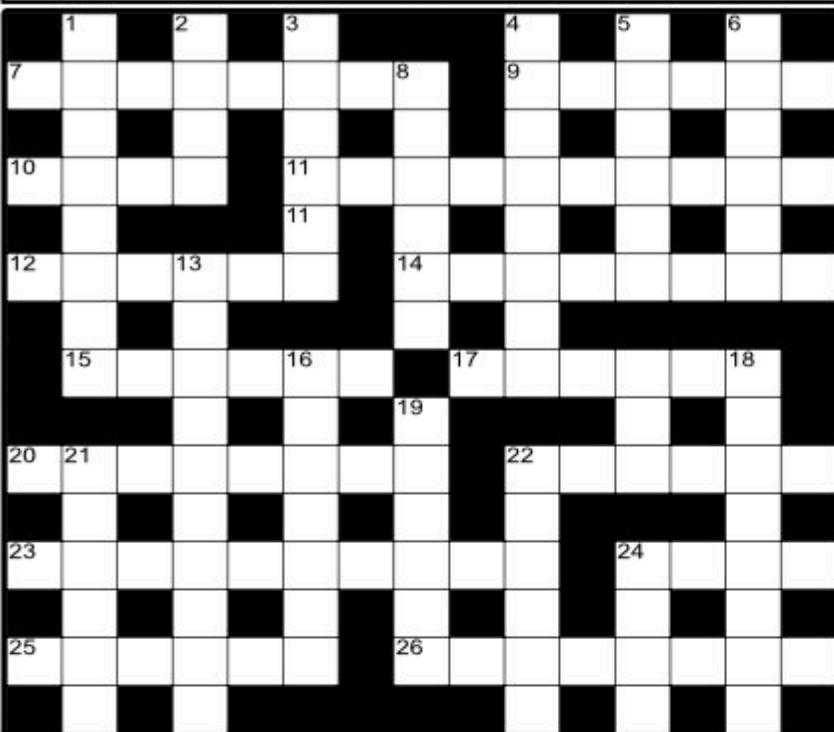


very moving as you get this personal insight. When we hear stories of those veterans that survived, they tell you that they weren't hero's they came back! The heroes in their eyes are the ones who died on the battlefield... they are certainly heroes for me. The other thing they will also say, "is that we should not war, they fought for a lasting peace!" As we look around there are people 80 years on that still advocate war. I often think that it would do many a world leader good to go on their own not with their usual entourage and stand silently among the gravestones of war cemeteries to do as we have done and gaze upon the young lives lost and what one can only describe at the futility of war. Scripture reminds us in Matthew 5:9 (NLT) ***God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God.***



PETER'S PUZZLE

Thanks to Peter Lonsdale



(both sets of clues lead to the same answer)

Clues Across

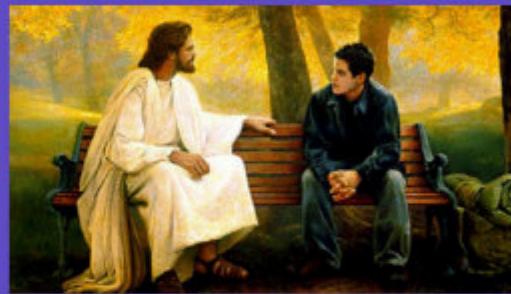
- 7 A Christian follower of Jesus's teachings (8)
- 9 Book 23 T.(6)
- 10 Acts 12: 12 (4)
- 11 This word means "To light up again" (10)
- 12 Ex 28:17 Good News Bible (6)
- 14 French sounding word meaning "To dress" (8)
- 15 Ezra 5: Emperor of Persia (6)
- 17 A promise given of assurance or allegiance (6)
- 20 Eph 6:21 (8)
- 22 Full of delight, happiness or gladness (6)
- 23 Jn 4:39-40 (10)
- 24 7th month (4)
- 25 Adam and Eve was here (2-4)
- 26 This word means to kill by stoning (8)

Clues Down

- 1 Jn 19:26 (8)
- 2 Book 5 N.T. (4)
- 3 Num 24: 2 (6)
- 4 Pertaining to the Book of Books (8)
- 5 Mt 21:8-9 (This celebrated on this day known as) (4-6)
- 6 Another name for a standard or flag (6) 8
- 8 Lk 4:25-26 (prophet) (6)
- 13 Heading towards a compass point (10)
- 16 A sacrament of extreme (7)
- 18 The same in magnitude, number, degree or quality etc (8)
- 19 Lk1: 68 and 80 (6)
- 21 To feel the pain of a longing desire (6)
- 22 Lk 1:27 (6)
- 24 Book 26 N.T. (4)

SYLVIA'S MUSINGS

*Father, You are with me
constantly - help me to find
special times to rest in Your
presence. Daily I need to
take time to be holy. Amen*



Thanks to sylvia Marley from Our Lady's

Alternative clues Across

- 7 Make the clip side disciplined (8)
- 9 Sounds like he has eyes that are higher (6)
- 10 In Greek mythology, their supreme god's name (4)
- 11 In lieu Milner reforms to see the light again (10)
- 12 I leave granite to turn into a gemstone (6)
- 14 To dress a court ace to redress (8)
- 15 Change the radius for this old king of Persia (6)
- 17 Top ledger holds assurance of payment (6)
- 20 Yut's chic around Saint Paul his Christian brother (8)
- 22 Can a kill-joy fully hide the opposite (6)
- 23 This clan became, as smart Ian became (10)
- 24 The month names after Julius Caesar (4)
- 25 The first and last out of nine dens sited in God's garden (2-4)
- 26 Stones thrown piled at a strange quarry (8)

Alternative clues Down

- 1 Put 3 feet onto the end of a vine (8)
- 2 Cats become doers (4)
- 3 Can be holy, can be alcohol (6)
- 4 Of the Good Book (8)
- 5 Hand it to the first day of the week (4-6)
- 6 A standard, flag or ensign (6)
- 8 In jail he became a prophet (6)
- 13 The only direction you can face in from the South Pole (10)
- 16 To anoint with oil (7)
- 18 The same as is almost all in equity (8)
- 19 Real is transformed here (6)
- 21 Feelings of longing desire hidden in this play earns great reviews (6)
- 22 Mary's husband (6)
- 24 The smallest book in the Bible (4)

Answers in the August edition

Across (1) Manna (4) Nineveh (8) Naomi (9) Syria (10) Fain (11) Balefire (13) Iris (14) It is (16) Augustus (17) Bled (20) Isaac (21) Penance (22) Non user (23) Sheoi

Down (1) Manifestation (2) Naomi (3) Abib (4) Nathan (5) Nascent (6) Virgins (7) Heaven and Hell (12) Dissects (13) Ingrain (15) Supper (18) Lance (19) On us

June
ANSWERS

Heavenly Father, give us the faith to look to Jesus crucified and risen from the dead. Faith to see the invisible, and do the impossible; faith invincible in the face of evil and death.

Faith to pass the good news of Jesus to the next generation; faith to live in sustainable ways to bless the earth you created. Faith to take up our cross and follow Jesus all our day until we come to our eternal home. In Jesus name, Amen

May I know peace. Peace in this world. Peace in this country. Peace for my neighbours and my community... Peace for my friends and my family May I know peace in myself, And may I be a giver of peace... As a peacemaker to my friends and family As a peacemaker to my neighbours and my community... As a peacemaker for this city and this country And a peacemaker for this world. A Hope for Peace (Newcastle Chain of Peace)

God of life, we praise you for the beauty of creation, its richness and variety; yet, through greed and ignorance, we scar your world with plastic waste and throw so much away. Make us more like Jesus, treading gently on our common home, and breathe your Spirit on us, that we may care more deeply for your Earth.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Rt Revd Graham Usher.

Bishop of Norwich
and Lead Bishop on the Environment



The baby camel says to his mother, "What large eyelashes you have, Mum" Mum replies, "They are long to keep the sand out of my eyes in case of a sandstorm" The baby then enquires about her very large feet". Mum says "They are large so when I walk over the desert there is less chance of me sinking into the sand" "But Mum" said the young camel "You have two large lumps on your back, what are they therefore" Mum replies "They are there to carry water across the desert, to sustain me for up to eight days, when I cross the desert there is no water to be had" "Well Mum" says the baby camel "What the heck on earth are we doing in Blackpool Zoo?"

Yut's Vision of the Universal Christ



Photo Yut Mekthoop

The cosmic Christ

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

**Brian Gore
South Shore
Methodist
Community
Church**



**The Parish of the Holy Cross
Central Drive Blackpool FY1 6LA**

**The Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham
2024 PROGRAMME**

**Saturday 27th July 10am Mass
with Healing and Wholeness**



**Monday to Friday
2nd - 6th September
Pilgrimage to
Walsingham**



**Saturday 17th August
Parish Pilgrimage
to Ladyewell**

**Saturday 28th September 10.30am Mass
Saturday 26th October 10.30am Mass with Sprinkling
Saturday 23rd 10.30am November Requiem Mass
Saturday 21st 10.30am December Mass and Party**

EVERYONE IS WELCOME



The older I become, the more I appreciate tradition, especially local tradition, as it appears to be the wane. One tradition that I've always enjoyed is the 'Club Day.' Club Day, also often referred to as Gala Day, Field Day or Fete Day has been an annual community celebration, common in the small towns and rural villages in North West England for well over a century. A special day, where clubs, groups, associations and importantly, local churches organise colourful processions as well as competitions for fancy dress, arts and crafts, cooking, and produce. Many of these events originated in processions of the churches and some have, or have had, a strong agricultural background. Most villages hold club events on the same weekend each year to avoid conflicting with neighbouring villages.

At the centre of most Club Days is a Rose Queen often selected from one of the local churches. The Rose Queen is selected for the year and their duties often include opening the event as well as having a central role in the procession. I have happy childhood memories of attending Bispham Gala as another common feature of 'Club Day' is the funfair. In this area we're fortunate to have Club Days being held in Kirkham & Wesham, Warton & Freckleton, Wrea Green, St Annes and perhaps the most popular, Lytham

This year, on Saturday June 22nd, Lytham Club Day, where a Rose Queen prominently features, marks its 130th anniversary although the first mention of a Club Day event can be traced back to 1840. In 1887, the order of procession had grown and was published as follows:

I. Flag Bearers, 2. 3rd Lancs. Militia Band, 3. Improvement Commissioners, 4. Lytham Lifeboat Crew. (This was the boat and crew which rescued the men of the Mexico), 5. Church of England Temperance Society, 6. Kirkham Band, 7. Independent Order of Mechanics. 8. Fire Brigade, 9. Band of Hope, 10. Lytham Band, 11. J. Talbot Clifton Friendly Society, 12. St. Annes Lifeboat, 13. Fife and Drum Band, 14. St. Peter's Schools and Clubs, 15. Mr. Danson's Boat, 16. Shrimp Girls in Lorry.



provide the principal Rose Queen for Club Day.

Since then, the Rose Queen has held premier place in the procession followed by local dignitaries, wonderful floats representing local clubs, groups, emergency services, all accompanied by brass bands and dance troupes. When blessed with fine weather, there's no finer local event and a visit to the traditional funfair is a must, especially for children and adult children alike. The Crowning of the Rose Queen has taken place at various points in Lytham including the Square, on the Council Office steps, on the Beach, Cricket Field, inside Lytham Hall Gates, and Lowther Gardens.



The first reference to a Rose Queen was made at a meeting of June 11th, 1894, when the following minute appeared: "It was decided to leave arrangements respecting the Crowning of the Rose Queen in the hands of Mr. Ellis and Mr. Sallows," And, shortly after, six names were submitted to the Committee. The six names were written on slips of paper and placed in a hat, and Miss Annie Johnson became the First Rose Queen of Lytham. Each of the local churches appointed their own Rose Queen and retinue with each church taking turns to proudly



Lytham Heritage Group

'Lytham Club Day 130 Years Old'

An exhibition named '130 years of Lytham Club Day Queens' is being held in the Lytham Heritage Centre, Clifton Square, Lytham where you can sit on the original Club Day throne and view costumes, programmes and photos from past years. It'll be well worth a visit (Up to July 7th) and attending any of the local Club Day processions is also highly recommended. (See above).

Lytham Club Day history kindly provided by David Hoyle.



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



MIDWEEKERS



TUESDAYS, 1-3PM

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



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Dorset Street, Blackpool
FY4 3BB - 01253 626114
blackpool@Salvationarmy.org.uk

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



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CLUB FOR 10-14s

WEDNESDAYS
4.30-6.30PM

FREE
ENTRY

INCLUDING A MEAL

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Social Trust Registered Charity No. 215174 and in Scotland SC037881



*Our thanks to the
Rt Reverend Stephen Race
SSC Bishop of Beverley*

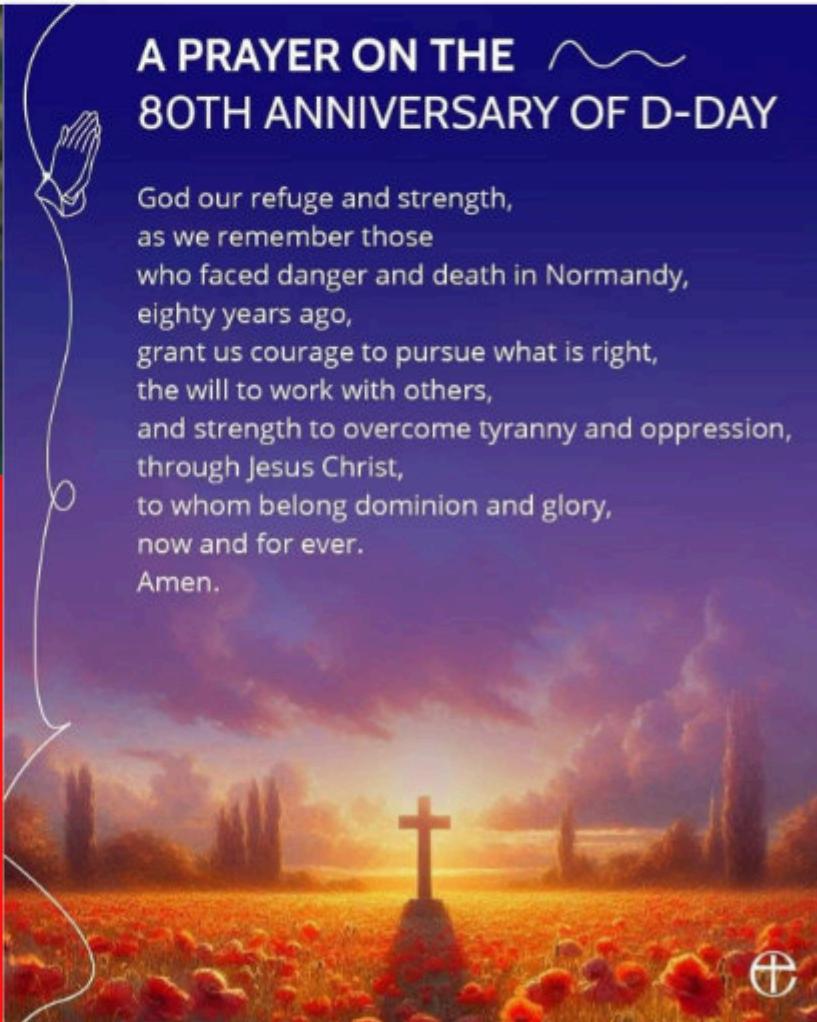
D-DAY

80



A PRAYER ON THE ~ 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

God our refuge and strength,
as we remember those
who faced danger and death in Normandy,
eighty years ago,
grant us courage to pursue what is right,
the will to work with others,
and strength to overcome tyranny and oppression,
through Jesus Christ,
to whom belong dominion and glory,
now and for ever.
Amen.





The magazine editorial team have over the past eighteen months written to countless numbers of firms in our area asking for help with an advert.

Regrettably the response has been abysmal!

We've approached leading businesses in the area some who have a known policy of supporting charities. All of them (including the Mayor's office) have not replied!!

Recently two firms, a well known funeral director and an entertainment park have withdrawn their support.

We are wondering amongst our readers if there's someone who would be willing to assist us in obtaining ideally two more sponsors?

If we could get two more half pages (the cost is £300 for ten adverts with an eleventh FREE)! That would put the magazine in a very healthy position! If a sponsor would even take a third-of-a-page advert (£100 for ten with the eleventh FREE) we'd love that too!!

**Got
Any
Ideas?**



Need more information?

Contact Bob Milner

079 1225 5413

bobblackpool@gmail.com



Photo Fr Ryan Otley

Find yourselves shade and rest at the foot of the tree as we pray. Lord, we give you thanks and praise for St Anne and Joachim the mother and father of the blessed Mother Mary and Saint. For all expectant mothers, grandparents and fathers. Join me in prayer for the continuation and growth of the Church of St Anne here in Greenlands. We pray for the growth of all churches and for them to be places where the Gospels can be heard, hurts can be healed and wounded hearts be soothed and refilled with love. Lord, we pray for the reunification of our country as we vote for a new government. We pray that the new government will endeavour to govern honestly with the best interests of all in mind.

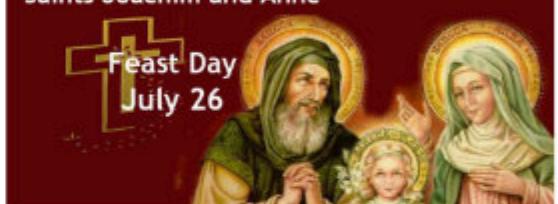
Lord, we pray for all broken families everywhere being divided by family feud, addiction or broken marriage vows. Give us strength to help heal those who are wounded. May we grow together in love and peace. Amen.



THE GOSPEL WRITERS



Saints Joachim and Anne



SWANN TOURS



36
YEARS
TRADING



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FY4 3QA



HOLIDAYS
&
SHORT
BREAKS
2022

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**Friday 26th April 7pm
For 1 month only!!**



Supper
raffle!!

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



How many times do I have to say,
I'm NOT going out!

THE PRINCIPAL PART OF A PYTHON

The principal part of a python-
As anyone plainly can see-
Is the part that begins in the middle
And goes both ways indefinitely.

The trouble is, no one can tell you
Whether it's tail, sir, or nose
It simply begins in the middle
And grows and grows and grows.

I think the python might like it
If someone who knows could decide
When he wriggles along through the jungle
Which end is getting the ride.

Is it tail that is doing the pushing
Wherever the python goes?
Or does tail just hang there resting
While he wriggles along on his nose?

Don't you think the python might like it
If someone who knows would decide
When he wriggles along through the jungle
Which end is getting the ride?
John Ciardi



Norma Rodham
South Shore Methodist Community Church



**Eileen Lawson South Shore
Methodist Community Church**



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

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

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

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

Ian Worsfold



Lord, show us your mercy

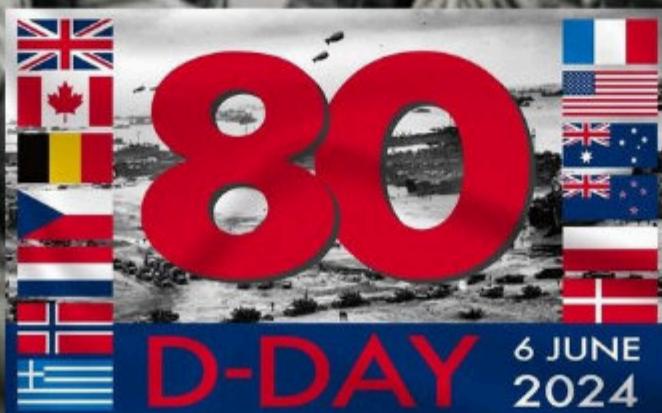
Photo Fr Ryan Otley



I thought it was my birthday?

D-DAY

80TH ANNIVERSARY



'Very emotional' to perform in front of D-Day veterans on anniversary – poet Tomos Roberts recited his specially written piece *The People Who Gave Us Today* on stage at the commemorative event in Portsmouth.

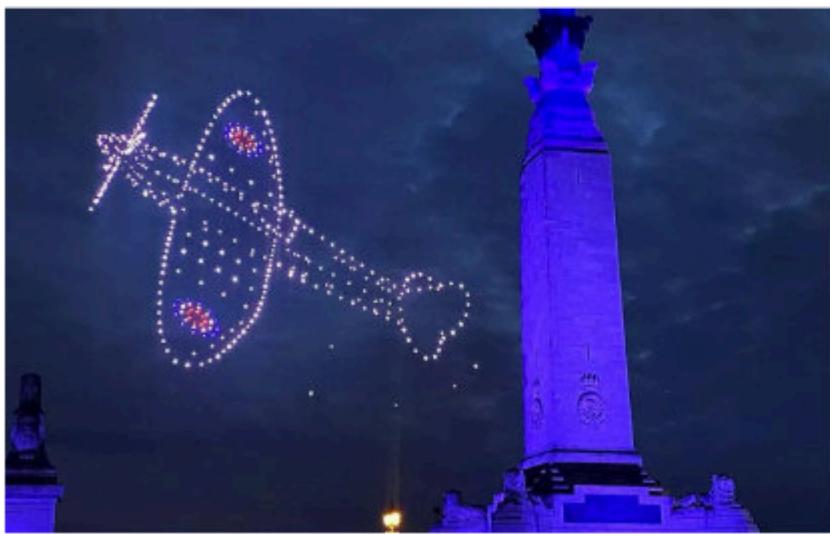
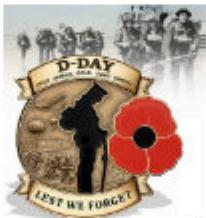


Across the ports of Southern England,
as nightfall fell some stopped to pray,
a monumental operations eve,
was 80 years ago today.

They watched and waited for their window,
calculated tides and tempestuous weather,
and as Normandy slept the stage was set,
for a day that would change the world forever.

The paratroopers prepared for their perilous passage,
the Royal Air Force soared toward enemy lines,
and a naval fleet of a scale unrivalled,
traversed a channel chocked with mines.

And soldiers most barely in their 20s,
armed with fortitude so few acquire,
faced with a fate we just can't fathom,
each charged head first in that fire.



Why we gather together to give recognition,
it's a promise, a vow that will not cease to show,
gratitude for the lives and the future they fought for,
in a safety and freedom that they'll never know.
It's why we teach each fresh new generation,
to stay connected in one common way,
and as long as their stories are never forgotten,
we'll remember the people who gave us today.



For a second contemplate that courage,
that sacrifice so void of self,
to give your life to foster freedom,
for the benefit of someone else.

When the longest day was finally finished,
and they'd seized a foothold on that ground,
because of all who bravely bore that burden,
the Atlantic wall came crashing down.

That's why we dwell on D-Day decades later,
why we mark such days from history,
why we honour those that were dealt that duty,
and protect their lasting legacy.



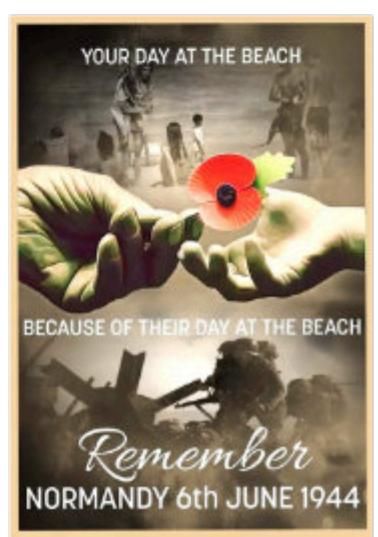


D-Day veteran has said he will "never forget" the bloody attack on Omaha Beach on 6 June 1944 that led to 1,700 American lives being lost.

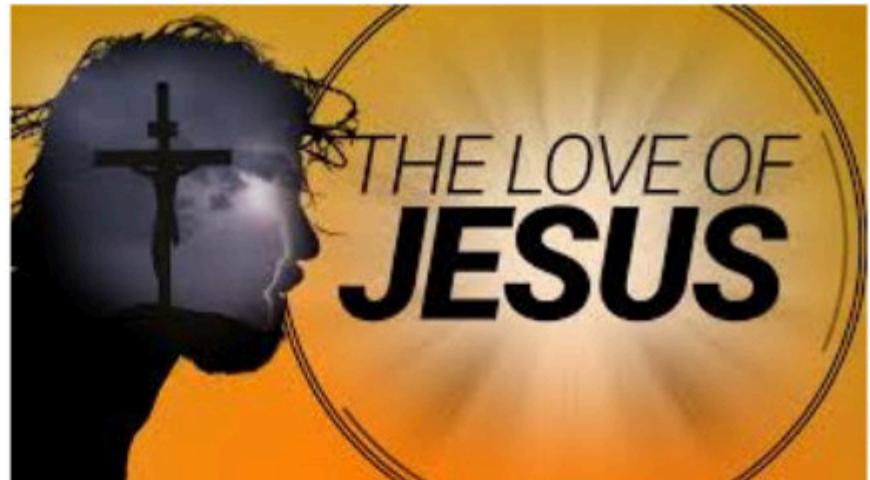
Joe Turpin, from Blackpool, writes;



Joe, now 98, was serving on HMS Ryde which had been sent to protect the Mulberry harbour off the beach in Normandy. At the time he was 19 when he awoke early and went on deck and was "absolutely gobsmacked" to see "ships of all description there. Joe said he asked, "What's going on? What's all this lot?" and the reply of "invasion" "sent the fear of God" up his spine. He said: "Out of the five landing beaches, four of them were pretty successful getting ashore, however the fifth one, Omaha, was a slaughterhouse. "We couldn't do a thing for them, those poor devils from America. In the American anthem, the words 'home of the brave,' fitted those men! They were the bravest of the brave. "They got in the landing craft and went ashore with just a rifle, against a machine gun nest! I'll never forget it. What a waste of life. That's war."







Rev L J Tiffney St Thomas Church Blackpool

We use the word 'love' with a whole range of meanings. I love custard creams, I love my friends, and I love Jesus, and yet each of those loves is different in their meaning and their impact. My love for custard creams is real, but it is by no means reciprocated. My love for my friends is solid, but it is not always sacrificial. My love for Jesus is profound, but it is not physical.

It can be hard to describe exactly what we mean when we talk about love. Often, we use it to try and describe the kind of affection that we have for someone or something. If we're not careful it can become a purely emotional term, that describes a warm, fuzzy feeling inside that we struggle to fully express with words.

Yet the love that God has for us can be put into words; while we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Rom. 5:8).

Jesus' love is shown through the concrete expression of His death, resurrection, and ascension. It is shown in action, and it challenges us to show our love for others through the concrete expression of action too. Our love for others (whether they be friends or enemies) is a demonstration of our love for Jesus, as a response to all that He has done for us.



To love is to be brought into a relationship with someone or something, for however short a time, whether that be a sandwich biscuit with a custard flavoured centre or a book or a family member or a friend. To love is to recognise that the world is larger than ourselves and there is a sense in which we rejoice in being part of something other. Yet at times love can become twisted and distorted. When taken to the extreme it can become an obsession, which causes damage rather than bringing life as it was intended to. Jesus' love is, in a way, extreme, but it is the extreme of self-giving rather than the extreme of selfish obsession. Jesus loved His disciples and yet they spurned His love; Judas by betraying Jesus and handing Him over to His

enemies for thirty pieces of silver, and Peter by denying that he had even known Jesus.

Despite this, Jesus' response was still to love them. And though we too spurn Jesus' love when we fail to love our neighbours and our friends – let alone our enemies! – Jesus' response is still to love us.

His love does not wax and wane, like our affections so often do. His love is not a response to our goodness or our devotion. His love is an expression of His faithfulness and His commitment towards us. So next time we find ourselves using the word 'love', let us bear in mind its many meanings and the depth to which God would go to demonstrate His love for us.





Sister Philomena Grimley

SHCJ Society of the Holy Child Jesus



Are you actively interested in politics? I was brought up to take my responsibility to vote very seriously. I am writing this contribution to the Parish Pump in May for the July edition when we have recently had some local elections in our town, so I guess some of you took part in those. I have to admit that I do not like the adversarial system we have evolved in our country where two main political parties oppose each other and, in a 'first past the post' election, whichever party wins the most seats becomes the government for the next six years. Of course there are other parties and their members do get elected and they can contribute to debates in parliament, but it is rule by majority. Still, as we will all be taking part in a general election sometime this year, I want to tell you about an initiative I have joined. Don't worry, I am not canvassing for any political affiliation, but I have found a movement that is helping me take my part in the democratic process as a committed Christian. The starting point is that I want to join forces with all who care about what we can summarise as the common good and concern for poverty which is causing so much suffering around us and beyond us. Now, see what you think about these issues; would any of them be an urgent priority for you? Cost of living crisis; migration and asylum; food systems; debt cancellation; business and human rights; aid and international development; building resilient communities and tackling regional inequalities. I am joining forces with others from Christian Aid, Church Action on Poverty, the Baptist Union, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, and the Society of St Vincent de Paul. First we have been encouraged to gather other people from our locality who would like to work together over these issues and the election. We have been given some simple resources to share with them to prepare us to meet prospective candidates of any party for the general election. We have sound briefing papers to inform us on those key issues I have listed above and sample questions we can pose at meetings or in email communication or in any door to door canvassing we might experience. I am sure if you get in touch with any of those agencies you will find how you, too, could take part. We are not doing this with any particular party political intention. It is that we simply want ALL POLITICAL PARTIES to be aware of what matters most and to sound out their stance so we can make well informed choices as committed Christians when it comes to vote.

I have to admit it is early days, as I have only just acquired the resources and have yet to begin to find others who might join me.

But it is important to be ready, as we do not get much advance notice of the general election, so I need to start finding out about prospective candidates AND remember that the constituency boundaries are changing, so in future I will be in Blackpool South not North. What really motivates me, however, is in the Prayer that Jesus gave us: Thy Kingdom come! I need to pay attention to those words, to ask myself do I really mean them, do I long, as Jesus did, for human dignity, human welfare, justice, peace, forgiveness, care for creation, our common home? I surely do, so I need to put prayer into action and this is one way I can, which I just had to share with you this month!



Catholic Agency for Overseas Development



Society of
Saint Vincent de Paul

Heroes of the Faith

Lillian Trasher

Beryl Whiteside South Shore
Methodist Community Church



Lillian Trasher spent a lifetime in Egypt, where she created one of the world's largest orphanages with small resources but enormous faith.

Born in Florida in 1887, Lillian came to a living experience of Christ in her teens. She worked briefly at an orphanage where she found a love for children and learned how to care for them. She became engaged to a Christian minister in 1910 but, just days before the marriage, decided she was called to the mission field. When her fiancé refused to share that call, she ended the engagement.

Determined to go abroad but uncertain where, she met a pastor who had been working in Asyut, Egypt, 230 miles south of Cairo. Deciding this was where she was called to, but without any supporting mission or church, Lillian sailed to Egypt with her sister Jenny and just a dollar in her purse.

On arrival in Egypt, then a British protectorate, Lillian travelled to Asyut where the mission was based. Still settling in, she encountered a dying woman with a malnourished baby. The woman died and Lillian realised that the unwanted baby was in danger of being thrown into the Nile. She took the child and began caring for it. Her action was greeted with disapproval by the mission director and she was ordered to take the baby back to the village. Lillian refused and instead rented a small house where she set up a home for herself and the baby. Soon more orphans were brought to her. Some were due to the death of their mothers, but others had been rejected because they were the result of rape, immorality or prostitution.

Lillian's work multiplied and in 1916 she bought land and built new buildings. Although supported by the local community, she always needed to pray for food for her children. By 1918 her orphanage family had grown to fifty children and eight widows. Unrest at the end of the First World War meant foreigners were ordered out of the country for their safety. Lillian handed her orphanage over to local Christians and returned to the States. There, she joined the Assemblies of God who from then on helped to support the orphanage. She returned to Egypt in 1920.

Education was an important aspect of the orphanage, with all the children taught English and Arabic as well as crafts. Where possible, the children were also encouraged to continue to college. The orphanage practised a vibrant Christian faith and children were encouraged to follow Christ. In 1927 an extraordinary revival burst out amongst the children which overflowed into the local community. Many of the children became passionate Christians, with a number becoming pastors. The orphanage continued to grow and at one point there were 1,400 orphans in what had become a small village; it was the largest orphanage in the world. The orphanage continued through both the Second World War and the troubles surrounding Egyptian independence.

Nicknamed the 'Mother of the Nile', Lillian Trasher continued with her work until her death at the age of seventy-four in 1961. She was buried in the orphanage which, bearing her name, continues its work today with 400 orphans, forty widows and fifty staff. The story of Lillian Trasher and her orphanage is truly remarkable. During her fifty-year ministry 25,000 children came under her care. She faced endless challenges and problems. Her diary records day after day when there was no obvious source of money, food or clothing. Her work flourished despite epidemics of cholera and polio, fires, riots, two world wars and the challenge of being a Christian organisation in a Muslim majority country. Yet Lillian pressed on, constantly bringing everything to God in prayer.

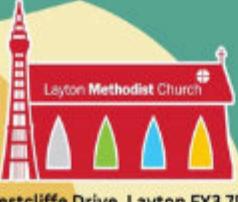
Perhaps the most remarkable answer to her prayers happened during the Second World War. Amid nationwide shortages, Lillian called for twenty-four hours of prayer and fasting. During this time, she had an urgent message to visit the American ambassador in Cairo. He explained that, with the fall of Greece to the Nazis, a Red Cross supply ship had returned to Alexandria where it had offloaded its cargo of food, blankets and children's clothes. Did she want them? Along with George Müller a century earlier, Lillian Trasher stands out as one of those giants who created and successfully managed big orphanages. Let me suggest three things to think about.

First, Lillian loved the least. The children she rescued were, in the world's eyes, the weakest and the most insignificant of creatures, to the point of being disposable. But in imitation of the God who became one of us, Lillian put herself alongside the unwanted. Second, Lillian laboured for the least. She was a woman of outstanding faith, but she was also noted for her energy, boldness and persistence. She travelled the countryside seeking donors, petitioning the powerful and wealthy for money and assistance. And at the orphanage she worked tirelessly at cooking, sewing, teaching and caring. Never taking a holiday, Lillian lived for her orphaned children. Finally, Lillian leaned on God for the least. If Lillian gave everything she had into her work for the orphans, she never presumed that she could do it all herself. Daily, she threw herself on the mercy of God, trusting him to supply her many needs. A measure of her faith is the way she stepped out in initiatives without obvious support. Lillian made the almost reckless promise that 'no child would ever be turned away'. No child was: God always provided.

The life of Lillian Trasher and her astonishing work amongst orphans shows the working together of divine grace and human effort. She did everything she could, and in what she couldn't do, she turned to God. In every venture, great or small, that's a good principle.

J.John Reverend Canon





Westcliff Drive, Layton FY3 7DZ



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

Second Saturday each Month*
9.30am - 1.30pm

Refreshments Available

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



HOLY CROSS
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**HOLY CROSS
PARISH
CHURCH
NEEDS YOUR
HELP!!**

Holy Cross Parish, runs a soup kitchen and foodbank every Saturday evening 4.30-6pm. Along with other churches and the Salvation Army we try to alleviate the need of those less fortunate than ourselves.

So, the appeal is this – inspired by the works of the early church, the examples of Stephen and Phoebe (Romans 16:1-2) we serve the community of Blackpool. However, just like the early church we need willing volunteers to help us in our mission(s). Please support us in our work that we are called to do in the name of Jesus Christ.



NEWS FROM

Layton Methodist Church



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

For more information and to register,
check out www.thebigfoodtruck.co.uk



or text your NAME to
07378 905774



Poulton
Methodist Church



Queensway Poulton-le-Fylde FY6 7ST

TUESDAY 16TH JULY 7.30pm

ENCORE SINGERS
Music for Everyone

ENCORE SINGERS
SUMMER CONCERT



**On behalf of the RNLI
200th Anniversary**

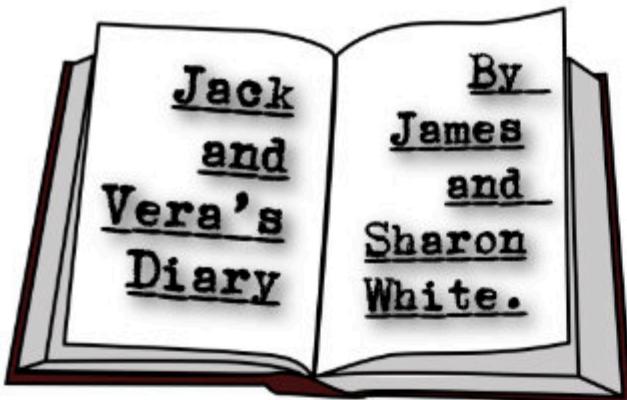
Tickets £5 including refreshments

Available from 07745 280158
Encore Singers - Facebook or pay on the door



RNLI
Lifeboats
200

Tickets available now!



answers as Jack unscrews the bulb from the lamp. Having made his way down stairs he opens the fuse box cupboard, flicks the tripped breaker and retrieves the correct type of bulb from the selection Janet keeps. While down stairs Jack sorts the post on the floor in the hall and changes the bin bags in the kitchen. Then he makes them both a cup of tea and makes his way back to Janet's bedroom with both cups of tea and the post. As he sets the cups down he hands Janet the post and changes the bulb in the bedside lamp. Janet asks softly "Are Vera and Tracy watching Blade Runner, it's that time of the year again?" He replies, "Yea, I'll be staying at my mum's tonight and just let them cry it out in peace." Jack answered as he takes a seat in the only chair in the room.

"Thanks for taking the bins out for me Jack, the carers I have seem to not do that for some reason plus you just being here cheers me up no end" Jack just smiles at Janet as she continues while Jack picks up his mug of tea. "Yes, it was very sad the night Tom and Harry died; it just proves why young men are charged so much for car insurance." Janet starts while sipping at the hot cuppa. "Yes, well you know what boys are like. It's the lorry driver I feel sorry for! It wasn't his fault that they came around that corner on the wrong side of the road at such speed neither of them had a chance to react and all because they were in such a hurry to get to the takeaway. What a first weekend away from home it was for Vera and Tracy" Jack answered continuing "The four of them had been together since year eight and for it to end like that, I just don't know how Vera and Tracy coped." Finishing with a blow over his mug of tea.

"Tracy's mum said her Tracy and Vera stayed at theirs and cried for three days straight up until the day of the funeral." Janet replied with sadness in her voice continuing.

"The whole village came out to that; it was so sad and they were so young only just seventeen." They both become still and take a moment to remember that tragic day and as they both lift their heads and smile at each other with tears in their eyes Jack drains his cup and starts to leave saying "Right, I'm off now I'll pop in after work tomorrow at about half five ok?" Vera replied, "That's grand of you Jack and it so good of you to give me all this time plus give my regards to Vera when you get home."

"I will" Jack replies with a nod as he gets up out of the chair and moves towards the bedroom door. "Good night, Janet call me if you need anything." With that said Janet just waves from her bed as Jack closes the door, makes his way down to the kitchen with the empty cups which he washes and puts away. Retrieving his coat, he leaves through the front door while he shouts his goodbyes as he shuts the front door. While stood on the door step doing up his coat and enjoying the sun on his face now the rain had stopped Jess appears out of the bushes and rubs up against his legs "What you doing here? Go home and look after your mum she'll need you tonight." With that they both leave, Jack walking down the road to his childhood home and Jess slowly walking back to her home sniffing things as she goes.

Jack knocks on Janet's door only to be answered with silence, so Jack keys in the code to the key box outside Janet's home and she opens her front door. "Janet? It's Jack! Vera couldn't make it" he bellows from the hallways up the stairs. "Ok Jack" he just about hears as he removes his coat and hangs it on the post at the bottom of the stairs. Jack knocks and gently pushes Janet's bedroom door open and asks, "Are you ok today Janet, how is your back? Do you need anything doing?" She replies, "Hello Jack, um? The light bulb has blown in my bedside lamp and it tripped out the electrics for upstairs." Jack answers, "No worries, are there spare bulbs in the kitchen somewhere?"

"No, but there are some in the fuse box cupboard." Janet



**NEWS FROM ST ANNE'S CHURCH
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**Teas Coffees Cold Drinks
Hot Dogs Burgers Donuts
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and much much more!!**





Photo Keith Tuck



*Summer afternoon - summer afternoon;
to me they have always been the most
beautiful words in the English language
Henry James 1843 to 1916*

July is traditionally our midsummer although our seasons appear to be changing and they are beginning to be more unpredictable. However, at this time sounds change. Birds sing less often. Insect sounds become louder with the sounds of bees, grasshoppers and grassland butterflies dodge around us. It is the season of grasses blowing in the wind. Flowers are abundant both in the wild and in the gardens of proud owners who spend many hours toiling away to get some wonderful results.

At this time of the year as the river fishing season opens, a pleasant day can be spent by the river. One does not have to be a fisherman to enjoy the tranquillity of such a day. By being quiet and watchful nature can be observed at close quarters. Dragonflies put up a wonderful display of colour in the sunshine. Damson flies also can be numerous.

There are fifty-one species of dragonfly which appear from April until September. Of course, the herons will appear and the king himself, the kingfisher with his resplendent colours will visit you if you stay still and quiet. It is no good looking for these birds on a noisy walk with a dog in tow. As you will have read many of our rivers are in crisis through pollution and it must be stressed that pressure must be placed on firms guilty of allowing this to happen.

There are those working to prevent this but also there is work to stop housebuilding polluting our waterways. It is possible to do this and must be watched carefully by the relevant authorities.

A new movement trending called rewilding has begun to emerge. Their aims cover much of what we have discussed in the past here. But it might be worth mentioning the major points again. The main thing is to stop using pesticides and weed killers. If you make your garden more wildlife friendly the predators will eat the pests. Only use natural fertilisers, not chemical ones. Put hose pipe away and collect water in a waterbutt. Add compost and chippings around plants to avoid excess water evaporation from the soil. Don't be too tidy. Allow seed heads to develop to feed wildlife. Set up a nectar factory. A plot of continuous flowers either in a box or in the garden.

Enjoy your summer and warmer weather whilst we have it. It seems to pass so quickly.



St Christopher with St Nicholas Church



Tuesday 30th June 7pm





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!

One evening, about fifteen years ago, a little prayer group met in our house. We began, as we always did, by sharing some of our own needs and perplexities and the needs and pain of those who had asked for our prayers. We talked about the meaning of meeting in Jesus' name and the reality of that presence. Then we went together into prayer... this particular evening, a number of unusual things happened. One person was able to share a deep, hidden grief she had not talked about for forty years. Another felt the burden of an angry resentment lifted from her heart. Another experienced release from chronic bodily pain. Another shared with us a clear guiding answer to a perplexity he had prayed about. Another group member felt the closeness of God's love more deeply than ever before. (F.S.W.)



BE FAITHFUL
IN SMALL THINGS
BECAUSE IT IS IN
THEM THAT YOUR
STRENGTH LIES.

-MOTHER TERESA



YOU ARE NEVER TOO OLD TO SET ANOTHER GOAL OR TO DREAM A NEW DREAM.

-C.S. LEWIS



If I can do some good today,
If I can serve along life's way,
If I can something helpful say,
Lord, show me how!

If I can right a human wrong,
If I can help to make one strong,
If I can cheer with smile or song,
Lord, show me how!

If I can do a kindly deed,
If I can help someone in need,
If I can sow a fruitful seed,
Lord, show me how!

If I can feed a hungry heart,
If I can give a better start,
If I can fill a nobler part,
Lord, show me how!
Grenville Kleiser

A Fijian Nurse's Prayer

Lord, use my hands;
they are not scarred like thine.
They have not felt the torture of
the cross: But they would know
upon their palms Thy touch,
without which all their work is lost.

Lord, Use my hands.
that some may see, not me,
But thy divine compassion there
expressed,
And know they peace,
and feel thy calm and rest.



A small child was saying their prayers, after praying for God to bless her family and friends they ended their prayer 'Please Lord look after yourself for what would we do without you?'



DID YOU KNOW?

Peter Lonsdale

Anglicans Believe

journey to become an ordained priest. He has been a truly wonderful associate here at St. Christopher and St. Nicholas Parish Church throughout the whole year (which has flown by) for which we are grateful.

Anglicans believe that there is only one God, but there are three elements to the one God: God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit: that human beings decision to reject this eternal God and live according to their own standards (sin) causes a relational breakdown between them; that God the Son, Jesus Christ, lived and died to give people a model and a way to be reconciled with God.

Anglicans consider the Bible to be fundamental to life as a Christian and believe that the Scriptures contain all things necessary for salvation. Anglicans

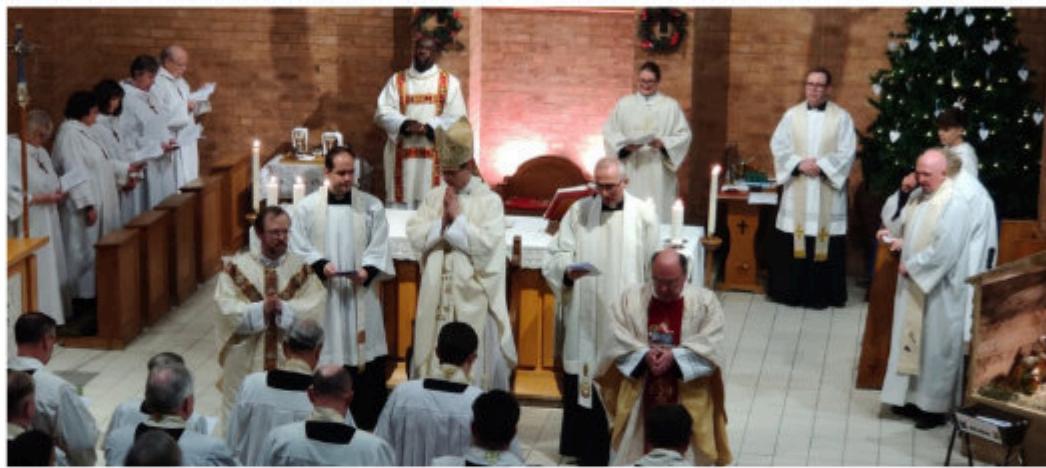
believe that the Christian life involves regular praise and prayer, both private and public and that Christians must practice what they preach and pray both on Sundays (the day when Anglicans normally gather for worship) and every day, as they seek to live out their worship.

Anglicans believe that people become members of God's Church through Baptism, and all Christians celebrate Holy Communion (Eucharist/the Mass) as a shared meal of bread and wine which is eaten together in remembrance of Jesus Christ. Anglicans accept the major Creeds as expressing their Christian Faith: The Apostles Creed is the statement of Faith used in

Baptism and Morning and Evening Prayer, while the Nicene Creed is prayed in the service of Holy Communion. Anglicans summarise their basic beliefs in The Catechism. What is particularly distinctive about Anglicanism? Well, if you ask three Anglicans about doctrine, you'll get five different answers! A great strength of Anglicanism is its willingness to tolerate a wide variety in Anglican Faith and lifestyle, which is always up for debate among its participants (Low Church-High Church for example).

Sourced from www.anglicancommunion.org

To me it seems hard to believe that on the 1st day of this month last year Father Ian Rushton was ordained as a deacon at a ceremony in Blackburn Cathedral. He was then given continued instruction from St. Christopher and St. Nicholas Parish Church incumbent priest Father Martin Daniels on his



CHATTERBOX CHURCH

Our incredible Junior church will be meeting every Sunday throughout the summer

See you there!! Sunday 10.30



WOW HOLYCROSS CAFE @

The Church Hall, Holy Cross Church
Central Drive, Blackpool,
is opening its doors for you to enjoy a light breakfast.
Commencing 21st August

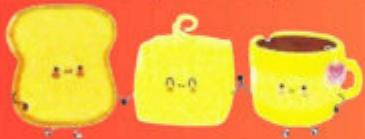
Come along and enjoy

Tea Coffee or Juice with two slices
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Every Monday from 8am to 10am
For just £1.25

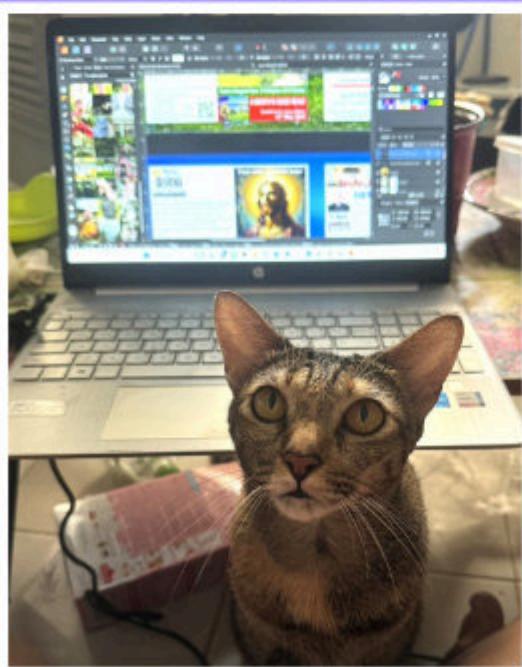


ALL WELCOME!!

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




MISS ZETA FROM BANGKOK



Can I help with the editing?

WAYSIDER PULPIT

with our Rev Andy

The function of prayer is not to influence God, but rather to change the nature of the one who prays. —
Soren Kierkegaard



with our Fr Chico

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jer. 29:11.



free
entry



Shining Stars Toddler group

Mondays 10am – 11.30am
(term-time only)
Group for 0-4s
and their parents and carers
The Salvation Army,
Raikes Parade, FY1 4EL
Parking available



messy play **crafts**
soft play **singing** **and more!**



Shining Stars Toddler group

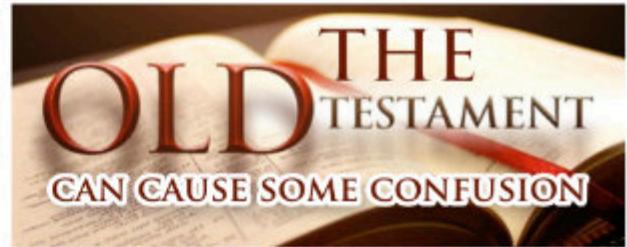
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Salvation Army
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Blackpool





**Terry &
Freda Wray
Blackpool
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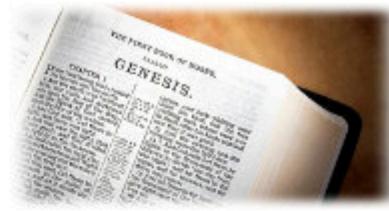
The first book of the Bible is Guinessis The first pair ate the first apple Cain, one of the sons of Adam and Eve asked, "Am I my brother's son?" In the Old Testament but not the New, it's an I for an I



Teacher to eight year old: 'George, what name did God give the first man?' George, "Adam, miss." Teacher, "And the first lady?" George, "Did he call her Madam, miss?"

Noah built an ark, which animals come on to in pears?

Goliath was a bigger than a telephone box. The last book of the Bible is the Epilogue.



Moses was found floating on the River Trent!

**Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Commandments
He died before he ever reached Canada**

Moses came down Mount Sinai with the tabloids



Adam and Eve used to walk in the Garden of Eden. One day God said to Adam, "When you walk with Eve I want you to go hand-in-hand. Adam asked, "What does hand-in-hand mean?" An angel explained to him. A little later God said, "That's very good, now you should walk with your arm around Eve's waist." Adam asked, "What is a waist?" Again the angel told him. Later Adam was told he should now kiss Eve from time to time during walks. "What's a kiss?" asked Adam and the same obliging angel had to show how it was done.

So the next day God said, "Splendid, my children! Now go forth and multiply and replenish the earth!" But the next morning Adam was back again.

"What is a headache he asked!"

Friendship Club



THURSDAYS EVERY WEEK

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

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

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

For more information email: blackpool@salvationarmy.org.uk or phone 01253 626114

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

REGINALD DIXON – HIS FIRST THIRTY YEARS

Peter J Ashman



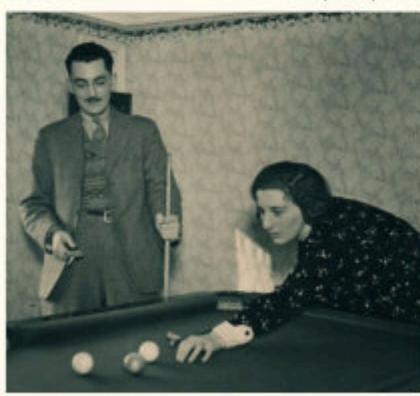
My family and I were very fortunate in that we remember attending, and thoroughly enjoying the Children's Ballet in the Tower Ballroom. I should point out that I believe it first manifested itself in the long-gone Palace Ballroom. One thing is certain, it was very popular, and ran for many years. During the summer holidays, in the Tower Ballroom, it could be seen twice during the day, and again during the evening.

Minimum age for participants was thirteen. The Wurlitzer invariably played a part in the shows, and occasionally it would be poorly "masked" by a see-through curtain. In later years, the regulars were Watson Holmes and Freddie Platt, but Reg was occasionally called upon to contribute.



Indeed, if we were in Blackpool, he would let me know if/when he was on, so we could be in good seats early enough. The shows were spectacular, and very professionally choreographed and staged. Initially, Reg found playing for dancing not only demanding, but requiring concentration to ensure that the rhythm was maintained. However, he soon settled into the job, and began to devote time and imagination towards brightening up the music. As I have said elsewhere, being naturally left-handed allowed him enormous flexibility in his playing style. Very soon, after his morning sessions ended, people were beginning to queue up backstage to meet this handsome young musician, to thank and congratulate him for making their day. Bertini (band-leader) had a wealth of

experience to call upon, and he was as good a teacher as the young organist was keen to learn. Indeed, it was a Bertini "regular" that became one of Reg's favourite numbers - a symphonic foxtrot entitled "Samum". Near the end of his second summer season, Reg commented: "The popularity of the Wurlitzer for dancing has grown to such an extent that ten thousand or more people dance to my music each week during the season".



It wasn't long before Reg and Vera set up home together in Blackpool - the first of a number of homes they occupied in or near Blackpool over fifty-plus years. They both loved snooker, so a table was an integral part of the furniture. Incidentally, they made a deal with each other very early on. Vera loved Reg's moustache, and he admired the fact that she was athletically slim, so she agreed to stay that way provided he did not shave off his moustache. Both kept their word. I valued my (and later, my family's) friendship with



Reginald Dixon so much that, while he was alive . . . and since we lost him . . . I refrained from talking about it, or revealing details, out of respect for him. There was one instance where he rang me at work (when I was Works Manager, at The Barnsley Chronicle Newspaper Group), when I was called over the Tannoy system, and although I kept details of the call quiet, the switchboard operator knew who the caller was, and it did leak out. Indeed, when I picked up my office extension, she said: "I have Mr Reginald Dixon on the phone, from Blackpool". However, I do intend to reveal some personal moments in a forthcoming revision of my biography of him. Reg had not been long at the Tower Ballroom before his unique style began to be appreciated by the holidaymakers. As for the BBC, they had already broadcast the organ, so it would be no problem for them. Following its installation in 1929, it was aired for the first time on Tuesday, 16 July 1929, from station 2ZY, entitled "Famous Northern Resorts", which on this occasion featured Blackpool. The recitalist was Max Bruce, who was to be heard again on stations 2LO and 5XX, for twenty minutes on Tuesday, 20 August 1929. Little did the broadcasters know what treat awaited them in 1930.

More next month



JOHN CEEAGAN'S Saint Of The Month



Carlo Acutis

Carlo Acutis was born May 3, 1991, in London, where his father was working. Just a few months later, he moved with his parents, Andrea Acutis and Antonia Salzano, to Milan, Italy.

Carlo was diagnosed with leukaemia as a teenager. Before

his death in 2006, he offered his sufferings for Pope Benedict XVI and for the Church, saying: "I offer all of my suffering to the Lord for the Pope and for the Church in order not to go to purgatory but to go straight to heaven."

From a young age, Carlo had a special love for God, even though his parents weren't especially devout. Antonia Salzano, his mom, said that before Carlo, she went to Mass only for her first Communion, her confirmation, and her wedding. But as a young child, Carlo loved to pray the rosary. After he made his first Communion, he went to Mass as often as possible at the parish across from his elementary school. Carlo's love for the Eucharist also inspired a deep conversion for his mother. According to the postulator promoting his cause for sainthood, he "managed to drag his relatives, his parents to Mass every day. It was not the other way around; it was not his parents bringing the little boy to Mass, but it was he who managed to get himself to Mass and to convince others to receive Communion daily." Salzano spoke to "EWTN News Nightly" in October 2023 about her son's devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. She said: "He used to say, 'There are queues in front of a concert, in front of a football match, but I don't see these queues in front of the Blessed Sacrament' ... So, for him the Eucharist was the centre of his life." Carlo's witness of faith as a child led adults to convert and be baptized. Rajesh Mohur, who worked for the Acutis family as an au pair when Carlo was young, converted from Hinduism to Catholicism because of Carlo's witness. Carlo taught Mohur how to pray the rosary and told him about the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Mohur said that one of the things that most impressed him as a non-Christian was the witness of Carlo's love and concern for the poor — how he interacted with the homeless man who would sit at the entrance of the church and would bring tupperware dishes filled with food out to people living on the streets.

Carlo wasn't afraid to defend Church teaching, even in situations when his classmates disagreed with him. Many of Carlo's high school classmates remember Carlo giving a passionate defence for the protection of life from the moment of conception when there was a classroom discussion about abortion.

Carlo was a faithful friend. He was known for standing up for kids at school who got bullied, especially kids with disabilities. When a friend's parents were getting a divorce, Carlo made a special effort to include his friend in the Acutis' family life. With his friends, he spoke about the importance of going to Mass and confession, human dignity, and chastity. Carlo was fascinated with computer coding and taught himself some of the basic coding languages, including C and C++. He used his computer skills and internet savvy to help his family put together an exhibition on Eucharistic miracles that has gone on to be displayed at thousands of parishes on five continents. His spiritual director has attested that Carlo was personally convinced that the scientific evidence from Eucharistic miracles would help people to realize that Jesus is really present in the Eucharist and come back to Mass. Carlo loved playing video games. His mother recalls that he liked Nintendo Game Boy and GameCube as well as PlayStation and Xbox. He had conversations with his gaming buddies about the importance of going to Mass and confession and limited his video game playing to no more than two hours per week. Carlo also liked Spider-Man and Pokémon.



Carlo died on Oct. 12, 2006, and was buried in Assisi. Initially, there were reports that Carlo's body was found to be incorrupt, but the bishop of Assisi clarified before his beatification that his body was not incorrupt. His body lies in repose in a glass tomb in Assisi where he can be seen in jeans and a pair of Nike sneakers. Thousands came to pray at his tomb at the time of his beatification in October 2020.

Pope Francis recognized a second miracle attributed to Carlo's intercession in a decree on May 23, 2024. The miracle involved the healing of a 21-year-old girl from Costa Rica named Valeria Valverde, who was near death after seriously injuring her head in

a bicycle accident while studying in Florence in 2022.

The first miracle that led to his beatification involved the healing of a 3-year-old boy in Brazil in 2013 who had been diagnosed with a malformation of his pancreas since birth. The Vatican has yet to announce a date for Carlo Acutis' canonization. The ceremony could take place as soon as this October or during the 2025 Jubilee Year, which includes a special jubilee for youth and a jubilee for teenagers.

Blessed Carlo Acutis pray for us

**MAGNUM SILENCIUM
TO MILDENBURY**

From page 13

THE MONTHLY soap-story

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

Hallie, was screaming for all it was worth. The other was very timid and was curling up in Lyla-Jo's arms. There was a crash of pans from the shelf above the kitchen benches. Another kitten was looking down from the shelf with the most engaging look on its face as it checked to see where the pans had landed! Fr Martin said, "Well, that explains the screaming and the noises. Now the mystery is solved!" In the meantime, there was a gentle meow and everyone turned around to see the most beautiful tabby cat walking through the door from the old boiler house. Both the children called out in unison, "Grandma, Granda, please, please, can we keep them?" Joan and Michael smiled at each other with a look of relief and nodded yes. Michael said, "It looks like they've moved in any way!" Everyone burst out laughing!



In September 2023, our partners at Camp Maximum launched Camp Possible: a football training programme for women amputees. In collaboration with the United States Amputee Football Federation (USAFF), the team at Maximum worked with Ukrainian coaches to teach the women how to play football on crutches.

Camp Possible led to the creation of the first-ever women's amputee football team in Ukraine. "I've never played sports," shared Natalya, one of the campers. "But at Maximum, I realized that my life was too boring before. I learned to enjoy every moment, every little thing. Even if you don't have a leg, life goes on as long as you have cool people like the ones at Maximum! I met other girls like me, we learned to play soccer, and I was invited to join the Ukrainian amputee national team. Maximum is in my heart forever." In February some of the women visited Maximum to update the staff on their progress. Two of them, Olga and Tanya, have officially joined the national women amputees team. Another participant has continued the exercises she learned

at the camp and has since lost over 10 kg of weight, feeling in the best shape and mental condition she can remember.

In May, the Maximum leaders hosted Camp Possible 2.0, supported by Mackenzie Gilmore, the President of the USAFF. Four more women joined the team, and now a training programme is underway to prepare them for the first Women's Amputee Soccer World Cup, due to take place in Colombia in November this year. The enthusiasm, discipline and commitment shown by these women as they push themselves to learn new skills is inspirational, especially at such a difficult time in Ukraine.

As Camp Maximum Director Vitaly says, "Camp Possible is a place where every woman with amputation gets the opportunity to test herself, overcome challenges and reach new heights. Our campers develop and discover their inner potential. Being strong isn't just about overcoming obstacles, it's about turning them into new opportunities. Our girls show that strength is not only physical, but also spiritual. They did not give up in the face of life's challenges and turned their limitations into incredible opportunities. We are proud of our girls and believe that this force unites all of us, Ukrainians, in this uncertain time." We are so excited to see how this programme is developing and we look forward to seeing what the team will do in November, and beyond.

Andy looked at his friend and said, "That may be true Father but it was a convincing act!" The vicar laughed and replied, "Act, Andy? Yes! That's all it was!" The village gossip, for once, was silent for a while and then she said, "Beryl, where's that tea?" She continued, "Fr Martin, I can't wait to tell everyone about what has happened here today." Fr Martin, some-what sternly, said, "Mrs Handley, if you do that you will kill the play before it even gets on to the stage. I suggest for once you stay quiet. After all you are on the committee of the drama society and the last thing we need is for the Haunted Café to be playing to an empty cinema as a result of your gossiping!" She sat down and quietly mumbled, "Yes, Father, I see what you mean."

Suddenly from the kitchen there was very loud scream. Everyone dashed in to see what was happening. There was Lyla-Jo and her sister Hallie clutching two kittens.

The blond kitten, being held by Hallie, was screaming for all it was worth. The other was very timid and was curling up in Lyla-Jo's arms. There was a crash of pans from the shelf above the kitchen benches. Another kitten was looking down from the shelf with the most engaging look on its face as it checked to see where the pans had landed! Fr Martin said, "Well, that explains the screaming and the noises. Now the mystery is solved!" In the meantime, there was a gentle meow and everyone turned around to see the most beautiful tabby cat walking through the door from the old boiler house. Both the children called out in unison, "Grandma, Granda, please, please, can we keep them?" Joan and Michael smiled at each other with a look of relief and nodded yes. Michael said, "It looks like they've moved in any way!" Everyone burst out laughing!



Anything is possible



"When England returns to Walsingham, Mary will come back to England"

Pope Leo XIII

Andrew Taylor

Church Of The Holy Family Failsworth Prospective Ordinand



I am sure I can speak for countless others when I say Walsingham 'The home from home' our 'England's Nazareth'.

This year was my first National pilgrimage to the shrine and certainly won't be my last. Nestled within rural English countryside set in serene woodland is a place that can only be described as sacred and spiritual beyond all measures, a beautiful oasis of calm and tranquillity. The medieval shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham.

On entering the quaint village just a few miles from the Norfolk coast I was immediately uplifted with the feeling of holiness and the presence of the Holy Spirit. It was very humbling to be one amongst hundreds of fellow pilgrims in such a small area. The atmosphere was immense, not only was it great to retreat with fellow parishioners but also meeting brothers and sisters in Christ not yet discovered!



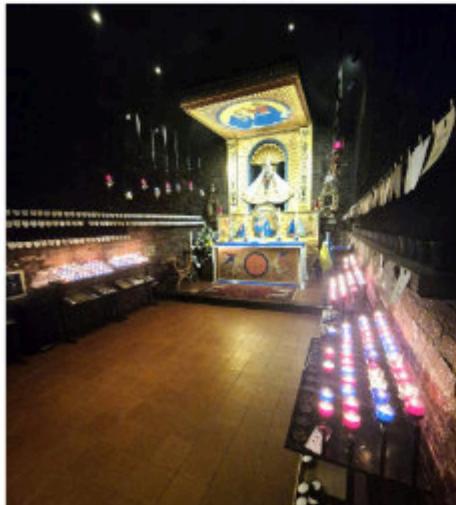
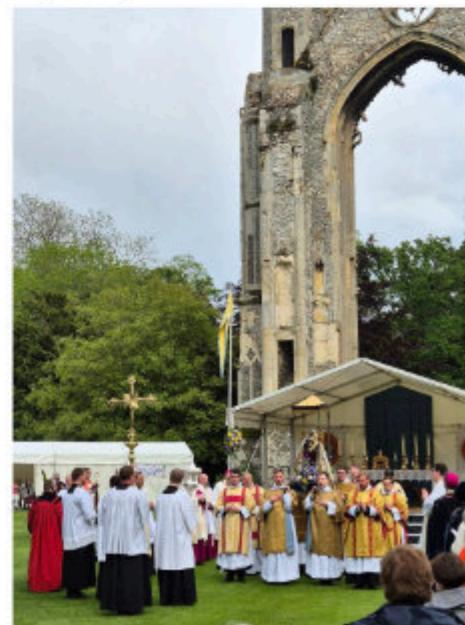
The beautifully kept gardens and surrounding areas help create the atmosphere for peaceful prayer and contemplation, to be still and feel the presence of God.

The shrine was first established around 1061 where Our Lady appeared to a holy woman named Richeldis Faverches.

Our Lady led her in spirit to her hometown Nazareth. She showed her the house of the Annunciation where she was greeted by the angel. Richeldis was asked to build a replica of the holy house in Walsingham as a memorial of the Annunciation making it a huge shrine of the Incarnation.

The priory and holy house were destroyed in 1538 by Henry VIII during the reformation, effectively the end of

the shrine. In the 1920's the number of pilgrims began to flourish. Eventually a Pilgrim House was built as a place of hospitality. In 1931 a new holy house was built inside a small church and in 1938 the church was extended to form the Anglican shrine we have today.



The shrine church is such a spectacular and magnificent building with such a holy and spiritual aura about it. Entering the holy house was a very emotional and humbling experience. Our blessed mother is certainly present at Walsingham.

Continues on 37



Luckily, we were blessed with great weather on the day of the National (no rain anyway). Hundreds were gathered on this very special occasion the atmosphere was filled with prayer, enlightenment and great joy. "Mary of Walsingham, Mother of Jesus, pray for thy dowry, the land that we love; England has need of thy powerful protection, pour on thy children thy gifts from above" Amen.

Photos Andrew Taylor & Keith Tuck.

Photos above The National Pilgrimage, Our Lady, St Mary's Parish Church Walsingham and the Shrine Church.



News from England's Nazareth



On Thursday 13th June the Shrine had a visit from Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía, who is the Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain.

The Apostolic Nuncio is the Pope's Ambassador in a particular country. He has been visiting the Diocese of East Anglia and it was his first official visit to find out more about the Diocese and its people. As part of this he made a private visit to the Shrine.

Mark Gordon St Christopher with St Nicholas

'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'

Jeremiah 29:11-11

If I die tomorrow, I'll be with the Lord. If I live tomorrow, the Lord will be with me. Either way, I belong to Him. And I can never thank Him enough for staying by my side through thick and thin.

Amen.

GOD HAS ALREADY ORDAINED DIVINE CONNECTIONS THAT WILL HELP YOU FULFILL YOUR PURPOSE.

My story is filled with bad choices. Broken pieces and a lot of hurt. It's also filled with a major comeback, freedom in my life, peace in my soul and a Saviour that restored everything.

How does Moses make his coffee?

HEBREWS IT

DON'T FOLLOW YOUR HEART. FOLLOW THE CONVICTION AND DIRECTION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

"The heart is deceitful above all things
(Jeremiah 17:9).

Dear God

If I am wrong, right me.
If I am lost, guide me. If I start to give up, keep me going.

Let your prayers be loud,
your heart be Godly
and your soul
Jesus-centered



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STAR WARS
15th Sunday September
princess Leia

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Caroline and the gang
At our fabulous
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Sleeping Beauty
20th Sunday October

Come and meet
Caroline and the gang
At our fabulous
Junior Church

See you there!!

Pirates of the Caribbean
17th Sunday November

Come and meet
Caroline and the gang
At our fabulous
Junior Church



Snow White
15th Sunday December

Watch out for the
JEALOUS one!!

Come and meet Caroline and the gang
At our fabulous Junior Church

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.

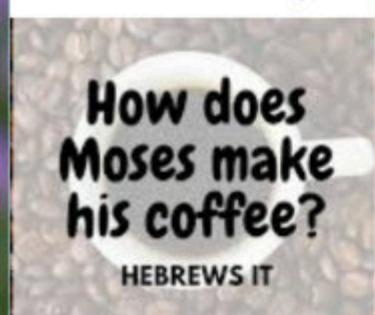
- 1 Corinthians 13:4-8



Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy
Lord have mercy



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TO SUNDAY
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PILGRIMAGE FOR HEALING AND RENEWAL

MONDAY 26TH AUGUST 2024

12.00 noon Sung Mass

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

2.30pm

Sermon, Sprinkling and Healing Ministries

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



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