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Parish Review

St. Luke's Church & Cronton Mission



Lent Begins

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday
March 6th 9.30am
Holy Communion at
St. Luke's church

Holy Communion
7pm at St. Ambrose

March 31st
10.30am Holy Com-
munion

**Daffodils will be
distributed in
memory of
Bernard and
Phoebe Dunbar
thanks to a do-
nation from Alan
and Dorothy Hum-
phreys**



**Mothering
Sunday**

February 2019 and March 2019 £1

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St Luke's Farnworth Parish

Churchwardens

Barry Ingram	286 Upton Lane	01514232492
George Telfer	8 Wentworth Close	07792412415
Barry Horabin	12 Buckingham Ave	07471350957
Pat Johnson	17 Bridewell Court	07717522878
Mark Argent		07854032188

Lay Chair	Barry Ingram	01514232492
Verger	George Telfer	01514234640
Project Manager	Barry Horabin	01514249887

PCC Secretary	Sandra Lacey	07761672030
PCC Treasurer	Yvonne Horabin	01514249887

Safeguarding Officer	Margaret Campbell	01514246039
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Sunday School	1030am in the Bridewell most Sundays	
Sunday School Leader	Lynn Keeling	01514243142

Choir Practice	Paul Delaney Wednesday 7-8pm in church
Tower Captain	Nigel Goulding
Bell ringing practice	Tuesdays 6.30pm

Schools	Farnworth C.E. Primary	01514243042
	Cronton C.E. Primary	01514243881

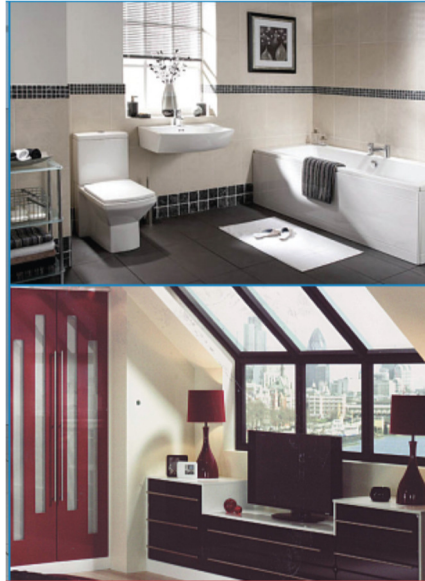
Editor Philip Lacey 07710030973
Kebbs Farm Clock Face Road Bold Widnes WA8 3XH

Please submit any material, articles or adverts, via email to
farnworthreview@yahoo.co.uk with attachments in Word, Arial
font 12 Bold.

Deadline for articles noon on 18th of March, May, July
and Sept 2019.

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

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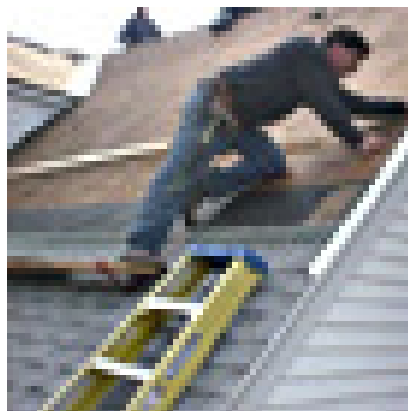


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Dear Friends,

Happy New Year 2019 everyone!

There is certainly lots to look forward to in this New Year here at St Luke's and in the wider team in East Widnes. First of all, a mission team with a Bishop and others will be joining us for a week in March, and as well as our normal events and services we also have some special events planned for them so watch this space and why not bring a friend along to one or more of what will be very enjoyable and stimulating occasions.

Also, the advertising for our next vicar and Team Rector continues and interviews are planned for February if there is a suitable response, so please keep all concerned in your prayers for this key appointment for team and church. Next, the planning and works to continue to improve our church building and welcome are in hand, the font is to be moved soon to a more convenient position and 2019 may even be the year re-working at the back of the church begins, if we can get the interested parties to agree on anything that is! Again, please pray for Baz, PCC and wardens as we try to find our way through the red tape and varying interests of all concerned, any significant work in a church building is always a complex procedure.

Finally, there will be the usual round of outstanding community events and church continues to be open for refreshments and good company or just a quiet space on Wednesdays-lots to enjoy and pray for in the short days and cold winter months!

Rev Ian Hopkins Interim Vicar

LENT and EASTER services

LENT GROUPS

St Luke's 10.15am each Wed, comm March 13th

St Ambrose: Lent course dates and times tbc

PALM SUNDAY April 14

Morning Prayer with Passion narrative



HOLY WEEK w/c April 15th

Monday of Holy Week, 10.30am Chrism

Service at Liverpool Cathedral

Compline to be offered at 7pm Mon to Wed in Holy Week, circulating round the churches in the EWT. Details will be on the pew sheet and the website or ring Team

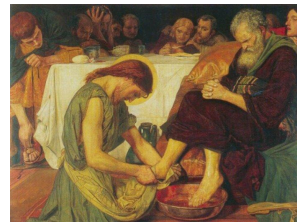
Administrator

07399784219

MAUNDY THURSDAY April 18th

St. Luke's: 7pm Service of Holy Foot Washing.

Communion with



GOOD FRIDAY April 19th

St Luke's: 10am Children's service

St Ambrose: 10am Messy Church

St Ambrose: 2pm EWT Last Hour



EASTER SUNDAY [April 21st]

St Luke's: 10.30am Holy Communion

St Ambrose: 10.30am Holy Communion

*Christ
is
Risen!*

**New contact details
Lesley Howell, our Team
Administrator is no
longer based at St John's
church. In future please
contact Lesley to
arrange an appointment
to meet at St Luke's
church or St Ambrose church.
church mobile 07399784219 or
email eastwidnesteam.2942@gmail.com or
use the Contact Us tab on our website
st-luke.co.uk**



CONTACT US

TRY OUR PORK and MEET OUR PIGS



**Snoutwoodtrotters.co.uk
07791020980
Laburnum Farm, Great
Sankey, WA5 3LE**

**HAYLOFT BOLD - ice
cream shop, coffee shop
and tea room
Mother's day events**



**Gin tasting
Wedding venue
01925 726220**

**ROSE QUEEN QUIZ
and Spring Raffle draw
Friday 29th March**

7pm at the Cricket Club

Teams of 4 to 6 £5 inc refs



Tickets from Lynn Keeling 424 3142

Spring Raffle - As well as £50 first prize there will be vouchers for a day out at the Shire Horse Centre Cotebrook, from Snoutwood Trotters (pork shop) Bold, Bold Farm shop and Hayloft Ice cream farm Bold plus many more prizes.



shutterstock - 147427670

Tickets from church & Yvonne Horabin

Thanks to Gayle Lacey, COO HSBC

£ for £

who once again has very kindly agreed that HSBC, as part of their charity support, will match the amount raised at this event (up to £1000).

Donations of food and wine to make hamper prizes would be much appreciated.



Please give to Yvonne Horabin or leave in church.

Thank you.

Can you help? Do you know of Sidney Harrison?

Message received by Rev Lyn

'Buried in St Lukes Cemetery is a guy Sidney Harrison, he died 5th November 1918 and was in the Royal Artillery where he was awarded the Military Medal. His family grave headstone is in a very poor condition and we feel we should do something to remember this man by.

I have contacted the War Graves Commission about erecting a headstone and I am awaiting a reply which could take weeks, would it be possible to announce his name at the next service to be held at St Lukes to find if there are any relatives still in Widnes.

If we do not have any joy about the headstone we would like to purchase a plaque and mount it in the area of the War Memorial at the entrance to the church'.

If you can help please contact Rev Lyn 07791650911

Parish Registers

<i>Holy Baptism</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Name</i>	
	27 Jan	Oscar William Joseph Bell	
		Felix Jude Manning	
		Sadie Rae Bessant	
<i>Funerals</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Age</i>
Widnes crem.	9 Nov	Eric Dyer	
St Luke	23 Nov	Irene Murial Kirkham	98
Widnes crem.	3 Dec	Kenneth Shepherd	90
St Luke	5 Dec	Edna Hockey	96
St Luke	28 Jan	Robert Daintith	
Widnes crem.	29 Jan	Eileen Lawler	

Phantom of the Opera in concert

One bitterly cold night in December St Luke's church was full of anticipation and we were definitely not disappointed. The students from the excellent Cronton College Performing Arts Department treated us to an amazing performance of Phantom of the Opera in Concert.

There was rapturous applause throughout the show and a well deserved standing ovation at the end for the super talented students.

There were stunning individual and group performances, two fantastic pianists enhanced the sound and the technicians worked their magic with lighting and special effects.

We must thank not only all the cast and technicians but also Matt Plant, Head of the Department for his enthusiasm, energy and commitment to giving St Luke's the opportunity to host their productions. We are so blessed to have this association with the College and look forward to that continuing for many years.

The College will be moving into their own Campus Theatre in the Spring; we will publish details of the shows which I am sure will be hugely popular. We wish them every success in their new venue.

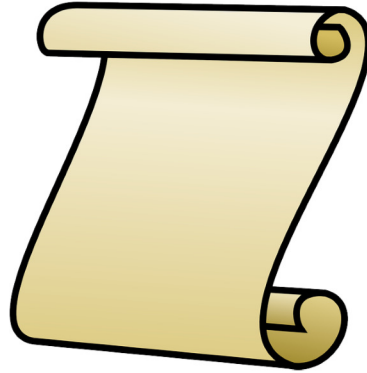
Sue Smither



NEW ELECTORAL ROLL 2019

Every six years the preparation of a new church electoral rolls takes place, which means that everyone has to come off the roll and re-apply.

From Diocesan website 'We are aware that General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) has raised some concerns regarding the renewal of the Electoral Roll. As the law currently stands, there is no need to amend the electoral roll forms, consent is not required. An informative note explaining the legal bases will be added to the forms in due course but the legal position is not dependent on this note. A standard Privacy Notice is being written by the national GDPR team, and will be published in January 2019 for churches to use. This can be sent out with the forms and will therefore include the relevant lawful bases'. Our Data Consent form will be attached to the Electoral Roll application form. Please complete our Data Consent form so we have your permission to contact you. Electoral Roll application forms and Data Consent forms available from church and electronically from farnworthreview@yahoo.co.uk



The GDPR privacy notice will be published on the website when it becomes available from Liverpool Diocese.



Fabric Report January 2019

With regard to the progress on the faculty for the proposed kitchen and toilet project, very little has happened over the Christmas period. I have had a verbal agreement from the Arch Deacon for the removal of the font, but not, as yet, had written confirmation. Once this is received, we can go ahead with moving the font.

After a long meeting with DAC board in November, I am awaiting acceptance of the plans so that a full faculty for the work can be applied for. However, on Monday 14th January, I was contacted by the contractor Williams and Son's to arrange a meeting to look at the plans again and discuss the amended recommendations with them. Only once this meeting has taken place and amendments agreed and the faculty accepted, can we start the process of applying for grants to cover the cost, which in view of the delay in getting agreement from the DAC, will more than likely increase on the original tender price. At this rate I can see the work on the kitchen and toilets being delayed until the Autumn. Barry Horabin

The Open the Book Team have dates in their diaries to go into Farnworth CE School over the next term.

The school has chosen JOY as their Fruit of the Spirit focus from now until Easter; we will ensure that our presentations enhance that value.

There will be a report in the next issue of the magazine on the OTB Team's work. Sue



CHRISTINGLES 2018

Over 600 people including babes in arms, toddler and teenagers, parents and grandchildren, aunts and uncles, local people and visitors from far away attended this year's Christingle Services. It was wonderful to see our church filled with a congregation eager to know what this year's service would bring...and Clare brought us the story of the Very Grumpy Sheep. This poor sheep did NOT want to walk with the shepherds and the rest of the flock all the way to Bethlehem. He baaa'd and bleated, he moaned and he groaned, he complained about his poor, sore feet until most reluctantly he arrived at the stable and then he was absolutely overcome with emotion when he saw the Christ Child cradled in Mary's arms. He then stood in awe as the Kings arrived and he watched them present their precious gifts...all turned out well and the grumpy sheep was grumpy no longer. Thank you to Kian who stepped in and played the Grumpy Sheep in the first service and Carrie who helped out in the second. Everyone enjoyed the story with its congregation participation; the singing was amazing and at the end of each service lots of very happy children and their 'carers' left to get ready for a visit from Santa. Thank you to all who gave to the collection; £600 was sent to The Church of England Children's Society to support their amazing work with children and young people in our country. Finally, thank you to all those people who found time in their busy schedules to make the Christingles. Sue & Clare Sue and Clare





HAPPY SHEEP

THREE



EVERYONE IS SMILING



St Luke's Sunday School
first two Sundays of the month and
the fourth. (except August)

10.30am till 11.40am

children age 4 to 11.



ALL AGE WORSHIP on third Sunday in church

We have lots of fun learning about God's Love for us.

Please come and join us.

Contact Lynn Keeling on 424 3142 for
further details.



It is strange how fast the time goes once Christmas is over and now it seems so far away. However I have to mention it because the children once again did us very proud whilst performing their version of the Nativity; it was absolutely fantastic each and every one of them did so well. They were helped by members of St Luke's Rainbows who stepped in to help at the last minute. We were also joined by Summer from our crèche who made an adorable little Angel. She is soon to join us at Sunday school and we look forward to welcoming her. There was a pure innocence to it all and they were all amazing. It really is a privilege being with these young children each week, well done to you all. We thank you all very much for taking part, you should all be very proud.

When we returned to Sunday school in January ready for another busy year it was nice to find out what Father Christmas had brought to all the children in their stockings. We started off by learning about Epiphany and the three wise men. We will also be learning about how Jesus was baptised in the River Jordan by his cousin John the Baptist.

We wish everyone a healthy and happy 2019.

Here are some future dates for Sunday school.

13th & 27th January, 3rd and 24th February, 3rd, 10th and 24th March. 31st March - Mothering Sunday in church

Lynn Keeling

Greenalls Brass Band 2018 - If ever there was a good way to kick start your Christmas it is by coming to church to listen to and thoroughly enjoy their Christmas Concert.

We immersed ourselves in the wonderfully rich sounds of old favourites and new arrangements. We were treated to some amazing solo pieces, one of them by the youngest member of the Band, just 16 years of age, who played 'O Holy Night' perfectly...no mean feat to play in front of a knowledgeable and rapt audience. The Band tell us that they really enjoy coming to St Luke's and they really appreciate the warm welcome they receive. We can't thank them enough for a wonderful evening.

Put this date in your diary, 7.30pm on December 7th 2019. Come along to support us and them. We can guarantee you won't be disappointed. One lady travelled from Yorkshire to be with us, that is some recommendation!

Sue

News from Cronton
Services in February and March all at 10.30 am

3rd Feb	Café style church
10th	Morning Prayer
17th	Café style church
24th	Holy Communion
3rd Mar	Café style church
10th	Morning Prayer
17th	Café style church
24th	Holy Communion
31st	Mothering Sunday service



The 2018 village tree lighting and ecumenical nativity service at Holy Family church was beautiful...but wet and windy. There again, wet and windy is part of the beauty of nature [just not as alluring as cold and crisp]. The children of Cronton and Holy Family were as delightful as ever – the singing was beautiful. That said, judging by the shepherds faces there may have been a pay dispute or other union trouble cooking. That or they were of an age when the tea towel on the head look is so not ‘street cool’. Jenny McGregor [the Methodist Minister] gave a lively and entertaining talk based on the 12 Days of Christmas with props that were unexpectedly outshone by some of the children who volunteered to come up to the front – it is so good to laugh together, we all felt truly joyful and what a fun way to reflect that Jesus is indeed the greatest gift of all. Father Michael wants to know where she gets all her props and her ideas – me too!



This year we held Christingle at our morning service, and as we can close curtains across every window, it was almost as dark as a 4.00pm service. The children [and parents] were fresh and alert and the service went very smoothly – you can't beat

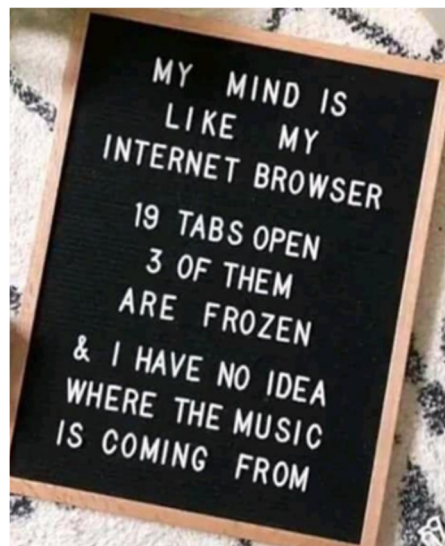
awe and wonder. Ellie and Jessica Burbury did all the readings and explained all the elements of the Christingle – I had a bit part with the power-point clicker [visual aids to explain meaning to the youngest – they do love a slide show]. I'm sorry we don't have the space here to include a photo of everyone – and of course the photos are not great because it was dark! Do they show atmosphere? That'll do.



Drop In – we had sad news just after Christmas as Kate Curry, one of our regulars, sadly died after a short illness. Kate made beautiful bags for Cronton Mission to sell at the gala [she sewed until her fingers bled] and was a hive of industry making things for dementia patients – twiddle muffs, clothes for dolls... she was always doing something for others in a quiet and unassuming way and always insisted on staying out of the limelight and camera shot! Quiet and a great sense of humour – there is lots we will miss about Kate [Kath to some] and she leaves heartbroken family and friends who will cherish happy memories of a very special lady.

So 2019 has dawned with a world of possibilities in front of us, our journey of faith continues and it sustains us through life's ups and downs... and there are plenty of those. At Cronton we are happy to have a service every Sunday again, although this in itself is going to cause confusion for some for a while. After the first few weeks we feel we need to make a few alterations, firstly to alternate traditional with fresh expressions [café style] and also to invite others to lead some services; everyone brings something unique and we have fond connections with those who have come here over the years. This will also mean that I am not working 7 days a week, every week [even on Holy Communion weeks, I have a role to play]. You can imagine how grateful I am. Thanks to Revd. Ray covering Morning Prayer I was able to enjoy a Christmas gift spa weekend at the beginning of January – it doesn't take much to recharge our batteries does it? And everyone at Cronton loves an excuse to listen to one of Ray's sermons. Sorry I missed it!

As I write, the school's annual service at St Luke's still lies ahead of us and this year Revd Lyn will be presiding which is great as the children see her every week in school and will see her in a different environment doing her usual thing. They always find it exciting to go to St Luke's church on the coach. Cronton CE was in the Echo this week – and unusually for a newspaper it wasn't a bad news story. It is wonderful to see the school's success acknowledged. The school is ranked the top state funded primary school in Knowsley and ranked 8th in the top 10 of primary schools in the region. The children are much the same as children everywhere – the difference is Sylvia Thomson and her staff. Their commitment, drive and passion is unrelenting and they give 110% - other schools do too I know, Cronton has worked hard on developing expertise and high expectations and the hard work has paid off. Thank you to the staff and well done to everyone who walks through those doors every day. The Christian ethos is every bit as pronounced and important as the academic success of those children – how blessed are they? and we? All that potential and all that promise – do you remember being that age? And look at us now... I put my brain down somewhere last year and I'm still looking for it. So this sign struck a chord – and my funny bone. Lesley LML



Treasurer's Report General Fund year ended 31st Dec 2018
Receipts £105563.52 Expenses £125231.80 = Deficit
£19668.28

The above figures contain some estimates, but a deficit of just under £20,000 is very worrying for the future of St Luke's Church. In 2019 we already know that there will be an annual increase in our parish share of approximately £1800, and we also no longer qualify for free banking as a charity, as our income is over £100,000, so that will be a further cost of £840 per annum. Please help us reduce this deficit if you can. We are trying to keep our overheads down as much as possible, and have managed to keep the heating on so far this winter. The gas costs for the quarter ended November 2018 was £862.83 and is likely to be double that for the next quarter. The heating is set at 19 degrees and switches itself off once the church reaches that temperature, so just because the radiators are not hot doesn't mean the heating is off. On a Sunday morning time clock is set for 6.30am until noon. Fundraising Events in Nov and Dec raised the following amounts:- School Christmas Fair £494.98, Quiz Night £536.08, Greenall's Brass Band £261, 6th form Concert £275, Christmas Raffle £167. Thank you to all who supported these events and also thank you to the parents of Farnworth and Lunt's Heath Schools for their kind donations at the children's concerts in church. The monies raised by the Liverpool Festival Choir concert in Dec was for their chosen charity. Monies raised at the two Christingle services on Christmas Eve was for the Children's Society and amounted to £600. A big thank you to all who helped at all events in this period. Treasurer.
Yvonne Horabin (Treasurer)



At the start of the year I thought you might be interested to see the change in the trends for Foodbank use in Widnes over recent years, so I have run some reports which show the number of vouchers we have given out from 2015 to 2018.

Year	Vouchers
2015	898
2016	1002
2017	1403
2018	1523

A single person or family is usually limited to a maximum of 3 vouchers per 6 month period.

As you can see the demand has risen steeply, last year over 50% of the vouchers were given due to benefit changes or delays, low income came next then homelessness, domestic violence, debt, sickness and delayed payment of wages being other important factors. We had a wonderful donation response over Christmas and have good stocks of many items but we do need regular donations to keep up the stocks and the following items are in lower supply than others

Coffee, jam, tinned meat, tinned fish, instant rice, instant pasta and tinned rice puddings.

Many thanks again to those of you who regularly donate. Lesley Howell



Pat Forrester

It was with great sadness that we were informed on Monday, January 14th of the death of Pat Forrester. Pat passed away peacefully in her sleep in a Nursing Home in the North East.

For so many years Pat, and her late husband Trevor, were hugely involved in the life and work of St Luke's and so well respected by many.

Many will remember the Forrester's living in their lovely home in Coroner's Lane; following Trevor's death Pat went into Abbeyfield then later she moved up to Newcastle to be nearer her son Geoffrey and his family. Together Pat and Trevor wrote and performed in so many Concert Party productions that were the highlight of lots of Church Guild meetings. Her loft was like a Theatre wardrobe with costumes spanning the centuries, coming in every colour, size and shape. You only needed to ask and Pat would have every prop imaginable.

She was also an extremely talented Flower Arranger; the amazingly detailed drawings that she produced of each arrangement she worked on were works of art.

She loved to entertain and opened her house to family, friends and strangers alike. Pat and Trevor introduced me to Manzanilla encouraging me to join them after church on Sunday for a pre-lunch sherry; their welcome and hospitality was just wonderful and so typical of them and their generosity. Pat will be remembered by many at St Luke's with such great love and affection. As a church community, we send our sincere sympathy to Geoffrey and the family.

Sue



**Crafts if you
wish to do them**

**Great board
Games for those
who like them**

**Conversations
and stories**

**Free tea,
coffee, and hot
chocolate**

**Cake and
Teacakes**

Meets every Wed 10:30-2pm. The Sanctuary

St Ambrose Church Halton View Road, Widnes

The Sanctuary meets every Wednesday so come and join us each week for a free 'cuppa' and a snack.

If you enjoy chatting with people in your community, or even if you just need a place to hang out, then we are here for you. There will be on occasion's speakers looking at subjects surrounding health and wellbeing and it's a place to meet friends in our local community and to share our stories.

We also have MIND workers available if you need to talk to someone about any Mental health needs.

**Contact contact David Steadman 07551399631
dwandc.steadman@virginmedia.com**

EWT	SERVICES	
Date	St Ambrose	St Luke's
Feb 3rd	09.00 HC [CW]	
	10.30 HC	10.30 HC
		12.30 Baptisms
Feb 10th		08.00 HC
	10.30 HC	10.30 MP
		16.00 Toddler Church
Feb 17th	10.30 HC Baptisms	10.30 All Age Worship
		18.00 HC [BCP]
Feb 24th	09.00 HC	
	10.30 Family service	10.30 HC
		12.30 Baptisms
March 3rd	09.00 HC [CW]	
	10.30 HC	10.30 HC
		12.30 Baptisms
March 10th		08.00 HC
	10.30 HC	10.30 HC
		16.00 Toddler Church
March 17th	10.30 HC Baptisms	10.30 All Age Worship
		18.00 HC [BCP]
March 24th	09.00 HC	
	10.30 Family service	10.30 HC
		12.30 Baptisms
March 31st Mothering Sunday	HC with children	HC with children

**Aladdin's Cave
Second Saturday of each month
9.30am to 12.30 in the Bridewell.**



Sale of good quality nearly new & used clothing, household goods & bric-a-brac. Please take donations to Bridewell on the Friday before the sale. If you would like items to be picked up please ring 01514203695

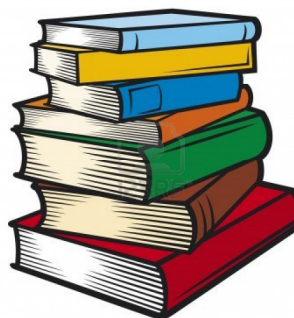
BRIDEWELL BOOKINGS

The Bridewell is available for use by small groups. Charges are £20 for first 2 hours and £5 per hour thereafter. Booking forms are available from Barry Ingram. 0151 423 2492

SALE OF BOOKS DVDS CDS TALKING BOOKS on tape

First Saturday each month 11am to 3pm

Refreshments on sale



**‘KNIT and NATTER or SIT and SEW’
1.30pm to 3.30pm Tuesdays from
March 12th in church.**

All welcome. Tea/coffee//biscuits available



**Join the ladies who
are repairing a
banner for church to
help or knit or chat
and have a cuppa.**



***** OPEN CHURCH *****

**We are so thankful to all those people who volunteer to
support**

WEDNESDAY'S OPEN CHURCH. 10am to 4pm

**ALL are welcome to drop into St Luke's for a guided tour,
a chat or prayer**

Tea/coffee & biscuits available

FLOWER ROTA				
February	3	Mrs O Wilde	10	Mrs E Burrows
	17	Mrs V Park-Funnell	24	Mrs B Bullock
March		No flowers in Lent		

'GAMES GALORE'

Grosvenor Women's club is hosting and providing refreshments

**1.30pm to 3.30pm Wednesdays
in church.**

Men welcome.

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



Folk getting to know each other and sharing laughter and tales recalling childhood memories of games played.

Afternoons are free - donations gratefully accepted for church funds.

We look forward to seeing you!

Contact Pat Johnson 0151 257 7737

Mothers' Union by Rita Poole

Here we in Feb 2019, I hope it will be a good one. Dec 12th was our Christmas carol evening. Jackie took the meeting and Daniel kindly played for us. We were sorry to here about the death of Edna Hockey. Edna had been in the MU for many years and was one of our indoor members. At her funeral the MU held a guard of Honour that her family appreciated. It was obvious from those who spoke at her funeral that she was a lovely, kind lady who spread joy to those she met. Jackie also said prayers for Barbara Houghton who has foot trouble and Barbara Jones who had a broken arm. Jackie chose the carols and readings. We sang about angels and shepherds. The coming of Christ was foretold from the beginning. Isaiah and Micah told of a child born to a virgin in Bethlehem from the line of David. We sang about wise men and the guiding star. The wise men came from the East baring gifts but what they said on their arrival was the most important thing. 'Where is He born King of the Jews'. It doesn't matter what turmoil is going on in the world we are told not be afraid because He will come again to save his church and save Israel from her enemies. Jackie always gives an inspiring talk. We sang carols and our ladies were in good voice, we ate mince pies, cake and biscuits, drank mulled wine, juice or hot drinks while Daniel quietly played carols it was a very nice atmosphere.

Dec13th was our Christmas meal at the Everglades. The food was very good. It was a bit crowded, sardines and tins springs to mind. Each table had to go to the

carvery which took a long time. There was bingo and a quiz that made it even longer. Quite a few people left before the end of the quiz. There was a good deal of chatter and laughter so the Christmas spirit was amongst us.

We were sorry to hear about the death of Eileen Lynn. She was a member of the MU for many years. She moved to be with her family so wasn't alone. Eileen was also part of the flower arranger's team who make St Luke's so welcoming and colourful. There is going to be a memorial service at St Luke's Sat 23rd Feb at 11am all welcome.

Jan 9th was our first meeting of the new year. Jackie welcomed Revd; Ian Hopkins as our speaker. Jackie started with prayers. She spoke about Hosea, the Prophet of a broken home, whose name means Saviour. It is best to read Hosea to find out what God wanted him to do. Jackie always gives us something to think about.

Revd; Ian spoke about his Christian life. He wasn't from a religious background and came to faith in his teens. He worked as a Linguist speaking French, Spanish, Portuguese and Arabic. He is married to Fiona a social worker. After his training in the Ministry at Oxford college he became a curate at St Thomas in Edinburgh where he stayed for 13yrs. They moved to St Marks in Haydock and it is here he became an Interim Minister a job he really enjoys. He came to Widnes to sort out problems. He works in the past, present and future. This reminds me of Dickens Christmas Carol. You have to sort out the past before you can move on. A fresh pair of eyes can help unravel problems and defuse situations.

**You can then work on what is best for the churches. St John is teamed with St Paul's to attract younger people with bands and a café style informal service. Revd; Lyn is settled at St Ambrose and St Luke's is looking for a new team Rector. We are looking towards Easter or the Summer before we get a Vicar. A lot of our members would Like Revd: Ian to take up the post but I think he enjoys his job. Our ladies had plenty of questions for him. It was very interesting and Jackie thanked him for coming out on such a cold damp night. Unfortunately, it was very cold in the Bridewell and we all welcomed a hot drink. Our meeting on the 13th Feb is MU in the Liverpool Diocese with Caroline Collins
March 13th will be family Fortunes
Tea rota for Feb is Lynne Taylor & Dorothy Wall
March rota is Sandria Tuson & June Morrow
Rita Poole**



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Eileen Lynn- It was with great sadness that we heard of the death of Eileen on 27th December. She was 94 years old, and was a regular worshipper at St Luke's for many years, until her health prevented her from attending. Eileen was a lady of many talents, in particular flower arranging. She was part of the team with Pat Forrester and Peggy Tebbut for over twenty years. She really enjoyed Flower Festivals, both at St Luke's and other Churches within the Liverpool branch of CEFAA (Church of England Flower Arrangers Association) and she arranged for many years at Liverpool Cathedral. The first Christmas Tree Festival held at St Luke's came via Eileen from her son's Church in Cornwall. Eileen had been a member of the Church Guild and Mothers Union and Widnes Floral Art Club. It was through Eileen's encouragement that I got involved with Church flowers, I was a complete novice! She taught me a great deal and I cannot thank her enough. There was always a lot of laughter and fun working with her, she was generous with her time, and a good friend to the flower team, always willing to pass on her knowledge and skills. Eileen will be remembered with love and gratitude for all she did with flowers and the flower team. At Christmas Eileen met her latest great grandson for the first time; he and his parents had flown in from Singapore especially to join in the celebrations. Eileen was extremely proud of her family, and I know how much they will miss her. Our love, prayers and deepest sympathy go out to them. **Lesley Runcorn
A Memorial and Thanksgiving Service for Eileen will be held at St Luke's Church on Sat 23rd February 11.00am.**



In recent weeks people have spoken of opening their Bibles and being amazed by what they have read and learned. How wonderful is that!

For 2019 we have a new challenge:

To read through the Bible in chronological order in just one year. These are quite big chunks compared to our usual Bible readings but they are definitely doable.

If you would like to loan a Church Bible [NRSV version] please speak to a Warden.

Sue

FEBRUARY

**Feb 1 Gen 1-3
Feb 3 Gen 8-11
Feb 5 Job 6-9
Feb 7 Job 14-16
Feb 9 Job 21-23
Feb 11 Job 29-31
Feb 13 Job 35-37
Feb 15 Job 40-42
Feb 17 Gen 16-18
Feb 19 Gen 22-24
Feb 21 Gen 27-29
Feb 23 Gen 32-34
Feb 25 Gen 38-40
Feb 27 Gen 43-45**

**Feb 2 Gen 4-7
Feb 4 Job 1-5
Feb 6 Job 10-13
Feb 8 Job 17-20
Feb 10 Job 24-28
Feb 12 Job 32-34
Feb 14 Job 38-39
Feb 16 Gen 12-15
Feb 18 Gen 19-21
Feb 20 Gen 25-26
Feb 22 Gen 30-31
Feb 24 Gen 35-37
Feb 26 Gen 41-42
Feb 28 Gen 46-47**

MARCH

**Mar 1 Gen 48-50
Mar 3 Ex 4-6
Mar 5 Ex 10-12
Mar 7 Ex 16-18**

**Mar 2 Ex 1-3
Mar 4 Ex 7-9
Mar 6 Ex 13-15
Mar 8 Ex 19-21**

Mar 9 Ex 22-24
Mar 11 Ex 28-29
Mar 13 Ex 33-35
Mar 15 Ex 39-40
Mar 17 Lev 5-7
Mar 19 Lev 11-13
Mar 21 Lev 16-18
Mar 23 Lev 22-23
Mar 25 Lev 26-27
Mar 27 Num 3-4
Mar 29 Num 7
Mar 31 Num 11-13

Mar 10 Ex 25-27
Mar 12 Ex 30-32
Mar 14 Ex 36-38
Mar 16 Lev 1-4
Mar 18 Lev 8-10
Mar 20 Lev 14-15
Mar 22 Lev 19-21
Mar 24 Lev 24-25
Mar 26 Num 1-2
Mar 28 Num 5-6
Mar 30 Num 8-10



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 2018

We were blessed to have the new Bishop of Warrington, The Rt. Rev'd Beverley Mason, join us for our service of Midnight Holy Communion.

A former stockbroker, Bishop Beverley was born into a military family

growing up with her three brothers moving from base to base; her life took a dramatic turn on a backpacking gap year in 1994 when she came to faith. That led to her becoming a humanitarian aid worker before discerning a vocation to ordained ministry. During this time she also discerned a call to singleness. Beverley has served in a number of roles in a variety of places before being called to be Archdeacon of Richmond and Craven. She also covered a vacancy in the See of Ripon.

Bishop Beverley was consecrated bishop by the Archbishop of York at York Minster on October 18th 2018. She was welcomed into Liverpool Diocese in a service in Liverpool Cathedral on Nov 17th 2108. In her sermon she spoke about studying the work of the first Bishops appointed to the Church and how she now has a big task ahead of her to follow in their footsteps. The church was packed and at the end of the service Bishop Beverley and Rev'd Ian spent quite some time speaking to people as they left. Sue Smither



THANK YOU FLOWER ARRANGERS

I do know that people who visit our church very much appreciate the work that our Flower Arrangers do. Week after week the CETAA members come into a very cold church to work on the arrangements of flowers and greenery; they prefer the cooler temperature as that helps keep the flowers fresh....it is a great ask of them and they carry out this voluntary work in friendship and fellowship. The church was beautifully decorated over the Christmas period with glorious arrangements of red, gold and evergreens.

A huge 'Thank you' to the Team of Lesley Runcorn, who leads the team, plans and buys in all the flowers, and to Brenda Bullock, Carolyn and Patsy Davies who work alongside her.

St Luke's is blessed to have such a talented team....most churches now resort to displays of artificial flowers so we are doubly blessed.

THANK YOU CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY

St Luke's is blessed to have such a talented team....most churches now resort to displays of artificial flowers so we are doubly blessed.

THANK YOU CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY

Have you noticed all the work that has been done by the small but very dedicated band of people who come, hail, rain or shine to work in the churchyard each Monday morning? I have seen gravestones that I didn't even know existed as the workers have cleared a huge area of the churchyard at the east end of the church, the part nearest to the Bridewell.

The front borders inside the stone wall look amazing, especially now that all the snowdrops are peeping through. They do an amazing job and I know that they would really appreciate more help. It has been proved that gardening lightens the soul and keeps you fit!! Can you spare an hour to help out?

THANK YOU BELL RINGERS

Again, St Luke's don't know just how lucky they are that we still have a dedicated band of Bellringers. They came out and rang for us on Christmas Eve drawing the people to worship, the ringing was joyful. They too give freely of their time and effort to ring and practice weekly and again we are blessed to have such an experienced band who are only too willing to pass on their skills to anyone who would like to try.

THANK YOU CHOIR

Worship at St Luke's without a choir is unthinkable. Many visitors, mainly men, tell us that as young children they sang in the choir. The number of choir members is now somewhat depleted but the current choristers

enthusiasm and commitment to the choir is as strong as ever.

Under the expert guidance of Paul Delaney, St Luke's Director of Music, they sang some beautiful new pieces during the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. I am sure that new people would be made more than welcome to join their ranks to ensure that the tradition of Choir led worship will continue at St Luke's for many years to come. Sue

Wednesday services	FEBRUARY and	MARCH
	St Luke	St Ambrose
6th February	Holy Communion	
13th February	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion
20th February	Holy Communion	
27th February	Morning Prayer	No service
6th March	Ash Wednesday Holy Communion	
13th March	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion
20th March	Holy Communion	
27th March	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion



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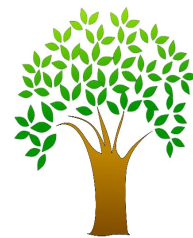
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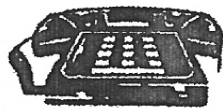
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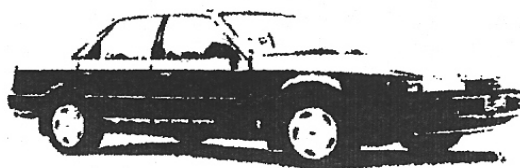
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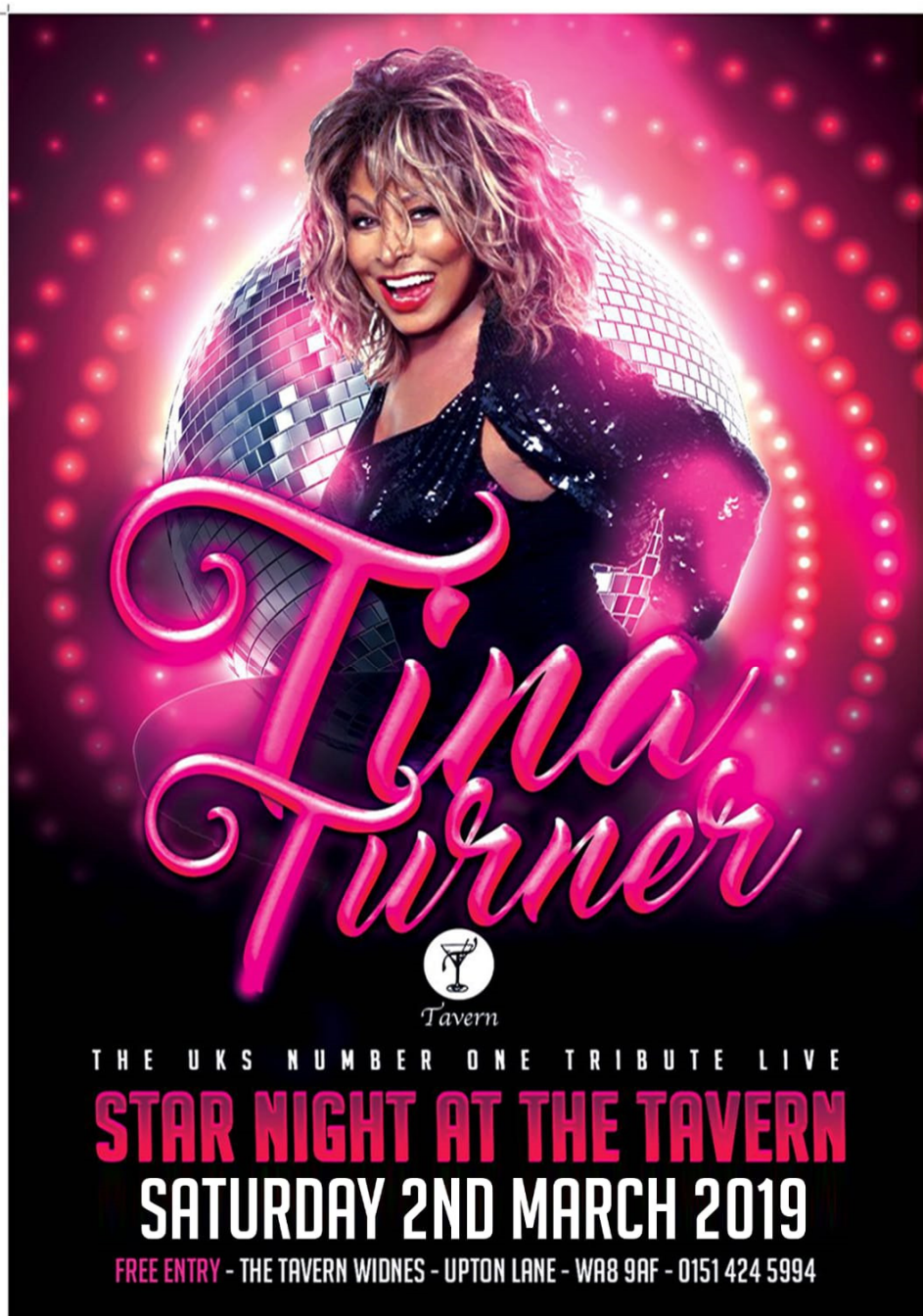
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Lay reader Clare Liptrott 07976549410

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NEW CONTACT DETAILS

Team Administrator Lesley Howell

Please contact Lesley to arrange an appointment to meet at St Luke's church or St Ambrose church. C

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use the Contact Us tab on our website

st-luke.co.uk

Wedding and Baptism

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