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Parish Magazine

St. Luke's Church & Cronton Mission

Church is open on Sundays 10.30am

Holy Communion

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Easter Sunday
Holy Communion 10.30am

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Rob Leach	via	07761672030
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Lay Chair	Barry Ingram	01514232492
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**SUNDAY CLUB, CHOIR PRACTICE and
BELL RINGING PRACTICE CANCELLED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE**

Sunday Club 1030am in the Bridewell most Sundays

Sunday Club Leader Lynn Keeling 01514243142

Director of Music Paul Delaney 07778042553

Choir Practice usually Monday 6-7pm in church

Tower Captain Nigel Goulding

Bell ringing practice Tuesdays 7.30pm

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
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Deadline for articles noon on 18th May 2021.

**The Editor, Clergy and the Churchwardens reserve the
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Dear Friends,

As the numbers of people with coronavirus continues to fall and the roll-out of vaccinations is in full swing we give thanks as our nation slowly begins to move out of the government imposed 'lockdown' situation. Hopefully, very soon we will be able to hug and mix with our friends and loved ones beyond our household 'bubble' again. What a celebration that day will be!

Have you noticed that a new phrase has entered our vocabulary and is being increasingly heard, 'New Normal'? Many people are speculating what this new normal might be like. What is certain is that life will be different and not just for the poor souls who have lost loved ones to this dreadful disease or lost their good health, jobs, or businesses.

One of the issues that this unprecedented time has highlighted is the growing gap between the 'haves' and the 'have-nots' in our society and in the world in general. Lockdown has certainly been very different for some of the poorest, from others whose material wealth and fame has seemingly buffered them from at least some of the hardships the rest have contended with.

So, let me ask you a question.

If you could change places with someone else – you have their life and they yours, would you be tempted? I suspect that many people have at some time looked with envy upon the life or lifestyle of another. Perhaps someone who we think is better looking, or wealthier or more talented than we are. I believe that this view is growing in our country, not just because of the pandemic, but as a result of the 'cult of celebrity' which has befallen many in recent years. I consider that this is at least partly responsible for the huge growth in practices like cosmetic surgery or various 'get-rich-quick' schemes ranging from internet gambling to celebrity this, that or the other on T.V.!

We are daily being sold the lie that if only we could live the life of this or that celebrity then we would be happy and contented. It is an illusion - as the most cursory glance at the real lives of many so-called celebrities will show. The richest, most beautiful and most wonderfully talented people in the world know that these gifts also bring tremendous pressures with them. Many sadly succumb to a string of failed relationships or drug or alcohol abuse or even suicide, dying friendless, empty and alone.

But what if there were someone who could offer you a new life which was not an illusion but very real – a life in which your past mistakes were put behind you and you were given a brand-new start? A promise, not from someone with some product or other to sell, but a promise from God himself.

Surely, only a fool would not accept such an offer you would think. Yet this is precisely the offer which God makes to everyone through the death and resurrection of his Son Jesus.

This is the message of Easter – abundant new life in Christ. A dying to self and a raising with Christ to a fulfilling, new, eternal life hidden with him, which nothing can steal or spoil.

If you are feeling disillusioned by the constant diet of false promises made by those who control our media, then this may be just the remedy which you are looking for - a chance for you to hear the truth about the human condition. The new life which Christ offers can sometimes be a hard life, but it is always real.

If you are happy with your fantasies and are content to live in a pretend world chasing false illusions then this message is not for you, but if you long for an end to pretence and yearn for something deserving of your full devotion then come and hear more.

This month in church, along with millions around the world, we remember and celebrate the Easter mysteries and travel with Jesus in prayer and sacrament through the life-changing events of Holy Week.

Will you travel with us?

Will you come and hear more about God's offer by joining us at the church services over this sacred season, either in person or via our Zoom link?

On the next page you will find a full list of the services that we have planned and I offer you a personal invitation to each and every one of them.

I pray that you and your loved ones will have a happy, holy and blessed Easter, and that the sacred promises of Jesus will find a welcome in your hearts and minds.

Your friend,
Revd Bob

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday (28th March)

10:30am Holy Communion in church & via Zoom

Monday 29th March

7pm Compline via Zoom

Tuesday 30th March

7pm Compline via Zoom

Wednesday 31st March

9.30am Morning Prayer via Zoom

7pm Compline via Zoom

Maundy Thursday (1st April)

7pm Holy Communion in church and via Zoom

Good Friday (2nd April)

10am Messy Easter via Zoom

2pm Last Hour Service via Zoom

Saturday 3rd April

No service, please pray at home

Easter Sunday (4th April)

10:30am Holy Communion in church and via Zoom

Services for April and May

St Luke's church is open each Sunday for the 10.30am service of Holy Communion. The service will still be available via Zoom.

Wednesday 9.30am services of Morning Prayer will continue to be Zoom only; this is to allow for midweek funerals to take place.

St Ambrose will open for services from Easter Sunday. All the Sunday services will be in church.

Cronton Mission not open for services.

April	St Luke's church	St Ambrose
Sun 4 th	10.30am HC Church & ZOOM	10.30am HC
Wed 7 th	9.30am MP ZOOM only	
Sun 11 th	10.30am HC Church & ZOOM	10,30am MP
Wed 14 th	9.30am MP ZOOM only	
Sun 18 th	10.30am HC Church & ZOOM	10.30am HC
Wed 21 st	9.30am MP ZOOM only	
Sun 25 th	10.30am HC Church & ZOOM	10.30am MP
Wed 28 th	9.30am MP ZOOM only	
May		
Sun 2 nd	10.30am HC Church & ZOOM	10.30am HC
Wed 5 th	9.30am MP ZOOM only	
Sun 9 th	10.30am HC Church & ZOOM	10.30am MP
Wed 12 th	9.30am MP ZOOM only	
Sun 16 th	10.30am HC Church & ZOOM	10.30am HC
Wed 19 th	9.30am MP ZOOM only	
Sun 23 rd	10.30am HC Church & ZOOM	10.30am MP
Wed 26 th	9.30am MP ZOOM only	
Sun 30 th	10.30am HC Church & ZOOM	10.30am MP

JOIN US TO WORSHIP IN CHURCH OR ON ZOOM.



Messy Easter From St Luke's Church Via Zoom

**** EASTER STORY ****

**** INTERACTIVE CRAFTS ****

Good Friday

2nd April

GOOD FRIDAY **10am**

If you'd like to take part in the craft activities during the service please visit church website to download the activity sheets www.st-luke.co.uk

The Zoom meeting ID and password is the same as for all our other services, if you don't have the details please see website or contact

Clare: 07976549410

Holy Week Booklet by Clare Liptrott

During Holy Week we plan to place large Holy Week Wreaths outside St Ambrose Church, St Luke's Church and Cronton School (where Cronton Mission Church meets) and each day, from Palm Sunday through to Easter Sunday, Bible verses and a coloured drawing will be added to the wreath to follow the progress of Jesus through this important week.

This booklet contains the Bible verses and the drawings, which you can colour in yourself if you wish. You can leave as a booklet or you could cut them out and use them to create your own wreath if you wanted to. The booklet is on the church website st-luke.co.uk. If you do not have access to the website contact Clare for a copy. 07976549410

During the week, on the churches Facebook Pages and websites, there will be photographs of the wreaths as we add in the Bible verses and drawings. So, if you are able, you can follow the progress of the wreaths on line.

You might even be able to go and visit your nearest wreath and if you do go and visit we would invite you to take a small piece of ribbon or string with you to tie prayerfully to the accompanying prayer 'washing line' or railings, as identified at each site.

The journey

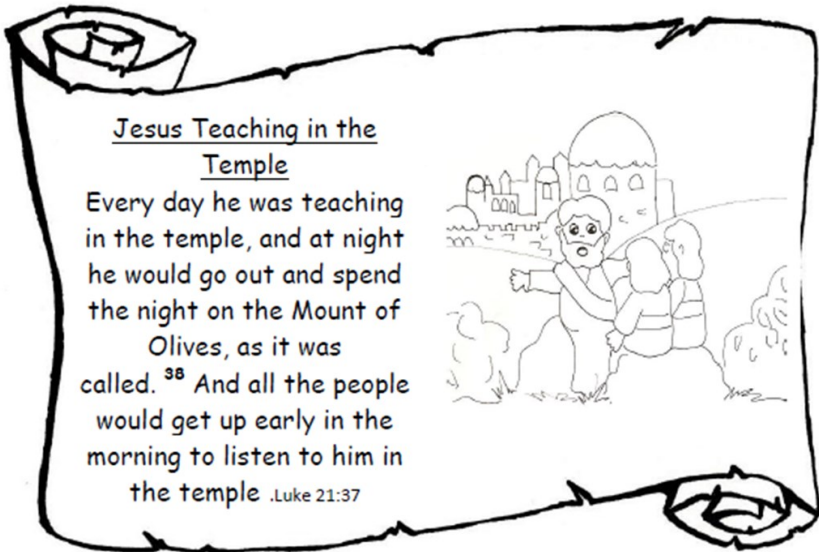
Palm Sunday - Jesus' entry to Jerusalem



Monday - Jesus goes to the Temple



Tuesday - Jesus teaching in the Temple



Wednesday - Judas agrees to betray Jesus



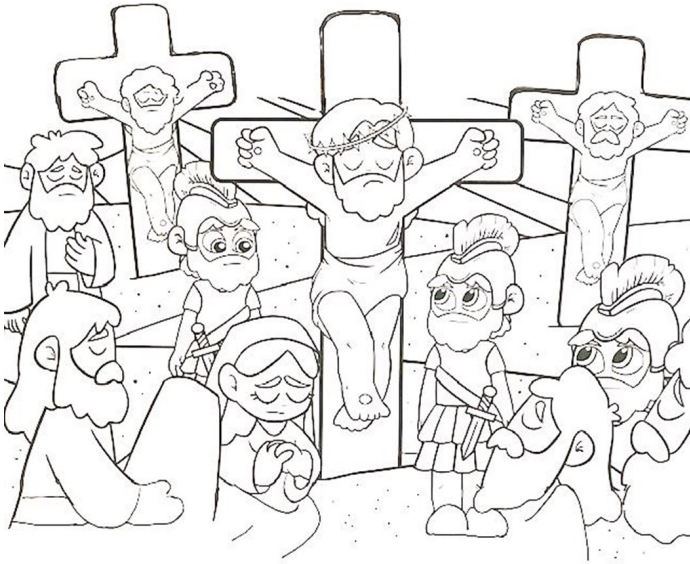
Maundy Thursday - Jesus washes the feet of the disciples
Jesus prays on the Mount of Olives



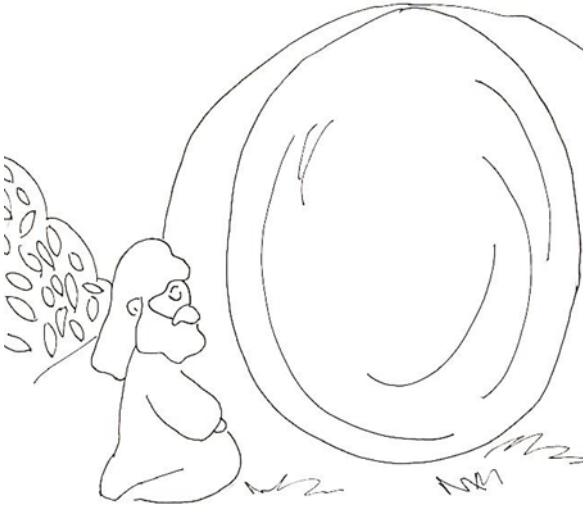
The Last Supper



Good Friday - The Crucifixion of Jesus



Saturday - The Burial of Jesus



Easter Sunday - The Resurrection of Jesus



Reflection by Paul, our Director of Music

It's always wonderful to be back at St Luke's - we are privileged to hear such a wonderful organ, expertly restored to its former glory by David Wells. (No relation to Ian Wells, one of my former teachesr!). I know David, I used to see him when I was a music student at the cathedral, way back in 1987-1990. (The days of the Crosville H20 and H21 bus (Halebank route) and constantly cancelled trains to Liverpool!) David's an expert in his field too, so we are lucky to have taken advantage of his services!

Zoom is great - a modern day miracle BUT we all know it's not the same

BUT such a powerful tool, esp for those who are sick or live far away perhaps and still want to join in. When I was on zoom with a school in Los Angeles last week, I couldn't believe it - talking LIVE to a gang of 6/7 year olds across the globe! Crazy! At least for the time being, people don't have to hear me getting the words wrong in various hymns!

First verse is easy - the words are under the music, from then on, unless I know the music from memory, it's rather difficult - flicking your eyes from music to words every half a second or so! Maybe next time, we'll enlist the services of the 'Go compare!' man!

Well, hopefully, the choir will all be back soon. Rachel, a friend of mine from the Alpha course might be joining in the future, it's very difficult to recruit new members. At my old church (St Paul's RC, West Derby, Liverpool) we constantly handed out leaflets, got up into the pulpit, etc, etc BUT nobody came forward, maybe one or two in all the years I was there! Some joined and lasted a few weeks and then disappeared too! But you never know. Fingers crossed...

It's my long term vision to develop a children's choir BUT we will have to have toilets first! We shall see. Another development I'd like to pursue is a music festival, starting in 2022 or 2023. My vision is to have a week of events or a month of weekend / midweek events with the emphasis on raising money for local and national charities as well as church. Not just classical music but popular music as I know LOTS of fabulous artists who I'm sure would participate. One for the future!

Fabric and Churchyard

With regard to work on church fabric we are still in the grip of the problems the pandemic has made which has brought all work to a standstill. Hopefully when things improve we will be able to launch the next Restoration Appeal and move things forward.

The churchyard is starting to bloom with daffodils and bluebells everywhere, which is wonderful to see, but it does inhibit work in cutting grass and brambles. Although the working party has shrunk somewhat due to the fact that most, if not all, come under the vulnerable category of people therefore

work has been restricted. Having said that one of the group Barry Hughes has worked daily clearing piles of cut brambles to the extent we can now see the bottom wall of the churchyard

My own thanks and I am sure of all of you will go to Barry who has only been with us for a few months and has worked tirelessly with the team to achieve this result in all weathers. Work on cutting back the brambles etc. will now have to wait until the flowers have died back so that work can again commence. We are in great need of more volunteers for this work although strenuous at times, it gives you a



feeling of wellbeing especially when the sun shines and we can appreciate the peace, quiet and the wonders of nature that it offers. If anyone feels they can offer some help please contact me or come to the church at 9am every Monday you will be made very welcome.
Barry Horabin

I wonder... by Paul Delaney

I wonder what a goldfish thinks about,
swimming in a bowl.

Is he dreaming of a bigger tank
or a long lost family shoal?

Is he waiting for another fish
to share his watery home?

Or is he happy all alone,
the King of his own glass dome?

I wonder...

I wonder what a parrot thinks about,
sitting in a cage?

Is she happy talking and squawking,
a performer on a stage?

Is she dreaming of her jungle,
longing to stretch her wings?

Or is her spirit fading,
forgetting what freedom brings?

I wonder...

I wonder what a dog thinks about,
abandoned by his owner?

Is he feeling rejected,
like a long, lost loner?

Is he enjoying being a stray,
newfound freedom to roam?

Or dreaming of a family
and a warm, loving home?

I wonder...

I wonder what a brown bear thinks about,
dancing in the street?
Is he happy on his chain,
skipping to the beat?
Is he dreaming of a mountain,
a forest or a meadow?
Or praying for a future
and a better tomorrow?
I wonder...

I wonder what an orangutan thinks about,
sitting in his tree?
Is he peering at bulldozers,
just thinking 'why me?'
Is he dreaming of an invention,
to destroy this machine?
Or worrying about captivity,
for what could that mean?
I wonder...

I wonder what a pig thinks about
on the road to be killed?
Is she imagining bacon and sausages,
salted, smoked and grilled?
Is she hating her farmers,
with a sad, subtle sigh.
Or dreaming of her heaven,
green fields in the sky?
I wonder...

The original of this poem is in 'I'm fed up!' This is the 'animal' version.

CRONTON MISSION

Cronton Mission has now been closed for 12 months. Never did we think at this time last year, that we would not be returning to the school hall for services for more than 52 weeks.

The school has been striving on throughout this time, staff working tirelessly to keep children safe and providing high quality education in unprecedented ways. Schools have been responsible for providing essential childcare for key worker children, revising risk assessments time and time again, devising and following new ways of working, then ultimately delivering a stimulating curriculum both face to face and remotely using TEAMS. Many staff have been ill, coping with family illness and bereavement, or isolating due to closure of their class bubbles. – a stressful and challenging time for all. All children were welcomed back into school on the 8th March by a celebratory atmosphere created with balloons, banner and a bubble machine. We thank God for the school leaders, teachers, all support staff and our wonderful children at Cronton and all our schools.

I have been lucky, I have been well and not in an at-risk group. I have attended St Luke's services when church has been able to open and joined worship on zoom at other times. Other members of our congregation have not had this privilege and I have been concerned for their pastoral and spiritual welfare during this frightening, isolating and uncertain period of our lives. We have formed a Cronton WhatsApp group, had the opportunity to meet on zoom with Reverend Bob, and more recently to meet in a breakout room after the Sunday service with the new Cronton families, whose attendance on zoom has been fantastic. We are looking forward to getting to know them. We have greatly missed the fellowship of Cronton Mission.

We thank God for Lesley's safe return from Sabbatical and look forwards to planning a return to worship at Cronton, whilst being mindful of the health and welfare of the congregation, school staff and pupils. Lesley has decided to resign as a foundation governor with the school and we thank her for her service to this demanding role over the past 6 years. We ask for the ongoing support from Rev Bob and St Luke's in the delivery of mission on a Sunday and to sustain our excellent partnership with the school.



Let us pray for fellowship:

Loving Lord, Thank You for all our brothers and sisters in Christ. Thank You that You for making us one, in the heavenly kingdom of God. Instill in each of our hearts, an increasing thirst for holiness, righteousness, and the care of others.

Keep us from arguments and careless words, and may we minister to one another in true Christian fellowship and godly love. Use us as a witness of that love, and unite us as members of your church in Cronton, where mission has been missing throughout this past year due to the coronavirus.

Let us pray that we can soon be together face to face for services and sharing the Christian values with each other. Amen.

Debbie Doyle

To join the Cronton Whatsapp group and keep in touch just text your mobile number to me 07904320542. Rev Bob



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The power of prayer is strong

Heavenly Father, walk through my house and take away all our worries and illnesses.

Please watch over and heal my family and friends.

Bring quiet where there is chaos, bring light where there is darkness and put love in our hearts.

In Jesus name. Amen.



Online QUIZ

Stephanie from Cronton hosted another successful quiz on Saturday February 20th on Zoom, ably assisted by Clare who kept the scores. 13 teams took part playing 6 rounds -

Food and Drink

Around the World

Channel Hopper

It's a numbers game

What clothes

Pot luck

Intriguing round names which make it difficult to choose a round to play your joker for double points.

Again the winning team was Emmets, second Plant Pots and third Evans Sent.



Dates for your Diary

Saturday 17th April 7.30pm

Saturday 15th May 7.30pm

A selection of questions from February Quiz Answers P42

1. Food and Drink - What is the name of the measurement of the spiciness of chilli peppers?

2. Around the World - How many member states in the United Nations?

3. Channel Hopper - On which channel was Silent Witness shown?

4. It's a numbers game - number of players in a netball team x 4

5. What clothes - What colour is Goofy's hat?

6. Pot luck - Which car company makes Tiguan model?

Answers from January

Tom Smith invented Christmas crackers

May 2019 Theresa May announced she was stepping down as PM

Philip Schofield was a partner to Gordon the Gaffer on a BBC children's programme

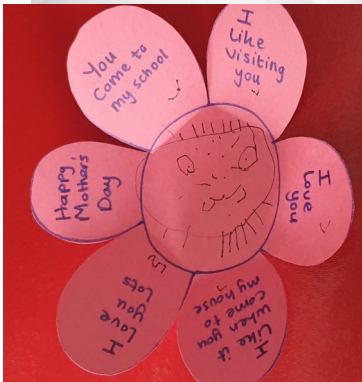
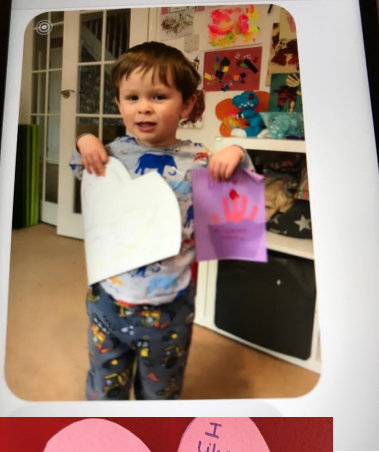
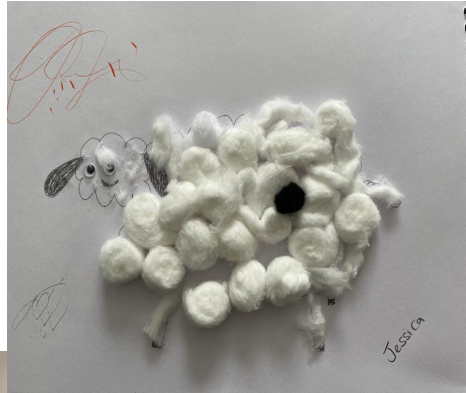
A baby born without a kneecap

Sir Cliff Richards had hits in 50s, 60s and 70s

Eiffel Tower is taller than the Shard

Crafts

Each week an activity from Sue Smither is posted on the church website. The children who join the 10.30am Sunday service on Zoom show their work to the congregation. It has become a special time for the children and the congregation. Here are some examples.



PENTECOST

Pentecost is the festival when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is celebrated on the Sunday 50 days after Easter. Pentecost falls on May 31st this year. Pentecost is regarded as the birthday of the Christian church. *[Bible reading Acts 2:1-21]*

Pentecost is sometimes called Whitsun, but does not necessarily coincide with the UK Whitsun Bank Holiday which is now called the Spring Bank Holiday and that falls on May 25th this year.

Many people will remember the Whit Walks of Witness when churches and other groups from all over the town would parade through the streets.



Pentecost Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, kindle in us the fire of your love.

Stir up within us the fullness of Your Holy Spirit and send forth your Spirit to renew the face of the earth. Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit

you have taught the hearts of your faithful to relish what is right and just.

Help us to remember that with You, nothing is impossible, and that You work everything according to what is good and right and timely. Lord, we pray that you would direct us to where You can use our gifts and talents to make a difference in our world. Amen.



Notes from The Bell Tower by Nigel Goulding

At noon on Saturday 27th February the tenor bell was sounded 100 times in commemoration of the life of Captain Sir Tom Moore.

This was a socially distanced exercise and had been suggested, at national level, as an appropriate way to mark his funeral.

It is now 12 months since the bells of St Luke's were heard pealing over the parish.



The covid pandemic has curtailed tower bell ringing throughout the country in the same way that normal Church activities have been curtailed. In most bell towers each ringer stands within 2 metres of 2 other ringers, meaning that we are unable to social distance. For a short while, between the first and second lock-downs, we did ring 3 bells on a Sunday morning. To do even this limited ringing, 2 ringers had to be from the same household or within a bubble, and we were restricted to any ringing combination of the 3 notes F[#], E, B. It was not possible to continue this arrangement after the second lock-down. According to the advice from our governing body, it now looks as though we will not be able to recommence proper ringing before the full release from covid restrictions in mid June. I am hopeful that we will find enough ringers to ring all 6 bells on Sunday 28th June.

Within ringing circles there is some concern that such a long period of no ringing may result in the loss of some ringers. I hope that this will not be the case at St Luke's. However, perhaps there might be the opposite effect – the long period of silence may encourage people to want to contribute to the recommencement of ringing. I would encourage anyone who has even the slightest urge to give it ago, to volunteer and come along.

Quotes from Captain Sir Tom Moore

'Let's try not to get downhearted, we will get through this, whatever is thrown at us and together we can ensure that tomorrow will be a good day.'

'For all those people who are finding it difficult at the moment - the sun will shine on you again and the clouds will go away.'



MOTHERS' UNION

I have no idea when we will be able to meet up again. There is talk of a light at the end of the tunnel but I'm not sure how long the tunnel is. Since our last magazine we have had to say goodbye to Captain Tom. Not only did he raise £39 million for NHS charities but he was a very positive man, telling us we will all get over this. At the time of writing this, Jackie is in Halton hospital. She has had back trouble for many years,

but it became so bad she couldn't stand up. On top of that both her hips need replacing. She is still keeping cheerful. I know you will all be keeping her in your prayers. I have been asked if we can remember Julie Stretch in our prayers as her nephew aged 50 had a stroke and his life support has been turned off. So very sad, our thoughts are with her and the family.

We have read many times in our bible readings that we should not worry because the Lord knows what we need and will provide.

Britain's countryside is like a natural medicine cabinet, abundant with plants that can help treat disease and even save lives. During world wars 1&2 when medical supplies ran low, the nation turned to foraging for wild herbs & plants to make vital medicines. Pharmaceutical companies used Sphagnum moss to make sterile, antibacterial absorbent wound dressings for wounded soldiers. Women and children gathered it and one person alone filled 5,000 sacks from Dartmoor. Other valuable herbs including meadow saffron, to reduce inflammation & treat gout and stinging nettles used in asthma drugs (stinging nettles make a healthy soup). Valerian helped reduce anxiety & insomnia (an ingredient used in nerve pills) and prescribed to shell shock infantrymen. In world war 2,500 tons of Rose Hips were picked to make Rose hip syrup a source of vit c it was given to children to prevent scurvy. The syrup was also supplied to children in France and Polish children in war camps. Elderberry rich in vit c can help treat fevers, coughs & colds. In the right hands the poisonous Foxgloves (Digitalis) can be used to treat heart problems. Churchill was prescribed it in 1943 when suffering from pneumonia and bouts of irregular heartbeats, while travelling to plan D-Day landings. President Roosevelt was also given Digitalis a few months later to stimulate his heartbeat.

Deadly Nightshade (Atropa Belladonna) when processed correctly, don't try this at home, was used in eye operations and an antidote for gas poisoning during the war. The dandelion is classed as a weed and pulled up or sprayed. This little plant is packed with vits A B C& D in its tender young leaves and can be used in salads. We give thanks at harvest time for our crops so we mustn't forget those little hedgerow plants and shrubs that are vital for our health. The Lord knows and He provides.

Still on the nature theme the honeybee performs a unique waggle dance to communicate the whereabouts of the best source of food. No Sat Navs for them. Another of Gods amazing creatures and vital for pollination. I'm beginning to sound like a mixture of Ray Meares and David Attenborough but without their vast knowledge.

I hope you have a joyous Easter. The ultimate sacrifice to save us all from sin. This prayer is from the M U Prayer Diary for Easter Day' Alleluia, Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia we praise you for your triumph over sin and rejoice at your glorious resurrection. Grant us grace to live as Easter people, always rejoicing in this new life you have opened to us through your resurrection.

Happy Easter everyone.

Rita Poole

Thank you for your continued support and all your donations.

At this time the following items are needed –

Sponge puddings Custard
UHT milk UHT juice
Dried rice Tinned potatoes
size 5/6 nappies anti bacterial wipes.

The Lodge at entrance to Widnes Crematorium is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.30am to 11am.

On Sundays donations can be taken to church and Barry Ingram will take them to the Foodbank.

Thank you.



Treasurer's Report, January –February 2021

Receipts £10509.11 Expenses £11337.27 Deficit £828.16

At first glance the above figures make good reading, however we need to take into account that there was no payment for parish share in January, as there was a credit from the church commissioners to cover that month. Also in February only £5000 was paid towards the parish share of £7000 per month.

If you are unsure as to what the Parish share payments to the Diocese are for, in the main it is to cover “clergy salaries, pensions and housing costs” which is about 50% of our parish share. St Luke's is historically classed as being a “rich parish” based on the housing values etc. in the area compared to other parts of the Deanery, and our share is 33% of the total Deanery costs, with the other 5 parishes covering the remainder between them.

There is a review of the Parish share payments within the Deanery being undertaken at the moment and this will be ongoing during this year.

The annual subscription to the church magazine was due last month, thank you to all who have paid. The £5 payment can be made by cheque to **Friends of St Luke Farnworth** to address below, by bank transfer to same account , **sort code 20 91 48 account no 40101818**. If you have been unable to do so for any reason please ring me and I will arrange for it to be collected. 0151 424 9887

Please send cheques via Rev Bob with your regular giving envelopes, rather than cash.



Thank you so much for your continued support.

Stay safe.

Yvonne Horabin (Treasurer)

Donations can be made to St Luke's PCC

Barclays Bank details.

Account name:- Farnworth St Luke Parochial church council

Sort code 20 91 48 Account no 30369292

Your name as reference or by cheque payable to St Luke's PCC
c/o Rev R Pearson The Rectory 10 Hartland Close Widnes. WA8 9FB.

Sunday Club

It was so lovely for the children to take part in the Mothering Sunday service via Zoom. Technology is wonderful and in these times has really come into its own and helped bridge a much needed gap. Who would have thought twelve months ago we would all be using Zoom or some other form of visual communication like it was second nature.

I am immensely proud of all the children who took part in the service. Zoe one of the older children started the service off by telling everyone a bit about the origins of Mothering Sunday and the traditions attached to it. She then led us in a special prayer for Mothers.

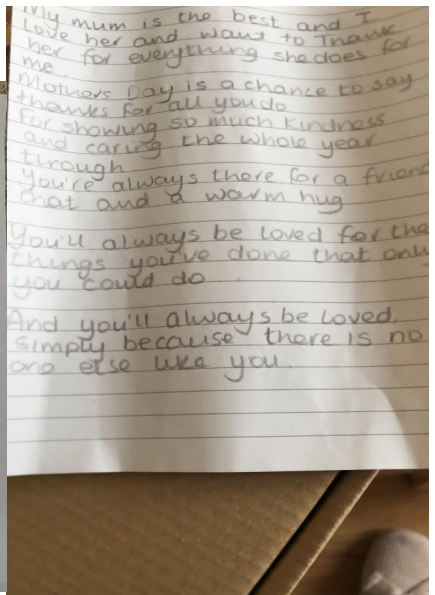
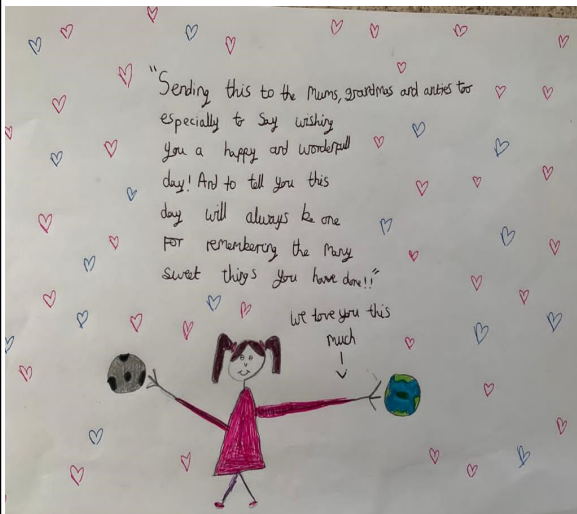
The children wrote their own words and pictures about their Mums and Grandmothers and showed all the congregation, they also read the intercession prayers.

Later the children performed and signed a Mother's Day song to the tune of All things bright and beautiful, it really was lovely and the signing was very special.

Every single child read beautifully and with great confidence and it was so lovely to see how much they have blossomed, I am very, very proud of them all. Sadly no giving out bunches of daffodils by the children to everyone in the congregation at the end of the service but let's hope they can next year.

Take care everyone and stay safe.

Best wishes Lynn



BEST MUM EVER

To mummy

Thank you for making my dullest days turn into the best days. It was not mr blant or mrs pluger that have made me more confident in maths it was you. I have had the best time in lock down we have done painting rocks, tie dye,

Lots of Love from

MADISON And ANNOYING
ALFIE xxxxx omg cStiles stlinsk



Not everybody is lucky to get a Great Grandma but I have the greatest of them all. Her name is Doreen and she is special.

I have one in heaven, her name is Barbara and I love her. She is watching over me all the time and looking after me.

Nannie Shirley is so kind to ^{us} ~~me~~ and loves ^{us} ~~me~~ very much. She helps me do my times tables and knitting.

Nanna Gill plays with us and lets us go on our bikes.

Mummy looks after us everyday and makes us yummy food. She gives us cuddles and reads us stories. We love her.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

April	APRIL	MAY
1	Maundy Thursday John 13:1-17,31-35	John 14:1-14
2	Good Friday John 18:1 end of 19	John 15:1-8
3	John 19:38 to end	John 14:21-26
4	Easter Day Mark 16: 1-8	John 12:20-26
5	Matthew 28:8-15	John 15:1-8
6	John 20:11-18	John 15:9-11
7	Luke 24:13-35	John 15:12-17
8	Luke 25:35-48	John 15:18-21
9	John 21:1-14	John 15:9-17
10	Mark 16:9-15	John 15:26-16.4
11	John 20:19 to end	John 16:5-11
12	John 3:1-8	John 16:12-15
13	John 3:7-15	Luke 24:44 to end
14	John 3:16-21	John 15:9-17
15	John 3:31 to end	John 16:23-28
16	John 6:1-15	John 17:6-19
17	John 6:16-21	John 16:29 to end
18	Luke 24:36b-48	John 17:1-11
19	John 6:22-29	John 17:11-19
20	John 6:30-35	John 17:20 to end
21	John 6:35-40	John 21:15-19
22	John 6:44-51	John 21:20 to end
23	St George John 15:18-21	John 15:26-27-16:4b-15
24	John 6:60-69	Mark 10:17-27



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

April	APRIL	MAY
25	John 10:11-18	Mark 10:28-31
26	Mark 13:5-13	Mark 10:32-45
27	John 10:22-30	Mark 10:46 to end
28	John 12:44 to end	Mark 11:11-26
29	John 13:16-20	Mark 11:27to end
30	John 14:1-6	John 3:1-17
31		Luke 1:39-49

Jesus died by Dave Hopwood



Judas betrayed Jesus, Peter denied Jesus,
Thomas doubted Jesus: Jesus died for them.

Pilate rejected Jesus, Herod taunted Jesus,
Caiaphas framed Jesus: Jesus died for them.

The soldiers crucified Jesus, the disciples deserted Jesus,
the people laughed at Jesus: Jesus died for them.

Mary wept for Jesus, the women anointed Jesus,
Joseph buried Jesus: Jesus rose for them.

We have doubted Jesus, we have denied Jesus,
we rejected Jesus: but Jesus died for us.

PCSO Caroline Griffiths

Caroline will be stepping down as the Police Representative for Farnworth at the end of March. She has worked in Farnworth for quite a long time and has had a particular affection for St Luke's Church and has always responded to our problems when required. She was responsible for setting up the Community Station in the Bridewell to respond to local problems where she has been supported by a full time Constable throughout. She has set the bar very high for her replacement.

Caroline has made a decision to reduce her hours and will take up another role in the Police Service but has stated she will miss the people of Farnworth where she has forged good relationships. She will be sadly missed certainly by St Luke's as she has shown a high level of professionalism and devotion to the job from which the whole of Farnworth has benefitted. Barry Horabin

MESSAGE FROM CAROLINE

Where do I start. I have been the PCSO for Farnworth for several years now and have met so many lovely people who on the whole have been very supportive towards myself and my colleagues. St. Lukes Church have always made me feel so welcome and I will be forever grateful especially in those Winter months to Alma, Barry, Dorothy, Iris, Yvonne, Barry and others for how they welcomed me. I never felt awkward and the brews/cakes/biscuits got me through. It always amazed me just how much work you did for the community and all the hard work the volunteers actually do. I know your work is appreciated by many but don't think others realise just what goes on behind the scenes.

I became very protective of Farnworth and tried my best to give reassurance, give advice and resolve any issues the community had. However, I have recently reduced my hours to 20 hours a week to look after my elderly Mum and 4 Grandchildren. I tried my best to look after Farnworth working part-time, but you deserve a full-time PCSO and so I stepped down. You may still see me around. I'm a Resilience PCSO now supporting other PCSOs and Beat Management and given half a chance, I'll still be floating around the Farnworth area!

Very Best Wishes to you all. Take Care.

Caroline x

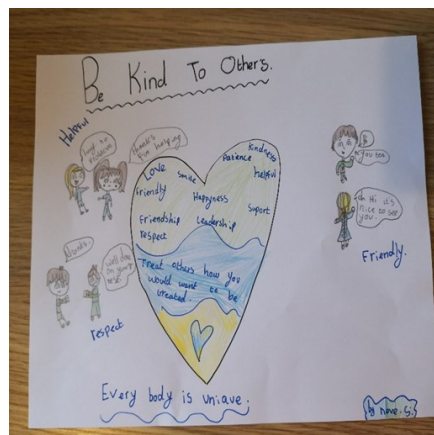
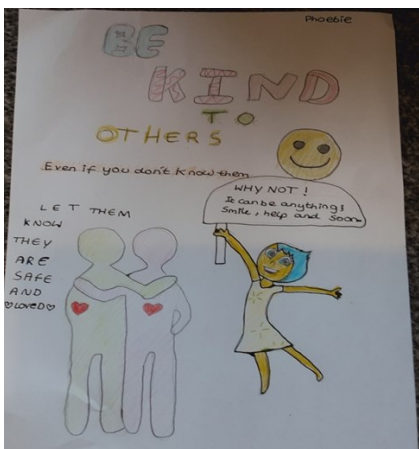


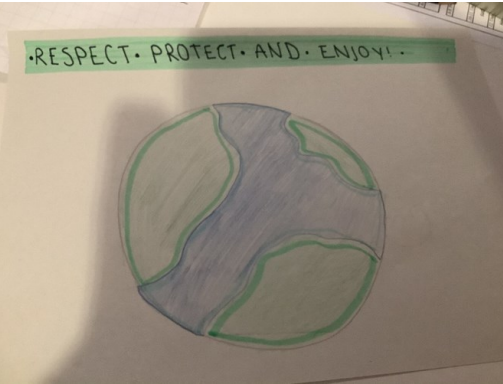
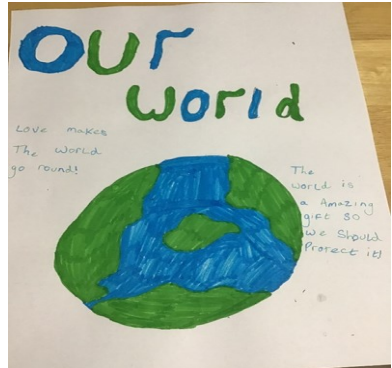
Farnworth CE School

School has been open throughout Lockdown for certain groups of children and as I have been out and about on my walks I heard nothing but praise from parents about the way in which the staff have encouraged both the children and the parents of those who have been home schooled. I am sure that parents now have a much clearer idea of just how hard teachers work each and every day to produce and deliver such an interesting and varied curriculum.

Following the Government Roadmap out of Lockdown all the children returned to school on March 8th, much to many parent's relief. There are of course many measures in place to ensure that EVERYONE will be kept as safe as possible. In the School's Newsletter Mr Redman wrote, 'There is nothing better than to hear the happy sounds of children learning and playing in the classroom and on the playground.' The children supported Young Carers Day on March 16th; they celebrated Red Nose Day on March 19th by wearing something red and on World Down's Syndrome Day on March 21st they wore bright or multi-coloured sock...so a busy few days for children and staff.

Throughout both periods of Lockdown, Rev Bob and I have continued to be involved with Collective Worship at Farnworth School; it has been such a privilege to continue to share in the children's worship. I thought that you might like to see some of the artwork that the children produced after a series of assemblies I led about being kind to one another and also being kind and protective of the wonderful world that God gave us; I love the slogan RESPECT, PROTECT and ENJOY! Sue





Date	Funerals	Parish Register	Age
15/02/2021	W crem	Norma Elizabeth Brophy	76
18/02/2021	W crem	Sheila Margaret Davies	93
03/03/2021	Church	Robert Wilson	84
18/03/2021	Burial of ashes	Lilian Davies	
31/03/2021	Church	Ann Campbell	76

Eternal rest grant upon them ,
 O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.
 May the souls of the faithful departed through the
 mercy of God,
 rest in peace.



St George's Day April 23rd Patron Saint of England

St George is truly an international saint and England is not the only country or region to claim him as its patron. England shares St George with Venice, Genoa, Portugal, Ethiopia and Catalonia among others as their patron saint and many of these places have their own celebrations and ceremonies in his honour. Like many early saints, the exact details of his life remain a mystery. St George might be hailed as a national hero of England, but he was actually born – in the 3rd century AD – more than 2,000 miles away in Cappadocia (modern day Turkey). He is thought to have died in Lydda (modern day Israel) in the Roman province of Palestine in AD 303 and it is thought that his tomb was in Lod and was a centre of many Christian pilgrimages.

From the 11th Century, St George has been depicted as a chivalric knight or a warrior on horseback; however, it is more likely that he was actually an officer in the Roman army. Like many saints, St George was described as a martyr after he died for his Christian faith; it is believed that, during the persecutions of the Emperor Diocletian in the early 4th century, St George was executed for refusing to make a sacrifice to honour the pagan gods.

It is said that St George rode into Silene (modern day Libya) to free the city from a dragon who had a taste for humans, but it's a story which post-dates the real George by several centuries! Although St George never visited England, his reputation for virtue and holiness spread across Europe and his feast day has been celebrated in England since the 9th century.

Images of George and the dragon survive from the 9th century some 500 years after his death. From around 1100, St George's help was also called on to protect the English army. For those literary buffs amongst our readers, a quote from William Shakespeare's *Henry V*. The King calls on the saint during his battle cry, "Once more unto the breach, dear friends. God for Harry, England, and St. George!" Five hundred years later, during the First World War, a ghostly apparition of St George is said to have appeared to British troops during their retreat from Mons; the naval commander reported that the sight of the saint had been an inspiration to the men. In 1940, King George VI created a new award for those who showed acts of the greatest heroism or courage in circumstance of extreme danger. The George Cross, named after the king, bears the image of St George slaying the dragon. St George's image is also carved into many of the memorials built to honour those killed during World War One.

While praying one day a woman asked, "Who are you , God?"
He answered, "I Am."
"But who is, 'I Am?'" She asked.
He replied, "I am Love, I am Peace, I am Grace, I am Joy, I am Strength, I am safety, I am Shelter, I am Power, I am the Creator, I am the Comforter, I am the Beginning and the End. I am the Way, Truth, and the Light."
With tears in her eyes she looked toward heaven and said, "Now I understand. But, who am I?"
God tenderly wiped the tears from her eyes and whispered, "You are mine."

GodVine.com

**ANNUAL MEETINGS SUNDAY MAY 16th 11.45am
after 10.30am service in church and on Zoom**

**There are 2 meetings - Annual Meeting of Parishioners for
Election of Wardens and Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Election of PCC members and reports on**

PCC proceedings

Safeguarding

Health and Safety

Finances

Fabric

Cronton Mission

Deanery Synod and closing remarks by Rev Bob

ALL WELCOME

**A copy of the Annual report for 2020 will be available on our
website st-luke.co.uk or email sandralacey47@yahoo.co.uk for
an electronic copy. If you would like to join the PCC please
speak to Rev Bob**

**Electoral Roll Revision - If you would like to add your name to
the roll, wardens have forms in church or you can download
one from our website st-luke.co.uk, please return forms by
Sunday 25th April to church or by email to Electoral Roll Officer
sandralacey47@yahoo.co.uk If your name is already on the roll
you do not need to complete a form as this a revision of the roll
not the production of a new roll.**

What is the Electoral Roll? - The church's Electoral Roll is the register of its voting members; it is a list of those qualified to attend and to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Electoral rolls provide an indication of the real membership and strength of the church.

Who can be on the electoral Roll? - Baptised adults (over 16 years) who live in the parish, or who have worshipped regularly for at least six months and are committed to being part of the life of the local Church of England congregation.

Why Join? - Enrolment is a way of saying "I belong". It is an act of commitment to the church. It opens the way for a greater involvement in the life of the church.

We believe God wants us:

- to worship Him above all others
- to be members of His family
- to grow in our faith
- to be ministers of His grace and
- to use our gifts and talents for the benefit of others
- to be messengers of His love

Bishop Paul says 'As we in the Diocese of Liverpool ask God for a Bigger Church to make a Bigger Difference we are encouraging everyone to deepen their relationship with God. We have a simple tool to help with this which we call the Rule of Life. With a tradition rooted in monastic worshipping communities, it helps us form our spirituality by encouraging us to follow an inner journey of reflection and an outer journey of service.

Based around six concepts we are asking every disciple to Pray: Read and Learn on the inner journey and Tell: Serve and Give on the outer journey. We also want every disciple in our diocese to Bring One Friend into a worshipping community and Do Ten Things in the service of God.

For some, their rule of life may involve being called by God to a specific ministry and our Life Call pages help you explore your vocation.' <http://www.ruleoflife.org.uk>

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QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Food and Drink - What is the name of the measurement of the spiciness of chilli peppers?
SCOVILLE SCALE
2. Around the World - How many member states in the United Nations? **193**
3. Channel Hopper - On which channel was Silent Witness shown? **BBC1**
4. It's a numbers game - players in a netball team x 4 **28**
5. What clothes - What colour is Goofy's hat? **BLACK**
6. Pot luck - Which car company makes Tiguan model?
VOLKSWAGEN

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SUNDAY 12 - 8PM - SUNDAY ROASTS

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A circular graphic with a serrated edge, featuring a red chili pepper, a shallot, and green herbs. The text inside the circle reads: "X2 MAINS, X2 SIDES, X2 DESSERTS & A BOTTLE OF WINE WEEKLY DINE IN OFFER £40".

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East Widnes Team

Team Rector Rev Bob Pearson

The Rectory, 10, Hartland Close, WA8 9FB

0151 424 9762 07904320542

revbob@btinternet.com

Team Vicar Reverend Lyn McIver 07791650911

Local Missional Leader Lesley Wright

07803148233

Lay reader Sue Smither 07962012916

Lay reader Clare Liptrott 07976549410

www.st-luke.co.uk

Team Administration Rev Bob

07399784219

eastwidnesteam.2942@gmail.com

OR use Contact Us tab on our website

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