



**Empowered by
the Holy Spirit**

A Celebration of

Pentecost

Sunday 28th May at 6.30 pm

St Peter's Church

Church St, Burnley BB11 2DL

For More Information Contact:

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CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BURNLEY



the link

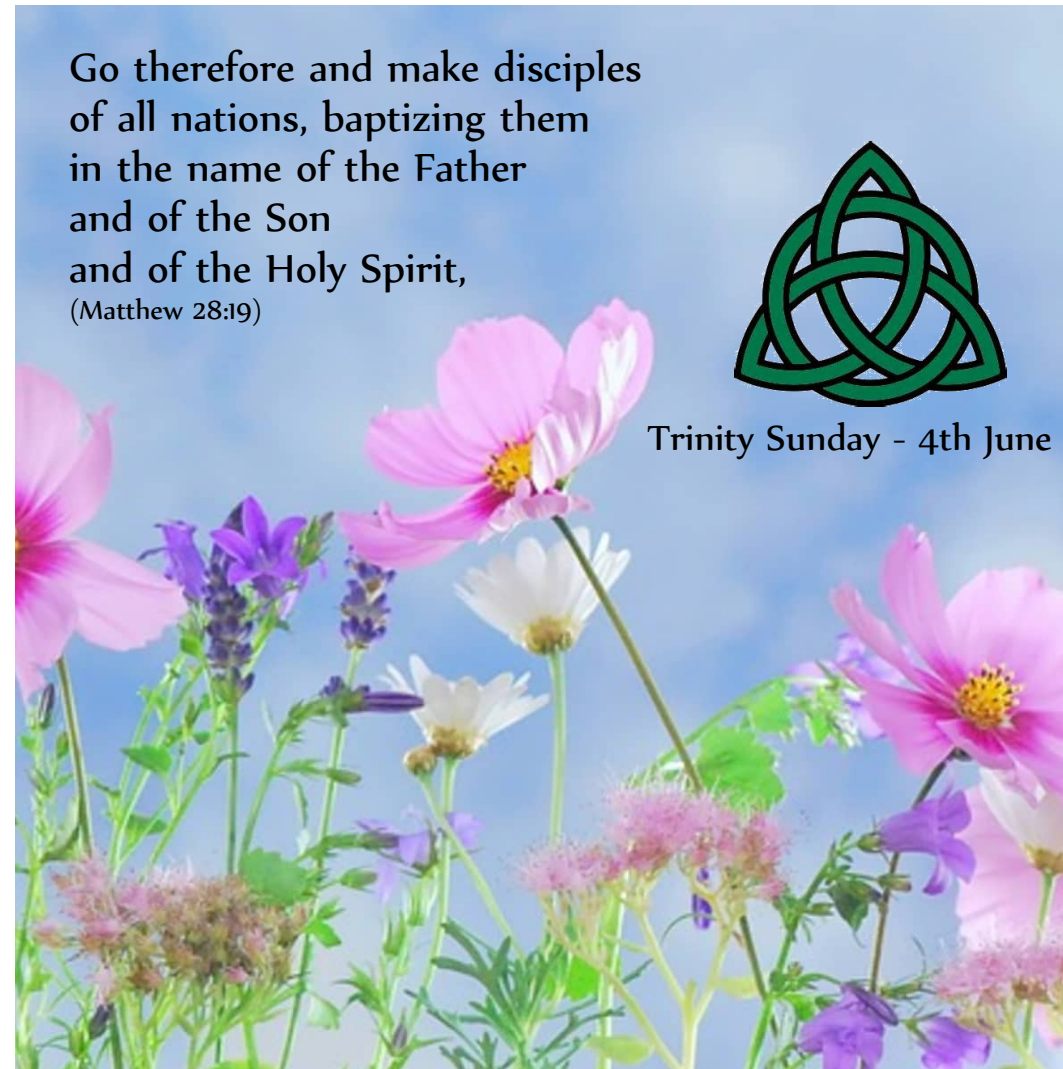
The Parish Magazine of The United Benefice of St Peter & St Stephen, Burnley

JUNE 2023

Go therefore and make disciples
of all nations, baptizing them
in the name of the Father
and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit,
(Matthew 28:19)



Trinity Sunday - 4th June



<http://www.stpetersburnley.com>
<http://www.ststephenschurchburnley.org.uk>

... you're invited !!

Join us for the next



Burnley Prayer Breakfast

@St Stephen's

St Stephen's Church Oxford Road, Burnley BB11 3JA

Saturday 4th June at 9.00 am

the theme this month ...

Being Beacons!

Our speaker will be

Joy Rushton

Diocesan 'Being Witnesses' Manager

Telephone:

01282 414390/760256



WHO'S WHO IN THE BENEFICE?



Rector of the United Benefice: Fr Andrew Holmes
Tel: 07460 899451 Email: andrewinburnley@gmail.com

ST PETER'S

ST STEPHEN'S

CHURCH WARDENS: Mrs Sandra Davies ☎ 434763 Mr Jason Walsh ☎ 07554 154240	CHURCH WARDENS: Mr Keith Pounder ☎414390 Mrs Jean Beeston ☎432986
VERGER Mr Stewart Hacking ☎ 438224	ASSISTANT WARDENS Mr Paul Hannah ☎07967 644709
PCC SECRETARY Mr Andrew Buchanan ☎07565 347524	PCC SECRETARY: Mrs Maureen Hanson ☎434865
ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER Mrs Joan Ainsworth ☎07971 711250	VISION CHAMPION: Mrs Linda Pounder ☎414390
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Mr Philip Tomlinson ☎777132	MOTHERS' UNION: Mrs Beverley Laycock (Branch Leader) ☎543766 Mrs Jackie Cosway (Secretary) ☎411967
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SUNDAY SCHOOL (DJs): Mrs Meena Tomlinson ☎777132	VERGER Mrs Edith Meek ☎456170
HEADTEACHER: Mrs Crowther ☎426873	CHURCH FLOWERS: Vacant
FRIENDS OF ST PETER'S: Mrs Heather Slater ☎432775	
FLOWER GUILD: Mrs Alice Binns ☎789632	
BELFRY Mr Richard Parker ☎619906	
Kitchen/Catering Manager Mrs Cynthia Bramley	

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Mrs Pam McGrath: Email: pamelamcgrath1@hotmail.com

**Don't forget - if you need anything,
don't hesitate to contact us**

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JOINT JULY/AUGUST EDITION. Please
ensure that all articles for inclusion are
submitted no later than
15th June
pamelamcgrath1@hotmail.com

St Peter's Church Burnley
THURSDAY CHAT
10.00-11.00 am
Coffee & Christianity
Doors open at 9.30 am

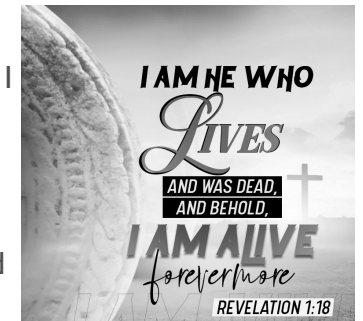
going to
CHURCH
doesn't make you a
CHRISTIAN
any more than standing in a
GARAGE
makes you a
CAR.
- Billy Sunday



Dear friends

As I write, we are coming to the end of our fifty days of Easter celebration. At each celebration of the Eucharist in this season, the gospel is announced with words from the book of Revelation – ‘Behold I am alive for evermore’ (Rev. 1:18). How often do we hear or use those words and take them for granted? If we can stop and take a moment to contemplate the full depths of this statement, we can be rewarded with a more profound sense of joy and a strengthening of our faith and hope.

As I write this article, Eastertide is well advanced. We look forward to celebrating the Ascension, the departure of the immediacy of the Risen Christ, and then Pentecost, fifty days after Easter Day, when the first believers were baptised in the Holy Spirit. The words, Behold I am alive for evermore are supremely relevant to us now, for these words were uttered by the Risen Christ to John. The book of Revelation was written to encourage persecuted Christians across the Roman world and to comfort them with the knowledge that although life would be extremely difficult, God’s loving purposes and justice would prevail in the end.



That particular sense of joy through the ‘Alleluia’ season of Easter will certainly continue in June and beyond. Behold I am alive for evermore means just that. The joy of the resurrection is not a one-off event or annual celebration but an ongoing journey of faith, a journey where it dawns upon us that this is not just a statement to be accepted with our minds but a truth that is embodied in our everyday lives.

In our church life, June will be a busy and joyous month in other respects too. Thy Kingdom Come is an invitation from our Archbishops to join in ten days of prayer with the rest of the world between Ascension Day and Pentecost so that more people may come to find and follow the one who lives forever. At St. Peter's, we will have the Pentecost Churches

Together service to which all churches in Burnley have been invited.

In response to our prayer for growth, we have started some exciting new initiatives this last month. St Stephen's hosts Tea, Toast & Tots (TTT), a group for pre-school-age children and their parents/carers, on Tuesday's 8.45 – 10.30 and Friends Food & Fun (FFF) on alternate Wednesday afternoons with a delicious afternoon tea and entertainment. Watch out for Keith's bingo and Rector's karaoke! St Peter's hosts Soup & Sandwich on alternate Wednesday's 11.30 -1300. **All** are invited, and **All** are welcome. We are flinging open our doors to invite more people in, with more opportunities to show our faith in action. Jesus demonstrated feeding people, feeding the 5,000, and we are following his example.

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ, keep praying for growth. If we pray, it will happen!



May all of us in June, wherever we are, allow Christ, who lives forever, to live in us and through us.

With every good wish and blessing.

Fr Andrew

Confirmation

**10.30 AM SUNDAY
26TH NOVEMBER**

Don't forget, if you or someone you know would like to be confirmed, have a word with Fr Andrew or one of the Wardens.

In The Loop

... with Keith, Jean & Paul



St Stephen's Churchwardens

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING:

Our PCC continue to meet on a regular basis to make the necessary decisions about running the church from year to year. This culminates in the holding of our annual church meeting, which took place in April and was well attended. It offers the opportunity for members of the parish to be brought up to date with all that has taken place in our church over the past year, and with what we hope to achieve during the year ahead. We are a happy, thriving, solvent parish and you, the people, are our church – without you we wouldn't exist! So, with Fr Andrew's leadership, God's guidance, and much faith we pray that we shall continue to go from strength to strength!

KING CHARLES' CORONATION CELEBRATION:

Our Benefice day of celebration, following the King's coronation, took place on Sunday 7th May. In the morning we held a civic service at St Peter's, which was attended by local dignitaries and members of Burnley's Air Training Corps. The ATC were very smartly turned out and they renewed their promise to serve their King and country during the service.

In the afternoon, at St Stephen's, we

provided an excellent afternoon tea for over 75 people with a variety of sandwiches, quiche, sausage rolls, cream scone, trifle, cream cake and plenty cups of tea!

We were wonderfully entertained by three young students from Burnley College, ably led by our very own Ruth Davies. We certainly have a lot of talent in our town and they did us proud. The afternoon was rounded off with a rousing sing-a-long of 'Sweet Caroline', and with Fr Andrew on the organ to accompany us to the likes of 'I vow to thee my country', 'Land of Hope and Glory' and 'Rule Britannia'.

Our grateful thanks go to all those who in any way helped to make the whole day the huge success that it was - a very fitting tribute to our newly crowned King!

SPRING FAIR:

This took place in the school on Saturday, 13th May and raised the sum of over £1,500 - grateful thanks to everyone who provided items for the stalls. The fair was opened by Fr Andrew prior to our being entertained by the school choir, who were very enthusiastic and sang beautifully. We had all the usual stalls, plus an excellent barbecue selling delicious burgers and bangers;

/continued ...

a variety of sandwiches and a cuppa were also available from the kitchen. The weather was extremely kind to us, being pleasantly warm and sunny.

It is always a mammoth task in organising and setting up the Fair. We extend a huge thank you to all who helped in any way with the running of the various stalls etc., and are particularly grateful to Paul and Steve for ferrying all the tables and the barbecue apparatus to and from church to the school.

TEA, TOAST & TOTS:

This has been taking place on a Tuesday morning starting at 8:45 am until 10:30 am - it is still in its early days with fluctuating numbers attending. It offers the opportunity for mums, who have dropped off their children at school, to come along with their babies and toddlers for tea, toast and a chat.

DROP-IN

This follows the Tea, Toast and Tots at 10:30 am giving anyone who wishes to talk with Fr Andrew about (say) baptism, wedding or other matters. At some point in the future we shall be offering soup and roll from 11:30 am until 1:00 pm.

FRIENDS. FOOD & FUN:

A good time was had by all who came along to the first session of this event on Wednesday 10 May. We had around a dozen people who enjoyed a light afternoon tea with entertainment – dominoes, bingo and

sing-a-long, plus a little karaoke with Keith and Jean singing 'Don't go breaking my heart'. It will continue to take place fortnightly in the Community Room between 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm on the alternate Wednesday to 'Let's do Lunch' and there is a small charge of £5.

Well, that's all for now folks – if anyone has any ideas about anything – do please let us know!

As we look to moving forward through this coming year, Isaiah 43:18 says: "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past." And Philippians 3:13-14: "Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

Keith, Jean & Paul

Diary Dates

- **Linda's Walk** - Saturday 17th June - 'Stoodley Stride'
- **Annual Walking Day** - Sunday 16th July - more details next month
- **Murder Mystery** - Friday 4th August – 'Death of a Well-Spoken Gentleman' - Tickets on sale from 1st July

Further events are planned, but more about those at a later



Churchwardens' News from St Peter's

Hello everyone,

It was wonderful to see the country coming together in celebration of the Coronation of King Charles III last month. Millions watched the ceremony on TV and street parties were held around the UK. We had our own celebration at St Peter's on Sunday 7th May as people from across Burnley attended a Civic Service to mark the occasion, with the Mayor and MP joining in with the readings and prayers. The church was full, the choir sang beautifully and everyone played their part really well to make it a very memorable event.

Everyone really enjoyed the Christian Aid Breakfast which took place before the service on 14th May. We were treated to delicious bacon and sausage butties, hot croissants and toast, fruit and pain-au-chocolats. Cynthia, Joanne and the catering team did a fantastic job organising everything and a lot of money was raised which will go towards helping those living in poverty overseas and suffering due to the climate crisis.

The annual Halsted sermon was preached this year by Fr Andrew, a week later than usual due to the Coronation. Based on the text from Hebrews "For here have we no continuing City, but we seek one to come", Fr Andrew's words on this intriguing verse certainly gave us something to think about.

The Annual Meetings took place after the service on 14th May at which Churchwardens and members of the PCC were re-elected and the annual reports given. Andrew Buchanan produced an excellent Trustee Annual Report which shows a very healthy and growing church. Interesting discussions about matters of finance and fabric were had and Fr Andrew gave a very positive vision for the year ahead. If you would like a paper copy of the Annual Report and Accounts for yourself, some are still available at the back of church.

Please do join us on Pentecost Sunday, 28th May, for the Churches Together service which is being held at St Peter's at 6.30pm.

Take care,

Sandra and Jason

LOOKING BACK

Christians Against Poverty:

The title is something with which we would all agree. Katie Oehring spoke to us about her work with Christians Against Poverty (CAP) during her afternoon visit to us. Katie has a vested interest in poverty and mental health issues. Katie's father grew up in abject poverty and her grandma suffered mental health problems in the 1950s.

Katie, a vicar's wife, has her background in children's services. The founder of CAP was John Kirby, and he had been a debt collector. He told Katie that he could only collect debt if he was invited over the threshold of a house. Therefore, he would often tell people not to invite him in!

CAP is a debt charity and Katie is a debt coach, working with people and the debts they face in their lives. She helps people access free services such as food banks. Each case usually carries with it shame and depression and Katie has a long waiting list.

LOOKING FORWARD

Hopefully, you know by now that instead of afternoon tea we are having a lunch on Tuesday 13th June, 12 for 12.30, at The Bay Horse, Worsthorne. They don't require deposits but do want us to pre-order food. The menus you have received will help you with this. I am making note of your choices.

JUNE 2023 EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Tuesday 6/6/23: Senior members' service and tea - 2pm, St. John's Worsthorne.

Tuesday 13/6/23: Lunch at Bay Horse Worsthorne - 12 for 12.30

JUNE 2023 CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday to you - Dorothy Spencer on the 2nd and Beverley Laycock on the 13th.

Jackie



Printing "bloomers" found in parish magazines!

(hopefully, not this one - unless you know different!)

- ⊖ Remember in prayer the many that are sick of our community.
- ⊖ Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say "Hell" to someone who doesn't care much about you.
- ⊖ Don't let worry kill you - let the Church help.
- ⊖ For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- ⊖ At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- ⊖ Next weekend's Fasting & Prayer conference in Whitby includes all meals.
- ⊖ Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- ⊖ Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- ⊖ The Church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment, and gracious hostility.

From Linda's Scrapbook



A caring house not a care home

Are you over 65 and living alone?

Would you like a private en-suite flat in a secure building with company when required?

The cost of living here is just a little over £200 per week and includes all running costs, 2 meals a day and use of a well equipped laundry room.

WHY NOT VISIT TO LOOK AROUND?

St Stephen Street: ☎ 422434
Harriet Street: ☎ 832225

JUNE IN THE MEMORIAL BOOK OF ST STEPHEN'S



1st	Victor Booth
2nd	Richard Newsham
3rd	Bertha Hindle
4th	Malcolm Joseph Hanson, Rita King
5th	Thomas Gillespie
6th	Irene Wade, Amos Whittam
8th	Mary Eatough
9th	Alan George Wetherell, John Maurice Major Kerr, Jennie Hopwood
10th	Alan Howarth, Beatrice May Mills, Elsie Meek, Mary Brogan, Harry Halstead
12th	Hannah Elizabeth Harker, Harry Bowdin, Florrie Astin, Victor Horace Cecil Stone
13th	Thomas Cottam
14th	Mary Grace Harrison, Edward Gregson, John T Kendall
15th	Annie Wigglesworth, Richard Davies, Father Lawrence Laycock
16th	James Henry Whitaker, Allan Shepherd, Thomas Edward Schofield, Connie McDuff
17th	Emma Kneeshaw, Nell Menzies, Harry Greenfield, Jane Elizabeth Green, Elsie Stratton
18th	Hubert Watson, Alan Turner, Jonathan Neil Howarth
19th	Annie Hargreaves, George Earnshaw
20th	Charles Mills, William Bernard McCourt, Allan S Walton
21st	Charles Thomas Hamer, Arthur Button
22nd	Arnold Fanshaw
23rd	June Ellen Whitehead, Lizzie Pratt, Alice Ethel Bennis, Edmund Hacking
24th	Celia Watson, Alan Francis Clark (Priest), Albert Nuttall
25th	Jane Cryer
26th	Jack Watson, Mona Rushton, Harold Hargreaves, Margaret Florence, Farrow.
27th	Emma Mitchell, Barbara Mary Dalzell Markham
28th	Lawrence Stanton
29th	Derek Chadwick, Kenneth Tomlinson
30th	Eveline Heap, John Lewis

R.I.P.

JUNE IN THE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE AT ST PETER'S

4th	Arthur Tennat, Ivy Emma Walsh
5th	Lesley Ann Walker
6th	Frank Whitaker
7th	Clara Bird
8th	John Judson
10th	Joan Mitchell, Colin Brimelow
11th	Walter Barlow
12th	George Walter Steen, Lily Steen, Robert George Francis
13th	Ben Davies Slater, Ann Slater, Evelyn Annie Smith, William Simpson
18th	Joseph Snowden
19th	Florrie Howker Greenwood, Lucy Parrington
21st	Eric George Scott
23rd	Roland Calvert
24th	Walter Reginald Watson, Maud Mitchell, George Harling
25th	Henry (Harry) Riley, John Harwood
26th	Clara Hargreaves
28th	David Higgin
29th	Florence Kempsey



*"I am the resurrection and the life
The one who believes in me will live,
even though they die."*

(John 11:25)



Defibrillator Training

You might remember at the commemoration service for the Queen in September last year that a man was taken ill during the service. A defibrillator was sent for from the nearby St Peter's Centre and an

ambulance called. The PCC has since decided that the church should have its own defibrillator in case such an emergency happens again. We have recently taken delivery of the new device which is located in the meeting rooms at the back of church. David Brown from the North West Ambulance Service, along with his assistant Paul, came to St Peter's on Tuesday 16th May to offer training on how to use a defibrillator, with ten members of the congregation in attendance.

The training was extremely interesting and useful and everyone felt much more confident in how to respond in an emergency as a result. We learnt the difference between a heart attack and a cardiac arrest, with a heart attack being when one of the coronary arteries becomes blocked, and a typically more serious cardiac arrest being when the heart stops pumping blood around the body and the person stops breathing properly. Once a person stops breathing their rate of survivability reduces by ten percent every minute, so it is vital to start CPR quickly to get the blood pumping around the body again, particularly to the brain.

The defibrillator is used to shock the heart and restore its normal rhythm so that it functions properly again. The defibrillator itself is surprisingly easy to use, with the machine talking you through each step and then making the decision itself as to whether to administer a shock. We were also taught how to put someone in the recovery position and what to do if someone starts choking.

We watched an excellent video which summarised all the key points and offered a useful mnemonic, **DRS ABC**, to help remember what to do:

/continued ...

Danger

- Approach with care
- Check for dangers
- Make dangers safe before approaching

Response

- Gently shake the patient's shoulders and ask loudly: "Are you alright?"

Shout

- Stay with them
- Shout for local help.

Airway

- Place the person on their back and open the airway
- This manoeuvre is called a 'head tilt, chin lift'

Breathing

- Look, Listen and Feel for 'normal' breathing
 1. Look for chest movement
 2. Listen for noises associated with breathing
 3. Feel for breath on your cheek.

Phone 999 or 112

- Inform the operator of the situation and activate the speaker option (if able) so the operator can assist you

Start CPR ...

Compressions

- Kneel by the person
- Place the heel of your hand on top of the other hand
- Keep your arms straight
- And push
 - 5-6cm in depth
 - Release fully
 - 100-120bpm.

**Send someone for an AED
(automated external defibrillator)**



St Peter's Branch

We all enjoyed our last meeting, reminiscing about the Queen's Coronation in 1953, followed by a cream tea.

Our next meeting, on Wednesday 31st May, will be a musical afternoon, led by Meena. Always a very enjoyable meeting, singing favourite hymns.

It is the Deanery Senior members' service and tea on Tuesday 6th June at St John's Worsthorne. If you would like to go, please let me know not later than our next meeting, Wednesday 31st May."

As yet, I am unable to confirm the June meeting, but will let everyone know as soon as I have done so.

St Peter's Flower Guild

ROTA FOR APRIL

	<i>Sanctuary</i>	<i>Towneley Chapel</i>
4th	Vacant	Vacant
11th	Vacant	Vacant
18th	Vacant	Vacant
25th	Mrs E Jessop	Vacant

There are many vacant dates in June. Anyone can make a donation or arrange for flowers to be put in the Church.

Thank ou to all who helped decorate the church fro the special services that were held in May.

Alice & Maureen

Outreach Clinic at St Peter's

A team from the East Lancashire Primary Health Care recently provided an outreach clinic at St Peter's Church.

They were able to administer health checks, discuss social concerns, financial matters, mental health problems and sign post to different organisations.

There was a good response with a number of people visiting and the team were a fantastic support when a medical emergency occurred.

We really look forward to seeing them again soon and are very grateful for this venture

Cake My Day



by Emma

Cupcakes
Brownies
Birthday Cakes
Christening Cakes
Cakes for most occasions

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Email:
emmahopley70@gmail.com



St Stephen's Church

Oxford Road, Burnley Wood, BB11 3JA

present

A MURDER MYSTERY

Death of a Well-Spoken Gentleman

Friday, 4th August at 7.00 pm

in Church

Tickets: £10.00

Available from Church from 1st July

to include a pie and pea supper

(Bring your own Drinks)



St Stephen's School News

THE KING'S CORONATION:

The children have had a lovely time celebrating the King's Coronation. They watched a special assembly which was delivered by Year 3 and a red, white and blue day where each class enjoyed lots of activities throughout the day. The children and staff enjoyed cupcakes on the field before Mrs Roberts concluded the day with an assembly that shared the work that had been done throughout the day. The children sang the national anthem and watched the highlights of the Coronation. All our children have received a beautiful commemorative badge for the Coronation and they are encouraged to wear this every day.



BEAT THE STREET:

The competition is back – all of our families are very excited to be competing against other schools in Burnley again. We came second last time and already we have families that are walking miles to increase our points. We are currently in the lead but this can change by the hour. The aim of the competition is to encourage the children to get active for the 60 minutes a day that they need. Parents have said that it gets the children off their screens and that they

/Continued ...

have enjoyed spending more family time together.

LAUNCH DAYS:

This half term our launch day was 'Alive and Kicking'. The children enjoyed learning all about keeping healthy and participating in some fitness sessions. We arranged for New Era to come into school and teach the whole of our Key Stage 2 department first aid. All the children enjoyed a wellbeing sessions with Coach Lindsay in the hall too.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS:

Most of our educational visits will be taking place in the Summer term. Reception had a lovely time at Thornton Hall Farm and Year 6 are looking forward to going on PGL to Shropshire. The other classes will be visiting the following places:



- Reception class- Thornton Hall Farm 24th April
- Year 1- Mrs Dowsons Farm Park 19th July
- Year 2- Knowsley Safari Park 14th July
- Year 3- Bowland Wild Boar Park 23rd June
- Year 4- Released the trout at Towneley Park 27th March
- Year 5- Brockholes 19th July
- Year 6- Blackpool Zoo 7th July

SPIRITUALITY DAY:

In September we will be having a spirituality day in school. The children will enjoy a full day with a carousel of activities. We will include lots of photographs for the magazine.

WORSHIP:

The children will be tying ribbons to the Lovelocks and Ribbons fence so that they can remember the coronation of King Charles and pray for him. We have some training sessions with our adviser from Blackburn Diocese and the focus will be Diversity, Equity and Inclusion followed by some work around how distinctive we are as a Church school. Finally, we will be looking in detail at our worship and celebrating what we do well but sharing new ideas. Myself, Mrs Crother (St Peter's Headteacher) and Father Andrew will be attending the Head's and Incumbent's day at Blackburn Diocese on the 25th May. This is always a very productive and enjoyable day.

May I take the opportunity to thank the Church for a wonderful Spring Fair and for the continued support with our food and clothing collections.

Kind regards

Mrs Roberts



Last half term, we loved learning about the King's Coronation and watching Bishop Philip's special

coronation worship. As part of our home school values learning, we made crowns, thinking about the King's service to the country and how we live out the value of service in our daily lives.



This half term we will be thinking about Truthfulness. 'Tell the Truth to each other' Zechariah 8.16

TRUTH IS .

- Trustworthy words and actions
- Respect for doing the right thing
- Uncovering the full picture
- Telling it as it is
- Having all the facts



We will be thinking about telling the whole story, living without lies, making the right choices, searching for the truth, having the courage to honest and seeing the truth.

I promise to tell the **truth**, the whole **truth** and nothing but the **truth**, so help me God. In a court of law a witness swears an oath on the Bible or another sacred text, but sometimes in everyday life people find it more difficult to be truthful.

This half term our home school value challenge is called 'truth be told!' The children are deciding: if they could ask a famous person (from history or alive today) to answer a question about themselves what would it be? They are going to make a colourful question mark and write their question on it, these will be displayed in our question gallery. We cannot wait to see the questions they come up with and who they would chose to ask!

Mrs Crowther



Sunday School News from St Peter's

We begin the month with Trinity Sunday and the Gospel reading for the day is the commission to 'Tell people about God. Make disciples all over the world'. The readings for the month continue with the theme .

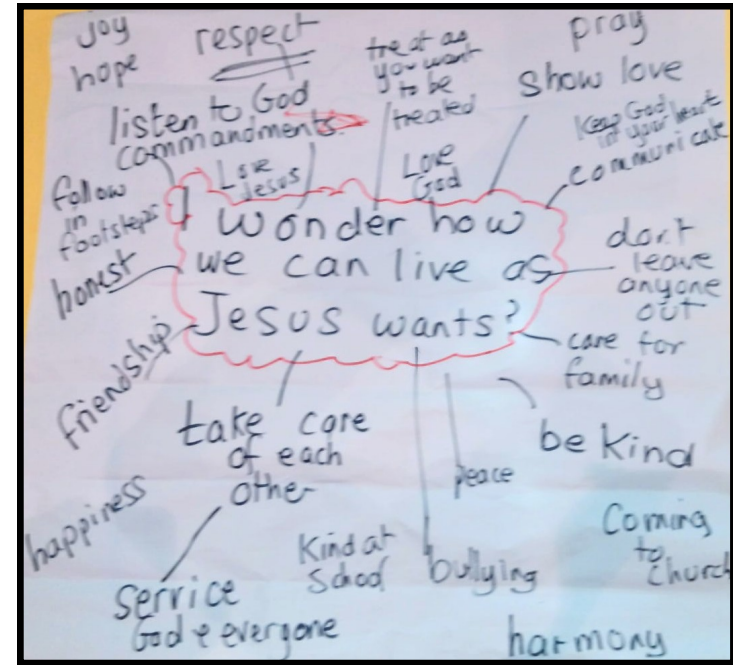
Our children \Young people are really good at discussing what makes a good follower of Jesus . They are bursting with ideas and their understanding is reflected in the love they show one another in a very mixed group of ages .

We have returned to having a picnic in the park following some services . We enjoy time together particularly in the sunshine !!!!

Our Young Singers were absolutely amazing in concert with Samantha Oxborough . They loved singing alongside a opera singer . They are now preparing for a Saturday morning concert with St Peter's Choir and an invitation to sing in Oswaldtwistle for Father Paul.

We continue to keep Sam and Rosie in our prayers for their GCSEs .

Love from
Meena



Our Sunday School Discussion

SUNDAY SCHOOL BIRTHDAY GREETINGS



TO AMELIA, BIRTHDAY GREETINGS,
AGE 10 on 10TH MAY.

'HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU
TO JESUS BE TRUE,
MAY ALL OF GOD'S BLESSINGS
BE HEAPED UPON YOU'

Amelia is part of the hard-working Sunday School, at St Peter's. She regularly sings in the Friday Young People's Choir, and she is studying for her Confirmation in November.

A World of Difference

by Christine Harbour

We have been thinking a lot about crowns lately. Most of us will have watched the Coronation. The Archbishop of Canterbury took the greatest of care in fulfilling the daunting task of crowning our King Charles and Queen Camilla. I wondered if they returned to Buckingham Palace and sighed with pleasure as they took off their heavy crowns and kicked off their shoes. Did they have a well earned cuppa or was it a drop of the hard stuff? It's hard to think of them as being like us isn't it? They have probably never waited at a bus stop, or dreaded the gas bill coming. I am sure they have never worked all year just to have a summer holiday!



On the other hand, we have never known what it is like to sit hours in the sun watching those weird tribal dances, or to make endless smiling hand shakes or worse still to have your words interpreted by lip readers and be plastered all over the newspapers the next day! We really are worlds apart.

When Jesus came to earth as our Saviour he was miles apart from the vision the Jews had of a majestic warrior king. His was not the King Edward's bejewelled crown, but a crown of jagged thorns. There was no 'God save the King' for him, but a cruel scourging and a mocking chant: "Come down and save yourself, King of the Jews!"



If you have ever heard the hymn 'King of Kings, Majesty,' the second verse says 'in royal robes I don't deserve I live to serve your majesty'. As Christians we often fail to grasp that we are the children of the King of all Kings, Jesus Christ, who reigns forever and ever! Instead of complaining about everything we should be rejoicing in living in our royal status.

Of course those heavenly realms will be completely different from the world as we know it. Listening to the tv news the words 'hell on earth often comes to mind. The conflict, the love of power and money and the stark

difference between the third world and the western world is seriously disturbing. It is often hard therefore to think of heaven. Even the splendour and

the majesty of Westminster Abbey will seem nothing compared to heaven, and the sweet voices of the chorister's will be a mere echo against the vast choirs of angels singing praises to the Lord

Close your eyes for a moment. Imagine entering the enormous realm of Almighty God wearing our royal robes. Then ethereally we will be changed from earth's glory into heavenly glory. As we leave our earthly lives behind we will transpire from mortality into immortality. Those worldly crowns we possess will seem worthless in comparison to the glory of the Lamb of God seated on the throne. Only then we will understand ...

'Changed from glory into glory till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love and grace'.

May you know the wonder of God's grace.

Christine H
St Stephen's

Let me trust you when I don't feel hope
On days when I feel only fear
When anxiety overwhelms my heart
Let me know that you love me
That you walk silently before me
Clearing the path ahead of me
Strewing it with the soft petals of your love
Teach me to trust when clouds are pressing
Ready to engulf me ...
I am not alone. Not ever
You are there. Abiding in me.
Your crown of thorns. Now a circle of gold
Blinding me with its beauty
Caressing me with its warmth.
You fill my heart with your treasure
I will live again.
My Saviour will be praised forever.

Christine Harbour

...From our Vision Champion

Making Disciples, Being Witnesses, Growing Leaders, Inspiring the Young



Linda writes ...

For those who were unable to attend the Annual Parish Church Meeting, I thought I would take the opportunity this month to include a copy of my report.

We continue to support the diocesan vision here at St Stephens.

Let's do Lunch which is held on alternate Wednesdays, continues to be a success. We welcome 35 to 40 people to each lunch. We see groups of friends, young mums, couples and single people all coming together to enjoy a 2 course meal and fellowship together. This meal is provided for free but donations are welcome. A service follows the lunch where we are joined by a different year group from St Stephens School.

Sunday School now has a new name, 'Sunday Club'. The number of children attending is slowly growing. Whilst the average age of the Sunday Club is quite young, it is good that they are welcomed to our church services. Thanks to all those who help with Sunday Club.

We restarted messy church again under a new name 'PGI Friday' (Praise God it's Friday). This was very successful. There were lots of crafts, good fun and food. We hope to

continue with PGI Friday and will ensure we invite children from both schools that are in our Parish. St Stephens and Springfield.

Prayer Breakfast goes from strength to strength. We continue to welcome people from other churches. This is an hour to meet together in word, prayer and singing. A wonderful alternative time together. Always enjoyable. And we even received a rave review in the parish magazine!

Intercessions continue to be led by volunteers from the congregation. As I mentioned last year there were for 4 people on the rota and there are still 4 people on the rota. This is not an exclusive club! If anyone feels that they would like to be part of this ministry we would be pleased to welcome you.

We have held Advent and Lent courses which were led by members of church and which have been very well attended. The House Group continues to meet we have great discussions and we have looked at I Corinthians and Acts

Once again we held a wonderful service before Christmas. St Stephen's Sings Christmas with Christingle. The church was full and it was a wonderful start to the Christmas season.

/continued ...

I would just like to repeat what I said last year. Lots of things are happening and this list could go on. Litter picks, the baptism team, the people who make the tea on Sunday we should also thank the people who clean the church. (That's another rota you may think about joining!!) The wonderful magazine that Pam prepares. These things may not seem to be part of Vision, but we are creating a place that people want to come to, we are welcoming people to be part of St Stephen's and showing that St Stephen's is part of Burnley Wood.

Now with our new Rector not just finding his feet but beginning to run with lots of new ideas, we can continue with our vision for this Parish. And I for one will try to keep up with him!

Thank you to all the people of St Stephen's for your support. Please continue to welcome all who may come through the door and don't forget to take that welcome out to the wider community.

Linda

Vision Champion, St Stephen's

'And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.'
(Roman 8.28)

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AT THE HEART OF BURNLEY WOOD

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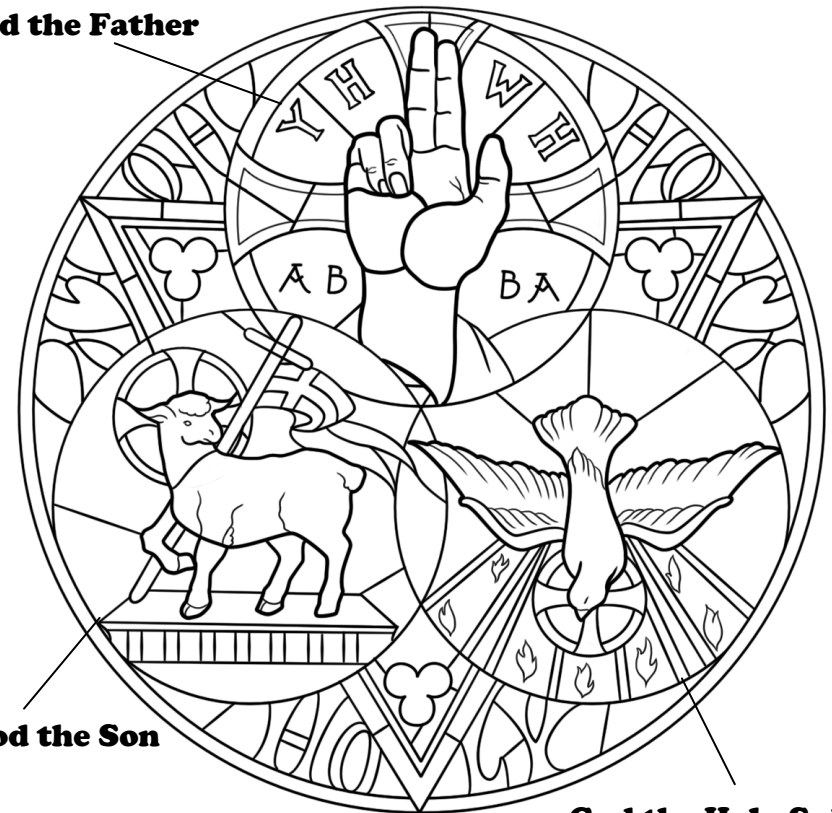


Trinity Sunday is on 4th June
- the Sunday after
Pentecost .

On Trinity Sunday, we think
about The Holy Trinity -
Father, Son and Holy Spirit
God the Three-in-One

Here's picture for you to colour

God the Father



God the Son

God the Holy Spirit



EXPLORING PRAYER

by Joan Ainsworth

Prayer is about our relationship with God. Bishop Cyril Ashton says 'there is for everyone a journey to God. That is the beginning not the end, for there is a journey with God and into God'. Over the years I have been a Christian I have talked with many people about prayer. A large number of them have said how difficult they find it. Along with that, people have shared they feel a reluctance to admit that because Christians should have an amazing experience with Jesus every day.

The question that sums up how a lot of us feel is: **how do I have a relationship with someone I can't see?**

Prayer is sometimes frightening because we can't answer the above. But, there is no right way to pray and there is no wrong way to pray. As our relationships differ between us and our family, our children or grandchildren, and our friends, so our relationship with God is different for each of us.

Lots of books help us to pray and divide our prayers into categories. Over the next few months I would like us to explore seven ways to pray. When we look at these we can feel daunted but, just as we don't have the same conversation with friends and family we don't have to include, or tick off each category to 'do it right'.

We can explore together:

1. Intercession- praying for others
2. Confession – being open with God where we might have done things better
3. Worship/contemplative prayer
4. Thanksgiving
5. Blessing people
6. Prayers of consecration and faith
7. Corporate prayer.

We have a prayer meeting every other week at St Peter's Church at 9.30 am for all those beginning their journey, to those who have been on the journey for a long time. If you are available and want to explore prayer and connect with God, we would love it if you joined us so we can share together our way of praying.

We also have a team who provide a short service of morning prayer Monday – Saturday at 9.00am on Facebook - it's a great place to start the greatest journey any of us will experience - our own journey into God.

Joan A



Going to Church

I recently moved house and home after quite a lengthy search
As soon as I was settled in, I joined the local church.

On Sunday, I went to church where people of God all meet
To be told by a lady in a royal blue hat, "You're sitting in MY seat!"

I turned up at the craft class and said, "Shall I help with the tables"?
Someone said, "that's kind of you, but the job is Fred and Mabel's".

Still, undeterred I went along to help at the Christmas Fair,
But I quickly got the feeling that they didn't want me there.

They said, "each person has their task, just as everyone knows.
We just dare not upset folk, or step upon their toes".

Then at the Christmas pantomime, I hoped to play my part
But they said, "no thanks, we'll manage fine", and I left with a heavy heart.

What is it with some churches, that they make you feel rejected.
You need a long apprenticeship before you are accepted.

Our Lord was not so fussy, he took folks for what they were,
Welcoming them with a loving smile and not an "um" or "err".

So I'll just sit quiet each Sunday, and blend in with the crowd
And when I offer to help in another few years ...

MAYBE THEN I'LL BE ALLOWED!



From Linda's Scrapbook



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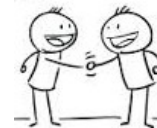
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Services & Rotas for June at St Stephen's

Date	Services	Sidespeople	Reader	Tea/Coffee	Cleaning
04/06	9.45 am Holy Communion	Judith & John H	Jean	Linda S & Jennifer	Team 2
11/06	9.45 am Holy Communion	Philip & Shirley	John C	Christine N & Brenda	Team 3
18/06	Wake Up & Worship 9.00 am Breakfast 9.45 am Eucharist	Christine & Christine	Maureen	WUAW	Team 1
25/06	9.45 am Holy Communion	Betty & Ralph	Shirley	Pauline & Shirley	Team 2



Services & Rotas for June at St Peter's

Date	11.00am	Reader	Intercessor	Sidespeople	6.00pm
07/05	Choral Matins	Jason Walsh	Joan Ainsworth	A Norris	BCP HC
14/05	Parish Eucharist	Carol Pike	Alan Roadley	H Slater J Ainsworth	-
21/05	Parish Eucharist	Stephen Dixon	Eric Massie	S Dison S Hacking	Choral Evensong
28/05	Family Service	Child	Child	C Hacking S Hacking	-

If you are unable to be in church when you are on the rota, please let the Wardens know.



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We look forward to welcoming you, come and see us soon!


Stoodley Skyline



Don't forget, Linda's Walk!

Date: Saturday June 17th
 Time: 9:15 am
 Lumbutts Methodist Church, Mankinholes, Todmorden OL14 6JA
 we'll enjoy a walk via the Shepherd's Rest pub and onward over the moors climbing up to Stoodley Pike where there'll be magnificent views (weather permitting!) of the Calder Valley. There'll be a chance for refreshments (or maybe a spot of lunch) at either the Top Bank or the Shepherd's Rest – both of which are excellent.

Any questions call Paul on 07967 644 709



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What we did in Sunday Club



We talked about St George and made a dragon and some shields and talked about how St George used his fear and doubts to kill the dragon



We wrote down our fears and doubts and then burnt them as a way of getting rid of them, this was linked in to the bible story of Doubting Thomas



We made crowns and had a tea party to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III.

We talked about how he was the head of the Church of England



... and then we let everyone else know what we'd been doing!