



The United Benefice of St Peter & St Stephen, Burnley

# LENT COURSE 2023

for 6 weeks commencing Wednesday 22nd February

## the things He carried

by

Stephen  
Cottrell

at St Stephen's  
Wednesday  
7.30 pm  
-oOo-  
at St Peter's  
Thursdays,  
10.00 am



A JOURNEY TO THE CROSS  
MEDITATIONS FOR LENT AND HOLY WEEK



# the link

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

MARCH 2023



Institution and Induction of Fr Andrew Holmes  
as Rector of the United Benefice

20th February 2023

<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

on Saturday 1st April  
at 9.00 am

All Welcome!

Telephone:  
01282 414390/760256

WHO'S WHO IN THE BENEFICE?	
Rector of the United Benefice: Fr Andrew Holmes andrewinburnley@gmail.com	
ST PETER'S	ST STEPHEN'S
<b>CHURCH WARDENS:</b> Mrs Sandra Davies ☎ 434763 Mr Jason Walsh ☎ 07554 154240	<b>CHURCH WARDENS:</b> Mr Keith Pounder ☎414390 Mrs Jean Beeston ☎432986
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<b>DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:</b> Mr Philip Tomlinson ☎777132	<b>MOTHERS' UNION:</b> Mrs Beverley Laycock (Branch Leader) ☎543766 Mrs Jackie Cosway (Secretary) ☎411967
<b>VISION CHAMPION:</b> Miss Roxanne Kern ☎07455 622445	<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL:</b> Emma Hopley ☎07968 782210 Emma Barker ☎07789 952470
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<b>SAFEGUARDING OFFICER:</b> Mrs Cynthia Bramley ☎07903341700.	<b>SAFEGUARDING OFFICER:</b> Mrs Barbara Hasty ☎07783006284
<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL (DJs):</b> Mrs Meena Tomlinson ☎777132	<b>VERGER</b> Mrs Edith Meek ☎456170
<b>HEADTEACHER:</b> Mrs Crowther ☎426873	<b>CHURCH FLOWERS:</b> Vacant
<b>FRIENDS OF ST PETER'S:</b> Mrs Heather Slater ☎432775	
<b>FLOWER GUILD:</b> Mrs Alice Binns ☎789632	
<b>BELFRY</b> Mr Richard Parker ☎619906	
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**Don't forget - if you need anything,  
don't hesitate to contact us**



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Please ensure that all articles for inclusion in the APRIL edition of the magazine are submitted no later than  
**15th March**  
pamelamcgrath1@hotmail.com

## Useful Information

Burnley Borough Council has an extensive list of Warm Places on its website. Check to see days and times.

**Burnley.gov.uk.**



**Burnley Together** still have various food hubs for collecting food parcels. Tel: 686402 between 9.00 am & 5.00 pm Monday - Friday to book - you need to book 24 hours in advance to arrange to collect. In certain circumstances, they will deliver a food parcel, but can only manage to deliver up to 5 a day, so it is strictly for those who are housebound and have no means of collection.



**Debt advice** is also available at Valley Street Community Centre on Thursday - drop in between 10.00 am and 2.00 pm

Barbara marshall



Dear Friends

My first magazine article from the rectory in Burnley! A time of reflection, looking back and, at the same time, looking forward. It has been a strange time for the family, moving house and welcoming our first Grandson, Arlo, George. We had the most amazing send-off from Haslingden. As I write this, the excitement of my institution and induction on the 20<sup>th</sup> is growing. I am so looking forward to being your rector and serving you and our community.

March is here when spring officially begins, new beginnings are seen all around, the daffodils are springing into life, and there is a little more light at the end of the day.

For many in the Christian community, March is the season of Lent – a time of reflection and preparation. Lent is the period of 40 days before Easter which began on Ash Wednesday; by the time you read this, I will have presided at the Eucharist for the first time. We will have marked our foreheads in Ash from burnt palm crosses and oil to recognise that we came from dust, and to dust shall we return.

Observing 40 days of Lent, we copy Jesus Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert.

Lent is often marked by fasting from food and festivities. Some people keep Lent by withdrawing from things like Facebook, some from chocolate, and others from alcohol. I would encourage you to start something new, maybe come to our Lent course, find out more about the Christian faith, more about ourselves

As we take up our cross and follow Christ, we can be comforted in our troubles and reflect on the direction of our own lives. I hope as we journey through Lent this year, we will be able to spend time getting to know each other. Look out for me out and about, and say hello!

Take time to reflect and pray about St Peter's and St Stephen's future. I pray we can take time to listen out for God's mission here and ask genuinely, what can I join in with? Lent is a time when we can look at what we do now and ask what we might be able to do in the future.

Love and prayers,

*Fr Andrew*



# In The Loop

... with Keith, Jean & Paul

St Stephen's Churchwardens



## WELCOME TO FR ANDREW

After a long interregnum, it was a relief to finally hold the Installation and Induction service of our new incumbent, Fr Andrew Holmes on Monday 20th February. The church was full as we welcomed Andrew, his wife Liz and other members of his family to a wonderful service, led by our own Bishop Philip. Thank you to all who assisted in the smooth running of the service. Special thanks to Peter Harrison, the organist from St Matthew's, who kindly offered to play the organ, and for the choirs of St Peter's, St James and St Thomas's who helped fill the choir pews to bursting!

We are sure that you will agree when we say that we are looking forward to moving on and working with Andrew. So, over the next couple of months as he settles in, we shall all be offering him our full support – a new beginning for him and for us too!

At this point we have to extend our thanks to all the clergy who have helped us out since the departure of Fr Paul Payton last July. Special grateful thanks go to Rev Frances who was the 'mainstay' as she led our services the first three Sundays of each month. Her contribution has been invaluable, which helped us wardens enormously, as it meant that

getting local clergy to cover the other services was a less onerous task.

## CLERGY STUDY DAY:

This will be taking place in church on Wednesday 22nd March, so just to remind you, there will **NOT** be 'Let's do Lunch' or the 2:00 pm service at St Stephen's on that day.

## ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Our annual meeting will take place after the service in church on Sunday 23rd April. This is your opportunity to air any views that you might have in the running of our church. Would you like to be a churchwarden? Would you like to join the team of sides-persons? If you would like to take on one of these roles, please see Keith or Jean.



## RE-LAUNCH OF THE OVER 50s CLUB

We have been thinking about providing some sort of 'event' on the alternate Wednesdays to 'Let's do Lunch', ie the possible re-launch of the Over 50's Club, but we would change

this name to something like, 'Meeting Point'. It would be held in the Community Room where there will be the opportunity to chat over tea/coffee, maybe play dominoes etc. We need to know whether people would be interested in this sort of event – so if you would, please let Keith, Jean or Paul know.

## UPDATE ON MEMORIAL GARDEN

Have you noticed the new trees in the Memorial Garden? Grateful thanks to Steve (Fossey) in helping to remove the previous dead cherry trees. The new trees are small in comparison, but they will grow! You might also have noticed that changes are beginning to take place with the six stained glass windows on the south side of the church. The grilling will be removed, the windows cleaned and then protected with polycarbonate panels.



The garden is now ready for the interment of the late Edna Saul 's ashes and this will take place later this month.

## MAINTENANCE

The raining in at the main roof close to the tower reported last month has now been rectified. Let's hope that we don't encounter many more storms like the one that caused this last problem. However, you might have noticed that there have also been

recurring patches of flaking paintwork in the main body of the church. Towards the end of last month, Paul (Hannah) and Neil (Hasty) scaled the ladders to scrape off and repaint the area in the chancel – so grateful thanks to both of them for their hard work.



## HELP GOES ON BEHIND THE SCENES

So much goes on in the day-to-day life of our church that many of you probably know about! So our grateful thanks go to our cleaning teams including our procurer of cleaning items and loo rolls etc, to our tea ladies, to our flower arranger, to our sacristan (what's that I hear you say), to our brass cleaners, to our gardeners – these are the people who 'work behind the scenes' and there are many others! Without their help, we wouldn't be a successful, functioning church. If you feel you could join this merry band of helpers, please do talk to Keith or Jean and we'll help you find your niche!

**That's all for now** – if anyone has **any** ideas about **anything** – please let us know!

*Jean, Keith & Paul*

*"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my right hand."*

(Isaiah 40:10)



## Diary Dates

### SPRING SOCIAL NIGHT OUT Thursday 20th April:

This date has been booked at '197 The Bistro'. Details of the menu etc will be available shortly.

-oOo-

### KING CHARLES III CORONATION:

As you know we had hoped to celebrate this by holding afternoon tea in church on Bank Holiday Monday, 8th May; however, Burnley (Clarets) have their final home match on this afternoon with the (current) likelihood of being awarded the Championship Trophy. We're having a rethink and will announce the new date of our celebration soon - watch this space!

-oOo-

### SPRING FAIR:

This will take place at School on Saturday, 13th May: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. There will be all the usual stalls, plus bouncy castle, barbecue etc and, the school choir will be present to sing to us. Further details nearer the time.

Grateful thanks to Tesco and Mike Davies for the recent donation of 'stock' that will be available at the Spring Fair. Once again, Tesco (and Mike) have come up trumps and there'll be lots to buy with your pennies!



## Thank You

Edith Meek wishes to thank friends at St Stephen's and St Peter's for the lovely messages, cards and flowers received following the sudden death of her dear son, Martyn,

Also thanks to Revd Frances for her prayers and kindness at this very difficult time.

"Love lives on in the memories and in the heart. Nothing can change that."



## Churchwardens' News from St Peter's

Hello everyone,

We hope you are well and staying safe.

Yet again February has been a troubling time for the world, last year with the Ukraine war which still continues, and this year with the devastating earthquake in Turkey and Syria. All those suffering in these disasters are very much in our thoughts and prayers and people have been donating generously to the earthquake appeal via the card machine and donation box at church.

It is a very exciting time at the moment as, by the time you read this, Fr Andrew will have been installed as our new Rector. He and his wife Liz moved into the rectory in early February. We very much look forward to Fr Andrew's leadership and hope that they will be very happy here in Burnley. It has been a long journey through the vacancy and we thank everyone who has played their part in keeping St Peter's thriving during that time. It has been a real team effort from those who have led services, organised events, looked after the building and finances, performed administrative tasks, offered pastoral care, and more. We are in a really strong position going forward.

The 2023 season of Saturday Morning Concerts got underway with a fantastic vocal performance by our very own Diana Harris, with Richard Barnes on piano and Ian Kille on french horn. The concert was very well attended and much enjoyed by all. Please do continue to support the concert series. There are many talented musicians lined up for the coming months, the next one being a piano recital by Jill Crossland on 4th March.

It is good to see the Lunch Club back again in the New Year. The catering team do an excellent job with this and it is a much valued place of food, friendship and conversation for so many who attend.

Take care,

Sandra and Jason

**LAST MONTH**

Every picture tells a story. I expect we all love looking back at old photos. Going through albums, boxes or tins full of images from our younger years can help us while away an afternoon if we're not careful. Down at St Stephen's our meeting helped us do just that as an old Walking Day video was shown and memories were shared. Thank you Elaine and Jim for bringing along the dvd.

**THIS MONTH**

The annual Make a Mother's Day campaign is running. If you would like to donate please visit the MU website to do so.

**MARCH, 2023 EVENTS AND MEETINGS**

Tuesday 14 March, 2pm - Lenten Meditation

Saturday 25 March, 12 noon - Deanery Lunch at St Cuthbert's

**MARCH 2023 CELEBRATIONS**

The 22nd is Linda and Keith's wedding anniversary. We hope you have a lovely day together.

*Mothering Sunday - 19th March*



*What Is A Mother?*

*A mother is someone who's always around  
when you're stuck for some friendly advice.*

*A mother is someone who knows how you feel  
and who'll help you without thinking twice...*

*A mother is someone so thoughtful and kind  
she's made her own place in your heart...*

*A mother is someone you wish all life's best  
with the love that's been hers from the start.*



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

**St Peter's Branch**

**St Peter's Mothers' Union**

Our programme for 2023 is now available. Please take one from the back of church.

At our March meeting on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 2.00pm in church, Christine will be demonstrating Easter flower arrangements. Non-members welcome to join us at any of our meetings.

*Carol*

*St Peter's Flower Guild*

**ROTA FOR MARCH**

	<i>Chancel</i>	<i>Towneley Chapel</i>
5th	Lent	
12th	Lent	
19th	Mothering Sunday	
26th	Lent	

Details regarding Mothering Sunday will appear in the weekly service sheet.

*Alice & Maureen*

## MARCH IN THE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE AT ST PETER'S

1st	Shirley Lacy, Matthew C Rochester
2nd	Jenny Jackson
3rd	Alice Senior, Walter Bernard Smith, Sarah Ann Mitchell
4th	Daniel Middleton Partington
5th	Roy Travis
6th	Fred Dodd, Wilfred Smith, Dorothy M Cox
7th	Polly Wells, Ellen Ann Harling
9th	William Pixton, Alan Billington
10th	Doris Foulds
11th	Lily Walker
12th	Robinson Batey
13th	Muriel Alice Lovgreen
14th	Bertha Barlow Hadfield, Ethel M Tomblin
15th	Reginald Edomondson, Susannah Duerden
18th	George Altham, Kai L Lovgreen
19th	Herbert Holt
20th	John Gent, Edna Murtagh
22nd	David Lavery
24th	Frank Dodd, Rhoda Dodd
28th	Mabel Annie Bellinger
29th	Fanny Leaver, Horace Walker
30th	Ada Nellie Forsyth



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

*(John 11:25)*

## MARCH IN THE MEMORIAL BOOK OF ST STEPHEN'S

1st	John Margerison Balderstone, Muriel Ward
2nd	Rose MacGowan
3rd	James Wood
4th	John Whittle, Mary Alice Cocker, John Muir Davies
5th	Alice Lawson
6th	Alfred Wilkinson, Rev Peter Charles William Walker (Priest)
7th	Derrick Tate
8th	Margery Corless
9th	Lucy May Marshall, Elsie Unsworth
10th	Robert Haworth, Harry Burton
11th	Anyon Webster, Florence Taylor, Marjorie Coolican
12th	Richard Kazy
13th	John Walmsley, Nan Barnes, Ellen Miller, Edna Mellor, Muriel Jobling
14th	Elizabeth Berry, Mary Leyland, Jack Hindle, Harold Cox Charlotte Astwood, Alfred E Brown, Elsie H Bartram
15th	Sarah Whitehead, Arthur Kevin McGuigan
16th	John Thomas Seddon
17th	Mary Elizabeth Baldwin, Dorothy Skirrow, Harry Barnes, Muriel Gibson, Malcolm Kay
18th	Fannie Elizabeth Sagar, Simon John Spencer
19th	Margaret Alice Whitaker, Gladys Evelyn Corner, Rose E Shaw, Lawrence W Wilkins, William John Baker
20th	John R Mills, William L Smith, Gertrude Waldman, Albert Lawless, Lilian Hartley, Albert Healey, Evelyn Tighe
21st	William Corner, Jacqueline A Lord, James Edward Bates
22nd	John Taylor Whitaker, Geoffrey Booth, Annie Lord
23rd	Annie Thornton, Herbert Dawson, Marjorie Pickup, Irene Proger
24th	Thomas Hargreaves, Alice Ann Lord, Henrietta Healey, Martha Dewhirst
25th	Harold Leyland, Thomas Campbell, Nora Leighton, Mary Watson, George William Jobling, Frederick Harrison Nellie Heaton, Geoffrey Cummings (Priest), Winifred Dand, Reginald Middleton
26th	William George Astwood, Parker Chadwick
27th	Haworth Lord, Lily Meredith, Mildred Pickles, Percy Singleton, Arthur Landles
28th	Harold Bartram, John Atkinson, Ann Smith
29th	Hilda Mary Boden
30th	Hilda Draper, Kathleen Blott
31st	Ada Chadwick, Bertha Greenwood, Nellie Garnett







## St Peter's Church - 100 Club. Existing and New Members

Heather Slater has run the 100 Club at St Peter's for many years, and we are very grateful to her and for the very welcome addition provided to church funds over many years. Heather has now decided to step down from the post and I have picked up the baton.

Existing members will be contacted shortly and asked to renew. We have plenty of vacant numbers and so anyone wishing to become a member should contact me on 07565 347524 or email [andrewmbuchanan@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:andrewmbuchanan@hotmail.co.uk) and I will send out the forms.

The fee for the year remains at £26 and for that, there will be a draw on Easter Sunday and Christmas Day for £100 each and in the other ten months of the year a draw of £10 on the last Sunday of the month. Please sign up by 2 April 2023 ahead of the first draw on 9 April 2023.

So for 50p a week you have the chance to win £300 and help church funds. Please sign up!

*Andrew Buchanan*  
PCC Secretary.

## Cake My Day



Cupcakes  
Brownies  
Birthday Cakes  
Christening Cakes  
Cakes for most occasions

☎ 07968 782210

*by Emma*

Email:  
[emmahopley70@gmail.com](mailto:emmahopley70@gmail.com)

## Ten Things to Remember in Lent



- † **Remember the formula** - Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving—as the three things we need to work on during the season.
- † **It's a time of prayer** - Lent is essentially an act of prayer spread out over 40 days. As we pray, we go on a journey, one that hopefully brings us closer to Christ and leaves us changed by the encounter with him.
- † **It's a time to fast.** - “What are you giving up for Lent? Hot dogs? Beer? Chocolate?” It's almost a game for some of us, but fasting is actually a form of penance, which helps us turn away from sin and toward Christ.
- † **It's a time to work on discipline** - Instead of giving something up, it can be doing something positive. “I'm going to exercise more. I'm going to pray more. I'm going to be nicer to my family, friends, and co-workers.”
- † **It's about dying to yourself** - The more serious side of Lenten discipline is that it's about more than self-control—it's about finding aspects of yourself that are less than Christ-like and letting them die.
- † **Don't do too much** - It's tempting to make Lent some ambitious period of personal reinvention, but it's best to keep it simple and focused. We spend our entire lives growing closer to God. Don't try to cram it all in one Lent. That's a recipe for failure.
- † **Lent reminds us of our weakness** - Of course, even when we set simple goals for ourselves during Lent, we still have trouble keeping them. When we fast, we realize we're all just one meal away from hunger. In both cases, Lent shows us our weakness. This can be painful, but recognizing how helpless we are makes us seek God's help with renewed urgency and sincerity.
- † **Be patient with yourself** - When we're confronted with our own weakness during Lent, the temptation is to get angry and frustrated. God is calling us to be patient and to see ourselves as he does, with unconditional love.
- † **Reach out in charity.** - As we experience weakness and suffering during Lent, we should be renewed in our compassion for those who are hungry, suffering, or otherwise in need. The third part of the Lenten formula is almsgiving. It's about more than throwing a few extra pounds in the collection plate; it's about reaching out to others and helping them without question as a way of sharing the experience of God's unconditional love.
- † **Learn to love like Christ** - Giving of ourselves in the midst of our suffering and self-denial brings us closer to loving like Christ, who suffered and poured himself out unconditionally on the Cross for all of us. Lent is a journey through the desert to the foot of the Cross on Good Friday, as we seek him out, ask his help, join in his suffering, and learn to love like him.

## Saturday Morning Concerts



Our new series got underway on the 4th February, when a distinguished trio of Diana Harris, Ian Kille and Richard Barnes gave a fabulous recital with a variety of music for soprano, French horn and piano. Our thanks to Diana for making all the arrangements for this wonderful event.

Our next concert is on the 4th March at 11.00am when pianist Jill Crossland makes a welcome return to St Peter's. BBC Music Magazine describes her enviable reputation as a Bach pianist and she has featured in Classic FM's Hall of Fame.

As always admission is £7 and includes refreshments and parking in the school yard (Rawcliffe Street). Concerts finish around noon and the car park remains open until 12.30pm.

Details of all concerts can be found on the website.

Philip

St Luke's Brierfield

*Sing God's praises in the languages of many nations ...*

# International Worship

for all ages and cultures

**Cultural dress optional**

featuring **Majeed Masih**  
Gospel Singer from Pakistan

Refreshments served after Worship

**St Luke's Church, Brierfield**  
27 Burnley Road, Nelson, BB9 5JL  
**Saturday 1st April 2023**  
**11.00 am**

For More Information  
Contact:  
Rev Munawar Din:  
din5munawar@gmail.com  
WhatsApp: 07728 373209  
Tel: 01282 720611

[www.stlukesbrierfield.org.uk](http://www.stlukesbrierfield.org.uk) [www.stcuthbertsburnley.org.uk](http://www.stcuthbertsburnley.org.uk)



**We are collecting**  
**Donations**  
**of cereals/cereal bars/pain au chocolat/porridge etc**  
**to support St Stephen's Primary School**



**please leave your**  
**donation in the**  
**basket in Church.**

**Thank you**





## Sunday School News from St Peter's

In the last couple of weeks our readings and school workshop theme of 'Love' have prompted excellent discussions and ideas from the children - every child excitedly having plenty to say !!!!

As we travel through Lent together the readings will engage and further inspire thoughts and questions - being 'born again with Nicodemus', 'living water' with the Samaritan women, miracles and raising Lazarus to life . Wow !!!! What a month.

Our Young Singers sang beautifully at the wedding of Sharmaine and John and it was wonderful to see church packed with so many families . We wish them every blessing .

*Love from Meena x*



*Christingle Sunday*

*Alan's teddy came to help  
in Sunday School*



A fantastic Pancake Party. All the children enjoyed a discussion session about the traditions of pancake day,, talking about Lent and why we observe Lent.

The children decorated CDs with prayers and buttons, made jars of coloured sand and made the most fantastic wilderness scene.

Pancakes with bananas, strawberries, chocolate spread, lemon, sugar and syrup were enjoyed.





## When Darkness Falls

The curtain of darkness falls every night. God called the darkness night and the light he called day. This was all in the blueprint of his creation.

Maybe God himself was forewarning us what would happen when He gave man his own free will. We are seeing great evidence of darkness now. The terrible invasion of the Ukraine, the cruel rule of the Taliban who subjugate women by denying them their rights and education. We hear of the persecution of Christians of torture all over the world, of rape and many who live under the rule of tyranny.

Whilst more than half of the world are well fed and clothed, the rest are hungry and have no sanitation, water or anywhere decent to live. When we watch the News, we are distraught by what is happening in the world. Those anguished families who have lost loved ones in the devastating earthquakes in Syria and Turkey. In our own country, stabbing, senseless murders and youngsters being involved in heinous crimes. Oh Lord, when will this all end, we cry?

I am reminded frequently that our God is not just the Good Shepherd, not just the Prince of Peace, which of course he is. He is the God who loved us so much that he sent his son in earthly form to show us the way of truth and love. However, the darkness, fear and the insecurity over-rode many who were in power, and they sought to destroy the light of Jesus. They saw him as a threat to their power and they were eaten up by jealousy and hate. However, in the darkness of Calvary all was not lost, in fact everything was gained. Gained by suffering, anguish and sacrifice.



As we approach Lent, let us remind ourselves of Easter Saturday. It's not a day that is spoken about much. What a day though! God was wrathful. God was furious at the actions of an evil cruel world. His gift of Jesus was destroyed in death. His only son, pierced by jagged thorns, hands and feet marked by driven nails and a sword-slashed gaping hole in his side.

God chose darkness. The day was turned to night. The veil of the temple was ripped into two by the wrath of God himself. The curtain of God's ire completely closed out the light. The earth was darkened by the shroud of death.

Of course, the next day, Easter Sunday, the Power of Almighty God was revealed and the darkness became the glorious Breathtaking Light of a Risen Jesus. The visible manifestation of Everlasting Life in Jesus himself!

As we live through dark days, whether it be through our own eyes, or through the lens of the media, let us hold on to these thoughts. 'God is the light and the darkness will never overcome it.' The victory is won! Jesus will come again in person, as promised. The King of Kings and Lord of Lords! Hallelujah!

Here on earth you have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world'. (John 16:33)

'And He shall reign forever and ever' - Amen to that!

Christine H  
St Stephen's





**A Cleaning Service**  
offering anything from  
the 'One-Off' clean,  
or a regular clean of your  
house/place of work

**Contact: Helen Laycock**

**Tel: 07971 788 781**

**Email: [happycleaning@mail.com](mailto:happycleaning@mail.com)**

St Stephen's Church, Burnley Wood

# Film Friday

Friday 31st March at 7.00 pm

A FILM BY STEVEN SPIELBERG

## SCHINDLER'S LIST

Refreshments  
on sale!



Free Admission, but all donations gratefully received

A warm,  
welcoming  
home...

Located in a peaceful residential area just outside Burnley, Dove Court is a modern, friendly care home that offers residential, nursing and dementia care.

Dove Court recently benefitted from a significant investment and refurbishment programme which has created a modernised living environment, designed to enhance the quality of life for our Residents. This includes the full refurbishment of bedrooms, redecoration of lounge and dining areas, treatment room and hair salon, as well as a brand-new café bar.

If you would like to know more about Dove Court and the type of care they can provide, please contact one of our dedicated careline advisers today.

T: 0333 321 4671

W: [hc-one.co.uk](http://hc-one.co.uk)

A: Shuttleworth Street, Burnley, BB10 1EN



*"My mother was in Dove Court for three years, and the care was exceptional. We couldn't have been happier with her care."*

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## ...From our Vision Champions

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



*Linda writes ...*

Hi everyone,

As I wrote in last month's magazine, we had to postpone the planned Prayer Breakfast In December. The newly arranged Prayer Breakfast was very well attended. There is always a wonderful feeling of friendship and fellowship. The main theme of the day was - we make New Year resolutions to lose weight, go to the gym but perhaps we should make some resolutions with regard to our prayer life and how we can gain greater understanding of the bible.

We also heard the story of Charlotte Elliot the writer of the hymn "Just as I am" and the influence it had on C S Lewis and Billy Graham. So the message turned into, before we get bogged down with a long list of resolutions and things to do.

**first we must turn to Christ ...  
just as I am.**

I think everyone who attends leaves feeling uplifted, filled with the Holy Spirit and ready to share their love of Jesus with all they meet.

Thank you to Alan Roadley for his kind words when he wrote about the

Prayer Breakfast in last month's magazine.

The date for the next Prayer Breakfast is Saturday April 1<sup>st</sup>.

We held our second PGI Friday in February (Praise God it's Friday). The theme was Christingle and being a light in the world. Initially I was disappointed in the number of children who attended. However those who did attend had a wonderful time. Making Christingles, decorating cup cakes with icing and candles, making hanging rainbow decorations and stained glass lanterns. This was followed by a short talk on the meaning of Christingle, an action song and finally hot dogs and juice.

I know I have said this before and I need to start believing it myself. We should not judge the success of an event on how many people attend but to look at what it gave/meant to those who were there.

The next PGI Friday will be March 31<sup>st</sup>. The theme will obviously be Easter. Please spread the word



/cont ...



The Lent course will have already started by the time you read this article. We will be meeting in the community rooms each Wednesday at 7.30 through to 29<sup>th</sup> March.

We will be following a book written by the Archbishop of York entitled

**'The Things He Carried ... A journey to the Cross.'**

Everyone is welcome. Each week is a different theme so no need to attend all the sessions just come when you can. Please just give it a try.

The course will run at St Peters on Thursday Mornings.

*Linda*

Vision Champion, St Stephen's

***Just as I am,  
though tossed about  
With many a conflict,  
many a doubt  
Fighting and fears  
within without  
Oh, Lamb of God,  
I come***



*Roxy writes* ...

I guess my theme for today's letter is I love! 'It's all around'

as the band Wet Wet Wet so put it in the 90s. Haha!

Talking about love, I wanted to take a moment to warmly congratulate Mr and Mrs Cruickshanks on the occasion of their wedding! The pictures were a pure delight to see – Sharmaine and John you both looked radiant in your happiness and it's a joy to be able to share in your joy as one family.



I'm writing this on Valentine's Day – a day traditionally kept for all to communicate their love and care for one another. Whether you are in or out of a relationship – the core message of the day, sharing a bit of love all around, is still important!

The Apostle John wrote of this in his first epistle. In fact – his epistle

(or letter) contains the word love 46 times alone. I guess you could call it a love letter!

The Apostle John warmly encourages his flock (which he lovingly calls his children, then his friends and also his brothers and sisters) from chapter 4v7 to 'love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who knows love has been born of God and knows God.' John here reuses Jesus' words of encouragement to his Disciples. Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, leaves us with the following encouraging command: "A new commandment I give to you, that you should love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Now, this can be hard. Thank goodness we have the Holy Spirit, who provides us with love as one of His 'Fruits.' We can pray each day to be more loving – more fruitful in this gift - and then make that daily choice to be more so – to become imitators of Christ and share His love to all across our communities.

Lots of love,

*Roxanne*

Vision Champion, St Peter's

# let's do lunch

... and it's 'On the House!'

fortnightly on Wednesdays

Lunches in March

8th March

Please note:

There will be no lunch on 22nd March

at 12.30 pm

at St Stephen's Church

Oxford Road  
Burnley Wood  
BB11 3JA

just come along at 12.30 pm!

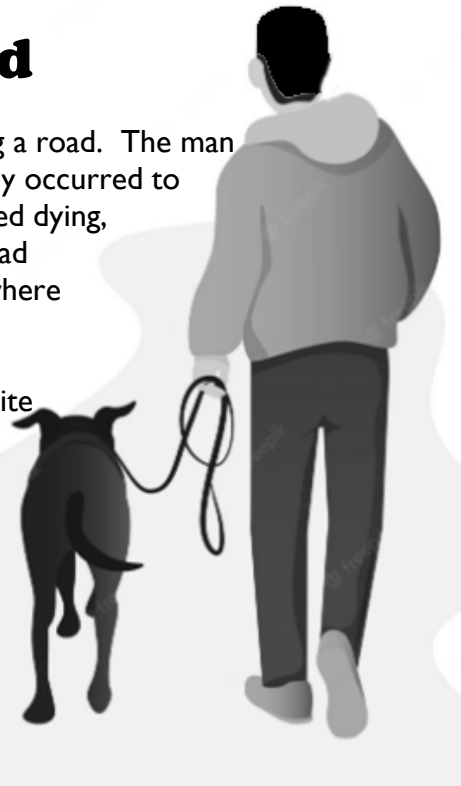
# Man's Best Friend

A man and his dog were walking along a road. The man was enjoying scenery, when it suddenly occurred to him that he was dead. He remembered dying, and that the dog walking beside him had been dead for years. He wondered where the road was leading them.

After a while, they came to a high, white stone wall along one side of the road. It looked like fine marble. At the top of a long hill, it was broken by a tall arch that glowed in the sunlight. When he was standing before it he saw a magnificent gate in the arch that looked like mother of pearl, and the street that led to the gate looked like pure gold. He and the dog walked toward the gate, and as he got closer, he saw a man at a desk to one side. When he was close enough, he called out, "Excuse me, where are we?" "This is Heaven sir," the man answered. "WOW! Would you happen to have some water?" the man asked. "Of course sir, come right in, and I'll have some ice water brought right up." The man gestured, and the gate began to open. "Can my friend," gesturing toward his dog, "come in too?" the traveller asked. "I'm sorry sir, but we don't accept pets."

The man thought for a moment and then turned back toward the road and continued the way he had been going with his dog.

After another long walk, and at the top of another long hill, he came to a dirt road leading through a farm gate that looked as if it had never been closed. There was no fence. As he approached the gate, he saw a man inside, leaning against a tree and reading a book.



"Excuse me" he called to the man. "Do you have any water?" "Yeah sure, there's a pump over there, come on in." "How about my friend here?" the traveller gestured to the dog. "There should be a bowl by the pump."

They went through the gate, and sure enough, there was an old fashioned hand pump with a bowl beside it. The traveller filled the water bowl and took a long drink himself, and then he gave some to the dog. When they were full, he and the dog walked back toward the man who was standing by the tree.

"What do you call this place?" the traveller asked. "This is Heaven," he answered. "Well that's confusing," the traveller said. "The man down the road said that was Heaven too." "Oh you mean the place with the gold street and pearly gates? Nope. That's hell." "Doesn't it make you mad for them to use your name like that" "No, we're just happy that they screen out the folks who would leave their best friends behind."

*from 'Linda's Scrapbook'*



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## Services & Rotas for March at St Stephen's

Date	Services	Sidespeople	Reader	Tea/Coffee	Cleaning
5/03	9.45 am Holy Communion	Philip & Shirley	Shirley	Christine H & Christine N	W/C 6/02 Team 1
12/03	9.45 am Holy	Christine H & Christine N	Paul	Pauline A & Pam	W/C 13/02 Team 2
19/03	Wake Up & Worship 9.00 am Breakfast 9.45 am Holy Communion	Betty & Ralph	Elaine	WUAW	W/C 20/02 Team 3
26/03	9.45 am Holy Communion	Anita & Steve	Philip	Pauline L & Shirley	W/C 27/02 Team 1



## Services & Rotas for March at St Peter's

Date	11.00am	Reader	Intercessor	Sidespeople	6.00pm
5/03	Choral Matins	Diana Harris	Stephen Dixon	S Dison S Hacking	BCP HC
12/03	Holy Communion	Alan Roadley	Adrian Norris	C Hacking S Hacking	-
19/03	Holy Communion	Jason Walsh	Carol Pike	M Eckersley E Massie	Choral Evensong
26/03	Family Service	Child	Child	A Norris S Dixon	-

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





# Children's Page

A picture for you to colour for Mother's Day



Mandy Groce '13

ministry-to-children.com



*On-going maintenance at St Stephen's  
Thank you, Paul and Neil!*





# PGi Friday in February



*For Fun, Food & Friends*  
*it's*

# PGi Friday



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Miss it!**

**St Stephen's Church**

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BY AN ADULT**

**Friday 31st March  
5.00 - 6.30 pm**

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