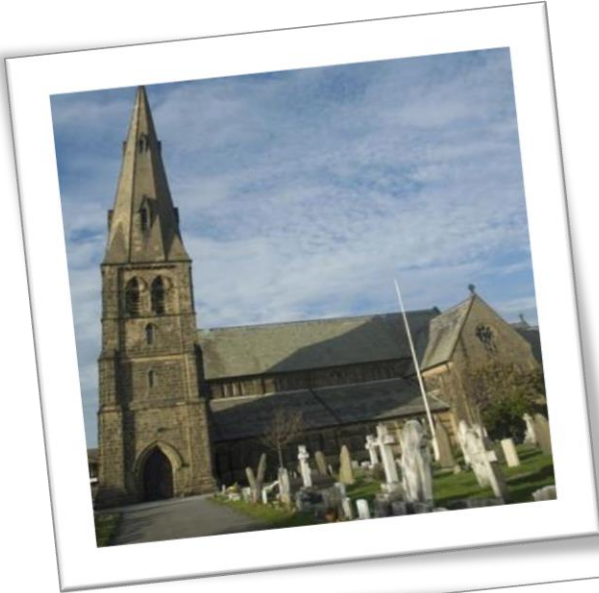


St  
LYTHAM



August 2022

Dear Friends,

I am delighted to let everyone know that the new parish is now registered with the Charity Commission, our number is 1199630. This means we can now progress opening the new bank account for the parish and begin to look to close the old accounts down over the coming months.

A further important step will be running a giving or stewardship campaign in the autumn. Part of this will be to encourage all those connected to the parish, who are able to, to sign up to the Parish Giving Scheme. This scheme is a means of regularly giving to the church by setting up a Direct Debit for us through the Parish Giving scheme, they will then arrange for any tax refund which is allowable on those gifts to be collected and then the total collection paid into our church accounts monthly.

This a scheme I have experience of in the past and indeed recommended to the Bishop of Blackburn during my interview for the post here with you in Lytham. The scheme helps secure regular income and reduces the amount of administration we will have to do ourselves.

We will be writing and talking about his more during in the coming weeks, but please remember the main message is that we are encouraging one another to respond generously to God for his generosity to us.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Jones', with a horizontal line underneath.

## Licensing of Revd Emma Swarbrick

We are really looking forward to Emma being licensed as our Mission Enabler at St John's on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August at 7pm by the Bishop of Burnley and the Archdeacon of Lancaster. Please to try to be there to support her and help welcome her guests too. This is another piece of the Parish of JC Lytham being put into place.



## Clergy Housing

It has long been recognised that the two Vicarages we have in Lytham are no longer ideal as clergy homes. The lay out of them is not ideal and the costs of running them very expensive, especially with the exaggerated increases in gas and electric we are experiencing at present. The Diocesan Property Department who are responsible for providing clergy housing are therefore beginning the search for alternative houses to become our vicarages in the future.

We will keep you informed of the progress of this move as we learn more.

## Two Bishops, not Three

For at least the next year we will be a bishop down. We have never operated a formal area scheme, and from now on both Bishops work equally across the whole Diocese and will be equally available to all who need an episcopal ear or any particular support.

Bishop Philip will be acting Diocesan Bishop. He will continue to oversee the 'growing leaders' aspect of our life and will continue as Sponsoring Bishop for ordinands.

Bishop Jill will continue to oversee the 'being witnesses' strand of work. She will chair the Strategic Programme Board which oversees our SDF projects and will lead on the development of the Strategic Transitional Funding (STF) bid. She will also have oversight of chaplaincy – healthcare and prisons

## **Prayer for the appointment of the next Bishop of Blackburn**

Heavenly Father, we pray for a bishop full of your Holy Spirit: a disciple who makes disciples, a bold witness to Jesus, and a Christ-like leader, able to inspire children and young people with the transforming message of your Gospel. We ask this in the name of your Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

## **Carpets**

Following the redecoration of the vestry at St John's we have now had a new carpet fitted and are in the throws of bringing items back into the vestry.

We are also looking to replace the carpet up the centre of St Cuthbert's and the Lady Chapel (or is that The Chapel of the Resurrection). Sadly, the current pattern of the Fleur de Lis is no longer available, but members of the PCC have agreed a style which retains the blue theme we have currently.

If anyone wishes to contribute to the costs of either of these carpets please have a conversation with the vicar or a churchwarden.

## From the Registers

### Baptisms

July

24<sup>th</sup> ?Aaliyah Page?

### Funerals

July

22<sup>nd</sup> Clive Boyd

26<sup>th</sup> Winifred Robson

27<sup>th</sup> Ferial Etherington

### Mothers' Union



Our Bertie Bear Toddler Group has now closed for the Summer Break until Wednesday 7th September.

We have had a very successful year and have had over 30 little ones attending each week.

With the profit made from refreshments, we have been able to make donations of £250.00 to the PCC for upkeep of the Church Hall and to Mothers Union Funds, five donations of £150 each to the following - General Fund, Overseas Fund, Relief Fund, Development Fund and Caravan Fund.

The Caravan is located near Morecambe and provides holidays for families in difficult circumstances.

Our grateful thanks must go to all the ladies who help each week to provide this valuable service to the Community and beyond.

*Margaret Fisher*

## Sponsorship of the Service Sheet and Flowers

We are delighted that flowers are back in church and that the sponsorships of the Service Sheet and Flower at St Cuthbert's continue to be available. It may, for example, be you wish to do this in memory of a loved one or at the time of a special event within the family. Name/s and suitable wording chosen by the donor will feature on the service sheet. The cost of each sponsorship is £25.00; for the sponsorship of both together, the cost is £40.00. Arrangements should be made via the Parish Office, at least four weeks in advance. For those who are taxpayers, there is a reminder that gift-aiding the money will provide even greater financial benefit to the Church. In order to do this, please complete the details on the front of the envelope.

## Helping at our School

Would you be interested in spending time with our wonderful children?

Lytham Church of England Primary School would appreciate voluntary help with reading, craftwork and general events for the 2022/23 academic year. If you would like to help us, please contact: [office@lytham.lanacs.sch.uk](mailto:office@lytham.lanacs.sch.uk) for further details.



*All volunteers will be required to apply to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) for a 'disclosure'. Information provided by you or the Disclosure and Barring Service will be dealt with in a confidential manner in accordance with the DBS's Code of Practice.*

## Table Top Sales

If you are interested in booking a table, please contact the Organiser, Marlene, on 07902 092 215.

The dates for 2022: 27<sup>th</sup> August, 24<sup>th</sup> September, 29<sup>th</sup> October and 26<sup>th</sup> November.

## The Magnificat

This month has a major Marian feast, celebrated on August 15. As has always been the practice in liturgical texts, the day's importance is signalled in *Common Worship* by its being listed in red (the origin of the term 'red-letter day'). It's designated simply as 'The Blessed Virgin Mary', but in the Roman Catholic tradition it's known as the Assumption of the Virgin – a feast celebrated in the eastern tradition also, where it's known as the Dormition. I've written about the feast-day on a previous occasion. So this year I'm going to write on another Marian topic: the *Magnificat* or the song of Mary. It occurs only in Luke's gospel, chapter 1 verses 46-55, and is Mary's response to her cousin Elizabeth's recognition of her as 'the mother of my Lord'. The original text is, of course, in the Greek of Luke's gospel, but the canticle is known in the Western Church by the first word of its Latin translation: *Magnificat anima mea Dominum*, 'My (*mea*) soul (*anima*) magnifies /doth magnify (*magnificat*) the Lord (*Dominum*).

The *Magnificat* has been part of Christian liturgy since earliest times, associated in the Western Church particularly with the main service of evening prayer: Vespers, or Evensong. In the Eastern tradition it is sung at Matins. Western liturgy usually adds the doxology at the end (Glory be to the Father ...etc), although this is not in the gospel text.

The style and structure of the *Magnificat* echoes the poetry and song of the Old Testament, and falls into four main parts: Mary's rejoicing that

she has been privileged to give birth to the Messiah (verses 46-48); her glorification of God's power, holiness and mercy (verses 49-50); her anticipation that, through the Messiah, God will transform the world (verses 51-53); and her exaltation of God for his faithfulness in fulfilling his promise to Abraham (verses 54-55), which alludes to Genesis 12 verses 1-3. Mary's song echoes the song of Hannah (I Samuel 2 verses 1-10), and expresses ideas that are also reminiscent of the words of the prophets.

Through sheer familiarity, reciting the *Magnificat* in the comfort of our churches and cathedrals, as we perhaps also enjoy one of its many beautiful musical settings, the extremely radical nature of Mary's prophetic song may escape us. But it is revolutionary: the proud will be brought low; the humble will be lifted up; the hungry will be fed; and the rich will go without. Did you know that, because of this subversive message, the British Raj forbade the *Magnificat* to be sung in churches in India? But it was not only imperial Britain that took this step. It was similarly banned by the Guatemalan government in the 1980s, and in Argentina the military junta outlawed any public display of Mary's words after the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, protesting against the 'disappearance' of their children, displayed posters bearing words from this canticle. One cannot sum it up better than by quoting from a sermon preached by Dietrich Bonhoeffer in 1933:

The song of Mary is the oldest Advent hymn. It is at once the most passionate, the wildest, one might even say the most revolutionary Advent hymn ever sung. This is not the gentle, tender, dreamy Mary whom we sometimes see in paintings.... This song has none of the sweet, nostalgic, or even playful tones of some of our Christmas carols. It is instead a hard, strong, inexorable song about the power of God and the powerlessness of humankind.

*Joyce Hill*



The Church Hall – For more info call 01253 736488

- Tuesday**      9am-3pm      Tumble Tots –  
[Tumbletotslynz@hotmail.com](mailto:Tumbletotslynz@hotmail.com)
- 6pm-7pm      Beavers (term time)
- 7pm-9pm      Scouts (term time)
- Wednesday**    9.30am-11.30am Bertie Bears (term time)
- 1.45pm-4pm    Over 50's Table Tennis
- 7pm-8pm      Pilates with Georgia – 07875590724
- Thursday**      5pm-6pm      Rainbows (term time)
- 6.30pm-7.30pm Brownies (term time)

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# What's going on at



## Sunday

8.30am Holy Communion either church

10.15am Morning Service at both churches

10:15am Sunday School at St Cuthbert on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays

## Wednesday

9.45am Bertie Bear Toddler Group in the Church Hall at St Cuthbert

11am Holy Communion at St



Cuthbert

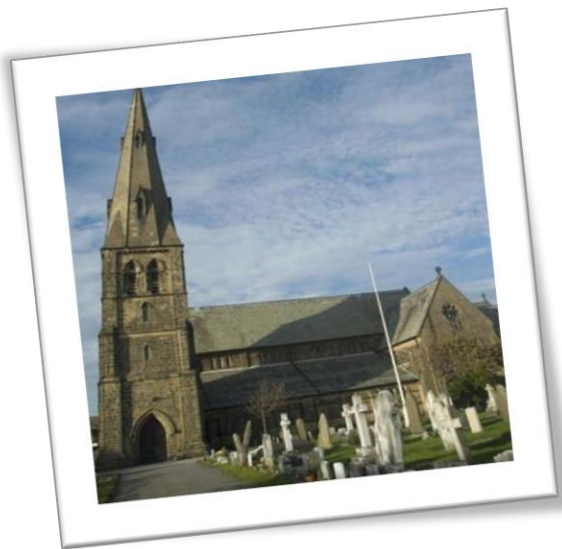
## Thursday

9.30am Community Craft Group at St Cuthbert

## Saturday

10am Open Church

10am 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month Coffee morning at St John's





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Vicar: Revd Nick Wells



01253 279676

Hon. Assistant Priest: Revd Helen Houston  
Revd Peter Law-Jones

Licensed Lay Joanne Hutchinson Angela Lee

Ministers: David Matthews Bev Wells

Nicola Whitehead

## Our worship services

Daily Prayer will normally be said on Facebook at 9am on Monday Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings for the time being.

	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
8:30am BCP Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's	St John's	St Cuthbert's	St John's	-
10:15am CW Holy Communion	St John's & St Cuthbert's	St Cuthbert's	St John's	St Cuthbert's	Parish  Service
10:15am Service of the Word	-	St John's	St Cuthbert's	St John's	
12noon Baptisms	St John's	St Cuthbert's	St John's	St Cuthbert's	-

<b>Wednesday</b> 11am Communion	St Cuthbert's	St Cuthbert's	St Cuthbert's	St Cuthbert's	St Cuthbert's
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JC Lytham Parish Office  
The Church Hall  
Church Road  
Lytham  
FY8 5QL

Tel : 01253 736488

Email: [parishoffice@stcuthbertslytham.org](mailto:parishoffice@stcuthbertslytham.org)

Usual office hours: Monday – Friday 9.00am – 1.00pm

The Vicar's Day off is Friday; if you need urgent support on a Friday, please contact Fiona in the office who will be able to put you in touch with someone who can help.

Website: [www.stcuthbertslytham.org.uk](http://www.stcuthbertslytham.org.uk)

Facebook page: JC Lytham

Twitter: @cuthbertslytham

YouTube Channel: St Cuthbert's Lytham



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