

**January  
2023**

Dear Friends,

When I was a choir boy during the 60's and 70's I well remember the liturgy of our services evolving. There were three rites for Communion introduced, one succeeding the other, prior to the Alternative Service Book being published and widely used from 1980. Since ordination our orders of service have further developed, focused on Common Prayer which came out in the millennium year.



I personally prefer the more recent offering of liturgy. I find the words more in keeping with everyday language we use in our daily lives. For me our worship is us responding to God in appropriate ways which come from the world we live in.

Do not fear I have no plan to cease the use of the Book of Common Prayer. There are times I find the Shakespearian style of wording very spiritual and recognise it has value to many people.

Our most popular services of the year are the Christmas Eve Crib Services, which have a very simple format and clearly appeal to people of all ages and backgrounds. This provides a model for us.

With all this in mind I am very much looking forward to the All Age Services which we are introducing this year. They will be something of a mix of the Service of the Word, Church Parade, the Contemporary Service and what was for many years in many churches was known as a Family Service.

It will be non eucharistic, which can feel exclusive to those who are not Confirmed, and is a fresh opportunity for the whole church family, regular members, those new to the faith and enquirers to gather to

spend time together with God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The sermons will have a more relaxed feel and the service less formal.

The first All Age Service is on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January at St Cuthbert's and we will be thinking about the Baptism of Jesus and renewing our own baptism vows as we enter the new year.

I would ask you to pray for this fresh initiative that it may resonate with people in the parish, please ask that the Holy Spirit will inspire our worship of God.

Yours in Christ,



## Alpha

Alpha will begin again this month.

Alpha is a series that explores the basics of the Christian faith in a welcoming, open and friendly environment. It's free and there's no pressure or follow-up.



Each session you'll be hosted in a group where you'll hear different topics on Christianity and have time to chat through any thoughts. You can say anything you like or nothing at all. Everyone's welcome, no matter your background or beliefs, **you're invited.**

Beginning Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023, 7:30pm for food, 8pm start.  
49 Victory Boulevard. (Subsequent weeks, 8pm start)

Any questions? Email [emma@jclytham.church](mailto:emma@jclytham.church)

## A big THANK YOU

- to everyone who brought a gift to the Crib Service, your generosity was appreciated by so many less fortunate children and each and every one of you put a smile on a face this Christmas;
- for the generous support given to Harbour House through gifts of groceries and toiletries plus a donation of over £500 to assist the young people to heat their flats this winter;
- also to everyone who decorated and prepared our churches for Christmas, from comments received it is clearly noticed and appreciated.

Thank you once again for being so kind and generous.

### Warm Hubs

Our Warm Hubs reopen after a short Christmas break and will be offering a welcome to members of the community into our churches each week. This is an opportunity for people to come and be warm but also there is a warm welcome, plenty of refreshments, soup, activities, chatter, laughter and catch ups with friends not seen for quite a while.



St John is open on Tuesday and St Cuthbert on Thursday from 10am until 4pm. As we say, everyone is welcome.

## Mothers' Union



The Christmas Lunch at  
Lytham Hall on Thursday 15th

December was a very happy occasion when a delicious meal and good company was very much enjoyed by everyone attending.

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 12th January at 2.30pm**. This will be a Musical Afternoon provided by Mr. David Mawson which is sure to be a very pleasant start to the New Year.

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone Good Health & Happiness in 2023.

*Margaret Fisher*

## All Age Service

The PCC have agreed that we launch a monthly All Age Service in each church every month. This is a development of the Service of the Word with a more relaxed feel and teaching appropriate to all ages.

We begin at St Cuthbert's on 8<sup>th</sup> January at 10:15am, the first one at St John's will not be until 27<sup>th</sup> February as the Churches in Lytham Covenant Service falls on the fourth Sunday in January.

Please see the timetable of service times for our revised pattern of services.

## **Covenant Service**

As you will have just seen, the annual Churches on Lytham Covenant Service is on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 10:30am this year at Lytham Methodist Church. The preacher is the Revd Anton Muller the Ecumenical Officer for Lancashire. It is always a special moment in our calendar to join the other churches to mark our covenant which is now approaching it's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and was one of, if not the first, in the north west.

There will be BCP Communion at 8:30 that morning in St Cuthbert's but no 10:15am service in either church.

As a result there is not a Parish Communion of the fifth Sunday in January, but Communion in both churches on 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **From the Registers – December**

### **Baptisms**

#### **November**

27<sup>th</sup> Leo James Robinson

Poppy Olivia Robinson

**Thanksgiving for Birth** of Conor Joshua Oisin Rogers

### **Funerals**

#### **December**

5<sup>th</sup> Barbara McCardle

9<sup>th</sup> Bernice Mill

9<sup>th</sup> Cynthi Maurice

15<sup>th</sup> Barbara Horrocks

## The January Quiz

January is the first month of the year in the Gregorian calendar. Its name is derived from *Janus* or *Ianus*, the ancient Roman god of passage and new beginnings. It is related to the word *Janitor*, originally, *a keeper of the gate*.

The Romans had many gods and goddesses, ... Poseidon, Apollo, Luna, Vesta, and more. As the god of doors and transitions, Janus represented the middle ground between dualities such as beginning/end, youth/adulthood, war/peace. It was believed that Janus ruled over life events such as birth and death, and he oversaw seasonal changes such as planting, harvesting and the New Year. In portrait, Janus is seen with two faces, one facing the past and the other the future. He also holds in his right hand a key, symbolizing his protection of gates, thresholds and other openings between spatial boundaries.

For fireside entertainment and edification, here are thirty questions all with connections to winter and/or the month of January.

1. Before January was added to the calendar, how many months made up one year?
2. Other than in a leap year, January always starts on the same day of the week as which other month?
3. Who added an extra day to January making a total of 31?
4. What do Christians celebrate on 6<sup>th</sup> January?
5. The carol *In the bleak mid-winter* is based on a poem by which English poet ?
6. Who was the author of *Pride and Prejudice*, first published in January 1813?
7. Which famous diarist started with a first entry on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1660?
8. The currency of the Euro came into being in which year?
9. Previously known as *The Daily Universal Register*, which newspaper was first published in 1788?
10. Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* is set in which two kingdoms?
11. Who sang *A Winter's Tale* in 1982?

12. Which Irish snooker player, famous for his spectacles, was born on 19<sup>th</sup> January 1949?
13. In which year did German aircraft first bomb London?
14. Who connects '... the winter of our discontent' with P?
15. In January 1924, the sarcophagus of which famous mummified Pharaoh was opened in Egypt?
16. What do Christians celebrate on 25<sup>th</sup> January?
17. What is the name of the prayer traditionally said at a Burns Supper before the guests are seated?
18. Which British figure skater won the gold medal at the 1980 Winter Olympic Games?
19. In January of which year did the *Challenger* space shuttle explode?
20. What nationality was the painter Paul Cezanne, born 19th January 1839?
21. Born in 1966, who was the last Swede to win the Men's Singles title at Wimbledon?
22. Name the American author who wrote *Murders in the Rue Morgue*. He was born on 19<sup>th</sup> January 1809.
23. Who obtained the patent for the first-ever lightbulb in January 1880?
24. The SI unit of power, equivalent to 1 Joule/s, is named after a Scottish inventor, born in 1736. What is the SI unit of power?
25. In 1502, explorers of which nationality landed at a place they called River of January in South America?
26. The first wife of Max De Winter is the title character of which novel ?
27. Whose posthumous collection of poetry was entitled 'Winter Trees'?
28. In January 1959, Fidel Castro came to power in Cuba in a revolution that overthrew which dictator?
29. Milady Di Winter features in which author's well-known novel?
30. Which Commonwealth nation was founded in 1901 with Edmund Barton as its first Prime Minister?

**Answers will be given in the next issue.**



## The December Extravaganza Quiz Answers

1. It was the tenth month of the Roman calendar, 2. Purple, 3. Sixth century, 4. [a] Eternal life, [b] Joy, 5. *CakesAreUs*, 6. Jingle Bells, 7. Joy to the World, 8. Silent Night, 9. Let it snow, 10. We three kings, 11. Little donkey, 12. White Christmas, 13. Frosty the Snowman, 14. Away in a Manger, 15. O Holy Night, 16. Merry Christmas, Everyone, 17. Mary's Boy Child, 18. In the bleak mid-winter, 19. Winter Wonderland, 20. I saw Mommy kissing Santa Claus, 21. Pretty Paper, 22. Once in royal David's city, 23. Of the Father's love begotten, 24. O come, all ye faithful, 25. Jingle bell rock, 26. Brandy butter sauce, 27. Mariah Carey, 28. Matthew, Luke, 29. Bohemian Rhapsody - Queen, 30. Gingerbread Man, 31. Sandro Botticelli, 32. William the Conqueror 1066, 33. Capricorn, 34. The Stone of Scone, 35. A cow, 36. Dylan Thomas, 37. Six geese a-laying, 38. Alexandra Burke, 39. The Blue Carbuncle, 40. Mark Twain, 41. Raymond Briggs, 42. Bob Cratchit, 43. The Nutcracker, 44. The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, 45. Oliver Cromwell, 46. Clockwise, 47. Joy to the World, 48. Dasher, Dancer, Donner, 49. Advocaat, 50. 5<sup>th</sup> January.

## King Charles I

If you look at the Calendar of Holy Days in *Common Worship*, you will see that King Charles I, named as 'Charles, King and Martyr', is commemorated on 30 January. A martyr is someone whose death was caused by their persistence in the faith of Christ, and who, through their death, bore witness to their faith. Charles's elevation to the status of martyr in 1660 was, frankly, a blatant political act. But the story of how this came about is an interesting one, and I rather mischievously thought it would be a topic for starting 2023, the year when another King Charles will be crowned.

January 30 is the date on which Charles I was beheaded. Martyrs are normally celebrated on the day of their death, so his inclusion in the

calendar under this date follows the normal pattern. But the highly political nature of it all is immediately evident from the fact that his designation as a martyr was a means of asserting the Monarchists' triumph over the republican Puritans at the end of the Civil War. The ecclesiastical Convocations of Canterbury and York, sensing their return to power, chose to make a grand political gesture on 19 May 1660 by declaring Charles I to be canonized. The monarchy itself was formally restored, after the puritanical republican interlude, in the person of Charles II, son of Charles I, ten days later.

So, how could anyone argue that Charles's beheading was all about witnessing to the faith? Of course, we are dealing with an era when religion and politics were inseparable: the Civil War was, in a sense, undeniably about religion, or at least the expression of religion, but this was a means of defining and justifying different concepts of power, around which the struggle was played out. The conflict wasn't really about *faith* in the way we associate with martyrs. Charles held to a deeply hierarchical High Anglicanism, which for him was actually as much about the nature and power of kingship as it was about belief. The Puritans, by contrast, were much more reformist, taking positions against Charles's sacramental churchmanship and the somewhat absolutist power that he consequently claimed as the anointed king. In reality, of course, in political terms this meant that the struggle was between king and parliament. For a time, the parliamentarians were in the ascendant, to the extent of beheading the king and running the country as a republic (although in truth the Lord Protector's rule became increasingly kinglike as time went by). The restoration of the monarchy in 1660 seemed to present the kingly party as the victors, and indeed formal High Anglican sacramentalism, of the kind that the Puritans disliked, was also restored. But in all honesty the restoration was a compromise: the 'new' monarchy had for ever lost key elements of its power to Parliament. It was in this context that the newly restored Church of England rushed to canonize Charles I. Not only was there to be a red-letter feast for Charles, but also one to commemorate the failure of the Gunpowder Plot, and another for the birth of Charles II.

These three triumphalist State Services were omitted from the 1859 Book of Common Prayer by royal and parliamentary authority, but without the agreement of the Convocation of the Church of England, which fought back. In the end, the commemoration of Charles was restored to the liturgical calendar in 1980 (Alternative Service Book), although downgraded to a Lesser Festival, and it persists in *Common Worship*.

*Joyce Hill*

## **The Church Hall – For more info call 01253 736488**

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

## *What's going on each week 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

### **Tuesday**

10am to 4pm St John open as a Warm Hub

### **Wednesday**

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

11am Holy Communion at St Cuthbert

### **Thursday**

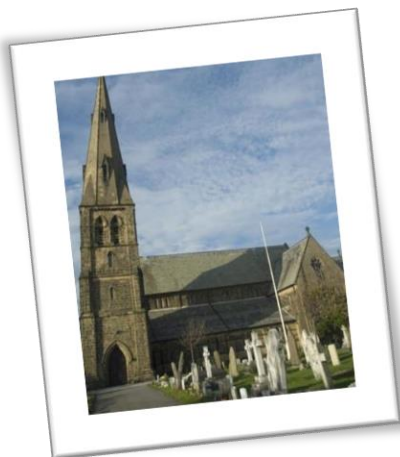
9.30am Community Craft Group at St Cuthbert

10am to 4pm St Cuthbert's open as a Warm Hub

### **Saturday**

10am Open Church

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



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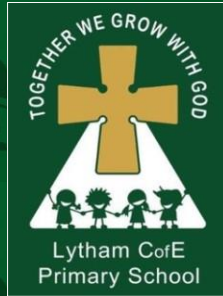
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## Our Pattern of Services of Worship.

	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 Communion	St Cuthbert	St John	St Cuthbert	St John	-
10:15am Holy Communion	St John & St Cuthbert	St John	St John & St Cuthbert	St Cuthbert	Parish Communi on
10:15am All Age Service	-	St Cuthbert	-	St John	
12noon Baptisms	St John	St Cuthbert	St John	St Cuthbert	-
11am Communion	Each Wednesday at St Cuthbert				

JC Lytham Parish Office  
The Church Hall  
Church Road  
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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 and Emma works Sunday to Wednesday. 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.

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