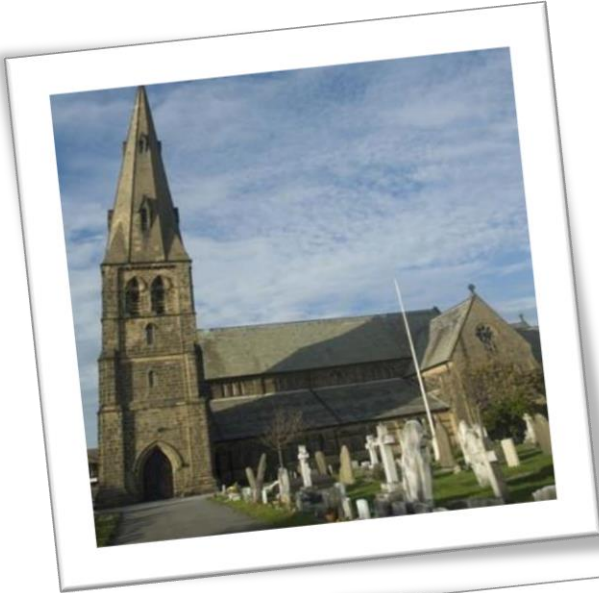


St
LYTHAM



July 2023

Dear Friends,

It is two years ago now that our two PCCs met together with the Bishop of Lancaster and the Archdeacon of Lancaster to really explore becoming one parish. At the meeting they talked partly about possible financial assistance to enable us to have a second stipendiary priest in Lytham. Although the cost to us would still be challenging, we were offered which for a parish in a socio-economic place like ours which was quite unusual.



Until that moment part of the reason for coming together was to reduce our cost, but in that meeting the atmosphere changed. I can only describe it as a Holy Spirit moment. It was as though our eyes were being opened to glimpse God's vision for Lytham and our ears opened to hear an opportunity for the future.

As you know the creation of one parish for Lytham, our 'Two Homes, One Family' began to really progress. The following year it agreed unanimously by both our PCCs and our Annual Parochial Church Meetings.

Maybe you remember the follow-chart style diagram I created which showed many of the areas we needed to consider and address. I was reminded of this recently and revisited it with Emma and then shared it with the Kirkham Deanery Synod meeting we hosted this week.

I am pleased to say we have addressed every issue on the chart which means we have worked hard to ensure strong foundations are in place for JC Lytham into the future. There are things we need to concentrate on, including supporting Emma with her ministry focusing on mission

and discipleship, growing the pastoral ministry team, worshipping together and the pressing issue of our finances.

As you will be hearing over the coming few weeks we are encouraging everyone connected with our churches to consider what they give financially to support our ministry remembering this is a thank offering to God for all he has given us.

Further at the PCC on Monday we agreed, following the success of the Parish Communion on the fifth Sunday of the month, that we would now make this a monthly service from the beginning of September. So on the first Sunday of the month as well as the 8:30am BCP Communion at St Cuthbert's we will have a joint 10:15am Communion alternating between our 'two homes', more information will follow.

I and many others believe the creation of the one parish of JCLytham is God led and Holy Spirit inspired and I will endeavour with you to allow God to grow his kingdom here through our witness and ministry.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Emma', with a stylized flourish at the end.

from Emma

It has been a fruitful year for mission and discipleship at JC Lytham. Here are some of the things I am currently involved in, and some things I hope to do in the coming months.

The weekly **Worship in Wellies** club that I run at Lytham C of E alongside the school



site supervisor, Mr Joyner, and another volunteer, Sarah, has grown from 4 members when we first began in February, to 11 after Easter, and this term 21 have signed up! We are limited to 12 due to resources, so have a waitlist for next term.

In Thy Kingdom Come week, we held a **Prayer Space** in the library at Lytham C of E and all children from Years 1 to 6 came and spent forty minutes engaging in prayer activities that helped them to think about themselves and their place in the world. Nick and I continue to lead collective worship at Lytham C of E each week.

We have just come to the end of the **Prayer Course** with those who joined us for Alpha after Christmas. During Alpha, we saw one man come to faith and it has been such a joy to see him grow in his relationship with Jesus, begin praying for the first time and being so keen to read and listen and learn more about the Christian faith. All who participated have gained much from the course. We will be holding another **Alpha Course** in September and I encourage you to start thinking of and praying for those friends you have who are not Christians, or could do with a faith boost, and to consider inviting them to come along. Even better, bring them, and come along yourself too!

I have been thinking and praying a lot over the last year about our ministry amongst **children and families**. I am especially interested in how we welcome families and what activities we provide to help children and parents engage in faith on Sunday mornings. Over the summer months, I will be rejuvenating our children's corners in both churches with fresh books and resources that will help our children to engage with their faith and spirituality during services. I also hope to run a **Parenting for Faith** group in the autumn, helping parents of nursery and primary aged children to nurture their children's faith in daily life.

In the autumn, our **Bible study** group will resume, run by newly licensed LLM Jacqui Briscoe. The group will initially look at the book of James,

before going on to consider our collective and individual responsibility to mission and evangelism with the resource, Shining Like Stars.

All of our work in JC Lytham must be undergirded by **prayer**. It is God to whom we look for guidance as we pray “*your* Kingdom come, *your* will be done.” May I encourage you all to pray for each of these activities and for our vision for what church looks like in Lytham over the coming months and years. We pray that we will make Christ known in our town and share his love with our friends and neighbours. I continue to **prayer walk** around the parish on Wednesdays at noon. It would be lovely to be joined by new prayer walkers, although if you are unable to pound the streets, but are able to set aside some time between 12 and 1 on Wednesdays to pray where you are, please do. Pray for our community, for all who live and work in Lytham, and pray for Jesus to be made known in our town.

With every blessing as we partner in the gospel,

Emma

Service of Evening Prayer

Our first Evening Prayer Service for some time was well received and will continue on the second Sunday of the month at 6.00pm in St Cuthberts, certainly thought to September.

We would love to see you there.

Sponsorship of the Service Sheet and Flowers

The sponsorship of the Service Sheet and Flowers 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.

The flower rota is also out at St John. If you wish to sponsor flowers and remember someone or something special to you, please add your name and this will be arranged.

School Fair

The newly reformed PTA at our school are holding a Summer Fair on Friday 7th July at 3:30pm. There will be plenty of stalls and activities for all ages as well as seasonal refreshments.

As our church school I know they would be delighted to welcome you to join them for the afternoon.

End of Year Service

We are very much looking forward to welcoming the whole school into St John's on 19th July at 9:30am for their end of year service. We will be welcoming a number of families too, and would love to see members of our congregations as well.

Parish Giving

Having successfully registered JC Lytham as a charity opened the new bank account we have now also registered with the Parish Giving Scheme. The scheme is a means to allow the giving of the members of the church to contribute to the ministry of our parish, this giving is a part of our Christian Discipleship.

We will shortly have full information of the scheme available to assist you to enroll so your giving will be collected monthly and any tax we may be reclaimable also recovered.

We are also asking everyone to consider leaving a legacy to the church to assist with future projects and ministry. Legacies have often been the support for capital projects in a parish any are a great way to ensure thfuture of your church for future generation.

Please watch and listen out for more details in the coming month.

Servers

We are looking for some new servers for St Cuthbert's to assist preparing and clearing the communion elements for our services and assisting the clergy prepare the bread and wine too.

The invitation is to adults, and children old enough to accept responsibility for these roles. If you may be interested and would like some further information please speak to our Head Server Clive Barnes.

From the June Registers

Baptism

4th Winnie Evelyn MacNeill

Wedding

22nd Dorothy Books and David Kirk

Funerals

1st Nora Cooper

9th Lesley Thompson

23rd Winifred Gill

Mothers' Union

On Thursday 8th June for our meeting, we had a very enjoyable Afternoon Tea at Lytham Hall. Twenty ladies attended and everyone remarked what an enjoyable occasion it was.

On Thursday 6th July at 2.30pm in the Parish Hall, St. Cuthbert's MU Branch are also hosting an Afternoon Tea Party for Kirkham Deanery Indoor Members & over 80's with musical entertainment.

Names are already on the list but please let me know if you would like to attend, the cost is just £2.00.

We then meet again 14th September after the Summer Break.

Happy Holidays

Margaret Fisher

Fidei Defensor: Defender of the Faith

The King's Christian coronation oaths generated a good deal of comment. I touched on the origins of the main ones in my May article on the history of the Coronation, but did not then have room to say

anything about his title *Fidei Defensor*, 'Defender of the Faith'. So I deal with that now.

It was created in 1521 as an award by Pope Leo X to Henry VIII in acknowledgement of the support Henry had given, as a good Catholic, to the Church of Rome against Martin Luther. In 1520 Luther had published three reformist works, one of which argued that there were only two sacraments – Baptism and Eucharist — rather than the seven recognised by Rome. Leo X immediately issued a pronouncement that these writings were heretical and must be destroyed. Luther refused to recant and publicly burnt a copy of the Pope's pronouncement, with the predictable result that he was excommunicated. The threat of religious divisions in Europe escalated alarmingly. Henry joined the fray in 1521 by issuing, in his own name, a rebuttal of Luther's arguments, *Assertio Septem Sacramentorum (Defence of the Seven Sacraments)*. The well-educated Henry was capable of writing scholarly material in Latin, but in this he had been prompted by John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, and the work was ghost-written by a team of theologians. It upheld the Catholic view of the sacraments and papal supremacy and was the reason why Pope Leo (after some persuasion from Henry) awarded him the papal title: *Fidei Defensor*. The parents of Henry's wife, Catherine of Aragon, had previously been awarded the papal title of 'Catholic Monarchs' because of their defeat of the last Islamic power in Spain. So Henry was keen to have a papal title too; and now he had one.

When, in 1530, Henry broke with Rome and established himself as Head of the Church in England, the title was revoked by the Pope (by then, Paul III) since this act was regarded as an attack on 'the faith' (i.e. the faith of the Church of Rome), and Henry was excommunicated. In 1544, however, when the new religious settlement in England was being consolidated, Parliament formally recognised *Fidei Defensor* as an official title of the Sovereign, and so it has remained, apart from the brief period of Cromwell's Protectorate.

It is ironic that a title conferred by the Pope to signal Henry's anti-reformation credentials was subsequently reassigned by Parliament to signal his stance against Catholicism. What we have to remember, however, is that reformers commonly explained their position as a restoration of the true faith, the understanding and practice of which had become corrupted over time. The reinstated title reclaimed Henry's position as Defender of the (true) Faith. This was precisely the signification of the original papal award — except that in the interim the understanding of what the true faith was had been redefined in reformist circles and Henry had changed sides. Even so, in England the redefinition/reformation under Henry was not as radical in terms of observance or organisation as it was in many other Protestant lands, and the Parliamentary confirmation of *Fidei Defensor* can be seen as a propaganda move to underline what Henry claimed to be the defining characteristic of his reform: an essential continuity with the true version of the faith of old, of which he was properly the defender.

The title's abbreviation on coins was *Fid Def*, but became *FD* on those of Elizabeth II and will remain so for Charles III.

Joyce Hill

QUIZ QUESTIONS FOR JULY: Flow, river, flow

There is something soothing about watching the gentle flow of a river in the British countryside. Our rivers are one of our most important natural features. Not only do they enhance the landscape, they have been crucial for the growth of our towns and cities by providing fresh water for drinking and farming, also for business and transport.

Most of our rivers are chalk streams. Their clear, constant water from underground chalk aquifers and springs, flowing across beds of gravel,

make them perfect sources of clean water, ideal for wildlife to breed and thrive.

But many of our waterways have been overused and undervalued. A combination of population growth, a spiralling increase in water use, pollution and climate change have piled pressures on rivers and streams. Research indicates that one third of the water we take from rivers is wasted. Our rivers need help: we must provide it.

Questions 1.-15. are based on water featuring in the Bible. In each of questions 16.-40., there can be found the name of a river in the British Isles hidden across two or more words. Search and ye shall [hopefully] find. [Matt. 7.7]

1. On which body of water did Jesus calm storms on two different occasions?
2. Psalm 137: 'By the waters of we sat down and wept,'
Where were these waters, and who popularised them?
3. 2 Kings 6: Which prophet of God commanded an axe head to float on the River Jordan?
4. Numbers 32: Which body of water did God part for Joshua and the twelve tribes forty years after Moses and the Israelites?
5. Genesis 15: 'To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates.' With whom did God make this covenant?
6. Exodus 2: 'The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river ... She saw the basket among the reeds ...
Who was in the basket?
7. John 4: Jesus said, '... those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty.' Who was he addressing?
8. John 18: Name the stream crossed by Jesus just prior to his crucifixion.
9. Matthew 14: Who is the only disciple recorded as having walked

on water?

10. 1 Kings 17: From which river did Elijah drink during a drought?
11. Jonah 1: The fish that swallowed Jonah was in which sea?
12. Exodus 14: What did God use to divide the sea before the Israelites?
13. 2 Corinthians 11: How many times was Paul shipwrecked?
14. Joshua 3: The waters of which river stood in a heap?
15. Genesis 49: Which man was as uncontrolled as water?

16. My brother had a flair, especially for chemistry.
17. The nursery only grew yellow tulips last year.
18. Maria Von Trapp was the matriarch of the Trapp Family Singers.
19. All surfaces must be cleaned with ammonia-based products.
20. My topic: America under Donald Trump.
21. Please help us keep fit and well during the pandemic.
22. 'That is real magic,' her well-known partner said as he sawed the lady in half.
23. My recycling bin will be empty next week.
24. The PM publicly denounced one member of his party.
25. I do not weed part of my garden, I like it to grow wild.
26. Having sold several of his paintings, he realised he wasn't such a bad artist after all.
27. It is good to eat ham, especially in a sandwich with mustard.
28. The intruder went unnoticed because the alarm was faulty.
29. The teacher said, 'Please note essays must be in by Friday.'
30. There is 50% off all jigsaw puzzles during the sale.

31. My sister's friend Rita married when she was eighteen.
32. Send an email from everyone on the P.C.C.
33. That deal is the best our salesman can offer you.
34. You must keep hair well combed in order to retain its bounciness.
35. One needs crisp eyesight to see far into the distance.
36. Climbing Scafell Pike seemed way beyond his capability.

37. Hermione placed a crib blessed by the vicar into the nativity scene.
38. During October, the days grow shorter and winter draws ever nearer.
39. The Queen said, 'One never shakes hands with people one does not know.'
40. Immerse yourself completely in these questions and you will reach the right answers.

QUIZ QUESTIONS FOR June: It's a rich man's world: Answers

1. Matthew, 2. A penny [Mt 10.29], 3. all evil [1Tim 6.10], 4. Peter [Mt 17.26,27], 5. 100 denarii [Mt 18.28], 6. Samuel [1Sam 8.3], 7. Lydia [Acts 16.14], 8. Twenty pieces of silver [Gen 37.28], 9. 400 [Gen 50.13], 10. Two mites [small copper coins, Mk 12.42], 11. Cup [Gen 44.2], 12. The lords of the Philistines [Judges 16.5], 13. 30 [Matt 27.3], 14. One-third, 15. Feeder of pigs [Lk 15.15], 16. Seven bulls and seven rams [Job 42.7,8], 17. Jephthah [Judges 11.30,31,39], 18. Keziah, Kerren-happuch, Jemima [Job 42.14], 19. Double [Job 42.10], 20. Five [Mt 14.28], 21. John 3.16, 22. Mt 6.21, 23. Prov 23.4, 24. Psalm 37.21, 25. Prov 10.4, 26. Romans 13.8, 27. Luke 6.38, 28. Mt 6.24, 29. 1 Tim 6.17, 30. Prov 22.7, 31. Luke 14.28, 32. Prov 10.22, 33. 1 Corinthians 16.2, 34. Prov 3.9, 35. Hebrews 13.5, 36. Psalm 37.16, 37. Prov 13.11, 38. Prov 22.1, 39. Abba, 40. They are both palindromes.

The Parish Hall

For more info call 01253 736488

- Tuesday** 9am-3pm Tumble Tots –
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)
- 6.30 -7.30pm Brownies (term time)

Antiques fairs: 2nd July.

What goes on each week at JCLytham



Sunday

8.30am Holy Communion at St Cuthbert 1st & 3rd, at St John 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month

10.15am Morning Service at both churches (except the 5th Sunday when it's a joint service)

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

Wednesday

9.45am Bertie Bear Toddler Group in the Parish Hall on Church Road

11am Holy Communion at St Cuthbert

Thursday

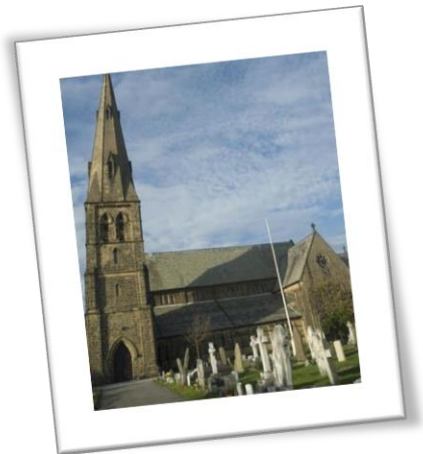
9.30am Community Craft Group in St Cuthberts

Saturday

10am Open Church both churches

10am Coffee Mornings

- 2nd Saturday of the month at St John
- 4th Saturday of the month at St Cuthbert



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David Matthews, Bev Wells, Nicola Whitehead

Authorised Lay Minister for Pastoral Care: Marianne Cottier Brown

Our Pattern of Services of Worship.

	1st Sunday	2nd Sunday	3rd Sunday	4th Sunday	5th 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 Communion
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 Parish Hall

Church Road

Lytham

FY8 5QL

Tel: 01253 736488

Email: 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.

Website: www.jclytham.church

Facebook page: @ JC Lytham

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