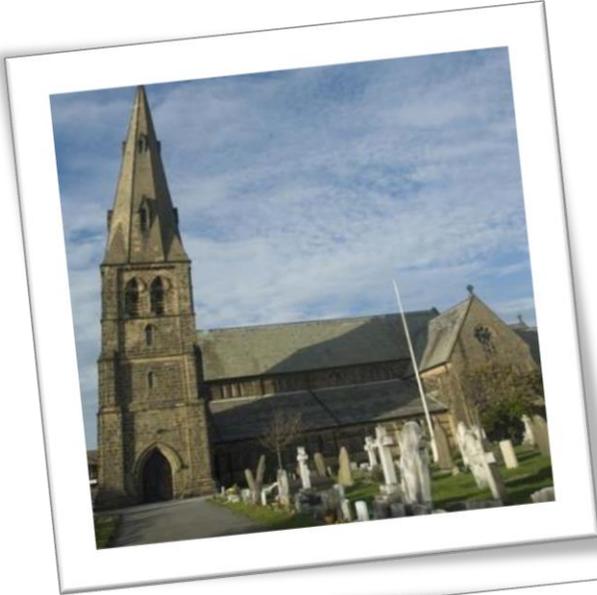


St
LYTHAM



August 2023

Dear Friends,

One of the fundamentals of being a Christian is the giving of our time, talents and money. I also know that for a number of people the church talking about money makes them uncomfortable.

It is a topic Jesus did not avoid and is a constant theme throughout both the Old and New Testaments. So as a church it is right that we talk about it and as Christians we think about it.

The base line of course is that everything we have, from possessions, to family and friends, indeed to life itself are gifts from God to us. Without God we would not be here and without God we would have nothing.

Working from that premise we can begin to understand that our giving to God and His church, is the very least we can do. We know we are blessed and giving is a blessing in return. Of course, giving to God's church then funds further work for God.

This summer we are inviting everyone connected to our parish to pause and consider what we each give. Running the parish is not cheap so we really do need people to be generous. We have signed up to the Parish Giving Scheme and there is an article below written by Geoff Walker, the Planned Giving Officer (PGS) for my last parish in Maghull, who writes about the PGS and the tremendous benefits giving through the scheme has for both those giving and us as a parish.





To find out more scan this QR Code, if that feels too challenging, please ask a friend or someone at church to assist you.

Following the QR Code link takes you through how the scheme works and how you can give through it. *(Please note that you may be taken to St Cuthberts Church through this link, this is because it is being updated as the magazine goes to print,*

but please be assured that any registrations will be for JCL Lytham).

I also mentioned the giving of Time and Talents. Many people already give of their time and talents to the parish in many ways. If you feel you could share your time and talents, please speak to Emma or myself. It may be to assist in our services, welcome people to church, assist with finances and administration, help care for the buildings and churchyards – the opportunities are many.

I know this is a really important moment in the life of the parish and your response could be the difference between cutting back on things or looking to a flourishing future.

Please read all the literature which will be widely available by mid-August and please prayerfully respond when you are ready.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. J. J.', with a stylized flourish underneath.

Report on the Parish Giving Scheme

What are the main benefits of the Scheme?

1. Regular monthly gifts, credited in one lump sum on a fixed working date (10th) each month to the church nominated bank account, followed in the same month by a payment of Gift Aid tax. (Note: the Gift Aid Declaration is with PGS, but separate Gift Aid Declarations direct with the church still remain, where valid, for other giving e.g. on one-off Gift Aided donations);
2. Regular monthly statements are available online, coinciding with the fixed working date of payment;
3. Regular, stable income contributes to improving cash flow;
4. Reduction in the treasurer's, and cash/banking administration, less work for the Weekly Envelope recorder, and Gift Aid secretary, and an increase in personal security because of handling less cash, assurance of regular giving, and confidence in the Scheme not only for the church but for everyone participating;
5. Option of automatic annual inflation increase in giving;
6. The ease and helpfulness in contacting PGS (or both Church and Giver) via phone, email, letter, on any matter and/or variation to your gift, aided by the direct communication by PGS to the Giver e.g. confirmations, "Thank you" letters, and reminders of the annual inflationary increase;
7. The Direct Debit guarantee ensures that giving is secure & safe

What has been the impact of introducing PGS in your church?

1. Regular monthly giving, with corresponding monthly payment of Gift Aid tax reclaimed from HMRC;
2. Less time spent on church admin re banking practices, as well as less cash to bank;

3. Reduction in time spent preparing Gift Aid claims on other forms of giving;
4. Majority of givers have opted in to annual inflationary increase in giving;
5. Reliability and confidence in a professionally-managed service to donors.

What would you say to a church considering introducing the Scheme?

1. No fees, and no cost to either the church or the donor. The church receives 100% of all giving and all Gift Aid tax refunds;
2. There is nothing to lose, but everything to gain, and more!
3. Maintain constant publicity about the Scheme. It's very important to keep encouraging those not on the PGS and new members to the church to sign up;
4. PLEASE, JUST DO IT!

Thanks to Geoff Walker, the Planned Giving Officer at St Andrew's Maghull, for this report.

Garden of Remembrance



The Garden of Remembrance at St Cuthbert's has had a massive overhaul over the last month, if you have not seen it, please go and have a look, it is now a lovely attractive, peaceful, reflective place to sit and contemplate.

The area has been cleaned up, beautiful lavender planted and new wooden shelves installed for flowers to be placed. The area to the side of the garden where there was a large overgrown tree and shrubs, these have all been pruned back and all the weeds removed, you can now see the memorial plaque that was hidden beneath all the overgrowth.

I would like to personally thank Carla Turner who has taken on this challenge and dedicated her time to create this beautiful area. Also, a big thank you to the PCC who agreed to fund this small but important project, without the



funding we could not have been able to make such a difference. Carla will continue to maintain the Garden of Remembrance and if you fancy helping her or would like to improve an area within the church grounds,

please let the Parish Office know. It would be lovely to see more people enjoying the grounds of our Churches. *Fiona (Parish Office)*

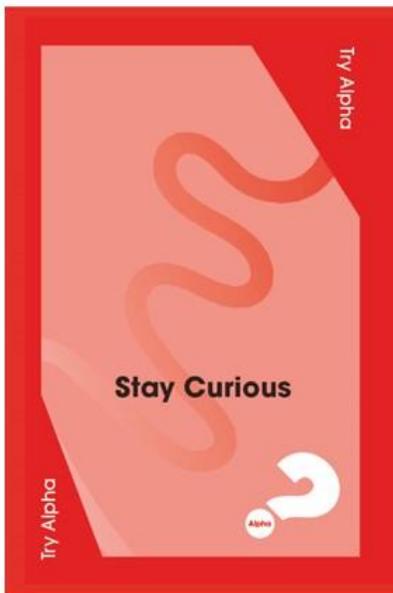
Discipleship groups

Discipleship groups are to restart in September. We will be going through the Epistle of James initially, then moving on to use some material entitled “Shining Like Stars”, a follow on from our previous course “A New Community”. All are welcome, whether or not you were a part of the previous group.

The first meeting is on Tuesday 5th September, starting at 7pm at 111 Shepherd Road.

Please email jacquibrisco1@gmail.com or speak to a member of the clergy team to register.

The Alpha Course



Curious about faith or know someone who is?

Join a series of group conversations that freely explore the Christian faith in a friendly, open environment.

**Starting
Tuesday, 12th September
7.30–9.30pm (subsequent weeks meeting from 8pm)**

49 Victory Boulevard, FY8 5TG

RSVP: emma@lytham.church

Evening Prayer

A couple of months ago we reintroduced a monthly serve of Evening Prayer at St Cuthbert's. The response has been very heartening, with a good number of people attending. Indeed, the response is encouraging us to maintain the service through the winter months too. So why not come along at 6pm on the second Sunday of each month.

Parish Communion

There has also been a positive response to the Parish Communion, the service we have held on the fifth Sunday of the month where our churches come together for the one joint service.

As a result from September we will be having this joint Parish Communion on the first Sunday of each month at 10:15am starting at St John's.

This also means we will now be offering the BCP Communion each week from September too. Venues for the fifth Sunday 8:30am will be advertised.

If you need a lift to either church for these services or can offer a lift please let the churchwardens know and we will seek to put people in touch.

From the July Registers

Baptism

9th Charlie Leach

23rd Georgia Grace Barnes

Funerals

11th Brian Clarkson

Mothers' Union

On Thursday 6th July we hosted the Annual Indoor Members and over 80's Tea Party for Kirkham Deanery Mothers Union which was attended by almost 50 ladies. It was a great success and included a delicious tea and a music quiz and a chocolate quiz. It was very much enjoyed by all who attended and a very big thank you to all the ladies who helped in any way.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 14th September at 2.30pm in church when we welcome Greg Anderton from Lytham Hall whose talk is 'Creating a Beautiful Autumn Garden' and he will bring along plants for sale.

Look forward to seeing you then but in the meantime, I hope you have an enjoyable Summer Holiday.

Margaret Fisher

Levites and Samaritans

We are currently in that lengthy season of the church's year known as Ordinary Time or, in some traditions, as the Sundays after Trinity, when the Sundays are identified by numbers (of Ordinary Time, or After Trinity). It's a time when, since we are past the major seasons of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Ascension and Pentecost, which celebrate the great gospel events of the Incarnation, the church focuses on the ministry and teaching of Jesus. And so, in this season, I write on a wide range of topics, which occasionally includes explaining biblical references that we are familiar with while perhaps remaining a bit vague about what they really signify. A few years ago, for instance, I wrote on the Pharisees and Sadducees, who crop up a lot in the gospels. Now it's the turn of the Levites and Samaritans, who appear together in one of the best-known parables of Jesus: the story of the Good Samaritan, unique to the gospel of Luke (Chapter 10 vv.30-37).

In this parable a man travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho is mugged and wounded by thieves and left by the roadside. A priest and a Levite both notice him, but pass him by, giving him a pointedly wide berth. But then a Samaritan comes along, tends his wounds, takes him to a nearby inn, cares for him overnight and in the morning leaves money for the innkeeper to continue looking after him, promising that, the next time he passes that way, he will make any further payment necessary. It is the Samaritan, of course, who is the 'neighbour' in this instance, not the priest or Levite. Yet if we don't fully appreciate who Levites and Samaritans were, we lose some of the impact of the story, which was clearly meant to bring the hearers up short.

Levites were members of the tribe of Levi, to which Moses and his brother Aaron belonged. In the time of Christ all the priests of the Temple in Jerusalem were descendants of Aaron, and the rest of the tribe of Levi was responsible for looking after the Temple, including the sanctuary itself. With the priesthood being a specially restricted group within the tribe, 'Levite' was the term used for these Temple servants. Because of what the Temple meant to the Jews; this was nevertheless a highly prestigious role. The two who choose to pass by the wounded traveller are therefore people you might think would be very likely to be charitable to a fellow-Jew in difficulty. As a priest and a Levite, they had significant positions in the Temple, after all, which was the heart of their faith.

Yet the one who shows compassion is a Samaritan, a member of a tribe utterly despised by the Jews, so much so that 'Samaritan' was a term of reproach. The kingdom of Samaria lay between Galilee to the north and Judaea to the south and its inhabitants followed Jewish practices and beliefs. But Samaritans were despised because they denied Jewish priesthood, rejected the traditions and rules of the Pharisees, and refused to accept Jerusalem as the one place where the Temple of

Jehovah should stand. Their own temple to Jehovah was on Mount Gerizim.

The parable works perfectly well if you don't know the historical context. But it undoubtedly has extra punch when you find out more about the figures in the story and the radical challenge it consequently presented at the time.

Joyce Hill

QUIZ QUESTIONS FOR AUGUST: The Great Outdoors

The word **August** comes from the Latin word *Augustus* which means inspiring reverence or admiration. It can be used to describe something impressive or awe-inspiring. In the ten month Roman calendar, it was known as *Sextilis*, Latin for the sixth month. Around 700 BCE, it was pushed back in the order of months when January and February were added at the beginning of the year.

The 1st August is Lammas Day, traditionally the time when harvested wheat was baked into bread and given to the church. The bread was used at the Communion for a special Mass. This practice, which predated harvest festivals, ended when Henry VIII broke away from the Catholic Church.

Many countries in Europe consider August to be a holiday period. While some people will choose to spend time abroad, others, particularly in these difficult financial times, may opt for destinations closer to home. With the advantage of good weather, our coasts and countryside have a great deal to offer. Here are forty questions which will test your knowledge of coastal and inland Britain.

1. Which was the first area of England to be made a National Park?
2. Which lake in the United Kingdom holds the most water?
3. On an Ordnance Survey map, what does the tent symbol represent? [No, not a tent!]

4. Whitby has two very famous 'sons', one real and one fictional.
Who are they?
5. What name is given to a squirrel's nest?
6. What name is given to Scottish mountains that are over 3,000 feet [914.4 metres] high?
7. Ben Nevis is a Scottish mountain under 2,000 feet [609.6 metres]. This qualifies it as a? [7]
8. The Mumbles is a headland south of which city?
9. The chef Rick Stein owns several restaurants in which Cornish port?
10. What name is given to a young hare?
11. Which English cathedral, surrounded by a walled Roman city, was originally the abbey church of the Benedictine monastery of St Werburgh?
12. Which plant with clusters of yellow flowers is poisonous to livestock?
13. Which town in north east Scotland is named after a Dutchman?
14. The most famous work of which author was inspired by the Jurassic coastline from Devon to Dorset?
15. The name of which small British bird translates from Latin as *cave dweller*?
16. Shirley, Mr Stripey and Ailsa Craig are all types of What?
17. Which English city has a pier which is 1.34 miles [2.14 km] long?
18. *Taxus* is the Latin name for which type of tree?
19. Which village in Gwynedd was built in the style of an Italian town?
20. For which famous holiday camp company did Brian Conley and Bradley Walsh once work?
21. How many days are currently needed to circumvent the globe in Lancaster's Williamson Park?
22. Which children's author left 4,000 acres of Lake District land

- to the National Trust on her death in 1943?
23. In which Gloucestershire village are giant cheeses rolled down Cooper's Hill?
 24. At which Lake District tarn were the ashes of Alfred Wainwright scattered?
 25. To which Saint is York Minster dedicated?
 26. What is the common name of *bellis perennis*?
 27. What is a water boatman?
 28. The RHS opened in Salford in 2021. Name its garden.
 29. The wood of which tree is traditionally used to make cricket bats?
 30. What makes Tyneham village in Dorset so unusual?
 31. In 2016, which Scottish mountain was found to be one metre higher than when it was last measured in 1951?
 32. Where is the 18th century Appuldurcombe House?
 33. In legend, it was the start of a bridge from Ireland to Scotland built by supernatural beings. What is it called?
 34. Name the highest pub in Britain.
 35. Which Lancashire hamlet was the birthplace of Sir Henry Tate, sugar refiner and benefactor?
 36. Name the three Cheshire towns ending in *-wich*, ...
 37. ... and what does the ending *-wich* signify?
 38. Let the train take the strain: leaving Rawtenstall, which rail line would this be on?
 39. Which national museum opened a new building at Salford Quays in 2002?
 40. Think on this: If I am holding in my hand a Manchester bee, what do I have in my eye?

Answers will appear in the next issue.

QUIZ QUESTIONS FOR JULY: Flow, river, flow: Answers

1. Sea of Galilee, 2. The Melodians/Boney M/Linda Ronstadt,
3. Elisha, 4. River Nile, 5. Abraham, 6. Moses,
7. The Samaritan woman at the well, 8. Kidron, 9. Peter, 10. Kerith,
11. Mediterranean Sea, 12. A strong wind, 13. Three, 14. River Jordan,
15. Reuben, 16. Aire, 17. Wye, 18. Avon, 19. Witham, 20. Cam, 21. Usk,
22. Cherwell, 23. Tyne, 24. Clyde, 25. Tweed, 26. Dart, 27. Thames, 28.
- Derwent, 29. Tees, 30. Fal, 31. Tamar, 32. Frome, 33. Stour, 34. Irwell,
35. Nene/Spey, 36. Medway, 37. Ribble, 38. Severn, 39. Don/Nene,
40. Mersey.

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)

Table Top Sale – 26th August 2023

What goes on each week at JC Lytham



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 Cuthbert on the 1st and 3rd Sundays term time

6pm Evening Prayer on 2nd Sunday at St Cuthbert



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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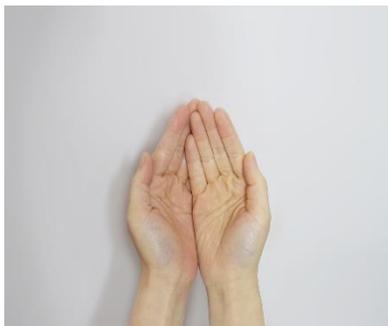
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11.15am Chair-based Exercise Sessions - £2

12 noon Soup, Sandwich and Cake - £5

2pm Coffee and Computers - £2

and much much more ... Pop in any time on a Thursday to find out what's going on.

Contact Bev 07742 709994

The Ministry Team

Vicar: Revd Nick Wells 01253 279676

Mission Enabler: Revd Emma Swarbrick

Hon. Assistant Priests: Revd Helen Houston, Revd Peter Law-Jones

Licensed Lay Ministers: Jacqui Briscoe, Joanne Hutchinson, Angela Lee
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

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