JC Lytham Parish Office

The Parish Hall

Church Road

Lytham

FY8 5QL

Tel: 01253 736488

Email: parish.office@jclytham.church

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.

 $Website: \underline{www.jclytham.church}\\$

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The Ecclesiastical Parish of St John the Divine and St Cuthbert Lytham



PARISH MAGAZINE - APRIL 2024



The Ministry Team

Vicar: Revd Nick Wells 01253 279676

Mission Enabler: Revd Emma Swarbrick 07866 335230

Hon. Assistant Priest: Revd Helen Houston

Licensed Lay Jacqui Briscoe, Joanne Hutchinson,

Ministers: David Matthews, Bev Wells, Nicola Whitehead

LLM Emeritus: Angela Lee

Authorised Lay Ministers: Marianne Cottier Brown and James Walmsley

Our Pattern of Services of Worship.

	1 st Sunday	2 nd Sunday	3 rd Sunday	4 th Sunday	5 th Sunday
8:30am BCP Communion	St Cuthbert	St John	St Cuthbert	St John	St Cuthbert
10:15am Morning Service	Parish Communion	Holy Communion St John	Holy Communion Both churches	Holy Communion St Cuthbert	Holy Communion Both churches
		All Age Service St Cuthbert		Service of the Word St John	
12noon Baptisms	St John	St Cuthbert	St John	St Cuthbert	-
11am Communion	Each Wednesday at St Cuthbert				

A Journey of Renewal: Sarah's Easter Testimony

Sarah sat in the wooden pew, her heart heavy with grief. The past year had been one of loss – the sudden departure of her father, the unravelling of relationships, and the weight of unmet expectations. As Easter approached, she longed for a glimmer of hope, a sign that life could be different.

On Easter Sunday, the sun rose early, casting a warm glow through the stained glass windows. The congregation sang hymns of resurrection, their voices rising like a chorus of hope. Sarah listened, her eyes fixed on the empty cross at the front of the sanctuary. She wondered if her own heart could find resurrection.

The vicar stepped forward, his face radiant with joy. He spoke of Jesus' victory over death, of the empty tomb, and the promise of new life. Sarah's tears flowed freely as she clung to those words. Could it be true? Could her brokenness be transformed into something beautiful?

After the service, Sarah lingered in the church garden. The dew-kissed flowers seemed to whisper a secret – a promise of renewal. She knelt by the stone bench, her hands tracing the rough surface. In that quiet moment, she poured out her heart to God. She confessed her doubts, her fears, and her longing for healing.

As she prayed, a gentle breeze rustled the leaves. Sarah looked up, and there, among the blossoms, she saw a butterfly – delicate and vibrant. Its wings bore the colours of sunrise, and it danced in the morning light. Sarah's breath caught. Could this be a sign? A symbol of resurrection?

In that garden, Sarah felt a shift within her soul. She realized that Easter was not just a historical event; it was a personal invitation. Jesus' resurrection was not distant; it was present, pulsing through her veins. She whispered the words, "He is not here. He is risen." And in that moment, she felt the weight lift, the burden ease.

Sarah emerged from that Easter morning with a renewed spirit. She began to see glimpses of beauty amid the brokenness — a friend's comforting embrace, a sunrise over the hills, a shared meal with family. Each day became a step toward healing, a journey of resurrection.

As the seasons changed, so did Sarah. She planted seeds of forgiveness, tended the soil of her heart, and watched as love bloomed. The empty tomb was no longer a symbol of loss; it was a beacon of hope. And when Easter came again, Sarah stood in the same garden, her eyes fixed on the cross. This time, she knew – resurrection was not only for Jesus; it was for her too.

"He is risen indeed."

Dear Friends

HE IS RISEN—HE IS RISEN INDEED, ALLELUIA HAPPY EASTER TO YOU ALL

The publication of this month's Magazine coincides with Easter. The highlight of the Christian year. It is a time for reflection on God's love for us and His creation, revealed in the death and resurrection of His son Jesus. In our school on Holy Monday we put together and led the children through the events of the first Easter



with a Barefoot Easter trail. On a rather wet and breezy day we set up gazebo's and invited the children to walk bare foot on an Easter journey.

The journey started walking in sand representing the dusty road into Jerusalem, as on Palm Sunday Jesus entered the city on donkey to the acclamation of the crowd. Our next steps were on straw which represented the straw around the Temple where animals were being sold and money exchanged, prompting Jesus to overturn the tables and reclaim it is a house of God.

The children then stepped in to a paddling pool filled with water and were encouraged to consider Jesus as a man of service to others, the one who washed the disciples feet at the Last Supper. Continuing on to grass our thoughts turned next to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus fervently prayed "this cup may be taken from me – but not my will but your will be done" and where he was arrested and

sent for trial.

Perhaps the most uncomfortable moment for the children was walking bare foot over pebbles. As they did so they were reminded of the agony of Jesus walking bare foot to Golgotha carrying the cross and how Simon of Cyrene was called upon to assist.

A tray of nails then awaited the children, a moment to recall the crucifixion of Christ including the response of the Centurion in charge of the crucifixion who in the moment recognised that Jesus was indeed the Son of God.

The final step of the pilgrimage was to go out into the light and pause to hear how the women who had come to anoint Jesus' body found that the tomb was empty and were told that Jesus had risen – "why do you look for the living among the dead".

I hope that each of you is reminded afresh, as the children were, of how the Easter journey unfolded and pause to give thanks for this amazing act of love.

Yours in Christ

Parish Communion

Our April Parish Communion is at St John's on 7th April at 10:15am.

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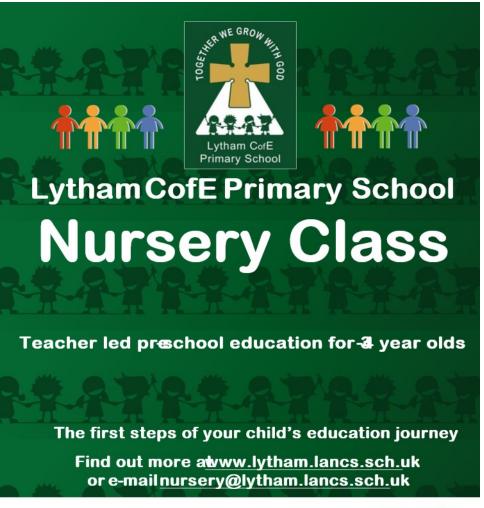
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'Pupils see their school as a happy place.'
(OFSTED 2019)





'Pupils feels safe and special and have positive attitudes to their learning.' (SIAMS 2017)

Mothers' Union

The postponed AGM was held at the March meeting and handouts containing reports for 2023 were handed out to all members.

It was with sadness we remembered Mrs Enid Fallows, a well loved member and long serving committee member who recently passed away.

Once again we welcomed Mrs Pat Ashcroft who gave a wonderful talk 'Going the Extra Mile'.

Please note the date of the Afternoon Tea at Lytham Hall has been changed to Tuesday, 25th June and the list for names will be available at the next meeting.

We next meet on Thursday April 11th when we welcome Rev. Fleur Green whose talk is entitled 'Bags & Glad Rags'.

All welcome

Margaret Fisher

Report from the PCC

The PCC continued to discuss the matters arising from the Away Day at Whalley Abbey and Emma produced a printout summarising the main areas discussed and the action points noted to progress matters as Mission Enabler. One matter discussed in detail was the provision of prayer for healing and this has now been referred to by Nick in the March Parish Magazine.

The frequency of PCC meetings was discussed as separate committees had been established for Finance, Social and Buildings as these

committees provide reports, then perhaps the main PCC meetings could be moved to bi-monthly. This would be reviewed after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in May.

The Finance Report was discussed and in particular the Budget for 2024 which revealed an estimated financial deficit of some £37000, this after continuing payment of £42000pa for Parish Share. The outstanding amounts for Parish Share had been the subject of an article in the February Parish Magazine and Paul Olive agreed to make a financial presentation at the next Parish Communion service at St Cuthbert on 3 March, which he duly did.

Outreach and Discipleship was discussed and it was agreed not to continue with Parenting for Faith but rather have some form of social event for parents of our Sunday School children.

The Building Committee report was presented and numerous projects for both Churches discussed in detail, including a new internal toilet and also re-siting the kitchen at St John plus improvements to the organ, moving the font, and repairing paths and edges around the churchyard. At St Cuthbert redecorating the disabled toilet, sorting out the electric supply to the church clock and bell tower and removing the screen at the front of the St Aidan's Chapel to reveal window of the Baptism of Christ are being discussed, as well as considering opening up clergy and choir vestries for a separate meeting room with independent heating.

The newly formed Social Committee discussed many options in order to organise a social calendar for the church community which would help raise awareness' of the parish and encourage new attendance. Suggestions included quarterly socials in the Church Hall, summer concerts in the Vicarage garden, a Christmas carol concert and a



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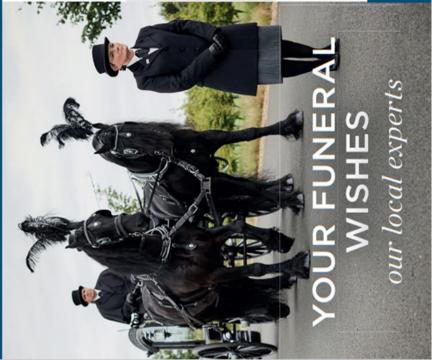
number of other types of concerts. Watch this space!!!

Linda Hyland presented an update on Safeguarding and reported that a number of PCC members had now completed all three recommended courses, namely Basic, Foundation and Domestic Abuse. With regard to the latter subject it was agreed that a Domestic Abuse Policy be displayed with the Safeguarding policy at the rear of both Churches.

Our primary school report was presented and this has now been included in the March Parish Magazine. It was noted that a new appointment of Deputy Headteacher had been made, namely Miss Hannah Davies and she will take up her position at the start of the next academic year.

It was noted that the Archdeacon's Visitation for Kirkham and Preston Deaneries would take place on 18th June 2024 at St Cuthbert and that flowers had been presented to the Kirkham Area Dean, Revd Ann Beverley, on her leaving this post, at the morning service at Christ Church Wesham on 18 February.

The Vicar presented his notices about forthcoming services throughout Easter and, as mentioned earlier, talked about the possible reintroduction of prayer for healing during services after receipt of communion. The PCC were in favour of this meaningful addition to the service. Mention was made of the re-licensing of the LLM's on 2nd March at Blackburn Cathedral. He also said that George Moore was officially retiring as organist and a collection would be organised for a presentation to mark his many years' service at the forthcoming Parish Communion at St Johns in April.



The Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place on Monday 20th May at 7:30pm in St Cuthbert's, please make a note in your diary and try your best to come along. At this meeting we elect our Churchwardens and PCC members and receive the annual report of the PCC including the finances for 2023.

Notices of the meeting will be on display at both churches in advance of the meeting and anyone not currently on our parish Electoral Roll is encourage to complete the application form available online or in either church.

Hello from all at Lytham Church of England School.



We continue to be so grateful for the many opportunities we have to play a part in our wonderful children's lives.

You may have had the chance to visit the Heritage Centre during the holidays and spot examples of our children's art work on display. Out of all the schools which participated, Georgia's piece was selected as best in the Year Six category. Competition was tough as the standard

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12.15pm Three Course Sit Down Meal £10.00

1.15pm Coffee and Chat

Numbers are limited so booking is essential.

To book and pay, or to arrange transport,
contact Julie Webb 07517 086 530

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from all of the schools was outstanding!

Children from Year three and Year four enjoyed a fabulous trip to Woodmatters in Windermere. They had 'the best day ever' and all came back with a stone axe they had made!

We had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day and enjoyed a visit from the Library Service who facilitated Reading for Pleasure Workshops for all classes. The children and staff celebrated World Book Day by wearing the clothes they wear when reading for pleasure. We had football kits, pyjamas, glamour and 'comfies'!

On Monday 4th March our fabulous choir represented us at the Big Sing at Lowther Pavilion. The children sang their hearts out and we were complemented on their impeccable behaviour throughout the long and busy day.

Steve and Harold the Giraffe from Coram Life Education came into school last week to talk to classes about various topics to enhance our PSHE curriculum.

It's been literally non stop and this week we have been celebrating Science Week with lots of science activities taking place too!

On the 28th we'll be wearing our wellies as a fundraiser to try and raise enough money to buy ten pairs of wellies for the RNLI. I'll let you know how we get on!

Please look out for our drawings, photographs and pieces of writing, which we will be displaying at the back of the two churches at the end

of this half term. We love to share what we have been up to!

I hope you've enjoyed reading about the times we share at Lytham Church of England School; we remain grateful that so many people pray so faithfully for our school community.

Love, prayers & best wishes,

Amanda Wooldridge - Headteacher

School Communion

We have re-established a Communion Service in our school each term, our next is on Tuesday 16^{th} April at 10am. It is a lovely moment in the life of the school with everyone receiving an individual blessing and those confirmed receiving communion.

The children and staff would love members of the parish to come into school and join them for the service, it would be great to welcome you.

Coffee Mornings

Please remember our bi-weekly Coffee Mornings which we hold on a



Saturday at 10am. The Coffee Morning at St John's is on the second Saturday of the month and the one at St Cuthbert's on the fourth. They are lovely times for us to meet together, to welcome visitors and raise some funds.

Why not come along and invite a friend to come with you.

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George Moore

Canon George Moore has been the organist at St John's for many years, but sadly he has had to make the decision to retire due to health issues. George has been a church organist since he was in his teens and it is with a heavy heart he lays this ministry down. Bev and Nick have known him for many years and he played for their wedding back in April 1985. He has proven to be a man of faith and music and has proven a fantastic appointment for St John's through his years there.

George is already greatly missed at St John's but we are delighted we will be able to say thank you to him at our Parish Communion there on Sunday 7th April at 10:15am.

Supporting Fylde Foodbank

Thank you to everyone who donates items in the basket at church or financially directly to Fylde Foodbank.

In 2022/23 - 6690 adults and children were fed. These people were referred in crisis, and 50 tonnes of food and toiletries were donated last year.

The foodbank has put a request out for extra donations to support those people and families in our area who are in food poverty. Please would you consider donating ambient food which is in date and any toiletries. They are unable to accept any fresh food.

If you are able to help the items needed include:

Coffee, Tea, Longlife Milk, Custard, Easter Eggs, Noodles and Rice pudding.

They have plenty of pasta for the time being. So please, no pasta.

Thank you so much.

Churches in Lytham Prayer Meeting

The Churches in Lytham now offer a monthly prayer time; an opportunity for the churches to come together and experience the different styles of prayer and worship we each offer. The meeting in April is at the Hope Church on the 15th at 7:30pm. Everyone is more than welcome.

Area Dean of Kirkham

Following the appointment of Revd Canon Anne Beverley as Director of Ministry in the Blackburn Diocese the Bishop has appointed the Revd Glen Brooks, Vicar of St Annes Parish Church, as our next Area Dean of Kirkham. No date has been set for his commissioning service yet, but he has already commenced the duties. We look forward to his ministry in this additional role.

Introducing our next Bishop of Burnley—Revd Dr Jospeh Kennedy

A priest who has broad experience of both chaplaincy and teaching, as well as in the ministering and leading of others to help God's church to grow, has been chosen as the next Suffragan Bishop of Burnley.



Edinburgh-born Rev. Dr Joseph Kennedy, 55, is currently Vicar of Oxton St Saviour in the Diocese of Chester.

He was educated at Edinburgh University (Mathematics and





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Theology) and then Oxford University where he trained for ordination; later beginning his ministry in the Oxford Diocese.

The Bishop-designate is married to Emily who is Head of External Financial Reporting for Oxfam and they have two children: David, 13 and Mary, 7.

The date of Joe's Consecration Service later this year at York Minster will be Friday, July 19th at 11am. This will be followed by his 'Installation Service' on Sunday, September 8th at 4pm in the presence of civic, faith and community leaders from across Lancashire, at our Cathedral in Blackburn.

From the Registers

Baptisms

March

Weddings

March

16th Thomas Farrow and Sally Ward

Funerals

March

4th Anthony Chetter

15th Lorraine Matta

15th Susan Cowie

26th Hilde O'Leary

27th Barry Etherington

Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury 1093-1109

Easter more commonly falls in April than in March, and so my article for the month is usually on a subject related to Easter or Holy Week. But this year, with Easter Sunday being on 31 March and Pentecost (Whit Sunday) consequently on 19 May, April has no major liturgical feasts. This therefore gives me the opportunity to write about Anselm, one of our most significant and distinguished Archbishops of Canterbury. We keep his feast-day on 21 April, the day of his death. Thomas Becket, in 1163, requested of Pope Alexander II that he be canonized, partly, no doubt, because of his outstanding contributions to theological scholarship and philosophy, but also, I suspect, because, Thomas saw him as a fellow-combatant in the ongoing power-politics of King versus Archbishop. As in Thomas's case, this led to Anselm going into exile, although he was spared the martyrdom which was the climax of Thomas's struggles to uphold the independence of the church. In fact, there is no surviving record of Anselm's canonization following Thomas's request. If indeed it happened then, it would have been a very early instance of formal papal canonization since before the twelfth century all saints were recognised by tradition and popular acclaim, rather than being subject to a legalistic procedure. Nevertheless, Anselm was thereafter listed as a saint in the records of Canterbury and elsewhere, and his sanctity was confirmed by Pope Alexander VI in 1494 or 1497. Such was his contribution to Christian thought that he was proclaimed a Doctor of the Church by Pope Clement XI in 1720.

Anselm was born c. 1033 to moderately high-ranking parents in Aosta, but he went to France in 1056 and in 1059 entered the monastery of Bec in Normandy, where Lanfranc was head of its outstanding monastic school. Having been born in Pavia, Lanfranc



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Anselm wrote several of his major works while he was at Bec, and he produced further substantial studies during his two exiles. He is regarded as being a leading figure of the international intellectual movement known as Scholasticism which, instead of simply seeking to understand Christianity as revealed truth, sought to explore and explain it as a rational system. His theological and philosophical achievements mean that he is generally regarded as having one of the most penetrating intellects between the great giants of St Augustine of Hippo and St Thomas Aquinas.

Joyce Hill

Quiz Questions for April

Islands

The geographical definition of an island as an extension of land surrounded by water pays no acknowledgement to the colourful images which the word alone implants in our minds.

Islands are ideal metaphors for isolation and detachment, places of refuge or exile. They can be difficult to reach and lacking in forms of human development, yet also having an association with an idealised vision of a simple, rudimentary lifestyle. Like a blank canvas, deserted islands possess the potential for the building of a personal bespoke paradise.

Many writers, artists and film producers have seen the value of islands in their work. Robert Louis Stevenson's novel *Treasure Island* [1880] features the archetype of the Caribbean pirate island with buccaneers and buried gold. Other books include islands as almost a character within: *The Swiss Family Robinson* [Johann David Wyss], *And Then There Were None* [Agatha Christie], *Lord of the Flies* [William Golding], *The Lighthouse* [P D James].

The first thirty questions, cryptic and with a sprinkling of anagrams, involve the names of islands, or groups of islands, around the British Isles.

- 1. The fifth month of the year [3]
- 2. Seen in Jurassic Park [4]
- 3. Sounds as if its all there [4]
- 4. Ed nearly tumbled [8]
- 5. Sure foundation for everyone [7]
- 6. Vance meddled with unknown [6]
- 7. Below the chap's knee [3,2,3]



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The Parish Hall - For more information call Fiona on 01253 736488

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	6pm-7pm	Beavers (term time)	
	7pm-9pm	Scouts (term time)	
Wednesday	9.30am-11.30am	Bertie Bear Group (term time)	
	1.45pm-4pm	Over 50's Table Tennis	
	7pm-8pm	Pilates with Georgia – 07875590724	
Thursday	9.30am-11.30am	Coastal Collective Drop In	
	5pm-6pm	Rainbows (term time)	
	6.30 -7.30pm	Brownies (term time)	

- 8. Party with grammar school heads [4]
- 9. Spoken by a hen concerning eggs [5]
- 10. Magic dragon that's popular [6]
- 11. A following with a group of employees [6]
- 12. Close to brass [4]
- 13. A long way to the North East not so, actually [5]
- 14. Potato, lily or cow! [6]
- 15. Hut is torn to shreds [5,4]
- 16. Meeting of learner and German youth leader [5]
- 17. Dried grass and heather [7]
- 18. Nerd fails in puzzle [11]
- 19. Punctuation mark, for example [8]
- 20. Flag with European origin [5]
- 21. It's within radar range [5]
- 22. Odd [3]
- 23. Yes, a glen is hidden within [8]
- 24. They sound daft! [3,8]
- 25. Wobbles on AI [4]
- 26. Reconstructed new lay [6]
- 27. Sounds as if the Australian likes what he sees [4]
- 28. Brew up a brew, son! [8]
- 29. A French short saint [4]
- 30. Ponder [4]

Ten further questions on islands:

- 31. Topically, which island in the south eastern Pacific Ocean is famous for its monumental statues called *moai*?
- 32. Perfect for the season, can this Scottish island be poached, boiled, fried or scrambled?

- 33. Where did Harry Belafonte stay warm in 1957?
- 34. Which island can be found adjacent to the Golden Mile?
- 35. Which island was known to George, Julian, Dick, Anne and the dog Timmy?
- 36. Which room in the house may possess an island of its own?
- 37. Written by The Bee Gees and recorded by Kenny Rogers and Dolly Parton, where were their islands?
- 38. Which Shakespeare play begins with a violent storm besetting an island in an unnamed sea?
- 39. 'No man is an island.' Who said this in a 17th century sermon?
- 40. The names of how many islands can be identified in The Acts of the Apostles [NRSV, Anglicised]? You should be able to find at least seven.

Answers will appear in the next issue.

Quiz questions for March: Familiar phrases from the Bible: Answers

1.-44. 2.-76. 3.-69. 4.-80. 5.-59. 6.-49. 7.-42. 8.-55. 9.-60.

10.-45. 11.-51. 12.-43. 13.-78. 14.-47. 15.-53. 16.-74. 17.-66.

18.-57. 19.-41. 20.-54. 21.-73. 22.-61. 23.-75. 24.-48. 25.-71.

26.-68. 27.-65. 28.-58. 29.-64. 30.-50. 31.-46. 32.-67. 33.-56.

34.-63. 35.-79. 36.-70. 37.-77. 38.-52. 39.-62. 40.-72.

The prize-winning entry was received from Marianne Cottier-Brown.

What goes on each week at JC Lytham

Sunday

8.30am Holy Communion at St Cuthbert 1^{st} , 3^{rd} & 5^{th} at St John 2^{nd} & 4^{th} Sunday of the month.

10.15am Morning Service at both churches (except the 1st Sunday when it's a joint Parish Communion)

10:15am Sunday School on the 1st and 3rd Sundays term time 4pm Evening Prayer on 2nd Sunday at St Cuthbert

Wednesday

9.45am Bertie Bear Toddler Group in the Parish Hall on Church Road – term-time only

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