

JC Lytham Parish Office

The Parish Hall

Church Road

Lytham

FY8 5QL

Tel: 01253 736488

Email: [parish.office@jclytham.church](mailto: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: [www.jclytham.church](http://www.jclytham.church)

Facebook page: @ JC Lytham

YouTube Channel: St Cuthbert's Lytham



**TWO HOMES; ONE FAMILY.**

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



JC Lytham is a charity registered in England and Wales

Charity Registration No. 1199630

Registered Office: - St Cuthbert's Vicarage, Church Road, Lytham St.  
Annes, FY8 5PX

**PARISH MAGAZINE – May 2025**

## The Ministry Team

**Vicar:** Revd Nick Wells 07852 254 907

**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 usual 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	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	
11am Communion	Each Wednesday at St Cuthbert				



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*Tributo d'amore*

Dear Friends

With our Annual Parochial Church Meeting coming up on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May I thought I would share with you the aims the PCC have set for this year. They are varied and aspirational, but our underlying desire is for people in Lytham to come to know Jesus personally.



Some of our priorities are :

- to continue to engage fully with the Diocesan Renewal Programme, including running a Mission Weekend in September coinciding with celebrating the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening of St John's;
- to bring baptisms into our main services with a Zoom meeting with baptism families beforehand to help them consider more fully what baptism means.
- to provide ample opportunities for Bible Study, and help our parishioners to gain confidence in telling their faith stories.
- to encourage new leaders and volunteers especially supporting anyone one who wishes to explore lay or ordained ministry and help to connect them with the appropriate people in the diocese.
- to extend connections between the school and the church, embed our All Age Service and invite BLAST and others to take part in planning and leading some services.
- to progress repairs and improvements to our buildings as outlined in the Quinquennial Survey Reports completed in the autumn of 2024, including installing a new electronic organ and completing a faculty application for creating a toilet and improve the kitchen at St John

and completing the faculty application to remove the screen at the east end of the St Aidan's Chapel and to open up the choir and clergy vestries at St Cuthbert's.

As you can see there is much to work on, both spiritually and practically, and we are looking for people to assist in various aspects of this vision. By working together I am sure we can bring many of these things to fruition, helping ensure our Christian presence in Lytham into future generations.

Yours in Christ



### Ascension Day

This year Ascension Day falls on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May and the Churches in Lytham will be holding a service together at Lytham Methodist Church at 7pm to celebrate together.

### Parish Communion for May

Our April Parish Communion will be

at St Cuthbert's on

Sunday 4th May at 10.15am



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(SIAMS 2017)



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## VE80 Celebrations

On Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May we will be marking the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day. As well as including it in our Parish Communion, all the War graves in our churchyards will be marked with a poppy. The poppies are being made by parishioners and residents of Fosbrooke House and will be placed on the graves by pupils from Hall Park and Lytham CofE

## Travelling Strings Concert

The 9th April fundraising event saw St. Cuthbert's Church filled with live music from the Travelling Strings Acoustic Band. There was a good attendance, and £504.00 was raised for church funds.

Feedback had been very positive with some great songs being played.

A big thank you to the band and everyone that supported, especially to the ladies who proceeded to do their thing when Sha la la la la la la la from Amarillo was being sung. It was brilliant and made it a great atmosphere with lots of fun.

Debbie Edwards



## Mothers' Union

Our next meeting is on Thursday 8th May at 2.30pm in St Cuthbert's, when we will welcome Mr. David Hoyle, well known Lytham Archivist who will give a talk with slides about Lytham.

At the meeting the list will be available for the Afternoon Tea at Lytham Hall on Thursday 12th June at 2.30pm. The cost is £21.00 by cheque or cash at the meeting. Margaret Fisher

## From the Registers

### April Baptisms

13<sup>th</sup> Amelie Rose Edgar

### April Funerals

2<sup>nd</sup> Charles Bracewell

17<sup>th</sup> John Lord

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Our APCM is arranged for Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May and will this year be held at St John's at 7:30pm. At the meeting we will receive the Annual Report and Accounts for 2024 and elect our Churchwardens and PCC members. Please put the date in your diary and try your best to attend.

Please do consider offering your self to serve in some way for the coming year as one or two people would like to hand their baton.

Papers for the meeting will be available both from our churches and online very soon.



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## **Alistre Lodge Nursing & Care Home**



### **Type of Registration: Care Home with Nursing**

Alistre Lodge Nursing & Care Home provides accommodation for persons who require support with personal & Clinical Care. The home accommodates up to 43 people. Please contact the management team for more information and to arrange a visit.

### **175th Anniversary of St John's and Weekend of Mission**

On the 11th September 2025 we will be celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the consecration of St John's, St Cuthbert's first daughter church. We will mark the day with a Eucharist at which the Bishop of Blackburn will preach and preside.

This will mark the beginning of our Mission Weekend which is coming out of the Diocesan Renewal Programme that we are engaged with at present. A team from around the diocese will be with us for the weekend lead by Bishop Tony Porter, former Suffragan Bishop in the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham, and the Revd Sarah O'Donoghue who is supporting us on the Programme.

The PCC has set up a sub-committee to make arrangements for the celebration and mission. Please begin to pray for it and as more details are published do have the courage to invite family and friends to come along too.

Remember – 'It is going to be good. I am going, why not come with me'.



## Pastoral Ministry Team

The Pastoral Ministry Team has been established for two years, and continues to be a vital part of the life of our church community, offering care, support, and prayerful presence to those in need.

The Team comprises four members, who are currently visiting 22 people every month. We meet with the Vicar regularly for prayer, reflection, and planning, and we are grateful for the commitment and compassion each member brings to this Ministry.

The response has been very positive and the folks we visit are pleased to see us and are keen for us to keep going back.

We are always looking for new people to join our friendly team of visitors. Are YOU interested in supporting the ministry of the parish in this way? Please contact the Vicar for further information.

If you know anyone who would like a visit from a member of our team, please let me (or the Vicar) know.

Marianne Cottier-Brown ALM Coordinator - Pastoral Ministry Team



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## Quiz Questions for May. Oi! What's your game?

Amidst the many diversions and demands of modern life, it is important that the values of personal recreation should not be overlooked. Sports and games are major players in this area. Together they encompass a wide variety of activities that are not only entertaining, but also benefit our general health and physical fitness.

These are not the only advantages.

Participation in team games teaches cooperation and good communication. It encourages the development of qualities such as leadership and sportsmanship. By sampling both victory and defeat, participants learn the importance of discipline and perseverance. There is a platform for personal growth and discovery of self. Personal goals can be achieved, strengths realised and weaknesses worked on.

At higher levels, sporting events serve as a basis for cultural exchanges, bringing together members of different nations under a shared passion. Professional sport is big business. It can stimulate local economies and generate revenues ranging from hospitality to job creation.

Here are forty questions on sports, games or other similar pastimes. Questions 11-40 are cryptic in nature.

1. Turf Moor is the home ground of which football club?
2. Who was the first footballer to be sent off twice playing for the England team?
3. What is the highest title that a chess player can achieve?
4. In which sport would you find the terms *triple axel*, *salchow*



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and *lutz*?

5. Which county cricket team plays their home games at Lords?
6. Mahjong originates from which country?
7. Which country has won the most Rugby World Cup titles?
8. Name the three weapons used in Olympic fencing.
9. Which two *Scrabble* letters are each worth ten points?
10. In which sport do participants compete for Doggett's Coat and Badge?
11. This is an unimportant pastime [7,7]
12. Sort out the bent nails, but miss the start of Hollyoaks [5,6]
13. Dig around some French wine [6]
14. Lew's getting lost in Tring [9]
15. Take a look inside the workshop, OK Eric? [5]
16. Sounds like someone's having an argument [6]
17. Without starting tinkering, look inside the electric kettle [7]
18. Where's the dustbin gone? Look closely [5]
19. The first recipe found on track [7,3]
20. Starts taking every new number in sequence [6]
21. Ken and Rihanna and their engagement, how it all started [6]
22. Catch a French girl drinking T [9]
23. I am inside southern ruler [6]
24. Wrap up well to protect yourself from these [8]
25. You may be reminded of this by an Oxo cube [7,3,7]
26. The French involved in a precipitous pursuit [12]
27. Hairdressers have something in common with this sport [7]



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## Financial Giving to our parish



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PLEASE NOTE that if you prefer paper-based there are forms at the back of each church.

**The Parish Hall - For more information call Fiona on 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 Bear Group (term time)
	1.45pm-4pm	Over 50's Table Tennis
	7pm-8pm	Pilates with Georgia – 07875590724
<b>Thursday</b>	5pm-6pm	Rainbows (term time)
	6.30 -7.30pm	Brownies (term time)

28. William and I keep to A roads [9]
29. Not a very good piece of pottery [9]
30. Look into quite a humdrum mystery [5]
31. Just as well if you don't lose these as you get older [7]
32. Is the date OK now? No, it's a bit muddled [9]
33. Look at that pelican, a star attraction at the zoo [7]
34. Place to store treasure – in Antarctica, perhaps [4,5]
35. Unruly mob came after Sheila Crook initially [8]
36. Commanding Officer is seen about a confused fight of honour [6]
37. Breakfast without crackle and pop [4]
38. Goes with mustard, but swap the ends of reach [5]
39. Look at the dog curled up on the rug by the fire [5]
40. How a policeman, for example, might describe the letter G [4]

**Answers will appear in the next issue.**

### Quiz Questions for April: In anticipation of Easter: Answers

1. Red, 2. All four, 3. Ref. Zech. 9.9, 4. The Mount of Olives,
5. Symbols of peace and humility, 6. Mark 11.8, 7. Burned to provide ashes for the next Ash Wednesday, 8. Maundy Thursday, 9. Leonardo Da Vinci, 10. Hot cross buns, 11. Passover [Pesach], 12. Jesus Christ Superstar, 13. Fabergé eggs, 14. Greece, 15. Sweden, 16. The Easter Bunny, 17. Discovering an unexpected surprise, 18. Something that is too late to make sense, 19. Thirty-eight, 20. Chile. 21. Morecambe, 22. Rhyl, 23. Weston-super-Mare, 24. Fleetwood, 25. Tenby, 26. Broadstairs, 27. Lyme Regis, 28. Harlech, 29. Southwold, 30. Hastings, 31. Torquay, 32. Oban, 33. Llandudno, 34. Scarborough, 35. Poole, 36. Cromer, 37. Lowestoft, 38. Formby, 39. Padstow, 40. Deal.



## The Visitation

The last day of this month is a red-letter day in the calendar of *Common Worship*, denoting that it is major festival, just one level down from the principal feast-days of the church, such as Easter or Ascension, also printed in red but in bold type for further prominence. What we celebrate on 31 May is the Visit of the Virgin Mary to her cousin Elizabeth, an event described only in Luke's gospel, chap. 1, vv.39-45. In the preceding verses we hear of Gabriel's visit to Mary, telling her that, through the Holy Spirit, she would give birth to a son, who would be called Jesus, and that her cousin Elizabeth, through the power of God and against all normal expectation, had conceived a son and was already six months pregnant. Mary immediately sets off to visit Elizabeth who, inspired by the Holy Spirit, greets her as 'the mother of my Lord'. In response, Mary voices the hymn of praise which we know as the *Magnificat*.

The Feast of the Visitation is quite a late addition to the church calendar. It was first instituted by the Franciscans in 1263, after which it spread quite quickly throughout the western church, although it was celebrated on different dates in different places. Just over a century later, Pope Urban VI decided that it should be properly adopted by church as a whole, but it was his successor, Boniface IX, who finally proclaimed it in 1389. The date then universally adopted was 2 July, probably because it was already quite widely used.

At the time of the Reformation, the Church of England's new Book of Common Prayer dropped most of the feast-days of the Roman church. But when the BCP was re-issued in 1662, some of the old feast-days were reintroduced and the Feast of the Visitation was one

of them, to be celebrated, as in the Roman tradition, on 2 July. It was an acceptable feast-day because it was the celebration of a biblical event, which was what the BCP favoured in augmenting its originally very austere and pared-down calendar.

The Roman Catholic calendar was revised in 1969, and the Feast of the Visitation was reassigned to 31 May because it harmonised better with the sequence of events in the gospel story. As already noted, Gabriel had told Mary that Elizabeth was six months pregnant, so the birth of her son — John the Baptist — occurred six months before the birth of Jesus. After the fourth century, when the feast-day of Jesus's birth came to be celebrated on 25 December, the birth of John was commemorated in the liturgical calendar six months earlier, on 24 June. This meant that, when the feast-day of the Visitation officially entered the calendar on 2 July, this was narratively rather awkward: the Visitation was being celebrated a matter of days after the prominent feast-day of John's birth. So, with the revision of the calendar in 1969, 31 May was chosen instead. It has the merit of preceding the feast-day of John's birth and is not far outside the period of six months before the Jesus's Nativity on 25 December, although why 31 May was the particular date chosen, I have not been able to find out. Perhaps someone can tell me. The *Calendar of Common Worship* uses this new date, as do some other churches, but there is a note in *Common Worship* that the feast may be celebrated on 2 July instead.

Joyce Hill