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: www.jclytham.church

Facebook page: @ JC Lytham

YouTube Channel: St Cuthbert's Lytham







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TWO HOMES; ONE FAMILY.

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



PARISH MAGAZINE – September 2025

Dear Friends

At St John's recently I asked the congregation to think about people who had been important in bringing them to church and in coming to know Jesus. It was a special moment as people mentioned their parents, Sunday School teachers, friends and clergy amongst others. Who would you have mentioned?



The reason I asked was to encourage them, and now you, to seriously consider if and how you have encouraged people to come close to God and accept His love for themselves.

With our Anchored in Faith mission just a couple of weeks away may I encourage you to invite friends and family to some of the events. If they say no, then nothing is lost, but if they say yes then that will be brilliant. Just remember 'I'm going, it will be good, will you come with me'.

There are invitations for you to hand out available from both churches and I hope we run out. The only event we are charging and therefore requiring people to book for is the Sports Breakfast as we are including a Full English when Bp Tony Porter will talk about his time as Chaplain to Manchester City and his involvement in Christians in Sport. He has many contacts and many stories to tell.

So please, please invite people and also say our mission prayer every day between now and then:

Heavenly Father we pray for our Mission 'Anchored in Faith'. Give us hearts full of love and lives centred on Jesus Christ, so our words and actions preparing, during and following this Mission may present Jesus' love afresh to our town. Place on our hearts five people we

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

LLM Emeritus: Angela Lee

Authorised Lay Ministers: Marianne Cottier Brown and James Walmsley

Our usual 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	
11am Communion	Each Wednesday at St Cuthbert				



especially wish to invite to hear about you so those few days will change lives and bring others into your family. We offer our prayer before you in Christ's name. Amen

Yours in Christ



1940s Festival

It was so great to be present during the 1940s Festival on



Lytham Green once again this year. Despite a less favourable pitch, we had a steady stream of people coming into the tent to light a candle, add a name to the prayer tree, and even stay for a chat. It was great to be joined by Revd David Banbury and his replica mobile canteen and replica jeep with a display detailing the ways in which the church and forces chaplains supported people during the war.

PARISH COMMUNION

Instead of our Parish Communion in September we are holding an invitation and celebration service in St Cuthbert's to mark the close of our Anchored in Faith Mission on Sunday 14th September at 10:15am.

This means on Sunday 4th September there will be Communion services at both churches at 10:15am.

We will be celebrating Harvest at our Parish Communion on 5th October at St John's

Anchored in Faith

Please remember that on the 11th
September we will be celebrating the
175th Anniversary of the Consecration
of St John the Divine Lytham, the first
daughter church of St Cuthbert's. To
mark the day the Bishop of Blackburn
will be with us in the evening to
preside and preach at a special
Anniversary Eucharist.



This will begin a weekend of mission called 'Anchored in Faith' and we need your help to invite as many people as possible to a range of events over the weekend.

The timetable of events we are looking to arrange are is as follows:

Friday 12th Daytime Visits to Lytham CofE and Hall Park Schools

Evening A Concert with Lytham Community Choir and

friends at St Cuthbert's

Sat 13th Morning A 'Sports Breakfast' at Green Drive Golf Club

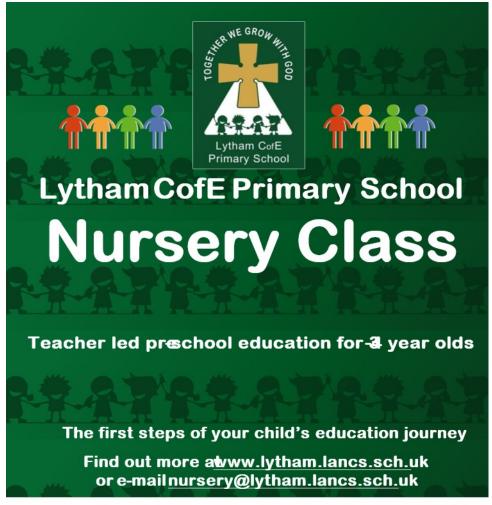
Daytime Family Activities at St John's

Both churches will be open through the day

participating in Heritage Week

Sunday 14th Morning A Celebration Service at St Cuthbert's

A Mission is always an exciting time and we need to underpin it with your persistent prayer to ensure the mission speaks to as many people as possible about God's love for them at an event which sparks there interest.



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(OFSTED 2019)



25



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Moving on

Nicola Whitehead has recently transferred her LLM Licence to the Carlisle diocese having moved to the Lake District with Peter a few months ago. They will be coming back to Lytham from time to time so hope to be with us on occasions in the future.

We wish them well in their new surroundings and are very grateful for all Nicola has done to support ministry across our parish for a number of years as well as appreciating Peter's support in other ways too. Nicola also wishes to thank the clergy, fellow LLMs and the congregation for their help and support over the past 17 years.

Mothers' Union

We begin our Autumn Session on Thursday 11th September at 2.30pm when we welcome Greg Anderton of Lytham Hall Garden Hub who will talk to us about Autumn Containers and will bring along plants for sale.

Look forward to seeing you then.

Registers

Baptisms

July 27th Emilie Rossi and Charles Rossi

Aug 10th Gabriel Pailing

Funerals

Aug 4th Bill Comstive

22nd Mark Jones



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Choir Practice for Anniversary Service

In preparation for the service at St John's to celebrate the 175th Anniversary the choir are inviting others to join them to sing at the service.

For anyone interested there will be a practice on Friday 5th September at 7pm, it would be so good to boost their numbers for this special occasion.

The choir is then going to hold a monthly practice and more details will follow in the weekly notices and next months magazine.

Will Your Anchor Hold

Please consider coming along to our home study course as we offer this opportunity for all members of our congregation to grow, draw closer to God, and learn more about the faith we share.

The group will meet at 111 Shepherd Road on Tuesday's at 7pm, commencing on 23rd September. We would love to welcome you and accompany you through this group on your walk with Jesus.

Coffee Morning at Fosbrooke House

You are invited to a Coffee Morning in support of Macmillan Cancer Support on Friday 26th September between 10am and 12 noon. There will be home-made cakes, various stalls and a raffle. Please support if you are able.

There isn't any parking in the grounds so please park in the surrounding streets.

Fosbrooke House, 8 Clifton Drive, Lytham, FY8 5RQ

Finance

We are grateful for a couple of generous legacies left specifically for works at St John's, we are able to progress some significant work there, including the installation of the new organ. However, the PCC are also talking with our Bell Ringers as the bell frame at St John's is seriously weakened, meaning the bells will soon be unplayable. The cost to replace the frame and other associated work will be in the region of £90,000.00 inc VAT, some of which is in hand, but, there is a significant shortfall, and until we are confident of the finances, sadly the bells will remain silent.

Please be assured we are not ignoring St Cuthbert's and there are discussions still taking place to open up the vestries and reveal the window at the east end of the St Aidan's Chapel.

All this, together with the day to day running of the parish, takes significant expenditure, the income for which has to come from our own parish; our own financial giving. At present we are being supported by the Diocese to cover these costs, but this is not a long term answer, that answer is in our hands.

As has been said before all the money from the sale of the old Vicarages will go to the diocese, as all clergy housing across the Church of England is the responsibility of each diocese, not the parishes.

It has been pointed out to us that the average giving per church member in the Blackburn Diocese is £14 per person, whilst ours is around £9 per person. We know not everyone in Lytham has as high an income as many think, it is still surprising to see how we compare when you consider some of the other areas across Lancashire.





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We will need to return to our finances very seriously in the not too distant future, but if we are to maintain both church buildings and support Christian ministry in our parish then the ball is firmly in our court.

Please note that the cost of tickets from the Russell Watson concert booked for February in St Cuthberts by his team will not be coming to us, only the hire fee, however we are making plans to hold something alongside to help us raise funds.

The Lord's Prayer Tour with the Archbishop of York at Blackburn Cathedral

In less than 70 words, Jesus gives us a prayer to learn by heart and a prayer that gets



inside our hearts, shaping the way we live. The Lord's Prayer surely is the best place to start. It is said in just about every church service, from the coronation of the King to the christening of a child. It's a challenging prayer and when we say this prayer together, we become part of God's movement of change, of bringing God's heaven to earth. It teaches us how to pray. But it also teaches us how to live.

This special *Faith in the North* event will be led by Archbishop Stephen Cottrell Friday 10th October 2025 at 7.00pm, with teaching, music, film, Q&A, and space for reflection. Whether you are deeply familiar with the Lord's Prayer or encountering it anew, all are welcome.

The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary

On 8 September the Anglican Church celebrates the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary as a Lesser Festival. It's been part of the church's liturgical year since the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, when some of the feast-days of the pre-Reformation church that had been axed were added back into the Church of England's annual cycle of celebrations. Cranmer, when he drew up the first Book of Common Prayer in 1549, had cut out most of the feast-days that had by then proliferated in the Roman church. For him, this drastic reduction in feast-days was a powerful demonstration that worship in the Church of England was to be radically different from that of Rome. But the BCP as revised in 1662, in a rather different social and religious context, back-tracked on that to some extent. Further feasts, festivals and commemorations have been added since, as we can see in *Common Worship*.

In restoring the celebration of the birth of Mary on 8 September, the 1662 BCP was reinstating a tradition that went back a long way. It seems to have begun somewhere in Palestine or Syria early in the sixth century, where there was a strong Marian cult, with many aspects of her life being celebrated in the liturgy. We don't know precisely how the feast of her birth on 8 September spread to the western church, but it is undoubtedly the case that Pope Sergius I (687-701), who was originally from Syria, was a key figure in promoting Mary's popularity. Papal records note that he produced special prayers for her feasts, although there is no indication that he actually introduced the feast-days themselves, so we should probably infer that these were by then already known in the western church. Certainly as Christianity spread in western Europe, the feasts of Mary,

Financial Giving to our parish



If you wish to make a one-off gift or begin to give regularly to St John the Divine and St Cuthbert Lytham, please follow the link through this QR Code on your smartphone or tablet.

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

Tuesday	9am-3pm	Tumble Tots Tumbletotslynz@hotmail.com	
	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	5pm-6pm	Rainbows (term time)	
	6.30 -7.30pm	Brownies (term time)	

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- 26. Whose fourth novel featuring Robert Langdon is called *Inferno*?
- 27. Which Italian novel for children has been adapted into at least 240 languages?
- 28. Name the best known novel by Gustave Flaubert.
- 29. Which French philosopher declined the 1964 Nobel Prize for Literature in 1964?
- 30. What is the name of Harper Lee's debut novel?
- 31. Natasha Rostov is the heroine in which classic Russian novel?
- 32. Which book by Mary Shelley is considered to be the first science fiction novel?
- 33. Which Brontë sister wrote *Villette*?
- 34. The Republic of Gilead is a totalitarian state in which dystopian novel published in 1985?
- 35. Which book continues to have the highest print run of all time?

Answers will appear in the next issue.

Quiz Questions for August: Food, Glorious Food: ANSWERS

- 1. Eton, 2. Rock, 3. Lancashire, 4. Ham, 5. Cornish, 6. Sausages,
- 7. Kiev, 8. Branston, 9. Rarebit, 10. Melton Mowbray, 11. Mess,
- 12. Kendal, 13. Royal potato, 14. Bakewell, 15. Pork pies,
- 16. Blackpool, 17. Hot pot, 18. Welsh, 19. Cheese, 20. Cheddar,
- 21. Cake, 22. Eccles, 23. Sole, 24. Worcester, 25. Mint cake, 26. Swiss,
- 27. Pickle, 28. Cumberland, 29. Pudding, 30. Jersey, 31. Roll,
- 32. Chicken, 33. Tart, 34. Chelsea, 35. Sauce, 36. Yorkshire, 37. Bun,
- 38. Parma, 39. Pasty, 40. Dover.

Pairings: 1-11, 16-2, 3-17, 38-4, 5-39, 28-6, 32-7, 8-27, 18-9, 10-15, 12 -25, 30-13, 14-33, 20-19, 22-21, 40-23, 24-35, 26-31, 36-29, 34-37.

including the feast of her birth on 8 September, were well embedded in the standard liturgy. We can see this, for example, from the surviving Anglo-Saxon church calendars.

The bible tells us nothing about Mary's life before the Annunciation: all traditions about her, including the name of her parents, come from apocryphal gospels, the earliest and most influential of these, in Mary's case, being the *Protoevangelium of James*, which dates from the latter part of the second century. This — by contrast with many apocryphal gospels from later centuries — is quite a short and sober narrative. It is this text that names Mary's parents as Anna and Joachim, and it describes how Anna, who was barren, gave birth to Mary after she had been visited by an angel who declared, 'The Lord has heard your prayer. You shall conceive and bear. And your offspring shall be spoken of in the whole world'. It's immediately obvious that the story is modelled on the birth narratives in Luke. Anna's name might similarly come from Luke: Anna in the Temple at the Presentation. And since the Hebrew form of Anna is Hannah, another source might be the Old Testament story of Hannah, who was barren before she finally gave birth to Samuel.

The *Protoevangelium* and later apocryphal narratives met a demand for human stories about Jesus's family life. For us the feast-day of the Birth of Mary no longer reflects that imaginative interest, but is a date when we can give particular thought to Mary's part in the Incarnation and Redemption.

Joyce Hill

Quiz Questions for September—In Appreciation of English Literature

Throughout history, literature has evolved alongside human civilisation, reflecting the values, beliefs and aspirations of society. From early oral traditions to the printing press and now the digital age, literature has adapted to changing media whilst always retaining its power to provoke thought by education and entertainment. Literature embraces experiences captured via the written word. Its different genres include prose, essays, poetry and drama. It is the conduit for storytelling and the expression of ideas, opening up insights into traditions and perspectives.

At its core, literature is a form of art which celebrates the beauty and complexity of language. Writers construct intricate plots, develop intriguing characters and employ literary devices such as symbolism and imagery to convey deeper meanings.

We readily acknowledge that literature enriches our lives, touches our emotions, and fashions our thinking. It is a timeless testament to experience, transcending the boundaries of linguistic barriers. It continues to resonate across cultures and generations.

The following thirty-five questions are essential reading and material for thought as a new year for education and teaching begins.

- 1. How many books are there in the Harry Potter series?
- 2. Jacob Marley and Bob Cratchit are characters in which Charles Dickens novel?
- 3. Name the title of the first book to feature Sherlock Holmes.
- 4. Which small Yorkshire town inspired the setting for Emily Brontë's Wuthering Heights?
- 5. In which mythical land are the Lord of the Rings books set?

- 6. Who wrote the novel *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*?
- 7. What genre of book does Danielle Steel primarily write?
- 8. Peter Mark Roget, a 19th century British physician, is best known for which type of book?
- 9. Whose grandfather was the Earl of Dorincourt?
- 10. *Ulysses* by James Joyce is based loosely on which epic poem?
- 11. On which African river is Agatha Christie's 1937 novel set?
- 12. What do George Eliot, George Sand and Acton Bell all have in common?
- 13. Whose autobiography remains the fastest-selling book ever?
- 14. Who is the author of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time?*
- 15. What kind of *-phile* refers to someone who loves to read regularly?
- 16. A book by which author was described by Salman Rushdie as 'a book so bad it makes bad books look good'?
- 17. Which famous novelist became a Governor General of Canada?
- 18. Name the author of the classic novel *The Catcher in the Rye*.
- 19. Which publishing house 'To make books for everyone' is celebrating ninety years of existence in 2025?
- 20. Name Elizabeth Bennet's love interest in *Pride and Prejudice*.
- 21. Who said, 'A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies.

 The man who never reads leads only one.'?
- 22. Which songwriter controversially won a Nobel Prize for Literature in 2016?
- 23. Where in Spain is the setting for *Don Quixote*?
- 24. Name the main character in Daphne du Maurier's Rebecca.
- 25. In *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*, which of the Pevensie siblings first enters Narnia?