

April 2022

Lord Jesus,
you came as
a humble servant
but were proclaimed
as King.

Even so, willingly you
became broken for us
and, through your death
and resurrection,
Love became
triumphant!

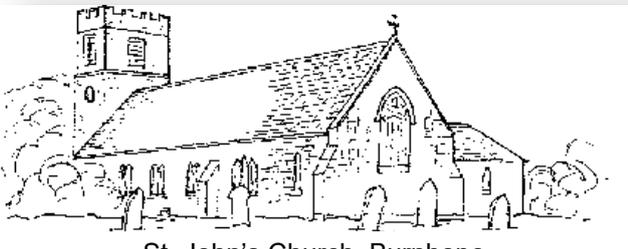


Parish Church of All Saints, Lanchester

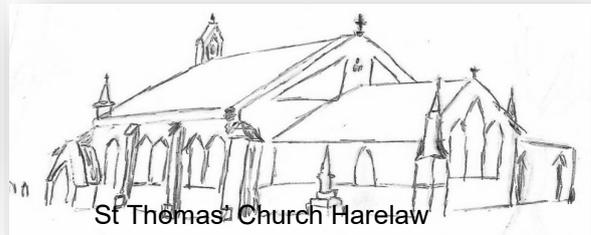


Trinity

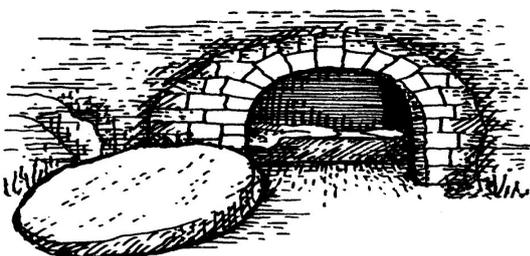
*The Parish magazine of :
All Saint's Parish Church Lanchester,
St John's Church Burnhope,
and St Thomas' Church Harelaw and Annfield Plain*



St. John's Church, Burnhope



St Thomas' Church Harelaw



50p monthly or £5 per year

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SERVICES AT ALL SAINTS', LANCHESTER

First and Third Sunday services

10.30am Parish Eucharist

Second and Fourth Sundays

8.00am Holy Communion

10.30 am Service of The Word

6.00 pm Evensong

Wednesdays 9.45 am Holy Communion

HOLY BAPTISM & WEDDINGS -

by arrangement with the Vicar

SERVICES AT ST. JOHN'S, BURNHOPE

1st and 3rd Sunday 9.15 am Said Eucharist

2nd Sunday and any 5th Sunday joint (All Saints)

4th Sunday 9.15am Service of the word

Café Church at The Community Centre every second Tuesday of the month

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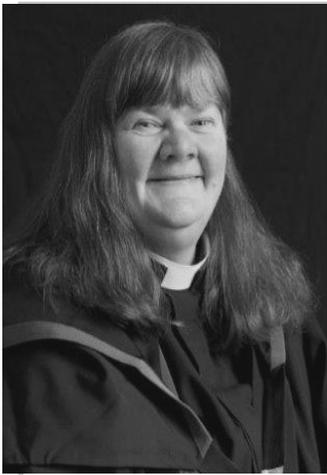
MEN'S FORUM See noticeboard or pew sheets for notifications and details

**Contributions to
the Church
Magazine are
always welcome.**



Copy preferably, sent by E-mail, to:
robmatthews48@hotmail.com

**The copy deadline for the
May issue is
Sunday 17th April**



TRINITY.

What's in a name?

Shakespeare asked the question in 'Romeo and Juliet,' and answered it too. Names, for the Capulets and Montagues, were vital. And, truth be told, names are just as important now. If you watch 'The Apprentice' you'll know how crucial it is to get just the right name for a product to reflect the brand and its values – and if you get it wrong, well, you get fired...

When I was appointed as Priest in Charge it was to two parishes, parishes that recognised their differences but which were prepared to work together and to share a priest. Part of my role was -and is still- to facilitate cross-parish working whilst maintaining the identity, character and integrity of each parish.

You may have noticed that there have been some gradual changes. Our readers work across both parishes, as do the clergy. We have a new 'Open the Book' group, made up of volunteers from all three churches. And our magazine now features St Thomas', as well as All Saints and Saint John, capitalising on the expertise and resources we already have to give Harelaw and Annfield Plain a share in a fabulous publication.

So I've been wondering about names for the magazine that reflect the changing Kingdom of God here. And I confess that, inspiration lacking, I went hunting on the net and found.... 'Top Ten Catchy Church Magazine Names.' I kid you not.

How about, say, 'The Gospel Truth'? Or maybe 'A Joyful Word'? Or 'Pews News' or 'Solely Holy', or 'Jesus Frees Us' or 'Gospel Gab'?

(By now I'm sure you've guessed that the site is American.)

In the end (and to avoid you thinking that I've lost my grip!) we've settled on 'Trinity'. Not only does it remind us of the doctrinal foundations of our faith, the God who is three in One and One in three, but it also speaks of our three churches and congregations working together to bring in the Kingdom and growing together in Love.

And how better to launch the new name than at Easter, when all things are made new in the risen Christ?

So welcome to 'Trinity'- still full of all the Good News you'll need. Enjoy!

With Easter blessings,

Lesley



From Revd. Stephen Martin



‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.” Mark 12:31

My short time in the three churches has never ceased to amaze me. We have some amazing church buildings, but the church community, the people, are what make them so. Our congregations are full of people who genuinely care about one another and the communities we are called to serve. This loving service is carried out in many ways often quietly behind the scenes and goes unnoticed. Those people know who they are, and they are greatly appreciated.

God has given us many gifts to use in the service of others and we are recognising this in Lanchester and Burnhope by commissioning a new pastoral team at All Saints. The team is made up of individuals who will carry out pastoral duties such as visiting and taking home communion to name a few. At St Thomas’s we have a number of people who visit and are members of various community organisations and it would be good to recognise them in the same way.

Jesus gave us the commandment to ‘love our neighbour’ and we can do this in many ways. With our positive and forward-looking church communities all it takes is an idea or someone answering God’s call on their life. It may be worth using our Lenten time of reflection to think about where we are on our journey.

Service is not always about physically doing, it could be praying for our church, the community, our pastoral team or for growth make the focus of prayer intentional for a certain length of time.

If you have any ideas or thoughts on loving service or would like to explore any ideas further please call me on 01207509730 or email revstephenmartin@outlook.com

Yours in Christ,

Stephen



LENT IN LANCHESTER

In December 2019 I was ordained Deacon and commenced my curacy at St Giles, Durham, a parish in a cluster with St Mary’s, Sherburn and St Cuthbert’s, Shadforth. Ordination as Priest followed in September 2020 and I have continued as curate over the last eighteen months.

I commenced a placement here at All Saint’s, St Thomas The Apostle and St John’s at the beginning of Lent and will be here through to Low Sunday. I have been made to feel so very welcome and am enjoying meeting everyone from all three churches and working alongside Rev Lesley, Deacon Stephen and the rest of the team. I know that I will learn and gain so much from the experience of being in a different parish environment. Getting to know the three different parish communities will be one of my priorities and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible over the coming weeks.

A year ago, we were still operating under many Covid restrictions and the celebration of Lent and Easter was somewhat unusual as a result. For many of us Lent and Holy Week services were shared on line. Although I think it’s fair to say we still remained a praying, worshipping, community we felt the loss of those who would normally have been with us, but who did not have access to a computer. Although printable service sheets, prayer booklets etc. were distributed, it wasn’t the same as meeting face to face. I think one of the important things we learnt from the pandemic is that being with people means so much to each of us. I think we all suffered from not seeing family and friends and of course for so many not being able to say their good byes to loved ones. So, this year in particular, I am looking forward to celebrating Lent and Easter with you in Church.

**Every Blessing,
Rev Abbey**



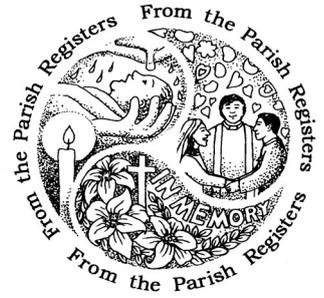
Lanchester and Burnhope

Funerals

10th March Beryl Bickle (at Mountsett)



'May she rest in peace and rise in glory'



Baptisms

20th March Daisy Isabella Little (at All Saints)
Teddy Owen Little (at All Saints)



"We welcome you into the Lord's Family"

Get going this Spring!

One thing you need to put at the top of your list this Spring is to simply MOVE.

Whether you like gardening, cycling, jogging, walking or any other activity, make certain that you do some of it every day.

As Prof James Goodwin, of the Brain Health Network in London explains, "Only 25 per cent of our ageing – both physical and mental – is determined by our DNA. The other 75 per cent is lifestyle and our environment, over which we have a lot of choice."



He goes on to explain that aerobic exercise indirectly stimulates the brain, and thus rejuvenates it. "Prolonged daily sitting down is the enemy of brain health."

Prof Goodwin also advises people to develop a healthy routine and stick to it. "Constantly varying bedtimes, drinking and eating excesses, and irregular habits are bad for you."

Source the Parish Pump

Children's Aprons for Sale

Lovely cotton fabrics

Over 50 sold already

3 sizes (excluding straps):

16 inch length for 2-4 year old £2.50

20 inch length for 5-7 year old £3

24 inch length for 8-12 year old £4

All proceeds to Church Funds

Ring Margaret on 521214

Grand Book Sale for

DEC UKRAINE

Parish Church
Saturday April 9th
10.30-12.30 am

Coffee/Tea/ cakes, scones

Quality books needed. Collection point
60, Briardene. Ring 521214 if you need
books to be collected.

Thank you.

Fresh batches of chutney
and jams made regularly.
Currently available -
chutneys: beetroot, butter-
nut squash, apple.
jam: mixed berry.

Ring Margaret on 521214
or Jen on 520498
We are happy to deliver.



NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

Mothers' Union Lanchester



At our March meeting we were delighted to welcome our new Diocesan President Carole Hopkinson and our guests from Burnhope Mothers' Union. Carole spoke to us about the work of A.F.I.A. and the ways that families can be supported. A.F.I.A. (away from it all) is a branch of Mothers' Union which offers support to families who are struggling and going through difficult times. Outings or short holiday breaks can be offered, and the money that members send helps to fund this. Our speaker in April will be Anthony Atkinson who will give a talk on Gertrude Bell – Desert Queen. We are arranging an outing for afternoon tea and details will be circulated nearer the date. David Butler will be our speaker in May. There will not be a meeting in church on June 14th, as there will be a Festival Service in the Cathedral and we hope that as many of you as possible can attend. This will be the first time we can take our banner in two years and we are really looking forward to a wonderful service of celebration. Our AGM will be held on 12th July and will be followed by refreshments.

Eileen Matthews

Mothers' Union Burnhope



Our Meeting was held on Monday the 7th March. After our usual Mothers' Union Service, arrangements were made for our Centenary Celebrations on the 24th April. Mrs Park then read from our Church magazines dated 1989. They reminded us of the number of church services held each week in those days.

Muriel Molloy

Padded mobile phone cases and spectacle cases (lightweight for ladies' handbags)



*Some with cross body strap
some with belt strap
or for handbag
£2.50
All proceeds to Church
Funds*

Ring Margaret on 521214

The Language of Flowers

Early Youth

Primrose— Primula Vulgaris

The primrose, a Celtic fairy flower, symbolises purity and youth. Its early blossom and delicate perfume are cheering heralds, and Shakespeare observed the early appearance of the flowers when few insects are around. The name derives from the medieval Latin *prima rosa*, the first or earliest flowers of the year. The common primrose (yellow) is dedicated to St Agatha, the red variety to St Adelaide, and the early red to St Theodora.

*"Primrose first born child of Ver,
Merry springtime's harbinger,
With her bells dim"*

William Shakespeare.



Pensiveness

Cowslip— Primula Veris

"Cowslips wan that hang the pensive head

John Milton

The familiar name cowslip derives from the Anglo Saxon *cuslyppe* or *cusloppe*. The flowers of the common cowslip are called fairy cups, and Shakespeare refers to them in *A Midsummer Nights Dream* :-

*"In their gold coat spots you see
Those be rubies, fairy favours,
In their freckles live their savours"*

In Elizabethan times a delicious wine, said to resemble Muscatel and to induce sleep, was made from cowslips. Its meaning may arise from the mood of melancholy that love poets often attributed to it.



Painting

Auricula—Primula auricula

*"Queen of the snowy alps in glittering pride
She rears her Palace on the mountain's side,
There, as bright sun-beams light her spangled throne.*

George Bernard Shaw.

Gerard called the auricula bears-ears or mountain cowslip, and tells us that the root was in great demand among Alpine Hunters because of its reputed ability to prevent giddiness and "swimming of the brain" overtaking them at high altitudes. It was highly regarded for its beauty and range of colours of its rich velvet corollas, some are darkest purple, others a fine blue, bright yellow, delicate lilac, olive brown, pure white, variegated, bordered or mottled, exactly like a painter's palette. Picture that.

Have you got any of these in your gardens? Enjoy them if you have.



Audrey Newton

100 Club News

The February and March Draws were made in the Chapter House on Sunday 6th March as follows:



February Draw all £5.00 125, 79, 66, 42, 15, 50

March Draw all £5.00 54, 47, 165, 8, 6, 122

Sue Smith and Olga Walker

Old Gold

Last year a suggestion was made to request donations of old gold towards Church funds to which we received several items.

Due to restrictions and lockdowns and all things Covid, this had been overlooked.



We are pleased to report that the donations received were taken to Bramwells Jewellers in Durham and made a welcome total of £411 for Church Funds.

Many thanks to all who donated items. We are most grateful.

On Behalf of the Fundraising Committee

Church Flowers

We look forward to the return of the joy of flowers returning to our Churches following the season of Lent. Thank you to our wonderful Flower Teams who work to brighten up our beautiful spaces. And to all those who donate making this possible.

17th April M Burt, A Hunter
J Osborne, O Walker
J Wilkinson, M Atkinson



24th April J Jobling, P Reed

Julian Prayer Meetings

2pm in the Chapter House



April – Monday 4th

May – Monday 2nd

(May Day Bank Holiday -to be confirmed)

June - Monday 6th

Church Wives

Daffodils are coming up
Heralding the Spring
Birds are very busy
Flying on the wing.

Days are getting longer
Shortening the night
And putting all together
Things are looking bright.

Easter is approaching
With its glorious news.
Death has been defeated
Heaven is in our view.

April 14th Maundy Thursday
Wives will be in church.

April 28th we enjoy Billy Crozier's
Very profound research.

Children Learn What They Live

From being very young I have always loved children and cared about their well being. Like all of us I have been absolutely horrified and sickened by recent cases of very young children being abused until they die. How a parent or family member can cause so much pain and suffering to a young child is beyond my understanding.

The following words (not my own) resonate with me. Do you agree with them? You may even be able to add to them yourself

If a child lives with criticism
He learns to condemn.

If a child lives with hostility
He learns to fight

If a child lives with ridicule
He learns to be shy.

If a child lives with shame
He learns to be guilty

If a child lives with tolerance
He learns to be patient.

If a child lives with encouragement
He learns confidence

If a child lives with praise
He learns to appreciate.

If a child lives with fairness
He learns justice.

If a child lives with security
He learns to have faith.

If a child lives with approval,
He learns to like himself.

If a child lives with acceptance and friendship
He learns to find love in the world.



Jesus said, 'Let the little children come unto me, for of such is the Kingdom of God' Those abused children never got the chance to get close to Jesus and know His great Love for them, but I firmly believe that in eternity they are now held securely and lovingly in the hollow of our Lord's hand and this brings me comfort.

Brenda Craddock

Pauline's Reflection

"Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue" (Ps 31:2)

Once, many years ago when I was doing my Reader training, I mentioned to a fellow student of theology how much I loved the psalms, and this person replied, in all seriousness, "Well - they're alright. But don't you think they're a bit Jewish?" YES! YES! I do think they're a "bit" Jewish! I think they're VERY Jewish! And so was Jesus! I have heard a rabbi describe the psalms as being the "heart and soul of the Jewish nation". As such they are the heart and soul of the Christian faith, too, even if we aren't aware of it, or are reluctant to admit it. I know a lot of people don't like a lot of the psalms - and this seems to include people who set the lectionary readings. Oh, they're happy enough to celebrate the joy shown in the psalms, and the praise and worship of God, and the celebration of God's goodness - but nobody seems to like the dark emotions they demonstrate. There are negative and often dreadful words which disturb them so deeply that they can't accept them.

Saying of our enemies "Happy is the one who seizes your infants and dashes them **against the rocks**" (Ps 137:9) "Strike all my enemies on the jaw; break the teeth of the wicked". (Ps 3:7) "Surely God will crush [their] heads . . . that you may plunge your feet in the blood of your foes" (Ps 68:21, 23). My word! There is some strong stuff there. This is vivid and difficult language. Nothing of Christian forgiveness or turning the other cheek, instead there is anger, revenge, brutality and often sheer, unadulterated hatred. But it is these raw emotions which make the Psalms so great. "It's not Christian" we think. "Jesus wouldn't do this." - and of course he wouldn't, but that's not what it's all about. It's about acknowledging our humanity - the bad as well as the good; bringing those angry emotions into the open, bringing them before God and admitting our rage and pain and fear and hurt.

Evil flourishes in darkness. When we bring our negative emotions into the light (and we ALL experience some, at one time or another), when we acknowledge what is happening to us, and within us, then healing can begin. - and only then. In the same way that we need to confess our sins to God, even though God is already aware of them, we need to confess and admit our hurt and pain, too, and how angry and upset we often feel. and how vengeful and even (sometimes) filled with hate We need to admit it to ourselves. Hate is an awful word for an awful emotion, but if it isn't acknowledged when it occurs, it can't be purged, and if it isn't purged it will destroy us, body and soul.

People brought these feelings to God long before there were psychotherapists, but it is a proven fact that hurts which are buried and denied make us ill. "Depression" it is said, "is rage turned inwards". We do not need to violently act out our anger, but taking these negative feelings to God in all of their awfulness is good for us, and for others, because God can then begin to heal our feelings and they will no longer affect how we think and behave.

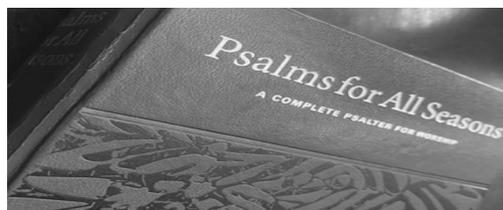
The psalms provide a great refuge for us in times of trouble, too. They connect with our souls. Wherever we are in our lives, there is a psalm which will touch us. There is no more comforting psalm, particularly when we are afraid, I think, than Ps 23 with those wonderful words "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death thou art with me". And in this dreadful ongoing war in Ukraine, we have seen inspiring video footage of Ukrainian Christians - in parks and cellars, in destroyed streets, crowded into wrecked rooms, huddling under tables - praying that great psalm of protection, Ps 31. "Turn your ear to me,/ come quickly to my rescue;/ be my rock of refuge/ a strong fortress to save me.", and drawing such comfort from their faith.

It is one of the psalms of David (not necessarily written by him, but perhaps dedicated to him), and we cannot help but think of the David and Goliath situation unfolding before us, and remember that with God's help, David defeated Goliath. As Russia becomes increasingly desperate and provocative, we think of Goliath's taunting shout, "Come out and fight! Am I a dog that you come at me with sticks?" We remember that David did not rise to Goliath's provocation - he knew that his strength lay in fighting the battle on his own terms, and using the skills which God had prepared him with in his time as a shepherd. He felled Goliath using a simple weapon of his own choice, not allowing Goliath the advantage of strength and size. Had he fought Goliath's way he would have been killed. Trust in God, the psalms tell us. Deny nothing of your pain and hate and righteous anger; bring them to the Lord and the Lord will show you how to use them in a positive way, so that once again "Our mouths [be] filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy" (Ps 126:2) and "the nations be glad and sing for joy" (Ps 67:4).

When I first thought about writing about the psalms a couple of months ago, my intention had been to describe how they had inspired poets and musicians in every age - from classical to contemporary, hard rock to hip-hop, how they had added expressions to our everyday language, and how they had kept people of faith - Jewish and Christian - alive under the most dreadful circumstances, because of the way these great poems of a great nation, speak to the heart - but events overtook us, and I offer what God moved me to write, in support of the courageous Ukrainians, fighting a dreadful war of attrition on all our behalf.

The psalms, "a bit Jewish" as they are, hold all of human nature. They are the heart and soul of a nation which has been enslaved and dispossessed, scattered and apparently broken - but a nation which nevertheless rose from the ashes again and again, and exchanged their songs of despair for songs of joy. They are our heart and soul, too. They show the indomitable strength of the human spirit when that spirit places faith and trust in God. "How long O, Lord?" (Ps 13:1) becomes "Clap your hands, all peoples (Ps 47:1). The psalms are God's acceptance of us in all our frailty, and a promise to us. And God keeps promises.

Pauline Meek



Prayer from the Church of England

(<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/praying-peace-world>)

Intercession for Ukraine

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

*We pray for the leaders of the nations,
that you will guide them in the ways of freedom,
justice and truth.*

*Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.*

*We pray for those who bear arms on behalf of
the nation,
that they may have discipline and discernment,
courage and compassion.*

*Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.*

*We pray for our enemies, and those who wish
us harm,
that you will turn the hearts of all to kindness
and friendship.*

*Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.*

*We pray for the wounded and the captive,
the grieving and the homeless,
that in all their trials they may know your love
and support.*

*Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.*

*Most holy God and Father,
hear our prayers for all who strive for peace
and all who fight for justice.*

*Help us, who today remember the cost of war,
to work for a better tomorrow;
and, as we commend to you lives lost in terror
and conflict,*

*bring us all, in the end, to the peace of your
presence;
through Christ our Lord.*

Amen.



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

As we return to some form of normality and the chapter house is being used more by our groups, I would ask you to browse the Traidcraft Stand There are a few items that are slightly out of date but as regards tea and coffee which says 'best before' I assure you they are fine as long as they are sealed when bought.

The stand has a limited number of Easter eggs, buy yours today! The usual items are in stock including tea, coffee, biscuits, dried fruit, toilet rolls, kitchen rolls and much more. Easter cards are on the table along with greeting cards. Please when buying goods from the stand remember to fill in a payment slip with your name at the top, each person using a separate form, mark paid and place your money in the basket provided. If you want to take something and pay later please write an IOU. It is important that these items are paid for within a couple of weeks. Catalogues are available on the sideboard at the back of church. If there any items that you would like to purchase please see me after church. Many thanks I appreciate your support.

Olga Walker

The International Day for Street Children, first launched on 12th April 2011, is a response to the desperate need of hundreds of millions of children world-wide who are forced to live or work on the streets.

The UN admits that although there are millions of such children, official figures are virtually non-existent. Tragically, these children are virtually invisible, living without rights and protection on some of the most dangerous streets in the world.

Record levels of inequality, violence, migration, war and natural disasters have caused the problem. The children run away to escape abusive, dysfunctional homes and end up on the streets after being displaced or trafficked.

Toybox is a Christian charity which has worked with street children, first in Latin America and now in Asia and Africa, for more than 25 years. "We want to help children marginalised and abused by those who should be protecting them," the charity says.

Toybox began out of one Christian couple's compassion for the children they saw suffering on the streets of Latin America. "Today, we continue to act, motivated by that same Christian faith, to see a world in which no child is forced to live or work on the streets." If you would like to support Toybox, please go to: <https://toybox.org.uk/support>



TOYBOX
Changing the world
for street children



An Extract from the Parish magazine of April 1896

My dear Friends,

The month of March has so far kept up its reputation as far as weather is concerned. On one day we are visited by a heavy fall of snow to the depth of several inches, and ere 48 hours have elapsed the snow has disappeared, only to be succeeded by a tearing wind and storm, calculated to do much damage to trees in exposed localities; this leads me to give a brief extract from *“The London Chronicle, Jan 24-26, for 1758.”* I quote the words as I found them:-

“We hear from Durham, that last Week Thomas Taylor, Esq; of Cornsaw-raw in the Parish of Lanchester, had a considerable Fall of Trees, amongst which was one Oak of extraordinary Size: the length of the Trunk from the Root to the Branches 46 Yards 18 Inches, the Circumference 7 Yards 18 Inches, the extreme Distance of the Branches as it lay on the Ground measuring across the trunk 60 Yards. It is valued at 40 L. Near the Root was found, in a small Iron Box, a Grant of that extensive Manor to the Family from King John, supposed to have been buried there, about the Time of the Invasion by David King of Scots, in the year 1347.”

Great satisfaction has been expressed since last month at the termination of the strike at Cornsay Colliery, and after many weeks of idleness, work was resumed on the 9th. Unfortunately the Colepike Drift remains still to be opened out, but it cannot be long now; to be out of work for close upon half a year is a severe trial to many a man.

A memorial to the North-Eastern Railway has been on foot during this month, promoted, I believe, by the Mayor of Durham, and having its object the granting of cheap Saturday tickets to Durham from different places in the immediate neighbourhood. Every right-thinking person can see at once what a boon this might prove to many living in our midst, besides it is very general in other parts of the country. Let us hope that the Directors may see their way to granting the desired concession.

On Good Friday there will be a Service at 11 a.m. and 7 in the evening; and on Easter day we shall begin with Holy Communion, 8 a.m.: Morning Service and Holy Communion, 10.30; Children’s Service, 2-30: and the usual Evening Service, 6-30. And may your Easter be full of the brightest hopes, as you reverently yet gladly commemorate the victory gained by your dear Lord and Master.

May Easter joys be yours one and all.

Yours faithfully, *George Jepson Vicar and Surrogate.*

Peter Smith

Now that the Government have lifted the Covid restrictions we have cautiously removed the ticks and crosses from the pews and invite the congregation to sit where they choose and should they wish, to sit (and sing) unmasked. However, should they wish to still take those precautions that is fine also. Masks and hand sanitiser are made available. We are following current guidance when it is given and are keeping an eye on the County figures to ensure we are able to respond to any upsurging trends in the virus locally.

We have also reopened Church for private prayer between the hours of 9am and 4pm Monday to Saturday. Thank you to all who have agreed to be on the rota to facilitate this.

It was agreed by PCC that we shall replace our photocopier, the current one being over 13 years old and on its last legs. The new copier of higher specification will enable us to print in colour and allow us to produce our own booklets thus making a saving on printing costs. Thanks to Jennifer Guy for her hard work on this project

Plans are in hand to replace both the churches’ signs; in All Saints it will require fixing a new redesigned panel within the existing frame, however at St John’s we may have to apply for a faculty but PCC have approved that they be changed.

PCC also approved the quotation submitted from Wensley Roofing for the repairs to slating at St John’s following winter storms. We have also asked them to inspect the ridge tiles to the Nave, which have gaps in the pointing and report back. This item is highlighted in the Quinquennial inspection for St John’s.

The APCM will take place at 6.30 pm on Wednesday 25th May at All Saint’s

For The Wardens

What a hoot

One evening a bird-loving vicar strolled over to his huge country churchyard, and just for fun, hooted softly, like an owl. To his delight, an owl hooted softly back. The next night the same thing happened, and again, the night after that. Soon it became a regular habit, and every night for the following year, no matter what the weather, the vicar would go to the churchyard and hoot back and forth with his feathered friend. The hoots became longer and more complicated, and the vicar kept a careful log of the ‘conversation’. Just as he thought he was on the verge of a real breakthrough in interspecies communication, his wife had a chat with the neighbour who lived in a big house and garden next door to the church. “My husband comes here each night,” she said, to “hoot to the owl in the churchyard.” “That’s odd,” the neighbour replied, “so does my husband.”





LANCHESTER E.P (Cont.) PRIMARY SCHOOL



It is hard to believe that we are approaching the end of March already – the last time I wrote it was all about our Christmas activities and we are now only a few weeks away from our Easter service.

So much has happened already this term. Covid hit us harder than ever in January and early February with more staff absences than at any other point during the whole pandemic. We managed to stay open the whole time though with all staff members going the extra mile. Unfortunately, we did have to postpone a visit from some of our European partners who will be joining us at the beginning of April instead.

We celebrated Fair Trade fortnight with assemblies, a talk and visit from the Co-op and the week concluded with a non-uniform day. We were raising money for Unicef to fund emergency hygiene kits for the Ukrainian refugees. In one day we raised over £2,350 which was just tremendous. We have also had children fundraise themselves through making sunflowers and baking. My Weekly Davis Update this week really is true – ‘Sometimes, all you hear about is the hate, but there is more love in this world than you can possibly imagine.’

Whilst January and February were all about survival, March has been all about internationalism and travel. We began the month of March taking 16 of our Year 5 & 6 children to Dubai. We received almost £36,000 of funding from the British Council to take a group of children to India to learn more about Hinduism and their culture. However, due to Covid and then the beginning of the monsoon season, it was just not possible to travel to India. The funding had to be used this academic year so we contacted the British Council who said we could change the country we were visiting as long as the aims and objectives of the project were still achieved.

So, Miss Rippon (our Operations Manager) contacted her cousin who teaches in Dubai and we organised the whole trip there in just 4 weeks which also included a trip by myself in the half-term break to check everything out over there, carry out the risk assessments and make all the bookings. Then, on Sunday 6th March, 7 staff and 16 children boarded the Emirates flight from Newcastle to Dubai for an adventure of a lifetime. The whole week was just tremendous. We visited the mosque, enjoyed a traditional Emirati meal, learnt all about the traditional clothing, visited the old town, went over to the souks on the water taxi, spent 2 days in Hartland International School, went to the top of the Burj Khalifa (tallest building in the world) as well as visiting the Atlantis Hotel to enjoy the magnificent sunset, the fountains at Dubai Mall and we also enjoyed a day at the water park and time on the beach.

Our children were superb ambassadors for our school and I don't think the smiles ever left their faces the whole time! It was a truly amazing trip and we all learned so much - we are all now looking forward to enjoying an Islam week later in the year.

The following week we welcomed 17 European teachers from Latvia, Portugal, Greece and Turkey to our school who are all from our Erasmus+ project – European Tunes for Peer Bullying. During their time here, they received training from Tiny Tweeties. Paul Whittaker OBE, observed some of our music lessons and explored the local area. Revd Sutherland also joined us for a couple of events during the week too which was lovely. The highlight of the week was a ceilidh on Thursday evening with parents and children too – our first community event in over 2 years!

Next week we have 4 children and 4 staff travelling to Aarhus in Denmark. This visit was originally planned for March 2020. Two years later, the trip is actually taking place! This is part of another Erasmus+ Project about Learning Outdoors. They will then visit us during the first week in April with the final visit of the project taking place in Madrid at the end of April.

We also have our Year 3 and Year 4 residentials next week too. Year 4 are staying in Seahouses Hostel and the children will visit Alnwick Castle and Gardens as well as the beach during their time there. Year 3 are staying at Birdoswald Roman Fort later in the same week too as they are currently studying the Romans. Let's hope the weather stays fine for them all!

We are really looking forward to holding our traditional Easter Service in Church on Thursday 7th April. It will be 3 years since our last Easter service in church and we are all really looking forward to being back, worshipping together in church again.

A very busy few weeks but it is so lovely to be back to normal and there is just a real buzz around school.

Mrs Jane Davis

Head Teacher, Lanchester Endowed Parochial (Controlled) Primary School

Dates for your Diary April 2022

- Sunday 3rd** 9.15am Eucharist St John's.
9.45am Service of the Word St Thomas.
10.30am Parish Eucharist All Saints.
- Mon 4th** 2.00pm Julian Prayer Meeting Chapter House
- Tues 5th** 11.00am Meditation and Mindfulness Drop In.
- Wed 6th** 9.45am Holy Communion All Saints.
- Thur 7th** 1.00pm EP School service at All Saints
- Sat 9th** 10.30– 12.30am All Saints Grand Book Sale
in Aid of DEC Ukraine
10.30–12.30pm St Johns Easter Holiday Club
Burnhope Community Centre
- Sun 10th** 9.45am Holy Communion St Thomas.
10.30am Joint Eucharist All Saints
3.00pm Messy Palm Sunday
6.00pm Stations of the Cross All Saints
- Mon 11th** 10.00am Morning Prayer for Holy Week
St Thomas
7.00pm Holy Week Eucharist All Saints
- Tues 12th** 10.00am Morning Prayer for Holy Week
St Thomas
11.00am Meditation and Mindfulness Drop In
2.00pm Mothers' Union All Saints Anthony Atkinson
Talk on Gertrude Bell (Desert Queen)
7.00pm Holy Week Eucharist All Saints
- Wed 13th** 9.45am Morning Prayer All Saints.
10.00am Meditation on the Stations of the Cross
St Thomas
7.00pm Holy Week Eucharist All Saints
- Thurs 14th** 10.00am Morning Prayer for Maundy Thursday
St Thomas
11.00am Chrism Mass at Durham Cathedral (Our
Deacon Stephen is carrying the oil)
11.00am Lynwood House Eucharist
7.00pm Maundy Thursday Service
- Fri 15th** 10.00am Good Friday Liturgy St Thomas
11.00 am Good Friday Service St Johns
2.00pm Good Friday service All Saints
- Sun 17th** 9.00am Eucharist for Easter Day St Thomas
10.30 am Joint Eucharist of Easter All Saints
3.00pm Easter Egg Hunt St Thomas
- Wed 20th** 9.45am Holy Communion All Saints.
- Sun 24th** 8.00am Holy Communion All Saints.
9.45am Holy Communion St Thomas.
10.45am Joint Service of the Word All Saints.
6.00pm Mothers' Union Centenary Evensong
St Johns Burnhope
- Tues 26th** 11.00am Meditation and Mindfulness Drop In.
- Wed 27th** 9.45am Holy Communion All Saints.
7.00pm PCC meeting in the Chapter House
- Thurs 28th** 7.00pm Church Wives Chapter House -
Billy Crozier
- Sun 1st May** 9.15am Eucharist St John's.
9.45am Service of the Word St Thomas.
10.30am Parish Eucharist All Saints.

How to have some happiness this April

'April is the cruellest month,' wrote TS Eliot at the beginning of his magisterial poem, *The Wasteland*. And it is a good description of what April may bring us, between the war in Ukraine and soaring energy prices.

But apparently, major problems do not mean that we can't enjoy anything. According to the 'science of happiness,' fuelled by advances in brain-scanning technology and a cultural shift towards seeing happiness as a key index in human development, there is a way through the deep gloom that hangs over this month.

Neuroscientists suggest that even while we are dealing with the big problems of life, we can also make room for 'small, fleeting moments of fulfilment'. These can range from holding the hand of a loved one, to appreciating the daffodils in your garden, to enjoying a cup of tea with a good friend. Such moments of quiet contentment are 'joyful vignettes' which can be the bread and butter of our daily human happiness. As one writer has said: "Hold on to the small moments and the bigger picture of gloom doesn't have to be as overwhelming as it first seems."

Source The Parish Pump

THINK FOOD BANK

As a church we are committed to supporting the Food Bank in Consett (There are now 29 Food Banks operating in the Durham Diocese)

Please don't forget those who depend on the foodbank at this difficult time. Lanchester All Saints is **open** for you to leave donations at present and we have liaised with the Foodbank in Consett to see how we can help. Lanchester donated over a ton of food in the year before lockdown, and many people would struggle without that generosity of spirit.

As it is difficult to collect food for the food bank we have spoken to them and they are happy for us to circulate their bank account details if anyone wants to make

money donations on line.

Sort code 40-52-40

Account number 00022928

Cheques for Consett foodbank should be made payable to Consett Food 4U, and posted to Durham Christian Partnership, Unit 7/9, First Avenue, Drum Industrial Estate, Chester-le-Street, County Durham DH2 1AG (0191 303 8623 / 07758 400128)

The new location for Consett foodbank is at Consett Methodist Church, Station Road, Consett DH8 5RL Their opening times remain unchanged. The foodbank keeps opening times / closures and locations up to date on

<https://durham.foodbank.org.uk/>



And from St Thomas



HARELAW AND ANNFIELD PLAIN

READER

Pauline Meek, 32 Harewood Close, Whickham
(0191) 6602457

SERVICES AT ST THOMAS', HARELAW AND ANNFIELD PLAIN

First and Third & any 5th Sunday services

9:45 a.m. Service of the Word

Second and Fourth Sundays

9:45 a.m. Parish Eucharist

HOLY BAPTISM, WEDDINGS and FUNERALS –
by arrangement with the Vicar

CHURCHWARDENS

Richard Huggins 39 South View Gardens
Annfield Plain 234147

Malcolm Meek, 32 Harewood Close, Whickham
(0191) 6602457

PCC VICE CHAIR

Malcolm Meek, 32 Harewood Close, Whickham
(0191) 6602457

PCC TREASURER and Open the Book Co-ordinator
Jane Makepeace jane.makepeace100@gmail.com

PCC HON SECRETARY

Donald Elsom, 53 Hamsterley Gardens,
Annfield Plain 234904

ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER

Anne Whiteley, 12 Villa Real Road, Consett 590914

GIFT AID

Jane Makepeace jane.makepeace100@gmail.com

ORGANIST

Bill Gray, Lanchester

MOTHERS' UNION BRANCH LEADER HARELAW AND ANNFIELD PLAIN

Jean Williams, 10 Kirkfield Gardens, Catchgate
281603

MU SECRETARY

Anne Whiteley, 12 Villa Real Road, Consett 590914

MU TREASURER

Jean Morecroft, 13 Victoria Terrace, Annfield Plain
233273

If you stand very still, in the heart of a wood

If you stand very still in the heart of a wood,
You will hear many wonderful things-
The snap of a twig and the wind in the trees
And the whirr of invisible wings.
If you stand very still in the turmoil of life
And you wait for the voice from within;
You will be led down the ways of wisdom and
peace,
Through a rough world of chaos and din.
If you stand very still and hold to your faith,
You will get all the help that you ask;
You will draw from the silence the things that you
need-Hope and courage and strength for your task.

A poem by Anne Whiteley

Mothers' Union news.



At the last meeting of the Mothers' Union Revd
Lesley gave an interesting talk about her journey.
The talk was enjoyed by everyone who was in at-
tendance

Anne Whiteley

Two donkeys

Two Donkeys were walking the streets of Jeru-
salem. One said: "Just a few days ago I came
down that hill carrying Jesus, and the people
were all singing and shouting and throwing
down their cloaks and palms for me to walk on.
But today they don't even recognise me."

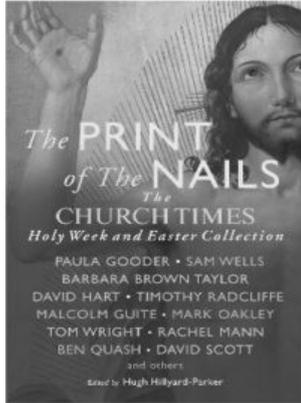
The other donkey replied: "That is how it is, my
friend. Without Jesus, none of us amounts to
much."



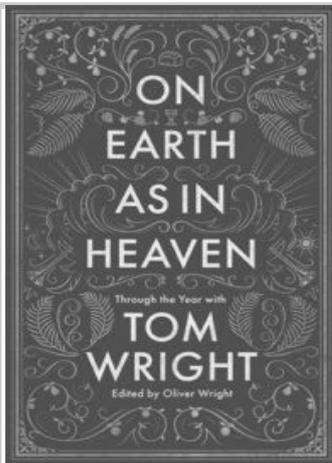
Book Reviews



The Print of the Nails – the Church Times Holy Week and Easter Collection
By Hugh Hillyard-Parker, Paula Gooder, and Samuel Wells, Canterbury Press, £16.99



Here is a wealth of seasonal reading and resources for worship during the build-up to Easter. It includes: meditations on the Stations of the Cross; a short story set in Gethsemane; a look at Pilate; the art of Good Friday; a look at Judas; an argument for starting Easter celebrations in the dark; the carols of Easter; the poetry of the cross; and on why the Resurrection is central to faith. In life, Jesus had 'nowhere to lay His head' and in death He was laid in a borrowed tomb. Mindful of this, all royalties from this book will go to the Church



On Earth as in Heaven – through the year with Tom Wright
By Tom Wright, SPCK, £19.99

Christians of all traditions have long regarded the writings of Tom Wright as a rich source of guidance for living faithfully in today's world. His bestselling

books, including *Simply Christian*, *Simply Jesus*, and *Surprised by Hope*, have encouraged millions worldwide. Now, whether you are new to Wright's books or already a fan, you can enjoy their wisdom each day with this thoughtful selection of 365 daily meditations that feature short passages from his classic works. The devotions begin on Easter Day, the first day of new creation, and then follow the seasons of the Christian year to end with a second Easter and the invitation to begin again. Reflecting on the biblical themes of beauty, power, spirituality, justice, truth, freedom and love, these daily meditations will invigorate and sustain you as you cultivate a Christ-like life 'on earth as in heaven'.

Prayer Tip for the Month

Ask God to use you to bring peace or joy, acceptance or comfort to others, and give Him the opportunity to show you whether someone you know needs this from you at this moment in time.



Smile Lines



"It's not as picturesque as the old steeple but it's saving a fortune in electricity bills!"

Easter Prayer 2022

Dear Almighty, All-powerful Father God,

You brought light and hope out of darkness and despair. You brought life out of death when you raised Jesus that first Easter Day. Thank you that the tomb is forever empty and that Jesus is forever alive!

No matter what is going on, no matter how little we understand, help us to hold on to the Easter truth – Jesus is risen! He is alive today and in Him we can put our trust, completely and confidently.

Because of Jesus, death is defeated. Because of Jesus, the best is yet to be. Love wins! Hallelujah! We praise you, Lord, in Jesus name,

Amen.





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