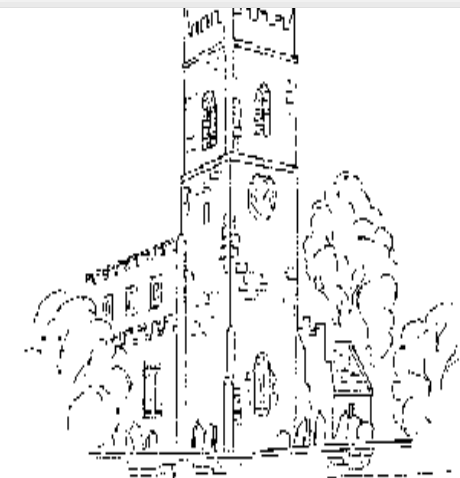
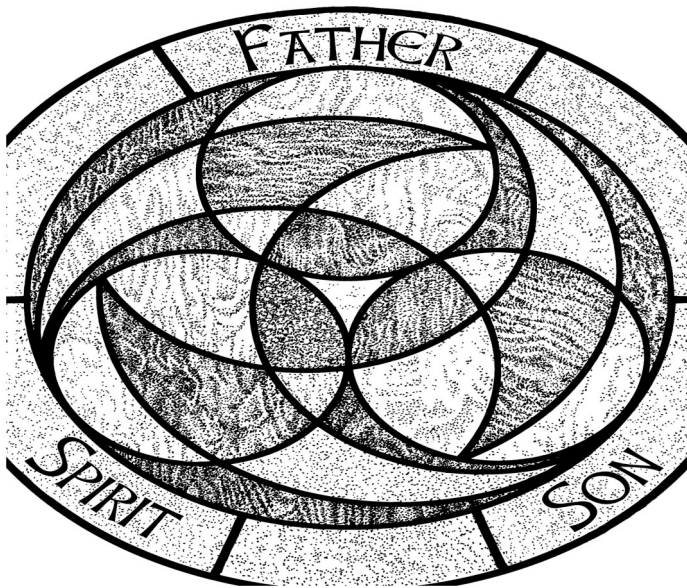


June 2023



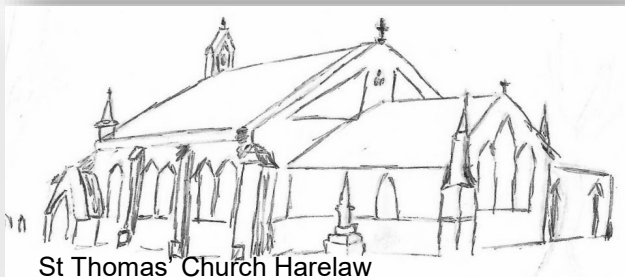
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Trinity

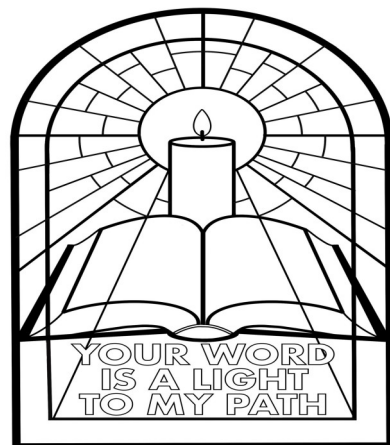
*The Parish magazine of :
All Saints' Parish Church Lanchester,
St John's Church Burnhope,
and St Thomas' Church Harelaw and Annfield Plain*



St. John's Church, Burnhope



St Thomas' Church Harelaw



50p monthly or £5 per year

Parish Church of LANCHESTER & BURNHOPE

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Burnhope
Ann Sinclair, Reader Emeritus
Stephen Burt, Reader Emeritus

SERVICES AT ALL SAINTS', LANCHESTER

8am Every Sunday Eucharist (Traditional Language)
10.30am Principal Service
(Eucharist or Service of the Word)
6.00 pm Evensong Monthly every second Sunday
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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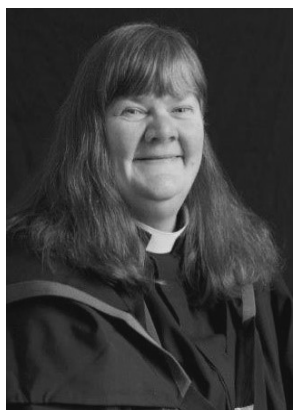
**Contributions to
the Church
Magazine are
always welcome.**



Copy sent by E-mail,

To robmatthews48@hotmail.com

**The copy deadline for the
July issue is
Sunday 18th June**



When I was a curate, I had one catch phrase for supervision; ‘I always get the good jobs to do,’ I used to say.

I was, of course, being ironic; because when you’re a curate, you’re often asked to preach on the readings your training incumbent doesn’t want to, simply because it’s good for you. It’s formative. A little bit of pain makes you a better priest in the long run. So curates get to preach on Trinity Sunday. Curates get to preach on the binding of Isaac. Often curates get to preach on the great feasts and festivals, when inspiration is hard to come by and congregations are hard to impress. And often curates get to do the jobs no-one else wants to do- stacking the chairs, cleaning the loo after a baptism, taking the umpteenth box of rubbish to the tip.... But now, the joke’s on me; I’ve got

the good job again. Last year I was appointed Interim Area Dean for Lanchester Deanery. It’s a role that combines pastoral care of the clergy with oversight of the Deanery plan and parishes with no incumbent-and it’s incredibly complicated, because we have three parishes in vacancy, and not enough priests to cover all of the service taking place on Sunday in the Deanery. It’s like putting together a jigsaw knowing that the cat has eaten half the pieces. And it reminds me of a difficult story from Mark’s Gospel...

The Sadducees approach Jesus with a question. Hoping to pit him against his own religious tradition, they tell him a story. A woman is given in marriage to one of seven brothers. When her husband dies without fathering an heir, she is passed on — as Mosaic law dictates — to his younger brother. When that brother also dies without siring a child, she’s passed on to the third. And so on. Eventually all seven brothers die, and the woman — still childless — dies, too. ‘In the resurrection,’ the Sadducees ask smugly, certain that they’ve ensnared Jesus, ‘whose wife will she be?’ It’s a trick question, of course a joke that is meant to expose the absurdity of believing in life after death. The Sadducees did not. How could resurrection ever work in practical terms, given the complexities of human life? What would happen to marriage? To lineages and family traditions? To Old Testament law? Jesus, as usual — refuses to take the bait. He tells the Sadducees that the entire premise of their question is wrong. The children of the resurrection, he tells them, will neither marry nor be given in marriage. They will be like angels — heavenly beings beloved of God, for whom the rules and practices of earthly life will not apply. To grasp resurrection via earthly terms is impossible; it is a reality of another order entirely, an order we can only approach by faith.

And here’s my lightbulb moment.

The Sadducees have tried to put God in a box of their own making; their God is just too small. God, says Jesus, is not a God of the dead, but of the living.

It’s really tempting to put God in a box. I reckon most of us have done it at one time or another; after all, the God of our boxes is infinitely less threatening, and infinitely more manageable, than the strange, challenging, blinding light and dazzling darkness that is the reality of God. The God of our boxes colludes with us in our predilection for the known, the easy, the tried-and-tested. The God of our boxes sings the siren song of scarcity and complacency. The God of our boxes never asks the hard questions-or stretches us-or asks us to do the ‘good jobs...’ But if we put God in a box, we join the ranks of the Sadducees; we relegate ourselves to the company of the dead. And *God, says Jesus, is not a God of the dead, but of the living.* We serve the God of the living. What does this mean? Perhaps it means that God is always in the business of making new, and making alive. Perhaps it means we need to stop clinging to what is dead, to what is deadening, to what is passing away. Perhaps it means we need to risk evolution, growth, and change. Maybe, it means throwing our boxes away and acknowledging that God is bigger, more mysterious, more wonderful, more loving, than we can ever imagine.

Perhaps it means tearing up our deanery plan and starting again....So what new and living thing does God want to do among us that we’re too afraid to let God do? Where are we stagnating? Can we rise up out of our graves? Can we hold out for the impossible? Can we dare to live as Jesus longs for us to live? As the children of resurrection? Can we appreciate the times when we’re given the good jobs?

Yours in the Spirit!

Lesley



Collar and Spouse

COLLAR It's quite early as I sit in my study writing this article. I am sure the study and its clearance will be mentioned by the clergy spouse later on. It has been mammoth task which at times I wished we hadn't commenced. We are at the stage now where the study is at least tidy although further clearance will be required so it can be painted and carpeted, but that's another story.

As I look out of the window the sun is shining, its warm and a light dew covers the grass. It promises to be a glorious day although you can never tell. The clergy spouse is out on his daily run. The house is peaceful and I can get on with my writing. May is a glorious month the trees are in blossom and the Acers in the back

garden are a glorious red. The flowers are blooming and my excitement is building as I plan to plant out soon newly chosen bulbs for summer blooms.

The beginning of May I think for all of us has been rather special this year with the crowning of King Charles III. It was a wonderful event and for many of us, the first time we have witnessed the crowning of a Monarch. Sadly, not so for the somewhat older clergy spouse. I was struck by both the religious aspect of the ceremony and the historical one with added elements to reflect our modern era. There could be no doubt in anyone's mind that a lot of careful planning and hard work had gone into making this wonderful occasion something very special. The choice of accompanying music and singing just rounded off the whole occasion making it very special to both witness and be a part of not only in this country but around the world.

I was very moved at the spoken responses in the promises the King made which came so strongly across as he stated his firm commitment that he had come to serve the people and not to be served. The burden of those promises which is heavy is helped and supported by the Queen and other members of the Royal family. That whole embodiment of service from the Royal family has been clearly seen in the life of Queen Elizabeth II and we have already seen that throughout Charles life. The 'Big Help Out' has already made a huge impact and people have committed themselves to help in their local communities and with many charities. There has been a resurgence of that sense of community which we all so strongly felt during the pandemic. Let us pray together that the theme of service and love of neighbour continues to grow.

With every Blessing Rev, Abbey

AND SPOUSE

The Associate Priest was looking glum at the breakfast table. "Is it the kippers Rev?" I asked, they are one of your favourite breakfast dishes. "No" replied the Rev, "It's the Trinity." "Isn't it a bit early to be considering one of the great theological mysteries of the Christian Faith?" I ventured to say. The next minute, unlike the kippers, my head was well and truly bitten off. "Not that Trinity" said the Rev, "I mean the Parish Magazine. I have to write something for the next edition."

The Rev did not get to where she is without mastering the art of delegation and hence yours truly, the clergy spouse, is hunched over the laptop while the Rev, task happily passed to someone else, has returned with gusto to the demolition of said kippers.

Since her ordination the Rev has totally taken over what I had foolishly considered "my" study, you will doubtless have picked up the reference to it being "hers" above, and I am grudgingly allowed a small portion of the dining room table. The study has quite recently been referred to as "ours" since the Rev has decided that it needs to be tidied and decorated. The bulk of this has fallen to me! I have already moved two bookcases into the garage, having to empty them of their contents first. If anyone would like to offer a good home to a once much-loved and now redundant bookcase please get in touch. While I have been carrying boxes of books, the weight of which would have tested even Penny Mordaunt, the Rev has been carrying out her priestly work. You will know from seeing her in action and from her more serious piece above that she is quite good at this and I am very proud of her, but try not to tell her too often!

I have been instructed to stop now as bookcase number three awaits!

Abbey and Joe Hughes

Home Communion

If you are unable to come to church and wish to receive Home Communion, please contact

Revd Stephen (01207 529166) who will be pleased to make the arrangements



Lanchester Burnhope Harelaw and Annfield

Baptisms

- 14th May Grayson James Bowers Carr at All Saints
21st May Rosie Hope Moone at All Saints
21st May Ellie Mae Bowman at All Saints

"We welcome you into the Lord's Family"



Lanchester Parish Church Summer Fayre

10.00am – 12 noon



**In Church and Chapter
House**

Saturday 22nd July

**Cakes and Savouries
Jams and Preserves, Chutneys
Church Wives Royal Surprise
Bottle Tombola
Handcrafted goods
Books and Jigsaws
Raffle**

**Coffee, Teas and
Strawberry scones
£1.50
Free drink and treat
For Children**

Please do come and Join us



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LANGUAGE of FLOWERS

TALENT

Pink (white) – Dianthus

*"The Pink can no one justly slight,
The gardeners' favourite flower.
He sets it now beneath the light,
Now shields it from its power,"
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe.*

The pink is said to derive its name from the Dutch word Pinkster, Whitsuntide – the season at which the Whitsuntide gillyflower is in bloom. It is also known as lady's cushion, thrift, swift and cushion. Gerard observed them growing "in our pastures neere about London".

In Italy the flower is held sacred to St Peter and 29 June – St Peter's Day – is known as the day of pinks in Bologna. The water distilled from pinks was said to be an excellent remedy for epilepsy "but if a con-serve be composed of it, it is the life and delight of the human race". A vinegar made of pinks was prized for its ability to stave off the plague.



Audrey Newton

Bible Society to sponsor a garden at RHS Tatton Park

Bible Society says it is "excited" to be sponsoring a garden based on Psalm 27 at the RHS Flower Show Tatton Park in July. Psalm 27 is a profound meditation on loss, fear and faith. Inspired by designer Ollie Pike's reflections on burial grounds – "scenes of sadness, but also of hope and spiritual refreshment" – the Psalm 27 Garden will aim to lead visitors on a journey through pain to peace. Ollie Pike first heard the psalm when attending a funeral. "Its hopeful message was very comforting at a time of sadness," he said.

"The psalm speaks to me of protection and to be hopeful. It gives a feeling of comfort in difficult moments and to have faith that things will improve." The garden follows Bible Society's sponsorship of Sarah Eberle's Psalm 23 Garden at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show in 2021. The Psalm 23 Garden won a gold medal, Best Sanctuary Garden and Best Construction. Bible Society hopes to use this garden to "introduce people to biblical wisdom, and to help them see that the Bible can speak to them today."

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

Mothers' Union Lanchester

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 13th June, when our speaker will be Barbara Dickinson, and we look forward to hearing about Working in Kenya. On Tuesday, 20th June we are having an afternoon tea in Serendipity at 2.00pm., kindly arranged by Margaret Brown. Our AGM will be held on July 11th, after which we will have Strawberries and Bubbly



Eileen Matthews

Mothers' Union Burnhope

Our May meeting was held on Monday the 1st. May and Mrs Park conducted our Service. We discussed verses 7 and 8, from Chapter 4 Timothy 2. We are having our Strawberry Supper on Thursday the 13th July, Commencing 7pm at Burnhope Community Centre



Muriel Molloy

Church Flowers for June

4th June J Williams,
J Thomas
D Leyland
Rhona Moffatt for
Freda Smith
11th June B Masterman,
J Massey
18th June C Rotherham
25th June B Sproat.
A Jensson



***Padded mobile phone cases
and spectacle cases
(lightweight for ladies' hand-
bags)***

*Some with cross body strap
some with belt strap
or for handbag
£2.50*

*All proceeds to Church Funds
Ring Margaret on 521214*

Burnhope Banner

On 23 May, Sarah, Bishop of Jarrow visited the village of Burnhope to dedicate and bless the school's new heritage banner at a Service in St John's Church. The idea of a heritage banner came from the pupils of Burnhope School. Working alongside community artist, Emma Shankland, they created a banner celebrating both the history and future of Burnhope. The banner was paraded through the village proudly carried by a few of the pupils who had contributed to its design along with banners from the National Union of Mineworkers – Durham Area Morrison Lodge and Craghead Lodge, Durham Miners Support Group Banner, which is a permanent reminder in St John's Church of the industrial past of the village. All of which made an awesome sight! At the end of the parade the procession was greeted by Councillor Joan Nicholson, Chair of Durham County Council and other council dignitaries, along with Derek Coates, Chair of Burnhope Parish Council.



Bishop Sarah spoke on words depicted in the banner; courage, hope and kindness. Engaging with the children in a Question and Answer session on which part of the banner they preferred. Bishop Sarah said her favourite part of the banner was the depiction of miners working underground. Explaining how she came from a mining community, whose Great Grandfather, Grandfather, Father were miners in South Wales. Bishop Sarah even had a miner's lamp to show to the children!

In blessing the banner, Bishop Sarah asked that it may bear witness to the importance of our shared history, the determination and love that sustains our community, the sacrifice of those who work to serve others and the hope of a future that we will build together; May this banner inspire us all to live lives of discipleship, service and hope. In 1964 Burnhope was issued with a Category 'D' notice by Durham County Council and further investment in the village was prohibited. Most 'D' villages died, but Burnhope had and still has and hopefully through the pupils attending the dedication will still have, a strong sense of community and a fierce spirit. Although there is no physical evidence of the industrial past in Burnhope there remains still as Bishop Sarah said, courage, hope and kindness.

Pauline Hall

100 Club News

The draw for April and May drawn
On Sunday 14th May is as follows
April (all £5) 77, 50, 08, 41, 49, 65.
May (£20) 33, (£10) 10
(All £5) 106, 54, 68, 73, 14, 187

Sue Smith and Olga Walker

Bellringers

The bells of Lanchester Parish church rang out on Sunday May 7th at 12noon in celebration of The Coronation of King Charles III & Queen Camilla. Among the ringers were Ann Marie and daughter Sophie & Colin They have been learning to ring over the last few months. Ann -Marie has been ringing with us on a Sunday morning since April. Sophie and Colin have a little further to go before joining us on a Sunday but for this special moment in history Craig and Malcolm helped them to ring backstroke only in rounds. Well done to all our ringers!

Bell Sunday was celebrated for the first time on May 14th the nearest Sunday to the feast of St.Dunstan who is the Patron Saint of Bellringers. The hymns selected all had bell themes, the readings were read by two of the ringers, Reverend Lesley said the prayers. The sermon was given by Craig Davies, our trainee licensed Lay Minister, of course being a bellringer himself, everything intertwined very well. It is hoped that this will prove to be an annual service to increase the appreciation and understanding of the sounding of church bells within a church service, also to improve on relations between clergy and bellringers.



Olga Walker

Church Wives

Our next meeting is on Thursday 8th June. We will welcome our speaker, Janet Matthews, who will talk about "Spinning with Wool". It should be an interesting subject and we are looking forward to hearing what she has to say. On Thursday 22nd June we have our annual "Summer Eat Out" and are booked into the Three Horse Shoes, Maiden Law. It will be a lovely night to get together.

Deanna Leyland

Childrens' Society

Children's Society Box, etc Collection time again.

I will call for your Children's Society boxes, cheques, etc OR you could bring to me at 38 Briardene DH7 0QD OR you could bring them to church on a Sunday morning. I have taken over as rep for All Saints from my late wife Brenda. - Steve Craddock 01207 52 0749
Or email steve24c07@aol.com"

Steve Craddock

Strawberry Tea

Chapter House
Lanchester Parish Church
Wednesday 7th June



2.00-4.00pm
Tickets £4
children free
Raffle

Strawberry Supper

Burnhope Community Centre

Thursday 13th July at 7pm

Tickets £3.50

Raffle and Bingo



Julian Prayer Meetings
2pm in the Chapter House

June 5th

July 3rd

August 7th (to be confirmed)



Russia is 'weaponising religion' and persecuting churches in Ukraine

A new report claims that Russia is 'weaponizing religion' in its conflict with Ukraine.

The report, by the Institute for the Study of War (ISW), states that since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, Russian soldiers, or occupation authorities, have closed or taken over 76 places of worship, looted, desecrated or destroyed 13 of them, and have killed or seized 29 religious leaders in occupied Ukraine.

According to the Institute for the Study of War, Russia's primary target is the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (UOC), which continues to assert its independence from the Moscow Patriarchate. 34 per cent of the reported acts of persecution are against the UOC.

The report warns: "Russia will continue to weaponize the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and religion to incite social tensions in Ukraine and influence battlefield realities."

The ISW also warns that Russia may try to eradicate religious organisations that remain independent of Kremlin control. Russian forces did the same with the Crimea's Muslim Tartar population, after occupying the peninsula in 2014.

Source The Parish Pump

An estimated 15.7 million Ukrainians need humanitarian assistance

Christian Aid is warning that since the Russian forces invaded Ukraine, "An estimated 15.7 million Ukrainians need humanitarian assistance. This includes 7.1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) living in private homes with host communities and in collective centres."

Millions of Ukrainians are living in damaged homes or in buildings which are inappropriate for their needs. Winter temperatures can plummet to as low as -20C in parts of the country.

Christian Aid is working with partners to provide hope and to ensure people survive and rebuild. Its partner organisations provide shelter, distribute lorryloads of food, and give out life-saving medical equipment, hygiene kits, baby incubators, lifesaving drugs, thermal blankets, and trauma kits. They also offer a shelter for refugees, where women and children are prioritised so that they don't need to sleep at overcrowded railway stations.

Christian Aid says: "Every prayer, every gift, every action brings hope to the people of Ukraine. By joining us, you can give hope to our brothers and sisters in Ukraine." If you can help, go to: <https://www.christianaid.org.uk>.

Visiting the sick

Nowadays people are generally not in hospital for long. Even a major operation only earns you a few days' stay in one of their beds. With almost embarrassing



enthusiasm they get you out of bed, walk you up and down the ward and duly announce that you're 'well enough to go home'.

Visiting the recovering sick is a simple art. They want to be told how well they look, how bravely they've endured their treatment, and how good it is to see them about to return to the normal business of life. They'd like to be brought up to date on the local news and gossip, of course. Often, they value a little prayer of thanksgiving for recovery. Gratitude is never inappropriate!

A spell in hospital reminds us how 'shut off' patients tend to be, even in the very best institutions. Those who have recently experienced it are well placed to remind the rest of us that friends and fellow church members in hospital are not transferred to another planet. They may not expect frequent visits from those who are not close friends or family, but it's often quite easy to pick up the phone and speak to them on the ward - just the sort of contact we would have with them at home.

The same kind of simple contact can work very well when they are eventually back home - a brief call simply enquiring if everything's OK, with perhaps the offer of practical help with shopping, for instance, or a lift to the GP surgery. Thus, the nearly-well become the completely whole!

Source The Parish Pump

Prayer for June 2023

Dear Father,

As we come to this beautiful time of year, the month of June, we thank you for the wonder of your creation and the way our spirits are lifted as we see all around us the freshness of a new summer. This month we remember Barnabas, whose name means, *child of encouragement*. He was a good person, full of the Holy Spirit and faith. Lord, help each of us to be a *Barnabas* to someone today, to encourage and lift up, led by your Holy Spirit. Help us to share your love and goodness, especially with those whose circumstances are difficult. Help us all to trust you through good times and testing times, knowing you are always with us, always encouraging us, always faithful.

In Jesus' name. Amen

Daphne Kitching

Pauline's Reflection

When people blame religion for all of the troubles of the world, they never seem to see the good that it brings, too. Particularly Christianity (Well, I would say that, wouldn't I? if I may misquote Christine Keeler). Decriers of faith can never accept the goodness that can come from it. Strong Christian faith has prompted many people to struggle against the mores of their age, and challenge the injustices and cruelties they see before them. It has given them the strength and the courage to swim strongly against the stream and change its direction. There was a time when very wealthy men used their money to benefit the less fortunate by building libraries, hospitals, public baths and the like, rather than squandering it going into space.

One such man was Thomas Coram, who established Britain's first Foundling Hospital. He was born in Lyme Regis, Dorset, around 1668, the son of a master mariner. His mother died in 1671 when he was very young, leaving Thomas a virtual orphan when his father was at sea. Children then were expected to work from a very early age, and when he was just 11 Thomas was sent to sea. This meant he had little formal education, but he didn't allow this to hold him back. He settled in what is now Dighton, Massachusetts where he lived for 10 years, founding a shipyard, and it was there that he met and married his wife Eunice. They were happily married for 40 years, though sadly never had any children.



Coram's Christian faith was very important to him. In a deed dated 8 December 1703, he donated 59 acres of land at Taunton to be used for a schoolhouse, "whenever the people should desire the establishment of the Church of England". In the deed, he is described as "of Boston, sometimes residing in Taunton" and he seems by then to have been a shipwright. He also gave books to form a library at St. Thomas' Church, Taunton, one of which, a Book of Common Prayer given to him by Speaker Onslow, is preserved in the church.

Coram had a colourful and varied career after he returned to England in 1704. He was a shipwright, a businessman, assisted with an Act of Parliament and commanded a merchant ship during the War of Spanish Succession, among other things, and become well-known for his public spirit. Lord Walpole described him as the honest, most disinterested, most knowing person he had ever talked with."

While regularly travelling into London from his home in Rotherhithe, Coram was shocked by the number of infants he saw abandoned and dying in the street. To his horror he learned that around 1,000 babies a year were exposed and left to die in London alone. He began to fight for the foundation of a foundling hospital. For seventeen years he campaigned, and at last, in 1739, obtained a charter, signed by King George II for the Foundling Hospital and considerable sums were subscribed for its establishment and maintenance. The first meeting of the guardians was held at Somerset House on 20 November 1739.

Houses were first leased in Hatton Garden, and the first children admitted in 1741. A piece of land was bought for £7,000 in Bloomsbury for building. Lord Salisbury, the owner, insisted that the whole of his ground "as far as Gray's Inn Lane" should be taken; and he himself subscribed £500. The foundation stone was laid on 16 September 1742 and by October 1745, the west wing was finished and the children removed from Hatton Garden. There was great interest in the undertaking, especially by William Hogarth, a friend of Coram who in May 1740 presented a portrait of Coram to the hospital (above). Handel himself gave performances at the hospital in 1749 and 1750 to raise interest and further subscriptions.

Coram continued to be invested in the hospital, but at the annual May Day meeting in 1742 he received too few votes to qualify for election to the General Committee, and as a result no longer had any say in the management of the hospital. It's not clear why he was forced out - there was a claim that he spread defamatory rumours about two of the governors, but the likelihood is that he criticised the way the hospital was run.

He continued to work for the benefit of others, however, and championed a scheme for the education of Native American girls in America. When in America, he had lived and worked with Native Americans and advocated for their education: particularly the girls. He was strongly of the opinion that education was just as important for girls as for boys, if not more, believing that girls, as future mothers, form the lives of children, and that if you educate a mother, you educate a nation. He was keen that the girls in the Foundling Hospital were educated, too, though not all agreed with him.

After the loss of his wife, his grief caused him to neglect his own affairs, and he fell into difficulties. He said that as he had never wasted his money in self-indulgence, he was not ashamed to confess that he was poor. A campaign for an annuity for him resulted in him being awarded £161/annum in 1749, which he received until his death in 1751. Coram's hospital was the first children's home in Britain, and was the result of a man's deep faith and his determination to live Christ's word in the world.

Pauline Meek

The Rectory St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

Despite my assurances that it was unnecessary, it was kind of you to loan us your sound equipment, so we could experience the advantages of using radio microphones in church.

Your assurance that everyone would then be able to hear with absolute clarity seemed to miss the point that everyone does *not* necessarily want to do so. I have no doubt that members of your congregation hang on to your every word, eager to make sure you remain theologically sound.

But for us, those who had blissfully slumbered throughout my sermons for the last 30 years found themselves unable to filter out a single syllable. Colonel Wainwright decided to change the start of his Bible readings from the customary "Here beginneth..." to "Testing, Testing" before giving the microphone a good biff, which made the verger dash outside to check if yet another medieval gargoyle had fallen from the roof. Also, forgetting that microphones pick up asides just as effectively, his own comment to his wife in the front pew "I thought I read that rather well" did nothing for the pride he has always cherished for his humility.

I was also not convinced that the 16th century workmen who had devoted the greater part of their lives reverently carving the Lady Chapel altar had intended it to support an electronic console that would have looked more at home in an aeroplane cockpit. However, the event which finally decided us against microphones came about an hour after the service. Several of the choir boys had crept back into the church and decided to improvise a rock concert with their guitars and the mikes turned up full blast. The church exploded in a perfect cacophony of noise which panicked a horse and rider going by. The horse bolted down the road, which caused two cars to veer violently to avoid it. One car ended up in a pond, the other in a field, having ripped off a great deal of old fencing. Whoever fixed the fencing failed, and later that night all 43 cows in the field escaped, and ended up in the Colonel's flower-filled front garden, where they spent a comfortable night slicing his velvet turf with their sharp cleats, and chomping everything in sight.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

Editor:

The Revd Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'... If you would like a copy of our published booklet of Uncle Eustace's letters, please email enquiries@parishpump.co.uk



From the Wardens

For those who were unable to attend the APCM on 24th May, the Wardens report at the APCM was as follows

Churchwardens Report for APCM May 24th 2023

For our Churches, 2022 started similarly to the previous year with coronavirus rules regulations and precautions being observed and carried out. January brought us yet another variant to the pandemic, the Omnicron Variant. However, our churches have continued to function well despite the restrictions and have come through the worst times exceptionally well. The wardens have continued to support Lesley as she balances her duties between the parishes and beyond.

At the APCM of 2022 on the 25th May Doreen Park, Pauline Hall and Rob Matthews were duly elected as Churchwardens for 2022/23 and were sworn in at Durham Cathedral on 26th June by The Rt Revd Paul Butler Bishop of Durham at the visitation Service. We wish to thank Eric Gaskill for his assistance since then. All the regular servicing and maintenance works have been carried out during the year we have now found a replacement firm to carry out our Gas Servicing and plans are in hand to eventually replace the boiler. Some roofing repairs have been carried out both at All Saints and St John's during 2022 due to high winds causing damage and trees in both cemeteries came down. The one in All Saints causing damage to a car. This was reported to the Council who dealt with it. The council also attended to a section of walling belonging to the house adjacent to the church, and rebuilt the wall to a high standard. We have had a visit in 2022 by the Fire brigade who were satisfied with our fire precautions and asked us to start a fire log. This has been started and updated regularly. Two emergency light fittings have been changed.

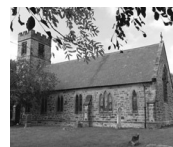
Work to attend to more of the issues raised in the quinquennial reports is to be planned.

Both churchyards were cleaned by our usual band of volunteers for whose help we are grateful. Finally, we would like to thank everyone in our churches for the support we have received throughout another difficult year without which we could not have managed.

Pauline Hall, Doreen Park, Eric Gaskill and Rob Matthews were elected to serve for the next 12 months and will be sworn in at the Archdeacons Visitation in July

for the Churchwardens

Rob Matthews





LANCHESTER E.P (Cont.) PRIMARY SCHOOL



This half term is always a challenging one for many of our children. It's the term the Year 6 children take their statutory Key Stage 2 tests and Year 2 take their statutory Key Stage 1 tests. I am sure you will have seen some of the headlines about the KS2 tests. They certainly were tough but we were very proud of our children. Not a single tear or apparent worry - simply excitement at their breakfasts they were treated to every day as well as making the most of their time in Nursery and Reception - a SATs week treat which they love!

Meanwhile our Year 2 children were eager to do their 'quizzes' - blissfully unaware as to what they were actually doing!

They are all now looking forward to the annual Fun and Fitness Week which finishes this half term off perfectly. Quidditch, assault course, bouncy castle, dancing, skipping and golf all feature high on the list of activities for the week. Then we have our annual Wheels Day which causes chaos in the village and our Year 5 bike ride along the old railway line. Children can learn just as much outside the classroom as inside.

We have our final two Erasmus+ visits taking place next week too. We have 4 children travelling with staff to Istanbul and 4 others to Madrid. These final ever Erasmus+ visits will, once again, be fantastic opportunities for all the children involved.

Our Year 3 children have also enjoyed their first ever residential - travelling to Birdoswald on the Roman Wall. This is always a big trip for those children as for many, it is the first time sleeping away from home. The weather was very kind to us thankfully!

We are all ready for the half term break which is just around the corner and we are just hoping the better weather stays around for us too!

Mrs Jane Davis

Head Teacher, Lanchester Endowed Parochial (Controlled) Primary School

75 years since the arrival of Windrush

It was 75 years ago, on 21st June 1948, that the passenger ship *HMT Empire Windrush* docked in London, bringing the first large group of immigrants from the West Indies to the UK.

It was a result of the British Government's invitation to people from Commonwealth countries to settle in Britain and help rebuild the country after the devastation of the Second World War. The promise was one of prosperity and full employment, and the *Windrush* – ironically built and launched in Germany in 1930 – carried more than 1000 people, though the figure is often given as 492. In fact, there were probably 492 men from Jamaica, but also men and women from other islands, plus Polish men and women.

Most of the Caribbeans remained to settle permanently, despite mixed reactions. The first of what became known as the Windrush generation were housed temporarily in the Brixton area, where Windrush Square – an open space in front of the Brixton Tate Library – marks their arrival.

The Windrush generation generally defines everyone who emigrated to Britain from the Caribbean between 1948 and 1971, at which point all Commonwealth citizens living in the UK were given the right to remain. In 2018 a scandal emerged involving ineptitude by the Home Office which had resulted in people from this generation being wrongly detained, denied legal rights and threatened with deportation. It was calculated that more than 80 had been wrongly deported.

These people had been living and working in the UK for decades but had never been provided with the official paperwork, and the Home Office had kept no record of those granted leave to remain. The UK Government apologised, and the Home Secretary at the time, Amber Rudd, described her department's performance as "appalling".



Figure 2: Passengers disembarking from the Empire Windrush at Tilbury Dock.

Dates for your Diary June 2023

<i>Sun 4th Trinity Sunday</i>	8.00 am Eucharist at All Saints 9.15 am Eucharist at St John's 9.45 am Eucharist at St Thomas 10.30 am Eucharist at All Saints
<i>Mon 5th</i>	2.00pm Julian Meeting in the Chapter House
<i>Tues 6th</i>	11.00 am Meditation and Mindfulness Chapter House 7.00 pm Compline via zoom with Margaret and Adrian
<i>Wed 7th</i>	9.45 am Holy Communion at All Saints 2.00—4.00pm Strawberry Tea All Saints Chapter House
<i>Thurs 8th</i>	9.00 am Morning Prayer St at St Thomas 7.00pm Day of Thanksgiving for Holy Communion (Corpus Christi) Eucharist) All Saints 7.00 pm Church Wives All Saints 'Janet Matthews— 'Spinning with Wool'
<i>Sun 11th</i>	8.00 am Eucharist at All Saints 9.45 am Eucharist at St Thomas 10.30 am Eucharist at All Saints Joint Service 6.00 pm Evensong at All Saints Joint Service
<i>Tues 13th</i>	11.00 am Meditation and Mindfulness Chapter House 2.00 pm Mothers' Union at All Saints 'Working in Kenya Barbara Dickinson' 6.00 pm Cafe Church Burnhope Community Centre 7.00 pm Compline via zoom with Margaret and Adrian
<i>Wed 14th</i>	9.45 am Holy Communion at All Saints
<i>Thur 15th</i>	9.00 am Morning Prayer St at St Thomas
<i>Sat 17th</i>	9.30 am Durham Anglican Cursillo AGM and Eucharis
<i>Sun 18th</i>	8.00 am Eucharist at All Saints 9.15 am Eucharist at St John's 9.45 am Eucharist at St Thomas 10.30 am Eucharist at All Saints
<i>Tues 20th</i>	11.00 am Meditation and Mindfulness Chapter House 2.00 pm Mothers' Union Afternoon Tea in Serendipity 7.00 pm Compline via zoom with Margaret and Adrian
<i>Wed 21st</i>	9.45 am Holy Communion at All Saints
<i>Thur 22nd</i>	9.00 am Morning Prayer St at St Thomas 7.00 pm Church Wives Annual Eat Out Three Horseshoes
<i>Sun 25th</i>	8.00 am Eucharist at All Saints 9.15 am Eucharist at St John's 9.45 am Eucharist at St Thomas 10.30 am Eucharist at All Saints 3.00 pm Messy Church at All Saints
<i>Tues 26th</i>	11.00 am Meditation and Mindfulness Chapter House 7.00 pm Compline via zoom with Margaret and Adrian
<i>Wed 27th</i>	9.45 am Holy Communion at All Saints
<i>Thurs 28th</i>	9.00 am Morning Prayer St at St Thomas

Reasons for marriage

Studying our wedding photos, my six-year-old asked,
 "Did you marry Dad because he was a vicar?"
 "Not at all," I replied.
 "Did you marry him because he was good-looking?"
 "No, not that either," I replied.
 "Did you marry him for his money?"
 "Definitely not," I laughed. "He didn't have any."
 "So," he concluded sadly, "you just felt sorry for him."



When a little bit more exercise can help a lot

A recent study suggests that for every additional 500 steps you take each day, you may be lowering the risk of heart issues by 14 per cent.

To put it another way, this recent study found that adults who took fewer than 2,000 steps a day were 77 per cent more likely to experience a cardiovascular event in the following three years than those who took about 4,500 steps a day.

"We were surprised to find that every additional quarter of a mile, or 500 steps, of walking had such a strong benefit to heart health," said one professor of epidemiology at the University of Alabama.

"While we do not want to diminish the importance of higher intensity physical activity, encouraging small increases in the number of daily steps also has significant cardiovascular benefits."



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)

And from St Thomas



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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

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Anne Whiteley, 12 Villa Real Road, Consett 590914

MU TREASURER

Jean Morecroft, 13 Victoria Terrace, Annfield Plain
233273

Did you know? 9 Facts about King Charles 111



- 1) He was born at 9.14pm on 14th November 1948 to Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip at Buckingham Palace London.
- 2) He has been heir apparent to the throne since he was three years old
- 3) He is the first monarch in British history to have earned a university degree. From 1967 to 1970 he studied history at Cambridge University
- 4) He can speak Welsh. He spent two months learning the language in 1969, as he prepared to become the Prince of Wales. He still speaks it today.
- 5) He is a qualified pilot and diver. While serving in the military in the 1970s, he trained as a jet and helicopter pilot and became a confident diver.
- 6) He is a keen watercolour painter, a published author, and a music lover, who played the cello at Cambridge. He has done some TV making guest appearances on Coronation Street and Eastenders, and presenting the BBC weather forecast.
- 7) As Prince of Wales, he founded nearly 20 charities. Together they raise £140 million each year for good causes. He is passionate about the environment, speaking out against plastic pollution as early as 1970. He has planted many trees during royal engagements.
- 8) Aged 73 King Charles is the oldest monarch ever to be crowned in British History. He became King on 8th September 2022 after the death of his mother, the Queen, in Balmoral.
- 9) As head of the Commonwealth, King Charles 111 is monarch of each of the 14th Commonwealth realms: Antigua & Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Belize, Canada, Grenada, Jamaica, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & The Grenadines, The Solomon Islands and Tuvalu. As King he's the only person in the UK who can travel abroad in the Commonwealth and drive without a licence.

Submitted by Edna Convery

An advert on a London Underground station read: "The Ark was designed by an amateur, The Titanic by professionals."

Underneath someone had written

"But Noah had better top Management"

Second hand Ark for sale. Used only once,

Owner given up sailing. 3 tons assorted manure thrown in free. Ring Noah on 2x2x2



Submitted by Anne Whiteley

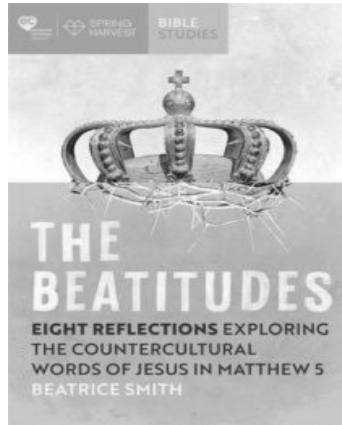
Book Reviews



The Beatitudes – eight reflections exploring counter-cultural words of Jesus in Matthew 5

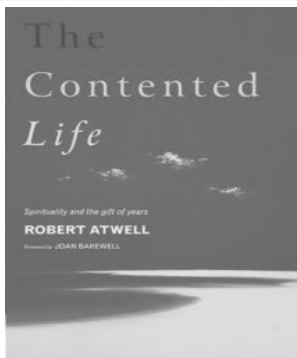
By Beatrice Smith, SPCK, £4.99

This is the official work-book for Spring Harvest 2023.



Christians are called to model a way of life that challenges the status quo and infuses the world with hope and possibility. Jesus teaches us how to do this, not just by His words but by the way He lived.

This book argues that It's time to grasp the vision for what is possible when ordinary people catch a glimpse of God's radical call on our lives. We are to follow the Lord Jesus and embrace the beautiful attitudes He maps out for living life to the full.



The Contented Life – spirituality and the gift of years

By Robert Atwell and Joan Bakewell, Canterbury Press, £9.99

As a new bishop, Robert Atwell was challenged by a number of older church

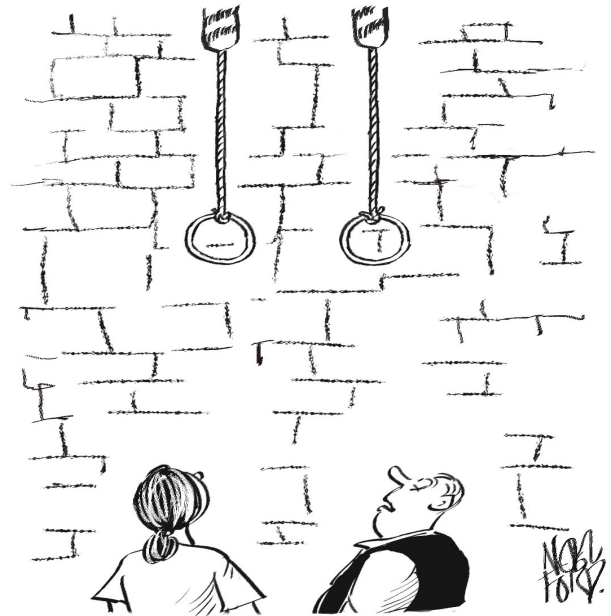
members, who make up the biggest majority in most congregations. Why, they asked, was there always so much for the young; what was there for them? This book grew out of his response Atwell argues that 60 really is the new 40 for increasing numbers of people. The retired are a huge consumer category, increasingly recognised by marketing gurus. They may have disposable income, time on their hands, and the leisure of choice – but wisdom, humour and honesty are essential for these transitional decades too. The author's background in Benedictine life, with its profound understanding of what makes for a balanced and rich life, enhances this book.

Prayer Tip for the Month

You don't have to have a mediator or need any special degree to **pray** effectively. All you have to do is **open your mouth** and **let your heart reach God's ears**. You have access to **God** every day and at any time.



Smile Lines



"Apparently, the new member of the bell-ringing team is a keen gymnast"

Clock

I am the keeper of time,
I hold each small, set span
within its own appointed bounds.
Then one by one, I let them go.

They meet their fate with man.
Used or squandered at his will,
each passes by, full charged
with hope to change a waiting world.

Mine is the grace to give.
For me, the privilege to offer time.
For man, the power to make it work
in man's own interest and good.

So grasp the challenge
while you may.
This moment will not live to see another day.

Megan Smith



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