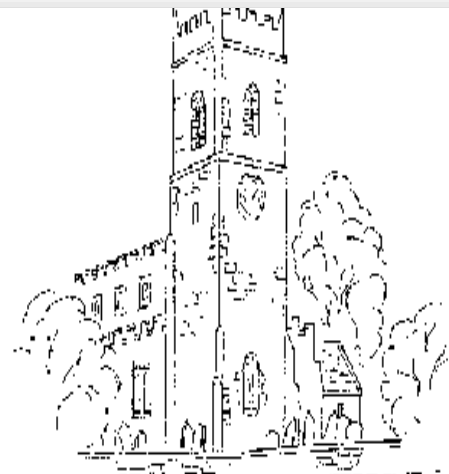
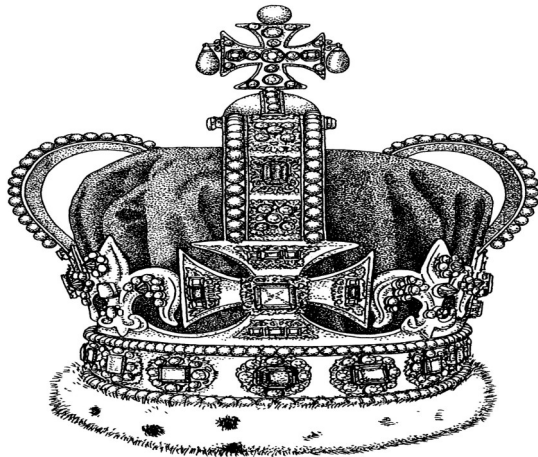


May 2023



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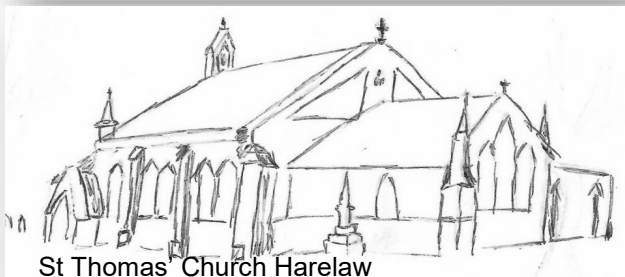
Parish Church of All Saints, Lanchester

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

Pentecost

50p monthly or £5 per year

Parish Church of LANCHESTER & BURNHOPE

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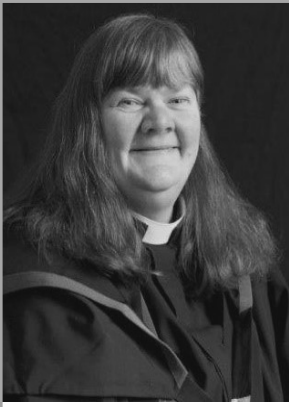
**Contributions to
the Church
Magazine are
always welcome.**



Copy sent by E-mail,

To robmatthews48@hotmail.com

**The copy deadline for the
June issue is
Sunday 21st May**



The Lost Tribe

How long, how long must I regret?
I never found my people yet;
I go about, but cannot find
The blood-relations of the mind

Through my little sphere I range,
And though I wither do not change;
Must not change a jot, lest they
Should not know me on my way.

Sometimes I think when I am dead
They will come about my bed,
For my people well do know
When to come and when to go.

I know not why I am alone,
Nor where my wandering tribe is gone,
But be they few, or be they far,
Would I were where my people are!

Ruth Pitter

This week, by Godincidence, I've been reflecting on community. Community was the theme for collective worship at the EP on Tuesday. On Tuesday evening I chaired the APCM for Burnhope St James', when we looked at the contribution to the community that the people of St James' had made over the past year. I've been wrestling with our Coronation special Songs of Praise for Churches together, discovering that the strap-line for Coronation publicity is 'Celebrating Community, Faith and Service.' I was excited to be at the launch of our Community project in collaboration with St Nic's, Durham, Feeding Families, Burnhope School and Burnhope Community Centre, teaching families basic cooking skills. And, by accident, I refound Ruth Pitter's poem-a favourite I'd been looking for for some time- as I made some idle searches on the net. Even when we're not sociable, humans are created to be social. If you think about the creation account in Genesis, God recognises our need for companionship and makes us for community. Ruth Pitter's poem is a masterful examination of how we all long for community-to find 'our' people, the ones with whom we feel safe, secure, whole, affirmed and acknowledged- and yet sometimes shy away from connection. It echoes the growing sense that, with the advent of cyber-connectedness, we have lost an understanding of embodied community, and prefer to seek out 'our' people, at a cost to all of us. We see the effects already, in the volunteer crisis, in a lack of interest in events like the coronation, and in the emphasis on self that leads to the isolation Pitter captures so well. And the final Godincidence is one of the readings for Sunday coming. In Eastertide we hear a reading from the Acts of the Apostles every week, and this one takes the biscuit; The new Christians 'devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily....' (Acts 4:42-47).

Christians aren't just created for community, we're created to be *members and makers of new communities, based on a template with love at its heart*. Learning together. Sharing the most intimate parts of our lives. Practising sacrificial generosity. Eating together. Worshipping together. Remembering that when we ask, 'who is our neighbour?' Jesus says, 'everyone.' And welcoming the most unlikely brothers and sisters into 'our' tribe. That's why we all three of our churches are collaborating with our brothers and sisters from St Nic's, Durham, with our schools and community centres in Burnhope and Annfield Plain and Catchgate to teach families cooking skills and then eat with them, sharing our stories of Jesus' love. That's why, as part of our Songs of Praise for the Coronation, we will make an act of commitment in faith to community and service. That's why we run a free lunch club each Wednesday at Burnhope community centre for those who need a good, simple hot meal, a listening ear, and companionship. That's why we continue to visit those who can't get out and about and who long for social connection.

And that's why we continue to need more volunteers; makers of our new communities, with love in all of our hearts...

With every blessing (and a contact number, 012075291529166),

Lesley



On Monday evening 17th April at 7pm, Bishop Sarah, Bishop of Jarrow, formally installed me as Associate Priest for the parishes of All Saints, St John's and St Thomas's. I have been asked to write a few words of introduction for the magazine.

The number three will feature quite heavily in what I

have to say. I was born in Gateshead and am the eldest of three girls. My mother was also one of three girls, while I have three children and three granddaughters. My main ministry as curate was in three Durham Parishes; St Giles, St Mary's and St Cuthbert's. Now, following a placement here in 2022, I find that I am back ministering to three linked but quite distinct parish communities.

Fortunately, the number three does not extend to husbands! Joe, or the Clergy Spouse as I sometimes refer to him, is my only husband and hails from Leadgate just up the road. As a result, we have driven past All Saints Church countless times on trips to visit our relatives in Leadgate.

Prior to becoming a priest my professional career was in teaching. From there I embarked upon an MA in Theology and Ministry at St John's College, Durham University. This was followed by further study at Lindisfarne and ordination as deacon in December 2019 by Bishop Sarah. The following year Bishop Paul, Bishop of Durham, ordained me priest in St. Nicolas Church in the market square in Durham. It was quite unique as we were limited to the number of people who could attend the service as we were still under COVID guidelines. Still, it was a very special occasion and will always be something my family will remember. Last Monday evening was also something very special, not only the service but the number of family, friends and parishioners who gave me such a warm welcome at the Installation Service. I would like to thank each and everyone of them for their support and prayers.

Finally, heartfelt thanks to Rev Lesley, Rev Stephen and Ann for welcoming me into the team and for all the support they have already given me.

Please, if you see me in any of the three parishes, stop and say hello.

Rev Abbey 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 for you.



The Coronation of H.R.H. King Charles 111

The bells of Lanchester Parish Church will ring out at 12noon on Sunday May 7th in celebration of the Coronation of King Charles 111.

Bell Sunday May 14th

Church bells are the most historic sound any of us will ever hear! The Central Council of Church Bellringers are hoping that Bell Sunday will encourage churches to celebrate their bells and ringers in Sunday worship. It is hoped that bellringers may be able to take part in the service on the day. Bell Sunday we hope will help raise awareness of the importance of bells in communities, and also help strengthen relationships between clergy and bellringers. It will be held each year on the Sunday closest to May 19th. This date because it is the Feast day of St. Dunstan, (Canonised in 1029 CE) He became Patron Saint of Bellringers. He is buried in Canterbury Cathedral. Dunstan took a keen interest in the physical trapping of the church. A noted musician who not only played the harp, but also composed several hymns. He recognised the power of music to call people to worship. Together with his know-how in metal working he experimented with the design of church bells which are now interwoven into the very fabric of life in towns and villages across England.

Olga Walker

Coronation Prayer 2023

Almighty God, On the occasion of the crowning of King Charles 111, we, the people, pray for him.

We thank you for him and for the calling on his life and we recognise the weight of responsibility that puts upon him. We know that he will need your help, Lord. We know that he will face many challenges, as did his mother, Queen Elizabeth.

We ask, that, as he is anointed with oil, you will anoint him with your Holy Spirit, so that he will know in his heart, as his mother knew, that Jesus is alive and able to help him fulfil his unique vocation.

We pray that in all the days he serves as King, he will be aware that first and foremost he serves you, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. May his reign be one of wisdom, vision and integrity, inspired by your Kingdom values.

May your name be honoured and glorified throughout this land, Lord, as we pray, ***God save the King!***

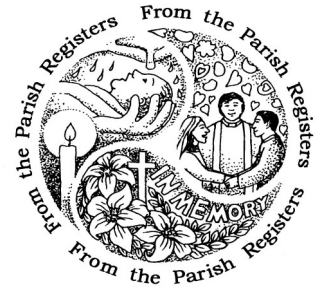
By Daphne Kitching

Lanchester Burnhope Harelaw and Annfield Plain

Recently Deceased

Harold Densham
David Collins
Brenda Craddock

'May they rest in peace and rise in glory'



Baptisms

9th April Amber Purdy
23rd April Max Gilbert Taylor
Leo Dominic Taylor
30th April Elizabeth Holiday at St John's
Tommy and Albie Chivers



"We welcome you into the Lord's Family"

It's getting harder to see your GP

When did you last see your GP, and for how long did that appointment last?

According to a recent international study of 10 high-income countries, British patients are given the shortest GP appointments and are also the least likely to see a doctor in person.

The Health Foundation found that Britain has the shortest appointment times, at ten minutes, along with Germany. Most countries average 15 minutes per patient, with 20 minutes in Switzerland and the USA, and 25 minutes in Sweden. The British GPs also reported far more use of remote appointments than any of the other countries in the study. Just four in 10 took place in person between February and September 2022.

British GPs were also found to have the highest stress levels and lowest job satisfaction of all the GPs in the study. Professor Kamila Hawthorne, chairman of the Royal College of GPs, said the findings were "alarming, but not at all surprising".

She said: "College research has shown that two-thirds of GPs feel so over-stretched that they cannot guarantee safe patient care, and many cite workload and burn out as a reason they are considering leaving the profession.

"GPs and our teams want to deliver safe, appropriate and timely care for our patients, but with the intense workload and workforce pressures we are working under, this is becoming ever more difficult."



Serendipity (Lanchester)



Mingles afternoon events at Serendipity Café in Lanchester every month from 3-15pm – 5-45pm
"Our Mingles event is an opportunity for individuals or friends to get together and mingle with other people in a safe and sociable setting.

We will be offering a buffet of sweet and savoury options. Hot, cold, and alcoholic beverages will be available for sale.

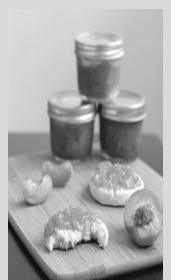
To book or make an enquiry please contact us on

01207 520056 (deposit required)

Fresh batches of Chutney
Tomato Chutney, Freshly made
Apple Chutney & Beetroot and Ginger
chutney all available

Ring Margaret on 521214
or Jen on 520498

We are happy to deliver.



Source The Parish Pump

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

Mothers' Union Lanchester

On Tuesday, 9th May we will be holding a social afternoon at 2.0pm when we will be welcoming MU members from other branches. We will be entertained by Julie and William and then refreshments will be served in the Chapter House. We are looking forward to meeting old friends and making new friends.



Eileen Matthews

Mothers' Union Burnhope

Our April meeting was held on Monday the 3rd. Mrs Park conducted our service, then we had a Holy Week Quiz.

A further 17 toilet bags have been handed to Mrs Stella Waite for Durham Hospital. We are looking forward to the Social Afternoon, at All Saints on 9th May



Muriel Molloy

Church Flowers for May

- 7th J Harrison H Gaskill
M Rigdon (In memorium)
- 14th D Bell (Mr Richardson)
G Nichol P& J Smith
- 21st M King A Stephenson
- 28th A Newton S Ward
G Harrison



***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***

LANGUAGE of FLOWERS . HUMILITY

Broom (*Spartium*)

Broom made its first official heraldic appearance on the great seal of Richard 1 when he became King in 1189. His family name Plantagenet, was taken from "Planta genista" the broom's medieval name. The motto beneath it on the seal was Deus exaltat humiles (God exalteth the lowly). In Italy too, it was symbolic of humility. In Germany it was used for decorations on Whit Sunday, and also as a charm in France. Wild broom blooms in England in April, May and June.

The six-time married Henry VIII – a far from humble King, was wont to drink the distilled water of Broome-floures to keep him in good health. We will celebrate the coronation of King Charles III this month, as he is crowned King on May 6th



"The Crown Imperial,
Lilies of all kinds,
The fleur-de-luce being
One! Of these I lack,
To make you garlands of."
William Shakespeare



This verse denotes MAJESTY AND POWER.
God Save Our Gracious King
Long Live Our Noble King
God Save The King

Audrey Newton



**Strawberry Tea
Rodda's clotted
cream and Tiptree jam**

**Chapter House,
Lanchester Parish Church
Wednesday 7th June
2-4 pm
Tickets £3, children free**

Raffle

100 Club News

Apologies to everyone, April's numbers will be drawn in May along with the May Draw



Sue Smith and Olga Walker

St John's

St John's Chocolate Tombola Stall was a great attraction at Burnhope Community Centre Funday. The total raised was £165, along with the Easter raffle which realised £225 made a combined total of £390 for Church funds. Doreen and I would like to thank everyone who generously contributed, donated and supported both fundraising events.

On 23 May Bishop

Sarah will be dedicating the Burnhope Primary School Banner in St John's Church. The pupils of Burnhope School worked alongside Community Artist Emma Shankland to



create a design using their ideas of Burnhope past and present. The culmination of the day will be a Heritage Picnic, stalls and games from the past.

Pauline Hall

**Christian Aid
week 14th to
20th May 2023.**



Saturday 13th May at 10 am to noon at Lanchester Methodist Church: Coffee Morning launch
Wednesday 17th May at 7pm: SWISH - why shop when you can swap at Lanchester Methodist Church Tickets £5 per person to swap up to 5 items and includes coffee & cake. Contact Judith (521898) or Dianne (520817)

Bring preloved clothes, shoes and accessories in clean and presentable condition to use as currency to take home something "new"

Items to be dropped off, in advance, at the venue on 17th May 1pm to 4pm or 6pm to 6:45 pm. If items cannot be dropped off, arrangements can be made for home collection. Contact Judith (521898) or Dianne (520817)

all proceeds from both events will be remitted to Christian Aid.

Items left over at the end of the evening will be donated to charity

Dianne Emerson

Church Wives

It is with great sadness that I step up as acting leader, following the death of our dear friend Brenda Craddock, our Church Wives leader. We are all in shock as Brenda has led our meetings with such dedication, fun and kindness for more than 40 years. We will be getting together on Thursday 27th April to exchange our thoughts and happy memories to try to come to terms with not having Brenda around. Our guest speaker for that evening has been cancelled, but we hope to get him back at a later date.

On May 11th our speaker will be Barbara Dickinson talking about "Telling Stories". We meet again on May 25th when we will be having a quiz night amongst ourselves.

Deanna Leyland

New Flags

We are most grateful to Hazel and Eric Gaskill for the gift of two new flags for Church. In recent years we have been flying the George flag for most of the year, changing to the Union Flag when it is required. Peeping over the top of the parapet after installing the flag for the first time just in time for St George's day, and if you can spot them are Eric Gaskill, Peter Jackson and Rob Matthews. We can confirm that no persons were at risk or harmed during this process.



Rob Matthews

Thank You

Stephen Craddock thanks all of you for your thoughts, kind wishes and prayers following the death of his beloved wife Brenda on Wednesday evening 19th April

Stephen Craddock

Julian Prayer Meetings 2pm in the Chapter House

May 1st (Bank Holiday No Meeting)

June 5th

July 3rd

August 7th (to be confirmed)



How your friends may be keeping you alive

Take care of your friendships, and they will take care of you. A recent study has found that if, in later life, you enjoy your friends on a regular and frequent basis, then the joy that they bring you may even halve your risk of death within five years.

The book of Proverbs (27:9) compares the balm of ointments and perfumes to the soothing effect of a good friend, and an analysis of the research would seem to confirm this. People in their later years who socialised every day were healthier than those who didn't. Even those who saw their friends only once a week were healthier than those who saw no friends on a regular basis. In fact, the team reported having found a 'dose response', with the greater the frequency of socialising, the greater the likelihood of living longer. As one doctor put it: "The more frequent the social activity, the more prolonged the survival time." It is thought that having regular contact with friends encourages healthier thinking, better personal habits, increased physical activity, and reduces stress.

Yet according to Age UK, more than two million older people in England live alone, and more than a million older people can go for a month without speaking to anyone.

The study was published in the *Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health*.

Source The Parish Pump

If a vicar asks you for money...

If you are contacted by a clergyman asking you for money, beware! It is a scammer.

Scammers have been impersonating various clergy, including even the Archbishop of York, to ask priests and other church people to buy them Amazon vouchers and online gift cards.

The scammers use either emails or texts, and their message is along the lines: "I have a request I need you to handle discreetly." They then say: "I am currently busy in a prayer meeting, so no calls – just reply to my email." Then the message asks the intended victim to send them financial help, usually in the form of vouchers or gift cards.

The police reckon that the scammers have trawled church websites for the contact details of clergy and parish officials. At least one person is believed to have been fooled – and lost £1000 in a scam.

As a diocesan spokesman said: "It seems this is a national trend." The police are looking into it, and meanwhile, advising people that: "Clergy will *never* ask you to give them money, vouchers, or personal banking details directly, even to help someone in need.... it is a scam."

Source The Parish Pump

Christians helping to clean up after the earthquake in Turkey

More than 50,000 people were killed, and tens of thousands injured, when the massive earthquake in Turkey and Syria struck on 6th February, causing thousands of homes and buildings to collapse across a vast area.

Only a week later, on 13th February, the Christian aid agency Samaritan's Purse opened an Emergency Field Hospital in Turkey, accepting dozens of patients within hours of opening.

That mobile hospital soon included two emergency operating rooms, four intensive care unit beds, a pharmacy, and 52 beds. It has a staff of about 100, including doctors, nurses, and other medical personnel.

Samaritan's Purse has also distributed thousands of tents, as well as mattresses, food boxes, solar lanterns, and hygiene kits (including soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toilet paper, and more) in partnership with First Hope Association.

Through these local Christian partners, teams are also in the process of installing 120 mobile hygiene containers, each complete with three showers, three toilets, and sinks. Arriving on large trucks and lifted onto level ground by cranes, these facilities will be maintained for up to a year through our partnerships in Turkey.

If you would like to help the on-going relief effort, please go to: <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk>

Source The Parish Pump

COUNTDOWN TO THE CORONATION

Of His Majesty the King and Her Majesty the Queen Consort.

On Saturday 6th May the Coronation will take place.

It is based on a solemn religious ceremony which has remained largely unchanged for more than 1000 years. For the past 900 years, the ceremony has taken place at Westminster Abbey, and is conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

King Charles III will be crowned, and then in a similar, but simpler ceremony at the same service, the Queen Consort will also be crowned.

From 6th to 8th May Coronation Big Lunches will be held up and down the UK, and also across the Commonwealth.

On Sunday 7th May a Coronation Concert will be held at Windsor Castle, with iconic locations across the UK lit up using projections, lasers, drone displays and illuminations.

On Monday 8th May there is a special Bank Holiday, giving everyone the opportunity to join in with their communities and good causes through Big Help Out activities (More details at: <https://thebighelpout.org.uk>)



Christ between his parents, returning from the Temple. Rembrandt van Rijn)

I love this sketch by Rembrandt van Rijn showing the Holy Family returning from the Temple. It was drawn only a few weeks before Rembrandt died and he never had the opportunity to make it into a painting. I love it because they don't look holy at all - they look so *ordinary*. Like any family out for a walk - look, they even have a dog. Often when we see a picture of the Holy Family they have halo's, may be surrounded by angels, their expressions are tranquil . . . so it's easy to forget that they were ordinary human beings like you and me. They loved each other, quarrelled with each other, supported and cherished each other, had hopes and wishes and fears.



There is nothing to suggest that Mary and Joseph had an easy time as parents of the Messiah; on the contrary, their task was a hard and thankless one. You can see they are poor; look at their clothes - peasants' clothes, worn, and soiled from their journey. They don't even have a donkey - they have to walk to and from the Temple and it was quite a journey. Mary has a packed lunch with her because they can't afford to stop at an inn.

It was perhaps hardest for Joseph. We know so little about him, and in the story of Jesus' birth he's a bit of an also ran, but he was given this huge responsibility of protecting the Messiah - and not just protecting him, but guiding him and teaching him to be a good Jew, and a good man. And here he is in the picture. A worried father who thought for an awful few hours that he hadn't only lost his son, but had mislaid God's Messiah!

Rembrandt has drawn him as an elderly man, looking a bit careworn, his face half in shadow, gripping Jesus tightly by the wrist - perhaps he's still a bit annoyed at him, the rip! Jesus in turn is gripping Mary's hand. She is looking down, but not at him - she's listening and thinking. If you look closely at Jesus' face (you'll need a larger image!) you can possibly see two hairs on his chin. When a boy grew two hairs on his chin it was his father's duty to present him at the Temple - the equivalent of a Bar Mitzvah today. That was why Jesus was with them at the Temple. It was an acknowledgement that he was no longer a child. He had stepped across the threshold into manhood.

And in the Temple a very important thing happened - a pivotal thing - Jesus became aware that God wanted more from him than anyone expected. It's the first time that Jesus refers directly to God as his father - and here he is walking back with Mary and Joseph and he is *buzzing*! Still in many ways a child he has been given the realisation that he is destined for more than the life of a carpenter. He does not yet know what, but he knows that he had a closer relationship with God than he has with any person - and he cannot stop talking about it. Perhaps Mary is remembering everything that happened around his birth, indulging his excitement, but she also looks reverential, resigned - maybe also afraid? But Joseph - what is Joseph feeling? This man who is barely mentioned but who carried such a responsibility?

This is the last mention of Joseph in the Bible. After this incident he is not spoken of again. What are *his* feelings? This child, whom he loves and has raised as his own, his firstborn son as far as he is concerned, has learned that Joseph is not his father. Even in the picture you can see that he is not quite included in the family gathering. Mary and Jesus are wrapped up in each other. Jesus is looking up, not just at Mary but beyond Mary, looking up to heaven, feeling the first stirring of his divinity. They walk from shadow into light, but Joseph's face is in the dark, and he seems to be stepping over into blackness. This new period of Jesus' life does not include him. He looks tired, sad and lost. How tightly he grips Jesus' hand. Is he angry? Afraid that he will lose him again? Or is he aware that he *has* lost him, and is holding tightly onto his beloved child for the last time. Is he not wanting to relinquish his son?

I think he is broken-hearted and afraid. All of these years and no word from God, and now, when he probably thought they had dreamed the whole thing, the real, divine, Father comes along and as the step-father he doesn't get a look in. God gave him this huge responsibility, and now he has to step back from it and his emotions are in turmoil, his heart in pieces. And he fears for his son. He doesn't know what is going to happen, but in his bones he knows that it is going to be hard for Jesus, and that he can no longer protect him and keep him safe.

The simple story of Jesus so impressing the priests with his learning that we are so familiar with, is really much deeper, and has profound repercussions. It is the moment of great revelation for Jesus; the moment that his destiny starts to become apparent; the moment that Mary and Joseph have to accept that the boy they love is no longer theirs but belongs to God and the world. The moment that Joseph realises that his great task is over, and Jesus' even greater task is about to begin. We think of Jesus' sacrifice often, but we rarely think of Mary's or Joseph's. We rarely remember that God's great gift to us was given at the expense of an ordinary family who loved their child. Ordinary? They were AMAZING! What a great gift they ALL gave us.

Pauline Meek

The Rectory St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

I am afraid we shall have to agree to disagree on yet another topic – although I suspect the list of items that we agree to agree on would be considerably shorter. I like to think my appreciation of hymns resembles a connoisseur of fine wines savouring a grand cru claret, yours seems to resemble a Russian female tractor driver who is a Hero of the Nation. We at St James the Least are more than happy with *Hymns Ancient & Modern* – the original 1861 edition, naturally – the later editions display a dangerous tendency towards modernism. Sadly, St. Paul was not able to sing *Onward, Christian soldiers*, but I am sure he regretted the fact that it had yet to be written. The hymns our grandparents pretended to sing when they were in church are quite good enough for the ones we pretend to sing when we sit in the same pews. At least when we come to the last verse, we know that we can then sit down, mission accomplished. The last time I attended your church, just as I saw the last words and therefore the finishing line of one of your choruses coming into sight, we were told it would be splendid to sing the thing another three times. At least it gave me another analogy to use when I next preached on eternity in hell. And your method of singing would plunge our congregation into an existential crisis. What do they do with their hands when they don't have books to hold and are obliged to look at a screen? To be deprived of being able to hold a book in church is like a smoker who is trying to give up being unable to grasp a cigarette when in the pub. The ladies do not know whether to clasp their handbags, which then makes it look as if they suspect the rest of the congregation of theft, or to hold some flowers, which looks a little too matrimonial. The men experiment with putting hands in pockets, which they then realise looks scruffy, so they try to hold on to the pew in front, which is inevitably too low, so they have to adopt some form of half crouch, which makes them look as if they have recently had hernia operations. Your choral tradition – if I can flatter it with such a description – also seems to require half an hour before the Service spent singing for our congregation, that time is more usefully spent discussing Government incompetence, livestock prices and why Miss Threlfall always wears a red felt hat with her tangerine coat. Should we ever have a joint Service, I can't imagine how we'll all get through the first hymn together.

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 us.

At :enquiries@parishpump.co.uk

(They make good birthday presents!)



From the Wardens

As ever the Wardens continue to support Lesley who, with Stephen and now Abbey, balances her work in the two parishes and beyond.

The warm space initiative in both Churches is now at an end and we thank all those who volunteered at the sessions which despite the low turnout (especially at All Saints) we considered it was a worthy exercise.

Thanks especially to Pauline and Richard who took the lead at both All Saints and Burnhope Community Centres.

Easter services (including school services at All Saints, St John's and St Thomas) have been a great success and Holy week meditations culminating with the first fire of Easter (see picture right) were extremely moving.

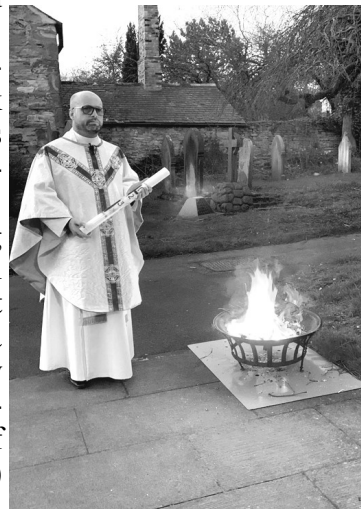
With regard to the heating in the Chapter House, we are going to progress with the system cleaning and replacement of the valves as soon as the heating season is over. With regard to the new boiler which PCC authorised at the last meeting, further discussions are necessary before a faculty application because of the Church of England's pledge for zero carbon by 2030. A new boiler now would be gas, which as a fossil fuel will, under the plans, need to be phased out and alternative fuel sources considered. However conversations with the heating engineer reveal that most new boilers these days have a high efficiency rating and are 20% ready for Hydrogen fuels. Other Churches are being granted faculties for such boilers. It would not be inappropriate to suggest our faculty application when made would be successful.

The Roof Alarms have been serviced for another year.

We have moved the unit which previously contained the Traidcraft produce into the Chapter House Porch and purchased storage cubes from Ikea with a view to storing Messy Church craft materials, which currently occupy a cupboard in the lower Vestry and table space in the upper Vestry. We are also intending to put loose shelving (not fixed in any way to the cupboards) to the Cupboards in the base of the tower. We intend to store the contents of the grey metal cupboard on the landing there, which will enable the rest of the Messy Church materials to be stored in the cupboard thus restoring space in the upper Vestry. We also have plans for an overdue clear out of the loft at the earliest opportunity.

As we look forward to the APCM on 24th May the Wardens wish to thank everyone for their help and patience which is most appreciated.

For The Wardens Rob Matthews





I hope you have all had a lovely Easter break and enjoyed all the Easter celebrations. Our Easter services were very special again this year and thanks must go to Revd Lesley, Revd Stephen and the church wardens for facilitating our KS2 service in Church. As usual it was full to overflowing with a really positive and uplifting atmosphere. The children spoke with great poise and articulation and sang as beautifully as ever. Meanwhile, our Reception and KS1 children enjoyed a great service in school led by Mr Innes. He had the children engrossed in the Easter story and the singing was, again, simply superb!

We are thrilled that our choir are taking part in Durham Cathedral's Music Outreach Programme this summer. We will join with the Cathedral Choristers to sing in Durham Cathedral on Thursday 22nd June 2023. This is a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to sing alongside other primary schools from the Durham Local Authority and surrounding areas, in Durham Cathedral in front of their family and friends. We are all really looking forward to this very special event and hearing some very special music.

All staff in school were greatly saddened to hear of the death of our dear friend, Mrs Brenda Craddock. Brenda has been a very welcome visitor to our school for many years. In her role as reporter for the Village Voice, she would be in attendance at all our big events in school whether it be nativities, summer fairs, concerts, special assemblies or when the children were doing something special. She loved seeing the children and her wonderful smile will live with us all for years to come. More recently, we enjoyed seeing her in her role with Open the Book on a Thursday morning. Brenda will live on in our school through the beautifully scripted photograph albums she donated at the end of an academic year with all the photographs she had taken proudly on display. A special lady with a very special set of skills. The whole school sends our love to all the family at this difficult time.

Mrs Jane Davis

Head Teacher, Lanchester Endowed Parochial (Controlled) Primary School

Beware your dog's tracker app

A number of apps which offer to keep an eye on your pet are also recording the login details and locations of YOU.

Such is the finding of a recent study. It seems that many tech companies which offer smart collars, GPS trackers, and wearable cameras for pets, may also be creating cyber security risks for their owners. A recent study at Newcastle University and Royal Holloway, University of London, evaluated 40 such apps. It discovered that a good number of them were recording the login details and location of the owners without encryption. In addition, all but four of the apps included some sort of tracking software, which was gathering information on the owner, without their consent.

As one doctoral student at Newcastle University's school of computing explained, "Pet tech brings with it new security, privacy and safety risks to the pet owners.

"We would urge anyone using these apps to take the time to ensure they are using a unique password, check the settings and ensure that they consider how much data they are sharing or willing to share."

Source The Parish Pump

One in five people find common noises "intolerable"

Do some common noises really bother you? If you hate everyday sounds like chewing, sniffing and even moderate breathing, then you may be among the one in every five people in Britain who suffer from misophonia.

In the first study of its kind, researchers from King's College London and University of Oxford have discovered that 18.4 per cent of the general UK population say certain noises can leave them feeling 'trapped' and 'upset'.

Misophonia is a psychological condition in which common sounds made in normal life trigger more than the occasional irritation. Instead, they can trigger a fight or flight response, sparking real anger and even panic.

Clinical psychologists say that while most people dislike the sound of loud chewing, slurping, snoring and loud breathing, people with misophonia frequently react badly to even normal breathing, footsteps and swallowing.

Dates for your Diary May 2023

*Tues 2nd 11.00am Mindfulness and Meditation Chapter House
7.00pm Compline via Zoom with Margaret and Adrian*

Wed 3rd 9.45am Holy Communion at All Saints

*Thurs 4th 9.00am Morning Prayer St Thomas
12-2.00pm Coronation Lunch in the Chapter House*

Sat 6th Coronation of King Charles III

*Sun 7th 8.00am Eucharist at All Saints
9.15am Eucharist at St John's
9.45am Eucharist St Thomas
10.30am Parish Eucharist All Saints
6.00 pm Sing for the King! Churches Together Songs of Praise, All Saints*

*Tues 9th 11.00am Mindfulness and Meditation Chapter
2.00pm Mothers' Union All Saints (with guests)
Julie and William play and sing
6.00pm Café Church Burnhope Community Centre
7.00pm Compline via Zoom with Margaret and Adrian*

Wed 10th 9.45am Holy Communion at All Saints

*Thur 11th 9.00am Morning Prayer St Thomas
7.00pm Church Wives Chapter House
'Waiting for the Spirit' Barbara Dickinson*

Sat 13th 10.00am-noon Methodist Church Christian Aid Coffee morning

*Sun 14th 8.00am Eucharist at All Saints
9.45am Eucharist at St Thomas
10.30am Eucharist at All Saints(Joint Service)
6.30 pm Evensong at All Saints*

*Tues 16th 11.00am Mindfulness and Meditation Chapter House
7.00pm Compline via Zoom with Margaret and Adrian*

*Wed 17th 9.45am Holy Communion at All Saints
7.00pm Methodist Church 'Swish' for Christian Aid*

Thur 18th (Ascension day) 9.00am Morning Prayer St Thomas

*Sun 21st 8.00am Eucharist at All Saints
9.15am Eucharist at St John's
9.45am Eucharist St Thomas
10.30am Parish Eucharist All Saints*

*Tues 23rd 11.00am Mindfulness and Meditation Chapter House
7.00pm Compline via Zoom with Margaret and Adrian*

*Wed 24th 9.45am Holy Communion at All Saints
6.30 pm Eucharist at All Saints followed by the APCM*

*Thur 25th 9.00am Morning Prayer St Thomas
7.00pm Church Wives Quiz night in the Chapter House*

*Sun 28th (Pentecost)
8.00am Eucharist at All Saints
9.45am Eucharist at St Thomas
10.30am Parish Eucharist at All Saints (Joint service)
3.00pm Messy Coronation!*

Married

How many women can one man marry? A little boy who attended his first wedding worked that one out pretty quick: the answer is 16. It is easy, if you think about it. Four better, four worse, four richer, four poorer. Comes to 16.



Drinking from my saucer

By John |Paul Moore

I have never made a fortune
And I will never make one now
But it really doesn't matter
Because I am happy anyhow
As I go along my journey
I am reaping better than I have sowed
I am drinking from the saucer
Because my cup has overflowed
I don't have a lot of riches,
And sometimes the going's tough
But with kin and friends to love me
I think I am rich enough
I thank God for the blessings
That His mercy has bestowed
I am drinking from the saucer
Because my cup has overflowed
He gives me strength and courage
When the way grows steep and rough
I will not ask for other blessings for
I am already blessed enough
May we never be too busy
To help bear another's load
Then we will all be drinking from the saucer

When our cups have overflowed

Sent by Edna Convery

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

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281603

MU SECRETARY

Anne Whiteley, 12 Villa Real Road, Consett 590914

MU TREASURER

Jean Morecroft, 13 Victoria Terrace, Annfield Plain
233273

St. Thomas' Mothers' Union

Our meeting in April welcomed Gina Hopper who gave a very interesting talk. As there is an extra Bank Holiday in May due to the Coronation, we have cancelled our usual meeting and hope to join Lanchester M.U. at the Social Afternoon on 9th May. In June we plan to go for a meal out together.

Anne Whiteley



Pentecost by Julie Woodford

They'd seen Him many times before
Since Jesus came back from the dead.
Their minds were in confusion
And they listened as He said
"Go back to Jerusalem
And wait and watch and pray,
The Holy Spirit will come down
And bless you on that day."

The disciples did as Jesus said
And went to watch and pray
They didn't know what to expect
But knew they must obey.
On the day of Pentecost
They gathered in one place
To celebrate the Jewish feast
As well as watch and wait.

It began so very quietly
And gradually increased
The sound of wind that grew so strong
It knocked them off their feet.
Small flames of fire hung over them,
And then it calmly ceased.
As they pulled themselves
Together on that very special day.

They knew that they were filled with power
And knew just what to say
To the many different foreigners
In Jerusalem that day.
They found that when they spoke,
Wherever they were from,
They understood the language,
And their confidence was strong.

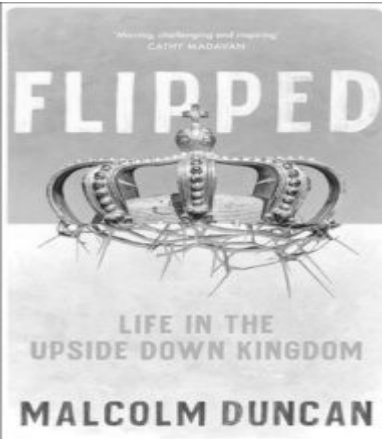
So Peter stood up bravely
And addressed the gathered throng.
He told them of the Saviour's love,
And how He died for them.
His words, they flowed so easily,
Convincing many men,
The love of God was spread abroad
When the Holy Spirit came.

Lord, let your Spirit fall today
And show Your presence here.
As we worship You and pray
Just take away all fear,
And anything that hinders You
In Your work among us here.

Sent By Anne Whiteley



Book Reviews



Flipped - Life in the upside down Kingdom
By Malcolm Duncan,
SPCK, £7.99

Flipped is the official theme book for Spring Harvest2023.

Christians are called to model a way of life that challenges the

status quo and infuses the world with hope and possibility. We are to be people who see possibility where others see failure, beauty where others see ugliness and freedom where others see chains. This is the Upside Down Kingdom, where the forgotten are noticed, the silenced are given back their voice and love is stronger than hate. By exploring the teaching of Jesus, as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew, Malcolm Duncan in *Flipped* traces the key components of this new community, this life-giving way of living. He explores the five key discourses in Matthew and invites us to a radical new way of living and being centred around the reign and the rule of King Jesus.



Sarah Eberle's
Psalm 23 Garden

Design tips for a calm green space

Sarah Eberle's Psalm 23 Garden: Design tips for a calm green space
By Various authors,
Bible Society, £6.50

In September 2021, Bible Society entered a garden based on Psalm 23 into the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. The garden was designed by

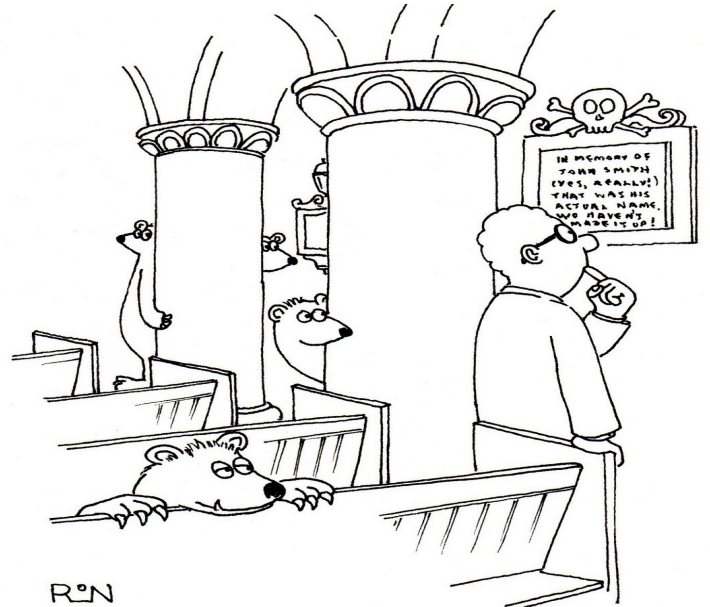
Sarah Eberle, who had previously won 17 gold medals at Chelsea and Hampton Court Flower Shows. If that wasn't enough, the Psalm 23 Garden won another gold medal as well as awards for Best Sanctuary Garden and Best Construction Award! Therefore, the garden contains vibrant greenery and a peaceful water feature. This book contains full-colour photographs of features of the garden, and tips and advice on creating your own beautiful garden.

Prayer Tip for the Month

When you next make a journey, pray that God will lead you to have significant conversations and that he will bless all your meetings with others and your relationship with those you may be travelling with.



Smile Lines



RON

Dennis spent a long time in church looking for his forbears

Pentecost Prayer

How much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him... (Luke 11:13b)

Heavenly Father,

In these troubled times we need your help, just like those first disciples did when Jesus came back to you after his resurrection. They must have wanted him to stay with them. They must have felt puzzled and bereft – and wondered how to go on. But you, Lord, knew a better way. You sent them a helper, the Holy Spirit to fill them with your life. We thank you so much that the same Spirit will be our helper too, if we are willing to ask you for him. We will be able to face each day, each challenge, with your Spirit living in us to guide and empower us, to enable us to carry on even when we don't understand. So, we pray, *come Holy Spirit, fill us, encourage us to carry on sharing your love and life and truth, in the name of Jesus. Amen.*



By Daphne Kitching



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