

Wigan South Parish Magazine

- Holy Trinity
- St Andrew's
- St Peter's
- St Aidan's
- St Luke's
- St Thomas'

St Aidan's edition



**BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO MOURN,
FOR THEY WILL BE COMFORTED.**

MATTHEW 5:4

November 2024

70p

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Parish Information

Baptisms

Baptisms (also called Christenings) are held around the Parish throughout the month. Please come along to the morning service at the church of your choice, and you can talk about booking a date that works well for you and church. Godparents must have been baptised themselves and be prepared to attend a baptism preparation session with the parents.

Funerals

Every parishioner has the right to a service in church, followed by a committal.

Marriage

You can marry in a CofE Church of your choice if certain criteria are shown to be met.

If you would like further information or to book a wedding or a baptism, please attend at one of our churches or see the contact details at the rear of the magazine. Funeral Directors will book any funerals.

Magazine Deadlines

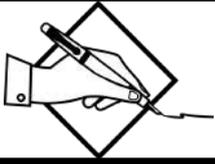
Please send any material for the magazine to your local assistant editor (see contact details at the back) or magazine@stthomasstluke.org.uk.

	December	January	February
Deadline for material	14 November	Christmas break	16th January
Publication date	24 November	Christmas break	26th January

Contents

Letter from Ros Unsworth	5 - 6
Parish Events in November	7 - 11
Services in November	12 - 13
William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury	15
Crossword	16 - 17
War and Peace	18
St Andrew	19 - 20
Christians Against Poverty (CAP)	20 - 21
Should We Have Faith in Sciences?	22
St Aidan's services in November	30
St Aidan's news and events	30 - 33
The Registers	34





Letter from Ros Unsworth

Dear Friends,

As I write this piece for November, I am very conscious as I look through the window of the changing colours of the leaves on the trees.



The soft hues of yellowing and browns leaves as they prepare to flutter to the ground in the wind, as the season slowly moves on, and yet in all of this we can start to look forward to the daffodil and tulip bulbs being planted in readiness for spring. It is important to recognise the past but at the same time look forward to the future. I am mindful of the month of November being the month of Remembrance, I call to mind my own Mum's anniversary on the 10th of this month, the remembrance of All Saint's and All Soul's at the start of the month, and then progressing on to the 11th when we remember the dead of Two World Wars and more recent wars. In addition, on the 30th we celebrate St. Andrew – a simple Fisherman called by our Lord to be one of his Disciples.

Remembrance is such an important event in our lives, as we celebrate memories of our own loved ones now gone to rest in eternal life. What a comfort it is as we recall their names at the various memorial services in the South Hub, as we give thanks for their time on earth.

There is a beautiful poem written by Wilfred Owen during World War 1 (and posthumously published in 1920) entitled "Dulce Et Decorum Est", it describes in bitter detail the horror of World War 1, although it also implicitly speaks of the horror of all wars.

Take time to digest the words as you read it.

*Blessings
Rosalyn xx*

Dulce et Decorum Est

By Wilfred Owen

Bent double, like old beggars under sacks,
Knock-kneed, coughing like hags, we cursed through sludge,
Till on the haunting flares we turned our backs,
And towards our distant rest began to trudge.
Men marched asleep. Many had lost their boots,
But limped on, blood-shod. All went lame; all blind;
Drunk with fatigue; deaf even to the hoots
Of gas-shells dropping softly behind.

Gas! GAS! Quick, boys!—An ecstasy of fumbling
Fitting the clumsy helmets just in time,
But someone still was yelling out and stumbling
And flound'ring like a man in fire or lime.—
Dim through the misty panes and thick green light,
As under a green sea, I saw him drowning.

In all my dreams before my helpless sight,
He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.

If in some smothering dreams, you too could pace
Behind the wagon that we flung him in,
And watch the white eyes writhing in his face,
His hanging face, like a devil's sick of sin;
If you could hear, at every jolt, the blood
Come gargling from the froth-corrupted lungs,
Obscene as cancer, bitter as the cud
Of vile, incurable sores on innocent tongues,—
My friend, you would not tell with such high zest
To children ardent for some desperate glory,
The old Lie: *Dulce et decorum est*
Pro patria mori.



Parish News

Weekly Events

Mondays

- 9.30am - 10.30am: Mini Street Pop Up Play (St Andrew's)
- 6.30pm: Girls Brigade (St Peter's)



Tuesdays

- 10am - 12pm: Coffee Morning (St Thomas' church hall)
- 6pm: Boys Brigade (St Peter's)



Wednesdays

- 1pm - 2.30pm: Wednesday Weenies (St Thomas' church hall)
- 1pm - 3pm: Knit and Chat group (St Peter's)
- 3pm - 4pm: Hot Spot for Y7 - 11 (St Thomas' church hall)
- 4pm - 5pm: Discipleship Group for Y7 - 11 (St Thomas' church hall)
- 7.30pm: Women's Fellowship (St Peter's)



Thursdays

- 3pm - 4pm: English Classes (St Thomas' church hall)
- 2pm - 3pm: Gentle dance class (St Luke's)

Fridays

- 2pm: Bible Study (St Thomas' church hall)
- 11.30am - 12.30pm: Mini Street Pop Up Play (St Andrew's)



Sundays

- 1pm - 2.30pm: Asylum seeker support (St Thomas' church hall)

November Events

Tuesdays 29th October, 5th, 12th, 19th , 26th November & 10th December

7pm - 8.15pm: Start course at St Luke's

Saturday 2nd November

9am - 12pm: Antiques & Collectables Valuation Roadshow (St Thomas')

9.30am - 1pm: Living the Psalms V at St Francis, Kitt Green

1pm - 6pm: Winter Market (St Peter's)

Tuesday 5th November

10am - 11.30am: Bereavement Support Group (St Luke's)

11am - 1.30pm: Pop Up Sale (St Thomas') ***now in the church hall***

1.30pm - 3pm: Bereavement Support Group (St Andrew's)

Saturday 9th November

7pm - 9pm: Cenotaph lit up for Remembrance (St Thomas')

Saturday 16th November

11am - 2pm: Christmas Fayre (St Thomas')

Friday 22nd November

7.30pm: Talent Show at St Mary's Club (organised by members of St Aidan's)

7.30pm: Ashton Pantry Gala at Ashfield House (see flier for booking details)

Monday 25th November - Tuesday 10th December

Mothers' Union 16 days of activism

Tuesday 26th November

1.30pm - 3pm: Dementia Café (St Andrew's)

Thursday 28th November

2pm: St Aidan's Friendship Group meal at The Mount

Friday 29th November

7pm: Milltown Sound Winter Concert at Haydock Conservative Club

7pm: Quiz Night (St Aidan's)

***ADVANCED NOTICE * Friday 17th January**

St Thomas & St Luke's Mothers' Union and Friends Meal (menus to be returned by 30th November)

POP UP SALE OF QUALITY HIGH STREET GOODS



**Heavily discounted
prices for
one day only**

Clothing &
accessories, toys,
homeware, gifts.

We accept cash &
card.

All proceeds go to the
Rebuild with Hope
Foundation & Ashton
Food Pantry

Tuesday 5th November 2024
St Thomas Church,
Warrington Road,
Ashton in Makerfield,
Wigan,
WN4 9PL
11:00 – 13:30



Find us on facebook

Wigan South Hub Churches

Holy Trinity | St Aidan's | St Andrew's | St Luke's | St Peter's | St Thomas'

Bereavement Support Group

Don't Walk Your Journey Through Grief Alone

A Pathway To Hope

We invite you to come to a Safe Space

Share your experiences with a group of loving people

1st Tuesday of every month

Starting

December 2023

St Luke's Church
Bolton Road
Stubshaw Cross
WN4 8UN

10.00am - 11.30am

St Andrew's Church
274 Garswood Road
Garswood
WN4 0TU

1.30pm - 3.00pm

Milltown Sound

WINTER CONCERT



WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

The Blondies, Instigate and Fifth & Madison

29TH
NOV

DOORS 7PM



TICKETS
£7 ADULT
£5 CONCESSIONS

FANTASTIC RAFFLE PRIZES TO BE WON!

HAYDOCK CONSERVATIVE CLUB
WAIT 0GT

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/milltown-sound-chorus/>

WINTER market

FUN
MUSIC
STALLS
REFRESHMENTS
PHOTO BOOTH

2ND
NOVEMBER 2024

1-6PM
FREE ENTRY

BRIGADE HALL

BRYN, ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD, WIGAN, WN4 0AA

Antiques & collectables Valuation Roadshow

Everybody Welcome



Saturday 2nd November

9am - 12 noon

St Thomas's church

Warrington Rd,
Ashton-in-Makerfield,
Wigan WN4 9PL

Donations for valuations

£2 per item or

£5 for 3 or more items

Refreshments available

Car parking is on the church hall carpark opposite church



Meet the valuers Steven Parkinson MNAVA and Ridley Partridge.

Steven and Ridley will be giving valuations on all your antiques, collectables, especially jewellery, watches, coins, all art, modern art, pottery & porcelain, art, toys etc.



What if your treasures are worth a fortune and you want to sell them?

Our valuers will give you an itemised receipt and enter it/them in to the next live internet auction.

For more information regarding this valuation event please call Steven Parkinson on 01772 347 380

Pantry Gala

LETS GET DRESSED UP,
HAVE SOME FUN AND
RAISE FUNDS FOR
ASHTON PANTRY!



FRIDAY 22ND NOVEMBER
7.30PM ARRIVAL
ASHFIELD HOUSE
WIGAN ROAD, STANDISH, WN60BQ

TICKETS £25
INCLUDES:
RECEPTION DRINK &
CANAPÉS, LIVE MUSIC
& A RAFFLE TICKET



TO BUY TICKETS, EMAIL SUE AT
PANTRYGALA@OUTLOOK.COM

Got questions about life and the Christian faith?

If you're looking for answers then maybe it's
time to make a Start.

The Start course will help you discover more
about God, Jesus and the journey of life

- What's life all about and where are we going?
- Does God exist and what is He like?
- Why is the world in such a mess?
- Who was Jesus, and is He relevant?
- What does Jesus' death on the cross mean for me today?
- How far can I go forward with God in my life?

When & Where

Tuesdays : 7 - 8.15pm

29th Oct,

5th, 12th, 19th, 26th Nov

& 10th Dec '24

@ St Luke's Church, Stubshaw Cross

Any questions contact:

Revd Sandra Jones 07598 847391

or Revd Sue Fulford



£700 was raised at the
MacMillan coffee morning at
St Andrew's.
Thanks to all who attended!



Garswood Primary School are
pleased to donate £231.00 to The
Peace of Mind Café. The Y4
children and their families do hope
that this donation will support you
to continue your amazing work.



Services in November

Sunday 3rd	9.00am: Morning Worship 9.30am: Holy Communion 10.00am: Holy Communion 10.30am: Morning Worship 10.30am: Morning Prayer 10.45am: Worship Together 11.00am: Morning Worship 4.00pm: Memorial Service 6.00pm: Memorial Service	St Thomas' St Andrew's St Aidan's Holy Trinity St Peter's St Thomas' St Luke's Holy Trinity St Peter's
Wednesday 6th	10.00am: Holy Communion	St Aidan's
Thursday 7th	9.45am: BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
Sunday 10th	9.00am: Holy Communion 9.30am: Morning Worship 10.00am: Stas4all at school 10.30am: Remembrance & Brigade 10.45am: Remembrance Service 10.45am: Remembrance Service 11.00am: Holy Communion 4.00pm: Remembrance Service	St Thomas' St Andrew's St Aidan's St Peter's Holy Trinity St Thomas' St Luke's St Aidan's
Wednesday 13th	10.00am: Holy Communion	Holy Trinity
Thursday 14th	9.45am: BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
Sunday 17th	9.00am: Morning Worship 9.30am: Café Church 10.00am: Morning Worship 10.30am: Morning Worship 10.30am: Holy Communion 10.45am: Holy Communion 11.00am: Family Worship 6.30pm: Evensong	St Thomas' St Andrew's St Aidan's Holy Trinity St Peter's St Thomas' St Luke's St Thomas'

Wednesday 20th	10.00am: Holy Communion	St Aidan's
Thursday 21st	9.45am: BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
Sunday 24th	9.00am: Holy Communion 9.30am: Morning Worship 10.00am: Beacon Service 10.30am: Holy Communion 10.30am: Cafe Church 10.45am: Worship Together 11.00am: Morning Worship 4.00pm: Holy Communion	St Thomas' St Andrew's St Aidan's Holy Trinity St Peter's St Thomas' St Luke's St Aidan's
Wednesday 27th	10.00am: Holy Communion	Holy Trinity
Thursday 28th	9.45am: BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'

Everyone is welcome to join any of the services across our Parish.

Please note that there are some changes to formats and timings of services on Remembrance Sunday to facilitate the number of civic services taking place on this day.



WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Together with local businesses, we are working to reduce the amount of food going to land fill.

The pantries are regularly stocked with food that is near its sell by date but can still be used to feed bellies not bins.



**St Thomas' Church Hall,
Ashton in Makerfield**

Tuesday 11am - 12pm

Thursday 2pm - 3pm

Sunday 3pm - 4pm

Max 2 visits per week

Additional donations welcome to be used to build a pantry and kitchen behind the church hall.



**St Aidan's Church,
Billinge**

Friday 11am - 1.30pm



**Holy Trinity Church
Downall Green**

Friday 9am - 10am

**Each Pantry has a £5 annual membership
and minimum £3 donation per visit**

6th November - William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury

During the Second World War, William Temple was Archbishop of Canterbury. While Churchill led the country against Germany, Temple encouraged the British people to trust the Lord for their deliverance and strength.

Temple was born on 15th October 1881 in Exeter, Devon. He was educated at Rugby School and Balliol College, Oxford. He loved the music of Bach; the poetry of Browning and Shelley, and Shakespeare and possessed a near-photographic memory. After graduation he was a lecturer in philosophy at Queen's College, Oxford. Following his ordination in 1909, and priesting in 1910, Temple was headmaster of Repton School for four years.

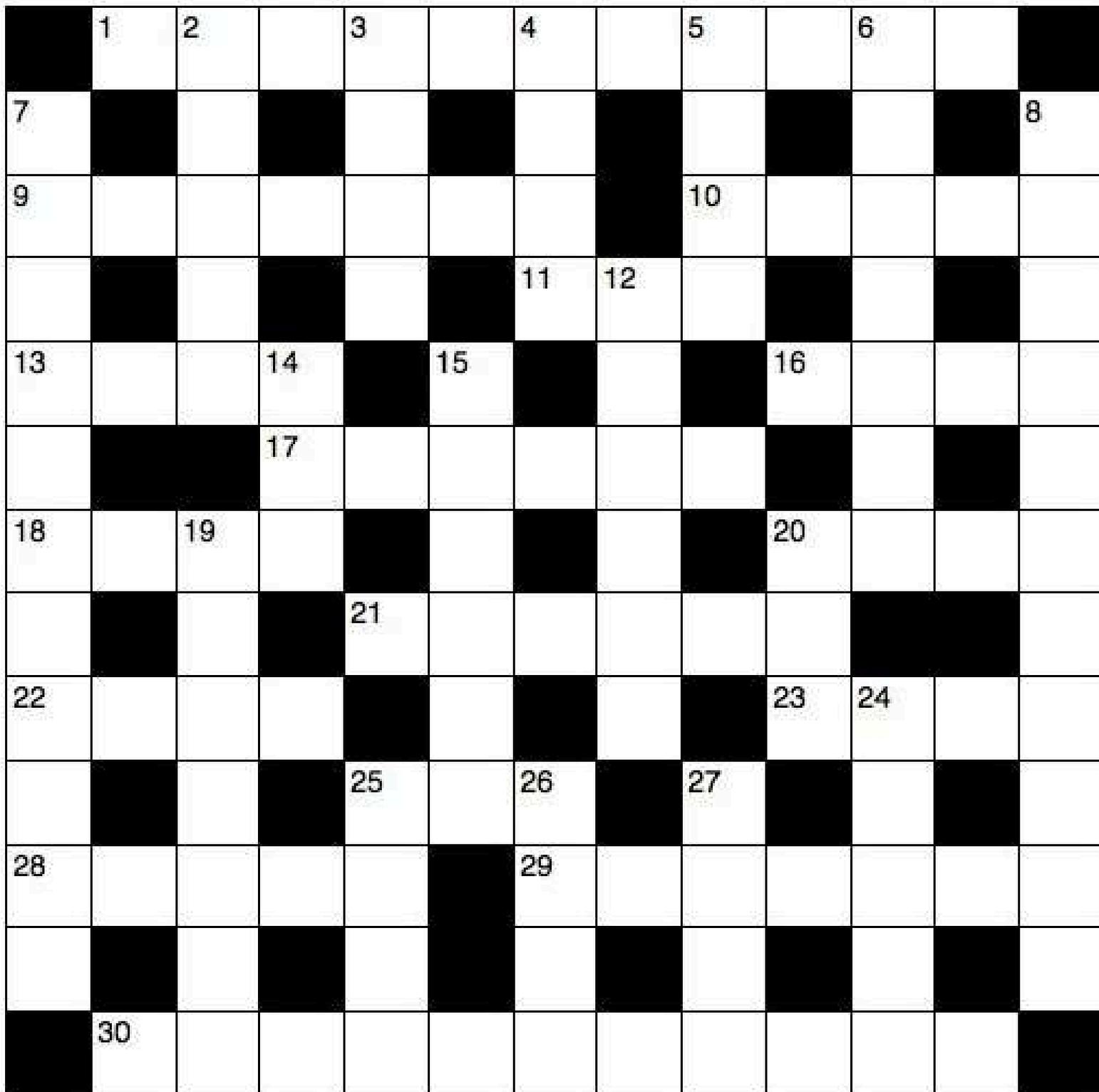
From 1921-29 Temple was Bishop of Manchester. He was a pioneer of the Ecumenical Movement and gradually became a national figure. In 1926 he urged the British government to seek a negotiated agreement to the General Strike.

Temple excelled as a moderator; a teacher and a preacher and his appointment as Archbishop of York (1929-40) was a popular one. His influence led to the formation of the British Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches. During the 2nd World War he jointly founded the Council of Christians and Jews to combat anti-Semitism and other prejudice in Britain.

As Archbishop of Canterbury (1942-44) Temple became an outspoken advocate of social reform and became involved in the campaign against unemployment, poverty and poor housing. He believed in the rights of all people, whether rich or poor, and was a leading force for social justice. He was grounded in the problems of the working man and in his book *Christianity and Social Order* (1942) he shared his vision for all to have access to healthcare, education and decent housing. His radical thinking and activism played a foundational role in the formation of the British Welfare State.

Temple died aged 63 at Westgate-on-Sea, Kent on 26th October 1944. He was the first Primate of All England to be cremated, and his ashes were buried in the cloister garden of Canterbury Cathedral. He is the last Archbishop of Canterbury to have died while in office.

Crossword



Answers on page 21

Across

- 1 In David's battle with Arameans, 700 of these were killed (2 Samuel 10:18) (11)
9 'No — , impure or greedy person has any inheritance in the kingdom of God' (Ephesians 5:5) (7)
10 City on the banks of the River Nile (5)
11 Stamped addressed envelope (1,1,1)
13 Taverns (4)
16 'Be on your guard; stand — in the faith' (1 Corinthians 16:13) (4)
17 'He will not always — , nor will he harbour his anger for ever' (Psalm 103:9) (6)
18 & 27 Down Where the magi came from & what guided them (Matthew 2:1-2) (4,4)
20 Ancient Celtic alphabet of 20 characters (4)
21 She married Esau when he was 40 years old (Genesis 26:34) (6)
22 A great-grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:7) (4)
23 Title accorded to certain Roman Catholic clerics (abbrev.) (4)
25 'My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it a — of robbers' (Luke 19:46) (3)
28 Annie (anag.) (5)
29 Plead with (Zechariah 7:2) (7)
30 Tenth foundation of the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:20) (11)

Down

- 2 'We have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by — hands' (2 Corinthians 5:1) (5)
3 Uncommon excellence (Proverbs 20:15) (4)
4 'You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine — have been poured upon me' (Psalm 92:10) (4)
5 — Homo ('Behold the Man') (4)
6 'He has given proof of this to all men by — him from the dead' (Acts 17:31) (7)
7 'Our — is in heaven' (Philippians 3:20) (11)
8 'This is a day you are to — ' (Exodus 12:14) (11)
12 Assault (Psalm 17:9) (6)
14 'Jesus found a young donkey and — upon it' (John 12:14) (3)
15 Liverpool dialect (6)
19 'Remember the — day by keeping it holy' (Exodus 20:8) (7)
20 19th century German physicist after whom electrical resistance units are named (3)
24 Nazirites were not allowed to eat this part of a grape (Numbers 6:4) (5)
25 'If anyone would come after me, he must — himself and take up his cross and follow me' (Mark 8:34) (4)
26 Evil Roman emperor from AD54 to 68, responsible for condemning hundreds of Christians to cruel deaths (4)
27 See 18 Across

War and Peace

John Lennon wrote: 'Imagine there's no countries, It isn't hard to do, Nothing to kill or die for, And no religion too. Imagine all the people living life in peace.' But on Remembrance Sunday, we should reflect on war past and present, and consider the real way to peace.

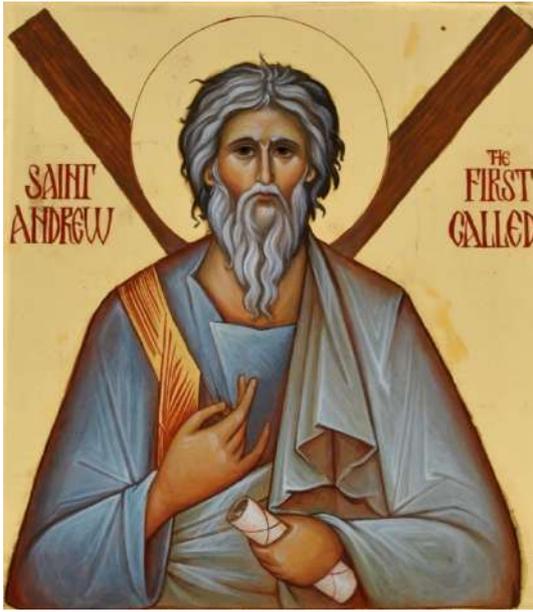
The way of war: 'What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill.' (James 4:1-2). James reminds us that war has its basis in our own hearts, with the selfish desires that exploit, bully and kill others to get our own way. Sadly, when nations allow these inner selfish attitudes to determine their policy the result is war. Only God can establish true peace.

The way of peace: Isaiah, 2,700 years before John Lennon, also imagined a future of peace without any war: 'They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.' (Isaiah 2:4).

Only Jesus, the Prince of Peace, can bring true peace to our lives and world. Jesus did not experience the horror of battle, but He did die an horrific death at the hand of the Romans. He gave His life sacrificially, as He took God's anger at our sin on Himself and went on to conquer death in His resurrection. He did this out of love for us, and calls us to love others in the same way: 'Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.' (John 15:13).

How can we demonstrate such love ourselves? We can be confident in God's plan to bring an end to all wars when Jesus returns.

30th November – Andrew, first disciple of Jesus



Andrew, whose feast day ends the Christian year on 30th November, is probably best known to us as the patron saint of Scotland, though his only connection with the country is that some of his bones were reputedly transported in the 8th century to Fife and preserved at a church in a place now named St Andrews.

In fact, there are so many legends about him all over Europe and the Middle East that it's safest to stick to what the Gospels tell us - though the strong tradition that he was martyred by crucifixion is probably true and is perpetuated in the 'St Andrew's Cross', the 'saltyre' of Scotland.

The Gospels record that he was one of the first disciples of Jesus, and the very first to bring someone else to Christ - his own brother. Like many fervent Jews at the time Andrew and an unnamed companion had been drawn to the desert, to be taught by the charismatic prophet known to us as John the Baptist. Many thought that he was the long-promised Messiah, but John insisted that he was not. 'I am the voice crying in the wilderness,' he told the crowds. 'Prepare the way of the Lord! One comes after me who is greater than I am.'

So when one day John pointed out Jesus to Andrew and his friend and described Him as the 'Lamb of God', the two young men assumed that the next stage of their spiritual search was about to unfold. So, as Jesus made off, they followed Him.

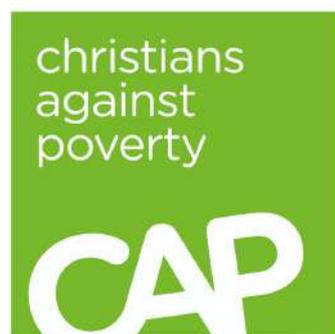
All the more strange then, (though, on reflection, very true to human nature) that when Jesus turned and asked them what they were 'seeking', all they could come up with was a lame enquiry about His current place of residence: 'where are you staying?' Or, perhaps, they were hinting that what they were seeking could not be dealt with in a brief conversation. If they could come to His lodgings, perhaps their burning questions might be answered.

The reply of Jesus was the most straight-forward invitation anyone can receive: 'Come and see'. Come and see what I'm like, what I do, the sort of person I am. What an invitation!

The results of their response were in this case life-changing - for themselves, and for many other people. Andrew brought his brother, Peter, to Jesus. The next day Jesus met Philip and called him to 'follow.' Philip then brought Nathaniel. The little apostolic band who would carry the message of Jesus to the whole world was being formed. They came, they saw, they were won over! And right at the front of the column, as it were, was Andrew, the first disciple of Jesus.

When poverty pushes people into dark places

As Christmas approaches, the charity Christians Against Poverty (CAP) is warning that "Poverty has become more ruthless than ever. There are rarely simple solutions anymore. Families can't afford to live, let alone repay debt, as incomes don't cover the basics."



CAP tells the story of Bea, one of its clients. "Like nearly half of CAP's clients, Bea's income wasn't enough to live on. She and her husband had been made redundant and, no matter how careful she was, after paying for rent, food, and other essentials, the money couldn't stretch to the end of the month. "I got to the point where I didn't want to be here. I was in a black hole, and couldn't get out."

Nearly half of CAP's clients have attempted or considered suicide as a way out of debt, as on-going poverty and debt is literally driving people to the brink.

And so this Christmas, CAP is asking for support, as "your gift to CAP could save lives. The holistic care and debt help local churches across the UK are providing is vital for people like Bea."

If you would like to send a donation, please visit: <https://capuk.org> or consider volunteering for our local group in Wigan.

3rd November - Martin of Porres

Martin of Porres is the saint for anyone who has let God transform their bad experiences into making them stronger, sensitive to the pain of others, and able to bring healing and kindness.

Martin was born in Lima, in 1570. The son of a Spanish officer and a freed slave woman from Panama, Martin was of mixed race and rejected by both sides. Living in poverty with his mother, he grew up amid the violence that followed the Spanish conquest of Peru.

In his early teens, Martin became an apprentice to a barber-surgeon, and at 15 he joined the Dominican friary in Lima as a lay brother. He stayed for the rest of his life, working as a barber, farm labourer, almoner and infirmarian.

The traumas of Martin's childhood gave him compassion for others who were in the stormy seas of life; he nursed the sick, and used his knowledge of herbal medicines to treat infections, fevers and ailments. Martin was also generous caring for those in need, giving food and clothing to the poor of the city each week. As he grew older, he began an orphanage for abandoned children and grew fruit trees to provide food for the poor.

Martin's strength came from long hours in prayer, seeking God's guidance. When he died thousands of citizens in Lima mourned for him. Martin is still one of the most popular saints in the Americas, considered the patron saint of social justice and interracial harmony.

Crossword Answers

ACROSS: 1, Charioteers. 9, Immoral. 10, Cairo. 11, SAE. 13, Inns. 16, Firm. 17, Accuse. 18, East. 20, Ogam. 21, Judith. 22, Seba. 23, Msgr. 25, Den. 28, Inane. 29, Entreat. 30, Chrysoprase.

DOWN: 2, Human. 3, Rare. 4, Oils. 5, Ecce. 6, Raising. 7, Citizenship. 8, Commemorate. 12, Assail. 14, Sat. 15, Scouse. 19, Sabbath. 20, Ohm. 24, Seeds. 25, Deny. 26, Nero. 27, Star.

Should we have faith in science?

How do you feel about science after the recent pandemic? Are you tired or interested, impressed or cynical – or a bit of everything? The response to COVID-19 over the past few years has demonstrated how ideology or worldview are hugely influential in our interpretation and use of scientific data – and at times in the process of experimentation itself. Should we trial a vaccine in Spain or South Africa? Is this treatment safe enough to administer to the general public? Should vaccination be made compulsory? The data doesn't tell us what to do.

So, when we are encouraged to 'trust the science' in our ongoing response to the pandemic, or in our response to climate change, how can the Church respond? The whole biblical story affirms that God is the only one in whom we can have complete faith. On the other hand, I do put a certain amount of trust in other things. I can have faith in a plane, a body of knowledge, or a person. This trust is within limits because I know that air travel involves hazards, a body of knowledge will contain some mistakes, and every ordinary human is fallible. I trust science to some extent because it involves careful observation and measurement, collecting different kinds of evidence. Data is interpreted, and competing interpretations are tried out. Scientists keep each other accountable by looking critically at each other's work. Our knowledge is always provisional. You can't prove anything scientifically because we only deal in evidence, not proof.

On the other hand, there must always be the potential to disprove a theory or it's not science. Our aim is to keep getting nearer to the truth about the way the world is. Overall, I believe this method is reliable and worth supporting, but that only God is completely trustworthy.

Psalm 8 reminds us both of the splendour of God's creation, and that He has placed us in a position of responsibility over it. Scientific knowledge can be part of what helps us to rule well. The process of doing science can be a bit like a blurry image coming into focus. The more we learn, the better we can usually see what's going on, and hopefully the easier it is to decide on a course of action. So, in answer to the question 'Should we have faith in science?' I would say yes, when used wisely and within its proper limits.



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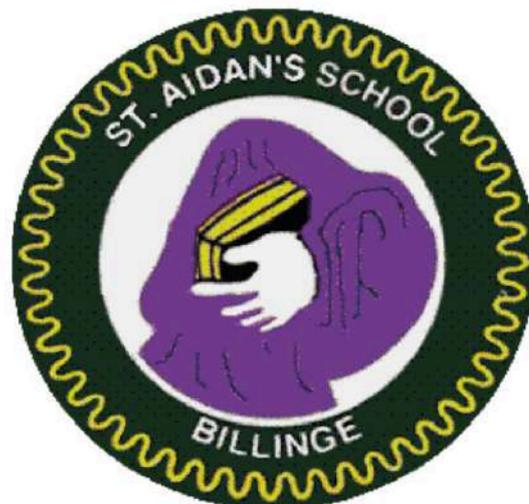
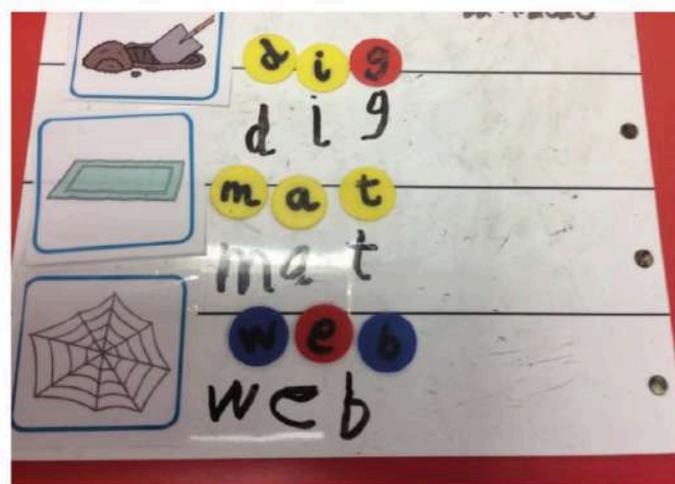
Also

100 Parr Stocks Road. Tel: 01744 27928

199 Warrington Road, Whiston Tel: 0151 431 0696

1 Queen St; Newton-le-Willows WA12 9AS Tel: 01925 291060

177 Ormskirk Road, Rainford, WA11 8HR Tel 01744 882645



Welcoming you to our St Aidan's Family

Funded places available in our Nursery for September 2023 for 3 and 4 year olds.

Please contact school on:

01744 678042

staidansb@sthelens.org.uk





A Private Day Nursery, rated Good by Ofsted, caring for babies and children from 3 months to 4 years old.

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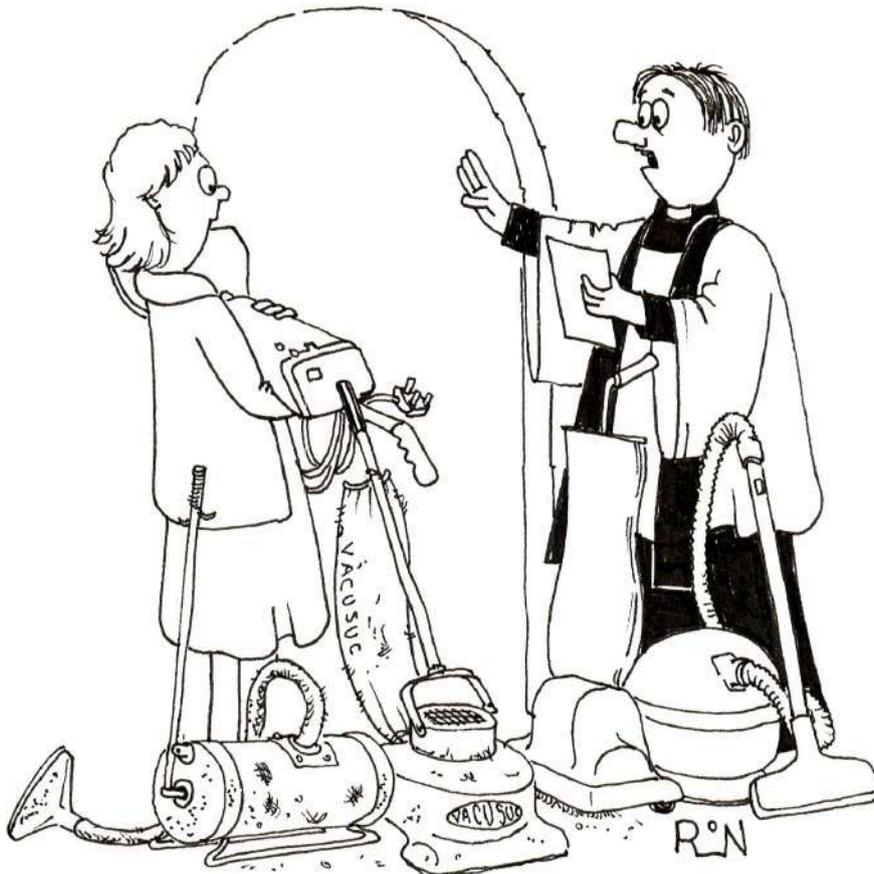
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*With proper ceremony, they laid it to rest
with its ancestors*

News from our churches

Sunday 3rd November	10am 12.45pm	Holy Communion Baptism Service
Wednesday 6th November	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 10th November	10am 4pm	Sta's4all at school Remembrance Service
Sunday 17th November	10am	Morning Worship
Wednesday 20th November	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 24th November	10am 4pm	Beacon Service Holy Communion



Remembrance Service

The service at 4pm on 10th November is the Civic Remembrance Service, which is an ecumenical service attended by our Mayor and Councillors and co-led by June Phillips, Rev Sue Fulford and Father Paul from St. Mary's.



Sta's4all – In November we are telling the story of the lost sheep and how the Good Shepherd went looking for the sheep, just as he seeks us when we go astray. There will be the usual craft activities, refreshments, singing and prayers. Newcomers are always welcome.



Beacon: Our next Beacon service is on November 24th. This is our annual Toy Service. We will collect toys for the Council appeal to help families who will struggle to create a 'happy Christmas' for their children. Please bring a gift suitable for a child up to the age of 17 years. It should be unwrapped.



In November the Friendship group are going together for a meal to the Mount at Orrell 2pm on Thursday 28th November. There is a Christmas menu, but you can choose your meal from the ordinary menu too. Please contact Brenda Bridge (01477 894528) if you would like to join them. On 12th December they will be back in Church singing Carols!

St Aidan's Review

We made a good start on our missional review, in October. A number of worship leaders and volunteers discussed discipleship, communication, community, worship and leadership as well as Mission. There are many good things in our church, but we know that there are things that we need to work on! If you have any thoughts on this, or ideas that you think would add positively to our mission, you can make a contribution. Please let Helen Steele have written details before the next meeting which will be on 18th November at 7pm.

Bereavement Group

Rev Dave Hamlett would be willing to help us to create a Group to support the Bereaved at St. Aidan's. It would meet once a month, offering refreshments and the chance to chat together for those who have recently been bereaved. For those who wish it there would also be the opportunity to be prayed for. He would need assistance. Volunteers are needed who would open up church and make refreshments. It would probably be on a Friday afternoon. We have one volunteer who would be willing to assist on a rota basis, so we would need at least 2 more volunteers prepared to work with Dave once every 3 months. If you could assist in this way please let Helen Steele or Barbara Goulden know.

Prayer changes things!

At St. Aidan's we believe in the power of prayer. It is something that we can do at any time, in any place, even if we are not able to get out and about. We can all pray on our own at home, with others in our church services, in small groups with a common goal, (as we do at Sta's4all planning meetings) and we can also pray as individuals with a common aim.



For instance:

- St Aidan's Emergency Prayer Group pray for individuals in need within or known to our congregation:

Do you know someone in need of prayer support? Sickness, anxious, feeling unloved, bereaved, depressed? Prayer enables us to be encircled in love. This emergency prayer group will pray in confidence for your loved one. Ring Jennifer on 01942 537325 or Brenda on 01744 894528 to share the need.

- Prayer for the Mission and Ministry of St. Aidan's pray for all aspects which affect our church mission to reach out to our community and for the practical aspects of our church building and services and our position within Wigan South

This is co-ordinated by one of our prayer warriors - Pauline Griffiths. When we are not meeting face to face prayer needs are emailed by Pauline to the prayer support group for them to pray in their own time. Recent topics have included overcoming problems with our audio visual system, progress with the Food Pantry, our school and teachers, Sta's4all and Beacon Services, the need for volunteers in church and the churchyard, our Missional review, and more.

If you would like to be a part of the team who pray for the Mission and Ministry of St. Aidan's please contact Pauline on paulinesonia@hotmail.co.uk

Quiz Night

I hope that you have your quiz brains in gear! We will be holding another Quiz night in Church on Friday 29th November starting at 7pm to raise funds for our Audio system which is in great need of repair.

John Bridge will again be our quiz master. There will be a raffle, light refreshments and you need to bring your own drinks and glasses and thank you in advance for taking your empties away with you afterwards.



The ticket price is £5.00. Tickets available from Church at services or through Barbara Goulden, Jennifer Berry or Jean Grundy.

Talent Competition

Tickets will be out shortly for Beth's Talent Competition to support her trip to Kenya with Camps International in the summer of 2026 where she will do some voluntary conservation projects and other community project work. This will be an opportunity to enjoy an evening of entertainment from young gifted entertainers.

It takes place on Friday November 22nd at 7.30pm at St. Mary's Club. Tickets are £4 for adults and £2 for children or a family ticket of £8 for 2 adults and up to 2 children. Tickets can be obtained from Helen Steele.

Beth is still looking for 'talent' to take part. Do you know any dancers, singers, comedians or other entertainers who would like to take part. This is for both adults and children. Please email Beth for more details on bm1404022011@gmail.com (or chat to Helen Steele)



USPG boxes

(United Society Partners in the Gospel)

I would like to thank Brenda Bridge who has faithfully co-ordinated the USPG boxes for over a quarter of a century! She has collected in the boxes annually and sent in our

contributions to this very worthy charitable organisation. It was first set up in 1701, but Brenda has not been doing it this long!



During its more than three hundred years of operations, the Society has supported more than 15,000 men and women in mission roles within the worldwide Anglican Communion. Working through local partner churches, the charity's current focus is the support of emergency relief, longer-term development, and Christian leadership training projects.

At this point in time Brenda feels that she needs to retire from this role. Our last donation was £300. If no-one can be found to continue this work our contributions will have to cease. If you feel that you could collect the boxes each year and co-ordinate this process please talk to Brenda who would be happy to explain what is involved.

The Registers



Funerals or Burials of Ashes 'May they rest in peace'

3rd October	Joseph Cunliffe
6th October	Ethel Barnes

Note from Treasurer

If you wish to make a donation by Bank Transfer the details are:

Sort code: 60 24 02 Account No: 04035135

Please insert the name of the person you wish us to remember as the reference and email joan.roberts530@outlook.com with any wording for the donation to go in the magazine.

Cheque made payable to St Aidan's Parish Church or (in exceptional circumstances) cash donations in an envelope can be given to the treasurer in church. Alternatively, please pass to a Church Warden or leader only, marked for the attention of the treasurer.

This shall ensure all monies are recorded, gift aid claimed and donations placed in the magazine in a timely manner.

Garden of Remembrance Memorial stone

New rules now apply to having an inscription engraved on the stone. Any entry must be paid for at the rate when the stone-mason does the work. We will advise you of this charge beforehand. You may also arrange for a line to be reserved below this inscription for a loved one by paying a £50 deposit. When the time comes to fill in the reserved line the charge at that time will apply less the £50 deposit. The fee must be paid before any inscription is added.

Unfortunately, we have had to make this change because rising costs have left the Church having to pay a shortfall of the fee charged at the time a second line was requested.

Anyone wishing to make any addition to the memorial stone should contact Barbara Goulden (894694). Please give details in writing and include a telephone number on which you can be contacted

St Aidan's Church Officials

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hrsteele@tiscali.co.uk
01744 894111

Assistant Wardens

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barbaragoulden@yahoo.com
01744 894694

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01744 732890

Assistant Treasurer

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01744 893251

Baptism Enquiries

Margaret Stott
01744 895751

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St Aidan's School Headteacher

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St Aidan's Friendship Group

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Gift Aid

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C.E Children's Society

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USPG Boxes

John & Brenda Bridge
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01744 894528

Flowers

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01744 894694

Bible Reading Notes

Harry Wareing
harrywareing@talktalk.net
01744 894759

Magazine Editor

Vacant

Funerals are always booked through the undertaker.
Other enquiries about funerals contact
staidansbillingeveryer@yahoo.com



St Aidan's Billinge

www.staidanbillinge.org.uk