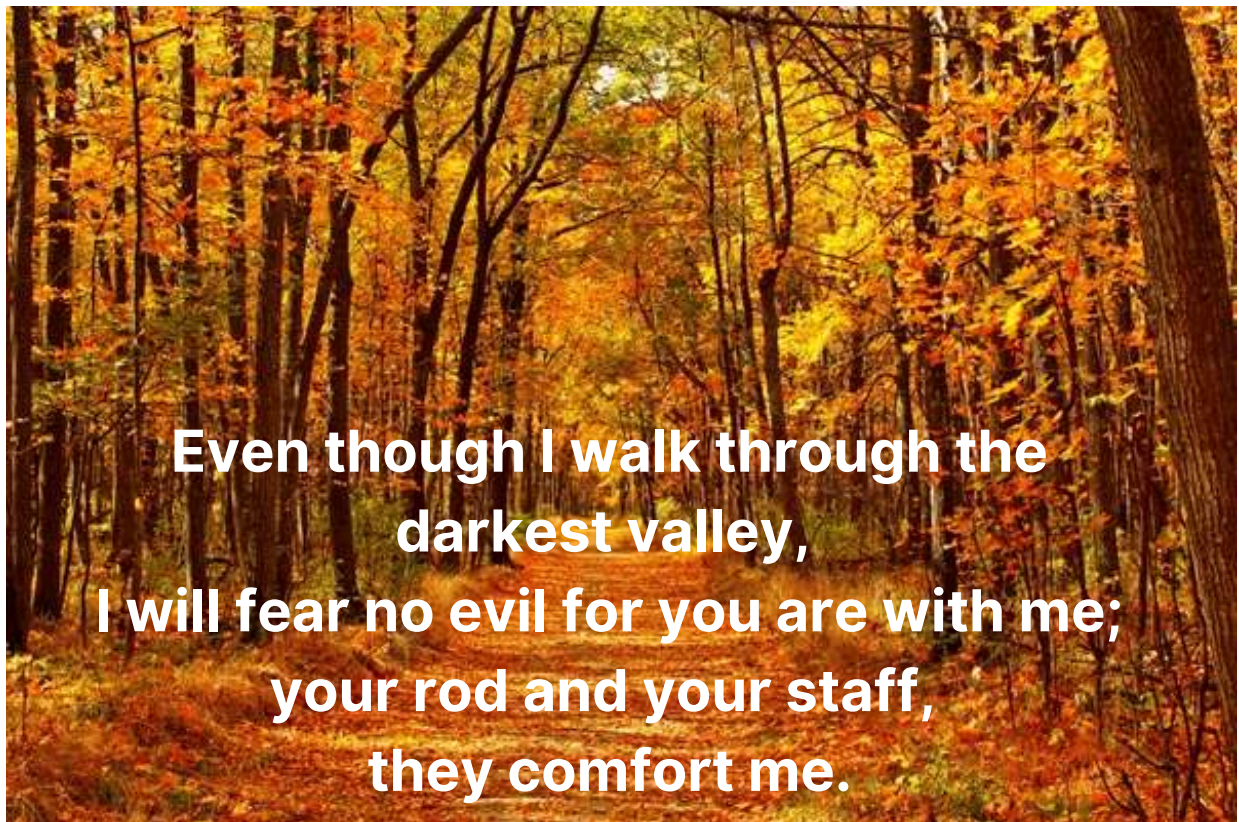


Wigan South Parish Magazine

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

St Aidan's edition



October 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.

	October	November	December
Deadline for material	19 September	17 October	14 November
Publication date	29 September	27 October	24 November

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The Dance

Life is a dance -
Sometimes you lead, sometimes you follow,
At times the steps are hard to learn
But persevere - there is a tomorrow.

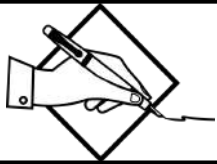
It can be hard -
Sometimes it's right, sometimes it's wrong,
As you learn to move to a different beat
But don't look back keep moving on.

Problems may come -
Sometimes you can, sometimes you fail
To do the things you did before,
But carry on you will prevail.

Life is still there -
Sometimes it's practice, sometimes it's chance
As you've learnt the steps that take you on
And the music plays as you join in the dance

(Dance, then, wherever you may be; I AM the
Lord of the Dance said He.)

By Megan Carter



Letter from Vision Day

When reflecting on the recent Brigade Camp, Eth directs us to the reading they had on the first morning of camp:

1 Corinthians 12:20-25 *As it is, there are many parts but one body.*

So then, the eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!". Nor can the head say to the feet, "Well, I don't need you!". On the contrary, we cannot do without the parts of the body that seem to be weaker; and those parts that we think aren't worth very much are the ones which we treat with greater care; while the parts of the body which don't look very nice are treated with special modesty which the more beautiful parts do not need. God himself has put the body together in such a way as to give greater honour to those parts that need it. And so there is no division in the body, but all its different parts have the same concern for one another. Amen

The same rang true at our Wigan South Vision Day on Saturday 21st September too; there were discussions aplenty about where our strengths lay, where we can continue to discern God's direction and where we want to focus our efforts going forward. What was most interesting is that not every one had the same ideas. What worked for one, was not necessary right for another but did that make the ideas and experiences any better or worse? No! Because from each of these experiences we can learn, adapt and grow if we keep our mission at the heart of all we do. And not only that but we are in a great position where, as six churches, each bring their invaluable skills and talents that we can all call upon.

What becomes apparent when talking about the exciting projects we have ongoing and yet to come, is that there is so much to do! And often it can very much feel that 'the harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few'. As we come to the end of our Giving in Grace series, as well as financial giving, we have explored how the giving of time and talents are just as valuable. Each one of us have skills, that can contribute to the work we have to do - even if sometimes we are not entirely sure what that skill is! As we enter into the rather busy build up to Advent, why not pray for God to place you in a position where you can best serve Him - who knows what He will have in store for you.

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)

October Events

Tuesday 1st October 10am - 11.30am: Bereavement Group (St Luke's)

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

Monday 7th October 11am: Holy Communion at Garswood House (organised by St Peter's)

Saturday 12th October 2.30pm: Afternoon Tea (St Thomas')

Tuesday 15th October 11am - 2pm: MacMillan Coffee Morning (St Andrew's)

Wednesday 16th October 7.30pm: Special MU meeting with Coops Foyer, Women's Aid and The Brick - all are welcome to learn more about these causes (St Thomas' Church Hall)

Friday 18th October 12pm: Modern Day Slavery service (Liverpool Cathedral)

Saturday 19th October 2pm: Ashton Churches Together Songs of Praise (Our Lady's, Downall Green)

Sunday 20th October 4pm: Remembrance Service (St Aidan's)

6.30pm: Choral Evensong (St Thomas')

Thursday 24th October 2pm: Friendship Group (St Aidan's)

Sunday 27th October 6.30pm: Remembrance Service (St Thomas')

Advanced Notices

Saturday 2nd November 1pm - 6pm: Winter Market (St Peter's)

Sunday 3rd November 4pm: Remembrance Service (Holy Trinity)

Tuesday 5th November 11am - 1.30pm: Pop Up Sale (St Thomas')

Saturday 16th November 11am - 2pm: Christmas Fayre (St Thomas')

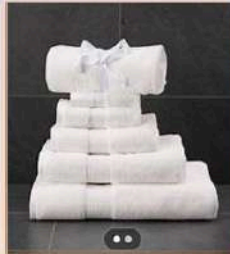
Friday 29th November 7pm: Milltown Sound Winter Concert at Haydock Conservative Club

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Ashton in Makerfield,
Wigan,
WN4 9PL
11:00 – 13:30



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- ❖ **Place:** St Andrews Mission Hall – Garzwood
- ❖ **Date:** Tuesday 15th October 2024
- ❖ **Time:** 11:00am – 2:00pm
- ❖ **Contact:** Rosalyn Unsworth – Tel: 07981 201386

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🕒 2.30PM, SATURDAY 12 OCTOBER
📍 ST THOMAS' CHURCH

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Contact Jan Cornthwaite
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Wigan South Hub Churches

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

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A Pathway To Hope

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Share your experiences with a group of loving people

1st Tuesday of every month

Starting

December 2023

St Luke's Church
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WN4 8UN

10.00am - 11.30am

St Andrew's Church
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1.30pm - 3.00pm

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NOVEMBER 2024

1-6PM

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Saturday 19th October
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At Our Lady's Church
Downall Green Road

Free Parking available
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EVERYONE WELCOME!



Services in October



Wednesday 2nd	10.00am: Holy Communion	St Aidan's
Thursday 3rd	9.45am: BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
Sunday 6th	9.00am: Morning Worship 9.30am: Holy Communion 10.00am: Holy Communion 10.30am: Morning Worship 10.30am: Morning Worship 10.45am: Worship Together - Harvest 11.00am: Morning Worship	St Thomas' St Andrew's St Aidan's Holy Trinity St Peter's St Thomas' St Luke's
Wednesday 9th	10.00am: Holy Communion	Holy Trinity
Thursday 10th	9.45am: BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
Sunday 13th	9.00am: Holy Communion 9.30am: Morning Worship 10.00am: Stas4all 10.30am: Holy Communion 10.30am: Harvest & Brigade Service 10.45am: Worship Together 11.00am: Holy Communion 4.00pm: Evening Prayer	St Thomas' St Andrew's St Aidan's Holy Trinity St Peter's St Thomas' St Luke's St Aidan's
Wednesday 16th	10.00am: Holy Communion	St Aidan's
Thursday 17th	9.45am: BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'

Sunday 20th	9.00am: Morning Worship 9.30am: Morning Worship 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 23rd	10.00am: Holy Communion	St Aidan's
Thursday 24th	9.45am: BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
Sunday 27th	9.00am: Holy Communion 9.30am: Morning Worship 10.00am: Beacon 10.30am: Holy Communion 10.30am: Bible Sunday Morning Prayer 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 30th	10.00am: Holy Communion	Holy Trinity

Amazing God, we come to worship you because in your great love you have reached out to us, and continue to reach out to us, in so many wonderful ways – in your Creation, in Jesus, and through your Holy Spirit.

All are welcome to join any of the services across our Parish - you are sure to receive a warm welcome!

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

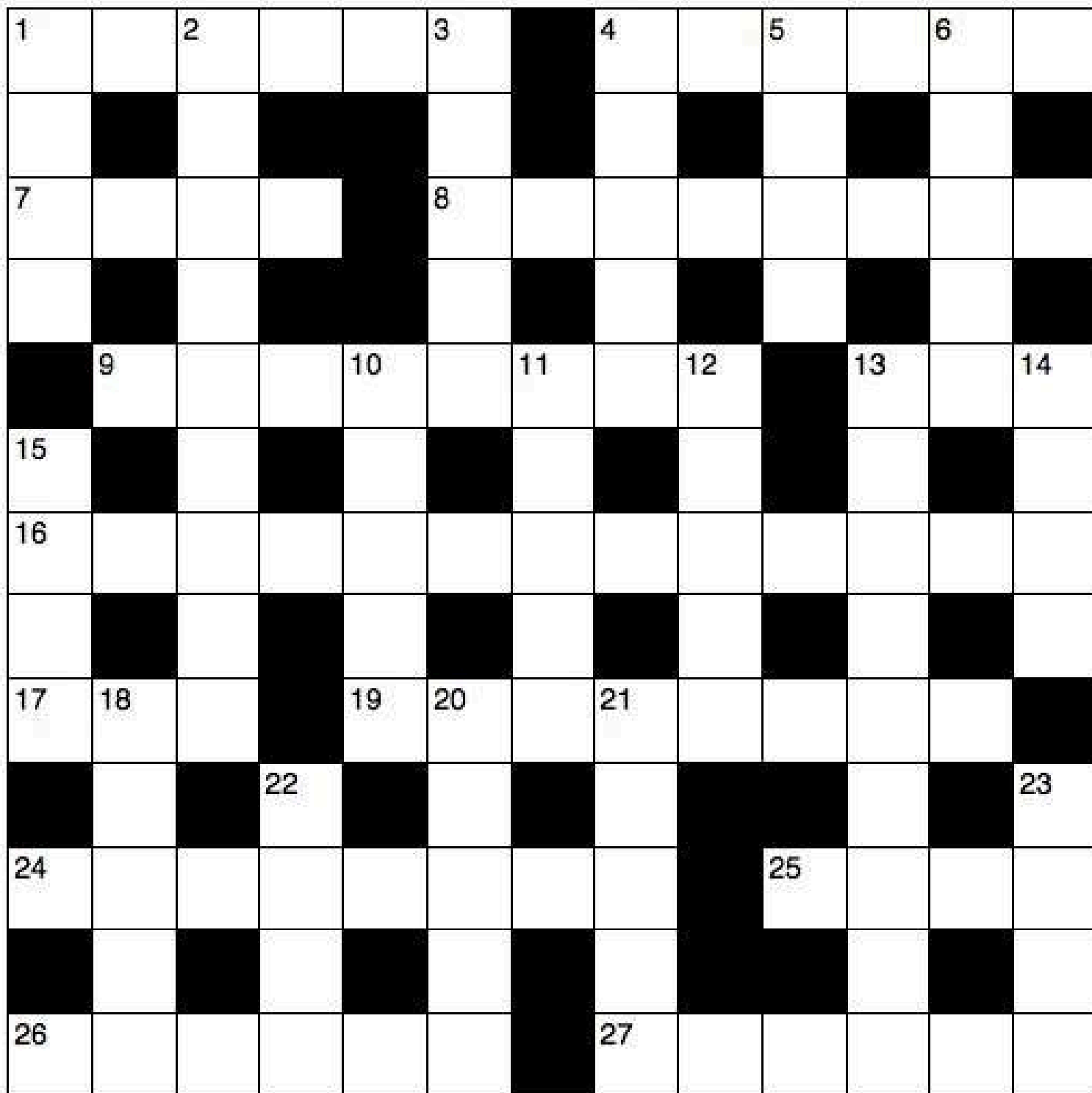


**Holy Trinity Church
Downall Green**

Friday 9am - 10am

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

Crossword



Answers on page 18

Across

- 1 He must be 'the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well' (1 Tim 3:12) (6)
- 4 'For we must all – before the judgement seat of Christ' (2 Corinthians 5:10) (6)
- 7 'They reeled and staggered like drunken men; they were at their – end' (Psalm 107:27) (4)
- 8 See 19 Across
- 9 It concerned who among the disciples would be the greatest (Luke 9:46) (8)
- 13 Formed by the Jews in Thessalonica to root out Paul and Silas (Acts 17:5) (3)
- 16 'He has sent me to bind up the – ' (Isaiah 61:1) (6-7)
- 17 Moved rapidly on foot (Matthew 28:8) (3)
- 19 and 8 ' –a great company of the– host appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (8,8)
- 24 Hindrance (Romans 14:13) (8)
- 25 Comes between Luke and Acts (4)
- 26 Empower (Acts 4:29) (6)
- 27 How dare you turn my Father's house into a – !' (John 2:16) (6)

Down

- 1 Sunrise (Psalm 119:147) (4)
- 2 The part of the day when Cornelius the Caesarean centurion had a vision of an angel of God (Acts 10:3) (9)
- 3 He was one of those who returned with Zerubbabel from exile in Babylon to Jerusalem (Nehemiah 7:7) (5)
- 4 'No one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born – '(John 3:3) (5)
- 5 Animal hunted or killed as food (Ezekiel 22:25) (4)
- 6 'He encouraged them – – remain true to the Lord' (Acts 11:23) (3,2)
- 10 Ruses (anag.) (5)
- 11 Jewish priestly vestment (Exodus 28:6) (5)
- 12 Visible sign of what had been there (Daniel 2:35) (5)
- 13 This was Alexander's trade, who did Paul 'a great deal of harm' (2 Tim 4:14) (9)
- 14 'This is my – , which is for you; do this in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (4)
- 15 One of Noah's great-great-grandsons (Genesis 10:24) (4)
- 18 Traditionally the first British Christian martyr (5)
- 20 Relationship of Ner to Saul (1 Samuel 14:50) (5)
- 21 Jacob had one at a place he named Bethel while on his way to Haran, fleeing from Esau (Genesis 28:12) (5)
- 22 Bats (anag.) (4)
- 23 'You strain out a – but swallow a camel' (Matthew 23:24) (4)

7th October - Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch

Of the 54 Roman emperors who ruled AD 30 to 311, only about a dozen made the effort to persecute Christians.

One of these was the Emperor Trajan, who ruled AD 98 to 117, though he was half-hearted about it. He decreed that Christians, although guilty of “anti-state behaviour”, were not to be hunted out for arrest, unless they were “very obvious” about their faith, and unless they refused to reject Christ when asked.

One such Christian was Ignatius, the second Bishop of Antioch, a leading city of Syria. He was arrested in Antioch during a persecution of the Antioch church and sentenced to be sent to Rome to be devoured by wild beasts in the arena there.

Soon Ignatius was put in chains, along with a number of others, and escorted by a unit of Roman soldiers to Troas on the Aegean coast, for embarkation to Rome. It was a long and arduous journey through Asia Minor, and the soldiers stopped off at various cities along the way.

This gave Ignatius time to write a series of seven remarkable letters to various churches along the way. And as news of his arrest and journey to Rome spread, the prominent Christians in each city flocked out to meet him as he arrived.

Ignatius’ letters reveal him to be passionate for church unity. He encouraged constant community worship and frequent celebration of the Eucharist. He was especially eager to stress the authority of the New Testament, and to oppose the docetists, who held that Christ’s sufferings and death were apparent but not real.

But above all, the letters reveal Ignatius as completely devoted to Christ. He was keen to receive martyrdom and stressed that on no account was anyone to attempt to prevent his death. For him, martyrdom was the ultimate imitation of Christ, and a gift from God. Although we have no account of his martyrdom, it is widely assumed that Ignatius got his wish, and died upon the completion of his journey to Rome.

Oskar Schindler – the German businessman who befriended the Jews

Fifty years ago, on 9th October 1974, Oskar Schindler, Austria-Hungarian-born German businessman, died. He saved more than 1,100 Jews during the Holocaust by employing them in his factories. The story is told in the film Schindler's List.

At the time of his death, in Hildesheim, Germany, he was almost unknown and very poor. After the war he and his wife Emilie (both now recognised by Israel as Righteous Among the Nations) had emigrated to Argentina, where they separated in 1957 and Oskar returned to Germany alone. Money was raised to pay for his burial in Israel. Emilie died in Germany in 2001, having spent most of her later life in Argentina.

Oskar Schindler had been an opportunistic German industrialist and a 'convenient' member of the Nazi Party who set himself up in an enamel factory in occupied Krakow, Poland, as part of a 'Germanisation' programme in 1939. The factory had previously been Jewish-owned.

Schindler employed Jews from a nearby concentration camp and used bribes and his own diplomatic skills to protect his workers from the brutality of life in the camp and ensure they were not deported. He added an armaments division and convinced the SS that his employees were essential to the war effort – although very little was produced.

The risks he took, which included dubious business deals, brought suspicion of giving unauthorised aid to Jews and of corruption: he was arrested three times but not charged.

His factory was relocated to Brännlitz, near his hometown, at his request and reopened there purely as an armaments factory – and, thanks to Schindler's persuasive powers, a sub-camp of a nearby concentration camp. An assistant compiled a list of almost 1,200 Jewish workers needed to move from Krakow to work in the new factory – 'Schindler's list' – which enabled their survival.

Learn to 'wait well' for things

'My future is in Your hands...'

In her helpful book, *When, God, When?* Joyce Meyer writes: "God has taught me to keep living the life I now have, while I am waiting for the things that are in my heart to come to pass. We can become so intent on trying to birth the next things that we neither enjoy nor take care of the things at hand. I had a vision from God ten years before I began to see it fulfilled. During those years, I believe I missed a lot of joy trying to give it birth outside of God's timing."

Learn to enjoy where you are, while you're waiting to get to where you want to be. After all, all your life you will spend more time waiting than you will receiving. And when you receive what you're waiting for now – you'll begin waiting for something else. That's life! If we don't learn to 'wait well', we'll live with endless frustration.

Waiting well is what will deliver our dream. Listen: "in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Gal. 6:9). "Due season" is when God knows we're ready, not when we think we are. He has set appointments to accomplish certain things in our life, so we might as well settle down and wait patiently, because that's when it will happen – and not before.

God knows what you need, He knows when you need it and He knows how to get it to you. All He asks you to do is trust Him.

Crossword Answers

ACROSS: 1, Deacon. 4, Appear. 7, Wits. 8, Heavenly. 9, Argument. 13, Mob. 16, Broken-hearted. 17, Ran. 19, Suddenly. 24, Obstacle. 25, John. 26, Enable. 27, Market.

DOWN: 1, Dawn. 2, Afternoon. 3, Nehum. 4, Again. 5, Prey. 6, All to. 10, Users. 11, Ephod. 12, Trace. 13, Metalwork. 14, Body. 15, Eber. 18, Alban. 20, Uncle. 21, Dream. 22, Stab. 23, Gnat.



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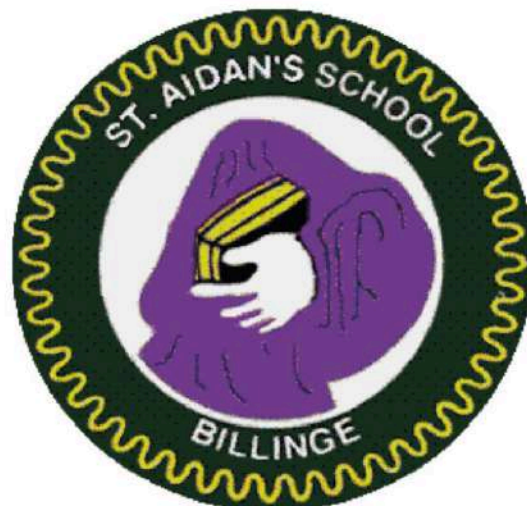
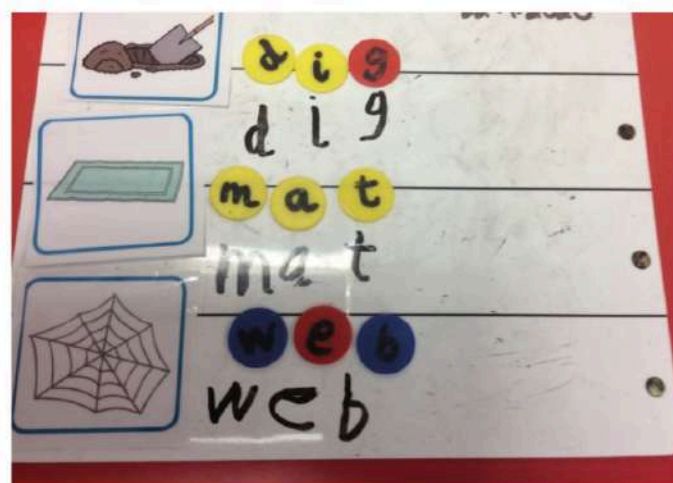
Also

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

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staidansb@sthelens.org.uk





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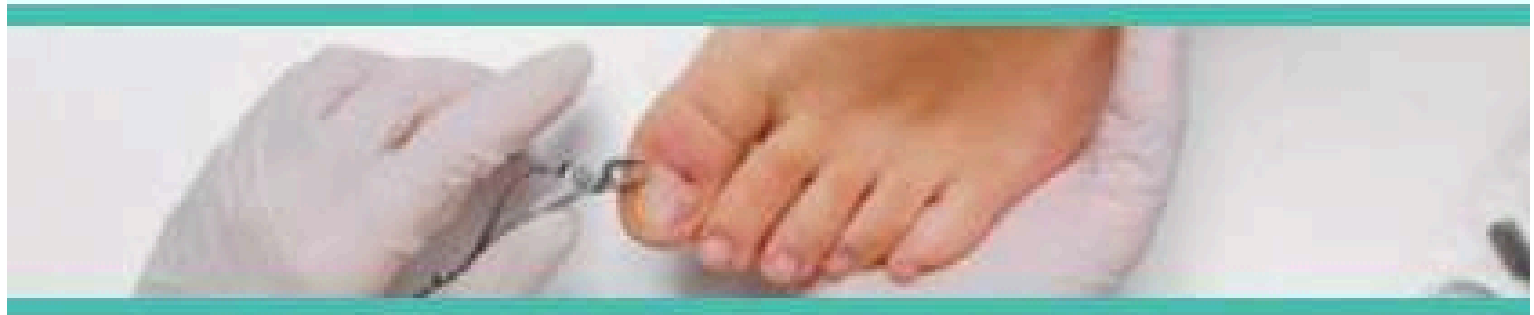


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"It's either an appeal to youth culture
or we can't afford to service the boiler
for the Winter season"

News from our churches

Wednesday 2nd October	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 6th October	10am 12.45pm	Holy Communion Baptism Service
Sunday 13th October	10am 4pm	Sta's4all at school Evening Prayer
Wednesday 16th October	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 20th October	10am 4pm	Morning Worship Remembering Loved Ones
Sunday 27th October	10am 4pm	Beacon Service Holy Communion

Remembering Loved Ones Service

On Sunday 20th October, there will be a special service of Remembering Loved Ones at 4pm. Revd Sue Fulford will be with us and refreshments will be served afterwards. If you would like a name of a loved one to be read out and remembered please let Margaret Stott know by 16th October (Tel 01744 895751)



Beacon

Our next Beacon service is on October 22nd.

As the evening are closing in, and it's shortly before the darkness of Halloween, we will be thinking about 'light'

Sta's4all

In October we are telling the story of a Synagogue leader named Jarius and the miracle that took place when he turned to Jesus, placing his faith in Him. Some of our older children will be acting the story out for us. There will be the usual craft activities, refreshments, singing and prayers. Newcomers are always welcome.



The Friendship Group are meeting together in church on Thursday October 24th at 2pm. The speaker will be Yumiko Peers.

This is open to all comers, giving a chance to make new friends as well as chat and refreshments.



Christian Exploration Opportunities

A '**Start!**' course begins on Tuesday 29th October. (A change to the day published last month) It will be at St. Luke's Church at Stubshaw Cross, Ashton and will be led by Sandra Jones and Sue Fulford. It is open to all Churches in South Hub.

Start! introduces Christianity through six DVD based interactive, small-group sessions. The Start! course makes no assumptions about participants' background or experience or knowledge of Christianity or the church. It really does start from scratch.

The **Prayer Course** has been delayed till the new year but will be held at Holy Trinity, Downall Green. Please contact Helen Steele for more details if you are interested.

Talent Competition

Many of you will know Helen Steele's granddaughter, Bethany. She is raising funds to spend 4 weeks in Kenya with Camps International in the summer of 2026 where she will do some voluntary conservation projects and other community project work.



One venture to raise funds is a Talent Competition which will take place on Friday 22nd November at 7.30pm at St. Mary's Club.

She is currently looking for 'talent' to take part. Do you know any dancers, singers, comedians or other forms of talent who would like to take part. This is for both adults and children. Please email Bethany for more details on bm1404022011@gmail.com (or chat to Helen) For the technically minded more information about the work she will take part in can be found here:

Extra Trip Information:



Easy Fundraising website:



GoFundMe page:

Aidan's Pantry

All gifts of non-perishable goods are always welcome. These can be left in the boxes at the back of church when attending any service or activity. We are grateful to those shops who donate goods each week. What they offer depends on what they have with a short shelf life, so each week there may be different things on offer.

If you have a food to give this can be brought to church early on the Friday morning, or contact Peter Preston on 07903 949744 to see when church will be open on the Thursday.

Do you grow your own? Do you have a glut of anything? Perishable goods can be useful items for the Pantry at any time of year. Because Pantry is on a Friday and perishable goods can only be offered on one week these would need to be brought to church early on the Friday.



Hope's Heart and Hope's therapy Dogs

On Saturday 14th September a number of Church leaders were pleased to be invited to the Launch of Hope's Heart – a charity to support the mental health of children through animal assisted interventions and through art and music therapies. This took place at St. Aidan's school, where Hope was a pupil until she lost her hard fought fight against Brain Cancer. It was a splendid affair with information about the charity, musical and dance entertainment, a raffle and cake and craft stalls to raise money for the newly launched charity. You may have seen details of their work on the Northwest tonight 'making a difference' award, which they won.

You can find out more details about the work that they do by visiting www.hopesheart.org.uk and www.hopestherapydogs.co.uk. You can also find a page on Facebook. It is a non-profit organisation and every penny goes directly towards helping a child. We at St. Aidan's wish Ali and the team every success in the future.

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

Donations & Remembrance

St. Aidan's Treasurer and Church Committee would like to acknowledge with thanks the kind donations: -

Sound System

With thanks for the anonymous donation towards our new Sound System

General Fund

With thanks from all the family and friends of Eileen Hollins who passed away recently

In loving memory of Peter Dart who passed away on the 12th January 2024 from his loving wife Eileen

Thank you to our Friendship Group who meets monthly in church for their kind donation

Aidan's Pantry

With thanks for the ongoing support to our pantry and the cash gifts given this month

Ray

Rachael

Marion Boardman

The Registers



Holy Baptism 'We welcome them into the Lord's family'

1 September

Saxon Albus Hatch

St Aidan's Church Officials

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Helen Steele
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01744 894111

Assistant Wardens

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barbaragoulden@yahoo.com
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Assistant Treasurer

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Wedding Bookings

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St Aidan's Friendship Group

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Gift Aid

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Bible Reading Notes

Harry Wareing
harrywareing@talktalk.net
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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