

Parish Church of Saint Cuthbert Lytham



June 2020

Services

Morning Prayer via Facebook - 9:00am - Monday to Saturday

Sunday Service via Facebook- 10.00am - Holy Communion

The Leadership Team

Vicar:

Revd Nick Wells



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Revd Adam Thomas



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David Chapman

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Bev Wells

Nicola Whitehead

Parish Administrator

Fiona Newbold

Safeguarding Officer

Angela Lee

Dear Friends

The message of Pentecost has been very strong to me this year, certainly since Easter. This is partly because it was the theme of Spring Harvest, the Christian teaching holiday, which was available in our homes through YouTube this year. We were then planning our Pentecost morning service well in advance to ensure so many items came together.

Just as the risen Jesus appeared to the disciples in the locked down upper room where they were isolating for fear of the authorities, so now the Holy Spirit blows through this same locked down room and inspires them. Led by Peter the apostles emerge from their lockdown in Jerusalem and begin to speak excitedly of the faith they have in the risen Jesus. How this faith has changed them and how the Holy Spirit has now given them the courage and conviction to come out and tell everyone.

For many reasons Christians have often been reticent of the Holy Spirit, but we must not be. We cannot be. It is a gift from God to transform our lives into the likeness of Christ. Being a Christian is not something we can do alone, but involves allowing God's Spirit to truly transform us to become the people God knows us to be. People of faith, generosity and grace, people showing the Fruit of the Spirit we hear of in Galatians Chapter 5.

The poem on the next page, written by a friend of our Sunday School Leader was delivered by our Puppet Ministry Team for our Pentecost service. It introduced the service in a lovely way. As we begin to emerge from our homes and places of refuge we come out with increased confidence as Christians. May we allow the Holy Spirit to recharge us, or as Bishop Cyril put it 'jump start us'.

Yours in Christ,
Nick

The Pentecost Poem - as presented by our puppets during our Pentecost Service

Jesus' friends were hiding
in a barred and bolted house.
Nothing could get in there,
not even a small mouse.
They had so many feelings:
like fear they would be killed
for being friends with Jesus,
and they were also filled
with joy that he had risen,
but sad that he was gone
to live back up in Heaven
as God Almighty's Son.

But Jesus said "Be patient.
I'll send help for your needs
I mean the Holy Spirit,
so follow where He leads
to tell the world about me
and all about God's love.
So wait there in Jerusalem
as I go on above.

So, there they were in hiding
with all the windows tight.
Everyone was whispering
like in the dead of night.
Just then there came a whistle
that blew the candles out.
Their whispers became murmurs,
their murmurs became shouts.

A mighty wind from Heaven
blew through that little space
and tongues of fire above them,

glowing in their face.
And they were so excited
they couldn't keep it in.
No longer were they quiet
Now they made a din!

They threw the doors wide open
and in the loudest cheer
called "Jesus Christ is living".
No longer did they fear.

That was not the strangest thing,
far stranger was their speech,
for they were using languages
their lessons did not teach!

It didn't matter where you're from
you knew what they were saying.
You knew that they were praising God.
You knew that they were praying.
They jumped around like crazy
and people stood there thinking
a miracle was happening,
or that they'd been drinking!

But Peter, who was sorry
for letting Jesus down,
and saying "I don't know him"
as he wore that thorny crown.

Peter, who had argued
when Jesus washed his feet,
Peter, who was violent
and had fallen fast asleep.

Peter stood before the crowd
and told them all the truth
that Jesus is alive again
and he gave them all the proof.

And on that day three thousand
were baptised and believed
and saying sorry for their sin
the Holy Spirit they received.
And they came to live together
and shared the bread and wine
Just like we continue
Since that first Pentecost time.

*02/05/2020 Austin Janes
dedicated to Julie Smith and St Cuthbert's Sunday School*

A Message from our Bishop

It is extraordinary that a virus that was unknown until very recently and that is unseen to the naked eye, has been able to have so much impact on so many people in such a short space of time and at so many levels of our national and international way of life.

Schools forced to close, acts of Christian worship suspended, workplaces shut down, restrictions advised on travel, unprecedented pressure on our NHS, calls for self-isolation. Who can imagine a Holy Week and Easter, proclaiming the death and resurrection of Jesus; events at the centre of our faith, without public gatherings of worship, meditation, celebration and prayer?

Into this crisis Christians bring a positive emphasis of hope. Church is not cancelled; we continue, but in a different way. Faith can be lived out and expressed in our homes through prayer and study together.

In Paul's second letter to Timothy 2.9, he speaks of his suffering in prison, being chained like a criminal, locked down and then declares:



"But God's Word is not chained, the work of God goes on relentlessly. The gates of hell cannot prevail!"

Of course, in a crisis opportunity to serve and help are multiplied. A recent visit to the Blackburn Foodbank showed me a band of wonderful volunteers making up food parcels for collection.

In the slow down, there will be new time for rethinking and re-evaluating our priorities in life.

This outbreak is a solemn reminder that we are not in control of our present, or our future and my prayer is that it will lead to a fresh turning to God, to a new awakening of faith and over the Easter period a deeper appreciation of Jesus' death and resurrection. That using the familiar words of the baptism and confirmation service, sees many turn to Him, submit to Him and come to Him, as the way, the truth and the life.

The disciple Peter said to Jesus when the crowds were leaving Him, "To whom else shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." He does indeed. May in this crisis many find that to be true.

Introducing Angela Lee St Cuthberts Safeguarding Officer

Why am I the next Safeguarding Officer? I don't know. I had told Nick that when I was at a Deanery Meeting in Brighton I watched Bishop Peter Ball and thought "what have you done". Several years later Bishop Peter went to prison for "what he had done". I had read his body language correctly.

I joined the Women's Royal Naval Service as a radio mechanic with the Fleet Air Arm in 1960. Married my husband, who was a Fleet Air Arm Observer in 1964, and I spent the next years bringing up our two daughters.

Having trained as a counsellor I was employed by a counselling agency (funded by the Roman Catholic Diocese) for seventeen years. We were there to help girls with unplanned pregnancies decide what to do. The Bishop (Cormack Murphy O'Connor) told us we must never make a girl feel guilty. Eventually we took our service to the Family Planning Clinic.

I also did a Masters Degree in Applied Theology, my dissertation was on "Women who Choose or Reject Abortion." For some years I was a prison visitor and started and chaired a local Victim Support Scheme.

I became a Lay Reader in 1991 and became a Hospital Chaplain for a Mental Health Hospital and one of the paid Anglican Chaplains for Brighton Health Care for seven years. I came to St Cuthbert's from St Michael's, Weeton in 2017.

Fylde Foodbank

Thank you so much to so many of you for your generous donations and regularly giving to the local Foodbank. It has been especially hectic recently as you can imagine, people queuing across the car park to receive food and toiletries, similar to people queuing to buy food at the supermarkets. In the 12 months before Lockdown 3343 people have been supported with food and toiletries, compared with 2495 the previous year.

Please will you donate to Fylde Foodbank through the supermarket drop off points (Sainsbury's, Booths, Ansdell Co-op, Tesco Blackpool). Alternatively whilst churches and doctors surgeries are closed for donations you are able to drop off donations at St Pauls Church Hall, Lake Road, Fairhaven (car park entrance door) on a Monday or Friday 9-12noon, and at St Annes United Reformed Church Hall, Wednesday 11-1pm. We especially need long life full fat milk, cereal, tinned potatoes & tomatoes, tea and coffee.

If you would benefit from a food parcel, although it can be hard, please do ask, the service is for everyone in the community so anyone who asks will receive. St Cuthbert's is registered to distribute food vouchers for people wishing to access the Foodbank, please contact the Parish Office. Fylde Foodbank is then open Tuesday 11am-1pm and Thursday 10am-1pm contact number 01253 727455.

If you are isolating or vulnerable, please phone the Community Support line – 01253 658448 and a parcel will be delivered to you.

Please also note that for debt advice you can ring Citizens Advice Fylde 03003301166 or Moneyplan project on 0784783461.

Finance

Our church finances continue to be a major concern for us at St Cuthbert's. Our income in February was £7000, this reduced to £3800 in March and right down again in April. As we said last month our weekly costs are over £3000 per week.

From a stewardship angle it is clear biblically that we should be giving a percentage of our income to God, so to the church and other charitable causes and the guidance is to tithe, give 10%. This sounds so challenging, but remember if it wasn't for God we would actually have nothing, as we say in the communion service 'All things come from you and of your own do we give you'. To actually give first and then use the rest as you wish can be easier than it seems.

We will write further on the biblical teaching on giving in future months. But for now can we just stress that like many things coming out of this pandemic the church will not be future proofed. There is an expectation that some churches will never reopen. Most people agree there are too many churches on the Fylde, most also agree some should close, but none of us are prepared for our church to be one of them.

The bottom line is that if we are committed to keeping St Cuthbert's open we have to cover the cost of it. We will not be subsidised by anyone else. We are not able to continuously live on money left by our predecessors. The church of today should pay for the church of today.

We still wish to progress the reordering of the inside of the church and once again this will cost money, but we also firmly believe it will assist us in mission and community outreach in the future. Indeed more flexibility would have been so helpful as we look to reopen the church in the coming weeks. However this work is on the back burner for now as we have not got the funds to progress it.

We need to take this issue seriously now and discover the grace that being generous truly is.

Licensed Readers / Licensed Lay Ministers

What's in a name? Quite a lot, actually.

For some time now, the Diocese of Blackburn, in company with other dioceses, has been working to renew the framework under which the ministry of lay people is organised.

The primary purpose of this renewal is based on the theology of the Church as the Body of Christ in which every part has an appropriate role to play. It is now a firm belief that ministry in its widest sense belongs to us all, and not merely to a select group of clergy, Readers and churchwardens performing on behalf of the entire worshipping community. Clergy and laity together must act to live out the Gospel message, thus to be seen following Jesus Christ with confidence.

Successful evangelising will only result from being accountable disciples and united as partners in mission.

In September 2018, The Revd Nick McKee was licensed to the newly created post of Director of Vocations in our diocese. His brief was to encourage growth in all vocations, ordained and lay. In keeping with

this change the Readers' Forum, of which I was a member for numerous years, was disbanded.

More recently, in late 2019, detailed plans for Blackburn's lay ministry intentions were made known. In short, these envisage four distinct but complementary forms:

- Informal Lay Ministry, specific and involving minimal training, deliverable within one's own parish or via a diocesan programme.
- Authorised Lay Ministry [ALM], also specific [for example, with young people], but with a higher level of training and recognised formally by the diocese.
- Licensed Lay Ministry [LLM], the new title now given to Readers, still the senior office holders within the laity. LLM is considered to present an improved description of our role, more understandable to those outside the Church of England.
- Church Army Evangelists [CAE], individuals who are likely to play a significant part in the future of our diocese, especially in relation to those on society's margins and in developing new congregations.

For many years, Readers/LLMs have had set before them a mantra based roughly on 'one foot in the church, one foot in the world' and this – we have been led to believe – gives us some form of advantage over members of the clergy. [I've heard more sermons with this notion in the background than I care to remember.] Now, we must refocus on three nationally agreed strands: teaching the faith, leading in church and society, and enabling mission. The topical *buzz* phrase is TRANSFORMING MINISTRY, and these two words have taken over as the title of our quarterly magazine. Incidentally, it is not a coincidence that the three strands above are reflected in the Diocesan Prayer which has been included in our services for quite some time.

Bringing you right up to date, a Reader/LLM within Blackburn Diocese, Mrs Ruth Haldane [Clitheroe St James], has recently been appointed as our Warden of Lay Ministry. Ruth is also the Training Project Manager for the Central Readers' Council, working nationally with the Bishop of Leicester to develop new training resources.

I feel proud to have become an LLM; only rarely are new titles acquired with zero effort. By November, I shall have been a Reader for 39½ years and an LLM for 6 months!

It would be good indeed to learn that at least a few people belonging to our parish will entertain the possibility of taking up one of the forms of lay ministry. When the worst of Covid-19 is past and we can safely re-assemble, I shall always be pleased to discuss details and possibilities.

David Matthews

The Archbishopric of York from Joyce Hill

Archbishop Sentamu's period of office as Archbishop of York comes to an end this month, and he is succeeded by Stephen Cottrell, Bishop of Chelmsford. Archbishop Stephen will be Primate of England. The Archbishop of Canterbury, as the more senior of the two, is Primate of All England. These two titles – Primate of England and Primate of All England —which seem to make a rather odd distinction, were adopted in the fourteenth century as part of a solution to a long-running dispute about seniority.

The problem originated with Pope Gregory the Great. When he sent Augustine to England as a missionary, he intended that there should be an archbishop in London and another in York. Both had been prominent 'headquarter cities' in Roman times, and no doubt Gregory's choice reflected some continuing memory of this in Rome at the end of the sixth century. However, times had changed, and England was by now divided into competing small kingdoms. For various reasons, Augustine actually

established his mission in the kingdom of Kent (which did not include London), and set up his cathedral within the walls of the old Roman city that served as the capital. We know it as Canterbury; and it is for these historic reasons that in the south we have an Archbishop of Canterbury. England became a unified country in the mid-tenth century, but this was under the Kings of Wessex, whose capital was Winchester. So, it remained until London took over the role after the Norman Conquest. At that point, it became expedient for the Archbishops of Canterbury to have a palace near the king: hence Lambeth Palace, where Archbishops of Canterbury still live, diagonally across the Thames from Westminster. In the north, conversion to Christianity took a rather different course and it was not until the early 730s that one of the bishoprics of the kingdom of Northumbria was raised to the status of an archbishopric — the Archbishopric of York.

But who was senior? Gregory had intended that this would be whoever had been in post the longest, so it would vary between Canterbury and York depending on patterns of succession. With York not becoming an archbishopric until the eighth century, that was not put into effect, but the Archbishops of York never forgot Gregory's intention and they periodically rebelled against being subordinated to Canterbury: older, much closer to the seat of power, and in a richer and more densely populated part of the country. Matters rumbled on until the fourteenth century when Pope Innocent VI decreed that the Archbishop of Canterbury should have precedence with the title of Primate of All England, and that York should be styled as Primate of England. There's nothing odd about 'Primate' ('First') for an archbishop since he is the 'first' within his own province. So, the Archbishop of York is a Primate of England (that is, a Primate within England, being the Primate of the Northern Province). 'All England', by contrast, signals the supremacy of Canterbury.

Gregory also intended that the northern and southern provinces should be approximately equal in size. They are not, and never have been. The

Northern Province has eleven dioceses (plus the diocese of Sodor and Man) and the Southern Province has twenty-nine (plus the diocese of Europe). Both archbishops serve as presidents of General Synod, but when General Synod meets in York in July, it is the Archbishop of York who takes the chair, while the Archbishop of Canterbury does so when it meets in London each February.

Today I went shopping ...

"I've just got back from a truly awful shopping trip".

"Having queued up, patiently and socially distancing, as I neared the entrance a shop worker clipped a carabiner onto the belt loop of my jeans, my perplexed expression must have said it all as she explained that whilst people are distancing in the queue outside, they aren't distancing once inside the store.

"So what someone has dreamt up is to rope six or so customers together with 2m of rope between each of us!

"Well these are strange times and with the threat of a second wave of infection I thought I'd best not complain and just toe the line (or perhaps 'tow' the line would be more appropriate!).

"I'm telling you now, what an absolutely idiotic idea this is.

"We negotiated our way into the store, some with trolleys and others trying to grab a basket before the berserk conga line drags them away.

"I was near the middle of the rope picking up some veg, the woman at the front, who was trussed up like a kid in a harness was trying to drag the whole line to the apples and the bloke at the back trying to pull the other way to get his hands on last week's courgettes which were now this week's courgette offer.

"It was like tug-of-war for the deranged.

"It's embarrassing to say, but I lost it, started ranting and raving about the rope and how is anyone meant to shop like this, I went to unclip the carabiner which miraculously brought the attention of the staff who told me I'd be asked to leave the shop if I unclipped.

"'We're not rock climbing, we're trying to buy cheese' are words which I'll carry with me to my grave.

"Strangely this outburst had the effect of bringing our train together as a team.

"We carried on now with lots of communication, people passing stuff along the line to other to fill their baskets.

"Now I know passing things to one another could spread the infection as much as person to person contact but I honestly think if we hadn't have done, I'd still be there now.

"As we started along the aisle I generally refer to as 'biscuits and creosote', it was clear from the melée that all was not well in the adjacent aisle.

"As far as I could tell there had been 2 trains of people and a lady in the middle of one chain had ducked under the other to get her hands on a pop-art cat bed.

"The tangle had resulted in a multi-pedestrian pile up in which the epicentre resembled the deity Durga, it wasn't clear how long they'd been there but one old chap was trying to free himself by feverishly sawing at the rope with his house keys.

"We navigated the remaining aisles without major trauma, other than having to rescue Doreen (2nd in line) after she fell in the chest freezer trying to reach the last beef Wellington.

"We were individually unclipped prior to the till, at which point any camaraderie we'd had quickly evaporated as everyone scrambled for the first available till.

"With the ordeal still impeding rational thought, it was a welcome and familiar sight to have the checkout throw all my shopping on the floor in the normal 1000mph fashion."

Thank you

Hazel Lanigan has written to say thank you to everyone for your prayers and support following her recent fall. She says, 'I am now making progress and look forward to joining you all once the church is open. Thank you for the get-well cards, flowers and phone calls'.

From the Registers **Funerals** June 4th Edna Berry

Sadly we continue to be unable to conduct baptisms, weddings and funerals in church at present. We especially think of the couples who had their wedding planned and booked here, who have had to postpone them.

We need your contributions to keep the magazine interesting.

Please send any for articles for the July's magazine by Friday 19th June

Getting to know you...

What is your name? Sylvia Anne Boardman (nee Bentham)

Where were you born? St Annes on Sea 20/09/1935

Where else have you lived? In St Annes all my life.

Relationship Status? Widow of John Boardman, two adult daughters, Anne (deceased) and Linda, two grandchildren, Danielle and James and two great grandsons, Joseph and Hudson.

Where is the best place that you have visited? Bahrain on numerous occasions to visit our daughter and son in law and family.

What is the best thing you have had to eat this last week? Fish and Chips brought to my door!!! (Lock in)

What is your favorite Bible passage and why? "The Good Samaritan" it reminds me of my John.

Why did you choose this picture?

A lovely picture of my John.

How did you come to faith?

I was Christened and brought up at Church Road Methodist Church, Sunday School, Church etc. until I met John at 15 years old, and, as he was by this time a bell ringer at St Cuthbert's, we felt we should go there together from then on. I returned many times to Church Road Methodist in my life.



We would love to introduce you in a future edition of the magazine so please answer these same questions and let us have it.

Puzzles and Brainteasers

Think outside the box!

Quiz questions are a source of entertainment, but so are exercises which otherwise test the mind and the imagination. Puzzles can be misleading by their apparent simplicity, or they can appear complex but have a solution which is simple for those who have the eyes to see it. How good is your sense of vision?

1. Rearrange the letters of NOR DO WE so that they make one word.
2. Which word is spelt wrongly in every dictionary?
3. Two men are playing chess. They play five games and each man wins three. How can this be?
4. One brick is 1 kg and half a brick heavy. What is the mass of one brick?
5. A shop sells chocolate bars for £ 1.00 each. Three wrappers can be exchanged for one chocolate bar. With £ 15.00 to spend on chocolates, how many bars can a customer get?
6. Banksy was once hired to paint the numbers 1 to 100 on the doors of one hundred apartments. How many times was he required to paint the number 8?
7. A car driver is about to make a journey of 100 miles. He has five tyres available, including the spare wheel in the boot. He wishes to use all five tyres equally. What distance will each tyre cover?
8. Why should a cat which can jump to a height of 5 feet be unable to jump through a window 3 feet off the ground?
9. From exactly three o'clock, how long to the nearest second does it take for the clock's minute hand to lie exactly over the hour hand?
10. What am I in each of these?
 - a. I have four legs but cannot walk.
 - b. I have a head and a tail but no body.
 - c. I can travel around the world while staying in a corner.
 - d. You cannot see me; you can only feel me.

- e. The more there is of me, the less you see.
 - f. The poor have it; the rich need it. If you eat it, you will die.
11. What is an unusual feature of the following sentences?
- a. Anyone beating COVID-19 deserves everyone's fullest gratitude.
 - b. Happily, informed journalists keep leading morning newspapers offering pertinent questions regarding short-term unlocking. Very wisely, xenophobia yields zilch.
12. Three clergymen and three cannibals have to cross a river. The only boat available to them all is limited to carrying two people. If, at any time, there are more cannibals on one side of the river than there are clergymen, the cannibals will eat them. The boat must always have someone to row it. How should the clergymen plan the river crossing without any of them becoming lunch?

Answers in the next issue.

Last month's Quiz Answers

1. A beard tax, 2. Interrobang, 3. Kookaburra, 4. France, 5. *The Day Watch*, 6. Greece, 7. A blessing, 8. Charlie Chaplin, 9. Zeedonk, 10. Eyes, 11. Methuselah, 969 years, 12. Ararat, 13. Quails and manna, 14. Three days and three nights, 15. Psalm 119, 16. 27, 17. Matthew and Luke, 18. The house of Mary, the mother of John Mark, 19. They stoned him, 20. Phoebe, 21. Years in a millennium, 22. Blackbirds in a pie, 23. St Stephen's Day [Boxing Day], 24. Colours on a traffic light [Red, Amber and Green], 25. Metres in a yard, 26. Square root of sixteen, 27. Colours on a zebra crossing, 28. Maximum speed limit, 29. Seasons [Vivaldi], 30. Questions in this quiz.

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