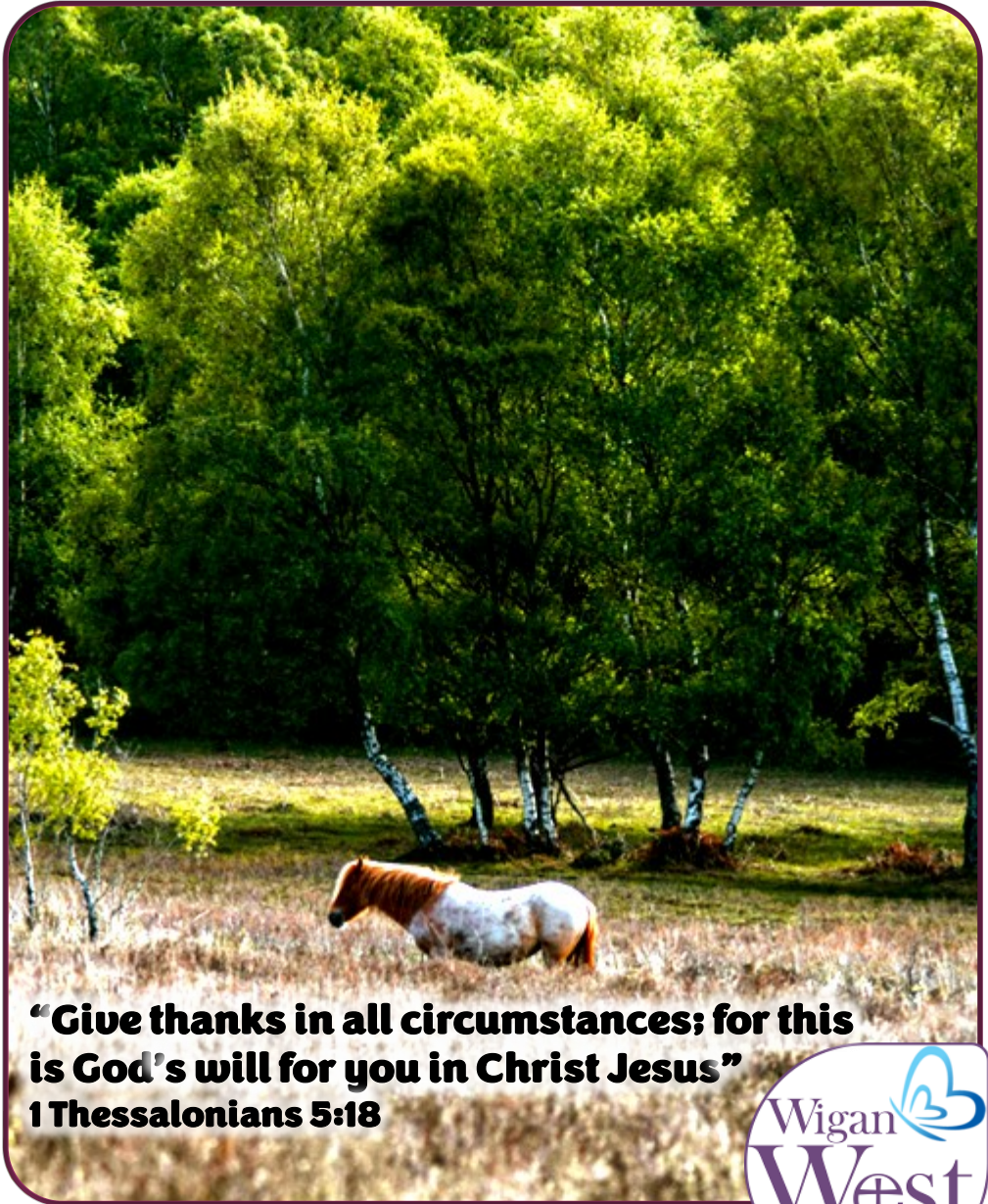


Wigan West

PARISH MAGAZINE



**“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this
is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus”
1 Thessalonians 5:18**



£1 October 2025

A Season of Gratitude

Dear friends,

As the leaves turn golden and the evenings draw in, we find ourselves once again in the season of harvest. October brings with it a natural pause—a moment to reflect, to give thanks, and to remember the goodness of God in the rhythm of creation.

Harvest Thanksgiving is one of the most beloved celebrations in the church calendar. It connects us deeply to the land, to our communities, and to the God who provides. Whether we live in rural villages or urban centres, we are all part of the great cycle of sowing and reaping. Even if we don't grow our own food, we rely on those who do—farmers, growers, pickers, packers, and all who work to bring food to our tables.

This year, as we gather to give thanks, we do so in the midst of real challenges. Rising costs, climate concerns, and global instability remind us how fragile our systems can be. Yet even in uncertainty, we are called to be people of gratitude and hope. The Apostle Paul wrote, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Not because every circumstance is good, but because God's presence and provision remain constant.

Harvest is also a time to remember those who go without. As we decorate our churches with apples, wheat sheaves, and tins for the food pantry, we are reminded that thanksgiving and generosity go hand in hand. The early church shared what they had so that no one was in need. What might it look like for us to do the same today?

In Church Wigan and across our parishes, I've been encouraged by the many ways people are living out this spirit of harvest—through community meals, food collections, and acts of kindness that often go unseen. These are the fruits of the Spirit at work among us.

Let us also not forget the spiritual harvest. Jesus said, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few" (Matthew 9:37). As we give thanks for the fruits of the earth, we also pray for a harvest of faith, hope, and love in our communities. May we be ready to sow seeds of the Gospel, to nurture them with prayer, and to rejoice when they bear fruit.

So this October, may your heart be full of gratitude. May your hands be open in generosity. And may your spirit be renewed by the God who gives us every good gift.

With every blessing,

Revd Fran Humphry, Team Vicar and Hub Leader



Pots of Tea Café

Nestled in the heart of Goose Green, the St Paul's Community Café, "Pots of Tea" has recently become a hub for locals seeking warmth, connection, and a hearty meal. Housed in the beautifully re-ordered St Paul's Church, this café has filled a vital gap in the community since the closure of the Sainsbury's supermarket café, offering the only local spot for a cozy sit-down and a bite to eat.

It is run by a dedicated team of friendly and welcoming volunteers. From the moment you step inside, you're greeted with smiles and a genuine sense of care. The affordable prices make it accessible to all, and every penny of profit goes directly to supporting the church's mission, ensuring the café is as much about community spirit as it is about good food.

Our menu features delicious homemade soups that warm the soul, jacket potatoes with a variety of mouthwatering fillings, and the



occasional "Special", there are also toasties and of course our freshly baked scones and cakes that pair perfectly with a cup of tea or coffee, plus a range of snacks that round out the offerings, alongside a selection of hot and cold drinks.

More than just a place to eat, St Paul's

Community Café is a great meeting point where friends are met over steaming mugs and shared stories. The atmosphere is often enlivened by occasional performances from musicians or the rich tones of the organ, adding a touch of magic to your visit. Whether you're popping in for a quick coffee or lingering over a homemade meal, St Paul's Community Café is a place where everyone is welcome.

Come and support us.

The Café opens every Wednesday 11.00am- 2.00pm and we would be delighted to see you there.

Also, we have a communion service each Wednesday (apart from the 1st Wednesday of the month). The service starts at 10.00am - one hour before the opening of the café.

A WARM INVITATION IS SENT TO YOU TO JOIN US FROM OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS

St James Ladies' Friendship Group

We certainly can't complain about the weather this summer (except some would say too hot at times). I can't remember going out without a coat or umbrella and knowing it would be fine to leave the washing on the line for what seems such a long time.

July was a month of mixed emotions. We said goodbye to one of our dear friends - Jean Currey, who was known to us all as a kind and generous lady and who, despite her failing health, remained cheerful and never complained. It was suggested we cancel our July buffet, but it was decided we should continue, as a tribute to her memory as well as the other members who have gone before. This was a bring and share party and the ladies didn't disappoint, bringing an array of sweet and savoury food. We also shared our fond memories of Jean and knew she would have wanted us to celebrate our "members remembered" as usual.

In August, we had a welcome return of speaker - Dennis Winstanley who we can always rely on to tell a tale or two! He didn't disappoint with his stories of him growing up in Wigan and how he and his wife Lorraine have enjoyed many cruises on the high seas since they retired. We also celebrated the birthday of someone well known to us all - Dorothy Bond, although her age is a secret except to say she admits to having a lot of added VAT!

As we move into September, our speaker is to be Kathleen Moran, another person making a welcome return on the 18th.

And 16 October hopefully we will be visited by someone from Daffodils Dreams - a local charity who provides for local children. You can't miss their shop at the top of Caroline St.

As usual the meeting will be 7pm in the lounge at St Clements Court, Worsley Mesnes Drive, WN3 5UF. Please come along to any meeting if you would like to. No obligation, female or male, no charge except a voluntary collection, tea and biscuits provided (sometimes cake!)

Before I sign off, I must mention seeing Oliver, Joan Southward's grandson, making his first communion in church and how lovely he looked in his smart 3-piece suit. All the congregation at St James hold a special place for this handsome young man!

*With love and blessings,
Margaret xx (07906 615501)*



Highfield Cricket Club

As the 2025 season ends, we can reflect on a mixed bag of performances on the field. The senior teams have looked to the future with many more of our own youngsters promoted to first, second and third team cricket. This will ensure we have a vibrant pool of players available for senior games over the next few years, great to see.

And many of those same youngsters are unsurprisingly still doing really well in junior cricket, helping Highfield to one of their most successful seasons for some time. In September, we enjoyed success in two cup finals, for the under 9s and under 15s, whilst our teams at under 11s and under 13s have also performed strongly. And this year, we have had a girls only team, playing against other clubs. If you would like your child to have a go at cricket or fancy a try at adult cricket, please reach out to the respective contacts on our website.

Off the field we enjoyed a marvellous family funday during the Bank Holiday weekend in August when we were blessed with good weather. Live music, refreshments and children's rides ensured everyone had a great time, a real community highlight.

Some dates for your diary, check the details on the website or our club Facebook pages. All members are encouraged to attend the Club Awards night and AGM.

- 2025 Club Awards Night 7:30pm Saturday 18 October.
- Club Annual General Meeting 8:00pm Monday 27 October.
- Bonfire and Fireworks, 6:00pm Wednesday 5 November
- Annual Ball Saturday 22 November (tickets available)
- Sporting Dinner with Barrie McDermott (ex-Leeds, Wigan, Great Britain Rugby League). Friday 20 March 2026.



St. Matthew' s Churchyard Team

I am asked by Pauline Glover, one of the longest serving members of our team to express her thanks to all those kind people who regularly buy the home grown (and beautifully sweet) tomatoes from her own greenhouse. All the money she raises from this is given to a fund supporting the expenses of our Graveyard maintenance team. Over the past two and a half years she has donated in excess of £600



to our fund. Last year she personally paid for a £250 Stihl strimmer to add to our equipment. It must also be said that Margaret McCourty from the choir also did the same. I expect problems with Margaret for telling you this as she much prefers to remain anonymous. However, I am a firm believer in giving credit where and to whom it is due.

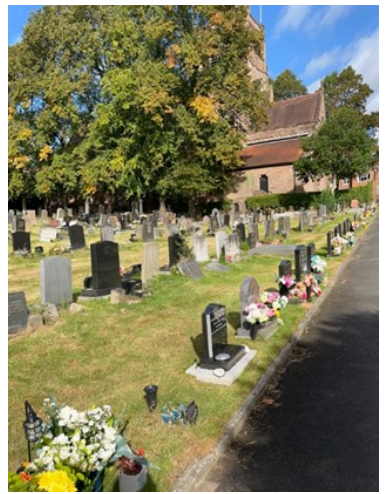


Our Church Treasurer, Jeff is also very much on the ball in helping with funds for this purpose. In August I bought £125 worth of fuel for our seven strimmers. It was paid back into my account the same day. We try to avoid excessive use of church funds where at all possible, but occasional usage is inevitable. We would also be remiss in not mentioning again the

Cricket Club for allowing the use of one of their tractor mowers to mow the graveyard, at absolutely no cost to church, they even refuse payment for the fuel used. The actual driver of the mower is the only person who is paid for his work. (But that is part of his job.) Finally, it would be impossible to let this occasion pass without again thanking our Community Interest Club (Our Parish Hall). They have spent in excess of £800 stocking our storeroom with every type of tool necessary to do our work and are always receptive to requests for further assistance, so many thanks to the Committee. (They are all our own people).

I started this article by referring to Pauline and it is only right that I finish on the same subject. She has already this year raised and donated £250 with her tomatoes, some of which has already been spent on additional equipment, as well as decorating around church with her home-grown plants and daffodils in spring. The grass surrounding the cherry trees in front of the church car park has also been liberally sprinkled with thousands of wildflower seeds by

her and we look forward to a lovely display next year. It also must be said that John Dawson and I would be totally unable to do this work without the assistance of the people of the parish. I confess that I tend to advertise our meetings on Facebook and the results have been fantastic. From our original team of half a dozen rapidly ageing volunteers who have been struggling for years to do the job, (some of us started 40 years ago), we now have up to 20 people who turn up on request from all over Highfield and Winstanley. I confess that I tend to hobble around with my stick 'supervising', looking busy, but actually doing very little! We only meet for two hours bi-weekly, but those numbers can do an awful lot in two hours and all for a bacon butty from Janet. Our church ladies, Sheila, Elizabeth, Jean and Julie also come to 'brew up' for the workers and all visitors to the graveyard.



We are one happy gang of people, and it must be said there are representatives of a number of other denominations who also help us regularly, as well as non-churchgoers doing their bit for the community. We are very grateful.

Church 
WIGAN

Tom's Pantry

West Hub's Food pantry is located in St James' church and is open to everyone in the local community-you do not need to be referred to shop with us. We are open the following times:

Tuesday 9.30-12noon Wednesday 9.30-12noon

Friday 9.30-12noon Saturday 11-2pm alongside our Faith Café

The annual membership fee is £5 and then a suggested donation of £3 for up to 15 items (subject to availability).

As well as helping you budget we are looking after the environment by intercepting perfectly edible food which would otherwise have ended up in landfill.

"The earth is the Lord's and all that dwells therein"

October Services



meets every other Tuesday during term time at St Matthew's School Hall from 3.30pm until 5pm

LIGHT-

meets in St James' school every Tuesday during term time from 3.30pm, every Sunday at 2pm, and during the week in different homes.



Well-

meets every Wednesday from 3.30pm until 5pm in St Paul's Hall and School

St Matthew's October

1 Wednesday
18.00 Evening Prayer
2 Thursday
10.30 Holy Communion
5 Sunday
10.30 Holy Communion
8 Wednesday
18.00 Evening Prayer
12 Sunday Harvest
9.00 BCP Holy Communion
10.30 Family Parade Service
15 Wednesday
18.00 Evening Prayer
16 Thursday
11.45 Prayers
19 Sunday
9.00 BCP
10.30 Holy Communion
12.30 Baptisms
22 Wednesday
18.00 Evening Prayer
26 Sunday
9.00 BCP Communion
10.30 Morning Praise

St James with St Thomas October

5 Sunday
10.30 Service of the Word
12 Sunday Harvest
10.30 Service of the Word
19 Sunday
10.30 All Age Holy Communion
26 Sunday
10.30 Holy Communion
18.30 Open Table

St Paul's October

1 Wednesday
10.30 Little Lane Holy Communion
5 Sunday
9.00 Holy Communion
10.30 Service of the Word
8 Wednesday
10.00 Holy Communion
12 Sunday Harvest
10.30 Holy Communion
15 Wednesday
10.00 Holy Communion
19 Sunday
10.30 Service of the Word
22 Wednesday
10.00 Holy Communion
26 Sunday
10.30 Service of the Word

Lighthouse October

5 Sunday
14.00 Family Worship
12 Sunday Harvest
14.00 Family Communion
19 Sunday
14.00 Family Worship
26 Sunday
14.00 Family Worship

ALL SERVICE IN ST JAMES' SCHOOL

Follow us on Facebook for up-to-date news and information

WiganWestHub 

THE REALLY AWFUL ORCHESTRA

directed by CHRIS PERRY

with featured vocalist Angela Caswell

Performing a selection of music including film & TV themes, pop favourites, light classics, Latin & jazz.

FRIDAY 17 OCTOBER 2025 7.30pm

St Paul' s Church

St Paul' s Avenue, Goose Green WN3 5LH

Tickets £10

Advanced tickets available from the church and from Peter Fletcher-07848 818276-and members of the orchestra.

Thank you!

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Heritage Day at St James' on Saturday 13 September. We had many visitors to our beautiful church and a great deal of interest in the building itself and how it speaks to us theologically. A lot of people visited our bell tower, and we may have just secured a few new bell ringers. As well as it being a special day, we did manage to raise just over £400 which will be divided between Wigan West Parish and the bell maintenance fund. Thank you for visiting us.

If you would like a copy of the magazine in **LARGE PRINT** please email Barbara at

hubadmin.west@churchwigan.org

Altar Flowers St. Matthew's

5 Oct – vacant
12 Oct – vacant (Harvest festival)
19 Oct – Mrs E Gaskell
26 Oct – Mrs E Nicholson

Service of the Word with Brunch @ St James' Centre

This is proving to be popular, and we will have brunch again on Sunday 5 October following our Service of the Word. We will be serving bacon and or sausage barmes and ask for a small donation

Lifelines Café @ St James' Centre

Lifelines Café will meet at church on Friday 3 October at 1.30pm. Everyone is welcome, whether living with dementia or not. We especially welcome carers. We will be celebrating Harvest so will provide a Hot Pot Lunch followed by a game or two of Bingo. All free and all welcome.

Faith Café @ St James' Centre

On Saturday 11 October, Faith Café will celebrate Harvest Festival so we will be serving Hot Pot with mushy peas and beetroot followed by Apple Crumble and Custard. We have been blessed with an abundance of apples from people's trees, and it's been a real pleasure serving apple crumble over the last few weeks.

Bereavement Support @ St James' Centre

The Bereavement Support Group will meet in St James with St Thomas Church on Thursday 9 October and Monday 27 October. Meetings start at 1pm. You are most welcome to attend our bereavement support group if you have been recently bereaved or it was some time ago. The group offers group support and if needed can offer one to one support. Refreshments are always served, and our leader Mr David Berry will make you most welcome. He can be contacted on 07404 605015.

Harvest Super @ St James' Centre

St James with St Thomas' invite you to our Harvest Supper on Friday 10 October at 7.30pm. We will be serving Hot Pot with mushy peas and beetroot, apple crumble, and custard and all on a pay as you feel basis. All money raised will go to Wigan West Parish.

Harvest Deuteronomy 15: 11

"Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth. I therefore command you to open your hand to the poor and needy neighbours in your land". So what has changed!

This harvest please think of giving to our people at home and also our brothers and sisters in other lands who need help. The Christian Aid bucket is always at the back of church if you wish to donate at any time.

Barbara Jenks

Lifelines Choir @ St James' Centre

The choir will meet Monday 6, 13 & 20 October at 1pm in church. We have started rehearsals for Roger Jones' Inn Crowd. It's a fun exciting musical for Christmas and will be performed in St James with St Thomas' church on Advent Sunday evening, 30 November at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to come and join in this event, so if you fancy a sing come along-you're welcome!

Open Table @ St James' Centre

Open Table Holy Communion will be at St James with St Thomas Church on Sunday 26 October. We meet at 6pm for a brew and chat and a 6.30pm start, and yes there are Christian Communities which genuinely welcome and affirm LGBTQIA+ people. You are welcome to come as you

Harvest Festival @ St James' Centre

This year all our Harvest Festival's will take place on Sunday 12 October at 10.30am. If you are bringing Harvest Gifts of tinned food, can you, please consider donating them to Tom's Pantry please.

Autumn Christmas Fayre St Matthew's

There will be an Autumn/Christmas Fayre on Saturday 25 October in St. Matthew's church from 11am to 2pm. There will be all the usual stalls and refreshments will be available. This is held on the same day as the Scarecrow Trail in Winstanley and Highfield which finishes at Church. We look forward to seeing you while you buy your cards and gifts for Christmas. All proceeds will go to Church Funds. Anne, Barbara, and Chris (The ABC girls.)

A Date For Your Diary

This year we are celebrating St. Cecilia's day, the patron saint of music, on November 23. The choir will be singing the Christmas cantata "Night of Miracles". This piece was composed by John W. Peterson in 1958 and the text is from St. Matthew and St. Luke. It tells the story of our Saviour's birth, an unforgettable night, a miraculous night, a fulfilment of ancient prophecy. Please come and join us at St. Matthew's Church at 4pm on November 23. There will also be congregational hymns. Sue Gordon

Pemberton Christmas Market

The Pemberton Christmas Market takes place on Sunday 30 November from 12pm until 5pm. Stalls inside Lamberhead Green Club and St John's Church as well as on Chapel Street. We are still looking for outdoor stalls and volunteers who can spare some time to help, just a couple of hours will be a great help. Contact 07305 978989 for information.

Daye Arrowsmith
11

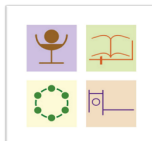
Ukraine still needs our support

Please pray for Ukraine.

Can you help with our Ukraine appeal?

Please donate cash or goods.

***Give to the work of your local worship community
in the Parish of Wigan West***



This Parish is registered with the Parish Giving Scheme which allows you to give to this Parish securely and safely online. Please click 'Regular Giving' to set up a monthly, quarterly, or annual Direct Debit or One-Off Gift or make a single gift using your Debit or Credit Card.

Parish name: Parish of Wigan West **Parish code:** 220220288 **Diocese:** Liverpool Diocese

Address: Parish of Wigan West, Wigan Investment Centre, Waterside Drive, WIGAN, Lancashire WN3 5BA

www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/parish-of-wigan-west-wigan/

Tel: 0333 002 1260

Christmas Greetings in the December Magazine

If you would like to send a Christmas Greeting in our parish magazine rather than send individual cards, you can do this by donating to church funds. Put the donation in an envelope, write on the front of the envelope your greeting as you would like it to appear in the magazine and give it to Revd Alison, Rev Fran, or one of the Church Wardens in your church building, or on the collection plate, by Sunday 9 November. Thank you.

Little Stars

Toddler Group

Free Play, Snacks, Story Time & Singing!

Little Stars Toddler Group

St Paul's Hall behind Bumblebee's Nursery, Clapgate Lane Off Warrington Road, WN3 6SB

MONDAYS 9:30am - 11am

Cost is only £1.50 for
ONE adult & child

(Additional child is 50p)

From Birth to
School Age Children!



All Welcome!

Across

1 He was replaced as king of Judah by his uncle Mattaniah (2 Kings 24:17) (10)

7 'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus... who for the joy set before him — the cross' (Hebrews 12:2) (7)

8 Relieved (5)

10 Impetuous (Acts 19:36) (4)

11 Surprised and alarmed (Luke 24:37) (8)

13 'It is — for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for the rich to enter the kingdom of God' (Mark 10:25) (6)

15 Directions for the conduct of a church service (6)

17 One of the acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19) (8)

18 and 20 Down 'She began to wet his — with her tears. Then she wiped them with her — ' (Luke 7:38) (4,4)

21 'We will all be changed, in a flash, in the twinkling of an — , — the last trumpet' (1 Corinthians 15:51–52) (3,2)

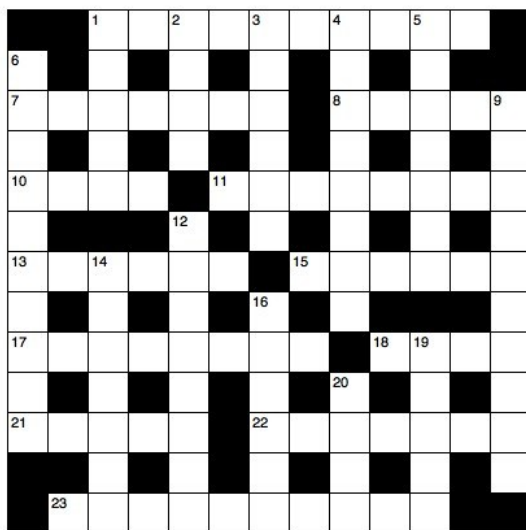
22 'But he replied, "Lord, I am — — go with you to prison and to death"' (Luke 22:33) (5,2)

23 Third person of the Trinity (2 Corinthians 13:14) (4,6)

Down

1 He betrayed Jesus (Matthew 27:3) (5)

2 Paul's assurance to the Philippian



jailer: 'Don't — yourself! We are all here!' (Acts 16:28) (4)

3 'Fear God and keep his commandments, for this — the whole — of man' (Ecclesiastes 12:13) (2,4)

4 The sort of giver God loves (2 Corinthians 9:7) (8)

5 Sun rail (anag.) (7)

6 Naboth, the ill-fated vineyard owner, was one (1 Kings 21:1) (10)

9 Paul said of young widows, 'When their sensual desires overcome their — to Christ, they want to marry' (1 Timothy 5:11) (10)

12 This was how Joseph of Arimathea practised his discipleship 'because he feared the Jews' (John 19:38) (8)

14 Mop ruse (anag.) (7)

16 Foment (Philippians 1:17) (4,2)

19 Where Joseph and Mary escaped to with the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:14) (5)

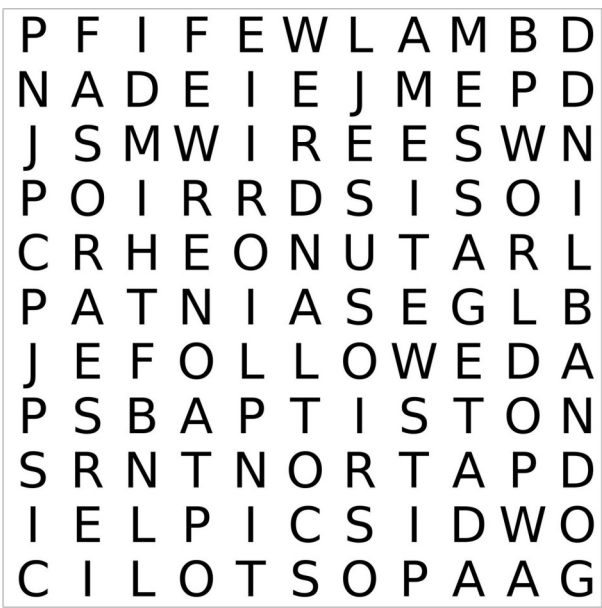
St Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland, though his only connection with the country is that some of his bones were reputedly transported in the 8th century to Fife and preserved at a church in a place now named St Andrews.

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

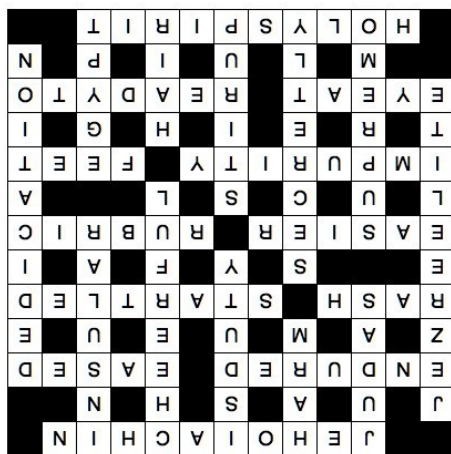
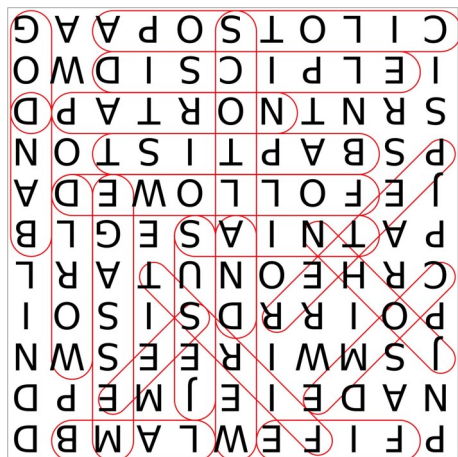
When Jesus turned and asked them what they were 'seeking', all they could come up with was a lame enquiry about His current place of residence: "where are you staying"

The reply of Jesus was the most straight-forward invitation anyone can receive: "Come and see". So they did, and the results of their response were life changing. For Andrew brought his brother, Peter, to Jesus, and soon the little apostolic band who would carry the message of Jesus to the whole world was formed. And right at the front of the column, as it were, was Andrew, the first disciple of Jesus.

Word Search



Andrew	Baptist	Apostolic
Patron	Lamb	Band
Saint	God	Message
Scotland	followed	world
Fife	Jesus	
First	Come	
Disciple	See	
John	Peter	




THE SHED

NEEDS YOU!

All Men of Wigan
are welcome at The Shed meetings.
We meet the 1st Saturday
of every month
from 9:30am - 11am at
St Matthew's Cricket Club

PASTORAL CARE

If anyone requires Pastoral Care the contact number is 07845947573 Barbara Poyntz. (If answer machine please leave message) If it is an emergency, please ring any phone number in the Parish Magazine, Thank you.

*N.B. If you have occasion to make out a cheque to the parish, please make it payable to **Wigan West PCC**. Cheques made out to the old parishes will soon no*

We collect used stamps all the year around - We have a collection box in each church building.

Leave a border of 1cm (half an inch) when trimming around the stamps and if possible be kind enough to sort them into British & Foreign stamps. Stamps will then be forwarded to a charity. Thank you.

Please pass all stamps on to
 Marjorie Latham
 41 Howden Drive
 Wigan
 WN3 5JT 01942 234880

MAGAZINE DEADLINE

Please have any content to the editors by the 15th of the month.

Baptisms

Isla Elizabeth Smith-Cooper	St Paul's
Pyper Jayne Margaret Smallwood-Harris	St James'
Lila-Marie Elizabeth Baguley	St James'
Alaska Thomson	St Matthew's
Jonah George Fairhurst	St Matthew's
Lillie Elizabeth Linda Ruddy	St Matthew's
Carson River Taylor	St Matthew's
Isabelle Mary Douglass	St Matthew's

Burials and Funerals

St James with St Thomas

17/7/25.	Kathleen Tracey.	85yrs
14/7/24.	Jean Currey.	81yrs
18/8/25.	Betty Fitzpatrick	96yrs
20/8/25.	Kelly Marie Lynch.	47yrs

St Matthew's

Philip Charnock 58yrs
Jeffrey Nicholson 83yrs
Steven Birchall 46yrs
Gwendoline Shaw 93yrs
John Heaton 78yrs
James Fair 83yrs
Mary Adamson 91yrs
Susan Jeanette Tate 69yrs

St Paul's

14/08/25	Linda Rigby
18/08/25	Colin Davis
02/09/25	Margaret Beckett

One off Gifts to Church

We welcome gifts for different things we need or a one-off Gift and here are our BACS details let us know if we can Gift aid it too.

Wigan West PCC
Lloyds Bank
Sort: 30-90-89
AC: 58811360

If it is for a special gift please put a reference of What and let Jeff McCann know our treasurer for the Parish. jeffmccann11@hotmail.com

Donations

In memory of Robert Sharrock died July 4th 2016
And also Jack Winnard died 5th July 2024

From Margaret & Darren

Treasured memories of Bill Hamilton on his anniversary (14th Aug) & his birthday(7 Sept.)

From his loving Norah & family

In memory of Jean Currey

From Lorraine Price

In loving memory of Jean Currey

From Kathleen Smith

In memory Jean Currey

From Eric & Dora Watson

In memory of our much loved sister-in-law Jean Currey who will be sadly missed

From Alan & Betty Currey

In memory of Jean Currey, the loveliest of Ladies

From June

To the memory of Jean Currey

From. Margaret & David

In Memory of Jean

From Kathleen Finch

In memory of Kathleen Tracey & Jean Currey

From Jean Hogan

In memory of Kathleen Tracey

From Joan Dermott

In memory of three lovely ladies Kathleen Tracy, Jean Currey& Betty Fitzpatrick

From David Berry

Donation of £100 from the Monday Cuppa Club

Donation of £195

From the Sunday Refreshments Team

Donation of £30

From the sale of Art Goods

In loving memory of David on our wedding anniversary

From Norma

A donation in lieu of flowers in treasured memory of Paul

From Christine

Donation with thanks for thoughts and prayers

From Ann Heaton

In lieu of altar flowers and in loving memory of Frank

From Brenda Whittle

The Parish of Wigan West is the Church of England in the West of Wigan—covering Worsley Mesnes, Poolstock, Goose Green, Hawkley Hall, Winstanley, and Highfield—the former parishes of St James with St Thomas, St Paul’s, and St Matthew’s.

We are made up of different worship communities with many different styles and settings used for worshipping God, including our own buildings of St James with St Thomas (where *Tom’s Pantry* is), St Paul’s and its hall, and St Matthew’s and its hall.

Have a look at our Facebook page for details of everything from online coffee and chat to traditional services, as well as the latest news.

Church Wigan Team Rector Revd Neil Cook neil.cook@churchwigan.org

The Parish of Wigan West

Hub Leader

Rev Fran Humphry 01942 803320

Warden *Ann Birch* 01942 227036

Warden *Martin Gaskell* 01942 741340

Treasurer *Jeff McCann* 07595 882 321

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St James’ with St Thomas’

Distinctive Deacon

Alison Brown 01942 740777

Assistant Wardens

Carol Simm

Jo Baines 07956 030669

Organist *David Goulden* 01942 245710

Flowers *Iris Wright* 01942 493850

Flowers *Jean Hogan* 01942 492888

Bereavement Support

David Berry 01942 386987

Sunday School

Jodie 07549810711

Primary School Executive Headteacher

Miss J Broom 01942 703952

Baptism Team

Margaret Baxendale 07906 615501

Joyce Matthews 07733 108040.

Lifelines St James’ Centre

Distinctive Deacon

Alison Brown 01942 740777

Little Stars St Paul’s Hall

Lucy Haigh 07900 252 361

Wellspring St Paul’s Hall

Local Missional Leader

Lucy Haigh 07900 252 361

Lighthouse

Local Missional Leaders:

Jes Rusling 07827 326 290

jes@jesandsam.com

Sam Rusling 077 22 99 4923

sam@jesandsam.com

Shine St Matthew’s School

Rev Sam Swan

sam.swan@churchwigan.org

All information correct as of September 2025

St Matthew's

Assistant Wardens

Andrea Wood 07734 447699

Sheila Albers

Elizabeth Gaskell

Reader *Colin Hesketh 07712 431105*

Organist *Sue Gordon 01942 214955*

Deputy Organist

Colin Hesketh 07712 431105

Bereavement Support

Iain Matthewson 07595 898737

Bowling Club

Keith Harris 01942 211518

Choir *Sue Gordon 01942 214955*

Church Fellowship

Matthew Jones 07930 867209

Cuppa & Chat

Barbara Jenks 01942 213101

Friendship Group

Dave Whitter 07836330324

Boys Brigade

Jim Harrison 01942 218465

Guides:

Rainbows

Jennifer Halliwell 01257 433894

Or 07808811490

Gill Marsh 01942 207723

Brownies

Joanne Tabener/Elizabeth Gaskell

14thwiganbrownies@gmail.com

Guides

Helen Albers 07960 920587

Primary School Headteacher

Mrs A Barron 01942 747818

St Paul's

Assistant Wardens

Cliff Unsworth 01942 933772

Maureen Gower 07753 168301

Pam Wilkinson 01942 716668

Geoff Birch 01942 227036

Reader Emeritus *Arthur Hubbard*
01942 321977

Reader *Gordon Fath 01942 621173*

Flowers *Pam Wilkinson 01942 716668*

Mother's Union

Anne Hubbard 01942 321977

Sunday School

Lucy Haigh 07900 252 361

Craft Workshop

Gillian Greenwood 01942 825670

Friends Together

Lynn Conroy 01942202249

Linda Berry 01942 492521

House Groups

Anne & Arthur Hubbard 01942 321977

Mike & Gill Greenwood 01942 825670

Primary School Executive Headteacher

Mrs S. Aspinwall

Head of School

Mr A Rigby 01942 243068

Need to book a hall?

St Matthew's Church Hall:

Matthew Jones 07930 867209

St James Centre:

Alison Brown 01942 740777

St Paul's Church Hall:

Darren Speakman 07456 840803

BAPTISMS If you wish to enquire about Baptism please attend a 10.30am service at any of our churches and ask to speak to someone from the Baptism Team afterwards.

WEDDINGS *Gordon Fath: wedding.west@churchwigan.org*

FUNERALS Church Wigan Funeral Coordinator: 01942 705641, 07754 569022, funeral.coordinator@churchwigan.org

Wardens Corner



I'm writing this month's update, in the middle of September however I was horrified to see yesterday that Mince Pies have already appeared in the shops! I have been looking back over the summer, and I hope you enjoyed a break from normal routine at some point. Parents I hope you appreciate the peace that came back into your homes when school started again. Although some of our regular organisations have had a break during August, some of the volunteers were 'deployed' into different roles such as, providing free food for families at least once a week in one or other of our venues. The food provided is mainly paid for by grants from different charities, but of course these must be applied for, which also requires work. So, a big thank you to all those teams.

Speaking of grants, St Paul's has received a total of £19,000 from Age Partnership

The money is being used primarily to provide disabled access to St Paul's Church, in the form of ramps to be put in place at the South Door (already in place) and at the back of the building (still in the planning stage). This means that a greater variety of community groups will be able to access the large meeting room at the east end of the church. The grant also provided a new cooker for St Paul's Hall to help with providing food every week for Wellspring families and for Friends together once a month. These events feed at least 50 people each time, so a professional cooker is very welcome.

The leadership team of our parish have become aware that we are losing touch with some members who are no longer able to get to church. Could I please encourage you, if you know of someone in this situation who would like a visit, to speak to someone in church, talk to someone you know who goes to church or contact us by calling our parish administrator Barbara Poyntz 07881 792451. Be assured that she will arrange for someone from your church or worshipping community to get back to you. If it is not urgent, please leave a message on the answer machine. If your need IS urgent, you can contact one of the leaders of your worshipping community directly. Their numbers are all listed inside the back page of the magazine.

God Bless you and your neighbours

Ann Birch