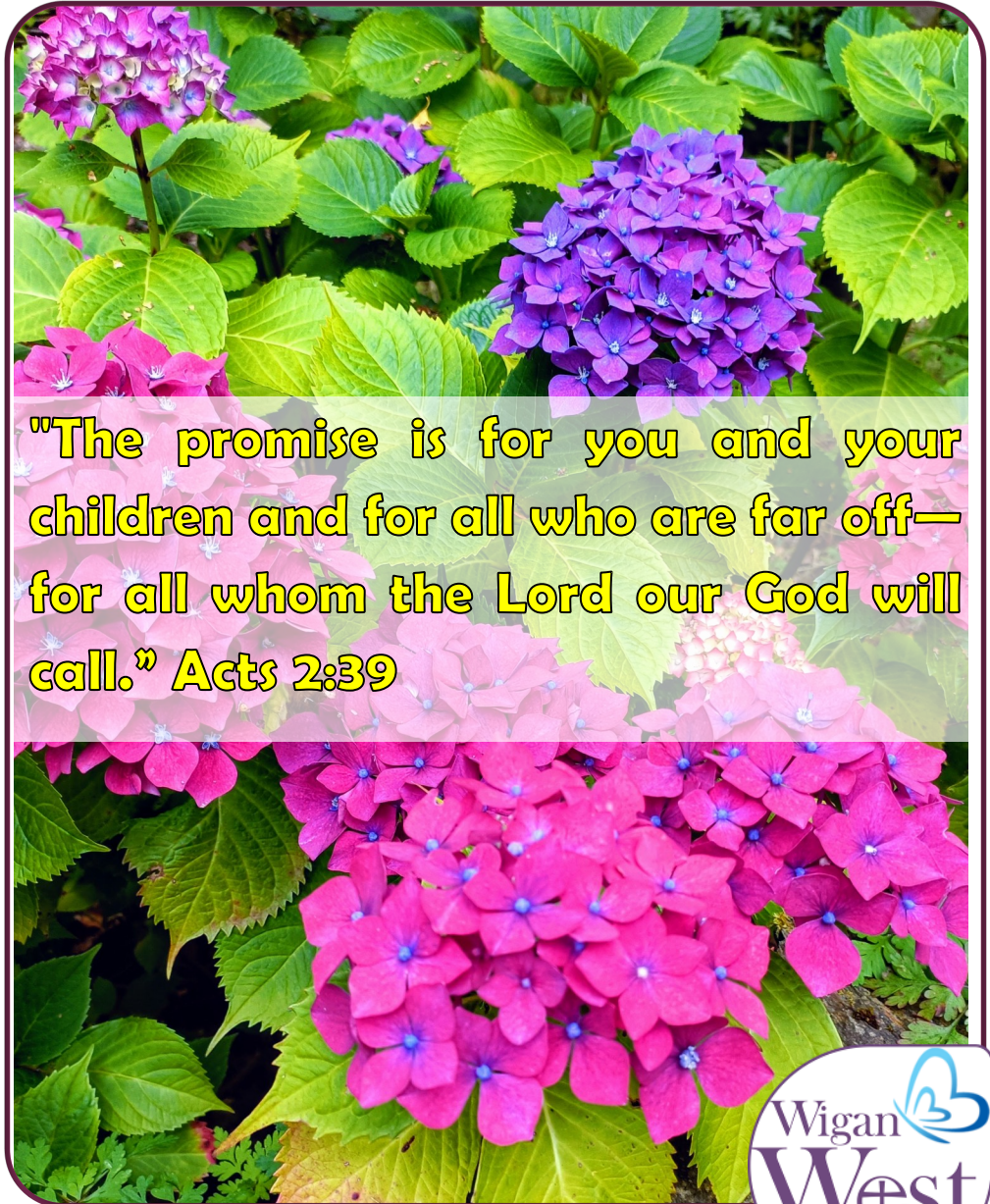


Wigan West

# PARISH MAGAZINE



**"The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." Acts 2:39**

£1 June 2025



As I write this article the sun is shining, we've have had a few weeks of sunshine and most of the people I meet reflect that in their attitude most feel good but I have had a couple of moans "It's too hot". It reminds me of the different seasons in the Christian year. Lent, a time of reflection taking us to Gethsemane and Good Friday then to that glorious acclamation "Alleluia Christ is Risen" "He is risen indeed, Alleluia". We see in the gospels the followers of Jesus travel that same journey for the first time. Gethsemane, Good Friday, Easter Day. What a journey for them, mind blowing after that first Easter Day. They spend time with the risen Jesus, the first thing he tells them is to wait: Acts 1 verse 4 *"Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about."* Wait for how long? And for what gift? They didn't know. We do they waited forty days for the gift of the Holy Spirit. In John chapter 7 verses 37, 38 & 39 John tells us about receiving that gift.



*On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.*

John is writing this in hindsight (*Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified*) John tells us three things we need to be ready to receive the person of God's Holy Spirit in our lives.

**1 We must Thirst.** If we are dying of thirst the only thing we can think about is quenching that thirst. Jesus says here if you're dying spiritually if you are spiritually thirsting then come to me and drink. It's about constantly coming to Jesus and drinking his love.

**2 We must Believe in Jesus** "Alleluia Christ is Risen" We become Easter People. The old has gone the new has come (2 Corinthians 5:17). Rivers of living water flow from Easter People, the water that quenches all spiritual thirsting.

**3 Jesus must be Glorified,** that happened historically at the ascension Jesus took his place on the throne that had been prepared for him. We also need to put Jesus on the throne of our hearts, to do that we must make room for him on that throne by taking ourselves off it.

In the 40 days between the resurrection and the ascension this is what the followers of Jesus did - they thirsted, quenching that

thirst listening and learning from Jesus. That led them to believe in Jesus. That belief made them want to give all the glory to Jesus and live for him not themselves. Proclaiming not just with their mouths but with their lives “Alleluia Christ is Risen” .

They became Easter People not people working for the Lord but people allowing the Lord to work through them. Are we Easter People? Do we thirst? Do we believe? Do we glorify Jesus? Are streams of living water flowing through us? Are we ready for all the Holy Spirit wants

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## God knows what is 'good' for us

‘All things work together for good to those who love God...who are the called according to His purpose.’ Romans 8:28

Carolyn Arends writes: ‘Our expectations are not just unrealistic, they’ re anti-gospel...Many of us...distort His promise of abundant life into something that resembles the illusion advertisers sell us every day. How do we resist our sense of entitlement and the distorted expectations that are so deeply ingrained?

1) Check the Definitions. When I read that God “works all things together for good”, I think of the marketers’ definitions...that “good” means “easy”, “youthful”, “desirable”, and “wealthy”. God defines “good” in entirely different terms. New Testament Christians seemed to believe the greatest good is to become more like Jesus. They took it for granted...the process wouldn’ t be easy...that the “good” God is working towards is much more expansive than one individual’ s personal circumstances. God is establishing His kingdom... “reconciling all things to himself” (Colossians 1:20), and the ultimate good...is to be included in that process...My heavenly father knows more than I do about what I need...His definition of “blessing” is different from mine.

2) Re-evaluate Death: I can point to “dead ends” in my career, or relationships that turned out to be opportunities to change direction. When I think of the energy I’ ve expended resisting endings, I wonder what new life I’ ve missed. Jesus tells us to die so we can live...to surrender all the illusions about what makes a life good...And then He walks with us...as we die a thousand deaths in the process of letting His life go deeper...into us.’

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### ***MAGAZINE DEADLINE***

Please have any content to the editors by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

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

[hubadmin.west@churchwigan.org](mailto:hubadmin.west@churchwigan.org)

# The Power and Promise of Pentecost

Imagine standing among the disciples, hearts pounding with anticipation, when suddenly, a mighty rush of wind fills the room. Flames of fire appear above each head, and in an instant, voices rise in unfamiliar languages, yet everyone understands. Pentecost was no ordinary day—it was the beginning of something extraordinary.



But Pentecost isn't just a distant story; it speaks directly to us today. In a world filled with uncertainty, where faith can waver, the Holy Spirit remains our constant guide, whispering courage into our hearts and igniting passion in our souls. Have you ever felt unsure of your calling? The disciples did too, but Pentecost transformed them from hesitant followers into fearless messengers. The same Spirit is available to us, urging us to step out in faith, love boldly, and trust deeply.

One of Pentecost's greatest gifts is unity. That day, people from different backgrounds heard the gospel in their own language. The message of Jesus transcends all boundaries—cultural, social, and generational. Today, the Church is a diverse, global family, and Pentecost reminds us to embrace this unity, setting aside division and reflecting the harmony of God's kingdom.

But Pentecost is not just about receiving; it is about responding. We are children of the promise that Peter spoke about in Acts 2:38-39:

“Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

The Spirit empowers us not to sit idly but to act—to share kindness, build communities, and bring hope where darkness reigns. Across Wigan West, there are many ways that we are already doing this, but imagine what could happen if we, like the disciples, opened ourselves fully to the Spirit's leading. What further change might we see in our own lives, our worship communities and our town?

So as we celebrate Pentecost, let's not let this moment pass unnoticed. Let's pray for fresh renewal, listen for God's voice, and take bold steps toward the life He's calling us to. The Spirit is moving—are we ready to follow?

With love and prayers,

**Fran** Revd Fran Humphry, Team Vicar and Hubleader Wigan West Parish



## ST JAMES LADIES' FRIENDSHIP GROUP

The Spring themed table decorations we made in April were a great success,

Many thanks to our friend Jean Hogan for all her work by sourcing all the greenery and flowers etc. We had great fun putting them together

We are looking forward to meeting DAVE WHITTER from St Matthew' s in May, He writes about their Friendship Group in the church magazine, although I have left the subject of his talk up to him, I' m sure he will be a very interesting speaker.

The June meeting (19<sup>th</sup>) we see a return speaker PAUL NOLAN. (*not our beloved co-editor*) Paul is a local author, who, on his last visit gave us a selection of his lovely books to share around. Please can everyone who has finished reading their book remember to bring it along to swap with someone else?

Also, please remember to bring your payment of £7.30 for "Mrs Hankey' s Party" in July.

Although the cost has risen, I feel we can' t complain, as we have had a very favourable rate up to now.

**Margaret** xx 07906 615501



## St Matthews Guides

After the Easter break, we were back for one evening and we took advantage of the good weather and had a game of rounders, which is always a good way to start our meetings, outside on the field. The following week was a Bank Holiday.



After the Bank Holiday we welcomed Vicar Sam to come and meet the girls and give them a talk. She told them about her life to date and what a varied career she had had. The talk finished with which were the best pies in Wigan!!

The following week we will be doing some tie-dyeing with hopefully not too many hiccups!! This will be reported in the July issue of the magazine, and then another Bank Holiday. **The Guiders**

## St. Matthew' s Rainbows

We have had a disrupted half term this time due to bank holidays, however, the meetings we have been able to attend we have spent some time thinking about charities and the role that charities play. We focussed on 3 different charities: Guide dogs, the Air ambulance and Daffodil Dreams. We had a look into what each charity does to help people and where the money that is donated to them goes to, we plan to raise some money for one of these charities in the coming weeks.



We have had lots of fun and spent some time playing games and getting to know each other after having some new starters recently after some of our girls turned 7 and left us to go to Brownies before Easter. **Rainbow Leaders**

## St. Matthew' s Brownies

After the Easter break, we decided to do some fun activities to help us to learn our Brownie Promise, especially as we have some girls due to make theirs shortly. One was a little like the game of beetle using dice to win the parts to build it into the finished Promise. The second one was trickier as we went outside to peg out the words written on paper socks onto a washing line, especially as a breeze meant they had to work quickly before the socks took off onto the field!



As VE Day fell on our meeting night, we played what are now deemed 'old fashioned' games of elastics, jacks and marbles. It seemed that none of the girls had played them before, and they enjoyed learning how to with much success. We ended the night with a piece of Victoria sponge of course.

**The Brownie Guiders**

## Boys Brigade

We hope everyone is enjoying the nice hot weather at the moment. We're fairly quiet for various reasons. The boys have been out at the bottom of the cricket grounds playing games while the weather has been good. We had a small 'party' outside to celebrate VE Day. Cakes and drinks, which soon disappeared! Young Harvey, five years young, managed to eat two cakes! Typical boy, hollow legs! Harvey would like to have playmates at BB.

If anyone has a boy of similar age, or older, please contact an officer for details. Tel: 01924 218465 or 07759564128. **Jim**



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## Friendship Group

I write this as I lounge on the balcony of my latest mega yacht, crossing an azure sea under a blazing sun. It is breakfast time - but can I be bothered going down for breakfast, or take the lazy way out and have en-suite service from my personal steward? Decisions, decisions!!

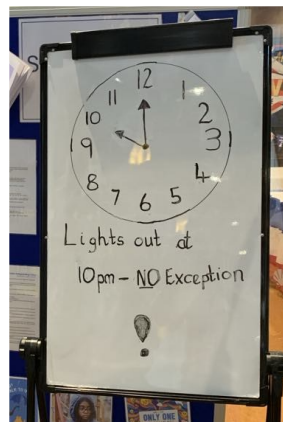
You see life is not always the bed of roses you may consider it to be. Certainly not the undiluted pleasure you may expect. With money comes responsibility. I have to ensure that my staff develop a sense of worth. If my steward sees me doing something for myself, he may come to think of himself as worthless. So, I will have to bite the bullet and God forbid me, lie back, think of England and summon the servant. Life can be so difficult. As I said to one of my guests, whilst finishing my final large 50-year-old malt whisky in the Malt whisky and cigar lounge, which I personally had installed for the benefit of my occasional guests, (I rarely drink myself, as you are aware, self-control is so important). "Heavy lies the crown on the head of those of us in power". This is so true as one always has to consider the effect of one's actions on others less fortunate than oneself. If I ran my own bath for example, my butler, who considers that task within his remit, could very well take a huff and sulk for hours. He did that when I stopped him raising a Saints RL flag on my flagpole. After all, one has certain standards to uphold, and I doubt that HRH would have approved when he visits later. He also got quite huffy (the butler not HRH) when I asked him not to wear the tiny floral shorts of his when working. There is a time and place for everything I said. "They may be fine with Peety, Graham and others of your friends of similar persuasion in the Cricket Club on Friday nights, and the least said about Neil and John the better, but not when you are working."

I am actually writing this profound missive as your well-meaning, but nevertheless insistent Magazine Editor, Paul, has told me that my 'copy' must be in just as I return from my little soirée, so I

thought that I might as well do it now so it can catch the last carrier pigeon tonight.

In all seriousness, our Friendship Group has little to report. We should have had a buffet on the seventh of May in celebration of the 80th anniversary of VE Day. However, in their wisdom and against my wishes, they decided to postpone it until my return. Very nice of them but unnecessary.

The details in my first couple of paragraphs. obviously contain a little wishful thinking on my part, just a 'petit peu.' but the general gist is true. I am currently on a cruise with my daughter Johannah and our next port of call will be Lisbon, then Cadiz, Tangiers and all points between there and our return to Barcelona. I was fortunate enough to have cruised all over the world many times with my lovely wife Margaret and friends, following our retirement, now eighteen years ago, but following her death nine years ago I had absolutely no desire to continue without her and certainly would never have travelled alone. Unlike one of our Friendship Group members Brenda Jones, who is my age and who has just returned from a three-month solo world cruise. A braver person than I! Two years ago, however, Johannah persuaded me to go again with her. This is now the third in the series and I hope not the last. I sincerely hope that I offended no one with my insinuations about 'my butler





# 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day

Thursday 8 May



Thank you to everyone who came and supported this marvellous day. We began with a service of Commemoration and had eighty people attend that and we followed it up with a free buffet lunch, a free raffle, a VE Day quiz and despite a few gremlins in the works we managed a war time sing song. I personally enjoyed every minute of it, but my personal favourite bit was the flag waving and people coming back into church for "Land of Hope and Glory." So again, thank you from me for sharing this momentous occasion in the only way we know how to, as shown to us by Jesus himself, enjoying food and fellowship. Thank you also to all who made this possible, you know who you are.

Love **Revd Alison**

Ps if you are feeling a little "flat" after this event- St James with St Thomas celebrates its 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next year so I promise



# Highfield Cricket Club

Highfield have now started their cricket season, with three new captains at the helm. Ryan Hargreaves is the first team skipper, Ryan Allen the seconds and Jack Cunliffe the thirds. The junior teams have also had a positive start to the season, whilst the ever-popular Allstars starts in mid-May along with a very first training and match provision designed for girls only. It's early days with just three games played for each of the senior teams, but already there have been positive and encouraging performances.

In round 3 of the league games, Highfield first team hosted Lytham on a glorious day at Billinge Road. Skipper Ryan Hargreaves elected to bat first and after losing Joel Welsby early on, forged a strong near 50 run partnership with Mike Simpson (38). Hargreaves (30) fell to Subaru, but Jamie Darbyshire (21) continued the good work, the pair moving the score past the 100 mark. A flurry of wickets, including a couple for ex Lancashire skipper Steven Croft, saw Highfield at 116 for 5, but Bala and Harry Moxham pushed with a decisive 90 run partnership. Moxham was dismissed for 31, with Oliver Jump (23) then providing support for Bala who scored a magnificent unbeaten 88 off just 64 balls, with 12 boundaries and 2 maximums. Highfield declared at 250 for 6 off 55 overs. Sam Rotherham and Mohit Jangra then got about their business with the ball, keeping things tight whilst chipping away at the batting order. Rotherham claimed the first two wickets including Croft, 19 for 2, and when Mohit clean bowled the Lytham keeper, the home side could sense a possible victory. The opposing captain Norris (39) offered some resistance but the spin twins of Darbyshire and Bala again worked their magic, claiming the remaining 7 wickets between them. Lytham dismissed for 109 in 34 overs, a big victory for Highfield and a maximum 25-point haul to push them up the league and within touching distance of the early leaders.

Highfield 2nd XI made the short trip to local rivals Orrell looking to get their first win of the season under the belt. Highfield lost the toss and were put into the field to bowl on a lovely sunny afternoon. Opening bowlers Charlie Farrell and Jordan Callinan both bowling tight restricted Orrell's scoring early on. Mirroring that hard work, young Henry Jones picked up a wicket with his very first ball, snicking the opening batsmen to Lee Martinus at first slip. Some good ground fielding throughout the afternoon made Orrell work hard for every run with wickets falling. After having Orrell 146-9, the last wicket partnership got Orrell to 177-9 in the 45th over picking up the final batting point and declaring. Wickets were spread all around with Charlie Farrell picking up 3, Jordan Callinan 2, Henry Jones 2, and debutant Javid Ahmad Niazi 2. After topping up on water and SPF 50, opening batsmen Steve Atkinson and Tom Cunliffe looked to get off to a strong start in the Highfield run chase. Steve Atkinson was unfortunate to go in

the 4th over after snicking to 2nd slip with a one-handed grab. In at 3, Javid Ahmad Niazi was finding the gaps and rotating strike well with Tom Cunliffe (a solid contribution of 30) with some good quick running between the wickets.

Losing quick wickets in succession, Highfield were at 79-5 with the game in the balance and all results possible. Captain Ryan Allen hitting occasional boundaries in the middle order and top scoring with 50, tried to keep hands on a possible win or at worst case a draw, but he eventually snicked off to the wicket keeper. With 7 overs left to play out and the final wicket, it was a nail bitter with experienced Gary Darbyshire and Lee Martinus ensuring a draw was on the cards and saw out the remaining overs. Highfield 3XI hosted the last year's champions Little Lever hoping to get their first win of the season. Highfield won the toss and elected to bat first, looking to set a solid total and the main objective being making use of our full 40 overs. Jack Cunliffe and Aban Abbott opened the batting and made a strong start adding 72 for the first wicket before Abbott was give out lbw. Cunliffe soon followed for 44 picking out the man in the deep. Debutant Moorthi Wannaku and young Finn Willis made good starts before also being dismissed.

At this point the scoring had slowed down and a few quick wickets fell which put the visitors in control. This was before Gary McIntyre entered the fray and batted excellently for his knock of 40. Daniel Purcell and Thomas Berkeley added some key runs at the end to give us a good total of 178-8 off our 40 overs. Tom Preston, returning for the first time in two years got us off to a flyer with the ball clean bowling the Little Lever opener in his first over. The visitors started to get back on top however, with a stand of 57 for the second wicket, Highfield knew they needed a breakthrough.

Cunliffe turned to young left arm spinner Finn Willis who bowled with control and with great effectiveness taking 4 wickets, including the two-set batsman, keeper Jack Hope with a good high catch. Dan Purcell also got a big wicket at a crucial stage of the game, he too bowling extremely well. Gary McIntyre and Jack Kendall both bowled brilliantly while the spinners did the damage at the other end. The visitors needed 20 runs and had two wickets in hand until opening bowler Charlie Farrell was brought back to try and find a way through. He took the final two wickets to win the game for the squirrels by 10 runs in a thrilling contest.

Highfield get their first win on the board after a fabulous team effort, fighting until the very end to ensure victory. **G a r y**

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**Altar Flowers - St. Mat-  
thew's**

1 June - Mr D Whitter

8 June - Mrs N Morris

15 June - Mrs M Hart

22 June - Mrs S Albers

29 June - Mrs B Stockley

# June Services



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

## LIGHTHOUSE

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



Wellspring

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

### St Matthew's June

1 **Sunday**  
10.30 Holy Communion  
4 **Wednesday**  
18.00 Evening Prayer  
5 **Thursday**  
10.30 Holy Communion  
8 **Sunday**  
9.00 BCP Holy Communion  
10.30 Parade Service  
11 **Wednesday**  
18.00 Evening Prayer  
15 **Sunday**  
9.00 BCP  
10.30 Holy Communion  
12.30 Baptisms  
18 **Wednesday**  
18.00 Evening Prayer  
22 **Sunday**  
9.00 BCP Communion  
10.30 Service of the Word  
25 **Wednesday**  
18.00 Evening Prayer  
29 **Sunday**  
Hub Service @ St Paul's 10.30

### St James with St Thomas June

1 **Sunday**  
10.30 Service of the Word  
8 **Sunday**  
10.30 Baptisms  
15 **Sunday**  
10.30 All Age Holy Communion  
22 **Sunday**  
10.30 Holy Communion  
29 **Sunday**  
Hub Service @ St Paul's 10.30

### St Paul's June

1 **Sunday**  
9.00 Holy Communion  
10.30 Service of the Word  
8 **Sunday**  
10.30 Holy Communion with Goose Green Methodists  
11 **Wednesday**  
10.00 Holy Communion  
15 **Sunday**  
10.30 Service of the Word  
18 **Wednesday**  
10.00 Holy Communion  
22 **Sunday**  
10.30 Service of the Word  
25 **Wednesday**  
10.00 Holy Communion  
29 **Sunday**  
10.30 Hub service

### Lighthouse June

1 **Sunday**  
14.00 Family Worship  
8 **Sunday**  
14.00 Family Communion  
15 **Sunday**  
14.00 Family Worship  
22 **Sunday**  
14.00 Family Worship  
29 **Sunday**  
14.00 Family Worship

**ALL SERVICE IN ST JAMES' SCHOOL**

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

WiganWestHub





# 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

Thursday 5-6pm

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"

### PASTORAL CARE

If anyone requires Pastoral Care the contact number is 07881 792451 Barbara Poyntz. (If answer machine please leave message) If it is an emergency, please ring any phone number in the Parish Magazine,

## St Paul's Church and Community Centre

St Paul's Avenue, Goose Green, WN3 5HL

Friday 27 June 7.30pm

## Wigan Community Choir



Adults £10

Children £3

Refreshments & Raffle

## Service of the Word with Brunch

This is proving to be popular, and we will have brunch again on Sunday 1 June following our Service of the Word. We will be serving bacon and or sausage barmes and ask for a small donation towards cost.

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## Lifelines Café

Lifelines Café will meet at church on Friday 6 June at 1.30pm. We shall have our usual tea and cake followed by a dementia friendly activity. Everyone is welcome, whether living with dementia or not.

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## Faith Café

Our wonderful Faith Café will be closed for three consecutive Saturdays in June, they are the 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. The beautiful setting of St James Church has three weddings in June and for that we are truly blessed. Faith Café will be open as normal on 28 June.

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## Lifelines Choir

We will meet in church on Monday 9 June and again on 23 June at 1pm. This is an inclusive choir for anyone that wishes to sing.

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## Bereavement Support

The Bereavement Support Group meets at St James Church on Thursday 12 June and on Monday 30 June 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.

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## Deeper Discipleship

Deeper Discipleship will meet on Sunday 15 June in St James Centre at 6pm. If you have not been before you are most welcome to attend as this is not a course which requires you to be here every month.

David Goulden & Alison Brown

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## Open Table

Open Table Holy Communion will be at St James with St Thomas Church on Sunday 22 June at 6pm. 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

## Craft Fayre

There will be a Craft Fayre in St. Matthew' s Church, Highfield on Saturday 5th. July from 1pm to 4 pm. There will be many different crafts available to buy including paintings, handmade cards, textiles, cakes etc. Refreshments will also be available including a barbecue. Arb books, magazines and materials will be for sale.

To book a table (size 4x2 feet) at a cost of £10, please phone Anne on 01942 214618 or 07914833795. All proceeds will go to St. Matthew' s Church Fund. Barbara Jenks

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## Dates for your Diary-Advance Notice!

On July 6 we will be celebrating our annual Music for a Summer Afternoon. The theme of the service will be Love and Peace. There will be anthems by St Matthew' s Church choir and also items from Highfield school choir. There will be an opportunity for you to flex your singing muscles too! The service will begin at 4pm. Please make a note in your diary and come early to get a good seat! **Sue Gordon**

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## Thank you!

A big thank you must go to Jeff McCann who, despite going through tough times, has found time to replace the wheelchair kept in church for emergencies for which the old one disappeared. Your assistance in this matter was greatly appreciated by all!! **Dave Whitter**

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## Tear Fund

Thank you very much to the people who gave donations to Tear Fund. You raised £164.87. This money will go to help Tear Fund try to put an end to global poverty. A lot of this is because of global warming which is not of their making. Barbara Jenks

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## Pemberton Community Association

We are looking to welcome new volunteers to join our small team, no pressure give as much time as you're able. Contact us at pembassoc@gmail.com for information. Dave Arrowsmith

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## Pemberton Christmas Market

We are now looking for outdoor stall holders, and those who would like to bring attractions etc, we already have fast food trailer booked. Contact us if you're interested at pembertonevents@post.com.

# Little Stars<sup>Toddler Group</sup>

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!





HOLY • SPIRIT • TONGUES • RESTED

HEAR • LANGUAGE • ARAMAIC • GREEK

HEBREW • PARTHIANS • MEDES

ELAMITES • MESOPOTAMIA

JUDEA • CAPPADOCIA • PONTUS

ASIA • PHRYGIA • PAMPHYLIA

EGYPT • LIBYA • CYRENE

ROME • CRETANS

ARABIANS • GOD



## Acts 2:1-41

It was fifty days since **Passover**, and Jews from many countries had come to **Jerusalem** to celebrate Passover. As the **Apostles** were gathered together the **Holy Spirit** came upon them and they began to speak in other **languages** as the Spirit enabled them.

The crowd that were listening were amazed as they heard about God in their own language.

How many  
people  
**heard,**  
**believed**  
and were  
**baptised**  
that day?

**DID  
YOU  
KNOW?**

The Bible or parts of the Bible have now been translated into over 3,000 different languages since it was first written in Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek.

[illegible]

## Across

8 Laban complained he had not been allowed to kiss them when Jacob fled with his family (Genesis 31:28) (13)

9 In favour of (3)

10 'The child's father and mother — at what was said about him' (Luke 2:33) (9)

11 Swagger (Psalm 12:8) (5)

13 'Terrors — him on every side and dog his every step' (Job 18:11) (7)

16 Bay bits (anag.) (7)

19 Preach, address an audience, speak in public (5)

22 Holy Communion (9)

24 'On their way to — out the land, Joshua instructed them, "Go and make a survey of the land"' (Joshua 18:8) (3)

25 Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint these to administer his grain storage plan (Genesis 41:34) (13)

## Down

1 'Assyria's pride will be brought down and — sceptre will pass away' (Zechariah 10:11) (6)

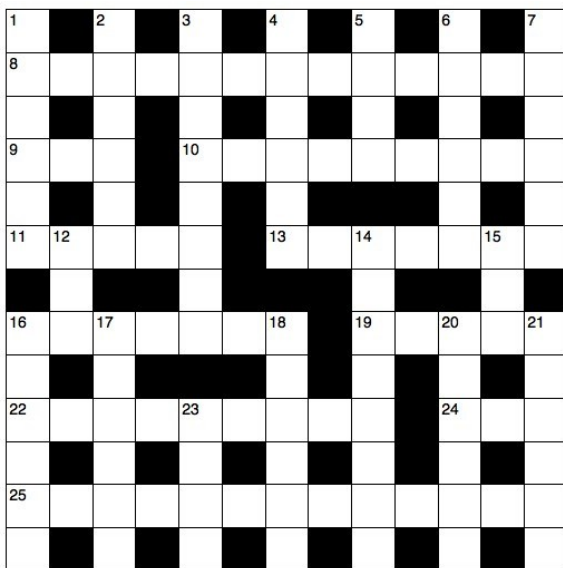
2 'And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in — with God and men' (Luke 2:52) (6)

3 The descendants of Esau (Genesis 36:9) (8)

4 The components of the crown that Jesus was made to wear before his crucifixion (John 19:2) (6)

5 Colour of cloth which was to cover holy objects in the tabernacle when moving camp (Numbers 4:6–12) (4)

6 One of the gold articles plundered from the Midianites offered to the Lord by the Israelite army 'to make



atonement' (Numbers 31:50) (6)

7 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set — — ' (Jeremiah 31:29) (2,4)

12 Ate (anag.) (3)

14 'We ourselves... groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our — as sons' (Romans 8:23) (8)

15 Abram's nephew (Genesis 14:12) (3)

16 Rupture (Job 30:14) (6)

17 'Yet to all who received him... he gave the right to — children of God' (John 1:12) (6)

18 'I... asked him the true meaning of all — . — he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things' (Daniel 7:16) (4,2)

20 Military units (Exodus 14:20) (6)

21 'Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to — her to public disgrace' (Matthew 1:19) (6)

23 Diva (anag.) (4)

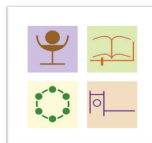
The story of Pentecost is found in Acts 2. After the Ascension of Jesus, the disciples had obeyed His command to stay in Jerusalem and to 'wait for the promise from the Father'. Jesus said this would be the 'baptism of the Holy Spirit', but the disciples had no idea what that meant. They soon found out! Acts tells us that at about 9 o' clock one morning, a sound like a rushing wind from heaven suddenly filled the house, and divided tongues as if of fire rested on each one of them. The Holy Spirit had come down and filled them with His divine power! Praise, preaching and witnessing followed that morning - and the Church was born.

## Word Search



Pentecost	High	Nine	Father
Trinity	Fires	Morning	Son
Jerusalem	Flames	Glory	Holy
Disciples	Languages	Waiting	Spirit
Praying	Praise	Place	Eternal
Tongues	Drunk	Wind	
Power	Wine		

***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/](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/parish-of-wigan-west-wigan/)

Tel: 0333 002 1260

## Change to Double Issue Dates

It has been decided to make a change to the summer months for our double issue. Currently July & August are combined but we will be combining August & September for this year and beyond. This is mainly due to the fact that assembling and printing of the magazine usually happens the preceding month and as August is heavily affected by holiday dates it makes more sense for the editors and printers to be relieved of the stress during this month. Please take into consideration this move and providing articles for September to be ready for mid-July. Thank you for your understanding.  
The Editors



**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**

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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



## Baptisms

Maddox Asher Spowart St Paul' s  
Elsie-wren Maunder St Paul' s  
Cooper Gray Stanton St Paul' s

Heidi Close St  
Matthew' s

Jude Colin John Marsh St  
Matthew' s

Romie Mary-Jean Wilson St  
Matthew' s

## Burials and Funerals

### St James with St Thomas

*None*

### St Matthew' s

Lily Holland, aged 96  
Derrick Green, aged 75  
John Houghton, aged 82

## 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

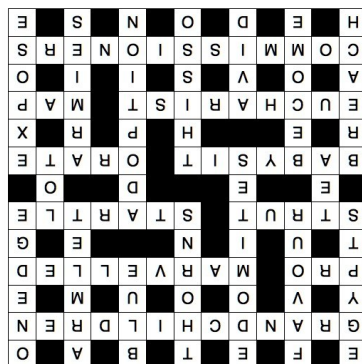
If it is for a special gift please put a reference of What and let Jeff McCann know our treasurer for the Parish.  
[jeffmccann11@hotmail.com](mailto:jeffmccann11@hotmail.com)

## Donations

Treasured anniversary memories. (May 22nd) and birthday memories (June 22nd) of a dear dad. James Hankey.

With love from Marjorie, Jim and all the family

In memory of all our loved ones  
From Irene, Dave, Jeff & families  
£100 from the sale of cards from Eileen & Barbara



**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*

**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](mailto: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

Minute Secretary

*Kathleen Moran* 01942 255741

Clergy Administrator:

*Barbara Poyntz* 07845 947 573

Magazine Editors

*June Gibson* 01942 703096

[jngibson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jngibson@hotmail.co.uk)

*Paul Nolan* 01942 804810

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Printing:

*Sam Rusling* [sam@jesandsam.com](mailto:sam@jesandsam.com)

Distribution:

*John Dawson &*

*Lyn Starkie* 01942 494715

### **St James’ with St Thomas’**

Distinctive Deacon

*Alison Brown* 01942 740777

Assistant Wardens

*Carol Simm*

*Tracey Mathioudakis* 07377467678  
[tracymathioudakis7@gmail.com](mailto:tracymathioudakis7@gmail.com)

*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

*Mrs A Jackson* 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](mailto:jes@jesandsam.com)

*Sam Rusling* 077 22 99 4923

[sam@jesandsam.com](mailto:sam@jesandsam.com)

### **Shine** St Matthew’s School

*Rev Sam Swan*

[sam.swan@churchwigan.org](mailto:sam.swan@churchwigan.org)

*All information correct as of May 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 01942 234410*

*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 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

As we find ourselves well into the rhythm of the year, it's a good time to pause and give thanks—for the many blessings in our parish, and for the faithful hands and hearts that keep so much running smoothly behind the scenes.



This month, we'd like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Angela Matthewson and Jeff McCann, who have completed the annual report. It is no small task, and we are deeply grateful for their time, care, and dedication in bringing it together. Their efforts have not only fulfilled a requirement, but they have also provided a clear and encouraging picture of who we are as a parish.

The report reflects a vibrant and active community of faith, rich in worship, service, and fellowship. Across all our worshipping communities, there is evidence of God's Spirit at work—in the quiet acts of kindness, the joyful gatherings, the shared prayers, and the tireless service offered in so many different ways.

To everyone who contributes to the life of the church—whether upfront or behind the scenes, regularly or occasionally—thank you. Your commitment and faithfulness make all the difference. You are helping to build up the body of Christ in this place, and we are deeply grateful.

As we continue in this season, may we remain encouraged, united in purpose, and attentive to where God is leading us next.

*Martin*

## UKRAINE STILL NEEDS OUR SUPPORT

Please pray for Ukraine.

Can you help with our Ukraine appeal?

Please donate cash or goods.

Call Vitalii on 07476 778083 to arrange delivery or collection.