

Christian Life



The parish magazine of St Mary's & St Luke's

Serving the communities of Rope, Willaston & Wistaston.

*A brighter dawn is breaking
and earth with praise is waking*



11-17 MAY

April - May 2014

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THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester

Church Office: office@stmaryswistaston.org.uk - Tel: 567119
Secretary: Sue Squirrell (each weekday from 9.30 until 12.30) For initial enquiries about baptisms, church records and general enquiries. Also for bookings of the Church Hall, St. Luke's and the Church Vestry.

Clergy			
Rector	Revd Mike Turnbull	The Rectory, 44 Church Lane	665742
		Email: mfturnbull@gmail.com :: Twitter: @mfturnbull	
Associate Priest	Revd Ken Sambrook	6 Westfield Drive, Wistaston	662455
Assistant Clergy	Rev Preb Frank Powell	39 Wright Court, Nantwich	618679
	Revd Malcolm Shaw	85 Rochester Cres, Crewe	213317
Church Officers			
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Pastoral Worker	Ann Stubbs	19 Marys Gate, Wistaston	650583
Parish Evangelist	Lin Parker	512 Crewe Road, Wistaston	664147
Church Wardens	Mike Carter	42 Colleys Lane, Willaston	661583
	Simon Bartholomew	18 Millrace Drive, Wistaston	665505
Marriage Enrichment	Sheena Sambrook	6 Westfield Drive, Wistaston	662455
PCC Secretary	Joy Chaplow	30 Westfield Drive, Wistaston	747908
PCC Treasurer	Howard Barker	20 Mount Drive, Nantwich	627244
Planned Giving	Andrea Bartholomew	18 Millrace Drive, Wistaston	665505
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Webmaster	Bob Squirrell	31 Whirlow Road, Wistaston	569803
Bible Reading Notes	Jenny Forbes	7 Bailey Road, Willaston	662523
	Linda Cooke	6 Berkeley Cres, Wistaston	662145
Church Hall Bookings	Sue Squirrell	C/O the Church Office	567119
Tower Captain	Frank Morton	14 Park Road, Willaston	661816
Young Peoples' Activities			
Junior Church	Sarah Turnbull	The Rectory, 44 Church Lane	665742
Rainbows	Teresa Hoper	27 Broughton Lane, Wistaston	568843
Brownies	Julie Croft	19 Rectory Close, Wistaston	666053
Guides	Helen Pegg	9 Tabley Road, Wistaston	560096
Midweek Activities			
Mothers' Union	Sue Squirrell	31 Whirlow Road, Wistaston	569803
Stepping Stones	Via Church Office	Church Lane, Wistaston	567119
Ladies Evening Group	Marian Carter	4 Church View Walk Wistaston	568629



www.stmaryswistaston.org.uk



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St Mary's

Mike writes...

April 2014



St Luke's

Dear friends,

Just when you think there's nothing left in the world to shock you - I received an email from the Real Chocolate Company (the people who brought us the Real Easter Egg) informing me of this:

"When we first revealed the Real Easter Egg I was asked by a journalist 'What's Easter got to do with the church?' I had to explain that it was in fact a religious festival and not owned by Cadbury.

This year The Real Easter Egg radio ad was rejected by the radio authority. They seemed unsure if Easter was Christian and so wanted our ad to say that our eggs had a copy of the 'Easter Christian story' in the box'.

We argued the point and they have decided that 'on balance' it is a well-known Christian festival."

It's incredible isn't it? How ridiculous I thought when I first read it, but then it occurred to me that perhaps, we as Christians, have to share some of the responsibility for the general lack of knowledge regarding the Real meaning of Easter.

The good news is that we have the opportunity to do something about it as we move towards Easter once again this year. As well as attending the services ourselves why not invite a friend or neighbour to join you?

With every blessing this Easter,

Mike

Easter Services

Maundy Thursday (17 April)

7:30pm Holy Communion (St Luke's Willaston)

Good Friday (18 April)

11am - All Age Worship - a special service for younger ones with a craft activity on this Holy Day

2pm - An Hour at the Cross - a meditative service with readings and music

Easter Day (20 April)

9am - Easter Holy Communion (St Luke's Willaston)

10:40am - Easter Holy Communion for all ages

Rectory Garden Development Update

14 March 2014: The developer who wishes to buy part of the Rectory Garden from the Diocese to build 11 houses have submitted their planning application to Cheshire East. The application can be viewed on the Cheshire East website under Environment and Planning (you can use this direct link: bit.ly/rplanning) - the reference is 14/1129N. Please note: the sale of the land is subject to planning approval.

Could you help at Leighton Hospital?

Have you ever been in hospital? Were you bored? Did the time drag? What about weekends with even less going on? Would you have liked a change of scenery for an hour?

One way for patients to break the Sunday morning monotony is to attend the church service in the hospital chapel, and for some it is just that, a “boredom buster” but staff agree that after being cooped up on the ward, a change really is as good as a rest. For others the service means much more. It provides a vital link back to their own church families, a chance to sing well known hymns, say familiar prayers and have some sense of normality on a Sunday.

All people of all denominations are welcome to worship at the chapel, Doctors, Nurses, Staff and Visitors, but the only way that Patients are able to attend is by being collected in a wheelchair by a volunteer as the number of Porters has been drastically cut on Sundays.

Would you consider being a volunteer? We really need more people to help.

Could you be One person willing to give up Two hours to push an average of Three patients to and from the chapel just Four times a year? or could you go round the wards making a list of which patients want to attend the service?

For more information or to volunteer please contact Emma Clarke, Voluntary Services Manager at emma.clarke@mcht.nhs.uk or 01270 612311 and she will arrange the paperwork, some training, an ID badge and a car park permit. If you wish to speak to an existing volunteer about what is involved please contact Brenda at wrenbury.station@gmail.com. Thank you so much.

Chester Diocesan Lay Conference 2014

The 2014 Lay Conference will focus on discipleship, exploring what it means to follow Jesus and engage fully in the world that he has created. We shall consider the challenges and delights in engaging with the work of the Holy Spirit as we travel deeper with the God who loves us and leads us.

It is to be held at the Hayes Conference Centre, Derbyshire. For further information there are leaflets in both churches or visit: bit.ly/layconf - if you would like to go please see Mike (Rector).



Wistaston Church Lane Primary 140th Anniversary Celebrations



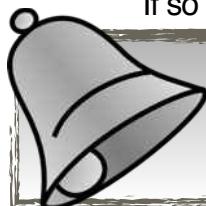
This year the oldest part of the Wistaston Church lane school building is 140 years old.

The school first opened in 1874, so staff and pupils want to celebrate the anniversary of the opening day with a celebration. They plan to have a special Victorian day with the children taking part in fun activities and also hope to create a lovely time capsule. In the evening they may open the school to members of the community who would like a tour of the building. These celebrations will be held on May 2nd.

They are trying to reach past pupils and members of the community who could share memories, photographs and other memorabilia from the school's history.

Are you an ex pupil of the school? Could you help out with supplying photos or stories of your time there to share with others?

If so please get in touch with the school on 01270 663619



Bell Peal in Celebration of Church Lane's Anniversary

On Monday 5 May at 10am the St Mary's Bell Ringers will be ringing a peal to celebrate 140 years of Church Lane School. Fancy trying Bell Ringing? The Ringers meet at 8pm on Monday evenings.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting is on Sunday 27 April 2014, in the Church Hall, following the morning service at St Mary's (around 12 noon). It will also be a Bring and Share Lunch so that we can enjoy some time together as a church family. Please see the Notice Sheet for further details nearer the time.

Jayne Coxall is Selected

Many of you will remember Jayne Coxall who was with us on a Placement during 2013. She was with us with a view of becoming an ordained minister in the Church of England. The great news is that in March she was recommended, by a Church of England selection panel, for training to become a vicar!! Congratulations and well done to her.

Operation Christmas Child reaches nearly 10 million

Samaritan's Purse has reported that for Christmas 2013, almost 10 million gift-filled shoeboxes were shipped to needy children around the world through Operation Christmas Child. Well over 900,000 shoeboxes were donated by individuals, groups, churches, schools and workplaces here in the UK.

Samaritan's Purse spoke of its "gratitude" to the hundreds of thousands of people who donated shoeboxes in the UK, and to the thousands of volunteers and supporting organisations, up and down the country, who helped collect and send the shoeboxes on their way. This year, for the first time, gift-filled shoeboxes were sent from donors in the UK to children in Rwanda. In 2014, Rwanda marks the 20th anniversary of the genocide that saw almost one million people killed in 100 days.

*Last year, at
St Mary's & St Luke's,
we donated over 60
shoeboxes*

Over the past 23 years, Operation Christmas Child has sent more than 113 million boxes to children in over 130 countries. To find out more go to: www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk

Christian Aid Sponsored Swim

We had one young swimmer this year due to other events that were happening, thanks to Natasha for representing us, we raised £127 to date which will go to toward clean water projects through Christian Aid.

Young Peoples' Lent Group

During Lent our older teenagers have been looking at various topics including, poverty, homelessness and Christian Aid. They have had a talk from Simon White (Bill White's son) and have had a sleepover at the Rectory! On the weekend of the 6th April they will be doing a sponsored furniture famine.

Rose Queen Concert

A charity concert in aid of Wistaston Rose Queen Naomi Barker's chosen charity - Alder Hey Children's Charity - took place on the evening of Saturday 8th March 2014 at St Mary's Church Hall, Church Lane, Wistaston.

Five-piece Liverpool band 'Ukebox' www.ukeboxband.com played a set featuring an eclectic range of music including Mumford & Sons, Johnny Cash, ELO, George Formby, Rihanna and Pharrell Williams. The band formed in 2012 and had the audience up on their feet and clapping and singing along to their tunes. There was a raffle during the interval which was drawn by Wistaston Rose Queen Naomi Barker and her Attendant Poppy Bellingham. Refreshments were available throughout the evening. The concert was followed by a disco.

A full house of one hundred and forty people enjoyed the event which raised £865 for Alder Hey.

Co-organiser Howard Barker said, "*What a brilliant concert, Ukebox were loved by everyone. My thanks to all our volunteers and to Cheerbrook Farm Shop for their delicious pork pies.*"

Wistaston Rose Queen Naomi Barker said, "*It was a great night and I'm really pleased so many people came.*"



Ladies Evening Group



The Annual dinner in April is being arranged and the May meeting will be a talk on St John Ambulance with videos, by Mrs Barbara Smith. Please see the LEG programme for a list of meetings and events throughout the year.

Marian Carter is on holiday and will update on news in the next edition.



"That's two t's in Matthew", said Osric

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

A few members enjoyed the fellowship of the 'Wave of Prayer' held in the home of Ann Stubbs on 14th March. This was followed by chat and a light lunch. At the time of writing we look forward to the Deanery 'Lady Day Service' to be held in St Mary's Nantwich and will report on that in the next edition. This will be followed by a Bring & Share faith lunch. Our meeting in April will be a talk by Age UK Cheshire and we are just awaiting details of the speaker. Tickets will be on sale soon for the annual Afternoon Tea fundraising, which once again, will be held at St Luke's at 2pm on Wednesday, 7th May. Tickets will be £1 to include refreshments. Please support us by buying a ticket (even if you can't make the event!). Proceeds go to worthwhile MU projects. Our Speaker for the May meeting will be Mrs Jean Watson who we welcome giving a talk entitled 'The World is like a picture book'. Reminder of the MU theme this year – 'Sowing the Future Together'.



Willaston WI

On a very stormy February evening despite the gales and torrential outside, inside there was a buzz of chat and intrigue as Willie Sarson talked about and demonstrated Crystal Pendulum Dowsing. We all "had a go" and were fascinated by the movements of the crystals.

In March Tom Leonard the local vet spoke of his life in a "veterinary" family; his father and three brothers are all vets; experiences working on T.V. and opening a local practice. His enthusiastic approach to his career, love of his family life and sense of humour ensured a happy evening for all.

Meeting details from Judy Jones tel; 01270 567015

From the Parish Registers

Entries up to 22 March 2014

BAPTISMS: *Welcome to our church family*

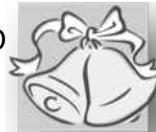
26 January Grace Emily MARTIN
23 February Poppy Anna Edge



WEDDINGS:

May God bless these couples who were recently married:

15 February Emma Louise VICKERS & Mark Philip BIRD



FUNERALS:

(at church, or taken by minister of this parish at the crematorium)

May they rest in peace and joy

29 January	Barry Albert ALLEN	60
31 January	Evelyn GARNETT	77
3 February	John McKinney WILSON	62
11 February	Michael (Mick) John BRAGG	73
13 February	Joan DODD	87
7 March	Ronald THELWELL	85
12 March	Ilene Maude MACKIE	85
20 March	Jean McKEITH	87



Easter Faith

Three years after the Russian Revolution of 1917, a great anti-God rally was arranged in Kiev. The powerful orator Bukharin was sent from Moscow, and for an hour he demolished the Christian faith with argument, abuse and ridicule. At the end there was silence.

Then a man rose and asked to speak. He was a priest of the Russian Orthodox Church. He went and stood next to Bukharin. Facing the people, he raised his arms and spoke just three triumphant words: 'Christ is risen!'

At once the entire assembly rose to their feet and gave the joyful response, "He is risen indeed!" It was a devastating moment for an atheist politician, who had no answer to give to this ancient Easter liturgy. He had not realised he was simply too late: how can you convince people who have already experienced God, that he does not exist?



Dates for your Diary



*Please note that our diary is in two parts.
The regular services are detailed opposite. Other items
and variations are shown below.*

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 12 April | 11am Bp Robert's Farewell Service at St George's, Stockport |
| 18 April | Good Friday |
| 20 April | Easter Day |
| 27 April | Annual Parochial Church Meeting |
| 6 May | 7:30pm Archdeacon's Visitation at St Mary's Nantwich |
| 16-18 May | Chester Diocesan Lay Conference |
| 15 June | Confirmation Service with Bp Peter - 6pm at St Mary's |
| 21 June | Wistaston Village Fete |
| 28 June | Willaston Worm Charming |

Smile-Line: A minister trained his horse to go when he said: 'Praise the Lord', and to stop when he said; 'Amen'. One day he was out for a gallop when he saw a deep gorge ahead. He kept shouting 'Amen!', and finally the horse stopped. The minister was so relieved that he looked up to heaven and said a heartfelt: "Praise the Lord!"



For all the latest information on what's happening at our churches check out our Online Diary at www.stmaryswistaston.org.uk/online-diary.html

For all the latest information...

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Do you have something for this magazine?

Your contributions to Christian Life are always welcome. Please pass your items for the next edition direct to the editor on revd.mike@stmaryswistaston.org.uk or via the Church Office by:- 15 May 2014

Sundays at our Churches

1st Sunday of the month

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 9.00 a.m. | Morning Prayer at St. Luke's |
| 10.40 a.m. | Holy Communion at St. Mary's
With Signing for the Deaf |
| 6.00 p.m. | BCP Evening Prayer at St Mary's |

2nd Sunday of the month

- | | |
|------------|-------------------------------|
| 9.00 a.m. | Holy Communion at St. Luke's |
| 10.40 a.m. | All Age Worship at St. Mary's |

3rd Sunday of the month

- | | |
|------------|------------------------------|
| 9.00 a.m. | Morning Prayer at St. Luke's |
| 10.40 a.m. | Holy Communion at St. Mary's |
| 6.30 p.m. | Life Issues at St Luke's |

4th Sunday of the month

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 9.00 a.m. | Holy Communion at St. Luke's |
| 10.40 a.m. | All Age Worship with Baptisms at St. Mary's |

5th Sunday of the month

- | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| 10.40 a.m. | All Age Communion at St. Mary's |
| 12.30 p.m. | Baptisms at St. Mary's |

Notes: The 9.00 a.m. service at St. Luke's is a quieter service. Holy Communion will alternate fortnightly with St. Mary's.

The 10.40 a.m. service at St. Mary's is a service for all ages.

On the 4th Sunday it may include baptism. Holy Communion will alternate fortnightly with SL Luke's.

The Fifth Sunday Service is a united service for the whole parish enabling everyone from both our churches to worship and meet together.

Morning Prayer (10 mins) - 9.00 a.m. Mon, Tues and Thurs at St. Mary's

The following events take place most weeks if in doubt the leader's telephone number will be found inside the front cover of this magazine.

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|--|
| Sunday (1st & 3rd) | 10.40 a.m. | Junior Church* (from Creche through to the end of High School) |
| Monday | 7.45 p.m. | Bell Ringing (Tower) |
| Tuesday | 5.45-7 p.m. | Brownies (Church Hall/Howe Rm) |
| | 7-9 p.m. | Guides (Church Hall) |
| Wednesday | 10.00 a.m. | Holy Communion |
| Thursday | 5.30 - 6.30 p.m. | Rainbows (Church Hall) |

*During term time only. Young people start in church and move down to the Church Hall during the 1st hymn.

War tears lives apart...Love can put them back together

**'The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer...
in whom I take refuge.' 2 Samuel 22:2-3**

For a growing number of people across the world, the horror of war is a part of daily life. Right now, fuelled by the devastating violence in both Syria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the numbers of people driven from their homes by war is on the rise.

It stands at 42 million people – an appalling statistic and a stain on the conscience of humanity. We can't turn our backs. We must act now.

The good news is that your church can make a real difference.

Last year, a magnificent 20,000 churches across the country helped raise over £12m for Christian Aid Week.

This Christian Aid Week (11–17 May 2014) we want to go even further. We want every church in Britain and Ireland to get involved – whether by giving, acting or praying.

Together we can send people living in fear this message: you are not alone. We're with you, helping you to rebuild your lives, and working for peace.

Imagine what such an expression of love would mean to people searching for the strength to cope with the devastation of war, and how it could help to drive out their fear.

Demonstrate God's love for those living in poverty and show how much good the church is doing in the world this Christian Aid Week.

Together we can reach the 42 million people caught up in conflict and help them live a life free from fear.

Could you provide the gift of hope?



Would you like to be a Christian Aid collector for this year? Please email Mike (mfturnbull@gmail.com) or call 665742

£15 could provide blankets for refugee children to protect them from bitter night-time temperatures.

£40 could provide enough good quality and nutritious food for two refugee children for a month.

£150 could help us provide specialist emotional support for a child deeply traumatised by the horror of war that they've witnessed or experienced.

Be an instrument of God's peace. Give, act and pray this Christian Aid Week.