

Christian Life

The parish magazine of St Mary's & St Luke's
Serving the communities of Rope, Willaston & Wistaston.



THE
FORTY
DAYS
of LENT

RETURN
to the
LORD
YOUR
GOD



PRAY



FAST




GIVE

February-March 2018 :: Price: £1
Available for download at bit.ly/clmag

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 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester

Church Office: office@stmaryswistaston.org.uk - Tel: 567119

Open 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. Parish Administrators: Teresa & Polly

Clergy

Rector	Revd Mike Turnbull	The Rectory, 104 Church Lane	665742
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

Reader	David Illing	412 Crewe Road, Wistaston	661427
Pastoral Worker	Ann Stubbs	19 Mary's Gate, Wistaston	650583
Parish Evangelist	Lin Parker	512 Crewe Road, Wistaston	664147
Church Wardens	Di Carter	42 Colleys Lane, Willaston	661583
	Simon Bartholomew	18 Millrace Drive, Wistaston	665505
PCC Secretary	Joy Chaplow	30 Westfield Drive, Wistaston	747908
PCC Treasurer	Daphne Gregory	34 Whirlow Road, Wistaston	560476
Planned Giving	Andrea Bartholomew	18 Millrace Drive, Wistaston	665505
Electoral Roll Officers	Sue & Bob Squirrell	31 Whirlow Road, Wistaston	569803
Magazine Editor	Sue Squirrell	31 Whirlow Road, Wistaston	569803
Webmaster	Bob Squirrell	31 Whirlow Road, Wistaston	569803
Bible Reading Notes	Sue Squirrell Catherine Gallagher	31 Whirlow Road, Wistaston 10 Arley Place, Wistaston	569803 662697
Tower Captain	Frank Morton	14 Park Road, Willaston	661816
Foodbank Co-ordinator	Peter Hopkins	82 Greenfields Ave, Shavington	669484

Young Peoples' Activities

Junior Church	Sarah Turnbull	The Rectory, 104 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	Jenny Hall	1 Edinburgh Road, Wistaston	568300
Stepping Stones	Via Church Office	Church Lane, Wistaston	567119
Ladies Afternoon Group	Marian Carter	4 Church View Walk Wistaston	568629



Ken writes... February 2018



Dear Friends,

Glancing back BUT and looking forward.

For many Christmas may seem long passed but the Church's Christmas & Epiphany Seasons traditionally only end on Thursday 1st of February. Yes that's right for on Friday 2nd of February we celebrate the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. Following the Jewish Law 40 days after the birth of her child Mary was required to attend the Temple for her Purification and to consecrate (or as we would say to present) her son Jesus to the Lord God. This is the feast we commonly called Candlemas and it is the day on which we especially recall the events recorded in Luke's Gospel (Luke 2: 22-40) as the first visit of the child Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem.

We must dip into Matthew's Gospel (Matt 2) to follow his recording of the visit of the Magi (Wise men) before The Holy Family has to seek refuge in Egypt from King Herod. Later returning after Herod's death. It would, however, be some 30 odd years later before Jesus would be baptised by John in the Jordan River. (Luke 3: 21-23) and the wider world would begin to experience Emmanuel the results and benefits of the Incarnation of God.

We read (Matt 3: 13-17) that Jesus was moved to direct John that he should carry out the baptism of his Lord for it was necessary for Jesus to share our humanity to the full. His baptism was a defining event in Jesus' life confirming his humanity

and thereby his vulnerability as one of us.

At His baptism Jesus was affirmed and consecrated for of his earthly ministry at which he received God's blessing and affirmation as his beloved Son. A time also for Mary, his mother, to recall those prophecies of Simeon and Anna in the temple three decades before. The prophecies which would eventually secure for all humanity the opportunity of redemption of sins through His sacrifice and the promise of eternal life.

In Jesus we have the example of real human life lived totally within the will of God. The Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world calls us his family Sisters and Brothers and invites us to live in Him as he lives in us.

In order for us each to progress in our faith and discipleship we must learn from Jesus and nurture the green shoots of our own baptism, by water and the Holy Spirit, no matter how long ago it was since we received the sacrament it is as fresh and powerful as we allow it to be in our lives. It might be that attending a Lent Group, following the Daily Bible Readings, or delving into a Lent book that fresh insights are gained into the Imitation of our Lord, that with constant prayer, love, trust and hope we learn to live those lives that all people may know that we are his disciples.

/contd.....

Ministry Letter/continued.....

Note. Candlemas is only just 2 weeks before we embark on Lent as this year Ash Wednesday falls on 14th February.

We have to ask ourselves will we be prepared ? *Ken*



Christians consider Jesus as the “light of the world” so it is fitting that candles are blessed on this day and that a candle-lit procession precedes the Eucharist.

Lent and Lent Groups

Lent begins this year on 14 February when it is Ash Wednesday, we will have services of Holy Communion at St Mary's at 10am & 7:30pm. Our Lent Groups will begin week beginning 19 February. Please see the Notice Sheet for more details later this month.



After the recent Christmas Carol Service, Mrs Wendy Simpson was presented with a Mothers' Union Long Service Certificate and flowers. Wendy has been a member for 36 years and her husband Derek used to be the Rector here.



*Word
Search*

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Fashion Show & Sale



Women's Fashion Show & Clothes Sale (women only!) in St Mary's Church Hall to raise money for Church funds on Thursday 15 February at 7pm (doors open for a show at 7.30pm). Tickets £5 are available from the Church Office, Church Hall, Church Lane, Wistaston. CW2 8HA. (01270 567119 or office@stmaryswistaston.org.uk), over refreshments of a Sunday or by calling Sarah on 01270 665742.



Please put this date in your diary and let your friends know about this hugely popular event where high

street fashion can be bought at discount prices.

The evening will be run by The Fundraising Fashion Show Co Ltd of Nottingham.

Everyone enjoyed themselves at the Rose Queen Quiz night recently held in the Church Hall. £213 was raised at the event, and this has taken the total fundraising to £1,213.00 so far. The next event for your diaries is Friday, 9 March for a Bingo Night. Thanks to everyone who participated and to Jess and Elise and their families for arranging the Quiz night.



In support of
WaterAid



WaterAid works in partnership with local organisations in

37 countries in Africa, Asia, Central America and the Pacific region^[2] to help poor communities establish sustainable water supplies and toilets, close to home, and to promote safe hygiene practices. (*Wikipedia*)

Junior Church News

The Nativity

Well done to all our Junior Church for a fantastic presentation of the Nativity on Christmas Eve at the Crib Service. A big thanks to all those who acted, sang, narrated, prompted, played musical instruments and assisted. We're all very proud of you.



Junior Church Dates up to the Summer Break

04 February, 04 March, 18 March, 15 April, 20 May, 03 June, 17 June, 01 July & 15 July

Big Church Day Out 2018

01-02 June

Big Church Day Out is happening again this year, and it's never too early to get something fun in the diary. If we get enough people on board this year we may even invest in our own St Mary's gazebo, like some other churches did last year.

For Group Booking prices you can book via the Chester Diocese BCDO Group Page (<http://bit.ly/bcdo2018>) - the more people that join the cheaper it gets!



Most people I've spoken to who went last year are planning to go again this year but this time just for the day on Saturday 2 June. Any questions please let me know. Mike (Rector)

Ladies Afternoon Group & Mothers' Union



We start 2018 with our AGM on January 25th, followed by tea and cakes. On February 22nd our programme is called 'Mamma Mia' where members are invited to bring a photo of their mother and say a few words about her. On March 22nd we have our Lent Service in Church at 2pm, followed by tea & biscuits in the Church Hall. Everyone welcome.

On April 26th we will have our Spring Lunch, which has yet to be arranged.

In December it was with great sadness we learned of the death of Gillian Spokes, one of our longest serving members, who will be greatly missed.

We have an excellent programme for 2018, so do come along and join us every fourth Thursday of the month at 2pm.
Marian

Members and guests enjoyed a Post Christmas



lunch at the Hunters Lodge recently. We now look forward to our AGM on February 21st, followed by the Deanery Lady Day Service, which we are hosting this year at St Mary's on March 21st at 11.30am, followed by a bring and share lunch in the church hall and everyone is welcome to join us.

We then look forward to Revd Malcolm Shaw giving a talk: 'Easter - What it means to me' on April 18th in the Howe Room at 2.15pm

Sue



Willaston WI

We started 2018 when David Cumming spoke about the Magic of Swans and on a dreary January night we heard about and saw, happy bright photos of these very graceful creatures and the work being done to keep them and their habitat safe from human and animal predators.

On 14th February we look forward to hearing Zoe Lloyd speak about her experiences as a District Nurse and our 14th March meeting will be run by the members.

We are holding a Coffee Morning in the Nantwich Parish Rooms on 17th March. Why not come along and bring your friends?

Pat Cotton 01270 664030 for meeting details.

From the Parish Registers

Registers up to 19 January 2018:

BAPTISMS: Welcome to the church family

26 November Willow Rose JACKSON-HUNTER

Maggie Louisa KELLY

Pippa May MAUGHAN

Mason James WINSTANLEY

7 January Noah William ALLEN-HOPWOOD

Daisy Bella PARKER-MANNION



WEDDINGS: May God bless them in their married life together

None



FUNERALS: May they rest in peace and joy

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

21 November 2017 Douglas MACKIE 89

22 November 2017 Raymond HULSE 85

19 December 2017 Gillian Ruth SPOKES 82

20 December 2017 Gwladys SUMMERS 90

03 January 2018 Ann Jeanette BATE 69

10 January 2018 Kathleen OULTRAM 89

11 January 2018 Evelyn CORN 101

15 January 2018 Kenneth Starkie HINDE 89

16 January 2018 Robert HOUGH 86



Be Joyful in Hope,

Patient in Affliction,

Faithful in Prayer

(Romans 12:12)



Dates for your Diary

Please note that our diary is in two parts. The regular services are detailed on page 11. Other items and variations are shown below.

Dates

11 February	2:30pm Wistaston Parish Council Civic Service at St Mary's
15 February	Fashion Show & Sale 7pm in the Church Hall - see Notice Sheet
14 February	Ash Wednesday - Lent Begins Holy Communion at 10am & 7:30pm at St Mary's W/C 19 February Lent Groups Begin (details to follow)
9 March	Rose Queen Bingo Night
19 March	7:30pm PCC Meeting at St Luke's
22 March	LAG Lent Service, 2pm at St Mary's
30 March	Good Friday
01 April	Easter Sunday
22 April	Annual Parochial Church Meeting (date to be confirmed)
21 May	Archdeacon's Visitation, St Mary's Astbury at 7:30pm
24 June	Confirmation Service with Bp Libby - 6:30pm at St Mary's



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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 sue.squirrell@thedrey.co.uk or via the Church Office by:- 15 March 2018

Services at a glance

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
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

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 St. 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: Mon, Tues & Thursday 9.15am 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.*

Christian Aid Sponsored Swim 2018

Once again we will be taking part in the Christian Aid Sponsored Swim at the Lifestyle Centre in Crewe on Saturday 10 March, 6pm to 8pm. It is a fun, family-friendly evening, raising money for projects empowering women & girls in El Salvador and Honduras. More details via the Notice Sheet & Facebook in February. Free to enter and we usually have a joint sponsorship form for all our group. Our organiser is Sarah Turnbull.



Raise Funds through Easyfundraising - It's easy!

This year so far, we have received £282.76 from Easyfundraising!!
(made up as 1st quarter £185.55, 2nd quarter £29.49, 3rd quarter £67.72, 4th quarter due in the first quarter of this year)

We now have 8 supporters and have raised just under £600 since we started in 2015 - just think what we could do if more people signed up!

Check out their website for more information and a list of the many retailers signed up to this - www.easyfundraising.org.uk



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