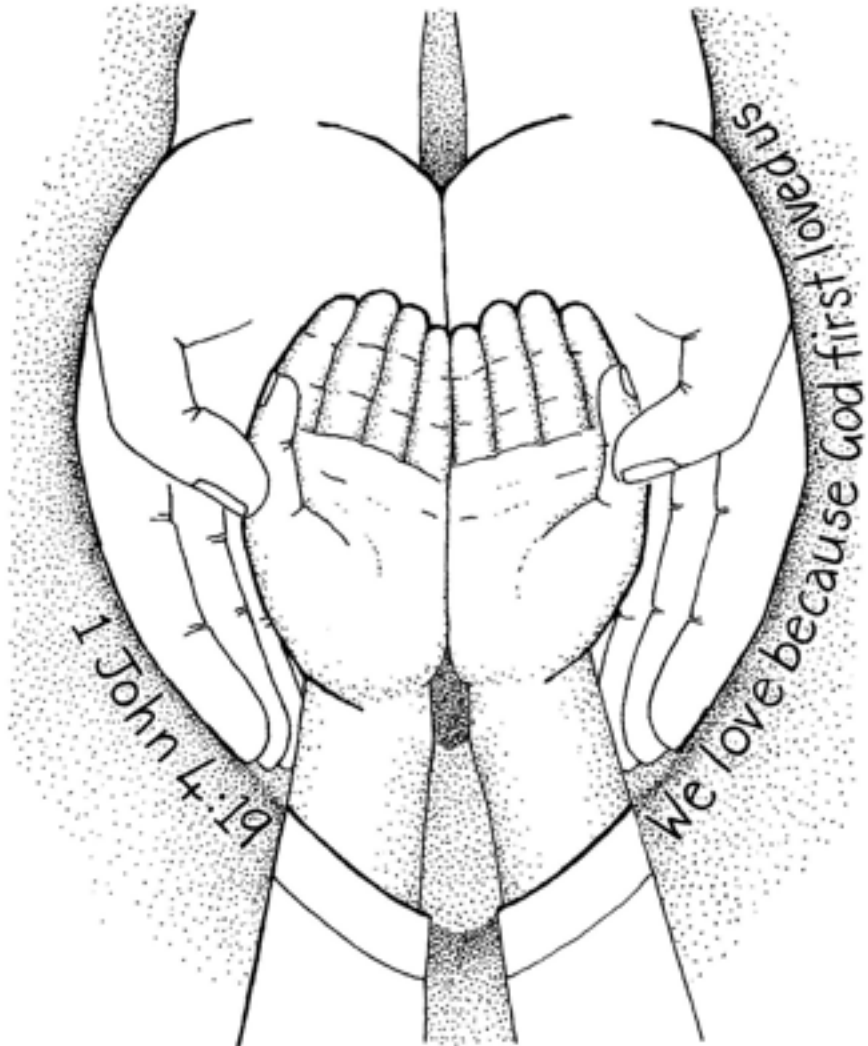


Christian Life



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



February - March 2014 **Price: £1**
Available for download at bit.ly/clmag



 **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			
Reader	David Illing	412 Crewe Road, Wistaston	661427
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
Electoral Roll Officers	Sue & Bob Squirrell	31 Whirlow Road, Wistaston	569803
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Magazine Distribution	Jennifer Jones	408 Crewe Road, Wistaston	568491
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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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Mike writes...

February 2014



I must admit I really enjoyed the TV Series, Sherlock, which was shown on BBC 1 during January. Apparently I was not the only one! Nearly 10 million viewers “tuned” in for the 1st Episode of Series 3 on 1st January! Why? To discover the mystery of how Sherlock survived his fall from the roof of St Bart’s Hospital, but it

remained just that – a mystery – after the show's opening explanation featuring Derren Brown (plus other theories)



proved to be a red herring. Sherlock went on to say there were 13 ways in which he could have avoided his apparent certain death, but viewers hoping for a definitive answer would have been left disappointed. Such a well written drama.

Talking of which, in December I saw another great drama, this one was based on a true story. It involved a young couple, an

arduous journey, homelessness, a stable, shepherds, angels, wise men – oh yes and a baby! Yes, you’ve guessed it: the church Nativity! It was a great night with 35 in the cast and over 260 packed into the church. Within that retelling, the mystery of God’s love for each of us was revealed, as his Son, in the

form of a tiny baby, was revealed – a definitive answer from God to His children.

It is hoped that Sherlock will return for a Christmas special later this year – that seems such a long time to wait! However, the next episode in Jesus’ life will be at a church near you this Easter – and all the Sundays in between!

Mike

Book Reviews

John Sentamu's Faith Stories - 20 True Stories of Faith Changing Lives Today By John Sentamu , DLT, £8.99 ISBN: 0232529787

The most authentic stories of Christian faith in the 21st century come from the experiences of 'ordinary' people living 'ordinary' lives.

In this unique book, compiled by John Sentamu, the Archbishop of York, 20 people with everyday lives, families and jobs explain what their faith means to them and how it makes an extra-ordinary difference.

Some of these people face up to difficult personal circumstances on a daily basis – such as the widowed mother of two young boys, or the former soldier whose fellow soldiers were killed – others work for social justice in their local communities or use their unique gifts to communicate the good news of the gospel. All stories are inspiring demonstrations of Christian faith in everyday action. John Sentamu has written a personal introduction to each story and to the book as a whole.

The Vicar's Wife

By Katherine Swartz, Lion £7.99 ISBN: 1782640703

If you like fiction, you might enjoy this book. The plot runs thus: Jane Hatton and her British husband Andrew relocate from New York City to a small village on the Cumbrian coast. Jane has been city-based and career-driven but when her fourteen year old daughter Natalie falls in with the wrong crowd at school in Manhattan, she and Andrew decide to try country living. However Jane has trouble getting used to the silence and solitude of a remote village. Natalie hates her new school, and eleven-year-old Ben struggles academically. Only seven-year-old Merrie enjoys country life. Has Jane made a horrible mistake? The Hattons have bought the old vicarage in the village. When Jane finds a scrap of shopping list, she grows curious about Alice, the vicar's wife who lived there years before. As we follow the twin narratives of Jane, in the present, and Alice in the 1930s we discover that both are on a journey to discover their true selves, and to address their deepest fears.

Feast + Fast - Food for Lent and Easter

By Christina Rees, DLT £8.99 ISBN: 0232528446

As Lent approaches you may be wondering how best to mark it. Lent is traditionally a period of abstinence, so should you deny yourself little luxuries such as chocolate or alcohol? Or should you do something positive and, if so, what? How best can you nourish your body and soul through this special period in the year?

Christina Rees takes us on a spiritual and culinary exploration of the Christian traditions around fasting and feasting in Lent and Easter. Christina examines the significance of our daily meals and includes recipes for quick but satisfying breakfasts, lunches and dinners through the forty days of Lent, as well as ideas for an Easter feast to savour, rich in symbolism and style. Full of spiritual wisdom as well as inspiring ideas for down to earth living, Feast + Fast offers simple and delicious nourishment to sustain you on your Lenten journey.

Your cut out and keep Prayer Calendar for 2014

Prayer Calendar

St Mary with St Luke, Wistaston & Willaston

Our vision is to be a welcoming, Christ-centred church, where everyone is valued and nurtured, actively sharing the joy of Christ in our communities.

	1	2	3	4	5	6
	The Clergy Mike Ken Frank & Malcolm	Licensed Lay Workers Ann, David & Lin	The Church Office Sue, Teresa & all who help	The Junior Church & Leaders	The Uniformed Organisations	Those who do the sound and vision within our churches
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
The local community of Willaston	The Church Hall and those who use it	Our Church Wardens	Those who decorate our churches with flowers	For local government including Parish Councils	The Bell Ringers	The local community of Wistaston
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
The Mothers' Union	GAP Please pray for this year's goals	For local Community Councils & Groups	The PCC and it's Officers	Outreach in the Parish	Our finances	For those who look after the church gardens and churchyard

Our GAP Goals:

1. Looking to the Future - ensuring we encourage, support, nurture and help our young people
2. Working with and in our Local Community
3. Developing Discipleship - praying together, worshipping together, learning together

21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Ladies Evening Group	Local Schools within the Parish	We give thanks for Music within our churches	The local community of Rope	Baptism, Wedding and Funeral contacts	Stepping Stones	Sidespeopple and those who do the admin from a Sunday
28	29	30	31	Our vision is to be a welcoming, Christ-centred church, where everyone is valued and nurtured, actively sharing the joy of Christ in our communities.		
Our Worship! May it please the Lord!	Archdeacon Ian	Our Bishops, Peter, Robert & Keith	Churches Together in Crewe			

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Notes:



Download to desktop, phone or tablet: bit.ly/prayercalendar14

Scan me!

The Nativity!



On Christmas Eve the Junior Church presented a wonderful retelling of the Christmas Story. Over thirty of our young people, from toddlers to teenagers, entertained over 260 people who came to watch! It was nearly a case of no room at the inn!!

Blestival 2014 - Exodus

Blestival 2014 will as always be full of fun, messiness, worship, madness and surprises and is the place to be this May.

What: A fun packed weekend with lots of things going on

Who: Anyone in school years 7-11

When: 9-11 May 2014

Where: Quinta Hall, Weston Rhyn, Oswestry

Junior Church Dates up to July 2014

19 January, 02 February, 02 March, 16 March, 06 April, 04 May
18 May, 15 June, 06 July & 20 July

Please the Junior Church page on our website for up to date information.

Abolish the Unfair Banana!

Fair Trade Fortnight this year (24 Feb – 9 Mar) will see the launch of a new campaign to increase the sales of Fair Trade bananas. Although more than 1.2 billion Fairtrade bananas are now sold in the UK each year, that is still only one in three of the bananas sold.

So 'Abolish the Unfair Banana' aims to carry on transforming the banana industry, in order to ensure that those at the sharp end of the supply chain – the millions of struggling banana farmers – get a fair deal. The campaign is the next part of Fair Trade's three year initiative to Make Food Fair.



At this time we are hoping for a successful AGM and Bring & Share

Supper. Our Speaker for February is Mr Kenneth Brown who will be giving a talk entitled, 'Gardens I have visited'. On March 26th we have our Lent Service in Church at 7.30pm followed by refreshments in the Church Hall.

Our Lent Lunches this year are on March 12th, March 26th and April 9th. As the proceeds are given towards purchasing something for Church, do come along and support us. We meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month in the Church Hall at 7.30pm.

Visitors are most welcome.

Our Christmas lunch in January was held at the Crewe Arms this year. This was the first time we had booked here and everyone enjoyed their meal, with excellent service. A total of 32 members, spouses and guests attended. We are now looking ahead to the rest of the New Year. Firstly, will be our AGM on February 19th, followed by the annual Wave of Prayer which is held around the Diocese. Our slot this year is on Friday, March 14th at 12.30pm. Venue yet to be decided. After this, a Deanery Lady Day Service will be held at St Mary's, Nantwich on Tuesday, March 25th, at 11.00am, followed by a Bring & Share Faith lunch. Please do your best to attend and support this service and meet other members from Nantwich Deanery. As March is a busy month, there will be no monthly meeting. On April 16th we look forward to a talk by a representative from Age UK Cheshire. Meetings usually held on the third Wednesday of each month at 2.15pm in the Church Hall. If you are interested and want to find out more do please come along, or contact Sue Squirrel or Jenny Hall for more information.



Willaston WI

In January historian John White gave a poignant talk about evacuees from Guernsey. He told moving tales of young children with labels attached to their coats, a cuddly toy in one hand and a small suitcase by their side waiting to be "chosen" by a family to live with them and not seeing their own parents or returning to Guernsey for 5 years. Members enjoyed recalling their own special memories of being evacuated and having evacuees living with them.

We await Ellen Matthews speaking as an "Olympic Gamesmaker 2012" on 12th February.

Meeting details from Judy Jones tel. 01270 567015

From the Parish Registers

Entries up to 20 January 2014

BAPTISMS: Welcome to our church family

24 November Thomas Patrick WALKER-HULSE
Ivy Florence SULLIVAN
08 December Benjamin Harvey BLOOR
Lucy Jane HINKLEY
29 December Darcie Lillian LAURIE



WEDDINGS:

May God bless these couples who were recently married:

There hasn't been any weddings since the last magazine



FUNERALS:

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

May they rest in peace and joy

27 November	Michael (Mick) John BATE	67
25 November	Brian Arthur Bentley JOHNSON	83
28 November	Vera HERRING	81
06 December	Stewart Roy GANDY	65
09 December	Kathleen Doreen JARVIS	92
10 December	Bertram George BEESTON	78
18 December	John (Jackie) THOMSON	76
20 December	Nellie FURNESS	88
19 December	Helen Ann RICE	63
23 December	Warren WRIGHT	82
30 December	Isobel June TILLEY	83
21 December	Raymond Geoffrey FARR	86
06 January	Lilian EVANSON	90
10 January	Arthur John Ernest MEAKIN	71
14 January	Dorothy GREENWOOD	95
20 January	Esme Garnett	94



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.*

9 February	2:30pm Wistaston Parish Council Service at St Mary's
25 February	Deanery Synod at St Luke's
5 March	Ash Wednesday - Lent Begins Holy communions at 10am & 7:30pm at St Mary's
W/C 10 March	Lent Groups Begin (details to follow)
8 March	Rose Queen Concert with a Ukulele Band (details to follow)
17 March	7:30pm PCC Meeting at St Luke's
18 April	Good Friday
20 April	Easter Day
27 April	Annual Parochial Church Meeting (proposed date)
6 May	Archdeacon's Visitation at St Mary's Nantwich
15 June	Confirmation Service with Bp Peter - 6pm at St Mary's




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

10 years ago:- on 4th Feb 2004 that the social networking site Facebook was launched. *I know, only 10 years!!*

For all the latest information...

Would you like this magazine on your tablet or smartphone? Scan here

 Visit us at: www.stmaryswistaston.org.uk

 Like us on: facebook.com/stmaryandstluke

 Follow us on Twitter: @maryandluke



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:- 17 March

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, Thurs and Fri 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.

Surfing the Web - 22 years after it first began

22 years ago this month the World Wide Web was born... David Winter reflects on its impact.

I suppose all of us, even if reluctantly, are familiar with the strange code 'www' - the prelude to a domain name for the internet. Tap it in, and at once you are somewhere else - a shop, a charity, a government organisation, a vet or a dancing school. I don't suppose anyone knows how many of those strange 'www' names there are, but I think we'd be in the realms of Abraham's 'stars in the sky' or 'grains of sand on the sea-shore'.



The letters stand, of course, for 'world wide web', and this month is the 22nd anniversary of its birth, the brain-child of a British computer expert, Tim Berners-Lee. It may seem to have been around forever, but in fact it's a mere whippersnapper. The next time you fume at the endless advice on the phone to 'go to our web-site', think of Mr Berners-Lee and you'll know who to blame!

In fact, the world wide web is now an inescapable part of life for most people all over the world, and even those who aren't on the internet are aware how dependent so much of modern life is on its working. Via the keys on an ordinary computer, or even the buttons on a Smart-phone, people can have access to an unlimited source of information, advice and resources. Increasingly people choose to shop online. It is a source of facts and information, from train times to the names of medieval monarchs. In one sense we are drowning in a sea of information, all there at our fingertips (literally) but daunting in its volume. "No", we sometimes feel like screaming, "I don't want to 'go to our web-site', I just want to talk to a human being."

I used to wonder, as a child, how God could possibly cope with everybody's prayers - millions of us, presumably, all trying to get through to him at once. How could I think of my little request making its way through this vast traffic jam to the Eternal Ear? Well, 'www' offers hope! If Mr Berners-Lee could work out a way to do it, surely it's not beyond the Creator of the universe?