



Christian Life

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




"According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." (1 Peter 1:3)

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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



Mike writes...

April 2018



Dear Friends,

The Christian focus for Easter is something that makes sense when it is viewed alongside the events of Christmas and Good Friday. It's the fruition of God's salvation plan for the world, for his children, for you and I. It culminates in Jesus rising to new life and giving each of us the opportunity to live eternally with God. It is indeed a time of celebration and I don't mind joining in the tradition of chocolate egg eating to aid in the celebrations!

Alongside all of this there is also a restorative power to Easter, a time of joining things back together, building up, renewing, healing and fixing.

There's a story told of a man who entered a china shop carrying a hammer; he swung it at the china and smashed it all to pieces. People stopped and stared, others rushed across from elsewhere and gazed in astonishment, whilst still others ran away. Some hours later another man entered the shop with a box under his arm, he took off his coat, put on his glasses, took his tools from the box and very, very patiently, among all those broken pieces began mending the pots. No one stopped to watch him!

For those who did not believe in Jesus and had put him to death, Jesus was a madman. The fact that he had died on the cross had proved to them that they were right. How could he be the Son of God if he could not save himself? Jesus, during his time on earth, had smashed long-held ideas and rules to pieces by what he had done and what he had said. He had challenged the authorities and made them uneasy by the message that he preached: Love God first, and love your neighbour as yourself. When Jesus died on the cross he left the world smashed into pieces. When Jesus died on the cross people would have stopped and stared, others would have rushed across from elsewhere and gazed in astonishment, whilst still others would have ran away. Some of those who had run away were his own disciples. Jesus was dead; the world was left smashed into pieces.

On Easter Day we celebrate newness, restoration, healing and new life given to us all, now that's something to celebrate!

Happy Easter!

Mike



Flower & Produce Show 2018

As I write it is a cold, damp January afternoon. Stephen and I have been outside to prune the Apple trees, which will hopefully make mowing the lawns easier in the summer. We were soon driven inside by the icy wind and drizzle. The good news is that the snow drops are pushing through the ground and by the time you read this it will be Spring.

With this in mind I'd like to encourage you to consider putting in a few entries to our Village Flower & Produce Show which will be held on Saturday 18th August. You can enter if you live in Wistaston or if you are an active member of a number of village organisations, including the congregation of St Mary's. It's amazing what you can grow in large pots or bags, so you don't need a big vegetable garden or a greenhouse! I have grown carrots, potatoes and sweet-corn in pots outside. The Show is very friendly with classes for baking and craftwork, as well as vegetables and flowers if gardening isn't your thing. If you are new to growing vegetables and want a bit of advice I am always happy to chat about gardening.

The phrase 'use it or lose it' springs to mind. These village events which punctuate the year provide a real sense of community. If we don't support them they may well disappear. So why not make 2018 the year you give it a go? Hopefully you will have some fun getting your entries ready and you never know you may pick up a certificate or a prize for your efforts.

Sarah Rhodes



Confirmation 2018 -

if you would like to be Confirmed this year then please let Mike the Rector know. The date is **Sunday 24 June at 6:30pm with Bishop Libby**. Preparation will begin after Easter. The Bishop would expect candidates to be at High School or above at the date of the Confirmation.



*When churches say
"be our guest"*

**The
National
Weekend of
Invitation**

**FRIDAY 15 TO
SUNDAY 17 JUNE
2018**

Look out for more details in April of how you can get involved with this. Mike Turnbull and Roger Phenton will be coordinating this - for more info please go to weekendofinvitation.com

**Important
DATE!**

Notice of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) 22 April-12 noon in the Church Hall

At the APCM we will be looking to appoint a new **Church Warden** as Di Carter will be standing down after 2 years of loyal service. Could the new Warden be you?

Also, for St Mary's, we are looking at setting up a Warden Team, with 2 elected Wardens, as required, and 4 or 5 Assistant Wardens to share the duties. This would mean, that with a rota, no one Warden would need to be there every Sunday. Perhaps you'd like to be part of this team? See the Rector ASAP. **We also have 9 vacancies for the Parochial Church Council** - forms are available at both churches.

The meeting will be followed by a Bring & Share lunch.

The Bible Course



The Phenton/Barker Home Group that meets on the third Thursday of each month will be studying The Bible Course during 2018.

www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/the-bible-course/

New to the Bible or want to go deeper? The Bible Course is for you. It shows how the key books, famous characters and epic events form one big story, from Genesis to Revelation. The course also provides tools and skills that help apply the Bible to everyday life.

The first session will be on 19/4/18 at 7.30pm at the Phenton's 17, Arley Place, Wistaston, Crewe, CW2 6QW. If you want to know more about the 8 session course please talk to Howard Barker. If you want to know more about the home group talk to Helen & Roger [Phenton] or Frances & Howard [Barker].



Junior Church News

Junior Church - When, Where and What!

The Junior Church meets on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month during school term times in the Church Hall & Choir Vestry at St Mary's. We begin all together in church at 10.40 am and then the leaders and the young people make their way during the first hymn to their various groups. Here are the dates for the rest of the school year: 15 April, 20 May, 03 & 17 June, 01 & 15 July.



Well done! to all who took part in the Christian Aid Sponsored Swim on Saturday 10 March - a fantastic £350.00 was raised by our group. Plus the EU will add £3 to every £1 we raised - that's an extra £1050.00!!

Big Church Day Out (01-02 June) is happening again this year, and it's never too early to get something fun in the diary. For Group Booking prices you can book via the Chester Diocese BCDO Group Page (<http://bit.ly/bcdo2018>) - book now - pay 28 May! Most people I've spoken to, who went last year, are planning to go just for the day on Saturday 2 June. Mike (Rector)



Ladies Afternoon Group & Mothers' Union



Our last gathering proved to be very enjoyable when we paid tribute to our mothers at our nearest meeting to Mothering Sunday on 22nd February. The contribution to memories of our mothers provided a very interesting piece of social history. It was informative, amusing and at times very moving. Old photographs kindly brought by members proved to be a fascinating talking point. On Thursday 26th April our Spring lunch will be held at the Farmer's Arms in Ravensmoor—12 for 12.30pm. We are sure it will be a happy social occasion. At our meeting on May 24th, Sylvia Baguette will be giving us a talk on 'Moving House—for better or worse', and on June 28th we shall be welcoming Wells Green Singers to perform for us. All are welcome to our meetings.

Audrey

We have just enjoyed our annual Lady Day Service,



which was hosted by St Mary's this year. The service was led by Mike and we then enjoyed a bring & share lunch in the Hall. A total of £135.81 was collected for the AFIA fund (Holidays Away).

We now look forward to our next meeting on 18th April which will be Revd Malcolm Shaw on 'Easter, What It Means to me'.

After that we look forward to our annual Fund Raising Event which will once again be an Afternoon Cream Tea with Scones etc on 16th May at 2pm in the Church Hall. Tickets are available at £4 each. There will also be a raffle. This event was very popular last year, so do come along and enjoy the afternoon.

June 20th will be Gillian Edwards, a Mothers' Union Speaker, 'Things are now always what they seem'.

Sue



Willaston WI

Our thanks went to John Parkin in February as he talked about Stapeley Grange RSPCA animal hospital, after our speaker cancelled. He told the story of Cynthia Weaver, her extravagant life; accompanying her on trips to France; her controversial marriage to a German man in 1946 and her generosity when after her death, she left her home, all the contents and the surrounding land to the RSPCA.

Nikki Hughes visited us in March and showed us the rhythm and beauty of Belly Dancing and the benefits it brings to health, and later we all had fun having a go!!!

Pat Cotton 01270 664030

From the Parish Registers

Registers up to 19 March 2018:

BAPTISMS: Welcome to the church family

28 January Ralph William BROSTER
Tommy James MEACHIN
25 February Jack Alexander DODD



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)

22 January	Olive THELWELL	89
22 January	Edith Muriel SUMMERFIELD	92
25 January	Lesley ILLING	71
26 January	Michael DODD	76
01 February	Frances Mary HINKS	91
05 February	Muriel Ena PLATT	90
06 February	Mildred Dora TIBBETTS	89
09 February	Dorothy Kathleen MORETON	89
12 February	Sylvia May WOOD	81
27 February	Gordon EDGLEY	79
01 March	Winifred Mary ARMSTRONG	88
09 March	Phillip John EVANSON	83
12 March	Michael John GRIFFITHS	58
14 March	Mary RICHARDS	97
19 March	Julie JACKS	59



"The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you
and give you peace."

Numbers 6:24-26



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



01 April

Easter Day:

9am

Holy Communion at St Luke's

10.40am

Holy Communion for all ages, St Mary's

6pm

Book of Common Prayer, Evening Prayer, St Mary's

22 April

Annual Parochial Church Meeting, 12 noon in the Church Hall, followed by B&S Lunch

21 May

Archdeacon's Visitation, St Mary's Astbury at 7:30pm

16 June

Wistaston Village Fête

24 June

Confirmation Service with Bp Libby - 6:30pm, 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 May 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
week

13-19 MAY

Volunteers from churches have collected house to house during Christian Aid Week since it began more than 60 years ago. Together, our supporters delivered over six million envelopes last year.

Please look out for the Christian Aid Envelopes which will be delivered to most houses in this area from 13-19 May.

If you would like to collect a round please see Sarah or Mike Turnbull
For more info please go to:
christianaid.org.uk