



Christian Aid Week 2016

Once again this year we will be collecting Christian Aid through St Mary's & St Luke's. If you would like to be involved this year (and it doesn't have to be collecting) please see Sarah or Mike Turnbull for more information.

Some of our congregation have already been raising money for Burkina Faso through a Christian Aid sponsored swim.

A team from St Mary's made up a quarter of some 30 swimmers who took part in what will be the final time it will be held at Crewe Baths. When all the money comes in they should have raised in the region of £400!



Operation Christmas Child - Thank You!



Thank you to all those who sent a shoebox gift with Operation Christmas Child. Once more children in need, all over the globe, experienced the joy of a simple shoebox gift and the hope that comes with knowing they are loved and not forgotten.

This year shoeboxes from the UK were sent to Albania, Belarus, Bosnia, Central Asia, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Macedonia, the Middle East, Romania, Serbia, Swaziland, Ukraine and Zambia.

Together you packed an amazing 900,008 shoeboxes, meaning hundreds of thousands of children received a gift to remember. 18,575 of these shoeboxes were sent to refugee children passing through camps in Macedonia.

Thank you for partnering with Operation Christmas Child in 2015 to share God's love in a tangible way with children across the world over the Christmas season.



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

Serving the communities of Rope, Willaston & Wistaston.



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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
	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	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	Revd Mike Turnbull	The Rectory, 104 Church Lane	665742
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	Church Office		567119
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



www.stmaryswistaston.org.uk



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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
 6.30 p.m. Life Issues at St Luke's

(usually runs from May to Sept - please see the Notice Sheet for up to date details)

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 (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.

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.

- 24 April Annual Parochial Church Meeting 
- 15-21 May Christian Aid Week
- 24 May Archdeacon's Visitation: St Michael, Coppenhall
- 12 June Confirmation Service with Bp Libby - 6pm at St Mary's
- 18 June Wistaston Village Fete (Church Lane Academy Grounds)
- 25 June Willaston Worm Charming (Willaston Primary School)

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting is on Sunday 24 April

following the morning service at St Mary's (12 noon ish) in the Church Hall.

Following the meeting we will be having a Bring and Share Lunch together so if you're planning to stay please bring some food to share - tea/coffee will be available.

The Agenda, Trustee Report & Financial Statement will be available two weeks before the meeting in both churches and on our website - please do read through it so as you may be fully informed for meeting and see what happens through our churches and it's people.

At the meeting we will appoint the Church Wardens for the coming year, elect the Sidespeople and PCC Members. We could do with a few more sidespeople at both churches and there are 8 vacancies for the PCC. Forms for nominating Wardens or PCC Members are available at both churches.

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 2016



St Mary's

Ken writes... April 2016



St Luke's

Dear friends,
Easter Day may have passed once more but the season continues taking us forward to the Ascension and Pentecost. As we are reminded at the Lord's Supper when we proclaim the mystery of faith: *Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.*

The faithful know that every year is the same - the same joyous shout, Christ is risen!" What is our joy but that realisation of the Resurrection Joy banished forever the sound of that thudding stone enclosing our Lord's crucified body.

And yet, each year we know the story is not completed. In this world our alleluias can be drowned by other shouts, shouts of war, hatred, of fear, pain or confusion.

Relationships, between parents and children, spouses and friends, will still founder and break.

People still die, our close loved ones, and many others lost to mortality in disaster, conflict, famine and drought.

We still get anxious. Our hearts still get sick, whether from physical ailments or from the burdens of the heart and mind.

Dictators still rise and fall, and new ones rise up to take their place. Evil intent can be found in every land. Wars and violence still stalk us.

BUT from where will our help come? St Paul's letter to the Colossians urges us

"set your minds on things that are above, not that are on earth."

Yet every year Easter arrives but the material world's idea of Easter has been with us in the temples of secularism since well before we began our Lenten journey but that is certainly a different story of instant satisfaction and the cult of "Me-ness".

Every year we in faith, hope and love joyously proclaim:

"Alleluia! Christ is risen!" for despite living a mortal life in this world's reality we hold to the greater reality of this day. We will go on living and loving, learning and yearning, praying and praising the God of all with Jesus our master, teacher and friend beside us because of this day.

And Christ will come again. It's that mysterious feeling of already and not yet.

When attempting to come to terms with the change from this mortal life to the eternal we are the Easter people whose Hope is in the promises of God in Christ. To quote Robert Bp of Exeter, (formerly Bp of Stockport)

"Resurrection is not just a doctrine but a reality to be lived each day. It requires much effort, imagination and practice WE are challenged not just to remember the events of Easter but to be transformed by them.

Blessings.

We welcome Debbie



Hello, my name is Debbie Rowlands and I will be spending the next few months with you in St Mary's and St Luke's as part of

my training for reader ministry. A little bit about myself: My home church is St Margaret's in Wrenbury where I have worshipped since 1994. I am involved with leading worship (on guitar & flute, but never at the same time!) and with children's work, both of which I really enjoy I have two children;

Philip aged 25 (who is training to be a primary school teacher) and Alii aged 21 (who is also at university and likely to go on to train as a primary school teacher). I work in Wrenbury Primary School as the administration officer. I really love my job as it means I get to know so many families within the village. When I have time I like to do all sorts of needlework, to sing and go to the cinema. I am really looking forward to being with you and am very grateful to you all for giving me this opportunity.

St Mary's Wistaston

MOTHERS' UNION - FUNDRAISING EVENT
Celebrating 140 years !!
AFTERNOON TEA
 2.00 – 4.00 PM



Wednesday 18th May
St Mary's Church Hall



Nearly New/Cakes Stall/Raffle etc.

Admission £1 includes refreshments - Everyone welcome!

Tickets available from Jenny, Daphne and Sue

This is our main fundraising event of the year - even if you can't attend please buy a ticket to help us with vital the work of Mothers' Union.

From the Parish Registers

Entries up to 21 March 2016

BAPTISMS: Welcome to the church family

31 January Ashleigh June KITCHEN
 Natasha Rita KEANE
 David ROBINSON



WEDDINGS: May God bless them in their married life together

There has not been any weddings during this period



FUNERALS: May they rest in peace and joy

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

22 January	James Patrick Peter GILROY	75
27 January	Reginald Victor CALLISTER	88
02 February	Kevin BAKER	73
03 February	Beatrice BENNION	91
12 February	Gerald West JOLLY	90
16 February	Roy OWEN	91
18 February	George HANCOCK	84
18 February	Michael John TURNER	65
22 February	Magdalena LIST	84
23 February	Annie TIMMIS	95
16 March	Christopher John DAVIES	61
18 March	David Patrick McDONA	88
21 March	Mary Florence Martha GREY	93



After Easter - a poem by Daphne Kitching based on John 21

Resurrection reality -
 for Thomas, through the door,
 for Peter, on the shore,
 for me, right here
 where I am, in this situation
 that I didn't choose.

Resurrection reality of living love -
 Jesus -

walking with me,
 forgiving, restoring,
 sustaining, strengthening
 and gently calling again
 that original call
 that makes sense of it all,

Follow me,
 I am the Way,
 I am alive.

Ladies Afternoon Group



We met at our Lent service on 25th February and we enjoyed a social get together afterwards in the Church Hall.

The Lent soup lunches have been a happy gathering of the Church family and we are grateful to Sheena for making the excellent soup and for the L.A.G. teams who provided waitress and washing up duties. The proceeds from the lunches will be given to the local Y.M.C.A.

Our Spring Lunch will be held at the Rising Sun, Middlewich Road on Thursday 28th April - 12 for 12.30.

On Thursday 26th May we shall welcome Ms. Melanie Latham who is coming to give us a demonstration on chutney making. The Ladies' Afternoon Group meets on the 4th Thursday of the month at 2pm in the Church Hall.

Mothers' Union



In April we will be looking forward to the annual Deanery Lady Day Service, this year at St Mark's, Shavington, 2pm with Revd Dr Michael Leyden. This will be a bring & share faith tea shared with our friends around the Deanery. Lifts will be available to members who would like to come but need transport. The Wave of Prayer will be on Wednesday, 18th May during Holy Communion at 10.00am. During the afternoon of the same day we will have our annual fundraising event which will be Afternoon Tea at St Mary's Church Hall, Celebrating 140 years of Mothers' Union; 2-4pm. Proceeds raised will go to the various MU projects. Tickets £1 to include refreshments. Various stalls: cakes, nearly new items, raffle etc. Please do come along and enjoy the social afternoon. June 15th will be our usual Social Bring & Share Lunch starting about 12.30pm. We are hoping our new Prayer Partners will be able to join us.



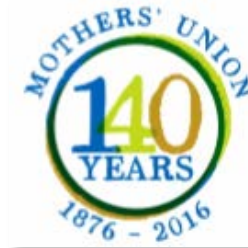
Willaston WI

In March, friends and visitors from other local institutes joined us for a members evening and we were treated to a fabulous demonstration of ballroom dancing by the young members of the Pritchard Dance and Fitness Studio in Burlydam. Their skill, energy and enthusiasm was infectious and was the result of many hours of training and practice. We are looking forward to April when Brian Hetherington's talk will be "From a Stick to a Pen" and in May, Aimee Best will tell us about "The Work of the Dog's Trust".

Meeting details from Marjorie tel: 01270 623062

Happy Birthday to Mothers' Union!

This year will see Mothers' Union mark 140 years of faithful Christian outreach to families of all faiths and none. Since 1876, when Mary Sumner first brought together parents in her own parish to build their confidence in bringing up their children, we have grown to an organisation of over four million women - and men - in over 80 countries of the world.



Why celebrate 140th, rather than wait for 150th? In the Old Testament of the Bible, in the first book of Samuel, there is the story of Samuel marking an unlooked for victory against the mighty Philistines by erecting a stone between Mizpah and Shen, naming it "Ebenezer" meaning "stone of help" as a permanent reminder of the leading and guidance of God "Thus far has the Lord helped us".

Over the past 140 years, Mothers' Union has faced, and will continue to face, many challenges. Family life is under increasing pressure and the call on our resources is higher than ever. But we can look at how we are meeting these challenges and say, like

Samuel, "Thus far has the Lord helped us."

This year over 500,000 people will benefit from Mothers' Union's support for family life.

Many more will know the support of our membership without any tally being taken - because not only our programme work but in their daily lives our members support families in prayer, in

voicing their support for policy changes and in their practical support.

There has never been a more challenging, or more exciting time to be part of Mothers' Union. Our hope is to train more members to help more families; to encourage greater outreach across those countries and communities where family life is under greatest threat. To do this we need your help. Please support Mothers' Union in bringing positive change to family life through its work worldwide To find out how you can help Mothers' Union mark 140 years of faith in action contact our Supporter Care line on 020 7227 0620 or emailcommunications@mothersunion.org

A Focus on Stepping Stones - Wednesdays in the Church Hall

Have you got a toddler or pre-schooler and a few hours to fill on a Wednesday morning? Then why not come and join us at Stepping Stones in the church hall, from 9:30 to 11:45 every Wednesday during term time. We have a dedicated baby corner, lots of ride-on toys, a dress-up box, play kitchen, books, puzzles and crayons. Most of all there is lots of space for the little ones to run around in. There is tea, coffee and biscuits for the grown-ups,

and the chance to chat and meet other local parents and carers. After playing we sing a few songs, with `Sleeping Bunnies` being an all-time favourite. Then there are juice and biscuits for the children, followed by story time. We always have a craft activity at the end, tied into our stories. The stories range from seasonal topics like Easter and Mothers` Day to fairy tales and well-loved favourites like `The hungry Caterpillar`. There is a party at Christmas and before the summer holidays, and we sometimes get special visitors like our vicar Mike Turnbull or Diddy Dance. After Easter



we are hoping to welcome Usborne Books one morning, and we are looking forward to a Teddy Bear`s Picnic at the beginning of July. Further information can be obtained from the church office, or why don`t you come along one Wednesday and see for yourself? The first visit is free, then it is £1.50 per family. Also any offers for help at story time or with making tea and coffee would be gratefully received.



Our Splash! Group had a couple of visitors on Sunday 6 March. As they thought about the story of the Good Samaritan, and people who help us, they were joined by two people who help people in our communities through the jobs that they do, and that was Anita who is a nurse and (pictured) Nigel our Police Community Support Officer.

A day in the life of a Parish Administrator...



It has been a busy few months sitting in `Sue`s` Chair.. In January, I realised that with the new year, a new start is what I needed, and after 9 years as a Registrar role for marriages and duties within Registration Service which I have thoroughly enjoyed, I needed to spend more time especially at the weekend with my family. I saw the advertisement for the Parish Administrator (Sue`s) role and thought it sounded perfect!

When I got the call from Mike to say that I was being offered the job, it made me look at how this would change life for me. All I can say is, that is has, in a really good way! As just from the Interview with Revd Mike, Joy and Simon, it seemed like a really good place to be!

It was lovely to work alongside Sue and Teresa for a few weeks, and I was amazed how much is done within the Parish Office, and how much Sue knows about everything! Also how organised she is! It was a big set of shoes to fill, but after two weeks under Sue`s instruction , Sue left me `go it alone` .

Can I just mention that my first week of `going it alone`the hall curtains fell down, a power cut turned the heating off, to which I found myself looking at the largest boiler I`d ever seen-without a clue!! Then the photocopier decided to join in and print everything at a jaunty angle! Let`s call it a learning curve! St Mary`s church Hall is such a hub for the community, and I have been amazed how many people and different groups see the hall as the main focus for the Parish. It is such a lively place, with lots of interesting activities going on day and night. From the beautiful Art to the competitive Badminton/Table Tennis – which I might add, do not ever negotiate with a cup of tea in hand! To the Stepping Stones pre-school group, which do a great job ! There is a rare occasion when the Hall goes quiet... but it`s not often and it`s not quiet for long, but I do like to hear everyone around using the hall and popping in to say hello!

Once again, I would like to say thank you to everyone for the welcome I have received and to everyone who has come to say hello and helped during my settling in. I have been made to feel like I have been always been here and look forward to the coming year.. Kind Regards,
Polly.