

February 2017

messenger

News from the churches and community
of Bolton-le-Sands and Nether Kellet

Parish Magazine | £1



THE PARISH OF

HOLY TRINITY

BOLTON LE SANDS



**Holy Trinity
Pet Service**



**A Message from the
Bishop of Blackburn**



**Thwaite Brow Wood
Conservation Project**

Community

Old Boys' Free Grammar School
Mrs Joan Baker 824384

Trefoil Guild
Judith Spotswood 736929

Thwaite Brow Woods Conesevation Project
Mrs L. Belcher 824191

Women's Institute
Mrs Hazel Short 822614

Lune Valley Keep Fit Organisation
Sheila Stockdale 823632

Men's Group
Mr Keith Budden 824247

Bowling Club
Mr Geoff Forrest - Secretary 824346

Cricket Club
Mr Mike Clarkson - Secretary 824059

Tennis Club
Mrs Pam Holding - President 733805

Community Centre
Sharman Robinson 10am - 4pm Mon - Fri 812143
sharman1@btinternet.com

Dancing School
Alysia Gilda School of Dance 822207

Bolton-le-Sands & District Floral and Horticultural Society
Mrs Brenda Muir 824018

Petsearch
Mrs Margaret Carter 823013

2nd Bolton-le-Sands Scout Group
Debra Thackrah - GSL
07900 803139 debra2ndbls@gmail.com
Joyne Morgane - SL
07794 991354 jaymem75@gmail.com
Rosemary Smyth - CL
07778 396015 rosemary_smyth@btinternet.com
Joanne Brown - Beavers
07821 253351 jbrown.1967@me.com

Bolton-le-Sands Guides
Emma Lentell - Guide Leader
07765 362324 labotomy@hotmail.co.uk

Bolton-le-Sands Brownies
Rachel Shaw - Brownie Leader
01524 732726 eracric2@yahoo.com

Services

Worship at Holy Trinity
One Sunday in each month will be 'Morning Praise' which is not a communion service.

Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Holy Communion
Wednesday	10.00am	Holy Communion

First Friday Worship
The first Friday of each month at Holy Trinity at 7.00pm - followed by refreshments and fellowship.

Details of services are displayed on the outside notice board, and are given in The Link each Sunday.

Worship at St Mark's Nether Kellet

Sundays	9.00am
First Sunday	Holy Communion - Common Worship
Second Sunday	Morning Prayer
Third Sunday	Holy Communion - Book of Common Prayer
Fourth Sunday	Morning Prayer
Fifth Sunday	Morning Prayer

Worship at Christ Church United Reformed Church

5th Feb	10.00am	Rev G Harris
		Flowers from Flower Fund
12th Feb	10.00 am	Mr R Adamson
		Flowers from Flower Fund
19th Feb	10.00am	Rev D Atkinson
		Flowers from H Leigh
26th Feb	10.00 am	Mr W Towers
		Flowers from P Jarrett
5th Mar	10.00 am	Rev G Lear
		Flowers from Flower Fund

Christ Church United Reformed Church

Mr G Shaw - Treasurer	67644
Miss A Shaw - Secretary	67644

During the vacancy the Revd David Greenwood will be our pastoral link person. If anyone needs a minister please contact the Church Secretary

Mass times at St. Mary of The Angels

Sundays	9.00am
Monday and Friday	10.00am

See notice board by the Church gate for variations

Ministry Message



Happy New Year, everyone - and 2017 promises to be a very exciting year in the life of Holy Trinity and St Mark's. Many of you will have seen the very visible signs that work on the roof at Holy Trinity is now underway in earnest, with the scaffolding now inside as well as out. Elsewhere in this edition, you can read a report on the progress of the work, and see some pictures of what is happening inside church. The church is still open during the day, so if you haven't been to a service recently, do pop in and see what is happening. It is very much an on-going project, where things may change on a daily basis, so we'll try to keep everyone up-to-date with progress. Have a look at the website, and make sure you are on the list to receive the weekly newsletter by email. You can even check out how the scaffolding was done if you search for "holy trinity scaffolding" on youtube.com.

In this very real way, we have begun to achieve our vision to 'Raise the Roof and Open the Door'. The roof will be repaired, but more than that, we want to '**raise the roof**' with our praise and worship in church. The porch will be replaced, which will make it easier for people to come into the church, but more than that, we want to develop that two way link between the church and the community we serve; to bring people into the church, and to take the church out into the community. To do that, we have embarked upon our own 'Vision Course'. We welcomed **Dave Champness**, the Diocesan Vision Co-ordinator to our 10.30 service on January 15th, and he talked to us about our Diocesan Vision, **Vision 2026**, and inspired us to think about how we develop our vision for our own church. We undertook the 'Healthy Church Audit' last autumn, and it revealed that perhaps we weren't very clear about what our vision was, or how we would attain it; or, if we were, maybe we weren't very good at letting people know what that vision was. So, we have launched our own Vision Course - a series of 5 sessions on Saturday mornings, when everyone is invited to come along to reflect, with prayer and bible study, to join in discussions, and make suggestions - and enjoy bacon buns and coffee! In the first session on 21st January, we considered how we recognise a Healthy Church. We looked again at the areas in which we feel we, as a church, are quite healthy and tried to identify three areas in which we felt we could develop further, in order to ensure growth in the church - using a very wide definition of 'growth'.

The three areas we suggested focussing on were :

- developing as a prayerful church
- developing our personal faith journeys through Bible Study
- developing our work in and for the community we serve

The sessions continue to look at the other aspects of Vision 2026 : Transforming Communities, Making Disciples, Being Witnesses and Growing Leaders. Everyone is welcome to come along to any of the sessions - you do not have to make a commitment to come to them all, and how you take part is entirely up to you. God is at work in the lives of people today, and we want this good news of great joy to be part of our community. Put yourself where God can work through you - be part of the discernment of what God has planned for us.

The audit that we undertook (and many thanks to all those who completed the audit forms and sent in suggestions and comments) told us where we are now. The Vision course will help us to discern where God wants us to be. We will then produce our own **Mission Action Plan** to set out how we will reach that destination. To use the analogy of a journey, we know where we are starting from, and we know where we want to get to. To reach our destination, we will need a plan or a map to help and guide us - the Vision Course will tell us **what** we want to achieve - the **Mission Action Plan** will tell us **how**, with God's help and guidance, we hope to achieve it.

As part of our aim to make worship accessible and inclusive, we are planning to have one service a month at Holy Trinity at 10.30am which is not a communion service. These will include special services for Mothering Sunday, St. George's Day, Celebrating Baptism and families, Fathers' Day, Harvest, Junior Church presentations and Remembrance. Following last year's success, February's Family Praise will be :

All creatures great and small.....

On Sunday 19th February at 10.30am, we will have our Pet Service. You are welcome to bring along your pets - or perhaps a photo or other reminder of your pet - to a special service where we remember all God's creatures, and give thanks for all the joy that our pets bring into our lives.

So, much to look forward to in 2017 - and you are all invited to be part of it!

Nancy





Treasurer's Message

Treasurer **Andy Hampshire** will be writing a regular contribution to the Messenger in the future.

In this first article, Andy explains how we can help to boost the church's finances.

I have just finalised the Church's annual accounts for the first time since taking over as Treasurer last year. My first task is to thank all those who have welcomed and helped me to understand how the church and its finances work. As a result producing the accounts has gone really smoothly, with no hitches. So, thank you everyone - I find the work of the Treasurer to be both stimulating and enjoyable, so I'll stay on if you'll have me!

Everyone will have seen that the work on the church roof has now started and it is pleasing to note that the funding of the project is sound. The focus for Holy Trinity's finances will inevitably now turn back to the day-to-day running costs and budgets - more on that around the time of the AGM in April. Inevitably, there will always be the need for more income, and parishioners are already most generous in providing over 70% of income through direct giving - standing orders, envelopes etc - and this will continue to be the most important source of income in the future. However, there are other ways to help, and if you have ever bought anything on the internet read on....

Holy Trinity has been a member of 'easyfundraising.org' since 2009 and there are currently 16 individuals who use this to raise funds for us. A total of £654.35 has been raised and it is easy to see that if there were more members using the site more regularly the potential income would be much larger. The site pays us a small amount of money each time it is used to access a site you are buying from - no catches. So why not give it a go?

The site is free to use, and covers all types of purchases, large and small, from holidays to gas & electricity, white goods, clothes etc, etc. The price you pay for goods is exactly the same as it would be if you went to the seller directly and purchases are just as secure.

So, before you turn over the page, why not log on to **www.easyfundraising.org**, register your email address and choose **Holy Trinity Church, Bolton-le-Sands** as your preferred beneficiary.

I'll update the results of your efforts in a future article.

Andy Hampshire, Treasurer



"The parish of Bolton-le-Sands in Lancashire"
or follow the link www.facebook.com/parishbls.



Health & Safety

With the first phase of the scaffolding being erected inside church some additional control measures have been introduced. This is to make sure that everybody is safe.

- **Slip, trip and fall** - with so much plastic covering on the carpets and pews, take extra care and always look where you are going. Do not rush, and seek assistance if required.
- **Barrier tape** - do not cross or pull down the barrier tape -it is designed to show 'no go areas' and to identify safe walkways
- **Access to the kitchen/toilet** - please make sure you use the designated walkway as defined by the barrier tape.
- **Coffee/tea area** - please do not overcrowd the Fellowship area at the back of church. Be aware of limited space, and use pews for seating areas if necessary.
- **Make sure you know** where the designated exit point is in the event of an incident.
- **Chancel steps** - during communion services, there will always be two people present to provide assistance.

PLEASE NOTE - as the work progresses, there may be some addition or changes to this advice. Please make sure you check and observe any notices and updates.

If you see anything you are not sure about, or if you spot anything which you think could be a hazard, please report it Nancy, the Church Wardens or any of the team on duty.

Christenings, weddings and funerals at Holy Trinity

To book a Christening, please come along after the Sunday morning service at Holy Trinity between 11.45 and 12.15 and see one of our Christening Ministry Team, who will be able to assist you.
Email the Christening Enquiry line - holytrinitychristenings@gmail.com

All enquiries about Weddings and Funerals should be made to Revd Nancy Goodrich (01524 823106) in the first instance.

Further details are available on our website : www.bolton-le-sands.org.uk

You are warmly invited to come and help think about the future of our Church.

Come along to the Old Boys' School at 9am on any of these Saturdays for an hour and a bit to chat and think about a vision for the future of our Church:

Saturday 4th February Making Disciples

Saturday 11th February Being Witnesses

Saturday 25th February Growing Leaders.

For more information please speak to

Karen Hillis

Coffee and bacon buns- Interesting discussion- Thinking about the future



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New year Message from the Bishop of Blackburn

As a New Year presents itself with all its opportunities and challenges, I sense there is an anxious uncertainty about the future. No-one knows what the Trump Presidency will bring. A number of fierce regional conflicts could easily explode into something more widespread and serious, shattering the current rather fragile world peace.

As we await the judgement of the Supreme Court, who will make the decisions about Brexit and when will our departure from the EU actually take place? Meanwhile the unpredictability of ongoing terrorist activity means no-one can be complacent.

All of the above, without any reference to difficult personal circumstances people may be facing, is enough to create an anxiety and even a fear about 2017. That is not scaremongering; it is just saying it as it is. But does the Christian Church and its teaching have any comfort or teaching to alleviate those fears?

Our convictions rest on two attributes that God has revealed of Himself. He is good and powerful. He will achieve His purpose for His created order, which (despite what can appear to be no progress, or even backward steps) will come to pass. If we surrender the belief that God is sovereign and that the affairs of the world are not running out of control, we will find ourselves in a very scary and vulnerable place.

I know that in the presence of terrible evil and suffering it is hard to hold to the belief, quoting the words of the hymn, that 'God is working His purpose out as year succeeds to year' but the alternative is to admit that there is no justice and that evil can run riot without any consequences of accountability.

That all sounds rather serious but, as I wish the people of Lancashire God's blessing for the New Year, it is in the confidence that we need not fear the ultimate future.

God is the beginning and the end and He will have His way. As another popular hymn puts it, He is 'Lord of the years' and that includes 2017!

Rt Rev Julian Henderson

the link

The Link appears in church every Sunday, and contains information about services, and parish notices. Items for inclusion in The Link can be sent to holytrinitylink@gmail.com by the preceding Thursday evening.



Raise the Roof, Open the Door. Work Gathers Momentum:

The contractors Lloyd and Smith have made a good start in the New Year with the team fully established on site.

The external and internal scaffolds are complete. The good news is that the internal scaffold will not extend any further forward towards the chapel which means that access to the organ and the vestries is maintained, (as long as Ian can negotiate the obstacle course). Any work on the chapel ceiling will be done from a temporary mobile scaffold when required. The bad news is that the scaffold in the nave extended further into the centre pews than expected. This was necessary to allow access to the nave beams. We are now restricted in the number of pews available for seating but we are making the best use of the space available. We can only ask for your patience as we try to conduct worship as usual.

The chancel roof has been stripped of slates and is being prepared for the new slates. We are using the opportunity provided by the scaffold to revise the lighting in the Nave area with a view to replacing the halogen lamps with low energy LED lamps.

The inner porch has been removed and the oak panels retained for use later in the project. The community area will be more useful when the work is complete.

Raise the Roof



Open the door



The team with delegated responsibility for the Project consists of Karen Hillis, John Lane, Rob Daunt, Andy Hampshire and Brian James. Please do not hesitate to contact any member of the team for further information.



John Sparks

John was a well-known and very much respected member of our community, who gave a great deal of time, energy and commitment to the village which had become his home.

John died in December, and his funeral was held at Holy Trinity Church on **Thursday 22nd December**. Thanks to the members of his family for the following extract from the eulogy which was given at the service.



John was born in Salford on the **15th December 1929**, he was the only child of Henrietta and Morrison, and his parents famously proclaimed, "He was so good, they lost the pattern". He came to Bolton-Le-Sands as an evacuee in 1939, aged 9, complete with gas mask and label. He went to the village school and then onto Lancaster Royal Grammar School. A very keen sportsman, he represented his school at Rugby and Cricket, and took his sporting prowess outside of school, playing for the under 16 local football team. An active member of the Parish, even at an early age of 9, he used to help local farmers after school and on Sundays, pumped the organ in church (whilst reading a comic). He was a member of the choir for many years.

It was in Bolton-le-Sands at the age of 16 when he first met Joy at a local dance on June 21st, 1946. Having courted for two years, they became engaged at 18, when John sadly had to take leave for his 2 years of national service. During these years, they wrote to each other every single day (costing a small fortune in stamps). After completing his National Service, Joy and John married at 20, on 3rd June, 1950, in Holy Trinity Church, where 50 years later they would renew their vows. A year after their marriage, John joined the Manchester Police which ultimately saw the happy couple relocate to Cheadle, in Cheshire.

John was a fiercely devoted husband to Joy, never failing a single day in 66 years – over 24,000 days – to tell her, "I love you". Then came the children. Their first son Michael was born in 1952, followed soon after by Chris in 1956, with Lyn eventually swinging the sex ratios in 1962. A dedicated and loving father to his three children, his family hold nothing but warm-hearted memories of their time together.

A staunch advocate of the caravan holiday, they toured Europe enjoying snow picnics, camping holidays and even towed the caravan as far as Rome on several occasions. A natural entrepreneur, he decided one day to build a boat – with no prior knowledge of woodwork or anything remotely nautical. His masterpiece was named Micrlyn, an amalgam of the names of his three children. What followed were endless happy weekends sailing around the local lake and even trips onto the open ocean, when the boat accompanied the caravan (on the roof of the ever-reliable Vauxhall Victor Estate).



In 1976, after his 26-year tenure with the Manchester Police, he became an enforcement officer for South Lakeland Council, where he spent 15 years touring the Lake District, cracking the whip with over-zealous farmers. Time moved on and 1983 saw the dawning of a new era; the grandchildren. Peter was followed by David, Alan, Marc, Chris, Victoria and finally a second Peter.

It was during this time that John was extremely active in the village he so loved since his first arrival during the war. For many years he was chairman of both the Parish Council and School Governors. He also organised the first responders group, raised money for the new Tennis Club and facilitated the building of the Scout Hut by accessing Lottery Funding. As a loving husband, father, father-in-law to Gwen and John, Grandad and Great-Grandad (a subsequent 4 great-grandchildren appeared; Joe, Olivia, Grace and Oscar), he was unflinching with his affections and consistent with his values. He was so proud of all the family, enjoying much of his final years following their journeys through Facebook.

John always liked people. Forever gregarious, he would search for the good in those he met, share his opinions, make everyone feel welcome and would always be the first to volunteer his services. He truly was a beacon in a frequently dark world, offered clarity in obscurity and has set an example for all of us to follow. His family and the wider community, will miss him endlessly and unreservedly.

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St. Mark's Nether Kellet

Notes from St Marks

It is not often we have a special service at St Mark's, but in October we had a lovely service to celebrate the baptism of **Benjamin George Brown**. Our little church was packed and the service was taken by **Canon Brenda Harding**. She had a difficult time at first while baby Benjamin explored his new surroundings and made it plain he did not want to be restrained, but she battled on, and when peace was restored she welcomed him into the family of the Church. It was a truly lovely family occasion.

We are now looking forward to our Christmas celebrations, but it is often difficult, amongst the bright lights and decorations in the shops, to remember the real reason for celebrating Christmas - the birth of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. The word 'Noel', which we often use during this season, comes from the French words "Les bonnes nouvelles" - "the good news". No matter how commercial it has become, we should remember 'The First Noel' was the best news the world ever had, and Christmas has been Good News ever since.

Christmas Services at St Mark's:

Sunday 18th December : 9.00am Holy Communion

6.00pm Carol Service

Sunday 25th December : 9.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 1st January : 12 noon Holy Communion joint service at Holy Trinity - 'Bring and Share' lunch.

Village News:

Saturday 3rd December

4.00pm Christmas Fair in The Village Hall

Friday 16th December

7.00pm Carols for Fun - Village Hall - led by Revd. Nancy and Ian Entwistle

Collection for The Children's Society

The Fashion Show in November proved a very popular event, raising £900 for the Village Hall.

Everyone at St Mark's would like to wish all our readers a happy and peaceful Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Jean Crabtree



Bolton le Sands Men's Group

The monthly meeting of the Bolton-le-Sands Men's group took place in the Old Boys' School on **9 January** when the speaker was **Brian Crawley** on Back packaging in Knoydart. The trip took place in 1990, when Brian and his wife, Louise, and two dogs, went to Scotland in their campervan. First, they went up to Lochalsh and Loch Duich, where they saw Eilan Donan and its well-known castle, which was restored in the early 1900's following destruction after the 1745 Rising.

From there, they continued to Loch Hourn, passing Glenelg with its very narrow crossing to Skye on the way. On arrival at Armisdale, the camper was parked up and the backpacking journey begun. The first thing was to cross over Loch Hourn to the Knoydart Peninsula, a very remote area of the country. The local postman was persuaded to give them a lift in his boat, something which he had done a number of times to backpackers.

Once on Knoydart, the journey began, following a path close to the shore. There were a number of pictures showing the wild, uninhabited countryside and coming round to Sandaig, not the one where Gavin Maxwell was based. Views were had across Loch Nevis to the area behind Mallaig. Loch Nevis is said to mean Loch of Heaven and Loch Hourn Loch of Hell, so they were between Heaven and Hell for the back packaging part of the trip.

The village of Inverie was reached, where there was a pier, one which has now been replaced, for boats to Mallaig. In this area there is the only stretch of road on the peninsula. It is an estate road and not connected at all to the road system, even though on the mainland. At the end of the road is Inverie House, which was the seat of absentee landlord Lord Brocket, a Nazi sympathiser during the time of the Second World War. Now, the Estate is owned by the Knoydart Foundation.

From near there were two tracks, the one to the left being the one taken, going up by the Inverie River to Lochan an Dubh Lochain, the Black Lochan, where the night was spent before continuing on and over the pass and down again to Loch Hourn. Near Mam Barrisdale, Brian and Louise met a party of Royal Engineers, the only people seen apart from at Inverie.

It was then a case of going along an old road over headlands and by the shore to Kinlochhourn, where Brian and Louise camped for the night, They then turned west for Armisdale and the camper, having trekked about thirty miles.

Robert Swain

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Thwaite Brow Wood Conservation Project

The volunteers of Thwaite Brow Wood Conservation Project have continued to work on the second Sunday of the month. Besides doing routine work, work has been done towards restoring to use a long lost path, as can be seen in the photographs.



**First Friday Worship
and Fellowship returns**

Friday 3rd February at 7pm,
Holy Trinity Church

'Love'

led by David Bateman - please come along and be prepared to join in and sing!

A warm welcome to everyone. Refreshments will be available after the service.





The Order of the Companions of Martha and Mary

ST JOPSEPHS HOUSE OF PRAYER

Craft and Contemplation Day
Saturday 25th February, 10.30am till 4pm

Including light lunch, All Welcome

Please email jacqui.mallinson2@gmail.com to book a place.

New Vicarage, Church Lane, Tunstall, Carnforth, LA6 2RQ
sistersocmm@gmail.com



Concert News

I am pleased to say that our evening of sacred music, performed so excellently by Levens Choir on December 13th last, was a great success. It was a good beginning to the Christmas season, highly enjoyable, and we even had the opportunity to sing some carols ourselves. Over supper, there was a chance to meet with the performers and a friendly atmosphere pervaded as everyone chatted and laughed together. Some of the choir ladies were very helpful to myself and Becky, cheerfully helping with the washing up and clearing away at the end. Now that is what I call a true show of generosity of spirit.

Thanks were given to Mr Jones, the choir, organist and soloists for the wonderful evening. When all expenses had been met, we were able to hand over £410 to Holy Trinity Church. My thanks to those who came and supported this event. I do hope you had as great a time as we did - and we didn't run out of food!! Always a blessing

Best wishes and God bless - and a Happy 2017

Margaret and Becky H (Tel 824110)



Mothers' Union Update

Happy New Year to one and all. I do hope you all had a truly wonderful Christmas and feel inspired by all that we need to accomplish in the New Year.

After the festivities in which Mothers' Union were involved I can honestly say that I never want to see another mince pie again! Well done to everyone who baked for the Christmas Fair which had a Lancashire theme – the array of Lancashire cakes looked amazing!

We had our Christmas Party on **December 14th** and were delighted to welcome **Margaret and Alan Crossley** into our midst again. Also, our friends from St. Mary's and the URC enjoyed the afternoon with us. As ever **Pat Ascroft** kept us hugely entertained with her collection of hats and the stories behind them. Thanks to Hazel for booking Pat as our speaker for Christmas 2017!

The Carol service saw us in action once more donating mince pies to accompany the mulled wine. Thanks to all who donated mince pies.

By now you should all have received your programme for the coming year and with it the name of your committee member. The menu for our Shrove Tuesday Luncheon at the Golf Club was enclosed with the programme and we ask that you make your choice and return it to Trish Cooper or hand it to the Churchwardens before **Monday Feb 20th** along with cheque or cash for **£15.50**. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Since the last edition of the Messenger we have been delighted to enrol **Yvette Morton** as a member of our Branch. We would welcome new members at any time. If you think Mothers' Union may be a group where you could become active in the service of our Lord then please come to any of our meetings as a guest to see if you like it.

You may also be aware, if you attended our AGM in January, that the committee has altered slightly; there are now fewer of us. Happily, there is a group of ladies who have offered to carry out some of the tasks, such as magazine delivery, to support the smaller committee.

Thanks to Nancy for chairing the AGM and also to the Age UK team who gave a very interesting presentation ranging across insurance services, dementia support and footwear. We also had our sale table and raffle in place of the Mothers' Union Coffee morning on **February 1st**. Just after the scaffolding was erected inside church I reluctantly took the decision to cancel our February Coffee Morning at the back of church. When the committee meet on **January 27th** we will discuss what to do about our coffee morning on **March 1st**. Watch this space!



With my Tunstall Deanery hat on, I need to tell you that I may not be able to attend all of our meetings this year as I need to visit other branches and some have their meeting on the same day as us. So, apologies in advance. Our next meeting is on **February 15th** and **Kath Bill** (from the Lancaster and Morecambe Deanery) will present “**A taste of India**”. And I believe there really will be the opportunity to have a taste of Indian food.

We give our condolences to **Joy Sparks** on the loss of her husband John and as a group we hope to support her during the difficult days ahead.

Finally, I write this before the funeral of our dear member **Maree Aldren** takes place on **January 30th**. Maree was such a devoted member of our Branch and looking back through the archives she features in so many events. Always smiling and supportive. We will miss her.

Love and prayers
Kath Lane
Branch Leader

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A Prophet in Bloom

At the very beginning of this month I looked through the kitchen window. At the top of the upper lawn I could see something white. I was certain what I could see and went to have a look. Sure enough, I was right—it was my first clump of snowdrops in bloom this year. It always has quite large flowers. (Unfortunately I did not take a picture and now they are all but gone. This picture is of another clump at the edge of the lawn.)



This particular clump of snowdrops is always the first one to bloom, a week or two before the others follow on. They have done this for many years and I always keep an eye out for them. Now, all my several hundred other snowdrops are following on and coming into bloom. Other bulbs and plants will follow on bringing colour to the garden.

It struck me that this bunch of snowdrops is like some of the prophets of old. They appear and tell me of the glorious display which is to come. The Old Testament prophets came to tell the Jewish people what was to come. Admittedly, a lot of the predictions are very gloomy, and we can be certain that there will be gloomy times as it is still winter. However, there were those prophets predicting the coming of the Messiah and the saving of us from our sins.

Do you have a sign that you look for with pleasurable anticipation each year?

How many of you remember when we used to have 'Snowdrop Sunday' when bunches of snowdrops were brought to church for distribution to various people and the hospital?

Marjorie Turner

It is with sadness that we record the passing of **Marjorie Turner** our Church's oldest member who attained 100 years.



Eileen Towers speaks of Marjorie's Ladies' Guild work at her 100th Birthday Party.

On 3rd July last year she celebrated the occasion by enjoying and meeting friends and family at an afternoon tea held in our Church Hall where her many attributes in music, singing and dancing were expressed, which were also mentioned in our September magazine.

Marjorie's funeral took place at Bolton-le-Sands URC on 10th January, conducted by former minister **Rev Yolande Burns**. A poem was read by **Megan Turner**, great-granddaughter.

Dates for the Diary

30th January	1pm - Knitting Group 7.30pm - Christian Aid Update Meeting Trinity U.R.C. Bowerham Lancaster
2nd February	12noon Agape Lunch
3rd February	9.30am - Shining Stars
6th February	1pm - Knitting & Banner Group
7th February	2pm - Meeting for Prayer - Towers Room
10th February	9.30am - Shining Stars TBA - Church Meal
20th February	1pm - Knitting & Banner Group
21st February	2pm - Meeting for Prayer - Towers Room
23rd February	9.45am - Community Coffee Morning
24th February	9.30am - Shining Stars
27th February	1pm - Knitting & Banner Group
2nd March	12noon Agape Lunch
3rd March	9.30am - Shining Stars

Any changes or additions to be announced



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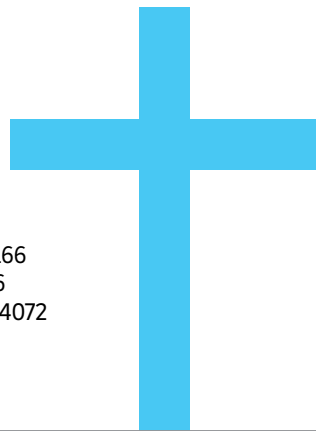
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A very warm welcome

By the time you read this we will have welcomed many of you into our church for the annual ecumenical Christian Unity Service. Coming here during the dark nights of Winter means that you will not have had the opportunity to view the detail of our stained glass windows so we invite you to call again some morning when the sun is shining on the East window. This depicts five scenes of Our Lady's life. On the left are shown Our Lady working as a girl in the temple and the Annunciation. On the right are a scene of the Flight into Egypt and a meal at an oasis in Egypt. The tall thin centre of the window has five Angels climbing up to Heaven to greet Our Lady who is depicted as Queen enthroned with her child. But above the Angels there seems to be a space rocket waiting to take them on to heaven. Did the architect, in about 1880, have a premonition of today's space exploration? We will never know but suffice it to say that he gave us a beautiful collection of stained glass on all four walls. We keep the Church open on weekdays so do call again.



Youth Service Events and Lourdes Pilgrimage:

The Diocesan Youth Centre at Castlerigg is always looking to expand its activities. There will be a Retreat examining the significance of Easter, open to year 9 upwards pupils from Maundy Thursday to Easter Sunday and a Family Weekend from 28th to 30th April with activities for all age groups. The Youth Service will take a significant part in the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes which starts on July 19th and, en route, will visit Nevers, the home of St Bernadette.

Parish Discussion Group:

We will continue to meet each month on a Sunday evening to work through the "Evangelium" booklet which examines the meaning of many aspects of our faith. The next meeting on February 26th will have the title "Praying the Mass".

Lenten talks at the Cathedral:

There will be three talks on the theme of Lent on 7th, 14th and 21st March. More details will be found on the Church Notices.



Catholic Womens League:

The Annual Dinner is on Tuesday 3rd January at Morecambe Golf Club was a great success. In good Catholic fashion everyone came home with a raffle prize!

Advice From our Pope to Vatican Employees:

Take care of your spiritual life, your relationship with God, because this is the backbone of everything we do and everything we are.

Take care of your family life, giving your children and loved ones not just money but, most of all, your time, attention and love.

Take care of your relationships with others, transforming your faith into life and your words into good works on behalf of the needy.

Be careful how you speak, purify your tongue of offensive words, vulgarity and worldly decadence.

And so...

The Heavenly Clocks: A man died and went to Heaven. As he stood in front of Saint Peter at the Pearly Gates, he saw a huge wall of clocks behind him. He asked, "What are all those clocks for?"

St. Peter answered, "Those are Lie-Clocks. Everyone who has ever been on earth has a Lie-Clock. Every time you lie the minute hand on your clock moves on one minute."

"Oh", said the man pointing to one that was set at 12 00. "Whose clock is that?"

"That's Mother Teresa's", replied St. Peter. "The hands have never moved, indicating that she never told a lie."

"Incredible", said the man. "And whose clock is that one?"

St. Peter responded, "That's Abraham Lincoln's clock. The hands have moved twice, telling us that Abraham told only two lies in his entire life."

"Where's Donald Trump's and Hillary Clinton's clocks?" asked the man.

St. Peter replied, "We're using them as ceiling fans."

The too honest daughter: At a family dinner the four year old daughter of the host sat staring intently at her uncle who had not been invited to dinner for a few years. Realizing that she was staring at him, he made sure he had not spilled soup down his shirt, he checked his tie was ok, checked no shirt buttons undone but still she stared at him. Becoming worried that she just kept on staring, he finally asked her, "Why are you staring at me?" Everyone stopped chatting and listened for her reply. She said "Daddy says you drink like a fish and I am waiting to see how."

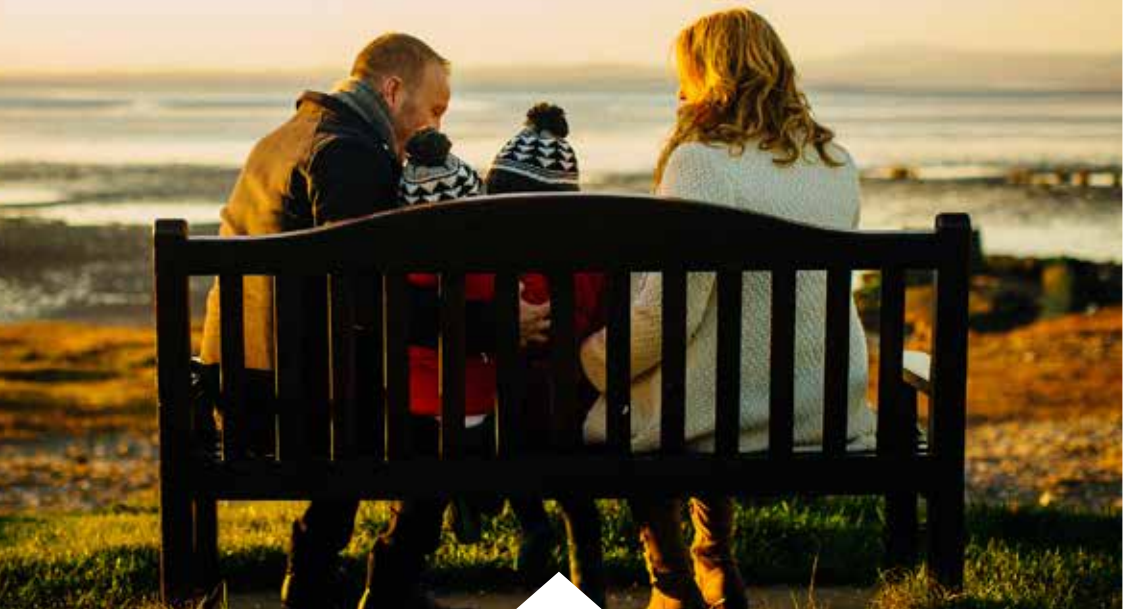
Did you know

The name of Jim Goodfellow has been added to the prestigious Scottish Engineering Hall of Fame where he is now listed alongside such famous scots as Alexander Graham Bell and Robert Stevenson. In the 1960's he received a £10 bonus for his invention and patent of a cash machine that uses PIN numbers. It is estimated that there are now more than 3 million ATMs worldwide!

Eddie Hignett and Pat Fuller

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The Social Group

The Social Group is a successful not-for-profit group run by volunteers whose only reward is the reimbursement of expenses incurred in the operation of the Group. We are almost entirely senior citizens (but it is not compulsory!) but we welcome every one with shared aims. We are about 90% women, mostly widows and 10% men. Our aim is to offer enjoyable friendly day excursions at the lowest possible cost. We occasionally have a few seats for non-members to fill.

Wednesday Coach Outings

Do you enjoy a day out by coach with friends to a place of interest at the lowest possible cost, or rambling in scenic countryside? We sometimes have a few seats to fill.

Our Programme for Spring 2017 has recently been finalised and includes :

- **Keswick**
- **Chadwick Hotel Lunch, Lytham St Annes**
- **Guided tour of Hexham Abbey**
- **Pendle guided witch Tour & Boundary Mill**
- **Hawkshead & Coniston**
- **Chester**
- **Settle to Carlisle railway**
- **Arley Hall & Gardens**
- **Pateley Bridge**
- **Liverpool**
- **Parceval Hall & Skipton**
- **Canal cruise around Manchester**
- **Mystery Tour**
- **Southport**

Coach fare is £10 or less (depends on coach numbers) plus cost of entry to attractions; visitors pay £1 surcharge. Membership is £5 per year. If we have a full coach the fare will be reduced by £1.00. To book or request further information - phone **Adrian** on **824652**

Your local pickup points and approximate times are the same for both coaches

Bus stop junction of A6 with Manor Road, Slyne at about 09.35am

Adjacent to Ricky's Chinese, Bolton le Sands at about 09.40am

Bus stop opposite Royal Hotel, Bolton Le Sands at about 09.45am

Bus stop opposite Burch Tree Vets, Carnforth at about 09.50am

Other pick ups in Heysham, Morecambe, Bare, Torrisholme and Skerton are available.

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Bolton-le-Sands WI

Bolton-le-Sands WI Meeting and Christmas Party was held at the BLS Village Hall at 7.15pm on **Tuesday 13th December 2016**. Following the usual welcome and reports, members sat and relaxed with nibbles and drinks of their own choice in readiness for the evening's entertainment. They were certainly not to be disappointed. **Rachel Mercer** a local singer was introduced. She was excellent, starting with the Twelve Days of Christmas. In the first half there were songs from various shows and music from the Fifties and Sixties. She encouraged some interaction from her enthusiastic audience. In members time there was coffee and mince pies after which Rachel sang again. When she sang 'The Birdie Song' and a selection of Abba music it wasn't long before some members got up to dance at the back of the hall and down the centre aisle. Not quite as good as the 'Strictly Finalists' but worthy of a mention nevertheless and there were quite a few good movers. Rachel finished on a quieter note with beautiful music then joined us with the singing of 'The Queen'. **Pauline Sterritt** gave Rachel a very warm vote of thanks. It was a really entertaining and enjoyable evening for everyone and a very uplifting and seasonal way to start the Christmas Celebrations.

The first meeting of the new year was held at BLS Village Hall at 7.15pm **Tuesday 10th January 2017**. **Jean Bayliss** (President) welcomed members and wished them all a Happy New Year. She began by thanking all the ladies who were helping in some way throughout the evening. She acknowledged four January birthdays and gave us updates on several members who were poorly. Final details about the WI Coffee Morning and the Hotpot Supper on **Thursday 12th January** were discussed. A busy few days ahead. BLS WI is to host the next WI Keer Group Meeting on **Tuesday 25th April 2017**. Jean said planning work was in progress behind the scenes and she told members there were boards to indicate if anyone wished to assist in various ways. Jean handed over to **Jennifer Leach** (Secretary) who outlined the correspondence and news from both the Lancashire LFWI and National NFWI Federations. Dates, venues and costings were given for various forthcoming events and details were shown on screen and there were boards for members to read and complete. She read out two thank you letters from members who were poorly.

The Interest Groups were back in full swing after Christmas. **Judith Spotswood** asked members to indicate their craft preferences for the forthcoming Craft Afternoon on Friday 19th May 2017. **Sylvia Cooper** gave an account of the December walk to Heysham and told members about the January walk which would be the Galgate area. **Patience Cooper** said the Wildlife Group for January would be a gathering locally for coffee whilst some members would bring wildlife photographs or similar to 'Show and Tell'. Due to sickness there would be no Scrabble gathering in January.



Going back exactly 12 months **Jean Bayliss** introduced once again members of 'The Family Adventure Project', Stuart Wickes, Kirstie Pelling and the youngest of their three children Hannah. On their last visit they talked about their family adventure holiday to Iceland and now they were here again to share with us their journey 'Santiago de Compostela Cycle' in Spain. Two complete extremes. The children's ages then ranged from three up to eight. They set off in summer with two tandems each with trailers attached packed with tents, bedding, clothing and provisions for five people. Starting from Roncesvalles they formally registered their proposed spiritual, educational and physical journey as they began to follow the famous Pilgrims' Trail which would end in Santiago. With the aid of on screen photographs the three of them talked us through their incredible cycling journey in rural Spain. The challenge as well as the distance was the terrain, the long steep climbs and the hot weather they encountered. Lots of highs and lows. As a family unit, they were also quite a rare sight which turned heads and provoked comments and conversation along the route. Other Pilgrims were also making this journey, many on foot. The nearer the end the more Pilgrims they saw. They eventually reached their final destination and saw the splendour and glory of the alleged burial site of the Biblical Apostle St James, The Cathedral de Santiago de Compostela. What a journey, what a challenge, what an experience for 'The Family Adventure Project'. **Jean Dennis** then gave the vote of thanks.

After a break for tea and biscuits in members' time the President spoke about the six WI Resolutions for 2017. Following a recent questionnaire circulated amongst members about interest groups, activities and speakers the President gave an initial response after discussion at Committee. The monthly competition was for a table arrangement in a shell. It was judged by the speakers and **Mary Pearson's** entry won first place.

The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

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Buttons and Bows

Since September our group **Buttons and Bows**, and others who work with us from home, have achieved an amazing amount of work. In brief these are the places it has gone to: **Malawi** via Preston, two car loads of banana boxes, full of beautiful clothing, plus educational and health care items. A suitcase of teddies, warm jumpers and baby wear were delivered by Howard and me to a Romanian kindergarten in Iasi. Maria and colleagues are doing a wonderful work in difficult circumstances.



We have given **Project Linus UK** a large number of comfort blankets and premature baby hats that are distributed to the Lancaster Royal Infirmary baby unit and Barrow baby unit. I understand that not only does the sick child receive a blanket but their siblings also. We already have another case waiting to be collected.

Very pretty, yet practical little dresses were taken out to **Zambia** along with other items, which were all made by our ladies. A suitcase of sewn items, knitted jumpers for babies and colourful blankets for mothers were taken to their UK head office at West Midlands from there it will be shipped to Hamlin Fistula Hospital **Ethiopia**.

Two very full cases of children's clothes, toys and beautiful baby clothes were delivered personally to a Jewish Community Centre in **Krakow JCC**, Poland. They help everyone who comes to them and it was a sheer joy to meet Anna and her colleagues.



Our ladies worked hard over the year to make items, sort and produce the finished wrapped shoe boxes for **Samaritan's Purse / Christmas Child**. These boxes were given to children in need around the world. I do not know how many boxes our ladies have done, but I am guessing quite a number. Last year collectively around the world it was 900,008 made and delivered! So we say thank you to everyone who has contributed in any way. Whatever is done, helps to make a child smile.

The group meets at The Memorial Hall, Slyne on the first Tuesday of every month, from 1.30 - 3.30pm, and new members are always welcome. For further details, please contact **Susan Rae** 01524 823928.

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Readings for February

1st	Hebrews 12, 4-7, 11-15; Mark 6, 1-6a
2nd	Hebrews 12, 18-19, 21-24; Mark 6, 7-13
3rd	Hebrews 13, 1-8; Mark 6, 14-29
4th	Hebrews 13, 15-17, 20-21; Mark 6, 30-34
5th	1 Corinthians 2, 1-12; Matthew 5, 13-20
6th	Genesis 1, 1-19; Mark 6, 53-end
7th	Genesis 1 20-2.4a; Mark 7, 1-13
8th	Genesis 2, 4b-9, 15-17; Mark 7, 14-23
9th	Genesis 2, 18-end; Mark 7, 24-30
10th	Genesis 3, 1-8; Mark 7, 31-end
11th	Genesis 3, 9-end; Mark 8, 1-10
12th	1 Corinthians 3, 1-9, Matthew 5, 21-37
13th	Genesis 4, 1-15,25; Mark 8, 11-13
14th	Genesis 6, 5-8; 7 1-5, 10; Mark 8, 14-21
15th	Genesis 8, 6-13, 20-end; Mark 8, 22-26
16th	Genesis 9, 1-13; Mark 8, 27-33
17th	Genesis 11, 1-9; Mark 8, 34-9.1
18th	Hebrews 11, 1-7, Mark 9, 2-13
19th	Romans 8, 18-25; Matthew 6, 25-end
20th	Ecclesiasticus 1, 1-10; Mark 9, 14-29
21st	Ecclesiasticus 2, 1-11; Mark 9, 30-37
22nd	Ecclesiasticus 4, 11-19; Mark 9, 38-40
23rd	Ecclesiasticus 5, 1-18; Mark 9, 41-end
24th	Ecclesiasticus 6, 5-17; Mark 10, 1-12
25th	Ecclesiasticus 17, 1-15, Mark 10, 13-16
26th	2 Peter 1, 16-end; Matthew 17, 1-9
27th	Ecclesiasticus 17, 24-29; Mark 10, 17-27
28th	Ecclesiasticus 35, 1-12; Mark 10, 28-31

14th **St Valentine - martyr**

Parish Registers

Baptisms

During January, we welcomed into the church with our love and prayers:

Indie Rose Bowen

Funerals

We continue to pray for the relatives and friends of those whose funerals took place during recently:

Dorothy Casson, John Sparks, Lindsay Ibbetson, Elsie Barwick and Maree Aldren

Weddings

We congratulate and pray for **Stephen Adams and Nichola Corris** who were married in December

February

We remember all those departed this life whose anniversaries occur during February

Beatrice Mary Bowker
Harold Hanson
Veronica Ellen Worley
Doris Booth Young
Pauline Margaret Wood
David Tofield
Kathleen Makinson
Edward Marcham
Malcolm Smalley
Wilfred & Muriel Cousins
Ethel Hulme
Cecil Ernest Foxcroft
Eleanor Sanderson
Anne Skene-Smith
Gertie Simpson
Mary Thistlethwaite
Betty Burrows
Bernard Nelson
baby Elizabeth Tennant
Charles Brookes Parker
James (Jim) Partington
Pat Bateson
William Hayton Whiteside
Nora Wallwork
Thomas Park Hill
Arthur Naylor
Peggy Naylor
Edith Lancaster
Gladys Cowperthwaite
Lucy Valerie Norris
John W. Earl
Robert Palmer
Martha Palmer
Marjorie Platt
Peter Coxon
Henrietta (Hetty) Sparks
Phyllis Burrow
Edith Lilian Briggs
Martha Ellen Schofield



Men's Breakfast

Following the success of the Men's Breakfast which was part of the 'Crossroads Mission' weekend, another Men's Breakfast was held at Mia Italia in Bolton-le-Sands on **Saturday 10th December**. The speaker was Alan Hutchings, Reader from St Cuthbert's, Over Kellet, who told us about his experience as match commander in charge of policing at Old Trafford and other major sporting venues in Manchester, and other European cities. In the aftermath of Hillsborough, Alan was involved in implementing many improvements to ensure that such a thing could never happen again. We learned of all the considerations that need to be taken into account before, during and after matches, and how demanding the role of the police has become. As last time we were pleased to welcome men from other churches as well as our own, and, as last time the food was delicious and the service excellent! Gentlemen - watch out for details of our next Men's Breakfast, and do come along and join us - and why not bring a friend as well.

Everyone is most welcome.

David Batemen

Quiet Day at Hyning Hall

Thursday 9th March 2017

From 10am - 4pm

Coffee at 9.30am and lunch at 1pm

The cost will be £20 for the set meal and £15 for those bringing a packed lunch.

This includes a donation for the work of the Sisters.

If you wish to attend, please sign the list on the notice board at the back of church.

For more information or help with transport please speak to

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All proceeds will go to **Church Funds**
Cakes-Jams-Cards-Books-Raffles
Entrance **£1** including tea or coffee & biscuits



Santa's Sleigh December 2016

The Rotary Club of Carnforth, and Santa, wish to thank all of the Bolton-le-Sands residents for donating to worthy causes, when the Sleigh came round just before Christmas. Just over £8,000 was donated over the 14 nights, which after deducting direct running costs, will be available to go back as cash donations into the villages visited.

We need suggestions to determine the most worthy causes, so please email secretary@carnforthrotary1190.org, to request grants in support of the local community.

The outings were not of course just about raising money, as Santa's helpers really enjoyed the Christmas atmosphere, along with residents - many writing in to say so.

Carnforth Rotarians send their best wishes to all residents for this New Year and hope for good weather on Santa's return in December 2017.





Parish Calendar - February

Wednesday 1st	10.00am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity
Friday 3rd	7.00pm First Friday at Holy Trinity - 'Love' - worship and fellowship.
Saturday 4th	9.00am Vision Course session 3 : 'Making Disciples' at Old Boys' Grammar School
Sunday 5th	8.00am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity 9.00am Holy Communion at St Mark's (Common Worship) 10.30am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Normal Meetings for Junior Church
Wednesday 8th	10.00am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity
Saturday 11th	9.00am Vision Course session 4 : 'Being Witnesses' at Old Boys' Grammar School
Sunday 12th	8.00am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity 9.00am Morning Prayer at St Mark's 10.30am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity No meetings for Junior Church
Tuesday 14th	7.30pm PCC Meeting at Holy Trinity
Wednesday 15th	10.00am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity
Sunday 19th	8.00am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity 9.00am Holy Communion at St Mark's (BCP) 10.30am Pet Service - Morning Praise at Holy Trinity No meetings for Junior Church
Wednesday 22nd	10.00am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity
Saturday 25th	9.00am Vision Course session 5 : 'Growing Leaders' at Old Boys' Grammar School
Sunday 26th	8.00am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity 9.00am Morning Prayer at St Mark's 10.30am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity 12.15pm Holy Baptism at Holy Trinity Normal meetings for Junior Church
Wed 1st March Ash Wednesday	10.00am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity
Thurs 2nd March	9.45-11.15am Holy Trinity Coffee Morning at The Community Centre
Fri 3rd March	7.00pm First Friday Worship and Fellowship at Holy Trinity.
Sun 5th March First Sunday of Lent	8.00am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity 9.00am Holy Communion at St Mark's (Common Worship) 10.30am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Normal meetings for Junior Church



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Church Wardens	Mr David Bateman	822065
	Mr Peter John Davies	824829
St Mark's Officers	Mr Robert Whittaker	730362
Pastoral Assistants	Mr Ian Entwistle	824504
P.A Emeritus	Mrs Maree Aldren	
Musical Director	Mr Ian Entwistle	824504
Treasurer	Mr Andy Hampshire	824322
Giving Secretary	Mrs Joyce Walling	736200
PCC Secretary	Mrs Caroline Lindsay	823115
Bolton le Sands CE Primary School	Mr Tim Cross	823606
U-18s Coordinator	Mrs Rachel Wilkinson	843273
Serving Information	Mr Jason Hillis	824001
Wedding Coordinator	Mrs Karen Hillis	824001
Childrens Society Parish Coordinator	Miss Margaret Hutchinson	824110
MU Enrolling Member	Mrs Kath Lane	727814
Co-ordinator of Graveyards and Family History Research	Mr John Lane	727814
The Messenger : Editor	Mr David Bateman	822065
The Messenger : Subscriptions	Mr David Vollar	825291

We are keen to include news of any events taking place within the village, and to celebrate the many successes of all who live and work here. We welcome articles for publication in THE MESSENGER where these articles concern activities and events which are of interest to our community. We regret that we do not have space to publish individual letters to the Editor, and we are unable to publish articles which are sent in anonymously. The deadline for receiving articles is 20th of the month. Articles can be sent by email to htmessenger@hotmail.co.uk or by hand/post to 30 Slyne Road, Bolton-le-Sands.

Editor	David Bateman	822065
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visit our website - www.bolton-le-sands.org.uk

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Christ Church (United Reformed), Main Road, Bolton-le-Sands, Lancs, LA5 8DL

St Mary of the Angels (Catholic), Main Road, Bolton-le-Sands, Lancs, LA5 8DN Tel: 01524 732940

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