



# ST NICHOLAS AND ST MARY'S

MARCH 2024 ISSUE

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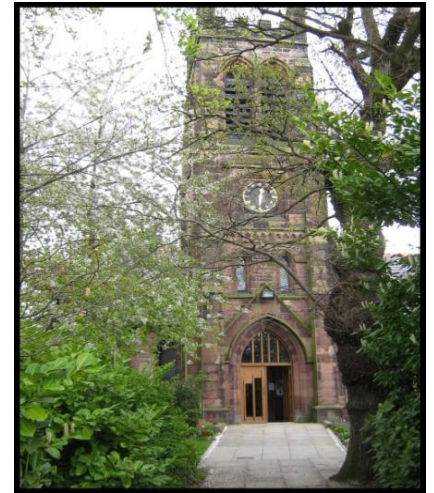
Articles for the April/Easter issue to me by 20th March 2024 please.

Church website [www.halewoodparish.org](http://www.halewoodparish.org)



*Please feel free to send me any articles that may be of interest to our readers.*

*Email address above. Margaret*



## Prayer for March 2024

A reflection on The Lord's Prayer  
(Matthew 6:1-18)

**Our Father in heaven, please help us. We, Your children, learn slowly.**

**So often we say nothing when Your name is mis-used.**

**Often our lives do not reflect Your ways, Mostly we do what we want on earth,  
And this can make heaven unimaginable.**

**We expect so much more than we actually need each day.**

**Sometimes we think we don't need forgiveness, Sometimes we think we are unforgivable,  
And we forget that other people make these same errors of thinking.**

**When it comes to temptation, we find our own ways,**

**We are confused about what is and is not evil, We are confused about deliverance,  
We are confused.....**

**And here is the wonder, the grace and the mystery, That You know us completely,  
Our failings, our secrets, And love us forever and ever,  
Amen.**

*By Daphne Kitching*

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**St Nicholas and St Mary's Ecumenical Team Ministry**

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*Friday is my normal day off*

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## MINISTRY MESSAGE - Going deeper in our relationship with God

“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you” James 4 v8

This is an amazing invitation, but we may think it is impossible. How can I draw near to God? Well, in the following verses it encourages us (probably commands us) to cleanse our hands and purify our hearts. This reminds me of the Psalm that I suggested we could use as a meditation during our prayer day. Psalm 24 asks the question “ who may ascend the hill of the lord? Who may stand in his holy place? The one who has clean hands and a pure heart.” So, if we desire to get closer to God we need to do a little work on thinking over these things. Of course Lent gives us this opportunity. We give up things so that we might take on more of God.

Sadly, Lent is often seen as a dour time, when we endure our sacrifice as a sort of penance. I think this misunderstands the purpose of our denial.

I’m not suggesting that it isn’t difficult, but really the focus should be not on what we are losing out on but rather on the prospect of gain. What would be the gain? Well, put simply, it is a greater capacity to experience the presence and reality of God in our lives. As we demonstrate to the Lord our earnestness in our devotion, it communicates that really nothing is as good as being close to Him.

Psalm 63 and 42 express this in terms of our souls thirsting for God. Can you imagine being in a dry place, a desert on a hot day and being denied the sustenance of water? I remember this whilst being on holiday once in the Mediterranean; the constant sense of being without enough liquid took the edge off what was a great holiday. In the same way, many of us live so far from God that our souls crave his presence. We try to drink from ‘other fountains/cisterns’ as Jeremiah puts it. We try to satiate our thirst with more things or experiences that this world offers. All these which God gave for our enjoyment, but are never enough to meet our most basic need and that is a close relationship with God.

So if you haven’t already done so, can I recommend that you try giving more space to God in your day/week? This is why we have done 24-1 prayer days and the Bible course. These are the prime ways to know the freshness of God’s Holy Spirit filling our souls. Of course it is free to know God, but it costs us. For us to remain in this intimate place, we have seek to live according to his word.

We can have too much other stuff to enjoy God, and so we don’t make enough time in our day for him and so we miss out and our souls gasp with desperate thirst for him.

As Psalm 24 says, other idols get in the way of this closeness. These things can be other people, our job, not trusting God with our money, and material possessions. It takes faith to lay hold of God and believe that he will satisfy our soul in ways these other things won’t. So why not seek to be filled with his Holy Spirit? Make space for God and find out what it is to enjoy him. St Augustine said this “you stir us to take pleasure in praising you, because you have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you”. You may want to find a day in which you can fast during lent as this is a good way to start. *Andy*

## **MARCH SERVICES**

- Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March: ***Lent 3 (Exodus 20.1-17, John 2.13-22)***  
10.30 am St Mary Morning Worship: Carol Burke  
11.00 am St Nicholas Holy Communion: Gareth Morgan  
6.30 pm St Nicholas Evening Worship: Matthew Hargreaves  
11.00 am St Hilda Morning Worship: Andy & Jen Radford
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March: 9.30 am St Nicholas Holy Communion: Andy Radford
- Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March: ***Mothering Sunday (Exodus 2.1-10, John 19.25b-27)***  
10.30 am St Mary Holy Communion: Gareth Morgan  
11.00 am St Nicholas GMJC/Parade: Matthew Hargreaves  
12.15 & 1 pm Baptisms: Gareth Morgan  
6.30 pm St Nicholas Evening Worship: ***No service***  
11.00 am St Hilda Morning Worship: Andy Radford
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March: 9.30 am St Nicholas Holy Communion: Gareth Morgan
- Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March: ***Lent 5 (Jeremiah 31.31-34, John 12.20-33)***  
10.30 am St Mary Morning Worship/Baptisms: Phil Saltmarsh  
11.00 am St Nicholas Morning Worship: Gareth Morgan  
6.30 pm St Nicholas Holy Communion: Gareth Morgan  
11.00 am St Hilda Morning Worship: Andy Radford & Carol Burke
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March: 9.30 am St Nicholas Holy Communion: Gareth Morgan
- Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March: ***Palm Sunday (Isaiah 50.4-9a, Mark 11.1-11)***  
10.30 am St Mary: GMJC: Matthew Hargreaves  
11.00 am St Nicholas: Morning Worship: Andy & Jen Radford  
6.30 pm St Nicholas Evening Worship: Gareth Morgan  
11.00 am St Hilda Holy Communion: Gareth Morgan
- Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March: ***Maundy Thursday***  
9.30 am St Nicholas ***No service***  
7.00 pm St Nicholas: Gareth Morgan
- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March: ***Good Friday***  
10.00 am St Mary: (Leader to be confirmed)  
2.00 pm St Nicholas: (Leader to be confirmed)  
11.00 am St Hilda: Andy Radford  
12.00 midday Ecumenical Service in Hunts Cross Garden:  
Andy Radford and Catherine McFie (St Columba's)

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March:

**Easter Sunday** (Acts 10.34-43, Mark 16.1-8)

6.30 am Sunrise Service Wood Road Field: Gareth Morgan

Followed by breakfast at St Mary's (*bad weather may lead to other arrangements*)

11.00 am St Nicholas Holy Communion Joint Halewood Service:

Gareth Morgan

6.30 pm St Nicholas **No service**

11.00 am St Hilda Holy Communion: Andy Radford

**Prayers** - If you would like us to include someone in prayers on a Sunday morning and/or evening, there is a book at the back of each church to which you can add names. Please ask the duty warden/steward.



## What's going on at We'll Care in 2024

If you were at the Warm Hub on the 8<sup>th</sup> February you'll probably have had fun making a birdfeeder and you'd know that the 'We'll Care' group are regular attenders. They have received funding from Knowsley Council for two projects.



### Project 1: Bird Boxes

This scheme is to 'grow wildlife' and to encourage more bird species to inhabit the local area by providing homes for them. If anyone in Halewood would like one of these sturdy, well made bird boxes, which are free of charge, then please contact Brian Powell, Tel: 07759409215



### Project 2: Bakeaway

The funding for this is for a 12 month period and aims to bake bread, biscuits and cakes which will be available to those affected by the cost of living rises, and will be free for people living in Halewood.

For further details contact Brian Powell on the number previously given.



## PARISH WALK

On the morning of Saturday 17th February we met at St Nicholas' Centre for our walk to Greenbank Park, Sudley House and Sefton Park.

After a refreshment stop at Strawberry Field, we drove to Sefton Park, near to the Iron Bridge at the very bottom of Queens Drive. It was a good day for walking, above average temperature and dry and, once parked, we meandered around the perimeter of Sefton Park towards Greenbank Park. We were delighted to welcome Pam and Doug Boffey back to the group. They have organised lots of church walks in the past, but had not been with us for a good while.



Greenbank Park is lovely and that day was no exception. There is a nice feelgood factor there and we quickly passed the lake with the Canada Geese, Pigeons and Seagulls looking for scraps.

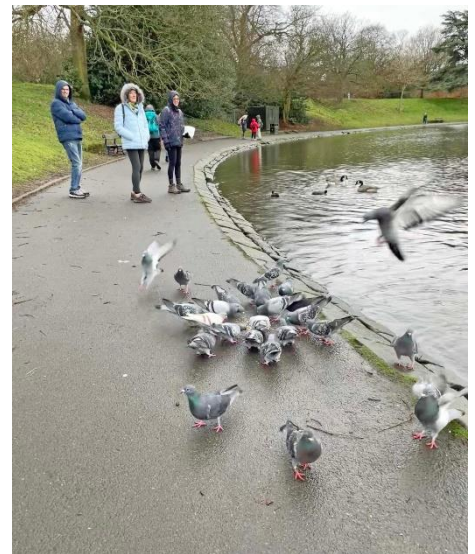


Out of the park, we went towards Mossley Hill Church on Rose Lane and we headed towards Sudley House and grounds. We walked up the driveway past an array of purple and white crocus and then to the rear of the grand old house.

Sudley House was built in 1821 by Liverpool Corn Merchant Nicholas Robinson. He had bought the land it stands on, some 30 acres, for £4,500. The Robinsons described

themselves as Ivory merchants; however, there were slave trade implications.

The Holts, shipping magnates, later bought it and, in 1944, Emma Holt, their daughter, bequeathed Sudley House and estate to Liverpool Corporation.





Once into the grounds we did a lap of the estate and then took up residence at the rear of the house, where we got our halfway snacks and drinks out.

From there we went back to Sefton Park and were drawn to their fantastic lake. Becky Conlon bought several bird seed bags from the café and we all went off feeding the wildlife, one of my favourite pursuits.



We arrived back at the cars with about 5 miles under our belt and we were thankful that the rain forecasted had not yet started. Great planning again Penni.

Geoff

### March Walk 9th March

The next walk will take place on Saturday the 9th of March.

If you fancy joining us, we will meet at the St Nicholas Centre at 10.00 am.

From here we will drive to Dobbies for pre walk bacon butties etc before starting the walk from Hale Park. The route takes us through Hale Village, then along the coastal path, past Hale Lighthouse and eventually back into Hale. Hopefully the daffodils should be out alongside the river.

The path may be muddy in parts so stout footwear recommended.

The walk is roughly 5 miles in length.

More details from Penni on 07990953334

### Live Steaming of services on YouTube

Thanks to some grant funding from Community Foundation Merseyside, we have installed cameras in St Nicholas' to enable us to live stream services on YouTube. The YouTube channel is called St Nicholas St Mary's Halewood Team and the direct link

is: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC\\_QFMMVOMxaTa38ibdkzVag](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_QFMMVOMxaTa38ibdkzVag).

We are streaming Sunday and Thursday morning services live and it is also available for you to watch later. You may wish to make use of this if you are unable to attend church in person for any reason.

If you subscribe to our YouTube Channel (It's free) it will make it easier to access in future.

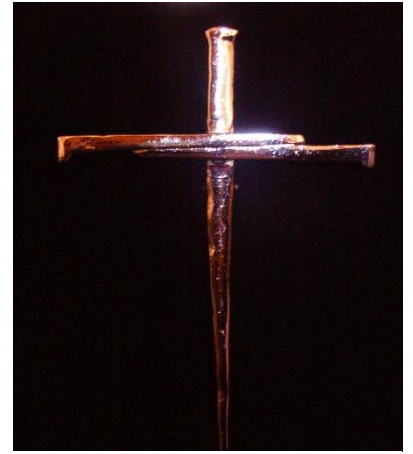




## The Coventry Passion Cross

“He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities, the chastisement that bought us peace was upon Him and by His stripes we are healed.” Isaiah 53:4-6

Coventry Cathedral uses as its emblem the Coventry Passion Cross – three nails together forming the Cross of Christ. Here is my reflection on the Coventry Passion Cross; what does this design mean to you?\_



The first nail is the carpenter’s nail and focuses us on the purpose of the nail. We are reminded that Jesus worked as a carpenter before entering His ministry. As He sat there in His carpenter’s workshop, smoothing and working the wood with love, did He contemplate the rugged cross on which He would one day be crucified? As He hammered nails into wood, did He ever accidentally hammer one into His finger, and as He felt that pain, did He foresee the nails of His crucifixion? As He carried large logs to His workshop to make tables, chairs, and doors, did He contemplate the cross he would one day carry to Calvary?

The second nail is the nail of **Passion**, it represents the nails in Jesus’ hands and feet that He accepted because of His passionate love for us.

The third nail is the nail of Promise, like the promise He made to the dying thief on the cross. It was that if we believe in Him, then we will reign with Him in paradise. This is the nail that Christ offers to you and to me. Will you accept this nail as a sign of His passionate love, His forgiveness of your sin and promise of eternal life for all who will come to Him? If so, why not pray the following prayer this Eastertide?

### Pray

*Dear Lord Jesus, thank You that You have a plan and a purpose for my life, thank You for Your passionate love for me, thank You that Your blood was shed for my sins, thank You for Your promise of eternal life. As I think about that nail of promise, I receive Your passion, Your grace and Your forgiveness, may I fulfil Your plan and purpose for my life, In Jesus name, Amen.*

### **Thankyou Parish Pump**

<b>Funerals at St Nicholas’ church January – February 2024</b>			
16 January	Mary Condron	Age 73	Funeral
19 January	Jean Blundell	Age 87	Funeral
21 January	Anthony Paul Lucock	Age 84	Burial of ashes
27 January	William Henry Todhunter	Age 92	Burial of ashes
1 February	Alan Stephens	Age 71	Funeral and burial
23 February	Caroline Burton	Age 40	Funeral
28 February	Eileen Mary Taylor	Age 88	Funeral

The Rectory

St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

Visits from your parishioners to our church are always welcome. But I did not expect them to return to you complaining because our pews are uncomfortable.



Pews are *meant* to be uncomfortable. The unshakeable belief of our congregation is that the more uncomfortable the pew, the holier the worship must be. By the same token, an 8am Service is more fervent than one at 11am, since it is much more socially inconvenient. If you add on enduring sub-zero temperatures and damp, then sainthood clearly beckons. Your people may be used to lolling in upholstered chairs in tropical temperatures, but I am sure such comfort places their souls in grave peril.

Our pews were built 500 years ago, when people were several inches shorter and many pounds lighter, and so could accommodate themselves on them perfectly adequately. The fact that a twenty-first century body is in constant danger of sliding off the seat and requires knees to be folded somewhere near ears at least helps to keep minds focussed – apart from Colonel Wainwright, who still manages to sleep peacefully throughout Mattins every Sunday.

I could point out that your chairs make kneeling almost impossible – although I suspect that posture is not encouraged in your church, as people would then be unable to read the words on your overhead projector or wave their arms about quite as easily during the hymns. While the majority of our congregation find the Anglican crouch perfectly adequate, you can see those who flop to their knees on hearing “let us pray” from the clouds of dust sent up from suddenly compressed hassocks, which were purchased to commemorate Queen Victoria’s Accession.

I may also point out that our box pews are very useful for modern times. Once a family is seated, with the door firmly shut, then any toddler is penned in and unable to use the aisles as a racing circuit. Medieval carpenters were clearly forward-thinking people. Admittedly, box pew doors do tend to stick, and few manage to look dignified while they wait for step ladders to be brought before they can climb out.

If only you would remove your chairs and substitute benches without backs, turn off all heating and replace carpets with slate slabs, I am sure your congregation’s religious zeal would soar.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

***Thankyou Parish Pump***

## DATES TO REMEMBER AND GROUPS

**Next Vestry Date for Wedding and Baptism enquiries –**  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024 7.00 - 7.45 pm at St Nicholas' Centre.

We now have a new email address for weddings after some problems with the previous one. Please use this to contact our Wedding Secretaries - [halewoodparishweddings@gmail.com](mailto:halewoodparishweddings@gmail.com)  
Our Baptism Secretary's email address is [halewood.baptism@yahoo.com](mailto:halewood.baptism@yahoo.com)

### Experience Easter

Experience Easter this year is from 11th to 14th March. Anyone able to offer time, between 9:00 and 15:00, to guide school classes through the story of Easter on any of the four days, is very welcome. *Mike Sutcliffe*

### Holiday Club

For this year's Holiday Club, our theme is going to be "The Key" and we are going to be based in the Gospel of John. Can anyone offer any time between Monday 29th July and Friday 3rd August?  
*Mike Sutcliffe*

### Easter Egg Trail St Mary's

Easter trail at St Marys! St Marys creche/junior church are holding an Easter trail at St Mary's on 24th March. Tickets are £4 for first child extra siblings £3.50 Ticket includes - Easter trail, Easter egg given by the Easter bunny to all children who complete the trail and the riddle! free games and crafts! Tea, coffee and cakes can be purchased along with some Easter raffle prizes!! The trail will run from 1215 until 1430 so you can turn up any time between then as long as you bring your admission tickets. Please contact Laura on 07740546686 or Emma on 07803376645 To purchase tickets

### Quiz Night

Saturday 23rd March at St Nicholas' Centre. Tickets £5.00 per person from Tom Beesley or Gill Muir. Bring your own refreshments. Proceeds to Church Funds.

### Youth Workers Gathering

We have received some funding to enable all the people who work with children in our circuit to gather together. Our gathering is for anyone with an interest in working with children and young people on behalf of the church. Whether you are currently involved with things such as Sunday School and Youth Groups, or you are interested in getting involved and would like to find out more, this will be a great opportunity to gather with others involved in youth work across the circuit. The plan is to gather for a late lunch at 14:00, on the 24<sup>th</sup> March, at Elm Hall Drive. We will spend some time worshipping together, and sharing what we are currently doing and any ideas we have for developing children's and youth ministry going forward.  
*Mike Sutcliffe*

### 3Generate – PowerPoint & Plan

It is never too early to let me know if your children are interested in going this year, which takes place from 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> October. I will share more information about this year's 3Generate soon.

If you have any questions about any of these events, please don't hesitate to contact Mike, our circuit children's worker:

[mike.circuitchildren@gmail.co.uk](mailto:mike.circuitchildren@gmail.co.uk) or, 07867 489463



**The Bible Course**  
Explore the BIG story

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.

This eight-session course is ideal for groups – big and small. Each session includes video content, discussion time, personal reflection and daily readings. Explore the BIG story and discover its relevance for today.

St Nicholas' Centre Halewood, Mondays 1.00pm - 2.30pm  
Starts 19th Feb, email: [revgarethmorgan@gmail.com](mailto:revgarethmorgan@gmail.com) to book a place  
Also on Zoom (email for link)

St Hilda's Hunts Cross, Mondays 7.45pm - 9.00pm  
Starts 5th Feb, email: [parishcohhc@gmail.com](mailto:parishcohhc@gmail.com) to book a place

St Aidan with All Saints Parish Hub, Thursdays 7.30pm - 9.00pm  
Starts 22nd Feb, email: [speke.info@gmail.com](mailto:speke.info@gmail.com) to book a place  
Also on Zoom (email for link)

£5 Voluntary Contribution for Course Booklet



**Advance information - Halewood CultureFest 2024 will run from Friday 14th June – Sunday 23rd June. A Programme will be available in the new year.** As part of this we are planning a Scarecrow Trail. We would like as many schools, community groups, local organisations and individuals as possible to be involved in this. More information in the new year.

## Shining Lights Halewood CIC

A reminder that our Baby Bank is open at St Mary's church every Saturday 10.00 am – 12 midday: please come along if you need anything - we have baby essentials and clothing and shoes for all ages & sizes.

## Knowsley Older People's Fun Olympics (K.O.P.F.O.)

*Are you aged 50 or over, looking to take part in an activity, and meet new friends? Why not come and join us at our weekly activity sessions held at the Halewood Leisure Centre, Baileys Lane, Halewood, L26 0TY.*

*We meet every Thursday from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. Amongst the activities we play are:*

- *Badminton*
- *Boccia (a game like bowls but played sitting down with soft leather balls)*
- *Indoor Bowls*
- *Curling*
- *Table Tennis*
- *Dominoes*
- *Draughts*
- *Scrabble*

*The sessions are aimed at encouraging you to be active, socialise and having fun at the same time, so please come along where you will be made very welcome and quickly become one of the group. Cost is 90 pence per week.*

*For further information, please ring Sue, a member of the team, on 0151 487 0974.*

Run by Halewood Town Council,

## ***Women`s Wellness Group, Self Care for You!***

Relaxation exercises, creative writing, fun quizzes, group discussions, and more!

£ 7.00 per session with refreshments included, 11.00 am - 12.30 pm at Hollies Hall, Hollies Road, Halewood.

Please contact [begertoncoaching@gmail.com](mailto:begertoncoaching@gmail.com) to book a place.

## Halewood Community Choir

Meets Thursdays 7-9pm in Halewood Academy,  
The Avenue, L26 1UU. £5 each session.

Open to those aged 18 to 108

No auditions, no need to read music, just join in and have a go.

Singers and Beginners – most welcome

### ***Something new for 2024***

**Free** monthly choir sessions for visitors, 7 – 9pm,

Join Halewood Community Choir for an evening

Singalong or sit and watch us rehearse, meet choir members and find out what we sing.

Come on your own, or bring a friend. We'll guarantee you'll go home with a smile on your face!

Feb 29th    March 21st

Want more info? Visit us on Facebook or ring/text Phil on 0748 6709 567 or ring Carol 0151 281 2508

# HALEWOOD ART GROUP

The Halewood Art Group has now achieved its maximum capacity of members due to the size of the venue, but we still invite anyone who is interested to go on to our waiting list as members do leave for various reasons, both personal and health.

We meet every week on Mondays from 1.00 to 3:30 pm at the Women's Institute Hall, Baileys Lane, Halewood.

The aim of the group is to help people wishing to get into painting, or to encourage those who previously painted and now want to restart: beginners are very welcome and advice is given if required.

You only pay for the week you attend, so if weekly is not possible for you, drop in whenever you want, whatever fits in with your lifestyle.

If you are interested please contact Ken Allen on 07815 306502 or email [allen556@btinternet.com](mailto:allen556@btinternet.com)  
[Website: halewoodartgroup.chessck.co.uk](http://Website: halewoodartgroup.chessck.co.uk)



## Halewood Mothers' Union

Our Mothers' Union meets on the first Thursday afternoon of each month from 2.00 pm at the St Nicholas' Centre. Sadly numbers in the group are dwindling and they would love to welcome some new members. The group has a programme of guest speakers and other events throughout the year. You don't have to be a mother to be a member and men (known as Muscle men) are also welcome. For more information, please speak to Lin Green or Lesley Webb.

## Warm Hub at St Nicholas' Centre on Thursday mornings 10.00 am – 12 midday

We are planning some activities for our Warm Hub guests. The programme is as follows:

7th March Tea/Toast and Natter  
14th March Tea/Toast and Bingo  
21st March Tea/Toast and Natter  
28th March Easter Quiz/Egg Trail

**A Message from Andy Radford - Prayer for our Churches 24 - 1**  
**Wednesday 14th March**

**Growing deeper in our relationships with God and one another, broadening our reach into the community**

We are planning another prayer day for the Team and would invite you to join in.

As we have done before we will split the 24 hour period into 15 minute slots. We can then pick one or more of those slots in which to pray.

In your prayer time you can focus on our vision for the year (above) and our verse for the year - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" Psalm 119 v 105.

Our vision this year is in line with our Diocesan discipleship challenge to "Pray, Read, Learn, Tell, Serve, Give." We need to pray that we all may grow in these areas of our discipleship journey so that we may live up to the calling upon our lives. So let us not grow weary in doing good, because at the right time we will reap a harvest.

You can sign up by giving your name to me or Geoff Bullen at St Nicks, or Mark Harrison at St Mary's.

Something I also found helpful when praying recently was using Psalm 24 and 33 as a guide. I feel as we focus on these two psalms God will speak into our lives and churches.

*Andy*

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERING**

**Both of our churches rely on the generosity of members of our congregation in giving up their time to volunteer in all kinds of ways. At St Nicholas and St Mary's we are very blessed with the number of volunteers we do have but there is always room for more.**

**Below is a list of some of the volunteering opportunities you might like to consider, a rough idea of what the time commitment might be and, where possible, details of whom to contact for further information. The list is not exhaustive and doesn't include roles which might require some specialist knowledge, such as finance skills, HR skills etc.**

**Reading and leading Prayers at services in both churches** – on a rota, approximately once or twice a quarter. *Speak to Gill Dover at St Mary's and Alison Shacklady at St Nicholas.*

**Sidespersons at both churches** – on a rota, approximately once or twice a quarter: meeting and greeting people, giving out and collecting in service sheets, taking collection, tidying up after services. *Speak to Wardens/Steward.*

**Communion Stewards** - to help set up Communion and assist with administering Communion (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday) - on a rota once a quarter.

**Baptism Sponsors** – at the moment just at St Nicholas – approximately three or four times a year: supporting families during baptism services (12.15 pm and 1.00 pm on second Sundays). (But we would welcome a couple of volunteers for this role at St Mary's for the occasional baptism services which happen there.) *Contact Sally Moore, Baptism Secretary on [halewood.baptisms@yahoo.com](mailto:halewood.baptisms@yahoo.com).*

**Tea and coffee after morning services** – on a rota, approximately two or three times a quarter. *Speak to Wardens/Steward.*



**Church cleaning** – St Nicholas on Thursday mornings between 10.15 and 11.00 am. *Speak to Lesley Webb.*  
St Mary's – date and time can be arranged to suit – but Saturday morning when the building is open for Foodbank might be a good day - once a month. *Speak to Gill Dover or Jen Hargreaves*

**Work with children** – all roles need a DBS check and safeguarding training.  
Creche and Junior Church at St Mary's and St Nicholas operate three Sundays a month during term times.  
Help required on a rota basis.

For St Mary's contact Laura Fisher – [lauraburke09@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lauraburke09@hotmail.co.uk) or Emma Rooney  
[emma.creasy@btinternet.com](mailto:emma.creasy@btinternet.com)

For St Nicholas' creche contact Catherine Williams [catherine12725@gmail.com](mailto:catherine12725@gmail.com)

For St Nicholas' junior church contact Hayley McShane [hayleymcshane84@gmail.com](mailto:hayleymcshane84@gmail.com)

For after school clubs at St Mary's: Jam/Boss/Next Level contact Mike Sutcliffe  
[mike.circuitchildren@gmail.com](mailto:mike.circuitchildren@gmail.com)

Volunteers are also often needed to help out with uniformed organisations (Rainbows/Brownies/Guides) – contact via <http://www.girlguiding.org.uk>

**Gardening/Churchyard clearance** – occasional gardening working parties at both churches.

For St Nicholas contact Geoff Bullen [geoffbullen@btinternet.com](mailto:geoffbullen@btinternet.com)

For St Mary's contact Pam Boffey [pam.boffey@hotmail.com](mailto:pam.boffey@hotmail.com) or Dave Crerar [d.r.crerar@btinternet.com](mailto:d.r.crerar@btinternet.com)

**Warm Hub at St Nicholas' Centre - volunteers needed on a rota basis, approximately once a month**

Following the success of our Thursday Morning Warm Hub over last winter, we are open again each Thursday morning from 10.00 am - 12 midday from October to April.

We have a small, dedicated team of volunteers who prepare tea and toast but, more importantly, who chat to visitors, some of whom are quite isolated and enjoy the company as much as the warmth and refreshments. We could do with a few more people to go onto our rota. So, if this is something you would be interested in doing, please speak to Alison [alison1.shacklady@btinternet.com](mailto:alison1.shacklady@btinternet.com). It is very rewarding and doesn't involve a huge commitment of time. And even if you don't feel able to volunteer then just come along and enjoy a warm drink and a warm welcome.

### **Knitted Angels**

We are going to be knitting small angels again this year to distribute around the community at Christmas with details of our Christmas services as we did a couple of times pre covid lockdowns. They are very easy to make.

It would be great if as many people as possible could get involved in knitting these. You don't need to stuff the heads and put on faces (unless you want to) as we have a couple of people who will do this for us.

If anyone would like to get involved who hasn't already got a pattern please email [alison1.shacklady@btinternet.com](mailto:alison1.shacklady@btinternet.com) and I will send you one.

# News from the Diocese

## A Service of Celebration to mark the anniversary of Women's Ordination

**12<sup>th</sup> March, 6.30 pm -7.30 pm, Lady Chapel at Liverpool Cathedral**

We will remember 80 years since the Revd. Bishop Ronald Hall ordained Li Tim-Oi in the Diocese of Hong Kong and South China, the first woman ordained in the Anglican Communion. We will also remember the first women to be ordained priests in the Church of England, 30 years ago on 12th March 1994 in Bristol, and the GS vote 10 years ago in 2014 in favour of Women's Episcopacy in the Church of England.

Our Anniversary service will celebrate these milestones in women's ministry and give thanks to God for all he has done through the priestly ministry of those women he has called.

We welcome both women and men who wish to come and support women in ministry in our diocese, and beyond. All from our churches and the many congregations across our diocese are welcome.

## A Creative Retreat for Lent

**23rd March, 10 am - 4 pm, St Peters Church Woolton.**

The Creative Retreat for Lent is a chance to creatively travel through Lent with artist Maggie Hilditch. The day will consist of some meditation and then an opportunity to experiment with art materials and produce a personal response to Lent. Cost £40.

Booking via email [maggie.hitchman@gmail.com](mailto:maggie.hitchman@gmail.com)



The St Nicks Fairtrade Team have donated the leftover money from their account to St Mary's, St Nicholas and Christian Aid.

They received £539 each.

Thank you again to everyone who supported us over the years.

*Penni and the Fairtrade Team*

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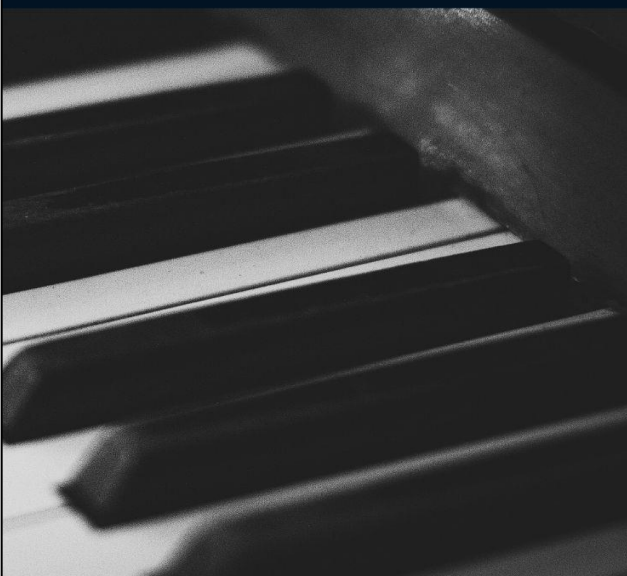
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