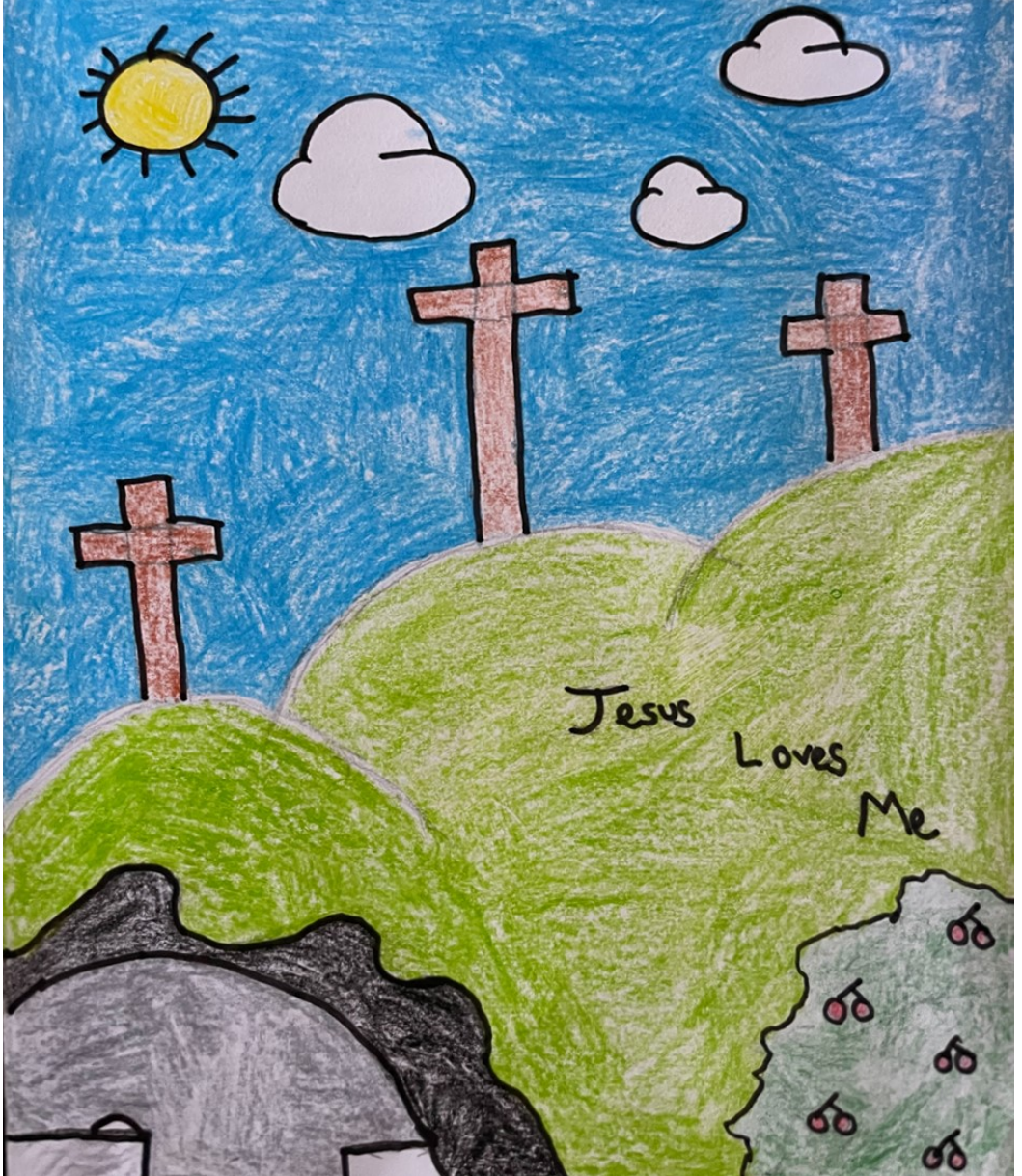


Wigan West

# PARISH MAGAZINE



# Services

## St Matthews

April

- 1 **Maundy Thursday**  
7.30pm Holy Communion
- 2 **Good Friday**  
2.00pm Hour at the Cross
- 4 **Easter Sunday**  
10.30 Holy Communion
- 11 **Sunday**  
10.30 Service of the Word
- 18 **Sunday**  
10.30 Holy Communion
- 25 **Sunday**  
10.30 Service of the Word

## St James with St Thomas

April

- 1 **Maundy Thursday**  
7.30pm Zoom service
- 2 **Good Friday**  
2.00pm Zoom Hour at the Cross
- 4 **Easter Sunday**  
10.30 Holy Communion
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- 18 **Sunday**  
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## St Pauls

April

- 1 **Maundy Thursday**  
7.30 Zoom service
- 2 **Good Friday**  
11.00am Service  
2.00pm Zoom Hour at the Cross
- 4 **Easter Sunday**  
10.30 Holy Communion
- 11 **Sunday**  
10.30 Service of the word
- 18 **Sunday**  
10.30 Service of the Word
- 25 **Sunday**  
10.30 Holy Communion

In this period you will need to book seats, as seating is restricted. Please ring St Matthews 07734447699 [westhubbooking@gmail.com](mailto:westhubbooking@gmail.com) St Pauls 07900252361 or 07712043202 [bookingstpauls20@gmail.com](mailto:bookingstpauls20@gmail.com) St James 07806798030 Church Admin [stjstpwwigan@gmail.com](mailto:stjstpwwigan@gmail.com). Bookings will be open each Monday. For Holy week you can book for all service on the Monday.

### 9.30am All Age service Live on Facebook Live

Join us every Sunday and Good Friday live on West Hub Facebook page for half an hour of worship whatever your age. Led by one of our families in West Hub. We pray together, reflect on the Bible reading, craft activities and weekly challenges. A great opportunity to join together online whatever your age is. Watch it live or after it has streamed live.

Every Sunday we gather from 10.30 on Zoom for an 11am service. A service of the word, where there is a hymn, Bible readings, reflection and prayers. A great opportunity to join together in worship particularly if you are unable to join in our buildings this a great opportunity to gather together a Church family in the Parish of West Wigan. To join email Mark at [hubleader.west@churchwigan.org](mailto:hubleader.west@churchwigan.org) and each week you will receive a Zoom Link for the service.

### **MAGAZINE DEADLINE**

Please have any content to the editors by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**You Tube** Search West Hub and subscribe to our channel. Church Wigan live also post the weekly services on their youtube channel ,check out Church Wigan

Follow us on Facebook for up-to-date news and information

 WiganWestHub

Dear Friends

Happy Easter! As you read this, we shall be entering Holy week and getting ready to celebrate Easter. Our second social distanced Easter, but this year we celebrate that we can meet together in our buildings but for many this still will not be an option. For example, my family know we still don't feel ready to go back into our buildings (containing three under 7's in a pew with me at the front) is too challenging. Yet we celebrate in all the different ways that we can that Christ has risen.



Easter is a season of hope and joy. It is what our faith is built on. We are broken, sinful people who are forgiven on Good Friday and celebrate in the resurrection of Jesus who comes back with a promise and invitation to us all.

How do you receive that invitation? You are invited into a living relationship with our loving God. If ever our community needed to know that invitation it is now.

We celebrate the restrictions are slowly being lifted but need to acknowledge these next six months are going to be challenging. Many will lose jobs, business will close, relationships will struggle, pressures on our schools, pressure on our personal finances and here at the Church our finances are at such a critical moment, which if not turned around we will see the closure of so many churches across the UK because we just have not got the money, not because of Covid, but because we have struggled for the last 40 years. We need a season of generosity locally and nationwide. Giving is a biblical discipline as we explored last month. We could easily just be in tears and filled with fear as restrictions are lifted.

Yet what we have is hope, the hope of the good news of Jesus. We have a huge job on our hands these next six months, to be good news. Creating places to gather, to chat, to pray, to wrestle with some of big questions of life.

Where do we start? A praying church makes a difference. We could put on 120 different things a week but if we don't start in prayer it is pointless. Where the church has grown both in numbers and in finances it always starts in a place of prayer.

I encourage you personally, as friends at larger safer gatherings to begin in prayer. As a Parish we shall be running a new Prayer course by Pete Greig, both online and later in the year in person. A course that invites us to be people of prayer.

Prayer is what Jesus did before his death, it is what He went to do after His resurrection.

With the restrictions in place, we have a real gift to begin to meet. What better time to meet on that bench, soon in a building and gather with friends and pray together.

I challenge you to pray for each other, pray for our community, pray for our Parish.

I promise you when we commit to prayer, we will see transformation.

Next month we hope to be able to share where we see the Parish going in what and when different things will begin, which will be exciting and I can't wait for that moment when there will be no bookings, no thinking of deep cleaning and we can

come and sing our praises. However, as we wait for that moment I believe God is asking us to come in prayer.

Not only to pray, but to be listening to Him in what He might be asking of us.

Why? Because our community needs people of prayer and good news.

Guess what? We have good news!

We celebrate it on Easter day, we celebrate every day. We are invited to come and follow and go out and shout that we have GOOD NEWS!

Jesus is Alive, Jesus invites us.

What do you say to this invitation?

I pray for a blessed Easter and a season of prayer for you, your family and our community and Parish of West Wigan.

*<sup>16</sup> Be joyful always, <sup>17</sup> pray at all times, <sup>18</sup> be thankful in all circumstances. This is what God wants from you in your life in union with Christ Jesus.*

*1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

God Bless

**Mark**

**Congratulations to Freya who won our competition to design an Easter front cover for the magazine. Also to Sophia Lawrence and Danny Worsley for their 2nd and 3rd place entries.**



2nd

Sophia Lawrence aged 9



3rd

Danny Worsley in year 4  
St Matthews



## PGS Digital Service is now Live

Dear Parish Representative,

Good news – as from the 1<sup>st</sup> March it is now possible for new donors to set up their regular giving online to any PGS-Registered parish!

During the last few days, we have begun briefing member dioceses on the new service and telling them about the resources available to support them, and you as you introduce the service to your church community.

You will now find a range of ‘guides’ and resources to download when you log into your ‘My PGS’ area of the website. **You will find the link at the top of your ‘Parish Details’ page.**

### Resources to Support you

This pack includes ‘step-by-step’ guides for parishes, so that you are best placed to help guide your donors, and FAQs. There are also materials which you can pass on to donors to use themselves, if needed. In addition, there are templates you can personalise to your parish, which outline the three ways to give via PGS: online, by phone, or by using the gift form.

### Action to prepare for roll out

Every parish has a unique ‘landing page’ on the PGS website. Donors will begin their online giving journey on this page. They simply use the search tool on the website, or a QR code provided by the parish, to go to the page of their church and click on the ‘donate’ button.

It’s obviously important that the information on this page is accurate, and that it delivers the

message

you’d like to give your potential donors as they prepare to make a gift. We recommend that all parishes check (and edit where necessary) their unique parish landing page before widely publicising the service to donors.

We’ve prepared a step-by-step guide of how to update your parish landing page, as part of the resource pack.

### It’s time to activate your account

At least three of four parish Statement Receivers have already activated their online account and are making good use of the facility to view their monthly statements securely online.

If you’re among those who haven’t activated your online account yet, now’s the ideal time to do so. It will take a few minutes. Simply go to ‘MY PGS’ page [www.parishgiving.org.yk/my-pgs](http://www.parishgiving.org.yk/my-pgs) and follow the onscreen instructions. Once activated, you will be able to view the resources for roll out, as well as your parish statements. As a reminder, for everyone’s security, it’s important that you never share your PGS login details with others. If there are additional people that you would like to add as administrators, please contact us and we will set them up with a separate log-ins.

As always, if you need any assistance please contact the team at [info@parishgiving.org.uk](mailto:info@parishgiving.org.uk) or call us on 03330021260 and we will be happy to help.

Many thanks,

The PGS Team

# Cross and Resurrection

The Ancient Romans were famous for their roads. One of the most famous was the Appian Way, running from Rome to south-east Italy. If you had been on the Appian Way, near Rome, in 71 BC, you might have been confronted by a scene of appalling horror. The slave revolt led by Spartacus had been successful for a time, but now the slave army had been defeated and captured. The 6000 rebel slaves who survived the battle were crucified along the Appian Way. Mile after mile of human beings slowly tortured to death.

Crucifixion wasn't just a death penalty. It was deliberately painful, horrific and humiliating. It was the penalty reserved for the lowest in society who had ideas above their station. There was nothing that seemed heroic about it. It was utter degradation.

There is a lot of pain and suffering in the world. Walk along the streets in the middle of Wigan, and you will see many people who seem to have it all worked out. Most of them look confident and secure, getting on with their lives without much fuss. Don't believe it. Every person has his or her own joys and sorrows. Each has regrets and guilts and resentments. And more sinister evil lies just out of sight. People trafficking and abuse; domestic violence; exploitation of the vulnerable. And then there are the evils which are easier to ignore: the international injustices which keep the poor, poor and the oppressed, oppressed.

We believe that God loves his creation. Yet he does not deny that evil is evil. Combating the forces of evil is not something God has done by remote control. In the person of his Son, Jesus, God came into the world and suffered the worst that the world could do to him. In a mysterious way which we can never fully understand, he came and took the

weight of the world on his own shoulders. His loving death defeated all the powers of hell.

Whatever life throws at us, we are not alone. Jesus has been there, and he is with us, not as Superman, effortlessly putting things right, but as one of us, as a real human being who knows the joys and sorrows of life first-hand. In all the trials of life, we know that God in Jesus is with us.

On the first Good Friday evening, Jesus seemed to be as beaten as Spartacus and his companions. All the hopes and dreams, all the preaching and healing, everything had come to nothing.

On Easter morning, God turned the tables. What seemed like defeat turned out to be victory. Love had triumphed over hate.

Do you believe that death and evil will win in the end? Or do you believe that, ultimately, love is stronger even than death?

Easter does not undo Good Friday. Jesus's death remains real, all that he went through remains real. But it is not the final chapter. On Good Friday, we remember that Jesus died for our sins. On Easter Sunday, we celebrate the triumph of God's love, of life over death.

There is a tradition that, at funerals, bells are rung half muffled. One side of each bell clapper is muffled with a pad, the other side is left free. So the bells sound alternate rounds, muffled, then loud. As Christians, we acknowledge the reality of death and of sin, we mourn with those who are bereaved and those who are hurt. But we insist that neither death nor sin will have the last word. Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*Gordon James*

# What is an Assistant Church Warden?

An assistant Church Warden is a role that has come about since the reforming of the Wigan Deanery Parish system. Under the previous system, each of the 30 churches had their own two wardens, now each of the newly formed seven parishes have two church wardens. We are delighted that we have Ann Birch and Martin Gaskell as our Church Wardens for the Wigan West Parish. As the parish has increased in size, the workload for two people would be almost impossible, hence the creation of the role of the assistant warden. The aim of the team of assistant wardens is to enable the smooth running of the three churches (there is no limit to the amount of assistant wardens).

The benefits we see with the workings of the new system are that we are working together as a parish team, not individual churches. A good example of this is the cooperation of all the assistant wardens during this pandemic. When churches have been closed or we have been limited to what buildings could be open or services diverted at the last minute everybody has rallied together and worked across the whole parish. The thought of being on our own in this pandemic is terrifying, it would have been truly overwhelming.



Cliff and I feel that it has been a huge privilege that we can work closer together doing God's work and sharing God's grace and enabling God's Kingdom to prosper, under the old system, husband and wife could not be Wardens together.

It is such a good feeling and spiritually encouraging to see new people coming forward and getting involved instead of having to rely on the same half a dozen or so volunteers. To us, this is an exciting time for Church Wigan and we hope that all parishes see the advantages and opportunities as we do. We have yet to attend an event or meeting when we do not see the benefits of working together.

In conclusion, this new way of working is benefitting a lot more than just Wardens and assistant Wardens. Take the magazine that you are reading, this is a culmination of three editors coming together from three completely different ways of working to produce this excellent new format of a Parish magazine.

## **DOESN'T OUR GOD MOVE IN WONDERFUL AND MYSTERIOUS WAYS?**

Wishing you every blessing

*Miriam and Cliff Unsworth*



# Stranger than Fiction

Unless you are accustomed to climbing St. Matthew's church tower steps and going outside around the base of the steeple, you are extremely unlikely to know this fact. In fact, I have done all that on more than one occasion, though I will confess not recently, and I didn't know it!

Expanding girth and increasing fear of heights and years mean that I do my utmost to avoid the narrow winding steps and the narrower outside balcony. 'What fact?' I hear you say impatiently. In the corner of the tower nearest to the graveyard and the car park there is a chimney. Not a small chimney, but one which a man can fit down. It runs down the height of the church inside the stonework of the tower.' presumably down as far as the cellars. Originally built to get rid of the smoke from the coke fired boilers in the cellars, it presumably now takes the fumes from the gas fired boiler of today. 'Fascinating', I again hear you say, 'so what'. We were, at the time of writing, having renovation work done to the stonework inside and outside the tower. Having opened the door allowing the men access and then left them to it, I received a phone call late afternoon and a slightly panicky voice told me not to switch on the boilers. 'My coat has blown down the chimney with my mobile phone in the pocket. I've rung it and can hear it down at the bottom. If you light the boiler it might burn it'. It was a very windy day and he had taken off his coat and draped it over the top of the

'wall', not realising that it was a chimney. The wind had caught it and 'hey ho', down it went.

Well we were in a bit of a pickle since there is no access to the bottom of the chimney and I was having visions of the flue being blocked and being unable to heat the church. There was nothing to be done that evening so we had to leave it. Next morning bright and early I received another phone call. 'I've managed to get my coat', said a relieved voice. 'How on earth did you manage that' was my reply.' A fishing rod with lead weights and a triple hook. I got it first cast' he said. I will avoid puns on 'fishers of men' etc., but at what other church can you go successfully fishing from the church tower? Don't say that we give you nowt at St. Matthew's!! We will now be forming St. Matthew's Angling Club.

**Dave Whitter**







# Christian Aid

Christian Aid is celebrating 75 years this year and collection week is 10 - 16 May.

Like Tearfund, Christian Aid is concentrating on CLIMATE CHANGE. Rose lives in Kenya and is caught up in a cycle of climate chaos. From extreme drought to flooding, extreme weather robs her of what she needs to survive: a reliable source of water. Rose's community lives with drought and hunger for months at a time. When the rain does come, they can be too heavy damaging crops that had struggled to grow. There is an earth dam just minutes away from her home which collects rainwater but it runs out of water too quickly, forcing Rose to walk long and exhausting journeys to fetch water for her grandchildren.

With a reliable source of water, Rose could grow food which would improve her livelihood and better protect her from coronavirus.

Your gift could help them withstand climate chaos. Please consider donating to Christian Aid in May.

**Barbara Jenks**



# Funnies

Q. Why do we tell actors to "Break a Leg?"

A. Because every play has a cast.

Q. Where do average things get manufactured?

A. In the satisfactory.



Q. What do you call a line of rabbits hopping backwards?

A. A receding hare-line.

Q. What did the O say to the 8?

A. Nice belt!

Q. Why did the Oreo go to the dentists?

A. Because it lost its filling!

Q. Why did the M & M go to school?

A. Because it wanted to be a Smartie!

Q. What do you call a rooster looking at a pile of lettuce?

A. A chicken sees a salad!

Q. Why did the gym close down?

A. It just didn't work out!

Q. Where do you find a cow with no legs?

A. Right where you left it!



# Local Missional Leaders

The project, *Transforming Wigan*, has changed the structure of the Church of England in Wigan. We all know the background. A much smaller proportion of the population attends their local Church of England parish church than twenty, forty or sixty years ago. At one time, each rector or vicar ministered to a congregation numbering hundreds, and the traditional pattern of parish life continued to reflect that, long after congregations had shrunk. By the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, many clergy were ministering to reduced congregations, but the momentum of tradition, and the buffer of money given by parishioners now long in the churchyard, meant that we could carry on as if nothing had changed.

That is now no longer an option. We could respond to the situation by managing decline. We could close down churches, combine congregations, and, for a while, enjoy life much as it was, but in fewer buildings.

In Wigan, we have decided on a different path. Rather than closing down worshipping communities, we are establishing new ones, and some of them are growing. But that means that we have many more worshipping communities than we have paid clergy. If we expected a vicar to run 10 worshipping communities as if each were the only one, then we would be planning for failing congregations and broken-down vicars.

But it is important that each worship community has a person who is the designated leader. That person is not a lay vicar. She or he does not necessarily have gifts in preaching or leading worship, or in pastoral care, though some may have. The local missional leader (LML) is charged rather with enabling and encouraging the gifts of all the members of the congregation, and in identifying and supporting new leaders in their turn.

I am LML for the congregation of St James' with St Thomas'. The role of LML for an established congregation is in practice rather different from that of LML of a new worship community. My focus has been to begin refreshing the worship of our community and to encourage links with other associated worshipping communities, especially those led by Alison Brown: Tom's Pantry, Jim's Kitchen and Lifelines.

We in Wigan West are committed to be an outward-looking parish, engaging with those who have never been introduced to the gospel of Jesus Christ. We have rejected the option of managed decline, in favour of joining deliberately in God's mission in His world. LMLs are called to play their own distinctive part in enabling that mission.

*Gordon James*



Good day everyone,

Many of you won't know me. I am the Bereavement Officer at St. James with St. Thomas,



As I am sure you are well aware, this last twelve months have been very traumatic and, in some cases, absolutely devastating – there are few things that can be more cruel than being denied the opportunity of speaking to a loved one in his or her final moments and saying your goodbyes.

We have a group at St. James who support each other. We have all been affected, some more recently than others.

We all grieve differently and as such we all support each other. We all have moments when we wish to remember or talk about our loved ones, basically we need each other (at this, the group is terrific). As a result, during this pandemic I have contacted all or most of our members by phone on a weekly basis. It is my belief this been invaluable to most of the people concerned – it most certainly has been to me. On a sad note, during the pandemic one of our group passed away, Lilian will be sadly missed. God bless her and may the Lord look after her soul.

If I have missed anyone, I sincerely apologise as there are one or two whose personal details I do not know.

One thing has become crystal clear through my telephone conversations: we all want and need these meetings to recommence and they will, once it is safe to do so.

Love you all & God bless everyone.

**David Berry**

## Notices

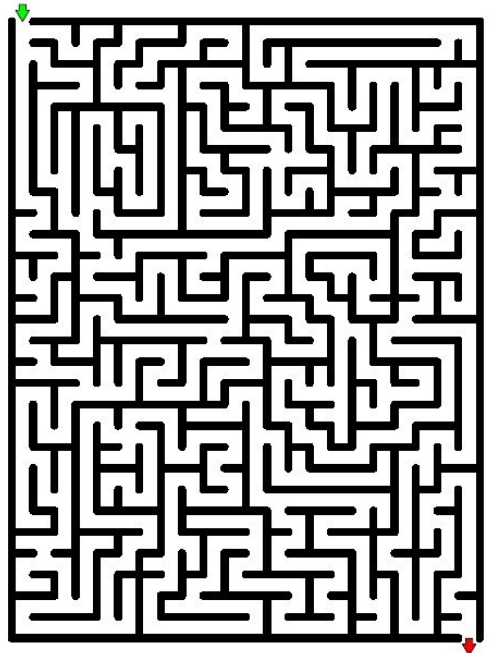
### Water is Life

During Lent, Tearfund are concentrating on CLIMATE CHANGE. They are helping countries who are being affected of no fault of their own.

We are having more rain and they are having hardly any or no rain. Tearfund are helping these countries by showing the people how to grow produce that can adapt to the climate as it is going to be in the future.

If you can please support Tearfund in these projects by making a donation. Thank you. **Barbara Jenks**

Tom's Pantry will closed Good Friday 2nd April 2021 & Easter Monday 5th April 2021. We will reopen the pantry on Tuesday 6th April 2021 at 12.30-2.30pm. From Wednesday 7th April 2021 we will be back to normal opening hour 9.30-11.30am.



## Word Search

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah! April brings us to Easter – the crucifixion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ - the triumphant highlight of the Christian year. As St Paul pointed out, unless Jesus really did rise again, our faith is useless, and we may as well forget any hope of heaven or eternal life.



passover  
bread  
wine  
body  
blood  
betrayal  
Jerusalem  
Pilate  
Judas  
Gethsemane

trial  
crucifixion  
soldiers  
cross  
nails  
vinegar  
temple  
curtain  
tomb  
angel

stone  
risen  
gardener  
Mary

# Hello!

Each week you can read along with the Bible passage, chat with your family about some of the questions and have a go at the prayer challenge!

**John 20 1:18**

**Early Sunday morning... Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw the stone had been taken away from the entrance...**

**'They've taken Jesus!' she told Peter and John. She stood crying outside the tomb. Two angels asked her 'Why are you crying?'**

**A man asked her 'Who are you looking for?' Mary thought it was the gardener at first, but then she realised, it was Jesus!**

## 4 APR Week 1

Draw some pictures of Jesus and cut them out. Ask each person in your house to hide one of them. Play the game 'cold, colder, warmer, hotter, hot' with your family to help them find him. How does it feel to find Jesus? Remember he is always closer than you think and you can talk to him anytime!

Show us your pictures on Wigan West Hub facebook page!  
We'd love to see them.

**Prayer Idea**



## Week 2

## 11 APR



Search on youtube for 'Jesus appears to Thomas by saddleback kids' and watch the short cartoon.

Jesus said 'Just believe!'

Draw an outline of your hand on a piece of paper and in the middle of the palm draw a red circle which is where the nail was in Jesus hand. Underneath the nail mark write 'Just believe!'

On each finger write why you believe.

**John 20:19-31**

**That evening the disciples were all together when Jesus came and said 'Peace be with you.'**

**Thomas wasn't there to see it and said "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."**

**A week later Jesus came again, this time Thomas was there and this time believed.**

**Jesus said, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."**

# Jesus, Man of mystery

Join us on Facebook for the All age service 9:30am Sunday mornings!

 WiganWestHub



Do you chat to Jesus? His is always with you and loves to hear all about your day at school. Tell him your troubles and let him help.

## Week 3 18 APR



Play a song on youtube called 'Holy spirit for children - aji the cow'.

The power from above that Jesus was talking about was the Holy Spirit!

When the Holy Spirit came down people saw what looked like flames on top of peoples heads.

Draw and colour in a flame on some paper and cut it out. Stick it on to a long piece of card that goes around your head to make a 'Flame Crown'.

As you put your crown on, pray for the Holy Spirit to fill you up!

**Luke 24: 36 -48**

**When the disciples first saw Jesus they thought he was a ghost.**

**To prove he wasn't a ghost he told them to touch his hands and body and he ate fish with them.**

**Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "This is what is written: the Messiah must suffer and must rise from death three days later..."**

**Then he said "You must wait in the city until the power from above comes down upon you."**

**John 10:11-18**

**Jesus said "I am the good shepherd, who is willing to die for the sheep.**

**I am the good shepherd. As the Father knows me and I know the Father, in the same way I know my sheep and they know me. And I am willing to die for them.**

...

**There are other sheep which belong to me that are not in this sheep pen. I must bring them, too; they will listen to my voice, and they will become one flock with one shepherd.**

## 25 APR Week 4

Jesus is the one who speaks to peoples hearts.

Jesus is the shepherd!

But, he also needs each one of us to help

Draw a picture of a sheep and write your name on it.

You are the sheep!

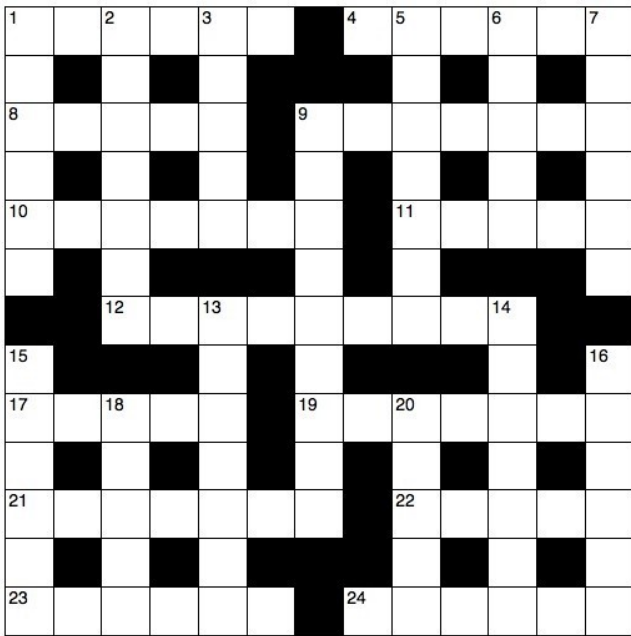
While drawing the sheep ask Jesus how you can help him.

Inside the sheep write or draw different ways that you can help other people believe in Him.



Show us your pictures on Wigan West Hub facebook page.

prayer idea



**Across**

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
- 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
- 8 'Unless I see the nail marks — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
- 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
- 10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)
- 11 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)
- 12 Repossessed (Gen 14:16) (9)
- 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3-4) (5)

19 'Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken with the Lord' (Ex 34:29) (7)

21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)

22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)

23 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the — apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6)

24 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)

**Down**

1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)

2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)

3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)

5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)

6 11 Across is certainly this (5)

7 He reps (anag.) (6)

9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)

13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)

14 They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)

15 The human mind or soul (6)

16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is — ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)

18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not — ' (Matthew 11:17) (5)

20 Bared (anag.) (5)



# Burials and Funerals

## St Paul's

10/02/21 Harold Moss aged 87  
 11/02/21 Barbara Burrows aged 92  
 24/02/21 Vincent Devaney aged 79

## St James with St Thomas

None

## St Matthews

03/02/21 Margaret Patricia Marshall aged 80  
 04/02/21 Mary Enid Clayton aged 85  
 18/02/21 Paul Seddon aged 48  
 23/02/21 Joan White aged 86  
 23/02/21 Cyril White aged 90



## Donations

Belated birthday memories of Arthur Stockley (March 4<sup>th</sup>)

**From his loving wife Janet**

In loving memories of a dear husband Derek

**From Doris and family**

Remembering all loved ones

**From Doris and Eileen**

## Flower Fund

In loving memory of Jane Howarth (18th)

**From Jean and Elaine**

If you wish for your donation to appear in the Church Magazine could you please **PRINT** the information to be enclosed clearly on the front of your envelope and hand it into **CHURCH**, so as to avoid any unnecessary upset, or email it to one of the magazine team,

Thank you for your co-operation in the matter.  
Ed



**The Parish of Wigan West** is the Church of England in the West of Wigan—covering Worsley Mesnes, Poolstock, Goose Green, Hawkley Hall, Winstanley, and Highfield—the former parishes of St James with St Thomas, St Pauls, and St Matthews.

We are made up of different worship communities with many different styles and settings used for worshipping God, including our own buildings of St James with St Thomas (where *Tom's Pantry* is), St Paul's and its hall, and St Matthew's and its hall.

Even during lockdown there's always lots going on. Have a look at our Facebook page for details of everything from online coffee and chat to traditional services, as well as the latest news of when we'll be gathering in person again.

**Church Wigan** Team Rector *Revd Neil Cook* 01942 242984

**The Parish of Wigan West**

Hub Leader

*Revd Mark Wade* 01942 494906

Curate *Fran Humphry* 01942 202803

Warden *Ann Birch* 01942 227036

Warden *Martin Gaskell* 01942 741340

Treasurer *Jeff McCann* 07595 882 321

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**St James with St Thomas**

Local Missional Leader

*Gordon James* 01942 238251

Assistant Wardens

*Alison Brown* 01942 740777

*Ron Ellison* 01942 202803

Reader *Pam Bancroft* 01942 713198

Reader *David Brown* 01942 740777q

Reader *Gordon James* 01942 238251

Reader *David Ryder* 01942 202423

Organist *David Goulden* 01942 245710

Flowers *Iris Wright* 01942 493850

Flowers *Jean Hogan* 01942 492888

Bereavement Support

*David Berry* 01942 386987

Mother's Union

*Margaret Baxendale* 01942 238542

Sunday School *Jean Edwards*

Primary School Headteacher

*Mrs J Moore* 01942 703952

**Lifelines** *St James Centre & Eliot Gardens*

Local Missional Leader

*Alison Brown* 01942 740777

**Little Explorers** *St Pauls Hall*

*Louise Ashcroft* 07900 232 361

**Wellspring** *St Pauls Hall*

Local Missional Leader

*Lucy Haigh* 07900 232 361

**Little Stars** *St Pauls Hall*

*Lucy Haigh* 07900 232 361

**Lighthouse** *St James School*

Local Missional Leaders:

*Jes Rusling* 07827 326 290

jes@jesandsam.com

*Sam Rusling* 077 22 99 4923

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*All information correct as of April 2021*

### **St Matthews**

Assistant Warden

*John Dawson* 01942 732526

Assistant Warden

*Andrea Wood* 07734 447699

Reader *Colin Hesketh* 07712 431105

Organist *Sue Gordon* 01942 214955

Deputy Organist

*Colin Hesketh* 07712 431105

Bereavement Support

*Iain Matthewson* 07595898737

Bowling Club

*Keith Harris* 01942 211518

Choir *Sue Gordon* 01942 214955

Church Fellowship

*Matthew Jones* 07930 867209

Cuppa & Chat

*Barbara Jenks* 01942 213101

Friendship Group

*Mary Pratt* 01942 731346

Boys Brigade

*Jim Harrison* 01942 218465

Guides:

Rainbows

*Jennifer Halliwell* 01942 218334

*Gill Marsh* 01942 207723

Brownies

*Sandra Pollock* 01942 215018

Guides

*Helen Albers* 07960 920587

Sunday Fun Club

*Kathryn Louis* 07557 106206

Sunday School *Marian Brown*

Women's Fellowship

*Sheila Highton* 01942 217754

Primary School Headteacher

*Mrs A Barron* 01942 747818

### **St Pauls**

Assistant Warden

*Cliff Unsworth* 01942 200229

Assistant Warden

*Maureen Gower* 01942 234410

Assistant Warden

*Miriam Unsworth* 01942 200229

Reader *Arthur Hubbard* 01942 321977

Reader *Gordon Fath* 01942 621173

Organist

*Kathleen Shepherd* 01942 248683

Flowers *Pam Wilkinson* 01942 716668

Mother's Union

*Anne Hubbard* 01942 321977

Sunday School

*Christiane Cook* 01942 242984

Craft Workshop

*Gillian Greenwood* 01942 825670

Friends Together

*Lynn Conroy* 01942202249

*Linda Berry* 01942 492521

House Groups

*Linda Catterall* 01942 237333

*Anne & Arthur Hubbard* 01942 321977

*Brian & Irene Marsh* 01942 243265

*Mike & Gill Greenwood* 01942 825670

Primary School Headteacher

*Mrs A Jackson* 01942 243068

### **Need to book a hall?**

St Matthews Church Hall:

*Mr Jones* 07930 867209

St James with St Thomas:

*Alison Brown* 01942 740777

St Pauls Church Hall:

*Darren Speakman* 07456 840803

**BAPTISMS** Speak to your worship community's leader or for St James call *David Ryder* on 01942 202423, for St Pauls call *Lucy Haigh* on 07900 252361, or for St Matthews call *Sheila Highton* on 01942 217754.

**WEDDINGS** *Gordon Fath*: treasurer.benefice@churchwigan.org

**FUNERALS** Church Wigan Funeral Coordinator: 01942 705641, 07754 569022, funeral.coordinator@churchwigan.org

# Wardens Corner

My last piece back in January started with the news that we were closing our Church doors for the third time since March 2020. It now looks like that could have been our last closure. Let us pray that will surely be the case. As I write this month, we have just completed the necessary risk assessments to allow us to reopen on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March.



As a schoolteacher I have started back at work this week along with the pupils. It has been a wonderful week, full of joy. Seeing familiar faces and watching the pupils clearly happy to be back with their friends and to have some proper interaction with their teachers.

It really does feel like we are in the home straight of this very challenging season and stepping from darkness into light. As with any test or trial there are lessons to learn and growing to take place. As a Parish I feel we have done that. The zoom services, coffee mornings, Bible study, prayer courses, the list goes on and on and I am sure some of this activity will continue in this form and continue to grow. Our food ministry through Tom's pantry has been a vital resource to many struggling families at this time but also to many of our parishioners from all our worship communities who have been able to get out and have the opportunity to do God's work in our Parish.

It has been good to stay in contact remotely but there is nothing quite like meeting people face to face even if it is from behind a mask. As the Bible tells us in Genesis we were created to enjoy a relationship with God and relationships with each other. I look forward to building some of those relationships in person and seeing many of you through Holy Week and on to what will feel like a most triumphant Easter.

*Martin*



**Church Wigan Worship**  
*by telephone*

Please dial telephone number: - 0330 606 0411  
Calls charged at standard rate, free on mobile with unlimited calls or within minute allowance, landline free with certain tariffs. You will hear an automated answer requesting access code.  
**Access code: 1551140 followed by#**



**West Hub Coffee morning**

**Thursday**  
**10.30am-11.30am**

Every Thursday grab a drink and click on to Zoom as we join together.  
To get the link email Mark at: [hubleader.west@churchwigan.org](mailto:hubleader.west@churchwigan.org) or ring 01942 494906  
Same Zoom code each week  
#WestHubBrewTime