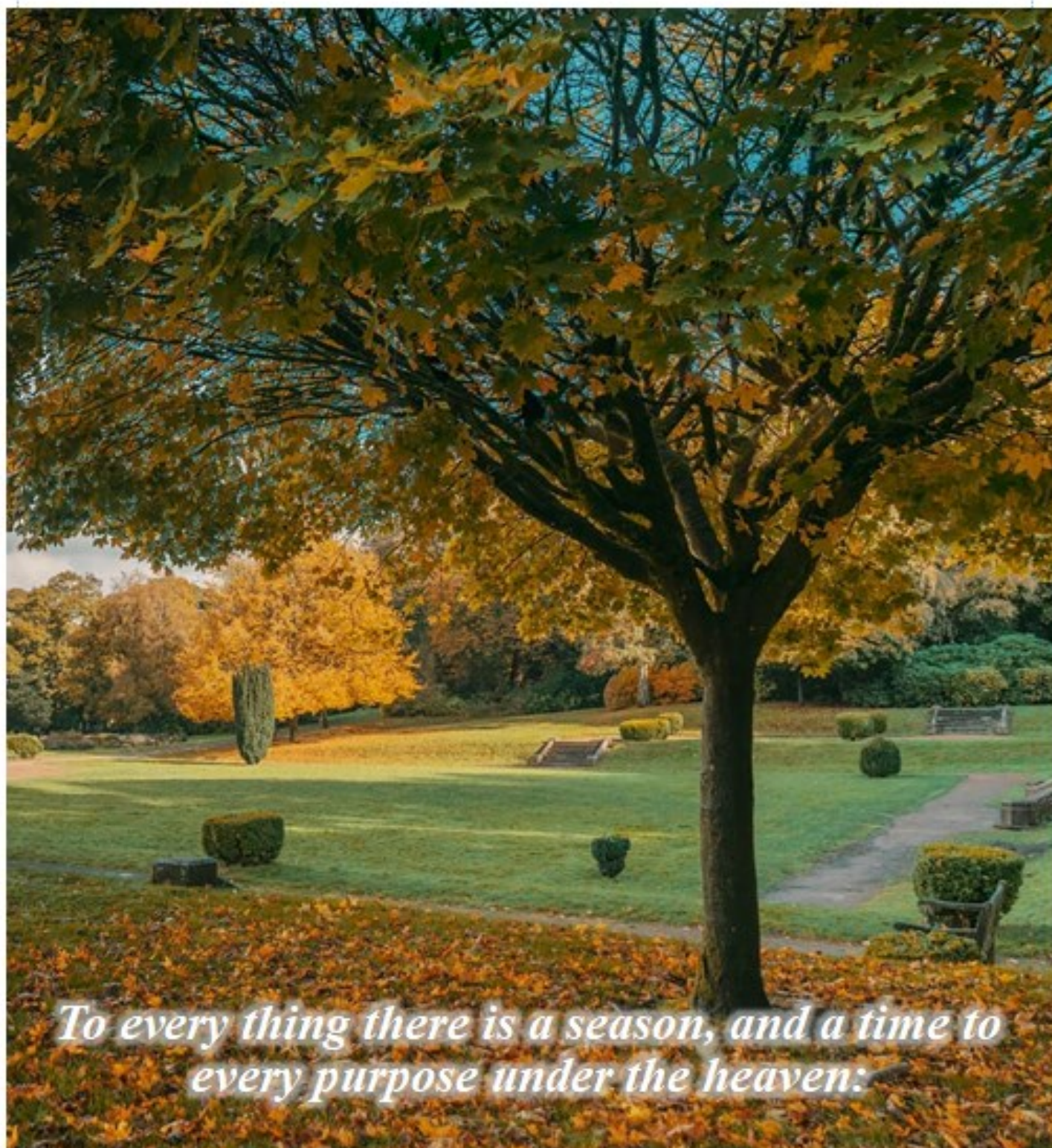




the link

The Parish Magazine of The United Benefice of St Peter & St Stephen, Burnley
OCTOBER 2024



To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

<http://www.stpetersburnley.com>

<http://www.ststephenschurchburnley.org.uk>



Congratulations to Alan, re-commissioned on 7th September as an Authorised Lay Minister (ALM)



Congratulations and Welcome to the Rt Revd Bishop Joe Kennedy as he is installed as our new Bishop of Burnley at Blackburn Cathedral



WHO'S WHO IN THE BENEFICE?



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Inspiring Children & Young People)

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Vacant

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**Don't forget - if you need anything,
don't hesitate to contact us**

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**. Please ensure that all articles
for inclusion in the November
magazine are submitted no
later than 15th October
pamelamcgrath1@hotmail.com**



From the Rectory

Dear Friends

The French philosopher Voltaire once said, 'A hundred years from my death, the Bible will be a museum piece.' A hundred years after his death, the French Bible Society set up its headquarters in Voltaire's old home in Paris! Far from being a museum piece, the Bible is still a worldwide bestseller.

The original text was written in Hebrew and Greek and swiftly translated into Latin. King James commissioned the first official English translation of the Bible, and a copy was put in every church in England. Jeremiah Radcliffe, vicar of Eaton Bray from 1583-1586, was invited in 1605 by King James to translate the Bible. He was one of 60 theologians and linguists who used sources of Hebrew, Greek, and Latin texts to produce the Authorised Version, otherwise known as the King James Bible. The Bible is not like a novel - one book which you read from cover to cover. It is a library of books: 39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament. The Old Testament includes books on history, law, poetry, proverbs, psalms, lamentation, and prophecy. In the New Testament, we find biography, letters, history, and prophecy. There really is something for everyone.

The history of how the Bible came into being is fascinating. We have no record of the composition of any of the books of the Bible. Authorship was not 'a thing' in the ancient world. Professor John Barton, in his book 'What is the Bible?' (SPCK 1997) writes: 'In the ancient world ... books - and especially religious books - 'grew' rather than being written by an individual author.' The exception is Paul, a named individual whose letters were transmitted in exactly the form he had sent them to the churches he corresponded with.

The Bible, I believe, is not divine dictation but rather 'God-Inspired.' It was written by human authors who were influenced by the times they lived in. Many Christians believe God's Holy Spirit also guided them. There are shafts of beauty and truth breaking through everywhere. The Bible is there to be read.

But how do we begin to read such a rich and diverse book? I would start with one of the Gospels - the story of Jesus. Mark is the shortest, with only 16 chapters. If you read one a day, it would take just over a fortnight.

What, then, does the Bible say? It has been described in many ways, but one description that resonates with me is 'God's love letter to the world.' Becoming familiar with Scripture gives us the fullest possible picture of God and his Son, Jesus. As we read the Bible, we discover what God is like. We find a God who never changes, a God who keeps his promises. Incredible as it may seem, the Bible reveals that God always loves humanity and each of us as individuals. He created us in his image, and we are precious to him; he listens to us and cares for us. And as we read the Bible, we discover what God's desires are for his world. We learn that Jesus came to save humankind and bring us back into a relationship with God and that the way to true fulfillment is to live life in God's way. Jesus tells us that God longs for human beings to care for one another, for God, and for the whole of creation.

As the nights draw in, how about taking time to read the Bible? You may find it more inspiring than you expect!

With every blessing,

Fr Andrew



In The Loop

... with Keith, Jean, Paul & Edith
St Stephen's Churchwardens



Hello everyone – we hope you're all keeping well as we're easing back into the full swing of things. The end of September saw us being wonderfully entertained by our ex-local lad, Andrew C Wadsworth, at our 'Full Circle – From Burnley to the West End'. The church was the perfect setting for this unusual evening of entertainment, and we are very grateful to Andrew who wanted to come back to his roots and offer his time to produce, and star, in this one-off event. Grateful thanks also to all those who took part alongside Andrew – the 'interviewer' Alan Hargreaves, accompanist Nigel Wilkinson, Andrew's wife Louise and his brother Adrian, our very own 'Ladybirds' backing group and Paddy Keene for the lighting. Thank you too, to all those who came to support the 'show' and raising much-needed funds, it's always greatly appreciated.

So, what does October and further ahead hold for us? ...

HARVEST FESTIVAL

This annual service will take place on the first Sunday – 6th October at the usual time of 9:30 am. We hope to see as many of you as possible in church, and that you will consider donating items of food that we will send on to Sion Baptist Church for their food bank. Please do not bring

fresh food, ie fruit, eggs, butter etc., but rather packet or tinned foods – cereals, baked beans etc. Or if you would prefer, there will be the opportunity to donate to Bishop Philip's Harvest Appeal "Harvesting a Love of Learning", which is focused on supporting a programme to improve literacy levels, especially for women and children, in a region of Pakistan where Christians are a minority.

ALL SOULS' SERVICE

This will take place at 10:00 am on Saturday 2nd November, when our newly installed Memorial Board (giving the names of those whose ashes are buried in our Memorial Garden) will be dedicated and blessed by Fr Andrew. Not only this, it's the service when we specifically pray for our past loved ones. If you would like to put forward a name to be offered up in prayer at the service, please add the name to the list which can be found at the back of church.

UPDATE - FABRIC OF THE CHURCH

As part of the last Quinquennial Inspection, we shall very soon be re-carpeting the vestries. This has been a much needed task, as in the clergy vestry, part of the carpet has been held down with tape for many years!

/continued

Diary Dates

- ♦ **Film Night Friday** 1st November, 7:00 pm in the Community Room – free admission (donations welcome), refreshments available at a nominal charge. “Saving Grace”, a comedy drama, is set in Cornwall and stars Brenda Blethyn – portraying Grace – a widow whose late husband has left her with a mountain of debt. Deciding to take matters into her own hands, her plan involves growing cannabis in her greenhouse to earn a substantial income! The film takes us on a journey filled with humour, adventure, and unexpected outcomes.
- ♦ **Christmas Fair** Saturday 30th November 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in Church – free admission. Our school choir will be singing to start off proceedings. There will be the usual stalls, tombola, raffle, guess the weight of the cake etc., plus there will be delicious light refreshments available. If you would like to have stall, please let a warden know. Come along and help make this annual event a great success!
- ♦ **Advent Carol Service** ~ 'From Darkness to Light' We shall once again be holding our Advent Carol Service at 3:30 pm on Sunday 1st December. Come along and enjoy the beginning of the festive season with a variety of hymns, music and readings. (Details of our Christmas services will be given in our November magazine.)

- ♦ **New Year's Eve Party** Tuesday 31st December in Church – Come along and say goodbye to the old year and welcome in the new! Music and dancing, games and prizes, pie and peas supper, bubbly to celebrate – all for £10 per ticket. Watch this space for further details!
- ♦ **AND DON'T FORGET** – Saturday 12th April 2025 Join us on a trip to the Winter Gardens, Blackpool to see '**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat**'. Further details will be available shortly, but if you're interested, please put your name on the list at the back of church.

Well, that's all for now folks! Lovely Autumn colours abound and the nights are drawing in ... so take care everyone - our love to you all.

The Wardens Team.

Keith, Jean, Paul & Edith

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”





Churchwardens' News from St Peter's

Hello everyone,

The season of Autumn always provides an opportunity to reflect on and appreciate what God has given us, and to take those blessings and share them with others. We are thankful for all the hard work and contributions our church family share with each other at St Peter's.

This year we celebrate our Harvest Festival on Sunday 6th October. We are supporting the Bishop of Blackburn's Harvest Appeal, which this year aims to raise funds for a women's literary programme in the diocese of Multan in central Pakistan. An interesting conversation between Bishop Philip and Bishop Leo Rodrick, the Bishop of Multan, about the lives of Christians in Pakistan can be viewed on the Diocese of Blackburn's website. We will be accepting donations for the food banks at Sion Baptist Church and St Catherine's Church during the service on Harvest Sunday. Sion gives out more than fifty bags of food a week to those in need and our donations will help them to continue their important work.

Congratulations to Alan Roadley on being recommissioned as an Authorised Lay Minister for another three years at Blackburn Cathedral in September. We look forward to hearing more thought-provoking sermons, and if you ever miss one, past editions can be read on the church website.

Some members of the congregation made the trip to Blackburn Cathedral for the installation of Bishop Joe as Bishop of Burnley. Civic, faith and community leaders from across Lancashire were in attendance and Bishop Joe delivered his first public sermon in the diocese, talking about the ministry of reconciliation. We pray for Bishop Joe and his family and look forward to seeing him get started in his new role.

Volunteers are still needed for the temporary cleaning rota following the retirement of the church cleaner. If you are able to help around once a month, please speak to one of us. Any help would be much appreciated.

Take care,

Sandra and Jason

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Start saving early for Christmas with our savings cards that can be topped up and used anytime throughout the year, or give that special someone a [Hey's gift card](#).



We look forward to welcoming you, come and see us soon!

Saturday Morning Concerts at St Peter's

We are delighted to welcome the return of Matt Lam (piano) on the 5th October. He will be joined by 'cellist, Jobine Siekman for an exciting programme which includes Brahms's second 'cello sonata.

In a change to the advertised programme, the David Smith Memorial Concert on the 19th October, sees a return visit from John Mark Rose, who studied at Chetham's School of Music, Manchester, and the University of York. He will be performing works by Mozart, Sir Lennox Berkeley and JS Bach.

As usual, concerts begin at 11 am preceded by refreshments served from 10:30 am.

Admission is £7 with free admission for under 18s and free parking is available in the schoolyard on Rawcliffe Street. Disabled parking is available in the church grounds.

Philip.

	<p>St Stephen's Church, Burnley Wood</p> <h1>Film Friday</h1> <p>Friday 1st November at 7.00 pm in the Community Room</p>  <p>15</p>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

As Jackie was away on holiday for our meeting on 10th September, I thought I should just say thank you to Barry Pearson, on behalf of all those who attended the meeting on 10th September. Barry never fails to entertain and I think we can safely say we were all entertained by his many anecdotes of his life as a pharmacist. So thank you, Barry - you're now on the 'speaker circuit'! (Editor)

OCTOBER EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Tuesday 8th: 2.00 pm Community Room Annette Roadley tells us about St Peter's 900 year book, assembled by herself.
Tuesday 15th: St John's Worsthorne, Midday, Wave of Prayer and lunch

OCTOBER 2024 CELEBRATIONS

Happy birthday wishes are being sent to Pam McGrath for the 7th and to Christine Naughton for the 29th.

**A & B MILLIGAN
COAL MERCHANTS**



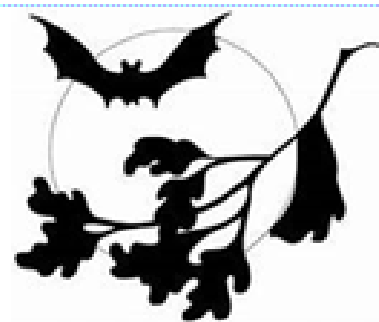
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i Love Watching the Bats!



No doubt like many of you, I enjoy a spot of gardening. At times it can be hard work and to enjoy it you have to reap the benefits – usually in terms of watching seeds germinate, watching and harvesting the vegetables that grow, watching flowers produce their colours and scents, or watching wildlife that visits. But whatever the benefits are, gardeners have to step back, to leave the work and to sit back and enjoy the outcome. To find a favourite place in the garden where you can sit, perhaps on a bench or in a deck chair to read a book, read a poem, read the latest copy of “The Link”, or just listen to the garden, is to reap what it offers.

Often during the day in the area where I live, as I work the soil, I hear the sound of nearby trains, aircraft overhead, neighbours’ voices over the fence, or the builders’ tools. But at other times, often early evenings, the sounds change, the song thrushes start to sing, the pigeons start to coo and at mating times animals are on the lookout for partners and start to display. Later you will see them foraging for nesting materials as they build their home and then for food to feed their offspring.

One of my best times to switch off is early evenings at dusk, when the light starts to fade and different activities begin. The nocturnal animals start to appear. In particular, just prior to the darkness I love sitting on my homemade garden bench looking up to the sky to see the flight and silhouette of moths, birds or bats that suddenly appear. I love watching the bats. They’re fast and don’t fly in straight lines. They’re too quick to catch on a camera.

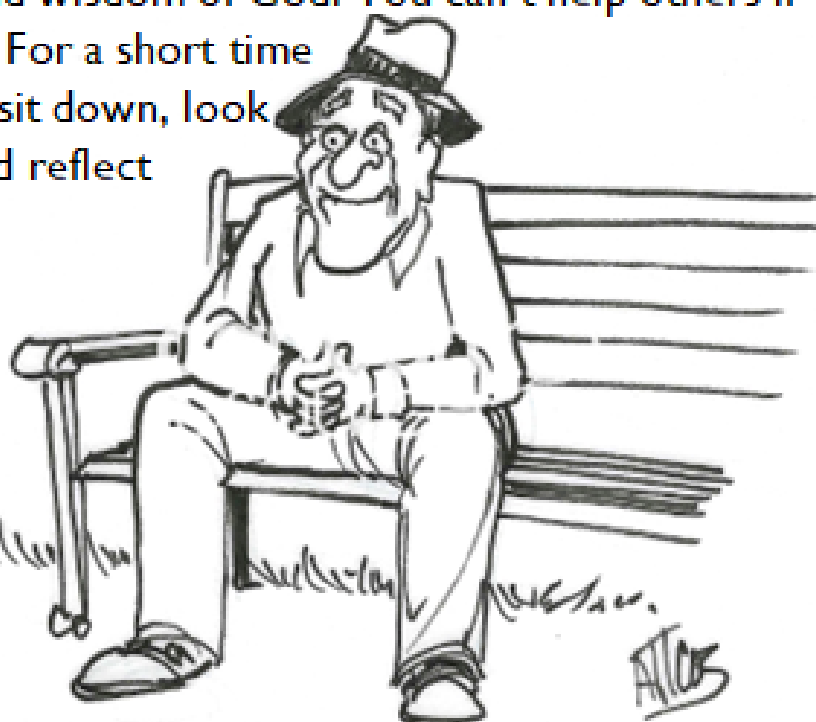
I will often sit there until the light has gone. It can be a quiet time to sit and ponder, and I often reflect about my Christian life and my thoughts on Jesus. In our eagerness to follow Jesus, we can get totally involved in the work going on with people’s needs and the life of the Church. Some of us will even consider more training and networking to help with our Christian work. But if we are constantly busy, constantly running from one good thing to another, we can lose out. Our own lives can then

become hard and stressful and we lose the joy and peace that God offers us and intends us to have.

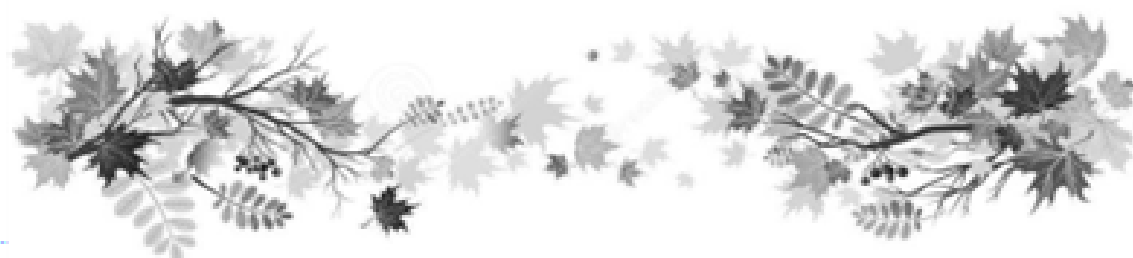
Sometimes we need to stop and look after ourselves. We need regular periods of rest and relaxation. A little time to spend with God, a time to pray, a time to listen, a time to unwind and a time to read our Bible. And when we down our tools and just sit in the garden and reflect, smelling the perfume of the flowers, listening to the sounds around us and watching the wildlife passing by, then we will be calmer, more centred on God and happier with our lives. As we sit on our bench, look up to the sky and say a prayer. That time with God will help us to think of the people we are serving. We will have more patience and will be filled with the goodness and wisdom of God. You can't help others if you don't look after yourself. For a short time put the fork and spade away, sit down, look at the freedom of the bats and reflect on all that God has given us.

I love watching the bats!

Ray Garnett



Ray was a Church member of St Stephen's until 1967. He is now a Worship Leader at Hanwell Methodist Church in London and, among other things, looks after their website and the weekly Church newsletter. He still subscribes to receiving our "The Link" magazine.





We have had a very exciting start to the new academic year welcoming Meena into school to lead our 'Choir Church'. Choir Church is a model for new worshipping communities, built around children's choirs in schools, led in partnership with local churches. It offers worship, musical excellence, and spiritual formation designed to build and grow congregations, working for social justice. While it is principally school-based, its worship is open to the wider community of parents, teachers, neighbours and friends.

Choir Church has four elements:

- ♦ **Local school** Choir Church builds a new congregation around a children's choir based in a school, which may or may not be a church school.
- ♦ **Eucharist** A children's choir sings in a Eucharist which is open to all – parents, teachers, and neighbours, including a 'planting team' of existing worshippers.
- ♦ **Choral excellence** Children learn a wide range of liturgical music, with the English Choral Tradition at its heart, equipping them musically for worship and life.
- ♦ **Social justice** The congregation is built and developed using the practices of community organising, so it can work with its neighbours

to act on Jesus' command to challenge injustice.

The children in Key Stage Two will have a weekly Choir Church session in school, followed by a whole school Choir Church worship, then Meena will run a Choir Church club after school so that we can build our St Peter's choir. The children will learn some great hymns which teach the Gospel, how to sing and read music and explore the Church of England's Faith at Home themes - from courage to compassion. The choir will be able to sing in our church services and events which will be amazing! They will also help us in our half termly workshops.



Mrs Crowther





Sunday School News from St Peter's

Our children and young people continue to inspire us . As we look forward to harvest we have been thinking about being thankful. One young person said they were thankful for kindness - making people feel welcome : loved - to make other people feel loved and cared about.

Another young person , who brings herself to church, talked of her faith. She said 'I had none, then didn't really understand, now I know and believe.' At College she has talked about her faith to others and in her profile.

We are returning to the Gospel this month with readings in which Jesus tells us how to live as a follower and how that path may not be the one we are expecting .

A beautiful month as the colours on the trees change , but a month when the days shorten. It's good to celebrate in half term that Jesus is the bright light shining in the world (see the back page for details)

Love from

Meena



We made a bird house in our Summer Holiday Workshops ... it's now up in the church grounds - take a look when you're passing!

Diocesan Youth Forum at Preston Minster

On Sunday, 15th September 2024, Alisah and I went to the Youth Forum in Preston. There were 20 kids, including us there, which Bishop Philip said is the ideal amount for a youth forum. This time, we were doing about safeguarding in church, and what could be done to make the church a safe place/environment. They also talked about how many youth don't feel like they have a safe place anywhere, not even their home.

We played a game where we had to put ourselves in alphabetical order without talking, then a game where we had to put ourselves in date and month of birthday order without talking, and shoe size order without talking.

There were youth from many different churches, all coming together to give the youth in churches a voice and to help encourage more youth to go to church. Everyone there enjoyed their time, and making new friends.

Being at the Youth Forum is a way to make friends, give the youth a voice, and make churches better places for the youth to go.

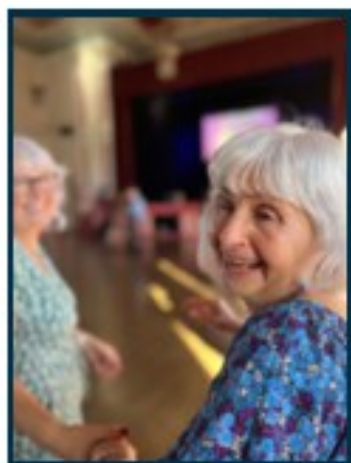
Imogen



A Day Trip to SALTAIRE



**... and
a good
time was
had by
all!**



1 let's do 1
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... and it's
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Every 2nd & 4th
Wednesday
9th & 23rd
October



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Hi everyone,

The month of September saw a new beginning for lots of children. Whether it was a new school year, moving to senior school or like Ruby and

Mia from our Sunday Club, their first day of school. I know that Ruby has been looking forward to her first day at school for a long time. The picture we were sent of her holding hands with Mia happily skipping down the path on their first day was delightful.



We all will have had many firsts in our lives. Sometimes it is something we are really looking forward to, sometimes something we may be dreading.

For many of us, we may not remember the first time we went to church. We were probably taken by our parents and grew up going to church. Some of you may have come to church later in life or moved area and had to find a new church to attend.

Encountering a new group of people who all know each other and all know what is going on can feel intimidating. Let's not think that it's the job of whoever is on duty handing out the hymn books to welcome a newcomer, we can all play a part.

Church is a community where we can socialise and support each other. You can make friends, feel a sense of belonging, and build a support network that you can rely on.

What we learn at church gives us guidance on how to follow God, improve our spirituality, and live better lives. You can be uplifted by fellow believers and by the opportunity to serve and worship.



We should want to share that with others and welcome all who come through our doors for the first time.

We may no longer skip down the path but we can come to church because we know we will

/continued...

be welcomed. As Father Andrew says:

“ALL ARE INVITED, AND ALL ARE WELCOME!”

Linda.

(St Stephen's Vision Champion)

*‘Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you,
for the glory of God’ (Romans 15:7)*



Christian Resources for All



If you've been into St. Peter's recently you might have noticed something that wasn't there before! Because if you look on the North side, near the piano and the Towneley Chapel, you should see a table with some books on it.



For a long time I've been acquiring from various people a variety of Christian reading material suitable for people from those at the beginning of their faith journey to more mature followers. And for almost as long I've been looking for a suitable place to display them! We tried setting aside some space in the bookcase at the back of Church, but they just got mixed up with the Book Exchange items, which are mostly fiction! So I'm delighted that we've at last found a home for them.



Now, as in so many other Churches, visitors can sit down, read and learn, and maybe get a better understanding of our faith. If you want to take a book away to read in your own home that's OK but please bring them back when you've done. Bibles are also available to read in Church - just ask somebody on duty if you wish to read one. And if you want to discuss anything you've read about, there are usually people around who can point you to those who can help.

If you have suitable books and wish to add them to our collection then please bring them. If I'm around I'll happily deal with them.

Every little helps when it comes to spreading the word and growing the kingdom, and whilst reading a book is far from the complete answer to growing in faith, it is part of the jigsaw which makes up the whole picture. So go ahead and have a browse!



Alan (St Peter's)

OCTOBER IN THE MEMORIAL BOOK OF ST STEPHEN'S



1st	Frances Thompson, Annie Broughton, Harry Harrison
2nd	Thomas Fisher, Nellie Hunter, Frank A Bailey, Dorothy Tatchell
3rd	Fanny Ann Smith, May Gillespie
4th	William Higson, Frederick Entwistle, Alan Dawson, Geoffrey Pratt
6th	George Astwood
7th	Michael Tighe
8th	Isabella Heys, Annie Grove, Richard Holden, Hubert Law, Rhoda Mason, Robert Waldron Sagar
9th	Elizabeth Binns, Cecil Howarth
10th	Harry Parker, Bertha Thomson
11th	Ernest A Balderstone, Mary Ellen Smith, Alfred Evans, Robert (Bob) Pearson
12th	John James Taylor, Lily Hughes, Eleazer Smith
13th	Thomas Thompson, Katherine Thompson
14th	Tom Smith, Alfred Heywood, Edwin Gregory Taylor
15th	Alfred Sawley
16th	Hannah Rogerson, Audrey Margaret Wood
17th	Edward Ernest Lawrence
18th	Alice Tattersall, Norma Sutcliffe
19th	Lilian Ann Tutin, Fanny Donald
21st	Joh T Jackson, Sarah Ada Dewhirst, Elsie Whitehead
22nd	Harold Heys, Arthur Dawe, Frederic Spencer Home, Jayne M Parkinson, Harry Beaumont, John A Kershaw
23rd	Hilda Whitehead
24th	Mary Elizabeth Halsall, Herbert Halstead, Annie Bartram, Lydia Edmondson, Nicholas Anthony Kay
25th	Louie Watson, Esther Ann Saunt, Mary Tattersall, Grace Singleton, Elizabeth Alice Baxter, Annie Whalley
26th	Harold Howard, Percy Burrows, Nellie Johnson
28th	John Jump, Ernest Frederick Griffin, Eva Ann Walsh
29th	John Scholes, Alec Cornet Race
30th	Lucy Taylor, John Thomas Hargreaves
31st	Ralph Thomas, Ernest Ashworth, Jack Hopwood

R.I.P.

OCTOBER IN THE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE AT ST PETER'S

1st	Doris May Harrowsmith
3rd	Joseph Bestwick , John Albert Sagar
5th	Ursula May Houlding
6th	Alice Maud Barlow
7th	Mary Jane Petch
8th	Stephen Frank Barritt
10th	Diana Mary Holden
11th	Frederick Stott
14th	William Arthur Riley
19th	Alice Pindar
21st	George Edward Holdernesss, MA, Priest and Bishop of Burnley
24th	Raymond Eric Sykes
31st	Annie Eccles

R.I.P.



You're invited to

Burnley Prayer Breakfast@St Stephen's

St Stephen's Church, Oxford Road, Burnley BB11 3JA

Saturday 12th October at 9.00 am

this month ...

Autumn
a time for Reflection!

Telephone:
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07738 412998

Lips and Eyes ... by Christine Harbour

We are frequently reminded in today's world about our looks. Those botox lips are all the rage, lip pencils, lip thickeners and an array of multi-toned lipsticks. Now I have no problem at all about ladies or men trying to look their best, but as a Christian I believe we have to examine our motives. Are we trying to impress with our looks? Are we trying to look good to attract someone or to show our wealth, or are we presenting ourselves reverently to our Lord. I used to find in one church where I worshipped, that the lady preachers seemed to think they had to be decked in black with a hat to match. How I loved it when we got some glamorous lady preachers. They looked so bright, smart and welcoming and they glowed with an inner radiance.

Now I am sure Jesus doesn't care a jot about how we dress! It is after all our personal choice! One thing God does care about is how we use our lips. Do we use them to pull others down, or do we encourage: do we use our mouth to speak out in justice and truth? Most importantly do we use them to edify the body of Christ? Our attire doesn't matter, but the lips that voice our praise, thoughts and actions do.



What about eyes? Do we really need false eye lashes, tattooed eyebrows or even mascara? (Now I do plead guilty to mascara and eye shadow). To be honest, I believe the eyes are important, we can learn a lot from them. A genuine smile is somehow revealed in the eye too. Who doesn't love a generous smile and twinkling eyes? I think there is



some truth in the eyes being the mirror of the soul. A change in the pupil of the eye can decipher a change of mood. There are sly eyes, mean eyes, cold stares and angry eyes.

I have been inspired this week by some words of the Archbishop of York which were written when he was the Bishop of Chelmsford. It is applicable to modern days and how we see things as Christians. We are told in the bible to be in the world, but not of the world, and we cannot actually have one foot in the world and one foot in following Christ.

When we 'walk with God' we can't do it on one foot! Archbishop Stephen tells us that as Christians we should look through the lens (our eyes) with different lenses to the world. This is difficult when we actually live here on earth, where we are bombarded with worldly words where often, wealth, power and promotion or self interests are seen as paramount! If we think about it, a lot of the time, tv adverts and social media are just clever ploys diverting us to back their particular cause or a bid to extract money from us. So how can we do this and see the world through God's eyes?

Well as a child I used to sing 'read your Bible everyday if you want to grow'. I thought how boring. I loved the bible stories, but actually the idea of trawling through Genesis to Exodus did not exactly excite me. The idea of bible study sounded so boring! However when I actually joined a bible study class a few years ago and found it to be a lively discussion of like minded people who all had different ideas and interpretations of the biblical text, I found it very stimulating, and dare I say, exciting. If you have never tried a bible discussion do give it a try. Andrew Ollerton was very inspirational in his simple, but profound series of the whole of the bible. This course was done both at St. Stephen's and St. Peter's. Linda Pounder has a friendly bible study group at her home every 1st and 3rd Wednesday evening. There is a Thursday Chat at 10am every week at St Peter's. Both venues have hot drinks and biscuits of course, and learning and discussions are lively and enriching.

When we learn through God's word how to cast our eyes on Jesus we will start to see the world through God's lens. Then we will indeed be lost in wonder love and praise. John 1: *'In the beginning was the word and the word was God'*. When you begin to understand this, then you will begin to find the Truth and the revelation of God himself.



Give it a go! Be blessed and amazed.



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what's On in October

in the Benefice ...Your guide to what's happening

1st	Tues	10.30 am	Drop-in with Fr Andrew	St Stephen's
2nd	Wed	2.00 pm 7.15 pm	Friends, Food & Fun House Group at 10 Hall Park Ave	St Stephen's Benefice
3rd	Thurs	9.00 am 9.30 am	Living Well Clinic Thursday Chat	St Peter's St Peter's
5th	Sat	10.30 am	Saturday Morning Concert	St Peter's
6th	Sunday	9.30 am 11.00 am	Harvest Festival Harvest Festival	St Stephen's St Peter's
7th	Monday	1.00 pm	Knit & Natter	St Stephen's
8th	Tues	10.30 am 2.00 pm	Drop-in with Fr Andrew Mothers' Union	St Stephen's St Stephen's
9th	Wed	12.30 pm	Let's Do Lunch	St Stephen's
10th	Thurs	9.30 am	Thursday Chat	St Peter's
14th	Mon	1.00 pm 7.00 pm	Knit & Natter PCC Meeting	St Stephen's St Peter's
16th	Wed	2.00 pm 7.15 pm	Friends, Food & Fun House Group at 10 Hall Park Ave	St Stephen's Benefice
17th	Thurs	9.30 am	Thursday Chat	St Peter's
19th	Sat	10.30 am	Saturday Morning Concert	St Peter's
21st	Mon	1.00 pm 7.00 pm	Knit & Natter PCC Meeting	St Stephen's St Stephen's
22nd	Tues	10.30 am 7.00 pm	Drop-in with Fr Andrew Mothers' Union	St Stephen's St Stephen's
23rd	Wed	12.30 pm	Let's Do Lunch	St Stephen's
24th	Thurs	9.30 am 4.00 pm	Thursday Chat Children's Workshop	St Peter's St Peter's
28th	Mon	1.00 pm	Knit & Natter	St Stephen's
29th	Tues	10.30 am	Drop-in with Fr Andrew	St Stephen's
31st	Thurs	9.30 am	Thursday Chat	St Peter's



St Stephen's School News

NEW STARTERS

The reception children have settled into school life and are enjoying time with their buddies in Y6 at lunchtimes. Miss Moon is enjoying getting to know them all really well. They have even attended our whole school worship already.

SIP

Some of our school improvement priorities this year will focus on raising standards in writing, parental engagement and enriching our curriculum.

SPIRITUALITY DAY

We are looking forward to taking the Young Disciples to Whalley Abbey next Wednesday with the new Bishop of Burnley to celebrate Harvest around the world. All the schools in the cluster have learnt a song and each worship group will have a station so that the other children can enjoy an activity. These activities will be inside and outside. After lunch the children will conclude the day with a Harvest dance. I look forward to sharing these photos with you next month.

FOOD BANK

We have purchased a large yellow wheelie bin that the children will decorate. This will be used to collect food donations for our food bank here in school.

Mr Smart and I went to the first rehearsal for 'Let's Go Sing' and we are very excited about taking our choir of 30 children to Blackpool Winter Gardens to perform next year. Mrs Layfield is also coming along too.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

We are hoping to open our after school club this year after October half term and we have some exciting activities planned already.

We would like to congratulate Mrs Laura Ashworth on the birth of Lily and Mrs Powell on the birth of Mara.

J Roberts

'Thank you' from Noah

Noah would like to say a huge **'Thank You'** to everyone who supported him by sponsoring his new haircut.

For those of you who don't know, Noah agreed to have his hair cut to raise money for **The Little Princess Trust**, a charity which provides free wigs for children who have had cancer treatment and other treatments which make you lose your hair.

To date, Noah has raised over £500 - Well done, Noah!
... and 'well done' to all who sponsored him



BEFORE



AFTER

*It's not too late to support this worthy cause
If you'd like to add to Noah's sponsorship, have a word with
Elaine Taberner at St Stephen's (Noah's Grandma)*

St Peter's Church, Burnley

invite you to

Light of the World Holiday Workshop

Bible Stories

Prayers

Singing

Candle-making

Lanterns

Food & Fun

Thursday 24th October: 4 - 6 pm