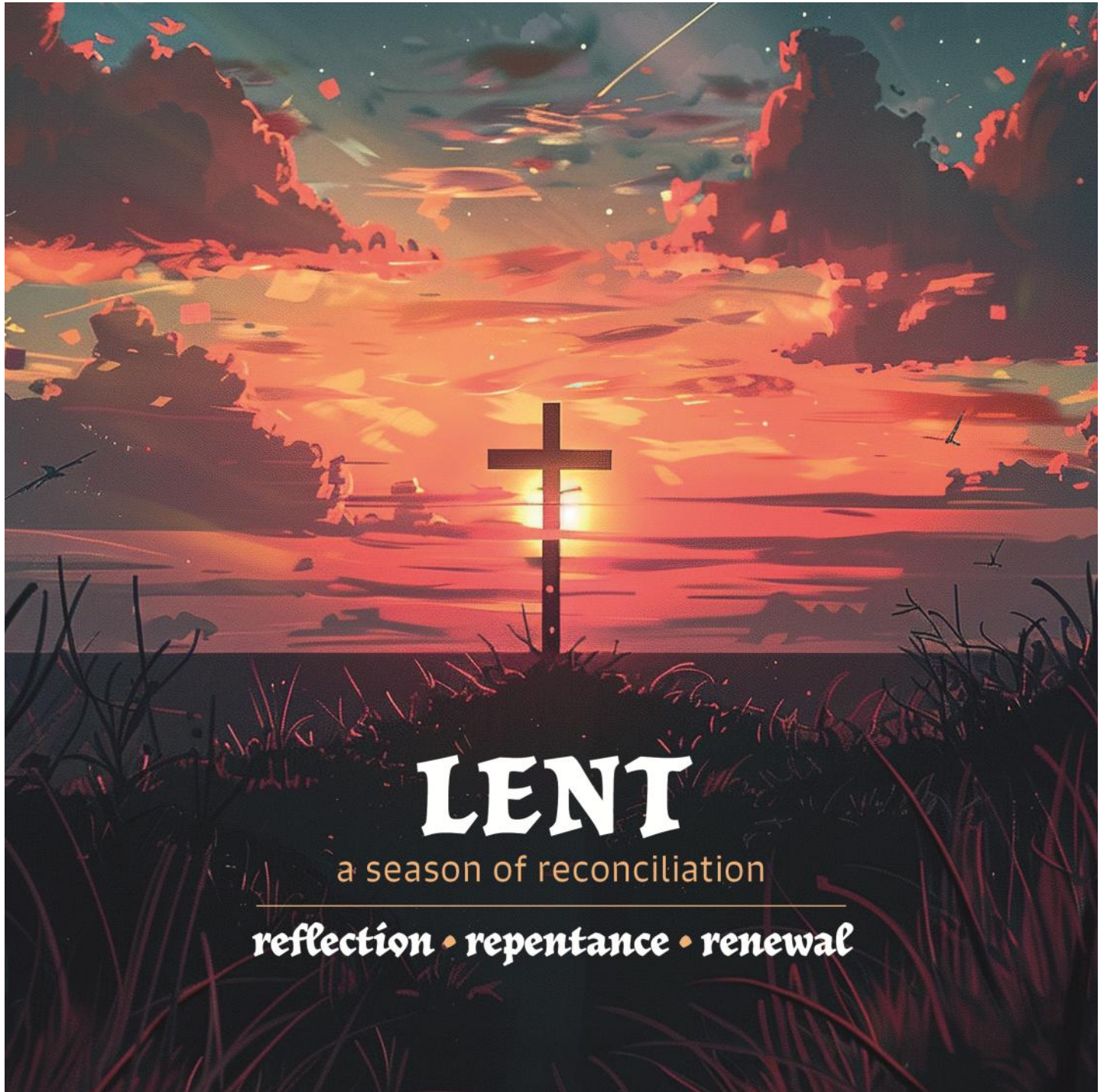


# The Log



## LENT

a season of reconciliation

reflection • repentance • renewal



The Parish Magazine

March 2025

£1.00

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## VICAR'S NOTES

As we move into March the Lent season in the Church is very soon upon us. These translated Latin words written before the 12<sup>th</sup> Century sum things up nicely:

**Now is the healing time decreed  
for sins of heart and word and deed,  
when we in humble fear record  
the wrong that we have done the Lord.**

Lent is therefore a time of preparation when in accord with this year's vision emphasis we reconcile ourselves with God, so that by Easter's glorious day we are ready to take the good news of Jesus' reconciling death and resurrection out to the rest of the world.

And just like there is more going on in a bulb when it lies under the surface of the soil before emerging to the sunshine of spring, so Lent is a time when we can do some necessary unseen work in our relationship with God in preparation for our time to sprout forth. Hopefully some of the things mentioned in these notes will help us do this.

### The Difference Course

As part of our '*Following Jesus In Reconciliation*' Vision Emphasis this year, The Difference Course launches at St Paul's Church on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 1.30pm and Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.

Whether you choose to attend the daytime or evening sessions the course is open to anyone and will run for five consecutive weeks. It is free and cake will be provided! Please do let me or Revd Simon know if you're interested in taking part and more information about the course can be found here: <https://difference.rln.global/the-course/>

### Resourcing The Journey Ahead

At both Services on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, I was able to share a little bit about the present financial position of St Lawrence with St Paul. Our aim during 2025 is to achieve a balanced budget through additional regular giving so that we can continue our current level of ministry and then hopefully enable even more in the future. For more information about how you can support St Lawrence with St Paul please see [www.stlawrencewithstpaul.org.uk/30/Give](http://www.stlawrencewithstpaul.org.uk/30/Give) or pick up a 'Resourcing The Journey Ahead' booklet from either of our churches.

### Lent and Easter 2025

Below you can see the key dates for our special Lent and Easter programme.

Date and Time	Service	Location
5 <sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Service	St Paul's Church
30 <sup>th</sup> March, 10am	Mothering Sunday Holy Communion Service	St Paul's Church
6 <sup>th</sup> April, 10am	Holy Communion with Passion readings from Luke's Gospel	St Paul's Church
13 <sup>th</sup> April, 10am	All Together Palm Sunday Service	St Paul's Church
13 <sup>th</sup> April, 6.30pm	Churches Together Palm Sunday Service	St Wilfrid's Church
14 <sup>th</sup> April, 7.30pm	Monday Compline	St Paul's Church
15 <sup>th</sup> April, 7.30pm	Tuesday Compline	St Paul's Church
16 <sup>th</sup> April, 7.30pm	Tenebrae Service (Shadows)	St Paul's Church
17 <sup>th</sup> April, 7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Service followed by 'The Watch'. Compline then follows afterwards	St Paul's Church
18 <sup>th</sup> April, 10am	All Together Good Friday Service	St Paul's Church
18 <sup>th</sup> April, 1.45pm	Good Friday Walk followed by meal at St Paul's Church	Leaving from St Paul's Church
20 <sup>th</sup> April, 8am	Easter Morning Holy Communion	St Lawrence Church
20 <sup>th</sup> April, 10am	All Together Easter Day Holy Communion Service	St Paul's Church
20 <sup>th</sup> April, 6.30pm	Easter Songs of Praise	St Lawrence Church

### Fruitful App and Bishop Philip's Prayer Lent Course

From March you will be able to pick up hard copies of this year's Diocesan Lent Devotional Booklet called 'Hear Our Prayer'.

The good news is that it's also available on the 'Fruitful' mobile phone app which you can download by opening your mobile phone camera and hovering over the QR code (right) and clicking the link. Also, on the 'Fruitful' app is Bishop Philip's related Prayer Lent Course which can be done as individuals or in groups. I recommend it!



### Paul Warren Retiring as Organist and Choir Director

Due to increasing family commitments Easter Sunday will be Paul's last official day as our Organist and Choir Director. Despite this sad news I am sure we'll still see him playing the organ from time to time. I'm deeply grateful for all his help and I'll miss leading our wonderful 'Hymns We Love' series with him. You can see a lovely message from Paul on page 11

### Church Electoral Roll Revision and Notice of Annual Parochial Church Meeting – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May

Every six years Church of England churches are obliged to renew their Electoral Roll and 2025 is one such year. This means that everyone who wishes to remain on the electoral roll for St Lawrence with St Paul will need to reapply. Certain pre-conditions apply to enrol and these can be found on the forms which will be available from both churches from Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025.

For those wishing to vote in our APCM which will take place at 7pm on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025 then the filled in Electoral Roll forms must be returned to the Parish Office in St Paul's Church by Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025. Please email Michael Dawson: [secretarystlandplongridge@gmail.com](mailto:secretarystlandplongridge@gmail.com) if you have any questions or require more details.

### Archdeacon of Blackburn Mark Ireland Retiring

Archdeacon Mark has been a wonderful servant of Blackburn Diocese and will be retiring from his Archidiaconal ministry after his farewell service at 4pm on Sunday April 6th in Blackburn Cathedral at which Mark will preach. +Philip writes:

*'Mark's ministry as Archdeacon of Blackburn has been outstanding. He has played a key role in our strategy to renew parish life and maintain clergy numbers and has combined an attention to detail with a clear focus on the mission of the Church and the proclamation of the Gospel. He has also overseen our work in Making Disciples, a place of such rich creativity in recent years with the Fruitful app, our Lent and Advent devotions and Joyful, Generous Stewards. He has also lent huge support to the ministry of Whalley Abbey...Please keep Mark and his wife Gill in your prayers.'*

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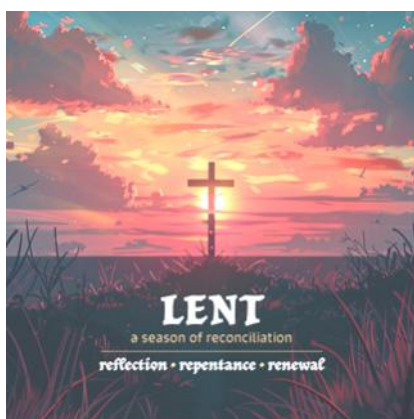
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## LENT PRAYERS

Loving God,  
 We remember in this season of Lent  
 The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness  
 The pressures he faced,  
 The choices he had to make  
 The evil he had to resist  
 The path he chose  
 Help us to learn from Christ's example  
 To search our hearts as he did,  
 To consider our calling,  
 To reflect on our faith  
 To resist temptation  
 And to commit ourselves more wholly to you.

Gracious God  
 Through this season of Lent  
 Speak to us through the example of Jesus –  
 The way he made time for quietness  
 So that he could speak with you,  
 The need he recognised for space and silence  
 In which to seek your guidance  
 And to reflect on your will.  
 Teach us to be still and to know that you are God.

Loving God  
 We thank you for this season of Lent  
 This time which invites us to pause and take stock  
 To reflect on the things in life which really matter  
 Help us to use this time to hear your voice  
 Discern your will  
 And experience your love.



*Forty days and forty nights  
 Thou wast fasting in the wild;  
 Forty days and forty nights  
 Tempted, and yet undefiled:*

*Sunbeams scorching all the day;  
 Chilly dew-drops nightly shed;  
 Prowling beasts about thy way;  
 Stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.*

*Shall not we thy sorrows share,  
 And from earthly joys abstain,  
 Fasting with unceasing prayer,  
 Glad with thee to suffer pain?*

*And if Satan, vexing sore,  
 Flesh or spirit should assail,  
 Thou, his vanquisher before,  
 Grant we may not faint nor fail.*

*So shall we have peace divine;  
 Holier gladness ours shall be;  
 Round us too shall angels shine,  
 Such as ministered to thee.*

*Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,  
 Ever constant by thy side;  
 That with thee we may appear  
 At the eternal Eastertide.*

*G. H. SMYTTAN (c. 1822 - 70)  
 and F. POTT (1832 - 1909)*



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## LED LIGHTING INSTALLED IN ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH

Although we have gradually changed the lighting in St. Paul's Church to LED bulbs and fittings and will continue to do so as opportunities arise, this has not been the case at the Parish Church. We were therefore delighted towards the end of last year to be given the opportunity to apply for a grant, available through the Diocese, to help churches become more energy efficient. Before applying the parish had to have completed an Energy Footprint Tool and to have registered with Eco Church – An A Rocha UK Project, which encourages parishes to work towards a bronze, silver or gold award – not easy with older buildings like ours but one we continue to pursue, under the leadership of Barbara Burton.

We are pleased to report that on this occasion our grant application was successful and in January, 2025 all the bulbs and a good many of the fittings were changed at St. Lawrence both in the Church and in the Parish Room – this requiring internal scaffolding to enable the fittings high up in the chancel to be reached. The grant covered 60% of the cost with parish funds covering the balance but the transformation by making the church lighter and brighter has been amazing and although it is early days we will be able to monitor any reduction in energy costs.



The PCC will continue to actively pursue further grant opportunities but parishioners will appreciate that this is not easy and even if successful any grant will only usually cover a portion of the cost of a project or maintenance issue, often taking several months before a response to an application is received but we can only be encouraged by the improvement at St. Lawrence.

### From our Treasurer – Graham Kelsall

On behalf of Rev Mike, the PCC and the whole church family I wish to express our sincere thanks to everyone who contributes to our coffers - your continued support for Mission in and around our Parish is very gratefully acknowledged.

We no longer pass a collection plate round in the Service but there are of course a number of ways to contribute, by Standing Order, via Parish Giving, using the weekly 'brown' envelopes, using the gift aid 'yellow' envelopes, using the card machine, donating on-line, or by simply donating to the weekly collection plate at the back of church – whichever way you choose, thank you!

If you are a tax payer, and can therefore 'Gift Aid' your donation, please do so, as this means that we can claim an additional 25% of your gift back in Gift Aid.

Once again, on behalf of us all, our grateful thanks.

Graham (Treasurer)



## Clergy & Church Officers

<b>Vicar</b>	<b>Rev. Mike Barton</b>	The Vicarage, Church Street	01772 389837	revmik Barton@gmail.com
<b>Curate</b>	<b>Rev. Simon King</b>	9 Willows Park Lane	07789 645138	revsimonking@gmail.com
<b>Retired Clergy:</b>	<b>Rev. John Ball</b>		07754 771220	
	<b>Rev. Adrian Mairs</b>	8 Hacking Drive	01772 356015	adrian.s.mairs@gmail.com
			07899 905768	
<b>Churchwardens</b>	<b>Dot Little</b>	26 Hoghton Road	01772 783998	dotlittle003@gmail.com
	<b>Dorothy Laver</b>	19 The Pastures, Grimsargh	07719 389529	dorothy.laver@gmail.com
<b>Deputy Wardens</b>	<b>Graham Kelsall</b>			graham@oaktreehouse.net
	<b>Mae Heys</b>	29 Fell Brow	07740 068099	
<b>PCC Secretary</b>	<b>Barbara Burton</b>	7 Chaigley Road		brbrbrtn6@gmail.com
<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	<b>Graham Kelsall</b>			graham@oaktreehouse.net
<b>Safeguarding Officer</b>	<b>Elizabeth Hemingway</b>			psostlandplongridge@gmail.com
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	<b>Michael Dawson</b>	See hours below	01772 783281	secretarystandplongridge@gmail.com
<b>Health &amp; Safety Officer</b>	<b>Chris Martin</b>			
<b>Electoral Role Officer</b>	<b>Michael Dawson</b>			

## Parochial Church Council

<b>Chairman</b>	<i>Rev. Mike Barton</i>
<b>Hon. Secretary</b>	<i>Barbara Burton</i>
<b>Hon. Treasurer &amp; Stewardship Recorder</b>	<i>Graham Kelsall</i>
<b>Members:</b>	Clergy and Churchwardens Amii Bateson, Karen Boardman, Rob Bretherton,, Helen Clements, Michael Dawson, Andrew Filder, David Hartley, Mae Heys, Philip Jones, Vernon Kinrade, Rosemary Lyons, Chris Martin, Barbara McCormick, Annamarie Rogers-Waterman, Val Wardley, Stephanie Willan.

## Organisations

<b>Parish Administrator</b>	<i>Michael Dawson</i>
Parish Office Monday and Wednesday	9:30—12:30
Friday	9.30—15.30 01772 783281
<b>Altar Flowers</b>	
Hon. Sec. St. Lawrence	Dot Little 01772 783998 JudithKaye 01772 785114
Hon. Sec. St. Paul	<i>Donna Rowe-Green</i> 07880 348597
<b>Choir</b>	
Organist and Choir Director	Paul Warren <i>paulbionicears@gmail.com</i>
<b>Church Lads &amp; Church Girls Brigade</b>	
Wednesday Nights Berry Lane School Term Times	
Martins 6 pm, Young Members 6.30 pm JTC/Seniors 7.00 pm	
	<a href="mailto:Oliviastewart@clcgb.org.uk">Oliviastewart@clcgb.org.uk</a>
<b>Crafty Café</b>	
Last Monday each month, Centenary Room 1.30 - 3.30pm also:	
Contacts	Helen Bailey 07891 075023 Bev Keating Jean Saunders 01772640146
<b>Handbell Ringers</b>	
Leader	<i>Judith Kaye</i> Park View, Fleet Street, PR3 3ED <i>judithkaye@sky.com</i> 01772 785114

<b>Longridge C of E Primary School</b>	
<a href="http://www.longridge-ce.lancsngfl.ac.uk">www.longridge-ce.lancsngfl.ac.uk</a>	
<b>Headteacher</b>	<i>Mrs Catherine Parkin</i> head@longridge-cofe.lancs.sch.uk
<b>Clerk to the Governors</b>	Val Morris 01524 581136 c/o the School Office School Office 01772 782378 bursar@longridge-cofe.lancs.sch.uk
<b>Pre-School</b>	01772-780078
<b>PTFA Hon. Sec.</b>	<i>Katie Keighley</i>

<b>Children's Church</b>	<i>Carolyn Barton</i>	<i>carolynbarton@hotmail.co.uk</i>
<b>Mothers Union</b>	7.30pm on 1st Tuesday	
Enrolling Member	<i>Judith Kaye</i> Park View, Fleet Street, PR3 3ED <i>judithkaye@sky.com</i> 01772 785114	
<b>Prayerline</b>	If you would like our prayer team to pray for you e-mail	
<i>Muriel Anderson</i>	12 Plessington Court, Brewery Street, Longridge	<i>Murielanderson33@gmail.com</i> 07823 762089
<b>Tuesday Club</b>	7.30pm on 2nd Tuesday	
Chairman	<i>Fred Little</i> 26 Hoghton Road	01772 783998
Hon. Sec.	<i>Adrienne Atkinson</i> adbil1959@gmail.com	01772 783091
<b>Walkie Talkies</b>	<i>Hannah Green</i> 20 Darwen Close	01772 783558
<b>Bereavement Group</b>	meets on 1st Monday of the month including Bank Holidays	
	<i>Karen Burdett</i>	07712 440135
	<i>karenlburdett@hotmail.com</i>	

<b>Sidesmen and Sideswomen</b>
Karen Boardman, Bev Keating, Janet Heap, Peter Turver, Lib Turver, Graham Kelsall, Yvonne Ball, Val Wardley, Phil Walker, Marina Walker, Emma Pettit, Carl Pettit, Becky Filder, Andrew Fielder, Lawrence Ingham, Marilyn Kinrade, Barbara Burton, Ian Cookson, Ruth Buckley, Jennifer Sturzaker, Kai Ng, Helen Eccles, Keith Thompson, Judith Singleton, Liz Hemmingway.
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## INSPIRATIONAL WORDS – brought to us this month by Janet Mortimer Spring



As we enter the season of Lent, this can be a time of reflection, of quietness, allowing God to search us in the stillness. To prepare us to blossom and produce fruit for him and for his kingdom here on earth.

The picture above was taken at the beginning of March last year at Whalley Abbey. I was visiting the Abbey to take part in a Quiet Day and during a break I took a walk by the river. The daffodils were beautiful, heralding the beginning of Spring.

**"The beautiful spring came; and when nature resumes her loveliness, the human soul is apt to revive also."**

— Harriet Ann Jacobs

Spring is my favourite season, when the earth comes alive again after the cold hard frosts of winter when everything lay dormant, and nothing appeared to be happening.

How we approach Lent can be a very personal thing, between us and God. We may choose to give something up, to allow more time for personal bible study or to read a good Christian book. Or we may choose to engage in something new, to give our time and energy to serve others in a specific way.

But during the winter season, nature is working unseen, preparing for the new growth in spring, when plants begin producing new shoots, erupting from the soil. Without that unseen work in the soil, new growth would not happen.

As the quote above suggests Spring can be a time of revival, not just for nature but for the human soul too.

Human life has its seasons too – each of us go through times of darkness when we feel like nothing good or fruitful is happening in our walk with God and perhaps, we feel like He has forgotten us.

As daylight hours lengthen and we see the shoots appearing, snowdrops, crocus, daffodils, may we be revived too.

But God is at work unseen and unknown to us, preparing for the next season of producing fruit in our lives.

And may we, this Lent season find time and space to allow God to revive our souls too with a deeper knowledge of him.



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**HYMNS WE LOVE -****Through all the changing scenes of life – Paul Warren**

This fine hymn is a metrical version of psalm 34, and comes from the New Version of the Psalter produced in 1696 by Nahum Tate (1652 - 1715) and Nicholas Brady (1659 - 1726). Tate and Brady were also responsible for “As pants the hart for cooling streams” and the well-known Christmas carol “While shepherds watched their flocks by night”.



Both Tate and Brady were of Irish descent. Tate was the son of a Dublin clergyman called Faithful Teate. He came to England after graduating from Trinity College, Dublin, and changed his name to Tate. In 1692 he was made Poet Laureate, but in later life he fell victim to excessive drinking and ended his life in a debtor’s prison. He must have been a bit of a character as he once published a cautionary treatise on *Syphilis, or a Poetical History of the French Disease!*

Brady was also a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin. He was appointed as personal chaplain to William III and he ended his career as vicar of Stratford-upon-Avon.

Through all the changing scenes of life,  
In trouble and in joy,  
The praises of my God shall still  
My heart and tongue employ.

Oh, magnify the Lord with me,  
With me exalt His name;  
When in distress to Him I called,  
He to my rescue came.

The hosts of God encamp around  
The dwellings of the just;  
Deliverance He affords to all  
Who on His succour trust.

Oh, make but trial of His love,  
Experience will decide  
How blest they are, and only they,  
Who in His truth confide.

Fear Him, ye saints, and you will then  
Have nothing else to fear;  
Make you His service your delight,  
Your wants shall be His care.

The original version of this hymn ran to 18 verses, but no hymnbook has ever printed it in its entirety.

This hymn is usually sung to the tune Wiltshire, which was written by Sir George Smart (1776 - 1867) when he was only nineteen and organist at St Jame’s Chapel, London. Scots, are used to singing other metrical psalms to this tune, including “The Lord’s my Shepherd”. Smart went on to become organist at the Chapel Royal.

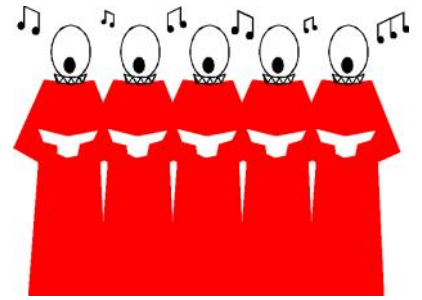
## CHOIR NOTES

The choir and I are preparing for Lent and Easter. It's not easy when the winter bugs keep people away from choir practice and I too fell victim to that last week.

One thing I will say about Holy Week and Easter, is that on the music front it makes Advent and Christmas look a real doddle! There are lots of services, each with their own anthems, and all in the same week. I think we'll all heave a mighty sigh of relief once we get past Easter!

As this is likely my last write-up, I'll close with the following hymn verse:

**Be thou my guardian and my guide,  
and hear me when I call;  
let not my slippery footsteps slide,  
and hold me lest I fall**



## STEPPING DOWN

As many of you already know, I shall be stepping down from my position of organist and choir director. This decision has come about because my mother-in-law is at the stage where Kate and I will have to go down to support her every now and then, as she is rather elderly. Kate spent a fortnight at the beginning of the year to help her, as she had fallen and fractured some of her vertebrae. Given that she could do something similar at any time, I feel that I can't really be on call to support her whilst also running the music within our parish.



My last service as organist and choir director will be the Easter Praise service at St Lawrence's on Easter Day.

It's been a privilege to have held this position and I have had good times with the choir. Whilst the Father Willis organ at St Paul's is easily the better instrument, my favourite services have been the Evensongs at St Lawrence's. Evensong to me has an intimacy that I don't get at the other services. Quite possibly this is because I simply adore accompanying the psalms and the canticles. Anyone can play a hymn, but there's a real skill in playing the chants to accompany the psalms and canticles.

Whilst it's going to feel very odd not to have the Sunday (and Friday evening) commitment, I am looking forward to having a weight lifted off my shoulders. It varies depending on the time of year, but I probably spend a couple of hours most days at home preparing for the next Sunday's music.

My favourite piece of music to play on the Fr Willis organ is the prelude from Bach's Prelude & Fugue in G Major. I think this may well be the most sparkling piece of music I've ever played. I've also got to say that Widor's Toccata from Symphony V works very well on that organ. As soon as I start that piece, I can really feel the oomph of that organ. The Wyvern organ at St Lawrence's is a very fine instrument in its own right and in some ways is more versatile than the Fr Willis instrument.

The music I have enjoyed most with the choir is probably the John Rutter "Christmas Lullaby" that we did back in December. Other pieces that come to mind are "All in the April Evening", Praise the Lord" and "Ye gates, lift up your heads on high".

I just hope that I fulfilled the role that was required. I don't have any immediate plans for moving away, so I dare say I'll be helping out from time to time.

## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN LONGRIDGE AND DISTRICT

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

(A WOMEN LED, GLOBAL, ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT)

*'I made you wonderful'*

**Friday 7th MARCH 2025  
11am St. Wilfrid's Church**

The World Day of Prayer is celebrated on the first Friday in March each year by over 120 countries. This year, the service has been prepared by women from the Cook Islands, and includes music and reflection as well as an opportunity to pray for women from all parts of the world and to hear about their hopes and concerns.

The theme for 2025 is 'I made you wonderful' and the service will invite us to recognise that God created each of us with great attention and loving care. During the service, we will hear the stories of three Christian women and hear them witness to God's strength in their lives. The preparation team say that they hope that through this service people will be spiritually uplifted as they come to trust the great love of God.

We will be joined by a group of children from St. Wilfrid's primary school who will be leading us in two of the hymns. The service will last for approximately one hour and will be led by women and men from all of our local churches. A light lunch will be served in the church hall after the service. **Everyone is welcome. Come and join us!**

### LENT LUNCHESES

Churches Together have arranged Lent Lunches for many years and this year the dates and venues are as follows:-

#### Wednesdays

March	12th	St. Paul's Centenary Room
	19th	St. Wilfrid's Parish Room
	26th	Christ Church Hall run by Christ Church & Grimsargh
April	2nd	St. Paul's Centenary Room
	9th	St. Wilfrid's Parish Room run by Alston Lane

Please do join us between 12 Noon – 1pm for soup, sandwiches and good company.

All proceeds will go to the work of CAFOD and Christian Aid.

**Please Note: Brew Time will still run on the 12<sup>th</sup> March and the 2<sup>nd</sup> April from 9.00am – 11am with Lent Lunches following from 12 Noon to 1.00pm.**

### ECUMENICAL SERVICES

There will be an Ecumenical Service at St. Wilfrid's Church on Palm Sunday evening 13<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm to which everyone is invited. Please note there will be no service at St. Lawrence's Church on that evening.

On Good Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> April, we are once again invited to meet at the War Memorial at 11.55am for the 12 noon Service. The large wooden cross will be erected with the symbolism of the nails being hammered in – a stark reminder of that first Good Friday. Do join us for this short, yet meaningful act of worship.



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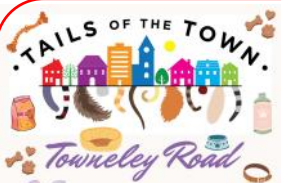
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## AN ENJOYABLE SATURDAY MORNING

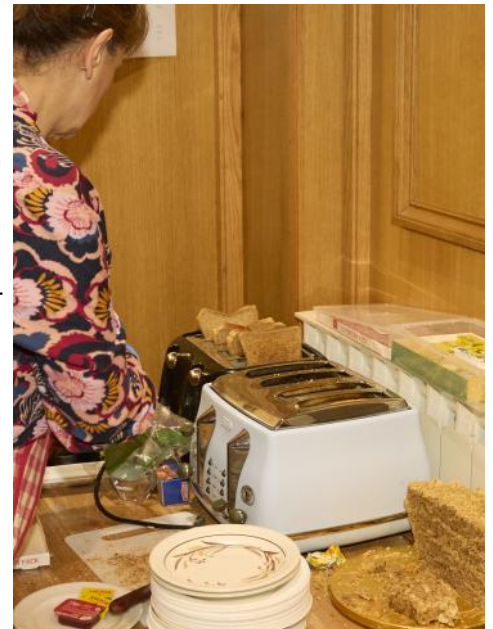
We in the Social Committee/FF & F group only seem to get the opportunity to offer a Saturday morning breakfast in the Centenary Room once a year and although for those cooking and serving it's a hectic couple of hours,



there's nothing more fulfilling for us than seeing people enjoying a meal and the company of others. Its unfortunate that Ann Golding isn't on any of the photographs because she was certainly responsible for the cooking of your bacon and eggs – well done Ann.



An added surprise was that it was also Lawrence Ingham's birthday so people were treated to a glass of Bucks Fizz or fresh orange juice on arrival and Karen Burdett had made a lovely Birthday Cake for Lawrence and Hilary to take home to share with family – the singing of Happy Birthday adding to what was a special morning. £400 was also raised for the Church's General Fund.



The FF & F Group now look forward to supporting both the Longridge Senior and Youth Brass Band concerts – both in March. See details elsewhere in the Log and please do support the concerts if you possibly can.



Looking further ahead we will be having the usual Good Friday Walk on the 18<sup>th</sup> April followed by the meal of Jacket potatoes with various fillings plus dessert and then in May and coinciding with National celebrations we are planning a special VE themed Spring Fair on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>.



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## ST. LAWRENCE LYCHGATE RESTORATION APPEAL

### Longridge Band In Concert.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming Longridge Band to St. Paul's Church on the afternoon of Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March. The concert will start at 2.30pm and admission is £10 payable on the door. Like the Valley Singers concert in December, the band is giving us a wonderful opportunity to raise money for the Lychgate Restoration Appeal as well as the chance to hear some superb music within the setting of St. Paul's Church.



Traditionally at the first concert of the year the bands patrons are invited to nominate a piece of music they would enjoy hearing, so we can look forward to a varied and entertaining programme, with many of the patrons hopefully able to join us. Mark Peacock has been the bands Musical Director since 2010 and is therefore no stranger to St. Paul's but it is some years since he was able to conduct the band from the front rather than upstairs at the back as on Remembrance Sunday. Our thanks to Mark and to all the band for making this special concert happen.

As outlined in last month's Log we will be running a lucky dip draw during the afternoon and prizes for this are still needed please and can be brought to either church in advance of the 9<sup>th</sup> March.

-----

Later in the month the focus will change to St. Lawrence church as we once again welcome the Longridge Youth Band for their end of term concert – details of which are given below. This is a wonderful opportunity to encourage our young local musicians – hopefully players in the senior band of the future.

### Youth Band Concert

After the success of last year's concert, the Longridge Youth Band are excited to present their end of term concert, at St. Lawrence's Church on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, starting at 2:00PM.

The music will include a varied programme from traditional brass music to pop and rock chart hits from different eras. Entry to the event is free, but any donations to the Youth Band will be greatly appreciated. Do come along and support our local young brass players.

**Please Note:** There will be additional parking at St, Cecilia's High School.

**Jonathan Ford (Longridge Youth Band)**





ST LAWRENCE LYCHGATE RESTORATION APPEAL



# LONGRIDGE BAND

*In Concert*

Join us for an afternoon concert by the Longridge Band in St. Paul's Church. Proceeds from this concert will support the St. Lawrence Lychgate Restoration Appeal.



**Sunday 9th March, 2025**



**2:30 PM**



**Tickets £10  
available on the door**

**St Paul's Church, Longridge**



[www.longridgeband.org.uk](http://www.longridgeband.org.uk)



## SCHOOL NEWS – from Headteacher Catherine Parkin

### Design Technology in Year 3

Mrs Dewhurst's Class have thoroughly enjoyed their Design Technology this term. Having introduced a new scheme of work quite recently, classes have been challenged with completing some new units of work. Class 3 made some pneumatic toys of their own design. We were blown away by their ideas. Here you can see some of the children completing their working models on non-uniform day.



### PE in Year 6

A huge 'Thank You' to Longridge High School who have very kindly allowed us to use their sports hall this term. Mrs Parkinson's Class have been learning to play badminton. Our school hall was fine while they were learning some basic skills but the space at LHS meant that four courts could be used at one time, giving everyone the chance to play for longer. The children really made the most of their Monday morning trips.



### Too Good to Waste

As a school we have been trying to recycle uniform items for some time now. Our intention is to cut down on the vast amounts of clothing sent to landfill in this country each year as well as to provide free items to families, keeping their uniform costs as low as possible. Some uniform items are now easily available and on rails in the school's main entrance although we do have some other items available which we don't have room to put out. Please just ask at the school office and we will probably be able to help. If anyone has any good condition items to donate, we are particularly looking for red jumpers and PE hoodies at the moment.



## School News continued .....

### Forgiveness

We have continued to learn about the complexity of this, one of our Christian values. Our Worship display in the hall shows some of the aspects of forgiveness that we have discussed in our whole school assembly time. Forgiveness can be tricky...but we're starting to understand its benefits!



### CHILDREN'S CHURCH

During February we have continued with our series on Nehemiah. On the first Sunday of February we looked at how Nehemiah taught God's people that they should care for and be fair to each other. We thought about how we could be kind to each other and played 'Kindness Bingo' to give us some ideas. Then we made a collage and cut out kindness craft spinners. On the third Sunday of February we continued with Nehemiah and learned how some people tried to stop him building the wall. We played games to demonstrate this and then we coloured in segments of wall to make one big wall. We learned that Nehemiah stayed true to building the wall and wouldn't be put off.

We finished the month exploring how after the walls were built and finished the people gathered to hear God's word.



Throughout the session we explored our thankfulness for God's forgiveness and promise to live as God's people, we enjoyed some biscuit decorating and even parachute games about choices.

We look forward to finishing our series next month and looking forward to Lent and Easter together.

We have a wonderful community out in the Centenary Room exploring God's word together if you feel like you could come and volunteer with us please get in contact with either Caz Barton or Becky Filder.



### DONATIONS TO LYCHGATE RESTORATION APPEAL

Via AW      £20

In memory of Ian Parkinson £100

Tuesday Club      £150

### ST. LAWRENCE FLOWER ROTA

**March**

2<sup>nd</sup> In memory of David Stringer

Ash Wednesday is on the 5<sup>th</sup> March so no fresh flowers will then be put in either Church until Easter.

## Mothers' Union Living Hope - A Family Lent Calendar

### March

5	Make a lent tree. Place a branch in a vase and hang an egg-shaped decoration on each day until Easter.
6	Give a compliment to each member of your family today
7	Try to drink just water today and pray for everyone who lives where there is only dirty water to drink
8	Sort out some unwanted clothes or toys ready to take to a charity shop
9	Look for signs of new growth in your garden or on a walk and thank God that he brings new life
10	Choose an MU project to pray for and help in some practical way
11	Give up social media for the day
12	Count the number of radiators and heaters in your home then pray for people who are homeless, and in the cold
13	Do a helpful task without being asked eg tidying up or clearing the table
14	See if you can go through the day without eating anything sweet
15	Get in touch with someone you haven't seen in a while
16	Bake some tasty treats and share them with family, friends or neighbours
17	Make a list of 5 things you are grateful for
18	Check the news today and pray about something that concerns you
19	Give up television or computer games for the day
20	Make a special effort NOT to argue or say unkind things to anyone today
21	Choose something to watch together as a family & enjoy each other's company
22	Scour your home for loose change to donate to MU
23	Cook extra for Sunday lunch so you can invite someone on their own to join you
24	Go without eating snacks or dessert today
25	Say thank you to someone who has helped you today – like a teacher or shop assistant
26	Find a time to go for 30 minutes to go without speaking then pray for lonely people
27	Try and think of alternatives to single use plastic items at home or church
28	As a family talk about the story of Jesus in the wilderness – what would you find the hardest to cope with
29	In a group pick up litter in your street or local area
30	MOTHERING SUNDAY Think of ways to make mums and those who care for you feel extra special
31	Say a special grace before your meal thanking God for farmers and all who provide us with food

This is taken from [mothersunion.org/news/welcome-lent](http://mothersunion.org/news/welcome-lent) where you can access a calendar style version. Part two next month.

Dates      4<sup>th</sup> March      AGM followed by Photographic Memories  
               1<sup>st</sup> April        Speaker to be confirmed

JAK

### VE Day

I am on a planning group looking at ideas for commemorating VE Day. If you have any photographs going back that far it would be wonderful to have a copy. You may also have memories – probably passed on from previous generations of events that happened in Longridge around that time. Any ideas would be appreciated. If you have anything you could contribute please contact [judithkaye@sky.com](mailto:judithkaye@sky.com) or the Heritage Centre at the Old Station.

JAK

## TUESDAY CLUB

The Tuesday Club AGM was held at the start of our February meeting with the treasurer reporting that membership had increased and financially club funds had been maintained and were showing a small surplus at the end of the year so all very encouraging. The meeting agreed that the sum of £150 should be donated to the St. Lawrence Lychgate Restoration Appeal.

Both the Chairman, Fred Little and Treasurer Keith Thompson indicated their willingness to continue for the next twelve months but Secretary Adrienne Atkinson confirmed that she would be stepping down at the end of the current programme in May. Adrienne has been Secretary of the Tuesday Club since September 2001 and sincere thanks were expressed for all the programmes she has put together and the enjoyable and interesting speakers she has booked over those years. A small token of the club's appreciation was then presented. As no-one indicated their willingness to take over it was agreed that for the coming year and in a bridging capacity Jean Saunders and Dot Little will endeavour to put the 2025/6 programme together.

The official business over, Stella Holt was welcomed to the meeting to give her presentation on Mother Teresa's Work in Sri Lanka under the heading 'God will provide'. Stella unusually started her talk with us all joining in with the words of Bridge over Troubled Waters and ended it with us all standing to sing You'll Never Walk Alone. If we were inspired by the music we were equally inspired by Stella's achievements while in Sri Lanka, previously Ceylon.

Stella, having been a nursing ward sister in England, found herself in Singapore and then through her husband's work in Ceylon now Sri Lanka. Anticipating she would get work in a hospital there she quickly realised that medical provision at that time was poor, with the people in the region in great need. Through her nursing friends and contacts back home Stella set about helping the poor by managing to get items of every description donated and shipped over as well as fund raising with the help of the Association of British Residents, never taking no for an answer and determined to make a difference. Her experiences were heartwarming and through her work brought her into contact with Mother Teresa whose Missionaries of Charity were caring for the orphans, the sick and the disabled in a nearby area. A truly inspirational presentation.

On the 11th March we look forward to welcoming Sheila Birkby - Bees, Honey and Candles with a chance to try and buy – everyone welcome.

Tickets are also on sale for the concert and meal on the 8<sup>th</sup> April when following a buffet meal we will be entertained by the Garstang Ukelele Band. A reminder that the meal will be served at 6.30pm on that evening. Do be sure to get a ticket and encourage a friend to come along with you as this is an open meeting when we invite the wider parish.

Tickets from Dot Little 783998 – price £12 including buffet meal and entertainment.



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## BRIGADE NEWS



What a great few months we've had to the start of 2025. Our membership is growing as we welcome new faces which means our Wednesday nights are always full of fun faith and friendship. Talking of friendship that was one of our themes for the JTC and Seniors- we made friendship bracelets and henna bead designs to give to our friends and even held a board game night. We worked on our teamwork by playing a Brigade classis - uni-hoc. We've also spoken about Love during February, and we created Valentines Day cards to hand out to the Church Congregation.



Our Martins and Y-team have been continuing to impress us with their imaginative creations during craft. We like to set them challenges to make inventions and designs using different materials- this month we gave them clay. We've also made lots of fish which were used as part of the Sermon which included Fisherfolk Joanna and Jake, and we spoke about all the things we love and how God loves us for Valentines Day.



Our National Band members attended their first rehearsal weekend of 2025 in Beverley. They worked very hard all weekend and will start to prepare for their Annual Concert on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May at St Peters School in York.

I'm pleased to announce that our annual afternoon tea fundraiser will be going ahead for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year running. Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 3:30pm in St Pauls Centenary Room. £10 Adults, £5 Children-



Tickets must be bought in advance.

To purchase a ticket please speak to any Brigade leader or Email [Amiibateson@clcgb.org.uk](mailto:Amiibateson@clcgb.org.uk).

We look forward to seeing you there.





# Afternoon Tea



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LONGRIDGE**

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## TRAVELS WITH DOROTHY LAVER - The Climb of My Life Down Under

With all the cold and stormy weather here since Christmas I was reminded about my trip "down under" in March 2018. My friend Brenda had booked a highlights of Australia holiday with a company called Just You. She passed me the details and I'd soon made my booking.

We were due to fly from Manchester to Perth WA on Wednesday evening, 27 February. We boarded the flight on time but then sat on the plane for three hours while the ground staff had to de-ice the wings several times!. The "Beast from the East" had

struck which resulted in our missing our connecting flight from Dubai to Perth. We were re-booked to a later flight and had a rest in a lovely hotel with the bonus of a coach tour of Dubai. We caught up with our tour group in Perth and were greeted by lovely summer weather with sun and blue skies.



There were so many highlights of the trip (Alice Springs, Uluru (Ayers Rock) Cairns, Canberra and Melbourne) but it was my time in Sydney which was the most memorable. Sydney is Australia's biggest city with the iconic Sydney Harbour Bridge dominating the beautiful natural harbour. The single span arch is the largest in the world at 503 metres long, 134 metres high and 49 metres wide. It is flanked by four towering concrete and granite pylons. The weight of the steelwork is 52,800 tonnes and includes

six million rivets. The bridge was officially opened on 19 March 1932

As part of the holiday my friend had booked the Bridge Climb and not to be outdone I'd booked to do the climb too. The problem is I don't like heights! .. I'd loved climbing and scrambling in the mountains of the Lake District and North Wales years ago but was always a bit perturbed where a sheer drop was involved eg Striding Edge, Sharp Edge and Crib Goch. I'd once done an abseil but I worried about the impending climb for days before:. Why had I booked this trip? I must have been mad. There were no refunds if you changed your mind. Brenda found my concerns quite funny which didn't help .

The morning of Wednesday 14 March dawned bright and early, but I couldn't eat much breakfast. At 8.45am six of us (all ladies) walked with our guide to the Climb Base where the guide checked us in, wished us good luck and disappeared. No going back now. We joined six others and changed into blue and grey overalls. You're not allowed to carry anything with you. A detailed safety briefing followed explaining the use of the safety harness. From the very start you are clipped on to a rail by the safety harness which glides along it so you can't fall. I started feeling much calmer.

Led by the guide we first walked out in single file on catwalks below the road deck and then at the South East pylon we climbed four ladders to the start of the upper arch. We could see and hear the buzz of the traffic hundreds of feet below. I even managed to look down. We climbed up the arch on the Opera House side and the 360 degree views were fantastic. At the top we had an individual and a group photo and then crossed the spine of the Bridge to the arch on the other side and made our descent. As we climbed down the ladders a train thundered past us only a few feet away. That was the worst moment. Then we were safely back at the Climb Base and being unhooked from the rail.. We collected our photos, a Bridge Climb cap and a certificate of completion. I'd done it.



. It was a great experience and I really enjoyed it . I felt a real sense of achievement afterwards . What had I been so worried about? Would I do it again. Definitely.



**A LOVE OF BAKING**

Many Log readers will remember Marian Scarborough who back in July, 2023 completed the first leg of the Sponsored Triathlon covering 40km or 24.8 miles on a static bicycle – the swimming stage of a mile a day for 21 days was successfully completed by Revd. Simon and Revd. Mike then ran the Great North Run to complete the three disciplines. It was a great effort which caused much interest and raised a significant amount of money.

Just by chance and following a plate of much sought after Flapjacks at the January Jigsaw Celebration we have discovered, certainly one of Marian's fitness secrets and that's her husband David's baking skills. Could it be that burning up the calories on her bicycle allows Marian to enjoy the delicious cakes her husband produces!!

Here David tells us a little about his love of baking, not forgetting that delicious flapjack recipe.

I started baking as a young child stood on a chair at the kitchen table helping my mum as she produced some delicious wares. The first thing I remember baking was coconut buns using mum's Bero baking book which I still have today.

However, it wasn't until I retired that I started baking seriously. I enjoy the creative element and find the process of weighing, mixing and stirring relaxing, not to mention the joy of tasting the result. I like to take a basic recipe and put my own take on it - some more successfully than others! But I particularly enjoy baking for other people. Since Marian and I moved to Longridge four years ago the community has been very welcoming and helpful. Baking is one way I can express my appreciation for such kindness.

Here is my recipe for flapjack, I hope you enjoy it.

**Ingredients**

**350 gms Butter**  
**350 gms Caster Sugar**  
**2 TBSP Golden Syrup**  
**400gms Oats**  
**100 gms Plain Flour**

**Method**

**Melt together the butter, sugar and syrup.**

**Set aside to cool.**

**Mix the flour and oats together and combine with the melted ingredients.**

**Place the mixture in a greased and lined 1" deep baking tin (approximately 12"x 6")**

**Bake in a preheated oven at 150 degrees fan for 40 minutes.**

**Allow to cool then cut into slices.**

**For variety I add a selection of dried fruit or chocolate chips or dip the slices in melted chocolate.**

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## OUR WORSHIP AND READINGS

*Following Jesus in Loving Community*

**Our regular Sunday 'in church' services are as below.**

St Paul's Holy Communion Service with Children's Church at 10:00am (arrival from 9:30am)

St. Paul's 'All together' Service 10:00am on 2nd Sunday of the Month

St Lawrence's at 6:30pm (arrival from 6:00pm)

**The readings that will feature in these services are listed below.**

**Our regular mid-week Holy Communion Service takes place on Thursday at St Paul's at 10am**

### 2nd March — God's Heart — Next before Lent

**10am St Paul's Holy Communion with Children's Church**

Ezekiel 47 :1-12

Matthew 25: 14-30

**6:30pm St Lawrence's Evensong**

Psalm 89 v 1-8

Exodus 34 :29-35

Luke 9: 28-36

### 5th March - Ash Wednesday Service



**7:30pm St Paul's Church**

Isaiah 58 : 1-12

John 8 :1-11

### 9th March - All Together Service — Lent 1

**10:00am St Paul's and Live Stream**

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Luke 4: 1-13

**6:30pm St Lawrence's (Holy Communion)**

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Luke 4: 1-13

### 16th March - Lent 2

**10am St Paul's Holy Communion with Children's Church**

Genesis 15 : 1-12, 17-18

Luke 13 : 31– 35

**6:30pm St Lawrence's Evensong**

Psalm 135

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Luke 13 : 31– 35

### 23rd March - Lent 3

**10am St Paul's Holy Communion with Children's Church**

Isaiah 55:1- 9

Luke 13 : 1– 9

**6:30pm St Lawrence's Evensong**

Psalm 12

Isaiah 55:1- 9

Luke 13 : 1– 9

### 30th March — Mothering Sunday—Lent 4

**10am St Paul's Holy Communion with Children's Church**

Colossians 3 :12-17

Luke 1: 46-55



**6:30pm St Lawrence's Evensong**

Psalm 30

Joshua 5 : 9-12

2 Corinthians 5 : 16-21

### 6th April - Passion Sunday-Lent 5

Passion readings from Luke's Gospel

**6:30pm St Lawrence's Evensong**

Psalm 35 v 1-10

Isaiah 43 : 16-21

John 12 : 1-8

### 13th April - All Together Service - Palm Sunday

**10am St Paul's and live stream**

Philippians 2 :5– 11

Luke 19 : 28– 40



**6:30pm CTL Palm Sunday Joint Service at St. Wilfrid's**

Please Note! There is NO evening service at St. Lawrence

## OUR WORSHIP AND READINGS.....continued

*Following Jesus in Loving Community*

**14th April—Monday Evening Compline**

**7.30pm St Paul's Church**

**15th April—Tuesday Evening Compline**

**7.30pm St Paul's Church**

**16th April —Wednesday Evening Tenebrae Service**



**7.30pm St Paul's Church**  
— Various Readings

**17th April—Maundy Thursday Service**

**followed by 'The Watch'.**

**Compline then follows.**

**7.30pm St Paul's Church**



**18th April —Good Friday All Together Service**

**10:00am St Paul's and Live Stream**

Lamentations 5 :15-22

Part of John 18- - 19



**20th April - Easter Day—Sunday**

**8:00am BCP—St. Lawrence**

Acts 10:34-43  
Luke 24 : 1– 12

**10am St Paul's Church**  
**All Together Service**  
**With Holy Communion**  
**and live stream**

**6:30pm St Lawrence's Church**

**Easter Songs of Praise**  
Acts 10:34-43  
Luke 24 : 1– 12

**HE IS RISEN !**

**HE IS RISEN INDEED !**

### FUNERALS

**We commend to God those who have died recently and pray  
for those who mourn their loss**

Hillary Mc Cabe

Josephine (Jose) Roberts

Carole Freeman

Sheila Wignall



### Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child, Baptisms, Marriages

Arrangements for these should be made with Rev. Mike or via the Church website

Do you know anybody who is in hospital or ill at home?

If so, please let Rev. Mike or Rev. Simon know so that they may be visited.

# The Log

## The Last Word

From the Rev. Simon King

### SPEEDING TOWARDS ANNOYANCE



It took me four attempts to pass my driving test. I took the first one in Wigan and was 100 metres down the road wondering why the car was so sluggish before realising I hadn't taken the handbrake off. Fail. As a result of that, and my other fails, not all in Wigan (it's not a geography thing), I don't consider myself to be the best driver in the world. I had friends at school who were good drivers. They lived on farms and were confidently driving tractors almost before they walked. Many, even before reading their first word, could back a trailer into a tight parking space at night without hesitation. That's not me. Fast and furious? I'm more last and lugubrious.

However, being Captain Slow does have its own rewards, for instance you have more time to notice things. Strange things, things that don't make any sense, things that make your toes curl and your eyebrows dance, things that make you wince and wiggle uncomfortably in your car seat, heated if you are fortunate. Things like roundabouts.

The internet will tell you that roundabouts have been about for over a century, but in the beginning, they were only in big cities like Paris and London and New York. They only became fashionable in the 1990's when the government introduced a breeding programme and released a mating pair to Milton Keynes. Since then, they have thrived, proliferating and diversifying, adapting to other countries in Europe, such as the Netherlands and France. They have also found a footing further afield and boast an intercontinental variety which are comfortable in Australia and the US. Larger, double lane and turbo varieties have since been bred to cope with the increase in traffic volumes, while here in Longridge, over time, the community has adopted five, that are distributed fairly around the town.

Arguably the busiest of these is at Stonebridge and to my mind it has been there for as long as I can remember, maybe not as long as you can remember. It was here, driving slowly, that I first noticed a very strange thing. As the car in front of me turned left off Whittingham Lane onto Derby Road, the car coming from Preston Road, rather than slowing down for the roundabout, accelerated onto it and across it, while at the same time blaring the horn in annoyance.

The question popped into my head, why would you rush into irritation? Why speed toward agitation? What pent up frustration and anger is vented by a heavy foot and a hapless Hyundai? I have no answer, but I do know that having noticed the phenomena once, I have, in the space of two weeks, noticed it three times, in three places, it's not a geography thing. Maybe it isn't even a driving thing.

Perhaps it is simply the residue of rage that is accumulated in our over busy, over stressed lives and the ubiquity of roundabouts offer a not so safe space for therapy. As we move into the season of lent, which is a time of reconciliation, I wonder if a good place to start restoring harmony, to discover our inner and outer peace isn't so much in church, but on our roundabouts?

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