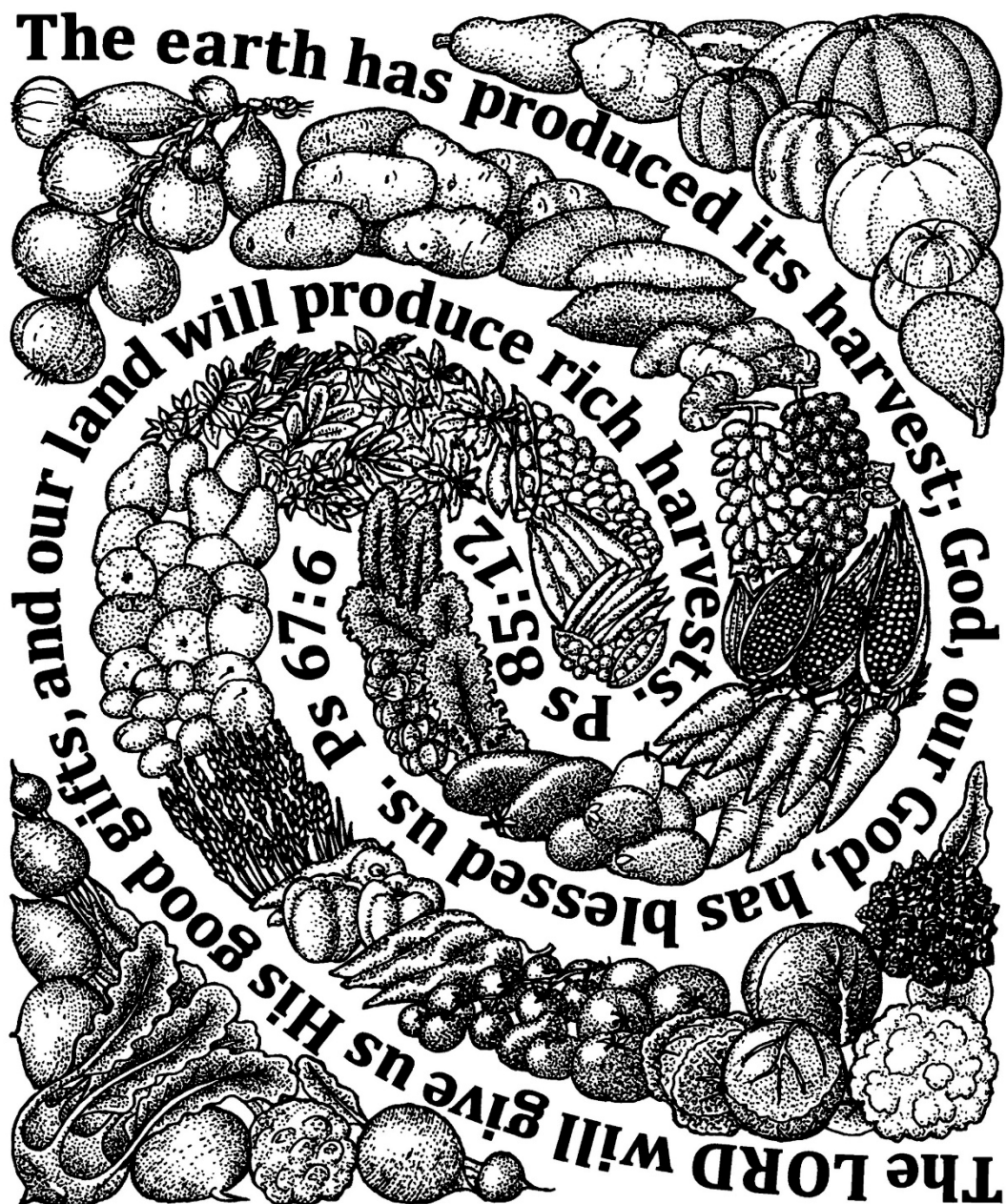


# Parish Magazine

October 2022

30p



## St. John's Parish Church

Rufford Road, Crossens  
(A member of the North Meols Team Ministry)

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PCC Secretary:	TBC
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Guides:	Mrs Tracy Boden Tel: 228189
Mumford Room Bookings:	Mr Andrew Boden Tel: 228189

## Service times:

<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>

*A letter from Anne Wallbank...*

*Dear Friends...*

I am writing at a time of great national change as our beloved Queen Elizabeth is called home to the Lord she has loved and served her entire long life. Her Late Majesty was the lodestar of our nation, our one point of constancy and stability and for most of us, the only Monarch we have ever known.

Reflecting on the changes that our nation now faces, brought to my mind the hymn by Nahum Tate and Nicholas Brady (written circa 1696) as part of their project "New Version of the Psalms"

"Through all the changing scenes of life.

in trouble and in joy,

The praises of my God shall still  
my heart and tongue employ"

This hymn is a direct paraphrase of Psalm 34, the Psalm written by King David after he escaped the clutches of his enemies by pretending to be insane (you can read about this in 1 Samuel ch.21)

"I will extol the LORD at all times;

his praise will always be on my lips.

I will glory in the LORD;

let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

Glorify the LORD with me;

let us exalt his name together.... "

David's psalm and the hymn based upon it remind us that in times of uncertainty, anxiety and change, God is the same, always hearing us, always holding us and always beside us.

We learn to praise, worship and cling to Him no matter what our circumstances are because in Jesus, our future is assured and certain.

It doesn't diminish pain, loss or despair, but it points a way through them: as the Psalm says,

"The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles.

The LORD is close to the broken hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

(Psalm 34:17-18)

In times of uncertainty, we can look to the hope we have in Jesus, the same hope to which Her Late Majesty was a faithful lifelong witness. The hope that underpinned her long life of duty and service and sustained her throughout it is ours too.

We need fear neither change nor uncertainty, because as the writer of Hebrews reminds us , “Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever” (Hebrews 13:8), we are able to look forward - and go forward in hope and with joy.

If you are unsure about this, then David in Psalm 34, encourages us to have a “taster” and try it out for ourselves,

“Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.” (Psalm 34:8)

Or in the words of Tate and Brady’s hymn,

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

We now have a new King who needs our prayerful support as he assumes the role of Monarch and builds on the legacy of his much-loved, godly mother. May he be strong in faith and certain in the hope set before him in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*A Prayer for King Charles III*

Everlasting God, we pray for our new King.

Bless his reign and the life of our nation.

Help us to work together

so that truth and justice, harmony and fairness  
flourish among us;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

*(The Association of English Cathedrals)*

*Anne.*



# HARVEST COFFEE MORNING

St John's Church

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October

10am – noon



## Cakes & Raffle

# Harvest Bring and Share

St John's Church

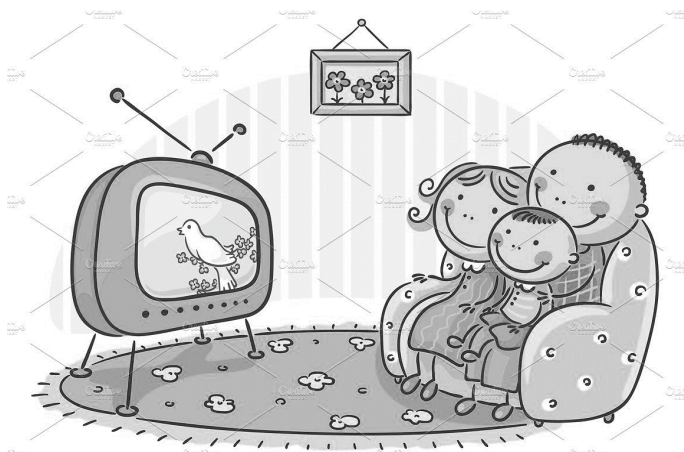
Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

Straight after the

10am service

£1 a plate

Our Team Ministry's  
On-Line  
Monthly Magazine



Check out the latest magazine  
on our YouTube Channel  
& the St. John's Web Site  
([www.stjohncrossens.co.uk](http://www.stjohncrossens.co.uk))

Church events...Local  
history...Interviews  
Christian reflections  
and Christian Action...Diocesan  
News...  
Topical and Local Interest Items  
and much more

YouTube Channel:  
"North Meols Team Ministry Southport"

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MANY THANKS.

The Team Service on Sunday 4th. September was an overwhelming experience. We would like to thank all our friends at St. Stephens, St. Johns and St. Cuthberts for your extremely generous gifts and for your good wishes and prayers at this time.

We were especially surprised to receive so many Retirement Cards, something we had not even thought about since this occasion was to mark a second 'retirement'! Thank you all, especially those who were not able to be there. We are so grateful for your good wishes for the future.

BILL & OLWYN.

# Christmas Brunch



St John's Church

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup>

November

Starts at 11am



Cakes & Raffle

# ROTAS

## SUNDAY COFFEE ROTA

2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Kath & Jane
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Nicola & Chrissy
16 <sup>th</sup> October	Chris D & Eileen
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Heather/Jenny
30 <sup>th</sup> October	Chris/Bill
6 <sup>th</sup> November	Kath & Jane



## WEDNESDAY COFFEE ROTA

5 <sup>th</sup> October	Brenda & June
12 <sup>th</sup> October	Jean & Mavis
19 <sup>th</sup> October	Chris & Janet
26 <sup>th</sup> October	Brenda & June
2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Jean & Mavis

Help is urgently needed to maintain a weekly rota. If you are willing to volunteer, please see me. Chris Jowett

## Sanctuary Flowers

October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	In memory of Mrs Yvonne Sandiford
October 9 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs & Mrs G Boden
October 16 <sup>th</sup>	In memory of B Empson
October 23 <sup>rd</sup>	In memory of S Harding



Thank you to all who have contributed to our flower fund via our collecting box. ECB.

# PUZZLES - SUDOKU

			3		4		8	9
			9	5	1			2
	7		8			3	1	5
3		2				4	5	
7	6						9	1
	5	1				8		3
2	1	6			3			
8			1	4	9			
5	4		7		6			

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*Easy*

		3		9	8			
5		2						6
						5		
9				3			2	
	7		9		6		1	
	6			7				4
		5						
7							1	3
			3	2		9		

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*Medium*

## "SCHOOL - RESCUE ME!"

As part of their work to support charities, school are supporting an animal rescue centre called "Rescue Me". The children have been asked to collect postage stamps from envelopes, unwanted foreign currency and any pre-decimal or pre-euro currency people may have hidden in old socks!!!

If you have any such items, please can you pass them to Karen Corbett and she will take them into school.

# **Churches Together**

*(in North Meols)*

***Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022***

***7.30 p.m.***

***at St Cuthbert's C of E Church***

**Everyone is very  
welcome!**

***The meeting will be led by:***

***Cornerstone Methodist Church***

***"Be completely united, with only one thought and one purpose."***

***[1 Corinthians 1: 106]***

## **CONFIRMATIONS 2022**

There will be a Confirmation Service on Wednesday 12th October here at St John's at 7.00pm. This will be a Service where churches from across Southport will be attending.

The Bishop will lead the Confirmation Service in October and all those from St John's will receive their first Holy Communion on the following Sunday.

If anyone is interested in taking their next step in their Faith Journey, to renew the vows made by your Parents and Godparents, then please have a word with me. Confirmation is where children or adults confirm their personal acceptance of the Christian life.

There will be a short five-week course beginning in September on Sunday after the Service in the morning.

Please give it some thought and get back to me whenever you wish.

Every Blessing

*Chris*



# WORDSEARCH

With October, autumn is underway – the leaves are turning gold, the chilly nights are closing in and the shops are full of Halloween things. Our ancestors were frightened of the dark and cold of winter, and feared that evil things might attack them. So they lit fires and wore frightening masks, to ward off evil spirits. But Christianity taught a much better way: it taught that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that when He died for us on the cross, He overcame all the powers of evil that there are. So we don't need charms to ward off evil, we just need to turn to Jesus in prayer. He will protect us from any power of darkness that menaces our lives. The Psalms say that He is our shield and protector!

Autumn

Gold

Night

Dark

Pumpkin

Sweets

Saints

Goodness

Saving

Prayer

Protection

Light

Jesus

Son

fearless

School

Exams

Half term

Coal

Leaves

Bonfires

Sneeze

Scarves

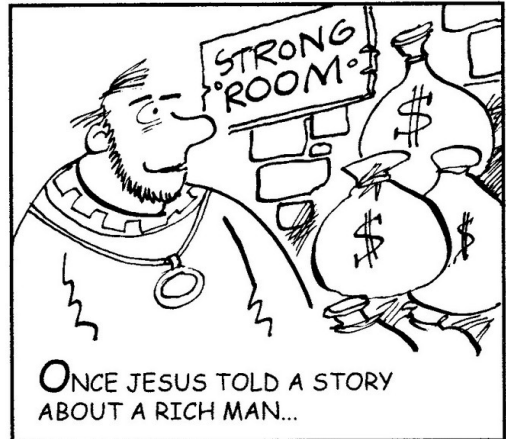
Soup



# The parable of the Shrewd Manager



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONCE JESUS TOLD A STORY ABOUT A RICH MAN...



...AND HIS SERVANT, WHO MANAGED THE RICH MAN'S PROPERTY.



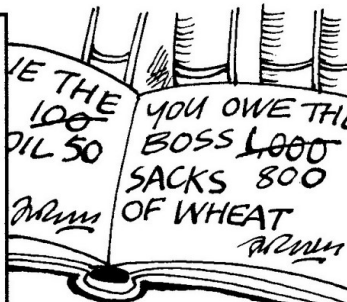
THE RICH MAN HAD HEARD THAT THE MANAGER HAS BEEN WASTING MONEY.



SO HE CALLED THE MANGER TO ACCOUNT FOR HIMSELF!



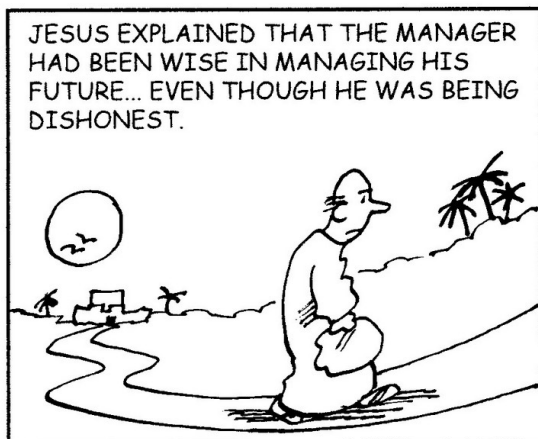
OH NO! I AM GOING TO GET THE SACK!!



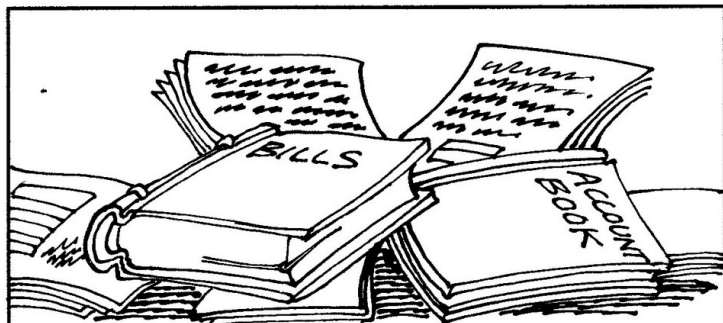
THE MANAGER AGREED TO LET THE RICH MAN'S TRADERS FIDDLE THEIR BOOKS!



SO THEY ALTERED THEIR DEBTS - AND STAYED FRIENDS WITH THE MANAGER.



JESUS EXPLAINED THAT THE MANAGER HAD BEEN WISE IN MANAGING HIS FUTURE... EVEN THOUGH HE WAS BEING DISHONEST.



JESUS WAS TRYING TO ENCOURAGE THE PEOPLE TO THINK ABOUT THEIR OWN FUTURES TOO. BUT IT'S A HARD PARABLE TO UNDERSTAND!

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in John chapter 2 verses 1 to 10


Jesus, his mother, and his disciples were guests at a family wedding in Cana. The bridegroom was responsible for the food and drink.

The wedding feasts went on for days



Cheers!

Then the wine ran out...



What a disaster! The bridegroom and his family would be shamed for life, and perhaps even sued!

Mary noticed...



Jesus, they've run out of wine!

So why are you telling me?



But Mary wasn't put off.

She told the servants



Do whatever he tells you.

Fill those six jars to the top with water



The water was for the special washing of hands before meals

and each jar held about 100 litres



Now take some out and serve it to the toast-master



He tried it...



... then he called to the bridegroom..



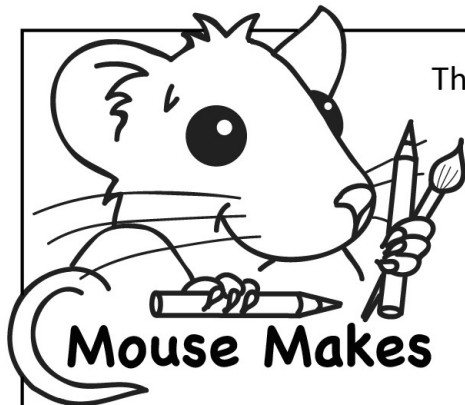
Most people serve the best wine first, then the rest later, but..

...this is the best wine I've ever tasted!



Impressive!





The New Testament has **four gospels, twenty one epistles** and the book of *Revelation*.

The **epistles** are a collection of **letters** that were written by the apostles to the early Christians, they contain teaching, instruction, advice and encouragement.

The Apostle **Paul** is thought to have written **thirteen** of the *epistles*...



Look in your Bible to see who wrote the other eight and who they were written to.

How many people does Paul send greetings to at the end of his letter to the Romans?  
.....

The word **epistle** comes from the Greek word **epistolé** which means *letter or message*

Which are the longest epistles?  
.....  
.....  
How many chapters do they have?  
.....

**DID YOU KNOW...?**  
At the time of the New Testament letters were written on scrolls

Which is the shortest epistle?  
.....  
How many chapters does it have?  
.....

G A L A T I A N S J A M E S E J S  
 W A E D I S P E T E R A P T L O C  
 R O T E T B A W R I T E H I R H R  
 I P T M U O U S P H I L E M O N O  
 T H E S S A L O N I A N S O M D L  
 C O R I N T H I A N S N I T A J L  
 S P H I L I P P I A N S A H N U S  
 M C O L O S S I A N S A N Y S D P  
 H E B R E W S H W E P I S T L E O

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