

# Parish Magazine

November 2023

30p

*Grief  
is the  
price  
we pay  
for  
Love*

**St. John's Parish Church**

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

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### Service times:

#### Sunday (10am)

Holy Communion 5<sup>th</sup> Nov, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec  
Morning Prayer 19<sup>th</sup> Nov, 26<sup>th</sup> Nov

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November** - Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial 10:30am

#### Wednesday (10am)

Holy Communion 8<sup>th</sup> Nov, 29<sup>th</sup> Nov  
Morning Prayer 1<sup>st</sup> Nov, 15<sup>th</sup> Nov, 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov

*Canon Les offers you something.....*

## **BETTER THAN A PUB CRAWL!**

Have you ever gone on a pub crawl? I haven't, but I have been on a "Church Crawl"! It was in 1985 and I had devised a sponsored event that involved me stopping at as many churches as possible on a walk from Blackpool to Crosby where I was a Vicar.

This sponsored "Church Crawl" was to raise money to replace our Church's broken-down electronic organ with a modern, state of the art, new instrument. It would take place over two days with someone picking me up at the end of the first day to take me home and recover!

By the end of this first day of walking, I was in a sorry state, tired certainly, but far worse than that, my feet were badly blistered and very painful. In fact, they were so bad that the second day of walking looked to be in the balance, but with some TLC (and probably some TCP) on my feet, I was dropped off the next day ready to hopefully complete the walk to Crosby, and call in at as many churches as I could along the way.....including here at both St. Cuthbert's and St. John's.

In less than a fit state, I continued on. There were two factors that helped me along on this second day. The first was to put aside for the moment that all-important primary aim of making it back to my Church in Crosby – that seemed like a mountain to climb. Mentally I decided that I would simply aim to make it to the next church – a kind of step by step approach. The second factor was the support and encouragement of two companions who had joined me for this second day. They spurred me on to our next target church.

At the end of that second day we made it back to Crosby in the evening to be greeted by a cheering group of our church members. We had visited (crawled to!) a couple of dozen churches of all denominations along our route and raised over £3000 for the new church organ. The newly installed electronic organ was indeed "state of the art", so good in fact that some time later we were treated to a recital on it given by Ian Tracey, the then Liverpool Cathedral Organist.

We often speak of our lives as being like a journey, a walk – and yes, sometimes a crawl. Our Christian lives are certainly a journey – a journey of faith. Along the way we might encounter painful "blisters" – times of doubt and uncertainty – dark times – hurtful times when God might seem far away and we wonder whether or not we can go on.

Jesus, it seems, offered us some advice about how we might keep going to the end. In effect he said "take one day at a time – journey one day at a time...."***Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. [Matthew 6:34]***

In another place Jesus gives an invitation to us for just such times in our lives when the journey is hard or dispiriting...***Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest" [Matthew 11:28]***

Of course, we want to reach the goal of our journey – that promise and confidence of being with God when this earthly journey is completed, but in the meantime we must take each day at a time, walking with our Lord Jesus, our Companion along the way. And this day by day walk with Jesus is the way that we can find our journey of faith, not a burden, but a joy. This same Jesus who promised “I will never leave you nor forsake you”

Rest assured the day will come when you arrive at the journey’s end, there to be welcomed – perhaps even cheered home – by those who have gone before – and your heavenly Father who greets you saying “Well done my good and faithful servant”.

*God bless and keep journeying on with Jesus!  
Les Thomas*



*One of the stops on the first day  
St. Margaret of Antioch Parish Church  
Lytham St. Annes*

# ROTAS

## SUNDAY COFFEE ROTA

5 <sup>th</sup> November	Nicola & Andrew
12 <sup>th</sup> November	Brenda & Mavis
19 <sup>th</sup> November	Chris D & Bill
26 <sup>th</sup> November	Chris J & Bill
3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Kath & Jane



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

## WEDNESDAY COFFEE ROTA

1 <sup>st</sup> November	Eileen & Trish
8 <sup>th</sup> November	Jean & Mavis
15 <sup>th</sup> November	Brenda & June
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Chris & Janet
29 <sup>th</sup> November	Eileen & Trish
6 <sup>th</sup> December	Jean & Mavis

## Sanctuary Flowers

November 5 <sup>th</sup>	-----
November 12 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Day
November 19 <sup>th</sup>	In memory of Charles Walker
November 26 <sup>th</sup>	-----



Thank you to all who give to the Flower Fund. ECB.

# Toy, Gift and Chocolate Service Sunday

**HELP MAKE A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS**  
Please bring a new toy  
and a small bar of chocolate  
to Church on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

All donations will be distributed to  
families in need.



# Christmas Brunch



St John's Church

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December



10am – 1pm



Cakes & Raffle

# PUZZLES - SUDOKU

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

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

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*Easy*

*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, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023***

***7.30 p.m.***

***at Cornerstone Methodist 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]***

# WORDSEARCH

This month, on 30<sup>th</sup> November, Scotland remembers one of the very first disciples of Jesus. St Andrew is honoured, not for any mighty deeds of his own, but for his love of introducing people to Jesus. He went straight off and introduced his brother Peter to the Saviour, and followed that up by bringing Nathanael/Bartholomew to Jesus. 'Better Together' seems to have been his slogan, too! 'We have found the Messiah!', he told them, unable to keep the good news to himself. Andrew's connection with Scotland dates back to the claimed translation of his remains from Patras in Achaia to Scotland in the eighth century. The church in Fife where these remains were buried became a place of pilgrimage during the tenth century. All of this may be no more than pious legend, but that St Andrew was highly regarded in Scotland and became its patron saint is beyond doubt.

Scotland  
disciples  
Jesus  
Andrew  
honoured

Peter  
Nathanael  
Bartholomew  
Messiah  
Saviour

Patras  
Achaia  
eighth  
remains  
translation

Fife  
pilgrimage  
tenth  
pious  
patron

saint  
love  
introducing  
place




# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Genesis chapters 41:46 - 45:28


Joseph: sold by his brothers, taken to Egypt, now in charge of the stored food as famine spreads through Egypt, and beyond...

Joseph's father sent 10 of Joseph's brothers to Egypt to buy food.




Joseph saw they did not recognise him. He wanted to see his little brother Benjamin.


To prove you are not spies, you must bring your other brother to me...




They needed more food so they had to take Benjamin to Egypt.




Joseph gave them food... but to test them he had his cup put in Benjamin's sack.



Then as they went home... Stop!




You have stolen my master's special cup.

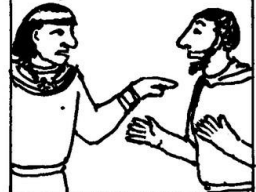


It was in Benjamin's sack.


The servant took them back to Joseph.




You are a thief and must stay as a slave.



But Judah said It would break our father's heart. Let me take his place.




Joseph saw that his brothers had changed.




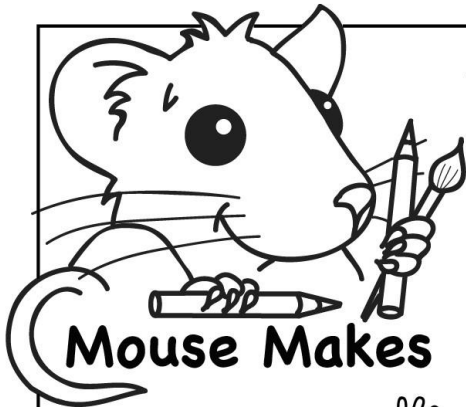
I am your brother Joseph. You sold me but God sent me to Egypt.

I can look after you. Come and live with me.



So all of Joseph's family moved to Egypt.





"Do not be anxious about anything,  
but in every situation, by  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
with thanksgiving, present your  
\_\_\_\_\_ to God."  
*Philippians 4:6-7 NIV*

"The \_\_\_\_\_

is \_\_\_\_\_

to all who \_\_\_\_\_

on him in \_\_\_\_\_."

*Psalm 145:18*

"For where two or three \_\_\_\_\_

in my name, there  
I am with them."  
*Matthew 18:20*

Hand-shaped word search containing the following words:

- SAY SORRY
- PRAY FOR OTHERS
- PRAY FOR YOURSELF
- THANK GOD
- FOR MY FAMILY
- PRAY FOR FRIENDS
- PRAY FOR THE NEEDY
- PRAY FOR THE SICK
- PRAY FOR THE CHURCH
- PRAYSE GOD

Word search grid:

C	O	N	F	E	S	S	P	K	R	Q	C
N	E	A	R	M	D	P	E	H	E	A	R
T	I	M	E	E	D	A	T	E	Q	M	Y
I	Q	E	J	D	T	P	I	P	U	E	O
F	P	V	O	I	R	P	T	R	E	N	U
O	R	D	I	T	U	R	I	A	S	K	T
R	A	E	C	A	T	O	O	Y	T	P	R
G	I	V	E	T	H	A	N	K	S	R	A
I	S	O	S	E	S	C	A	P	R	A	Y
V	E	T	G	A	T	H	E	R	U	Y	E
E	L	E	C	A	L	L	I	S	T	E	N
M	U	B	L	E	S	S	R	L	O	R	D

NIV  
 Look up the Bible verses, fill in the blanks then find them in the word search

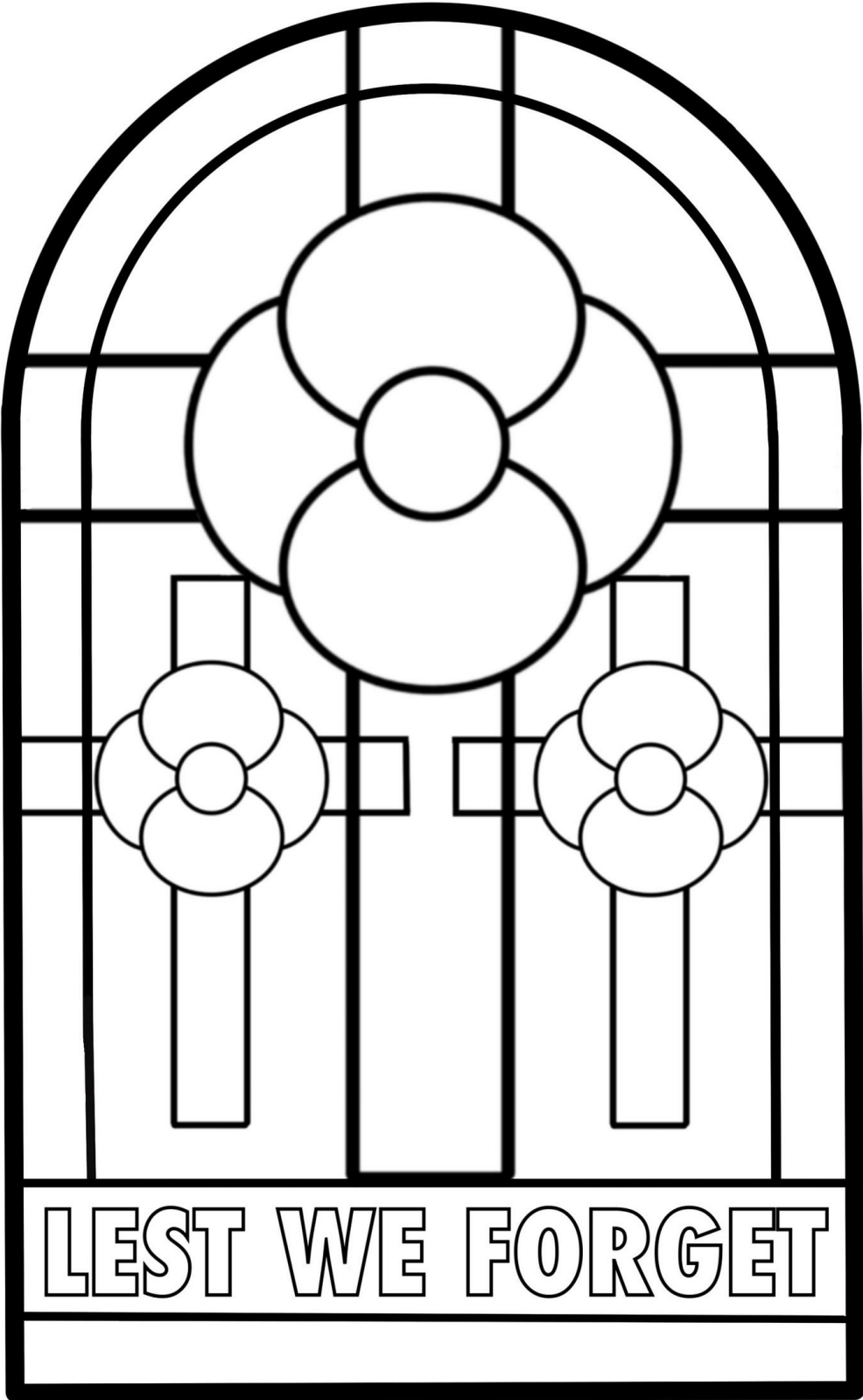
Find these words too:  
APPROACH  
MEDITATE  
HEAR • LISTEN  
BLESS • PRAISE  
FORGIVE • NAME  
CRY OUT • AMEN

" \_\_\_\_\_  
always, \_\_\_\_\_  
continually, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ in all circumstances."  
*1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

"Therefore, \_\_\_\_\_  
your sins to one another and \_\_\_\_\_  
for one another,  
that you may be healed."  
*James 5:16*

" \_\_\_\_\_  
yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."  
*Colossians 4:2*

Some colouring for all ages....



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