



**St. Mary's Parish Church**  
**Allithwaite**  
within  
The Cartmel Peninsula Team Ministry



**MARCH 2018**

## EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS



### GOOGLED THEN GOGGLED

I must say it came as quite a surprising discovery. I was looking on the Internet for some suitable pictures for this newsletter. I simply put the word "Easter" into a search engine and was amazed at the images it found for me. You could say I Googled then goggled. My computer screen was filled with brightly coloured eggs, rabbits (cartoon and real) and yellow, fluffy chicks.

Only about a dozen images out of over 300 had any overtly Christian content, often crosses against dramatic sunsets -- a bit of a cliché really. I began to wonder if the 300 pictures were a sort of snapshot of how people perceive Easter as just a welcome bank holiday with extra chocolate.

It's easy to understand why some events of the original Easter are unappealing. At the first Easter, Jesus, who had never done anything wrong was put on trial on trumped up charges. He was killed in a barbaric way on a cross. No wonder people don't want to hear such bad news.

Happily, the bad news is more than outweighed by the good news. In the willing death of Jesus, God found a way to make our forgiveness his gift while still showing that wrongdoing and falling short of his best intentions for us are still serious matters. As the Son of God, Jesus overcame death; he rose from death, never to die again. Jesus shows us that death is not the end of the story of our life.

Mike (Ed)

### ACTS 2:38

An elderly woman had just returned to her home from an evening of religious service when she was startled by an intruder. As she caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables, she yelled, 'Stop -Acts 2:38!' (..turn from your sin...).

The burglar stopped dead in his tracks. The woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done. As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar, 'Why did you just stand there? All she did was yell a scripture to you.' 'Scripture?' replied the burglar, 'She said she had an AXE and two 38's!'



## FROM THE VICARAGE

He's alive, He's alive, He has risen! What wonderful words for us to hear this Easter. Words that are almost 2000 years old but are still as true today as they were then. It must have been quite a shock for Mary as she saw an empty tomb.

Only three days before, she had watched as Jesus's body was laid there after he had suffered a horrific death on the cross. Had someone stolen his body? Then Mary saw someone in the garden. Perhaps it was the gardener, who else would be around at that time of the morning? Through Mary's tears, as she heard his voice, she realised it was Jesus, risen from the dead, her Lord and Saviour! Mary went to tell the disciples the amazing news; they found it difficult to believe but Peter and another disciple set off to see for themselves.

They too found Jesus alive! This news wasn't only going to change the lives of those who saw Jesus after he had risen from the dead but has changed many people's lives throughout the world ever since. It has certainly changed mine.

Jesus invites us to come to know Him and truly experience life as God intended it to be. He says in John's gospel "I have come to give life, life in all its fullness." (John 10:10) This doesn't mean life will be easy being a follower of Jesus, but our lives can be transformed by the One who loves us more than anyone, the One who died on a cross and rose again to enable us to have a full relationship with Him.

I wish you all a wonderful Easter; why not use this time to get to know Jesus more. He's alive!

Rev Rach

### AN EASTER PRAYER

Of all of God's gifts  
Easter shows us our fate  
Forgiven we will rise  
And pass through Heaven's gate

This Easter remember  
The sacrifice of a Son  
And through His resurrection  
Eternal life we have won

This Easter I pray  
That the love of God  
Is resurrected  
Reborn, renewed  
Inside your heart  
God Bless You!

~anonymous~



## **EASTER – THE MOST JOYFUL DAY OF THE YEAR**

Easter is the most joyful day of the year for Christians. Christ has died for our sins. We are forgiven. Christ has risen! We are redeemed! We can look forward to an eternity in his joy! Hallelujah!

The Good News of Jesus Christ is a message so simple that you can explain it to someone in a few minutes. It is so profound that for the rest of their lives they will be still be ‘growing’ in their Christian walk with God.

Why does the date move around so much? Because the date of Passover moves around, and according to the biblical account, Easter is tied to the Passover. Passover celebrates the Israelites’ exodus from Egypt and it lasts for seven days, from the middle of the Hebrew month of Nisan, which equates to late March or early April.

Sir Isaac Newton was one of the first to use the Hebrew lunar calendar to come up with firm dates for Good Friday: Friday 7 April 30 AD or Friday 3 April, 33 AD, with Easter Day falling two days later. Modern scholars continue to think these the most likely.

Most people will tell you that Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, which is broadly true. But the precise calculations are complicated and involve something called an ‘ecclesiastical full moon’, which is not the same as the moon in the sky. The earliest possible date for Easter in the West is 22 March, which last fell in 1818 and won’t fall again until 2285. The latest is 25 April, which last happened in 1943 and is next due in 2038.

Why the name, ‘Easter’? In almost every European language, the festival’s name comes from ‘Pesach’, the Hebrew word for Passover. The Germanic word ‘Easter’, however, seems to come from Eostre, a Saxon fertility goddess mentioned by the Venerable Bede. He thought that the Saxons worshipped her in ‘Eostur month’, but may have confused her with the classical dawn goddesses like Eos and Aurora, whose names mean ‘shining in the east’. So Easter might have meant simply ‘beginning month’ – a good time for starting up again after a long winter.

Finally, why Easter eggs? On one hand, they are an ancient symbol of birth in most European cultures. On the other hand, hens start laying regularly again each Spring. Since eggs were forbidden during Lent, it’s easy to see how decorating and eating them became a practical way to celebrate Easter.

Anon



What an amazing few days we had when we were joined by Bishop Libby Lane (Bishop of Stockport and the first female bishop in the Church of England) and her team for a long weekend at the beginning of March.

It was wonderful to see so many people at all the different events from grilling a bishop, visiting local schools and care homes, youth groups, walks, clearing paths, drinks reception, prayer spaces, repair café, watching the 6 nations, curry and Italian evenings and finishing off with a joyous, packed, ecumenical service in the Victoria Hall.

Thank you to all those who made this weekend possible and thank you to all those who came along to see what was going on.

What next? Rev Rach



## DUBLIN CUSTOMS

Five Englishmen in an Audi Quattro arrived at Dublin port. Paddy, the officer, stops them and tells them "It is illegal to put 5 people in a Quattro, Quattro means four." "Quattro is just the name of the car" the Driver says, "Look at the papers; this car is designed to carry 5 persons." "You won't pull that one on me" says Paddy, "Quattro means four.

You have five people in your car so you are breaking the law."

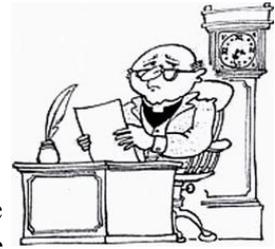
The Driver shouts, "You idiot! Call your supervisor over I want to speak to someone with more intelligence!"

"Sorry," says Paddy, "Murphy is busy with 2 guys in a Fiat Uno.

**PRESS ONE FOR VICAR, TWO FOR CURATE....12 FOR PRAYER....**

The Rectory  
St. James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren



Now you have got your new telephone system in the parish, I shall not be calling you again. I refuse to wait for ten minutes every time I ring to have to listen to the cycle of “press 1 for the vicar, 2 for the curate, 3 for the secretary”, until we end with “12 for requests for prayer”. I was tempted to leave a message on 12 to ask that the wretched machine would break down, but then realised I would have to call a second time to leave a message on 13 for making a confession.

And if I have to listen one more time to someone playing “Thine be the glory” on one finger on an electric organ while I am “on hold” I will have him excommunicated. At least you have the grace while I am waiting not to ask me not to hang up, as my call is important to you. I would even warm to your system if a voice occasionally said that they couldn’t care less whether I hung up or not as my call was utterly irrelevant to them.

Those poor people who have to wait to reach 7 for leaving messages regarding marriages might as well leave a second on 8 for baptisms and save on a large phone bill in months to come; in fact, another on 9 for funerals may well be necessary by the time that number comes up. Entire families could be born, marry and die before they hear that 15 is specially reserved for urgent calls. And may I suggest that your car parking attendant who stuck a note on my windscreen telling me not to park there again is given the number 666.

My own answerphone tells people firmly that the machine is specially designed not to accept incoming messages and that I only answer the thing personally on Thursdays between 10am and 12 noon, provided nothing better has turned up. Alternatively, they could write me a letter which may be answered at my convenience or could be ignored if I disapprove of its contents. This has the added benefit that I have not received any invitations to buy photocopiers or to learn that I have been selected to have a new kitchen installed, for many a year.

For the few who have got hold of my mobile number, my response is to tell them that I am just about to enter a tunnel and then to switch it off. Callers from other parts of the country now believe that the parish of St. James the Least is honeycombed by mile-long tunnels, making communication all-but impossible.

You can now be assured that your new system means you will be contactable at any moment, wherever you happen to be. But don’t call me to complain and expect to receive sympathy; I shall be just about to enter a tunnel.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

## ST MARY'S ANNUAL MEETING AND ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held at St Mary's on Sunday April 22nd at 12.30pm. At that meeting we will elect 2 Churchwardens and new members of the Parochial Church Council. In order to be able to vote at that meeting, you need to be on the Church Electoral Roll; if you wish to join the Roll, please contact John Arthurs as below. Printed copies of The Annual Church Report will be available in church during the 2 weeks before the meeting. If you would like an electronic copy of the report, again contact John on 35406 or via email: [jv.arthurs@yahoo.com](mailto:jv.arthurs@yahoo.com).

## FOODBANK.

Please continue to give regularly to the Foodbank, there is a list of the most needed items alongside the collection point by the church door.

## CRMI-CHILDREN OF HOPE UGANDA

Kathy and husband Mark, will be running the Manchester half marathon on May 20<sup>th</sup> to raise money for various CRMI Uganda projects. They have set up a Just Giving Page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Kathryn-Haughton1>.

Also have a look at <http://www.childrenofhope.org.uk>.

## SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

On this Sunday there will be an opportunity to join others on walk from Grange to Allithwaite via the Hospice on Hampsfell. During the walk we will have an opportunity to stop and reflect on God's wondrous creation.



Meet at Allithwaite Church at 9.45am or by the entrance into Eggerslack Woods on Windermere Road, Grange at 10am. Please wear suitable clothing and bring a packed lunch.

This is open to all, but an adult must accompany children and everyone will be responsible for themselves.

*Please note services will take place as usual, 8am and 10.45am*

### A FRIEND

Is one whom one may pour out all the contents of one's heart, chaff and grain together, knowing that the gentlest of hands will take and sift it.

They will keep what is worth keeping and with a breath of kindness, blow the rest away.

Don't Miss the  
**DEADLINE!**

*Copy for Next issue by the  
15th May please.*

## **AUTUMN**

Autumn is one of the four temperate seasons, it marks the transition from summer into winter.

In September, when the arrival of night comes noticeably earlier and the temperature cools considerably. One of its main features is the shedding of leaves from deciduous trees as they pave way for further growth.

The leaves on some trees begin to change colour, red, orange, and gold colours giving us a wonderful display as the trees prepare for winter then new growth in the spring. This is the wonder of nature in action.

Sometimes our faith is like a tree, Strong, powerful and glorious, however sometimes we can withdraw and wait for the lighter nights and the warm weather so we can spring back to life.

Why wait for spring? Let Jesus into your life every day, feel the renewing power of the Holy Spirit as he refreshes and recharges us every day.

So like a tree sheds leaves to allow new growth, let us shed all our old ways and habits and let Jesus renew and refresh through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Be willing to soak up some light and bask in God's Word, allowing it to expose, correct and heal Leave the darkness behind and bask in the glorious light of the Lord.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17)

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

This is the power of the Lord in action.

Phil Simpkin

### **COFFEE CLUB**

There is a Coffee Morning—**3rd Tuesday** each month at **Abbott Hall**, 10am for 10.20am. There is a speaker and friendly chat. Everyone welcome.

Enquires to Keith Buckler, 015395 30359.

### **ALL OF YOUR CARE ...**

All of your care – the yesterday's long vanished,  
The vain regrets, the heartbreak and the tears,  
Wrong choices made, hopes unfulfilled and broken,  
The blighted harvest of the locust years,  
Leave it to Him, He knows the load you bear  
For you are His, and you are in His care.

All of your care – tomorrow with its problems,  
The lengthening shadows of the passing days,  
The secret fears of failure, weakness, suffering  
Of grief and loss, and straitened lonely ways,  
Leave it to Him, your future will He share,  
For you are His, the object of His care.

All of your care – today with all its burdens,  
Temptations sore, and trials the long hours through,  
Though faith be faltering, and conflict endless,  
Yet He is watching and concerned for you.  
Lay at His feet each burden that you bear,  
Leave them with Him, because you are His care.

Keith Buckler

### **PARAPROSDOKIANS**

A paraprosookian is a figure of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected; frequently used in a humorous situation.

"Where there's a will, I want to be in it," is a paraprosookian. Ok, so now enjoy!

- Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.  
If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
- We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.
- War does not determine who is right - only who is left.
- Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
- Evening news is where they begin with 'Good Evening,' and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.
- To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
- Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.
- You're never too old to learn something stupid.
- Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.
- Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.
- Hospitality is making your guests feel at home even when you wish they were.
- Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.



This month at Allithwaite CE School we have celebrated our outstanding SIAMs inspection outcome. We are all extremely proud of the distinctive Christian character of our school, which we have worked hard as a staff and governing body to build upon. The inspection recognised that our whole school chosen Christian values of ‘friendship, courage, creativity, responsibility, hope and wisdom’ are core threads throughout everyday school life. These values underpin all our learning, our enrichment and our behaviour; resulting in happy, kind and caring children.

We have also celebrated some sporting achievements in gymnastics and in cross-country running from children across our classes competing at different levels within the County. Well done to them for their fantastic outcomes.

World Book Day was great fun, with the children impressing us with their range of well thought out costumes. We enjoyed being introduced to books that we had not come across before and a book treasure hunt.

We are very much looking forward to our sponsored fun run in aid of Children of Hope, the charity we support in Uganda, and Sport Relief.

### **MAD MARCH WINDS**

The month of March has a reputation for a wild and blustery start but usually changes to much milder weather before it ends ... as the old saying goes ‘March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb’.



Homes can be flooded or big trees uprooted in high winds. Even if it doesn’t happen to us we see pictures of other people’s suffering on the television. There was a time when the friends of Jesus were frightened because a fierce storm blew up while they were fishing. The disciples thought their boat was going to sink and they were very frightened.

You can read about it in Mark’s Gospel, chapter 4, verses 35-39.

If you get frightened when the wind blows so hard that the trees bend and the lights flicker then remember that Jesus is with us all the time. Just as He was with the disciples in the boat, He is with us when we are afraid. Jesus gives us hope, courage and strength.

## **PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S, ALLITHWAITE**

On the left-hand side as you enter St Mary's Church, near the Welcome Desk, there is a new display showing the Parochial Church Council (PCC). This article summarises what the PCC is and its role in the church.

At the local level, the whole of England is divided up into parishes. This is so that every home in England has a parish church to which it can look to for spiritual care and the services of the church. The Parish Church for this area is St Mary's Church, Allithwaite. Each parish has churchwardens who are elected every year; the 2 churchwardens at St Mary's are responsible for the church building, and for good order during worship, and are members of the PCC.

The PCC also has other members of the church elected annually or every three years. It is a charity and PCC members are the trustees. Together with the Vicar, the PCC make decisions about types and timing of services, raising and spending of money, and local church life generally.

Apart from these matters the PCC has responsibility for a whole range of things including the care, maintenance and insurance of the church and its contents and the care and maintenance of the churchyard, responsibility for the conduct of the financial affairs of the parish and much more.

So it is important that you know who makes up the PCC at St Mary's Church. They are the people you need to speak to if you have questions about church matters here or if you have suggestions or requests. Please have a look at the display and find out who is on the PCC.

It might be worth noting too that funding for the local church is from local people. There is no 'pot of gold' that the church can dip in to! It can of course apply for grants as with any charity, but it has no right to any external funding source.

For more information or to find out how to contact the church please look at the website: <http://www.allithwaitechurch.org.uk> or the back page of the church magazine.

For general enquiries you may telephone the PCC Secretary John Arthurs 35406 or for financial enquiries the PCC Treasurer John Tindale 07984342266.

Alan Jones



### **EASTER EGG HUNT**

On Easter Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> April, children are invited to an Easter Egg Hunt at 10.30 - 12.30pm in King George V Playground.

£2 per child, refreshments will be available.

## HEALTH

Posted on January 24, 2018 by Passion for the Nation

*“All the people were trying to touch Him because (healing) power was coming from Him and healing them all.”* Luke 6:19

*“Mercy and truth have met together, righteousness and health, prosperity and welfare have kissed.”* Psalm 85:10

We thank You for Your desire this nation be healthy in body, mind and spirit. So, in the Name of Jesus, we declare a new season of health will come upon this land.

Lord, we declare in this nation, lifestyles will be changed and negative patterns broken, as, irrespective of background or wealth, a fresh wisdom for healthy living rests upon individuals, families and communities, supported and encouraged by all related industries in both product and marketing,

We speak to the National Health Service, that in this season, Government, Trusts, managers and medical staff will work together, co-operating and stewarding resources well, that new medical and financial strategies will be found, facilitating Your purpose and Your priority.

In the Name of Jesus, we come into agreement with Your word in Proverbs 16:24; *“pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweet and delightful to the soul and healing to the body”* and we decree a new thankfulness for the NHS will be released within our nation, and we speak encouragement, strength, job satisfaction and honour to all those who work there, that a new atmosphere of peace, in all its fullness will overwhelm every negative atmosphere, in Jesus name.

Now, we acknowledge all healing comes from You, and we stand as Your people in this nation, and we declare an end to the flu epidemic, that a turning will take place, the number affected reduced and hospital resources eased, in the name of Jesus.

Elisabeth Arthurs

### EASYFUNDING

Don't forget when ordering good or booking rail tickets or holidays on line to use **EASYFUNDRAISING**.

**Amazon, Marks and Spencer, Travelodge, Argos, Next**, there are so many High Street stores that will give us a donation. If you are interested in helping the church in this way just click on **EASYFUNDRAISING** and name **St Mary's, Allithwaite** as your chosen charity.

## EASTER QUIZ

1. Which event related to Jesus is celebrated on Easter Sunday?
2. Who entered the tomb of Jesus first?
3. Who said "My Lord and my God." when he saw the risen Jesus?
4. Who mistook the risen Jesus for gardener?
5. When is Easter celebrated?
6. Which is the earliest date when Easter can occur?
7. Which is the latest date when Easter can occur?
8. What is the name given to the last week of Lent?
9. How long is the Easter season?
10. Which is the last day of Easter season?

*(Answers on Page 22, but you really won't need them!)*

Sow in error, reap a fault,  
Sow injustice, reap revolt,  
Sow indulgence, reap a lust,  
Sow a falsehood, reap mistrust.  
Sow a hard heart, reap a stone,  
Sow for self, you reap alone,  
Sow in sin, reap shamefully,  
The Master's word. 'Depart from Me.'

Sow forgiveness, reap amends,  
Sow a kindness, reap new friends,  
Sow a gift, reap a treasure,  
Sow with love, reap beyond measure,  
Sow with courage, reap fresh strength,  
Sow in faith, reap joy at length,  
Sow in goodness, reap reward,  
'Well done, My son' from Christ our Lord.

Keith Buckler



### **ALLITHWAITE AND CARTMEL WI**

The March meeting was well attended and enjoyed an amusing and interesting talk by John Natlacen of Churchmouses Cheeses in Barbon. He gave a potted history of how he became a cheesemonger and provided samples of five different cheeses, there was something for every palette, and each one very distinctive.

The next meeting will be held in the Community Centre, Allithwaite at 2pm on Tuesday April 3rd when Ruth Sutton will be speaking about 'Researching and Writing Local Fiction'.

New members are welcome, please contact Wendy Graham—32702 or the Secretary Carol Lamb—32876.

## **HYMN: The story behind ... Come Ye Thankful People Come By H Alford (1810 – 71)**

Very probably, you will sing this well-loved Harvest hymn this month. It was written by the Rev Henry Alford, DD, a Victorian clergyman who had been a fellow student at Trinity College, Cambridge with Alfred Tennyson, and whose transparent goodness and friendliness seem to have made him liked and appreciated wherever he went.

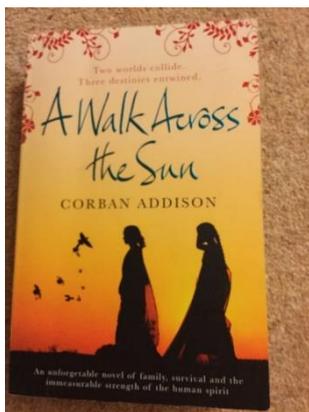
His ministry began as vicar of Wymeswold, a tiny village in Leicestershire with a badly neglected church. Over 18 years, Henry rebuilt the faltering Christian community, faithfully visiting every person in his parish, and preaching his way through the Bible in sermons that were so clear that everyone could understand him. He then moved on to the incumbency of Quebec Chapel in London for four years, before moving to the Deanery of Canterbury, in 1857, where he lived until his death in early 1871.

Henry was one of life's good people; gentle, kindly, grateful for everything he had (he used to say 'grace' before AND after each meal), and eager to encourage all those whom he served. He was prodigiously productive: writing something like 50 books. The best known of these was a four volume exposition of the New Testament, which took him nearly 20 years.

His famous hymn draws upon two of Jesus' parables: the story of the wheat and tares (Mt 13:24-30) and also the story of the seed that grows unbeknown to the sower (Mark 4:26-29). Both are parables drawn from agriculture; both are about the ultimate harvest of our souls before God. During this lifetime we properly give thanks to God for our harvest of his gifts of creation, but we should also reflect on what seed we are sowing in our lives, and what harvest we may expect; as one day God will gather together only his own for the eternal heavenly harvest.

Rev Henry Alford  
1810 – 71

### **HOW AWARE ARE WE OF PEOPLE TRAFFICKING? WHAT CAN WE DO?**



The tragedy of the bonded Chinese people who perished in Morecambe Bay will be remembered in this area for decades. Modern day slavery is everywhere, even on our doorstep. Last autumn Andrea informed us in church about the 'Walk for Freedom', organised worldwide by A21 in support of those who are slaves and those working to stop trafficking of people and modern day slavery. The walkers wear black tape keeping their mouths closed to represent the victims of trafficking who are suffering in silence.

There are other organisations raising awareness and attempting to rescue people they can find. The Government works with Stop the Traffik, founded by Steve Chalke in 2006 and there is also the charity Hope for Justice based in Manchester. Currently, 99% of modern slaves never get rescued and according to the International Labour Organisation 21 million people are trapped in slavery.

**If you see something, say something:** is A21's action point. Inform the police and be informed!

<https://www.stophetraffik.org;>

<http://www.a21.org;>

[http://www.hopeforjustice.org.](http://www.hopeforjustice.org)

My awareness of slavery was heightened when in the late 90's a student in Moldova told how girls are tricked into a 'better life' in Italy and are never heard from again. Then, a post graduate student told about the company he had set up to fight trafficking in India, his home country.

Watchers were being trained to identify regular travellers with their different, young companions as they exited train stations. I was surprised and somewhat incredulous that the situation had become so enormous. Then I found the novel, *A Walk Across the Sun* by Corban Addison. This is a powerful and gripping story by a lawyer who supports human rights and the abolition of modern slavery.

A reviewer for the Irish Sunday Independent wrote that 'it is full of first hand insight that could only come from true-life experience'. The book 'opened my eyes' to the horrors and reality of trafficking for sexual exploitation. It is a very good read, very hard to put down, and will widen the readers' understanding of this huge, ignominious industry.

If any readers are members of a book reading group, there is an edition which has reading group discussion material included. ISBN 978-0-85738-821-6 [www.quercusbooks.co.uk](http://www.quercusbooks.co.uk)

Janice Tindale and Andrea Mason

*March, it seems, has become the month to celebrate women as the stories on this page illustrate ...*

#### **LADY DAY - THE ANNUNCIATION**

Traditionally known as 'Lady Day', 25 March celebrates a beautiful event (*Luke 1.26-38*) in Nazareth, when Mary is already betrothed to Joseph. Archangel Gabriel comes to Mary, greets her as highly favoured, tells her not to be afraid, that she will bear a son Jesus, and that her cousin Elizabeth is already pregnant - with John the Baptist.

It can be no coincidence that this celebration, called the Annunciation, is on 25 March exactly nine months before the birthday of Jesus on 25 December. As the latter part of March almost inevitably falls during Lent the birth and death of Jesus are intrinsically linked - He was born to die, and thus fulfil God's purposes.

The Annunciation is a significant date in the Christian calendar and one of the most frequent depicted in Christian art such as the picture on the right by François Lemoyne painted in 1727. Mary's response to the angel has for centuries been an example of good faith in practice - humility, enquiry of God, and trusting acceptance in his will.



#### **PERPETUA AND FELICITAS, THE JOYFUL MARTYRS**

On 7<sup>th</sup> March the church calendar remembers the joyful martyrs of Africa. Perpetua, a young married woman of 22, had become a Christian. But as the authorities had forbidden conversion, she was arrested and sentenced to death. This was not under Islamic State, nor Boko Haram, but under the emperor Septimius Severus in Carthage, in the year 203.

Imprisoned with Perpetua was Felicitas, a pregnant slave, and seven men. Her family were frantic with worry so she sent a message to reassure them: 'My prison became a palace for me, and I would rather have been there than anywhere else.'

As the days passed Perpetua devoted herself to prayer, and experienced various visions depicting the spiritual battle storming around her. Felicitas gave birth to a girl in the prison, and she and Perpetua enjoyed a last agape meal together. On the day of the games they left the prison for the amphitheatre 'joyfully as though they were on their way to heaven'. Perpetua sang a hymn of praise as animals were prepared for killing the prisoners: leopards and bears for the men, and a maddened heifer for the women.

The heifer did not succeed in killing them, and after the young women exchanged one final kiss of peace, Perpetua herself guided the gladiator's knife to her throat: 'It was as though so great a woman...could not be despatched unless she herself were willing.' Perpetua and Felicitas's joyful witness and unflinching courage went on to inspire many other early Christian martyrs. Down the centuries, the feast day of Perpetua and Felicitas became widely observed.

In 1907 an inscription in their honour was discovered at Carthage in the Basilica Majorum, where they had been buried centuries before. Their memory still lives on: eight episodes of Perpetua's life are represented on a 14<sup>th</sup> century altar frontal at Barcelona.

Mike (Ed)

### **CRMI-CHILDREN OF HOPE UGANDA 2018 MEDICAL MISSION UPDATE**

"To break the cycle of poverty by empowering children through education, healthcare and vocational training"

A HUGE thank you to all who supported our latest annual medical mission with prayer and fellowship, fundraising, donations and child sponsorship, plus sewing the Days for Girls washable sanitary ware kits.

After a year of praying and planning a team of 17 flew out in January led by our UK Director Juliet Burd. For some of us it was our 4<sup>th</sup> medical mission for others their first time and we all bring different and diverse skills. TEAM stands for Together Each Achieves More in this instance and the joy of serving with each other is enriching.

I know a lot of you have followed both Nurse Sarah Clarke's and Peter Gregson's wonderful blogs and will therefore be aware of the many ways our team used their gifts to serve our Ugandan brothers and sisters.

We will be giving a feedback at Church and in various locations around South Lakes in the next few months and dates of these will be announced in Church soon. In the meantime, contact details below for anyone who would like further information.

The enduring challenge we bring back with us -are we living our lives, using our gifts and embracing our social responsibilities as fully surrendered to God as our Children of Hope brothers and sisters and communities are in Uganda?

<https://petergregsonblog.wordpress.com/> or  
<https://sarahclarkkeuga.nda.wordpress.com>.

THANKYOU

Kathy Haughton volunteer Nurse for CRMI

## AN AUCTION DREAM

If I could bid at auction for a very special lot  
It would have to be for something that we have not yet got  
I look around and wonder just what that might be  
It could not be for material things of those we have too many

But just a special something that never costs a penny  
I could bid for wars to cease and love of fellow man  
For everyone to live at peace take that bid if you can  
I could bid for sunshine every day and a little rain at night

Famine, floods, fears fade away the future would be bright  
But that very special auction is but a simple dream  
And for many in this troubled World just a might have been  
So I will have to put away my dream cast all these cares aside

And think of something more mundane than what just might have been  
So I will bid for an old sofa rather worn with springs that creak  
And think of all the lovely folk who sat upon this seat  
It's one that belonged to Auntie May for her Nephews and Nieces used to visit

I have such happy memories of those who have sat on it  
We would sit and read or bounce about she really did not mind  
The sofa was there for everyone whether cheeky John or Alice  
We pretended that the big sofa was in a room in Buckingham Palace

Now that Auntie May has gone to what folks call a better place  
The sofa now sits in an auction room I must bid for we have the space  
We will put it in the sitting room for her great Nephews and Nieces  
To sit or jump and bounce about until it falls to pieces!

Flo Davison

## LETTER FROM A TRAINEE READER – Episode 7

I'm writing this letter on March 1<sup>st</sup>. The first day of Spring. Inside, we light a fire and our daughter texts to say she has an unexpected 'snow day'. The school where she teaches is closed again. I'm relieved she won't be driving. Outside, the wind howls as 'The Beast from The East' meets 'Storm Emma'. We began the New Year focusing on the New Testament and the words I am reading take on extra resonance as I am forced to retreat, literally, into the depths of our back kitchen and my thoughts. "All you need is love" sang the Beatles and the phrase comes to mind as I consider Paul's lines on the same subject (1 Cor.13). What did he mean by 'love'? What must I do/how must I behave towards my 'neighbour' who I am told, elsewhere, I must love 'as myself'? Because I'm not sure how this would go. We generally count it a problem when someone 'loves themselves'. I know the loyalty and commitment which are part and parcel of my love for my children and grandchildren are. Is that how I should love everyone, regardless? Tricky. There aren't enough hours in the day!

Who remembers Joyce Grenfell's wonderful Nursery School sketches? In one of them, Susan bites another child and is told to apologise but then Joyce cries out in an agonised voice, "You needn't kiss him. No, you needn't hug him. Susan, PUT HIM DOWN." Loving your neighbour clearly doesn't have to be demonstrative!!

What guidance does Paul give? Well, he tells us how love should be: patient, kind, long-suffering. However, if we adopted these qualities all of the time we should surely lack life and vigour.

What about humour, playfulness, irony ... action!?! Perhaps the key is to focus on the things he warns against rather than trying to follow the 'oughts' too prescriptively i.e: not being envious, boastful, arrogant, rude, insisting on our own way, being irritable, resentful. In fact Paul appears to be equating love with what we might describe as being 'mindful' of others and perhaps the way to be that is by first learning to be mindful of ourselves. Loving ourselves isn't, or doesn't have to be, narcissistic after all; it might be more about a gentle and honest appraisal. Who am I/what am I .. i.e. really? A humble recognition of our origins, our limitations, should immediately forestall that list of Paul's (above).

Here are some lines from a favourite poet, this time W.B. Yeats in A Prayer for My Daughter:

"In courtesy I'd have her chiefly learned;

Let's all study deserving. Daughters and Sons!  
Belated Happy 2018,

Heather.

### **SATNAV**

I have a little Satnav, it sits there in my car.  
A Satnav is a driver's friend it tells you where you are.  
I have a little Satnav, I've had it all my life.  
It's better than the normal ones, my Satnav is my wife.

It gives me full instructions, especially how to drive.  
"It's sixty miles an hour", it says, "You're doing sixty five".  
It tells me when to stop and start, and when to use the brake.  
And tells me that it's never ever, safe to overtake.

It tells me when a light is red, and when it goes to green.  
It seems to know instinctively, just when to intervene.  
It lists the vehicles just in front, and all those to the rear.  
And taking this into account, it specifies my gear.

I'm sure no other driver, has so helpful a device.  
For when we leave and lock the car, it still gives its advice.  
It fills me up with counselling, each journey's pretty fraught.  
So why don't I exchange it, and get a quieter sort?

Ah well, you see, it cleans the house, makes sure I'm properly fed.  
It washes all my shirts and things and keeps me warm in bed!  
Despite all these advantages, and my tendency to scoff.  
I only wish that now and then, I could turn it off!

**WE'RE OFF TO KENYA:** CHECK:- Passport, Visa, Malaria tablets – YES

Unfortunately, and unknowingly, we also took the 'flu, which drastically reduced our pace for the first week of this 2 week adventure. (Altitude, high daytime temperatures and dust do not aid recovery!) HOWEVER, it was to be inspirational trip.

We were part of a group of 13 people visiting and supporting the Open Arms International Orphanage and School at Eldoret, a town about 4 hours North of Nairobi, 6,000 feet above sea level and near the Great Rift Valley.

The project was birthed by an American couple, Rachel and David Gallagher, about 15 years ago. From humble beginnings it has developed into Open Arms Village, a home to over 130 children, most of whom have been orphaned, abandoned, or removed from homes due to neglect or abuse. We heard the story of one 3 year old boy, who had been found as a baby, on a rubbish heap, with his throat cut. The Village is located on 52 rural acres outside Eldoret, children reside in a safe, Christ-centred family, created just for them.

Aged from 3 to 18 years they are cared for in 6 separate houses, each with a Kenyan Mummy and Daddy, supported by other helpers. Recent developments include a baby home, small bakery, medical centre, small farm and embryonic fish farm.

Children attend the school on site from pre-Primary up to year 9 and include a considerable number of sponsored children from local villages, and some whose parents choose to pay to send them to the school which has gained such a good reputation.

As a team, our focus was on the school. We took a lot of equipment with us including a number of teaching aids. Our role was to support the teachers and work with the children in small groups to facilitate the use of the new equipment.

Quite taxing, as the range of ability in any one class was far greater than you would find in a school here. Language is also an issue: the young children arrive with a variety of local languages, eventually progress to Swahili, and then to English, in which all lessons are conducted.

Not being teachers ourselves it was also good to help with outdoor activities, simply engage with the children, join in inspiring Sunday worship, and Lis, in recovery, was thrilled to participate in painting a mural for the baby unit.

On 3 evenings we split into groups of 3 or 4 to share in the evening meal and pre-dinner devotions (with drum accompaniment!) in one of the 6 homes.

Watching each 'family' of 18 children, some as young as 4, offering their own thanksgiving and favourite memory verse, without prompting, (*you could say lost in wonder, love and praise to God*) was a joy and a moving faith injection.

OAI is an oasis of love, stability and joy in an area of obvious poverty – shanty towns, high levels of unemployment, and 40% population under 20 years of age. It is unashamedly founded and run on Christian principles:

**Children at Open Arms Village receive:**

A Christ-centred environment for physical, emotional, and spiritual healing as well as growth.

A nurturing family consisting of two Kenyan house parents who raise them along with other children, helping to cultivate purpose and instil moral integrity.

A quality education at the Open Arms Academy.

Most importantly - ***HOPE for the Future!***

Lis: laid up and wrapped up in 2 blankets, in temperatures of 27 degrees was led to reflect that *this place overflows with the reality of the fruit of the Holy Spirit:- Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.* (The latter demonstrated by the way the children perform home duties and class responsibilities with easy grace).

Open Arms Village also provides: part-time and full-time jobs for the community. A home-base from which to operate feeding, mentoring, and medical outreach for the community.

We also visited the “Noah Initiative” run by Elliot Berry, son of a local Cumbrian hotelier. Having himself volunteered at OAI, and marrying a Kenyan girl, he was inspired to set up his own project, which focuses on supporting late teenage boys who do not have a father figure in their lives – sadly often the case; Generally mentoring these young men who may otherwise turn to crime or destitution through after-school clubs, sporting and counselling opportunities for both boys and their guardians. Dance and drama play an important role. We were treated to an energetic performance of both, culminating in our being invited to participate with our own ‘moves’ and for some, who shall remain nameless, their best dad dance!

**Memories of Kenya:** Kenyan roads: their effects on both joints and lungs, near misses – never complain about Cumbria potholes again- and KENYAN TIMEKEEPING!  
But most of all the children and staff.

The Fruit of the Holy Spirit is a biblical term that sums up nine attributes of a person or community living in accord with the Holy Spirit according to the Epistle to the Galatians: “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” Galatians 5:22-23

***There are 1.1 million children orphaned  
by AIDS in Kenya – UNICEF***



Lis and John Arthur

**Due to when Easter falls this year, our April services will follow a slightly different pattern.**

There will be 8am BCP communion on every Sunday at St. Mary's apart from 29<sup>th</sup> April.

**1<sup>st</sup> April Easter Sunday 10.45am** All Age communion

**8<sup>th</sup> April 10.45am** All Age service

**15<sup>th</sup> April 10.45am** Morning Prayer or reflective walk (see separate notice on p.22)

**22<sup>nd</sup> April 10.45am** Short Communion Service followed by APCM

**29<sup>th</sup> April 9am** Joint service at St. John's, Flookburgh. Breakfast served at 9am followed by All Age service.

**Sunday Services**

There are services every Sunday at: 8.00am and 10.45am.

The **First Sunday** of the month is a Service of the Word.

The **Second** and **Fourth Sundays** in the month are Holy Communion.

The **Third Sunday** of the month is an All-Age Service.

The occasional **Fifth Sunday** could be anything!

Our **Sunday School** meets during the morning service on most Sundays apart from All-Age Services.

**Saturday morning prayers.** Meet at St Mary's Church every Saturday morning at 9am for an informal time of prayer. All are welcome .

**Service sheets**—large print copies are available on the Welcome Desk, we also have a hearing loop system.

**ANSWERS**

1. Resurrection
2. Peter
3. Thomas
4. Mary Magdalene
5. First Sunday after full moon on or after vernal equinox
6. 22 March
7. 25 April
8. Holy Week / Passion Week
9. 50 days
10. Pentecost



# The Bulletin Board



This year during Holy Week, we will be holding various team services. Everyone is very welcome.

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

Prayer Spaces at St. Mary's Church, Allithwaite. Come any time between 7.00pm – 8.30pm

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

Stations of the cross at St. Paul's, Grange. 7pm.

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

Taster Seder Meal at St. Mary's, Allithwaite. 7pm (please note this is a taster meal so eat first)

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

Maudy Thursday Communion Service at St. John's, Flookburgh and St. Paul's, Grange at 7.30pm

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March**

Good Friday Outdoor Worship at Abbot Hall, Kents Bank 11am and Devotions at the cross, St. Paul's, Grange 12 – 3pm

**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

Easter Vigil at St. Mary's, Staveley in Cartmel, 8.30pm

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April**

Easter sunrise service, Hampsfell Car Park, 6.30am

Easter Day BCP Communion Service at St. Mary's, Allithwaite 8am

Easter Day All Age Communion service, St. Mary's, Allithwaite 10.45am

If you want to get further details of any of these events, please speak to John Arthurs 35406

**THE CARTMEL PENINSULA TEAM MINISTRY  
PARISH OF SAINT MARY'S, ALLITHWAITE**

<b>TEAM VICAR</b>	The Reverend Rachel Stavert	(83187)
<b>TEAM RECTOR</b>	Vacant	
<b>TEAM VICAR</b>	Vacant	
<b>ASST PRIEST</b>	The Reverend George Wilson	(59215)
<b>TEAM CURATE</b>	The Reverend Andrew Norman	(39355)
<b>CHURCHWARDENS</b>	Peter Hogan	(83568)
	Ian Davey	(35950)
<b>PCC SECRETARY</b>	John Arthurs	(35406)
<b>PCC TREASURER</b>	John Tindale	(07984 342 266)
<b>TEAM OFFICE</b>	Linda Brown	(35560)
(Tues Wed 10.00 —12.30)	cptmoffice@gmail.com	
(Fri 9.00 — 13.00)		
<b>MAGAZINE EDITOR</b>	Mike Lamb	(32876)
<b>MARY LAMBERT HALL</b>	Bookings	(32144)
<b>COMMUNITY CENTRE</b>	Caretaker and Bookings	(07582 706 353)

Don't Miss the  
**DEADLINE!**

Items for the next issue of the magazine can be submitted any time, but before the 15th May please, and send to:

Mike Lamb, 6 Hazelgarth, Allithwaite, LA11 7RS  
Home Tel: 015395 32876  
Mobile Tel: 077757 36970

You can also place you articles in the letter rack in the vestry, post them or e-mail [mikelamb34th@yahoo.com](mailto:mikelamb34th@yahoo.com).

Please sign your article and include your telephone number in case of queries.

Thank you,

*Mike (Ed)*