

The Messenger
Parish Magazine of



**St George
and**



**All Saints'
Chorley**

June 2025

Parish Clergy

	Vicar Vacancy ¹	
	Assistant Curate The Revd Jordan Bentiff MA (Hons) Tel: 01257438000 / 07450 269010 Email: cjbenyilf@hotmail.co.uk	
	Retired Clergy with Permission to Officiate The Revd. Peter Smith BA (Hons), PTO Tel: 07412 624931 Email: ordinand07@gmail.com	

Regular Services

The Parish Church of St George Sunday 9:30am Family Eucharist Wednesday 10:00am Eucharist www.stgeorgechorley.co.uk	The Parish Church of All Saints' Sunday 11:00am Family Eucharist Sunday 4:00pm Closer Service Thursday 10:30am Eucharist www.allsaintschorley.com
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Parish Contacts

Parish Safeguarding Officer	Dr Victoria Gibson safeguarding@stgeorgechorley.co.uk	07921 010900
Parish Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Sara Shingler shinglebelly@yahoo.com	
Parish Treasurer	Mr Stephen Pollard treasurer@stgeorgechorley.co.uk	07568 502770
Parish Magazine Editor	Mrs Christine Gibson acvgibson@sky.com	01257 260555
Parish Health & Safety Officer	Mr John Bradley jm30.bradley@gmail.com	07375 047982
Parish Visiting & Lay Ministry Team	Mrs Carol Pearson (Authorised Lay Minister) carolpearson@outlook.com	07981 021288
Parish Youth Group	Meet every Friday 5:30pm to 7:00pm at All Saints' Church (contact Fr Jordan)	07450 269010

St George's Contacts

Churchwardens	Mr John Bradley jm30.bradley@gmail.com Mrs Lorraine Smith lorraine54@me.com	07375 047982 07729 886640
Organist & Choirmaster	Mr Gordon Blackledge ARCO FTCL	01257 274922
Verger	Vacancy	
Flower Guild Secretary	Mrs Freda Armstrong	01257 262918
Bell Tower Captain	Dr Victoria Gibson drvigibson@outlook.com	07921 010900
Church Hall	Mrs Sian Phillipson Manager/Booking churchhall@stgeorgechorley.co.uk	07734 232584
St George's Primary School	Mr Andy Purcell, Head Teacher	01257 262323
Sunday Club	We meet in the Church Hall 9:25am on a normal Sunday	
Men's Fellowship	2nd Wednesday 7:30pm, Church Hall	01257 263245
Mothers' Union	2nd & last Thursday 7:30pm, Church Hall	
Thursday Ladies Circle	1st & 3rd Thursday 7:30pm, Church Hall	
Dramatic & Musical Society	Friday 7:00pm, Church Hall	
Badminton Club	Monday 8:00pm, Church Hall	
Church Institute	Monday - Thursday 2:00pm -11:00pm Friday & Saturday 2:00pm -12:00 midnight Sunday 12:00 noon -11:00pm	01257 413107
Toddler & Baby Group	Little Steps meet Wednesday (term time) Church Hall	

St George's Uniformed Organisations Meet at Church Hall (Term Time)		
Rainbows	Kathryn Winters Tuesday 5.00pm	07701 353425
Brownies	Kathryn Winters Tuesday 6.15pm	07701 353425
Guides	Sarah Glover Tuesday 7.15pm	07974 687541

Red Bank Uniformed Organisations Meet at Red Bank Mission Hall (Term Time)		
Beaver Scouts Scouts Cub Scouts	Monday 6:15pm Monday 7:30pm Jackie Beesley (GSL) Tuesday 6:50pm	01257 270770
Rainbows	Wednesday 5:30pm Kaitlin Hunter	
Brownies	Wednesday 6:45pm Lynsey Torrens	
Guides	Thursday 6:45pm Jackie Beesley	01257 270770

All Saints' Contacts

Churchwardens	Mrs Shirley Starkey churchwarden.allsaints@yahoo.com Mrs Joyce Jolly joycejolly21@gmail.com	07806 682946 01257 278057
Verger	Mrs Christine Ireland	01257 273281 07596 443163
All Saints' Primary School and Nursery Unit	Mrs Sarah Partington, Head Teacher	01257 262489
Flower Guild Secretary	Mrs Marjorie Holland d_holland1@sky.com	01257 271830
Mothers' Union	Mrs Marjorie Holland d_holland1@sky.com Meet every 1 st & 3 rd Wednesday at 2:00pm (locations vary)	01257 271830
Ladies Friendship Group	Mrs Rachael Anders-Kay rachaelanderskay@gmail.com See notice sheet for meetings	07851 210120
Men's Social Group	Mr Michael Anders-Kay michaelanderskay@gmail.com See notice sheet for meetings	07923 255325

Please notify the Parish Magazine Editor of any changes/updates
Mrs Christine Gibson acvgibson@sky.com 01257 260555

I now cast this little Publication into your hands earnestly hoping that it may meet with your approbation, and enable you to spend a happy and profitable hour whilst reading over its pages".

Rev. John Stock 1863, The Messenger first issue

Dear friends,

I wonder if you've ever heard of the 'teaspoon prayer'. It uses the abbreviation of 'tsp' to prompt our prayers, working through Thank you, then Sorry, and finally Please, as we can so often jump straight to our 'please' prayers. As we reflect on our time at St George's and All Saints, this phrase from the teaspoon prayer, 'Thank You, Sorry, Please' came to mind as we seek to sum up six years in a short editorial!

Thank you: First and most important, thank you from all of us. Thank you for your friendship over six busy years. Together we have been through an awful lot. As a Church Family, we've come through a pandemic by pulling together, sharing in pre-recorded services, Facebook, phone calls and waves through windows. We've restarted services and rethought what we might offer to our parish. We've started new things, like Little Steps and Vicarage BBQs, and continued and strengthened pre-existing events like Christmas Fairs and Harvest Socials. We've hosted the outside world in classic car galas, Last Night of the Proms, and Joseph Sing-a-longs. We've said goodbye to a queen and said hello to a king. We've rung bells, picked up litter, welcomed a curate, joined together as two churches yet one parish. We've drawn closer to God as we've studied the bible from the very beginning in summer sermons, done Lent courses, bible courses, and prayer courses in small groups. We've smiled at baptisms and cried at funerals, and all of this we have done together. You welcomed us as a pair and then celebrated with us as Amelie arrived (including vast arrays of food, cards and gifts). There have been many little kindnesses on the way, too many to mention, but you know who you are. And so, as we come to leave, we want to thank you, every single one of you, from the bottom of our hearts. They say that one's first parish has a special place in one's heart and you'll certainly occupy a special place in ours.

Sorry: Second I, Mike, must apologise if there have ever been moments when we have upset you or let you down. Any priest or leader, however careful, will make mistakes and I am very aware of my

failures and I can only apologise if you have been hurt. It was never intentional but that doesn't necessarily make it any easier. I can only say sorry and ask forgiveness.

Please: Finally, please do be praying. For us, yes, for Amelie, definitely, and for our new parish, absolutely. But please do, also, be praying for St George's. The PCC and clergy have a lot to do in the vacancy, so do be praying for them to know God's presence and guidance in difficult moments. Be praying for the next priest, whomever that is, only God knows.

Pray that they would hear His call to the parish and the parish would recognise them when they apply. This is an important moment for any parish and who you get next will make a big impact, so please do pray.



Six years, doesn't it go by in a blink! Thank you, again, for all you have done and all you are to each one of us. We will miss you all and as Langho isn't so far away, hopefully, we will see you again soon.

Fr Mike, Natalie, and Amelie xxx

Our Vision - Closer to Christ; further out for Christ.



Bishop Jo Preaching on St George's Day



**Garden Party at 35 Chester Avenue,
Duxbury, Chorley PR7 4AG
on
Saturday, 12 July, 2025**

**To be opened at 2.00pm
by the Speaker, Sir Lindsay Hoyle, MP
Admission by ticket £6 children Free
afternoon Tea, Stalls, tombola, Cakes, Books
Bring and Buy In aid of MS Trust**



The Men's Fellowship Annual Meal at The Owls Standish

St George's Church Congregation Numbers

Week Beginning	Children Attending	Adults Attending	Communicants
6th April	24	129	121
13th April	41	133	134
20th April	42	214	197
27th April	92	221	183

Note - The attendance numbers include all the services within the week

St George's Church - Holy Baptism

Lotte Marsh

Holy Matrimony - None

Please pray for those struggling with illnesses of any sort, and especially for:

**Alan Fairclough, Marian Crossthwaite, Harold Dunseath,
Linda Eubank, Richard Wilk, Simon Newell & Margaret Salisbank**

**And for the families of those who have died recently
Steve Cox, Elaine Bruce, Patrica Farrier & Pope Francis**

**We remember all those who are currently housebound and unable to be
with us in Church.**



It was smiles all the way for those who ran in the Chorley 10k and 2k event recently, especially from Jo and Amelia and Revd, Jordan (who masqueraded as a dinosaur!) Their amazing effort raised funds to support All Saints' Church and All Saints' School. Well done and a big thankyou to everyone for your donations.





Spotlight on Safeguarding

This month I would like to focus on mental health and where you can get support for yourself or a loved one.

In Chorley, individuals can access various mental health support services, including local NHS services and community-based options like the Community Engagement Prevention Team (CPET). For immediate help, contacting NHS 111 online or by phone is recommended. The Samaritans also offer free, confidential support.

Local Resources:

Chorley Council:

Offers a range of support services, including the Community Engagement Prevention Team (CPET) which focuses on empowering individuals through social inclusion and promoting mental wellbeing.

Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust:

Provides access to specialist mental health services, including referrals and support for those with severe or complex needs, as mentioned on their website.

NHS 111:

Provides immediate advice and support for mental health concerns online or by phone.

Samaritans:

Offers 24/7 free and confidential emotional support through their helpline.

Other Support Options:

Every Mind Matters:

Provides information and advice on improving well-being and mental health.

Shout:

Offers free text message support for mental health challenges, available 24/7.

Together All:

A 24/7 online community and support platform, especially for individuals with military connections, according to the GOV.UK website.

Mental Health Foundation:

A national charity providing information and support on mental health issues.

In an Emergency:

If you or someone else is in danger, call 999 or go to the nearest A&E department.

If you are experiencing a mental health crisis but are not in immediate danger, call NHS 111 or visit their website for guidance.

Victoria

Dr Victoria Gibson, Parish Safeguarding Officer, 0792 1010 900
safeguarding@stgeorgechorley.co.uk

CHRISTIAN MEN'S
DISCIPLESHIP CONFERENCE

SCAN



MADE

in His image

EXPLORING OUR IDENTITY
AS MEN OF GOD

12.07.2025
9:30AM-4:00PM

All Saints' Church,
Moor Road PR7 2NU



ALL CHRISTIAN MEN ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR DYNAMIC
GUEST SPEAKERS AND PROFESSIONAL WORSHIP MUSIC
LUNCH AND REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

Thy Kingdom Come

Thy Kingdom Come (TKC) is a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus.

Since it began in May 2016, God has grown TKC from a dream of possibility into a movement which unites more than a million Christians in prayer, in nearly 90% of countries worldwide, across 85 different denominations and traditions- so that friends and family, neighbours and colleagues might come to faith in Jesus Christ.

Every person, household and church is encouraged to pray during the 11 days in their own way.

It is the hope & prayer, that those who have not yet heard the Good News of Jesus Christ and His love for the world, will hear it for themselves and respond and follow Him.



Specifically, every Christian across the globe is invited to pray that God's Spirit might work in the lives of 5 people who have not responded with their 'Yes' to God's call.

Whether you have joined in 'Thy Kingdom Come' before or not, we invite you to take part & join in. To encourage this we are having a prayer tree in both churches where you can hang a hand with a name on each finger of people that you would like to pray for to come to know Jesus. After Pentecost these will be removed and the people prayed for in our Wednesday Prayer meeting. The Prayer tree will remain in station throughout the year with the prayer focus changing every couple of months.

Further resources for Thy Kingdom Come can be found on www.thykingdomcome.global where they can be downloaded for free.

Mission and Discipleship Team.

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OPENING TIMES:- Monday - Thursday 2pm - 11pm,
Friday & Saturday 2pm - 12 midnight
Sunday 12 noon - 11pm



*You are all so welcome to
come and join All Saints' new*

SUNDAY SCHOOL!

*For 0-18's every Sunday during our 11am
Eucharistic Worship, All Saints' Church,
Moor Road*

Mothers' Union

DEANERY FESTIVAL

On Thursday 15th May Fifteen Mother's Union branches along with ourselves congregated at St. Laurence for our annual Deanery Festival. Over 125 people joined in a wonderful, joyful service of hymns and prayer. Banners from every branch were proudly processed in at



the beginning, our banner carrier being Lorraine Smith and escort Carol Pearson. During the service, Long Service Certificates were presented to members who were due them (none from our branch this year) and also Avril Fowler (our Deanery Presiding Member) enrolled Fr Cornelius Asghar as the latest member of the

Mothers' Union. We were pleased to welcome the newly elected Mayor and Mayoress of Chorley on what was their first official engagement and refreshments went down well afterwards. Two ladies from All Saints Gwen Taylor and Marie Mason both received Certificates for an amazing 55 years each as members. The photo shows Gwen Taylor and her daughter. Avril presenting Fr Cornelius with his membership card after enrolment.

Members of St. George's enjoying talking after the service.







Mothers' Union VE DAY CELEBRATION – 8th MAY 2025

We were very fortunate that this memorable occasion just happened to be on our meeting night and when have the MU ever been known to pass on a good party. EXACTLY and a party we had. In the company of the Men's Fellowship and All Saint's MU who we had invited, it was a brilliant night. Appropriate music of the era, food supplied by all (so much food in fact you couldn't really find room on the table for more) all delicious, and maybe even a tipple or two. We had great conversations and wonderful fellowship. I think it's fair to say it was enjoyed by all.

Gloria Dunseath

Branch Leader



The History Page June 1825 Two Hundred Years Ago

At last! After around a year's wait, the new Chorley chapel of ease received a consecration date. The new Bishop of Chester, C.J.Blomfield, specified 11 August as the day he would come to open and dedicate the Church. This was to be part of a tour of South Lancashire involving a backlog of confirmations as well as consecrations at Churches like St Peter, Preston and St Paul's Preston, both Commissioners' churches like St George's.

But hold! Nothing seemed to run smoothly. On 22 July, the new eagle-eyed registrar at Chester Diocese spotted that the conveyance of the land St George's occupied had been erroneously made out to the Churchwardens of the mother church, St Laurence's. The conveyance for a Commissioners' church should be to the Church Building Commission, who would then invest the deed with Chester Diocese. Fortunately, the Cunliffe and Grundy estate, which donated the main part of the land St George's was built on, were represented in law by R.E. Cunliffe, a family member in a Manchester solicitor's practice. Thus, the correct legal document was deposited and at the end of July Bishop Blomfield confirmed he would duly consecrate St George's on 11 August.

Nearly there

Bill Walker

St George's Bi-Centenary Year 2025

Notes for your Diary

Bi-Centenary Parish Dinner, 13th June Cunliffe Hall
(Masonic hall)

October Dams Bi-Centenary Musical Production
John Bradley

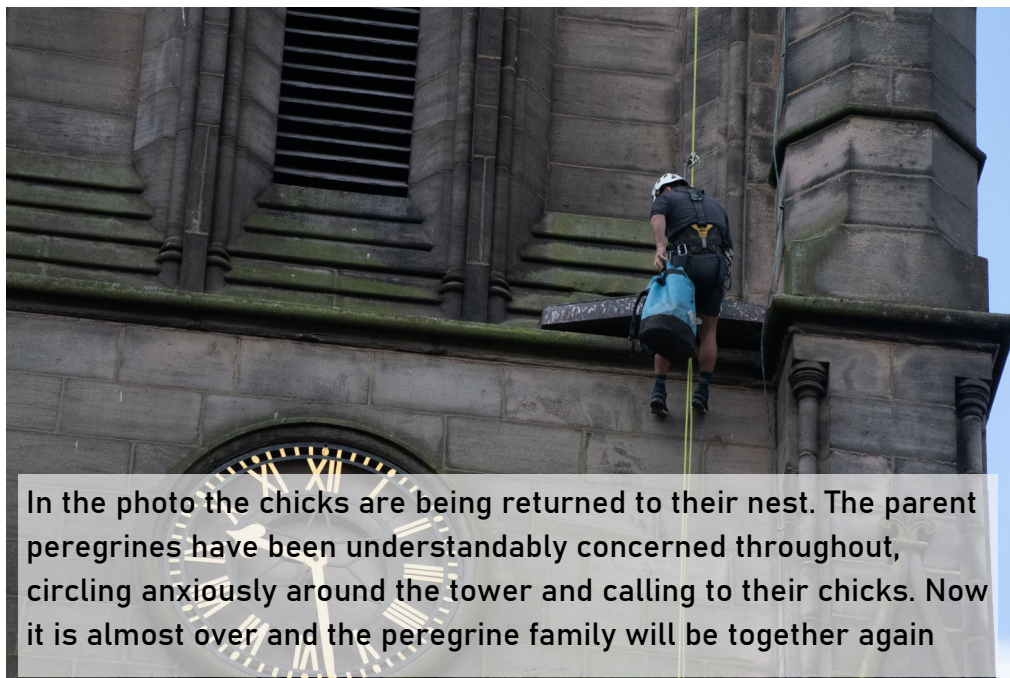
Peregrine News

The Peregrine family are progressing well and the chicks are - ready to be health checked, registered and recorded.



No wonder special protective gloves and clothing are essential for the task!





In the photo the chicks are being returned to their nest. The parent peregrines have been understandably concerned throughout, circling anxiously around the tower and calling to their chicks. Now it is almost over and the peregrine family will be together again

SONGS OF PRAISE

7.00pm, Friday 4th July 2025

As part of our bicentennial celebrations we are putting on a Songs of Praise, to be held in Church on Friday 4th July 2025, commencing at 7.00pm. This should be a memorable occasion and will include many well known hymns and other musical extracts, sung by an augmented choir and accompanied by both our magnificent organ and brass. It is hoped that as many people as possible will support the event and spread the word. Invitations are being sent to all other churches in the deanery, and local dignitaries.

If you have a favourite hymn then please have a word with me after the Sunday morning service in the next couple of weeks. Alternatively, I can be contacted via email: gordon.blackledge@btinternet.com

This is a parish event and it would be good to have as much input as possible from our regular congregation.

Gordon



**THE PARISH OF
ST GEORGE'S AND ALL SAINTS'**



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH MOOR ROAD

**contact: cjbentliff@hotmail.co.uk
07450269010**

Parish Magazine 2025 Dates

Issue	Deadline (Sunday)	Available (Sunday)
July/August	22nd June	6th July
September	24th August	7th September
October	21st September	5th October
November	19th October	2nd November
December/January	23rd November	7th December
Contributions for inclusion in The Messenger can be given to Chris Gibson or can be emailed to acvgibson@sky.com		

Thursday Ladies Circle

On the 1st May we had the pleasure of going to see the Vicar of Dibley at Chorley Little Theatre. It was very funny and extremely well acted, and enjoyed by all of us.

Bill Walker very kindly did a treasure hunt for our next meeting in May. Due to other commitments, only 6 of us managed to go. It was a lovely sunny evening and we all had a very pleasant walk leaving from the Fieldfare, around Astley Park and returning to the pub for refreshments. Thank you Bill for taking the time to organise it for us.

Future meetings. 5th June. Making paper roses, with nibbles.

19th June. A whist drive,

Everyone is welcome.

Cath Jolly

VE Day 80th Anniversary National Bell Ring

On Thursday 8th May St George's Bell Tower took part in a national bell ring to mark the 80th Anniversary of VE Day. 20 volunteers took part in a 30-minute continuous peal which was a fantastic achievement! There were cakes for all, and the Tower Room was decorated in red, white and blue!

A big thank you to the volunteers – the bells sounded fantastic and there was a magnificent atmosphere with everyone supporting and cheering each other on.

If anyone is interested in learning how to play the bells and/or would like to take part in our Bicentenary Bells event in September – please make contact with me.



Dr Victoria Gibson, Bell Tower Captain 0792 1010 900,
drvigibson@outlook.com

All Saints' Church Congregation Numbers

Week Beginning	Children Attending	Adults Attending	Communicants
6th April	52	83	54
13th April	42	56	43
20th April	142	114	70
27 April	35	61	41

Note - The attendance numbers include all the services within the week

All Saints' Church -

Holy Baptism - None

Holy Matrimony - none

Please pray for those struggling with illnesses of any sort, and especially for:

Paul Caterall, Linda Eubank, Ken Starkey, Christine Gothard, Michael Baxendale, Pam McLachlan, Linda Carrara, & residents of Gillibrand Hall and Coniston House.

**And for the families of those who have died recently
Pope Francis, Glenda Grundy & Joyce Greenhalgh**

2025 Flower Rota

St George's

Date	One Pedestal	Lady Chapel
4th May	Mrs Parkinson	
11th May	Mr Walker	
18th May	Mrs Lawrenson	Mrs Parkinson
25th May	Mrs Mason	Mr Birkett
1st June		
8th June	Mrs Ellison	
15th June	Mr Allman	
22nd June		
29th June	Mrs Armstrong	

ST GEORGES AND ALL SAINTS CELEBRATION EVENING

To Celebrate the Bi-Centenary Anniversary
of St Georges Church

13th June 7.00pm

Cunliffe Hall Street, Chorley PR7 2BE

Please join us for a hot buffet,
live band and dancing. Black tie optional

£30pp

For tickets please contact John Bradley 07375 047982, jm30bradley@gmail.com





ALL SAINTS CHURCH

CLOSER

TO GOD | TO OUR COMMUNITY | TO ONE ANOTHER

EVERY SUNDAY @ 4PM

JOIN US FOR CRAFTS, FUN, MUSIC, PRAYER AND
PRAISE AS WE WORSHIP GOD TOGETHER IN OUR
NEW GATHERING FOR FAMILIES AND YOUNG
PEOPLE!

Revd. Jordan Bentliff

*Assistant Curate in the Parish of St George, Chorley and
the Parish of All Saints, Chorley*

Tel: 01257438000
Mob: 07450269010

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