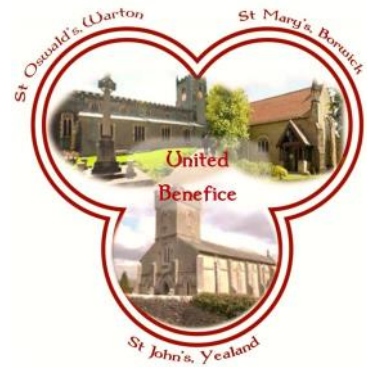


Parish News

The Benefice Magazine for
St Oswald's, Warton
and St Mary's, Borwick
with St John's, Yealand



**December 2021/
January 2022**

DEAR READER

Hello everyone

Re-formatting all the entries for your Parish Magazine can take up to **10 hours per edition**, so to help **reduce the volunteer time** involved in producing and editing your magazine, please try to send your copy in as follows:

1. When submitting pictures or photographs, think how they will look when printed in black and white.
2. Please use Calibri font size 14pt in black.
3. Copy submitted by email to be in plain text as above.
4. Please set paragraph spacing to 0.
5. Please set line spacing to 1.
6. Please avoid the use of styles.
7. **Please submit posters in landscape format.**



If you need any help with the above, please do not hesitate to ask Robin or myself for advice, we are always happy to help 😊

Kind regards, Kate

Keeping in touch

As we unlock from the restrictions of the past 18 months of the Covid-19 pandemic, it will remain important that we keep in contact with each other in a variety of ways: phone, email, social media, post.



Robin will continue to send occasional pastoral letters by email and post. If you do not currently receive these communications and would like to do so, please either:

- Send an email to vicarwby@outlook.com to confirm your email address, or
- Phone 01524 732946 and leave a message confirming your name and postal address.

The Benefice and Social Media

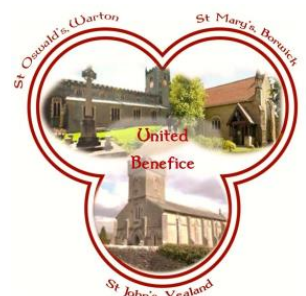
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or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/UnitedWBY/



or on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/UnitedWBY>



Welcome to our December Parish News

Dear friends,

During December we travel through the season of Advent, the time of preparation for the great celebration of Christmas when we remember the moment in history when God came to reveal God's self in the human face of Jesus.

The story of God in Jesus is a story of God sharing fully in our humanity, the good and the bad, the highs and the lows. In a world that continues to face great challenges from the pandemics of human violence, the climate crisis and Covid -19, God comes to offer a new vision; a vision of a new way of being.

It is nearly two years since the new coronavirus emerged in Wuhan in China and quickly spread worldwide. The concern raised by the new Omicron variant means that, whilst this Christmas celebration will be better in many ways than last year's, we must continue to be cautious and do all that is necessary to keep each other safe. Journeying through a pandemic is proving to be a marathon, not a sprint.

The COP26 UN Climate Change Conference ended less than a month ago, but it seems longer, with almost no coverage of the issues since. On page 28 you can read the statement by the Church of England lead bishops on the environment, which included: "Negotiations always have some compromises and disappointments. These impact the world's economically poorest the most. We must now keep up the moral pressure so that pledges are urgently turned into measurable action".

We have also faced recently the tragic drowning of 27 refugees in the English Channel, as well as several senseless murders across the UK. All these deaths of

innocent victims remind us of the injustices

The world-wide Anglican Communion has five Marks of Mission. The fourth Mark is: 'To seek to transform unjust structures of society'.

This is why God came, and still comes, amongst us in Jesus; to show us that a love that reaches out with a genuine compassion for our neighbour is possible. The challenge is to accept that, as one Bishop said recently, 'In the end, there is no one God does not love'.

Some years ago Brother Roger of Taizé, the then leader of the ecumenical Christian community in France, wrote the following in a short meditation on the risen Jesus: "From the very ground of our being, we seek a love, the wonder of your love...You give us the courage to leap the walls of hesitations, and even of doubts, so as to be always united to you in the silence of our heart and ceaselessly renew a 'yes' for a whole lifetime".

As we come to celebrate once again the Christmas story, the story of God coming to live a human life, think about the story as being about God choosing to get his hands dirty. The incarnation is about God choosing to get stuck in amongst the nitty gritty of life, not staying on the side-line and just watching it all happen.

God comes calling and challenging; God comes inviting us to believe and trust that God's ways are worth following. So, this Christmas we think again about the message of God's radical, inclusive, transforming love for all of Creation and all humankind. May Jesus find a place in your heart this Christmas and New Year.

Robin Figg, Vicar



Services during December / January

The regular pattern of services on Sundays is now:

- 8.00am Eucharist at St Oswald's (according to the Book of Common Prayer)
- 9.15am Parish Eucharist at St John's. (On the 1st Sunday of the month this may be a Service of the Word). This service will be livestreamed on the Benefice [YouTube channel](#).
- 9.15am Eucharist at St Mary's (on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month). (On the 3rd Sunday of the month this may be a Service of the Word)
- 11.00am Parish Eucharist at St Oswald's

The 9.15am and 11.00am services will include hymns sung by the congregation.

The regular pattern of midweek services is now:

- Tuesdays Eucharist at St Mary's at 11.00am on the 2nd Tuesday of the month
- Wednesdays Eucharist at St John's at 9.15am
- Thursdays Eucharist at St Oswald's at 11.00am

Please note that some Covid measures will continue at all services to help keep us safe. These include: use of hand sanitiser when entering and leaving the church building; seating in alternate pews; wearing of face coverings encouraged when moving inside and when singing; optional when seated; administration of communion in one kind (bread only).

Daily Monday, Tuesday, Thursday to Saturday at 9.15am

The Vicar will say Morning Prayer on behalf of all the people of the benefice. People are invited to join Robin by saying Morning Prayer at home. A simple form of Morning Prayer is available to download from the benefice website at www.ubwby.org.

Night Prayer

A recording of Night Prayer (Compline) is available via the link on the home page of our website; the form of service is also available to download.

The pattern of midweek activities in our churches includes:

- Tuesdays Coffee Stop at St Oswald's from 9.00am
- Tuesdays *Faith Matters* group at St Mary's at 12 noon on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Bring your own lunch; drinks provided.
- Wednesdays Knit & Natter at St John's at 2.00pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month
- Thursdays Breaking Bread Lunch at St Oswald's at 11.45am

Services during December / January

Special Services for Advent and Christmas

Sunday 12th December

7.00pm Yealands Carol Service at St Mary's RC, Yealand

Sunday 19th December

6.00pm Christmas Carol Service at St Mary's, Borwick

Tuesday 21st December

7.00pm Christmas Carol Service at St Oswald's, Warton

Friday 24th December—Christmas Eve

5.30pm Crib Service at St John's, Yealand

11.30pm Midnight Eucharist at St Oswald's, Warton

Saturday 25th December—Christmas Day

9.30am Eucharist with carols at St Mary's, Borwick

11.00am Eucharist with carols at St Oswald's, Warton

Sunday 26th December

10.30am Patronal Festival Eucharist at St John's

Please note that this will be the only service in the benefice on this day

Sunday 2nd January

The Feast of the Epiphany will be celebrated today.

Sunday 9th January

The Feast of the Baptism of Christ will be celebrated today.

Sunday 30th January

The Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas) will be celebrated today.



*Please note that because we are continuing to use alternate pews there is a reduced capacity for attendance at our services as follows:
St Oswald's - 110; St Mary's - 55; St John's - 70.*

Christmas Tree Festival. Due to Covid-19 situation it has been decided not to hold a Christmas Tree Festival at St Oswald's this year. We very much hope that a festival can be held in 2022!

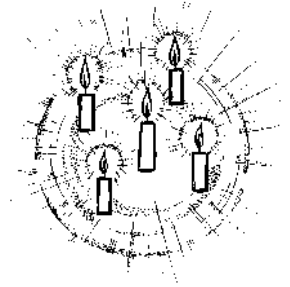
From our churches

A LIGHT FOR A LOVED ONE

Remembering our departed loved ones at Christmas

Would you like a candle to be named and lit in St Oswald's in memory of a loved one at our Christmas Services? There is no charge for this, but any donation will go to the Restoration Fund; no-one though must feel any obligation. Please pick up a leaflet from one of our churches or send the following details to the Vicar at the Vicarage or via one of our churches.

- * Name(s) of loved one(s):
- * Your name and address including postcode and telephone number:
- * Amount of donation if made:
- * If you are a UK tax payer and can Gift Aid your donation:



CHILDREN'S SOCIETY COLLECTION BOXES

I know it does not seem long since your boxes were counted (because of Covid it was not done until May/June this year), but I would rather return to our normal counting month of February in 2022.

I am writing this in November as December/ January magazine is a combination issue, and who knows what may have happened since I wrote it. On the assumption that February counting will go ahead, please could you return your boxes to St Oswald's by Sunday 30th January. (Please give it to me or a church warden etc. to be put in the safe.) Many thanks.

If bringing it to church is a problem, please ring me on 01524 419252 and I will arrange to pick it up. Many thanks, Janet Mann



Heavenly Father,
we embrace Your call for us
to make disciples, to be witnesses,
to grow leaders and inspire children & young people.
Give us eyes to see Your vision,
ears to hear the prompting of Your Spirit
and courage to follow in the footsteps of your Son,
our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

From our churches

Advent

Advent is a season of expectation and preparation, as the Church prepares to celebrate the coming (*adventus*) of Christ in his incarnation. The readings and liturgies direct us towards Christ's birth, and the promise of God's presence with us always, in every time and every place.

The anticipation of Christmas under commercial pressure has made it harder to sustain the appropriate sense of alert watchfulness, but the fundamental Advent prayer remains 'Maranatha' – 'Our Lord, come' (1 Corinthians 16.22).

Church decorations are simple and spare, and purple is the traditional liturgical colour. In the northern hemisphere, the Advent season falls at the darkest time of the year, and the natural symbols of darkness and light are powerfully at work throughout Advent and Christmas.



Christmas

The celebration of Christ's incarnation at Christmas is one of the two poles of the Christian year. The wonderful mystery of God's dwelling among us in the fullness of humanity, as Emmanuel, foretold by the prophets and born of Mary, provides the material of the feast:

Christmas is much more than simply the celebration of Jesus' birth. The task of the Christmas liturgy is to recall us, amid all the joyful customs and celebrations of Christmas, to this central truth of the Word made flesh for our salvation.

It is, of course, Christ's nativity that has provided the occasion for this festival of the incarnation, since the end of the third century. The Christmas crib and the nativity play can both be said to descend from the tableau of Christ's birth that Francis of Assisi arranged when he celebrated Christmas at Greccio in 1223. Christmas carols are a medieval tradition, which has been notably developed from the end of the nineteenth century.



Epiphany

In the Western churches, the Epiphany ('manifestation') became an occasion to celebrate one element in the story of Christ's birth, the visit of the far-travelled magi, understood as the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. Matthew's account speaks simply of 'wise men from the east'; later tradition fixed their number at three, made them kings and recalled their resonant names – Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar.

In this perspective, Epiphanytide is an apt season to pray for the worldwide mission of

(Continued on page 8)

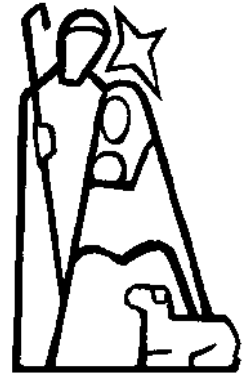
From our churches

(Continued from page 7)

the Church. The feast of the Conversion of St Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, appropriately falls in the Epiphany season, as does the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. In the Eastern churches, the Epiphany is, rather, the celebration of Christ's baptism at the hands of John, when the heavens were opened and a voice from heaven declared Jesus to be God's beloved Son. The miracle of Cana in Galilee, where Jesus 'first manifested his glory', follows immediately:

The arrangement of the Sundays of Epiphany in the Revised Common Lectionary deliberately draws out these aspects.

The season of joyful celebration that begins at Christmas now continues through the successive Sundays of Epiphany, and the festal cycle ends only with the Feast of the Presentation (Candlemas). The child who has been manifested to the magi at his birth is now recognized by Simeon and Anna, when he comes to be presented in the Temple according to the Law of Israel. He is both 'a light to lighten the Gentiles' and 'the glory of God's people Israel'. But the redemption he will bring must be won through suffering; the Incarnation is directed to the Passion; and Simeon's final words move our attention away from the celebration of Christmas and towards the mysteries of Easter.



The Gospel according to Luke

The pattern of readings from the bible for use in Christian worship is known at the lectionary. Each Sunday three bible readings are prescribed: a passage from the Old Testament, the Apocrypha, or the Acts of the Apostles; another from either the Book of Revelation or the Epistles; and finally a passage from one of the four Gospels.

The pattern of readings runs in three-year cycles; the gospel readings in the first year (Year A) are taken mainly from the Gospel of Matthew, those in the second year (or Year B) mainly from the Gospel of Mark, and in the third year (or Year C) come mainly from the Gospel of Luke. Portions of the Gospel of John are read at certain festivals every year.

On Advent Sunday (28th November) we begin Year C, so the gospel readings in the coming year will be mainly from Luke. Here is a guide to this Gospel.

Who wrote Luke? The gospel was written by a doctor called Luke, who was a friend and colleague of the apostle Paul. Luke himself was not an eyewitness of the life of Jesus. Tradition tells us that he was a gentile who lived until he was age 84.

Why was the Gospel written? Luke had several purposes:

1. He wanted to record the beginnings and development of Christianity, which he did in two parts. The Acts of the Apostles is the second volume. Luke shows how God has



From our churches

been at work in history and especially in the way the followers of Jesus rapidly spread from Galilee to Rome.

2. He wanted to demonstrate that Jesus was a Saviour for all types of people and not just for a select group.
3. He wanted to show the Roman authorities that Christianity was not a threat to good political order.

Who were Luke's readers? Luke addresses his Gospel to Theophilus, probably an upper-class Gentile convert to Christianity. In addition Luke would have had a wider circle of readers in mind which would have included other Gentiles and perhaps Roman officials in particular.

When was it written? Luke must have written his Gospel before he wrote his second volume and since the last event mentioned in Acts took place around 62 CE, it is a fair guess that Luke itself was written between 60-65 CE.

Features of the Gospel

1. Luke's story-telling is second to none. He writes in a very good Greek style.
2. He is more interested in the human life of Jesus and tells us more about this early life and childhood than others.
3. Luke is more complete than the other Gospels and records more parables, more news about people and more about Jesus' resurrection than others.
4. He shows more interest in individuals than the other Gospel writes, particularly children, women and social outcasts.
5. He has other special interests, for example, prayer, the Holy Spirit and the theme of joy.

The principal divisions of the Gospel according to Luke are the following:

- I. The Prologue (Luke 1:1-4)
- II. The Infancy Narrative (Luke 1:5-2:52)
- III. The Preparation for the Public Ministry (Luke 3:1-4:13)
- IV. The Ministry in Galilee (Luke 4:14-9:50)
- V. The Journey to Jerusalem: Luke's Travel Narrative (Luke 9:51-19:27)
- VI. The Teaching Ministry in Jerusalem (Luke 19:28-21:38)
- VII. The Passion Narrative (Luke 22:1-23:56)
- VIII. The Resurrection Narrative (Luke 24:1-53).

From the Parish Registers

Weddings

Saturday 27th November Ben Merckel & Amy Simpson (at St Oswald's)

Funerals

Monday 8th November Derek Hough (at Beetham Crematorium)

Wednesday 10th November Godfrey Thompson (at St Oswald's)



From our churches

A few words about Ron Ogden

That was what I was asked to write about Ron Ogden. Difficult to encapsulate all that Ron did and all that he was in 'a few words'. From the point of view of St John's he was the ultimate churchman, churchwarden for many years, always on the PCC, sidesman, you name it he did it. But more than that, he rolled up his sleeves and worked. I was with him when we helped Brian Machell extend the churchyard, building a new dry stone wall across the bottom. I guarantee you some of those stones were heavy. Then there was the matter of getting a water supply across the field and under the road to our church – we dug like bunny rabbits! Last but not least, woodworm in the church roof. We ripped off the old lathe and plaster ceiling, it was treated, then a membrane put in place before being plastered. The debris in the church aisles was waist deep – most of it removed by Ron (and his lovely wife Anne). Then we re-painted.... All through the above, jokes, laughter and Ron's innate gentleness showing through, I miss very much my mate Ron.



Jim Stokes.

Parish News

Hard copy or online

At present we print approximately 1,200 copies of the *Parish News* magazine each month with many of these being delivered to people's homes and others available for collection in our churches and Warton Post Office.

Like many other publications, we are looking to reduce the amount of paper we use and our overall printing costs by inviting those who are able to download a copy of *Parish News* from our Benefice website.

We therefore need to know who would still like to have a copy of the magazine delivered to their house. If you would like to continue receiving a hard copy delivered to your door please contact 01524 732946 or vicarwby@outlook.com by the end of February to confirm your name and address.

As from the March 2022 edition of the magazine we will only delivered to those who have opted in to this service.

Copies will still be available for collection at each of our churches and at Warton Post Office.

From our churches

Living in Love and Faith

Last month we introduced [Living in Love and Faith](#) (LLF), the Church of England's resource to help people and communities explore questions about human identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage.



LIVING
IN LOVE
& FAITH

As part of the LLF process local churches are encouraged to run a 5-session course designed to facilitate open, honest and gracious learning and discussion about these important questions which are relevant to all of us.

- **Session 1: Learning Together.** What does it mean to **learn together** as followers of Jesus Christ?
- **Session 2: Identity.** How does our **identity** in Christ relate to sex and gender?
- **Session 3: Relationships.** What kinds of **relationships** does God call us to?
- **Session 4: Sex.** Where do our bodies and **sex** fit in to all of this?
- **Session 5: Life Together.** How do diversity and difference affect our **life together** as a church?



The course will be offered twice.

- **Wednesdays, 10.00-11.30am** at St John's, 26th January to 23rd February
- **Thursdays 7.30-9.00pm** on Zoom, 27th January to 24th February

Participants will be asked to contribute £4 for the cost of a course booklet. To book a place please contact the Vicar, Robin Figg, 732946 or vicarwby@outlook.com, by Sunday 16th January.

Many parishes have already run the course and found the experience to be beneficial. Comments from leaders and participants include:

- ◆ People reflected back that the experience of engaging with the material deepened their understanding of people with different experiences than their own.
- ◆ It would be difficult to say people enjoyed the course, but they engaged, they were open, and I was extremely proud of the open and honest conversations we took part in.
- ◆ I was really moved by how touched people were by the video stories.
- ◆ It was an incredibly worthwhile process.
- ◆ People felt liberated to be able to talk about these issues, realising that they had never talked about them with other people before, let alone to church people.

The Living in Love and Faith process is at its heart an invitation to learn through conversations with others. The LLF Learning Hub is the place where all the resources are located. Registration and use of the resources are free. The resources include a book, study guides, podcasts and a powerful series of real-life personal story films.

Click here to visit the [Living in Love and Faith Learning Hub](#)

From the wider Church

The Queen's message to the Opening Session of the 11th General Synod

In a message to the opening session of the 11th General Synod of the Church of England, Her Majesty described the pandemic as a period of “of anxiety, of grief, and of weariness”.

The message was delivered by His Royal Highness The Earl of Wessex who attended the inaugural session of the new Synod, which was elected earlier this autumn, on behalf of The Queen.



Her Majesty, who is Supreme Governor of the Church of England, also highlighted the “weighty responsibilities” and “difficult decisions” facing the members of Synod over their five-year term.

Yet through it all, The Queen said she hoped they would be “strengthened with the certainty of the love of God, as you work together and draw on the Church’s tradition of unity in fellowship for the tasks ahead”.

The full text of Her Majesty The Queen’s message:

Your Graces, the Convocations of Canterbury and York, duly called together in obedience to Our Royal Writs, are on this day joined together in accordance with the Synodical Government Measure 1969 and the House of Laity is added to them in accordance with the Measure, so as to constitute the Eleventh General Synod of the Church of England.

Archbishops and members, the opening of a new Synod provides an opportunity for us all to give thanks for the witness of those who have gone before, and pray for wisdom as you seek to balance change and continuity in the decisions that lie ahead.

It is hard to believe that it is over 50 years since Prince Philip and I attended the very first meeting of the General Synod. None of us can slow the passage of time; and while we often focus on all that has changed in the intervening years, much remains unchanged, including the Gospel of Christ and his teachings.

The list of tasks facing that first General Synod may sound familiar to many of you: Christian education; Christian unity; the better distribution of the ordained ministry to the needs of the population. But one stands out supreme: “to bring the people of this country to the knowledge and the love of God”.

Of course, in our richly diverse modern society, the well-being of the nation depends on the contribution of people of all faiths, and of none.

But for people of faith, the last few years have been particularly hard, with unprecedented restrictions in accessing the comfort and reassurance of public

(Continued on page 25)



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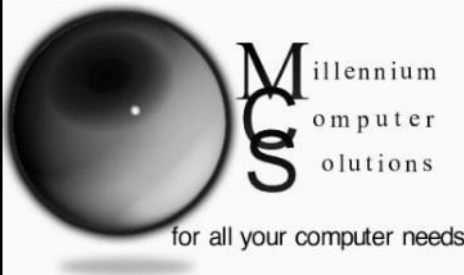
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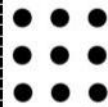


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From the wider Church

(Continued from page 12)

worship. For many, it has been a time of anxiety, of grief, and of weariness.

Yet the Gospel has brought hope, as it has done throughout the ages; and the Church has adapted and continued its ministry, often in new ways - such as digital forms of worship.

St Paul reminds us that all Christians are entrusted with the ministry of reconciliation, and the deepening of relations across the great Christian traditions has been a continuing priority since the first General Synod in 1970. And so I am pleased to note the enhanced cooperation between the Church of England and the Church of Scotland, as well as the sustained ecumenical links between many churches, in the pursuit of Christian unity.

Your Graces and members of the Synod, the next five years will not always be straightforward. Like every new Synod, you have inherited weighty responsibilities with many issues to address, reports to debate, and difficult decisions to make. You may have to consider proposals on governance, on conduct, on the use of resources, and on other issues; and on a vision for the future of the Church.

In some areas, there will, of course, be differing views and my hope is that you will be strengthened with the certainty of the love of God, as you work together and draw on the Church's tradition of unity in fellowship for the tasks ahead.

At the beginning of this new Synod, my prayer is that the Lord's blessing may be upon you as you embark on your deliberations; and that you will find inspiration in the joyous words of the hymn you sang this morning:

O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

ELIZABETH R.



From our churches



Supporting the Church financially

Like all churches, we rely on the generosity of our congregations and our communities to support our mission and ministry.

We are extremely grateful for the many people who give regularly to Church by standing order, by weekly envelope or by cash when the offering is received during a church service.

During this time when regular public worship is restricted many people are not able to give in the usual way. Standing orders do continue, of course, and this is really helpful, but our income is affected by receive fewer weekly envelopes or less cash offerings during services.

In response to the present restrictions people are now able to make donations online to the Church in the Benefice, through our **GiveALittle** page.



If you have device with the ability to scan QR codes you can go to our GiveALittle page by scanning our code printed here...

Or you can follow the link from the home page of our benefice website at www.ubwby.org

The Giving page on our website also give details of how to set up a standing order, which is one of the principal ways of supporting the Church financially and it is the most effective way to give to the Church. The Giving page also has other information about giving to Church.

Easyfundraising

Another way to support the churches is to do your online shopping using easyfundraising® which is the UK's biggest charity shopping fundraising site. It is simple to use and it's free. Since the launch in 2005, over £31 million has been raised for good causes.



Each of our three churches are registered with easyfundraising®. This means you can choose to support one of our individual churches through easyfundraising®, raising free donations every time you shop online. Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate when you use easyfundraising® to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself!

These donations really mount up and make a big difference, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely free and only takes a moment.

Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk and search for "St Oswald's Church-Warton-Carnforth" or "St John's Church, Yealand Conyers" or "St Mary's Church - Borwick"

From our churches

Decorating St John's for Christmas

St John's will be decorated for Christmas on Saturday 18th December at 11a.m. We would welcome volunteers and seasonal fresh Christmas decorations for all the windowsills. It is our fervent hope that this year we will see plenty of families at the Christmas services .



Knit and Natter

Wednesday 8th December and 12th January at 2pm

If you like to knit, crochet or sew, why not come to Knit and Natter, at St John's, 2.00-4.00pm. Everyone is welcome — just bring something to work on while you sit and chat. Refreshments will be provided (mince pies in December!)

We will meet in accordance with the benefice unlock plan, with face coverings encouraged. If numbers dictate, we will meet in the main body of the church so that we can be suitably distanced. Please contact me with any questions.

Sally-Ann Rothwell



St John's volunteer cleaning



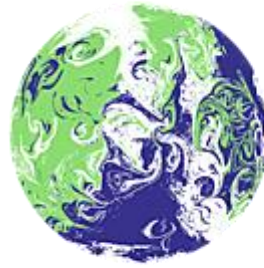
Now that services are back to normal, we are looking for people to help keep St. John's clean and tidy on a weekly basis. This is a small time commitment every few weeks to whizz round with duster and vacuum, empty the bins and clean the toilet facilities ready for the Sunday service. The contract cleaner comes in and has a good clean ready for the first Sunday of the month, so it really is light cleaning.

Many hands make light work and we would really be very grateful for all the help we can get.

From the wider Church

COP26 - Glasgow, 1st -12th November

'We must now keep up the moral pressure so that pledges are urgently turned into measurable action': Bishops respond to COP26



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UK 2021**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

Graham Usher, the Bishop of Norwich and the Church of England's lead bishop for the environment, and Olivia Graham, the Bishop of Reading, have spoken at the conclusion of COP.

In a statement they said: "At COP we called for keeping global warming to below 1.5 degrees, ending fossil fuel subsidies, and securing finance for the world's most vulnerable people who are already effected by climate breakdown.

"Progress was made in all these areas, plus cutting methane emissions and halting deforestation. We were particularly inspired to hear powerful testimonies from young people and representatives of indigenous peoples.

"We pay tribute to the work of Alok Sharma MP, the COP26 President, and his team.

"Negotiations always have some compromises and disappointments. These impact the world's economically poorest the most. We must now keep up the moral pressure so that pledges are urgently turned into measurable action.

"The whole world needs to do more for climate justice. More quickly. More generously. More together. During its presidency year, the UK can be a key player.

"And this includes all of us within the Church of England. At Glasgow, the world glimpsed the possibility of a hopeful future. Hurting God's creation and contributing to the suffering of God's poorest people is not the 'love God and your neighbour' that Jesus commands of us.

"COP showed us the unity of purpose people of faith can bring. This encouragement should reignite in all of us hope for our future."



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From our villages

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Crosscrake parishioner Chris Day is doing a sponsored walk. Here he speaks about the walk and the charity it will help:

“I’m doing some sponsored walking to raise money for Christians in India who have been affected by Covid-19, or who are victims of violence because of their faith. Doctors in hospitals refuse to treat them because they are Christians. Many have lost their livelihood in lockdown and don’t receive aid for the same reason.

Every £60 raised could give urgent Covid relief and help with medical costs to a victim of violence or to a believer who has lost their livelihood through the pandemic.

I hope to walk 180 miles between 1st October and 31st December, whatever the weather and am asking you to sponsor me for so much a mile or with a lump sum. The money will be sent to Open Doors, which is a Christian charity. Details about Open Doors, about how to sponsor me and more information about our brothers and sisters in India will be displayed at the back of Crosscrake Church. You can also find out more about the Open Doors charity and what it does at <https://www.opendoorsuk.org/>

I have already raised £155 as of 12th September, and would like to raise at least £600, which could help some dozen people. Email the Editor on parishnews@outlook.com and your message will be passed on to me. Thank you”.

Editor’s Note: *Chris is a friend of mine and in his 80’s, which make this an extraordinary challenge. Members of Warton Methodist Church will remember him well from his time with them.*



From our villages



Here we are at the end of another year in December 2021 and it has brought many changes as ever but what has this year meant to you? Has it been moving out of lockdown into a sense of normality? Has it been regrets for what might have been?

Has it been sadly mourning the death of loved ones? Has it been a fresh start and a new resolve to move forward into a new year with fresh eyes and a better understanding of what is really important in life? Let's hope and pray that we all have renewed faith in God to help us to love one another more and be more tolerant of each person's individual needs and difficulties.

As we are now fully into the season of Advent let's remember the Christ-child who came into this world, born of the Virgin Mary yet the incarnate Son of God, born to save us from our sins. Let us remember the importance of Christmas, not just to give each other gifts and get together with our family many of whom we haven't seen for such a long time due to Covid-19, but to remember the true meaning of Christmas, the baby Jesus born in a manger became the Saviour of the World.

Here is a list of services and activities during the month of December:

On Tuesday 7th December, Archbishop Hutton School are holding their Nativity Service at 2.00pm.

On Sunday 12th December we are holding a Messy Christingle from 4-6pm where all children are welcome, accompanied by an adult, to enjoy some fun crafts and find out how to make Christingles and what they represent.

On Sunday 19th December we are having a pop-up Nativity Service at 10.00am. Do come along, dress up as a biblical character related to the Nativity (e.g. shepherd, wise man, king, animal, angel etc) and bring your children to join in the celebrations and sing some carols.

On Christmas Day we are having our Christmas Day Service at 10.00am, but there WON'T be a service on Boxing Day, Sunday 26th December.

The next service after Christmas will be on Sunday 2nd January 2022 at 10.00am.

Any questions you may have regarding church matters, please contact our minister, Rev Emma Holroyd on 01524 941266 or by email at emma.holroyd@methodist.org.uk

With love and prayers for a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and God's Blessing for a very Happy and Prosperous New Year 2022.



From our villages



Archbishop Hutton's Primary School Christmas Fair

takes place on Friday 10th December between 2pm and 3.30pm. You will be tempted by our festive bakes, can have a go on the tombola and lots more.

Please come along, we'd love to see you!

WARTON CRAG WI

It's CHRISTMAS PARTY TIME

in the Village Hall, Warton at 7.30pm on Thursday, 16th December 2021, a festive supper with games, entertainment and a competition and on 20th January 2022 again at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Warton, we will welcome Nigel Parrish representing the Blood Bikers Charity. More information about the WI in Warton can be found on our website at <http://wartoncragwi.com>



The Yealands WI

Thanks to all who joined us for a very successful Lancashire Day. December's meeting (Dec 8th) is our seasonal party. 12th Jan at 7.30pm at the village hall we have a talk from Christine Hamilton on 'The secret life of bees'. All welcome



Hying Cistercian Monastery

The Bernadine Cistercian sisters at Hying have recorded an advent service to be broadcast on Radio Lancashire and other local BBC stations at 8am on 19th December.

Defibrillator training .

This was well attended, thanks to Joanne for organising it and the Burton and Holme team Community First Responders who supported her. It seemed that not everyone was familiar with their nearest defib box. These are in the porch of the Quaker Meeting House in Conyers, on the wall of the village hall, and at the triangle in Redmayne. The boxes are not locked, but are checked regularly. If someone has a cardiac arrest, time is really critical, so please make sure you know where your nearest box is.

From our villages

The logo for Beavers, featuring the word "BEAVERS" in a blue, bubbly font with a small fleur-de-lis symbol to the right.The logo for Cubs, featuring the word "cubs" in a green, rounded font with a small fleur-de-lis symbol to the right.The logo for Scouts, featuring the word "SCOUTS" in a dark blue, bold font with a small fleur-de-lis symbol to the right.The logo for Scouts 1st Warton, featuring a purple fleur-de-lis symbol above the word "Scouts" in purple, with "1st Warton" in a smaller purple font below it.

This month we are saying “congratulations” to eleven truly outstanding 14-year-old Scouts who have gained our “top” award, the Chief Scout’s Gold Award; they are, in age order: Emma, Jamie, Millie, Stuart, Ian, Holly, Neve, Lois, Thomas, Annabel and Molly.

The Gold Award is the culmination of four or more years of Scouting and to earn it (and earn it they certainly have) each of these outstanding Scouts has gained a wide range of Activity Badges (ranging from Scientist and Chef, through Emergency Aid and Fire Safety, to Sailing and Farming) AND all nine of our major “Challenge Awards”, namely:

The Adventure Challenge: canoeing sailing, climbing, orienteering, hiking, hill-walking, bridge building, incident courses, mountain biking. The Creative Challenge: art, photography, acting, baking, museums, crafts, campfires. The Expedition Challenge: hiking in small groups without leaders and doing their own navigating.

The Outdoor Challenge: camping, firelighting, cooking, menu planning. The Personal Challenge: one challenge chosen by the Scout, one set by the Leaders: running, charity fundraising, learning sign language, overcoming fears, helping at Cubs or Beavers, walking 100 miles in 30 days, avoiding social media. The Skills Challenge: cross-training, swimming, gymnastics, football, rugby, dancing, domestic skills (cooking, cleaning, ironing, sewing!), DIY, bike repairs; dealing with emergencies, first aid, knots and how to use them, initiative.

The Leadership Challenge: helping younger Scouts, leading a small group of Scouts on various activities. The Teamwork Challenge: working together.

The World Challenge: conservation, community, beliefs and attitudes, charity work and community service. You can change the world with young people like these eleven, and we hope they do; the fact that they have spent nearly half their time in Scouts in the grip of a pandemic is testament to how amazing they are.

These 11 Scouts are now Moving On from the Scout Troop to Explorer Scouts (which covers the 14-18 age range); Explorer Scouting in the area is so popular that the existing Explorer Scout Unit (“Silverhelme ESU”) is full, and we are having to start a second Unit (“54 North ESU”) to accommodate these Scouts!

The departure of these Scouts from our Troop turns a very large and relatively “aged” Troop into a much smaller, much younger Troop and whilst we have a lot of Cubs due to move to Scouts after Christmas, we do have room for more Scouts!

Not to forget our Beavers and Cubs: both Sections continue to grow and there is a real energy about them that is great to see!

For more information about joining 1st Warton, contact: Howard, Group Scout Leader, on 01524-734144 or email howard.greenwood@lonsdalescouts.org.uk

From our villages

Music and Memories at Carnforth Free Methodist Church

We will be meeting on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. We provide an afternoon of enjoyment and fun for people living with Dementia and their carers and also anyone living with memory issues. We sing songs old and new, a couple of old hymns, have a thought of the day, singing rounds and attempt to play handheld percussion instruments. We round off the afternoon by chatting with our guests and having tea, coffee and home-made cake. There is no charge for this session. All our volunteers have attended a safeguarding session, one on basic hand washing and also a Dementia Friends session. My background is in nursing older people and I am a safeguarding trainer, a Dementia and Dignity Champion and I have had training in Dementia.

Marilyn Thomson, Group Co-ordinator.

Contact: dementiafriendlycfm@gmail.com 07547957371.

GriefShare Support Group

Have you been bereaved? Grief is often a painful and emotional journey with many challenges.

GriefShare is a support group offering ongoing help, comfort and encouragement through videos, discussion and workbook. You will find practical help in the videos for the way ahead, reassurance from others in the group who are feeling the same way and further help in the workbook.

We meet weekly at 6pm at the Free Methodist Church, 18 Hunter St, Carnforth, LA5 9BP
October 27th to February 9th.

See more details on the GriefShare website: <https://www.griefshare.org>

You can register for the group on the website, type Carnforth in the find a group search box, or contact carnforthgriefshare@gmail.com or ring Elspeth: 01524 702966

National Garden Scheme, Warton Gardens 2021

A huge thank you to all those who have supported our Open Gardens in 2021.

We are delighted to have donated £4130, thus far, to the NGS charities (ngs.org.uk). Over 450 people visited the gardens in July, enjoying glorious sunshine, cake, plants and a chance to commune with nature!

6 gardens & the allotments will be open in 2022. If you are interested in visiting or helping out, please diary 16th & 17th July 2022.

We are always looking for more gardens, in North Lancashire, to open for the NGS. If you are interested for 2023 please contact:- claire@lavenderandlime.co.uk



From our schools



December is a really exciting time in school with lots going in preparation and celebration of Christmas. Classes 1 and 2 have been busy practising for taking the lead in our Christmas Performance of 'The Inn-Spectors'. They have been acting their little socks off, and Classes 3 and 4 will be supporting them with beautiful singing.

All the children and staff are looking forward to our annual trip to The Dukes Theatre in Lancaster to see the panto 'Beauty and the Beast'. Last year was the first time in many years, that we were unable to go due to the pandemic, which makes this year all the more special.

We will all enjoy our Christmas dinner wearing our Christmas jumpers just before the end of term. Olwyn and the kitchen staff always do us proud and serve up a delicious feast! The School Council decided that we would work with Boxes of Hope – Cumbria, to help with their annual Christmas Shoebox Campaign. This campaign supports underprivileged children in Romania and provides them with a Christmas gift. Lots of our children have chosen to get involved with this and to pack an old shoebox with gifts and cover it in Christmas paper which will make a huge difference to a child who may not have had a gift this Christmas without their help.

Before Christmas took over, last month we had 'Money Week' in school. We have been thinking about earning, saving and spending money. Special lessons looked at money skills and job opportunities to widen children's ambition and understanding. Maths lessons looked at how we can use the Maths skills we have been learning to become more money confident. Class 1 had a great time in their farm shop, buying and selling and counting all of their money. Well done to all!

Class 3 had a great time in Morecambe on their Geography Trip. They explored the prom, looked at the shops and buildings and compared it to what is available in Warton and Carnforth. After, a lot of walking and posing with Eric, they enjoyed a seaside treat - a delicious ice cream!

The PTA would like to invite you all to our Christmas Fair which takes place on Friday 10th December between 2pm and 3.30pm. You will be tempted by our festive bakes, can have a go on the tombola and lots more. Please come along, we'd love to see you!

**Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year,
From all the children and staff at Archbishop Hutton's Primary School**



Yealand Village Hall

Monday 6th December Christmas Coffee Stop 10.30 -11.30 Join us for mince pies and festive singing from the children of Yealand Primary School Everyone welcome.

Yealand Village Hall AGM Tuesday 7th December at 7.45 Join us for news about our hall and forthcoming events Wine and nibbles served too !

Light up Yealand Friday 10th December Village Green from 6 pm Mince pies, mulled wine Drinks and sweets for children Carol singing and collection for charity

New Year's Morning 2022 - 11.00 -12.30 ish The now traditional Bacon or sausage baps with a glass of fizz Tea , coffee and non-meat alternatives may be available Just £5 per person

Saturday 29th January 2022 7.30 – 11.30 pm “The Knees Up Party of 2022” Featuring music from “Alice and the Looking Glass” Hot supper and dessert BYO drinks and glasses Doors open 7.00pm - knees up ‘til late Ring Gerry on 07769335107 for tickets - £15 per person.



DailyHope, a free national telephone line

This offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of the phone.

The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind; to provide comfort and spiritual nourishment to the most isolated in our society.

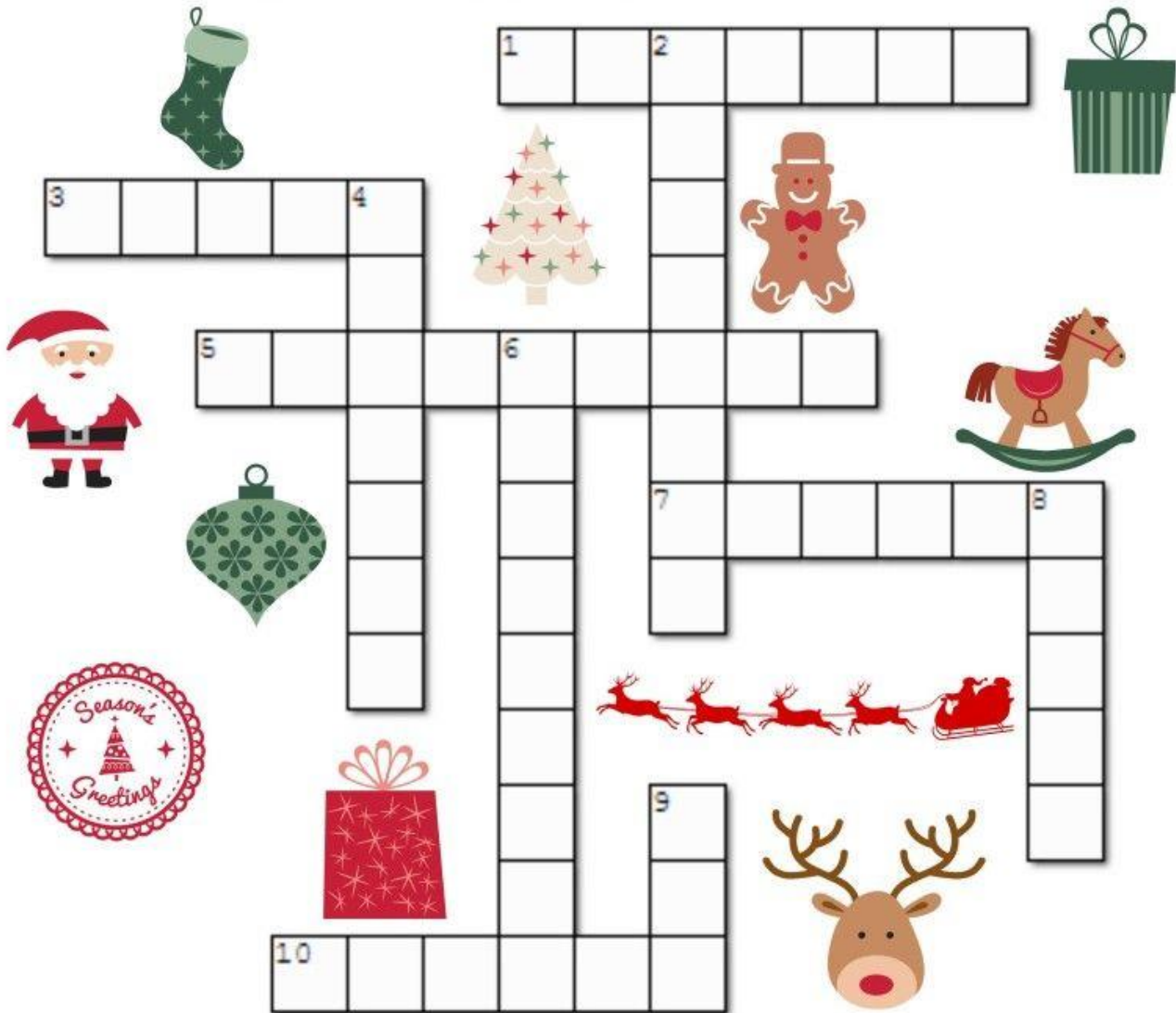
Options available include materials also available digitally by the Church of England's Communications team such as Prayer During the Day and Night Prayer updated daily, from Common Worship, and a recording of the Church of England weekly national online service.

A section called 'Sleep well with Daily Hope' offers a relaxing guide to getting a good night's sleep. An option entitled 'Chair Exercises on the Phone', provides recorded over-the-phone tuition to keep listeners fit and healthy from the safety of a chair during this time at home.



CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

USE THE CLUES TO COMPLETE THE CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



Across

1. One of Santa's Reindeer
3. Santa's Helpers
5. December 25th is _____.
7. Christmas Drink
10. The name of a popular snowman.

Down

2. Christmas Month
4. He hates Christmas!
6. You hang them by the chimney.
8. On Christmas morning we unwrap our _____.
9. ___ to the world!

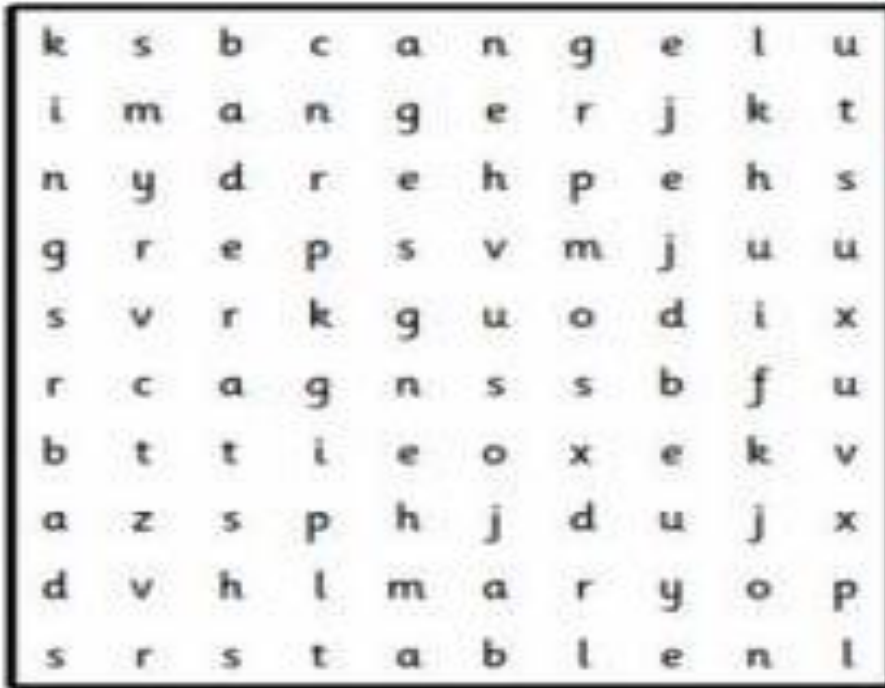


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Nativity Wordsearch



angel

donkey

Jesus

Joseph

kings

manger

Mary

shepherd

stable

star



Warton Community Wellbeing Centre

The Community Wellbeing Centre is gradually getting back to some kind of normality, with less restrictions in place . We are very lucky to have had a hardworking and flexible committee, to get us through what has been a tough time for all!!

We will still keep up the high standard of cleanliness by both members and staff, keeping to covid recommendations.



We want to create a safe and enjoyable environment for all to use and hopefully benefit everyone's wellbeing.

Our equipment is suitable for a variety of levels of fitness, with exercise bikes, treadmills, a rower, vibration plate, and stepper all available.

The Main Hall and Meeting Room is also, now fully open and available to book. They are already used by local groups and private therapy sessions, who have been very adaptable to all the changes that have taken place during covid. We are grateful for their co-operation and continued support.

We look forward to welcoming new members to the gym and new group or event enquiries for the Church Hall.

Come and take a look at these fantastic village facilities!!



If you are interested contact

Tel: **07761756983** (Gym) or Tel: **01524 732091**(Church Hall)

The Parish News Team

Articles for submission, send to Kate Waddington at
ParishNews@outlook.com by 10th of the previous month.

Advertising enquiries should be made to Pam Bentley Tel: 822077
or by email to bentley.pam@sky.com

No charges are made for details of activities from non-profit making community groups within our villages, though donations towards the cost of production are always welcomed. For advertising fundraising events, there is a modest charge.

Distribution enquiries should be made to Angela Sewell Tel: 734308
or by email to alsewell@btinternet.com

There is no charge for "Parish News", but we are grateful to those who feel able, from time to time, to make a donation towards the cost of production. These can be made by cash or cheque (payable to "PCC of Warton"); please mark the envelope 'Parish News' and send to The Vicarage, 92 Main Street, Warton, Carnforth LA5 9PG or hand to a churchwarden in church. Thank you.

A prayer for those in need

Merciful God, be near to those who are troubled with sickness or other need; in the power of your love, bring relief from present suffering and the return of health, that being made whole in body mind and spirit, they may give thanks again for the gift of life.

Be with all who work for healing, especially those who care for the sick and those in need with professional skill and loving care. Bless them with patience and compassion in their work and grant that in due time they will share in thanks for health and life restored.



A prayer for those who mourn

May you be held by the God of compassion as you remember your loved ones today. May God be with you in your sorrow, and comfort you in your loss. May your God, your family and your friends, give you strength and confidence. May your spirit be lifted, may your heart be filled with peace, and may the light of God's promise fill you with joy and hope. Amen.

Dear God,

We give thanks for this time when we can all be together.
We give thanks for this food which is bountiful and delicious.
We give thanks for this joyful holiday when we can celebrate our Saviour and his love for us.

With joy we pray, Amen.



Benefice Contacts

Vicar	The Revd Robin Figg	Tel: 732946 vicarwby@outlook.com
Assisting Clergy	The Revd Peter Mann	Tel: 419252
Licensed Lay Ministers	Mrs Annette MacKenzie Mrs Janet Thompson	Tel: 736944 Tel: 823503
Churchwardens		
St Oswald's	<i>Vacancy</i>	
St Mary's	Mrs Sally Fletcher Mrs Joyce Tombs	Tel: Tel: 732735
St John's	Mrs Clare Hunter Mrs Sally-Ann Rothwell	Tel: 734585
Pastoral Assistants	Mrs Val Ellams Mrs Carolyn Wolstenholme	Tel: 733292 Tel: 07891 822552
Pastoral Visitor	Mrs Karan Hague	Tel: 784975
Safeguarding Team	Mrs Kate Bethell Mrs Alison Semple Miss Tracey Lawther	Tel: 07703 770987 Tel: 07484 756755 Tel: 07990 610687
Tweens & Teens	Mrs Emma Brantley-Tziros Mrs Linda Gardner	Tel: 07968 672001 Tel: 07795 018319

All enquiries regarding christenings, weddings, anniversary blessings
please contact the Vicar.

The Vicar's day off is usually Friday.

Website www.ubwby.org
Facebook: UnitedWBY Twitter: UnitedWBY

