

The New Sentinel

March / April 2024



St Chad's, Poulton-le-Fylde
St Hilda's, Carleton
St Anne's, Singleton



Welcome to the March/April 2024 issue of the *New Sentinel* magazine

Magazine Articles

Short contributions that may be of interest to readers are welcomed by the Editor and will be published, space permitting, in the next magazine following their receipt. ***The Editor reserves the right to reject, cut or amend articles if deemed necessary for any reason. The views expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the Vicar or the PCC.***

Magazine Deadlines

To ensure the magazine published on time, contributions must be in the hands of the Vicar or the Editor by the cut-off date. The next magazine will be the **May/June 2024** edition. Any contributions must be with us no later than **12th May** to be considered for inclusion in the next edition.

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Magazine Editor:

Rev. Ian Files

A warm welcome from the Benefice of St Chad's Poulton, St Hilda's Carleton and St Anne's Singleton. We are part of Blackburn Diocese within the Anglican Communion and are members of the Poulton and Carleton Churches Together community. We hold a pattern of regular prayer and worship at all three churches, details of which are published on our websites. The ***New Sentinel*** magazine brings to you recent news from around the Benefice.

From the Vicarage

Dear Friends

In years gone by I would regularly get in to trouble with the then leader of Junior Church, for choosing the hymn “Seek ye first the kingdom of God” during Lent. I was drawn to the verses, especially the one that reminds us, “Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God”, which chimes with Jesus’s temptation in the wilderness. The problem came with the chorus, which included a series of “Alleluias”. Junior Church had carefully coloured in a banner of “Alleluias”, which they had locked away for Lent, to be unfurled on Easter morning and I was undermining the message! It is a little reminder that as we keep the season of Lent, with the simplicity of worship, and even as we ponder the Crucifixion on Good Friday, the outcome is not in doubt.

It is only with the benefit of hindsight that the events of that Friday came to be seen as good, they did not seem so at the time to the disciples who fled in fear or gazed on in forlorn despair. Now we have come to see and believe how the death of Jesus changed the world forever and won for us a salvation we could never attain for ourselves. We know that Friday was not the final word.

It is that knowledge of the outcome which explains why the forty days of Lent do not include the Sundays, which are always a reminder of the resurrection. I am delighted to commend to you Sacred Music and Readings for Passiontide, at 2 30 pm on Saturday March 23rd , at St Martin’s and St Hilda’s Church, led by the

Ecumenical Choir. In the light of our knowledge of the outcome, the Choir will justifiably finish with an Easter piece celebrating the resurrection. I love the contrasts in our worship at this time of year, from the starkness of Good Friday and a plain wooden cross to the glory of Easter Day and that same cross festooned in flowers and a riot of colour. In Church at least, the outcome is assured.

Sadly, in life the picture is more complicated. For some the harshness of present realities leads them to doubt the outcome, and even for Christians it can sometimes seem like a desperate hope in the face of overwhelming adversity. For the people of Gaza and the Israeli hostages and their families, now is a Friday moment, with no sign of what might make it good, and nothing to indicate that a positive outcome is assured. For those wrestling with illness or bereavement the future can seem dark and the way ahead profoundly uncertain.

Yet when the negro pastor said to his slave congregation, “It’s Friday now but Sunday’s a coming”, it was not a promise that they would have flowers in Church for Easter. It was rather a profound expression of the Christian hope, that this world has been, is being and will be transformed by the events of Good Friday and Easter. African American slavery would come to an end and where it surfaces again in new guises, we must confront it afresh. “Mourning and crying and pain will be no more” says the Book of Revelation. Evil and death will not have the final word proclaims the empty tomb.

We are duty bound to take seriously the sufferings of this world and the pain of those engulfed by them, but we place our hope in the crucified Christ, who has been in that dark place and still walks beside those who are there today. The outcome is assured even when we cannot see it. I'm quite happy to leave the "Alleluias", for our worship on Easter morning, but I do believe "Sunday is a coming" and "He is risen indeed!"

A Happy and Blessed Easter to you all!

Martin Keighley

From the Registers

Baptisms

| | | |
|----------|------------------|--------------------------|
| January | 28th | Bronte Rose Murphy |
| February | 11 th | Xavia Skye Riley-Oakes |
| | | Lola Cherry Riley-Oakes |
| | | Miles Cedric Edward Hill |
| | 25th | Ava Grace Clifford |
| March | 10th | Ivy Rose Kay |

Funerals

| | | |
|----------|------|-----------------|
| January | 22nd | Joan Darbyshire |
| | 23rd | Marlene Martin |
| February | 1st | David Forster |
| | 2nd | David Willett |

| | | |
|----------|------|--------------------------|
| February | 13th | Nancy Hall |
| | 17th | Doris Heslop |
| | 19th | John Fisher (St Hilda's) |
| | | Audrey Bee |
| | 22nd | John Glossop |
| | 26th | Ruth Reilly |
| | 27th | Pauline Hyde |
| March | 4th | Sam Spencer |
| | 5th | Jean Pounder |

Vicar's Notes

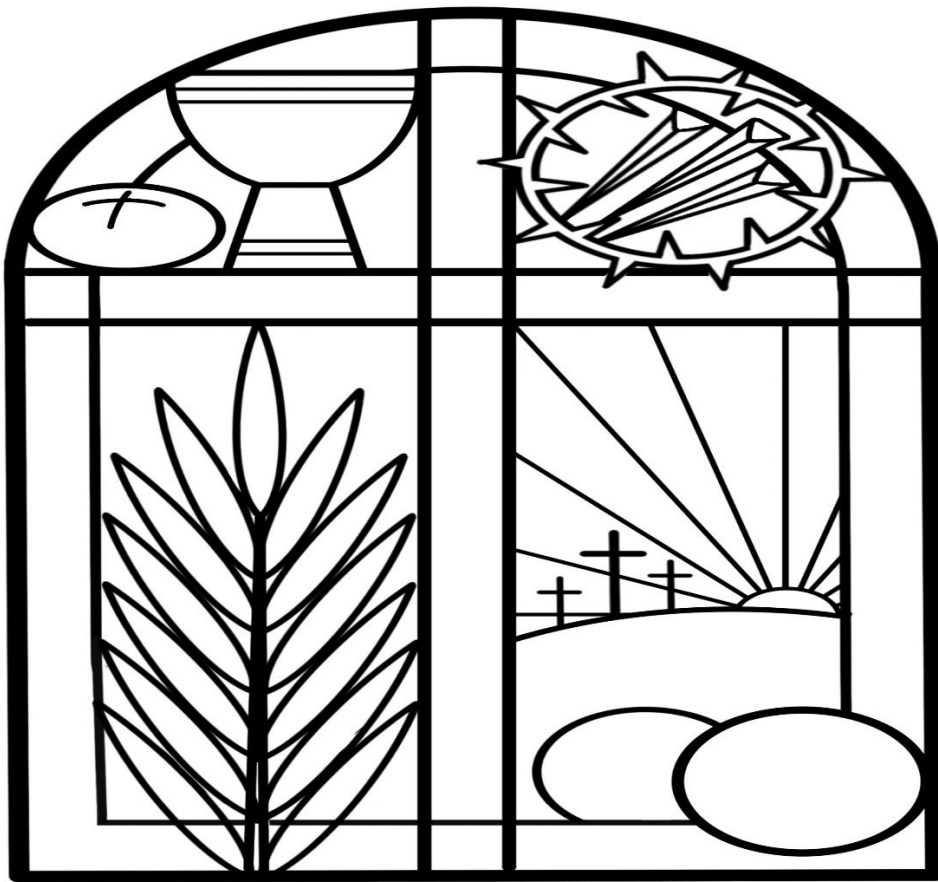
Sacred Music and Readings for Passiontide

On Saturday March 23rd at 2 30 pm in St Martin's and St Hilda's Church the Ecumenical Choir will perform a programme of Sacred Music and Readings, on the eve of Holy Week. All welcome.

Confirmation 2024 - Sunday 21st April at 10 00 am

We look forward to welcoming Bishop Jill to St.Chad's for our Confirmation Service. Please remember the candidates in your prayers in the run up to what we hope will be a very special day for them.

Holy Week and Easter



Palm Sunday 24th March

8 00am Holy Communion

9 30 am Holy Communion at St Anne's Singleton

10 00am Parish Communion

11 00am Family Eucharist St Hilda's

Monday 25th March

7 30 pm Ecumenical Service at St John's RC Church

Tuesday 26th March

10 00 am Holy Communion

7 30 pm Ecumenical Service at Poulton Methodist Church

Wednesday 27th March

11 00 am Holy Communion at St Hilda's

7 30 pm Ecumenical Service at St Chad's

Maundy Thursday 28th March

11 00 am Chrism Eucharist in Blackburn Cathedral

11 30 am Holy Communion at St Chad's

7 30pm Sung Eucharist with stripping of the Altar

Prayer Vigil until 10 00 pm

Good Friday 29th March

9 00 am Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament

10 30 am A Journey with Jesus

12 00 noon Ecumenical Service in Market Place

2 00 pm The Last Hour

Easter Day 31st March

8 00 am Holy Communion

9 30 am Easter Communion at St Anne's Singleton

10 00am Parish Communion

11 00am Family Communion at St Hilda's

As in previous years we will be decorating a cross in Church on Easter Day and children are welcome to bring along decorated eggs for egg-rolling in the Market Place. There will also be a plentiful supply of chocolate eggs will ensure everyone goes away satisfied!

In January, we enjoyed Kath Bill's talk on 'A Taste of India.' Sadly due to the weather, not many were there. It was our AGM in February. We now have 38 members. In the evening meetings, we enjoyed a meal at Bistro Italia and in February had a Beetle/Church Drive.

Afternoon meetings- On Wednesday March 27th we will have a Lent Talk by Rev Jane Atkinson, our MU Deanery Chaplain. This is upstairs and there is a lift. On 24th April, the Wedgewood Choir will come to sing to us.

Evening meetings on Tuesdays at 7.30pm are on 9th April when Ron Blackburn will show a video and on 14th May, we will have a Fish and Chip Supper - £4.25pp and a quiz.

Theme –Transformation –Now! Holy Ground

'Know that the LORD, he is God! It is He who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.'

Psalm 100

God of creation, we give thanks for all that you have made.

We see the beauty of our planet that nurtures us.

We hear your word that enlightens us.

We wonder at all you have done for us

And we pray that you will make us better stewards of the environment.

Father, we thank you for the gift of Jesus Christ
to be the Way, the Truth and the Life.
As we walk the earth, the holy ground of your creation,
as we breathe the air, and drink of the water of life,
Show us the way to treasure the living world for all the families of
the future. Amen

I wish everyone a blessed Easter. June Challis

Pewsheet notice that went wrong....

*This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward
and lay an egg on the altar.*



The Bible OverBrew

On Saturday 20th January St Chad's hosted 60 people from 20 local churches for a free bible overview workshop. Many Christians want to read and understand the Bible, but don't really know how it fits together, and so can easily get lost and discouraged. The workshop traced the main story of the Bible and helped us see God's one glorious plan of salvation in Jesus. Here is the basic bible overview:

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Creation | God made everything by his word (Gen 1:3 “and God said”). It was all “good”, and humankind was “very good” (Gen 1:31). |
| The Fall | Adam & Eve doubted God’s word was good for them (Gen 3:4) and so were cast out of the garden. However, because he loved them God immediately promised a rescue mission (Gen 3:14-15 “the first gospel”). |
| Redemption | God rescued his people from slavery: by sacrifice and for worship. The blood of the Passover lamb saved the Israelites from death. The blood of Jesus, our Passover lamb, saves us from death (1 Cor 5:7). |
| New Creation | When we become a Christian, we become a “ <u>new</u> creation” (2 Cor 5:17). And there is much more to look forward to (Rev 21:1-5; 21:22 – 22:5). |

Of course, there’s more to be say than could be said in one Saturday morning workshop. So, our workshop speaker Matt Searles is currently releasing a weekly podcast called “The Bible OverBrew” in which he and Rachel Redeemed, with “a brew” in hand, are reading and talking their way right through the bible, starting in Genesis.

Ahead of each weekly release, you can read some bible chapters at your leisure and then listen to their chatty helpful reflections, which typically last 35-40mins. These chats are not “heavy” but they are easy to listen to, especially with “a brew” in your hand! Just type “The Bible OverBrew” into your search engine and you can watch

them on YouTube or, to just listen, type it into wherever you find your podcasts.

All existing episodes from Genesis 1 are still available, so enjoy catching up and then taking it slowly for the rest of the year. I'm enjoying listening to the weekly podcast – mainly when driving in the car (with no brew in hand!). Happy viewing/listening.

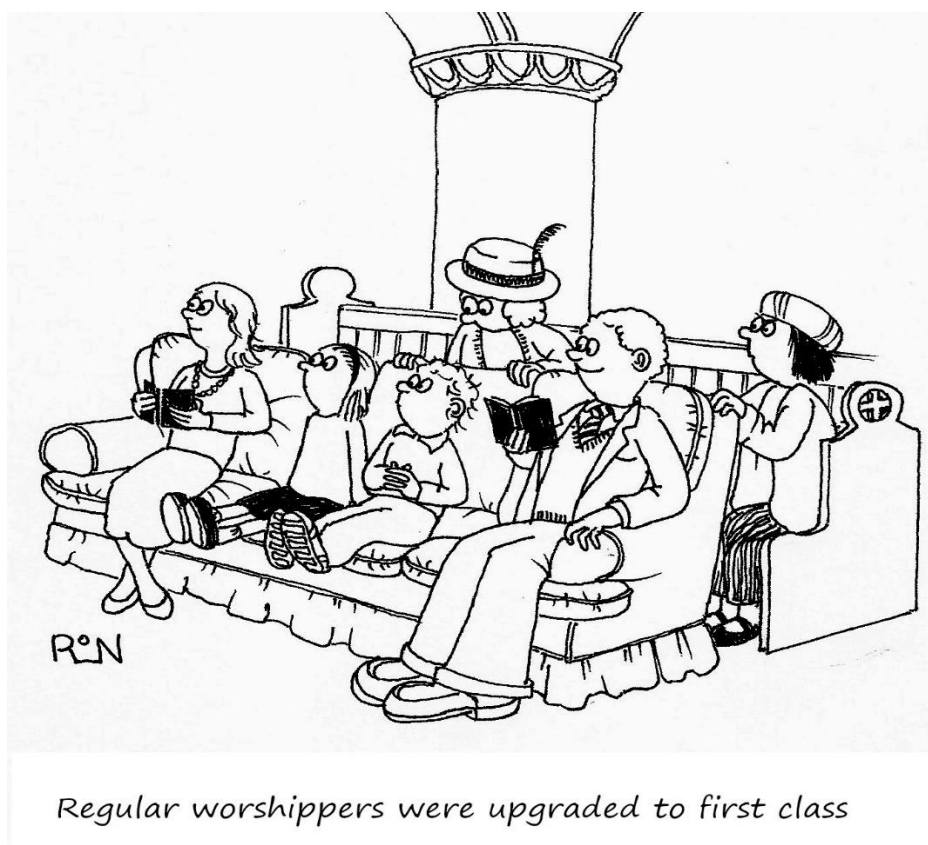
David Gascoigne. LLM

The Hand of Christ

*The hand of Christ rests gently on my head,
Love's blessings flow from God's eternal heart into my veins.
The Spirit's breath pulsates within my soul
And in the life that Christ has won for all on Calvary's hill
I step out gladly into God's Creation,
There to praise the holy Name of God,
In triune-majesty forever reigning.*

*O God most high,
Most Holy Father, blessed Son,
and gracious Spirit, Three-in-One.
We bow before the eternal throne
and, in the strength of love received,
we give your love in blessing
to your world.*

Sam Doubtfire



St Anne's Church Singleton

I suppose you could call me a church nomad. I go fairly regularly to St.Chad's but try to go to St. Anne's once a month and often attend St.Hilda's midweek or on a Sunday if I've got up late!

Most people assume I go to St Anne's because it is where my husband Terry is buried but that's not the main reason. When he took services across the three churches, I got to know church members at all three.

Some people in Poulton have never been to St Anne's. Granted it's not on a bus route and so it's limited to car drivers but it's a lovely church building to the north of the village and you feel as though you're really in the country but in fact, are not far from Blackpool. Church members are always welcoming. The Sunday Communion Service is at 9.30am.

There's a Peace Garden just next to the church and in the summer I have often enjoyed the walks to the hall and through the farmland opened by Singleton Trust. See the singleton-map.pdf (singletontrust.co.uk)

This sounds like an advert but it is worth a visit and St Anne's is part of the benefice. So if I'm not at St Chad's, I'm either at St Anne's or visiting my family and at another church, St.Thomas' Henbury, Macclesfield.

June Challis

From the Ed.

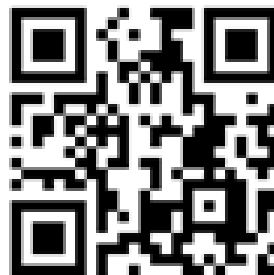
Many thanks to June for her thoughts about St.Anne's Singleton, a lovely church in a lovely village, and much improved now the by-pass is opened!

All contributions of your memories or thoughts about our churches and our communities would be most welcome – just email them to me.... Thanks, Ian.

Palm Sunday visit

It was Palm Sunday, but because of a sore throat, five-year-old Bobby was kept home from church with his grannie. When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm fronds and Bobby asked them what they were for. "People held them over Jesus' head as He walked by," his father explained.

Bobby was aghast. "I don't believe it! The one Sunday I don't go, and He shows up!"



Websites and Social Media Information

St Chad's and St Hilda's Websites:

www.stchadschurch.org

www.facebook.com/st-chads-parish-church

www.facebook.com/St-Hildas-Church-Carleton

St Anne's Website: www.singletonchurch.co.uk

Contacts

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Licensed Lay Minister | - David Gascoigne | 07768 303462 |
| Churchwarden (St Chad's) | - Lynne Brackpool | 01253 892440 |
| Churchwarden (St Chad's) | - Geraldene Greenhalgh | 01253 822877 |
| Churchwarden (St Hilda's) | - Joan Swan | 01253 883743 |
| Churchwarden (St Anne's) | - Frank/Hilary Loftus | 01772 673201 |
| Safeguarding Officer | - Lynne Brackpool | 01253 892440 |
| Verger (St Chad's) | - Penny Waters | 01253 883575 |
| PCC Secretary | - Dorothy Griffith | 01253 899602 |
| Mothers' Union | - June Challis | 01253 864534 |
| New Sentinel Distribution | - G.Greenhalgh | 01253 822877 |
| New Sentinel Editor: | - Rev. Ian Files | 07778 521233 |

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The Clergy and Churchwardens will be happy to field enquiries and put you in touch with the correct contact in Church.

Sunday Service Times

| | |
|----------|---|
| 8:00 am | Holy Communion (St Chad's) |
| 9:30 am | Holy Communion (St Anne, Singleton) |
| 10:00 am | Parish Communion (St Chad's) All Age Worship (1st Sunday of the month) |
| 11:00 am | Holy Communion (St Hilda's) |

The 10 o'clock Sunday Service from St Chad's will be streamed to the St Chad's Website and Facebook page (which can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Chads-Parish-Church-474539146054369>)

Midweek Services

| | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Tuesday | 10:00 am | Holy Communion (St Chad's) |
| Wednesday | 11:00 am | Holy Communion (St Hilda's) |
| Thursday | 11:30 am | Holy Communion (St Chad's) |
| Friday | 7:30 pm | Holy Communion (St Chad's) |

For any queries about our churches, baptisms, marriages or about our services, please contact the Vicar

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