

The New Sentinel

March / April 2025



St Chad's, Poulton-le-Fylde

St Hilda's, Carleton

St Anne's, Singleton



Welcome to the Mar/Apr 2025 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 is 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 2025 edition. Any contributions must be with us no later than **15th May** to be considered for inclusion in the next edition.

Contents

From the Vicarage	3
Holy Week & Easter	5
From the Registers	7
Vicar's notes	8
Mothers' Union	9
St.Chad's Primary	10
Who chooses the next	
Archbishop of Canterbury?	11
Christian Aid Week	13
Contacts / Social Media	15
Service Times	16

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

I seem to have written to many of you a number of times in recent weeks. Those of you on the Church Electoral Roll will have received an invitation to reapply, as we draw up a New Roll in 2025, and those who are part of our stewardship scheme should have received a letter of thanks, along with information about the continuing financial challenges we face.

These things are important, and I make no apology for them. It is important that the Church is well governed and that there is the opportunity to vote for those who represent you on the Church Council, and to hold them to account at an Annual Meeting.

This year our Annual Meeting will be on Tuesday May 27th at 7.00 pm in St Chad's, and we would love to see you there. It is also important to be honest and transparent about the financial challenges we face and our dependence, in recent years, upon legacies to balance our books. Without such income, which of its nature is very unpredictable, we face a deficit in 2025 of £30, 000. If these are important matters, so too is the appointment of a new Archbishop of Canterbury, and you can read elsewhere in The New Sentinel about the process involved. I will follow that process with interest and pray hard for the person appointed, to what is a challenging, and in many ways, an unenviable role.

Yet, as Easter approaches, we are reminded that all such matters must find their place in the wider context and the bigger picture of a world transformed by the Cross and the Resurrection. As St Paul reminded the Corinthians, "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins". Church order, church finances and the appointment of Archbishops demand our attention, but they must never distract us from the mystery of faith,

“Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!”.

There are books which seek to explain the mystery for those whose intellectual scruples leave them unwilling to commit, but for me Easter is a time to rejoice in the mystery.

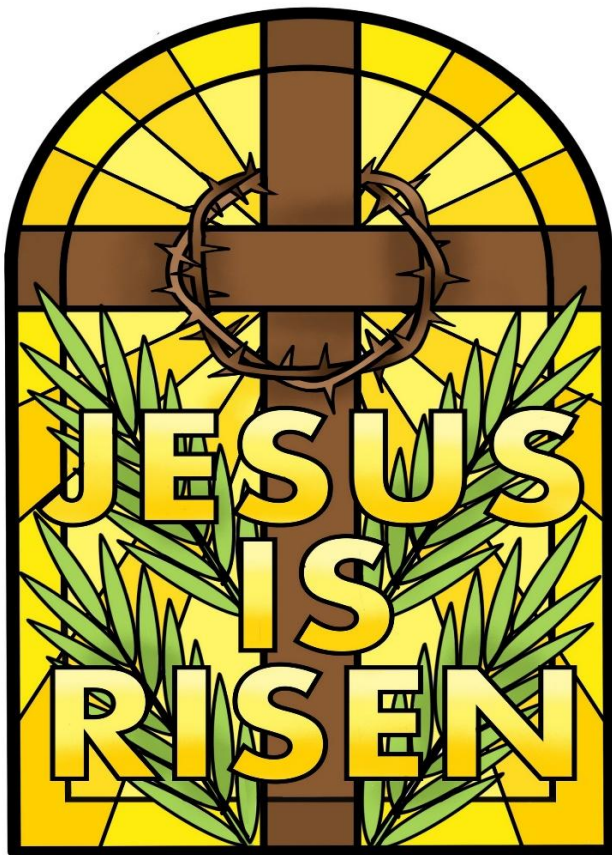
There is much that I do not understand, but I am filled once more with the hope that human failure, evil, despair, sin and death will not have the final word.

God, goodness, love, grace and life will prevail!

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Every blessing!

Martin Keighley



Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday 13th April

8.00 am Holy Communion

10.00 am Parish Communion

11.00 am Family Eucharist at St Hilda's

Monday 14th April

7.30 pm Ecumenical Service at St John's RC Church

Tuesday 15th April

10.00 am Holy Communion

7.30 pm Ecumenical Service at Poulton Methodist Church

Wednesday 16th April

11.00 am Holy Communion at St Hilda's

7.30 pm Ecumenical Service at St Chad's

Maundy Thursday 17th April

11.00 am Chrism Eucharist at Blackburn Cathedral

11.30 am Holy Communion

7.30 pm Sung Eucharist with stripping of the Altar

then a Prayer Vigil until 10.00 pm

Good Friday 18th April

9.00 am Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament

10.30 am A Journey with Jesus

12 noon Ecumenical Service in Market Place

2.00 pm The Last Hour

Easter Day 20th April

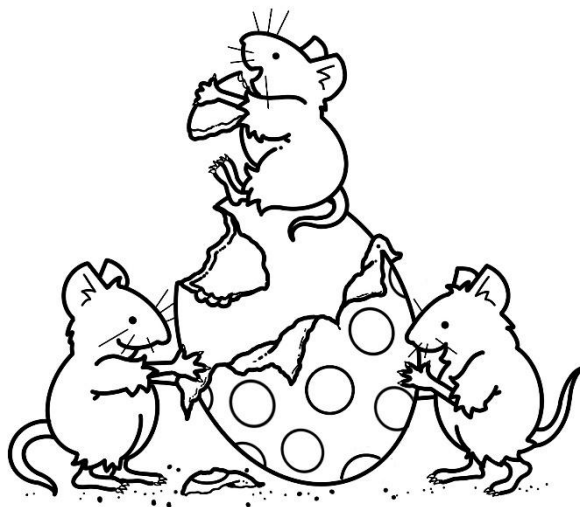
8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Communion

11.00am Family Communion at St Hilda's

Egg-Rolling

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 Market Place. There will also be a plentiful supply of chocolate eggs will ensure everyone goes away satisfied.



From the Registers

Baptisms

February	2nd	Philip James Heald
	9th	Isabelle Pamela Clemson
	16th	Rose Elizabeth Gadsden
	23rd	Daisy Grace Corsby
March	9th	Myla Isabella Heald

Weddings

February	15th	Andrew Christopher Gadsden and Charlotte Rebecca Chambers
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Funerals

January	28th	Ron Fenton
	29th	Elaine Houghton
February	25th	Rod Macken
		Pam Ogden
	28th	Dorothy Hankey
March	5th	Steve Farrar
	11th	Comrie Davis

Vicar's Notes –

Confirmation 2025 - Sunday 27th April 10.00 am

We look forward to welcoming Bishop Jill to St Chad's for our Confirmation Service on Sunday 27th April at 10.00 am. Please remember the candidates in your prayers in the run up to what we hope will be a very special day for them.

A New Church Electoral Roll

The Church Electoral Roll is currently being drawn up again, as happens every six years. Those on the old roll have been approached and invited to reapply. Others are welcome to join the list, which is in effect, a list of church members and allows those on it to stand for office, and vote at the Annual Meeting of the Church.

Application forms are available in church and must be returned to church, or direct to the

Electoral Roll Officer, Mrs Jennie Aston, 17 Haworth Crescent, Poulton le Fylde FY6 7JG, by May 4th .

The Annual Meeting of the Church will be on Tuesday 27th May at 7.00 pm in St. Chad's.

Mothers' Union

On Wednesday 22nd January, Julie Rowlandson showed 13 of us slides about the work of International Aid Trust helping people in Ukraine and across the world. Martin chaired our AGM on 26th February. We will be meeting on 26th March to hear Rev Sarah Lamb talk to us about Lent.

On 23rd April Jonathan Challis will give a talk called "Come fly with Jonathan" about 113 years flying with Manchester Airports. We welcome members of St Chad's to hear this talk and slide show.

At EMU, 7 of us had our Post Christmas meal at Thornton Lodge on 14th January. Then, on 11th February, 14 of us heard about the work of volunteers of the North West Blood Bikes Lancs and Lakes which was inspiring.. On 11th March, Rev Kathryn Sperring gave us an inspiring Lent Talk. Sadly there were only seven of us there! Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 8th April when we will share school photos and have a Beetle/Church Drive. Then on Tuesday 13th May, Roger Hussey will talk about Fraud Safety.

We continue to collect items for the Women's Refuge. I took 2 bags again at the beginning of March. They need any size of nappies, shampoos, conditioners and any cleaning items.

As we know Easter is very late this year, in fact, my friends will have celebrated Eid 3 weeks before Easter Sunday. So though it is early for this magazine I ask that the peace of Christ be with you this Easter season.

Theme - The Power of Love through Christ: Love that makes a difference.

“No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.”

Matthew 5: 15

Lord, we remember your Mother Mary: She said Yes! Her faith enabled you to change the world. May we love enough to make the decision to make a difference, bring hope to the helpless; bring joy to the despairing, care for those who need love, comfort to the sorrowful, that we may share the light of our love, and so tell the good news of a Saviour for all. In Jesus' name. Amen

June Challis



POULTON ST CHAD'S
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year 3: How did Jesus change lives?

In Year 3 this half-term, we have been learning all about Jesus and the way in which he changed the lives of the people he met. We began by exploring what change means to us, discussing changes that we have experienced and whether we thought change is always good or bad. We discussed how we might feel about a new arrival in our family or a special guest to our home, what might we do to prepare? Some of us thought that we should give them gifts to make them feel welcome, others believed that we should simply treat them with kindness.

Following this we explored the Nativity story, discussing how

Jesus was welcomed into the world and the ways in which he changed the lives of Mary and Joseph.

Then we went on to explore the Gospels, reading through and discussing 'The Calling of Matthew' (Matthew 9). We made lists of what we believed was important to Matthew before and after he met Jesus. We went on to discuss the quote 'People who are well do not need a doctor, but only those who are sick... I have not come to call respectable people, but outcasts,' exploring the idea that Jesus came to Earth to help those who need it. We explored this idea further by looking at the story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19), even though Zacchaeus was disliked by the people of Jericho, Jesus joined him and helped him to find the path to repentance; 'Salvation has come to his house today, for this man, also, is a descendant of Abraham'. Finally, we explored the story of the Rich Young Man (Matthew 19) and spoke about the idea of sacrifice in service of others. We discussed whether we would make that same sacrifice if it meant truly living a good life.

Following this we brought the lessons Jesus taught us about sacrifice and service into the modern day, discussing ways in which Christians today change the lives of the people around them. The children explored Christian Aid and the life of Mother Theresa, researching and creating their own biographies, looking at Christian charities and reflecting on the ways in which they embody our Christian Values.

WHO CHOOSES THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY?

Late in 1902, the then Archbishop of Canterbury died in office. It seemed to most that the only possible candidate to succeed him was the Bishop of Winchester, Bishop Randall Davidson. The then UK Prime Minister, Arthur Balfour, wrote to Bishop Davidson: "I mean to propose your name to His Majesty the King (King Edward

VII)“ he wrote. “From conversations I have had with him, I have no doubt that he will agree”. HM the King did agree. And so, without too much delay, it came about that Bishop Davidson became Archbishop of Canterbury.

120 years on, many wish that the question of who is to be the next Archbishop of Canterbury could be decided so speedily in our day. For at least the last 50 years it has been slowly opening up its process for choosing Diocesan Bishops. The King nowadays stands back from the process. There is widespread consultation with the Diocese in question. A body is established - called a Crown Nomination Commission - which balances representation from the wider Church of England and from the Diocese whose Bishop is to be appointed. That body meets several times. They deliberate carefully and they pray intensively. Possible candidates are interviewed.

It is an open, collaborative process. But such processes are by their very nature slow.

In many ways the process for the appointment of Archbishop of Canterbury mirrors the processes for the appointment of any diocesan Bishop. But there are more interests to consider – such as those of the Diocese of Canterbury, the wider Church of England, the world-wide Anglican Communion in which the new Archbishop will pay a leading part - and so inevitably the Commission working on the appointment will be a more complex body with a need for more prolonged discussion. The Commission is comprised of:

The Chair (a layperson), appointed by the Prime Minister. In this case, it is to be Lord Evans of Weardale; The Archbishop of York; A Bishop of the Church of England; Three representatives elected from the Diocese of Canterbury; Six representatives (three clergy and three lay) elected by the General Synod of the Church of England; Five representatives from other churches in the Anglican Communion - one each from Africa; the Americas; Middle East and Asia; Oceania and Europe.

Before the Commission meets the Church of England will lead a consultation process to determine the needs of the diocese, the Church of England and the Anglican Communion. The Commission then deliberates.

At the end of the process, if all goes well, a name emerges to be passed to the UK Prime Minister and then for the Monarch’s agreement. Once The King approves the chosen candidate, the UK Prime Minister’s Office will announce the name of the Archbishop-designate. Given the number of interests which need to be held in balance, it is not surprising that this will not be a speedy process.

However, the public consultation is already under way. All are welcome to make their own input to this by writing to Canon Stephen Knott, The Archbishops’ Secretary for Appointments, Canterbury Crown Nominations Commission (CNC), Lambeth Palace London SE1 7JU, GB

An online consultation form is also available by going to this address and then following the relevant links:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/governance/archbishops/canterbury-crown-nominations-commission/consultation-nomination-106th-archbishop-canterbury>

Representations need to be in by March 28. It is all so different from how it was in 1902! We each of us have the opportunity to contribute to this process of discernment of who it is that God is already calling to be the next Archbishop of Canterbury. Above all, it is important that we continue to pray mightily for a good appointment at the end of this process. Here is the prayer that the Church of England is offering for us to use at this time:

Heavenly Father, shepherd of your Church, send us a faithful pastor to lead with wisdom, courage, and love, proclaiming your Gospel, celebrating the sacraments, and guiding your people in unity and truth. Strengthen your Church, we pray, and direct us in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Canon Colin Williams (edited from his original – blame Ian for any poor English)

Christian Aid Week 2025 : 11th – 17th May

***** 7 Days to Make a Difference *****

Every May, churches across the UK and Eire host a huge range of fundraising events, making Christian Aid Week one of the biggest acts of Christian witness in the British Isles.

Will YOU join us. It is only TOGETHER that we can beat extreme poverty and give people hope for the future. Christian Aid Week celebrates 80 years of working to give people hope. This year targets the work in Guatemala, a country dealing with immense challenges: In spite of half the population working in agriculture the country is a hunger hotspot with one of the highest rates globally of stunted development in children. It is one of the ten countries in the world rated most vulnerable to climate emergencies.

i. This year Christian Aid Week starts with our Coffee Morning at the Methodist Church Hall on Saturday 10th May, 10 – 12noon. Tickets are £2 each. There will be cakes and plants, bric-a-brac, and a raffle. Contributions can be collected (call me) or brought on the day.

ii. At St Hilda's there will be a Noisy Collection on Sunday 11th May. I know there is not as much change about but if you have been collecting any please bring it to church on that Sunday. Paper Money will still be acceptable!

iii. I am planning to walk 100 miles during May. Again! This walk is a sponsored challenge. It is a cumulative walk. That is, wherever I walk each day adds to the total. I will be happy to receive donations for my challenge. I shall put a form out at the back of both our churches.

iv. Everyone will find an envelope in their weekly newsheet, some of you may get one through your door during Christian Aid Week. There will be envelopes at the back of St. Hilda's church, also at St. Chad's and St. Annes. Please pick one up to make a donation. If you feel able, please think about taking envelopes to deliver on your road, or to your neighbours.

It is up to you whether or not you collect them but please let people know where donations can be taken.

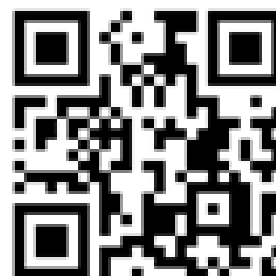
v. There will be a manned table in the Teanlowe during Christian Aid Week giving you and any passers-by an opportunity to donate, and those with envelopes a focal point for delivery.

Remember that donations can be made by cheque, made payable to Christian Aid. If you are willing to Gift Aid your donation, please make sure you have given your name and address. If you pay tax it is a very worthwhile thing to do as it adds 25percent to your donation.

Donations made by envelope could be put through the vicarage door or left in church. If you are in Carleton, St. Hilda's letter box, Carleton Newsagents, or Elizabeth Harrison's – 93 Poulton Rd. My contact for collections, 884131 or 07807 045319. Pauline Gibson is the contact at St. Annes.

vi. Finally there is always the opportunity to give online via the website: www.christianaid.org.uk Please give generously for this worthy cause.

Elizabeth Harrison, on behalf of the Poulton Christian Aid Committee.



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 Rogers	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)	- Margaret Llewellyn	07857 349147
PCC Secretary	- Dorothy Griffith	01253 899602
Mothers' Union	- June Challis	01253 864534
New Sentinel Distribution	- Elizabeth Harrison	01253 884131
New Sentinel Editor:	- Ian Files	07778 521233

email - ianf723@gmail.com

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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