

THE PARISH CHURCH OF  
SAINT PAUL  
GRANGE-OVER-SANDS



Happy New Year

January 2023

£1



**Normal services at The Parish Church of Saint Paul**

**Sundays - 11.00 am - Parish Service**

**Wednesdays - 10.00 am - Holy Communion**

**and at The Fell Church, Grange-over-Sands**

**9.30 am Second Sunday - Matins (BCP)**

**9.30 am - Fourth Sunday - Holy Communion (BCP)**



**Fifth Sunday of the Month**

**United Service within the Benefice**

**ST PAUL'S MISSION STATEMENT**

Our mission is to **build confidence in Jesus Christ**  
in the **heart of the community** through **prayer,**  
**worship and learning, in joy and practical service**  
to the wider world.

**Team Rector** ([ivicar@btinternet.com](mailto:ivicar@btinternet.com))

Rev'd Canon Jonathan Brewster

**Tel No**

**07977127244**

**Team Vicars**

Rev'd Nick Devenish - The Vicarage, Priest Lane, Cartmel, LA11 6PU

**36261**

Rev'd Jane Maycock - The Rectory, Longlands Rd, Bowness, LA23 3AS

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Rev'd Annette Miller - Airton, Eden Park Road, GOS, LA11 6BW

**33840**

**Licensed Lay Readers in the Cartmel Peninsula Team Ministry**

Steve Bell, Becksides Barn, Becksides, Cartmel, LA11 7SW

**36789**

Jenny Leahy, Studio, Mill House, Lindale, LA11 6LF

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Dianne Maguire, Cardrona Road, GOS

**07951423789**

**Lay Reader Emeritus**

Joyce Leach, Stoneleigh, 11 Highfield Road, GOS, LA11 7JA

**Visit our website [www.grangepcc.co.uk](http://www.grangepcc.co.uk)**

**[www.facebook.com/StPaulsGoS](https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsGoS)**

**New Year is all about new beginnings, an opportunity to take time to think and pray what kind of new beginnings we would like to see within ourselves. Not so much resolutions, more about sharing your hopes and fears with God. This prayer/poem by Edgar A Guest, captures something of this.**

Grant me the strength from day to day  
To bear what burdens come my way,  
Grant me throughout this bright new year  
More to endure and less to fear.  
Help me to live that I may be  
from spite and petty malice free.

Let me not bitterly complain  
When cherished hopes of mine prove vain  
Or spoil with deeds of hate and rage  
Some fair tomorrows spotless page.  
Lord, as the days shall come and go  
In courage let me stronger grow.



Let me with patience stand and wait,  
A friend to all who find my gate,  
Keep me from envy and from scorn;  
As shines the sun with every morn  
On great and low, so let me give  
My love to all who round me live.

Lord as the New Year dawns today  
Help me to put my faults away,  
Let me be big in little things;  
Grant me the joy that friendship brings,  
Keep me from selfishness and spite;  
Let me be wise in what is right.

A Happy New Year! Grant that I  
May bring no tear to any eye.  
When this new year in time shall end  
Let it be said I've played the friend,  
Have lived and loved, and laboured here  
And made of it a happy year.

## AT THE GATE OF A NEW YEAR

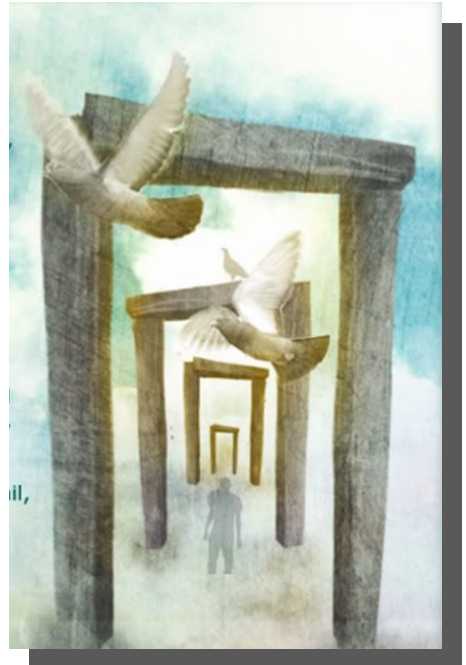
It was Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, who brought to her husband's attention a little-known poem by Minnie Louise Haskins, entitled "God knows". Written in 1908 and privately published in 1912, it was part of a collection entitled "The Desert". As a result, King George VI quoted it in his 1939 Christmas broadcast that first December of the Second World War.

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:  
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown".  
And he replied:  
"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.  
That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."  
So I went forth and, finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.  
And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

These words have understandably been used many times since and particularly as we looked to the dawning of 2021 and 2022, wondering what the future might hold, surrounded with all the uncertainty, anxiety and worry of Covid and the situation in Ukraine.

That though, is not the end of the poem — for it continues.....

So heart be still:  
What need our little life  
Our human life to know,  
If God hath comprehension?  
In all the dizzy strife  
Of things both high and low,  
God hideth His intention.  
God knows. His will  
Is best. The stretch of years  
Which wind ahead, so dim  
To our imperfect vision,  
Are clear to God. Our fears  
Are premature; In Him,  
All time hath full provision.  
Then rest: until  
God moves to lift the veil  
From our impatient eyes,  
When, as the sweeter features  
Of Life's stern face we hail,  
Fair beyond all surmise  
God's thought around His creatures  
Our mind shall fill.



*Minnie Louise Haskins (1875-1957)*

## CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2023

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to this year's festival.

Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> December, was the opening night; 30 trees sparkled with their lights, and the church was filled. Margaret Ratcliffe (organiser) and Brian McCann (Churchwarden) gave a warm welcome to everyone, and the choir from Grange Primary School led the singing, followed by the Bay Community Choir with their selection of festive songs. Each of the trees had been beautifully decorated by different organisations from the community, interpreting the theme of 'Peace around the World' in many different ways. Perhaps the most poignant one was the tree decorated by the Ukrainian families. We sincerely hope that by next Christmas the war will be over and they will be able to spend time with their loved ones. At the end of the evening the Revd Annette Miller thanked the organisers – Margaret, Gill and Christine – for all their hard work, and for the young people and the Community Choir for their contributions, and invited all to partake of the winter punch, mince pies and shortbread.

The festival was yet again a great success. We will report the numbers who attended and the final amount raised for the 3 chosen charities (Red Cross - specifically the Ukrainian Crisis Appeal and the Pakistan Flood Appeal, and Barrow Foodbank) in next month's magazine.



Unfortunately, Tim Farron was unable to join us at the opening reception. He since attended the end-of-term service for Grange Primary School on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December.



## MARY'S THOUGHTS KNEELING AT THE MANGER

Staffs at their sides, hushed  
mouths agape, reeking not  
of frankincense and myrrh, but  
of linseed oil, sulphur, pitch, and  
tar, these rough men  
stare, stunned  
by My Son's birth, shocked in  
amazed gazing, at Him.

Their faces though I recognize, they're  
the providers  
of the Paschal lambs, at Passover  
for the Temple, they breed and they  
take from the ewes their firstborns to  
bleed and suffer, sacrificed  
to atone for Israel's sin, but  
when their shepherd eyes meet mine  
I see on their adoring faces a  
glimpse of mute surprise, some  
wonder; in an eyebrow's rise dis-  
belief, while something  
in their furtive sidelong glances  
causes me to further ponder  
more, for they have been trained  
to know a sacrificial lamb when  
they see One.

*From "The Gospel According...to Mary" by Carl Winderl (December 13, 2018)*



## CHRISTINGLE MAKING DECEMBER 2022

Thank you to all who gathered on the  
Thursday morning before Christmas to  
make Christingles for the Children's  
society service on Christmas Eve.

Many hands make light work

Helen & Judith



## CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT HAVERTHWAITE

What a splendid time we had when the Lunch Club gathered in the church hall at St Anne's, Haverthwaite, for a special Christmas 'do'. Celia and Sarah had excelled themselves. Greeted with a glass of sherry as we arrived, we sat down at tables beautifully decorated with candles and crackers. Jonathan said Grace, and we were swiftly served a traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings. A choice of dessert – Christmas or sticky toffee pudding – was followed by a cup of tea or coffee with mince pie. Grace entertained us with some amusing anecdotes (one read by Jonathan about a vicar writing to his curate nephew), as we awaited the arrival of a group of youngsters from Leven



Valley Primary School. It

was a delight to listen to these young people singing, reciting, and playing ukuleles for us, with an opportunity afterwards to talk to them individually.

Some of us were lucky enough to win a prize on the free raffle, and each of us was presented with a gift as we left.

How can we begin to thank Celia and Sarah (and their team of helpers) for all that hard work and generosity. It was a wonderful start to the Christmas festivities.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY IN JANUARY 2023

<b>Wednesday, 4th</b>	<b>2.30 pm</b>	<b>Cuppa and Cake</b> , St Paul's
<b>Thursday 5th</b>	1 pm	Funeral of Leonard Hill at St Paul's Church
	<b>3 pm</b>	<b>A Festival of Readings and Music</b> by candlelight in St Paul's ( <i>see page 23</i> )
<b>Friday 6th</b>	6-8 pm	Repair Café, Methodist Church ( <i>see page 15</i> )
<b>Thursday 12th</b>	<b>12 noon</b>	Funeral of Peter Black at St Paul's church
<b>Sunday 15th</b>	3.30 pm	<b>'Hope Explored'</b> , St John's, Flookburgh ( <i>see page 9</i> )
<b>Sunday 22nd</b>	11 am	Patronal Festival with Dedication of Ashton Steven Christie, St Paul's
	12.30 pm	Patronal Lunch
<b>Monday 23rd</b>	7 pm	<b>'God for All'</b> Road show at St Thomas', Kendal
<b>Tuesday 24th</b>	7 pm	<b>'God for All'</b> Road Show at St Paul's, Barrow ( <i>see page 11</i> )

### THE "WARM SPACES" INITIATIVE IN LOCAL CHURCHES

The ecumenical "Churches Together in Grange and District" has set up a **"Warm Spot"** at **Grange Methodist Church Hall, 12 noon-2 pm** on Tuesdays, providing a soup and roll lunch from 12.30 pm, as well as the regular coffee morning on Wednesdays.

Also, **St Paul's Grange** invites you to 'Cuppa and Cake' at 2.30 pm on the first Wednesday of each month.

**St Mary's Allithwaite** has Café Allithwaite breakfast on the first Friday of each month, 8.30–10 am. Also the Community Lunch on the third Wednesday of each month, served from 12 noon until 1.30 pm. Both events provide hot food and are free!

**St Anne's Haverthwaite** offers its lunch club on the second Wednesday of each month at 12.30 pm.

The Revd David Edmondson writes: "This is part of the nationwide "Warm Spaces" initiative, encouraging community groups to open buildings and heat them for people who have difficulty keeping their own homes comfortably warm all day. Our churches are ideal venues for this, and enable us to show God's care for people.

We are encouraging other churches to join in with this, so that we cover as much of the week as possible without having two churches close to each other open at the same time."



## FROM THE REGISTERS NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2022

### FUNERALS

Robert Garnett	16th November 2022
David Joseph Gamble	17th November 2022
Barbara Wainwright	22nd December 2022

### YEAR'S MIND

Clifford Hartley	6th January 2018
Mary Jackson	2nd January 2019
Bessie Shepherd	25th January 2019
Dennis Whitaker	16th January 2020
Eveline Robinson	13th January 2020
Kathleen Wilson	9th January 2020
Maureen Briggs	16th January 2020
Dorothy Royston	25th January 2021



***“In sure and certain hope  
of the resurrection to  
eternal life through our  
Lord Jesus Christ”***

*Deaths in the previous five years are included in the magazine, but each name in our remembrance book for the last 10 years is read out in the intercessions at St Paul's Sunday morning service.*

### “HOPE EXPLORED”

Are you interested in being confirmed? And/or in wanting to find out more about Christian faith without any pressure of commitment? Or in simply wanting a bit of a ‘faith-refresher’? Do you know anyone who may not come to church but is doing some spiritual exploring?

Jonathan Brewster and I will be running ‘*Hope Explored*’ in the new year, a three-session series that looks at the life, death and resurrection of Jesus in Luke’s Gospel. There are few emotions more powerful than hope. But at the moment hope often feels hard to come by. Where can we find a hope that won’t disappoint us?

These sessions invite us to consider that Christianity is about real hope: a joyful expectation for the future, based on true events in the past, which changes everything about the way we experience the present.

We will meet in the Church Room at **St John’s, Flookburgh, at 3.30 pm** on the third Sunday in the month. The first two sessions will be **on 15<sup>th</sup> January and 19<sup>th</sup> February**. (The third date will be confirmed in January.)

You can contact **Jane (07785 782973 & [j.e.maycock@btinternet.com](mailto:j.e.maycock@btinternet.com))** or **Jonathan (07977 127244 & [ivicar@btinternet.com](mailto:ivicar@btinternet.com))** if you want to chat about it.

Come along for tea, cake, conversation and exploration!

Jane Maycock

# Parish of Saint Paul, Grange-over-Sands

January 2023

## SERVICES AT ST PAUL'S & FELL CHURCHES



**SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY – 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

**NAMING & CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS**

11 am - St Paul's Church, Grange

Holy Communion – Rev'd Annette Miller

**WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY**

10 am - St Paul's Church, Grange

Holy Communion – Rev'd Annette Miller

**SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY – FEAST OF EPIPHANY**

9.30 am – The Fell Church, Grange – Lay-led

11 am – St Paul's Church, Grange

Holy Communion -The Venerable Penny Driver

**WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY**

10 am - St Paul's Church, Grange

Holy Communion – Rev'd Nick Hallam

**SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY – 2<sup>ND</sup> AFTER EPIPHANY**

11 am – St Paul's Church, Grange

Morning Worship – Lay-led

**WEDNESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY**

10 am - Joint Service with Methodists at

St Paul's Church, Grange

Holy Communion – Rev'd Jonathan Brewster

**SUNDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY – 3<sup>RD</sup> AFTER EPIPHANY**

9.30 am – The Fell Church, Grange

Holy Communion – Rev'd Jonathan Brewster

11.00 am – St Paul's Church, Grange

Patronal Festival - Holy Communion – Rev'd Jonathan Brewster

**WEDNESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY**

10 am - St Paul's Church, Grange

Holy Communion – The Venerable Penny Driver

**SUNDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY – PRESENTATION OF CHRIST - CANDLEMAS**

11 am - United Holy Communion at Staveley in Cartmel

Rev'd Jonathan Brewster

## ST PAUL'S SOLO DINERS AT THEIR CHRISTMAS LUNCH

After the service on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent a fleet of cars took 20 of us to the Woodlands Hotel for our Christmas celebration. A good time was had by all, and we now look forward to our next date in February – watch out for the notice on the pewsheet about date and venue.

If anyone lives alone and would like to share a meal without the preparation and washing up, they would be very welcome. We now have a regular group of gentlemen who join us!



## ‘God for All’ Roadshows

More than 300 people have so far signed up to attend one of four ‘God for All’ roadshows to be held early in the New Year.

Bishop James and Bishop Rob will detail how key component strategies and major areas of focus will support mission communities for the next 10 years. A number of announcements are also being made around curacies, Network Youth Church, eco strategies and church grants.

**Both bishops are encouraging as many people to attend as possible.**

There will be refreshments **from 7 pm** before each event **starts at 7.30 pm.**

Monday 23 January, 2023 - St Thomas', Kendal

Tuesday 24 January, 2023 – St Paul's, Barrow

**Ideally people should sign up via the churches above but can also turn up on the night.**

## HOW WE CAME TO GRANGE BY MIKE HILL— No. 5

As the end approached of a series of overseas postings during virtually my entire working career, the thoughts of Helen and myself turned to where we would eventually settle. We had lived in Barcelona for a couple of years and that somewhat noisy experience had put that possibility aside.

We found ourselves living in Pereira, in the interior of Colombia, South America, in the late 1990s, a most pleasant city high up in the coffee belt but blighted by the activities of drug (cocaine) runners and the danger of possible kidnapping and being held for ransom: after all, a UK ex-pat employed by a multi-national company could be worth US\$100,000 or more. My employer recognized this and the other problems of everyday living (my Sales Director was shot dead in the street after withdrawing cash from his bank), so we were given four trips to the UK each year plus a weekend away in Miami or on Colombia's Caribbean coast. Helen therefore took a 6-week holiday in the UK four times a year and started searching in her spare time for a suitable retirement location.

We owned a house near Appleby so, using this as a base, the search started in Penrith and areas close by as we wanted to be close to the hills and open country. All this was unbeknown to me: I was busy struggling with the business problems of Venezuela's Communist President (the late unlamented General Chavez), Colombia's rampant inflation, difficulties with our local minority shareholders and a trade union who had become used to wage settlements of 20% p.a. One day I received a phone call from Helen: she had found a possibly suitable house in Grange, a town which she had visited as a child whilst on holiday with her parents in Arnside many years previously, and could I come to view it whilst in the UK on a management meeting next week.

So I took the train to Grange the following week and was driven to our current house by an excited Helen. Not only did it appear suitable but the house literally next door was also available and appeared totally in tune with the wishes of Helen's parents who also wished to move to a more appropriate residence than their converted barn in Dufton, 4 miles north of Appleby. A brief negotiation took place with the vendor and we agreed a purchase – as did Helen's parents with their house. I flew back to Pereira next day, Helen organized the sale of our own Dufton property and the move of our furniture to an empty Grange house.

The day after the furniture van had deposited our belongings, Helen travelled to Manchester where our "main" house was situated and started to dispose of that house (we needed to do it for tax purposes before we returned to the UK) and those belongings too were also brought up to Grange. Then we could enjoy our run down of overseas life, a wild send-off with rum and *mariachis*, a few days of holiday in Miami and a start in Grange-over-Sands in early-December 1999. There were 3 inches of snow on the streets but we have never looked back. An excellent choice of place to be: thank you and well done, Helen.



## BURGLARY WARNING FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

This message has come recently from the police via Neighbourhood Watch.

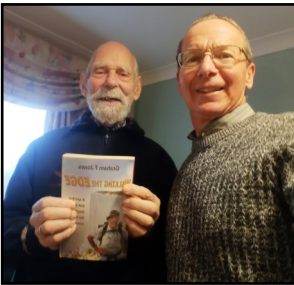
The following information relates to burglaries in rural areas of South Lakeland; however, the advice that Cumbria Police has provided is something that all householders should be mindful of at any time but more especially when darkness begins around 4 pm-ish.

Detectives covering the South Lakeland area have seen a significant increase in dwelling burglaries over the last few months. The incidents have occurred in rural towns and villages across South Lakeland in Dent, Sedbergh, Allithwaite, Grange and a lot of villages in between, including Kirkby Lonsdale, Holme, Burton-in-Kendal, Beetham, Levens, Storth and Arnside.

Detective Sergeant Duncan Helm writes: "We believe that a number of these incidents have been committed by the same person/s.

In most of the cases the properties have been empty when the burglary has occurred, with the suspects using the cover of darkness. As the nights have now drawn in, we are beginning to see offences occur between 6 pm and 9 pm and mostly when occupants are simply out at evening time.

From the incidents reported to us suspects have been targeting jewellery and cash."



### NEWS OF GRAHAM JONES

Michael Fieldhouse has visited Graham Jones recently at Heron Hill nursing home in Kendal, where Graham is now living.

Michael writes "I handed over a copy of Graham's own signed book, *Walking the Edge*", to remind him of what he has done in the past, into which I also added a message of blessing. Graham's daughter, Sallyanne, lives in Somerset so cannot visit often, but has been to see her father and is

in frequent contact with the care home. Graham would be glad to see any visitors who can pop in."

**NB** The book was found among the boxes for the Christmas Fair in St Paul's, and was given to Michael for Graham!

**MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS** are due in January 2023. We are keeping the price at £1.00 per issue but are increasing the number of issues to 12 per year. We would appreciate annual subscriptions if possible. Please make payment in the Office. We hope you will feel the magazine provides good value for money.



## LOOKING AHEAD

### 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY - SAVE THE DATE! **Moving Forwards Together**

Nick Devenish, Jonathan Brewster and I (Jane) would like to invite you to a Saturday morning event to open up discussions about how we can move forwards together as Anglican Churches across the Cartmel Peninsula. It's our concern that all our parish communities (rural and coastal) should flourish and we want to celebrate what is already taking place before identifying some of the challenges and opportunities as we support one another in our mission and ministry. We want to recognise and celebrate our distinctiveness; we also want to identify ways in which we can be more strategic by considering best practice in our work with young people, schools, lay ministry, care homes, safeguarding, our welcome to visitors, and considering the resources and expertise we bring, etc.

Clearly this is something we need to do together and we hope that as many as possible from our churches will be able to join us on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February at the High Newton Village Hall 10 am–2 pm**. A light lunch will be included. Nearer the time we will need to gather numbers for catering purposes, but this note is so that you can save the date. Jane Maycock

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### ANNUAL CHURCH PAROCHIAL MEETING

**Early notice for our Annual Parochial Church Meeting, which will, in 2023, be held on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> April, at 7.30 pm in St Paul's Church.**

Please would those who normally provide reports for inclusion in the Annual Report and Accounts let me have them by the end of February, to allow time for compilation of the report and printing.

In 2023, we are required to elect two representatives to the Deanery Synod, for a term of three years. Currently, myself, Mike Hill and Nevil Newman have carried out this role for the past three years. Nevil wishes to stand down from the PCC now, after a good number of years of dedicated service, for which we thank him. I cannot stand for election this time, as all the meetings are on an evening that I have another engagement. We are, therefore, looking for two members to represent St Paul's and the Fell Church at Deanery Synod. The meetings are held four times a year, two in St Mary's Allithwaite and two in St Mary's Windermere; provisional dates for 2023 are the first Tuesday in the months of March, July and November.

We also require one or two new members to join the Parochial Church Council (PCC). There are some leaflets at the back of Church, giving more information about the role of the PCC; please do feel free to take one if you would be interested in joining us.

*Rosemary Hoyle*  
*PCC Secretary St Paul's, Grange-over-Sands*

## *Sunday Services around the Benefice -*

	ALLITHWAITE	FLOOKBURGH	GRANGE	GRANGE FELL	FINSTHWAITE	HAVERTHWAITE	STAVELEY IN CARTMEL	FIELD BROUGHTON & LINDALE
<b>January 2023</b>								
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2 <sup>nd</sup> after Christmas	9.30 am Service of the Word Jenny Leahy	10.00 am Morning Prayer Lay-led	11.00 am Holy Communion Rev'd Annette Miller		9.30 am Communion by extension Dianne Maguire	11.00 am Communion by extension Dianne Maguire	11.00 am Lay-led	9.30 am Holy Communion Rev'd Annette Miller
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> January Feast of Epiphany	4.00 pm Service of the Word Janice & John Tindale	10.00 am Holy Communion Rev'd Jane Maycock	11.00 am Holy Communion The Venerable Penny Driver	9.30 am Matins Lay-led	9.30 am Holy Communion Rev'd Jonathan Brewster	11.00 am Holy Communion Rev'd Annette Miller	11.00 am Holy Communion Rev'd Jonathan Brewster	9.30 am Holy Communion Rev'd Annette Miller
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2 <sup>nd</sup> after Epiphany	9.30 am Service of the Word Steve Bell	10.00 am ?	11.00 am Lay-led		9.30 am Holy Communion Archdeacon Vernon Ross	11.00 am Holy Communion Rev'd Jonathan Brewster	11.00 am Holy Communion Archdeacon Vernon Ross	9.30 am Holy Communion Rev'd Jonathan Brewster
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 3 <sup>rd</sup> after Epiphany	9.30 am Joint Holy Communion St Mary's Rev'd Jane Maycock	9.30 am Joint Service at St Mary's Allithwaite	11.00 am Holy Communion Rev'd Jonathan Brewster	9.30 am Holy Communion Rev'd Jonathan Brewster	6.00 pm Lay-led	11.00 am Lay-led	11.00 am Holy Communion Rev'd Annette Miller	9.30 am Lay-led
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> January United Service Presentation of Christ	9.30 am Service of the Word Rev'd Peter Anderson	10.00 am Holy Communion Rev'd Jane Maycock					11.00 am United Service Holy Communion Rev'd Jonathan Brewster	

<b>Wednesday Clergy Rota - January 2023 - 10 am - Holy Communion</b>	
4th January	Holy Communion - Rev'd Annette Miller
11th January	Holy Communion - Rev'd Nick Hallam
18th January	Joint service with the Methodist at St Paul's Church, Grange - Rev'd Jonathan Brewster
25th January	Holy Communion - The Venerable Penny Driver



## The Jesse Tree

I wonder whether you took the time to look at the Jesse Tree that Susan Jackson had decorated in the sanctuary for Advent.

The Jesse Tree dates back to the Middle Ages and came from Europe. It is a depiction in art of the ancestors of Christ, and originates in a passage from the book of Isaiah, 11: 1 - “A

*shoot shall come out of the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots”.*

Jesse was the father of King David, and God promised David that his kingdom would last forever. God spoke through the prophet Isaiah two centuries after the death of David.

The earliest form which the Jesse Tree takes is to show the figure of Jesse reclining in a sleeping position; from his side springs the trunk of a tree which ascends, branching to either side. On the branches are figures representing the ancestors of Christ; the tree ascends vertically to Mary then to Christ at the top.

The Jesse Tree has been depicted in almost every form of Christian art. In particular, it is the subject of many stained glass windows and illuminated manuscripts. It is also found in paintings, architectural carvings, floor tiles and embroidery. Earliest examples are found in a stained glass window in Chartres Cathedral in Northern France and in the Lambeth Bible both c.1140-1150AD. A small and much fragmented panel from a Jesse Tree window in York Minster is thought to be the oldest surviving stained glass in England, also dating perhaps as early as 1150AD. Since the 18th century the Jesse Tree has been illustrated in various forms in our churches; a fine example is the beautifully carved pulpit in St Mary’s Church Wreay: a tree stump and branch of bog oak.

The Jesse Tree has been adapted in recent years and now takes either the form of a poster or more usually a tree. It is used as a vehicle to remind us of the purposes and promises of God and is decorated throughout Advent with various symbols representing all the important events and people from creation to the birth of Jesus Christ. The symbols may be simple wooden circles, or embroidered felt; they are often coloured drawings made by children in Sunday schools.



## For reflection

Roots are an important part of a tree. As people, we need to know our roots as well. Often, we run from one thing to another without reflection on where we have been or where we are going. In our busy lives it is so easy to be swamped by our preparations for Christmas that we lose sight of the message of Advent.

The Jesse Tree reminds us of the roots of our faith.

### The symbols—what they represent and the relevant bible reading

1 Dove	The creation	Genesis 1, 1-5
2 Apple	Adam and Eve – the first sin in the Garden of Eden	Genesis 3, 6-7
3 Ark	The flood	Genesis 8, 15-17
4 Stars	God's promise to Abraham	Genesis 15, 5-6
5 Ram	The offering of Isaac as a sacrifice	Genesis 22, 11-12
6 Ladder	Jacob's dream	Genesis 28, 12-15
7 Grain sack	God's providence to Joseph during the famine	Genesis 41, 47-49
8 Burning bush	God tells Moses to lead his people out of Egypt	Exodus 3, 2-10
9 Lamb	The Passover and exodus from Egypt	Exodus 12, 11
10 Stone tablets	Moses receives the 10 commandments	Exodus 20, 22-23
11 Trumpet	Jericho's walls fall at the sound of rams' horn trumpets	Joshua 6, 20-21
12 Water jug	With torches hidden in water pitchers, Gideon's army of 300 defeats 100,000 at Midian	Judges 7, 20-21
13 Crown	Samuel proclaims the coming of Christ	1 Samuel 3, 19-20
14 Crook	Shepherd boy David is chosen as King of Israel	1 Samuel 16, 11-13
15 Stone altar	The worship of false gods	1 Kings 18, 36-39
16 Tent	Hezekiah's trust in God destroys his enemies leaving their tents empty	2 Kings 19, 34-35
17 Ears	Jeremiah's grief in exile	Jeremiah 9, 1
18 Watchtower	Habakkuk waits for the anointed one	Habakkuk 2, 1
19 City wall	The walls built around Jerusalem	Nehemiah 1, 8-9
20 Lily	Gabriel appears to Mary	Luke 1, 30-33
21 Mother & child	Mary shares her news with Elizabeth	Luke 1, 41-42
22 Shell	John baptises early disciples	Luke 3, 16
23 Candle	The 3 Magi acknowledge the divinity of Jesus	Matthew 2, 2
Xmas Eve	The birth of Jesus in a lowly manger	Luke 2, 10-12
Xmas Day	Chi-Rho symbol—first two letters of Christ in Greek One of the earliest Christian symbols	John 1, 34





Soroptimist International of Grange-over-Sands

## Burns Night

*Piping in of the Haggis*

### Saturday 21st January

7.00 for 7.30pm

at Cartmel Village Hall LA11 6QB

£15 including supper

Cash Bar

*Haggis, neeps and tatties*

*(including a wee dram)*

Come and join us for good food and some singing

Replies by 12th Jan if possible to Isabel 015395 36378 or  
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Proceeds to Soroptimist charities

Burns Night is annually celebrated in Scotland on or around January 25. It commemorates the life of Robert Burns, who was born on 25 January 1759. The day also celebrates Burns' contribution to Scottish culture. His best known work is Auld Lang Syne.

Many people and organizations hold a Burns supper on or around Burns Night. These may be informal or formal, only for men, only for women, or for both genders. Formal events include toasts and readings of pieces written by Robert Burns. Ceremonies during a Burns Night supper vary according to the group organizing the event and the location.

The evening centres on the entrance of the haggis (a type of sausage prepared in a sheep's stomach) on a large platter to the sound of bagpipes. When the haggis is on the table, the host reads the "Address to a Haggis", an ode that Burns wrote to the Scottish dish. At the end of the reading, the haggis is ceremonially sliced into two pieces and the meal begins.

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With best wishes,  
Sue Nicholls  
Development Manager

### A New Year's Prayer

May God make your year a happy one  
Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain  
But by strengthening you to bear it as it comes;  
Not by making your path easy  
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;  
Not by taking hardships from you  
But by taking fear from your heart;  
Not by granting you unbroken sunshine  
But by keeping your face bright even in the shadows;  
Not by making your life always pleasant  
But by showing you when people and their causes need you most  
And by making you ready to be there to help.  
God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead.  
Amen

## A BUSY SUNDAY AT ST PAUL'S

Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> December, was a busy day! First we had our monthly service of Morning Worship, led on this occasion by Audrey Gorman with Colin Milner speaking about the Lindisfarne Gospels. In his own inimitable style, Colin told how St Cuthbert, the Bishop on Holy Island, felt inspired towards the end of his life to have the teachings of Jesus written and recorded in Latin, with some sort of early lectionary, so that they might be read properly and correctly by future priests. Some 20 calf skins are estimated to have been used, and Eadfrith spent his life between 708 and 716 AD in the monastery's scriptorium on Lindisfarne using his skill to design and produce this outstanding example of mediaeval art. Undoubtedly a national treasure, the original is now housed in the British Museum.

At 4 pm in the afternoon, we had the annual carol service led by the Revd Annette Miller. The candles flickered on our candelabra (specially made for us by a former member of our congregation, Ron Cottyn) together with the twinkling lights on 30 Christmas trees, and 100 people gathered to hear again the Christmas story told by carols and readings. Charles Edmondson had devised the service, using six of the traditional 9 lessons, which were read by representatives of the various aspects of our parish life. Rosie Eccles, in particular, from the Primary School was a delight – she is the grand-daughter of Steve and Christine Parkinson, and had read the Kohima by the War Memorial at the Remembrance Day service. Our church choir had been augmented to 20 by singers whom Charles had invited, and they were conducted by Ian Thompson. It was a truly memorable service – the church was warm and welcoming, and the mulled wine and mince pies afterwards contributed to the fellowship shared!!



## 6TH JANUARY 2021

Epiphany, or 'Three Kings' Day, marks the end of the 12 days of Christmas for most people in the UK. January 6 is officially the last day of Christmas and the last day to remove your Christmas decorations. Midwinter festivals and parties have been held for thousands of years. When people began to convert to Christianity, aspects of the original festivals were incorporated into Christian celebrations. The Midwinter festival lasting for many days became the Twelve Days of Christmas. This period begins on Boxing Day on December 26 and lasts until Epiphany on January 6.

Epiphany, also called Feast of the Epiphany, Theophany, or Three Kings' Day, (from Greek *epiphaneia*, "manifestation"), commemorates the first manifestation of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, represented by the Magi, and the manifestation of his divinity, as at his baptism in the Jordan and at his first miracle at Cana in Galilee. Epiphany is one of the three principal and oldest festival days of the Christian church (the other two are Easter and Christmas).



## **WINTER SOLSTICE**

For the past six months, the days have grown shorter and the nights have grown longer in the Northern Hemisphere. But that's about to reverse itself.

Winter solstice 2022, the shortest day of year and the official first day of winter, is on Wednesday, December 21 (well, for a decent chunk of the world anyway). How this all works has fascinated people for thousands of years.

### **The science and timing behind a winter solstice**

The winter solstice marks the shortest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere, when the sun appears at its most southerly position, directly overhead at the Tropic of Capricorn. The situation is the reverse in the Southern Hemisphere, where only about 10% of the world's population lives. There, the December solstice marks the longest day of the year -- and the beginning of summer -- in places like Argentina, Madagascar, New Zealand and South Africa.

### **When exactly does it occur?**

The solstice usually -- but not always -- takes place on December 21.

### **What places see and feel the effects of the winter solstice the most?**

Daylight decreases dramatically the closer you are to the North Pole on December 21st. People in balmy Singapore, just 137 kilometers or 85 miles north of the equator, barely notice the difference, with just nine fewer minutes of daylight than they have during the summer solstice. It's pretty much a 12-hour day, give or take a few minutes, all year long there. Much higher in latitude, Paris still logs in a respectable eight hours and 14 minutes of daylight to enjoy a chilly stroll along the Seine. The difference is more stark in frigid Oslo, Norway, where the sun will rise at 9:18 a.m. and set at 3:12 p.m., resulting in less than six hours of anemic daylight.

Residents of Nome, Alaska, will be even more sunlight deprived with just three hours and 54 minutes and 31 seconds of very weak daylight. But that's downright generous compared with Prudhoe Bay, Alaska. It sits inside the Arctic Circle and won't see a single ray of sunshine.

### **Winter solstice traditions and celebrations**

It's no surprise many cultures and religions celebrate a holiday -- whether it be Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or pagan festivals -- that coincides with the return of longer days. Ancient peoples whose survival depended on a precise knowledge of seasonal cycles marked this first day of winter with elaborate ceremonies and celebrations. Spiritually, these celebrations symbolize the opportunity for renewal.

"Christmas takes many of its customs and probably its date on the calendar from the pagan Roman festivals of Saturnalia and Kalends," Saturnalia started on December 17 and Kalends started on January 1, early founders of the Christian church condemned the practices of these holidays, but their popularity endured. Christian observance of Christmas eventually aligned around the same time in the calendar .

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**GRANGE OVER SANDS MONTHLY  
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	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
January	154	141	98	142	73	107	186	58
February	76	125	91	69	99	263	139	171
March	110	107	162	60	182	75	134	48
April	46	72	15	98	39	12	12	40
May	165	32	75	37	52	26	101	68
<b>June</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>78</b>
September	29	118	177	133	177	66	62	112
October	60	31	172	131	160	165	304	158
November	246	118	189	62	85	114	71	177
December	352	65	109	160	155	126	153	63*
<b>Annual Totals</b>	<b>1,453</b>	<b>1,275</b>	<b>1,435</b>	<b>1,052</b>	<b>1,433</b>	<b>1,408</b>	<b>1,325</b>	<b>1132*</b>

\* means incomplete total till next month

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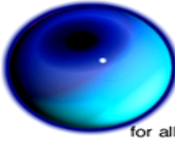
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