

THE PARISH CHURCH OF
SAINT PAUL
GRANGE-OVER-SANDS



Happy New Year

January 2024

£1



Normal services at The Parish Church of Saint Paul

Sundays - 11 am - Parish Service

Wednesdays - 10 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.

Tel No

Team Rector - Vacant

Rev'd Nick Devenish - The Vicarage, Priest Lane, Cartmel, LA11 6PU 015395 36261

**Rev'd Jane Maycock - The Rectory, Longlands Rd, Bowness, LA23 3AS
015394 43063**

Associate Priest (miller3637@btinternet.com)

Rev'd Annette Miller - Airton, Eden Park Road, GOS, LA11 6BW 015395 33840

Licensed Lay Readers in the Cartmel Peninsula Team Ministry

Steve Bell, Becksides Barn, Becksides, Cartmel, LA11 7SW 015395 36789

Jenny Leahy, Studio, Mill House, Lindale, LA11 6LF 015395 35979

Visit our website www.grangeecc.co.uk



In his New Year message, the Rt Rev'd Rob Saner-Haigh, Bishop of Penrith, references the conflicts in the Holy Land, Ukraine and Sudan, while calling for people to focus on the light of Jesus Christ in 2024.

The Bishop, who was filmed at St Andrew's Penrith, also touches on the difficulties faced by thousands due to the continued cost-of-living crisis and global climate change.

“This has been another turbulent year. The terrible conflict in Israel and Gaza, the ongoing wars in Ukraine, Sudan and elsewhere weigh heavily on us.

Concerns which are closer to home, the cost of living, climate change, struggling public services and the great inequality we can see around us, also trouble us. We know that the world is not as it should be. We long for the coming of God's kingdom, where things are the right way up.

John's gospel speaks of a light which shines in the darkness, a light which even the greatest darkness cannot overcome. We know this light for ourselves, this Light whom the darkness cannot put out, this Light who is full of love and grace and truth, this Light who has guided and comforted countless generations before us.

This light, says John, is Jesus Christ. No trouble, no sickness, no poverty can overcome him. He gives hope to the hopeless, comfort to those in pain, healing and strength.

As we travel into this new year, not knowing what it will bring, let us do so in hope. Not a naïve hope, but a firm hope in the light which no darkness or difficulty can overcome, Jesus Christ.

May God bless you and keep you in this coming year.

+Rob”

To view Bishop Rob's New Year message for 2024 visit the [Diocese of Carlisle's YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/piKLCn-8Ou/) <https://fb.watch/piKLCn-8Ou/>?

News from the Office of the Archbishop of York

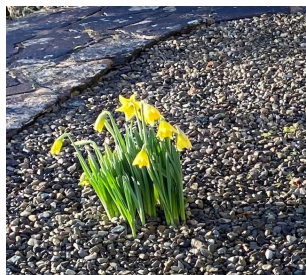
15 December 2023

“At the conclusion of a lengthy process of discernment, culminating in two days of interviews on 13 and 14 December, the Crown Nominations Commission considering the nomination of the next Bishop of Carlisle has, very sadly, not been able reach the level of consensus required to nominate a new Diocesan Bishop.

Over the course of the next months, the Crown Nominations Commission will need to reflect, and make a decision about which stage it wishes to re-commence the discernment process. This is not likely to be before the Spring of 2025.

Bishop Rob Saner-Haigh, the Bishop of Penrith, will continue serving as acting Diocesan Bishop alongside the senior leadership team in the Diocese of Carlisle.

Please continue to hold the Diocese of Carlisle and the discernment of the Crown Nominations Commission in your prayers.”



Spring is on its way and the days are getting longer!

Our first sign of spring has, once again, appeared in Sue's front garden at Meadway. The first daffodil flowered on the 13th December, a record for sure!

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

Living In Love And Faith - Latest

A selection of readings and prayers of thanksgiving, dedication and asking for God's blessing for same-sex couples can be used in Church of England services for the first time from **Sunday 17 December**, following approval by the House of Bishops.



LIVING
IN LOVE
& FAITH

The final texts of Prayers of Love and Faith, commended for use in regular public worship or private prayer, have been published, together with pastoral guidance which sets out how they could be used. The Prayers can only be used in regular scheduled services, such as a Sunday Eucharist or Evensong.

The House also continued to discuss separate proposals for special stand-alone services for same-sex couples to be formally authorised under canon law.

This follows a motion agreed by General Synod in November calling on the bishops to consider whether stand-alone services for same-sex couples could be made available for use, possibly on a trial basis.

FROM THE REGISTERS - JANUARY 2024

YEAR'S MIND

Mary Jackson	2/01/2019
Bessie Shepherd	25/01/2019
Kathleen Wilson	9/01/2020
Eveline Robinson	13/01/2020
Dennis Whittaker	16/01/2020
Maureen Briggs	16/01/2020
Dorothy Royston	25/01/2021



***“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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY IN JANUARY 2024

- Monday, 1st** **New Year's Day**
- Wednesday, 5th** **2.30 pm - Cuppa and Cake**, St Paul's. All welcome
- Friday, 5th** **4 pm - 12th Night service** “A Festival of Readings & Music by Candlelight” - Audrey & Charles
6-8 pm - Repair Café in the Methodist Church
- Wednesday, 10th** **7 pm - PCC**, Fell Church
- Thursday, 11th** **All day - Dobson's Spring Clean** in St Paul's
2pm - Social Committee meeting, Fell Church
- Friday, 12th** **10.30 am - Silent Peace Vigil** at Cartmel Quaker Meeting House.
Everyone welcome to attend, and stay for tea or coffee afterwards
- 18-25th** **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**
- Tuesday, 23rd** **10 am - Worship Committee meeting**, Fell Church
- Wednesday, 24th** **10 am - Morning prayer for Christian Unity**
- Sunday, 28th** **11 am - Patronal Service with Bishop Rob**, followed by lunch
- Tuesday, 30th** **7 pm - PEAT AGM**, Methodist Church Hall
- Sunday, 4th Feb** **1-3 pm - Next FOODBANK collection**

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – 18-25th January

18 th Jan	URC at 10.30 am (followed by refreshments)
19 th Jan	St Charles at 10 am (followed by refreshments)
22 nd Jan	St John's Flookburgh (refreshments from 10.30 am)
23 rd Jan	St Mary's Allithwaite (refreshments from 10.30 am)
24 th Jan	St Paul's at 10 am (followed by refreshments)
25 th Jan	Methodist Church (refreshments from 10.30 am)

A Message from our Churchwarden

As we approach 2024, I would just like to thank everyone who has contributed over the last twelve months in all aspects of life at St Paul's and, more especially, supported me.

There are so many names, to summarise would be easier:

- All members of the PCC
- Sidespeople
- Flower ladies
- Catering team
- Cleaning 'staff'
- and especially our Events organisers, who not only raise money for the church but also for many different charities.

You have all done so much for St Paul's, to keep us as a very important part of the life of the Church and also of Grange-over-Sands.

I would like to thank especially Charles Edmondson for his exceptional contribution during services and his concerts, along with the various choirs he has assembled at church, which I know have been widely appreciated. Charles has been supported by Ian, who I am sorry to say is retiring; we wish him all the best for the future and still hope to see him from time to time at St Paul's.

I would like to say a special thanks to Margaret and Gill for all the work they have put in for the Christmas Tree Festival. Our 10th anniversary has been a great success, with over 700 people coming through our doors, and over £1500 raised for the two charities chosen for this year. Long may it continue.

Another big 'thank you' must go out to all the clergy who have supported us during the last twelve months, whilst we still had no incumbent. A special thanks to Annette and Penny D.

Finally, I feel it is right for me to say a big 'thank you' to Mike, Penny W, Rosemary and John Millican for their continual support and for keeping me on the straight and narrow.

If I have missed anyone off, please accept my apologies.

You never know, we may have a new vicar in place this coming year!!!

Happy New Year
Brian

*And in return we pay tribute to all the dedicated service Brian has shown this year –
always unfailingly cheerful and a calming influence in times of chaos.
How fortunate are we to have him at the helm.*

FRIDAY, 5th JANUARY 2024 AT 4 pm IN ST PAUL'S CHURCH

To mark the closing hours of the Festival of Christmas, Audrey Gorman and Charles Edmondson have devised another “Celebratory Happening” for 12th Night.

Audrey has chosen a wide selection of seasonal readings and Charles has invited a group of singers from south Cumbria and north Lancashire to perform seasonal pieces from around the world.

Known as the “Sine Nomine” Singers (a group of singers without a name), the 14 members are all experienced vocalists and most of them sing in a host of local choirs and choral societies.

We do hope you will all join us for this event which can only happen once a year, and stay to enjoy mulled wine and mince pies afterwards.



Did you realise that 2024 is a Leap Year

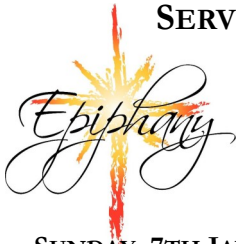
It takes approximately 365.25 days for Earth to orbit the Sun — a solar year. We usually round the days in a calendar year to 365. To make up for the missing partial day, we add one day to our calendar approximately every four years. That is a leap year, according to NASA.

The choice of February as the month to add the extra day can be traced back to Julius Caesar's calendar reforms in ancient Rome. Inspired by the Egyptian solar calendar, Caesar introduced the Julian calendar, which included a leap year to align the calendar year with the solar year.

4 Things You Didn't Know About Leap Years

- 1.** Technically, it's not every four years
 $\div 4?$ $\div 400?$
A small illustration of a calendar page showing the date Thursday, February 29, 2024.
- 2.** People born on Leap Day are called “leaplings” or “leapers”
An illustration of a person in a winter hat running joyfully, with a birthday cake with three candles in the foreground.
- 3.** It's a day that legally doesn't exist
An illustration of a person standing at a podium, surrounded by papers and a gavel, representing a legal proceeding.
- 4.** A tradition states that women are allowed to propose to men on this day
An illustration of a man sitting on a box and a woman kneeling in front of him, holding a ring, representing a marriage proposal.

ThoughtCo.



**SERVICES AT ST PAUL'S & THE FELL CHURCH
JANUARY 2024**

WEDNESDAY, 3RD JANUARY

10 am - St Paul's Church, Grange

Holy Communion - Rev'd George Wilson

SUNDAY, 7TH JANUARY - EPIPHANY 1

11 am - St Paul's Church, Grange

Holy Communion - Rev'd Annette Miller

WEDNESDAY, 10TH JANUARY

10 am - St Paul's Church, Grange

Holy Communion - Rev'd Annette Miller

SUNDAY, 14TH JANUARY - EPIPHANY 2

9.30 am - The Fell Church, Grange

Matins - Lay-led

11 am - St Paul's Church, Grange

Holy Communion - Venerable Penny Driver

WEDNESDAY, 17TH JANUARY

10 am - Joint Service with Methodists at St Paul's Church, Grange

Holy Communion - Venerable Penny Driver

SUNDAY, 21ST JANUARY - EPIPHANY 3

11 am - St Paul's Church, Grange

Annie Garden, Diocesan Warden of Readers - The Theology of Healing

WEDNESDAY, 24TH JANUARY

10 am - St Paul's Church, Grange

Prayers for Christian Unity - Rev'd Nick Hallam

SUNDAY 28TH JANUARY - EPIPHANY 4

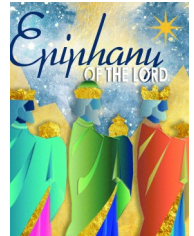
9.30 am - The Fell Church, Grange

Holy Communion - Rev'd Annette Miller

11 am - St Paul's Church,

Patronal Festival, followed by parish lunch

Holy Communion - Rt Rev'd Rob Saner-Haigh, Bishop of Penrith



WEDNESDAY, 31ST JANUARY

10 am - St Paul's Church, Grange

Holy Communion - Venerable Penny Driver

REFLECTION FROM THE ADVENT QUIET MORNING

Pat Rowsell writes: "I attended the ecumenical Quiet Morning at the Methodist Church last Saturday and these words came to me so easily that I wrote them down. The theme was God saying "Do not be afraid". Charles and Amiel encouraged me to send my thoughts in case it might be an encouragement to others:

God says "Do not be afraid"

But how can I not when I know not what lies ahead?

God says "Do not be afraid"

But where will my strength come from?

God says "Do not be afraid"

But I come with insecurities built over many years.

If I listen to God saying "Do not be afraid"

I am blessed with reassurance, knowing that I don't have to do anything on my own.

If I listen to God saying "Do not be afraid"

I trust in Him to give me strength to move forward, to lead me where He wants me to go.

God says "Do not be afraid". Who am I not to listen?

After a short break the local group of **Co-workers of Mother Teresa** will be meeting again at 5 pm on the fourth Monday of each month starting 26th February in a side chapel at St Charles RC Church. It is a small ecumenical group who gather for about 45 minutes of prayer.

Please feel free to come along and join us.



REFLECTIONS OF LIGHT

The Venerable Penny Driver led a four-week course during Advent, based on some of the beautiful stained-glass windows in St Paul's. She gave the history of each before reflecting on the meaning behind the images. She posed questions for us to discuss and encouraged us to share our own interpretations over seasonal refreshments served with a cup of tea. Each session ended with a Taizé chant and prayer.

We are grateful to Penny for leading us on this thought-provoking journey through Advent. We are indeed fortunate to have Penny among us and for her to share with us her depth of faith and spirituality.

CHRISTINGLE ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Excitement was in the air at St Paul's on Christmas Eve when 180 grown-ups and little ones arrived at church. Each child was presented with their own Christingle as they entered, and the Venerable Penny Driver welcomed everyone to the service.

The Christingle service has been introduced from Moravia, and encourages donations for The Children's Society for its work among disadvantaged young people.



This year Penny began by building a large Christingle explaining the meaning behind the symbols. She was helped by her sister, but had also enlisted a special guest to lend a hand. You can imagine the surprise when Pudsey Bear appeared!



Eventually, as the Christmas story was told by Tony Simpson, the candles were lit to create a warm, magical glow symbolising the light of Christ bringing hope to people living in darkness. Felix, whose birthday was nearest to that of Jesus's, was chosen to bring up the baby and place him in the manger of the stable, alongside his mother Mary and Joseph, as the lights were turned out and we sang 'Away in a manger'.



It was a special service!

Our donations from the parish and from the Primary School for the Children's Society amounted to £461.25.



HOW I CAME TO GRANGE – NO. 17

I was born in 1939 at the beginning of WW2 and grew up in Galgate, a small village south of Lancaster. I was the eldest of three, and attended the village school, St John's, Ellel. It was there that I learnt to recite the catechism. My memories included weekly nature walks and drying our stockings on the fireguard in the schoolroom. We took cocoa to school in a fold of paper for the teacher to make up for us on days when the weather was bad.

On leaving school, I trained as a legal secretary in Lancaster where I met my husband Peter who was a young solicitor. We married in 1961 and over the next six years moved house several times, relocating from Burnley to Chester, Kendal, two moves within Grasmere, and Winchester. Sadly, Peter was killed in a road accident in February 1967.

I decided to move back north to be nearer my family and settled in Morecambe with my two children, Simon and Rosie. Having an adventurous spirit, I holidayed abroad with the children, driving them to Denmark one year and Switzerland the next. Whilst not unusual these days, back in the '60s it was not common for a young woman to be driving round Europe on her own with two children.

I married Malcolm in 1973 and we moved to the Wakefield Diocese which is where I began my life as a Vicar's wife. Matthew was born in 1974 and at that time I also had my baby twin nephews living with me. Our small vicarage was full and life was busy. In 1976, we moved to March in Cambridgeshire where Malcolm was the Rector of two parishes: St Peter's and St Mary's. Life in the fens was very different and we missed the trees and hills of home, but, as March was known for growing asparagus, potatoes and strawberries, we enjoyed the fresh local produce. At this time, I trained to become a magistrate which added to the great variety of life!

When Simon and Rosie finished secondary school, we moved again, this time to the parish of St Peter and St Paul in Stainton near Middlesbrough, where we spent the next ten years. It started with one village church and grew to include five new churches, now parishes in their own right. We were also involved with hospital and police chaplaincy. We supported many curates, who visited every morning after Morning Prayer which strangely seemed to coincide with the time I cooked breakfast.

Unfortunately, Malcolm became ill and passed away before his planned retirement. I moved to Brigsteer on my own and enjoyed village life with my labrador and two border terriers until I moved to Ely in 2006 to help look after my grandson while Rosie went to work and to be nearer my son Simon in Cambridge. Whilst in Ely, I enjoyed going to the Cathedral where I was one of the many volunteers welcoming visitors and supporting the catering team. I miss Cathedral life and the beautiful choral music. During lockdown, I was able to reconnect with the cathedral and live-streamed the services.

In 2016, the family felt it was time to make the move up north again. We really wanted to move back to Kendal and looked at houses in the surrounding area. Our current home in Grange was our 'wild card.' In fact, on the day I was due to visit the seller cancelled and we thought we wouldn't bother looking round. Thankfully, a visit was rearranged and we fell in love with the views over Morecambe Bay, and moved in November 2016.

Since living in Grange, I have been delighted to discover that several of my ancestors were born in Cartmel in the 1700s.

We have enjoyed living in Grange-over-Sands, particularly during lockdown when we frequently counted our blessings at living in a place where we were so well supported. During this time, I enjoyed chatting with members of St Paul's on the phone. It has been amazing to have the congregation keeping the church strong during the interregnum.

Muriel Broadhead

St Paul's Alternative Christmas Card this year raised £481.25 for Water Aid. Sue and Penny thank all who contributed to ensure a healthier and happier future for some of the world's poorest communities.

When you start to feel like things could
have been better this past year
Remember the mountains and valleys that
got you here.
They are not accidents
and those moments weren't in vain.
You are not the same;
You have grown and you are growing.
You are breathing, you are living.
You are wrapped in
Endless
Boundless
Grace
And things will get better.
There is more to you than yesterday ...

Morgan Harper Nichols



Artist: Anna Speshilova

Our 10th Christmas Tree Festival 'THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH'

We just wanted to say a huge 'Thank You' to everyone who contributed in any way to another successful festival. The trees looked amazing and received so many positive comments from our visitors ... thank you to all those who organised and helped to decorate them.

Despite only being open for three weeks (due to when the first Thursday fell in December), this year we had over 740 visitors and raised a fantastic £1575 - this is nearly £500 more than last year. In addition to the visitors who came especially to view the trees, we also had in excess of 250 people at the opening reception, as well as many people attending the Church services over the Christmas period, all of whom enjoyed the trees.

Thank you so much for this such a community event.

As some of you will be aware, Sarah French, the Editor of Cumbria Life, was invited to the opening reception, and she took photos and chatted to people during the evening - we are hoping for a mention about the festival in the February edition of the magazine!

Thank you again for all your continued support ... don't forget to put Thursday, 5th December 2024 in your diary, as that will be the opening night next year!

Best wishes for the New Year.

Margaret and Gill

Specially poignant was the tree decorated by our Ukrainian families living locally



Our splendid Church tree, with thanks to Harry Barker of Stribers for his generous donation





This tree has been decorated with creations made by the crafty group that has been meeting just once a month in the church since May 2023. We meet and make creations led by Pip, and chat over a brew and a biscuit.

It's an informal group that has made boxes, friendship bracelets for the school leavers, bunting for indoors and out, paper flowers, poppies for remembrance day, and white paper stars hanging from the chandeliers at Christmas.

We have used natural materials and recycled as much as we can, so maintaining the Beauty of the Earth. We hope to continue in the spring and welcome anyone who has a couple of hours to spare each month. Come and join us for a crafty afternoon.



THE LEPROSY MISSION

We were very fortunate to have Michael Hardie at our lay-led service in December. Michael had travelled from North Wales to speak to us about the work of the Leprosy Mission. He grew up in the Congo as a missionary child, living in the middle of the jungle on an island in the swamps which had been an old leprosy colony. The leprosy patients lived in the village with his family, so he knew first-hand of this horrible disease and how it affects lives.

It is a cruel injustice that leprosy even exists today. It is a viral bacterial disease, and has been curable since 1982 by a combination of three antibiotic drugs. If the money and the political will had been there it would have been consigned to the history books long ago, and yet every two minutes someone is still being diagnosed. That's more than 200,000 new cases a year. In addition, millions of people worldwide are living with the effects of the disease, from physical disability to mental health problems, poverty and discrimination.

The Mission is a global Christian organisation and has been supporting leprosy in Africa and Asia for almost 150 years, working with people of all faiths and none to break the chains of leprosy and transform the lives of people affected.

- Diagnosing and treating leprosy
- Caring for disabled people
- Fighting stigma and advocating for change
- Pioneering research

People affected by leprosy are always caught in the middle of any disasters. They are always the last to be reached, the first to go hungry, and the ones left struggling to rebuild their lives.

Michael was an inspirational speaker. He showed three videos which graphically showed the impact of the disease, and outlined various ways in which we could support the work through prayer and giving.

£300 provides a toilet and £415 provides a source of clean water

We hope that we may invite him back again for a fund-raising event some time in the future, and have suggested that he might go to the Primary School to speak to the children.



MOTORWAY MARKER POSTS:

We've all seen them and probably never paid much notice to them, but this post could one day save you a lot of hassle should you ever break down on a motorway. It can also assist the emergency services to locate breakdowns, accidents or debris on the motorways.

How to read marker posts and how to tell where you are

There's two main types - Posts and Boards. Boards are much bigger. Firstly, it shows the motorway you're currently on. Then either A or B (direction of travel), finally a series of numbers.

For instance:

M1 - This is the motorway you're on

A or B - This is the carriageway you're on

123.4 - This is the distance from the start of the motorway in kilometres.

A is always driving **AWAY** from the start of the motorway.

B is always driving **TOWARDS** the start of the motorway.

The motorway always starts at a major city. For instance, M1 starts from London,, whereas M62 starts from Liverpool, etc .

So, if you break down, and the Police, National Highways or breakdown company asks for your location, just relay the nearest marker post. Let's take the M1 as an example. You've broken down, and you're at :

M1
B
164.6

So, you're on the M1, on the Bravo (B) carriageway, heading **TOWARDS** London (southbound), and you're exactly 164.6 km from London/start of the motorway. They now know exactly where you are.

Every 100 yards, there's a small Marker Post; these are simple plastic stakes. They give a very precise location and increase or decrease by 0.1 km each time depending on which carriageway you're on. They go **UP** on the A carriageway, **DOWN** on the B carriageway.

If they're **BLUE**, you're on a **MOTORWAY**

If they're **GREEN**, you're on a **TRUNK ROAD** (A38, A1, A14, etc)

If you look on the side of a post, you'll also see a telephone symbol and an arrow. This tells you the direction of the nearest emergency orange telephone, which will put you straight through to a helpful National Highways Operator.

This may be **DULL**, but it could save your life. Safe driving—without breaking down!

Credit..Johan Savies



At intervals the Bishop writes to all the licensed church leaders (clergy and Readers, etc) in the Diocese in a letter called an “*Ad Clerum*”. Below is a copy of his letter sent just before Christmas. His words and imagery are very helpful and speak to all of us as members of God’s church as we seek to be fruitful in our lives and to witness to others.

The Bishop of Penrith and Acting Bishop of Carlisle

The Rt Revd Robert Saner-Haigh

Bishop’s House, Ambleside Road, Keswick, CA12 4DD

Dear Friends,

I am writing this as we rapidly approach the end of Advent, this time of expectation and longing for our Lord’s return, and Christmas, the joyful remembrance of our Saviour’s birth. At the end of the year, I want to thank you for all your hard work, your faithfulness and perseverance and all that you do to guide and bless churches and communities in the name of Christ. Please be assured of my continued prayers for all of you, my gratitude for our fellowship and my hope that, once the final carol is sung, you will be able to put your feet up for even a short while, and have a well-deserved rest!

As I go around the diocese, I notice that world events, the terrible conflict in Israel and Gaza, the ongoing wars in Ukraine and elsewhere, weigh heavily on people. More local concerns such as the cost of living, climate change, struggling public services and the great inequality we can see around us, also trouble people greatly. There is a tremendous sense that the world is not as it should be. We pray and long for the coming of God’s kingdom, where things are the right way up, where there is the fullness of God’s peace.

Many of you will have heard me speak this year of discerning the seasons, of learning to recognise which season the church is in. Different churches may feel they are in different seasons but, for many, this feels like winter. We need to recognise that God is the Lord of the seasons, that seasons are part of life and that we can rest safe in the knowledge that God is in control, that we are called to discern the season and do the work that each season asks of us. We cannot make it summer all the time, and nor should we try. The fruitfulness and beauty of summer need the chill and rest of winter.

Some might think that this is a rather gloomy approach to the life of the church. Surely we are always looking for fruitfulness? Well, yes...but not always in the same way. I am someone who happens to love winter, though I also know that many really struggle through it. For me, it is the sharp frosts, icy wind, frozen trees, snow on the fells. I love the dark mornings and early sunsets. To some that might seem strange, but I don’t think so! There is a beauty and necessity about winter, just as there is a beauty and necessity about summer. There is fruitfulness in each season. One follows the other, and we trust God that in each passing season we will faithfully complete

the work he has called us to do. We can strive to change the season, perhaps because of anxiety, but there is a likelihood that we will be frustrated and discouraged. So, let me encourage us to discern the season and do the work of the season, being also prepared to sow for others what we might never see ourselves. There is a faithfulness in this which echoes and trusts in the over-arching, and completely dependable, faithfulness of God. Discerning the work of the season relies on God being in charge, watching for the signs of His call and having the courage to follow.

Yet there is something else about winter that I love, and that is lighting fires. Fire, of course, gives us light and warmth. I want to encourage us all to light new spiritual fires. I believe the church is still called upon today to light these fires, to bring light and warmth, hope and protection, to all the communities which we have been called to serve. The fires we set can also be beacons, announcing the good news of the King, Jesus Christ. We announce that all the other things which claim power in this world are not the true king, for only Christ is that. So, we are called to set fires, however small, which bring warmth and light and the hope of the true King, whose coming we long for with hope and trust.

For those who are burdened by endless activity, this is not a call to do even more. Rather it is an encouragement that these fires can start small and are ignited only by prayer. Where busyness crowds out prayer, then we have to find a way to stop some things and go back to the foundations, to prayer and worship. As Karl Barth apparently said, "To clasp the hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of the world".

The wonderful prologue to John's gospel speaks of the light shining in the darkness and the darkness being unable to overcome it, and that we have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only, full of grace and truth. Though we live in a world which can often feel full of darkness, where we can see much pain and brokenness, we know and have beheld the Light whom the darkness cannot overcome. The Light who is full of grace and truth. The Light by whom generations, facing different challenges and circumstances, have also found illumination, warmth and hope. The Light who is faithful and greater than any darkness.

Whatever situation we, or our churches or communities, face; whether we feel we are in winter, spring, summer or autumn; our hope is indeed in that Light, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ. Let us dedicate ourselves afresh to prayer, to setting fires and beacons which bring His light, His warmth and His hope to our weary and hurting world. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel! May you have a blessed and joyful Christmas and New Year.

+ Rob

EXTRAORDINARY COINCIDENCES



Abraham Lincoln was elected to Congress in 1846
John F Kennedy was elected to Congress in 1946
Abraham Lincoln was elected President in 1860
John F Kennedy was elected President in 1960
Both were particularly concerned with civil rights
Both lost a child while living in the White House
Both Presidents were shot on a Friday
Both Presidents were shot in the head
Lincoln's secretary was named Kennedy
Kennedy's secretary was named Lincoln
Both were assassinated by Southerners
Both were succeeded by Southerners named Johnson
Andrew Johnson, who succeeded Lincoln, was born in 1808
Lyndon Johnson, who succeeded Kennedy, was born in 1908
John Wilkes Booth, who assassinated Lincoln, was born in 1839
Lee Harvey Oswald, who assassinated Kennedy, was born in 1939
Both assassins were known by their three names
Both names are composed of 15 letters
Lincoln was shot at a theatre named 'Ford'
Kennedy was shot in a car called 'Lincoln' made by 'Ford'
Booth and Oswald were assassinated before their trials
A week before Lincoln was shot he was in Monroe, Maryland
A week before Kennedy was shot he was with Marilyn Monroe
Lincoln was shot in a theatre and the assassin ran to a warehouse
Kennedy was shot from a warehouse and the assassin ran to a theatre

Cartmel Peninsula
Next REPAIR CAFE Dates
FRIDAY: 5 Jan | 2 Feb | 1 Mar



Let's make things last longer ...

- . Bring broken items
- . Learn new repair skills
- . Eat yummy cake
- . Leave smiling

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Want to Repair or Help? - Please get in touch ...

PeninsulaRepairCafe@gmail.com | CartmelPeninsulaRepairCafe.blogspot.com

Parish Magazine

The annual subscription for your Parish Magazine is now due.

The price remains the same at £12 - which we believe is good value!

Please hand in your payment to Linda in the Office, along with any suggestions you may have for changes, additions, amendments, etc.

We are looking for more contributions to the *How I came to Grange* series.

Reuse and Recycle Please bring to church your old Christmas cards - just the front picture, not the messages or greetings inside. They can be used by our 'crafty' folk or sold to raise funds for church.



Grange Soroptimists invite you to

Burns Night
Piping in of the Haggis

Saturday 27 January 7 for 7.30pm
at Cartmel Village Hall LA11 6QB

<p>Haggis supper A wee dram Speeches Singing Bar & raffle</p>	<p>Tickets £15.00 from Isabel 015395 36378 or huggett735@btinternet.com RSVP by 18 Jan please</p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; padding: 2px 10px;">Proceeds to Soroptimist Charities</div>	



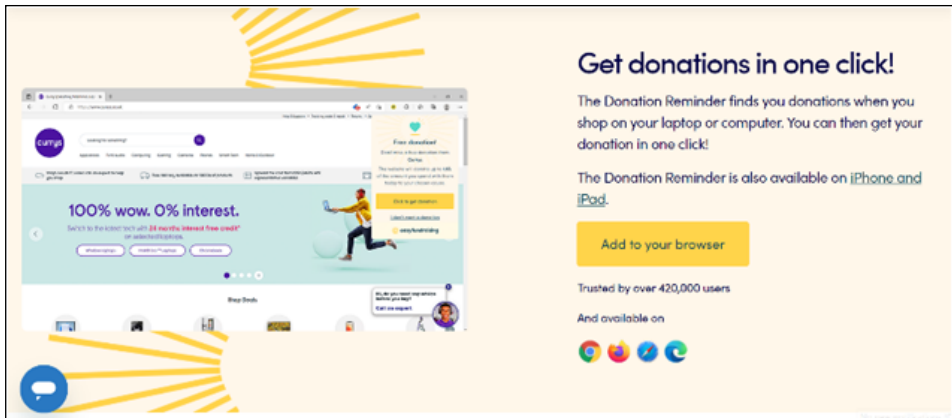
EASYFUNDRAISING REMINDER BUTTON

If you follow the link below it will take you to this page, where you can, as it says, with one click add a reminder button to your internet browser toolbar. A reminder drop-down box appears every time you shop online at one of the many stores/companies that support easyfundraising asking you if you want to receive a donation.

Don't forget to use easyfundraising when booking holidays, buying white goods, TVs, etc – it all raises money for St Paul's, at no cost to yourself other than what you are going to spend on your items.

The link - <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/donation-reminder/>

Our donation page is St Paul's Church - Grange over Sands



The image shows a promotional graphic for the easyfundraising donation reminder button. On the left is a screenshot of a web browser displaying the easyfundraising website. The website features a large banner with the text "100% wow. 0% interest." and a yellow button that says "Add to your browser". On the right side of the graphic, there is text that reads "Get donations in one click!" followed by "The Donation Reminder finds you donations when you shop on your laptop or computer. You can then get your donation in one click!". Below this, it says "The Donation Reminder is also available on iPhone and iPad." and a yellow button labeled "Add to your browser". At the bottom, it states "Trusted by over 420,000 users" and "And available on" with icons for Chrome, Firefox, Safari, and Edge.



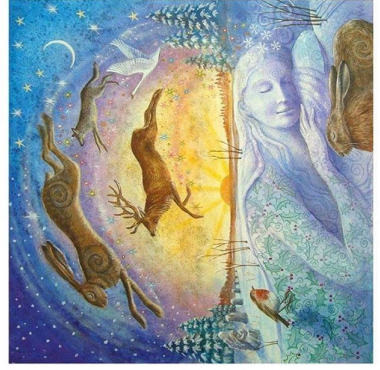
If you ever need support, Age UK is here for you.
Our free Advice Line is open 7 days a week, 8am-7pm on 0800 169 65 65. Or, if you're feeling lonely and want a friendly chat, day or night, you can call **The Silver Line on 0800 47080 90.**

Age UK provides information and advice on every facet of later life, from helping people find out benefits they are entitled to claim, to discussing options to help make later life at home more manageable. Our aim is to be the first port of call – the first place that people turn to when they have an age-related need.

Another number to ring - **HELPLINE 03030030003**
Website: www.ageuk.org.uk/campaigns Twitter: [@ageukcampaigns](https://twitter.com/ageukcampaigns)

Sunday Services around the Benefice

January 2024	ALLITHWAITE	FLOOKBURGH	GRANGE-OVER-SANDS	GRANGE FELL	FINSTHWAITE	HAVERTHWAITE	STAVELEY IN CARTMEL	FIELD BROUGHTON & LINDALE
Sunday 7 th January Epiphany 1	10.00 am Holy Communion Rev'd Jane Maycock	10.00 am Holy Communion Rev'd George Wilson	11.00 am Holy Communion Rev'd Annette Miller		9.30 am Holy Communion Rural Dean John Dixon	11.00 am Holy Communion Rural Dean John Dixon	11.00 am Communion by extension Richard Rhodes	9.30 am Holy Communion Rev'd Annette Miller
Sunday 14 th January Epiphany 2	4.00 pm Christingle Service of the Word Janice & John Tindale	10.00 am Holy Communion Canon Jane Maycock	11.00 am Holy Communion The Venerable Penny Driver	9.30 am Maitins Lay-led	9.30 am Holy Communion Rev'd Annette Miller	11.00 am Lay-led Tony Jefferies	11.00 am Holy Communion Rev'd Annette Miller	9.30 am Morning Worship Lay-led
Sunday 21 st January Epiphany 3	10.00 am Holy Communion Canon Jane Maycock	4.00 pm Canon Jane Maycock	11.00 am Morning Worship Annie Garden		9.30 am Morning Worship Lay-led	11.00 am Morning Worship Lay-led Tony Jefferies	11.00 am Holy Communion Venerable Vernon Ross	9.30 am Holy Communion Venerable Vernon Ross
Sunday 28 th January Epiphany 4	10.00 am Joint Service of the Word at St Mary's Steve Bell	10.00 am Joint Service at St Mary's, Allithwaite	11.00 am Patronal Festival Bishop Rob Saucer - Haigh	9.30 am Holy Communion Rev'd Annette Miller	6.00 pm Evensong Rural Dean John Dixon	11.00 am Holy Communion Rev'd Nick Hallam	9.30 pm Morning Worship Lay-led	9.30 am Morning Worship Lay-led



Wednesday Clergy Rota - January 2024 - 10 am - Holy Communion	
3rd January	Holy Communion - Rev'd George Wilson
10th January	Holy Communion - Rev'd Annette Miller
17th January	Joint Holy Communion service with Methodist at St Paul's Church
24th January	Prayers for Christian Unity Rev'd Nick Hallam
31st January	Holy Communion - Ven Penny Driver

The Cost of Loving *(Brian Bilston)*

I love you more than life itself
 But I swear I'll love you better
 If you let me turn the heating off
 And you wear another sweater.

I cannot get enough of you -
 I'm completely in your thrall.
 I like it when you bend over
 To unplug the telly at the wall.

Yes, you're the only one for me,
 my sweet and fragrant flower,
 Now you've ditched the daily baths
 For one weekly 4-min shower.



Make no mistake, I love you loads,
 You send my head into a spin -
 When you eco-wash on thirty
 And cram as much as you can in.

My cup of love is full for you -
 How it overflows, my petal.
 So make yourself a brew with me,
 Just don't overflow the kettle.

GRANGE OVER SANDS MONTHLY RAINFALL (MM) - ANDREW LITTLE

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
January	141	98	142	73	107	186	58	174
February	125	91	69	99	263	139	171	42
March	107	162	60	182	75	134	48	173
April	72	15	98	39	12	12	40	84
May	32	75	37	52	26	101	68	34
June	185	135	19	91	99	30	79	87
July	113	126	33	134	169	70	80	226
August	168	86	108	180	188	63	78	143
September	118	177	133	177	66	62	112	189
October	31	172	131	160	165	304	158	144
November	118	189	62	85	114	71	177	227
December	65	109	160	155	126	153	162	146*
Annual								
Totals	1,275	1,435	1,052	1,433	1,408	1,325	1,231	1669*
1,266*								

** means incomplete total till next month*

Many thanks to Andrew for faithfully recording our rainfall each month, and for sharing his findings with us. This past year must surely be a record - whoever said that our climate is not changing!

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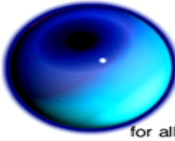
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2024 CHURCH CAR PARKING PERMITS

Application forms for 2024
Car Parking Permits are
now available at the
back of Church.
Prices are once again frozen at
£45 for one car, and
£65 for two cars.

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Any posters for display in St Paul's should
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Please leave in Gill's tray
opposite the office.
Thank you.



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Parish Safeguarding Officer

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Fell Church

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Team Office / Parish Administrator

Linda Brown 35560

Tue, Wed & Thur - 10.00 am-12.30 pm Fri - 9.00 am - 1.00 pm

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