

*Church of the Holy Spirit  
Manse Road, Mossley*



*The Dove Magazine*

*March / April 2024 Edition*

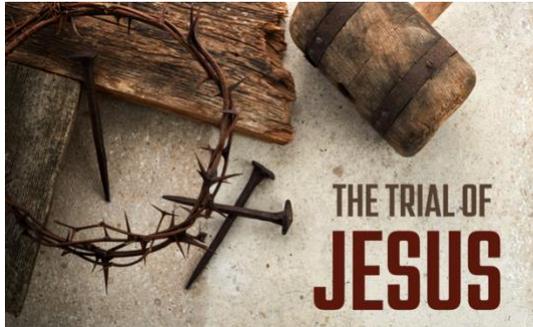
*Parish website  
[www.mossley.org](http://www.mossley.org)*

*(Mossley Parish is a registered charity, NIC103262)*

## *From the Rectory Study*

There have been many Hollywood films which have been set in and around courtrooms. For example, *A Few Good Men* starring Tom Cruise, *JFK* starring Kevin Costner, and *Kramer vs Kramer* starring Dustin Hoffman and Meryl Streep. We also have TV programmes like Judge Rinder and Judge Judy. Do you remember one of the most famous court cases from 1998? One journalist reflected “It was the court case that rocked the country. One woman, wrongly imprisoned for fraud, had the whole nation calling for justice.” She became known as the Weatherfield One and it was a major storyline in Coronation Street.

On a more serious note, courts are very necessary things. Their purpose is to uphold and enforce the law, to deal with everything from misdemeanours to some of the most awful atrocities. In recent months our news headlines have been dominated by the legal cases involving former President Donald Trump in USA.



In a few weeks we will be journeying through Holy Week once again and that journey will draw our attention to the trial of Jesus - or *trials* may be more appropriate. These were not held in a courtroom, as we would define it. Rather, they took place in the presence of regional rulers and the outcome of these trials would be eternally significant. As our attention is drawn to the

events of Holy Week, we encounter Jesus standing before Pontius Pilate, the Roman Prefect who ruled Judea, Samaria and Idumea. He was then sent to Herod, the Tetrarch of Galilee, where he underwent a second trial. In both cases no evidence was found against him.

This all sounds like we are dealing with one of those ‘mistaken-identity’ cases. However, having been found innocent, Jesus was not released. He was handed over for crucifixion. We could easily conclude that these were show trials where the guilty verdict was almost inevitable regardless of the evidence. Yet, this was all in keeping with God’s wider plan. Jesus had to die, despite his innocence, so that through believing in him we can be forgiven for the wrongs that we have done, so that we don’t need to stand guilty before our righteous God.

Jesus was aware that the agony of the cross awaited him (Luke 18.31-33). He also knew the eternal importance of the sacrifice that he was going to make – “...the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:28). That ‘many’ includes you and me. This Easter let us give thanks to God for His immeasurable love, His amazing grace and the eternal hope that He offers each of us.

Your friend and Rector,

Peter Jones

### **CHRISTIAN BURIAL**

5<sup>th</sup> January    Jim Humphries            7 Christine Gardens

20<sup>th</sup> January    Aaron Cully                            2 Carn View

### **LENT & HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

Our journey through the season of Lent is now underway and we will have Lenten services each Wednesday evening at 7pm, up to and including Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

During Holy Week there will be services each evening. More details can be found on Page 5 of this magazine.

### **ONLINE SERVICES**

Although we are meeting for in-church worship on Sundays, Online Services and Bible Studies will still be available. You can find these on:

1. The Parish Facebook Page.
2. The Parish Website ([www.mossley.org](http://www.mossley.org))
3. YouTube ([www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)). On YouTube simply search for Church of the Holy Spirit Mossley and this will lead you to the videos.
4. For an audio service telephone 02893270073. Calls will be charged at a local rate but for many people will be included in your call package.

### **WORSHIP SERVICES**

#### Sunday

9am    Holy Communion

11am    Morning Service

6pm    Evening Service

The particular services for each week, at 11am and 6pm, are outlined on Page 4 of this magazine.

#### Wednesday

We have a short service of Holy Communion each Wednesday at 10am. This usually lasts thirty minutes.

### **USEFUL CONTACTS**

#### **RECTOR**

Rev Peter Jones  
The Rectory, 1 Woodford Manor, BT36 6FF.  
028 90 832726    [rectormossley@hotmail.com](mailto:rectormossley@hotmail.com)

#### **ORDAINED LOCAL MINISTER**

Rev Louise Bowes    Tel. 07900410069

#### **DIOCESAN READERS**

Mr Tom Irwin    Tel 028 90 833399

Mrs Valerie Murray    Tel. 028 90 835761

#### **ORGANIST**

Miss Jane McCartney Tel. 028 90 848854  
[jane\\_mccartney@btinternet.com](mailto:jane_mccartney@btinternet.com)

#### **PARISH OFFICE**

Tel. 028 90 832936  
[mossleyparish@btconnect.com](mailto:mossleyparish@btconnect.com)

#### **RECTOR'S CHURCHWARDEN**

Julie Parkinson    07887677557

#### **PEOPLE'S CHURCHWARDEN**

Alan Bowes

#### **RECTOR'S GLEBEWARDEN**

Bob Lee    07739185034

#### **PEOPLE'S GLEBEWARDEN**

Stephen Beck

#### **HONORARY SECRETARY**

John Nesbitt    07954150067  
[secretarymossleyparish@virginmedia.com](mailto:secretarymossleyparish@virginmedia.com)

#### **HONORARY TREASURER**

Jacqui Eccles    07891254196

#### **FWO RECORDER**

Ken Jackson    028 90 294967

#### **SELECT VESTRY**

David Boyd	Joan Mackey
John Caldwell	Elaine Maxwell
Winifred Clarke	Vikki Moore
Jacqui Eccles	John Nesbitt
Ken Jackson	Valerie Porter
Leeanne Kelly	Julie Robinson

## Sunday Services and Lesson Readers

<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b> Third Sunday In Lent 11am Morning Prayer	NT	John 2:13-22	Winnie Millar
6pm Evening Prayer	NT	Matthew 10:16-22	Winifred Clarke
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March</b> Fourth Sunday In Lent ( <i>Mothering Sunday</i> ) 11am Holy Communion	OT G	Exodus 2:1-10 Luke 2:33-35	Julie Parkinson Preacher
6pm Compline	NT	John 12:1-8	Caroline Rogan
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March</b> Fifth Sunday In Lent 11am All-Age Service	NT	John 12:20-33	Club J / Ignite
6pm Holy Communion ( <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> )	OT G	Deuteronomy 32:1-9 John 4:31-38	Jacqui Eccles Preacher
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March</b> Sixth Sunday In Lent ( <i>Palm Sunday</i> ) 11am Morning Prayer	NT	Mark 14:1-15	Maureen McCrea
6pm Healing Service	NT	Mark 12:1-12	Bob Lee
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March</b> Easter Sunday 11am Holy Communion <b>NO EVENING SERVICE</b>	OT G	Isaiah 25:6-9 Mark 16:1-8	Bob Lee Preacher
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April</b> Second Sunday Of Easter 11am Morning Prayer	NT	John 20:19-31	Club J / Ignite
6pm Evening Prayer	NT	Luke 24:1-12	Winifred Clarke
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April</b> Third Sunday Of Easter 11am Holy Communion	OT G	Micah 4:1-5 Luke 24: 36-48	Pamela Marron Preacher
6pm Service of the Word	NT	Luke 16:19-31	Caroline Rogan
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April</b> Fourth Sunday Of Easter 11am All-Age Service	NT	John 10:11-18	Club J / Ignite
6pm Healing Service	OT	Exodus 16:4-15	Jacqui Eccles
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April</b> Fifth Sunday Of Easter 11am Morning Prayer	NT	John 15:1-8	Kay Thompson
6pm Holy Communion	OT G	Isaiah 60:1-14 Mark 16:9-16	Bob Lee Preacher

## **Holy Week 2024**

This year, the title of our Holy Week journey will be ‘**Remarkable.**’ Since September we have been looking at Mark’s Gospel in our Bible Study and we will reflect on selected passages from Mark 14-16 during Holy Week 2024. We will focus on the well-known Holy Week story and be reminded about what makes it truly remarkable.

Each weekday evening at 7.30pm we will meet for a worship service. On Easter Sunday morning there is also the opportunity to join with neighbouring congregations for our Easter Dawn service in Bellevue Zoo Carpark at 6.45am. The various themes and service types for Holy Week 2024 are as follows.

### **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

Café Church in the Parish Centre

THEME: *Remarkable Devotion (Mark 14:1-11)*

### **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

Service of the Word

THEME: *Remarkable Fellowship (Mark 14:12-26)*

### **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

Evening Prayer

THEME: *Remarkable Faithfulness (Mark 14:32-52)*

### **Maundy Thursday (28<sup>th</sup> March)**

Holy Communion

THEME: *Remarkable Betrayal (Mark 14:66-72)*

### **Good Friday (29<sup>th</sup> March)**

At the Foot of the Cross: a service of readings and reflections

THEME: *Remarkable Sacrifice (Mark 15:21-41)*

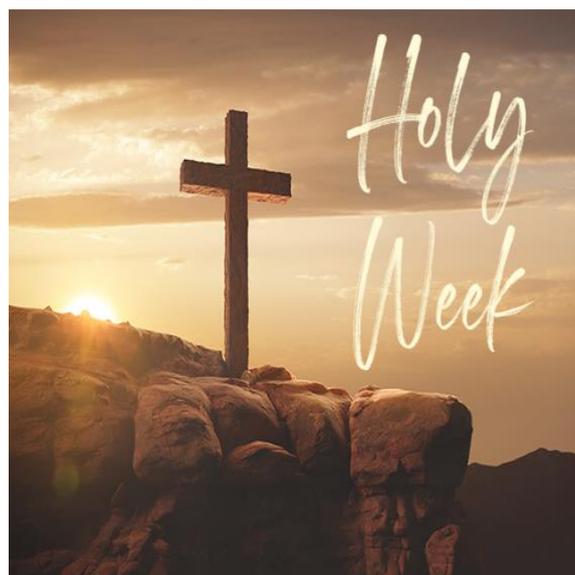
### **Easter Sunday (31<sup>st</sup> March)**

Easter Sunrise Service (6.45am at Bellevue Zoo Carpark)

Holy Communion (9am)

Holy Communion (11am)

THEME: *Remarkable Hope (Mark 16:1-14)*



**Please note that there will be no evening service on Easter Sunday.**

### **An Easter Prayer**

Almighty, all-powerful Father God, you brought light and hope out of darkness and despair. You brought life out of death when you raised Jesus that first Easter Day. Thank you that the tomb is forever empty and that Jesus is forever alive! No matter what is going on, no matter how little we understand, help us to hold on to the Easter truth – Jesus is risen! He is alive today and in him we can put our trust, completely and confidently. Because of Jesus, death is defeated. Because of Jesus, the best is yet to be. Love wins! Hallelujah! We praise you, Lord, in Jesus’ name, Amen.

## **Bible Week 2024**

As we met for the opening evening of Bible Week 2024 on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January we thought that there would be very few people in attendance because the weather was terrible. The rain was torrential and the wind was severe. However, we were absolutely delighted to see a large number of people turn up for the opening night and the attendance levels consistently grew as the week progressed.

From Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January until Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January we met in Mossley Primary School at 7.30pm each evening. This year our main speaker was Rick Hill and he shared a series of talks with us, all relating to our theme of '*Church On The Move.*' For anyone who was unable to attend the Bible Week or missed some of Rick's talks, these are now available online. Please go to [www.newtownabbeybibleweek.org](http://www.newtownabbeybibleweek.org)



It was such a blessing to see large numbers of people, from various denominations, gather together with the intention of worshipping God and reflecting on His Word. This year we had several people share their faith stories and we welcomed three different musicians or groups who sang beautiful pieces of music. Our thanks are also due to the various praise groups who led us in our worship of God each night.

There was a great sense of togetherness and we were richly blessed by all that took place during Bible Week 2024. It has also been encouraging to see the Newtownabbey Churches Fellowship continue to grow and plans are already well underway for Bible Week 2025. God willing, we will meet in Mossley Primary School from Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January until Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025 and our speaker will be Bishop Andrew Forster.

## **Online Services**



We continue to offer an online service each Sunday morning. It is available on YouTube from 11am and it is then released on Facebook, our website and the dial-in facility at 12.30pm.

Since the last edition of this magazine our videos have been watched almost 1500 times and this equates to approximately 135 hours of watch time. We also have a number of parishioners who avail of the dial-in facility and they faithfully listen to the Sunday Service and Bible Study each week.

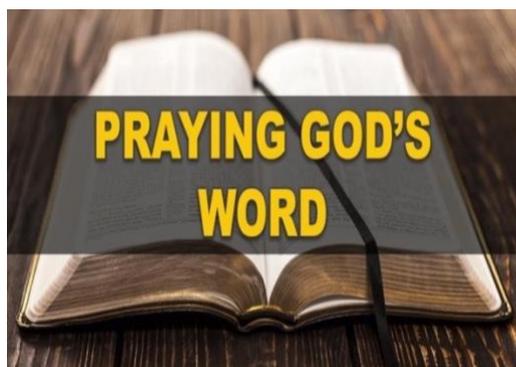
Thank you to everyone who makes this possible and it really is a blessing to the many people who join with us faithfully each week through the wonders of technology. If anyone would like to learn more about the livestream system or be willing to help on a rota basis, please speak to the Rector, Rev Louise or Bob Lee.

## **Prayer Fellowship**

I love how God uses various ways to get our attention. With Moses it was the burning bush, for Pharaoh God used the plagues, and for Jonah it was the big fish. For me, many years ago, God used humour in His word. Up to that point I had never thought of God as having (or using) humour to reach me. Today I am glad He did.

I remember reading about Job's sad experiences - a time when he lost all that was dear to him. His friends were not very helpful in their attempts to encourage him or to bring him solace. One of them was called Zophar and in the midst of his self-righteous effort to comfort Job he said, "For an empty-headed man will be wise, when a wild donkey's colt is born a man" (Job 11:12). The humour of this, sarcastic as it might be, caused me to laugh and to realise that God has a sense of humour. To this day I think of the things God has taught me and I take joy in this knowledge. Seeing the many facets of God in His dealings with me still surprises me and leads me to experience an inner joy in every situation.

I have discovered that, in prayer, God has often used humour, encouragement and gentle rebuke, but it is always coupled with His great love and challenge. This is clearly revealed in His written Word, but if we don't read the Bible we may never get to experience the many ways that God speaks to us through His Word.



One powerful way of developing our prayer life is to learn to pray God's Word back to Him. This turns our times of prayer into a progressive and ongoing conversation with God. These conversations become exciting, they raise our awareness of God's faithfulness to new levels, and they create in us a desire and determination to converse more often with God. I have found this to be a very powerful way of praying. The more we put this into practice the more we find ourselves praying with ever-

increasing faith and with greater understanding. It is God's very nature to answer prayers of faith based upon His Word.

Within the Prayer Fellowship there is always the opportunity to bring any question you may have and to put into practice this way of developing your prayer life. You are more than welcome to join us any Wednesday evening at 7.30pm in the Pentecost room for a time of fellowship in prayer.

### **Safeguarding Trust**

Our Parish is committed to the Church of Ireland Safeguarding Trust policy. Should you have any concerns regarding the welfare of children in the Parish, please contact a member of the Parish Panel:

Rev Peter Jones

028 90 832726

Carolyn Caldwell

028 90 844040

John Nesbitt

07954150067

Joan Mackey

028 90 775366

## **Guild of Lesson Readers**



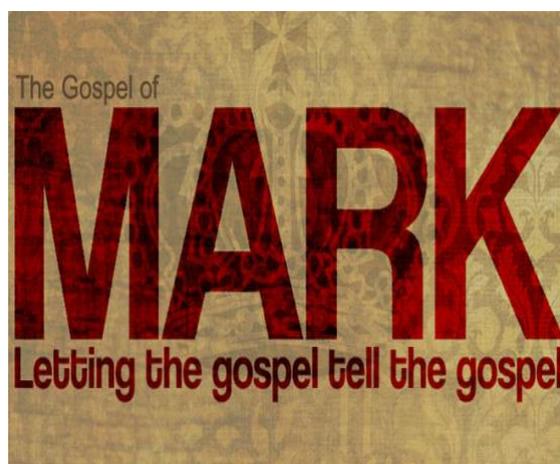
The reading rota for the next two months can be found on Page 4 of this magazine. Any changes to allocated readings can be made by speaking to either of the churchwardens.

We are always on the lookout for more readers! If you would be interested in reading lessons during church services, even if you have done so before, please speak to either the Rector or Rev Louise.

## **Bible Study**

After the Christmas break, we got straight back into our studies of Mark's gospel and there has been much for us to engage with. We have been looking at some of the miracles of Jesus and many of his teachings.

Through our studies we have been challenged to reflect on the power, glory and authority of Jesus. Each week we have two reflective questions to consider and these stimulate discussion and encourage us to draw close to God.



The in-person Bible Study, at 7.30pm each Tuesday evening, also incorporates short video clips. We would love to see even more parishioners come along to the Carntall Room for our gathered meetings. It really is a great blessing to be able to sit together around God's Word and discuss it with each other. Please do consider coming along.

Our Bible Studies will continue during March but will pause for Holy Week and Easter Week. When we reconvene, after Easter, we have five final studies and then our end of year service of Holy Communion on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May.

## **Badminton Club**



The badminton club continues to meet on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. It is great to see everyone having fun and playing badminton. If you would like to try your hand at badminton, and engage in a little friendly competition, please do come along. You will be made most welcome!

## **Easter General Vestry**

It's hard to believe that Easter is fast approaching! This year, our Easter General Vestry will be held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm. This is one of the most important business meetings in the life of our Parish and is, in many ways, very similar to an Annual General Meeting. It is the occasion when we reflect on the past twelve months and are presented with our annual accounts.

**GENERAL**

*EASTER VESTRY*

**MEETING**



A new Select Vestry will be elected at this meeting, as will a People's Churchwarden and People's Glebwarden. The Rector will also appoint a Rector's Churchwarden and a Rector's Glebwarden.

Any member of the Parish can attend the Easter General Vestry and can speak at the meeting, but only those who have signed the Register of Vestry Persons can vote or hold office.

Please make a note of the date of this very important meeting. It would be great to see you there!

## **Community Lunches**



There will be no soup and cheese lunches in March. Instead, we're excited to announce an Easter Party on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March from 12noon to 2pm!

Please do join us for a delightful lunch featuring sandwiches, sausage rolls, savouries and traybakes. Eric Moore will be there to provide music and dance, making it a lively celebration. We invite everyone to join us for this special event.

Soup and cheese lunches will resume in April, continuing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month. As ever, the lunches will be a choice of two soups (one gluten free), a selection of breads, jam, tea, coffee and biscuits. The cost will be £4 per head.

For further information please contact:

Kay Thompson – 07969835916

Hilary Gillies – 07840243427

## **Smile Lines**

A couple going on holiday for Easter were amazed when the airplane pilot came on and advised the passengers that he had lost his way. He explained that the radar was not working, the radio beam could not be picked up, and the compass had broken. "But," he added soothingly, "you will be glad to know that we are making very good time."

## Music@MossleyParish

### Church Choir (Thursday, 7.30pm)

At last, the lighter nights are nearly here. Last week it didn't get dark until nearly 6pm and this year, after having a cataract removed, I can actually see the signs of Spring in my garden. I was able to see the tiny green shoots of the Lily of the Valley coming through under the hedge. Also, the buds on my Camellia and Magnolia trees. How precious is the gift of sight!



The choir resumed practice on 15<sup>th</sup> February and we are now beginning to think about Easter, as well as learning some new hymns. We were glad to have Jacqueline Moore, the Rector, Stephen Frecknall and John Nesbitt join us for the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. Wasn't it great to hear some male voices in our ranks at Christmas! We really do need more male voices. Will you help us out? Speak to Jane or any choir member. We will be delighted to have you in our choir.

Looking forward to warmer weather.

Keep singing. 🎵 🎶

Joan



Thank you, Joan! Although Christmas seems a lifetime ago, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the choir members for their commitment, hard work and excellent singing at the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. Special thanks to Jacqueline, John, Stephen and the Rector.

Jane

### MusicMakers



Our music club for children from P3 – Year 14 continues on Thursdays, normally before choir practice. I'm sure we all remember the excellent performances of three extremely talent parishioners - Stephen (cornet) and Simon and Timothy (pianists) who performed Carols at the Nativity Service. Well done! Thanks to their families for supporting and encouraging them! I'm fairly certain there are many equally talented young musicians in the Parish. Some places are still available. Please get in touch for further information.

Jane.

## **Bric-A-Brac**



Our Saturday morning bric-a-brac sale continues to be very well supported and it has been encouraging to see many new faces through the doors of the Parish Centre.

The sales have been going well and we are thankful to the bric-a-brac team who give so willingly of their time. There have been some very generous donations of bric-a-brac in recent weeks and many of these items have sold quickly! If you would like to grab yourself a bargain and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee (or even a sausage roll), pop over to the Parish Centre any Saturday morning from 8.30am onwards.

Anyone who has any donations of bric-a-brac should contact Alec Orr (02890836286).

We would also like to make an appeal for volunteers who could offer some of their time in helping to set the bric-a-brac out on a Friday afternoon or putting it away around noon on Saturdays. If you can help, even on a rota basis, please speak to the Rector or Alec Orr.

## **Youth Club**

The Youth Club continues to meet on Saturday evenings (during term times) from 7pm until 9pm, costing £1 per night. It has been really encouraging to see so many children in the Parish Centre and they always have a great time.



During the next few weeks, the children will be doing arts & crafts for Mother's Day and Easter. These are always very popular activities! In addition to this we will continue to play games, football, badminton, pool, the Wii, Xbox and board games. The tuck shop is ever-popular and the requests for Cadbury's Crème Eggs have been heard – they will make an appearance in the tuck shop from the beginning of March.

Due to other commitments some of the leaders cannot be there every Saturday night and we need some new leaders and helpers. If anyone is able to help out, even on a rota basis, this would be of great assistance. If you are interested you would be welcome to come to Youth Club any Saturday night and join in the fun! Please contact the Rector for further details.

## **Kidz Klub**



On the first Saturday night of each month Kidz Klub meets in the Parish Centre. This is a club for children between the ages of 4 and 7. Each night, Kidz Klub begins at 5.30pm and finishes at 6.45pm. There are games, crafts and other activities for the children to enjoy. For further details please speak to Elaine Maxwell.

## Dove Tots

After a well-deserved Christmas break, Dove Tots returned in January and was as busy as ever! It's been just wonderful to see the children with their parents / carers on a Friday morning in the Parish Centre. We had a great time with Jo Jingles and everyone loved our hot dog morning!

We have enjoyed the fun and the tasty treats each Friday. Thank you to everyone who comes along! We look forward to all the exciting things that we have planned for the next few months, especially as we get closer to Easter!



## Tea Brew

We all enjoy being able to gather for a cup of tea / coffee after our 11am service each Sunday. As we seek to grow closer together as a community of faith, this is a great opportunity to continue in fellowship and get to know each other even better.

Sincere thanks to everyone on the Tea Brew rota and Mrs Winnie Millar who organises the monthly rota.

If you haven't yet come along for a cuppa after the service, you will be made most welcome!

March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>

April 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>

May 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>

Kay Thompson, Hilary Gillies & Deborah Blair

Ann McCutcheon & Hilary McCoy

Elsie Christie & Vikki Moore



Mossley Parish Tea Brew will be hosting a Soup & Cheese Lunch on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May after the 11am Service. The proceeds from this lunch will be in aid of N.I. Children's Hospice. Your support would be very much appreciated for this much needed cause.

Thank you for your continuing support for the Tea Brew.

## 'Thank You'

A massive thank you to all the knitters who so generously provided all the lovely items for the Christmas Fair. We were completely blown away by the quantity and the quality of the items donated. Obviously, many hours of love were worked in to each item. The sale of these items helped raise over £200 and any items that were not sold were donated to the Hospice shop, a very worthwhile cause.

Valerie & Barbara



## CIYD Youth Forum



I was invited by Christina Bailie, Diocesan Youth Officer for Connor Diocese, to represent the Diocese at the Church of Ireland Youth Forum along with some others who completed the SERVE Youth Leadership course.

The Youth Forum was held during a weekend in January at the Dromantine Conference Centre. We met with lots of representatives from all over Ireland - with some participants coming from Cork, West Meath, Londonderry and Moira. We joined in worship sessions and listened to talks on mental health for teenagers and the challenges of being a Christian as a teenager. In groups, we delivered our own presentations about this and offered some of our own insights and interpretations. In my group, I played the main character who was a teenager who struggled due to being ignored by his friends, while having a busy lifestyle. It was fun to meet so many new people and share our experiences and lifestyles. I enjoyed it immensely and, overall, it was a great weekend.

Daniel Robinson

## Bowling Club

Bowling has resumed following the Christmas break and it is surprising how quickly our final night in March is approaching. Mossley Parish Bowling Club (MPBC) have played several home and away matches during January and February. As these were only friendly matches, I think it is better for all parties involved not to discuss the outcomes! We still have a couple of home matches left to play, which will bring the bowling season to an end. The remainder of our club tournaments have started and they should be completed by late February or early March.



As Honorary Secretary of MPBC, I am continuing my predecessor's efforts to welcome new members to come along and try bowls. We recently had to cancel an away match due to a lack of players, so hopefully this will be just a one-off.

The Summer Fun Bowls begins on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May at 7pm in the Parish Centre and will continue each Wednesday evening. Everyone is welcome to attend and if you've always wanted to try bowling, now is the chance. We always have plenty of spare bowls for you to use and who knows, you may be the next Stewart Anderson or Katherine Rednall (2024 World Champions, as shown on TV).

George Curry

## Girls' Brigade



We have been super busy during the past few weeks in GB. As part of our Ulster Scots topic, we have been busy cooking with Emmy. We made fadge (potato bread) and it was very tasty! We also held a Burns night, during which we sang Auld Lang Syne, did some welly throwing, tug-of-war, sword dancing and some ceilidh dancing. It was lots of fun!

Two of our officers, Emma and Danielle, have also been working really hard attaining their Queen's Award. This is the highest award that the girls can achieve in GB and it has never been awarded before in our company. We are delighted that Emma and Danielle have almost completed the first year of the Award. As part of the Award, Emma and Danielle are currently volunteering at Rathmore Manor, where they play games, serve tea and coffee, and chat with the residents. They have also had to knit a trauma teddy for the emergency services and complete an exam relating to local government and the monarchy.

Many thanks for your ongoing prayers and support for GB.

Julie

## Flower Rota

We are blessed to have beautiful flowers in our church building every week. Sincere thanks to those who work so faithfully in providing beautiful displays and everyone who donates so generously in memory of loved ones.

25 <sup>th</sup> February	Betty Whiteside
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Lilian & Wesley Smyth
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Palm Sunday
31 <sup>st</sup> March	Easter Day (Gladys Johnson)
14 <sup>th</sup> April	Cynthia Markwell
28 <sup>th</sup> April	Karen Henry
12 <sup>th</sup> May	25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Flower Guild



### **Parish Magazine (May / June 2024)**

We plan to have the next edition of the Parish Magazine ready for release on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April. Could all articles and notices please be with the Rector before Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April? It would be great to have a wide variety of articles and photos from all parish organisations.

## Club J / Sunday School & Creche

During the past month, Club J / Sunday School has delved into the biblical stories of Gideon, Solomon and Nehemiah. We have learnt some key lessons that help us live out our Christian faith in our daily lives and give us an understanding of how God can help us each day.



When we looked at Gideon, the children saw the importance of faith and courage, understanding that with God's help even the most unlikely individuals can achieve great things. Solomon's story emphasized the value of wisdom and seeking God's guidance, highlighting the significance of making informed, morally sound decisions and choosing wisely. Nehemiah inspired the people with his dedication and leadership in rebuilding Jerusalem's walls, thereby demonstrating the power of perseverance and the importance of working together for a common goal. These stories not only enrich our understanding of the Bible but they also provide practical lessons for our daily lives, inspiring us all to live by faith, and seek wisdom and persevere through challenges.



The weekly creche in the Carntall Room is an important aspect of our children's ministry. We want to nurture the faith of the youngest members of our church family. With activities led by devoted leaders, including age-suitable toys, stories, crafts and songs, we offer a stimulating environment to learn about the key stories in the Bible. It has been so encouraging to see this space used each week and we pray that this will continue to flourish.

### **A Prayer for Creche and Club J.**

Heavenly Father, we come before you with hearts full of gratitude for the dedicated leaders of Club J and Creche. They pour their hearts into creating vibrant, interactive learning environments for our children to explore your Word. We thank you for the parents, grandparents and carers who faithfully bring their children each week, entrusting them to our care to learn more about you. May each session deepen their understanding of Jesus and his boundless love. Let every moment be filled with your wisdom and truth, nurturing their faith and shaping their hearts. Lord, we pray for growth in Creche and Club J, drawing more children to experience your transformative love. We ask all of this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sincere thanks to everyone for their ongoing encouragement and support.

Kim

## **Memory Lane**

Memory Lane continues on the first Thursday of every month at 2.30pm in the church building. We have been blessed and encouraged as we have grown in numbers and look forward to celebrating our first birthday at April's service!



If you know of anyone who is living with dementia, their carers, family or friends please do invite them to come along to our worship service and they will be made very welcome. Refreshments follow after the service.

Dates to note:

Thursday 7 March 2024

Thursday 4th April 2024

Thursday 2 May 2024

God bless,

Rev Louise

## **Summer Fair**



We are looking forward to the return of our Summer Fair in Mossley Parish. In previous years the event was held in June but we have decided to try something a little different this year and hold the Fair on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May from 10am until 1pm.

We plan to have gift stalls, craft stalls, baked goods, sweets & treats, a tearoom, games and so much more. Any help from parishioners and parish organisations would be gratefully received. We

would love to be able to fill the Parish Centre again, as we did as Christmas, and it's such a blessing to see everyone have a great time.

Please speak to the Rector, Rev Louise, or Mrs Kim Jones for further details.

### **Easter Home Communion**

The Rector and Rev Louise will be undertaking pastoral visits for Easter. If you would like, or know of someone else who would like, to receive Holy Communion, please inform the Rector.

## Women's Guild

I am so thankful that the Women's Guild have had a steady number of 25+ most evenings when we meet up and I am do hope that everyone is enjoying the speakers that we have had each month.

Our Bring and Buy sale raised £80 and we are going to make it up to £100 to donate to Natasha's charity. We also had the lovely Amanda in January telling us all about what we can be doing to keep ourselves healthy over these winter months. I hope you were all able to take something away to help the winter months pass that little bit quicker, while keeping healthy.

February was a fun night of singing, role playing and trying to find out "Who do you think you are?" Sylvia from the Salvation Army came to share her Valentines Special evening with us. She was an absolute delight and did cheer us all up by reminding us that we are all loved.

March brings us the highly anticipated Barn Dance! A big thank you to everyone who has offered their help with catering for the event and assisting on the evening. Tickets are still available for all the congregation, not just the Women's Guild, and we would so love to see lots of people joining together for a great night of fun. We have extended the invitation to the GB and Sunday School, all over P4 age, and we are hoping for a good number of young people as well. We will be having spot prizes on the night, so dust off your dancing shoes/boots and gather your hats as there might be a best dressed prize or even best dancer on the night! Looking forward to welcoming you all on the night.



Leeanne

## Smile Lines

A vicar was planning an Easter pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and was aghast when he found it would cost him £50 an hour to rent a boat on the Sea of Galilee. He protested to the travel agent that the cost was ridiculous. "That might be true," replied the travel agent, "but you have to take into account that the Sea of Galilee is water on which our Lord himself walked."

"Well, at £50 an hour for a boat, I am not surprised!"

## Antrim & Newtownabbey Street Pastors

I recently received an email from the Ascension Trust thanking me for making a donation to a 70-year-old man who is running a half-marathon in Brighton. Many men and women of this age and stage of life enjoy running and participate in such events. In my younger years I was a runner but I wouldn't attempt such a task any longer! For those of you who do not know, the Ascension Trust is the governing body of Street Pastors and it is the body that awards our licence and authority to call ourselves Street Pastors in Antrim and Newtownabbey. I have copied the main text of the email because it describes the role of Street Pastors simply and effectively.

It's not every day that someone chooses to go on a 14-mile run to raise money for charity on their 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, but that's what Jonathan Leeson will be doing. Jonathan, who lives in Ringmer, near Lewes, will be taking part in the Brighton Half Marathon on February 24, to raise money for Ascension Trust – the umbrella organisation for the well-known national initiative Street Pastors. He aims to raise £50,000. This will be the second time that Jonathan has run a half marathon. He ran his first one at the age of 54 in response to a challenge by a friend who believed he could do it. Jonathan serves as a Street Pastor volunteer in Brighton and was previously part of the Street Pastors team in Tunbridge Wells, Kent.



Street Pastors are trained volunteers and work in partnership with the Church, Police, Local Authorities and those involved in night-time economy. Based in over 250 towns and cities across the UK, Street Pastors teams give out bottles of water, chocolate, and flip-flops to the homeless, and those struggling to walk in their high heels - as well as provide a listening ear to those who are vulnerable, or who are unwell as a result of drug taking or consuming too much alcohol. Street Pastors aim to give people they encounter on the streets a real sense of being valued and cared for. Prayer is also offered to those who ask for it, as well as those who would appreciate being prayed for. There is clear evidence that when Street Pastors patrol a community, there is a 30%-40% reduction in crime. Streets are safer when Street Pastors are out on patrol. Jonathan says, "I love going out patrolling with my Brighton Street Pastors team. We often go down to the beach or meet people outside the club to offer flip flops, support and prayer if needed. It's worthwhile work and it's the reason why I've decided to undertake a second half marathon to raise money for a charity that is making a real difference. In the community."

The Church of the Holy Spirit is one of the churches who were responsible for bringing Street Pastors to Antrim and Newtownabbey. I would like to thank you for your support and would ask for your prayers in allowing that to continue.

God Bless you all,  
Bob

## **Mossley Mission Group**

We had our most recent meeting of the Mission Group on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February. At this meeting we reflected on our Christmas Hamper Appeal 2023 and the Rector informed us that we have been awarded a grant of £880 from the Black Santa Appeal for Christmas Hampers in 2024. We are thankful for this generous support.

At our meeting Mr John McQuillan informed us of his intention to stand down from the Mission Committee. We were all saddened to hear this news and thank John for his commitment and dedication to the work of Mossley Mission Group.

On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February we hosted a soup and cheese lunch after the 11am service. This was really well attended and we were delighted to raise £355. Sincere thanks to everyone who helped out in any way and to everyone who came along.



On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 the Rector took part in Friday Night Live. This was an evening of reports and updates from South America and a recording of the event is available on the SAMS Ireland Facebook page and YouTube. Written reports will also be available in the next copy of the SAMS Ireland *Buena Vista* magazine.

The Friends of Tansen annual report for 2024 was released in mid-February. It is an excellent overview of the ongoing work of United Mission Hospital Tansen and has sixteen pages packed full of stories and insights. It can be accessed on the following website [www.umn.org.np/umht](http://www.umn.org.np/umht)

During the past year, hospital admissions in Tansen have risen to 12,470. Over 105,000 outpatients were treated and 6758 operations were undertaken. Some of the future needs of Tansen Hospital include:

1. Items such as a large autoclave machine, replacement delivery bed, CLIA machine for lab, mobile x-ray machine, and laparoscopy set.
2. Big projects such as the long-term building plan and a CT scanner on our list.
3. Long term personnel, particularly an IT consultant, a fundraising manager (for both UMN MDT hospitals), a Pathologist, a Radiologist, GPs/ Family Practice doctors, an ENT surgeon and often other specialties, too.



Please do continue to pray for the ongoing work in Tansen Hospital and South America. Thank you so much for your support of our mission partners.

## Coffee Time Challenge

This month's wordsearch is based on Easter. How many of the twenty-four words or phrases can you find?



K C T E K A M S R H T O A Q T L T J T S H P  
L G D A B H C I A A O Z F S S P C X E U Z I  
M A G P K K R M E P A W E S A A A B Z N M L  
Q R M C M R U O S O B U E Q I C V A T D P A  
Q O U B Q M C N C S L N C H U Y R I R A E T  
F P F G F A I O R T O G N W F A J I O Y K E  
P P W Q A R F F I L O O V R Q W T S F R G D  
C A Z X H Y I C S E D L X E S S T T R I Y Y  
R A S Y J F X Y E S N M S T N R B J E H C U  
L L L S D Z I R N G O L G O T H A E W I L E  
N R I V O R O E G O T D U M C R O S S G L Y  
I G G C A V N N L P N Q X B Z A J U H H O Q  
S Z K M J R E E V R I B L E F Q Z S V P L M  
G Z N Z W G Y R S J T G R Y E D F D H R O O  
R O B E R O M A N S K S O N O F G O D I X Z  
T S Q B E N A I L S Y U H N Z M B A L E S V  
P J B T H R E E D A Y S N S N G H G K S L N  
N C F A N G E L S W S Z G W Q V C N M T D B

ROMANS  
RISEN  
SACRIFICE  
THREE DAYS  
ANGELS  
SAVIOR

GOLGOTHA  
BLOOD  
SIMON OF CYRENE  
JESUS  
ROBE  
LAMB

SON OF GOD  
TOMB  
APOSTLES  
CALVARY  
CROSS  
NAILS

MARY  
CRUCIFIXION  
PILATE  
HIGH PRIEST  
PASSOVER  
SUNDAY