





### Home Group Meetings

Home group continue to meet to chat, pray and study God's word Wednesdays at 8.00pm at the Vicarage, 209 Chapel Lane Please feel free to come along or see Rev. Matt if you're interested.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

	Stewardship
04-Jan	214.00
11-Jan	125.00
18-Jan	80.00
25-Jan	104.00
Standing Orders	107.00
	<hr/>
	630.00
Plate Collection	196.64
Fees	400.00
In Memory	55.00
Misc. Income	
<b>Total Income</b>	<hr/> <b>1,281.64</b> <hr/>
Income	1,281.64
Expenditure	2,058.56
Deficit for Month	<hr/> <b>-£ 776.92</b> <hr/>

**All things come from You, and of Your own do we ... not give back much!**

Jesus taught a great deal about money and its dangers. Most of His parables concerned money in one form or another. He used the word 'Mammon' to describe a false financial god, saying "You can't serve God and Mammon."

*So, a right attitude to money is essential for Christians.*

Until we are released from the straitjacket of putting money before God, that blocked soul-artery will impede our way to God.

Once we are liberated from the control money has over us, we can be lavish in our giving – with a sense of exuberance. St Paul puts it like this: "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

St Paul spent ten years raising funds for the impoverished Church in Jerusalem where there was a serious famine. The little and very poor Church in Macedonia gave way beyond their comfort zone. The relatively wealthy Church in Corinth gave little by comparison. Paul contrasts them. Miserable Corinthians; joyful Macedonians.

*Giving is fun.*

Christian giving becomes something that we share privately with Jesus. In Matthew Jesus taught that when we give, we should not let even our left hand know what our right hand is doing.

God is generous to us, so when we are generous, we share a secret with Him. "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you by His poverty might become rich."

*So - giving money away makes you happy!*

Giving to God is giving back what He has already given to us. It's not the quantity, it's the percentage of what we have. A right attitude to money is vital for Christians.

**Mouse Makes**

**THE TRUE VINE**  
**Jesus** said:  
*"I am the **vine**;  
 you are the **branches**.  
 The one who remains  
 in me -and I in him -  
 bears much **fruit**,  
 because apart  
 from me you can  
 accomplish nothing."*  
 John 15:5

*"My **commandment** is this -  
 to love one another just  
 as I have loved you."*  
 John 15:12

*"No one has greater  
**love** than this -  
 that one lays down  
 his life for his friends."*  
 John 15:13

You can read  
 Jesus' teaching **on**  
*The True Vine* in:  
 John 15:1-17

How many other  
 words can you make from:  
**THE TRUE VINE**

Each of the word  
 in **bold** on this page  
 is hidden in the  
 bunches of grapes.  
 Can you work  
 out which bunch  
 each word is in?

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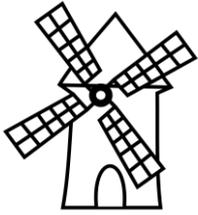
## Dropping a line

Like many older readers I can remember being taught how to write a letter. Address, date, recipient, signature, and then we had to address the envelope, buy a stamp (two pence at that time!) and post it.

The first change to that routine came exactly 60 years ago this month, with the introduction in the UK of the postcode – a combination of seven or eight letters or numbers which precisely located our address. It took 14 years to enlist the entire country, but eventually virtually the whole world took on the ingenious postcode. We were now part of a world network of communication.

It was the first big change to our postal system in a century, but we happily took it on board. More recent changes have been more revolutionary: fax, e-mail, texting and their many refinements. Letter-writing or 'snail mail' as it is referred to now, is rapidly dying out. I would guess many under thirties have never written a personal letter or received one. Paper, envelopes, stamps are too complicated.

I think that it is sad, but probably unavoidable. I don't think many people will be preserving their love-texts for posterity. Products of a moment can be forgotten in a moment.

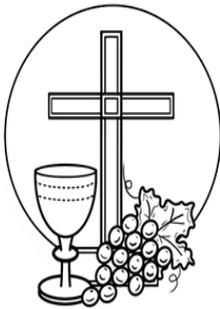


## Sponsored Walk – 23<sup>rd</sup> October

Our intrepid walkers are off again last year they walked from Glasson Dock via the River Lune, the Lancaster Canal and back to Glasson Dock. This year they are going from the Lytham Windmill, via the Boating Lake, Lytham Pier and finishing up and Blackpool Tram Sheds

If you could kindly sponsor them, then there are sponsor forms on Literature Table at the back of Church. All proceeds are for Church Funds.

Our walkers are of course Les Howard,  
Roger Wilson & Peter Wood and if you would like to join them just a have  
word you'll be very welcome



## SERVICES DURING OCTOBER 2018



Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> 10.15 a.m. Holy Communion

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month**  
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion  
9.30 a.m. Parish Communion  
JAM Club

### **Sidespersons Rota**

Mrs T Unsworth & Mrs N Danify

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> 10.15 a.m. Holy Communion

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Month**  
9.30 a.m. Parish Communion

Mrs C Taylor & Mrs. M Magrath

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> 10.15 a.m. Holy Communion

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month**  
9.30 a.m. Parish Communion  
JAM Club

Mrs D Appleton & Mrs. S. Williams

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> 10.15 a.m. Holy Communion

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month**  
9.30 a.m. Morning Worship & Baptisms

Mr A. Leigh & Mr. J Harrison

## ***From the Registers:***

# BAPTISMS

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September

Elizabeth Joan & Niamh Lola Daughters of Mr & Mrs P.A. Mason



*I baptize you in the name  
of the Father and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit*

## **Confirmation 2020**

Confirmation is an opportunity to say in public that you believe in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and are committed to following Him. Confirmation is for: those who have been baptised - to say for themselves the promises others made for them at baptism; those who have been brought up as Christian - to say for themselves that they believe; those with no Christian background - who want to say that they belong to Jesus.

If you are in school year 6 or older, and think you might be interested in being confirmed, please come to our confirmation preparation sessions in October and November this year. Confirmation preparation meets at the Vicarage from 4.00pm to 5.00pm as part of Ignite, our regular youth group. (As different schools finish at different times, feel free to turn up any time from 3.00pm for chat, games and refreshments.)

Fri 11th Oct 1: Introduction to Jesus and Mark's Gospel

Fri 18th Oct Social – BBQ if good weather, board games if bad weather

Fri 26th Oct No session – half term

Fri 1st Nov 2: Why Jesus came and any questions

Fri 8th Nov 3: The Lord's Prayer and any questions

Fri 15th Nov 4: The Ten Commandments and any questions

Fri 22nd Nov 5: The Creed(s) and any questions

Fri 29th Nov 6: Holy Communion / the Lord's Supper and any questions

If you're an adult interested in getting confirmed, you're more than welcome to join the Friday afternoon classes. But if this is not an option for you, please speak to me and we can arrange alternative preparation, possibly in the home group on Wednesday evenings at 8.00pm. Attending confirmation preparation does not commit you to getting confirmed. Indeed, the point of the preparation is to enable you to make the confirmation promises with integrity, so if you decide it's not right for you, there will be no pressure to go through with the confirmation service. Confirmation service venues and dates for 2020 have not yet been announced, but services for Chorley deanery normally take place in early February.

## Marriage registration changes on the way!

The Government plans to introduce a new system of registration for marriages, including church weddings, in England and Wales.

It is anticipated that the new system will replace traditional marriage registers with a new 'marriage document' to be signed by the couple at the wedding and lodged with the local register office.

Although no date has been set for implementing the new system, representatives of the Church of England, together with the Church in Wales and the Faculty Office of the Archbishop of Canterbury, have been in discussion with the General Register Office on how it will be introduced.

It is expected that the General Register Office will provide training and information for clergy. Details will be announced as soon as possible.

The Revd Dr Malcolm Brown, the Church of England's Director of Mission and Public Affairs, said: "We are in close discussions with the General Register Office, who are working hard to ensure that the change in the system of registering marriages is as smooth and seamless as possible.

"I want to reassure clergy and couples planning a marriage that we are absolutely committed to making the new system work within the context of a Church of England marriage service and the GRO has promised to provide training and comprehensive user-friendly information for clergy.

"We are currently in discussion with the GRO about the exact shape that will take and will update clergy as soon as the details have been finalised.

"Although no firm date has yet been set for the introduction of the new system, we are aware of the desire to implement it as soon as possible.

"A church wedding is a very special day where unique promises are made before God and in the presence of friends, family and the wider community in a timeless setting, marking the beginning of their married lives together."

More details at: <http://www.facultyoffice.org.uk/special-licences/marriage-law-news/>

## Social Committee News

<i>Day</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Function</i>
Saturday	16 <sup>th</sup> November	Christmas Fair
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup> December 4.00 p.m.	Christingle and Grand Christmas Draw

The Christmas Fair is on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November** opening at **1.00 p.m.** Each year we hope to put more into the Fair **but we need NEW STALLS & NEW IDEAS** and this is where you come in. If you can help in anyway with ideas or at the Fair then please let us know, we struggle each year to try to think up new ideas and also to man the stalls please **help us if you can.** There is also a box or on the back pew in Church for items for the Stalls which can either be sold or for the Tombola chocolates for the Chocolate stall would be most appreciated. We also need gifts of cakes, chips etc. for the refreshments.

**Father Christmas will be in his Grotto so children don't forget your lists.**

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Judges 6:36 - 7:8, 16 - 22

God had told Gideon he would drive the  
Midianite invaders out of His country.  
32000 men had come to fight with Gideon.

Gideon asked God for proof.



God did as Gideon had asked.



Could you show me again, but with the wool dry and the ground wet?



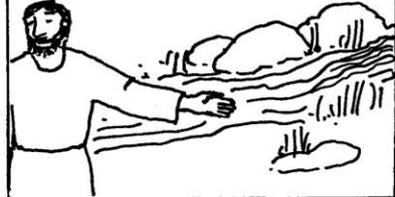
God said The army is too big. They will think that they beat the Midianites, not Me.



So Gideon sent home all who were afraid - 22000 of them



There were still too many, so Gideon told them to drink from the spring.



300 scooped up water to drink, and the rest were sent home.



Each man was given a jar with a lit torch in it and a horn.



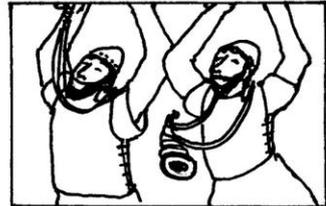
That night they surrounded the Midianite camp.



At the signal, they blew the trumpets, smashed the jars and shouted a war cry



The Midianites were so shocked they attacked each other, and then ran



The Israelites won without having to do any fighting.

# The tale of the Prodigal Son



JESUS OFTEN TOLD  
STORIES WITH  
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONE STORY WAS ABOUT A MAN  
WHO HAD TWO SONS.

ONE WAS HARD WORKING  
AND CARED FOR HIS FATHER



BUT THE OTHER SON JUST  
DEMANDED MONEY FROM  
HIS DAD



THEN HE LEFT HOME TO WASTE  
HIS WEALTH.

HE HAD MANY FRIENDS...



...UNTIL HIS MONEY RAN OUT



SOON, THE ONLY WAY HE COULD  
SURVIVE WAS BY FEEDING PIGS.



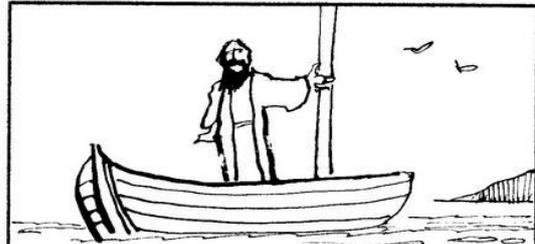
I KNOW, I'LL GO BACK TO  
MY DAD AND SAY SORRY -  
BUT HE'LL BE SO CROSS.



BUT HIS FATHER WAS  
FAR FROM ANGRY - HE  
WAS THRILLED TO SEE  
HIS SON RETURN HOME!



MY SON IS ALIVE!!



JESUS EXPLAINED - WE HAVE A FATHER  
IN HEAVEN WHO ACHES TO SEE US ALL  
RETURN TO HIM - JUST LIKE THE  
PRODIGAL SON RETURNED TO HIS  
FATHER.

# The Friends of St. John's

Meetings Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> October 7.30 p.m. Church Hall Lounge

## **Continuing the Celebration!**

On 13-20<sup>th</sup> October this year many people around the world will be celebrating the Jewish festival of Tabernacles, or Sukkot. They will celebrate the Harvest, and also remember God bringing the Israelites out of Egypt and through 40 years in the desert.

The biblical book of Deuteronomy contains a description of what Tabernacles should have been like back then. "Celebrate... for seven days. Be joyful... you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, and the Levites, the foreigners, the fatherless and the widows who live in your towns."

These festivals were not just a celebration, but also an expression of gratitude to God: "celebrate the festival to the Lord your God...For the Lord your God will bless you in all your harvest and in all the work of your hands, and your joy will be complete." Tabernacles was a proper holiday, with two whole days off normal work and seven days of feasting.

Farming looks very different today. Very few of us have had to sweat long hours over crops, so we're not as ready for (or deserving of) a rest and a party as our ancestors were at this time of year. That might be even more the case in future, as the agri-tech revolution unfolds. For example, small autonomous tractors are already becoming available that do less damage to the soil and make better use of steep or oddly shaped fields.

Many arable farms already hire contractors to do the routine work with large specialist GPS-equipped machinery. In future years those people might find themselves using very different kinds of high-tech kit, acting more as land-management advisors, helping farmers to gather data and to find ways of improving soil quality, biodiversity and the water cycle.

We're very grateful for the food that arrives on our shelves. Instead of worrying about whether or not we earned it, our modern-day Tabernacles or Harvest celebration could include ways of encouraging those involved in agriculture and developing new agricultural technologies, as well as enjoying how we can learn about and benefit from God's creation through Science.

## **Thank you prayer**

Father, You are almighty and all powerful. You created the universe and yet you love and care for each one of us. Thank you. Thank you for loving us so much that you sent your precious Son Jesus to save us when we couldn't save ourselves. Thank you for offering life forever with you to all who trust in Jesus and what He did on the cross. Thank you for today. Help us to use it to reflect your love to others. In Jesus name ,Amen.

## 200 Club Winners:

### September £10 Winners

No. 9 S. Fowler      No. 144 V. Rigby      No. 102 C. Taylor      No. 47 I Wallis donated to  
Flower Fund

Please remember that the 200 Club is drawn on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month, in the Church Hall during Coffee after the 9.30 a.m. Service, if you would like a number in the draw, only £1.00 per month, then please see Dot Appleton 792456 Thank You.

### *Donations given to Church Funds*

In Loving Memory of a Dear Dad Tom Pennington from Graham

### *Donations of Flowers & Money give to the Flower Fund:*

In Loving Memory of Margaret Taylor from Gerald  
Birthday Memories of Mum Marjorie Robinson from Brenda & Cliff Ford  
Precious Memories of John from Lily  
In Loving Memory of my Dear Wife from John  
Donation to Flower Fund in Memory of Irene



### **Just a reminder of our new pattern of services beginning this October:**

1st Sunday of the month 8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Holy Communion and JAM Club\*

2nd Sunday of the month 9.30am Holy Communion

3rd Sunday of the month 9.30am Holy Communion and JAM Club\*

4th Sunday of the month 9.30am Morning Worship with Baptism(s) (if any) any

5th Sunday in a month Joint Holy Communion with Coppull Parish Church, time and venue to be announced

\*JAM stands for "Jesus And Me", and provides Bible story, songs, and crafts for 3-10 year-olds