

THE LINK

50p

May 2021

Tarporley Parish Magazine



Open for
worship !

ANDREW P. DEAN

Dip N.T.C., C.G.L.I., A.V.C.M.

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Services: See Calendar page on the website or ‘The Link’ magazine.

Weekday Service St Helen’s Church, Holy Communion: Wednesday at 10.00 am.

(Note: all telephone numbers are area code 01829 unless otherwise stated).

Rector: **Vacancy, The Rectory, High St, Tarporley CW6 0AG** **732491**

Assistant Curate: **Julian Osborne, 3 Dingle Way, Cuddington, Cheshire, CW8 2UW 07421 323699**

e-mail: revjulianosborne@gmail.com

Tarporley: St Helen

Churchwardens	Phillip Posnett, Haughton Hall, Tarporley CW6 9RH	260251
	Liz Neely email neelyeliza@hotmail.com	07890 470899
Treasurer	Anita Langford, 7 The Crescent, Utkinton, CW6 0LT	458351
P.C.C Secretary	Paul Emerson, Maple Bank, Eaton Road, Tarporley, CW6 0BJ	733147
Organist	Chas Hardern	732595
Reading Rota	Elaine Meredith Corner Lodgings, Forest Road, Tarporley CW6 0HX	732104
Co-ordinator		
Bellringers	Jenny Christian	732412

Cotebrook:

St John Wardens	Bill Spiegelberg, Oulton Park House, Tarporley, CW6 9BL	760336
	Peter Copland, Moss Cottage, Utkinton Lane, Cotebrook, CW6 0JH	732618
Organist	Katrina Copland,	732618
Eaton: St Thomas Wardens	Rosemary Lilley, Windward Mark, Eaton Lane, Eaton, Tarporley CW6 9AG	732948
	Michael Scott, 39 High St, Tarporley CW6 0DP	733919
Organist	Marjorie Rathbone	732655

LINK Editor	Andy Jobson, Plessington House, Huxley Lane, Brassey Green, Tarporley, CW6 9UG	732437
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Electoral Roll	Mike Kiddle, 1 Woodlands Way, Tarporley, CW6 0TP	733431
Safeguarding Officer	Liz Neely email neelyeliza@hotmail.com	07890 470899
Sunday Sheet	email jleaman@talktalk.net	
Tarporley C.E. Primary School	Mrs Kerry Forrester	01244 981230
Utkinton C.E. Primary School	Ms Lorna Pleavin	732322
Done Room Booking Secretary	Kathryn Palmer	733040

CONTACT POINTS:

Please do not hesitate to report cases of sickness or pastoral need to the Assistant Curate. 07421 323699
To make arrangements for a Funeral please contact Phillip Posnett. 260251

To ask about Wedding arrangements, baptisms or general enquiries please contact Jan
email: admin@tarporleyparish.co.uk

Website: www.tarporleyparishchurch.org **e-mail:** admin@tarporleyparish.co.uk

Items for ‘The Link’ should be e-mailed to jobsonajpj@btinternet.com or posted to the Link Editor by the 16th of each month.

**CHURCH SERVICE CALENDAR
FOR MAY 2021
OUR CHURCHES RE-OPEN!**

Dear Parishioners,

We bring tidings of great joy!

"I was glad when they said unto me : ye shall go into the house of the Lord"

Psalm 122:1

All three churches in Tarporley Parish will resume regular Sunday worship, with the exception of Evensong, **from Sunday 2nd May.**

The Wednesday 10am service of Holy Communion at St Helens church will resume from 5th May and the church will be open daily from 9am to 5pm for anyone wishing to spend time in private prayer or quiet reflection.

The first service in all three churches will be that of Holy Communion in celebration of being able to worship together again. Of course, we need to be mindful that covid-19 has not gone away and respectfully ask that you continue to follow all safety guidelines.

Please use the hand sanitiser provided

Please wear a face covering for worship

Please maintain a social distance

We look forward to welcoming you all soon and worshipping together once more.

Here are the services!May 2nd**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
St John	11.15	Holy Communion

In celebration of our return to a nearly complete 'normal service' pattern all three services will be Holy Communion.

9th**THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion

13th

ASCENSION DAY - No formal church service but St Helen's will be open, as normal during the day, for private prayer.



St Helen 9.00 am to 5.00pm Private prayer.

16th**THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion

23rd**THE DAY OF PENTECOST (WHIT SUNDAY)**

St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion

30th**TRINITY SUNDAY**

St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion

June 6th**THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

St Thomas	9.00am	Morning Prayer
St Helen	10.00am	Morning Prayer
St John	11.15	Holy Communion

Please remember that face coverings are now mandatory in Church services.

With great thanks to all those people who worked hard to prepare our Churches and grounds for this re-opening.

Our Assistant Curate writes.....

Dear All,

Sunday 25th April, the fourth Sunday of Easter, is known by some as “Good Shepherd Sunday”, for it is the Sunday that we remember Jesus saying the words that are recorded in John’s gospel: “...I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” The passage goes on to describe how a not



so good shepherd would run away at the first sign of danger, but that the good shepherd would willingly give his all for his sheep. Furthermore, the sheep know the shepherd’s voice, and the shepherd knows the sheep.

I posed the question of whether we, even though we live in rural Cheshire, can appreciate the metaphor of sheep and shepherd that Jesus is using. In his day, they would have immediately grasped the concept of sheep needing protection from danger, of needing to know their shepherd’s voice, of needing to listen out for their shepherd’s call to come into the pen for safety at night, or to follow him to fresh pasture in the morning. Do we today, one step removed from the reality of shepherding, appreciate the need, the urgency to develop ears that listen out for Jesus speaking to us, very probably not in audible words, but nevertheless in a language that we can understand?

Well, I needn’t have worried on the sheep encounter front! During the sermon I had spoken of being given, I think kindly, the nickname of “the sheep rescuer” after I had reunited a lamb separated from its mother on one occasion, and a pregnant sheep stranded on its back on another. I told of how the TV can give an idealised version of fluffy sheep, describing a lovely programme that featured Matt Baker and his family, where caring for sheep was fundamental to the palpable love at the core of their family. At the end of the service, almost everyone had some story to tell me about their encounter with sheep in need. I thought it would be fun to repeat a few, without naming any names. Can you think who might be telling these stories? (Continued o’leaf)

- Matt Baker came to our farm to film for Countryfile. Yes, he is every bit as nice in real life as he is on the telly!
- During our many tandem cycle rides from Land's End to John O' Groats, my wife often spotted animals in need. On one occasion, she spotted a ram with its horns stuck in the wire fence. Taking our life in our hands, we managed to release him, only to chuckle at the less than enthusiastic welcome he received from his flock of sheep!
- I tried rescuing an escaped lamb on a walk in North Wales just like you, only it was too quick for me. Eventually I had to dive on it, but did thankfully manage to get it back to its mum!
- When I was stationed in the Outer Hebrides, I learned several new skills. One of them, that your sermon reminded me of, was sheering sheep. Not sure I could do it now, it was jolly hard work!

Evidently the words of the Bible speak of God's complete love for us just as clearly today as they did all those years ago. Sheep need looking after for they are not the brightest and repeatedly get into scrapes, a bit like us. Thankfully we have a shepherd who knows everything about us, who loves us nonetheless, and who has laid down his life for us. He still speaks in many and various ways. Our challenge is to learn to listen and to follow.

Julian

Christian Aid week 10-16 May 2021 will be similar to 2020:

The exact local arrangements are not yet (at the time of writing) determined but :-



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<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week>

Innes Meredith who is eight years old has raised over £75 for Christian Aid by holding a chocolate bar donations stall.

Can you follow his initiative and support Christian Aid?

Thank you
Elaine Meredith



Ascension Day: 40 Days with the Risen Christ

Forty days after Easter comes Ascension Day.

These are the 40 days during which the Risen Christ appeared again and again to His disciples, following His death and resurrection. (*Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; and John 20.*)

The Gospels give us little of Christ's teachings and deeds during those 40 days. Jesus was seen by numerous of His disciples: on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He strengthened and encouraged His disciples, and at last opened their eyes to all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah. Jesus also told them that as the Father had sent Him, He was now going to send them - to all corners of the earth, as His witnesses.

Surely the most tender, moving 'farewell' in history took place on Ascension Day. Luke records the story with great poignancy: 'When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, He lifted up His hands - and blessed them.'

As Christmas began the story of Jesus' life on earth, so Ascension Day completes it, with His return to His Father in heaven. Jesus' last act on earth was to bless His disciples. He and they had a bond as close as could be: they had just lived through three tumultuous years of public ministry and miracles – persecution and death – and resurrection!

Just as we part from our nearest and dearest by still looking at them with love and memories in our eyes, so exactly did Jesus: 'While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven.' (Luke 24:50-1) He was not forsaking them, but merely going on ahead to a kingdom which would also be theirs one day: 'I am ascending to my Father and to your Father, to my God and your God...' (John 20:17)

The disciples were surely the most favoured folk in history. Imagine being one of the last few people on earth to be face to face with Jesus, and have Him look on you with love. No wonder then that Luke goes on: 'they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.' (Luke 24:52,53)

No wonder they praised God! They knew they would see Jesus again one day!

'I am going to prepare a place for you... I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.' (John 14:2,3) In the meantime, Jesus had work for them to do: to take the Gospel to every nation on Earth!

Although there will be no church service St Helen's Church will be open as normal for private prayer on Ascension Day.

Tarporley Parish remembers HRH Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh

Tarporley Parish joined with many other parishes around the UK and elsewhere in acts of remembrance following the death of HRH Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh on the 9th April 2021 at the age of 99 years. St Helen's Church opened during the day each day in the following week to allow people to light a candle and pray privately. Also on Saturday 10th April at midday the tenor bell was chimed 99 times to mark Prince Philip's long life.

The following Saturday 17th April in the afternoon, at the time of the funeral procession, the tenor bell was tolled again in remembrance and in gratitude for Prince Philip's many years of service.



We commend to God and pray for those who mourn:

Doris Roberts

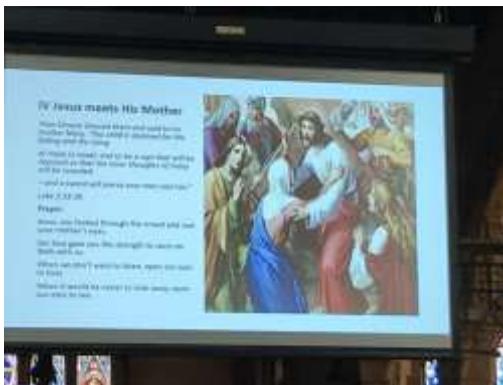
Finally: - Holy Week and Easter Sunday 2021.

Although we were not able to open all three churches or gather in acts of witness on the High Street in Tarporley in Holy Week 2021, we were nevertheless able to open St Helen's for private prayer, reflective worship and, on Easter Sunday, a celebratory service. Some parts of these are captured in the photos below.

Palm Sunday; Julian presiding at the Palm Sunday service.



Good Friday;



Contemplation and prayer and the Stations of the Cross portrayed in classic paintings.

Easter Sunday

He is Risen



Di Carr's Easter Garden decoration in St Helen's Church

Correction

April's quiz about nursery rhymes. Three questions contain typos viz;

15. What did the **king** of Spain's daughter come to see?
19. What **colour** did Hector Protector wear?
20. For what **were** the lion and the unicorn fighting?

I realise that I promised answers this month if I remembered. I did remember that I was supposed to provide them but currently cannot find them!

Watch this space and give yourselves 100%!

Apologies Andy

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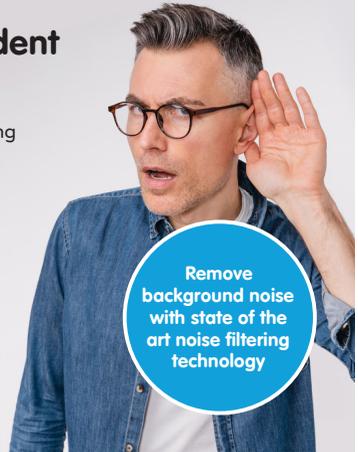
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OPAL Clubs are social clubs for older people who need support to get out and about.

Tarporley OPAL Club runs once a week on a Friday and we are currently short of volunteer drivers. The commitment would probably be once a month.

If you feel able to help or would like further information please contact:-

Sam f
sam.n

nob:07856 095 611
opalservices.org.uk



Tarporley Flower Club

Members of the Tarporley Flower Club invite you to join them at their monthly meeting which is held at the Tarporley Community Centre between 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month (except in January when the meeting is held on the second Tuesday. There is no meeting in August).

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