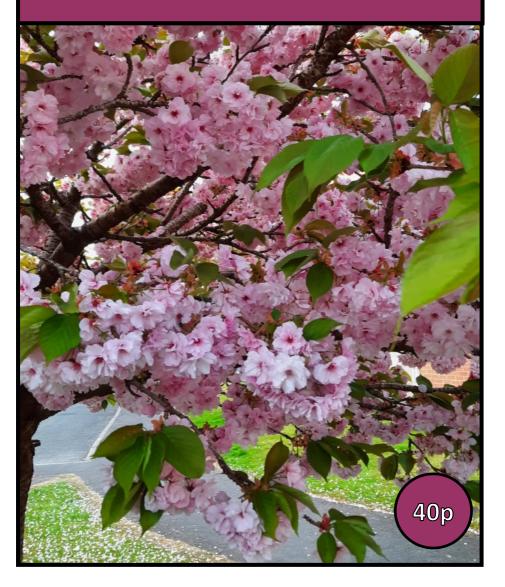
# Christ Church Magazine May 2025



# PARISH DIRECTORY

#### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

Details of our services are given on pages 5 & 6.

#### THE PARISH TEAM

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**Booking Secretary** Parish Office 811990

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Christ Church C.E.(Controlled) First School, Northesk Street.

Headteacher Mrs A. Graham BA(Hons) NPQH 01785 336545

Christ Church Academy, Old Road

Principal: Mrs Tara Thorn 01785 334900

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Please send your articles for the June magazine to us by 15th May

Cover Picture: Signs of Spring!



Magazine 40p each month or £4 each year. Money may be given to your magazine deliverer or handed in to the Church office

#### **Christ Church on the Internet**

Parish website www.christchurchstone.org
Parish office email office@christchurchstone.org
Magazine contributions magazine@christchurchstone.org

#### Hello from the new editor!

A big thank you to Jacqueline who has been acting as Magazine Editor since Dave Bell moved to pastures new, nearly two years ago! She has been doing an amazing job (I now appreciate just how much she was doing!) on top of her other office duties so a big clap for her.

As the new editor I would love to see the magazine thrive and flourish and it can only do that if we have contributions from you!

Book reviews, life stories, reflections, photos, events – ones either you have attended or that are coming up, poems, quizzes – let's make it interactive and lively! Contributions need to be in by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month before publication and should be sent to:-

#### magazine@christchurchstone.org

Please forgive typos and technical printing glitches while I figure out putting it all together! Let me know what you would like to see in the magazine and make it your own!

I am also hoping to gather a working party to review the magazine—should the price increase? should we try for a wider distribution? should it have a name? what would you like to see in it? - if you would like to be involved then please let me know!

Helen Bowes 07594 554198 / helen.bowes@christchurchstone.org

'Did you go to the Lent Course??? I thought it is was excellent! I attended two sessions and had to watch the others on-line due to unforeseen circumstances but that was fine—a good mix and great to be able to access it this way. If you missed it then you can watch online too! Our Housegroup is going to do just that—the second time around there will

undoubtedly be even more discussion! Checkout—321 Course - Speak Life



# **May 2025**

	Date	Time	Events (Zoom codes in weekly email)
Thu	1st	1.10 pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	2nd		
Sat	3rd	8.30 am 9.30 am	Prayer meeting followed by breakfast Everybody Welcome coffee morning
Sun	4th	9.15 am 6.00 pm	Communion; John 1: 35-42 "Peter follows" 'Alive with Christ' group study, session 1
Mon	5th		Bank Holiday
Tue	6th	10.30 am 12.30 pm	Communion; Matthew 28: 5-7 "A symbol of victory" Pursuit Club Christ Church Academy
Wed	7th	9.00 am 3.30 pm	Christ Church First School assembly Trekkers
Thu	8th	1.10 pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	9th		
Sat	10th		
Sun	11th	9.15 am 6.00 pm	Morning Prayer; Luke 5 "Peter convicted and commissioned" 'Alive with Christ' group study, session 2
Mon	12th	9.30 am	Toddler group
Tue	13th	10.30 am 12.30 pm 2.00 pm	Communion; 1 Corinthians 15: 20-22 "Overcoming despair" Pursuit Club Christ Church Academy Autumn House — Church at Home service
Wed	14th	9.00 am 2.00 pm 3.30 pm	Christ Church First School assembly Oulton Abbey — Church at Home service Trekkers
Thu	15th	11.00 am	St. Mary's Home — Church at Home service

# **May 2025**

	Date	Time	Events
Fri	16th		
Sat	17th		
Sun	18th	9.15 am	Communion; Mark 8: 27-38
		6.00 pm	"Convinced, but confused"  'Alive with Christ' group study, session 3
Mon	19th		
Tue	20th	10.30 am	Communion; Luke 24: 46-47 "A second chance"
		12.30 pm	Pursuit Club Christ Church Academy
Wed	21st		Christ Church First School assembly Trekkers
Thu	22nd	1.10 pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	23rd		
Sat	24th		
Sun	25th	9.15 am	All age; Luke 22: 31-34, 54-62 "Peter's daring and denial
Mon	26th		School Half Term holiday week
Tue	27th	10.30 am	Communion; 2 Corinthians 5: 17 "Resurrecting Dreams"
Wed	28th		
Thu	29th		
Fri	30th		
Sat	31st		

# From the Vicarage .....

## **Victory Day**

Victory. V for Victory. VE Happy. All these terms will come to the fore in May!

As we reach 8<sup>th</sup> May there will be a lot of build up to the VE80 celebrations. The end of World War 2 and the peace enjoyed since then, will be celebrated across the nation and the commonwealth. Flags will be raised. Bells will be rung. Schools will have special activities and displays. Pipers will play a special tune composed for the occasion. People will gather for formal acts of remembrance to reflect on the costly sacrifice that secured peace. People will also gather for informal parties to celebrate. At 9.30p.m. over one thousand beacons will be lit to represent the light of peace that emerged from the dreadful darkness of the war. The churches will be involved across the country, as is the case with many of the events in life of the nation. Prayers will be offered in humble thanks for those who laid down their lives, but also prayers will be said for those who continue to suffer because of the War and subsequent wars. The great transformation from a situation of hostilities and war to one of peace stand as testimony that the War effort achieved the goal.

The Christian church has traditionally had a key role amongst armed services personnel: regular services conducted by a chaplain have served generations. This is for a very good reason. For Jesus' followers are stewards of the ultimate hope of victory with eternal significance. Jesus alone can give us everlasting peace with God. The Apostle Paul wrote: 'The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is



the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ' (1 Corinthains 15v56-57). These words are celebrating how Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension verify the hope of eternal life that Jesus alone can give. His resurrection demonstrated that he really is the Son of

#### From the Vicarage (cont....)

God. He it is who provides forgiveness for our wrongs, fellowship with God now and the future hope of eternal life. He has broken the power of sin; he alone is stronger than death itself and has victory over all evil. The result for the follower of Jesus is that we are set on a new path: 'Therefore, my brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain' (1 Cor 15v58-59).

Let's then celebrate both victories. Paul Kingman May 2025

#### **Intercessory Prayer Workshop**

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April

Twelve people from Christ Church and Oulton churches met on Saturday morning keen to learn more about intercessory prayer. The majority were already on the prayer rota for their church but one or two, like me, were just curious. The two-hour workshop was ably led by Christine Pentland and Helen Bowes who gently got us talking about our experiences of intercessory prayer. They started by stating that every follower of Christ can do intercessory prayers either individually or in a small group or in a church service. Perhaps the most daunting is leading prayers in a church service and this was the focus of the workshop.

People shared their experiences of leading prayers in church. I was particularly struck by the time and effort they put in to preparing their prayers even to listening to the news first thing, so they did not miss anything of National or World significance that needed to be covered. The majority used some sort of structure to keep their prayers focused and relevant. We were then split into two groups: one to list what intercessory prayer is, and the other to list what intercessory prayer is not. Opinions flowed and both groups soon had a substantive list and there was little to add. In subsequent discussions some lamented the loss of the list of those who were sick that used to be read out during intercessions. (cont...)

We were reminded that this was stopped to comply with the then new regulations on confidentiality. It is current practice for intercessors to give space for people to name privately anyone who was ill and in need of prayer during the intercessions, but a way forward for those who feel they want to pray for someone in particular would be to pray with a member of the pastoral prayer team at the end of the service.

Our last task was to write a short prayer according to the subject we were allocated from the CofE 5-subject structure for intercessory prayer. We then finished by praying our individual prayers in turn and the result was amazingly moving. Even though each subject was covered at least twice every prayer was different and from the heart. All thanks to Christine and Helen for organising such a lovely and informative workshop. I would recommend!! **Liz Mason** 

#### Behind the Song—From Heaven You Came Helpless Babe

The proper name for this hymn is 'The Servant King'. It was written by Graham Kendrick, the leading Christian singer/songwriter who was born in 1950. A recent *Songs of Praise* Poll placed it 37<sup>th</sup> in the most popular hymns ballot.

Kendrick wrote 'The Servant King' in 1984 for the Christian Arts
Festival – Greenbelt. It has a wonderful theological sweep having as
its starting point the Incarnation. It goes on to cover the agony of
Jesus in the 'garden of tears' and his crucifixion, and calls on us to
serve him. The hymn very effectively points at the central paradox
that Jesus is both King and servant, priest and victim, the one whose
weakness is strength and who conquers through love. It takes us from
the helpless babe to the man on the cross, from Incarnation to
crucifixion and from creator to sacrificial victim.

It's most powerful and poetic lines are 'hands that flung stars into space/ to cruel nails surrendered'. It can be sung at many different seasons including Christmas. Many see it as being worthy to stand alongside the great classics by Charles Wesley and Isaac Watts.

Taken from The Daily Telegraph Book of Hymns by Ian Bradley 2005

## MISSION PRAYER DIARY

WEEK ONE: UCCF

FOCUS: MATTHEW LEUNG WITH KEELE & STAFFS CU

UCCF partners with Christians Unions (groups of students) all across the UK to give every student the opportunity to hear the gospel through outreach events, Bible discovery groups and much more. They also equip and encourage Christian students to share their faith in Jesus boldly on campus and in their personal relationships.

DAY	PRAYER POINT
<b>01</b> May	Thank God for the success of Keele CU's 'Text-a-toastie' event, where students could ask Qs about Christianity in exchange for a free toastie. They received over 40 Qs from students across campus!
<b>02</b> May	Thank God for Millie, a non-Christian, curious student keen to find out more about the relationship between Buddhism and Christianity. Pray that she might find Jesus in her search for the truth.
<b>03</b> May	Thank God that He has been equipping the CUs to answer important Qs about Christianity & for their courage to speak boldly about Him. Pray that He would continue to give them courage to share the gospel.
<b>04</b> May	Pray for Alex, a non-Christian student that was moved by the talks at Keele events week and started reading Uncover Mark with a CU member. Pray that she might overcome her doubts and trust in God.
<b>05</b> May	Thank God for the growth that Staffs CU have seen in their events week this year, with over 20 students coming to each of their events. Pray that this might be of encouragement to them that God is at work.
<b>06</b> May	Pray for Joe, a non-Christian student who was captivated by Jesus during Staffs CU's events week and has since been attending church and CU. Pray that he would come to know Jesus personally!
<b>07</b> May	Matthew's Relay worker, Hannah, has been confirmed as the new Staff Worker who will take over from Matthew! Pray that she would be able to make a smooth transition to her new role by God's guidance.

# MISSION PRAYER DIARY

WEEK TWO: CHRISTIAN AID FOCUS: CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Christian Aid was started 80 years ago in 1957 by British and Irish churches to help refugees after WW2. Christian Aid provides humanitarian relief and long term support for poor communities worldwide. This week, Christian Aid Week, is a huge part of Christian Aid's fundraising effort, so we'll be praying alongside them as they fundraise for this cause.

DAY	PRAYER POINT
<b>08</b> May	Pray for increased support during this Christian Aid Week and for stamina and resilience of fundraisers and an increased awareness of the work of Christian Aid.
<b>09</b> May	Pray that Christian Aid can continue their work with partners, including local organisations, governments and the private sector to end poverty and injustice worldwide.
<b>10</b> May	Pray for the work with crisis affected communities on the causes and consequences of climate change so the most marginalised can adapt and become resilient and reduce vulnerability.
<b>11</b> May	Pray for Christian Aid as they challenge the systemic and structural causes of poverty by holding those in power to account.
<b>12</b> May	Pray for Christian Aid's wide ranging work, including emergency response, tackling racial injustice and discrimination and promoting gender equality awareness.
<b>13</b> May	Pray for those tasked with distribution of funds and support, with so much demand worldwide particularly with the reduction in government help.
<b>14</b> May	Pray that it will be a successful week for Christian Aid and that increased support and awareness will have resulted in increased funds to come in to support this important work worldwide.

DAY

May

# MISSION PRAYER DIARY

WEEK THREE: FEBA RADIO **FOCUS: BROADCASTS IN TIBET** 

Feba UK's partner, Gaweylon Radio, broadcasts to a predominantly Buddhist audience in Tibet and among the wider Tibetan diaspora. In a region where evangelism is not welcomed, their radio programmes, videos, and literature encourage listeners to reflect on social and spiritual change while also providing practical advice and teaching about the Christian faith.

PRAYER POINT

<b>15</b> May	Pray that God would provide clear reception for the Gaweylon Tibeton radio programmes across this vast, mountainous region so that many can hear and engage with the gospel messages.
<b>16</b> May	Pray that each programme will speak powerfully into the lives of listeners – bringing encouragement and the hope of Jesus Christ to the heart of their unique culture and beliefs
<b>17</b> May	Gaweylon shares the gospel through many different media including YouTube and USB drives. Pray that these different media will reach those who are searching for truth and answers to life's big questions.
18	Pray that God would guide the team in using technology effectively so that many will encounter His love in a way that speaks to them

Pray that God would give the Gaweylon team wisdom and creativity 19 as they create and produce programmes and share the good news in May ways that truly resonate with their audience.

The Gaweylon team is seeking new Tibetan Christian staff to support 20 their programme production and follow-up ministry. Pray that God will May lead peope with a deep passion for the gospel to join them.

personally.

Pray that God would equip and prepare the individuals He has 21 chosen for the Gaweylon team for the work ahead, so that more May listeners can be reached and discipled in their faith.

## MISSION PRAYER DIARY

WEEK FOUR: LANGHAM PARTNERSHIP FOCUS: ORGANISATIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS

The Langham Partnership exists to equip the church worldwide through providing scolarships, theological literature and preaching programmes. This week, we'll pray for the organisation as a whole.

DAY	PRAYER POINT
<b>22</b> May	Langham has released several books in the last couple of months, which amplify the voices of Majority World Christians. Pray that many would read and be blessed by these books.
<b>23</b> May	Continue to pray that a suitable replacement for Langham Literature's Director of Operations will be found, and give thanks to God for Libby Kelly's many years of service.
<b>24</b> May	Femi Adeleye, Langham Preaching Director for Africa, asks for prayer that the trainers they are training will embrace a learner-centred approach to the Langham Preaching programme.
<b>25/26</b> May	Pray for J* from the Big Country, who is studying at Wheaton College. Pray for J* as he prepares for the defence of his dissertation. Pray also for guidance as they decide what to do after graduation.
<b>27/28</b> May	Give thanks to God for faithful supporters, who have generously remembered Langham in their wills, enabling the Global Church to be equipped into the future
<b>29/30</b> May	Praise the Lord for the success of Langham's Magnify fundraising campaign, which aimed to double the impact of Langham's global ministries.
<b>31</b> May	Pray for Tukana Nakesu, Regional Coordinator for Langham Preaching in the South Pacific. Pray particularly for church leaders in Fiji, that they will preach faithfully.

"As for other matters, brothers and sisters, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honoured, just as it was with you." ~ 2 Thessalonians 3v1

Hi There,

Waterways Chaplaincy
...coming alongside you

Hasn't it been wonderful all this Spring

weather – nothing quite like being out in the sunshine, walking and biking along the towpath and chatting! This month I got to see some different parts of the canal. But first – did you know?

From the Canal and River Trust Annual Lockage Report - Topping the charts as the busiest lock on our network, it's Colwich Lock 21, (Just south of Great Haywood) on the Trent & Mersey Canal. Part of England's very first long-distance canal, the narrow lock is one of 76 along the route. This listed structure sits in the very centre of England, in a beautiful rural setting, so it's no surprise it's such a hub of activity. It's a small but vital piece of the Father of English canals, James Brindley's vision for the 'Grand Cross'; a national network of navigations to link the country's four great rivers, the Mersey, Trent,

Severn and Thames. The number of times the lock was used in **2024 was** 6965 times! The Star Lock in Stone came out as Number 16 with 4120 usages.

So having discovered this John and I just had to go and visit. It is right out in the countryside – we walked



from Great Haywood - in March it was far from busy! There is a very nice lock-keeper's cottage there and it is very pretty.

I also got to see another stretch of the Trent & Mersey Canal at Armitage as I was called to help a boater with his CRT Licence and I also visited the canal at Burston as I needed to help a boater with his pre-paid prescription application. (cont....)

I am pleased to say that Diane has been able to get out on the canals again after being off sick for a while – on one of her first days back she had to deal with a cyclist on the towpath who had managed to tangle something up in his gears and chain so the bike could not move! After quite a time they managed to extricate the said tangle and also after a bit of minor first aid the cyclist could go on his way! – No two days are the same!

Diane and I went to our WWC Regional training day up at Poynton in Cheshire. The day involved being instructed in how to do videos, so we walked along part of the Macclesfield Canal filming each other! We were at Lord Vernon's Wharf – some of you may have noticed boats from there.

I am off to Great Haywood floating market on Easter Saturday so looking forward to that!

Please pray for all the boaters and everyone along the towpath in our lovely town of Stone and the village of

Barlaston. 'Do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with your God' – Micah 6:8

God bless, Helen 13/4/25

# Did you come to God, the Bible and Everything in 60 minutes?

If not you missed a great evening full of humour and provoking much thought! If you have never thought about the difference



between a fruit and a drupe or between a seed and a nut before then you don't know what you missed! Who said theology was not fun!

#### From the Diocese (1)



#### Learning to love moles!

Many of us rarely if ever see an actual mole and apart from Moley in The Wind in the Willows, the other famous mole is 'the little gentleman in black velvet' toasted by Jacobites as William of Orange is said to have died following a fall after his horse tripped on a molehill.

We do however see signs of moles, their molehills. Moles breed in spring, between February and June and this is a time when we see new molehills that have been dug by male moles expanding their tunnel network in search of female mates. They also create spherical nests which they line with dry leaves and grass and the moles will sleep in these nests as well as rearing young there.

Male and female moles spend most of the year alone, living underground and feeling their way around their network of tunnels using their sensitive noses and also their tails. They have poor eyesight and are at risk from predators when above ground but underground they are in their element, using large, spade-like forelimbs to expand the tunnel network as needed. Most of the tunnels are permanent and quite deep and may cover hundreds of metres. Moles are fiercely territorial, familiar with their own tunnels and using them to suit the season. In colder or drier weather they head for their deepest tunnels where their main food, earthworms, will be found. A tunnel network is thought to last for many years, through several generations of moles.

Moles feed mainly on earthworms they create a winter 'larder' by storing earthworms in a chamber, keeping them alive but immobilising them (cont...)



# From the Diocese (1) (cont...)

with a bite to the head segment. Up to 450 worms have been found in one chamber. Moles used to be killed in large numbers by trappers to make moleskin clothes from their pelt, and were thought of as a problem needing controlling. Actually, moles are both friend and foe to the site manager, friends as they eat many pests such as wireworms, slugs and snails and also aerate the soil with their tunnelling, foe as they throw up molehills which some see as a problem. There are numerous theories as to how to get rid of moles: burying glass bottles, garlic or elder twigs pushed into the molehill to name a few. Poison and traps are cruel and are not recommended. Actually, getting rid of your resident mole may not be a good idea as it leaves a territory open for another mole to move in. It may be best to learn to live with your mole and to press molehills back into the ground or move the soil to flowerbeds or planters. The bare ground they produce also makes space for wildflower seeds to germinate which may not happen in a tight grass sward. So all in all, moles add to the rich diversity of life found within our churchyards and we need to learn to love them!

Harriet Carty, <u>Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor</u>, harriet@cfga.org.uk,

<u>www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk</u> - individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code diomem22

## A couple of Jokes for you.....

- 1. Why didn't they play cards on the Ark? Because Noah was always standing on the deck.
- 2. What kind of man was Boaz before he married Ruth? Ruthless.
- 3. Why was Samson the best comedian? He brought the house down.

# Diocesan News (2)



#### Pop goes the atmosphere

I was inspired recently at a national Church of England conference for people working on environmental issues.

Held at the British Antarctic Survey headquarters in Cambridge, we got to hold and listen to 10,000-year-old ice: as it melts, gas escapes (which sounds like popping candy or a fizzy drink) and analysis of the gas not only gives insight into the atmosphere back then, but scientists are able to use their analysis to predict potential changes up until 2050. Probably even further ahead.

Some people think church and climate an odd combination of topics, but the Bible starts with God creating the world and all that makes it up – land, sea and sky; seeds, plants and fruit; birds, fish and animals. Finally, he made humans to take care of it. 'And God saw that it was good.'

We talk about 'five marks of mission,' shared with 80 million Anglicans worldwide, which are the basic things we do to express our faith. The fifth mark is 'To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth' and this has been backed up by various decisions made by General Synod. The most challenging of those has been the adoption of goals to reach net-zero carbon emissions in our churches, vicarages and schools by 2030. This target is far more ambitious than our Government's, but it is one I would agree is vital to combat the effects of climate change. It is a daunting and potentially expensive challenge when we take it seriously, but there is a scheme to help all churches work their way through the things that can be done the guick wins (which some churches have even found saved them money) as well as the long haul. That's the Eco Church awards scheme which guides parishes as they master bronze, silver and hopefully gold-level achievements.

# Diocesan news (2) cont...

In Lichfield diocese we currently have about half our churches enrolled in the scheme, with nearly fifty reaching the silver level and we were thrilled to have our first gold award last spring. Even the diocesan office and our cathedral have achieved silver awards. It can lead to lasting improvements for our buildings and our churchyards – some even make life easier such as designating part of a large and old churchyard as an eco-meadow! Reducing the frequency of mowing can enable flowers, bees, butterflies, birds, insects and small mammals all to benefit as well as making our churchyards pleasant places to be.

Of course, we can't measure progress if we don't know where we're starting from. So we're actively encouraging churches to complete the Energy Footprint Tool which takes a straightforward look at the circumstances and usage of energy in our churches. Last year around half of churches completed that challenge, and our goal is to encourage all to complete it this year. It's not just a dull bit of bureaucracy, it can be very enlightening for creative and practical people to help their community – do ask your church leaders about your church.

A highlight of our conference for me was to hear the Church's lead bishop for the environment, Bishop Graham Usher. In his presentation he said something significant that stuck with me (paraphrased). 'We are all living in the Garden of Eden, we've been called to tend it and we have a responsibility to do that.' Would you Adam and Eye it?!

Jan Firth (lower) is Diocesan Environmental Officer, assisted by Fiona North (above), Parish Project Support Officer. The penguin performs no useful role in the diocese.

For more information about the Eco Church scheme, contact Jan at <a href="mailto:jan.firth@lichfield.anglican.org">jan.firth@lichfield.anglican.org</a> or visit the A Rocha website,

#### **Book Recommendation**



This book has just been published by Leon Evans—Pastor at Life Central, Church, Halesowen (the church where daughter Hannah goes). Leon was speaking at Spring Harvest where the book was launched. He is an amazing communicator and comes highly recommended. The book is based on the Book of Isaiah and will be an interesting read!

# What does it mean to be a man?



It's such a simple question, but our culture and our churches are often unsure how to answer it. Maybe you are too? Based on his recent book 'Reclaiming Masculinity' as a launchpad, conference speaker Matt Fuller will help us engage with our culture, steer us through the caricatures and confusions that swirl around 'masculinity' to outline a positive vision of Biblical masculinity and help us see what that looks like in real life today. The includes times of worship, workshops, and plenty of time to network with others.

Several men have attended in the past years and so I hope we will have a group to go this year to the day at **Monyhull Church, Birmingham, on 10th May.** Bookings may be made at midlandsmensconvention.org.uk

Paul Kingman

# Lay Reader Licensing

**Gary Williams** is to be licenced as a Lay Reader on **Saturday September 6**<sup>th</sup> at Lichfield Cathedral having completed his lengthy training. We hope many of you will come along to support him!

#### What is a Reader?

Readers are Lay Ministers who exercise their ministry with a Licence or a Permission to Officiate.



The growth in Reader ministry has been one of the great success stories in the Church of England. The office of Reader is over 150 years old and there are currently around 250 Readers active in Lichfield Diocese.

Reader is the only lay ministry that is voluntary, nationally accredited, licensed by a bishop and governed by canon.

Readers are trained to be lay theologians, equipped for leadership in its broadest sense within their parishes, communities and society. They are often seen leading worship or preaching wearing a blue scarf. However, Reader ministry is much broader than you might imagine.

There are three areas of specific interest for Readers:

- to be encouraging enablers of mission
- to be inspirational teachers of the faith
- to be influential leaders in church and society.

Readers can serve God and their communities in many ways, for example:

- Acting as minister of the word at the Eucharist, preaching and leading non-Eucharistic worship
- Working with their incumbent, and their local ministry team, to

# Lay Reader Licensing (cont..)

develop and implement mission action plans

- Working with children and young people in schools and other settings
- Working as chaplains in hospitals, schools and across their communities
- Conducting funerals
- Leading Bible studies and other groups, e.g. Lent and Advent groups
- Pastoral visiting in homes and residential homes

## **Safeguarding**

The United Benefice is committed to Safeguarding and has adopted the National and Diocesan Safeguarding Policies for the welfare of everyone in our congregations. Anyone requiring any further information or raising concerns should contact the Safeguarding Coordinators: *Christ Church, Stone*: Andrew Stone on

Safeguarding2@christchurchstone.org

**Oulton with Moddershall**; Mary Gale on Office@christchurchstone.org

Or contact the church office [01785 811990[ to leave your details, and Andrew or Mary will ring you back.

The vicar, Rev Paul Kingman can also be contacted on 01785 812669. If the matter is more urgent, or you feel uncomfortable contacting someone in our Benefice, you may contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team at Lichfield https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/safeguarding/

Don't be dependent on man, because they change like the wind. Depend on the Lord, and know that He is faithful to keep His Word.' – Matthew Hagee

#### Quiz Time! (An easy start for you!)

#### **Bible Terms**

#### A glossary of biblical terms and words without the meanings

- 1. Word meaning to pour water, or other substances in a ritual fashion on a person's head.
- 2. Common term for the final meal Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion.
- 3. Term meaning "chief of the angels".
- 4. A biblical unit of measurement roughly the distance from the elbow to the tip of the middle finger.
- 5. Well known term from a Hebrew word meaning "to rest".
- 6. A collection of thousands of ancient documents discovered between 1947 and 1956.
- 7. Name for the miraculous food that God provided to the Israelites while they were wandered in the wilderness.
- 8. Chest made of acacia wood overlaid with gold which contained the tablets of the Ten Commandments.
- 9. A Christian term for the first five books of the Old Testament.
- 10. The most important holy day for the Israelites, Yom Kippur, is also called "The Day of ..." what?
- 11. The deliverance from sin and its consequences, believed to be brought about by faith in Christ.
- 12. The longest river of southwest Asia first mentioned at *Genesis* 2:14 as one of the four rivers of Eden.

**Answers:-** 1. Anoint 2 Last Supper 3. Archangel 4 Cubit 5. Sabbath 6. Dead Sea Scrolls 7. Manna \* Ark of the Covenant 9. The Pentateuch 10. Day of Atonement. 11. Salvation 12. Euphrates

#### **Groups and Rotas**

**Deanery Synod Reps** Helen Bowes, Dave Rowlands

**P.C.C. Members** Jacqueline Abrahams, Lynne Collier,

Maxine Garrington-Miller, Shirley Hallam, Marylyn Hillman, George Holden, Pete Kelly, Liz Mason, Shelagh Sanders, Andy Stone,

Cara Natillia ara Faralla Nata alba ad

Gary Williams, Estella Woodhead

**Secretary** Shelagh Sanders

**Treasurer** Pete Kelly

**Envelopes, Gift Aid** Lynda Marenghi

REGISTERS

**BAPTISM** 

WEDDINGS

**FUNERALS** 

14th April Margaret Hutchinson Age 82

FLOWER ROTA WELCOMER

4th May: Marilyn Overall 11th May: Mandy Dudd

18th May: Sally Vaughan Jacqueline Abrahams

25th May: Pam Roberts

**ROADS FOR PRAYER** 

4th May11th MayGranville TerraceJoules DriveHarding GroveKent GroveHarecastle BankKings AvenueHartley DriveLongton Road

18th May25th MayMargaret StreetMillers GateMeadowsideMount AvenueMeaford AvenueMount CrescentMillenium WayMount Road

