## St. Luke's Formby Bcj Ya VYf 2023

Parish Magazine

Price: £1.20 per issue

Cheaper by annual subscription £10.00 for 10 issues a year



Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful. Hebrews 10:23





## **Shyira Trust**

Registered Charity Number 1110s

Hon President: Prof Allan Hobson MBE



#### Serving the people of Rwanda, Africa

#### relieving poverty

#### advancing education

#### preserving and protecting good health

#### **Kivu Diocese**

**Aim:** To support Bishop Augustin's 5 point programme

- Palliative care in the community
- Church leadership courses
- Development of job creation (entrepreneurship)

among youth and women

- Fighting malnutrition and stunting
- Supporting home and family life



#### **Mothers' Union**

**Aim:** To support MU members in serving their communities **Achieved:** 

- Members supported with bedding and kitchen utensils
- Training of 25 MU trainers from all over the Diocese
- Successful Revolving Goat Loan project

#### **Challenges:**

- To extend the MU support across Kivu Diocese
- To work through the Gisenyi MU to help the most needy parts of the Diocese



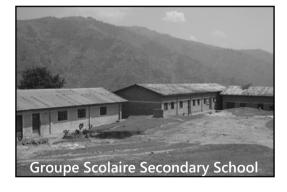
#### **Primary Schools**

**Aim:** To support school ministry by providing equipment, school materials and evangelistic outreach

#### **Groupe Scolaire Secondary School**

Donations may be sent to:

**Aim:** To support needy students in Shyira



#### **How YOU can help**

See our website: http://www.shyiratrust.org.uk

Email us for further information: shyira-06@shyiratrust.org.uk

53 Stapleton Road, Formby, Liverpool L37 2YT

Donate online: https://www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/shyiratrust

Shyira Trust, Secretary: Ken Davies

Like us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/shyiratrust



#### Vicar - Revd Dr Matt Davis

From the Vicarage

If you read last month's magazine, you'll know that eight people from St Luke's Church were due to travel to Rwanda at the beginning of October to visit St Mark's Church in Shyira. I'm very happy to report that we had a safe and successful visit. We met many people that we've heard about from previous visits, in particular Bishop Augustin and Canon Emmanuel (the previous minister of Shyira). We also met plenty of new people including the current minister of Shyira, Reverend Jacques, his wife Zilpa and their daughter Jessa.

We spent a very busy five days in Shyira visiting the new Shyira Hospital, the Primary School, the Secondary School (Groupe Scolaire Shyira) and of course the congregation and various church groups (including the Parish Council, Mothers' Union and Sunday School). At mealtimes we had visitors join us from the church, schools, other Christian organisations and even the local chief of police and the head of the army barracks! From breakfast to bedtime, it felt like we didn't stop, and we didn't really get a chance to process what we were seeing and who we met. Only now are we getting a chance to reflect on our time there, so please forgive us that there is only a short article in this month's magazine.

Our final day in Shyira was Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October. We were treated as guests of honour during the service, were interviewed and I had the delight of preaching to the congregation. My sermon was double the length it usually is, as each sentence had to be translated into Kinyarwanda (the language of Rwanda). These pauses gave me more time, not only to work out what I was going to say next, but also to look out at the congregation. And what a delight it was! As I looked around (I had a very good view from the front) I realised that I recognised a large proportion of the people sitting before me. So many of the faces weren't just faces, but belonged to people we'd met and knew: teachers at the schools, AIDS sufferers, Mothers' Union members, a chaplain at the hospital, children we'd played football with, adults we'd chatted to in the streets. These weren't strangers, these were friends.

This is one of the delights of going to church, even church on the other side of the planet. Spending time at church isn't like going to the cinema: staring at the front for the duration and then going home—at least, it shouldn't be! Church is where we go to meet other Christians, and worship God together with them.

There's a great verse in Hebrews 10:24–25:

And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

(Cont. on page 2)

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Joint Editors: Margaret Cooke (e-mail: <u>macooke29@gmail.com</u>) and Ken Davies (e-mail: kendavies1989@gmail.com)

Illustrator: Joan MacDonald

St. Luke's Web Site: <a href="http://www.stlukesformby.org.uk">http://www.stlukesformby.org.uk</a>
St. Luke's Facebook Page: facebook.com/StLukesChurchFormby

Meeting up with other Christians is a wonderful encouragement: be that Christians in Rwanda, or Christians in Formby. God has given us the church to encourage us and it's why coffee time after each service at St Luke's is almost as important as the service itself: we get to spend more time together, catching up and encouraging one another. I should add as I finish, that Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October was also a delight: being back in Formby and spending time with everyone at St Luke's.

With every blessing,

#### Matt

#### CHURCH REGISTER FOR OCTOBER

#### Funerals:

6th October - Nigel Tootill

12<sup>th</sup> October – Gemma Owen (burial of ashes)

19th October – James Glen (burial of ashes)

23rd October – Sheila Wagstaff

## DATES AND NOTES

**SERVICES** – The wearing of face coverings and social distancing are no longer necessary in church. However, it is totally acceptable for those who wish to wear face coverings and socially distance to continue doing so. Zoom is no longer in operation. Services for Nov on page 10.

**PRAYER CHAIN** – Please contact **Philip Lowe** if you know of someone who would appreciate prayer support (<u>p.h.lowe50@btinternet.com</u>).

**PASTORAL SUPPORT** – If you, or someone you know would appreciate a visit from our pastoral team please telephone Hillary Griffin (871846) or Jean Watts (877662) (Pastoral Care Co-Ordinators). Jean is also Vulnerable Adults Officer.

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT** – If you would like to financially support the work of St Luke's, offerings may be placed on the plate near the back of church. There is also a card reader by the entrance. If you would prefer to donate from your bank account, there are various ways including the Parish Giving Scheme (parishgiving.org.uk) or ask Matt or the Wardens if you need any further information.

**SOUTHPORT SOUP KITCHEN / FOOD BANK** – non-perishable items may be left in the church porch; ongoing – see page 18 for Harvest collection.

SHOEBOX APPEAL – see page 3.

CHURCH VISIT TO SHYIRA (RWANDA) - see page 16.

**PCC MEETING** – Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov in the Meeting Room 7.30pm.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH - Sun 5th Nov.

**ARMISTICE DAY** – Sat 11<sup>th</sup> Nov. **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY** – 12<sup>th</sup> Nov.

ALL SAINTS' DAY – Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Nov. ALL SOULS' DAY – Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov – see page 17.

ST ANDREW'S DAY – Thurs 30<sup>th</sup> Nov – see page 22.

#### **ASSOCIATION OF FORMBY ARTISTS (AFA) AUTUMN EXHIBITION**

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> Nov in Holy Trinity Church Hall. Open from 9.30 to 4.30pm. Admission £1.00.

#### NOTICES

## REV CANON ANNE TAYLOR APPOINTED THE THIRD ASSOCIATE ARCHDEACON IN OUR DIOCESE

Congratulations to Rev Anne Taylor who has been appointed as our third Associate Archdeacon. Anne will support Archdeacon Pete in Sefton and Knowsley whilst remaining as Area Dean of Sefton North with Rev Poppy Thorpe appointed Assistant Area Dean.

Anne joins Rev Harry Wood and Rev Robert Clack who were announced as Associate Archdeacons for Warrington and St Helens and Liverpool earlier this year.

#### TUESDAY LUNCH, OPEN DOOR SATURDAYS & CRAFTY FOLK

**Tuesday Lunch –** soup, sandwiches, cake & company from 12 - 2 on  $1^{st}$  and  $3^{rd}$  Tuesdays each month,  $7^{th}$  &  $21^{st}$  November. Donations for lunch welcome.

**Open Door Saturdays –** coffee, tea, cake, and a chat from 10 - 12 on  $4^{th}$  and  $18^{th}$  November and  $2^{nd}$  December. Why not drop in and say 'hello' – you will be made very welcome.

**Crafty Folk -** Do you like your crafting? Is it hard to find time to sit down and enjoy your craft? We are a small group who like to meet up once a month to knit, sew etc. How about joining us? We meet during an Open Doors coffee morning so there are always refreshments! If you fancy a couple of hours to yourself, time to craft, time to chat, speak to Anne, Gwyneth, or Jean.

#### SHOEBOX APPEAL

All boxes are opened at the dispatch centre in order to check on any items which are not allowed. In the past, some boxes have been beautifully wrapped with Christmas paper. This is a waste as any wrapping will be torn off in the inspection.

Don't forget you can help by making a donation to cover the costs of processing and shipping. There is a QR code in the leaflet if you picked one up with your box. From this you can download a bar code for inclusion in your box. Alternatively, you can visit samaritanspurse.org.uk/followyourbox. Giving online will make your donation go further, and they will be able to tell you which country your shoebox gets sent to.

Matt will give a blessing to the boxes on **Sunday 5**<sup>th</sup> **November**. The last date for placing filled boxes in church is **Sunday 12**<sup>th</sup> **November**. During the following week boxes will be uplifted and taken to the collection centre which will most likely be Christ Church in Southport.

Thank you for your support!

**David Moore** 

#### LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SHOW – ADVANCE NOTICE

The first week in December will see the return of last year's "must see" Christmas light and sound show 'The Light Before Christmas'. From 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> December this special tradition will prepare everyone for Christmas. Last year's sell out event wowed audiences and became a "must see" Christmas event. This year, Peter Walker is returning with his award-winning artistic collaboration Luxmuralis performing "Light Before Christmas: The Manger", the second of The Light Before Christmas series.

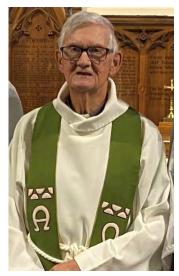
This beautiful, immersive experience will take visitors on an incredible journey through the Nativity story celebrating the true magic of Christmas. Festive food will be available to purchase from the Welsford Bistro throughout the event.

1st – 8th December

4.30-8.30pm every day except Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday when it finishes at 7.30pm. Please call 0.3448000410 Mon-Frid 9-5.00pm.

#### ROY DAVID BAKER 9 MAY 1936 - 21 AUGUST 2023

#### by Barbara and Justine



Roy David Baker was born at No. 2 Cecil Road, Seaforth, in a private nursing home; the second son of Captain Cyril Baker and Beryl Baker and brother to six-year-old Bob. The family were on their way to India to join Cyril, who was serving with the King's Regiment (Liverpool). The Bakers returned shortly before War broke out and settled in the village of Dordon, near Beryl's hometown of Tamworth, Staffordshire. It was here that Roy was introduced to church. He was caught scrumping apples from the next-door vicarage garden. Instead of scolding him, the vicar offered him the best apples and called the following Sunday to ask if he could take Roy to church.

Aged 9, the family moved to 'Rob Roy', 141 Lonsdale Road, Formby, when Cyril took up a post at Harrington Barracks. Roy attended Holy Trinity School and Church, where he joined the choir and received sixpence for ringing the bell before services. He later

attended Bickerton House School in Birkdale, followed by Southport Technical College. Roy was far from a model pupil, renown for peddling cigarettes in the playground and throwing convent girls' hats out of train windows!

In Formby, friendships were formed with the mischievous members of the 'Toad Club', who would later turn up at local churches and heckle his sermons and who attended Barbara and Roy's wedding dressed as priests purporting to be from the local seminary!

Bob followed in Cyril's footsteps and joined the King's Regiment. Although Roy was enormously proud of his family's connection to the King's Regiment, his own experience of the army during National Service at Harrington Barracks was not a happy one. Several temporary jobs followed including at Tate and Lyle in Liverpool. On his daily commute, Roy used to pass a billboard on which was written: 'Do you live for the weekends?' This caused him to question the direction his life was taking and to begin discussions with his vicar about going into the ministry.

In 1956, Roy was accepted for ordination training at Bernard Gilpin Society, Durham, and went on to study for his Diploma in Theology at St Aidan's College, Birkenhead. At Durham, there were three students in his year called Roy. They were asked if any of them had a middle name. Henceforth, Roy became known as David. On completion of his training, 'David' Baker was sent as curate to St Michael, Garston, where he met Barbara.

Roy led a Bible Study group which Barbara attended. Needing his surplice washed, he picked

up an advert for a free wash at a new launderette opening along the road where Barbara lived and asked her if she would take it for him. On hearing this, Barbara's aunt was appalled and offered to wash the surplice herself provided Barbara ironed it. Roy turned up to collect the surplice with a box of chocolates and a rather unromantic invitation to the Church Missionary Society Rally at the Philharmonic Hall!

Roy was ordained Deacon on Trinity Sunday 1962 at Holy Trinity, Southport and priested at Liverpool Cathedral on Trinity Sunday 1963. He and Barabara were married in October 1964. Roy's second curacy was at St Cuthbert, Churchtown, where he and Barbara spent four happy years before Roy was appointed to his first living at All Saints', Newton-le-Willows, where Justine was born.



In 1973, Roy was asked to go to St John, Crossens, to rebuild an almost derelict church with an equally derelict vicarage. For five years, the family lived in a temporary vicarage at No. 1 Fell View. On a Sunday morning Roy could be seen in his black cassock and cloak leading a gang of children from the road down to the church like The Pied Piper. Never afraid of getting stuck in and getting his hands dirty, Roy spent hours clearing pigeon droppings from the church tower and mowing the grass in the churchyard.

In 1982, Justine was already at school in Crosby when Roy accepted the offer of St Nicholas', Blundellsands, where he spent the next 19 years.

In each of Roy's parishes there was a huge amount of fundraising to be done. At Newton-le-Willows, the church had borrowed £12,000 to build a new parish hall. The first Roy knew of this was when the bank manager called at the vicarage to pick up the collection! At Crossens, £123,000 was raised to rebuild the church. Next came the refurbishment of the parish hall. At Blundellsands, there were issues with the roof and west window. Roy and Barbara ran endless raffles, jumble sales, buy-a-brick schemes, beetle drives, parish dances, potluck suppers, daffodil teas, and silent auctions.

Each of the parishes also had a church school. Roy served as Chair of Governors, taught RE, held confirmation classes, and conducted classroom Eucharists for the older children and their parents.

Roy was always active in the community. He belonged to Rotary and was Mayor's Chaplain. He also threw himself into his hobbies, or 'fads' as Barbara called them! These ranged from learning to play the guitar to keeping fish and budgies, golf, birdwatching, and jogging. The one hobby that stuck was HiFi and classical music.

Roy made up for his early lack of academic discipline later in life. Largely self-taught, he was a great advocate for lifelong learning and read widely. He was especially keen on history including classical civilisation, local history, and genealogy.

Roy was meticulous in the preparation of his services. He enjoyed writing and spent hours in his study honing sermons and articles for the Parish Magazine.

When Barbara and Roy retired to Formby in 2001 Roy did not stop working. He covered several interregnums within the diocese including St Luke, Walton, St Paul, Stoneycroft and St Luke, Formby. Roy reconnected with many of his friends from childhood through Probus, U3A and Tin Tabs Bowling Club as well as joining a local music appreciation group and forming an exclusive book club with his great friend, Roger Wikeley.

Barbara and Roy were lucky enough to travel extensively both before and after their retirement, often attending or taking part in ecumenical services abroad.



In Roy's words, he and Barbara found a home and warm friendship at St Luke's and, until last year, Roy was still helping out when needed. He was determined to celebrate his 60th anniversary of priesting at St Luke's on Sunday 18th June this year: the longest serving priest in the Liverpool Diocese who had spent all his ministry in the diocese. Barbara has been a steadfast support to Roy throughout his life and ministry and has given a great deal of service as a clergy wife to the parishes in which he served.

Roy has been described in tributes as a rather unconventional priest. It was his humanity that drew people to him. His warm personality and mischievous nature made him good company. He had a gift for bringing people together and into the church, be it through youth clubs, parish weekends at Rydal Hall or pilgrimages to the Holy Land

and the Seven Churches of Asia. Many people have said that Roy was present at some of the most important times in their lives. His ability to connect with people was never more apparent than during the rites of passage of birth, marriage, and death and in times of trouble.

(Cont. on page 6)

One of the great joys in the last few months with Roy was reading poetry together. His favourite poem, The Road Not Taken by Robert Frost, explores the theme of choice and its consequences. In recent months, Roy had been thinking a lot about his own choices.

Roy faced several forks in the road during his life, some of which challenged his direction and his faith. The path he chose was not an easy one, but he was very content with it and grateful for all the blessings it had brought him -60 years of faithful service to God; a marriage of almost equal length; many friendships, and a continual thirst for knowledge.

If we have lived a long and fulfilled life, broadened our perspective, loved, and been loved and touched other people's lives for the better, we have been blessed indeed. Roy achieved all these things and much more.

## WRITTEN IN MEMORY OF THE REVD ROY DAVID BAKER by Retired Vicar Revd Ian Mainey

#### PHOEBE

Roy, or David as Barbara called him, was a member of the Bible study group that met in our home. He was not an 'official' member, but Barbara asked if he could come along when he was physically able to join in the group study. Roy said that he would sit in the lounge chair and just listen to those of us gathered round the table, but those of us who knew Roy had already anticipated that this would not happen and so it was, Roy often contributed to our studies with a comment, insight, or anecdote.

One of the things that Roy would often mention was his sense that Phoebe had been with him, and looking over him, from his calling to the ministry to ministry and onwards. She was to Roy his guardian angel. I did though on occasion remind him that Phoebe was actually the patron saint of women, but this fact never seemed to faze him.

Anyway, having thought I had given up writing magazine articles on retirement I thought I would put pen to paper, or fingers to keyboard, and write a short article on Phoebe, doing so in remembrance of Roy.

Well, those of you who are at present taking part in the Romans home group studies will know that in the first session Phoebe gets mentioned quite a bit. For those who are not in one of the home groups she gets mentioned in Romans 16 which is a fascinating chapter containing quite a few names, some of which are very difficult to pronounce!

The name Phoebe means, 'the shining one', and she was certainly one who appears to have lived up to her name. Not all those of whom Paul wrote were like Phoebe; look at verse 17 for example in chapter 16! It would seem that there were some who were not so much a blessing to the church as Phoebe was but were a hindrance.

But what can we glean about Phoebe? Well, it would seem that she was the one who carried this letter from Paul to the church in Rome for Paul in Romans 16:1. 2a commends Phoebe to them and asks the church in Rome to receive her. Now he mentions three ways in which they were to do this.

• Firstly, they were to receive her 'in the Lord', that is, as a believer just like them. But it may also mean that they were to receive her as they would receive the Lord Himself. I wonder, if the Lord Jesus came to our church or our home, how would we receive Him?

- Secondly, they were to receive her 'in a way worthy of his people'. That is, they were to receive her in an admirable manner as believers should receive one another at all times not only into their homes or into their church but also into their hearts.
- And thirdly, they were also to 'give her any help she may need'. These Christians were to remember that Phoebe would be a stranger in a strange city, and Paul wanted the believers in Rome to give her all the assistance she needed; indeed, he put his request very strongly '... to give her any help she may need from you.' Why? Because she would need their help, their comfort, their guidance, and any support that they could give.

All of this has I believe very practical application for us at St Luke's. Here we see what is required of a church and what real Christian friendship and fellowship is in reality. It's a picture of the truth found in Ephesians 4:25, that 'we are all members of one body'. Paul was very concerned that Phoebe would be well received, loved, and cared for, so he gave this faithful and courageous woman a special word of commendation, and thus gave the believers in Rome special reasons for receiving her.

But there is more to be found in these few verses. The apostle Paul commends Phoebe by mentioning three important things about her.

- First, he describes her as 'our sister'. This meant that she was part of the family of God (Galatians 3:28) and as such was just as much the sister in Christ of these believers in Rome as she was Paul's sister in Christ.
- Secondly, she was 'a deacon of the church......'. In other words, she was an active member of the assembly of believers which met at Cenchrea. She was a deacon, or servant, in her home church and as such ministered to the saints who met there and was also one who was willing to do anything in their power to further the gospel. Is not the truth that many churches, our own included, are indebted to such godly women! God has a special place for them in His work and we should honour them and see that they have the scope to exercise their special gifts.
- And thirdly, Paul says of Phoebe that 'she has been the benefactor of many people, including me'. In other words, Phoebe had been a great help to many people. Someone, like Phoebe, who is a great help, goes to the aid of another to give encouragement and support. The picture that is conjured up here of Phoebe is of one who was gracious, kind, gentle, sincere, and sympathetic. In some special and practical ways of which we know not she had ministered to Paul, and this qualified her to exercise a similar ministry to the believers in the assembly to which she was going in Rome.

So, in closing, let us think of some of the ways we can emulate Phoebe. Let me start off by suggesting a few.

- First of all, by supporting and helping those new to the faith. We can do this in a numerous of ways by coming alongside new believers, by listening to them and encouraging them, suggesting to them that they belong to one of the home groups so that we can all learn together.
- Secondly, by comforting the sorrowing. Maybe Phoebe was a widow, or perhaps she had never been married, or maybe she was an independent businesswoman, but whichever it was she was qualified to help and encourage others in their special circumstances. Today there are those in our church who are carrying a heavy burden or are going through difficult times, often silently; how precious it is for another, someone with the spirit of Phoebe, to come alongside them and share that burden. Related to this is caring for the aged and the infirm. What great souls they often are, and yet can be overlooked and neglected. Some need aid, some need companionship, and others just need to be loved.
- Thirdly, by the ministry of prayer. Do we pray for others? Many who are in the front line of gospel work, like our own vicar Matt, are dependent upon those who, like Phoebe, not only support them but also pray for them.

(Cont. on page 8)

 And finally, by opening our home to the lonely and discouraged. Your home may be small, or it may be large, it may be humble, or it may be grand, but it could be a veritable heaven to some who feel lonely and perhaps even unwanted.

So, Phoebe, the shining one, Roy's guardian angel so to speak, the one who it seems quietly and radiantly reflected the grace and the glory of the Lord. Maybe she's not a bad guardian angel to have whether one be a woman - or a man!

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#### ARTICLE IN CHURCH TIMES ABOUT THE ISRAEL SITUATION

On Sunday (October 8<sup>th</sup>), the Patriarchs and Heads of Churches in Jerusalem, including the Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem, Dr Hosam Naoum, said in a statement: "The Holy Land, a place sacred to countless millions around the world, is currently mired in violence and suffering due to the prolonged political conflict and the lamentable absence of justice and respect for human rights. We, the Patriarchs Heads of Churches in Jerusalem, have time and again appealed for the importance of respecting the historic and legal status quo of the holy shrines. In these trying times, we come together to raise our voices in unity, echoing the divine message of peace and love for all humanity. . .

We unequivocally condemn any acts that target civilians, regardless of their nationality, ethnicity, or faith. Such actions go against the fundamental principles of humanity and the teachings of Christ, who implored us to 'love your neighbour as yourself...

We implore political leaders and authorities to engage in sincere dialogue, seeking lasting solutions that promote justice, peace, and reconciliation for the people of this land, who have endured the burdens of conflict for far too long... We call upon the international community to redouble its efforts to mediate a just and lasting peace in the Holy Land, based on equal rights for all and on international legitimacy."

The Palestinian Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan, Dr Sani-Ibrahim Azar, also issued a statement offering prayers "for the families of innocent civilians".

He continued: "As the language of 'war' is now being used to characterise this violence, it is important to remember that the warfare of today is not isolated... As a Church, we continue to advocate for non-violence; but we also believe it is crucial to understand the circumstances from which violence emerges. In this case, it is a symptom of a people deeply wounded by extended and systematic violence and oppression. The Holy Land has seen unprecedented attacks on religious sites in recent years, which makes our situation even more personal and emotional."

The Archbishops of <u>Canterbury</u> and <u>York</u> issued a joint statement on Saturday that said: "We unequivocally condemn the attacks by Hamas... The way forward must be for both sides to build confidence in a secure future through which Israel and its people can live in security within its internationally recognised borders, and Palestinians have their own state and live in their lands in security, and with peace and justice."

And from St Luke's, we pray Lord that Your comforting and healing presence will be with all those suffering in this dreadful conflict. We pray that love and respect for humanity prevails over barbarism, and that an everlasting peace will one day be achieved in this troubled part of the world. Amen.

#### ST LUKE'S YEAR 6 COLOUR RUN!



On September 29<sup>th</sup>, Year 6 took part in a colour run to raise awareness of diversity. Both classes (6G and 6H) ran around the playground whilst our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors threw non-toxic coloured powdered paint all over the other children in the year group! Everyone that took part absolutely loved it. It was a really good experience and it was a lot of fun, as well as raising awareness about diversity and issues surrounding this.

We value the fact that God made us all different and gave us different skills and talents and we believe that diversity should be celebrated.

As Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, we are passionate about this topic as we work towards our 'Respect' badge from the Diana Award. It also ties in with British Values, especially those of respect and tolerance.

#### Written by Alice and Isla M - Year 6 pupils in 6G



#### ST LUKE'S NATIVITY COLOURING COMPETITION

AGE CATEGORIES: 4 years and under; 5 -7 years; 8 - 11 years

Create either your own A4 size picture or colour in the drawing provided by magazine illustrator Joan MacDonald of the Nativity (birth of Jesus) which is available in school from Wednesday 1 November. Write CLEARLY on the back of your entry your NAME, AGE, CLASS, and hand it to your class teacher on/by **Friday 24 November**.

Prizes will be awarded to the winners of the 3 age categories at the end of term assembly in church by senior teachers with the overall winner presented with the Barbara Mossop Trophy.

#### SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2023

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

11.00am Holy Communion CW

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November – 4 before Advent

8.30am Holy Communion BCP 10.30am All-age Service with

Holy Communion CW

4.00pm Memorial Service

Sunday 12th November – REMEMBRANCE

8.30am Holy Communion CW

10.30am PARADE

Sunday 19th November – 2 before Advent

8.30am Holy Communion BCP 10.30am Holy Communion CW

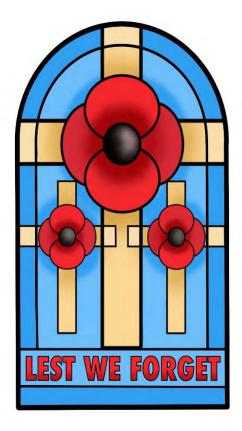
with Children's Church\*

Sunday 26th November – 1 before Advent

8.30am Holy Communion CW 10.30am Morning Service

With Children's Church\*

(\*Term time only – Kids@StLuke's)



Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful. (Hebrews 10:23 NIV)

#### PRAYER FOR NOVEMBER

Father God,

November is not many people's favourite month, unless there is a birthday or a delight in bonfires. Short days, sometimes dismal weather can lower our mood. The days of springtime and summer sunshine seem a long way away, whether we look back or forward.

Help us Lord, whatever the month, whatever the circumstances, whatever the mood, to know the reality of Your presence and peace; to treasure each new day and know it is transformed by You into the most precious and beautiful gift. Help us not to waste a single one of them, Lord. Thank you so much for November days.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### By Daphne Kitching - Parish Pump website



#### WHO'S WHO

Vicar Rev Dr Matt Davis

Readers Mrs Anne Dixon

Prof. Allan Hobson Mrs Jean Watts Mr Chris Mulford

Reader emeritus Mr Chris Mulford

Churchwardens Mr Steve Ginn

Deputy Churchwardens Mr John McGibbon
Mrs Sheila Rodger

Treasurer Mr Hugh Dixon
Deputy Treasurer Mrs Gwyneth Croft

PCC Secretary Dr David Hogben

Electoral Roll Officer Mrs Jean Cox

Deanery Synod Representatives Mr Andrew Cox

Mr John Gelder Mrs Hillary Griffin Dr David Hogben

Gift Aid Officer Mrs Rachel Patterson

Legacy Officer Mr John McGibbon

Parish Hall Secretary Mr Steve Ginn
Meeting Room Secretary Mrs Fiona Grieveson

Newsletter Editor Mrs Irene Powell

Magazine Editors Mrs Margaret Cooke

Mr Ken Davies

(Contributions by **10th** of the month – preferably by email – see page 1)

Magazine DistributionMr Colin CookeMagazine CollationMr David MooreMagazine AdvertsMrs Margaret Cooke

Church and Churchyard Maintenance Mr Allan Worthington

Safeguarding Officer Dr Peter Griffin

Child Protection Officer Mrs Joyce Eddlestone

Pastoral Care Co-ordinators Mrs Hillary Griffin

Vulnerable Adults Officer

Mrs Jean watts Mrs Jean Watts

Health & Safety Officer Dr David Hogben

Woodland Workshop Co-ordinator Dr Peter Griffin

Cathedral Representative Mrs Elizabeth Lowe

Church & Mid-African Mission Mrs June McGibbon

Church Administrator Mrs Valerie Hogben

#### WHAT'S ON

**Monthly Prayer Meetings –** See weekly news sheet for details. Monday or Tuesday evenings likely days, 7.30pm in MEETING ROOM.

**Weekly Home Bible Groups** – If you would like to join a group, please speak to Matt. The groups will be looking at Romans this autumn. The course will be video inter-active in nature. **Next What If? Course** – starting late Oct / early Nov– email: <a href="mailto:revmattdavis@gmail.com">revmattdavis@gmail.com</a> for details.

**St Luke's Youth Group** for Y6 children and above from 7.45-9.00pm each Sun during term time. It is led by Liz & Matt in the MEETING ROOM. There are pizzas/snacks; games; and a chance to explore and grow our faith in Jesus. Runs during school term time.

Creche - a creche is available at all 10.30am services.

(Toilet facilities available in the Meeting Room throughout all services).

**Confirmation classes** for juniors and adults are held annually.

**Home Communion –** The Wardens welcome the names and addresses of the sick and elderly who would like Holy Communion at home.

**Baptisms & Weddings –** Contact the Wardens after the 10.30 service.

Woodland Workshop - contact Peter Griffin (871846) for details.

Databassa Osstala Mistriat

**Uniformed Organisations** in the Church Hall unless otherwise stated –

Rainbows	Contact District Commissioner		Sheila Kirk	875393
Brownie Guid	des			
4 <sup>th</sup> Formby	Monday (In Meeting Room)	6.00pm	Julie Maher	07811 907003
8 <sup>th</sup> Formby <b>Guides</b>	Wednesday	6.00pm	Jenette Rowlands	
4 <sup>th</sup> Formby	Wednesday	7.30pm	Julie Clark	833757
Beavers	Thursday (In Meeting Room)	5.45pm (Beavers	John Gelder 8thFormbyStLukes@outlook.co	876456 om)
Cub Scouts	Thursday (In Meeting Room)	6.45pm Cubs8thF	Bob Ford FormbyStLukes@outlook.com)	873026
<b>Group Scout</b>	Leader	Gordon F	Hilbert	874167

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075000

**PCC** – if you would like to communicate a concern to the PCC, **the Standing Committee Members are** Rev Dr Matt Davis (Vicar), Mr Hugh Dixon (Treasurer), Mr Steve Ginn (Warden), Mrs Fiona Grieveson (Warden), Dr David Hogben (Secretary).

Other PCC Members are Mr Andrew Cox, Miss Debbie Davies, Mr Ken Davies, Mrs Ann Dennison, Mrs Anne Dixon, Mr John Gelder, Mrs Hillary Griffin, Dr Peter Griffin, Prof Allan Hobson, Mrs June McGibbon, Mrs Chris Payne, Mrs Sheila Rodger, Mrs Jean Watts.

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#### WHAT'S ON FOR THE 'ELDERLY' IN NOVEMBER

**St Luke's Church** – Refer to pages 2 & 3; page 10 Services; page 12 What's On; & Weekly News Sheets for details.

#### St Peter's Church and Parish Hall (Paradise Lane) - 01704 871171

- Bingo for the elderly every Sun 8.00-9.30pm and Mon 2.00-4.00pm.
- Bacon Barm & Banter Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Nov, 10.30-12noon (1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month except Bank Holidays) in the Bier House (on church site). Free admission, breakfast butties and hot drinks with vegetarian options available. Especially suitable for carers and their loved ones.
- Singing Thursdays! (except for 1st Thurs of the month). Thursdays continue to be full
  of singing in the parish hall. All groups will meet at 2pm (doors open 1.45pm) and finish
  approx. 3.30pm. Free entry and refreshments. Everyone welcome, regardless of
  singing ability (or none), so join us for light-hearted singing. Carers and their loved ones
  especially welcome.
  - o 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Nov Singing for Fun.
  - o 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> Nov Singing is Good for Your Brain!
  - o 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov Singalong with Ian & Geraldine.
  - o 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> Nov extra session of Singing for Fun. A special seasonal event with traditional Christmas music and singing, and seasonal refreshments.

#### **Formby Methodists**

- Coffee Club 1st Tues of each month (7th Nov) 2-4pm see FBS below.
- The Carers' Support Group meets every Fri afternoon 2.00-4.00pm at the Methodist Church. The group is open not only to all carers and the person/s they care for, but also to anyone who needs some additional company or support. Contact Irene for further information on Tel: 876219 or Email: info@formbybefriendingscheme.org.uk

#### Formby Library (01704 874177) - Mon to Fri 10.00-4.30pm and Sat 10.00-1.30pm

- Limited delivery service on offer; enquire at Library for details.
- Open for browsing and computer use.
- Family History Help Desk once a month on a Tuesday. Contact Library for details and book in advance. Started Sept.
- Monthly talks contact Library for updates. Booking a place in advance is always advisable.
- Regular Coffee Mornings (every Thursday 10.30-12noon).
- Creative Writing and Formby Hub drop-in are still happening enquire at Library for details.
- Gardening Club will continue throughout the winter and interested persons can go on the mailing list to be notified about sessions.
- Warm Spaces may be back for the winter awaiting confirmation. Check Library for information.

**Formby Befriending Scheme -** FBS will be holding their Open Coffee Club on the first Tues of each month (7<sup>th</sup> Nov) 2-4pm at the Methodist Church. It is open to older adults who would like to make new friends or just to have some company. For more information, ring: 07437 479 417 or email: info@formbybefriendingscheme.org.uk

**Sefton Dementia Action Alliance –** contact Jan Campbell: <u>jan.campbell@seftoncvs.org.uk</u> for information.

#### ST LUKE'S VISIT TO ST MARK'S SHYIRA



As most readers will know, Matt along with 7 church members recently visited Shyira (2-12 October) to re-establish church links "after the pandemic" between the churches and parishes of St Luke's and St Mark's. Joint Church Warden Fiona Grieveson was one of the group that visited Rwanda and she writes:

"It is very difficult to write about our experience in Rwanda in one short piece, but we shall try!

(Together on the shore of Lake Kivu)

Essentially, the whole visit has left us with many emotions; we were so welcomed by every single person we met in Shyira. We all shared feelings of humility, compassion, and love for all we spent time with. Our aim was, as a group of members of St Luke's Church, to re-establish links with St Mark's Church and parish. We feel we certainly achieved this and much more. We feel that we learned and took away as much as all the people in Shyira thanked us for.

We arrived in Shyira after a very long plane journey, having spent a night in a hotel in the capital Kigali. During our time in Shyira we visited the district hospital, the primary and secondary schools, the cultural centre, Shyira Diocese Cathedral in Musanze, Kivu Diocese Cathedral in Gisenyi, Lake Kivu, Vunga market, and a football match between a team from Groupe Scolaire (the secondary school) and another local team. We met with several groups of people that are supported by, or themselves support, the Church: The Mothers' Union. The Parochial Committee, Representatives from the Widows of the Parish, Orphans of the Parish; those with HIV AIDS, and girls who became pregnant following abuse by men who gave them money to support their families.

It is fair to say each one of us was overwhelmed by what we experienced in the five days we spent in



Shyira. We met people who have next to nothing but are overflowing with love, exuberant hospitality and most importantly a great love of, and trust in, Jesus.

These memories will remain in our hearts forever."

(Matt, Rev Jacques, wife Zilpa and baby Jessa – photo bottom right)

It is hoped a more substantial article with photos will be published in our Dec-Jan edition.

#### ALL SOULS' DAY AND THE MEMORIAL SERVICE

We cannot fail to notice the approach of Hallowe'en, an event which has become increasingly commercialised in recent years. In the midst of the arrays of black and orange outfits and decorations in the shops, how many of us are aware that October 31 is the eve of All Hallows, more commonly known as All Saints' Day, when the Christian church commemorates saints and martyrs? Even less well known is the fact that the following day, November 2, is designated as All Souls' Day, when several Christian denominations remember those who have died; this date was fixed by Abbot Odilo of Cluny around 1030 AD. In the Church of England, the day is also known as the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed.

The collect, the special prayer for All Souls' Day, reflects this:

"Listen kindly to our prayers, O Lord, and, as our faith in your Son, raised from the dead, is deepened, so may our hope of resurrection for your departed servants also find new strength."

Here at St Luke's, on the Sunday closest to November 2, a special memorial service is held at 4pm. This is open to anyone who would like to remember someone they love; it does not matter if the funeral was held in church, or how recently the person died. It is a quiet, peaceful time in memory of a loved one. Some people come as a family group while others come alone. Some people welcome time for a cup of tea and a chat after the service while others prefer to slip away quietly.

It is not always possible to attend the funerals of family and friends; work and family commitments, long distances to travel and health issues may prevent us from doing so. Some years ago, distance and family commitments meant that only one of us could attend the funeral of a close friend. My husband travelled to the funeral service, and I attended the memorial service at St Luke's shortly afterwards. It was the first time that I had been to such a service, but that hour provided me with the space to give thanks for a long friendship and to pray for my friend's family.

#### Hillary Griffin – PCC Member

(The Memorial Service at St Luke's this year is on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 4.00pm)

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#### THOUGHT FOR NOVEMBER



November to me will always be about red poppies and remembrance.

The work of the Royal British Legion (RBL) – UK Charity since1921 - is legendary in its support for men and women who not only currently serve in our military, but also for veterans and their families throughout life. The annual Poppy Appeal in November around remembrance is by far their biggest fundraising appeal – an appeal which focuses upon all those who have died in conflicts from the beginning of the First World War right up to the present day in the service of

their country. If ever there was a worthy cause, this has to be it! There is much written about the sterling work of the RBL on the internet.

The Kohima Epitaph, the epitaph engraved on the Memorial of the 2<sup>nd</sup> British Division in the cemetery of Kohima (North-East India) reads: "When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow, we gave our today." Does this have echoes of Jesus on the cross? **KD** 

#### HARVEST FESTIVAL AT ST LUKE'S 2023

I was amazed when on entering the church on Harvest Sunday, to see how much was already there from St Luke's School, Habla Nursery and our own congregations. Most of you know I've been involved with the Southport Soup Kitchen (SSK) for many years and we at St Luke's have always collected a wonderful amount of produce for them. This year though, after all tins and dried goods were together, I believe was a bumper collection – 'bumper' was the word used by the volunteers at the Soup Kitchen when we delivered on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

Firstly though, I must thank everyone for contributing, then the men with strong arms who loaded up my car (even the front passenger seat) and David and Valerie who helped me



and the SSK volunteers unload. I was concerned about my suspension, as someone mentioned, and I did drive very carefully until the drop off was made. Pete (SSK) does the sorting downstairs and he had plenty to keep him busy.



After dropping off the Harvest goods and financial donations I drove Doreen around to deliver bags of food to those in need and who are unable to get to the Soup Kitchen as guests. I have done this before and find it very humbling to see how some people are living. There is one person I know of who is living homeless with his dog and I worry about him with the cold weather coming. Some in accommodation do have a roof over them but conditions are not great with newspaper on

windows or not being able to get outside due to health issues; another who loves painting pictures is finding it difficult as his sight deteriorates.

The SSK operates totally with volunteers, and they feed around 100 guests at the weekend and not many less than that on the Wednesday when everyone of the guests takes food away as well as getting hot food on the day. The SSK also makes around 20 deliveries regularly in the area. People from Formby go to the Soup Kitchen too. Items are also put aside for children at Christmas - toys, books, and toiletries. They have a stew team. It is a fantastic charity and many benefit from it.



Thank you all for helping me and the Soup Kitchen provide a very necessary service in this day and age.

#### Maggie

......

#### **SMILE LINES -**

It is told of the great preacher C H Spurgeon that after preaching at length one Sunday he said: "I don't mind people looking at their watches, but I do dislike them holding them to their ears, to see if they are still going."





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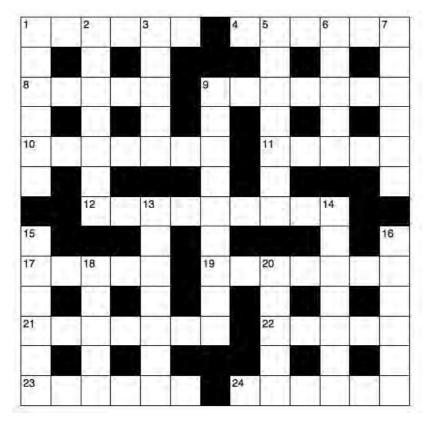
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#### **CROSSWORD**



#### **Across**

- 1 'The Lord Jesus... took bread, and when he had given —, he broke it' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (6) 4 'He has taken me to the banquet hall, and his over me is love' (Song of Songs 2:4) (6) 8 Surrey town that hosts the National Christian Resources Exhibition (5) 9 Also known as Abednego (Daniel 1:7) (7) 10 Liken (Isaiah 40:18) (7) Α son of Etam, descendant of Judah (1 Chronicles 4:3) (5) 12 A part of the temple where the blood of a young bull was to be smeared (Ezekiel 45:19) (9)
- 17 'They make many promises, take false and make agreements' (Hosea 10:4) (5)
- 19 Roman province to which Paul returned after evangelizing it on his first missionary journey (Acts 16:6) (7)
- 21 Material used to make baby Moses' basket (Exodus 2:3) (7)
- 22 'And feeble as —, in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail' (5)
- 23 'The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep to his voice' (John10:3) (6)
- 24 Stalk carrying the sponge of wine vinegar given to Christ on the cross (John 19:29) (6)

#### **Down**

- 1 Elijah dug one round the altar he built on Mount Carmel and filled it with water (1 Kings 18:32) (6)
- 2 I am not of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes' (Romans 1:16) (7)
- 3 Buddhist term relating to belief in reincarnation (5)
- 5 Damascus disciple who, at God's command, restored the sight of the blinded Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9:12) (7)
- 6 and 16 Horses: their sound (Jeremiah 50:11) (5) and their gait (Joel 2:4) (6)
- 7 A three (anag.) (6)
- 9 Athenian council addressed memorably by Paul (Acts 17:22) (9)
- 13 Abide by (Galatians 3:5) (7)
- 14 Persian princes (Daniel 3:2) (7)
- 15 Force (Galatians 6:12) (6)
- 16 See 6 Down (6)
- 18 Paste (anag.) (5)
- 20 How the cedars of Lebanon are described (Isaiah 2:13) (5)

(SOLUTION ON PAGE 24)

#### SUDOKU

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**MEDIUM** 

(SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 24)

#### WORDSEARCH

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#### St Andrew

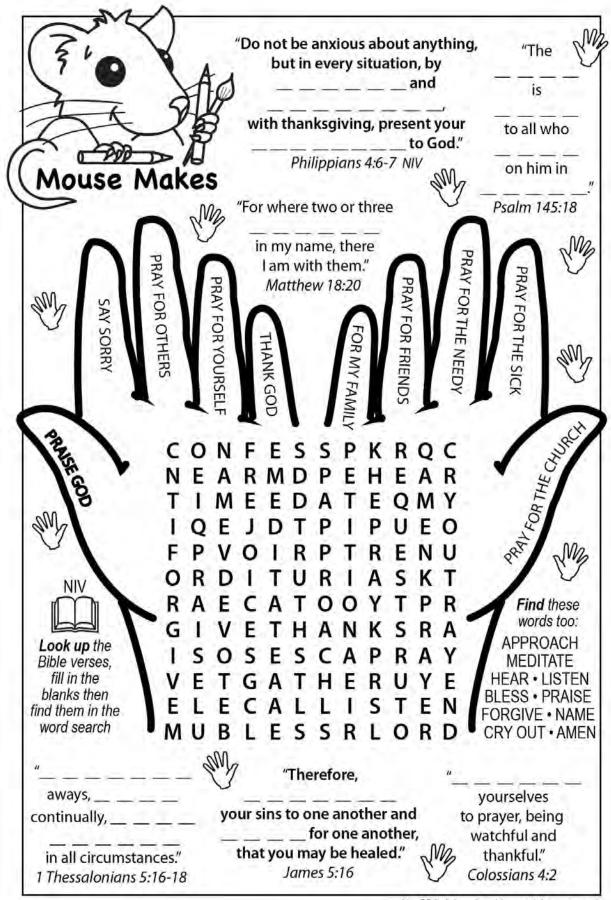
This month, on 30th November, Scotland remembers one of the very first disciples of Jesus. St Andrew is honoured not for any mighty deeds of his own, but for his love of introducing people to Jesus. He went straight off and introduced his brother Peter to the Saviour and followed that up by bringing Nathanael/ Bartholomew to Jesus. 'Better Together' seems to have been his slogan! 'We have found the Messiah!', he told them, unable to keep the good news to himself. Andrew's connection with Scotland dates to the claimed translation of his remains from Patras in Achaia to Scotland in the eighth century. The church in Fife where these remains were buried became a place of pilgrimage during the tenth century. All of this

may be no more than a pious legend. However, that St Andrew was highly regarded in Scotland and became its patron saint is beyond doubt.

Scotland disciples Jesus Andrew honoured Peter Nathanael Bartholomew Messiah Saviour Patras Archaia\* eighth remains translation Fife pilgrimage tenth pious patron

saint love introducing place

<sup>\*</sup>Think it should be Achaia as in text, but spelt Archaia in the wordsearch – homework for you!



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#### SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

EASY MEDIUM

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#### CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

**ACROSS**: 1, Thanks. 4, Banner. 8, Esher. 9, Azariah. 10, Compare. 11, Ishma. 12, Doorposts. 17, Oaths. 19, Galatia. 21, Papyrus. 22, Frail. 23, Listen. 24, Hyssop.

**DOWN:** 1, Trench. 2, Ashamed. 3, Karma. 5, Ananias. 6, Neigh. 7, Reheat. 9, Areopagus. 13, Observe. 14, Satraps. 15, Compel. 16, Gallop. 18, Tapes. 20, Lofty.

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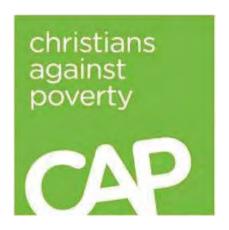




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