

# Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine



Spring Time At Last!

(Photo courtesy of Jane Holden)

**Serving the Community**

[www.ainsworthparish.org.uk](http://www.ainsworthparish.org.uk)

May 2024

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## Parish Diary May 2024



- Weds 1<sup>st</sup> 6.30pm MidWeek Praise
- Sun 5<sup>th</sup> **THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
10.30am Holy Communion  
11.30am Interment of Ashes of Josephine White  
6.30pm Evening Prayer
- Weds 8<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm MidWeek Praise
- ASCENSION DAY**
- Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Mission Community Prayer Journey (*begins at Christ Church Walshaw*)  
11.00am Mission Community Prayers at Ainsworth  
7.30pm Ascension Day Communion Service
- Sun 12<sup>th</sup> **THE SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION**  
8.00am BCP Communion  
10.30am Church Parade  
11.30am Interment of Ashes of Derek Hartley
- Tues 14<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Coffee & Conversation (*Ainsworth Church & Community Hall*)
- Weds 15<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm MidWeek Praise
- Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm Police And Community Together Meeting
- Sat 18<sup>th</sup> 11.00am Church Spring Fair (*Ainsworth Church & Community Hall*)
- Sun 19<sup>th</sup> **THE DAY OF PENTECOST**  
10.30am Holy Communion
- Tues 21<sup>st</sup> 1.30pm Interment of Ashes of Bill White
- Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> 6.30pm MidWeek Praise
- Sun 26<sup>th</sup> **TRINITY SUNDAY**  
8.00am BCP Communion  
10.30am View From The Pew (*followed by refreshments & Lucky Lotto draw*)
- Weds 29<sup>th</sup> 1.30pm 'I-Spy Nature' Family Event
- JUNE

Sun 2<sup>nd</sup>

## FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

10.30am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evening Prayer

### Interregnum Update

*“Challenges are gifts that force us out of our comfort zone to search for a new centre of gravity.”*

I'm not sure who these wonderful words were first attributed to, but what a great way of thinking about the many things that threaten to upset our equilibrium, seemingly on a daily basis, in every aspect of our lives!

And with the subtle shift of mindset encouraged by these words, what a hugely positive way to look at this period of interregnum; not as a difficult time that we 'just have to get through', but as a series of opportunities for us to try different things, for individuals to develop new skills, and for us all to grow in faith, as we search for that new centre of gravity together.

Whilst in many ways things at Christ Church Ainsworth have settled into a 'new normal' as the interregnum continues, there will always be new challenges to encourage us to keep learning and keep growing.

One of the ongoing challenges of this interregnum, is the difficulty in finding Clergy to cover our various Services; due to the number of vacancies within our Mission Community, the demand for Clergy cover is at an all time high. Whilst we are incredibly fortunate (and grateful!) to have so much input from Revd Debra and Revd Elaine, it is unrealistic for us to expect them to be able to cover all of our Services, plus the additional Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals and Interments of Ashes which form such an important part of the life of our Church. As time goes on, some of the Clergy who have provided cover move to different areas, take on new roles, retire – and so the pool diminishes further.

But being mindful of those opening words; there must be a way for us to look at this with a positive mindset; what if this is actually an opportunity to encourage others to play a more active part in mission and ministry within our Church? What if this is an opportunity for those who may feel called, but aren't quite sure what that calling looks like?

And so, after much discussion and consultation at various levels ... ladies and gentlemen, we bring you '*View From The Pew*', a Service for the people, led by the people.

Whilst we will continue to do our utmost to get Clergy cover for as many Services as possible, 'View From The Pew' is a Service which can be used at times when we are unable to get cover, or when cover is cancelled at short notice due to illness or unforeseen circumstances.

In line with Canon Law, the Service will be led by one of our Churchwardens, with the 'sermon slot' being an opportunity for a member of our congregation to speak about something or someone that has inspired their faith; the work or volunteering in which they are involved and how that has helped them to grow in faith; it could even be a reflection on a book which has inspired them, or a passage in the Bible from which they take great strength – the choice is yours.

If you are reading this and feeling that it's a gift; an opportunity; a nudge from above to try something different; to step out of your comfort zone; to be a part of that new centre of gravity – we would love to hear from you!

*Alison Hartley – Churchwarden (on behalf of the PCC)*

## **And A Cautionary Tale ...**

A mouse, looking out of a hole in the wall, spotted the farmer opening a package; he was terrified to see that the package contained a mouse trap, and ran out to the farmyard to warn everyone,

"There is a mousetrap in the farmhouse!!"

The chicken scratching about in the dirt replied, "Little mouse, I can see that this would cause you some concern, but actually it doesn't affect me at all." And so, the chicken continued to scratch about in the dirt.

The mouse went to tell the sheep, but got a similar response, "Sorry little mouse, I'm not sure there's much I can do, but I'll hold you in my prayers ..."

The mouse went and told the cow about the mouse trap, "But am I in any danger, little mouse?" asked the cow, "I think not".

Sad and disappointed, the mouse returned to the farmhouse. That night, a noise and a commotion was heard as the mousetrap claimed it's first victim. The farmer's wife came into the kitchen to see what she had caught; in the darkness, she didn't realise the trap had caught the tail of a venomous snake – the snake sank it's fangs into her ankle.

The farmer's wife was rushed to hospital. To comfort her, the farmer killed the chicken so that he could make his wife a tasty, nourishing soup to help her to recover.

The farmer's wife did not get better. The neighbours from all around came to visit and console the farmer; the farmer killed the sheep to feed all of his neighbours when they visited.

The farmer's wife died, and so the farmer sold the cow to the slaughterhouse to pay for the cost of his wife's funeral.

The next time someone tells you their problem or concern; think twice before you decide it's really not your problem. The apathy of the 'good' can be equally as damaging as the wickedness of the 'bad'.

## **Editor's Spot ...**

Welcome to the May 2024 edition of Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine, which is once again full of interesting articles, updates and information.

Whilst the youth and uniformed organisations have been enjoying a well earned rest over the Easter break, there is still a huge amount of activity going on within our Church and wider community.

Alongside all of our regular weekly / monthly activities, dates for the diary include our Mission Community Prayer Journey; the Church Spring Fair; an I-Spy Nature event in and around the Church and Churchyard; our annual Whit Gathering, and the inaugural Christ Church Ainsworth Summer Prom Concert on 6<sup>th</sup> July. Make sure you keep an eye on the Parish Diary and the weekly Pew Sheet for updates and further information.

As always, many thanks to those who take the time to send in their reports and articles each month – enjoy the read and feel free to share our Magazine with others if you wish to. *Alison*

## **From The Registers**

Baptisms	We welcome into God's family:
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Lola Pearson
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Ella Pearson
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Toby Lomax

## **Flower Rota**

12<sup>th</sup> May – J. Storey

26<sup>th</sup> May – Mrs. Holden

## Baptismal Tree

Baptisms are a really important part of Church life; an opportunity to give thanks for the gift of a child, but also the welcoming of a new member to God's Church, and the first step in a journey of faith.



As part of our Church's growing and nurturing strategy, we've been considering different ways in which we might nurture the connection we have with families who come to Church for baptisms, and came up with the idea of a Baptismal Tree; those who have been into Church recently may have noticed this wonderful addition, now situated by the font.

Each time a child is baptised, their name and the date of their baptism will be written on one of the small wooden Oak leaves, and placed on the Baptismal Tree within the baptism Service. At the end of a 12 month period, each of the families will be invited to attend a 'Re-light The Candle' Service, at which they will not only re-light their baptismal candle, but also receive their child's Baptismal Leaf to keep as a reminder that they are part of God's family and also part of the life of our Church.

## The Christ Church Ainsworth 50/50 Lucky Lotto!

The April Lucky Lotto draw took place in Church on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April, with the lucky winner walking away with £20-50!

This fabulous fundraiser runs each month; tickets cost £1 each and are available at the back of Church; you can enter as many times as you like!

The Christ Church Ainsworth 50/50 Lucky Lotto is drawn in Church on the last Sunday of each month, when the winner receives 50% of that month's ticket sales!!

To enter simply fill in a '50/50 Lucky Lotto' ticket, then place it in the box at the back of Church; all proceeds to Church funds.

We're aware that not everyone carries cash with them, so to make it even easier, you can now enter the Lucky Lotto via direct payment, either monthly or annually. For more details, please email [ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com](mailto:ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com)

*And Remember ... You have to be in it to win it!!*

## Summer Prom Concert



Tickets are now available for our inaugural Summer Prom Concert, at which we will once again be partnering with members of Farnworth & Walkden Brass Band, for a fabulous evening of musical entertainment.

Come along and enjoy all of the rousing classics, whilst raising much needed funds for our Church.

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July, 7pm; tickets - £7.50 adults, £5 children under 16years, includes refreshments. For more info email [ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com](mailto:ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com) or contact 07952-709041.

## I-Spy Nature



Why not join us for an afternoon of family friendly fun at our 'I-Spy Nature' event on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May from 1.30 – 3.30pm. Follow our I-Spy Nature Trail around the Churchyard to discover which birds, insects, animals and plants share this lovely spot with us; join in with nature themed craft activities; discover some of the fascinating history of our Church and Churchyard.

£2/ child if booked in advance or £2.50/ child on the day, refreshments included.

For more info or to book your place call 07952-709041, or email [ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com](mailto:ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com)

## Whit Gathering 2024 – Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June at 10.45am

This year's Whit Gathering will once again be held on 'The Delph', where we'll be joined by members of Farnworth & Walkden Brass Band as we come together for a short time of outdoor worship.

Refreshments will be available from 10.30am, courtesy of 'The Friends of the Delph Team'; ***please bring your own chair / blanket to sit on.***

## EcoChurch



### Top Tip for May:

“Say no to the mower. Mowing your lawn less, and letting parts of it grow long, saves you time and helps give nature a home. If you want to make an even bigger impact for wildlife, don't mow your lawn or a section of it all until August to help even more animals.”



## Annual Parochial Church Meeting & Vestry Meeting

17 members of our Church were present at our Annual Parochial Church Meeting and Vestry Meeting which were held in Church on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> of April following on from the 10.30 morning Service.

At this meeting the following people were elected to office: Alison Hartley and Chris Haworth, to serve as Churchwardens; Margaret Gillman re-elected to serve a further term on the PCC.

Those present received the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, plus the reports from our various Committees, Groups and Uniformed Organisations.

A copy of the Annual Report will be displayed at the back of Church following the APCM; to receive a copy via email, please contact [ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com](mailto:ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com)

## Children's Society Housebox Collection 2024

March was the annual collection of Children's Society Houseboxes and I would like to thank everyone for responding so well.

Thanks to the generosity of the people locally who have a Children's Society Housebox, or who choose to donate to this appeal annually, the grand total raised this year is: **£424.94!!**

This is a wonderful total to be raised for the valuable work the charity does to help children and young people up and down the country. Our donation along with others will go towards funding the many and varied initiatives that provide practical help and support for children facing abuse, hardship, neglect and bullying.

As can be seen from the picture on the left, last year the Society ran 73 services helping more than 63,000 children directly and 6,000 parents/carers also. It is projects like these that make a huge difference to the daily lives of people across the country. The majority of young people referred to the Society say that the project worker was the first person who really took the time to listen to them, and this means so much.



So, THANK YOU to all the generous boxholders for supporting this scheme and thereby raising money to keep projects running. Your donations really do make the future brighter for young people.

Susan Campbell - Local Secretary The Children's Society

## **Christ Church Ainsworth Spring Fair**

This year our Church Spring Fair will be held on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May from 11 – 2pm in Ainsworth Church & Community Hall. Stalls, games, café and much, much more – make sure you save the date, then come along and join the fun!

The Church Fair is organised by a very small team of volunteers; if you would be willing to help out on the day, or might be available to lend a hand setting the room up the day before, please contact Jan on 07950-960468.



## **Christian Aid Week 12 – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

For more than 75 years, Christian Aid has provided humanitarian relief and long-term development support for poor communities worldwide, while highlighting suffering, tackling injustice and championing people's rights.

During the 1940's, Christian Aid raised more than £80,000 (£3 million plus in today's money) for emergency supplies to support refugees in mainland Europe. Alongside practical assistance, the charity also supported, equipped and enabled partner churches in affected areas to meet the needs of their people.

Since its inception, Christian Aid has supported refugees in many different parts of the world; those who are displaced through conflict, political tension or climate change.

\* Christian Aid supported the establishment of the Voluntary Service Overseas, to enable young people to 'make a difference'.

\* Christian Aid work to educate communities that are in need of support to encourage them to become self sufficient over time.

\* Christian Aid also educate supporters around the world regarding the root cause of poverty, and work with partners overseas to eradicate it.

People often make the mistake of thinking that the charity only supports people in third world countries, but the reality is that wherever in our world there is injustice or deprivation, you can be

pretty certain that Christian Aid will be on the case. Their aim is to ensure that **everyone** has the chance to live a full life, free from poverty.

So, what can we do to help?

Christian Aid week was launched in the 1950's to raise extra funds as support from the Charity was in ever greater demand. This year Christian Aid Week is 12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> of May; during this week we're encouraged to Give, Act and Pray to support the work of Christian Aid.

Our Church has supported Christian Aid for a number of years, both through Christian Aid week giving and also through supporting specific crisis appeals.

This year our main Christian Aid Week 'bucket collection' will be held in church on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> of May; please do your best to join us at this Service, and make a donation if you are able to, but please also hold the work and workers of Christian Aid in your prayers.

## **Thy Kingdom Come 9 – 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024**



Thy Kingdom Come is a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost, for more people to come to know Jesus.

Since it began in May 2016, God has grown Thy Kingdom Come from a dream of possibility into a movement which unites more than a million Christians in prayer, in nearly 90% of countries worldwide, across 85 different denominations and traditions - so that friends and family, neighbours and colleagues might come to faith in Jesus Christ.

Every person, household and church are encouraged to pray during the 11 days in their own way.

Praying for five people to come to know the love of Jesus, is at the heart of Thy Kingdom Come. There are lots of ways to do this. You could write down the names of the 5 people you're praying for on your phone, on your mirror or on a little card as a reminder to pray for them throughout the day. You could use a band and tie 5 knots, each one representing your 5 or maybe each time you drink a cup of tea or coffee, you could remember to pray for them. Or perhaps you could pray during your daily exercise such as running or walking – holding one person each day in prayer then praying for them all collectively on the last day.

As part of the 'Praying For 5' initiative, we've produced some simple bookmarks with spaces to write down the names of the 5 people that you will pray for throughout this period. Make sure you pick your 'Praying For 5' bookmark up next time you're in Church.

*"In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities." Archbishop Justin Welby*

## **Ascension Day – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

During the 40 days after Easter Sunday, Jesus appeared to many different people and did many good deeds.

Jesus also spent a lot of time with his friends, teaching them and praying with them. He told them, "Soon, you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit and receive the power of God. You must tell my story to the people in Jerusalem and to people all over the Earth; tell the people to believe in me even if they can't see me."

On the 40<sup>th</sup> day after Easter Sunday, Jesus and his friends went to The Mount of Olives to talk and pray. Whilst they were there a bright light shone from the sky and a large cloud came down. The cloud wrapped itself around Jesus and he was taken up to the heavens. This is what we call the Ascension.

Jesus's friends remembered what he had told them and returned to Jerusalem to wait for his promised gift of the Holy Spirit.

## **The Day Of Pentecost – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

On the 10<sup>th</sup> day, Jesus's friends and disciples were gathered together praying, when a strange and wonderful thing happened; from out of nowhere came the sound of a rushing wind, tongues of fire appeared to flicker and touch the head of each person in the room, and everyone there was filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages which they had never learned!

The disciples went out into the streets and began to preach the good news of Jesus and the love of God; the people who heard them were amazed when they heard them speaking in so many different languages. Some people were thrilled to be hearing the good news in their own language; other people didn't understand and thought the disciples were drunk.

But then Peter stood up and started to speak to all the people; he explained that no one in the room was drunk and that what they were seeing and hearing was the power of the Holy Spirit.

Peter spoke to the people about some of the prophecies in the Old Testament.

He spoke to them about the teachings of Jesus; he told them that Jesus was truly the Son of God and they needed to accept Him; he told them that they needed to repent of their sins and be baptized, and he explained that if they turned away from their sins and accepted Jesus Christ, they too could receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

On that one day, more than three thousand people became believers in Jesus and were Baptised!

## Raising Awareness – Shared Lives

Shared Lives is a form of support for adults with need, wherein approved individuals or families open their lives to aid older or disabled persons.

Over 10,000 Shared Lives carers in the UK provide

care to people with a wide range of disabilities, illnesses and support needs, including people with learning difficulties, people with mental health problems, older people, care leavers, disabled children becoming young adults, parents with learning disabilities and their children, and ex-offenders.

The goal of Shared Lives is to match the individuals in need of service with others who will be compatible to them to act as 'extended family'. Support may be provided in the individual's own home, as day support, as breaks for unpaid family carers, as home from hospital care, or as a stepping stone for someone who wants to get their own place.

Shared Lives carers in our area are recruited, trained, approved, monitored and paid by Persona Care and Support; for more information visit [Our Services \(personasupport.org\)](https://personasupport.org) or email [sharedlivescheme@personasupport.org](mailto:sharedlivescheme@personasupport.org)



Share your heart & home

Shared Lives is a rewarding way to get involved in a different kind of care.

We're recruiting carers!

Call now on  
0161 253 7211

Find out about our regular open days & job opportunities here  
<https://tinyurl.com/SHLivesDropIn>

Persona  
We're all about you

The poster features a blue background with white text and a white house icon containing two stylized human figures. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner.

## Mission Community News – Thy Kingdom Come



The churches of our Mission Community will be coming together once more, for 'Zoom Prayers', to mark Thy Kingdom Come.

Prayer sessions will be held each evening at **7pm** on Zoom, for approximately 10 minutes, with each of the churches within our Mission Community contributing.

The Zoom prayer sessions are not only a powerful way of easily praying together but are also a great way to begin to get to know people from other churches; if you haven't already joined in, why not give it a go.

Thy Kingdom Come Zoom Prayers will be held at 7pm on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May, and then each evening from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May to Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May. Simply click the link below to take part:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88510585974?pwd=QUdYYjN6bDFoakxpZnBoY2ZDMUFOz09>

## Mission Community Prayer Journey – 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Those who took part in the Radcliffe and Whitefield Mission Community Prayer Walk last year thoroughly enjoyed themselves; the sun shone as a small but intrepid group from Christ Church Ainsworth set off to join up with other members of our Mission Community, ultimately all meeting at St. Thomas's, Radcliffe.

This year's event has been termed a Mission Community 'Prayer Journey'; rather than just walking through our local communities, the plan is for walkers to move from Church to Church, ultimately arriving at St. Thomas's, Radcliffe for lunch and a Service of Holy Communion.

We appreciate that many of our congregation won't be able to walk the entire route, but it would actually be really helpful to have a few 'drivers' on the route to make the return journey a bit easier! Please feel free to join us at any stage of the Prayer Journey either on foot or by car, everyone is welcome.

The Prayer Journey will be held on Ascension Day, Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May;

10am – Meet for Celtic Morning Prayer at Christ Church Walshaw

11am – Prayer & refreshments at Christ Church Ainsworth

12.15pm – Prayer at St. Andrew's, Radcliffe

1.15pm – Lunch followed by Holy Communion at St. Thomas's, Radcliffe.

## **Archdeacon's Visitation**

The Archdeacon's Visitation Service for our Deanery will be held at St. Peter's Church, Bury at 7.30pm on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024; during this Service, Churchwardens across the Archdeaconry are admitted to Office. PCC Members and Sidespeople are also encouraged to attend, to affirm / reaffirm their willingness to serve.

## **Mission Community Prayer**

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church  
In the burning fire of your love,

We lift before you the churches of our mission community and the  
communities where we live and serve you.

Grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of your gospel,  
Bearing with one another in love as You build us together into one  
community.

Always abiding in You, may we be found steadfast in faith and active  
in service.

Open our eyes to see the opportunities you have prepared for us to  
work together in mission in new ways;

Through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen

*Please pray for all of the Churches within our Mission Community –  
Christ Church Walshaw, Christ Church Ainsworth, St. Andrew's,  
Radcliffe, St. Thomas & St. John, Radcliffe, St. Mary, Radcliffe, All  
Saints Stand, St. Andrew's, Hillock and St. George's, Unsworth.*

## **Just A Thought ...**

"Anyone who thinks they are too small to make a difference has never spent the night in a room with a mosquito."





CHRIST CHURCH AINSWORTH

**SPRING**

**FAIR**



**SATURDAY 18TH MAY**  
**11am - 2pm**

**Ainsworth Church & Community Hall**

Cafe Serving Lunch





# **CHRIST CHURCH AINSWORTH 50/50 LUCKY LOTTO!!**



- Only £1/ticket
- To enter simply fill in your '50/50 Lucky Lotto' ticket, then place it in the box at the back of Church.
- Lucky Lotto will be drawn in Church on the last Sunday of each month; the winner will receive 50% of that month's ticket sales!!
- Tickets available at the back of Church
- You can also enter by BACS payment or standing order, for details email [ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com](mailto:ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com)
- All proceeds to Church funds

The next Lucky Lotto draw will take place on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May.

***And Remember ...  
You have to be in it to win it!!***



## *Coffee and Conversation*

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May**

**10.30 – 12 noon**

**Ainsworth Church and Community Hall**

*"A cup of coffee shared with others  
is happiness shared and time well spent."*



# I-SPY NATURE!

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May

1.30 - 3.30pm

Christ Church Ainsworth

- I-Spy Nature Trail
- Nature themed craft activities
- Refreshments included

Fun for all the family!

£2 /child (pre-booked) or £2.50 on the day. All children must be supervised by a responsible adult.

*For more info / to book*

*contact Alison on 07952-709041*

*or email [ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com](mailto:ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com)*



# Summer Prom | Concert

*Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 7pm  
Christ Church Ainsworth  
Church St, Ainsworth  
BL2 5RU*

*Featuring Farnworth & Walkden Brass Band*


*Tickets adults £7.50, children under 16 £5*

*Includes refreshments.*

*To book tickets or for more info email*

*[ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com](mailto:ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com)*

*Or Tel 07952-709041*





## *Candlelight Prayer*



*An oasis of calm at the end of a busy week;  
why not join us for 10 minutes of quiet prayer and  
reflection, each Friday at 8pm on Zoom.*

*Simply click the following link to join in:*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88510585974?pwd=QUdYYjN6bDFoakxpZnBoY2ZDMUFoZz09>

*Or for more info contact Alison on 07952-709041*

*"As the shadows begin to lengthen, be guided by the  
light that shines within you."*





# CHRIST CHURCH AINSWORTH

INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR  
**WHIT GATHERING**

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June**

**10.45am on 'The Delph'**

- **Brass Band**
- **Refreshments available,**  
(courtesy of 'Friends of The Delph')
- **Everyone welcome**





## INVITATION FOR STALL HOLDERS

AINSWORTH FRIENDS OF THE DELPH  
FUNDRAISER  
SUNDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024  
12 NOON – 3PM  
THE DELPH, CHURCH STREET  
AINSWORTH

We are looking for stall holders! We have pitches for local businesses, and for local people to do table top sales of toys, clothes, household goods, bric-a-brac etc.

Only £10 per pitch (paid in advance), contact Paul Buckley for more info [prbuckley2003@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:prbuckley2003@yahoo.co.uk).

Donations for our tombola are welcome. Please drop off at 40 church street, Ainsworth, before 30<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

Donations for cake stall are also welcome on the day.

Look at our facebook page at “ainsworth friends of the delph” to see what we have been doing on the delph.



## **Notices, Acknowledgements & Announcements**

### **Coffee & Conversation**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May**

**10.30 – 12 noon Ainsworth Church & Community Hall**

'A cup of coffee shared with others is happiness tasted & time well spent'

Everyone welcome

### **Mothers' Union April Meetings**

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May**

**2.30pm Ainsworth Church & Community Hall**

Starting with Easter Themed Worship.

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2.30pm at Cosalea Café, Walshaw Rd**

All are welcome at both of these meetings.

### **Christ Church Ainsworth Spring Fair**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

**11-2pm Ainsworth Church & Community Hall**

Why not come along and join us; stalls, games, café and much much more.

Everyone welcome.

### **Summer Prom Concert!**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July; 7pm**

**Christ Church Ainsworth**

A fantastic opportunity to get together & enjoy a great evening of entertainment by Farnworth & Walkden Band. Tickets now available; adults £7.50, children under 16yrs £5, includes refreshments.

### **Candlelight Prayer**

**Each Friday @ 8pm on Zoom**

An oasis of calm at the end of a busy week. Why not join us for 10 minutes of prayer and quiet reflection each Friday evening. Simply click on the link below to take part:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88510585974?pwd=QUdYYjN6bDFoakxpZnBoY2ZDMUFoZz09>

### **Mission Community – Prayer Journey**

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May**

10am Christ Church Walshaw, Celtic Morning Prayer

11am Christ Church Ainsworth, Prayer & refreshments

12.15pm St. Andrew's, Radcliffe, Prayer & comfort break

1.15pm Lunch & Holy Communion St. Thomas & St. John, Radcliffe

Please feel free to join us at any (or all) stage of this journey - everyone welcome.



## Around The Organisations ...

### Transformation - Now!



Thank you, Andrew, for leading us in worship at the beginning of April. We used the MU Manchester Thursday Prayers from YouTube for last year's Eastertide! It's wonderful to have so many resources from Mothers' Union that we can access. Perhaps this is the time to remind you that anyone can search for and use these resources from the MU website. Manchester's 'Thursday Prayers' is now called 'A Moment with God' as compilers were aware that not everyone was available at 12 noon on the 2nd Thursday of the month and these short times of prayer, hymns, readings and reflections can be used at any time.

Our first meeting in May is on Tuesday 7th at 2.30pm in the Church Hall. Andrew will again be leading this meeting. As always, everyone is welcome to come, whether or not you are a member.

We're off out again on the 21st May at 2.30pm. This time, it's coffee, tea and cake at Cosalea Cafe, Walshaw Park House, Walshaw Rd, Bury, BL8 1PY. Everyone is welcome, including non-members but please let me know a couple of days before so that I can make sure that there is enough seating.

Monday May 13th is Bury & Rossendale Deanery Festival at St Mary's, Rawtenstall, starting at 7pm. We appreciate that this is a long way for members to go so understand if you are not able to attend. If anyone is going by car, could they let me know if they are able to accommodate any passengers?

Jennifer White

### From the Archives – May 1999

The inside cover of the Parish Magazine in May 1999 sported a wonderful sketch of children dancing around a Maypole; in the background were tents and stalls – a great reminder of bygone times!

There were a number of additional items in the Parish Diary for May 1999; Christian Aid Week, Gift Day, the Archdeacon's Visitation Service, and the inaugural Ainsworth Parish Church 'Patronal Festival', which involved the Right Revd Christopher Mayfield Diocesan Bishop of Manchester, preaching at the morning Service, and Canon W. R. Hartley preaching at a Festival Evensong to be held later that day.

In News From The Parish, there was a detailed report from the APCM and Vestry Meeting, at which Messer's P. Hinchliffe and J. Maudsley had been re-elected to serve another term as Churchwardens.

Elsewhere, Mothers' Union members were looking forward to the Mothers' Union Rally which was to be held at the Bridgewater Hall; members of the Church Women's Fellowship were heading off on a trip to Glazebrook Farm; the Day School had held a hugely successful Easter Egg Bingo; Rainbows had enjoyed decorating eggs before the Easter break; whilst Beavers and Cubs had been ice skating and pond dipping and were beginning to plan a 'Father and Son' camp.

In May 1999, the 'Face To Face' interview was with Betty Riley, 'A regular contributor to the Parish Magazine'. In May 1999 there were no Weddings recorded from the previous month, but 3 Baptisms and 1 Funeral. The number of Communicants for the previous month was listed as 326, collections were listed as £1462.



## Praying Through The Seasons – Summer ...

*“While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest,  
and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall  
not cease.”*  
*Genesis 8:22 KJV*

In the Celtic year, Summer starts at the beginning of May; it is a time when the world seems full and abundant; the land is awash with warmth and colour, and the sun seems to bring joy to the world. Summer reminds us that there is hope in the world, that the light within can spread to the far reaches of the globe and inspire others. Summer is a time of warmth and growth, but it should also remind us that God wants us to grow and prosper, nurtured and comforted by His warmth and light. Let us remember also that, just as the Sun nurtures us, so we can nurture others.

*God of love, who loves us with a father's love, who laughs when we laugh and suffers when we suffer; bring your light into the dark places; bring your warmth into hearts that are chilled; bring your peace into minds that are troubled; we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord – Amen*

## Space To Share A Prayer – Ascension

Giving and loving God, on this special day we remember your loving actions in this world, the sending of your Son and the glory of your rising from death at Easter.

Thank you that you guide us.

Thank you that we are never alone.

Thank you that we are always surrounded by your love.

Help us to witness your presence in a world that needs your love.

Strengthen us with your Spirit and let your light shine through us.

Amen.

## You Might Like To Read ...

*"Praying The Way with Matthew, Mark, Luke and John", Terry Hinks.*

Through raw and authentic prayers, based on the gospel stories, Terry Hinks leads readers into the heart of the gospels the more clearly to see the needs and joys of today's world. This highly original book helps readers to pray out of, and with, the words of Jesus and to discover the joy of prayer as a two-way conversation – listening as much as speaking to God.

## Top 10 Boys' Names In The UK 2023

According to [www.bounty.com](http://www.bounty.com) – the following were the UK's top 10 boys' names for 2023:

1. Noah
2. Theo
3. Oliver
4. George
5. Leo
6. Freddie
7. Arthur
8. Archie
9. Alfie
10. Charlie

## For All The Saints – May; St. Dunstan

Name: St. Dunstan

Feast Day: 19<sup>th</sup> May

Born: 909

Died: 19<sup>th</sup> May 988

Place of burial: Glastonbury Cathedral

Patron Saint Of: Goldsmiths & Silversmiths.

Of noble birth, Dunstan was educated by Irish monks and visitors at Glastonbury. Later he entered first the household of his uncle, Archbishop Aethelhelm of Canterbury, and then the court of Athelstan, king of the English. Maliciously accused of practicing the black arts, he took refuge with his kinsman Aelfheah (Elphege), bishop of Winchester, who influenced him to become a monk and later ordained him.

Dunstan then lived as a hermit at Glastonbury, where he learned various crafts and music until Athelstan's successor, Edmund I, recalled Dunstan as one of his counsellors. About 943 Edmund made him abbot of Glastonbury, and under Dunstan the abbey became a famous school. Under Edmund's successor, Eadred, Dunstan became the chief minister of state, in which capacity he sought to establish royal authority, to conciliate the Danish section of the kingdom, to eradicate heathenism, and to reform clergy and laity.

On the accession in 955 of King Eadwig (Edwy), however, Dunstan's influence and office were temporarily eclipsed. He apparently quarrelled with Eadwig and was outlawed, being driven to Flanders. At the abbey of Blandinium he studied continental monasticism, which he used as a chief source in restructuring English monasticism when recalled by King Edgar in 957. In the same year, Edgar made him bishop of Worcester and London. In 959 Eadwig died, Edgar became sole king of the English, and Dunstan was appointed archbishop of Canterbury. During this period intellectual activity flourished, and Dunstan personally reformed and reestablished several celebrated monasteries and sponsored missionaries to Scandinavia.

On Edgar's death, in 975, Dunstan secured the crown for Edgar's elder son, later known as St. Edward the Martyr. When Edward was murdered (978) and was succeeded by Ethelred (Aethelred) II, Dunstan's public career abated, and he retired to Canterbury, where he taught at the cathedral school.

When Dunstan died on 19<sup>th</sup> May 988, he was buried in his beloved Glastonbury Cathedral.

## Poems From The Parish (And Beyond ...)

### Friends

Some friends are like flowers;  
They brighten your day,  
Making everyone smile  
In their own quiet way.

Some friends are like Oak trees;  
Deep rooted and strong,  
Always there when you need them  
No matter what's wrong.

Some friends are like Larks;  
Trilling high in the air,  
'Though you can't always see them  
You know they are there.

Some friends are like sun beams;  
They light up each day,  
Touching everyone's lives  
In their own special way.

### Strap Lines

The human brain is a wonderful thing. It starts working the moment you are born and never stops until you stand up to speak in public!

Justice is receiving what we deserve. Mercy is not receiving what we deserve. Grace is receiving what you do not deserve.

During my search for life, I considered atheism, but there weren't enough holidays.

### Time For A Smile

During a priest's sermon, a large plant fell over right behind the pulpit, crashing to the ground. Acknowledging his reputation for long-windedness, he smiled sheepishly and said, "Well, that's the first time I actually put a plant to sleep."

## The Parish Puzzler

How many words can you make from the following letters?

A S C E N S I O N D A Y

### Pent ... Quiz

1. A 5 pointed star, often thought to have mystical significance?
2. Depleted of energy, force or strength?
3. To be sorry and ask for forgiveness?
4. Another name for a snake?
5. A person who works with wood?
6. A 5 sided shape?
7. An apartment situated on the top floor of a building?
8. The full name of a product often referred to as 'turps'?
9. A looped or flowing shape?
10. A sportsperson who competes in 5 different disciplines?

### Quick Bible Quiz

1. Who Baptised Jesus?
2. Who was swallowed by a whale?
3. Who became known as 'Mara'?
4. Who cut off Samson's hair?
5. Who brought Mary the news that she would bare a child?
6. Who did God spare from the Great Flood?
7. Who was the oldest man who ever lived?
8. Who committed the first murder in the bible?
9. Who was converted on the rode to Damascus?
10. Who refused to believe Jesus was alive until he saw him?

(Answers on page 32)

## Sidesmen, Lay Assistant & Prayers Rota

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sidesmen</b>	<b>Lay Assistant</b>	<b>Prayers</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> May 6 <sup>th</sup> Sun of Easter	Mags Gillman	Revd Debra	David Holden
9 <sup>th</sup> May Ascension Day	Chris Haworth Lilian Haworth	Alison Hartley	
12 <sup>th</sup> May Sun after Ascension	Barbara Clarkson Scout Group	N/A Church Parade	Scouts
19 <sup>th</sup> May Day of Pentecost	Susan Campbell Barbara Leigh	Jan Burrow	Jenny Johnson
26 <sup>th</sup> May Trinity Sunday	Jean Ellis Christine Shaw	N/A View From The Pew	David Holden

## Reader's Rota

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Readings</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> May 6 <sup>th</sup> Sun of Easter	Jenny Johnson	Acts 10.44-48 1 John 5; 1-6 John 15.9-17
12 <sup>th</sup> May Sun after Ascension	Scouts	Acts 1.15-17,21-26 1 John 5; 9-13 John 17.6-19
19 <sup>th</sup> May Day of Pentecost	Enid Horrocks	Ezekiel 37.1-14 Acts 2.1-21 John 15.26-27;16.4b-15
26 <sup>th</sup> May Trinity Sunday	David Holden	Isaiah 6.1-8 Romans 8.12-17 John 3.1-17

## Bonus Chuckle ...

An elderly couple were having dinner with friends from their church and while their wives were busy in the kitchen, Billy said, "I can strongly recommend a restaurant we went to last night." Fred asked the name of it; Billy thought for quite a while and said, "What's the name of the flower with prickles you give to someone you love?" Fred replied, "Do you mean a rose?" Turning toward the kitchen, Billy called out, "Rose, what's the name of that restaurant we went to last night?"

## Who's Who

Vicar	Vacancy <a href="mailto:vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk">vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk</a>	01204 398567
OLM	Revd Debra Johnstone	01204 399630
Churchwarden	Alison Hartley Chris Haworth	07952 709041 07855 638450
Church Treasurer	David Holden	<a href="mailto:davelholden@aol.co.uk">davelholden@aol.co.uk</a>
Secretary of the PCC	Vacancy	
Organist	Jenny Johnson	07734976978
Gift Aid & Freewill Offering Secretary	Carole Butler	07379 196608
Safeguarding Officer	Peter Holden	01204 596938
Church Hall Booking		<a href="mailto:bookings@ainsworthchurchhall.co.uk">bookings@ainsworthchurchhall.co.uk</a>
Magazine Editor	Alison Hartley	<a href="mailto:ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com">ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com</a>
Magazine Adverts		
Primary School Head	D Gerrard BA(Hons)PGCE	01204 527484

### Services

Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
10.30am Family Service, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Family & Parade Service  
6.30pm Evening Prayer (BCP) 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday

Weds 6.15pm Mid-Week Praise

Home Communion is available for anyone unable to attend Church due to illness or frailty.

Arrangements for Baptisms, Marriages, Banns of Marriage, and Funerals  
Contact 01204-398567.

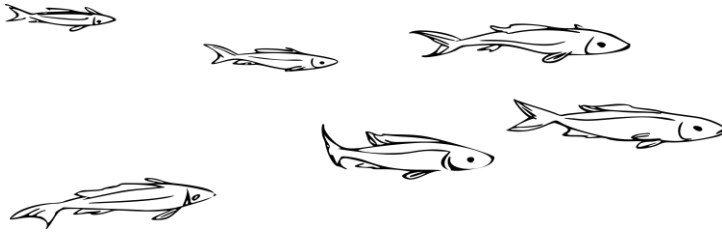
Answers to Pent Quiz: 1) Pentacle, 2) Spent, 3) Repent, 4) Serpent, 5)  
Carpenter, 6) Pentagon, 7) Penthouse, 8) Turpentine, 9) Serpentine, 10)  
Pentathlete

Answers to Bible Quiz: 1) John, 2) Jonah, 3) Naomi, 4) Delilah, 5) Gabriel, 6)  
Noah, 7) Methuselah, 8) Cain, 9) Saul, 10) Thomas.



## Who's Who For Church Organisations

Mothers Union	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month at 7.30pm Branch Contact Jean Eddleston	0161 761 2147
Altar Flowers	Kathy Armstrong Rand	07748 020743
ABC First Steps Toddler Group	Fridays 10.00am - 11.30am Church Hall Jennifer White	07964 587694
Group Leader	group.ainsworth@praws.gmnscoouts.org.uk	01204 595378
Beaver Scouts	Friday at 6.30pm in the Church Hall Leader	
Cub Scouts	Friday at 6.30pm in the Church Hall	
Scouts' 14 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Fridays at 7.45pm in the Church Hall Leader Stacey White scouts.ainsworth@praws.gmnscoouts.org.uk	07742 610281
Explorers	Friday 7.30 – 9.30pm; in the Church Hall Leader John Turner	01204 381590
Brownies 12 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Thursday at 7.00pm to 8.15pm in the Church Hall Brown Owl Polly Ryder	07437 519045
Brownies 16 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Thursday at 6.15pm to 7.30pm in the Church Hall Sarah McAnulty	07955373623
Guides 12 <sup>th</sup> Radcliffe	Thursday at 7.00pm in the Church Hall Captain Polly Ryder	07437 519045



# Little Fishes

Daniel



## People In The Bible

The Bible is a collection of stories that help us to learn about God and God's dealings with people, right from the beginning of the world. The different parts of the Bible are called 'Books'; each Book was written for a special purpose - some books tell us the story of God's chosen people, the children of Israel, some books are filled with wisdom and advice, some books tell us about things which may be in the future; many of the Books of the Bible include stories about ordinary people who played an extraordinary part in history.

### Daniel

Daniel originally came to Babylon with his 3 friends, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; the people of Babylon all liked these men because they were honest and hard working, and for that reason the King of Babylon liked them too, and he always gave them the most important jobs to do.



King Darius particularly liked Daniel, and 1 day, he decided to put Daniel in charge of the whole country. The other servants of the king were very jealous, and they tried to find something that would get Daniel in trouble. but Daniel obeyed God so they couldn't find anything.

Finally, these men said to each other, "We can't find anything that would get Daniel into trouble, the only way we could get him to disobey the king is if we made a law against his god." So, they came up with a cunning plan ... They went to King Darius and said, "O great king, you are so wonderful that no one should pray to anyone but you."



The king said, "That sounds like a great idea!" Then the men continued, "All of your workers have agreed that this should be done and that anyone that prays to any other god should be thrown into the lions den."

The King didn't know that these men were trying to trick him; he really thought that they had asked everyone, and so he made the law, and it was agreed and couldn't be changed.

When Daniel heard about the new law, he did what he always did. He went home and opened the windows that looked out over the city, then he knelt down and prayed to God just like he always had.



The King's servants went to Daniel's house and found him praying and asking God for help, so they ran straight to the king and told him, "Daniel is ignoring your command. We have seen him praying to his God."

When the king heard this, he was very sad. He really liked Daniel and he didn't want him to die. He tried everything to get the law changed to stop Daniel from being thrown in the lions' den, but the servants reminded him that the law could not be changed, and Daniel would have to be punished.

So, eventually the King had no choice - he told his soldiers to go to Daniel's house and arrest him, then they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "I hope your God who you serve and pray to will rescue you!"



A large, heavy stone was rolled in front of the lions' den and all of the people went away, leaving Daniel imprisoned in the den full of lions. That night King Darius couldn't eat or sleep he was so worried for Daniel.

Early the next morning, King Darius went to the lions' den. He stopped a little way off and called, "Daniel, has your God who you serve and pray to rescued you from the lions?" The king waited quietly for a response.



Then all of a sudden Daniel said, "O king, live forever! My God sent an angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me because I have done nothing wrong."

The king was filled with joy and immediately ordered that Daniel be released from the lions' den. When Daniel was lifted from the den, the people were amazed that he was completely unharmed - because he trusted in God.

The king knew now that his other servants had tricked him because they were jealous of Daniel, and so he punished them;



then the king made a new law - he said, "Daniel's God is great, and I order that everyone in my kingdom must respect the Lord God, who rescued Daniel from the hungry lions."

### **So, What Can We Learn From Daniel's Story?**

Throughout the Bible, there are many examples of how God protects his people, even when situations seem hopeless. The story of Daniel shows that God is always in control. He had a special plan for Daniel. Daniel believed and trusted in God; he didn't stop following God's law, even though he knew it would get him into trouble or even get him killed! He was brave and courageous and trusted that God would protect him even when things seemed terrible.

Throughout all of our lives, there are times when things are difficult; we might feel afraid or alone. But God promises to always be with us and to protect us. This doesn't mean that things will always go smoothly or that bad things won't happen; it means that if we believe and trust in God, He will be with us and show us how to use all things (both the good AND the bad) for good in our lives.

### **Prayer Time ...**

Thank you, Father God, for protecting and caring for me, and my family and my friends. Thank you for the good times that we enjoy and help us to remember when things aren't go so well, that You have promised always to be with us, to protect us and to help us, if we believe and trust in You. Amen

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