Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine



Harvest At Christ Church Ainsworth

Serving the Community

www.ainsworthparish.org.uk

October 2024

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Front cover ... Photograph courtesy - Harvest

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Parish Diary October 2024



Weds 2 nd	6.30pm	MidWeek Praise		
Thurs 3 rd	7.30pm	'The Prayer Course'		
	·	NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY		
Sun 6 th	10.30am	Holy Communion		
	11.30am	Interment of Ashes of May Wood		
	6.30pm	BCP Evening Prayer		
Tues 8 th	10.30am	Coffee & Conversation (Ainsworth Church &		
		Community Hall)		
Weds 9 th	6.30pm	MidWeek Praise		
Thurs 10 th	6.30pm	'The Prayer Course'		
		HARVEST SUNDAY		
Sun 13 th	8.00am	BCP Communion		
	10.30am	Harvest Service & Church Parade		
	6.30pm	Celtic Harvest Compline		
Weds 16 th	6.30pm	MidWeek Praise		
Thurs 17 th	6.30pm	'The Prayer Course'		
		TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY		
Sun 20 th	10.30am	Holy Communion		
	6.30pm	"Be Still" – a time of contemplative prayer &		
		quiet reflection		
Weds 23 rd	1.30pm	Tree Trail & Autumn Crafts Family Event		
Thurs 24th	6.30pm	'The Prayer Course'		
		BIBLE SUNDAY		
Sun 27 th	8.00am	Celtic Morning Prayer		
	10.30am	Holy Communion (followed by refreshments		
		& Lucky Lotto draw)		
Weds 30 th	6.30pm	MidWeek Praise		
Thurs 31st	7.30pm	'The Prayer Course'		
		ALL SAINTS SUNDAY		
November				
Sun 3 rd	10.30am	Holy Communion		
	6.30pm	Service To Remember The Departed		

Interregnum Update

"Sharing good news, spreads hope like ripples." (Unknown)

Amidst the busyness and uncertainty of Parish life during interregnum, it's great to have some good news to share, and if sharing good news spreads ripples of hope, then so much the better.

The first piece of good news relates to the vacancy at Christ Church Ainsworth; it's just over 18 months now since Revd Dave retired – and the vacancy has finally been advertised! At last, it seems that the wheels are starting to turn, and things are beginning to move. Let's hope and pray that the coming months will bring us closer to having a new Incumbent in post.

And if that didn't spread enough ripples of hope, the next piece of good news, relating to our Parish Share, must surely get the water moving!

Parish Share is calculated for each Church, based on the figures collected during the annual income and attendance surveys carried out in October each year; usually each Church's Parish Share is reviewed by the Diocese every 3 years, however this review process hasn't happened within our Deanery since 2019. Our Church, along with many others, has significantly fewer regular attenders now than pre-pandemic, and correspondingly has seen a significant reduction in income. Since 2019, our Parish Share has been set at an eye watering £45k / year; not surprisingly for the last few years, despite the generosity of our worshipping community and our additional fundraising efforts; we have struggled to pay even 50% of this figure.

Whilst we all know that we can't pay what we don't have, the need to pay the Parish Share places a huge burden on those who must decide where dwindling Parish finances are allocated to. Failure to pay the Parish Share also has far reaching implications in terms of other grants / funding which Parishes may be eligible to apply for.

However, following a long overdue review, the Diocese have proposed that our Parish Share should be reduced, with immediate effect, to £22.5K / year – a massive 50% reduction. What's more, if we can achieve this figure by the end of 2024, we'll be eligible for a further small discount on our Parish Share in 2025, and also able to apply for the various grants which are available from the Diocese for building repair and maintenance.

Now that's not just good news - it's amazing!

Alison Hartley – Churchwarden (on behalf of the PCC)

Editor's Spot ...

Welcome to the October 2024 edition of Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine, which is as always, a mine of useful information, interesting articles and updates.

The groups and Uniformed Organisations are now back in full swing after the summer break, with badge work and challenges well underway, and various events planned for the remainder of what promises to be a busy term.

For Church also, we're coming up to a busy time of year; Harvest is followed by the Season of Remembrance, and before you know it, Christmas will be just around the corner.

Make sure you keep an eye on the Parish Diary and also the weekly Pew Sheet for details of special Services and seasonal events.

If your group / organisation is holding an event that you'd like us to publicise, please get in touch via ainsworthparishmagazine@gmail.com

Enjoy this month's magazine and do your best to support the many things that are going on within our Church and wider community in the coming month - *Alison*

From The Registers

Baptisms We welcome to the family of God:

25th August James George Lawson

Albert Jeremy Lawson

Flower Rota

6th October - Mrs. Barbara Leigh

Church Flower Rota

There are currently a number of spaces on the Church Flower Rota; placing flowers in church can be a lovely way to remember a loved one, or to commemorate an anniversary or special date.

If you would be interested in joining the Church flower rota, please speak to one of our Churchwardens, or contact Gwen White on 01204-595378.

Harvest

Our Harvest Festival this year will be held on Sunday 13th October, when we will once again be supporting 'Porch Boxes'. This local charity is based on the Bradley Fold Trading Estate and provides crisis packs of food and toiletries to local agencies to distribute to local people who are in urgent need.

Porch Boxes distribute in excess of 450 crisis packs each month and have distributed over 50,000 packs since the charity began in 2001.

Donations of produce / toiletries for our Harvest Appeal can be brought to MidWeek Praise on Wednesday 9th October, or to any of our Services in Church on Sunday 13th October.

An Update From Porch Boxes

Thank you so much for continuing to support Porch
Boxes, it is very much appreciated. Donations of any tinned or dried food are always welcome, but items which are particularly needed include:

Tins of:-

Hot Dogs Tuna Stew Meat

Ravioli. Chilli con Carne

Meatballs Spaghetti Bolognese

Beans and Sausage Spaghetti

Fruit

Pasta in sauce Instant noodles
Savoury Rice. Tea bags(40s)
Biscuits Bottles of squash

UHT milk - full fat or semi skimmed

"Bags for Life" are also very gratefully received.

Thank you again from the Porch Boxes Volunteers.

Christmas Fair

Our Church Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday 16th November from 11 – 2pm in Ainsworth Church & Community Hall. Stalls, games, refreshments and more ... all proceeds to Church funds.

Save the date and watch this space for more info!

Service For The Departed

This year, our annual 'Service For The Departed' will be held in Church on **Sunday 3rd November**, at **6.30pm**.

At this Service we take time to reflect and remember members of our families, friends, members of our local community and our worshipping community who are no longer with us.

The names of those for whom a funeral has been held in Church during the past year, will automatically be included in the list of names to be read out at this service, but if you would like the name of a friend or loved one to be added to the list, please put the names of those you wish to be read out, in the red box at the back of church, or leave a message on 01204 595378. To allow time for printing, the last date for receiving names is Sunday 27th October.

Candlelit Christmas Concert

Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to get into the Christmas Spirit, with a fabulous programme of Christmas music provided by Farnworth & Walkden Brass Band.

Enjoy Christmas Classics, mince pies and mulled wine, all in our beautiful candlelit Church.

Saturday 7th December, 7pm; tickets available soon.

Ainsworth Scout Group Fundraising Christmas Coach Trip

Get the festive feeling by joining us on this fundraising coach trip to Chester

Fundraising Coach Trip

Chester Christmas Market
Saturday 30th November 2024

Christmas Market. The coach will depart from Ainsworth at 08.30 and will return around 18.00.

This market is a handmade, historical and magical experience that has over 70 traders situated around the town square and surrounding areas. There are stalls with locally made produce, handmade crafts, jewellery and stocking fillers.

If you would like to join us on this fun trip, please follow the below link to book your tickets.

Fundraising Family Christmas Coach Trip - Chester | Cognito Forms

Prices:-

Adult (Aged 14 and over) £27 Child (Aged 13 and under) £20 Under 5's - Free Family Ticket (2 adults and 2 children) £80

Details of how and where to pay will be on your confirmation email. Thank you for your continued support.

PS. Date for your diary – Summer Coach trip to the Lake District 5th July 2025!!

Christ Church Ainsworth Book Of Remembrance

If you have lost a family member or loved one and would like their name to be recorded in our Book of



Remembrance, please speak to a member of our Clergy or one of the Churchwardens, or email ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com. This option is available for those who have been a part of our local or worshipping community, or those whose funeral has been held in Church.

Please note there is a charge of £5-00 per entry for this service.

Christ Church Ainsworth - Grave Cleaning & Maintenance If you choose to have a memorial stone on your loved one's grave, you are welcome to tend the grave and place flowers yourself, but if you are unable to do so, our Churchyard Team offer a number of options:

- Regular cleaning of headstone £30-00 / year
- Regular cleaning of headstone, flowers placed monthly & wreath placed at Christmas £210-00 / year

For more information about grave maintenance please contact Janet Hayes on 07895-033736.

Prayer Tree

Thanks to a thoughtful donation, we once again have a 'Prayer Tree' in Church.

Prayer is so important; when we pray for people or situations, it makes a difference in their lives and in the world around us. Please feel free to write a short prayer on a 'leaf' and place it on the Prayer Tree.

EcoChurch

Top Tip for October:

Provide food and shelter for wildlife, now and in preparation for next year. Clean all your bird feeders to avoid the spread of disease to winter migrants and put up a nest box well in advance of the breeding season. A nest box could also prove a cosy spot for small birds to spend the night on particularly cold winter evenings ahead.

The Christ Church Ainsworth 50/50 Lucky Lotto!

The September Lucky Lotto draw took place in Church on Sunday 29th September, with the lucky winner walking away with £26-50!

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

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

Generosity Week 29/09 - 06/10/2024

Generosity is at the heart of the Christian faith; we believe in a generous God and our own generosity is a testament and hallmark



of our faith in action. The ministry and mission of The Church of England is largely funded through the incredible generosity of those who give to it.

Generosity Week is a time for people to reflect on where they are in terms of living generous lives. Generosity Week isn't about campaigns or rotas, it's about building a culture in which people want to give – of their time, their talents or their resources.

Online Giving

We understand that many people no longer carry cash, however thanks to the wonders of modern technology, we can accept online donations to support the work of our church.

Online giving is done via a website called 'Give A Little'; you can access our page by clicking on the following link: https://givealittle.co/campaigns/4e852de9-3667-426f-ae72-1747784eda0c

Or by scanning the following QR code with your mobile phone:



Once you've done that, choose the amount you wish to donate – the suggested options are £5, £10, £20 or £50, but there is also an option to click and choose your own amount. Next, simply follow the on screen instructions - fill in your personal details, (if you are a tax payer you can choose to add Gift Aid to increase your donation), then enter your card

details. When you're finished, you'll get a 'Thank You' message on screen and you can request a receipt via email for your own records – simple!

Easyfundraising





For anyone who shops online, this is a really simple way of raising much needed funds for our Church. If you haven't signed up to support us yet, it's easy and completely FREE. Almost 6,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to do your everyday online shopping, book holidays, book trains tickets, book flights, purchase car or home insurance, plus many other online transactions - at no extra cost to you! These donations really help us, so it would be great if you could take a moment to get started!

You can find our easyfundraising page here:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ainsworthpc/?utm_campai an=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rm-rbd21-e1

Our cause is registered as Ainsworth Parish Church, Bolton and currently has 26 supporters registered. Many thanks to everyone who has used / continues to use the easyfundraising platform to raise donations our current fundraising total is £911-52.

Raising Awareness – World Food Day; 16th October 2024



What Is It? World Food Day is an annual global observance that aims to raise awareness and take action against worldwide hunger and malnutrition. This day serves as a reminder of the need to ensure food security and access to nutritious food for all. It also highlights the importance of sustainable agriculture and food production to address global food challenges. World Food Day is an opportunity to come together as a global community and work towards a world where no one goes to bed hungry.

Who Can Take Part? Anyone can participate – whether you're an individual, business, organisation, community group, school, university or local authority.

How Can I Get Involved? Participating in World Food Day allows you to contribute to efforts to end hunger and promote food security. There are lots of ways to get involved:

- Learn About Food Issues: Educate yourself about global food challenges, food insecurity, and sustainable agriculture practices.
- 2. Support Food Banks: Donate non-perishable food items to local food banks or volunteer your time to help distribute food to those in need.
- Advocate for Policy Change: Advocate for policies and initiatives that address hunger, food waste, and sustainable farming practices at the local, national, and international levels.
- 4. Reduce Food Waste: Be mindful of food waste in your household and community, and take steps to reduce it.
- Organize Food Drives: Coordinate food drives or fundraising events to collect food and resources for those facing food insecurity.
- 6. Support Farmers: Buy locally sourced and sustainably produced food products to support small-scale farmers and sustainable agriculture.

For more info visit www.worldvision.org.uk

Mission Community News - Recycling

Did you know that many of your unwanted items could be recycled? Churches throughout the Radcliffe & Whitefield Mission Community have pledged to recycle the following items:

- Prescription glasses
- Hearing Aids
- Keys
- Coins
- Stamps

Please place items for recycling in the trays in the Church Porch, donated items will then be sorted and sent to where they are needed most – Thanking you in advance!

Licensing Of Revd Steph Mawhinney

Revd Steph Mawhinney will be licensed as Vicar of Christ Church, Walshaw and also Vicar of St. Andrew's, Radcliffe, at a Service to be held at Christ Church Walshaw at 7pm on Weds 2nd October.

Please pray for Revd Steph and members of both of these local Churches as they begin this new and exciting stage on their journey of mission and ministry.

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.

Radcliffe & Whitefield Mission Community Prayer Diary



October 2024

144	Praying for the families of the children who were Baptised at Christ Church Walshaw on 29/09; may they know God's presence & grow in faith.
2 nd	Praying for Revd Steph Mawhinney as she is licensed Vicar of Christ Church Walshaw & St. Andrew's, Raddiffe.
311	Praying for Revd Steph as she starts her new ministry, and the new chapter in the life and mission of Christ Church Walshaw. Giving thanks for all who have supported CCW during the interregnum.
4 ⁿ	Praying for mission & ministry at Emmanuel Community Church, Raddiffe.
5°a	Praying for those from St. George's, Unsworth who will be litter picking this morning.
6ª	Praying for all at St. Thomas & St. John, Radcliffe, as they celebrate their 160 th anniversary.
7 th	Praying for mission & ministry at All Saints, Stand
8 th	Praying for the School Harvest Service being held at St. Mary, Radcliffe today.
9 th	Giving thanks for the work of the Anna Chaplaincy Team in Whitefield.
10 ⁿ	Praying for mission & ministry at Christ Church Walshaw.
11 ^m	Giving thanks for the Clergy who are supporting our Churches during interregnum.
12 ^a	Praying for all at Christ Church Ainsworth – they will be celebrating Harvest tomorrow. Giving thanks for the work of Porch Boxes, the organisation supported through Harvest Giving.
13 th	Praying for all at St. George's, Unsworth - their Harvest Festival & Back To Church Sunday is today.
14 th	Praying for mission & ministry at St. Andrew's, Raddiffe.
15 th	Praying for Janette as she leads the Prayer Group at St. Mary, Radcliffe today.
16 th	Giving thanks for our Church Officers, Lay Leaders & Volunteers.
17 th	Praying for mission & ministry at St. George's, Unsworth.
18 th	Giving thanks for the congregation, volunteers & community at St. Thomas & St. John, Radcliffe.
19 th	Praying for St. Andrew's, Hillock who are holding their Ceilidh Harvest Supper this evening.
20 ^a	Praying for all at St. Andrew's, Hillock - their Harvest Festival & Back To Church Sunday is today.
21 st	Praying for those who will represent their Churches at the Task Group meeting.
22°4	Praying for mission & ministry at St. Thomas & St. John, Radcliffe.
23™	Praying for those organising & attending the Autumn Crafts Event at Christ Church Ainsworth today.
24 ^a	Giving thanks & praying for Incumbents, OLMs, NSMs & SSMs throughout our Mission Community.
25 th	Praying for mission & ministry at Christ Church Ainsworth.
26 ^a	Praying for those Churches who work alongside & support refugee communities.
27 th	Praying for mission & ministry at St. Andrew's, Hillock.
28 ⁿ	Praying for members of the Prayer & Spirituality Task Group.
29 ⁸	Praying for mission & ministry at St. Mary, Radoliffe.
30a	Giving thanks & praying for all those who are involved with ministry for children & families.
314	Praying for & giving thanks for those who take on the role of 'EcoChampion' within their Churches.
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"What wings are to a bird & sails are to a ship; so prayer is to the soul"

A Service of Remembrance for Lives Cut Short

Each year, Manchester Cathedral hosts a service of Remembrance for Lives Cut Short. It commemorates especially all who have lost their lives through homicide - no matter how long ago.

This year, the service will take place in **Manchester Cathedral** on **Friday 25th October** at **7.30 p.m.** Poems, prayers, readings, music, and songs are chosen and voiced by people who know this unique form of bereavement at first hand. This Service has grown out of the work of the charity Support After Murder and Manslaughter. At its heart is an act of memorial. Names are read out and candles lit to commemorate specific individuals. Music this year will include three songs from the "Accord Inspirational Gospel Choir". If there is anyone you know who would appreciate being part of a service like this, please give them this information. Requests for particular names to be read out should be made by emailing st.gab.prest@gmail.com





A Service of Remembrance for Lives Cut Short



Friday 25 October 2024 7.30 p.m.

Manchester Cathedral, Victoria Street, Manchester M3 1SX

Names are read out, candles lit and prayers said in memory of those whom we love but see no more with music from the Accord Inspirational Gospel Choir

> The service is organized by supporters of SAMM (Support After Murder and Manslaughter), a national network who offer support and help for families and friends bereaved through homicide.

More information: contact Revd Canon Steve Williams (07757 411 377)

Please ring him if you want a particular name to be read out, or e-mail st.gab.prest@gmail.com



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
- All proceeds to Church funds
 The next Lucky Lotto draw will take place on Sunday 27th October.

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



Coffee and Conversation

Tuesday 8th October 10.30 – 12 noon Ainsworth Church and Community Hall

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



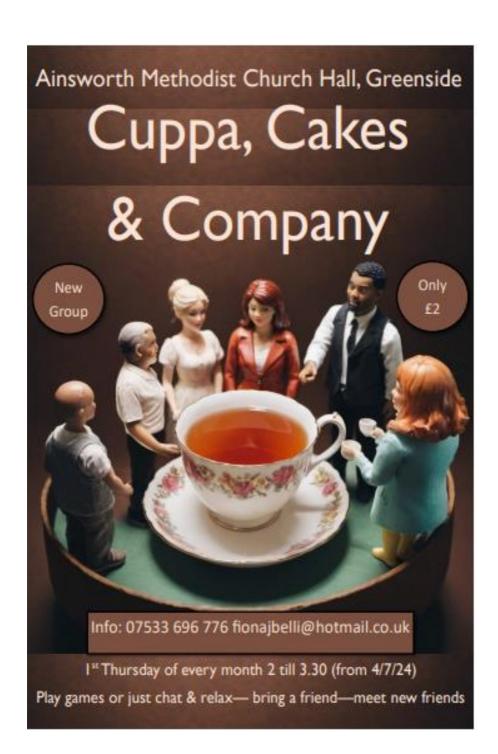


An eight week journey through the Lord's Prayer

prayercourse.org

Thursday evenings 7.30 – 8.30pm
Christ Church Ainsworth, BL2 5RU
Starts Thursday 26th September
Everyone welcome, refreshments
available

For more info email alisonhartleyhorse@gmail.com





Tree Face



Trail & Autumn

Crafts

Wednesday 23rd October 1.30 - 3.30pm Christ Church Ainsworth

- · Follow the "Tree Face" Trail
- · Learn about trees
- · Autumn themed craft activities
- · Refreshments included

Fun for all the family!

£2.50 /child; all children must be supervised by a responsible adult.

For more info contact Alison on 07952-709041

or email ainsworthparishinfo@amail.com







FAIR Saturday

16th November

11am to 2pm

Ainsworth Church & Community Hall



With Café
and a special
Christmas Visitor





Saying Goodbye Remembrance Service - Manchester

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL

SUNDAY, 20TH OCTOBER, 2024 - 2.30PM

A SERVICE FOR ANYONE WHO HAS
LOST A BABY IN PREGNANCY, AT BIRTH
OR IN EARLY YEARS, WHETHER THE
LOSS WAS YESTERDAY OR 80 YEARS
AGO. THIS EVENT IS ALSO FOR THOSE
GRIEVING THAT THEY HAVE NEVER
BEEN ABLE TO CONCEIVE.

SAYINGGOODBYE.ORG



Notices, Acknowledgements & Announcements Coffee & Conversation

Tuesday 8th October

10.30 - 12 noon Ainsworth Church & Community Hall

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

Everyone welcome

'The Prayer Course'

Thursday Evenings 7.30 – 8.30pm, Christ Church Ainsworth

An 8 week journey through The Lord's Prayer, using videos and group discussion. Refreshments available, everyone welcome. For more info or to express your interest email alisonhartleyhorse@gmail.com

Save The Date – Candlelit Christmas Concert!! Saturday 7th December 7pm, Christ Church Ainsworth

Once again, we'll be joined by members of Farnworth & Walkden Band for an evening of seasonal entertainment. More info & tickets coming soon.

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=QUdYYjN6bDFoakxpZnBoY2 ZDMUFoZz09

!!Save The Dates!!

Sunday 13th October 11 – 3pm Ainsworth Church & Community Hall Evergreen Events Crafts & Maker's Market Sunday 8th December 11 – 3pm

Evergreen Events Christmas Crafts & Maker's Market

Two fabulous new events are coming to Ainsworth this Autumn; save the dates & watch this space for more info.

Christ Church Ainsworth Christmas Fair Saturday 16th November 11 – 2pm, Ainsworth Church & Community Hall

Stalls, crafts, games & Café – everyone welcome.

Coach Trip To Chester Christmas Market Saturday 30th November

For more info or to book tickets visit:

Fundraising Family Christmas Coach Trip - Chester | Cognito Forms

Around The Organisations ...

Beavers

Before we finished for the summer we had a visit from The Guide Dog Association. They brought a dog down to show us as well as lots of information on how they deal with visual impairment. The young people really enjoyed it.

Starting back after summer we have had 5 Beavers progress through the ranks up to Cubs, two of which were awarded their Bronze Challenge Award at Church Parade on Sunday, and on Friday we had 6 new starters bringing our total up to 23 Beavers.

Darran Higgens - Raven

Cubs

Truly back with a bang. Friday evening saw a number of new ones moving up from Beavers and some coming off our extensive waiting list, we now have 36 Cubs in the pack.

Saturday saw 23 Cubs and 4 leaders out on the water at Anderton Water Centre. Akela and I were on the side in case of emergency! During the morning, they were sailing and learning how to tack their boats safely in a gentle breeze, so no sign of anyone being put forward for the Olympics just yet. Afternoon saw the cubs trying to master getting their paddles working in tandem to go in straight lines and keep upright – not too successful in a number of cases.

At the end of the session most of them jumped, dived or were gently pushed into the water before drying off and having hot chocolate and biscuits to get warm. All were well behaved and thoroughly enjoyed the day. When they have done the appropriate knotting next week they will be receiving four staged badges.

Sunday was church parade – a pity we did not have 36 present for that! It was a pleasure to present Nathaniel and Noah with their Silver Award before they move up to scouts in a few weeks. It was also good to see Jack and Saul gaining their Bronze awards as they have just moved up from the Beaver colony.

Please note that we have a long waiting list but cannot guarantee automatic entry to the pack as we are literally full to bursting. We are in need of extra full time committed leaders, but that will only cover our current situation for youngsters moving through the group.

Gwen White - Baloo

Ainsworth Scout Group Trip To Switzerland August 2024

After almost 2 years of meticulous planning from Stacey and the leaders and endless fundraising activities completed, we were finally off ... After departing from Harwood (a long story!) and travelling for almost 24 hours, we arrived at our home for the next 10 days and it was fantastic!

As we travelled towards Adelboden, we were speechless at the breath-taking views of the snow-covered Swiss Alps glistening like diamonds, despite the boiling temperature! We felt

so privileged to be part of such an amazing experience and all thanks to our leaders.

On arrival, we unpacked, grabbed our swim stuff and raced to the pool, were no one thought twice about clambering up to the ten feet high diving board. We must admit Aled was definitely top trumps for his back flips and death dives!



Another exciting experience was at the football pitch where some of us challenged the locals to a match although we couldn't understand anything we were saying to each other! Of course, us Scouts recorded the victory.

We spent a day in Bern, the capital of Switzerland which was fantastic. We couldn't believe how spotless it was and that there wasn't any litter, anywhere! There were

endless opportunities to see Swiss culture, architecture and traditions on every corner. The highlight of the day was when we saw bears right in the middle of the city.

Aside from the obvious holiday activities we also had some more outrageous experiences.



We loved the Adventure Park at Interlaken. Well, we think it was



Interlaken but are sure Stacey will set us straight if it was somewhere else! As part of the high rope course, we had to swing from obstacle to obstacle,

as well as climb across wooden beams under bridges supported by what seemed the flimsiest of

cables. At least we were wearing safety harnesses! To top it off we were able to zipline above treetops and rivers.





One of the greatest thrills of the holiday was the adrenaline rush whilst zipping down the Olympic ski jump. Admittedly, we weren't actually skiing but are 100% sure the tubing was the next best option. The feeling of bumping along a wet surface in a tiny donut at lighting speed was unlike anything we'd done before.

We also had the opportunity to travel up mountains in cable cars and see some absolutely, stunning sights.



Throughout the holiday we participated in numerous fun activities, such as Casino Night, although we did have to do some chores, but we had the most amazing experience ever!

On behalf of all the Ainsworth Scouts & Explorers who

were fortunate enough to join us on this trip we would like to give our special thanks to: Stacey, Suzanne, John, Ben, Aled, Michael, Helen, Steven & David.

P.S. When are you going to give us the details about Denmark 2026???

WE CAN'T WAIT!!!

By Pierce & Henri



Transformation - Now!



How fast is this year going? It only seems a few weeks since last Christmas, yet our first meeting in October is an 'All Members Meeting' and one of the items on the agenda will be the Christmas celebration for 2024! This meeting will be on Tuesday 1st October at 2.30pm in the Church Hall. Everyone is welcome.

I hope that everyone enjoyed our 'Happy Hour' at the beginning of September when we shared acts or words of kindness that had made a difference in our lives, whether long or very short term.

If anyone has an idea for a future Happy Hour session, please let me know.

At the time of writing, the Deanery Summer of Hope Fundraiser and our 'Going Visiting' haven't yet taken place so I will report next month.

However, I hope that you will have enjoyed these events and I'm so sorry that I missed them due to our holiday.

On Tuesday 15th October, we hope to meet at Cosalea on Walshaw Road at 2.30pm. This has not been confirmed, so I'll let you know if there is any change.

There are several diary dates from the Diocese.

Saturday 12th October - Diocesan Quiet Day at the Manchester Central Methodist Hall from 10am to 2pm. Cost is £10.00

Saturday 26th October - Autumn Council meeting at St John's House, Bury from 10am to 3pm. Please bring your own lunch but drinks will be provided.

Wednesday 30th October - Diocesan Triennium Service in Manchester Cathedral at 2.30pm. We are looking forward to welcoming Dean Rogers Govender, The Lord Lieutenant, The High Sheriff, The Lord Mayor and local Mayors to our Service in Manchester.

Saturday 2nd November - York Provincial Triennium Service in Blackburn Cathedral at 2pm.

Latest News!

Earlier this year, elections took place. I'm pleased to announce that our own Diocesan President Christine Sharp has been elected as York Province, President-Elect. We offer huge congratulations to Christine and promise to support her in prayer as she prepares for her new role.

We also have a new Worlwide President-Elect in Kathleen Snow from Canada. Kathleen has been Zonal Trustee for Zone B (Brazil, Canada, South America, USA, West Indies). We look forward to supporting her in prayer as she leads Mothers' Union from January 2025.

Finally ... Mothers 'Union in Manchester need someone to take over looking after Gift Aid for them. Are you someone who knows all about this and can help us out? This is a volunteering task; if you are interested, please contact John Sharp

info@mothersunionmanchester.org

Jennifer White

Just A Thought

What wings are to a bird, and sails are to a ship; prayer is to the soul.

From the Archives - October 1999

The sketch on the inside front cover of the October 1999 Parish Magazine was entitled 'Harvest Supper', and was the precursor to the various notices and reminders about the forthcoming Harvest activities, which included the traditional Family Service and Church Parade, plus a Harvest Evensong Service later in the day. The big break from tradition was the request for people to bring monetary donations to support the work of The International Red Cross, rather than the usual tins and fresh produce. Fresh flowers, however, were an acceptable alternative as these could be distributed to those in the Parish who were unwell.

In other news from the Parish, it seems that the recent Flower Festival had gone very well, with many people commenting on the 'wonderful and thought provoking displays', and also the excellent concert which had featured 'New Life Singing Fellowship'.

Alongside the Flower Festival reports, was information about Confirmation Classes which were due to begin – separate times for adults and children; an note of thanks to a parishioner who had kindly donated 70+ daffodil bulbs to be planted in the Churchyard; and acknowledgements of 2 separate financial donations in memory of loved ones

In other news , the Social Committee were well on with their plans for the Harvest Supper; Mothers' Union members were looking forward to a Body Shop Party; members of the Church Women's Fellowship had enjoyed a successful Coffee morning at the home of one of their members; 16th Brownies had thoroughly enjoyed themselves on Pack Holiday – the theme for which was 'The little Mermaid'; Beavers were planning a trip to Camelot; Cubs and Scouts had been working on various badges; School were planning a fundraising Race Night; Women's Institute members had held a Bowling Match; and a request was being made for volunteer drivers to help with transport for the upcoming 'Old Folks Party' – Gosh what a lot of activity!!

In October 1999, the 'Face To Face' interview was with David Holden, "a loyal, regular and supportive member of the church for many years" (please note that 25 years later this is still the case – well done David!). In October 1999 there were 4 Baptisms, 1 Wedding and 2 Funerals recorded from the previous month. The number of Communicants for the previous month was listed as 300, collections were listed as £1823.

Space To Share A Prayer - Harvest

God of the Harvest,

The earth is yours and all that is upon it;

Created and creative things, fruit and Fruitfulness,

Springtime and Summer, seedtime and harvest.

For the promise of harvest contained within a seed, we thank you. For the oak tree within an acorn, the bread within a grain, we thank you.

For the apple within a pip, the mystery of nature gift wrapped for us to sow, we thank you. Amen

You Might Like To Read ...

"The Quiet Path", Andrew Rudd; published by Hymns Ancient & Modern.

The Quiet Path explores how to discover the spiritual realities of goodness and love in ordinary daily experience and everyday practices. Through a series of 'quiet walks', sometimes physical, but mostly through the landscape of the heart, it cultivates contemplative practices that will lead to deeper awareness of the presence of God in all things.

In a series of short reflections that blend prose and poetry, Andrew Rudd explores walking, noticing, reading, writing, meeting, seeing, breathing, feeling, thinking, inhabiting and blessing as spiritual practices that are available to all.

Top 10 Pets UK

According to www.globalpetindustry.com – the following are the UKs current top 10 favourite pets:

- 1. Dogs
- 2. Cats
- Indoor Fish
- 4. Rabbits
- Indoor Birds
- 6. Domestic Fowl
- 7. Guinea Pigs
- 8. Hamsters
- 9. Tortoises & Turtles
- 10. Lizards

Praying Through The Seasons – Harvest

"While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."

Genesis 8; v22

Traditionally, Harvest would have been a celebration of God's bounty; to small rural communities that relied on agriculture for their very existence, a good Harvest was quite literally a life saver, and definitely a cause for praise and thanksgiving.

In today's world, most communities are less dependent on the land for their existence, but Harvest is still a wonderful opportunity for us to recognise God's goodness and provision in all creation, as well as the relative abundance of food that is available to us. It is a time to give special thanks and praise to God for the way He reveals himself to us in the wonders of his creation, a time to reflect on all that we have, and to pray for those who are less fortunate than ourselves and lacking in many of the resources that we can so easily take for granted.

God of the heavens and earth, we thank you for the richness of harvest time and for food. May the fruitfulness of this time make us thankful for your constant love and care for us. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

For All The Saints - October; St. Francis of Assisi

Name: St. Francis of Assisi Feast Day: 4th October

Born: 1118 Died: 1226

Place of burial: The Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, Assisi, Italy. Patron Saint Of: The environment, animals, birds & those who promote environmentalism.

Francis was born in Assisi in 1118; the son of a wealthy merchanthe lived a privileged life and was expected to take over the family textile business; however, Francis dreamed of becoming a knight.

In an early battle, Francis was captured by the enemy and imprisoned for over a year; on his release he fell gravely ill, but against the odds he recovered.

Francis set out to rejoin the fighting forces, however on the way there, he had a vision that he should return home to Assisi and wait to receive a sign. On his journey back to Assisi, Francis had a life changing encounter with a Leper – as he saw him on the road, Francis felt compelled not just to approach the Leper, but to dismount and embrace him. Having remounted his horse, Francis looked all around, but there was no sign of the Leper; he concluded that Jesus had visited him, and that he was being called to care for and support the many Lepers in and around Assisi.

Another life changing moment for Francis came when he entered a small, derelict church and knelt beneath the crucifix; as he looked at the eyes of Jesus, God clearly told him to go and rebuild His church. Over time, Francis came to realise that this commission was not simply about the physical church buildings, but 'the church' in the sense of the human institution and religion.

Francis shared spiritual wealth, love and compassion wherever he went; he developed a deep understanding of the sanctity of all creation, and a realisation that all people and animals are the children of God. In the early 13th century, Francis founded the religious order that still bears his name. He made it his life's work to share God's word and spread compassion and love throughout the world.

St. Francis is noted for having created the first nativity scene; he wanted everyday people to see and understand the message at their level, in a way that was accessible.

Francis fell ill in 1219, after contracting an eye disease. He returned to Assisi, where he later died and was buried temporarily in the church of San Grigio.

After his death, Pope Gregory IX officially canonised him as the Patron Saint of Italy, Ecologists and environmentalists, in recognition of how St. Francis revered nature as God's gift.

Time For A Smile

A vicar was relaxing on the sofa after a very busy day, and watching TV, when he heard his wife's voice from the kitchen: "What would you like for dinner, my love, chicken, beef or lamb?" He replied, "Thank you, darling. I think I'll have chicken." She called back, "You're having salad; I was talking to the dog!"

Poems From The Parish (And Beyond ...)

Prayer Tree

Our hopes and dreams we bring you Lord,
Upon this tree of prayer;
The people that are dear to us;
The ones for whom we care.

Our worries and our problems, Things of which we are afraid; The things we need to ask you, Lord, Upon this tree are laid.

Our grieving and our sorrows,
The hurts we cannot share –
These things we bring to you, dear Lord,
Upon this tree of prayer.

The things for which we're thankful; All the blessings that we share -We lift them up to you dear Lord, Upon this tree of prayer.



Strap Lines

A first-time visitor to a church asked the welcomer at the door "When does the service begin?" In a flash of inspiration the reply was, "The service begins when the worship ends".

In my youth, I was taught to respect my elders, but now that I am older, I am told to listen to young people.

Experience is a wonderful thing; it enables you to recognise a mistake when you make it again.

The Parish Puzzler

How many words can you make from the following letters?

HARVESTTIME

Harvest Quiz

- 1. From which old English word is the word 'Harvest' derived?
- 2. Who was the Roman goddess of harvest & agriculture?
- 3. Who invented the combined harvester?
- 4. What is the name of the full moon that occurs closest to the Autumn Equinox?
- 5. Who was the Grek goddess of the harvest?
- 6. What is the number 1 fruit crop worldwide?
- 7. What is the equivalent of Harvest for Americans?
- 8. Complete the line, "Fair waved the, in Canaan's land afar"
- 9. A good luck symbol, crafted from the final sheaf of corn and kept in the farmer's house over the winter months?
- 10. The practise of collecting left over crops after the main harvest is complete; often done by women, children, or those in need?

Food In The Bible

- 1. The land promised to the Israelites was said to be flowing with milk and?
- 2. Who sold his birthright for a bowl of stew?
- 3. Who fasted for 40 days on Mount Sinai?
- 4. What was sent from heaven to feed the people of Israel?
- 5. What did John the Baptist eat during his time in the wilderness?

(Answers on page 36)

Sidesmen, Lay Assistant & Prayers Rota

Date	Sidesmen	Lay Assistant	Prayers
6 th October 18 th Sunday after Trinity	Mags Gillman	Lorraine Holden	Jenny Johnson
13 th October 19 th Sunday after Trinity	Barbara Clarkson 12 th Guides	N/A	Guides / Brownies
20 th October 20 th Sunday after Trinity	Susan Campbell Barbara Leigh	David Holden	David Holden
27 th October Bible Sunday	Jean Ellis Christine Shaw	Barbara Clarkson	Jenny Johnson

Reader's Rota

Date	Reader	Readings
6 th October		Job 1.1; 2.1-10
19 th Sunday	Lorraine Holden	Hebrews 1.1-4; 2.5-12
after Trinity		Mark 10.2-16
13 th October -		
Harvest	12 th Guides	
Sunday		
20 th October		Job 38.1-7
21st Sunday	David Holden	Hebrews 5.1-10
after Trinity		Mark 10.35-45
27 th October		Isaiah 55.1-11
Bible Sunday	Jenny Johnson	2 Timothy 3.14 - 4.5
_		John 5.36b-47

Who's Who

Vicar	Vacancy
-------	---------

vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk 01204 398567

Revd Debra Johnstone OLM 01204 399630

ALM Alison Hartley 07952 709041 Churchwarden Alison Hartley 07952 709041

> Chris Haworth 07855 638450

Church Treasurer David Holden davelholden@aol.co.uk

Secretary of the PCC Vacancy

Organist Jenny Johnson 07734976978

Gift Aid & Freewill

Offering Secretary Carole Butler 07379 196608 Safeguarding Officer Peter Holden 01204 596938

bookings@ainsworthchurchhall.co.uk

Magazine Editor Alison Hartley ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com

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Primary School Head Mrs L McGreavy BA(Hons) 01204 527484

Services

Holy Communion (BCP) 2nd & 4th Sunday Sunday 8.00am

> 10.30am Family Service, 2nd Sunday Family & Parade Service

Evening Prayer (BCP) 1st Sunday 6.30pm

Weds 6.30pm 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.

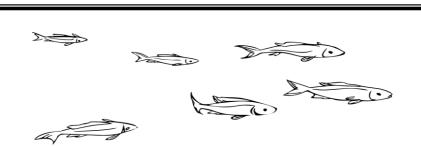
Answers to Harvest Quiz: 1) Haerfest, 2) Ceres, 3) Hiram Moore, 4) Harvest Moon, 5) Demeter, 6) Bananas, 7) Thanksgiving, 8) Golden Corn, 9) Corn Dolly, 10) Gleaning.

Answers to Bible Food: 1) Honey, 2) Esau, 3) Moses, 4) Manna, 5) Locusts & Honey.

Who's Who For Church Organisations

Mothers Union	1 st & 3 rd 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.gmnscouts.org.uk	01204 595378
Beaver Scouts	Friday at 6.30pm in the Church Hall	
Cub Scouts	Friday at 6.30pm in the Church Hall	
Scouts' 14th Radcliffe	Fridays at 7.45pm in the Church Hall Leader Stacey White scouts.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk	07742 610281
Explorers	Friday 7.30 – 9.30pm; in the Church Hall Leader John Turner	01204 381590
Brownies 16 th Radcliffe	Thursday at 6.15pm to 7.30pm in the Church Hall Sarah McAnulty	07955373623
Guides 12 th Radcliffe	Thursday at 7.00pm in the Church Hall Captain Polly Ryder	07437 519045





Little Fishes

Balaam



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.

Balaam

Now that's a name that you might not have heard before!

God had freed the people of Israel from slavery in Egypt, and had promised them the land of Canaan for their new home, however, when the people of Israel arrived at Canaan, they were afraid to enter the city and take it over, even though God had told them that this was his plan for them and that he would help them and protect them. Because the people doubted God, they weren't allowed to enter the Promised Land; instead, God made them wander in the desert.

One day, whilst the people were wandering, they came close to the



country of Moab, which was then ruled over by King Balek. The King saw the people of Israel wandering nearby and he was afraid that they were going to try to attack his people and take over the country of Moab.

King Balek had an idea - he summoned Balaam to him. Balaam was a prophet, but he often called down bad luck on people and on things if they didn't please him. King Balek sent his advisors with a note for Balaam; it said, "I will give you gold and silver and jewels if you will curse the people of Israel, to stop them from attacking my land and driving my people out."

Balaam answered the advisors, "Stay the night with me, and I will tell you what God says in the morning."

That night, God told Balaam, "Do not curse the people of Israel; they are my people, and I have blessed them."

So, Balaam woke up the next morning and told the advisers that he would not go with them to curse the Israelites.

When King Balak heard what Balaam said, he sent more advisers to him and offered to give Balaam even more money and treasures if he would come curse the Israelites for him. But Balaam refused. "Even if King



Balak gave me all the money in his palace," he said, "I would not disobey God. But stay the night with me and I will see if God tells me anything else."

That night, God told Balaam, "Go with the advisers, Balaam, but be careful to do only what I tell you to do."

So, Balaam woke up the next morning, got on his donkey, and went with the advisers to meet King Balak. As the donkey was walking



along the track, an angel came and stood in front of the donkey with a sword in his hand. Balaam couldn't see the angel, but his donkey could. The

donkey stepped off the path and tried to go through a field instead, but Balaam beat his donkey and made him get back on the road.

A little while later, the donkey was walking through a narrow pass with rocks on both sides of him. The angel came and stood in front of him again, and the donkey had to squeeze himself against the rockface to avoid the angel. Balaam's foot got bashed against the wall and he beat his donkey again.



Finally, the angel came and stood in front of the donkey one more



time. This time, the donkey just stopped. He refused to go even one step further and lay down on the ground. Balaam was so angry that he took a

stick and started beating the donkey.

Suddenly Balaam got a big surprise ... the donkey began to speak!!! The donkey said, "Why have you beaten me these three times? Am I not always such a good donkey for you?"



Then, God made it so that Balaam could see the angel with his sword in his hand, and Balaam realised that the donkey had saved his life - if he had kept going, the angel would have stabbed



Balaam with his sword and killed him! The angel said, "Do not beat your donkey. And remember, only do what God tells you to do when you meet King Balak."

When King Balak saw Balaam coming, he said, "Finally!

Why didn't you come the first time I sent for you, Balaam?" "I'm here now," Balaam answered. "But I can only say what God tells me to."

Then King Balak said, "Put a curse on these Israelites for me." But instead of cursing the Israelites, Balaam blessed them! King Balak was furious and turned on Balaam saying, "I asked you to curse the Israelites, not bless them. Now, I'm not going to give you any of the money that I promised you."

But Balaam answered, "I told you, I can only say what God tells me to."

And with that, Balaam turned his donkey round and went back home.

So, What Can We Learn From Balaam's Story?

Balaam did what he knew God wanted him to do, even though the king wanted him to do something different. Whenever we are uncertain about something, we always have to remember to listen to God first. Even if everyone else tells us to do something, we have to listen to what God tells us to do first.

Prayer Time ...

Heavenly Father, we know that you see everything and care for everyone. When we are uncertain, or don't know what we should do; help us to remember that you are close and will help us if we believe and trust in You - Amen.

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