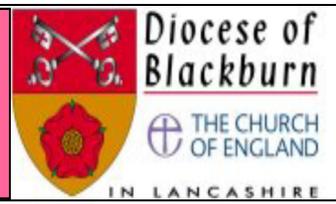




# All Saints Higher Walton

## NEWSLETTER 5<sup>th</sup> March 2017



For baptisms, weddings or funerals, please contact the Vicar's Warden **Keith Houston** 01772 315918

Visit our website [allsaintshigherwalton.org.uk](http://allsaintshigherwalton.org.uk)

*The Rev Paul Hardingham says that Lent is an ideal time to find yourself...*

### MIRROR, MIRROR ON THE WALL – HOW DO YOU SEE YOURSELF THIS LENT?



Somebody asked a Christian friend why he was eating doughnuts, when he had given them up for Lent! He answered, 'At the bakers I told God, that if He wanted me to buy doughnuts, He should provide a parking space in front. On the eighth time around, there it was!' Rather than seeing Lent simply as a time to give things up, let's use it intentionally for self-examination, reading Scripture, penitence, fasting and prayer.

At Jesus' baptism, God's voice says, 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.' (Luke 3:22). The Holy Spirit then leads Jesus into the wilderness, where we find Him coming to terms with who He is. Satan's temptations challenge Jesus in key three areas of His identity: social action, political power, and religious identity (Luke 4: 1-13). It is as though Jesus looked into the mirror at Himself to discern what kind of Saviour He would be.

We can also think of Lent as an opportunity to hold a mirror up to ourselves and ask the question, 'who am I? It is a season of honest encounter with who we are, what we've done, and the world in which we live. How will you keep Lent period of 40 days running up to Easter? What will you see when you hold up the mirror to yourself? Alongside taking time to read Scripture, study a Christian book and pray with fasting, why not give up texting for Lent and simply talk on the phone; commit ourselves to just working 40 hours a week or spend five minutes each day in silence! Whatever we do, Lent is a season for self-reflection, as we put ourselves in a position to receive afresh the forgiveness and healing that God offers.

**REAL EASTER EGGS** – "Easter Eggs with Meaning" are again available, priced from £3.99-£5.00 List at the back of church or have a word with Stephen or Barbara Niven

### LENT COURSE 2017



This year, we are joining forces with Holy Trinity Houghton and St. James' Brindle once again – but in a different way. Instead of coming together in one meeting, the organisers have set up FIVE different times and places where you can sign up and come along - full details at the back of the church and in the last Newsletter. The hope is that there'll be a mix of people from all three churches in all the groups. It'll never work out that neatly, but we can try!

We'll all be studying the module in the popular PILGRIM course on the Lord's Prayer and its timeless meaning for our lives, with a short video presentation, and time for discussion.

So I've a one-in-five chance of seeing you there! Do come along, and prepare for Jesus' familiar words to challenge you once more.

There are sign-up lists in church, or you could let me know if you're interested, and which group you think you might be going to.

*Simon*

### PLACES TO RETREAT

In her sermon at 11am Morning Worship last Sunday, Margaret mentioned Retreats as special opportunities to spend time with God and nourish our faith.

There are a number of Retreat venues around the Diocese for anyone who is interested and details can be found on the Faith & Worship page of the Diocesan website <http://www.blackburn.anglican.org>



### The twentieth FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

started on 27<sup>th</sup> February and continues till next weekend. It aims to increase awareness of Fairtrade products. It makes use of volunteers who support the goals of Fairtrade but who may

also be committed to the more general concepts of fair trade, ethical trading or concerned by development issues. Please support Fairtrade.



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**MEN'S GROUP VISIT TO  
THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL  
MUSEUM MANCHESTER  
WORLD CUP 1966 EXHIBITION**



An opportunity to see the 1966 team which is drawing to a close in the next few weeks. Even if you are not a football fan the exhibition gives a good social history of the era.

I have arranged for Peter Holme ( author of "Play up Higher Walton") to show us around . Travel will be arranged, view the exhibition , a spot of lunch and back early afternoon.

When? : **SATURDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH** leaving from Chorley Railway station approx. 10am.

Anyone interested please contact Stephen Niven 07836

**WINE TASTING EVENING**



A selection of 12 wines, presented by D Byrne & Co. Clitheroe: Award winning fine wine merchants

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30pm  
In Higher Walton Community Centre.**

**Tickets £7** from Stephen Houghton 01254 851202  
Numbers limited to 25, so get your ticket as soon as possible



**ALL SAINTS' CHURCH  
HIGHER WALTON**

**GRAB A  
TEAM  
IT'S  
QUIZ  
NIGHT**

**FRIDAY 31<sup>st</sup> March**

at NET'S BAR, Gregson Lane  
start time 7.30pm

Hotpot Supper included  
Raffle

**TICKETS £5.00**

Entrance by prepaid ticket only as this will get you your hotpot supper.

Tickets from Stephen or Sandra Houghton 01254 851202, and Stephen or Barbara Niven 01772 312340

**FUTURE SOCIAL/FUNDRAISING EVENTS**

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April** One Voice Community Choir  
**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October** Rossendale Scout Band

**Details later**

**GARDEN PARTY 2017**

The Garden Party with Rose Queen Crowning will be on **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July**, in the Vicarage grounds ( in church in case of rain ).

**'Planned Giving'**



In recent weeks more members of our congregation have been using the Gift Aid envelopes in the pews when making their weekly plate offerings (the collection). If you qualify to give under the **Gift Aid** scheme, by virtue of

are intended mainly for occasional use, usually by visitors. For our 'regular' congregation we offer two simple schemes for planned giving:

- **Personal books of envelopes**, pre-dated for each week of the year in which to place your offerings. These are also useful to maintain your planned giving even on the weeks when you are unable to attend church; just bring them along on your next visit.

- **Monthly Standing Orders** are increasingly popular with busy working families who cannot attend church every week but wish to avoid missing their planned giving offerings.

Both of the above schemes are suitable for **both taxpayers and those who don't pay tax**. If you would like to know more about either scheme then please have a word with either **Keith Houston** or **Denise Kennedy** and they will explain how they work.

**BRING IT BAG IT**

The recent collection of clothing etc. raised **£42** for All Saints' Funds. Thanks to all who contributed

**CHURCH FLOWERS**

**5<sup>th</sup> March**

**Sandra Whittle**

**in memory of James Hodgson**



Any flowers that are requested during Lent can be put at the back of the church but not in the chancel.

There is a collection box in church throughout Lent for donations towards flowers for Easter Day.

**PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOOD BANK**

Their need for food donations is still high



".. er ... the good news is that the Youth Group have made a good start by pressure washing the West window "