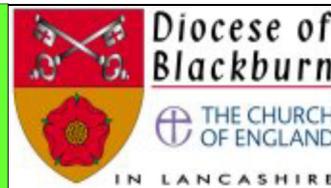




All Saints Higher Walton

NEWSLETTER 24th February 2019



Our Vision : To be a Church maturing in faith, growing in fellowship and serving our community

Contact for baptisms or weddings Geoff Woods 07384 710512
for funerals Keith Houston 01772 315918

Visit our website
www.allsaintshigherwalton.org.uk



A combination of **Confirmation 2019** and **Lent Sundays** gives us some exciting areas of the Christian Life to explore. Thank you for your faithful prayers for **Confirmation 2019**. We appreciate your commitment.

As a whole Church please join us at the Confirmation Service with Bishop Julian on **Sunday 7 April**. On Saturday 23 February we visited Blackburn Cathedral with Canon Rowena Pailing to discover parts unseen by most visitors rounding off with Coffee and Cake! We welcome our speakers in March:

- 3 How do I pray?** Jo Ingham.
- 10 Christianity - a supernatural faith.** Canon Herrick Daniel.
- 17 Standing up for what you believe.** Rev'd Nick McKee. Diocesan Vocations Officer.
- 24 Living as a Christian.** Jill Smith.
- 31 Mothering Sunday.** Stephen Niven



LENT 2019 WEDNESDAYS AT 7.30pm in ALL SAINTS CHURCH

...the members of Holy Trinity Hoghton as we share the Diocesan Lent Course '**Generosity, Gift and Grace**' together as a time to grow in worship while exploring the Christian Life. We are starting at 7:15 with Refreshments so please see June Hart if you can help. To help us prepare for materials and catering, please sign the Membership Sheet at the back of Church; we look forward to welcoming everyone as we prepare for the coming months.

- 6 March - Ash Wednesday:** Holy Communion: How to make the most of Lent.
- 13 March.** What is God like and why is he so generous?
- 20 March.** How can we be generous too?
- 27 March.** Is living generously a risky challenge?
- 3 April.** Is the Church as a Generous Family?
- 11 April - Maundy Thursday** The Passover Meal at Holy Trinity Hoghton

UPDATE REGARDING THE VACANCY

We promised to keep you up to date with how we were progressing with our search for a new vicar but we have been unable to give you more regular news as it's been unclear as to just which way we were heading.

The Parish Profile, which is essentially a job advert and a large document, was completed by the end of October and we were ready to advertise for our new vicar at that point in time. However, because we have not been able to pay our full Parish Share* to the diocese for some years the diocese have made it clear that we cannot afford a full time vicar. They have asked us therefore, to explore the idea of sharing a Vicar with our neighbours at Holy Trinity Hoghton. The two PCCs have had an initial joint meeting to discuss the idea and were positive about taking it further. Each PCC is therefore nominating a small group of people to work with Canon Grant Ashton, the Assistant Archdeacon, to iron out the practicalities and to draw up a joint parish profile in order for the post to be advertised. Please pray for those involved, that God will guide us in this process. We will keep you updated just as soon as we have more news.

If you have any further questions please speak to Geoff, Janet or any member of the PCC.

*The Parish Share is the sum of money contributed by each parish every year to the diocese which mainly supports local ministry. Parish Share is essential to the mission of the church in the diocese as without it, clergy could not be supported. Every parish receives benefit from the Parish Share in the following ways:

- Clergy monthly stipend (salary), pension contributions, housing costs and training
- The wide range of diocesan support services e.g. the Discipleship and Ministry team, that supports training of licensed lay workers.



ELECTORAL ROLL 2019

The Church Electoral Roll is the parish register of electors and it is a list of those entitled to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting where elections take place for:

- The Parochial Church Council.
- The parish's representative on the Deanery Synod.
- Enrolment means that you become a voting member of the Church of England.

Every 6 years the Church Electoral Roll is required to be renewed and 2019 is such a year.

In a year of renewal no names are carried forward from the old roll and everyone entitled must make a new application to be included on the new roll.

Applications are open to all those resident in the Parish of All Saints' who are baptised and are aged 16 years or over. In addition those non-residents who can show that they have regularly attended worship in the parish during a 6 month period prior to enrolment are also entitled to make application to have their names entered on the Electoral Roll.

Application forms for the purpose of enrolment showing the qualifying conditions will be available from the back of church each Sunday from Sunday 24th February.

Completed forms must be returned to the Electoral Roll Officer (Barbara Niven) or Stephen Niven, Janet Blackledge or Geoff Woods no later than Sunday 31st March.

The completed new Electoral Roll will be displayed in church for at least 14 days prior to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (to be held on Wednesday 24th April) during this period any errors or omissions in the roll may be corrected.

IF you are uncertain about your eligibility to be included on the Electoral Roll or have any queries at all regarding the roll please contact the Electoral Roll Officer after any of the 10am Sunday Services or ring on 01772-312340.

SHROVE TUESDAY 5th MARCH PANCAKES SERVED IN CHURCH FROM 6pm

Various games for the children.
All age groups invited.



MONDAY GROUP

Monday 18 March at 8pm
in Higher Walton Community Centre
Paul Richardson 'Walking the Way'
New members welcome

FUTURE DATES

Summer Fair : Saturday 6th July
Christmas Market : Saturday 30th November
(Sorry no Christmas Fair this year)

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Interment of Ashes in Churchyard
23rd February
Linda Taberner : died 19th December 2018



LOVE STORY WITH JOY

Weddings, parties, banquets, it's all there, including Brides and Grooms, Bridesmaids and even a Best Man! It's the extravagance of the Bible's account of life. No wonder Jesus said he came to give us the fullest and most satisfying life style possible.



We know Jesus went to at least one wedding at a town called Cana where he became the life and soul of the party. They soon drained all the wine but when they began to drink

the water he turned into a vintage wine they experienced the most extravagantly expensive wine ever. A life shared with Jesus leads to a level of joy unattainable anywhere else.

This life Jesus offers us is extensive; his invitation is to us all if we turn away from our frail and feeble attempts to find eternal love to accept his new way of living by embracing the kind of love St. Paul mentions. "Love that is patient and kind, selfless, just, love that rejoices in truth and perseveres to the end" a vintage wine unobtainable without Christ.

This extravagant and extensive love is also eternal, the greatest love that lasts for ever, we read. If we ask Jesus what he is doing now, then in his own words, we hear he is preparing a place for us so that where he is, he promises, we shall one day be with him eternally. He invites us to receive his gift of eternal life as burial recipients of his extravagant love displayed on Good Friday on the cross and revealed that first Easter morning by his Resurrection. This love can never be defeated.

I like the final verse of 1 Corinthians 13 in The Message version which reads: "Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love".

Extravagant, extensive, eternal love - what better gift can we live and pray for during this Lent?

David Woodhouse

"I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will guide you with knowledge and understanding". Jeremiah 3 ;15

CHURCH FLOWERS

3rd March

In memory of **Mr Jim Hodgson**

There are no flowers in Church during Lent, but there will be a box for donations towards Easter flowers. Thank you



"Lent is a time for quiet reflection and contemplation"

Next Newsletter 10th March