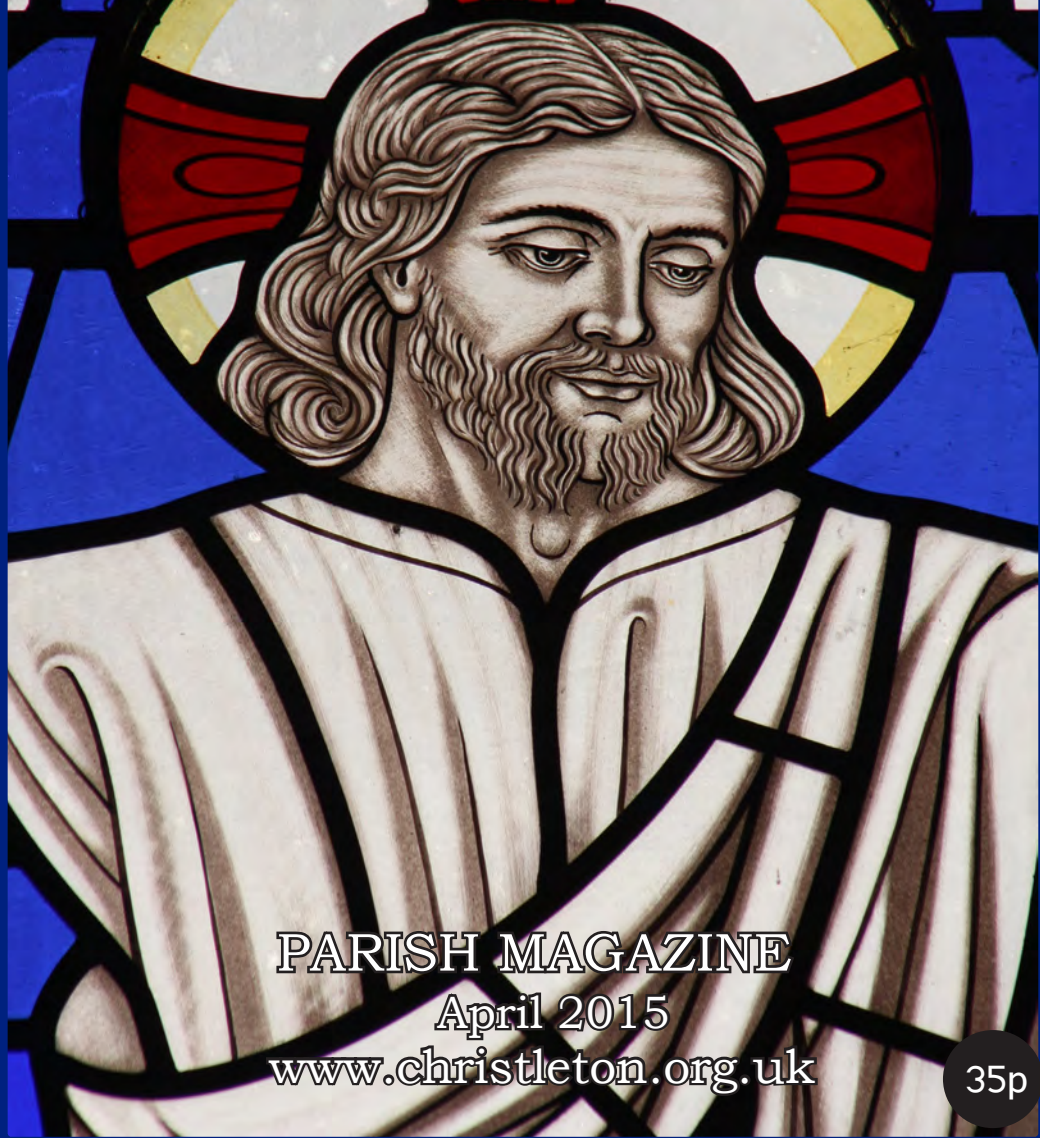


St. James'

Christleton



PARISH MAGAZINE

April 2015

www.christleton.org.uk

35p

Appointments in April

Holy Week			
Wed	1	10.45 am	United Holy Communion - followed by Refreshments
		7.30 pm	Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday			
Thur	2	11.00 am	Holy Communion At Chester Cathedral
		12 noon	United Prayer Lunch - Methodist Church
		7.30 pm	Holy Communion (CW) - with washing of feet
Good Friday			
Fri	3	10.45 am	Service of the Word
		2.00 pm	Service of Devotion
Sat	4	2.00 pm	Wedding Blessing - Tom & Tess Fitton
			Easter Eve
		6.30 pm	Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday			
Sun	5	8.00 am	Holy Communion (CW) - followed by Breakfast in the Parish Hall
		10.45 am	Holy Communion (CW) For All Ages – Easter Eggs will be distributed to children
		6.30 pm	Evening Worship (CW)
Wed	8	10.45 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - followed by refreshments
		11.30 am	Holy Communion at Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home
Fri	10	6.30 pm	Choir Practice

**NB: Last date for contributions for May Parish Magazine. E-mail the editor at christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk / christletonmag@spraff.net
Any non-computerised contributions to Janet Milton (325529).**

Sun	12	Low Sunday	
		8.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		10.45 am	Holy Communion (CW)

		6.30 pm	Evening Worship (CW)
Mon	13	10.45 am	Holy Communion at Oaklands Nursing Home
		11.20 am	Holy Communion at Tarvin Court Nursing Home
Wed	15	10.45 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - followed by refreshments
Fri	17	12.00 noon	Wedding -Ben Hirst & Alexandra Hutchinson
		6.30 pm	Choir Practice
Sun	19		Third Sunday after Easter
		8.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		10.45 am	Holy Communion (CW) - followed by
		12.00 noon	Holy Baptism of Ellie Divine
		4.00 pm - 6.00pm	Messy Church - Parish Hall
		6.30 pm	Evening Worship (CW)
Mon	20	12.30 pm	Easter Luncheon Club -Parish Hall
Wed	22	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
Fri	24	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
Sat	25	1.00 pm	Wedding - Peter Burgham & Emma Withers
Sun	26		Fourth Sunday after Easter
		8.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		10.45 am	Sunday Club - Parish Hall
		10.45 am	Morning Prayer (CW) followed by Annual Parochial General Meeting (in Church)
		6.30 pm	Holy Communion (CW)
Wed	29	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments

Message from our Rector



I would imagine that at some stage or another in our lives each one of us has felt, rejected, let down, isolated, or alone. These situations usually occur when we are trying to do something really exciting or when we really think, we know just what is needed in any given situation.

I'm sure you can picture the scene, and probably relate to it as well. There we are trying our best to do something really worthwhile, we get really excited about it, we can feel God in what we are doing and we think, yes, this is brilliant. People are behind us supporting us, they understand what we are attempting to achieve. And what happens next, we hear, I don't know why you're doing that, it was fine as it was, or, well that looks awful, or just total apathy, maybe just one or two people at first, but then this spreads, and then..... I'm sure it rings a bell somewhere.

Consider then the situation experienced by Jesus, the crowds of people who were making their way to Jerusalem as it was Pass-over season, all shouting and cheering, laying their garments and palm branches on the dusty road leading into the city. Here he was, the new king, the Messiah, the prophets had said he would enter Jerusalem riding on a donkey and here he was he had come to save his people, all of his people. Christ had come to show his people the Kingdom, but it wasn't the Kingdom they thought it was.

He hadn't come to throw out the Romans, which is what the people of Jerusalem wanted, and slowly the chants of Hosanna, Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, had changed, to Crucify him. That pain and rejection we feel has been experienced by Christ, he knows how much it hurts and he is right there in the centre of our pain with us.

Through his pain, suffering and rejection, Christ continued to preach forgiveness and repentance.

There can be no justification in not forgiving those, who sin against us, in fact we pray every day, forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Christ's death was the ultimate, the one perfect sacrifice for the redemption of our sins.

That is so awesome, and possibly beyond comprehension. We are sinners, we sin against God against each other, and yet if we are really sorry, and repent, God forgives us. Who then are we to condemn each other, we get, exactly what we give out,

If we want a loving God, then we must be loving. We want a merciful God, then, be merciful. Do we want God to forgive us, then, we must forgive each other.

Or do we condemn those who sin against us, in which case...

Do we want to put ourselves above the rest of the world, then, get ready for a God who is going to strain out every judgemental thought we have ever had, and measure all the thoughts and intents of our hidden heart by the same standard.

That is enough to send me to my knees, because I know my heart. We as Christians need to realise, that however acceptable our lives may be to the world in general, we still possess a heart containing sin, and we are as good as dead if we want God to meet us on any ground other than his grace and forgiveness.

The bible reveals to us, several symbolic acts of Jesus. Matthew tells of Jesus going into the temple, and overturning the tables of the money lenders, and the traders, the fact was this was the time of the passover, and hundreds if not thousands of people would be making their way to Jerusalem, or had already completed the journey, therefore whilst Jesus overturned the tables of the money lenders and traders on this particular day, the chances are, they would probably return the following day, but we hear no mention of Jesus returning to overturn the tables again, because it was a symbolic act. Jesus said, My house

will be called a house of prayer, but you are making it a den of robbers, this according to some commentators is a reference to the kind of life lived by some who call themselves Christians, maybe not robbers in the sense we understand or associate with the term, but people, who are not being true to their Christian beliefs.

It is these people Christ came to save, to forgive, and we therefore must do likewise.

The joy of this truth is that once we can believe that forgiveness for ourselves, then we can believe it for everybody. I have new eyes to see beyond my neighbours sin and love them with the love of Christ.

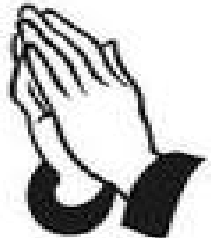
When we search the gospels, we never find a place where Jesus was offended by a sinful person, but there are repeated accounts of Christ being offended by the self righteousness of so called holy people who set themselves apart from the rest of humanity, in their own eyes.

For these people, Christ didn't even have the time of day, except to warn them of the judgement to come, a judgement brought about by their refusal to see themselves as needy of forgiveness as the next person.

Forgiving is love's revolution against love's unfairness. When we forgive, we ignore the normal behaviour that bind us to the natural law of getting even, and through the love of Christ we release ourselves from our painful past, and we restore a relationship that would otherwise be lost forever

Let us take the offer of eternal life given to each one of us by the sacrifice of Christ, and let us forgive the sins of others, in order that our own sins may be forgiven

Your Servant,
Malcolm.



WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

SUNDAY CLUB

Held in the Parish Hall from 10.45 am – 11.45 am each Sunday during term-time, except when Family Service is held at St James. For further details please contact Berenice Kirwan, 336779.

CHRISTLETON METHODIST CHURCH

We meet for Informal Prayers and a Simple Lunch on the first Thursday of each month at 12 noon. All welcome. There is no charge for the lunch but a donation to cover costs would be appreciated.

CHRISTLETON W. I.

Meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.15 pm in the Parish Hall. Further details may be obtained from the Secretary, Miss Ida Rogers, Chester 350060.



CHESTER FLOWER CLUB

Meetings are held in Christleton Parish Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1.30pm. Details of any events can be obtained from the Secretary, Mrs Lilian Hopley. Telephone Chester: 676683.

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

Please ensure all items for inclusion in the **May** edition are sent to Janet Milton (325529), as soon as possible **BEFORE Friday 10th April** or you can e-mail this to: christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk OR christletonmag@spraff.net

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The **May** magazine will be available for collection from Church on **Sunday 26th April.**

Nature Notes

February has been a relatively quiet month for sightings locally, except for the significant arrival of a large number of species you are likely to see out on the coastline. Severe storms often send gulls and cormorants inland to avoid the bad weather, although a source of food is often the big attraction. Cormorants can be seen at Christleton Pit on most days, usually accompanied by a tall stalking grey heron. The cormorants can often be seen sitting around on the swans nest platform. When hunger strikes they dive straight into the water spearing their prey between their sharp pointed beaks.

They then swallow the fish whole and are clearly enjoying the small fish that can be found there in thousands. The black headed gulls are more likely to be scavenging bread, taken by families to feed the ducks. Don't be put off misidentifying the species as there are now gulls at The Pit in both winter and spring plumage. Wintering black headed gulls have a small black patch at the back of their head just behind the eye, whereas the spring plumage birds have a rich black forehead in contrast to their creamy white bodies.



The cormorants also have two phases present, with mature birds being slate grey/black in colour whilst younger birds have almost white fronts. They still eat the same amount of food however, and it is estimated that a cormorant can eat 11lbs of fish a day!! Imagine what that says about the birds being almost permanent visitors at The Pit through the winter.

A lesser black back gull appeared there at the beginning of March. These gulls are much bigger than the black headed species, and are fairly rare visitors, although the attraction of the new lake between Hockenhull and Tarvin seems to bring in far more gulls than we've previously seen, including greater black back gulls. These are very predatory birds on cliff tops, always

trying to take an egg or a chick from a nest ledge when the parent bird, often a guillemot or herring gull, is looking the other way, or maybe off the ledge for a short time feeding. Spring migration is now almost upon us, and it is possible to see “Arctic swallows”, both Arctic & common terns flying over. In previous years I’ve seen them over the Pit and along the canal. These fascinating creatures fly really long distances on their migration, some across the other side of the world.

They are smaller and more streamlined than gulls, and make squeaky scratchy calls whilst twisting and turning in flight, often hovering over pond/canal/sea looking for their prey, before plunging headfirst into the water. They will normally make a quick exit from the water and eat whilst looking for their next catch. They also have bright red or red with a black tinge on their bills depending on the species. DC

Curates Corner!

I have been asked on many occasions whether I am a Good Friday Christian or an Easter Sunday Christian. The people who asked me were obviously curious, they weren’t necessarily church-goers but would have said they led a good, decent life and believed in something if not sure what. At first I didn’t really think about it. It seemed to mean the same as how you view your glass, is it half full or half empty? So always trying to be positive, my reply probably was “Oh, Easter Sunday, Resurrection and new life.” The implication being that Good Friday was negative, Easter Sunday positive. And it was nothing to do with the number of Easter eggs I received! But then I thought more deeply.

Good Friday can seem a strange name for a day commemorating the suffering and death of Jesus. Surely it should be called ‘Bad Friday’? In some Christian traditions, in Germany for example, it is known as Karfreitag or ‘Sorrowful Friday’ and some believe

that the word 'Good' was originally 'God.' For Christians it celebrates the most momentous time. On Good Friday, we remember the day Jesus willingly died for us all, choosing to become the ultimate sacrifice for our sins. It is a 'Good Friday' though because the suffering and death of Jesus, as terrible as it was, was part of God's plan of salvation for all his people.

The Good news of the gospel only begins to be real for us when we acknowledge the bad news of all the things we do wrong. Jesus' death upon the cross enables us to receive the fullness of the grace of God, from his great love for us and to know we have his forgiveness. The cross is where great suffering and God's love and forgiveness are gloriously complete. From Jesus' sacrifice, we receive divine forgiveness, mercy and peace.

Good Friday is good too because without it we would not have the celebration of the joy of Easter. Jesus, amazingly, wondrously, was raised from the dead! His was the victory over sin and death! So because of Good Friday we have Easter Sunday where we celebrate God's love for us. We are his dear children, to each one of us he says 'You are my child and I am pleased with you.' How blessed we are!

So am I a Good Friday Christian or and Easter Sunday Christian? I am both because I cannot be one without the other! May you know that you are much loved by God and the blessings of Easter be with you.
In love and light,
Barbara.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

We currently have a small but dedicated team of people who keep St James Church clean and tidy but it would be nice if we could expand that team to enable those people to have the occasional 'day off'.

Would there be anyone out there who has a few hours to spare to help us out? For further details please contact the Verger, John Milton on 01244 325529.

A note for your diary

Christleton Village Show 2015

Is on Saturday 11th of July
In Christleton Parish Hall

This year the show theme is An English Country Garden, reflecting the many beautiful gardens in our village. We're also hoping a special effort will be made with Hanging Baskets. It is good to see the Pump House resplendent with flowers each year and we're hoping this example will be followed throughout the village – there's also a trophy to won in the Hanging Basket competition.

Schedules are now available from Christleton Village Stores, the Ring O Bells as well as St James Parish Church, Christleton Methodist Church and committee members.

As usual there are new categories to choose from as well familiar ones so there is great choice to start planting (its time to start your Hanging Baskets), 'crafting', sewing, painting etc. It doesn't cost much, is great fun and there are lots of trophies to win. You will also be helping with a good charity, after last year's show we donated to Claire House Children's Hospice; Hospice of the Good Shepherd and North West Air Ambulance. Once again Drakes Hairdressers (see Hayley) has agreed to be a collecting point for completed Entry forms, making getting your forms in on time so much easier. This is in addition to the Entry form collection point of Judith Butts house –Greenmantle, Plough Lane. There will also be a Coffee Morning on 4th July in the Ring O Bells for entries to be made.

If you have any queries or if you would like to help on the day (PLEASE) ring any of the committee below.

David or Beryl Cummings - 332410, Janet Brown – 335785.
Charles Smeatham – 335209. Margaret Croston – 335955, Sue Haywood – 01829 741814, Chris Marsland – 335424, June Pearson - 335101, Judith Butt – 335296, Sue and Lewis Rees; Christine Abrams -335562, Edward Elliot - 336659; Sarah Donald, Jim Ferns and Claire Gelder.

Farming then and Now

Growing up in a village surrounded by farm land, sadly now covered by houses, it is interesting to see how farming practices have changed in the past 75 years. I remember sitting on a gate and watching a ploughman ploughing a single furrow with a mismatched pair of horses. The return furrow was made some 15 ft away from the first as the soil was turned in one direction only, thus a finished field had a stripped pattern with an unploughed ridge between each.

Now with the modern reversible ploughs all the furrows are in the same direction with no unploughed strips and ploughing is completed in a fraction of the time. The follow up operations harrowing, raking, seeding and rolling, were each done with separate horse drawn machinery.

Hay was made once a year which meant we had meadowland and early in the year it would be filled with wild flowers, butterflies and insects, providing food for the skylarks which soared overhead. I often looked for a nest amongst the grass but never found one. Now we have silage and haylage, baled in the field. The flowers, butterflies and birds have gone.

When the hay was ready it was cut turned and raked into liner piles all with horse drawn machinery. It was then loaded into a high sided cart by men using pikels [the local name for a pitch fork] and taken to the stack yard or made into a hayrick in the field.

Cereal crops were then much taller and cut with a horse drawn binder. A belt took the cut stalks formed them into a bundle wrapped them with string and dropped them on the ground; men and sometimes women would follow the binder and arrange the sheaves into stooks four either side leaning inwards. We would try to leapfrog over them when the men had gone. As with the hay it was loaded into high sided carts and taken into the stack yard.

One summer I worked on two farms during threshing. A contractor from Capenhurst came to the farm with a big American tractor towing a threshing box and a bailer. The baler was set up behind the thresher and the tractor behind that. Long canvas belts connected the three together. Men using

pikels threw the sheaves up to men on top of the box who cut the string and dropped them into the Thresher. Either side of the thresher were double chutes, grain came down one set and chaff down the other. Two men bagged up the grain and took it away; two boys did the same for the chaff. Straw came out the back of the thresher and on to the baler, a man was engaged inserting steel plates and baling wire and carrying the bales away. There were six men and two boys doing the work which is now done in the field by one man and a Combine Harvester. On one farm I was paid 4s 6d [22.5p] a day, on the other 10s [50p] for two days work.

Milking was the same. I used to watch three men milk 28 cows/ A petrol driven vacuum pump was started [later converted to electricity] and the cows brought into the shippon [the local name for a cowshed] each went to its own stall. The men had two clusters which were clipped onto the top of churns and after washing the cows udders one would be attached to the vacuum line and attached to the teats, the udder would be felt to see if it was empty and then the cluster taken to another cow. A man would then get a three legged stool and strip the remaining milk by hand.

When the churns were full they would be carried across the yard into the dairy and poured into the cooler, the milk drained into a tankard underneath. Every morning the tankards would be put on a platform at the farm gate to be collected.

All farm work was labour intensive and horses were the motive power. However things began to change in 1946 with the arrival of the Furguson T20 tractor [the little grey Fergie] the one I was familiar with started on petrol and ran on paraffin; however by this time I had started an engineering apprenticeship and my visits to farms came to an end.

Ben Williams

FRESH START

A fresh start or a new beginning - it's something we all need from time to time. So this Easter, as we revisit the greatest turnaround ever (Jesus' victory over death), let's do so not only looking at what happened that day, but also at what Jesus offers us

when we desperately need our own fresh start or new beginning.

It's one thing to fall down, and all believers do from time to time...but sadly, there are many today who never get up. They remember how it used to be with them and God, and how they used to go to church and live their life, but somewhere along the way they fell and didn't get back up.

One of the biggest factors that keeps many from serving God like they should is not peer pressure or lack of desire, but guilt. Many people who have done something in their past that they are totally ashamed of Or they fell out of church years ago and would be embarrassed to return.

The problem is we are looking backward instead of forward. Jesus said, in Luke 9:62 "No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God". in Philippians 3:13-14 " ...this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus".

You may have fallen, but there is good news today: You can get up! And you must now go forward. Just tell God and your fellow man or woman you are sorry and then start over. Once you have received forgiveness from God – get back up and serve Him with all your heart. When kids do wrong, they are punished and get forgiveness, and after that we all move on and strive to do better. Don't let Satan keep you from living the Christian life because he keeps bringing up your past. Just respond to God in the present and change your future. The past has passed and can't be changed, but your future is unwritten.

Proverbs 24:16 "For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief".

You're not a failure because you fall...only if you don't get back up If you get up just once more than you fall then you're a success! That's called "failing forward."

God loves you just as you are – and he loves you too much to leave you that way!

[that's the kind of unconditional love we should also have for OUR children, our spouses, and for each other in the church]

Psalms 103:14 "For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust." [that's unconditional love]

God still wants you! He's there all the time, waiting patiently in line! Talk about turnarounds. Jesus came to earth to personally solve our sin problem. Yet he was rejected by the masses, betrayed by a friend, deserted by his followers - then tortured and killed. At that point, humanity's destruction was not only justified, it was sealed. It was a damnable Friday.

Then suddenly, everything changes. Jesus is alive and well! You can't keep a **God-Man** down! Instead of judgment, his crucifixion brings us forgiveness. Instead of a dead martyr, we have a living Lord who intervenes on our behalf. Instead of a cause for shame, the cross becomes our greatest source of pride. And then that damnable Friday becomes Good Friday.

Whether it's for our whole life or just one part of our life, the requirements for a successful turnaround are exactly the same. . .

1) **A CLEAN SLATE**

Colossians 1:21 "And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled".

Colossians 2:13-14 "And you, being dead in your sins...hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross";

2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new".

1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness".

Proverbs 28:13 "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy".

A fresh start without a clean slate won't last.

Two Conditions:

- Taking Responsibility.
- Changing Direction.

A fresh start is not a head start. It's starting over.
We need a clean slate...

2) A NEW GAME PLAN

Proverbs 3:1-2 “My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee”.

Proverbs 3:5-7 “Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil”.

Hebrews 11:6 “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him”.

Joshua 1:8 “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success”.

A fresh start without a new game plan always produces the same old results. God's ways are often counter intuitive. [they don't fit human logic.]

The Big Decision:

Do I trust God's advice or my best judgment?

We need a clean slate, a new game plan...

3) POWER TO KEEP GOING

Philippians 2:13 “For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure”.

Ephesians 1:18-19 “The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know...what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power...”

Philippians 1:6 “Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ”:

A fresh start without power to keep going is just a good intention. During the Battle of Waterloo, a man stood on top of a great cathedral in London. He was like a man who stands on an aircraft carrier, and holds signal flags. The whole city of London was anxious to know how things were going. All were wondering if the Duke of Wellington could defeat Napoleon. The man stood on that cathedral watching for signals from the battlefield relaying news. When he received a message he waved his flags to give the people of London a report on the battle.


He received news and began waving his flags. When the people of London looked up they could barely see through the fog. The message they were able to see was, "Wellington defeated." They could not believe it. Their hearts sank. But then there was a break in the fog and they saw the rest of the message which said, "Wellington defeated Napoleon." The entire nation of England rejoiced.

When Jesus died the message that came to the disciples heart was, "Jesus defeated." But 3 days later, the fog cleared, and the message they received was, "Jesus defeated Satan." When Jesus died it was a moment of sadness. But 3 days later when He rose from the dead, it was a moment of gladness.

Christians around the world celebrate the glorious truth that Jesus Christ arose from the dead. And you may have fallen away from God, and it has led to sadness, but the victory that God has purchased for you still applies, and you don't have to feel defeated...you can get back up and have a clean slate! There are no stains on the pages of tomorrow. You can have a fresh start today! Maybe you've failed...who hasn't? Just don't fail to be saved!

Pick up the broken pieces, and bring them to the Lord
Pick up the broken pieces, trust in His Holy Word
He will put you back together, and make your life complete
Just lay the broken pieces at the Savior's feet.
Get saved, get right with God, and get back into church. God is calling us to make a decision right now...a fresh start!

Remain Blessed.



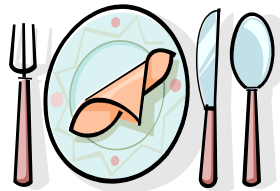
THE MONTHLY CHRISTLETON LUNCHEON CLUB

IN PARISH HALL

From 12 noon for 12.30 serving:

FREE lunch
(donations
welcome)

*Monday
20th April*



All welcome, but please book a place by calling:

Liz: 409414, or Janet: 325529, or Christine: 335562, or sign the list in Church

(Transport can be arranged for those that need it - just ask.)

Congratulations

Sarah (Betty) Dandy who will celebrate her 100th birthday on 7th April.
 Born in Guilden Sutton in 1915, she moved to Littleton Hall Farm in 1951, then to Christleton in 1989 following the death of her husband, Sid.

She spent 6 happy years at The Square, but following a fall in September moved to Tarvin Court Care Home, Littleton where she is receiving excellent care from all the staff.

Golden Wedding

Our congratulations to Beryl & David Cummings who will be celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the 19th.

April. We are all so very grateful to them both for the enthusiasm and energy they give to Parish Life.

NOTIFICATION OF ST JAMES' CHURCH ANNUAL MEETINGS

(The church parish covers the villages of:
Christleton, Cotton Abbotts, Cotton Edmunds, Littleton and Rowton)

We have two annual meetings, one after the other, that will take place in
St James' Church at 12 noon on Sunday 26th April '15.

The first (the short **Meeting of Parishioners**, or Vestry Meeting) elects our Churchwardens for the next year, and the second (the main **APCM** meeting) deals with everything else - PCC membership, deanery synod reps, finance, informative reports about what the church is doing and much more. All church members are invited. Additionally all residents in the parish are also invited to the first meeting - even though it's rather short. You can ask questions and make your views known, or submit your name in advance as a candidate for Churchwarden or PCC Member. Application forms in church.

A church member is defined as someone on the Electoral Roll of the church. If you are not on, and wish to be, then you need to apply before 10th April for it to be effective at the APCM. Forms in church, or ask for details.

Information packs about the meetings with the Agenda, list of who's who, finance and other reports and more are available to pick up in church from about 10th April. Gives you a chance to read up before you come and to decide what questions to ask. This is a new idea for 2015.

We want to see you. It is your church, and opportunities like this only come around once a year!

More details from: Brian Inall
Tel: 336500 or email: brian@inall.co.uk



Blestival 2015: Blestival is the Chester Diocesan Youth Weekend for children in school years 7-11. This year, the weekend is from 8 – 10 May at Quinta Hall, Oswestry. It is fully catered and will cost £60 per child plus travelling expenses.

Please contact Tina Lightfoot (tina.lightfoot@googlemail.com) for further information and to secure a place. You can also check out the Blestival website to get a taste of what it's all about. http://www.chester.anlican.org/page_youth. Places are restricted so the sooner we book the better.

The Late Ruby Wolfendale

Ruby's family would like to thank the Rector and everyone who helped at the church on the day of Mum's funeral. We would also like to thank all Mum's friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy at this sad time. The family also appreciated all the help and support that was given to Mum whilst she was still living at home.

Thank you all for your donations in memory of Mum. The donations to date for the church are £495, including the £92 donated in the church's own box.

The donations to date for the Alzheimer's Society are £400.

Our sincere thanks to you all.

from all of Ruby's Family

Cover Picture

The Front Cover

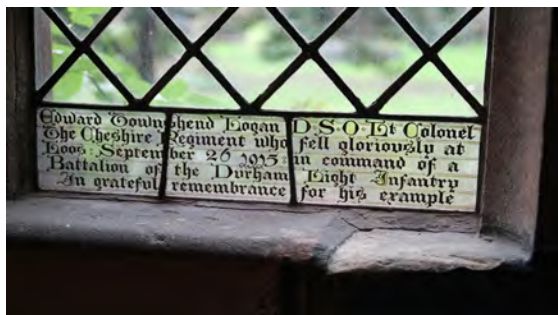
Christ in Majesty from the Millennium Window at St James. This beautiful modern stained glass window by Bill Davies tells the story of the village over 1000years.

The History File

Names on War Memorials

The discoveries of facts about the Fallen in WWI within our village context continue to amaze our research team, with new information coming to light almost every day. We have often struggled to find relevant information about a person, when suddenly new facts emerge. One such example is George Frederick Jones. There didn't appear to be a reason to connect a man from Whitchurch with our war memorial until his obituary reveals that he worked as a servant at Christleton Hall for Mrs Pitcairn Campbell.

With help from his family we have found out so much about him and his service. He also is remembered at Whitchurch, Shropshire on their War Memorial. Lieutenant Colonel Townsend Logan DSO the most Senior Officer



commemorated on the Christleton War Memorial has a number of other memorials in which he is remembered. As well as being on the Christleton village, St James' Church & Institute Memorials, he has a private Memorial Plaque in the Lady Chapel at St James', a stained glass window at Chester Cathedral, and is recorded on the War Memorial at Upton by Chester. Lt Col Townsend Logan was born in Valparaiso Chile in 1865, the son of Edward Logan & Emily Townshend.

Edward his father was a prosperous dealer in copper & other goods in South America. Edward, the son, was educated at Westminster School and joined the Cheshires in 1888. He served in the Boer War with distinction and also served in the South African Constabulary. He married Hilda Johnson at Rossett in 1906, and re-joined the Cheshires at the outbreak of war. He took Command of the 15th Battalion Durham Light Infantry,

but fell at the Battle of Loos in September 1915 aged 49. He was given a Memorial Service at Chester Cathedral as well as at St James' Christleton. Mrs Logan was by then living at Christleton Bank (The Abbotts Well) and organised all the links between the people of Christleton & the Cheshire Regiment throughout the war and played a prominent part in Village life. Christleton Bank is reported to have had twenty rooms, and a search for details has shown another aspect of the social history of our village. Mrs Logan employed four female servants, Jane Evans a ladies maid from Caernarvon, Dora Price 20 a cook from Rhosmore Flint, Agnes Higginson 30 a housemaid from Royton, and Elizabeth Randles 24 a scullery maid from Rossett.

There are also records of older men being employed a coachman/driver and a Sergeant Albert Parker late of Liverpool City Police. He is the father of Private William Parker commemorated on the Christleton War Memorial, who before he enlisted, was employed by the White Star Shipping Line of Liverpool. The name Albert Parker also appears on the War Memorial as an addition in 1917 but we have yet to establish any link.
DC

This is a copy of a letter Ben Williams sent to the headmistress of Childer Thornton School.

Mrs Healey,

In 1935 I went to Little Sutton Church of England School at the end of Berwick Road. When the war started in 1939 the school was closed down and turned into a first aid post. After a prolonged holiday the classes were scattered around the village, the Methodist hall, the Scout Hut, a room in the Travellers Rest pub and a spare class room in Childer Thornton School.

At this time my wife who had been born in Battersea and attended the local school was evacuated to stay with her aunt in Great Sutton, Great Sutton School was full so she joined our class in Little Sutton.

We can both remember walking along the road to Childer Thornton me from Little Sutton and my wife from Great Sutton, past the antitank gun outside Hooton Church.

About this time an air raid shelter was dug in what I think was the school garden behind the fence which bounded the school yard and all tramping down there whether for a practice or an air raid I do not remember. There were no lights but one of the teachers had a torch. Someone opened a pack of Garibaldi Biscuits [the first I tasted] and handed them round, they were supposed to be emergency rations. I can remember going home from school one afternoon when two Spitfires streaked across the sky over Little Sutton and we heard the rat-a-tat of machine gun fire. They were from the Polish squadron at Hooton aerodrome they were chasing a German bomber which eventually crashed on Frodsham marshes

The headmaster at that time was a Mr Woolham although he had little to do with us as we were not his pupils. We were taught by a Mrs Richards It was said she was not a proper teacher having previously taught only in a private school. She was a bit of a martinet keeping order with a large wooden knitting needle with which she rapped our knuckles my wife was worse off than me as I sat on the back row at the right she sat on the left front row right under her desk. Once a week, Seth Hughes a teacher from Little Sutton came and we took over the school hall, the whole class formed a choir we sang traditional and folk songs, I took most of the solos.

One winter we made a slide in the school yard which lasted several days the caretaker spread ash on it but we made another. When we were 11 we returned to Little Sutton Methodist Church Hall and my wife sat for the Scholarship with exam papers sent from London she returned to London to go to Mayfield School which had been evacuated to a big house in Surrey I eventually ended up at the Wirral Grammar School.

In the last days of the Blitz my wife's father was killed by a V2 rocket and she returned to live in Childer Thornton we eventually reconnected and married in 1956.

Jean [nee Carr] and Ben Williams

The shape of a Christian led Transformation of Society.....??

The previous month's Parish magazine Included an article I prepared about our economy and implications as to how we manage the distribution of wealth (and recognize the extent of liabilities whilst doing that) to raise the bar for the lowest, most disadvantaged in society- whilst hopefully not creating disincentive across the wider community. In that context the question was posed 'what would a Christian led Transformation in society really require and look like...' The issues are big, very complex and embedded in the various layers and structures of our societies worldwide – made more challenging in some ways by increasingly pluralistic and transient lifestyles and the hidden impact of technology which along with its benefits makes the world smaller and has massive impact on how and where resources are deployed. A big, big issue is of course the level of Debt carried by poor or underdeveloped countries and the impact of finance interest on it that percolates down to individual living standards in key areas like health, security and nutrition (or hunger!!)

So what might be a starter for ten? I thought a good place to consider would be to understand and take on board the priorities set by the Arch Bishop of Canterbury. There are three key areas which you can read on his website: -the Renewal of Prayer, thereby encouraging all Christians to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ enriching not just their lives but the lives of those around them, and supporting both existing and new religious communities as active demonstration and witness of how people can bind together (including reaching out to others whether in any Faith or not) to reach new depths of love and obedience in their lives of faith

-Reconciliation, recognizing the challenge both in our lives locally, and for the worldwide churches if we are actually going to speak to our society, which is divided in many different ways ; strengthening and leveraging our overall capacity to transform and engage ever more widely

-through Evangelism and Witness – showing others through our words, actions, attitudes and interactions how God has offered everyone of us a new start and how we can show others they are loved by God, and through witness what we do with what we have seen; the love of God in Jesus Christ and the second commandment to love our neighbour (not just next door but throughout the world!!) If these priorities become a natural part of our lives, and reflect our deeds,

words and thoughts, it seems to me there is scope for huge change and improvement in our world to transform it and change the world forever. Sometimes these things just creep up on us because society as a whole is influenced by government, business, family and friends around them like a tidal wave of change- a good example is that 40 or so years ago drink driving was more prevalent in the UK but there was gradual change of awareness and culture such that our outlooks as a whole were transformed towards responsible driving being the mantra for the vast majority of the population. The message is that change can and does occur if we have the will.

The Christmas sermon of the Arch Bishop included the line:

“That is the impact of the baby in the manger (Jesus) , the impact of the one who reaches out to us and brings not a day long truce but permanent peace with God, not escapism but to a call to be those who change the world in which we live”

So in 2015, let’s all think how we can glue together and build together on the myriad of thousands good things which are already being done quietly or publicly, week in week out, and how as Christians together with others in different Faiths, those unsure or sitting on the fence or currently in no Faith, we can leverage our capacity to help Transform the ills of the world and spread joy wherever we can.

Mark Evans

Christleton Wednesday Group

JUMBLE SALE
on
Saturday 9 May,
at

**CHRISTLETON PARISH HALL,
11.00 am to 1.00 pm.**

In aid of LIVE!
At New Scene Youth Centre

Parish Registers (March)

The Funeral Service

- 2nd Beatrice Margaret Harrison 9 Robinson Croft, Boughton Heath 86yrs
- 7th Deborah Cynthia Nicholle 4 Bewley Court, Caldý Valley 50yrs
(Burial of Cremated Remains)
- 18th Gloria Lorraine Edgecombe Callin Court, Greyfriars, Chester 93yrs
- 25th Ruby Wolfendale Orchard Manor Nursing Home, Upton by Chester 94yrs.

“Grant them eternal rest”

Offertories

February	Cash	C.S.E.	2015	2014
1st	118-45	597-61	716-06	768-34
8th	110-80	563-04	673-84	1,891-49
15th	86-59	404-00	490-59	640-95
22nd	280-40	433-00	713-40	819-58
Totals			£ 2,593-89	£4,120-58

“Of your own do we give you”

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St James from the east window at St James Church Christleton

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Jesus Christ in Majesty after resurrection from the Millennium Window at St James Church Christleton

PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CHRISTLETON

REGULAR WORSHIP

SUNDAYS:	8.00am:	Holy Communion
	10.45am:	Holy Communion (1st & 3rd & 5th Sundays) Morning Worship - a less formal service for all (2nd Sunday) Morning Prayer / Mattins (4th Sunday)
	6.30pm:	Evening Prayer / Evensong (1st Sunday) Holy Communion (2nd & 4th Sundays) Evening Prayer / Evensong (BCP) (3rd Sunday) Evening services on a 5th Sunday vary - see notices.
WEDNESDAYS:	10.45am:	Holy Communion (BCP) (United service on 1st Sunday)

Special services take place at festivals and at other times, and other variations occur, so please check the diary at the front of this magazine, also the church notices and the Christleton website. A 'United' service is where Churches Together in Christleton congregations come together.

'Book of Common Prayer' (BCP) services use the older traditional language, other services are 'Common Worship' using modern language.

Children are welcome at all of our services. Sunday Club, Messy Church and the Crew Youth Group also available for younger members. There is a good organist at St James and a robed choir sings at many of the services.

Refreshments are generally served after the 10.45am Sunday service in the Parish Hall across the road, and are also served in the church after the 10.45am Wednesday services. Once a month on the 1st Sunday breakfast is served in the Parish Hall from about 8.45am. These give splendid opportunities for fellowship and you are invited to join in.

SHALOM !!!

WHO'S WHO & WHAT'S WHAT

Rector:	Rev'd Malcolm Cowan, B.Th. The Rectory, Birch Heath Lane, Christleton, CH3 7AP (The Rector's day off each week is normally Friday)	335663
Curate:	Rev'd Barbara King, B.Ed. 17 Cathcart Green, Guilden Sutton, CH3 7SR	300756
Administration:	Janet Milton	325529
(Janet is your initial contact point for Baptism, Wedding and Appointment requests)		
Other local clergy who may assist:	Rev'd Gill Hibbert	336544
	Rev'd Elizabeth Inall, MA	336500
Churchwardens:	Carl Cumiskey	330028
	Bettie Gilliatt	335645
Deputy Wardens:	Chris Platel	332466
	Keith Smalls	335688
	Alan McAllester	335494
Verge:	John Milton	325529
Church Volunteer:	Melanie Efobi	336072
Sacristan:	Betty Dunning	335652
Organist & Choir Master:	Steve Roberts	815277
PCC Secretary:	Brian Inall	336500
PCC Treasurer:	Brian & Lorraine Lewis	534323
Gift Aid Secretary:	Nigel Seddon	335588
Planned Giving Envelopes:	Betty Dunning	335652
Deanery Synod Representative:	Berenice Kirwan	336779
Electoral Roll Officer:	Brenda Bailey	335034
Churches Together Representative:	Jan Bowden	335705
Child Protection:	Alistair Holland	332819
Pastoral Worker / Visiting:	Berenice Kirwan	336779
Sunday Club / Messy Church:	Berenice Kirwan	336779
CREW Youth Group:	Mike & Tina Lightfoot	328436
Assisting CREW Youth Group:	Melanie Efobi	336072
Church Library:	Gwen Knight	336236
Church Flowers:	Olive Hammond	336562
Bellringers:	Ian Braithwaite	300565
Bellringers' Secretary:	Nikki Dromgoole	351124
Parish Hall Bookings:	Clare Holland	332819
Children's Society Sec:	Lesley Morgan	335088
Church Missionary Society Sec:	Janet Brown	335785
Mothers' Union Branch Leader:	Janet Brown	335785
Magazine Editor:	David Bull	332234
Assisting Magazine Editor:	Huw Morgan	335088
Magazine Distributors:	Jenny Davies, Valmai Griffiths	335884
Magazine Photographs:	David Cummings	332410
Magazine Compiler:	Ike Efobi	336072

(Phone numbers have Chester code: 01244 unless stated otherwise)

April 2015



St James from the east window at
St James Church Christleton



Christ in Majesty from the Millennium
Window at St James Church Christleton

Smile!

We've all heard the phrase 'smile and the world smiles with you'... and it may well be true. Scientists in Trieste, Italy, have found that when we see someone smile, or even think about a smile, we tend to want to reproduce it ourselves. Smile because Jesus Christ is risen Hallelujah.

April 2015 @ St. James, Church Christleton