

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

...FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN...



ST JAMES' CHURCH
CHRISTLETON

— 2013 —

35p

Countdown to Christmas

Sun	1	Advent Sunday	
		08.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.45 am	Holy Communion
		10.45 am	Sunday Club - Parish Hall
		06.00 pm	The Crew - Winter Wonderland at
		08.00 pm	The Racecourse
		06.30 pm	Evening Worship (CW)
Mon	2	10.30 am	Holy Communion at Tarvin Court NH
		11.00 am	Holy Communion at Oaklands NH
Wed	4	10.45 am	United Communion - followed by refreshments
Thur	5	12.00 noon	United Prayer Lunch - Methodist Church
Fri	6	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
Sat	7	2 - 4 pm	Primary School Christmas Fair
		6 - 10 pm	Victorian Street Market
Sun	8	Second Sunday of Advent	
		8.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		10.45 am	Toy Service - followed by Community Lunch in the Parish Hall
You are invited to bring a wrapped gift which should be labelled accordingly for a boy/girl and with the age for which the gift is suitable. The gifts will be given to a local family support centre			
		6.30 pm	Holy Communion (CW)
Mon	9	2.00 pm	Community Carol Singing - Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home

		2.00 pm	Mothers' Union Christmas Service - St James
Wed	11	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
		11.30 am	Holy Communion at Birch Heath Lodge NH
		2.30 pm	Community Carol Singing Oaklands NH

Fri 13 6.30 pm Choir Practice

NB: Last date for contribution to January Parish Magazine to Janet Milton (325529). You can attach your Word Document and e-mail to: christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk

Sun 15 **Third Sunday of Advent**

08.00 am	Holy Communion
10.45 am	Holy Communion
10.45 am	Sunday Club - Parish Hall
06.30 pm	Evening Worship (BCP)

Wed	18	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
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Fri	20	3.30 pm	Holy Matrimony -Sara Morgan and William Kinsey
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6.30 pm	Choir Practice
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Sun 22 **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

8.00 am	Holy Communion
10.45 am	Morning Prayer (BCP)
10.45 am	Sunday Club -Parish Hall
06.30 pm	Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Tues 24 **CHRISTMAS EVE**

07.00 pm	Carols Round the Tree
11.30 pm	First Holy Communion of Christmas

Wed 25

CHRISTMAS DAY

08.00 am Holy Communion

10.45 am All Age Holy Communion

Thur 26

Feast of St Stephen

10.45 am Holy Communion

Sun 29

First Sunday of Christmas

08.00 am Holy Communion

10.45 am Holy Communion

06.30 pm Evening Worship (CW)

Message from our Rector



There is no escaping the fact that Christmas is just around the corner, almost every shop window is now displaying those “must have” gifts.

And of course, we all get swept along in the misguided belief that unless we begin our shopping early (and it seems to be earlier and earlier each year) then we may well miss out.

Sadly, we can and do fall into this trap, and in so doing, we can miss out on one of the most important seasons in the Christian calendar, the season of Advent.....the season of anticipation and hope.

There is the spirit of anticipation, of preparing our hearts and our lives, of the expectation and the excitement. We have the spirit of hope, that peace and justice will be established. Within this cocktail of anticipation, of hope, of expectation and excitement, there is also the preparation, we must ensure that we are ready to welcome and receive, in love and

truth. Advent is a time of preparation marked by prayer, these prayers are of humble devotion, and commitment, prayers of submission, prayers for deliverance, prayers from those walking in darkness, awaiting and anticipating a great light (Isaiah 9).

The spirit of Advent is expressed well in the parable of the bridesmaids who are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the bridegroom (Matthew 25: 1-13). There is profound joy at the bridegrooms expected comingand yet a warning of the need for preparation echoes through the parable. Even then, the prayer of Advent is.....O come O come Emmanuel.

So as we wait, so we prepare. Advent is a wonderful opportunity for each of us to prepare, not only in Church, but also at home. Why not use an Advent crown or even simply use candle sticks. At meal times during the first week of Advent, light the first candle, and pray together before the meal. Then during the second week light two candles, and so on, until the four candles are burning, then on Christmas eve, the centre candle is lit in the same way.

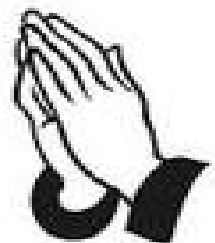
Even for those who live alone, the awareness of coming together in a time a prayer, with so many throughout the Church, even though apart, is a wonderful vehicle for corporate prayer.

And as we pray during this season of Advent, we do so in anticipation, in anticipation and in hope.

The name the Bible gives to Jesus is Emmanuel.....it means God with us

O Come O come Emmanuel.

Yours in Christ
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.



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 **January** edition are sent to Janet Milton (325529), as soon as possible **BEFORE Friday 13th December** or you can e-mail this to: christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The **December** magazine will be available for collection from Church on **Sunday 24th November**

SUNDAY CLUB DATES – AUTUMN TERM

As a general rule, after the Club term ends, we do not meet until the Sunday previous to the new term starting. The dates for this term are listed below.

The session begins at 10.45 am and finishes between 11.45 am and 12.00 noon

06 October	Sunday Club
13 October	HARVEST SERVICE
20 October	HALF TERM - NO SUNDAY CLUB
27 October	Sunday Club
03 November	Sunday Club
10 November	REMEMBRANCE SERVICE
17 November	Sunday Club
24 November	NO SUNDAY CLUB
01 December	Sunday Club
08 December	TOY SERVICE
15 December	Sunday Club
22 December	Sunday Club
24 December	Christmas Eve Crib Service – to be confirmed

People in the News

Dr Wayne Morris

It is with real sadness that the Rector announced in November that Dr Wayne Morris our Reader was leaving the church. Wayne came to St James' in 1994/5 and has contributed immensely to the worship of the church through his excellent scholarship and understanding of scripture.



He is moving to a church nearer his home in North Wales, but will still work at the University of Chester as a leader in the Religious Studies Department. A presentation was made to him at morning service on November 17 to recognise his enormous contribution to the life of the church during the time of his ministry.

Obituary

Ian Gorst 1950-2013 Chairman of Christleton Pit Group

Ian was for many years one of the hardest working members of the Pit team. He was quiet and unassuming, but as an engineer by profession, an ideas man. Give him a problem and Ian would solve it, and not always by conventional means.

For instance who can forget the Christleton "Drag Queen", a device similar to a supermarket trolley but with cutting blades at the front and sides which was towed through the water by a crane, and helped to clear the mass carpet

of vegetation covering the pit, as part of our conservation work in the late 1980's and early 90's. (He had already organised the loan of the crane from Shell UK on as many occasions as we needed it) Ian could turn his hand to any job, cutting paving stone with an electric saw, hammering in posts with a power tool, create pipelines for water to fill the pit etc. It was Ian & son Andrew who with the aid of divining rods found the "magic spring" which gave us a source of water for over 7years at a rate of 400gallons an hour.

This filled the pit wonderfully, but it was only when it was discovered to be a break in a mains water pipe, and the chlorinated water was killing off the reedmace, that this source was lost.

Ian was a family man and lived in the village in Sandrock Road. He was very committed to the success of the village in every way, and for years before his untimely death in October was building a steam engine in his garden shed, hoping to run it on rails for children at the Village Fete, and ultimately take it from Land's End to John O Groat's to raise funds for a Breast Cancer charity.



Ian Gorst working at the pit

Ian was a delight to know, and had a wonderful sense of humour and fun. All of us who knew him are shocked by the suddenness of his passing, He will be sorely missed and our sympathies go out to Jeanne, Andrew, Natalie and family at their great loss. DC

Bible Verse: Ps - 90 vs 12 "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom".

Nature Notes

October was quite a quiet month, with very little to report on the wildlife front. However just at the end of the month lots of activity occurred throughout the village, and especially at Hockenhull.

The migratory thrushes from Scandinavia arrived in their hundreds, and began devouring the multitude of berries in the hedgerows. Fieldfare outnumbered redwings in the first arrivals, and good numbers of meadow pipits and reed buntings were also to be seen.

A grey wagtail was a rare visitor, seen flying along the Gowy, and the new lake on the Tarvin side of the bridges is already attracting large number of gulls. Similarly black headed gulls are back at the Pit, feeding together with a grey heron, and the occasional cormorant. The Pit swans are still on the canal together with one lonely cygnet which seems to be as big as the cob already.

The pair currently on the Pit are a cygnet from a previous brood, with a mate released at Hargrave Hall near the Gowy by the RSP-CA. Several people report seeing and hearing tawny owls in the village.



They are almost certainly disputing territory, with other pairs of tawnys in the village. A single barn owl has been seen between Christleton and Littleton on several occasions, and a pair of little owls are also known to be nesting in the area.

This is a far cry from the 1980's when they could be seen almost daily in and around the village.

Smaller birds are still relatively scarce, as there is so much food around in the countryside, but small numbers of house and hedge sparrows, blue tits and wrens are feeding in our garden.



Several greater spotted woodpeckers are visiting gardens, in Christleton Littleton and Rowton, and the pair at Hockenhull that bred four young, are still to be seen in the poplar plantation.

A few late butterflies have been seen including red admiral and small tortoiseshell, and I've heard from two families locally that as many as twenty butterflies (tortoiseshells in each case) have been found in bedrooms.



I can only surmise that they might have bred there and intended to hibernate. In both instances they were released, and I guess will try to find another spot to hibernate. Small tortoiseshells are usually the first to be seen each year, and

can appear as early as January/February. DC

This month's cover

The excellent hand drawn December cover has been once again drawn by Phil Hodges continuing the sequence that has gone on for many years. Thank you Phil for your generosity.

Christmas Candles

As we approach Christmas time, our thoughts and prayers will turn towards those who we love and see no longer. We will again this year, decorate the Church window ledges with candles, which will bear the name(s) of our loved ones.

The candles will be lit during the services of Nine Lessons and Carols (**Sunday 22 December at 6.30pm**), First Holy Communion of Christmas (**Christmas Eve at 11.30pm**) and **Christmas morning (at 10.45am)**.

If you would like a candle or candles bearing the name of your loved one, please print the name of the person you wish to be remembered on the form at the back of Church (there is also a donation box, should you feel able to make a donation) Please ring the Rector (335663) or Janet Milton (325529) for more information.

Christleton Local History Group

Copies of the successful double DVD of Christleton are still available from the local History Group and are excellent Christmas presents for people who know the village and perhaps moved away, or newcomers to the village.

They are on sale for **£12** from **David Cummings 332410** or **Judy Smith 335758** and contain over 3 hours of material about the History of the Village and suggest several walking tours that could be undertaken.

All proceeds are shared between the Local History Group and the Hospice of the Good Shepherd.

Christleton Victorian Christmas Market

We are so pleased to announce that this year This Lady Loves will be organising the Christleton Victorian Christmas Market on Saturday 7th December 6pm – 10pm, with the help of The Ring O Bells, the Institute and other local businesses.

We will be running competitions for the best dressed family, the best decorated stand, more food stalls, more gift stalls, live music, children's entertainment, and much more.

Last year was a massive success and we aim to involve the locals first, so trade space will be offered to local residents on a first come basis. We are also looking for local companies to sponsor the event.

If your company would like to sponsor the event which will cover insurance, marketing and road signs please do let me know. Your company details will go onto marketing packages starting from £50

Any suggestions to help make this event a great success please do let us know and If you are interested in helping.

Please note the road will be closed from 3pm till midnight. For details contact on 07920729394 or 01244 335246



On Silence

Since 1993, I have written many short articles for the magazine and prompted by the recent retreat at Glenthorne, the Quaker Guest House at Grasmere, three early articles are republished in coming issues. The peace, beauty and fellowship that 25 of us from St. James Church shared reminded me very much of my Quaker upbringing in those parts.

It may seem strange that a wriggler and a chatterbox like me not only survived a childhood of weekly worship based on an hour's silence, but was inspired by it. Nor have I forgotten the distinguished Canon who, when preparing us for marriage, enthused at an opportunity he had always relished – to integrate several short spells of silent worship into the Anglican wedding service. And he did.

We each have our own reaction to silence. In a busy and often noisy world it can be hard to find, but its discovery offers an inward retirement and a depth of simple beauty. It may be that we are in the house alone.....no radio on..... the telephone hushed.....just the quiet tick of the grandfather clock in the hall.

The tick both breaks the silence and enhances it. So does the moorhen's ripple across the peaceful river. We stop, we are silent, yet we hear something else. We need to be silent to listen.

As we enter into corporate worship, it sometimes helps to be entirely quiet, a bit like sitting down alone in an empty church or a great cathedral. Gradually we enter into a silent communion with God, surrendering our whole being to him. A peaceful Bach chorale emerges from the organ and a hallowed warmth fills our inner being. Our hearts

gradually open, we are ready to listen, and to hear. And as when sharing a beautiful view or a special experience in silence with a friend, we know that profound adoration and communion in which fellowship with one another becomes real. A peace and a happiness where God's love fills our heart, holds our hand, and settles our emotions.

First Published March 1996 – Article by John Carruthers

Glenthorne feedback

We spent 4 days and 3 nights in the Lake District, with a total of 28 people. Starting with lunch at Brockhole, the Lake District visitor centre, we meandered around the lovely grounds with views of the Langdale Pikes .

On arrival we were greeted by Malcolm playing on his Ipad in the coffee area.

That evening, we introduced ourselves in a circle, read a Psalm, and sang Happy Birthday to Liz (and Ron for that matter!)

The next day was a bit dark but after only some coming to Morning prayer at 8.00, we went to Grasmere church for a Communion service with Cameron Butland, the Vicar. He kindly educated us afterwards on the features of this beautiful church, and in the afternoon although some sneaked away, the majority got completely drenched in the walk from Elterwater to Skelwith Bridge, some coming back by a higher route round Loughrigg tarn.

The drying room at Glenthorne just couldn't cope! That evening, Malcolm did manage to get us to concentrate on the psalms and their structure and interpretation and we followed with Compline.

Thursday dawned absolute perfection, with blue skies and beautiful trees. With varying timescales, we visited Allan Bank, a very unusual new national Trust property which made quite an impression on us, some walked to Rydal on the “coffin route” and we met in the church at Rydal after picnic lunch.

We were privileged to have another communion service there. As there was no altar rail, we gathered around the altar table in a circle. This was very special for us all. Some walked back over Loughrigg terrace, some wandered in Rydal hall gardens and sampled the tea room.

We gathered again at Glenthorne that evening. Under Malcolm’s supervision, we had produced quite a number of psalms, which were read, sung, acted out and finally we finished with David doing one of his most beautiful slide shows to music, the moods and music of the lakes.

Compline that evening, Morning prayer next day, and some went to Tarn Hows on the way back to Chester. What a privilege to have such a wonderful community to share this experience with – very many thanks to all who contributed so much

Excerpts from feedback

“We saw the lakes at its best on Thursday and the communion at Rydal was very special”

“I had a frabjous time!”

“Silence, Space, Fellowship, Friendship, Reflections, Renewal, Peace.”

“ it was wonderful to be in the presence of like-minded

friends to enjoy the wonders of God's creation"

"a very special time for all of us"

"We have to say that for us the whole time had the very best ingredients. Despite the forecast we were not prevented from walking in really beautiful settings which deserved a photograph or two at every turn! There was plenty of opportunity to dip into Wordsworth culture in the talks given by the local historian/rector in Grasmere Church and in Rydal Churches.

We were inspired by the views from the windows of Wordsworth's and Coleridge's Alan Bank and amazed at the tiny, tiny slippers and wooden skates on display in Rydal Mount. We enjoyed the sense of fellowship in the times of Quaker silence, reflections on the psalms, the worship and communion.

All in all, it was really nice to have time to talk with various folk over the excellent food - which included a wonderful birthday cake - and build that sense of fellowship which we think everyone enjoyed."

"Many thanks to Liz, David and Malcolm for arranging such a happy and friendly time in Glenthorne. I had a marvellous time"

Liz McClure

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Janette Shaw who will be 100 years old on 11 December.

Janette is a police widow and lived for many years in Bush Road before moving to The Square where she has lived for more than 20 yrs. Best wishes from her family and friends.

Laura Shaw – granddaughter

Christleton Primary School Christmas Fair

Saturday 7th December 2013



2pm till 4pm



Raffle, Hamper, Father Christmas, Craft Stalls, Games and More!
Refreshments available



£1 Admission / Children Free



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Christleton Wednesday Group

**Festive Lunch
on**

**Wednesday 4 December,
in Christleton Parish Hall,
at 12.00 Noon.**

Tickets £10.00 include
a glass of wine
(available from members or
phone Chester 336644)

**In aid of
Chester Childbirth Appeal**

Thank You!!!

A very big thank you to Jane Warrington for the donation of a hostess trolley in response to the appeal in last month's magazine.

This will be put to very good use in the Parish Hall kitchen during Community Lunches & other such functions.



What's it all about?

CRAFTS, GAMES, FREE FOOD
STORIES, SONGS AND CELEBRATION!

Where's the Mess? Christleton Parish Hall

When's the Mess? Sunday, January 19th, 4-6pm
February 16th, 4-6pm
March 16th 4-6pm

All ages welcome

Children must be accompanied by an adult

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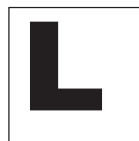
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Clare Holland

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email christletonhall@btinternet.com

The History File

Church Stones Part 3

Before continuing the story of church buildings I want to share with you this month a number of stone artefacts from the period 650-1100. These were seen recently on visits to Ilam & Tissington Churches in Derbyshire.

Ilam has been a place of pilgrimage since the days of St Bertram, a Saxon saint who stopped here on his way to Mercia, and following the death of his wife, an Irish Princess, and their child, he remained in the area as a hermit.

Small parts of Saxon architecture remain, including a Saxon doorway, two stumps of Saxon crosses and a magnificent Saxon font.



This is beautifully carved, as are the crosses, and it is wonderful that these rare pieces of stone from that period of history have been preserved. The church itself is now mainly Norman or early English in style, but there are later additions including a chapel to St Bertram built in 1618 to house the remains of the saint, and still is a place of pilgrimage.



The Parish Church at Tissington, well known for its part in the Well Dressing celebrations which take place each year in Derbyshire, dates from Norman times, and has a strong sturdy tower that is typi-

cal of the period, with walls over 4feet thick at the base. The church is full of interest, but the tub shaped font with its very primitive carvings, is a great feature. It bears a number of crudely incised figures including a bird, the Agnus Dei, two beasts and two human figures.

In the early days of the church, much use was made of a “Bestiary” or “Book of Beasts” which collected together a number of spiritual allegories based upon the supposed habits of beasts and birds. Carvings of such animals were common by the 12thC, although not on fonts.



It is suggested that the beast biting its tail could be a lion, used to symbolise St Mark and also Jesus Christ. The Agnus Dei, the Lamb of God is very common in Norman art, and it's thought that the beast with a man's head in its mouth may represent the whale swallowing Jonah.

The bird is possibly an eagle representing St John, or a dove representing the Holy Spirit. It is another fine example of early stone carving, and more primitive in style than the older Saxon carvings at Ilam. DC

Ref; A Short History of Tissington & Parish Church

METHODIST CHURCH

A big thank you to all who supported the Coffee Morning at the Methodist Church on 2 November.

£705.14 was raised of which £362.60 was for the fund for World Mission.

Other charities including Debra, Save the Children, the Merseyside Epilepsy Association and Traidcraft received the difference.

Christleton Community Plan

Publication of the Village Guide

Action No 6 from the community plan was to publish a comprehensive guide to raise awareness of the services, amenities and activities within the village.

The Guide provides some background information on the village and describes activities that take place within it together with contact details. This Guide complements the Village Directory that was published earlier this year (May).

The Guide and the Directory are available to view or download at <http://www.christleton-pc.gov.uk> or <http://www.christleton.org.uk>. Paper copies are to be located at publicly accessible locations around the village (for example churches, schools, the Institute, retail outlets). Limited numbers of paper copies are also available from *Ike Efobi* (tel: 336072 or email: ike@spraff.net).

The Guide and the Directory will be updated at regular intervals so if you have any amendments, corrections or comments on either document please contact the Parish Council Clerk (see below).

Please help the delivery of the Community Plan by volunteering to progress actions that are of interest to you and other like minds. Success depends on your active support. For more information please contact *Sue Thwaite* Clerk to the Parish Council

Tel: 318618 or christletonpc@hotmail.com

Bible Verse: Prov Ch 4 vs 27 “ With hold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it”

Faith Life

Biblical Faith of walking with God: Enoch
Hebrews 11:5 elaborates - By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.

From Enoch we learn that to walk with God is to please God. Does your faith cause you to Walk with God? Praying without ceasing is what it means to walk with God. Do you walk with God each day? Do you communicate with Him while you are doing your chores ... while you are mowing the yard ... while you are brushing your teeth ... while you are driving your car?

This is the kind of faith that pleases God.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CHRISTLETON

A total of £943.26 was raised in the Village Tea Room this summer for the Neuroblastoma Children's Cancer Alliance UK, Anya Bentham Appeal.

Many, many thanks to all who have helped over the last 18 weeks, the bakers & servers of delicious cakes and refreshing drinks, the 'meeters & greeters' and of course to our lovely customers from near and far.

Thank you each & everyone for your loyal support and good company. We look forward to seeing you all again when the Tea Room doors re-open next June.

Sheila Roberts

AN INVITATION TO JOIN CHRISTLETON PARISH CHURCH CHOIR

We are currently looking for new members (all ages) to join our 18 strong Christleton Church Choir on a part-time or full-time basis.

The Choir supports the main church services on Sundays and regularly sings anthems as part of our Christian worship.

You could come and try a short taster session as we prepare for the Christmas Carol Service. This would give you an idea of what's involved and give you some initial singing training too! We are particularly looking for tenors and basses together with another alto or two, plus that rarest of breeds, a top soprano. You don't have to be able to read music, although that would be an advantage.



The Choir offers a free uniform, music, annual dinner and a reserved, special seat at the front!

If you enjoy singing and would like to know more about our Choir, please contact Steve Roberts (Musical Director) telephone: 815277 or Rev. Malcolm Cowan (Rector) telephone: 335663 for more information.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Holydays in December

6 December St Nicholas

17 December Lazarus of Bethany

26 December St Stephen

Crew Youth Group Meeting

Sunday 10 November 2013

Led by: Mike and Tina Lightfoot.

Members present: Isobel, Sophie, Maggie, Sarah, Amber, Megan.

THEME : Pilgrimage.

Six members tonight, their initial task was to sort out cupboard space for their vast array of equipment. Isobel brought a huge chest of kit courtesy of her dad Al, which was manhandled into the hall! After a few games of table tennis and other ball games and refreshments, the group settled down to the main theme of the evening, Pilgrimage.



Mike and Tina had completed the Camino de Santiago from Tui on the Portugese border, to Santiago de Compostela in early October with a church group from St Annes, Kew.

Mike discussed the links between St James, the pilgrims' route and the significance of the scalloped shell, passing around items for the group to look at and comment on. We described our 6 days walking in some detail, including our highs, lows, and reasons for taking part in a pilgrimage. We were asked some very good questions by the group. Each group member was presented with a book marker depicting St James.

The group are keen to take part in their own pilgrimage sometime in the New Year, perhaps to the shrine of St Werburgh in Chester Cathedral, from somewhere distant in the county, details to follow!

Say ‘sorry’ – it really helps

The very British habit of apologising for problems beyond our control may not make sense, but it does make friends. Such apologies lead other people to view us as more trustworthy. From Hugh Grant (apologising for everything) in *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, it seems that “superfluous apologies represent a powerful and easy-to-use tool for social influence”, according to a professor at Harvard.

“Even in the absence of culpability, individuals can increase trust and liking by saying, ‘I’m sorry’.” A handy thing to remember as the busy festive season approaches, when you’ll need all the goodwill from others that you can get. Proverbs 15:1 put it this way: ‘A gentle answer turns away wrath...’

Church of England welcomes Scout decision that ‘Duty to God’ stays in the Promise

The Church of England has welcomed the recent decision by the Scout movement to keep a ‘Duty to God’ in its core promise, and to introduce an additional alternative promise for those without a religious faith. The Church of England feels this decision “affirms the importance of spiritual life and does not to restrict meaning to arbitrary self-definition.”

Referring to the last census, it argues “we remain a faithful nation where the majority of families and individuals find identity, affiliation and meaning in religious belief. For many years a rich relationship between Scouts and the Church of England has borne fruit in the lives of generations of young men and more recently young women.”

Pilgrim – new discipleship course for all

A new Christian discipleship course for church congregations and groups of all traditions has just been published - the first time ever that a national course has been commissioned by the House of Bishops of the C of E. Aiming to

offer “participation, not persuasion”, Pilgrim: A Course for the Christian Journey is a part of the Church of England’s focus on spiritual and numerical growth.

The core authors are the Bishops of Chelmsford, Sheffield and Stockport, (Stephen Cottrell, Steven Croft, Robert Atwell) and Dr Paula Gooder, writer and lecturer in New Testament studies. Assuming little or no knowledge of the Christian faith, Pilgrim can be used at any point on the journey of discipleship and by every tradition in the CofE. The course is personally endorsed by both archbishops.

The Bishop of Chelmsford, Stephen Cottrell, explains: “For most people today becoming a Christian is like a journey. We therefore need resources that will help turn fellow travellers and interested enquirers into pilgrims. This is what Pilgrim sets out to do. Like other courses it deals with the basics of the Christian faith. “Unlike other courses, it includes discipleship and is deeply rooted in a long tradition of catechesis and nurture.

Drawing on a rich spiritual heritage, Pilgrim encourages you to think and pray; to be an apostle as well as a disciple. We hope that it is a refreshing blend of old and new will enable many more parishes to develop a ministry of evangelism and nurture.”

Pilgrim is published by Church House Publishing.
Details: www.pilgrimcourse.org/

Cancer Charity Appeals for Key Volunteers in Chester

Marie Curie Cancer Care is appealing for someone in the local Chester community to volunteer to take on key roles within a fundraising committee that meets on a monthly basis. If you think you have a few hours to spare every few weeks and would like to get involved with the fundraising group, please contact *Laura Tomlinson* on **0161 255 2800** or email laura.tomlinson@mariecurie.org.uk



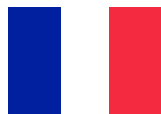
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Parish Registers(October)

The Funeral Service

6th	Jenny Muriel Mayers	Laburnum Pathfield, Liphook, Hants, 99yrs (Burial of Cremated Remains)
8th	John Wilfred Golbourne	29 Reeves Road, Boughton 80yrs
14th	Ivy Wheatley	Plas Rhosnesn Nursing Home, Wrexham 91yrs
21st	Majorie Williamson	Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home, Village, Rd 97yrs
24th	Anne Winifred (Nancy) Young	Orchard Manor Nursing Home, Upton 85yrs
29th	Blodwen Webb (Bunty) McLelland	Calin Court, Chester 92yrs
30th	Bloden Webb (Bunty) McLelland	(Burial of Cremated Remains)
31st	Ian Ronald Gorst	13 Sandrock Road, Christleton 63yrs

“Grant them eternal rest”

Offertories	Cash	CSE	2013	2012
6th	94-88	484-30	579-18	997-41
13th	210-46	675-42	885-88	951-22
20th	105-78	523-44	629-22	519-05
27th	155-25	571-00	726-25	716-10
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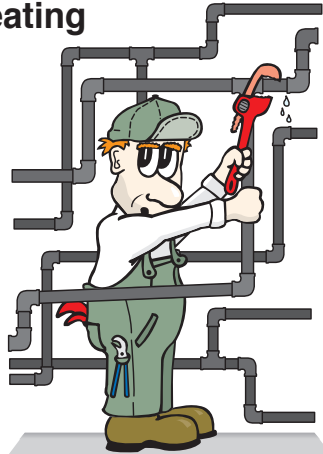
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	10.45 a.m.	Parish Communion	1st & 3rd Sundays
		Family Service	2nd Sunday
		Mattins	4th & 5th Sundays
	6.30 p.m.	Evensong	1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays
		Evening Communion	4th Sunday
		Songs of Praise	5th Sunday
WEDNESDAY:	10.45 a.m.	Holy Communion	
SAINT'S DAYS:	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	

WHO'S WHO & WHAT'S WHAT

Rector: The Rev'd. Malcolm Cowan, B.Th
The Rectory, Birch Heath Lane, Christleton
01244 335663

All baptisms weddings and appointments by arrangement with Janet Milton - 325529

Church Wardens:	John Pearson	335101
	Carl Cumiskey	330028
Deputy Wardens:	Alan McAllester	335494
	Chris Platel	332466
	Keith Smalls	335688
Reader:	Wayne Morris	01978 263389
Verger:	John Milton	325529
Sacristan:	Betty Dunning	335652
Pastoral Worker:	Berenice Kirwan	336779
Sunday Club:	Berenice Kirwan	336779
Mothers' Union Branch Leader:	Janet Brown	335785
Organist & Musical Director:	Steve Roberts	815277
P. C. C Secretary:	Betty Gilliatt	335645
P. C. C Treasurer:	Brian & Lorraine Lewis	534323
Stewardship Envelope:	Betty Dunning	335652
Gift Aid Secretary:	Nigel Seddon	335588
Bellringers:	Ian Braithwaite	300565
Bellringers Secretary:	Nikki Dromgoole	351124
Parish Hall Booking:	Clare Holland	332819
C. M. S Secretary:	Janet Brown	335785
Children's Society Sec:	Lesley Morgan	335088
Visiting Group:	Berenice Kirwan	336779
Library:	Gwen Knight	336236
Church Flowers:	Olive Hammond	336562
Person for Child Protection:	Alastair Holland	332819
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