

The background of the cover is a photograph of St. James' Church in Christleton. The church is a stone building with a prominent square tower and a steeply pitched roof. In the foreground, there is a large, tall, reddish-brown stone monument with a decorative top, surrounded by red and yellow flowers. The church is surrounded by green trees and a grassy area with other gravestones.

St. James'

Christleton

PARISH MAGAZINE

October 2014

www.christleton.org.uk

35p

Occasions in October

Wed	1	10.45 am	United Communion - followed by refreshments
Thur	2	12.00 noon	United Prayer Lunch at Methodist Church
Fri	3	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
Sun	5	8.00 am	Holy Communion - followed by Breakfast in the Parish Hall
		10.45 am	Holy Communion (CW) with healing
		10.45 am	Sunday Club - Parish Hall
		6.30 pm	Evening Worship (CW)
Mon	6	10.45 am	Holy Communion at Oaklands Nursing Home
		11.20 am	Holy Communion at Tarvin Court Nursing Home
Wed	8	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshment
		11.30 am	Holy Communion - Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home
Fri	10	6.30 pm	Choir Practice

NB: Last date for any contributions for November Parish Magazine to Janet Milton (325529). You can attach your Word document and e-mail to: christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk or christletonmag@spraff.net

Sat	11	9.30 am	Decoration of Church for Harvest help needed please
Sun	12	8.00 am	Holy Communion

10.00 am Make 'n Munch – Parish Hall

10.45 am Harvest Family Service

You are invited to bring a gift of Harvest Produce which will be distributed locally

6.30 pm Holy Communion (CW)

Mon 13 2.00 pm Mothers Union

Wed 15 10.45 am Holy Communion - followed by refreshments

Fri 17 6.30 pm Choir Practice

Sun 19 8.00 am Holy Communion

10.45 am Holy Communion (CW)

6.30 pm Evening Worship (BCP)

4.00 pm Messy Church – Parish Hall

Mon 20 **12.00 – Harvest Hot-Pot – Parish Hall**
12.30 – start

Wed 22 10.45 am Holy Communion - followed by refreshments

Fri 24 6.30 pm Choir Practice

Sun 26 8.00 am Holy Communion

10.45 am Morning Prayer (CW)

10.45 am Sunday Club - Parish Hall

6.30 pm Holy Communion (CW)

Wed 29 10.45 am Holy Communion – followed by refreshments

Fri 31 6.30 pm Choir Practice

Bible Verse:

Romans 12:1 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service”.

Message from our Rector



On 12 October we will celebrate and give thanks for the gifts of the harvest in our Harvest Festival service. Whilst we keep this feast every year, we need to ensure that we do not fall into the trap of becoming complacent perhaps we need to give conscious thought as to just what we are celebrating and why we give thanks.

We, in this country, have the luxury of being able to visit our shops and supermarkets in the confidence and assurance that the shelves will be stacked with produce, regardless of the time of year. Indeed many of the so called seasonal fruits and vegetables can now be purchased all year round thanks to innovative farming methods and technological advances.

And yet, in the countries of West Africa, there are many people starving to death because the crops have failed, and there is a lack of food. It is to our great shame, that news reports of the crisis have slipped from our televisions, perhaps to be replaced by more “viewer friendly” reports of celebrities or pop stars misbehaving.

Even in our own country we are experiencing a growth in food-banks and luncheon clubs as families experience the daily dilemma of having to make the horrendous decision of either putting food on the table or heating their homes.

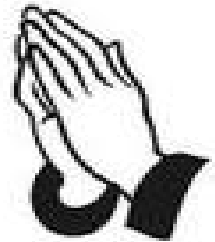
Whilst many harvest festivals have the Scripture reading of the feeding of the 5000 when Jesus took five loaves and two fish and fed the multitude who have gathered to hear him, an act which speaks metaphorically of Jesus word feeding us, we also regularly have a Scripture reading from the Acts of the Apostles, perhaps for many scenes which we can more readily identify with.

The Acts of the Apostles concerns the young church, and it's struggles and problems and yet despite the problems and confusions they faced, as well as the persecutions, they extended love and care one to another, offering food, shelter and all other possessions they owned.(and daily the Lord added to their number.....)

As we approach and celebrate the gifts of the Harvest, may we do so with a renewed sense of thanksgiving for all that we receive from God our Father, and may we like that young church in the Book of Acts, share all we have with those less fortunate than ourselves.

Jesus challenged his Disciples when he spoke of his being hungry and they not feeding him, of his being naked and they not clothing him, of his being in prison (whatever and wherever that prison may be) and they not visiting him.....when was this, His Disciples asked.....when you failed to do this for the least of your brothers and sisters, you failed to do it for me, he replied.

Your faithful servant,
Malcolm.



Front Cover

A delightful picture of St James Church & the War Memorial taken during the last Flower Festival held at St James in July 2007

Back cover

Christleton Primary School Pupils with their harvest loaves donated by P & A Davies of Chester.

Interior of St James Church designed by William Butterfield.

All images from the Christleton Archives Collection.

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 **November** edition are sent to Janet Milton (325529), as soon as possible **BEFORE Friday 10th October** or you can e-mail this to: christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk OR christletonmag@spraff.net

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The **October** magazine will be available for collection from Church on **Sunday 28th September**.

So many blessings

Just over a year ago I started my ministry at St James! What an amazing year! I have learnt so much not only about the organisation of the Church but also about myself. I have grown as God has shown me to trust in Him and all will be well.

He has drawn out from me things I never thought I could do. Above all he has showered me with many blessings that I didn't think possible. He has given me the vision to see that if you do fall down there is always a way up again.

So many blessings!

One advantage of having a dog is the lovely long walks; walking on your own is very pleasant but not so much fun as talking out loud gets one funny looks. I am usually up early, to avoid any arguments with other dogs and it has been so beautiful to greet the freshness of the new day. A few weeks ago I was nearly at the end of the walk and something made me stop.

The silence around me was deafening. I realised I could hear no human sounds, gradually as my breathing stilled, I heard the faint sounds of birds, but above all I could hear peace. I stood marvelling, thanking God and realised that for the first time in many years, I too was at peace. I was filled with the peace of that new day and the peace of God.

So many blessings!

Sometimes we get so engrossed in life that we fail to lift our heads and listen to the silence. It is not only the silence around us but the silence within. When we can get hear that silence, God's peace is there, the still small voice, that we so often miss. The precious moments when we can be still and stilled are so vital for our spiritual health and vigour. We find we are in the presence of someone who loves us.

So many blessings!

Once more may I say thank you to you all for your kindness and support. You have all made my first year here such a blessing. May we continue to grow together. God loves us so much that He'll accept us just the way we are – but he loves us too much to leave us that way!

In love and light,
Barbara.

Nature Notes

What a beautiful period of warm sunny weather we've had recently and sightings of wildlife in and around the village has been excellent. Migration has been taking place and lots of interesting wild birds have been seen. The highlight bird wise was a common tern flying along the canal, probably on route to the Antarctic!, but there were also common and green sandpipers, and a winchat seen at Hockenhull Platts. The kingfisher has made almost daily appearances on the Gowy, and the sight of a flock of 100-150 lapwings has been wonderful to see. Two common snipe were also present recently in the newly dug scrapes, where fresh footprints of otter could also be seen. Chiff chaff have been seen and heard again in the village, and starlings have come back in good numbers after their summer migration to the continent. The plentiful supply of fruit in the hedgerows has attracted large numbers of great, blue and long tailed tits. Subsequently these flocks have attracted the local population of sparrow hawks. One even took a collared dove off the lawn of a house in Birch Heath Lane. A pair of little owls continue to visit gardens in The Park bringing much enjoyment to residents. These delightful creatures are diurnal meaning that they can be seen by day and night. They are comparatively small, have perfect camouflage, and can often be seen sitting on top of fence posts or the tops of trees. A tawny owl continues to hoot its call by night in the centre of the village, and visitors to the Ring O Bells have a good chance to hear these calls at present.

There was great excitement around Croft Close a week ago with the arrival of 200/300swallows and house martins which flocked to telegraph posts and wires, television aerials and roofs all around the Close. They stayed for two days feeding on insects in the air and over the canal. Any disturbance caused by a passing car or a barking dog would see them take off, fly around, and then when the danger was over flying back to their chosen roost. These amazing creatures have now left the area



and will soon be travelling across the channel, and flying over the Alps on route to South Africa. After spending their winter in warmer climes, many will return to Christleton to the same nest site next spring having travelled in excess of 14,000miles! I've written in the past about seeing the very occasional bright sulphur yellow brimstone butterfly along the canal or in our garden. This year has been the best year for sightings yet, with over ten being seen, and at the beginning of September we had two males flying around the Close for five days. Like many insects they depend on the right food supply, so there now seems to be a rich source quite close to us, as both male and female brimstones have been recorded in the last month. These beautiful creatures were feeding on pink geraniums, and also on a buddleia bush. Another interesting butterfly visitor this month has been a painted lady, a colourful migrant butterfly probably originating in Morocco, and flying here via Gibraltar, Portugal, Spain and France. DC

The History File

“War Horse” in Christleton

In recent months many of us have been to see the play or film about “War Horse” and I’m sure it has created a lasting impression in people’s minds about the work these beautiful strong horses did during the terrible events of WWI. Imagine my surprise when Frank Jones asked me if I’d like to see a picture of a war horse by the Village Green. I recently met up with Frank and he shared some of his family story with me, and also brought some valuable memorabilia about the village. The War Horse by the Village Green which you can see illustrated was just a wonderful surprise. Frank Evans (Frank’s father) from Manor House Farm next to the Church was asked by the War Office to care for injured horses, back



from action on the front, or to get fit to re-join service with a regiment. The horse in the picture is being ridden by Mr Evans and clearly shows the Village Green and pump House in the background. We understand that the picture was taken by Reg Morgan, (TRM his signature can be found on most pictures of the village around this date) and is one we've not seen before. Another new picture of TRM is one found for the History Group by Bill Malkin and illustrates "Horse Leaping" at the Village Show in 1912. I guess today we'd call it show jumping, but it is a remarkable picture and I'll share that with you on another occasion.

If you have any pictures of relevance to Village History particularly around the date of WWI we would be delighted to hear from you, and also if you have any family stories from the same period you could share with us.

A recent acquisition has been a photograph of Shoeing Smith William Mathews and his family taken in 1917. Whilst researching for his grave for his family we've discovered a treasure trove of information about William or "Billy" Mathews. "Billy" it seems, was a well - known personality both locally in Chester & North Wales. He lived in Grange Villas on Whitchurch Road, and was an exciting footballer who represented both Chester & Wales for many seasons. He is buried in a Military grave in an unused section of the churchyard and it was only after a search that I found it. After exchanging many e mails with his family we have found out so much about him, including the fact that he suffered a great deal after contracting a chest disease during the war, and died some years later.



His son in law was Cliff Boddy's best friend and the family remained in contact with the village whilst Cliff was alive. It's through this rare unconnected search for family history that "William's" story has been told to us and it is a valuable contribution to our Village Story. If you would like to learn more about our current research then please come to a free event, an exhibition and talk

to be held at Christleton High School at 7.30pm on 4th October. Christleton Villages History. Great War Voices; Remembering our forgotten Heroes. Saturday 4th October 7.30pm at Christleton High School. For further details on any of the above contact David Cummings 332410

In the News

Pictures of St James' Church in Christleton are now being shown in Butterfield Churches & Buildings all over the world, helping to celebrate the bi centenary of William Butterfield who rebuilt the present church building under the guidance of Rector Lionel Garnett in 1876. I was approached some weeks ago by members of St Ninian's Cathedral in Scotland, also designed by Butterfield, to contribute to the exhibition which will be shared by communities everywhere, in particular the Cathedrals of Melbourne and Adelaide in Australia. William Butterfield was such an influential figure in the design of churches and other buildings in Victorian times, and the fact that he was employed by Rector Garnett shows how much the Rector wanted the best for his parish.



Butterfield's distinctive style uses geometric patterns both internally and externally in his buildings, and the inside of St James' around the chancel & altar are typical. Other striking designs of his are Keble College in Oxford where several Christleton Rectors trained for the Ministry, and the famous Rugby School in Warwickshire where Butterfield's chequered designs in brick and stone are most memorably seen. DC

Bible Verse:

1 Corinthians 15:10 - "But by the grace of God I am what I am; and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me".

Christleton Local History Group

The Primary School in Quarry Lane

Wednesday 22nd October 7.30pm

Speaker Jane Chilton

The First World War Centenary;

How to discover your family's Military Records

Jane Chilton has been interested in family history research for 25years. She's studied with the Heraldic & genealogical Institute in Canterbury qualifying as a professional Genealogist in 2012. She is currently researching her own family history, and working at the Cheshire Record Office for Archives and Family History.

Saturday 4th October 7.30pm

at

Christleton High School

Christleton in WWI

Come and find out about the Villages Story during
the Great War 1914-18

It's a free event part of our Heritage Lottery Funded Project.
Everyone Welcome.

GROSVENOR MUSEUM SOCIETY

You are invited to the following lectures to be held at the

Grosvenor Museum starting at 7.30pm

Tuesday 14 October : CHESHIRE THROUGH THE SEASONS

with

DAVID CUMMINGS

Monday 10 November : A CORNER OF SOME FOREIGN

FIELD with Squadron Leader MARK STANLEY

Members free, Non-members £4, Students £2

Further information from Ken Holding, tel. 01244 312689

Christleton Wednesday Group

Fun Quiz Evening

on
Saturday 15 November,
at Christleton Parish Hall,
7 for 7.30 pm.

Tickets £9.00 include a glass of
wine & finger buffet
(available from members or
phone Chester 336644)

*In aid of
Macmillan Nursing*

Christleton Wednesday Group

Sale of Christmas Cards & Gifts from Local & National Charities

on
Saturday 11 October
at Christleton Parish Hall,
9.45 am - 12.00 noon.

Free Admission
Coffee / tea & biscuits available

Also cakes & books for sale

THE MONTHLY
CHRISTLETON

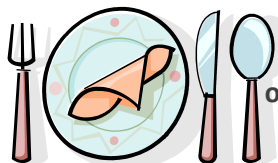
LUNCHEON CLUB

IN PARISH HALL

Special

**HARVEST HOT-POT !
Mon 20th October**

12 noon for 12.30 serving
No charge, donations welcome



All welcome. Book a place by calling:

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

Next lunches: 17th Nov, 15th Dec.



With children, for children, with you

**BOX OPENING 2014
WILL SOON BE HERE**

Dear Box holders,

Please check next month's Parish Magazine for details of our annual Offertory Service.

Thank you for your continuing support and generosity that is so valuable in enabling The Children's Society to reach out to young disadvantaged people.

Lesley Morgan

**St Anne's Kew, Tercentenary
Celebrations September 2014**

Tina and I have a special link with St Anne's in Kew. Built in 1714 and located on Kew Green it is a living parish church, and under the guidance of Father Nigel Worn cares for the needs of the local community.

Richard, our youngest son moved to Kew in 2008 and became

a regular worshipper at St Anne's, we would join him at the 8am service when we visited. He and Ruth were married there in 2009 and our granddaughter Elizabeth was baptised at St Anne's in 2012

We joined St Anne's last September on their pilgrimage to Santiago di Compestala a long, testing walk from Portugal, we made a lot of new friends, it was very difficult at times as the weather was atrocious.

It was a great pleasure when Nigel invited us to the Tercenary Sung Eucharist on Sunday 7th September. The Right Reverend Christopher Chessun, Bishop of Southwark presided and preached.



During the recessional hymn a procession was formed which led us out to the green, Bishop Christopher lead the countdown for the launch of the Sunday school balloons, directly into the flight path into Heathrow!

Drinks were then served followed by a magnificent hog roast. Nigel and Bishop Christopher mingled with all, he (the Bishop) even blessed our new grandson Josiah Samuel! At 3pm we were treated to a performance of Vivaldi's Gloria in the church by the excellent ensemble Ars Eloquentiae followed by cake and tea in the parish room.

A truly excellent day. *Mike Lightfoot*

CHESTER LECTURE SOCIETY

The programme for October at the Lecture Theatre in the Grosvenor Museum is below: All lectures are on Thursdays and begin at 7.30 pm. The Annual Subscription for 16 lectures is £25 with individual lectures (payable on door) £5, making it much cheaper to enrol for the whole session. Contact Anne Large on Chester 336108.

2 October: Andrew Lounds will tell of the controversial sinking of the Lusitania at the beginning of World War 1.

9 October: Whether you are into gardens or not, this will be an interesting talk – the story of the garden at Levens Hall in the Lake District.

10 October: Peter de Bourder who lives in Cheshire will tell of the work of the Mission Aviation Fellowship – a Christian organisation operating more than 135 aircraft across 30 countries in the developing world, covering health care and emergency relief.

23 October: An interesting evening given by Tony Ord on Burma with superb pictures.

30 October: Bill Harriman, a familiar face identifying and valuing ancient firearms and weaponry on the Antiques Road Show will talk about the life of Annie Oakley, following a short AGM. Ethel Merman glamorised her in “Annie Get Your Gun”.

TRAIN JOURNEY

Having read Ben Williams’ memories of his train trip to Paris in last month’s Magazine reminded me of one of several epic train journeys that I have experienced

Early in 1947 as a young army subaltern with 4th Armoured Brigade REME Workshop at Neuminster, 30 miles north of Hamburg, I was due for home leave when I received notice of being posted with immediate effect to Klagenfurt in Southern Austria, close to the Italian and Yugoslav borders. My instructions were to be driven to Krefeld near Cologne to join a troop train that was en route from Hook of Holland to Villach near Klagenfurt.

With my driver, we set off on two consecutive mornings in a 15 cwt truck, but on both occasions, after a few miles, we had to return to base because of problems with the vehicle – very embarrassing as our Workshop serviced all the brigade vehicles.

On the third attempt we got away. On arriving at Krefeld Railway Station we discovered that we would have been stranded for two days as our arrival coincided with the first day of a new routing from Hook of Holland, rather than from Calais.

Breakfast was laid on in the station restaurant for 250 troops. The train arrived and THREE soldiers (the only ones on board) alighted. Apparently the troop ship from Harwich had not arrived, but the train had to be on schedule for the return journey taking troops home. Knowing that there was a great shortage of food throughout Europe, we asked the local Army Transport Officer to telegraph ahead to inform our mid-day meal stop that there were only four of us on the train. They got the message and acted accordingly.

As we were leaving, I requested that the same message be telegraphed ahead to our evening meal venue but on arrival we found a meal laid on for 250! As we were due to arrive at Villach at 5.30 am next morning I again emphasised the importance of the situation being telegraphed ahead.

There was a full moon and I sat all night looking out of the window as we travelled south along the river Rhine. It was a beautiful sight.

We arrived on time at 5.30 am to find transport laid on to take 250 troops to camp for breakfast before dispersing to their units. To make matters worse – as this was the first train of the new route from Hook of Holland – the camp Colonel and all his staff were there to welcome our arrival - all four of us! I gloss over the reaction.

On reporting to headquarters I was informed that I was to take over and be responsible for a workshop and recovery unit and on telling the major that I had been due to go on leave you can

imagine his response. The officer from whom I was to take over had his demob delayed by a month (not that he minded) and two days later I made the journey back by train to the Hook and on to Harwich and home leave.

Later I discovered that the earlier fiasco was caused by the troopship being delayed by bad weather with the result that 500 troops arrived at the Hook next day and entrained for the journey, with food laid on for 250.

PS: When, in turn, I was due for demobilisation I arrived at Vil-lach transit to be handed a manifest by the Railway Transport Officer, telling me that I was in charge of the train and its 250 personnel (including ATS girls) and not to lose any of them. Highly unlikely, as they were all going on leave or to be demobbed. *Alf Croston*

A Thank you Letter 62 years after the event

When I wrote my book “A Conscript in Korea” I little thought it would lead to a heartfelt thank you letter for the part I and many others had played in resisting the communist aggression in Korea 62years earlier.

Recently I received a letter via the publishers of my book, Pen & Sword, from a Mr Terry Han, but surprisingly it was not from Korea but Auckland in New Zealand. When I read the letter it transpired that Mr Han a Korean now emigrated to New Zealand had seen my book in the library in Auckland and had found it very enlightening with regard to the conditions and situation at the time.

Due to the ever present danger from North Korea, Mr Han had done his national service as an officer in (1967-69) in the artillery involved in some of the areas I had been in with the Welch regiment. Not only did he thank me for helping his country keep the communists at bay, but when I sent him a thank you letter

for his kindness he sent me a long beautiful calligraphic script scroll which his father had done on Corinthians Chapter 13 vs 4 – 9. (The script in Korean)

How remarkable, he couldn't have known but Pauls' letter was in my opinion (next to the Sermon on the Mount) the greatest message ever given to mankind and I had learned it by heart many years before. The script I intend to frame, but in these days of stress and uncertainty it shows how great words of wisdom can bridge time and space and speak to peoples of different countries and race.

Maybe, if you haven't read this passage of late you might find it refreshingly supportive in these troubled times. It is of note that after the war, Korea had a great Christian spiritual revival which has played an important part in their re-birth and renewal as a nation. **Neville Williams**

Book: A Conscript in Korea, Special Offer: £15.99, Pen & Sword Books LTD 47 Church Street, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, S70 2AS, Tel: 01226 734 222, Fax: 01226 734438

Have faith in God by Charles Spurgeon

Mark 11:22 - Have faith in God.

Faith is the foot of the soul by which it can march along the road of the commandments. Love can make the feet move more swiftly; but faith is the foot which carries the soul. Faith is the oil enabling the wheels of holy devotion and of earnest piety to move well; and without faith the wheels are taken from the chariot, and we drag heavily. With faith I can do all things; without faith I shall neither have the inclination nor the power to do anything in the service of God.

If you would find the men who serve God the best, you must look for the men of the most faith. Little faith will save a man, but little faith cannot do great things for God. Poor Little-faith could not have fought Apollyon; it needed Christian to do

that. Poor Little-faith could not have slain Giant Despair; it required Great-heart's arm to knock that monster down. Little faith will go to heaven most certainly, but it often has to hide itself in a nut-shell, and it frequently loses all but its jewels.

Little-faith says, It is a rough road, beset with sharp thorns, and full of dangers; I am afraid to go; but Great-faith remembers the promise, Thy shoes shall be iron and brass; as thy days, so shall thy strength be: and so she boldly ventures. Little-faith stands desponding, mingling her tears with the flood; but Great-faith sings, When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: and she fords the stream at once. Would you be comfortable and happy? Would you enjoy religion? Would you have the religion of cheerfulness and not that of gloom? Then have faith in God. If you love darkness, and are satisfied to dwell in gloom and misery, then be content with little faith; but if you love the sunshine, and would sing songs of rejoicing, covet earnestly this best gift, great faith.

Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. Hab 3:18

The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing. Zephaniah 3:17 (KJV)

The Lord your God is in the midst of you, a Mighty One, a Savior [Who saves]! He will rejoice over you with joy; He will rest [in silent satisfaction] and in His love He will be silent and make no mention [of past sins, or even recall them]; He will exult over you with singing. Zephaniah 3:17(AMP)

The Lord your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.”
Zephaniah 3:17(NKJV)

For the whole law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. Galatians 5:14

Harvest thanksgiving for the gifts God gives us

Whether we live in a rural parish, with the harvest being gathered in all around us, or in the city or suburbs, for all of us it can be a time to reflect on the food we receive as gifts of God. This year, Church Urban Fund is reflecting on the biblical command to share the gleanings of the harvest with the poor. Church Urban Fund helps support some of the poorest people in our country who feel isolated and excluded from society. To help reflect on how all of us can share with those in need, please visit CUF / Harvest at <http://www.cuf.org.uk/harvest>

Don't stop now!

Elderly people will live longer and be happier if they continue working instead of retiring at 65, the new Government 'champion' for older workers has said.

Too many people 'write themselves off' when they are still fit, according to Ros Altmann, a former director-general of Saga. Many people find they miss work because it not only reduces their income, but also gives them less contact with other people.

Working longer, on the other hand, improves people's health and wellbeing. They don't waste their talents and experience. If everyone worked just one year longer, it would bring in an extra £16billion, or add one per cent to the economy. "Older workers have a huge amount to bring to any workforce and are a vast, untapped talent in the British labour market... it makes sense for employers to train someone in their fifties, as they are likely to stay on for 10 years." The writer of Ecclesiastes points out that "everyone should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil – this is God's gift to man." (Ecc. 3:13)

Two kinds of people

"Somebody has said there are only two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say,

"Good morning, Lord,"

and there are those who wake up in the morning and say,

"Good Lord, it's morning."

High Days and Holy Days for October

1st Theresa of Lisieux - making the most of life
4th St. Francis of Assisi – love for the Creation

18th Thank you, Dr Luke!
 By David Winter

‘Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, bless the bed that I lie on’ - my grandma taught me that one. At least it meant I never forgot the names of the writers of the four Gospels. This month Luke, the writer of the third of them, has his feast day – 18th October.

He was, we learn from the letters of St Paul, a ‘physician’ - an educated man and probably the only one of the writers of the New Testament who was not a Jew. In modern terms he was Turkish. Paul took him as one of his missionary team on a long journey around the Middle East, and they clearly became close friends. Under house arrest later in his life Paul could write, ‘only Luke is with me’.

However, it is his Gospel which has established him as a major figure in the history of the Christian Church. Mark’s Gospel may have more drama, Matthew’s more prophetic background and John’s a more profound sense of the mystery of the divine, but Luke offers us a Jesus who is utterly and believably real. This man turned no one away, reserved his harshest words for hypocrites and religious grandees, cared for the marginalised, the poor, the persecuted, the handicapped and the sinful. His Gospel is full of people we can recognise - indeed, in whom we can often recognise ourselves.

He was also a masterly story-teller. Try, for instance, the story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32). Read it (this time) not as a sacred text but as a brilliant piece of story-telling: subtle repetitions (‘your son, this brother of yours’), believable characters, drama and profound emotion. There is the older brother, so cynical about his sibling’s alleged reformation, the ‘prodigal’ himself, so hesitant about throwing himself on his father’s mer-

cy after the folly of his earlier behaviour, and there is the father, of course, abandoning the dignity of his role in the family and actually running to welcome his wretched son's return.

There are more women in Luke's Gospel than in any of the others, but also more poor people, more lepers, more 'sinners' and tax-collectors, more 'outsiders' who are shown to be 'inside' the love of Christ. This, for many of us, is the great Gospel of inclusion and compassion. Here is a Jesus for the whole world and for every one of us. Thank you, Dr Luke!

31st All Hallows Eve – or Holy Evening

The Power of the Blood of Jesus

Without a doubt, the blood of Jesus Christ is the most precious gift our heavenly Father has given to His church. Yet so few Christians understand its value and virtue.

Christians often sing about the power of the blood. "There is power, power, wonder-working power in the precious blood of the Lamb." But most Christians seldom enter into the power of that blood.

Most Christians know about the blood Jesus shed for us. When Christ lifted the cup at the last Passover, He said, "...This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you" (Luke 22:20).

Our faith in the power of the Blood of Jesus is extremely important, but what is more important is what God thinks about the Blood. When I see the Blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you. Exodus 12:13

The sprinkling of blood in Exodus, the Israelites were commanded to take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood of a slain lamb, and sprinkle it onto the lintel and two side-posts of their front door. That night, when the death angel came and saw the blood

on the door posts, he passed over the house.

What God told Moses was – “When I See The Blood on the lintel and doorposts of your humble dwellings in the land of Goshen – and the Angel of Death approaches – I AM that I AM – will get up off of My Throne – come down to earth to your home – and I Myself will Stand in front of your door – in front of your home. I will interpose My own person – and I will protect and defend you. When destruction approaches – I will turn him away – and tell him – “You can’t come in this dwelling, because the blood of the lamb is on this door, on this home”.

There is also a sprinkling of blood mentioned in Exodus 24:1-11. In this passage, God made a covenant agreement with Israel. He promised, “If you will obey My words, I will be a God to you, and you will be My people.” Now, this covenant had to be sealed -- to be ratified and made valid -- and that could happen only through the sprinkling of the blood upon it. Hebrews tells us Moses “...took the blood ...and sprinkled both the book, and all the people...” (Hebrews 9:19).

It is clear from the passage that the sprinkling of the blood gave the Israelites full access to God, with joy. On this occasion it had nothing to do with forgiveness and remission of sin -- but, rather, with communion. They were now sanctified, cleansed -- fit to be in God’s presence.

Beloved, today we are in a new covenant with Jesus Christ -- a covenant sealed by His own blood. And likewise today, when His precious blood is sprinkled on your soul, it is for purposes of communion. It is so that you can boldly -- with ease, without fear of judgment -- go into God’s presence for communion. You are given access to Him, with no sin condemning you. You are free to talk to God and enjoy His company!

The Blood of Jesus has AN OVERCOMING POWER. It is written in the Revelation, “They overcame through the blood of the Lamb.” How could they do otherwise? He who fights with the precious blood of Jesus, fights with a weapon that will cut through soul and spirit, joints and marrow, a weapon that makes hell tremble, and makes heaven subservient, and earth

obedient to the will of the men who can wield it.

The Blood of Jesus PLEADS ON OUR BEHALF. Paul says in his epistle to the Hebrews, “It speaks better things than that of Abel.” (Hebrews 12:24) Abel’s blood pleaded and prevailed; its cry was “Vengeance” and Cain was punished. Jesus’ blood pleads and prevails; its cry is “Father, forgive them!” and sinners are forgiven through it. When I cannot pray as I wish, how sweet to remember that the blood prays! There is no voice in my tongue, but there is always a voice in the blood. If I cannot, when I bow before my God, get farther than to say “God be merciful to me, a sinner,” yet my Advocate before the throne is not dumb because I am, and his plea has not lost its power because my faith in it may happen to be diminished.

The Blood of Jesus is the sole basis and ground of our authority and power in prayer. The Cross is where Jesus’ Blood was spilled out and shed. The Cross was the instrument that God used to release the Blood of His Son. The Power of the Cross is the Blood!

Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in Blood, and His name is called The Word of God. ... And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. Rev 19:11-16

And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for Thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by Thy Blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation. Rev 5:9

THERE IS POWER POWER WONDER WORKING POWER IN
THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB

Remain Blessed.

LEPROSY MISSION

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Please donate your used stamps so that money can be raised for Leprosy Mission.

Stamps should be trimmed to quarter inch border around the stamp and can be left at the back of the church.

PLEASE TELL US.....

If you know of any special birthdays, anniversary or anyone celebrating a special occasion, who is a Parish Magazine reader. Please inform the editor David Bull.

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THE PARISH OF
ST JAMES,
CHRISTLETON

NEWS:

"MAKE 'n MUNCH" is coming to you!

Sunday 14th Sept:

10.00am in Parish Hall: Worship workshop for everyone to make things for the service, whilst munching on toast with tea/coffee.

10.45am Morning Worship service in church for all ages.

Sunday 12th Oct:

10.00am in Parish Hall: Breadmaking workshop for everyone. Have a go or watch others, plus munching on toast & tea/coffee.

10.45am Morning Worship
Harvest Festival service in church for all ages. You may bring gifts of fresh or non-perishable goods for Chester Aid for the Homeless and for Save the Family.



Parish Registers (August)

Holy Baptism

31st Oscar James Dunning Son of Stuart James Dunning & Amy Louise Hughes, 12 Haslin Crescent, Christleton

"We welcome you into the Lord's Family"

The Marriage Service

8th Blessing of the Marriage of Michael & Aiko Checkley
Osaka, Japan
15th Benjamin Peter McCrorrie & Heather Elizabeth Snow
31 Chesterton Court, Chester
16th David St George Brown & Joanne Shephard
4 Stocks Lane, Boughton, Chester
30th Philip Mark Kinsley & Lucy Rebecca Francis
32 Hill View Road, Bath, Avon

"Those whom God has joined, let no man divide."

The Funeral Service

14th Annie (Nancy) Jowett Cedar House, Cedar Court,
Great Boughton 97yrs
27th Marjorie Amelia Ruth Jacks Birch Heath Lodge Nursing
Home, Christleton 90yrs
28th Stanley George Alexander Dickenson 9 Greenfield Rd,
Broughton, Chester 86yrs
(Burial of cremated remains.)
29th Marjorie Amelia Ruth Jacks Birch Heath Lodge Nursing
Home, Christleton 90yrs (Burial of cremated remains.)
29th Jessie Stuart Wealstone Court Nursing Home,
Upton by Chester 85yrs

"Grant them eternal rest"

Offertories

August	Cash	C.S.E.	2014	2013
3rd	64-08	559-04	623-12	651-13
10th	55-50	449-00	504-50	553-20
17th	72-10	597-15	669-25	898-55
24th	108-45	498-10	606-55	992-45
31st	300-33	585-13	885-46	- - - -
Totals			£3288-88	£3,095-33

"Of your own do we give you"

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, CHRISTLETON

SUNDAYS:	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	
	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:	Carl Cumiskey	330028
	Bettie Gilliatt	335645
Deputy Wardens:	Alan McAllester	335494
	Chris Platel	332466
	Keith Smalls	335688
Curate:	Barbara King	300756
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
Magazine Editor:	David Bull	332234
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Magazine Compiler:	Ike Efobi	336072

October 2014



St James Church Christleton



Christleton Primary School Pupils with
their harvest loaves

Ten Commandments

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family bible to her brother in another part of the country.

“Is there anything breakable in here?” asked the postal clerk.

“Only the Ten Commandments,” answered the lady.