

# St John's High Legh Parish Magazine



## FEBRUARY/MARCH 2022

*You, Lord, are in the  
midst of us and we are  
called by Your name*

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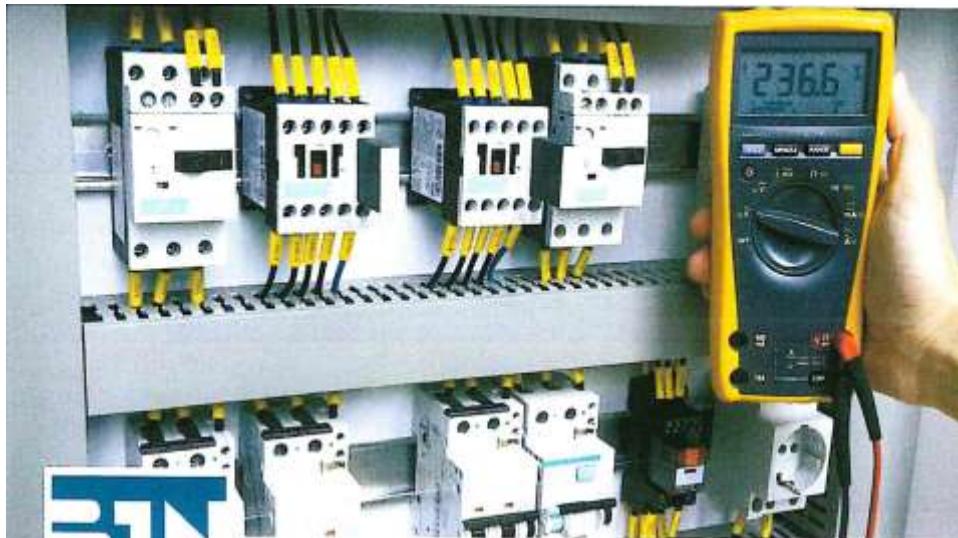
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A group of volunteers known as the Friends of Abbeyfield arrange an informal **Coffee Morning on the first Tuesday of the month 10.30am onwards**. Interested persons and new volunteers are welcome to attend.

**Member Society of The Abbeyfield Society, a national organisation providing housing, care and support for older people across the UK [www.abbeyfield.com](http://www.abbeyfield.com)**

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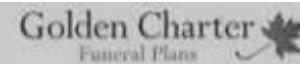
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## **Time to say “Goodbye”**

Its not easy saying “goodbye” but it happens all through life. There are sad goodbyes when we lose someone close to us and there are the goodbyes when people move on in life. Of course, I am talking about the retirement of our three clergy and by the time you read this Reverend Philip and Patricia will be concentrating on refurbishing their new home near Leek.

Reverend Trish on the other hand will have retired from her role as Assistant Priest and will step back from her duties at St. John's.

Trish will still be around as a Priest and will have the title of P.T.O which means Permission to Officiate. We will be able to ask her to come and take the occasional service whilst we await the appointment of a new clergy.

Over the last six years St. John's has been part of a United Benefice with Rostherne, Little Bollington and Tabley. We would like to thank our clergy for ministering to us during this

period and especially over the last two years when we have been in and out of lockdowns due to the Covid pandemic. They have all embraced technology to make sure we have held a service every week.

We also wish Trish and John a long and happy retirement doing all those things they would have liked to have done but never had the time.

**“The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you.  
The Lord turn his face towards you and give you peace.”**

Numbers 6.24-26

Stewart -Church Warden & Pastoral Worker

## CONTACTS

Vicar

<i>Reader</i>	Mrs Chris Stanisstreet Email: stanbess2003@yahoo.co.uk	Mob: 07918 981723 01925 755559
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<i>Wardens</i>	Mr Stewart Jackson Mrs Elaine Jones	07835 249835 01925 753111
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**Website: [www.stjohnshighlegh.org](http://www.stjohnshighlegh.org) Facebook @stjohnshighlegh**

*Copy deadline date for the next magazine is the  
15th March.*

*Please send to Stjohnshlparishmag@gmail.com  
Late submissions may not be published*

**HIGH LEGH PRAYERS**  
every Wednesday morning 9-10am  
in the Church Hall  
Open to all of faith or no faith.  
If you have a prayer need feel free to come  
along or contact the Churchwardens who will ensure you are  
prayed for.



\*\*\*\*\*  
\* **Prayer written by Liz for our period of interregnum**

\* *Loving God, guide us with your heavenly wisdom as we journey together through this period of Interregnum, we thank you for your everlasting faithfulness to us.*

\* *At this time of uncertainty and change we ask that you send us your Holy Spirit to fill us with your vision, energy, and faithfulness in prayer.*

\* *Our prayers may help us in our calling to bring new life to our community and guide those that have the responsibility of choosing a new incumbent for our churches.*

\* *Dear Lord guide us that we that we may be true to our calling to bring new life to our community.*

\* *We ask that you will help us to share responsibility, grow in faith, love one another, care for those in need and have courage to face our future and embrace the unknown, with praise in our hearts and guidance from God may we be helped in our decisions.*

\* **Amen**

\*\*\*\*\*  
Plough Service  
Sunday January 9th 2022



St Paul's Church in Tabley hosted its annual Plough Service, to which all the congregations in our United Benefice were invited.

For many centuries farmers have been bringing a plough into churches all over the country the Sunday before Plough Monday, when ploughing and work in the fields traditionally started. This represented the beginning of the agricultural year. The purpose is to bless the plough and pray a blessing on the land and seed. In some areas farmers arrive at church on their tractors but we didn't see any of ours doing so!

There are slightly different dates and traditions associated with Plough Sunday . For some, as in our Benefice, it is the first Sunday after Epiphany which falls between the 7th and 13th of January. Epiphany being on the 6th of January.



As you read this we are awaiting a new dawn, following the retirement of Philip, Trish and Patricia.

That said much remains unchanged. Our appeal for your financial help in funding our electrical repairs remains current. We are **approximately £2500 short of our target. Anything that you are** able to give will be graciously received.

Additionally we are seeing costs rise at a rate not seen in many years. Our biggest cost is electric. We rely on it for both power and heating. Again I appeal to you all to help in your regular giving to enable us to ensure we cover our day to day running costs.

If you would like to make a donation but cannot get to Church you can donate directly into the bank account. Equally if you wish to make a regular standing order that would also be well received.

Our bank details are as follows:

**Account Name : St John's Church**

Account Number: 42534278

Sorting Code: 050213

Bank Name: Virgin Money, Stockport Branch

Thank you to all who have donated so far and I pray for further donations to help us to meet our goal and cover this major cost.

God bless  
Nick Whimpenny  
Treasurer



<http://www.highlegh-communityobservatory.com/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/highleghlco/>

Our Meetings are held at 7.30 on the second Thursday of every month at

St John's Church Room, The Avenue, High Legh, WA16 6ND

Please note that the observatory is open on Friday nights every week if the sky is clear.

We start at 8 pm or dusk whichever is later.

All are welcome and admission is free, but donations are appreciated!

## **Rotas**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sides-persons</b>
6/02/22	Arthur
13/02/2022	Brian
20/02/2022	Les
27/02/2022	Marilyn
06/03/2022	Arthur
13/03/2022	Brian
20/03/2022	Marilyn
27/03/2022	Les

## **High Legh Diary for February / March 2022**

**All meeting in the Church Rooms (unless otherwise stated)**

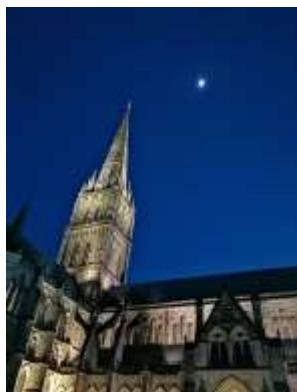
<b>Every Monday</b>	2.00 pm – 4.00 pm	We're Hooked
<b>Every Tuesday</b>	9.30 am – 12 noon	Little Acorns
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	2.30 pm	Mother's Union AGM
<b>Every Wednesday</b>	9.00 am	Prayers
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	2.00 pm	Coffee, Create & Chat
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	7.30 pm	High Legh Community Observatory
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	12.30 pm	Community Lunch (Please book with Elaine Jones)
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	2.30 pm 5.30 pm	Mother's Union Pancake Evening
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> March		World Day of Prayer at Lymm Methodist Church
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	2.00 pm	<b>Afternoon Tea (<i>Ticket only event</i>)</b>
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	2.00 pm	Coffee, Create & Chat
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	7.30 pm	High Legh Community Observatory
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	12.30 pm	Community Lunch (Please book with Elaine Jones)

# Ongoing UK Cathedral Tour



**St Asaph**

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**Hereford**





**Ely**



**Exeter**



**Blackburn**



<https://www.sanctuarycafe.org.uk/>

**Brookfield Road  
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01925 753987**

**Tuesday - Friday: 9am - 3pm**  
**Saturday 9am - 4pm**

**Community Lunch** is on the third Wednesday of

**the month.** At present, during the winter, we offer a choice of soups, cakes, and coffee or tea. We welcome all members of our community, the United Benefice, and any friends and visitors. In January we said Goodbye to Philip, Patricia and Trish with a very party atmosphere lunch. We will miss them all very much as they have always supported our lunches, and we wish them long and happy retirements. We know Trish will still be able to join us when she can, and we look forward to that.

# March

## 1st March Shrove Tuesday

As usual we will be having a Pancake Evening in the Church Room, starting at 5.30. We will provide the Pancakes, sugar and lemon juice. You are welcome to bring any other fillings you would like. There is no charge for this evening, but any donations would be welcome.

Friday 4th March  
World Day of Prayer  
Lymm Methodist Church

## Afternoon Tea

## Saturday 5th March

We will be hosting an Afternoon Tea, starting at 2.00 pm in the Church Room and including Prosecco. The speaker will be Irene Thomson, from Lowton Hedgehog Rescue. This promises to be a very interesting talk, given the rapid decline in our hedgehogs. The cost will be £15.00 and tickets will be available from Elaine Jones 01925 753111 and Nick Whimpanny 07554 343133.



**It is a ticket only event.**

# **WEEKLY TELEPHONE SERVICE**

**This is a short Compline service for anyone who wishes to join us.**

**7.00pm on THURSDAY evenings  
(dial in any time after 6.45pm)**

**Please check with your landline or mobile phone provider that calls to 03 numbers are free - they usually are. If you would like to join:**

- 1 DIAL THIS NUMBER: 0333 0164 757**
- 2 You will be asked to enter the CONFERENCE ROOM NUMBER followed by the HASH KEY #  
358 104 39 #**
- 3 You will then be asked to enter the PIN NUMBER followed by the hash key # 8723 #**

**We can then speak to each other.**

Please say the **words in bold** and try to ensure that there is **no background noise**.

Please contact Chris Stanisstreet on **01925 755559** or Stewart Jackson on **07835 249835** for further details, a service booklet and a hymn book.

## **Home Communion**

**We rely on people letting us know when church members or neighbours are unwell, in hospital or experiencing other difficulties. The ministry team are happy to visit or visit and take communion to individuals.**

**Please contact:  
Chris on 01925 755559 or  
Stuart on 07835 249835**

# **Regular happenings in the Church Rooms**



## **Little Acorns**

Aimed at babies and toddlers we meet every Tuesday morning 9.30-12 noon.

Come and join in the arts and crafts, play and singing activities. We are joined by little ones with their mums, dads, grandparents, great grandparents and carers. We welcome new families to our group.

Plus lots of tea and toast

£2.50 per meeting

Contact Liz to ask for more details 07905741969

## **We're Hooked**

We meet every Monday afternoon from 2pm until 4pm. It is a fun afternoon with Nicola dealing with raw beginners and those who can do basic crochet. There is lots of chat and laughter, and copious amounts of undoing and trying again! At the moment we are attempting to make "virus shawls", very appropriate in the present climate! We welcome any newcomers to come and join us. We pay £3 per week which includes refreshments.

Come and meet people and learn or improve your crochet.  
Contact Liz to ask for more details 07905 741969

**Coffee, Chat and Create meets on the second Tuesday at 2.00 pm each month.** It is a small group, but anyone is welcome to come and join us. It is always interesting to see what everyone is creating. There are various skills on show, ranging from knitting, sewing, patchwork and crochet to name but a few. It is very light hearted with plenty of chat and laughter. We pay 2.00 to cover refreshments and heating the church room. Do come and join us.

## A Call to Ministry?

Some time ago I felt that I had a 'calling' to some form of Ministry or Pastoral work. I attended the "Called to Serve" event at Foxhill, a day spent listening to various fields of Ministry. I had various meetings and reflections with people and then I was interviewed by Sarah Fenby, Head of Vocations for Diocese of Chester.

In September 2021 I started a placement at St Mary's Partington as part of the discernment process. This process is designed for those who sense a call to ministry; during this time, I have been guided by a Spiritual Advisor and my Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands. The following verse helps me my journey.

Philippians 3:12 'Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me'.

During my placement at St Mary's, there were several requests made, one being the Christmas shoe box appeal which was inundated and secondly an appeal on a Sunday for

clothing for the Afghan refugees and by Wednesday there were several car loads delivered plus enough monetary donations for fifty pairs of children's shoes.

The generosity also was evident in their worship and the love of God, this is a place where the whole community come together, no matter what their background, and are accepted by all. There is an overwhelming genuine love; this was very much felt all the way through my placement, with the positive comments made to me about the work that I did and on the final day a couple in church turned round to me and asked where I was moving onto and I explained I would return to my own church. They asked if they could put their arms around me and pray for me. This to me was the whole of St Mary's summed up in this final act. I felt very humbled by all at St Mary's and feel that they have taught me so much, but I also think we all have something to take away from this that people with so little have other more generous ways of giving that money can never buy.

There are many biblical verses that encourage us to be generous and kind with others, as our generosity will be returned to us by God. Proverbs 11:24 states 'one gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.' It is good to practice generosity with our family, friends and community; as the bible says, not only does this gain favour with God, but brings goodwill amongst our family and friends.

Now I return to St John's as I continue my journey, with God's guidance, knowing that I have gained so much more than a tick for attending a placement.

Liz Whimpanny



## Mothers' UNION

In October we sent £500 to the Diocesan Secretary to be divided between our charities needing donations and £150 each went to the Holiday fund, Britain and Ireland and Worldwide funds and £50 to the Prison Ministry.

Our meeting in December was, as usual, festive with sherry and mince pies provided by Enid and Rhian. We welcomed 3 new members Angela Bradley, Janet Harrison and Hilary Kenyon. With our thanks to Revd Trish who took the enrolment service.

On 16th November we had a knitting stall at the coffee morning at St. Philip's, Alderley Edge and raised £65 and on 19th December we raised £136 on our cake and knitting stall at the Farmers Market.

The next meeting is the AGM on Tuesday 1st February at 2.30pm.

C. Gibbon

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Rates for 2022 are:

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