

THE LINK

50p

JANUARY 2020

Tarporley Parish Magazine



Christingle Service December 2019

And Jesus said of himself, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness'

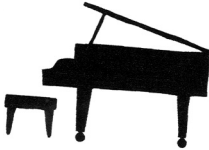
John 8:12

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Services: See Calendar page on the website or ‘The Link’ magazine.

Weekday Service St Helen’s Church, Holy Communion: Wednesday at 10.00 am.

(Note: all telephone numbers are area code 01829 unless otherwise stated).

Rector: **Georgina Watmore, The Rectory, High St, Tarporley CW6 0AG 732491**
 e-mail: revgeorgina@me.com

Assistant Curate: **Julian Osborne, 3 Dingle Way, Cuddington, Cheshire, CW8 2UW 07421 323699**
 e-mail: revjulianosborne@gmail.com

Associate Minister: **Trevor Davies, 5 Allansford Avenue, Waverton, CH3 7QH 01244 332106**
 e-mail: etd Davies1@btinternet.com

Tarporley: St Helen

Churchwardens	Phillip Posnett, Haughton Hall,. Tarporley CW6 9RH	260251
	Liz Neely email neelyeliza@hotmail.com	07890 470899
Treasurer	Anita Langford, 7 The Crescent, Utkinton, CW6 0LT	458351
P.C.C Secretary	Marion Moss, 2 Torr Rise, Tarporley, CW6 0UD	733382
Organist	Chas Hardern	732595
Bellringers	Jenny Christian	732412

Cotebrook:

St John Wardens	Bill Spiegelberg, Oulton Park House, Tarporley, CW6 9BL	760336
	Peter Copland, Moss Cottage, Utkinton Lane, Cotebrook, CW6 0JH	732618
Organist	Katrina Copland,	732618

Eaton: St Thomas

Wardens	Rosemary Lilley, Windward Mark, Eaton Lane, Eaton, Tarporley CW6 9AG	732948
	Michael Scott, Shire Barn, Moss Hall Lane, Rushton, Tarporley CW6 9GJ	760750
Organist	Marjorie Rathbone	732655

LINK Editor	Andy Jobson, Plessington House, Huxley Lane, Brassey Green, Tarporley, CW6 9UG	732437
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Electoral Roll	Mike Kiddle, 1 Woodlands Way, Tarporley, CW6 0TP	733431
Safeguarding Officer	Liz Neely email neelyeliza@hotmail.com	07890 470899
Sunday Sheet	email jleaman@talktalk.net	
Tarporley C.E. Primary School	Mrs Kerry Forrester	01244 981230
Utkinton C.E. Primary School	Ms Lorna Pleavin	732322
Done Room Booking Secretary	Kathryn Palmer	733040

CONTACT POINTS:

Please do not hesitate to report cases of sickness or pastoral need to the Rector	732491
To make arrangements for a Funeral please contact the Rector	732491

To ask about Wedding arrangements, baptisms or general enquiries please contact Jan
 email: admin@tarporleyparish.co.uk

Website: www.tarporleyparishchurch.org e-mail: admin@tarporleyparish.co.uk

Items for ‘The Link’ should be e-mailed to jobsonajj@btinternet.com or posted to the Link Editor by the 16th of each month.

SERVICES FOR THE MONTH



January 5th

THE EPIPHANY

St Thomas	9.00am	Open Worship
St Helen	10.00am	Open Worship
St John	11.15am	Holy Communion
St Helen	6.30pm	Evensong

12th

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF THE EPIPHANY

St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	4.00pm	Messy Church Theme 'The Kings'



19th

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE EPIPHANY

St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion
Chester Cathedral at 3.30pm		

A Service of Prayer for Christian Unity (see page 9)

26th

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE EPIPHANY

St Thomas	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen	10.00am	Holy Communion

February 2nd

THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE

St Thomas	9.00am	Open Worship
St Helen	10.00am	Open Worship
St John	11.15am	Holy Communion
St Helen	6.30pm	Evensong

Every Wednesday at 10.00am at St Helen's there is a service of Holy Communion.

At all our Eucharist services we welcome everyone to come forward for a blessing or to receive communion.

If you have time, please stay for refreshments after the service

Every Sunday at St Helen's

1st and 4th Sundays at St Thomas'

1st Sunday of the month at St John's



The Rector Writes.....



January can sometimes be a very difficult month, with the festivities over, Christmas trees and decorations packed away and weeks of dark days ahead, it can feel that there is little to look forward to. For those of us who live in the northern hemisphere the lack of light and warmth at this time of year can affect us badly. Even if we are fortunate not to suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) the 'gloom' of winter can pervade our lives making us feel 'low'. It's no wonder that January is the month in which the greatest number of holiday bookings are made as we seek out the light and find something to look forward to.

Light and hope are both basic human needs. Without light we could not physically see, and earth could not sustain life. We need the light and warmth of the sun to guide and sustain us but this is something we only fully appreciate when we are surrounded by darkness. Light and hope are therefore closely related. Hope is often envisaged as the 'light at the end of the tunnel' or a 'flicker of light we can see in the darkness'. Whilst darkness has come to symbolise the worst aspects of life, light is seen as the liberator that brings hope and drives darkness away.

Which is one of the reasons why the theme of light is so central to Christianity. Light frames the Bible. At the beginning we read how God created light (Genesis 1:3) and at its end we are promised a city where 'there will be no more night' (Revelation 22:5). The beginning of John's Gospel speaks of Jesus in these words: 'In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it' (John 1:4-5). Matthew too contrasts light and darkness when speaking of Jesus: 'The people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned' (Matthew 4:16). And Jesus said of himself, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness' (John 8:12).

For Christians, Jesus is the light who shows us the warmth of God's love and both gives us, and guides us through, life. For Christians, the life, death and resurrection of Jesus are the Hope that can carry us through the darkest of days, even the apparent finality of death. In 1939, at a time of great darkness for the whole of Europe, for one of his first radio broadcasts King George VI used words by Minnie Haskins on the theme of God's light and hope. The Queen Mother

loved these words so much that they were read at her own funeral. They remind us that however dark it might sometimes seem, Jesus is the Light of the World, that he is with us, and that God's promises hold.

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:

"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."

And he replied:

"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.

That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."

So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.

And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

Whatever January and this New Year might hold for us, however dark some days might get, however uncertain the future might appear, may we have the courage and faith to put our hands into the Hand of God who will light and guide our path.

With every blessing

Georgina

A review of some of the events in our parish in late November and early December.

Saturday November 30th saw us gathering for an 'Afternoon Tea in the Done Room' :-

This fun afternoon of fellowship and fund raising for the Done Room was enjoyed by all and the £748 we raised will boost the fabric fund for the upkeep of the Done Room Church Hall and allow its continued constant use by villagers.

Thank you to everyone who supported the afternoon by attending, donating money or gifts and a special thank you to the Team of Helpers.

Elaine Hulton.

Immediately after the tea we were able to join the crowds on the High Street to hear St Helen's bells ring out to announce the official blessing of the crib on the High Street and the lighting up of the High Street Christmas decorations.

Our 2019 Christingle Service at St Helen's on December 1st

Our annual service of Light was a joyful and busy celebration made possible thanks to the help of so many: the team who built the Christingles and watched over them whilst lit, Chas and the Choir who sang hymns and carols of joy and very importantly to the Co-Op for donating the oranges and Charles Hardy at the Old Fire Station Coffee and Chocolate Shop for giving us all the sweets. This service of light is all about the importance of sharing the good things that God gives us and the generosity and help we received to make this service happen demonstrates how brightly the Light is shining in our community. A very heart felt thank you to all involved.



Singing carols by candlelight (below) and a Christingle World (above)

See also the photograph of the Christingle Service on the front cover of this magazine



**Please put the date in your diary for 2020!
Always the first Sunday in December at 4pm at St Helen's.**

And don't forget your Children's Society Box

If you are a Children's Society box holder it is now time to collect the money you have donated. Many will have already done this in December 2019 but, if there was a problem, Pat Symms (the co-coordinator) will call on you at home and collect your box in January.

Pat will give you a receipt for the contents and reseal the box ready for this year's contributions.

Thank you

Dates for your Diary

Reflection Group: Monday 13th January 2020 1:30pm -3.00pm.

Our Parish Reflection Group will meet at the home of Angela Symes 8 Spring Hill, on Monday 13th January 1:30pm -3pm with tea, coffee and biscuits.

Open to all in our congregations, these meetings provide a time of space and reflection linking our faith to our lives and circumstances.

No prior knowledge or materials are required just a willingness to listen to others and share your own life experience. If you would like to know more please speak to Georgina 01829 732491 revgeorgina@me.com.

SERVICE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Sunday 19th January, 3.30 pm.Chester Cathedral

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2020, coordinated nationally by the Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, will take place between 18th to 25th January.

This year the service will be hosted at Chester Cathedral on Sunday 19th January at 3.30pm.

The theme for 2020, chosen by the churches in Malta and Gozo, is related to the Feast of the Shipwreck of St Paul, which marks and gives thanks for the arrival of Christian faith on the islands. The reading from the Acts of the Apostles used for the feast is the text chosen for this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The speaker will be Lord Alton of Liverpool.

EATON WOMEN’S INSTITUTE: Tuesday, 14th January 2020 at 7.30p.m.

In the Jessie Hughes Village Hall Eaton,

A talk by Stuart Walsh on-

“Being a games Master at the London 2012 Olympics’

Enquiries please contact Secretary, Celia Gregory 01270 528647

Pop Up Restaurant Traditional Burns Night

At Cotebrook Village Hall

25 January 2020 at 7.30pm

Tickets: £35.00 per person

Includes a 3 course dinner with plates of haggis, neeps and tatties alongside (vegetarian option available)

For tickets and further information contact Judith Walters on:

01829760513/07711243521

Admission by ticket only

Proceeds for the evening will be divided between
Cancer Research UK and Cotebrook Village Hall Development
Fund



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The winners of the December 200+ club draw are:

First Prize	£100	No.58	– Mrs J Cookson
Second Prize	£20	No. 36	– Mr E Wright
Third Prize	£10	No. 159	Miss I Williams –

The 200+ Club is a fun and simple way of raising funds for St Helen’s. Each month starting in January a draw will be made and prizes of £100, £20 and £10 are given. It costs only £1 to have your number in each monthly draw (an annual subscription of £12). The proceeds, after the prizes are allocated, go to maintain the fabric of the Parish Church.



We are very short of the following: Long Life Fruit
Juice, Tinned Meat, Long Life Milk, Cuppa Soup,
Jam, Sponge Puddings, Tinned Fruit, Pasta Sauce,

Tinned Rice Pudding, Tinned Custard Currently not needed: Pasta, Beans.

Please ensure that all donations are well in date. With Grateful Thanks.

Further information: <https://midcheshire.foodbank.org.uk/locations/>

We congratulate and pray for those baptised:

Polly Hannah Craven



From the Parish Bookshelf

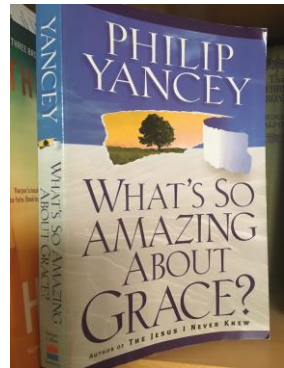
Walter Gibson reviews a book entitled:-

‘What’s So Amazing About Grace?’

By Philip Yancey

This month’s book has been kindly lent by the Rector.

We all know the song, and it’s a word we use a lot but how often do we think about what it really means? If you are looking for a nice neat definition of “grace” this book is not for you. If on the other hand you like stories then you will enjoy reading it. The author uses them -some personal, some political, some biblical - to illustrate and convey its meaning. We read of some dramatic encounters with grace and we begin to understand what it is and the change it can bring about in people’s lives. He uses examples of what he calls “ungrace” to highlight what happens when grace is absent, as it sadly often is in modern life, even amongst the church.



What comes through is that God’s grace is indeed amazing. It is about unconditional love, forgiveness, acceptance of everyone, and it is a free gift to those who don’t deserve it.

He leaves us with us with some thoughts about the importance of church being a place where “thirsty” people can find grace. Will people on the outside see us as grace-full and want to experience that for themselves?

Walter Gibson

Finally: Some Miscellanies.

An unfortunate use of words:- As part of his talk at a banquet, a minister told some jokes and a few funny stories. Since he planned to use the same anecdotes at a meeting the next day, he asked reporters covering the event not to include them in their articles. Reading the paper the following morning, he noticed that one well-meaning cub reporter had ended his story on the banquet with the observation "**The minister told a number of stories that cannot be published.**"

A Recipe for a Happy New Year in 2020

Take 12 fine full-grown months

See that these are thoroughly free from old memories of bitterness, regret or envy.

Cleanse them completely from every clinging spite and pick off all specks of pettiness.

In short see that these months are freed from all past and have them as fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of time.

Cut these months into 29, 30 or 31 equal parts.

Do not attempt to make up the whole batch at one time

Rather prepare one day at a time.

Into each day put equal parts of faith, patience, courage and work (some people omit this ingredient and so spoil the flavour of the rest)

Make sure to include ample measures of hope, kindness and rest (leaving this out is like leaving the oil out of the salad dressing; don't do it)

Carefully fold in some worship and prayer.

Add a teaspoonful of good spirits, a dash of fun and a pinch of folly

Cook with love and care and decorate with a lavish quantity of good humour.

Make sure to share generously with family and friends.

I wish you and those you love a New Year full of such blessings

Georgina



"Looks like they've introduced contactless payments for their collections."

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A request for volunteers.
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OPAL Clubs are social clubs for older people who need support to get out and about.

Tarporley OPAL Club runs once a week on a Friday and we are currently short of volunteer drivers. The commitment would probably be once a month.

If you feel able to help or would like further information please contact:-

Sam Moggan mob:07856 095 611
sam.moggan@opalservices.org.uk

Tarporley Flower Club

Members of the Tarporley Flower Club invite you to join them at their monthly meeting which is held at the Tarporley Community Centre between 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month (except in January when the meeting is held on the second Tuesday. There is no meeting in August).

Each month spectacular floral designs are created by a skilled demonstrator on the stage before an audience of members, guests and visitors.

New members and visitors are most welcome, there is an admission fee payable.

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