

TARPORLEY PARISH

St Helen's, Tarporley

St Thomas', Eaton

St John and the Holy Cross, Cotebrook



Tarporley Parish

50p

The Link

Tarporley Parish magazine

August 2025



Our confirmation candidates with Bishop Sam

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Dip N.T.C., C.G.L.I., A.V.C.M.

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Items for 'The Link' should be emailed by the 16th of the month.

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To ask about Baptism, Funeral or Wedding arrangements, to ask for a
pastoral visit or home communion, or general enquiries
please contact Revd Jim

Website: www.tarporleyparishchurch.org

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SUNDAY SERVICES FOR THE MONTH August 2025

August 3rd

St Thomas'	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen's	10.00am	Holy Communion
St John's	11.15am	Holy Communion

TRINITY 7

August 10th

Done Room	9.30am	Café Church
St Thomas'	4.00pm	Holy Communion

TRINITY 8

August 17th

St Thomas'	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen's	10.00am	Holy Communion
St John's	6.30pm	Evensong

TRINITY 9

August 24th

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

ST BARTHOLOMEW

August 31st

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

TRINITY 11

September 7th

St Thomas'	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen's	10.00am	Holy Communion
St John's	11.15am	Holy Communion

TRINITY 12

Weekly Midweek Communion on Wednesdays
at 10am at St Helen's



We commend to God and pray for those who mourn:

David Oakes Errol Roberts Mary Faint

We celebrate with those who have been married:

Harry Woodrow and Hayley Oakes
John Brien and Olivia Holroyd

We celebrate with those who have joined the Church in baptism:

Alice Robertson

The Rector Writes:- *REST!*

The theme for August's Café Church, finishing the seven days of creation, is all focused on the fact that God rested on the seventh day, after all the creative activity that preceded it. This gave the Israelites the rhythm of Sabbath. As we enter a time of holiday and rest, when students and teachers get a break (and parents and carers perhaps tear their hair out!), it has made me reflect on how well I (and we as a church or society in general) rest. And frankly, I'm not sure I'm great at it! The temptation to look at emails, to do that little admin job or just spend thinking time about work is very strong. I have fallen into the trap of thinking that busyness is good, and every waking hour should be productive. 'Doing nothing' for a week seems like a waste, and so often holidays become just as busy (and tiring) as the work that preceded it: how many of us come back from holiday feeling like we need another just to recover??



So how can we rediscover the gift of rest and Sabbath? What does it really mean—it is about doing nothing??

I think it's more about finding a rhythm, but also one that is sustainable; it's just coming to the middle of the Tour de France as I write this, my favourite annual sporting event, with the riders reaching the mountain stages. And in the mountains, as the riders battle with punishing heat and steep gradients, the best climbers manage to fly away up to the summit; but for the rest, it is about finding the rhythm that is comfortable enough to get to the finish line without ruining their bodies. Not all of us will be able to sustain a pace of life that is akin to sprinting up a peak in the Alps, but perhaps the wisdom lies in finding the correct rhythm that suits us, so that we can finish the race...at least one day of rest in seven, to follow the divine example, seems a good place to start. But maybe also finding Sabbath moments in every day, to pause, tear our focus off ourselves and onto God. If we could do that this summer, maybe our break would be all the more refreshing.

Jim

Confirmation 2025

On Sunday 22nd June, Bishop Sam, bishop of Stockport, visited the parish to conduct Confirmations. We had a wonderful service, celebrating the faith of some of our young people, and the journey that they have been going on. Over six weeks, they had special preparations sessions, exploring who is God, what is the Church, what is prayer, why we should read the Bible and what Communion is all about. During the service we heard some of their reasons for making this step of faith:



I want to follow Jesus every step of my life, and announce my vows from my baptism and become a follower of God.

Confirmation is a chance to publicly affirm my faith and take ownership of my beliefs.

It is about deepening my connection with my church community and committing to live by its values.

I want to be closer to God and fulfil my baptism vows (and make my godparents happy)



We were also joined by our friends from St Philip's Kelsall to support their candidate, Frederick. With the help of a very special Bishop's chaplain (!), Bishop Sam explained all about what Confirmation is, and why Communion is also the special meal offered to all people. And thanks to Sue Richardson for baking a very special celebratory cake!! Please do continue to pray for Benjamin, Caitlin, Sebastian, Lucy, Daisy, Heather, Poppy, Innes, Isla-Rose, Ellis and Frederick as they journey with God!

St Thomas' Day BBQ

Thanks to everyone who came to celebrate St Thomas' day at the BBQ at The Dray's at the start of July - the advent of rainy weather could not dampen the spirits!!



Thanks as ever to Anne and Declan Kelly for hosting us, and cooking the BBQ, as well as the army of Eaton salad makers, and Laurence who provided the musical accompaniment!

Eco Church

Nick Parker from St Thomas' writes:



July 4th is Independence Day in the USA, but here in Eaton it was “runner bean planting day” for pupils at Eaton Primary School. Mrs Skellon and Mrs Brown aided by volunteers from St Thomas’ congregation, led 16 children, each carrying the runner bean that they had planted a few weeks previously, to the Churchyard at St Thomas to plant their bean in already prepared tubs.

There were a variety of sizes and some beans look healthier than others, some are going to need careful nurturing if they are to produce a crop later in the year. All the children now have a bean attached to a named bamboo cane so that when they come back to school following their summer holidays their beans should be ready to harvest, and hopefully, will still be tender enough to eat.

Whilst Nick was helping the children plant their bean Jan Freeman was leading the others in an Eco themed quiz which entailed leading them around the churchyard identifying different habitats and observing the different ways we are trying to attract wildlife to our little bit of green space. It was a windy afternoon and evening and some of the beans took a battering but let’s see what they produce in September.



In June Mrs Skellon brought Class 3 to St Thomas' to take part in the Churches Count on Nature initiative as part of Great Big Green Week, (7th -15th June). They spent their time identifying and counting different wildlife and plants. Back at school each pupil represented what they had recorded pictorially with a page of beautifully illustrated and coloured drawings. They also planted two raised beds: one with radishes and herbs and the other with a wildflower mix. The radishes and herbs are doing very well. The wildflowers are starting to show and with an Indian summer may well flower before autumn is upon us.

This is the second year that Eaton Primary School have been involved in the Eco initiatives we are introducing at the Churchyard as we try to do our bit to reverse the decline in flora and fauna in our community. We look



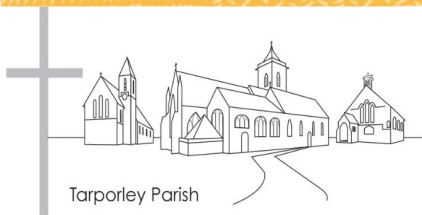
forward to welcoming them back in September and again in 2026.

My thanks Chris Clarey, Jan Freeman, Wendy Parker for helping to walk the children to the Churchyard and back to school and John and Carolyn Earl for managing the traffic on Royal Lane. Thanks also to Mike and Mary Wilson for their help with the June visit.

COMMUNITY LUNCH

TO CELEBRATE HOLY CROSS DAY

(To follow service at 11.15 in St John and the Holy Cross)



Tarporley Parish

TARPORLEY PARISH

St Helen's, Tarporley
St Thomas', Eaton
St John and the Holy Cross, Cotebrook



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Tarporley Carnival

In the scorching heat of a July day, a bunch of angels assembled in Tarporley...! As part of the Tarporley Carnival, we joined with our friends from Tarporley Chapel to walk in the carnival parade and have a joint Church stall on the field. As the musical entertainment was centred around Robbie Williams, we took his hit 'Angels' as our inspiration!

There were angel biscuits to ice and decorate (which were popular with all ages!!), angel pictures and badges to make, as well as a chance to think about who are the angels in our community, and who we can be angels to.

Thank you to all those who organised us before, during and after the day, in setting up the gazebos, baking the biscuits, providing the other resources and for those who braved the heat to dress up and volunteer on the stall: suffice it to say, there are lots of angels in the parish!!



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One of our key objectives as a Trust is to actively listen to our communities and receive their feedback.

We aim to understand the requirements and main priorities for services we could potentially support in the community, including physical and mental health and overall well-being.

We are reaching to you, our community, to tell us:- "What specific service(s) or support would you like to see introduced by the Trust?" Thank you.



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*Members of the Tarporley Flower Club
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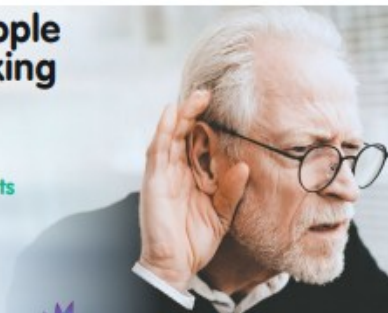
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