

TARPORLEY PARISH

St Helen's, Tarporley

St Thomas', Eaton

St John and the Holy Cross, Cotebrook



Tarporley Parish

50p

The Link

Tarporley Parish magazine

November 2025



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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

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/ParishOfTarporley

SUNDAY SERVICES FOR THE MONTH November 2025

November 2nd

St Thomas'	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen's	10.00am	Holy Communion
St John's	11.15am	Holy Communion with Act of Remembrance
St Helen's	4.00pm	All Souls' service

November 9th

REMEMBRANCE

St Thomas'	9.00am	Holy Communion with Act of Remembrance
St Helen's	10.20am	Parade followed by Remembrance service

November 16th

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

St Thomas'	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen's	10.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen's	4.00pm	Evensong

November 23rd

CHRIST THE KING

St Thomas'	9.00am	Songs of Praise
St Helen's	10.00am	Holy Communion
Done Room	4.00pm	Messy Church

November 30th

ADVENT SUNDAY

St Thomas'	9.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen's	10.00am	Holy Communion
St Helen's	4.00pm	Christingle

December 7th

ADVENT 2

Tarporley Christmas events—road closure in place

St John's	11.15am	Holy Communion
St Helen's	6.30pm	Holy Communion

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

The Rector Writes:-

How do you think about the Church?
How would you sum it up? St Augustine compared the church to a hospital and Jesus as the divine physician, and is often reputed as saying *'the church is not a museum for saints but a hospital for sinners'*.



In the season of 'All Saints' it might be easy to think of the Church as the place where saints abide, but helpful though their examples are, when we compare ourselves to them we become very fully aware of our own sinfulness.

We now have an Archbishop of Canterbury-elect, and the first female Archbishop of Canterbury. I have to admit that I was surprised, as I didn't think those in charge would have the courage to make such an appointment, so to hear the news was a pleasant way to start a Friday!

As well as having led the Diocese of London, Dame Sarah also had a prestigious career as Chief Nursing Officer for England and the NHS's director of patient experience for England. We're used to (arch)bishops being known as shepherds but perhaps it is even more appropriate that at this present moment the Church of England will be led by a nurse: our nation, our church is currently less like a flock of sheep in need of guidance and more like a ward full of ailing patients in need of care. After the effects of Brexit, COVID and international conflicts, maybe a nurse's pastoral care is what we need, rather than a manager's diktats? If the Church is a hospital for sinners, who better to be running the show than a nurse??

Pray for Bishop Sarah, and the Church of England in the coming months—praying that may we be good patients, aware of our condition, and ready to change our behaviour!

Jim

Posada—Travelling nativity

Can you make room this Advent??

Once again this year we have some visitors in the parish over Advent: could you give them shelter for an evening in Advent??

Mary, Joseph and a house trained donkey will be travelling through the parish looking for a different house to stay for each evening from Advent Sunday 30th November to 23rd December, helping us to prepare ourselves for Christmas. We have two sets – one for families and one for adults, so more people can enjoy these special guests.

As host, you may like to prepare a place for the figures and put a candle nearby which can be lit when the travellers arrive. You might like to invite neighbours and friends and their children living near you to come to your house that night, to hear again the Christmas story, or join you in a special Christmas prayer.

If you would like to host them please contact Revd Jim ASAP to book your date or check availability!





Pre-Christmas **Afternoon Tea** **in the Done Room**

Saturday 8th November, 2.30 - 4.00pm.

**Cake and gift stalls, raffle, tombola,
children's activities and games.**

**All are welcome at this Social Afternoon,
raising funds for St
Helen's Church repairs
and maintenance.**

**Please come along and
enjoy!**



**Admission £3 adults, £1 children
includes Tea/Coffee/Juice and Cake
(Donations also Welcome)**

**Many stalls to buy from and games to enjoy as
well as delicious refreshments!**

We celebrate with those who have been married in Church:

Stephen Prest and Helen Benson

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

Mollie Halewood Arlo Greaves



We commend to God and pray for those who mourn:

Betty Markus

Eco Church - Harvest update

As you know, this year we decided that your donations at each of our Harvest Festivals would contribute to offsetting some of our carbon emissions through supporting the work of Smart Havens Africa and their construction of energy-saving homes in Uganda. The total sum raised across the parish was an amazing **£530!** Because of your generosity, this means we are contributing an amount equivalent to about 21 tonnes of carbon, or nearly 90% of our total annual emissions. And we have made a very significant donation to SHA's work. Our churches were still beautifully (and creatively!) decorated, alongside posters giving information about the work of SHA. Will Broad, Investments & Operations Director said: *"We are incredibly grateful to everyone in the parish for your generous support. Your contribution will help us continue building climate-smart homes and creating dignified jobs for women and youth in underserved communities in Uganda. Thank you for being part of this journey toward lasting impact."* Thank you to everyone for your very generous donations!



Some of the eco-friendly Harvest decorations in St Helen's made from produce and local hedgerows and gardens by Jill Burton and the team!

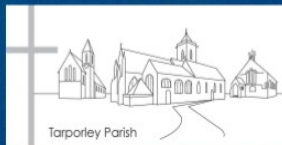


OCEAN

WITH DAVID ATTENBOROUGH

Join our screening of the film
at St Helen's, Tarporley
on Friday 21st November
at 6.30pm

Screening organised by



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waltergibson52@gmail.com

All Souls' service 2025

Sunday 2nd November

4pm

St Helen's



A time to remember those whom
we love but see no longer

All Souls' service 2025—2nd November, 4pm

During our service, we offer the opportunity to read aloud their names, to bring them before God. If you would like your loved one's name to be read out during the service (even if you cannot be present), please fill out your details on the sign up sheets in church, or contact Revd Jim directly (revjimb1017@gmail.com)

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

SUN
30
NOV

4 PM | ST HELEN'S

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Advent Book for 2025

'Listening to the Music of the Soul' by Bishop Guli Francis-Dehqani

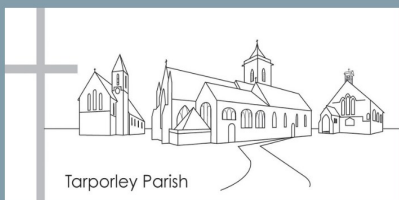
The author of this year's advent book is Bishop of Chelmsford and widely rumoured to have been on the shortlist to become Archbishop of Canterbury. You may have heard her speak on 'Thought for the Day' on BBC Radio 4. She was forced to leave her home in Iran at the age of 13 as a result of the Iranian Revolution and has never been able to return. While undoubtedly a huge loss, this experience has shaped her faith and her unique perspective on her ministry.

Her overall theme is that Advent is a time when we can try to take a step back from daily pressures and reconnect with our inner selves. It's only when we remind ourselves who we really are, deep in our hearts, that we can relate fully to God and the world around us. It is a chance to reflect on the 'melodies of faith', truths at the heart of who we are that are the solid foundations for our lives. This is what she means by 'listening to the music of the soul'.

There are eight chapters, all on different aspects of the Advent and Christmas story, and in each one she shares some of her own story and draws out the parallels and connections that make up her inner music. She invites us to explore our own stories and connections too as a way of listening to the music in our hearts.

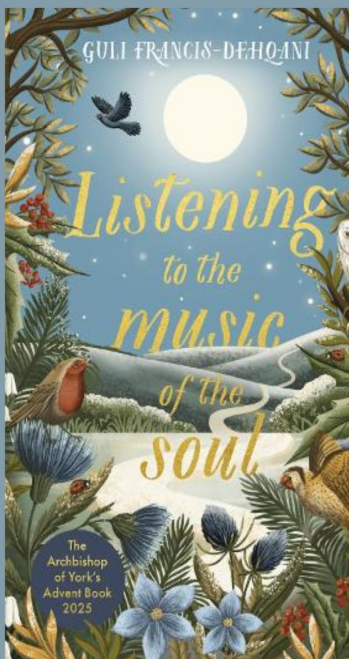
At the end of each chapter, she shares a piece of music - via a QR code - that she has chosen because of its special meaning to her and its connection to the topic. Sometimes music can express feelings in ways that words can't, and reach deep within us. This book gives us the joy of both.

Come along to The Dray's on Fridays in December at 10am to share our thoughts on the book!



Advent Book Group

Reading 'Listening to the
music of the soul'
by Guli Francis-Dehqani



*Join together on **Fridays in Advent at 10am**
The Dray's Coffee Shop, Eaton
to discuss what we've read*

5th December

12th December

19th December

ALL WELCOME!

For more information contact the Rector - Revd Jim Bridgman
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Meetings at Tarporley Community Centre
on 2nd Thursday, September to June at
1.20pm. Coffee from 12.30pm. If you'd like
to come as a guest, please contact
membership@tastarporley.uk beforehand.



**Volunteer to help older
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THE BIG LISTENING EVENT

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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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
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(except in January when the meeting is held
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There is no meeting in August).***

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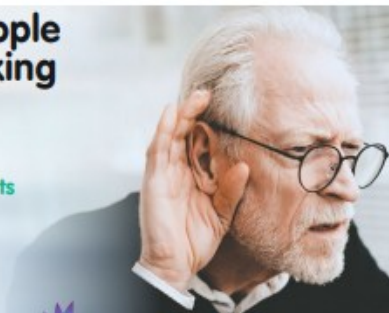
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