

Principal Services July & Early August 2016

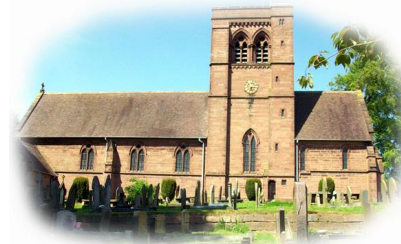
Sunday 3rd July		Trinity 6
10.00	Family Service	St. John, Norley
10.00	Morning Worship	Christ Church, Crowton
10.00	Holy Communion (CW)	St. John, Kingsley
18.30	Sacred Space	Christ Church, Crowton
Sunday 10th July		Trinity 7
10.00	Family Service	St. John, Norley
10.00	Rose Queen Service	Christ Church, Crowton
10.00	Holy Communion (CW)	St. John, Kingsley
18.30	Evening Prayer	St. John, Norley
Sunday 17th July		Trinity 8
10.00	Holy Communion (CW)	St. John, Norley
10.00	Morning Worship	Christ Church, Crowton
10.00	Family Service with Communion	St. John, Kingsley
Sunday 24th July		Trinity 9
08.45	Holy Communion (BCP)	Christ Church, Crowton
10.00	Worshipping Together	St. John, Kingsley
Sunday 31st July		Trinity 10
See Pew Sheet for Announcement		5th Sunday
Sunday 7th August		Trinity 11
10.00	Family Communion	St. John, Norley
18.30	Sacred Space	Christ Church, Crowton

Midweek Communion Services Thursdays - 10 a.m.

7th July	St. John, Kingsley
14th July	St. John, Norley
21st July	Christ Church, Crowton

The Parish Magazine of Norley, Crowton and Kingsley

JULY 2016



St. John, Norley



Christ Church, Crowton



St. John, Kingsley



See how the flowers
in the fields grow.
King Solomon
was not dressed as
beautifully as one of
these! Matthew 6.29

**UNITED BENEFICE OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, NORLEY
CHRIST CHURCH, CROWTON
& ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, KINGSLEY**

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Articles by 14th of preceding month

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SIDESPERSIONS: ROTAS

ST. JOHN NORLEY

3rd July 10.00 Lottie Blinkhorn

10th July 10.00 R McRreadie
18.30 C & P Burrow

17th July 10.00 A & D Askwith

ST. JOHN KINGSLEY

3rd July 10.00 Bob & Sharon McLean

10th July 10.00 Cliff Peartree & Ken Rickman

17th July 10.00 Margaret Wadsworth & Rosemary Carter

24th July 10.00 John Cook & Roy Mercer

CHRIST CHURCH CROWTON

3rd July 10.00 Mrs J Wheeldon & Mrs L Trafford

10th July 10.00 Mrs D Martin & Mrs M Barber

17th July 10.00 Mrs S Starkey & Mr P Gleave

7th August 10.00 Mr & Mrs P Barnham

Kingsley Church Cleaning Rota

Week Commencing

July 17 N Vickers & K Rickman

July 31 J Starkey & S McLean

August 14 H Merrington, R Carter & A Green

From The Registers

St. John, Kingsley

Holy Matrimony

21st May Luke Alexander & Jessica Britland

28th May Katherine Knox & Philip Clive
Martin Abell & Stephanie Hopkinson

4th June Andrew Webster & Hannah Bailey

St. John, Norley

Memorial and Thanksgiving Service

9th June Audrey Smith

Christ Church, Crowton

Holy Baptism

12th June Henry Edward Wadlow



'Baby McBabeface' - are you really sure?

Great Expectations!

By the time you are reading this England football team will have either won the European Championship, been knocked out or been disqualified. I suppose, if I am honest the latter two looked more likely. I don't/didn't have great expectations for England. Many of us may also have the same attitude of low expectations towards the weather and to the state of our country and its position in the world. The attitude that we have towards things going on in the world will inevitably have an impact upon the way we view our faith.



We can look at the decline of the church in the UK, the changing moral arena and the social environment and it may lead us to have a negative or despondent view of the future. It is important to have 'Great Expectations' when it comes to faith. Our God is a 'Great Big God' as the children sing and we must encourage one another with that thought.

We can encourage one another in a variety of ways;

1. Share our stories. It is good to hear of people's answer to prayer and how God has blessed them.
2. Share the wider story. 'All over the world the Spirit is moving'. We need to find out about what God is doing in our country and across the world. It was good hearing the friends from Wrexham share their stories a couple of weeks ago.
3. Know the bible story. The bible is a book of encouragement as we see God engage with His people. It is important that we read it and apply it to our lives. It is very easy to get into a spiral of thinking nothing is ever going to turn out well and have a bit of an 'Eeyore' faith. Let's encourage one another to believe that our God has blessed us in the past and will continue to bless us in the future.

Love and Prayers

Pete

Four Lessons from Sport

This summer will be dominated by Sport, with everything from Euro16 to the Olympics in Rio. Despite the wide differences in the various sports, there are four things each athlete will have in common: focus, discipline, communication and commitment. Such things guarantee success in our Christian walk, too.

Focus. What is it you want to gain, above all things? Paul said: For me to live is Christ, to die is gain. (Philippians 1:21) That sort of commitment is the Christianity that will survive any persecution and hardship.

Discipline. Just as athletes immerse themselves in everything to do with their sport, surround yourself with Christian riches that will feed your mind and spirit. Deliberately choose good Christian music, read the lives of well-known Christians, and seek out mature Christians for friendship and even mentoring. Christianity is like sport, it flourishes best when it is enjoyed with others!

Communication. What would happen to an athlete if he or she stopped speaking to their own coach, for weeks on end? So this aspect begins with Psalm 46:10: "Be still and know that I am God." Fundamental to your faith is your prayer life alone with God. Jesus said "No branch can bear fruit of itself, it must remain in the vine." (John 15.4) The Psalms covers every aspect of our walk with God day by day so if you don't know how to begin to pray, simply begin by praying the Psalms. And read the Bible every day. God speaks to us through the Bible and prayer so keep the lines of communication open!

Commitment. This is nothing more than the resolve to keep going, no matter what the obstacles. Paul had a driving ambition: "That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death. (Philippians 3:10)

And the final result of all our efforts? "Our citizenship is in heaven." (Philippians 3.20).

through the East End killing more than 3,000 people and leaving families destitute. Thousands of children slept on the streets and many others were forced to beg.

That was around the time that Hazel's grandmother through her church activities met a gentleman called Thomas John Barnardo (yes *the* Barnardo). He was a man of firm principles and passionate about temperance. To help homeless boys he set up homes giving them food, shelter and education. Now, on top of the washing for the wealthy, Hazel's grandmother would wash for these boys as well, and help out wherever needed. She lost her husband in the first world war, was bombed out in the Blitz, brought up her family, worked at the tailoring business for over 30 years and never lost her determination to help when help was needed. And she would have been called the "weaker sex" - ironic really!

Crowton WI

June Meeting 2016

President Kathy Baldwin welcomed members and eight visitors to the June meeting of Crowton WI. We heard the sad news that Annie Cornes had recently passed away and a minutes silence was held in her memory.

Forthcoming events include a trip to "The Alpaca Farm" in Little Budworth in July and in August we are heading to Salford for a visit to "Media City". The Luncheon club are heading to "The Alvanley Arms" on 27th June and the rambling group continue to walk in the Cheshire countryside every week.

The Speaker for the evening was Cath Turpin whose talk was entitled "Boating in France, Belgium and The Netherlands." Cath is a volunteer at the "National Waterways Museum" in Ellesmereport. Cath explained that she and her husband had always been interested in boats. Sixteen years ago they acquired an old boat in France, which had originally started life as an oil tanker. After a great deal of renovation they named their boat "L'Heritage", and after some training they were ready to explore the huge network of canals in France, Belgium and The Netherlands. Cath explained that the canals and locks are much bigger than ours in Great Britain and are automatic, so no need for lock keys. Cath showed us lots of lovely photographs illustrating their scenic tour of the waterways. Everyone enjoyed Cath's talk and found it fascinating.

The next meeting is on 5th July, and Mike Meynell will tell us about what it is like to be a Street Pastor in Chester. Visitors and potential new members are always welcome.

Norley WI

The Weaker Sex

At the May meeting, guest speaker Hazel Bradley took Norley WI members on a very fascinating journey into her families past - or to be more precise her maternal grandmother's - with her talk entitled 'My family & other Cockney Rebels'. Hazel can look back on 30 years as a RE teacher and over 25 years as a lay preacher. In that time she managed to cram in 10 years at Radio Merseyside, writing a book on the history of hymns, and bringing up a family.

Using Charles Booth's 1889 London East End's poverty map Hazel painted a picture for us about the time and place her grandmother and mother were living in. Statistics for 1888 showed that the East End had 8,465 official paupers (people living rough) and according to Charles Booth's survey over a third of its inhabitants lived on or below the margin of poverty. His 17-volume survey included coloured-coded maps indicating poverty and prosperity street by street. The maps had seven colours indicating the levels of poverty. Gold (level 1) showed upper-middle and Upper classes, in short - wealthy. Dark blue showed very poor (chronic want) and black (level 7) was the lowest class that was defined as vicious and semi criminal. To quote J H Mackay who wrote in 1891 'The East End of London is the hell of poverty.'



According to the map, Hazel's maternal family were a level 4, mixed race, not destitute but with no disposable income. Her grandmother, who worked for a Jewish tailor, took in washing from wealthier families to help with the family's finances. With no washing machines, tumble driers or electric irons, the workload was heavy. Hazel's mum remembers the small family home always being full of washing. In her spare time she would make tea cosies to be sold in aid of her local church. But she did more than that.

Victorian London in the 1800's was a city with many problems. After the industrial revolution the population had dramatically increased and much of this increase was concentrated in the East End, where overcrowding, bad housing, unemployment, poverty and disease were rife. Around 1866 a massive cholera epidemic swept

Christ Church, Crowton
Summer Fete
2016
On Saturday 9th July
Opening at 2.30pm in the school grounds
Rose Queen- Miss Ellie Armstrong
to be crowned by
Mrs Janet Loonie
Lots of stalls and activities including:-
Produce & Cakes-Tombola-Raffle
Toys-Gifts & Good as New-BBQ
Books-Bouncy Castle-Plants-Games
Entertainment by the children of
Christ Church, Crowton
CofE Primary School
Fun & Games for all the family
Refreshments All Welcome!

Mothers' Union Report

A recent visit to Stonyford Cottage Gardens for cream tea proved to be a perfect location for a hot June afternoon. We appreciated the shaded paths as we ambled through this superb garden. So often we miss what is on our door step! The opportunity to buy some of the plants we had been admiring was a treat. We were pleased to be joined on this trip by a few non-member friends and hope that the invitations we offer each month will continue to be taken up.

On July 5th we plan a day trip to Llangollen, the opening day of the International Eisteddfod and hope again that friends will join us to observe the transformation of this sleepy market town into an international hub of activity.

Pam Owens

Steps on the way: a nun's diary

As you read this I hope to be with you for a couple of days, on my way to the Scottish island of Iona. Our oldest Sister had thought she would no longer be able to make her annual retreat at Iona Abbey as she was finding it difficult to manage bags on the ferries; so I offered to go along.

Gradually the project expanded to include me having a week in Kingsley on the way north. Then I thought it was a shame to be going north and not to visit my cousin in Hartlepool... so I am taking time out from the original week to go over there, staying at a convent at Whitby. Then back here, then off to Iona - and then returning here for a final day before going on to Tymawr. Definitely a case of "now you see me, now you don't".

We had a few days of hot, humid weather in June. I thought I would try the bright blue habit that some Sisters wear in summer. These were originally made to be for dirty or outside work. It turns out that the material is heavily synthetic and for me that made it very hot and heavy. So I am back to ordinary grey. (The hot weather may not last anyway...)

All for now.
Janet Ogleby

St John's Norley 200 Club - June draw winners:

120 V Devereux

43 L Shelley

161 G Downes

11 C Holgate

Signs of our times?

Toilet out of order. Please use floor below.

In a Laundromat: Automatic Washing Machines. Please remove all your clothes when the light goes out.

In a London department store: Bargain Basement upstairs.

In an office: Would the person who took the step ladder yesterday please bring it back, or further steps will be taken.

In an office: After the tea break, staff should empty the teapot and stand upside down on the draining board.

Notice in health food shop window: Closed due to illness.

Spotted in a safari park: Elephants, please stay in your car.

The Battle of the Somme and the Comfort of the Cross

On the 1st July 2016 we commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme and remember those who fought and died during the battle. The Somme was one of the deadliest battles of the First World War. During five months of combat, the total number of men killed, wounded and missing reached over one million.

A century later the battle scars still remain. It is still difficult to make sense of what happened and see God's place in the conflict. It challenges any image of a safe, problem-solving God who protects at all costs from pain and suffering. As Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane demonstrates, God is to be found in the pain: Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done. (Luke 22:42). God did not take Jesus out of the situation, but was alongside in the agony.

Geoffrey Studdert-Kennedy, the chaplain popularly known as 'Woodbine Willie', served at the Somme: 'We have taught our people to use prayer too much as a means of comfort; not in the original and heroic sense of uplifting, inspiring, strengthening, but in the more modern and baser sense of soothing sorrow, dulling pain, and drying tears; the comfort of the cushion, not the comfort of the Cross.'

He is saying that prayer in itself won't save us from suffering, as it didn't save Christ from the cross. But it does enable us to fight evil in a way that will transform the situation, like Jesus going to the cross.

'They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.'

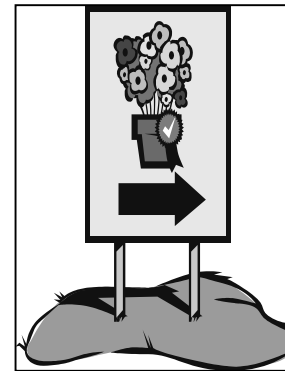
Paul Hardingham

**Foxhill Afternoon Tea
July 7th at 2.30 p.m.
Tickets £5 at the door**

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH CHURCH, KINGSLEY

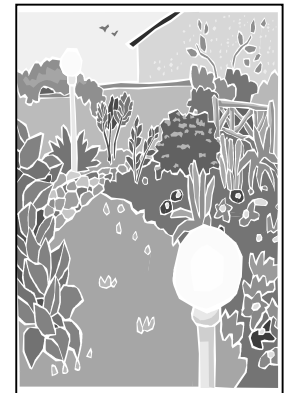
OPEN GARDEN AT

GREENBANK HOUSE,



**THE CROSS,
KINGSLEY**

**SATURDAY
2nd JULY**



FROM 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

**BY KIND
PERMISSION OF
PHIL AND JEAN**

**ADMISSION £5
Including tea & cake
Tickets from church members or 788314
Proceeds to Kingsley Parish Church Funds**

Family Slip on Slide

Sunday 10th July, 2pm-4pm
NCK Centre, Norley

Everyone welcome ò
just bring a towel and a change of clothes!

Stay-cations

We live in an era of freshly coined if slightly odd abstract nouns. We all got to know ìBrexitì (British-exit) but this month we shall also experience, I suspect, ìStay-cationì ñ staying in Britain for your vacation. Terrorism is one powerful incentive to Stay-cate, but so is cost, and all the hassle of international travel.

Why not, people think, simply get in the car or book the train and visit some part of our lovely island that we've never been to before? If you haven't seen the Highlands of Scotland, or the beautiful west coast of Wales or the Boston Stump or the Helston River or the Jurassic coast, then why not make that this year's holiday adventure? There are, of course, two sides to the argument. For my generation, going ìabroadì was a wonderful adventure. Good heavens, they actually spoke a different language, and they ate exotic things like pizza, croque monsieur and paella, washed down with unbelievably cheap red wine. Just getting on the ferry was an adventure, let alone shopping in a foreign supermarket. And there's also the Unique Selling Point, sunshine.

Balance up the arguments, and it still comes down to Stay-cation or Go-cation. Those who ìstayì will come home astonished at the beauty and diversity of our island home. Those who go will parade their tans for a few weeks and scoff at our fears of delays and terrorism. Whichever you choose ñ or even if you simply stay-cate at home and sit in the garden ñ do something different. Autumn is only round the corner.

David Winter

Time Choices

(Lk 10:38-42)

Martha is distracted,
too busy
preparing for the needs of the day.
Not enough time ò not enough time.

Mary is focused,
taking time to meet the needs of the heart.
Sitting still,
seeing through the paraphernalia of every day
with a new clarity that changes her world.
Mary listens to Jesus.
She chooses life.

There is time ò there is time.
We all have our life time.
What will we choose?

Father,

We are all so busy. We rush here and there, trying to meet deadlines, trying to fit more and more into our already full days. So often we seem to run out of energy and time. Sometimes we wonder what it's all about.

Help us, Lord to recognise that we have time. You have given us every day of our lives. Help us to choose wisely how we use our life time. Help us to spend time with you first; to learn your ways; to encounter the living Jesus in the Bible and in prayer. And everything else will fall into place.

In Jesus' name,
Amen.

Daphne Kitching