

# ST. MARY'S CHURCH \* WREAY

March 2019

This edition is kindly sponsored by David & Pat Cherry

## Sunday Services

3rd March	11.00am	Holy Communion
10th March	11.00am	Morning Service
17th March	11.00am	Holy Communion
24th March	6.00pm	Evening Service
31st March	11.00am	Mothering Sunday Songs of Praise

## Church Electoral Roll 2019

In 2019 a new Church Electoral Roll has to be drawn up and the current Roll is scrapped. From 20th March application forms will be available from Patricia Harrison. Please make certain that you complete one and return it to Patricia.

## Midweek Communion

There will be a midweek communion at Wreay Hall on 6th and 27th March at 10am. All welcome.

## 6th March: Ash Wednesday

There will be a special Ash Wednesday service at 7pm in St Michael's, Dalston. All welcome.

## 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th March: Lent Lunches

The popular soup lunches will be served in Church House, Dalston, on Fridays during Lent from 8th March until 12th April with all proceeds to be given to the Church Mission Society. Last year our Benefice raised £736.20 for CMS to support the work of our mission partners in South America. All welcome!

## 12th March: Stoneraise, Wreay & District WI

The WI meeting on 12th February was a members' social night. Great fun, starting with a beetle drive followed by naming people's pictures and finishing off with a quiz and then a very nice supper. A really good evening and another new member has joined us.

The next meeting is on 12th March when the speaker will be Michelle Skeer, Cumbria's Chief

Constable. There will be visitors from other WIs and the competition will be a key ring.

## 13th, 20th, 27th March: Lent Course

On Wednesday evenings throughout Lent we will be following a study course based on C S Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Starting at 7.30pm the group will meet as follows:

13th March: Whittaker's, The Garden House, Wreay

20th March: Dixon's, Foulbridge, Wreay

27th March: Johnson's, Ravenside, Wreay

3rd April: Budd's, Moorlands, Low Hesket

10th April: Lister Hogg's, Chapel Hill, Wreay

## 15th March: The Bishop's Lent Walk

During Lent Bishop James is walking throughout the Diocese and on Friday 15th March he will be in our benefice. At approximately 2.30pm he will be setting off from Bell Bridge to walk to Raughton Head School where he will give a talk and refreshments will be provided. All are invited to join him on the walk.

## 16th March: Spring Coffee Morning

St Michael's and St John's Churches invite you to their Spring Coffee Morning on Saturday 16th March in the Victory Hall, Dalston, from 10.00 to 11.45am. Admission £3 (children free) to include tea/coffee, homemade scones and traybakes and stalls.

## 23rd March: Joan & Jimmy

Wreay Arts and Rural Highlights present the Blaize Theatre Company in *Joan and Jimmy* by Jim Woodland on Saturday 23rd March at 7.30pm in Wreay Village Hall.

The play tells the story of Joan Littlewood, 'mother of modern theatre' and her partner, Jimmy Miller, aka Ewan MacColl. It is 1945 and they are



## John Clare: The Shepherd's Calendar March

March month of 'many weathers' wildly comes

In hail and snow and rain and threatening hums

And floods: while often at his cottage door  
The shepherd stands to hear the distant roar  
Loosd from the rushing mills and river locks  
Wi thundering sound and over powering shocks

And headlong hurry thro the meadow brigs  
Brushing the leaning shallows fingering twigs  
In feathery foam and eddy hissing chase  
Rolling a storm oertaken travellers pace  
From bank to bank along the meadow leas  
Spreading and shining like to little seas

embarking on a career in radical political theatre, performing one-night stands across the north of England - early rural touring!



They founded Theatre Workshop in Kendal with a travelling troupe of storytellers and outlaws committed to the overthrow of the established order where the rich got richer and the poor got austerity-even then! In 1952 they would part company. Joan and Theatre Workshop heading to London and Ewan to the folk music world.

Performed by a cast of 4 actors using story and song. Blaize were Wreay Arts first booking performing the sell out show, *Standing in Line*.

Tickets: £9/£8 Concessions, Family £25, Child £6 available from Kath Halfpenny on 016974 75309 or online at [www.highlightsnorth.co.uk](http://www.highlightsnorth.co.uk).

### **31st March: Mothering Sunday**

Mothering Sunday is always a special day in the year at St Mary's and this year the service will be based on the popular Songs of Praise format. Do come along to this family friendly service.

### **Church Helpers**

#### **Sidesperson**

3rd March	Bettie Gray
10th March	Patricia Harrison
17th March	Sally Budd
24th March	Stan & Eva Bird
31st March	Lister Hogg

#### **Administer the Chalice**

3rd March	Jim Budd
17th March	Jennifer Johnson

#### **Church Cleaning**

3rd March	Elizabeth Pottss
10th March	Lois Whittaker
17th March	Patricia Harrison
24th March	Jan Massey
31st March	Elizabeth Roberts

#### **Hall Cleaning**

2nd March	Stan & Eva Bird
9th March	Ellie Clark
16th March	Geoff Metcalfe
23rd March	John Thoburn
30th March	Richard Dixon

#### **Readers**

3rd March	Raymond Whittaker
10th March	Sue Emery
17th March	Ian Graham
24th March	Sally Budd

#### **Readings**

3rd March	1st	Exodus 34: 29-end
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2nd 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2  
Gospel Luke 9: 28-36

10th March 1st Deuteronomy 26: 1-11

2nd Romans 10: 8-13

Gospel Luke 4: 1-13

17th March 1st Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18

2nd Phillipians 3: 17-4: 1

Gospel Luke 13: 31-end

24th March

1st Isaiah 55: 1-9

2nd 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13

Gospel Luke 13: 1-9

### **Dear Friends,**

Ash Wednesday falls on 6th March this year, and it marks the beginning of the season of Lent. The English word 'Lent' is a shortened form of the old English word 'len(c)ten' meaning 'spring season'. For most people, Lent is seen as the time when we give something up for a period of time, giving impetus to the desire to slim or to give up smoking etc. However, simply giving something up - even if doing so has good health implications - isn't what Lent is all about.

Lent is said to last for 40 days - from Ash Wednesday to Easter Eve, not including the 6 Sundays - to commemorate the 40 days that Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness before starting his earthly ministry. The purpose of Lent is the preparation of the Christian believer for Easter. We pass through the 40 days of repentance and the tragic story of Holy Week in order to arrive at the gloriously triumphant Easter Day celebrations.

Traditionally, there are 3 activities through which this preparation is achieved, the first of which is prayer - coming closer to God through speaking and listening to him. The second is fasting, which probably gave rise to the idea of giving something up at Lent. The point of fasting is to be able to spend more time in prayer, and to rely on God rather than food to sustain us. The third activity is almsgiving - what today would mainly involve giving money to charities. That's not to say that these activities be reserved for the Lenten season, but that they should be emphasised more during Lent.

Many Christians these days look to take up some Lenten spiritual discipline such as reading a daily devotional to draw themselves nearer to God. Here in the benefice, we will be doing several things. As has become the custom over the years, we will be providing a simple soup meal in Church House Dalston on each Friday, with the money raised going to support our link diocese in Northern Argentina through the Church Mission Society.

We will also be following the course entitled *Not a Tame Lion* by Hilary Brand, which is based on CS Lewis' books and films *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe* and *Shadowlands*.

May this Lenten season be a meaningful one for you that will make your Easter joy even greater!

**Steve Carter**