

# Newsletter

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024



Charity No. 1127144  
Serving God, Serving the Community

Dear Friends,

In my daily prayers (currently, I use Lectio 365) we are thinking about the work of the Holy Spirit as 'the breath of God with the power of resurrection life.' What a wonderful image. But it is more than just a helpful word picture, it is a fundamental spiritual truth. Through our faith in Jesus Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit we can be reborn and made new. This once and for all transformation is celebrated by the church at Baptism though some people come to Jesus and confess him as Lord and Saviour in the privacy of their own homes or at a huge public event. It is not just St Paul who writes about Justification in Romans, but Isaiah [61.10] also references what happens to us when we believe in Jesus. The writer says, 'I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For He has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of His righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.' I find this such a humbling and encouraging belief to hold onto. Of course, I am not worthy of this but not one of us is. That is what makes salvation such a generous gift. In the letter to the Colossians 3.14, Paul and Timothy write, 'Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.'

To return to my original image, that of the Holy Spirit as the breath of God with power of resurrection life, this is not just a once and for all breath but by his power and in his gift, we can again and again be restored. We talk sometimes about resurrecting a tradition on an object. When we say that, we mean to give whatever it is, new life and purpose. As we live a life of discipleship, we can ask daily to be renewed in mind and body and spirit. Of course, this requires a willingness on our part to let the Spirit move within us. We are the temples of the Holy Spirit. You need not ask for the Spirit to dwell in you if you are a baptised Christian, but sometimes, we can shut down our body and our mind to his movement and turn our backs on what is offered to us. This may not always be intentional so we should be mindful of that possibility.

As a Church community we also need to pray for the breath of the Holy Spirit to bring life and resurrection to our church. There have been so many wonderful signs in the last year, but we need to strengthen and build on those things. Come Holy Spirit and move among us, not just within us. Having largely ignored the 'Thy Kingdom Come' initiative since Covid it is time for us to return to it. Thy Kingdom Come is a Prayer initiative that takes place between Ascension and Pentecost. It begins on 9<sup>th</sup> May this year and ends on 19<sup>th</sup> May. The idea is that we pray for the renewal of the church, for opportunities for mission and to individually commit to praying for 5 people. To support the last part of this objective we will be offering you small bags with 5 stones inside. A prompt to remind us and to support us as we pray. Jenny Hope is taking the lead on this and will no doubt approach others to assist in making up the bags. On the 19<sup>th</sup> May we will have a special Pentecost Service and a chance for us to bring a little extra joy as we encourage one another to wear orange, red and yellow colours. Further ideas for these 10 days will follow shortly. If you personally have any good thoughts on what we can do together in that week, please do let me know.

Finally, a nudge to remind you that the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will take place after church at around 12 noon on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April. Anyone on the electoral role is encouraged to be there and to stand for PCC. We need new people alongside those of us who have been around a bit longer. There are 4 vacancies for PCC. We then also have a vacancy for Wirral South Deanery Synod. That person, because of their role, is automatically a member of PCC. In addition, we need 2 Churchwardens. I have received 1 nomination. We need another. I am wondering who the Lord is calling... Whoever you are, I pledge my support and encouragement alongside a review of the role and responsibilities.

May you see the Spirit working in your life and the life of our Church,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Daisy', written in black ink.

# What's on this week

Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	9.15 am Holy Communion 11.00 am Contemporary words and worship
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	9.00 am- 2.00 pm The centre is open Mon- Fri 1.30pm Knit and Natter meet in the Centre.
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	12-2.30pm The Club House meets in the Village Hall. All welcome
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	10.30am Holy Communion in the Centre
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	10.00 am Little Church meet in Church 12 -2.30 pm 'The Club House' in the Village Hall All welcome
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	9.00 am Men's breakfast at The Royal Oak All men are welcome.
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	9.15 am Morning Prayer (Rector) 11.00 am Words and Worship

## Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April Easter 4

\*Acts 4.5-12  
1 John 3: 16 - end  
John 10: 11-18

## Wednesday 24th April

Acts 8: 1b-8;  
John 6: 35-40

## Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April Easter 5

\*Acts 8: 26 – end  
1 John 4: 7 – end  
\*John 15.1-8  
\*Denotes 11.00 am Reading

# Notices

## Thanks from Anne Ellis

To all who attended her Birthday Party on Saturday or shared in her birthday celebrations in any other way. She is quite overwhelmed by the cards, flowers and good wishes. She is also delighted by the generous donations given to the Alzheimer's Society. Thank you.

## CTBE Knit and Natter Group

Thank you to everyone who bought Easter Chicks, Bonnets and Bunnies. We raised £135 for the school farm at Gilbrook Special School.

## The Children's Corner – Sunday 11.00 am

For some time we had no children in church but gradually we have a little group joining us each week. Thanks to Thea for many weeks and last week Barbara Baxter who went into the space to be with the children. It is not fair to leave this ministry to just one person, neither is it fair that the children miss out. So, we are planning to set up a rota. The more people who volunteer the fewer weeks you will need to be there. For the time being, we just need one person each week. You are not there to police the children or to teach them but rather to interact with them and allow their parents to hear and receive the word of God. They might bring their busy bags or we can provide other resources. In the long term we hope to get our Sunday club going again. 8 volunteers for this rota would mean once every two months. A few more and you would be at once a quarter. You do not have to be 'good' with children just a bit friendly. There is a sheet at the back to sign if you can or speak to me if you want more detail. Thank you in anticipation, Gill Walker

## Silent Disco is cancelled for now but not forever!

New Date is 26<sup>th</sup> July. What is a Silent Disco you ask? There is no noise except a bit of chatter. You have headphones and a choice of channels. You pick the music you like. Someone could be listening to Northern Soul, another 80's dance music and a third heavy metal (I don't actually know the exact choices, but you get the drift).

It's funny because people are doing different types of listening or dance. The bar will be open. We are hoping to encourage people a little younger than some of us. Are you allowed to attend? Everyone is welcome as long as you can get up the stairs at the social club.

### **Prayers for the APCM meeting on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April**

Please pray with me that the right person comes forward as Churchwarden. I think we do have one person. We need another. Based on what I already know, we need someone who can take a lead in building maintenance, looking after the churchyard (but not necessarily doing the work) and making sure that Health and Safety checks are done (Andrew Watts has taken on that role from Jenny Hope so you don't have to do it, just have oversight). It would help if you have an interest in supporting the work of the centre (I would like you to serve on the committee) as well as the congregation of St Barnabas and the Rector. You will not have to be on the Finance Team unless you wish. You do have to be on the Standing Committee but we meet rarely now and often matters are decided by email. Is this you? Could it be you? What is holding you back? Please come and talk to me. Jenny

### **Donate to St Barnabas as you shop online!**

Sign up with GiveAsYouLive.com and choose 'PCC of St Barnabas, Bromborough' as your chosen charity. If you need help ask Julie Watts or Thelma McGorry.

### **For our Prayers**

We continue to pray for good health and healing for Gordon Simmonds, Hilary Griffiths and Craig Dillon. We for Maureen Coleman who has had a fall at her new care home. We pray for our church family at home: Josie Davies, Thelma Williams and Pat Porter. We pray for the families of the Lt. Carl Huxley and the Lt. Bill Beckley. We pray for our link Missionaries Marcio and Noemi and their children in Brazil. We thank God for the work that they are doing in Indaiatuba. They are hosting a huge event 22<sup>nd</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> April for missionaries across Latin America. Pray for its success. More info next week. Please also pray for two new churchwardens and the people we need on PCC.

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The Rector Jenny can be contacted at [rector@stbarnabasbromborough.org](mailto:rector@stbarnabasbromborough.org) or via her mobile 07806608219

Please send notices for inclusion in the Newsletter to [ros.wood@outlook.com](mailto:ros.wood@outlook.com) by Wednesday at 4pm.

Visit our website [www.stbarnabasbromborough.org](http://www.stbarnabasbromborough.org)