



St Mark's Church

<i>Churchwarden:</i>	Mr Peter Luscombe*. 17 Turning Lane, PR8 5HY	631765
<i>P.C.C. Secretary:</i>	Mr Peter Luscombe*. 17 Turning Lane, PR8 5HY	631765
<i>Deanery Synod Reps:</i>	Mrs Cynthia Kilpatrick*	841167
	Ms Jules Emmett*	07792 351 414
<i>Treasurers:</i>	Mr John Cooper*	01704 880444
	Mrs Dawn Cooper*	01704 880444
<i>Gift Aid Treasurer:</i>	Mr Matthew Whittaker, 60 Smithy Lane	840052
<i>Verger:</i>	Ms Jules Emmett*	07792 351 414
<i>Electoral Roll Secretary:</i>	Mrs Pam Luscombe*. 17 Turning Lane, Scarisbrick	631765
<i>Magazine Editor:</i>	Mrs Pam Luscombe*. 17 Turning Lane, Scarisbrick	631765
<i>Magazine Distribution:</i>	Mrs Janet Hinton, Drummersdale Crossing Cottage	889229
<i>Parish Hall Co-ordinator:</i>	Ms Jules Emmett*	07792 351 414
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	Mrs Violet Escott, 3 Hares Lane, Carr Cross	880817
<i>Parish Safeguarding:</i>	Mr Paul Heaney <i>with</i> CPO Support, 473 Southport Rd	880463
<i>HSE:</i>	Mr Stephen Roberts*	01704 880905
<i>Web and Social Media:</i>	Mr Stuart Lewis*	07969 304490

St. Mark's School

<i>Headteacher:</i>	Mrs Marilyn Freeman, St. Mark's School	880636
<i>Associate Governor:</i>	Rev. Eileen Heaney*, 473 Southport Road	880463
<i>School Foundation Governor:</i>	Mrs Wen Dixon*	

*PCC Members

Services for April 2024

7 th	11am	St Marks Holy Communion	<i>Leader:</i>	Mr John Forshaw	
			<i>Preacher:</i>	Rev Canon Ross Moughtin	
			<i>Bible reading:</i>	Olwyn	NT- Acts 32-35 Gospel- John 20: 19-31
			<i>Prayers:</i>	Mrs Pam Luscombe	
			<i>Welcomers</i>	Mr John Cooper and Mrs Dawn Cooper	

14 th	11am	St Marks Holy Communion	<i>Leader:</i>	Mr John Forshaw	
			<i>Preacher:</i>	Ven David Garnett	
			<i>Bible reading:</i>	Mrs Cynthia Kilpatrick	Gospel- Luke 24: 36-48
			<i>Prayers:</i>	Mr John Forshaw	
			<i>Welcomers:</i>	Mrs Cynthia Kilpatrick and Mr Bill Melia	

21 st	11am	St Marks All Age Worship APCM	<i>Leader:</i>	Rev Eileen Heaney	
			<i>Preacher:</i>	Stephen Foster	
			<i>Bible reading:</i>	Mr Peter Smith	Gospel- John 10: 11-18
			<i>Prayers:</i>	Mrs Christine Nicholson	
			<i>Welcomers</i>	Mr Peter Smith and Mrs Jenny Smith	

28 th	11am	St Marks Holy Communion	<i>Leader:</i>	Rev Eileen Heaney	
			<i>Preacher:</i>	Mrs Wen Dixon	
			<i>Bible reading:</i>	Mr Roger Hodge	Gospel- John 15: 1-8
			<i>Prayers:</i>	Ms Jules Emmett	
			<i>Welcomers</i>	Mrs Mary Jones and Mr Max Jones	

Our verse for 2024

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.

Romans 8:28

Dear Friends

By the time you receive your magazine, our gang will be on our way to Uganda.

I just want to say on behalf of all the team thank you for your support. You have been so generous and we are on target to do all the things we hoped to do, and give much needed gifts to families.

I was at Martin Mere today with the staff and pupils at St Mark's school. They had such a lovely time. It reminded me how our children have so many opportunities in this country and how education is given to every child. Not so in other parts of the world, including Uganda. If a family can't afford it - there is no education- it's that simple. So with the little given regularly each month by sponsors, we can help the few lucky children, giving them hope for a brighter future.

And that was Jesus's message wasn't it: to bring love, justice, hope and healing.

So will you pray for us all that we stay well, stay safe, bring blessing and are blessed, and come back excited to share our experiences.

Here is a breakdown of what YOU have raised.

£1037. For 100 bibles

£1250 for teacher training

£182.32 for contingency

£1212.79 for Disability inclusion project

Total raised for trip: £3682.21

And we have had a few more donations since this besides all the gifts given for families.

So a big thank you.

God Bless you

Love Eileen



Could you join us in our prayer for St Marks Church



God of Mission who alone brings growth to your church
Send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning
Joy to our worship, wisdom to our actions
And Power to our witness
Help our churches to grow in numbers
and spiritual commitment to you and our local community
through Jesus Christ Our Lord
Amen

Kate Bayes RIP

We send our prayers and condolences to Bishop Paul and his family at this sad time.

Bishop Paul wrote on Facebook:

Dear friends,

It is with great sorrow that I'm writing to let you know that Kate died suddenly early this morning, at home. Our elder daughter Honour was with her. She had been increasingly frail for several weeks with cardiac amyloidosis in addition to her blood cancer, and this morning she suffered a cardiac arrest.

I know how very much she valued your prayers and concern, and how grateful we both were, and are, to know of your love. Our watchword was "Love at every step", and we now entrust her steps to the eternal Love of God in Christ, in whose mystery she placed her faith.

We intend to have a quiet family funeral in Cornwall, followed by a cremation and the burial of her ashes at sea.

Thank you again for your love and care. Please pray for me, for our children Honour, Samuel and Philippa, for our grandchildren, and for Kate's sisters Jenifer and Frances and her brother Robert.

This comes with much love and with every blessing,

Paul



Rev. Canon Ross Moughtin's blog

How the Bible opens with a shock

Hi Folks!

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." So begins the Bible, with Genesis 1:1.

"When I think there was a day when a human hand first wrote those words, I am filled with awe. This sentence is a masterpiece of compression."

So writes Pulitzer Prize novelist, Marilynne Summers Robinson, in her just-published book *Reading Genesis*, a book I have been waiting for for years and which I have managed to dip into for the sake of this blog. It is even endorsed by Barack Obama!

The fact of the matter is that for the most part we don't know how to read Genesis, this foundational book of our faith, either trying to squeeze this ancient text into our scientific world view or working out the various sources behind its composition.

In contrast Robinson comes to the text as a working novelist, seeking to understand the book on its own terms. So she repeatedly asks the text: "What work is this or that detail doing in the place where it now stands?" And she does so as a Christian.

Fellow novelist, Francis Spufford, writes: "(The) surprising thing about *Reading Genesis*, given that it's by a writer who can make even nonbelievers feel the presence of the thing they disbelieve, is that it is hardly interested in the numinous."

So what do we learn? Very simply Genesis is different, it stands well apart from contemporary texts. Robinson points out that "to say that God is the good creator of a good creation" sets the God of Genesis in opposition to the gods of other ancient creation stories, who range from indifferent to evil.

So in stark contrast to the creation and flood stories from Babylon and Gilgamesh, where the gods battle it out between themselves while playing sport with their human minions, Genesis would introduce to a God who makes the universe simply because he wishes to create something that is very good and that causes him delight.

“Against this background of ambient myth” she writes, “to say that God is the good creator of a good creation is not a trivial statement. The insistence of Genesis on this point, *even the mention of goodness as an attribute of the creation*, is unique to Genesis.”

Moreover, we are made not to serve God’s whims but to care for his good world. We are made in his image, for relationship with him and in his name to care for his creation. We are responsible to him.

So what about the great flood, for example, which appears in such ancient writings such as the Epic of Gilgamesh? Here the highest god, Enlil, decides to destroy the world with a flood because humans have become too noisy. He’s irritated.

In contrast Robinson explains that the story of Noah’s flood shows that although human beings have made a terrible mess of the world, so much so that we might be tempted to destroy the lot and start again, this is not what God does. He wants life to continue and, despite everything, his creation remains a blessing.

Take the puzzling story of God asking Abraham to sacrifice Isaac his son. This teaches us that our impulse to give God what is most precious to us needs affirming but in no way can he be bribed by our extravagance, or placated by extreme violence we are prepared to commit for his sake. No way will he condone child sacrifice, so common in that era.

And in total contrast to the gods of other ancient cultures who demand sacrifices to keep them fed and content, the God of Genesis needs nothing.

For one of the big themes of Genesis – and you can’t overstate this – is that God will not give up on us. Of course, we are deeply flawed, messed up. All of us, and Genesis refuses to gloss over the reality of sin. Cain is a murderer, Noah gets drunk, Abraham deceives, Jacob is a liar and fraudster – and so on. Even so God perseveres with us. He stays faithful to his promises.

In all this how we are shown that God has a purpose for his creation and more, he wants to bless the work of his hands. But how? Answer - through a small family of migrant herdsman. So he proposes a covenant with Abraham and strangely within this divine plan, Abraham is free to choose.

Okay, Abraham makes lots of mistakes on the way; he even disobeys. Somehow God is able to handle all this. We can't work out how - but that's the way God has made his world: his sovereignty and our freedom. God gets what God wants, and we do what we like.

So Robinson concludes: "Let us say that God lets human beings be human beings, and that his will is accomplished through or despite them but is never dependent on them."

And more: "Grace tempers judgment," observes Robinson, noting that despite well-deserved instances of wrath or punishment, God relents time after time.

"In every situation in Genesis where revenge seems just and inevitable, no revenge is taken." God protects Cain, Esau embraces Jacob, Joseph forgives his brothers. Cycles of violence are blocked before they even begin, long before they could start spinning out of control.

So Genesis closes with a key verse, with Joseph telling his reconciled brothers, those who, for the record, had planned to murder him, "You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today." (Genesis 50:19)

Here is the God of the universe caring for his creatures so that they may care for each other and for the world in which they have been placed. God means us for good.

You can read this blog at <https://rossmoughtin.wixsite.com> where you can subscribe to future mailing

Date for your Diary:

Rev Canon Ross Moughtin has organised a conducted tour of Scarisbrick School on Saturday 27th April. 10:30am

This is only open to church members.

Please let Ross or a member of the PCC know if you would like to join the tour.



This tour is now full.

~Down Our Way~



Have you seen this rare example of a two storey brick pill box at Heaton's Bridge? It was part of a line of defence along the canal during World War 2.

In 1940 Britain fled France. The British Expeditionary Force left their arms, ammunition, equipment and vehicles behind at Dunkirk.

The German Army was on the beaches of France looking across the Channel, and Britain

felt vulnerable. The south coast was the obvious location for invasion but there was also speculation that Germany could attack from the Republic of Ireland or via the Irish Sea at the North West coast.

Lancashire's coastline, having flat beaches leading to flat agricultural land could be an ideal place for landing amphibious craft. The Lancashire Plain was viewed as a potential drop zone for airborne landings of gliders and transport planes.

To defend against this a defensive "Stop Line" was built.

The Western Command Stop Line number 14 extended from Wigan to Liverpool and was based around the Leeds Liverpool Canal. Stop Lines were based on anti-tank ditches and pill boxes. Their aim was to slow down the enemy's advance and to allow counter attack. The canal and its embankment were designed to combat light tanks and infantry.

Concrete pill boxes and fortified buildings were placed at bridges and at points with good views over the fields below.

The defences were built quickly, some are based on official designs, others are unique to their location. They were said to be look out posts for U-Boats coming up the canal!

However, they were not for the survey of Canal traffic, but of what might try to cross it. These brick-built two storey towers or block houses are four sided with one loophole on each side on each floor. These embrasures (an opening in a wall which is bevelled or splayed out on the inside,) are wider on the outside than on the inside. They are either pre-cast concrete or concrete slabs, or just brick. At Heaton's Bridge and Melling they stand alone and have flat roofs. Sometimes the tower is part of the pub buildings with a roof of its own, so as to disguise it.

The second floor of the tower would give good views of the surrounding countryside and a different range of fire to the lower level.

Why not take a look at this unique piece of history, and pop in to the pub or the pub garden for some refreshment at the same time?

*Ref: [The Leeds Liverpool Canal at War \(towpathtreks.co.uk\)](http://towpathtreks.co.uk)
and with thanks to Richard Houghton*



Bible Fellowship Group - SEEKERS

For those who have recently started on their journey with God, or those who have had a life-long relationship with their Maker through church.

This is an opportunity to develop your faith by turning to God's word.

On **alternate** Tuesdays of each month at 2:30pm.

Led by Rev Stephen Foster
Bescar Lane Methodist Church (*until further notice*)

Future meetings are 9th and 23rd April, 7th May

The **deadline** for including anything in the
May magazine is

Thursday 19th April 2024

Contact pamluscombe@yahoo.com or phone 077196111



Step back in time and see the Collection of Rural Lancashire

Sat 6th April 11am-4pm

Alderlee Park, Turning Lane, Scarisbrick PR8 5HR

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**Music, Refreshments, BBQ, Face Painting, Classic and Vintage vehicles,
Stationary Engines and more...**

**Donations
towards**



For more information and bookings contact Les- 07702 527872
email: lesrynhart@yahoo.co.uk

ST. MARK'S PENSIONER'S LUNCHEON CLUB



We are a friendly group of ladies and gentlemen who meet in the Parish Hall on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, for a meal and friendship.

The doors open at 11am for tea, coffee and biscuits to greet friends.

At noon, we serve a 3 course freshly cooked meal of soup, main course and dessert with a cold drink. Tea and coffee are available afterwards.

The total cost is £4 per meeting.

In normal years we also enjoy a half day coach trip out with afternoon tea provided.

In December, we have a Christmas party.

New members will be very welcome.

If you would like any more information on joining us, please contact
ANN LILLY on 01704 541855(evening)

Parish Magazine subscription

The annual subscription of £8 for the 10 issues was due in **February**

DONATIONS for EMAIL DELIVERY of the MAGAZINE.

Please use either the collection box at the back of the church
for your donation, or pay St.Marks direct into the bank.

BACs direct :

PCC of St Marks Scarisbrick Sort Code: 16-32-10 Account: 13460435

Please put "Magazine" in the reference box
for our treasurer

Janet Hinton

Digital Giving is here...

Did you know?

We now accept Gifts and Donations via **Give A Little** and **Sumup**

It's really easy via your mobile...
Just scan one of the **QR codes** dotted around the church and follow the on-screen instructions.

The QR codes look like this >>>
Why not give it a go now!



Don't forget, however you Gift or Donate... *giftaid it*

Gift Aid allows us to claim an extra £2.50 for every £10 you donate

Commonwealth War Graves Located in the Churchyard at St John the Baptist, Burscough 'History Trail' Saturday 25th May 2024 2pm to 4pm

Guides will be available to take Visitors to 7 of the 22 Commonwealth War Graves located at St John the Baptist Churchyard. Supported by an Information Booklet, Guides will take visitors to the 7 graves and give information about each one. There is no charge and places do not need to be booked. During the afternoon, David Orritt will be giving a talk in church about the East Window and 'Roll of Honour' and their links to the First World War.

The feast of St Mark is on the 25th April
Traditionally this is St Mark's patronal day

This **Gift Day** is an opportunity to give a gift to the church not only in appreciation of the fellowship we receive but also in appreciation of the ministry we receive and to give thanks for all that God has done in our lives.

St Mark's Mission Trip to Uganda – April 2024 UPDATE

As the Father has sent Me, I am sending you
(John 20:21)



First of all, the team would like to say a special thank you for the generosity and support St. Mark's has given us.

We are looking forward to our travels between the 1st and 14th April to meet old friends and make new ones.

Your donations have allowed us to purchase over 120 Bibles and support the very important work of the disability inclusion project. Other items that you have donated of spectacles, clothes, and other essential items will make such a difference to so many children and their families.

Apart from the five days of teacher training that will be delivered by the lecturers, the team will be getting involved in several projects including visiting children that many of the team sponsor, but also children that have not been sponsored. To sponsor a child, it costs £25 a month whilst they are in full-time education.

If you are interested in sponsoring a child, please get in touch with either Eileen or myself.

Please keep the team; Eileen, Peter, Wen, Shirley, Kirsty, Wafa, Elizabeth, Stuart, Viv and Laura in your prayers.

Wen Dixon

~ The Garden ~

Well, it's been a wet, mild Winter followed by a cool Spring, but you will have noticed that all the cheery Spring plants have still appeared because many of them are working on day length rather than temperature.



It's time to start the Spring tidy-up after leaving dead material over the Winter as a home for wildlife and to protect the resting perennials from the worst of the weather. So cut back dead material and compost it if you can.

It is also time to prune shrubs like Hydrangeas and Buddleia that flower on new wood, take out the dead, diseased and crossing branches and then cut the remaining healthy ones back to a pair of buds. In the case of Hydrangeas don't take off too much, only about a third and about two-thirds for Buddleia. Don't forget to be artistic, step back a couple of times and look at the shape you are creating.

All the shoots popping through the soil now show us we have plenty to look forward to.

Enjoy being outdoors.

John Dixon



Something from our Eileen to make you smile:

These actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:-

*Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa, will be speaking tonight at Calvary Methodist. Come hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.

*At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.

*Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

*This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

*Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

FLOWERS ROTA 2024

Jan	7 th	Christmas Flowers	July	7 th	<i>Flower Fund</i>
	14 th	Mrs M Jones		14 th	<i>Flower Fund</i>
	21 st	Mrs M Jones		21 st	Mrs S Tatlock
	28 th	Mrs M Jones		28 th	Mrs S Tatlock
Feb	4 th	Mrs P Luscombe	August	4 th	Mrs D Cooper
	11 th	Mrs P Luscombe		11 th	Mrs D Cooper
	18 th	Lent 1		18 th	<i>Flower Fund</i>
	25 th	Lent 2		25 th	<i>Flower Fund</i>
March	3 rd	Lent 3	Sept	1 st	Mrs K Griffiths
	10 th	Lent 4		8 th	Mrs K Griffiths
	17 th	Lent 5		15 th	<i>Flower Fund</i>
	24 th	Palm Sunday		22 nd	<i>Flower Fund</i>
	31 st	Easter Sunday Mr D Sutton		29 th	<i>Flower Fund</i>
April	7 th	Easter Flowers	Oct	6 th	Harvest Flowers
	14 th	Easter Flowers		13 th	Harvest Flowers
	21 st	Mrs S Williams		20 th	<i>Flower Fund</i>
	28 th	Mrs S Williams		27 th	<i>Flower Fund</i>
May	5 th	Mrs G Donnelly	Nov	3 rd	<i>Flower Fund</i>
	12 th	Mrs G Donnelly		10 th	Remembrance Wreaths
	19 th	Mrs S Williams		17 th	Remembrance Wreaths
	26 th	Mrs J Maguire		24 th	<i>Flower Fund</i>
June	2 nd	<i>Flower Fund</i>	Dec	1 st	Mrs H Pitman
	9 th	Mrs S McDonald		8 th	Rev'd Eileen Heaney
	16 th	Mrs S McDonald		15 th	Rev'd Eileen Heaney
	23 rd	<i>Flower Fund</i>		22 nd	Christmas Flowers
	30 th	<i>Flower Fund</i>		29 th	Christmas Flowers

If you have a special date you would like to remember with Church Flowers, please let Mrs Mary Jones, our Flower Secretary, know. telephone 01704 840538



Art and Craft Group



Parish Hall St Mark's

If you would like to come to an Art and Craft group; beginner, doodler or expert all welcome, contact Pam Luscombe or Wen Dixon in church or 07719611149

Free of charge, bring your own materials,
(although there are a few resources in the store cupboard)
some tuition/ guidance is available if needed.

**We will be meeting on alternate Tuesday afternoons from 1pm until 4pm
next meetings 2nd, 16th and 30th April**



COFFEE AFTERNOON

Usually on the first **Monday** of each month, there is a get-together in the Parish Hall , **2-4 pm**. Come and have a chat, tea, coffee and some home-made cake.

Next meetings: **Monday 8th April** (after Easter)
Monday 6th May

The Men's Group *(Ladies also welcome)*

Come along for a pint, a chat and a snack

We meet on the last Wednesday of the month

**7pm – 9pm at Master McGraths.
(men and ladies welcome)**

Easy to remember:

*It is the **LAST WEDNESDAY** of the month.*



Bescar Lane Church Coffee Morning

Every Thursday morning

NB: This will continue until further notice

A happy time with Mums and babies, toddlers and other local people.
Cakes, biscuits, tea and coffee are on offer.

All ages welcome.

The Post Office will also be open at this time until further notice.

St Mark's website is at www.stmarks-scarisbrick.co.uk

Electoral Roll – Important information

Anyone living & worshipping within the Scarisbrick parish is entitled to have a say in the parish governance. However, to do so it is important to be included on the Electoral Roll.

This is kept up to date each year before the APCM which this year is April 21st in St Marks Church. Conditions do apply as this is an essential part of the Church Representation Rules 2022. Anyone included on the roll is entitled to attend two meetings (scheduled one after other):

- Meeting of Parishioners
- Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) which covers elections, appointments and church reports.

Only those on the electoral roll are welcome to speak and vote.

You will find application forms at the rear of church and all of the other papers will be on the notice board in the church entrance porch

Can you play piano, keyboards or guitar?

We are looking for a **musician** to join the existing group at St Mark's church to help lead worship on a Sunday morning.

Do you feel you can help?

If you do, please contact any of the PCC members listed in the front of this magazine.

Thank You



St Mark's Walking Group

2024 Programme

Walk ProgrammeAll are Fridays at 10am prompt

April 19 th	Rivington: Tower and Pike	10km. 1,000ft ascent	John and Dawn
May 24 th	Billinge Hill		
June 21 st	Silverdale: A quart in a pint pot!	9.5km. 520ft ascent	Peter
July 19 th	Sawley		
August 16 th	Yarrow Country Park		Paul
September 20 th	Glasson Dock		
October 18 th	Scorton and Nicky Nook		Peter
November 15 th	Thurstaston		
December 20 th	Daresbury: Lewis Carroll walk	10km. Flat	Peter

What you can expect:

Walkers meet at 10am prompt at St Mark's Parish Hall.*

These walks will usually be led by either: Paul, Peter, Dawn and John
Walks will be between **5 and 6 miles** but the difficulty depends on the terrain and the weather! Local wet weather in the days before the walk and tides for coastal walks can all have an impact. These walks are published walks and will not necessarily be "recce'd" by us beforehand.

You will need full gear: boots, socks, weatherproofs, hat and refreshment.
Journey is by private car so if any walker can drive and take passengers that helps.

If car park or toll charges are incurred the driver would appreciate the passengers chipping in!

The walk will usually finish at a coffee house or pub for fellowship.

For more information or to book a place contact either of us or email:
stmarksscarisbrick@gmail.com

**We don't want to leave anyone behind so please let us know no later than the Wednesday before the walk so that we can finalise the arrangements*

João Bento
Rua Joaquim Antônio de Medeiros,
415 Casa Caiada
Olinda PE Brazil 53130-260



Tel: +55 81 99705 9572
Email: bento@revive-international.org

Sponsor a Girl Program- January/ February Update 2024

**Dear friends,
We do hope you're doing well and send our love from here as always.**

January was the summer holidays here at Revive and we had a lot of plans! The girls got to know more about our culture; visiting a local museum, the sites and the old town of Olinda. They went to the cinema, the local shopping centre, the water park and of course the beach! They did a lot of activities in the house which they all enjoyed.



We also take care of each girl's health, so it was a time to go to the dentist and check on their oral care, have physical health check ups and got them up to date on their vaccines!

We had lectures at the house to address racism and self-esteem which were held by a local NGO – one each week during the month of January

As we arrived in February, the girls returned to school and the house routine once more, we had the arrival of an 11 year old girl R.K. She was transferred from another shelter and is adapting well to home and routine. We also had the departure of 17-year-old T.P who has been with us for some time now. She was reunited with her maternal aunt, and it was a day of celebration as she was very happy to return to her family

Foster Care Service

We will soon be welcoming families to the next foster course, scheduled to start in the second week of March. We currently have three families interested in this process, and we hope that come April we will have new families registered. We currently have two host families registered and hosting.

At the end of January we welcomed two sisters, A. S. 4 years old and M.R. 6 years old.. Furthermore, the other child who was already in foster care (M.F. 7 years old - boy) is approaching adoption and the court decision will soon be made

Community Market

The community market had a little refresh this new year as we said goodbye to a few families whose situations had changed and no longer had such need, and we gave their places to other families who do. As a result, we are now providing food to even more children! And they provide lots of fun to our Friday afternoon too.

As we look ahead to Easter we'd love to ask for your help in blessing the families that we serve through providing food specifically for a traditional Easter meal. We'll be making up hampers that include fish, rice, beans, coconut milk, and more. If you'd be able to support this appeal, we'd be so grateful. We estimate the cost of a hamper to be roughly £10 if you do feel able. Please follow the link to find out more and donate.

Thank you so much!

Please pray that 2024 will be a year of growth, particularly partnerships with supermarkets as we would really benefit from more food donations.

Dança Água Viva

We had a break over January as it is holiday here in Brazil, but it was good to see the group back at the end of January stronger than ever. It's not a large group but one that is growing in intimacy with God and each other. Dança Água Viva provides a refuge where the women can off-load, be themselves, express their worship to the Lord and experience His presence. It is beautiful to see these women supporting one another, seeking God, and receiving his love.

We pray that as you bless the work of Revive, you in turn will be blessed knowing that you are playing a part in the big picture of **bringing God's love in action to children, women and families here in the city of Olinda. Please do share the work of Revive with your friends and family.** We rely on the kindness and generosity of people like you to do the work that we do, and your prayer and provision is most appreciated.

Every Blessing,

The Revive Team

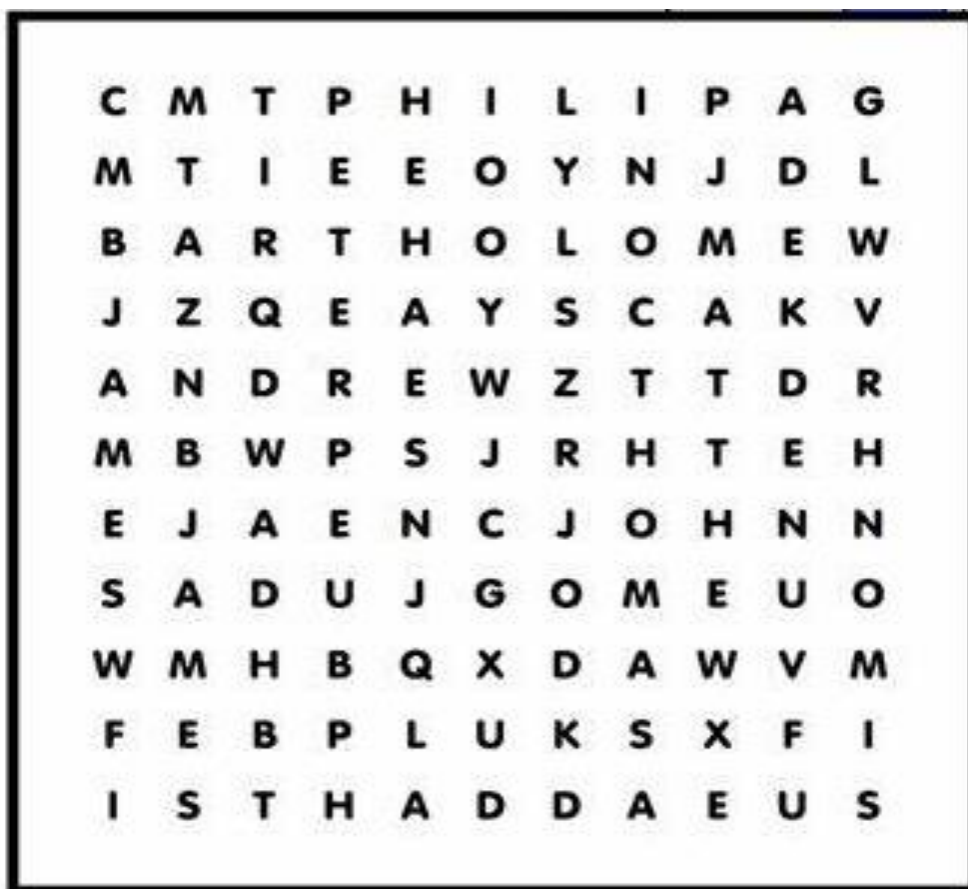
ReVive International is a UK Charity No 1149017

**Date for your Diary:* On April 10th at 2pm in the Parish Hall,
PC Darren will give a talk about Rural Crime Prevention.
All are welcome.

Children's Church

Our Children's church is flourishing under the leadership of Anna and Andy.
Here is a puzzle just for you (and any adults who want to have a go!)

Can you find Jesus' 12 disciples?



Can you find the names of the twelve disciples from the word box below?

ANDREW
BARTHOLOMEW
JAMES
JAMES

JOHN
JUDAS
MATTHEW
PETER

PHILIP
SIMON
THADDAEUS
THOMAS

Please pray for the children and their teachers
and the wonderful work they are doing in our church and our school

When I nod my head- hit it!

The Woodland Trust has gifted us 120 saplings which we have planted at the edge of the playing field, bordering on to the graveyard.

A team, led by Peter Fishlock (thank you Peter) and comprising Sandra, Stephen, Peter L, Dawn and John, worked in the pouring rain to plant them.

Stephen Roberts commented that these will probably only be fully grown long after we have departed this earth (thanks Stephen!!).



However, isn't that what we are doing with our Faith: leading others to Christ although we may not be around to see the fruits of our witness?

And the trees of the field shall clap their hands!

As well as the tree planting, many other members of the congregation were busy checking, repairing, cleaning, painting and sorting items in the church, the church grounds and the Parish Hall.

The Parish Hall has been tidied up and many items moved into storage.

Thank you to everyone who gave up their Saturday to help in this huge task.

Thank you, Jules, for supplying us with our 'reward' of bacon rolls and a cuppa.

April 2024

Mon	1	Team leave for Uganda Mission
Tue	2	Art and Craft Club 1pm-4pm Parish Hall
Wed	3	Prayers: church 10- 11am.
Thur	4	Bescar Lane Coffee morning 10-12. St Mark's Luncheon Club 11am <i>Happy Thursdays 7pm in church</i>
Fri	5	
Sat	6	
Sun	7	11am Holy Communion and Children's church
Mon	8	Coffee Afternoon 2-4pm Parish Hall
Tue	9	Bible Study and Fellowship at Bescar Lane 2:30pm
Wed	10	Prayers: church 10-11am 2pm Rural Crime Prevention talk Parish Hall
Thur	11	Bescar Lane Coffee morning 10-12. <i>Happy Thursdays 7pm in church</i>
Fri	12	
Sat	13	
Sun	14	11am Holy Communion and Children's church
Mon	15	
Tue	16	Art and Craft Club 1pm-4pm Parish Hall
Wed	17	Prayers: church 10- 11am.
Thur	18	Bescar Lane Coffee morning 10-12. St Mark's Luncheon Club 11am <i>Happy Thursdays 7pm in church</i> Magazine Articles Deadline
Fri	19	Walking Group 10am
Sat	20	
Sun	21	11am All age Worship APCM
Mon	22	
Tue	23	Bible Study and Fellowship at Bescar Lane 2:30pm
Wed	24	Prayers: church 10- 11am. Men's group 7pm .
Thur	25	Bescar Lane Coffee morning 10-12 St Mark's Gift Day
Fri	26	
Sat	27	Scarisbrick Hall Tour for church members
Sun	28	11am Holy Communion and Children's church
Mon	29	
Tue	30	Art and Craft Club 1pm-4pm Parish Hall

The **deadline** for including anything in the
May magazine is

Thursday 19th April 2024

Contact pamluscombe@yahoo.com or phone 07719611149

