

St Mark's Church

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Headteacher: Mrs Marilyn Freeman, St. Mark's School 880636

Associate Governor: Rev. Eileen Heaney*, 473 Southport Road 880463

School Foundation Mrs Wen Dixon*

Governor:

^{*}PCC Members

	Services for October 2024				
6 th	11am St Marks HARVEST Service	Leader:	Rev Eileen Heaney		
		Preacher:	Mr John Forshaw		
		Bible reading:	Ms Jules Emmett Genesis 2: 4-15		
		Prayers:	Rev Stephen Foster		
		Welcomers	Mrs Wen Dixon, Mr Cliff Davies,		
			Mrs Cynthia Kilpatrick		
13 th	11am St Marks	Leader:	Rev Eileen Heaney		
		Preacher:	Rev Eileen Heaney		
	Baptism	Bible reading:	Mr John Cooper Mark 10: 17-22		
		Prayers:	Mrs Wen Dixon		
		Welcomers:	Mr John Cooper and Mrs Dawn Cooper		
20 th	11am	Leader:	Mrs Wen Dixon		
	St Marks Holy Communion	Preacher:	Rev Eileen Heaney		
		Bible reading:	Mr Peter Smith Mark 10: 34-45		
		Prayers:	Ms Jules Emmett		
		Welcomers:	Mr Peter Smith <i>and</i> Mrs Jenny Smith		
a a th		T			
27 th	11am St Marks	Leader:	Rev Eileen Heaney		
	Baptism	Preacher:	Rev Eileen Heaney		
		Bible reading:	Mrs Cynthia Kilpatrick Mark 10: 48-end		
		Prayers:	Mrs Christine Nicholson		
		Welcomers	Mrs Cynthia Kilpatrick, Mr Bill Melia		
27 th	11am Café Church Parish Hall	Leader	Mr John Forshaw		

Dear Friends,

The seeds that were planted have grown to fruition and the harvest has all but been brought in. Each day the light fades that little bit quicker, and in our part of the world we have left this year's summer behind. The first signs to me that Autumn is here are the swans and geese as they fly across the morning sky; subtle signs that the seasons are changing are all around us. As the year is



coming into its last quarter we have, and will continue to reap, the benefits of all the hard work put into providing the harvest. That work carried out from the early hours of the morning to the late hours of the evening, in rain, wind and sunshine. Whatever the day throws at them the farmers have had to adapt and change to do the daily work of sowing, growing and harvesting our food.

That word 'Change'. We seem to use it nearly every day: change in governments, change in community services, change in movement of people, change in how we must do this or that and changes within ourselves. There are also the ongoing changes within church, and I know for many it is very daunting and at times sad. As we seem to be leaving some of the familiar behind.

But just as the seasons come and go, sometimes like a storm and sometimes delicately, so do changes in our lives. The day-to-day differences we may suddenly notice and those we have no say in, but somehow must adapt to. But you know sometimes doing something different and starting afresh can feel very exciting, especially if it is a decision we are making ourselves or a decision that we can be part of. It can give us a new lease of life, to think outside what we ordinarily do. But I agree it can also be a little unnerving, not quite knowing how you may adjust or fit in. Often, it's a mixture of emotions. So how do we handle situations that bring about change?

The bible gives us the answer. In it we find that God promises to always be with his people, that his grace will sustain us and that his love is steadfast and certain. Words from a favourite song of mine, say "that though the seasons change Your love remains". Our situations may change but the Lord Jesus never does. Hebrews 13:8 puts it like this; "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever" and in the Old Testament we find the Lord says "for surely, I know the plans I have for you. plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." (Jeremiah 29:11).

As part of our vision for St Mark's we have been planting the seeds for the time ahead. Do you remember our Bible passage a few years ago taken from Matthew's gospel: "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; ³⁸ therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest." The Lord has greatly answered that prayer for St Mark's, and now just like the farmers we are adapting to the variants we face for the flourishing of God's church in this community while being anchored in the Lord.

Part of our vision was to make St Mark's a good, welcoming, teaching and healing place for all who come. God has really blessed us in lots of ways.

Just look at the events in the magazine: all of our outreach ministries led by you, Gods people, our new youth club and the new course we will beginning at the end of the month reflecting why Jesus Matters, so as we continue into this new season could I ask you to commit to pray, for Gods guidance, wisdom and vision for these new ministries.

But can we also pray for ourselves for God to lead us and give us assurance as we listen to the wisdom of Proverbs 3: 5&6. "Trust in the LORD with all your heart. Never rely on what you think you know. ⁶ Remember the LORD in everything you do, and he will show you the right way." As I have been told by those wiser than me on many occasions when I have tried to control things "Let go and Let God." God bless you

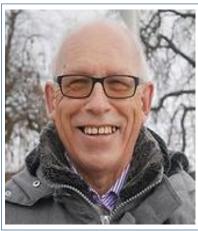
Will you join us in our prayer for St Marks Church

S Mark's

Love Eileen

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



Rev. Canon Ross Moughtin's blog

God loves to surprise us

Hi Folks!

It's not that surprising really, given who he is, but we often find God in the most unexpected places and in the most unexpected situations.

Like Nazareth, by all accounts not a place of

repute. "Nazareth? You've got to be kidding!" remarks Nathaniel in the Message translation of John 1:46.

No doubt this disciple-in-waiting would have selected the magnificent temple in Jerusalem as prime candidate for a guaranteed encounter with the divine. But when Jesus eventually takes him there, he doesn't point out the splendid architecture or the marvellous music but a poor widow putting in a mere two very small copper coins.

And of course, more than anywhere else, Golgotha. Here we see in a blood-soaked man writing in pain, in the words of the apostle Paul, a curse on the land. (Galatians 3:13). And for those with eyes to see, God's overwhelming love for us, a love beyond measure.

Here, in the last place in this entire cosmos you would expect. No wonder Paul is forever amazed at "the extravagant dimensions of Christ's love. Reach out and experience the breadth! Test its length! Plumb the depths! Rise to the heights!" (Ephesians 3:20)

Mind you, if anyone experienced God in the most unexpected places, it was the apostle Paul: on the road to Damascus, in various prisons and in a sinking ship.

I've just been reading this morning Isabelle Hamley, my daughter's previous neighbour and now theological college principal. "Instead, Jesus teaches that the way to God is found through the cross first, in unexpected places and in unexpected ways.

She continues: "Just as with the birth narratives, Jesus' presence is often hidden in places we overlook, because we look for glory and palaces rather than humility in small towns and in crowded family rooms, as in Bethlehem."

In other words (and this is central to the Christian faith) we encounter God in places we never thought to look, if only we had eyes to see.

You may recall the scene in *Bruce Almighty* when the character played by Jim Carrey is begging God to give him a sign as he drives into the night. "Please, Lord, give me a signal." And sign after sign appears. He even follows a van filled with STOP and WRONG WAY signs.

But he doesn't see them for the simple reason is he doesn't expect God to act in that direct way, on a non-descript road at night. Not at all religious.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gQKi3mlcQN4

However, it is not just that we may encounter God, like Bruce, in the very last place we would have expected. The reality is that God, such is his love, is continuously wanting to touch us, to bless our lives, wherever we would find ourselves.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning is in awe: "Earth is crammed with heaven And every bush aflame with God But only those who see take off their shoes."

Like Moses, we need to take off our shoes and feel the earth, God's earth, beneath our feet. For every place is holy ground, even in "the far side of the wilderness." (Exodus 3:1) For to encounter God, certainly for any disciple of Jesus, should be a frequent experience.

We need to pray that God's Holy Spirit will help us recognise him in each encounter. And often, like the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, it is only in retrospect as we reflect on what happened. "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32)

Strangely, this was my experience only yesterday as I went for a run along Crosby beach. Approaching the coastguard station at Hall Road, I recalled a promise God made to me over 50 years ago at that very place while on the same run!

I won't go into detail but it was related to that specific location, a particular promise from God related to that actual viewpoint. And as is usually the case, at the time I couldn't be 100% sure. Was I simply making this up as a form of wish-fulfilment?

Well, today I can now say that this was God speaking to me in that particular geographical location. No doubt you are intrigued, but I can now say from the perspective of at least five decades, that his promise proved true.

And I did meet with God at what we then called "Black Rocks" out-of-the-blue, while on a standard training run. Who would have thought? I certainly didn't.

So folks, you need to ponder. Recall those experiences of God, bumping into him in the strangest of places. Maybe several years ago, maybe yesterday, what did you learn? What makes you think this was God? And more to the point, what did you do about it?

So stay alert. For sometimes life's seemingly insignificant moments really do matter when God chooses to appear. He loves to surprise us.

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

Chair-based movement / exercise



St Mark's Parish Hall each Tuesday_morning 10am

For around 40 – 45 minutes, followed by a cup of tea.

Open to everyone. Any level of fitness.

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

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

Thursday 17th October 2024

Contact pamluscombe@yahoo.com or phone 077196111

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 2pm.

Led by Rev Stephen Foster
St Mark's Parish Hall

Future meetings are 8th and 22nd October

We are trying out
Café Church!!!
For all the family
Come and Join us
Invite your friends
All Welcome

11.00am
Sunday 29th
September
In the Parish
Hall and then
every last
Sunday

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 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)

Red Letter Box at The Lych Gate .

Don't know if you have noticed but we have a red letter box at the Lych Gate. This will be for our post.

But what about you; would you like to post a prayer in that box too?



Maybe something is on your mind or you would just like to give thanks.

We meet every Thursday (besides Sunday) in church to pray.
Why not post a note and let us send a 'Knee mail' to God for you

Rev Eileen

Parish Magazine subscription

The annual subscription of £8 for the 10 issues is payable 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... qiftaid it

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



2nd Sunday of every month in the Parish Hall 11.00am same time as main service



Each Monday night

night at
7.00pm to 8.30pm
In the Parish Hall
Age range
Year 6 and Year 7
10-12 yrs old
For more info see
John or Eileen

You can download or view this magazine on our website.

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



Limitless is no more!..... We need our own name!

We had our first youth club in the Parish Hall on Monday 16th for our year sixes and sevens. The weather was amazing, we messed around on the field at the back, we played pool and table tennis and chilled with the projector and screen......for half an hour...... and then we had a booking clash Who would have thought the third Monday could be on the 16^{th.}

Not a problem for Rev Eileen: we decamped to church with the brief to create a new name and an advert for our club.

The best submission to win anything from the tuck shop FOC as judged by Steven Foster, our events manager.

Three teams have entered so watch this space!

John

Advertise in your local St Mark's Parish Magazine

Ten issues a year, with distribution into approximately 200 households

February, March, April, May, June, *July and August combined*,
September, October, November, *December and January combined*

Full page advertisement £80 for the year. Half Page £40 for the year.

Contact Pam Luscombe 07719611149 for further information

Or any member listed in the front of this publication

Rua Joaquim Antônio de Medeiros, 415 Casa Caiada

Olinda PE Brazil 53.130-260

Tel: +55 81 988256576

Email: <u>felipe@revive-international.org</u> **Sponsor a Child Program - Update**



Dear friends,

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

June was marked by important moments and filled with activities at Reaviva. We started with preparations for one of our most traditional festivals, São João. Our store located at Patteo Shopping in Olinda remained operational, where we continued selling items produced by the girls, alongside our team. This initiative has been fundamental in encouraging leadership and generating income.

Th girls enjoyed their school break with various planned activities.

On July 15, we celebrated M.T.'s 15th birthday, giving her an unforgettable day filled with joy and celebration.

We ended the month by wrapping up the workshops that had been taking place. We concluded the month with another important achievement: F. left Reaviva to reunite with her family. Her departure brought a deep sense of a job well done.



Community Market

The community market is doing well. We continue to reach around 100 people through the families that come. We are seeking new supermarkets to establish partnerships with, so we pray that this effort bears fruit!

We ask that you continue to pray for the health of the families involved in this project, as many of them are facing illnesses, diseases, or cancer. We pray for

protection for them and for the many children who also participate.

We ask for prayers as tomorrow we will begin our first monthly workshop, with a nutritionist teaching us about healthy living and balanced eating. Next month, we hope to have a dentist teach us about the importance of oral hygiene. Practical lessons for life!

Foster Family

The past few months have been filled with emotion. The children who were in the process of being placed with an adoptive family did not proceed, but soon after, God provided a very special new family. The new adoptive family has shown great love and care for the sisters, and today they are already with their "forever family." In addition, two more foster families were formed and registered. We ask for prayers that God may grant us wisdom and understanding for the new challenges that will come with the arrival of new children.

In August, we welcomed a very special child, H.A.A. (6 years old). She had been in an institutional shelter, a municipal home, for almost a year. We ask for prayers for this little girl who has already faced so many difficult situations at such a young age, and also for the foster family and technical team, that they may have the wisdom to handle these challenging circumstances.

This month, we also held a training session with foster families.

Thank you as ever for all your support.

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.

"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

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

~Down Our Way~

The Summer Evening Walks that have taken place over the last six weeks, led by Stephen Roberts, have provided an opportunity to bring Scarisbrick community and beyond together.

The walks have been around 3 miles in distance on Public Rights of Way, Lanes, and the Canal Towpath. Walkers have explored the special beauty of the Lancashire plain, and Scarisbrick as an historic place with its numerous grade II listed buildings, particularly in the conservation area of Pinfold.

A recent walk saw 30 people and numerous dogs out on Public Rights of Way and Canal towpaths in Halsall.

On the return leg back to the Saracens Head the moon lit up the route and provided atmospheric views of the canal and surrounding buildings. The whole route provided spectacular views across West Lancashire as the sun went down.



During the walk there was a discussion, and the consensus was that people want to continue to walk even though it generally means finishing in the dark at this time of year. The walks have always been on a Thursday evening since they started, but will be moving to a Sunday afternoon (one a month) once it gets too dark and the weather starts to become wet and windy. Keep an eye on the Facebook page for further information.

Everyone is welcome to join in. Stephen wants to say a huge thank you everyone who has come out and supported these short walks either by walking, or by giving permission to use their car parks.

Stephen Roberts



COFFEE AFTERNOON

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

Next meeting: Monday 7th October

Bescar Lane Church Coffee Morning Every Thursday morning 10am to 12 noon

NB: This will continue until further notice

All ages welcome..

Cakes, biscuits, tea and coffee are on offer.

The post office will be open.

The Fellowship Group

(Previously the Men's Group)

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.





When we meet Jesus, whether we decide to follow him or not, it is the beginning of a journey.

Remember the story of the rich young man who wanted to follow Jesus but couldn't commit to what Jesus asked of him, we never find out what happened to him in the end, but that encounter with Jesus must have been a decisive moment in his journey.

Jesus Matters is a course designed to meet you wherever you are on your journey.

Does he matter to you yet?

Does he matter enough for you to follow him?

How much does he matter?

These are questions that you may consider hence the title 'Jesus Matters'

It might be that you want to explore or cement your relationship with him through confirmation, baptism, or communion. This course will help you to prepare for these. Equally you may want an opportunity to discuss or ask the difficult questions of life in a safe non-judgemental environment or just explore your relationship with him quietly and prayerfully.

Jesus Matters is a friendly interactive course set over six weeks. Looking at: the three persons of the Trinity, *Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,* exploring the difference Jesus makes, the role of the church, and what following Jesus really means to each one of us.

Beginning Wednesday 23rd of October and finishing just before Advent, it is also a great way to prepare for Christmas on those darker evenings. Each meeting will start at **7pm and finish promptly at 9pm**, transport can be arranged if necessary.

We have forty places available, and we have invitations with an RSVP on the back to be returned please confirming numbers. Why not grab a few and invite some friends, or email John on: jonforshaw@icloud.com.

Come and see, we are excited to hear from you

Harvest Festival



The next event will be The Harvest Supper, so why not put the date in your calendar? **Sunday 6th October is the Harvest Thanksgiving Service,** with the **Harvest Supper on 9th.** Please let us know if you'd like to come, as we have to order enough food for everyone,

We are also planning an Autumn event on November 16th (to be confirmed) where you will be able to buy Cards and gifts for Christmas.

Then we will have our Christmas Tree Festival from Sunday 1st December. So perhaps you could start thinking about your Christmas Tree Display? If you need any information about this, please ask.

Lagies Breakfast 28th September 9.30 – 11.00am

St Marks Parish Hall
Guest speaker Rev'd Jane Morgan
Who leads quiet times
Let Rev Eileen know if you can come for catering purposes

Then every 2nd month 30th November, 22nd February, 26th April, 28th June



St Michaels Church
Parish Hall Aughton
9.30am Saturday
26th October
Then every second month
25th January, 29th
March, 31st May, 26th
July



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

FLOWERS ROTA 2024

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

Oct	6 th	Harvest Flowers
	13 th	Harvest Flowers
	20 th	Mr David Sutton
	27 th	
Nov	3 rd	
	10 th	Remembrance Wreaths
	17 th	Remembrance Wreaths
	24 th	

Dec	1 st	Mrs H Pitman	
	8 th	Rev'd Eileen Heaney	
	15 th	Rev'd Eileen Heaney	
	22 nd	Christmas Flowers	
	29 th	Christmas Flowers	
Jan	5 th	Christmas Flowers	
	12 th	Mrs M Jones	
	19 th	Mrs M Jones	
	26 th	Mrs M Jones	



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 1st, 15th and 29th October

Parish Magazine distribution

Thank you to everyone who delivers the Parish magazine

If you think you would like to help delivering just a few magazines please contact

Janet Hinton 889229.



St Mark's Walking Group

2024 Programme Walk ProgrammeAll are Fridays at 10am prompt

Date	Destination	Distance	Leader
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 or 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

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it." Malachi 3:10

October 2024

Tue	1	Chair based Exercise 10am Art and Craft Club 1pm-4pm Parish Hall	
Wed	2	Prayers: church 10-11am	
Thur	3	Bescar Lane Coffee morning 10-12. Pensioners Luncheon Club 11am	
		Happy Thursdays 7pm	
Fri	4		
Sat	5		
Sun	6	11am All Age Worship Harvest Festival Celebration	
Mon	7	Ladies Coffee and Cake Afternoon 2-4pm	
Tue	8	Chair based Exercise 10am. Bible Study and Fellowship Parish Hall 2pm	
Wed	9	Prayers: church 10- 11am HARVEST SUPPER 7pm Parish Hall	
Thur	10	Bescar Lane Coffee morning 10-12. Happy Thursdays 7pm	
Fri	11		
Sat	12		
Sun	13	11am Baptism	
Mon	14		
Tue	15	Chair based Exercise 10am Art and Craft Club 1pm-4pm Parish Hall	
Wed	16	Prayers: church 10- 11am.	
Thur	17	Bescar Lane Coffee morning 10-12. Pensioners Luncheon Club 11am	
		Happy Thursdays 7pm Magazine deadline	
Fri	18	Walking Group 10am	
Sat	19		
Sun	20	11am Holy Communion, Children's church.	
Mon	21		
Tue	22	Chair based Exercise 10am. Bible Study and Fellowship Parish Hall 2pm	
Wed	23	Prayers: church 10- 11am. Jesus Matters course 7-9pm	
Thur	24	Bescar Lane Coffee morning 10-12 Happy Thursdays 7pm	
Fri	25		
Sat	26	Ladies' breakfast 9:30 – 11am	
Sun	27	11am Baptism in St Mark's. 11am Café Church in the Parish Hall	
Mon	28		
Tue	29		
Wed	30	Prayers: church 10- 11am Fellowship at McGrath's 7pm	
Thur	31	Bescar Lane Coffee morning 10-12 Happy Thursdays 7pm	



The **deadline** for including anything in the **November** magazine is **Thursday 17th October 2024**



Contact pamluscombe@yahoo.com or phone 077196111