



CHORLEY PARISH CHURCH
OF ST. LAURENCE

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 2020 AND JANUARY 2021

Then the angel said to the shepherds,

I bring you good tidings of

GREAT JOY

which will be to all people

*For there is born to you
this day in the city of David a*

SAVIOUR

the who is
Christ Lord

Luke 2:10-11

The Nativity of Christ | 25 December
The Epiphany of Our Lord | 6 January
The Conversion of St. Paul | 25 January

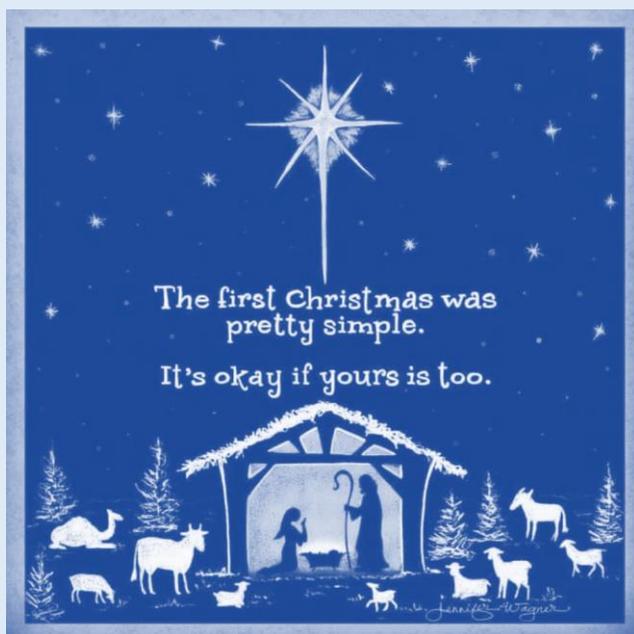
Suggested Donation £1

Notes on Worship over Christmas

Christmas Booking Arrangements for the six services on Thursday 24 December.

Booking for these services will take the usual form for our weekend services, by booking via Eventbrite or by calling the Parish Office.

Bookings will open on Monday 14 December.



Our current pattern of Services:

Weekday Eucharists intensions:

Monday	Parish Mission
Tuesday	The Community & Civic Life of the Town
Thursday	includes the Ministry of Healing
Friday	The 1662 Book of Common Prayer is used on Fridays

Weekend Eucharists:

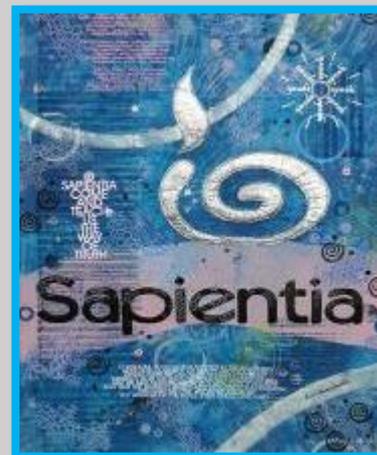
The Saturday 17.00 and Sunday 09.00 Eucharists features a children's address and contemporary music. The Sunday 11.00 Eucharist contains a sermon and makes use of traditional music and the organ.

Many Services available on



O Sapientia

(17 December)



The "O Antiphons" are basically a verse of a hymn which is sung on each of the days leading up to Christmas beginning with O Sapientia, (O Wisdom) on 17 December.

This day marks the start of the second part of Advent, a time we should step up our preparations for Christmas. In some traditions it is the day that Christmas Trees are erected.

Each one refers to the prophecy of Isaiah of the coming of the Messiah and the verse for day reads:

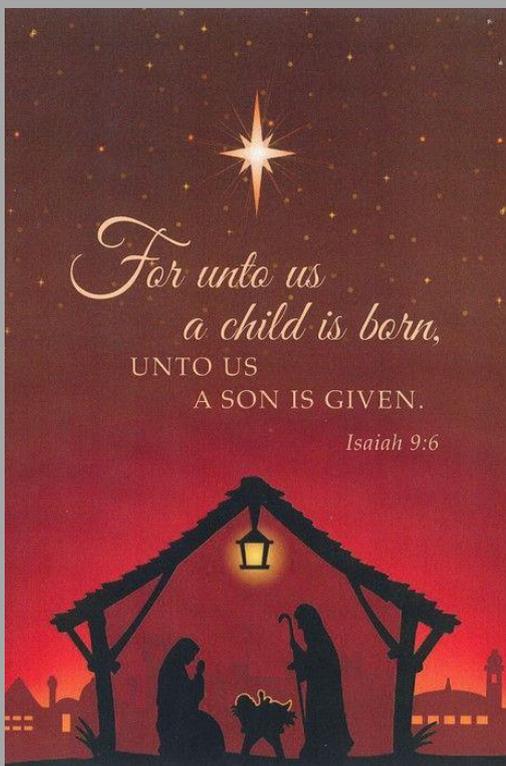
**O come, O Wisdom from on high,
who ordered all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show
and teach us in its ways to go.**

Isaiah had prophesied:

"The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord." Isaiah 11:

DECEMBER 2020 AND
JANUARY 2021

Welcome to this special edition of the Parish Magazine which covers the season of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany.



**Father Neil,
Rev Mo
and all the team**
send everyone in our
congregation and community
their warmest greetings at
this holy season.

From the Rector

Dear friends,

You will have heard many times the words “Christmas is not cancelled this year” I am sure. These are words we need to remember and take to heart. Although our Advent season begins as lockdown ends, the journey we are called to make “from darkness to light” is the same invitation extended to us each year.

Perhaps this Advent the “darkness” bit of the journey seems even darker; we are still caring for one another by keeping a social distance. The long, dark days will maybe heighten the sense of isolation and loneliness that is so real and ever-present.

It is into a world of pain, suffering, isolation and loneliness that Jesus was born. Perhaps this year, more than ever, we can appreciate the “true light which was to come into the world” as St. John describes Jesus in the start of his Gospel.

A recent ‘graphic’ on Facebook said something like: “The first Christmas was pretty simple – it’s OK if yours is too”. The irony is that with less human contact, with no big parties and celebrations, with an ever-present sense of anxiety and fear we are actually coming much closer to the first Christmas than we might ever have planned to do.

He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave the power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

(John 1: 11-14)

With my love and prayers,

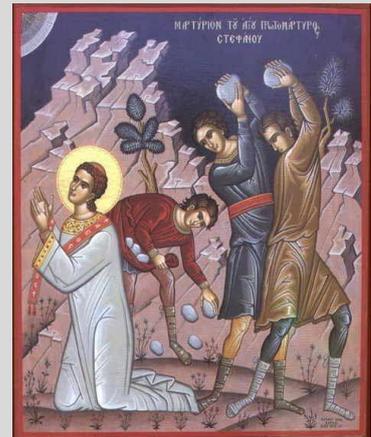
Father Neil

Services for December 2020

Th 03	<i>Francis Xavier</i>	18.15	Holy Eucharist
F 04	<i>John of Damascus</i>	12.15	Holy Eucharist (BCP)
Sa 05	<i>Second Sunday</i>	17.00	All Age Eucharist
Su 06	<i>in Advent</i>	09.00	All Age Eucharist
		11.00	Holy Eucharist
M 07	<i>Ambrose</i>	18.15	Holy Eucharist
Tu 08	<i>Conception of the BVM</i>	12.15	Holy Eucharist
Th 10		18.15	Holy Eucharist
F 11		12.15	Holy Eucharist (BCP)
Sa 12	<i>Third Sunday</i>	17.00	All Age Eucharist
Su 13	<i>in Advent</i>	09.00	All Age Eucharist
		11.00	Holy Eucharist
M 14	<i>John of the Cross</i>	18.15	Holy Eucharist
Tu 15		12.15	Holy Eucharist
Th 17	<i>O Sapientia</i>	18.15	Holy Eucharist
F 18		12.15	Holy Eucharist (BCP)
Sa 19	<i>Fourth Sunday</i>	17.00	All Age Eucharist
Su 20	<i>in Advent</i>	09.00	All Age Eucharist
		11.00	Holy Eucharist
M 21		18.15	Holy Eucharist
Tu 22		12.15	Holy Eucharist
Th 24	<i>Christmas Eve/Day</i>	10.00	Crib Service
		12.00	Crib Service
		14.00	Crib Service
		16.00	Crib Service
		20.00	Christmas Eucharist
		23.30	Christmas Eucharist *
F 25		09.30	Family Eucharist*
	(*this service is at St Georges – there is no service at St Laurence’s)		
Sa 26	<i>St. Stephen</i>	10.30	Holy Eucharist**
	(** there is no 17.00 Vigil Eucharist today)		
Su 27	<i>The Holy Family</i>	09.00	All Age Eucharist
		11.00	Holy Eucharist
M 28	<i>Holy Innocents</i>	12.15	Holy Eucharist
Tu 29	<i>St. Thomas Beckett</i>	12.15	Holy Eucharist
F 01	<i>Day of Prayer for World Peace</i>	12.15	Holy Eucharist

* = Incense will be used at this service

St. Stephen (feast day 26 December)



Stephen was one of the first to follow the Apostles. It is believed that he was either Greek, or a Jew educated in Greek culture. What is certain is that he was greatly appreciated by the community in Jerusalem that his name appears first among the seven men chosen as deacons to assist the Apostles in their mission. A man “filled with faith and the Holy Spirit,” we worked wonders and miracles – but some members of the synagogue stirred up the people against him, with the elders and scribes saying he had blasphemed against Moses and against God. In the days following Pentecost, Stephen was hauled before the Sanhedrin, and accused by false witnesses of preaching that Jesus would “destroy this place and change the customs that Moses handed down to us.”

This final proclamation cost him dearly. With a loud cry, those present cast him out of the city “and began to stone him.”

Services for January 2021

NEW YEARS DAY

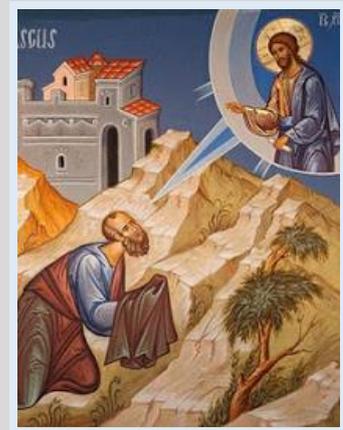
F 01 *Day of Prayer for World Peace* 12.15 Holy Eucharist

Sa	02	<i>The Epiphany</i>	17.00	All Age Eucharist
Su	03	<i>of Our Lord</i>	09.00	No 0900 Eucharist
			11.00	Holy Eucharist *
M	04	Basil the Great	18.15	Holy Eucharist
Tu	05		12.15	Holy Eucharist
Th	07		18.15	Holy Eucharist
F	08		12.15	Holy Eucharist (BCP)
Sa	09	<i>The Baptism</i>	17.00	All Age Eucharist
Su	10	<i>of Christ</i>	09.00	All Age Eucharist
			11.00	Holy Eucharist
M	11		18.15	Holy Eucharist
Tu	12	<i>Aelred</i>	12.15	Holy Eucharist
Th	14		18.15	Holy Eucharist
F	15		12.15	Holy Eucharist (BCP)
Sa	16	<i>Second Sunday</i>	17.00	All Age Eucharist
Su	17	<i>after the Epiphany</i>	09.00	All Age Eucharist
			11.00	Holy Eucharist
M	18		18.15	Holy Eucharist
Tu	19	<i>Wulfstan</i>	12.15	Holy Eucharist
Th	21	<i>Agnus</i>	18.15	Holy Eucharist
F	22		12.15	Holy Eucharist (BCP)
Sa	23		17.00	All Age Eucharist
Su	24		09.00	All Age Eucharist
			11.00	Holy Eucharist
M	25	<i>Conversion of S. Paul</i>	18.15	Holy Eucharist
Tu	26	<i>Timothy and Titus</i>	12.15	Holy Eucharist
Th	28	<i>Thomas Aquinas</i>	18.15	Holy Eucharist
F	29		12.15	Holy Eucharist (BCP)
Sa	30	<i>Presentation of</i>	17.00	All Age Eucharist
Su	31	<i>Christ in the Temple</i>	09.00	All Age Eucharist
			11.00	Holy Eucharist *

* = Incense will be used at this service

The Conversion of S. Paul

(feast day 25 January)



Paul was not a follower of Jesus and did not know him, Paul's conversion occurred after Jesus's crucifixion.

Before his conversion, Paul, also known as Saul, was "a Pharisee of Pharisees", who "intensely persecuted" the followers of Jesus.

The Book of Acts says that Paul was on his way from Jerusalem to Syrian Damascus with a mandate issued by the High Priest to seek out and arrest followers of Jesus. The journey is interrupted when Paul sees a blinding light which makes him fall to the ground and heard a voice say to him,

**"Saul, Saul,
why do you persecute me?"**

When he arrived in Damascus he was blind and took no food or drink for three days. Then the scales fell from his eyes and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptised, took food and was strengthened." From that time forth, Saul went on to preach the good news about Christ.

From that point he was known as Paul, many of our New Testament readings are taken from his letters, or Epistles.

Readings for Sundays and Holy Days

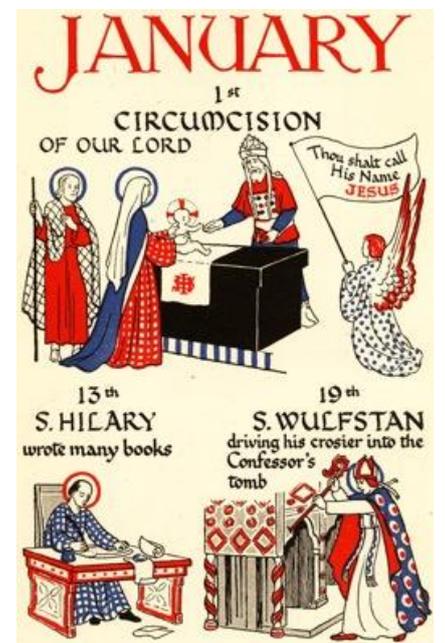
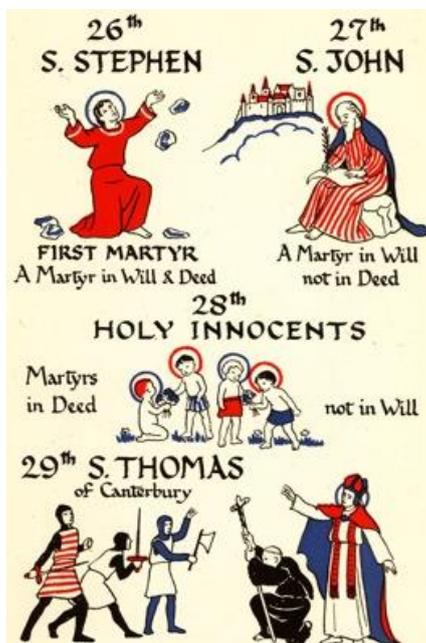
Day	Title	Readings
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December, 2020

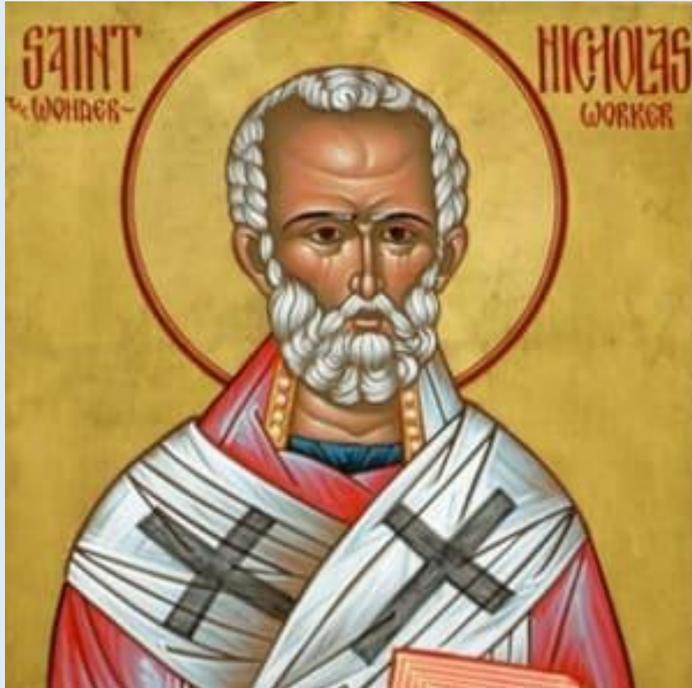
Su	06	Second Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 40. 1-11 2. Peter 3. 8-15 Mark 1. 1-8
Su	13	Third Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 61. 1-4, 8-11 Romans 15. 4-13 John 1. 6-8, 19-28
Su	20	Fourth Sunday of Advent	2. Samuel 7. 1-11, 16 Romans 16. 25-27 Luke 1. 26-38
Th	24	Christmas Eve	Hebrews 1. 1-4 John 1. 1-14
Fr	25	Christmas Day	Hebrews 1. 1-4 Luke 2. 8-20
Su	27	The Holy Family	Galatians 4. 4-7 Luke 2. 15-21

January, 2021

Su	03	The Epiphany of our Lord	Isaiah 60. 1-6 Ephesians 3. 1-12 Matthew 2. 1-12
Su	10	The Baptism of Christ	Acts 19. 1-7 Mark 1. 4-11
Su	17	The Second Sunday of Epiphany	Revelation 5. 1-10 John 1. 43-51
Su	24	The Third Sunday of Epiphany	Revelation 19. 6-10 John 2. 1-11
Su	31	Candlemas	Hebrews 2.14-18 Luke 2. 22-40



St. Nicholas



Feast Day

6

December

Saint Nicholas was a Christian bishop who provided for the poor and sick and is the basis for the popular character of Santa Claus.

Who Was Saint Nicholas?

Saint Nicholas was a Christian bishop who helped the needy. After his death, the legend of his gift-giving grew.

Saint Nicholas transformed into the legendary character called Santa Claus, who brings Christmas presents to children around the world.

His Early Life

Saint Nicholas was born circa 280 in Patara, Lycia, an area that is part of present-day Turkey. He lost both of his parents as a young man and reportedly used his inheritance to help the poor and sick. A devout Christian, he later served as bishop of Myra, a city that is now called Demre.

Reputation

There are many legends about Saint Nicholas of Myra. One story tells how he helped three poor sisters. Their father did not have enough money to pay their dowries and thought of selling them into servitude. Three times, Saint Nicholas secretly went to their house at night and put a bag of money inside.

The man used the money so that one of his daughters could marry.

On the third visit, the man saw Saint Nicholas and thanked him for his kindness.

He also reportedly saved three men who were falsely imprisoned and sentenced to death.

Death and Legacy

Several sources state Saint Nicholas is believed to have died on 6 December 343. Over the years, stories of his miracles and work for the poor spread to other parts of the world. He became known as the protector of children and sailors and was associated with gift-giving.

He was a popular saint in Europe until the time of the Reformation in the 1500s, a religious movement that led to the creation of Protestantism, which turned away from the practice of honoring saints.

Saint Nicholas, however, remained an important figure in Holland. **(1506–1552)**

The Dutch continued to celebrate the feast day of Saint Nicholas, 6 December. It was a common practice for children to put out their shoes the night before. In the morning, they would discover the gifts that Saint Nicholas had left there for them. Dutch immigrants brought the legend of Saint Nicholas, known to them as Sint Nikolaas or by his nickname, Sinterklaas, to America in the 1700s.

Saint Nicholas went through many transformations in America: Sinterklaas became Santa Claus, and instead of giving gifts on 6 December, he became a part of the Christmas festivities.

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who
care for the sick,
and lift up all who
are brought low;
that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing
can separate us from your
love in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Prayer Chain

The St Laurence's Prayer Chain is available to all who wish to use this small group of church members. They are prepared to pray daily in response to any requests for private prayers. The group treats all requests with sensitivity and complete confidentiality.

Please contact:

Doris Smethurst 410829

Zoom Bible Study

This will not take place during Advent but will resume in the New Year.

To register please email:

bible@stlaurencechorley.co.uk

It's not too late to join our Advent Discussion Group

Tuesdays 1, 8, 15 and 22 December

We are running an Advent Discussion Group beginning on Tuesday 1st December for four weeks. Why not join us? Although it will be held on Zoom, participants can join in on their landlines so no one is excluded.

We have decided that, we will focus on having a discussion on the video talks that will be available each weekend on YouTube and Facebook. The themes will be the same, but it will be a chance to ask questions and share together our thoughts on death, judgement, heaven and hell. These are traditionally known as The Four Last Things.

If you would like to be part of this and join in from your landline telephone, or via Zoom, please let Fr. Neil know. We will be joined by members of other churches for this and sessions will be led by our own parish clergy plus **Fathers Mike Print, Peter Smith and Shaun Baldwin**



St. Laurence's

Light Classics

Christmas Special : 'Four Organists'

Sunday 13 December | 15.00

on Facebook and YouTube

Elizabeth Bowman, Gordon Blackledge,
Peter Morrison and Alan Winstanley, (Organ)

Watch this space for
details of our **2021** events.

We look forward to welcoming you back
to live events later in 2021.

Thank you for watching online.

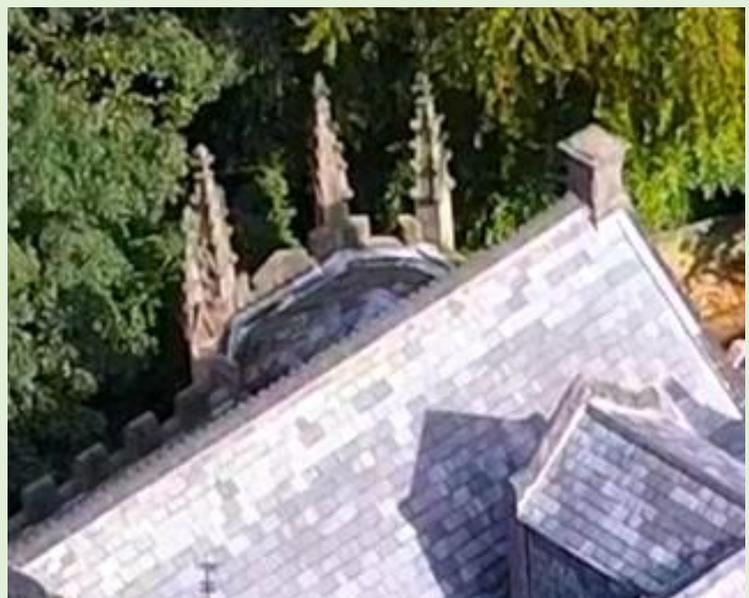
A view of St. Laurence's from the air



This wonderful and usual view of the church was captured by a drone with a camera flying above the church

Note the detail on the North Apse, a part of the building normally hidden.

The picture shows the complexity of the roof, with its many apexes and gullies.



Pictures by Justin Stretch

Our Parish Food Store

Why and how it came about

At the start of the first lockdown we were asked to provide emergency food to those who slipped through the net of existing provision. The food bank offers essential supplies to those in need who are referred for help. Our own Open Table provided hot meals to anyone who turned up, and we expanded post lockdown to offer Taste on additional days. Still people faced desperate situations and more hospitality was needed. The lifeline of a tin of soup or packet of tea, the relief of having toilet roll or toothpaste was something we could make happen. So the food store opened and you have responded with generosity.

What do we offer?

Emergency bags are put together as we respond to need. Important questions are asked, 'do you prefer coffee or tea?' 'Would you like corned beef or tuna?'

We try to ensure people have the dignity of choice. Imagine asking for food - you would not do this unless you really needed it. The least we can do is meet that need, with no judgment.

What have I learned?

Don't assume people can cook something, they may not have a cooker or money to pay for electricity. Or a can opener. Everyone likes a treat - something that might cheer someone up is much appreciated.

Hygiene and cleanliness are matters of self respect and do much to improve people's sense of worth. People are incredibly resilient and a little support makes a huge difference.

So we keep on giving, keep on finding ways to challenge a system that fails many, and keep on praying that all will know the abundant generosity of God who loves.

What do we need?

Cans of food with ring pulls

Food that can be microwaved

Tea bags

Instant coffee

Long life milk

Rice pudding tins (with ring pulls):

good because it can be eaten cold!

Small tubes of toothpaste

Single toothbrushes

Shower gel for men and women

Can openers



Anything given is appreciated. Many of us are so incredibly fortunate and each call for help is a pull on heart strings. We shouldn't have to do this. But it is needed.

How can I get confidential help for myself or to help someone else?

A phone call to 07763 226275

An email to food@stlaurencechorley.co.uk

Thank you again for the blessings you pour out.

Rev Mo | Chair of Hospitality Committee

Our enlarged Nave Altar



It was in 1997 that the church was refurbished and the new buildings were erected. The Nave Altar (the one on the dais) was made from panels from decommissioned pulpit and wood from the decommissioned High Altar. The altar from former Lady Chapel (now the Standish Room) taking its place. In the service of dedication after the reading of the Holy Gospel the Bishop (then Alan Chesters) censed, anointed and blest the new Altar to the glory of God.

Many have thought this altar is too small for the space it occupies. The Holy Eucharist is at the heart of our worship so it's only right that the Holy Table should be the focus for the celebrations of the Holy Mysteries. Thanks to the generosity of a single doner we have been able to purchase a new oak top which will add about two feet to the length of the altar, the height and depth being kept the same.

The Altar will be re-dedicated at the Eucharist on Sunday 6 December at 11.00.



Lord God, hear us. Sanctify this table dedicated to you. Let it be to us a sign of the heavenly Altar where your saints and angels praise you for ever.

Accept here the continual recalling of the sacrifice of your Son. Grant that all who eat and drink at this holy Table may be fed and refreshed by his flesh and blood, be forgiven for their sins, united with one another, and strengthened for your service.

**Blessed be your Name,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
now and for endless ages.**

Amen.





What's happening

Things are progressing well – we have three CAP Clients at the moment, all at different stages of being introduced to CAP Services. Promotion work is ongoing with DWP, Other Charities, Schools and Nurseries, GP's and all the other Churches within Chorley being contacted and given referral information and leaflets to give to potential clients.



Newspaper press releases and articles have been written and published – the word is getting out – we are open for business!



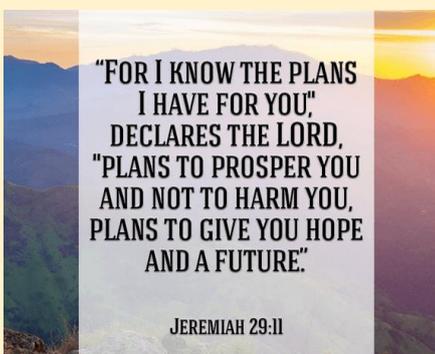
Due to Covid-19 we continue to be a telephone service, rather than face-to-face, but with restrictions constantly changing we are ever hopeful of a face-to-face service to recommence soon.

During November three volunteers have completed the CAP Money Course. They can now deliver a CAP Money course to others within our community. The CAP Money Course is a free course that will teach budgeting skills and a simple, cash-based system that works.



In just a few weeks, people will get to grips with their finances so they can budget, save, and prevent debt.

There are specific courses that can be run for students, youths, and children, which can be delivered in Schools and Colleges. This helps with future preparation and educating our young people, with their finances, it starts a positive money pattern and gives them some future stability.



As this year draws to a close, we must embrace the positives that Covid-19 has brought and trust in our Lord. No matter how bad things may seem, never lose hope, always stay strong. CAP continues to share the eternal hope of the Gospel and to serve in Jesus' Name.

For more information about CAP and the work we do, as well as how to get involved please contact me on 07745 334027 or email me at sueboult@capuk.org

CHORLEY PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE



Services and Events for Advent and Christmas 2020

**All Services are subject to current
Government guidelines.**

ADVENT

December 2020

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday 05 17.00 All Age Eucharist

Sunday 06 09.00 All Age Eucharist | 11.00 Holy Eucharist

Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday 12 17.00 All Age Eucharist

Sunday 13 09.00 All Age Eucharist | 11.00 Holy Eucharist

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday 19 17.00 All Age Eucharist

Sunday 20 09.00 All Age Eucharist | 11.00 Holy Eucharist

Virtual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

(look out for more details on how to view the service nearer the time)

Your pull out guide to all our Christmas Services.

The Advent Wreath



The first candle, which is purple, symbolises **hope**. It is sometimes called the “Prophecy Candle” in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

The second candle, also purple, represents **faith**. It is called the “Bethlehem Candle” as a reminder of Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem. Multiple

The third candle is pink and symbolises **joy**. It is called the “Shepard’s Candle,” and is pink because rose is a liturgical color for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

On the fourth week of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Saviour. This final candle, the “Angel’s Candle,” symbolises **peace**. It reminds us of the message of the angels: “Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men.”

The white candle is placed in the middle of the wreath and lit on Christmas Eve. This candle is called the “Christ Candle” and represents the life of Christ. The color white is for purity - because Christ is our sinless, pure Saviour.

CELEBRATING OUR LORD'S NATIVITY

Thursday 24 December | Christmas Eve

Pre-booking is required for all of today's services

10.00 Blessing of the Crib

12.00 Blessing of the Crib

14.00 Blessing of the Crib

16.00 Blessing of the Crib

20.00 Mass and First Communion of Christmas

23.30 Midnight Mass *(Incense will be used)*

Friday 25 December | Christmas Day

09.30 Family Eucharist**

*** this service will take place at St George's,
there will be no service Christmas Day at St Laurence's*

Saturday 26 December | St. Stephen, First Martyr

10.30 Holy Eucharist
(please note no 17.00 Vigil today)

Sunday 27 December | The Holy Family

09.00 All Age Eucharist | 11.00 Holy Eucharist

Monday 28 December | Holy Innocents

12.15 Holy Eucharist

Tuesday 29 December | St. Thomas Beckett

12.15 Holy Eucharist

Friday 01 January | Day of Prayer for World Peace

12.15 Holy Eucharist



Christmas Song and Carol Quiz

Example : AIAM = Away in a Manger

1. IDOAWC _____
2. GWKLO _____
3. OCAYF _____
4. DTKIC _____
5. ISMKSC _____
6. MBC _____
7. FTS _____
8. SN _____
9. WTKOOA _____
10. WACIB _____
11. GRYMG _____
12. WWYAMC _____
13. OIRDC _____
14. JB _____
15. LITSLISLIS _____
16. OTFDOC _____
17. RTRNR _____
18. WSWTFBN _____
19. SCICTT _____
20. AFTROG _____
21. HTHAS _____
22. ICUTMC _____
23. LD _____
24. ITBMW _____
25. JTTW _____

Christmas Carol and Bible Quiz

1. What baby was born to a relative of Mary's, about six months before the birth of Jesus? _____
2. What Old Testament prophet predicted the miraculous virgin birth of Christ? _____
3. Which two of the four Gospels make no mention of the birth of Christ? _____
4. Which Christmas carol has been voted the most popular one of all? _____
5. What is the meaning of the name "Jesus"? _____
6. Joseph and Mary lived in the town of Nazareth, far to the north of Bethlehem. What was it that brought them to Bethlehem, just before Christ was born? _____
7. Where does the Bible tell us that Jesus was born on December 25th? _____
8. What carol began in the ancient church as one single word? And what was that word? _____
9. Was the Lord Jesus born in a stable? _____
10. When hosts of angels appear to them, announcing Jesus' birth, a carol says the "shepherds quake at the sight." In what carol is the quoted line found? _____
11. One of our carols begins, "Angels from the realms of Glory" What did the angels sing at Jesus' birth? _____
12. Since there were likely other babies in Bethlehem at the time what sign did the angel give the shepherds that would enable them to identify the baby Jesus? _____
13. Mary laid her newborn Son in a manger. A carol says Jesus had "no crib for a bed." What is the carol? _____
14. What carol contains the line, "Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing"? _____
15. What carol quotes the angels saying to the shepherds, "All glory be to God on high" _____
16. What carol fancifully describes "angels bending near the earth / To touch their harps of gold"? _____

17. What carol says of Jesus' birth,
"While mortals sleep, the angels keep" _____
18. What carol says of Christ's coming
to earth, "Mild He lays His glory by" _____
19. What carol Originally began
"Hark, how all the welkin rings!" _____
20. What carol says to the wise men,
"Sages, leave your contemplations" _____
21. When the wise men arrived in the
Holy Land, where did they go first? _____
22. Herod ruled that area for the Romans.
What was his reaction when he heard
that a new King had been born? _____
23. Who was it that told Herod about an
Old Testament prophecy that Israel's

24. Herod sent the wise men in search
of the Baby. He told them to let him
know where to find Him, so he could
worship Him, was that the real reason? _____
25. What carol tells us,
"Then entered in those wise men three" _____
26. Where did Joseph take Mary and the
Baby go to protect them from Herod's murderous intentions? _____
27. What is the meaning of the word "Noel," _____
28. According to the Bible, how many wise men were there? _____
29. As well as being a gift from the wise men,
at what other time was "myrrh"
associated with Christ? _____
30. Referring to the English custom of ringing
church bells on Christmas morning, what
carol says, "Then pealed the bells more
loud and deep" / 'God is not dead:
nor doth He sleep"?' _____

Question 30 : If you have access to the internet you can hear the carol sung by using this link
<https://youtu.be/KOGz9WqNQoI>

Find the answers on enclosed Sheet



St. Laurence's Online Attendance Analytics

Period: August - November 2020

This is the third report for the online viewership of St. Laurence's content over the last quarter. St. Laurence's is continuing to engage with the parish and beyond during this second period of Lockdown and produced many online videos and DVDs. The main aims of our online content:

- Proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and God's Kingdom to all
- Provide spiritual help and guidance to all viewers
- Perform worship and bring spiritual healing in a profound way that brings glory to God

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,”

Matthew 28:19

This report includes data from St Laurence's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

Combined total

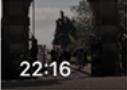
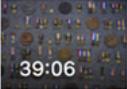
Our total combined Facebook and YouTube online views for this period is up from 40,622 last period to **152,068** this period



Section 1 : Facebook Viewers

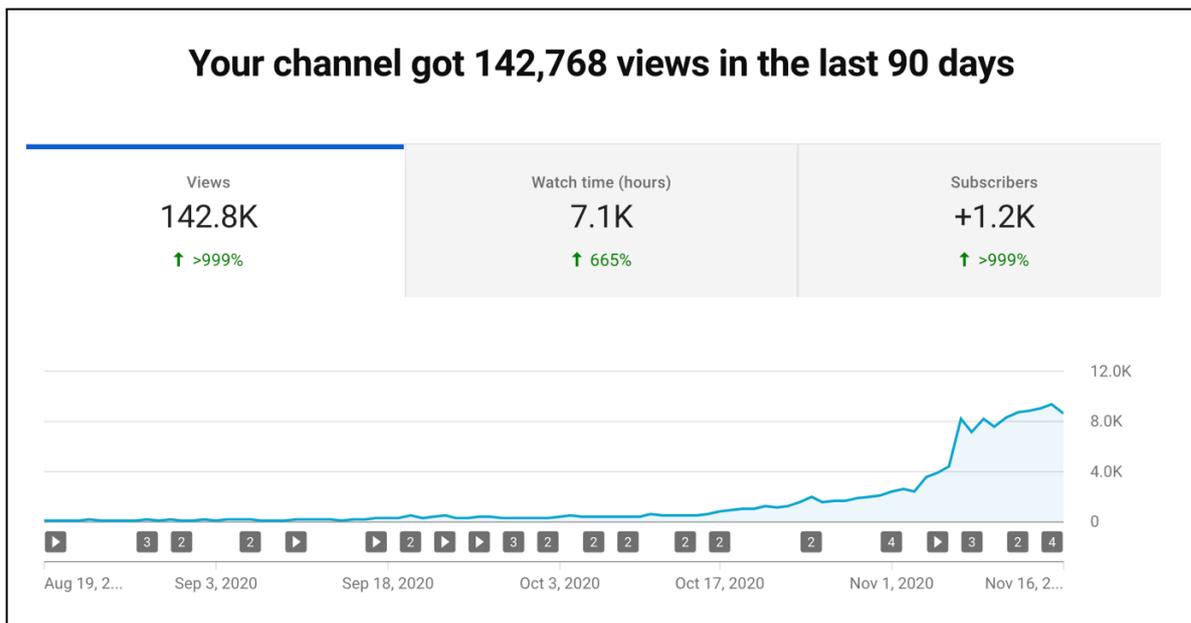
During this period, St. Laurence's Facebook channel has had **10,700 views** with **15,500 minutes** of content viewed. This figure is the total amount of views and does not include the number of unique viewers or average view duration. Our Facebook page has 1,000 followers and has grown by 114 in this period. Our Facebook post are reaching thousands of people with our highest single post (Myles Standish) reaching over 6,000 people in this period, resulting in over 2,900 views of this video.



Video	Published	Minutes...	3s Video Views
 Myles Standish Exhibition 2020 15:38	10/26/20 10:20 AM	2.3K 	2.9K 
 VJ Day 2020: A Chorley & District Tribute 25:30	09/02/20 12:00 AM	1.9K 	3.2K 
 VJ Remembrance Service 2020 22:16	08/15/20 8:30 AM	1.8K 	3.8K 
 Remembrance Sunday Online Service 39:06	11/08/20 2:32 AM	1.7K 	1.1K 
 CAP Debt Centre launch service 50:58	08/16/20 8:58 AM	634 	2.3K 



Section 2 : YouTube Viewers



During this period, **1,200 people** have subscribed to our channel bringing our total subscribership to **1,385!** Most of our views still come from unsubscribed viewers and we have had **93,600** unique viewers in this time period. This means our YouTube content has reached nearly 100,000 individuals in this period!

12.5% of views are located in the UK and 87.5% overseas.



USA
18,813

UK
17,909

India
14,765

Philippines
12,882

Kenya
9,598

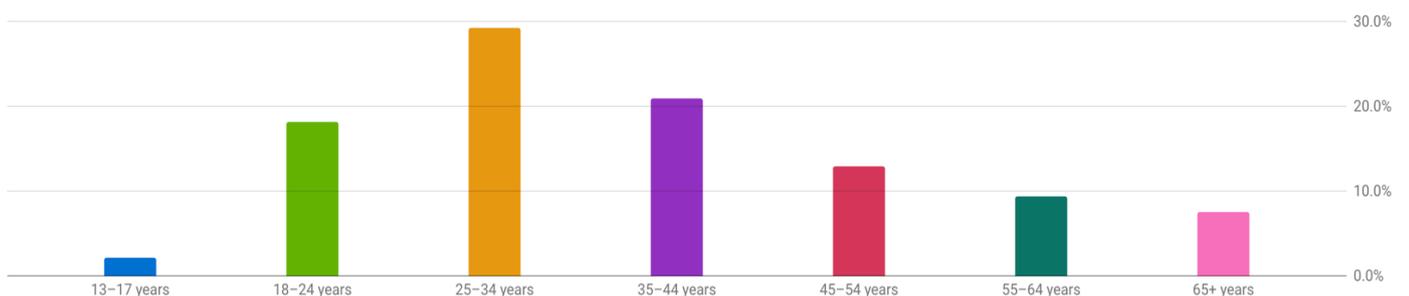
← Country
← Views

Our viewers have accumulated a total of 142,768 views and watched over 7,144 hours (8,566,080 minutes) of St. Laurence’s content. YouTube views are 90% higher than that of Facebook and minutes viewed on YouTube are 500% higher than that of Facebook.

Most popular videos on YouTube

Video	Watch time (hours) ↓	Views	Average view duration	Impressions	Impressions click-through rate
<input type="checkbox"/> Total	7,144.2	142,768	3:00	1,414,481	6.2%
<input type="checkbox"/> In Christ Alone my hope is found so...	6,088.6 85.2%	116,948 81.9%	3:07	1,300,321	5.9%
<input type="checkbox"/> Be not afraid I go before you always.	136.0 1.9%	2,873 2.0%	2:50	10,026	9.9%
<input type="checkbox"/> Dear Lord and father of mankind hy...	113.1 1.6%	3,341 2.3%	2:01	11,030	12.9%
<input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Be Afraid, For I Have Redee...	80.5 1.1%	2,950 2.1%	1:38	8,129	16.2%
<input type="checkbox"/> Tell Out my Soul - Lyrics Video	57.6 0.8%	2,457 1.7%	1:24	6,867	13.1%
<input type="checkbox"/> Brother Sister let me serve you song...	51.1 0.7%	1,995 1.4%	1:32	6,047	12.5%
<input type="checkbox"/> Lord Jesus Christ You have come to...	45.3 0.6%	1,970 1.4%	1:22	6,098	14.0%
<input type="checkbox"/> A Service of Thanksgiving For the Li...	42.2 0.6%	228 0.2%	11:06	814	9.7%
<input type="checkbox"/> Mayflower 400 Service	40.8 0.6%	147 0.1%	16:39	896	3.7%
<input type="checkbox"/> The Gloria In Excelsis Deo (Clap, Cla...	39.4 0.6%	2,108 1.5%	1:07	9,169	12.0%
<input type="checkbox"/> Remembrance Sunday Online Service	36.1 0.5%	173 0.1%	12:30	1,597	4.0%
<input type="checkbox"/> Myles Standish Exhibition 2020	32.7 0.5%	237 0.2%	8:16	702	5.4%
<input type="checkbox"/> The Winstanley Family Concert	27.5 0.4%	70 0.1%	23:32	202	7.4%
<input type="checkbox"/> St Laurence's Primary School Video	27.1 0.4%	609 0.4%	2:40	889	6.4%
<input type="checkbox"/> Harvest Songs of Praise 2020	20.1 0.3%	154 0.1%	7:48	983	3.8%

Demographics



Demographics cont.....

Viewer age ↓	Watch time (hours)	Views	Average view duration	Average percentage viewed
13-17 years	2.1%	2.6%	2:25	42.7%
18-24 years	18.1%	18.7%	2:53	50.3%
25-34 years	29.2%	27.7%	3:08	54.9%
35-44 years	20.9%	20.1%	3:05	54.3%
45-54 years	12.9%	13.1%	2:56	51.9%
55-64 years	9.3%	10.0%	2:46	49.1%
65+ years	7.5%	7.9%	2:49	50.6%

Channel Monetization



Grow with YouTube

As a YouTube partner, you'll be eligible to earn money from your videos, get creator support, and more. [Learn more](#)

To get into the YouTube Partner Program, your channel needs 4,000 public watch hours in the last 12 months, and 1,000 subscribers. Your channel will also get reviewed to make sure it follows YouTube monetization policies.



1,380 subscribers
1,000 required



8,372 public watch hours
4,000 required

APPLY NOW

We have recently qualified for the YouTube Partner Program. After a review process, this will enable St. Laurence's to monetize original, uncopyrighted content that we create.

This is a unique opportunity to start creating content that:

- Declares God's Kingdom to a global audience with support and guidance from Google
- Really engages our current subscribers and attracts new ones
- Be consistent with the type of videos we upload to our main channel (create new channels for other videos)
- Grow our online community whilst helping church funds

To find out more about the YouTube partner program visit:

<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/72851?hl=en>

Report compiled by

Justin Stretch

Digital Content Manager

17 November 2020

Christmas Angels



You may be wondering if we'll be able to give away Christmas angels this year. The answer is 'YES!' We'll probably have to do it differently, but we'll still go ahead with it. So, if you're feeling bored and need a project, then please consider knitting some angels.

They're very quick and easy to do. You can use any colour of wool that you choose (a good way to use up any oddments you may have). The pattern can be found at

www.christmasangel.net

There is also a crochet pattern for those who don't knit. If you have any questions or need a hard copy of the pattern then please get in touch.

Many thanks, Chris Berry - cmberri@talktalk.net

Can you help us prepare for Christmas?

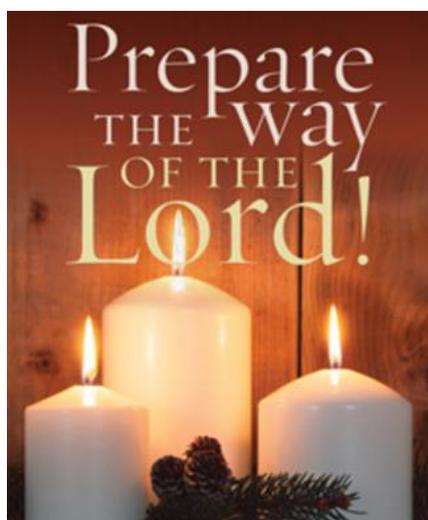
We would love to form a team of people who will underpin all Christmas activities and preparation by praying for them, especially the fine detail.



If you are feeling sad or frustrated that Christmas won't be the same this year, either because events are not taking place, or your health does not permit you being involved in the same way, this can be a way of involving and including everyone.

There would be a different prayer intention for each day.

Please email office@stlaurencechorley.co.uk if you'd like to be part of this team.





As we live in these ever-changing times of regulations around COVID-19 the parish hospitality committee have met to review our provision of TASTE.

To ensure we can maintain service through the coming months, with the potential of more restrictions and fewer volunteers, we are now going to offer hot food and drink on three days each week. Other churches and groups offer provision on other days so this ensures there is food available for those who need it every day of the week.

We will provide a hot meal and drinks on a Monday at 5pm and Tuesday and Friday lunchtimes 1pm - 2pm.

Rev. Mo (chair of hospitality group)

**Café now open for take away food
Tuesday and Friday
1.00pm to 2.00pm.**



Online Shop

Do please visit the [Christmas page](#) of our Online Shop and remember, if you are able purchase cards and gifts from us, you are helping church funds. Like so many other churches, this year we have no Christmas Fair, no Christmas Tree Festival or Christmas concerts.

All this impacts considerably on our finances.

So if you are able to 'shop locally' please do!

Every penny counts and every little helps!



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Please call Amanda/Nikki 01257 696 050
or visit us at 255 Eaves Lane (office hours)



Contact Sue at The Parish Office:

Tel (01257) 231360

Email : stlaurencechorley@live.co.uk

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from the Parish Registers

Baptisms

Funerals



14 October

Hilda Bentham

May she rest in peace and rise in glory

Christopher Hardman

2003 – 2020

May he rest in peace



A number of our congregation especially members of the Mothers' Union will remember attending Icing Demonstrations by Natalie Hardman. Natalie's demonstrations helped raise funds for church but her first demonstration was to help raise funds for an inno- walk for their Son Christopher. Chris suffered from mitochondrial disease. He fell asleep at Claire House Children's Hospice on Friday 6 November.



The next Parish Magazine will be
published on

Sunday 31 January 2021

Please have material to Alan by
Wednesday 20 January 2021

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