

St Elphin's Chronicle



February 2020

Vol 132



Price 30p

St Elphin's Church Services February 2020

Sunday 2nd February, Candlemas

8.30am Holy Communion

10.30am Sung Eucharist

12.30pm Holy Baptism

3.00pm Stewart's Installation Service at Emmanuel, Southport
Please note there will be no 6.30pm evensong

Wednesday 4th February

10.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 9th February, Third Sunday before Lent

8.30am Holy Communion

10.30am Sung Eucharist

6.30pm Evensong

Wednesday 12th February

10.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 16th February – Second Sunday before Lent

8.30am Holy Communion

10.30am Sung Eucharist

12.30pm Holy Baptism

6.30pm Evensong

Wednesday 19th February

10.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 23rd February, Sunday next before Lent

8.30am Holy Communion

10.30am Sung Eucharist

6.30pm Evensong

Wednesday 26th February

10.00am Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes

7.30pm Holy Communion with Address & Imposition of Ashes

Worship in the Parish

Sundays:

8.30am Holy Communion

10.30am Parish Eucharist

12.30pm Holy Baptism (1st & 3rd only)

6.30pm Evensong

Wednesdays:

10.00am Holy Communion

Saints' Days and other Holy Days

7.30pm Holy Communion (unless stated otherwise)

A Loop System is in operation in the Church to assist hearing aid users. Please switch your hearing aid to the 'T' position for it to be effective.

There are large print copies of the Hymn Book and the Communion Service. Please ask the Church Wardens or Sidespeople if you would like a copy.

Special Services are announced through Church Notices, the Parish Magazine and the Website as necessary.

Holy Communion is taken regularly to the Sick and Housebound by our Clergy and Team of Licensed Eucharistic Ministers. Please inform the Clergy when parishioners are ill, either at home or in hospital.

The Parish Staff

**For all enquiries during the interregnum
please contact Arnold Wright**

Reader Emeritus	Mr R Whitticombe 3 Franklin Close WA5 8QL	01925-564408
Church Wardens	Mr A Wright 5 Kinsale Drive Locking Stumps WA3 6LX	01925-821048
	Miss K J Hayes 8 Charlton Street WA4 1LX	01925-656790
Organist and Choirmaster	Nigel Kirk	

Websites:

St Elphin's: <http://www.warringtonparishchurch.org>

Diocesan Website: <http://www.liverpool.anglican.org>

Cathedral Website: <http://www.liverpoolcathedral.org.uk>



www.facebook.com/warringtonparishchurch

Please do visit and 'Like' our Facebook page so you can keep up to date with events and services in our church and 'share' this with others whom you connect with on social media.

Perhaps, like many Christians, you've spent part of your life thinking that the whole point of a Lenten discipline was making yourself suffer.

But if you've attended an Ash Wednesday service and taken part in those long and useful litanies of repentance and have heard God's forgiveness declared to all who repent, then six weeks of making yourself suffer doesn't quite add up.

Ash Wednesday, like the one on coming up on the 26th February (which will be Presided over by the Bishop of Warrington), is one of the two most serious days in the Church's calendar, it marks out a new beginning for us. It's time for us to be honest with ourselves about the ways we've turned from God and other people. This kind of reflection and repentance is hugely important.

Imagine if we never washed because we insisted that the normal everyday grime, dust and debris that attached itself to us was accidental and not really unhealthy at all? How would it be if we never cleaned our living space because we were convinced that we were 'good people' and therefore incapable of messing it up?

As a Magistrate I hear people who have been convicted of offences insisting that what they did was either not wrong, or was the work of other people or the result of unavoidable circumstances.

So turning back to God, being honest about our wrong doing and seeking forgiveness and a new start is essential, but if I do that on Ash Wednesday, what am I doing for the rest of Lent?

I'm approaching my life with a seriousness that is lacking in our modern culture. I'm marking out the weeks of Lent as 'extraordinary time' where my usual preoccupations with ease, comfort, leisure and enjoyment are replaced with a desire to draw closer to God, to be aware of God's presence and to reflect in thankfulness on what God has done for me.

Ahead of the joyous, bursting celebration of Easter we are getting prepared and being thoughtful about what it means to have been redeemed by the sacrifice of Christ. We should keep this knowledge before us and Lent is exactly the time when we can focus on that in a concentrated way.

Our church culture has often underlined the importance of doing something extra for Lent. If we're time-poor then the old abstinence model (which was designed for people who worked long hours and couldn't read) also works well. If we go without something (meat at lunch, coffee, alcohol, television) then we have to make alternative arrangements. Every time this happens, we are recalled to our commitment to God and the meaning of what we're undertaking. The weeks of Lent don't just flick by; instead we live them consciously waiting in hope for Easter Day to break.

May your Lent be serious and filled with the deep mystery of God.

I look forward to seeing a great many of you at our Ash Wednesday services, particularly our 7:30pm service on Wednesday 26th February, which this year will be led by the Bishop of Warrington.

Regards

Lee Marsh

Licensed Lay Minister (Reader)

St John's Court

Due to unforeseen circumstances the next service of Holy Communion at St John's Court will be on Tuesday 11th February 2020 at 11.30am and not the 4th as previously Arranged.

All are welcome.



Ash Wednesday 2020

Please do come and join us on Ash Wednesday for Holy Communion, Address and Imposition of Ashes. The celebrants will be:

10.00am Canon Neal Barnes, Canon for Mission & Faith Development
at Liverpool Cathedral

7.30pm Bishop Beverley Mason, Bishop of Warrington



2020 Lent Appeal

Our Lent Appeal this year is to support the Leprosy Mission. Collecting boxes and gift aid envelopes are available at the back of church and need to be returned by Easter Sunday.

Leprosy is a mildly infectious disease associated with poverty and is easily cured. Leprosy starts by damaging the small nerves on the skin's surface resulting in a loss of sensation. Without the gift of pain, everyday activities are fraught with danger. The first outward sign is usually discoloured patches where there is no feeling. If treated at this early stage, damage or disability is unlikely.

If left untreated, leprosy goes on to damage the large nerves in the elbow, wrist, knee and ankle. The resulting damage can lead to loss of sensation in the hands and feet and muscle paralysis, which causes clawed fingers and foot drop. Loss of sensation in the hands and feet means everyday activities are fraught with danger – burns go unrecognised and stones in shoes unnoticed leading to ulcers developing. These can be difficult to heal and become infected, often leading to the shortening of fingers and toes or ultimately, amputation of limbs.

Leprosy can damage nerves in the face causing the eyelid muscles to stop working. The eyes are no longer protected by the blinking mechanism and can become easily damaged, the inability to detect grit in the eye can eventually leads to blindness. Leprosy can also damage the bones of the nose causing it to collapse and flatten, a common facial trait witnessed in people affected by leprosy.

An effective cure for leprosy has been available since 1982 in the form of multidrug therapy – a combination of three drugs taken daily for six to 12 months. But while treatment halts the progression of this cruel disease, it cannot turn the clock back in terms of disability. A clawed hand or foot drop can be restored with surgery. Surgery, however, cannot restore the feeling to hands and feet meaning they can become easily injured. Protective footwear can be worn to reduce the chances of injury and of ulcers developing. The blinking mechanism can also be restored to the eye by surgery. But once eyesight has been lost as a result of injury to the eye, nothing can be done to reverse the situation.

Pause for Thought with Norma Fox

*Light a candle for thanksgiving!
Sing to God for Christ the Lord.*

Looking through my window one early February morning just as daybreak was chasing away the darkness of night, I noticed clusters of snowdrops had raised their pure white heads supported on strong straight stems, reminding me of candles shining in the dark!



Many years ago before the onset of electricity candles were used to light rooms as evening closed in, they were used to guide strangers and to ward off evil and danger.

In our present time candles have become popular for various other reasons and used in so many different ways. We buy them for ourselves and also as gifts, beautiful perfumed ones to fragrance our rooms. They are used in ornate displays, and children love to blow them out on birthday cakes. Candles are used in so many of our celebrations and thanksgivings. I use them in prayer to focus my thoughts and especially in the use of contemplative prayer. Our church altars burn brightly with many candles concentrating our minds on worship and reminding us that Christ is the Light of the World and our salvation in whom we trust.

On the 2nd February we celebrate Candlemas, we hear the story how Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple to present him to God according to the law of Moses, we listen to Simeon's wonderful words of insight ... *'For mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared before all peoples. A light to lighten the Gentiles and for the glory of thy people Israel'.*

Yes, as the Light of Christ shines in our lives, we too must shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

Here is a story of some special sweet-tasting treats baked for Candlemas. These delicious boat-shaped biscuits 'navettes' have long been associated with Marseille and the Abbey of St Victor. It is said they are boat-shaped because



Navettes de Marseille

they were inspired by two events – first of all the arrival in a small boat about 2000 years ago in modern day Provence of Lazarus accompanied by his sister Martha and the 2 Mary's from the bible; and then in the 14th century by craftsmen of Marseille who say a wooden image washed up on shore of the Virgin Mary wearing a golden crown. She became known as *Our Lady of the New Fire*.

Le Four des Navettes in Marseille has been baking these biscuits since 1781 and they are still enjoyed today.

Christingle 2019

We had a wonderful service again this year and a wonderful total to send to the Children's Society.

The result was £800 and is being sent direct to them.

Thanks to everyone for their support.

Sylvia



Australian Bushfire Appeal

Thank you to everyone who donated to the appeal,
we raised the sum of £54.22.

Church Finances latest update

Please find attached latest details of the monthly income and expenditure available to meet general running costs for 2019.

Month	Income	Expenditure
January	£ 4,774	£ 7,619
February	£ 4,042	£ 6,457
March	£10,807	£ 7,812
April	£ 9,368	£ 8,028
May	£ 5,807	£ 9,054
June	£ 9,279	£ 8,997
July	£ 9,230	£ 7,397
August	£ 4,523	£ 7,587
September	£10,857	£ 8,121
October	£ 6,185	£ 6,619
November	£ 7,657	£ 7,525
December	£ 9,130	£ 9,932
Total	£91,659	£95,148

Expenditure over income circa £3,500 in 2019. £3,000 owing to the Diocese and £3,200 wedding deposits in the figures above therefore overall deficit for 2019 circa £10,000.

Wendy Bailey, PCC Treasurer

Gift Aid

Before the end of the current tax year I will be contacting everyone we hold a gift aid declaration for to confirm that they are still a tax payer and that the church is therefore still able to claim gift aid on their donations.

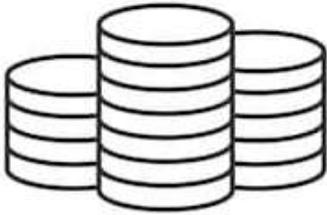
If you are a tax payer and haven't already completed a gift aid declaration please pick one up from the back of church and return to me as soon as possible.

Dianne



Your Church needs Funds

Four simple ways to donate



Cash on Plate



Offering
Envelopes

Weekly Envelope Scheme

Please speak to Arnold Wright if you would like a box of envelopes

Bank Transfer



Please speak to Wendy Bailey for our bank details



Parish Giving Scheme

Please ask Wendy Bailey for more information or a starter pack

giftaid it

Please speak to Dianne Rothwell if you are able to gift aid your donation



St Elphin's 50/50 Club



The results of the January draw are as follows:

1st Beryl Delooze

2nd Dianne Rothwell

3rd Nancy Jones

4th Christine Dickinson

£127.50 went to church funds

The next draw will take place on Sunday 23rd February and payments must be made by Sunday 16th to be included in the draw.

Any payments made after that date will be assumed to be for the following month. Any cheques should be made payable to 'St Elphin's 50/50 Club'.

New members are always welcome.

The more members we get the higher the prize money and also the more we receive for church funds.

Janet



St Elphin's Ladies Group

Wednesday 5th February

Quiz Night

Wednesday 19th February

A talk on Japan by Gillian Winter

As usual we will not be meeting during Lent, please seek weekly newssheet for information regarding Wednesday evening services during Lent which due to the Interregnum will be limited this year.



Many thanks to Dave Hamlett, the Mayoral Officer for taking these photographs of Stewart's last service at St Elphin's.

Hopefully we'll get some good ones from his Installation Service at Emmanuel, Southport for March's magazine. (hint hint!!)



#EverydayFaith

Our daily lives are often very full. Full of things to do. Full of meetings and deadlines. Full of places to be. Full of people to meet.



For some they may be full of time on our hands. Full of hopes we would like to fulfil. Full of things we don't want to face. Where is God during our daily lives? How do we find God in fullness, in the full-ness of everyday life?

Everyday Faith is a Church of England discipleship campaign which started on Sunday 12 January 2020 (Plough Sunday). 21 days of reflections and prayers to help you find and follow God in everyday life will be available through campaign emails which you can sign up to by visiting:

www.churchofengland.org/everydayfaith

There is also an app that you can download via Google Play or the Apple Store.

#LiveLent 2020

It you are thinking about taking something up for Lent 2020, why not consider #LiveLent. Sign up to email reflections by visiting:



www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/lent-2020-church-resources

There is also a planned app that you can download via Google Play or the Apple Store.

These 40 daily reflections and suggestions will provide you, your family and our church with an opportunity to come together to meet with God and rejoice in the beauty of God's creation. There are so many ways to be involved with this year's #LiveLent.

As St Elphin's is not planning to have regular Wednesday Evening Lent Service this year why not download the free app, get a group to pray together, or do some of the activities as a family?

Will you help?

We need your help for occasional support during church services?

Volunteers NEEDED for reading scripture and lessons,

- 8:30am - Eucharist
- 10:30am - Eucharist
- 6:30pm - Evensong



Volunteers NEEDED for chalice at Eucharist services:

8:30am
10:30am

Interregnums are an amazing opportunity for you to explore further your personal calling to worship, prayer and service and as the Licenced Lay Minister (Reader) I would encourage you all to think about volunteering for support roles at our regular services.

I will be arranging sessions during the next few months to help you read in front of others more confidently including positioning of microphones, how to project your voice and much more.

Maybe you feel called to lead intercessions during our 10:30am Eucharist, I will also run sessions to help you devise public prayers, look at resources available and different approaches of delivery. *These intercession sessions might be useful for anyone who wishes to explore their own personal prayer pattern.*

Volunteers NEEDED to lead Intercessions during 10:30am service

Volunteers NEEDED for Lay Deacon at Eucharist service: 10:30am

Willing to volunteer, or wish to find out more or sign up to one of the sessions please email: lee-marsh@outlook.com.

Training and Guidance will be available

Mothering Sunday is a special time to say thank you to all mothers and caregivers for the selflessness with which they nurture, love and help us to grow. Since 2006 our **Make a Mothers' Day Appeal** has celebrated this and our ethical gifts have the added benefit of making a difference to mothers and caregivers in communities all around the world.

This year, you can celebrate or remember someone special by giving a gift that grows. Your gift can help empower women, children and communities worldwide to tackle the challenges they face and make positive changes that grow and last. Add a little extra to your gift and we will say thank you with a **seeded greetings card that you can plant and grow into wild flowers.**

For Mothering Sunday (22nd March 2020) we are reaching reach out to our communities and beyond, whether you are part of Mothers' Union or not, there is something for everyone to celebrate and grow.

The Liverpool Mothers' Union president Caroline Collins in also on the front cover and some of the work of the mini MU is highlighted in the catalogue.

You can donate online at www.mothersunion.org or there are catalogues at the back of church. You can buy a gift in memory of your mother and have her name placed in the remembrance book in the Mothers' Union chapel.

Lord, who experienced family life in Nazareth, we thank you for our families and pray that we may so live that we reflect your love in our relationships. Be a presence in our homes and help us to serve you faithfully through our lives together. We pray for those mothers and fathers bringing up families. May they have all the support they need as they care for their children, particularly when going through difficult times. May they always be aware of your love enfolding them. We pray for all Mothers' Union initiatives to actively encourage stable family life and support the lonely and vulnerable. We thank God for the transformation that is taking place in individuals, families and communities throughout many countries.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 11th February 7.30pm at the Community House Nora Street. All welcome to join us for this meeting

Baptisms in February

2nd Wendy Bailey & Barbara Barrett

16th Wendy Bailey

Tea / Coffee in February

2nd Julie & Linda

9th Wendy & Barbara

16th Chris & Barbara

23rd Volunteers required

There will be no cake sale in February.

New tea /coffee list in the kitchen from February, if you are able to help please put your name on the list.

Lent Wordsearch

S	L	E	G	N	A	L	O	N	E
T	S	D	E	T	P	M	E	T	W
E	Y	E	A	X	F	A	O	L	I
P	T	T	N	E	H	L	I	D	P
A	H	S	R	R	R	V	Y	E	I
R	R	U	E	O	E	B	R	V	H
A	O	A	N	D	F	D	O	L	S
P	W	H	O	G	H	O	L	Y	R
O	Y	X	T	O	R	L	G	I	O
W	T	E	S	T	S	Y	A	D	W



- WILDERNESS
- TEMPTED
- DEVIL
- FORTY
- STONE
- BREAD
- ALONE
- GLORY
- WORSHIP
- PARAPET
- ANGELS
- EXHAUSTED



Social Evening

in St Elphin's Community Centre

Saturday 22nd February

at 7.30pm

Tickets £8.00

includes Buffet

Bring your own drink

Tickets available from:

Margaret Dolan or Sandra Kirk

Readers and Prayer Rota for February

	<u>8.30am</u> Reader	<u>10.30am</u> Prayers	<u>10.30am</u> Reader	<u>6.30pm</u> Reader
2 nd	Lee Marsh	Gill W	Margaret G	No Evensong
9 th	Lee Marsh	Thelma Walsh	Barbara Eden	Barbara Eden
16 th	Sue Burke	Barbara Eden	Chris Bean	SW / AW
23 rd	Dianne R	Janet Cliffe	Margaret G	Barbara Eden

Communicants and Collections

Week ending		Collections
December 25 th	112	667.65
December 29 th	68	508.00
January 5 th	67	794.30
January 12 th	88	639.25
January 19 th	88	550.70

Donations:

General Fund

Anonymous	50.00
In memory of Fred Turner from Ann and Geoff	10.00
In memory of Frances Wilkinson from:-	
Mary Currie	10.00
Albert Froggatt	10.00
Irene Fryar	10.00
Sylvia and Arnold Wright	10.00
Ann and Geoff Dunn	10.00
In memory of John and Edith Taylor from Ann & Geoff	20.00

Parish Registers

Holy Baptism

5th January

Jack Anthony Kirk

19th January

Daniel Andrew Green



*Shine as lights in the world
to the Glory of God the Father*

Christian Burial & Cremation in January

3 rd	Stephen Featherstone	Age 60
7 th	Frederick Turner	Age 90
10 th	William Fenton	Age 6
15 th	Edith Clara Taylor	Age 85
16 th	Sharon Grundy	Age 43
22 nd	Frances Wilkinson	Age 91



*Rest Eternal grant unto them O Lord.
And let light perpetual shine upon them.*

Social and Group Activities

Tuesday

7.30pm St Elphin's Church Choir Practice in Church

Wednesday

6.45pm St John's Brownies – Smile Centre, Sandy Lane

7.30pm St Elphin's Ladies Group (1st & 3rd only) meet in the St Elphin's Community Centre

7.30pm Mothers' Union – St Elphin's Community Centre (2nd only)

Thursday

5.15 – 6.15pm 9th Warrington Rainbows – St Elphins Community Centre

6.30pm St Elphin's Brownies – Nora Street Community House

6.30pm St Elphin's Guides–St Elphin's Community Centre

Friday

6.30 - 7.30pm Beavers - (Boys/Girls aged 6 – 8)

6.30 – 8.00pm Cubs - (Boys/Girls aged 8 - 10)

6.45 – 9.00pm Scouts - (Boys/Girls aged 10 - 14)

At Howley Fairfield Neighbourhood Project, Fairfield Street. For more details contact Debbie (Group Scout Leader) on 07804 267310

All members of the Church and local community are welcome to come and join with us in these and any occasional activities which are announced in Church or advertised on the Church Notice Board.

School

St Elphin's (Fairfield) CE Primary School

Head Teacher:

Mrs Allison Bennett

 635143

Bookings:

made with the Head Teacher

St Elphin's Junior Church

Sundays at 10.30am in the Choir Vestry

Occasional Services

Holy Baptism

1st and 3rd Sundays in the month at 12.30pm
Arrangements to be made with the Church Wardens

Holy Matrimony and Banns

Arrangements to be made with the Church Wardens

Funerals

Arrangements are usually made with the Church by the Funeral Director who has been engaged.

The Church Wardens hold a surgery in Church on Saturdays from 10.00am to 11.00am for Applications for Baptism, Holy Matrimony and Banns.



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Regards from a very happy patient"

H. Endress

**General
Chiropractic
Council**



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The College of
Chiropractors

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Tel: 07988 631099

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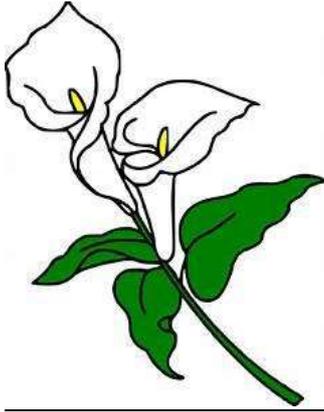


Funeralcare

Bewsey Road, Warrington, WA2 7LW



01925 445555



Cheshire Funeral Services

Park View Funeral Home

57 Gorsey Lane, Warrington

 **01925 571048**

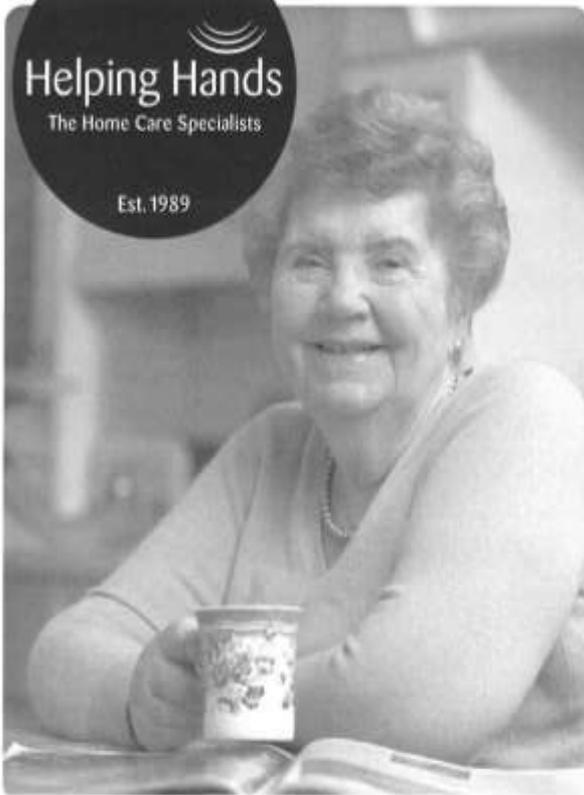
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visit: www.helpinghands.co.uk



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5.30pm & 7.30pm
Friday's 9.30am & 11.30am
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Tel Mike 07867 531764**

slimmingworld.co.uk
0344 897 8000



Hospice Shops



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Mersey Street (Furniture)	01925 650800
Sankey Street	01925 635505
Hood Manor	01925 629494
Latchford Village	01925 415414
Longford Street, Warrington	01925 411626
Lovely Lane	01925 242285
Lymm	01925 758057
Lymm Book Shop	01925 757924
Stockton Heath	01925 602932



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