

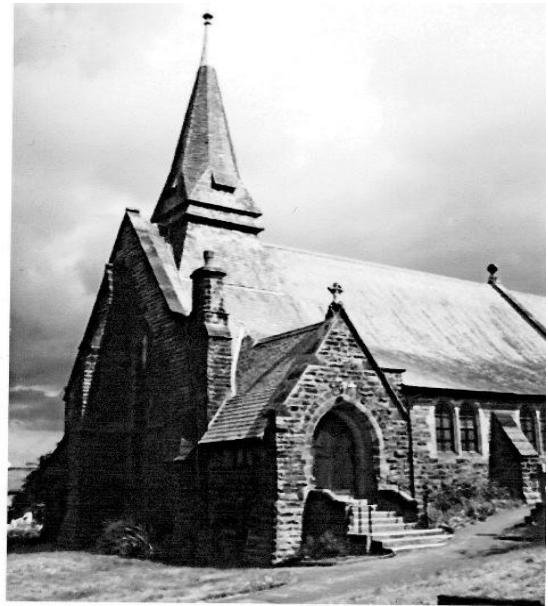
Parish News

For the parishes of :-

**St Luke's Dunham
on the Hill & Hapsford**



**St Paul's
Helsby**



November 2011

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Priest in Charge

Rev. Margaret Saville
St Paul's Vicarage, Vicarage Lane, Helsby. Tel: 01928 722151

Who's Who at Helsby St Pauls

Reader

Shirley Knipe Tele: 01928 724357

Church Wardens

Joan Langton Tele: 01928 723895

Ken Miller Tele: 01928 732064

Organist

Tony Green

PCC Treasurer

David Johnson Tele: 01928 722182

PCC Secretary

Position vacant

Gift Aid Secretary

Joan Langton Tele 01928 723895

Church Hall Bookings Secretary

Andrew Meakin Tele: 01928 724106

Web site: <http://www.stpaulshelsby.org.uk>

Who's Who at Dunham-on-the-hill St Lukes

Church Warden

Position Vacant

Organist

Robert Fletcher

PCC Treasurer

James Horncastle Tele: 01928 724436

PCC Secretary

Judy Ford Tele: 01928 723748

(preferred contact) e.mail: judy.ford@lmh.oxon.org

Web site: <http://www.dunhamhillstlukes.org.uk>

Twitter site: <http://twitter.com/JudyATStLukes>

How would you explain God?

This was written by an 8 year old boy for a homework assignment – the assignment was to explain God.

“One of God’s main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn’t make grown-ups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn’t have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers”

“God’s second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times beside bedtime. God doesn’t have time to listen to radio or watch TV because of this. Because of this he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off.”

“God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere, which keeps him pretty busy. So you shouldn’t go wasting his time by going over your Mum and dad’s heads asking him for something they said you couldn’t have.”

“Atheists are people who don’t believe in God. I don’t think there are any in my town. At least there aren’t any who come to our church”.

“Jesus is God’s Son. He used to do all the hard work like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn’t want to learn about God. They finally got tired of him preaching to them and they crucified him. But he was good and kind, like his father and he told his Father that they didn’t know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said OK”

“His dad (God) appreciated everything that he had done and all his hard work on earth so he told him he didn’t have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So he did.”

(continued)

“Now he helps his Dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important.”

“You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they’ve got it worked out so that one of them is on duty all the time”

“You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there’s anybody you want to make happy it’s God. Don’t skip church or do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong. And besides the sun doesn’t come out at the beach until the afternoon anyway.”

“If you don’t believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be lonely, because your parents can’t be everywhere with you, like football or back to school, but God can. It is good to know he’s around you when you’re scared in the dark or when you can’t swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids”

“But ... you shouldn’t just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases. And ... that’s why I believe in God”.

Anon

Have you considered Gift Aid?

Not an easy question to ask anyone, but if you pay Income Tax then have you considered Gift Aiding your donation to Church.

The benefits are good for our Church. I am able to claim back money from the Inland Revenue at the end of each quarter – even on your jars of coins!

In the 10 years I’ve worked the scheme I’ve never had anyone contacted by the Inland Revenue – so if you can Gift Aid please sign a form – it’s as easy as that and makes such a difference!

Joan Langton

NEWS FROM ST LUKE'S

DUNHAM-ON-THE-HILL

Church Draw Winners

November

1st A. Faulkner
2nd B. Whitlow
3rd P. Fox

St Luke's Electrics and Services

Many of you will already be aware that we have had to switch off the electrics in the church and church hall because we are not covered by our insurance. Since that decision has been made much work has been going on to make some progress with the work needed.

At this moment in time we have power reinstated **safely** in the Church Room and the vestry of the church, which means we can at least have the heating on in church.

We are currently negotiating with various people to do enough remedial work to reinstate the electrics through the church which hopefully will be done before Christmas.

So we shall continue to worship in the church but you may need to bring a torch to help you see!

We will keep you posted.

A Date for your Diary

DUNHAM HILL & HAPSFORD VILLAGE FETE
7TH JULY 2012

JUBILEE THEMED EVENT

GET THINKING ABOUT COSTUMES FOR FANCY DRESS
GAMES WE COULD ORGANISE

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR FURTHER DETAILS

Christmas Services

*Put **CHRIST** back into Christmas*

Come and join us

Bring family and friends to prepare for and celebrate

the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ

at St Luke's Dunham on the Hill

December 18th Carol Service at 6.00 pm

Christmas Eve Crib & Christingle Service at 4.30 pm
Christmas
Communion at 8.00 pm

Christmas Day Morning Prayer at 9.30 am

at St Paul's Helsby

December 11th Carol Service at 6.30 pm

December 23rd Crib & Christingle
Service at 4.30 pm

Christmas Eve Midnight Mass at 11.30 pm

Christmas Day Christmas
Communion at 10.00am

Come and Sing Carols at St Paul's!

Following on the success of the last three Christmas Carol Services we are making plans for *Christmas 2011*.

This year's carol Service will be on Sunday 11th December at 6.30pm in St Paul's Church Helsby.



If you would like to join a singing group for Sun 11th December, please speak to Gary O'Neill (01928 723 327) or come to any of the rehearsals on Thursday nights in St Paul's Church. Everyone is welcome to come and sing, whatever your experience, and the weekly rehearsals follow the normal Choir practice [7.30pm. – 8.00pm]

So please come along on the following Thursdays at 8.00pm:

Thursday 3rd November

Thursday 10th November

Thursday 17th November

Thursday 24th November

Thursday 1st December

Thursday 8th December

And a final rehearsal on Sunday 11th December at 5.00pm

St Paul's Come and Sing Concert – a personal view

A cold, dank evening in October was brightened considerably by a delightfully varied programme at St Paul's "Come and Sing Concert".

In the first half, the audience were entertained by a mixture of ethnic song/praise items and more traditional pieces ; organ recital by our own organist Tony Green and pieces from our soloist for the evening Mike Donmall. It was lovely to hear our organ sounding so rich and vibrant – Tony really showed off the value of the work undertaken last year to add the new wind reservoir to the organ. The extended choir provided background support to some of the solo items as well as giving a lovely rendition of "Benedictus".

In the second half, the extended choir , with soloist Mike taking the role of narrator/singer, gave a superb performance of a rather unusual cantata called "Captain Noah and His Floating Zoo". The cantata was written by Michael Flanders and Joseph Horowitz – so I suppose we should have been prepared for some unusual passages – and we were not disappointed!

This extended piece of song/narrative told the biblical story of Noah and his Ark – taking one or two liberties with the story but providing much amusement to the audience. It was a lovely evening and many of the audience could be heard departing singing "two by two by two by two ..." - you had to be there to appreciate this point !!

Many thanks to all who participated in the concert and gave so generously of their time during rehearsals and thanks also to Gary for arranging and conducting the whole event.



Musical Evening

A PROGRAMME OF EASY
LISTENING MUSIC...

Featuring...
"TONY GREEN" - Organ

WITH GUESTS

"ANDREW JOHNSTON" Baritone
& JOHN BROWLEY ORGAN

at ST. PAUL'S CHURCH - HELSBY
on FRIDAY 11th NOVEMBER at 7.30 PM

PROCEEDS IN AID OF THE CHURCH

Admission by Ticket **£6.00**

AVAILABLE FROM THE CHURCH Tel-01928-722151

REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED —



This month we introduce you to Christine Matu of St Paul's Helsby. Christine was born in Helsby in 1987 and has a younger brother and sister (Andrew and Kathryn).

She attended the Hillside School, Helsby and then Helsby High School where she met Greg, who is now her fiancée.

In 2006, Christine left Helsby High School to attend St Martin's College, Lancaster which has now become The University of Cumbria. Here she studied for Primary School teaching for Children with Special Educational Needs. Christine was at University for four years and qualified as a teacher before going on to teach in a Primary School in Cheshire with children age 5-7 years where she still teaches, enjoying it very much.

Christine has many interests, she loves walking with Greg, especially in the Lake District. She enjoys photography and is hoping to take it up more seriously when she receives her SLR camera for her birthday!

She is also interested in History and geography and is the Geographical Co-ordinator at her school – she loves taking the children on geographical trips. She is also responsible for the ecological interests in schools and runs a club at school for children who are working for the John Muir Award. In this they enjoy map reading and are taught to be responsible for their environment which Christine feels is very important. Christine even ran a camp at her school last year to give them some practical experience.

In her spare time, Christine is now studying for her MA degree through Edgehill College in Ormskirk and knowing her enthusiasm I'm sure she will be successful.

Christine loved her time in the Brownies, Guides and Rangers and became a Young Leader in the Guides. She also remembers great times in the St Paul's Youth Club. She also plays the guitar and loves music. She has been in many choirs, in fact her interest in music started at St Paul's Church. When she was 9 years old, her friend asked her to go with her to the first choir practice for the Junior Choir when Rev Andrew Ridley was the Vicar of St Paul's. She absolutely loved it and continued going to our church becoming Head Chorister of the Junior Choir.

Christine says she has so many happy memories of when she was a child at St Paul's and she was greatly encouraged by Sandra Green. Now she is a teacher, Christine encourages music in her school for she feels that it is great in building confidence.

Her parents were pleased for her to go to church despite her father being of a different faith. His parents come from the Punjab in India and he is a Sikh. He says 'It doesn't matter what faith a person has, we are all connected '

Christine was baptised when she was 16 years old by Rev Rowland Crook and shortly after this she was confirmed. She receives great comfort and encouragement through her faith and by attending church. She finds St Paul's homely and welcoming and supportive and she loves to join in the choir for special occasions.

When she went to university, Christine had to leave the church choir along with her friends. However, at university she joined three choirs and made many, many more friends through her singing.

Christine now lives in Ellesmere Port and has come back to St Paul's. She loves being part of the church community and feels that she has been welcomed back and feels she never really left.

(continued)

Christine does not have a favourite hymn, she loves so many.
Christine is a young person with many talents and is so happy
with her life and pleased with all her achievements

Your roving reporter *Shirley Knipe*

The Philippines – a personal view (III)

By David Knipe

In this article I take a look at religion in the Philippines.

Before Islam and before Christianity, the power in the community was in the hands of the priestess. She healed with herbs, exorcised those possessed of the devil, and, receiving the spirits in trance, guided her tribe through crucial junctures of communal life – it has taken our parish a long time to catch up!

Islam arrived in the Philippines in the early 1300's, along those strings of islands reaching out towards Indonesia and Malaysia. Islam today is confined to the South and east of Mindanao, the southern-most island of the Philippines. About 8% of the Philippine population is Muslim.

Roman Catholicism came with the Spanish. They were very efficient in making converts so now 80% or so of Filipinos are Catholic. Spanish nobility confines itself to the cities, so that in rural areas the friar would be the only European. Filipino women, sympathetic to the friar's loneliness, would look after his church and his domestic requirements, and occasionally (probably 'frequently' would be a better word) bear his children. The friar's children generally had a paler complexion, and a higher status than the other children. So to be pale became desirable and remains so today.

The Spanish developed a style of church architecture designed to withstand earthquakes. I visited such a church at Batac. It has a triangular facade with a wide base, is solidly built and has a bell tower which is separate from the church, so that if the tower falls down the church remains undamaged.

(continued)

I don't know what the original roof was made of, but today it is corrugated iron, rusted through in places, so that when you look up inside the church the sunlight twinkles through the holes like stars – it's quite beautiful.

The Church of the Redemptorist is a cathedral-size Catholic church in Manila and I go there with a Filipino family. Candles are lit and an unspoken prayer said for any member of the family in trouble (in large Filipino extended families there is always someone in trouble). We move into the church and if there is a service taking place then the church is full and we stand at the back. If there is no service taking place the church is only half- full and we are able to sit near the back for a few minutes meditation and problems which have no apparent solution are placed in God's hands. This process is called 'bahala na' in Tagalog (the local dialect) meaning 'come what may'. Finally we stand before the statue of the favourite saint. My friends' saint is Santo Nino – Christ as a Child.

My friends are from a farming family back in their province. The success of the rice harvest depends on the climate, which in turn depends on a current circulating the Pacific ocean. If the current flow is normal the harvest is good, if the flow is abnormal the harvest is poor. This current is known as 'El Nino'.

I met a man with the splendid name of Vicente Dionisio G Pesayco III, who wished to be known as 'Ding-Dong'. He is a devoutly Catholic man and his ambition is to build a cathedral. At each of the places he has worked he has made an altar, and in Cebu he converted his company's pump house into a chapel, getting an artist to copy pictures from a religious calendar onto the walls. Ding-Dong's brother was destined for the ministry – he had finished at the seminary and been appointed to a parish in Zamboanga on Mindanao. He had booked a berth on a ferry boat from Manila – a journey of 600 miles or more to Mindanao.

He found his cabin and dumped his luggage when the purser said that he thought he could get him a first class cabin and took him to see it. He went back to fetch his luggage, but it had all gone, everything he had had been stolen! He left the boat (which was still in Manila), and the priesthood.

The Philippine Daily Inquirer for April 4th carried an article in which Bishops were urging people not to get themselves nailed to crosses during Holy Week.

In the next article I will be writing about Protestant churches.

From the Parish Registers

Holy Baptism

St Paul's

August 28th

Sophie Anne Cleworth

September 4th

Isabella Grace Lamb

October 2nd

Kitty Rose Parker

God of Love, we ask your blessing on these children as they set out on the journey of life in a world fraught with dangers and difficulties. We know that you will watch over and guide them and uphold them with your love.

St Paul's Church Hall

In the last couple of months we have unfortunately seen some of our regular user groups close down or move to new locations. This means that those slots are now available for individuals or other groups to use.

The rates for hiring the hall are very competitive, the kitchen is very well equipped with a new cooker recently installed, car parking is easy and access to the hall, via the new steps and the new ramp, has recently been improved.

If you are interested in hiring the hall please contact Gillian Walker on tele: 01928 725370

Dates for Your Diary

November 3 rd and 10 th	Exploring Faith at The Vicarage 7.30 pm
November 6 th	Memorial Service at Helsby Methodist Church for all who have been bereaved in the last 12 th months, for families and friends
November 11 th	Musical Evening at St Paul's Church
November 12 th	Book Sale and Coffee Morning at St Luke's 10.00 – 12.00
November 13 th	Remembrance Sunday Services at St Luke's 9.30 am at St Paul's 11.00 am
November 13 th	Healing Service at St Paul's 6.30 pm
November 15 th	Deanery Synod – Open to everyone at Norley Parish Centre 7.30 pm speaker on the Sycamore Tree Restorative Justice
November 19 th	Christmas Fair St Paul's Church Hall 2pm
November 24 th	St Luke's PCC 7.30 pm
November 25 th	Annual Supper and Draw at the Village Hall Dunham on the Hill 7.00pm tickets available from church members
November 26 th	Advent Family Party at St Paul's Church Hall 11.00 – 1.00 pm
November 27 th	Parish Lunch at St Paul's Church Hall 1.00 pm Tickets £7
November 28 th December 7 th	St Paul's PCC 7.30 pm Christmas Coffee Morning at Liz Fowler's 5 Hale View Road 10.00 am – 12 noon

Fresh ideas for doing Church?

The elderly priest, speaking to the youngest priest said “You had a good idea to replace the first four pews with plush theatre seats. It worked like a charm. The front of the church always fills first now”

The youngest priest nodded, and the old priest continued “And you told me adding a little more beat to the music would bring young people back to church- so I supported you when you brought in the Rock’n Roll Gospel Choir. Now our services are packed to the balcony.” “Thanks Father” said the young priest, “I’m pleased that you’re open to new ideas”

“All these ideas have been well and good”, said the elderly priest “But I’m afraid you’ve gone too far with the drive–thru confessional”. “But Father” protested the young priest “my confessional and donations have nearly doubled since I began that!”

“Yes” replied the elderly priest “and I appreciate that. But the flashing neon sign ‘*Toot’n Tell or Go to Hell*’ cannot stay on the Church roof”

Editors Notes

I am still looking for new ideas for the magazine!

If you feel you could write a short article on what’s going on in your area or some interesting topic or perhaps a poem or even a puzzle or a gardening tip or even a cookery recipe – then don’t be shy – give it a go!

Replies please to David Johnson at St Paul’s Church or telephone on 01928 722182

Help required - would you be willing to help distribute copies of the Parish News? We are looking for volunteers to help us expand our distribution network to cover a wider area.

If you would be willing to pop a copy of the magazine through letter boxes once a month please let me know.

David Johnson

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PART P DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL INSTALLER APPROVED

REGISTERED MEMBER
 ECA

ELECSA
Approved Contractor

Collects for November 2011

November 6th 3 before Advent

God our refuge and strength, bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end, that earth may know the peace of heaven through Jesus Christ our Lord.

November 13th Remembrance Sunday

Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

November 20th Christ the King

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory.

November 27th Advent 1

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

December 4th Advent 2

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God.

0-0-0-0-0-0-0

God of all grace,
your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread
of his life and the word of his kingdom;
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness sustain us by your true and living bread;
who is alive and reigns, now and forever.

Services in November 2011

November 6th 3 before Advent

St Paul 08.00 am Holy Communion [BCP]
St Luke 09.30 am Morning Prayer
St Paul 11.00 am Family Communion

9th Wednesday Worship at St Paul's 7.30 pm

November 13th Remembrance Sunday

St Paul 08.00 am Holy Communion [BCP]
St Luke 09.30 am Remembrance Service
St Paul 11.00 am Remembrance Service
followed by Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial
St Paul 06.30 pm Healing Service

16th Wednesday Worship at St Paul's 7.30 pm

November 20th Christ the King

St Paul 08.00 am Holy Communion [BCP]
St Luke 09.30 am Morning Prayer
St Paul 11.00 am Sung Communion

23rd Wednesday Worship at St Paul's 7.30 pm

November 27th Advent 1

St Paul 08.00 am Holy Communion [BCP]
St Luke 09.30 am Holy Communion
St Paul 11.00 am Sung Communion

30th Wednesday Worship at St Paul's 7.30 pm

December 4th Advent 2

St Paul 08.00 am Holy Communion [BCP]
St Luke 09.30 am Morning Prayer
St Paul 11.00 am Family Service

7th Wednesday Worship at St Paul's 7.30 pm