

Welcome to **ST LUKE'S** CROSBY

*Knowing Jesus,
loving each other,
caring for our community*

Matthew 6.33 (NLT) 'Seek the Kingdom of God above all else'

4th October: Harvest Thanksgiving
9.00am Said Holy Communion
10.00am Family service
Leader & Preacher: Amanda
Bible Reading: Matthew 21:33-46

11th October: 10.00am
Leader & Preacher: Amanda
Bible Readings: Exodus 19:3-8, &
31:16-32, Hebrews 8:6-13

REFLECTION

A prayer by Thomas Merton:
'My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following Your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please You does in fact please You. And I hope that I have that desire in all that I am doing. And I know that if I do this, You will lead me by the right road although I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust You always, though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death, I will not fear, for You are ever with me, and will never leave me to face my perils alone. Amen.'

Merton, a monk, theologian, poet and author, leaves us this prayer, amongst many other writings. This prayer is included in the meditations of the Northumbria Community and is one I love. I love

it for its humility in saying, 'I am trying, I think I am trying, to seek and follow God, but who am I to know God's will, discern God's ways and know God's voice'. It makes me more aware of my own delusions and the world's illusions – am I doing this because I want to, I think God wants me to or the world has persuaded me to do so? It is so hard to be clear about our motivations. I don't always know why, and I probably don't know even when I think I do. In fact, if I am hearing God rightly and following him closely then it will be more by his grace than my ability or holiness, so who am I to judge anything or anyone.

I am comforted though by Merton's belief that in our desire to please God we please him, and he will do the rest. He simply asks us to desire him, to choose him, as best we can, as wholeheartedly as we can, and with as much of ourselves as we can. We will never be faithful like Jesus is faithful to us. But knowing that means we can trust God to lead us and to be with us, even when we get it wrong. So keep trying to follow Jesus, even when you struggle or get it wrong. **Amanda**

Church Services & Events

What's on at St Luke's? please see the 'churchnews' section of the Noticeboard

- **Holy Communion**- Wednesdays at 10.30am in the Crosby Room. All welcome

**Sunday 4th October -
9.00am Said Holy Communion service
10.00am Family Service (no Holy Communion)**

Harvest Thanksgiving - Sunday 4th October - we will be supporting Foodbank through our food donations. Foodbank donations: please consider donating any of the following: tinned fruit, tinned rice pudding, coffee, UHT milk (1 litre), toiletries, long life juice / squash instant noodles/ pasta'n'sauce Jam. Thank you

St Luke's Halsall school Harvest Festival Monday 5th October here in church.

Tuesday 6th Oct -Living with Loss meets at 10.30am in the Crosby Room

Tuesday 6th Oct - Lakeside - 8.00pm walking around the marina meeting at The Royal Hotel, Waterloo at 8pm, to walk & then back to the Royal for a drink & time to reflect. If you think you may be late please contact Jan (07944 671454)

Thursday 8th Oct - Keystone Memorial Service in church 10.30am-12.30 The Keystone memorial service remembers those loved ones connected with Keystone who have died following their battle with dementia. This short service includes the placing of wooden pebbles, with their names inscribed, into the Keystone memorial bowl which is kept in the North Transept in church. All are welcome to attend.

Sunday 11th October - Big Picnic Worship at 12 noon. This service is appropriate for the whole family - please bring your picnic with you! We look forward to seeing you!



Sewing Sisters

Sewing Group

Friday 16th Oct
10am-12.30pm
Webster Room



Nifty Knitters

Knitting Group

Fridays 9th & 16th
Oct 1-3.00pm
Webster Room



Crafty Ladies

Crafting Group

Monday 12th Oct
1.30-3.30pm
Webster Room

Dates for your diary

Churches Together in Crosby Ecumenical Prayer-

These short Services start at 9.45am. You can be sure of a warm

welcome. The next service is on **Thursday 8th October at St Mary's Church.** The following week's service is on **Thursday 15th October at St Helen's Church.** All welcome



Sidesperson's Training

There will be sidesperson's training on **Sunday 11th October and Sunday 25th October after the service in the Crosby Room.** It will only be for about 25 minutes and you only need to attend one of the sessions. It will be a chance to go over the duties and to answer any questions. Please try to attend one of the sessions. Bring your tea or coffee with you. Thanks, Debbie & Jan



Hot Supper -Saturday 17th October.

Join us to celebrate St Luke's Day in the hall for a hot pot supper (Vegetarian option is Vegetable Lasagne), with guests In Another Place Gospel Choir.

Prompt start 7pm. Bring your own drinks. Raffle and Bingo. All profits to Christian Aid. Tickets £12 from Agnes Law.



Christmas Crafts -

An invitation awaits to make Christmas crafts and Christmas cooking at Bassenfell Manor Christian Centre, Bassenthwaite, Cumbria, **9th-14th November 2026.** Full board and resources included £415. Speak to Agnes Law for more information.



World Mission focus for October Is Operation Christmas Child



It's that time of year again & empty shoeboxes are at the back of church with a leaflet included explaining the best things to put inside. Ideas include: something to wear eg hat, scarf, gloves; a toy to play with; colouring pens/pencils (sharpeners too please!); flannel, toothbrush.

No sweets, toothpaste or liquids please. Please note **Soap is no longer allowed in shoebox gifts because of the complications it causes in customs in some nations**

Filled boxes need to be returned by Sun 1 November please & will then go to children in various parts of Europe,

Africa & Asia who have never received a box before.

Can you please include £5 per box to help with transportation costs.

Shoeboxes can also be made online - see [here](#)

Many thanks, Vera & Jan (07944 671454 for any queries)

Please pray...

for every child who will receive a shoebox gift this year – that they may know God's comfort and protection at this time.

for an abundance of shoeboxes gifts to share the love of Jesus with children and their families. Please pray also for an increase in drivers to collect the shoeboxes during National Collection week.

Thanks to all who have taken shoeboxes to fill for Operation Christmas Child.

Nifty knitters knitted items suitable for shoeboxes will be available for purchase on Sundays 11th & 18th Oct.



Fit for Mission



What If God Wants to Do Something Through You?

Have you ever looked around your community and wondered, “**What could God do here?**”

- What if the person who feels far from church is closer to God than they realise?
- What if there are people in our neighbourhoods who are longing for belonging, purpose and hope—but simply haven’t found a way into church?
- And what if God wants to use **ordinary people like us** to make a difference?

You might not think of yourself as a leader. You may have no desire to start a new worshipping community, run a ministry or take on a new responsibility at church.

That’s okay. Cultivate is for you too.

Cultivate is an opportunity to step back, dream a little, ask some

different questions and discover what God might be inviting you into.

- You might discover a gift you never knew you had.
- You might see your community differently.
- You might find a new passion for people who aren't yet connected with church.
- Or you might simply come away with a renewed sense of hope about what God is doing.

Sometimes God doesn’t show us the whole journey. He simply invites us to take the next step. The Church needs people who are willing to be curious, courageous and open to possibility. People who believe that God is not finished with His Church, and that there are still new ways for people to encounter Jesus.

What if one of those people is you?

You don't need to know what you're going to do. Just come with an open heart and see what God might cultivate. **You might be surprised by what He grows.**

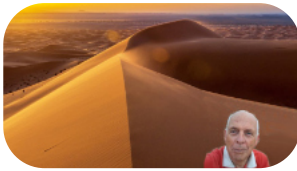
The 6-week course, running either on a Monday evening 7pm-9pm at St Nicholas Church, Blundellsands (sign up [here](#)) or Thursday afternoons 1pm-3pm at St John & St James’ Church, Bootle (sign up [here](#))

Our Stories

Jim Stewart's Sahara Trek -

This month Jim

will be walking 70km across the Sahara to raise funds for the Alzheimer's society. "Are you crazy?" is what people have said about what I am going to do. I'm going on a charity trek. To sponsor Jim and learn more of his story and why he's supporting Alzheimer's society please see [here](#)



Community Response to the People's Emergency Briefing Film

- On Wednesday evening, we were pleased to welcome 48 people from a number of local churches and the wider community to a showing of The People's Emergency Briefing.

It was encouraging to see such a good turnout, including representatives from Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth, reflecting the growing concern and interest in how we respond to the environmental challenges facing our communities and our world. Following the 50-minute film, we had an opportunity to share our thoughts and take part in a discussion about what we can do next. The evening provided a valuable space to listen, learn and consider how, working together as a

People's Emergency Briefing

community, we can turn our concerns into positive action. We look forward to continuing the conversation and exploring the next steps we can take together locally.



Last Sunday 27th September the churches in our new 'Christ the River of Life' Larger Single Parish held a Combined service at St Michael's Church Blundellsands. This was an opportunity to worship together and hear more from various people who are on the Clergy Leadership, Navigation, Churchwardens, Safeguarding and Communications teams. Team members reported how much they valued the opportunity to meet with others and found great support within the teams. Over 60 people from the different churches attended, and enjoyed some delicious refreshments after the service, and taking time to chat to others from different churches. Thanks to St Michael's Blundellsands for hosting.

Thankyou - Thank you to my church family for all the cards, flowers and gifts I've received since Paul died . It

was heartwarming to see so many of you joining the family to celebrate his life and I'm very grateful for all your prayers and ongoing support, also for the donations to the Fire fighters' charity. With my love and thanks to you all,

Carol Roocroft

Growing Faith Adventure

An Invitation!

Thanks to you all for your continued love, support and prayers for the children, staff and families at our



school. It was lovely when some of you came into school to share your favourite Bible stories with the children on World Book Day last year. We would like to invite you to join friends from our congregation to come into school to hear the children read. They **LOVE** it and I know **you** would enjoy it too? Just half a day or even an hour of your time each week is all we need. Simply let me know if you want to hear more about this great opportunity or speak to Gillian, Paul, Agnes and Eric who currently share reading with our boys and girls. Thank you all

Save the Date! This year we will be creating '**Experience Christmas**' for St Luke's children and staff on

Wednesday 16th Dec and Thursday

17th December. This is a very special journey through the Christmas story as we meet and think about all those familiar characters who witnessed the birth of Jesus on that amazing first Christmas. I hope that many of you who have been involved in the past will help us again. You are all invited to join us to share in this unique experience. More details to follow!
Lesley

Dates for your diary - community

In Another Place presents **The Narnia Experience** in Bootle Strand Shopping Centre, inside the Castle, above the Post Office. **17th Oct – 7th Nov** with performances starting every half hour from 10.00 am to 2.00pm.

The Narnia Experience places audiences directly in the story - walk through the enchanted world of Narnia and meet characters such as Mr Tumnus and the White witch before encountering the King of Narnia – ASLAN himself. Maybe complete your experience with a cream tea at Kingsley & Co. For more information and for tickets please see the website www.inanotherplace.com

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Prayer

Please pray for... Mary Porter, Julie Roberts, Victoria Watson, Connor McCabe, Erin Holmes, Will (Gaynor's husband), Margaret Quayle, Vera de Villiers, Angela Welsby, Christine Ruddock, Poppy Watson, Stephen Birch, Margaret Harley, Barbara Naylor, Roger (Joyce Whetnall's son)

Please pray for the family and friends of Paul Roocroft, as they mourn their loss.

Prayer Requests - If you would like a name to be added to the list please take a form from the Welcome Area, complete and return to Gaynor at the Parish Office, or you may also complete an online request form at www.stlukecrosby.org.uk/prayer

Fit for Mission - Please pray for the Clergy Leadership, the Navigation Team and the Diocesan Fit for Mission Teams also the Buildings & Communications Teams, Churchwardens, Parish Safeguarding Officers and Treasurers teams.

Please pray for the congregations of the churches in our new 'Christ the River of Life Parish' - St Michael's Blundellsands, St Nicholas Blundellsands, St Oswald's Netherton, St John & St James, St Mary's, St Faith's, Christ Church with St John as we continue to work together and move further into this transition process.

A prayer at Harvest from Christians against Poverty (CAP) " Lord, thank you for every volunteer and worker who keeps the food banks open. Bless those who dedicate their time to ensure that nobody in their community goes hungry or has to skip a meal. Place on people's hearts to donate food this Harvest Festival, and encourage those worried about asking for help to contact their local food bank and take the first step to get support. Help our community to strive for a society where nobody should go without food." Amen.

Please continue to pray for the people of the Middle East, Lebanon, Iran, the Sudan, Gaza and Israel, the people of Ukraine; pray for God's peace and protection over people's lives, and wisdom for leaders to bring a swift end to violence. Please pray for the people of the DRC dealing with the Ebola outbreak, for those who have lost loved ones, those who face the disease themselves, pray for God's healing and comfort.

Tearfund prayers for areas around the world may be found [here](#)

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