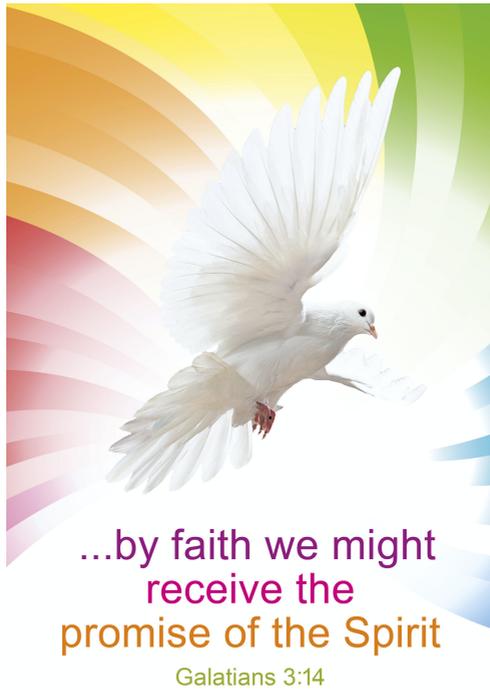


Parish Magazine for
Wem, Lee Brockhurst and Weston-under-Redcastle

May 2021



St Peter & St Paul's, Wem
St Peter's, Lee Brockhurst
St Luke's, Weston-under-Redcastle



Rector

The Revd Nick Heron
The Rectory
Ellesmere Road, Wem SY4 5TU

01939 232550

nphm16@aol.com

Retired Clergy:

The Revd Mike Cotterell, Preb Rob Haarhoff,
Canon Dr William Price, The Revd John Tye

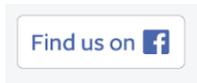
Readers Emeriti:

Celia Camplin, Cathy Dibben

ST PETER AND ST PAUL'S CHURCH, WEM

Churchwardens:	Elaine Shaw Chris Mellings	236575 809521
PCC Lay Chair:	Sybil Farmer	232568
PCC Treasurer:	Caroline Sinclair	232626
Organist & Choir Master:	Rodney Bellamy	01630 652564
Deputy Captain of Bells:	Karen Compton	236561
Sacristans:	June Powell & Kath Ridgway	234412 290162
Church Flowers:	Olive Kenward & Sybil Farmer	234774 232568
Church Hall Bookings:	Elaine Shaw	07969 511590
Baby and Toddler Group:	Alison Hope	07526 757492

Further details are available on our website:
www.wemcofe.co.uk



@Wemparishchurch

From the Registers of St Peter and St Paul's Wem

At Rest

8 April Sheila Witherspoon
13 April Terence Roy (Terry) Edge
16 April Robert George (Bob) Dibben
20 April John Eric Huxley

**“Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord and may
light perpetual shine upon them.”**

Book of Remembrance for May

2 nd	Patricia Joan Scott	17 th	William 'Bill' Henry Manning
4 th	Edgar Alexander Herriman	21 st	Ruth Emma Kidman-Beaver
4 th	Gwendolen Grace Mayhew	22 nd	John 'Jack' Jones
5 th	Alice Lucinda Sarah Eckford	24 th	Keith Michael Walter 'Mickey' Arrowsmith
5 th	Edith Ivy Stroud	27 th	Albert Sandall Cyril Fothergill
5 th	Derek 'David' MacKay	30 th	Sharon Elizabeth Carter
6 th	Wilf Bayliss	30 th	Joyce Eileen Schmeisser
7 th	Janet Margaret Fenn Wiggin	31 st	Stephen Charles McNickle
8 th	Henry 'Harry' Ormes		
12 th	Hannah May Evans		



St Peter & St Paul's Rotas

Intercessions

May 2	June
May 9	Keith
May 16	Olive
May 23	Ruth
May 30	Katherine

Ministrants

May 2	Ruth
May 9	Kath
May 16	Ruth
May 23	Kath
May 30	Simon

Readers

May 2	NT Thelma C G John
May 9	NT Katherine G Ruth
May 16	NT Thelma P G June
May 23	NT Tim G Kath
May 30	NT Keith G Elaine

ST PETER'S, LEE BROCKHURST

Church Warden:	Val Lusby	235610
Church Warden and Treasurer:	Roger Ashton	232425
Secretary:	Phoebe Ashton	232425
Vice Chairman:	Tim Wilton-Morgan	07802 735769
Warden Emeritus:	Robert Marsh	200641

ST LUKE'S, WESTON-UNDER-REDCASTLE

Church Warden:	Arthur Fox	01630 685180
Church Warden:	Helen O'Neill	01939 200663
Church Warden (Deputy):	Sylvia Griffiths	01630 685204
Treasurer:	Colin Holloway	01939 200682

SUNDAYS IN MAY

ACROSS THE BENEFICE

DATE	SUNDAY	WEM	WESTON	LEE
2 May	5 th After Easter	8.00 am 9.45 am	9.30 am	11.15 am
9 May	6 th After Easter	8.00 am 9.45 am	9.30 am	11.15 am
16 May	Sunday After Ascension	8.00 am 9.45 am	9.30 am	11.15 am
23 May	PENTECOST SUNDAY	8.00 am 9.45 am	11.00 am	11.15 am
30 May	TRINITY SUNDAY	8.00 am 9.45 am	9.30 am	11.15 am

Sunday 16 May is Rogation Sunday and also marks the beginning of Christian Aid Week. 13 to 23 May, Ascension Day to Pentecost, is the period of prayer: Thy Kingdom Come

CHURCH CALENDER FOR MAY

Our Liturgical Calendar for this month includes the Feast Day of 3 Apostles (two combined) and one of Our Lady as well as a host of other commemorations.

It begins on 1 May with:

Saturday 1 May: **FEAST OF ST PHILIP & JAMES, APOSTLES**

Ephesians 1. 3-10

John 14. 1-14

*Almighty Father,
whom truly to know is eternal life:
teach us to know your Son Jesus Christ
as the way, the truth and the life;
that we may follow the steps
of your holy apostles Philip and James,
and walk steadfastly in the way that leads to your glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever*

In the middle of the month we celebrate on:

Friday 14 May: **FEAST OF ST MATTHIAS, APOSTLE**

Acts 1. 15-end

John 15. 9-17

*Almighty God,
who in the place of the traitor Judas
chose your faithful servant Mathias
to be of the number of the twelve:
preserve your Church from false prophets and teachers,
keep us steadfast in your truth;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever*

The month ends with:

Monday 31 May: THE VISIT OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY TO ELIZABETH

Romans 12. 9-16

Luke 1. 39-49

*Mighty God,
by whose grace Elizabeth rejoiced with Mary
and greeted her as the mother of the Lord:
look with favour on your lowly servants
that, with Mary, we may magnify your holy name
and rejoice to acclaim her Son our Saviour,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever*

A few other Commemorations which adorn our month:-

2 May. St Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, 373. A great teacher of our faith and preserver of Christian orthodoxy

8 May. Mother Julian of Norwich, 1417. A spiritual writer of great beauty and depth, one of the C14th English mystics – see below

12 May. Dom Gregory Dix, Priest, Monk and Scholar, 1952. To whom the contemporary Church is richly indebted for his liturgical study and insight

19 May. St Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, 988. Formerly an abbot who did much to restore the English monastic tradition

26 May. St Augustine, the first Archbishop of Canterbury, 605.

Some beautiful and inspiring words from the conclusion to the “Revelations of Divine Love” by Julian of Norwich.

“So it was that I learned that love was our Lord’s meaning. And I saw for certain, both here and elsewhere, that before ever he made us, God loved us; and that his love has never slackened, nor ever shall. In this love all his works have been done, and in this love he has made everything serve us; and in this love our life is everlasting. Our beginning was when we were made, but the love in which he made us never had beginning. In it we have our beginning.

All this we shall see in God forever. May Jesus grant this. Amen."

"Therefore since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses....let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us"

****ASCENSION DAY****

Ascension Day is one of *the* greatest days in the Church Year.

The Feast of The Ascension which is celebrated 40 days after Easter, is a Holy day of great antiquity and needs little explanation here.

There will be a Eucharist, with music and brief Homily,
for the whole benefice on:

THURSDAY 13 MAY at 7.30 pm
in
SS Peter & Paul's

Do please make every effort to attend this very special service
if you possibly can.

Any queries about searches in the Whitchurch Road
Cemetery or elsewhere

Please contact Mr Tom Edwards of 1 Eckford Park,
Wem, SY4 5HL or on 01939 233932

UPDATE

Writing an update on our churches and the Church's response to the Covid-19 pandemic at present is far from easy. Mid-month we have the hoped-for May 17 3rd step on the Government's planned move out of necessary restrictions. However, as we would rightly expect, at the time of writing this is the 'earliest hoped for date' so, with the inevitable caveat that this remains a fluid state and matters may change....

The regulations for our regular worship are extant and there is nothing significant to add to the update in recent magazines or bulk emails apropos the status of our public worship or church activities, these as always may be found at: www.wemcofe.co.uk, and, as always up to date information may be found on the [Church of England website](#) and latest updates on guidance are also on our [diocesan website](#). Our Covid-safe procedures are also detailed elsewhere in this magazine.

What is hoped for from 17 May is that weddings may resume with numbers up to 30 attending, funeral numbers remaining at 30. Baptisms are possible, subject clearly to the size of church, with precautions in place re transmission (for instance, quite sensibly, the priest may not take an infant from parent at the point of Baptism). Also and more practically from 17 May it is hoped that PCC APCMs will be able to be held in-person, legally they have to be by 31 May, so should this date slide we shall have to look to on-line annual meetings across the benefice.

Although this applied from 31 March, to thankfully take account of the climax to Holy Week, you will also wish to know from the C of E Website, that:

Following discussions with government we have advice that a service to mark a 'significant date in the Faith calendar' can happen with attendance up to the Covid safe capacity of the building even though it is not a regular weekly or monthly service.

This means that we will be able to celebrate the great Feast of The Ascension of Thursday 13 May (Laus Deo).

There was additional guidance issued on 16 April apropos those who are clinically vulnerable:

Certain groups of people may be at increased risk of severe disease from COVID-19. Government advice is that while shielding is no longer necessary, it is important for clinically extremely vulnerable individuals to continue to keep their number of social interactions low and to reduce the amount of time spent in settings where maintaining social distancing might be difficult.

At all times our common care and concern for safety will continue to be our overriding concern across the benefice, however, what we can do we will.

Spring

What a wonderful time of year: the huge increase of daylight hours and a high powerful sun bringing renewed life in all its glory. Nature at its best you might say. It puts a spring in our step and renews our energy both mentally and physically, so relevant this year as we progress with battling the Covid virus and all the restrictions it brings to our daily lives.

After the turbulent weather of the Equinox, April traditionally brings sunshine and showers to spark Mother Earth into action. Interestingly the last few years have brought fewer showers, cooler air and more sunshine; is this climate change or just the random weather patterns of our northern hemisphere temperate climate?

The magic of new tree and hedgerow leaf, new plant and shrub growth and its youthful vigorous progress to colourful flowering heads, where seeds are set to ensure the seasonal cycle, continues on and is good for the soul, as too the sight of new spring lambs gambolling in bright green pasture. But surpassing even those sights is the sound of early morning wild bird song telling us with its wonderfully positive activity that it is great to be alive. An encouragement for us to get out into our gardens, parks and countryside; exercise is good for us too.

Our Christian message also springs into life at this time of year with its renewing of life through the resurrection, an even better reason for joyous celebration, eternal not just seasonal.

Roger Ashton

Lee Brockhurst WI

Our new WI subscription year started on 1st April and we are delighted to report that Lee Brockhurst WI numbers remain buoyant, with **31 members** re-joining - proof of the **camaraderie** which still exists between members of all ages and interests despite the trying circumstances of the past year.

Having enjoyed a **tour of Cambridge** from the comfort of our own homes in April, courtesy of Green Badge guide Murray Jacobs, what would **Lee Brockhurst W.I.** be exploring next?..... **Knickers!** (and drawers, pantaloons, combinations etc.!) Professional speaker **Liza Jones** is 'zooming' into Lee Brockhurst W.I. on **Tuesday 18th May** to tell us the interesting history of underwear and show **intriguing examples** from different eras. Following the success of our previous joint venture, we shall again be combining forces with Loppington W.I. for this meeting after which both W.I.s will go their separate ways for their business agenda.

The following **Monday, 24th May**, our Brockhurst Bookworms will be discussing 'Somnambulist' by Esse Fox via Zoom and on **Tuesday 25th** our '**Summer Strollers**' are finally able to launch our **relaxed walking group!** The first ramble (which will be run safely and follow all the required Covid guidelines) will set off from Lee Brockhurst village hall early that evening, accompanied by canine friends - we are all really looking forward to this long-awaited event and thank 'Summer Strollers' co-ordinator **Rachel Bailey** (& hubby Steve) for planning it for us.

Outside our meetings, our community responsibility is taken seriously. Members are busy knitting scarves and blankets for the 'Little Bags of Kindness' charity for onward transmission to homeless charities and dementia patients respectively. Members are launching a scheme to collect empty blister packs for recycling, in line with the WI's green agenda, and are planning a litter pick locally.

Visitors are always welcome, whether on Zoom or 'in real life' so if you would like to know more about our W.I. please contact our super secretary Julie Woolfenden who will be very happy to help. Her contact details are; 01939 200237 or jjwoolfenden@gmail.com

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The work of the Children's Society within our Diocese, Country and across the World is imperative - it does so much good and creatively supports those most vulnerable. A simple glance at its website is all one needs to realise how important this charity is. It takes no imagination to understand how Covid-19 will have impacted on the demands placed on it nor on its ability to fund-raise.

In our last Magazine Penny Naylor wrote:

'I hope that those of you with Children's Society collection boxes have been able to continue to contribute to them. If you do not have a box but would consider making a donation that would be very welcome. Last year from across the Benefice we were able to send the Society in excess of £100 and it would be good if we could do that again this year. I am happy to co-ordinate a collection. If anyone from any of the three churches within the Benefice would like me to collect their box or any cash donation I will gladly do that.' This collecting will continue through May.

Penny would also like to record with, many thanks to those who donated, that that the Women's Day of Prayer was sent a donation of £180 from the Wem churches.

Penny asks 'Please phone me on 01939 236807. Thank you.'

Advance Notice – Celia's Bible Study - Summer 2021

Good news! If (as always a big 'if') restrictions are lifted as planned, Bible Study meetings will commence on **Wednesday 21st July**. More information from Celia Camplin next month. If you wish to contact her in the meantime, please ring 07533 859612.

COVID PROTOCOLS TO KEEP US ALL SAFE

As we now gather across the benefice for Sunday worship it is important to stress that the protocols for covid-safety will remain exactly as when we last met, that is:

- * A record is kept of all attenders for track and trace, if you have the app on your mobile phone do use the QR codes provided and prominently displayed

- * Always sanitise hands on entry, after touching anything 'communal' and before Communion

- * Wear your mask whenever attending worship

- * At all times keep to physical distancing - the 2 metre rule

- * As you would expect Communion will remain in 'one kind' and as yet we are not able to sing

- * Follow any other guidance of the church wardens or sidespeople

There is now the caveat that *all must* leave directly after the service and not 'mingle' in church, outside the 'rule of 6' applies as everywhere else [which sadly doesn't mean talking to 5 others and then moving on to talk to another group].

If or when matters change all will be informed as promptly as possible through both our email system and through the parish notices.

Equally should there, though clearly the last thing we would wish, be an increase in the local R number we will have to re-consider our policy apropos public worship.

As always up to date information may be found at [Church of England website](#) and latest updates on guidance are also on our [diocesan website](#).

Each parish church, has its own Risk Assessment displayed for any to see

Holy Days in the May Church Calendar

1 st	Philip and James, Apostles
2 nd	Athanasius, Bishop, Teacher of Faith, 373
4 th	English Saints and Martyrs of the Reformation Era
8 th	Julian of Norwich, Spiritual Writer, c1417
14 th	Matthias the Apostle
16 th	Caroline Chisholm, Social Reformer, 1877
19 th	Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, 988
20 th	Alcuin of York, Deacon, Abbot of Tours, 804
21 st	Helena, Protector of the Holy Places, 330
24 th	John and Charles Wesley, Evangelists, 1791 & 1788
25 th	The Venerable Bede, Monk, Scholar, Historian, 735
25 th	Aldhelm, Bishop of Sherborne, 709
26 th	Augustine, first Archbishop of Canterbury, 605
26 th	John Calvin, Reformer, 1564
26 th	Philip Neri, Spiritual Guide, 1595
28 th	Lanfranc, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1089
30 th	Josephine Butler, Social Reformer, 1906
30 th	Joan of Arc, Visionary, 1431
30 th	Apolo Kivebulaya, Priest, Evangelist in Africa, 1933
31 st	The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth

Alcuin of York, Abbot of Tours

Here is a saint for all, and especially primary school teachers, who have a passion to help children learn to read and write.

Alcuin was born near York in about 735. His family were of noble stock, and they sent him to York Cathedral School, which had the best teachers in the land. They soon realised that Alcuin had a genius for learning, and within a few years he had become master of the school himself. Under his guidance, the fame of the school grew, with more pupils and an ever-increasing library.

In 781 Alcuin visited Rome, where he met Charlemagne, then King of the Franks, who persuaded him to move to Aachen and become master of the palace school - in effect his minister of education.

Alcuin did a magnificent job - he went on to establish a primary school in every town and village, and because the teachers were the clergy, he saw to it that their own literacy and education were improved. But Alcuin did much more - he set up scriptoria for the copying and preservation of ancient manuscripts, for which we owe him the survival of many classical authors. He is also credited with inventing cursive script - or as we know it, 'joined-up writing' - as an aid to speedier copying.

Alcuin also revised the Latin liturgy, wrote nine biblical commentaries, revised the Vulgate Bible, and supported the orthodox doctrine of the procession of the Holy Spirit from the Father and the Son.

By 796, Alcuin was over 60 and ready to retire. Charlemagne appointed him Abbot of St Martin's at Tours, and here, in his declining years, he built up a model monastic school as he had done at York and Aachen. He died in May 804, but his influence lives on today, and affects hundreds of millions of us - all of us, in fact, who use joined-up writing!

Ascension

To complete Your seamless robe, and so to complete our faith, You ascended through the air into the heavens, before the very eyes of the apostles. In this way You showed that You are Lord of all, and are the fulfilment of all creation. Thus from that moment every human and every living creature should bow at Your name. And, in the eyes of faith, we can see that all creation proclaims Your greatness.

A prayer of Bernard of Clairvaux (1090 – 1153). He was the main inspiration of the Cistercian Order of Monks.

The story behind the hymn: 'Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord'

Not many university students are able to write Christian songs which become worldwide hits, but Don Emry Fishel managed it with his Alleluia No. 1. 50 years on, it is loved and sung by millions of Christians worldwide.

Fishel wrote it in 1971, while he was a student at the University of Michigan and also music leader of a Roman Catholic charismatic community based in Ann Arbor, Michigan. These were the days of folk songs and guitars, and Alleluia No. 1 fitted the prevailing mood perfectly. Written in E Major, it is ideal for guitar accompaniment.

Mr Fishel became a freelance flautist, flute instructor and composer. He was publications editor for the Word of God and Servant Music for a number of years, and then worked in computers for 25 years. In 2008 he moved to Nashville and returned to music, teaching the flute.

Alleluia No 1 was Fishel's first song, written "rather quickly, in about an hour." It had four verses to begin with, but a fifth verse (which became the third verse) was added later, as he prepared for baptism. As Fishel explained, he wanted the line 'We have been crucified with Christ; now we shall live forever' "to be the centre of the song."

Alleluia No. 1 was first published in the UK in Sound of Living Waters, in 1974.

The next issue is scheduled to be prepared on **Thursday 20 May** and will be available on **Friday 28 May** after 4.15 pm if we are able to produce a physical magazine. Otherwise it will go out in an electronic version.

Items for the magazine can be left in the drawer at the back of the church in Wem (by 9 am Thursday) or sent to:

pamedgmond@hotmail.com