

St Margaret's Church

Holyrood: Prestwich



PARISH MAGAZINE

Magazine No. 780: April 2026

60p

THE PARISH OF ST MARGARET, HOLYROOD, PRESTWICH

CLERGY AND CHURCH OFFICERS

Incumbent	Rev Canon Steve Williams	RevSteve@stmargaretsprestwich.com	
Focal Leader (St Margaret's)	Rev Sue Walker		07761 565428
Focal Leader (St George's)	Rev Christine Hardy		07557 883501
Curate	Rev Helen Tyler		07899 800649
Churchwardens	Vacant		
Deputy Churchwarden	Vacant		
Authorised Lay Ministers	Mrs Carol Olive (Prayer and Spirituality)		798 9635
	Mr Andrew Ginn (Pastoral Care)	SafeAdults@stmargaretsprestwich.com	
	Dr Carol Porter (Digital Church)	Technology@stmargaretsprestwich.com	
P.C.C. Secretary	Mrs Joan Evans	Secretary@stmargaretsprestwich.com	
P.C.C. Treasurer	Mrs Janet Dalton	Treasurer@stmargaretsprestwich.com	
Electoral Roll Secretary	Mrs Zandra Lewis		
Child Protection Officer	Mrs JP Jackson	SafeChildren@stmargaretsprestwich.com	
Stewardship Secretary	Mrs G McConville	GiftAid@stmargaretsprestwich.com	

SERVICES AT ST MARGARET'S

SUNDAY	8.00am Holy Communion 9.45am Sung Eucharist followed by refreshments Evening Service - As announced
WEDNESDAY	10.00am Holy Communion followed by refreshments
HOLY DAYS	Holy Communion - As Announced

See the magazine calendar for the full list of services for the month
(Home communions by arrangement with clergy)

SUNDAY CLUB

Our children's Sunday Club meets in term-time in church for a service of all-age worship at 9:45am on the first Sunday of the month, and in the church house from 9:45am to 11.00am on the third Sunday of the month. All children aged 3 and over are welcome. Co-ordinator Mrs. G.M. McConville <https://stmargaretsprestwich.com/sunday-school/> or SundayClub@stmargaretsprestwich.com

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES

Enquiries regarding arranging Baptisms, Banns of Marriage, Marriages and Funerals by email please to stmargaretsprestwich@gmail.com

PARISH MAGAZINE

Advertisements (fees & invoicing)	Mrs V Swallow	798 6561
Articles	Dr Carol Porter	Magazine@StMargaretsPrestwich.com

Dear friends,

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded,
for, with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.*

*King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
in the body and the blood.
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav'nly food.*

*Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.*

*At His feet the six-winged seraph,
cherubim with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord Most High!"*

There's something about singing this hymn, which I love, around Easter. The magnitude of the music, the meaning of the lyrics and the mystery of it all. The Resurrection is a mystery in its own way; many people have tried to crack and solve it but there is still lots we don't know or really understand about what happened all those years ago. Just one of the many mysteries round Jesus that has been debated by Christians in the years since the resurrection.

One example of this is the substance of Jesus, was he completely human, completely God or a mixture of both. A question that still puzzles Christians, but in the early days of Christianity many were desperate for clarity on this and different schools of thought emerged; Docetism, God appearing masked as human, Eutychianism, a human-God hybrid, Adoptionism, human adopted by God later in life (just to say all of these have been declared heretical by the church but are fascinating to look into). We're left with Jesus being fully human but the same as God. He feels, suffers and dies as a human but with the nature of God inside him. What exactly does this mean? Well, if you work it out let me know, theologians have been trying to decide for 2,000 years! It's all a bit of a mystery really.

King of kings, yet born of Mary...Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood.

All that settles down until the reformation when Jesus' nature is debated again with the question, what happens during communion when the priest holds their hands over the bread and wine? There are many different views on this across the Christian Church.

Transubstantiation, that the bread and wine become Jesus body and blood.

Consubstantiation, Jesus' presence is within the elements or simply it's symbolic re-enactment of what Jesus asked his followers to do the remember him after he died. Even the reformers couldn't agree over this! Again, if you work out a definite answer, let me know!

He will give to all the faithful. His own self for heav'nly food.

The thing is no matter how much we analyse Jesus he's still a bit of a mystery and this hymn embraces that. It lives in the mystery of Jesus and celebrates it. Jesus is God wrapped in human flesh coming to redeem humanity through his teachings, death and resurrection. We don't fully understand because this is heavenly stuff, but that doesn't mean we can't be disciples and blessed by Jesus.

ponder nothing earthly minded, for, with blessing in His hand,

This Easter be renewed by the mystery and wonder of Jesus resurrection, for mortal flesh stands in silence before him, for he is God risen from the dead! Alleluia!

Rev Helen

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

FUNERALS

We commend into God's loving care:

Susan Ely whose funeral took place on Monday 9th March at Blackley Crematorium.

CALENDAR FOR APRIL 2026

Wednesday 1st April	10.00 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's followed by coffee 5.30 pm Maggie's Music Makers 7.00 pm Reflective service for Holy Week
Maundy Thursday 2nd April	7.00 pm Last Supper with foot washing
Good Friday 3rd April	9.30 am Worship at St George's 10.45 am Walk of Witness starting at St Mary's flower park 2.00 pm Worship at St Margaret's
Saturday 4th April	7.00 Easter Eve Vigil
Sunday 5th April	Easter Sunday 8.00 am Holy Communion at St Margaret's 9.00 am Silent Prayer in Church House 9.45 am All Age Holy Communion at St Margaret's 11.15 am Holy Communion at St George's
Wednesday 8th April	10.00 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's followed by coffee
Sunday 12th April	Second Sunday of Easter 8.00 am Holy Communion at St Margaret's 9.45 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's with Laying on of Hands in the Baptistry area during Communion 11.15 am Holy Communion at St George's
Wednesday 15th April	10.00 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's followed by coffee
Sunday 19th April	Third Sunday of Easter 8.00 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's 9.45 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's with Sunday Club 11.15 am Holy Communion at St. George's 7.00 pm Magazine deadline
Tuesday 21st April	2.00 pm Rhyme Time
Wednesday 22nd April	10.00 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's followed by coffee

4.00 pm Messy Church
5.30 pm Maggie's Music Makers

Saturday 25th April 11.00 Simister Festival

Sunday 26th April Fourth Sunday of Easter
8.00 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's
9.45 Holy Communion at St Margaret's
11.15 am Holy Communion at St. George's

Tuesday 28th April 2.00 pm Rhyme Time

Wednesday 29th April 10.00 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's followed by
coffee
5.30 pm Maggie's Music Makers

Livestreamed services (9.45am Sundays and 10.00am Wednesdays) are only available via our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StMaggieP>

Please do check our Facebook page, Instagram, Bluesky feed and website for up-to-date information.

NB GOODS FOR PORCH BOXES CAN BE DROPPED OFF ON THURSDAY MORNINGS, 9.30-11.00AM

St George's Church, Simister

The boiler in LWH has been serviced, no problems.

Teapot Time Monday - 1pm to 3pm – in Lady Wilton Hall.

There will be teapot time Monday 16th and 30th April

Everybody is welcome, chat and enjoy a couple of hours relaxing. There is always some 'homemade' cake, biscuits and good company. All the money taken goes to the Lady Wilton Hall.

Thank you to Pauline and Shirley for their continued support at Teapot.

Lady Wilton Hall

The hall is being used more and we are trying to put WIFI in at the moment, in order to help people to join together to fight the building plans of the council, which will open up Simister Lane to a lot more traffic and making it into a through road.



Easter services at St. George's

- 3rd April – Good Friday service at 9:30am
- 5th April – Easter service at 11.15am

This is your invitation to join us on Easter Day.

ST. GEORGE'S FESTIVAL – 25th April.

This is an invitation to everybody to join us at our Festival. Starting, with a parade, 11.00am through the village led by Besses' Boys Band. There will be activities and refreshment to be found both in the church and the hall. This year the SVCA will be joining us in our celebrations.

We also have sponsorship from Tesco, Prestwich, Anatolian Restaurant and Petite Fleure. As ever the village is giving their usual support.

LENTEN LUNCHES – St. Margaret's

Thank you too everybody who made the soup, and the people who worked at the lunches to serve us all. It is a lovely occasion to meet friends and chat. Well done everyone, what a success.

PRAYER LIST: Will you please remember in your prayers those who are sick: Tom Porter, Joyce Roebuck, Rita Evans, Bob Hardy, John Porter, Harriet Knott, Joan Knott, Barbara Taylor, Geoff Knaggs, Barbara Peeling, Achmed, Mike Crompton, all our church Families, our own relations and friends. If you know of anybody who should be in our prayer list, please notify Rev. Christine.

Anniversaries of our loved ones

WE REMEMBER in our prayers in April: Patrick Greene, Clement Foulkes, Roy Jones, Steve Carter, Arthur Lane, Daisy Mordin, Harold Clayton, Joyce Curly, Alice Collier, Ethal Barbara Segal, Martin Hargreaves and Elizabeth Harding.

FLOWERS:

Flowers for Easter and through to the end of April will be provided by the congregation. The list will be put up in May.

Laundry Mice

These mice keep the Church Altar linen washed and ironed. They change the Altar Frontals to show the correct colour for the Church season.





CELEBRATE
ST GEORGE'S DAY
SATURDAY 25TH APRIL
2026

Parade starts at 11am from St Georges Church, Nutt Lane, Simister (fancy dress completion), Procession will be led by: Besses Boys Band.

12 noon Lady Wilton Hall, sweet and savoury treats, tombola, luxury raffle and stalls.

12 noon kids corner (St Georges Church) face painting, bouncy castle.

12.30 special guest K POP Demon Hunters at St George's Church.

Money raised to go to the Lady Wilton Hall.

KINDLY SPONSORED BY:

BESSES BOYS BAND

ANATOLIAN RESTAURANT

TESCO PRESTWICH

PETITE FLEUR FLORIST



Lenten Lunches

A huge thank you to all the people who came to support the 3 lunches we had this year. Also thank you for the donations for the raffles we held each week. It was very kind of you all. A

special thank you to Lucy Nye and Sheila Johnson who

despite us not having a full-scale Plant Sale this year brought along some plants for sale on the last lunch to raise more money for Church Funds. For all the people who made soup, the fantastic servers, washers up, putting up the table and chairs etc. thanks so much. We have a great team who just get on with the jobs.

Well done everyone.

We will be sending £150.00 to the Christian Aid Appeal in May. The rest of the money is for Church / Church Hall repairs which are needed this year.

Thanks once again, Joan Evans.



Plant Sale

Sheila and I are sorry but this year we cannot run a plant sale outside Church. It is very time consuming not only on the weekend of the sale but the months of preparations getting the plants ready. Also, both our gardens could do with letting our own plants have a season of growth. We thank everyone who has contributed in the past by giving us plants from their own gardens and to all the people who have helped on the Friday afternoon and on the day of the sale. Thanks so much. I would also like to thank Sheila's son Steven who has been the fountain of knowledge when it came to naming some of the plants. If anyone would like to take over running a plant stall, we are both willing to give help and advice. Many thanks

Joan Evans



Give a Little

QR codes, like the one you see here, are clever bits of technology – a bit like bar codes – that link the real world with the online world. Those of us comfortable with using smartphones can simply point the camera at the QR code, and it will open a website (which is specific to a particular QR code). In this case, the QR code opens the parish “Give a Little”

page, in which we can donate £10, £20, £30, £50, or an amount of your own choosing, to help with the running of our parish.

For those of you reading this issue of our magazine online (and therefore for free!) here's the link – please help us to help you, by contributing to our running costs:

<https://givealittle.co/c/7BenBwKBCZ82XbR8wJRir8>

Hymn to the Fallen (from Saving Private Ryan) – John Williams (b. 1932)

I have never seen the 1998 film “Saving Private Ryan”. Wikipedia tells me that it's a war epic, set in Normandy in 1944 and follows a group of soldiers on a mission to locate Private Ryan, whose three brothers have already perished in action.



So why have I chosen to write about it for the Easter issue of our parish magazine? Well, a couple of years ago the Manchester Chorale performed it in a concert. I can't remember when or where the concert was, but I clearly recall being very moved by the music. We sang it again in a joint concert with Trafford Music Service Youth Choir at St Anne's Church (Sale) in March 2026. I was just as moved by the emotion of the piece. Why? There are no lyrics. The choir simply vocalises on “Ooo”. Although we were accompanied by piano and not a full orchestra, we still had the steady ostinato of military drums. Skilfully led by our Music Director, the music begins gently, ebbing and flowing for around four minutes. Then there is a brief silence before the choir sings with a bright “Ahh” through to the climax of the piece. Singing this in Lent, in church where all was purple, I couldn't help but imagine the journey made by Our Lord during Holy Week: his betrayal, torture, trial, conviction, his long and painful walk through Jerusalem carrying his cross, and finally his execution. Finally? No! there is the triumph of the resurrection.

If we choose to hear it, “Hymn to the Fallen” tells us how Jesus fell, was buried, and rose again. You can listen to the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Tanglewood Festival Chorus here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fvpQMTY8H9Y>

Carol P



MESSY CHURCH

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 22 April 2026 in the Lady Wilton Hall, 4:00-5:30pm. Please come and join us then for lots of messy fun!

Our next meeting is at 2:00pm on Monday 20 April at Zandra's house. We are reading:



- The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper (Phaedra Patrick)
- In the Midst of Life (Jennifer Worth) - in a departure from all her Call the Midwife books, this documents her time as ward sister nursing terminally ill cancer patients.
- The Book Share (Phaedra Patrick)
- Winter: the story of a season (Val McDermid)
- We'll Prescribe You Another Cat* (Syou Ishida)

*This book is circulating the Club in hard copy. If you wish to borrow either of them to read, please let any member of the Book Club know.

If you can't attend the meetings, why not read along with us anyway – there is a WhatsApp group in which you could post your thoughts about the books, or suggest titles for us all to read.

Silent Prayer:



This is on the 1st Sunday in each month at 9.15am. in St. Margaret's Church House.

If you require further information, please see Carol Olive – ALM (Prayer and Spirituality)

A message from Bishop David

Many of you will be aware that in 2027 I reach my 70th birthday. To avoid speculation, and to minimise the gap between my retirement and the arrival of the next Bishop of Manchester, I wish to set out my intentions as early as possible.

I am pleased to be able to tell you that I have now heard that His Majesty the King has agreed to my retirement. Further to this, last week I received a signed Declaration from the Archbishop of York declaring that the See of Manchester will become vacant as from 31st July 2027. In making this Declaration, the Archbishop has confirmed that I can continue for what will be two months beyond my actual birthday. This is to allow me, amongst other things, to preside at the Petertide Ordinations, and to relinquish my responsibilities at a point when things calm down for the summer holidays.

Until then, I intend to remain fully engaged in the service of Manchester Diocese as your bishop. There will be a time for formal farewells to be made, but it is not yet for a while!

Please continue to hold Sue and me in your prayers, as I hold you all in mine.

Yours ever,



From the flower arrangers:

Reredos Rota 2026

DATE	PAID FOR BY:	IN MEMORY OF & DATE:	ARRANGER
April 5 th April 12 th April 29 th April 26 th	Church Donations Pat Waghorn	Easter Church flowers Easter church flowers Elizabeth & John White 23/4	Vera Swallow
May 3 rd May 10 th May 17 th May 24 th May 31 st	S & J Gale G McConville Irene Kellett Vicky Crookes	Clara Gale Shirley & John Wellavize Ada & Jim Owens 19th Kane Crookes 25th	Christine Taylor
June 7 th June 14 th June 21 st June 28 th	Zandra Lewis Vacant Vacant Pat Waghorn	Irene Macrae 7th June Vacant Vacant Shaun Waghorn 1st July	Vera Swallow
July 5 th July 12 th July 19 th July 26 th	Anne Orrell Martin Harper Joan Evans Sheila Johnson	Michael Orrell 17th Brain Harper 19th Harry Evans 21st Norman Johnson 31st	Vicky Crookes
Aug 2nd Aug 9th Aug 16th Aug 23rd Aug 30th	Yvonne Naylor Yvonne Naylor Sheila Johnson Sue Hunsley Barbara Sheppard	Joan & Brian Lane David Naylor John Gamble 26th Ian Hunsley The Bland family 31st	Sheila Johnson

DATE	PAID FOR BY:	IN MEMORY OF & DATE:	ARRANGER
Sept 6th Sept 13th Sept 20th Sept 27th	Viv Jones Carol Olive Watson family G & D McConville	Edna & Eric Case 8th & 10th Simpson Family 14th Betty & Stewart Watson 21st Ted & Irene McConville	Vicky Crookes
Oct 4th Oct 11th Oct 18th Oct 25 th	Vicky Crookes Hedley Cox Ann Booth Martin Harper	Kane Crookes 7th Oct Gilford & Eveline Preston Jean & Jack Mundy 19th Phyllis Harper 12th	Vicky Crookes
Nov 1st Nov 8th Nov 15th Nov 22nd Nov 29th	Irene Kellett church flowers Judith Hall Vacant Vacant	Richard Kellett 1st Remembrance Sunday Roger Hall 8th Nov Vacant Vacant	Christine Taylor
December	Advent – no flowers		

COLUMBARIUM ROTA 2026

DATE:	PAID FOR BY:	IN MEMORY OF & DATE	ARRANGER
April 5th April 19th	CHURCH FUNDS June Thompson	EASTER FLOWERS Muriel Wright 30th April Jeremy Plummer 29 th April	Vera Swallow
May 3rd May 17th May 31st	Joan Evans Sheila & Jack Gale Yvonne Naylor	Maud Riley 10th May Clara Gale (2nd) Yvonne & John Keenan	Sheila Johnson
June 7th June 21st	VACANT Hedley Cox Carol Porter	VACANT Angela Cox 20th June Barbara Porter 21st June	Vicky Crookes
July 5th July 19th	Rimmer family The McConvilles The McConvilles Anne Orrell Christine Taylor	Sheila & Geoffrey Rimmer 2nd Irene McConville 5th July John Wellavize 16th July Michael Orrell 17th July Lilian Dean	Christine Taylor

DATE:	PAID FOR BY:	IN MEMORY OF & DATE	ARRANGER
Aug 2nd	Joan Evans	John Riley 2nd Aug	Vicky Crookes
Aug 16th	The McConvilles Mrs Brundrit	Ted McConville 14th Aug Florence Brundrit 15th Aug	
Aug 30th	VACANT	VACANT	
Sept 6th	Barbara Sheppard Dutton Family Thelma Kenevin	Herbert Bland 4th Sept	Vera Swallow
Sept 20th	Sue Hunsley	Ellen Francis 4th Sept Alex Kenevin 15th Sept Ian Hunsley 29th Sept	
Oct 4th	VACANT	VACANT	Sheila Johnson
Oct 16th	Margaret Nolan VACANT	Raymond Grayshon 20th Oct VACANT	
Nov 1st	VACANT	VACANT	Vicky Crookes
Nov 15th	Carol Porter Sheila & Jack Gale	Maureen Jones 18th Nov Wilfred Gale 23rd Nov	
Nov 29th	Sylvia Hickson	Brian Hickson 30th Nov	
Dec 6th	Direct to Church	George Smethurst 16th Dec	Sheila Johnson
Dec 20th	Vera Swallow Church Donations	Gina Swallow 22nd Dec Christmas Church Flowers	

For enquires please call Vicky Crookes on 07936548439

OUR DAILY BREAD APRIL 2026

April Prayer

Lord God, you loved this world so much, that you gave your one and only Son, that we might be called your children too. Lord, help us to live in the gladness and grace of Easter Day, every day. Let us have hearts of thankfulness for your sacrifice. Let us have eyes that look upon your grace and rejoice in our salvation. Help us to walk in that mighty grace and tell your good news to the world. All for your glory do we pray, Lord, Amen. - Rachel Marie Stone



1st To talk with God, no breath is lost. To walk with God, no steps are lost. To wait with God, no time is lost.

2nd Maundy Thursday



He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand." "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

Jesus answered, "Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not everyone was clean. **John 13:6-11**

3rd Good Friday



Have a blessed Good Friday, and never doubt or forget how much God loves you. Enough to send His only son to the cross to take away your sins. On Good Friday, may the sacrifice of our Saviour give you strength and may His blessings always be with you and your family.

4th Holy Saturday



"When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome brought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, 'Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?' But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away." **Mark 16:1-4**

5th Easter Day



***Jesus Christ is Risen today – Alleluia!
He has Risen from the Dead***

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?'"

John 11:25-26

6th I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand I shall not fall. My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope. **Psalm 16:8-9**

7th Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, for in his holy Name we put our trust. Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us, as we have put our trust in you. **Psalm 33:20-22**

8th O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

9th In peace I will lie down and sleep. **Psalm 4:8** Sleep well in peace tonight. **Amen**

10th Our interest in heaven grows as we deposit our treasures there! “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also”. **Luke 12:54**

11th “For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good.”
Jeremiah 29:11

Sunday 12th The power of choice is one of our greatest gifts as every choice we make moment by moment, creates our life experience. All our choices help us to grow richer in wisdom and experience.

13th Lord, you search for us and find us. Thank you for making us Your own. Amen

14th God speaks. Are you listening? The Lord confides in those who fear Him; He makes His covenant known to them. – **Psalm 25:14**

15th Let Him have all your worries and cares, for He is always thinking about you and watching everything that concerns you. **1 Peter 5:7**

16th “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.” **Matthew 7:7**

17th God always has an open ear and a ready hand, if you have an open and ready heart. Take your groanings and your sighs to God and He will answer you. **C H Spurgeon**

18th It is only with true love and compassion that we can begin to mend what is broken in the world. It is these two blessed things that can begin to heal all broken hearts.

Sunday 19th Lord we pray that you will be with us as we walk along life’s stony paths. Be our guide, our light and our help in times of need. Amen

20th One song can change a moment, one idea can change a world, one step can start a journey, but a prayer can change the impossible.

21st Heavenly father, thank you for your grace. You remain faithful and loving, even when I make a mess of things. Please help me to experience a fresh start with You today.

22nd When trials persist, remember this: God always has a plan. The Lord your God will drive out those before you, little by little. You will not be allowed to eliminate them all at once. - **Deuteronomy 7:22**

23rd St. George's Day - God of hosts, who so kindled the flame of love in the heart of your servant George that he bore witness to the risen Lord by his life and by his death: give us the same faith and power of love that we who rejoice in his triumphs may come to share with him the fullness of the resurrection. Amen



24th "Ask the LORD for rain in the springtime; it is the LORD who makes the storm clouds. He gives showers of rain to men, and plants of the field to everyone." **Zechariah 10:1**

25th Mark the Evangelist Almighty God, who enlightened your holy Church through the inspired witness of your evangelist Saint Mark: grant that we, being firmly grounded in the truth of the gospel, may be faithful to its teaching both in word and deed. Amen

Sunday 26th "Now the word of the Lord came to me, saying, Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, and before you were born, I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." **Jeremiah 1:4-5**

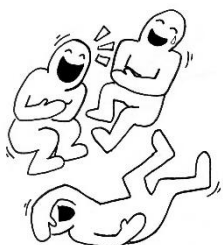
27th "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging." **Psalms 46:1-3**

28th "Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty." **Psalms 91:1**

29th - Catherine of Siena, Teacher of Faith

God of compassion, who gave your servant Catherine of Siena a wondrous love of the passion of Christ: grant that your people may be united to him in his majesty and rejoice for ever in the revelation of his glory. Amen

30th Pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing but the body is weak! **Matthew 26:41**



Even though you are a computer whiz kid, act dumb and let others shop on the internet, more often than not they will also end up paying for it.

How to get your own way. Mention the "wound" whenever asked to do anything.



Have you discovered yet the daily online wisdom from the entirely fictional parish of St Faithful's, Havnot? You can take a look here <https://www.facebook.com/stfaithfulshavnot>

Here is a recently posted, rather tongue-in-cheek guide to **Church Etiquette**, by Mrs Pauline Rivers, Head Server (since before most of you were born, and certainly before the carpet)

(Note: Pauline has worked surprisingly hard on this, since realising that our Facebook page gives her the ability to share her thoughts and opinions with the world. However, we wish to note that these are not necessarily commensurate with the official opinions of the PCC. Judith M Crowther, Parish Administrator.)

1. Arrive early.

Not "bursting through the west door during the second hymn" early. Early enough to sit down, compose yourself, and locate the correct page in the order of service without visible panic.

2. The bells are not feedback.

If they ring for twenty minutes before the service, this is not a complaint about your punctuality. It is a courtesy reminder that time, like salvation, waits for no one.

3. If you ask, "Is this my seat?" it probably isn't.

But if you've sat there for thirty-seven consecutive years, you may defend it gently, with dignity, and a well-placed hymn book.

4. Pray first. Always pray first.

Before chatting. Before adjusting flowers. Before enquiring why the curate has chosen that stole.

5. Coffee exists.

It is not a sacrament. You may survive ten minutes without it.

6. The kneeler is not a footrest.

Nor is it a percussion instrument during the sermon.

7. Candles are devotional.

They are not birthday accessories, mood lighting, or something to “have a little blow at”. Wax on church linen is to be avoided at all times. It's REALLY annoying.

8. The organ voluntary is not background music.

It is not the soundtrack to your catching-up session about your hip operation. Lionel [Organist] did not spend all of Friday afternoon practising Bach during a quinquennial inspection for you use it as background to your bunions story. Appreciate his act of worship, please. Peasants.

9. The Peace is warm, not vigorous.

A handshake is sufficient. A full family reunion involving three generations and weather reports is excessive.

10. Children are welcome.

If they make a joyful noise, we rejoice. If they dismantle the credence table, we intervene.

11. If you drop the collection plate,

we will all pretend it was meant to happen. Dignity is a shared project.

12. Hymns are sung.

Murmured reflections upon them are not the same thing. Imagine you're on the terraces at Havnot FC, and give similar enthusiasm to worship.

13. Notices are brief.

They are not an opportunity to recount the entire history of the Bring & Buy Sale of 1987.

14. Incense is not smoke.

It is theology you can see.

15. If you are unsure when to stand,

watch Mrs Rivers. (This has been reliable since 1958.)

16. Do not correct the reader mid-lesson.

Even if they pronounce Habakkuk like a Scandinavian furniture range.

17. The sermon is not a referendum.

You may disagree internally. Externally, you may look thoughtful. Written feedback to the preacher has been known to elicit a carefully calibrated response from the Vicar.

18. Silence is not awkward.

It is rare and should be treated with respect.

19. After the blessing, remain seated.

We leave together. This is civilisation.

20. Go home faintly scented of polish and prayer.

If you feel slightly unsettled, slightly comforted, and unexpectedly grateful, you have done it properly.

I would like it noted that following these rules will not eliminate all confusion, but it will reduce it to a manageable, Anglican-adjacent level.

And if in doubt, dear friends, simply sit up straight, sing out, and remember: Someone is always watching. Usually me.

Pauline Rivers, Head Server

Disclaimer

St Faithful's is fictional. The affection is real.

Books by Canon Tom Kennar (including 'The Parish Life' - about St Faithful's) are available in print and e-book. Merchandise lurks online. See <https://tomkennar.blogspot.com/p/st-faithfuls-authors-resources.html> for more details.

AI may assist. The responsibility is entirely human.



The photographer had just taken a picture of a man on his 99th birthday. He thanked the old gentleman saying I hope I'll be around to take your picture when you are a hundred. The old man replied "Why not? You look pretty healthy."

Thank you to everyone who submits articles for publication in this magazine – it simply wouldn't be the same without you and your words!

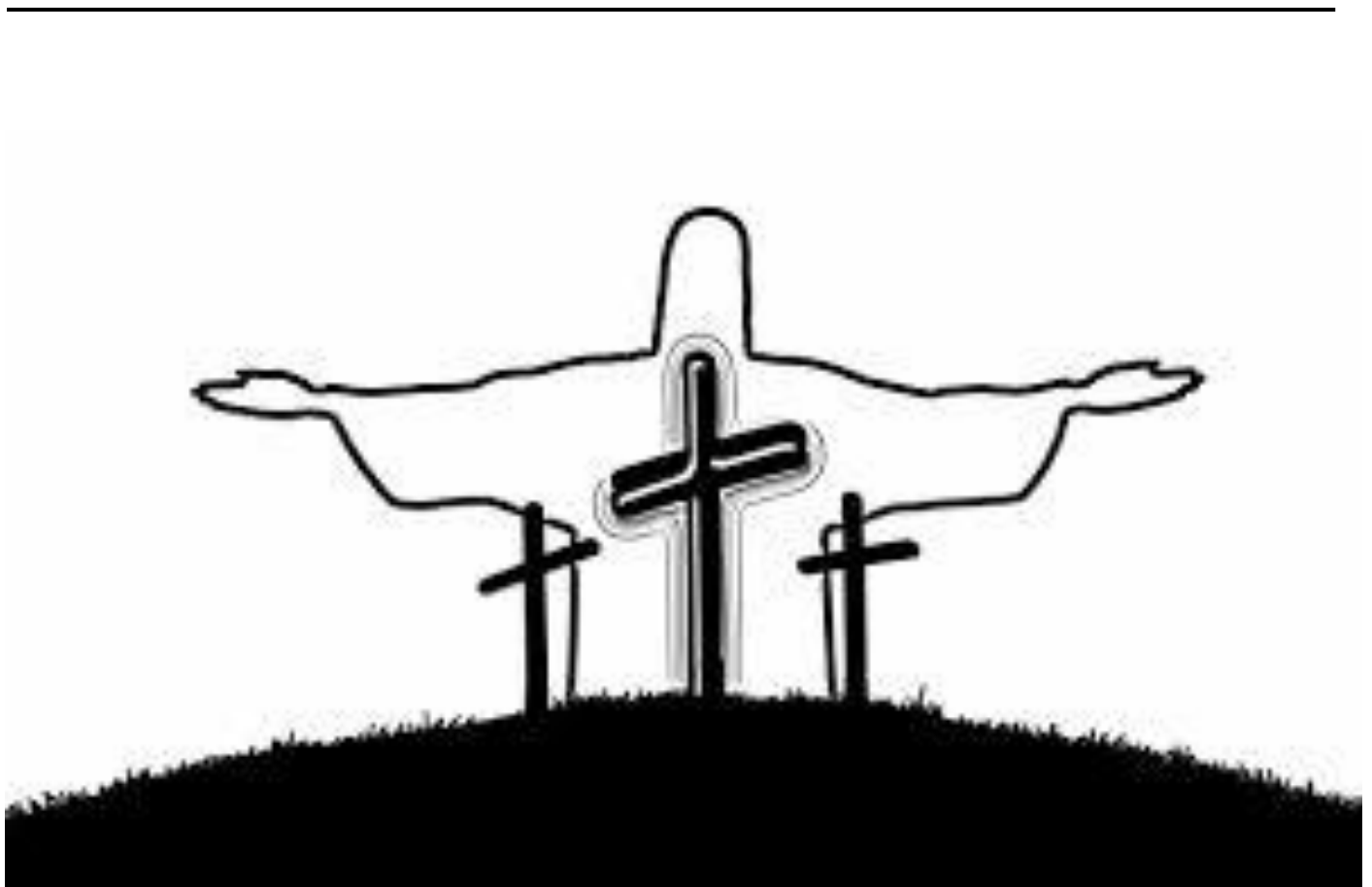
If you think “oh no, I couldn't possibly”, just have a think: is there something you think could be included in our magazine? Are you the person to provide that? Do you know of someone unable to continue with their contributions? (*HINT – we all do!*) Could you do that for them?

Articles for future editions of our parish magazine should be emailed as an attachment (**Word doc, A4, portrait, no columns, preferably Calibri body 14** and try to avoid BLOCK CAPITALS – it's a bit shouty) to Magazine@StMargaretsPrestwich.com no later than 7:00pm on:

May Magazine
June magazine

Sunday 19 April
Sunday 17 May

Please note that “Magazine@StMargaretsPrestwich.com” is the only address that will be checked for magazine articles.



If you prefer to read this text size, please let whoever brings your magazine know.

Easter Boggled Puzzle

Boggled puzzles are very easy to play. You need to find as many 3 or more letter words as you can. You form words by starting anywhere on the grid and moving to adjoining letters. You can move horizontally, vertically and diagonally in any direction. Write down your words and score as follows:

3 letters = 1 point

4 letters = 2 points

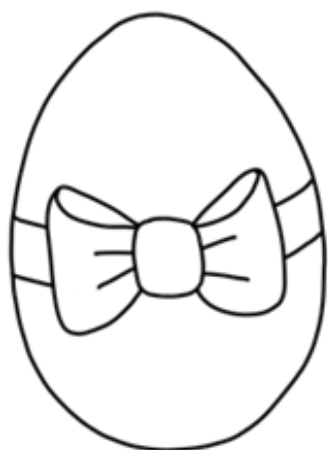
5 letters = 3 points

6 letters = 4 points

7 letters = 5 points

8 or more letters = 6 points

Any Easter related words get double points! Why not challenge your friends?



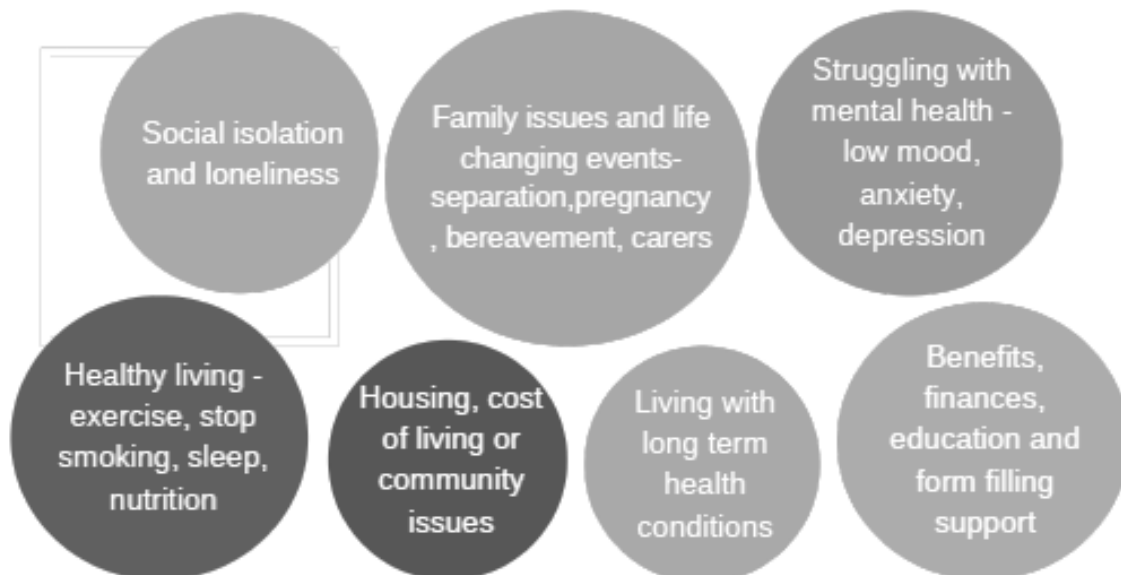
E	H	I	C
C	A	S	K
R	E	T	G
W	R	G	A

My Points

Doctors aren't the only people who can make you feel better!



Social prescribers are non medical professionals who support adults (18+) and their families. Our social prescribers can support you to focus on what matters most to you and can connect you to local community groups, services and organisations who may be able to help you.



What do our team offer:

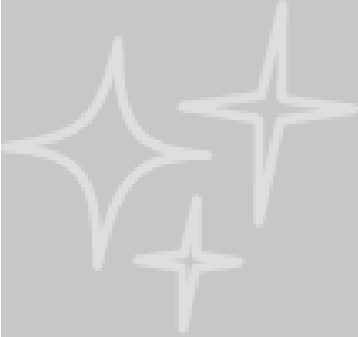
- 1-1 appointments helping you develop a personal plan based on what matters to you connecting you to healthcare professionals, services, voluntary organisations, community groups and local businesses to make you feel healthier and happier.
- Drop ins - a safe space where you can enjoy a brew and chat with local people and access support from our healthcare teams and support services at a venue local to you.
- Social walks and outdoor activities - enjoy being outdoors.
- What's on locally - quarterly booklet highlighting local activities.
- Support groups tailored to your needs - including neurodiversity, men's, dementia.
- Support setting up new groups if what you need isn't available.
- Happier and Healthier Prestwich - a group of patients working together to proactively support social prescribing to make us all more connected.

To connect with our social prescribers please ask your GP or health professional or contact us directly on:

julie.marshall63@nhs.net 07713 750 458

joanne.murray29@nhs.net 07957 631 435





The Thursday
morning Hang Out –
Community drop-in

***Where are we:
St Margaret's Church
9:30 - 11 AM
Saint Margaret's
Road, Prestwich.***

Our weekly social group is
a friendly safe &
welcoming space, to be
more socially active & hear
about other brilliant local
groups in the area!

Contact our Social Prescribers on:

Jo Murray on: 07957 631 435 joanne.murray29@nhs.net
Julie Marshall on: 07713 750 458 julie.marshall63@nhs.net



Donations for tea & coffees are welcome.



Social walks with your Prestwich Social Prescribers & Volunteers

Our social prescribers are there for further information on local groups & services in your community!!

Church Lane walk - 12 noon every Tuesday.

Meet at: Church Lane Community Centre,
Church Lane, Prestwich

Thursday Starting points:

2 pm Whittaker Lane
GP Practice, Whittaker
Lane,

2 pm The Birches
Medical Centre, Polefield
Rd

2 pm The Grand
Lodge, Woodthorpe
Entrance at Heaton
Park



WHEN - The 2nd & 4th
Thursday of each month.

Contact:

Julie & Jo on: julie.marshall63@nhs.net
07713750458 or

joanne.murray29@nhs.net 07957631435



Social Prescribing Drop-ins

With Julie & Jo

Tuesday's - 9:30-11:30 am,
Community Drop-in. The Croft,
St Hilda's Church, Whitaker
Lane, Prestwich

Tuesday's 1-3 pm
Community Drop-in,
Church Lane Community
Centre, Church Lane,
Prestwich

Thursday's - 9:30 - 11:00 am, St
Margaret's Church, Saint
Margaret's Rd, Prestwich

Thursday's 2-4 pm Nazareth House,
Scholes Lane, Prestwich,

**Come join in. We offer a safe
space to keep warm, have a
brew & be more socially active.
Meeting new people, access
local services and volunteer
with us if you like!**



Contact Julie & Jo on:

Julie.marshall63@nhs.net

07713750458

Joanne.murray29@nhs.net

07957631435





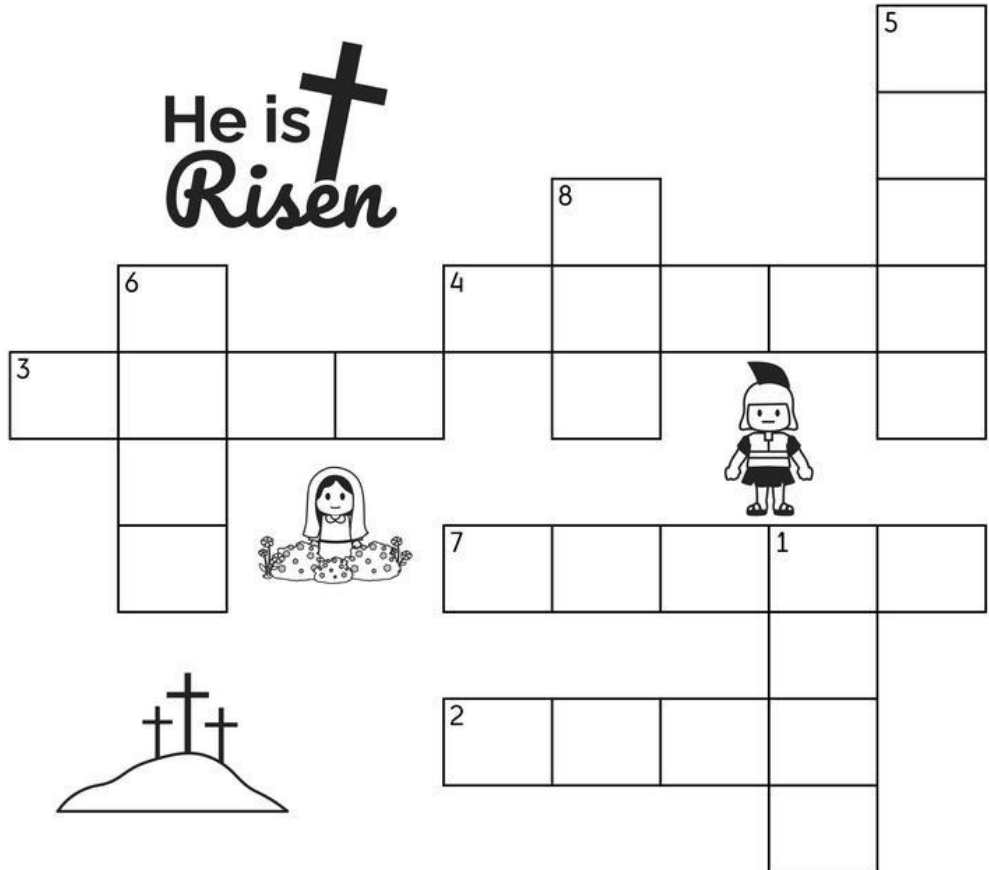
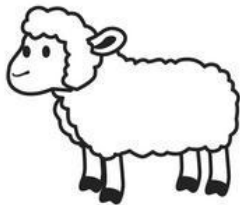
Easter Crossword Puzzle



Solve the clues and fill out the grid



He is **Risen**



DOWN

1. A young sheep
5. A symbol of Christianity
6. Wishing for a good outcome
8. Not Old

ACROSS

2. A type of tree with fan-shaped leaves
3. A grave or crypt
4. Son of God
7. Christian scripture



JOHN 11:25-26

Jesus said to her,
“I am the resurrection and the
life. The one who believes in me
will live, even though they
die; and whoever lives
by believing in me
will never die.”



Image by Vectaportal.com



SO LOVED

john 3:16

shutterstock.com · 2438827795

Rhyme Time

**The joy of music for babies, toddlers
and pre-schoolers**

Tuesdays in term time in St Margaret's Community Centre, St Margaret's Road, Prestwich from 2pm for about an hour (stay for as much or as little of that time as is appropriate for you and your child)

If interested, please contact Maureen (0161 766 2677)

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Mrs N, Client's daughter.

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see Church calendar for date

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Mobile: 07817781989

Email: craig.bega@btinternet.com



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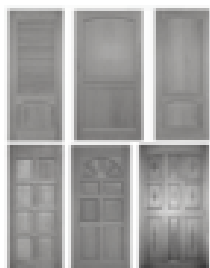
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- **Like us on Facebook**



Next time you're busy on Facebook, please take a moment to find and 'Like' our public page (<https://www.facebook.com/StMaggieP>) and click to join St Margaret's Community Group



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/600247334220158>

- **Follow us on Instagram**

<https://www.instagram.com/stmargaretsprestwich/>



- **You can catch up with sermons and Wise Words from the Ministry Team as podcasts via Spotify** <https://anchor.fm/st-margarets-prestwich>



For full information about our parish visit our website:

<https://stmargaretsprestwich.com/>

PAROCHIAL ORGANISATIONS

MAGGIE'S MUSIC MAKERS (Parish Choir) – St Margaret's Church Dr Carol Porter –
music@stmargaretsprestwich.com

Rehearses in church Wednesdays 5.30-6.30pm during term time and welcomes new members

MESSY CHURCH Lady Wilton Hall, Simister

Third Wednesday of the Month, 4.00pm to 5:30pm during term time

RHYME TIME Community Centre Mrs M North (766 2677)

Tuesdays at 2pm during term time, a music group for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers, accompanied by a carer

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS All in the Youth & Community Centre

Beavers Thursday, 5.30 to 6.30pm }

Cubs Thursday 7.00 to 8.30pm }

Scouts }

Explorers }

Rainbows Tuesday 5.00 to 6.00pm

Brownies Tuesday, 6.00 to 7.30pm

Guides Tuesday 7.30 to 9.00pm

gs/8th@praws.gmnscoouts.org.uk

Mrs. D. Todd (773 0018)

Mrs. G. Storm (07773 026 398)

Mrs. G. Storm (07773 026 398)

St. GEORGES CHURCH, SIMISTER

Deputy Churchwardens Vacant

SERVICES AT ST GEORGE'S, SIMISTER

Sunday 11.15am Holy Communion

See the magazine calendar for the full list of services for the month

ALL THE CHURCH HALLS ARE AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

Church House (St. Margaret's Road) Bookings@stmargaretsprestwich.com

Youth & Community Centre (St. Margaret's Road) **Not currently taking bookings**

Lady Wilton Hall (Simister Lane) StGeorge@stmargaretsprestwich.com

St George's Church

Simister

