



APRIL 2025

Easter Services

**Maundy
Thursday**

April 17th 7.30
Holy Communion

**Good
Friday**

April 18th 11.00
Reflections on the Cross

Easter Day

April 20th 10.00am
Family Communion

He is Risen Alleluia !

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May	12th	5 days	Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwick & Shakespeare's County	£595.00
May	19th	5 days	Norfolk & Sandringham Estate	£685.00
May	25th	6 days	Sidmouth and The Jurassic Coast	£790.00
June	2nd	5 days	Scotland – The Isle of Arran	£790.00
June	15th	6 days	Llandudno – Railways of Wales & Snowdon	£885.00
June	24th	8 days	Scotland – North Coast 500 and the Isle of Skye	£1325.00
June	27th	6 days	Cornwall – St Agnes & St Michaels Mount	£745.00
July	6th	6 days	The Isle of Wight at Sandown	£695.00
July	16th	5 days	Torquay and the English Riviera	£560.00
July	27th	6 days	Scotland – Dunoon and the Isle of Bute	£615.00
Aug	4th	5 days	Scarborough & Whitby – East Coast Explorer	£695.00
Aug	15th	5 days	Gardens of The Cotswolds	£630.00
Sept	3rd	10 days	Switzerland – The Magnificent Alps & Bernina Express Spectacular	£1685.00
Sept	18th	7 days	Ireland – Killarney, The Ring of Kerry & Dingle Peninsula	£920.00
Sept	29th	5 days	Special Lakes Tour staying at the Damson Dene Hotel	£695.00
Oct	6th	5 days	Autumn Luxurious Mystery Tour	£665.00
Oct	13th	5 days	Bournemouth & The Dorset Countryside	£595.00
Oct	20th	5 days	Warners Leisure – Autumn Break	£675.00
Oct	27th	5 days	Scotland – The Palace at Inverness All Inclusive	£695.00
Nov	3rd	5 days	Wales – Llandudno Turkey & Tinsel at the Merrion Hotel	£615.00
Nov	21st	4 days	Norwich & Thursford Christmas Spectacular – Afternoon performance	£585.00
Nov	28th	4 days	Norwich & Thursford Christmas Spectacular – Evening performance	£585.00
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Dec	30th	4 days	Scotland – Hogmanay at the Highlander	£605.00

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VICAR:	Rev. Andy Williams	Tel: 793391 Mbl: 07472 663279 Email revandy.gsm@gmail.com
CHURCHWARDENS:	Mr. Anthony Cowell Three Mile Cross Farm, Grimsargh Mr. Mark Lamberty Ashleigh, Preston Road, Grimsargh	Tel: 07753813758 Tel: 798017
DAY SCHOOL	Headteacher Mr Stuart Booth	Tel: 653600
VERGER	Mr Tom Jones 26 Waingate, Grimsargh	Tel: 651400
CHURCH FLOWERS	Miss Eileen Parker	Tel: 653774
BAPTISMS, THANKSGIVINGS, WEDDINGS & FUNERALS	By arrangement with the Vicar	
SICKNESS and HOME COMMUNIONS	Please inform the Vicar of all cases of sickness or of anyone wishing to receive communion at home	
JIGSAW CLUB	10.00am from Church 2nd and 4th Sunday (Term time only) For more information please contact the Vicar.	
SERVICES	10:00am Morning Worship every 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday Holy Communion every 2nd and 4th Sunday Family Service - occasional by announcement 11:00am Holy Communion every 3rd Thursday of the month	
MOTHERS' UNION	Every third Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm In the school. Contact N Cowell Tel: 651772 or M Mackley Tel: 653940	
GUIDES 1st Grimsargh	Every Monday at 7.00pm In the Village Hall	
BROWNIES 2nd Grimsargh	Every Wednesday at 5.30pm in the Village Hall	
RAINBOWS 1st Grimsargh	Every Monday at 5.45pm in the Village Hall Please register your interest on www.girlguiding.org.uk	
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PARISH LETTER

Now and not yet

I have a friend who, when starting a new novel, always reads the last page first. If she likes the ending she'll then read the whole book! I must admit that I've never understood that, I like the suspense of a plot being revealed, but then she is also a Methodist.

However, for 21st century Christians it is how this time of year can feel. We are in this supposedly solemn and spiritually growing time of year thinking of the events leading up to the crucifixion and resurrection – yet we know the ending. Of course, it is the best ending we could imagine so I suppose it is worth the journey. It is hard to approach Good Friday and Easter Day without knowing not only the ending but all the theological thought and teaching that we have heard over the course of our lives of faith. We don't just know the ending, but we know why it is important, and what it all means for our lives and the world.

Maybe it might be useful this Lent to approach our readings and the gospel account of the last weeks of Jesus life before the resurrection and try and suspend our knowledge and understanding. How would it be to hear the words of Jesus, see His actions, watch how the disciples and others respond without the knowledge of the end?

Maybe it would make this time more fulfilling if we could approach the things we've always known with fresh eyes and minds and see things from the disciples' viewpoint, not knowing what would happen, when and why? Like a good novel the suspense would be exciting, the twists and turns shocking and the ending be a surprise.

Although we know that the resurrection is a real event that has such an impact on our faith, church life & worship and how we see the world, there is still a 'not yet' element to it. We can hear about Jesus' resurrection, believe in it and allow that to shape our faith and worship – but as yet we've not experienced resurrection. Our Bible and faith tell us we will somehow join in that resurrection in the future but for now it remains a future hope.

Jesus told His followers that they needed to become like children to enter fully into His kingdom. Part of that is surely to see the world, and our faith, with a sense of wonder and awe. This April, as we are thankful that we know the great ending, let's journey together with that sense of wonder and awe, hear the words of Jesus and see His actions, with fresh eyes and be amazed at what new perspectives the Holy Spirit may reveal to us.

Blessings, Andy



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Electoral Roll Renewal.

Every 6 years our electoral roll, in effect our membership list, must be totally renewed - 2025 is such a year. Everyone on our current roll and eligible to renew will receive a letter and a new form to complete shortly. Please complete and return the form by the 24th of April at the latest. If you are not on the roll please complete a form and return it.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

This year our annual meetings will take place on Sunday 18th of May after our Morning Worship. This is your opportunity to stand for election to PCC or as a Churchwarden. Nomination forms will be available in church before Easter, please ask if you want to know more about any of the roles or how things work.

We will be producing a booklet containing all that we have done as a church in 2024 along with our PCC accounts. These will be available by the 4th of May in print form or by email - if you would like an email copy please contact Andy.

This meeting is important as we celebrate the previous year and look forward to the remainder of 2025. It is also your chance to ask any questions of Andy, the Churchwardens, PCC or any group we run. I hope as many as possible will stay and join in.

Parish Meal - "The Cross Keys", Whitechapel, Sunday 13th April, 12 for 12.30

The Parish Meal is an opportunity for everyone to spend time with one another, while enjoying a delicious meal. The cost is £20.00 for two courses and £24.00 for three courses, including coffee. There are price reductions for children.

If you are intending to come to the meal, please could you sign your name on the list in the porch. If you require a lift to the venue, please can you indicate this too on the list. You can pay on the day.

Easter Events, 2025

Miniature Easter Garden Competition

We are asking children to enter a competition of "Miniature Easter Gardens". The three dimensional entries, should be approximately the size of an A4 sheet of paper. Entries should be brought to Church on the morning of Easter Saturday, **Saturday 19th April**. Church will be open 9.30am till 11.30am There will be prizes for the best entries.

Miss Smith is organising the competition for St. Michael's School but the competition is open to any child in the village.

"Good Friday Walk", Friday 18th April.

There will be a Good Friday Walk, following the Good Friday Service, on Friday 18th April. The walk will follow the same route as last year, around Cow Hill and back along the main road from Spar. We hope that you will join us for this traditional walk, a great opportunity to chat with friends and enjoy a little exercise together. The walk is flat and suitable for all ages and levels of fitness.

Please bring your own picnics; it may be advisable to wear stout boots and waterproof clothing!

18th April – GOOD FRIDAY, Jesus and the thieves on the Cross

Luke's account of the crucifixion (Luke 23:32-43) emphasises the mocking of the crowd, *'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself'* (35,37,39). In their view a Messiah does not hang on a cross and suffer. In considering the two men who were crucified with Jesus, we are also confronted with the issue of how Jesus secures salvation for us.

The words of one of those crucified with Jesus reflected the crowd's taunts: *'Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us.'* He highlights the question of Jesus' identity: how can He save others, when He cannot save Himself from death? He failed to see that the cross itself was the means of salvation.

So – what kind of Messiah was Jesus?

The other criminal's response in his last moments is a moving expression of faith. When challenging the other man, he spoke of the utter injustice of the crucifixion: *'this man has done nothing wrong.'* He perceived the truth that Jesus was indeed the Messiah. In a wonderful picture of grace, *'remember me when You come into Your kingdom'*, the second thief confessed his guilt and secured Jesus' forgiveness and mercy.

In reply, Jesus promised the man life from the moment of death; *'Today you will be with Me in paradise.'* Jesus used the picture of a *walled garden* to help the man understand His promise of protection and security in God's love and acceptance eternally.

Each one of us has to choose how we react to Jesus on the cross. Do we want Him to 'remember' us when He comes into His kingdom, or not? If you were to die tonight, how confident would you be of going to be with Jesus? *'For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God'* (1 Peter 3:18).

St James the Least of All

On why you should never encourage your congregation

The Rectory

St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

There are times when I indulge you too much; why I ever let you run your course 'Taking Responsibility for your Church' among our congregation, I am now unable to understand. I had hopes that it might encourage a few more people to volunteer for the flower rota, or to give occasional help mowing the churchyard. I even had a vague fantasy that someone might turn detective, and discover who had been eating the chocolate biscuits between Sundays, condemning the rest of us to munch on Rich Tea after Services.

Unfortunately, your course turned out to be inspirational, and it has fired up our members to take on all sorts of new initiatives. Enthusiasm in a congregation can

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be a very dangerous thing, especially if people start making decisions on their own.

Those who formed a welcoming group are admittedly well-meaning – although it was more than a little traumatic for those coming through the door the next Sunday to be greeted with frenzied handshakes, big toothy smiles, and even hymnbooks. That is unheard of in this church – we always ignore people and leave them to find hymnbooks – if they can.

Naturally, all those offering to take the prayers, produce new Orders of Service and even to give the occasional sermon have been booked on the appropriate training courses. By the time they have been completed, I can only hope they will have gone off the idea.

But it was the group which decided to “beautify” the church who have proved the most tiresome. Hanging the Christmas tree lights round the altar made it look as if I was standing behind a fairground stall, waiting to invite people to throw hoops round teddy bears – although I would have rather enjoyed making winners sit for the rest of the Service holding a polythene bag containing a goldfish.

Our pulpit has also been given a makeover, with the various panels painted in contrasting colours; I am sure the sixteenth century Flemish woodcarvers would be delighted with the result, although the next time any medieval historians come to view it, I shall take the day off – probably travelling abroad.

My dear Darren, your course took the stopper out of the bottle; would you please run another to put it back?

Your loving uncle,
Eustace.

MOTHERS' UNION

Commissioning Service

Mothers Union members from all over the diocese gathered in Blackburn Cathedral on the evening of March 2nd for the Commissioning of our new Diocesan President Mrs Susan Willoughby.

Bishop Philip preached, focusing on the role of Mothers Union and how it brings people to Jesus.

Andy, Bernard, Marlene and Nellie attended the service and were proud to see our own Louise Commissioned as a Trustee.



World Day of Prayer

On March 7th three members of our branch, Louise, Jean and Nellie, were involved in the World Day of Prayer service held this year at St Wilfrid's R.C. Church in Longridge. The photo shows them with two members from St Stephen's branch in Preston.

The theme of the service this year was 'I made you wonderful' and invited us to recognise that God created each of us with great attention and loving care. We heard the stories of three Christian women and how they felt God's strength in their lives. It was written by women from the Cook Islands and was a wonderful, moving service.



March Meeting

At the March meeting Dot Little, with Fred, walked us along the Lancashire coastal Path with many photos, that she, with Ruth Buckley, had walked in Summer 2023.

Next meeting April 16th (in school) Lisa Gray (Linda Fisk's daughter) will give us insight into living in a young person's secure unit

Advanced Notice

May Meeting THURSDAY May 29th

Ascension Day And St. Michael's Mothers Union 94th birthday party. Lunch at Ribchester Arms, 12noon for 12.30pm then Ascension Day service in church in evening. See Hazel if you wish to book a lunch. Cost £18.00

Meet the members

Jennifer Aldridge has lived in the Preston area since she was 4. Trained as a nurse in Manchester then worked for 40 years in the NHS, 10 years at Stonebridge surgery visiting patients in the Longridge, Ribchester & Grimsargh so knows the area very well! She now lives in Barton with husband Mark, who she has known since being teenagers. When she was in hospital with a brain tumour, he was always at her bedside! He was a Police detective but is now a Mountain Rescue volunteer in the Trough of Bowland. She loves time with the family, swimming, and holidaying, whenever they can!



Sue Campman is a very family orientated Mum & Grandma! She has 4 children and 10 grandchildren. She moved to Grimsargh from Flexton, Manchester recently, when she and her husband Ken moved with her daughter's family to the area to be nearer her work. Sue loves the village and has been overwhelmed by the friendliness she has experienced here. In a former life she has been a youth worker in Moss-side & Hulme, Manchester, for 25 years, as well as being very involved in coaching trampolining, (an old love of hers) and travelling with the team to Germany & Portugal to World Championships. As a



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teenager she was invited to the Olympic trails but unfortunately the date clashed with her sister's wedding, something she still remains cross with her sister about!!

Wendy Hall moved from the Midlands 35 years ago with her husband & two small children. Her husband bought a foundry business working in cast iron making lamp posts and bollards and many other items! The children attended St. Michael's school. Wendy became involved in the village, starting a Rainbow group in 1990, then in 1996 was asked to lead the guides and has been very involved 'til just last year! The guide group will celebrate its 80th birthday in May and I'm sure she'll be celebrating with them!



Ruth's big thank you to Rosemere Cancer Centre

I have just finished 6 months of Chemo treatment for bowel cancer & as a token of appreciation for all their support I am fundraising for the Rosemere Cancer centre, based at Preston & Chorley. I will be attempting to walk the 12 miles from Chorley to Preston in the 'Walk in the Dark' walk on April 26th! At the moment I am managing 4 miles!

Watch this space!!

Donations can be made via my Just Giving page 'Ruth's fundraiser for Rosemere Cancer Foundation' or at church or at the Friday Coffee morning.

We congratulate Longridge curate The Revd Simon King on his appointment as vicar of St Leonard church in Penwortham . Please pray for Simon and his wife Tracy as they prepare to move

SCHOOL REPORT

WORSHIP

We celebrated Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday.

Our Worship Council reminded us about the symbolism of pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and what Shrove Tuesday means for Christians.

The children gathered to worship with Reverend Andy to think about Ash Wednesday. Some of our year 6 pupils read from the Bible- they spoke with confidence and shared the story of the temptation of Jesus from Matthew 4:1-11. Jesus tells us not to worry about tomorrow- seek first His Kingdom.

During our most recent Worship, the pupils enjoyed listening to the story from the last book in the Bible, Revelation. Bishop Philip explained the story (virtually). He asked the children to consider whether they are worried about the future and then explained that for Christians, there is no need to worry. They believe that one of the most fantastic things about being a Christian is, that they know their future with absolute certainty.

In John's revelation from God, he describes his vision of God's future, with everyone having a right relationship with God, all things are made new, there is no need for pain or tears. Bishop Philip explained that this completely changes the present for people who believe it. He encouraged us to work hard towards our future, use our gifts, be ambitious and not worry.

YEAR OF PRAYER

The most recent actions:



WEEK 13 W/B 17TH MARCH 2025

POWERPOINT PICTURE: EMOJIS

Emotions

Have a look at the emojis on the screen (powerpoint picture provided). See if the children can name the different emotions shown. Ask them to think of two people in their lives who are feeling different emotions? Do they know someone who is poorly or someone who has just achieved something brilliant? Let's think of them as we pray.

"Lord we know that our families and friends have all kinds of things going on. We bring to you those people we know who are sad or worried, especially any who are not well. Help them to know your love and peace. May they find strength and hope in you. And Lord we thank you that some people we know have had exciting news - maybe a new baby or passing exams or just finishing a jigsaw puzzle. Thank you that we can celebrate with them. Help us to be aware today of how people are feeling in our classrooms, on the playground and at home.

Amen."



Week 13 – W/C 17th March 2025

God is Love Cut some large love heart shapes out of paper, foam or felt and scatter them around the room on the floor. Play a game where the 'floor is lava' so you can only touch the love hearts. Have fun stepping, hopping, and jumping from heart to heart or you could even get your hands involved too a bit like a moving game of Twister! Thank God for his love for us.

Reception Class Lent promises

Reception class presented their persona doll to the rest of the school. Their doll is a Muslim doll. The children spoke clearly and confidently. The dolls are used to support learning in RE and worship. Each doll represents one of the world faiths. A bag of religious artefacts brings learning to life and encourage our older pupils to link back to prior learning.

SPORTS

Swimming gala

Our swimming team competed in the annual Preston Schools' Swimming Gala, held at West View Leisure Centre. Our team competed in Division 2. Our swimmers were a credit to our school, performing with competitiveness but also great sportsmanship. All our individual swimmers made it through to the finals, with some excellent individual performances, particularly in the boys front crawl and backstroke, resulting in 2 gold medals for Evan W.

We finished in 2nd place in our division, and thus have been promoted to Division 1 next year, which is the top league! Well done to: Evan W, Rory B, Elijah H, Henry B, Savannah A-R, Ellie R and Matilda B.

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Gymnasts

Our year 3/4 gymnastics team competed in the Preston schools' competition at Longridge Gymnastics Club. Each member of the team had to perform a set floor routine and perform two vaults, with their top score counting. After the points were totalled, we were informed that we finished in 6th place of 8 schools in our league. Well done to: Ruby C, Sophia J, Elise T, Cerys P, Lucy G, Oliver C, Oliver B and Ollie W.

Tag Rugby

We played our final tag rugby match against Brockholes Wood. Our team showed great character and resilience to keep playing and turned the game around with the final result being a 7-5 win to us. Team: Ruby W, Annabelle L, Savannah A-R, Quinn T, Thomas G, Rory B, Fred C and Miles C

YEAR 5

Lets' Go Sing

This week, year 5 had an unforgettable experience as they performed in a spectacular concert at the Blackpool Winter Gardens Opera House on Tuesday. After months of practising songs and actions in their music lessons, they joined 15 other schools on stage in front of an audience of 1,200 people! They all did an incredible job, showing off their beautiful voices and letting their light shine! Their performance was a huge success, and they've made Miss Corkish, Mrs Wane, and the rest of the school incredibly proud.

Liverpool Philharmonic

Year 5 recently had the wonderful opportunity to attend a concert by the Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, where they experienced a stunning performance featuring music from all around the world. The children were in awe of the talent on stage, and it was truly a memorable experience. Throughout the event, all the children were exceptionally respectful and polite, representing the school with great pride. It was a pleasure to see them so engaged and appreciative of music.

SAFEGUARDING

We have continued to share the very useful Safeguarding guides with our parents and carers, including 'Streamers', 'Roblox' and 'Marvel Rivals'. We also shared our school Early Help offer for our families, which can be found on our school website.

Search '**grimsarghstmichaels**' on Instagram and '**Grimsargh St Michael's C of E Primary School**' on Facebook to have a snapshot of some of the things our children have been doing.

On behalf of our school staff, I wish everyone within our Grimsargh community well and hope you all continue to support each other and stay safe.

Mr Stuart Booth
Headteacher

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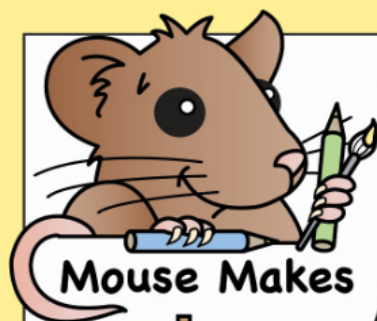
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Mouse Makes



On the cross Jesus opened wide his arms for us.
Jesus put an end to death by dying for us,
and showed us the resurrection to
come by His raising to new life!



Jesus is risen!

The angel said:
"Jesus ...is not here, for He
has risen, just as He said."
Matthew 28:6

Jesus is here

Jesus said:
"Where two or three
come together
in my name I am
there with them."
Matthew 18:20



READ the story of
the resurrection in:
Matthew 28:1-10
Mark 16:1-19
Luke 24:1-49
John 20:1-29
and *21:1-14*



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



Jesus will come again!

Jesus said:
"I will come back
and take you to
myself so that you
will be where I am."
John 14:3



JESUS • ALIVE • RISEN
LORD • SAVIOUR • KING
RESURRECTION



PEACE • NEW LIFE • JOY • GOOD NEWS • GO TELL • EASTER

MESSIAH • REDEEMER
CHRIST • SON OF GOD
HOSANNA • PRAISE





With
God, all
things are
possible.
Mathew
19:26

JIGSAW CLUB

For the children of St Michael's, Grimsargh.



When?



2nd and 4th Sunday of each month!
(term time only)

What?

Children aged 3 -11

Who?

Fun games, music and activities.

St Michael's Church and then
the Jigsaw Club hut!

Where?

Everyone
Welcome!

Optional
speaking in
Church!

A great way
to make new
friends!

Jesus
Is
Great
Special
And
Wonderful

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Feb	20th	£18.00	
Feb	23rd	£160.50	
March	2nd	£233.77	
March	5th	£25.00	Ash Wednesday
March	9th	£344.10	
March	16th	£315.25	

FLOWER ROTA

April	6th	No Flowers
April	13th	During Lent
April	20th	N Cowell & B & M Mackley
April	27th	Vacant

SIDESPERSIONS, READERS AND COFFEE ROTAS

	8.30am	10.00am	Communion Assistant	Readers	Coffee
April	6th	N Maudsley		K Billington M Lamberty	
April	13th	K Thompson	S Cowell	L Wood B Mackley	
April	20th	John Cowell	B Mackley	N Cowell L Williams	
April	27th	James Cowell		L Desai B Holt	

FRIDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

	Leader	Duty			Welcome
April	4th	Nellie	Marlene	Jennifer	Christine
April	11th	Jean	Eileen	Helen	Linda
April	18th	NO COFFEE MORNING (GOOD FRIDAY)			
April	25th	Marlene	Maureen	Nellie	Janet

ST MICHAEL'S DIARY DATES FOR APRIL

1st	7.00pm	Deanery Synod and Diocesan Vision Evening
2nd	12 noon	Lent Lunch St Lawrence and St Paul's
2nd	9.30am	School Easter Service
	2.00pm	Craft and Chat at the Vicarage
4th	9:30am - 11.30 Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club	
5th	10.30am	Prayer Group
6th	<u>5th Sunday of Lent</u>	
	10.00am	Morning Worship
7th	7.30pm	FAF meeting . Nellie's 270 Longridge Road
9th	12noon	Lent Lunch Alston Lane church at St Wilfrid's
11th	9:30am - 11.30 Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club	
13th	<u>Palm Sunday</u>	
	10.00am	Holy Communion
	12.noon	Parish 12noon for 12.30 pm
	6.30pm	Churches Together Service at St Wilfred's
16th	7.30pm	Lisa Gray (Lind Fisk's daughter) Life in a young person's secure unit - in School
17th	11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Communion
18th	11.00am	Good Friday Service
	12.noon	Picnic Lunch and Parish Walk
	No Coffee Morning	
19th	9.30 onwards Decorating church for Easter	
20th	<u>Easter Sunday</u>	
	10.00am	Holy Communion
25th	9:30am - 11.30 Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club	
27th	<u>Easter 2</u>	
	10.00am	Morning Worship with Jigsaw Club

DEADLINE for the May magazine is 15th April.
Articles to be sent to Mrs Cowell (pandncowell@hotmail.co.uk)
and/or B Mackley (bjmackley@aol.com)



Bespoke Barber

14 Market Place, Longridge, PR3 3JD

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