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VICAR:	Rev. Andy Williams Email <a href="mailto:revandy.gsm@gmail.com">revandy.gsm@gmail.com</a>	Tel: 07472 663279
CHURCHWARDENS:	Mr. Anthony Cowell Three Mile Cross Farm, Grimsargh	Tel: 07753813758
DAY SCHOOL	Headteacher Mr Stuart Booth	Tel: 653600
VERGER	Mr Tom Jones 26 Waingate, Grimsargh	Tel: 07933 792009
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 <a href="http://www.girlguiding.org.uk">www.girlguiding.org.uk</a>	
1 <sup>st</sup> GRIMSARGH SCOUTS	Group Scout Leader Dean Hogarth Email <a href="mailto:dean.hogarth@prestonscouts.org.uk">dean.hogarth@prestonscouts.org.uk</a>	

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# PARISH LETTER

## Building up our church - Prayer

Over the next few months, I'll be sharing some of the learning journey the PCC is going on as part of the Renewal Programme. This month we start with prayer – one of the 5 P's; Prayer, Presence, Proclamation, Pathways and Perseverance.

Prayer is a key part of the process of seeking to grow our church – in fact nothing we do will bear fruit unless it is underpinned by prayer. There are some obvious ways we pray as a church; during our Sunday morning worship, before PCC meetings, at our Bible Study and our monthly Prayer Group.

All that is well and good, but it does have its limitations. In many ways this kind of prayer can be passive for most people, apart from those leading we only join in with responses. What about our own personal prayer, which is essential for us to build up our own relationship with God? How can that be more effective and more focused in praying for church growth?

A bishop friend of mine (yes, they do exist) had a simple way of praying that could include many aspects of prayer. He used the mnemonic **P R A Y**.

**Praise** – giving thanks to God for all He has done in Jesus and our lives.

**Repentance** – acknowledging before God when we get things wrong and seeking a new start.

**Ask** – who or what are we praying for; the people we know who need healing, those who need to know Jesus, the growth of our church, and our own needs and to grow in faith.

**Yield** – offering ourselves afresh to God each day that He may use us, our lives, our words, our experiences to bring glory to Him.

It is a very simple, but effective and easy way to pray, and allows us to include all sorts of situations and people.

One of the suggestions at our last PCC was to provide prayer bookmarks for everyone who is part of our church. This would give daily themes for our prayers and include the growth prayer we use on Sundays for everyone to use. I hope that we will be able to provide these as this magazine is published – please let me know what you think of them and provide suggestions for future (probably once a year) renewals.

We will also be inserting stickers of the growth prayer into our service booklets so we can also join in with the prayer on a weekly basis.

There can be no doubt that God listens when His people pray – lets pray more fervently and frequently and see how He answers.

Blessings, Andy



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## **Keswick Convention.**

Each year several thousand Christians of all ages descend on the Lake District town of Keswick for a time of teaching and worship. It is a great time to be refreshed, encouraged and challenged in faith. There are often nationally, and internationally, respected speakers who open the Bible in new and accessible ways. The worship is inspiring and full of spiritual impact.

It is a great place for anyone to come along and be blessed. Louise and I have been attending for several years; and extra blessing for us is that we can share in worship and receiving teaching together. It is also a place where I can receive blessing and teaching without being responsible for what's going on.

This year's theme is 'Strong in His strength'. We stand firm, cleansed and clothed in Jesus' righteousness, safe in him forever by his grace. We yearn for the day we will see him face-to-face with unhindered joy.

The Convention takes place over 3 weeks beginning on the 18<sup>th</sup> of July. Andy and Louise will be going for week 2, 24<sup>th</sup> July – 1<sup>st</sup> of August, and you are welcome to join us for a day or two or the whole week. All you need is accommodation and transport. The Convention is free and relies on donations.

For more information have a look at the website

<https://keswickministries.org/convention2026/>

If you can't go most of the talks and worship is streamed live on their YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@keswickconvention>

Please ask Andy for more information.

## **FAF**

### **.Garden Party**

What a fabulous day we had for our annual Garden Party. A huge thank you to everyone who helped in any way. The sun certainly helped to make it very special indeed. A fuller report of monies raised will be in the August / September issue. We haven't a final total as yet but we are hoping to smash last year's total.



### **Next Fundraiser Is The Big Summer Raffle Draw**

This is another of our main fundraising events.

It will be drawn at the Coffee Morning in THE GRIMSARGH CLUB on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July at 10.45 a.m.

Please make sure you don't miss out there are some seriously fantastic prizes!

They are only £1.00 per ticket

## 25th July – St James the Apostle

James and his brother John were sons of Zebedee and fishermen from Galilee – the ‘sons of thunder’, as the gospel writers describe their impetuous characters and fiery tempers.

James stands out on three accounts: he was one of the three disciples who witnessed the Transfiguration of Christ. Jesus took him, along with Peter and John, to ‘watch’ with him in the garden of Gethsemane. Finally, he went on to be the first apostle to die for the Christian faith, when in AD 44 King Herod Agrippa put him to the sword in Jerusalem at Passover time.

In the centuries following his death, James became associated with the evangelising of Spain, and as a powerful defender of Christianity against the Moors. The heyday of the cult of Santiago de Compostela was from the 12th to the 15<sup>th</sup> century, and the pilgrimage to Compostela became one of the most important of medieval Christendom. This in time transformed the iconography of James, and his emblems became the pilgrim’s hat and the scallop-shell of Compostela. Over 400 English churches have been dedicated to James

### **Best handwriting please!**

*See how large a letter I have written unto you with my own hand. (Galatians 6 v 11)*

I am sat in a train and most of my fellow passengers are preparing for their important days by typing away on laptops and checking their phones. I am probably only person who has a notebook open beside them with a list of things to do, written in pencil. A couple of weeks ago I was waiting for a train and a member of staff noted I was writing a letter with “one of those things,” meaning a fountain pen.

Being a lawyer I am supposed to be traditional and old fashioned. I still like writing letters and receiving postcards. Notes written in pencil work when there is a good signal or none. I was often told at school not to use pencil as it faded over time. I remember reading official war diaries written in the trenches in pencil that crystal clear after eighty years, so Nerr, teacher, you were wrong!

Paul had a secretary to write for him. Perhaps his eyesight was failing or his handwriting had got worse with time as it does for most of us. Several times, St Paul ends his letters by taking the pen from his secretary and writing himself. He did it to emphasise a point or to add a human touch.

The world we live in needs clear, bold words and the Church must write them

### **.St James the Least of All**

#### **On war between parishes**

My dear Nephew Darren

Ah, the joys of June! At last, I can return to the Rectory without putting on my overcoat before going inside. For the next four months, all windows and doors are left open, in order to let the heat *in*. If anyone else tells me how lucky I am to live in an 10-bedroom Queen Anne house, I shall have them excommunicated.

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You will soon stop complaining about your one-bedroom flat should you ever have to live in a rural rectory; the days of wandering about your home in shirtsleeves will become a distant memory. In my first winter here, I had the central heating on full blast 24 hours a day. The house was almost warm, even if the boilers sounded like the Queen Mary coming into port. But that quarter's gas bill needed a substantial grant from the International Monetary Fund to cover it, so ever since, for six months of the year, I live in the kitchen. Parishioners find it either touching or sad that I sleep with my Labrador. It never occurs to them that I need her for extra heat.

It does mean that evening meetings at the rectory on winter evenings can be un-Christianly satisfying. Watching committee members fighting – with infinite politeness – to get nearest to the one-bar electric fire is highly entertaining. They hold on to their coffee cups less for refreshment, more for a little extra warmth. At least it means that meetings are short.

My predecessor was a model railway enthusiast and so several bedrooms were taken up with a system of such complexity that it made Crewe Junction seem trivial. He also found it helpful to put his teenage son in the turret bedroom, where he could play his drums without anyone else in the house being able to hear a thing.

Nowadays, all these extra rooms are filled with cribs and nativity play costumes, Easter gardens and spare choir cassocks. It is remarkable how all these things used to be stored quite satisfactorily in the church vestry until the parish acquired a single priest; now the empty rooms in the rectory have become vital storage space. I so hope my successor has a plethora of children, so that the parishioners have to find alternative accommodation for all the detritus vital to church life.

No, dear boy, cherish your centrally heated, dry, draft proof, mice-free, bat-less, modern-plumbed accommodation. It will not be ever thus

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace

## Church Humour

### Who I am

An elderly woman walked into the local country church. The friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps. "Where would you like to sit?" he asked politely.

"The front row please." she answered.

"You really don't want to do that", the usher said. "The vicar is boring."

"Do you happen to know who I am?" the woman inquired. The man shook his head. "Well, I'm the vicar's mother," she said indignantly.

"Do you know who I am?" he asked. The woman shook her head. "Good," he grinned

### True Story

A vicar entered a Christian bookshop to buy a popular book title. "Do you have 'Time to Embrace' please?" he asked. The astonished elderly lady assistant responded by slapping him across the face.

## What ushers do

Six-year-old Angie and her four-year-old brother Joel were sitting together in church. Joel giggled, sang, and talked out loud during the service. Finally, his big sister had enough. “You’re not supposed to talk out loud in church.”

“Why? Who’s going to stop me?” Joel asked indignantly.

Angie pointed to the back of the church and said, “See those two men standing by the door? They’re hushers!”

## MOTHERS’ UNION

As I write this report, we have almost finalised arrangements for the Garden Party. All we need now is a lovely sunny day and lots of people to support.

What a wonderful celebration we had at Longridge for our Deanery Festival on our meeting evening in June. We were delighted to see a lot of our members there. Thank you to all who supported and thank you to Louise who did a fantastic job in arranging everything, to Wendy who carried the deanery banner and to Sue who carried our banner.

We sang some lovely rousing hymns and heard about the work of Mothers Union from Jane Cairns, our Action and Outreach Coordinator, Janet Adams who told us all about the history and use of the Away from it All caravan, Lucille Porter, who deals with Mothers Union Worldwide and Margaret Sims our Faith and Prayer Coordinator.



Andy gave a most inspiring talk as he reminded us that Mothers Union is not a church WI with slide shows and tea and cakes but a worldwide organisation seeking to end injustice, end violence and end poverty. We should be shouting it from the roof tops and be proud of what is achieved.

Brenda was unable to attend but she was in receipt of a certificate for 35 years membership and Saundra was presented with her certificate for 45 years membership. Congratulations to both of them and thank you for true and loyal service over so many years.

At our next meeting in July we welcome

Ruth Smith who is our diocesan secretary and safeguarding officer. Ruth supports a children’s hospice in our link diocese of Bloemfontein and will be telling us about the work of The Sunflower Children’s Hospice. We look forward to her visit.

There are still weeks available for holidays in the caravan, so if you know of anyone who would benefit from a break, please have a word with Andy or Louise.

Blessings

Nellie

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## WORSHIP



Dear God,  
 Thank you for the joy of sport and for the way it brings people together from all over the world.  
 Help us to learn from this, to be kind, to work as a team, and to respect everyone we meet.  
 Teach us to celebrate our differences and to live together in peace and unity.  
 Help us to build a community where everyone feels welcome and valued.  
 Amen.

This week in collective worship, we explored the question:

“What can football teach us about the world?”  
 as we learned about the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

The children thought about how such a large global event brings together people from many different countries, cultures and communities. We reflected on how, although people may speak different languages and live in different places, shared experiences like sport can help unite us.

We discussed important values that football can teach us, including teamwork, respect, diversity and connection. The children considered how these values can also be lived out in our school each day.

We linked our thinking to the Bible verse:

“How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity!” (Psalm 133:1)

## YOUNG WRITERS

Four of our Year 3 children, Charlotte H, Blake W, Harry C and Daniel L, entered the Young Writers competition 'Monster poetry- Fabulous Fiends!' and all four children have been chosen to have their poems published in a book. The winner of the overall competition, chosen from all of the published poems, will be announced next term. Well done to our young writers, we are so proud of you all and your achievement!

## DROWNING PREVENTION WEEK

During Drowning Prevention Week, we have been raising awareness of water safety through our worship and classroom learning. Pupils have learned about the importance of staying safe near water, including understanding potential hazards such as rivers, canals and the sea, recognising warning signs, and knowing what to do in an emergency. We have explored key messages such as “Float to Live,” how to call for help correctly, and the importance of never entering water to rescue someone. These discussions have helped children develop a greater understanding of how to keep themselves and others safe, both locally and during the summer months.



## **TRIM TRAIL**

We are delighted to share that our new activity trim trail is now complete and ready for the children to enjoy! Thank you again to Grimsargh Parish Council for their incredibly generous donation of £25,000, that has paid for our new trim trail. And to Mrs McGivern for her commitment to driving this project.

## **ASSESSMENTS**

Our year 1 children and some in year 2 have made us incredibly proud as they have completed their phonics screening assessments. They showcased their learning incredibly well and did so with incredible confidence and maturity. Thank you to Miss T and all the staff who supported our amazing children.

Our year 4 children have recently completed their Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). By the end of year 4, children are expected to know their 'times tables' to 12x12 and they are assessed on these during the MTC weeks. Again, our children made us incredibly proud as they responded to the quick -fire questions with calmness. Well done to Mrs Parsons and Mrs Wane for preparing the children superbly.

## **SPORTS**

### **Mini-skills**

Six of our reception children represented our school for the first time in a sporting event. They participated in the under 5 Mini Skills Athletics. We competed in six different events, testing their throwing, catching, running and kicking skills plus team work and communication skills. We were competing against seven over schools. After all the points were totalled, our team scored an incredible and impressive 114 points out of a possible 120. We finished in 1<sup>st</sup> place with gold medal for our team. Well done to: Reggie T, William G, Arthur G, Lily S, Ava B and Eliza H



### **Cross Country**

On Wednesday 20th May, we took a team of 4 children to the Preston Primary Schools Cross-Country Race at ULan Sports Arena. With it being the first day of our half-term break, a couple of the girls in the team were on holiday. After walking the team around the course, our sole girl runner, Quinn, was up first in the girls' race. A brilliant start and race saw Quinn finish in a fantastic 9<sup>th</sup> place out of 53 girls. Next, was the boys' race in which we had a full team competing. The boys worked superbly as a team, running together and strongly. They all spent

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most of the race in the top 10 positions with Max leading the way. This is all the more impressive as Max is currently in year 4. The final 200m saw Thomas and Rory kick on and have a brilliant battle to complete the course as the first GSM finisher. All three boys finished well with Thomas in 9<sup>th</sup> place, Rory in 12<sup>th</sup> place and Max in 16<sup>th</sup> place out of 62 boys resulting in 37 points and a 5<sup>th</sup> place for the team out of 20 teams. Well done to: Thomas G, Rory B, Max R and Quinn T.



## **Cricket League**

We received confirmation earlier this week that we finished in 1<sup>st</sup> place in the top cricket league this season. After 5 matches, we won 4 and lost only 1, finishing on 12 points, 3 ahead of 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Longsands Primary School. Well done to Thomas G, Miles C, Harry M, Shaan S, Fraser C, Henry B and Brook W. We now look forward to the Dynamos competition and competing in the Sports Festival.

## **Safeguarding**

We have continued to share the very useful Safeguarding guides with our parents and carers, including 'Online Grooming' and 'Helping Neurodivergent Children Navigate the Online World'.

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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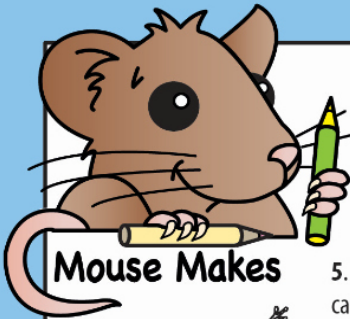
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# Mouse Makes

1. What bird makes its nest on high?  
*Job 39:27*



2. What ate the seeds along the path?  
*Matthew 13:4*



3. The hair of which animal was used to make curtains?  
*Exodus 36:14*

4. What insect can we learn from?  
*Proverbs 6:6*

7. Which animal was Jesus compared to?  
*John 1:29*



5. What plague came out of the River Nile?  
*Exodus 8:6*



6. What animal would go through the eye of a needle easier than a rich person?  
*Luke 18:25*



**B I B L E**



8. What bird did Noah release from the ark first?  
*Genesis 8:7*



9 across. In what creature's mouth was a coin found?  
*Matthew 17:27*

**C R E A T U R E S**



7



10. What insect would God send to destroy the enemy?  
*Deut 7:20*



9 down. What lives in holes?  
*Matthew 8:20*

8



11



13

14

12



11. What animals eat crumbs from under the table?  
*Matthew 15:27*



15

12. Which bird did the Holy Spirit appear as?  
*Luke 3:22*

13. Which animal did Jesus ride on?  
*Matthew 21:7*



14. What bird did God provide for food in the wilderness?  
*Exodus 16:13*



15. What insects did John eat in the wilderness?  
*Matthew 3:4*



16



16. Which animal is the "mightiest among beasts"?  
*Proverbs 30:30*



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

# JIGSAW CLUB

For the children of St Michael's, Grimsargh.



When?



2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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

Meeting in church for the first hymn at 10.00am  
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May	21st	£30.00	
May	24th	£112.00	
May	31st	£120.00	
June	7th	£139.00	
		£73.45	Baptism
June	14th	£124.50	
June	21st	£293.58	

## FLOWER ROTA

July	5th	Holding Family
July	12th	Betty Sweetman (Hilary)
July	19th	Ruth Buckley
July	28th	Vacant

## SIDESPERSONS, READERS AND COFFEE ROTAS

		10.00am	Communion Assistant	Readers	Coffee
July	5th	John Cowell		B Mackley J Lander	
July	12th	R Woollam K Thompson	N Cowell	S Cowell J Eccles	
July	19th	James Cowell		B Holt L Williams	
July	26th	S Fillingham R Buckley	L Williams	J Coulston-Hermann N Cowell	

## FRIDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

		Leader	Duty		Welcome
July	3rd	Marlene	Kate	Maureen	Vacant
July	10th	Jean	Nellie	Eileen	Vacant
July	17th	Marlene	Kate	Maureen	Vacant
July	24th	Nellie	Jean	Eileen	Vacant
July	31st	Jean	Kate	Maureen	Vacant

**Holy Baptism**      **Jesus said "Let the children come unto me"**  
 May 3rd              Brody Wolstenholme

**Confirmations**  
 May 17th              Matilda Bould  
                              James (Harry) Morroll  
                              Julie Cressey  
                              Stephen Cressey

## ST MICHAEL'S DIARY DATES FOR JULY

- 1st** 2.00pm Craft & Chat group at the vicarage
- 3rd** 9:30am - 11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 5th** **Trinity 5**  
10am Morning Worship with guest speaker Mike Chesterton  
6.30pm Joint service with Alston Lane at St Michael's
- 9th** 7.30pm Bible Study at the vicarage
- 10th** 9:30am - 11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 11th** 10.30am Prayer Group in church
- 12th** **Trinity 6**  
10.00am Holy Communion and Jigsaw Club
- 15th** 7.30pm Mothers' Union with Ruth Smith The Sunflower Children's Hospice Trust  
- in School
- 16th** 11.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 17th** 9:30am - 11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club  
10.45am Big Raffle Draw in Grimsargh Club
- 19th** **Trinity 7**  
10.00am Morning Worship
- 24th** 9:30am - 11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 26th** **Trinity 8**  
10.00am Holy Communion with Rev John Ball
- 31st** 9:30am - 11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club

**DEADLINE for the August/September magazine is 15<sup>th</sup> July.  
Articles to be sent to Mrs Cowell (pandncowell@hotmail.co.uk)  
and/or B Mackley (bjmackley@aol.com)**



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