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Nov	22nd	4 days	Thursford Christmas Spectacular (Afternoon Performance) £579.00
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	Email revandy.gsm@gmail.c	
CHURCHWARDENS:	Mr. Anthony Cowell Three Mile Cross Farm, Grin	nsarghTel:07753813758
	Mr. Mark Lamberty Ashleigh, Preston Road, Grii	msarghTel: 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
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MOTHERS' UNION	Every third Wednesday in the In the school. Contact N Co	e month at 7.30pm owell Tel: 651772 skley Tel: 653940
GUIDES 1st Grimsargh	Every Monday at 7.00pm In	the Village Hall
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PARISH LETTER

Ordinary Time

The beginning of June sees the end of our major Christian festivals for several months. Our liturgical colours will become green at communion. This is the beginning of the 'weeks after Trinity' and last for 5 - 6 months, save for a break for St Michael's day and Harvest. The Church calls this Ordinary Time. What does that mean?

A dictionary defines ordinary as 'not different or special or unexpected in any way, usual'.So it look like we can't expect anything interesting or exciting over the next few months. How sad!

During Ordinary Time in church we follow one of the gospel accounts of Jesus' life and ministry week by week, this year it is Mark - the most 'ordinary' of our four gospels. Most of the stories we already know if we've been coming to church for any length of time (we repeat the same sequence every three years).

But; we need to remember that Jesus' life and ministry was anything but ordinary. In fact all He did and said was extraordinary - or extra-ordinary, more than ordinary. The words He spoke and His actions changed the lives of the people He met and of course His disciples. We cannot explore Jesus, His life and ministry and not expect to recognise who He was and is.

It is all too easy in life to get used to the 'same old', getting stuck in a rut as not much around us seems to change. Sometimes there is comfort in that as nothing being special means we don't get caught out by things we don't expect or haven't planned for. Another definition of ordinary is boring!

Jesus was anything but boring or ordinary; healing people, casting out demons, raising the dead, walking on water, making a picnic feed over 5000 people, sharing God's love, teaching about the coming kingdom. If you find those kind of things ordinary you must lead an exciting life!

So as we move through the life and ministry of Jesus over the next few months look out for the extra-ordinary. Try to imagine yourself encountering the stories for the first time as someone who was there. Listen to what God may be trying to tell you afresh about what you read and hear. We can all learn new things from the Bible - no matter how many times we have heard or read a passage.

These next few months may be described by the Church as ordinary, but with Jesus in our lives He can transform the ordinary into something special, unique and life-giving. There is new life in the extra-ordinary life of Jesus, for each of us and the church of St Michael's. May our lives become extraordinary like His, may we find our unique and special calling as His disciples

Blessings, Andy



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Family Worship

The church has been used to having Family Worship on the third Sunday of each month. Since coming I have noticed that less and less families have been coming to this, and those that do come are sometimes reluctant to take part. Jayne has been doing a fantastic job of finding creative ways to explore the theme each month.

We discussed this at our last PCC and decided that the time was right to stop our monthly Family Worship, you may have noticed that for the last couple of months it has been replaced with Morning Worship. This will continue for the foreseeable future.

Our hope is that as we build up relationships with our families, school and uniformed organisations in the village we will start having termly services for people of all ages, with the opportunity for young people to help plan and take part in these.

To help with this Andy is taking part in a Diocesan training event to look at how we might connect better with young people in the future. The 5 week course runs on Thursday mornings until the middle of June.

It may take some time to get this new format off the ground but planning is already taking place.

If you, your family, or your group, would like to explore working with us please speak to Andy.

Services

2nd June	10am	Morning Worship
9th June	10am	Holy Communion
16th June	10am	Morning Worship
23rd June	10am	Holy Communion
27th June	11am	BCP Holy Communion
30th June	10am	Morning Worship

Guest preacher

On the 7th of July at our Morning Worship we will have Mike Chesterton as our guest. Andy and Louise have known Mike for many years. He is passionate about the church making a difference in people's lives and has worked for several Christian charities helping churches and Christians make links to people who need our help.

Mike currently works for 'Home for Good' which is a charity helping people to explore fostering and adoption. Mike is an engaging speaking who speaks from his and God's heart so don't miss out on what he has to say. If you have experience of fostering or adoption and would let Mike interview in the service for a few minutes please speak to Andy, thanks.

You can find out about Home for Good at https://homeforgood.org.uk

Thursday Holy Communion

Please note that the Thursday Communion Service will again be on the <u>fourth</u> <u>Thursday, 27th June</u>, and NOT the third Thursday. Everyone welcome.

Craft & Chat Group

Our new Craft and Chat group meets on the first Wednesday of the month from 2-4pm usually at the vicarage, 6 Douglas Lane, Grimsargh. We are a friendly group of

crafters with various skill levels and welcome anyone to join us, whether it's to work on a current project or to learn a new crafting skill. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 5th June.

As well as working on our own projects we are planning to make some small, knitted elephants for the Lancashire based children's cancer charity, Millys Smiles. The aim of the charity is to help make the journey of children newly diagnosed with

cancer a little bit easier by supporting the child and their family. One of the ways in which they do this is by providing a "Milly bag" containing a range of useful items including a small, brightly coloured elephant for the child. If you are a knitter and would like to help please see Louise for a pattern and details of the wool needed for the project.

Here's a photo of some of the elephants I have already made – they're simple to knit and easy to sew up!



Garden Party, Saturday 15th June

We are hoping for sunshine on Saturday 15th June for the annual Garden Party!

Come and see the children dancing, enjoy a cup of tea and a cake, or a delicious burger. There will be a wide range of stalls including the Plant Stall, Good as New Stall, Chocolate-Bola, Bottle Stall, School Stall, Knitted Toy Stall, games and activities for the children and much more.

The Rose Queen will open the Garden Party at 1pm and the children will start their wonderful dance routines at 2pm.

We will be setting up from 10am on the day and we are always glad of more helpers, both to set up and to tidy up at the end of the day. See you there!

"Big Summer Raffle 2024", Friday 19th July, 11am, Grimsargh Club.

Come and join us on Friday 19th July for the draw of the "Big Summer Raffle" at Grimsargh Club. The draw will take place at 11am, during the usual "Coffee Morning" at Grimsargh Club. Enjoy a cup of coffee, a delicious cake and a chat – everyone very welcome!

Bible Study, Thursday 13th June, 7.30pm, 204 Preston Road.

During our first Bible Study, we enjoyed meeting together to read and discuss the Gospel of John. The Bible is God's Word to us, and on Thursday 13th June, we will meet again to read and ask questions to help deepen our understanding of the Gospel of John. Everyone is very welcome – there is always cake too

A Ramble round Rome (continued)

If you have caught the TV series on Pompeii, you will be aware that the volcanic eruption of Vesuvius took place in 79AD. It is likely that last month's figure, Seneca, who commented on an earthquake in Pompeii in 62AD, witnessed an early precursor of the ensuing eruption. By 79AD Seneca was long dead, as was his tormentor Nero. By that year Titus was emperor, and the empire was in its golden



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era of stable government. Gaius Plinius was his naval commander, and one of the main bases of the Roman navy was at Misenum, on the north side of the bay of Naples (Nea Polis, Greek for New City). Vesuvius stood directly south across the other side of the bay. It was from there that Pliny the elder as he is known to us today, had a house where he lived with his nephew whom following the death of the young man's father who was Pliny senior's brother, Pliny the elder adopted as his son. We have a vivid and eye witness account of the first signs of trouble by the Pliny the younger who was aged 17 at the time of the eruption, which he set out later in his life. There was a dramatic plume of smoke which shot up to the sky many thousands of feet in the air, in the shape as described by the younger Pliny, of a pine tree.

His adopted father was a man of letters, as well as naval commander. He wrote extensively on the natural world, in which he was intensely interested. He also, rightly, discounted how his fellow countrymen ascribed some natural phenomena to "the gods", for example thunder and lightning, which Pliny correctly identified as occurring mostly in summer in humid weather and a natural event. So it was that confronted with this extraordinary event Pliny the elder took off with his fleet to investigate it, although he may also have had in mind a rescue of some personal friends in Pompeii. His reasoning however, did not extend to the people of Herculaneum, who were crowding the shore by the time the fleet were in sight, by which time also the preliminary events prior to the massive explosion were in train. The fleet on Pliny's orders sailed serenely on, leaving the unfortunate people of Herculaneum to their catastrophic fate.

I have often wondered what it would have been like to be a sailor in the fleet as it went on towards doom. Did anyone strike up the courage to say to Pliny, this is really not a good idea. Either way, as you will know if you saw the programmes, there then followed one of the most devastating of all volcanic eruptions. Cruelly, the ash started to decrease before the catastrophe, but that was because as scientists can now tell us, the magma was not ascending as high, but that did not mean that the worst was past, far from it. It was the relative calm before the final massive pyroclastic explosion which among many others killed Pliny and destroyed much of the fleet.

Mark

The Rectory St James the Least My dear Nephew Darren

Your remark that you rather liked the silence we keep before starting Services gave me pause for thought. I suppose all things are relative. I know that the noise your congregation makes before worship resembles a packed stand on the football terraces any Saturday afternoon, but the days seem long-gone when I could expect our congregation to sit in real silence for ten minutes.

There's the sound of the treasurer counting the previous day's jumble sale takings, of the ladies at the back asking each other when the fish van will next come round, and of Major Hastings's deafening whisper as he comments some women's choice of hats. Add to this the weekly competition between the organist and the bell ringers to see who can make the most noise, the roar from the choir vestry as they all complain they don't like my choice of hymns and the sound of books, umbrellas and collection money being dropped. I sometimes suspect that an informal rota is arranged whereby people volunteer to drop heavy objects in rotation, thus maintaining a constant clatter, for which no single person can be held responsible.

There is also the weekly ritual when the verger – always waiting until the church is full – goes round each microphone, giving them a bash and bellowing "Testing, testing" and relishing the echo as it bounces off the walls.

The only time the noise level drops significantly is if the congregation see Miss Simpson sidle up to me to have one of her confidential little chats about someone in the village. Everyone knows that her information will provide more than enough to keep gossip flourishing for the following week.

Equally, periods of silence during Services are rarely welcomed; some find them threatening, but the majority simply assume it means I have lost my place. I gave up after one occasion when, on announcing we would say the Lord's Prayer and then leaving a time of silence for recollection, a choirman leaned over to me and whispered helpfully: "It begins 'Our Father'"

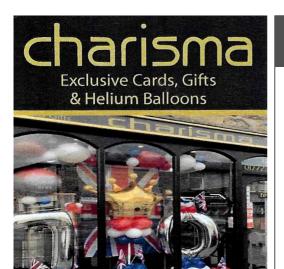
Your loving uncle,

Eustace



From the May meeting

To start the celebrations of St. Michael's Mothers Union 93rd birthday we met at the Ribchester Arms for a buffet lunch. Forty ladies attended, with M.U. members joining us from Whitechapel, St. Stephen's and St. Leonard's, Walton-le-Dale. A tasty buffet followed by 'naughty' puddings! A great time of feeding, both physical & socially! Then in the evening we met again for the Ascension Day service to celebrate Jesus' return to heaven. Our spiritual feeding!



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A few photos from the lunch.



NEXT MEETING JUNE 19th

An Open meeting with a very interesting celebrity as our speaker!! ALL WELCOME.. Bring friends, family, husbands, neighbours... everyone!



DAVID GUEST, journalist & chief reporter

for BBC NorthWest ('til Oct. 2020)

He will speak on

Scandals, Scoops and

Skating board Dogs!!

OPEN MEETING. ALL WELCOME

In St. Michael's Church 7.30pm

No admission fee. Donations welcome to St Johns Hospice Lancaster

SCHOOL REPORT

We were excited to welcome our children and their families back on Monday 15th April after enjoying our Easter break. We have an exciting half-term ahead with many exciting events and opportunities for our children, both in school and in our local community. During this half-term our year 6 children will sit their SATs; we have classes looking forward to educational visits and we again have entered all sporting opportunities available.

Worship

Ascension Day

On Thursday morning, the pupils, staff and some parents, gathered in church to worship together for Ascension Day. A group of year 6 pupils reminded us all of the story of the Ascension from the Bible (Acts 1:1-5, 9 and Acts 1:10-14). Our year 2 children shared their art work, which illustrated their ideas about heaven and a couple of year 5 children read their own poetry based on the story of Ascension and how that impacts the lives of Christians today. The children spoke clearly and confidently. Reverend Andy brought both the story and its meaning to life, with a fun and interactive talk. He used a heart shaped helium balloon to remind us about the love of Jesus and His love for Christians all over the world. Christians believe that God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son (The story of Easter). We were delighted that Mrs Cliff joined us for whole school worship. She thanked the children who entered the competition to design their own Easter egg wrapper and commented on the wonderful designs and explained that it was very difficult for the parishioners to judge. Mrs Cliff was pleased to see the detail clearly illustrating the Easter story on the designs. Look out on social media for photographs of the entries. Prizes were given to the best design in each year group who entered and also

the best overall design in key stage one and key stage two. Huge thanks to all the children who entered the competition and the parishioners at St Michael's Church for judging the competition and donating the prizes- a pencil for every child who enters plus Easter chocolate or an egg for the winners in each category.

Parish Garden Party

On Saturday 15th June, and along with the parishioners, we are looking forward to welcoming our pupils, along with their parents, guardians, family and friends, to the Parish Garden Party where there will be a selection of stalls and entertainment, together with teas and refreshments being served. All the children from nursery through to year six, perform a dance routine.

SPORT

Our Kurling team, made up of four year 3 children, competed in the inter-school Kurling competition at West View Leisure Centre. Our team represented our school superbly but unfortunately just missed out on making it through to the semifinals. Well done to Sophie J, Elise T, Shaun C and Robert L.





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If so contact Elizabeth Blake on 07801515267 Chartered Accountant - No Job too small Our school cricket team played their opening two fixtures of the league season on Thursday. We are in division two– the top two divisions play using wooden bats and pads. In our first match we batted first but struggled to score many runs and as a result ended up losing. Our second match was much closer. Despite this we were narrowly defeated. Well done to: Avneet S, Bob G, Seb W, Zach M, Florence B-R and Charlie B.

Our year 6 netball team have played their first league matches over the last three weeks. They have all worked brilliantly together, showing great skill, determination and teamwork. Our team is going from strength to strength and are looking forward to the next few games. Well done: Avneet S, Ellis T, Bob G, Amber R, Emilia L, Alice R, Noah Y, Sheena C and Sophia W.

PTFA

We are so lucky to have such a wonderful PTFA who raise money to help support school in many different ways. This week we have taken delivery of 120 new dictionaries and thesaurus' for each of our KS2 classrooms. These new resources will enhance teaching and learning and in particular, with our vocabulary and etymology work. Thank you PTFA!



BRITISH VALUES DAY

On Tuesday 22nd May, we are all having a special day off timetable during which our whole school will focus on British Values. The Worship Council will start the day off with whole school worship to launch the day and remind everyone about the British values. The children will then spend the day rotating around their key stage as each teacher will deliver one activity based on one of the British Values– this will be a different value in each class per key stage.

Each classroom door to be decorated with the British Value that will be the focus in that room. During the celebration at the end of the day, children will share what they have learned about the British Values. We will also celebrate a year of King Charles' reign and a portrait of him will be formally presented to our school council. We will also sing the National Anthem.

We encourage the children to wear red, white or blue socks along with their school uniform.

SATs

This week our year 6 children have made us incredibly proud. They have completed six tests over four days and have done so with confidence, composure and maturity. They have completed tests in English: 'Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling', 'Reading' and in maths: 'Arithmetic' and two 'Reasoning' papers. We only ask that all children try their best and they have most certainly done that this week.

Search 'grimsarghstmichaels' on Instagram, 'Grimsargh St Michael's C of E Primary School' on Facebook and 'GSMPrimaryArtDT' to see 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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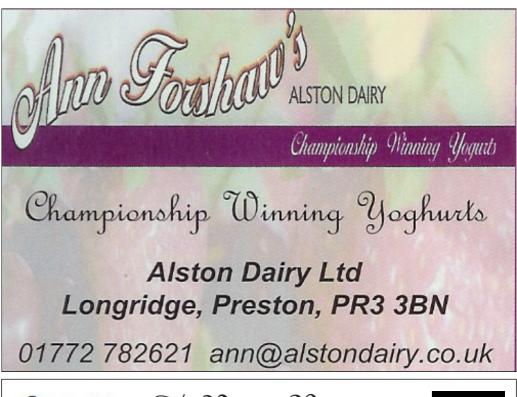
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April	21st	£334.10	
		£32.63	Baptism
April	28th	£133.69	
May	5th	£89.37	
May	9th	£75.30	MU service
May	12th	£180.32	
May	19th	£117.57	

FLOWER ROTA

June	2nd	Vacant
June	9th	Vacant
June	16th	Linda & Jim Eccleston
June	23rd	Vacant
June	30th	Vacant

SIDESPERSONS, READERS AND COFFEE ROTAS

	8.30am	10.00am	Communion Assistant	Readers Coffee
June	2nd	N Maudsley		L Wood M Lamberty
June	9th	B Mackley	S Cowell	S Cowell B Holt
June	16th	R Buckley		L Williams N Cowell
June	23rd	James Cowell	B Mackley	B Mackley L Desai
June	30th	K Thompson		J Eccles D Rusling

I

FRIDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

	Leader	Dut	у	Welcome
7th	Jean	Maureen	Kate	Linda
14th	Marlene	Helen	Eileen	Janet
21st	Nellie	Christine	Jennifer	Jean
28th	Jean	Maureen	Kate	Linda
	14th 21st	7thJean14thMarlene21stNellie	7thJeanMaureen14thMarleneHelen21stNellieChristine	7thJeanMaureenKate14thMarleneHelenEileen21stNellieChristineJennifer

Holy Baptism		Jesus said "Let the children come unto me"
May	9th	Mia Elodie Punter
May	26th	Arthur James Bamber Louise Edward Bamber

ST MICHAEL'S DIARY DATES FOR JUNE

2nd	<u>First Sund</u> 10.00am	<u>day after Trinity</u> Morning Worship
3rd	7.30pm	FAF meeting at Jayne's 204 Preston Road
5th	2.00pm	Craft and Chat group 6 Douglas Lane
7th	9:30am - 1	1.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
9th	<u>Trinity 2</u> 10.00am	Holy Communion and Jigsaw Club
13th	7.30pm	Bible Study 204 Preston Road
14th	9:30am - 1	1.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
15th	10.00am 1.00pm	Setting up for the Garden Party. Help appreciated Garden Party at the School
16th	<u>Trinity 3</u> 10.00am	Morning Worship
18th		Archdeacons Visitation
19th	7.30pm	Mothers' Union Open Meeting in CHURCH Dave Guest - Scandals, Scoops and Skateboarding Dogs the life of a TV reporter
21st	9:30am - 1	1.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
23rd	<u>Trinity 4</u> 10.00am	Holy Communion and Jigsaw Club
27th	11.00am	Holy Communion BCP
28th	9:30am - 1	1.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
30th	<u>Trinity 5</u>	

10.00am Morning Worship

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



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