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JUNE
2025

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July	27th	6 days	Scotland – Dunoon and the Isle of Bute.....	£615.00
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Aug	15th	5 days	Gardens of The Cotswolds	£630.00
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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

God is good!

As I write this month's letter, I am aware that the end of April and beginning of May was a difficult and sad time for many at St Michael's and the wider community. It isn't often that we have the funerals of two people as Rev'd Geoffrey Loxham and Jayne Woollam so close together. To have one of them this year would have been enough.

We are all still coming to terms with the loss that we feel and especially after the short illness and sudden death for Jayne at a relatively young age. It is hard to know how to begin to process what has happened, how we feel, and what we do next.

And yet in the middle of all this we are called to have faith and remember that God is good. We believe in a God whose very nature is love – as St John says in his first letter,

‘we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love.’ (1 John 4: 16)

That loving nature of God cannot do us harm or bear us any ill will, in fact totally the opposite. God always want the best for us and has shown us the extent of that love in sending Jesus to be our Saviour and Lord.

Another Bible verse that I find helpful in times like this as from Paul's letter to the church in Rome. He writes,

‘we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.’ (Romans 8: 28)

We know that both Jayne and Geoffrey loved God, and His Son Jesus, and lived their lives following His calling on their lives – Geoffrey as a Vicar serving God for nearly 60 years and Jayne less than 2 years into her Licensed Lay Ministry.

Somehow both now know how their deaths are His working for good in their lives. We struggle because we don't have the answers they have, and we won't get them this side of heaven. That's why we live as people of faith, trusting that God is love, that he works for good in our lives and other followers of Jesus, and seeking His peace when we can't understand.

The death and resurrection of Jesus give us hope that God can, and will, forgive our sins and the finality of death has been destroyed. Again, they are beliefs born of faith and hope as we trust in God's love and goodness.

As we move forward in that hope and love our statement of faith is:

God is good, all the time; all the time, God is good.

Blessings, Andy



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Stewardship Campaign

This June the PCC have agreed to us holding a Stewardship Campaign. There will be a month of special sermons on Sunday mornings, starting on the 8th of June. Everyone who is on the Electoral Roll or attends St Michael's will receive a letter with a leaflet and response form.

It is time to do this as it has been some years since we asked everyone to review their giving to the church. In that time, just as for yourself, bills have increased. As a church we are struggling to pay our way and keep our bank account in credit. This is not a pleasant situation to be in, and as we only receive income from those who give to St Michael's, we need your help.

I hope that you will come and, as you join us in worship, you will listen to the sermons which will focus on how generous our God is. I hope that then you will prayerfully consider how you are able to respond. We don't want anyone to put themselves in financial difficulties, but would appreciate an honest assessment of your current giving and whether it could be increased, made more regular, and Gift Aided (if you pay income tax). Your responses will also help us to budget better and be better stewards of what we have.

Please read the letter and leaflet when you receive it and respond however you are able. If you have any questions or comments please speak to me.

Thank you for your support

Andy

Only a servant of The Servant King.

This is how Geoffrey described himself whilst being visited by the hospital chaplain when he was in isolation and we were trying to plan his funeral service so it was fitting that the service should begin with that hymn.

And what a service! Thank you to the vicar, the Rev. Andy Williams, who fulfilled his promise for a gospel-based service. Who knows how God is already using his words. There are so many people to thank:

The vicar for visiting Geoffrey in hospital and anointing him in the nursing home shortly before he died. For his kindness to me and sound advice.

For the photographs and article in the church magazine.

For the prayers, cards, flowers, messages of support, attendance at the funeral, delicious home baking, donations in aid of the Rosemere Cancer Foundation where Geoffrey received treatment since the myeloma was diagnosed seven years ago, the list is endless!

Most of all I thank God for Geoffrey and his ministry. I am happy for him in the knowledge that he is now with his Lord and Saviour whom he served for so long.

Although I am now grieving for Geoffrey, I know that He is helping me at this time of sadness.

Sandra Loxham

FAF

Thank you to the children who made gardens for our competition at Easter. They were displayed in the church porch and looked lovely.

All the children who entered were presented with an egg for taking part. The winners were:-

Key Stage 1 Neve H

Key Stage 2 Matilda E

Key Stage 3 Sophie L

Just a reminder of the Garden Party in school on June 21st from 1pm to 3pm. We need help to set up from 10am please and help on the stalls (please see the list in the porch)

We would appreciate Bottles, Good as New items, Plants, Cakes for refreshments and the cake stall, Chocolate/ Sweets, Raffle Prizes.

Another big event coming up is our **Annual Big Raffle**. This will be **drawn** at the Coffee Morning on **Friday July 11th**. We will be putting a basket at the back of church for items of non-perishable food items or toiletries for the hampers. Tickets for the Raffle have arrived and are now on sale

June – Day of Pentecost, Whit Sunday

Pentecost took place on the well-established Jewish festival of Firstfruits, which was observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was seven weeks after Easter, or 50 days including Easter.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit – the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told His disciples that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for His disciples, but He knew they could not do the work themselves. They would need His help.

And so, they waited in Jerusalem, praying together with His other followers, for many days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues, to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the disciples and followers of Jesus. The Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian Church that morning, proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

Of course, Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, He could

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St James the Least of All

On what security cameras in church will tell you

The Rectory

St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

Much against my better judgement, after a recent series of small thefts, we have installed security cameras here at St James the Least of All. Thank goodness the suggestion for trip wires that opened the gate to Mrs Poppleroy's garden next door, thereby setting loose her deranged Pekingesese, was narrowly defeated – though I had to use my casting vote.

So now we have a complete record of everything that goes on when no one is about. It makes such interesting viewing that I have cancelled my television licence and spend every evening watching the antics of my parishioners. I wonder if there is some niche television channel which would be interested; it could help the tower restoration fund no end.

Miss Margison seems to imagine she is now part of some theatrical performance every time she cleans the church; her body language as she wields a feather duster is of operatic proportions, as is her final bow to the cameras as she leaves.

I have at last found the several hiding places where Mr Prentice secretes his bottle of whisky every week when he comes to wind the tower clock.

Colonel Wainwright, who served for some time in the security services, is now worried that photographs of him cleaning the brass will be circulated in Russia. He fails to appreciate that his disguise as a French onion seller, with striped jersey, beret and waxed moustache does tend to make his presence rather more interesting than he imagines – to us, if not to the KGB.

The flower arrangers seem to imagine that we are recording sound as well as pictures and so whenever they are in church together, all gossip is written down and passed round by hand as they work in total silence. So far, they have remembered to take their pieces of paper home with them. One slip and I shall probably learn more about my parishioners in five minutes than I have done in the last five years.

The cameras have also solved the mystery of who has been pilfering the items - and even the nest where they have hidden it. If only I could teach the magpies to extract money from pockets and place it on the collection plate.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace.

MOTHERS' UNION

Ruth usually writes our MU reports and writes about us. This month she is away and has asked me to do it. An opportunity to write about her!!

Ruth comes from a big family, 5 brothers, 3 sisters. She is the eldest girl. At the moment she is away on a well-deserved holiday in the Isle of Man with her three

sisters Helen, Anne (who we have been praying for in church) and Mary.

As you all know Ruth went through a very hard time in July 2024 when she had a major operation followed by chemotherapy. We were all delighted and relieved when she was given the all clear. On April 26th she walked 12 miles, at night, to raise money for the Rosemere Cancer Charity as a thank you for all their help and support. To date her total is a staggering well over £2500!!! A big thank you to everyone who sponsored me.

Ruth can't stop running even when she is on holiday! The photo shows her having just completed a Park Run in the Isle of Man with her sisters. She is one amazing lady!!!



Thank you to all members who continue to donate toiletries etc for the women's Refuge. Recently Louise was able to hand over, in her words, a heavy collection, to a grateful member of staff from Safenet along with two handmade blankets.

Thank you to Hazel for organising our 94th birthday party at the Ribchester Arms on May 29th. As I write this report the party has not taken place, but I am sure we will have a lovely time of fellowship together.

Thank you to Neil Holding who made, what I am sure will be, a very tasty cake for us.

We had 48 at the party and that included 3 friends of members and friends from St Stephen's Preston, St Leonard's Walton le dale and St James Whitechapel.

Please support the Preston Deanery Festival service on June 11th at St Stephen's church Broadgate 2pm.

Andy will be preaching.

If you are able to go and would like a lift please have a word with Marlene, Louise or me.

Our next meeting is on June 18th when Diane Daune will be taking us on A journey with Ellel Ministries International - Jesus heals today.

Nellie

SCHOOL REPORT

We were excited to welcome our children and their families back on Tuesday 22nd 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, in our local community and beyond. During this half-term our year 6 children will sit their SATs; we have classes looking forward to educational visits, our year 6 children will celebrate their time at our school with a meal, paid for by our PTFA, at Francos' Restaurant, and we again have entered all sporting opportunities available.

WORSHIP

VE DAY (Thu, 8 May 2025)

Huge thanks to Reverend Andy for leading our special whole school VE Day Worship on Thursday afternoon.

St George's Day

St George's Day (23rd April 2025). St George is the patron saint of England but he is also celebrated in other countries. Many myths surround St George. Most people

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associate St George with bravery, whether it is fighting unpleasant external forces such as the dragons in his story or symbolically overcoming our own dragons or fears.

We may not be physically brave like St George, but we can be brave by not following the crowd when we know something is wrong or by doing things that make the world a better place. Even if our deed is not seen, we can know in our hearts that it is the right thing to do. For example, we could pick up litter, hand something in that does not belong to us, rather than keeping it, refuse to join others if they are being unkind to someone else (whether they are doing it in front of them or behind their back), donate money to charity or give up our seat for someone on a busy bus or train.

We prayed for the families of both Reverend Geoffrey Loxham and Mrs Jayne Woollam– both dear friends who will be sadly missed by all at Grimsargh St Michael's



OUR WONDERFUL PUPILS

Our very own AUTHOR

As you can read below, one of our pupils, Jessica, year 2, is now a published author. Jessica has a stall to launch her book on June 28th during the Grimsargh Field Day– please support Jessica by purchasing her book. Jessica has had a lovely idea to donate a percentage of the sales of her book to a children's mental health charity. We are incredibly proud of Jessica.



About The Author

Meet Jessica Nuttall, the incredible 7-year-old author who is on a mission to bring her imagination to life! With a passion for writing that rivals her love for gymnastics, Jessica is not just average kid – she has an impressive storytelling talent ready to take the world by storm. Her debut book, which dives into the world of emotions through the eyes of a brain character, is just the beginning of her creative journey. Supported by her mum and dad, Jessica dreams of writing many more stories that inspire and entertain. Get ready to be captivated by the words of this young superstar – she's just getting started.



Fraser's 100km Charity Challenge

We couldn't be prouder of Fraser, one of our incredible Year 5 pupils, who has shown outstanding determination, kindness and courage this month. Fraser has been taking on an extraordinary challenge- running every single day, and is now close to completing an incredible 100km, all to raise money for The Brain Charity, a cause that means a great deal to him. So far, Fraser has raised nearly £900!

His commitment has been nothing short of inspiring, and it's no surprise that his efforts have caught wider attention. Fraser has even been featured in the Lancashire Guardian for his amazing achievement! Fraser is truly letting his light shine, showing everyone what it means to lead with compassion, purpose and strength. He is a shining example of what we can achieve when we put our hearts into something that matters.

If you'd like to support Fraser's fundraising for The Brain Charity, you can donate here: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/fras-100kapril>

SPORTS

CRICKET

Our cricket team have now played all four matches of the cricket league season, winning two and losing two. We currently sit in second place in the league table with one fixture outstanding. If Sherwood Primary beat Goosnargh Primary we will stay in second place and be promoted to the top league, next season. The team look forward to competing in two knock-out competitions in the coming weeks. Well done to **Charlie C, Charlie B, Fred C, Thomas G, Miles C, Harry M and Fraser C.**

TAG RUGBY

Our school tag rugby team took to the field once again, competing in another exciting tournament under glorious sunshine. Despite a tough defeat in their opening match, the team came back fighting, showing grit and resilience. Their hard work paid off as they stormed to victory in both their second and third games, winning by a massive lead and earning a well-deserved spot in the semi-finals.

In the semi-final match, the team played their hearts out. Although they were ultimately defeated, they gave it everything they had and left the pitch with heads held high. The team continues to prove they are a force to be reckoned with, and we couldn't be prouder of their effort, passion, and progress. Well done to: **Thomas G, Miles C, Rory B, Fred C, Charlie B, Annabelle L and Ruby.**

FOOTBALL

Seven children from year 2 represented our school at the KS1 Football Tournament. After a good start, scoring the first goal, and despite having lots of possession, we lost our first game 1-3 to OLSE. We bounced back with two impressive wins against Barton St Lawrence teams, 7-0 and 4-0 respectively. Archie showed great predatory instinct to score 'FIVE' goals in the first match with several other scorers adding to the scorelines.

We went into the final match against a strong St Andrews team needing a win to progress to the knockout stages. The team battled well against the eventual tournament winners and came away with a respectable 1-1 scoreline but that wasn't enough, and our race was run. The team made us very proud with their football and never give up attitude and the future of sport is certainly bright at Grimsargh St Michaels. Well done to: **Archie B, Buddy S, Caleb H, Sam H, Finn A, Oliver B and Max B**



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SATs

Our year 6 children made us incredibly proud during SATs week (12th May). They completed six tests over four days and have done so with confidence, composure and maturity. They 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. The children enjoyed an ice-cream from the ice-cream van, courtesy of our PTFA, once the last test was over!

PTFA

Our PTFA is hosting another fantastic community event this summer when the circus returns to school for three shows on Saturday 5th July. To help fund the event, they are offering a range of sponsorship opportunities for local businesses. These provide the chance to promote company brands to potentially thousands of people through print advertising and social media promotion in the run up to, and at the event.

There are several sponsorship packages available:

- **Gold package £500** (just 2 remaining): Including roadside advertising, on the day advertisements, brand placement on posters and social media, full page advert in event booklet, front cover branding as sponsor on booklet, x4 free tickets to one performance and picture opportunity.
- **Silver package £250**: Brand presence on all posters and social media, full page advert in event booklet, advertisements on the day, front cover branding as sponsor on booklet and x2 free tickets to one performance.
- Half page advert in event booklet: £20
- Small advert in event booklet: £10

If you run a local business/ work at a business which you think may be interested in taking part, email the PTFA for more information at: ptfa@grimsargh-st-michaels.lancs.sch.uk

SAFEGUARDING

We have continued to share the very useful Safeguarding guides with our parents and carers, including 'Search Engines' and 'Minecraft'.

We also shared some TikTok trends for parents to keep an eye out for as we must never assume a child will not try a 'TikTok challenge'. All children are susceptible to engaging in risky behaviour. Part of normal development for a young person includes learning to master impulsivity, peer pressure, and a desire to one-up a friend no matter the cost.

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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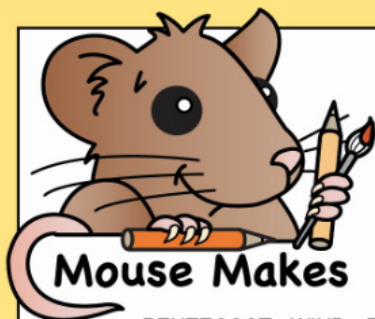
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Mouse Makes

PENTECOST • WIND • FIRE
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 HEBREW • PARTHIANS • MEDES
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 JUDEA • CAPPADOCIA • PONTUS
 ASIA • PHRYGIA • PAMPHYLIA
 EGYPT • LIBYA • CYRENE
 ROME • CRETANS
 ARABIANS • GOD



READ
 Acts
 2:1-41

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

It was fifty days since **Passover**, and Jews from many countries had come to **Jerusalem** to celebrate Passover. As the **Apostles** were gathered together the **Holy Spirit** came upon them and they began to speak in other **languages** as the Spirit enabled them.

The crowd that were listening were amazed as they heard about God in their own language.

How many people heard, believed and were baptised that day?

DID YOU KNOW?

The Bible or parts of the Bible have now been translated into over 3,000 different languages since it was first written in Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek.



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

Meeting in church for the first hymn at 10.00am
before leaving for lots of activities and fun.
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April	27th	£145.80	
May	4th	£214.58	
May	10th	£22.00	Wedding
May	11th	£106.10	
May	15th	£37.00	
May	18th	£189.95	

FLOWER ROTA

June	1st	Vacant
June	8th	Vacant
June	15th	Stuart Fillingham
June	22nd	Vacant
June	29th	Vacant

SIDESPERSONS, READERS AND COFFEE ROTAS

	8.30am	10.00am	Communion Assistant	Readers	Coffee
June 1st		James Cowell		L Williams L Desai	
June 8th		John Cowell	M Lamberty	S Cowell B Mackley	
June 15th		R Buckley		L Wood N Cowell	
June 22nd		B Mackley	S Cowell	B Holt M Lamberty	
June 29th		K Thompson		J Eccles D Rusling	

FRIDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

	Leader	Duty			Welcome
June 6th	Jean	Helen	Kate		Janet
June 13th	Marlene	Maureen	Eileen		Christine
June 16th	Nellie	Jennifer	Jean		Janet
June 23rd	Kate	Marlene	Eileen		Christine

Holy Baptism

May 11th

Jesus said "Let the children come unto me"

Zachary James Holden

Weddings

May 10th

Christopher Stephen Woodhead and Rebekah Jane Vettasseri

Funerals

April 30th

"I am the resurrection and the life" says the Lord.

May 1st

Rev'd Geoffrey Richard Loxham 84 years

Jayne Woollam 64 Years

ST MICHAEL'S DIARY DATES FOR JUNE

- 1st** **Easter 7**
10.00am Morning Worship
- 4th** 2.00pm Craft and Chat at the Vicarage
- 6th** 9:30am - 11.30 Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 7th** 10.30am Prayer Group in church
- 8th** **Pentecost**
10.00am Pentecost Holy Communion and Jigsaw Club
11.45am Baptism of Toby Helyer
6.30pm Churches Together Pentecost service at St Wilfred's
- 11th** 2.00pm Mothers' Union Deanery Festival at St Stephen's Preston
- 13th** 9:30am - 11.30 Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 15th** **Trinity Sunday**
10.00am Morning Worship
6.30pm Joint Trinity service with Alston Lane, at St Michael's
- 17th** 7.30pm Archdeacon's Visitation at St Cuthbert's Fulwood
- 18th** 7.30pm Diane Daune – Jesus heals Today – A journey with Ellet Ministries International - in School
- 19th** 11.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 20th** 9:30am - 11.30 Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 21st** 10.00am Setting up for the Garden Party. Help appreciated
1.00pm Garden Party at the School
- 22nd** **First Sunday after Trinity**
10.00am Holy Communion and Jigsaw Club
- 20th** 9:30am - 11.30 Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 29th** **Trinity 2**
10.00am Morning Worship

DEADLINE for the July 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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