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May 2024 70p



# Pentecost May 19th

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# GRIMSARGH PARISH CHURCH

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VICAR:	Rev. Andy Williams	Tel: 793391
		Mbl: 07472 663279
	Email <a href="mailto:revandy.gsm@gmail.com">revandy.gsm@gmail.com</a>	
CHURCHWARDENS:	Mr. Anthony Cowell	
	Three Mile Cross Farm, Grimsargh	Tel: 07753813758
	Mr. Mark Lamberty	
	Ashleigh, Preston Road, Grimsargh	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 and 5th Sunday Holy Communion every 2nd and 4th Sunday Family Service every 3rd Sunday 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 Nigel Holmes Email <a href="mailto:nigel.holmes@prestonscouts.org.uk">nigel.holmes@prestonscouts.org.uk</a>	

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# PARISH LETTER

## Up, up and away?

May this year sees us celebrate two important festivals in the life of the Christian Church, both recounted in the Acts of the Apostles. First, on the 9th of May comes the lesser celebrated Ascension Day. It is probably less celebrated as it falls on a Thursday. Luke tells the story twice, once in his gospel and again at the beginning of Acts.

In his gospel he says ‘While He [Jesus] was blessing them [the disciples], He withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.’ In Acts he says ‘When He [Jesus] had said this, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight.’ So what actually happened and why do we think of heaven as ‘up’?

A church I once went to, dedicated to the Ascension, had as its main window the picture of a cloud with 2 feet dangling underneath it. Perhaps for many of us this is what we picture, although if heaven was ‘up’ then surely NASA or some other space organisation would have found out by now!

Perhaps it is easier to think of heaven as a different plane of existence, God’s holy dwelling place, that is higher (better, exalted) than ours. It is to here that Christ Jesus, both God and man was transported.

Jesus was clear that the days after Easter and before His ascension were about teaching the disciples about himself and how the Old Testament pointed to him and his life and death. These days were to equip the disciples for what was to come without his physical presence.

He also warned them that if he didn’t go then ‘the Advocate will not come to you’ (John 16:7). Jesus didn’t leave here to disappear and have no concern for how his Church would continue or grow. He left here so that the Holy Spirit could be sent to fill all his disciples, then and now, to enable us to know his presence every day.

Which leads us on to Pentecost. As Jesus was ‘lifted up’ so he sends the Holy Spirit ‘down’ - as recounted in Acts chapter 2. A physical Jesus, while no doubt answering many questions for us, couldn’t inspire the whole Church to live for and witness to him. We need the Holy Spirit to be present in our lives every day to enable us to live as his disciples.

So this month come and join us as we remember Jesus’ ‘ascension’ to heaven on the 9th of May so that we can be ready to encounter him in the Holy Spirit on the 19th of May. Let us celebrate Jesus our risen, ascended and glorified Lord and He enables us to live new lives for Him each and every day infused by the Holy Spirit.

Blessings, Andy



# Grimsargh Club



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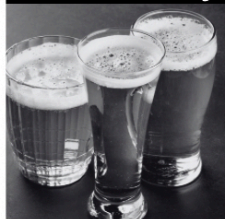
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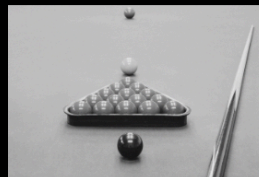


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## **APCM**

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place after Holy Communion on Sunday 12th of May. We will be publishing our annual accounts and reports of our various church activities before then for everyone to look at before the meeting. If you would like these sending by email (to save printing) please let Andy know.

This meeting is important in the life of our church and it is where we elect Churchwardens and PCC members. If you are on the electoral roll you are able to stand for these positions and there are nomination forms available in church. I do hope everyone will stay for the meeting, which is unlikely to be very long. Grab a quick cuppa after Communion while we get set up, and we'll start as soon as we can.

During the meeting it is your opportunity to ask any questions you want; about the accounts and our finances, any of the reports presented, or anything else about the life of the church that you don't understand or would like to see change.

Andy

### **Thursday Holy Communion**

There is a celebration of Holy Communion based on the Book of Common Prayer at 11am on the third Thursday of the month. This month the service will be on the fourth Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May. Everyone welcome.

### **Pentecost - not a Ghost but a Gift (Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May)**

We used to call it Whitsun – 'White Sunday' because long ago children marched to church in white on that day. There are no processions nowadays, and we've even changed its name. It's now 'Pentecost', which is more accurate but needs explaining.

Pentecost marks a vital event in Christian history. It is celebrated 50 days after Easter. The year Jesus was crucified (which took place at the Passover), the remnant of His followers, just 120 of them, were together in an upper room in Jerusalem. They were afraid to show their faces in case the authorities arrested them. But on the day of Passover, they had an amazing collective experience.

They described it in terms of wind and fire, a great surge of spiritual energy and confidence. Afraid no longer, they burst out on to the streets where crowds were gathering for the festival, led by Peter they began to tell them about Jesus and His resurrection. As they did so, although many of the people in the crowd were foreigners who spoke other languages, everyone heard them in their own tongue. Peter told them that what they were seeing was the fulfilment of an old prophecy when God would pour out His Spirit on the human race, men and women, young and old.

As a result of His words and the extraordinary spectacle, 3,000 people believed and were baptised in the name of Jesus. They were the nucleus of what in 100 years would be a Church that would turn history upside down. For Christians Pentecost is in effect the birthday of the Church.

Many people find the whole idea of the Holy Spirit mysterious and elusive. It wasn't helped by the earlier title 'Holy Ghost'. The spirit is not spiritually a 'ghost' but a precious gift.

### **The Garden Party, Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June, 1pm.**

It is that time of year when our thoughts turn to the Garden Party. As usual, we need lots of willing stall holders and items to stock the stalls. In particular we need items for the Bottle Stall, items for the Bric-o-Brac stall, plants for the Plant Stall, covered cakes for the Cake Stall, items for the Raffle, chocolate for the Chocolate-Bola and ideas for the children's games.

If you have any ideas, please come along to our next FAF Meeting, Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> May. The more the merrier!

### **A Ramble round Rome (continued)**

Another author of early empire was Seneca. He was a senator and prominent in public life in the reigns of Caligula, Claudius and Nero, a somewhat unfortunate time to be around, when 2 of those 3 emperors were homicidal psychopaths. He narrowly evaded execution by Caligula, was exiled to Corsica by the usually more forgiving Claudius, and having been tutor to Nero, committed suicide on Nero's order having in effect been framed by him. So he needed all of his Stoic philosophy to steer him through a life of political turbulence.

He wrote plays, but he is most noted by posterity for his letters to friends in which he comments on mundane affairs in his life and expands on his philosophy. The outstanding example of this is his letter about old age. He amusingly compared his own ailing body to a rickety old cottage he owned in Italy, and from there went on to articulate his Stoicism, by accepting life as it comes. "Crastinum si adiecerit deus, laeti recipiamus." If God gives us an extra day, let's accept it gladly. He went on, that you are blessed if you can take that for just that, whatever it is and say, I have lived, "vixi".

Mark

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

#### **On the perils of building a kitchen in church**

The Rectory

St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

It never fails to amaze me how, in church life, an issue can suddenly become an Issue. In the last month, we have acquired an Issue: a proposal to convert a space at the back of church into a kitchen. Inevitably, battle lines have been drawn and trenches dug. Attendance at church council meetings has soared and unofficial sub-committees meet in the car park after Services. It's obvious that feelings are running high, because people have become remarkably polite to one another.

Some who are wildly in favour see it as an opportunity of being able to leave the pews ten minutes early, in order to get ready for the rush for weak coffee and



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damp biscuits. I can already hear in my mind the final hymn being drowned by kettles being filled, biscuit tins opened, cups thunderingly placed on saucers, while the volunteers discuss the dress sense of others in the congregation in deafening whispers.

I was a little surprised to hear that Colonel Wainwright was all in favour – until I realised that it would give him a place to totter into to read his newspaper once he got bored with my sermon, which usually seems to happen in the first minute. Naturally, smaller turf wars have broken out alongside the major battle. There is conflict about whether we should get new crockery, what colour carpeting tiles would look right – and most importantly of all, who will take charge of the coffee rota.

Others are totally against the project: the treasurer dreads the thought of signing yet more cheques, the churchwardens worry about removing pews which have quietly hidden the dry rot, and the theologically angst-ridden agonise about the fact that St Paul never mentioned coffee after Sabbath worship.

Naturally, I encourage all sides, especially if it will bring any possibility of progress to a halt. I proposed bringing in flasks of coffee, thus stopping anyone being able to escape before the end of the Service; I suggested drinks being brought to people in the pews, thus ruining the Colonel's hopes of finding a safe haven; I organised a group to study High Priestly attitudes to refreshments in the Temple in Jerusalem in Leviticus.

I am sure that by the time all these groups have come up with their conclusions, we will have safely moved on to fight the next Issue.

Your loving uncle

Eustace

## MOTHERS' UNION

### APRIL MEETING

At this month's meeting we met Kieran Spencer and Jessica Dibble from the Longridge Community Action Group.

First he pointed out that they work with people not just from Longridge but also from Grimsargh, Goosnargh and other areas



**What is their aim?** To improve and support people's wellbeing and to bring them together

**Some of their projects so far**

- Making Podcasts with young people
- Activities days in the school hols: - eg swimming, zoo trip, water sports on Dilworth reservoir

- Links with local secondary schools
- Cocktail making classes at Bartleys
- Pizza creating at local restaurant
- Initializing the first Soapbox Derby in Longridge
- Set up the Save Longridge Cinema action group with the hope of using the premises for an Arts Group (unfortunately they couldn't compete against other buyers)

**Today they run various community groups**

- The Youth Council, working alongside Longridge Council.
- The Youth Drop-In every Friday
- Longridge Men's shed—a new venture to be based in Warwick Street next door to APS Signs. A space for men to work (and talk) on reclaiming furniture etc.

**What can we do?**

Advertise the Men's shed to husbands, brothers etc

Volunteering to help at any of their projects

Give donations— items for the Night safe, tools for the Mens' Shed & cash

**What next?**

Get their own premises for all their activities for all ages to access



This month's meeting we were pleased to have 31 people present.

Do come along to any of the meetings there's no need to be a member.

A warm welcome will be waiting for you.

Or contact Nellie Cowell, 07751040691 for more information



**April Birthday Girls**



**Louise Williams**, our new Vicar's wife, celebrated her birthday on April 3rd. She says she's loving living in Grimsargh and feels she's come home. She also loves the green spaces around Grimsargh and is enjoying meeting many new people.



**Jean Harrison**, celebrated her birthday on April 11th, in contrast to Louise, has lived in the village since 1970 so could introduce her to many of the Grimsargh 'locals'. After living in Grimsargh for over 50 years, she wonders if she qualifies to be called a 'local' yet?

**Future dates for your diaries**

**NEXT MEETING THURSDAY May 9th**

**ASCENSION DAY & MU Birthday Party**

Party at the Ribchester Arms 12.00 noon for 12.30 eats. See Hazel for more details

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Then Ascension Day Service in church 7.30pm



**June 19th**

**DAVID GUEST**, journalist & chief reporter  
for BBC NorthWest ('til Oct. 2020)

**OPEN MEETING. ALL WELCOME**

In School 7.30pm

## SCHOOL REPORT

### WORSHIP

Before we finished for the Easter holidays, we appointed our new worship councillors. Well done to:

Reception: **Adam L & Neve H**

Year 1: **Charlotte H**

Year 2: **Max R, Izabella H & Finlay W**

Year 3: **Sophie J**

Year 4: **Emelia E & Matilda B**

Year 5: **Emelia B**

Year 6: **Noah S**



We are looking forward to working with our worship council to further enhance worship in school.

As we approached the end of the spring term, the children enjoyed learning about Holy Week during their RE lessons and through gathering to worship together. We celebrated the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, an event that took place the week before Christ's death and resurrection. Jesus arrived just outside Jerusalem, gave clear instructions on where to find a colt, and then rode on it as he entered Jerusalem. Around Him the people shouted out their praises, waved palm branches and placed their coats on the floor. The shouts of 'Hosanna' meant 'save now', and the palm branches symbolised goodness and victory.

### Easter Worship

A huge thank you to Reverend Andy, for leading our Easter church service. Thank you to the parents and carers who joined us to worship together.

Along with Reverend Andy, our pupils shared the story of Easter in a fun, interactive and uplifting service. We are delighted that the children sang beautifully and spoke clearly and confidently.

Special thanks to our Year 6 pupils for reading from the Bible (Matthew 21, 26 and 27); Bible Fun club reminded us of the joy of Palm Sunday; a selection of children from year 2 shared their beautiful crosses, retelling the story of Easter. Look out for them in church this weekend! Year 1 shared pictures of new life,

reception class sang a song, reminding us of the Easter story and children from year 5 took the lead when we prayed together



## **PTFA- EASTER BINGO!**

Our PTFA raised a whopping £1,203 at the Easter Bingo! Thank you to David Jacques for being our Bingo Master this year and to everyone who helped organise and set up, to the teachers, support staff and their children who all came to help, not to mention Sarah who cooked up a storm!

Thank you to everyone for the egg donations, tombola prizes and for coming along, getting stuck in and having a fab time and to Universal Product Solutions for donating a massive £250 for our raffle prizes. We can't wait to put this money to good use.



## **THE LAST CHOIR SINGING**

A huge well done to our school choir who participated in 'The Last Choir Singing' competition at King George's Hall in Blackburn. They all let the light's shine so brightly and made us so incredibly proud! They have worked so hard in rehearsals leading up to the show and we had such a great time.

Thank you as well to Mrs Lock and Mrs Towers who supported us at the event, and to the parents and carers for helping with transport and coming to support the children.



## **SPORTS**

### **CROSS COUNTRY**

Our cross- country team competed in the annual Inter-School Cross Country Competition before we broke for the Easter holidays.



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The girls raced first and after the finished positions were added up, we had the third lowest total out of the 24 schools who entered and thus finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place, receiving bronze medals. A special mention to Emilia L who finished in 4th place out of 76 runners.



The boys raced second and again, worked well together. All three boys finished strongly and all were in the top 32 of 80 runners. The boys finished in 6th place of 27 schools who entered– a really strong result.

Thank you to Mr Johns, who selected the team and supported them throughout the preparation and races. Well done to **Emilia L, Milly H, Anabelle L, Bob G, Noah S and Bobby G.**

## HOCKEY

Congratulations to our year 5 hockey team!

A team of year 5 pupils represented our school in a hockey tournament hosted by Longridge High School. Amazingly, due to their hard work and great team play, they won all their group games, scoring 13 goals in total and not even conceding once.

This earned them a place in the semi-final in which they continued their fine form and winning streak with a 3-0 victory. Our last game, the final, was a tough affair and despite showing grit and determination, we sadly lost 2-7.

An excellent effort throughout the day and the team represented our school brilliantly!

Congratulations to **Joshua P, Elliot B, Evan W, Jack D, Reggie C, Aamal I, Amelia T, Ellie R, Erin T.** A huge thanks to Mrs Coar, Mrs Plant, Mrs Traynor and Mr Wong for helping with transport and coaching and encouraging our team. Miss Smith



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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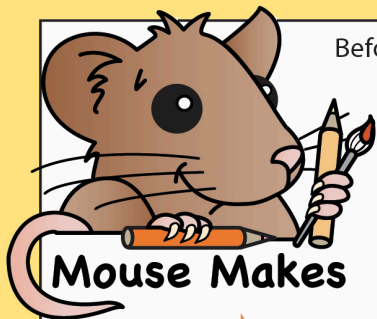
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Before Jesus ascended to heaven he told his disciples  
 "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit  
 has come upon you, and you will be my  
 witness in Jerusalem and in all Judea  
 and Samaria, and to the end of the earth"...  
 ...When the day of Pentecost arrived,  
 they were all together in one place,  
 and they were all filled  
 with the Holy Spirit."



READ the story  
 of Pentecost  
 in Acts 1-2  
 Look up the Bible  
 verses to find  
 the answers to the  
 crossword clues.

How many  
 words can you  
 make from  
 the letters of:  
 DAY OF  
 PENTECOST



- 1 After Jesus ascended into heaven, which city did the Apostles return to? *Acts 1:12*
- 2 What appeared? Tongues of ...? *Acts 2:3*
- 3 Who spoke to the crowd? *Acts 2:14*
- 4 What were the disciples filled with? *Acts 2:4*
- 5a What did the Apostles devote themselves to? *Acts 1:14*
- 5d Which special day was it? *Acts 2:1*
- 6 Who was chosen to replace Judas? *Acts 1:26*
- 7 Who had prophesied this? *Acts 2:16*
- 8 What rushing sound came from heaven? *Acts 2:2*
- 9 What did they start speaking in? *Acts 2:4*



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  
before leaving for lots of activities and fun.  
For more information please contact the vicar.

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March	29th	£89.60	Good Friday
March	31st	£329.15	Easter Day
April	7th	£132.40	
April	14th	£202.25	

## FLOWER ROTA

May	5th	Vacant	
May	12th	Dawn Desai	
May	19th	Lind Fisk	
May	26th	Joan Moon	

## SIDESPERSONS, READERS AND COFFEE ROTAS

		8.30am	10.00am	Communion Assistant	Readers	Coffee
May	5th		John Cowell		D Rusling J Lander	
May	12th		R Woollam	N Cowell	L Wood J Eccles	
May	19th		James Cowell		B Holt L Williams	
May	26th		K Thompson	M Lamberty	N Cowell B Mackley	

## FRIDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

		Leader	Duty		Welcome
May	3rd	Nellie	Christine	Jennifer	Janet
May	10th	Marlene	Helen	Kate	Jean
May	17th	Jean	Maureen	Eileen	Linda
May	24th	Marlene	Helen	Eileen	Kate
May	31st	Jennifer	Christine	Nellie	Janet

### Holy Baptism

April	7th	Darcie Rose Bamber
April	21st	Lenny Leo Ball

### Funeral

April	4th	Richard <b>Kevin</b> Kent Talbot, 76 years
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### Jesus said “Let the children come unto me”

### “I am the resurrection and the life” says the Lord.

## ST MICHAEL'S DIARY DATES FOR MAY

- 3rd** 9:30am - 11.30 Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 5th** **Easter 6**  
10.00am Morning Worship
- 9th** **Ascension Day**  
12noon Mothers Union 93rd Birthday Party at the Ribchester Arms  
7.30pm Holy Communion
- 10th** 9:30am - 11.30 Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 12th** **Easter 7**  
10.00am Holy Communion and Jigsaw Club  
11.00am APCM meeting in church
- 12th - 18th** Christian Aid Week
- 17th** 9:30am - 11.30 Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club  
7.00pm Quiz Night at Christ Church
- 18th** 7.00pm Concert by the Valley Singers at Christ Church
- 19th** **Pentecost**  
10.00am Morning Worship  
11.30am Baptism of Mia Punter  
6.30pm Ecumenical service Alston Lane
- 21st** 7.30pm FAF meeting at Jayne's 204 Preston Road
- 23rd** 11.00am Holy Communion (BCP) Note date change
- 24th** 9:30am - 11.30 Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club
- 26th** **Trinity Sunday**  
10.00am Holy Communion and Jigsaw Club  
11.30am Baptism of Arthur & Louis Bamber
- 31st** 9:30am - 11.30am Coffee Morning in Grimsargh Club

**DEADLINE for the June magazine is 15<sup>th</sup> May .  
Articles to be sent to Mrs Cowell ([pandncowell@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pandncowell@hotmail.co.uk))  
and/or B Mackley ([bjmackley@aol.com](mailto:bjmackley@aol.com))**



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