

SAINT
Barnabas
CLARKSFIELD

June 2019

medlockhead.co.uk

Services at St Barnabas' Church

Sunday	9:30 am	Parish Worship
Monday	2:30 pm	Prayers in the vestry
Tuesday	10:00 am	Holy Communion (said)

First Tuesday of each month: Service of Holy Communion at Moor Haven Nursing Home on Ripponden Road, starting at 2:00 pm.

Baptisms and marriages by arrangement with the Vicar.

**Please submit items for the June magazine by 15 May.
You can e-mail files to paulmonk111@gmail.com**

People at St Barnabas' Church

Vicar

The Revd Dr Paul Monk
St Barnabas' Vicarage, Arundel Street, Clarksfield, Oldham OL4 1NL
Tel: (0161) 624 7708

Assistant Curates

The Revd Denise Owen (and Vicar of St Thomas' Church Moorside)
Tel: (0161) 652 0292 and E: therevd.downen@yahoo.co.uk
The Revd Jane Hyde
Tel: (07734) 886 893 and E: janehyde10@hotmail.com

Lay Reader

and Warden	Mr Peter Haslam	(0161) 345 0215
Administrator	Miss Sarah Gura	(07843) 178 762
Treasurer	Ms Gisele Onwumere	
Parish Hall bookings	The Vicar	(0161) 624 7708
Sacristan	Mrs Marion Partington	

Letter from the Vicar

It's become a cliché: something happens and we are never the same again. That something could involve an accident or some-one's conscious choice. Maybe a combination of the two ... yet nothing is the same.

The days of Easter draw to a climax with Pentecost, when we remember the Holy Spirit coming to earth and creating the Church.

He also created Christianity. Pentecost is therefore a birthday as well as a celebration of power, beauty, and godliness. And nothing can ever be the same again because all of us now have the power to grow toward a more complete Christlikeness.

It's no accident that the Church calendar schedules Trinity Sunday the very week after Pentecost. If God the Holy Spirit lives in a human soul and brings a Church to birth, He will also teach us about Himself. Our ideas about God will never be the same again: from now on, we know God first-hand as a Trinity of Father, Son and Spirit. We will sense something of the love that cements these three together.

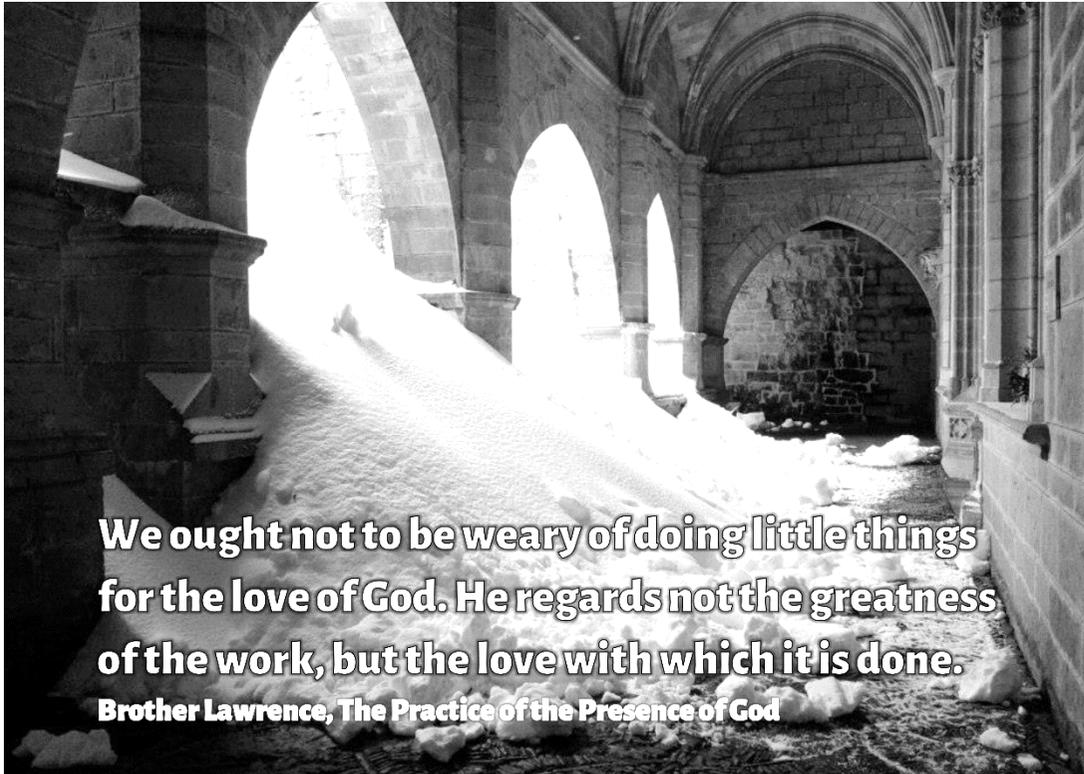
God came to earth at Pentecost, and everything has now changed.

Wishing you joy as you grow into a greater knowledge of God

PAUL

2019 dates for your diary

- Thurs 30 May 11:00 am: **Ascension Day** service at Waterhead Church.
- Sunday 9 June 9:30 am: Service for **Pentecost**
3:00 pm: **Whit Service in Ash Square** with our friends from Churches Together in East Oldham.
- Sunday 16 June 9:30 am: **St Barnabas Day** including our annual gift day.
3:00 pm: Concert in aid of CRIBS International, featuring **Waterhead Voices** and the **Graphene City Band**. Tickets cost £3, which includes afternoon tea.
7:00 pm: **The Soul Inspiration Gospel Choir** sing in St Barnabas Church. Tickets cost £3.
- Friday 21 June 7:00 pm: **Annual Confirmation service** in Waterhead Church.
- Sunday 7 July 3:30 pm: The Marshall **family in concert** at St Mark's Church, Glodwick.



Bible readings for June

Sunday 2 June

Seventh Sunday of Easter

First: Acts 16:16–34

Epistle: Revelation 22:12–14, 16–17, 20–21

Gospel: John 17:20–26

Sunday 9 June

Pentecost

First: Acts 2:1–21

Epistle: Romans 8:14–17

Gospel: John 14:8–17

Sunday 16 June

Trinity Sunday

First: Proverbs 8:1–4, 22–31

Epistle: Romans 5:1–5

Gospel: John 16:12–15

Sunday 23 June

First Sunday of Trinity

First: Isaiah 65:1–9

Epistle: Galatians 3:23–29

Gospel: Luke 8:26–38

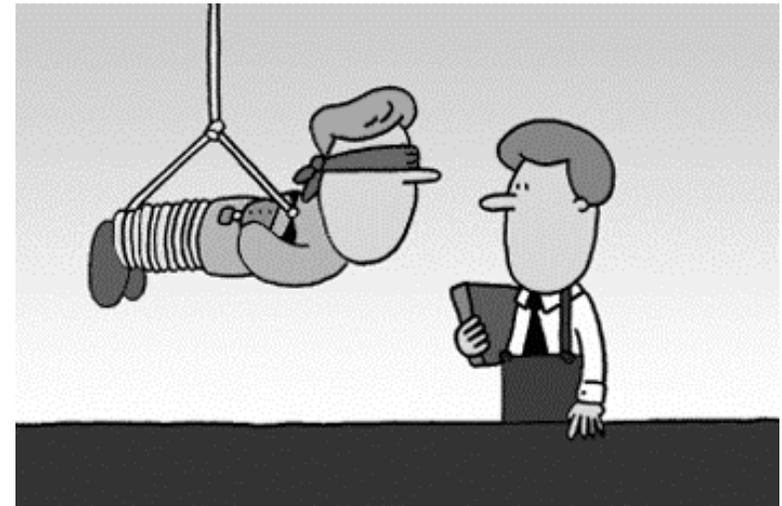
Sunday 30 June

Saints Peter and Paul

First: Acts 12:1–11

Epistle: 1 Peter 2:19–25

Gospel: Matthew 16:13–19



Onlookers were amazed when it took escape artist Dave only 15 minutes to escape from his baptism.

Forthcoming services and events

Confirmation classes

Confirmation classes start on Tuesday 7 May at 5:00 pm. We meet in the Parish Room. Each class requires about an hour each. Subsequent classes occur each Tuesday at the same times

Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

Whit Sunday occurs on Sunday 9 June. The normal Sunday service will occur at 9:30 am as usual. At 3:00 pm, we meet in Ash Square for a Whit service with our friends from Churches Together

St Barnabas' Day

The nearest Sunday to St Barnabas is Sunday 16 June. We will hold our annual Gift Day during the service and follow it with a faith lunch.

Revd Jane Hyde's first Holy Communion

Revd Jane, our Curate, was ordained as a Deacon last year. She will be ordained as a Priest on Saturday 22 June in Manchester Cathedral.

Jane will celebrate her first communion the following day, Sunday 23 June, at Waterhead Church during its 11 am service. We will share a faith lunch afterwards.

In the meantime, please pray for Jane as she approaches this important milestone in her ministry.

Pentecost Villanellette

**Not as a dove the Holy Spirit came
to the disciples gathered in a room,
but as a violent wind and tongues of flame.**

**A cyclone roared the ineffable name
as fire on each blushing brow did bloom.
Not as a dove the Holy Spirit came**

**to give sight to the blind and heal the lame
and raise the dead and dispel error's gloom,
but as a violent wind and tongues of flame.**

**The Breath of God is anything but tame.
Who dally with it dally with their doom.
Not as a dove the Holy Spirit came,
but as a violent wind and tongues of flame.**

Mark DeBolt

Paul wrote this letter to a young companion named Titus (1:4). He opened it by saying that God as revealed through Jesus is faithful and true.

Paul wanted Titus to visit Crete and restore order to its churches. In context, Crete was infamous for its sinfulness, so part of Titus' job was to replace its corrupt Church leaders with godly teachers.

Paul wanted the members of Crete's Church to demonstrate the redemptive power of the gospel by actually living God's value system. He therefore reminded the Cretan believers that while they lived within a sinful culture, they could be transformed by the same grace that Jesus demonstrated when He died to redeem them. Next, Paul illustrated what that value system looked like, and how it could empower a Christ-filled life. It was based on God's generous grace and love. He then explained how this same system (which appeared in the person of Jesus) could transform daily life to yield a new humanity.

Paul wanted the godly believers in Crete to transform all of Cretan society. So he explained the power of God's love and grace and explored how it can produce new spirit-empowered people who are faithful to Jesus' teachings in their homes, community, and the world.

As a new humanity, they would know how to say 'no' to a lifestyle that was inconsistent with God's generous love. They could also demonstrate God's message of salvation and transform their communities from within Cretan culture. They must reject anything corrupt, embrace all that is good, devote themselves to Jesus, and promote the common good.

Date of writing Probably 63–64 AD, while Paul was teaching in Macedonia.

Background Paul had briefly visited Crete during his voyage to Rome (Acts 27:7–9, 12, 13, 21). He returned there and later left Titus to continue the work, just as he left Timothy at Ephesus (1 Tim. 1:3), while he himself went further to Macedonia. He probably wrote to Titus in response to a letter from Titus or a report from Crete.

Titus Paul affectionately calls Titus a partner and co-worker (2 Corinthians 8:23). We first learn about him in Galatians 2:1–5, when he went with Paul and Barnabas to the first Council in Jerusalem (Acts 15). Paul later sent him to Corinth at the end of the third missionary journey, to deliver a letter (2 Corinthians 7:6–16), and then to deliver what we call 'The Second Letter to the Corinthians' (2 Corinthians 8:16–23 and 12:18). In 2 Timothy 4:10, we learn that Paul sent Titus to Dalmatia. Presumably, he also worked with Paul at Ephesus during his third missionary journey.

The Letter of Titus

For more information, please read:

<https://thebibleproject.com/explore/titus>

<http://biblescripture.net/Titus.html>

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/titus>

<https://www.esv.org/resources/esv-global-study-bible/global-message-of-titus>

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/The-Letter-of-Paul-to-Titus>

Nicholas Herman was born in France in 1611. It was a time of great trouble and uncertainty with political power struggles, economic turmoil, and unrest.

We know almost nothing about Nicholas' life. He grew up so poor that, as a young adult he served as a soldier so he could eat and provide for himself. Later, after an injury, he left the army and got a job as a footman, opening carriage doors for travellers and waiting at table.

Nicholas gave his life to Christ at eighteen. His discipleship seems to have been sincere but shallow. At about the age of forty he had a deeper experience of Christ that moved him to become a lay brother with the local Carmelite order. He joined their community in Paris and took the name 'Lawrence of the Resurrection'.

For most of the rest of his life, Brother Lawrence worked in the monastery kitchen, where he developed his rule of spirituality and work. Within this rule, 'common business', no matter how mundane or routine, could be used as a medium of God's love. He did not consider the sacredness or worldly status of a task but the motivation behind it. He said, 'It is not needful that we should have great things to do ... we can do little things for God; I turn the cake that is frying on the pan for love of him, and that done, if there is nothing else to call me, I prostrate myself in worship before him, who has given me grace to work; afterwards I rise happier than a king. It is enough for me to pick up but a straw from the ground for the love of God.'

Brother Lawrence developed a simple way of praying from the heart which he called 'practising the presence of God'. By it, he learned to commune with God continuously, not only in church or during personal devotions, but when he worked in the kitchen, ran errands, or sat listening. As he said, 'the simple trust we put in God honours Him much and draws down His great graces'. He grew in prayer and said in a letter, 'My set times of prayer are not different from other times of the day. Although I do retire to pray (because it is the direction of my superior), I do not need such retirement nor do I ask for it because my greatest business does not divert me from God.'

His genuine spirit, cheerfulness, and peace attracted many people within his community to share with him and seek his counsel and prayers. Eventually a great many pilgrims from other parts of France — common people and church leaders alike — wrote to him or came for spiritual guidance.

By 1666 Brother Lawrence's wisdom caught the attention of Cardinal de Noailles, who sent his chaplain Joseph de Beaufort to interview the lowly kitchen

For the full text of the book, please go to:

<https://www.ccel.org/ccel/lawrence>

For more information, please visit the following websites:

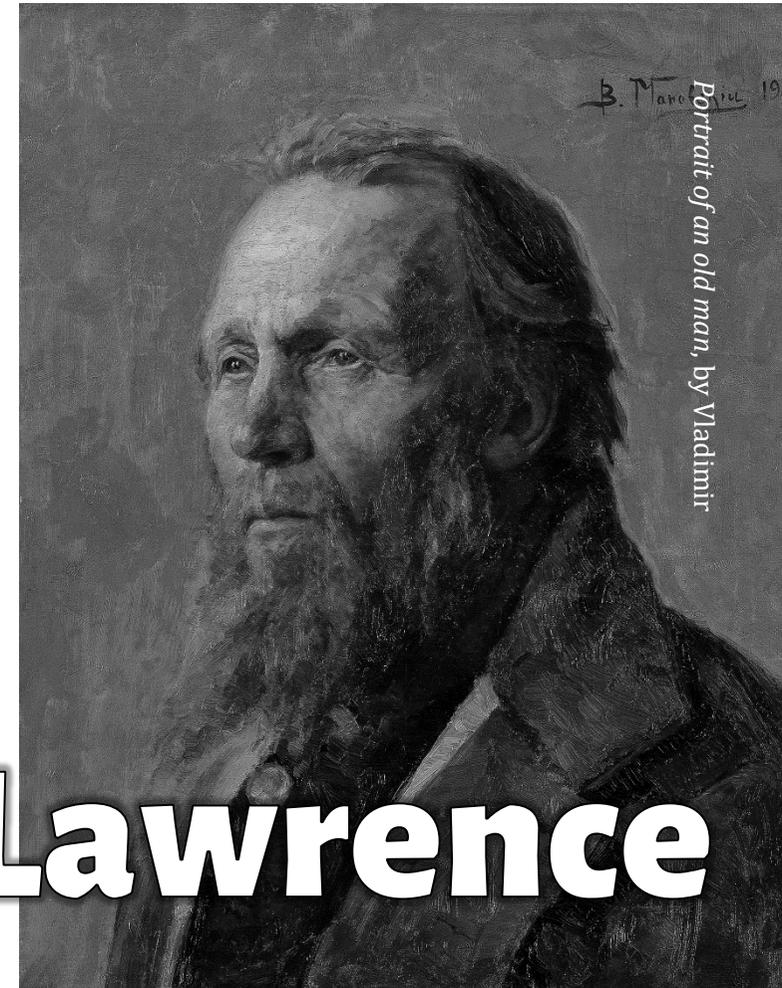
<https://www.christianitytoday.com/history/people/innertravelers/brother-lawrence.html>

<https://www.soulshpherd.org/brother-lawrence-writings-story>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brother_Lawrence

lowly kitchen aide. Brother Lawrence gave him four interviews — he called them 'conversations' — where he described his way of life and how he came to it.

Brother Lawrence died in 1691. Soon afterward, Father de Beaufort gathered together everything known about the monk. Along with the four conversations, he found 16 letters, and a few thoughts and maxims in the monk's personal effects. In 1692, he edited and published them as a slim book, *The Practice of the Presence of God*. The book was an instant sensation, and has never been out of print since. It is now considered a major spiritual classic.



Portrait of an old man, by Vladimir B. Marov, 1919

Brother Lawrence

The FRUITS of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit helps us to become more like Jesus.

Fill the grid below using the words in Galatians that are printed in **BOLD**. The fruit of the Spirit is **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, thankfulness, selflessness, and self-control** (Galatians 5:22)

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Use the squares that are shaded orange to complete this Bible verse:
“He is the Spirit of _____” (John 14:17)

The GIFTS of the Spirit

The Holy Spirit helps build a church: each of the missing words occurs in the quote below from St Paul’s Letter to the Romans.

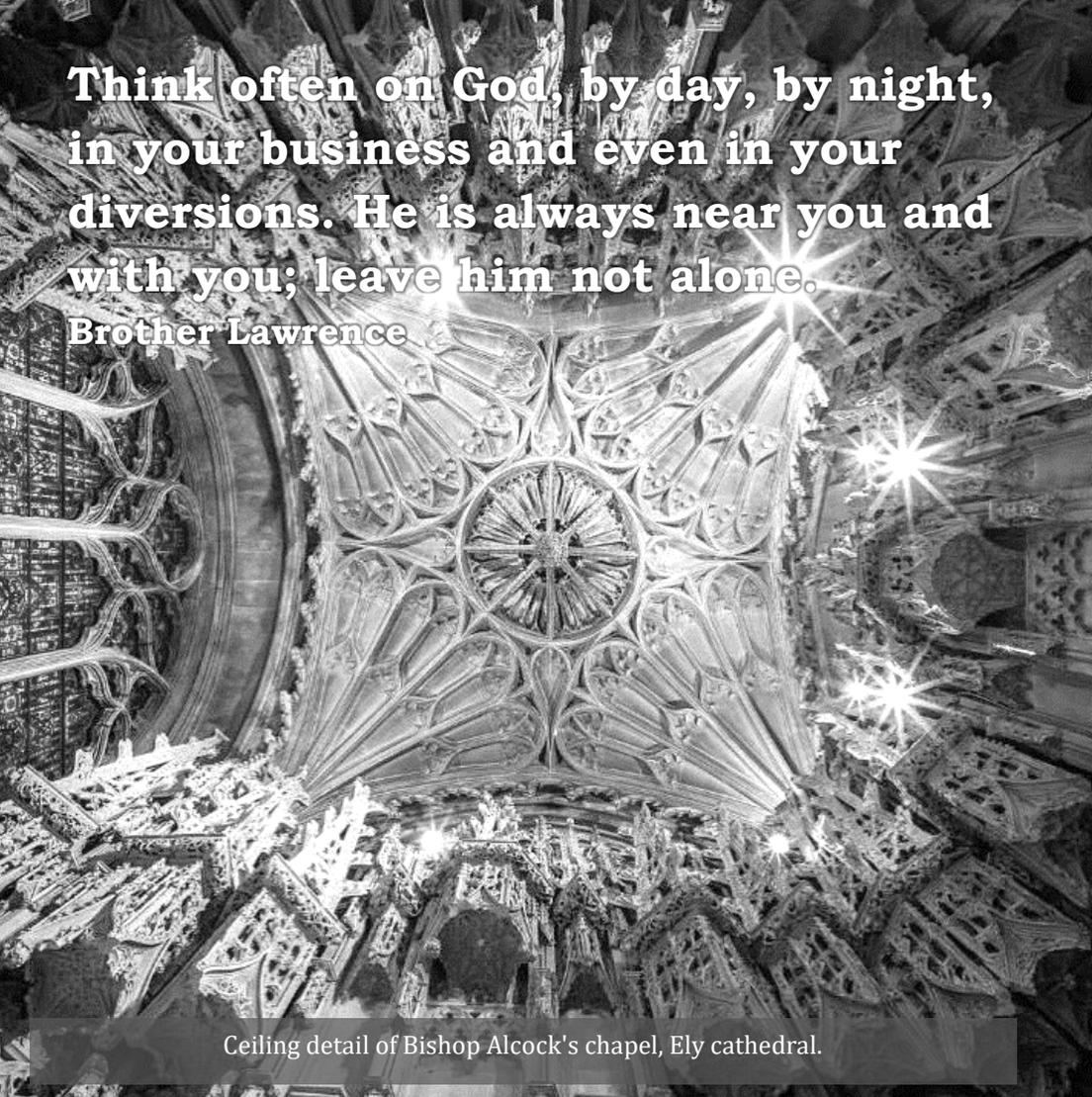


The Holy Spirit enables many different gifts. If a person’s gift is **prophesying**, let him use it in proportion to his **faith**. If it is **servicing**, let him serve; if it is **teaching**, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him **encourage**; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him **give** generously; if it is leadership, let him **govern** carefully; if it is **showing mercy**, let him do it cheerfully.

St Paul’s Letter to the Romans 12:6-8

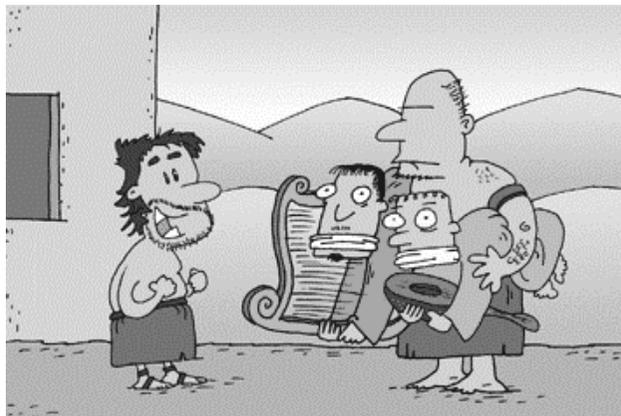
Think often on God, by day, by night, in your business and even in your diversions. He is always near you and with you; leave him not alone.

Brother Lawrence



Ceiling detail of Bishop Alcock's chapel, Ely cathedral.

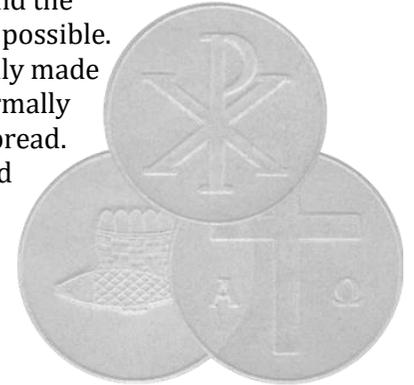
Illegal music downloads in history.



Because you're worth it!

Because the Eucharist is central to most Christian acts of worship, the way we take part in the service is also important. We need to approach the service with reverence and close attention. It also means the bread and the wine are of the very highest quality possible.

The communion bread is generally made in the form of circular wafers. It normally contains no yeast, so it is like pitta bread. Once cooked, the bread is dried and then pressed in a mould. A cross or an image of Jesus on the cross is usually impressed into the surface of the wafer.



In most churches, the communion wine is a normal wine that has been fortified (so extra alcohol has been added). We do this to ensure it does not go off. In practice, the wine is usually sweeter than normal table wine. Because we consider the Eucharist to be so holy, the chalice used when giving communion is usually made of solid silver and its inside surface is lined with a thin layer of purest gold.

Annual Gift Day

Sunday 16 June is **St Barnabas' Day**, so a big day in the life of our Church. It's our patronal festival, when we give thanks for our Church. We hold our annual Gift Day during the 9:30 am Eucharist. We do so to demonstrate our love of God by giving a gift of money to His Church.

It would be wrong to suggest an amount people should give because everyone's circumstances differ. But if the amount of our gift means that we don't even notice the difference, then we are not honouring God. Our gift gives more honour to God if it is *sacrificial*.

Whatever you feel able to give at Gift Day can increase by 25% if you Gift Aid it.

Curate's Corner

I write this (to meet the June magazine copy deadline) on my last evening in Rome.

As I said in last month's 'Curate's Corner', this trip was a chance for me to take time out with fellow pilgrims, but also to reflect on what lies before me, beginning with my ordination as Priest on the 22nd of this month.

On a visit to Rome, one cannot fail to be overawed by the visceral evidence of many hundreds of years of devotion to the Christian faith ... beginning with Saints Peter and Paul, and the early persecuted Christian community, continuing throughout the ages, and in the witness, ministry and mission of the Church today.

One of the treasures of this trip was to visit and listen to the stories of Sister Victoria of the *Missionaries of Charity*, about her long association with Mother (now St) Theresa. 'Mother' was no kindly 'do-gooder'; the work she and her sisters undertook was (and still is) very demanding and extremely challenging, beginning in the slums of Calcutta. Jesus' words from the cross 'I thirst' were always on Mother Theresa's heart, explaining why the imperative of the order is to quench that thirst. Movingly, Sister Victoria stretched out her hand to help us remember five simple words of Jesus when ministering to others '... you did it to me' (Matthew 25.40). The order continue to show the love of Christ in the work they do, and throughout the world, their houses (now 700 of them) attempt to meet the needs of the poorest, sickest and most marginalised in society ... and to just love them ... as Christ loves them. (I have St Theresa 'medals' for any who would like them ... please ask.)

I visited many churches/basilicas, all dedicated to various Saints and Apostles but, behind all the curlicued and gilded baroque accretions, huge paintings and frescoes, the bones of the Saints and Martyrs, holy 'relics', and the grand marble edifices to Cardinals and Popes who long ago have gone to glory, are glimpses of the very earliest churches, with simple and beautiful mosaics, icons and naïve statuary declaring the glory of Christ, and his care for the sheep of his pasture.

These had the most profound effect on me, as I am all too aware of the words of the Ordinal which will be spoken at my ordination as Priest ... 'Have always therefore printed in your remembrance, how great a treasure is committed to your charge. For they are the sheep of Christ, which he bought with his death, and for whom he shed his blood.'

That's mind-blowing stuff — an awesome challenge — enough to make one consider shrinking back into the shadows!

I hope always to remember whose servant I am, and to be a loving servant to those (yourselves) with whom I will minister as a priestly member of the community of faith in Clarksfield and Waterhead. I wish, ever, to seek to quench those who thirst (in any way) through my ministry among you ... please pray for me.

Rev'd Jane

S	A	F	G	I	F	T	J	L	K
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PENTECOST WORDSEARCH

FRUIT, GIFT, SPIRIT, WHIT

THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT: GRATEFULNESS, JOY, KINDNESS, LOVE,
PATIENCE, PEACE, SELF CONTROL, THANKFULNESS

Churches Together in East Oldham

Whit Sunday

Sunday 9 June 2018

Ash Square at 3:00 pm



Concert

The Marshall family in concert:
a celebration of the life of Costella Marshall
at St Mark's Church, Glodwick (OL4 1AW)

Sunday 7 July at 3:30 pm

£10

Children free

^{SAINT}
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Kadria Thomas

with

Soul Inspiration Gospel Choir

Melodies from Heaven

St Barnabas' Church (OL4 1NL)

Sunday 16 June 2019 at 7:00 pm

Tickets

£3

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Youth Club

St Barnabas Community Centre

Every Friday, 5:30–7:30 pm



We formed in 2001 to take in and re-home unwanted and abandoned animals. Can you help us? We are always in need of donations and volunteers, as well as homes for our lovely animals.

Could you provide that home? Please contact us today!

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Email: penninepen@hotmail.co.uk

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Church diary

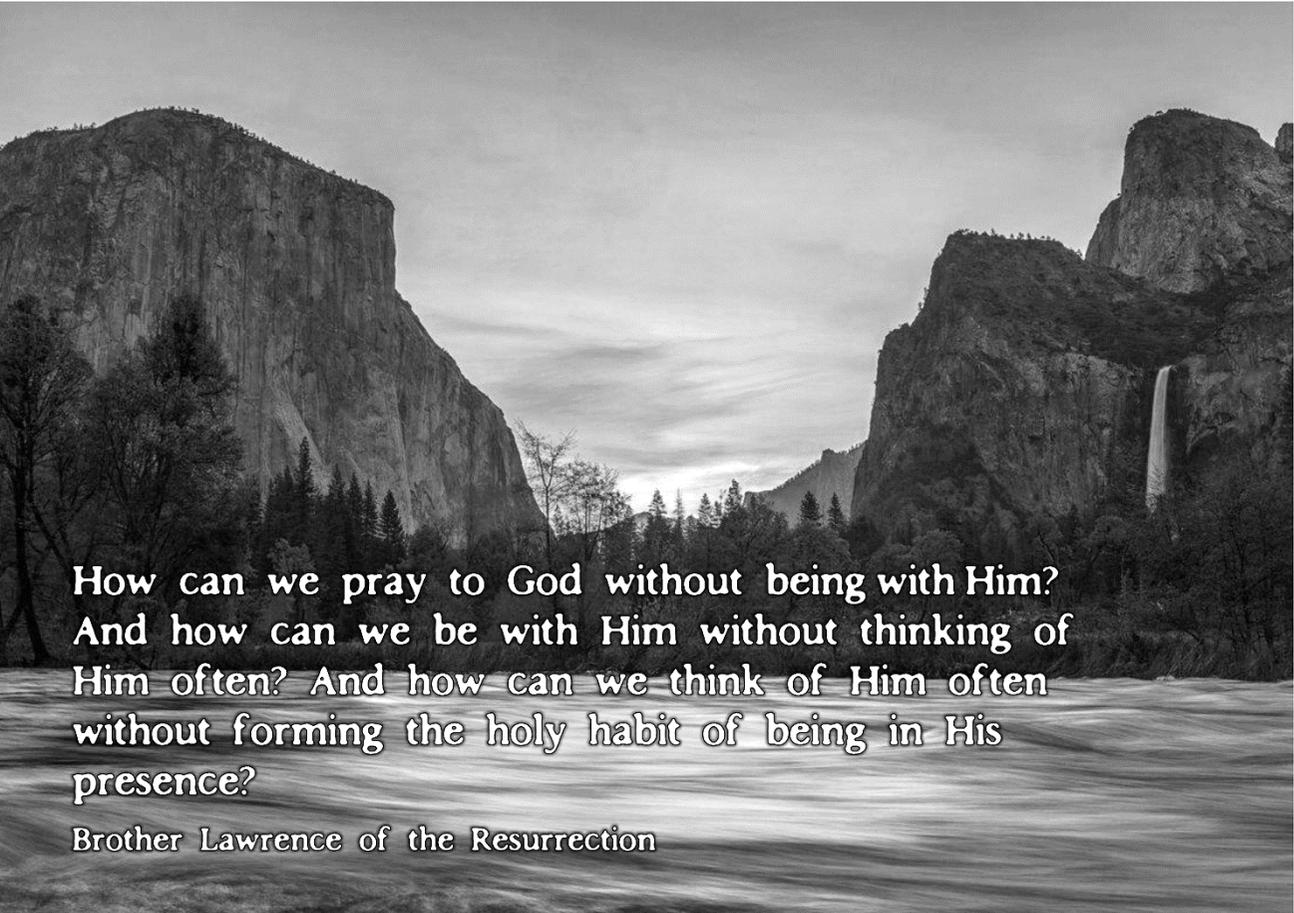
June 2019

- Sunday 2 9:30 am: Service for **the Seventh Sunday of Easter**.
- Monday 3 2:30 pm: **Prayers** in the vestry.
- Tuesday 4 10:00 am: **Holy Communion** in the Church.
2:00 pm: **Holy Communion** at Moor Haven Nursing Home.
5:00 pm: **Confirmation class** for children in the Parish Room.
- Weds 5 9:00–10:00 am: **Scripture breakfast**.
- Friday 7 5:30 pm: **Youth Club** in the hall.

- Sunday 9 9:30 am: Service for **Pentecost**.
3:00 pm: Service for **Whit Sunday**.
- Monday 10 2:30 pm: **Prayers** in the vestry.
- Tuesday 11 10:00 am: **Holy Communion** in the Church.
5:00 pm: **Confirmation class** for children in the Parish Room.
- Weds 12 9:00–10:00 am: **Scripture breakfast**.
- Friday 14 5:30 pm: **Youth Club** in the hall.
- Sunday 16 9:30 am: Service for **St Barnabas' Day**.
3:00 pm: **Concert in aid of CRIBS International** at Waterhead Church, featuring Waterhead Voices and the Graphene City Band.
7:00 pm: The **Soul Inspiration Gospel Choir** sing in St Barnabas Church. Tickets cost £3.
- Monday 17 2:30 pm: **Prayers** in the vestry.
- Tuesday 18 10:00 am: **Holy Communion** in the Church.
7:00 pm: **Confirmation rehearsal** in *Waterhead Church* (and please not the later time)
- Weds 19 9:00–10:00 am: **Scripture breakfast**.
- Friday 21 5:30 pm: **Youth Club** in the hall.
7:00 pm: **Annual Confirmation service** at Waterhead Church.
- Sunday 23 9:30 am: Service for **First Sunday of Trinity**.
11:00 am: **Revd Jane's celebrates her first Holy Communion service**, at Waterhead Church.
- Monday 24 2:30 pm: **Prayers** in the vestry.
- Tuesday 25 10:00 am: **Holy Communion in the Church**.
- Weds 26 9:00–10:00 am: **Scripture breakfast**.
- Friday 28 5:30 pm: **Youth Club** in the hall.
- Sunday 2 9:30 am: Service for **Saints Peter and Saint Paul**.

July 2019

- Monday 1 2:30 pm: **Prayers** in the vestry.
- Tuesday 2 10:00 am: **Holy Communion** in the Church.
2:00 pm: **Holy Communion** at Moor Haven Nursing Home.



How can we pray to God without being with Him?
And how can we be with Him without thinking of
Him often? And how can we think of Him often
without forming the holy habit of being in His
presence?

Brother Lawrence of the Resurrection



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