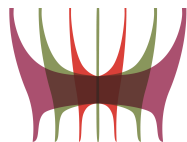


PARISH LIFE

Magazine



HOLY TRINITY KENDAL PARISH CHURCH



April 2025

50 pence

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Parish Hall bookings	bookkph@gmail.com	via Church Office

Telling an Old Story

I wonder what you do or have done to celebrate Easter. Are there special things you wear, or eat or do? Are the Easter services important to you? Are you one of those people who are keen to get up early and be at the Kendal Castle for the Sunrise Service? Do you love the BCP service with hymns, the Gathering breakfast service or the full choral service when we make a loud and joyful noise to celebrate. Or were you delighted by the introduction of the Holy Saturday Vigil last year with the lighting of the Easter candle and first Eucharist of Easter or maybe Easter evensong is your delight. I wouldn't be anywhere else on Easter Day but in church but not everyone is like me!

While it doesn't matter if people attend worship at Easter, or if they do what style of service they prefer, what matters is that they hear the joyful news that Jesus has died and is risen for them.

For a few years now we have used Experiencing Easter, a set of displays around the church, as a way of offering everyone who comes into the church building a chance to explore the Easter story. By journeying through Holy Week, from Palm Sunday, through the Last Supper, to Gethsemane, the Cross and the Empty Tomb you can get a sense of what the disciples went through and why.

This year, of course, we have the Last Supper sculpture, by Peter Barnes, which is enabling many people to explore that part of the story in detail in a new and innovative way. Another feature, this year, are the augmented reality posters which use a smart phone and QR code to show you a video clip in which Peter, Pilate, the Centurion, Mary and an Angel (all Lego figures) share their experiences with you. It may not be everyone's cup of tea, but it is a new way to engage people with the story.

But not everyone will visit KPC this Easter. The only part of the church they might encounter is you. In what ways will you share the good news of the resurrection with them? Will you invite them, or show them or tell them or live the good news in such a way they want to find out more?

There are so many ways to tell the Easter story and I hope and pray you take time this Lent and Easter to explore it again yourself and then share it, so the whole of Kendal might be in no doubt that

Christ is Risen
He is Risen indeed
Alleluia!



Revd Canon Shanthi Thompson

Seven Last Words from the Cross

On April 6th, Passion Sunday, in Kendal Parish Church there will be a performance of Seven Last Words from the Cross by Jonathan Bielby. Last year's performance was an extraordinary unforgettable event in its emotional intensity. Laura Rushforth (St Mary Magdalene) and Andrew Revans (Christ) were the superb soloists, supported by KPC Choir and Friends with Andy Plowman at the organ.

This year we welcome back our two amazing soloists, choir and organist (Laura is flying over from Gibraltar specially for the performance!). And to top it all we are honoured to have with us Dr Paul Whittaker OBE (Founder of Music and the Deaf) who will sign the performance. You cannot afford to miss this heart rending concert. The piece is steadily gaining converts and a recording of it has just come out brilliantly sung by the Choir of Selwyn College Choir, Cambridge (Regent).

Jonathan Bielby

Exploring Prayer – write your own Psalm

When I read the Psalms I see so many different emotions portrayed – often we just think about the Psalms being about praise, thanksgiving and worship but read on and we find lots of anger, lament, loss, pain, sadness etc. Read Psalm 38.

It just goes to show that it's ok to be angry with God. I used to think it was wrong to be angry but not anymore – He can take it – He is big enough. Anyway God knows all our thoughts so He knows when we are angry and He wants us to be honest with Him.

The Psalms of Lament more or less say 'I love you God but I'm mad at You.'

I trust You but where in this mess are You?

There's a fairly general pattern to the Psalms

They start with an introductory cry – addressing God

Who is God for you today – the day you write the Psalm

What name of God gives you most hope?

It may be:

Stronghold, shepherd, search light – always knowing me, faithful one, steadfast God, unfailing love

Then the really honest bit

What are you feeling?

What is it you really want to say to God?

Pour out your heart to God

What do I want God to do about the situation?

What is your desire?

Maybe – to stay in Your love

To feel your arms around me

To accept that love

Remind God of His characteristics – you are a faithful God

Your love is unfailing

A lot of psalms end with a declaration of what the psalmist intends doing for God and then with a shout of praise and acclamation – she returns to God, whom she trusts.

Now write one of your own – either a psalm of praise or lament.

With a suggested start: The Lord is my

Marjorie Arnold

Parish Church quiz No. 5



The picture shown last month is probably one of, if not the most unusual, of the pictures to be shown in this series.

In the centre aisle, leading back from the altar, the first pillar on the left has a very mysterious appearance.

On closer examination this pillar looks to have a beautiful Lake district image etched into it, it is in fact a perfectly natural occurring feature within the stone itself.

From this point it is also possible to see the leaning pillar of the church which can be seen just to the side of the Bevington organ.

The reason for this pillar having a slight lean is that when the clerestory windows were being added to create more light in the church, the extra weight was causing a problem. As a result, the original intention of ten windows was reduced to just eight.

Next month's picture



The Friends of Kendal Parish Church

The Committee of the Friends continues to work quietly in the background helping the church in whatever way they can.

At our most recent meeting £3000 was transferred to the church's general fund to be allocated as follows:

Music stands - £1000

Cassocks for young choristers - £500

Morland Camp - £400

Display stands - £500

Messy Church - £500

KENDAL PARISH CHURCH ENVIRONMENT GROUP

With lengthening days and spring bulbs coming up, I am already looking ahead. I have an allotment and so I have already started off some things in my tiny greenhouse at home.

In the past I didn't grow flowers on my allotment, but when my eldest daughter began preparations for her wedding she wanted everything to be home made, second hand or home grown. She asked if I would grow flowers for the bouquets and arrangements. It was a challenge I took on.

I had plants left over and so put them in pots in the garden. Very quickly I noticed an increase in the bees and butterflies that visited. Ever since, I've continued to grow flowers on the allotment and to put some in pots for the garden.

So my suggestion for April is this; for us all either to find a small sunny patch in our garden, or, if like me your garden is so full of things there isn't space, to get a pot and to buy a packet of bee and butterfly friendly flowers and to sow them.

You could do this even if you only have a balcony or a courtyard.

If you know that you are hopeless with seeds then look out for plant modules – B&Q (other outlets available) have them.

Bees are in decline in the UK and since bees pollinate about 30% of the world's crops they are hugely important. Without bees you wouldn't have any apples or soft fruit!

Your little patch may be small but all these little patches add up.

Happy planting, and I hope you enjoy your small patch of colour during the summer.

Linda Hunter

Revd Clive and Trish Duxbury

On 16th March KPC bid a fond farewell to Clive and Trish. They have been members of KPC for 6 years and will be dearly missed.



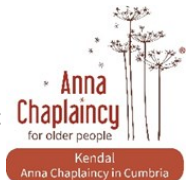
Clive has been an active member of the ministry team at both the 9.30am service and The Gathering and helped lead our recent Alpha Course. Both of them have brought joy and life to our church family so we presented them with some gifts to send them on their way to Lytham. A bottle of Lakeland Gin and Herdy as a reminder of their time in the Lakes and a self-inflating woopie cushion, to help their new community understand Clive's sense of humour.

God speed Clive and Trish and don't forget us.



Report on how the Kendal Anna Chaplaincy Team support older people through their church.

The Kendal Anna Chaplaincy Team consists of 1 Anna Chaplain, 4 Anna Friends and 7 volunteers. We visit 5 Care Homes within Kendal to deliver a church service or music therapy once per month and we also offer pastoral visits and end of life prayers.



We offer a short service once per month for people living with dementia and their families and carers in Holy Trinity Kendal Parish Church and this service is called The Kendal Tea Service. Whilst it is put together for people living with dementia, we welcome everybody who wishes to attend.

We take part in the church's annual Christmas Tree Festival and in 2024 we raised £226.00 from this to support the work of the Anna Chaplaincy Team in Kendal.

We also visit The South Lakes Dementia Community monthly Hub as a representative of both Anna Chaplaincy and KPC where various organisations with an interest in supporting people living with dementia and their families are available to offer support. This is at the Abbott Hall Social Club on the 2nd Tuesday of every month 2-4pm. This is good point for us to cross reference and receive referrals.

So, why do we do this:

- We believe it is vitally important for people to be able to continue their faith journey even if they move into residential care, and to have links to a local church even if they can no longer attend in person. Anna Chaplains walk side by side with those who can confidently express their faith, those who are beset with fears and doubts, and side by side with those who show no inclination to seek faith, and indeed with those who declare they have no faith at all.
- Many older adults experience loneliness and isolation, especially if they live alone or have lost loved ones. Churches provide a welcoming and supportive community where they can form friendships and maintain social connections. This is another reason why we take church to where they are, offering a sense of community and belonging.
- Faith can be a great source of comfort, especially in later years when people reflect on their lives, face health challenges, or cope with grief.
- Churches offer spiritual guidance, prayer, and pastoral care, some people may have unresolved family disputes and may wish to "put things right" before they die.

Talking with someone on a one to one basis can help with this as we give time and have good listening skills especially when staff in a care home setting often do not have extra time due to staffing issues, sickness or holidays to cover.

- Older individuals may need help with daily tasks such as transportation, grocery shopping, or home maintenance. Churches can organize volunteers or programs to provide this kind of practical support. Not something our small team offer currently but some churches do so.
- Seniors have wisdom, skills, and life experience that can benefit the church and younger generations. Churches can involve them in mentoring, teaching, or volunteer activities to help them feel valued and purposeful. When we have our Christmas Tea Service in church, we are joined by some children from Vicarage Park School who sing a couple of carols. The joy on the elderly peoples faces to be amongst youngsters is great to see, especially as some lose contact with younger members of their families when they move into residential care.
- As people age, they may have concerns about ageing, dying, and leaving a legacy. Churches provide counselling, funeral planning assistance, and grief support for families.
- Our Tea Service consists of 3 familiar hymns, a bible reading with a short reflection, a poem and prayers which lasts approximately 20-25 minutes followed by tea and cakes and a time to chat. Rev Michael Thistlewood, our organist for our Tea Service has written us a lovely hymn which is now our regular Tea Service Song. Staff from some of our care homes come along with some of their residents and they find our church and service quite calming. Music really helps people living with dementia and by choosing older, familiar hymns often people sing along freely without the need for written

helps people living with dementia and by choosing older, familiar hymns often people sing along freely without the need for written words.

- We end our services both in the care homes and at the Tea Service with “He’s got the whole world in his hands” and we all join with song and actions in a joyful way remembering that God is in Control. The song reassures us that no matter what happens in the world, God is ultimately in charge. It reminds us not to fear because He is watching over everything. Universality of God’s Care – The song includes everyone—children, adults, nations, and all creation—showing that God’s love and protection extend to all people.
- Singing or listening to this song can serve as a reminder to trust in God’s plan, especially in difficult or uncertain times. God’s love is for all of us and what a lovely world he has created for us to live in together. God holds us all in the palm of His hands.

By supporting older people, churches fulfil their mission of love, care, and service, creating an inclusive and compassionate community for all ages.

We, the Kendal AC team, feel strongly that we all have the right to have purpose, value, hope and meaning in our lives whatever age we are, wherever we may be living, and our hope is that we can encourage people living in care homes by pastoral support and good listening skills to see this and we can help them towards some of these goals.

Beverley Moore

Anna Chaplain Kendal

Lights to Remember

Friday 25th April 2025
From 7pm

CancerCare, Slynedales
Slyne Road, Lancaster, LA2 6ST

Remember someone special as we create a shining display of light in memory of treasured family and friends we have lost



Scan here for more info or
Please visit: www.cancercare.org.uk

CancerCare
Registered Charity Number: 1120048

Kindly sponsored by  Birchall
Blockroom Law

Carl Orff's CARMINA BURANA

Conducted by Geoffrey Field

Kendal South Choir
with Amabile Choirs
and FELLas men's choir

KENDAL PARISH CHURCH

SATURDAY 10th MAY 2025 at 7pm

Emily Robinson (soprano)

Dominic Mattos (counter-tenor)

Patrick Relph (baritone)

Ken Forster and David Battersby (pianists)

Paddy Davies (percussion leader)

*Celebrating the 450th Anniversary of the
granting of the first Kendal Royal Charter*

Tickets £18 (under 18s free)

via TicketSource, choir members or
kendalsouthchoir.weebly.com



KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL



Governor Vacancy – Vicarage Park School

Have you ever considered being a school governor? Or have you possibly served as a governor in the past and would be interested in doing so again? Our church school Vicarage Park is looking to recruit one or 2 new governors.

We are a small and friendly governing body, who meet 6 times a year for about an hour and a half. Being a school governor is a vital and rewarding role as governors are crucial in overseeing a school's management, strategy and performance, working alongside the headteacher and senior leadership team to ensure effective and high-quality education. Governors focus on strategic direction, holding leaders accountable, and ensuring the school's vision, ethos and financial health.

We are fortunate in having a fantastic head teacher at Vicarage Park in Katie Green and a wonderfully committed and dedicated staff team, with 108 children currently on the books and numbers steadily growing. The school last had a SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) Inspection in October 2022 and an OFSTED Inspection in February 2023; in both cases the school was judged to be “Good”.

Links with our church school have never been stronger and it is vital that we as a church support the school as much as we can, one of the most practical ways being through governorship. If you feel this is something you might be interested in doing please have a word with Shanthi or myself. Thankyou.

Ashley



HOLY TRINITY
KENDAL PARISH CHURCH

Kendal Parish Church
Passion Sunday
6 April 2025 at 4pm

JONATHAN BIELBY

Seven Last Words from the Cross

Laura Rushforth - St. Mary Magdalene

Andrew Revans - Christ

Choir of Kendal Parish Church

Andy Plowman - Organ

Directed by Jonathan Bielby

Signing by Paul Whittaker OBE

(Founder of 'Music and the Deaf')

4pm Jonathan Bielby will introduce the work
Refreshments available

4.30pm Concert

Free Admission
Suggested donation £10

Sunday Services in April

Sunday 6th

Passion Sunday

8.00am

Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am

Parish Communion (CW)

11.15am

The Gathering, Café style

4.00pm

Seven Last Words from the Cross

Sunday 13th

Palm Sunday

8.00am

Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am

Parish Communion (CW)

11.15am

The Gathering, with Communion

Sunday 20th

Easter Day

8.00am

Holy Communion (BCP)

9.00am

The Gathering, with breakfast

10.30am

Parish Communion (CW)

4.00pm

Evensong

Sunday 27th

Second Sunday of Easter

8.00am

Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am

Morning Prayer

11.15am

The Gathering, with Communion

From the Registers

Funerals

10th March

Jack Grayston

11th March

June Williams

24th March

Poppy Atkinson

Thank you very much to all who have contributed to this magazine. We would love to include your articles, notices, funny stories etc in future magazines. Do let us know if you would like any help or advice with articles.

Please email items to magazine@kendalparishchurch.co.uk - we need to receive them by 15th of the month before publication.

Stephen Lockwood and Susan Heyes,



Kendal's oldest building, one of England's widest churches.

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