



LANCASTER
PRIORY

PRIORY newslink

The Parish Church of St Mary, Lancaster



50p

A welcoming, inclusive Christian community serving God's people in Lancaster

No.46
March 2018

In this issue:

Priory
Away Day
+
Jill Novell says
'Thanks'
+
Priory People:
Mildred Walker
+
Holy Week 2018
+
PAAWS
March & April
Walks
+
Educaid
+
Tuesday Group
+
Choir News



PRIORY AWAY DAY

On 24th February a group from the Priory attended an Away Day in Dolphinholme Village Hall to consider the formulation of "The Priory Vision and Strategy Document 2018."

The group considered a number of questions relating to the FIVE PRIORITIES that have been identified for our work in the coming years. The consultation is now open to members of the congregation, and packs are available at the back of church for anyone who would wish to make their own responses to the questions asked.

The FIVE PRIORITIES are based on the Blackburn Diocesan Vision 2026, and call us to focus on the following themes:

■ Our Worship ■ Our Discipleship ■ Our Witness ■ Our Growth ■ Our Outreach

Specific questions are put to discern how these building blocks of our Christian Mission and Ministry can be developed in the life of our Priory Family, and how we can make our Priory Church fit for purpose in the 21st Century.

Through Lent, the sermons at the 10 am service (except on Mothering Sunday, when the sermon will be preached at Evensong at 6.30pm) will focus on these themes, given by members of the Priory clergy team. These will all be available online, and in hard copy at the back of church.

Once all the responses have been received, a team will consider all the responses and publish our "Vision and Strategy Document." We aim to publish this in time for our Annual Parochial Church meeting on April 29th. The real work will then begin as we seek to put into practice our aims for the coming years.

I hope that the following prayer may be used as we seek to develop our work in the coming years.

Almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we pray that your Holy Spirit may be with us,
that we may worship you in the beauty of your holiness,
call others to follow you as disciples in today's world,
witness to our faith in Jesus Christ among our communities,
grow leaders to inspire many to serve you,
and reach out in Jesus' name to all who need your saving love and grace. Amen.



HOLY WEEK

We are delighted to welcome The Revd Catherine Pickford as our Holy Week Preacher for 2018. Catherine is a parish priest in the Diocese of Newcastle, where she also has responsibility for the training and development of clergy in the diocese. Catherine is married with three young children who will be staying home with their Dad while Catherine is with us through Holy Week.



26 March	Monday in Holy Week	
7.30 pm	Choral Eucharist	"Mary and Martha"
9.00 pm	Sung Compline	
27 March	Tuesday in Holy Week	
7.30 pm	Choral Eucharist	"Philip and Andrew"
9.00 pm	Sung Compline	
28 March	Wednesday in Holy Week	
7.30 pm	Choral Eucharist	"Judas Iscariot"
9.00 pm	Sung Compline	
29 March	Maundy Thursday	
7.30 pm	Liturgy of Maundy Thursday	"Simon Peter"
11.30 pm	Tenebrae	
30 March	Good Friday	
2.00 pm	The Liturgy of Good Friday	"Jesus"
31 March	Easter Eve	
7.30 pm	Vigil and Easter Ceremonies	
1 April	EASTER DAY	
10.00	Festival Eucharist	"Mary Magdalene"
6.30 pm	Festal Evensong	

DEADLINE FOR
APRIL 2018 ISSUE
WILL BE:
FRIDAY 16th MARCH



Priory People

Andrew Nicholson continues his occasional series of profiles of Priory People with a profile of Mildred Walker.

Mildred is certainly one of our older active Priory members, nowadays to be seen amongst the regular faithful at the Tuesday morning BCP Holy Communion. She and her late husband John and son Nicholas (Nick, as he is better known to us) have made an immense contribution to the life of the Priory down many years.

Born in Egremont Cumbria and educated in Workington, she and her family moved to Lancaster in 1942, following upon her father's promotion at work, and took a job in the tax office. We can well imagine that for a lively 16 year-old, life in wartime Lancaster offered limited delights – but there were Saturday night dances at the Central Pier in Morecambe with friends from work to look forward to. And then there was LADOS (Lancaster & District Operatic Society), and this was to change the course of her life.

It was 1947. Blessed with a lovely mezzo-soprano voice, she had by this time already sung with LADOS for 3 years. Rehearsals had just begun for that year's show 'Wild Violets' and she recalls at the very first rehearsal becoming aware of a new and rich bass voice from the gentlemen's section behind her. The owner of that voice soon made himself known to her – a certain John Walker, recently demobbed from the army – and he asked her for a date. She was flattered but just a little taken aback by this ardour and at first refused, but such was his persistence over the following weeks that she eventually gave way and agreed to a night at the Central Pier. It was a lovely evening – he proved to be excellent company and a fine dancer. She was quite the envy of the other girls. Twelve months later he asked her to marry him.

They were married at the Priory by Bishop Ben Pollard in 1949 – a natural choice of venue as John was already a leading member of the choir, as he would be for the next 50 years – and thereafter made it their spiritual home. For Mildred, transferring to the Priory meant a steep learning-curve. She had been brought up in the Methodist Church and it took her some time to feel at home in an Anglican liturgy which at that time, it must be said, was very formal. For the following 30 years they both occupied centre-stage in the life of the Priory. Mildred, with her warm and outgoing personality and great organisational skills, was invited to oversee the activities of the Social Committee. In those days the level of church attendance at the Priory, in common with most other churches, was far higher than it is nowadays. Incredible to think that you had to arrive at evensong early to be sure of a reasonable seat! But what made the Priory special was the rich and varied social life that complemented worship – and all this on Mildred's watch.

I remember that there were frequent 'socials' - packed evenings in the Priory Lower Hall at which all the many Priory organisations put on a performance (yes, the Priory really did have talent!), film nights, Saturday coffee mornings at the Priory Hall (run by different groups), coffee after evensong, sales of work. Then there were the high profile events – the annual Priory Ball (a glitzy event in the Town Hall) and Flower Festivals, – where Mildred succeeded in harnessing the skills of the Lune Valley Flower Club, and made sure personally that the droves who visited us on foot, by car or coach from all over could later find refreshment in the form of morning coffee, lunch or afternoon tea. It is difficult to do full justice to Mildred's devoted service to the Priory over very many years. Suffice it to say that, besides her work with the Social Committee, she was chairman of the Tuesday Group for 10 years, member of the Mothers Union for 65 years and a foundation governor of Ripley, latterly clerk to the governing body.

This is about Mildred, but I must take this opportunity to pay tribute to John. I've already referred to his singing. He was an exceptionally fine bass who managed to combine tonal perfection with great emotional power. He came from a musical family and was professionally trained as a singer. His contribution to the Priory Choir is legendary. This, however, is not the full story of his commitment to the Priory. Strongly supported by Mildred, he was voluntary steward of the 'Friends of the Priory' – an organisation whose purpose was to raise funds to maintain the fabric of the church. As a member of the PCC, he undertook the role of introducing the concept of Committed Giving to the church, helping us realise the importance in Christian discipleship of sharing sacrificially time, talents and financial resources. This was very much new terrain in the church at that time and so impressive was he in this role that he was invited to take this stewardship message to other churches in the diocese.

It is a delight that this tradition of loyal service to the Priory is now being maintained by Nick who, since his return to Lancaster in 2016, has fully immersed himself once again in the life of the church, continuing to give the choir distinguished service, not least as founding chairman of the Choir Association. I should also mention Mildred's daughter, Linda, who as a youngster was also fully involved in the life of the Priory. She has spent most of her adult life in Lincolnshire where she is active in her local church. We are indeed grateful to Mildred, John and Nick for their devotion and service to the Priory.



Tuesday Group

when planning the programme for 2017/2018 decided to hold the February meeting in the afternoon rather than the evening to allow for possible bad weather. Other changes followed: afternoon tea would be given in the refectory with speakers giving talks concerning the Priory. Members would contribute scones and cakes for the tea but there would be no charge made on the day. No raffle tickets, no money changing hands, just a happy event offered to anyone who wished to join us. We wanted to play our part in making the Priory an 'inclusive church'.

In February, Andrew Nicholson our churchwarden with a lifelong family connection with Lancaster Priory. He gave us a most interesting talk on its history where we learned that there had probably been a place of Christian witness on this site as early as Roman times. Later, in the Anglo Saxon era there were Christian worshippers amongst them, the evidence for this being the Anglo Saxon font at the back of the church. It was once a Priory, home to six monks in the time of Roger of Poitou and later became the Parish Church - the reason it escaped destruction in the time of Henry VIII.

The Regimental Chapel was built after the Boer War to commemorate the soldiers who died in that conflict.

Women's World Day of Prayer: Each year, on the first Friday in March, a wave of prayer goes round the world starting from Samoa. The service will be held at St Thomas' Church, Penny Street at 1.45pm on Friday 2nd March. It has been prepared by Christian women in Surinam and the theme is 'All god's Creation is Very Good'. Everyone welcome. Barbara Bland.

Tuesday Group photos below courtesy of Pam Simon.



PAAWS

Whitbarrow, Thursday, March 8th - Led by John Harvey, tel 62266, email, jbyvarvey@hotmail.com)

PAAWS walkers, if my (J Harvey) recollection is correct, have not traversed the length of Whitbarrow previously. This is an opportunity to walk along this hill with its limestone landscape and views, via a relatively gentle ascent through the forest of Wakebarrow. The walk is about 6 miles.

We meet at 10.15am for 10.30am start from Ravens Lodge Farm (map ref. 97 400852), turning right off the A590 just after the A5074 (Lythe Valley road).

Note: do not turn on to the A5074, the turn we need to take is approx. 100yds after that, and over a cattle grid. Bear left and proceed along the old road to reach a right fork in 200yds giving access to Ravens Lodge Farm. You will see the limestone cliff of Whitbarrow in front of you. Go round the back of the farm to park, the road bends right. Bring elvenses and lunch. The walk is ideal for dogs but usual T's and C's apply.

Please contact John Harvey prior to the walk if you intend to join us, so that any necessary car sharing can be arranged, and in order to know who to expect at the start of the walk. I hope you will be able to join us on the day.



April : Slaidburn, Newton and The Myttons – Tues 17th April 2018

This walk of about 6 miles rambles along the River Hodder to Newton then over undulating fields to the farmstead of Myttons before following Croasdale Brook back to Slaidburn.

Meet at Slaidburn Village Hall 9.45 for a 10.00 a.m. start. Loos available at the public carpark (Satnav BB7 3ES. OS map ref 714524) Parking in the public carpark £1.20 for 4hrs / £2.10 for 8hrs. Café by the carpark serving a range of food and drink.

Please e-mail Nick Walker if you are intending joining us on this walk walkernick5353@yahoo.co.uk (07933829265) Please note there is varying internet and mobile connection in the area. Dog owners might like to know that there are rather a lot of stiles on the walk.

Mothers UNION
Christian care for families

At our February meeting, Brian Kirtley's talk 'Mass production', illustrated the great range of styles in which the mass can be set. His talk ranged from Byrd to Janacek, Mozart to Jonathan Dove, and Bach to Will Todd, and he played excerpts from settings meditative and private, settings triumphant and requiring large forces, settings familiar and settings entirely new to us. We were reminded that at the Priory we regularly hear music created for the chapels of princes and prince bishops (Haydn and Mozart) and for world famous choirs (Howells) as well as congregational settings (like Oldroyd's 'Mass of the quiet hour') with which we can join, even if the Glagolitic Mass and Bach's B minor are beyond our choir (just now).

Diary

March:

Thursday, 8th:

Travels of a diocesan President' a talk by Enid Nutland; 2pm.

Friday, 10th:

Quiet afternoon at St Margaret's, Ingol; 2-4.30pm.

April:

Monday, 9th:

Lady Day Eucharist at Christ Church, Glasson; 10.30am.

Thursday, 12th:

The beat goes on'; further adventures of a policewoman, by Marjorie Holt; 2pm.

Sunday, 15th April:

Annual celebration of baptism: a service for families with children baptised in the past year; 3pm.

EDUCAID: Sierra Leone

In March our World and Community Group's searchlight will focus on Educaid, the charity in Sierra Leone providing education and employment for the country's future.

The charity's country Director, Miriam Mason-Sesay, gave a memorable and, at times, heartbreaking account to us in October of last year's floods in Freetown and their desperately challenging aftermath. She greatly appreciated the support she received on the day, and the additional tangible support Educaid has since received from the Priory community.

I look forward to bringing the recent news from Miriam and her colleagues throughout March via the WCG board at the back of the church. And we shall all have an opportunity in our weekly intercessions to pray for the success of Educaid's work there.

John Dickinson

Almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we pray that your Holy Spirit may be with us, that we may worship you in the beauty of your holiness, call others to follow you as disciples in today's world, witness to our faith in Jesus Christ among our communities, grow leaders to inspire many to serve you, and reach out in Jesus' name to all who need your saving love and grace. Amen.

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Services:

SUNDAY:

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Priory Eucharist
All Age Eucharist (First Sunday of month)
11.30 am Choral Mattins (First Sunday of month)
6.30 pm Choral Evensong

TUESDAY:

10.15 am Holy Communion (BCP)

WEDNESDAY:

12.30 pm Holy Communion with Healing

THURSDAY

12.45 pm Lunchtime Service at Penny's Hospital Chapel

Saturday Coffee Concerts

Start your weekend with drama or music.

All events start at 10.30am and last about 30 - 45 minutes. Fairtrade drinks available from the Fig Tree café. See below for further details.

Choir Association Italian Night

Twenty six members of the ATB section of the choir had a relaxing evening in January at Molly's Italian restaurant on Church Street, Lancaster following their Friday night practice. Molly's coped admirably with such a large party giving us use of their downstairs room which kept us all together and created a lovely atmosphere. We're looking forward to a repeat some time later in the year.

Nick Walker



PRIORY CHURCH (Behind the Castle)
Saturday March 24th, 2.00- 3.30pm

Messy CHURCH Ages **3 - 8**
at EASTER

- Easter Egg Hunt - indoors & out
- Crafts
- Songs and story
- Drinks and cake
- All welcome - just turn up
- Parents please stay



SATURDAY 3RD MARCH

EDMUND LE BROCC
& ROWAN MAURICE

Performances from choral scholars at Blackburn Cathedral.

SATURDAY 17TH MARCH

WILLIAM THOMSON

*Ahead of his evening concert next month,
William gives us a taste of his music.*

SATURDAY 24TH MARCH

HENRY ASKEW

Classic popular music from this newcomer to the series.

SATURDAY COFFEE CONCERTS – SPRING 2018

START YOUR WEEKEND WITH A PERFORMANCE, FOLLOWED BY A
FAIR-TRADE DRINK FROM THE FIG TREE @ THE PRIORY CAFE

ALL CONCERTS LISTED BELOW START AT 10.30AM
FREE ADMISSION WITH A RETIRING COLLECTION

www.lancasterpriory.org

News and information for inclusion in Priory Newslink is always welcome.

Please send your items to

Email: priorynewslink@gmail.com,

by good old pen and paper or via the Parish Office (01524 65338)

DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL 2018 ISSUE

WILL BE: FRIDAY 16TH MARCH

Contacts:

Vicar:

The Revd Chris Newlands, Priory Vicarage, Priory Close, Lancaster, LA1 1YZ
01524 63200 prioryvicarage@googlemail.com

SSM Associate Priests:

Revd Dr Anderson Jeremiah 01524 931861

Revd Jill Novell

Curate:

Revd Dr Rebecca Aechtner

Readers active in the Parish:

Dr. Richard Carter

Mr Jim Garbett (Reader Emeritus)

Mrs Lois Kirtley

Mrs Christine Mullineaux

Hon. Associate Priests:

Revd Gareth Beresford Jones

Revd Keith Brockbank

Revd Steve Evans

Revd Tim Evans

Revd. Paul Finlinson

Revd Canon Tim Girling

Revd Stephan Harker

Revd David Newton

Revd Canon Professor John Rodwell

Revd Canon John Roff

Hon. Associate Minister:

Revd. Michael Fielding

Parish Officers:

Wardens:

Dr Tim Jenkinson 01524 65595 Mr Andrew Nicholson 01524 60972

Treasurers:

Mrs B Gardner 01524 66430

Planned Giving:

Mrs Anne Maunder Mrs Barbara Gardner

Giving Officer:

Mr Andrew Nicholson (01524 60972)

Secretary:

Mrs Bron England 01524 65338 lancasterpriory@yahoo.co.uk

Head Verger:

Alice Granger 01524 65338

Music Department:

Director of Music:

Don Gillthorpe 0797 454 0037 DoM@lancasterpriory.org

Organist:

Ian Pattinson FRCO

Choral Director Emeritus:

Jeremy Truslove 01524 66204

Church Groups

Mothers' Union:

Christine Mullineaux

East meets West:

Hilary Hopwood

Mustard Seed:

John Dickinson

Brian Kirtley

Fairtrade:

John and Christine Dickinson

Sanctuary Guild

Lois Kirtley

Tuesday Group:

Pam Simon Denise Willey

Priory Youth Group:

David Cheung, Cath Hill and Sarah Hutchins.

Priory Young People's Officer

Katie Schad

Priory All Age Walking Group:

Tim and Gill Jenkinson Christine and John Dickinson

Young Church:

Leaders - Katie Schad Viv McCracken

Gill Jenkinson Jane Hartley

Social Group:

Andrea Howson David Cheung

The Priory Welcome, Outreach and Communications Committee

Alice Granger

Resources

Michael Greenhalgh

World and Community

Revd Michael Fielding

Spiritual Growth

Joop Brouwer

All those named above may be contacted through the Priory Office

Contributions for Newslink: Email: priorynewslink@gmail.com

Diocese of Blackburn:

The Bishop of Blackburn, The Rt Revd Julian Henderson 01254 248234

The Bishop of Lancaster, VACANT

The Archdeacon of Lancaster: The Ven. Michael Everitt

The Area Dean, Revd Linda Macluskie Tel: 01524 411039