

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

Reaching the Unreached:

RTU is one of the charities the Priory is supporting. It is working in southern India helping the poorest and most marginalised people, particularly women and children, by providing healthcare, clean water, housing, education and support. It cares for orphaned or abandoned children, many affected by HIV/AIDS, in children's villages, and provides education until they are able to live independently. The Priory's donations have already provided Priory House and Lancaster House for two families whose lives they have transformed.

In Lancaster House live Kannan (aged 55), his wife Jeyalakshmi (42), their son Danapal (17), and their

daughter Logeswari (14). Kannan had major health problems which resulted in his having to give up his job in a mill, and his wife has a major hearing loss. They were struggling living in a very inadequate leaking hut, and trying to earn enough money to feed their children. Fortunately they approached RTU who have provided them with this safe house with electricity. They are now much happier and their children are able to be educated with the little income from his petty shop.

In Priory House live Nagarajan (32), his wife Kaliswari (29), their son Masanakathirvel (10), and their daughter Vinothini (8). Their son tragically was born with an ano-rectal malformation which has resulted in his having to have ongoing major operations, costing the family a great deal of money. The situation was exacerbated by their hut being filled with rain, making it difficult for them to care for their son properly. Fortunately Nagarajan heard about RTU who, due to the family's hand-to-mouth existence, built them Priory House where the family now lives peacefully. Their children are both at school and they are able to look after their son in a safe environment.

It is good to have first hand information of the two families who are very grateful for this life-changing support. Our next donation will hopefully provide "St. Mary's House" to another needy family.
Christine Dickinson



Traidcraft:

Next Stall: This will be on Sunday November 19th and supporting it will be an excellent opportunity for you to help producers in the developing world to work their way out of poverty. Advent calendars with the a Christmas story booklet will be available to buy and order as are Christmas cards and gifts. Naturally, the usual foodstuffs and greetings cards will also be for sale.

Sainsbury's and Fairtrade:

Many of the congregation will have heard that Sainsbury's have decided to drop the Fairtrade mark from their own brand of tea and replace it with their own label "Fairly traded" instead.



The Fairtrade Foundation has built up a reputation with growers, producers, brand-owners, and consumers over 25 years. The mark is instantly recognisable and gives a clear message that the goods we buy meet international standards of fairness and directly benefit communities of makers, growers, and farmers around the world. No self-governed scheme can hope to deliver the same consistency, recognition, and engender the same breadth of consumer confidence.

Already 220,000 tea producers are adversely affected by the decision and their concerns have been blatantly ignored. Furthermore, although this is officially a pilot the suspicion is that Sainsbury's will roll out the new standard across other products including bananas and coffee.

There is now an active campaign "Don't Ditch Fairtrade" with a petition supported by Oxfam, CAFOD, Christian Aid, Traidcraft Exchange, Tearfund, the Trade Justice Movement, and Commitment for Life.

You can give your own support at: www.dontditchfairtrade.com or call 020 3752 5718 for materials.

Christine Dickinson

Educaid:



Left:

The Priory welcomed Educaid Operations Manager, Miriam Mason-Sessay, to the Eucharist on Sunday 22nd October when she gave a presentation about the devastation caused by the flooding in Sierra Leone. Educaid is one of the charities supported by the Priory.

Right:

On the same day the sermon was given by Revd Dr Hamilton Inbadas from Glasgow University.



ALL SAINTS' DAY SERVICE: 10am Sunday 5th November
ALL SOULS' SERVICE: 6.30pm Sunday 5th November
REMEMBRANCE DAY: Priory Eucharist, 10.00am, Sunday 12th November

Katie Schad - Young People and Families Worker:



I must start by saying thank you to everyone who has made me so welcome in my first couple of months at the Priory. I already feel part of the Priory family.

I am not sure how to introduce myself. But will have a go... Over the years, I have worked as an RE and History teacher, trained as a Reader and led various Sunday-morning children's groups, youth clubs, parent-and-toddler groups, and Bible study-groups. Although not all at the same time! John has heroically led many of these groups with me, so I now help him with Saturday morning football at Dallas Road Boys and Girl Club.

We moved to Lancaster six years ago when our twins finished their A' Levels and Rebecca was only seven. It is a long way from our families in the South but we do love the history and beauty of this area. Before coming to the Priory we really valued being part of St Thomas', where the wonderful children's workers Sarah and Emma taught me a great deal. The plan is that wherever possible we will work together and share resources.

I am very much still finding my way and working out what my priorities should be, but part of role, and close to my heart, is working with the people living on the Marsh and the new Luneside Estates. With Sally Pidd from St Thomas's and with the help of Pam Robinson, I have been running the Coffee and Cake Club, a women's group that meets at the Marsh Community Centre on Friday afternoons. It is a small and wonderfully relaxed friendly group that laughs a lot, chats, drinks coffee and eats Sally's fantastic cakes. We are always ready to welcome new members, so if you know of anyone who lives in the Marsh area who might like to come please let me know.

I have two long term dreams. The first is to work with other local churches to start a Parent and Toddler group in the Willow Lane part of town. The second is, well, an even bigger dream and, fortunately, not solely dependent on me – wouldn't it be great if every child who came to the Priory felt so welcomed and wanted that they became part of the Priory family and in doing so met with Jesus?



Mothers' Union News

In September we met for our Branch Festival, followed by Afternoon tea. Thank you, Anderson, for presiding at the Eucharist, and thank you, Joan and helpers, for a lovely tea.

Our October meeting was to celebrate the Wave of Prayer reaching Blackburn Diocese, along with High Veld in South Africa, Nambale in Kenya, Niger Delta in Nigeria, Guinea, and Bhopal in India.

Diary:

November:

Thursday 9th at 2pm: Canon Christine Mullineaux: **MU around the World:**

December:

Thursday 14th at 2.30pm: **Advent service and Christmas celebration.**

Lectio Divina - St Thomas' Chapel in the Priory:

Further Lectio Divina sessions are planned for 4 December.

Lectio Divina or divine reading represents an ancient Christian practice of praying with Scripture. It became a regular practice in monasteries by the time of St. Benedict in the 6th century.

During Lectio Divina, the practitioner listens to a text from the Scriptures with the "ear of the heart". The method of Lectio Divina includes moments of reading, reflecting on, responding to and resting in the Word of God. The interaction among the moments is dynamic and the movement through the moments follows the spontaneous prompting of the Holy Spirit.

Everybody is welcome to join, either as a one off or on a more regular basis. No previous experience or knowledge of the Scriptures is necessary. Once learned, Lectio Divina can also be practiced individually at any time or place.

Please contact me if you would like more information or just come along on the evening. Joop Brouwer 07792 644402

Dates for your diary - Christmas Services and Events:

Sunday 17th December, 6.30 pm <i>Christmas really begins with our Candlelit Carol Services, with well-loved Carols to sing, and beautiful music sung by the Priory Choir.</i>	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
Friday 22nd December, 7.30 pm & Saturday 23rd December, 7.30 pm <i>A Christmas treat for all the family, with choir, orchestra, and children from local primary schools.</i>	Candlelit Concert
Sunday 24th December, 3 pm <i>An informal service for children of all ages, who are encouraged to come dressed as characters from the Nativity story. Christingle oranges are distributed and all proceeds go to the Children's Society</i>	Christingle Service
Sunday 24th December, 11.30 pm <i>Come and join a packed congregation as we celebrate the birth of Jesus in the traditional service.</i>	Midnight Mass of the Nativity
Monday 25th December, 10 am <i>Christmas Morning Service for all the family</i>	Christmas Day Eucharist
Sunday 7th January, 6.30 pm <i>We end the Twelve Days of Christmas with our traditional Epiphany carol service, following the Three Wise Men as they journey to Bethlehem.</i>	Epiphany Carols

Paul Baxter - a tribute:

I remember it well. It was 2006 and we could scarcely believe the good news that Paul Baxter had decided to retire to Morecambe was going to rejoin the Priory Choir. The untimely death of Michael Orr in the previous year had left a significant gap in the tenor section and had wounded the morale of the whole choir. Through his immense talent as a choral singer and his sparkling personality, Paul was to play an absolutely fundamental role in steering us through this difficult and dark period.

Paul was a legendary figure in the choir. When I joined in 1959, he had just left although, as his father Jim was Head Verger, he was still on the scene, and of course his photo as Head Boy adorned the wall of the choir vestry. He cut something of a hero figure to us fledgling choir boys. His reputation as a fine treble still lingered but what impressed us rather more was his 'cool' appearance and his willingness to challenge authority. After all he had had the nerve to drop toothpaste onto a senior choirman's bald pate on the choir holiday to Rossall School – for which misdemeanour he had been invited to take early retirement from the choir.

Paul was very much one of our own, although like so many others he was an incomer and a Yorkshireman, arriving in Lancaster when he was 11. He came from a very musical family but it was at the Priory that he discovered and nurtured his love of church music and, under the choir director of the time – Henry Walmsley – Paul could not have found a finer teacher. Great though the choir now undoubtedly is, we may just pause to remember that in those days it broadcast Choral Evensong regularly on BBC Radio, Paul himself taking part in many of those broadcasts. Paul's ability was recognised beyond the Priory. In 1957 he won the treble section of the then famous Morecambe Music Festival – an achievement of which he was justifiably very proud as the adjudicator was Herbert Howells, the doyen of English church music.

His was a romantic soul and it was this that ultimately led to his departure from Lancaster. He had first met Sylvia, who was to be the love of his life, when she was on holiday in Yorkshire. Faithfully keeping up a pen-friend relationship down the years and meeting up in the holidays, Paul eventually decided that this separation was too much to bear and sought a permanent transfer to Edinburgh so as to be near her. They eventually married and settled down in Helensburgh.

Throughout his life in Helensburgh, Paul's passion for church music remained unabated. Though first and foremost a singer, he was also a talented organist. He sang in the choir at Paisley Abbey which he joined to support his son Martin as he embarked upon his musical journey. He was, at different times, organist and choir master at Holy Trinity, Paisley, the Clyde Submarine Base, and St Michael and All Angels Church, Helensburgh. Upon his return to Morecambe, Paul threw himself with great verve into the local musical scene. Besides the Priory Choir, he joined the St Lawrence Singers and Cumbria Baroque, and deputised on the organ in many local churches, most of all at St Oswald's, Warton and St Michael and All Angels, Beetham. He was delighted when he was able to make a CD with Margaret Pattinson, director of St Lawrence Singers, and Ian Pattinson, our own Priory organist, and we are delighted that we have a permanent record of his astonishing talent.

Paul was a fine musician. He was naturally musical. His purity and clarity of tone as a tenor were complemented with accuracy, timing and phrasing. Nowhere was this better illustrated than in his beautiful rendition of the solo in the Nunc Dimittis of Howells' Evening Service: Coll Reg. It was spine-tingling. He was an outstanding chorister and embodied the spirit of the Priory Choir. Behind the scenes, he was full of fun, always ready with a witty 'one-liner'. He was kind, supportive and encouraging - a quality noted by newcomers and younger members especially. In the vestry and in church he led by example, aiming for high standards, but making no big deal when we fell short. He was a 'safe pair of hands' – as steadfast, reliable and true in his singing as he was in his dealings with us all.

Paul had a great zest for life. Besides his many musical activities, he enjoyed riding his motor cycle (a life-long passion), swimming and walking his dog. His illness was a cruel blow, but the courage he showed throughout was an inspiration to us all. Paul was essentially a family man, devoted to his wife Sylvia, his son Martin and daughter Lesley, and his grandson Ethan. To them all we extend our love and sympathy at this time.

Andrew Nicholson

Music is God's gift to man, the only art of Heaven given to Earth; the only art of Earth we take to Heaven
Walter Savage

Sanctuary Guild:



Sanctuary Guild (the Priory's embroidery group) is meeting again on Wednesday afternoons. We are working on several exciting projects in the 'Stations of the Resurrection' group, and hope to involve all members of the congregation in one of them.

In 1 Corinthians, ch.15, v.3-6, Paul tells us that Christ appeared after his Resurrection to 'more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time'. That's a lot of witnesses! In our Station representing this event we'd like to call on as many brothers and sisters as we can to help us.

Shortly we'll be inviting everyone (who agrees) to have their photograph taken; from this snapshot a sketch will be made to form the pattern for a tiny portrait we can include in the final Station. Look out for examples on display in church which will illustrate this! We hope to include, if not five hundred people, as many faces as we can fit into one piece, and we hope everyone will agree to take part. We start recruiting soon...

We also invite anyone who stitches, or would like to learn to stitch, to help with this project – as you see it is ambitious! If you are interested, speak to Jean Simpson or Lois Kirtley, we'll be glad to tell you more.

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 Eucharist at St John's*
*(*N.B. There will be no services at St John's until flood repairs have been completed)*
In the meantime these services will be held at Penny's Hospital Chapel.

Leaders for Children's Work:

The children in Young Church are really enjoying the space that three venues gives but it does mean that they are short of leaders. If anyone would like to be part of the team that occasionally prepares sessions for the small group of 7-9 year olds please contact Katie on 07868314807.

Priory Film Discussion Group:



The film to see next is 'BREATHE' which is on at the Dukes from 3rd to 9th November.

The trailers reveal an inspiring and moving story.

Hermione and John Roff propose to see it at the Dukes on Monday 6th November at 5.30pm. Join us in the foyer at 5.20pm.

AKOUSMAFLORE ET LUX
Priory Church Friday 3rd
Nov 5.30pm-10pm

Saturday 4th Nov
5.30pm-7.30pm
Akousmaflore is an interactive artwork installation, a small garden composed of living

musical plants, which react to gentle contact. Each plant reacts to touch in a different way, producing a specific sound and lights. Our invisible electrostatic energy acts on the plant branches and encourages them to react.

In their artwork, the artists Scenocosme create hybrids between plants and digital technology. Mixing reality with imagination, Scenocosme animates that which we cannot detect and create a sensory experience that encourages us to think about our invisible relationship with other living things. Their artworks are exhibited in numerous museums, contemporary art centres and digital art festivals in the world.



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, via the Parish Office (01524 65338)

DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER 2017 ISSUE
WILL BE: FRIDAY 17th NOVEMBER

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Mr Jim Garbett (Reader Emeritus)
Mrs Lois Kirtley
Mrs Christine Mullineaux

Hon. Associate Priests:

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Revd Keith Brockbank
Revd Steve Evans
Revd Tim Evans
Revd. Paul Finlinson
Revd Stephan Harker
Revd David Newton
Revd Canon Professor John Rodwell
Revd Canon John Roff

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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

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