

Consider

Christ Church Aughton Parish Newsletter

No 535 ~ June 2018

Curate's reflection . . .

'We can be lonely together'

ACCORDING to the Office for National Statistics, Britain is the 'loneliness capital of Europe'. Loneliness is likely to affect all of us at some point in our lives and is not only distressing, but can cause many health problems. The UK even has a Minister for Loneliness charged with working across government departments to address the issue

For some people loneliness occurs because of a change in circumstances such as after bereavement, becoming unemployed or starting university. And while some tend to adapt to their new lives and the feeling of loneliness fades others are less able to shake off the feeling of emptiness.

On May 19th the U3A celebrated their 15-birthday party in the Ministry Centre. One of the many strengths of the U3A is the range of activities on offer that enable people to get out of their homes to meet and connect with other people.

On Friday July 6th we are launching a new group in Café Vista called FACT (Feeling Alone Come Together). We recognise that coming together and having a place to belong is so important to all of



us no matter if we have a faith or not.

There are many scriptures in the Bible that speak of God being with us especially when we feel alone. In the Old Testament, Psalm 34:18 we read "The lord is near to those who have a broken heart". In the New Testament Jesus says in Matthew 28:20 "I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

The poem entitled 'Do not let your hearts be troubled' by Helen Steiner Rice speak of God's love for us especially in our times of loneliness.

*Whenever I am lonely and lost in deep despair,
I bundle all my troubles up and go to God in prayer.
I tell him I am heartsick and lost and lonely too,
that my mind is deeply burdened and I don't
know what to do.
But I know He stilled the tempest and calmed the
angry sea,
so I humbly ask if in His love He'll do the same for
me.
And then I just keep quiet, and think only thoughts
of peace, and if I abide in stillness, my restless
murmurings
cease.*

D. Douglas

News from Girlie Night In

'Girlie Night In' is going country in June. On **Friday 15th June** we are hosting a country night. Join in the line dancing or come along and listen to the country tunes. All ladies over 18 welcome. Join us 7.45-10.00pm. no need to book, bring your own drinks.

Sunday Evening Service

From June and during the interregnum it has been decided by the Wardens and Ministry team to have our 6.30 evening service twice a month. This will help the team who are responsible for leading and preaching at all the services. We will be having a 6.30 service on 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month. On 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month we are all warmly invited to worship and join the congregation at St Michael's Aughton at 4.00pm.

Introducing FACT

If you are feeling that you would like a bit of company, you will be very welcome to join us at **FACT** on a Friday morning between 11.00 and 12.00 in Café Vista. We will be launching FACT on **Friday 6th July, 11.00am.**

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided and there will be people to welcome and chat with you. So why not come along and give it a try- we would love to see you.

News from Andrew Monk in Uganda

Be an 'Afema'

Hi, my name's Andy Monks. I am currently living in Arua, Uganda working for Emmanuel Cathedral for a period of six months. As I write I have been here seven weeks and wanted to give you a thought from a lesson learned here . . .

June 2018

Sunday, 3rd June

8.15am: Holy Communion
10.45am: Holy Communion
4.00pm: St Michael's Aughton
No evening service

Sunday, 10th June

8.15am: Holy Communion
Breakfast served in Café Vista
10.45am: Parade service
6.30pm: Evening Worship

Sunday, 17th June

8.15am: Holy Communion
10.45am: Family Service and celebration with Baptism
4.00pm: St Michael's, Aughton
No evening service

Sunday, 24th June

8.15am: Holy Communion
10.45am: Informal family service in the Ministry Centre
6.30pm: Holy Communion

Sunday, 1st July

8.15am: Holy Communion
10.45am: Holy Communion
4.00pm: St Michael's, Aughton
No evening service

I often find that most of us feel like we do not have it in us to make a difference in this world. We feel like we are so small compared to the problems and injustice of this world; and our own insecurities can be a barrier to our commitment to doing anything out the ordinary to help someone out.

In my first six weeks in Uganda, I was wrapped in these feelings of 'I have nothing to give' or 'I am just me, what can I really do?' But what I have found is this; simply giving yourself, being you, and just showing up speaks volumes. When you think you have nothing to give, that is such a lie ~ you are you, and God has made you to be you; He has made you a you that can change this world, simply by

being yourself and just showing up. The word 'Afema' in Lugbara (*the local language of this Ugandan region*) means 'I give myself'; and I believe that we can all be an 'Afema' to one another. When you think that you have nothing to give, you can always give yourself, because God made you to be someone very special in this world.

**Prayers and blessings from Uganda,
Afema Andy**

Do you enjoy meeting people?

... and have a few hours to spare?

Café Vista is a key part of our ministry at Christ Church and is run by a wonderful team of volunteers. With the summer fast approaching we are looking for extra help to cover the summer months (June-August) while our regular volunteers have their well earned holidays.

We are looking for friendly, reliable people who will be welcoming to customers. You should be able to carry out instructions as well as being able to use your own initiative. You won't be required to do any cooking. Hours are flexible between 10.00am and 4.00pm.

This role would be particularly suitable for a school/college student (*minimum age 16*) who is looking to gain some work experience or for someone who has a few hours spare. If you are interested please contact **Vicky Sime** on **01695 424530**

Community Spirit

is important to us and below are two events that are taking place that you can be part of.

Park Praise Family Fun Day.

Saturday 30th June at Coronation Park
11.00am - 4.00pm.

Join us for a day full of fun activities including bouncy castles, kiddies train ride, donkey rides, climbing wall and cave,

go-karts, birds of prey, brass band, ukulele band, dog agility display, BBQ and refreshments, a variety of different stalls etc **and** everything is **free!** Come and enjoy the fun.

Bless Fest

Watch this space for more information next month on **Bless Fest.**

From **Friday 7th to Sunday 9th September**, Christ Church will be hosting Bless Fest for all the family.

Dog show, talent show and open air concert for the youth in Coronation Park are just some of the events already planned.

News from Christ Church School

Headteacher, Mr David Kennedy writes:



It looks like the summer weather has finally arrived! Our last half term has been unbelievably busy in school but has been a very exciting one for everyone involved. All the children in Year 2 and 6 have been taking their end of key stage assessments and have worked extremely hard towards them. Everyone has been very proud of their hard work and dedication. We have also been involved in some exciting sporting events as our cross country teams competed and achieved superbly in there separate events and also won some individual medals. The girl's cricket team also played well in our local tournament as the warm weather brings the cricket season into full swing.

We have also had the pleasure of watching the 5 children present their class assembly this last half term. We were joined by friends and family of Year 5 as they led our worship and told us about all the exciting things they have been doing.

Year 1 have enjoyed a visit to Church to learn about baptism and Year 3 visited Tatton Park to support their learning

across the curriculum. In particular, everyone in school has been working very hard this last week of term during our enterprise week as they have all made products to sell at our school garden market.

It is always an exciting day in school and there is a real buzz as the children design and make fantastic items to run a really exciting market. All the funds raised will support our new outdoor library which we hope we will be installing later in the year.

As we move into the last term of the year, everyone is excited about the planned events and activities that will ensure a vibrancy and energy about every aspect of school life.

In particular, we have a school production to look forward to, sports days, musical concerts, maths and science days planned for everyone and our 4, 5 and 6 children are all out on outdoor educational residential. We are also enjoying welcoming all of our new Reception children for taster days. Also, as we move forward into the last half term, we will be changing our value to 'Truthfulness.' However, the value of 'service' will remain in our thoughts as we approach the summer holidays, consider how we serve other and continue to prepare our Year 6 children to leave our school and take the next step of their journey.

David Kennedy Headteacher

School dates for June

Tuesday 5th June: Return to school
Year 6 Bikeability

Wednesday 6th June: New Reception
Taster Session

Thursday 7th June: Year 5 Kayaking
Year 5 Residential - Crosby Lakeside

Monday 11th June: Year 6 leavers
Service at Liverpool Cathedral

Tuesday 12th June: Prayer Day

Year 6 Cricket Competition

Wednesday 13th June: Year 6 Alderhey
Reading Visit

Quad Kids athletics at Edgehill
New Reception Taster Session

Thursday 14th June: Year 5 Kayaking
Cricket League

Friday 15th June: Y5 Visit to Church

Saturday 16th June: Summer Fair

Monday 18th June: Year 6 Science Day

Tuesday 19th June: Year 4 to visit
Church

Infant Sports Day

Wednesday 20th June: Junior Sports
Day

Thursday 21st June: Year 5 Kayaking

Thursday 28th June: Year 6 Residential
to Tower Wood

Cafe Vista

. . . in the Ministry Centre welcomes you every day Tuesday to Friday, 10.30am-3.30pm and Saturday for cooked breakfasts, from 10.00am to 12 noon

From the Registers

BAPTISM

20th May: NATALIA ECCLESTON, LILLY
ECCLESTON, FELICITY WARNICK-
LACY.

WEDDING

5th May: JOHN GIBSON and NIKI
ANDERSON

FUNERAL

25th May: ADELE JACK

Ministry Centre Office

This is open Monday to Friday,
9.00am-1.00pm. For any information,
including requests for baptism and
thanksgiving services, weddings,
funerals and room bookings, call in or
☎ 424 530, or email:

ChristChurchAughton@gmail.com

Curate: **Rev Sarah O'Donoghue**

☎ 07847 931323