



St Anne's,  
Sale with  
St Francis,  
Sale Moor

e-Spire

May  
2025

## Happy 1700<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Nicene Creed!

This month, 1700 years ago, one of the most important meetings in the history of the Christian Church began in the Bithynian city of Nicaea. It began in May 325 and went on until the end of July 325.

The Council of Nicaea was convened by the Roman Emperor Constantine, and he had an urgent job for the Christian bishops to do. He wanted them to spell out as exactly as they could the core beliefs of the Christian Church, especially with regard to the person of Christ.

Constantine had good reason to do this: a man called Arius of Alexandria was spreading the idea that Jesus Christ was not divine, but instead was a created being. Such a belief, if accepted, would have changed the very heart of Christianity.

After three months of hard work, the bishops at Nicaea had prayerfully and carefully written down as exactly as they could the core beliefs of Christianity. It became known as the Nicene Creed, and it has been the bedrock of orthodox Christianity ever since.

**The Nicene Creed is unique in that it is the only Christian statement of faith that is accepted as authoritative by the Anglican, Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and major Protestant Churches.**



Thy Kingdom Come is a now established world-wide prayer event. It runs from Ascension Day to Pentecost - keep an eye on the newsheet for more details and see the website: [www.thykingdomcome.global/](http://www.thykingdomcome.global/)



## New Diocesan Secretary



Chester has a new Diocesan Secretary (head of the diocese's administration at Church House, Daresbury). It's Jane Pleace. She comes with a wide background in the voluntary and charitable sector, including being a director of CAP and with a passion for international development.

Most of us will never meet her but we depend on her for the best possible support for parishes, clergy and church schools including vicarages, the faculty process and of course Alison's salary. We wish her well.

"I am not what I might be, I am not what I ought to be, I am not what I wish to be, I am not what I hope to be; but I thank God I am not what I once was, and I can say with the great apostle, 'By the grace of God I am what I am.'"  
- John Newton, former slave trader (and once himself a slave)

## "Looking out of the window"

In last month's e-Spire Howard had included a photograph of our garden which completely summed up a spring garden for me - one full of daffodils. The season has moved on to tulip territory, with scarlet ones tightly shut overnight and opening in the morning, only to repeat the activity 24 hours later. Nature is truly wonderful!

Shy, elegant fritillaries then appeared along with forget-me-nots, aubretia and anemones. Scillas (otherwise known to me as bluebells) and their white cousins have been emerging as they do each year amidst the debris of daffodils and hyacinths. The Kerria, Forsythia and Pieris bushes add their own varying colours to the view from the window, and the startling tangerine of the Azalea by the front gate and pale pink of the Rhododendron by the back door will be in full display soon.

The big Japanese Maple or Acer tree is now covered in large bronze leaves. Those of its smaller relative nearby are much more delicate and finely divided. Next door to us the flowering cherry is spreading its pale pink blossom all over our back lawn in the breezy conditions, and our apple and pear trees are laden with blossom. Maybe we will harvest more than one piece of eatable fruit from each tree this year! The rhubarb is thriving and we enjoy the crumbles as a result.

I have not mentioned any birds as yet, and they are as before, eating a large bag of peanuts between them every week. They are a constant source of noisy interest. Two large black crows have become regulars at the bird bath in the warm weather and they keep me fit in keeping the water level up as I trek backwards and forwards.

As an aside I have also cleaned the windows recently to make the garden activity a little clearer when looking out!

Bridget





## Wild Worship: Encountering God in Creation

Over the past few months, our *Wild Worship* gatherings have taken us outdoors to discover God in the beauty of His creation. These special times have reminded us that God made the world and asks us to take care of it. As we explore nature together, we've found simple, joyful ways to learn about God's love and celebrate Him through the world He made.

On St David's Day, we remembered the Welsh saint by recreating the hill he is said to have raised while preaching. Using sticks and natural materials, we built a small hill and made stick people to represent St David and the crowd who listened to him. Inspired by his well-known words, "*Do the little things,*" we each found a small treasure from nature—like a feather, a stone, or a flower—and placed it on a log as a gift to God. As we did, we shared one small thing we wanted to do to help care for the earth, showing how even little actions can make a big

difference.

For Mothering Sunday, we focused on care and kindness in the natural world. As we gently lifted logs, we found mother woodlice looking after their babies—learning that the babies stay on their mother's body until they are ready to explore safely. We were amazed by this tiny glimpse of God's caring design. We helped birds by making bird feeders and planted sunflower seeds, saying thank-you prayers as we placed each one in the soil. We also gave thanks for our mums and carers, and for God's loving care for all of us.

As Palm Sunday came closer, we talked about Jesus' journey into Jerusalem. We acted out the story together, collecting leaves to wave like the people did when they welcomed Jesus.

Out on the church field, we raised our leaves high and sang "*Give me oil in my lamp*" with happy hearts. It was a joyful reminder that Jesus is our King and brings us hope.

*Wild Worship* is a place where faith and nature come together. As we play, explore, and wonder in the world God made, we are learning to listen, to notice, and to say thank you. The earth is not just our home—it's a place where we can feel close to God.

Mrs Ruddy  
for St Anne's School





## Mothers' Union

So the ball has now rolled to me, it's my turn to write to you this month. It's scary how it's May already, I'm not sure where the year has gone so far! I planted some bulbs at the end of March, a present from my prayer partner, they are now starting to show above ground so I must have done that bit right, let's hope they flower and my garden will be awash with colour this summer.

Last month we didn't have a meeting in the usual format but those of us who could met at the Holy Week service put on by the Glasshouse Choir in church. It was a lovely service and a perfect start to Holy Week, I hope those of you who came enjoyed it as much as I did.

So the Easter weekend has gone and I trust you all enjoyed your fill of chocolate, I'm trying to spread mine out. I honestly only bought myself one egg so I'm trying very hard to eat it slowly, not easy I can tell you! We have been

lucky with the weather this past few weeks haven't we. We went away just before Easter for a few days in the Lakes, what a picture perfect time we had, couldn't have wished for better weather, blue skies, sunshine and beautiful sunsets. We stayed in our friend's cottage just outside of Kendal, it was so peaceful, that is as long as you didn't mind your afternoon and evenings being chorused by the odd crow!

This month, on Monday 12 May we will be welcoming Sarah Maunders from Stockdales to come and speak to us about the work they do. We start our meetings at 8pm; remember they are open to everyone so please if you are free do come and join us and find out about Stockdales. As many of you will be aware Stockdales have been in Sale for many years and do wonderful work helping children and young people who have additional needs to fill fulfilling lives.

A date to note for later this month. **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May** is **Mothers Union Day of Prayer**. Alongside you'll see Elizabeth has shared a poster about the event explaining what it is.: a day where at any one time someone in the MU is praying for you. Our time this year is **2.30pm - 3pm**. We will give out details at our May meeting but we will meet in church on that day and read through the set readings and prayers together. Unfortunately I won't be able to join you as we will be away on holiday but I will try to remember to think about you all at our allotted time.

If I don't see you, look after yourself, keep smiling and enjoy the sunshine, I'm saying this in the hope that that week in April wasn't "summer"!

Love  
Carol & Jackie

## MOTHERS' UNION WAVE OF PRAYER

### AN INVITATION TO JOIN US IN PRAYER

at St Anne's Church, Sale  
On Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> May  
2.30p.m.- 3p.m.

A compilation of readings and prayers –

What is the "Wave of Prayer" -  
The Mothers' Union allocates time slots  
throughout the world.

Every minute of every day, Members  
meet and pray somewhere in the world.  
This ensures a continuous cycle and  
our commitment to engage with God.

**Mothers' UNION**

**SALE  
BRICK SHOW**

**Saturday 5 July**  
Lego is back at St  
Anne's so book  
the date. More  
details later.

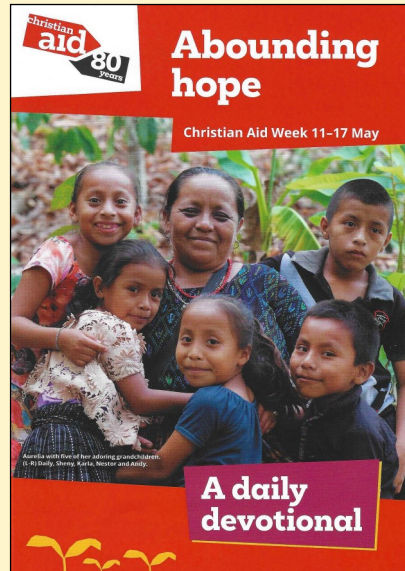


# Christian Aid Week 2025

Christian Aid Week this year runs from 11 to 17 May and the focus is on Guatemala. Stories from local people affected by climate change are below.

There will be envelopes in church and our local giving page is easy to use; just [click here](#). You can also pick up the daily devotional in church.

We hope you will be able to give to help the continuing work of Christian Aid.



## Meet Aurelia

'Climate change has been killing our crops, and this is our food.' An inspirational farmer and community leader, Aurelia and her family belong to the Indigenous Q'eqchi' community of the Alta Verapaz region.

The climate crisis and industrial plantations have changed Q'eqchi' land dramatically. Gruelling heatwaves, savage storms and unpredictable seasons are ravaging farms. Industrial agriculture is taking over the last of the region's natural resources to feed the world's richest countries. Many of the vital crops that Aurelia depends on are withering and dying before her eyes.

## Meet Amelia

'With high heat, there is little we can do but adapt.'

Amelia is a resourceful and determined 24-year-old farmer who lives with her husband and their two children, from the Indigenous Q'eqchi' community of the Alta Verapaz region.

As the river runs dry and water becomes scarce, the vital crops that Amelia depends on wither and die before her eyes. It's a heartbreaking injustice, when no more than a mile away, industrial plantations are taking the last of the region's natural resources to feed the world's richest countries.



# The Beer Festival is back (and with gin)!



## Sale Beer & Gin Festival 2025

The Big Beer Festival by Manchester Round Table is back in 2025 but we have had a rebrand!  
We are now **Sale Beer & Gin Festival**

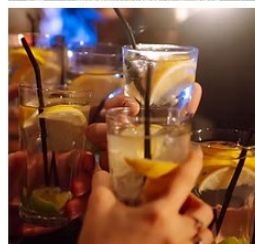
-where-

St. Anne's Church Hall  
Trinity Road, Sale, M33 3GD

-when-

Friday 9th May 2025  
17:00 - 23:00  
Saturday 10th May 2025  
12:00 - 23:00

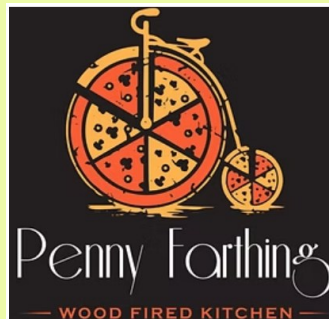
**TICKETS ARE NOW LIVE!**



The beer festival offers an enticing selection of beers and gins. There's food too, wood-fired pizzas from Penny Farthing and Greek food from Cooking 4 You.

Don't miss it! Tickets are now available from:

[www.salebeerfestival.com/tickets](http://www.salebeerfestival.com/tickets)



# Maybe there's hope...

It's all so depressing! And as they say, "If you're not angry, you're not paying attention". "Wild, bright hope" (the title of our Lent book) may be a bit difficult in the international and political scene at the moment but yes, we can hope.

"The folk tradition can often supply you with the song you are struggling to write...." And so to the Waterside to see and hear Martin Simpson, internationally preeminent in his sphere but £19 - none of this £250 for a seat in a stadium stuff – and even the chance to have a few words with him in the interval.

He sang *Deportee*, about the mistreatment and heartless removal of immigrants across the Mexican border with the chorus line: "All they will call you will be 'deportees'". And it sounded very current, a howl of protest about some of what is going on across the Atlantic. But it turned out to be a Woody Guthrie song about an incident in 1948.

In 1950 Woody Guthrie rented

a property at Beach Haven from a landlord he found to be profiteering and racist and it led to his 1954 song: *Old Man Trump*: "Beach Haven is Trump's Tower where no Black folks come to roam," and his landlord was Fred Trump, father of the current president of the USA.

So it feels like we've been here before. That time (and it was the era of McCarthyism paranoia too) passed and the USA settled into the more relaxed and progressive country we came to expect. Naturally it had its bad side, where doesn't, but it should give us hope that the present experience will pass into history and better times will come. Better times coming are little consolation to those suffering in the meantime but hope helps us through. Let's hope....

Howard Mason



By far the largest expense in St Anne's finances is the "Parish Share" - over £75,000 last year. Chester diocese has produced a helpful booklet to demystify the Parish Share and we show it here and on the next page.

## Thank you for your generosity.

With your continued support we can achieve our shared vision, Together in Christ, sharing hope: blessing the 1.5m across Chester Diocese who have not heard the Good News of Jesus.

### Further resources

You can download copies of this leaflet from the support section of the Diocese of Chester website. Printed copies can also be ordered by contacting [parishshare@chester.anglican.org](mailto:parishshare@chester.anglican.org)

A video about the 2025 Parish Share including a thank you message is also available on our website. This may be useful for sharing with your church members when talking about generosity and Parish Share.

Watch the video by  
visiting our website  
or by scanning this  
QR code:



## Contact us

If you have any queries please contact Sharon Taylor-Booth in the Finance Department using the email: [parishshare@chester.anglican.org](mailto:parishshare@chester.anglican.org)

If you'd like to find out more, please search for Parish Share on our website.

If you are struggling to give your Parish Share please contact the Finance team or your Archdeacon.

Together in Christ, sharing hope

# Parish Share

What it means for you and your church





## What is Parish Share?

Parish Share is the amount of money that your parish is asked to contribute to pay for mission and ministry, specifically for clergy stipends and their housing. This leaflet explains how the costs of mission and ministry are worked out and what those costs are for 2025.

The Parish Share that you are asked to pay is calculated using a formula which considers whether your clergy are full time or part time and where your parish is situated socio-economically using the 2021 census information. It also takes into account our shared responsibility to support parishes in areas of deprivation. There's more information about how this is calculated in the Parish Share section of the Chester Diocese website.

## Where does the money go?

The ministry and mission of The Church of England is largely funded through the incredible generosity of those who give through their own parish church. The cash donations in the offertory and the regular payments that you make through your bank account impact the financial health and the mission of your own parish church and are also closely linked to those of Chester Diocese.

### Parish Share contributes towards:



Clergy



Clergy Housing



Training for Clergy



Parish Support



Wider Mission &amp; Outreach

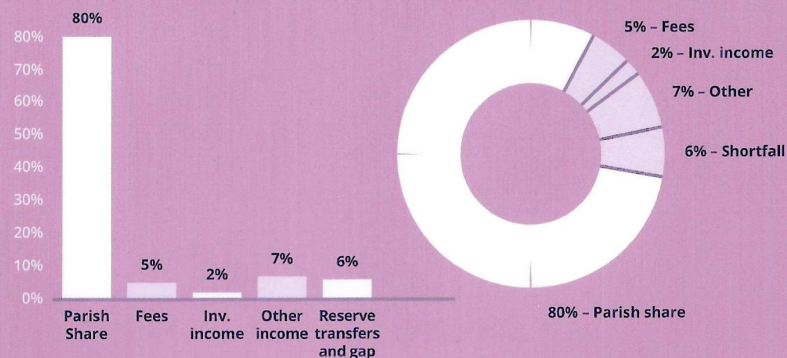
Thanks to your support, in churches across our Diocese:

- † Communion is celebrated
- † The Gospel is preached
- † Bereaved families are comforted
- † School assemblies take place
- † Baptisms and weddings are ministered
- † People are shown the love of Christ by our pastoral presence in every community



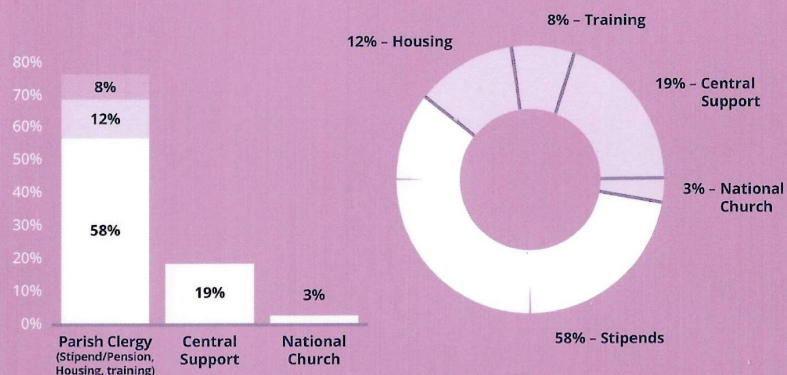
## Where does the money come from?

For 2025, our diocese's income budget is £13.8m



## How is that money spent?

For 2025, our diocese's expenditure budget is £14.5m





## Detectorists?

On 22 April the Eco Club met and held a litter pick to celebrate Earth Day\*. We had nine people participate. We went off into three groups of twos and one group of three in different directions so that we could cover the most area.

The most noticeable event during our litter pick was that in the green area opposite the church near Clarendon Road we found an old looking sword hidden in one of the bushes. The sword was reported to the police who collected it the next day.

The team who went into Sale Moor got a lot of positive comments and thank yous from people they met, which was lovely. We collected five bags of rubbish so we were successful in our aim to improve the environment in our local area in celebration of earth day.

We finished off with a well earned coffee and cake and agreed that we will plan another litter pick soon.

Charlotte Pickford

*\*Earth Day is celebrated each year on 22 April to raise awareness of environmental issues.*

The **e-Spire** is our replacement for a printed parish magazine. It is to supplement what appears on our website and in the weekly pastoral letter and newsheets from our clergy. If you don't receive these by email, please send your email address to Alison:

[alisoncox19@hotmail.com](mailto:alisoncox19@hotmail.com)

For comments on e-Spire and to contribute to a future issue, mail the **editors**, Howard & Janice Mason at [howard.mason1@btopenworld.com](mailto:howard.mason1@btopenworld.com)



## Parish Directory

### **St Anne's, Church Road, off Northenden Road, M33 3GD**

Website:	<a href="http://www.salestanne.org">www.salestanne.org</a>	
Vicar:	Rev Canon Alison Cox, The Vicarage Church Road West, Sale M33 3GD	0161 973 4145
	E-mail:	<a href="mailto:alisoncox19@hotmail.com">alisoncox19@hotmail.com</a>
Hon Assistant Priest:	Rev Olwyn Marlow, 28 Arcadia Avenue	0161 962 9292
Families & Children's Worker:	Shauna Hancock - <a href="mailto:shauna.stannefamchild@gmail.com">shauna.stannefamchild@gmail.com</a>	
Churchwardens:	Andrew Egarr	07808 466 371
	e-mail:	<a href="mailto:andrew.egarrcw@gmail.com">andrew.egarrcw@gmail.com</a>
PCC Secretary:	Ann Hunt:	<a href="mailto:hunt289@icloud.com">hunt289@icloud.com</a>
PCC Treasurer:	Chris Jones - <a href="mailto:chrisjonessat@gmail.com">chrisjonessat@gmail.com</a>	07484 834 513
Hall Bookings:	Please contact the vicar at	<a href="mailto:alisoncox19@hotmail.com">alisoncox19@hotmail.com</a>
Events Committee:	Please contact Ann Hunt:	<a href="mailto:hunt289@icloud.com">hunt289@icloud.com</a>
Sacristan/Head Server:	Sue Heath, 7 The Cloisters	0161 969 3167
Organist & Choir Leader:	Vacant	
Choir:	Tuesdays 6.45pm. Contact:	<a href="mailto:matt.roughley.uk@gmail.com">matt.roughley.uk@gmail.com</a>
St Anne's School:	Headteacher - Polly Knight	0161 973 7181
Overseas Group:	Chair - Janice Mason	0161 969 8570
Church Fellowship:	Monthly coffee mornings, Church Hall	0161 962 8946
Mothers' Union:	2nd Monday, 8pm, St Anne's Church Hall	0161 283 0563
Mums & Tots:	Fridays 9.15 - 11am, contact Janet Plumb	0161 905 3895

## Guiding

### Rainbows

- 1st Sale Moor : Mondays 5 - 6 pm in the Church Hall  
email [1stsalemoorrainbows@gmail.com](mailto:1stsalemoorrainbows@gmail.com)
- 2nd Sale Moor : Mondays 6.15 - 7.15 pm in the Church Hall  
email [2ndsalemoorrainbows@gmail.com](mailto:2ndsalemoorrainbows@gmail.com)

### Brownies

- 1st Sale Moor: Weds 6.30 - 8 pm, Clarendon Rd Scout Hut 973 3894
- 2nd Sale Moor: Weds 6.30 - 8 pm in the Church Hall 0161 976 5972
- 3rd Sale Moor: Tues 6 pm at Moorlands School
- 7th Sale Moor: Tues 6 pm in the Church Hall 0161 973 2108

### Guides

- 2nd Sale Moor: Mondays 7.30 - 9pm in the Church Hall 0161 286 1623
- 7th Sale Moor: Tuesdays 7 pm at Sale Moor Methodist Church

### Rangers

- Sale Moor Unit: Thursday evenings at Trinity Methodist Church