



# The Parish Magazine of Whitchurch, Fauls & Tilstock



*Joining us soon...  
Revd Chris & Laura  
Revd Pippa*

## February / March 2024

# PASTORAL LETTER

*Dear Friends,*

*This year Lent sees us welcoming our new Rector Chris, and Curate Pippa - we will indeed be celebrating at Easter!*

*As we enter Lent we can use the time to step back from the rat race and division that is our world and instead focus on the Church's season - a time to think about going apart as Jesus did to prepare for his life of service, not quite what we do, but marking the time by a period of extra thought and perhaps, generosity.*

*Lent has always been a time for reflection, prayer and study; in the past a deprivation of luxuries as well! reminding us of 'the time of trial' experienced by Jesus in the wilderness and encouraging us to be thankful for our own well-being.*

*For us, as we make our way through Lent, using our readings and hymns to guide us, we can use it perhaps as an opportunity to show more of our generosity to those in need through the donations that our Lent lunches raise for the charities that are supported.*

*Yours in faith, Rev Sue*



**The Churchwardens of the  
Benefice of Fauls, Tilstock and Whitchurch**

are pleased to invite you to a

**EUCCHARIST  
with the INAUGURATION of  
NEW MINISTRIES**

Collation by the Rt Revd Sarah Bullock, Bishop of Shrewsbury  
and Induction by the Revd Mary Thomas, Acting Archdeacon of Salop  
of

**the Revd Christopher Precious  
as Rector of Fauls, Tilstock and Whitchurch**  
and the

Licensing by the Rt Revd Sarah Bullock, Bishop of Shrewsbury  
of

**the Revd Philippa Alice White  
as Curate to Fauls, Tilstock and Whitchurch**

followed by light refreshments

**on Sunday 10th March 2024 at 4.00pm**  
at St Alkmund's Church  
Church Street, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 1LB

---

# OUR PARISHES' NEWS

**OUR NEW RECTOR:** We are delighted to announce that Revd Chris Precious will be installed as our new incumbent at 4 pm on Sunday 10th March, a service to which all are invited. In addition it is a pleasure to announce that Revd Pippa White, a curate in her second year of training with Revd Chris, will also be joining us in FTW at St Alkmund's.

**SERVICES ONLINE:** Our 10.00am and 6.30pm services at St Alkmund's will be live streamed on YouTube via our YouTube channel: [www.youtube.com/@StAlkmundsWhitchurch](http://www.youtube.com/@StAlkmundsWhitchurch) or on our Facebook page. Also available on our Church Near You Website: [www.churchnearyou.com/whitchurch/4623](http://www.churchnearyou.com/whitchurch/4623)

**8.00am BCP COMMUNION SERVICE:** In St Alkmund's Church will take place on the first Sunday of each month. The next date will be Sunday 3rd March 2024 at 8.00am.

**ZOOM GATHERINGS:** please contact Judy Bellingham on 07427884116, [bellinghamjudy6@gmail.com](mailto:bellinghamjudy6@gmail.com) for the link, log in and passwords:

◆ **Wednesday Morning Prayer** at 10.00am

◆ **Friday Chat over a cup of Tea** at 4.00pm

**Friday (or last Thursday of the month),** prayers at 9.30am. Please contact Caroline Sewry on 01948 841046 or [c.sewry@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:c.sewry@imperial.ac.uk) for the zoom link to log in. Link via telephone may be possible for those without computer access.

**TIME TOGETHER—** for those with memory loss or dementia and their family members or carers will be held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2.00pm in Bargates Hall.

**THOSE CHOOSING INTINCTION:** (Dipping wafer) Please do not allow your fingers to come into contact with the consecrated wine when dipping your wafer into the chalice. Thank you.

**HAND CROSSES:** "I make hand crosses from the pews removed from St Alkmunds, as per the sample at the back of St Alkmund's church, if you would like one, they are £3 each (or more if you wish) as all the money is donated to Hope House". To order please contact me on 01948 661851 -Eric Williams





Thank you to everyone who supports  
The Children's Society

**If anyone would like to  
consider having a box please contact  
Rebecca Sims 07599946112**



## *Greetings from your new Rector*

By the time you are reading this, my wife Laura and I will have moved into The Rectory at Whitchurch and our three children will have begun to settle into their new home and schools. Things will have begun to fall into place as they always do when we trust in God's provision. As a family we are very much looking forward to beginning our ministries in Fauls, Tilstock and Whitchurch.

We would like to thank visiting clergy and all of you for enabling the benefice to flourish during the vacancy and this time of change. Change can be a difficult word (for some), but God continues to change us throughout our lives, deepening our relationship with Jesus and one another.

You might be wondering what having a new Rector might mean for you? I'd like to invite you to have a think about that question... What would you like to offer these communities? What would you like to see happening because I am here? These questions are things you can chat to me about during my first few months with you.

I am coming to lead and serve our churches in their ongoing mission, and my curate Revd Pippa is joining me, as she completes her training. She says hello elsewhere in this magazine. You might be surprised to hear we are very much looking forward to learning from you. We often undervalue our own gifts and talents and think the work we do offers little to the world around us; yet we should remember we are all created in God's image and that each and every one of us is a uniquely important part of the body of Christ.

As a family we enjoy spending time together, walks and picnics as well as reading books and watching films.

We love exploring and look forward to getting to know you and this wonderful area we will now call home. We hope to see you as Bishop Sarah leads our welcome service at St Alkmund's, 4pm on Sunday 10th March.

With every blessing  
Revd Chris



## *Rev'd Pippa - your new Curate*

Hi there,

It's very exciting to introduce myself as your new curate! I'm currently 18 months into my training, with at least the same amount of time to go, so I'm afraid you're all stuck with me for a while at least! Originally a Norfolk girl, I moved to Shropshire for my curacy, and have spent the last year and a half falling in love with this county. I'm permanently a country girl, so I'm hoping Fauls and Tilstock will be a home-from-home, while the fancy town folk of Whitchurch will have to teach me their slick urban ways...

To tell you a little bit about myself, you should know that my hobbies have a common theme of 'equal parts brave and stupid', with rugby, horse-riding, and wild-swimming being the main three (although I now enjoy these with two metal screws in my ankle, having over-egged the 'stupid' part last year and broke a bone...). I came to faith at university whilst doing an undergrad in History at Keele - as such, I am a firm believer that there are no stupid questions when it comes to church or faith, as it wasn't too long ago I was having to ask the questions myself! I would also definitely like to echo what Chris says in his introduction, I can't wait to learn from you all.

As the owner of a spaniel, I spend a lot of my life out walking the dog, so if you see me please do hail me down and say hi! Freddie (the spaniel) is permanently thrilled to meet new people/see people he already knows/just generally be alive, so I can promise he'll love to say hi, but do be warned that he has a very long memory of who carries treats in their coat pockets...

Hopefully meet you all soon!

Rev'd Pippa



**Sunday 10th March**

**Mothers  
Sunday**



**Family services will be held at:**

Holy Immanuel Fauls 9.30am

St Alkmund's Whitchurch 10.00am

Christ Church Tilstock 11.00am

*ALL WELCOME*



# St. Alkmund's EASTER BREAKFAST

**Sunday 31st March  
8.30am—10.00am  
Bargates Hall**

**Full English Breakfast**



**Price: £6.50**

**Please sign the list at the back of church**



## HELP WITH FLOWERS IN ST ALKMUNDS CHURCH

Do you enjoy arranging flowers?

Would you like to help with the flower decorations at St Alkmund's Church. No experience needed just an enthusiasm to learn. Help especially needed on a Friday morning.

For more information please contact:

Alison Dunne  
 ftwstalkmunds@gmail.com  
 Telephone 01948 667102



## Food, fun and friendship

### In Bargates Hall

(behind St Alkmund's Church)

**2024**

**21st February**

**6th & 20th March • 3rd & 17th April**

**1st & 15th May • 5th & 19th June**

*(The 1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoon of each month)*

**2.00 to 4.00pm**

### Who is it for?

Those with Memory Loss or Dementia and their family members or carers

### Why come?

Support and a Listening Ear for Family & Carers  
 Support and Stimulation for those with Memory Loss or Dementia – social, mental, emotional and spiritual care in a warm and loving atmosphere

### What will it include?

A variety of things – but always having food and a cup of tea/coffee.

There might be craft activities, for those who are able the opportunity to take part in some gentle physical activity, singing, a prayer .....

**Enquiries: Pauline Green on 01948 664769 or paulinegreen056@gmail.com**



## Tilstock Crib Festival



During December we had our Crib Festival at Christ Church Tilstock.

There were 39 cribs on display, and we had over 100 children and 33 adults visit us to see the lovely displays, whilst enjoying tea/coffee and cakes.



COME JOIN OUR  
**BIBLE**  
  
**Study**

We are continuing to meet to learn and enjoy more from the Bible on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month in Bargates Hall at 2pm.

At present we are looking at 'Luke for Everyone' with the help of Tom Wright's notes.

We are a very informal group, and everyone is welcome.

Also if you would like to have help with personal Bible reading at home, there are a number of Bible Reading Fellowship and Scripture Union notes to the right as you come into St Alkmund's church for you to take and look at. If you would like any regularly please let Jill Wallace know 01948 666233 or email [jillwall40@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jillwall40@yahoo.co.uk) as we can order together and save postage. The cost of the notes is about £5 - £6 three or four times a year, depending which you would like.

*A page from our 1904 February Parish Magazine*

THE  
WHITCHURCH PARISH MAGAZINE  
And Parish Register.

---

FEBRUARY, 1904.

---

LENT.

WE are reminded, by our entrance upon the month of February, that the season of Lent is approaching—a season which has been set apart by the church from apostolic times as a period for self-examination, self-discipline, humiliation and repentance. Pleasurable indulgence, frivolous entertainments, exciting games, balls, humorous concerts, and whatever is out of harmony with the solemn work to which we are called, should be avoided. Special opportunities will be given at our church services for the furtherance of our spiritual efforts. Let us hope that many will avail themselves of these means of grace. We have been fortunate in securing the help of the Rector of Longton, Staffordshire—the Rev. G. Oliver—who consents to preach in our Parish Church every Thursday evening throughout Lent a course of sermons on the social teaching of Christ. May his words be blessed to the strengthening of our religious principles, and in the furtherance of our preparation for the Holy Communion at Easter.

*Very different to our Pastoral letter on Page 2  
How times have changed!*

*SONGS OF PRAISE*

At our Epiphany Songs of Praise at Greenfields towards the end of January, we gathered with residents to share the story of Jesus's first miracle – the turning of water into wine at the wedding in Cana.

We sang 'Immortal, Invisible, God only wise', 'Thou, whose almighty word', 'Let us with a gladsome mind' and 'Great is Thy faithfulness' but it was for the Lord's Prayer that all the voices in the room came together as one.



# FILM EVENING

YORKSHIRE COUNTY FILM AWARDS

promoted by **Whitchurch Churches Together**

**ADMISSION FREE** with refreshments - *Voluntary contributions*



an inspiring feature film

# undaunted

The early life of **Josh McDowell**

*The true story of a boy growing up in rural Michigan in harsh and difficult circumstances but whose life was turned around through faith*

Friday 8 March: 7.30pm

John KLIKA Carmella GIOIO Tom EMMOTT Allen WILLIAMSON

Sir John Talbot's School, Whitchurch



Josh  
McDowell  
Productions

ECHOLIGHT  
STUDIOS



**LENT**

## **Christian Aid Lent Lunches**

**Whitchurch Churches Together**

**Wednesdays in Lent**

**at the Watergate Centre**

**12noon—2.00pm**

<b>21st February</b>	<b>St John's to host</b>
<b>28th February</b>	<b>St Georges to host</b>
<b>6th March</b>	<b>Beacon to host</b>
<b>13th March</b>	<b>St Alkmund's to host</b>
<b>20th March</b>	<b>Christian Aid Committee to host</b>

**SOUP AND A ROLL  
FRUIT  
TEA OR COFFEE**



**LENT**





# LENT

## FAULS SERVICE OF REFLECTION

FOLLOWED BY LUNCH

Tuesdays during Lent

12.30pm

in Fauls Church Hall

Tuesday 20th February

Tuesday 27th February

Tuesday 5th March

Tuesday 12th March

Tuesday 19th March

Soup & Roll

Tea & Coffee

**EVERYONE WELCOME**



*Prayer Update is sent out by [geoff.barter@gmail.com](mailto:geoff.barter@gmail.com) or Geoff Barter, 3 Rowlatt Court, Hillside Road, St. Albans AL1 3QU England. Please send me any address changes. Check for the latest news on Crosslinks mission partners and associates on our web site <http://www.crosslinks.org>*

# Alison Talbert

## Prayer Update February 2024

At work, January is always a slow month as people drift back from the long Christmas and New Year break. I enjoyed resting for almost 2 weeks. Half our study team took extra leave, so things didn't get going till the second half of the month when we invited community advisory board (CAB) members from Tezo and Takaungu locations to the research unit for a



week's training on research methods and our study aims. They enjoyed being put up in a hotel in exciting, big ol' Kilifi town and requested for more training!

There was sad news that one of the Upendo Children, a 19-year-old college student, Maureen, died in Kilifi County Hospital after a postpartum haemorrhage. I went to her funeral with several of the older children, board members and teachers. I was surprised to see that more than 500 people attended. Maureen's family will raise the baby girl with advice from the hospital nutritionist and will be supported with funds from Upendo donors to buy formula milk which is more expensive than an ordinary family can afford.

This month we are having a "wet run" of lab procedures for our study day 1 activities at Pwani University where we plan to do all our sampling for the main trial. Martha and I have volunteered to have an IV cannula and sampling line put in and have 4 timed blood samples taken. This gives the clinical and lab team the chance to practice their procedures, including data collection on the new tablets. We will then see if we can separate the serum and process the samples within half an hour, then freeze in liquid nitrogen to store for shipping as stipulated in the standard operating procedures for micronutrient analysis. We will also send them to the lab in Nairobi to check their turnaround time for results of our chosen vitamin and mineral tests for the interim safety analysis.

One of my goals for this year is to join (or start) another fellowship group so I have met Philip my district elder at the monthly joint fellowship in church, given him my contacts and asked to join the

**Mtani** group that meets in members' homes. Being a bit shy and not knowing many church members well, I need to follow through.

Crosslinks have asked me to host a student on a short-term attachment in June. She is only 19 years old, that makes me feel ancient. My house has had a few improvements over the last month,

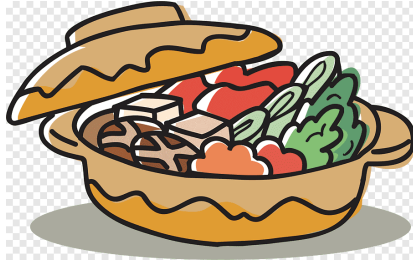


ceilings painted to hide watermarks, electrical sockets replaced, and loose covers sewn to hide the cat scratched 3-piece suite so I just need to get new curtains for the spare room then the house should be shipshape. The rains have stopped so there shouldn't be any more leaking ceilings...

With love in Christ,  
Alison

Prayer points:

- Comfort for Maureen's family and her bereaved friends at Upendo; for health and good nutrition for her [baby](#)
- Joining weekly home fellowship meetings
- Thanksgiving for [getting](#) to know community advisory board members better at the training and for future working with them on the main trial



**The Friends of St Alkmund's Whitchurch  
are hosting a quiz and hot pot supper**

Come and join us for a quiz and hot pot supper  
on Friday 1st March from 7pm (quiz will start at 7:15pm)  
at Bargates Hall.

Tickets cost £10 per person which includes quiz entry,  
a delicious hot pot supper and tea and coffee.  
You are welcome to bring your own drinks (soft or alcohol).

You can book in as:  
a team (no more than 6 per team);  
or as an individual and we'll join you up with a team  
- just let us know

**Please book with**  
Hilda Francis-Roberts on  
01948 667705 or [hildafroberts@gmail.com](mailto:hildafroberts@gmail.com)  
**by Friday 23 February**

Vegetarian option available - please ensure you order a  
vegetarian option at the time of booking

This event is open to all so please spread the word to family,  
friends and neighbours who you think may be interested.



# FTW Diary

**Please see pewsheets for timings**

20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	12.30pm	Fauls Lent Lunch
21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	12noon	Churches Together Lent Lunch at Watergate Centre
26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	2.00pm	Whitchurch Library Book Club in St Alkmund's
	7.00pm	PCC Meeting in Bargates Hall
27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	12.30pm	Fauls Lent Lunch
28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	12noon	Churches Together Lent Lunch at Watergate Centre
1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	7.00pm	Friends of St Alkmund's Hot pot supper in Bargates
5 <sup>th</sup> Mar	12.30pm	Fauls Lent Lunch
6 <sup>th</sup> Mar	12noon	Churches Together Lent Lunch in Watergate Centre
7 <sup>th</sup> Mar	2.00pm	Whitchurch Library Book Club in St Alkmund's
8 <sup>th</sup> Mar	7.30pm	Churches Together Film at SJT
10 <sup>th</sup> Mar	10.00am	Mothering Sunday Service
	4.00pm	Collation of Revd Chris Precious & Induction of Revd Pippa White at St Alkmund's
12 <sup>th</sup> Mar	10.00am	Schools Yrs 3 & 5 Easter Worship St Alkmund's
	12.30pm	Fauls Lent Lunch
13 <sup>th</sup> Mar	12noon	Churches Together Lent Lunch at Watergate Centre
17 <sup>th</sup> Mar	6.30pm	Memorial & Thanksgiving service at St Alkmund's church
18 <sup>th</sup> Mar	1.30pm	WJA Easter Experience 3
19 <sup>th</sup> Mar	9.30am	WJA Easter Experience
	12.30pm	Fauls Lent Lunch
20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	12noon	Churches Together Lent Lunch in Watergate Centre
21 <sup>st</sup> Mar	7.00pm	Fauls PCC Meeting
25 <sup>th</sup> Mar	7.00pm	PCC Meeting in Bargates Hall
28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	7.00pm	Maundy Thursday Service at St Alkmund's
29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	TBC	Good Friday Walk of Witness
31 <sup>st</sup> Mar	8.30am	Easter Breakfast in Bargates Hall



# FROM ST ALKMUND'S PARISH REGISTERS 2023/2024

## Funerals



13th December—Sheila Mary Rickett—87 yrs  
21st December—Cyril Wilfred Bebbington—91 yrs  
9th January—William Slater Thelwell (Bill) — 92 yrs  
18th January—Margaret Rose Day—103 yrs \*  
26th January—Philip James Evans—74 yrs  
15th February—Margaret Ellen Speed—84 yrs  
15th February—Amanda Jane Dodd—54 yrs

*Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep: Romans 12:15*

*\*Crematorium Service*

## Weddings



## Baptisms



14th January —Oaklen Joseph Roberts & Layton James Roberts  
4th February Ophelia-Rae Victoria Jones-McHale



# Sunday Services

First Sundays			Second Sundays		
8.00am	Whitchurch	BCP Communion	8.00am	Whitchurch	No Service
9.30am	Fauls	All Age Worship*	9.30am	Fauls	Holy Communion
10.00am	Whitchurch	Worship Together Communion	10.00am	Whitchurch	Sung Communion
11.00am	Tilstock	All Age Worship*	11.00am	Tilstock	Holy Communion
6.30pm	Whitchurch	Sung Evensong	6.30pm	Whitchurch	Sung Evensong
Third Sundays			Fourth Sundays		
8.00am	Whitchurch	No Service	8.00am	Whitchurch	No Service
9.30am	Fauls	Holy Communion	9.30am	Fauls	Holy Communion
10.00am	Whitchurch	Sung Communion	10.00am	Whitchurch	Sung Communion with Prayer for Healing
11.00am	Tilstock	Holy Communion	11.00am	Tilstock	Holy Communion
6.30pm	Whitchurch	Sung Evensong	6.30pm	Whitchurch	Sung Evensong
Fifth Sundays			Other Services		
8.00am	Whitchurch	No Service			
<p><i>There is often a Joint service at one of the three churches, so please see notice boards and pewsheets for details</i></p> <p><i>&amp; the Diary for any variations to regular services</i></p>			<p>Junior Church (2-11yrs ) and Sermon Slot (12+)</p> <p>This takes place at St Alkmund's W/ch during the 10am service on most Sundays (apart from the 1st Sunday and School Holidays)</p>		



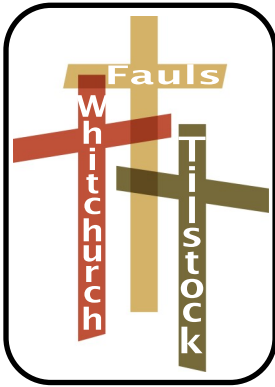
## St Alkmund's Vestry

Baptism and Wedding dates can be arranged Tuesday evenings in church, from 7.00pm—7.30pm

The Churchwardens will be in church for 'Rector's Vestry'

Church office Tel no: (01948) 667102

Church Office email [ftwstalkmunds@gmail.com](mailto:ftwstalkmunds@gmail.com)



## Clergy and Reader in Fauls, Tilstock & Whitchurch

### Rector of Fauls, Tilstock & Whitchurch

In post from 10th March 2024

Revd Chris Precious

### Curate of Fauls, Tilstock & Whitchurch

In post from 10th March 2024

Revd Pippa White

### Benefice Office: St Alkmund's Church, Church Street, Whitchurch, SY13 1LB

Benefice Administrator: Alison Dunne: 01948 667102

Email: ftwstalkmunds@gmail.com

### Associate Minister of Fauls, Tilstock & Whitchurch

Revd Sue Armstrong: 01948 840039

Email: revsuea399@gmail.com

### Reader of Fauls, Tilstock & Whitchurch

Mrs Jane Rylands: 01948 663184

## St Alkmund's Church

PCC Chair	—	
Church Warden	John Stokes	01948 663194
Church Warden	Sheila Chase	07714 208178
Verger	Pauline Stokes	01948 663194
PCC Treasurer	Mel Williams	01948 661286
PCC Lay Chair	Pauline Green	01948 664769
PCC Secretary	Elaine Bucknell	01948 666554
Director of Music	James Kellas	07789 555786
Bell Ringers	Malcolm Monie	01948 663069
Website	<a href="http://www.stalkmunds.com">www.stalkmunds.com</a>	

## Holy Immanuel Church, Fauls

PCC Acting Chair	Rev Sue Armstrong	01948 840039
Church Warden	Pam Benbow	01948 840356
PCC Secretary	Liz Allwood	01630 685796
PCC Treasurer	Liz Kempton	01948 840271
Website	<a href="http://www.holy-immanuel-fauls.yolasite.com">www.holy-immanuel-fauls.yolasite.com</a>	

## Christ Church, Tilstock

PCC Chair	—	
Church Warden	Freda Corfield	01948 880910
Church Warden	Joan Hockenhill	01948 880226
PCC Secretary	Joan Hockenhill	01948 880226
PCC Treasurer	Will Watson-Jones	01948 880340
Website	<a href="http://www.christ-church-tilstock.yolasite.com">www.christ-church-tilstock.yolasite.com</a>	