



St Elphin's Chronicle

February 2012



**Vol 124**

**Price 30p**



**Large Print magazines available on request**

# *Quiz Night*

**In St Elphin's Community Centre**

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2012  
at 8.00pm

Tables of 4  
£3.50 each including refreshments

Bring your own drink

## **Christian Aid**

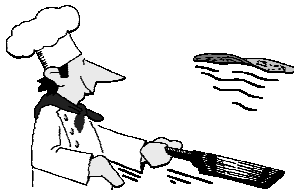
### *Pancakes & Quiz with Bring & Buy and Raffle*

Shrove Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February at 7.00pm

St Elphin's Community Centre

Admission £3.50

Includes tea / coffee



(if you want anything stronger please bring your own!!)

names to Margaret or Dave by 17<sup>th</sup> February please

# **Worship in the Parish**

## **Sundays:**

8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Parish Eucharist
12.30pm	Holy Baptism (1st and 3rd only)
6.30pm	Evensong

## **Wednesdays:**

10.00am	Holy Communion
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## **Saints' Days and other Holy Days**

7.30pm	Holy Communion ( <i>unless stated otherwise</i> )
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Mattins and Evensong are said daily in church at 8.45 am and 5.00 pm respectively

A Loop System is in operation in the church to assist hearing aid users. Please switch your hearing aid to the 'T' position for it to be effective.

There are large print copies of the Hymn Book and the Communion Service. Please ask the Church Wardens or Sidespeople if you would like a copy.

Special Services are announced through Church Notices and the Parish Magazine as necessary.

*Holy Communion is taken regularly to the Sick and Housebound by our Clergy and Team of Licensed Eucharistic Ministers. Please inform the Clergy when parishioners are ill, either at home or in hospital.*

## The Parish Staff

Rector	Vacant all enquiries please ring	01925-635020
Assistant Priest (NSM)	Reverend C Waddleton	0161-962-0062
Readers	Mr R Whitticombe 31 Airedale Close Whittle Hall	01925-719902
	Mr A G Dunn 56 Orford Green	01925-630417
Church Wardens	Mr A Wright 5 Kinsale Drive Locking Stumps	01925-821048
	Miss K J Hayes 8 Charlton Street Latchford	01925-656790
Organist and Choirmaster	Mr R N Birbeck 2 Moss Road Latchford	01925-637712

**Website: [warringtonparishchurch.org](http://warringtonparishchurch.org)**

Deanery Website:

<http://warringtondeanery.wordpress.com/>

Diocesan Website:

<http://www.liverpool.anglican.org/>

February 2012

Dear Friends

I am sure that like me you find the vagaries of the weather most perplexing. In this country we tend to associate the months of December, January and February as our winter; but this year has disproved that rule!

Last year at this time we were suffering with one of the hardest winters we had had for a number of years, and indeed that is true of certain part of the UK this year too.

Last year there was widespread traffic chaos and tales of villages and towns being cut-off. There were interruptions to Gas, Water and Electricity supplies and some areas were cut off from Telephone and Radio & Television for a considerable time. When the thaw started that caused even more problems for some, with further disruptions to water and sewerage facilities.

In a recent telephone conversation with our family in Cape Town, in South Africa, they were saying that their seasons are topsy-turvy too. Bearing in mind that their seasons are the opposite of ours (that country being in the Southern Hemisphere) it should now be the height of their summer. But no! Their seasons too have been thrown into chaos and only now it is coming into spring, with heavy rains sweeping in from the Indian Ocean.

I suppose the one good thing is that when Gill and I are in Cape Town, for the whole of February and some of March, we are promised some beautiful, warm weather.

Even this is not guaranteed; as only God can control what we normally take for granted, and the weather at certain times of the year is one of them!

It will be strange to us celebrating Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday in the middle of a heat-wave, in South Africa, but the meanings of those days and the period of preparation during the season of Lent are the same in whatever country and in whatever weather we have as we prepare for what is probably the most

important season of all, when our Lord Rose from the Dead in order to give us the promise of eternal life.

Whatever the weather and wherever we are the truth of His Resurrection is always with us and as we prepare for that season let us always remember the reason for that season.

With my heartfelt best wishes

*Ray*

## **Special Services in February**

### **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm**

Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Canon J O Colling.  
All welcome.

### **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30am**

The Standards of the Warrington and Burtonwood branches of the Royal Air Force Association will be laid up in the Church during this service.

### **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February - Ash Wednesday**

10.00am          Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes

7.30pm          Eucharist, Address and Imposition of Ashes

## **Other Commemorations in February**

Wednesday morning Eucharist at 10.00am

1st      Brigid, Abbess of Kildare, c525

15<sup>th</sup>     Sigfrid, Apostle of Sweden, 1045

Thomas Bray, priest, founder of SPCK and SPG, 1730

29<sup>th</sup>     Ember Day

## **Lent, Holy Week & Easter 2012**

As usual, during Lent we shall be having a Eucharist at 7.30pm on Wednesday evenings, and there will be a series of addresses during those services. With 2012 being the year of the London Olympics, the theme for these will be around Christianity and sport, and we have a number of guest speakers who will be exploring this theme.

February 22<sup>nd</sup> Fr Chris

February 29<sup>th</sup> Mrs Mary Cummings, Headteacher,  
St Elphin's (Fairfield) C of E Primary School

March 7<sup>th</sup> Reverend Andrea Jones,  
Assistant Curate of All Saints, Newton Heath

March 14<sup>th</sup> Reverend Michael Ridley,  
Vicar of St Thomas, Stockton Heath

March 21<sup>st</sup> Reverend Lee Gilbert, Minister at Latchford Baptist  
Church, and Chaplain of Warrington Town FC

March 28<sup>th</sup> Reverend Roland Harvey, Priest-in-Charge of St  
Francis of Assisi, Kitt Green, and Chaplain of Wigan  
Warriors RLFC

We are pleased to welcome the Archdeacon of Warrington, the Venerable Peter Bradley, who will lead us in our worship through Holy Week. He writes:

### **'A tale of three journeys?'**

I am really looking forward to being with you all at St Elphin's over Holy Week this year and hope that together we can explore three very different journeys during the week.

You will, I know, be familiar with two of the journeys – that of Jesus to Jerusalem and the 'journey' each of us makes in our own spiritual life during the Week. But, this year I want us to share a

third journey, the journey of a man called Artaban – we will meet him on Palm Sunday and journey with him through the Week. To help us to do this the usual pattern of Holy Week Services will also include addresses/sermons on Tuesday, Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and of course Easter Day itself.

With every good wish to you all at St Elphin's and assuring you of my prayers.

*Peter Bradley*  
Archdeacon of Warrington

*Further details of Holy Week & Easter Services will be in next month's magazine.*



**Christingle 2011**  
**and the Children's Society**



There was a wonderful response to our Christingle Service again this year. It was led by Father Chris and the children obviously enjoyed the carols especially *Away in a Manger* sang around the crib.

We raised £943.00, which included the proceeds from the School Carol Service and some very generous donations.

The house boxes in 2011 raised £312.00 and a total of £1255.00 was sent to the Society.

Thank you to everyone who gave money and also to those who helped on the day and preparing the Christingles beforehand.

Christmas begins at this Service.

*Sylvia*

## Church Flowers



There is a new list for 2012 at the back of Church for anyone who wishes to have flowers in Church on a date that is special to them or their family.

Thank you to all who donate throughout the year and especially at Christmas and Easter. Flowers are very expensive and we are very grateful to those who contribute.

*Sylvia*



### 50/50 Club

The January draw took place on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> and the results were:

1st	Alison Hicks	2nd	Geoffrey Delooze
3rd	Freda Wilde	4th	Kath & Colin Wilson

**A payment of £127.50 was made to church funds**

The next draw will take place on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February and payments must be made by Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> to be included in the draw. Any payments made after that date will be assumed to be for the following month. Any cheques should be made payable to "St Elphin's 50/50 club".

May I remind those of you who pay in cash that it is possible to pay by standing order. If you would like to change your method of payment, forms are available at the back of church.

**Remember, you've got to be in it to win it.**

*Kath*



## St Elphin's Ladies Group

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February when Stephen Sanders will be coming to talk to us once again and this time his subject is 'News-a-Gent'.

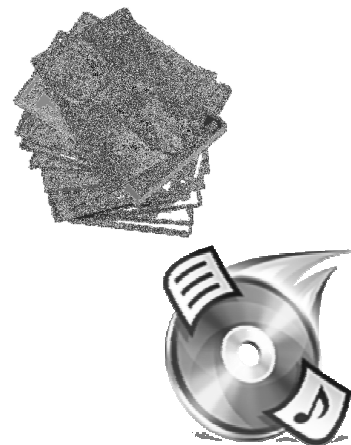
Because we will be attending the Lent Services in Church our next meeting in the House will be on Wednesday May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Further details of our programme for 2012 will be available in next month's magazine.

We have decided not to hold Coffee Mornings during Lent so our next one will be on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 10.45am.



However there will be an Easter Quiz, £1.00 a go and 1<sup>st</sup> prize will be an Easter Egg. Quiz sheets are available from Dianne or Margaret.

In preparation for both Howley Carnival and the Autumn Fayre (yes we know it's only February but as Fr Michael used to say – 'it'll soon be here!!) the Ladies Group are collecting DVD's, CD's and Computer Games (sorry no Videos or Cassettes). If you have any that you no longer want we will gladly relieve you of them. Please leave them at the back of Church labelled Ladies Group.



All ladies are welcome to come along and join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month in St Elphin's Community House at 7.30pm (unless stated otherwise).

**Next Meeting** 8<sup>th</sup> February when Sue Blyth from the YMCA will be coming to talk to us about her work. As ever all are welcome to join us at 7.30pm in St Elphin's school.

**Afternoon Tea** 4<sup>th</sup> February 2.00 – 4.00 pm at 25 Audre Close. If you know of anyone who would enjoy an afternoon of tea and conversation please let Wendy, Sylvia or Margaret know. If anyone requires transport please see Wendy, Sylvia or Margaret or telephone 725943

**Baptisms Rota for February:**

5<sup>th</sup> Ray & Gill Whitticombe

19<sup>th</sup> Margaret Sefton & Doreen Ross

During Lent St Elphin's Mothers Union will be seeking to raise fund as part of the 'Make a Mother's Day' campaign to support families in Africa where children are bringing up their siblings because their parents have died of HIV / AIDS. St Elphin's Mothers Union is hoping to raise £100 to help train a home based carer to support families who have nowhere else to turn. There will be a display at the back of church, please support our efforts.

*'Make a Mother's Day' offers the opportunity instead of buying flowers or chocolates, to remember your mother, of buying a gift to help support another mother. If anyone would like more details about other gifts available for Mothering Sunday, please see the leaflets at the rear of the church.*

*Wendy Bailey (on behalf of the branch)*

## Pause for Thought with Norma Fox

*“But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God. I trust in the steadfast love of God for ever and ever.”*

*Psalm 52 v 8*

In the corner of my garden there is a silver birch tree, each year it grows stronger and more majestic; it provides a playground for the birds, a place of shade in sunshine and in wet weather a shelter for people who pass by. It was planted some forty years ago when I first moved into my house on Orford Green, and I cannot imagine my garden without such a wonderful tree that provides so much joy in its very appearance and in all it will continue to give for many years to come.

When a friend of mine retired recently, he enjoyed spending a little time each morning sitting with a friend on a seat that the council had put under a large oak tree. It was by a small green near the busy junction of two roads. Later, in the local museum, my friend saw some photographs of the same green as it was some fifty or more years ago. How things had changed, he thought. Then he noticed that the tree was there in all the photographs. It gave him a sense of wonder to think that the tree would still be there long after his life ended.

This got me thinking about our lives, growing older, and about what qualities we would leave that would bring a sense of wonder, to others of God’s love. Each act of kindness, each generous act of unselfishness, each loving act of forgiveness could be worked at now. Just as my tree grows more strong year after year, so would our lives grow richer by the grace of God, and leave for others the example of His love long after our lives end.

Trees are our oldest living things, what a joy they are and what a variety of them we have! Did you know that in California there are trees 350 feet high – as high as the dome of St Paul’s Cathedral in London? They must have been saplings when Abraham was alive!

Think of a world without any flowers,  
think of a world without any trees,  
think of a sky without any sunshine,  
think of the air without any breeze.  
We thank you Lord, for the flowers and trees and sunshine,  
We thank you Lord, and praise Your holy Name.

## St John's Court

The next service of Holy Communion at St John's Court will be on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 11.30am.

All are welcome.

### Tea & Coffee Rota for February

5 <sup>th</sup>	Wendy & Barbara B
12 <sup>th</sup>	Julie & Linda
19 <sup>th</sup>	Kath & Lesley
26 <sup>th</sup>	Volunteers needed - please sign the list if you can help



### Choir dates in February

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Eucharist	10.30am (Practice 9.55am)
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Memorial Service for Canon Colling	7.30pm
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Eucharist	10.30am (Practice 9.55am)

### Hymns for Sunday 10.30 Eucharist

5 <sup>th</sup>	100; 296; 495; 373; 149
12 <sup>th</sup>	468; 113; 531; 358; 106
19 <sup>th</sup>	2; 245; 346; 473; 180
26 <sup>th</sup>	56; 217; 123; 129; 343

## **Readers and Prayer Rota for February**

	<b><u>8.30am</u></b>	<b><u>10.30am</u></b>	<b><u>10.30am</u></b>
		<b>Prayers</b>	<b>Reader</b>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Sylvia Wright	Sue Waddleton	Lee Marsh
12 <sup>th</sup>	Kathryn Hayes	Janet Cliffe	Kath Wilson
19 <sup>th</sup>	Pauline Beckett	Geoff Dunn	Margaret Dolan
26 <sup>th</sup>	Dianne Rothwell	Ann Dunn	Thelma Walsh

## **Communicants and Collections**

<b>Week ending</b>	<b>Communicants</b>	<b>Collections</b>
December 18 <sup>th</sup>	84	1010.52
December 25 <sup>th</sup>	160	976.65
January 1 <sup>st</sup>	40	393.65
January 8 <sup>th</sup>	102	782.65
January 15 <sup>th</sup>	82	735.03

## **Donations**

### **Fabric Fund**

Christmas Memories of loved ones, from Kathryn	50.00
Loving memories of George Peacock on his anniversary, February 16 <sup>th</sup> 2009 from Hilda and Family	50.00

## Parish Registers

### Holy Baptism



January 15<sup>th</sup>

Ollie James Byrom                      son of Lee and Michelle  
Jayden Michael Garrathy              son of Jason Michael and Stacey Jane  
Evie Rose Cynthia Savage              daughter of Neil Philip and Lucy Ann  
Olivia Louise Thompson                daughter of Helen Louise

*Shine as lights in the world  
to the Glory of God the Father*



### Christian Burial and Cremation

January 5 <sup>th</sup>	Alice Davies	Aged 89
	Allan Critchley	Aged 74
6 <sup>th</sup>	Michael Shingler	Aged 52
12 <sup>th</sup>	Edna Cook	Aged 87

*Rest Eternal grant unto them O Lord.  
And let light perpetual shine upon them.*

## **Social and Group Activities**

### **Tuesday**

**6.30-7.30pm** Kids Club (term time only) – Elmwood Avenue  
United Reformed Church

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### **Wednesday**

**6.45pm** Brownies – Scout HQ, Vale Owen Road

**7.30pm** Mothers' Union – St Elphin's School (2<sup>nd</sup> only)

**7.30pm** St Elphin's Ladies Group (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> only) meet in  
the Community House next door to St Elphin's  
Community Centre

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### **Thursday**

**6.30pm** Brownies - St Elphin's School

**6.00pm** Cubs – Howley Fairfield Neighbourhood Project,  
Fairfield Street

**7.30pm** Men's Society (1<sup>st</sup> only)

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### **Friday**

**6.00 – 9.00pm** Beavers, Cubs and Scouts – Howley Fairfield  
Neighbourhood Project, Fairfield Street

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All members of the Church and local community are welcome to come and join with us in these and any occasional activities which are announced in Church or advertised on the Church Notice Board.

## **School**

St Elphin's (Fairfield) CE Primary School

## **Head Teacher:**

Mrs Mary Cummings

**Tel: 635143**

## **Bookings:**

Made with the Head Teacher

## **St Elphin's Junior Church**

Sundays at 10.30am in the Choir Vestry

## **Occasional Services**

### **Holy Baptism**

1st and 3rd Sundays in the month at 12.30 pm.

Arrangements to be made with the Church Wardens

### **Holy Matrimony and Banns**

Arrangements to be made with the Church Wardens

### **Funerals**

Arrangements are usually made with the Church Wardens by the Funeral Director who has been engaged.

The Church Wardens hold a surgery in church on Saturdays from 10.00am to 11.00am for Applications for Baptism, Holy Matrimony and Banns.

The Clergy are available at any time in cases of emergency.



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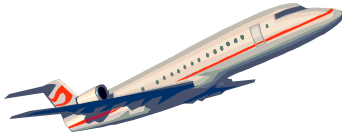
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## **Cheshire Funeral Services**

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have given generously towards our costs**