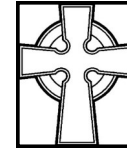


St Columba's, West View
Wideopen



Vicar Rev Pauline Pearson 0191 2362280

Churchwardens: Marjorie Fairbairn 0191 2365661
Bill Lomas 01670 772267

www.stcolumbaswideopen.co.uk

St Columba's Wideopen Parish Magazine

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Copy Deadline for next Parish Magazine :  
Sunday May 23rd 2021 by e-mail if possible  
to  
[avrillomas@aol.com](mailto:avrillomas@aol.com)

Magazine Editors: Bill and Avril Lomas 01670 772267



April and May 2021

[www.stcolumbaswideopen.co.uk](http://www.stcolumbaswideopen.co.uk)

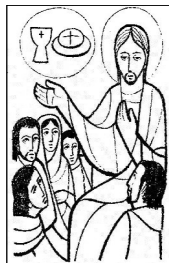
# ST COLUMBA'S WIDEOPEN

## Our Mission Action Plan

Ensure that we put Christ at the centre of all that we do.

Attract more young families and young people to the family of our Church

Help all members to grow in faith, discipleship and pastoral care



## JAMES HAMILTON FUNERAL DIRECTORS

No one ever wants to organise a funeral, but when the inevitable happens it is reassuring to know that

**James Hamilton Funeral Directors**

are here to guide you through that difficult time.

Serving the community of  
Wideopen, Cramlington  
and all of the North East

We are an Independent Family Firm  
With over 25 years experience in the business

New chapels of rest at Darrell House Brunswick Village

### Let our family look after your family

If you would like more information on costs  
and the service we provide

24 Hours a day, 7 days a week,  
Please feel free to give us a call on

**0191 236 6243**

Golden Charter Pre- Payment Plans

**ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH  
IN THE  
PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING**

**Groups meeting in Church**

Book Club monthly, watch for dates and venues

Ladies' Group 3rd Wednesday of the month 7.30 pm

Mothers' Union 2nd Thursday of the month 2 pm

Open Door 1st Tuesday of the month 12 - 2.30 pm

Parent and Toddler Group Tuesday 9.15-11 am (term  
time)

Scrabble alternate Mondays 2pm

Whey Aye WI 4th Tuesday of the month 7.00 pm

All held in the Church Hall unless stated otherwise.

Please note the Parent and Toddler Group does not  
meet in the school holidays.

**None of these is meeting at present.**

**We hope to resume all activities as soon as  
the current situation allows.**

**Team Vicar**

Rev'd Dr. Pauline  
Pearson  
Tel 07753744349

**Hon. Assistant Priests**

Rev'd Bill Miller  
Tel 0191 2365024

**Churchwardens**

Mrs Marjorie Fairbairn  
Mr Bill Lomas

**Magazine Editors**

Bill and Avril Lomas  
avrillomas@aol.com

**Hall Bookings**

Mrs Marjorie Fairbairn

**District Church Council**

Mrs Susan Brimer  
Miss Rebecca Charlton  
Mrs Joyce Elrod  
Mrs Mary Lobb  
Mrs Mary Main  
Mrs Val Pringle  
Mr Edgar Ridley  
Mrs Wendy Shaw  
Mrs Hilary Temperley  
Mr Stephen Temperley

**DCC Secretary**

Mrs Pamela Charlton

**DCC Treasurer**

Miss Rachael Oswald

**Deanery Synod Rep**

Mr Bill Lomas

**Parish Council Reps**

Mrs Joyce Elrod

## From your editors

There is a lot for us in the UK to look forward to. Nearly half of the population have had their first vaccination, many have had their second and we are now being told that there may well be a third in the Autumn to protect us against variants. We really do have to be both grateful for and appreciative of the fantastic skill and energy of our scientists.

In addition there is a gradual relaxation, over the next two months, in the regulations governing our general behaviour and there is a strong likelihood that holidays in the UK will be fine, if not abroad. We just have to hope and pray for some good weather in this country.

These developments also mean that the church will be able to start getting back to where it was before the pandemic, specially if the rules on social distancing are relaxed a little so that it may be possible to have more people in church. So with longer days and warmer weather a much brighter future awaits us!

*Bill and Avril*

## WORD LINK QUIZ ANSWERS

Find the six letter word which follows that in the first column to make a word or phrase and precedes that in the end column to make another.

|           |        |            |
|-----------|--------|------------|
| STAMPING  | GROUND | RULE       |
| CHEEKY    | MONKEY | WRENCH     |
| LORD'S    | PRAYER | BOOK       |
| PASSION   | KILLER | WHALE      |
| SLEEPING  | BEAUTY | PARLOUR    |
| PAINS     | TAKING | STOCK      |
| QUIZ      | MASTER | CHEF       |
| SMALL     | CHANGE | TACK       |
| WALL      | STREET | FIGHTER    |
| SMOKED    | SALMON | PINK       |
| CHANNEL   | TUNNEL | VISION     |
| HB        | PENCIL | CASE       |
| ITCHING   | POWDER | ROOM       |
| WILD      | FLOWER | BED        |
| PEARL     | BARLEY | SUGAR      |
| FINISHING | SCHOOL | CURRICULUM |

## Cakes and Biscuits

### Quiz

Have a go with a cup of coffee !

|     |                               |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| 1.  | Rich little biscuit           |
| 2.  | Light citrus rain             |
| 3.  | Royal washing aid             |
| 4.  | Travellers' lotion            |
| 5.  | Austrian digits               |
| 6   | The Queen of Hearts made them |
| 7.  | Tinkerbelle would like this   |
| 8   | Thawing point in time         |
| 9.  | Uneven carriageway            |
| 10  | A piece of Heaven             |
| 11. | European somersault           |
| 12. | Break a spirit                |
| 13. | An island                     |
| 14. | Heated and angry hairstyle    |
| 15  | Well-cooked disreputable lady |

## SERVICES AT ST COLUMBA'S



Services until further notice will be :

Wednesday 9.30

Holy Eucharist and then open for private prayer until 12pm

Friday 6pm (FacebookLive)

Evening prayer

Sunday 8am Holy Eucharist

*(this will be on the second Sunday only whilst St Aidan's are in vacancy)*

10am Parish Eucharist

(and on Facebook and YouTube - book ahead if attending)

4pm Holy Eucharist



## From our Team Vicar, Pauline

Dear friends



Sun shines, daffodils dance in the breeze – and though there may be some lumpy moments, the Spring Plan seems to be moving forwards steadily... Very soon it will be Easter: time for rest and relaxation.. Easter bunnies and an excess of chocolate for some... and a time of hope...

From where we now stand, many of us I suspect are quite anxious about trusting the way forward, and uncertain what twists and turns may lie ahead between us and something like normality. And so much has changed – so much been learnt – during this time, most of us are wondering just what that normality will be – or should be - like. For some people of course, normality will never be even close to what it was.

Easter is a time to focus on hope, but of course Easter is about much more than that. The events of Easter follow a week which went rapidly from the excitement and anticipation of the entry into Jerusalem, to the darkness and dereliction of the cross..

It must have seemed at the end of that up and down helter-skelter week as if there was no longer any hope.. and then, after the desolation of the Saturday, the emptiness and nothingness, then, in the faint darkness of beginning dawn, suddenly, there was not just hope – but joy – and excitement... He is risen! And called – and calls - his followers to keep going – and to do new things... to help to build his Kingdom... to transform the world.

During Lent the Beatitudes have challenged us to think about our values, and how we should live as we emerge from the depths of the Pandemic. Easter challenges us to look at what the future can and should be that as Christians in this community we should strive for. How can we help to build the Kingdom here in Wideopen?

## Do you buy online?

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising free donations for St Columba's Wideopen with easyfundraising?

There are over 4,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation – including eBay, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com and M&S – and it won't cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds.

All you need to do is:

1. Go to [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stcolumbaswideopen/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stcolumbaswideopen/?utm_campaign=raise-more) and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, the retailer will make a donation to St Columba's Wideopen at no extra cost to you whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and we at St Columba's Wideopen will be really grateful for your donations.

Thank you for your support.

## RAF Air Cadets Anniversary Challenge



A big thank you from Pauline to all who supported her in the RAF Air Cadets Anniversary Challenge. She completed 91.4 miles in total during February, and raised £265 for the RAF Benevolent Fund. Well done and thank you.

## THE BOOK CLUB



The next meeting of the Book Club is on Thursday April 22nd (by Zoom) when the book to be discussed is Agatha Christie's first crime novel "The Mysterious Affair at Styles". Please contact Bill Lomas or the vicar for the link to join in.

One of the biggest challenges facing our local community as we continue to live with COVID19 is that of loneliness and isolation. Most of us have seen very few other people except perhaps on screens or at the shops for a year. And of course not everyone even has a screen, or the skills to use it. As we begin to find our way along the way back to normality, at first we will be able to meet only outdoors – the two households outdoors rule is likely to be in place until at least 17<sup>th</sup> May.

So, St Columba's is working in collaboration with Daverson Hall and Woodlands Hall on the 'Wideopen Wellbeing' project. As well as publicising some of the opportunities which we hope will be opening up in the next month or two, we are doing some things which we hope will help reconnect people. For those who are still a bit tentative about too much direct time with others, but maybe haven't got the technology to link up otherwise, we have some tablets to loan for up to two weeks, and are hoping as we begin to open up more to be able to offer support to use them. For those who would just like somewhere to sit and chat to a friend we are each also creating 'places of wellbeing' with seats and planters, using our outdoor spaces, where people will be welcome to sit and meet. Ours will be at the east end of church.

We hope that 'Wideopen Wellbeing' will be part of building the sort of community we want as we emerge from the pandemic – but it is just one example of what we might be able to do, especially working with the people around us. Each of us will have different ideas, and see different needs. Together we are called to be open to God's transforming love, generous with God's transforming gifts; and engaged in God's transforming work in the world around us. Together we are called to keep going – to support and care for each other as we enter the second year of living with COVID-19 -and also to do new things to help to build God's Kingdom here – but also to transform the world.

May your Easter season be blessed and bring you joy as well as hope!

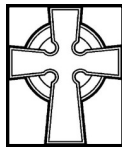
Love,

Pauline

# Easter Day

Almighty God, who through thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ hast overcome death and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by thy life-giving Spirit; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit ever, one God, world without end. Amen.

- Book of Common Prayer



## Easter Prayer of Saint Hippolytus

Christ is Risen: The world below lies desolate  
Christ is Risen: The spirits of evil are fallen  
Christ is Risen: The angels of God are rejoicing  
Christ is Risen: The tombs of the dead are empty  
Christ is Risen indeed from the dead,  
the first of the sleepers,  
Glory and power are his forever and ever.

- St. Hippolytus of Rome

You might want to challenge yourself whilst getting fit and raising funds. Why not take 300,000 sponsored steps across the month of May to raise vital funds for communities battling the worst of this climate crisis. This steps challenge clocks in at just under 10,000 steps a day and you can do the challenge alone or with a team, supporting each other to reach your goal. Whether you decide to walk, jump, skip, hop or run your steps is completely up to you! Sign up at <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week/challenge-yourself>



We might also have another quiz...  
Together we can STOP this climate crisis. Every envelope.  
Every gift. Every challenge can change lives.





## Christian Aid Week 2021 10-16 May

Christian Aid was founded 75 years ago, by people like us, determined to live out Jesus' teaching to love their neighbour, by offering love and care to those in need. They have accomplished many things through the years. At present, the Diocese has partnered with them to encourage us to give thanks for our vaccinations and to help protect the most vulnerable people for whom the coronavirus vaccine is out of reach.

In Christian Aid Week this year (10-16 May) they want to remind us what we are capable of as we face one of our greatest challenges of all, the climate crisis. Climate chaos is one of the greatest injustices we face.

Droughts are now more frequent and more intense due to the climate crisis. You might remember the film we saw last year during Christian Aid Week. Rose and her family, and millions of people in Kenya, are struggling to get enough food and water. Your gift could help a community build an earth dam, so when the rains do come, they will have the water they need to live. People like Rose need every last drop to survive the drought.

## Holy Week services



### **28th March Palm Sunday**

10.00 Eucharist (and online)

4.00pm Eucharist. Our Preacher during Holy Week and Easter will be Revd David Emmott, formerly Vicar of Our Lady and St Nicholas with St Anne, Liverpool

### **29 March**

7.30pm Eucharist

### **30 March**

7.30pm Eucharist

### **31 March**

9.30 Eucharist

7.30pm Eucharist

### **1 April Maundy Thursday**

7.30pm Eucharist (and online)

### **2 April Good Friday**

10.00 Liturgy of the Day (and online)

Church open 12-3 for prayer

2.00pm The final hour: Lamenting (streamed to church and online)

### **3rd April**

8.00pm Easter Vigil (and online)

### **4th April Easter Day**

10.00 Festival Eucharist (and online)

4.00pm Eucharist

## *From the Registers*

### *Funerals*

|           |                   |
|-----------|-------------------|
| 11.2.2021 | Kathleen Hulley   |
| 25.2.2021 | Marjorie Cardwell |
| 22.3.2021 | Sheila Naylor     |



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful  
departed,  
through the mercy of God,  
rest in peace.  
Amen.



Hello everyone,

There is very little news from MU because of the corona virus lockdown. Members continue to keep in touch.

On March 9<sup>th</sup> a Deanery Zoom meeting took place, matters arising from the meeting are printed in the MU Spring Newsletter, which is being circulated to all members. If anyone has not received a copy please contact Mary Lobb (branch leader).

The News Letter includes a calendar of events taking place up to September 2021.

We all have a difficult few months ahead and will continue to support each other, our church family, friends and neighbours in any way possible.

Thankfully the days are getting longer, there is warmth in the sunshine, the birds are singing, and new life is all around us.

KEEP SAFE

Moira

But now light dawns  
 First one, then two  
 Sharp glimmers in the gloom  
 Teaching us how to fight  
 Those dragons,  
 Targeting their threat.

Light brightens.  
 Soon perhaps  
 We will reach out again  
 To a familiar hand,  
 Hear a child's laughter  
 Unrestrained,  
 Share companionship and bread,  
 Reach out and hug  
 Our neighbours,  
 Plant seeds for future flowers,  
 Sketch hopes, dream dreams,  
 And breathe love.

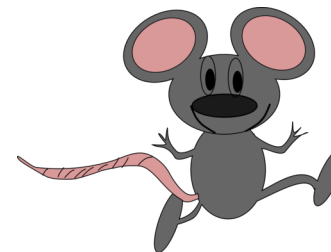
PP 16.3.21.



## Dudley—our very own church mouse is back !

Hi there everyone! Remember me?

It's Dudley, your very own church mouse.



Well, we are back in St Columba's now, having spent a year in lockdown at Seaton Burn.

In February 2020, I went with my wife Seaton and our 3 children to visit her parents in Seaton Burn. Her parents were poorly and needed looking after. When they were well enough to let us return to St Columba's, we were in lockdown !

Fortunately none of us caught the virus and thankfully the Spring and Summer weather was good and the children were able to play in the garden. But when it snowed they were sad that their new red sledge was at St Columba's!

We are now back at st Columba's and Hazel, Rigg and Brunswick, our children are happy to be home with all their toys. Like everyone else we are longing for times to return to "normal" but we will continue to wear our masks and social distance at all times.

Keep safe, see you all next time.

## The Lent Course – The Beatitudes

This year's theme for reflection in Lent was the Beatitudes and they provided food for thought over 5 weeks with three different groups meeting, via zoom, at different times of the week. Our group met on a Friday evening for an hour and consisted of ten or so participants who contributed to lively debates.

We were quick to note that although we say “blessed” and call them “beatitudes” we have in the past said “happy” instead and we also noted that in French and German translations there are references to happiness. We wondered why the change and moved on!

And it was with translation that we were concerned when discussing “poor in spirit” and “meek” thinking that there was too much negativity in the idea of both expressions and that humble and selfless might convey the sense better for the modern mind. We spent time discussing what “righteousness” and “pure in heart” meant and also who were the 21<sup>st</sup> century “peacemakers” and “persecuted”.

The final session provided an opportunity to put the beatitudes in a modern, Covid, context which generated some lively exchanges. Do look out for these sessions in the future – they are engaging and stimulating.



Meals served and eaten apart  
Familiar comfort.  
The taste of tea  
And scones;  
Small sandwiches, filled  
With meat or paste;  
Red white and blue  
Iced cakes too,  
To celebrate Victory past

The scent of flowers  
Carries on the breeze.  
Your mask must cover  
Mouth and nose,  
If you meet strangers,  
Breathe their air  
Indoors.  
Stay safe. Alone.

Sometimes, familiar voices  
Echo from a screen  
Sharing the news  
Of births, and deaths  
...Too many deaths:  
A cohort of companions  
Lost.  
An interconnected community  
Of pain.

The wave is rising  
Can we ride it out?  
Stand confidently, tall  
Surfing across the deep,  
Or will we tumble, fall  
Be swept under, unremarked?

## Invisible

It began, quietly,  
In that sunny spring,  
When we could still see  
Friends, sit together, talk,  
Do crosswords and drink tea.

This invisible enemy.  
Out there, lying in wait  
To trap us unawares  
Burn us up  
And squeeze us tight  
To kill.

Then chatter stilled  
No visitors allowed  
Birdsong through  
the open window,  
Sounded loud  
In the silence.

Touch gently reassures.  
Touch tentatively or  
Embrace in normal times.  
But now, do not.  
Do not touch me,  
Or him or her  
Without armour:  
I am afraid  
Of dragons  
Breathing fire.

## Beatitudes for relationships

Blessed are those who can laugh at themselves;  
They will have no end of fun.  
Blessed are those who can tell a mountain from a molehill:  
They will be saved a lot of bother  
Blessed are those who know how to relax without looking for  
excuses:  
They are on their way to becoming wise. Blessed are those  
who know when to be quiet and listen:  
They will learn a lot of new things.  
Blessed are those who are sane enough not to take  
themselves seriously:  
They will be valued by those about them.  
Happy are you if you take small things seriously and face  
serious things calmly:  
You will go far in life.  
Happy are you if you can appreciate a smile and forget a  
frown:  
You will walk on the sunny side of the street.  
Happy are you if you can be kind in understanding the  
attitudes of others:  
You will achieve clarity.  
Blessed are those who think before they act and pray before  
they think:  
They will avoid many blunders.  
Happy are you if you know how to hold your tongue and  
smile:  
Peace has begun to seep into your soul.

Author unknown.





Many of you support the Children's Society through their collecting boxes. Read on to hear of one way your contributions are used.

The Children's Society (TCS) is delighted to announce a new project in Newcastle and Gateshead. In mid-February TCS took over the delivery of the RISE Mental Health in Schools service across the regions. Transferring from the Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Trust, the TCS team will be working with young people in schools – including church schools - across Newcastle and Gateshead to help support their emotional and mental wellbeing.

School is full of positive and negative experiences and can be especially difficult when people experience added pressures, whether school related, in their personal life, or in the aftermath of the pandemic. The RISE team of 12 Educational Mental Health Practitioners (EMHPS) will support young people to manage emotional and mental wellbeing at an early stage which can help prevent problems becoming more serious. The team will work on a one-to-one basis with young people, in group settings, and on a holistic level with the whole school.

As well as offering physical support the RISE website offers resources and guided self-help tools on a range of issues. A spokesperson for TCS said: "We know young people have been hit hard by the pandemic and will be facing more challenges as they return to school, with potential impact on mental health and well-being as they adjust to the new normal. This continues to be a big area of focus for TCS work and over the last year we have produced a range of new resources to support young people and adults to navigate the challenges. "These include the Young People Guide to Stressful Situations, the Friendship Guide for Young People and Friendship Guide for Adults, and Trauma and Young People.

The charity also offers its Church Youth Group resources and guides for How to Support Young Peoples Mental Health and Wellbeing." Currently in the early stages of delivery, the hope is to extend the reach of the project over the coming years. The project has been operating virtually and physically over the last year and plans to be fully back in schools as the return continues.

(First published in the Link.)

