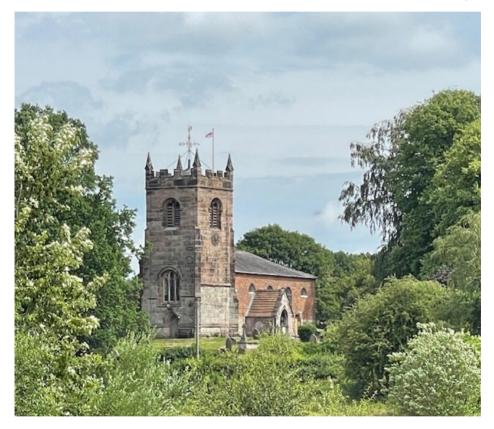


Lawton Light!

Church Lawton Parish Magazine

June 2025 50p



Do Join us on the 8th June for the Civic Service and Celebrating Pentecost at 10.45am

Peace I leave with you:; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives...

John 14 v27

www.allsaintschurchlawton.co.uk Sharing the love of Jesus in our community



We really appreciate the support of our advertisers in the Lawton Light magazine. We produce 150 hard copies and it has a readership locally of 2.5 times that. It is available on our website and also on a Church Near You—so it reaches the world!

If you would like to advertise in Lawton Light please contact the editor Jane Baker on Telephone 01270 876363 or email: editor@allsaintschurchlawton. co.uk



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LAWTON LIGHT! Who's Who at All Saints'?

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Messy Church	Jackie Moss	Tel:01782 771067
Lawton Light!	Jane Baker	Tel:01270 876363
Musical Director	Margaret Cruxton	Tel:01270 876366

^{**} Members of our team are very pleased to visit you in your home, to listen to you, talk with you, and pray with you. Nothing is too trivial, and nothing is beyond the reach of God's love and grace.

All you have to do is pick up the telephone and call.

We will be delighted to hear from you, and respond to your need.



Please scan me to donate to help maintain our church



June Letter

Dear Friends,
It must have been a truly
extraordinary sight the day that
Jesus ascended into heaven. I
think in these days when the sight
of planes flying high above us in
the sky is an everyday occurrence,
it is hard to imagine how utterly
remarkable it would have been.
We'll be thinking about his
ascension in our services on
Sunday 1st June.



Imagine being one of Jesus' disciples when this happened. Just a few weeks earlier you have experienced Jesus' resurrection from the dead. And over a period of almost six weeks, you find that on occasions when you gather with his other followers, Jesus suddenly appears with you out of thin air. You can see him — complete with the scars of his

crucifixion. You can touch him and talk to him; he can cook fish on a beach barbeque, and eat it too.

But then he can disappear again. When he is with you he talks a lot about leaving and returning to the Father, about sending the Spirit to replace him. And then finally the day comes when he walks with you out of the city of Jerusalem in the direction of Bethany.

As you stand with him, he leaves the ground and ascends into the sky; further and further up until he goes into the clouds and you can see him no longer. As you finish gazing up in the sky and look around you, there are two men beside you dressed in white. They confirm that Jesus has gone into heaven.

As Jesus had told his followers, his ascension was only the first part of what was planned. The second part was the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. We'll be remembering all that happened that day in our services on 8th June, which this year will also be our Civic Service.



Since that first day of Pentecost, those who believe and trust in Jesus have had the Spirit's support as Comforter, Counsellor, Advocate and Intercessor. He teaches us and reminds us of the ways of Jesus and leads us into all truth. Individually, when we work with him, he grows his fruit in our hearts. As the church, when we look to him, he blesses us with his gifts. Both his fruit and gifts enable us to grow into maturity and become more like Jesus.

This month as we celebrate and think about Jesus' ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit, we'd love to welcome you to our services.

God bless, Heather

Foundations

(Matthew 7:24-29)

What will happen to my house Lord,

Now that the rain is falling, Now that the floods are rising, Now that the wind is blowing< And beating, beating upon it?

Sunday by Sunday
I hear your Word
With interest,
With conflict,
With questions.
I hear your Word
As I build my house.

But will it stand, Lord,
When the rain and the floods
And the winds challenge?
Are my foundations
Sunday sand of hearing only,
Or daily rock of hearing and doing
Your will,
Living Your Word,
Strong in the storm?

Lord, Lord,
Help me to hear,
Move me to act.
Let my house stand.

By Daphne Kitching

Meru's Musings Remembered...

Teasers

- -What do you see once in June, twice in November, and not at all in May?
- -What word is pronounced the same if you take away four of its five letters?
- -What can fill a room but takes up no space?
- -What is so fragile that saying its name breaks it?
- -What five-letter word has one left when two letters are removed?

Latin Homework

Et cetera And so on
Et tu Brute You also, Brutus.
Ex animo Sincerely
Ex cathedra With authority.
Exempli gratia For instance
Experto credite Trust me
Facta non verba Actions speak
louder than words

Fiat lux Let there be light.

Fiat voluntas TuaThy will be done Fide et amore By faith and love.

Fortes fortuna iuvat Fortune helps the brave

Fugit hora Time flies.

A poem by Kahlil Gibran a Lebanese poet who passed away in 1931 aged 48

On Children

And a woman who held a babe against her bosom said, 'Speak to us of children'.

And he said:

Your children are not your children.

They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.

They come through you but not from you,

And though they are with you, yet they belong not to you.

You may give them your love but not your thoughts,

For they have their own thoughts. You may house their bodies but not their souls.

For their souls' dwell in the house of tomorrow, which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.

You may strive to be like them but seek not to make them like you.

For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday.

You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth.

The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite, and He bends you with His might that His arrows may go swift and far.

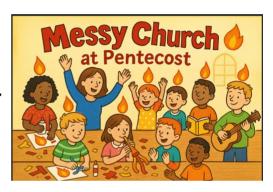
Let your bending in the archer's hand be for gladness:

For even as He loves the arrow that flies, so He loves also the bow that is stable.

So profound and beautiful-Meru



9.00am 8th June Messy Church at Pentecost





In Messy Church children and their parents/carers have fun learning about the Christian faith together through different activities—crafts, cooking, games, songs...

If you would like to know more about Messy Church please contact Jackie Moss on 01782 771067 Or come along on the day.



Understanding the Trinity

Trinity Sunday has its place in our liturgical calendar (15th June), yet we do not often hear sermons on the Trinity. The term 'Trinity' isn't found in the Bible, and the Early Church took nearly 400 years to come up with a clear understanding of it.



However, there are hints of trinitarian language in the New Testament.

e.g. Jesus instructs His disciples to baptise 'in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit' (Matt 28:19). Our understanding of the Trinity arises from God's activity in our world, as reflected in the creedal questions:

'Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the One for whom we exist?

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

So why should the Trinity be important for us? If 'God is love' (1 John 4:8) it means that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are in a community of love together. Their relationship has been expressed as a divine dance, as they interact with one another, expressing love for each another and complementing the work each one has to do. As people made in God's image, we are called to live this community of love in our lives and churches.

The Trinity also provides the basis for our mission, 'As the Father has sent Me, so send I you.' Just as God the Father sent Jesus into the world, so Jesus sends us into the world to do the Father's work, equipped and accompanied by the Holy Spirit. In sharing God's love, we share the life of the. Trinity Augustine spoke about the Spirit being the love between God the Father and the Son.

'At the heart of reality lies the love between the Father and the Son. The Spirit unites us with Christ so that we begin to experience the same depth of love that exists between the Father and the Son.' (Graham Tomlin).

Cannon Paul Hardingham

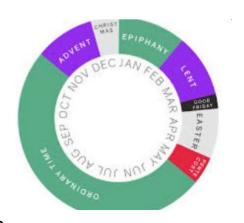
The simple pleasures of Ordinary Time

One great phrase of the Church of England, which is little-known but carries a wealth of rich meaning, is 'ordinary time'. While the seasons of Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Advent all have their fixtures and moments for focus and concentration, the bulk of the summer months is 'ordinary time'! A very evocative phase — nothing particularly to focus on or to celebrate.

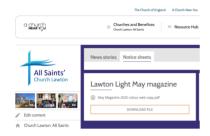
Just because it is 'ordinary', it does not mean it is not important or of no significance to how God wants us to use our lives. For most of us life is lived between high and low points: we look forward to something on the horizon or we are seeking to recover from something. So, it should be no surprise that ordinary time is the longest season in the Church calendar. Abraham Lincoln once said that: "God must love ordinary people because He made so many of them"!

Ordinary people, it seems to me, need 'ordinary time'. Sundays and weekdays in-between, to sense God's presence with us in the dayto-day mundane, and ordinary comings and goings of life. He is there in the heights of resurrection joy and celebration. He is with us in the vulnerability and frailty of human weakness, modelled in the incarnation. He is with us in our efforts to discipline ourselves and be moulded by him (Lent) but He is also with us whenever we are conscious of life just being ordinary. When our eyes are opened to these things, we will see what an extraordinary God we have!

The Rev Mark Brown considering the meaning of a well-known Anglican time of year... this article is adapted from one that first appeared in Future First.



Surge in visits to church search website AChurchNearYou.com



The number of page visits to the Church of England's church-finder website soared by 55 per cent last year to almost 200 million, as growing numbers of people searched for their local congregation.

Public page views
AChurchNearYou.com hit 198.6
million in 2024 – up from 128.1
million in 2023 and up more than
three quarters on the previous year.
The figure does not include the 9.7million-page impressions from the
site's army of local editors, who
maintain and update parish pages,
adding and tagging worship services,
events and community action
projects such as food banks.

Users shared a total of 11,733 church services and events from AChurchNearYou.com on social media last year – a 268 per cent increase in a year. And 18,445 services and events were added to calendars on people's mobile phones

and other devices, a 200 per cent increase on the previous year.

The surging use of AChurchNearYou.om comes after polls suggested growing interest in faith. The Church of England's Head of Digital, Amaris Cole, said: "We're delighted that more people than ever are looking for a local church via our church-finder tool AChurchNearYou.com.

"The staggering increase shows the public are more interested than ever in connecting with one of our communities, whether for a service, an event, a family activity or one of the amazing projects our churches run.

"Our churches regularly report newcomers who have found them through the site, so the rise in page hits is giving our editors confidence in inviting the public in to one of our 16,000 spaces. "Because everyone is welcome, we've prioritised accessibility by adding tags to help visitors find the service for them — whether there is wheelchair access, gluten-free refreshments, British Sign Language translation or dementia friendly. These can be found by using the tags when searching for churches in your area."

From the Editor

Do Take a look at our page!

Summer Coffee Morning

at All Saints' Church on Saturday 28th June

10.30am to 12.30pm

Help Us To Raise Funds For New Altar Cloths

Come along for a chat over coffee, tea, bacon butties, toast and of course cakes!

Have fun on the Tombola, visit the homemade cakes, hand crafted cards and wooden items stalls



From the Registers

Funerals

On 5th June Joan Margaret Toynton Age 88 years
On 30th May Rita Mary Prince Age 72 years

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

23rd Psalm

Church Collections for April 2025

••

Week Beginning	6th	£882.50
Week Beginning	13th	£1,129.75
Week Beginning	20th	£917.28
Week Beginning	27th	£216.49

Our thanks to everyone who has helped us by giving faithfully and generously towards our costs of mission, ministry and maintenance.

During this unprecedented challenging time, you can also keep up to date via our website where you can find out about our worship, church life, giving and accessing our monthly parish magazine.



Knitivity N∉ws 2025

Exhibition Dates 18th October – 1st November

Thank you everyone who has so far sent in squares for our **2025 Art Exhibition Knitivity.** We are looking to stage this in the Autumn of 2025 and the squares are steadily arriving in church.

Having looked through the squares we have so far could I possibly ask for more *red*, *yellow and white please*. It's wonderful to know that yet again so many people have engaged in our knitting of squares, and I cannot thank you all enough.

Paul and I will be meeting shortly to look at the practicalities of our theme for this year, we do hope to utilise some of our previous structures just repurposing them.

As the year progress's I will keep everyone updated on colours needed and where we've got to in our planning.

Advertising the event, at present we use our Church Website, A Church Near You, Parish Noticeboards, Tesco Community activities board, we shall visit the new Sainsbury's a couple of local shops and Radio Stoke.

Please let us know of any other places you think might take a poster.

To coin a phrase often heard near Christmas time on BBC 1 - Keep Dancing, in our case Keep knitting.

Once again many thanks.

If you need any more information please call 01270874491

With love and blessings, Bev x



Laugh lines etcetera...

Encore!

The new curate had visited the local prison and taken along his electric guitar. He was so pleased with the applause that he responded: 'Thank you very much for your appreciation. I so hope that I will see you all back here again next year."

Crooked politicians

The editor of a small country newspaper, furious over several government bills that had recently been passed, printed a scathing editorial with an enormous headline: 'HALF THE LEGISLATORS ARE CROOKS.' Many local politicians were outraged and exerted tremendous pressure on him to print a retraction. He finally gave in to the pressure and ran his apology with the headline: 'HALF OF OUR

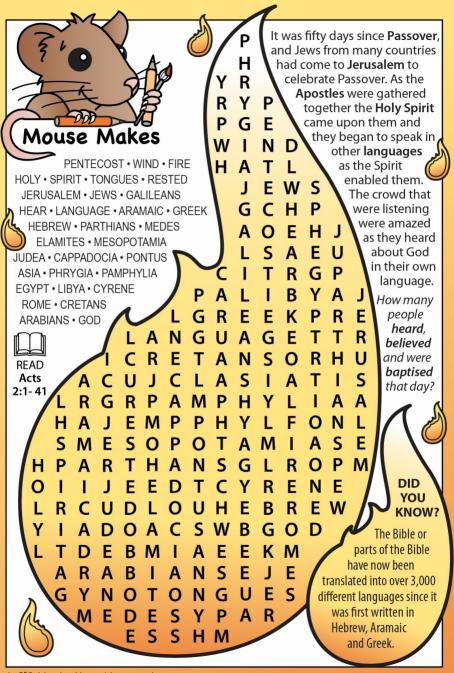
headline: 'HALF OF OUR LEGISLATORS ARE NOT CROOKS.'

R°N

Keith was very strict about confetti in the churchyard

Good quote

A certain bishop had a fondness for using Bible quotations whenever he visited a function. When he arrived to open a new Maternity Home the organisers thought: "Now we have him stumped." However, after a few well-chosen words, the bishop smiled and said: "I know you are waiting for a quotation, so here it is: 'We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed!"



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Recycling & Green Living Tips

Greening your wardrobe

The fashion industry is responsible for 10% of global emissions and 92 million tonnes of textiles are thrown away each year. To improve on this we need to change.

Buy secondhand where you can, it can also help charities.

Donate to charity shops or sell on Vinted clothes you no longer need.

If you have any that are not fit for donation or selling, Salvation Army do have recycling bins for these.

What Shopping Bags Should I Use?

All bags are not created equal when it comes to the environment. And paper might



not be as green as you think. With more cities, states and countries banning single-use plastic bags, paper has become a popular alternative at the checkout. At first glance, this seems like an obvious win for the environment. Plastic bags, after all, are made from fossil fuels and a major source of pollution. Paper bags, however, are not necessarily a better choice. They come with their own list of environmental caveats, as do reusable bags.

Top tips for a waste free barbecue

June is a great time of year to dust off your garden barbecue, get some yummy food, and invite your friends and family to enjoy some sunshine in your garden. But what do you do with the food and drink packaging, leftover food, foil, empty cleaning bottles and other recyclable items afterwards?

Food and drink packaging

Eating outdoors is one of summers greatest pleasures, but it's even better when you know you're helping the Planet! Cardboard and plastic packaging used for meat and vegetables can be recycled with your usual recycling collection — remember to remove any food residue first!

Any drinks cans and glass bottles can also be collected with your recycling at home. Some councils may not take certain things, so check on their website to make sure.

Leftover barbecue food

You may find that you have food left over after your barbecue. If this is the case make sure you put it in the fridge and use it the next day or freeze it for another day. You can find some great recipes on the website, Love Food Hate Waste to help you use up leftover food.

Foil

Most of us use foil when we barbecue but not everyone knows that you can recycle used foil if it's clean and free from grease or food residue. You can dip foil trays in washing up water to remove any crumbs or food residue and scrunch kitchen foil into a ball before placing in your recycling bin. Any dirty or stained foil should be placed in your general waste bin.

How to check if your foil is recyclable.

Do the scrunch test to check whether your shiny wrapper is aluminium foil or plastic film: scrunch the wrapper in your hand - if it remains scrunched in a ball it is recyclable foil.

Charcoal ash

When cooking on your home barbecue, remember there will be ash left over from the charcoal, so what do you do with it? The answer is 'it depends':

If the charcoal has been treated, it'll be marketed as 'easy to light', and this should be put in your general rubbish bin.
Untreated charcoal or wood ash can be used on your garden as a soil fertiliser or go on your compost heap. Alternatively, it can go in your garden waste bin. Always make sure the ash is completely cool before putting it in a bin or on your garden.

Happy Recycling

Carol Henshaw

All Saints' Community Page



15 10 2025

VE Commemoration & Celebration at All Saints' 8th June 2025

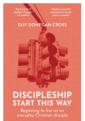
What an afternoon, over 70 people came along to enjoy afternoon tea, a sing-a-long and then take part in a quiz. At 6.30pm the church bells rang out across the Parish and Nation for peace. Thank you to all who came along



Thank you also to those who organised the event, Including refreshments music, quiz bell ringers and photos

What a special occasion for the Parish of All Saints'!

Book Review



Discipleship: Start This Way: Beginning to live as an everyday Christian disciple

By Guy Donegan-Cross, BRF, £9.99

This book emphasises the difference that discipleship can make in our day to day experience. Both a resource for the enquirer and a tool for anyone wanting to support someone in their faith journey, this book provides an accessible and grounded route into the beginnings of discipleship, with a clear explanation of what it looks and feels like to become a disciple and to start to live as one.







Fancy a game of Logo,
Dominoes, Rummikub, Snakes
and Ladders,
Ludo, Scabble or other games.
Tuesday 3rd June
2pm



Then come and join us on Enjoy a challenge or teach others.







All Saints' Church Lawton is open daily

The church is open daily for private prayer 10am to 4pm. Come in and spend a few quiet moments in the tranquil and peaceful setting. There is a prayer station at the front of the church or simply choose a pew.

Morning Prayer at All Saints'

Rev Sister Heather Kemball warmly invites you to join her for Morning Prayer at 9.30am on Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Midweek Communion at the Rectory

Every Wednesday morning at 11am, on the first Wednesday of each month it will be followed by an informal lunch.

First Wednesday of each month at 6.30pm followed by an informal supper.

Prayer Diary

Now available copies of the new monthly Prayer Diary with the names of all those on the electoral roll to enable us to pray regularly for one another.

Prayer for May

Dear Lord,

June is the loveliest month, with long days and the beauty of summer all around us. Thank you that, in the church's year this month, we remember one of the loveliest of your followers — Barnabas, known as the Son of Encouragement.

He encouraged the believers in Antioch to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. Through his ministry of encouragement, a great number of people were brought to know you.

Lord, we all thrive when we are encouraged. And we, your people, so need to be encouraged today in this world which can seem so confusing and discouraging.

So, thank you for those who have encouraged us in the past, and for those who encourage us now. Help us to read your living unchanging Word and to remain true to you with all our hearts. Help us to be a Barnabas to those we know who might be struggling. May we bear fruit in our discipleship.

In Jesus' name. Amen. By Daphne Kitching

Bible Readings for June Services

Date	Epistle	Gospel
1st	Acts 1:1 - 11	Luke 24: 44- 53
8th	Acts 2:1-21	John 14:8-17
15th	Isaiah 11: 1 - 5	John 16:12-15
22nd	Exodus 3: 1 - 15	Luke 9:20
29th	2 Samuel 12: 1 - 10	2 Samuel 12: 1 - 10

Teaser Answers

What do you see once in June, twice in November, and not at all in May?

Answer: The letter "e."

What word is pronounced the same if you take away four of its

five letters?

Answer: Queue.

What can fill a room but takes up

no space?

Answer: Light.

What is so fragile that saying its

name breaks it?

Answer: Silence

What five-letter word has one left when two letters are removed?

Answer: Stone



Please send any material for inclusion in the July edition of Lawton Light! by June 10th

To Jane Baker 25 Dairylands Road, Church Lawton, ST7 3EU Telephone 01270 876363 or

email:

editor@allsaintschurchlawton.

co.uk

Services & Speakers June 2025

8.30am	10.45am	6.00pm				
Sunday after Asce	Sunday after Ascension					
Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Service of the Word				
Heather Kemball	Heather Kemball	Heather Kemball				
Pentecost Sunday	Pentecost Sunday					
	Civic Service	Holy Communion				
	Margaret Cruxton	Margaret Cruxton				
Trinity Sunday	Trinity Sunday					
Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Prayer				
Heather Kemball	Heather Kemball	Heather Kemball				
Trinty 1	Trinty 1					
	Praise & Prayer	Holy Communion				
	Bev Boulton	Bev Boulton				
Trinity 2	Trinity 2					
	Holy Communion with Healing	Service of the Word				
	Margaret Cruxton	Margaret Cruxton				



June Rotas

Date	Time	Service	Readers	Prayers
1st June	8.30am	Holy Communion BCP		
	10.45am	Holy Communion CW	Bev Nixon	Jane Baker
			Helen Mottram	
	6.00pm	Service of the Word	Harold Dowler Ken Newton	Jane Baker
8th June	9.00am	Messy Church		
	10.45am	Civic Service	Linda Jones Ruth Griffiths	Alan Kemball
	6.00pm	Holy Communion CW	Chris Preston	Heather Kemball
			Kieran Hutchinson	
15th June	8.30am	Holy Communion CW		
	10.45am	Holy Communion C W	Helen Mottram	Bev Nixon
			Margaret Mellor	
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer	Kieran Hutchinson	Harold Dowler
			Chris Preston	
22nd June	10.45am	Praise & Prayer	Kirsty Hicks	Yvonne Banks
			Janet Parker	
	6.00pm	Holy Communion BCP	Harold Dowler	Service Prayers
			Christine Hollins	
29th June	10.45	Holy Communion with Healing	Pat Lancaster	
			Ruth Griffiths	Bev Bouton
	6pm	Service of the Word	Kieran Hutchinson	Bev Boulton
			Chris Preston	



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