



Holy
Trinity
WATERHEAD

holytrinitywaterhead.co.uk

December 2024

barnabas-oldham.co.uk

**SAINT
Barnabas
CLARKSFIELD**

Guy Edwardes Photography

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SERVICES AT OUR CHURCHES

Sunday 9:30 am	Worship at St Barnabas
Sunday 11:00 am	Worship at Holy Trinity
Wednesday 10:00 am	Bible study at St Barnabas Led by Robin Wilding
Wednesday 7:00pm	Family Communion at Holy Trinity

PEOPLE AT OUR CHURCHES

Vicar Post vacant

Lay Readers	Peter Haslam	0161 345 0215
	Lucie Reilly	07880 861751

Wardens	Peter Haslam (StB)	0161 345 0215
	Val Crane (HT)	0161 628 4977
	John Wolstencroft (HT)	0161 620 2401

Administrator	Sarah Gura	07708 714813
HT Church Secretary	Zoe Liles	07765 963899
Community Worker	MaryAnne Oduntan	07908 004682
Treasurer & Gift-Aid	Mrs Vicky Heaton	07906 077058
HT Parish Hall Manager	Daniel Reilly	07788 860764
StB Centre Manager	MaryAnne Oduntan	07908 004682

To sign up for the magazine online, or to send contributions, please email Sarah Wilding at sarah.churchmag@gmail.com.

Letter from the Editor

Dear lovely people

Happy New Year! What? Poor old dear, has she lost her marbles and missed a month? Not at all (though I may be a few marbles short of a bag). There are four years which run alongside each other: there is the calendar year, which starts in January; the financial year, starting in April; the school year, starting in September; and the church year which starts with Advent, in the cold and dark of December.

When I was a child it was usual for most people to put up their decorations about two weeks before Christmas. Not in our house. My mother was a stickler for doing things properly, so our decorations went up on Christmas Eve, because before that it was Advent. Then they stayed up for the twelve days of Christmas and that was it. As a child I felt quite hard done by about this, but I get it now. Advent is about waiting; about sitting in the dark and longing for light; about having something to look forward to.

I expect I shall still put up our decorations two weeks before Christmas, though. The twinkly lights help us to get through the dark evenings, while we wait for the return of the sun, the great light. Whatever your practice regarding decorations, let us not allow Advent to be about the stress of all the commercialism. Let's remember that we are anticipating the coming of the Great Light of the world. May it be a season of hope.

Sarah W

Bible Readings for December

Sunday 1 December

Advent 1

First: Jeremiah 33:14-16
Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-end
Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

Sunday 15 December

Advent 3

First: Zephaniah 3:14-end
Epistle: Philippians 4:4-7
Gospel: Luke 3:7-18

Wednesday 25 December

Christmas Day

First: Isaiah 9:2-7
Epistle: Titus 2:11-14
Gospel: Luke 2:1-14

Sunday 8 December

Advent 2

First: Malachi 3:1-4
Epistle: Philippians 1:3-11
Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Sunday 22 December

Advent 4

First: Micah 5:2-5a
Epistle: Hebrews 10:5-10
Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

Sunday 29 December

Christmas 1

First: 1 Samuel 2:18-20,26
Epistle: Colossians 3:12-17
Gospel: Luke 2:41-end

Church Diary

- Sunday 15 December 6:00 pm: **Annual Carol Service** in St Barnabas.
Weds 18 December 7:00 pm: **Annual Carol Service** in Holy Trinity.
Tuesday 24 December 4:00 om: **Christingle Service** in Holy Trinity.
11:30 pm: **Midnight Mass** in Holy Trinity.
Weds 25 December 9:30 am: **Christmas Service** in St Barnabas.
Sunday 5 January 9:30 am: annual **Covenant Service** in St Barnabas
11:00 am: annual **Covenant Service** in Holy Trinity

NEWS

From the church and parish

We said goodbye to Paul and Jo with two services and parties on Sunday 27 October



Pictures by Sarah Immanuel, MaryAnne Oduntan and Matthew Heaton

Paul says, "I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to everyone who came to my two leaving services on Sunday 27 October, and for your exceptionally generous gift. I am deeply moved by your demonstrations of love and affection. Thank you. "

NEWS CONTINUED

Paul was licensed as Team Rector, parish of the Good Shepherd on Thursday 21 November.



New address: 2A Hutton Avenue, Cockbrook, Ashton-under-Lyne, OL6 6QY
vicar.of.ashton@gmail.com 07854 776410

The National Lottery has allocated St Barnabas £18,000 for the church roof, which means work can start about April.

The Barnabas Thrive programme has been awarded the prestigious King's Award for Voluntary Service (KAVS) to recognise its wonderful work. It is regarded as being an MBE for an organisation serving a local community and run by volunteers.

We do not yet know when the award will be acknowledged publicly, but the two ceremonies will involve the Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester and attendance at Buckingham Palace.

**The King's Award
for Voluntary Service**

Thanks to Paul

Reading the comments on Paul's ministry among us in the November magazine, I was struck by three of them in particular: "He's kind", "He's been a good friend" and "He was there for me in a dark time." Running these three together I could, like other people I am sure, apply them to a personal experience of his pastoral care.

I was plunged into a world of stress and near-despair when my wife Ruth was discharged from hospital into a care home. A former Lay Reader at Holy Trinity (and a life-long Christian), she was now gravely ill with a fast-moving and hard-hitting form of vascular dementia. Throughout the ensuing painful time Paul remained steadfastly available. Despite having an unfeasibly large workload (and no doubt personal worries of his own), he would drop round to the house to make sure I was alright, his presence always reassuring. Professionalism yes, but springing from a very caring heart.

On what turned out to be the day before Ruth died I asked Paul if he could accompany me to the care home. He must have dropped everything to come but showed no sign of impatience or hurry. In the grey late-winter light from the window he knelt on the foam crash-mat at the side of the bed to administer the last rights. Before beginning this he remarked, "She doesn't look very well does she?" To which Ruth, apparently fast asleep, shot back, "I heard that!"

Saying the appropriate verses and short prayers, Paul very gently anointed Ruth with oil, making the sign of the cross on her forehead, he and I saying the Lord's Prayer together. I am certain that God's presence and peace remained in the room with Ruth for as long as it was needed. People may wonder what priests do when attending a dying parishioner and here was an example: great kindness and gentleness of spirit fused with hard-won experience.

I would like to join with many others, both within the church and without, in saying, "Thank you Paul, thanks for everything."

Geoff Lees





I am the Mary of your Christmas cards. I listen calmly while the angel brings me news that will shake my life beyond all measure. I accept what has been ordained for me. I am young and dressed in blue.

I am the Mary of your Christmas cards. Despite travelling almost 100 miles on a donkey across a desert and giving birth in a stable, I am still immaculately clean and tidy, cradling my infant son, unperturbed by my surroundings. I am still young and dressed in blue.

I am the Mary of your Christmas cards, welcoming shepherds from the nearby fields and strangers from afar; a person who treats such events as if they happened every day, calmly pondering on them in my heart. I am still young and dressed in blue. But is this really me? Do you have any picture of me beyond that of Christmas cards?

Where is your picture of me in the temple, as Simeon tells me how a sword would pierce my soul? The angel brought greetings and told me not to be afraid, so I am calm on your Christmas cards; but do you never see the terror in my eyes as I hear Simeon's haunting words and I do fear what is to come? Maybe you do have a picture of me 12 years later – but have I aged in your eyes? Am I calm and serene, frantically searching for my son, lost on return from the temple?

He was calm – but not I. I was frantic. Do you have a picture of me 30 years after your first picture of me? Am I still dressed in blue? Are there lines on my face? Is my hair now grey? Do you see me at the wedding feast, recognising deep within that his time was coming and he would soon be no longer mine? Do you see me hurt by his rejection when he declared that all the world was his mother and his brother and his sister. I knew that he had a greater purpose –but do not imagine that there was no pain for me in this. How I aged in those three years. But am I still young in your picture? Was I not grey-haired as I stood at the foot of the cross? Do you know what it takes to watch your son being crucified?

Some parents still do. As they pierced his side, my soul, too, was pierced. Do you have a picture of me – in tears, distraught at the anguish of my son? Or am I still the Mary of your Christmas cards? They laid him in a tomb – it seemed so final – it seemed I had lost him for ever. Where was the angel now to tell me not to be afraid? My fellow countrywomen kept vigil; I was not alone in mourning. But you who know what happened next, do you let me grieve for the end I thought he'd reached?

You know the end – you know the triumph of his resurrection, the Kingdom without end – and knowing this affects your picture of me. I remain always young and dressed in blue, calm and serene, humble and willing – never allowed to show fear, hurt, anger, pain and grief.

For many I remain the Mary of Christmas cards. If I am to be called blessed, please remember all I stand for. As you receive your cards this Christmas, please look at me and remember that this is just the beginning.

*Katie Baker, from Hay and Stardust compiled by Ruth Burgess,
© Wild Goose Publications, 2005*

**Nothing will ever be the same again
This night has changed everything
Nothing will ever be the same again
Since the night he came**

Graham Kendrick, from *Rumours of Angels*

Since the day the angel came
It seemed that everything had changed
The only certain thing
Was the child that moved within
On the road that would not end
Winding down to Bethlehem
So far away from home

Just a blanket on the floor
Of a vacant cattle-stall
But there the child was born
She held Him in her arms
And as she laid Him down to sleep
She wondered will it always be
So bitter and so sweet

Chorus

*And did she see there in the straw
By His head a thorn
And did she smell myrrh
In the air on that starry night
And did she hear angels sing
Not so far away
Till at last the sun
Rose blood red in the morning sky*

Then the words of ancient seers
Tumbled down the centuries
A virgin shall conceive
God with us Prince of Peace
Man of Sorrows strangest name
Oh Joseph there it comes again
So bitter yet so sweet

Chorus

And as she watched Him through the years
Her joy was mingled with her tears
And she'd feel it all again
The glory and the shame
And when the miracles began
She wondered who is this man
And where will this all end

'Til against a darkening sky
The Son she loved was lifted high
And with His dying breath
She heard Him say Father forgive
And to the criminal beside
Today with Me in paradise
So bitter yet so sweet

Chorus

Graham Kendrick, from *Rumours of Angels*

Listen here: <https://youtu.be/7OjXHfVol64>



A Child's View

The Sunday School teacher asked the children to draw Christmas pictures. She goes over to one student and sees he's drawn a picture of four people on an aeroplane.

"What is this?" she asks.

"Mary and Joseph and baby Jesus on a flight to Egypt," he says.

"Well...who is the fourth person?"

"That's Pontius, the pilot."

From Christianity.com

Caspro's Hymn

As in the dark of winter night
Our eyes seek dawn,
As in the bonds of bitter cold
The heart craves sun,
So blinded and so bound, the soul
Cries out to Thee:
Be our light, our fire, our life,
Liberty!

Ursula LeGuin, from *Voices*

The real Mary, mother of Jesus, was an ordinary Hebrew woman of her time. She would no doubt have been dressed in garments with natural colours, so how did she come to be depicted so often as wearing blue?

Blue has been a highly valued colour throughout history as it is very rare. The earliest blue pigment was made from the stone lapis lazuli, once more precious than gold. The Egyptians used it from about 6,000 years ago. It was not until the early 5th century AD and the rise of the cult of the Virgin Mary that blue became associated with her. Through many forms of Christian art and iconography, such as stained glass windows, frescoes and sculptures, this association became standardised, the shade of blue even being known as Marian blue. By this time a less expensive pigment was available, azurite, so icons could be made in large numbers.

MARY IN BLUE

In the Old Testament blue is associated with the presence of God. It was used in the covering and furnishings of the tabernacle and in the priestly garments (Exodus 25-28). Mary was seen as the new Ark of the Covenant, as she carried the presence of God within her.

Blue was also seen as a royal colour. In 431 AD Mary was canonised as "Queen of heaven, Spiritual Mother and Intercessor". This is a somewhat disturbing title as the Queen of Heaven was one of the idols condemned in the Old Testament (Jeremiah 7:18).

Blue is the colour of the sky and is therefore seen as a heavenly colour. In iconography it represents transcendence, mystery and the divine. Mary was often depicted with a blue mantle and a red inner garment, red being the colour associated with the earth. Her red shirt also symbolises passion, love and devotion, traits associated with motherhood. Jesus was also often depicted in icons with a blue outer garment and a red inner one, symbolising his humanity wrapped in divinity.

Purity, faithfulness, truth and closeness to the divine are at the heart of the use of blue to depict Mary. This often took the form of a veil, which itself symbolised modesty, reserve and protection. As a colour it would have had great meaning for the people of the time but now, though the tradition lingers, the meaning would not naturally occur to most people.



Master of the Winking Eye
Madonna and Child

It's All Greek to Me ...

...What's in a name?

The name Jesus comes into English directly from the Greek *Iēsous*. The Greek is itself a translation of the Hebrew *Yeshua*, and *Yeshua* translates directly into English as Joshua. The original translators of the Bible were mostly using Greek or Latin versions, which explains the use of the Greek rather than the Hebrew form. The translation is not consistent, however, as *Iēsous*, (or *Iēsou*, literally 'of Jesus') is rendered as Joshua when referring to a figure other than the Lord, as in Acts 7:45, for example, where Stephen is recounting Jewish history. The name means 'Jehovah saves' or 'the Lord saves'. It was given to Jesus in obedience to the angel's instruction to Mary as part of the indication of who the child was to be (Luke 1:31-33), and also to Joseph (Matthew 1:21).

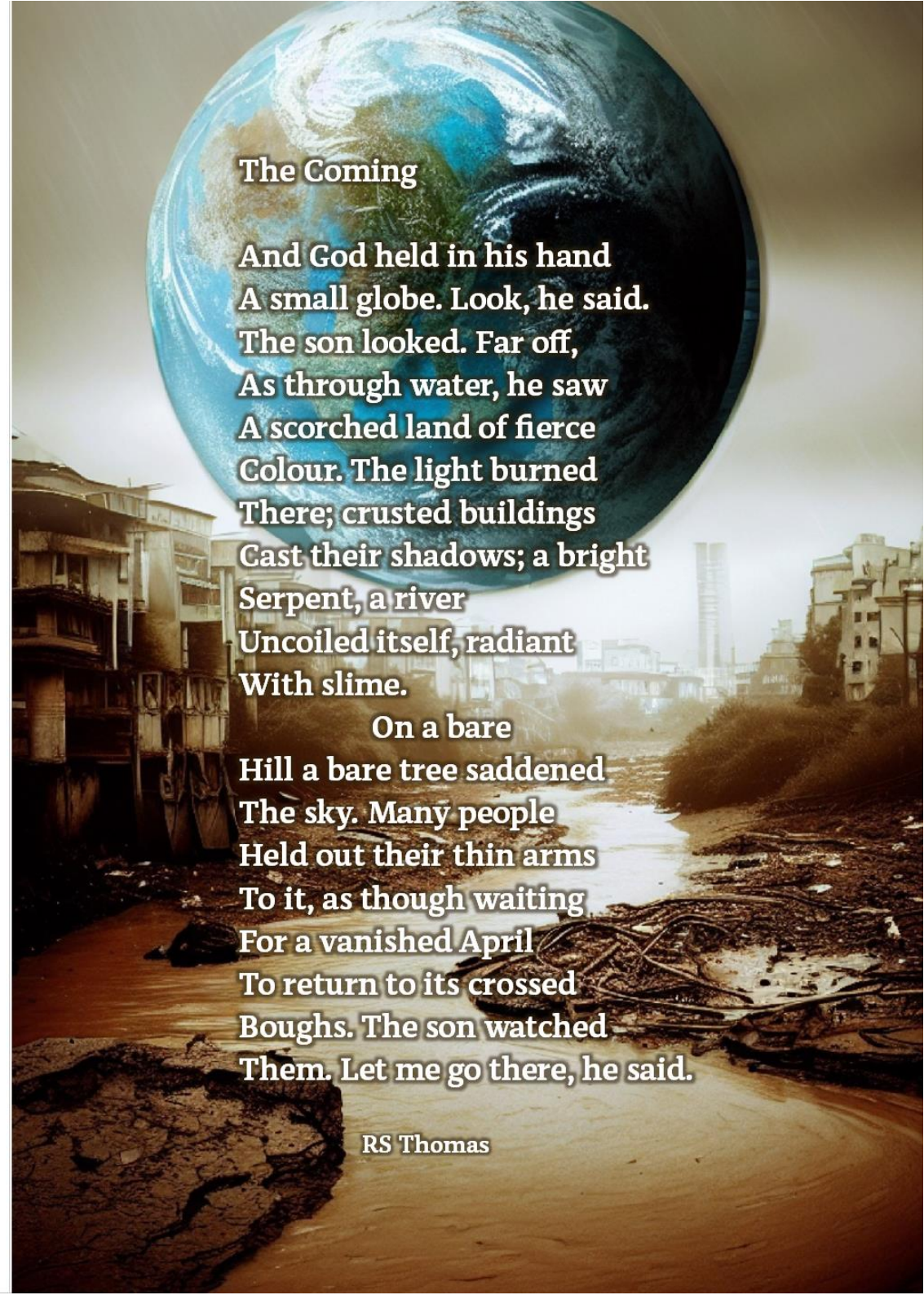
'Jesus' is used exclusively for the name of the son of God in most languages, though in Spanish speaking countries Jesús is not an unusual name. *Yeshua* was a very common name in the first century, as is Joshua today, so it became necessary to identify this Joshua from all the others, hence the addition of the title 'Christ' or 'Messiah' (*Christos* in Greek). This means 'anointed one' or 'anointed ruler'. A more ordinary identifier would have been son of Joseph. The order of words is not usually significant in Greek but it is interesting that the New Testament writers tend to put 'Christ' before or after 'Jesus' depending on their first experience of him. Thus James, Peter, John and Jude, who knew Jesus first as a man, generally call him 'Jesus Christ', whereas Paul, who knew him first as Lord, usually refers to him as Christ Jesus.

In the NIV translation, Middle Eastern versions of the Bible use the Hebrew '*Yeshua Messiah*' rather than the Greek. Fans of *The Matrix* might like to call the Lord 'Joshua the One'. It's a valid translation.

The Coming

And God held in his hand
A small globe. Look, he said.
The son looked. Far off,
As through water, he saw
A scorched land of fierce
Colour. The light burned
There; crusted buildings
Cast their shadows; a bright
Serpent, a river
Uncoiled itself, radiant
With slime.
On a bare
Hill a bare tree saddened
The sky. Many people
Held out their thin arms
To it, as though waiting
For a vanished April
To return to its crossed
Boughs. The son watched
Them. Let me go there, he said.

RS Thomas

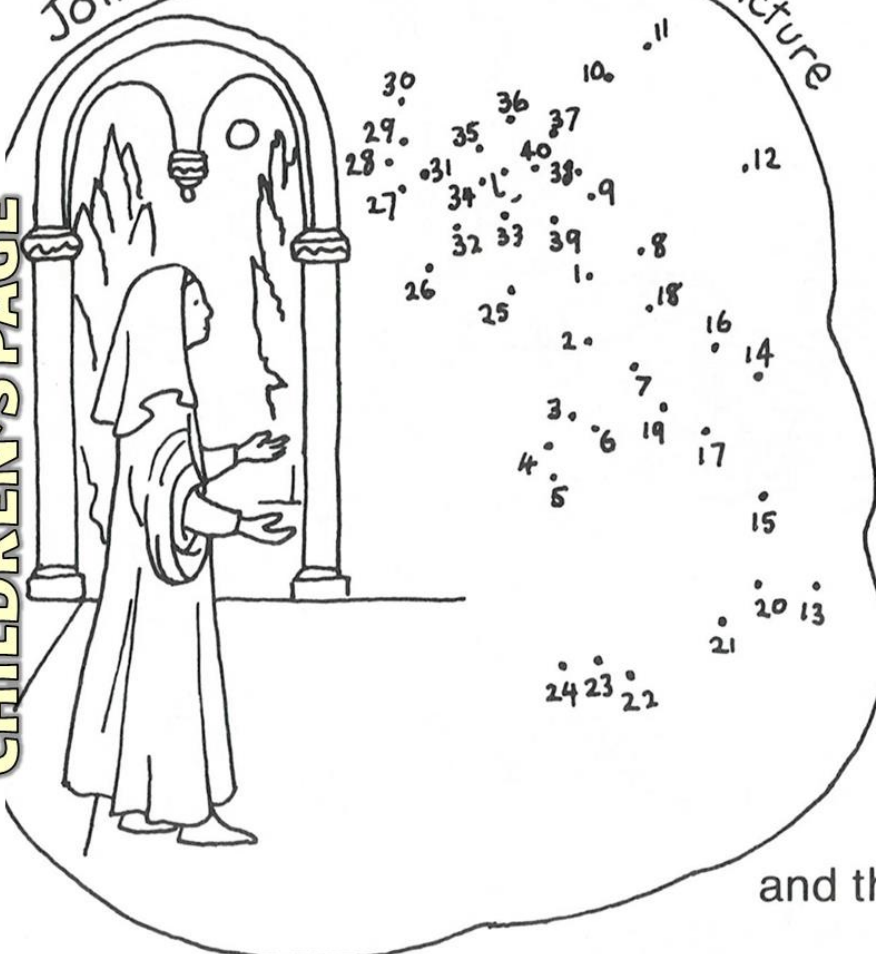


'DO NOT BE AFRAID, MARY, YOU WILL HAVE A SON AND HIS NAME WILL BE JESUS!'

Luke 1:26-38
and Isaiah 11:1-9

CHILDREN'S PAGE

Join the dots, then colour the picture

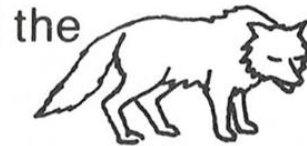


A	G	D	G	D	H	N	S
Y	A	T	E	O	K	A	P
R	B	C	N	N	V	T	L
A	R	H	P	E	S	O	J
M	I	Y	B	F	S	L	L
Q	E	O	B	M	I	D	E
W	L	J	R	A	S	O	T
T	A	S	O	N	B	G	V

MARY was engaged to JOSEPH. The angel GABRIEL was SENT from God to her. He TOLD her she would have a BABY who would be the SON of GOD. He would SAVE people from their sins. Mary said, LET all this be DONE, just as God has said.

Find the words in capitals

Isaiah looked for a time when



will lie



with the



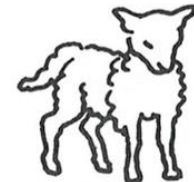
and the



lie



with the





Graham Kendrick is a Christian singer/songwriter. He has written a large number of songs, among which the best known are probably the modern classics *The Servant King* and *Shine, Jesus, Shine*. Graham was born in 1950 in Bilsworth (Northamptonshire), where his father was a Baptist minister, but he grew up in Laindon (Essex) and Putney (South London).

He is best known today for writing congregational worship songs but that is not how his ministry began. Graham started by writing performance songs in the late 1960s, when he was a member of the Christian beat group *Whispers of Truth* and then performed as a solo artist, mainly in coffee bars and folk clubs. He was closely associated with the Christian record company and magazine *Musical Gospel Outreach*, and recorded several albums with them, the first being *Footsteps on the Sea*.

In the 1970's Graham went on to work with a mission team called *In the Name of Jesus*, led by Clive Calver. In the late 1970's he was based at St Michael le Belfry Church, York, but he had an itinerant ministry with *British Youth for Christ* (also begun by Clive Calver), where he went round universities and colleges to support their missions. Graham went on to become a member of *Ichthus Christian Fellowship*, based in London.

In 1987 Graham co-founded *March for Jesus*, which is an annual event where Christians parade through towns and cities praising God. The aim of this is to get Christians out of their churches and witnessing in the streets. In 1989 Graham released the single *Let the Flame Burn Brighter*, which reached 55 in the UK singles chart.

Graham has written two Christmas themed concerts/albums: *The Gift (Make Way for Christmas)* in 1988 and *Rumours of Angels* in 1994. These were performed to sell-out audiences at various venues.

GRAHAM KENDRICK

In 1995 Graham Kendrick received the Dove Award for his international work. The Dove Awards are an annual event run by *Gospel Music International*, whose aim is to expose, promote and celebrate the gospel through music. In 2000 Graham received an honorary doctorate of Divinity from London School of Theology and Brunel University in recognition of his contribution to the worship life of the Church. He also received an honorary degree in 2008 from Wycliffe College in Toronto.

Graham now lives in Tunbridge Wells, and is a member of Christ Church Tunbridge Wells. In May 2020, after the outbreak of Covid, he took part in *The UK Blessina* video collaboration of 65 churches (<https://youtu.be/PUtl13mNi5U>). Graham is a member of *CompassionArt*, a charity founded by Martin Smith of the group *Delirious?*. *CompassionArt* is a project working with people in and around the rural area of Hexham, Northumberland, who are living with long-term chronic illness which prevents them from working, and has a major impact on their daily lives.

Graham is also an active advocate for the charity *Compassion International*, encouraging audiences worldwide to understand worship as a way of life, and to understand true intimacy with God as sharing in the concerns of his heart and participating in his mission to the world. *Compassion International* operates in over 27 nations and facilitates the support of over 1.3 million children.

Stuart Townend, himself a notable hymn-writer and former member of Kendrick's band, has said:

"I have no doubt that in 100 years time the name of Kendrick will be alongside Watts and Wesley in the list of the UK's greatest hymnwriters."



Memorial Book

Holy Trinity

- 1 **Norman Smith** died 1992 aged 77 years. Taken from our lives but always in our thoughts.
- 2 **Margaret Hammond** (née Whitehead) died 1991, aged 45 years. O for the touch of a vanished hand And the sound of a voice that is still.
- 5 **Jack Preece** beloved husband of Amy, died this day 1994, aged 71 years. 'Loved and Remembered Every Day.'
- 6 **Nellie Atkinson** died this day 1989. Reunited with Harold Atkinson who died 10 August 1981.
- 7 **Winifred Kershaw** 'Pal of my childhood days' Born this day 1942. Died 2nd November 1992.
- 9 **Edith Robinson** died this day 1986. 'Loved and remembered always.'
- 13 **William Oliver MD** Edin. died 1926. A loving father and compassionate physician.
- 14 **William Robinson** died this day 1969, aged 50 years. Treasured memories of 'BILL'.
- 18 **Reverend Charles Edward Shaw MBE BA FLS** Vicar of Waterhead from 1957-1994, died this day 1994. He saw God in Technology, Man and Snowdrop.
- 20 **Peter Barnes** (Skip) died 1998. Forever in our hearts. Birthday memories for 24th December. Jenny and Family.
- 21 In affectionate remembrance of **Edgar Hanson** who passed away in 1983.
Jessie Whittaker died this day 1989 aged 74. A sorrow too deep for words.
- 22 **Kenneth Shawcross** died this day 1997, aged 81 years. Loving husband and uncle. Will be remembered always.
- 23 **Thomas Wainwright** died 1974. 'Loved and remembered every day.'
Constance Himsworth Loving wife, mother, grandmother and a dear friend, died 1966 aged 71. 'Memories of you will never die.'
- 29 **James Pearson Robinson** died 1995. Loved and Remembered Always.
- 30 **Ida Fletcher** died 1991. Dearly loved. Happily remembered.
Michael Wynn died 2006. Forever in our thoughts.

- 31 **Jimmy and Annie Mills** Two wonderful parents remembered with love. Great-grandparents of Lisa.
- 33 **Lisa Kershaw** died April 27th 1999 aged 16 years. Treasured birthday memories of a daughter more precious than gold. Loved and remembered always.
- 34 **Harold and Elsie Prendergast** – a special mum and dad. Loved and remembered always and forever. Now with precious granddaughter Lisa in heaven.

Christmas

Christmas Raffle

As usual we are having a Christmas raffle with a substantial hamper as the first prize. There are boxes at the back of the church for donations together with a list of suggested items for the hamper. Please bring your donations in, on or before 8th December. The draw will take place after the Carol Service on Wednesday 18th December.

December Dates

Saturday 7th December we will be decorating the church between 10 and 12 on Saturday morning, if anyone is able and willing to come along to help. Refreshments will be provided.

Wednesday 18th December is the Carol Service at 7pm, followed by refreshments and the raffle prize draw.

Sunday 22nd December there will be a Christmas faith lunch after the service and we will be serving mulled wine as well as the usual tea and coffee. Please join us whether you are able to bring food or not; all will be welcome.

Advance Notice for January 2025

Saturday 4th January we will be taking down the Christmas decorations in church and would be glad of extra pairs of hands if you are willing and able to help, and refreshments will be provided.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals:

Thursday 14 November: Brian Smith, at Oldham Crematorium
Thursday 21 November: Dennis Kershaw, at Oldham Crematorium

Sarah Gura: Baptisms admin.
Notice boards at StB.
Registers and school forms.
Magazines, posters and transcripts printing and distribution.

Pete Haslam: Chairing PCC at StB.
Opening St Barnabas on Sunday.

Vicky Heaton: Compile transcripts for services.
PowerPoints for Sunday services at both churches.

MaryAnne Oduntan: Centre manager at StB
Oversee all aspects of Barnabas Thrive!

Lucie Reilly: Chairing PCC at HT.
Wednesday services, including PowerPoint.
Oversee all rotas.
Oversee stand-in preachers and PTO staff.
School forms

Tom Reilly: Social media uploads.
Upload transcripts.
Update websites including diaries.

ADDITIONAL ROLES

GRAVITY



**The apple, unlike Adam, had no choice but to fall
Speeding to fulfil its creator's call.**

But what force drew him down to us?

He, with a starlit infinity to explore,

He, who could peer into a neutron's core,

He, who had spoken a thousand-million times

And known the sulphuric spit

of our self-vaunting crimes

He, who we called murderer, liar, thief

And left for dead with enlightened relief.

What force drew him down from above

To reap the grim harvest of rebel pride,

Hammered with nails of truth denied?

What force drew him down from above?

What force but this: the gravity of love.

Mark Greene

**Remember the
reason for the
season**



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CAROL SERVICE

With Tame Valley Brass

Sunday 15 December at 6:00pm

All are welcome

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CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

Tuesday 24 December at 4:00pm

All are welcome

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Carol Service

Wednesday 18 December at 7:00 pm

Includes the Tame Valley Brass

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Christmas Day

Celebration and Eucharist
with the Bishop of Manchester

Service starts at 9:30 am

All are welcome

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Midnight Mass

Tuesday 24 December at 11:30pm

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Welcome to Holland

Food for thought, from Canada

When you're [unexpectedly] going to have a baby, it's like you're planning a vacation to Italy. You're all excited. You get a whole bunch of guidebooks, you learn a few phrases in Italian so you can get around, and then it comes time for you to pack your bags and head for the airport - for Italy.

Only when you land the stewardess says "Welcome to Holland". You look at one another in disbelief and shock, saying "Holland? What are you talking about? I signed up for Italy!" But they explain there's been a change of plans and you've landed in Holland, and there you must stay. "But I don't know anything about Holland! I don't want to stay!" you say. But you do stay. You go out and buy new guidebooks, you learn some new phrases and you meet people you never knew existed. The important thing is that you are not in a filthy, plague infested slum full of pestilence and famine. You are simply in a different place than you had planned. It's slower paced than Italy, less flashy than Italy but after you've been there a little while and you have a chance to catch your breath you begin to discover that Holland has windmills; Holland has tulips; Holland has Rembrandts.

But everyone else you know is busy coming and going from Italy. They're all bragging about what a great time they had there and for the rest of your life you will say: "Yes, that's what I had planned".

The pain of that will never, ever go away. You have to accept that pain, because the loss of that dream, the loss of that plan, is a very, very significant loss. But if you spend your life mourning the fact that you didn't get to Italy, you will never be free to enjoy the very special, the very lovely things about Holland!

Carol Turkington, *Family Support Institute*



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