



The Parish Church of St James, Arnside *with* Storth  
*part of The Kent Estuary Mission Community in The Diocese of Carlisle*

# Parish Newsletter

## June 2026



### **Priest-in-Charge**

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**Letter from the Curate**  
*from* **The Vicarage, Arnside**

Anyone else finding it hard to believe it's June already?!

You may or may not know that the month of June is named after the Roman goddess Juno who was associated with women, marriage, family and children. While I'm not one to dwell on ancient Roman religion (of this kind), this factoid did make me think about some modern day 'goddesses' - the Mothers' Union - who are celebrating 150 years this year! The Christian faith, of course, centres, not on mythological figures, but on the love and grace of God, but it's interesting that the themes traditionally linked with June/Juno are also deeply connected with the caring, nurturing and faithful service shown by members of the Mothers' Union today.

The MU is a worldwide organisation whose vision is to see a world where everyone prospers. They actively pursue this through prayer and faith in action - seeking to bring about justice, challenge prejudice, and advocate change. They do all this from a foundation of Christian faith - seeking to support and transform local communities. Their mission is lived out through support for families, outreach to vulnerable communities, parenting programmes, campaigning against domestic abuse, and offering friendship and hope to those who may feel isolated or forgotten.

The title might suggest that it's a group of women (mothers, you'd think) who make up the Mothers' Union. However, from its humble beginnings in 1876 when it was founded in the small parish church of Old Alresford, Hampshire, by a vicar's wife called Mary Sumner, it has grown into a global movement with, now, 4 million members across 84 countries - not all mothers, and not even all women.

On 10<sup>th</sup> June, there will be a special service held in St Paul's Cathedral in London to help mark their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Closer to home, the MU in Cumbria are celebrating by holding a families weekend in July at Rydal Hall. And, even closer to home, the local branch of the MU - based in Milnthorpe - is seeing an opportunity to raise awareness of this wonderful organisation in the local area. If

you would like to know more, then do be in touch with the branch leader, Marion (details at the end of the article). All are welcome at the monthly meetings!

Whether through supporting young families, visiting the lonely, knitting for those in need, fundraising for charitable projects, or simply offering a listening ear... the Mothers' Union here in the Kent Estuary demonstrates faith in action in many quiet and faithful ways. In many ways, the members of the Mothers' Union are the modern-day goddesses - not figures of legend, but real people quietly transforming lives through faith, kindness and service. St James writes about this in the Bible: *'...faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.'* (James 2.17)

All Christians are called to live out their faith in active ways. In a world that can often feel dark and uncertain, the witness of organisations like the Mothers' Union shines as a reminder that loving service, rooted in Christ, still changes lives.

We give thanks for 150 years of faithful ministry and pray for God's continued blessing upon the Mothers' Union in the years ahead.

With love & prayer,

Hannah

**To find out more, go to — [www.mothersunion.org](http://www.mothersunion.org)**  
Contact local MU branch leader, Marion Douthwaite on **07950 807007**  
or **[secretarymu@outlook.com](mailto:secretarymu@outlook.com)**

**REST & RESET**  
Christian meditation  
A moment to press pause II  
St James Church Arnside  
6:15 - 7:00PM  
JAN TUES 6TH, MAR TUES 3RD, MAY TUES 5TH, JUL TUES 7TH  
Contact: revhannahwallace@gmail.com, 01524 449 035

**REST & RESTORE**  
A time of prayer for healing & wholeness  
St James Church Arnside  
6:15 - 7:00PM  
FEB TUES 10TH, APR TUES 14TH, JUN TUES 2ND

*'Yet he gave a command to the skies above and opened the doors of the heavens; he rained down manna for the people to eat, he gave them the grain of heaven.'*  
Food ~ Conversation ~ Fellowship  
**Monthly Manna**  
Psalm 78 v. 23-24  
An opportunity to join together for food, conversation and fellowship; sharing questions and insights around the Christian faith.  
**Friday 5th June**  
**Friday 3rd July**  
12.15 - 1.30 pm  
St James' Church  
Bring some lunch, drinks provided.  
**All are welcome**

# FROM OUR SCHOOLS



**Arnside National CofE School**

*Headteacher: Mr Nick Sharp*

As the summer term approaches, you can't but reflect on how fast the academic year has flown. Our older pupils have had their secondary school choices confirmed and the final few months is the perfect chance to fluff their feathers before flying the primary nest. But before the excitement of transition, there is a term packed with exciting lessons, activities, residential and theatrical performances. A perfect way to end.

*"We didn't realise we were making memories, we just knew we were having fun."  
(Winnie the Pooh)*

With the new academic year on the horizon, our EYFS and infant team will soon welcome parents and pupils for an informative induction presentation. It's a very exciting time for our younger pupils as they embark on their Arnside school journey - a journey filled with fun, smiles, and life-long learning. To be a small part in that experience bears huge responsibility and it is always a privilege for staff to share the moments of awe, wonder and discovery. Good luck to all our new starters.

Immediately after Easter, the pupils celebrated World Earth Day with a series of lessons and activities, all designed to promote the theme OUR POWER, OUR PLANET, with a call for everyone to unite around renewable energy. Our Eco Club continue to promote a range of initiatives throughout school and we are once again looking forward to working with Steve Porter and team helping develop the Beachwood nature reserve. It's crucial our pupils foster a sense of ownership and responsibility towards our local environment – we are extremely lucky to have such a diverse and beautiful area right on our doorstep. Mrs Brough helped us all celebrate May Day with an introduction to the tradition of May pole dancing. All the classes enjoyed a session learning the intricacies of ribbon dancing accompanied by some toe-tapping tunes - it's harder than it looks!

We are fortunate to have a range of links across the community organisations such as the Coastguard, Fire Service and National Trust. Learning about the different roles not only teaches the pupils vital life skills but it is a wonderful opportunity to inspire young minds. A few weeks ago, we were pleased to welcome our new PCSO, Amy Lambert, into school to talk about her role as a police support officer. The pupils were full of questions and they thoroughly enjoyed getting to know our new community friend. Links with the University of Cumbria also ensure future teachers have the opportunity to experience life in school and develop their knowledge and skills in a warm, welcoming environment. We are always inundated with requests for work experience placements from ex-pupils and it's a great way to help young adults who face the dilemma of next steps.

A large number of pupils access music peripatetic lessons in school which include singing, piano and guitar. Our junior pupils have been enjoying whole class ukulele sessions and

our very own (School of Rock) Ric French has set up a school rock band. With a drummer, bass, lead guitar, keyboard and vocals, the group have named themselves 'Knott Breakers' and are currently working on their first few songs ready to perform later in the term – we can't wait! Also not to miss out, our Year 2 infant pupils have also spent the half term creating music using digital sequencing software.

FOANS (Friends of Arnside School) continue to work tirelessly to generate donations for equipment, trips and special experiences. As volunteers, they regularly give their time and energy to organise events and we are extremely proud of their work. After a funky beach themed disco, the team are now busy organising a summer BBQ which promises delicious food, sweet treats, games, tombolas, raffles and plenty of fun. If Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June, 3.30 – 5.30pm is free in your diary, please pop along to help us celebrate. Recently, two star members of FOANS stepped down from their current roles after a hugely successful few years and I would like to take the opportunity to thank Frankie Nixon and Katie Sharp for their drive, commitment, smiles and energy.

Take care, Mr Sharp



### **From the Registers...**

*We pray for Eleni Dent following her baptism at St James' on Sunday 10th May - praying for her parents Philippa and Chris, her brother Bowen, and her godparents.*

*May she know the Lord and the promise of his love and blessing always.*

*God of grace and life, in your love you have given us a place among your people; keep us faithful to our baptism, and prepare us for that glorious day when the whole creation will be made perfect in your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.*

### **Diocesan Petertide Ordinations**

*Please do, over the coming weeks, remember in prayer all those who will be ordained to serve across in our Diocese this Petertide (at the end of June). We remember Louise, Jo, Rachel and Sue to be ordained Deacon, and Sheryl, Allison and Andy who will be ordained Priest. May they know the Lord's help and grace as they look ahead to this next step in their ministry and vocation. We pray too for all those involved, across the Church of England, in fostering and discerning vocations, asking that we may know the Spirit's inspiration as we seek to follow in the way of Christ in our own lives of faith.*

*Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*



Come and join us in celebrating

# ST JAMES' DAY

with a

## Songs of Praise

in the church grounds

followed by tea and cake

(if you would like to, please bring something to share)

**Sunday 26th July**

**at 2.00pm**

at **St James' Church** (Church Hill, Arnside)



invite you to join in celebrating

# SEA SUNDAY

**Sunday 12th July**  
at **2.00pm**  
on **Arnside Pier**

A service of hymns and readings as we mark Sea Sunday and pray for God's blessing on our village and all those who work and serve on the seas and waters.

## Walking the Kent Estuary Pilgrim Way

*A spiritual 'footprint', a touch of history, a breath of fresh air*  
A chance to look and listen, to reflect on the past, the present and on the beauty of our landscape, or just a short afternoon social walk with others.

♀ **Sunday 21st June** ♀  
Levens Methodist Church to St Peter's Heversham

♀ **Sunday 19th July** ♀  
St Peter's Heversham to St. Thomas' Milnthorpe

**Sunday 16th August**  
St. Thomas' Milnthorpe to St Michael and All Angels Beetham

**All are welcome** (dogs included!)  
All walks will start at 2.00pm  
(with return transport able to be arranged)

# ARNSIDE

crafts & activities

food (including a meal)

## Messy Church

fun

stories & music

**Friday 12th June 2026**  
**3.30pm - 5.30pm**  
**Arnside Methodist Church**

# Rotas - readers, intercessors, sidespersons

## READERS

### Sunday 7th June

*The First Sunday after Trinity*

Hosea 5: 15 - 6.6 - Mrs J Bratt  
Romans 4: 23-end - Mrs S E Felton  
Matthew 9.9-13, 18-26

### Sunday 14th June

*The Second Sunday after Trinity*

Exodus 19: 2-8a - Mr M Crabtree  
Romans 5: 1-8 - Mrs Y Service  
Matthew 9.35 – 10.8

### Sunday 21st June

*The Third Sunday after Trinity*

Jeremiah 20: 7-13 - Mrs S Comer  
Romans 6: 1b-11 - Mr A Mitchell  
Matthew 10: 24-39

### Sunday 28th June

*The Fourth Sunday after Trinity*

*Kent Estuary Mission Community  
Gathering at Heron Hall, Storth*

## INTERCESSORS

### 7th June

Mrs S E Felton

### 14th June

Mrs S E Felton

### 21st June

Mrs S Woodburn

### 28th June

*Kent Estuary Mission Community  
Gathering at Heron Hall, Storth*

## SIDESPERSIONS

**7th June** - Mr R Hamer

**14th June** - Mrs S Comer

**21st June** - Miss A Dean

### 28th June

*Kent Estuary Mission Community  
Gathering at Heron Hall, Storth*



**Deadline for July/August  
Parish Newsletter:**



**Wednesday 17th June**

*(publication on Sunday 28th June)*

*please send submissions to  
[sandy.felton@btopenworld.com](mailto:sandy.felton@btopenworld.com)*

### *Weekly Parish E-mail*

If you do not receive Andrew's weekly e-mail with church information, please do let him know and he will add you to the distribution list.

### *'Sundays News' Pew Sheet*

If anyone has any news/ notices (including prompts for prayer and those who are sick) to be included on the weekly pew sheet, please let Andrew know during the week.



# Services during June 2026

## Tuesday 2nd June

6.15pm - 'Rest & Restore' (a service of prayer for healing and wholeness)

## Sunday 7th June (The First Sunday after Trinity)

8.00am - Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am - Parish Communion

## Friday 12th June

3.30-5.30pm - Messy Church at Arnside Methodist Church



## Sunday 14th June (The Second Sunday after Trinity)

8.00am - Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am - Parish Communion

## Sunday 21st June (The Third Sunday after Trinity)

8.00am - Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am - Parish Communion



## Sunday 28th June (The Fourth Sunday after Trinity)

10.30am - Kent Estuary Mission Community Gathering at the Heron Hall in Storth  
**(a united service for all the churches of the Kent Estuary,  
as we come together in prayer and worship)**

**Junior Church** (during the school term) **meets during the Parish Communion at 9.30am**

**Every Wednesday** (during the school term) **there is Morning Prayer at 8.15am**

**Every Wednesday** (during the school term) **we gather with the whole community of Arnside National Church of England School for School Church at 9.10am**

**Evensong** (takes place each Sunday at 6.00pm) **at St Michael and All Angels, Beetham**

*The Parochial Church Council of St James, Arnside is a Registered Charity (Number: 1143293)*