



Outlook

The magazine of
St Mark's Church
Longwood



June 2022

From Fr Simon: God Save the Queen!

One of my favourite moments in an England international rugby match, is before kick-off. The big burly players are lined up and sing the national anthem at full force. Sometimes the microphone picks up the individual players, and what is sometimes missing in tunefulness is more than made up for in volume. They really belt it out!

When the queen was more mobile, she would occasionally be seen next to one of the players, and in comparison, looked absolutely tiny. And yet, this diminutive figure – our Queen – who keeps so much private but is so much in the news, inspires these big muscly players and many others to sing their hearts out. I sometimes wonder why this is so.

Maybe in another world, the same woman could have been born in a single-parent family in social housing. Possibly she could have been born as a different nationality. But, somehow, this woman is our Queen, the head of state of our nation and of all the commonwealth nations. Queen Elizabeth is also head of our church: officially she is “The Supreme Governor of the Church of England” and “Defender of the Faith”.

These are titles that the queen didn’t ask for or request, although one would imagine that Her Majesty’s predecessors gained them with a mixture of motivations, and they have subsequently been handed down. For 70 years, Queen Elizabeth has taken up the mantle and stepped into her various roles and titles. Some people think she should be more outspoken, more modern and more radical. Others think she should be a mere puppet of the state with others pulling her strings.

I think she is an astonishing example of the denial of self. Yes, she has inherited wealth and privileges, but at great cost. Always speaking for something more than herself, never able to let down her guard, representing the state and the people rather than her own views. Jesus said, in order to follow me you must deny yourself and take up your cross. This is quite counter-cultural to modern views, where we are endlessly told to “be who you are” or even “be who you want to be”. In contrast, the Christian way is to be who God calls you to be. On my headstone I’d rather have “I did it God’s

way” than the ever popular “I did it my way”. This is what our Queen has done through her many years of service.

In addition to all this, I’m also inspired by Her Majesty’s quiet and determined faith. Not private, but not showy either. Queen Elizabeth, who has so many titles and earthly recognition, worships at the feet of the King of Kings, the servant and Lord of the world.

So, for these reasons (and many more besides), as we celebrate her platinum jubilee, I will be singing in full voice, “God save the Queen”.

God Bless

Family Games Evening

On Friday 3rd June we have our monthly **family games evening** in the Parish Centre. What better way to enjoy the long Bank Holiday weekend!

We start at 6pm with a drink and snacks.
There will be a selection of games to play (and some experts to remind us of the rules).

We finish around 7.30pm.



NOTICES

Our Platinum Jubilee Celebrations take place on 4th and 5th June (details later). Do come and support these events and the many other celebrations that are planned around our communities.

The 5th June is also the wonderful feast of Pentecost; the coming of the Holy Spirit when barriers were broken down between people as the Church was formed and given the language of God himself to draw the whole world together.

Both churches have now had their annual meetings. Please pray for the wardens, members of the PCCs, Fr Simon and our retired clergy as we seek to serve God and his people.

Following her training at Theological College, Sam Crook will be ordained deacon on 2nd July at Wakefield Cathedral, she will then serve as Curate at Halifax Minster. Please pray for her at this special time.

Sam Ryder, Eurovision runner-up:

I felt so much love. Sitting in that arena is like being in a church. It is just incredible, I can't explain it. I can't even begin to do it justice, the feeling you have when you're there.

DIARY

Friday 3rd June. Family Games Evening. 6pm Longwood Parish Centre HD3 4UL

Saturday 4th June

- 12noon onwards, Jubilee BBQ at the vicarage. Bring your own food to cook. Why not invite friends to join us as well.

Sunday 5th June, Pentecost - Whitsun

- 9.30am Holy Communion with music, and groups for children. St John's Golcar
- 10.30am Sung Eucharist, joint service with Parkwood Methodist church. St Mark's Longwood. Outside if fair.
- 12noon – 4pm Jubilee celebrations with craft stalls, brass band, flash mob, bouncy castle, BBQ and much more. St Mark's Longwood.

Sunday 12th June

- 8am Holy Communion in traditional language. St John's Golcar
- 9.30am Sung Communion. St John's Golcar
- 11am Family Eucharist. St Mark's Longwood
- Fr Simon and Sam are away this weekend with their charity. Please pray for them, the volunteers and asylum seekers as together they search for healing and growth.

Sunday 19th June

- 9.30am Holy Communion with music, and groups for children.
- 11am Sung Eucharist. St Mark's Longwood

Sunday 26th June

- 8am Holy Communion in traditional language. St John's Golcar
- 9.30am All Age Service. St John's Golcar. An interactive service for people of all ages.
- 11am Sung Eucharist. St Mark's Longwood

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday 17th September Heritage Open Day, stalls, activities and tower abseil
In St Mark's Churchyard (indoors for bad weather). Contact Fr Simon for abseil
details.

Please send magazine contributions to the vicar, or contact
him if you would like to sponsor or advertise in this
magazine: revscrook@gmail.com

Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022

V	X	H	H	E	L	I	Z	A	B	E	T	H	A	Y	I
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BALMORAL
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CELEBRATION
COMMONWEALTH
CORGI
CORONATION
ELIZABETH
ENGLAND
HORSES
JUBILEE
LONDON

NORTHERN IRELAND
PALACE
PLATINUM
QUEEN
ROYAL
SANDRINGHAM
SCOTLAND
SECOND
SEVENTY
THRONE
WINDSOR

This month's joke:

Q. How do we know the
Apostles drove a Honda?

A. When the day of
Pentecost came, they were
all together in one accord.



**For Weddings,
Baptisms, Funerals or
any other enquiry**

contact us:

01484 654647

stmarkslongwood.org.uk

revscrook@gmail.com

Sunday services are at 11am

JUBILEE PARTY



**Join us to celebrate the
Queen's 70th Jubilee**
Sunday 5th June 2022
12pm til 4pm

at St Mark's Church Longwood
Fancy Dress Parade-Golcar Brass Band-Bouncy Castle
Barbecue- Stalls-Raffle

**Proceedings begin with
an outside service 10.30am**