

### A message from Si, our vicar:

Dear Church Members,

As we face into the new school year we might have anxieties. Psalm 91 says that when we make the Lord our shelter he will defend us from harm. Verse 2: 'I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge...' That is we should declare his care for us in prayer and testify to others. Let the world know that he is your best insurance policy. This is not easy, when we see people trust in their riches, strength and cunning. Yes, believers will pass through trials of many kinds, but God will keep you from harm so that you come through with PRAISE!

Many thanks to those who gave gifts for new hall chairs. With gift aid it is estimated to stand at £3,900. We also wish to thank those who have gifted towards Andrew and Bethany (Argentina). The amount given was £1600 which will be a blessing for this lovely family.

### This Week's Bible Reading:

Ruth 4:18-22 Genealogy: extended blessing and Psalm 36:7-12 from the daily Psalms

### The Collect:

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray  
and to give more than either we desire, or deserve:  
Pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,  
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid,  
and giving us those good things  
which we are not worthy to ask  
save through the merits and mediation  
of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

### What's On This Week:

**Sunday 7th 9.00am: Holy Communion Service** (& refreshments in the lounge afterwards)

**Sunday 7th 11.00am: Morning Service** (& refreshments in the hall afterwards) Children are welcome to stay in the service and there is also a relay in the lounge for parents to take their child to if desired.

**Sunday 7th 7.30pm Prayer Meeting** in church lounge. Everyone is welcome to join us for this; there is no pressure to pray out loud.

Monday 8th 10am - Ladies Bible Study

Midweek Home Bible Study Groups - See Karl Turner for details

Wednesday 10th 10.30am: Mums bible study

### Catch Up:

If you miss the Sunday sermon, you can watch a video of it on the St Johns YouTube Channel. It's usually uploaded on a Monday.

### Dates for your Diary:

8th September: A day of Prayer - schedule available at back of church

20th September Casting Your Nets training information available at back of church

5th October: Confirmation Service (Please see Si if you would like to be confirmed or would like more details)

11th October: Keekle Mission celebrating 150 years. Tea and cake in the hall 2-4pm with a display of photographs.

15th November: Women's Day, St John's Church Hall

## News:

### Youth Groups

Midweek youth is back!

Explorers will commence on Tues 9th September and run to Tues 9th December with a break for half term on 28th Oct

Pathfinders will commence on Tuesday 16th September and run to Tuesday 9th December with a break for half term on 28th Oct.

CYFA will commence on Monday 8th September and run to Monday 8th December with a break for half term on 27th Oct.

## Giving Opportunities:

### - Bishops Harvest Appeal 2025

Dear friends,

Thank you for your generous support for last year's Bishop's Harvest Appeal. Churches across Cumbria showed practical love for neighbours near and far, and I am deeply grateful.

This year, the second of our three year commitment, we continue supporting Christian Aid's work in Burkina Faso, helping families build simple and sustainable livelihoods in a tough climate; and partnering with Church Mission Society in Northern Argentina as indigenous Christians are equipped for ministry through the CeFA training centre.

As before, 10% of gifts to the Appeal will be shared with two local partners here in Cumbria - Cumbria Development Education Centre (CDEC) and Carlisle One World Centre (COWC) - helping us grow understanding and action for global justice at home.

Please would you pray, give, and share the Appeal in your church this harvest season so that, by God's grace, these communities can flourish with hope and dignity.

With every blessing

The Rt Rev Rob Saner-Haigh, Bishop of Carlisle

### - Visit to the Walkers in Argentina

Thank you to those who have donated gifts to Jema and Donny for them to take out to the Walkers in Argentina. There is one last opportunity to give for their upcoming visit - if you would like to bring chocolate, sweets or tea bags on Sunday, Jema can collect them from you. The financial giving account is still open and you can donate a gift with the reference 'Walkers Argentina'

### - Harvest collection for food bank

On the 28th September, we will be having our All age Harvest Service and there will be a collection of items for food bank. At the 9am service, items can be placed in the food bank box. At the 11am all age service, we will encourage people to bring items forward to the front to be placed in the box.

I will attach information over the coming weeks regarding what items are being particularly requested by the foodbank.

## Please pray for:

David Maudling, Christopher Vaughan, Sam Ford-Powell, Sophie Murfitt, Phil Holland, Emily Lane

## Praise God for:

The safe arrival of Cornelius James Taylor who was born on 3rd September. Mike and Carmen say, 'May he be called by God's name to seek the Lord and live.'

Many congratulations to the family!