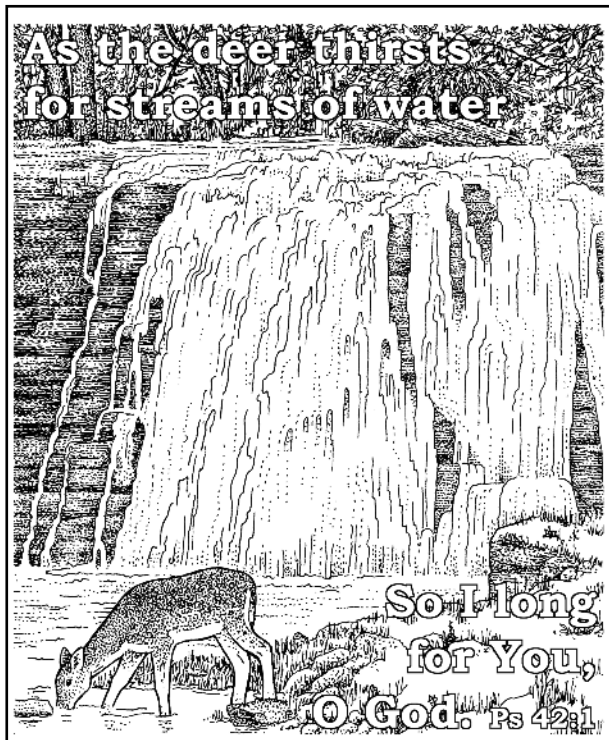


# PEWTALK

£1

July 2025



EAST & WEST TILBURY AND LINFORD PARISH MAGAZINE

Parish web site: [www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk](http://www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk)

# BITs And PiECes

## 100 Club - 100 Club

Revd. Michèle drew the winning ticket on June 1st and the winner was June Schroeder. The £50 Summer draw will be July 6th. I have already received some money for the 2025-2026 100 Club year which starts from July 7th. Tickets can be renewed and new tickets are available. If you would like to join please contact me or any member of our congregation or your Pewtalk distributor etc. Please support the 100 Club if you can and perhaps ask / encourage friends and family beyond the congregation who may be interested in joining and helping the Church in this different way.

*Norman*

## And from June Schoerder....

"Hi Everyone, Thank you to you all for your generous support of the Children's Society by filling your boxes with loose change (and notes). It is very much appreciated. This year we collected £170.09. This has gone off to the Society. Thank you again."

**This year the Bradwell** pilgrimage is on Saturday July 5<sup>th</sup> from 10.30am to 3.15pm. The pilgrimage commissioning is at St. Thomas church after which pilgrims walk through the village and the fields to St. Peter's-on-the-Wall. Further details are on the website:-

<https://bradwellpilgrimage.co.uk/>

**Another event** to look forward to is the Orsett Show which has its 117<sup>th</sup> edition on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September. The Thurrock Deanery have a tented area at the show with

refreshments, children's activities and an area set aside for prayer. During the show there are several brief services. If you plan to visit the show do pop-in and visit our Christian volunteers. You will be most welcome.

**Recently, at the end** of their session working in the churchyard, several of the Community Payback team spent half an hour in St. Catherine's learning something about the ancient building and noting the many changes that have clearly been made to it over the years. You can do the same by visiting at one of our remaining open afternoons in July or August. There is an awful lot to take note of if you keep your eyes open as you walk around.

**The Thurrock foodbank** continues to support those less fortunate families and individuals that find that they are desperately in need of food. Peter Newall the manager has recently pointed out that the demand is still very strong but donations of food are not matching the demand and the foodbank are having to buy in supplies, thereby depleting their funds. If you are able to donate food this can be left at St. Francis on Wednesdays between 10.30am and noon or Thursdays between 11am and 1pm. Equally food can be left at St. Catherine's on Sundays after the 10am service.

**And a reminder** that our Wednesday 'drop-in' is open from 10.30am. If you or someone you know is 'home alone' or in need of company just let them know. You are also most welcome to join with us at the short 10 o'clock service before the 'drop-in'.

## A prayer for all those affected by sickness and ill-health

*Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.*

## Reflections from The Rectory



I wonder when it was that you last wrote a letter to somebody. It seems to be an activity that very few people do nowadays. Our communication to and with one another happens in so many different ways now that we are much more likely to text, Whatsapp, post a message on Facebook or send an email. Times change of course, and we must not stand in the way of progress, but, I still think there is something rather special about receiving a letter or a card that somebody has taken the time to sit and write to you.

When I go away on holiday I always take the opportunity to send a letter or a postcard to each of my grandchildren. I tell them about all the things I have been doing, the places I have visited and normally how many streams, lakes or muddy puddles Percy our Labrador has managed to find. My grandchildren love receiving the cards and letters and we often read them together once I am back home.

Very often as part of the churches lectionary readings we hear part of a 'letter' written by the apostle Paul. Paul had travelled widely on his missionary journeys and on route would help to set up church communities. Paul was very keen to keep in touch with these worshipping communities and so he wrote letters to them. In the New Testament there are 13 letters written by him. Nine letters are to church communities and 4 to a specific person that Paul knew.

Sometimes Paul is addressing a specific problem that has been brought to his attention and sometimes he writes much more generally. But whoever the recipient of the letters were they would always hear from Paul words of encouragement, instructions on how to stand firm in their faith, guidance on how to live out the Christian life of discipleship and how to love and care for one another. Paul knows that actions speak louder than words so if the Christian faith is to grow then these Church communities must really be living their best lives as shown in Jesus example and in so doing draw others towards God.

As I sit and write this reflection for Pewtalk one of the readings set for Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June is a passage from Paul's letter to the Galatians. It says,

*"As for you, my friends, you were called to be free. But do not let this freedom become an excuse for letting your physical desires control you. Instead, let love make you serve one another. For the whole Law is summed up in one commandment: "Love your neighbour as you love yourself. The Holy Spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, and self-control. There is no law against such things as these. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have put to death their human nature with all its passions and desires. The Spirit has given us life; he must also control our lives."*

What a different place our world would be if we followed these simple instructions from Paul. Instead of war and conflict there could be peace. Instead of people thinking only of

what one might gain there would be concern for others. And where there is only hate there might be love and kindness.

As individuals of course we cannot change what is going on in the world. But perhaps through our prayers we might write a letter to those places in the world, imploring that world leaders and those in authority take a moment to follow Paul's advice and embrace the 'fruits of the spirit'. You may like to use the following prayer thinking of all the places we hear about where there is war and conflict.

God of mercy, look with compassion  
on all who are affected by the present conflict.  
Grant insight to hardened hearts,  
comfort to the fearful,  
protection to those in danger,  
and hope to those who are despairing,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Stay safe and keep well, Every Blessing,

*Revd. Michèle*

### **Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Joint service with the Linford Methodists**

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June was the occasion for our 3<sup>rd</sup> joint service at which the St. Catherine's and Linford Methodist congregations came together in worship. Although billed as being on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month (where one occurs) in June it was on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday as on the 5<sup>th</sup> in June St. Catherine's had their extended open afternoon which would have curtailed the meeting.

This time the service took place at St. Catherine's and was led by Revd. Michèle with lay members of both churches giving the Bible readings and leading the intercessions.



After the service refreshments were served with an opportunity for conversations, that had been started as part of Michèle's sermon, to continue. The picture shows several members of the congregation doing just that.

## St. Catherine's through the years

In last month's Pewtalk, prompted by some photographs that John Blackbond had come across, we looked at the internal changes to St. Catherine's that had taken place over the years. It is not only the inside that has changed but also the exterior and even the name! If you do an Internet search for 'St. Katherine, East Tilbury' you will find our church listed under this name on the 'britishlistedbuildings.co.uk' web site where it notes that it is also known as St. Catherine. So let's look at some pictures.



Here we have the church as it looks now, after the addition of the extension on the East end of the church containing the kitchen and toilets.

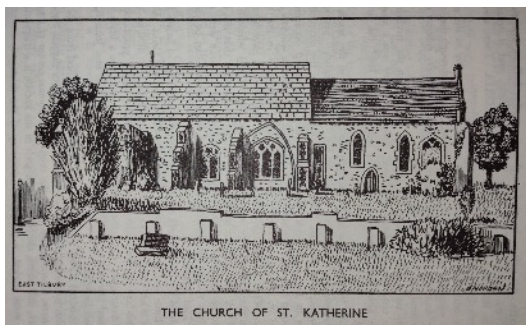
This picture shows the church as I remember it when Kim and I moved to the parish in 1999 although this must have been taken some time later because the shrub / tree that obscured the bricked up entrance which was there then, has been removed.



This view takes us further back to the time when there was a wooden belcote on the west wall. Although it was never there when I joined the congregation it is well remembered by older members including Pam Painter whose husband, I believe, was involved in dismantling it when it fell into disrepair.



This picture is considerably older and although clearly of St. Catherine's . Shows a tower and steeple at the west end of the church. This would suggest that there never was a tower where the current 'tower' is on the south west corner of the church. Note also the chimney or vent of some kind in the roof at the north west corner.



I have included this final drawing, which is clearly of a later date than the previous one, for three main reasons. First it is captioned as "The Church of St. Katherine"; second it shows the existing tower which was built in 1917 (according to the inscription at its base) and third, because it is a view from the south including the clearly visible retaining wall. A simple search of the internet for 'St Catherine East Tilbury' can result in a number of similar drawings from this viewpoint including two on the 'Tilbury and Chadwell Memories' website.

Although I am by no means an historian these two articles have piqued my interest and I would love to know more. For example, what was that chimney for? What was the gas supply in the current tower, but unused when I joined the congregation, provided for? And what about the changing names, I have seen both versions of St. Catherine and St. Margaret used in different places? All contributions to future Pewtalk editions gladly received.

*Chris Ford*

**P.S. If you view the magazine from the website you can zoom the images.**



# **St. Catherine's Open Day**

**Sunday 27th July  
12noon – 4.00pm**

**Enjoy a visit to this ancient church and churchyard and support the parish in its work and mission.**

**Ploughman's lunches served from noon to 2pm and tea and cake from then on.**



**Books, records, bric-a-brac, plants etc. on sale.**

**Website: [www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk](http://www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk)**

### **The June meeting of the Parochial Church Council**

The P.C.C. met on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June at St. Francis. As this was the first meeting of the newly elected members the first item of business was to review the annual meetings and confirm the various actions required as a result. Following this the meeting went on to elect the officers for the coming year. The results were:-

Vice-chair - Les Schwar, Secretary - June Schroeder, Treasurer - Norman King, Electoral Roll Officer - Valerie Schwar, Parish Safeguarding lead - Kim Ford, Examiner of our Accounts - Peter Chandler (agreed at the annual meeting).

It was agreed that the Standing Committee would consist of Revd. Michèle, Les Schwar, Norman King and Julie Guest. The committee also agreed who the sidespersons should be for the coming year and they also confirmed the Parish's commitment to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy 'Promoting a Safer Church'.

The meeting then moved on to the regular business. The churchwardens' report highlighted the following points. The electrical inspections of both churches had been carried out. The broadband connection at St. Francis had been changed to '3' mobile and the Talktalk contract cancelled. The large wooden cross over the entrance to St. Francis had rotted and broken. The remains had been safely removed by Colin Guest.

Although not at the meeting, Norman had supplied a report of the church's finances to date which showed that they were in a satisfactory state. The meeting then received the Electoral Roll and Safeguarding reports both of which showed no concerns.

Revd. Michèle then presented her Church Life Review in which she reported on the events since the last P.C.C. meeting and looked forward to the significant dates for the next few months. In the discussion that followed it was agreed that rather than a single summer event, the June, July and August open afternoons would 'GO LARGE' from noon to 4pm with a few stalls and serving a ploughman's lunch between noon and 2pm.

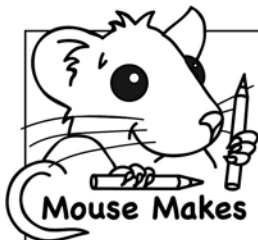
There being no A.O.B. the dates for the next meetings were set as 21<sup>st</sup> July, 15<sup>th</sup> September and 10<sup>th</sup> November.

### **and at the June Deanery Synod.....**

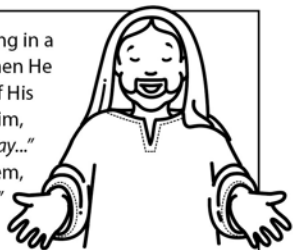
The June synod was held at St. Mary's Corringham on the 16<sup>th</sup> and the speaker on the topic of Radical Hospitality was Mary Thorne.

Her talk used the example of Jesus' interaction with the Samaritan women at the well where he crossed the traditional and historic boundary between Jew and Samaritan. In doing so Jesus demonstrated unconditional love and that his ministry was for all.

Mary's questions for the synod members was whether our churches show the same unconditional love to all comers and do we provide a well of 'living' water.



"Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, *"Lord, teach us to pray..."* And He said to them, *"When you pray, say...."*



Fill in the missing words of the Lord's Prayer then find them and these extra words in the word search:

**LORD'S PRAYER**  
DISCIPLES  
JESUS  
GOD  
WORLD  
NEEDS  
FORGIVENESS  
TRESPASSES  
PROTECTION  
REPENTANCE

Our \_\_\_\_\_  
in \_\_\_\_\_,  
hallowed be your  
\_\_\_\_\_, your  
\_\_\_\_\_ come,  
your \_\_\_\_\_ be done,  
on \_\_\_\_\_ as it is in  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Give us today our daily  
\_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_ us our  
S \_\_\_\_\_ as we forgive  
those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into

\_\_\_\_\_ but \_\_\_\_\_  
us from \_\_\_\_\_.

For the kingdom,  
the \_\_\_\_\_ and  
the \_\_\_\_\_ are  
yours now and forever.  
Amen



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

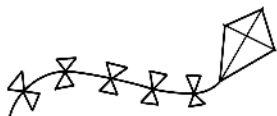


The versions of **The Lord's Prayer**  
we say today come from the  
Gospels of Matthew and Luke.  
*Which version do you  
use in your church?*



**Read**  
Matthew 6:9-15  
and  
Luke 11:1-4





## PARISH DIARY FOR JULY

*All services and events may be changed in the light of any new developments.*

*Please see our weekly newsletter for the latest Information. It can be found on our*

*Website: [www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk](http://www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk)*

2 Jul	Mid-week Holy Communion at St. Francis <i>Then the community support 'drop-in'</i>	10.00am 10.30am-noon
3 Jul	Foodbank at St. Francis Funeral service and burial at St. Catherine's	11.00am-1pm 10.45am
5 Jul	Church cleaning at St. Catherine's Committal of ashes at St. Catherine's	10.00am-12noon 11.30am
<b>6 Jul</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> Holy Communion at St. Catherine's	 10.00am
9 Jul	Morning Prayer at St. Francis <i>Then the community support 'drop-in'</i>	10.00am 10.30am-noon
10 Jul	Foodbank at St. Francis	11.00am-1pm
<b>13 Jul</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> Holy Communion at St. Catherine's	 10.00am
14 Jul	Bible study and Fellowship Group at St. Francis	10.30am-noon
16 Jul	Morning Prayer at St. Francis <i>Then the community support 'drop-in'</i> Committal of ashes at St. Catherine's	10.00am 10.30am-noon 3.00pm
17 Jul	Foodbank at St. Francis	11.00am-1pm
<b>20 Jul</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> 'Worshipping Together' at St. Catherine's Café Communion at St. Francis	 10.00am 4.30pm
21 Jul	P.C.C. Meeting at St. Francis	2.00pm
23 Jul	Mid-week Morning Prayer at St. Francis <i>Then the community support 'drop-in'</i>	10.00am 10.30am-noon
24 Jul	Foodbank at St. Francis	11.00am-1pm
26 Jul	Committal of ashes at St. Catherine's	1.00pm
<b>27 Jul</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> Holy Communion at St. Catherine's Open afternoon with refreshments at St. Catherine's Churchyard volunteers welcome	 10.00am 12.00noon-4pm
28 Jul	Bible study and Fellowship Group at St. Francis	10.30am-noon
30 Jul	Morning Prayer at St. Francis <i>Then the community support 'drop-in'</i>	10.00am 10.30am-noon
31 Jul	Foodbank at St. Francis	11.00am-1pm

### 'Life Events' during June

#### **Baptism**

None

#### **Weddings**

None

#### **Funeral**

19 June Kathleen Florence Gray

#### **Committal of Ashes**

14 June Joan Sylvia Hunt

### **Did you see the Strawberry Moon?**

Having had the disappointment of travelling to the Arctic Circle to see The Northern Lights and failing to see the lights, which were later visible at home, I was determined to see The Strawberry Moon in June.

The Strawberry Moon is the name given to the full moon in June. It is named after the harvest season observed by the indigenous Americans, signalling the time that wild strawberries were harvested.

Full moons were given nicknames to help keep track of time and monitor the changing seasons.

June's full moon is usually the lowest hanging of the year in the Northern Hemisphere and this year it was exaggerated as a result of a "major lunar standstill" earlier in the year - the effects of which can still be seen.

This is when the moon reaches the extremes of its orbit around the Earth, rising and setting at its most northerly and southerly positions on the horizon. It happens every 18.6 years.

It was visible early in the morning as a very large moon which appeared reddish like a very colourful sunset. A beautiful and impressive site. I woke Sheila up to look at the Moon but I didn't receive the thanks I expected even when I explained that the next chance to see Strawberry Moon is in 2043 !



If you would like to support the work of the parish and the churches of St. Catherine and St. Francis, this QR code will take you to our 'Give A Little' donation page.

## The Priest in charge

REVD. MICHÈLE MARSHALL

The Rectory

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Stanford-le-Hope

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email: [mjmarshall@fastmail.co.uk](mailto:mjmarshall@fastmail.co.uk)

## The Usual Service Pattern

- ♦ 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday's, 10am at St. Catherine's, Holy Communion
- ♦ 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday's, 10am at St. Catherine's, Family Service and at 4.30pm at St. Francis, a service of Café style Holy Communion.
- ♦ 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays a joint service with the Linford Methodist congregation

Wednesdays 10.00 a.m. at St. Francis 1<sup>st</sup> of the month Holy Communion,

other Wednesdays, Morning Prayer

For Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals please contact Revd. Michèle Marshall

## Our Churchwardens

CHRIS FORD T: 01375-675863

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LES SCHWAR T: 07758-461380

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## PEWTALK Editor

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## St. Francis Centre

The centre is available for hire at very reasonable rates. To discuss availability please contact Sheila King at:-

[sheila.kingbookings@outlook.com](mailto:sheila.kingbookings@outlook.com)

## *Copy Dates for Pewtalk*

*22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025*

*22<sup>nd</sup> August 2025*

*19<sup>th</sup> September 2025*