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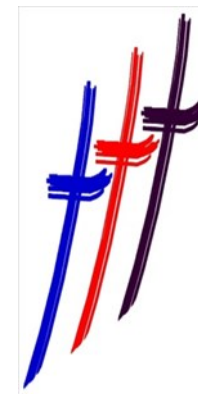
**48 CINDERHILL LANE, SCHOLAR GREEN
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The Royal Cheshire County Show
Tuesday 16th and Wednesday
17th June

2026
Clay House Farm,
Tabley, Knutsford ,
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Have yourself a great day out!
Good luck to the young Farmers



ODD RODE PARISH MAGAZINE

ALL SAINTS'



THE GOOD SHEPHERD



ST LUKE'S

June, July, August 2026

Who's who at Odd Rode

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AT ALL SAINTS

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CHURCHWARDENS

AT ST LUKE'S

Vacant

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www.oddrodeparish.org



FACEBOOK: Odd Rode Parish

Churches



ODLUM'S GARAGE is a used car sales establishment, also providing service, repairs, MOT, bodywork and diagnostic assessments

The used cars are sources locally and submitted to a detailed check called the Experian Auto Check System., relating to vehicle finance, ownership, etc. More detailed information on these cars can be obtained by accessing our web site (www.kevinodlum.co.uk)

The family business has been serving customers for 47 years and is rated 4* for quality of service.

The garage is located on the A50 Knutsford Road and is 6 min drive from the centre of Alsager, heading towards Knutsford.

Full details are: ODLUM'S GARAGE, KNUTSFORD ROAD, RODE HEATH, ST7 3QT Tel: 01270 876226

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£15.00

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Good Shepherd Sausage & Mash Supper



**Friday 4th September Doors open at 6:30pm for 7:00pm
serving £15.00 per person**

To book your place call Margaret 07549036146

From The Rectory

St Bartholomew the Apostle (August 24th)

Why do we commemorate saints, many of whom are little known to us? The world, especially Hollywood, likes heroes; Christians have saints. Unlike heroes, whose reputation requires them to be pretty infallible, saints are people like us, not always perfect but kindred spirits and thus worth getting to know because their stories tell us something about the wonder of what humans can and do get up to with God. Saints that bear witness to the power and love of God, challenging us not to forget that, despite our failures, our own vocation is not impossible to fulfil. In getting to know the saints, we are getting to know our companions in the faith with whom we share worship even now. So what do we know about Bartholomew?

The first three gospels name him as one of Jesus's twelve disciples and apostles, always alongside Philip. Whenever we hear what the disciples did or what they heard Jesus say, Bartholomew did it and heard it. That in itself indicates radical commitment – he allowed his life to be turned upside down as he followed this man, Jesus, who called him.

However, John's gospel doesn't mention Bartholomew but in his place is Nathaniel, similarly linked with Philip. That has led scholars to assume they are one and the same person. Nathaniel was initially sceptical about Jesus, asking Philip cynically, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Nevertheless, he went with Philip and Jesus confounded him by saying "I saw you under the fig tree" and "Here is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit" (John 1:43-51). Now of whom can you or I say that we have ever met someone in whom there is no guile? We are all fallible and have mixed motives at times, despite our best intentions. So, if Nathaniel and Bartholomew are one and the same person, that immediately gives one reason why it is important to remember Bartholomew. He is one of the most transparent, honest human beings we could wish to meet. For Jesus, who was a brilliant judge of character, to describe someone as without deceit is quite remarkable. But even this paragon of virtue was not perfect: like the other disciples he argued, he got the wrong end of the stick, and ultimately he fled and deserted, leaving Jesus to a lonely, cruel death. So we should not think of him as unlike us and regard his example beyond our reach.

We heard Jesus call his twelve disciples to become his apostles. Matthew is quite specific about the terminology. A disciple is one who follows, a pupil, apprentice or adherent, one who is being taught; the English word has its roots in the Latin and Old French 'to learn'. When Jesus called people as disciples he was their teacher, their leader. But in Matthew 10:1-15, twelve of those disciples had a further call to become apostles. The dictionary definition of that word is quite different: a vigorous and pioneering advocate or supporter of a particular policy, idea, or cause; one sent on mission. These people who Jesus had called to follow and to learn were sent on mission to be pioneering, vigorous advocates of Jesus's cause.

That is quite a transformation. They were to proclaim the coming of God's kingdom, heal and restore to life. That is challenge enough, but they were not to carry money or a change of clothes. They would be totally at the mercy of the hospitality of strangers and expect to be thrown out of some places, to face persecution and have to flee from town to town. Being turned from a disciple into an apostle is radical for the person involved. Instead of being at the feet of a teacher, suddenly they are thrust into the public eye and charged with taking a lead in mission. I suspect that Bartholomew and the others felt almost totally unprepared as we would feel.

Finally, Bartholomew appears again in the Acts of the Apostles where he is one of the people – now both disciples and apostles – named as being at prayer in the upper room and upon whom the Holy Spirit fell in wind and flame, forever disrupting their lives. Reading on in Acts we see that after the initial burst of success tempered with opposition, persecution scattered most Christians away from Jerusalem but the twelve stayed as the foundation of the church there. Eventually Bartholomew did venture further afield, and Christian tradition places him variously in Ethiopia, or parts of contemporary Kuwait, Iraq, Turkey, Syria, northern Iran and India. Tradition says he was martyred in Armenia either by beheading, crucifixion or being flayed alive, all of which are horrific cruelties for someone whose only crime was to follow the man he had come to know as Lord and God.

I don't know if you have made the connection but some of the lands associated with Bartholomew include the location of terrible cruelties inflicted in recent years by ISIS on Christians – crucifixions, beheadings and thousands being driven out of cities where there have been churches for nearly two millennia. Bartholomew's legacy becomes horrifyingly real in the present day.

Archbishop Michael Ramsey wrote: 'The risen Jesus who is the heart of the heavenly worship is also a Jesus who was crucified, and we share in heaven's worship only as sharing also in the Jesus who suffers in the world around us, reminding us to meet him there and to serve him in those who suffer. Indeed in the Eucharist we are summoned by two voices, which are really one voice: "Come, the heavenly banquet is here. Join with me and my mother and my friends in the heavenly supper." And "Come, I am here in this world in those who suffer. Come to me, come with me, and serve me in them."'

So, where does all this leave us? What can we learn from Bartholomew today? If nothing else, on St Bartholomew's Day we can and should pray for Christians in the lands where he proclaimed the gospel, remembering that these churches are, in many cases, older than the church in this country. But, in addition, I am left with some challenging questions. Are we, content to be a disciple and not an apostle? Are we open to hear God calling us and sending us out as his witnesses by our words and our actions? What is God calling us to do that is beyond our comfort zone? I'll leave that with you, but I hope you agree that this little remembered saint is worth commemorating.

Philip



CANAL RAMBLINGS

It feels so nice to have Spring back again, longer daylight hours, warmer drier weather, colour back in the garden again and along the canal, trees back in leaf, birds back with the Spring migration and singing loudly along side the residents who stayed here over the Winter. It really is wonderful to live in a country with four seasons, long may it last.

Susan and I have discovered a new bee in our garden, new to us but not to science. A quick photograph and we identified it as an Ashy mining bee. Never seen one before and never heard of this particular bee. It is black, grey and white and is the same size as a honey bee and lives a solitary life, the female creates a nesting burrow in a patch of bare earth, these burrows can be 20 cm in length. Once she has dug her nest chamber she adds some pollen to it moistened with nectar and lays an egg next to it, she then seals up the chamber and repeats this process until the burrow is full. When the eggs hatch the larva will feast on the pollen/nectar mixture ready to pupate and emerge as an adult the following Spring. It may be a small insect but a fascinating one.

Our large compact fir tree I am afraid to say is no more, it is still there but not as tall as it used to be. Our neighbour complained that it was blocking the light from her garden so to keep our neighbour sweet we agreed that we would take some height from it, the lumberjacks duly arrived and chopped it down by a third. Our neighbour was really pleased but it has had a detrimental effect on our wildlife, we no longer have our mini murmuration of Starlings coming to roost and the Jackdaws no longer come to nest, another bird I haven't seen since is the little Goldcrest, I hope it is hiding somewhere in the tree and not moved on to better lodgings.

A few years ago Susan and I were on a South American cruise, when we left the Falkland Islands to go around Cape Horn the talk on board was about the notorious weather that the Cape is known for. Well, when we arrived all our fears were laid to rest, the sea was like a millpond, not a cloud in the sky and not a breath of wind. The captain announced over the tannoy that he had never experienced the weather so good here before and that he was going to sail slowly around for an extra hour so we could enjoy the experience. The local birdlife was also taking advantage of the good conditions, there were Albatross, Booby's, Petrels, Shearwaters, Cormorants and various gulls flying around and over the ship, it was a magical experience. The next day the weather was exactly the opposite, the ship had to seek shelter in a Chilean Fjord to try to escape the storm, but in that Fjord I saw Humpback whales, every cloud has a silver lining.

Until the next time, take care. Colin

Odd Rode Parish Giving January – April 2026

	St Lukes				The Good Shepherd				All Saints		
	Gift Aid	Plate	Non Gift Aid		Gift Aid	Plate	Non Gift Aid		Gift Aid	Plate	Non Gift Aid
January	£150.00	£96.90	£0		£540.00	£35.00	£70.00		£672.00	£65.00	£155.05
February	£40.00	£107.41	£0		£301.00	£162.40	£110.00		£476.50	£70.50	£137.55
March	£95.00	£78.00	£0		£376.00	£54.50	£135.00		£790.00	£174.89	£278.27
April	174.35	121.50	0		£993.70	£94.06	£80.00		£791.50	£173.97	£198.50
Totals	£459.35	£403.81	£0		£2210.70	£345.96	£395.00		£2730.00	£484.36	£769.37

I would like to say thank you to you all for your giving to each church, without this we would not be able to keep our churches open. If anyone would like some Gift Aid envelopes or to set up a direct debit, please do get in touch. Gift Aiding your giving gives us an extra 20%.

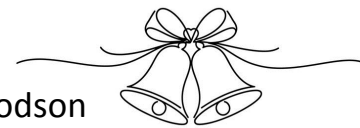


Baptisms

19/4/26 Remi Barnett.
8/3/26 Ronnie Anthony.
17/ 5/26 Elsie Chadwick

Weddings

13/3/26 Mathew Goodson
Rachel Yates



Funerals.

Re Commend to God's Merciful Keeping

16/4/26 Eileen Beard.
22/4/26 Barbara Robson.
14/5/26 Thomas Roycroft.

Rest in Peace



ODD RODE MOTHERS' UNION



Monday 13th April

In April, at our enrolment and rededication service held at The Good Shepherd, we welcomed 4 new members to our branch. At this event, we also thanked Grace Lowe for her many years of dedicated service to the branch as secretary, Grace continues as a member bringing her experience and advice to all of us. Ann Peach, one of the Mothers' Union trustees, presented Grace with a crystal vase and a beautiful bouquet of flowers.

Monday May 11th

In May we had an interesting talk on drug discovery by Louis Diorazio, which was enjoyed by all present.

Monday June 1st

Our annual trip is on June 1st when we look forward to spending a day in Stratford-upon-Avon, the coach leaves at 9 am from All Saints' and 9.10 am from the Broughton Arms in Rode Heath.

Saturday July 11th

Our Summer Fete, a special day when we celebrate 150 years of Mothers' Union with refreshments, stalls and a special 150 year's table where we will have photos, memorabilia and crafts made by members; we hope you can all join us at Scholar Green Village Hall for the event which starts at 11 am.

Saturday August 9th

Also, to celebrate our 150 years, on August 9th there will be a special Evensong Service at Chester Cathedral; this starts at 3 o'clock and all are welcome to come along and thank God for the fellowship and the good works that Mothers' Union have enjoyed and continue to enjoy.

We continue to celebrate 150 years of Mothers' Union activities this year which was first conceived by Mary Sumner.

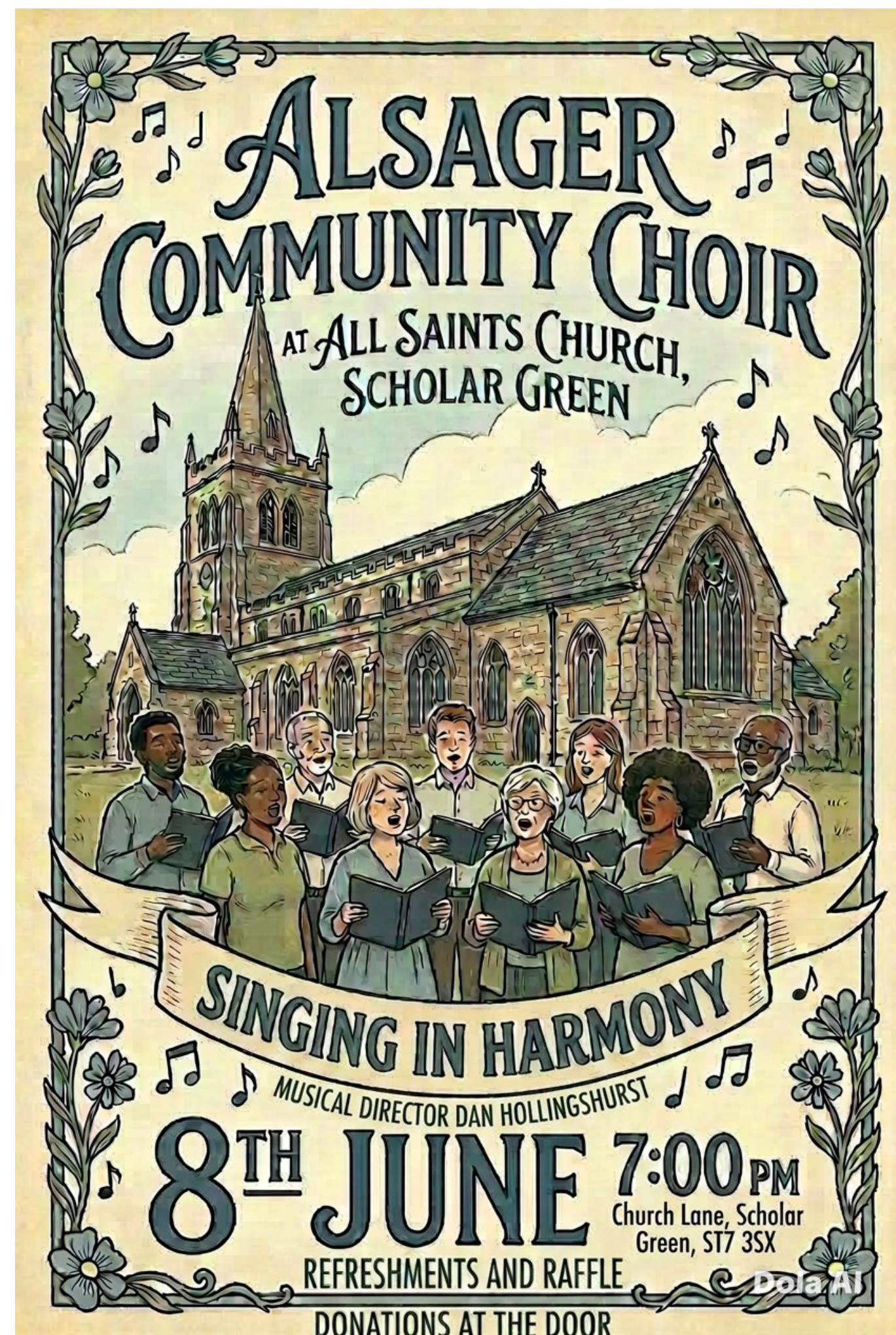
We have a planned programme of events throughout the year

Thank you to everyone who has helped at Mothers' Union events over the last three months and we hope you all look forward to what we have planned over the next three months. God Bless.

Barbara Jones Branch Leader
Gail Diorazio

ODD RODE MOTHERS' UNION

MU renewal service Of promises and enrolment at the Good Shepherd last month.



Normal Pattern for Worship

Monthly Services at Odd Rode

First Sunday

9am Eucharist at The Good Shepherd, Rode Heath
10.30am Eucharist at All Saints, Odd Rode

Second Sunday

9am Eucharist at The Good Shepherd, Rode Heath
10.30am Eucharist at All Saints, Odd Rode*
10.30am Family Service (lay-led) at St Luke's, Mow Cop

Third Sunday

9am Eucharist at The Good Shepherd, Rode Heath
10.30am Eucharist at All Saints, Odd Rode

Fourth Sunday

9am Eucharist at The Good Shepherd, Rode Heath
10.30am Eucharist at All Saints, Odd Rode
10.30am Family Service with Eucharist at St Luke's, Mow Cop

Fifth Sunday

10.30am Parish Eucharist at one of the three churches. Ring the Rector or Churchwardens for details.

Every Wednesday there is a Eucharist at The Good Shepherd, Rode Heath at 11am

* This service may be Mattins instead of a Eucharist

For up to date information check the parish website
www.oddropdeparish.org



St Luke's Church and Community Group

St Luke's ministry continues to grow and develop and a number of our congregation take part in regular growth meetings planned by Gail. Our links with Woodcock's Well School are now well established. Mrs Beckett, the head teacher, has developed a scheme of craft activities for the younger members of the congregation that are linked to the lectionary. These are led by her and supported by congregation members such as the two Traceys .A dedicated group of pupils help to lead our worship and the use of technology enhances it thanks to Jerad.

Rector Philip has experimented with the structure of the services held on the second Sunday of the month which enable all three churches in the Parish to have a Eucharist Service. The beginning part of the service is lay led and then the Rector arrives to conclude with the Eucharist. Hopefully this will become a regular pattern. The Parish held a number of well attended Lent and Easter services and meetings. On Easter Saturday we held a special service and pupils from the school told us about the Events of Holy Week. We lit a small fire outside the church and had a special fire inside the church thanks to Philip and his gadgets. Every member of the congregation lit a candle from the Easter candle. It felt very Spiritual and we hope it will become an annual event.

The choir continue to flourish and share their talents with the wider community thanks to Emma who is their Musical Director and a leading member of the congregation. The church continues to use the facilities of Mount Pleasant Village Hall which have enabled the Community Group to develop various groups led by volunteers . The tots group offer a wide range of activities and meets every Thursday Morning during term times. The Friday Meal Group an alternate weeks to share a lovely meal cooked by Alison.

Thanks to everyone who has supported the Church and the Community Group and look forward to your continued support.
Peace Be With You from All at St Luke's Church

Parish Diary Dates for 2024/2025

JUNE

8th All Saints’ Community Choir 7pm
20th The Good Shepherd Strawberry Fair From 2pm until 4pm

JULY

11th July Summer Fate Scholar Green Village Hall 11am-4pm
18th The Good Shepherd Afternoon Tea 2.20pm

AUGUST

9th Special service at Chester Cathedral to celebrate 150 years of mothers Union.

Fellowship Meetings 1st –3rd Thursday each month always advertised on weekly link sheet .

Issue	Deadline to Editor!	Distribution
September, October, November	August 16th	1st September
December ,January, February	November 15th	1st December

Parish Magazine schedule for 2026

GOOD SHEPHERD EVENTS 2026

Saturday 24th January - Burns Night
Friday 20th February – Mystery Night (with a difference)
15th March – Mothering Sunday
Friday 20th March – Spring Celebration Meal
Thursday 2nd April – Agape
5th April – Easter Sunday
Saturday 11th April – Bingo at Rode Heath Village Hall (2pm)
Sunday 3rd May – Good Shepherd Sunday Lunch
(following 10.30 service)
Saturday 20th June – Summer Fair (2pm to 4pm)
21st June – Father's Day
Saturday 18th July – Afternoon Tea (2.30 start)
Friday 4th September – Bangers and Mash Meal
Saturday 10th October – Autumn Fair (2pm to 4pm)
Saturday 14th November – Meal fit for a King (with royal quiz)
Saturday 28th November – Bingo Rode Heath Village Hall -2pm
Sunday 29th November – Toy Service 9am - Carols by Candlelight 4pm

(Please Note – All meals are limited to 30 diners.)



The Good Shepherd Strawberry Fair



Come and join us at the Good Shepherd to enjoy our
Strawberry Fair
With home-made cakes and refreshments
Games Tombola Raffle



Saturday 20th June 2026
From 2pm until 4pm



Choir at St Luke's Church Mow Cop every Tuesday 7:00pm-9:00pm
Mow Cop Choir have thoroughly enjoyed entertaining the residents of Maple Tree Court and Lawton Manor Nursing Homes. The residents enjoyed singing along to classics by artist such as Dolly Parton, Elvis Presley, Nat King Cole and many more. We look forward to the upcoming festive season!

Exciting News!

We have launched our community lottery to help raise funds for all of our groups. Only £1 per ticket which gives you a 1 in 50 chance to win a prize each week! With the weekly jackpot being £25,000 whilst supporting our fabulous community.

Please scan the QR code to sign up!



"Odd Rode Fellowship Group

We had some really interesting discussions at our meetings during Lent this year. We focussed on Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving, forming small prayer groups and choosing what we wanted to pray for. The themes the groups chose were Healing within families, Praying for those who may be dying alone and Mental Health and Alzheimers. We also, privately, gave alms to organisations who support these very worthy causes. We are currently meeting each day at 5pm as part of the Global Ecumenical Thy Kingdom Come, praying for 5 people we have each chosen to come to know God. This follows the form of prayer and discussion - also very lively and respectful of everyone's viewpoint.

Fellowship meetings will begin again in June, always on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month, and always advertised on the weekly link sheet. We hope you will come and join us in friendship and fellowship; just push open the door and come in.

If you'd like any information or a chat about our group, please talk to either Gail Diorazio or your churchwardens.

Gail"

GOOD SHEPHERD NEWS

Update on past events –

SPRING CELEBRATION MEAL

We celebrated the start of Spring with a meal of country vegetable soup followed by a main course of quiche, salad and new potatoes and a choice of bread-and-butter pudding or trifle to finish. A lovely way to welcome the season and to raise money for our upkeep. £482 was raised



AGAPE

On Maundy Thursday we gathered together to remember the events of Passover as Jesus and his disciples did before his crucifixion. It was a night of reflection and sharing simple food together with readings, prayers and the singing of our favourite hymns. Once again a wonderful night of fellowship, devotion and emotion. Thank you Glen, Jackie and Janet for organising this for us once again.



BINGO AT THE VILLAGE HALL

The people of the village came out again to support our lovely little church and to help us raise funds for its upkeep. We must thank all the village hall helpers and Peter our caller, as well as the regular church goers who provided the prizes to make this such a success. The wonderful sum of £483 was raised.

GOOD SHEPHERD CELEBRATION BREAKFAST

The congregation were able to celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday with a free breakfast after the Sunday morning service. They could choose from fresh fruit, croissants, choc au pains and yoghurts but the bacon or sausage baps which followed meal were the real deal.

Pity it only comes once a year!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 20th June – Summer Fair (2pm to 4pm)

Saturday 18th July – Afternoon Tea (2.30pm start) **Tables must be booked**

Friday 4th September – Bangers and Mash meal. (Places must be booked)