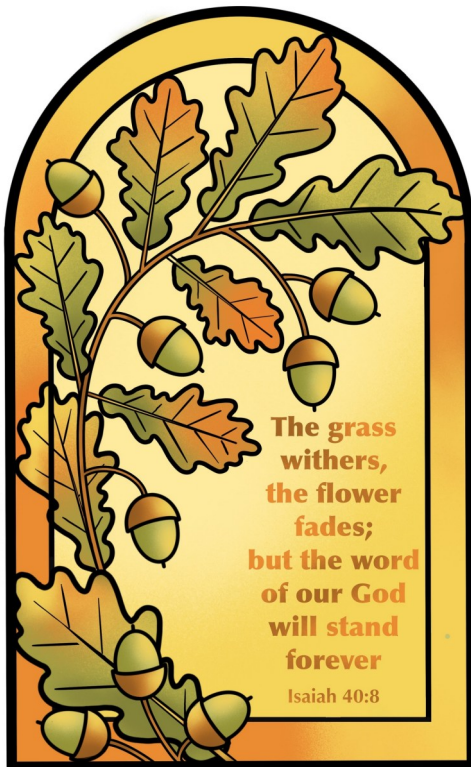




A NEWSLETTER FROM THE ANGLICAN CHURCHES OF LANERCOST WITH WALTON, GILSLAND AND NETHER DENTON

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Dear Friends,

As I write this, I can see apples on my trees and tomatoes still to be picked, but by the time you read this, the tomatoes will be done and hopefully the apples will have been picked, shared and stored. Probably there will be some leaves changing colour and the blackberries will be coming to an end. I know many find the autumn depressing and mourn the end of summer, perhaps that is you and you're already thinking that you might fit in a trip to some winter sun soon.

I love autumn and never see the reason to be downcast, for me there are hopeful signs of spring around that counter peoples' ideas about everything dying. Take the ash and horse chestnut trees, yes, they will soon lose their leaves, the conkers will have had their last battles, and the ash keys will have helicoptered down. But take a closer look at the twigs and you will see next year's buds are already forming. The horse chestnut buds protected by a sticky layer and the ash has tight little black buds hard against the twig.

And then there is ivy, now I know many people dislike ivy, but it is a life saver. Not to you or me but to the birds and the bees. Everything else has flowered long ago and is or has fruited, but the ivy is in bloom now and provides the bees, butterflies, and hover flies with a desperately needed source of energy to either complete their life cycle or to feed up ready to hibernate. Thanks to the bee's efforts the birds will benefit in the spring, the berries will be ready just as birds are preparing to nest and lay their eggs. The high fat content of ivy berries fills the gap, especially for blackbirds, thrushes, and woodpeckers, before other food sources are ready.

It reminds me of a verse in Luke's gospel:

Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. Do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Luke 12:6-7

In creation we see God's plan to care for not just us but even for sparrows. Seen as insignificant in biblical times Jesus compared people to sparrows when pointing out that God cares even for these little birds, he pays attention to the tiniest details because of his love. In a world that often feels chaotic and overwhelming, the sparrow invites us to rest in God's sovereignty and faithfulness.

Benefice of Lanercost with Walton, Gilsland and Nether Denton Services in October and November 2025

OCTOBER

Lanercost: 11am

5th Morning Worship with Baptism
12th Holy Communion
19th Holy Communion
26th HARVEST FESTIVAL

Walton: 11am

5th Holy Communion
12th No service
19th HARVEST FESTIVAL
26th No service

Gilsland: 9.30am

5th No service
12th Morning Worship
19th No service
26th Holy Communion

Nether Denton: 9.30am

3rd Friday at 7pm
HARVEST FESTIVAL
5th Holy Communion
12th No service
19th Morning Worship
26th No service

NOVEMBER

Lanercost: 11am

2nd All Saints Day: Holy Communion
9th 10.50am REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
16th Holy Communion
23rd Morning Worship
30th 10.30am join with the Mission
Community for Holy Communion at
St Mary's Church, Walton

Walton: 11am

2nd No service
9th 10.50am REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
16th No service
23rd No service
30th 10.30am Mission Community
Holy Communion

Gilsland: 9.30am

2nd 6.30pm Taizé: IN MEMORIAM
9th 9.30am join with Nether Denton for
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
16th No service
23rd Holy Communion
30th 10.30am join with the Mission
Community for Holy Communion at
St Mary's Church, Walton

Nether Denton: 9.30am

2nd Holy Communion
9th 9.30am REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
16th No service
23rd No service
30th 10.30am join with the Mission
Community for Holy Communion at
St Mary's Church, Walton

Wednesdays at 10am: a short service of Holy Communion alternates between
The Cottage, St Martin's Church, Brampton and the Priory Church at Lanercost
Brampton: Oct. 1st, 15th & 29th Nov. 12th & 26th -- Lanercost: Oct. 8th & 22nd Nov. 5th & 19th

All are welcome at any of the services

Vicar and Mission Community Leader: Revd Ben Phillips

Mobile: 07936 099 123

email: ben@lanercost.net

Meet Rev. Ben Philips, our vicar

Thank you to everyone for welcoming us to this benefice and Mission Community. We have had quite a journey to get here and at the same time feel like we have arrived back at home. I first felt a call to ministry when I was teenager; I had an experience of God that blew me away and convinced me that I should use my life in his service. I was not a saint from that time forward but I have felt God guiding me through the path that I have taken. Having been born in London I went to study history at the University of Wales and met my wife Jo at a Drama Society rehearsal. We fell in love and married at the grand old age of 21. We spent two years in Bristol and after working at a bank for a while the Church of England accepted me for ordination and sent me for training in Oxford. Jo was born in Kendal so we did a mid-course placement in Cumbria. Bishop Graham Dow offered me a curacy and we moved to Cockermouth where our first two children Jack and Kate were born. The benefice at that time had two town churches and two rural churches so I had lots of experience of different types of church and community. Three years later I was appointed to be vicar of Stanwix, a more suburban church where we saw significant growth and our third son Tom was born. It was a home birth

six days before Christmas so he used to tell people he was born underneath the Christmas tree. Whilst in Stanwix I also service as a Chaplain to the Forces in the army reserve.

After seven years we felt that we wanted to try to work where people were in most need so I accepted a posting to Rio De Janeiro to work with the English speaking church. Three years later we moved to Canada and four years after that back to Dalston in Cumbria. That's a slightly whistle stop tour of our journey but as I said we feel like we have arrived home. I was not born in Cumbria but I do love it and although we have moved around a lot we always maintained a base in Halton Lea Gate, so although I still have much to learn about this area we have more experience of it than we might have done otherwise. I am really looking forward to getting stuck into my new role here. I truly believe that the local church is the hope of the world and that the Kingdom of God can grow in this place. We just need to be faithful to the gospel and God will grow his church here. We are really looking forward to getting to know everyone here and getting stuck into working with the community. God bless,

Ben Philips.



Sunset and Sunrise

Sunsets and sunrise, rainbows and moonbeams,
Waterfalls rushing, streams tumbling down,
All of the planet teeming with life,
A celestial ball in the sky spinning around.

The whole of creation sings of God's glory,
The work of His fingers crafted with care,
All intrinsically moving together
A world of wonder without compare.

But this world that we see will pass away,
It is only a shadow of what will be,
When new heavens and earth burst into existence,
No sun, no moon, and no more sea.

Christ Himself will be the Light
That illuminates all this heavenly sphere,
Where He is there is life everlasting
No pain, no sorrow, just joy everywhere.

We cannot imagine what glories await us
Where the radiance of God's glory shines through His Son,
Together we'll walk on the street made of gold,
We just know that the best is yet to come.

By Megan Carter

Peter Peter Pumpkin Eater

What to do with pumpkins

Warning: don't try this with the pumpkins sold for lanterns they are totally tasteless!

Winter squashes/pumpkins such as butternut, uchiki kuri, crown prince or acorn are totally delicious.

Savoury pumpkin pie

Inspired by Anna Jones's in the Guardian

A free-form tart filled with cheesy pumpkin

Ingredients for 4

For the pastry

300g wholemeal flour
30g cheddar, grated
150g trex, or butter
30g grated cheddar

1/2 tsp each

Salt, white pepper, , smoked paprika

1tsp vegetable bouillon powder

For the filling

1 tbsp olive oil
1 onion, chopped
450g pumpkin or squash, peeled and cubed
1 tsp sugar
3 eggs, lightly beaten,
Salt and freshly pepper
120g cheddar, grated
25g parmesan, grated
1tsp dried sage
2 TBS pumpkin seed (optional)

Method

Make the pastry in the usual way adding the seasoning and cheese. Chill.

Fry the onion in oil until soft, add the pumpkin and continue to cook for 5 minutes. Add 125 mls water and simmer until soft. Add sugar and mash coarsely. Add the sage, half the cheddar, salt and pepper to taste and cool. Add the beaten egg, reserving enough to glaze the pie.

On a sheet of parchment, roll out the pastry into a 30cm disk and transfer to a greased baking tray. Sprinkle on the remaining cheddar leaving a 2cm border. Pile on the pumpkin. Fold the edges of the pastry over the edge of the filling, pinching to secure. Glaze the pastry edge with the reserved egg. Sprinkle on the parmesan and pumpkin seeds and bake at 200 degrees for about 30 minutes.



Pumpkin and barley baked risotto

Adapted from Marks and Spencer's Kitchen Library, Vegetarian

Ingredients to feed 4 generously

175g pearl barley, washed to remove starch
600ml vegetable stock
1 onion, chopped
2 tbs oil preferably extra virgin olive
500g pumpkin/squash cubed
250g mushrooms, preferably chestnut, halved
Tin of chopped tomatoes in juice
100g grated cheddar
150mls cream (optional)
1/2 tsp cayenne or mild chilli
Sprigs of rosemary, chopped (2 tbs) or 1tsp dry
Salt and pepper to taste

Method

Boil the rinsed barley in the vegetable stock until tender and the stock is absorbed. The barley should still have some bite. Fry the onion in the oil until soft then add the pumpkin, rosemary and mushrooms. Cook for a further 5 minutes then add to the barley, mix in the tomatoes, half the cheese, seasoning and cream, if using. Pile into an oiled baking dish, top with the remaining cheese and bake at 200 degrees until the pumpkin is tender and the top is bubbling and golden brown, about 20 minutes. Delicious served with a crisp green salad, homemade coleslaw or steamed broccoli.

Gilsland C of E School

I'm Nic Atkinson the new headteacher at Gilsland C of E Primary School. It has been such pleasure meeting all the children and parents who have welcomed me so warmly into the village.

The school has such a lovely, warm family feel and the staff work go above and beyond to encourage and inspire each child to be the very best that they can be.

The staff have worked incredibly hard over summer to transform our outdoor learning area, so we are really excited to introduce our Little Robins baby and toddler group which will be starting on Wednesday 8th October from 10 – 11am. Join us in our amazing outdoor learning area to make new friends, play in our mud kitchen and enjoy the freedom of being outside and exploring nature.



Owl class have had a fantastic time in the village looking for human features in the landscape. They also put their maths skills to good use creating a tally chart of what they saw.



Our new wrap around care offer has been a great success with children joining us each day for breakfast and after-school club from 7:45 – 5:30. They are enjoying a range of activities including sports, art, games and book clubs.

The children have taken the initiative to tidy up our school grounds at breaks and lunchtimes. They've made a start brushing up the leaves and are keen to develop the garden areas. If anyone has any unwanted or unused garden implements such as rakes, spades, forks etc. I know they would be very grateful. It would be lovely for the children to have their own vegetable garden at school, unfortunately I am not particularly green fingered, but if anyone has any ideas how we could transform the outdoor area to accommodate this we would really appreciate it.

Nic Atkinson, Head Teacher

Vatican seeks to become world's first carbon-neutral state

The Vatican has signed an agreement with Italy over a 100-million-euro project which will make it fully reliant on solar energy.

The Vatican will obtain its electricity from a new agrivoltaics plant at Santa Maria di Galeria. The 1000-acre site north of Rome is currently home to Vatican Radio's transmission towers.

The agreement was signed by the Vatican's Secretary for Relations with States, Archbishop Paul Gallagher, and the Italian Ambassador to the Holy See, Francesco Di Nitto.

The Vatican says the project has been designed to "to respect the natural landscape, minimise the environmental impact, and protect the cultural and archaeological heritage".

The initiative has been hailed as proof of strong bilateral relations between the Holy See and Italy, "reflecting a shared commitment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change". The Vatican will donate any excess electricity to the local community.

Papal appeals against climate change and environmental degradation were a feature of the 12-year pontificate of the late Pope Francis, who unveiled plans for the Santa Maria project in an apostolic letter, *Fratello Sole*, last year.



Christian concern after UN fails to reach agreement on the problem of plastic

The recent UN talks in Geneva were intended to finalise a legally binding agreement for countries to tackle plastic pollution. Almost 190 countries were represented.

But despite ten days of negotiations, no consensus was reached. A small number of oil-producing nations, including Russia and Saudi Arabia, blocked key proposals on reducing plastic production and phasing out hazardous chemicals.

Christian campaigning charities have been among those expressing great concern. They warn that the failure will have grave consequences for vulnerable communities and the natural world.

Tearfund says that more than two billion people around the world lack access to safe waste disposal. Mismanaged plastic waste, often dumped or burned, contributes, the charity's research suggests, to up to a million deaths a year — one every 30 seconds.

St Mary's Church Walton Quiz Night Pie and Pea Supper In Walton Village Hall

On Saturday 11th October 2025

6.45 for 7pm - £12 per person

Teams of up to six people

To book team places please email
Waltonstmarys@gmail.com

Lanercost CE Primary School News

It has been a joyful and energetic start to the new school year at Lanercost CE Primary! The children have been busy in every corner of the school — indoors, outdoors and even out in the community.

Class 4 had a fascinating trip to **Askerton Castle Farm**, where they learned all about how food makes its journey from farm to fork. From regenerative farming to animal welfare, the children showed real curiosity and respect in their questions, making it a hands-on learning experience to remember. Back in the classroom, they've also been busy in the kitchen, cooking up a delicious bolognese as part of Design and Technology, while thinking carefully about nutrition and healthy choices.



Class 3 have been stitching their way through history, designing vibrant **Egyptian collars** in DT. The focus and creativity they showed was inspiring, and their finished pieces are stunning!

Class 2 have been enjoying the **Woodlands**, spotting early signs of autumn and even creating their own mini-beast rulers. They also launched their DT project with a fruit-tasting session — the children's fruity faces (some sweet, some sour!) said it all.



Our youngest children in **Class 1** have made a beautiful start, settling in with smiles, laughter and curiosity. They've already created prayer flags to decorate our outdoor Prayer Space — a colourful reminder of love, respect and reflection. Across the school, the children are enjoying our new Prayer Spaces: calm corners where everyone can pause and find peace.

There has also been plenty of teamwork and play. **LEGO Club** is back, bursting with imagination, and our sports are thriving — topped off with the wonderful news that we have been awarded the **Gold School Games Award for 2024–25**.

We are also delighted to welcome our new vicar, who will bring warmth and energy to both the parish and the school. His licensing service at the Priory was a joyful occasion, with Oli from Class 2 taking part.

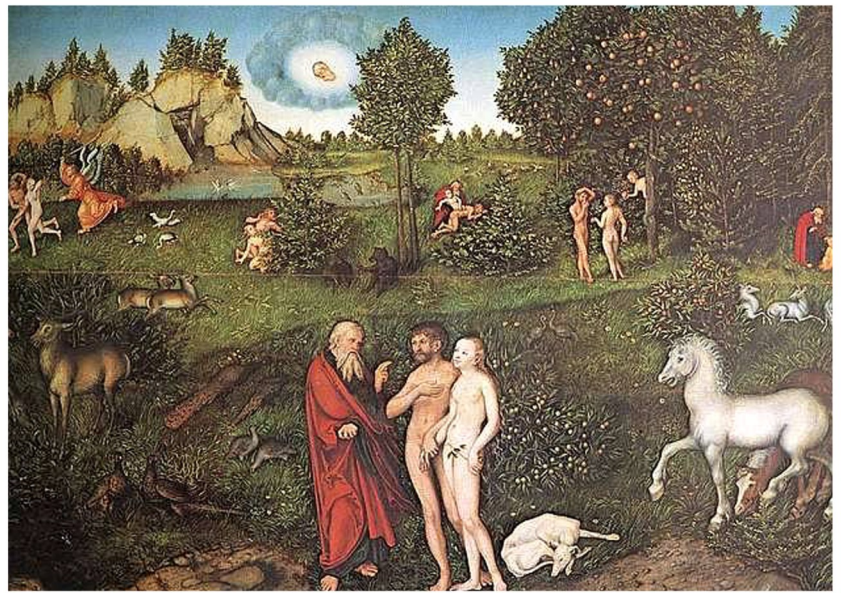


What a vibrant start to the term! As always, our vision to “live life in all its fullness” (John 10:10) shines through in everything our children do.

Lexi Wilkinson

‘He gave us eyes to see them’: Lucas Cranach’s ‘Adam and Eve’

In October we traditionally give thanks for the good gifts of God’s creation at harvest time. In the readings for our worship, we often return to that original goodness in the Garden of Eden, described for us in the opening chapters of Genesis. We glimpse that scene of paradisaical harmony in Lucas Cranach’s painting ‘Adam and Eve.’ It shows a wonderful menagerie of birds and animals around the couple, all unaware that the harmony will be shattered as Adam takes the apple from Eve.



One version of this painting is in the Courtauld Gallery of Somerset House in London. It is a large, neoclassical building by the Strand in the centre of the city. In the summer months 55 fountains play in the courtyard outside, while in the winter people skate on the ice rink. Somerset House was built on the site of a Tudor palace and dates from the 18th century. It is now a centre for the visual arts with an impressive collection of paintings.

Lucas Cranach, this month’s artist, was born in 1472 in what is now Bavaria. He became a court painter to the Electors of Saxony until his death in 1553. Cranach was a close friend of Martin Luther, but also had Catholic patrons. Like the Electors, they marvelled at his mastery of landscape and animals. In this painting we are invited into the garden to look on all the beauty and wonder there. Among the animals we can see a hog, a lion (although Cranach would never have seen a lion in the flesh), a sheep, and a stag, a symbol of Christ. There are birds as well, including a pair of partridges, who traditionally represent the power of love, but also deceit. The roe deer drinking from the pool in the foreground is a reminder of Psalm 42 and the soul thirsting for God.

Lucas Cranach’s ‘Adam and Eve, public domain’

But dominating the scene is that moment of turning from God: there is a glorious tree, laden with fruit, and in front Adam and Eve, whose hands clutch an apple, while the serpent slithers down the trunk in a moment of triumph.

The painting is reminiscent of medieval tapestries and, like them, has a beguiling quality. All is beautiful and harmonious: it is Isaiah’s vision of the lion lying down with the lamb amid the fruitfulness of nature and the oneness of creation. As we look on, we know that the defiance of God and the temptation to eat will lose this paradise. But we also know that creation will be redeemed by another fruit. Around Adam and Eve are the vine and grapes: they represent the Eucharist, the gift of Christ’s body and blood.

The fruit of the tree in the painting leads to a fall from grace, but the fruit from that other tree, the vine, will redeem and lift humanity again to share in the bread and wine, the gifts of creation given at harvest and shared at every Holy Communion.

The Revd Michael Burgess

Groups for young people
in Brampton run by NYC.



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Art &
crafts

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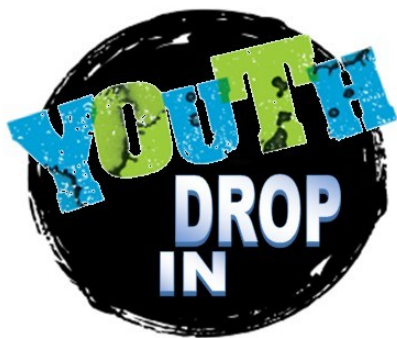
Green Door Centre

Board
games

during term time

space to do
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for those in Secondary school



WEDNESDAYS

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young people.

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at the Green Door Centre, during term time

Each time there is some spiritual food for thought

For more info contact: Ruth Hutchinson, Green Door Centre,
 Main street, Brampton, CA8 1RS. Office: 016977 42123 

Continuing the Celebration!

On 6th-13th October this year many people around the world will be celebrating the Jewish festival of Tabernacles, or Sukkot. They will celebrate the Harvest, and also remember God bringing the Israelites out of Egypt and through 40 years in the desert.

The biblical book of Deuteronomy contains a description of what Tabernacles should have been like back then. "Celebrate... for seven days. Be joyful... you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, and the Levites, the foreigners, the fatherless and the widows who live in your towns."

These festivals were not just a celebration, but also an expression of gratitude to God: "celebrate the festival to the Lord your God... For the Lord your God will bless you in all your harvest and in all the work of your hands, and your joy will be complete." Tabernacles was a proper holiday, with two whole days off normal work and seven days of feasting.



Farming looks very different today. Very few of us have had to sweat long hours over crops, so we're not as ready for (or deserving of) a rest and a party as our ancestors were at this time of year.

That might be even more the case in future, as the agri-tech revolution unfolds. For example, small autonomous tractors are already becoming available that do less damage to the soil and make better use of steep or oddly shaped fields.

Many arable farms already hire contractors to do the routine work with large specialist GPS-equipped machinery. In future years those people might find themselves using very different kinds of high-tech kit, acting more as land-management advisors, helping farmers to gather data and to find ways of improving soil quality, biodiversity and the water cycle.

I'm very grateful for the food that arrives on my shelves. Instead of worrying about whether or not we earned it, our modern-day Tabernacles or Harvest celebration could include ways of encouraging those involved in agriculture and developing new agricultural technologies, as well as enjoying how we can learn about and benefit from God's creation through Science.

So, after you celebrate Harvest at church, why not follow it up with a trip to a local farm this month? Why not learn from the ancient Israelites, and follow it up with a meal together? It stands to reason that those of us who live in countries where food is plentiful and cheap could do with being proportionately more generous in our gratitude and giving. Should we throw better parties? Probably!

Editor: This series is written by Dr Ruth Bancewicz, who is based at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.





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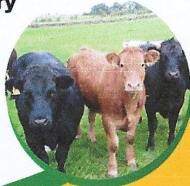
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BRAMPTON ARTS UMBRELLA

email newsletter

from Tim Coombe

timothycoombe@damhead.me

Café Scientifique Brampton

Meetings take place *simultaneously live* at Brampton Community Centre and via Zoom **on the last Thursday of the month.** Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start (ends approx. 9.30pm) **Cost:** £4.00 (plus 0.35p booking fee) or £5 on the door. (includes a glass of wine and nibbles)

For more information and tickets visit <https://www.bramptoncc.org.uk/regular-activities/cafes-ci/>

Something broken? Don't throw it away!

Bring it to the Repair Cafe at Brampton Community Centre on the forth Saturday of the month 1pm—
where a team of volunteers will use their skill and experience to repair it.



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Reader with Permission to Officiate	David Bamford	01697 508157	
Local Lay Ministers with permission to officiate	Sheila Goodliffe Jo Grundy	016977 41211 01228525284	sheilafg@btinternet.com
Retired Clergy	Rev'd Malcolm Riches	016977 42761	

Mission Community Leader	Rev. Canon Tricia Rogers	07702 389918	revtriciar@aol.com
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Wardens: Lanercost	Chris Angus	Burtholme East, Lanercost CA8 2HH	016977 41504
	Barbara Riches	13 Edmondson Cl, Brampton CA8 1GH	016977 42761
Walton	Philip Knowles	Emeritus	016977 41232
	Charlotte Shaw	The Old Vicarage, Walton, CA8 2DH	016975 43002
Gilsland	Alison Higgs	alison.marymag@gmail.com	016977 47409
	Owen Wilkins	Owen.stmarymag@gmail.com	
Nether Denton	Amanda Nixon	amanda.nixon67@gmail.com	07968 983664
	Allan Cathers	Allergarth, Banks, Brampton CA8 2JH	016977 41645

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Lanercost with Walton

Charlotte Shaw 016975 43002

Gilsland:

Keith Nightingale 07736725143

Nether Denton

Amanda Nixon 07968 983664

Carlisle Diocese Safeguarding Advisor

Joanna Van Lachterop 07458 016884

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**Deadline for submissions to
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20th November**