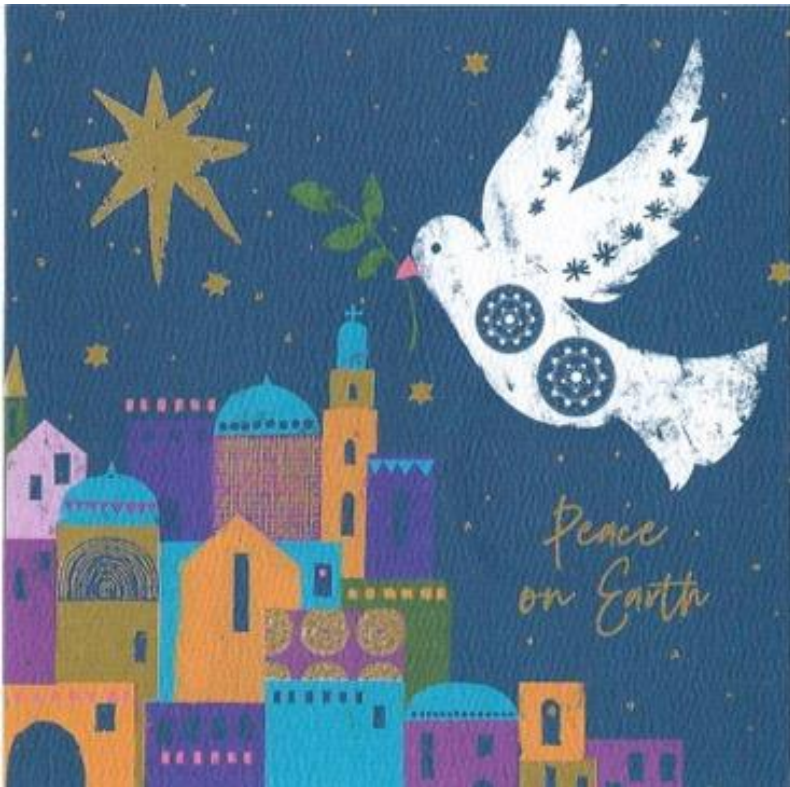


# NewsLite

Issue 14  
December 2022

An occasional publication of happenings at  
St Faith's Great Crosby



A Happy and Peaceful  
Christmas to All

## **Christmas Tree Festival 2022**

By way of a change, I asked those involved with the Christmas Tree Festival to write a little about the event which, as ever, saw large numbers in church during the week, and lots of money raised for charities.

### **The Preloved Stall.**

We, myself, Judy and Norman sold lots of things: clothes, books, dvds, but mainly new gifts and bric-a-brac and new or used jewellery. Anything that sparkled seemed to catch the eye! Often people kindly gave more than the asking price!!

People were buying gifts for family, gifts for Christmas. Schoolchildren in their droves wanted to know what they could buy for 10 pence, 20 pence or 50 pence. 2 minutes' later they'd changed their mind and wanted their £5 purchase refunded!! I politely pointed out the refund was 50 pence not £5!!

Most memorably I was asked by a youngster why I was selling things so cheaply! I explained goods had been donated, families were finding times hard due to expensive bills so it was better to sell at a fair price.

Everyone got a bargain and, at the end of the week, 10% of our profits would be shared amongst the trees as Christians, compassion and fairness counted for more than greed. And we made over £250 for church funds!

*Corinne Hedgecock*

### **Crafts from the choir stalls and pews**

Running the craft stall at the Christmas Tree Festival this year has been a wonderful experience. It has been a joy to see the church so full of life, and there has been a real sense of community.

Though there were many customers, watching school children carefully choosing gifts for family members was a particular highlight.

We've met some lovely new people and re-connected with 'old' friends while raising money for church funds. We'd like to thank everyone who helped to make this year's festival such a success.

*Viv and Mari*

### **Christmas Tree Festival Catering**

The lunchtime hot meals proved very popular all week, with the customers leaving lots of clean plates. The varied dishes all seemed to satisfy, including the two large delicious home-made cheesecakes kindly provided by the chef of the Kind Hearts Cafe.

Our visitors, as usual, were of all ages and walks of life, including a group of special visitors with their carers from South Liverpool, who greatly enjoyed the whole experience, including a few wins on the Tombola. The lighter refreshments were also well patronised during the off-peak moments, often leading to visits to the Cake and Jam Stall where those fascinating rarer flavours could be sourced.

Feel hungry even thinking about it all. Wait till we get a new kitchen!

*The Catering Team*

### **From A Four-Legged Friend . . .**

Hi there folks! Another fun filled Christmas Tree Festival was had by all. Stall holders and visitors alike, plus me.

Well, I had to go every day, didn't I? Not much choice there. Still, the children enjoyed seeing me and spending money, especially on lucky bags.

The adults enjoyed the tombola even if they didn't win anything.

The atmosphere was lovely, and everyone enjoyed themselves. As for me, I enjoyed hoovering the crumbs that fell for me.

*Kelsey Dog (Retired)*

### **And Finally . . .**

A small number of volunteers do a huge amount of work throughout the Christmas Tree Festival but there's also a great deal that goes on in setting the church up to look so splendid and welcoming for the hundreds of people who visit. It's a privilege to work with so many dedicated people who give their unstinting support at some personal sacrifice and discomfort.

The highlight of each day, for me, was the lunch. Something different and delicious each day thought through carefully.

It was great fun chatting to people who had sponsored trees and those who had brought interesting stalls and those lovingly supplying hot and cold drinks and eats to so very many. People also enjoyed taking part in the raffle, the tombola, lucky dips along with daily replenished and skillfully made gifts and confections.

A lot of money was raised for the many charities represented by the trees. Children and adults asked questions about the charities.

Thank you everyone who made the whole week such a positive time and very well done to all.

Fr Bill

## Church Developments

Although little can be seen in and around church, the plans for the back of church are progressing well. Planning consent is the next hurdle, and discussions are taking place between Sefton Council and our architect. There are just a few items that will need to be cleared before the final planning permission is granted, but we now have the approval and support of the Diocese and the Victorian Society. Fingers crossed for the next couple of months.

A new lighting system is also nearing a decision, but we need to look carefully at the cost. Putting over 60 lights and wires 50 feet up in the air is not cheap and will include some hi-tech power saving and control features that will meet our needs for the next 50 Years!

The re-development of the Upper Room is all but finished with new windows, comfy chairs and new lighting, augmented with a splendid piano. We now have an ideal venue for meetings and musical rehearsals, with our first outside bookings already taken!

*Rick Walker*

## **Services, Meetings and Events for the next two months:**

Please note that in addition to the dates below, there is normally a weekly celebration of the Eucharist on Thursdays at 12.00 noon

### **December: -**

Sun 18<sup>th</sup> - Parish Eucharist at 11.00

Sun 18<sup>th</sup> - Family Carol Service at 6.30

Wed 21<sup>st</sup> - Choir Christmas Concert at 6.30

Sat 24<sup>th</sup> - Christingle Service at 5.30 Complete with Donkey!

Sat 24<sup>th</sup> - Carols in Church at 11.00pm

Sat 24<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Midnight Eucharist at 11.30pm

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Day Eucharist at 10.30

### **January: -**

Sun 1<sup>st</sup> - Parish Eucharist at 11.00

Sun 8<sup>th</sup> - Christ Church at 10.30 - **NO SERVICE at St Faith's**

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> - Standing Committee at 10.00

Sun 15<sup>th</sup> - Parish Eucharist at 11.00

Sun 15<sup>th</sup> - Evensong at 6.30

Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> - Parish Eucharist at 11.00

Wed 25<sup>th</sup> - PCC at 7.00

Sun 29<sup>th</sup> - Parish Eucharist at 11.00