

**St Annes Parish Church  
Magazine**

# **Influence**

**September/October late Summer 2025**

**£1.00**

Annual subscription £6

**Vicar**

The Revd Fr Glen Brooks SSC CF

01253 728358 frglen@outlook.com



**Website:** [www.stannesparishchurch.org](http://www.stannesparishchurch.org)  
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# FROM THE VICARAGE

Dear Friends,

It's often said that the easiest way to stir a Church of England congregation is to use incense—or mention the Virgin Mary! I'd also add the choice of hymns to that list. Each of us has our favourites, and some would be perfectly content to sing the same ones every Sunday. But tensions can arise when the organist—or indeed the incumbent—selects an unfamiliar hymn or, worse still, a lesser-known tune. I've had more than a few post-service conversations where such choices were met with raised eyebrows and heartfelt opinions.

Hymns have been central to Christian worship since the earliest days of the Church. The disciples are said to have sung a hymn as they walked to the Mount of Olives before Jesus's crucifixion (Matthew 26:30). In Acts 16:25, Luke describes Paul and Silas praying and singing hymns in prison. St. Paul himself frequently encourages the singing of psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16). These early hymns were likely drawn from the Jewish psalms—texts rich in devotion and praise—which were naturally adopted by the first Christians.

As the Church grew, so did its musical tradition. St. Ephrem the Syrian, who died in 373, wrote many hymns that shaped early Christian worship. Some, like *\*Strengthen for Service\**, still appear in modern hymnals. These hymns were probably chanted in unison or by soloists, quite different from our congregational singing today. Yet even then, the power of combining sacred words with music was deeply understood.

The Reformation brought a seismic shift. As people began reading the Bible in English, metrical psalms emerged—no longer chanted in Latin plainsong, but sung in the vernacular. One of the most enduring examples is *\*The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want\** from the Scottish Psalter of 1650. These psalms paved the way for the hymns we sing today.

Setting words to music makes them more memorable and emotionally resonant. A well-crafted tune can lift the spirit, stir the heart, and embed sacred truths deep within us. Charles Wesley grasped this beautifully, writing hundreds of hymns that continue to inspire and comfort generations of worshippers.

So next time you encounter a hymn that's unfamiliar, perhaps pause before passing judgment. It might just be the one that speaks to someone else's soul—or even yours.

With my prayers and best wishes, Fr Glen



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# Sunday School from Denise Brown

Our last meeting was on Sunday 13th July, when we listened the wonderful story - 'The Feeding of the Five Thousand'. The children had great fun making a fishing game, where they did not always catch a fish!

This was followed by our annual presentation of gifts to the children. They then sang and signed 'Jesus Love is very Wonderful' which they had been learning for several weeks. This was beautifully accompanied by Alistair on the piano. Then we all enjoyed some beautiful cakes donated by members of the congregation.

The Liturgy Bags have been introduced to the children and their families. Some visitors over the summer have accessed the bags and found them very useful. Our visitors from Australia gave us some really good feedback, and are taking the idea back home.

We look forward now to another fun filled year of learning about our Lord and supporting the children as they begin their spiritual journey.

Our next Sunday School is on: **SUNDAY 14th SEPTEMBER at 10:15 am**

Thank you to everyone who has supported over the past few months, in a variety of different ways, with crafting, baking, sorting the 'Toy Bags', donations of books & other accessories for the bags and of course your wonderful words of encouragement. The 'Golden Thread' in our church is going from strength to strength.

Thank you all for your continued support and prayers, isn't it wonderful to see our children enjoying their time in church?

If you know someone who is interested in coming to join ask them to email us at: [stannessundayschool3@gmail.com](mailto:stannessundayschool3@gmail.com)

or have a word with me or one of our volunteers after a service, forms are also available from the back of church.



## A DREAM

A quiet breathless night  
The shimmering array of stars  
Girdled by the Milky Way  
Jewels in the sky, a sigh, a flash  
And one is gone.

The night warm and fragrant,  
Jasmine, Thyme, Musk  
Echoes of Sandalwood

A rumble afar, a flash,  
A shift of perfumed air

A whisper on the wind  
"She is near, care for her"

Dawn explodes, sun of gold  
Footsteps slight but near  
She is here

A sad smile, the past unfulfilled,  
Sadness caught in pensive grace  
Eyes of a diamond worthiness  
Windows to a regal soul

Beauty, elegance, poised.

Enraptured I fall to my knees,  
Thanking that lucky star  
That carried her to me  
This unworthy, clumsy buffoon

I awake

Helpless but strangely touched



# ROYAL ARTILLERY FYLDE



The Fylde RAA recently took part in the 40s weekend on Lytham Green showing off our new 25 pounder gun currently being refurbished.

We recently received the Branch standard shown at the Town Hall on Armed Forces Day, it will be dedicated in church on St Barbara's Day December 7th.



The Poppy cascade is in our store ready to be hung from the bell tower in November.

We meet at St Annes Ex Services Club on the second Wednesday of the month at 1900 hrs. Contact Alan 07593 185558

13000 of these guns were made in WW2 and it is still in service today with the Pakistan Army.

882 of these guns fired the biggest barrage in history at the battle of El Alamein

Here is our gun on Lytham Green



# **SAFEGUARDING AT ST ANNE'S PARISH CHURCH**

St Anne's Parish Church has adopted the House of Bishop's 'Promoting a Safer Church' policy and the Parish Safeguarding Handbook, incorporating the House of Bishop's Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

All those working with children and adults have undergone safer recruitment and received safeguarding training. However, we all have a responsibility to ensure the safety of those who enter our buildings and attend any of our activities.

## Reporting a concern

If you believe that someone is at risk of immediate harm please call the emergency services on 999.

Any safeguarding concerns in the parish should be brought to my attention in the first instance.

Denise Duke - 07771693068 or email  
duke\_denise@hotmail.com

Concerns can also be raised directly with the Diocesan Safeguarding Team  
Diocesan Safeguarding Team

Contact Details :Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, Cath Smith  
catherine.smith@blackburn.anglican.org or 07711485170

ADSA, Sophie Booth sophie.booth@blackburn.anglican.org or  
07468971759

## Safeguarding Training

All those who work with children and/or vulnerable adults on a regular basis must have completed the relevant safeguarding training. Should you wish to volunteer for such a role, do please contact me in the first instance. Training is completely free of charge.

And lastly, a little about myself. I have recently retired from a Blackpool school where I was the Family Support worker and the Designated Safeguard Lead (DSL). I have lived in St Annes for the past 30 years, moving here from the County of Rutland when my husband Peter retired from the Royal Air Force after 24 years' service.

We have attended St Annes Parish Church for over 10 years. We have two adult children and four grandchildren.

Denise Duke, Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO).



# MOTHERS UNION



Autumn will soon be here as we can see from the lovely trees and vegetation which are being severely blown about in the strong winds. Our own garden has produced lots of lovely plums and soft fruits and we are still to harvest our apples.

In July we held our Afternoon Tea at the Fairhaven Golf Club where they always look after us so well. We welcomed friends to join us, and Kath Hall, our secretary, organised the afternoon wonderfully, including a little quiz.

Later in July the Deanery Indoor Members and Over Eighties Tea Party was hosted by the members of Kirkham St. Michael's Parish Church. Sadly for M.U. the event clashed with our Parish Barbecue and so some members were involved in the organisation of that event. However, I and two other members attended the tea party which was held in a partitioned area at the back of the Kirkham Church and very convenient, though not huge. There were under fifty in attendance and it was lovely to see members from other Branches. The food was delicious and we did a little creative craft work which was fascinating and enjoyable.

On August 12th. we met at the 10-30am. Service to worship together and to particularly remember our founder Mary Sumner, and later to have time for friendship and refreshments.

From the 8-11th. of September some Members will be joining the Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham, which I am sure will be wonderful.

The Deanery Festival is being held at Christ Church Wesham at 2-30pm. on the 12th. September and we hope many of our members will attend and we will be displaying our banner.

Our September Branch meeting will be meeting in church at the 10-30am. Service on the 16th. Sept. and then we can hear all about the recent events. We meet in the Parish Rooms at 1-45pm. on the 14th. October when Fr. Simon Killwick will be speaking to us about his French Connection which sounds most intriguing.

New members are very welcome to join us in the Mothers' Union which was founded to support Christian Family Life. Today we welcome membership to the single, married or divorced and extend our love and friendship to all.

Christine Buckley.

# AS THE SEASONS CHANGE

## **Ecclesiastes 3:1**

There is a time for everything,

and a season for every activity under the heavens:

a time to be born and a time to die,

a time to plant and a time to uproot,

a time to kill and a time to heal,

a time to tear down and a time to build,

a time to weep and a time to laugh,

a time to mourn and a time to dance,

a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them

a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing

## **Hail And Farewell**

In this edition we show the final show of the Operatic Society, "Calendar Girls". After 50 years they are folding after having given much pleasure over the years. We offer our grateful thanks. Valeté

# COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES AND OUR WAR GRAVE TRAIL



We will be setting up our WAR GRAVE TRAIL in time for Heritage Day on Saturday, 20th September, and the trail will remain in place until Remembrance Day in November.

To that end, if you have volunteered to take care of a war grave, please will you tend it before 20th September, and again before Remembrance Sunday which is the 9th November

If you are having a problem taking care of your grave, please see Gill Streatfield, or one of the "Wednesday Men". See above

There is an accompanying booklet to the War Grave Trail, costing £5, available from the Parish Office, or from Gill Streatfield. You can use it any time of the year in conjunction with the red sticks that mark all our war graves.



# Liturgy Bags

Shortly after Sunday School restarted, almost two years ago, we were invited to be part of the Anglo-Catholic Children, Youth & Family Workers Network. These meetings have been an excellent support to us. One of the ideas put forward by Clare the leader was a Liturgy Bag. So Anna and I have taken the idea and developed it to create our own.

The bag contains the service booklet, that we use during Ordinary Time with explanations about various parts of the service and activities for the children to do during this time.

The bags are available at the back of church, some of them are named for our Sunday School children, so that they can be responsible for them, but leaving them in church. There are 'spare bags' for visitors to use.

We are delighted with the way they have been received and look forward to seeing them being used during the service. We are also grateful to a member of the congregation who is supporting us with our resources. Thank you.

If you would like to know more please have a word with me.

I also wish to pass my thanks to Dianne and Jenny who have very kindly offered to take the 'Toy Bags' to sort and refresh them. This has not been done for some time, so we are very grateful to her. Thank you.

Denise Brown







**for 3-7 Year olds**

**Our Sunday School dates for the coming academic year:**

**September 2025 until July 2026**

**will be on the following Sundays:**

**14th September**

**12th October & 26th October**

**9th November & 23rd November**

**14th December**

**11th January & 25th January**

**8th February & 22nd February**

**8th March & 22nd March**

**FRIDAY (Good Friday) 3rd April in church**

**12th April**

**10th May**

**14th June & 28th June**

**12th July**

**We meet at 10:15 am in the Parish Rooms - Room 1**

**Headroomgate Road**

**For further information please contact us at:**

**[stannessundayschool3@gmail.com](mailto:stannessundayschool3@gmail.com)**

**We look forward to welcoming you to our Sunday School!**

## Lancashire Traditional Recipes



A look at some of the favorite Lancashire recipes to enjoy at home. Its not all pies!

**Lancashire Lash:** a warming and economical dish made with mince and potatoes. Not the Scots version! Comfort food.

### **Ingredients:**

Olive oil or lard for frying

A large white onion

500g beef or steak mince

2-3 carrots chopped

Beef stock/cube

4-5 old potatoes

Method—fry off onions gently, add mince and brown. Add carrots

Add beef stock, season to taste (try a dot of Lancashire Sauce from Booth's)

Simmer for 45 minutes or in the slow cooker overnight.

Add half the sliced potatoes and cook until tender

Cover the stew with sliced potatoes then bake until browned on top, just like a hotpot.

Serve with red cabbage, pickled or with apple. For variation add thyme.

If too thin thicken with corn flour or tomato puree.

## GREAT EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 20th September ..Heritage Open Day and Craft Fair

Sat 27th September....Harvest Social in the Parish Rooms Tickets from Peter Duke

Sun 7th November Remembrance Day

Fri 30th Jan 2026 Parish Dinner Glendower Hotel

## BIBLE STUDY/PRAYER GROUP

After a summer break, the groups meet again in September. If you wish to continue or join us there are lists at the back of the church, just sign in. All new members very welcome. If Friday is not a convenient day, please show alternatives.

Rosemary Pickles

## Bible Study Group



The Group meet regularly at 2pm in the choir vestry. Dates will be notified in the Pew Sheet. Please come along all are welcome

# FROM THE BELL TOWER

We have a good team here in the bell tower or belfry as some know it.

In July and August we performed a number of peals. To mark VJ day a peal was rung at 6.30 pm as part of the national act of Remembrance to honour those who served and sacrificed in the Far East in WW2. This symbolic act of bell ringing echoes the celebrations that swept the nation 80 years ago and offered a moment of reflection and gratitude for peace restored. Also to mark the appointment of Michael Hodgkinson as Director of Performing Arts at Kirkham



If you want to visit the Tower on Heritage Open Day, please book early for a free ticket as space is limited. To find out more and book a ticket visit

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/st-annes-ringing-school-79635381663>

You will also be able to see the bells on the CCTV system on the ground floor.

Talk to us if you are interested in bell ringing or contact the Captain, Stewart Newton on 01253 725958



# CANADA MON AMOUR

Having travelled to many countries for holidays I had never particularly thought of Canada as a holiday destination. Nevertheless having been invited by friends I decided to give it a try. I researched flights to find that Air Canada had started flying from Edinburgh to Montreal at a good rate so booked in for a 7 hour flight that only took 6! Headwinds. Food and service on the aircraft in English and in French was excellent. I was met by a friend and travelled by train to Ottawa where I was kindly accommodated.

Among my intentions were to make contact with the Royal Canadian Artillery, relax by the Ottawa River and visit the local churches. I managed these well.

Impressions—Canada is huge, everything is so clean, everybody goes out of their way to make you feel welcome. Empty roads, no potholes, the Canadian flag is everywhere, on every building, every house, perhaps to resist their larger southern neighbour..

The churches are interesting. Three main denominations—United Church of Canada, Roman Catholic and Anglican. I attended services at all three.



The United is a tiny church with a small congregation. The service was simple but joyful with individuals choosing songs (hymns) and a sermon involving tennis balls. It was led by a female pastor.

I then attended the Anglican Cathedral of Christ Church. A fairly simple service and I took communion as usual. Unusual was the instruction to hold out the left hand for a gluten free wafer if needed!



Not a big Cathedral but homely. Here with the Dean

Finally the Roman Catholic Basilica. I enjoyed the Mass, especially as it was carried out alternately in English and French which tested my army linguist skills to the limit!

Three very different services each inspiring and enjoyable in its own context.

I shall return

Ed



# Dates for your Diary



St Annes Christmas lights switch on The Square Saturday 30th November, Preceded by the blessing and opening of the crib at the entertainment circle by No Filter coffee

## The Coastal Collective

### *The Coastal Collective*

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- ♦ Developing a healthier, safer FY8 community

If you are in need of advice or are looking for help and support please email:



### **Zpq designs**

This company have kindly donated a paper folding machine to the parish office. It retails at £500 and will really help the office.

## Crafts at St Annes Parish Church



The Craft Group meets fortnightly from 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm in the Parish Rooms. Please See Pew sheet for dates



# MARK F.H. RAE



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## COME TOGETHER TEA AND CHAT



This takes place on the  
First **Monday** in the month (not bank holidays)

An opportunity to meet at **10.30 am** in

'The Trawl Boat' Inn, St Anne's

Help support the community, get to know each other, combat  
loneliness and encourage new friendships

All parishioners & friends are welcome

So please do come along and join us!

Its also fun!

## A Prayer for Peace & Healing in The Holy Land

We pray for the end of the war in our beloved and wounded Holy Land,  
that peace may prevail in our region and the whole world.

*A prayer from Archbishop Hosam of Jerusalem:*

Great Healer, we lament the horrific wounds and loss, deep  
beyond comprehension. Repair and restore hearts wounded by  
unimaginable fear and trauma. Provide a way for healing for  
the multitude who are injured in body and spirit. May your  
people and the earth know your mercy and an end to the  
suffering. May your healing compassion be manifest among  
creation and the people of the earth. Amen.



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Library volunteers will deliver free of charge. If you would like to know more, please email [library@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:library@lancashire.gov.uk) or call 0300 123 6703



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## ANNUAL REGATTA

St Annes Parish Operatic Society presents

# CALENDAR GIRLS THE MUSICAL

3rd SEPT to 6th SEPT 2025, 7.30pm  
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previous CALENDAR GIRLS musical by Tim Firth and Joanne Thomas

The current production of CALENDAR GIRLS THE MUSICAL is produced in  
conjunction with Council Theatre Ltd [www.counciltheatre.co.uk](http://www.counciltheatre.co.uk)

## **St. Annes Churches Together**

We are a group of Christians from eight different churches in St. Annes, united by a shared desire to express our faith within the community. Throughout the year, we come together for fellowship, prayer, and to plan events that reflect our unity and the love of Christ to those who have yet to discover it.

Recently, we participated in the St. Annes Carnival parade and hosted a stall in Ashton Gardens. We were honoured to receive the Clifton Shield for the third consecutive year.

As we approach the Christmas season, we're excited to host several upcoming events:

- St. Annes Sings Christmas – Inspired by Radio Lancashire's \*Lancashire Sings Christmas\*, this joyful gathering takes place at the Victoria Pub.
- Blessing of the Crib – Held in St. Annes Square just before the celebration concert and the switching on of the Christmas lights.

Details of these events will be shared in the weekly news sheet and posted on the noticeboard next to the Sunday School board.

We're deeply grateful for the continued support from our churches and delighted to welcome new faces into our fellowship. If you'd like to learn more or get involved, please speak to Ann Fletcher or Christine Campbell, our representatives from St. Annes Parish Church.

## **MANY THANKS**

To John and Jenny Edwards for laying on a superb afternoon tea in the garden of their house. Tentage to protect against the weather. A great range of sandwiches and cakes and more teapots that most had seen in one place.

The rain held off for an hour and a great time was had by all.

Thankyou John and Jenny!



## HOUSEHOLD TIPS

Here are some proven tips to help you out around the house.

### Seagull Strike

A particular menace around here is seagull strike, hitting car and windows with a smelly splatter. If not removed quickly they can stain paintwork.

The remedy — a teabag. Keep your old damp teabags handy. A quick rub and the splat is gone. Carry a bag in the car.

### Teacups

The tannic acid in tea can leave cups stained. Not everyone uses a dishwasher. A quick remedy is to use denture cleaning tablets. Pop in a tablet top with hot water and leave 10 minutes and its sparkling clean. Use also for air fryers and slow cookers.

### Silver cutlery.

Silver tarnish can be easily removed. Line a dish with aluminium foil, shiny side up. Add two tablespoons of Bicarbonate of Soda. Pour in one litre of water then add cutlery. Watch the tarnish disappear with a strong smell of Sulphur. Rinse and buff dry. Voila!



## Food Donations Supporting the Parish



There is a basket at the back of church for any tinned or other non-perishable donations which we are passing to our church school, Heyhouses C of E Primary School, each week

These items are used to support our school and thereby the families in our parish. Sadly, even within the sound of our church bells, some families face the difficult decision of heating or eating

**So we extend a huge THANK YOU to everyone who donates goods. It is very much appreciated by our local community and the school**

Donations can be brought to any of the church services  
**Please check that all items are well within their "Use by" date**

# Baby and Toddler Group



We meet in the Parish Rooms  
from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm on **WEDNESDAYS** during **TERM TIME**  
Everyone is welcome - Mummies & Daddies, Grandparents,  
Childminders and Carers  
For more details contact the Parish office - 01253 722736

## USED STAMPS

We are continuing to collect used postage stamps for Derian House.  
This is something started by Ken Foster many years ago and Ann  
Fletcher is continuing to collect them and send them away.  
Please leave them at the back of church, thank you.



## UNWANTED SPECTACLES

If you have any old and unwanted spectacles, please take them to  
'Storytellers' in the square, they are donated to charity where they are  
sorted and recycled.

## Additional Curates Society

Once again we are supporting the ACS, promoting their work, providing  
priests in poorer parishes. Boxes are available, please take one and con-  
sider donating as part of your Lent discipline.

Pam Kinghorn

## Baptisms

Penelope Moore, Oscar-Burns, Colton Burns, Sadie Dawson, Monty Thorpe, Harriet Roberts, Francesca Blackburn



## Marriages

Giles and Lucinda



## Recently Departed

Please pray for those who have died recently, among them:

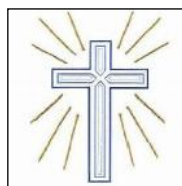
Eric Taylor, Gerald Fish  
Ann Percival-Smith

**'May they rest in  
Peace  
rise in and  
Glory'**



## Memorial Chapel Lamp

The Memorial Chapel Lamp is sponsored by Bill Bloss in Memory of Mike Fitzsimmons



## Lady Chapel Lamp

The Lamp in the Lady Chapel is sponsored by The St Annes Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham



## BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE



It is possible to have names of departed loved ones placed in the Memorial Book. Please simply take a form from the back of church and return it to the Parish Office.



Donations given with names for entry will be placed in a special memorial fund, to be used in memory of loved ones, according to the church's

## Diocesan Communications Update

Information from the diocese is available to view on the diocesan website: [www.blackburn.anglican.org](http://www.blackburn.anglican.org). If you are reading this online you can click on this link or search **[www.blackburn.anglican.org](http://www.blackburn.anglican.org)**

Lots of useful and interesting information with links to photographs, articles and diocesan initiatives.

# Contacts

## Church Officers and Organisations

**Lay Reader:**  
Bill Hembrow 721872

**Director of Music:**  
Alistair MacKenzie 722366

**Servers:** Gerald Wilson 730806

**Hon. Secretary of PCC:** Vacant

**Churchwardens:**  
Ann Fletcher 720812  
John Pitches

**Hon. Treasurer of PCC:**  
Henry Gilbraith  
Email: treasstannes@outlook.com

**Heyhouses C of E Primary School:**  
Elizabeth Hodgson: 722014  
Ext 1 - Infant Dept, Ext 3 - Junior Dept

**Nursery**  
Suzanne Williams 640110  
Email: Suzanne.williams@heyhousesnursery.co.uk

**Captain of Bellringers:**  
Stuart Newton 725958

**Electoral Roll Secretary:**  
Gerald Wilson 730806

**Press Officer:**  
Lesley Dawson 726589

**Parish Rooms:** Parish Office

**Magazine Editorship:** Ed Nash  
email: eddie1nash@gmail.com

**Magazine Adverts:** Parish Office

**Flower Guild:**  
Hazel Preston Parish Office

**Safeguarding Officer:** Denise Duke

**Mothers' Union:**  
Christine Buckley 728666

**Babies and Toddlers:**  
Janice Vause 07814 834188

**Sunday School:**  
Email: stannessundayschool3@gmail.com

**Uniformed Organisations**  
For details of our uniformed groups  
contact the Parish Office

## Sunday

10.15 am Children's Church  
(2nd & 4th Sundays in the month)

10.30 am Parish Mass

4.30 pm (1st Sunday) - Choral Evensong

4.30 pm (3rd Sunday)

Choral Evensong with Benediction  
(See Worship & Prayer Diary for details)

## Weekday Services

The Mass is usually celebrated at the  
following times:

Monday..... 12.00 noon

Tuesday ..... 10.30 am

Wednesday..... 9.00 am

Thursday ..... 6.00 pm

Friday ..... 9.30 am



## Parish Information

### Parish Office

2a Oxford Road, St Annes on Sea  
FY8 2EA

**01253 722736**

stannesparishoffice73@gmail.com

**Open Monday to Friday 9.30 am - 12 pm**

For information regarding Weddings & Funerals  
please contact Fr Glen - 01253 728358

For information regarding Baptisms  
please contact the Parish Office - 01253 722736

### Churchwardens

Ann Fletcher - 01253 720812

### Website Administrator:

Paul McMahan  
paulmcmahan1@aol.com  
Registered Charity No: 1155188