

28th January 2024



**"And now these three remain;
Faith, Hope and Love.
But the greatest of these is Love"**
(1 Corinthians 13: 13)



Editorial

4th Sunday after Epiphany

1 Corinthians 12 v 31b – 13 v 8a

As readers get to the verse of focus, found in 1 Corinthians 13:13, they will have found that they have learned in this chapter what is, and is not, considered love in the eyes of God. Verse 13 shares the truth to conclude the chapter overall: "And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

If someone were to ask you what is most important out of faith, hope, and love, would you find the question easy to answer? I know I wouldn't, as each of the three equally impact a person's life and relationship with God. If you didn't have faith, it would be hard to trust God and stay committed to anything and anyone. If you didn't have hope, everything would be meaningless to you and you would become pessimistic.

But Paul here states that the greatest of the three is love, so how could love be greater than hope and faith?

If we were to truly look at what has been learned so far from 1 Corinthians, we can see that everything stems from love, most importantly God's love for us and our equal love to Him and His children. If we didn't have love, it wouldn't build our faith, as faith's foundation is that of love (love of the Father and others). If we didn't have love, we wouldn't have hope, as hope is also only found in the love of God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

Love is what led our heavenly Father to allow His only son to go to earth and be the sacrifice for our sins. Love is what led Jesus to cry out for God to forgive us because we don't know what we do, when His placement on the cross is due to our actions. Love is what the Holy Spirit brings us every day, loving continually when it hurts, when it's hard, when we're happy, sad, or frustrated.

So, love is the greatest of the three. But without love, faith and hope wouldn't be possible.

Tony Whitehead - Licensed Lay Minister (Reader)



Please Pray for...

Family of Doreen R
Minti R
David & Norma V
Barbara S
Brenda & Ken
Betty
Lee A
Stuart & family
Jackie
Isaac
Jodie
Anne H
Baby Teddy
Ruby & family
Ross
Abigail
Caitlin
Belinda K
Phil & Sue B
Dean
Enid
Norman M
Freda



Remember, this list is for those who need our prayers, not just the sick or bereaved.

This Week at St Bede

Sunday 28th January

10am Baptism

Today we welcome the family and friends of Jacob Duckers who is being baptised today at our all-age service as we reflect on our text verse and theme of love.

Wednesday 31st January

11.30am Funeral of Doreen Ridyard

Doreen's service will be taking place here at St Bede Church followed by burial at Heaton Cemetery.

All are welcome to attend and please do keep Doreen's family including son Peter in your prayers.

6.15pm WOW (Worship on Wednesday)

Our all-age midweek service continues this week with our new series on 'the Lord's Prayer' as we explore the line 'Your Kingdom Come, Your Will be Done' All are welcome to join us

7.30pm St Bede Ministry Team Meeting

Meeting in the Fellowship Room

Thursday 1st February

7pm Prayer at Seven

Join us for our monthly prayer gathering as we pray for ourselves and our church

Friday 2nd February

2.30pm St Bede Collective Worship

Our church school are meeting in church for their collective worship.

Sunday 28th January

10am Family Communion

Today we conclude our series on our church vision by reflecting on the greatest gift of all - love. This is an all-age service and there is no children's ministry group this week.





**St Bede Charity
Partner 2024.**



COLLECT

God of heaven, you send the gospel to the ends of the earth and your messengers to every nation: send your Holy Spirit to transform us by the good news of everlasting life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Church depends very heavily on fundraising as well as regular giving to keep our Church afloat.

We ask that you do continue to give by setting up a Standing Order from your bank. Please contact our Treasurer, David Almond for further details –

David.almond3@ntlworld.com
or visit our website
www.st-bede.org.uk

TEXT VERSE OF THE YEAR

This year we have a new text verse for the year from 1 Corinthians 13 v 13 to lead us as we seek to 'Live for Jesus at the Heart of our Community'.

Do pick up your free text verse card from the back of church today and put it up in your home to inspire and encourage you in 2024.

MEN'S BREAKFAST - SATURDAY 3 FEBRUARY

Time: 8.30am

Venue: Fellowship Room, St Andrew's.

Speaker: Vince Hankinson

Topic: Football kits for Africa, and everything in between.

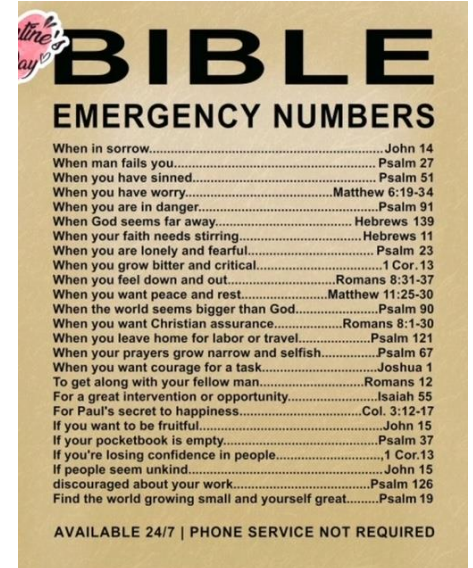
Cost: £6 inc. breakfast

We are happy to announce we'll be starting our 2024 programme with a Men's Breakfast. Some of you will know Vince from our social events already. Please do support him and hear his inspiring story.

Breakfast options:

- Full English inc. toast
- Vegetarian

Please confirm if you would like to attend by contacting Paul Braddock, Rob Walsh, Vinny or messaging us via St Andrew's Facebook messenger.



PRAYER LIST

Please can you all check the names on the Prayer List to ensure it is up to date and let me know any changes.

Tony


ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT 2024

We are delighted to be able to share details of our Lent Programme coming up at St Bede.

Our Lent Programme begins with our **Joint Ash Wednesday Communion Service** with St Andrews which is being hosted at St Bede's Church (in the Fellowship Room) on **Wednesday 14th February, 7.30pm.**

Our Lent Course this year is 'From Wilderness to Glory' It begins on **Wednesday 21st February at 7.30pm** and will run every Wednesday from 7.30pm-9pm at St Andrews Over Hulton.

Please sign up at the back of church if you wish to come and if you need help with lifts to St Andrews then speak to Vinny or one of the Wardens. Our Sunday services during Lent will also be following the same themes.



From Wilderness to Glory

St Andrew's and St Bede's

Lent Course 2024

Join us as we journey with Jesus during Lent on a devotional journey from the wilderness to the glory of the Resurrection.

We will be meeting on the following Wednesday evenings during Lent, 7.30pm-9pm at St Andrews

21st February - Jesus among the Crowds

28th February - Jesus on Prayer

6th March - Jesus among Friends

13th March - Jesus among Enemies

20th March - Jesus in the City

Our Lent Course is based on the book by Tom Wright
'From Wilderness to Glory'

If you want to come along please sign up at the back of church.





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Greetings for 2024 from Vinny, the Wardens
and the Ministry Team at St Bede's



WOW
Worship On Wednesday



Join us for our
new all-age
worship experience
at St Bede Church

Join us for fun, food, songs, games,
and activities as we explore faith and life together.

We meet every Wednesday
6.15pm-7pm
St Bede Church Community Room





St Bede's is a living Church, and its people are The Church. The Church's only financial support is its own Church family.

Please try to support our social and fundraising events as they are vital not only to the financial wellbeing of our Church but are great opportunities to get to know one another better.

Your Church thanks you for your gifts of money, time and talents.

Contacts

Vicar– Rev Vinny Whitworth – 01204 658921 vinny@st-bede.org.uk

Associate Priest – Rev Malcolm Bristow – 01204 659816

Licensed Lay Minister (Reader) – Tony Whitehead – 07967 223380 – tony@st-bede.org.uk

Reader Emeritus – Pat Bristow

Authorised Lay Ministers – Gillian Blackburn, Carol Hardman

Church Wardens – Jean Philips – 01204 451676 Gill Blackburn – 01204 660396

PCC Secretary – Elaine Almond – 07757099862

Treasurers – David & Elaine Almond

Organist – David Platt

Newsletter Editors – Tony Whitehead 07967223380 & Sharron Hardman – 01204 700848

Social Media Team – Kirsty Critchley 07763 495009 & Tony Whitehead 07967223380

Administrator – Elaine Almond – 07757099862

St Bede Primary Academy Headteacher – Anna Black – 01204 61899

Chair of Governors – Tony Whitehead Vice Chair – David Almond

ST BEDE'S CHURCH, MORRIS GREEN, BOLTON-LE-MOORS

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