

Angela Rigby writes...

Hello, brothers and sisters in Christ. As we have been praying that God opens our eyes, I ask you – “Have your eyes been opened?” Are you able to see what God is doing around you? Have you noticed how God is using those with the gift of evangelism to bring people back to Him? Can you see the “prodigal sons” and daughters beginning to return? Have you had the joy of witnessing this miraculous work of our God in this Borough?

Has God opened your eyes and shown you how He sees you, your church, your community? Has He shown you the beauty and the potential? Can you see it?

Are you excited that this is only the beginning?

I love this hymn. “Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice.” (Written by Timothy Dudley-Smith) I can’t think of a better way to describe the feeling you get when you see what God is doing, not just with your eyes but with your heart.

Is your soul longing to speak of God’s goodness? Give it voice! If we don’t speak, the rocks will cry out. (Luke 19:40) I want to encourage you to speak of God’s blessings, to speak God’s peace and joy into peoples’ lives. We are witnesses. And part of being a witness is telling the truth.

In the October/November Prayer Focus, let us look at why we need to tell. Let us also pray for discernment – when should we speak, what should we say, and who should we say it to.

Sitting silent is not an option. We were commanded to “go”.

“Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.” Mark 16:15

SHINE News

In response to the riots in August, SHINE joined with Youth Aflame to quickly organise a prayer meeting to give thanks for the young people of our Borough who did not engage in the riots. We also prayed together for direction for our young people and for God’s guiding hand on their lives.

SHINE are continuing to utilise Facebook, so if you are a Facebook user, please look us up. So far, we have arranged two impromptu prayer evenings via Facebook. If you aren’t on Facebook, but would like to know more, please contact the SHINE office.

Thank you to every church that has returned its questionnaire. If your church hasn’t returned its questionnaire, it is not too late! We are continuing to collate the responses.

We ask for your continued prayers for the ministry of SHINE in this Borough. We ask you to pray for wisdom to discern God’s will. Please pray for the current acting Chair, for the Administrator, and for the Trust Board of SHINE. May God send the right people for His purposes in this Borough. May God give His people the courage to step forward into the future He is preparing for us.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

Youth Aflame News

In addition to the LZ7 outreach taking place this week (see week one of the prayer focus), Youth Aflame now have a dedicated outreach/project worker on the team. Gill Haddican (who has volunteered with Youth Aflame) now works full-time. Please pray that God will use her talents to reach more of the young people in St Helens with the good news of Jesus.

Thank you

The hope is to collate prayers from around the Borough, so that we can pray for and with each other in unity, as one voice, seeking God’s guidance, protection, power and favour. *“Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,” says the LORD Almighty.* (Zechariah 4:6)

Thank you for praying with us.

Many blessings,

Angela

SHINE Administrator

Unblocking the Wells of Salvation in St Helens

Next meetings:

Monday 24 October
St. Helens Parish Church

Monday 21 November
Christ Church URC, Haydock

Monday 5 December
St. Helens Christian Life Centre



For more details contact either: Dave & Sue Hanratty 01744 732910
Mike & Rebecca Balmford 01744 757275

Sunday 25 September – Saturday 1 October

LZ7 in St Helens

“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.” Matthew 5:14

Joe Higgins from Youth Aflame writes...

Youth Aflame has booked the Christian hip-hop band LZ7 as part of their Light Tour 2011. They will be performing at the Theatre Royal on 30th September as culmination of the work they will be doing for us in St Helens on the Thursday before the concert and the Friday before the evening event.

We have booked the band not only to perform their music but to do two days of schools work before hand, something they do remarkably well.

On Thursday they will be in Haydock High School, the programme looks something like this:

Morning:	School assembly RE lessons 1st and 2nd periods
Lunchtime:	Free concert
Afternoon:	RE lessons 3rd and 4th periods

On Friday they will be at another school (to be confirmed) in the morning, with a similar programme to that at Haydock High before moving over to the theatre in preparation for the evening's event.

During the evening's entertainment the members of LZ7 will give a brief talk on what their faith means to them and how they continue to express it through their music and way of life. Normally there would be an 'Altar Call' at this point but we will be doing things a little differently – we have set up a text messaging service which will work like this:

People will be invited to text FAITH (or something similar) to a number given on the screen.

A free text back will give contact details for Youth Aflame (Facebook page etc)

This will be followed up by a second message two days later and a third two days after that. The exact contents have yet to be decided but the main idea is to steer people to a youth group in their area

This does not mean that we will neglect the there and then responses – we will have a team drawn from a variety of churches on standby

At the end of the evening everyone will leave with a 'goody bag' containing a Book

of Hope (from UCB), an embossed Youth Aflame wristband and a lollipop, and we hope a lot of food for thought.

We would greatly value your prayers for the success of this event, both in terms of people enjoying themselves but more importantly opening people's eyes and hearts to our God

Please circulate this as widely as possible and perhaps encourage people to come to the Theatre Royal on 30th September. I know this is billed as a youth event but come and watch what happens when God is in the house – I promise you won't be disappointed

Link to LZ7's website for those unfamiliar with their music and work: www.lz7.co.uk

Please pray:

- ◆ For the ministry of the Message Trust
- ◆ For the band members of LZ7 and supporting acts as they prepare to share the gospel message in St Helens
- ◆ For the staff, students and teachers at Haydock Sports College
- ◆ For the young people of St Helens – May their eyes and hearts be opened to our God.
- ◆ May this be only the beginning of a wonderful movement of the Holy Spirit of God among the young people (and the “young at heart” people!) of St Helens!



Please pray for the town centre churches

- 25 September – Christian Life Centre and the Salvation Army Hostel
- 26 September – Barton Street Mission and Bethel Mission
- 27 September – St Helens Baptist Church and Wesley Methodist Church
- 28 September – Holy Cross and St Mary's Lowe House
- 29 September – St Helens United Reformed Church (Ormskirk Street)
- 30 September – St Helens Parish Church, St Mark's North Road and St Thomas' Eccleston
- 1 October – Overcomers Pentecostal Assembly

Sunday 2 – Saturday 8 October

“I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from old – things we have heard and known, things our ancestors have told us. We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, His power, and the wonders He has done.” (Psalm 78:2-4)

When God opens our eyes and we see what He is doing, we must tell others. Why is it important to tell others? Two reasons. So others will learn to trust God and so God’s people will triumph. This week we will look at the first.

Psalm 78 talks of the importance of telling the next generation: *“Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget His deeds but would keep His commands.”* (Psalm 78:7) If all people ever see of God is a list of do’s and don’ts, then chances are they won’t. They won’t bother learning enough of about God to trust Him enough to let Him take hold of their lives. They won’t surrender to Him.

We who know the joy and peace that comes from surrendering your life to Jesus must tell the next generation. Share the stories of when you trusted Christ, when you took hold of His hand and trusted Him to guide your steps.

Please pray:

- ◆ Thank God for the times He has come through for you, for your church and your community in a marvellous way. Thank God for the little things too, as sometimes it’s the little things that make all the difference.
- ◆ Ask God who the “next generation” is in your life, church and community that He would like you to share His stories with.
- ◆ Thank God for the work He is doing to bring the prodigal sons and daughters home! Lift up in prayer those who you wish to see “come home.”
- ◆ Give thanks for the churches who are working in partnership across the Borough to reach people with the life-changing gospel of Jesus. Especially we give thanks for the recent outreach missions of:
 - ◆ St Mark’s Haydock, Christ Church URC, and Ebenezer Independent Methodist
 - ◆ Bryn Fellowship, Garswood Evangelical Church, and Earlestown Baptist Church
 - ◆ Youth Aflame
- ◆ Pray for the choir “Deep Harmony” and pray for their visit to Earlestown Baptist Church on 13th November.

- ◆ Pray also for Bill Wilson of Metro Ministries who is coming to St Helens to share about the children's work he leads around the world. He will be at the St Helens Christian Life Centre on 26th and 27th November 2011.

Don Westerman from the Gideons has asked us to pray for:

Please pray for the members of the local branch of the Gideons International as they hope to give out the Gideon New Testaments to Year 7 pupils in the following schools during October, November and December this year:

Cowley International College
De La Salle High School
Haydock Sports College
Lansbury Bridge School and Sports College
Rainford High Technology College
Rainhill High School Media Arts College
St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic High School
St Cuthberts Catholic Community College for Business and Enterprise
The Sutton Academy
Tower College
Hope Academy Newton-le-Willows
Knowsley Park Centre for Learning, Prescot
St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic Centre for Learning, Prescot
All Saints Catholic Centre for Learning, Kirkby
Kirkby Sports College
St Peter's Catholic High School Visual Arts College, Orrell
Upholland High School

Please pray for the churches in Billinge, Blackbrook, Haresfinch and Carr Mill

2 October – Billinge Family Church
3 October – St Aidan's Billinge and St Mary's RC Church
4 October – St David's Carr Mill
5 October – St Patrick, Clinkham Wood and St Peter & St Paul RC Church
6 October – Haresfinch United Reformed Church
7 October – St Mary's Blackbrook
8 October – St Paul's Blackbrook

Sunday 9 – Saturday 15 October

“They triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.” (Revelation 12:11)

The second reason we need to tell others what God is doing is so God’s people will triumph. Yes God already has the victory. *“But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”* (1 Corinthians 15:57) Telling the stories encourages people to live like they KNOW God has already won the victory.

The telling is not for God’s benefit. Clearly He knows what He has done, is doing, will do. The telling is for OUR benefit and for the benefit of those who know Christ or would come to know Christ as their Lord and Saviour. As the great hymn by Timothy Dudley-Smith says, “Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice!”

Speaking is important to our God. He spoke the world into being. (Genesis 1) Jesus is the Word. (John 1) There is power in saying the name of Jesus. *“...that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth.”* (Philippians 2:10) Once we confess our sins and accept the gift of Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross as payment for our sins, God extends His grace and mercy to us. Combined with the blood of Jesus, speaking of God’s greatness gives us power over the enemy and over sin. The act of speaking reinforces for us who it is we follow, who our God is, and the power we have in Christ Jesus through the Holy Spirit.

Please pray:

- ◆ Give thanks for all the people across the Borough who are telling their testimonies, stories about how Jesus has changed their lives. Pray for more!
- ◆ Thank God for organisations like The UNiT, Youth Aflame and Animate Youth Ministries who work in different ways to reach young people with the gospel. May God continue to inspire and encourage their leaders.
- ◆ Pray for those who lead the “Messy Churches” across the Borough:
 - ◆ Thatto Heath Primary School and Thatto Heath Rugby Club
 - ◆ Legh Vale Primary School
 - ◆ St Ann’s Primary School
 - ◆ St Philip’s Derbyshire Hill Road
 - ◆ Nutgrove Methodist School

Please pray for parents and children who come along and for the schools.

Rev David Eastwood, St Helens Parish Church, asks us to pray:

- ◆ For our Children’s Minister, Paul Caine and for our newly appointed Children and Family Worker, Alice Stanford, that they might really develop our children’s ministry.
- ◆ “Tots and Tinies” group (Tuesdays from 9.15am – 11.15am) that we will see many babies and mothers and carers attending.
- ◆ “20 minutes on Tuesday” service (12.30pm each Tuesday) that we see growth in numbers. We are very encouraged with how this is developing.
- ◆ “Christianity Explored” - our new course begins on 19th October. Pray for many to attend and to encounter Christ.
- ◆ Our plans to start a contemporary evening service in the next few months.
- ◆ For a special evening service on Sunday 4th December with Pete James and his band from Sheffield.

Please pray for the churches in Eccleston and Windle

- 9 October – Christ Church Eccleston
- 10 October – St Luke’s Eccleston
- 11 October – St Julies
- 12 October – St Andrews
- 13 October – St Teresa
- 14 October – Newtown United Reformed Church
- 15 October – St Thomas of Canterbury.

Church Prayer Requests

One of the goals of SHINE is to get churches to meet and pray for one another. As you will have noticed – we do put individual church prayer requests into this diary so that we can pray for each other.

In particular – if there are any specific events which your church is organising and you’d like pray for that event – then please e-mail us at office@shine.org.uk. The next prayer diary is our December/January edition – please e-mail us your prayer requests by **Friday 28 October**.

Sunday 16 – Saturday 22 October

“And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent”... “As you, father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.” (John 17:3, 21b)

Rev Amanda Bruce, St Mark’s Haydock, writes...

In last week’s thought on the Word, we looked at the triumph of God and how we make it real by telling the stories. But triumph for one side, results in defeat for the other. Our God through Jesus has secured the victory – Jesus is the conquering hero. But that means the devil has lost, Satan is defeated and he will only know death in the end. Jesus’ victory has been securely won, but we are still in the midst of the last battles here and now and the enemy isn’t letting us win without taking as many of us as he can with him into defeat and death. So how do we stop the enemy winning us over to himself?

I have recently been camping as part of my summer break. It was a wonderful week away, but I was very glad of two things: Firstly, I was glad I was camping with a friend. We stood together against the elements, keeping each other cheered on when it seemed like the tent might blow away. And secondly, I was more than glad of a torch. It was dark! On cloudy nights and when only half-awake I needed my torch to safely find the way to the facilities and back.

In our spiritual battles, we too need our friends and the light of Christ. We need to stand in unity with each other and in Jesus. And we stand strong by continually remembering Jesus’ story, which is our story. As Jesus does things in our lives and through us in the lives of others we must keep on sharing those stories so that the light of Christ shines strongly in and through us and keep us standing together within Him. Our stories of healing and provision, hope and care in the midst of a world of despair, loss, riots and economic crash are like torches of light in the darkness. Our stories of spiritual victory are stories of life and light.

Our prayer then must be: Jesus, help us to keep telling your story to all who need your life. Amen.

Please pray:

- ❖ For Christian unity *“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ.”* (Galatians 6:2)
- ❖ For SHINE, Mission in the Economy, The UNiT, Churches Together, Street Pastors, Redeeming Our Communities, and Youth Aflame. Give thanks for the various ways God’s people are coming together to reflect His glory in the heart of communities.

Mr Trevor Precott, West Street Independent Methodist Church, asks us to pray:

For our Family Weekend at Conway from October 21st to 23rd, that all ages will mix well together and that a real family atmosphere will prevail. Pray also for the session leaders: Eric Southwick for the adults and Jonathan & Gail Moorhouse for the youngsters, that they will be used to challenge and inspire us as individuals and as a fellowship.

***Unblocking the Wells of Revival in St Helens
Monday 24th October, 7.30pm
at St Helens Parish Church.***

Please pray for the churches in Haydock and Earlestown

- 16 October – Earlestown Baptist Church
- 17 October – Blessed English Martyrs RC Church
- 18 October – St James the Great, Haydock
- 19 October – St Mark's Haydock
- 20 October – Christ Church United Reformed Church
- 21 October – Haydock Independent Methodist Church
- 22 October – Haydock Methodist Church

Hope Centre

The Hope Centre is running an urgent appeal for food to provide for people who urgently need it.

They need items like:

- Sliced white bread
- Long life semi skimmed milk
- Sugar
- Tea/coffee/cordial
- Biscuits
- Tinned...beans, spaghetti, tomatoes, potatoes
stewed steak, meatballs, corned beef, ham
- Packet noodles
- Pasta



If you are able to supply any of these items, please bring them to the Hope Centre on Atherton Street in St Helens.

Telephone 01744 26414

Sunday 23 – Saturday 29 October

“Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.”
(Psalm 32:1)

There is a bar in town called Blessed. You can imagine people saying, “Let’s meet up at Blessed.” “Let’s check out the scene in Blessed.” As much as we Christians would want people to “meet at Blessed,” there is a problem. In this context, one might be tempted to consider blessed as being something that can be acquired through having a few pints with mates. “Having the dosh to go for a night out with me mates, that’s blessed.”

Is it? Is that what it means to be blessed? As Paul would say, “By no means!”

So what is blessed? According to Dictionary.com, blessed can mean a few things, but most people think of blessed as “blissfully happy or contented.” However, I doubt that is the definition Abram would have used! God said to Abram *“I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.”* (Genesis 12:2) After God told Abram this, he didn’t put his feet up and relax in God’s promise. No! He fled to Egypt because of a famine, got into a bit of bother with the Pharaoh, and had a family feud with Lot. Then God formed a Covenant with him. He and Sarah doubted God, so he had a son with Hagar. Then God changed his name from Abram “exalted father” to Abraham “father of many” and asked him to circumcise himself and every male in his household, *which he did*. Next was the whole ordeal with Sodom and Gomorrah, and he had to rescue his nephew Lot *again*. He moved to the Negev and lied about his wife *again*. Finally he has a son with Sarah, whom God then turns around and asks him to sacrifice like a burnt offering. Of course we know now, God was testing him and wasn’t going to demand young Isaac’s life, but Abraham hiking up the mountain with Isaac didn’t know until the angel stopped him. One can only imagine what might have been going on in his mind as he walked up that mountain, but it is doubtful Abraham was in any way “blissfully happy or contented.”

Abraham’s experience of blessed doesn’t fit with the cosy definition many have.

Blessed is not a state of relaxation. Being blessed isn’t about finally being able to let your hair down at the end of a long day of hard work. Blessed isn’t passive.

To be blessed is to be active.

Blessed is humility! “If any man desire to be first, *the same* shall be last of all, and servant of all.” (Mark 9:35 KJB)

Blessed is lifting people up and encouraging others! Read Matthew 5. “Blessed are the poor in spirit...those who mourn...the meek...those who hunger and thirst for righteousness...the merciful...the pure in heart...the peacemakers...those who are persecuted because of righteousness.” Jesus took the usual definition of blessed – those who are wealthy and in positions of status or power – and turned it on its head.

Blessed is a lesson in perseverance! *“Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.”* (James 1:12)

So I ask you – are you contented?

Or are you *blessed*?

Please pray:

- ◆ For a humble heart, willing to kneel and serve others, with God’s strength to persevere in all things
- ◆ For God to show you the people in your community and your church who need lifting up and encouraging.
- ◆ For God’s blessings to be poured out over God’s people in this Borough
- ◆ For His churches to bless the communities they serve in His name
- ◆ Please join the St Helens Christian Life Centre in praying for an increase in healing, in signs and wonders, a release of the prophetic and a real Kingdom of Heaven culture in the life of the church.

Please pray for the churches in Newton-Le-Willows

23 October – All Saints C of E Church and Emmanuel, Wargrave

24 October – Newton Christian Fellowship

25 October – St David’s RC Church and St Patrick’s RC Church.

26 October – St Johns’ C of E Church

27 October – St Peter’s C of E Church

28 October – St Mary and St John RC Church

29 October – Newton Methodist Church



Sunday 30 October – Saturday 5 November

“I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ. Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the saints.” (Philemon:6-7)

This week, if you are able, please pray with us daily, as we pray Philemon v6-7 over our outreach events held this week, over the chaplains, and over those who work in the emergency services.

Please pray:

Sunday 30 October – For the Halloween events being held tomorrow, to give children and young people an alternative way to spend the evening. Pray for those who have prepared the events and will lead the events. Give thanks to the young people who will attend. We pray they experience a fun evening packed with joy and friendship.

Monday 31 October – Pray that today and tonight are times of peace and joy. Pray for the light of Christ to shine through the darkness and into our communities. Give thanks for the various alternative events being hosted at churches across the Borough.

- ◆ Please join St Mark’s Church Haydock in praying for the “Light Night” party they are hosting.

Tuesday 1 November – Give thanks for the emergency workers: Fire, Police, Ambulance and Hospital A&E Departments. Pray people make good choices during this week’s festivities, so that the emergency services are not needed. Pray this week is a time of rest for our emergency workers.

Wednesday 2 November – Give thanks for chaplains. Pray they are refreshed, so that they may continue to “refresh the hearts” of the people they meet. Particularly give thanks for the recently appointed Police Chaplain Jonathan Kent.

Thursday 3 November – Pray for the churches of Parr and Rainford, for their leaders and for the communities they serve. The churches are: Holy Trinity, Parr Mount, St Philip’s Derbyshire Hill, Parr Methodist Church, The Salvation Army, St Vincent de Paul RC Church, St Peter’s Parr, Lighthouse Community Church, Corpus Christi RC Church, All Saints in Rainford, and Rainford United Reformed Church. Pray for the unity of these churches as brothers and sisters in Christ. Also give thanks for the newly appointed leaders: Methodist minister, Rev. Martin Wood and Salvation Army leader, Corps Assistant Audrey. We ask for God’s blessings on their ministries.

Friday 4 November – *“It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.”*

(Galatians 5:1) Thank God for freedom – freedom we experience living in the United Kingdom, but also for the freedom we experience living as “co-heirs with Christ” in the Kingdom of God. (Romans 8:17)

Saturday 5 November – This bonfire night, pray for the prodigal sons and daughters who have walked away from the Lord to return. For the Holy Spirit to ignite the embers in their hearts and fan into flame the joy and peace of our Lord Jesus.

More Prayer Labourers needed:

Did you know that over 600 copies of SHINE Prayer Focus are distributed every two months? We know that maybe not every copy will be used every day, but it is still a staggering thought that so many people are uniting in prayer across the town around the same objective of a Christ centred



St. Helens. If you know of others who have a commitment to praying for the transformation of St. Helens, why not give them a copy? Phone the office and ask Angela to send you an extra one today.



Sunday 6 – Saturday 12 November

“Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” (Jeremiah 29:7)

The newspaper headlines make for grim reading. Most of us know someone who has recently been made redundant, unemployed, retraining, or still looking. But despite the headlines, our God commands us to come to Him in prayer, praying for the prosperity of the town in which we live. This week we lift St Helens up to God in prayer.

Chief Executive Carole Hudson, St Helens Council asks us to pray:

- ◆ For those who are unable to find work. May God help them to keep hope in their hearts. *“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”* Jeremiah 29:11

- ◆ For the town retailers. May God see them through this difficult time. *“What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?”* Romans 8:31

Please also pray:

- ◆ For the Chief Executive and the Corporate Management team of the St Helens Council
- ◆ For the Council Leader and the Councillors
- ◆ For the leaders within the Chamber of Commerce.
- ◆ For people with finance and vision to see something in St Helens that they want to invest in, bringing good job opportunities into the town.
- ◆ Pray *“The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of His bounty, to send rain on our land in season and to bless all the work of our hands. We will lend to many nations but will borrow from none.”* (Deuteronomy 28:12)

Please pray for the churches of Prescott and Thatto Heath

- 6 November – Our Lady Help of Christians RC Church and St James, Eccleston Park
- 7 November – Prescott Methodist Church
- 8 November – Prescott Salvation Army and Prescott Community Church
- 9 November – Balmer Street Methodist Church, Nutgrove Methodist Church and West Street Independent Methodist Church
- 10 November – St John’s Ravenhead and St Matthew’s Thatto Heath
- 11 November – St Austin’s
- 12 November – Toll Bar with Prescott United Reformed Church

Sunday 13 – Saturday 19 November

Streets Part One

“Set up road signs; put up guideposts. Take note of the highway, the road that you take. Return, O Virgin Israel, return to your towns. How long will you wander, O unfaithful daughter? The LORD will create a new thing on earth— a woman will surround a man.” (Jeremiah 31:21-22)

Streets are peculiar things. They are meant to be places of movement and travel, but not always so.

Sometimes streets divide people. Sometimes we judge people based on the street they live on. Sometimes we get stuck in a traffic jam. Or maybe we don't even get on the road? Maybe we just perch on the side of the road or in a bus stop?

Sometimes the street becomes an uncomfortable home.

What kind of streets do we want for St Helens? Streets that divide? Street that promote restless wandering? No, we want something better. Let's reclaim our streets back for God's purposes. We want streets that promote individual and communal success and growth in Christ Jesus.

Please pray:

- ◆ For streets that bring people together, forming communities and neighbours
- ◆ For streets that allow movement from A to B, that encourage growth and change
- ◆ For streets that God can use to empower His people with a godly momentum, driving us forward into His plans and His purposes for our communities

***Unblocking the Wells of Revival in St Helens
Monday 21st November, 7.30pm,
at Christ Church URC in Haydock.***

Please pray for the churches of Sutton and Rainhill

13 November – All Saints Sutton, St Michael's Sutton and St Nicholas' Sutton

14 November – Sutton Methodist Church and Sutton Village Church

15 November – Church of the Nazarene and

Peasley Cross United Reformed Church

16 November – St Ann & Blessed Dominic and St Theresa.

17 November – St Bartholomew's RC Church and St Anne's Rainhill

18 November – Rainhill Pentecostal Church and Trinity Evangelical Church

19 November – St James' Methodist Church, Rainhill

Prayer Focus Groups

If you would like to join a Prayer Focus Group, and support in prayer your part of the town, please contact the SHINE Office for more information about the groups.

Contact details are on page 20



Sunday 20 – Saturday 26 November

Streets Part Two

“Set up road signs; put up guideposts. Take note of the highway, the road that you take. Return, O Virgin Israel, return to your towns. How long will you wander, O unfaithful daughter? The LORD will create a new thing on earth – a woman will surround a man.” (Jeremiah 31:21-22)

When you travel to somewhere you’ve never been before, you can’t just rely on the road to take you where you need to go. You have to prepare for the journey. You can get maps, or use a Sat Nav. Sometimes people rely on a trusty friend who has already been there before.

Failure to figure out the best way to get from A to B usually ends up with you arriving somewhere you did not intend to go. That’s fine if you are on holiday and don’t really have to be anywhere. It’s not fine if you have an important meeting you must get to!

As Christians, we have a destination in Christ Jesus. We may not know all God has planned for us, but we have a trusty friend to take on the journey with us – the Holy Spirit. We have a Sat Nav in prayer, and the best map in the Bible.

God knows the destination. We don’t need to wander aimlessly. Rather we are called to travel with purpose!

As Paul writes to the church in Corinth:

“Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.” (1 Corinthians 9:24-27)

Please pray

- ◆ For an increased awareness of the Holy Spirit in your life, your Church, your community
- ◆ For prayer to be a vital part of the Christian lifestyle, to encourage a closer relationship with God for all Christians and churches
- ◆ For the Bible to be cherished and read daily
- ◆ For God's guidance and direction over our lives, our churches and the Borough of St Helens

St Mark's Church Haydock asks us to pray for:

Saturday 26th November – An Advent Supper and Auction of Promises at St Mark's Church – open to all to raise funds for a team going to Paraguay to work with our mission partners and local churches for a fortnight in late spring.

Please pray for the following:

- 20 November – Ramp Riders
- 21 November – Animate Youth Ministries and The Seedling Trust
- 22 November – All the church leaders in St Helens
- 23 November – The UNiT and Youth Aflame
- 24 November – SHINE
- 25 November – Tango centres and the Hope Centre
- 26 November – Oasis Community Centre and Billinge Storehouse

Advanced notice of two evenings in December:

***Unblocking the Wells of Revival in St Helens
Monday 5th December, 7.30pm
at St. Helens Christian Life Centre***

**A special evening of worship and prayer for St Helens
Hosted by St Helens Parish Church on Sunday 4th December
Led by Pete James (New Wine) and his band.
All are welcome.**

St Mark's Church, Haydock

HEALING ROOMS AT ST MARK'S

Every second and fourth Saturday throughout the year.

11am – 1pm

St Mark's Centre, Park Street, Haydock, WA11 0AX

Free and confidential prayer for healing, open to all
with no appointment necessary.

Refreshments provided

For more information please contact 01744 602641

St Mark's Evening Celebration

On the fourth Sunday of the month at 7.00pm, St Mark's Haydock are holding an evening service. This includes lively contemporary worship, a short talk and time to respond to God in prayer and worship as the Holy Spirit leads us.

Feel free to join us on September 25th, October 23rd or November 27th.

This Prayer Letter is produced by SHINE Trust Board

Rev. Fr. Tom Neylon (Acting Chair)

Rev. John Draycott

Miss Helen Davies

Mr. Joe Higgins

SHINE Office,
St. Helens Parish Church,
Church Square,
St. Helens,
WA10 1AF

Phone & Fax No.: 01744 23433

email: office@shine.org.uk

www: shine.org.uk

St. Helens Inter-Church Neighbourhood Evangelisation
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