Eccleston & Pulford Church of St Mary's – March 29th 2026

St Mary's Church Eccleston, Church Rd, Eccleston, CH4 9HT
St Mary's Church Pulford, Wrexham Rd, Pulford, CH4 9DG
https://ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org
admin@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org
Rector: Rev Dr Stephen Torr.
Associate Minister: Rev Holly Torr.

Please refer to the website for latest locations and times.
All Services are led by Rev Dr Stephen Torr unless indicated otherwise.

Sun 29th Mar	10:30 am	Eccleston Church	Palm Sunday Choral HC
Thur. 2nd Apr	7:30 pm	Eccleston Church	Maundy Thursday Choral HC
Fri 3rd Apr.	2:00 pm	Eccleston Church	Good Friday – Hour at the Cross
Sun 5th Apr	*10:30 am*	*Eccleston Church*	*Easter Day - All age HC & Renewal of Baptism Vows*
Sun 12th Apr	10:30 am	Pulford Village Hall	HC
Sun 19th Apr	9:45 am	Eccleston Church	Said HC
Sun 19th Apr	10:45 am	Eccleston Church	Messy Church
Sun 26th Apr	10:30 am	Eccleston Church	Choral HC
Sun 3rd May	10:30 am	Pulford Village Hall	HC
Sun 3rd May	11:45 am	Pulford Village Hall	Church AGM – Everyone welcome.
Sun 10th May	10:30 am	Eccleston Church	Choral HC with Baptism
Thur.14th May	7:00 pm	Eccleston Church	Ascension

Your prayers are asked for those who are sick and all the sick of the Parish. We remember our beloved dead, particularly those who have died recently, including Maurice Terry, Steve Willan and Terry Brightmore and those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Parish Contacts: https://www.ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org/contacts/

Messy Church Dates and Locations 2026
All Messy Churches will be in Eccleston Village Hall at 10.45 am on the 3rd Sunday of the month (unless otherwise indicated). Please see Holly's poster for details:
https://www.ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org/messy-church/

Readings for Palm Sunday 29th March: (1)
First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a ESV - The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of - Bible Gateway

Readings for Maundy Thursday 2nd April
1st reading: Exodus 12:1-14 ESV - The Passover - The LORD said to Moses - Bible Gateway
Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35 ESV - Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet - Bible Gateway

Readings for Good Friday 3rd April
1st Readings:
- Isaiah 52:13-53:12; ESV - He Was Pierced for Our Transgressions - Bible Gateway
- Psalm 22:1-21; ESV - Why Have You Forsaken Me? - To the - Bible Gateway
- Hebrews 10:16-25 ESV - "This is the covenant that I will - Bible Gateway

Gospel:
- John 18:1-19,37; ESV - Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus - When - Bible Gateway
- John 19:38-42 ESV - Jesus Is Buried - After these things - Bible Gateway

Newsletter #137 created by Stephen Hutchinson. For websites, apps, art and computer support, please contact https://stevehutch.co.uk

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Hymns for Sunday 29th March -

Reader/Intercessor Rota: The Church reader/intercessor rota can be found at the following URL: https://www.ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org/rota/
If you would like to be a reader or make changes to your reading times, please email Hilary or me at admin@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org

Pulford & Poulton Local History Group. The next History Group event can be found on their website. To book tickets or simply to find out more about these talks visit the Pulford and Poulton Local History Group at https://pplhg.org.uk or email James at info@pplhg.org.uk

Chester Diocese News News (List) | Chester Diocese

Church Vacancies: We desperately need a **Tower Captain** for Eccleston Church, **an additional Church Warden**, **Readers, Intercessors, Welcomers and Cleaners.**
Anyone who would like to help please email: admin@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org

Bob Hughes Homily: Rob reflects on a life in the Spirit and selfless leadership in this weeks homilies: to read these homilies please visit: Homilies - ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org

Are there any **Fleetwood Mac** fans who would like to attend a Fleetwood Mac concert on Friday 3rd July at Chester Cathedral? See details here…

Buy Tickets – The Music of Fleetwood Mac by Candlelight at Chester Cathedral – Chester Cathedral

Please email admin@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org if interested. Maybe we could organise a group booking?

Christian Art of the week: This week's painting is by Benjamin Constant from 1890 depicting St Joseph and Jesus. On the Solemnity of St Joseph the father of Jesus, the author of the article reflects on the fact that the Gospels contain not a single recorded word by Joseph. Not one sentence of his is preserved in Scripture. Yet his life speaks volumes. Read the fascinating article here: **Luke 2: 41-51a (2026) | CHRISTIAN ART | Gospel Reading & Art Reflection**

Everyday Faith has grown out of *Setting God's People Free,* a Church of England initiative that aims to help all Christians to live out the good news of Jesus, and follow him with confidence, in all areas of our lives. In support of this, the Everyday Faith team in the diocese have been recording a series of podcasts, in which Ruth Bull is in conversation with a panel of Christians from a variety of situations. The conversation will allow the panelists to talk about the ways their faith in Jesus Christ shapes their everyday life, in ordinary and extraordinary ways. It will take place in front of a live audience who will be able to ask them questions, which will also be recorded for the podcast. Looking ahead, an audience recording is taking place on: **Wednesday 13th May at Chester Cathedral with drinks from 7:00pm and live recording starting at 7:30pm**. Panelists will come from churches in the deaneries of Chester and Malpas. Would you consider being a panelist? If so, please email Peter Froggatt by 23rd March. His email address is peter.froggatt@chester.anglican.org

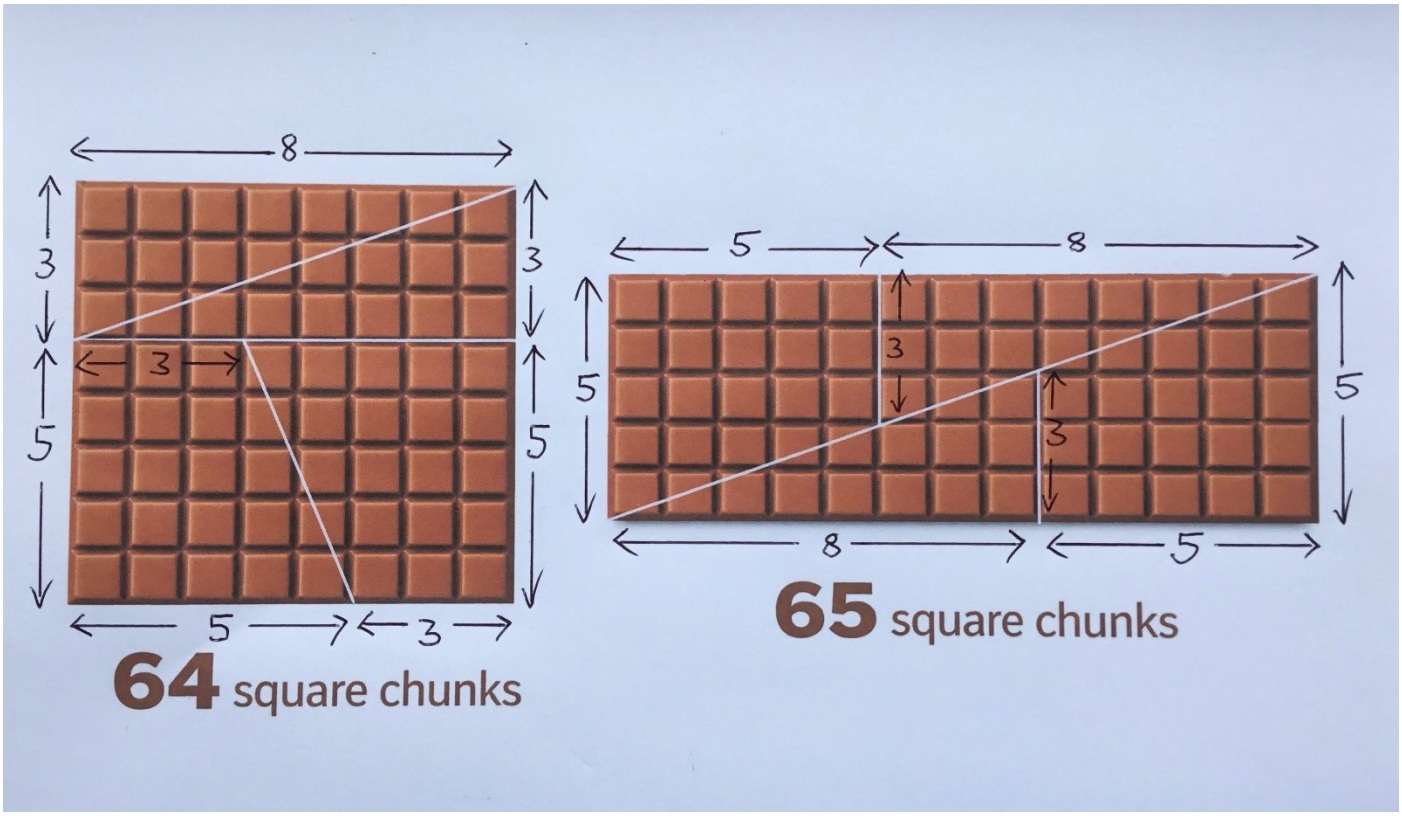
Prayer of the week: At a time when pilgrimages were both common and potentially dangerous, there might be a special prayer service or ceremony before their departure. Prayers like this would be said, seeking God's protection and safekeeping:

May God shield us by each sheer drop,
May Christ keep us on each rock-path,
May the Spirit fill us on each bare slope, as we cross hill and plain,
Who live and reign One God for ever.
Amen. *Anon.*

Puzzle of the week - *A puzzle for the mathematically minded.*

I have a bar of chocolate that is divided into 64 chunks (64 square units) (8 chunks x 8 chunks). I now divide this up as per the first diagram into an 8x3 block and a 5x8 block. I then cut these two shapes diagonally into the shapes shown in the first diagram.

I then reassemble the shapes to form the 2nd diagram. Try this using carboard exactly as shown in the diagram. The shape on the right is now 13 chunks x 5 chunks which gives me 65 chunks of chocolate. The original bar was 64 chunks though, so where did the additional piece of chocolate come from? A prize for the correct answer.



Newsletter items - *Please email newsletter items* to: *admin@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org*

1 - Bible Readings from https://BibleGateway.com
2 - Prayer of the week taken from the Collins 'best loved prayers and words of wisdom'.
3 - Christian Art Homily from https://christian.art website.