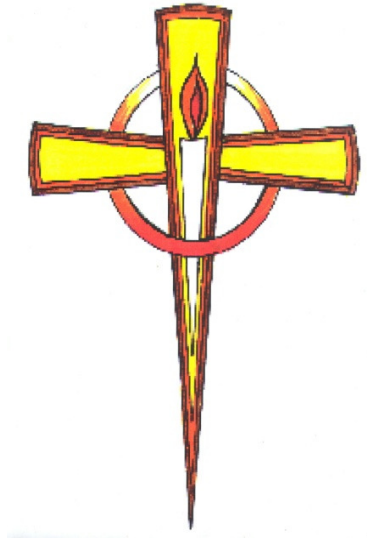


Christ Church Walmersley

in the Benefice of Walmersley Road



Magazine

Spreading the Word

October 2011

Thought for the Month



Not long before starting my training last year I was on holiday in Wales and decided to go for a train ride to Barmouth. I was rooting around in a little old book shop cellar for inspiration and to see if there were any books that would be of help to me when the training started. Over in the dusty book piles that no one had been browsing in for a while I found an old leather clad concordance. It had a little inscription inside the cover "Timothy II 3.16-17". If I am to be honest I had no idea what this passage in the Bible was until I got home. It is as follows.

- 16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God,
and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof,
for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
- 17 That the man of God may be
perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

Quite good words found in a dusty old book for a person about to start their journey in Reader training, I hope you would agree. It was probably the last place I really expected to find some inspiration on holiday, on a day out to a small town, in an old dusty shop. But it was there and I did find it. The point is I could have let this so easily pass me by if I hadn't been looking to start with.

These were words of inspiration I had been searching for and had found, but so it can be with God. We often hear people say, "I wish God would come to me," or, "I would like some guidance in my faith." But the trouble is we often want faith brought to us and God's presence made known to us at a time or place of our choosing. Unfortunately though for us we have it the wrong way round.

God will not fit into our plans for life and our needs - we must fit into his. If we wish to experience faith and the presence of God in our lives we must keep our eyes open and be watchful at all times. God will make himself know to us at a time and a place of his choosing. We as Christians must be ready and willing to accept God's presence and guidance when or where he chooses to come unto us. We must also follow where our faith guides us to go and not just where and when it suits us. If we go looking in the dark places where we don't normally go or we peer into the places that make us uncomfortable the chances are that God may just peer back and guide us on our way.



I found my inspiration in a dark cellar and I'm terrified of cellars.

But on a lighter note I just wish to thank all the clergy and congregation from both churches. During my first year of training I have had so much support from people from both churches that I wish to say a huge THANK YOU ALL. And a very special thank you to my wife Amanda who has helped me through the first year and been understanding about the time that the training demands of me.

So as I start my second year of training, I will try to do my best for all of you and be the best that I am capable of. I know it will not be easy but I will try my hardest which I think will go a long way - as my wife says, "I'm the most trying person she's ever met"???

Regards,

Darren

SERVICES AND READINGS FOR OCTOBER



- October 2nd **15th Sunday after Trinity**
- 9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
2 Corinthians 9: 6-8; Matthew 6: 25-34
- 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
1 Chronicles 29: 9-13; 2 Corinthians 9: 6-8;
Matthew 6: 25-34
- October 9th **16th Sunday after Trinity - Harvest Festival**
- 9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22: 1-14
- 10.30 a.m. Family Service
Matthew 22: 1-14
- October 16th **17th Sunday after Trinity**
- 9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10; Matthew 22: 15-22
- 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10; Matthew 22: 15-22
- October 23rd **Last Sunday after Trinity**
- 9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8; Matthew 22: 34-46
- 10.30 a.m. Morning Prayer (CW)
1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8; Matthew 22: 34-46
- October 30th **4th Sunday before Advent - Bible Sunday**
- 9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
Colossians 3: 12-17; Matthew 24: 30-35
- 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
Colossians 3: 12-17; Matthew 24: 30-35

ARE YOU ON DUTY?

If you are unavailable, please arrange to exchange with someone else.

READINGS

October 2 nd	Rosemary Taylor
October 9 th	Junior Church
October 16 th	Sybil Fryer
October 23 rd	Anne Nuttall
October 30 th	Bill Noble

INTERCESSIONS

Margery Spencer
Junior Church
Joe McDermott
Margaret Schofield
Bob Taylor

SIDESMEN / WOMEN ROTA

October 2 nd	Alison Fewtrell	Jean Slater	Alan Spencer
October 9 th	Roy Warburton	Sybil Fryer	Chris Standring
October 16 th	Bill Noble	Ian Riddick	Shelagh Beetson
October 23 rd	Geoff Hamilton	David Peters	Nigel Silvester
October 30 th	Pamela Hoyle	Alison Fewtrell	Jean Slater

LAY ASSISTANTS



October 2 nd	Barbara Silvester	
October 16 th	Nigel Silvester	
October 30 th	Barbara Silvester	Jean Slater

FLOWERS

in church have been given:

- October 2nd In memory of the Birtwistle family
- October 9th In memory of Joe and Flo Atkinson
- October 16th In memory of Mr & Mrs Tasker
- October 23rd In memory of Jack & Ann Openshaw from Michelle
- October 30th In memory of the Mather family



	<p>Baptisms</p> <p>August 21st</p> <p>August 28th</p> <p>September 11th</p>	<p>Holly Elizabeth Cottam Gabriel Wyatt</p> <p>Holly Raine Ingham</p> <p>Olivia Ella Brejwo</p>
	<p>Weddings</p> <p>August 21st</p>	<p>Paul Vernon and Annemarie Porter</p>
	<p>Interment of Ashes</p> <p>September 4th</p>	<p>Ann Openshaw</p>



Where do you fit into the jigsaw of life at Christ Church?

We hope that you have received an invitation to the Jigsaw Stewardship Mission, being held this month. If not, do please get in touch with one of the clergy or wardens.

Sunday, 2 October - LAUNCH
Bishop Chris will preach at 10.30 a.m.

Sunday, 9 October – HARVEST

Sunday, 16 October – another opportunity to return YOUR piece of the jigsaw

Sunday, 23 October – the mission draws to a CLOSE

An opportunity, throughout this month, for us all to review our commitment to Christ Church and, more importantly, to God.

2 Corinthians 9: 6-8

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

Harvest Festival 2011

Our Harvest Festival this year will be at 10.30am on Sunday 9th October. The theme of our worship, as always, will be thanksgiving for what God has provided for us. As a demonstration of our gratefulness for what we have received we shall bring gifts to give to those in the local and global community who are in great need.



This year we will be supporting the work of Tearfund's "We are Church" project which seeking to help churches in the poorest parts of Africa to lead their communities out of poverty and into a position where they can support themselves. Envelopes will be available in church so that we can collect a financial gift to send to Tearfund.

Also, as we have done for quite a number of years now, we shall be supporting local charity "Porch Boxes" which provides crisis packs for vulnerable people in our locality. This support takes the form of food and basic hygiene items. Lists of requested items will be available in church and on the website.

We shall be taking gifts of flowers to those in our local community who are sick or housebound. If you are aware of anyone who you feel should receive such a gift, or if you can help deliver the gifts, please let Margery Spencer or any member of the clergy team know.

"Come celebrate the Feast of the Harvest ...and bring the first fruits of your labour to the house of the Lord your God" Exodus 23

"Everything in heaven and earth is yours, O Lord; ...riches come from you;and we give you thanks praising your glorious name" 1 Chronicles 29

***"Come ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest-home!"
– Henry Alford***

Whatever happened to the Summer I hear you cry! Well, as I sit here with sun streaming through the window, it appears to have waited until September!



Our second meeting in August was an enlightening talk by Rosemary Taylor. She oversees the work of AFIA in Manchester Diocese. AFIA stands for Away From It All. It aims to give breaks to those who need them and Rosemary's hope was to encourage us to think of those who may benefit from this type of help and to assure us that it was not necessarily the intention to send anyone to the seaside in a caravan! It is the hope that if we see the need in the community for some 'time out' for someone, that we could put their name forward. It could be a one night break or help with travel expenses. It might even be a day trip. If you have any questions about AFIA, feel free to speak to a Mothers' Union member who will point you in the right direction.

The 102nd birthday party proved very enjoyable. The refreshments were good and the entertainment terrific! At great expense we were able to book the services of 'The Y Factor' (Y are we doing this?), a group of talented lyricists and musicians who amused us with their comic songs and old favourites from the 60s and 70s. Their names may be familiar! - Nigel and Barbara Silvester along with Geoff and Miriam Hamilton. Unfortunately, Bob Taylor was unwell and unable to join them. Very many thanks to them for agreeing to perform and for the rehearsal time that they put in. I would also like to thank the members who gave up time to prepare the food and the Hall beforehand.

The next meeting in September is the Trip of my Life. More about that next month.



By the way – Mothers’ Union Christmas cards, diaries, Advent calendars, etc. are available through Hilary Riddick

Dates for the Diary

- Oct 5th **Diocesan Festival** 7.30 p.m. in the Cathedral
Everyone is welcome
Led by Bishop Nigel, with Lynne Tembey, our Provincial President, to preach
- Oct 19th **Have your say!**
What should Christ Church Mothers’ Union be doing?
- Nov 2nd **Holy Communion** in Chapel
followed by pie and peas and postcard competition
(Still time to send your card – subject “children”)
- Nov 16th Angela Dand – **Action and Outreach** Coordinator
for Manchester Mothers’ Union
- Nov 19th **Autumn Council** – 9.30 for 10 a.m.
Ask if you are interested in attending
Learn more about work in Manchester and further afield; and an opportunity to have your input
- Dec 7th **Advent Meditation**
- Dec 14th **Christmas Meal** **NB.** This is not 3rd Wednesday

Catherine Hilton
Branch Leader



Want to know more?
Visit: **www.MothersUnionManchester.org**

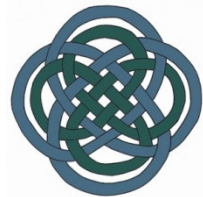
Be Still

AND KNOW
THAT I AM GOD

On Saturday, August 20th, a group of Mothers' Union members met at Bolton Road Methodist Church in Bury for a Day of Quiet Retreat led by Revd Alison Hardy.

There are four elements which are the essence of a good retreat: solitude, silence, simplicity and surrender. The aim of the day was to spend time in quiet and stillness with God, away from the business of our lives. It was wonderful just to commune with God and relax in his presence. There were Bible reflections too led by Alison, which I particularly enjoyed, and prayer stations with pictures and commentaries which were very thought provoking. There was silence for most of the day and many of us spent this time in prayer, Bible study, contemplation or reading. It was our choice. The day finished with a service of Holy Communion, which was very spiritual. All in all, our day was most enlightening, refreshing and peaceful.

There is going to be a quiet weekend, to be held in September next year, at Foxhill in Frodsham. If it follows the pattern of our retreat on Saturday, we are in for a real treat and I would encourage all who can to attend. Details of the weekend will follow in due course.



Margaret Dutton

From the OLD to the New

During this year, which marks 400 years of the Bible in English, we are quoting parts of the Bible in the King James' Version and putting beside them a modern translation. This month we have chosen the calming of the storm as told by Saint Matthew.

King James Version

Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!"

But He said to them, "Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?" Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. So the men marvelled, saying, "Who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?"



The Message Bible

Then he got in the boat, his disciples with him. The next thing they knew, they were in a severe storm. Waves were crashing into the boat—and he was sound asleep! They roused him, pleading, "Master, save us! We're going down!"

Jesus reprimanded them. "Why are you such cowards, such faint-hearts?" Then he stood up and told the wind to be silent, the sea to quiet down: "Silence!" The sea became smooth as glass.

The men rubbed their eyes, astonished. "What's going on here? Wind and sea come to heel at his command!"

Prayer Mat

Week One

Bless to me, O Lord,
the work of my hands.
Bless to me, O God,
the work of my mind.
Bless to me, O Father,
the work of my heart.
Author unknown



Week Two

Father God, our heavenly creator, we thank you at this Harvest - time for all your abundance of gifts to us. We thank you for the fruit, grain and vegetables that you so wonderfully supply to us. We thank you for the money so freely given that we send to foreign countries to those people so much less fortunate than ourselves where daily living is hand to mouth and starvation, malnutrition and fear reign. And Father we thank you for the gifts that people have brought to church for distribution to the sick, elderly and homeless in our parish. This is truly a blessing and means that those who can no longer get to church know that they have not been forgotten by the congregation. Thank you once again for all your bounty, we are indeed blessed. Amen.



Week Three

Dear Lord, we thank you that this week we have the presentation of certificates for Children's Ministry. Thank you for all those who have come forward for this ministry and bless them in their work with the children. Our children are the future of our church and need sound teaching of your word and works and of your son, Jesus Christ. This work is the cornerstone of our future and we pray that those involved may be moved and enriched by their involvement. Thank you, Lord. Amen.

Week Four

Holy Father, it is the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible and this week there is a service at the Cathedral to commemorate this. We thank you for your word, your Holy word, in the Bible, Lord that we may learn of you, your prophets, the Gospels, Acts of the Apostles, and letters. Many of us now read a revised version of the King James Bible, but the original has beauty in your words that cannot be copied, particularly in the Psalms. We thank you that you have given us the Bible as the foundation for our faith. Amen.



When: 7 October 2011
Where: Lower Room, Church Hall
Time: 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Everyone is welcome, so do come and join this informal meeting for fellowship, worship and time for tea and a chat. Transport can be arranged for you if necessary.

If you require any more information, please contact Revd. Don Altham

Children's Corner



A Harvest Prayer

We thank you Lord, for our harvest.
We thank you for the warm sun, the sustaining rain,
the rich soil and the hard working farmers.
And we thank you for blessing our tables
with the fruits of the land,
so that we may be nourished and satisfied.
We give gifts today, Lord so that others may know
your bountiful harvests.

We remember those in Africa
who are hungry, poor and ill.
We pray for African farmers -
that they may feel sun on their faces
and rich earth crumbling in their hands.

We pray for African parents –
that they may provide for their families
and see them grow up healthy, hopeful and happy.

We pray for African children –
that they may know love and no longer
feel the ache of hunger and the despair of poverty.

Father, please watch over your children here and in Africa.
Please comfort and support, heal and lift up.
Please plant in us all the seeds to reap the harvest
of your love, your compassion and your charity.

Fruit of the Spirit



Unscramble the words and write them in the corresponding blanks. Then take the letters in the circles and arrange them to find the solution to the puzzle.

EECAP



TAFIH



SLGEEENSNT



DESONSGO



MEEPTNEARC



EMESKNSE



EVOL



YJO



GIGUNFRNFESLO



Fruit of the Spirit - How we get it.



Congratulations!

This summer 41 people from parishes all over the diocese completed the pilot year of the Authorised Lay Ministry Course and were commissioned for their new ministries in a wonderful celebration service at Manchester Cathedral, on Saturday, September 12th. Among this number was NIGEL SILVESTER.

ALMs are 'authorised' by the Bishop to exercise a particular ministry within their local parish. Nigel will serve the parish as a Worship Leader. Other ministries include - Pastoral Assistants, Children's Ministers or have a focus on developing prayer and spirituality.

The ALM training programme helps to prepare candidates to share ministry in these areas and the next ALM programme starts in January 2012 – is this something you could consider?

We offer our congratulations and our prayerful support to Nigel in his new role.

HELP NEEDED!!

Guides currently only have 1 warranted leader and cannot continue to meet in this way.

We are looking for any ladies who are willing to spare a short time to attend Guides on a Friday evening 7.30 – 9.00 pm on a rota basis. The more volunteers the less often you have to do it!!

Please consider any time you can spare and contact Rosemary Taylor for a chat.

Thank you

25th Bury Guides





Lettings

At the beginning of September Don included this beautiful prayer in his sermon. His daughter had sent him a service sheet from her church in America in which this prayer was included. Don asked me to put it in *Lettings* this month. I am sure, like me, you would wish this was engraved in the stones above the church door and would be our prayer for our own house.

*O God make the door of this house wide enough
to receive all who need human love and divine fellowship;
narrow enough to shut out all stress, anger and frustration.*

*Make its threshold smooth enough
to be no stumbling block to children nor to straying feet
but rugged and strong to turn back the tempter's power.*

*God make the door of this house
the gateway to thy eternal kingdom.*

In Jesus' name AMEN.

If you have an interesting article for *Lettings* or a Christian Book recommendation for *Book Review*, please contact Jean Slater



A little boy was overheard praying.....
*"Lord if you can't make me a better boy, don't
worry about it. I'm having a really good time
like I am."*



Book review

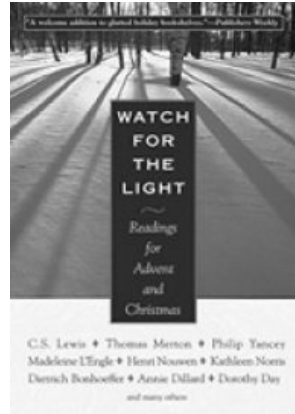
Watch for the Light

Readings for Advent and Christmas

As we prepare for Advent in November and then Christmas I thought this book may be useful to refer to as we centre our thoughts on this beautiful season.

First published in 2004 this book contains a selection of writings from some of the greatest spiritual writers and provides inspiration for Advent and Christmas.

Writers include C.S. Lewis, Dietrich Bonhoeffer and T.S.Eliot.



Sudoku

				7	8	5		3
			3					
3		2			5	6	1	
2	5		1		7	8		
				2				
		4	5		9		7	1
	6	7	4			3		8
					2			
9		1	8	6				

Manchester Diocesan Healing Roadshow



All of us are involved in caring for someone at certain times in our lives in some way or other and this roadshow aims to provide help and information not only about the person we are caring for but also about caring for ourselves.

The venue for November 12th is St Martin's Droylsden, M43 7QS

If you need transport for this event or you require more information please contact Jean Slater

Saturday 3 December

Please put the date in your diary NOW.

Are you able to help in any way - on the day, in preparation, behind the scenes? PLEASE have a word with Tricia Stokes or any PCC member.



Suggestions and offers of help to run a stall or activity are welcomed - let's be imaginative!

Watch out for more details on the weekly sheet, website and in next month's magazine.

What's on in Walmersley

October

- Sun 2 Launch of Jigsaw Stewardship Mission
- Wed 5 Mothers' Union Diocesan Festival
- Sun 9 Harvest Festival
- Wed 12 P.C.C.
- Sat 15 Presentation of certificates for Children's Ministry
Manchester Cathedral, at 3.30 p.m.
- Wed 19 Mothers' Union "Have your say!"

November

- Sat 19 Quiz Night
- Sun 20 Junior Church Presentation Sunday
- Sat 26 Christmas Fair – St John w St Mark's

December

- Sat 3 Winter Fair - CCW

Sunday, 23 October at 3 p.m. in Manchester Cathedral

THE WORD REVEALED

Bishop Nigel has expressed the hope that those who week by week read the scriptures in public worship will be among those who come to this service to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible.

Tickets are free but must be requested in advance by contacting the Wardens or directly to Bishops court on 0161 792 2096 or sec@bishops court.manchester.anglican.org

1909

2011



Happy 102nd birthday to
Christ Church Mothers' Union