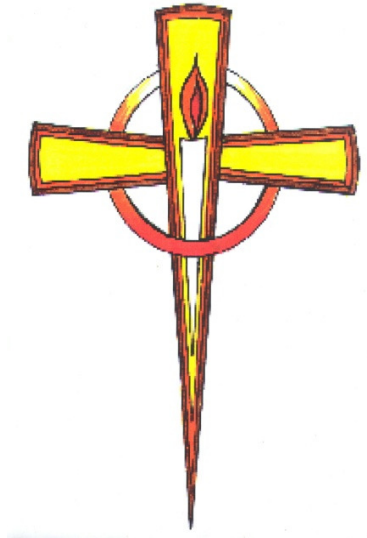


# Christ Church Walmersley

in the Benefice of Walmersley Road



Magazine

*Spreading the Word*

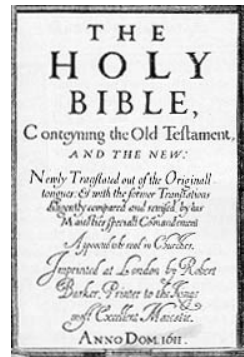
February 2011

## Thought for the Month

1611 – 2011

“The love of money is the root of all evil” – “living off the fat of the land” – he escaped “by the skin of his teeth” – “the greatest of these is charity”. These are just 4 of the well-known phrases among the hundreds of quotations from the Authorised Version of the Bible to be found in 38 pages of the 1992 edition of the Oxford Dictionary of Quotations. Only William Shakespeare has more entries than the A V.

This year sees the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the A V of the Bible, often called the King James Version because it was commissioned by King James VI of Scotland, I of England. (It is not the ‘St. James Version’ as I was once told by an elderly parishioner!). There can be no doubt about the lasting legacy of this great work of English translation and literature, nor about the effect it has had on the English language and English speaking people the world over.



Whatever the King's original motives were for commissioning this translation from the Hebrew and Greek Scriptures – and they may well have been in part political, trying to unite the different religious factions of the two kingdoms – the translators produced a work of great and memorable beauty. The faith and spirituality of countless people have been rooted and grounded in the language of the A V. Many older people will remember learning verses from it by heart as children. Many of its verses have been set to music; most notable must be Handel's 'Messiah', beloved of choirs and choral societies, particularly at Christmas and Easter.

So we do well to give thanks to God this year for the Authorised Version of the Bible; for King James who commissioned it; for Archbishop Sancroft of Canterbury who inspired it; and for the scholars who translated it. And yet . . . and yet. Since 1611 so much has changed, and I for one am glad that there are today many other English Versions of the Bible available. Since then the English language has evolved and developed radically, so that words and turns of phrase then in common parlance are now no longer used. The most obvious example is the almost total loss in modern English of the 2<sup>nd</sup> person singular of the verb: "thee, thou, didst, dost" (for example) are not used today. "Charity" (1 Corinthians 13) has a quite different meaning; and when did you last refer to not opening up your "bowels of compassion" (1 John 3.17) when you refused to help someone in need?

Also: since 1611 Biblical scholarship, and the understanding of the ancient languages, has developed. Archaeologists have discovered many older manuscripts of the Hebrew and Greek texts than were then available, which has enabled more accurate translations to be made. If you open an old bible you will find not a few words in italics, showing that the text the 1611 translators used was corrupt or that they simply didn't understand what the original meant. Much has improved since 1611; though no doubt there's still further to go in this field.

I do not believe, as some fundamentalist Christians seem to believe, that the A V is the last word in the English Bible. I do believe that there will always be a need for further translations, reflecting the ongoing development both of English and of biblical scholarship since 1611. But I am very glad to give thanks this year for the 400 years of the Authorised Version; and to know that it will remain for ever as a great translation of the Bible and a great piece of English literature.

Ralph E. Mathison

## SERVICES AND READINGS FOR FEBRUARY



- Feb 6<sup>th</sup>            **Fifth Sunday before Lent**
- 9.00 a.m.        Holy Communion (BCP)  
1 Corinthians 2:1-12; Matthew 5:13-20
- 10.30 a.m.       Holy Communion (CW)  
1 Corinthians 2:1-12; Matthew 5:13-20

- Feb 13<sup>th</sup>           **Fourth Sunday before Lent**
- 9.00 a.m.        Holy Communion (BCP)  
1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5: 21-37
- 10.30 a.m.       Family and Parade Service  
Matthew 5: 21-37

- Feb 20<sup>th</sup>           **Third Sunday before Lent**
- 9.00 a.m.        Holy Communion (BCP)  
1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23; Matthew 5: 38-48
- 10.30 a.m.       Holy Communion (CW)  
1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23; Matthew 5: 38-48

- Feb 27<sup>th</sup>           **Second Sunday before Lent**
- 9.00 a.m.        Holy Communion (BCP)  
Romans 8: 18-25; Matthew 6: 25-34
- 10.30 a.m.       Morning Prayer (CW)  
Romans 8: 18-25; Matthew 6: 25-34

# ARE YOU ON DUTY?

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

## READINGS

February 6 <sup>th</sup>	Bill Noble
February 13 <sup>th</sup>	Anne Nuttall
February 20 <sup>th</sup>	Shelagh Beetson
February 27 <sup>th</sup>	David Peters

## INTERCESSIONS

Margaret Schofield
Junior Church
Joe McDermott
Alan Spencer

## SIDESMEN / WOMEN ROTA

February 6 <sup>th</sup>	Geoff Hamilton	Ian Riddick	Chris Standring
February 13 <sup>th</sup>	Nigel Silvester	George Fryer	David Peters
February 20 <sup>th</sup>	Alison Fewtrell	Jean Slater	Alan Spencer
February 27 <sup>th</sup>	Roy Warburton	Shelagh Beetson	Sybil Fryer

## LAY ASSISTANTS

February 6 <sup>th</sup>	Jean Slater	
February 20 <sup>th</sup>	Nigel Silvester	Barbara Silvester

If these dates are inconvenient please arrange to exchange with someone.

Do you feel you could contribute to worship  
by reading the lessons or leading intercessions?  
If so, please contact Margery Spencer.  
Support will be given.



## FLOWERS

February 6 <sup>th</sup>	In memory of Mrs. D. Ronson
February 13 <sup>th</sup>	In memory of Fred Williams
February 20 <sup>th</sup>	Mr. Derek Schofield in memory of his mother
February 27 <sup>th</sup>	In memory of Sarah Melling and Jack Illsley



## From the Old to the New

During this year we shall be quoting parts of the Bible in the King James Version and putting beside them a modern translation. It seems appropriate this month to begin with the words of Simeon when Jesus was presented in the temple.

### King James Version

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word ; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

### New International Version

Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.

# Prayer Mat

## Week One

Dear Father, we ask you to bless all those who have been affected by the recent floods in Brazil, Sri Lanka and Australia. We pray for all those who have lost their homes and everything they own. May the world react to help rebuild the infrastructures in these countries. Take into your loving arms all those who have lost their lives and bless those who mourn. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Week Two



Dear Father, this week is Marriage Week and we ask you to bless all who are married. Give them love and tolerance for one another. May they rejoice in the joys of their relationship knowing that you rejoice for them when they are happy and in love. Bless all those who are not happy and bring about a healing in their lives. Amen.

## Week Three

O God, You have prepared for those who love You and for those who do not yet know and love You such good things as pass our understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for You that we, loving You above all things, may obtain your promises which exceed all that we desire, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, our beloved Lord. Amen ... Amen ... Amen ...

*George Appleton*  
*One Hundred Personal Prayers Old and New*

## Week Four

Dear Lord, who in your earthly life  
knew a mother's care,  
give to all mothers your blessing.  
Give wisdom to guide,  
tolerance to understand  
and love to enfold  
those you have entrusted to their care.  
We ask this for all mothers everywhere.



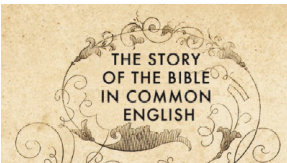
*L. E. Hellier*

You have read Ralph's letter about the celebrations in 2011 to mark 400 years of the King James Bible, which made scriptures available to the people.

On February 9<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 p.m. in Manchester Cathedral there will be the opportunity to explore with historian Derek Wilson the story of the Bible in common English in **The Good Book Tour**

The Lacey Theatre Company helps people connect with the Bible in new ways as they explore creative and contemporary ways of communicating it.

Poet Gerard Kelly says the Bible "speaks to us, in a story that finds new life and new expression at every new turn of our journey."



Come and join in an evening to celebrate the past, present and future impact of God's book: the good book.



# Candlemas



Have you taken your Christmas decorations down yet? If you did not manage to get them packed away by twelfth night then they should remain in place until February 2<sup>nd</sup> or candlemas. At least that is what legend says.

In pre-Christian times February 2<sup>nd</sup> was a pagan festival being half way between the winter solstice and the spring equinox, the middle of winter. People also said that Candlemas day determined future weather.

If candlemas day be fair and bright,  
Winter will have another fight.  
If candlemas day brings cloud and rain  
Winter won't come again.

In the western Christian calendar candlemas is the feast of the purification of the Virgin Mary, forty days after the birth of Jesus and also the feast of the Presentation of Christ in the temple. In the Jewish tradition, for 40 days after the birth of a boy and 60 days after the birth of a girl, women were considered to be unclean and could not worship in the temple and the purification enabled them to return to worship.

It was also the tradition to present a child in the temple and in Saint Luke's gospel we hear the story of Jesus being taken to the temple where Anna and Simeon recognised him and Simeon said "Mine eyes have seen thy salvation," the words we now know as the Nunc Dimittis.

More recently it was the time when the candles to be used in church services were blessed and for us it is a time to remember that Christ came to be "a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of thy people Israel."





“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all people.”

This passage from 1 Corinthians 12 goes on to talk about one body with many parts - each with a different purpose but each essential to the whole.

In the Church we often think that other people will do a task better, or that we have to wait to be asked to take part. It is important from time to time to pause and take stock; to think how God wants us to serve him and to be part of his body here in our community.

There are lots of ways to get involved in church life – whatever your skills, your experience, your time.

As we approach our Annual Meeting I would like to challenge you to consider the part you have in our family, and how God may wish you to develop this. Please don't be afraid to talk to others; to ask just what would be involved; whether you can have a 'taster' session; or simply to ask someone to pray with or for you as you make your decision.

Please consider joining our PCC (church council) at this very exciting time in our parish life; or helping in Junior Church; cleaning church; doing odd jobs; singing with the choir or worship group - the list is endless!

But as verse 27 says, “Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.” – will you play your part fully?

Thank you,  
Barbara Taylor, Lay Chair

Well, we managed to fit in our Christmas meal at The Red Lion before the snow descended – but only just! What a period of severe cold and snow we had to endure during the festive celebrations! This made it doubly pleasurable that we had a brilliant turn out for our Candlelit Poetry Evening with sherry and shortcake. I think it must have been such a relief that the weather had made a slight improvement.

There was no particular theme for the poetry and therefore we had a wide selection. Some members came prepared with armfuls of papers (Jess) whilst others had brought books which contained their favourites. There were also those who were inspired to recite treasures remembered from childhood.

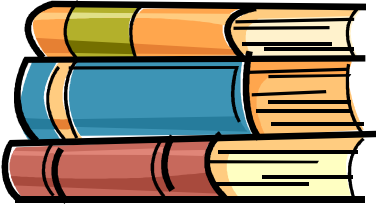
We began with a poem reminding us of Epiphany then moved on to poems by John Betjeman (Diary of a Church Mouse) and Carol Ann Duffy (Poet Laureate). Barbara and Nigel Silvester recited The Owl and the Pussycat, which brought back memories for many of us and Sybil Fryer gave us a rendition of The House that Jack Built with a difference. (Ask her about it!)

We managed to keep going for quite some time aided by some hilarious contributions from Jess Dewhirst. A very enjoyable evening to start our year!

January also sees our Holy Communion followed by 'Souper' Supper. The service will be led for the first time by Rev. Ian Stamp.

A quick message for anyone who knits jumpers. Please do not make any more T jumpers. Any other shape of neckline is good and any other woollies gratefully received. (Hats, scarves, etc.)

Catherine Hilton



On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> February  
the place to be  
between 10 a.m. and 12 noon  
will be the Church Hall  
for our

**BARGAIN BOOKS,  
BRIC-A-BRAC  
and  
BACON BUTTY  
BONANZA**

Admission is free, though you might have to pay to get out  
if you try to leave empty-handed!

This event has three main aims;

- to make some money for Church funds,
  - to clear up part of the stage  
and, most importantly,
- to provide an enjoyable morning for you.

We look forward to seeing you on 5<sup>th</sup>,  
so **BE THERE** to  
**Browse, Bite and Buy**



Church Hall Committee

# Who's Who

## Who am I?

I was born in Bury in 1951 and have one sister Carol.

I went to schools in Bury, St Thomas Primary, Fishpool Primary and then St Chads Junior and then East Ward Secondary Modern School.

I began my working career as a cadet nurse in 1967, in a very strict environment, no one was called by Christian names, you stood, arms behind your back when spoken to, when the Matron came into the dining room everyone had to stand up and acknowledge her entry and exit from the room - how things have changed!

I married John in 1970 so we have been married for 40 years (John tells everyone "you only get 25 years for murder"); we have two children Donna and Darren and two grandchildren Erin and Oliver.

I have many hobbies - gardening, reading, walking and running to name a few. I have completed the Manchester 10k run 6 times and it is my ambition to run a half marathon (maybe when I retire).

We moved to Walmersley in 1979 and I started attending Christ Church not long after.

I was confirmed at Christ Church in the time of the Revd Ron Freeman.

I have helped in Junior Church, Guides and the Scouts.

I wash the Altar linen and have polished the church brasses for 20 years

I am a member of the PCC and (should I give you a clue if you have not already guessed?) have been your Churchwarden for 7 years.

It is a privilege to attend and serve Christ Church and have such a wonderful extended family and friends.

The next part of my life's journey is to retire in two years time and to spend more time with my grandchildren (and training for that half marathon).

**Jennifer Wood**

## “Meet the cast”



Picture this, a cold Walmersley church over 2000 years after the birth of baby Jesus. Many children turned up at Christ Church on Christmas Eve for the annual nativity service.

We got to choose which character we would like to act out. We could be: angels, Mary, Joseph, shepherds, King Herod, wise men and the Angel Gabriel.

Rosemary directed and told us where to stand so we were in the right place at the right time. All the congregation joined in when they were told to.

It was amazing seeing everyone dressed up as the people who came to see baby Jesus.

It reminded us about the true meaning of Christmas.

Lucy and Georgia Tyrer

- ❖ Mary knew her baby was the Son of God
- ❖ Joseph was told that Jesus was born to be Saviour
- ❖ The shepherds were excited because this baby was the Lord
- ❖ The wise men worshipped him as their new King
- ❖ Herod saw Jesus as a threat, and wanted to get rid of him

What about you?

Jesus says **“Who do you say I am?”**



## Children's Corner

### Good Samaritan Anagram

Do you know the story of the *Good Samaritan*?  
If you do can you find the words that are in the story?  
You will find the story in the Bible in the gospel according to  
Saint Luke, chapter 10.

beughinor.....

ejnoruy.....

bbeorrs .....

deginor .....

aaaimnrst .....

deehlp .....

iseptr .....

emnoy .....

acimnoopss .....

eehrt.....



## Sudoku

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

## Saint Valentine

Did you know that St. Valentine was executed for being a Christian?



Whilst he was in prison it is said is said that he sent paper hearts to other persecuted Christians in prison. The hearts were to remind prisoners of God's love.

Valentine was executed on 14<sup>th</sup> February 270AD

## A prayer for Saint Valentine's Day

God of love, thank you for those that I love especially my family and friends. Let your compassion, generosity and power continue to shine in my life long after the flowers and the chocolates are gone, that I and all who I love might remember that you love us, now and always. Amen,





# Jottings

Thank you Jess, for these words you gave to me for **Jottings**.  
Originally sent by e-mail as the piece is entitled....  
**COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS** e-mail style.

**Lord I am thankful:**

For the teenager who is not washing dishes, but is watching TV,  
because it means .....

**He is at home and not on the streets.**

For the taxes I pay, because it means .....

**I am employed.**

For the mess to clear up after a party, because it means .....

**I have been surrounded by friends.**

For the clothes that fit a little too snugly, because it means.....

**I have enough to eat.**

For my shadow that watches me work, because it means.....

**I am out in the sunshine.**

For a lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning and  
gutters that need fixing, because it means.....

**I have a home.**

For all the complaining I hear about the government, because it  
means.....

**We have freedom of speech.**

For my huge heating bill because it means.....

**I am warm.**

For the lady behind me in church who sings off-key, because it  
means.....

**I can hear.**

For the pile of laundry and ironing, because it means.....

**I have clothes to wear.**

For weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day, because it means.....

**I have been capable of working hard.**

For the alarm that goes off in the early morning, because it means...

**I am alive.**

**And Finally.....**

For too much e-mail, because it means

**I have friends who are thinking of me.**



## Book Review

### ***Weep Not For Me* by Geoffrey Howard**

This powerful and moving book invites us to journey with the author through the Stations of the Cross. He illustrates the Stations in a way that enables us to gain fresh and vivid insight into Jesus' Passion and death.

I think this is a good book to use as a study or for meditation during Lent and in preparation for Easter

If you have an interesting article you would like included in **Jottings** or a Christian book recommendation for *Book Review*, please contact Jean Slater

# Brains of Walmersley

The annual quiz to decide who holds the coveted title of

## **“Brains of Walmersley 2011”**

will be held in the church hall on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> of March at 7.30 p.m.

As our regulars know, this will be a light-hearted evening following our usual pattern of six rounds of mixed (very mixed) questions plus a half time puzzle.

You have just about five weeks to swot up on all those specialist areas which you are not going to be asked about! Bring a team of four if you can, but don't worry if you are one, two, or even three short as there are always some spare brains willing to help out by making up a team.



Admission is still £2 per person (no 2011 VAT increases here) with all proceeds going to church funds. We look forward to welcoming you on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March.

Stan Parkinson



When: 3 February 2011  
Where: Bottom Room, Church Hall  
Time: 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

The group will meet for Holy Communion for the feast of Corpus Christi, followed by a cuppa and a chat.

Transport can be provided – contact Don



LENT 2011

## **RICH INHERITANCE – *Jesus' legacy of love***

written by Bishop Stephen Cottrell

Groups organised by Churches Together – Bury East will give the opportunity to discuss Jesus' legacy in 2011 – the 'Year of the Bible'

More details are available from the back of church or from the Vicar.

In 2010 we opened Christ Church to schools and individuals to "Experience Easter" – to "live the story" through interactive areas.

This year three local schools will take part and there will be the opportunity for everyone to come along on Saturday morning.



Watch out for more details in next month's magazine. If you would like to be involved in the event please contact Barbara Silvester.



The Real Easter Egg is the first and only Fairtrade chocolate Easter Egg to explain the Christian understanding of Easter on the pack. It also supports charity and development projects – buying everything from medical equipment for new mums here at home, to chicken and fresh water for farmers in Africa.

Not widely available in shops this year, you may still be able to purchase one (price £4.50) at church. Contact Barbara Silvester whilst stocks last!

## What's on in Walmersley

### February

- Wed 2            Candlemas Service  
                    At All Saints' Stand 2 p.m. organised by Mothers' Union
- Wed 2            Mothers' Union: Branch Annual General Meeting
- Thu 3            First Thursday Prayers
- Sat 5             Book and Bric-a-brac Sale
- Mon 7            Deanery Synod
- Tue 8            Bishop's Certificate in Children's Ministry  
                    Christ Church, 7 p.m. "Safeguarding Children"
- Wed 9            Ministry committee 7.30 p.m.
- Wed 16          Mothers' Union
- 12,16,17,18    Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs  
                    St John with St Mark's Hall, 7.30 p.m.
- Thu 17          PCC

### March

- Sat 5            Book Sale at St John with St Mark's Hall
- Sat 5            "Brains of Walmersley" Quiz Evening

### April

- Wed 13          Annual Parochial Church Meeting



The Art Group  
producing  
“masterpieces” in  
the Church Hall



If you would like to  
join them please  
contact Sybil Fryer  
0161 763 6805