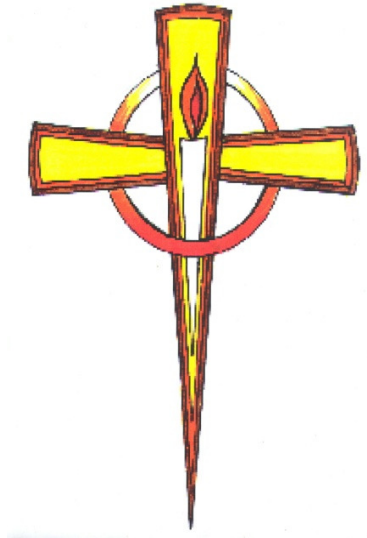


Christ Church Walmersley

in the Benefice of Walmersley Road



Magazine

Spreading the Word

November 2010

Thought for the Month

In the words of that famous poem, we are now in the "season of mists and mellow fruitfulness". But, as I write this, the sun is shining brilliantly, the sky is cloudless and it would be easy to believe that we are enjoying a day in midsummer. Admittedly the temperature might not be hitting the dizzy heights but 20 degrees Celsius (or if you are old fashioned like me, 68 Fahrenheit) is pretty good for mid October.

But there are signs that the season is changing. The leaves on the horse chestnut trees are turning and only on Sunday I gathered some conkers for my friend to place in her house to keep the spiders out! Our harvest festival is past, donations of goods have been made to the porch box scheme, financial gifts to Christian Aid and gifts of flowers and fruits to the elderly and housebound in the area. Soon we will be putting the clocks back and the nights will be drawing in. The pattern of changing seasons is inescapable.



Change is an inevitable part of our lives; it is something we simply cannot avoid, whether it be the changes that come with increasing age, or changes brought about by technology – how did we manage without mobile phones, e mails and ipods – much better you might say.

There have been changes in employment – ask anyone who works in the NHS or in education and they will wax lyrical about amount and frequency of change and much of it change for change's sake or at least political manoeuvring. And there is more of it to come.



Yet not all change is bad – improvements in medicine, enable us to live longer, improvements in domestic appliances free us from the drudgery of housework – would we really change our washing machine for a dolly tub and washboard? If you don't know what they are, ask someone with grey hair, preferably very grey hair.

Without change, life would be dull, would be harder and probably shorter.

As members of the congregations of the United Benefice of Walmersley Road we are certainly experiencing change. Although, as Ian says, we will see very little difference on a Sunday morning, the coming months will be a period of change, with new friendships to form, new patterns of working together to establish and new ideas to assimilate. It will be a challenge - but a worthwhile one.

Jesus may ask us to step outside our comfort zone; ask us not to be set in our ways, always sitting in the same seat, doing things the way we have always done them, clinging to what is safe and familiar. We will need to be prepared to explore the possibility of doing things in different ways, to share with others to make the mission of serving this community in God's name a reality.

Yet, in our changing world there is one constant. In Saint Paul's letter to the Ephesians we are told that "Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." What a reassurance! With his constant love in our hearts, we can face the future with optimism.

Yours in Christ,

If some of my friends at Walmersley recognise parts of this,
it is my form of re-cycling!

SERVICES AND READINGS FOR NOVEMBER



Nov 7th **Third Sunday before Advent**

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5,13-17; Luke 20:27-38

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5,13-17; Luke 20:27-38

Nov 14th **Second Sunday before Advent Remembrance Sunday**

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13; Luke 21: 5-19

10.30 a.m. Family and Parade Service
Isaiah 2: 1-5; John 15: 9-17

Nov 21st **Sunday before Advent Christ the King**

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
Colossians 1: 11-20; Luke 23: 33-43

10.30 a.m. Junior Church Presentation Service
Luke 23: 33-43

Nov 28th **First Sunday of Advent**

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
Romans 13: 11-14; Matthew 24:36-44

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
Romans 13: 11-14; Matthew 24:36-44

Nov 29th

6.30 p.m. **Christingle Service**

ARE YOU ON DUTY?

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

READINGS

November 7th	Sybil Fryer
November 14 th	Jean Slater
November 21 st	Junior Church
November 28 th	Shelagh Beetson

INTERCESSIONS

Joe McDermott
Ian Riddick
Junior Church
Bob Taylor

SIDESMEN / WOMEN ROTA

November 7 th	Alison Fewtrell	Jean Slater	Alan Spencer
November 14 th	Roy Warburton	Shelagh Beetson	Sybil Fryer
November 21 st	Bill Noble	Alan Standring	David Thew
November 28 th	Geoff Hamilton	Ian Riddick	Chris Standring

LAY ASSISTANTS

November 7 th	Gill Pilkington	Tricia Stokes
November 21 st	Cath Hilton	Jean Slater



FLOWERS

November 7th In memory of Mr. Fred Luxton
November 14th In memory of past MU members
November 21st In memory of Mrs. V. Howarth
November 28th In memory of Jennifer Melling
and Mary Illesley and
In memory of Mr. Ken Greason



Funeral

September 10th June Barnes



Burial of Ashes

October 2nd Albert Bailey
October 6th Martin Smith

First Thursday Prayers

When: 4 November 2010
Where: Bottom Room, Church Hall
Time: 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

The group will meet for Holy Communion followed by a cuppa and a chat.

Transport can be provided – ring Don

Celebrate

We were invited to come and celebrate the coming together of our churches and two hundred people accepted that invitation, gathered in Christ Church on Sunday afternoon.

We were joined in our celebrations by the choirs of Springside School and the school of Saint John with Saint Mark. They sang of community and working together. What could be more appropriate? Their singing was beautiful and added greatly to our celebrations. Our thanks go to them.

The Archdeacon, who is also a parishioner, gave an address in which he compared the coming together with a marriage – and as in a marriage the congregations of each church will become part of a larger family. In our journey together there will be happy times and no doubt difficulties to overcome and he stressed the need for communication and forgiveness as we seek to do Christ's work.

Ian was presented with a paten and chalice, a list of all the streets in the new benefice and a Bible as symbols of his work in sharing the sacraments, caring for the community and spreading the word. Ian cannot do this alone and blessing was asked for all the ministers and laity who agreed to share in this work.

We shared the peace and then those who were able walked, whilst the rest drove, to the church of Saint John with Saint Mark where the service culminated.

A wonderful bring and share meal was enjoyed (enough food to fill an army) and then those whose feet could stand it danced reels in the Ceilidh.

It was a great celebration of joy and hope; a wonderful beginning.



Night at the Museum



Q. Ever wondered what really comes to life in a museum at night?

A. 300 Guides!

On Saturday 2nd October the Guides took part in Lancashire South East County Centenary Getaway at the Imperial War museum in Manchester. Activities included flinging a duck, making a rag rug and staying awake all night (not on the itinerary!). The Guides 'slept' on the museum floor underneath a huge Harrier aircraft.

On Sunday morning everyone took a short walk to Salford Watersports Centre to take part in a bell boat regatta. Torrential rain put an end to anyone thinking they would go home dry - and that was before even getting in a boat. The rain tried to spoil the event and drove some girls home but 25th Bury lasted to the end in the pink santa hats!

Vision 20:10 20/10 2010



At ten past eight on the 20th October 2010 Guides all over the country renewed their promise together to mark the end of the Centenary year.

25th Bury Christ Church Brownies and Guides marked 'Vision' by joining 3000 others from across the county.

This began with a Festival of Light procession to Rochdale FC ground. Flashing lights, lanterns, glow sticks, bunny ears and balloons lit the way to the final celebrations.

A large screen showed events that had taken place over the Centenary year and a satellite link to the Chief Guide and an exciting countdown made sure everyone renewed their promise at the same time.

Everyone who attended this historic event now owns a commemorative promise badge. Something to cherish.

September was very busy indeed!

Our meeting on the 15th September was Desert Island Discs presented by Brian Fewtrell. This presentation would certainly have given Roy Plumley a run for his money! It was definitely an eclectic mix of music from all over the world and from many different genres.



One thing that was particularly fascinating was Brian's choice of performers which meant that we listened to several well-known numbers performed by an unexpected artist. This gave us a rendition that was unfamiliar. Very interesting! Thank you, Brian.

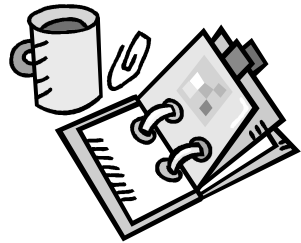
Following on from our own fundraising effort for the Wheels Appeal, our Diocesan President (Barbara Taylor, of course!) held an Afternoon Tea event for the same purpose at Falshaw's Ice Cream Parlour. It was very successful and Barbara was very grateful to those who supported it.

Next we had the Diocesan Festival at Manchester Cathedral. It was a very enjoyable service, enhanced by the wonderful speaker Susie Mapledoram, diocesan youth officer. Her inspiring address may be found on the website at www.MothersUnionManchester.org

Still in September, the Deanery Festival was held at St. Anne's, Tottington where the theme was 'Relationships' which is our current theme.

Thank you to those who made donations for Freshers. More than 2500 bags of goodies were distributed.

Thank you to those who attended the 'Reflect and Plan' meeting at the beginning of October. I often feel that we spend too little time talking about Mothers' Union issues that are dear to our heart and getting down to the 'nitty-gritty' of our work, what we are doing and why. Many good ideas came out of that meeting and I am grateful for everyone's input.



Our next meeting is to be led by Lynne France, a very inspiring local artist. More about that next month.

Catherine Hilton
Branch Leader

Here are some future dates for diaries.

Meetings in the Church hall

November 3 rd	Service in the Chapel followed by pie and pea supper and postcard competition (The theme is non-ecclesiastical buildings)
November 17 th	Circle Dancing

Other dates

Nov 13 th	Autumn Council
Nov 18 th	Quiet Day at Manchester Cathedral 10am-2.30pm
Nov 28 th	Deanery Advent Carol Service 2.30pm Edenfield Parish Church
Nov 30 th	Diocesan Advent Carol Service in St Ann's Manchester 2pm

If you would like to join the choir on November 30th please have a word with me.

Who's Who

We thought it would be a good idea to have a 'Who's Who' page and we asked Elizabeth Binns, ordained local minister to be our first 'victim'! *The Editors*

If anybody asks me what I am like I tend to reply something like 'fat but flourishing', 'generously proportioned and generous hearted' (I hope)! Still, a few facts – I am Bury born and bred and proud of it. I have never been married but have been asked several times (my mum said I would wait for shoes till clogs didn't come and she was right). I was a nurse for ten years before a back injury forced me to have a career change. I am now Principal Libraries and Adult Learning Officer for Bury with responsibility for Social Inclusion; making sure our services are meeting the needs of everyone especially the folk who think we have nothing to offer.

My 'day job' compliments my ministry really well and each benefits the other. I certainly never expected to be a priest and arrived back at church almost by accident. Whatever God was thinking I can't really say but I do know being a priest completed who I was and then set me a whole other range of challenges – a work in progress...

Of course I can't end without saying something about my family – Thomas, Harriet, Harvey and Patrick. Maybe not the best behaved dogs in the world but certainly among the most loving and the most loved.

Elizabeth

Make a Joyful Noise!

On a glorious sunny Saturday morning, more than four hundred people met in the cathedral to “make a joyful noise.” They had come from all over the diocese and beyond, even Yorkshire folk crossing the pennines to join Lancastrians in song. Eleven of our parishioners were there to add their voices.



After a welcome by the Bishop of Bolton we moved into our chosen groups which ranged from plainsong to gospel, modern music to Taize chants and psalms to fresh expressions of music. All levels of musical ability were catered for. Sessions gave help to instrumentalists, organists and those with very limited musical resources.

The venues were scattered across the centre of Manchester. A group assembling in Saint Ann’s church took the chance to sing in a choir (even if they had not done so for many years). It was amazing what this group of people produced within an hour. The gospel singing group was great fun (even if the stomping did mean the plainsong group in the room below had to move).



At lunchtime the cathedral was filled with people enjoying their picnics and I was tempted to go round at the end to see if we could collect twelve baskets full of goodies.

At half past three we gathered for a service in which all the types of music had a place. It was wonderfully moving and the final hymn of “Angel Voices ever singing” complete with descant was breath taking. If the chance to attend a similar session comes along, do take it, it was a wonderful day.

Alan Spencer

Prayer Mat

Week One

Precious Father, on All Saints' Day we thank you for all the saints who have gone before us. May we try to emulate them in all their ways from their love for you, professing their faith and for their steadfastness in the face of danger and often in peril for their lives.

Father, only through your strength and love can we be like them, we pray that this will be.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Week Two

Father,

Unite us in your love

Unite us in your faith

Unite us in your body

Unite us in your spirit

Unite us in your strength

Unite us in your harmony

Unite us in your compassion

Unite us father, in everything that is you. Amen.

Week Three



Father, on Remembrance Sunday we remember all those who have died in the world wars and wars of the 20th and 21st centuries. We thank you for the bravery and courage of the soldiers going off to foreign lands to fight for freedom, justice, and an end to terrorism.

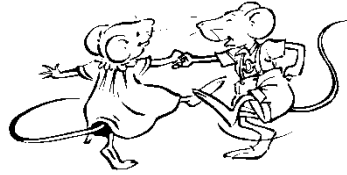
We pray for those who have been injured in Iraq and Afghanistan and pray for their recovery and for the safe return of all those currently serving in Afghanistan. We pray also for the families of soldiers who are grieving their loss of a loved one. May they be comforted.

Finally, we pray for an end to all wars, to the end of slaughter, and that all men may live in peace and harmony with one another. O Lord, hear our prayer and let our cry come unto thee. Amen

Week Four

Lord, in this week before Advent, may we remember at this time the true meaning of Christmas and your coming. May we not get caught up in all the commercialism of the season but remember and rejoice that you came into the world as a baby to be our saviour and to redeem our sins. Let us rejoice and be glad. Amen.

Children's Corner



Remembrance Day Word Search

E R T S H N E X S W B K I Y P Y
L V E O A G A O O R W N Y R A R
R I N B A C L R E E F R F E T O
Y O B R M D R L E A X O L V R T
R P U E I E T I N T G L A A I C
R O P E R T M T F H E A N R O I
C A R O A T R E U I M V D B Y V
C T W B P Y Y F R E C A E P U T
R E B M E V O N O A H E R O A H
F R E E D O M T R O O P S S O L

battle peace bravery poppy
courage remember flanders sacrifice
soldier freedom troops

Remembrance

"Please wear a poppy," the lady said
And held one forth, but I shook my head.
Then I stopped and watched as she offered them there;
And her face was old and lined with care;
But beneath the scars the years had made
There remained a smile that refused to fade.

A boy came whistling down the street,
Bouncing along on carefree feet.
His smile was full of joy and fun,
"Lady," said he, "may I have one?"
When she'd pinned it on he turned to say,
"Why do we wear a poppy today?"

The lady smiled in her wistful way
And answered, "This is Remembrance Day"
And the poppy there is the symbol for
The gallant people who died in the wars
And because they did, you and I are free -
That's why we wear a poppy, you see.





Thank you

On behalf of the Tuesday afternoon “teatimers” I would like to say a big thank you to all the helpers who look after us. They pick us up, give us refreshment (and sometimes entertain us) and take us home again. We are all in our 80s and don’t get out very often so it is very much appreciated. We all look forward to going each week.

Thank you all
Kath Platt

Christingle Service



The Christingle Service will be held on Monday November 29th at 6.30 p.m. Christingles will be given out and all the money donated will go to support the work of the Children’s Society in caring for children who are at risk. Everyone is welcome to this service.



An exciting Christmas event,
part story-telling theatre show,
part carol service

performed by the Lacey Theatre Company
and Bob Hartman, author and international story-teller

at Woodhey High School
7.30 p.m. Tuesday 30 November
£7.50 adults; Family £25

Tickets available from The House on the Rock

Jottings

A couple of amusing snippets from the magazine of St George Mossley that I was given recently. Hope they make you smile too.

Someone overheard a little girl saying to her friend in the playground, You have to be very brave to go to Church. My uncle said that last Sunday they had a canon in the pulpit, the choir murdered the anthem, and the organist drowned the choir!!"

A little boy was attending his first wedding. After the service his cousin asked him, "How many women can a man marry?" "Sixteen," the boy responded. His cousin was amazed that he knew the answer so quickly, "How do you know that?"

"Easy," the little boy said, "All you have to do is add it up, like the preacher said: 4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer, 4 poorer."



Book Review

Getting through the Night

For those of us who are mourning the loss of a loved one this little book may be able to help to ease the pain of grief.

It is written by Eugenia Price from her own experience, with compassion and tenderness.

The book can be found at the back of church if you wish to borrow it. Please return it so that someone else may also read it.

If you have any contributions for **Jottings** or *Book Review* please contact Jean Slater

Craft Fair

Saturday, 13 November

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Come and buy your Christmas presents

from a range of quality crafters, who will be selling



wood turned items,

jewellery,



hand knitted and stitched items,

cards,



artwork etc.



A church stall will sell crafts, and there will be a tombola, etc.

Also browse the **exhibition** of work by local artists.

Enjoy **home cooked food** in the all-day café and

don't forget to **treat yourself!**



How can you help?

- By donating items for the general craft stall and for the tombola
- By contributing cakes for the café and jams and preserves for the home-made stall
- By offering to help on the stall or in the café – please contact Sybil Fryer or see the list at the back of church.

Prepare the Way

An Advent Celebration

A seasonal music presentation by

United Christian Singers

at Christ Church Walmersley
Saturday 27th November at 7.30pm

Free Admission with a Retiring Collection for the ministry of
Christ Church and United Christian Singers.

Do come and enjoy what promises to be
an excellent pre-Christmas celebration.

Our delicious refreshments will be served as usual.



What's on in Walmersley

November

Mon 1	Ministry committee
Wed 3	MU Holy Communion, Pie and peas supper, postcard competition
Thu 4	Thursday Prayers
Fri 5	Bonfire party at St John with St Mark, 7-11 p.m.
Sat 13	Craft Event 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Wed 17	MU Circle Dancing
Sat 20	Diocesan synod
Mon 22	PCC
Thu 25	Deanery synod
Sat 27	Christmas Fair at St John with St Mark
Sat 27	Prepare the Way – an Advent celebration with the United Christian Singers
Sun 28	Deanery Advent Carol Service Edenfield Parish Church
Mon 29	Christingle Service 6.30.p.m.
Tue 30	"Carol" – an exciting Christmas event



Marking a new beginning
- 17 October 2010

Life for us is always changing,
as your work we share.
Christian love adds
new dimensions
to the way we care.
For we know that you
could lead us
as you need us, anywhere.