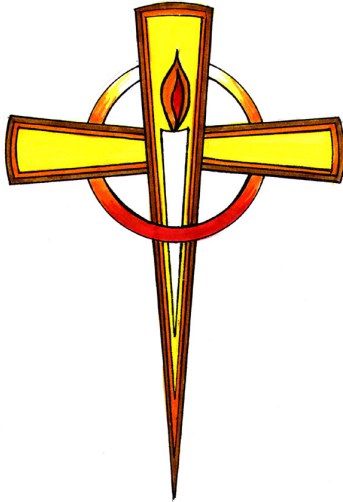


Christ Church
Walmersley



Magazine

Spreading the Word

February 2010

Thought for the month

Mixed emotions

For children this winter will prove to be a memorable one. Snow has remained right through the holidays and even into the beginning of term that never was. Just imagine, an extended holiday and still good snow to play in. A prolonged period to enjoy toys (not seen many new bikes) Life long memories are made on less.



Two of our grandchildren had a week of our best efforts to keep them entertained when their school remained closed. The field behind our house is well marked with sledge tracks, both new plastic and old Austrian style.

For the older ones with responsibilities, however, the memories won't be of such quality. Struggling to de-ice the windscreens, struggling to move, struggling to park – it has not been the easiest of returns to work. Timetables have gone by the board. Disruption to our daily routines has been the topic for the grumpy ones - me included.



There have been occasions when I have questioned my sanity when I have set off from the frozen North for a church service. Some of our journeys have been fraught with tension. We have received kind offers of overnight accommodation if we were stranded. That was a warm gesture of welcome in itself.

Unlike Manchester Cathedral, and other churches, we have maintained the pattern of services at Christ Church, I am delighted to say. The only problem of any significance was when the band could not make it for our Carol Service. It was a temporary

disappointment. Good old Arthur worked harder than ever! How grateful we are.

There are a number of senior citizens who have wisely chosen to remain safe in their home rather than risk the treacherous conditions on the pavements and approaches to church. We look forward to their return under better conditions. You have been missed!

We felt the wheel had come full circle when some young neighbours – much younger than us - knocked on our door to say that they were going to the shops and offered to get us anything we needed. Sic transit Gloria!

So, a whole kaleidoscope of experiences: the joy of family gatherings, the privilege of being in a community of worshippers, the warmth of friendship to counter the bitter temperatures and the hard knocks of life. We pick ourselves up and carry on into the season of Lent.



We seek God's presence with urgency as we contemplate the many challenges of the New Year. May His blessing be upon us at all times.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dora".

For a stunning photograph of the church,
at this memorable time – see the back page.
Thank you to Pauline Hallam.



SERVICES AND READINGS FOR FEBRUARY

February 7th **Second Sunday before Lent**

- 9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
Revelation 4; Luke 8: 22-25
- 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
Revelation 4; Luke 8: 22-25

February 14th **Sunday next before Lent**

- 9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
2 Corinthians 3:12 - 4:2; Luke 9; 28-36
- 10.30 a.m. Family and Parade Service
2 Corinthians 3:12 - 4:2; Luke 9; 28-36

February 17th **Ash Wednesday**

- 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion (CW)
2 Corinthians 5:20b – 6:10; John 8: 1-11

February 21st **First Sunday of Lent**

- 9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
Romans 10: 8b – 13; Luke 4: 1-13
- 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
Romans 10: 8b – 13; Luke 4: 1-13

February 28th **Second Sunday of Lent**

- 9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
Philippians 3:17 - 4:1; Luke 13: 31-35
- 10.30 a.m. Morning Prayer
Philippians 3:17 - 4:1; Luke 13: 31-35

ARE YOU ON DUTY?

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

READINGS

Feb 7 th	Alison Fewtrell
Feb 14 th	Rosemary Taylor
Feb 21 st	David Peters
Feb 28 th	Sybil Fryer

INTERCESSIONS

Bob Taylor
Beavers
Joe McDermott
Margaret Schofield

SIDSMEN / WOMEN ROTA

Feb 7 th	Geoff Hamilton	Ian Riddick	Chris Standring
Feb 14 th	Nigel Silvester	George Fryer	David Peters
Feb 21 st	Alison Fewtrell	Jean Slater	Alan Spencer
Feb 28 th	Roy Warburton	Shelagh Beetson	Sybil Fryer

LAY ASSISTANTS

Feb 7 th	Tricia Stokes	Nigel Silvester
Feb 17 th	Barbara Silvester	
Feb 21 st	Jennifer Wood	Gill Pilkington



FLOWERS

Feb 7th In memory of Fred Williams



Funeral

January 8th

Gladys Thorpe

January 22nd

Albert Bailey

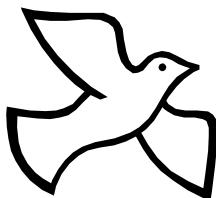
Confirmation 2010

This year the confirmation service will be held at
St. John with St. Mark on Sunday, May 2nd at 6.30 p.m.

Five young people are preparing for confirmation

Jake Greaves
Lauren Keyworth
Katie Jones
Erin Storey
Leah Walker

Please remember them in your prayers.



If any adult is interested in being confirmed,
please contact
Don, Barbara or Margery

So what do we do?

With 3.6 million members working in over 78 countries, Mothers' Union is passionate about caring for families all around the world.

Get Involved!

What can you do to get involved and make a difference?

You can join Mothers' Union, make an online donation, or support the work of the Mothers' Union by purchasing gifts and books from our online shop.

You can also learn more about how Mothers' Union is committed to campaigning on issues that affect our members and their communities by taking a look at the campaigns we are backing.

Visit Twitter for the latest Mothers' Union broadcasts.



facebook

connects members worldwide, whilst at the same time keeping them abreast of our latest work.

Passionate about Parenting! - helping you do the most important job in the world.

"The spiritual dimension within each one of us is called something beyond ourselves. It is a hunger of the heart; a longing for something more, a relationship which will complete us and fulfil our unspoken need. True religion is not the imposition of sets of rules; it is the discovery of a relationship which helps us make sense of life and leads us to the fullness of life."

Fleur Dorrell - Head of Faith & Policy at the Mothers' Union



We're very excited to announce the launch of

make a mother's day 2010

We also have more ethical gifts available this year so you have more choice to find the perfect Mothering Sunday gift for a mum, granny or someone who has cared for you.

Our fundraising campaign is more important than ever this year as economic hardships are felt all over the world, most of all by the poorest countries.

Mothering Sunday
is on March 14th

Have you thought yet how you are going to make your mother's day special?

Or would you like this opportunity to remember your mother?

Pick up a leaflet in church for more details.
Gifts start at just a few pounds.

Prayer Mat

Week One



Heavenly Father, at this time of Candlemas when Christ was presented at the temple, help us to bring children into our church. Help us to nurture them and teach them of your ways. Bless all who are called to teach the children, Lord, furnish them with the knowledge they need and give them love for those in their care. In Jesus name, Amen.

Week Two



A prayer for National Marriage Week

Lord help us to preserve the sanctity and the purity of marriage. May all abide by the vows that were made and honour them and their spouses. Where there is unhappiness and discord, let love abound, your pure love, and heal all hurts. Marriage is so special, Lord, it is ordained by you. Let us sanctify this and extol the benefits of marriage by example. Thank you for the love and the closeness within marriage and for the gift of children. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Week Three

Dear Lord, the season of Lent is with us again. Help us to reflect and pray at this time. Bless all who are in Lent groups, may they learn more of your suffering in the wilderness and on the Cross. Bless all who pray alone at this time and give them strength and fellowship with you. Give us a greater understanding, Lord and in learning more of your ways, help us to gain a stronger faith and witness to those around us. Amen.

Week Four

Father, bless the Church of England at this time. Where there is discord, let there be harmony. Where there are hurts, let there be healing. Let our leaders speak with one voice and with that voice proclaim your holy name. We pray for our church to grow in unity and strength and in numbers. O Lord, we pray you will grant these things in the name of your precious son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

What are you giving up for Lent?

How often have you been asked that question?
Here is a different one. What are you taking on this Lent?

Can you spend a little extra time in prayer?
or maybe Bible reading? or study (see page 18)?
Maybe you could give a little extra time to others.

Why not follow a 'count your blessings' calendar?
(see our website or take a copy from the back of church)

Children's Corner



Sudoku

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

(This is more difficult than usual)

A Prayer for Children

Now, before I run to play,
Let me not forget to pray
To God who keeps me through the night
And wakes me up with morning light,
Help me Lord, to love thee more
Than I ever loved before,
In my school and in my play
Be thou with me through the day.

Amen

Word Search

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

Can you find the words of this children's hymn?

Jesus loves me, this I know,
 For the Bible tells me so.
 Little ones to him belong.
 They are weak but He is strong.



**An exhibition celebrating marriage
across the faith communities**

**February 6th – 14th , 2010
in the Regiment Chapel, Manchester Cathedral**

This is an exciting venture, which has involved people from several different faith communities.

Whilst we have our different viewpoints and beliefs, we were united in wishing to celebrate marriage as a stabilising influence on family life and the wider community.

Do please come and visit this exhibition – learn something of the past as well as the present, of the customs in different faiths and in different cultures. There is a children's guide to the exhibition and on Saturdays there will be craft activities.

If you are able to be there Monday – Friday at 11 a.m. there will be a ½ hour **forum**, led each day by people of a different faith.

The official **Launch** event will be on Monday 8th at 7 p.m. Bishop Mark will declare the exhibition open, with the Lord Mayor of Manchester and other civic leaders in attendance.

Archdeacon David will chair a panel of politicians and leaders at 7 p.m. on Thursday, 11th in a **Q & A Panel**. Come and listen or even ask a question!

A **Celebration** at 3 p.m. on Sunday 14th will bring the week to a close. Led by Bishop Nigel, with participation by dancers, musicians, Rabbi Silverman and other faith leaders, in the presence of the Lord Lieutenant, the Lord High Sheriff and Mayors from across Greater Manchester. Do please come and be part of this Thanksgiving.



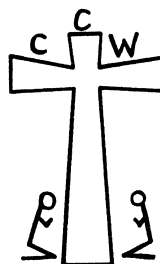
Junior Church Badges

As you are all aware all children who attend Junior Church are rewarded by a badge system for their attendance, a system that was set up about 15 years ago. This system has run successfully (with the occasional hiccup!) till now when we have hit a major problem – the man who produced the badges has now retired and ceased to trade.

So that we can continue to reward the children we have decided that the best way forward is to re-arrange the colour order to maximise the existing stock and to replace the 200 attendance badge with a special certificate.

The order from 2010 will be:-

10 attendances	Certificate
25 attendances	Yellow badge
50 attendances	Dark Blue
75 attendances	Green badge
100 attendances	Orange badge
125 attendances	Purple badge
150 attendances	Red badge
175 attendances	White badge
200 attendances	Special Certificate



It will still take at least 8 years of **never** missing Junior Church to obtain the Special Certificate which is a major achievement for any child.

Barbara Silvester



Jottings

This poem has been written by someone who cared for her dear husband who suffered with Alzheimer's disease and was given to me for inclusion in Jottings. A very emotional journey for her but a real insight for me into the mind of the carer. Thank you for sharing this beautiful, poignant poem.

Alzheimer's Winter

*His winter came to soon;
It seemed that autumn had scarce begun
When the first dark cloud appeared.
Hopes of a mellow ageing became fear,
Fear of a bleak and dreary end.*

*All the bright days of summer
Were lost in the mist of forgetfulness
His mind was trapped by fog;
A fog, which seldom seemed to lift,
But grew more dense day by day.*

*I longed for the autumn
The autumn we had promised ourselves.
Days of colour and warmth.
Not the hot and hazy heat of summer,
But a milder, kinder warmth.*



*We had planned so many things,
Certain we could face any storm together.
Alone, I didn't think I could!
Thick, black clouds of anger hid my sun,
Resentment made my days dark.*

*But the sun did shine again.
I had to take his hand to find it.
Go at his pace, not mine,
Look through his clouds to see the sunshine.
To make his winter safe and warm.*

If you have a contribution for **Jottings** please contact Jean Slater



Book Review.

Sorry there is no review this month

If you have a Christian book that you would like to be included in **Book Review** please send details to

Jean Slater

First Thursday Prayers

February 4th will be the next meeting of Thursday Prayers.

We meet in the bottom room of the church hall from 2pm – 3pm for an informal gathering where we enjoy a cuppa and a chat, hear The Word from scripture, reflect on it and end with prayers which focus on the reflection and include prayers for Christ Church and its ministry and any concerns that we have for the world, our country, our local community and ourselves.

Why not come and join us. You need not make a regular commitment if this is difficult for you just come when you can, a warm welcome is guaranteed.



If you are unable to attend First Thursday Prayers but would like to use the notes for your own private meditation they are available at the back of church each month.

For more information please speak to Rev. Don Altham.

Lent Study

As usual, groups are being arranged by
the Churches Together – Bury East
Details are at the back of church

Groups will start on Tuesday 23 February
There will be a group on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. at Lowes Road
and an evening group – details to be confirmed.



in conjunction with



Christchurch Walmersley

are offering 6 week Courses available in

- Beginners IT
- Word Intermediate
- Digital Camera for Beginners
- Family History for Beginners
- Creating Greeting Cards on the Computer.

Is there a subject you would like to study but can never find a course covering it – tell us about it and providing we get a minimum of 8 people who would like to study the same subject we will look at setting up a course to cover it.

We also offer National Certificates in:

- Food Safety (2 day Course)
- Appointed Person (2 day 1st Aid Course)

Please speak to Sybil Fryer



You may know your onions
but do you know your grapes?

Can you tell a Chardonnay
from a Sauvignon Blanc?



Or a Pinot Noir from a Merlot?

Come and find out the differences between three white grapes
and three red ones when they are made into wine.

Wine Tasting



Thursday March 24th 7.00 p.m.in the church hall

£5.00 per person

Canapés will be served

Proceeds to church hall funds.

Tickets will be on sale after morning service on February 7th



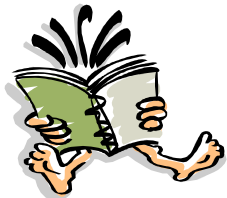
Family Quiz Night

It's here again; your chance to demonstrate the depth of your general knowledge and perhaps end up holding the prestigious title of "Brains of Walmersley 2010." Those of you who have enjoyed our previous quiz nights will be aware that the emphasis is on entertainment and enjoyment with scant regard for how much your team knows, or occasionally doesn't know, about a wide range of questions.

Whatever your specialist subject is there will almost certainly be a question for which only you will know the right answer (although a lot of others may think they do!), and, if you are really stuck for an answer those on the next table will almost certainly help out with a misleading hint or two.

The Quiz Night is to be held in the Church Hall on Saturday, February 27th at 7.30 p.m. Admission is £2 per person with all proceeds going to church funds. Don't be put off if you can't raise a full team of four; come along in any case and make up a powerful quartet with some other "Spare brains."

If you've been before, you know what to expect, if you haven't come and find out – you'll be made very welcome.



Stan Parkinson

Christian-Muslim Forum study circles

Mondays, February 1st and 8th, 7.30 – 9.30 p.m.
At Maqam (Women's Centre), Yarwood Street

The theme will be **Birth and Rites of Passage**

The first session will be led by Christians and the second by Muslims

What's on in Walmersley

February

Mon 1	Christian-Muslim study circle
Tue 2	Candlemas Service, All Saints' Stand at 7 p.m.
Wed 3	Mothers' Union AGM
Thu 4	Social Evening - Work with Young people
Mon 8	Christian-Muslim study circle
Fri 12	Christian-Muslim Forum, 7.15 p.m. Ladies Centre
Wed 17	Ash Wednesday
Tue 23	PCC
Sat 27	Brains of Walmersley Quiz Night

FUTURE DATES

March 24	Wine Tasting
May 2	Confirmation
May 5	Archdeacon's Visitation

If you are interested in joining the **Art Class** on Friday morning or Friday afternoon, the next sessions will begin on February 12. Tuition is provided and the group welcomes beginners as well as those with some experience. We use a variety of media and techniques. Please contact Sybil Fryer for details.



An exciting way to look at the Easter story

Watch out for more details!



*Not only is Christ Church
open for worship -
it stayed open throughout
this wintry spell*

*THANK YOU
to all who made this possible.*