

CHRIST CHURCH WALMERSLEY AND ST JOHN WITH ST MARK BURY



FEBRUARY 2012

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday			
8 a.m.	Holy Communion		St John w St Mark
9 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)		Christ Church
9 a.m.	Holy Communion		St John w St Mark
10.30 a.m.	1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th	Holy Communion Family and Parade Holy Communion Morning Service Holy Communion	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist 3 rd Parade Service		St John w St Mark
6.30 p.m.	1 st	Evening Worship	St John w St Mark
Wednesday			
10 a.m.	Holy Communion		St John w St Mark
Thursday			
2 p.m.	1 st	First Thursday Prayer	Christ Church Hall
7.30 p.m.	Holy Communion		St John w St Mark

Saints days and other services as announced.

If you need transport to church please contact the wardens.



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

After the busy Christmas season it is hard for us to give due attention to the season of Epiphany, Nowadays it tends to be overlooked, forgotten in the other preoccupations that beset us. It is, however, not just a day marking the twelfth day of Christmas but a whole sequence of events that we delight in and all of which lead us into the Feast of Candlemas, forty days after the birth of Christ in our liturgical calendar. Jesus is presented in the Temple to be dedicated to the Lord.

Have we gained a sense of revelation, an insight into the meaning of Jesus and his mission to be a light in our world?

Simeon had received a promise from the Holy Spirit that he would see the Lord's promised Messiah. Can we begin to understand the satisfaction of Simeon as he holds the baby Jesus in his arms? The promise has been kept: Simeon has seen with his own eyes the salvation that awaits all people.

This is a fitting climax to the season of Epiphany. Over the last weeks of January we have been quietly guided through Scripture to make a similar proclamation of recognition of salvation.

Some of the readings we have heard in church this month are worth summarising in order to appreciate the full impact of what they are saying to us.

- First, it is the arrival of the visitors from the East who want to worship this baby born to be the <u>king of the Jews</u>. These visitors, privileged to see the light of Christ, are gentiles.
- Second, is the baptism of Christ; a voice from heaven is heard declaring Jesus to be <u>God's son</u> and the Spirit coming down on Jesus.

- Third, we have Nathanael meeting Jesus because Philip had said, "we have found the one whom Moses and the prophets wrote about." Listen to Nathanael's reaction: "You are the Son of God. You are the King of Israel."
- The final reading that is used over this period is the story of the wedding in Cana when Jesus performed his first miracle, revealed his glory <u>AND</u> the disciples believed in him.

Have we reached that level of belief?

We ask ourselves what conviction about the identity of Christ leads the apostles in their mission. We remember the words of Paul in Acts 17 when he is speaking to the city council in Athens: "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human

hands ... God did this so that men should seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him though he is not far from each one of us. For in Him we live and move and have our being ... we too are His children ..."



We are indeed encouraged to examine the evidence presented in the gospels. Have we gained a sense of revelation, an insight into

the meaning of Jesus and his mission to be a light in our world? John says, "he became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us. We saw his glory, the glory which he received as the Father's only son."

With fresh eyes may we see the steady accumulation of the weight of evidence that led the apostles forward in a strong faith and enabled them to reach out to others so effectively.



NOTES FROM THE CHURCH COUNCILS

Copies of PCC minutes are available at the back of church or from the PCC secretaries (June Banks at S. John with S. Mark and David Thew at Christ Church).

CHRIST CHURCH - Meeting held on Wednesday, January 11th

Matters discussed included a brief review of the recent inspection by the Area Dean, which considered the fabric, records, vision, mission and ministry of the parish.

We were grateful to two local residents for raising the matter of wind damage to the fence on Springside Road. Reports from PCC committees and Synod were brought to the meeting and the Treasurer gave an update on the financial position.

The Archdeacon had commended the parish on once more being able to meet the required level of contribution to the wider church, through parish share. As a result we qualify for a 2% reduction on the 2012 figure – now £30,732.

S. JOHN WITH S. MARK - Meeting held Wednesday January 18th

Much of the meeting was taken up with information from Pam Kojder, church Safeguarding Officer, who ran over recent developments in safeguarding measures for children and young people as introduced by the Diocese. Job descriptions need to be drawn up for 'volunteer jobs' and a greater responsibility will be taken in regard to supervision and training of volunteers. At the moment most of our efforts in safeguarding are centred on the protection of children but in the near future we will be required to look at the care of vulnerable adults as well.

Our Treasurer, Ian Banks, ran through the finances for the last year in preparation for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to be held in April. Thankfully finances appear to be rather more healthy than this time last year and the recent Stewardship campaign has had a positive effect.

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE MONTH

February 2nd

THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE

Malachi 3.1-5

Hebrews 2.14-18 Luke 2.22-40

February 5th

3 before LENT (Proper 1)

Isaiah 40.21-31 1 Corinthians 9.16-23 Mark 1.29-39

February 12th

2 before LENT

Proverbs 8.1, 22-31 Colossians 1.15-20 John 1.1-14

February 19th

SUNDAY NEXT before LENT

2 Kings 2.1-12 2 Corinthians 4.3-6 Mark 9.2-9

February 22nd

ASH WEDNESDAY

Joel 2.1-2.12-17

2 Corinthians 5.20b - 6.10

Matthew 6.1-6.16-21

February 26th

LENT 1

Genesis 9.8-17 1 Peter 3.18-22

Mark 1.9-15



FROM THE REGISTERS

HOLY BAPTISM

22 January Maisie Leah Wright

We welcome you into the Lord's family

MARRIAGE

23rd December Daniel Bamford to Rebecca Thorpe

Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder

CHRISTIAN FUNERALS

22nd December Baby Atkinson

28th December Frank Sandbach

30th December Barbara Howard

5th January Peter Roy Nuttall

6th January Arthur Wolfendale

11th January Maud McCourt

13th January Ann Reynolds

23rd January Mary Driver

25th January Annie Lawson Pearson

INTERMENT OF ASHES

20th January David Frost

May they rest gently in the arms of God

If you would like to provide a tribute to someone you love, please consider flowers for the church. Donations can be made to clergy or wardens. Please note we do not have flowers during Lent.

Christ Church

Feb 5th In memory of Mrs D Ronson

Feb 12th In memory of Fred Williams

FOR QUIET MOMENTS

Week One

This week we celebrate the presentation of Jesus in the temple when Simeon and Anna encountered him.

Like Simeon, may I grow old in hope and wonder.

Like Anna, may I love you all my days.

May I be open to truth, open to surprises.

May I let your spirit into my life.

May I let your justice change my behaviour.

May I live in the brightness of your joy. Amen.



This week is



We pray for all those who are married, that in their relationship they may find love, support and companionship.

We ask that their home may be a haven for all who live in it and that their love for each other will extend to family and friends. We especially remember the children asking that they may know your love and find peace and security within their families. We remember those whose marriage is encountering difficulty and ask that through tolerance, patience and love a resolution may be found. We pray for the work of the Mothers' Union in supporting families throughout the world and ask that you hand will guide and lead the members to support and encourage marriage and family life. Amen

Week Three

This week sees the beginning of Lent. This is part of the prayer "Lead us on our journey" about the journey through Lent - by Ruth Harvey in the book "Eggs and Ashes".

You have called us to be a people with a purpose, Travelling without a map, travelling to where we are led, Sustained by your spirit, Committed to the gospel for the hope of the world.

Lead us on our journey
from who we are to who you want us to be;
so that patience is built in us,
kindness is assumed in us,
gentleness is part of us,
truth is second nature to us.
and the commitment of love is part of us.
Let us go gladly on our journey towards Easter –
the journey to death and resurrection.
Let us journey in the peace and power of the Spirit. Amen

Week Four

A morning prayer



O Lord, my Father and my friend, thank you for this new day. Thank you for those who love me and care for me.

Thank you for the wonder of my being, for gifts of body, mind and spirit.

Thank you for all the good things I enjoy and the trials which make me strong.

Help me, to make the best of every hour of this day. Help me to enjoy the love I receive and to share my love with a glad and generous heart. Amen



What a relief that the weather of 2012 seems to be reasonably kind so far! We have held both meetings in January. The first was just a social evening with a few quiz questions about New Year – nothing too challenging! However, we had a lovely surprise when we were treated to sparkling wine and a variety of cakes in celebration of Margery and Alan Spencer's Golden Wedding anniversary! We do like to celebrate!

The meeting on January 18th was our Communion led by Elizabeth and followed with warming home made soup and bread – always welcome on a cold night!

Looking forward, I would like to draw your attention once again to **Make a Mother's Day**. It has been a Mothers' Union project for some years now and provides very valuable resources for overseas. Remember, you can spread the word to everyone and perhaps encourage your own children to get something for you through 'Make a Mother's Day' rather than the ubiquitous chocolates! Leaflets are available.

Mothers' Union Weekend Retreat

At Foxhill Spiritual Retreat and Conference Centre, Frodsham, Cheshire

Friday 28th to Sunday 30th September

Places are limited.

For further information please speak to Cath Hilton or Jean Slater.

Dates for the Diary

February $\, \mathbf{1}^{\text{st}} \,$ Favourite Music – bring along any music that

means something to you. NB. CDs or tapes

February 15th AGM

March 7th Margery Spencer

Cath Hilton Branch Leader

HELP ALONG THE WAY - LENT IDEAS

Lent can be a difficult time, we give things up and think it is not enough then almost as quickly decide it is too much; so why not do something positive this Lent?

LENT HOUSE GROUPS

These friendly gatherings will provide stimulation, thought and prayer for the Lenten period. If you have not attended before don't be frightened, you will be made very welcome and soon 'get into the swing'.

We have three groups meeting this year: Mondays at 7.30pm at 14 Springside Road beginning on 27th February; Tuesdays at 7.30pm at 150 Walmersley Road beginning on 28th February and Thursdays at 2pm in the lower hall room at Christ Church beginning on 1st March. All groups will follow a 5 session York Course: 'Handing on the Torch'. You need to get your names down so that material can be purchased for the course so see the lists in Church.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS at St John with St Mark will be shared and alternated with St Joseph's as usual. They begin at Saint Joseph's on Friday February 24th at 7pm. The service only lasts about 30 minutes and you don't have to 'know anything' before you start. Do try to attend what is usually a thought provoking service to include as part of your Lenten discipline.

A SHORT TIME AWAY for prayer and socialising has been arranged at The St Joseph's Prayer Centre at Formby; a lovely quiet place of peace in a beautiful setting. For details and lists to enter your name see the notice boards in Church.

THE JOURNEY OF A LIFETIME

Almost 100 people from across Manchester recently went on the journey of a lifetime. And what a journey it was, not just geographically but emotionally as well. Here is **Sue Walker's** account of a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

It was something I had promised myself I would do one day and so when the chance came to join 'the three Bishops' I said yes please. Initially I only knew my sister in law, Christine and Janet Lyssejko but in the end we all supported each other and I made many good and kind friends.

Each day was filled from dawn till bedtime with wonder and delight, but what a troubled region the Holy Land is. The hope is that all the different factions can live together eventually but I fear that it is going to take a lot of forgiveness on all sides. It struck me as sad but beautiful; uncared for and dirty in places but full of vibrant life.

Around the Sea of Galilee it was very spiritual and the sense of walking in Jesus' footsteps was very powerful. The peace and joy when we took a boat onto the water was beyond description and when Bishops Nigel, Chris and Mark stood and sang 'He's got the whole world in his hands' it was both a joyful and funny moment.

We sometimes ran out of time – it was going dark and cold as we waited for the mini buses to take us to the top of Mount Tabor to see the Basilica of the Annunciation but the church glowed from within as the Franciscan Friars gathered for evening prayers. What a wonderful sight it was. Going back down the mountain in the darkness made it easier to deal with the hairpin bends!

On our way to Bethlehem we joined other pilgrims on the banks of the Jordan to renew our Baptismal vows and then made our way to the town. The 'little town' is now surrounded by graffiti covered concrete walls which trap Palestinian families inside. But we were able to celebrate Holy Communion in the cave in which the shepherds sheltered and then sing 'Away in a manger' in the place Jesus was born.

Our hotel in Jerusalem was right against the city walls and we walked the western wall as the sun went down on Friday. There were many things that left a lasting impression in Jerusalem. There was the view from the little church at Bethphage with the Golden Dome in the distance. The 2000 year old olive trees in the Garden of Gethsemane, still growing and bearing witness to the time Our Lord spent there.

And of course there was the walk up the Via Dolorosa, probably as busy as it was in Jesus' time. It became more emotional as each Station of the Cross was remembered with a bible reading. Each one of us held a simple wooden cross given to us by our Christian guides. And the service we had in the Cathedral of St. George where we were made so welcome.

Floundering in the Dead Sea was quite an experience – very muddy, gritty and incredibly difficult to stand up in. It was near impossible to get up once you were down! There was a lot of laughter that day and Janet and I were covered in mud.

I have obviously not mentioned all the things we did, I could write a book but I hope it has given you a flavour of my experiences and feelings. The whole week – was it only a week? - has been the trip of a lifetime – the most exciting, emotional and companionable time of my life. Follow that – I don't think I can.



3rd

CALLING ALL EGGHEADS



A reliable source tells me that the Stamps and the Spencers are currently spending every spare moment with their noses in a wide range of reference books. Why? Well might you ask, but it appears that they are determined to retain the title of

"Brains of Walmersley" which they won (by a very narrow margin) last year.

Can they repeat this great achievement? Only time will tell, but we shall know on Saturday, 18th February when this year's contest is held in Christ Church Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Why not come along and see if you – and your fellow know-alls – can thwart their ambitions. Your £2 entry fee will get you an enjoyable evening of not too serious quiz questions, plus a cup of tea in the interval; if you need anything stronger to stimulate the little grey cells, feel free to bring it along.

Stan Parkinson CCW Tennis Club

P.S. The three quizzes held in 2011 raised £523 for church funds - this year we hope to do even better and with your help we will.

WHY NOT TRY THESE?

- 1. How many sides has a Pentagon?
- 2. Who is the author of Schindler's Ark?
- 3. What colour is the most difficult run in skiing?
- 4. Which politician was responsible for repealing the Corn Laws?
- 5. What is measured in guires, reams and bundles?

Answers on page 17

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

Fairtrade Fortnight runs from February 20th to March 3rd and gives all of us the chance to help others feed their families whilst stocking up our cupboards with some great value goodies.

The Traidcraft stall will be open in St John's church hall on the 4th and 11th of March and you can purchase Fair Trade goods to help families across the world to flourish. While you drink your fairly traded tea or coffee please remember that you are helping people in developing countries to transform their lives. Traidcraft also works alongside Christian Aid to help our brothers and sisters who have to deal with the devastating effects of climate change.

You might like to try the new Fair Trade Pineapple Fruit Pot with just 60 calories and costing just 60p, or the new Choc'N'Toffee bars at 40p. We also now sell kitchen rolls and tissues. So please come along and see what you can buy! *Ann Stamp*

Did you know?

60% of Fairtrade farmers and workers are based in Africa. Thanks to them we can buy Fairtrade cotton clothing, cosmetics, wine, fruit, coffee, tea, chocolate and much more...

Fairtrade is a thriving and growing campaign movement with over 500 Fairtrade Towns, over 600 Fairtrade Schools, over 140 Fairtrade Universities and over 6,700 Fairtrade Faith groups, including synagogues, mosques and Hindu temples.

Three of the top chocolate brands in the UK are now Fairtrade. Look out for Kit Kats and Cadbury Dairy Milk bars with the Fairtrade Mark and from next summer Maltesers.

Three out of 10 bananas sold in the UK are Fairtrade. All bananas in Sainsbury's are Fairtrade – they sell 1,200 Fairtrade bananas a minute adding up to a whopping 650 million a year.

JUNIOR CHURCH & JAM

Places in the New Testament

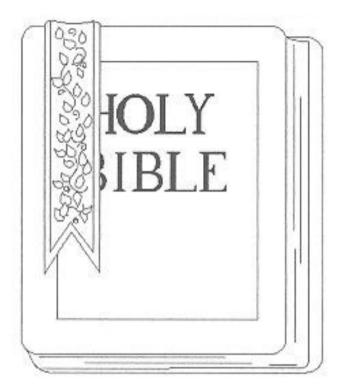
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Antioch Athens Bethlehem Capernaum Colossae Corinth Damascus Ephesus Galatia Joppa Lystra Miletus

Nazareth Pergamum Philippi Rome Sardis Thessalonica Troas

@A Kid's Heart at akidsheart.com

Colour in this bible



A verse from 1 John 1: 9

For God so loved the world that he have his only begotten son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Our thanks to Olivia White for contributing this month's content.

Why not send in **your** ideas for these pages? Let everyone know what is going on in JAM and Junior Church, tell us how why you enjoyed taking part in the pantomime, or share something special that has happened.

Quiz answers: 1. Five; 2. Thomas Keneally; 3. Black; 4. Sir

Robert Peel; 5. Paper

WORDS OF COMFORT FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

The Talmud is one of the oldest and holiest of Jewish scriptures. It is mainly a record of the discussions between learned and respected Rabbis and originated almost 2000 years ago. Although Jesus would not have known these texts no doubt much of what the Talmud contains would have been familiar to him. The following passage is something I have always found of great comfort and perhaps it may help someone else with a grief that is raw and painful.



In a harbour, two ships sailed; one setting forth on a voyage, the other coming home to port. Everyone cheered the ship going out, but the ship sailing in was hardly noticed. To this, a wise

man said; "Do not rejoice over a ship setting out to sea, for you cannot know what terrible

storms it may encounter and what fearful dangers it may have to endure. Rejoice rather over the ship that has safely reached port and brings its passengers home in peace."



And this is the way of the world: when a child is born, all rejoice; when someone dies, all weep. We should do the opposite. For no one can tell what trials and travails await a newborn child; but when a mortal dies in peace we should rejoice, for he has completed a long journey, and there is no greater boon than to leave this world with the imperishable crown of a good name.'

Whatever one's beliefs, the very fact of having lived is a form of immortality for there is no absolute death while any memory remains with those continuing to live. Where genes have been passed on the result will be true and everlasting immortality.

KNIT AND NATTER

One of the most popular activities that happen at Moorside Community Centre and Library

which is based at S. John's Church Hall is the Knit and Natter Group. Every Tuesday afternoon some 15 or so ladies and the odd gentleman gather to knit and talk. They have probably knitted hundreds of jumpers for charity by now in addition to various garments in many hues. If you can't knit someone will teach you and if you don't natter you can just listen.

There are similar groups at a number of community centres and libraries in the borough and, it seems, worldwide as well. A recent book explored the potentially healing power of knitting and nattering across the pond in America.

THE KNITTING CIRCLE by ANN HOOD is richly textured and beautiful, if emotionally wrenching to read. Ann Hood lost her own young daughter to a sudden infectious illness and she uses her experience in this fictional, but very realistic story.

In this book she writes of Mary Baxter's grief and recovery after the death of her five-year-old daughter Stella from bacterial meningitis. Mary is immobilized by her loss, and learns to knit through the long-distance machinations of her mother. The rhythm and predictability of knitting gradually begin to give her a focus; one stitch after another, one row after another, until a fabric is created.

Mary soon learns that each of the other knitters meeting weekly at Alice's "Sit and Knit" has a tragic story. From lost wartime lover to brutal assault to recurring cancer to loved ones lost on 9/11, each knitter's story unfolds in turn. Their stories are linked through the knitting circle and Mary's slow, slow progress through her grief.

To be honest keeping in touch has never been one of my strong points – in fact it is one of the legion of weak ones! But thanks to that modern miracle/menace Facebook this week I met up with some old school friends.

Of course I knew these people were 'out there' somewhere and there has been the odd school re-union – which I managed to avoid – and sometimes I thought it would be nice if... But it was not until I ventured onto Facebook with my new PC that those familiar faces and those (mainly) happy memories came back to me.

After a few months of chatting and exchanging a few pictures - theirs of family and mine of dogs - the girl who had been my best friend in the first year of the Derby School told us she was coming for a holiday so we could all meet up. Alison's family had gone to Australia when she was 12 and, as I heard nothing from her when she went the contact was lost. Yesterday she told me her mother forbade her to answer my letters because I was a bad influence! Really - can you believe that?

So it was that I rather nervously entered a Manchester bar looking for familiarish faces. The twins – would have known them anywhere and I can still tell them apart. Connie her flaming red hair now rather more blonde but still with the same lovely smile. Anne who is one of those lucky women who has got prettier with age. And Alison – a strong Australian accent – a much more exotic life story than mine - but soon we were chatting away as if no time had gone by at all.

So there we all were, with different stories to tell, all with our mixture of joys and sadnesses; and all, we decided, having turned out pretty well! So perhaps the message is *find new friends but treasure your old ones...*

Elizabeth A. Binns

Teach me, my God and King, In all things Thee to see, And what I do in anything To do it as for Thee.

On 27 February we remember George Herbert, a priest and poet who died in 1633. Born in Wales, he was the seventh of ten children. Like most of us, George Herbert struggled for much of his life with conflicting desires. He was a gifted scholar for whom a glittering political career seemed to beckon. On the other hand, guided by his mother, he was conscious of a calling to ordination as a priest.

This turmoil was the source and inspiration of much of his poetry. At the age of 36, he finally resolved his doubts, gave up any aspirations to public life and embraced the priesthood, accepting a living in Wiltshire. Here he found inner peace at last, serving God and the local community, and his poetic talent was able to flourish. Sadly, this tranquillity lasted for only three years, brought to an end by his early death just short of his 40th birthday.

Throughout his turmoil, he always came back to believing that God was a God of love, and he wrote many poems which expressed this belief. Many people know of George Herbert only because of his popular and inspiring hymns. 'Let all the World in Every Corner Sing', 'Teach me, my God and King', and 'King of Glory, King of Peace' are just three that we sing regularly.





JUBILEE MATTERS

This year H M the Queen celebrates her Diamond Jubilee and there will be many special events.

Here in Bury will be held one of a number of special services throughout Manchester. Ian, as Borough Dean, is responsible for the service on 13 May at 6.30 p.m. in Bury Parish Church. Put the date in your diary and watch out for lots more information.

Is your group planning to mark this momentous anniversary? Please use the magazine to tell others about it, to advertise and to report (with photos if possible). Was there a street party in our community to celebrate the Coronation? Maybe you were there, or have some other special memory of that day. Please write about it so we can all share in the joyfulness of the occasion. Throughout the year we shall include a page in the magazine to celebrate.

It was on 6 February 1952 that King George VI died at Sandringham. Princess Elizabeth heard the news of her father's death whilst in Kenya. Princess Elizabeth, now Queen Elizabeth II, and The Duke of Edinburgh returned home to England on 7th February 1952, and the next day, 8th February, the Accession Council took place at St. James's Palace, attended by 175 Privy Councillors. The Queen read her Accession Declaration and signed two copies of the Accession document.

Proclamations of the Queen's Accession took place in many parts of the UK, and ended with these words:

That the High and Mighty Princess Elizabeth Alexandra Mary is now, by the death of our late Sovereign of happy memory, become Queen Elizabeth II by the Grace of God, Queen of the Realm, and Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, to whom Her Lieges do acknowledge all Faith, and constant Obedience with hearty and humble Affection, beseeching God by whom Kings and Queens do reign, to bless the Royal Princess, Elizabeth II, with long and happy Years to reign over us.

God Save The Queen



25th Bury Rainbows and Brownies (Christ Church Walmersley)

Sunday 13 May 2012

CELEBRATION

On 2nd March 2012 our Rainbow Group will be 20 years old.

On 6th June 2012 our Brownie Pack will be 70 years old.

We are holding a Lunch in the Church Hall, after Church Parade, for all members of Girlguiding.

Also invited are all past members of Christ Church Walmersley Rainbows and Brownies.

To book your place at Lunch contact: Glennys Nicholls



MOORSIDE COMMUNITY CENTRE & LIBRARY Parkinson Street Bury Tel: 253 6471

IS THE INTERNET A MYSTERY?

Have you decided that computers are not for you?

Have you got a computer but hardly use it?

Why not call in at your local library and take advantage of the free training available. They will get you surfing the net in no time. You could be emailing friends and relatives across the globe within minutes.

Ask about 1 to 1 training and *Get On* online courses.



MARRIAGE WEEK

Have you noticed how life can get extremely busy. In fact so busy that it's all too easy to forget the connectedness that inspired you to marry in the first place!

It's not even as though being busy is a bad thing. Often we are busy doing good things, like looking after children, moving house, new jobs, homework and so on, and there lies the challenge, in the midst of all this activity we just forget to look after our marriages.

Marriages need time and content to grow and flourish.

Marriage Week, which takes place each year from 7 to 14 February, is a massive aide -memoire to the nation which says; "if you are fortunate enough to be in a marriage – then you should look after it".

"Marriage Week - for everyone who loves healthy marriage" http://marriage-week.org.uk/

What Is Love?

Sooner or later we begin to understand that love is more than verses on valentines and romance in the movies. We begin to know that love is here and now,



real and true, the most important thing in our lives. For love is the creator of our favourite memories and the foundation of our fondest dreams. Love is a promise that is always kept, a fortune that can never be spent, a seed that can flourish in even the most unlikely of places. And this radiance that never fades, this mysterious and magical joy, is the greatest treasure of all - one known only by those who love.

Author Unknown

YOUR MAGAZINE - YOUR VIEWS

Well, that's almost it – the end of our first joint magazine. Your editors this time have been Barbara Taylor and Elizabeth Binns but now it's your turn!

We really do need to know what you think and what you would like to see featured in your magazine. As we see it the purpose of this publication is not only to tell the folk in the pews what is going on but also to attract other people to our services and social events. But maybe you have a different idea.

So to help us improve we need:

A logo for the front page to represent our two churches together

Articles - local interest, faith stories, memories, humour, etc

Prayers and other spiritual contributions

Church events – especially so that each church knows what the other is doing!

Information – what is going on in and around Walmersley Road?

Reports from meetings connected to church life

Snippets – jottings - ramblings

Contributions from young people – what are you doing? What do you want to tell us?

Quizzes - book reviews, etc, etc

It would be wonderful if you could email things to us but don't worry if you can't.

We have a new e-mail address - wrub@live.co.uk

Thank you for reading so far!

Barbara & Elízabeth

VOLUNTEER EDITORS VERY, VERY WELCOME!

WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

Wed 1	Mothers' Union - Your Favourite Music	CCW
Thu 2	ABC Toddler Group & coffee morning every week at 9.15 a.m.	SS JM
Sun 5	JAM Youth Group, every week at 7p.m.	SS JM
Mon 6	Ministry committee	CCW
Tue 7	Tuesday Teatimers, every week at 2 p.m.	CCW
Tue 7	Pray-Sing, 49 Fairlands Road	
Tue 7	Listening Prayer Group 150 Walmersley Rd	
9 -11	Cinderella - the pantomime of 2012!	SS JM
Wed 15	Mothers' Union Branch AGM	CCW
Wed 15	Churches Together AGM 7.30 p.m.	SS JM
Thu 16	PCC	CCW
Sat 18	"Brains of Walmersley" quiz	CCW
Sun 19	PCC 12 noon	SS JM
Wed 22	Ash Wednesday: Holy Communion at 10 a.m. Holy Communion at 7.30 p.m.	SS JM CCW
Wed 29	Open Group 'Film Show' at 7.30 p.m.	SS JM

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

April 16	APCM at SS JM
April 29	APCM at CCW
May 13	Diamond Jubilee Celebration at St Mary the Virgin

St. John with St. Mark present



CINDERELLA



STARRING THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE PARISH & The Reverends Ian Stamp and Paul Sanderson as The Ugly Sisters

Listeria and Salmonella

Thursday 9th, Friday 10th & Saturday 11th of February at 7.30pm in St. John's Church Hall Tickets £5 for adults, £3 for children For ticket information call 761 6592 or ask the Wardens at St. John with St Mark's