

CHRIST CHURCH WALMERSLEY and ST JOHN WITH ST MARK BURY



A NEW DAWN
HE IS RISEN INDEED. ALLELUIA
April 2012



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.	1 st 2 nd 3 rd 4 th 5 th	Holy Communion Family and Parade Holy Communion Morning Service Holy Communion	Christ Church		
10.30 a.m.	Sung 3 rd	g Eucharist Parade Service	St John w St Mark		
Wednesday					
10 a.m.	Holy	Communion	St John w St Mark		
Thursday					
2 p.m.	1 st Pray	First Thursday er	Christ Church Hall		
7.30 p.m.	-	Communion	St John w St Mark		

Saints days and other services as announced (see calendar on page 24 & 25)

If you need transport to church please contact the wardens.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Those who know me from Christ Church will no doubt remember- probably with glee- that one of my "hobbies" was running!



Yes, I managed the "Nangreaves Nightmare" a few times and Cancer Research's "Race for Life" on several occasions. To be able to complete these events without disgracing myself, I had to do a lot of training both out and

about and on the treadmill at a gym. It was not easy! My body didn't always like it! I kept myself going sometimes with two thoughts passing through my head. The first was-"Don't you know your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit" (1 Corinthians 6:19) and the second was that that was beloved by gym enthusiasts "No pain, no gain."

At a recent Lent group along with discussing issues round the topic "A secular society" such as gay marriage, speaking out for what Christians believe in, Christianity being pushed out of public life, etc. We touched on our Easter Services and a comment was made that our congregations seemed reluctant to join in our Good Friday observations, but we were very good coming on Palm and Easter Sundays: was it the pain of Good Friday that put people off? It set me thinking- a dangerous thing I know! How do we deal with pain?

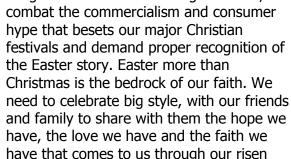
We can ignore it and hope it goes away.

We can treat it with medication ourselves and hope it goes away!

We can seek help from the medical professions and take advice and look for a cure or relief. The list can be endless. Someone said that when we feel pain, we are sharing in the pain that Jesus suffered for us and the world on Good Friday. Ok I get that and I know that many people when in great physical and mental pain cry out to God for relief.

But where does that put us with Easter? The disciples certainly knew pain and fear and rapidly learnt of the joy of having a risen Saviour. On the whole we are not a persecuted church, we are free to worship as we want. We really have something to shout about and celebrate. We have in Jesus a risen Saviour. There is an end to our pain- this is our gain!

We need to make a fuss about Easter, more than we do at present. We need to get over the real meaning of Easter, to



Lord. We have been given new life. (One that says our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit) We should be proud to be chosen by God to be in His Kingdom – pride isn't always a sin!

Many of us will have experienced pain of one sort of another during the past year, why not come and leave that pain at the foot of the cross on Good Friday. Then on Easter Day we can all come home rejoicing and ready for the feast!

May the peace and joy of the risen Lord Jesus be with us all this Easter!

Dorbard.

Christ Church

You may have noticed the scaffolding in place at Christ Church. This was erected so that repairs to the ridge tiles could be made. (The cost of the scaffolding was far greater than the repair!) Whilst some of this will be covered by insurance, it will mean an increase in our premiums yet again.

Unfortunately someone took advantage of the scaffolding to climb on to a window sill, break a stained glass window and enter the church. They found nothing of value to steal but the damage caused will have financial implications.

This month has not been a good one for the fabric at Christ Church. Dry rot has appeared in the choir stalls and on inspection has been found to have spread underneath the organ. Currently we are awaiting the findings of experts to determine the nature and cost of remedial action. As this is not covered by insurance, the amount of money we will need to rectify the outbreak will be considerable.

The AGMs at both churches are in the coming month.

Christ Church Sunday April 29th 12.00pm (after morning service)

St John with St Mark Monday April 16th 7.30.pm

Please make sure you are on the church electoral roll and attend to make you views known and hear the reports of church activities.

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE MONTH

April 1st Palm Sunday

SSJM: Isaiah 50. 4-9a Philippians 2. 5-11 Mark 14 1-15.47

CC: Psalm 118. 1-2,19-24 Mark 11. 1-11

April 5th Maundy Thursday 7.30pm

Exodus 12. 1-4, 11-14 1 Corinthians 11. 23-26 John 13. 1-17, 31b -35

April 6th Good Friday

10.30 am – Meditative Service CCW 2 pm – SJM Isaiah 52. 13- 53.12 Hebrew 10. 16-25; John 18. 1-19.42



April 8th Easter Day

Acts 10. 34-43 1 Corinthians 15. 1-11 John 20. 1-18

April 15th Easter 2

Acts 4. 32-35 1 John 1.1 – 2.2 John 20. 19-31

April 22nd Easter 3

Acts 3. 12-19 1 John 3. 1-7 Luke 24. 36b-48

April 23rd St George's Day SJM

Revelation 12. 7-12 2 Timothy 2. 3-13 John 15. 18-21

April 25th Mark the Evangelist

Acts 15. 35-41 Ephesians 4. 7-16 Mark13. 5-13

April 29th Easter 4

Acts 4. 5-12 1 John 3. 16-24 John 10. 11-18

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

March 18th – Sarah Louise Carey

We welcome her into the Lord's family



CHRISTIAN FUNERALS

March 9th Elaine Marie Minshull

INTERMENT OF ASHES

February 12th Jack Siddall

March 9th Ruth Whitworth

March 13th Frank Sandbach

May they rest gently in the arms of God

FLOWERS

At Christ Church



April 15th In memory of Sarah Melling and Jack Illsley

April 22nd Mr & Mrs A Spencer

April 29th in memory of the Leake and Rushworth families



A Service for the Borough of Bury

For the whole community

St Mary the Virgin, Bury (Bury Parish Church, BL9 0LA)

Sunday 13 May 6.30pm

In the presence of the Lord Bishop of Manchester and Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester

Open Group at St John with St Mark

Next meeting

Wednesday 25 April at 7.30 p.m. in the Library Ian Banks is our speaker on fairy stories and their origins. This should be a very interesting talk! Please come along! Ann Stamp

First meeting of the year:

We met on 29 February and we had a film show of "Bury in the Sixties" from the Bury Cine Society. This provided a few oohs! and aahs! when we recognized someone or some shops (no longer existing) and other items.

It was very enjoyable to watch even when we had a small hiccup, and Ann stepped in with various notes on Sir Robert Peel, Richmal Crompton and John Kay. A very good evening and also well attended.

Joyce Hopkinson



Communion and Confirmation 2012

As we have walked through this Lent season, it has been a time for reflection, a time for questions, a time of change and of growth. For some of our young children this started when lessons for Holy Communion and Confirmation back in January.

They started out somewhat a quiet bunch, even the church mouse made more noise. But as the weeks have gone by it has been wonderful to see them all grow, asking questions that we would much have preferred they hadn't. At least we could send them away with homework! As they have grown they have never shied away at asking those questions or voicing and explaining their views. Their eagerness to learn and their thoughts have, at times been astounding and we have all learned from each other. I would ask that you keep all our young children in your prayers, but I ask you to pray especially at this time for:

Jessica Dunn – as she takes her 1st Holy Communion on Easter Sunday.

Lucas Lay, Freddie Nicol, Archie Nicol, Oliver Standring and James Weston as they continue to prepare for their Confirmation on Sunday 6th May at St John w St Mark's. Please do come and support them at the service, time to be advised.

Ethan Arya, as he too grows in his faith.

All our children are our church of today not just our church of tomorrow; please continue to give them your prayers, support, encouragement and respect.

lanet

Can we explain the Resurrection?

- The tomb was certainly empty

Was Jesus never buried in the tomb?

But the gospels state clearly that the tomb belonged to Joseph of Arimathea - this would have been hotly disputed and ridiculed if it were not true.

Was the body stolen?

- The Roman guards would never have removed the body; they were too keen to prove that Jesus had died.
- Christ's followers would never have removed it. They would not want to risk their lives. How could they have gone on to preach the message of Christ's resurrection, (and be persecuted for it) if they knew that it was all a lie. The apostles overcame their initial fears to be courageous in proclaiming the gospel across the world. They received contempt, opposition and cruel deaths. Would they have done so if it were all a myth and they knew it?

Was it an hallucination?

- The first disciples were utterly convinced that they had seen the risen Jesus.
- Large numbers of people were witness to the presence of the risen Jesus.(1Corinthians 15:5-8) It is unlikely that they were all hallucinating at the same time.

- The differing personalities of the people who saw the risen Jesus mitigate against an hallucination which usually only affects one type of personality.
- There is no such thing as a vision appearing to a crowd. It is generally received by one person at a time and that person must be expecting the vision. None of the disciples expected Jesus to rise from the dead.
 They were terrified and frightened when they saw him. (Luke 24:37)
- The subsequent permanent and positive change in the lifestyle of the converted overthrows the theory of hallucination.

Was it mistaken identity?

 Unlikely. Certainly the disciples who had been with him would recognise the man they had been with for three years.

From all the evidence it is clear the Jesus rose from the dead. Even Dr Pinchas Lipide, an orthodox Jewish rabbi who does not accept Christ as the Messiah concedes the evidence that Jesus rose from the dead.

What do we believe?

Certainly we have never met the risen Jesus in the flesh but if we accept the accounts in the gospels and acknowledge the changes in so many lives over centuries, then we too must accept this is no hallucination, theft or mistaken identity.

Jesus Christ is risen Alleluia

Week One

Dear Lord, this week, Holy Week, is a mixture of emotions for us. We remember the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, with the adoration of the crowds. Then all too soon the crowds were baying for his blood. We remember also Jesus praying on the Mount of Olives "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me, yet not my will but yours be done." *Luke, Chap. 22, vs. 42*)

Help us to always follow your will, not ours. Jesus suffered so much, the humiliation of his trial and beatings, and the crucifixion on Good Friday. The world became black, but you were always there, Lord. Jesus committed his spirit into your hands. May we always commit ourselves to you in thankfulness for Jesus' willingness to die upon the cross for our sins. Amen.

Week Two

Alleluia, Jesus is risen
Alleluia, Jesus is risen
He overcame death and sin
He gave us life anew
He has exchanged the crown of thorns
For a crown of glory.
Alleluia
Alleluia, Jesus is risen
Alleluia, Jesus is risen
We were lost but now are found
We were empty but now are filled
We lacked faith but now burst to proclaim his name
He is with us for eternity. Alleluia.

Week Three

Dear Father, now we have life anew through Jesus' resurrection. At this new start in the church's year, may we begin again, start our lives afresh, and go forward without fear to proclaim your holy name. May we be emboldened to speak of your everlasting love for us, the fact that you are with us always, even in our darkest moments. Let us be refreshed in you, knowing that our past sins are forgiven, that Jesus died for us and arose from the dead for that purpose. Lord, thank you that we can begin again, that you never turn away from us, that you are always there to listen. Thank you, thank you, Lord.



Week Four

I will be your guide
Peace and love will follow me
and I will be your guide.
The deaf will hear, the blind will see,
peace and love will follow me.
When you are troubled, walk with me.
I'll be by your side.
Peace and love will follow me
and I will be your guide.

(Elizabeth Glaydon A Mothers' Union Anthology of Poetry)



During Lent, we usually take the opportunity to reflect on religious topics and this year is no exception. Margery Spencer led our first meeting in March with a talk entitled 'Odd Couples!'. Our focus was couples in the Bible, concentrating on their physical and emotional journeys. This was interspersed with information about the journeys and experiences of Margery and Alan's ancestors. It certainly made us think about the ease of our current circumstances compared to the hardships suffered and determination necessary to survive in the past.

As we near Easter, we will hear from Rev. Canon Ian Stamp on the subject 'The Long Road'. You'll have to wait until next month to find out the details!

Isn't it lovely to be surrounded by daffodils? I certainly feel invigorated now that it is light when I am getting up! Hopefully, many of you will feel inspired to come along to our Poetry Evening in April. Non-members are very welcome to share sherry and shortcake alongside favourite poetry. You may even feel that you could write a poem of your own! There is no specific theme to this evening so feel free to be creative! We usually have poetry of all types – including those that make us laugh!

Here are some dates for your diary.

N.B. There is a change to the meeting on May 2nd. It was the Deanery AGM but this has now been moved to Wednesday May 23rd (still to be held in our Church Hall.)

April	4	Holy Week (No meeting)
April	18	Poetry Evening Sherry and Shortcake
May	2	Kim and Nicola Cassidy - Fostering
May	16	Woodcraft – Gill Smith

Thursday Prayer 12 April 2012 12 noon

An opportunity for members and friends in the diocese, praying for a special concern each month. Share in this time of music, prayer and reflection which lasts just half an hour.

2012 centres on Your Gift? Discover & Celebrate! – a leaflet of themes, with outlines for each month is available from the Mothers' Union Office, in the Cathedral or can be downloaded.

The theme for April is: 'Gift of Understanding' and will be led by Withington Deanery members. Venue Lady Chapel, Manchester Cathedral

Spring Council

St. Thomas Centre, Ardwick Green, Manchester M12 6FZ Saturday April 21st starting with coffee at 9.30am. Guest speaker: Reg Bailey, Chief Executive of The Mothers' Union.

Also includes Annual Meeting of Mothers' Union in Manchester. This meeting is open to everyone. Tea and coffee available but please bring a packed lunch.

Manchester Diocese Mothers' Union Weekend Retreat Foxhill Spiritual Retreat and Conference Centre

Friday 28th to Sunday 30th September Places are limited - please speak to Cath Hilton or Jean Slater

THE RESURRECTION

I was the one who waited in the garden Doubting the morning and the early light. I watched the mist lift off its own soft burden, Permitting, not believing my own sight.

If there were sudden noises, I dismissed Them as a trick of sound, a sleight of hand. Not by a natural joy could I be blessed Or trust a thing I could not understand.

Maybe I was a shadow thrown by one Who, weeping, came to lift away the stone. Or was I but the path on which the sun, Too heavy for itself, was loosed and thrown?

I heard the voices and the recognition And love like kisses heard behind thin walls. Were they my tears which fell, a real contrition? Or simply April with its waterfalls?

It was by negatives I learned my place.
The garden went on growing and I sensed
A sudden breeze that blew across my face.
Despair returned, but now it danced, it danced.

Elizabeth Jennings





Christ Church Walmersley Guides Are Muppets! 25th Bury

The weekend at Waddow Hall was packed full of fun from start to finish. In the evenings we told spooky Waddow stories, had Muppet entertainment and delicious midnight feasts. One of my favourite activities was the crates, where Lucy and I climbed up 11, Danyelle and Phoebe climbed 6, Rose climbed 9 and Becky and Charlotte climbed 9. Best of all was the nightline, which I hope will be in the dark next year. On Sunday we split into groups and did a fantastic walk round Waddow, collecting things to make instruments, which we used to play a tune to the other group.

A big big thank you to Rose and Lynne for arranging such a fantastic weekend.

THANK YOU Naomi



When I went to guide camp at Waddow Hall I enjoyed the ghost stories the most. The crate challenge and night line were amazingly good. In night line I got quite muddy and gave Rose a mud face mask! The Muppets theme made the activities fun, such as the talent show and the movies. I liked everybody having to do the jobs together, for example cooking and sweeping up. I couldn't wait to wake up on Saturday and I was raring to see what the day had in store for me and my friends.

By Phoebe Boyle

After the cold, dark, wet days that we have experienced during the winter months how lovely it is to experience more hours of daylight and see the spring flowers emerging to brighten our lives.

I am sure like me you are delighted to see the stream of crocus that appears every year on the grass verge at the top of Walmersley Road. But most of all, it never ceases to amaze me when the first snowdrops appear showing their frailty and yet resilience to the harsh conditions through which they have



survived. Reading this poem made me think of the love of God and the fact that He is there for us always whatever harsh times we have to endure as well as the good times. Hope the poem will inspire you too.

A FLAME THAT CANNOT BE PUT OUT by Jan Sutch Pickard

In the dark days: under rain heavy clouds Among broken branches, on sodden earth, the snowdrops light their candles.

A flame that cannot be put out by darkness or gales or doubt. In the salt wind rooks buckle like broken umbrellas; as the bare trees heave a great sigh the snowdrops tremble.



But their flame cannot be put out by darkness or doubt. Perfect as though carved in green-veined marble, life pushing through tissue delicate as the eyelids of sleeping child, curved like small fingers, holding on.

Their flame is steadfast; it is full of hope and mew beginnings. Darkness or gales or doubt cannot put it out.



When God Whispers Your Name by Max Lucado

Through moving encounters with people of the Bible and gripping stories of people today, Max Lucado reveals the hope that is found in knowing that God knows and whispers our name.

One of today's bestselling Christian Books

To bring a smile!

After a very long and boring sermon the parishioners filed out of the church saying nothing to the preacher.

Towards the end of the line was a thoughtful person who always commented on the sermons. "Well, today your sermon reminded me of the peace and love of God!" The preacher was thrilled.

"No-one has ever said anything like that about my preaching before. Tell me why." "Well - it reminded me of the Peace of God because it passed all understanding and the Love of God because it endured forever!"



The contest for the highly prized title took place on Saturday February 18th and was, as usual, a very friendly and enjoyable occasion. Although, a number of our regulars were absent due to prior commitments, illness, or in two cases, an extended

holiday in New Zealand, several newcomers kept the numbers up to the fifty mark.

The competition followed the usual pattern of six rounds of mixed questions together with a mini marathon to occupy the teams during the half-time break. At the end of the evening only two points separated the winners from the runners up. The team of Diane and Bruce Hardman, Gill and Peter Smith and David Andrew had scored 92.5 points while Margaret and Bob Gerrard, Kath and Les Russell and Roberta Rowland finished on 90,5 points.

All the way down the score sheet various rivalries were continuing "nip and tuck", with the final average score of 78% correct answers, which should encourage all those who stay away because they think it will be too hard.

Do come along and give it a try; once we have sorted out a date that avoids various social functions at both churches, school holidays etc. not forgetting the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. We are ready to welcome you and can promise you an enjoyable evening.

Stan Parkinson

P.S. We were able to add £158 to church funds and hope to improve on the £500 we raised last year.





My family and I would like to thank all of you who supported Elaine and I through the last two difficult years. The support we received from both our friends from Christ Church and beyond, helped us both deal with her illness.

As a District Nurse, I am sure that Elaine was well aware of how the illness would progress and how it would end. Elaine also knew how difficult it would be for us all. She didn't let it get her down and was still smiling and being strong for everyone when the end came.

Elaine was a very loving person who cared about people, she made friends wherever she went and was never too busy to talk to them. When she was in the hospice and the number of visitors was starting to become a little worrying for the staff, the Doctor asked if we could maybe reduce the number of visitors and was there anyone she would not like to see. I had to tell the Doctor that there was no one, Elaine would welcome everyone with open arms and be extremely pleased to see them and that was how it stayed.

I have attended Christ Church since I was a young boy and can never remember the church being as full as it was for Elaine's Funeral Service, I think this shows how much Elaine was loved, by her friends, colleagues and patients.

So on behalf of Elaine's family, I would like to say, "Thank you and God bless you all", you really helped.

Chris, John, David and Sarah Minshull

YOUR MAGAZINE - YOUR VIEWS

Thank you to everyone who has given us comments, suggestions and even thanks for the new style magazine, please continue to do so. We have tried to incorporate some of them again this time, in fact we have amended the font; let us know if you find this easier to read. We will look at other things in the future. Please don't forget we are always looking for articles, snippets and ideas.

This month your editors have been Margery, Tricia and David and you can let us know what you think by emailing us direct or using the new magazine email address:

wrub@live.co.uk

SITUATION VACANT Pay: Very Poor. Rewards: Great.

Job satisfaction: Fantastic.



As ever we are looking for people to keep our work going well. You will have your chance to get your name down for election to the various offices, the PCC and Sideperson's rota. We need additional people in the various other groups that make up our Church life.

Applications to the Vicar or Wardens



girls in the lead

Bury Division

RACE NIGHT

Friday 11th May at 7.30pm

St John with St Mark Church Hall

Bury Division Brownies and Guides are organising a race night to help raise funds for their camp in July. Please come and support us.

Tickets are £3 for adults and £1 for children which includes pie and pea supper. The licensed bar will also be open. Tickets are available from Rosemary Taylor or Joan Wild.



Christ Church Guides are looking for a sponsor for our race at a cost of £15. We also need to sell 8 horses at £5 each. If anyone is interested in a horse then please contact Rosemary. Prizes to be won!

WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

1		PALM SUNDAY Services at the usual times.
2	10.30am 7.00pm 7.30pm	Monday in Holy Week Renewal of Vows in Manchester Cathedral Holy Communion (CC) (BCP) Lent Group, at 14 Springside Road
3	7.30pm	Tuesday in Holy Week Holy Eucharist (SJ with SM)
4	10.00am	Wednesday in Holy Week Holy Eucharist (SJ with SM)
5	2.00pm 7.30pm	MAUNDY THURSDAY Holy Communion (Lower Hall Room CC) Eucharist of the Last Supper with Washing of feet, Stripping of the Altar and Watch until midnight. (SJ with SM)
6	10.30am 12.00noon 2.00pm	GOOD FRIDAY Reflective Service (CC) Ecumenical Walk of Witness in Bury (Meet at the URC) Procession of the Cross, silent prayer. Proclamation of the Cross & Mass of the Pre-Sanctified. (SJ with SM)
7	6.00pm	EASTER EVE Service of Light. (SJ with SM)
8	8.00am 9.00am 9.00am 10.30am	EASTER DAY Alleluia! Christ is Risen First Eucharist of Easter. (SJ with SM) First Eucharist of Easter (CC BCP) Eucharist of Easter Day. (SJ with SM) Festival Eucharist of Easter (CC & SJ with SM)

11	10.00am	Wednesday in Easter Week Holy Eucharist. (SJ with SM)
12	7.30pm	Thursday in Easter Week Holy Eucharist. (SJ with SM)
15		EASTER 2 Services at the usual times.
16	7.30pm	Annual Parochial Meeting at S. John with S. Mark.
18	10.00am 7.30 pm	Holy Eucharist (SJ with SM) Mothers' Union Poetry Evening
	7.30pm	Holy Eucharist (SJ with SM)
22		EASTER 3 Services at the usual times.
23	7.30pm	GEORGE PATRON SAINT OF ENGLAND Holy Eucharist (SJ with SM)
24	7.30 pm	Deanery synod
25	10.00am	MARK the EVANGELIST Holy Eucharist (SJ with SM)
25	7.30pm	Open Group – Fairy Stories
26	7.30pm	Holy Eucharist (SJ with SM)
29	12.00pm	EASTER 4 Services at the usual times. Annual Parochial Meeting at Christ Church
2 May	7.30 pm	Archdeacon's Visitation, St Stephen Elton

FOR REGULAR SERVICES PLEASE SEE PAGE 2

18, 19 & 20 April at 7:30pm

St Joseph's Players present "Third Week In August" At St John w St Mark Hall Tickets £5.00 from 764-3601



13 May - Christian Aid Lunch

after service at 12:00pm.

At St John w St Mark

Tickets £5.00 from 764-1527 or from church

9 June - Summer Fair

At St John w St Mark

15 June - Brass Band Night

At St John w St Mark



At Christ Church



7 July - Cream Tea Afternoon

Scones made as ordered on the premises At St John w St Mark Tickets £3.50

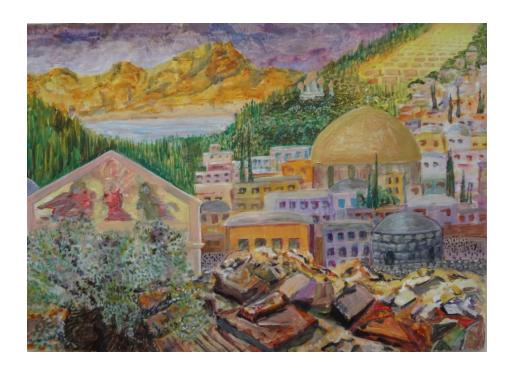
14 July - Coffee Morning

More details of these events in next month's magazine

CC TUESDAYS AT 2PM TEATIMERS THURSDAYS AT
9.15AM
ABC PLAYGROUP
GROUP & COFFEE
MORNING
AT SIM

SUNDAYS AT 7PM JAM YOUTH GROUP

The Holy Land



This painting of the Holy Land was produced by Sue Walker after her recent visit with a group of pilgrims from the Diocese.

It reflects the very different aspects of the country and makes us look at the Holy Land as it is now, rather than as we imagine it at in the time of Christ

Thank you Sue