



CHRIST CHURCH WALMERSLEY
with
ST JOHN WITH ST MARK BURY



Ascension

May 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.	1 st Holy Communion 2 nd Family and Parade 3 rd Holy Communion 4 th Morning Service 5 th Holy Communion	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist 3 rd Parade Service	St John w St Mark

Wednesday

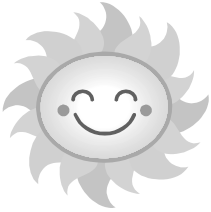
10 a.m.	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
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Thursday

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
(see calendar on page 21 & 22)
If you need transport to church please contact the
wardens.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH



It's 7.35am in the Lake District and the sun is streaming through the caravan window. So much for the gloom and doom of last week's newspapers. "Britain plunged into second winter". Granted it is colder than a few weeks ago, "Britain is hotter than Greece", but it's about right for the time of year. "April showers bring forth May flowers" as the rhyme goes.

Yet there is a characteristic unpredictability about the weather and nature. It's built into our human nature and into the British psyche. When I speak to my fellow human on the campsite, we invariably start with the weather. What do people talk about in countries where the weather's so predictable you can set your clock by it? "Turned out dark again" one Icelander might say to another, "Jolly cold last night again" says the Bedouin. Of course the unpredictability is not always so benign. I heard on the news yesterday that the peoples of the Indian Ocean are bracing themselves for another tsunami.

Our lives too bear the unpredictability of the universe we are part of. We enjoy sunny times and suffer the storms of outrageous fortune to misquote Shakespeare. Last year we were worrying about our teenage daughter Eleanor's arm and whether the osteomyelitis would result in permanent disability and a series of painful and disfiguring operations.



Through skilful surgery, wise decision making and the power of all your prayers the 6 inch long hole in her ulna is filling itself in very quickly. Much to the surprise of the medical profession!

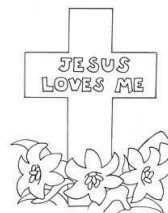
Yet through all the good and bad times of our lives there is one constant. God! The prayer book communion service reminds us that “his property is always to have mercy”. I like that word property because to me as a student of chemistry I understand that an element’s properties are immutable, they can never change. If they appear to change then it is not the same element anymore.

We may change, our perception of God and our understanding of God may change. Our feelings about God may vary as the wind blows in the next batch of weather but He remains the same. What we know for certain about God is that he “is love” and through thick and thin we know we can have confidence in that love for us.

A love that will not let us go.

A love that sacrificed all at Calvary.

A love that shone forth in the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ.



He has gone before us through all the changing scenes of life trusting his father, even in the darkest times in Gethsemane and on the cross, and He bids us to trust in that love too.

Love in Christ
Paul

NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCILS

Christ Church

Sale of Part of the church field.

Discussions are ongoing about the sale of the bottom part of the church field.

Provision for wheelchairs and push chairs

Consideration was given to a proposal to remove two pews at the front and back of church and shorten other pews to give better access for wheelchairs and pushchairs. A faculty will have to be obtained before this can be undertaken.

Saint John with Saint Mark

Area Dean's Visitation Report: Revd Gordon Joyce reported back on the Parish Visitation which took place previously. There were more positives than negatives, but there is still work to be done to encourage people to be part of the congregation, and to keep the church and hall in good condition

Police Youth Group Proposal: unfortunately the only night that St John's could accommodate this was a Sunday and this was not deemed suitable, so regrettably there will be no further action on this.

Church decorating: the biggest part of any quotation will be the scaffolding. Quote will be obtained

Church diaries for 2013: proposal to have a joint one with Christ Church and St John w St Mark

Child Protection Policy: this was approved by the PCC

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE MONTH

Tuesday May 1st
S. JAMES

S. PHILIP &



Isaiah 30.15-21 Ephesians 1.3-10 John 14.1-14

Sunday May 6th

EASTER 5

Acts 8.26-40 1 John 4.7-21 John 15.1-8

Sunday May 13th

EASTER 6

Acts 10.44-48 1 John 5.1-6 John 15.9-17

Monday May 14th

MATTHIAS the APOSTLE

Isaiah 22.15-25 Acts 1.15-26 John 15.9-17

Thursday May 17th

ASCENSION DAY

Acts 1.1-11 Ephesians 1.15-23 Luke 24.44-53

Sunday May 20

EASTER 7 ~ SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION

Acts 1.15-17,21-26 1 John 5.9-13 John 17.6-19

Sunday May 27th

PENTECOST

Acts 2.1-21 Romans 8.22-27 John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

1st April ~ Anthony Ethan Holt

15th April ~ Summer Elizabeth Santos-Nobre
We welcome them into the Lord's family



MARRIAGE



8th April ~ Gary Porter to Nichola Cassidy

May their future life together be blessed

CONFIRMATION

**Please pray for those who will be confirmed from our
United Benefice in St John with St Mark on 6th May:**

Lucas Lay, Archie Nicol, Freddie Nicol
Oliver Standing, James Weston, Sarah Louise Carey

FLOWERS

At Christ Church

May 6th In memory of Norman and Bertha Meadowcroft

May 13th
Mr Derek Schofield in memory of his mother Bessie

May 20th Mr J Clegg

May 27th Mrs M Booth in memory of the Simpson family



ARCHDEACON'S VISITATION.

The Archdeacon's Visitation this year will be at S. Stephen's Elton on Wednesday 2nd May at 7.30pm. Churchwardens and Sidespeople are legally required to attend. PCC Members are invited. This is usually a wonderful service so do your best to attend.

Open Group at St John with St Mark

Our OLM curate and good friend, Revd Janet Lyssejko led us in a time of quiet prayer and lively music! on Wednesday 28th March. It was just what we needed during Lent. Thanks go to Janet for giving up her time to be with us and to share some thoughts and to be 'quiet' with God
Ann

Open Group at St John with St Mark Wednesday 23rd May
Favourite books/TV programmes –speakers will talk on some of their favourites
7.30 p.m. St John's hall

All are welcome, all contributions will be welcome too!



JUNIOR CHURCH & JAM

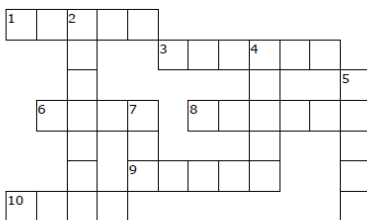


Do you remember the great times you spent at Cubs or Scouts and wish you could relive them well now is your chance St Johns with St Marks Beavers and Cubs require helpers/leaders to assist them in the development of young people, it's fun, it's friendly and most of all it's free, why not come along on a Monday night and help out.

Contact Kelly or Margaret

For young and old!

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1. What the skeleton is made of
3. To feel pain
6. To return from death
8. To deliver a sermon
9. to handle or feel something with your fingers
10. An animal that lives in the water

DOWN

2. Countries; territories where groups of people live
4. The soft outer parts of the body; skin
5. A dead person appearing in a bodily form
7. To take in food through the mouth

FOR QUIET MOMENTS

Week One



Dear Lord, we ask you to forgive us when our thoughts stray. When we are at prayer or reading the Bible, then our thoughts can float away in an instant to distant places. We are like naughty children who do not concentrate in school. Always bring us back to you, Lord, give us the strength to resist the temptation to wander in our minds. Keep us close to you, to listen to you, to hear your words, and to read the words that the prophets and the apostles have written for us. Your words, O Lord. Amen.

Week Two

Father, this week we thank you for Ascension Day, when Jesus returned to you to be at your right hand. He went to prepare a place for us in heaven, to be our intercessor with you. Thank you, Lord, that Jesus died for our sins and rose again, for death could not contain him. The Ascension speaks to us of your power and your glory. You seek us out, we do not have to search for you. We only need be obedient when we are found and you give us the grace to do this, although we at times falter. Then Jesus intercedes for us. Thank you Father for your grace.

Week Three

Father God,
Bless those who love us.
Those who make for us a safe home –
Bless them with your love.
Those who provide the things we need –
Bless them with your love.
Those who live too far away to visit –
Bless them with your love.
Those who remember us in their prayers –
Bless them with your love.
(A Book of Prayers compiled by Sophie Piper)



Week Four



Heavenly Father, we thank you for the coming of Pentecost, for the outpouring of your Holy Spirit upon your disciples. For the gift of tongues and prophesy that they experienced and for their obedience to you, so that 3,000 were baptised and blessed with the Holy Spirit that day. Father, we thank you for the gifts of the Holy Spirit that you give to us. May we use them wisely and well for your glory thus fulfilling the prophecies of Joel and David. Let us not be afraid to proclaim your gifts but revel in them in thankfulness for your great bounty to us. Thank you, Lord. Amen.

April Meetings 2012

Hope that everyone had a blessed Easter without over indulgence in chocolate. I've just eaten my 'Real Easter Egg' and thoroughly enjoyed it!

Last month we were able to welcome Rev. Canon Ian Stamp to our second meeting in Lent. He gave us a whirlwind trip through his life, sharing with us his road to ordination. It was fascinating to hear about the route Ian had to follow and how he came to realise his vocation.

A great deal of study was involved which meant sacrificing family time and it was clear that Ann provided support to make it all possible. Ian certainly has the ability to make things happen and I was amazed by his commitment to the building and improvement of his former church in Heywood. We can easily take the skills of individuals for granted.



Many thanks to Ian for giving up his time for us.

On April 18th we had a poetry evening when we listened to members' choices of poetry which included items by Tennyson, Coleridge, Lewis Carroll, Emily Dickinson, Stan Holloway monologues and poetry written by members. We also heard some very amusing jokes about Yorkshire people. A thoroughly enjoyable evening.



Onward now to Summer

Dates for Diaries

May 2 Kim Cassidy and Nichola Porter - Fostering
May 16 Woodcraft – Gill Smith
May 23 Deanery AGM
June 6 Beetle Drive
June 25 Diocesan Festival Manchester
Cathedral



Any members interested in singing in the MU Choir at the Diocesan Festival see Cath Hilton for dates and venues of rehearsals.

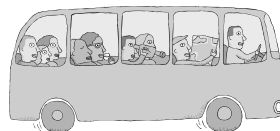
Bolton Deanery Festival

Date: 13 June 2012

This year's Bolton Deanery Festival will take place on Wednesday 13th June at Bolton Parish Church at 7.30pm
The Preacher will be the Rev'd Alison Hardy from All Saints, Stand.

Everyone Welcome

Watch this space for information about our Day Trip to Beverley Minster on August 15th.



Members and non-members welcome.
Interested? See Cath Hilton Details to follow.

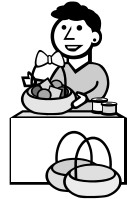
Catherine Hilton

Branch Leader

WORDS TO PONDER

Heaven's Grocery Store.

I was walking down life's highway a long time ago.
One day I saw a sign that said "Heaven's Grocery Store"
As I got a little closer, the door came open wide,
And when I came to myself, I was standing inside.
I saw a host of angels. They were standing
everywhere.
One handed me a basket and said; "My child shop
with care".
Everything a Christian needed was in the grocery
store,
And all you could'nt carry, you could come back next
day for more.



First I got some PATIENCE, LOVE was in the same row,
Further down was understanding, you need that everywhere
you go.

I got a box or two of WISDOM, a bag or two of FAITH.
I could'nt miss the HOLY GHOST for it was all over the place.
I stopped to get some STRENGTH and COURAGE to help me
run this race.

By then my basket was getting full, but I remembered some
GRACE.

I did not forget SALVATION for SALVATION is free,
So I tried to get enough of that to save both you and me.
Then I started up to the counter to pay my grocery bill,
For I thought I had everything to do my MASTER'S will.

As I went up the aisle I saw a PRAYER and just had to put
that in,
For I know that when I stepped outside, I would run right into
sin.
PEACE and JOY were plentiful, they were on the very last
shelf.
SONG and PRAISES were hanging near so I just helped
myself.
Then I said to the Angel, "Now how much do I owe?"
He just smiled and said "Just take them everywhere you go
MY CHILD, JESUS PAID YOUR BILL A LONG ,LONG TIME
AGO!"

BOOK REVIEW



Frida---chosen to die, destined to love

By Frida Gashumba

Frida grew up in a Tutsi family in Rwanda. An incredible story of not only her survival after being buried alive by the Hutu's, but how her life was utterly transformed by her ability to love and forgive her enemies. Her story will inspire you, overwhelm you, choke you up and challenge you to your boots!

John Sentamu says "This book demonstrates the depths of human depravity and witnesses to the triumph of grace, love and forgiveness through Christ. An inspiration". Thank you to Frank Slater for recommending this book.



If you have an interesting article for Words to Ponder or a Christian Book recommendation for *Book Review*, please contact Jean Slater.

Christian Aid week 13th-19th May 2012

Dear friends, it's almost a year since last Christian Aid week, this year's is only a week or two away, Christian Aid week Street collections are a major fund raiser for the wonderful work that Christian Aid does throughout the year in fighting poverty and injustice, we are blessed with having people in our congregation who regularly support Christian aid throughout the year. We are again appealing for volunteers to help collect our allocated streets this year. An added incentive this year is that Christian aid has been successful in matched funding for a proportion of the Christian Aid week 2012 income. This matched funding is from the UK department for international development (also known as uk aid) which has agreed to match up to **£5 million** of money raised by supporters pound for pound, this means donations will go even further and help more people around the world. If you feel you would like to help during Christian aid week then please let me know

John

Christian aid week lunch



Another way to help support Christian Aid week is to join us for lunch at the beginning of the week 13th May in St John's church hall after the family service at 12pm. This is a three course lunch and tickets are £5 for adults and £3 for under 12s available from Rosemarie or John. Why not buy a ticket and join us it would be a great start to the week, but whatever you're doing please keep Christian Aid and the work that they do for those in need in your prayers Many thanks - John Brennan and team

Summer Praise

Do you like a good sing with a Brass Band? Then come and join us on Sunday June 10th on the church field. I am planning to make it a celebration of Christian life with hymns and readings relating to baptism, Junior Church, Confirmation, Marriage, Discipleship and (because it is part of life and for Christians not the end) Death. We will end with a joyful thanksgiving for God's love for us all.



If you have a hymn you would like to sing, please let me know. I am hoping that at the end everyone will have a balloon on which to write the name of someone who has been baptised, confirmed, married or died and they can be released or taken home. Do come and join us. Margery

25th Bury Rainbows and Brownies



Christ Church Walmersley 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.

The family service on Sunday 13 May 2012 will celebrate
Brownie and Rainbow life in the parish.

Summer Quiz Night

This will be held in the church hall on

Saturday 26th May at 7.30pm.



As usual, it will be a friendly and enjoyable evening with most of the teams able to answer most (but not all) of the questions. There are no specialist rounds where we you sit around for ten or fifteen minutes wishing that you had paid more attention at school.

If you have been before you know what to expect; if you haven't, why not come and find out – you will be made most welcome. Teams usually come as groups of four, but if you can't raise a full team come in any case as there are always " spare brains" willing to make up the numbers.

We look forward to seeing you on 26th May

Stan Parkinson

P.S. Admission is £2 per person – cheap for an entertaining evening with all proceeds going to church funds

"Your starters for ten." Do you know your ships?

Who was the captain of the Titanic?
Which vessel came to ground on Mount Ararat?
When was Britannia taken out of service?

YOUR MAGAZINE – YOUR VIEWS

Thank you for all your comments. It has helped with this month's magazine. Please don't forget we are always looking for articles, snippets and ideas. **Please can both parishes think about next month's magazine. we need a lot more material for coming months.**

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

Something to make you smile



As told at the Mother's Union poetry evening!

An elderly Yorkshire couple were playing I spy in their kitchen. The husband said, "I spy with my little eye something beginning with T".

"Table" said the wife. "No" replied the husband.

"Tea towel" tried the wife. Definitely not. "Oh toaster" guessed the wife. "No" smiled the husband. "Oh I give up" said the wife in exasperation. "It's t'oven" said the husband.

Thanks Jess - it's the way that you tell them!



Girlguiding

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.



We also need to sell 2 horses at £5 each. If anyone is interested in a horse then please contact Rosemary. Prizes to be won.

WHAT'S ON IN MAY

- FOR REGULAR SERVICES PLEASE SEE PAGE 2
- 1** **S. PHILIP & S. JAMES**
7.30pm Holy Communion (CC)
7.30pm Listening Prayer Group at 150 Walmersley Road
- 2** 10.00am Holy Eucharist (SJ with SM)
7.30pm **Archdeacon's Visitation at S. Stephen, Elton**
- 3** 9.15am Coffee Morning and Toddler Group (SJ with SM)
SM) 2.00pm Holy Communion (Lower Hall Room CC)
7.30pm Holy Communion (SJ with SM)
- 6** **EASTER 5**
Services at the usual times.
6.30pm Confirmation Service (SJ with SM)
- 7** 7.30pm Fellowship of Vocation Meeting (SJ with SM)
- 9** 10.00am Holy Eucharist
- 10** 9.15am Coffee Morning and Toddler Group
7.30pm Holy Communion
- 11** 7.30 Race Night – Guides (SJ with SM)
- 13** **EASTER 6 CHRISTIAN AID WEEK BEGINS**
Services at the usual times.
6.30pm **Borough Service for The Queen's Diamond Jubilee In S. Mary the Virgin (Bury Parish Church)**

S. MATTHIAS the APOSTLE

- | | | |
|-----------|---------|---|
| 14 | 7.30pm | Holy Communion (SJ with SM) |
| 16 | 10.00am | Holy Eucharist (SJ with SM) |
| 17 | | ASCENSION DAY |
| | 9.15am | Coffee Morning and Toddler Group |
| | 7.30pm | Holy Communion at Christ Church |
| 20 | | EASTER 7 ~ SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION (Parade at SJ with SM) |
| | | Services at the usual times. |
| | 7.00pm | JAM. All Welcome. |
| 23 | 10.00am | Holy Eucharist. (SJ with SM) |
| | 7.30pm | Open Group Talk about your favourite book or TV programme. |
| 24 | 9.15am | Coffee Morning and Toddler Group |
| | 7.30pm | Holy Communion. (SJ with SM) |
| 26 | 7.30pm | Quiz Night (CC) |
| 27 | | PENTECOST |
| | | Services at the usual times. |
| | 7.00pm | JAM. All Welcome. |
| 30 | 10.00am | Holy Eucharist. (SJ with SM) |
| 31 | 9.15am | Coffee Morning and Toddler Group |
| | 7.30pm | Holy Communion. (SJ with SM) |

A child's hearing of the Lord's Prayer

"Lead us not into temptation but deliver us some e-mail."