



CHRIST CHURCH WALMERSLEY  
ST JOHN WITH ST MARK BURY



**TOWARDS A CHILD FRIENDLY CHURCH?**

**September 2012**

## **REGULAR SERVICES**

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### **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 <sup>st</sup> Holy Communion 2 <sup>nd</sup> Family and Parade 3 <sup>rd</sup> Holy Communion 4 <sup>th</sup> Morning Service 5 <sup>th</sup> Holy Communion	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> 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 25 & 26)

If you need transport to church please contact  
the wardens

## ***THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH***

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Dear Friends

You may think we have been holding summer fairs, social evenings, quiz nights, meeting Sundays round the altar, occasionally studying together, running coffee mornings, selling books. What we have really been doing is living the Good News and by living it spreading it.

The propagation of the Gospel, does not end with Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. We, as their descendants, are to spread the good news and to BE the good news in our everyday lives. Our lives are to reflect the Gospel in all that we do and in all that we say. "For in the one Spirit," as St Paul says, "we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and we were all made to drink of one Spirit."

We belong to one body, we are to witness to the one Christ, and as such we are to work together to be the good news. We may need to look carefully at our working lives and our home lives: to consider the way that we respond to those who are poor, to those who are in prison, or blind and downtrodden, not just our neighbours but across the world.

If we, in the name of Christ, are the good news then all of our words and actions are to proclaim that fact. And that so to speak is where we all came in – certainly me in my last weeks as incumbent of the united benefice of Walmersley Road. And as I go I thank God for you all and for the trust that Jesus has placed in us together over these last nearly twelve years.

We have had sorrows and joys together over these last years. I suppose I take most pleasure in the improvements to the buildings at St John with St Mark's making them more a centre for the community. Latterly the formation of the United Benefice with new friends at Christ Church has brought blessing and challenge; it is a union I believe will serve you all

well in the future. The establishment of the OLM scheme has provided a greater sharing in ministry and my colleagues: Priests, Readers and ALMs have been, and will be, a blessing to me and to you.

Of late the formation of the United Benefice has brought a wider more powerful expression to the message we are charged to share.

It is a good time to move on. I really believe there is need for a new angle and a new incumbent will bring that. It is inevitable I suppose at times such as these that I have been thinking back over the years to the people who have come and gone. Those who have died and those who have moved on, so many, and most of the sadnesses have come from the loss of people.

We live such a vivid life in the Church do we not? Because we are part of such a large family we share so many joys at Baptisms, Confirmations and Weddings. We also share the sadness of death and parting.

My final service will be in St John with St Mark's at 6.30pm on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September: The feast of St Michael and All Angels and the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of my Ordination to the Priesthood. So as we say farewell I really wouldn't swap a single moment and you will always be in my prayers.

Thank you Ian

### **CHRISTIAN AID**

Just a line to inform you that the total raised by the Bury Churches Christian Aid Group was an amazing £18,676.64 Thank you to everyone who helped and donated in Christian aid week and throughout the year for all that you do, together we can make a difference.

**John Brennan & The Team**

## ***NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCILS***

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### **JOINT BENEFICE PCC "AWAY DAY"**

24 PCC members from both PCCs met on Saturday August 18<sup>th</sup> at All Saints Church for the annual Away Day. The topic for the morning session was dedicated to looking at the Diocesan "Child Church Friendly Award" to discuss whether we should go forward and work towards obtaining the award. Steve Dixon, the Dioceses Children's Officer, came to talk to us about this scheme and to let us know what is involved in obtaining the award.

We looked at the self-assessment checklist, of which there were 10 criteria. Working in groups we looked at what we were already achieving and where we could do better. It was encouraging that everyone was enthusiastic and the thoughts and ideas coming forward were honest, enthusiastic and encouraging.

Steve Dixon said he thought we were on the right track and was pleased that there was a positive outlook and commitment and also in our interest to take this forward.

All those who work with our children are doing a fantastic job. But there is always room for development and improvement. Our children deserve to be heard and have a voice in their nurture, development and church. After all they are our church of today, not just tomorrow. All our leaders deserve to be recognised for all their hard work and dedication.

This award would recognise the importance of children in our church and be a public and visible indication that our church has taken steps to ensure that children enjoy their rightful place in our church. The decision to go forward will be taken to each respective PCCs for further discussion and, hopefully, approval.

## ***BIBLE READINGS FOR THE MONTH***

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### **2 THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

Song of Songs 2.8-13 James 1.17-27 Mark 7.1-8,14-15,21-23

### **9 THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

Proverbs 22.1-2,8-9,22-23 James 2.1-10, 14-17 Mark 7.24-37

### **14 HOLY CROSS DAY**

Numbers 21.4-9 Philippians 2.6-1 1 John 3.13-17

### **16 THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

Proverbs 1.20-33 James 3.1-12 Mark 8.27-38

### **21 MATTHEW THE APOSTLE**

Proverbs 3.13-18 2 Corinthians 4.1-6 Matthew 9.9-13

### **23 THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

Proverbs 31.10-31 James 3.13 - 4.3,7-8a Mark 9.30-37

### **29 MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS**

Genesis 28.10-17 Revelation 12.7-12 John 1.47-51

### **30 THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

Esther 7.1-6,9-10; 9.20-22. James 5.13-20 Mark 9.38-50

### **REASONS TO READ THE BIBLE – all of these can be found in Psalm 119, why not have a look for yourself?**

- The Bible will lift your burdens. "My soul is weary with sorrow; strengthen me according to your word" (verse 28).
- The Bible will guide your steps. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path" (verse 105).
- The Bible will bring you joy. "Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart" (verse 111).
- The Bible will give you peace. "Great peace have those who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble" (verse 165).
- The Bible will bring you back to God. "I have strayed like a lost sheep. Seek your servant, for I have not forgotten your commands" (verse 176).

## **FROM THE REGISTERS**

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### **HOLY BAPTISM**

19<sup>th</sup> August ~ Tilly-Rae Melody Dures

*We welcome her into the Church Family*



### **HOLY MATRIMONY**

4<sup>th</sup> August ~ Paul Walker to Shelley Hadfield

*We wish them God's Blessing on their new life together.*



### **CHRISTIAN FUNERALS**

26<sup>th</sup> July ~ Derek Aspin

3<sup>rd</sup> August ~ George Bradshaw

14<sup>th</sup> August - Bill Turner

*May they rest gently in the arms of God*



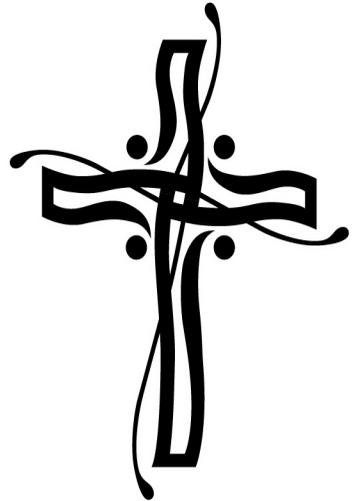
### **Week One**

O Father God, we bring before you our loved ones, knowing that you love them even more than we do. Your will for them is more than we can imagine. Give them the strength to make them conquerors in their love for you and for your son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

### **Week Two**

As the rain hides the stars, as the autumn mist hides the hills, as the clouds veil the blue of the sky, so the dark happenings of my lot hide the shining of thy face from me. Yet, if I may hold thy hand in the darkness, it is enough. Since I know that, though I may stumble in my going, thou dost not fall.

*(Author unknown)*



### **Week Three**

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer  
When I am weak, thou art strong  
When I am low, thou art high  
When I am sinful, thou art forgiving  
When I am praying, thou dost hear me  
O Lord, thou art everything to me.

## Week Four

Lord of the harvest,  
we rejoice in the bounty of your world;  
we thank you for the rich harvest it produces.  
We remember those who do not have enough,  
the thousands who are dying of hunger each day.  
We pray for those who have more than they require.  
We pray for ourselves and our churches:  
show us what needs to be done,  
and how to share the world's harvest more fairly.  
Teach us to value people more than things.  
Above all, help us to set our hearts  
on your kingdom of love and justice,  
and to seek to do your will here on earth,  
as servants of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*(Adapted from Christian Aid)*

### PRAYER FOR **Serenity**

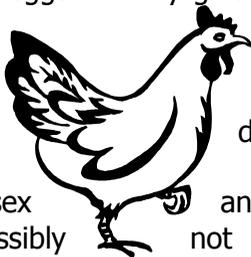
God, grant me serenity to accept  
the things I cannot change, courage  
to change the things I can & wisdom  
to know the difference :: living one  
day at a time, enjoying one moment  
at a time :: accepting hardship as a  
pathway to peace :: taking, as Jesus  
did, this sinful world as it is, not as  
I would have it :: trusting that You  
will make all things right if I surren-  
der to Your will :: so  
that I may be reason-  
ably happy in this life  
and supremely happy  
with You forever in  
the next. **AMEN**  
**REINHOLD NIEBUHR**

## ***NEW ARRIVALS & THE PROMISE OF SAFETY***

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Well I have had a long wait but finally my girls have arrived; Nellie, Betty and Gladys my three hens! About a year with two members of my staff keen chicken keepers and the need to find new activities in the library I persuaded Dawn and Claire to start running chicken keeping courses and the success of these has rubbed off on me.

Apparently home chicken keeping is now at its most popular since World War Two and I am starting to see why. They are easy to care for, entertaining and, of course, there is the bonus of really fresh eggs. All my girls need to do is to lay a couple of solid gold eggs each and they will have paid for the palace they are living in plus the various bits of kit they (probably don't) need.



Nellie is a Light Sussex and is the boss, Gladys a Speckledy is a possibly not the brightest and Betty, a Bluebell, is the shy one. They are settling in and the dogs are getting used to them; although Patrick has spent quite a bit of time sobbing outside the coop because he wants a 'closer' look.

Now to some of you hens may not be the most attractive creatures but they are brave and feisty creatures, very loyal to their family. And somebody else obviously appreciated these qualities; if you read the 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Luke's gospel you will read of Jesus' increasingly despairing lament over his chicks and he use the image of the hen attempting to gather her brood under her wings.

Jesus is warning of dangers and terrible changes – but instead of the chicks running for safety they are scurrying off in the opposite direction, taking no notice of the approaching danger nor of the warnings of the one who alone could provide safety.

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Risking all Jesus brings the kingdom of God within touching distance of his people – within touching distance of Jerusalem but the city is not interested – because in the city is the fox – Herod – now maybe the odd chicken has tackled a fox – but on the surface who are most people going to bet on? The fox or the hen?

And maybe this is how we feel – this image of Christ as a mother hen is all very well – but there are so many foxes in our world aren't there? Our image of God may be fine when it comes to comfort and someone to talk to but how about protection?

How on earth is even the toughest of hens going to protect us? All the hen can do when the fox attacks is to fluff herself up and hope this is enough – enough for the fox to attack and kill while the chicks are protected.

It is so easy to lose confidence in God's willingness to protect us when we need protecting – maybe because that protection does not take the form we want or think is what we need or even deserve.

So we become like those chicks – scurrying about – running helter skelter to all kind of things we think will provide us with protection – all the temptations of modern life that provide instant comfort.

Or maybe we run to the dark corners of the yard – and just hide – not wanting to face reality – not wanting to tackle our problems because we think we are doing it alone. We forget the mother hen with that determination to protect even when the odds seem overwhelming, even when it means the sacrifice of her own life the mother hen will protect her brood.

***Elizabeth***

## ***JUNIOR CHURCH & JAM***

HELP! Could you do some work to help make our two churches more child and family friendly? We would like you to tell us exactly what you think about church, Sunday School/Junior Church, youth groups and anything else you think is relevant. Some of the things you could think about include:

Is church boring? Is Junior Church or Sunday School too hard or not hard enough? What things do you like? What really makes you cross? Do you think adults listen to you? What is the music like? Would you like to do more things in the service?

It's up to you – just tell us what you think. Although we cannot promise that we cannot do everything we promise that we will listen.

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September is the month we remember the Archangel Michael and all the other angels God sends; here is a simple idea to make an angel for yourself. You will need paper or card, half a kitchen roll, glue and any bits of glitter or shiny things you have for decorations

1. Choose some paper for wings – and draw round both your hands – these will make two angel wings.
2. Wrap some white paper round the cardboard tube and glue in place, make hands out of small bits of card
3. Glue the wings on the back
4. Using more card or paper draw a circle for a face and decorate with a smiley face, make hair out of more paper or you could use wool.
5. You can make a halo and decorate your angel as you like.



## ***ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS***

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September 29<sup>th</sup> is the feast day of St Michael and All Angels. Michael is an archangel, whose name means 'who is like unto God?' He makes various appearances throughout the Bible, from the book of Daniel to the Book of Revelation. In Daniel, he is 'one of the princes' of the heavenly host, and the special guardian of Israel. In Revelation, he is the principal fighter of the heavenly battle against the devil.

From early times, Michael's cult was strong in the British Isles. Churches at Malmesbury (Wiltshire), Clive (Gloucestershire) and Stanmer (East Sussex) were dedicated to him. Bede mentions him. St Michael's Mount in Cornwall was believed to commemorate a vision there in the 8th century. By the end of the Middle Ages, Michael had 686 English churches dedicated to him.



In art Michael is often depicted as slaying the dragon, as in the 14th century East Anglian Psalters, or in Epstein's famous sculpture at Coventry cathedral. Or he is found (in medieval art) as weighing souls, as at Chaldon (Surrey), Swalcliffe (Oxon.), Eaton Bishop (Hereford and Worcester), and Martham in Suffolk. Michael's most famous shrine in western Europe is Mont-Saint-Michel, where a Benedictine abbey was founded in the 10th century. The 'All Angels' bit of this feast-day was added in 1969 when Gabriel and Raphael were included in with Michael.

## ***MAKING A DIFFERENCE***

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Harvest Services will be held in both churches during October and, as in previous years, we shall be supporting the "Porch Box Project" which provides basic goods for people at a time of crisis. Why not add a few extra items to your weekly shopping so that you can make a real difference to a disadvantaged family or individual?

Dry or tinned food goods, toiletries, and items such as nappies for babies will be greatly received. In addition any gifts of flowers will be distributed to sick and housebound people in the community. Envelopes will be provided for people to make gifts to Christian Aid which brings relief in the poorer parts of the world.

Please look out for a new project in partnership with the Library Service which will bring the Porch Project into our community – coming soon...



### **OPERATION SHOE BOX!**

Kelly Halligan has kindly volunteered to take over organising the shoe box collection from Ann Stamp but we all need to help. This is Christmas shopping that we can happily do now. Just about any small gift that would fit in a shoebox to make a wonderful surprise for both children and adults would be appreciated but at the moment Kelly is particularly looking for:

FACE CLOTHS SOAP TOOTHBRUSHES TOOTHPASTE  
EXERCISE BOOKS PENCIL SHARPENERS

Please make a difference

## ***FAVOURITE HYMNS***

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Last month I promised to let you know the results of the survey by Anglicans Online into their readers' favourite hymns. At last they are available, for your interest. The editor doesn't tell us how many replies they had to their request, nor anything of the background of those who replied, nor from which part of the Anglican Communion they came. So perhaps the survey is rather limited, but interesting all the same.

1. Guide me, O thou great redeemer
- =2. Be thou my vision
- =2. I bind unto myself today
3. Love divine, all loves excelling
4. Come down, O love divine
5. For all the saints
6. King of glory, King of Peace
7. My song is love unknown
8. The day thou gavest
- =9. He who would valiant be
- =9. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee (tune, Hymn to Joy, Beethoven)
10. O thou who camest
11. Abide with me



I'm glad that my entry made it, though I would have liked it to have come higher up the list than 10th! What about your favourites? Let me know.

*Ralph E. Mathison*

What a fascinating trip to the Holy Land we had, led by David Andrew. It was both informative and humorous and told in David's inimitable style! I certainly learned a great deal about the geography of Israel and it is lovely to see the places where Jesus once walked and talked to people. There were, of course, some elements that seem to be made especially for tourists and we had to laugh at the sign advertising wine for sale at the site of the wedding at Cana!

Beverley Minster proved to be a very good venue for our 'actual' trip on 15<sup>th</sup> August. The lunch provided by volunteers in the Refectory was excellent and very well received.

We were lucky with the weather for most of the time and in spite of the fact that it was Beverley Races' Ladies' Day we had no traffic hold ups. The Minster itself is beautiful and we learned a great deal from the friendly and informative guides. A 'high' point for some was the tour of the tour and roof!!

### **Future Meetings**

Sept 5 103<sup>rd</sup> Birthday party. Please give your name to Cath Hilton if you intend to be there. (We just need numbers for catering purposes.)

Sept 9 Deanery Festival 2.30pm at Christ Church

Sept 19 Hat Night – Bring a hat and tell its story!

It could be glamorous or a balaclava!!

### **Dates for your diary**

Celebration 2012 – Thursday October 11th

The Celebration will take place at The Albert Halls, Bolton.

Have you got your tickets?

Come and celebrate the Triennium.

Tickets £5 available from the office on 0161 828 1427 or see Cath Hilton

## Free to Fail by Russ Parker

Russ Parker was born in Birkenhead and, since becoming a Christian in 1966, has had a wide ranging ministry in both Baptist and Anglican churches. He is now the Director of Acorn Christian Healing Trust.

**Free to Fail** explores the problems that many people have in facing up to failure in their spiritual life.



## The Gospel

You are writing a Gospel,  
a chapter a day,  
by the deeds that you do,  
by the words that you say

People read what you write,  
whether faithless or true, and say,  
“What is this Gospel according to you?”

People read and admire  
the Gospel of Christ,  
with it's love so unfailing and true,  
but what do they say and what do they think  
of the Gospel according to you?

It's a wonderful story,  
Christ's Gospel of love,  
and it shows that His love is divine:  
I hope that it's content will be there again  
in the story of your life and mine.

You are writing each day a letter to others,  
take care that the writing is true –  
it's the only Gospel that some others will read,  
That Gospel according to you  
*Author unknown*

## **CARING FOR OUR PLANET**

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We all know that we should take more care to save energy, for the good of our pocket and the good of our planet. The World Council of Churches (WCC) is taking a lead on this and in September is asking people to pray for a change in people's attitudes to preserving our diminishing resources.

The effects of climate change are being experienced dramatically in some countries and regions of the world, particularly in Africa, the Caribbean, the Pacific and South East Asia. Comprehensive policies are urgently needed to reverse the impact of climate change on the poor and the earth. When creation is threatened, churches and Christians are called to speak out and act as an expression of their commitment to life, justice and love.

Together with an international alliance of Christian organizations, the WCC continues to campaign for a fair and effective climate action at the level adequate to stop catastrophic climate change and ensure the world's poorest have the right to develop.

1 September to 4 October is Time for Creation. As 2012 is the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All. The WCC website has ideas for prayers including this one.

*Creator God, you have generously blessed us with an abundance of gifts in this, your world. Help us to share in that generosity by living in a way that ensures that your gifts will continue to be available for future generations. We rejoice that, as human beings, we have been created in your image and likeness. But we also recognise that humanity alone cannot adequately reflect you. The whole diversity of the earth is needed to give us even a glimpse of your wonder and greatness. Help us to live in a sustainable way so that this marvellous diversity is respected. Amen*

## ***BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY 2012***

Back to Church Sunday started in Manchester in 2004 and since then it has gone from strength to strength as each year it has gained more churches and more people returning to church. But it could not work without the people on the ground, the ordinary parishioners like you, who gather their courage and ask someone to go to church with them.

"Back to Church Sunday is a fantastic opportunity for us to grow the church. We know there are at least 3 million people in England who would come back to church if they had an invitation. And we know there are hundreds of thousands of Christians who want to invite their friends."

**Paul Bayes, Bishop of Hertford**

This year we will not be making quite the big splash that we have tried in previous years but we can still do something – we can all make that effort to ask someone to church on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Perhaps a good start is to think about why you come to church; what is it that gets you out of bed on Sunday morning and down to church? Is it the worship? Is it the friendship? Is it guilt or is it thankfulness? If you know why you go it will be that much easier to 'sell' the idea to someone else.

Here are some comments from 2011:

- I was thanked for sending the invite and told, "I have wanted to come back for some time and this just gave me the nudge I needed."
- "She wouldn't let me not come! I really enjoyed it. Now that I'm back I will keep on coming"
- "If church is as good as this every week than I'll be back." He has been every Sunday since.

Here are a few tips from the Back to Church folk about making newcomers welcome on the 30<sup>th</sup> (and, of course, every Sunday)!

1. First impressions matter. Let's be friendly! Smile!
2. Help people feel at ease. When you see someone arrive whom you don't know, go over and introduce yourself by name. Tell them where the tea and coffee are, where the loos are, and perhaps explain about the loop system for hearing aids. If they have young children, reassure the parents that it is okay if their child makes noise or wanders around.
3. Don't talk funny... Some of our churchy phrases might mystify a visitor – if they ask about any aspect of the service, explain it in simple English.
4. But do talk....! especially at the end of the service. Don't leave guests lonely on their own, while you talk to your friends!
5. Feed them. After the service, it would be great to have a selection of biscuits on offer - if you could volunteer to do any baking for this, please let us know!

In both our churches we already make an effort to welcome people – we are friendly folk – but it easy for us to forget how nerve-wracking coming into a strange church can be. Even people who are used to church feel nervous when going into a new one (and that includes clergy)!

You may have been going to church for so long that you cannot remember what it was like when you first arrive but if you think about other places you have been that got the butterflies going it might help you imagine what someone feels like...

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## CAN YOU FIND THE HOLIDAY DESTINATIONS?

1. Dark table game
2. Sounds as if the country was aware
3. Holy man hits off without the doctor
4. Fast forest
5. English correct in good French
6. Hear a song
7. A fresh dock
8. Seals a bottle
9. Big man has reason for road
10. Give out the cards
11. Not a northern ocean
12. Result of a cut on a town
13. Sound of a donkey
14. X near this place
15. Gun above the horse
16. South barrel on the head
17. Missile opening
18. Sounds like a small stream
19. Damage an entrance
20. From B Claire (anagram)
21. Sounds like you squashed a can
22. Trim nails with letter 25
23. Sacred place surrounded by water
24. Direction of drink
25. Piece of ham and girl's name
26. I would go among the plants
27. Most important accountant
28. A Lovely Biscuit
29. A sweet alcoholic drink
30. Top of the wicket turned round

*Christ Church Summer Fair featured a quiz about holiday destinations which had many of us scratching our heads. Here is your chance to have a go, the answers are on page 23 but don't give up too soon! Apart from the last five all are UK resorts.*



## ***PRAYING TOGETHER***

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When Bolton footballer Fabrice Muamba collapsed millions of people prayed for him; many of them people who would not consider themselves people of faith but something prompted them to pray. And thankfully prayers were answered and Fabrice recovered.

Most people do it at least once in their lives. Many people do it daily. And this year, more people than ever will be doing it together as well as individually.

Prayer is making news. Headlines on the front page of The Sun mean people are talking about prayer and expecting God to answer.

Jesus taught his disciples to pray and from Friday to Sunday, 7-9 September, Christians all over the UK will be using the prayer Jesus taught, as they all pray together, wherever they are: 'Our Father...your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven'. Things will culminate in the Global Day of Prayer, on Saturday 29 September when thousands of Christians will be praying all together at Wembley Stadium.

A recent study of 800 Christians in churches across England has found that nearly 62% of Christian couples pray together on some basis, and 63% pray with their children. As for a parent praying FOR their children, the study found that 42% of parents pray frequently for their children, and 40% of parents just sometimes. How often are you praying for your children?

The Bible promises us that prayer is well worthwhile: "The Lord is near to all those who call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.... he will hear their cry." Psalm 145

## ***THE OLD ONES ARE THE BEST ONES!***

Down at SJSM the wardens are trying to get the much needed painting of the church in place before Ian's final service on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Of course they have been getting the usual quotations but let's hope they have not contacted this particular firm!

There was a painter called Jock, who used to cheat by thinning paint to make it go further. For some time he got away with this. Then came the day that the local church needed painting. Jock put in a bid, and because his price was so low, he got the job. So he set up his scaffolding, bought the paint – and thinned it down.

A week later, as Jock was nearly finished painting the church, there was a horrendous clap of thunder. The sky opened, the rain poured down, and the thinned paint ran everywhere down the walls into the churchyard. Jock was no fool. He knew this was a judgment from the



Almighty, so he got on his knees and cried: "Oh, God! Forgive me! What should I do?" And from the thunder, a mighty voice spoke... "Repaint! Repaint! and thin no more

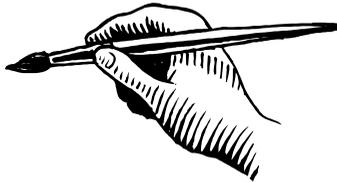
### **Holiday Destination answers**

Blackpool	Llandudno	St. Ives	Fleetwood
Brighton	Ayr	Newquay	Cork
Giant's Causeway	Deal	Southsea	Scarborough
Bray	Tenby	WestonSuper Mare	Skegness
Dartmouth	Rhyl	Margate	Ilfracombe
Prestatyn	Filey	Holy Island	Southport
Shanklyn	Florida	Majorca	Nice

**ART CLASSES at CHRIST CHURCH**

These will resume in September. The Workshop which has no tutor but members help each other will begin on Monday September 3<sup>rd</sup> 10am – 12md. There are vacancies, please contact Margery Spencer.

The classes which have Mrs Nwokobia as a tutor will commence on Friday September 7<sup>th</sup>. There are two sessions each week, 10am – 12md and 1pm – 3pm. There are vacancies especially for the afternoon session, please contact Sybil Fryer.



**Bury Bible Society  
Action Group**

An evening with  
The United Christian  
Singers to sing  
'Anno Domini'

Composer: Raymond Smith

Conductor: Walter Brisk

Friday 28th September

7.30 pm

Bolton Road Methodist  
Church

Entry free -

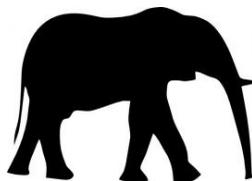
donations welcome

(tel: 0161 272 0858)

**OPEN GROUP AT  
SJSM**

Wednesday September  
26<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm in the  
Library

ALAN THEW  
South African Journey



## **WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER**

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1		Table Top Sale (SJ with SM)
2		THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY Services at the usual times.
3	7.30pm	PCC (CC)
4	7.30pm	Listening Prayer Group 150 Walmersley Road
5	10.00am	Holy Eucharist (SJ with SM)
6	2.00pm 7.30pm	First Thursday Prayer in the Hall (CC) Holy Eucharist (SJ with SM)
9		THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY Services at the usual times.
12	10.00am	Holy Eucharist (SJ with SM)
13	9.15am	Coffee Morning and Toddler Group (SJSM)
	7.30pm	Holy Eucharist (SJSM)
	8.00pm	PCC (SJSM)
14	7.30pm	HOLY CROSS DAY (SJSM)
16		THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY Services at the usual times. (Parade at SJ with SM)
19	10.00am	Holy Eucharist. (SJSM)
20	9.15am	Coffee Morning and Toddler Group (SJSM)
20	7.30pm	Holy Eucharist. (SJSM)
21	7.30pm	S. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE (SJSM)

- 23 THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY  
Services at the usual times.
- 26 10.00am Holy Eucharist. (SJSM)
- 26 7.30pm Open Group (SJSM) Alan Thew will talk about his visit to South Africa.
- 27 9.15am Coffee Morning and Toddler Group (SJSM)
- 27 7.30pm Holy Eucharist. (SJSM)
- 29 S. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS – IAN’S FAREWELL SERVICE FOLLOWED BY BENEFICE PARTY.  
6.30pm Holy Eucharist. (SJSM)
- 30 THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

# Pray-ing

The next meeting is on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September.  
7.30pm at 49 Fairlands Road

Barbara and Nigel welcome you to what is, as always, a very relaxed, gentle and informal hour of fellowship. An hour of prayer, song and a scripture reading or two.

We shall be meeting once a month. The next meetings being Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October, Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November (possibly a men-only event – watch for details), and Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December.



It has not been the best summer ever but we are still so fortunate in the countryside we have on our doorstep. Here are some photos from our very own Chesham Woods.