



Christ Church Walmersley and St John with St Mark Bury



The Transfiguration of Jesus - Ethiopian style

August 2013

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 2 nd 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 22)

Evening Prayer will be said in St John w St Mark's Church
Monday – Thursday at 5 p.m.

If you need transport to church
please contact the wardens.

Summer Sun Makes You Feel.....

The sun is out, the sky is blue. By the time you read this, summer may well be over and our summer clothes packed away again for another year. We will be back in our jumpers, woolly socks, trousers and thermals, not that some of us (well me) have taken any of the above off yet!

It is that time of year when there are lots of things changing. The garden looks good, it is a lot of hard work, but the flowers and God's creatures who call in make us smile. People, if fortunate enough, are going on their holiday, but if not then just sitting in the back garden or back yard makes us feel good. Children are allowed to play out later. Even I have taken Milo, our dog, out for a walk. Schools and colleges are now on holiday, no more Monday morning assemblies until September and I am missing the children already.

There is one thing that doesn't change though; it is almost a tradition for me. The summer clothes don't fit, so off I toddle to the nearest diet club. By now you would have thought I had got the hang of this healthy eating.

I turn up all keen and excited about how I'm going to stick to it this time, how fantastic it will all be, how I'm going to change and, also, how I'm going to be the next 'Slimmer of the Year'. I stand on the scales, in hope that it won't be that bad, but disappointed in myself again. Then it struck me.



Our faith is a little like a slimming club. You only get out of it what you put in. You have to be persistent and constant in what you do for things to change and become better. You have to put good things in to get good things out.

In our journey with God, we will only get out of it what we put in. When I was made a Deacon in Manchester Cathedral in 2010, I promised to be dedicated in prayer, reading, learning, reflection amongst a number of other things. These were promises, not just for myself but for the people I serve. If we want to keep building our relationship with God, these should be the promises that we all keep, even if at times it feels hard or impossible to do so.

It is easy in the business of life to sometimes forget and 'put it to one side' or put it on the 'to do later list.' But it doesn't take much to say a prayer. Spending time in prayer can be done 'any time, any place, anywhere'. Spending time in study, however you do it, helps each of us in our relationship with God and it is that growing relationship that feeds us. The more we put into the relationship, the more we will get out of it. The more that we can share in it, the more we are doing the job that God has called each and every one of us to do. He gave us all gifts we must all use those gifts.

Things are changing. Soon, the Diocese will have a new Bishop of Manchester. In our parish we have a new Licensed Reader in Darren and a new Vicar in Dave.

May we all walk together, Lay, Licensed and Ordained, to grow together, to support each other, to help our community to grow, and to make changes helping relationships with God to prosper. Remember, God continues to change us, let us be ready for change.



Love & prayers,
Janet. xx

TEAM

The Feast of St Thomas on July 3 marked the start of a new period in the life of our united benefice, when Chris Edmondson, Bishop of Bolton, instituted Dave Thompson as Vicar.

The service was held at Christ Church, where we were delighted to welcome friends from Dave's previous parishes and home town, as well as those from the community of Walmersley Road and the town of Bury.

In his sermon, Bishop Chris reminded us that, at the very start of the service, when asked, "Will you share with Dave in worship and witness, mission and pastoral care?" we had all responded, "With the help of God, we will." He suggested we should remember the acronym TEAM.

T_ogether
E_veryone
A_ccomplishes
M_inistry

Following the service Dave and Linda cut a cake and Linda was presented with flowers.

The Sunday after marked Dave's first service in the benefice – just one service for both congregations, held at St John with St Mark. Dave has given us the main points he made in his sermon that morning (pages 6 and 7).

We were blessed with superb weather, so many who enjoyed the lunch after the service chose to do so in the garden. How very good it was to share both these occasions as one family. We even sang 'happy birthday' to three who were celebrating!

Our thanks to all who helped to make both these occasions memorable.

Sharing Ministry

I would like to share some 'bullet points' from my first sermon - at the Joint Service held at St John with St Mark's on 7 July.

Dave

- Thank you for the welcome we have received and for the many prayers and good wishes especially after Wednesday's induction service at Christ Church.
- I am the first Vicar to be appointed to this joint benefice at the start of their ministry here. Both parishes have equal status and will be treated the same.
- Both parishes will remain separate and distinctive but we will share things as appropriate – whether that be in ministry, socially or in administration.
- THERE IS NO AGENDA TO MERGE THE PARISHES OR CLOSE A CHURCH
- I am a people person. I am most comfortable in working alongside people especially in times of need. I believe in the importance of the occasional offices – baptisms, weddings, and funerals as a vital part of the church's ministry. I believe in parish visiting.
- It is important to use our spiritual and material resources as we look to fulfil the diocesan vision of Growing Congregations, Serving Communities & Increasing Giving.
- Part of the responsibility of a clergyperson is to say Morning & Evening Prayer on a daily basis. I aim to say Evening Prayer in St John with St Mark church at 5pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays each week. Everyone is welcome to join me in this short service.

- I look forward to sharing this ministry of spreading the Good News of God to the communities we serve, with you all. Let us work together - in harmony – within our two parishes and beyond. There is great potential here. Let us pray that God will guide each one of us to be labourers in His Harvest.

*Creator God, you have made us all in your image:
may we discern you in all that we see and
serve you in all that we do;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

FROM THE REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

July 7th Harry Wainwright

July 21st Joseph James Patrick

Daniel Taylor Patrick

We welcome them into the Lord's family

Wedding

July 20th Anthony Holt and Amy Wilson

Those whom God has joined let no-one put asunder

Funerals

June 24th Amy Wike

July 18th Jim Ashworth

Interment of Ashes

June 30th G Stanley Parkinson

May they rest gently in the arms of God

BIBLE READINGS FOR AUGUST

- 4 **10 after Trinity**
Hosea 11: 1-11 Colossians 3: 1-11 Luke 12: 13-21
- 6 **Transfiguration of our Lord**
Daniel 7: 9-10,13-14 2 Peter 1: 16-19 Luke 9: 28-36
- 11 **11 after Trinity**
Isaiah 1: 10-20 Hebrews 11: 1-3,8-16 Luke 12: 32-40
- 15 **Blessed Virgin Mary**
Isaiah 61: 10-end Galatians 4: 4-7 Luke 1: 46-55
- 18 **12 after Trinity**
Isaiah 5: 1-7 Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2 Luke 12: 49-56
- 24 **Bartholomew the Apostle**
Isaiah 43: 8-13 Acts 5: 12-16 Luke 22: 24-30
- 25 **13 after Trinity**
Jeremiah 1: 4-10 Hebrews 12: 18-end Luke 13: 10-17



FLOWERS AT CHRIST CHURCH

- August 4 In memory of Mrs Margery Greenhalgh
- August 11 Mr and Mrs A Standing
- August 18 In memory of Norman Leake
- August 25 Mrs B Winterbottom
 in memory of Fred and Malcolm

A Birthday Celebration

The parish of Christ Church Walmersley is 175 years old this year.

The first church building "The Church of Our Saviour Christ" was completed and opened on Friday 20th April 1838 and was subsequently consecrated by the Bishop of Chester on 21st September 1838.

We are planning to hold a special service later this year to celebrate this milestone. Watch for details in the September magazine.

celebrating
175
years

How well do you know this Church?

1. When was the tower added?
2. When was the school built?
3. Who is the lychgate in memory of?
4. Why was the chapel created?
5. Where will you find the Buckhurst font?
6. Why is there a small black cross over one of the choir seats?
7. What is depicted in the window of the chapel?
8. Who made the bells?

Answers next month!

NOTES FROM THE COUNCILS

ST JOHN WITH ST MARK PCC MEETING OF 20 JUNE 2013

Geoff chaired the final PCC meeting before the arrival of our new Incumbent Reverend Dave Thompson. The majority of our meeting was used to discuss and organise the final arrangements for Dave's Induction service at Christ Church Walmersley on 3 July, and his first service of Holy Eucharist at St John with St Mark the following Sunday. Geoff talked us through the structure of the two services and the details for the rehearsal.

Other issues included the latest plans for the 100 Club. A volunteer has now offered to run the Club and it is therefore hoped to commence in September. More details are available from Church.

It was advised that this year's Summer Fair made just over £1400. The Treasurer gave us an insight into how this has compared with previous years and produced an informative graph, which showed some interesting variations over the last 10-15 years.

Elizabeth also made an appeal for help with Baptisms at 12.30pm on Sundays. Duties would include meeting and greeting, handing out service cards, and generally helping to tidy up after the service.

NB. Since the meeting an appeal has been put on our weekly pew sheet and a number of volunteers have come forward to help.

Next PCC meeting for St John with St Mark is planned for Thursday 25 July.

NOTES FROM THE COUNCILS _ 2

Christ Church – Highlights from meeting on 16 July

This was Dave's first meeting, chaired by Barbara Silvester. We welcomed Vanessa Lay and Geoff Stokes to their first meeting.

The Treasurer gave his monthly report. There is concern that planned giving is slightly down and rental income has fallen compared with 2012. The Repairs and Renovations Fund now totals £10,134, benefitting in June from donations in memory of Stan Parkinson.

Repairs to the dry rot will commence as soon as the faculty is received. Alternative actions are being considered for the replacement of the broken stained glass window. We have a list of work needed to the church building and surrounds which could be completed by volunteers. *Please contact Ian Riddick or a Warden if you would like to find out more.*

Bury Council has announced that there will be a Non Statutory Open Enquiry to be held on 19 and 20 November, to consider the application for Village Green Status. This has no legal status but is chaired by an independent inspector who will make a recommendation to Bury Council.

Six members of the congregation have responded to last month's appeal to assist with the Porch Boxes collection at ASDA.

The PCC agreed to the request from the Fundraising committee to finance a concert by the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers on December 14th.

FOR QUIET MOMENTS

Week One

Father, from whom every family receives its name, we give thanks for our own families and pray for members of families everywhere.

For those who are growing up,
that they may increase in wisdom and love;

For those facing changes,
that they may meet them with hope;

For those who are weak,
that they may find strength;

For those with heavy burdens,
that they may carry them lightly;

For those who are old and frail;
that they may find support and reassurance.



We ask your blessing on those who this month will receive examination results which can have such an important effect on their future, that they may rejoice in success and not be overcome if their plans have to be altered.

Week Two

Father, only too often we are concerned with the problems in our lives and fail to recognise all the good things we receive from you.

This week, Lord, help us to:

Count our blessings instead of our crosses;

Count our gains instead of our losses.

Count our joys instead of our woes;

Count our friends instead of our foes.

Count our smiles instead of our tears;

Count our courage instead of our fears.

Count our full years instead of our lean;

Count our kind deeds instead of our mean.

Count our health instead of our wealth;

Let us love our neighbour as much as ourself.

Week Three - a prayer for our land

Grant us, Lord, a vision of our land as your love would make it:

- a land where the weak are protected, and none go hungry or poor;
- a land where the benefits of civilised life are shared, and everyone can enjoy them;
- a land where different races and cultures live in tolerance and mutual respect;
- a land where peace is built with justice, and justice is guided by love.

And give us the inspiration and courage to build it, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Week Four

And a prayer for those who live in a land where there is no peace:- praying especially for the victims of the Syrian conflict.



We pray for those damaged by the fighting in Syria.

To the wounded and injured:

Come Lord Jesus.

To the terrified who are living in shock:

Come Lord Jesus

To the hungry and homeless, refugee and exile:

Come Lord Jesus

To those bringing humanitarian aid:

Give protection Lord Jesus

To those administering medical assistance:

Give protection Lord Jesus.

To those offering counsel and care:

Give protection Lord Jesus.

For all making the sacrifice of love:

Give the strength of your Spirit
and the joy of your comfort.

In the hope of Christ we pray. Amen.



The Christ Church rainbows spent the last night of the term at the Bowling Alley in Bury. All the girls enjoyed themselves and are looking forward to the summer holidays.



This was also the last night for Louise & Nichola who have decided that they need to move to pastures new. Louise received her 5yr badge and both Leaders received a big thank you from girlguiding for all their hard work over the years.

We are now looking for new Leaders and I have agreed that I will keep the unit open until Christmas. There might have to be a few changes but we will keep parents informed either by email or post. If anyone has any questions please get in touch.

If anyone would like to volunteer they need to be over 18 yrs and must undergo a DBS Check (Old CRB) before they can help. Please let me know if there is anyone out there who could help run this very popular rainbow unit and continue the success of girlguiding.

Joan Wild

Bury Division Girlguiding Commissioner

25th Bury Christ Church Walmersley Rainbows

E mail walmersleyrainbows@btinternet.com

Girlguiding's membership

has grown by more than 8,000 in the past year, new figures reveal. Here in the benefice we have Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers, helping to meet the needs of young people aged 7 to 21. Please pray for them and their leaders.



In June 15 brownies, 3 leaders and 1 Young Leader Spent a weekend at Springfield Activity Centre Rochdale.

The brownies were all excited as this was the first time away from home for some of them. Quite a few mums went home in tears leaving their daughter; no so such luck from the girls who thought being away meant not going to sleep!

The last brownie went to sleep around 2.30am
and the first one up was at 5.15am.
Who said being a brownie leader is fun?!

At the same time a group of brownies from St Peter's Church Bury were camping on the activity centre field so we all got together for various activities – building shelters, campfire & toasting marshmallows, making seed bombs and Shaun the Sheep cupcakes.



A good time was had by all and we are now looking forward to our County Holiday at Waddow Hall, Clitheroe in July 2014 to celebrate 100 years of Brownies.

From some very tired Brownie Leaders

From 1 September
girlguiding has a new
promise – and hopes
to reach out to girls
who may not have
considered joining.

The new Promise reads:

I promise that I will do my best:
To be true to myself and develop my
beliefs,
To serve the Queen and my community,
To help other people and
To keep the (Brownie) Guide Law.

25th Bury Guides have had a busy term, numbers are increasing steadily despite farewells to Lucy Tyrer, Grace Nuttall and Nicole Holt who we hope will continue guiding in Bury Rangers.

Our unit meetings have included practising knots and lashings to make mini rafts to race downstream at Burrs Country Park, patrol fires with the highlight eating smores! Each patrol have also organised their own nights for the rest of the unit when they prepared a treasure hunt, challenged the rest of the patrols to build chariots to race and a variety of colour based activities.

We contributed to the church summer fair by organising a fun activity, throwing coins into water to over the Girlguiding UK badge.

In June we attended the BIG GIG concert at the Birmingham LG Arena where both girls and leaders enjoyed performances from Lawson, Amelia Lily, Loveable Rogues, Union J and others including Katie Williams making her Guide promise.



We all went to Blackburn Waves for our last meeting before summer and had great time. Molly Wainwright, Annabelle Warburton and Lauren Byrne will remember this activity as it was made special by their enrolments, which caused a lot of interest in the busy pool!!!



ST JOHN WITH ST MARK OPEN GROUP

In June the Open Group welcomed Gillian Smith from Christ Church to give a talk on woodcarving.

What became a lifelong hobby and interest began in what can only be described as a very humble beginning in Radcliffe. What followed was a remarkable story of a young lady who through perseverance and persuasion managed to set up with minimal help very basic woodworking classes once a week in sparse surroundings.

As the old saying goes from acorns do oak trees grow, and through learning and self teaching over the years, to become a member of the Lancashire & Cheshire Woodworkers Association, displayed her work at venues throughout the country along with other woodcarving enthusiasts.

An interesting display of her woodcarving work over the years was presented to the group with accompanying stories and anecdotes both sad and humorous. It is amazing what happens to a piece of wood on its journey from part of a tree to the finished article!

On Wednesday 10th July, Ian Banks led our group for a talk on the origins of Nursery Rhymes, and a review of this meeting will follow in the September issue of the magazine.

No meeting in August

Our next meeting ~ Wednesday 4th September
at 7.30pm in the Library



A talk by Pam Kojder entitled
"School Day Memories"

*Please remember, the Open Group is just that, open to all.
We would love you to join us for our meetings.*

Instead of our meeting on July 3rd we had a wonderful celebration of a new phase of ministry starting with the institution of our Vicar, Dave Thompson. A packed church of friends and family were able to affirm their support for Dave as he settles into his new role. A crisis in the kitchen caused some moments of concern when the water heater failed, leaving the cluster of cafetières and tranche of teapots bereft without water but we rose to the occasion and got out the trusty kettles! MU members had provided some home made cakes and a celebration cake was cut and shared around. Dave and Linda were given two of the MU celebration teatowels for the 125th birthday of Mothers' Union in the Diocese, and Linda was presented with a bouquet of flowers.

Our summer meal was held at the Lord Raglan and 37 attended on a very hot evening to enjoy food fun and fellowship. A couple of members actually walked up to the Lord Raglan so they deserved their meal!

Our next meeting will be on August 7th when we are delighted to welcome Dave and Linda and get to know them better. We will be having our Strawberry Sparkle on this occasion as well and we welcome any one to our meeting which starts at 7.30 in the Church Hall.



For those getting away this summer don't forget to bring back a post card of an 'Interesting View' and send or give to Rosemary Taylor.

Kathryn Bailey
Branch Leader

A Plethora of Happenings



For Sale - **Celebration Tea Towels** – celebrating 125 years of Mothers' Union in the Manchester Diocese are available from any member or in the shop. Price £2. Have you got yours?

Bolton Archdeaconry has organised a **Eucharist** to celebrate the 125th birthday. Everybody welcome at Stand All Saints Church, Church Lane Whitefield M455 7NE on August 28 at 2 p.m.

Student Welcome

We are collecting mugs, wrapped chocolate biscuits, tea, coffee, hot chocolate and sugar sachets and would love your support. Donations to any Mothers' Union member. Can you help in September to hand out goody bags? Ask for more details.



It is not too late to book for the **Retreat** being held at Bolton Road Methodist Church on Saturday 7th September, from 9.30am to 4.00pm. The cost is £10.00 which includes drinks, cost of materials and administration. The Leader is Revd Denise Smith and booking is via Jean Slater.

Come and have '**Tea with the President**' at Falshaws' Farm Shop and Ice Cream Parlour on Monday September 2 at 2.30 p.m.
Tickets £10 in aid of the Wheels Appeal



Mothers' Union gets everywhere!!



Enjoying the Captain's dinner on a longship moored in Romania I found myself sharing a table with two members of Mothers' Union from Cumbria and one of them had been in York Minister for Barbara's commissioning. It's a small world. (Our branch was much bigger than their branches.) Margery Spencer

Bartholomew the Apostle

August 24th is the date on we remember this saint.

Bartholomew is mentioned in the synoptic gospels as one of the apostles of Jesus. It is thought that this is his family name meaning "son of Tolmai". In Saint John's gospel he is known as Nathaniel, his personal name. His friend Philip told him that he had found in Jesus, the Messiah.

Nathaniel was sceptical saying "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said "Come and see." Nathaniel was sitting under a fig tree in Cana when Jesus came to him and Nathaniel immediately recognised him and followed him. (John 1 vs 43 – 50) He was there when Jesus appeared to disciples by the lake after the resurrection and when the apostles met to choose a replacement for Judas.



Tradition tells us that he preached the Gospel after the Ascension in North-West India, and afterwards in Asia Minor, and that in the end he suffered martyrdom in Greater Armenia. Some say that he was crucified, others that he was flayed alive. He encouraged many to follow Jesus.

Almighty and everlasting God, who gave to your apostle Bartholomew grace truly to believe and to preach your Word: Grant that your Church may love what he believed and preach what he taught. Amen

To enjoy



BENEFICE SUMMER BARBECUE

All are welcome to our annual barbecue
to be held at
St John with St Mark Church Hall
Sunday 25th August ~ approx 1.00pm

**All the usual barbecue food,
served with salads & condiments.**

TICKETS WILL BE ON SALE DURING AUGUST
AT A PRICE TO BE ANNOUNCED, HOWEVER PLEASE
ADD THE DATE TO YOUR DIARY NOW.

ANY OLD IRON



We didn't realise there was so much old iron (and other scrap material) in Walmersley! Some will be sold on e-bay, the majority weighed in and a pop-up sale of books and clothing will be held in August. For details see the weekly sheet and website.

WHAT'S ON IN AUGUST

4		Tenth after Trinity Services as usual
6	7.30 pm	The Transfiguration of our Lord Holy Communion (SJSM)
7	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union Strawberry Sparkle (CC Hall)
9	7.00 pm	Bolton Archdeaconry Festival (CC Hall)
11		Eleventh after Trinity Services as usual
15	7.30 pm	The Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Communion (SJSM)
18		Twelfth after Trinity Services as usual
21	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union (CC Hall)
24	10.00 am	Bartholomew the Apostle Holy Communion (SJSM)
25		Thirteenth after Trinity Services as usual
	1.00 pm	<i>(approx)</i> Summer Barbecue

OFFICE MATTERS



If you have any queries please call in at the office at St John with St Mark on Wednesday evening - 6.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. or contact the Wardens, Clergy or Readers.

Welcome to our new Vicar and his wife



*Dave and Linda
enjoying the sunshine
at St John with St Mark Book Fair*