



**Christ Church Walmersley
and
St John with St Mark Bury
in the
United Benefice of Walmersley Road**



LENT

March 2014

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday

8.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)	Christ Church
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

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

2.00 p.m.	1 st First Thursday Prayer	Christ Church Hall
7.30 p.m.	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark

Saturday

4.00 p.m.	Messy Church	Christ Church
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Saints days and other services as announced
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.



St John w St Mark's Church has the Child Friendly Church award

Both churches have Fairtrade status



The Vegetable Plot

The Vicar Writes.....

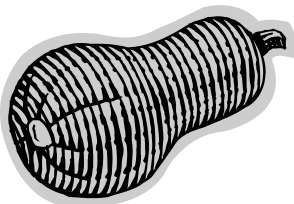
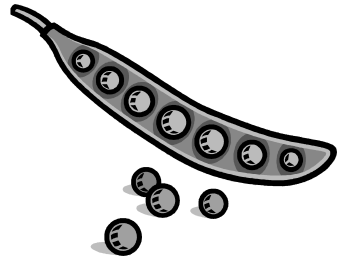
As I write these notes, the country is again being battered by storm force winds and the numbers of flood warnings seem to increase by the hour.

This month sees the beginning of Lent; the very welcome first days of spring and a gradual change in the colour of the gardens as we notice a tinge of green appearing around the area.

I can think of no better way to combine all of the above with the following ingredients for a growing vegetable plot - and a growing church.

PLANT 4 ROWS OF PEAS

Prayer
Preparedness
Perseverance
Promptness



then

PLANT 3 ROWS OF SQUASH

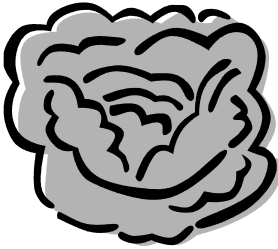
Squash gossip
Squash criticism
Squash indifference

add 5 ROWS OF TURNIPS

Turn up to church
Turn up with a smile
Turn up to meetings
Turn up with new ideas
Turn up determined to serve God



and finally PLANT 5 ROWS OF LETTUCE



Let us be faithful
Let us be unselfish
Let us be loyal
Let us be truthful
Let us love another.

Why not apply these ingredients to your Lent season and remember the appropriate words of Jesus in John 15: 1
"I am the true vine and my Father is the vine-grower"

May God guide you this Lent so that you may experience His risen joy through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Dave

As Jesus resisted temptation by the devil in the wilderness, help us reflect on his faithfulness to God, his rejection of worldly values and hold these thoughts in our hearts throughout Lent and beyond. Amen



BIBLE READINGS FOR MARCH

2 **Sunday Before Lent**

Exodus 24: 12-18 2 Peter 1: 16-21 Matthew 17: 1-9

9 **First Sunday of Lent**

Genesis 2: 15-17. 3: 1-7 Romans 5: 12-19 Matthew 4: 1-11

16 **Second Sunday of Lent**

Genesis 12: 1-4a Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17 John 3: 1-17

23 **Third Sunday of Lent**

Exodus 17: 1-7 Romans 5: 1-11 John 4: 5-42

30 **Fourth Sunday of Lent
(Mothering Sunday)**

Exodus 2: 1-10 Colossians 3: 12-17 John 19: 25b-17

*“Although the Eucharist is the
fullness of sacramental life,
it is not a prize for the perfect but
a powerful medicine for the weak”*

From Pope Francis’ New Year Message and used
by Don in a sermon at Christ Church



FROM THE VICARAGE

* A Service of the Laying On Of Hands will take at Christ Church on Sunday 23 March at the 10.30am service. This offers the opportunity to pray for the receiving of Christ's healing touch to make us whole in body, mind and spirit.

* Volunteers are required to join a group working towards the Child Friendly Award for Christ Church. Please speak either to myself, Janet or Margery.

* The Annual Parochial Church Meetings take place next month on the following dates:

Wednesday 9 April at 7.30pm. – Christ Church

Monday 28 April at 7.30pm – St.John with St.Mark.

There are vacancies in both parishes for Parochial Church Council members. This year also sees the election of Deanery Synod representatives. Please consider whether you are able to serve the church in either of these particular ways. Nomination Forms are now available at the back of both churches.

* There will be no Parade Service on 9 March at St.John with St.Mark. This month's parade is being transferred to Mothering Sunday on 30 March.

At Christ Church the Parade Service remains on 9 March whilst Mothering Sunday will be a family service led by the members of Mothers' Union.

* This year's Confirmation Service is scheduled for Sunday 22 June at St.Anne, Tottington, beginning at 10.30am. Classes will begin after Easter. Anyone interested in being confirmed should have a word with Janet or myself.

At St.John with St.Mark's Church a course for receiving Holy Communion before Confirmation will take place during Lent.

* Plans are well underway for the celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the consecration of the current church building at St.John with St.Mark. These will take place on the weekend of June 6-8, with the Bishop of Manchester attending the service at 10.30am on that Sunday. Our Summer Fair is scheduled for the Saturday. If anyone has any memorabilia about the history of St.John's Church building, please let me know and we can begin to arrange a display in preparation for this weekend.

* More help in both Junior Church and Messy Church at Christ Church is required. If you would like to help in this important ministry to our children, young people and families, please have a word with me.

* Thanks to those who join me when I say Evening Prayer every Monday – Thursday at 5pm in St.John with St.Mark's Church. Anyone is welcome to be with me during for this short service.

* Elizabeth Binns officially came off the service rota in February due to the combination of her increased work commitments and the plans to transfer her ministry to another parish in the area. Hopefully by the time of the next magazine we will be able to know more about her next move!

FIRST AID TRAINING – 9 JUNE

The Red Cross are running a First Aid Training Course at Church House on 9 June. Details below. If any of your team are able to attend and would like to book a place, please ask them to contact Phoebe Moriarty as soon as possible as places will be limited.



FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

February 9

George O'Brien

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

Funerals

January 30

Frank Evans

February 3

Fred Dunning

February 5

Edith Fitton

'I am the resurrection and the life' says the Lord

STORYTELLING COMPETITION

'Friends and Heroes' are looking for readers, young or old, to present Bible Stories in an innovative way that will bring them to life for children.



- Can you read?
- Do you love the Bible?
- Could you read a Bible story in a way that brings it to life for children? Or encourage a group of children to create a dramatic (audio) performance of a well-known story?

Then check out this competition
www.friendsandheroes.com/record-a-bible-story

NOTES FROM THE COUNCILS

Christ Church

Dead Trees The church will be removing two dead trees from the small wood near the tennis courts.

Village Green We have been informed that the village green inspector is unlikely to make his decision before the end of February.

Re-installation of the organ: The secretary had contacted George Sixsmith and they were intending to come to install the organ sometime between the middle and end of February. *The organ has now been re-installed.*

Church Tower issues: The hatch on top of the church tower has rotted away and it is raining in to the inside of the tower. The existing ladders are unsafe in the bell chamber and not to current safety standards in both the clock chamber and the bell chamber. The secretary has received a quotation for replacement of the ladders at a cost of £3775.

Children's Ministry: The Child Friendly Church Award has been given to St John with St Mark's Church. Work is continuing to get Christ Church Walmersley approved.

There will be a **laying on of hands service** (for body, mind and spirit) in Christ Church on the fourth Sunday in March.

A.O.B.: The owners of Brewer's court have been approached regarding a donation towards a safety barrier at the Walmersley Road end of Ackworth Street.

FOR QUIET MOMENTS

Week One

Lord God, with Lent we approach the springtime of the year when the face of the earth is renewed and life emerges out of death.

We pray that this season of Lent may be a springtime for our souls, so that our lives, quickened by the breath of the Spirit and warmed by the sunshine of your love, may bear abundant fruit and be made radiant with the beauty of holiness.

Frank Colquhoun



By the prayers of Jesus,
Lord, teach us how to pray.
By the gifts of Jesus,
Lord, teach us how to give.
By the toils of Jesus,
Lord, teach us how to work,
By the love of Jesus,
Lord, teach us how to love.
By the cross of Jesus,
Lord, teach us how to live.

Week Two

As we experience the rain and the winds, we remember those who have lost their homes, their livelihoods and in some cases their lives in the floods and the gales. We give thanks for the emergency services who risk their own well-being to bring help to those in danger. We ask your blessing on all those who have given aid and those who are working to restore power and safety. To those communities shattered by the weather we ask your restoring power.

Week Three The feast of the Annunciation actually falls in week four. I thought it appropriate to remember the words of Mary when she found she was to have a child.

My soul doth magnify the Lord:
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded:
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.
For, behold, from henceforth:
All generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty has magnified me:
And holy is his name.
And his mercy is on them that dear him
Throughout all generations.



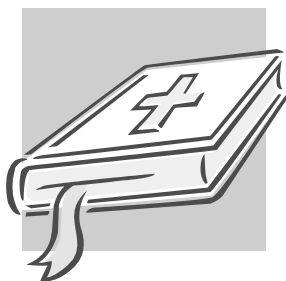
He hath showed strength with his arm:
And hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat:
And exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things;
And the rich he hath sent empty away
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel:
As he promised to our fore-father Abraham and his seed forever.
May we like Mary be willing to accept God's purpose for us.

Week Four (Mothering Sunday)

For the care of mothers; Thanks be to God.
For their patience when tested; Thanks be to God.
For their love when tired; Thanks be to God.
For their hope when despairing; Thanks be to God.
For their service without limit; Thanks be to God.

The Bible in 50 words

God made
Adam bit
Noah arked
Abraham split
Joseph ruled
Jacob fooled
Bush talked
Moses balked
Pharaoh plagued
People walked
Sea divided
Tablets guided
Promise landed
Saul freaked
David peeked
Prophets warned
Jesus born
God walked
Love talked
Anger crucified
Hope died
Love rose
Spirit flamed
Word spread
God remained.



Lent Study - Christ and the Chocolatier

This lively and innovative Lent course is inspired by the film "Chocolat"; based on the bestselling novel by Joanne Harris. The film is used as a starting point for exploring issues about God, the world and what it means to be human.

The course has been designed by Hilary Brand in five sessions on the theme of:

Session 1	Giving up	-	the prelude to change.
Session 2	Giving out	-	the power of a gift.
Session 3	Getting wise	-	the possibility of change.
Session 4	Getting real	-	the power of acceptance.
Session 5	Growing up	-	the process of change.

Commencing the week beginning Monday March 10th the sessions will be held on these days and times and at these venues and run for five weeks.

Monday evenings at 14, Springside Road. 7.30pm

Led by Revd. Dave Thompson.

Tuesday evenings at 150, Walmersley Road. 7.30pm

Led by Ian Banks and Una Kroll

Thursday afternoons in the lower room, Christ Church Hall. 2pm

Led by Revd. Don Altham.



There will be a showing of the film "Chocolat" on Shrove Tuesday in the evening in the hall of St John with St Mark.

Information about this will be printed on the church bulletins nearer the time.

If you are unable to attend all of the sessions please feel free to come to as many as you are able to.

For more information contact any of the group leaders.

Our AGM in February was an opportunity to reflect on what we had achieved in the last year and to look forward to the new year and a new theme.



'Sowing the future together' continues the 'gardening' theme of 'sowing seeds' and 'help us grow'. It unites us all in our purpose of reaching out to our friends and neighbours, to share our love of God in practical ways, and as members of Mothers' Union at Christ Church.

We are delighted to be resourcing Messy Church with some initial start up finances and in practical ways, with our members welcoming, brewing up, preparing lunches and teaching craft activities. Could you help us on one occasion?

We are providing Baptism bears to accompany the Mothers' Union cards we give at baptism. These bears are the most soft and cuddly animals with a Mothers' Union badge embroidered on a paw and with an MU ribbon around its neck. This small token, we hope, will be a lasting reminder of the baptism and that these children and their families are prayed for and welcomed into the church family by our members.

We are looking forward to making welcome cards with a small gift of flower seeds or teabags to distribute to new residents in our parish especially with the new housing next door to the church.

6 Town Housing are keen to work with the Church on community issues and if we can facilitate a meeting then members may well be serving refreshments.

Make a Mother's Day

This Mothering Sunday help change a life

Within our benefice we are going to collect donations for a combined 'Make a Mother's day' gift in memory of a loved mum or special friend. Envelopes for this appeal will be in both churches. £100 would enable a family to have all the skills they need to overcome poverty with the Literacy and financial education programme. £15 will help train someone to read for the first time. We really would be 'sowing the future together' with gifts like this.

Our committee changed a little at the recent AGM. We said goodbye and expressed grateful thanks for faithful service to Pat Mongey and Denise Ives who have stepped down from the committee. Miriam Hamilton has done sterling work as treasurer but feels the time is right to hand that office on. We are very grateful for all her contributions and keeping us on the straight and narrow!

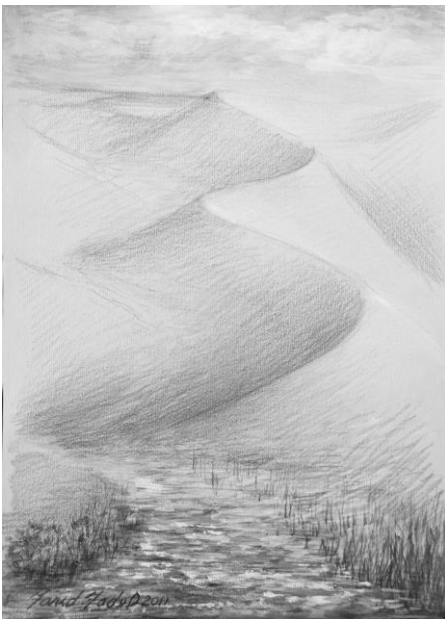
Miriam will remain on the committee. Barbara Silvester has taken on the role of treasurer and we are very pleased to welcome her to the committee. We are delighted to welcome Claire Altham too and she joins existing committee members Shelagh Beetson, Joan Knowles, Joan Riggs, Nicola Porter, and Pam Hoyle.

Tricia Stokes remains as Secretary and myself as Branch Leader. We look forward to an exciting year ahead.

Our March meetings will be on March 5th - joining the Ash Wednesday service in church and on March 19th we have the first of two Lent reflections - in the church hall.

Please come and join us.

Kathryn Bailey, Branch Leader



Streams in the Desert

Prepared by Christian women of Egypt

You are invited to attend the service, which this year is to be held at Bolton Road Methodist Church on Friday 7 March at 2pm.

This day of prayer is an annual event and the service is prepared by Christian women from a different country each year and as you can see this year is prepared by women of Egypt.

During the service you will enjoy the hymns, the prayers, be given food for thought by the dramatized reading of the gospel story and stimulated by the words of the speaker.

Hope to see you there. Everyone, male or female, is welcome. For more information or if you need transport please contact Jean Slater

CAPTION COMPETITION



Write a caption and send it to wrub@live.co.uk or give to any member of the clergy by March 28.

The winning entry for January's competition was again submitted by Kath Parkinson:

"That's not funny, Claire – you will leave the room now!"



Other responses included:

" Now Claire, point 136 have you got it? We need more bacon for Messy Church." was Pam Hoyle's entry, while Patricia Coote contributed, "Don't forget! God is up there listening to your every word"

Photographers! If you have a suitable photograph for future months please email to wrub@live.co.uk

Please help



Everyone

Around the world to

Care for

Each other.

Then there will be PEACE

*Seen on a poster at
St.John with St.Mark's CE School*



is changing its time!

Following the three introductory Messy Church sessions, plans are in hand for the coming few months.

Messy Church will meet on the First Saturday of each month from 4 to 6 p.m.

Last month we asked if you would be willing to spare two or three hours, regularly or from time to time. Please sign the list at the back of church whether for one of the coming sessions or because you have a particular skill to offer when the time is right.

Maybe you enjoy sharing craft skills? Is music your forte? Do you have a welcoming smile? Would you make coffee or prepare food? Or you good at story-telling? All are necessary for a successful Messy Church.

April 5	Messy Easter
May 3	Messy Ark
June 7	Messy Spirit
July 5	Messy Tour

In August we shall have a break and meet again on September 6.

PLEASE share the details of the new time slot and encourage families to come along. You and they can be certain of a warm welcome!

Check out the website or the new Facebook page for more details.

Messy Church at Christ Church in UB of Walmersley Road

Quiz Night



Christ Church Walmersley's general knowledge quiz is back! So dust off the brain cells, get the encyclopaedia out, and be ready to do battle with all the other challengers for the title of 'Brains of Walmersley'.

Church Hall, School Lane, Walmersley
Saturday March 15th @ 7.30pm

Entry is £2 per person. Teams of four are preferred but don't worry about that - just come along and join others to make up a winning team! There are prizes to be had and a newly presented cup for the overall winners. Light refreshments will be served at a halfway point but please feel free to bring your own particular refreshment to fortify you through the evening.

All proceeds in aid of church funds.

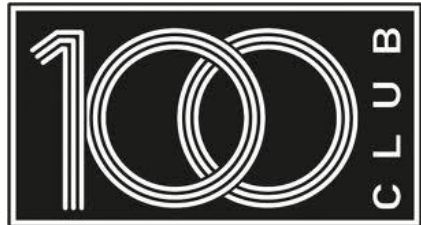
FEBRUARY 2014 WINNERS

1st Prize ~ S J Tanner

2nd Prize ~ Judith Kelly

3rd Prize ~ Ray Smith

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL





FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 2014

February 24 – March 9

Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world.

Fair trade is an organized social movement and market-based approach that aims to help producers in developing countries make better trading conditions. By paying a slightly higher price in the shops the producers and growers can receive a fair price for the produce.

Fairtrade goods are available in all supermarkets and other shops. The list of fairly traded goods is ever increasing, with items such as bananas, honey, coffee, oranges, cocoa, cotton, dried and fresh fruits and vegetables, juices, nuts and oil seeds, rice, spices, sugar, tea and wine able to be bought.

**PLEASE HELP BY PURCHASING FAIRTRADE GOODS
and supporting the TRAIIDCRAFT STALL
at St. John with St Mark**

My family, frankly, they weren't folks who went to church every week. My mother was one of the most spiritual people I knew but she didn't raise me in the church, so I came to my Christian faith later in life and it was because the precepts of Jesus Christ spoke to me in terms of the kind of life that I would want to lead.

Barack Obama



ST JOHN WITH ST MARK OPEN GROUP

The Reverend Dave Thompson
will lead us with some "Reflections"
on Wednesday 12th March 2014.

*This year, all our meetings will take place at 7.30pm
on the second Wednesday of each month
in the Church Hall Library.*

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

ST JOHN WITH ST MARK CHURCH HALL BAR

The bar is an attraction to outside people when they inquire to rent the hall, and especially when we have a Church function. The success of renting the Church Hall has increased the number of bars required. This is putting a strain on the number of volunteers we have at present to serve on the bar.

We are now looking for other people to join the team; this will enable us to continue raising the necessary funds for the Church.

If you are interested in joining us please contact
me at Church

Thank You, Stuart Ashworth



A job for every day!

At Teatimers we were reminiscing how in our youth we had certain meals on certain days – Roast on Sunday, “Tatie Hash” on Monday and usually fish on Friday. This conversation continued into how certain jobs had to be done specific days. It prompted June Houghton to recite this poem.

Monday, `er does all `er washing,
Tuesday `ers ironing all day.
Wednesday `ers mopping



Thursday `ers shopping
Friday `er goes for `er pay.
Sat`day `er cleans all `er winders
and Maggie comes round for the day.

So you can come any Sunday,
but let us know first,
and we`ll get something in fer yer tay!

Try reading this in dialect. Does it bring back any memories?

Beginning of Lent

Child It has been a special day, it’s called Shrove Tuesday and we had pancakes which I love.

Grandma And tomorrow is Ash Wednesday.

Child Oh good, that will be another special day – I love tatie hash!

The Temptation of Jesus

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. Luke 4:1-2a (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 4:1-13 (NIV).



H O L Y C T W J Q O F D C T D
 T Y C E L R Z N O F G V I L Y
 E E O M W S W E Q R V T I Y F
 M V M Y C T O S T M D V N M G
 P A M P V O R P F A E A E X P
 T B A B L N L I E D W L N I A
 E L N G H E D R X L A M H I U
 D C D D A M B I H S A S X G T
 L U I M N Z K T U U R L N E H
 F I A W G Z J R B O N U Q T O
 W P V B E F E U W Y X G R H R
 G C L E L J D C W H Z E R N I
 Q X I A S U T A H X S X G Y T
 P X M F O R T Y Y E E X U Q Y
 K I N G D O M S D S P E N Z Y

Spirit	devil	days	Jordan	stone
Holy	live	angels	authority	worship
desert	temple	command	bread	world
tempted	forty	kingdoms	Jerusalem	hungry



Real Easter Eggs

These will not be available through church this year but they are available in Tesco and other supermarkets. If you are unable to find them, please contact customer services.

This is the only Fairtrade chocolate egg with a mention of the Easter story and comes with a booklet to tell that story.

WHAT'S ON IN MARCH

2		Sunday Before Lent Services as usual
4	7.30 pm	Showing of "Chocolat" (SJSM)
5		Ash Wednesday
	10.00 am	Service (SJSM)
	7.30 pm	Service (CC & SJSM)
7	2.00 pm	World Day of Prayer
7/8		Fair Trade Food Tasting in the Millgate Centre
9		First Sunday of Lent Services as usual
10	7.30 pm	Lenten Course 14 Springside Road
11	7.30 pm	Lenten Course 150 Walmersley Rd
12	7.30 pm	Open Group (SJSM)
13	2.00 pm	Lenten Course Church Hall (CC)
14	7.30 pm	Race Night (SJSM)
15	7.30 pm	Quiz Night (CC)
16		Second Sunday of Lent Services as usual
17	7.30 pm	PCC (CC)

Jack and the Beanstalk

