



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



Living Differently

Breaking Chains - Making Change

ONE WORLD WEEK

19 - 26 October 2014

October 2014



50p



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.	1 st 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.



Both churches have the Child Friendly Church award

Both churches have Fairtrade status



Time to Harvest

That time of year is with us once again. The dark mornings followed by the evenings drawing in. Although I am no gardener (that is why we now have 'outdoor Axminster' instead of grass), I know it is time to turn our attention to tidying up our gardens, for in no time autumn will be upon us.

We are looking towards to the Harvest season. Farmers will be reaping the seeds that they planted earlier in the year. Seeds which were planted and have been tended, nurtured, watered, cared for and had sunshine on them will, hopefully, have grown and developed into a good crop.

So, as a parish, one of the things that I feel we can look back upon with pride is our Child Friendly Church award. The teams that worked towards obtaining this had to bring together the basics. The ground work had to be done to prepare the way forward, to see what was already in place, what had to be put in place and what still has to be done to help develop a new way forward and develop a new generation of growth in our churches. What we plant in our young people today will help them to be our church, not only of today, but of the future.



Every seed needs to be nurtured. It has to be given the chance and the freedom to grow. This is no different to how we should be treating our young people. They too need to be nurtured and given the freedom to grow. If we want our churches to grow we need to work with our young people. They need to be given a voice and to see that they are respected and being listened to.

It is believed that churches where children are well represented are twice as likely to grow compared to those where they are not. Church activities that involve young people correlate with church growth. If we have worship services designed for children, youth programmes, youth groups, uniformed groups and camps you are more likely to see growth. All our young people need is investment in them. Not necessarily financial investment, but time, patience, support, involvement and, importantly, understanding.

Unlike the farmer, or the gardener, we may not see the fruit of the seeds we have planted in our young people. But if we want to see the growth in our church today we have to plant for tomorrow. We have to plant our faith in our young people for a strong and good harvest for the future.

Blessings.
Janet

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

at Christ Church & St.John with St.Mark
Harvest Festivals – Sunday 12 October
Family & Parade Services – 10.30am

Springside School Harvest Service –
Wednesday 15 October 10.00am

Priory Highbank Harvest Service -
Wednesday 15 October 3.00pm

Donations of Harvest produce welcome.
Gifts will be distributed locally including via the
Porch Project, Caritas and the Booth Centre.



*All good gifts around us, are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love.*

BIBLE READINGS FOR OCTOBER

5 16th after Trinity

Isaiah 5: 1-7

Philippians 3: 4b-14

Matt 21: 33-46

12 17th after Trinity HARVEST FESTIVAL

Deuteronomy 8: 7-18

2 Corinthians 9: 6-15

Luke 17: 11-19

19 18th after Trinity

Isaiah 45: 1-7

1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10

Matt 22: 15-22

26 Last after Trinity

Leviticus 19: 1-2, 15-18

1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8

Matt 22: 34-46



FLOWERS AT CHRIST CHURCH

- | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| October 5 | In memory of Mr & Mrs Tasker |
| October 12 | In memory of Mr W A E Dighton |
| October 19 | Mrs J Wood |
| October 26 | In memory of the Mather family |



God is not calling us to go to church;
He is calling us to be His church,
the hope of the world.



FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

August 17 Oliver Trainor
August 24 Thembi Moyo
August 31 Robyn Bowers
September 14 Corey Shaw

In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Weddings

August 23 Christy Gillies & Lauren Keyworth

Those who God has joined let no-one put asunder

Funerals

September 12 Mary Kershaw

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

M@2

We meet every Monday at 2pm to spend an hour or so in prayer and worship. A Celtic style of worship is followed using a written order of service which allows space for quiet reflection and a chance to listen for God.

These days our lives can soon become full of things to do so that having a little pause for breath, to be still with our Lord Jesus, is not always easy to find. Monday at 2pm is an opportunity to find that time – and Barbara & Nigel's home at 49 Fairlands Road is easy to locate. Do come and join us. All are welcome and you will find the door open – to come in or leave when you want!

In quiet prayer talk to God if you can. If you can't, just stay there, let God look at you; He may want you just to be still – He may want you just to listen for His voice.

IN MEMORIAM: Mary Kershaw

Mary Kershaw died in Bury Hospice on Friday 5 September at the age of 93. Her connections with St.John's Church lasted for most of her adult life. All her four children – Ann, Peter, Judy and Jill - and several of her grandchildren have been married at St.John's either at its present site or on The Rock.

Mary grew up in Stacksteads near Bacup where she attended Tunstead School. After meeting Edmund (Eddie) at Bacup swimming baths at the age of 17, they married in 1942 whilst Eddie was home on leave from the Army. Eddie died in 2010 after 68 years of happy marriage.

They moved to Bury when Eddie got a job as a joiner in the town. They first lived in Taylor Street, then moved to Eastham Avenue, before their final move to Limefield Brow in the late 1980s.

At her funeral in St.John with St.Mark's on 12 September, Mary's eldest grandchild Mandy spoke of "A Nan in a Million". She had 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Mandy recalled many times of happiness spent with Mary and quoted many other family members and their memories of this special lady.

A keen walker and reader, Mary could often be spotted at the Lido, Clarence Park or Bluebell Woods on her afternoon stroll. Mary & Eddie enjoyed an active social life involving ballroom dancing and happy times at the Lord Raglan and the Walmersley Conservative Club. They were committed to attending church and Mary received the sacrament of Holy Communion on a number of occasions during her final illness.

As Mandy said in Church: "Life will never be the same without her, but she leaves behind so many happy memories."

We give thanks to God for the life of Mary Kershaw.

May She Rest In Peace and Rise in Glory.

Christ Church Harvest Festival –October 12

Do come to the special annual service in church (which starts as usual at 10.30am) to reflect on and give thanks for all that God has provided. As always we will be mindful of the work of farmers, fishermen and all those who ensure that we have food on our tables. We shall also be mindful of those who do not have food on their tables nor, indeed, a roof over their heads.

As in previous years we will be looking to support our local food-bank charity, Porch Boxes, who provide help to the most vulnerable people in our community. They rely very much on support from local churches at Harvest Time in order to help build up their stock. Tins and packets of dry food items are especially useful.

We will also be thinking about Christian charities such as Tearfund who work overseas and in the U.K. on projects which give hope for the poorest communities. Literature and envelopes will be available to enable us to give financial support to their work.

As we have done for many years past we shall be taking gifts of small plants or flowers out to members of our parish who are sick or housebound. Miriam Hamilton would be pleased to be given the names of any who you feel should receive such a gift, preferably before Saturday 11th October; and if anyone could help distribute gifts after the service then please let Miriam know.

Donations in support of all these harvest projects will be most welcome and will be taken up during the service. We look forward to seeing you there. Thank you.

From the Vicarage

- * The 2015 benefice diaries are now available. They will be given out free of charge but a donation of £1 is suggested if you wish to contribute in this way.
- * Thanks to Geoff Stokes for his Organ Recital at Christ Church on Saturday 13 September. It was a very enjoyable evening and thanks also to all who attended. At this event a canvas of Christ Church was raffled and this was won by Kathryn Bailey, whose house seems an appropriate place for the canvas to live!
- * On the same day, the Benefice Boundary walk took place. Once again thanks to Paul for organising it. It is a fascinating experience to realise just how far our two parishes extend into the neighbouring countryside.
- * A reminder about the time of prayer and worship on Mondays from 2-3pm. This is held at the home of Nigel & Barbara Silvester's at 49 Fairlands Road. Everyone is welcome to pop in any time during that hour.
- * Material for editions of this parish magazine should be given in by the 14th of the preceding month. Articles may be sent via email to wrub@live.co.uk
- * Christ Church are looking for a group of people to volunteer for help in future church socials. Please contact Brian Crow or Jennifer Wood if you are interested.
- * The Parish Office at St.John with St.Mark's every Wednesday evening arranges baptisms or weddings / marriage banns etc or is an opportunity perhaps for a chat with one of the clergy. We meet between 6.30pm-7.00pm.
- * We are still in need of a Treasurer at Christ Church. If you are interested in this post or would like further information about it, please have a word with me or one of the wardens. If by the end of the year, no-one takes over the role, it may be necessary to pay a local accountant to be our Treasurer

Dave

NOTES FROM THE COUNCILS

Christ Church PCC meeting 8th September 2014

Eleven PCC members were present. The field was discussed, the legal work to allow a sale of the field is still continuing and there are still several companies interested in purchasing the field. With regard to the church building and what is the vision for the way forward it was decided that the PCC would look at two alternatives, the first being modifying the existing church to be a more multipurpose building. The second was to investigate building an entirely new church.

Information was received from the Church Housing Trust and the Parish share for 2015. To date we have paid approximately half our parish share for this year.

Money has been received from the developers of the Spurriers site which has been allocated to purchasing new gates and fencing for Ackworth Street.

The PCC was again made aware that a new Treasurer will be required by the end of the year. The post does not have to be held by a member of the PCC.

The vicar proposed that a children's copper collection be introduced during the last hymn of the morning service.

The vicar reported that he had been informed by the police that someone was caught and imprisoned for the burglary last year when the stained glass window in the church was broken.

Reports and comments were made from the Pastoral, Church Hall, Fund Raising and Property Committees.

It was noted that the contract to rebuild the church wall in the graveyard extension had been awarded at a cost of £200.

NOTES FROM THE COUNCILS

ST JOHN WITH ST MARK PCC MEETING OF 4 SEPTEMBER 2014

The first half of our meeting involved continued discussions surrounding the replacement of our West Window. John Peat presented some architectural drawings of possible designs. There were 4 options prepared by John, and after a show of hands all members selected the same preferred design, and we now have a possible suggestion for the layout. Obviously, there is still much discussion to take place over the near future concerning this matter. Thanks went to John for the time he has given in preparing the drawings.

Another item for discussion was around a review of the Parade Services. Paul has now renamed the service sheet for these occasions "The Family Service", meaning that the 2nd Sunday of each month may not always be a Parade if the Uniformed Groups are closed, ie August. It has been proposed that once every quarter we would have a Non-Eucharistic service, however there would be an additional service of Communion on these days at approximately 11.45am for those who wished to attend Eucharist. We are also to experiment with a smaller nave altar at the September Parade service. It was agreed to seek feedback on these issues from our congregation following the service on 14th September.

Other Items:

To mark the end of our 50th Anniversary year, it has been confirmed that a Social evening will be held on Friday 5th December in the Church Hall. It is hoped that past clergy may be able to attend.

The Treasurer informed us our Parish Share has been reduced following the outcome of our latest income survey. Although this seems positive news, on the negative side this shows that we are not as wealthy a Parish as previous and therefore regular Church income may also reduce.

Dave advised us that the Bury Muslim/Christian Forum is hoping to arrange joint services and get-togethers around key dates and festivals in both calendars.

A Joint Benefice PCC away day has been scheduled for the morning of Saturday 31st January 2015, either at Bircle or All Saints Elton.

The next regular meeting will be on Thurs 16th October at 8.00pm.

FOR QUIET MOMENTS

During a recent tidy up in our Choir vestry at St. John with St. Mark, we found a book of prayers written by the Bulldog & Kestrel Patrols of St. Mark's Scout troop in January 1991. We thought we would share some with you over the course of the next few editions of the magazine.

Week 1

Thank you Heavenly Father for making us as we are;
for hands to work and feet to walk and run;
for eyes to see, and ears to hear;
for minds to think, and for hearts to love;
for all the people we know, and who know us;
and for all those we shall meet as we go through
life.

Amen.



Week 2 *A Harvest thanksgiving, from the Church Urban Fund website*



Almighty and everlasting God,
we offer you our heartfelt thanks,
for your fatherly goodness, care and provisions,
in giving us the fruits of the earth in their seasons.

Give us grace and wisdom to use your gifts rightly,
to your glory, for ourselves and our families,
and for helping others in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Week 3



*On 18 October we remember St Luke, physician,
with another prayer from the Scout Group*

Lord,

be near to those who suffer in mind or body.

Help them to know that they have your love.

If there is something we can do for anyone less fortunate than ourselves, show us the way to help them.

For Jesus' sake,

Amen.

Week 4 *the scouts pray for a blessing on us all:*

O God,

let your blessing rest upon our homes.

Bless our Fathers and Mothers,

and all the members of our families.

Give them health and strength of soul and body

and unite us all in love for you.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



*Maybe the members of our organisations today would like to
send in some prayers for use in future editions?*



Do you have a favourite hymn – why not tell us
what it is and why you chose it?

Save the Tower

The tower at Christ Church Walmersley is in urgent need of repair in several areas. The hatch on the roof has disintegrated and water has been entering the bell chamber for the last 2 years. We have had a survey done by a structural engineer and there are several areas from his report which need urgent attention if we are to save the tower. We cannot access the hatch to the roof which has disintegrated, because the ladders which gave access to the roof of the tower are now very unsafe and cannot be used.



We have requested a faculty for new ladders; these will cost £6,924 in addition to this we also need to enlarge the hatch between the clock chamber and the bell chamber at a cost which has yet to be determined. Once we have new ladders installed then the hatch at the top of the tower will need to be repaired, this requires new steelwork and then a new hatch system to be installed.

This is only a short summary of the amount of work that is necessary to save the tower and a display will be erected in church in September which will indicate the full extent of all the repair work that is necessary. If we do not carry out this work then the future of the tower will be in question as it is the main entrance to the church and we cannot continue to allow it to deteriorate as it may become a safety issue. Money is desperately needed as we do not have sufficient funds to carry out all this work.

September was a busy month for our members with a variety of events available to attend. Each was very different but demonstrated the broad spectrum of Mothers' Union.

I have asked three of our members to give their impressions of these different events: 105th Branch birthday party; the retreat at Foxhill; and the Diocesan Festival.

105 years young



A wonderful evening of food and fellowship was shared on September 3rd, celebrating 105 years of our local branch. Our cake this year, depicting the tree and hand banner with the wording "105yrs CCW Mothers' Union, Help us Grow" was cut by Jess Dewhirst. Jess paid tribute to Sybil Mills who had been a member for over 60 years and sadly passed away

earlier this year. She remembered Sybil and her great contribution of home-made treacle toffee, scones, and lemon curd always available at meetings when she was able to come and at Tuesday tea-timers. Sybil was a delight to know.

Tricia Stokes

Retreat at Foxhill

Theme: exploring the cross

Led by: Alison Hardy, Denise Smith and Roy Chow.

We arrived in brilliant sunshine, which continued all weekend – and what spectacular surroundings!

23 members in all, 21 ladies and 2 men, attended the retreat and it was lovely to meet and put faces to members from other branches and deaneries and of various roles. New friendships were soon formed.

The programme was excellent, all elements were covered – plenty to do, quiet times, free times, sharing times. During the Saturday afternoon free time, 9 of us met to go on a walk round the extensive grounds and tackle the challenge of the walk of various gradients, led by Jean Slater (sometimes astray)! So our merry band of enthusiastic walkers set off to see the Arboretum, Japanese Gardens, the Maze, the Folly with fabulous views over Liverpool and the Clwydian Hills. What fun, laughter and singing we had, and also a good appetite for our evening meal. Others during their free time read, wrote, drew or knitted.

A really wholesome weekend of spiritual nourishment for body, mind and spirit. I wish all members of Mothers' Union and Church could have seen and experienced Foxhill – the place, the chapel (what a superb idea for our vision for Christ Church) and lastly much appreciation to the wardens and staff - better care and attention you could not have wished for anywhere.

Miriam Hamilton

Diocesan Festival

The annual Mothers' Union diocesan service took place at Manchester Cathedral on 10th September. The preacher was the Bishop of Middleton whose sermon focused on the cross as he related stories of his visits to schools in the diocese, where children always ask him searching questions about the significance of the cross and about the own personal cross he wears, which was given to him by his mother when he became a bishop.

Christ Church had several members present amongst the many from around the diocese and Jean Slater, Trish Stokes and Cath Hilton were amongst those who gave us a flavour of the retreat at Foxhill the previous weekend. A moving personal reflection written during the retreat by Miriam Hamilton was read out.

There was civic representation from boroughs throughout the diocese and the "hierarchy" of the church was well represented with 3 Bishops and 4 Archdeacons. (Bishop David was unable to be present due to meetings in London that day). After the service refreshments were served giving members the opportunity to mix and chat.

Bob Taylor

Looking forward

Our help is requested to run a Cafe at the Craft Fair at Christ Church on Saturday 25th Oct. We will be offering a light mid-morning snack, lunch and hot drinks. Please sign up at the branch meetings if you are able to help.

Our Autumn outing is to the National Trust property at Dunham Massey on Monday Oct 27th, where we will be able to view the re-creation of Stamford Hospital. We plan to eat in the cafe and have time to wander in the lovely gardens, weather permitting. We will travel by cars leaving from Christ Church at 9.30am. See Barbara Silvester if you haven't already indicated you are attending this event.

Diary dates

Oct 1st - Mrs Helen Arya - "School report"

Oct 15th - Miss Pam Hoyle - " Not just chicken soup"

Oct 25th - Craft Fair with café

Oct 27th - Outing to Dunham Massey

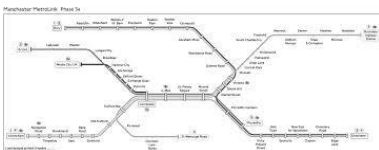
Please book 1st November in your diaries for Autumn Council.

More details to follow

We welcome everyone to our Branch meetings. Please do come - 7.30pm in the Church Hall

Kathryn Bailey

Branch Leader



The Metrolink Marathon

Every year Mothers' Union holds what has become known as 'The Wheels Appeal' to raise funds to help finance transport costs of those working on Mothers' Union projects in the poorest countries. This year as a means of giving a bit of a focus to local fund-raising two members of Christ Church Mothers' Union – Barbara & Nigel Silvester – asked to be sponsored to travel the length and breadth of the Manchester Metrolink system – using their bus passes of course! They attempted, in one day, to travel from Bury and thence, in a clockwise direction, to every terminus on the system – and back to Bury. This would mean they would have travelled into the centre of the city and then out again on each arm of the network. Sponsors were asked to guess how long it would take – not counting time out for comfort stops!

The intrepid travellers undertook the challenge on August 22nd starting at Bury interchange at 9.30am. The time taken totalled 8 hours 13 minutes. Bob Taylor guessed the closest time with what must have been a very carefully calculated guess of 8 hours 20 minutes. His prize was a supply of....Wagon Wheels!

The total amount raised was £216. Thank you to all who supported this madcap idea. We do not intend to repeat this marathon ride – tram suspension, nor the seats, are as soft as you might think!! But it was an education in local geography. We now know where Freehold is – do you?



Do you have an hour to spare?

We are looking for help with Beavers, 6.00 till 7.00 on a Monday Evening, at St. John's Church Hall. Anyone who is interested please contact Kelly Watson at St John with St. Mark. The person will need to be CRB checked and can also train to be a leader if they so wish.

Thank You,
Kelly (0161 764 4285)

Called to love

We are called to love, we are called to care;
called to love everyone, everywhere.

From the depths of our hearts
to the heights of the skies,
the One who decreed it
is the One who is wise.

So, let us be like him
and stretch out our hands;
a very small thank you
for the price that He paid.
Giving His life so that we might
live in all of its fullness.
Right now we can begin.

So, we pray Lord
for your guidance
and the tools that we'll need.
So make us wise, Lord,
great One that decreed.
Great Lord of the Nations
We bow at your knee.

*Miriam Hamilton,
written during the
weekend retreat at Foxhill*



Bell-ringing



Christ Church is fortunate in being one of a diminished number of churches still having a workable "Ellacombe Apparatus". This apparatus was designed by the Rev. Henry Thomas Ellacombe (1790 – 1885) and was first installed in 1821 in the church where he was Curate-in-charge in Bitton, Glos. The equipment allows the change ringing of a set of bells by one person, and overcame the problem, common at the time, of "rumbustious and unruly" bell ringers. It also meant that the actual bells would remain stationary when being rung, unlike the traditional system where the bells are swung through 360 degrees, and are each controlled by one person.



The traditional system could also subject the tower fabric to considerable stress, especially with a heavy set of bells, with some towers actually moving when the bells are rung. Southwark Cathedral is a well known example of this. Having the Ellacombe Apparatus, Walmersley is spared this problem which, in view of the current state of the tower, is just as well.



When viewing the frame in the ringing chamber it will be observed there are eight ropes in the frame fitted with "sallies" (hand grips) while on the cross shaft above there are nine pulleys, with the corresponding holes in the frame top and ceiling above. Wear on the "spare" pulley indicates that it has been used at some time. Confirmation of this was received from an ex bell ringing parishioner who rang with nine bells before "being called to colours", but only found eight when he returned to "civvy street". Does anyone know where the ninth bell went?



Some maintenance work is needed on the equipment which it will not be sensible to complete until there is safe access to the bell chamber. Several accidents, including two fatalities, in other churches have proved that vertical unguarded ladders are NOT SAFE! When remedial work is going on in the tower it would be sensible to make sure that the equipment is well protected.



My wife and I have fond memories of living on Old Lane and hearing the bells regularly on "practice night" , as a tune was picked out, followed by a quick change to a merry peal when the inevitable wrong note was hit!



I have a feeling that with the active "Junior Church" that the parish seems to be blessed with, there would be no shortage of "Junior Bell Ringers" to give Christ Church a voice again.

Brian Fewtrell C Eng



Shoe Box Appeal 2014

We are always grateful for all donations for the boxes. We are however particularly short of tooth paste, small soft toys that will fit in a shoe box, small toys in general and knitted goods, eg hats, scarves & gloves.

If you can help in anyway please speak to Kelly Watson at St. John with St. Mark.

Thank You.



Near Neighbours is a project run by the Church Urban Fund designed to bring people together who are neighbours in communities that are religiously and ethnically diverse.

The official launch for the Bury area took place at the Longfield Suite in Prestwich on Wednesday 9 September. A range of speakers from the Christian, Muslim and Jewish faiths spoke of the importance of communities working together.

The Chair of the Church Urban Fund, The Revd. Paul Hackwood described the work of Near Neighbours in three ways:

- * Building Relationships
- * Empowering People
- * Granting Money for Local Projects

The programme offers small grants between £250 and £5,000. These are designed to promote the aims of the Near Neighbours scheme and are provided by both Central Government and the Church Urban Fund. For specific information about the criteria required, please go to the website www.near-neighbours.org.uk

Examples of initiatives that are organised by this Project, include the following:

- * NEHEMIAH FOUNDATION – providing and training faith based community organisers who network with organisations and individuals who work together for change in their neighbourhoods.
- * THE FEAST – gathering together young people between the ages of 11-18 of different faiths and cultures to live well with each other and so breaking down relational barriers.
- * CATALYST – developing and training young leaders from diverse communities through shared learning and team building.

Grants must be for the benefit of those who live or work in the ecclesiastical parish of St.John with St.Mark.

If you would like to apply for a grant or require any further information, please have a word with the Vicar.

CRAFT FAIR

AT CHRIST CHURCH WALMERSLEY

SATURDAY 25TH OCTOBER

10AM – 3PM

MOTHERS' UNION CAFÉ for
MORNING COFFEE
and LIGHT LUNCHES

CAKE STALL,
BRIC A BRAC

IN AID OF CHURCH REPAIRS
FUND



Join us this Autumn for **Messy Heroes**



Come along on First Saturdays, 4 – 6 pm in Christ Church Hall
and you will find a warm welcome for all the family

October 4 Messy Joseph

November 1 Messy Jonah

December 6 Messy Joshua

Help much appreciated: are you willing to spread the word,
distribute fliers, set up, serve drinks, prepare food, help with
crafts, lead singing, clear away and above all share a smile!

Please have a word with Dave, Janet, Kathryn or Barbara T

IS GOD CALLING YOU?

to Authorised Lay Ministry?

At a service at Manchester Cathedral on Sunday 14 September, a total of 84 people were commissioned for Authorised Lay Ministry in the Diocese. 51 of them were being authorised for the first time, whilst the remainder had their permission renewed after first being commissioned in 2011.

One of those being recommissioned was Nigel Silvester from Christ Church.

At the service the following intercession was used. It is an adaptation from a prayer by Roger Spiller.

Lord, you call us to be story-tellers:

locating each one in the script of your human history.

You call us to be trailblazers:

living in your future that we receive only as gift.

You call us to be weavers:

gathering up unraveling, disconnected communities.

You call us to be fools:

for Christ's sake: bearing life's absurdities and challenges.

You call us to be hosts:

welcomers of the sacred, intimate, transfiguring.

You call us to be poets:

naming, invoking, heralding your inexpressible presence.

You call us to be gardeners:

sowers, cultivators, nurturers of fragile lives.

You call us to be conductors:

orchestrating the praise of your diverse creation.

Lord, you lavish gifts on all whom you call.

Strengthen and sustain us and all ministers of your church,
that in the range and diversity of our vocation,
we may be agents of your kingdom in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Course of training for an ALM begins in January and lasts until July. In 2015 eight modules are being offered for candidates to choose from. These are:

- Administration
- Children's Ministry
- Community Ministry
- Mission
- Pastoral Ministry
- Prayer & Spirituality
- Worship Leader
- Youth Ministry.

IF YOU SEE YOURSELF AS A STORY-TELLER, PASTOR, WORSHIP LEADER OR ADMINISTRATOR, OR ANY OTHER ROLE WITHIN THE CHURCH, PERHAPS GOD IS CALLING YOU TO A ROLE AS AN AUTHORISED LAY MINISTER,

The Vicar is the Diocesan ALM Chaplain for the Bolton Archdeaconry. He would be delighted to speak to anyone interested in pursuing this ministry.



**BIBLE
SOCIETY**

The Bible Society (Bury branch) are holding their annual conference on Thursday 9 October at Bury United Reformed Church.

The conference begins at 8pm and the guest speaker will be Revd Canon Noel Proctor.

There will also be a pre-conference meal (at 6.30pm) for which tickets must be purchased (£8) and these may be obtained from Nigel Silvester or David Andrew.



ST JOHN WITH ST MARK OPEN GROUP

On Wednesday 10th September the Open Group welcomed Pam Kojder in what was to be her final talk before moving to new surroundings in Cumbria. As a swansong Pam chose a theme which is so much a part of everyday life in Britain, namely "Time for Tea".

Pam described by illustrations, the history of tea, something that we all take for granted and might not stop to think about how a unique and fascinating plant from imperial China became the nation's favourite drink. Pam gave a potted history, where according to legend the origins of tea could be traced back to 2737BC in China, and progressively through many centuries became firmly established as China's national drink by 618AD.



The roots of tea into Britain began around 1600AD by importers British East India Company employees bringing home gifts of tea. Consequently the marriage of Charles II to Portuguese lady Catherine of Braganza proved to be the massive turning point in the history of tea in Britain. Tea became a fashionable beverage for the aristocracy and wealthier classes, providing relaxation and pleasure.

Tea smuggling became widespread through the introduction of high taxes with great debate for many years until taxes on tea were finally stopped.

Pam brought along a wide range of tea samples with wonderfully exotic and dramatic names for members to sample.



Members were then invited to participate in a 17th Century "Tea Party" and experience how the aristocracy would enjoy such a time consuming, genteel occasion seen as a special gathering for the privileged few.

Pam proved to be the perfect host with her knowledge for such occasions. One could not imagine such an occasion happening in today's fast moving world of Wetherspoons or Costa Coffee!

As a parting finale Pam was presented with a plant and necklace from the Open Group and needless to say we all had tea and coffee with a light hearted chat on "milk in first or tea in first"!

Our next meeting ~ Wednesday 8th October
at 7.30pm in the Library

A Crafty Night

Led by Linda Thompson

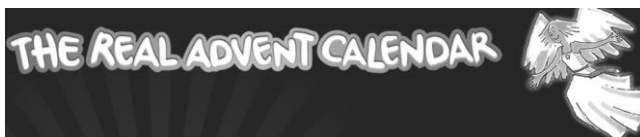
*Please remember, the Open Group is just that, open to all.
We would love you to join us for our meetings.*



Be prepared

Christmas cards with a view of Christ Church,
painted by Sue Walker, are available.
5 cards in a pack for £2.50
Proceeds to church funds.

Join the
campaign
to share



the Christmas Story – the Real Advent Calendar.

It may be difficult to believe but recent surveys show knowledge of the Christmas story is fading!!

Among 5-7 year olds, 36% don't know whose birthday is celebrated at Christmas and 72% don't know that Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

Among adults, less than 12% know the full nativity story and 51% say that the birth of Jesus is irrelevant to their Christmas. We are at a pivotal point, unless we actively share the Christmas story, Christ will be written out of Christmas.

The Christmas Starts with Christ campaign which is backed by all major denominations hopes to reverse the trend.

If Christ is being written out of Christmas then let's put Him back by sharing the Christmas story so it is heard and loved.

We hope you will share the Christmas story by buying and giving Real Advent Calendars. They are great! As well as 25 windows with real Belgian Fairtrade chocolate and a line of the Christmas story you get a 32 page story-activity booklet designed to be used every day in Advent. As well as using Fairtrade chocolate an extra payment to farmers is made through the Fairtrade Cash Premium and this year it is hoped to raise £10,000 to help equip the Funzi Baby clinic in Kenya.

The calendars can be ordered by signing up on the sheet at the back of Church at Christ Church or speaking to Barbara Silvester and at St John with St Mark by speaking to Amanda Dunn.

Orders must be in by 26th October to benefit from free delivery and each calendar costs £3.99

Thanks in anticipation, Barbara & Amanda

BEST FOOT FORWARD

After an enjoyable Parish Boundary walk in September, our little group have decided to make a walk a monthly event. Our next walk will be on Saturday 18th October. Approx. 12 miles and led by Geoff Hamilton. Probably to Waugh's Well located on the Rossendale Hills above Edenfield.



Meeting point the Lych Gate at Christ Church Walmersley at 9.30am. Please bring a packed lunch and waterproof clothing.

For more details contact Reverend Paul Sanderson.

All are welcome to join, and if you have any suggestions for future walks and would like to lead one, please also speak to Paul.



Well worth a visit!

Check out hundreds of resources, lots of ideas for making buildings efficient and welcoming, and a full programme of seminars.

See the website for full details but our own Cath Hilton is leading a seminar from 4 – 5 pm on Wednesday 8th called

BELIEVING, BEHAVING, BELONGING

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

1	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union – Helen Arya (CC)
4	4.00 pm	Messy Joseph (CC)
5		16th after Trinity Services as usual
8	7.30 pm	Open Group – Linda Thompson (SJSJ)
12		17th after Trinity - HARVEST Services as usual Harvest Lunch (SJSJ) Details to follow
15	3.00 pm	Priory Highbank Harvest Service
	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union – Pam Hoyle (CC)
16	8.00 pm	PCC (SJSJ)
18	9.30 am	Walk to Waugh's Well
19		18th after Trinity Services as usual
26		Last after Trinity Services as usual
27	7.30 pm	PCC (CC)
29	7.30 pm	Pastoral committee (CC)

PARISH PEOPLE

Vicar	Revd Dave Thompson	270 Walmersley Road	797 7652
Asst. Priests	Revd Janet Lyssejko	31 Burrs Lea Close	764 6882
	Revd Paul Sanderson	22 Birley Street	764 3452
Ret. Priests	Revd Don Altham	850 Burnley Road	761 1603
	Revd Ralph Mallinson	18 Woodgate Avenue	797 2006
Readers	Mr Darren Dunn		764 3884
	Mrs Barbara Silvester	49 Fairlands Road	761 5645
Reader Emeritus	Mrs Margery Spencer	5 Thames Close	764 3919
Wardens CC	Mr Brian Crow	690 Walmersley Road	762 9206
	Mrs Jennifer Wood	133A Walmersley Old Rd	797 3325
Wardens JM	Mr Geoff Hosking	244 Walmersley Road	705 2120
	Mr Ray Smith	1 Wolstenholme Avenue	797 2884
Deputy Wardens			
JM	Rosemarie Ashworth		764 1527
	Keith Duckworth		

Church Hall bookings

CC	Mr Brian Crow	690 Walmersley Road	762 9206
SS J M	June Banks	150 Walmersley Road	797 6862

To book baptisms, weddings or just to talk, call in to Parish Office
every Wednesday 6.30-7pm at St. John's Church Hall

Lots more info on our websites: www.ccwalmersleybury.org.uk
www.stjohn-stmark-bury.org.uk

Please send your articles for the magazine to wrub@live.co.uk



*The annual benefice BBQ
in August*

*with thanks to our chef
and all who provided delicious salads, etc*