

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



MARCH 2015



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 2 nd 3 rd 4 th 5 th	Holy Communion Family and Parade Holy Communion Service of the Word Holy Communion	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	Sung 2 nd	Eucharist Parade Service	St John w St Mark
Wednesday			
10.00 a.m.	Holy Co	ommunion	St John w St Mark
Thursday			
2.00 p.m.	1 st	First Thursday Prayer	Christ Church Hall
7.30 p.m.	Holy Co	ommunion	St John w St Mark
Saturday			
4.00 p.m.	1 st	Messy Church	Christ Church
	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



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH



Doesn't time fly when you are enjoying yourself? This morning I was in the church hall at the Art workshop and two hours disappeared like magic. I have to

admit that the end product of my labours will never win a Turner prize or even merit framing and hanging on the wall. But I was amongst friends, having pleasant conversation and doing something which I like. It was very relaxing and all too soon the session was over.

It is very easy to find the time on Monday mornings to join my fellow painters. And I can happily spend (or waste) time on crosswords or Sudoku puzzles. How is it then that I don't have time to face the ironing or clean the windows and have even less time to tackle the oven? My mother always used to say that you can always find time for things that are important to you. I think that is true.

Usually at the beginning of each week I check the calendar to determine my commitments. It is a sad reflection on my age that there are now more slots in the week for hospital appointments, visits to the doctor's surgery or the pharmacy than occasions for " living it up".

For most people life is busy, there often doesn't seem enough hours in the day to accomplish everything that needs to be done. We have to set priorities.



Lent is a good time to consider the way in which we spend our time. What are our priorities?

There are the things which are essential, getting enough sleep, going to work, and making sure everyone is fed.

All of us need social interaction and time spent with family and friends is indeed time well spent. It gives great pleasure and makes for good relationships. The medical fraternity tells us

that we should all have half an hour's physical activity every day. which doesn't mean we have to go to the gym – my exercise is a walk round the Lido, which has been noticed. I conducted a funeral last week and afterwards a man came up to me and said "I know who you are!" You are the lady who walks round the Lido. What a claim to fame!



We each need something for the body, for the mind and the spirit. Sometimes the Spiritual takes a second or even third place, a lower priority; something to fit in after everything else has been accomplished. I know that I am only too guilty of that.

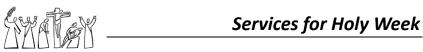
But it is important that we step aside from the busy world and take part in quiet contemplation. As Christians it is vital that we take time to be with Jesus not only on Sunday but every day of the week. Jesus himself took time out to talk to his Father in prayer and to discover God's purpose for him. Bible reading and prayer can strengthen our faith, enrich our service and deepen our commitment.

During this Lent can we make more time for Jesus?

Yours in Christ, Margery

BIBLE READINGS FOR MARCH

1	Second Sunday Genesis 17:1-7, 15	of Lent -16 Romans 4: 13-25	Mark 8: 31-38
8	Third Sunday of	Lent 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25	10hn 2: 13-22
15		of Lent Mothering	
	Exodus 2: 1-10	Colossians 3: 12-17	Luke 2: 33-35
22	Fifth Sunday of Jeremiah 31: 31-34		John 12: 20-33
29	Palm Sunday		
	Isaiah 50: 4-9a	Philippians 2: 5-11	Mark 11: 1-11



Monday 30	7.00pm	Holy Communion	SJM
Tuesday 31	7.00pm	Holy Communion	SJM
Wednesday 1	10.00am 7.30pm	Holy Communion Seder Meal	sjm Sjm
Maundy Thursday 2	7.30pm 7.30pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion	CC SJM
Good Friday 3	10.00am 12noon	Morning Service Bury Churches Toget Walk of Witness	CC her
	2.00pm	Stations of the Cross	SJM
Easter Eve 4	8.00pm	Service of Light	SJM

* The whole of March 2015 falls within the season of Lent. Our study groups – at which everyone is welcome - continue at the following times and venues –

Mondays 7.30pm at 14 Springside Road Tuesdays 7.30pm at 150 Walmersley Road Thursdays 2.00pm at Christ Church Hall. At these studies we are looking at the Five Marks of Mission as agreed by the worldwide Anglican Church. These are also the subject of our Sunday sermons during the five weeks before Holy Week. Elsewhere in the magazine a list of the services

* Please let a member of the Ministry Team know if there is

anyone you would like us to pray for amongst the sick, or if someone goes into hospital. But please also inform us if they can be removed from the list or return home.

*Regular attenders to church are encouraged to join our planned giving scheme. If you would like to do so or would like some further information, please speak to one of the wardens.

*A Parent & Toddler group meets in the Church Hall at both Christ Church (9.30 am) & St.John with St.Mark (9.15 am) every Thursday morning during school term times. All are welcome.

* The Ministry Team consisting of all the Clergy, Licensed Readers and our Authorised Lay Minister meet every month – usually on the first Monday evening. If you have an issue that you would like us to discuss, please have a word with me.

* Anyone interested in being confirmed this year please have a word with me.

* This year's performance of Sleeping Beauty by the young people of St.John with St.Mark (and Christ Church) was another outstanding achievement over three nights in February. Once again Debbie Cooper and her fellow workers deserve enormous credit for all their hard work in staging the pantomime. The bar has been set very high to match this for 2016!

* During the final hymn of each Sunday morning service at both churches in the benefice, we encourage contributions towards the copper collection as part of our mission giving. It is an opportunity to use those 1p & 2p coins to spread the good news of Jesus Christ. The children from our Sunday School & Junior Church will be helping with the collections and are also involved in determining which organisations should receive this donation.

*A very big thank you to everyone who helped with the removal of the stage from the hall at Christ Church. What a difference it makes. The room seems much larger and a great deal of rubbish has been disposed of. It was quite strenuous work and we are very grateful to the willing volunteers. Can you help to finish the task by becoming involved in the painting of the church hall?

MOTHERING SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICES

10.30am at both St.John with St.Mark, Bury Christ Church, Walmersley



Meeting held at Christ Church on 16th February 2015

An e-mail had been received from the church architect after the February DAC committee meeting regarding the new handrail at the vestry door. We need to resend the application with a new sketch to get approval from the DAC. Work on making the tower roof watertight has started. A new hatch has yet to be fitted. A faculty had been received in January from the DAC for the erection of new ladders in the church tower. This work will be carried out when funds allow.

A certificate from Embrace had been received in thanks for the donation of part of the carol service collection. Embrace provides for children in the Middle East and also produces our Bethlehem carol booklet.

The preliminary financial accounts for 2014 were circulated to all members for review. The accounts are currently with the examiner and will be reviewed at the next PCC meeting in March. The PCC now has an accountant who is willing to carry out the function of bookkeeper for this financial year.

The group responsible for the sale of the field will be holding preliminary meetings with the diocese in March.

Reports were received from the property committee, diocesan synod and the pastoral committee.

Don Altham and the Vicar both gave thanks to the people who had carried out the work on the church hall.

In his remarks, the Vicar covered the points raised during the joint PCC away day at the end of March. In particular the subject of baptism during the morning service or separately was discussed at length as it had been thought that the baptism service being separate was missing the welcome into the church from the congregation. This is to be discussed further.

We have applied for an intern to work in our Benefice from the "Young adult mission support" (ages 18-40) to support the benefice in its work with young adults. We have to see if we are successful in this application.

The meeting of St John w St Mark PCC was after the magazine deadline for this month. See April's magazine. Editor



Buy a Mothering Sunday gift and help transform a life

By giving a Make a Mother's Day ethical gift this Mothering Sunday you will support the running of Mothers' Union projects that equip people to create better lives for themselves and their families; empowering communities to take control of their situation for themselves and ensuring the work is effective and sustainable.

Mothers' Union doesn't simply give out handouts.

It aims to inspire beneficiaries: teaching them vital skills such as literacy or improved agricultural techniques, and encouraging them to work together as a community to identify their specific needs, support each other to overcome them and build a better life for generations to come. This is done by training nominated people in these communities as facilitators, equipping them to pass on vital skills to others in a way that ensures lasting solutions for that community.

Mothers' Union campaigns for a better life for people who don't have a voice and gives relief to communities that find themselves in serious need due to natural disaster and war.

Now catalogues are available in both churches for individual gifts. You can order by post, online (www.makeamothersday.org) or by phone 020 7222 5533 and if required a card will be sent.

Last year there was the opportunity to contribute towards a benefice donation in recognition of a Mum or special friend. We will repeat this as our joint contributions were able to buy a more expensive gift. Put your gift in an envelope with the name of the loved one on the front and pass to Barbara Silvester (or any MU committee member) and we will print the names in next month's magazine.

Week 1

Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labour and not to seek for any reward, save that of knowing that we do your will. Ignatius of Loyola

Week 2

I found this version of Psalm 23 paraphrased for sailors

The Lord is my pilot, I shall not drift. He guides me across the dark waters. He steers me through deep channels. He keeps my log. Yea, though I sail 'mid the thunders and tempest of life, I shall dread no anger, for He is with me; His love and His care shelter me. He prepares a quiet harbour before me. He anoints the waves with oil My ship rides calmly. Surely sunlight and starlight shall guide me on the voyage I take, And I will rest in heaven's port for ever.



Week 3

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bring together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Dear Jesus,

We thank you for all mothers and carers around the world, and for all they do for their children.

We thank you for their patience when we don't get things right.

We thank you for their encouragement when we find life hard.



We pray that mums would feel really special today and that you would remind us every day to show them

as much love and help as they give to us. Amen

Week 4 This is a prayer which the Christ Church pastoral committee used this month. It is appropriate for all Christians.

Loving God, we offer ourselves to you:

Our minds - to imagine the possibilities of your kingdom;

Our eyes - to see the needs of others;

Our ears - to hear the cries of the world;

Our voices - to share your Good News;

Our hands – to work in your service;

Our feet - to walk in the path set before us;

Our hearts – to love you above all things.



Christian care for families

It was with sadness that the committee made the decision to cancel our Communion service in mid January. We are loathe to cancel meetings but on this occasion, when we made the decision, the side roads and pavements were treacherous. However it did highlight that our 'Emergency bad weather plan' wasn't totally suitable. So we are renaming our plan to be the 'Cancellation Plan' as a meeting may be cancelled due to other circumstances, not just bad weather.

Should a branch meeting have to be cancelled the following will happen:

- the committee will be consulted and a decision made
- the Distribution team will contacted and informed
- they will contact the members on their list who may be asked to spread the word to others in order to communicate the decision quickly.

Spreading the word was what Joyce Herdson did at our February meeting. Having been diagnosed with a life threatening illness, she survived a double lung transplant, and shared with us her story of hope and the faithfulness of God's love and care for her throughout her recovery journey. She was a true inspiration and we continue to hold her in our prayers as she lives her 'renewed' life.

Our meetings in Lent are led by Ian Banks and Paul Sanderson who will guide us in our Lenten reflections.

Mothers Union has produced a Prayer Diary for use throughout Lent. It has practical suggestions, spiritual reflections and prayer ideas. It is downloadable from Mothers Union website

http://tinyurl.com/kexygv4

Diary dates for March / April

Mar 4Rev Paul SandersonMar 18Mr Ian Banks

Advance notice for April 1 No Meeting at Christ Church but joining in the Seder Meal at St John with St Mark

All are welcome at our branch meetings which are held in the Church hall (access from the car park) at 7.30pm. See you there.

Kathryn Bailey Branch leader

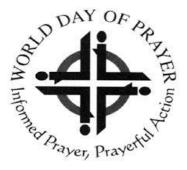
Church Hall Christ Church Walmersley

Tuesday 3rd March 2pm Tea, Coffee and Cakes Easter Raffle on the day



Cost £3.50 in aid of Church Hall re-decoration

Contact Tricia Stokes or Jennifer Wood if you can help or donate cakes. Or speak to us in person.



WORLD DAY of PRAYER

Jesus said to them:

Do you know what I have done to you?

This year the interdenominational service has been prepared by Christian women of the Bahamas and is to be held at

Baptist Church, Manchester Road, Bury. on Friday 6th March 2015 at 2pm.

All are welcome to this colourful and beautifully prepared service.

For more information and transport if needed contact Jean Slater

A LENTEN MEDITATION FROM SOUTH AMERICA

Give up harsh words: use generous ones. Give up unhappiness: take up gratitude. Give up anger: take up gentleness and patience. Give up pessimism: take up hope and optimism. Give up worrying: take up trust in God. Give up complaining: value what you have. Give up stress: take up prayer. Give up judging others: discover Jesus within them. Give up sorrow and bitterness: fill your heart with joy. Give up selfishness: take up compassion for others. Give up being unforgiving: learn reconciliation. Give up words: fill yourself with silence and listen to others.

Having read this meditation recently I found these words both thought provoking and challenging as I was preparing for lent. Hope you find them challenging too. Jean Slater

LENT STUDY GROUPS

studying the Five Marks of Mission

weeks beginning 22 February – 22 March inclusive

Mondays 7.30pm - 14 Springside Road

Tuesday 7.30pm - 150 Walmersley Road

Thursday – 2.00pm Christ Church Hall

ALL WELCOME

If you should find the perfect church Without one fault or smear, For goodness sake don't join it You'd spoil the atmosphere.

If you should find the perfect church Where all anxieties cease, Then pass it by lest joining it, You spoil the masterpiece.

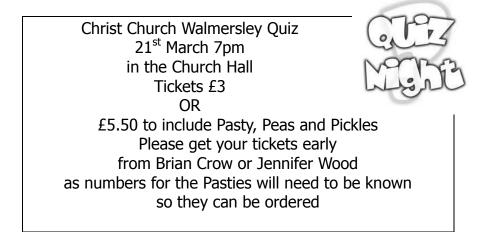
If you should find the perfect church Then don't you ever dare To tread upon such holy ground You'd be a misfit there.

But since no perfect church exists Free from fault or sin Let's cease on looking for that church And LOVE the church we're in.

Of course it's not the perfect church That's simple to discern, But you and I and all of us Could cause the tide to turn.

What fools we are to flee our past In that unfruitful search To find at last, where problems loom God proudly builds HIS CHURCH.





Dingbats Quiz

The winners of the Dingbats Quiz are Pat Mongey and Gill Smith. Both got 27 correct out of 29 - most of you got over 24 correct which is very good. Some of your answers were very interesting and perfectly valid but not the answers I wanted. The answers are available at the back of Christ Church and in the church hall.

Would anybody like to draw up another dingbats quiz- perhaps in the Autumn?



ST JOHN'S CHURCH **RACE NIGHT** FOR CHURCH FUNDS

ON FRIDAY 13 MARCH 2015 AT 7. 30PM

FAMILYFUNNIGHTADULTS£2CHILDREN50P

PAY ON NIGHT BAR & REFRESHMENTS

For the benefice of Walmersley Road

Sunday	For all our worship services. All who receive Holy Communion in their own homes. Those who read, lead the intercessions and serve in our church services
Monday	Links with our local communities. Sixtown Housing. Bury Library Service. The PCCs and their committees. Those who provide and arrange church flowers.
Tuesday	All the educational establishments in the parish. School Governors. Nurseries, Pre-schools, Primary Schools, Bury CE High School. Our pastoral care to all the community.
Wednesday	The Vicar and Assistant Priests. The Licensed Readers and ALM. Our Study Groups. Ecumenical Links within the benefice. Our ministry to those who are bereaved and have had funerals in church
Thursday	The Sunday School /Junior Church, Messy Church Our work with young people. Those preparing to be married in church. Our baptism ministry.
Friday	Our music ministry. The retired clergy. Those interested in offering themselves for lay or ordained ministry. Links with the other faith communities in the benefice.
Saturday	Links with other church communities across the world. Mothers' Union. Our care of the church buildings.



THE OPEN GROUP RESUMES THIS MONTH

Our first meeting of 2015 is on Wednesday 11th March. The Reverend Dave Thompson will lead us for the evening, and everybody is welcome to join us at 7.30pm in the Library.

Please remember that the Open Group is open to all and we would love you to join us for our meetings. We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

For details of our speakers for this year, please speak to one of the Open Group leaders at St. John with St. Mark.

JANUARY 2015 WINNERS

1st Prize ~ Joan Robinson

2nd Prize ~ Nick Anderton

3rd Prize ~ David Robinson

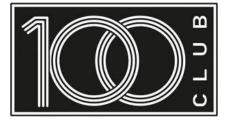
FEBRUARY 2015 WINNERS

1st Prize ~ Chas Whalley

2nd Prize ~ Margaret Duckworth

3rd Prize ~ Audrey Sadler

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL





We were intrigued by Jonah (in 'the fish') talking on a mobile to God's messenger

We folded paper plates to make a fish

- And pipecleaners for Jonah to go in our lollystick fish
- Wordsearch, crossword and maze filled any gaps
- We learnt a song about Jonah and how he obeyed God
- Said some prayers
- Ate fish fingers and chips and a whale cake!

We are sorry if you missed Messy Church in February

but hope you and your family will join us on March 7 at 4 pm

Will we march? Or make lots of noise? Or knock down walls?

No idea! But we will learn how God enables us to achieve the impossible – just as he did with Joshua



We will have fun,

we will sing,

we will have food,

we will get messy -

because that is what Messy Church is all about. See you there?

A lot of people are providing money for memorial flowers at St. John with St. Mark now, for which I am very grateful. They aren't however signing the flower rota on the notice board at the back of Church.

The new rota for 2015 will be up very soon. Could I please ask people to sign for the week they wish their memorial flowers? Flower money can be handed to the wardens or myself at any time.



Thank You, Rosemarie Ashworth

My appeal for gift bags is still open, any occasion, any size. I would also like to appeal for tissue paper, any colour. It need not be new but reasonably uncreased, like you get in shoe boxes around the shoes.

Thank You, Rosemarie Ashworth

I would like to thank everyone for all the prayers and good wishes

that have been sent my way during my recent stay in hospital. Thank you also for the many lovely cards that I have received.

> I am now recovering very slowly at home and look forward to being back with you all soon.

> > From Phyllis Holt

- 1. Fernhill now is the site of the Town's Yard i.e. "the tip"
- 2. High Hope Farm, Nangreaves was originally slacks farm
- 3. Dandler and Towler were names of hounds with the (Holcombe?) hunt
- 4. St John's original church was on the side of St John's Garden in the new Rock development
- 5. Harold Riley Lees known as "Ginger" was a famous motor cyclist in the 1920s at international level and a top speedway rider in the 1930s. He was the "lees" of Auty and Lees car sales and garage and Ken and Roy Lees of Walmersley garage are his sons
- 6. The area of the New Inn in Walmersley, now a children's nursery, is called Glorybutts on 18th century maps because butts were set up there for archery practise
- Burnley Road was originally planned to be Bury's westerly bypass linking Bury Bridge to the A56 going to Burnley. Plans changed and eventually the M66 motorway was built instead.
- 8. Lark Mount is the farm names for the song birds which used to fly high above it
- 9. Station Road is in Summerseat
- 10. The pub at the bottom of Limefield Brow which was cut in half to widen the road as the Rose and Crown. It is the stone building on the bottom left

Look out for part 2 next month. If you can add anything or correct our answers, please contat Alison

Annual Parochial Church Meetings

St.John with St.Mark: Sunday 19 April 12 noon

Christ Church : Wednesday 29 April 7.30pm

COME ALONG & INFLUENCE THE WAY <u>YOUR</u> CHURCH OPERATES

Please note:

Only those on the Church's Electoral Roll may vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

If you are not on the Electoral Roll, please have a word with one of the Church Wardens to obtain an application form.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2014

10-16 May 2015

Christian Aid Week is the single biggest act of Christian witness in Britain and Ireland.

For thousands of people throughout the nation it is a way of answering Jesus' call to help people in need across the world.

Why not get involved yourself?

FURTHER DETAILS IN THE APRIL MAGAZINE.



Songs of Praise is coming to Manchester Cathedral!



Manchester Cathedral is hosting two special programmes this Easter. The first is a live broadcast on BBC One of Eucharist for Easter Sunday on 5 April; the second is a recording for the ever-popular programme, Songs of Praise, on Easter Monday, 6 April.

Details are as follows:

Live broadcast of the Easter Eucharist:

Sunday 5 April: Seated by 0915 for the service between 1000 – 1100.

Songs of Praise:

Rehearsal (choir ticket holders only): Sunday 29 March 1415 – 1645.

Recording (all ticket holders): Monday 6 April 1400 – 1730.

Keen singers are invited to apply for tickets to be part of the special Songs of Praise SATB 'combined choir'. Please note that all choir ticket holders are asked to attend the rehearsal as well as the recording. If you wish to attend but not be part of the choir, please request a congregation ticket.

Tickets are free and you can apply as an individual or on behalf of a group. Please email songsofpraise@bbc.co.uk, call 0161 335 8429 or write to 'Songs of Praise' Tickets (Manchester), 1st Floor, Dock House, Media City UK, Salford M50 2LH. The deadline for ticket applications is Monday 16 March 2015, and tickets will be sent out after this date.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TRAINING EVENTS

The following courses are available for anyone involved or interested in children's ministry. To find out more speak to one of the clergy or visit the Events page at www.manchester.anglican.org Booking is essential.

CORE SKILLS FOR CHILDREN'S WORK

Saturday 28 February and 21 March at St Peter's Church, Ashton-under Lyne

Saturday 28 February 2015:SESSION 1: Child developmentSESSION 2: Working as a TeamSESSION 3: Programme planningSaturday 21 March 2015:SESSION 4: Children and communitySESSION 5: Pastoral awarenessSESSION 6: The Bible and Prayer

Completion of these 6 sessions, with portfolio and reflections would lead to the Bishop's Certificate in Children's Ministry, Level 2

SELF HARM – RESPONSES

What do I do if one of my young people is self harming? How can I help? Who should I tell?



Church House on 7 March



SPIRITUALITY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

For anyone interested in exploring some of the theory and practice around supporting the spiritual development of children and young people in church and community.

Luther King House on 14 March.

CERTIFICATE IN CHILDREN'S MINISRY TASTER

Free day to give a flavour of each of the three modules of the Certificate in Children's Ministry course and of the teaching style.

9 May at St George's Church, Altrincham

WHAT'S ON IN MARCH

1		Second Sunday in Lent Services as usual
3	2.00 pm	Tea, coffee & cakes (CC)
4	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union (CC) Paul Sanderson
6	2.00 pm	World Day of Prayer service
7	4.00 pm	Messy Church – Joshua (CC)
8		Third Sunday in Lent Services as usual
11	7.30 pm	Open Group – Dave Thompson (SJM)
13	7.30pm	Race Night (SJM)
15		Fourth Sunday in Lent
		Mothering Sunday Services as usual
18	7.30 pm	Mothering Sunday
18 19	7.30 pm 8.00 pm	Mothering Sunday Services as usual
-	•	Mothering Sunday Services as usual Mothers' Union - Ian Banks
19	8.00 pm	Mothering Sunday Services as usual Mothers' Union - Ian Banks PCC (SJM)
19 21	8.00 pm	Mothering Sunday Services as usual Mothers' Union - Ian Banks PCC (SJM) Quiz Night (CC) Fifth Sunday in Lent
19 21 22	8.00 pm 7.30pm	Mothering Sunday Services as usual Mothers' Union - Ian Banks PCC (SJM) Quiz Night (CC) Fifth Sunday in Lent Services as usual Feast of the Annunciation

Join us on Good Friday for our Walk of Witness, beginning at the Bury URC church at 12.00 noon.

Churches Together in Bury