



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



MAY 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 Holy Communion 2 nd Family and Parade 3 rd Holy Communion 4 th Service of the Word 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

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 FOR CHANGE



It's starting to look a lot like spring with summer right on its tail. Everywhere you look there is colour brightening up our everyday. Now is the time for our gardens to be tendered and cared for. Soil to be turned and grass to be cut each weekend, unless you have outdoor Axminster!

Your thoughts may now be turning to those well-deserved and relaxing summer holidays.

Where am I going? To be honest, I don't actually know where I am going. All I know is that I'm off somewhere in Wales, on a magical mystery tour with a few activities thrown in.

Well that is what the ATC Cadets that I am Padre for have told me. Apparently I will be sleeping in a tent for 3 nights and I even have to cook my own - what can only be described as space food rations - on a small camp fire. For those of you that know me, the only camping I like to do is in a hotel room with a king-size bed, en-suite with tea making facilities and a large TV screen or alternatively on a sun lounger by a pool. I don't think I have yet come to terms with this camping stuff. It is certainly going to take me out of my comfort zone, but at least I look good in khaki green camouflage.



Sometimes we have to be taken out of our comfort zones to experience a new challenge. We get so stuck in the tradition of "We have always done it that way" that we get stuck in the hum-drum and then can't understand why something changes or is done differently.

There is so much in life that God wants us to experience and also be challenged by. If we are not challenged by or experience something new, how do we know whether it will work or not?

Jesus was challenged every day of his ministry. He taught people not to just accept what had always been done to them, but to look for new ways and to see a new light, work together as a community and prosper as a family. Nothing stands still forever, we have to accept change.

After all, if we didn't where would we be today? So, I am going to wear my khaki green outfit with pride, be taken out of my comfort zone and accept the challenge ahead of me.

Blessing to you all.
Janet

BURY DEANERY

ARCHDEACON'S VISITATION



Wednesday 6 May at 7.30pm

St.Mary the Virgin Church, Bury.

BIBLE READINGS FOR MAY

3	Fifth Sunday after Easter	Acts 8:26-40	1 John 4: 7-21	John 15: 1-8
10	Sixth Sunday after Easter	Acts 10: 44-48	1 John 5: 1-6	John 15: 9-17
17	Seventh Sunday of Easter	Acts1: 15-17, 21-26	1 John 5: 9-13	John 17: 6-19
24	Pentecost	Acts 2: 1-21	Romans 8: 22-27	John 15: 26-27, 16: 4b-15
31	Trinity Sunday	Isaiah 6: 1-8	Romans 8: 12-17	John 3: 1-17



FLOWERS AT CHRIST CHURCH

- | | |
|----|---|
| 3 | Mrs M Booth in memory of the Simpson family |
| 10 | Mr J Clegg |
| 17 | Mr Derek Schofield in memory of his mother Bessie |
| 24 | In memory of Mr & Mrs Dutton and Mr & Mrs Annis |
| 31 | Mr & Mrs N Silvester |

FROM THE VICARAGE

* This month sees the 100th birthday of Arthur Smith – the organist at Christ Church for 80 years. Arthur first played the organ at the age of 13 in 1928, but became the regular organist at the age of 20 in 1935. Apart from wartime service he has been the organist ever since.



It is a remarkable achievement and we are rightly recognising this significant event. Arthur's birthday is Friday 8 May and on the Sunday following, 10 May, there will be a Bring & Share Lunch in the church hall after the 10.30 service. The Bishop of Bolton is planning to be with us for this celebration. If you know of anyone who would like to attend this celebration, please invite them along.

* The Community Knit & Natter group – that meets on a Tuesday afternoon in the St.John with St.Mark Church Hall – are in need of wool, any type, size or colour. A lot of their work is prepared for Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes. If you have any wool, please contact Rosemarie Ashworth or Tricia Stokes.

* John Lyssejko intends to step down as co-ordinator of the St.John with St.Mark website, after a number of years of service. A volunteer is therefore needed to replace him. If you are at all interested, or would like any further information, please have a word with me or one of the Church Wardens.

*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.

*The Ministry Team, consisting of all the Clergy, Licensed Readers and our Authorised Lay Minister, meets 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 should have a word with me. The Service will take place at St.Mary the Virgin Church, Bury on Sunday 7 June, beginning at 10.30am.

* 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. This is an easy way of spreading the good news of Jesus Christ. The children from our Sunday School & Junior Church help with the collections and are also involved in determining which organisations should receive this donation. If you have any suggestions for a suitable charity that we can support, please contact one of the Sunday School / Junior Church leaders.

* As you will probably be aware a short service of Evening Prayer is held every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at St.John with St.Mark Church at 5.00pm. It is good that people join with me on those occasions. Everyone is very welcome.

ASCENSION DAY

40 days after Easter Sunday,
we celebrate the day Jesus left this earth
and returned to His Father in heaven.

Thursday 14 May at 7.30 pm

*Services at both
St.John with St.Mark and Christ Church*



FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

March 29 Lyla Rose Neary

".....in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit"

Interment Of Ashes

March 29 Mona Haworth

"I am the resurrection and the life....."

LOOKING AHEAD

CHRIST CHURCH WALMERSLEY

TRINITY SUNDAY – 31 May

CAFÉ CHURCH :

Church Hall – 10.30am

Sunday 26 July 10.30am

SERVICE OF THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

MINISTRY TEAM NEWS

Gill Barnett, currently an ordinand worshipping at St.Andrew's Ramsbottom, will be ordained as deacon on Sunday 28 June at Manchester Cathedral.

At present, she is training on the All Saints Centre for Mission & Ministry. She will be moving into the area to begin her ministry as our Assistant Curate.

Please pray for Gill in this new phase of her life.

THE BOOTH CENTRE

2015 marks 20 years since the Booth Centre was founded. Originally based at Manchester Cathedral, last year the Centre moved to Edward Holt House, Pimblett Street just off Cheetham Hill Road.

It provides activities, advice and support for homeless people. Still sponsored by the Diocese, the Booth Centre is hosting a 20th Birthday celebration on Thursday 21 May.

The open evening begins at 6.00pm and provides information about the work of the Centre. There will be musical performances, an art & photography exhibition and refreshments available. Volunteers and staff will be around to inform you of the vital role that the Centre provides in the City Centre.

The United Benefice of Walmersley Road supports the Booth Centre in a number of ways. We regularly provide donations of food and clothing and at a recent service at the Priors Highbank Centre, over £100 was raised for the work of the Centre.

If you would like to attend this open evening, please contact Amy at the Booth Centre on 0161 835 2499 or at amy@boothcentre.org.uk and further details can be found at their website: boothcentre.org.uk

If you are unable to make the celebration you may like to send a special message by donating to the 20th birthday appeal – which hopes to establish a welfare fund for those moving into their own homes or into employment

www.justgiving.com/Booth-Centre20 or
text BCEN15 £** to 70070

FROM THE COUNCILS

CHRIST CHURCH MEETING HELD ON 25 MARCH 2015

A request from Mulberry Bush Nursery for parking in the Church Hall Yard was considered; this was declined as the church hall yard was used during the week.

A donation has been made for the Young Adults Mission.

The book keeping is being carried out by a lady from St John's who has volunteered to do this. The registration of the small piece of land in the church hall yard is proceeding.

The Messy Church on 7th March was not supported. Messy Church will be taking a break. The Trinity Sunday morning service will be held as a café church in the church hall.

The kid's Rock group has moved to the Hark to Towler public house due to lack of local support in the community.

Canvassing support needs to be done to allow the continuation of the Toddler group as Six Town housing cannot continue to support it in its present form.

The ramp into church was discussed and the vicar requested that it be put out if possible at the nine o'clock service and taken in after the 10.30 service.

It was determined that we needed to arrange for an electrical company to come and replace bulbs/lights that are not working in the church at high level.

The vicar would like to hold a joint PCC in the summer to consider Mission Action Planning.

A discussion was held regarding the church building, this followed on from a meeting with the diocese regarding the way forward. From this it was decided that we will carry out a community audit to determine the way forward. A meeting will be held in April/May with the diocese on how this should be done.

FROM THE COUNCILS

ST JOHN WITH ST MARK PCC MEETING OF 19 MARCH 2015

At our February meeting, it was reported that the DAC were unhappy with our proposals for the West window. The Vicar and Wardens have now met with the Architect Paul Vipond. A like-for-like replacement is required as the window is considered to be an architectural feature of the building. However we may be able to brick off the bottom tier of the window and leave the remainder in place. This matter now remains ongoing.

The 2 portable electric heaters in the Chapel have served their purpose during the Winter season, however we are looking to install a new permanent heater before Autumn 2015.

Paul advised that a meeting needs to take place soon to decide the dates of the Parade services for the next few months from September 2015.

An appeal has been issued for a group or team of people to help organize and run a firework party on Friday 6th November. The appeal has been issued early as this event has had to be cancelled for the last 2 years, as we have been unaware who is responsible for running it.

We are still requiring volunteers to run the Website and to fill the vacant position of Governor at our day school.

Ahead of the APCM on Sunday 19th April, we were asked to consider the annual PCC report. The report covers the key events that have occurred during 2014 across the whole life of our Church. The PCC were asked to spot any mistakes that needed correcting and to highlight any event that had been omitted. The Secretary also informed us of PCC members whose term of office is now completed. Feedback was given on the Lent Study Groups. A discussion took place as to why the numbers attending the Tuesday Evening group were disappointing.

FOR QUIET MOMENTS

Week One

As we take part in the General Election this week, we pray for all those seeking to serve the country in government, asking that they will always seek to serve the interests of the people rather than their own.



We remember those countries where there is no democratic mechanism to appoint leaders and where people live under dictatorships. In so many regions of the world there is constant strife and hardships and people live in constant fear often having to flee their homes and live as refugees. We ask God's blessing on all those who work to bring peace and safety in the war torn areas of the world.

Week Two

We pray for Christian Aid this week, asking God's blessing on all the fund raising activities which will provide help to the poorest parts of the world. We pray for Loko who lives in Ethiopia which is the focus of Christian Aid week this year.



Four times a week she makes a back breaking eight hour trip to collect firewood to sell in the market. "If I do not sell firewood my children will die" she says.

Let us remember as we provide for our children, how fortunate we are and give thanks.

Week Three

Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.



This hymn was written in the fifteenth century by Bianco da Siena in celebration of Pentecost . Along with many other of his hymns it was published in 1851 in Lucca and has become a popular hymn sung to the tune of Down Ampney.

May the power of the Spirit transform us
May the gentleness of the Spirit lead us
May the gifts of the Spirit equip us
to serve and worship Christ now and always.

Amen

Week Four

Lord Jesus Christ,
Teach me to be honest with you
with myself
and with others,
and so may I know the peace of a clear conscience
and a right relationship with all. Amen



"Work as if you were to live a hundred years.
Pray as if you were to die tomorrow."

Benjamin Franklin

Mothers' Union's mission and values state 'we will express our Christian faith in the transformation of families and communities worldwide, with members sensitively spreading the news of a God who loves and cares for us all'

At our AGM in April we had the opportunity to reflect on the past year - review what we did well and consider the future; to review last year with its theme of 'Sowing the seeds for the future'

Our branch meetings aim to strike a balance between social events and an opportunity to nurture our own spirituality. We have shared Holy Communion, attended the special services held in church such as on Ash Wednesday and been assisted on our spiritual journeys through reflective evenings in Lent.

We have had informative evenings with visiting speakers on topics which included diabetic care for children, Jewish customs and food associated with them, and the use of flowers and their special significance in creating floral arrangements.

In reaching out to our local community we have attempted to "sow seeds" by creating welcome cards with seed packets included (or tea bags for that much needed cuppa on moving day) for the new arrivals in the area. We continue to provide a lovely teddy bear for our baptism families. We have given donations towards the costs of Messy Church and set-up costs for a playgroup to meet in the church hall, involving a developing relationship with Six Town Housing and local mums. This project was our 'Just up your street' initiative.

Whilst our membership remains in good numbers we must not be complacent and we need to look for opportunities to invite our families, friends and neighbours to join with us. At a time when society struggles with identity and values, the Mothers'

Union vision that God's love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships is so pertinent. We have a mission that our Christian faith is seen in action by the transforming of our communities.

The Mothers' Union has addressed such difficult topics as the sexualisation of children with the 'Bye buy childhood' report and campaign and the distressing reading about gender-based violence at home and abroad. Our organisation is involved with, and has a national and international voice regarding these hot topics of today's world.

At a local level there are ways we can support family life with course material for marriage, baptism and parenting skills. Maybe we need to consider if that is a way forward in our local community?

We look forward to a new year in branch life with the theme "United in prayer". We are familiar with these words from the Mothers' Union prayer but let's see how we can make them a reality in our lives:

'May we be united in prayer and worship and in love and service reach out as your hands across the world'

May meetings:

May 6th 'United in Prayer' A focus on our link dioceses, led by Barbara and Nigel Silvester

May 20th 'My favourite things' - an opportunity to bring along a special momento and briefly share its significance with the members.

We extend a warm welcome to everyone to come and meet us and join us for our branch meetings on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 7.30pm in the Church hall, accessed from the car park.

Kathryn Bailey, Branch Leader



THE OPEN GROUP

On 8th April the Open Group welcomed the return of Ian Banks to give an illustrated talk entitled 'Kings and Queens of England – An Interrupted History'. Ian gave an interesting illustrated introduction as to how during the period 11th Century to 15th Century (some 400 years) the 'Kingdom of England' was governed.

Ian described the 'Kingdom of England' as having in the early 11th Century being part of the 'North Sea Empire' ruled by Cnut the Great of Nordic origin. However many historic incidents and developments over the next 400 years led to seismic changes in how and by whom the country was governed. Examples being the Norman Conquest, bringing French influence with the Kingdom being ruled by the 'House of Anjou' and Angevin Kings becoming more 'English in Nature'. In due course the evolution of the English Parliament emerged and began to govern England. This led to the emergence of England as a massive military power in Europe. Other notable changes included the Black Death and the 100 Years War against France.

We were invited to participate in re-enactment of the roles of numerous English Kings progressively through time. This created a greater insight as to the treachery, skulduggery and even murders of the ruling classes in order to attain and maintain power in the Kingdom – hence the heading of Ian's presentation 'An Interrupted History'. Ian provided numerous books from the stock he manages (price 50p!) on the subject and also numerous books from his own collection for members to look at.

All in all a very interesting and entertaining evening was enjoyed by all. The group thanked Ian for the great deal of work in presenting the event. It left you with a feeling that although we might have our grumbles and problems we are in fact living in a more civilised society than our ancestors!

A

OPEN GROUP

next meeting ~ Wednesday 13th May
at 7.30pm in the Library

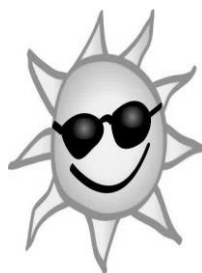
'Atoms & Aunts'

Led by David Andrew

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

ADVANCED NOTICE

Summer Fair at St. John with St. Mark,
will this year be held
on Saturday 13th June from 11.00am.
Usual stalls and attractions available.



If you do not usually help and would like to be involved, or
have any ideas for new stalls then please speak to the Clergy or
Wardens over the coming weeks.



Christ Church Fundraising
Saturday May 16th

Race Night

in the Church Hall
7pm for 7-30 Start
Admission £3

Tea and Coffee will be served

Bring your own drinks if you would like anything stronger
Tickets from Brian Crow and Jennifer Wood or pay on the night

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK, 10th – 16th May 2015

Extracts from the Archbishop of Canterbury's recent letter:



“Christian Aid Week, held every year in the second week of May is an important act of Christian witness right across Britain and Ireland. It is a week when churches of all denominations come together and step out into their local communities to support Christian Aid in challenging poverty across the world.

This year, Christian Aid Week confronts one of the greatest injustices of all times: discrimination against women. The statistics are shocking and Christian Aid’s partners around the world are clear that it needs urgent attention. Half of the world’s population are women and yet they comprise the majority of those living in poverty today. Despite the fact that women do the majority of the world’s agricultural work, less than 20% of landholders globally are women. Around the world, women are paid less than men – in most countries, women earn on average only 65-70% of men’s wages. At every level, from the household to the global stage, women are poorer, disadvantaged, more vulnerable.

Around the Anglican Communion, churches are responding to God’s call to end oppression and suffering by working to lift women out of poverty and situations of abuse or injustice. Throughout the Communion, the Mothers Union works tirelessly on promoting women’s literacy, economic development and leadership roles. Many of these worldwide initiatives are run in partnership with Christian Aid.

I could not believe that an illiterate and undermined woman like me could hold a pen and write. Now I can read posters, magazines, medicine prescriptions, calculate whether I am working for losses or profit. Before I buy products, I calculate first. Roda

Jesus call us to love our neighbour and challenges any limit we put on who that neighbour might be. As Christians we believe that he means our global neighbour, not just those close at hand. Across the world there are around a billion people in extreme poverty – trying to survive on less than \$1.25 a day. God’s faithfulness gives us hope that extreme poverty can be ended, that loving our neighbour is a sign of God’s kingdom.

The movement to bring justice to the world’s poorest people could not happen without the commitment of thousands of churches in the country. Please join us to pray, act and give for our global neighbour this Christian Aid Week – for a world that looks more like God’s kingdom”

If you are able to support the work of Christian Aid Week or wish to attend the lunch this year, please contact John Brennan or Rosemarie Ashworth.

CHRISTIAN AID LUNCH ~ SUNDAY 10TH MAY 2015
at St. John with St. Mark Church Hall Parkinson Street
at 12.15pm
£7.50 or £4.50

STARTERS

Pâté or Melon with Grapes

~

MAIN COURSE

Turkey

Served with Roast & Boiled Potatoes, three Veg

~

DESSERT

Trifle or Profiteroles

Followed by Tea or Coffee

Option to purchase a glass of red or white wine

Raffle also on the Day

BOUNDARY WALK

The walking group will next meet on Saturday 9th May, and this will be for our annual walk around the boundaries of the United Benefice of Walmersley Road.

The whole walk is 12-14 miles dependent on the exact route (there are options if it gets muddy underfoot in any parts).

It will take in areas including The Burrs, River Irwell, Bury Town Centre, Chesham, Buckhurst, Deeply Vale, Nangreaves, Summerseat and finishing in The Burrs for refreshment at The Brown Cow.

It is possible to join and leave the walk at different points if you do not want to do the whole thing, therefore if you intend to step in at any point then a mobile telephone number may be useful so we can update you with a location.



Please bring a packed lunch and sensible clothing, and more importantly, please pray for some good weather.

Meet at 9.30am at St John's Church Hall on Parkinson Street.

Please speak to Paul Sanderson if you would like further information.

Plant and Book Sale

At Christ Church Walmersley Church Hall
10 am to 12 noon
Saturday 16 May



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Core Skills for Children's work

This six session programme leads to achieving Level 2 of the diocesan Bishop's certificate in Children's Ministry. Visit the diocesan website for full details including booking, venue and the areas covered by this highly valued ecumenical course.

Sessions in the Summer term of 2015 will be held on:

Saturday 9 May (sessions 1 – 3)

Saturday 13 June (sessions 3 – 6)

This is the last chance to attend the Core programme in 2015. Booking essential.

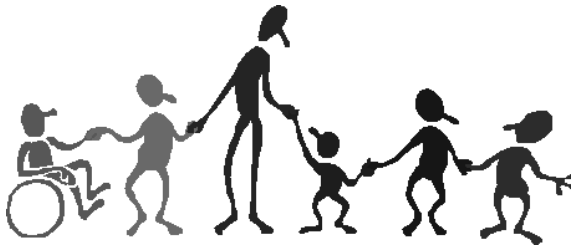
Bishop's Certificate Level 3

Is this the year for you to take your children's ministry skills to another level? The Church Colleges' Certificate in Children's Ministry (Bishop's Certificate Level 3) is recruiting for September 2015. Visit the diocesan website for full details.

Taster Day

A free 'no obligation day' @ Taster Day for the course will be held on Saturday May 9th at St. George's Church Hall, Altrincham. Visit the diocesan website for further details. Booking is essential.

Jesus said "Suffer the little children to come unto me."



Benefice Quiz- Answers Part 2

1. Baldingstone is so called because of the bare stone outcrops there.
2. The name of the mill near the old St Mark's church was Hudcar.
3. The post office was the site of the old toll house on Walmersley Rd.
4. The letters KMPC on stones near Tetrosyl stand for Knowle Mill Printing Company.
5. Walmersley Road Methodist church and a chapel (Congregational?) were on the western side of Walmersley Rd.
6. Cob House Farm withstood a siege by Cromwell's army.
7. The sundial which stood outside the original hotel was later moved to the grounds of Bury Infirmary, later Bury General Hospital.
8. St John's vicarage in the period which included the period of Second World War was situated on Walmersley Road below the corner with Russell Street.
9. The former Children's Holiday Home was originally Birtle Edge House.
10. The workshop at Bevis Green was a smithy – blacksmith and wheelwright.

We hope that you have enjoyed the quizzes.

FOOTNOTE TO QUIZ

Many thanks to Wendy Riggs (née Magnall) who phoned about the sign that used to be high on the wall of the Post Office in the days when her parents ran it. It said LONDON . . . miles (maybe 202). Evidently it had been overlooked in 1940 when the government ordered the removal of all signposts and street names as a precaution against invasion - although, in this area, the street names seem to have been left alone. Wendy said it was white and rusty so her father removed it. Some people agree, others think it was yellow, possibly an AA sign.

Alison Fewtrell

World Famous Bury Lych-Gate!

Some of you will recall the article in the Bury Times, earlier this year, featuring the lych-gate at Christ Church. The lych-gate has a particular significance at this time as we recollect the period of the Great War one hundred years ago.

On 7th May 1915, Second-Lieutenant Humphrey King Hoyle, 5th Lancashire Fusiliers, was killed in action at the Dardanelles, his first day of battle. His parents, James and Mabel Hoyle, gifted the lych-gate in memory of their son; the dedication, by the Rector of Bury, took place on 3rd February 1916.



Arising from the article in the Bury Times, the parish received an email from two grandchildren of James and Mabel Hoyle, now resident in Canada. An interesting exchange of information has ensued, adding to their family history, and knowledge of Christ Church, Walmersley.

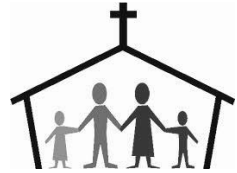
On 7th May, a floral tribute will be placed in the lych-gate, marking the centenary of Humphrey Hoyle's death.

FROM THE PULPIT

Every Sunday you have to decide whether you are going to get up and go to church. Janet put this list of reasons NOT to miss church to the congregation at Christ Church on April 12th .

Do you agree with them?

What do you miss if you do not go to church?



10. Chocolate biscuits after church.
9. Making lasting friendships.
8. Singing praises to God.
7. Hearing a good sermon by the preacher.
6. Receiving encouragement from others and giving encouragement to others
5. Bible study.
4. Praying for one another.
3. Growing in our faith.
2. Missing church makes it easier to miss church the next week and then the next.

And the number one reason not to miss church is.....

You are sure to miss something special that God has for YOU!

What could that something be?

THE JUDAS TREE

There may well be people who have been affected by the suicide of relatives or friends, and who are concerned about their eternal destiny. On the Wednesday in Holy Week I read, in the sermon slot at the 10.00 am Eucharist, this very moving poem called *The Ballad of the Judas Tree*, written by a former Principal of our Vicar's Theological College. I, and those who heard it, found it very moving, and so I thought it good to share it with a wider audience.

In hell there grew a Judas tree where Judas hanged and died,
Because he could not bear to see his Master crucified.
Our Lord descended into hell, and found Judas there,
For ever hanging on the tree grown from his own despair.

So Jesus cut Judas down and took him in his arms;
"It was for this I came," He said, "and not to do you harm.
My Father gave me twelve good men, and all of them I kept,
Though one betrayed and one denied, some fled and others slept.

In three days' time I must return to make the others glad
But first I had to come to hell and share the death you had.
My tree will grow in place of yours, its roots lie here as well,
There is no final victory without this soul from hell."

So when we all condemn him as of every traitor worst,
Remember that of all His men our Lord forgave Him first.

D. Ruth Etchells, 1931-2012

Thank you Ralph for sharing this.

WHAT'S ON IN MAY

3		Fifth Sunday of Easter Services as usual
6	7.30pm	Archdeacon's Visitation St. Mary the Virgin
	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union 'United in Prayer' (CC)
9	9.30 am	Benefice Boundary Walk
10		Sixth Sunday of Easter Services as usual
	12.15 pm	Christian Aid lunch (SJM) Celebratory Lunch (CC)
13	7.30 pm	Open Group (SJM) "Aunts and Atoms"
14		Ascension Day Services at both churches
	7.30pm	
16	10.00 am	Plant & Book Sale (CC)
	7.00 pm	Race Night (CC)
17		Seventh Sunday of Easter Services as usual
20	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union 'My favourite things'(CC)
24		Pentecost Services as usual
31		Trinity Sunday Services as usual (SJM)
	9.00 am	Holy Communion (CC)
	10.30am	Café Church (CC)



*THREE DAYS
THAT CHANGED
THE WORLD*