



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



*He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well*

April 2016

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

Monday

	Monday@2	49 Fairlands Road
7.30 p.m.	1 st Listening Prayer	150 Walmersley Road

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



OH WHAT A MYSTERY!

"God moves in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform." So wrote the hymn writer William Cowper in 1774.

"Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies: who can explore His strange design?" declares the great Wesley hymn.

Mystery is a word which often comes up in Christian writings and comes into our minds when we find things hard to understand.

Mystery means anything which is hidden or secret. It does not necessarily mean that it is something for which no answer can be found – though this may sometimes be the case. In the New Testament the word is used to signify a secret which is being revealed – an unknown which is being understood.

Think of the disciples shortly after the death of Jesus. Gathered together in that Upper Room. The events of recent days has left them frightened, bewildered, mystified. Then Jesus appears, calms their minds and begins to explain to them the meaning of what has happened (Luke 24 v 45). Doubts may remain, but they do start to understand; the mystery begins to be revealed.

Again, on the road to Emmaus, two disciples are discussing the things which have happened in Jerusalem and especially the news that Jesus had risen from the tomb. They are mystified by it all. Jesus joins them and explains it to them. (Luke 24 v 27) The mystery is revealed! They understand – and return to tell others.



For young children life holds many mysteries. They depend totally on their parent(s). Instinct, perhaps, tells them trust (to have faith) that the parent will look after them. A child holds your hand and lets you guide them. The world at large is a mystery to them. The mystery is revealed as they grow and learn. Much of that learning comes from the parent(s).

Jesus said that to enter God's Kingdom we need to become like children. We need to learn, through Jesus, how to depend on our Heavenly Father. We need to let the Risen Jesus come to us and guide us so that we may grow in our understanding – seeking to have the mystery revealed!

How are we doing after the Lenten/Easter period? As we reflect do we find more questions than answers? Are we holding on to the hand of Jesus? Or are we, like petulant children snatching our hand away, wanting to walk on our own?



The journey of faith is bound to be an adventure, full of ups and downs, full of mystery. Read the scriptures; listen to sermons; talk and ask questions with fellow travellers; spend time in prayer. Understanding will grow. Above all, hold on to the hand of Jesus and trust. Jesus will see us through and, in time, the mystery will be revealed.

We should not worry when we do not understand, when we have doubts. Some things will always be a mystery – beyond our understanding. That, I suppose, is where faith really kicks in! We need to be prepared to accept that not every question can, nor will, be answered in our earthly life span. In faith, look forward with joy because later all will be revealed!

*God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea,
and rides upon the storm.*

Nigel





BIBLE READINGS FOR APRIL

April 3 2nd of EASTER

Acts 5: 27-32 Revelation 1: 4-8 John 20: 19-31

April 10 3rd of EASTER

Acts 9: 1-20 Revelation 5: 11-14 John 21: 1-19

April 17 4th of EASTER

Acts 9: 36-43 Revelation 7: 9-17 John 10: 22-30

April 24 5th of EASTER

Acts 11: 1-18 Revelation 21: 1-6 John 13: 31-35

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals

March 4 Eric Lloyd

March 9 Muriel Fishwick

Interment of ashes:

February 28 Joan Dighton

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





FLOWERS AT CHRIST CHURCH

April 3	In memory of Sarah Melling and Jack Illsley
April 10	In memory of Mr & Mrs Barcroft Wolstenholme
April 17	Vacant
April 24	Mr & Mrs A Spencer

Anyone who would like to donate flowers for church,
please contact Betty Winterbottom

LENT LUNCHES AT CHRIST CHURCH

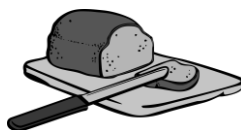
A big thank you to all who have supported us in this new venture.



At the time of writing (Lent isn't over yet!) we have had between 15-23 people joining us for a soup lunch each week. It has been so good to see people enjoying soup and each other's company.

We weren't sure how it would turn out but we stepped out in faith and God has blessed Tearfund so far to the tune of around £200. There are still two weeks to go!

Thank you from Barbara, Nigel
and all our souper helpers



CHRIST CHURCH FEASIBILITY STUDIES

The PCC have reviewed three options for the future of the church. The options have been reviewed by architects and preliminary drawings have been produced. The three options the PCC are discussing are as follows.

1. Make a new steel structure inside the existing church with new meeting rooms on two floors complete with kitchen facilities, toilets, disabled lifts and new lighting and heating. The existing worship space would be reduced. The existing building would also be renovated. The church hall would become redundant.
2. Refurbish the church hall with new meeting rooms, toilets and kitchen and add a new worship space onto it. This would mean making the church building redundant.
3. Build a completely new church along with meeting rooms toilets and kitchen facilities. This would also mean making the existing church hall and church redundant.

At present the PCC are awaiting the preliminary costings for each of the three options, before proceeding further with discussions.

It is hoped to have more information by the APCM.

CCW Parochial Church Council.



FROM THE VICARAGE

* A McMillan Coffee Morning was held in the hall at Christ Church on Saturday 5 March. The event was in memory of Louise Hamer, a parishioner from Walmersley who tragically died of cancer earlier in the year. Thanks to everyone who supported this important cause and especially the organiser Jenny Wade. Over £1300 was raised.

* The Benefice Lent Groups on Monday evenings and Thursday afternoons will be extended into April! The final session will take place on Monday 4 April at 150 Walmersley Road and at Christ Church on Thursday 7 April. It was also good to share a Lent Group with Seedfield Methodist Church on Tuesday evenings during the season. Thanks to all those who led and attended the study groups.

* A reminder that we still have a Parish Pass to Westminster Abbey in London enabling up to 4 people free entry up to six times. Visitors are usually charged £20 for entry into the building unless attending worship. If anyone would like to make use of this concession, please have a word with me. The pass runs out next month.

* The Porch project are currently struggling to meet demand and asking for more foodstuff. Both churches have a box at the back of church to support this worthy cause.

* 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.

* Any enquiries about baptisms or weddings / marriage banns etc should be made at the Parish Office at St.John with St.Mark's Hall any Wednesday evening between 6.30-7.00pm.

*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.

* Anyone wishing to join in a Parish Retreat from 25-28 May at Formby with some of the congregation of St.John with St.Mark should contact Ian Banks.

* The Diocesan publication, CRUX is looking for lay people who would be willing to share their story of how God has been moving in their life in the Brief Encounter section of the diocesan magazine. If you would like to share your own story please contact me.

* Both of our Church Halls are available for a whole range of activities for use by church and community groups. Please however check with the bookings officers if the building is otherwise occupied before anything is arranged. The contact details are at the back of this magazine.

* Material for the parish magazine should be given in by the 14th day of the previous month. Articles may be sent via email to wrub@live.co.uk



EASTER AT THE PRIORY

Wednesday 13 April
2.30pm

The Priory Highbank Centre, Walmersley Road.
ALL WELCOME

QUIET MOMENTS

Week One

Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.

Romans 6:4



Risen Lord, we marvel at your resurrection power
which freed us from the chains of death
and gave us new life in Christ.

We praise you for loosing
the grip of sin and selfishness
that we may live anew in Christ.

Fill us with fresh purpose
through your resurrection power
that we may share your love
with those who live in darkness;
that we may share your peace
with those who live in fear;
that we may share your joy
with those who live in sorrow.

Risen Lord, dwell in us
that our lives may shine
with the light of Christ.
Amen

Week Two

God, enlighten my mind with the truth;
Inflame my heart with love;
Inspire my will with courage;
Enrich my life with service;
Pardon what I have been;
Sanctify what I am and order what I shall be.

Week Three



I got up early one morning
And rushed right into the day;
I had so much to accomplish
That I didn't have time to pray.

Problems just tumbled about me,
And heavier came each task;
'Why doesn't God help me?' I wondered.
He answered, 'You didn't ask.'

I wanted to see joy and beauty
But the day toiled on gray and bleak
I wondered why God didn't show me
He said, 'But you didn't seek',

I tried to come into God's presence;
I used all my keys in the lock.
God gently and lovingly chided,
'My child, you didn't knock.'

I woke up early this morning,
And paused before entering the day;
I had so much to accomplish
That I had to take time to pray."

Week Four

God of the journey,
Give us grace to travel onwards hopefully;
Give us patience to overcome every obstacle;
Give us boldness to speak of you as our companion;
Give us hope that we will see you at our journey's end. Amen

The Mothers' Union has a variety of projects which we are encouraged to support throughout the year. The most recent one was 'Make a Mothers Day'. Every family needs support at times. It can be as little as helping them talk through the issues they face together, or as specific as providing the opportunity to learn to read and write. Helping families thrive means the wider community will too. Buying a Make a Mother's Day gift will help to equip people, through Mothers' Union's programmes, to create better lives for themselves and their families. We suggested Branch members and our church families may like to contribute towards a Benefice donation in memory of loved ones.



Alison Fewtrell made a donation in memory of Marjorie Tasker and her donation joins our branch donation. We have chosen to support 'Entrepreneurial spirit' and are able to help 3 parishes. £13 will enable a parish in Rwanda to help women, especially widows and single mothers, become more financially independent

The 'Transformational Savings and Loans' programme teaches financial skills to help women start businesses and improve the wellbeing of their families and communities.

We have also supported Freshers week with £30 donation, and the Relief fund with £90 donation. Last year we were able to send £565 to support the projects, programmes and initiatives Mothers' Union supports. Thank you to all who contribute.

Cath Hilton, along with the new trustees, was commissioned on March 2nd in the Cathedral. It was an uplifting service and Bishop David spoke very encouragingly about the work of the Mothers' Union. Sadly the overall attendance at this event was very low. We have some dates for the diary for Deanery and Diocesan events so please consider supporting one or more of them.



The national General Meeting is to be held in Winchester this year (Sept 22-23) and more details will be available from Tricia Stokes. She will also be circulating the menu for our Summer meal to be held on July 20th at Owens in Ramsbottom.

Dates for the Diary:

- April 6 - Bring and Buy with a difference. If you are creative, make small items or can offer a skill you may wish to donate it at our Bring and Buy. A real Time and Talents occasion!
- April 20th - The Vine project - This stands for **V**ulnerable Children **i**n **n**eed of **e**ducation and there will be small items of African jewellery on sale on the night.
- **April 30th** - The Spring Council will take place at St. Thomas Centre, from 9.30am for coffee and the meeting will commence at 10.00am. Please bring a packed lunch, tea and coffee will be provided. There will be time to chat to new and old friends, and time to visit the shop. **Please note this is a change of date**
- May 4th - A day in the life of an Airport Chaplain (who happens to be married to the Bishop of Stockport!) We welcome Revd George Lane to our meeting.
- **May 16th - Advance notice for the Deanery AGM - Bury Parish Church Blackburn Hall at 7pm**

We do extend a welcome to everyone at our branch meetings so please consider joining us for an evening or two!

Kathryn Bailey Branch Leader

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 15th-21st MAY 2016

This year Christian Aid is focusing on our global neighbours like Morsheda.

Meet our neighbour Morsheda

Morsheda is a young mother of four living in Bangladesh. She has no land, few assets and no savings. For Morsheda's family, living in low-lying islands in the Brahmaputra River, floods are a terrifying part of everyday life. Morsheda can't even count on having a safe place to call home: the single-room, corrugated-iron house she shares with her children has been flooded four times.

I feel very scared of the river, when I look at it I keep thinking "it is coming."

Dangers are all around;

One year her humble house filled up to her knees with floodwater. To stay dry, and keep away from the dangerous snakes that now swam through her home she raised her bed up on bricks, but during the night she was woken by a loud splash. In the pitch black her baby son had fallen into the inky water, he could have drowned in moments.

A race against time;

In a bad year, huge waves crashed against her house, giving her less than an hour to uproot her home and scramble to safety. Racing against time, she gathered her terrified children together and hastily made a raft from a banana tree. At any moment, it could have tipped and plunged them into swirling waters, but it was their only hope. She put her youngest daughter in a cooking pot and clung to it as it floated in the current.



'My children were so scared. My sister was holding them very tightly and we were panicking because my neighbour's child was washed away'.

The floods are coming;

Morsheda and her children live a precarious life. They know that the floods will come again, and soon. But we can lift our neighbours like Morsheda to safety.

Just £250 is enough for a Christian Aid home safety package. It could flood proof Morsheda's home, raising it eight foot on an earth plinth, so that she has a safe place to rebuild, keep livestock and grow crops. It could also buy a goat, seeds and a wormery to help produce compost - all of which give her a long term income and a solid foundation for a new life.

'If I could raise my house then I would feel much safer living here with my children'.



If you would like to support the work of Christian Aid during Christian Aid week then why not join us for a

Luncheon Platter

on the 15th May at St.John with St.Mark church hall
12.30pm-3.00pm (Adults £5.00, children up to age 12 £3.00)

For tickets contact John or
 Rosemarie
 Many thanks
 John

IN MEMORIAM ~ MURIEL FISHWICK

The Choir of St John with St Mark would like to say a few words in remembrance of our friend and choir member Muriel Fishwick.

Muriel took great interest in the life of the Church and community and was involved in many activities over the years, as a young Mum in the Mothers' Union, to being involved in many Church pantomimes, Church fairs and a valued member of the Open Group.



We thank her for all that she has done, and she will be remembered not only for her work but for her goodwill in everything that she did.

Each and every member of the Choir will miss her friendship, humour and pleasant personality. She was good company to be with.



Celebrating the Queen's 90th Birthday

The Church of England
is encouraging its 13,000 parishes
to engage with communities to celebrate
Her Majesty The Queen's 90th Birthday.

Events are scheduled to take place
on the weekend of 12/13 June.

The Bishop of Exeter, who chairs the Liturgical Commission preparing liturgy for the Church said: "The Queen has steered Britain through some challenging and difficult times over the past seven decades, providing the country with stability and wisdom. She is an inspiration to many people, young and old. The Queen's 90th birthday gives an opportunity not only to thank God for her service, but to celebrate the gifts of all older people in our society."

Further details of local involvement will be available nearer the time.



EASTER PRAISE

A SUNDAY EVENING
CELEBRATION IN SONGS,
READINGS AND PRAYERS

APRIL 3, 2016

7PM

WALMERSLEY CHURCH HALL
SCHOOL LANE, BL9 5JU

Worship in an informal setting with coffee/tea and cake!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: WWW.CCWALMERSLEYBURY.ORG.UK



SATURDAY WALKING GROUP

It is with double regret that I sit and write this report. For the first time in a long while David R was not with us which is a shame as he would have enjoyed our foray but also a greater tragedy because I'm having to write the report.

On 5th March we set off at 9am from St John's hall meeting the leader Michael R and Geoff H at Christ Church. Michael then led us on an exploration of Town and Country Planning with some interesting twists.

Along the way he pointed out features that many of us had walked past for years and not noticed. Even Geoff found out some things he didn't know, a very rare occurrence.

We walked down Springside Road and on to Summerseat where we took a short cut up steps and onto Summerseat Lane. This brought us to Peel Hall which still retains a few of its 18th century features despite many additions through the years. Crossing the road we encountered Summerseat House (1936) built by Richard Hamer (hence the Hamers Arms close by) which has been used since 1912 for educational purposes.

Making our way to Pot Green we looked at the development of this area over 4 centuries, the curious chimney stacks of the later 20th century to the conservation area at Pot Green and its 17th Century buildings. Along the way we made a detour to the strangely named Garden City (if you have any information about this curious name please let us know). Walking down Bolton Road West we encountered a cottage with a plaque dated 1824 commemorating a radical women's union- again more information please.



From there we climbed up to the former Aitken Sanatorium, a former isolation hospital, now the Islamic centre Darul Uloom and had elevenses musing on Holcombe Village. It was then best foot forward along the moorland track to Buckden Wood, gifted to the National Trust by the Porritt family in memory of their son killed in action in WW1. Making our way towards Stubbins we came upon, by making a short detour, Stubbins Vale Mill's Tenter Tower (well worth a look).

From there we made our way back, under the railway at the former Stubbins station and on to Ramsbottom, Nuttall Park and home. 11 miles for the Christ Churchers and 13 for the John and Markers. Thank you Michael for a work out of both mind and body.

Paul S

Macmillan Coffee Morning



Thank you to everyone who supported the coffee morning on March 5th. A grand total of £1328 was raised, which was a marvelous tribute to Louise Hamer.

Thank you all again.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS

St.John with St.Mark: Sunday April 24 11.45pm

Christ Church: Monday 25 April 7.30pm

COME ALONG & INFLUENCE THE WAY YOUR CHURCH OPERATES

In preparation for these meetings, the church electoral roll needs updating. If you are already on the electoral roll, you don't need to do anything unless you have changed address.

If you have been a regular worshipper for at least 6 months, please consider filling in a form to join the electoral roll. These can be found at the back of both churches.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: please also use the form above to give us your new address.

Please note:

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

Café Church 2016

22 May	St.John with St.Mark
3 July	Christ Church
11 Sept	Christ Church
25 Sept	St.John with St.Mark
27 Nov	Christ Church



WHO LOVES YOU?

Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

Matthew 10 v29-31

There are many reasons God saves you:
to bring glory to himself
to demonstrate his sovereignty
to show his grace.

But perhaps the best reasons is because he loves you. He likes having you round. He wants to spend eternity with you.

If God had a fridge, your picture would be on it.

If he had a wallet, your photo would be in it.

God sends you flowers every spring
and a sunrise every morning.

Whenever you want to talk to him, he'll listen.

He can live anywhere and everywhere in the universe
and he chose your heart.

God loves YOU!

Max Lucardo in A Gentle Thunder





ST JOHN WITH ST MARK OPEN GROUP

On the 9th March a well-attended Open Group opened their 2016 calendar of events in welcoming Reverend Gill Barnett to give a most interesting presentation, 'A Lenten Evening'. Her chosen subject was the concept of the Book of Psalms and how it can be used and interpreted by the reader. As a background to this, Gill explained that Psalms historically are of a poetic and lyrical nature and are a form of praise and worship in poetry.



Religious studies over time indicate that there is no portion of the Bible that is as frequently read as the book of Psalms. That it provides instruction, inspiration, motivation and consolation.

As Gill explained the book of Psalms is often referred to as a collection of some 150 lyric poems, which basically involve the praise of the Lord.

Gill gave out numerous handouts of Psalm examples and questionnaires as to how they might be interpreted in a poetic sense in the modern day society. Members were invited to write their own Psalms to which initially seemed somewhat intimidating. Not surprising when the vast majority of members hadn't written any poetry for years probably going back to their schooldays! However members gave it a go and surprised themselves by their excellent efforts and contributions, which were read out to the group. A 21st Century version of poetic Psalms with a wide range of everyday subjects including much imagination and humour applied to a religious background.

It certainly proved we all have hidden talents, both individually and collectively, in subjects we thought we had no knowledge or experience of.

Gill followed this up in saying that our own Psalms can and do identify all our feelings, emotions and experiences in our own lives. That is exactly what members had achieved in a natural sense.

Gill was thanked for her most interesting presentation to which she had put in a great deal of work and thought. One message that will clearly have come across to members is that next time you open your prayer book and sing a Psalm you will think a little differently as to its content, not only of its religious content, but its significance in our everyday lives.

At the time of reporting this report, and looking back in hindsight, members through their efforts had created, albeit it for a short time, their own 'Poets Corner', not at Westminster Abbey but at St John with St Mark Church Hall!



Our next meeting
Wednesday 13th April
at 7.30pm in the Library

'Cotswold Way'
Led by Reverend Paul Sanderson

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

'Listens to the voice of the weeping'

Barbara Taylor writes: Although it meant I could not be in Manchester Cathedral for the commissioning of Cath and our trustees, it was a huge privilege, as a member of the worldwide board of trustees, to be commissioned by the Archbishop of Canterbury in the chapel at Lambeth Palace. During a service of Evensong, with liturgy written by our Faith and Policy team, the Archbishop said he "praises God" for the Mothers' Union.

Archbishop Justin Welby said: "The Mothers' Union in so many places is an organisation that listens to the voices of weeping. Whether it's in Burundi, the Congo or South Sudan; whether it's in homes in cities where, when the local football team loses, there is a 50 per cent increase in domestic violence; whether it is in the loneliness of weeping by people who are not suffering physically but are spiritually empty and lost; it is the Mothers' Union that exists in the vision of Mary Sumner to speak of those things that God has provided that bring hope, help and a future.



Central to this vision, he said, is "an extraordinary movement to support the family."

"There has never been a time when the family was not a place that needed the light of Christ shining within it to become what God has called it to be. You hold that treasure in your hands."

He added: "But there is also such a need for global women's groups. And you are among the most embedded, the most effective, the most widespread. There are few that can rival you – if any."

Reflecting on United Nations' research showing that no major civil conflict since 1945 has ended without the involvement of women's groups, the Archbishop said the Mothers' Union holds in its hands two aspects of "the most extraordinary treasure that God has brought together."

"You are one of the greatest of women's groups in the world, and you have the treasure of the gospel of reconciliation. What more could be needed to be transforming of the world in which we live?"

"Tomorrow we fly to Burundi and when we arrive we shall doubtless be greeted by Mothers' Union members singing and dancing, but that is just the tip of the iceberg. Nine-tenths of your work is hidden in the parishes and the dioceses, in the hills and the villages – doing the work of bringing hope and strengthening families, of supporting churches, of transforming communities.

"I pray that God will go on blessing you, and that your vision of the God who rises above all the fears, all the problems we face... will end with a vision of hope and confidence not in the Mother's Union and this great heritage, not even in this wonderful vision, but in the God who underpins and secures it all."

As I edit this magazine, I have just read the Archbishop's call for urgent prayer for Burundi:

"The situation in Burundi is deeply concerning and remains tense and unpredictable. Following my recent visit, I encourage churches and individuals urgently to pray for this deeply troubled nation. Pray for its political, church and civic leaders. Cry to the God of all nations and peoples for its peace, and the well-being of all its people.

Please join the Church in Burundi in prayer to ask God for an end of violence, a return to real peace and a political solution that will last and be the foundation for the development of one of the poorest nations in the world."

Mothers' Union
celebrating Women's
World Day in
Bubanza Province,
including
women trained in the
literacy programme
by Mothers' Union in
the Diocese of Bujumbura.



What's said in the Open Group

stays in the Open Group (but this lot was written down)!

Delilah was a little bit flighty
As she walked in her see-through nightie
To cut Samson's hair -
Left everything bare,
But the last word was left with the Almighty!

There once was a curate called Paul
Who walked along Hadrian's Wall.
He could walk for miles
With lots of smiles.
I am sure one day he will fall.

There once was a vicar called Dave
Who was so extremely brave
Watching his Blackpool without
Wearing a frown
Despite the fact they kept going down.

There once was a lady called Gill,
Who we think is extremely brill.
When Dave finds out what
We've been talking about
We think she'd better start praying.

Praise the Lord for the Open Group
Who meet to support the church.
Our members are loyal,
Never go off the boil
And we especially like our Joan Birch.

(there may be room for some more next month! Editors)



Saturday April 2nd
7.00 for 7.30 pm
Christ Church Hall
Compiled by Alison Fewtrell
Resident Quiz Master John Clegg

Come and be the new holder of the Stan Parkinson Trophy
Admission £3.50 Or £6.00 including pie and pea supper.

JOINT SOCIAL EVENT

ST.JOHN with ST.MARK CHURCH, HALL



ST.GEORGE'S EVE

Fun for all the family with food & entertainment

Friday 22 April
7.30pm

ST.JOHN with ST.MARK CE SCHOOL NEWS

- A special Mothers' Day assembly was led by the Year 1 class. There was also a Mothers' Day fair which was well attended.
- There are a number of vacancies on the School Governing Body that usually meets once every term. If anyone is interested in serving on this important committee please speak to the Vicar or to Sue Law, the Chair of Governors.
- The school's website has recently been updated. The address is www.stjohnwithst.mark.org.uk
- The school enjoyed a marvelously musical visit from Travelling by Tuba. The whole school community were treated to a whole variety of instruments being played at the start of the day. Then each class had a workshop where different parts blended together to form a final piece.

DATES FOR THE DIARY:

Monday 11 April

Start of Summer Term

Thursday 21 April

E-safety assembly

The school strives to be "a place where quality learning and effective teaching are delivered in order to develop a real sense of adventure and wonder".

PLEASE PRAY FOR MRS MOORE AND ALL THE CHILDREN,
FAMILIES, STAFF & GOVERNORS CONNECTED WITH THE SCHOOL

*St.John with St.Mark School, Athlone Avenue, Bury. BL9 5EE
Tel: 0161 764 5330*

PRAYER DIARY

for THE UNITED BENEFICE OF WALMERSLEY ROAD

- SUNDAY:** For all our worship services.
All who receive Holy Communion at home.
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 the Assistant Priests.
The Licensed Readers Our Study Groups.
Ecumenical Links within the benefice. Our ministry to those bereaved and have had funerals in church
- THURSDAY:** The Sunday School /Junior 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.

WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

Sat 2	7.30pm	Quiz (CC)
Sun 3		Second of Easter Services as Usual Easter Praise (CC hall)
	6.30pm	
Mon 4	7.30pm	Lent Group (150 W Rd)
Wed 6	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC)
Thu 7	2.00pm	Lent Group (CC)
Sat 9	9.30am	Walking Group
Sun 10		Third of Easter Services as usual
Wed 13	2.30pm	Easter Service, Priory
	7.30pm	Open Group (SJM)
Sun 17		Fourth of Easter Services as usual
Wed 20	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC)
Fri 22	7.30pm	Joint Social Event (SJM)
23 – 25		Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer focus
Sun 24		Fifth of Easter Services as usual
	11.45am	APCM (SJM)
Mon 25	7.30pm	APCM (CC)
Wed 27	7.30pm	Deanery Synod, St Thomas'
Sat 30	10.00am	Mothers' Union, Spring Council

Looking Forward to May

Wed 4	7.30pm	Archdeacon's Visitation, St Paul Ramsbottom
Thu 5	7.30pm	Ascension Day Services (CC & SJM)
Sun 15	12.30pm	Christian Aid lunch
	3.00pm	Bishop Chris's farewell service, Bolton PC



*Mothers' Union Worldwide Trustees
commissioned at Lambeth Palace on St David's Day
(see page 24)*

