

# Christ Church Walmersley and St John with St Mark Bury

## St John with St Mark Bury

in the United Benefice of Walmersley Road



**Stewardship of God's Creation** 

OCTOBER 2017 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 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion Family and Parade Holy Communion Service of the Word	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	Sung 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Eucharist Parade Service	St John w St Mark
10.30 a.m.	5 <sup>th</sup>	United Service	Alternately CC/SJM
Monday			
7.30 p.m.	1 <sup>st</sup>	Listening Prayer	150 Walmersley Road
Tuesday			
7.30pm <b>Wednesday</b>	Christian Meditation		St John w St Mark
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion		St John w St Mark
Thursday			
2.00 p.m.	1 <sup>st</sup>	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 Fairtrade status

#### HARVEST-TIME FOR THE STEWARDS

As many of you will know, I was born and brought upon the Isles of Scilly. In my childhood the economy of the islands was largely based on early spring flowers and potatoes. The tourist based economy of today was in its infancy. My father was a flower and potato grower. He also kept pigs, chickens and the occasional heifer. My mother worked alongside him – bunching flowers, keeping the books, raising children! As I grew up I was expected to help out as well – joining my Dad in the fields and helping to pack flowers into boxes to send to market. We all contributed to the family business. The well-being, success or failure, of the family finances depended on all of us – though it has to be said, mostly on my Dad! Dad was a seven days-a-week, all hours of daylight, worker. His work ethic was amazing and, I have to say, gave me a great example to follow.

Of course, as is the case in such business, despite all the effort put in, there were other factors governing success/failure – particularly the weather and the vagaries of the market. I can remember times when flowers were ready in perfect condition to go to market – the market was the old Covent Garden in London – but a winter storm prevented the ferry sailing. Flowers are not a commodity to be kept waiting – no cool transport facilities back then! All the effort came to nothing! But, although Dad would be very frustrated, even angry, at such an occurrence, he would still be up next morning and off to put in the effort and to use the time and abilities he had to work for our harvest. A harvest which was a means to an end – essentially providing food and shelter for his family.

Jesus often used examples of those working on the land in his parables/teaching. Harvest is mentioned throughout Scripture. When teaching about the Kingdom of God Jesus told his followers that the fields are ripe for harvest (John 4:35); and when sending them out to spread the word of God he said the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few (Luke 10:2).

As we look around the world in our time do we not see a plentiful harvest for God's Kingdom? Do we not see so many in need; so many not able to live at peace; so many seeking answers? Do we not see a harvest ripe and waiting to be gathered and brought into the Kingdom? Don't you think that God, our Heavenly Father, wants to reap this harvest; to care and provide for his family; to see his family grow and come to know him?

We are Jesus' followers today and we are the ones who are called to be the workers in the harvest – even if we are few!

In order to reap a harvest my Dad had to give his time, his labour, his ability and invest his finance into his business. He was a steward – a person who managed what he had to produce a desired result. You could say that he practised stewardship!

Jesus calls on us to be stewards - to use what we have to produce a harvest for the business we are in; and that is the business of the Kingdom of God. There will be times when, despite our best efforts, we will be met with disappointments and frustrations. Those will be the times when we should particularly support and encourage each other and look to Jesus to seek what may be a new way forward.

This month we will give thanks at our annual harvest services for all that we have been given – and may be, as a sign of our gratefulness, present a gift that can be given to those less fortunate. We are also holding a stewardship campaign. A time for all of us to think about – and act upon – our contribution to the business of God's Kingdom.

May God grant us all grateful hearts and His Spirit to guide us in our decision making for the advancement of His Kingdom.

Nigel.

#### HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

at Christ Church and St.John with St.Mark

 HARVEST FESTIVALS: Sunday 8 October Family & Parade Services – 10.30am

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

Envelopes are available in Christ Church for donations to Tearfund



HARVEST SOCIAL: St.John with St.Mark's after the service

- PRIORY HIGHBANK HARVEST SERVICE: Wednesday 11 October 2.30pm
- THE SPRINGSIDE SCHOOL HARVEST SERVICE: Tuesday 17 October 10.00am

"Come ye thankful people come....."



**Toiletries** Soap/Shower gel

Shampoo Toothpaste Tooth brushes

#### **Providing food packs** for those in need

Tins	Packets
Baked Beans	Cup a Soups
Soup	Cereals/bars
Ravioli	Tea bags (40's)
Beans & Sausages	Coffee (small jars)
Snaghetti	Pasta Rice Mondles in

Pasta, Rice, Noodles in Sauce Spagnetti

Hot Dogs Biscuits/ treats

Meat Balls Sachets of Hot Chocolate

Meat or Fish Dried Pasta

Tomatoes Rice

Veg- Potatoes, carrots, peas (Please no exotics & pulses)

One pan meals e.g. stews & curries

Rice Puddinas

Custard

Fruit (please no exotics)

Please note the recipients usually have only limited cooking facilities



The **Booth Centre** is a day centre that offers advice, activities and support to homeless people in Manchester The Centre is happy to accept all non-perishable food donations, however they particularly need:

- Coffee
- Biscuits
- Tinned meat (corned beef, ham, tuna, meatballs, hot dogs, stewing steak)
- Tinned potatoes & vegetables
- Porridge oats
- Jam, marmalade, honey, peanut butter and other spreads
- Sauces for pasta and curries

- Sugar
- Tinned beans and spaghetti
- - Tinned fruit, custard & rice pudding
  - Fruit cordial
- Sauces, salt, pepper and spices
- 5



If you know of anyone who would welcome a harvest gift, please let Margery or Dave know.

They do not have to be a member of the congregation.

We would welcome help with the distribution after the Harvest Service at Christ Church.



Today (15 September) we have released research that sheds light on the extent of food poverty in the UK. It shows that 1 in 50 British adults used a food bank in 2016. It also shows that 5% of British adults missed meals last year because they could not afford to eat.

These figures offer a deeply troubling reflection of food poverty in Britain. At Church Urban Fund we are calling for a response to this from all sections of society. Government, businesses, and individuals all have a responsibility to make a difference. The responsibility for tackling this issue cannot be left with churches and charities, important though this work is.

I encourage you to take a look at the report and our recommendations for action. We are working hard to bring an end to hunger in the UK and so any contributions you can make to this work will be greatly appreciated.

With every blessing, Canon Paul Hackwood, Executive Director, Church Urban Fund

#### FROM THE REGISTERS



#### **BAPTISMS**

August 20 Kai Wilson August 27 Jake Hollis

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

#### WEDDINGS

September 2 Adam Nixon & Charlotte Seddon

"Those who God has joined together let no one put asunder"

#### **BIBLE READINGS FOR OCTOBER**

16th after Trinity Oct 1 Ezekiel 18: 1-4, 25-32 Philippians 2: 1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32 17<sup>th</sup> after Trinity - HARVEST Oct 8 1 Timothy 2: 1-7 Joel 2: 21-27 Matthew 6: 25-33 Oct 15 18<sup>th</sup> after Trinity Philippians 4: 1-9 Isaiah 25: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14 Oct 22 19<sup>th</sup> after Trinity Isaiah 45:1-7 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22: 15-22 Oct 29 Last after Trinity – Bible Sunday Nehemiah 8:1-4a, 8-12 Colossians 3: 12-17 Matthew 24: 30-35



#### FLOWERS AT CHRIST CHURCH

Oct 1 In memory of Mr & Mrs Tasker

Oct 8 In memory of Pat Mongey and Joe and Flo Atkinson

Oct 15 Mrs J Wood

Oct 22 In memory of Mr and Mrs W.A.E Dighton

Oct 29 In memory of the Mather family

If you would like to make a donation for flowers in memory of a loved one or to celebrate an important occasion please contact Betty Winterbottom

#### **PARADE SERVICES**

#### At 10.30 am in both churches:

October 8<sup>th</sup> - Harvest November 12<sup>th</sup> - Act of Remembrance



#### CAFÉ CHURCH SERVICES

#### Dates for your diary:



10.30am

Sunday 19 November Christ Church

+

Sunday 3 December St.John with St.Mark



### FOR THE UNITED BENEFICE OF WALMERSLEY ROAD

#### PRAYER DIARY

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE SUBJECTS ON A DAILY BASIS

SUNDAY: For all our worship services. Those who play organ/keyboards.

All who receive Holy Communion in their own homes.

Those who read, lead intercessions and serve in church services

MONDAY: Our music ministry. The Study Groups.

Those interested in offering themselves for lay or ordained

ministry

Links with the other faith communities in the benefice.

TUESDAY: All the educational establishments in the parish.

School Governors. Nurserys, Pre-schools, Primary Schools,

St.John with St.Mark CE School.

Our pastoral care to all the community.

WEDNESDAY: Links with other church communities across the world.

Mothers' Union. Our care of the church buildings.

Mission Action Planning

THURSDAY: The Sunday School / Junior Church. Café Church services.

Our work with young people.

Those preparing to be married in church.

Our baptism ministry.

FRIDAY: Links with our local communities.

The PCCS and their committees

Those who provide and arrange church flowers

Bury Library Service and those who use our church halls.

SATURDAY: The Vicar, Curate and Assistant Priest. The retired clergy

The Licensed Readers & ALM.

Ecumenical Links within the benefice. Our ministry to those bereaved.

## From the Vicarage

- \* Thanks to all those who have participated in the discussions "A Vision for the Future" at Christ Church. The end of September marks the end of the consultation period and the Diocese of Manchester will now help us to move forward. The focus groups have been very useful and thanks must be given to Colin Barson and Heather Ford from Church House for all their help. Please pray for God's guidance as we seek His will for the future.
- \* 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 6.30-7.00.
- \* 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.
- \* Porch Boxes are desperately in need of food items to meet the current demand. A box is available at the back of both churches. Please support this worthy cause.
- \* A farewell service for the Archdeacon of Bolton who is retiring in December will take place in Manchester Cathedral on Sunday 26 November at 5.30pm.
- \* 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 next meeting of the MOB Men of the Benefice takes place on Monday 30 October. We meet at The Sundial beginning at 8pm. Geoff Stokes will be speaking about music.

- \* If you would like to donate towards the cost of the flowers in church, perhaps in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a special event, please speak to Betty Winterbottom (Christ Church) or Rosemarie Ashworth (St.John with St.Mark).
- \* 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 (June Banks for St.John with St.Mark and Jennifer Wood for Christ Church) if the building is otherwise occupied before anything is arranged.
- \* Material for the parish magazine should be given in by the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the previous month. Articles may be sent via email to wrub@live.co.uk

#### FROM THE COUNCILS

#### St. John with St. Mark PCC meeting of 7th September 2017

Upcoming social dates were confirmed including a book fair and coffee morning on 16th September and Harvest lunch on 8th October. However it was advised the Beetle Drive on 9th September had been cancelled as not many tickets had been sold.

Ian provided more stats from the Website, which included information on the time of day our users visit, where in the world our users are from (5.9% from Ukraine over the last 90 days) and what devices we are being accessed from. There have been a lot of people visiting the World War 1 section, which was put together with the help of Mark Hone from Bury Grammar School. Mark has been invited to speak at an Open Group meeting next year.

The Library closure is set for the Autumn but no date has yet been confirmed. Following recent consultation meetings the Seedfield TRA have decided to use the facilities at Seedfield Church when the Library closes. The Library closure remains part of our Mission Action Plan.

The Stewardship campaign is set for October and James Emmerson, the Diocesan Stewardship Officer has been invited to speak to both congregations separately during the 10.30am services on 1st October. It was noted that four Baptisms will also take place during that service at St. John with St. Mark however the families had been made aware this date coincided with our campaign.

Paul Vipond will undertake the Quinquennial inspection on Saturday 14th October beginning at 10.30am. He will begin in the Hall as there is a booking scheduled for the afternoon.

Under finance matters it was advised the coffee morning on 29th July had raised £304.00.

We have received our Parish share quote, which is based on weekly attendances and the income survey. It was agreed to accept the figure, which will be set for three years.

It was mentioned that the hedgerows and bushes on the west side of the building are becoming difficult to maintain and therefore we are to look into having these removed in due course.

Following on from the proposal by Helen Mallinson that Confirmation should only be made available to adults, a further discussion took place. It was agreed to accept this as our Parish policy, barring a couple of abstentions, and therefore we would introduce this as our preference going forward.

The Deanery Mission Action Plan was discussed. On Sunday 10th September handouts would be given to the congregation asking people to think about the following questions:

'What do we think we are good at in this Church? & 'What do you think we need help with?' Feedback on these questions needed to be provided by the 19th September Deanery Synod.

It was announced that the Christingle service would take place in the Hall on Monday 4th December, which would be the parade service that month.

The next PCC meeting at St. John with St. Mark is on Thursday 19th October at 8.00pm.

The Mission is a children's charity based in the centre of Manchester. More than one in three local children is living in poverty. We help children and families living in poverty in Manchester and Salford by alleviating the day to day impact of poverty and improving life chances.

#### THE CHRISTMAS PROJECT

At Christmas we provide children up to the age of 18 with new toys and gifts. The presents are new as we want the child to feel no different from any other children opening their gifts on Christmas morning.

#### Can you help by providing?

- \* A new toy, gift, book, toiletries or new clothes suitable for a children and young people up to 18 years old. Suggested value £10. No high value items please and do remember older children and we struggle to secure enough donations for this age group.
- \* Non-perishable food suitable for families. We are looking for donations of tinned fish, meat, beans, fruit, vegetables, soup, pasta sauce, pasta, rice, long life juice or milk, biscuits, confectionery.
- \* Giving to our Appeal online.

Please do not wrap any presents as we will have to remove any wrapping paper before distributing your kind gifts. If you wish you can donate a sheet or roll of wrapping paper which we can distribute to families to help them with the costs of these.

Last year we gave new toys and food to over 2,000 families. This year we expect the numbers referred to us to be even higher.

Help us ensure all local children can join in the fun and festivities.

PLEASE CONTACT THE VICAR IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP

## Wood Street's vision is that all children in Manchester and Salford should live a life free from poverty.

Find out more at www.woodstreetmission.org.uk

Or contact them on 0161 834 3140

or at 25 Wood St. Manchester M3 3EF

A recent report by the National Crime Agency (NCA) has suggested that modern slavery is "far more prevalent" in the UK than previously thought.

The extent of slavery offences – including trafficking, sexual exploitation and forced labour – has been underestimated and the report warned that more cases may arise.

The NCA has launched a campaign that will highlight this growing problem and encourage people to report suspected cases. One of the Five Marks of Mission refers to the need to "transform unjust structures of society." The Christian Church can play a vital role in this issue.

The Bishop of Derby, Dr. Alastair Redfern chairs the national Independent Anti-Slavery Panel and his chaplain, Philippa Rowen has wrote on her blog, "Church communities are uniquely placed to spot signs of modern slavery in the community. We need people that have their eyes open, who are aware enough of their surroundings that they can say when something does not look right."



If you have suspicions about anyone who may be involved in this illegal trade or you are worried that someone may be in forced labour should contact the police on 101 or phone Modern Slavery Helpline on 0800 0121 700.

Slavery is closer than you think

#### STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN



#### across the benefice

#### throughout October

I will not live an unloved life,
 I will not go in fear
 Of falling or catching fire.
 I choose to inhabit my days,
 To allow my living to open to me,
 To make me less afraid,
 More accessible,
 To loosen my heart
 Until it becomes a wing,
 A torch, a promise.
 I choose to risk my significance:
 To live.

So that which came to me as a seed,
Goes to the next as a blossom,
And that which came to me as a blossom
Goes on as a fruit.

Davina Marcova – quoted in Journeying in Faith by Alan Jamieson

October is traditionally the time in the Church Year when we celebrate Harvest – and this month also sees our Stewardship Campaign. Both themes come together to thank God for His goodness towards us and to think about the ways we can return some of that goodness in support for His Church and Kingdom.

On Sunday 1 October the Diocesan Stewardship Officer, James Emmerson, will be speaking at both churches at the 10.30am services to kick off the campaign. He will then preach at the joint service at Christ Church on 29 October to mark the end of the campaign. Throughout the month we will be thinking of ways in which we can support our churches in proclaiming the Kingdom of God. This is not only financial, but also involves the commitment of our time and talents.

At the 1 October service, a stewardship pack will be distributed to invite everyone to reflect on our support for God's church here in the United Benefice of Walmersley Road. The pack will include confidential response forms which should be returned before the end of the month.

Your circumstances may mean that at this present time you feel unable to increase the commitment that you currently offer – financial or otherwise. This is understandable and no pressure will be imposed on anyone. I am enormously grateful to EVERYONE who contributes in any way to serving the living God at Christ Church & St.John with St.Mark.

We live in changing and challenging times and this is sometimes reflected in our approach to church. There is so much to be thankful for in the life of both churches and they could not continue without very considerable commitment by so many people. We all have our own individual role to play as we continue the legacy of our predecessors.

This month's Stewardship Campaign gives us the opportunity to reassess our commitments as part of our Christian pilgrimage. Please consider prayerfully your response in the days and weeks of October and may God continue to guide and bless you as you serve Him.

With best wishes,

Dave

#### **STEWARDSHIP**

Taking responsibility for what we have and what we have been given.

## STEWARDSHIP OF OUR TIME, TALENTS & OTHER RESOURCES Offering of ourselves to help, support and enable the mission and ministry of the Church of God.

#### STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION

Part of the Fifth Mark of Mission
- supporting environmental and green projects.

#### STEWARDSHIP OF MONEY

Encouraging the biblical teaching of tithing and generous giving, which is both tax-efficient and organised.

These three aspects of stewardship should be regarded as linked and none should be viewed in isolation from the other two. Each has a particular focus and all are important elements in our Christian journey.

#### Week 1 Prayer for Autumn

For the promise of harvest contained within a seed we thank you.
For the oak tree within an acorn;
The bread within a grain;
The apple within a pip;
The mystery of nature gift wrapped for us to sow we thank you.



#### Week 2 Prayer for harvest

God of harvest, gardener supreme you place us at the centre, feed us, equip us and having provided for us look to a different harvest, a fruitfulness of lives in service to you and others.

God of harvest, feed us prune us harvest us that our lives might bring glory to you.

www. Faith and worship.com

#### Week 3

Lord Jesus Christ, so many people in this world are prevented from reaching their true potential, whether by being oppressed by others, or by lacking confidence in their own abilities.

Reach out to them, Lord, and lift them. Show them that you love and value them for who they are, not what they have, or have not, done.

You were able to use ordinary people like fishermen and bring out the best in them in order to spread your word of love, peace, joy and justice. Use us, Lord, as you used them.

#### Week 4

Almighty God,

teach us to appreciate the importance of being still, of taking a breather from the demands of life, however pressing they may be.

Save me from having no time to pause and ponder, from allowing the affairs of daily life so to dominate that I lose sight of what really matters.

Show me the difference between doing enough and doing too much, and help me to get the balance right.

Please would everyone (at both churches) who has promised to fill a box for this appeal, bring to church no later than the end of October.

Thank you Kelly Watson, Barbara and Nigel Silvester





14 members enjoyed a visit to Waddow Hall, near Clitheroe. The afternoon began with an introduction by Janet Taylor, who is very enthusiastic about the history of this house. Purchased 90 years ago by the Guide Association for the princely sum of £9,000, the Hall is now used as an activity and conference centre by the Association. A very interesting tour of the house followed, before we assembled in the dining room, overlooking the River Ribble, for a delightful afternoon tea. Many thanks to Janet, the catering staff, and members who provided transport.

The diocesan festival was held in the cathedral with Bishop Mark (of Bolton) and Archdeacon David present, along with mayors of 7 boroughs. Music was led by the worship band of St Clement Ordsall, Members presented a wide variety of objects to symbolise the many projects undertaken in Manchester – an uplifting, lively service of thanksgiving.

This month we look forward on 4<sup>th</sup> to a talk by Nigel Silvester. Some months ago Nigel told us a little of his life story – so we are now to hear the 'next instalment'. There will also be an opportunity on this evening to check out Mothers' Union cards, buy your 2018 diary, etc.

Linda Thompson will join us once again for an evening of crafts, on 18<sup>th</sup>. Everyone welcome to come and 'have a go' and enjoy fellowship.

## Mothers' Union in Bury Deanery are holding a **Get-Together**

at Christ Church Hall starting at 1pm on Monday 2 October There will be a Jacob's Join £1 – proceeds to Away From It All bring and buy raffle

MUenterprises stall

Please come along and support this event

Our meetings are open to everyone, so do come and see what Mothers' Union is all about.

Bob Taylor, Branch Leader

Imagine you are a young woman in South Sudan. The rains were plentiful earlier this year and you were expecting a good harvest. But civil war has torn your country apart. Your village was raided by soldiers. They took your husband and cattle. You had no choice but to flee with your children. The soldiers will have destroyed your crops and your home. Now you are wandering in the bush and face constant danger. You forage for what you can find to feed your children but there isn't much.



Will you give a gift this Harvest to ensure there is support for the most isolated and vulnerable around the world?

Just one story from Mothers' Union workers overseas. See http://www.themothersunion.org/harvest

#### ART GROUP OUTING

On a fine day in July, members of the Art group and family and friends ventured over the Pennines for their annual outing. Our first stop was the award winning Hepworth Museum in Wakefield, a modern building close to the canal. We wandered around, admiring the sculptures by Barbara Hepworth and learned more of her life from a schoolgirl in Wakefield to an international sculptor whose work is exhibited all over the world. There were sketches by her and by her friend Henry Moore which gave insight into the development of sculptures from two dimensional drawings. Members of the group were less impressed with the exhibition of paintings of India by Howard Hodgkin (we can do better than that!)

After lunch we moved on to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park at Bretton Hall and wandered through the many acres enjoying the wide range of sculptures. The map provided needed a little more detail and in the time we had it was impossible to see everything. One set of sculptures was described by one member as Yorkshire's answer to the terracotta army! We were blessed with fine weather and it was a very enjoyable day.

#### SATURDAY WALKING GROUP

On 12th August, Paul volunteered to lead our walk for us, and once again this was to be one of his 'recces' for the HF group in November. It was also an opportunity to take in four Churches, graveyards and war memorials all in one day.

We had a good number, with eight people turning up. Therefore we took two cars and drove to the car park at Padiham Town Hall.

We set off from here about 10.00am and picked up the banks of the River Calder, which we walked along for a while before entering some woodland on the way towards the Burney Way. We spent some time along here and had good views of Gawthorpe and Pendle Halls. This eventually led us onto the Pendle Way and overlooked the centre of Burnley. We walked along the Pendle Way until we arrived at the village of Higham. The 'Four Alls Inn', est 1798 is a familiar attraction in this area however we did not stop here. Instead we paused for elevenses at the first of our Church stops. This was the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Higham.

After our break and reflection we continued for a couple of miles through the farming communities, across Sabden Road towards Priddy Bank Farm. We then made our way towards the village of Simonstone and the second of our Church pauses, St. Peter's CE Church. This was undergoing renovation, and due to reopen on 3rd September, so we sat across the road from here and enjoyed lunch.

Due to the temporary closure of this Church, services were taking place at the nearby St. John the Evangelist Church in the village of Read, which was our next stop for reflection. It was observed that the footpath leading to this Church is called Churchwarden's Way.

Crossing Whalley Road we continued towards Gooseleach Wood, crossing the site of a dismantled railway line, part of the Great Harwood Loop Line, closed in the late 1950's. We once again picked up the banks of the River Calder and crossed the Altham Bridge towards the village of Altham. Here we paused at the last of our Church stops, the CE Church of St. James, Altham and wandered around it's grounds and studied some of the headstones. This particular Church has a plaque and memorial inside to recall the local Moorfield Colliery disaster in 1883. It was noted that 68 people died in this single disaster, which was more than the 65 people who had lost their lives during the First World War across the whole of the three villages we had visited.

Leaving here we continued along the River Calder and back towards Padiham, on the way stopping at the Padiham Memorial Park, which includes the First and Second World War memorial.

By the time we got back to the cars at 4.30pm we had walked approximately 11.5 miles. The later finish was due to our stops at the various Churches and memorials along the route. Although we did not go inside any of these Churches we enjoyed the time reflecting and studying the different styles and architecture of the buildings. The weather also fared quite well for us and once again, another enjoyable day.

On Saturday 2nd September Paul was performing in 'Thank You for the Music' at 7.30pm therefore we decided to do a shorter walk, which was a second opportunity to walk through Burrs, along the old Bury & Bolton Canal and to Elton Reservoir.

You've already read about this in July so I don't need to give you the details, other than it was another nice leisurely stroll, complete with good weather.

Best foot forward, David Robinson

#### **NEXT WALK**

Saturday 7th October

Meet at St. John with St. Mark Church Hall at 9.30am.

Michael Ryan will lead us on this month's walk, which will be shorter now we are in the Autumn, approximately 7 miles.

More details from Michael or David Robinson



It may seem a little early to think of Christmas

#### **BUT**

PLEASE speak to Gill now if you are able to join a team to prepare and serve **Christmas Day Lunch**. Help required beforehand and on the day. This will only go ahead if there is a team in place.

#### **AUGUST2017 WINNERS**

1st Prize ∼ Betty Roe

2nd Prize ~ Joan Robinson

3rd Prize ~ Rosemarie Ashworth



#### CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL

#### YOUNG PEOPLE'S REVIEW



#### THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC.....

and thank you to all who helped make last month's Young People's Review at St. John with St. Mark a success;

(see page 32)

All on stage, behind stage, front of house and everybody who attended on the two nights.

It was a great show and a lot of hard work went into the event.

Stand by for the Panto in February 2018

You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending.

C S Lewis

The 2017 Real Advent Calendar is expected to be available this month. It is a great way to share the Christmas story.

#### **MEANINGFUL FEATURES:**



- \* Behind each of the 25 windows there is a line from the Christmas story with colourful matching picture
- \* Free 28 page Christmas book
- \* Charitable Donation
- \* Uses quality Fairtrade chocolate
- \* 24 festive milk chocolate shapes
- \* recyclable box and tray

The picture on the cover is a beautiful illustration of the Nativity scene, featuring all of the main characters from the Christmas story. It reminds us that the birth of Jesus is at the heart of Christmas.

The accompanying book has a page for every day of advent which illustrates the story as well as providing a range of challenges and activities throughout Advent.

The calendar is available online, from larger Tesco stores and from selected retailers.

The Meaningful Chocolate Company
– making a big chunk of difference



https://meaningfulchocolate.co.uk/pages/real-advent-calendar for more details.



The next lunch will be on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 12.00 noon in the Hall at Christ Church

Everyone is welcome to share food and fellowship – so please bring your friends.

Everyone simply pays what they can, or what they consider to be its value

Future dates for your diary:

November 16th, December 21st

Moorside Winter Warmers will restart on **Tuesday, 31st October** 12 noon in Seedfield Methodist Church.

Please book in advance with Rosemarie

#### SUNDAY @ SEVEN



We next meet for our regular Sunday evening informal worship (song/reflection/prayer) on

Sunday October 1<sup>st</sup> at 7pm at Christ Church Hall (back room)

Do come and join us — it lasts about an hour - you will be most welcome!

On Wednesday 13th September the Open Group welcomed Sister Joan to talk about the work of the Catholic charity Caritas, which has been supported by St. John with St. Mark for the last few years.

We heard a brief history of the charity and of the many projects it now runs across the Salford Diocese, including Cornerstone, which supports homeless and vulnerable adults in Manchester and the Lalley Centre, which featured in a recent BBC documentary 'Sister Rita to the Rescue'.

Sister Joan also told us about the 'Big Sleep Out' organised by the Cornerstone project in support of the many thousands of people who endure sleeping rough on the streets.

We then went on to hear about the work of Caritas locally; the Bury centre is based in the St. Joseph's Presbytery on Peter Street. The main project in Bury is currently Red Door, which has set up a centre on the Chesham Fold estate to provide support for people facing various problems and challenges. Red Door provides the opportunity for individuals to speak to volunteers to discuss issues including welfare, homelessness, bereavement and general information. The project also stages an art club and has now begun a Christmas Lunch.

After hearing about the work of Caritas, Sister Joan led us in a reflection on homelessness before answering questions about the work of Caritas and Red Door. We provided Sister Joan with a food parcel and donation for Caritas as a thank you for coming to the group.

Caritas Red Door is always on the look out for volunteers who may be able to give time by simply helping to make cups of tea or being there to talk to people. Sister Joan provided us with some copies of the annual review of 2016 and there may still be some copies available at the back of our Church if you would like to know more.

David Robinson

#### **NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 11th October at 7.30pm in the library room **Linda Thompson leads a Craft Night** 

All are welcome

#### **HARVEST LUNCH**

St John with St Mark Church Hall
Sunday 8th October after the Harvest Parade Service

ORGANISED BY THE SCOUT GROUP
AND TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM ROSEMARIE ASHWORTH

ADULTS £4.50 & CHILDREN £3.00

#### **BACON BUTTY MORNING**

Christ Church
21 October
11.00am - 1.30pm
Compare your memories
of Walmersley as it was
with Brian Fewtrell's photographs

#### **COFFEE MORNING & BOOK FAIR**



St John with St Mark Church Hall Saturday 28th October from 10.00am

BOOKS

TEA, COFFEE & REFRESHMENTS

CAKES OTHER STALLS

ALL PROCEEDS TO CHURCH FUNDS



Friday 3rd November from 7.00pm in the Church Hall ALL ARE WELCOME TO THIS ALL-AGE EVENT FOR FUN, FOOD & FIREWORKS

**Tickets and more details during October** 



Friday 6 October 7 pm Freedom Church Bury

'Pop-up-shops' selling the best of pre-loved clothes, shoes and accessories.

A 'style show' including hair and make-up demonstrations and catwalk. Real-life stories, delicious desserts, great coffee plus much more.

BRAND NEW STYLE tickets online at www.freedomchurch.org.uk for only £5 per person.

For more information please contact claire.rose@freedomchurch.org.uk

#### WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

Sun 1		<b>16th after Trinity</b> <i>Launch of Stewardship Campaign</i> Services as usual
	7.00pm	Sunday@ Seven (CC)
Wed 4	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC)
Sat 7	9.30am	Walking Group (SJM)
Sun 8		<b>17th after Trinity - Harvest Festival</b> Services as usual
		Harvest Lunch (SJM)
Wed 11	2.30pm	Harvest at the Priory
	7.30pm	Open Group (SJM)
Sun 15		<b>18th after Trinity</b> Services as usual
Mon 16	7.30pm	PCC (CC)
Wed 18	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC)
Thu 19	12 noon 8.00pm	Light Lunch (CC) PCC (SJM)
Sat 21	11.00am	Bacon Butty and Walmersley photographs (CC)
Sun 22	10.30am	<b>19th after Trinity</b> Services as usual Young People's Fellowship (CC)
Sat 28	10.00am	Coffee morning and book fair (SJM)
Sun 29	10.30am	Last after Trinity  Conclusion of Stewardship Campaign  Services as usual at 8.30am and 9.00am  United Service (CC)
Mon 30	8.00pm	MOB (Sundial)

## Can YOU help to shape

# our vision for the future

at Christ Church?



Open meeting in the Church Hall Saturday, 30 September at 10am