



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



February 2018

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	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist 2 nd Parade Service	St John w St Mark
10.30 a.m.	5 th United Service	Alternately CC/SJM

Monday

7.30 p.m.	1 st Listening Prayer	150 Walmersley Road
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Tuesday

7.30pm	Christian Meditation	St John w St Mark
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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

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



Welcome to the February magazine, and I hope that you are all looking forward to spring time.

I would like to start by saying a personal farewell to Mary Tunstall who passed away towards the end of last year, and also Irene (Janet Lyssejko's mum), who passed away in January. Both these ladies were quite instrumental in welcoming me to church, and looking after me when I first started attending. I would probably go as far as to say that without them my journey to where I am may well have stopped before it started. But like February takes us towards Spring and new life and hope, I believe that they have been re-born into new life within the kingdom of Heaven.

It is at this time of year, that we look towards Spring and new life afresh. And more importantly this February, as our Lenten journey towards Easter starts this month, we start our own journeys of self-exploration of faith and belief as Spring approaches and offers new life, so our Lenten journey leads to the gift of eternal salvation that we celebrate at Easter time.

And every year people ask what are you going to give up?

Some people say chocolate, beer or red wine etc., you get the picture. Very few people though give up anything that actually tests them or is a real hardship. If we are to be honest with ourselves, most of the time it is merely materialistic things that people give up as opposed to what really matters. The trouble is that when we give up something for Lent we immediately want some of whatever we gave up. We suddenly think that we want that bag of crisps or chocolate bar. Well I'm officially telling you to have them - eat the crisps, drink the beer, tell them I said it's OK.

Yes there is a catch, I will try to help us to give up what really matters at Lent, I will tell you further down the page.

Lent is so much more than giving up small indulgences to make ourselves feel better. Indeed, Lent is a time when we are supposed to spend more time reflecting upon ourselves and upon our faith in God. We should pray more and read Bible passages to help us understand our faith and what we believe in.

So at this point I guess you have realized that it is 'time' I am asking us what to give up at Lent. Time is very precious to us all. It is the only thing that we cannot buy more of and we all have a limited amount of, so if we give up some of our time on the Lenten journey, we give a real precious part of ourselves.

Try to find a time each day to read a passage, and time for quiet reflection and prayer. Take time out from our busy lives to attend some of the services that lead up to Easter, and maybe join a house group. We could give more time to help others in need, or time to visit the lonely. So, this Lent I ask us to not give up anything, instead I say give. Give our time instead of giving up materialistic wants. If we give our time, the most precious thing we own, we might just be surprised how much we learn about ourselves in our Lenten journey.



God bless
Darren



If you are a devotee of Facebook please follow our church pages, and spread the word to those you know – this is a great way to share our mission among those who do not attend regularly.

Just search for **Christ Church Walmersley** and **St John with St Marks Church**

Announcement

THIS ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE IN BOTH CHURCHES
IN THE BENEFICE ON 26 NOVEMBER

The Revd Paul Sanderson, Ordained Local Minister in the benefice of Walmersley Road, Bury, will be providing informal oversight, leadership of worship, and pastoral ministry at St Stephen's Elton on a temporary basis whilst long term arrangements about future ministry in that parish are being discussed.

The incumbent, the Revd Dave Thompson, will also be offering his advice and support at St.Stephen's.

This arrangement will begin on 1 January 2018 and will continue until further notice, subject to review after 6 months.

Please pray for Paul as he begins his ministry at St.Stephen's and continues to serve here at Christ Church & St.John with St.Mark.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Services to mark the beginning of Lent
as we remember the 40 days
Jesus spent in the wilderness
in preparation for his public ministry.



14 February

St.John with St.Mark at 10.00am & 7.30pm.

Christ Church at 7.30pm



BIBLE READINGS FOR FEBRUARY

Feb 4 Candlemas

Malachi 3: 1-5

Hebrews 2: 14-18

Luke 2: 22-40

Feb 11 Next before Lent

2 Kings 2: 1-12

2 Corinthians 4: 3-6

Mark 9: 2-9

Feb 18 First of Lent

Genesis 9: 8-17

1 Peter 3: 18-22

Mark 1: 9-15

Feb 25 Second of Lent

Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16

Romans 4: 13-25

Mark 8: 31-38

Mar 4 Third of Lent

Exodus 20: 1-17

1 Corinthians 1: 18-25

John 2: 13-22

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

December 17

Jaden Pierre

December 30

Eden Baluk

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

Funerals

January 4

Jean Chesters

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

FLOWERS IN CHURCH

At Christ Church

Feb 4 In memory of Elizabeth Mather

No flowers in church during Lent

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).

PARADE SERVICES

at both ST.JOHN with ST.MARK & CHRIST CHURCH

11 February

11 March (MOTHERING SUNDAY)

10.30am

We have received letters from Porch Boxes thanking us for our donations at Harvest and Christmas, not forgetting the regular weekly contributions made. Secretary Alan writes:



The need of course never goes away, but is increasing year by year. We are at this point a long way away from our target hope – "***to be able to close the Porch operation because the need has gone away***". Unfortunately that target is nowhere in sight at this time despite the "prosperity" that we associate with the United Kingdom, in common with many western nations.

Thank you so much for your kindness, your generosity and your care.

From the Vicarage

* "I just wanted to send you an email to thank you for the donations you delivered last week and to let you know how much we appreciate it. They have been distributed between the residents and we are all very thankful for everyone who gave the donations. Could you please pass on thanks from us all at Victoria House."

This was sent to me by the Victoria House Night Shelter in Openshaw which received various items from the benefice over the Christmas period. These included food from the Christmas Day Lunch, clothes and bedding. Thanks to all who continue to support those in need.

* The Ministry Team consisting of all the Clergy, Licensed Readers and our Authorised Lay Minister meet every month – usually on the second 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.

* 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.

* Regular attenders to church are encouraged to join our planned giving scheme. Thanks to those who responded to this as a result of our recent Stewardship Campaign. If you would like to do so or would like some further information, please speak to one of the wardens.

* Meetings of the Churches Together in Bury take place bi-monthly usually on the third Monday of the month at various venues around the town, beginning at 7.30pm. The next meeting is in March. More details are in the Bulletins / News Sheets. Everyone is welcome to attend.

* 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 14th day of the previous month. Articles may be sent via email to wrub@live.co.uk

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS

St.John with St.Mark:	Sunday 22 April	12noon
Christ Church :	Monday 30 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 at for at least 6 months, please consider filling in a form to join the electoral roll. These can be found at the back of each church.

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

A complete revision of electoral rolls will take place next year.

Please note:

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

NEW ARCHDEACON OF BOLTON

The Bishop of Manchester has appointed Canon Jean Burgess, 55, to be the new Archdeacon of Bolton. Jean is currently Priest in Charge of the parish of St Alkmund and St Werburgh in Derby and Dean of Women's Ministry in the Diocese of Derby.

The Rt Revd Dr David Walker, said "I'm very much looking forward to Jean joining us as Archdeacon of Bolton. She is blessed with both a great heart and a wise head, both underpinned by a strong personal faith and a desire to learn and grow in Christ. She will be a huge asset in our leadership team, among the parishes, and in the wider community."

The Bishop of Bolton, The Rt Revd Mark Ashcroft, said "I am delighted that Canon Jean Burgess is going to join our team as Archdeacon of Bolton. She is passionate about the mission of the Church and brings a wealth of experience of helping churches grow and thrive. Her unique and special gifts will be a great asset to the Archdeaconry of Bolton and to the wider diocese. We pray for her as she makes the transition from Derby to the Bolton Archdeaconry."

Jean Burgess said, "I am thrilled to have been appointed Archdeacon of Bolton and I look forward to working together with the people of Manchester Diocese to enable us to embody the vision of becoming a worshipping, growing and transforming Christian presence at the heart of every community."

Jean is married to Graham and has three grown up children, Emily, Charlotte and Joseph and one grandchild Alice. She expects to take up her new post in the week before Easter 2018.

The new Archdeacon will live in Springside Road and will move in around the beginning of March. Her installation will take place in Manchester Cathedral on Monday, 26 March at 9 am

So long, farewell...

After months of preparing for our retirement the time has finally arrived! The last few weeks have been spent clearing out forgotten cupboards and downsizing with a capital D! By the time you read this we should be settled and unpacking in our new home.

The last 9 years have been enhanced by the warm welcome and friendship we received from the church family from the day we moved in. And which we hope will continue in the future!

I have valued having a 'home' church to belong to and David has appreciated joining me when he wasn't needed elsewhere in his Archdeaconry.

It was a privilege to be involved with the Pastoral committee, Messy church and Cafe church and explore the new ways of being church. I was honoured to belong to the Mothers' Union and become the branch leader.

We will remember our time with you all with great fondness and continue to pray for Christ Church.

In love
Kathryn and David

FROM THE COUNCILS

St. John with St. Mark PCC meeting of 7th December 2017

It was noted at the start of the meeting that we were sitting on new chairs in the crèche. This is thanks to Ian Banks who has brought these from work along with new tables. Some of them are also expected to be used in the library room. A donation will be made to a local charity for these.

There are no upcoming social dates in January: however a meeting took place in November to set the dates for 2018. The New Year's Eve party this year will not be taking place.

It has been confirmed that the library will close on 19th December; however it is likely to be early in January when the room is cleared. Discussions concerning future use of the room by groups will take place in the New Year.

Feedback was provided on the recent Stewardship campaign. A few people have responded to the Time & Talent forms saying they would like to get involved with new activities. These are being followed up. There have also been some pledges to increase giving on the financial review.

We are still awaiting the Quinquennial report.

The PCC were passed an update of outstanding actions from the Archdeacon's report in June 2016. This included a list of tasks that had already been completed and others which were still ongoing, but had been reviewed as of December 2017.

The Vicar reminded us that 2020 is the 250th Anniversary of the Parish of St. John, Bury and asked for any thoughts on how we can mark this occasion.

We took some time to discuss our charitable giving for 2017. We agreed to donate 10% of our previous year's planned giving to 10 separate charities and a discussion took place as to who we would like to support this year. It was also agreed to support Crises and the North West Ambulance's defibrillator appeal with the money taken from the loose collection at the Carol service, Christmas services and magazine greetings.

Some pump flasks have been purchased to aid the provision of tea and coffee at the back of Church or as an extra station in the Church Hall.

Mission Action Planning will be discussed at the joint PCC meeting on 19th December here. A brief social will be held before the meeting.

The next PCC meetings at St. John with St. Mark are Thursday 1st February and Wednesday 21st March at 8.00pm. This year's APCM will be held after the Sunday service on 22nd April.

Christ Church Walmersley PCC report 14th Dec 2017

1. An email was received from Donna Myers at Church House in Manchester which clarifies the position and appointment of the Trustees of Christ Church.
2. The new gates on Ackworth Street cost £1900. The money was taken from reserved funds of £2000, of which £1500 has been donated by the builders of the new apartments in Spurriers specifically towards the cost of new gates. The remaining £500 had again been donated by a private donor specifically for use in the purchase of new gates.
3. The parish will pay the full amount of this year's parish share.
4. The stewardship campaign in October had been positive in regard to increasing the giving in church and encouraging people in time and talents.
5. The diocesan report on the focus groups was discussed and it is intended to publish the report on the website in January 2018.
6. Meetings of the Standing Committee will be held regularly in the New Year, with particular concern for progress on the sale of the field.
7. The vicar reported that the group formed from people who had been confirmed this year had lost a number of children and parents.
8. Nick Smeeton may talk about vocations to the joint benefice service on the 29th April 2018.
9. The fees for the use of the church hall have been increased.
10. It was noted that Paul Sanderson would undertake a move to minister at Saint Stephen's Elton for a period to be determined, subject to review after six months.
11. Old Victorian music from the choir vestry is being donated to Saint Ann's Manchester archives.
12. It was agreed to purchase 10 additional large print hymn books.

National Marriage Week



This week as we celebrate marriage and remember that Jesus performed his first miracle at a wedding in Cana, I thought it appropriate to remind everyone of the Mothers' Union prayer.

Loving Lord, we thank you for your love so freely given to us all. We pray for families around the world. Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share your love through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life. Empowered by your Spirit may we be united in prayer and worship, and in love and service reach out as your hands across the world, In Jesus' name. Amen

We remember those whose marriage is in difficulty and pray for a peaceful outcome in which children are cared for and loved.

Shrove Tuesday,

Lord help us to enjoy and give thanks to you for the bounty you provide for us and remind us to share your gifts with others. And as Lent begins tomorrow, prepare our hearts and minds to reflect upon the temptation of Jesus for 40 days and nights and what that means for us.



As we give up some luxuries during Lent, help us to remember those for whom luxury is clean water, a roof over their heads, a warm bed or safety from war. As well as forgoing things in Lent may we become more loving and caring, less critical and self-centred. Amen.

Conserving God's gifts

The be-attitudes

Blessed are those who use low energy light bulbs,
For theirs is the light of God's kingdom.

Blessed are those who travel by train,
For they are on God's track.

Blessed are those who choose a car with low fuel consumption,
For they are in God's fast lane.

Blessed are those who insulate their homes,
For theirs is the warmth of God's love.

Blessed are you when you put yourselves out
to use energy from renewable sources
For you have kindled the flame of the future.



John Polhill

Time Out

I find this very appropriate to use in Lent.

Loving God,
 teach me to find time for you each day,
 if only for a few moments,
 so that I may hear your voice and discern your will.
Teach me to step back and take stock,
 so that I may then step forward,
 renewed in faith,
 strengthened in spirit and equipped for whatever you may ask,
In Jesus' name.
 Amen.





Members of our
churches and
community

enjoying
Advent and
Christmas



Lunch out!



On Christmas Day we opened the hall on Parkinson Street to anyone who wanted to have a good lunch and spend time socialising. We were prepared for 60 guests – one gentleman having contacted us at 8.30am on Christmas Day and walking up from Radcliffe!

With the help of an excellent team from St Joseph's, Ramsbottom, our own congregation, local businesses, some of the Jewish community from Prestwich and a local councillor we entertained and fed over 30 people on the day and sent out about another 20 food parcels. Caritas also provided presents for everyone.

As you can see from the photos, we had a wonderful time and many people have commented not only on the food but also on the friendship to be found. For some, it was the first time they had spent Christmas in company for a number of years.



We pray that the love that Jesus found in the stable with his family and those sent to rejoice with them was felt by all in our hall that day.



We'll be looking for another team next year. Watch this space. Happy Christ Mass!



Happy New Year to all members.

2017 ended with our annual Christmas meal, held at the Red Hall. It was a most enjoyable evening enjoyed by 34 members, spouses and friends. Members presented former branch leader Kathryn Bailey with a pendant and earrings, handmade in Scotland and designed with the Mothers' Union tartan, together with the promise of a rose bush for her and David's new home in Ripon. We wish them both a long and happy retirement with our love and thanks for their commitment to Mothers' Union.



Our February 7th meeting is "Desert Island Discs: Take 2" where members are asked to bring favourite music, readings, poetry, etc and give a brief explanation of what it means to them.

February 21st is the AGM followed by a bible study led by Rev Dave.

Everyone is welcome to our meetings held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month.

Bob Taylor
Branch Leader



Make a Mother's Day

Throughout our lives, our mothers help us to flourish and bloom. By celebrating your own mum with a MAMD virtual gift, you can help mothers around the world. Buy a gift, ranging from £6 to £100, and receive a card for your mum featuring native flowers from a country where Mothers' Union works – so she won't be without flowers on 11 March!!

Visit www.makeamothersday.org or pick up a leaflet in church for more details of how you can make a difference.

For over a decade Manchester has been a Fairtrade diocese – as a result of more than half its churches committing to buying and selling only Fairtrade tea and coffee. Both our churches made that commitment.

We committed to only using Fairtrade tea and coffee at all our church events. At St John with St Mark there is a regular Fairtrade stall, enabling us to buy other products. By so doing we show our support for farmers who grow our food but are not paid properly.

At Diocesan Synod in October we were challenged to consider whether as parishes we could take a further step in speaking up on behalf of vulnerable producers, workers and their families. Do we do enough, as we drink fairly traded tea or coffee and eat fairly traded bananas, to bring justice to workers in the poorest countries?

Recent political changes have created uncertainty about international trade. Meanwhile climate change and the global refugee crisis pose new threats. It is more important than ever to listen, learn and speak up.

Fairtrade Fortnight begins on 26 February. How can WE make a difference? Learn more at <http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/>

A Christian Aid prayer for Fair Trade

As I enter the street market
Wheel my trolley at the superstore
Leaf through a catalogue, or log on to the internet:
Be with me and help me
When I spend money
Be with me and help me
To see the market place as you see it
As wide as the world you love so much.
Be with us and help us
To share the markets we share
For all people.
As we live under your steady gaze,
So we can change, by your gracious love.
Amen





THE OPEN GROUP

The Open Group closed the 2017 program of events with a pre-Christmas get-together on Wednesday 6th December, attended by around 20 members. After drinks at 6.00pm, we were served a delicious meat and potato pie meal by Betty Alty's daughter-in-law Deborah, which was enjoyed by all. Thank you to Deborah for providing this.

Later there was an opportunity to participate in a couple of festive themed quizzes over mince pies, mints and coffee, with some small prizes available.

Thank you to all who helped in any way, either by setting up tables, serving food or providing raffle prizes; also to June Banks for the lovely home-made trifle.

I would also like to thank everyone who spoke at our meetings last year and for those who attended. There will be no meeting of the group in February and our next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday 14th March. Further details will be available soon.

David Robinson

NOVEMBER 2017 WINNERS

1st Prize ~ Betty Alty

2nd Prize ~ Betty Roe



DECEMBER 2017 WINNERS

1st Prize ~ S. C. Tanner

2nd Prize ~ Kelly Watson

CHRISTMAS 2017 WINNERS

1st Prize ~ Maureen Nuttall

2nd Prize ~ David Robinson

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL



SATURDAY WALKING GROUP

There was definitely a touch of Winter in the air on 9th December when we began our 'two breweries stagger'. In fact there was even some debate as to whether we would change the route before we started. However we

decided to give it a go and we were glad that we did.

Six of us met at Christ Church Walmersley at 11.00am after what had been an icy night, and begun our ascent up Walmersley Old Road towards Nangreaves. There was a lot of snow covering the ground at this point but it was really nice to see the Winter scenes. Something we don't seem to see too often these days.

Continuing along Bury Old Road we then made our way along the track to Whitelow Road, which we had to tread carefully due to the ice.

Crossing the A56 we then made our way down towards Ramsbottom and our first brewery stop, the Irwell Works, for refreshment.

We left there around 1.00pm and then continued the short distance to the Hare & Hounds for our lunch stop; we had decided to have lunch indoors this time as it beat sitting outside in the cold.



After our lunch we continued along Holcombe Road to the start of the Kirklees Trail. It had begun to snow lightly by this point. We walked the full length of the Kirklees into the town centre, where we concluded our day in

the Clarence, the second of the two breweries. We were pleased that we had taken the decision to complete our intended route, despite the weather.

Best foot forward, David Robinson



MORE FROM THE WALKING GROUP

For our first walk of 2018, we decided to repeat something from around 18 months ago, which was the three reservoirs of Bolton. This was ideal as it is mainly flat with plenty of paths. It was a lovely winter's day and we saw bright blue sky from beginning to end, although slightly chilly in the wind.

Six of us met at St. John with St. Mark Hall and drove to Jumbles reservoir, where we began our walk at 10.00am.

You spend a great deal of time exploring sections of the Witton Weavers Way on this walk and that is where we made our way along for the first part of the morning. The clear skies meant we could enjoy some great views as we crossed the moorland and farming communities. This first section of the walk took us past Turton Tower.

Our elevenses stop was at the Batridge Road car park by the side of the second of our three reservoirs, the Turton & Entwistle, and its huge fir trees. We walked by the side of this reservoir for a while admiring the views. It was observed that a small fir tree had been decorated for the festive season by a local in memory of a loved one.

We left the Turton & Entwistle and in a slight variation on the last time, made an ascent back up to the Witton Weavers Way towards Edgworth. Again we had some great views here of scenes such as Winter Hill.



Our lunch stop was around 1.00pm just before we crossed Entwistle railway station and Strawbury Duck pub to make our way along the woodland footpath to our final reservoir, the Wayoh. We crossed over the bridge at the purification plant here and then made our way back through the village of Chapelton to Jumbles Country Park and our return home.

A very enjoyable day out, and we had covered approximately 11 miles altogether.

There will be no walk in February. The next walk is scheduled for Saturday 3rd March, covering Holcombe Hill and Irwell Vale, meeting at the Lych Gate at 9.30am.

Best foot forward, David Robinson



Despite the closure of Moorside Library, the Knit and Natter Group are still meeting on Tuesday afternoons. We now have a new time of 1.30pm - 3.30pm

Everyone is welcome to join us from the local community and our united benefice. We pay £1 per week to cover tea/coffee, biscuits and sometimes cake.

We can provide practical help, wool, patterns and needles to knit for charity and local projects. Or knit for yourselves. If you cannot knit we can teach you. If you just want to come for a Natter that's great too. We are self funding and we have been a successful group for 5 years and want it to continue that way, supporting local charities, hospitals and overseas projects.

Please tell your friends. We look forward to seeing you there anytime even if not every week.

Kind wishes Tricia and Kath and the rest of the group.

Springside Primary School

At Christ Church we value our relationship with our local primary school. Our building is large enough to enable all the school to gather, and to invite families and friends to be part of concerts and services.

In addition the church and churchyard can be used for educational projects.

On our website you can see photos from the recent carol service and from a visit by Year 4 looking at Christian symbols. Lack of space prevents us printing these here but please see our back page for the stained glass collage prepared by Year 4 and RE teacher, Mrs Jenkinson.

We thank them all for sharing their photos, comments and collage with us.

***THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN WITH ST. MARK
PRESENT***



Written & Choreographed by Debbie Cooper

Thursday 8th, Friday 9th & Saturday 10th February 2018

7.30pm, in the Church Hall

Refreshments and tuck shop available each night

Tickets on sale from Joan Wild

Adults - £6.00, Children - £4.00

Family Ticket (2 adults, 2 children) - £16.00

EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

JOINT SOCIAL EVENT

ST.JOHN with ST.MARK CHURCH HALL

CHINESE BUFFET

& entertainment
to celebrate the Chinese New Year



Friday 16 February 7.30pm £7

PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME ON THE LISTS THAT WILL BE
AT THE BACK OF EACH CHURCH IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND

COFFEE AND BACON BUTTY MORNING

Bacon or sausage bap

£3, including tea or coffee

17th February 2018

from 10-30am until 1pm

Christ Church Walmersley Church Hall



There will be a display of framed original pictures by a local artist
on sale at £15 (which includes a £5 donation to the church.)

There will also be a book stall and
a display of photos of Walmersley

MORE EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY



COFFEE MORNING & BOOK FAIR

St John with St Mark Church Hall
Saturday 24th February from 10.00am

BOOKS

CAKES

TEA, COFFEE & REFRESHMENTS

OTHER STALLS

ALL PROCEEDS TO CHURCH FUNDS



The next **Light Lunch** will be on February 15th
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

THANK YOU



To everyone who supported the Christingle Services in
both churches, either in preparation, lighting the church,
counting the money, making donations and attending the
services.

Between the two churches **£485.50** has been forwarded to the
Children's Society. We have helped to shine a light in some children's
lives.



An evening with Compassion UK and Enable

Hosted by Churches Together in Bury

Sunday 25.02.18

6:30pm @ Metro Christian Centre

Join us as we listen to guest speakers from these two great organisations and understand how we, the local church, can partner with them.

Compassion: is a leading children's charity. At our heart is a relentless passion to empower every child left vulnerable by extreme poverty. For 65 years, we've been giving children the opportunity to escape the suffering and fear poverty brings. Our mission is 'to release children from poverty, in Jesus' name'. We work in partnership with local churches in developing countries, and link a child in critical need with a caring sponsor, like you. This enables us to provide exceptional care, and a holistic approach to child development, releasing children from poverty, into a hope and a future, in Jesus name.

Enable: we seek to help people with seen or unseen disabilities connect with God and understand that their lives are created intentionally, intricately and for a God-given purpose. Working in schools and supporting Churches to help people with seen & unseen disabilities explore the Christian faith and start a journey of discipleship, showing them that God has a plan and purpose for their life.

We hope you can join us!

Venue: Metro Christian Centre, Parkhills Road, Bury.BL9 9AU

The Egg that shares the Easter story

THE REAL EASTER EGG



Out of the 80 million Easter eggs sold in this part of the world every year, The Real Easter Egg is the only one which has an Easter story booklet in the box, is made of Fairtrade chocolate and makes a donation to charity from its sales.

The Real Easter Egg was launched in 2010. To date, over one million eggs have been sold, with 750,000 of these sent through the post directly to churches and schools.

The new look 2018 range is available to order. People are encouraged to buy one as a special gift for a family member or friend as a unique way to share the wonderful story of Easter.

The original egg costs £3.99 and the Special Edition £9.99. There is also a dark chocolate alternative with a cross shaped Easter story for £5.50.

The Real Easter Egg is available in three ways:

- * by people buying directly from The Meaningful Chocolate Company (please see forms in church)
- * from independent retailers, such as Traidcraft, Embrace the Middle East, Christian bookshops and cathedrals
- * from supermarkets. Tesco, Morrisons, Waitrose and ASDA will have stocks from the middle of February but only in their larger stores and in limited quantities

The Meaningful Chocolate Company is based in Lymm, Cheshire and produce the Fairtrade Easter Egg and the real Advent Calendar.

PLEASE SUPPORT THEM

WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

Thu 1	8.00pm	PCC (SJM)
Sun 4		Candlemas Services as usual
Wed 7	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC)
8 – 10		Pantomime (SJM)
Sun 11		Next before Lent Services as usual
Wed 14		Ash Wednesday (see page 5 for service details)
Thu 15	12 noon	Thursday Lunch (CC)
	2.00pm	Lent Group (CC)
	7.30pm	PCC (CC)
Fri 16	7.30pm	Chinese Buffet (SJM)
Sat 17	10.00am	Coffee morning (CC)
Sun 18		First of Lent Services as usual
Wed 21	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC)
Thu 22	2.00pm	Lent Group (CC)
Sat 24	10.00am	Coffee Morning (SJM)
Sun 25		Second of Lent Services as usual
	6.30pm	Evening with Compassion and Enable
Mon 26	8.00pm	(tbc) MOB



See page 24 for more details.