



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



**HARVEST**

*"Come Ye Thankful People Come"*

**OCTOBER 2018**

**50P**



**THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND**  
Diocese of Manchester

**CHURCH  
FOR A  
DIFFERENT  
WORLD**

## **REGULAR SERVICES**

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### **Sunday**

8.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark (Barritt Room)
9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Holy Communion 2 <sup>nd</sup> Family and Parade 3 <sup>rd</sup> Holy Communion 4 <sup>th</sup> Service of the Word	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist 2 <sup>nd</sup> 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
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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 <sup>st</sup> First Thursday Prayer	Christ Church Hall
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7.30 p.m.	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
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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



## *We Have an Anchor*

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This is not a particularly Anglican hymn, but do you know this one from its chorus?

We have an anchor that keeps the soul  
Steadfast and sure while the billows roll.  
Fastened to the rock which cannot move,  
Grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love.

I've no idea when or where I heard and learned this, but I've just typed it out from memory!

Anchors are strange things. They promise security but don't stop you from being buffeted about on the surface. On holiday, last month in Torbay, my son and I dared each other to swim out to the 5k buoy (speed marker, not distance!) and when we got there, we grabbed hold of the bright yellow buoy anchored securely to the sea bed but could we climb on it? Try as we might we were thrown about and tossed back into the water even though this was Torbay and the calmest of seas imaginable. The buoy was secure; it was anchored; we knew exactly where we were but we were still not having an 'easy' time of it.



I often think our Christian life is like this – we know where we're going. Our salvation is assured but the journey through it is sometimes tough and wild, sometimes placid or even boring... Our journey may be either easy or challenging at different times. We may rebel against what God wants us to do – like Jonah – and actually go off in the opposite direction. At times we may stubbornly refuse to do what is necessary to glorify God and build up his church, sitting brooding under our very own broom tree instead of recognising God's hand in wanting to bless us.

*Jesus is the anchor for our souls* – the hymn actually talks about the billows and waves rocking us about but it's *our souls that are kept steadfast and sure*.

Our journey this side of eternity may well be rocky, with inclines and steep descents, twists and turns that can't be predicted. I thought I was set for life as a Maths teacher (a job I thoroughly enjoyed) but God had other plans for me. I didn't quite do a Jonah but I did have a bit of a laugh going through the process.

We are all called to be **active members of the body of Christ** – our anchor – but in that calling we will be gifted and prepared to do things that sometimes make us uncomfortable and which we find challenging. Both inside and outside the church we will cross paths with people who may not be like us. They may dress differently, talk differently, vote differently, hold different things in high (or low) esteem. There are people who are not like us. There are people who we don't like. There are people who don't like us. But **there is no-one to whom we shouldn't show the love of Christ**. We really are fearfully and wonderfully made and 'God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.'



I am now embarking on a new chapter in my ministry – I am not sure exactly what I will find. It will be a new journey with only the scantest of maps.

The two churches here are also facing new challenges. The journey may be smooth or it may be choppy. I pray that we will all always keep our eyes on the anchor of our faith and rise to the challenge of abundant and exciting life as Christ's body both here in Walmersley and to the ends of the earth (well, Rochdale, at least).

With love and prayers  
Rev'd Gill x

## ***GOODBYE & THANKS GILL***

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Our Assistant Curate Gill has finished her post here in the benefice. She was ordained in June 2015 and this month will be licensed as priest in charge to the benefice of Belfield, Hamer and Healey in Rochdale.

Her licensing service will take place on 21 October at 7pm in Christ Church, Healey. Transport will be arranged for people to attend this service. Details will be available in church and on the notice sheets nearer the time.

At the time of writing, housing has still to be sorted so Gill will be seen around town for a few weeks but the draw of black pudding (and family) will keep her contacts here!



## ***HARVEST CELEBRATIONS***

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at Christ Church & St.John with St.Mark

**Harvest Festivals** – Sunday 14 October

*Family & Parade Services – 10.30am*

**HARVEST SOCIAL:** St.John with St.Mark after service

Donations of Harvest produce welcome.

Gifts will be distributed locally via  
the Porch Project and the Booth Centre

**THE SPRINGSIDE SCHOOL HARVEST SERVICE:**

Tuesday 16 October 10.00am

**PRIORY Highbank Harvest Service:**

Wednesday 10 October 2.30pm

## ***PORCH BOX AT HARVEST***

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Thank you to everyone who has supported our collections in the past, and hope that you will continue in the future. The need is even greater than ever for Porch to continue providing crisis food packs so please give generously.

There is a **revised list** below of their food requirements so please take note.

**They no longer need toiletries or baby items** as other organisations are covering this aspect, eg Caritas and Red Box.

### **Tins**

Baked Beans

Soup

Ravioli

Beans & Sausages

Spaghetti

Hot Dogs

Meat Balls

Meat or Fish

Tomatoes

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

One pan meals eg stews & curries

Rice Puddings

Custard

Fruit (please no exotics)

### **Packets**

Cup a Soups

Cereals/bars

Tea bags (40's)

Coffee (small jars)

Pasta, Rice, Noodles in Sauce

Biscuits/ treats

Sachets of Hot Chocolate

Dried Pasta

Rice

There are revised lists available in church or on the website, or you could save this for future reference as we act as a collection point in church and take the foodstuffs to Porch HQ on a regular basis.

Thanks again, Barbara & Nigel Silvester.

## **BIBLE READINGS FOR OCTOBER**

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Oct 7	<b>19<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b>	Genesis 2.18-24	Hebrews 1.1-4; 2.5-12	Mark 10.2-16
Oct 14	<b>20<sup>th</sup> after Trinity - Harvest</b>	Joel 2: 21-27	1 Timothy 2: 1-7	Matt 6: 25-33
Oct 21	<b>21<sup>st</sup> after Trinity</b>	Isaiah 53: 4-12	Hebrews 5: 1-10	Mark 10: 35-45
Oct 28	<b>Last after Trinity - SS Simon &amp; Jude</b>	Isaiah 28: 14-16	Ephesians 2: 19- end	John 15: 17-end
Nov 4	<b>All Saints' Sunday</b>	Isaiah 25:6-9	Revelation 21: 1-6a	John 11: 32-44

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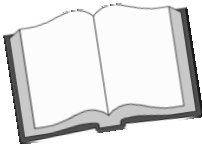
## **FLOWERS IN CHURCH**

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At Christ Church

- Oct 7 In memory of Mr & Mrs Tasker
- Oct 14 In memory of Pat Mongey  
and her parents Joe and Flo Atkinson
- Oct 21 Mrs J Wood
- Oct 28 In memory of Mr & Mrs W.A.E.Dighton

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).



## **FROM THE REGISTERS**

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### **Baptisms**

August 19     Brooklyn Bradshaw  
                     Rosie Bradshaw  
                     Oscar Wheeldon.

August 26     Ronnie Philip Peel

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

### **Weddings**

September 8   Thomas Mealor and Alice Payne

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

### **Church Funerals**

August 22     George Fryer

### **Funeral Services held at the Crematorium**

September 13 Brian Earing

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



### **PARADE SERVICES**

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

14 October (HARVEST)

11 November (REMEMBRANCE)

All at 10.30am





Our Café Church services this year have a common theme based on the report released by the Archbishops' Council in Feb 2017, '**Setting God's People Free.**'

This challenging report looks at 'the true treasures of the Church' – i.e. YOU and why change is needed for church growth. The final two services will once again look at EVERYONE in church can be empowered and liberated for fruitful, faithful mission and ministry not just on Sundays but throughout the week too.

### **NEXT CAFÉ CHURCH SERVICES**

(please note new dates)–

**Christ Church: 10.30am 25 November**

**St.John with St.Mark: 10.30am 16 December**



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Christ Church is open

Monday from 8.30 until 9.30am

Drop in for Tea, Coffee Toast and Chat



Everyone Welcome

## From the Vicarage

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\* As Gill moves onto pastures new and Paul continues to minister at St.Stephen's, the subsequent reduction in clergy availability means that changes have to be made to our service pattern. It will not be possible for every 10.30am service to be a Holy Communion service at St.John with St.Mark from this month.

Following a vote of the 10.30am congregation, it has been decided that the service on the THIRD Sunday of each month will not be a Communion service. It will be A Service Of The Word or Morning Prayer led by one of our authorised Lay Ministers. There is a 10.30am Communion service at Christ Church on the third Sunday as well, of course, as the 8.30am service which is unaffected. I am very grateful to both Ralph and Keith who continue to minister here and help ensure that our other services will continue as normal.

I would like to officially welcome Pam Cowie to our Ministry Team. Pam is a Reader Emeritus who has much experience as a Licensed Reader in the Diocese. She has served in parishes including Bamford, Stoneclough, Clifton and Holyrood, Swinton and we welcome her to the benefice. Pam will be leading the 10.30am service on Sunday 21 October.

A reminder that the 8.30am service at St.John with St.Mark's now takes place in the Barritt Room and entry is via the church hall.

\* The Gateway Ministry services are continuing in Christ Church Hall every Saturday evening. More details are available elsewhere in this magazine. Please support them if you are able.

\* Thanks as ever to those who contribute to our regular copper collections. These are always well received by the charities that we donate to and we welcome new suggestions of organisations to support.

\* This month's meeting of the MOB – Men of the Benefice – will be held on Monday 29 October. We meet at the Sundial from 8.00pm.

\* 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 contact one of the team.

\* 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.

\* Both the churches in the United Benefice of Walmersley Road are now on Facebook! Search for both Christ Church, Walmersley and St.John with St.Mark, Bury and "like" and "follow" to receive messages from the site. We now also have a twitter feed – the twitter handle is @cofewalmersley.

\* 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.

\* Finally I would like to thank Gill for her ministry in the benefice over the past three years as she moves to Rochdale. I am very thankful for her friendship, support and help during this time. Please pray for her as she begins a new ministry.

\* 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](mailto:wrub@live.co.uk)

**St. John with St. Mark PCC meeting of 6th September 2018**

Safeguarding – There may be some new panto helpers that will need to be identified.

Social dates – Afternoon tea on Saturday 29th Sept, Harvest lunch on Sunday 14th Oct, coffee morning & book fair on Saturday 27th Oct & firework party on Friday 2nd Nov.

We received a demonstration of various stairlift designs for disabled access between Church and hall. Costs ranged from £10,000 to £15,000, not including electrics and building work. Two of these designs will be explored in more detail.

Following the awarding of funding for the Pantomime group, Debbie has written to the PCC proposing that the stage curtains are replaced, stage walls painted black and the outer framework repainted.

Kelly Watson has written to the PCC asking that we review the Church Parade. Kelly proposed that we have five parades a year (Harvest, Remembrance, Christingle, Mothering Sunday and one other). A meeting with the uniformed groups will be held on 26th Sept to discuss this plus the suggestion that this year's Christingle be held on Wednesday 12th Dec.

The 8.30am Sunday service will continue in the Barritt Room for now but this will be kept under review.

It is the 250th anniversary of our Parish in June 2020. The Vicar will see if the Bishop of Manchester is available to join us.

Recent expenditures include servicing of the lighting conductor and renewal of the hall premises licence.

The coffee morning on 1st Sept raised £386.

A donation has been received towards improving the sound system in Church.

The 100 club 'year' starts again this month, anyone wishing to join or renew please contact Ian.

We will keep the chapel heating on low continuously through the Winter again from October.

The Vicar said we have a designated area for memorials in the Garden of Remembrance.

Health & Safety – The defibrillator kit will arrive within 28 days. Volunteers will be needed to learn how to use this. Red Cross First Aid training to be arranged in the next few months.

Arrangements following Gill's departure were discussed. The Vicar advised that a review of the 10.30am service is needed as he feels there will be insufficient clergy to have a Eucharist every Sunday. Therefore, Dave proposed that on the third Sunday of the month we only have a service of the word at 10.30am. The PCC felt that the congregation should have a say on this. Therefore, on Sunday's 9th & 16th Sept there would be ballot papers in Church for people to say whether they would prefer a service of the word at 10.30am at St. John's or to not have a service at St John's and attend Eucharist at Christ Church. There may be other options to be considered including re-scheduling services to allow a Eucharist to happen.

Thanks were recorded for Gill's Curacy and for her service to the PCC. Gill's final service in the Benefice is on Sunday 30th Sept at Christ Church Walmersley and induction at Christ Church Healey will be Sunday 21st Oct at 7.00pm.

The next PCC meeting will be on Thursday 25th October at 8.00pm.

Unfortunately, our speaker for our second meeting in August had to cancel because of illness. She has kindly offered to come in October. A Songs of Praise was hastily arranged and our thanks go to Geoff Stokes for offering to play the keyboard.



In September, the branch celebrated its 109th birthday with a buffet provided by members. A bring and buy sale realised £33. This amount together with a further £227.25 raised from the countries quiz will be forwarded to MU Summer of Hope appeal to make hope shine more brightly in communities in the UK and around the world. The winner of the quiz was Joan Riggs. Thanks to everyone who gave so generously.

Our October meetings are Two Greats, a talk by David Andrews and Operation Christmas Child with Jan Bennett who will tell us more about this charity.

On 29th of October MU Manchester is holding an end of triennium celebration in the new Stoller Hall (part of Chethams School near Victoria train station) at 7.30pm. Tickets are priced at £5 and can be ordered through me. It should be a fitting end to Cath's term as Diocesan President. Everyone is welcome and we can arrange transport to and from Bury Metro if required.

Bob Taylor  
Branch Leader

**Dates for your diary:**

Oct 29<sup>th</sup> Evening of Celebration at the Stoller Hall

Nov 9<sup>th</sup> Provincial Celebration Eucharist at York Minster



## ***IN MEMORIAM: George Fryer***

*George died in Bury Hospice on 10 August 2018  
at the age of 86. The Vicar writes...*

George was Churchwarden of Christ Church when I arrived in the parish in July 2013. He immediately impressed me with his practical knowledge and no-nonsense approach. He would think nothing of unblocking a drain or going up the tower to fix a problem. Such things were second nature to him.

It is impossible to think of George without also thinking of Sybil. They were a partnership – living and working together. They met in Horwich where after their marriage – as the name would suggest - they owned a fish and chip shop in the town.

A move to Walmersley and the greengrocers shop followed a few years later. The shop was on the end of the row of shops on Walmersley Old Road, near the traffic lights. George also provided a delivery service to the rural communities of the area.

After retirement from the shop George continued his life of service to the community by becoming a governor of Springside School and latterly churchwarden of Christ Church.

At his funeral in the building he loved and cared for over several years, George's son and daughter – George junior and Lesley - spoke of their father's dedication and their image of him as a role model. George regularly travelled to Australia to visit his son and family.

George's ashes will be interred in our Garden of Remembrance after our Harvest Festival on Sunday 14 October. The family are planning to place a bench in the area near this Garden as a memorial to him.

We give thanks to God for the life of George Fryer  
May He Rest In Peace and Rise in Glory.

## QUIET MOMENTS IN OCTOBER

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### Week One As we prepare for Harvest - a great psalm of praise

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness;  
come before him with joyful songs.

Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving

and his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;  
his faithfulness continues through all generations.



### Week Two 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.

*Faith and Worship.com*



## Week Three The Christian Journey

Our walk with God

is never a lonely walk, it is a family occasion,  
if taken in the company of God's children.

If we lag behind, there are those who will turn  
and offer words of encouragement,  
hold out a hand and offer assistance  
over stiles and other obstacles,  
share refreshment, help us from our knees when we stumble.

Our walk with God

is never a lonely walk. It is a joyful experience,  
as along the path others join us,  
attracted by the company of God's children,  
singing the same songs of praise that angels sing,  
following a path worn down by tears and joy,  
and sacrifice.

Our walk with God

is never a lonely walk, for he walks with us,  
on a track that leads to a glorious destination.



## Week Four

Heavenly Father, we pray for all those in distress,

For those caught up in the middle of war	- we pray for peace
For those who are captives	- we pray for freedom
For those facing hatred and intolerance	- we pray for love
For those fleeing for their lives	- we pray for protection
For those who are desperate	- we pray for hope
For those who are strangers in a strange land	- we pray for friends
For those who administer care	- we pray for safety

We pray that all of those caught up in circumstances out of their control that the Holy Spirit would be ever present in their time of need.



## **SATURDAY WALKING GROUP**

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We gathered at St. John with St. Mark Hall on Saturday 13th August for a rerun of a walk we had previously undertaken 18 months earlier. The reason we chose to do this again was owing to the previous encounter being so extremely muddy in places that we were up to our ankles. As we had just finished our heat wave we suspected things may be considerably different.

Ralph was our leader for this one and, after a detour to St. Pauls' vicarage to collect Gill we met Ralph at St. Thomas' and continued through Openshaw Park before picking up the banks of the River Roch. Our walk took us through Hollins and then towards St. George, Unsworth. The last time we did this walk we enjoyed morning coffee here but due to us clashing with their Summer barbecue that could not happen this time, so we carried on through Unsworth Pole past the cricket club and then crossing the M66 motorway bridge. After a brief few minutes, we were pleased to leave the noise of the motorway behind to pick up the more peaceful and scenic Egypt Lane & Egypt Farm, where we had a refreshment break.

Continuing through Simister we arrived at our troublesome spot from last time and the surroundings were much more pleasant. However it was easy to see the effects of the hot Summer with overgrown trees and parched footpaths.

We arrived at Heaton Park around 12.30pm where we had lunch and stayed for a short while to watch the fun runners and other activities. There was a lot going on in the park that day and we also paused for a minute at the Papal monument to Pope John Paul II. Our journey ended on the tram back to Bury. Paul advised it was also the St. Stephens' barbecue that afternoon, so could not stay for liquid refreshment at the Clarence.

Thanks to Ralph for taking us on this much less muddy encounter.

The walking group did not meet in September due to a busy month for regulars however we will be back on Saturday 6th October, for an as of yet undecided route led by Michael Ryan, with some possible input from others. Meet at St. John with St. Mark Church Hall at 9.00am. We also hope to plan in advance then we know what we are doing over the coming months.

Best foot forward, David Robinson



## ***THE OPEN GROUP***

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The Open Group were delighted to welcome Nigel Silvester on 12th September, and we were grateful to him for agreeing to lead this evening, as a last minute swap with Paul was required.

Nigel's talk was entitled 'Tales of a Scilly Man', spelt with a 'c', and focussed on Nigel's life and growing up on the archipelago. We were advised that Nigel is a 'Scillonian', the term used for people related to Scilly.

We heard how Nigel's parents came to be on Scilly, with some interesting and humorous stories from his growing up there. We understand he made an early TV appearance on a regional documentary covering the hospital when he was born, and there were anecdotes from school life including hunting for false teeth, and how it was necessary for each pupil to stand in front of the rest of the school to sing a verse of a hymn solo. Imagine being asked to do that! Immortal Invisible is now significant to Nigel for this reason. Learning to swim on Scilly is also an obvious requirement.

Nigel advised that he was educated on the mainland in Truro, and famous students at his school at that time included Roger Taylor, the Queen drummer and Sir John Curtice, a professor of politics.

We heard about Nigel's career as a Customs & Excise Officer chiefly dealing with VAT, something that would apparently never catch on, he was advised when it was first introduced! We also could not imagine Nigel as a VAT debt collector sending round the bailiffs, but somebody had to do it.

The talk was complete with a photograph album of significant events, along with various props and was very informative. We do think though that there may other chapters to come so perhaps we may need Nigel to return to the Open Group next year. Thanks for an enjoyable evening.

David Robinson

#### NEXT MEETING

**Let's get Crafty! Craft night with Linda Thompson**

Wednesday 10th October at 7.30pm in the Barritt Room

All are welcome



#### ***FIRST AID TRAINING***

British Red Cross will be hosting a First Aid course in St. John with St. Mark Church Hall (Barritt Room) on Saturday 10th November, two hours, from 9.15am. The course will be on helping 'Adults at greater risks of falls'.

An everyday First Aid session is approximately two hours long and helps people become more confident to help someone by teaching First Aid skills that are easy to do, easy to learn and easy to remember. The British Red Cross work alongside other organisations, such as our Churches, and tailor their First Aid training to meet our specific needs in an inclusive and flexible way. Each participant receives a certificate of First Aid learning.

Please contact Ian Banks if you would like to register an interest in attending this free course. The ideal class size is about a dozen but they would be happy to host more sessions if there is sufficient uptake.

## **REMEMBRANCE 100**

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**DID YOUR RELATIVE SERVE IN THE ARMED FORCES?  
DID THEY ATTEND BURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL?**

If so, we are looking for relatives of family members to get in touch.

As 2018 marks 100 years since the end of the Great War, we are asking members of the community to come forward if your relative was a former pupil of our school. We intend to commemorate them in our Remembrance Day service on 9<sup>th</sup> November and would like to know details about when they attended our school and when they served. Relatives will be invited to attend the service.

We will also be participating in the national 'There but not There' installation to remember the fallen of the First World War. We intend to take the names of those who made the ultimate sacrifice in this conflict off the Rolls of Honour and back into the spaces they left behind in the forms of silhouette installations in our service. For more information, please visit [www.therebutnotthere.org.uk](http://www.therebutnotthere.org.uk)

If you would like to get in touch, please contact [offman@burychurch.bury.sch.uk](mailto:offman@burychurch.bury.sch.uk) or alternatively, phone school on 0161 797 6236 and ask to speak to Mrs Stedman, Head of RE.



**THERE BUT NOT THERE**

COMMUNICATE. EDUCATE. HEAL

## **CHRISTIAN AID APPEAL HARVEST 2018**

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### **Together we're powerful**

This Harvest, we stand together with women like Aster in Ethiopia, to rejoice and call for gender justice through Christian Aid's 2018 Harvest Appeal. As we celebrate and praise God for providing all we need, we also stand with our sisters whose harvests are uncertain.

For the once-overburdened Aster, life was a constant struggle, simply because she is a woman. Farming, cooking, carrying firewood – no matter how hard she worked, she was unable to save enough money to support her family. But Aster refused to be beaten by poverty.

She came together with women in her village to set up their own shop, powered by the sun. With training from our partner, Aster and her sisters turned this shop into a thriving business that benefits her, the community and the environment.

In Aster's own words:

'Coming together as a women's group, it's like adopting sisters; another family. We share happiness and sorrow together. They share my burden and help me face my challenges.'

Solar energy has given Aster's village not just literal power – they once had no access to electricity – but also the power to change their lives. Now Aster and her sisters can save for the future, make their children proud, and challenge traditions while caring for the planet. All this in an environment where climate change hits women and girls the hardest.



Aster's sister, Ari, says: 'In the past women were not recognised and we were not free. Having money as women was difficult. We didn't have any reserves for the hard times or the drought.'

Now thanks to you, women like Aster have the power to own their own businesses, adapt to climate change, and nurture their environment for future generations. They have the power to transform their lives and communities.

'There are many members, yet one body in Christ. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.' (1 Corinthians 12:20,26)

When we stand together as one body, we rejoice to see Aster's life transformed. With your support this Harvest, we can expand on our solar energy initiatives across Ethiopia, Malawi, Burkina Faso and Honduras. Your gift will help rural women improve their lives through access to sustainable energy – £75 could train a group of women to use solar power to run their own businesses.

**This Harvest, your gift goes further. Every £1 you give will be worth £5, thanks to funding from the European Union. That's five times the number of lives you can transform this year.**

Together we're powerful. And together, we can create a world where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.

*If you would like to donate to Christian Aid's harvest appeal you can donate online at [caid.org.uk/harvest](http://caid.org.uk/harvest) or to donate by Telephone call 020 7523 2493: Cheques, Postal Orders, charity vouchers and direct debit forms can be sent to: Christian Aid 35-41 Lower Marsh London SE1 7RL alternatively there are envelopes at the back of church which you can hand to a church warden or member of clergy.*

Kind regards, John

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As I have just passed a milestone birthday, thoughts on not being old come to mind.

Apparently, you are not old if:-



You can entertain yourself;  
You can entertain someone else;  
You can entertain a new idea!

Perhaps I am not quite as old as I thought! Margery

## INTERFAITH MEDITATION FOR PEACE - MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL, MAY 2018

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Fr. Laurence Freeman opened with a talk that warmed the hearts of many to the all-inclusive heart of our World Community for Christian Meditation. He presented a contemplative dimensions approach to reconciliation, peace and healing, in the aftermath of the experience of terrorism, as experienced in the City of Manchester, on 22nd May, 2017.

Making reference to the strength of the spirit of unity of the people of Manchester Fr. Laurence's delivery celebrated their strength of spirit as he poised the suggestion of it exemplifying the contemplative way toward interfaith relations. A way in which we do not merely conduct our relationships with tolerance, in respect to how we respond to the diversity of our expressions, our manifestations of how we worship, conceive or approach God but that the contemplative dimension of all the world traditions calls for us to learn from one another out of this rich, expansive diversity about the actual richness and expansiveness of each of our traditions and of God.

He continued, that it is a call to the continual re-affirmation of the positiveness of human nature and the world, rather than to hold onto the negative, destructiveness that we can be more tempted to be led toward in the aftermath of tragedy and crisis.

Fr. Laurence continued by unfolding the way of contemplative practice, corresponding to the worlds differing traditions, specifically the need for a sacred space, entry into stillness and silence, as a way of being, moving the Cathedrals collective, of 160, into meditation.

An ecumenical contribution period involved everyone in a tricyclic Hindu body prayer sequence whilst other representatives, associated with the Faith Network for Manchester and the WCCM, contributed with their unique readings from their particular faith, or persuasions of Judaism, Buddhism, Islam and Humanist.



The World Peace Prayer Society introduced the "International Flag Ceremony for Peace", in which each person in the Cathedrals gathering took their turn in collecting and waving an international flag as a prayer for peace to prevail in that particular nation was uttered by all.

The bearing of flags culminated with Fr. Laurence, symbolically, brandishing the larger, Earth Flag, as all verbalised "May peace prevail on Earth". "What a Wonderful World", echoed, initiating Fr. Laurence leading a meditative walk around the cathedral, still brandishing the Earth Flag as each person, also, carried an international flag.

From out of a second period of meditation, Fr. Laurence flowed into his closing talk. Making reference to the song "What A Wonderful World", he spoke of our need to reaffirm, hold onto the positivity of life, of the world. Despite the crisis and tragedy around us in the world, there is much of beauty and wonder in life, in the world to focus on, to enjoy, to reaffirm "What A Wonderful World." He spoke of us all learning, from each other, how we play our role in making this so, individually and collectively, inter-faithfully. By David McKenna, Benedictine Oblate of the WCCM.

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## ***GATEWAY MINISTRIES***

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Gateway Ministries is a group of Bible believing Christians, who are on a mission to bring hope, encourage faith and inspire revival. Starting on Saturday 8th September at 18:30, we meet every Saturday night in the Walmersley Church Hall.

There will be some singing and some prayer, but our main focus will be teaching on the book of Revelation, and what this final book of the Bible has to say to us today.

**WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO COME ALONG...**

## ***LIGHT LUNCHES***

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The next **Light Lunch**

will be on

**October 18th**

at 12.00 noon in the Hall at Christ Church

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

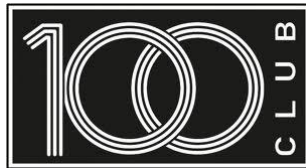


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### **AUGUST 2018 WINNERS**

First Prize: Rosemarie Ashworth

Second Prize: Ray Smith



**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL**

### ***CONGRATULATIONS***

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to the Scouters bowling team, who won the Divisional Cup Final (for the second division) beating the Seedfield D team 179 points to 164, on Tuesday 28th August, at Stanley Conservative Club.

The team consists of members of the 11/24 Bury Scout Group along with people from our Churches.

They will be presented with their award at the annual presentation evening on Friday 23rd November.

## **EVENTS FOR OCTOBER**

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### **HARVEST LUNCH**

St. John with St. Mark Church Hall  
14th October after the Harvest Parade Service

ORGANISED BY THE SCOUT GROUP

COST & MENU TO BE CONFIRMED BUT TICKETS WILL BE  
AVAILABLE FROM ROSEMARIE ASHWORTH IN DUE COURSE



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

St. John with St. Mark Church Hall  
Saturday 27th October from 10.00am

**BOOKS**

**TEA, COFFEE & FOOD AVAILABLE**

**CAKES**

**OTHER STALLS**

Stock up on those much needed books for the Winter months  
ALL PROCEEDS TO CHURCH FUNDS

## QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday October 13th  
Christ Church

7.00pm for 7.30pm start  
£4 entry £2 pie and pea supper



## **FIREWORK FAMILY FUN A JOINT SOCIAL EVENT**



Join us for a night of fun at St. John with St. Mark  
Church Hall on Friday 2nd November from 7.00pm to 9.30pm

**FIREWORKS, CHILDREN'S CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES, HOT FOOD, CAKES,  
CHILDREN'S SNACKS & DRINKS**

Basic licensed bar  
Tickets £3.00 (adult) & £2.00 (children) are available from  
Rosemarie Ashworth at Church or by telephone

All children must be accompanied by an adult

## **CHRISTMAS FAIR**

SATURDAY 24 NOVEMBER from 11.00am

*St. John with St. Mark  
CHURCH HALL*

*ITEMS REQUIRED FOR THE VARIOUS STALLS*

## WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

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Mon 1	8.30am	Tea and Toast (CC)
	7.30pm	Deanery Synod
Wed 3	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC)
Sat 6	9.00am	Walking Group (SJM Hall)
Sun 7		<b>19<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> Services as usual
Mon 8	8.30am	Tea and Toast (CC)
	7.30pm	Listening Prayer Group (150 W Rd) <i>change</i>
Wed 10	2.30pm	Priory Harvest Festival
	7.30pm	Open Group (SJM)
Sat 13	7.30pm	Quiz Night (CC)
Sun 14		<b>20<sup>th</sup> after Trinity - HARVEST</b> Services as usual
	10.30am	Harvest Festival (CC, SJM)
	12.00noon	Harvest Lunch (SJM)
Mon 15	8.30am	Tea and Toast (CC)
Tues 16	10.00am	Springside School Harvest Service
Wed 17	7.30pm	Mother's Union (CC)
Thu 18	12.00noon	Light Lunch (CC)
Sun 21		<b>21<sup>st</sup> after Trinity</b> Services as usual
	7.00pm	Licensing of Gill (Christ Church Healey)

Mon 22	8.30am	Tea and Toast (CC)
Thu 25	8.00pm	PCC (SJM)
Sat 27	10.00am	Coffee Morning and Book Fair (SJM)
Sun 28		<b>Last after Trinity</b> Services as usual
	7.00pm	Sunday at Seven (CC)
Mon 29	8.30am	Tea and Toast (CC)
	7.30pm	Mothers' Union Diocesan Celebration
	8.00pm	Men of the Benefice (Sundial)

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***and LATER DATES***

**ALL SOULS**

Service for the bereaved, including the reading of a list  
of those whom we love but see no longer.

SUNDAY 4 NOVEMBER at *3.00pm*

*St. John with St. Mark*

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**Mothers' Union PROVINCIAL CELEBRATION**

York Minster

11 am on Friday, 9 November

with Archbishop John Sentamu presiding and preaching

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**CHRISTINGLE SERVICES**

CHRIST CHURCH

Monday, 3 December at 6.30pm

ST. JOHN with ST. MARK

Wednesday, 12 December (Please note new date) at 6.30pm

*Please bring a toy for a local child in need.*

*Toys will be distributed via Wood Street Mission*



# Sunday



# @ Seven

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

**October 28th at 7pm  
- Christ Church Hall**

*“Be still.....Be thankful”*

**Do come and join us – it lasts about an hour –  
tea/coffee and cake/biscuits are served.**

**You will be most welcome!**

