



**Christ Church Walmersley  
and  
St John with St Mark Bury**

**in the United Benefice of Walmersley Road**



**November 2013**

## ***REGULAR SERVICES***

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### **Sunday**

8 a.m.	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
9 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)	Christ Church
9 a.m.	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
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> Morning Service 5 <sup>th</sup> Holy Communion	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist 2 <sup>nd</sup> Parade Service	St John w St Mark

### **Wednesday**

10 a.m.	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
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### **Thursday**

2 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.

## ***One Church, above, beneath***

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Dear Friends

No Christian is solitary. Through baptism we become members one of another - brothers and sisters in Christ.

As the words from Charles Wesley's hymn say:

One family, we dwell in him,  
one Church, above, beneath;  
though now divided by the stream,  
the narrow stream of death.



The celebration of All Saints & All Souls Days at the beginning of November are a testimony to this Christian belonging that unites us all. All Saints Day celebrates the men and women in whose lives the Church throughout history has been shaped and guided.

All Souls Day – or the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed as it is also called – enables us to remember with thanksgiving before God those we have known more directly, those whose lives have shaped and guided our Christian lives.

On All Saints Sunday we will be hosting a service for the bereaved which is always a poignant occasion in the Church Year. The reading of the names of the faithful departed brings a host of memories. As new names are added we are reminded of life's fragile nature and our membership of the eternal family in Christ.

A week later on 10 November, our observance of Remembrance Sunday explores the issues of war and peace, loss and sacrifice as we reflect on those who have given - and continue to give their lives for their country. During our services on that day we include both an Act of Commitment and Act of Remembrance as we look forward as well as looking back.

No other month in the calendar brings so many memories and images of life and death. As Christian people we are reminded that "God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

November brings that truth home to us in a number of special ways.

Wishing you God's blessings, Dave

## ***FROM THE REGISTERS***

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### **Baptisms**

October 6            Jake Antonio Unsworth  
                         Isla Grace Unsworth

*We welcome them into the Lord's family*

### **Weddings**

October 19           Steven Kenny & Lorna Brown

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

### **Funerals**

October 9            Marion Bailey

### **Interment of Ashes**

October 13           Edna Snape

October 14           Alan Whitworth

*I am the resurrection and the life says the Lord*



## ***FLOWERS AT CHRIST CHURCH***

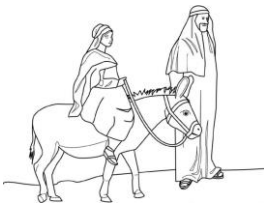
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November 3           Vacant  
November 10        In memory of past Mothers' Union members  
November 17        In memory of Mrs V Howorth  
November 24        Mrs M Booth in memory of the Booth family

## ***POSADA***

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Posada is an old Mexican tradition where young people dressed as Mary and Joseph travelled from house to house asking for a room for the night and telling people about the imminent arrival of Jesus in the weeks leading up to Christmas. On Christmas Eve they would visit the local church to re-enact the nativity and place figures of Mary and Joseph in a crib.



Modern day Posada uses nativity figures of Mary and Joseph who travel from place to place. This gives each 'host' the chance to create their own celebration in their home or place in the community, worshipping and reaching out to their communities with the real message of Christmas, making room for Jesus in their lives.

Our benefice has chosen to engage with Posada this year. Will you be a host to Mary and Joseph for a night? The journey will begin at Christ Church on Advent Sunday and end at the Crib Service at St. John with St. Mark's on Christmas Eve.

### **What is involved?**

All you need to do is add your name to the Journey Rota which you will find at the back of both churches for a night that will suit you to 'host' Mary & Joseph.

For your time as host you can choose to do whatever you like. Why not invite friends and family to sing carols and to talk about the meaning of Christmas? The next person on the list will then arrange to collect the figures for their time as host. Please contact the Vicar if you have any questions.

## ***ST JOHN WITH ST MARK FLOWER ARRANGERS***

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Is there someone who would like to join our numbers? Please see the clergy, wardens or Rosemarie Ashworth if you think you might like to try this job.

Thank You, Rosemarie

## ***FROM THE VICARAGE***

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\* Thanks to all those who contributed to our Harvest celebrations last month. The goods that we received were distributed to Porch and Caritas locally and to TearFund in the wider world.

\* A 2014 church diary has been produced for use across the benefice. Diaries cost £1 and are available from at the back of both churches.

\* An All Souls Service for the Bereaved will be held on Sunday 3 November at 3.00pm in St.John with St.Mark's. At this service a list of names will be read as we remember those who we love but see no longer. If you would like to add the name of your loved one to be included please write it LEGIBLY on the lists at the back of both churches.

\* The repairs caused by the dry rot problem at Christ Church meant that the Sunday services had to be held in the hall for four weeks during September/October. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the smooth running of this situation – notably in fetching and carrying the service books etc from the church building and setting up the chairs. Special thanks also to the cleaners who did a magnificent job in preparing the church for a funeral and our Harvest Festival. There were many positive comments about the excellent state of the building as we returned to worship there.

\* The Messy Church service on Saturday 5 October was a very good start to this new venture in the benefice. Thanks to all those who helped and observed. The next Messy Church will take place at Christ Church on the morning of Saturday 7 December and further details will be available in next month's magazine. As always, help is required on the day. The service lasts from 9.30-11.30am.

\* This month sees the Public Inquiry into the application by the Friends of Walmersley Village for Village Green status for the church land at Christ Church. It begins on Tuesday 19 November and will be held at the Fusilier Museum in Bury. The inquiry may last three days. Please pray for the outcome of this event as it will obviously have a very significant impact on Christ Church and the parish of Walmersley.

\* Please let one of our Ministry Team know if there any people you want us to pray for amongst the sick. But please also let us know if they can be removed from the list. Similarly please contact us if you know of anyone requiring a visit or if someone enters hospital.

\* Evening Prayer is said every Monday – Thursday at 5pm in St.John with St.Mark's Church. Everyone is welcome to join me there in this short service.

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### **DATES FOR MUSLIM CHRISTIAN FORUM EVENTS**

Tuesday 19th November

Study Circle at 7.30pm at the Women's Centre.

Tuesday 26th November

Study Circle at 7.30pm URC Church.

Sunday 1st December

Eid-Christmas Event at the Jinnah Centre from 6.30pm to 9pm.



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### ***UNITED BENEFICE SOCIAL EVENT***

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# An Evening of Ceilidh Dancing & Music

in St. John with St. Mark Hall

Saturday 23rd November from 7.30pm

*Licensed Bar Available*

Tickets £5.00, will be available soon from

Stuart or Rosemarie Ashworth at St John w St Mark

ALL WELCOME

## **BIBLE READINGS FOR NOVEMBER**

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### **3 All Saints**

Daniel 7: 1-3,15-18      Ephesians 1: 11-23      Luke 6: 20-31

### **10 Third before Advent**

Job 19: 23-27a      2 Thessalonians 2:1-5,13-17      Luke 20: 27-38

### **17 Second before Advent**

Malachi 4: 1-2a      2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13      Luke 21: 5-19

### **24 Christ the King**

Jeremiah 23: 1-6      Colossians 1: 11-20      Luke 23: 33-43

### **30 Saint Andrew**

Isaiah 52: 7 - 10      Romans 10: 12 - 18      Matthew 8: 18-22



### **HOME COMMUNION**

If you are aware that someone is unable to come to church and would like to receive Holy Communion in their own home, please contact one of the clergy or readers.

Please let one of the Ministry Team know if you are aware that one of our church members is sick or enters hospital - and may require a visit.

Please pray for the Rt Revd David Walker as he begins his ministry as Bishop of Manchester and prepares for his enthronement on November 30.





## *From The Councils*

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### **ST JOHN WITH ST MARK PCC - 3 OCTOBER 2013**

Matters arising from the previous meeting included the "100 Club", which is now underway and the first draw has taken place. At 73 members it is hoped that the numbers can be made up to 100 to ensure the prize fund is allotted accordingly. All future draws will now be held on Parade days after the service.

Dave confirmed that the new Bishop of Manchester, David Walker will attend our 10.30 service on 8th June to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our building. Also that weekend will include our Summer Fair and possibly a concert or other social event. If anybody has any memorabilia from the last 50 years then please speak to the clergy or wardens.

Following our joint PCC in September, a discussion took place concerning a draft Children's Ministry Statement. It was decided that PCC members could think about this over the coming weeks and look at how the statement should read, and particularly whether it should be a statement children could understand & relate to.

Dave also informed us he would become the new licensee for our bar in due course. He first has to attend a training course.

Dave asked the PCC how many of us had ever been in our Church school, St. John with St. Mark primary. As some members have not it was decided that our first PCC of 2014 would be held in the staff room there after we had had a chance to look around the building. This will be Tuesday 14th January 2014.

## **FAITH MATTERS**

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*The Vicar reports on a new initiative that impacts upon an important aspect of the life of our Benefice.*

### **CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**

I was privileged to attend the launch of the Connecting Communities Project in Westminster Abbey on Wednesday 9 October. The Connecting Communities Project is designed to reinforce and highlight the importance of minority rights through interfaith activities. Their specific approach is towards communities of Pakistani heritage of which the 2011 census suggests comprise 14% of the parish of St. John with St. Mark's.

The project will try to ensure that communities of Pakistani heritage in the UK will promote interfaith dialogue, citizenship and equality in Pakistan. The recent bombing at All Saints Church in Peshawar highlighted the persecution experienced by many Christians in that land. When I visited Pakistan myself in 2011 I saw at first hand the need to promote equality amongst ALL faiths in that country.

At the launch in the Jerusalem Chamber at the Abbey, a number of speakers including the former Archbishop of Canterbury and the Labour shadow cabinet Minister Sadiq Khan MP stressed the importance of the project in linking communities across 4,000 miles. Dr. Williams warned of the danger of extreme religious isolation and of the terrible example that is currently being experienced in Syria.

As Christians we have a duty to love our neighbour – whatever creed, colour or community they belong to. The Connecting Communities project reminds us that living in a multi-racial society can impact upon the lives of people across the world. We should work alongside people of all faiths and none to promote social justice and promote better living standards for all God's people throughout the world.

It is hoped that an exhibition of the Connecting Communities project will soon be promoted in Manchester amongst all the faith communities in the city.

More details can be found at  
[www.faith-matters.org](http://www.faith-matters.org)



## FOR QUIET MOMENTS

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### Week One

We pray for those we love but see no longer. We remember those who have guided us and encouraged us to become the people we are. We remember those who have worked in the past to enable us to worship in our churches and have walked alongside us on our journey of faith. May we in turn pass on the baton of faith to the next generation. Help us Lord to learn from the past; relish the present and have hope through your Son for the future.



### Week Two

At this time, we remember all those killed in conflict and those whose lives have been damaged physically or mentally by their experiences in war or terrorism. Help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world and grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm.



Let us pledge ourselves to the service of God and our fellow men and women: that we may help, encourage, and comfort others, and support those working for the relief of the needy and for the peace and welfare of the nations.

Lord of all help us to serve God and all humankind in the cause of peace, for the relief of want and suffering and for the praise of your name. Guide us by your Spirit, give us wisdom; give us courage; give us hope; and keep us faithful now and always.

(adapted from the order of Service for Remembrance Sunday)

## Week Three

Father we thank you for all you have given us.

We thank you  
for the beauty of the changing world  
the beauties of cloud and sunshine, night and day.

We thank you  
for the talents and powers you have given to people  
And for all the good use to which these have been put.

We thank you  
for showing your love for us  
for teaching us to love each other.  
And for all the love we receive each day.

Most of all we thank you for Jesus:  
for his life of love  
for his teaching and his example,  
for his death on the cross,  
and the new life he has brought us.



## Week Four – two Gaelic prayers

May there always be work for your hands to do.  
May your purse always hold a coin or two.  
May the sun always shine upon your window pane.  
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain.  
May the hand of a friend always be near to you and  
May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.

Spare us the Fall  
May the roof above never fall in,  
May we below never fall out.



We welcomed members from other branches, our friends and neighbours to our meeting on Oct 2nd. Sara from 'Etcetera' gave us a fascinating talk and demonstration on how to wear our scarves as the new accessory. With a glass of wine on arrival, everyone sat at small tables chatting and experimenting with the 10 different ways to tie a scarf. There was lots of fun and strangers became friends in a mutual admiration society and phrases such as 'Oh you've mastered that one' or 'Does this one suit me?' were to be heard throughout the evening.

To put into practice this year's theme of 'The seeds we sow help us grow' we have committed to assisting with Messy Church. We are reaching out to our neighbourhood to demonstrate the Christian faith in action and want to make it easier for families to attend a church service where Sundays are not possible. Therefore Messy church takes place on different day.

Our first Messy Church took place on Saturday Oct 5th ( see back page) and grateful thanks to the MU members who made fresh coffee for our families on arrival and produced a delicious ploughmans lunch at the end. The essential parts of a Messy event are crafts involving sticking, glueing, making, baking, colouring and eating so we are looking for volunteers who have a craft to share or could help in the kitchen. It won't always be the same food but we will need plenty of hands to help prepare. You don't have to commit to every Messy event but do please consider signing up to help at one. Our next Messy event is 'Messy Advent' on Saturday 7th December at 9.30am

Autumn Council will be taking place on Saturday November 2nd at St Thomas Centre Ardwick. Coffee is served from 9.30 and the day concludes about 2pm. Bring a packed lunch and hear the encouraging reports from other branches and wider news from overseas.

The following week (Nov 11) the Diocesan festival takes place at St Ann's Church in Manchester as the Cathedral is not quite ready for this event. The service starts at 11 am. The preacher is Reverend David Tembey, a parish priest in Cumbria and the husband of our Wordwide President, Lynne.

Our meetings this month are as follows:

Nov 6th Our Vicar, Revd Dave Thompson leads us in a service of Holy Communion (in the Church hall) followed by our Pie and Peas supper with the postcard competition results to be announced.

Nov 20th Jill Pemberton on Braille

Advance notice - Deanery carol service on Dec 1st at Emmanuel Centre, Holcombe at 2.30pm

We extend a warm welcome to everyone and look forward to seeing you at our meetings.

Kathryn Bailey  
Branch Leader

Congratulations

to Cath Hilton and the team from Mothers' Union in Manchester who completed the zip-wire challenge in October – more details in next month's magazine.



## ***News from our Church School***

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St.John with St.Mark CE School marked its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a week-long celebration from 23-27 September. A variety of events took place to observe this special occasion.

A particularly moving service on the Tuesday morning included a chain of friendship, representing every person in the school community. The chain symbolised the love and support given to each other, showing that in this place of learning everyone is cherished and encouraged to do their best. Alongside the chain candles flickered, as we remembered the generations of staff and pupils who have grown and thrived over the last 10 years.

On the Thursday lunchtime the whole school participated in a buffet which thanks to the mild weather was able to be held outside.

The culmination of the week was the Macmillan Coffee morning and music showcase on Friday morning which was attended by many staff and pupils both past and present, and numerous special guests, including our former Vicar, Ian Stamp, and his wife, Ann and the Diocesan Director of Education, Canon Maurice Smith. This event saw the first public performance of an anniversary song written for the week by Mrs Geelan and sung by the choir. This will also be sung by the children at the Autumn Fair at St.John with St.Mark's Church on Saturday 30 November.

The theme of the week was highlighted in the Tuesday service as the children prayed this special prayer:

- \* Help us to be brave and courageous in standing up for what we believe in this ever changing world.*
- \* Help us to be respectful to everyone we meet.*
- \* Help us to be thankful for the opportunity to learn.*
- \* Help us to celebrate diversity and lead the way showing others how to live together peacefully.*
- \* Help us to reach for the stars and use wisely the talents you have given us.*
- \* Dear Lord. You said love one another as I have loved you. This we will try our best to do.*

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



## **ST JOHN WITH ST MARK OPEN GROUP**

The Open Group welcomed back an old friend on 4th September, Globetrotter Alan Thew, to give an illustrated talk on his recent trip to America's Grand Canyon. Taking his own pictures whilst touring portrayed an unforgettable holiday in an area which is acknowledged as the most stunning and famous canyon in the world.

Set against a majestic, ever changing landscape, Alan showed an adventure that included visiting modern day Indian settlements to staying in old style cowboy Western towns. From white water rafting on Colorado River to helicopter rides through the Canyon and visiting the site of the dramatic historical Custer's last stand.

As a swansong to an interesting evening the combined resting places of folk hero of the American West, Wild Bill Hickock, and sidekick American Frontiers woman Calamity Jane! This bringing back childhood memories to many of us about books and films we had enjoyed of a famous couple who actually lived in the real world.

Alan certainly brought to us a wonderful part of the world to brighten up an Autumn evening. As a bonus the background music to an excellent presentation was terrific.



Our next meeting ~ Wednesday 6th November at  
7.30pm in the Library

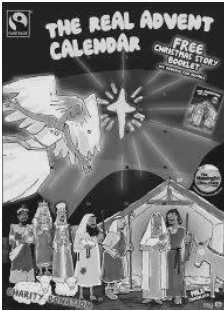
**Carol Hartley,**  
**with an update on the "Shoeboxes" project**

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



## ***THE REAL ADVENT CALENDAR***

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The Meaningful Chocolate Company has recently introduced The Real Advent Calendar – a unique gift and a UK first.

This Manchester company, which also produces the Real Easter Egg, has devised the Real Advent Calendar which is for all ages and is a great way to share the story of the Christmas season.

Behind each of the 25 windows there is a Fairtrade chocolate star and a few words from the Christmas story. Behind the final window there is a 24-page Christmas story booklet to read, keep and enjoy.

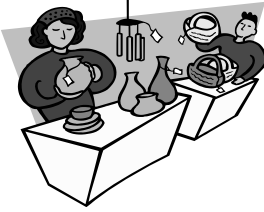
It is another initiative to reclaim a major Christian festival from the clutches of commercialism and promote its real meaning through the delights of chocolate!

This year the Real Advent Calendar will be the UK's only charity, Fairtrade calendar with a copy of the Christmas story in the box. A donation of 10 pence will be donated to The Children's Society from every sale of The Real Advent Calendar – at least £26,000.

There are three ways to buy The Real Advent Calendar

- \* Traidcraft
- \* Many independent Christian bookshops including St Denys.
- \* Tesco – the only supermarket stocking The Real Advent Calendar this year as it has ordered enough to offer a national in-store collect and home delivery service.

The Meaningful Chocolate Company –  
making a chunk of difference



## ***Christ Church Autumn Fair***

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**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November  
Church Hall @ 10.30 am**

The annual Autumn Fair will soon be upon us. There will be a café for morning coffee and bacon butties and hot lunches; many of the usual stalls to buy books, toys, homemade produce; as well as bottle tombola and a raffle. Also a new water or wine tombola and the chance to sample Uncle Geoff's winter tonics. Watch out for other attractions which are being lined up including the Mystery Man!

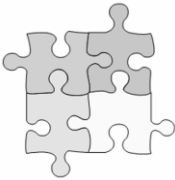
Programmes with all the details will soon be on sale. Please make sure you get one!

You can also support this fund-raiser by donating items for sale on the stalls mentioned. Contact Nigel Silvester for information  
Thank you

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### ***APPEAL FROM ST JOHN WITH ST MARK***

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#### **JIGSAWS**

I badly need jigsaws, second-hand and must be complete, for our jigsaw stall at the Fairs. I have no objection to new ones, all will be welcome.

After two very successful sales at the last two Church Fairs I am now very low in number. I am working like mad to do all the ones I have managed to get, as I like to ensure they are complete first, but I need more.

I will collect.

Please contact Joan Pearson if you can help.

***St. John with St. Mark Christmas Fair***

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**Saturday 30th November 2013**

**11am - 2pm**

Traidcraft

Cake stall

Tombolas

Cards and Gifts

Toys & Games

Books & Jigsaws

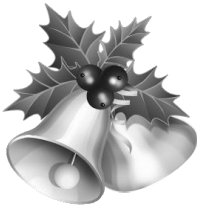
Raffle & much more

Lunches Available

Visit Santa in his Grotto



Please come along & support this event and  
enjoy our friendship.



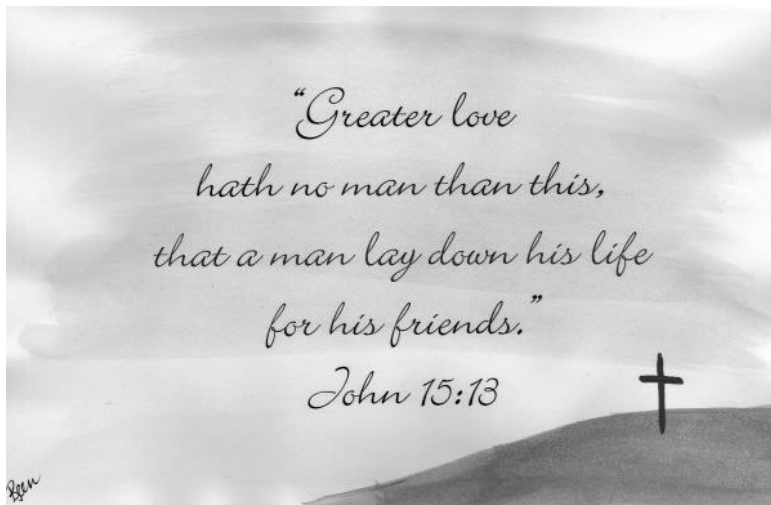
If you have any new ideas for stalls or  
attractions please speak to the wardens or  
clergy in advance.

## WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER

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2	10.30 am	Autumn Fair (CC) Mothers' Union Autumn Council
3		<b>All Saints (Fourth before Advent)</b> Services as usual
	3.00 pm	All Souls' Service
4	7.30 pm	Study Group CCW
5	7.30 pm	Study Group SJSM
6	7.30 pm 7.30 pm	Mothers' Union Holy Communion & supper Open Group – Shoebox Project
7	2.00 pm	Study Group (CC Hall)
9	11.00 am	Mothers' Union Diocesan Festival
10		<b>Third before Advent Remembrance Sunday</b> Services as usual
11	7.30 pm	Study Group CCW
12	7.30 pm	Study Group SJSM
14	2.00 pm	Study Group (CCHall)
17		<b>Second before Advent</b> Services as usual
18	7.30 pm 7.30 pm	Study Group CCW Deanery Synod (SJSM)

- |    |                     |   |
|----|---------------------|---|
| 19 | 7.30 pm             | Village Green Enquiry<br>Study Group SJSM                     |
| 20 | 7.30 pm             | Mothers' Union – Braille (CC Hall)                            |
| 21 | 2.00 pm             | Study Group (CC Hall)   |
| 23 | 7.30 pm             | Evening of Ceilidh Dancing                                    |
| 24 |                     | <b>Christ the King</b><br>Services as usual                   |
| 25 | 7.30 pm<br>7.30 pm  | Study Group CCW<br>PCC (CC)                                   |
| 26 | 7.30 pm             | Deanery Mission & Pastoral Committee                          |
| 30 | 11.00 am<br>2.00 pm | Christmas Fair (SJSM)<br>Enthronement of Bishop of Manchester |



## *Christingle Service*

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This will be held at Christ Church on Monday December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6.30 p.m. Christingles will be distributed and the monies collected sent to the Children's Society to provide help for young people who run away from home and find themselves on the streets of towns and cities. The number of children who run away from home is increasing and if they are not found within a week of leaving home it is extremely likely that they will find themselves subject to abuse or injury. The Children's Society works to find these children and support them. Please help their work by supporting this Christingle service.

Margery Spencer



### *The Bubbles Evening*

We had a very enjoyable and informative evening when we tasted six sparkling wines. All who attended now know:

- exactly what corked wine smells like – the vestry
- what the stalks of grapes are used for – face cream
- how to open an bottle of sparkling wine with a bread knife or even a garden trowel!

Some people tried this and we expect to hear the sound of such openings in gardens round Walmersley next summer.

The favourites were the superior prosecco from a German supermarket with the Fairtrade sparkling Rose being well recommended.

Thanks to Ruth and Helen and everyone who helped. We raised £260 for the repair and restoration fund.



Making bread rolls  
to eat with our  
ploughman's lunch



and we all  
helped  
to make this  
Harvest loaf