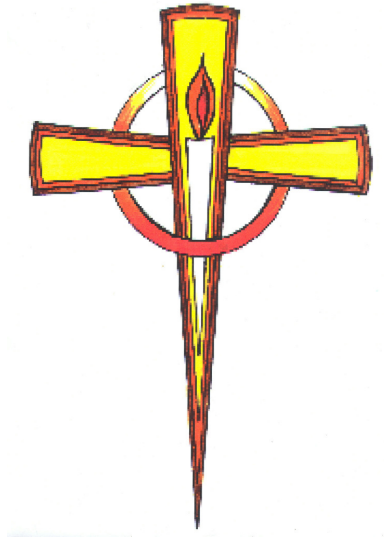


Christ Church
Walmersley



Magazine

Spreading the Word

July 2010

Thought for the month



It seemed like a good idea at the time! When in February we decided to open our house for lunch and evening meal at the end of July, it was a long way off and there was plenty of time for preparation.

Just for once I was ahead of myself when I saw legs of lamb on offer in Tesco at Easter at a phenomenal price and I duly bought some and cooked them. I removed the meat from the bones and packed my freezer. So far so good.

I don't know if you are like me but it takes a special occasion for me to give the house a really good clean and as I couldn't risk showing my lack of housewifely skills to the population of Walmersley, I set to work with duster and polish. Windows were shone, furniture dusted and floors cleaned. Alan disappeared into the garden whenever it was fine to ensure that there was as much colour as possible.

The fun really started when we had to go into the storage in the eaves to find the tins in which to cook the hotpot and into the loft in search of large tablecloths. Don't you always find things that you had forgotten about and which are far more interesting than what you are supposed to be doing?

I just couldn't resist the old photograph albums, the boxes full of buttons which my mother stored and the pantomime scripts of many years ago. Memories came flooding back – of a young John Dutton and others singing "John Clegg, John Clegg lend me your big car." Nostalgia ruled.

Suddenly it was the day before the event, and transport of tables and chairs from the church hall, movement of easy chairs into the garage and the preparation of food had to take place. I have never peeled so many potatoes at one go!



Fortunately the next day dawned bright and sunny and twenty people enjoyed their lunch and forty an evening meal. An added bonus was Cath playing the piano and those seated in the dining room taking part in an impromptu rendition of war time songs. Despite the fact that when I opened a cupboard, a tin of furniture polish fell on my head causing a lovely bruise, I enjoyed the day. (Just think, if I hadn't done the cleaning that tin of polish would never have been there!) But my reply when someone asked as they were leaving "Are you open next week?" is unprintable.

And so, true to form, members of our congregation showed their enormous generosity, a total of over £720 was handed in for church hall refurbishment. Not only was there financial generosity, but willingness to give of time and talent. The skills of our church friends in cooking, waiting at tables, transporting, sales techniques and washing pots as always were superb.

It was a genuine example of being members of the same body but using different abilities in service. Saint Paul would have been proud.

In the coming weeks those talents will be needed as we establish closer links with our friends at St. John with St. Mark. As Ian Stamp says, "What a fund of talent we have between the two churches."

May Christ guide us to use those talents in his service as we embark on this venture.

Handwritten signature of Ian Stamp.



SERVICES AND READINGS FOR JULY

- July 4th **Trinity 5**
9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
Galatians 6: 7-16; Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
Galatians 6: 7-16; Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20
- July 11th **Trinity 6**
9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
Colossians 1: 1-14; Luke 10: 25-37
10.30 a.m. Family and Parade Service
Luke 10: 25-37
- July 18th **Trinity 7**
9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
Colossians 1: 15-28; Luke 10: 38-42
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
Colossians 1: 15-28; Luke 10: 38-42
- July 25th **Trinity 8**
9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
Colossians 2: 6-15; Luke 11:1-13
10.30 a.m. Morning Prayer (CW)
Colossians 2: 6-15; Luke 11:1-13
- Aug 1st **Trinity 9**
9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
Colossians 3: 1-11; Luke 12:13-21
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)
Colossians 3: 1-11; Luke 12:13-21

ARE YOU ON DUTY?

If you are unavailable, please arrange to exchange with someone else.

READINGS

July 4 th	Jean Slater
July 11 th	Junior Church
July 18 th	David Peters
July 25 th	Shelagh Beetson
Aug 1 st	Bill Noble

INTERCESSIONS

Alan Spencer
Cubs
Joe McDermott
Bob Taylor
Margaret Schofield

SIDESMEN / WOMEN ROTA

July 4 th	Bill Noble	Alan Standring	David Thew
July 11 th	Geoff Hamilton	Ian Riddick	Chris Standring
July 18 th	Nigel Silvester	George Fryer	David Peters
July 25 th	Alison Fewtrell	Jean Slater	Alan Spencer
Aug 1 st	Roy Warburton	Shelagh Beetson	Sybil Fryer

LAY ASSISTANTS

July 4 th	Nigel Silvester	Jennifer Wood
July 18 th	Margery Spencer	Cath Hilton
Aug 1 st	Tricia Stokes	Gill Pilkington

FLOWERS

July 4 th	Mrs. E. Fitton
July 11 th	Mrs. A.M. Peters
July 18 th	Mrs. S. Mills
July 25 th	In memory of Mr. & Mrs. L.B. Thew
Aug 1 st	In memory of Mrs. Margery Greenhalgh



Baptisms

May 23 rd	Thomas James Milnes
May 30 th	James Richard Platt

The scheme from the Church Commissioners to form the new **Parish of Walmersley Road** has now been received and may be viewed in Church up to 19 July or by requesting a copy through any PCC member.

When this is signed by the Bishop of Manchester the Parishes of Christ Church Walmersley and St John with St Mark will be united and Revd Ian Stamp will be the first incumbent of the new parish.

Worship will continue in both centres as previously and for the present we shall continue to have separate wardens, PCCs and financial accounts.

If you have any queries please contact Don Altham or Ian Stamp, or any PCC member.



In May we learned about the work that Mothers' Union does in conjunction with the many hospitals in the Diocese. Our Deanery Leader, Lynne Longworth, is the Hospitals Coordinator as part of MU Action and Outreach and she makes sure that the best use is made of the items produced by our members. She demonstrated how to make angel pockets, tiny teddies, blankets and incubator bonnets. These items are greatly appreciated by hospitals and by the parents of sick babies and those who have suffered bereavement. Lynne was supported by Romy Simpson (joint Deanery Leader) and it was a good opportunity for us to meet them and for them to experience our lovely, lively branch!

The Evening of Celebration was, as always, informative, entertaining and very enjoyable. The message was 'Pass it on!' I am not sure whose brain child the presentation of this motto was but it was presented in a very lively and thought provoking way. To see Bishop Nigel, the Canon Precentor and several other clergy standing on the platform of the Bridgewater Hall with bats which they proceeded to use to hit balls into the audience! Well, enough said! The balls presented all the various facets of the work of the Mothers' Union. We need to make sure that the message of what we do is passed on to everyone we know so that the marvellous work can continue. We were entertained by a wonderful pianist and percussionist, 'Sticks and Tones'. Again, this was unusual and delightful.

Our first meeting in June was our annual beetle drive! We had a great time as always. One or two visitors, unfamiliar with the game, were a little apprehensive to start with but got into the swing after one or two games. I don't think they were completely frightened off!

The Deanery AGM at All Saints' included a presentation to the Area Dean and his wife who are retiring soon. Many thanks to the ladies who formed the choir.

What a thoroughly delightful evening we had when Gill Smith introduced us to the art of woodcarving. We learned about the many different tools used and had a whistle stop tour of the development of the skill and the way that Gill and Alan Standing have encouraged each other. I think it will have lit a spark in one or two people who will be having a go in the not too distant future! I must also comment on how amusing the presentation was. We had a really good evening!

Watch out for info about BOSOM BUDDIES

July 7 Service in Chapel - Summer Supper – Strawberry Sparkle
21 Meal out with family and friends
(Venue: The Lord Raglan, Nangreaves)

Cath Hilton
Branch Leader

2010 Wheels Appeal

Mothers' Union is asking you to do what you do so well and have lots of fun whilst doing it – baking cakes and holding cake stalls, teas, garden parties, picnics and baking sales!



But there is also a serious aim: to raise money for vital aid transport. Without it, Mothers' Union can't run their family support projects, or get crucial aid to the families who need it.

So join us making "cakes for brakes" or "flans for vans", or perhaps "biscuits for toolkits"

Watch out for details next month of the President's event.

Prayer Mat

Week One

In the rush and noise of life, as we have intervals, we step home within ourselves and are still: we wait upon you, God, and feel your good presence; this will carry us evenly through our day's business.

adapted from William Penn

Week Two

Heavenly Father, we praise and thank you for your fragrance and for the fragrance that comes from our plants and flowers. It is such an ethereal, wonderful quality, but so much enhances our lives. We know from this fragrance that it is of you, that you are all encompassing, that you are there subtly in our lives in everything that we do and say. You are our Father, and you are all around. Thank you.

First Thursday Prayers / Communion

WHEN July 7th

WHERE Lower Room in the Church Hall

TIME 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Transport can be arranged so please don't hesitate to ask if you need help with this.

For more information please speak to the Reverend Don Altham.

Week Three

Psalm 139 vs.7-10, 13-18

Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
If I go up to the heavens , you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,
even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.....

For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.
My frame was not hidden from you
when I was made in the secret place.
When I was woven together in the depths of the earth,
your eyes saw my unformed body.
All the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.
How precious to me are your thoughts, O God
How vast is the sum of them!
Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand.
When I awake, I am still with you.

Week Four

Lord Jesus, teach us to walk in your footsteps, to walk the path of righteousness in everything we do. We want to be like you in every way, loving, kind, forgiving, and faithful to our heavenly Father. Help us to tread in your footsteps, to follow you always wherever the road may take us. Give us the courage to walk with you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Children's Corner



Sudoku

					9	2		6
		6		1			3	
	5			2			7	
9	3	2				8		
		7				9	4	6
	7			3			9	
	4			9		7		
8		9	6					

Answers to last month's Dads and Lads Quiz

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------|----------|
| Zebedee | is the father of | James |
| Jacob | is the father of | Benjamin |
| Adam | is the father of | Cain |
| Zechariah | is the father of | John |
| Joseph | is the father of | Jesus |
| Noah | is the father of | Ham |
| David | is the father of | Solomon |
| Abraham | is the father of | Isaac |
| Elkanah | is the father of | Samuel |
| Boaz | is the father of | Obed |

A Poem for Summer



I've walked in summer sunshine
Along a country lane,
And marvelled at the lovely green
of trees and grass again.

The birds were singing happily
Within the skies so blue,
All nature seemed to wear a smile
With cares and worries few.

The summer sunshine touched my heart
In warmth and joy complete,
Each tiny creature on the fields
Dashed around my feet.

The miracles of summertime
Are with us everywhere,
The smell of lovely flowers
Did permeate the air.

So much of beauty in our world
God sends his love below,
To touch each heart with love and peace
In summer's sun aglow.



Jottings

SUMMONED BY TRUMPETS

It was the culmination of a pilgrimage through Belgium, The Rhineland's and into Bavaria, a spine tingling moment for all of us who travelled to see The Passion Play at Oberammergau.

Who are we? A 36 strong band of Christians, mostly from Suffolk, of all denominations, including 4 clergy, led by the Rev. Stephen van Toorn from St Mary's, East Bergholt.

I was invited to join by my cousin who was the brains behind the initial idea. My sister in law from Middleton was my travelling companion and one lady came from Inverness to join us. I hadn't thought of it as a pilgrimage but it certainly was. Friendships built slowly and steadily until we knew that help under any circumstances was readily available from any quarter.

So to the trumpets, they were a 30-minute warning that the Passion Play was about to begin. Nothing can really prepare you for the size and scale of the production. The auditorium seated over 4700 people and the stage is open to the skies, which seemed to reflect the different moods of the action. We knew the story of the Crucifixion, so the fact that it was all spoken in German did not deflect from the action. I had an English script with me but the presentation took all of my attention, if I wasn't quite sure who was who I could look it up later.

It was a mammoth production involving the whole town. Each visitor is allowed to stay two nights in and around Oberammergau and on the day of the play you can have a guided tour of the theatre, lunch

in a local restaurant, three hours of the production, three hours for dinner and the final three hours of the play. It brought it home to me how local it all was when we were shown around the theatre by Moses. The daughters of our hostess were two of the children running in and out of the crowds throughout the play and we were served our meals by Mary Magdalene, the High Priest and one of the palm waving crowd, who gave us a preview Hosanna as he served us our soup.

The whole production, costumes, sets and music were all done by local people, no one can be on the play unless they were born there or had lived there for twenty years, which is quite something when you think that there were 100 musicians in the orchestra pit. It was a tour de force. The Living Images and the live action ran smoothly together and the discipline of the chorus was phenomenal. The story was told with no holds barred and left me speechless. The spectacle was unbelievably beautiful and tragic at the same time.

Back in Belgium on the last night we celebrated communion, we worshipped together on most evenings, almost all of the party attended and the love in that little room was palpable. A week's holiday usually passes in a flash but with this one we felt that we had known each other forever. As I left the coach at Dover for the train journey to Manchester, there were cries of "when is the reunion?" Not too far away I hope.

Sue Walker

Thank you Sue for sharing these memorable moments with us.

If you have a contribution for ~~Joffings~~ please contact Jean Slater.

Book Review



THE PROPHET by Kahlil Gibran

Having read this remarkable book many years ago I was reminded of it recently when Don quoted from it at one of the Thursday Prayer meetings and I have been rereading it. I commend it to you this month.

The book speaks of many things central to daily life: love, marriage, death, beauty, passion, eating, work and play.

Kahlil Gibran is a poet, philosopher and artist and was born near Mount Lebanon.

If you have Christian book that you would like to be included in *Book Review* please send details to Jean Slater.

Just one selection –

Of Children

Your children are not your children.

They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.

They come through you but are not from you, and though they are with you yet they belong not to you.

You may give them your love but not your thoughts.

Christian Aid Week 2010 – Thank You

The trudging up and down streets; the knocking on doors; the maintaining of a grateful smile – even when met with a refusal. It has all been completed. The resilient band of volunteers have issued the envelopes and collected them back.

All envelopes have been emptied; the coins, notes and cheques, counted and paid into the bank. Mostly currency of our own country but with the usual sprinkling of Euros, other European currencies and odd coinage from across the world – this year we even had three old U.K. pennies turn up!!

The total collected for Christian Aid came to £905 which was £80 more than last year.

A very big thank you for the hard work put in by the collectors – without them nothing would be done. Also thank you to everyone who has actually put money into a collection envelope. All of you have contributed to help make life-changing events possible for the world's poorest people. Your effort has given hope to many.
THANK YOU.

Nigel Silvester - Christian Aid Representative
for Christ Church Walmersley

Situation Vacant – Christian Aid Representative

I am moving on from the position of parish representative for Christian Aid and at present there is no one named as my successor. I would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to take on this post. The biggest job is organising the once a year door-to-door collection. If anyone feels that this is something they could do please have a word with me, and I will be pleased to tell you all about it.
Nigel

Colours Quiz - Answers

1. **Blue** suede shoes
2. St. George's flag has a **red** cross
3. Better to wear out than to **rust** out
4. 1985 Stephen Spielberg film "The Colour **Purple**"
5. Poet Robert **Browning**
6. Follow the **yellow** brick road.
7. The **Amber** spyglass
8. Charlie and the **chocolate** factory
9. Ladies in **Lavender**
10. **Black** Beauty
11. James and the Giant **Peach**
12. Thirty pieces of **Silver**
13. Another name for Erica **Heather**
14. King William III came from this town **Orange**
15. Oliver **Gold**smith
16. Third place medal **Bronze**
17. The Old **Grey** Whistle Test
18. Part of the British isles – the **Emerald** isle
19. "I **rose**, went forth and followed Thee".
20. "His sins were **scarlet**"
21. "The **crimson** of the *sunset* sky"
22. "Thy children like the **olive** branches"
23. "A load would sink a **navy**"
24. "Do you know the land where the **lemon** tree grows"
25. "This **lime** tree bower my prison"
26. "The very **pink** of perfection"
27. "A **violet** by a mossy stone"
28. "Her price is far above **rubies**"
29. BURY MERL **Mulberry**
30. PAUL CUTS YE **Eucalyptus**
31. QUARE MANIA **Aquamarine**
32. THY STEAM **Amethyst**
33. QUITE SOUR **Turquoise**
34. MA RULE TRAIN **Ultramarine**
35. I RAID VIN **Viridian**
36. U BAG IRENE **Aubergine**

The winner is Margaret Ryan who has received her prize. Thank you all for taking part.

Flowers in Church

Some of you may have noticed that lately the flowers at the front of the church have sometimes been positioned on pedestals and sometimes on tables. Those of you who are even more observant will have noticed that some weeks the flowers in the chapel are on a pedestal and some weeks they are on the altar.

This has been caused, as you probably realised, by the closure of the sanctuary for reasons of Health and Safety which has meant finding another place for the flowers. Moving pedestals and flowers around can be very difficult. We have all had bruised shins from the bases of the pedestals and aching arms and shoulders from the weight.

We hope we have now sorted out a system which suits us all and still decorates our church.

An additional problem recently has been the increasing cost of flowers. One of the reasons for this has been that flowers which are brought in by air have been affected by airport closures due to volcanic ash. Like most commodities, once the price has gone up it does not seem to go down again. We ask you all to consider whether you could manage an occasional donation in the box at the back of the church, or an increase in your donation for altar flowers.

Thank you,
The Church Flower Ladies

Philip Dutton is one of the organisers of two concerts featuring medical students from around Europe, who come together to play and sing. Philip has played in Hungary and Slovenia and this year they are coming together in England. One concert is in Chester Cathedral and the other is at the Royal Northern College of Music on Sunday 8th August at 7.30 p.m. Tickets are £8 each with concessions available and income raised from the concerts will be donated to the teenage cancer trust unit at Manchester's Christie Hospital. Telephone 0161 907 5555 for tickets for what should be a wonderful evening of entertainment.

The Midsummer (nearly) Quiz

Forty of us met in the Church Hall on Saturday, 5th June to take part in this light-hearted quiz. Unfortunately, some of our regulars were not able to be present because of last minute changes to their arrangements (barbecues brought forward because of the World Cup, etc) but we were delighted to welcome several first timers, including two who had driven down from Garstang! They enjoyed the evening and the friendly welcome they received so much that they are looking forward to coming again for the next quiz, sometime in the autumn.

The standard of the answers reached a very respectable level of 75%, good enough for an "A" or "A-starred" in many GCSE subjects. The winners, not that they or anyone else cared too much, were once again the current Brains of Walmersley 2010 – Margaret and Bob Gerrard, helped greatly by their guests Cath and Les Russell.

For all those present the highlight of the evening was the half time entertainment. David Harrison, Margaret Lord (Harrison), Pat Mongey, Denise and Jack Ives, accompanied by Arthur Smith at the piano (and with no prior warning whatsoever) treated us to songs and actions from long past Walmersley Gang Shows. Nostalgia ruled for most of those there and it was obvious from the applause that followed their performance that this unexpected treat had been greatly appreciated.

All in all this had been a very satisfactory evening, made even more so by raising just over £140 (including a late donation from two of our absentee regulars) which has been passed on to swell church funds.

Many thanks,
Stan Parkinson



MANCHESTER DIOCESAN HEALING DAY



'Celebrating Christ the Healer'

With

The Acorn Christian Healing Foundation

Saturday 4th September 2010

10am to 4pm

Including talks, workshops and liturgy led by

Revd Dr Russ Parker: Keynote Address

Revd Andrew Bradley

Revd Tony Butterworth

Revd Canon Gilly Myers and Wellspring

Details from Jean Slater 0161 797 9388

Registration forms at the back of church



Acorn Christian Healing Foundation

Listening, Healing & Reconciliation

What's on in Walmersley

July

- Wed 7 Mothers' Union Holy Communion
followed by Strawberry Supper
- Wed 7 St John with St Mark Open Group
Speaker Revd Elizabeth Binns
- Mon 12 Ministry Committee
- Mon 19 Mothers' Union Provincial Celebration
In York Minster
- Wed 21 Mothers' Union: Meal with family and friends at The
Lord Raglan

Bolton Archdeaconry Quiet Morning

at St Margaret's Prestwich
on Saturday, 8th July, 9.30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

The Chaplain for Bolton Hospice, Mark Brackley, will be leading the morning.

After an opening act of worship he will speak about "Jesus the Healer" and then there will be time to reflect and meditate on his words.

For further details contact Jean Slater



THANK YOU
to all who
helped to make
the Summer
Garden Party
a success

