

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



Ascension

May 2019

50P

REGULAR SERVICES

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 st Holy Communion 2 nd Family and Parade 3 rd Holy Communion 4 th Service of the Word	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	1 st 2 nd 4 th Sung Eucharist 3 rd Morning Prayer	St John w St Mark
10.30 a.m.	5 th United Service	Alternately CC/SJM

Monday

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

Tuesday

7.30pm	Christian Meditation	St John w St Mark
--------	----------------------	-------------------

Wednesday

10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
------------	----------------	-------------------

Thursday

2.00 p.m.	1 st First Thursday Prayer	Christ Church Hall
7.30 p.m.	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark

Other services as announced
Evening Prayer will be said in St John w St Mark's Church
Monday - Thursday at 5 p.m.

If you need transport to church please contact the wardens.

Both churches have Fairtrade status



Stay in or go out?

Hello and welcome to the May copy of the Church magazine.

So the question that we are probably still asking ourselves is should we stay in or should we go out. Are we safer in a place that we already know or should we go out there and see where it may lead. Now before you all do a collective sigh I'm not talking about the B word; no I'm talking about the Church.

You see there is a lot of discussion at the moment about growing our Church's congregations. And one of the big questions is whether we take ourselves out into the world to encourage people or we wait for people to come to us. If we do the latter I think, if we are honest with ourselves, that it probably won't work. How many new people can we honestly say walk in off the street on a Sunday just to see what is going on.

The counter argument though is to go out into the world and teach our message to others and hopefully encourage people to come and see our faith and God's love for us. Yes I suspect that it can be daunting to go out and declare our faith in public but if we want to encourage growth then I feel we must become more visible in our communities.



I will leave you with two small examples I have seen today whilst having just played Jesus in the walk of witness through Bury town centre. I was walking back to my car with my alb on and covered in fake blood, when a young man asked me was I a Christian and if so

could I spare a while to sit and talk to him about his beliefs as he was searching for answers. Secondly when I was halfway up the Rock a shop-keeper came out and said "that cross you was carrying earlier looked heavy. Here, I got this bottle of water out of my fridge for you".

As I said, should we stay in or go out? Maybe my examples are only two small events that took place on one afternoon. But if we hadn't been out there showing our faith to others then the young man wouldn't have been able to chat openly in the garden with me. And I would have missed the act of kindness by the shopkeeper who had watched us walk past.

Jesus is not our property to be hidden in our Church buildings and make us feel good about ourselves. No, Jesus is for everyone and I personally feel we the Church need to take Jesus out more in the communities and maybe see where it leads to. So the rhetorical question we must all ask ourselves should be "stay in or go out?"



God bless
Darren

ASCENSION DAY

40 days after Easter Sunday,
we celebrate the day Jesus left this earth
and returned to His Father in heaven.

Thursday 30 May
7.30pm

Services at both
St.John with St.Mark and Christ Church

"So we in heart and mind may also ascend...."

BIBLE READINGS FOR MAY

May 5 **Third of Easter**

Acts 9: 1-6

Revelation 5: 11-end

John 21: 1-19

May 12 **Fourth of Easter**

Acts 9: 36-end

Revelation 7: 9-end

John 10: 22-30

May 19 **Fifth of Easter**

Acts 11: 1-18

Revelation 21: 1-6

John 13: 31-35

May 26 **Sixth of Easter**

Acts 16: 9-15

Revelation 21:10 - 22.5

John 5: 1-9

Jun 2 **Seventh of Easter**

Acts 16: 16-34

Revelation 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-end

John 17: 20-end



FLOWERS IN CHURCH

At Christ Church

- May 5 In memory of the Booth family
- May 12 Mr Derek Schofield in memory of his mother Bessie
- May 19 Vacant
- May 26 In memory of Margaret Dutton and Alex Farnworth

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

Baptisms

March 24 Blake Collins
April 7 Michael Plimley
April 14 Leyland Hilton-Holmes

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

Weddings

April 5 Stephen Hardman & Alexandra Rigby

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

Church Funeral

Mar 29 Enid Farnworth

Interment of ashes in the churchyard

Mar 17 Richard Charleson

Funeral services held at the Crematorium

Mar 19 Edna Wakes

"I am the resurrection and the life"

ARCHDEACON'S VISITATION

Thursday 23 May 7.30pm
at St John with St Mark

Wardens and Sidespersons are asked to attend.
PCC members are invited to make their commitment
and everyone is welcome at this service. Please note that there will be
no regular service of Holy Communion due to this event.

Muslim/Christian Forum

The latest meeting of the Muslim/Christian Forum took place on Tuesday 26 March in the Barritt Room at St.John with St.Mark. There were 36 people present which was an excellent turnout with both faiths well represented.

The theme for the evening was **fasting** – appropriate in the season of Lent!

One of the Muslim leaders spoke about the issue of fasting in Islam. Contrary to popular belief this is not just confined to Ramadan. Then we heard about the Christian view of fasting, followed by a lively and friendly discussion within the group.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 18 June at Bury United Reformed Church, with the theme being – “**Blessings of Food and Hospitality in our Faiths.**” As well as the Christian and Muslim perspective we hope to have a speaker from the Jewish faith.

This begins at 7.30pm with refreshments around 8.45pm.

Everyone is welcome to attend.



P Stokes

From the Vicarage

- * Christ Church has recently been given some new flower stands. They were first used on Easter Sunday. Thanks to those who very kindly have donated the stands and wish to remain anonymous.

- * St.John with St.Mark Church has been given a cushion denoting an Egyptian prayer mat in memory of a former worshipper. Dorothy Spencer died in 2015 and had attended the church for a number of years. We are very grateful to her daughter Carole Graham and all the family for this kind gift.

- * A service of Holy Communion with hymns takes place at Burrswood House on the last Thursday of each month at 2.00pm. The residents and staff are always keen for people to join them at this service. Everyone is welcome to attend.

- * Please let a member of the ministry team know if anyone is ill and requires a home or hospital visit. At the heart of our ministry to the parish is pastoral care. This is not the exclusive concern of the clergy but part of each Christian's duty to love one another.

- * Any enquiries about baptisms or weddings / marriage banns etc should be made at the Parish Office at St.John with St.Mark's Hall any Wednesday evening between 6.30-7.00.

- * The Ministry Team consisting of all the Clergy, Licensed Readers and our Authorised Lay Minister meet every month – usually on the second Monday evening. If you have an issue that you would like us to discuss, please contact one of the team.

- * 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).

* Porch Boxes are always in need of food items to meet their current demand. A box is available at the back of both churches. Items are also sometimes donated to the Booth Centre in Manchester. The Centre was previously based at Manchester Cathedral and aims to bring about positive change in the lives of people who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness - to help them plan for and realise a better future. Thanks to those who regularly support these worthy causes.

* Both of our Church Halls are available for a whole range of activities for use by church and community groups. Please however check with the bookings officers (June Banks for St.John with St.Mark and Jennifer Wood for Christ Church) if the building is otherwise occupied before anything is arranged.

* Material for the parish magazine should be given in by the 14th day of the previous month. Articles may be sent via email to wrub@live.co.uk

CAFÉ CHURCH 2019

Please put these dates in your diaries:

St.John with St.Mark

at 10.30am

16 June

6 October

15 December



Christ Church

at 10.30am

23 June

8 September

8 December

QUIET MOMENTS IN MAY

Week One



Risen Lord,
We seek your peace
peace for our war torn world,
peace between nations and people,
peace in our dealings with each other,
peace in our hearts and our homes.
Lord we are Easter people.
Let alleluia be our song.

Week Two

Living God,
Joyfully I praise you
For you have destroyed the power of death
and opened the way to life.

Humbly I acclaim you
for you have vanquished evil,
proving nothing is able to deny your love.

Gratefully I acknowledge you
for you have turned defeat into victory
ends into new beginnings.



New Beginnings

Week Three

Love means to love that which is unlovable
or it is no virtue at all;

forgiving means to pardon the unforgiveable
or it is no virtue at all;

faith means believing the unbelievable
or it is no virtue at all;

And to hope means hoping when things are hopeless
or it is no virtue at all

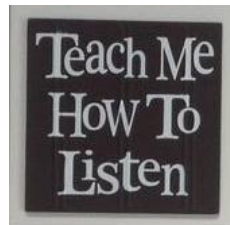
G.K.Chesteron

Week Four

Teach me to listen, Lord
to those nearest to me,
my family, my friends, my co - workers.
Help me to be aware that no matter what the words I hear,
the message is ,
"Accept the person I am. Listen to me."

Teach me to listen Lord,
for your voice -
in busyness and in boredom
in certainty and in doubt,
in noise and in silence.

Teach me to listen, Lord



On Mothering Sunday the joint benefice service at CCW was led by Mothers' Union members and a new member was admitted. The MU choir sang an anthem and a single red rose was given to those attending.

Our two meetings in Lent were firstly Pam Cowie relating her Christian journey, starting in Rochester and arriving in Bolton via Scotland. Secondly Barbara Silvester led us in a meditation taking some of the Stations of the Cross as her theme.

In May we are having a "2018" quiz and member Karen Kay is to talk about her "Winter Warmer"- touring around Europe in a camper van.

The Deanery AGM is to be held on 20th May at All Saints' Elton at 7pm. There will be a raffle and table top sale and donations and volunteers are requested for both as well as help in serving refreshments.

All are welcome to our meetings on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays in the hall at 7.30pm.

Bob Taylor
Branch Leader



Fruit and vegetable quiz at Christ Church

This quiz was very well supported and a lot of completed entries were received. Twelve people got it right so there was a draw for the winner who is Barbara Taylor - Congratulations!

The quiz raised £62 for church funds.
Thank you to all who supported this.

SATURDAY WALKING GROUP



Our walk on Saturday 6th April came courtesy of a leaflet located by my Auntie and took in areas around Hawkshaw & Affetside. We met at St. John with St. Mark Church Hall and drove the short distance to the Hare & Hounds at Holcombe Brook, our starting point.

We made our way along Redisher Lane towards Greenmount Golf Club and then past Holly Mount School, which has also historically been the site of a convent, hospital and orphanage.

The walk took us towards Bottoms Hall Cottages, which are the remains of an industrial site, and then onto Affetside. It was noted here that we had a good view of the 'other side' of Holcombe Hill from the one we are used to seeing. Our elevenses stop was at the side of the Roman Road, which leads towards the Pack Horse Inn at Affetside. Our walk continued along the fields into Hawkshaw and then along Hawkshaw Lane to the Holcombe Moor Training Centre. We made our way along the Moor and stopped for lunch at the site of an abandoned farm building. The last stretch of our walk saw us descend into Redisher Wood and across the bridge, which appeared to have been newly built, back onto the path which took us back to the Hare & Hounds. Spring is definitely in the air now with flowers coming into bloom, the arrival of new born lambs and a hint of sunshine.

BENEFICE BOUNDARY WALK

Our annual Benefice walk around the Boundary of the two Parishes will take place this year on Saturday 4th May. As with previous years, we have produced a timetable of where we expect to be at a given time. Therefore if you do not fancy joining us for the whole thing (12 miles) then you may meet us at a given point and complete a section or two. We may say a prayer or have a brief reflection at certain key landmarks along the way.

If you are thinking of joining us at any of the spots, please let David Robinson know in advance just in case the timings go a bit awry and we can provide you with an update. A mobile phone number may be useful so we can update you with a location. Remember you will need good footwear and packed lunch etc. If you are not able to join us on the day, you may wish to follow us in spirit with the help of the times and locations below:

9.00am – Start, Christ Church Lych Gate

9.30 – St. John with St. Mark Church Hall

10.20 – Bury Community Fire Station,
Magdalene Road

10.30 – Tesco Car Park Memorial Garden (near the car wash)

11.30 – Top of Chesham Road / Walker's Field

12.30pm – Buckhurst (*Lunch Stop*)

1.40 – Lord Raglan Car Park

2.30 – Summerseat (Waterside Bridge)

3.30 – Brown Cow (*Afternoon Refreshment*)



You may also be interested to know that on Sunday 5th May, Paul is hoping to complete a boundary walk of his new Parish of St. Stephen. This is slightly shorter at around 5 miles and includes areas previously covered by the regular group. We are welcome to join Paul on this. However it is likely to be an 11.30am start so please contact Paul if you are interested in this. (Or via David Robinson who will link in with Paul).



THE OPEN GROUP

On Wednesday 10th April we met in the Barritt Room to hear Jack Sutton talk about his recent trip to Brazil to see his son. This was a talk that had previously been trialled at Men of the Benefice and also seemed ideal for Open Group. Jack explained first that despite living with Parkinson's this was definitely not going to stop

him from undertaking this venture. In fact the only potential obstacle was that his wife wanted a new car instead, but that did not stop the trip going ahead either.

The talk came complete with slides of the various stages of Jack's week long stay and was very entertaining. Jack explained how he had been made to feel extremely welcome by the locals and neighbours, and the community spirit was evident in the photos we were shown. It was noted how quiet the roads were in the tiny area where Jack stayed, as opposed to the expected hustle and bustle of the major cities such as Rio De Janeiro or Sao Paulo. The major form of transport is motorcycles. There were photographs of some of the wildlife including toucans and armadillos in the local zoo and whereas here in the UK we get mice, hedgehogs and rats roaming our streets, Brazil gets lizards! Those of us with a nervous disposition needed to look away when the photo of the tarantula in the shower was shown! All harmless though, we were informed. There seemed to be stunning scenery in the photographs and a real sense of friendship. Jack enjoyed his visit and we enjoyed this brief insight. Thanks to Jack for sharing it with us.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 8th May

Local man Jim Metcalf will talk about his charitable work for 'Community Action Nepal' and his love of mountain climbing.
We are promised some stunning photography.

Please come along, and even bring a friend.

All are welcome as usual at 7.30pm in the Barritt Room

Please also remember our stall at the Summer Fair on Saturday 1st June. We would be grateful of donations of household, kitchen and bathroom goods.

David Robinson

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 12th to 18th May 2019



Our aims

We stand together, for dignity, for equality, for justice. Everyone is equal in the sight of God. Yet we live in a world where poverty still persists. Poverty is an outrage against humanity.

It robs people of their dignity and lets injustice thrive. But together we have the power to transform lives. For over 70 years, we've been standing with the poorest of our neighbours. We work in 37 countries, with people of all faiths and none, to stand up for dignity, equality and justice. Together we can create a world where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty. Our voices and actions are stronger together. And with your help, we can make an even bigger difference.

Together with our supporters and partners, we aim:

To expose poverty throughout the world, to help in practical ways to end it,

To highlight, challenge and change the structures and systems that favour the rich and powerful over the poor and marginalised.

We believe in life before death

We seek to follow the teaching of Jesus Christ, who commanded his followers to love their neighbour and work for a better world. We stand with the most vulnerable and excluded people of the world – both in times of crisis and for the longer term. We give people survival essentials when they are without shelter or refuge, and help them find the strength and resources they need to flourish and protect themselves from shocks and disasters. We support people to stand up for their rights and to build stable, secure lives they can enjoy living.

We're part of a global movement for change

Together, we have great influence and impact. We want people to pray with us, to act, to give and to get involved with us in a variety of ways. We work to educate and mobilise people from all kinds of backgrounds to build a movement that can change the course of history and bring social justice to all. We campaign to ensure a more equal division of power in the world, promoting the rights and voices of women and girls – and anyone discriminated against because of who they are. We push our political leaders to tackle climate change and tax dodging – which hit the poorest the hardest – and for our society to welcome those who have been forced to flee their homes overseas.

Christian Aid Week ~ Luncheon Platter

If you would like to support Christian Aid Week this year we are once again holding a luncheon platter on Sunday 12th May after the service at 12noon at St. John with St. Mark Church Hall, Parkinson Street.

Tickets: Adults £5.00; Children up to 12 years £3.00
Please contact John Brennan or Rosemarie Ashworth
or members of the clergy.

If you would like to donate to the work of Christian Aid there will be donation envelopes at the back of church. If you would like to know more about Christian Aid or to donate online please go to www.christian.org.uk

God Bless, John



Bury CAP Debt Centre

Launch Celebration

Evening

Sunday 12th May 2019 6:00pm

Bury United Reformed Church

Parsons Lane Bury BL9 0LY

Please come and join us for our evening celebration event as we launch this exciting new venture across the Bury Metro area!

It will be an evening of worship, praise and thanks and a special guest speaker from CAP Beth Prescott (CAP Campaign Manager)

Please invite folks from your own church to come along to join us and learn more of what we have planned

Yours in Christ, The Bury Project

The Bury Project: 'Creating Hope & Building Futures'

The Bury Project is a cross church partnership with the aim of 'the advancement of the Christian faith through care, compassion and relevant practical and spiritual help'

EVENTS FOR MAY



Third Thursday Light Lunch

at CCW Hall
12 noon/1pm

The next lunch will be on **Thursday 16 May**

As always there will be no set charge – if you are able, please give a donation but if you can't just come and enjoy the food and fellowship.

YOU will be most welcome. There really is such a thing as a 'free lunch'!!



FORMBY RETREAT 2019

The annual retreat to the St. Joseph's Prayer Centre in Formby will depart on Wednesday 22nd May, but will now finish slightly earlier, after evening meal on Friday 24th May.



The centre is situated in beautiful grounds surrounded by the National Trust pine forest and red squirrel reserve.

This is a time to enjoy good company, fresh air and reflection. Anyone who is interested should please contact Ian Banks. People can do the full 3 days or come for single days if they wish. The price for the full stay is now £145.00.

Please pray for all those who will be going on this year's retreat.

Sunday @ Seven

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

May 26th at 7pm

at Christ Church Church Hall

“Light up the World”

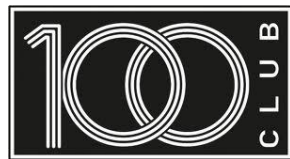


Do come and join us – it lasts about an hour
– tea/coffee + cake/biscuits.
You will be most welcome!

MARCH 2019 WINNERS

1st Prize ~ Laura Clark

2nd Prize ~ Jean Dodson



CONGRATULATIONS TO BOTH

ST JOHN WITH ST MARK SUMMER FAIR

SATURDAY 1st JUNE
11am to 1.30pm in the Church Hall



Tombolas

Traidcraft

Books

White Elephant

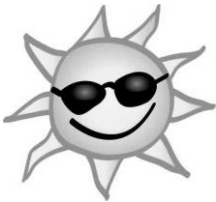
Cakes

Knitted & Household Goods

Cards & Gifts

Jigsaws

Raffle & much more



LUNCHES/REFRESHMENTS
ALSO AVAILABLE

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

If you have any new ideas for stalls and attractions, or you do not normally help and would like to be involved (either on the day or setting up on the Friday), please speak to the wardens or clergy. Donations of raffle prizes and items for the stalls may be brought to Church any time from now. Thank You



Next Joint Benfice Service
(5th Sunday)
June 30th at 10.30 am
St John with St Mark

WHAT'S ON IN MAY

Wed 1	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC)
Sat 4	9.00am	Benefice Walk
Sun 5		Third Sunday of Easter
		Services as usual
	12.30pm	Baptism (CC)
Mon 6	7.30pm	NO Listening Prayer Group due to Bank Holiday
Wed 8	7.30pm	Pastoral Committee (CC)
	7.30pm	Open Group (Barritt Room, SJM)
Sun 12		Fourth Sunday of Easter
		Services as usual
	12noon	Christian Aid Lunch
	12.30pm	Interment of Ashes (CC)
Wed 15	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC)
	7.30pm	Churches Together in Bury (URC)
Thu 16	12 noon	Light Lunch (CC)
Sun 19		Fifth Sunday of Easter
		Services as usual
Mon 20	7.00pm	Bury Deanery Mothers' Union AGM (All Saints)
Wed 22 – Fri 24		Formby Retreat
Thu 23	7.30pm	Archdeacon's Visitation (SJM)
		NB – No regular service of Holy Communion
Sat 25	12.30am	Wedding (CC)
Sun 26		Sixth Sunday of Easter
		Services as usual
	12.30pm	Baptism (CC)
	7.00pm	Sunday @ Seven (CC)
Thu 30	7.30pm	Ascension Day Holy Communion (both)



D Robinson

**The licensing on 27 March
of the Reverend Paul Sanderson
as Priest in Charge of St Stephen, Elton**
Paul seen here with Mark Ashcroft, Bishop of Bolton
and Jean Burgess, Archdeacon of Bolton