

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

Join us for



More Than Sunday

A year of discipleship

<https://www.manchester.anglican.org/more-than-Sunday/>

September 2019

50P



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Manchester

CHURCH
FOR A
DIFFERENT
WORLD

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



A BOLT FROM THE BLUE

"I didn't see that one coming!"

Have you ever made that statement when there has been a sudden change in your life?

It certainly was my reaction when our younger daughter announced that she was going to work in Chicago for an extended period of time. It was a surprising and unexpected development. We would see less of her certainly but there were bonuses; two wonderful holidays when I got to travel business class, paddle in the Pacific, avoid bears in the Yosemite National park and attend Jazz Communion in downtown Chicago.



If anyone should have said "I didn't see that coming" or whatever the first century equivalent was, it was Mary the mother of Jesus, and not just once in her life.

Yes, the angel stopping her in her tracks telling her that she was pregnant by the Holy Spirit would certainly be a shock and a life changing event.

But the birth in the stable with shepherds arriving with tales of angels singing would hardly have been foreseen.

Nor would she have expected oriental gentlemen to appear, bearing extremely unusual gifts for her son.

I doubt if a flight to a foreign country with her husband and young son, leaving behind all that was familiar and comfortable would have planned in advance.

And I think that she would have been surprised and disturbed by what she was told by Simeon when she presented her son in the temple. And yet again when he wandered off to talk to the priests and said he was doing his Father's business.

Throughout Jesus' ministry she would have been surprised by his teaching but did she really know that she would kneel at the foot of a cross on which he was crucified?

And what of Easter day when the tomb was empty. That must have been surprising, shocking, hopeful but totally unexpected.

Throughout her life Mary was frequently surprised by God and responded with obedience.

How often are we taken by surprise by God, presented with a challenge we never expected?

Like Mary do we listen, trust, accept and persevere and open ourselves to new experiences? Or do we close our ears and pretend the message was for someone else?

God of the unexpected:

- Challenge us to new ways of service
- Inspire us to respond with enthusiasm and vision to the tasks you place before us.
- Give us courage to trust in your plan

May we like Mary respond with faith when we find ourselves saying "I didn't see that one coming."

Yours in Christ

Margery



CAFÉ CHURCH 2019

Next Café Church Services, all at 10.30 am

Please put these dates in your diaries:



St. John with St. Mark

6 October (led by Archdeacon Jean,
with Communion)

15 December

Christ Church

8 September

8 December

JOINT BENEFICE SERVICE

on the 5th Sunday of a month

29 September at 10.30am

A CELEBRATION OF ALM MINISTRY

CHRIST CHURCH

followed by a Bring & Share Lunch



Please join us in church as we celebrate **110 years** of Mothers' Union faith in action here in Walmersley
Sunday, 15 September at 4.30pm for Evensong (BCP)
followed by tea and cakes.



BIBLE READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER

Sep 1	11th after Trinity	Proverbs 25: 6-7	Hebrews 13: 1-8. 15-16	Luke 14: 1, 7-14
Sep 8	12th After Trinity	Deuteronomy 30: 15- end	Philemon 1-21	Luke 14: 25-33
Sep 15	13th After Trinity	Exodus 32: 7-14	1 Timothy 1: 12-17	Luke 15: 1-10
Sep 22	14th After Trinity	Amos 8: 4-7	1 Timothy 2: 1-7	Luke 16: 1-13
Sep 29	Michael and All Angels	Genesis 28: 10-17	Revelation 12: 7-12	John 1: 47-end
Oct 6	16th After Trinity	Habakkuk 1: 1-4, 2:1- 4	2 Timothy 1: 1-14	Luke 17: 5-10



FLOWERS IN CHURCH

At Christ Church

Sep 1	Mr J Clegg
Sep 8	Café Church
Sep 15	Mrs B Murray in memory of her parents
Sep 22	In memory of Phyllis Magnall
Sep 29	Vacant – Joint Service

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

Jun 30 Oliver Ashworth
Jul 14 Faith Taylor Joshua Taylor Chelsea Peak
Jul 21 Andy Alfadil
Aug 18 Charlie O'Brien

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

Church Funeral

Aug 6 Geoffrey Perkins

Funeral services held at the Crematorium

Jun 18 Lee Page
Aug 8 Molly Smith
Aug 16 Tony Shedwick

"I am the resurrection and the life"

CHRISTIAN MUSLIM FORUM



Our co-chairmen Saqib and Peter have called a meeting to discuss the future programme of the Bury Christian Muslim Forum.

Tuesday October 1st 2019 at 7.30pm

in the Barritt Room, St John with St Mark's Hall, Parkinson Street.
Refreshments will be drinks and biscuits.

We need to discuss our thoughts and plans for our meetings in Autumn/Winter. If you would like to contribute to the future programme please come along. Jill Smith

A GENTLE REMINDER

Each month we try to choose a different and appropriate cover image for our magazine. It would be fantastic if throughout 2020 we could showcase the talents of those in our benefice.

We would like A4 designs, landscape or portrait, in any medium as long as we can scan it. It needs to be borne in mind that it will be reduced to no greater than A6 (quarter of A4).

We have listed some options below but you may have other ideas. All we ask is that it is appropriate for the publication and season.

December/January	Advent, Nativity, Epiphany
February	Ash Wednesday
March	Lent
April	Easter
May	Ascension
June	Pentecost
July/August	St Mary the Virgin
September	St Michael and All Angels
October	Harvest
November	Remembrance

drawing *painting*
collage
word cloud
or your choice

Designs to be handed to wardens in both churches, or leave at the Vicarage. Please submit your design, together with contact details and your age if 16 or under, by 30 September 2019.

This is us

They say time flies – but why not let your imagination fly too?

In 2010 we ran a competition (with very few entries it has to be said!) to create a logo for our new benefice. In 2020, as we celebrate 10 years of working together, wouldn't it be wonderful to have a logo we could use in both churches?

Now we have had those years' experience of a united benefice maybe it will be easier to find a representation. Be thinking and watch this space for details of how to share your thoughts with us.

Authorised Lay Ministry in Manchester Diocese

At Manchester Cathedral at 2.30pm on Sunday 22 September, a number of people will be commissioned for Authorised Lay Ministry in the Diocese.

Included in these will be Ian Banks who will be authorised to serve as a Worship Leader here in the Benefice.

Also at this service Nigel Silvester will be recommissioned, also to serve as a Worship Leader.

At previous Commissioning services the following intercession has been used. (Adapted from a prayer by Roger Spiller)

Lord, you call us to be story-tellers:

locating each one in the script of your human history.

You call us to be trailblazers:

living in your future that we receive only as gift.

You call us to be weavers:

gathering up unraveling, disconnected communities.

You call us to be fools:

for Christ's sake: bearing life's absurdities and challenges.

You call us to be hosts:

welcomers of the sacred, intimate, transfiguring.

You call us to be poets:

naming, invoking, heralding your inexpressible presence.

You call us to be gardeners:

sowers, cultivators, nurturers of fragile lives.

You call us to be conductors:

orchestrating the praise of your diverse creation.

Lord, you lavish gifts on all whom you call.

**Strengthen and sustain us and all ministers of your church,
that in the range and diversity of our vocation,
we may be agents of your kingdom in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Please pray for Ian & Nigel as they serve God in the United Benefice.

From the Vicarage

- * Thanks to those who have helped Christ Church to be open each Tuesday afternoon during the summer months. It has been good for the local community to be able to have their church building available for prayer or a chat. Everyone's help is much appreciated.
- * Next year sees both the 10th anniversary of the creation of the United Benefice of Walmersley Road and 250 years since the Parish of St.John was formed. We will be celebrating these events in a number of ways throughout 2020. Any suggestions as to how to mark these two significant milestones would be welcome.
- * 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.
- * Thanks to those who contributed to the recent Café Church services asking about how we can improve our mission to the community. The ideas are being looked by the PCCs and Ministry Team.

* 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.

* The next meeting of the MOB – Men of the Benefice – takes place on Monday 30 September. We meet at The Towler from 8pm. It would be good to see some new recruits!

* Regular attenders to church are encouraged to join our planned giving scheme. If you would like to do so or would like some further information, please speak to one of the Treasurers or Wardens.

* If you would like to donate towards the cost of the flowers in church, perhaps in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a special event, please speak to Betty Winterbottom (Christ Church) or Rosemarie Ashworth (St.John with St.Mark).

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

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





HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

at Christ Church & St.John with St.Mark

- Harvest Festivals – Sunday 13 October
Family & Parade Services – 10.30am

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

Donations of Harvest produce welcome.

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

- ST.JOHN WITH ST.MARK SCHOOL HARVEST SERVICE
Tuesday 8 October 9.15am St.John with St.Mark
- PRIORY Highbank HARVEST SERVICE:
Wednesday 9 October 2.30pm
The Priory Highbank Centre, Walmersley Road

ALL ARE WELCOME

"Come ye thankful people come....."



Sunday @ Seven

We next meet for our regular Sunday evening informal worship
September 29 at 7pm at St John with St Mark

"There's a place....."



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



CHRISTIAN MEDITATION DAY

The World Community for Christian Meditation in the UK (WCCM)
Lancashire & North Manchester Region

Everyone welcome to meditation in the Christian tradition,
a way of
"COMING TO REST"
(Experience in meditation not required, instruction given)

At
St. John with St. Mark Church Hall,
Parkinson Street
On
Saturday 21st September
10.30am to 3.30pm Refreshments 10.00am
Please bring own lunch

The theme of the day is "Coming to Rest", which will be
calming, peaceful, informative & experiential
as we explore & learn about this aspect of the experience
of meditation in the Christian tradition
as rediscovered by Fr. John Main OSB.

The day will include periods of meditation, short talk, poetry &
readings, sharing of insights, ways of relaxation, awareness, being
mindful and/or contemplative walking.

Donations £10.00

For bookings & enquiries please contact David McKenna

NOTES FROM THE COUNCILS

St. John with St. Mark PCC meeting of 25th July 2019

PCC members should be DBS checked. This will be pursued further.

Social dates include afternoon tea on Saturday 7th September, coffee morning on Saturday 28th September, Harvest lunch on Sunday 13th October, Christingle on Wednesday 4th December. Ian's commissioning as ALM will be at the Cathedral on Sunday 22nd September and Nigel will also be re-commissioned. There will be a celebration at the joint service at Christ Church on Sunday 29th September.

There is now a page on the Website about our disabled access and the facilities provided. Thanks to the five people who have signed up to the Easy Giving scheme.

The list of jobs which need to be undertaken from the Quinquennial inspection was discussed. It is possible that some of these could be done by volunteers on either an evening or a Saturday.

A meeting took place in June to plan for the 250th Anniversary celebrations next year. Various ideas were discussed and it was proposed a suggestion box be placed at the back of Church for ideas.

Following on from the 'Church for a different world' responses at the last Cafè Church service these have now been collated and joined with the comments from Christ Church. Actions from these will be pursued further and some individuals have already come forward to help.

A further discussion took place about plaques and memorials on the Garden of Remembrance as some have now appeared without the PCC being approached. A sample of a sign to be placed here stating that PCC permission needs to be sought was shown to PCC. It was also suggested that the site for memorials be moved to the other side of the garden, near to the Chapel window.

Quotes have been received for a new Church sound system, which will include repositioning of the mixing desk. These will be discussed at Standing Committee.

The coffee morning on 20th July raised £255.

There is a proposal to restructure the Deaneries in the area to form seven larger Deaneries. A consultation will take place on Wednesday 4th September. We are encouraged to send a couple of representatives.

The next PCC meeting will take place on Thursday 19th September.

NOTES FROM THE COUNCILS

Christ Church PCC meeting report for the 29.07.2019

1. The secretary is to speak to the church architect regarding trees growing near to the church building.
2. It was agreed that the Churchyard grass would be cut twice per year and the wardens would liaise with the contractor that has just cut the grass in the churchyard to arrange this for next year.
3. The PCC had received a letter from the Ecclesiastical Insurance company outlining the new policy that will come into force in January 2020.
4. It was agreed that the PCC pay an additional £5000 towards the Parish Share and that we continue with the monthly standing order of £1500 towards the Parish Share.
5. The vicar noted that the diocese had put into effect redundancies at church house because of lack of income from the parish shares.
6. It was agreed that the children's copper collection should be split between the Tearfund and Boomerang charities.
7. It was noted that the contract with Morris homes for the sale of the field was proceeding.
8. It was noted that Bishop David would attend St John with St Mark's 250th anniversary. The Parish of St John was created on the 8th June 1770. It was suggested that Bishop Mark be invited to the 10th celebration of the creation of the Benefice.
9. There is to be an afternoon tea in the hall on the 20th of August.
10. The committee structures were discussed and the representatives on each committee were noted.
11. Removal of the gates at the side of the church in School Lane and the pillars with the reconstruction of the church wall was discussed. This is to allow an extension to the garden of remembrance.
12. The vicar commented on the proposed reduction by the Diocese in the number of the deaneries in the Manchester Diocese. There will be a further discussion in Bolton in September before any decision is taken by the Diocese.
13. The post it note suggestions from the June Café church service are being looked at and actioned within the Ministry meeting.

Week One

As our children and young people return to school and college:

Almighty God, we pray for all teachers and staff and for all who study. We pray our schools may be places of great discovery, adventure and creativity. May they be places where all love to learn and where all learn to love; places where individual potential is recognised; where every one is respected and all are deeply valued. We ask all this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(from www.lords-prayer-words.com)



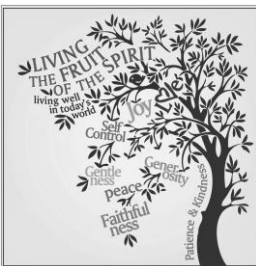
Week Two

Galatians 5: 22-23

The fruit of the Spirit
is love, joy and peace.
Father we know that our world
needs love and harmony.

The fruit of the Spirit
is patience, kindness and goodness.
Father we know that our world
is starved of compassion and fellowship.

The fruit of the Spirit
is faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.
Father we know that our world
is short of truth and justice.



Prayers for the People ©1992

Week Three

In this 'Creation' season, prayers from Zambia and Ireland.

My God, we give all thanks to you for creating this world and our country.

We give you thanks for the beautiful weather, animals, water, land and everything we have in this country.

We pray for all the leaders of our country and the world. Give them wisdom to rule and meet them at their point of need.

We give you thanks for the gift of life; may we never take it for granted but remember it comes from you.

Guide us in our daily lives. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen

Noreen Shingaidzo Njovu

Week Four

God in heaven, thank you for all the everyday things of life we take for granted.

Thank you for the trees and woods, hills and valleys; the golden sunshine and the white fluffy clouds in a clear blue sky; the song of the birds in the hedgerows; the flowers in the garden and the butterflies and bees; the fresh green grass after a shower of rain; the sparkling water in the river as it wends its way towards the sea.

Help us never to do anything to harm these wondrous things which you have created for us to enjoy.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Kilskeery & Trillick Mothers' Union branch

*What would YOU give thanks for? Why not share your prayer with us?
(We will print anonymously if you prefer! Ed.)*

"Who's looking at you Babe? " was an evening where photos of members were brought and displayed to guess their identities. This was an enjoyable time deciding who was who out of 22 photos. Not an easy task and when the names of the "babies" were revealed there were quite a few oohs and aahs.

Our Summer meal for members, spouses and friends was held at Bella Italia in Bury. The food and company were excellent and I even got a doggy bag to bring home!

Ian Banks gave us a most interesting insight into his day job along with 20 questions which were handed out for members to ask to find out more about himself, his upbringing, faith journey. The questioners also had to answer the same question about themselves and so it was a good way of learning about each other.

Our 110th birthday is to be celebrated at Falshaws and on Sunday 15th September there will be a service of Sung Evensong to be held in church at 4.30pm to mark this anniversary. All are most welcome.

Our meeting on 18th "In Step with God in church" – do join us.

The Deanery AGM is to be held at All Saints Elton on Monday 23rd September at 7pm. There will be a raffle, bring & buy sale, tea, coffee and cake. The Diocesan Festival is on Saturday 28th September at St Anns church, St Anns Square, Manchester at 2.30pm. Again all are welcome.

Bob Taylor



We are reminded that small acts make a BIG difference. One perfect example featured on our social media pages in August. Sybil Fryer, like many others, knits tiny cardigans for the special care baby units. This photo shows Sybil with the 170th cardigan she has handed over since January this year. Thanks to the power of Facebook at least 774 people know what a difference we can each make. In fact it will be far more as the post was shared 15 times too. THANK YOU SYBIL

MOTHERS' UNION RETREAT, FOXHILL, FRODSHAM

From 12-14th July twenty members from Manchester Diocese (including five from Walmersley) spent the weekend at Foxhill, set in sixty five acres of natural grounds with managed woodland to explore. An ideal setting for a retreat.

The subject for talks and discussion was Mary, the mother of Jesus, led by Revd. Penny Warner, the vicar of St Nicholas with St John & St Michael, Newchurch.

The days started with prayers in the beautiful chapel at 8am. After breakfast and before lunch at 1pm Penny talked about Mary using pictures and scriptures. Between talks we had free time to meditate and visit the various prayer stations situated around Foxhill. After lunch there was free time to explore the beautiful grounds and woodland around the house and meditate on the words we had heard. After an evening meal at 6.30pm we had another session with Penny before ending the day with Compline at 8.30pm in the chapel.

Sunday morning began with prayers before breakfast and the last session of the weekend was led by Christine Faulkner where we were able to discuss our experience of the weekend. Most of us expressed how little we knew about Mary even though she is the mother of Jesus. We learned so much about her obedience, her faithfulness, prayerfulness, humbleness. We talked about her sorrows and joys; i.e. the prophecy of Simeon, her flight to Egypt with Joseph, losing Jesus in the temple, seeing Jesus carrying the cross, Jesus crucified, holding his lifeless body and his burial.

Her joy and acceptance when visited by the Angel, the annunciation, Jesus's birth, visit of the Magi, Ascension, Pentecost and being reunited in heaven with Jesus.

The weekend ended with the Eucharist before lunch at 1pm. A truly memorable weekend, we were greatly blessed.

Jean Slater

SATURDAY WALKING GROUP



Our walk on 6th July was a much anticipated visit to Malham in the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Some of us had never been before, whereas others had not been for a good number of years. It was a lovely day to be walking with sunshine from beginning to

end but also enough of a breeze to make the walk pleasant.

We had slightly over an hour's journey to get there, but this was also a lovely experience in itself to see the views of the surrounding areas. We arrived at the Visitor Centre shortly after 10.00am and set off past the 1865c Wesleyan Chapel (now Malham Methodist Church). After crossing Malham Beck and through the woods, we encountered the first of several fantastic attractions, Janet's Foss, a picturesque waterfall, in which people were already cooling off (Foss is the old Scandinavian word for waterfall and according to legend Janet, or Jennet, was the Queen of the local fairies and lived in a cave behind the waterfall).

We took a climb away from the waterfall to the Gordale Scar campsite and then along a path for half a mile that leads to Gordale Scar waterfall. The Scar was created during the Ice ages, melt water creating a cavern that eventually collapsed to create the waterfall and gorge, including smooth rocks formed by tufa deposits. Our walk then continued up the waterfall, although it is definitely more of a scramble which required hands and feet. Described by Paul just before as 'a few minutes of fun' it was certainly a challenge and definitely not the best time to get a spot of cramp whilst I was half way up! However thanks to a bit of determination and some assistance from each other, we managed to get up to the path at the top left and then continued our climb away from the Scar. Oh and yes, it was fun. The climb did become easier as we headed away from the valley. A breather was then needed though. NB – An alternative route is possible if you don't fancy the Scar.

Our walk was much flatter from hereon in. We continued along the tracks and fields to Malham Tarn, a natural lake, which looked very

peaceful and picked up a path which led to a dry valley. We ascended to the grassland above where we had our lunch stop.

After lunch, we picked up the dry valley once again and then continued to Malham Cove, formed during the Ice Age 12000 years ago, and the limestone pavement which is above. We crossed the blocks to experience some great views over Malham and beyond. We could see the path down below, which would take us back to Malham, but first we headed down the steeper steps to the Pennine Way. The views of the Cove were appreciated here.

We completed our walk back along the Pennine Way and the route back to the car park and all agreed that we had experienced a great day out, with fantastic walking, weather and attractions; with the odd challenge thrown in. Thanks to Paul for arranging the walk, and for driving us there and back.

MORE FROM THE WALKING GROUP

We met on 10th August and Ralph offered to lead us on a walk through areas near Heywood. Coincidentally Ralph had completed the same walk earlier in the week and got very wet and the forecast for the day was generally overcast with the chance of a heavy shower, but as is usually the case, that didn't stop us. A few of us gathered at Clarence Lido around 9.10am before walking towards Sillinghurst Farm to meet Ralph at the end of Castle Hill Road. Past the farm we made our way along Scotland Lane by the side of Walmersley golf club before heading up to the highest part of our walk today and the path overlooking Owd Betts, where the purple heather was still widespread across the area. The weather had slightly worsened as we made our way along the side of Ashworth Valley and we continued to the Roch Valley where we stopped for elevenses. The river was noticeably swollen here. Our route continued towards Simpson Clough, Ashworth Road and further along the banks of the River Roch towards Summit. It was here that the weather changed considerably and we were caught in a very heavy shower for about ten minutes. By the time we reached Summit we were all soaked however Ralph advised us earlier that

Helen had invited us for scones and a hot drink when we finished our walk, so this kept us going. Our walk took us on towards Fairfield and then up through Prettywood and back to Castle Hill. The recent few days of heavy downpours had created a sometimes muddy terrain across the paths and tracks and it was like walking through a jungle in parts of the woodland with overhanging branches, but we still enjoyed the walk.

We were very grateful for the homemade scones with jam and hot drinks when we arrived back at Ralph's. Helen was very insistent we came in however we were rather wet and had no wish to cause any mess, so we were happy under the porch way. I did get a snap, which Helen worried may have made her look inhospitable but that definitely was not the case and we managed to finish off several scones between us.



Thanks to Ralph for leading us and for getting wet twice in one week.

Best foot forward, David Robinson

NEXT WALK
Saturday 7th September

Paul is going to do Malham again for those who missed it last time.

We may have to avoid the waterfall if the weather is bad.

Please meet at St. John with St. Mark Church Hall
at 9.00am for transport.

How to grow our faith and increase our discipleship.

What does it mean to be a disciple?

How does our faith impact on our everyday life?

What do we feel called to do because of our faith?

Sign up to receive a monthly email,
with theme and suggested actions,
along with a podcast featuring local people
who have a particular insight to share.

#MoreThanSunday

was launched in July with the theme of **DOUBT**;

August focused on **WORSHIP**

The themes for the remainder of the year are:

September - Creation

October - Forgiveness

November - Friendship

December - Waiting

January - Justice

February - Generations

March - Generosity

April - Witness

May - Community

June - Invitation

Visit: www.manchester.anglican.org/more-than-Sunday/
or pick up a card in church to find out more.

Editor: More potential ideas for cover images (see page 8)

PRAYER DIARY

*PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE SUBJECTS ON A DAILY BASIS.
THEY FORM PART OF THE PRAYERS AT EVENING PRAYER
AT 5.00pm AT ST.JOHN WITH ST.MARK FROM MONDAY - THURSDAY*

- SUNDAY:** For all our worship services.
All who receive Holy Communion in their own homes.
Those who read, lead intercessions and serve in our churches
- MONDAY:** Our music ministry. The Study Groups.
Those considering lay or ordained ministry
Links with the other faith communities in the benefice.
- TUESDAY:** All the educational establishments in the parish.
School Governors. Nurseries, Pre-schools, Primary Schools,
St.John with St.Mark CE School.
Our pastoral care to all the community,
especially to those bereaved.
- WEDNESDAY:** Links with other church communities across the world.
Mothers' Union
Our care of the church buildings. Mission Action Planning
- THURSDAY:** The Sunday School /Junior Church and
all our work with young people.
Those preparing to be married in church.
Our baptism ministry.
- FRIDAY:** Links with our local communities.
The PCCS and their committees
Those who provide and arrange church flowers
Those who use our church halls.
- SATURDAY:** The Vicar, Curate and the Assistant Priest. The retired clergy
The Licensed Readers & ALM.
Ecumenical Links within the benefice.

The Booth Centre

The Booth Centre is based at Pimblett Street just off Cheetham Hill Road in Manchester City Centre.

Its aim is 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.

This is achieved by working alongside the people attending the centre, to provide activities which help people rebuild confidence and learn something new whilst having fun and building social connections. The Centre runs arts, employment and skills sessions daily and offers everyone a healthy, free breakfast and lunch.

Advice is available to help people find accommodation and overcome the practical difficulties they are facing.

The Centre is the recipient of some of the food and harvest produce that we collect in both churches.

Each year they invite people to take on the challenge of sleeping out for one night to highlight some of the hardships that people have to face every night.

The Manchester Sleepout will be staged this year on Friday 8 November 2019 at the Cathedral.

The idea is to "Sleep out once, so that others don't have to".

If you would like to help the Centre's mission to end homelessness - in all its forms - and take part in the sleepout go online to the Centre's website – www.boothcentre.org.uk

RNIB Ramsbottom Branch
Pre Christmas Coffee Morning
Tuesday October 22nd, 10am–12noon
Christ Church Hall
Cake Stall, Souvenirs, Christmas Stall, Raffle
£2.00 including refreshments



THE OPEN GROUP

Our meeting on Wednesday 10th July was something a little different from the normal structure of a speaker and theme in that we had a silent meditation. Ian was intending on leading this, however work commitments meant I stood in, after a brief rehearsal a few days before. The evening was entitled 'Be still and know that I am God' and followed an order of service pattern but as opposed to spoken words we had complete silence throughout, after a brief explanation at the beginning.

There were various items used throughout to symbolise the different parts of the service. We each began with a stone, which had been chilled beforehand in the fridge, and allowed this to warm in our hands before placing them at the foot of our cross as a sign of us laying down our burdens. There was an envelope each containing a scripture passage for us to meditate on and an opportunity to offer our intercession with the sign of a lighted candle. The part of the service which was most intriguing was the Peace, which was shared with each other as a handshake but with no spoken words. We were invited to look each other in the eye as we shared Peace and then you realise afterwards that this is something you tend not to do during a regular service as you are quick to move onto the next person. At the end of the service we received the sign of the cross on our heads with anointing oil.

The session went well and was well received. Silence can sometimes be a difficult thing to maintain and when you have a set liturgy you know when sections begin and end. For the person leading the service probably the hardest part was working out the correct level of time to keep the silence for, to make sure you keep enough, but at the same time not wanting people to become restless.

We finished our meeting with nibbles, wine and soft drinks.

There was no meeting of the Open Group in August.

David Robinson

NEXT MEETING OF THE OPEN GROUP

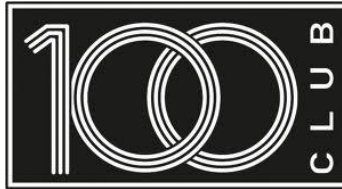
Wednesday 11th September

It is my turn to talk about myself
and things you may not have known about me.
All are welcome at 7.30pm in the Barritt Room.

JUNE 2019 WINNERS

1st Prize ~ Val Dawson

2nd Prize ~ Dorothy Butterworth



JULY 2019 WINNERS

1st Prize ~ David Robinson

2nd Prize ~ John & Judith Kelly

AUGUST 2019 WINNERS

1st Prize – Margaret Whittall

2nd Prize – David Robinson

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL

Advance Notices

ALL SOULS

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

SUNDAY 3 NOVEMBER

3.00pm

St. John with St. Mark

ALL WELCOME

CHRISTINGLE SERVICES

CHRIST CHURCH:
MONDAY 2 DECEMBER
ST. JOHN with ST. MARK:
WEDNESDAY 4 DECEMBER

Both services at 6.30pm

Please bring a toy
for a local child in need.

Toys will be distributed via the
local Salvation Army &
Wood Street Mission

SEPTEMBER EVENTS



Third Thursday Light Lunch

at CCW Hall
12 noon - 1pm

The next lunch will be on **Thursday 19 September**

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'!!

Moorside Community Knitting
are hosting

Macmillan Coffee Morning

on Tuesday 24th Sept
10.30am - 12.30pm
St John with St Mark Church Hall
Please support them



and a warm THANK YOU to this group



who support local hospitals, through Mothers' Union, by knitting items for new born babies and those born still sleeping. Here they are with just a selection of recently knitted items.

MORE EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER



ST. JOHN WITH ST. MARK AFTERNOON TEA

Dainty sandwiches, cakes & tea or coffee,
all on the best china we could lay our hands on

**Saturday 7th September from 2.00pm
In the Church Hall & Barritt Room**

Tickets £5.00 ~ Please contact June Banks – Booking is
essential
All proceeds to Church funds

There will also be books available for sale in the Hall,
if you just wish to come for some new reading material



COFFEE MORNING & BOOK FAIR

**St. John with St. Mark Church Hall
Saturday 28th September from 10.00am**

BOOKS

TEA & COFFEE

HOT SNACKS

HOME MADE CAKES

OTHER STALLS

ALL PROCEEDS TO CHURCH FUNDS



WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER

Sun 1		Eleventh Sunday after Trinity Services as usual
Wed 4	6.30pm	Mothers' Union (Falshaw's)
Sat 7	9.00am	Walking Group (Parkinson Street)
	2.00pm	Afternoon Tea (SJM)
Sun 8		Twelfth Sunday after Trinity Services as usual
	10.30am	with Café Church at CC
	2.30pm	Bury Deanery Mothers' Union Festival (BPC)
Wed 11	7.30pm	Open Group (SJM)
Thu 12	7.30pm	PCC (CC)
Sun 15		Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity Services as usual
	4.30pm	Celebration Evensong (CC)
Mon 16	7.30pm	Churches Together in Bury (URC)
Wed 18	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC)
Thu 19	12 noon	Light Lunch (CC)
	8.00pm	PCC (SJM)
Sat 21	10.00am	WCCM Meditation Day (SJM)
Sun 22		Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity Services as usual
	2.30pm	Licensing of ALMs (Cathedral)
Mon 23	7.00pm	Bury Deanery Mothers' Union AGM
Tue 24	10.30am	Macmillan Coffee Morning (SJM)
Sat 28	10.00am	Coffee morning and Book fair (SJM)
	2.30pm	Mothers' Union Diocesan Festival (St Ann)
Sun 29		Michael and All Angels Early services as usual
	10.30am	Joint Service (CC)
	7.00pm	Sunday@Seven (SJM)
Mon 30	8.00pm	Men of the Benefice (Towler)

a few milestones



Vivienne Stone and Barry Evans, confirmed by Mark, Bishop of Bolton at St Mary's Prestwich

Barbara Silvester granted the title of Reader Emeritus in Manchester Cathedral

Rosemary Taylor awarded her certificate and tab badge for 20 years service as a Girlguiding leader

