

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

**in the United Benefice of Walmersley Road**



**Ash Wednesday – 26<sup>th</sup> February**

**February 2020**

**50P**

## **REGULAR SERVICES**

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### **Sunday**

8.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark (Barritt Room)
9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Holy Communion 2 <sup>nd</sup> Family and Parade 3 <sup>rd</sup> Holy Communion 4 <sup>th</sup> Service of the Word	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sung Eucharist 3 <sup>rd</sup> Morning Prayer	St John w St Mark
10.30 a.m.	5 <sup>th</sup> United Service	Alternately CC/SJM

### **Monday**

7.30 p.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Listening Prayer	150 Walmersley Road
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### **Wednesday**

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

2.00 p.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> First Thursday Prayer	Christ Church Hall
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



Cover: Photo by Ahna Ziegler on Unsplash

## *If we only had time....*

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The printing schedule for our magazine means that I am thinking about what to write almost a month before it will be read. I write this a few days into a new year, a new decade; 2020 has just begun. However, by the time the magazine comes out all the excitement, the hopes and expectations, the whole New Year thing will be a distant memory. The looking back and reflecting on what happened (or didn't happen) in 2019; the looking forward into 2020; all that will have passed and we will just be getting on with the daily routine – won't we? Such is the passage of time. And time seems to flash by at an ever increasing pace. It's Monday morning, but suddenly it's Friday afternoon – where did that week go?

The world, God's creation, turns at its set pace. The seasons come and go. Climate change may be affecting things but basically the rhythm of the natural world proceeds as it always has done. However our lives are driven by calendars, clocks, appointment diaries, etc. Like the magazine printing schedule we are always looking ahead to when things must be done – when we have to be somewhere. And being retired doesn't seem to allow these demands to diminish. Barbara and I already have hanging in our kitchen a calendar filling up with things to do, dates inked in, so many things not to forget! Is it any wonder time flashes by; that we run out of time to do what we planned; that we feel the pace of life rushing us head-long to somewhere we are not really sure we want to go!



When I was at work (over 20 years ago!) I often felt that there was not enough time to deal with all the tasks asked of me. My boss would say that I needed to re-arrange my priorities and make time. I wasn't brave enough to tell him that it is not in the human gift to make time – God does that – see first chapter of Genesis, verse 14. At our December Sunday @ Seven we were reminded of the verse from Psalm 31 which says “You are my God - My time is in your hands”.

Each one of us has been given a set time by God, and none of us know how long or short that is. But we do have a measure of control on how we use that time and it could just be a good idea to consult with the Giver of Time when we are looking back or looking forward and making decisions on what to do.

As individuals and as Church we are called to the work of God's Kingdom. We are not called to sit on our hands and tick over; we are called to use the time which has been put into our hands. Scriptures, Old and New, tell us to learn from the past time and to look forward to the time which is to come. To have a vision, a determination; holding on to the hope given to us in Jesus. To plant seeds; to grow the Kingdom.

And when we are planning our use of time let's not forget to set aside time to be still; to read scripture; to ponder; to pray. We all need time in God's consulting room.

May God's blessing be upon each one of us through 2020 and through all the time He has allotted to us. Amen.

Nigel



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**A prayer for 29th February** *written by David R after reading Nigel's letter*

Patient & Loving God,

On this Leap Year day, let us use this extra day wisely in your service. Allow us to find some time today for stillness, quiet prayer, to reflect on your scripture, to give thanks for what we have and to think about those much less fortunate than ourselves.

If we have an opportunity to help someone else today, then let us show willing.

Let all our gifts & talents we use or discover today be carried over to the start of a new month and prepare us for this Lenten season.

We ask these things, in your name. Amen



## ***BIBLE READINGS FOR FEBRUARY***

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Feb 2 **The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)**

Malachi 3: 1-5                      Hebrews 2: 14-end                      Luke 2: 22-40

Feb 9 **3rd Sunday before Lent**

Isaiah 58: 1-12                      1 Corinthians 2: 1-12                      Matthew 5:13-20

Feb 16 **2nd Sunday before Lent**

Genesis 1: 1-2:3                      Romans 8: 18-25                      Matthew 6: 25-34

Feb 23 **Sunday next before Lent**

Exodus 24: 12-18                      2 Peter 1: 16-22                      Matthew 17: 1-9

Mar 1 **First Sunday of Lent**

Genesis 2: 15-17,                      Romans 5: 12-19                      Matthew 4: 1-11  
3: 1-7

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## ***FLOWERS IN CHURCH***

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### **At Christ Church**

Feb 2                      In memory of Mr and Mrs Barcroft Wolstenholme

Feb 9

Feb 16                      In memory of Sarah Melling and Jack Illsley

Feb 23

### **NO FLOWERS IN CHURCH DURING LENT**

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). **Memorial book flowers only at SJM during Lent.**



## **FROM THE REGISTERS**

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### **Church Funeral**

Dec 10      Robin Fitton  
Jan 10      Doris Brennand

### **Interment of Ashes in the Garden of Remembrance**

Dec 22      Thomas Halsall

### **Funeral Service held at the Crematorium**

Jan 13      Jean Leach

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

## **ASH WEDNESDAY**

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Services to mark the beginning of Lent,  
as we remember the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness  
in preparation for his public ministry.

A day of penitence to cleanse the soul  
at the beginning of this important season.

40  
  
days  
of Lent

**26 February**

*St. John with St. Mark at  
10.00am & 7.30pm.*

*Christ Church at 7.30pm*

## ***Proposed Deanery Changes***

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The Diocese very much want to hear our views on proposed changes to our deanery structures. For Bury the plans see the deanery joining with those of Radcliffe and Prestwich and Rossendale. More detail was in our December/January magazine or copies are available.

Your opinion really counts! Go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/S9L9563> to give feedback online or send your answers to these questions to:

Church for a Different World, 90 Deansgate, Manchester, M3 2GH  
by 29 February, please.

**Q1.** Do you recognise the need for change to the way we are organised, given our positive vision for the future along with the dramatic decline in attendance in our churches in recent years and our serious financial challenges.

**Yes/No**

**Q2.** To what extent do you agree with the proposal to move from 20 deaneries to seven?

**Strongly agree / Slightly agree / Not sure/ Slightly disagree / Strongly disagree**

**Q3.** To what extent do you agree with the proposed full-time Area Dean role?

**Strongly agree / Slightly agree / Not sure/ Slightly disagree / Strongly disagree**

**Q4.** Are there any comments or suggestions you would like to make?

(At the recent meeting for Bury Deanery, Archdeacon Jean encouraged everyone to put forward their suggestions for alternative strategies – over to you.)

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## From the Vicarage

\* Thanks to all those who prepared our churches for all our Christmas services. I am fully aware of all the hard work that goes towards getting ready for this busy time and I am very grateful. If I could mention two sets of people specifically, I would like to thank the young people of St.John with St.Mark who sang at our Carol Service.

Also thanks to David & Margaret Peters for co-ordinating all the activities for the Brass Band concert at Christ Church in early December. The Whitworth Vale & Healey Brass Band have been booked for another concert on Saturday 5 December this year.

\* This year sees both the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the United Benefice of Walmersley Road and 250 years since the parish of St.John was formed.

The main event at St.John with St.Mark's will be held over the weekend of June 6/7 with our Summer Fair and a Celebration Service to be attended by the Bishop of Manchester.

On the Sunday evening there will be a short service on the site of the old Church at The Rock.

There will be a service to mark a decade of the Benefice at Christ Church on Sunday 25 October led by the Bishop of Bolton.

\* Bury Parish Church are hosting a Confirmation Service on the morning of Sunday 14 June. If anyone would like to be confirmed on this occasion, please have a word with me. Preparation classes for prospective candidates will begin in April.

\* 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. An ecumenical group also visits Burrswood House and Limefield Court on a monthly basis for a short service. Once again anyone is welcome to join us. Please have a word with me for the exact dates.

- \* 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.
- \* Lent begins on Ash Wednesday – 26 February. Lent Groups will begin in the week commencing Monday 2 March. Monday evenings at 150 Walmersley Road and Thursday afternoons at Christ Church. Please make a special effort to attend one of these groups each week.
- \* 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.
- \* Porch Boxes are always in need of food items to meet their current demand. A box is available at the back of both churches.
- \* 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 14<sup>th</sup> day of the previous month. Articles may be sent via email to [wrub@live.co.uk](mailto:wrub@live.co.uk)

## ***NOTES FROM OUR COUNCILS***

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### **Christ Church PCC meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

1. Church Hall remedial electrical work has still to be completed.
2. A donation of £150 was sent to the Wood Street mission on their 150<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. The money came from the Thursday lunch collection and the children's copper collection.
3. A meeting with the diocese to discuss CCW parish share is arranged for the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020.
4. The treasurer reported that the church had received a donation from the estate of Edna Wakes.
5. The celebration to mark ten years of the Walmersley Road Benefice will take place on the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 10.30am. The service will take place at Christ Church Walmersley and will be attended by the Bishop of Bolton. The Archdeacon and Seedfield Methodists have also been invited.
6. The secretary was asked to apply for a faculty to cover the removal of the church gates in School Lane and the erection of the notice boards, once the local authority position is clarified.
7. The Fund-raising committee noted there will be a Valentine afternoon tea in the church hall on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February.
8. The Whitworth Vale and Healey Brass Band are to be approached regarding their availability for December 2020
9. The new hire agreement for the church hall is being reviewed and will be circulated to all hall users by the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020
10. The vicar discussed aspects of the latest mission action plan regarding plans for ecumenical activity in the Benefice
11. The vicar had also had another meeting with Paul Denney from the Friends of Walmersley.

The next PCC meeting: 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020

CCW Annual Parochial Church Meeting: 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Ian Riddick, PCC secretary.

## ***250th Anniversary Celebrations***

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As part of our celebrations to mark the 250th Anniversary of the Parish of St. John Bury it is hoped that we can put together a display of old photographs or other memorabilia; from this building here on Sunny Avenue, the previous building on The Rock or any other Church events which may have taken place away from the buildings.

Please have a look around to see if you have anything we may be able to use and please speak to David Robinson or Margaret Duckworth at St. John with St. Mark or alternatively the Vicar or wardens. We may be able to take copies if you prefer. **We aim to have the display in place during May.** Thank You



St John 's  
Chapel-of-Ease  
on the Rock

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### **JOINT BENEFICE SERVICES**

are held on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of a month

The next service will be

**29 March**  
**10.30am**  
**at CHRIST CHURCH**



(Photo by Adi Goldstein on Unsplash)

### Candlemas, 2<sup>nd</sup>

*As we pack away our nativity sets we welcome Christ, as did Simeon and Anna in the Temple, as "a light to lighten the nations."*



Lord Jesus, give light to our eyes,  
give light to our minds,  
give light to our hearts,  
give light to our hands,  
give light to our whole lives,  
that we may witness to him and live for him,  
today and forever.

*David Adam*

### Thinking Day, 22<sup>nd</sup>

*A day marked worldwide by members of the Girlguiding movement which was formed on 7<sup>th</sup> February 1910.*



Dear God, we thank you for 110 years of the Guiding movement.

We thank you for the millions of girls it has encouraged and helped to have fun and adventure whilst preparing to be good and caring citizens.

We give thanks for all who have led activities, giving up time each week and all parents who have supported them.

Especially we pray for all who have belonged to Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Senior Section here in our district. Amen

### Fairtrade Fortnight – begins 24<sup>th</sup>



Heavenly Father, please prosper people who conduct their business with integrity and treat their workers honourably. May those who are dishonest and exploit others be found out, brought to justice and where possible, make amends. Amen.

## The Environment

*As I prepare this item the news is dominated by bush fires in Australia. In 2018 Ruth Grindrod, a Mothers' Union member in Australia, contributed this prayer to the collection "Dear Lord..."*

Dear Heavenly Father,

We lift up our world leaders to you. We pray that each one will acknowledge your authority over us all; that they will have wisdom and justice in their hearts and will work for the good of all. We pray they will recognize the need to protect our beautiful planet, and that money will not be the driving force behind what they do.

Bless each one and draw them to you. Lead them and guide them by your Holy Spirit so we may live a peaceful life. Amen.

## Leap Year

*gives us an extra day, so let's not waste it*



Too often we forget . . . and fail to appreciate your generosity: we take time for granted and fail to thank you for it, we view it as a commodity and ruthlessly exploit it, we cram it too full or waste it, learn too little from the past or mortgage it off in advance, we refuse to give priority to those people and things which should have chief claim upon our time.

Help us to view time more as you view it, and to use it more as you intend: to distinguish between what is central and what is peripheral, between what is merely pressing and what is really important, between what is our responsibility and what can be left to others, between what is appropriate now and what will be more relevant later.

*Robert Banks, The Tyranny of Time*

**SNOW WHITE  
& THE  
SEVEN DWARFS**

Our Pantomime,  
presented by the  
young people

16th to 18th  
January 2020



Who has  
forgotten  
their lines?



**Altogether  
now.....**



**.....Heigh Ho,  
Heigh Ho!**

**Well done and thank  
you to all involved.  
More on page 16**



## *Snow White – Our Panto*

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As you can see from our photographs on the centre spread, our young people of St. John with St. Mark and beyond had a great time putting on this year's production of Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs. We all know the story, which was first developed in 1937, and was now brought to life over three nights in Bury with modern music, sounds, lighting, and a voice over mirror.

Auditions and preparation began back in late Summer and there was extra work required for a Saturday matinee this year, so two performances in one day. The hard work paid off though, as four great shows were put on and a lot of talent was on display. The cast and choruses were full of confidence in their acting, singing and dancing. Our magical mirror was voiced over by Matthew, which was really effective; the seven dwarfs put so much into their 'Heigh Ho's', we had a somewhat comical ghost who was attempting to frighten our 'henchmen' out of the forest and of course a poisonous apple, almost as big as Snow White herself!

After our show on the final night, the Vicar thanked choreographer Debbie for everything she had done but also reminded the audience that the hard work goes beyond what happens on the stage. So a huge thank you to EVERYBODY on the production team; which includes cast, choruses, costume & make up teams, dressing room assistants, the ticket co-ordinator, tuck shop workers, raffle ticket sellers and those who ensured our audience had a brew at the interval. There are of course many others.

On her final night speech, Debbie particularly wanted to recognize the efforts of Kirsten, Marjorie & Joy for costumes and for Eleanor for the set painting. Our photographs show what a good job they did. Also to Hannah, who really did not think she could play the evil character of the stepmother, but definitely got into the part on the night. And of course, Tony & David Stamp who gave the show its special effects. Thank you especially to Debbie for choreographing a great show. We understand the team will be back in late June with a special Review as part of our 250th anniversary. More details will be available soon.

## **FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 2020**

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February 24 – March 8

Fairtrade Fortnight is an annual promotional campaign, organized and funded by the Fairtrade Foundation to increase awareness of Fairtrade products.

During these two weeks - together with the Fairtrade farmers and workers - campaigners up and down the country highlight the difference fair trade can make to lives and communities.

Last year, Fairtrade Fortnight focused on cocoa. In 2020 this will continue to ensure that all farmers are paid fairly for their work and are able to earn a living income, starting with cocoa farmers in West Africa.

Farmers of this iconic Fairtrade product have seen prices crash to crisis levels in the last few years, particularly in West Africa where most cocoa is grown. The situation highlights in stark terms the scandal of unfair trade.



Farmers of this iconic Fairtrade product have seen prices crash to crisis levels in the last few years, particularly in West Africa where most cocoa is grown. The situation highlights in stark terms the scandal of unfair trade.

We have a choice about whether we take a stand against this.

Fairtrade goods are available in all supermarkets and other shops. The list of fairly traded goods is ever increasing, with items such as bananas, honey, coffee, oranges, cotton, dried and fresh fruits and vegetables, juices, nuts and oil seeds, rice, spices, sugar, tea and wine – as well as cocoa – able to be bought.

Fairtrade is a simple way to make a difference to the lives of the people who grow the things we love.

**PLEASE HELP PROMOTE FAIRTRADE  
BY PURCHASING FAIRTRADE GOODS AND  
FINDING OUT ABOUT FAIRTRADE ISSUES.**

The Mothers' Union theme for the coming year is "building hope and confidence".

The first meeting of 2020 was a Holy Communion service led by Rev Keith.

February's first meeting (5<sup>th</sup>) is to be a Pop Quiz (60s and 70s) where we are at the mercies of our Vicar. Do please come along and share the fun.

The branch AGM will be held on 19 February at 7.30pm followed by an update on our November meeting – "Listen, Observe, Act in step with God - in our community".

All are welcome at any of our meetings.

Bob Taylor

Branch Leader

**Mothering Sunday** is a special time to say thank you to all mothers and caregivers for the selflessness with which they nurture, love and help us to grow.



For many years our Make a Mother's Day ethical gifts have made a difference by supporting communities around the world. This Mothering Sunday, celebrate someone special with an ethical gift. Our theme this year is **Gifts that Grow**. See some stories of growth in the catalogues available online or in church.

Your Mothering Sunday gift can help empower women, children and communities worldwide to tackle the challenges they face and make positive changes that grow and last.

You can also dedicate a gift in memory of someone who has been – or has been like – a mother to you. You can even add a flowering seed greetings card to make your gift extra special.



## ***Saturday Walking Group***

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On 11th January, a few of the regular group (plus 3 dogs) took a spur of the moment decision to complete a tour of the 3 reservoirs of Bolton, which is one of our favourite destinations. These are Jumbles, Turton & Entwistle and Wayoh. It was quite a pleasant and relatively mild day for the time of year and included a visit to the Strawbury Duck pub in Edgworth, next to Entwistle railway station. I've written about this so many times so won't go into it again, but I will just add that the reservoirs are worth a visit, and within a reasonable driving distance. Our next scheduled walk will be on Saturday 8th February and it is hoped once a month thereafter. Please check the weekly sheets for meeting times and venues. If you are interested in joining our group and have never been with us before, or would like to be kept informed, then please get in touch with me and I will add you to my contact list and keep you updated.

Best foot forward, David Robinson



## ***THE OPEN GROUP***

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Thank you to all who attended our Christmas party in December. It was a joint effort with buffet sandwiches, nibbles, home made trifle, apple pie and cheese & biscuits being provided by various members of the group. There were a couple of quizzes to while away the time and Audrey Sadler read us a seasonal poem in her best regional dialect.

Thank you to all who led and attended our meetings in 2019. I have started a programme of events for 2020 and it is hoped they will be available during February. All being well, our first meeting should be Wednesday 11th March at 7.30pm.

David Robinson



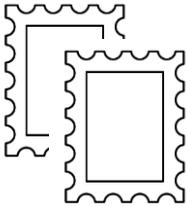
## *Thank you . . . and a date for your diary*

Thank you to all those who came to CCW in December to listen to the music of the Whitworth Vale and Healey Brass Band Band and vocalist Janet Haworth.

The PCC hope that the word has since spread that this was an excellent evening's entertainment enjoyed by over 100 people, who also enjoyed the refreshments of mulled wine, biscuits, mince pies, tea and coffee.

Thanks to all those who helped in any way to make this an enjoyable and successful event raising £450 towards church funds.

The good news is that another concert has already been booked for **5<sup>th</sup> December 2020!**



## *Little Voice*

**BEST EFFORT EVER!**

A Huge thank you to everyone who has donated stamps this Christmas. They came singly and in packed envelopes, placed in the box at Christ Church - and this was our best ever effort at Christmas.

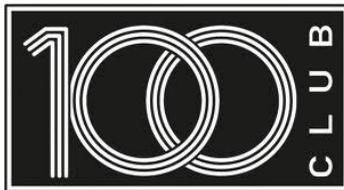
Little Voice aids and provides a home for street children in Ethiopia, by selling stamps to collectors.

Such a simple act to tear stamps from the post you receive – but it does make a difference.

## **NOVEMBER 2019 WINNERS**

1st Prize – John & Judith Kelly

2nd Prize – Laura Clark



## **DECEMBER 2019 WINNERS**

1st Prize – Roy Nuttall

2nd Prize – Sandra Evans

## **CHRISTMAS 2019 WINNERS**

1st Prize – David Robinson

2nd Prize – Margaret Duckworth

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL**



## ***CAFÉ CHURCH in 2020***

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**Christ Church** at 10.30am

*3 May (with Holy Communion)*

*9 August*

*22 November*

**St.John with St.Mark** at 10.30am

*THIS MONTH: 23 February (with Holy Communion)*

*19 July*

*18 October*

*6 December (with Holy Communion)*

***ALL CAFÉ CHURCH SERVICES ARE HELD IN THE CHURCH HALLS***

## ***3rd Thursday Light Lunch***

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Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Lunches are approaching their fourth birthday – we started out in Lent 2016. It is very affirming that this project has been blessed with great support from ‘customers’ and ‘workers’. Most Thursdays we see getting towards thirty people – sometimes more. Our regular ‘customers’ come from members of both churches in the Benefice and several from our surrounding community – we are open for all and welcome all!



Importantly, we would emphasise that there is no charge for lunch. If you are able to make a donation to help cover costs that is gratefully received. The main aim is social, not fund-raising. As the scriptures tells us, “practise hospitality.” So do come and enjoy a light lunch with friends and, perhaps, make new friends. If are already a regular, think about inviting along someone who has not been before.

Amazingly, over the last year, through the generosity of our patrons, we have not only covered costs but made a profit which has enabled us to make donations to Tearfund (£242), Wood Street Mission (£60), Motor Neurone Association (£122), and to Christ Church Walmersley (£830).

So a big thank you to all those who come and support this project. Also a special thank you to all our regular helpers – Claire, Margery, Alan, David, Margaret, Bob and Dennise – and to our occasional helpers. We couldn’t do it without you!

If you have not yet come to lunch with us then do come give us a try. You will find not only a hearty midday snack but a hearty welcome from staff and customers alike – we are a very friendly bunch!! Lunch is served from 12 noon till 1.00pm at Christ Church Hall (back room). The next lunch is on Thursday February 20th.

Barbara & Nigel Silvester



## *Sunday @ Seven*

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We meet for our regular  
Sunday evening informal worship.

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

You will be most welcome!

**February 23rd at 7pm at St John & St Mark's Hall,  
Barritt Room**

*Be transformed  
- Romans 12*



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## *“A Merry Christmas” Quiz - Answers*



Thank you to all who took part in the Christmas Quiz organised by Joan Pearson to raise funds for the Christmas Fair at St. John with St. Mark.

The winner was Judith Kelly, who received a £10.00 M&S voucher. Congratulations to Judith.

## ***Our MAP (Mission Action Plan)***

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You may have heard much about this topic, and over the last few months our PCC's have been devising a Mission Action Plan for where we see ourselves in 5 years time, helping us to form a growing, vibrant church, relevant to the communities of which we are a part. Some of these actions are specific to the individual Parishes, whereas others are being worked on as a joint Benefice.

Over the next few editions of the magazine we thought we would share in more detail the actions we set ourselves, with a description of the priority actions if we are to 'get there'. Each month we will focus on one particular subject and if you have **ANY** comments or suggestions then please share them with Clergy, Wardens or PCC members. **EVERYBODY** needs to be involved.

This month's theme focuses on the encouragement of more social activities across the benefice:

- Share social calendars between the two Parishes at the time of planning to promote awareness and ensure no clashes
- Publicise the events at both churches via magazine, posters and social media
- Share people and resources between the two Parishes where appropriate and desirable
- Explore greater use of music and art in the life of our churches to encourage a wider interest from non-church goers as well as helping us re-imagine our own Christian stories.
- Recognize that in our church halls we are providing a home to others engaging in social activity and that for many this may be their only exposure to 'church'. So be respectful and welcoming to our guests as well as providing a safe environment.

### **HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?**

Next month's theme will focus on the encouragement of more vocations to the lay and ordained ministries.

## **FEBRUARY EVENTS**



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

**St. John with St. Mark Church Hall  
Saturday 15th February from 10.00am**

**BOOKS**

**TEA & COFFEE**

**HOT SNACKS**

**HOME MADE CAKES**

**OTHER STALLS**



**ALL PROCEEDS TO CHURCH FUNDS**



### **AFTERNOON TEA**

**CHRIST CHURCH WALMERSLEY HALL  
SCHOOL LANE**

**SATURDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2020 at 2PM**

**SANDWICHES, HOMEMADE CAKES  
TEA OR COFFEE, GLASS OF SHERRY**

**TOMBOLA  
£ 5**

### **Third Thursday Light Lunch**

**at CCW Hall  
12 noon - 1pm on 20 February**



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.

## WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

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Sun 2		<b>Candlemas</b> Services as usual
Wed 5	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC)
Sat 8	TBA	Walking Group
Sun 9		<b>Third Sunday before Lent</b> Services as usual
	12.30pm	Holy Baptism (SJM)
Sat 15	10.00am	Coffee Morning & Book Fair (SJM Hall)
	2.00pm	Valentine's Afternoon Tea (CC Hall)
Sun 16		<b>Second Sunday before Lent</b> Services as usual
Wed 19	7.30pm	Mothers' Union Branch AGM (CC)
Thu 20	12noon	Light Lunch (CC Hall)
Sun 23		<b>Sunday next before Lent</b> Services as usual
	10.30am	Café Communion at SJM
	7.00pm	Sunday @ Seven (SJM Barritt Room)
Mon 24	7.30pm	PCC (CC)
Wed 26		<b>Ash Wednesday</b>
	10.00am	Holy Communion (SJM)
	7.30pm	Holy Communion (CC & SJM)

PLEASE let us know what you have planned so that it can go in the Church diary. You can publicise your events in the magazine, our websites, Facebook and Twitter as well as posters and word of mouth. Let's share what we are doing with our community.

To book baptisms, weddings or just to talk, call in to Parish Office every Wednesday 6.30-7.00pm at St. John's Church Hall

Lots more info on our websites: [www.ccwalmersleybury.org.uk](http://www.ccwalmersleybury.org.uk)  
<https://stjohnstmarkchurchbury.com>

Please send your articles for the magazine by 14<sup>th</sup> of the previous month to [wrub@live.co.uk](mailto:wrub@live.co.uk) **PLEASE NOTE that, owing to holidays, in February we shall have to adhere strictly to this and will appreciate any contributions which can be sent earlier.**

# THE REAL EASTER EGG



This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Real Easter Egg. Since this was first launched in 2010 more than one million items have been sold with over £275,000 being raised for charitable causes.

Out of the 80 million chocolate Easter eggs purchased each year, the Real Easter Egg is the only one which has an Easter story booklet in the box.

The 2020 range features a set of anniversary designs. The original egg costs £3.99 and the Special Edition £9.99. There is also a dark chocolate alternative for £5.50. All of the chocolate is palm oil free and Fairtrade certified. For 2020 the egg packaging is now plastic free.

The Real Easter Egg is available in three ways:

- \* by people buying directly from The Meaningful Chocolate Company (please see forms in church).

Why not donate an egg directly to a Foodbank too? Check out the website <https://meaningfulchocolate.co.uk/>

- \* from independent retailers, such as Traidcraft, Embrace the Middle East, Christian bookshops.

- \* from supermarkets. Tesco, Morrisons, Waitrose and ASDA will have stocks from the middle of February but only in their larger stores and in limited quantities.

The Meaningful Chocolate Company is based in Lymm, Cheshire. They produce the Fairtrade Easter Eggs, the Real Advent Calendar and more.

**PLEASE SUPPORT THEM**