

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

**in the United Benefice of Walmersley Road**



**July and August 2021**

**50p**

## **REGULAR SERVICES**

COVID-19: Please be aware of current restrictions as you read this edition, together with advice on best practice as we leave some restrictions behind. Both churches have secure protocols in place.

<b>Sunday</b>			
9.00am	All	Holy Communion (BCP)	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion Family Service Holy Communion Service of the Word	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	All	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
10.30 a.m.	5th	Holy Communion	Joint (venue tba)
7.00 p.m.	Final, Sunday @ Seven		Venue tba
<b>Wednesday</b>			
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion		St John w St Mark
<b>Thursday</b>			
12.30 p.m.	The Gathering		Zoom
2.00 p.m.	1 <sup>st</sup>	Holy Communion	Christ Church
7.30 p.m.	Holy Communion		St John w St Mark
<p>Other services as announced.</p> <p>Services are from Common Worship unless otherwise stated.</p> <p>Morning Prayer is said each day at 9.30 a.m.</p> <p>Evening Prayer is said each day at 5.00 p.m.</p>			

If you need transport to church please contact the wardens.

Both churches have Fairtrade status



*Photos on front page from Barbara Taylor and Sian Gasson*

Dear Friends

The coronavirus pandemic has affected all aspects of life over the past 18 months since those early days of March 2020 when lockdown in its various forms first became an issue for the world.

As we tentatively move towards the lifting of restrictions – and who knows the extent of such de-regulation? – we are entering what has been described as the post-Covid world. Issues that will need to be addressed include:

- What will be the impact on social distancing?
- Will we still need to wear masks in some public places?
- Will working from home continue?

The worldwide church is one of the many organisations that has to decide how to adapt to this changing situation. For example, the question of whether we should have kept our church buildings open during the first lockdown was a dilemma this time last year.

Hopefully during the course of the next two months we will be able to sing in church; enjoy some social occasions; share the peace in a physical sense and use a common cup to take wine as part of the Communion service.

One of the most significant impacts of the pandemic on church life has been the way in which online activity has become part of our culture. Zoom meetings and online worship were not on our agenda at the beginning of this decade. What is the future for these?

For over 2,000 years the Christian Church has been challenged to pass on the Good News of Jesus Christ to the world. During that time, the Church has had to adapt to a variety of different situations.

The message of salvation through the risen Son of God, Jesus Christ has not changed throughout that time. But the way we communicate that message has to keep evolving and responding to a changing world.



I keep on the wall in my office some words of the Archbishop of Canterbury from earlier this year. In an interview he stated:

*"The mission of the church is the same in every culture and country: to demonstrate, through its actions and words, that God's offer of unconditional love to every human being through Jesus Christ calls us to holiness and hope."*

That call to holiness and hope exists in whatever situation we find ourselves in. Plague, pandemic or peace. Jesus Christ – who is the same yesterday, today and forever - should be our light as we seek to take His message to all those who live, work or worship in our benefice – and beyond.

With every blessing,  
Dave

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### **DID YOU KNOW THAT:**

- Psalm 118 is the middle chapter of the bible?
- Psalm 117 is the shortest chapter?
- Psalm 119 is the longest chapter?
- There are 594 chapters before Psalm 118 and 594 chapters after it, so add all the chapters except Psalm 118 and the total is 1188
- Psalm 118 v8 is the middle verse of the Bible – and tells us: "It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust man"



## ***BIBLE READINGS FOR JULY & AUGUST***

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Jul 4	<b>5<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> Ezekiel 2: 1-5	2 Corinthians 12: 2-10	Mark 6: 1-13
Jul 11	<b>6<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> Amos 7: 7-15	Ephesians 1: 3-14	Mark 6: 14-29
Jul 18	<b>7<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> Jeremiah 23: 1-6	Ephesians 2:11-end	Mark 6: 30-34, 53-end
Jul 25	<b>St James</b> Jeremiah 45: 1-5	Acts 11: 27 – 12: 2	Matthew 20: 20-28
Aug 1	<b>9<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> Exodus 16: 2-4, 9-15	Ephesians 4:1-16	John 6: 24-35
Aug 8	<b>10<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> 1 Kings 19: 4-8	Ephesians 4:25 - 5:2	John 6: 35, 41-51
Aug 15	<b>11<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> Proverbs 9: 1-6	Ephesians 5: 15-20	John 6: 51-58
Aug 22	<b>12<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18	Ephesians 6: 10-20	John 6: 56-69
Aug 29	<b>13<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-9	James 1: 17-end	Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Sep 5	<b>14<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b> Isaiah 35: 4-7a	James 2: 1-10[11-13] 14-17	Mark 7: 24-37

## PARADE SERVICES

in both churches  
on 11 July at 10.30am

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## JOINT SERVICE

on 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month

The next will be on **29 August**  
at **10.30am**  
at St.John with St.Mark

President and Preacher  
**Canon Rachel Mann**  
Area Dean of Bury and Rossendale

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## *Roses*

Another panel from the Millennium hanging:

“Roses are one of my favourite flowers. Especially red ones, as they are our county flower and I am proud to be a ‘Lancashire Lass,’ having been born and lived in Walmersley all my life.”

Betty Winterbottom





**At Christ Church**

July 4	In memory of Jim Melling
July 11	Mrs K Whipp, in memory of her parents
July 18	In memory of Joe and Gladys Crowley and Hettie Ives
July 25	Mrs A M Peters, in memory of her mother
Aug 1	Vacant
Aug 8	Mrs A Standring and family, in memory of Alan
Aug 15	In memory of Mary and Norman Leake
Aug 22	Barbara and Bob Taylor, in memory of close family members
Aug 29	Joint service at St John with St Mark Mr and Mrs I Riddick, in memory of their parents

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 Hazel Bamford (Christ Church) or Rosemarie Ashworth (St.John with St.Mark).

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***FROM THE REGISTERS***

**CHURCH FUNERAL SERVICE**

May 26 Emma Latham

**INTERMENT OF ASHES IN GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE**

June 20 Vera and Arthur Turner

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

**BAPTISM**

June 20 Lucas Alan Jones

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

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## From the Vicarage

\* The announcement in the middle of June that "Freedom Day" would be delayed by at least four weeks, obviously means that we will not be getting back to normal in a church sense for a little while longer. There are however encouraging signs with our Mothers' Union planning to restart in August and more gatherings outside or small groups "in house". The available numbers for funerals and weddings have also been increased. We will obviously continue to be aware of the need to be Covid secure and mindful of any future government guidance.

Nevertheless, both of our church halls are available for a variety of activities for use by church and community groups, subject of course to social distancing regulations. Please see the contact details for the church hall bookings at the back of this magazine.

\* This month sees the admittance of Ian Banks as a Licensed Reader in the Church of England. The licensing takes place at Manchester Cathedral on the afternoon of Sunday 11 July. Covid restrictions have unfortunately reduced the numbers of people who can attend the service but the cathedral will live-stream the service. Please pray for Ian as he begins this new ministry and I thank him for his commitment and willingness to join our Team of Readers.

\* The Parish Office is open every Wednesday evening between 6.30-7.00pm at St.John with St.Mark Church Hall. This can be for enquiries about baptisms or weddings or any other matter.

\* Churches Together in Bury represents most of the Christian Churches in the town. The group meets every two months, with a prayer group which meets fortnightly. Check out its new Facebook page. Currently, all meetings are on Zoom and are open to all. Please contact Barbara Taylor if you would like a link to join.

\* Thanks to those who arranged the takeaway lunch for Christian Aid. This replaced other fundraising activities for Christian Aid that usually take place in May.



\* Porch Boxes are always in need of food and toiletries especially in this current situation. A box is available at the back of both churches.

\*The new Diocesan Deanery structure has now come into operation and our new full time Area Dean of Bury & Rossendale - Canon Rachel Mann – will be presiding and preaching at the joint service at St.John with St.Mark on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of August. Please pray for Rachel as she begins her new role and come along to meet her in person.

\* The Ministry Team consisting of all the Clergy, Licensed Readers and our Authorised Lay Ministers meets 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.

\* 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.

\* 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 Hazel Bamford (Christ Church) or Rosemarie Ashworth (St.John with St.Mark). If you wish to join the flower arranging rota, please get in touch also.

\* 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) Please note that the next deadline will be 14 August for our September issue.



## ***PLANT SALE***

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Thank you to all who purchased plants from Rosemarie Ashworth in aid of funds at St. John with St. Mark. At present we have raised £72.00. Most of what was on offer has now been sold, but thank you to all who came and bought.

## ***Transforming Manchester Diocese***

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*An extract from an exciting update presented to Diocesan Synod in June and now available for us all on the website. This is a discussion document and it is very important that we respond to the current proposals. Please look it up or speak to any member of the clergy or synods for a copy as it is too long to be summarised here. At [manchester.anglican.org/about-us/vision/launch-our-diocesan-vision-film.php](http://manchester.anglican.org/about-us/vision/launch-our-diocesan-vision-film.php) you will find a brief film of Bishop David speaking about this vision.*

*Let's not ignore this opportunity we have to contribute, or feel it is ok to complain when we are affected, when there are changes of which we do not approve!*

### **Our 10-year vision for Manchester Diocese**

We have known for many years that we need to face up to and make major changes to ensure a vibrant future for our church. Our proposals for mission communities offer a way forward, enabling us to live out the vision for our diocese – which is to be **'a worshipping, growing and transforming Christian presence at the heart of every community'**.

Our vision for mission communities builds on recent work to build a missionally and financially sustainable diocese. This includes Bishop David's recent decision to streamline our deanery arrangements, with the move from 20 to 7 deaneries, and to appoint seven full-time Area Deans from June 2021.

Manchester is a vibrant diocese of opportunity and creativity. Its rich mixture of church traditions makes it a wonderful place to engage in Gospel ministry.

**We want to be a church for a different world. All our energy, effort and prayer is focused on transforming into the sort of church we believe God is calling us to be by 2030.**

## **GROWING**

- We appeal to all sorts of people
- There's a wide range of traditions
- We reflect the diversity of our communities
- Children & their families have fun here
- We reach out to and inspire young people
- People who weren't involved 10 years ago feel comfortable here now

## **NURTURING**

- We are able to develop our spiritual lives
- We are imaginative with worship & liturgy
- We develop our faith in a variety of ways
- We share our faith in the rest of our lives
- We meet together in different local places
- We have great leaders of all ages – clergy and laity – who get the best out of everyone

## **SERVING**

- We are active in our local communities
- We support the deprived and excluded
- We lead the way on environmental issues
- We work closely with our local schools
- We speak out for justice and peace
- We bring people of different faiths together

*How do we see ourselves here in the benefice fitting into this vision?*

*What do we do well?*

*How could we do better?*

*What, to be honest, do we need to think about more?*

*We will not all have the same answers but our response is important.  
Please don't just 'turn the page' and leave it for someone else.*

## ***Eat, Drink and Be.....***

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The Bible is full of stories and instruction about eating and drinking together and generally being hospitable. From Genesis 18 when Abraham welcomed the three strangers through to Acts 2 where the early church met to share food and drink together, hospitality is a cornerstone of relationship, understanding and life lived in God's love. Jesus spent much time sharing meals with others - accepting hospitality wherever he went, being invited into many houses, all of which provided opportunity to speak of, and show to others, how God's kingdom would change their lives for good.



As church today we continue this practice. Here on Walmersley Road we have many events involving eating and drinking - Thursday Lunches, coffee mornings, Seder meals, Summer barbeques, etc, etc. Every Sunday after worship we stay to have a coffee or tea and a biscuit (or two!). We chat, building our

relationships with each other and, on occasion, taking the opportunity of welcoming someone new into our fellowship.

Or that's what we did do! Until the Covid 19 pandemic caused a huge change to our routines. Lockdown rules and social distancing brought our eating and drinking to a halt. How much we miss our times of socialising and hospitality!

Around the country the hospitality industry has been re-awakening over recent weeks as restrictions have been gradually lifted. This has involved lots of strict and careful adherence to rules and procedures. At the time of writing there is many a breath being held as we wait to see if the final return to full opening can be allowed. There is much uncertainty and there are signs that we shall have to wait a while longer yet!

In church, unfortunately, we have not been able to start the re-opening of our own catering sector. The particular circumstances and layout of our buildings make it difficult to adhere to the requirements laid down. We are also very aware of the unease which many of our congregation and community will have about gathering in a social context. As a result we do need to tread with caution as we look to take steps to re-open as soon as we can.

In particular, the Thursday Lunches team have been considering the 'whys and wherefores' of how we can start again but we feel that realistically it could well be at least a month or two before we can seriously think about a restart. We will let you know when and how!

In the meantime, let us hold to these the words from Hebrews 13 (The Message version, slightly paraphrased) "Stay on good terms with each other, held together by love. Be ready with a meal for when it is needed."

Nigel & Barbara

## ***The Gathering***

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For anyone who has missed out on this, for several months now there has been a local Zoom chat group which may be of interest to you. It is called "The Gathering" and comes together on Thursday lunchtimes between 12.30 and 1.30 pm. The group is not just people from our own parishes on Walmersley Road but also from two or three other local parishes.

This is a time to talk over the previous Sunday's sermon/scripture reading. It really is just conversation between friends. There is no need to say anything if you don't want - sit back and just listen in! There is no need to come every week - log on when you want. All very informal.

If you think this might be for you or you want more details please contact Cath Hilon, Ian Banks or Nigel Silvester.

On 1<sup>st</sup> July 1937 the 999 emergency service was introduced.

### **A Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Emergency Services**

Lord God we thank you for the selfless men and women of the emergency services; for all the resources you provide for their task and for the animals trained to work alongside them. We rejoice in all who work for peace and the saving of lives in danger. We pray for those who serve, that you protect those whose service is our protection. We hold up to you those who have served in past years and recall those who have paid the ultimate price in their task of preserving life and of upholding law and order. May all within the emergency services be aware of your love now and forever.

*From a prayer written by Bishop Martyn Jarrett and Tom Scholes-Fog*

On July 15<sup>th</sup> we remember Swithun, Bishop of Winchester c 862

There is a popular belief that if it rains on this day it will rain for 40 days, which seems to make it a good opportunity to think about the issue of **climate change**, with this prayer from [christianaid.org.uk](http://christianaid.org.uk)

You spoke into the silence

Light suffusing darkness.

You spoke into the silence

Blowing clean life-giving air into the space

You spoke into the silence

Warmth and cold infusing the air

You spoke into the silence

Solid ground formed out of gushing water.

You spoke voice carrying over the sound

People, plants and animals came to life.

You spoke each creation balanced against the next

so life would be abundant and sustainable.

You saw everything you had made and declared it to be very good.

You spoke choosing to give us humans stewardship over

all that You had made.

*We speak and act*

Darkness of pollution limits light levels

and damages the air we breathe.

*We speak and act*

Ground poisoned, burnt, stripped bare.

*We speak and act*

Spoiling, limiting, destroying quality of life and life itself.

*We speak and act*

Without hearing Your call over the noise of the world to be good stewards.

You speak. You create. You want us to be stewards of Your creation.

We come to You to re-learn how to care for the earth and people you have made.

*Katrina Rowland, April 2017*

25<sup>th</sup> July is **St James' Day**, the patron saint of pilgrims, and also remembered as St Christopher's Day, the patron saint of travellers.

An ancient prayer said regularly by pilgrims on the Santiago de Compostela route contains these words: *(Photo by Jorge Luis Ojeda Flota on Unsplash)*

Be for us our companion on the walk,  
Our guide at the crossroads,  
Our breath in our weariness,  
Our protection in danger,  
Our shade in the heat,  
Our light in the darkness,  
Our consolation in our discouragements,  
And our strength in our intentions.



So that with your guidance we may arrive safe and sound at the end of the Road and enriched with grace and virtue we return safely to our homes filled with joy.

In the lectionary 30<sup>th</sup> July is the day we remember William Wilberforce and other anti slavery campaigners. We give thanks for the work of [theclewerinitiative.org/](http://theclewerinitiative.org/) in highlighting the issues of modern day slavery and people trafficking. This prayer is from their website resources.

### **For victims of trafficking**

Lord of the lost, we pray today for all those who are victims of human trafficking: people lured from their homes and families; people deceived while trying to find a better life; people who are desperate to trust anyone. Help us to be more vigilant and watchful; to be aware of those who may need our help, and those who do not know where help may lie.

We pray for everyone as they venture from home, perhaps able to go away, and for all our children and young people that they are able to enjoy a little more 'normality' during the summer break.

### **Giving Thanks For Summer**

Father, Creator of all, thank You for summer!

Thank you for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight.

Thank You for the beauty I see all around me

and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your creation.

Thank You for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family, and for the more casual pace of the summer season.

Draw me closer to You this summer.

Teach me how I can pray no matter where I am or what I am doing.

Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence

and light my path with Your Word and Counsel.

As I enjoy Your creation, create in me

a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You.

*Author Unknown*

**Mary Sumner**, who founded Mothers' Union 145 years ago, died on 9 August 1921. Is there any better way to remember her than by using the words of her personal prayer, still so relevant for each one of us a century later?

All this day, O Lord,

Let me touch as many lives as possible for thee;

and every life I touch,

do thou by thy spirit quicken,

whether through the word I speak,

the prayer I breathe,

or the life I live. Amen.

*©Mothers' Union*



## Results!

This past year has been incredibly difficult for all young people but we pray this week for those who were unable to sit external exams as expected and who await results with a difference – based on assessment, and announced on 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of August. This prayer was written by a gap year student awaiting her results.

Jesus, over these weeks keep reminding me of the bigger picture,  
keep me in your hands when all other hands disappear,  
for I am convinced that neither entry requirements nor exam results,  
neither anticipation nor doubts, neither success nor failure,  
nor any expectations, neither last minute fears nor anxieties,  
nor anything else in life,  
will be able to separate us from the love of God  
that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
Please don't let me forget it!  
Amen

**St Bartholomew** is remembered on 24 August. He was one of the 12 apostles and so reminds us that, like the twelve, we are commanded by Jesus to "go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19).

All-Powerful and Everlasting God,  
even though we go out as sheep among wolves  
help us never to be afraid.  
We know we have the authority of the gospel,  
which is the power of God.  
It is the most powerful message we can  
bring into any conversation, and live out in our lives.  
Lord, help us to declare our faith in you with authority.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.

*Connectusfund.org*



AND MAKE DISCIPLES

As I write, we have just been informed that Covid restrictions are to continue for a further month. Your committee is keen to begin our meetings again as soon as it is safe to do so – but we will not put anyone at risk. We will let everyone know when we feel we can hold a meeting, maybe outside to begin with.

On 9 August it will be 100 years since Mary Sumner died and this year the movement she instigated is 145 years old. So to mark Mary Sumner Day we plan to meet for Holy Communion on Wednesday, 4 August in Church at 7.30pm, to be followed by a supper in the Hall. Mothers' Union centrally will have a service available from 3 pm on Monday 9, on YouTube and Facebook, for those who have access.

Meanwhile please follow our president's plea to "Let's Chat" and make sure that everyone is ready to join in our fellowship as soon as possible.

Last month I made the suggestion that as a group we could contribute towards a "New Beginnings" pack to be given to a man leaving HMP Forest Bank with no home to return to. Thank you to members who have brought items from the list. This is now available on the MU page of the Christ Church website if you would be willing to give towards it. Many are small, inexpensive but essential items such as a comb or toothbrush but together we will be making a difference.

Find out more about this summer's appeal at [www.mothersunion.org/summer-hope](http://www.mothersunion.org/summer-hope) Among other suggestions is a 'Count your Blessings' calendar (ask for a copy if you cannot access it), together with a jar label for collecting your coins. It would be great if together we could raise £145 for the appeal in this 145<sup>th</sup> year.

### **Summer of hope prayer**

God of hope, shine the rays of your love on all in need across the world, that this may be a summer of hope for those we seek to serve. Help us to reflect your hope through kindness and generosity, that lives may flourish and grow in the warmth of your love. Amen.

Bob Taylor

Jane is 43, a single mother of one child. She lives in the diocese of Mpwapwa in central Tanzania, a mountainous district served by dirt roads.

After attending primary education and two years of Bible School, Jane joined her local Mothers' Union Savings and Credit group. Through this, she was able to take out a small loan to put her dream into action by starting her own food business. Now, in spite of the pandemic hitting her income, Jane is looking forward to a Summer of Hope, thanks to the continuing support of her local Mothers' Union.

Members around her have provided a perfect refuge for Jane and the other women in her community, giving them a safe space to share their difficulties, advice and to grow together in mutual support. Jane says that thanks to her involvement in Mothers' Union she's learned how to: "help development outside the church as well as in the church".

"One of the biggest problems affecting women and children is gender-based violence," she says. With the group's support, Jane feels empowered to take action, lead, and pray for an end to this abuse.

Jane's dedication embodies the spirit of Mary Sumner's vision and keeps it thriving today. This Summer of Hope, our prayers go to all women who are inspired by Mary Sumner's extraordinary legacy of women's empowerment: helping each other, supporting one another, and transforming their communities.

Jane is a wonderful example of how important it is that we count our blessings and share them so we can support one another through the good times and the bad.

*mothersunion.org*

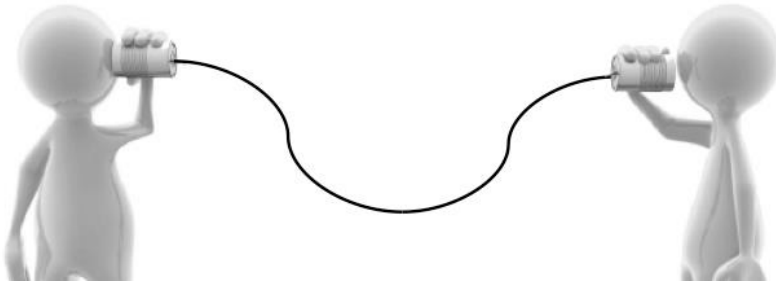




Seen on Facebook – I wonder how many of us could echo this?!

## *Exchange the Meaning*

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“the creation and exchange of meaning” is one definition of ‘communication’. We all communicate in many ways, often unconsciously – in speech, writing, imagery, symbols, signals.

How we communicate with each other within our congregations, with the community beyond our buildings, with the wider Christian family, are all important and the responsibility of us all.

However, we have a number of significant tools we can use to help us – but do need people willing to be involved in keeping these up to date. There is lots of help available and importantly, the new diocesan Communications Officer, James Newman, is offering one to one help with an audit of the ways we currently use digital media.

Maybe you could have input in preparing the monthly magazine, or updating our websites, contributing to our presence on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, or see new ways in which we could use our YouTube channel. Everyone’s ideas are valuable and your suggestions do not automatically mean that “the task is yours”!

Please consider how you could help and have a word with the Vicar or with Barbara Taylor, Ian Banks or David Robinson. If not you, then maybe you “know someone who will”.

If you have not yet explored our current offerings, you will find all the links on page 30 of this magazine.

Thanking you in anticipation.

It has been over a year since the various groups I am involved in have met properly. This being Open Group, Walking Group & Men of the Benefice. We could not have expected back at the beginning of 2020 these groups would have been curtailed as unexpectedly as they were.



Due to the uncertainty it does now look like we will have to wait until August/September before we can resume any of these groups properly, without the need for restrictions on numbers and venues.

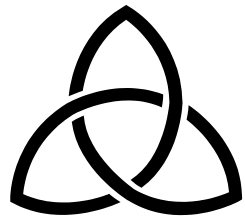
However I would be interested to know during the summer weeks what people's thoughts are. This does not have to be existing members of these groups, but anybody who may feel like joining and may wish to suggest some new ideas.

### **Open Group**

This group would traditionally meet on the second Wednesday evening of the month at 7.30pm in the Barritt Room.

An 'in house' or guest speaker would lead the talk on a specific topic whilst the rest of us listened and asked questions whenever. We would of course end with refreshment.

I have had a couple of volunteers already saying they would be happy to lead an evening as and when we resume, so I have 'pencilled' you in.





## **Walking Group**

Normally, a small group of us would get together on the first Saturday of the month for a local walk or sometimes further afield in cars or public transport.

This being an outdoor event may make things easier, although I understand people may not yet feel comfortable with transport and car shares.

I don't suppose a walking group has to meet specifically on a Saturday each time. If there is potential to look at alternative days then I do get holidays off work!

## **Men of the Benefice**

The 'MOB' would usually meet on the last Monday of the month at The Towler for a discussion on a set theme or to listen to a member speak about a favourite topic. There would also be evenings out to other venues or maybe just an opportunity to chat.

Again, hospitality venues may not be for everyone at the moment, but if anyone has any alternatives, then please again let me know. Our Church buildings could be utilized. Normally, the Vicar would coordinate a yearly plan for this group, but I am happy for you to contact myself.

For all these groups, I expect there are people who are still a little uneasy about meeting up in either a social setting or for meetings. There may also be some who cannot wait to get started again. Either way, please share your thoughts over the coming weeks and hopefully we can accommodate any new ideas or suggestions.

If you have previously been a member of any of these groups then please let me know if you would like to continue, or no longer feel you can. It would be helpful to know. I may speak to one or two individuals direct, but please do not feel you have to commit. Oh, and although Zoom has kept many things going over the last few months, I do suspect a Zoom walking group may be difficult to organize. Or perhaps someone knows a way!

Thank you, David Robinson

ONE DAY YOU  
WILL TELL  
YOUR STORY  
OF HOW YOU'VE  
OVERCOME WHAT  
YOU'RE GOING  
THROUGH NOW,  
AND IT WILL  
BECOME PART OF  
SOMEONE ELSE'S  
SURVIVAL GUIDE.

*TOBYMAC* #SPEAKLIFE



Lord we offer you ourselves this day  
for the work we want accomplished,  
for the people you want us to meet,  
for the word you want to be uttered,  
for the silence you want to be kept,  
for the places you want us to enter,  
for the new ways you want pioneered.  
Go with us along the way, Lord,  
and help us to embrace your presence  
at all times and in all places,  
our loving Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

*A prayer from opening worship at Diocesan Synod which was led by the  
Clergy Care and Wellbeing steering group.*



*PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE SUBJECTS ON A DAILY BASIS.*

- 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 interested in offering themselves for lay or ordained ministry and those in training.  
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:** Ecumenical Links within the community. Mothers' Union  
Our care of the church buildings. Mission Action Planning
- THURSDAY:** Our ministry with young people. Our baptism ministry.  
Those preparing to be married in church.
- FRIDAY:** Community involvement. The PCCs and their committees  
Those who provide and arrange church flowers  
Those who use our church halls.
- SATURDAY:** The Vicar and our retired clergy  
The Licensed Readers, ALMs.



Thank you to all who donated towards Christian Aid week this year.

As of mid June we had achieved an amount of £274.00, which has been sent to the organisation. However since then it was decided to arrange a packed lunch on Sunday 27th June, which has raised an amazing £352.50 additional revenue.

Thank you to all who arranged and organised the lunch and to everybody who donated to Christian Aid Week this year. It makes a big difference.

John Brennan (Christian Aid coordinator - SJM)

### ***The River of Prayer***

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*Taken from resources at [ChristianAid.org.uk](http://ChristianAid.org.uk)*

'Let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!'  
(Amos 5:24)

#### **Prayer points**

- Ask God to refresh you if you are weary of the suffering in the world.
- Ask God to replenish you with whatever you need to live faithfully with creation.
- Ask God to renew your resolve to take action in the face of climate breakdown.

#### **Prayer**

God of all creation, we come, together or apart,  
longing to meet with you to be refreshed and restored,  
by the spring of living water, by the source of all life.  
In your mercy, meet with us here. Amen



## Sunday @ Seven



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

**July 25th at 7pm**

*“All at sea”*

We are going to have a look at some biblical sea voyages. We pray for calm waters but some ocean swell can't be ruled out!

Come and join us in the Barritt Room at St. John with St Mark's Hall.



**August 29<sup>th</sup> at 7pm**

*“What is Church?”*

With a hint of Café-Church about it we will be seeing if we can find the answer to this question.

Come and join us at Christ Church Hall.



Whilst we expect to hold both meetings 'live and in person' the option of joining in via Zoom is also planned. Please contact Nigel Silvester or Ian Banks for more details.

SCHOOL SERVICE

**Springside School Year 6 Leavers Service**

on

**Tuesday 20 July at 10.00am**

*Due to social distancing rules,*

*neither parents or any other schoolchildren will be in church.*

*The service will be filmed so that parents can view it later.*

Please pray for the Year 6 Leavers as they prepare for High School.



A prayer for those leaving Springside School to use:

Father God,  
please be with us all as we move on.  
Help us to look back and remember the good times we have had  
and help us to look forward to the future without feeling afraid.  
We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

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Sun 4 **5<sup>th</sup> after Trinity**

9.00 am Holy Communion BCP (CC)  
10.30 am Parish Communion (both)

Tue 6 7.30 pm Deanery Synod

Sun 11 **6<sup>th</sup> after Trinity**

9.00 am Holy Communion BCP (CC)  
10.30 am Family and Parade Service (CC)  
Parade Service and Family Communion (SJM)  
3.00 pm Reader Licensing (Manchester Cathedral - livestream)

Sun 18 **7<sup>th</sup> after Trinity**

9.00 am Holy Communion BCP (CC)  
10.30 am Parish Communion (both)

Tue 20 10.00 am Springside School Leavers Service (CC – on video)

Wed 21 7.30 pm Churches Together in Bury

Sun 25 **St James**

9.00 am Holy Communion BCP (CC)  
10.30 am Morning Worship (CC)  
Parish Communion (SJM)  
7.00 pm Sunday @ Seven (Barritt Room, SJM)

***Freely, freely***

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A free phone line of hymns,  
reflections and prayers

Please share this free phone line with anyone who may find it helpful. It is especially beneficial for those who do not have access to the multitude of resources available on the internet.

## ***FOR YOUR AUGUST DIARY***

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Sun 1		<b>9<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b>
	9.00 am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30 am	Parish Communion (both)
Wed 4	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union (CC)
Sun 8		<b>10<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b>
	9.00 am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30 am	Morning Worship (CC) Parish Communion (SJM)
Sun 15		<b>11<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b>
	9.00 am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30 am	Parish Communion (both)
Sun 22		<b>12<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b>
	9.00 am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30 am	Morning Worship (CC) Parish Communion (SJM)
Sun 29		<b>13<sup>th</sup> after Trinity</b>
	9.00 am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30 am	Joint Communion Service (SJM)
	7.00 pm	Sunday @ Seven (CC Hall)

## ***Digital Media***

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Websites:	<a href="https://ccwalmersleybury.org.uk">https://ccwalmersleybury.org.uk</a> <a href="https://stjohnstmarkchurchbury.com">https://stjohnstmarkchurchbury.com</a>
Facebook:	@christchurchwalmersley @stjohnstmark
Twitter:	@cofewalmersley
Instagram:	cofewalmersley
YouTube:	CofE Walmersley

Personal details have been removed in our online edition for data protection purposes.

Please contact us through our websites or social media accounts and we will ensure your message reaches the correct person.

Enquiries about baptisms or weddings / marriage banns etc or any other matter, should be made at the Parish Office held at St.John with St.Mark Church Hall any Wednesday evening between 6.30-7.00pm.

Lots more info on our websites: <https://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)



As our evening worship rises before you, O God, so may your mercy come down upon us to cleanse our hearts and set us free to sing your praise, now and forever. Amen.



### Sunday@Seven

in June was a hybrid gathering—in person for the first time in many months but also on Zoom for those who preferred—and an opportunity to “Let everything that has breath praise the Lord”