

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

**The Church of England on Walmersley Road**



# LENT

**March 2022**

**50p**



**THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND**  
Diocese of Manchester

**CHURCH  
FOR A  
DIFFERENT  
WORLD**

## **REGULAR SERVICES**

COVID-19: Please be aware of any current restrictions as you read this edition, together with the diocesan advice on best practice.

<b>Sunday</b>			
8.30am	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
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.	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion Holy Communion Morning Worship Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
10.30 a.m.	5 <sup>th</sup>	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



Throughout the Bible and Church History the discipline of fasting has often been practised during times of prayer and intercession by people of every denomination.

One of the traditional occasions to fast has been during the season of Lent.



As part of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus spoke to his disciples:

*"When you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret."*  
(Matthew 6 v 17-18)

From these words of our Lord, we can see that fasting is a normal part of discipleship – but it is not intended for everyone. He is not saying "You must fast!" For some people, particularly those who are sick, fasting from food is completely inappropriate. Yet for others Jesus is clear that fasting may well play an important role in the life of worship alongside prayer and giving. And that it is to be done for Him alone and not for the praise of those around us.

There is no one way to fast. Some people may feel able to go without food for a full day – others will skip one meal in order to spend time in prayer or worship. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are ideal days to begin this process of fasting if the practice is new to you.

It is important to remember that fasting is recommended for food alone – it is essential to drink regularly. It is not a hunger strike!

But there are other kinds of fasts. Last year Pope Francis issued a statement to the Roman Catholic Church called "Do you want to fast this Lent?"

He then wrote

*Fast from hurting words and **say kind words.***

*Fast from sadness and **be filled with gratitude.***

*Fast from anger and **be filled with patience.***

*Fast from pessimism and **be filled with hope.***

*Fast from worries and **have trust in God.***

*Fast from complaints and **contemplate simplicity.***

*Fast from pressures and **be prayerful.***

*Fast from bitterness and **fill your hearts with joy.***

*Fast from selfishness and **be compassionate to others.***

*Fast from grudges and **be reconciled.***

*Fast from words and **be silent so you can listen.***

May God bless you this Lent as you seek to come closer to Him, in worship, prayer or fasting.

With best wishes,

Dave

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## ***Ash Wednesday***



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.

***2 March 2022***

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

*Christ Church at 7.30pm*



## ***BIBLE READINGS FOR MARCH***

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Mar 6     **1<sup>st</sup> of Lent**

Deuteronomy 26: 1-11

Romans 10: 8b-13

Luke 4: 1-13

Mar 13     **2<sup>nd</sup> of Lent**

Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 13: 31-35

Mar 20     **3<sup>rd</sup> of Lent**

Isaiah 55: 1-9

1 Corinthians 10: 1-13

Luke 13: 1-9

Mar 27     **4<sup>th</sup> of Lent – Mothering Sunday**

Exodus 2: 1-10

2 Corinthians 1: 3-7

Luke 2: 33-35

Apr 3     **5<sup>th</sup> of Lent**

Isaiah 43: 16-21

Philippians 3:4-14

John 12: 1-8



## ***THURSDAY LUNCH***

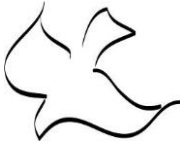
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The Choir and others from St. John with St. Mark have asked for a thank you to be included in this month's magazine for the Thursday lunch, which returned at Christ Church on 17th February. An eagerly anticipated event and the numbers on the day proved just that.

A delicious and warming potato hash and fruit crumble lunch was served, ideal for the recent cold and stormy spell of weather we were all enduring.

We cannot wait until Thursday 17th March!

Thanks to Nigel and the team.



**BAPTISMS**

Jan 30      Alfie McDougall Gaughran

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

**CHURCH FUNERAL SERVICE**

Jan 24      Pat Farnworth

Feb 8        Kath Parkinson

**FUNERAL SERVICE HELD AT THE CREMATORIUM**

Feb 10      John Green

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



***Flowers in church***

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We do not have flowers in either Church during Lent.

However, 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). Please speak to Rosemarie if you would specifically like to contribute towards the flowers at St. John with St. Mark this forthcoming Easter.

## *Income from the Sale of the Church Field*

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Christ Church has been considering three projects that the income from the sale of the church field will be spent on.

1. A complete refurbishment of the existing church to make it suitable for use as a community centre and a place of worship.
2. A complete refurbishment of the existing church hall for use as a community centre with the addition of a new worship space.
3. A new modern purpose-built church and community centre located in the remaining unsold area of the church field.

Christ Church have maintained for the last several years that there can only be one building out of the three options above that will be maintained on an ongoing and future basis.

However this is a conservation area so there will be limitations on the remaining building(s).

The church welcomes views from the community on these options and you are invited to send comments to

[vision.ccwalmersleybury@outlook.com](mailto:vision.ccwalmersleybury@outlook.com)  
or speak to the Vicar, or any member of the PCC.

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## From the Vicarage

- \* The Plan B Covid measures came to an end in January which means that face coverings in places of worship are no longer mandatory. Thank you to all who have complied with these regulations. Let's hope that 2022 will be a year largely free from restrictions, in contrast to the previous two years!
- \* Lent Groups begin this month. Two groups will be held for five weeks from week commencing March 7 - Monday evenings in the Barritt Room and on Zoom and Thursday afternoons at CCW hall. Both meetings will be in person although online may also be available on Mondays. The material used will be the Church of England's "Live Lent Embracing Justice" booklet. I have some copies available if anyone would like one.
- \* St.Stephen's Elton are hosting a Seder Meal in the Wednesday of Holy Week – April 13 – beginning at 7.30pm. Further details about this will be available in next month's magazine. Our Holy Week services include 7.30pm Communion services at both churches on Maundy Thursday and 9.00am and 2.00pm services on Good Friday at Christ Church and St.John with St.Mark respectively.
- \* A reminder that at 10.30am on the third Sunday of each month a service of Morning Worship / Café Church will take place at St.John with St.Mark. There will be a service of Holy Communion in church at 8.30am that day each month.
- \* Mission Communities continue to develop across the Diocese. A meeting has been arranged this month to discuss the position of MC leaders. Every church community is expected to appoint a Focal Leader. These can be lay or ordained and will be developed, trained and supported to work with others to lead the mission, growth and pastoral care of their church. A meeting is taking place at Bolton Parish Church on Wednesday 9 March beginning at 7.00pm to give people an opportunity to ask questions and enter into the conversations about these new roles. Everybody is welcome.
- \* Churches Together in Bury represent most of the Christian Churches in the town. The group meets every two months, with a prayer group which meets fortnightly. They have now begun to meet in person



again. Anyone is able to attend these meetings. Details are in the Bulletin / News Sheet in the relevant weeks.

\* The Men of the Benefice (MOB) meet on the last Monday of each month. We gather at the Towler Inn from 8pm. This will not happen in March as it is Lent, however another event may be considered.

\* 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.

\* 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. Thanks to those who support those in need.

\*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.

\* 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)

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## **PARADE SERVICES**

ST.JOHN with ST.MARK

CHRIST CHURCH

Second Sunday of Lent

**13 March 2022 at 10.30am**



## The Egg that shares the Easter story

The Real Easter Egg was first launched in 2010. Two years earlier, David Marshall the creator of the Meaningful Chocolate Company, was given a chocolate Easter Egg. On the side of the box it read: 'Easter is the festival of chocolate and loveliness'. He began to wonder – was it right for the manufacturer of an Easter egg to change the meaning of a religious festival in this way? Imagine the outcry if this had been done to Christmas.

He began the search for an Easter egg which mentioned the Christian story of Easter. It became clear that out of the 80 million eggs on sale there was not a single manufacturer who was willing to mention the religious aspects of the festival. Surely there had to be a place for one Easter egg which mentioned Jesus?

As no one was willing to consider this, The Meaningful Chocolate Company was formed. Since then, the company has produced Easter Eggs and Advent Calendars to celebrate two great Christian festivals with chocolate. By Easter 2022 more than 1.8 million eggs will have been sold.

The Real Easter Egg is sold with an Easter story activity book covering the final week of the life of Jesus and includes the events of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. The book contains a prize competition worth £200.

The Real Easter Egg is only available ONLINE: [www.meaningfulchocolate.co.uk](http://www.meaningfulchocolate.co.uk)

It will not be sold in supermarkets. ***It may be possible for the Traidcraft stall at St. John with St. Mark to get some. Please speak to Madge Evans about this.***

The Meaningful Chocolate Company is based in Lymm, Cheshire. They produce the Fairtrade Easter Egg and the real Advent Calendar.

## PLEASE SUPPORT THEM



## ***IN MEMORIAM: Kath Parkinson***

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Kathleen Davenport was born on 9 April 1930 in Bury. The youngest of three children she was born ten years after her sister Mary. The family lived in Fairy Street just off Ainsworth Road.

Kath's mother died when she was only 5, leaving her father and a live in housekeeper to look after the family. Kath left school at 14 to train as a tailor / seamstress, beginning work at Arnott's in Crompton Street.

It was through a friend of Kath's called Brenda that she began to attend church services and social events at Christ Church, Walmersley, linking up with a strong friendship group that included a young Stan Parkinson. The group would go to the pictures or speedway at Belle Vue and spent time listening to each other's records. In time Stan & Kath became a couple and they were married at Christ Church in August 1952 setting up home in Sefton Street. They remained there for the rest of their lives.

Stan was a teacher – later becoming a head teacher – and was a stalwart of Christ Church. At the time of his death in 2013 he was a Church Trustee. Kath left her work at Arnott's as Stan's career continued and she volunteered at the WRVS and Age Concern for over 30 years.

Kath & Stan were not blessed with children of their own, but they did foster a number of children. They also took into their care a next door neighbour's daughter Karen and that relationship continued to the end of Kath's life. Karen & her husband Richard and their daughters Tracey & Katrina were part of Kath's family and she in turn was loved by them.

Kath played a full part in the life of Christ Church, Walmersley both spiritually and socially.

She died after a short illness on 10 January 2022. At her funeral service in Christ Church a month later, Nigel Silvester gave the eulogy noting that the faith which began in childhood carried Kath through her whole life.

We give thanks to God for Kath Parkinson  
and her life of Christian witness and service.  
May She Rest In Peace and Rise in Glory.

## ***NOTES FROM THE COUNCILS***

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### **St. John with St. Mark PCC meeting of 25th January 2022**

- Our meeting opened with prayer and an opportunity to remember David Andrew, as this was the first meeting since David passed away in December 2021.
- The pantomime dates were confirmed as now being from Thursday 10th to Saturday 12th March, after being postponed from January. There will be no Thursday evening Communion service that week. There are some DBS's to be sorted before then.
- The fit and proper person forms required by PCC members are now almost all in.
- The faculty to remove the pews from the back of Church, which are currently positioned down the side aisles, has been submitted and we are awaiting a Diocesan DAC meeting and discussion.
- Ian used the meeting to give us an overview of the draft accounts for 2021 and the budget for 2022, including the Parish Share proposal for the next three years. There were no issues arising from the accounts and thanks were recorded to Ian for his usual detailed outline.
- The Vicar informed us that a meeting had recently taken place concerning the new Mission Communities in this area of the town. Focal leaders are being sought for the Parishes and a meeting to discuss this further will be held on Wednesday 9th March at Bolton Parish Church.
- It was recommended that we update our list of First Aiders for Church, and anybody with an up to date certificate is asked to contact the Wardens.
- The proposed date for the Summer Fair is Saturday 28th May, which is the week before the Jubilee weekend.
- The next PCC meeting will be on Thursday 17th March at 8.00pm and the APCM will be held after the Sunday service on 1st May around 12noon.

## ***MORE NOTES FROM THE COUNCILS***

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### **Christ Church PCC meeting 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

David Peters reported on discussions with the band and it was agreed to plan concerts for 7<sup>th</sup> May and 10<sup>th</sup> December with hire of band at a cost of £350 and maybe a singer.

The vicar spoke of the lifting of Covid plan B restrictions. Christ Church will continue with the arrangements in place at present apart from the use of a purificator instead of tissues.

Crux is planned to restart from Easter and be free. It was decided to order 150 copies to go with the church magazines. If people do not want to receive it in the future they should say. Jane Monks, the diocesan registrar, wrote to thank us for payment of her invoice.

The Treasurer presented the annual accounts, with minor alterations to the draft previously circulated. It was agreed they should be sent to our Independent Examiner. The parish share for 2022 is confirmed at £31,000.

There is an incentive for paying in full quarterly.

It was agreed by the PCC that we pay Jane Monks latest bill.

The treasurer's report was accepted, proposed by Trish Stokes and seconded by Geoff Stokes; all were in favour.

A report on the options for Contactless payments in church was presented by Barbara Taylor. After discussion of the equipment and the location in church it was agreed to purchase the equipment - proposed by Barbara Silvester, seconded by Lillian Lees, all were in favour.

The recent revision of the Church Hall hiring rules was discussed and the Hall committee to bring an amended agreement to the next meeting for approval.

It was decided to dispose of the freezer in the church hall kitchen as it is not in good condition. A larder fridge was proposed as a more useful alternative.

The sale of Christ Church field to Morris Homes is proceeding and is conditional depending on a number of points in the contract.

Jennifer Wood proposed holding an event in aid of Bury Hospice, bringing the involvement by Friends of Clarence Park further north. It was considered we could have a picnic in the field for families with a youth band during the summer holidays. The PCC agreed in principle and await further information, no dates are set as yet.

The next PCC is the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022 in Church.

Christ Church Annual Parochial Church Meeting is on the 16<sup>th</sup> May in Church.

## *Quiet Moments in March*

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As we begin this penitential season of Lent, a prayer seeking forgiveness.

Forgive those things we have done  
which have caused you sadness,  
and those things we should have done  
that would have brought you joy.  
In both we have failed ourselves,  
and you.

Bring us back to that place  
where our journey began,  
when we said that we would follow  
the way that you first trod.

Lead us to the Cross  
and meet  
us there. Amen

John Birch – Faith & Worship



An Old Irish Blessing for St. Patrick's Day and written by St. Patrick  
**17th March**



May your days be many and your troubles be few.  
May all God's blessings descend upon you.  
May peace be within you, may your heart be  
strong.  
May you find what you're seeking wherever you  
roam.

May the strength of God pilot us, may the wisdom of God instruct us.  
May the hand of God protect us, may the word of God direct us.  
May thy Salvation, O Lord, be always ours this day and for evermore.  
Amen.

## *More Quiet Moments in March*

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As Spring arrives and the clocks go forward this month,  
a prayer for the Hope of Spring.



God, thank you for Spring and the hope of warmer,  
longer, brighter days.

Thank you for the coming of growth and life and birth.

Thank you that things are coming awake in the world.

This is what our calendar says, and we do see some signs that it is  
real.

But we also still struggle with the residual layover of winter.

Now we ask that you bring into reality all that belongs in this  
season. Your word says that we will have provision, and hope, and joy,  
and health and loving relationships here and now in this life.

We ask that what belongs in this season would become actual in our  
practical lives.

We hope in you and in your promises. We hope in your gift of Spring.

*Author Unknown*

### A prayer for Mothering Sunday – **27th March**



Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you:  
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.  
Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness;  
through your gentleness we find comfort in fear.

Your warmth gives life to the dead,

your touch makes sinners righteous.

Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us;

in your love and tenderness remake us.

In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness,

for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us.

Anselm of Canterbury - 1109

For the first time in many years, we held a Beetle Drive enjoyed by the 16 who riddled, drew, moved on, chatted and hoped to be the one shouting 'beetle'. The highest score of the evening went to Christine Standring – congratulations.

Barbara T. led an interactive evening on Candlemas with readings, puzzles and prayers, ending with a recording by the St Martin's Singers of "Faithful vigil ended".

Our AGM followed the pattern of most AGMs. Barbara S presented the accounts saying that we were in a healthy position considering the past two years. She thanked our new Examiner, one Ian Banks. Tricia Stokes resigned as Secretary after many years and was given a peace lily as a token of our gratitude. She agreed to remain on the committee and Denise Booth also agreed to join the existing committee of Claire Altham, Karen Kay and Joan Riggs. We thank them all. The Vicar spoke about the effects of the pandemic on us all and encouraged us as we move forward – our theme for 2022 is Transformation NOW!

We hope many of you will join us at Christ Church for the 10.30am service on Mothering Sunday, when we shall enrol new members. Later, at 5.30pm, Mothers' Union Manchester holds its triennial Commissioning Service in the Cathedral, with Bishop David. One of our members, Rosemary, will be commissioned as a member of the Board of Trustees. We hope the service will be live-streamed if you are unable to travel into Manchester and all those elected to positions of leadership will value your prayers.

On Ash Wednesday there will be no meeting. On 16 April Barbara and Nigel will lead us in the first of our Lenten meetings.

Everyone is welcome to join us at any of our meetings – 7.30pm on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays in the Church Hall, or have a word with me.

Bob Taylor,  
Branch Leader



## ***Men of the Benefice***

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The Men of the Benefice met for the first meeting of the year on the last day of January at The Towler. The intention was for us to set a plan for the year ahead with proposed ideas.

Some of the suggestions included a summer walk around mid June, a meal in early September and maybe a sporting event during the year. There were potential guest speakers across the Benefice and beyond who may wish to join us, and we will look to approach some of those people in due course. Once dates and events are set, we will keep you informed in the magazine and weekly sheets in Church. Anybody can come along to as few or as many events as interest you.

The evening also included a discussion concerning a joke from the late Barry Cryer, who had passed away the week before. If you wish to know more about that, then please speak to the Vicar or refer to the 4th February issue of the Church Times!

Thank you to our own Barry, Mr Evans, for the lifts home. The MOB were expected to get together again on Monday 28th February. The group does not traditionally meet during Lent, though an alternative event may be considered.

David Robinson

## ***THE OPEN GROUP***

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There has been some discussion over the last few weeks regarding the Open Group, which has not met since March 2020. I am pleased to say that there is interest to resume this group and I am currently in the process of inviting speakers and trying to put a programme together.

The proposal is that we allow the clocks to 'Spring' forward and the lighter nights to resume. The second Wednesday of April happens to be Holy Week, which now coincides with the Seder Meal at St. Stephen's Elton. Open Group members are invited to that event, and I am looking at trying to find another date in April for an Open Group meeting, which will not clash with other events.

I would ask that people keep up to date with developments on the weekly sheet and April magazine, and please hold this group in your prayers as we attempt to resume.

David Robinson



# Sunday @ Seven



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

**March 27th at 7pm**

*Time for a spiritual  
spring-cleaning?*



**Come and join with us for an hour of relaxed worship and reflection. This month we will take a reflective Lenten look at some cobwebs which need blowing away.**

**We will meet in the Barrit Room at St. John with St Mark Hall. Or you can join in via Zoom. Please contact Nigel Silvester or Ian Banks for more details.**

## ***Make a Mother's Day***

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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 flourish.

Since 2006 Mothers' Union's annual **Make a Mother's Day Appeal** has celebrated this with ethical gifts having the added benefit of making a difference to mothers and caregivers in communities all around the world.

For Mothering Sunday (27th March 2022) we are reaching reach out to our communities and beyond, whether you are part of Mothers' Union or not, there is something for everyone to celebrate.

This year, you can celebrate or remember someone special by giving a gift of resilience. For the past two years, we've been especially aware how important community, resilience and prayer are in our lives and in those of the people we are most connected with.

These Gifts of Resilience are gifts you can give that will empower women around the world – often women who are themselves responsible for their own families and children.

Visit [www.mothersunion.org/mothering-sunday](http://www.mothersunion.org/mothering-sunday) or have a word with any member, as all will have received a leaflet with details of the virtual gifts.

If you have someone special you wish to thank this Mothering Sunday (parent, grandparent, Godparent, friend) give them a gift with a difference, and at the same time "make a difference" to mothers and others around the world.



## ***PRAYER DIARY***

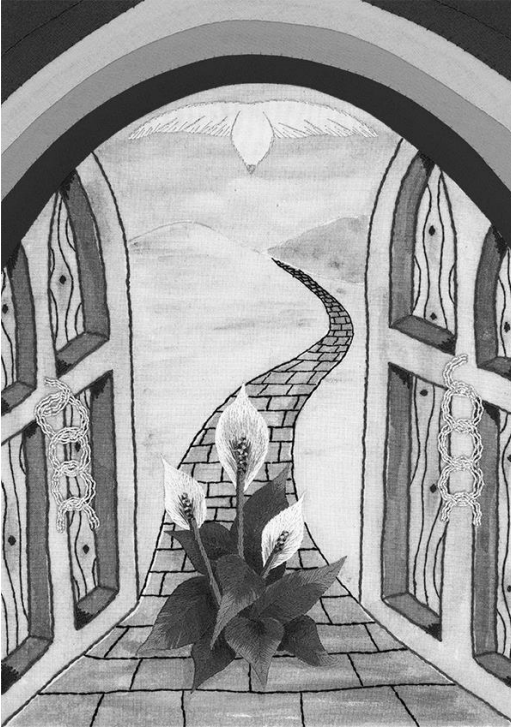
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*PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE SUBJECTS ON A DAILY BASIS.*

- 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.  
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 and ALM.

## ***World Day of Prayer***

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2022 is a special year for the World Day of Prayer in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, who have prepared this year's service. Normally marked on the first Friday in March, in Bury this year the service will be held on **Friday 18 March at 2pm in Christ Church Walmersley.**

The service is based on the letter that the prophet Jeremiah wrote to the exiles in Babylonia. In the midst of all the uncertainties we are living under due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the WDP 2022 theme is an invitation to place our trust in God in times of suffering.

The EWNI Committee writes:

"It has been both challenging and rewarding to write about our landscape, people and culture all shaped by our history. We celebrate our diversity and the contribution made to our countries by the many groups and individuals who have made their home here. We reflect on some of the issues facing us today: poverty, domestic abuse and disability, finding hope in difficult situations and encouragement in the help we can give to each other."

The artwork by Angie Fox depicts **Freedom**, represented as an open door to a pathway across an endless open vista; **Justice**, represented by broken chains; God's **Peace and Forgiveness**, represented by the dove of peace and a peace lily breaking through the pavement.

Over all, a rainbow which has come to represent all these things from the story of Noah through to the modern day. It is a symbol of the overreaching love of God.

**'I Know the Plans I Have For You' Jeremiah 29:1-14**

## ***Christian Aid Week - May 15-21, 2022***

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**Christian Aid Week is an annual event across the United Kingdom and beyond - involving fundraising, prayer and action against global poverty.**

*Christian Aid is a charity which works with 700 local organisations around 50 countries in the world. They help poor communities and enable them to deal with hardships, from climate change and the possible threat of natural disasters. Alongside this, Christian Aid also helps with the education, sanitation, health, and reconciliation of certain communities.*

**During the week, supporters are asked to give their time, money and voices to help bring lasting change to some of the world's poorest communities.**

**The money raised helps fund Christian Aid's vital work to transform the lives of people around the world.**

FROM THE CHRISTIAN AID WEBSITE:

*"This year Christian Aid Week will focus on the plight of drought which numerous countries around the world face. It recognises that droughts have become more intense and more common because of the changing climate. The impact on the world population is great, as it means that millions of people around the world struggle to get the food and water that they need."*

Watch out for further details of our Benefice's fundraising activities on the weekly News Sheets and in next month's magazine.

Churches Together in Bury are planning to hold collections in the town centre on Saturday, 21 May with displays, refreshments and a quiet space at Bury United Reformed Church on Parsons Lane. Please let us know if you could help – by baking cakes, serving, washing up, etc or by collecting or counting cash. John Brennan or Barbara Taylor have more details.

**BURY & ROSSENDALE DEANERY**

Sunday, 13 March at 5.30pm

Manchester Cathedral  
is hosting a service of Evensong  
to mark the formation of our new Deanery



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**COFFEE MORNING TO CELEBRATE THE  
PLATINUM JUBILEE YEAR**



Saturday 19th March  
around 10.00am  
at Pam Cowie's house  
5 Roughhill Lane, Jericho, Bury, BL9 7TH  
Lifts by arrangement



A SELECTION OF SCONES & CAKES WILL BE AVAILABLE ~  
WITH TEA & COFFEE ~ £3.00 PER PERSON ~  
ALSO A RAFFLE, WHICH INCLUDES A £50.00 MONETARY PRIZE  
ALL PROCEEDS TO ST. JOHN WITH ST. MARK FUNDS

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**MOTHERS' UNION COMMISSIONING SERVICE**

Sunday, 27 March at 5.30pm

Bishop David will commission  
Mothers' Union Diocesan President and Trustees  
during a service of Evensong

Please support them in prayer if you cannot be present

## ***FORTHCOMING EVENTS continued***

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### **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS**

**St.John with St.Mark:** Sunday 1 May 12noon

**Christ Church :** Monday 16 May 7.30pm

#### **COME ALONG & INFLUENCE THE WAY YOUR CHURCH OPERATES**

Forms to elect new Churchwardens and PCC members will be available in church nearer the time of the meetings.

*Please note: Only those on the Church's Electoral Roll may vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.*

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### **CAFÉ CHURCH SERVICES**



St.John with St.Mark

10.30am

**15 May 2022**

Christ Church

10.30am

**22 May 2022**

*All café church services are held in the church halls*



## **ISAIAH 53 CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOP LTD**

- For Church Supplies
- Christian books and literature
- Religious gifts
- Cards for various occasions



Unit 1

5-11 Crown Street

Bolton

BL1 2RU

Telephone ~ 01204 532384

Manager ~ David Thurairatnam

Open ~ Monday to Saturday (except Wednesday)

This shop also helps to support the local community

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### ***Eagles Wing***

**EAGLES WING** supports asylum seekers and refugees in the Bury area and occasionally uses the Church Hall at St. John with St. Mark.

They help a large number of families with very young children who are in real need and have appealed for donations of items including nappies, toiletries, baby clothes etc.

If anyone can help they can either contact Ian Banks or Sue Arnall at Eagles Wing on: [Sue.k.arnall@gmail.com](mailto:Sue.k.arnall@gmail.com) or 07917 302 061

## **FOR YOUR MARCH DIARY**

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Wed 2		<b>Ash Wednesday</b>
	10.00am	Parish Communion (SJM)
	7.30pm	Parish Communion (both)
Sun 6		<b>1<sup>st</sup> of Lent</b>
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Parish Communion (both)
Thu 10 – Sat 12		Pantomime (SJM) – See back page
Sun 13		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> of Lent</b>
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Family Worship with Church Parade (CC) Parish Communion with Church Parade (SJM)
	5.30pm	Deanery Service (Cathedral)
Wed 16	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC Hall)
Thu 17	12 noon	Thursday Lunch (CC Hall)
	8.00pm	PCC (SJM)
Fri 18	2.00pm	World Day of Prayer (CC)
Sat 19	10.00am	Coffee Morning (5 Roughhill Lane)
Sun 20		<b>3<sup>rd</sup> of Lent</b>
	8.30am	Holy Communion (SJM)
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (SJM) Parish Communion (CC)
Mon 21	7.30pm	PCC (CC Church)
Sun 27		<b>4<sup>th</sup> of Lent – Mothering Sunday</b>
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (CC) Parish Communion (SJM)
	5.30pm	Mothers' Union Commissioning (Cathedral)
	7.00pm	Sunday@Seven (Barritt Room and Zoom)

## ***PARISH PEOPLE***

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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>

Check out Facebook	@christchurchwalmersley @stjohnstmark
Twitter	@cofewalmersley
Instagram	cofewalmersley
and YouTube	CofE Walmersley

THIS MARCH THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF

ST JOHN WITH ST MARK PRESENT

# Jack & The Beanstalk



7:30pm on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>, Friday 11<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Afternoon Performance at 2:00pm on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>

St John with St Mark Church Hall ~ Parkinson Street Bury

Tickets Priced At £5.00 for Children & £7.00 for Adults .

To Order Tickets, Call 0161 761 6592 or Email:- [stjohnwithstmarkpanto@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnwithstmarkpanto@gmail.com)