


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

The Church of England on Walmersley Road

**LIVING
HOPE**



LENT

March 2025



**THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND**

Diocese of Manchester

**CHURCH
FOR A
DIFFERENT
WORLD**

the Year of the Snake



Which year were you born?



Lots tried calligraphy



"Good health"



Lunar New Year celebrations

See page 12 for report from Jill Smith

BMC: What's Happening?

(Could you design a logo for our Mission Community? Editor)

So, let's talk about the Bury Mission Community—BMC for short (because, honestly, who has time to say the whole thing every time?). We're the Anglican churches around Bury: Walmersley Road, Bircle, Roch Valley, St Paul's, BPC, Elton, and Kirklees Valley.

When this whole "Mission Communities" idea first popped up, the big plan was for churches to work together, freeing people up to try new things in ministry. Now, not to be *too* cynical, but my initial reaction was something along the lines of: *Wait... who exactly was chained up in their parishes? Weren't we already trying to be missional? And is another layer of church admin really the answer?* My eyebrows went up back then, and, well, they're still up.

That said - things *are* happening. This year, we've got a solid three-part plan:

1. **We're worshipping together.** Yes, obviously, but we're aiming for something a bit outside our comfort zones. Stay tuned.
2. **We're getting stuck into community service.** We're joining the Bury litter-picking group. Why? Because looking after the environment is important, we'll meet our neighbours, and we want to prove that Christians are, in fact, pretty normal (mostly).
3. **We're having a social event.** Specifically, a Quiz Evening where we can invite friends and neighbours. Competitive types, consider this your official warning.

Is this the grand, earth-shattering Mission Plan? Maybe. But it's also about connection - recognising that we're all in this together as sisters and brothers in Christ. Worshipping, serving, and just spending time together is what church life should be about.

But wait, there's more! (Yes, I sound like an infomercial.)

- We're holding a **BMC confirmation service** in September
- Join us at the **Easter Vigil** at BPC (6:30pm on Easter Eve, mark your calendars).
- We're diving into **Carbon Literacy** because, let's be honest, we just lived through the hottest January on record, and creation care is non-negotiable.

Plenty to do, then. But here's the thing - following Christ was never meant to be a solo mission. These things are easier (and more fun) together. So, consider this your official invite. Come along, get involved, and let's see where this year takes us!

Julian Heaton,
Rector of Bury and Mission Community Leader

JAM Group

At a JAM Sunday School in February, we learnt about the Beatitudes, what they teach us about God's Kingdom and how they can be applied to our lives today. This was done slightly differently though in that we learnt them using the Bee Attitudes idea. Each stripe on our bee or honey comb contains one of the eight Beatitude sayings and a chance to reflect on how we can put these values into our everyday living. There were some very creative bees produced at the end of the session.



Perhaps as youngsters and adults we can take time to study these and reflect on how they are significant to us today. Read Matthew 5.3-12.

On 16th February, we used this prayer at JAM:

Dear Jesus. There is no greater thing than knowing and following you. Thank you for paying the price so that those who follow you will get their reward – for forgiveness of sin and eternal life in Heaven. Amen.

BAPTISM

Feb 2 Annabella Lydia Nelson

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

FUNERAL SERVICES IN CHURCH

Feb 4 Betty Roe

Feb 10 Eileen Lambert



INTERMENT OF ASHES

Feb 16 William Mongey

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

Electoral Roll

Have you been baptised? Are you 16 or over?

Have you attended church regularly for at least 6 months?

Then you may be interested in joining the Electoral Roll!

This means: You can vote on church matters;

attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM);

raise any questions of parochial or general church interest;

stand for election to the Parochial Church Council (PCC);

represent your church within the wider church family.

Every six years new Rolls must be prepared and 2025 is the year. The timings are different in our two churches as the exercise must be completed between 15 and 28 days before the APCMs, which are to be 6 April at St John with St Mark and 18 May at Christ Church.

Please listen for announcements in church, read the notice sheets and fill out the forms when they are available. If you have any questions please speak to one of the Wardens.



BIBLE READINGS FOR MARCH

Mar 2 **Sunday next before Lent**

Exodus 34: 29-35 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 Luke 9: 28-43

Mar 9 **1st Sunday of Lent**

Deuteronomy 26: 1-11 Romans 10: 8b-13 Luke 4: 1-13

Mar 16 **2nd Sunday of Lent**

Genesis 15:1-12,17-18 Philippians 3: 17-4:1 Luke 13: 31-35

Mar 23 **3rd Sunday of Lent**

Isaiah 55: 1-9 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13 Luke 13: 1-9

Mar 30 **4th Sunday of Lent – Mothering Sunday**

Joshua 5: 9-12 2 Corinthians 5: 16-21 Luke 15:1-3,
11b-32

or MS

Exodus 2.-10	2 Corinthians 1.3-7	Luke 2.33-35
or	or	or
1 Samuel 1.20-28	Colossians 3.12-17	John 19.25b-27

Apr 6 **5th Sunday of Lent**

Isaiah 43: 16-21 Philippians 3: 4b-14 John 12: 1-8



Flowers in church

There are no flowers in church during Lent

If you would like to donate towards the cost of the flowers in church for a specific week, 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).

Mothering Sunday 30 March

Yes, it is the 5th Sunday but, there is no joint service.

9.00 am BCP Holy Communion at Christ Church

10.30 am Parish Communion in both churches

As we worship in our mother church,
we think of all for whom this is not a day of rejoicing.

Heavenly Father, we pray for those
for whom Mothering Sunday
is a time of heartbreak not celebration.
May they have the comfort of knowing that
your love for them is constant,
your understanding is perfect,
your compassion is never ending.

Amen.

Praying in every season, Mothers' Union



Summary of the St. John with St. Mark PCC meeting of 23rd January 2025.

- Services have been covered up to the end of April and this includes the Ash Wednesday and Holy Week services. Harvie's aim is to return to lead worship on Easter Day (20th April) and this will be a joint Benefice service. It was also mentioned that some baptisms and weddings are booked in.
- There was a review of Mission Community events and any particular focus on care homes in our Parish.
- We are awaiting the report back from the Quinquennial inspection.
- Acknowledgment letters have been received back from some of the charities we supported for 2024; the amounts raised for Christies at Christmas and Children's Society at the Christingle were confirmed.
- Ian went through the draft accounts for 2024 and all was discussed and confirmed. These will now be sent for independent examination. The APCM will be held on Sunday 6th April and there was the usual appeal for groups to submit reports.
- The electoral roll will be completely revised this year. The announcements will take place after the Sunday services on 26th January and 2nd February and the revision will take place between Sunday 9th February and Sunday 9th March. A notice to this effect is also on the Church door.
- A turnkey lock will be fitted to the Church Hall door to enhance security. (This has happened the week after the meeting).
- The roll of health and safety officer was discussed and a further conversation will take place at a suitable time.
- Dates of coffee mornings and Fairs for this year were discussed and confirmed. There will be a coffee morning on Saturday 29th March.
- The next PCC meeting is on Tuesday 18th March at 7.30pm.

- * The Church of England's Lent theme for 2025 is Living Hope. A series of readings and reflections have been written, which explore how we can have hope in times of frustration or uncertainty; the hope found in joining with others; the invitation to notice signs of hope around us; the courage to face reality and pursue a hopeful future; and the ways God transforms death into life at Easter. Ask at church about resources or visit cofe.io/LivingHope We have a very small number of the CofE 40-day reflection booklets. Please ask David Robinson if you would like a copy, but it will likely be first to ask and first to receive.
- * Pray for Growth: a monthly gathering in St John's House 10am-11am to pray for growth in our Deanery of Bury and Rossendale. More information from Ima at imalomax@manchester.anglican.org The upcoming dates are 6th March and 3rd April.
- * As we go to press there is still opportunity to register for the Bury and Rossendale Lay Leadership Conference on 1st March, 9.30am-1pm at St John with St Mark. This is open to all who volunteer in our churches and is "an opportunity to learn, to be encouraged, to be empowered". Registration is through Eventbrite.
- * Churches Together in Bury have asked for help from all churches to continue to make the Good Friday Walk of Witness a successful outreach to the people of Bury (see page 25)
- * At Christ Church, work to replace the heating boiler has commenced, and the plan is to return to worship in church on 16 March, which will be a day of great thankfulness, rejoicing and welcome! The Archdeacon of Salford and Bolton should be here for the 10.30am service which will also include baptisms. Everyone is welcome to join us for a bring and share lunch in the Hall after the services. (see page 28)
- * There is a very real need for the work of Porch Boxes at this time. Please do all you can to contribute. A box is available at the back of both churches and there are lists of the items most needed.

Growing Younger

At 9am on Saturday 8th February around 70 people from across the Deanery gathered at Bury Church High School for the first ever Growing Younger Conference. It opened with worship – a different kind of worship for many of us – Wiggle Worship. The biblical text was Joshua 1: 9, 'Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.'



We were involved both spiritually and physically! Many schools and play groups have adopted it, involving young families in worship. It has a clear worship structure that is easy to follow, and can be tailored to suit your context. It is a tool to engage families and is a tool for transition from nursery to school. Little things can become intentional Christian practice

which shapes faith for the long term, planting seeds that can bear fruit for the rest of their lives. It nurtures parents, carers and communities.

This was followed by a keynote speech by Jo Haslam, the Diocesan Early Years Adviser who is also a Youth and Children and Family ALM. She introduced her talk with the statistic that 40% of practising Christians came to faith before the age of five. The greatest impact we can have is with the very young but in many churches the focus is on adults.

Following this there were a number of different workshops –

Intergenerational

Planting seeds, growing faith

Youth Sacred Spaces

Christianity, Mindfulness, and Well-being

Intergenerational – Everyone in church together rather than separate children's groups. 'There were no children's groups at the crossing of the Red Sea!'

In the Intergenerational group we learned of examples of different ways to involve families in worship.

One example was Campfire Church which is self-explanatory – outdoors with a campfire and activities based around a theme. This happens once a month at 3pm at Emmanuel Church Centre in Holcombe Brook.

Another was St Anne's Edgeside who run a Messy Church every first Sunday morning with families pre-booking for breakfast followed by: Notices and birthdays; 'Theme for the Day' in 'Our God is a great big God'; children's choir; bible story (God stories available on YouTube); craft.

There is an opportunity for bible study for those who don't wish to take part.

A Pop up Nativity saw over 100 attending.

Christianity, Mindfulness, and Well-being

This was led by Karen Openshaw and Julie McAuley who run a drop in monthly at a church plant in Radcliffe. Karen has written a number of books on Mindfulness and faith together with Bishop Chris Edmondson.

To sum up, Mindfulness is 'being in the present moment, mindful of being in the presence of God.' Taking care of yourself.

At 1pm, the conference was closed by the Bishop of Middleton, Mark Davies.

The voice of young people is very important. Matthew 18: 1-6.

We are all the church of today, whatever age we are. What does Jesus want our church and communities to be?

Everything that we do must be built, sustained and brought back to prayer.

Three of us attended the conference. Thank you to Catherine Hilton for accepting the challenge to share her notes from the morning.



Kung Hei Fat Choi

A new experience awaited us in Christ Church Hall on Sat, 1st February 2025, when Paul Chung and Belinda Leung and friends invited forty people to celebrate the Lunar New Year with them.

The tables were beautifully laid out and the walls decorated with red banners with black and gold words of good wishes.

At the back of the hall Winnie had provided a lesson in Calligraphy and we were invited to draw a Snake with the words of Good Luck and Peace.

2025 is the Year of the Snake. Googling produces, 'In Lunar Symbology Snakes are regarded as intelligent with a tendency to lack scruples'. Another source says that the Snake is associated with wisdom, intuition and charm, also a time for reflection and growth, renewal and deep thought. You choose!

The food was plentiful, starting with sweetcorn soup and a choice of samosas, spring rolls and prawn crackers. Then followed various chicken dishes, beef, spare ribs, fried broccoli, rice, etc. with a choice of tasty sauces. Ivy had made delicious Walnut Biscuits and Belinda excelled herself making an abundance of coconut and milk desserts.

The expected evening meal turned into an overflowing banquet.



We cannot thank them enough for such an enjoyable evening and the generous donation to church funds.

Thank you Belinda and Paul, Ivy and Stone, Winnie and Bon, Iris and Chris.

Barbara and Nigel had done lots of preparation for an afternoon entitled "We were so much younger then". Photos, songs, questions, TV programmes, a timeline to construct, plus photos and objects brought by other members, all contributed to a great afternoon of reminiscence mainly across the 50s and 60s. We thank them for putting it all together and everyone for joining in.

Ash Wednesday falls on the first Wednesday of March, so we shall not meet as a branch. There are services at St John with St Mark at 10am and in the Hall at Christ Church at 7.30pm. Mothers' Union members have always been very supportive of the World Day of Prayer, which falls on Friday, 7 March. More details are available on page 20.

At 2pm on 19 March join us in the Hall where the Revd Ian Butterworth will lead the first of our Lenten meetings.

The Spring/Summer Gift Guide is now available, and Hilary Riddick will be happy to show you, and order for you any items you want. As well as the usual variety of cards and gifts, it includes items for Mothering Sunday and Easter. A new edition of "United in Prayer and Worship" has been published too.

Please remember that 25th March, the Feast of the Annunciation, is a Day of Prayer in Mothers' Union.

On Mothering Sunday, 30 March at the 10.30am service, we shall admit a new member of this worldwide movement. Please pray for all members who will then reaffirm the promises they made at their own admittance service. Check out Mothers' Union for a selection of virtual gifts for this day which will truly Make a Mother's Day.

So, please ask any of us if you would like to know more about the vision and aims of Mothers' Union.

Barbara Taylor, Branch Secretary

Quiet Moments for March

Ash Wednesday, 5th March, is the start of the period of Lent.

As the days lengthen, and the earth spends longer in the light of day,
May we spend longer in the light of your presence, O Lord.

May the seeds of your Word which have been long buried within us,
grow like everything around us,

into love for you and love for other people,

A visible declaration of your lordship in our lives.

Grant, Lord, that there may be a springtime in our lives this Lent.

Amen.

Anthology of Public Prayers, Mothers' Union

The World Day of Prayer, falls on the first Friday of March each year



Its symbol is made up of arrows converging from the four points of the compass, persons kneeling in prayer, and a circle, representing the world and our unity through all our diversity.

In 2025 the people of the Cook Islands have written this service, and say,

At the closing of a gathering, our Tongareva elders always say these powerful words of encouragement:

‘Kia mau te serenga! Kia mau te napena! Kia mau!’

This means ‘hold on tight to who you are, in all aspects of your existence!’ We are wonderfully made by God, and we should cherish all the aspects of who we are!”

*March 17th is the day we think of **St Patrick**, patron saint of Ireland.*

The following was written in 1949 by Annie Blake, living on a farm in rural Ireland.

Is there aught that I can wish you,
that has not been wished before?
Shall I wish that health and gladness
be increasing more and more?
Or perhaps that you will be happy
and all sadness stand apart?
No, I'll simply wish "God bless you"
and I wish it from my heart.



The Feast of the Annunciation on 25th March

We remember Mary, visited by the angel who had shocking news to share. We give thanks for Mary's acceptance.

We glorify the Lord
who satisfies our soul.

We rejoice in God our Saviour
whose promises stand firm for ever.

We give thanks for the obedience of Mary
who showed us the way of faith and trust.

Blessed are we who have believed
that the Lord will fulfil his promises to us!

Our souls glorify the Lord
and our spirits rejoice in God our Saviour.
Amen.

Praying in every season Mothers' Union



2025 For 80 years, Christian Aid has been fighting poverty and injustice. With your support, we've been able to offer hope to communities who need it most. Our groundbreaking work began in 1945, when we were founded by British and Irish churches to help refugees following the Second World War.

1940s We helped refugees in need at the end of the Second World War. We raised more than £80,000 (£3 million plus in today's money) for emergency supplies in mainland Europe. We supported, equipped and enabled partner churches there to meet the needs of their people.

1950s We launched Christian Aid Week to raise extra funds. We continued helping refugees in mainland Europe as well as those from Palestine, Korea and China. We supported the establishment of the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) to enable young people to make a difference, and offered help to churches in countries moving from colonialism to independence to meet the needs of poor people.

1960s We made a difference in crises affecting Nigeria/Biafra, Kenya and India. We created the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) so that development agencies were seen to work together in times of humanitarian crisis. We helped set the World Development Movement to encourage political campaigning. We addressed racism and poverty in the United States as well as advising Martin Luther King while he was in the UK.

1970s We drew a link between educating supporters at home about the root causes of poverty and work with partners overseas to eradicate it. We popularised world development issues by providing seed money to establish the New Internationalist magazine. We explained the connection between our consumer culture at home and the global food crisis by launching a campaign to live simply.

1980s We fed hungry people during the Ethiopian famine and those experiencing drought in Mozambique. We led a mass lobby of parliament to call for more official development aid. We created the Southern African Coalition to demand an end to apartheid.

1990s We linked work in 50 poor countries to campaigns on developing world debt, fair trade and the policies of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. We challenged the stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa. We stood up for and provided food for refugees in Kosovo.

2000s We campaigned to make poverty history during a war against terror. We reached more than 500,000 people with food, shelter and healthcare after the Asian Tsunami. We publicised the fact that developing countries lose more money through the tax evasion practices of large corporations than they receive through official aid.

2010s We inform about and campaign against climate change. We champion tax justice. We continue to work with local partners on the ground to make a practical difference to the lives of new waves of refugees locally while campaigning and advocating for change globally.

One refugee's experience: *In the camps, it was Christian Aid that sent the parcels...feeding us for two-and-a-half years, and I never forgot it. Christian Aid helped me to survive and I feel I owe my life to Christian Aid. I vowed there and then to do my best as long as I live, and I'm still doing it - Theodor Davidovic, Refugee and long-term Christian Aid supporter.*

And over these 80 years, we've harnessed something formidable. Something that can't be silenced by injustice. Something that refuses to sit back and watch poverty ravage communities. We call it the unstoppable power of hope. Together we can make hope unstoppable.

Right now, we need the power of hope more than ever. As tragic events continue to unfold across the world, we can't stop here. Donate and help us in making lasting change possible

This year, Christian Aid Week will focus on the poverty in the communities of Burundi. Over 70% of people in Burundi face hunger and poverty every single day. Finding work and food is a constant battle, and even those with a roof over their heads often lack necessities like electricity and clean water.

Please note this date: Christian Aid week 2025 11-17 of May

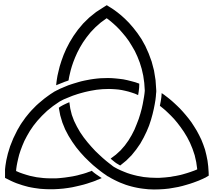
Ways to donate:

Online: Please give via the website where possible at christianaid.org.uk

There are QR codes on leaflets at the back of church.

Telephone and Postal Donations: Call 020 7523 2493 to donate by telephone.

Cheques, Postal Orders, can be sent to: Christian Aid, 35-41 Lower Marsh, London, SE1 7RL



Open Group

The Open Group will meet for their first meeting of 2025 on Wednesday 12th March. Reverend Paul Sanderson will lead a Lenten evening looking at the North Wales Pilgrim Way, A Meditative Journey. All are welcome to this visual journey at 7.30pm in the Barritt Room at St. John with St. Mark.

If it is a while since you attended an Open Group or indeed never been before, then you are more than welcome for this first meeting of 2025 and any others that you feel you may enjoy over the course of the year.

David Robinson

Candlewax



Thank you for the response to this appeal in last month's magazine. Two full carrier bags of candles have been sent so far, and the promise of a mobile generator and several quilts. All are very gratefully received. We feel there is still scope to give this appeal another mention.

The soldiers on the front line in Ukraine are very grateful for any unwanted candles, part used or just bits of candle wax. They use the wax for their heating and cooking. For cooking they use a large coffee/bean tin, roll up some corrugated card for the centre and put wax around the outside. Please bring the wax to church and give it to Jill Smith at Christ Church or David Robinson at St. John's with St Mark's.

Jill takes the wax to the Rochdale Ukrainian Club who send it on with other items that are for an orphanage and old people's home they support. It also saddens me to see they send donated walking aids and wheeled items for the wounded.

War is a terrible thing.

Thank you,
Gillian Smith

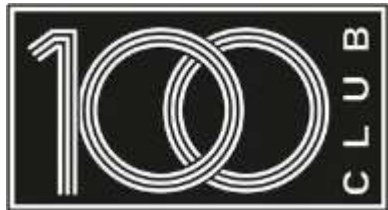
Whilst extremely grateful for the donations received, we do also pray that a lasting peace in Ukraine can be found.

ST. JOHN WITH ST. MARK 100 CLUB

FEBRUARY 2025 WINNERS

1st Prize £15.00 – (11) Phyllis Holt

2nd Prize £10.00 – (35) Marie Nuttall



Congratulations to both



Bury Veterans Choir

will provide the entertainment
on Tuesday 4th March at 2pm
hosted by Emmanuel MU
at Emmanuel Church Centre, BL8 4DB

Come and enjoy our music and a good
singalong.

Money raised will support the outreach of Mothers' Union through the
Make a Mother's Day appeal.

Everyone Welcome. Bring a friend
£3.00 including refreshments. Raffle

The MU shop will be there, with Mothering Sunday Cards and
bookmarks, and Easter Stock



Wonderfully Made

is the theme of this year's
World Day of Prayer service
from the Cook Islands

7 March at 2.30pm
at St Mary the Virgin, Bury
Everyone is welcome



- Tuesday 11 March 10am – 12 noon
- Christ Church Hall
- in support of Bury Hospice
- Please tell your friends and come along for a chat



The Bury Muslim Christian Forum are planning a joint meal on Sunday, 23rd March, 2025 at the Noor Ull Islam Mosque. The meeting will start at 5:30 p.m. followed by the Iftar meal at 6:30 p.m. when the fast is broken during Ramadan.

Gillian Smith of Christ Church does not have full details yet but please let her know if you are interested. Adults and Children welcome. More details to come on the weekly sheets. No charge.

If you wonder what the Iftar meal event is like you could look at the report about last year's event, in our April 2024 magazine, page 10.

THURSDAY LIGHT LUNCH



Come and join us
on the third Thursday of every month
for a light lunch.

A chance to enjoy a chat
in the company of friends.

Lunch is served 12 noon – 1pm.

Christ Church Walmersley Hall, School Lane, BL9 5LP

There is no charge – though, if you can
a donation toward costs would be appreciated.
Any profit will go to charity or church funds.

It would be great to see you!

So come along on 20 March and 17 April

COFFEE MORNING & BOOK FAIR



SATURDAY 29th March
from 10.00am until around 12noon

ST. JOHN WITH ST. MARK
CHURCH HALL

REFRESHMENTS & CAKES
OTHER STALLS
LOADS OF BOOKS!!



ALL PROCEEDS TO CHURCH FUNDS AND ALL WELCOME

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday		
9.00am	All	Holy Communion (BCP) Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	1 st 2 nd 3 rd 4 th	Holy Communion Family Service Holy Communion Morning Worship Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	1 st 2 nd 3 rd 4 th	Holy Communion Holy Communion Morning Worship Holy Communion St John w St Mark
10.30 a.m.	5 th	Holy Communion Joint (venue tba)
7.00 p.m.	Final, Sunday @ Seven Venue tba	
Wednesday		
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion St John w St Mark	
Thursday		
12.30 p.m.	The Gathering Zoom	
7.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (3rd – Compline) St John w St Mark	
Other services as announced.		
Services are from Common Worship unless otherwise stated.		

If you need transport to church please contact the wardens.

St John with St Mark's Church has Fairtrade status



We are members of Manchester's Transforming Prayer Community

FOR YOUR MARCH DIARY

Sat 1	9.30am	Deanery Lay Leadership Conference (SJM Hall)
Sun 2		Next before Lent
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Parish Communion (both)
Tue 4	2.00pm	Mothers' Union Fundraiser (Emmanuel Centre)
Wed 5		Ash Wednesday
	10.00am	Holy Communion (SJM)
	7.30pm	Holy Communion (CC Hall)
Thu 6	10.00am	Pray for Growth (St John's House)
Fri 7	2.30pm	World Day of Prayer service (St Mary the Virgin)
Sun 9		1st Sunday of Lent
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Family Service (CC) Parish Communion (SJM)
Tue 11	10.00am	Coffee Morning in aid of Bury Hospice (CC Hall)
Wed 12	7.30pm	Open Group (Barritt Room)
Sat 15	9.30am	Diocesan Synod (St John's House)
Sun 16		2nd Sunday of Lent
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (SJM)
	10.30am	Parish Communion & Baptism (CC)
Tue 18	7.30pm	PCC (Barritt Room)
Wed 19	2.00pm	Mothers' Union (CC Hall)
	7.30pm	Churches Together in Bury
Thu 20	12 noon	Thursday Lunch (CC Hall)
Sun 23		3rd Sunday of Lent
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (CC) Parish Communion (SJM)

Sun 23	5.30pm	Muslim Christian Forum Iftar Meal (see p 34)
Sat 29	10.00am	Coffee Morning and Book Fair (SJM Hall)
Sun 30		4th Sunday of Lent – Mothering Sunday
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Parish Communion (both)
	7.00pm	Sunday@Seven (Barritt Room)
Mon 31	8.00pm	Men of the Benefice – TBC

LOOKING AHEAD



Each Good Friday (this year that is 18th April) Christians come together in the centre of Bury to Walk in Witness.

Could you help in any way? This is the 'ask' we have just received:

Volunteers are needed to assist with the running of the day as well as for narrators and actors and other roles etc. All roles are up for grabs so if you want to dress as Jesus and carry the cross this year or any other role, please contact revcraigjiles2@outlook.com or ask for his phone number.

This year, there will be some changes, including slightly different readings and a new route. However, we will continue to dramatise the event and aim to build upon the faithful work of several years to make this the best one yet.

Craig, leading the planning team from Churches Together in Bury



Do you have wartime memories?

Or would you ask your older relatives what memories they have?

More details next month but the thinking is of an opportunity to come together to share photos, or items, from 1939-45 and to potentially gather stories and images in printed form as a reminder of this time here in our communities.

Alan Spencer

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.

Whilst the Vicar is unwell enquiries about baptisms or weddings / marriage banns etc or any other matter, should be made to the Wardens through our websites or at the parish office which has re-opened each Wednesday evening from 6.30 – 7.00pm at St. John with St. Mark's Hall.

Lots more info on our websites:
<https://ccwalmersleybury.org.uk>
<https://stjohnstmarkchurchbury.com>

Check out Facebook	@christchurchwalmersley @stjohnstmark
X (formerly Twitter)	@cofewalmersley
Instagram	cofewalmersley
and YouTube	CofE Walmersley



Sunday



@ Seven



We next meet for our time of informal worship

March 30th

**At the Barritt Room
St John with St Mark Hall**

Too big an ask?

Giving up something for Lent? Has Jesus asked you to make a change in your life? What was he prepared to give for you?

Come and join us for an hour - or you can be with us via Zoom. Please contact Nigel Silvester or Ian Banks for more details.

a warm welcome to
Christ Church Walmersley

WELCOME

on Sunday, 16th March



as we worship in church once again



9am BCP
Holy Communion
10.30am
Holy Communion
with Baptism

PRESIDENT:
9am
Revd Sheila Beattie
10.30am Ven Dr
Rachel Mann

12 noon
in the Hall
join us for a bring
& share lunch