

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

**The Church of England on Walmersley Road**



**April 2025**

# CAN YOU? ESCAPE?

It seems that Christ Church Guides managed it last month.

Read about their weekend on page 10



## ***God holds the past, present & future together***

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After a long dark Winter, Spring brings us signs of new life and hope. Looking out at our gardens, we see snowdrops, daffodils and crocuses - rays of colour in what have been months of drab uncertainty. The tectonic plates of global and local life have shifted and we try again to make sense of the landscape we find ourselves in. If, like me, you feel cut adrift from your usual routine, be comforted because Spring also brings with it the certainty that Christ is risen from the dead and still reaches out to us, His creation.

The church landscape has also changed, as the Archbishop of Canterbury stood down and what many saw as opportunities to put things right were not taken. Many are now questioning the role the church has in the modern world and if it can ever become a force for good again. I, for one, will always believe that whilst Christ sits on the throne, His bride the church will be a force for good in a world of ever-changing opinions and understandings.

It is into this world view that I try to speak from a place of weakness.

As a vicar who has been unable to get involved with the care of others during a long period of illness, I find myself frustrated and have sought out my own anchor points from my long Christian journey. In times when I don't feel the presence of God so clearly, I need to remember the fact that it was *He* who called *me* to serve Him, and I have been certain of his calling, and his love for me ever since. I concentrate on what I know to be true and the evidence for that throughout my life in Him. Easter reminds us that God's not dead, even when we feel cast adrift and abandoned.

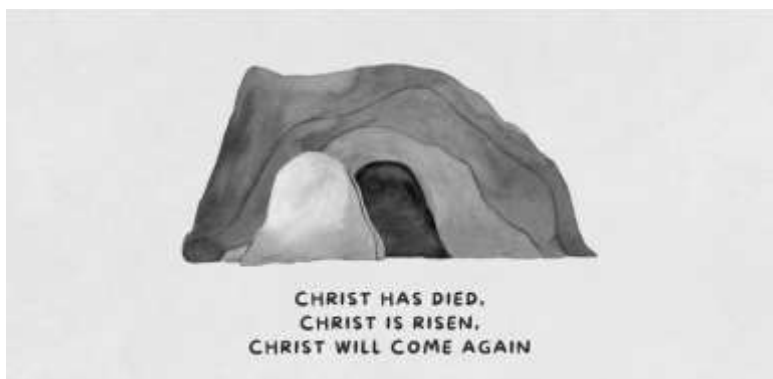
We need to make a concerted effort to remind ourselves that 'the earth is the Lord's and everything in it'; it is the work of His hands and He holds the past, present and future together.

During my cancer treatment, there have been times when I have questioned whether the treatment is working. I have allowed medicines to be put into my body, not knowing if anything was changing. The medical team assured me that things were progressing but for me, all I felt was fatigue. So it has been with my walk with God. I pray and bring glory to His name but, on occasions, I'm left with the feeling He has gone on holiday. It is at these times I need to return to my anchor points and remember that Christ will never leave nor forsake us. A timely reminder when the world is changing all around us. We, the church, need to regain our confidence in the things we once took for granted but now have to work harder to believe. The message of Easter is a great place to start. Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Can you put your faith in the Creator of the universe, or will you be swayed by the winds of change blowing through our world at this time?

We need to remember what has held us together for over 2000 years and go into the future trusting in the God who loves us so much that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall have eternal life.

Harvie



**BAPTISMS**

Mar 2           Teddy James Cliffe  
Mar 16          William Jake Cathcart  
                  Layla Sue Cathcart

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

**FUNERAL SERVICE IN CHURCH**

Mar 26          Mary Farnworth

**FUNERAL SERVICE AT THE CREMATORIUM**

Mar 14          Brian Fewtrell

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE**

Feb 24          Crissie Crow



**INTERMENT OF ASHES**

Mar 17          Peter Metcalf

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



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***Flowers in church***

At Christ Church

Apr 20          The Congregation

Apr 27          In memory of Sarah Melling and Jack Illsley

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).



## ***BIBLE READINGS FOR APRIL***

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Apr 6 **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

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

Apr 13 **Palm Sunday**

Isaiah 50:4-9a      Philippians 2:5-11      Luke 19: 28-40 or  
Luke 22:14-23:56

Apr 20 **Easter Sunday**

Acts 10.34-43      1 Corinthians 15.19-26      John 20.1-18 or  
Luke 24.1-12

Apr 27 **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Acts 5.27-32      Revelation 1.4-8      John 20.19-31

May 4 **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Acts 9-1.6 (7-20)      Revelation 5.11-14      John 21.1-19

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### ***Electoral Roll and APCMs***

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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. At Christ Church there is still time to add your name. Collect a form from church or download from the website.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting for St John with St Mark will be held on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 12.15pm.

- \* 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](mailto:imalomax@manchester.anglican.org)  
The next date is 3rd April.
- \* We hold in our prayers Archdeacon Rachel as she undergoes surgery at the beginning of April. The acting archdeacon during her absence is Revd Simon Cook, Area Dean of Bolton.
- \* Our Lent group is looking at the Church of England's theme for 2025, Living Hope. You can still join us for the final two sessions on Tuesdays 1st and 8th April at 7.30pm in the Barritt Room.
- \* There will be Easter cards produced with details of Holy Week and Easter services for the people of our Parishes. Help will be needed to distribute these, so please get in touch with one of the wardens for information on how to be involved.
- \* 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.
- \* As we move into a new fiscal year this may be a good time to consider increasing your giving, especially for those with standing orders as it is so easy to forget when it simply leaves your bank each month with other expenses. Speak to our planned giving officers or treasurers if you need more information.
- \* 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.
- \* Contributions for the magazine are always welcome. Please send to [wrub@live.co.uk](mailto:wrub@live.co.uk) or contact Barbara Taylor or David Robinson. The deadline for the next issue will be 14<sup>th</sup> April.

**Report from the meeting of Christ Church PCC on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025.**

The lay chair welcomed our Area Dean, the Revd. Canon Donna Williams, to the meeting and invited her to open it with prayer.

The diocese has offered a free energy audit and the consultant from Arrow Energy is coming on 4<sup>th</sup> March to carry out a survey on church.

It was noted that there was still time to book for the lay Leadership conference.

The PCC secretary's resignation (from the date of the APCM) had been received.

The Treasurer reminded everyone that there is now a need to register the church as a charity, rather than the Excepted Charity it currently is.

The Church Hall has received several bookings for birthday parties and there are baptisms and weddings booked for church.

All aspects of safeguarding were discussed at length and it was noted that all officers need to have completed the foundation course on the diocese safeguarding web site.

The churchyard group reported that two ash trees with ash dieback had been removed and work had been carried out on the church hall.

It was noted that a confirmation service for our Mission Community will take place at Christ Church, on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

There was a discussion of the points from the General Synod meeting on safeguarding.

Outreach was discussed.

The Reverend Canon Donna Williams joined us for a general discussion on the future and a useful outcome was achieved.

It was felt that further discussion on the future of the church buildings is best left in abeyance whilst the Vicar is unable to be part of this.



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**Summary of St John with St Mark PCC meeting of 19th March 2025**

- Services have been covered on the rota up to the end of July. It is hoped that Harvie can return to regular services after Easter and the rota can be adapted accordingly. It was mentioned that Easter cards will be available again with services and times.
- It has been proposed that any PCC members who wish to stand for election at the APCM in April must have their DBS and safeguarding processed straightaway without any exception.
- There was a review of Mission Community activities with dates of events. There are Lent Evensongs taking place at Bury Parish Church on Sundays in Lent with preachers from across the MC.
- The electoral roll forms are now all back and in the process of being dealt with by the electoral roll officer, in readiness for the APCM report.
- We have received an acknowledgment from the Diocese regarding the Parish information survey we recently completed. The eco survey is still waiting to be done.
- The NHS group, who use the hall twice a week, will be renewing their contract for a further 12 months.
- The PCC report for the APCM booklet was approved, but there was a reminder that some groups have not yet submitted reports.
- Rosemarie wanted to acknowledge a vote of thanks to all members of the PCC for their continued support and to all those people in the congregation who carry out little jobs that keep the Church running well.
- Health and safety checks are continuing to be done and any accidents dealt with through the correct channels.
- A VE Day 80th celebration is being held at Christ Church on Tuesday 6th May and we are encouraged to join the celebrations. Appeals will be put on the weekly sheet for stories and offers of memorabilia. There are to be coffee mornings on Saturday 26th April and Saturday 12th July. The Summer Fair is on Saturday 7th June. Ian received some information regarding a group called Eden Singers who travel and lead concerts. He will contact them to see if they can visit us with a view to hosting an event for a charity.
- The next PCC meeting will be after the APCM on Sunday 6th April. PCC members were advised who is up for re-election.

## *The Great Escape – It's chilly in here*

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Christ Church guides spent a weekend at Springfield Activity Centre taking part in an escape room themed challenge.

They had to earn tokens throughout the weekend by completing activities which included - melting magic gems, cracking different types of codes, guessing nursery rhymes, raising a key using water, crossing the minefield, guess who and navigating the laser maze.

Extra tokens were awarded for those excelling in cooking, washing up and Hoovering. The leaders didn't wash their own plates all weekend!

On Sunday, it became apparent why the tokens were jigsaw pieces. These were vital as once each group had completed the jigsaw they used a UV pen to find the secret message written which led them to the chest containing the key (and sweets and badges for everyone!)

Well done to Team Message Masters who located the chest on top of ??? Can you guess the location based on the title?

Lacie, Megan, Vicky, Lucy, Grace and Izzy all said that the weekend was really fun and these are some of their thoughts.

The weekend was fun because.....

We did a lot of escape room themed activities

We got to spend time with our mates

Everyone got involved with the activities and jobs

We got seconds at every mealtime

There was something different for everyone to enjoy

It was full of excitement and great games

Everyone went home very tired but excited ready for summer camp!  
I wonder what adventures that will bring!

Rose



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THE 80th anniversary of VE Day, the formal end of the Second World War in Europe, is to be marked in May, including

a service at Westminster Abbey (on 8<sup>th</sup>). The Dean said, "It is a moment to give thanks, to honour a generation that showed extraordinary courage and resilience and to recommit ourselves to the courage and resilience necessary to sustain peace." (*Church Times*)

Other events will include a military procession, a flypast of military aircraft, and the Cenotaph is to be dressed in Union flags as a "place to pay tribute" to those who died during the Second World War. Ceramic poppies will return to the Tower of London, historic landmarks will be floodlit.

So, there has been a suggestion that here in Walmersley we should mark this significant anniversary, giving thanks for all from this area who served in the War.

At Christ Church we plan an opportunity on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May to come together over tea, coffee and cake, to collect memories and revive others through songs of the time. It would be fantastic if this were for all of us across the benefice

Come along and share a time of fellowship. Please encourage friends or neighbours to come with you. Do you have any photos? artefacts? stories? recipes? letters? It would be wonderful to share them and, if you are willing, we can scan them and look to compiling a record of Walmersley 80 years ago.

Do you have an elderly relative or friend with a story to tell? Perhaps they would allow you to record on your mobile phone a chat with you? Maybe children would enjoy doing this. Perhaps you have other ideas of ways we could 'remember' - please share now so we can all get involved.

Many thanks to Alan Spencer for the impetus to mark this occasion - and yes, he does have memories to share.

We are grateful to Ian Butterworth for postponing his Lent reflection to 2 April, the first of our evening meetings this year. This was so we could welcome Craig Giles at the earlier meeting in March, as curacy training had to take precedence.

Craig led us through an exploration of Luke 15, using Henri Nouwen's book "The Return of the Prodigal Son" (highly recommended by Craig) – as we put ourselves in the position of the returning son, the elder son and the father. Craig, this Lent, is reading its sequel so we suggested a return visit in due course.

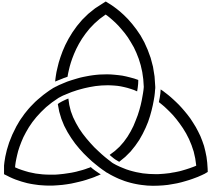
There will be no meeting at Christ Church on 16 April, being Holy Week.

We look forward to admitting two new members on Mothering Sunday, and are always happy to talk to anyone thinking of joining, or simply wishing to know more about the ministry of Mothers' Union.

An ideal opportunity to find more of what is happening and to meet members from across Manchester Diocese is to attend Spring Council on Saturday, 3 May. We don't have far to go – it is at St John's House – and everyone is welcome. Drinks are served from 9.30am and the meeting starts at 10am. Take a packed lunch if you are able to stay until 2pm, drinks will be available and there is the opportunity to browse goods from the MU Shop.

In the Wave of Prayer April 23-25 are the days when Manchester and its links are the worldwide focus of prayer. At this point we have not arranged our usual get-together to pray for our links, so please watch out for details.

Barbara Taylor,  
Branch Secretary



We returned on Wednesday 12th March and Reverend Paul Sanderson joined us for a tour of the North Wales Pilgrim's Way. This was a 12-day retreat style long distance walk which Paul undertook with Diane and friend Peter in the Spring of 2024.

The walk begins at Holywell and concludes at Bardsey Island and with the exception of a small detour on one of the sections when the weather was bad, Paul made sure that the whole route was covered. Diane sorted the accommodation.

We were treated to many images of historic Churches along the route, many of which had their doors open for Pilgrim's to visit and see inside some magnificent interiors. If they weren't open, then it sounds like you only had to ask.

During the course of the talk, we learnt about the history of some of the buildings and the various people who had made that history, but it was also great to see some great views of the area which the route covers. As you can expect, wildlife is thriving in these parts and there were pictures of some of the creatures seen.

Throughout the talk, we were given the opportunity to read and hear some of Paul's personal reflections at each stage of the route. This made the presentation more meaningful as it allowed us to share Paul's feelings and what each stage meant to him.

We encountered lots of 'Llans' and 'Saphs' on our route, which is worth exploring, just for the sense of spirituality and meaning. Thank you, Paul. At the beginning of the meeting in our prayers we remembered Betty Roe, who led the group for so many years.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 9th April at 7.30pm in the Barritt Room and all are welcome.

David Robinson

## Quiet Moments for April

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**Wonderfully made** was the theme of this year's World Day of Prayer service from the Cook Islands. (See Psalm 139 for its inspiration) This petition is from the intercessions in the service and is relevant to us all.

God, unite our communities in prayer.  
Help us to make your love visible.  
Strengthen us to continue loving and supporting all who are in need.  
Lead us to treat others as wonderfully made by you,  
so that all people feel they are important, cared for and treasured.  
Amen.

[wwdp.org.uk](http://wwdp.org.uk)

Our **Annual Parochial Church Meetings** are an opportunity to reflect on the past year and to look forward in anticipation and hope to a year of growing, nurturing and serving.  
Not everyone can take on significant roles but everyone can play a part in the life of our church family.  
So please, pray that all may do what they are able.

*This prayer comes from our diocesan Transforming Prayer Community.*



Lord of the Church,  
we thank you for calling us to be your people,  
and for giving to your Church gifts with which to serve you.

Stir up within your church a sense of your call,  
and strengthen us to respond with courage and faith.  
Raise up new leaders here in Walmersley Road,  
especially in positions where people are having to retire.

In the power of your Spirit,  
may all your people flourish in gospel love and kingdom service,  
to the glory of your mighty name,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[Manchester.anglican.org](http://Manchester.anglican.org)

*As we approach **Easter**,*

Remind us often Lord,  
when we are feeling  
proud,  
arrogant,  
beyond reproach,  
pleased with ourselves,  
self sufficient in our ways,  
that for such as us  
and better  
and worse  
you walked a road  
that took you to a cruel cross,  
and rose again to show us where  
we might look for rescue  
as from this lofty perch  
we fall.

*faithandworship.com*

*April 22nd is **Earth Day***



We are deeply thankful for the work of Your hands. As we celebrate Earth Day, we are reminded of the beauty of creation, and the need to steward it well.

It is such a blessing that we get to be surrounded by this constant reminder of Your presence, power, and beauty.

We ask that every day we get to live on this planet would serve as a reminder of the gift of creation. Help us to take care of Your creatures and creation, and to enjoy its beauty each day. In Jesus' name, Amen.

*theprayerpocket.com*

## *A Tale of Two Cathedrals*

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Weather-wise it was the best of days and the worst of days. The best day one could hope for in late February – dry and bright. But the temperature was only a little above freezing – uncomfortable for anyone standing around waiting for trams and trains to arrive. So was it really a day for travelling?

Three intrepid travellers decided that this was a day for travelling. Let's go over to Liverpool to see the "Threads through the Bible" exhibition in the Anglican cathedral. Not only that, but the proposed itinerary to also include a visit to the Catholic cathedral – making it a two cathedral day.

So we set out from Walmersley in Bury en route for the city of Liverpool. Via car, tram and train we arrived at Liverpool Lime Street late morning. Braving the chill from a very cold wind across the Mersey we walked to the Anglican cathedral.

You really can't miss it. An enormous, traditional, Gothic building rose before us, with a tower reaching to the skies. Yes, this definitely confirmed its status as the largest cathedral in England and 5<sup>th</sup> largest in the world. Construction started in 1904 and completed in 1924 – so now 100 years old; yet a relative youngster compared to many other of our historic cathedrals. The cathedral website informed us that "Our sacred space has become a platform for cultural dialogue, bridging the gap between the divine and the artistic.....fostering an environment where diverse voices can be heard and appreciated.....yet first and foremost a place of prayer and worship." Well, let's see. In we went.

There was no official entry fee, which there is at some cathedrals these days – especially the historic ones. We had to run a gauntlet of signage asking for a donation – and human welcomers ('chuggers?') touting the same message whose voices added to the pressure to donate/gift aid before we went further. Eventually we entered the huge space of the cathedral interior. There was what seemed a relatively small area of congregation seating in the centre of the vast nave. The 'Threads' exhibition was divided into three distinct areas around the nave – one for "Creation"; another "The Cross"; and another "Revelation".



Off the main nave area there was also a shop, restaurant and toilets. It was a very busy place. The building was full of people – people walking, talking, looking, eating. The busy buzz lived up to the website description of 'diverse voices, cultural dialogue, etc' but, on this day at least, the 'foremost a place of prayer and worship,' was not in evidence. It all seemed more reminiscent of a commercial sales exhibition area rather than a place of prayer and worship.

Anyway, we were there for the exhibition, so... after lunch in the restaurant.....we turned our attention to "Threads through the Bible". It was spectacular. We felt it to be an incredible spiritual experience. Ten years of work by textile artist Jacqui Parkinson – 44 tapestry panels, more than 25 million stitches. Astonishing in scale, it brought the Bible from Genesis to Revelation to life in a whole new way. Fresh life breathed into well known familiar stories and events. Certainly well worth seeing and experiencing. It has now moved on to tour other cathedrals until 2027. Details of when and where can be found on-line.

Back outside into the chill wind we made our way across to Liverpool's other cathedral – the Catholic Metropolitan Cathedral – locally nicknamed "Paddy's Wigwam". Like its Anglican partner, this cathedral rises above the skyline and you can't miss it. It is the largest Catholic cathedral in England. It is especially striking because it looks unlike any other cathedral that we had ever seen. The building is an awesome out and out modern statement piece – not one seeking to be imitation of anything which has gone before.

Construction of this cathedral originally began in 1933 to a design by Sir Edwin Lutyens. It was planned to be an essentially traditional building but construction came to a halt when World War II began. Sir Edwin Lutyens died in 1944 but post war the construction to his design continued until it became clear that costs were reaching dizzy heights and work stopped in 1958. Only the foundations and crypt had been completed. In 1962 work began again to a design by Sir Frederick Gibbard which promised 'a new cathedral for a new world.' It was completed in 1967.

Reading the cathedral website we were promised "luminous beauty and spiritual atmosphere."

After climbing what seemed to be a million steps up we reached the main doors . No entry fee; no 'chuggers' asking for a donation; only some small notices asking if you would like to make a donation. We entered the cathedral. A huge circular worship area filled with seating in the round facing toward a central altar space. Natural light streamed in through the many coloured glass windows. Red, blue and yellow light bathing the still quiet space. No cafe or shop impacted this space. There were people in this space but there was no loud buzz of voices, just an air of peace and tranquillity. It certainly lived up to the website decription of luminous beauty and spiritual atmosphere. We had an overwhelming sense that it was one of those 'thin' places where this world and heaven meets – a house of prayer and worship.

All too soon it was time to leave and make our way back to Lime Street Station and return home. Unfortunately the hours we had didn't allow us to give either cathedral a really full exploration – only the main worship areas. However it was a very enjoyable, eye-opening, mind-expanding experience. It made us think about cathedrals – the purpose for which they were built – and the purpose many of them have now come to serve. We shall have to go again! There is still much to see and reflect on!

Barbara, Pam & Nigel.

P.S. If you want to know more about the Threads tapestries, ask Barbara – she will be pleased to tell you all about it!

*Editor's note – I should report that I met our three intrepid, but well wrapped up, travellers when I was coming home from work on the same night. I was made aware of how good a day they had all had and the magnificent sights they had seen. There was only so much Nigel could tell me though at the top of the busy rush hour interchange at 5.30pm, so it was good to read this review here. I agree, it's a good visit.*

*David R*

## *a global, ecumenical movement*

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Under the byline of **Informed Prayer, Prayerful Action** the World Day of Prayer movement aims to promote prayerful living and worship for men, women and young people and help to raise awareness of the lives and concerns of others throughout the world. It began in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and, as a registered charity raises thousands each year to support projects throughout the world.

On the first Friday of March each year a Day of Prayer begins on the international dateline in Samoa. As the earth rotates, a great wave of prayer builds – across the Pacific, rolling through Asia, the countries of Africa and the Middle East. The wave reaches Europe, moves across the Atlantic to the Americas, and on to the Pacific again until the sun sets over American Samoa where a final service takes place.



Each year the focus is on a different country and the people there write the service used worldwide. Here in Bury the service moves around different churches – this year to St Mary the Virgin where we worshipped using words, music and stories from the Cook Islands, focussing on Psalm 139 and the words “Wonderfully made”.

We thank Tricia Stokes who has been our representative on the Bury committee for a number of years but now feels she must stand down.

So, is there someone in our benefice who would be willing to represent us, please? It is not an onerous task! It involves:

- \* an annual meeting to arrange a venue, and the logistics of the service – finding people to read, etc.
- \* publicising details of the service and encouraging people to attend
- \* ideally attending the service itself, and maybe taking part.

If you feel this is something you could do please speak to one of the Wardens. More information can be found at [www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk)

We moved into the season of Lent during March, but began the month by looking at Jesus' Transfiguration and the dazzling light he brought:

*"Jesus light of the world, shine in the darkness of our world. Help us to know how light is stronger than darkness and love is stronger than hatred. Amen."*



When Lent arrived we spent some time looking at Jesus' fasting for 40 days and the temptations he faced. It was a chance to think about our own temptations and to offer to God all that he has done for us.

"Dear Father, help us to remember that we can never find happiness by seeking the things this world has to offer. True happiness can only be ours by following Jesus. Amen."

We enjoy showing work to the congregation after the service on a Sunday and usually read some of our prayers out. Our display board at the back of Church is usually kept up to date with pictures and contributions of what we have been doing.

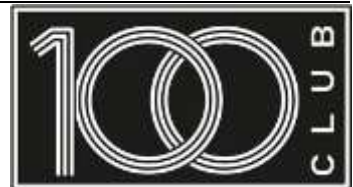
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**ST. JOHN WITH ST. MARK 100 CLUB**

**MARCH 2025 WINNERS**

1st Prize £15.00 – David Robinson

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize £10.00 – June Banks



**Congratulations to both**

## EVENTS THIS MONTH



### THIRD 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 17 April, 15 May, 19 Jun



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

Stewards are needed if you could help in this way? Also, although 'Jesus' has been chosen, most other roles are still available for anyone with a desire to take part. Please contact [revcraiggles2@outlook.com](mailto:revcraiggles2@outlook.com) or ask for his phone number.

This year, there will be some changes. It will still leave from Bury United Reformed Church, walking to the Rock shopping precinct and then through the Millgate Centre, to near Bury Interchange, ending outside the Fusiliers Museum. It aims to build upon the faithful work of several years to make this the best one yet.

This is a great opportunity to engage with the people of Bury, with several stops on the walk to sing and to share the story of Easter through drama and readings.



# COFFEE MORNING & BOOK FAIR



**SATURDAY 26th April**  
**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



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

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The Men of the Benefice are continuing to meet at the end of each month on the last Monday. More recently we seem to have dropped a theme and just focussed on general fellowship and conversation, because that is what we like about our group. We are tending to meet at Hark to Dandler at present at 8.00pm, but obviously please ask if you intend to come and we can let you know our whereabouts and plans. Sometimes we discuss the night before at Sunday @ Seven. It is expected we will still have the occasional theme or event, but of course we will publish on the weekly sheets or magazine if we know in advance. It is expected the next gathering will be on Monday 28th April at 8.00pm.

David Robinson

## **REGULAR SERVICES**

<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 Morning Worship 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	
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 APRIL DIARY**

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Tue 1	7.30pm	Lent Group (Barritt Room)
Wed 2	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC Hall)
Thu 3	10.00am	Springside School Easter Service (CC)
	10.00am	Pray for Growth (St John's House)
Sun 6		<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Parish Communion (both)
	12.15pm	APCM (SJM)
Tue 8	7.30pm	Lent Group (Barritt Room)
Wed 9	7.30pm	Open Group (Barritt Room)
Sun 13		<b>Palm Sunday</b>
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Family Service (CC)
		Parish Communion (SJM)
Thu 17	12 noon	Thursday Lunch (CC Hall)

*Holy Week and Easter Services are on page 28*

Sat 26	10.00am	Coffee Morning & Book Fair (SJM)
Sun 27		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (CC)
		Parish Communion (SJM)
	7.00pm	Sunday@Seven (Salvation Army)
Mon 28	7.30pm	Bury Mission Community Leaders' meeting
	8.00pm	Men of the Benefice – Venue TBC

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

**April 27th**

**Salvation Army  
Community Church**

**Starting Over**

**On Easter Day everything changed. The reality of new life in our Risen Saviour! Everyone, in every situation, is offered a chance to start over again! 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.**

# HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

13 - 20 APRIL 2025

- Palm Sunday            9am Holy Communion CC  
                                 10.30am Holy Communion both
- Monday - Wednesday   7.30pm Stations of the Cross SJSM
- Maundy Thursday       7.30pm Holy Communion SJSM  
                                 followed by Vigil in Gethsemane until 9.30pm
- Good Friday             10am Reflective Service CC  
                                 12 noon Churches Together  
                                 Walk of Witness from Parsons Lane  
                                 2pm Last Hour at the Cross SJSM
- Holy Saturday           6.30pm Easter Vigil  
                                 at Bury Parish Church
- Easter Sunday            9am Holy Communion CC  
                                 9.45am Hot Cross Buns CC  
                                 10.30am Holy Communion CC  
                                 for both churches