

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

The Church of England on Walmersley Road



CREATION SEASON

September 2022

50p

A positive contribution

Dear Friends,

As I write, we are experiencing once again some of the hottest weather in recent years. Earlier in the summer, record breaking temperatures were recorded throughout the country. There is no doubt in my mind that the effects of climate change are being seen in these weather patterns and other environmental issues.

The fifth Mark of Mission states the need "to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth". This is more than a commitment to recycling or the like. It is a fundamental change to the way in which we live as we seek to play our part in caring for God's world. There are many resources available online that help in this campaign.

Eco-church is a project that has developed in recent years to encourage churches to assess their role in this part of our mission. The Eco Church movement encourages and supports churches in their care for God's creation across five areas of church life:

worship and teaching

buildings

land

community and global engagement

lifestyle



Churches are asked to complete an online Eco Survey about how they are caring for God's earth in different areas of their life and work. The answers provided will collect points towards an Eco Church Award. In this Diocese each church has been asked to assess our Energy Footprint Tool. This enables us to examine how our buildings use energy and find out our "carbon footprint".

As we enter the season of Creation - which lasts from 1 September to 4 October - it is good to monitor the impact that our lifestyles have on the environment and how we can make a positive contribution to the world that God made.

With best wishes,

Dave

The image on the cover is from seasonofcreation.org



Buy One Get One Free

It doesn't seem possible that it is twenty five years this month since a coachload of parishioners travelled to the Cathedral to support us as we were licensed as Readers. For us it was the end of three years training and the beginning of a different form of ministry.

Since then, we have worked alongside 11 priests, led many services, conducted funerals, been involved in pastoral care, organised study groups, and prepared young people for confirmation.

We have been privileged to serve in this way and it would not have been possible without the support of our families and the encouragement and prayers of the congregation. Whilst it may not rank with Tesco's bargains, we believe that we have made a significant contribution to the life of the church community.

On September 25th we will be holding a special service at Christ Church celebrating lay ministry and hope that many of you will be able to join us. There will be cake and drinks after the service.

Barbara and Margery

Events this month



3RD THURSDAY LIGHT LUNCHES

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 5JU

As always 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!

Upcoming Dates 2022: 15th September, 20th October, 17th November



CAFÉ CHURCH

in St John with St Mark Church Hall
on Sunday, 18 September
at 10.30 am



COFFEE MORNING & BOOK FAIR

SATURDAY 10th SEPTEMBER

from 10.00am until around 12noon

ST. JOHN WITH ST. MARK CHURCH HALL

USUAL REFRESHMENTS EXPECTED

WITH CAKES AND POSSIBLE OTHER STALLS

ALL PROCEEDS TO CHURCH FUNDS AND ALL ARE WELCOME





BIBLE READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER

Sep 4	12th after Trinity	Deuteronomy 30: 15-20	Philemon 1-21	Luke 14: 25-33
Sep 11	13th after Trinity	Exodus: 32: 7-14	1 Timothy 1: 12-17	Luke 15: 1-10
Sep 18	14th after Trinity	Amos 8: 4-7	1 Timothy 2: 1-7	Luke 16: 1-13
Sep 25	15th after Trinity	Amos 6: 1a, 4-7	1 Timothy 6: 6-19	Luke 16: 19-31
Oct 2	16th after Trinity	Habakkuk 1: 1-4, 2: 1-4	2 Timothy 1: 1-14	Luke 17:5-10



Flowers in church

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).

At Christ Church

Sep 4	In memory of Emily Nuttall
Sep 11	Mrs Barbara Murray, in memory of her parents
Sep 18	In memory of Phyllis Magnall
Sep 25	Vacant

PRAYER DIARY

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.

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

July 31 Jayden King Ko Tsang
 Kingsley King Hin Tsang

August 14 Ava Marie Collett
 Leon Terrance John Gordon

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

MARRIAGES

June 25 Sebastian Nelson & Lauren Crompton

July 23 Adam Derbyshire & Eleanor Topping

"Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder."

CHURCH FUNERAL SERVICE

June 28 Ian Birtwistle

June 29 Ian Walker

July 6 Mary Wardle

August 10 Charles Elton

FUNERAL SERVICES HELD AT THE CREMATORIUM:

July 5 John Kelly

July 27 Janet Mumford

INTERMENT OF ASHES IN THE GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

June 26 John Pendlebury Green

July 3 Kathleen Parkinson

Aug 14 Ellen Driver

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

From the Vicarage

- * The announcement of my forthcoming move was made on 10 July. I have been appointed the Vicar of the Benefice of Christ Church, Heaton & St.Margaret, Halliwell in the Deanery of Bolton. I expect to move sometime in October. More about this in next month's magazine.
- * The Christ Church Parochial Church Council have agreed to extend the Garden of Remembrance by way of a communal area for the interment of ashes. Subject to Diocesan approval, work will begin as soon as possible. The plots in the current Garden of Remembrance can still be used for future interments. Please have a word with me if you require any more details.
- * At St. John with St. Mark, the application to remove some pews from the back of church has been made to the Diocesan Advisory Committee and it is hoped that this can take place later this year.
- * Christ Church now has the facility for contactless payments. The card reading machine is situated at the back of church. If you wish to use this, please contact one of the church officers at Christ Church.
- * Progress on the Christ Church field is currently awaiting the outcome of the planning application by Morris Homes. A proposal was made to Bury Council earlier this year and it could be some time before the result of the application is known.
- * The Men of the Benefice (MOB) meet on the last Monday of each month. We usually gather at the Towler Inn from 8pm, although in September we are holding a farewell meal at Waterfold Farm on Monday 26th. Further details on the weekly sheets.
- * 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.
- * Material for the parish magazine should be given in by the 14th day of the previous month. Articles may be sent via email to wrub@live.co.uk

* 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.



When we joined the congregation at Christ Church, there had been a period without a parish priest; and as we move away, we know that the vicar will soon be ministering to new congregations in Bolton.

We have greatly appreciated our time in the United Benefice of Walmersley Road, worshipping in both churches. We are also thankful for so many opportunities to join group activities in prayer, study, walking, and the maintenance of the church and churchyard. We have shared opportunities to learn from people of other faiths, Jews, Muslims and Hindus, of which we had little previous experience.

We leave you, with grateful thanks, confident that the work of the Lord will continue to flourish in this locality.

Margaret and Michael Ryan

THE CREATION SEASON

In our liturgy this month we will be reflecting on the theme of Creation.

Each year at the beginning of autumn, the church worldwide observes the Creation season.

This celebration of prayer and action seeks to protect our common home using our role as Christians to be caretakers of God's creation.

The Church of England website states:

The theme for the Season of Creation 2022 is 'Listen to the Voice of Creation'. During the COVID-19 pandemic, many have become familiar with the concept of being muted in conversations. Many voices are muted in public discourse around climate change and the ethics of Earth-keeping.

These are voices of those who suffer the impacts of climate change. These are voices of people who hold generational wisdom about how to live gratefully within the limits of the land. These are voices of a diminishing diversity of more-than-human species. It is the voice of the Earth.



Collect for the Creation Season:

Creator God, you made the goodness of the land, the riches of the sea and the rhythms of the seasons. We thank you for the riches of your creation. May we cherish and respect this planet and its peoples, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Painting by Quincy Anezka Adoyo, age 15, from

the Philippines

for 'Sustainable World We Want to Live In', World Children's Day

St. John with St. Mark PCC meeting of 28th July 2022

- Fit and Proper Person declarations – new members need to complete.
- Faculty for removing pews at back of church – the application has now been made to the DAC and a notice has been put up in Church. We will also be removing the extra bit of carpet at the end of the aisle to make better use of the space.
- Magazine - It has been agreed to continue with the current printer and there is no desire to increase the cost per issue.
- Parish share – We have received a thank you for what we have paid this year. The 2023 Parish share however will be set based upon the figures from the income survey prior to 2020. Meetings surrounding Parish share are likely to take place soon.
- Ian has given us an update on the half yearly accounts. It has been noted that our budget for the year is so far on track.
- Vicar's report – This included the latest on the Mission Community and there has been a delay in appointing a focal leader. There was also some information about the #MoreThanSunday campaign and the Eco Church survey. The Vicar also announced that Nigel Silvester would retire in September and become AML Emeritus. The Carol service is scheduled for Sunday 18th December and it has been suggested that this year we have a service at each Church in the Benefice.
- Seedfield development. A meeting has recently taken place between residents, Church people and the bowling club concerning the housing development on the site of the former Seedfield School on Parkinson Street. A map of the proposed plan was shown to the PCC. The main concern from the residents' meeting was access to and from the site, both during building work and once the houses are built. It is likely that Parkinson Street would be the only access road and possible proposals about how that would work are being discussed.
- Plans for Interregnum – A meeting is to take place shortly with the Area Dean and other Clergy regarding service cover. The Rector, Julian Heaton, will host a joint PCC meeting on Thursday 8th September at 8.00pm in the Barritt Room.
- Church surroundings – We have a volunteer to tend the Church gardens. It has been suggested that we put together a working party and arrange a Church clean up day at some point.
- Health & Safety – Keith advised that we are still requiring first aiders for the Church.

Next PCC Meeting is on Tuesday 20th September at 7.30pm.

Quiet Moments in September

As the new school year begins

A prayer for the children and young people in our schools

Father God
Be with them today and every day;
Fill their hearts with joy;
Fill their minds with learning;
Fill their classrooms with peace;
Fill their lessons with fun;
Fill their friendships with kindness;
Fill their school with love.



This week we remember the schools in our parishes as a new term begins. We pray for headteachers, teachers, teaching assistants, ancillary staff and governors asking that you will be with them as they seek to nurture and encourage the children in their care.

On Holy Cross Day – 14th September



Sovereign Lord,
your hand has touched
the dry bones of our faith,
your Word has breathed
new life where there was death,
your spirit raised
us up from where we lay,
your love has brought
us home and to your Cross,
and by your grace
we stand forgiven, free.
Hallelujah!

From John Birch, Faith and Worship

In this creation season, a prayer based on Psalm 95: 1-7

Creator God,
In your hand are the depths of the earth.
The mountain peaks belong to you.
The sea is your creation.
The dry land is your handiwork.
The fruit of the land is your design.
The taste of the produce is your gift,
and we are your people,
a flock under your care.
We give you our thanks and praise, O God.
Amen



From allwecan.org.uk

A thought for each of us

Gracious God,
teach me that though I cannot put the clock back
and undo what has been done,
I can nonetheless put the past behind me and move on;
that you are always ready to give me a second chance,
wiping out my mistakes as though they have never been.

Whatever my blunders then,
whatever my faults,
give me faith in your transforming power
and the future you hold in store.

Amen

18 members and spouses enjoyed the gardens and hall at Salmesbury Hall, together with a delightful lunch.

We welcomed the ladies of the Lifeboat Guild who told us something of the work of the RNLi. They made several sales of souvenirs and members made cash donations towards this very necessary work.

A fun evening saw members, working in 3s and 4s, imagining events or projects based on three resources, drawn at random. Just one example of the 15 concocted during the evening: if you had a pizza oven, 10 board games and use of an empty shop what could you do?

The team decided to use the venue as a coffee shop/drop in for young people each evening, with someone to teach them how to make their own pizzas. During the day the coffee shop would welcome the older members of the community, who may like to play board games over a drink and chat.

Obviously, on a more serious note, the activity is to encourage everyone to think what resources are available locally and how they could benefit the church or community – something which could easily be used with a different group of people.

On Mary Sumner Day five of us went to St Paul, Walkden for the Archdeaconry Festival, with Archdeacon Jean as our speaker.

Looking forward, on September 7 we welcome as our guest Ruth Taylor, Bolton Archdeaconry President.

Bury and Rossendale Deanery are to hold an afternoon to "Get to Know You" for all members. This will be in the Hall at Christ Church on September 10 from 2.30-4.00pm. Do please come along.

Then on September 21 we shall hold our 113th Birthday celebrations in the Hall – everyone is most welcome.

Bob Taylor,
Branch Leader

Men of the Benefice



Our MOB meeting on Monday 27th June was an evening walk, which was scheduled around the time of the Longest Day. Six of us (and one Jack Russell) took up the challenge and we assembled at The Towler at 7.00pm. Our route first took us towards, and through, The Burrs Country Park and then alongside the River Irwell into Summerseat.

Continuing past the garden centre, we made our way to the Footballers Inn for a liquid refreshment stop. It was here that Colin regaled us with some of his one liners and anecdotes.

We left the Footballers about 9.15pm and made our way back by the Waterside Bridge and along Rowlands Road back home. There was a nice feeling about being out in the open country approaching 10.00pm, still in broad daylight. Thanks to Geoff Hamilton for organising.

We have also met since, on 25th July, and a whopping 13 of us turned out at The Towler for an evening entitled, 'what we did before'. Effectively this was an opportunity for people to explain a little about a previous job or interest they had some years prior, which others may not have previously known about. We went around the table and some were quite happy to give us a 'This Is Your Life' version of events, while others just said a few words. We had former civil servants, fencing competitors and a footballer. Some people also spoke quite openly about a more poignant aspect of their life. The one thing I picked up on that night is that everybody has a story to tell, even if we don't think we have ourselves. The rest of the evening was spent in more informal conversation and chat.

It was expected we would still meet on the last Monday of August (Bank Holiday) at The Towler, however it has been suggested that to mark the Vicar's presumed final MOB gathering, we would have a meal on Monday 26th September, possibly at the Waterfold Carvery. Further details about this will be made available during September.

David Robinson



The Open Group

Since the last edition of the magazine the Open Group has met three times. Our meeting in June was led by myself and I talked about my Foundations for Ministry course, which I had just completed a few weeks before. The meeting involved an overview of what I had been up to over the course of three terms, the highs and lows (mainly highs) and one or two visual aids I had collected over the last eight months. Thanks to those who came and listened to me.

We were forced to make a last minute change to our July meeting as Julian was unable to attend. However we were grateful the Vicar was able to fill the slot so quickly, otherwise it may have just been tea and coffee. Dave hosted a non scripted question and answer session following on from the recent announcement that he and Linda are to move in the autumn. Dave gave us some background on his decision, the discussions he has had with various people over the last few months and then there was an opportunity for people present to ask Dave questions about his new Benefice and hopes for the future. We could have gone on all night with the questions, which was good going despite the last minute change.

Most recently on 10th August we were pleased to welcome Nigel Silvester who presented a talk on 'LifeBoats & Lighthouses', particularly around the Isles Of Scilly. It was also great that we had a good turn out for this meeting. Nigel began by giving us an overview of the work of Trinity House, responsible for the maintenance of lighthouses across the country as well as other maritime aids. We were then treated to an array of images of lighthouses of all shapes and sizes across different parts of the Scilly Isles. All maintained by a dedicated team of volunteers, right down to the cleaning of the lenses.

The Bishop Rock lighthouse with its distinguishing helipad was a notable landmark for us to see.

The second half of Nigel's talk about lifeboats was also enlightening, starting with the earliest vessels, right up to the new modern boats. There were also some poignant pictures from days gone by of lifeboat crews. It is worth noting that these are all volunteers who put their lives at risk to help others, and some of these have been Nigel's relatives. Such is the dedication of these people that one has even been a subject of 'This Is Your Life'. All in all, a very informative talk, which was complete with the usual stunning images of the Isles of Scilly. Oh, and Nigel also does a good impression of a fog siren! There was a poignant end to this talk though, as we were reminded of the words of the famous hymn 'Eternal Father strong to save, whose arm does bind the restless wave'.

Thank you to all who have attended over the summer. As we move into autumn, we have the rescheduled talk from Julian Hartley on Wednesday 14th September entitled, "From PC to FD to I". This will be in the Barritt Room at 7.30pm and all are welcome, with tea and coffee to end.

David Robinson

Editor's thought....

We have covered so much in this issue about Creation Season and the magazine also tells us how much we have on in our Church life. So it got me thinking about the opening of Genesis chapter 2, when God rested on the 7th day after he had finished his work.



God wants us to rest, as much as he did, so I hope that you can all find some time out to rest yourselves this month, after your work.

David

CC churchyard team

This month the mowers have been out, sometimes cutting three abreast, in front of the church and in the new part of the graveyard. They have even cut a small patch in the field for the use of our Guides and Brownies.

We have also started cleaning the car park to the south of church, known as Ackworth Street (after a previous vicar). So we hope the congregation will use it as an alternative to School Lane.

We aim to have the church and churchyard the pride of the village – why not join us in this aim? So, meet the team:



October dates

October 9 at 10.30 am **HARVEST FESTIVAL and PARADE SERVICES**
in both churches

October 30 at 10.30 am **JOINT SERVICE** at St John with St Mark

The 2022 Real Advent Calendar is being published this month.

A unique opportunity to share the Christmas story.

FEATURES:

- * 4-page Christmas story activity book
- * Behind each of the 25 windows there is a line from the Christmas story with colourful matching picture
- * £300 children's prize competition
- * Foiled for freshness
- * 25 Festive chocolates made from a quality Fairtrade blend-35% cocoa
- * Palm oil free
- * Charitable donation
- * Recyclable box and tray
- * Packed in hygienic wrap
- * Made, designed and produced in the UK

The Real Advent calendar was created in 2013 following surveys which showed that 36% of 5-7 year olds did not know whose birthday is celebrated at Christmas. In the same year 51% of adults said that the birth of Jesus was irrelevant to their Christmas.

This is why the Real Advent Calendar comes with a copy of the Christmas story and supports charitable causes. It is a fun way for parents, grandparents and godparents to share the story of the birth of Jesus our Light and our Hope.

The Real Advent Calendar is only online from www.realadvent.co.uk

Further details in next month's magazine.

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday			
8.30am	3 rd	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
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 Service of the Word	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
2.00 p.m.	1 st	Holy Communion	Christ Church
7.30 p.m.	Holy Communion		St John w St Mark
Other services as announced.			
Services are from Common Worship unless otherwise stated.			
Morning Prayer is said each day at 9.30 a.m.			
Evening Prayer is said each day at 5.00 p.m.			

If you need transport to church please contact the wardens.

Both churches have Fairtrade status



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

FOR YOUR SEPTEMBER DIARY

Sun 4		12th after Trinity
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Parish Communion (both)
Wed 7	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC Hall)
Thu 8	8.00pm	Joint PCC (Barritt Room)
Sat 10	10.00am	Coffee Morning & Book Fair (SJM)
	2.30pm	Mothers' Union Deanery Afternoon (CC Hall)
Sun 11		13th after Trinity
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Family Worship (CC)
		Parish Communion (SJM)
Wed 14	7.30pm	Open Group (Barritt Room)
Thu 15	12noon	Third Thursday Lunch (CC Hall)
Sun 18		14th after Trinity
	8.30am	Holy Communion (SJM)
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Café Church (SJM Hall)
		Parish Communion (CC)
Mon 19	7.30pm	Deanery Synod (Christ Church)
Tue 20	7.30pm	PCC Meeting (SJM)
Wed 21	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC Hall)
	7.30pm	Churches Together (Metro Christian Centre)
Sun 25		15th after Trinity
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Celebration of Lay Ministry (CC)
		Parish Communion (SJM)
	7.00pm	Sunday@Seven (Barritt Room and Zoom)
Mon 26	TBC	Men of the Benefice (Waterfold Carvery)
Wed 28	7.30pm	PCC Meeting (CC)



Sunday @ Seven



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

September 25th at 7pm

For the beauty of the earth



Come and join with us
for an hour of relaxed worship and reflection.
It is Creation Season in the church year so this month
we will be taking a reflective look at the planet we love.
We will meet in the Barritt 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.



Just some of
the Branch
and Deanery
banners at the
service

Bury and Rossendale Deanery

the first Mothers'
Union festival of our
new Deanery was
held here at Christ
Church in July.

Tricia Stokes was
commissioned as Deanery
Leader by the Revd Canon
Dr Rachel Mann, Area
Dean, shown here with
Diocesan President,
Christine Sharp

