

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



**The Church of England on Walmersley Road**

**March 2026**



# HOLY WEEK and EASTER SERVICES

**29 March - 5 April 2026**



## **Palm Sunday**

29 March

9.00am Holy Communion (CC)

10.30am Joint Holy Communion (CC)

7.00pm Sunday@Seven

(Salvation Army)

Mon - Wed

30 Mar - 1 Apr

7.30pm Stations of the Cross or  
Compline (SJSJ)

## **Maundy Thursday**

2 April

7.30pm Holy Communion (SJSJ)

followed by Vigil until 9.30pm

## **Good Friday**

3 April

10.00am Reflective Service (CC)

12 noon Churches Together in Bury  
Walk of Witness from  
Parsons Lane

2.00pm Last Hour at the Cross (SJSJ)

## **Holy Saturday**

4 April

5.00pm Easter Vigil

at St Stephen Elton

## **Easter Sunday**

5 April

9.00am Holy Communion (CC)

9.45am Hot Cross Buns (CC)

10.30am Holy Communion  
(in both churches)



Lent is more than just a seasonal countdown to Easter; it is a 40-day invitation to step back from the frantic pace of modern life and re-examine what truly matters. It mirrors the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness, a period marked by solitude, prayer, and the rejection of temptation.

While many see Lent as a time to "give up" luxuries like chocolate or coffee, the season is built on three essential pillars that offer a more profound spiritual reset:

**Prayer:** It is about making "space for God" by quieting the inner jangle of our hearts. Whether it is five minutes of morning silence or a Daily Devotional, the goal is to listen rather than just speak.

**Fasting:** Historically a strict discipline of one meal a day, modern fasting is a way to "shout down the rumbling stomach" and reorient our appetites toward spiritual hunger. It reminds us that we do not "live by bread alone".

**Almsgiving:** This is the practical side of Lent—turning the money or time saved from fasting into a gift for others, turning personal sacrifice into global solidarity.

Ultimately, Lent serves as a "spring detox" for the soul. It isn't just about endurance; it's about preparation. By stripping away the clutter, believers prepare to experience the joy of Easter not as a sudden event, but as a hard-won victory over the "darker side" of the human experience.

If you are stuck about what to do, then it's not too late.

The Mothers' Union has a Lent Action Calendar (*Resources - Mothers' Union*)

The Church of England's theme for Lent 2026 is "**Draw Near: Life-giving habits for Lent,**" focusing on developing spiritual rhythms. Running from Ash Wednesday, February 18, to early April 2026, the campaign provides daily reflections via the Everyday Faith app (*download for free from Google Play or Apple Store*) and specialised 40 acts resources for families. You can still catch up.

Christian Aid, Tearfund and CAFOD have many global causes to support.

I hope you all have a 'profitable' Lent and be even more ready to celebrate the Joys of Easter.

God Bless

Paul





**BAPTISM**

Feb 22      Jude Francis Phelps  
                Roman Michael Phelps

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

**FUNERAL IN CHURCH**

Jan 30      Norma Wilkinson

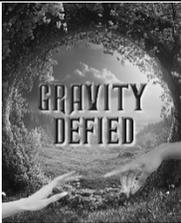
**FUNERAL SERVICE AT THE CREMATORIUM**

Feb 19      Susan Mary Law

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

**WICKED LENT STUDY**

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For this year's Lent study group, we are using Archdeacon Rachel's book 'Gravity Defied', based on the BAFTA winning film 'Wicked'. If you have not been to the first week then don't worry, you are welcome to attend as many of the remaining sessions as you wish.

They will take place on Tuesdays 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th March at 7.30pm at St. John with St. Mark. Please note the 3rd March session will now be in the chapel but the remainder of the sessions are in the Barritt Room. The course explores a number of themes relevant to each of us in the contemporary world. All is discussed within the context of Jesus's ministry recorded in the Gospels, the temptations and threats that he faced, and persecution of those who followed him.



## **BIBLE READINGS**

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Mar 1 **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

Genesis 12.1-4a                      Romans 4.1-5, 13-17      John 3.1-17

Mar 8 **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

Exodus 17: 1-7                      Romans 5: 1-11              John 4: 5-42

Mar 15 **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

1 Samuel 16: 1-13                  Ephesians 5: 8-14              John 9: 1-41

**or Mothering Sunday**

Exodus 2: 1-10                      2 Corinthians 1: 3-7          Luke 2: 33-35

or 1 Samuel 1: 20-28

Colossians 3: 12-17

John 19: 25-27

Mar 22 **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

Ezekiel 37: 1-14                      Romans 8: 6-11              John 11: 1-45

Mar 29 **Palm Sunday**

Isaiah 50: 4-9a                      Philippians 2: 5-11              Matthew 21: 1-11  
*(Liturgy of Palms)*  
or  
Matthew 26:14 -  
27:66 *(Liturgy of  
the Passion)*

Apr 5 **Easter Day**

Jeremiah 31: 1-6                      Acts 10: 34-43              John 20: 11-18

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## **Flowers in church**

There will be 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).

\* Thank you to Dennis and Catherine Hilton for organising the pancakes and refreshments in the Barritt Room on Shrove Tuesday as part of the 'Wicked' Lent group film showing. It was good to get together socially on the day before we began our Lent journey.

\* Churches Together in Bury is an ecumenical group which meets every two months and aims to spread the word of God in our town. You are most welcome to learn more at the next meeting, on Monday 16 March at 7.30pm at Bury Metro Centre. If you would like more information please speak to David Robinson, Barbara Taylor or Alan Thew.

The next event arranged by CT will be the Walk of Witness on Good Friday, 3 April, which begins at 12 noon at the United Reformed Church and ends in Kay Gardens. There will be readings, drama, music, songs, and the main speaker will be the Roman Catholic Bishop of Salford.

\* A special evening of prayer and reflection is being led by the Archbishop of York in Manchester Cathedral on Thursday, 19th March. Open to everyone, this should be an inspiring evening that will focus on The Lord's Prayer, bringing together people from across the diocese to explore its meaning in our lives today.

\* If you are able to help to deliver Easter cards around our community please volunteer, in either church. We know that these cards at Easter and Christmas do encourage people to join in worship.

\* The Mission Community holds an Easter Vigil service each year and we are invited this year to St Stephen Elton at 5pm on 4<sup>th</sup> April.

\* 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 April issue will be 14<sup>th</sup> March.



### The Objective of the Stations of the Cross

is to help the Christian faithful to make a spiritual Pilgrimage through Contemplation of the Passion of Christ.

The Stations of the Cross are a Communal Prayer where we make a spiritual pilgrimage to the sights of the last few hours in the life of Jesus.

It follows Jesus from his sentence to death by Pontius Pilate through to his burial in the tomb.

The Stations of the Cross allow us to visit and to participate in the scenes of our Lord's Passion and death, through meditation, contemplation and prayers.

The early Christians suffered persecution from the Roman Empire for more than two Centuries after Christ.

Finally, in the year 313, the Emperor Constantine ended persecution by legalizing Christianity.

This opened the way for Christians to visit the Holy Land and the places of Jesus' last few hours.

However, not everyone could visit the Holy Land; it was expensive and, possibly dangerous.

So, in the Fifth Century, an interest developed to "reproduce" the holy places of Jesus' passion in other areas, so that many could make a spiritual pilgrimage.

This spiritual pilgrimage is called the Stations (or Way) of the Cross.

During this Spiritual Pilgrimage there are various stops (or "stations") along the way depicting various scenes of Jesus' passion and death, (such as Jesus is condemned to death, Jesus carries his cross, and the final one, Jesus is laid in the tomb).

Each station usually has pictures or images portraying each event.

In 1731, Pope Clement XII permitted stations to be created in all churches and fixed the number at 14.

Some devotional booklets include a 15th station – Jesus' resurrection.

The Stations of the Cross meditation usually last about 30 minutes.

We adore you, O Christ and we bless you -

**Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.**



## *A day of contrasts*

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Each year the World Day of Prayer is held: a global ecumenical movement of informed prayer and prayerful action, uniting Christians in worship written by a different peoples each time. This year the service has been written by the people of Nigeria on the theme,

"I will give you rest, come"

Locally there will not be a distinct service on Friday, 6 March but all are invited to Bury United Reformed Church, Parsons Lane for a service at 11am on Sunday, 8 March which will use this liturgy as its focus.

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You are invited to a  
MUSLIM CHRISTIAN FORUM MEAL  
on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 4.30 p.m.

(See page 27 for further details)

We meet at 4.30 p.m.

At approx 5 p.m. we share our thoughts on the Islamic Tradition of Ramadan and fasting, and Ian Banks will speak on the Christian Tradition of Lent and fasting.

6 p.m. We share an Iftar meal together. IFTAR marks the breaking of the day's fast during Ramadan.

To learn more or to book a place please speak to Gillian Smith or reply to the telephone numbers on the advert. Adults and children welcome. There will be no charge.

## ***Favourite Psalms – Psalm 51***

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The psalmist pleads for forgiveness from God for some terrible sin that he has committed. In Old Testament times it was usual for people who had sinned to offer a sacrifice to atone for their sins, but it seems that the offence was so great, not even a sacrifice would atone for the sin. In verse 18 is the famous verse from scripture which was often used with the 1662 Prayer Book services – “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.” Like so many of the lament psalms, we do not know the exact situation that led to this lament. A later editor suggested it was one of David’s psalms. If that is the case, then it may refer to when David was confronted by Nathan, the prophet, over David’s adulterous behaviour towards Bathsheba who was married to Uriah. David saw her bathing and asked her to come to him. She became pregnant with David’s baby. So, David arranged for Uriah to be in the front line when fighting in the war. He was killed. This sparked Nathan’s anger towards David. You can read about it in 2 Samuel chapters 11 and 12. It amazes me that David was regarded as one of only a few kings of Israel/Judah who did what was right in God’s eyes, but this was not good behaviour.

This Psalm is highly appropriate for Christians today to recite if they feel in particular need of forgiveness and to seek God’s grace. Let us make verse 11 into our own prayer: “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.”

The last two verses are believed to have been added at a later date after Israel’s exile in Babylon.

Imagine someone offered you a crisp, brand new £10 note, you’d probably accept it if it was a generous offer, but then the person screwed it up, stamped on it and offered it to you, you’d probably still accept it because its value stays the same. When we sin, it spoils God’s image in us, but the image is still there. We are just as valuable to God; he still loves us. So, when David talks about God requiring us to have a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart, he does not mean that God wants to humiliate us. What is necessary is that we learn to depend on him. The attitude that says, I can manage on my own without God’s help stops anybody, including God, from helping us. He does not force help on anyone.

Psalm 51 (words from Common Worship first published in 2000. I have not included the last two verses because most scholars believe these to be a much later addition.

1. Have mercy on me, O God, in your great goodness.  
According to the abundance of your compassion, blot out my offences.
2. Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin.
3. For I acknowledge my faults and my sin is ever before me.
4. Against you only have I sinned and done evil in your sight.
5. So that you are justified in your sentence and righteous in your judgement.
6. I have been wicked even from my birth, a sinner when my mother conceived me.
7. Behold, you desire truth deep within me and shall make me understand wisdom in the depths of my heart.
8. Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean; wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.
9. Make me hear of joy and gladness, that the bones you have broken may rejoice.
10. Turn your face from my sins and blot out all my misdeeds.
11. Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
12. Cast me not away from your presence and take not your holy spirit from me.
13. Give me again the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your gracious spirit.
14. Then shall I teach your ways to the wicked and sinners shall return to you.
15. Deliver me from my guilt, O God, the God of my salvation and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.
16. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
17. For you desire no sacrifice, else I would give it; you take no delight in burnt offerings.
18. The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Alan Thew

## ***Bury Mission Community***

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This meeting took place on Monday 26th January at St. John with St. Mark and below are some brief minutes as to what we discussed and future actions. Ima Lomax, the Deanery Transformation Support Officer agreed to take notes at the meeting.

- \* We are looking to create an updated circulation list for minutes and agenda, so each Parish is suitably represented.
- \* We may not be hosting a Confirmation service in the Mission Community this year. However there is a Radcliffe Churches Confirmation taking place on Sunday 12th July if there are any candidates. Other options may include Bolton or Salford.
- \* It is possible there will be litter picking event in the St. Stephen's and Elton area again this Summer and Reverend Sam Eccleston will let people know when that is should people choose to join in. A full Mission Community event will probably not be possible unless there is someone willing to coordinate it.
- \* Churches across the Mission Community are invited to join Sunday@ Seven at Christ Church on 28th June.
- \* The quiz night will take place on Friday 18th September at St. John with St. Mark. The quiz and food need to be organised and some representatives have been given the responsibility to contact appropriate people. The Christies charity was suggested for the proceeds.
- \* Both Walmersley Road Benefice and St. John Bircle / St. Thomas are using Rachel Mann's book 'Gravity Defied' for their Lent study. It was suggested that people could join either of the groups as one is during the afternoon and one in the evening.
- \* It was noted that there are additional challenges with making things work due to Clergy illness.
- \* Next meeting – Monday 27th April.

Are you a MU member? supporter? friend? or simply someone who enjoys a challenge?

As part of the celebrations for 150 years of Mothers' Union Rosemary Taylor, a MU trustee in Manchester Diocese, decided to raise both funds and awareness by tackling the Infinity Bridge at Honister Slate Mine, near Keswick. Catherine Hilton, another Manchester MU trustee, quickly counted herself in. Wouldn't it be amazing if another 148 from the Diocese were to join them?

The website ([Infinity Bridge | Sky Ropes Adventure | High Ropes | Honister](#)) states:



*"Appropriately named owing to its seemingly endless length (190 metres to be precise!), the Infinity bridge at Honister is the longest high wire bridge in Europe and is the perfect way to push boundaries and quench your thirst for adrenaline."*

*Suspended 1,000 feet above sea level, this heart-racing experience provides a breathtaking view of the surrounding landscape."*

If you know someone who may be interested, please share this with them. The proposed (*but as yet unconfirmed*) date is Saturday, 27 June. Maybe this challenge is a step too far for you but we can all support them, and some may wish to go and spectate. More details soon. To express interest in the challenge please send contact details to [MUComms.Manchester@outlook.com](mailto:MUComms.Manchester@outlook.com) or speak to Rosemary.

## Quiet Moments for March

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*The theme for the World Day of Prayer on 6 March is "I Will Give You Rest: Come". The Nigerian committee has used Matthew 11: 28-30 in writing the service:*

God of the poor, we cry out to you to help families who are struggling to meet their basic needs. We give thanks and praise for all those who keep moving forward despite even the most difficult circumstances.

God, giver of life, continue to strengthen and comfort all who are weary from the burdens of life and direct the hearts of those who can help.

Loving Jesus, compassionate healer, we lift up those who live with poor mental health, often made worse by poverty, stress and daily life. Walk with them and show them that their lives have immeasurable value. Help us to create societies that respect and care for all.

Loving Jesus, you called us to come with all the burdens that weigh us down. Here we are! Help us to cast our cares on you and lighten these loads.

Holy Spirit, be our comforter in times of distress. Grant us the faith to keep moving forward even when the path seems impossible.

When we cannot see a way forward, be our guide.

Help us to be a light to others, sharing hope and extending a helping hand where we can. We trust in your promise that you will never leave us or forsake us. Amen

### *International Women's Day fall on 8<sup>th</sup> March*

God our Creator,  
you have built up your Church  
through the love and devotion of women everywhere.  
Inspire us to follow their great example  
that we may with them  
share in the vision of your glory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.



*A prayer from 'Draw Near', this year's booklet of reflections for Lent from the Church of England:*



Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us that what we do  
for the least of our brothers and sisters  
we do also for you:  
give us the will to be the servant of others  
as you were the servant of all,  
and gave up your life and died for us,  
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.  
Amen

*If you are not one who counts down to Christmas our apologies but The Feast of the Annunciation, celebrated on March 25<sup>th</sup> marks nine months before Christmas Day. This is the C of E collect for the day:*

We beseech thee, O Lord,  
pour thy grace into our hearts;  
that, as we have known the incarnation  
of thy Son Jesus Christ  
by the message of an angel,  
so by his cross and passion  
we may be brought unto  
the glory of his resurrection;  
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



A note from the editors:



We would always welcome contributions to these pages, whether written by you or seen elsewhere, although please give the source.

All are invited to celebrate, with members from across the whole Province of York, 150 years of Mothers' Union on Saturday, 14 March at 2.30pm in Manchester Cathedral. There a new information stand will be unveiled, which will include marking of the fact that the founder of MU, Mary Sumner was born in Swinton, in the Diocese of Manchester.

A member of the worldwide board, zonal trustee Dr Deb Lee is cycling to the service from her home in Carlisle Diocese and will be welcomed to Manchester at a Bring and Share Lunch on Friday 13 March. Everyone is welcome to come along and share fellowship on this occasion, which will take place at Christ Church Hall.

MU will also feature in Songs of Praise on Mothering Sunday, 15 March.

Our branch AGM will be held at 2pm on Wednesday, 18 March – please don't miss it!

St Stephen's has the only other Mothers' Union group in our Mission Community, so our committee thought to invite them to one of our meetings. Their committee thinks this is a great idea and responded by inviting us! The Branch Leader, Anne, writes: "As a church we support a school in Uganda. Pam and Neil are our link. They are coming to speak on the 1st April about the work going on there. If you could make it that would be great." The meeting is at 7pm and we will arrange lifts if anyone is reluctant to drive at night. We shall need approximate numbers so please let us know if you would like to come. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Lots is happening to mark 150 years of Mothers' Union, organised centrally, in the diocese and here in the deanery and benefice – so please watch for details and join in whenever you are able. The first specific 150th newsletter has been produced with lots of information. Members should have a copy but there are some on the MU notice board in church for anyone who would like a copy.

Barbara Taylor, Branch Secretary



## ***The Open Group***

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I have decided to wait until April to resume the Open Group this year. This is due to a busy Lent season and also the dark nights are still upon us. I have had a couple of people who have volunteered to lead an evening this year, so I will put a programme of events together and hopefully we can go on Wednesday 8th April at 7.30pm in the Barritt Room. In the meantime, thank you for your patience and if you wish to know more, please speak to me.

David Robinson

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

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Just to let people know that we are still meeting, so I thought I would use this section to provide an update. The MOB have now made the Hark to Dandler on Walmersley Old Road their regular venue. We apologise this does not suit everyone however it is a cosy place for us to meet and there is a handy 487 bus which now runs late into the evening and stops outside.



The MOB usually discuss a wide range of topics such as football, news events, local history and perhaps a bit of gossip! Sometimes, we may have a quiz. Yes, we do talk about what's going on in our Churches, but that's who we are there for.

If anyone fancies it and does not normally come then you are more than welcome on the last Monday of each month at 8.00pm. It is described as Men of the Benefice but we assure you that women are welcome. Please have a word with myself or a regular if you wish to know more. Next meeting will be Monday 30th March.

David Robinson

## ***An Appeal from Street Pastors***

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We have received the following request from Street Pastors asking for volunteers for roles. If you are interested, or know of anyone who may be, please see the details below.

### **Voluntary Treasurer required**

Bury Street Pastors is a registered charity (reg number 1170471) and therefore requires good systems of governance. The group currently has an URGENT need for someone to step forward to take on the responsibility to be their Treasurer. This does not need to be someone who has had any previous experience of Street Pastoring, but does need to be someone who is committed to learning about and supporting the aims and operating ethos of Street Pastors, and someone who is also a member of a local church. The role includes preparing reports for submission to the Charity Commission. This involves updating the previous year's report, and including the financial details for the year just ended. Training in these aspects is available. A knowledge and understanding of bookkeeping, managing funds, expenses and cash transactions will be helpful. Xero software is used, but training can be given in its use. Ideally the person would become a member of the board of trustees (which meets approximately 4 times per year), and support the Co-ordinator and other trustees in the leadership of the group. This is an URGENT need, so if anyone is at all interested, please get in touch.



### **New Street Pastors**

There are currently too few voluntary Street Pastors to be able to put out teams on both Friday and Saturday nights. In order to continue this vital work, new recruits are urgently required from our churches in Bury. Full training is given to new team members, and anyone at all interested can go out with a team as an observer, without any further commitment. This is an excellent way to test a calling from the Lord. If anyone is interested in any of these needs, please contact Gordon Clark at [hopebury@gmail.com](mailto:hopebury@gmail.com) who will link you up with a member of the team.

## ***What's On in March***

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Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

10 am – 12 noon

Christ Church Hall

An opportunity to  
chat over  
refreshments

(there is usually a great selection of cakes!)

Everyone is welcome

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*2pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday each month*  
*bring a friend or come on your  
own and meet new friends*

**Join us, Join in**

**fellowship,  
drinks, cakes**

**EVERYONE is  
welcome**

in the Church Hall,  
School Lane, BL9 5LP

hosted by 

We hope you will come along on 4<sup>th</sup> March



**Clair & Craig**  
**Are Putting Their Best Feet Forward**  
**for Bury Hospice *Strictly* 2026!**



I have been a Brownie leader for 35 years at St John with St Mark, Bury and decided I would support another local charity this year. Craig & I are inspired to take part because of experiencing first-hand the vital role the hospice plays in caring for individuals and their families during the most difficult

moments of their lives. I want to do something meaningful, something that would raise both smiles, funds and give a little back to the charity and people that took such good care of my mum in the latter stage of her struggle with MND. Craig taking part is a chance to push far outside his comfort zone, swapping the world of IT expertise for sequins and choreography, and do something that genuinely makes a difference to people in our community. Dancing is certainly not his natural habitat, but giving back absolutely is.

Craig having successfully completed Treks in 2024 & 2025 raising much needed funds for the hospice, we decided we wanted to do something a little different this year and agreed to do something together!!

We are stepping onto the *Strictly* dancefloor with equal parts excitement, nerves, and determination — all for a cause that means a great deal to us.

**Please join us for Afternoon Tea on 7<sup>th</sup> March in the Church Hall**  
**Add your name to the booking form at the back of Church**  
**or see Ian or June Banks**

**Strictly Best Foot Forward Show Details**  
**Saturday April 18th 2026**

Holy Cross College, Manchester Road, Bury, BL9 9BB

**Afternoon Performance:** Performance starts: 13:00

£30p/p including Individual Afternoon Tea Box

**Evening Performance:** Performance starts: 19:00

£35p/p including Individual Charcuterie Grazing Box

**Contact Clair 07814 973987**

Alternatively, if you are unable to attend either event, we warmly invite you to support our cause by donating either via the QR code or the cash collection box located at the back of church



See page 28 for more details



### **Brass Band Concert**

Everyone enjoys a brass band!  
'Oddfellows Brass' is coming to St John with St Mark  
to enjoy the incredible acoustics there  
and to entertain you!

It is not this band's first visit. They last appeared at this venue in 2018.

An award-winning band,  
their repertoire is wide-ranging with something for everyone.

Come along to hear them  
at 3.00pm on Saturday afternoon 28th March 2026.  
You will not be disappointed.

This concert is in aid of 'Jigsaw',  
a Bury charity which gives young people with learning difficulties  
a safe place to play sport and enjoy themselves.

Tickets £10 each (incl. light refreshments)  
For details and to book tickets  
ring Natalie on: 07564 641909 or pay at the door.

# **SUNDAY @ SEVEN**

***COME AND JOIN US FOR AN HOUR OF  
RELAXED CHRISTIAN WORSHIP AT  
7PM ON THE LAST SUNDAY OF THE  
MONTH.***



***WE NEXT MEET ON MARCH 29th***

***AT THE SALVATION ARMY,  
BROOKSHAW STREET***

***“What a Welcome!”***

***Celebrating & Reflecting on the events of Palm Sunday.***

***If you want to know more ask Nigel Silvester, Ian Banks  
or Cor van der Woude.***

***Also available via Zoom.***

## **REGULAR SERVICES**

<b>Sunday</b>			
9.00am	All	Holy Communion (BCP)	Christ Church
10.30 a.m.	1 <sup>st</sup>	Holy Communion	Christ Church
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Family Service	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Holy Communion	
	4 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Worship	
10.30 a.m.	1 <sup>st</sup>	Holy Communion	St John w St Mark
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Holy Communion	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Morning Worship	
	4 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion	
10.30 a.m.	5 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion	Joint (venue tba)
7.00 p.m.	Final, Sunday @ Seven		Venue tba
<b>Tuesday</b>			
6.30pm	4 <sup>th</sup>	Campfire Church	Christ Church yard
<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 the Manchester Diocese Transforming Prayer Community

## FOR YOUR MARCH DIARY

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Sun 1		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Parish Communion (both)
Tue 3	10.00am	Coffee Morning (CC Hall)
	7.30pm	Gravity Defied: Lent Study (Chapel SJM)
Wed 4	2.00pm	Join us, Join in (CC Hall)
Sat 7	2.00pm	Afternoon Tea Party (SJM Hall)
Sun 8		<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Family Service (CC) Parish Communion (SJM)
	11.00am	World Day of Prayer service (Bury URC)
	4.30pm	Iftar Meal (Dar us Salam Centre)
Tue 10	7.30pm	Gravity Defied: Lent Study (Barritt Room)
Fri 13		Welcome to MU zonal trustee (CC Hall)
Sat 14	2.30pm	MU York Province 150 <sup>th</sup> Celebration (Cathedral)
Sun 15		<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent – Mothering Sunday</b>
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (SJM)
	10.30am	Parish Communion (CC)
Mon 16	7.30pm	Churches Together in Bury (Bury Metro Centre)
Tue 17	7.30pm	Gravity Defied: Lent Study (Barritt Room)
Wed 18	2.00pm	Mothers' Union Branch AGM (CC Hall)
Thu 19	12noon	Thursday Light Lunch (CC Hall)
Sat 21	9.30am	Diocesan Synod (St John's House)
Sun 22		<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (CC) Parish Communion (SJM)
Tue 24	6.30pm	Campfire Church (CC Hall)
	7.30pm	Gravity Defied: Lent Study (Barritt Room)

Sat 28 3.00pm 'Oddfellows Brass' band concert (SJM)  
 Sun 29 **Palm Sunday**  
 9.00am Holy Communion BCP (CC)  
 10.30am Joint Parish Communion (CC)  
 7.00pm Sunday @ Seven (Salvation Army)  
 Mon 30 8.00pm Men of the Benefice (Hark to Dandler)

*Please see page 2 for Holy Week services*

### **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 19 March, 16 April, 21 May

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

#### **FEBRUARY 2026 DRAW WINNERS**

1st Prize £15.00 – (17) Angela McAlpine

2nd Prize £10.00 – (99) Janet Lyssejko



**Congratulations to both**

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

@cofewalmersley

Instagram

cofewalmersley

and YouTube

CofE Walmersley



# Muslim Christian Forum Meal

— RAMADHAN & LENT —

**You are warmly invited to an Iftar meal.**

(The breaking of fasting during Ramadhan.)

Discussing practices of Fasting and Lent in both Muslim & Christian  
faiths, along with common practices in these blessed days.

SUNDAY

08  
MARCH

AT 04.30 PM

**Venue: Dar us Salam Centre**

Yarwood St./Fletcher St.

Bury BL9 7AU

(opposite Noor ul Islam Mosque)

Please park with care, as one side of Fletcher  
Street is reserved for residents, while the other  
has a 2-hour parking limit.

**Anne - 07906 282168**

**Saqib - 07984 633754**

# Afternoon Tea Party

Raising funds for Bury Hospice



At St John with St Mark Church Hall, Bury, BL9 6NY

Saturday 7th March - 2pm

Tickets - £10p/p

Contact - Clair Smith 07814 973987

Live Music • Fun Quiz with Prizes • Raffle