

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

**The Church of England on Walmersley Road**



**May 2026**



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Manchester

CHURCH  
FOR A  
DIFFERENT  
WORLD



Are you UP for the challenge?



Infinity Bridge

Saturday  
27 June  
1.30pm

Members and Friends from Manchester Diocese have set themselves a **150th Year fundraising challenge.** They will walk across the Infinity Bridge at Honister Slate Mine, Keswick

**We have just 2 places remaining if anyone is interested in joining us**

Details of the Infinity Bridge walk can be found at <https://honister.com/product/infinity-bridge/>

If you are interested, please email **[mucomms.manchester@outlook.com](mailto:mucomms.manchester@outlook.com) asap**

The cost is £30pp (to be paid personally) and then all money fundraised will go to the MU 150<sup>th</sup> Fundraising Fund

Open to non members as long as they are willing to fundraise for Mothers' Union

I hear you knocking, but.....

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.  
(*Revelation 3 v 20*)

How are you with cold callers?



The knock on the door, or the bell rings – who’s that now?

...“Good afternoon, we’re just working down the road and your driveway/roof/garden looks like it might need some attention. We can help...” or “ Hello there, how are you, I’m here on behalf of ???? charity and I wonder if you would like to give some financial support to our work.”

What is your reaction? I have to admit that often my natural response is often along the lines of “No thank you....I’ll call you if I want you...don’t come pestering me with unsolicited approaches. Unsolicited meaning the approach is unwanted or unwelcome.

When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on that first Palm Sunday some 2000 years ago he was making a public statement, as were his followers. It was his time to come into Jerusalem in a blaze of publicity. I don’t know if he actually shook a lot of hands, as would happen now-a-days, but I think he was certainly out to attract attention. He probably smiled and perhaps waved back to the people as they waved and shouted ‘Hosanna’.

Beneath the smile though he knew things would change – that the welcome would change to a rebuff, a spurn, and worse.

Yes, many welcomed Jesus but there were also many who saw him as a disruptive, unwelcome, cold caller who had become a problem that had to be dealt with.

I can't help but think that these days Jesus is still something of a cold caller. I don't see him making a specific appointment with us. He just turns up. He will knock on the door of our lives and await a response; waiting to see if we will open the door and welcome him in - or either not open the door at all, or open the door a little bit only to give him the cold shoulder.

Personally, I know that in September 1983 I opened that door and welcomed Jesus into my life. But when I look back before then I can recognise that Jesus had been knocking before and I had given him the standard cold call response....not now! Go away!

That cold caller attitude can continue long after the initial "Yes Jesus, welcome, do come into my life." Like those times when Jesus calls us to do something and we turn him down – maybe we are too busy; maybe we feel there is no way we could do what he is asking – don't ask me to do that!!....not now....go away!!!

This verse from Revelation tells us that Jesus doesn't just barge in. When he calls, he may politely knock and wait. But the knocking may get louder and more persistent. We may choose to ignore it but eventually we will have to take action and respond. We open the door and we then realise that we should have responded to the knocking earlier - we really do want to welcome him in.

Then he will come in, enter our lives; and things will change as he transforms our minds and hearts through his personal, persistent, patient love.

Jesus will no longer be the cold caller but will be the warm, understanding, best friend we have always wanted.

Sorry I must end there – someone is at the door.....!

Nigel Silvester





**BAPTISM**

5 Apr Riley Blake Wright

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

**FUNERALS IN CHURCH**

26 Mar Barbara Foster

7 Apr John G Clegg

**INTERMENT OF ASHES**

20 Apr Donald Scott

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

**Hail the day  
that sees him rise**

Do come!  
at 7.30pm  
on Thursday 14th May  
at Christ Church Walmersley, BL9 5JU  
for Holy Communion  
on Ascension Day

StJohnStMarkBury.com  
CCWalmersleyBury.org.uk



## ***BIBLE READINGS***

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May 3 **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Acts 7. 55-60

1 Peter 2. 2-10

John 14. 1-14

May 10 **6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Acts 17. 22-31

1 Peter 3. 13-22

John 14. 15-21

May 17 **7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Acts 1. 6-14

1 Peter 4. 12-14;  
5. 6-11

John 17. 1-11

May 24 **Day of Pentecost**

Acts 2. 1-21

1 Corinthians 12.3b-  
13

John 20. 19-23 or  
John 7. 37-39

May 31 **Trinity Sunday**

Isaiah 40.12-17,27-31

2 Corinthians 13.11-13

Matthew 28.16-20

Jun 7 **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

Hosea 5. 15 – 6. 6

Romans 4. 13-25

Matthew 9. 9-13,  
18-26



## ***Joint Benefice Service***

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- ❖ Trinity Sunday
- ❖ 31 May
- ❖ 10.30 am
- ❖ St John with St Mark's Church
- ❖ we celebrate together



## *Flowers in church*

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At Christ Church

May 3	Vacant
May 10	Vacant
May 17	Kathleen Whipp, in memory of her brother Eddie
May 24	In memory of Marjory Chester
May 31	Vacant

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).

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## **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2026**

This week's Christian Aid appeal will run from 10th to 16th May. Whilst there are no specific events planned within the Benefice, there will be the usual opportunities to donate to this annual appeal.



Donation envelopes will be available in both churches along with literature and you can also donate online through the Christian Aid website, [www.Christianaid.org.uk](http://www.Christianaid.org.uk) where you can also read stories of hope and more appeals.

If you would like to know more and wish to make a cash donation, please see John Brennan, who is our Christian Aid co-ordinator at St. John with St. Mark.

## ***APCM – At St. John with St. Mark on 12 April***

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- At the election of Church Wardens, Rosemarie Ashworth and June Banks were once again elected as Wardens for the year.
- We approved the Safeguarding policy for the year and Joan Wild has offered to be safeguarding officer again.
- Ian presented his treasurer's report for 2025 and budget for 2026. There were some informative graphs and data regarding Church attendance, Church planned giving and local demographics. This was focussed on the last 10 years and the changes which have occurred.
- There was an opportunity to approve the Independent Examiner's report and Andy Clark has offered to once again be the Independent Examiner for 2026.
- The fabric and buildings report was reviewed and it was noted that the Quinquennial inspection report has not yet been received. There is likely to be work to be done following the report and a working party will be put together as and when there is a need. Ian commented the hall boiler will shortly need to be replaced.
- We have approximately 50 people on the electoral roll and a notice will be issued if anyone is not yet on and wishes to be so.
- At the election of PCC members and Deanery Synod reps, John Brennan was voted to stand for PCC. We now only have two Deanery Synod reps and they will be Ian and David.
- Mary Howarth, Alf Goldfinch and Brian Jones have been elected as Sidespeople.
- There was an opportunity to look through the reports from various Church organisations and groups.
- A vote of thanks was offered to Eileen Smith who has now retired as a Sunday School leader after approximately 40 years. Many young people have been taught by Eileen down the years.
- Helen Mallinson offered a vote of thanks to various people for looking after the Church this year.
- There was a brief PCC meeting after the APCM to elect officers and the first full PCC meeting is on Thursday 30th April at 8.00pm.

\* Wardens and Sidespersons are expected to attend one of the Archdeacon's Visitations. The two in our Deanery are: Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> June at St Mary Rawtenstall, and Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> July at Christ Church Walshaw, both at 7.30pm, so please put your preferred choice in your diary. Although PCC members are not admitted at these services, they are most welcome to attend, make a commitment, and are thanked.

\* Bury C of E High School is looking to appoint a chaplain. Access to the school for our churches is paused until the chaplain is appointed. So please pray for a suitable person to be appointed.

\* Street pastors are in need of more trustees, who are not actively involved in the work, to oversee it, to network, and to be involved in fundraising, marketing, social media etc. There is also always a need for new street pastors to go out on Friday and Saturday nights to help those in difficulty. Full training is given. Street Pastors also need a new base in the town centre. Please pray for these needs and encourage anyone who is interested.

\* If you are a regular attender at our Churches and are not on the Electoral Roll, please consider if you would like to join. This can be done by filling in a simple form. Please get in touch with our Electoral Roll officers or Wardens if you wish to join and are not currently on the roll, or want to check whether you are on.

\* 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 June issue will be 14<sup>th</sup> May.

## ***Bury & Rossendale Deanery Gathering***

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This event took place at St. Peter's Church, Bury, on 15th April and was an opportunity for people across the Deanery to hear about the Manchester Diocese's strategy for the next 7 years. We were joined by Bishop Matthew of Bolton for opening worship and prayer. Very sadly, the evening began with the announcement that our Deanery Lay Chair Kath Pollard had passed away unexpectedly on Sunday 12th April. We took a moment to remember Kath and offer prayers for her family. Our Easter Bible reading was based on John 21.1-14, Jesus and the Miraculous Catch of Fish, which was presented in an interactive way for us all to join in. This set the theme for our evening, 'Cast Your Nets' and our priorities and aims for the next few years. There were some Diocesan representatives and a video introduced by Bishop David which focussed on the four priorities to deliver the vision:

**Parish Renewal – Parishes lie at the heart of our vision for the** growth and transformation of our Diocese, which is working closely with Parishes to understand their opportunities and challenges. Support will be provided to help them create bold mission plans and grow their congregations, help with financial management and equipping Clergy and Lay Leaders for renewal through the Leading Your Church into Growth (LYCIG) scheme.

**Growing Younger** – The Diocesan aim is to double the number of young active disciples and ensure there is a flourishing children and young people's ministry within reach. We intend to develop an approach to engaging with young people by offering support to them in all stages of their discipleship journey. Younger people aged up to 35 will also be nurtured in vocations and call to leadership.

**Church Planting & Revitalisation** – Having set up a number of Resource Churches in recent years, we are accelerating the rate of Church planting across the Diocese. We heard about the revitalisation of William Temple Church in Wythenshawe and were pleased to hear about a forthcoming similar plan for St. Thomas' in Bury with a newly Ordained leader there. The Antioch Network will continue to be a part of the approach for growth in estates and within diverse communities.

**Developing Missional Leaders** – The focus is on bringing forward and developing talented Ordained and Lay people who are representative of the diversity of the Diocese. There will be work equipping 18-25's in mission and ministry through various programs. The development of vocations for Ordained ministry to equip new curates will continue, alongside the provision of accessible and inspiring Lay ministry pathways. There are more about these on the website.

By focusing on these four priorities, we are working to achieve an increase in our congregations and leaders by 2033 and there was an opportunity to speak with the people sat near us about something which has



inspired us and we can take back to our Parishes. The Transforming Prayer Community has helped develop discipleship resources as we grow as Christians and walk with Jesus. Prayer seemed an ideal way to end the evening as we were invited to pray together for our Parishes, leaders and strategy for the Diocese.

Are you ready to 'Cast Your Net's?

## ***Greater Together Manchester***

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When an asylum seeker is granted refugee status, they have 28 days to leave the home office accommodation, where they have been housed and to make their own arrangements, which is a very short time to find a place to rent and a job. Many therefore end up on the street, homeless. This new scheme is asking those with a spare furnished bedroom to consider renting this for 3-12 months to someone who has been granted asylum, while they find their feet.

Find out more about prospective lodgers, the support available, tenant agreements, etc. from [GreaterTogetherManchester.org](http://GreaterTogetherManchester.org)



## *The Open Group*

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The Open Group returned on Wednesday 10th April after our winter break. There were only a small number of us present, so we took the opportunity to discuss the year ahead and anything we wished to do during the year before enjoying a game of 'Build a Beetle' with pen and paper.

Before this I located two old biscuit tins in our cupboard which I had not previously opened; it was quite interesting and slightly amusing to go through the contents. Several boxes of dominoes (including a multi-coloured set), various dice and many Beetle cards. These were for when we had many of us in attendance and a Beetle Drive was viable.

Amongst the contents was a list of the Open Group cupboard contents from 1987! Although the list survives, most of the contents of the list do not. Examples of articles mentioned include several tins of peas, a food colander, a chopping board, a hairdresser's cape with rollers and a white bath mat. We needed three shelves in those days!

We then had our game of Beetle, which was frustrating waiting for your 6 to come out before you could begin to build. We did enjoy two games; one won by Phyllis Holt and the other by Judith Kelly. Well done to both.

Next month we have a guest speaker as Glyn Heath will give us a demonstration with a magic lantern and the paraphernalia that goes with it. All are welcome at 7.30pm in the Barritt Room on Wednesday 13th May.

David Robinson



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

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The MOB last met on 23rd March at the Hark to Dandler for our usual get together, and we filled a corner between us. It was the usual mix of light hearted chat and discussion, but the stand out story was Geoff Hamilton's eventful recent visit to a local barber's shop.

The Hark to Dandler is to temporarily close during May, so we will confirm arrangements for the meeting on Bank Holiday Monday 25th May and whether we can meet. It is hopeful we can have a summer breakfast on a Saturday morning during June at the same venue.

David Robinson

***AMEN!***

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**A**gree with God

**M**ove with God

**E**nd with God

**N**ever doubt God



Courtesy of Barry Evans

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

### **APRIL 2026 DRAW WINNERS**

1st Prize £15.00 – (32) Vicki Robinson

2nd Prize £10.00 – (61) Jackie Brooks



Congratulations to both

## Quiet Moments for May

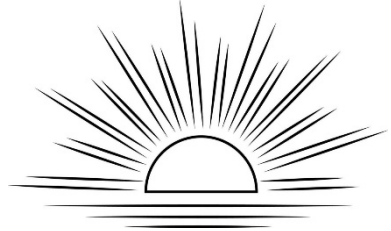
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*Maybe this prayer will help us each day?*

### **A Morning Prayer**

This brand new day I go in faith,  
But I know not what lies in wait,  
So dear God, this morning I pray,  
Take control and lead the way.

*by Abimbola T. Alabi*



*Thirst is a collection of poems from Mary Oliver, as she strives to experience sorrow as a path to spiritual progress, grief as part of loving and not its end.*

### **Praying**

It doesn't have to be  
the blue iris, it could be  
weeds in a vacant lot, or a few  
small stones; just  
pay attention, then patch  
a few words together and don't try  
to make them elaborate, this isn't  
a contest but the doorway  
into thanks, and a silence in which  
another voice may speak.

*Mary Oliver, Thirst*

*At Pentecost (50 days after Easter Day) we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit*

Come, Holy Spirit,

**The wind of God, the breath of Life.**

Come, Holy Spirit,

**Our Advocate, our Counselor.**

Come, Holy Spirit,

**Teacher of Wisdom, Reminder of Christ.**

Come, Holy Spirit,

**Granter of forgiveness, giver of peace.**

Come, Holy Spirit.

**May we feel God breathing through our worship.**

**May we receive the Holy Spirit in this place. Amen.**

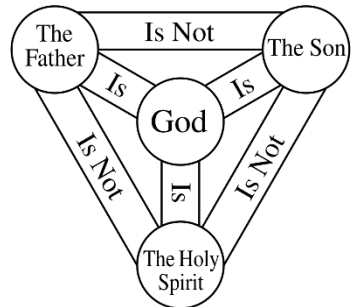
*written by Joanna Harader, <https://spaciousfaith.com>*

The words God speaks  
are the life and sustenance  
of all that exists.

The life Jesus gives  
is the re-creation and renewed birth  
of all that is broken and worn.

The Spirit's stirring in our souls  
is the inspiration  
for creativity, compassion, joy, and community.

Life-giving, life-restoring, life-fulfilling God;  
may our whole lives be worship.  
In all things, may we seek to connect with  
and to reflect your love and your hope.



*<http://theminorkeys.blogspot.ca/>*

## ***Thy Kingdom Come***

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The period from Ascension Day to Pentecost (14-24 May 2026) is when Churches mark the season of Thy Kingdom Come. This is a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray for more people to come to know Jesus.



This year's Thy Kingdom Come is all about the presence of God through His spirit. There are various resources on Thy Kingdom Come website and we are ordering 25 Novena booklets written by Dame Sarah Mullaly, Archbishop of Canterbury, available in both Churches. These will help to form a prayer journal as you pray for 5 people who do not yet follow Christ that they may come to know him as we do. There is a reflection for each day from Ascension Day to Pentecost.

The God who is with us in the everyday – in the joys and sorrows of life (and everything in between) and the One who, through His spirit, longs to reveal Himself to those who do not yet know Him.

From the story of Ruth to the story of Gideon, from the story of Elijah to the story of the early church who waited for the promised Holy Spirit to come- over the 11 days we will explore a different Bible story each day, which demonstrates God's transformative presence, power and love at work in the lives of people and places.

Our hope is that as we pray for our five people, they will also experience the life-changing love of God and choose to follow Him.

*Last year we had a Prayer in the Park event in Clarence Park organised by Bury Churches Together and there are plans for this to happen again on the Eve of Pentecost, Saturday 23rd May.*

*[www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global)*

*by Sarah Mullally, from Thy Kingdom Come*

Imagine, in your mind's eye, the most profound darkness.  
A darkness which is not just untouched by light,  
but one where light has never even existed.

Whenever I find myself in darkness,  
I find this a real comfort,  
that God was there at the beginning,  
and his Spirit is with us today,  
whatever our situation.

But sometimes it can be hard to feel this presence.  
At these times, the presence of  
the Spirit can best be felt through others.

When I was a nurse, working in palliative care,  
I saw people experiencing the deepest darkness,  
coming to terms with the shock and grief of their life being cut short.  
What I found was that people didn't always  
ask for a solution that no one could provide  
– they simply asked for someone to be there,  
to be present with them. Not just in person, but in spirit.

God works through us – His Spirit can be felt through us  
– and He calls on us to be present  
with all those who find themselves in darkness.

As Isaiah proclaimed,  
'the Spirit of the Lord has sent me to bind up the broken hearted,  
to comfort those who mourn, and to release the prisoners from  
darkness.' (*Isaiah 61:1-2*)

And so let us pray for those we know who find themselves in darkness,  
that we may be present with them through it,  
sharing the presence of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen

### **Spring Harvest 2027**

What, you might be thinking, is Spring Harvest?

Well it's two separate amazing weeks with Jesus as some 4-5,000 Christians take over two of Butlins holiday camps at the Easter Holidays to worship, hear inspired teaching and so much more. It's jam-packed full of uniqueness with something for everyone whether you're young, old or somewhere in-between. It's a place to grow in faith, laugh, make memories and have fun together. Inter-generational and pan-denominational – it's where everyone is welcome and the whole church gathers.

Cath & Dennis Hilton (plus grandchildren) and Barbara & Nigel Silvester (plus daughter & grandson) went this Easter to the event at Skegness. We all had a whale of a time and came back enthused and excited, ready to go again next year!

Each day started at "The Big Start" which is an all-age event hosted by CBBC presenters Joanna Adeyinka-Burford and Ashley Joseph. Talk about 'worship can be fun'...grandchildren....and grown-ups loved it! After that we went our own ways...to children's/youth groups or grown up study groups. The Bible study group was particularly good this year - led by Rev. Dr. Hannah Steele, Director of St. Mellitus College.

During the afternoon we choose to have fun by way of the many attractions of Butlin's – e.g. swimming pool, etc.... Or sometimes just chilling out...or even taking to the beach! Come the evening there was a choice of four different styles of worship celebration. Later in the evening, if you still had any energy left, there was a selection of 'After hours' entertainment. Food-wise there is a choice of dining options to suit every one – from self-catering through to premium dining; also a number of well-known fast-food outlets on site. You won't go hungry!

Perhaps you are feeling tempted for next Easter? Or at least interested enough to want to enquire. There are booklets at the back of each of our churches. If you want to know more from us then don't hesitate to ask us. We will certainly be going – in fact, we've already booked!!

2027 dates are Minehead 29<sup>th</sup> March-2nd April or join us at Skegness from 5-9<sup>th</sup> April. Book early - before 1<sup>st</sup> July to get the best rates!

The theme 'No Greater Adventure' is inspired by Acts 1:8. It's about taking the gospel to the edge of the world - and discovering what your own personal 'edge' looks like.

Barbara & Nigel

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### ***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 21 May, 18 June

On April 1 a number of our members accepted an invitation from St Stephen's MU to join their meeting. The speakers were Pam and Neil from The Hope Project, a project they set up following a visit to Uganda. The couple are extremely committed, having been instrumental in the building of a school, to save children walking more than two miles and back each day – a school now supported by the congregation of St Stephen's church. They have raised funds for maintenance, have been involved in numerous other projects such as the provision of clean water, and visit regularly. We look forward to welcoming St Stephen's members to Christ Church later this year.

You probably have not missed this fact but Mothers' Union is 150 years old this year. The trustee in Manchester taking a lead in the celebrations is none other than Rosemary Taylor, so we invited her to our meeting to share information with us and to help us see how we can be involved. I will not repeat what she has written elsewhere but I will share that we are now tasked with completing a jigsaw piece (A3 sized) to demonstrate what MU has meant to us here.

Also, you may just be in time to book a place in the group who will cross the Infinity Bridge in June (see page 2). If this would be way out of your comfort zone (it is mine) there will be the opportunity to support them financially – and you may wish to pray for them too!

On 6th May at 7.30pm we welcome everyone to hear Peter Barlass whose illustrated talk is entitled "Introducing Shetland".

Bury and Rossendale Deanery is holding its festival on Monday, 11 May at St Mary Radcliffe at 7pm. St Mary's is this year celebrating 130 years of a branch in this parish. The speaker will be our Provincial President, Christine Sharp.

The details of our meeting on 20th May are not yet finalised so watch for more information on the notice sheet.

Barbara Taylor, Branch Secretary

Rosemary Taylor writes: York Province Mothers' Union have chosen to mark the 150th Year by having a prayer capsule that visits each diocese in the province. In each diocese, a new prayer will be added and the capsule will then be presented to the archives at Mary Sumner House.

The capsule started its week in Manchester on 4th April, with a short handover service in the Cathedral Lady Chapel, where Di Waller, DP for Chester, handed it over to Bolton Archdeaconry President, Pauline Greenhalgh.

The capsule then made its way to Bolton, and spent an evening with members of Salford and Bolton Deaneries. Fr Robert Eloff of St Matthew's, Little Lever led an informal Blessing of the Capsule service, followed by refreshments and socialising.

On Wednesday MU members joined with St John's House staff in the Chapel for their midday communion. This was a great opportunity to raise awareness of the Mothers' Union with Diocesan staff, and we were made to feel very welcome.

Later in the week, A joyful and reflective gathering took place at Rochdale Town Hall, as members from across the Rochdale Archdeaconry came together to receive the Prayer Capsule. The afternoon was honoured by the presence of Rev Anne Gilbert, Area Dean, and the Mayor of Rochdale, Councillor Janet Emsley, whose support added to the sense of occasion and community spirit. Prayers created a calm and uplifting atmosphere for all who attended. A short reflection was shared by Archdeaconry President, Canon Catherine Hilton, supporting the faith, fellowship and service of Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Manchester and giving an outline of the campaigning work encouraged by Mary Sumner. It was a meaningful time of unity, prayer, and encouragement, warmly appreciated by all present.

The final journey was to take the Prayer Capsule to Liverpool Diocese. We joined St Chad, Kirkby's Sunday morning service, and prayed and blessed the capsule as it continues its journey. The news spread not only in the North, but also across all of the Mothers' Union as we were featured in their communications.

## *Thursday Light Lunches*

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Thursday lunches all began over ten years ago. It was Lent and we were looking for a way to bring people together socially, yet for a purpose – that purpose being doing something different for Lent which would, hopefully, raise a little money to send to Tearfund – a Christian charity that seeks to help those in greatest need in the world. A light lunch was suggested so sandwiches and soup were prepared – and people came!

Those involved thought...this is a good idea ... how about doing it not just for Lent, but throughout the year. And the people agreed by coming every month since!

It is very affirming that this project has been blessed with great support from 'customers' and 'workers'. Most Thursdays we see getting towards thirty people – we have even hit the forty mark! Our regular 'customers' come from members of both churches in the Benefice and, increasingly, from our surrounding community – we are open for all and welcome all!

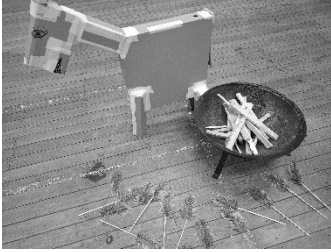
Importantly, we would emphasise that there is no charge for lunch. If you are able to make a donation to help cover costs that is gratefully received. The main aim is social, not a fund-raiser. As the scriptures tells us, "practise hospitality." So do come and enjoy a light lunch with friends and, perhaps, make new friends. If are already a regular, think about inviting along someone who has not been before.

Any profit made is either given to church or to other charities – Tearfund, Porch Boxes, Bury Hospice and others.

For example last month (April) we were able to send £112 to Tearfund which reflects the generosity of those who were with us on 16th April. Thank you so much.

We also take this opportunity to say thank you to all the Thursday Lunch Crew (TLC) with out whom lunch would not be served!

Nigel & Barbara Silvester.



## ***Campfire church***

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March's Campfire Church was another very wet night, so we met in the hall, with an unlit fire, but that did not stop us from worshipping.

We listened to the story about Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey, whilst acting it out. We moved like donkeys, we marched, we waved palms, we lay down our coats, we shouted Hosanna. We sang Hosanna in the Highest, prayed, ate donkey biscuits and even had a real life (cardboard) donkey.

Jesus rode on a donkey, but what do you think he would ride in on today?

One of our families borrowed some palm crosses and palm leaves to create an Easter garden for a school competition, and we heard the great news that they won! Their garden had a boiled egg 'stone' and..... a donkey! Well done J & A.

Why not join us this month for more singing, dancing, activities, stories, fire and food?

Tuesday 26th May at 6.30pm in the church yard.

## ***Looking Ahead***

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The **Summer Fair** at St John with St Mark's will take place on Saturday, 6 June.

In July there will be a **Scarecrow Festival** at Christ Church Walmersley.

## **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 (or 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 MAY DIARY

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Sun 3		<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Parish Communion (both)
Tue 5	7.30pm	Deanery Synod (CC in church)
Wed 6	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC Hall)
Sun 10		<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Family Service (CC)
		Parish Communion (SJM)
Mon 11	7.00pm	MU Deanery Festival (St Mary Radcliffe)
Wed 13	7.30pm	Open Group (SJM)
Thu 14		<b>Ascension Day</b>
	7.30pm	Holy Communion (CC) – No service at SJM
14 -24		<b>Thy Kingdom Come</b> – See page 16
Sun 17		<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (SJM)
	10.30am	Parish Communion (CC)
Tue 19	7.30pm	Churches Together in Bury (Salvation Army)
Wed 20	7.30pm	Mothers' Union (CC Hall)
Thu 21	12 noon	Thursday Light Lunch (CC Hall)
Sat 23	time tbc	Prayer in the Park (Clarence Park)
Sun 24		<b>Day of Pentecost</b>
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (CC)
		Parish Communion (SJM)
	7.00pm	Sunday @ Seven (Salvation Army)
Mon 25	8.00pm	Men of the Benefice (tbc)
Tue 26	6.30pm	Campfire Church (CC Hall)
Sun 31		<b>Trinity Sunday</b>
	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
	10.30am	Joint Parish Communion (SJM)

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

# **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 MAY 31st***

***AT SALVATION ARMY, BROOKSHAW St.***

## **“That’s the Spirit”**

***We can amaze ourselves and others when we respond to  
the call of Jesus, fuelled by the Holy Spirit.***

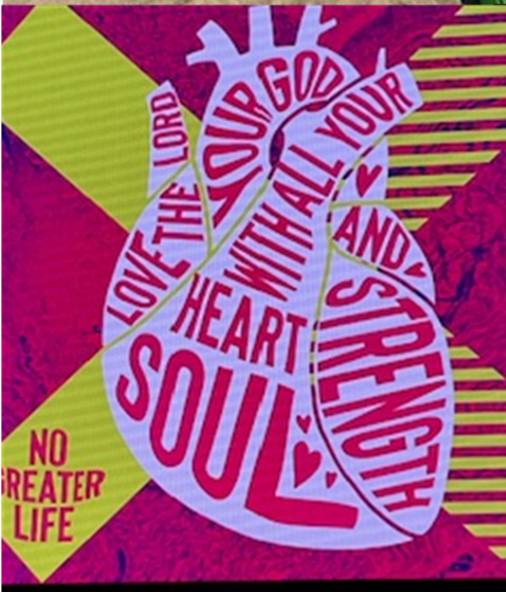
***If you want to know more about S@S ask Nigel Silvester,  
Ian Banks or Cor van der Woude.***

***Also available via Zoom.***



# The Adventure of a Lifetime

Read about it on page 18, and on p19 see how you could be part of it all next year.



, you want me to do