

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

Weddings

Funerals

11th July

Mrs. Margaret Melrose

FLOWER ROTA

Aug 5th Janet Adamson & Hellie Jabr

Aug 12th Janet Adamson & Hellie Jabr

Aug 19th Maureen Woolley & Fiona Ablett

Aug 26th Maureen Woolley & Fiona Ablett

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

The deadline for the next magazine is **Thursday 9th August**

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Large format copies of the magazine are available.

Rector Writes

August 2018

This is a short version of the sermon preached by the Rector on 24th June 2018

Refugees, asylum seekers: they are rarely out of the news. We have a problem, and it's not going to go away. Jesus said: 'Love your neighbour as yourself'. The Judeo-Christian tradition is clear: 'Love the stranger in your midst'.

In 1981 Willy Brandt – who had been the Chancellor of West Germany, produced a report. The Brandt Report was concerned about the growing gap in living standards between the Southern and Northern hemispheres. The report mainly addressed the economic system. It had a purpose of world peace and security: such a large gap in living standards is a threat, because humans will always seek to travel to better themselves. 37 years ago, the possibility of mass movements of population in the future was foreseen. Brandt urged the nations of the Northern hemisphere to work together to respond humanely. His report stated: '*commitments to international cooperation in the resettlement of refugees in the future will be necessary to protect countries of first asylum from unfair burdens*'.

One stated reason for resisting refugees on the border of Europe is the threat to the Christian values of Europe. One may ask who is threatening Christian values when destitute, desperate people are turned away. Of course, it's not that simple. There are personal Christian ethics, and there are corporate Christian ethics. The individual may be as altruistic and as self-denying as he or she desires. But a government is not at liberty to make sacrifices that will weaken the integrity of the nation state.

So, maybe the tide of history has turned in such a way that asylum seekers and refugees are now a danger to the nation state? That's how Jews were treated throughout European history - until the Holocaust. Or is Europe increasingly unwelcoming because many refugees are Muslims? Does being Muslim make you less than human? That's what Europeans thought about Jews - until the Holocaust.

Or is the Islamist terrorist threat so great that our humanity and our Christianity has now been eclipsed by fear? A nation that is dictated to by fear is not a Christian nation.

Or is it that the alien culture of refugees is a security threat to European nations? Will Europe become less European if more refugees are rescued?

Or is it that any one country that accepts refugees fears that its neighbouring countries will close their borders, so that it alone has the cost and burden of taking in refugees? Certainly, it's not only barriers to refugees that are now being imposed: it's barriers between countries. It's not what Willy Brandt called for. Barriers beget barriers; barriers beget mistrust and fear; mistrust and fear beget war.

The Judeo-Christian tradition is one of unqualified welcome to the stranger. None of us is so lacking in personal vulnerability that we may despise those who are the most vulnerable.

To some extent, these are archetypal, ageless conflicts: between a settled population and people on the move; between rich and poor; between powerful and powerless; between the dominant population and minorities. Also, there are new conflicts: weapons of mass destruction in the hands of international terrorists; suicide bombers; cyber warfare; asymmetric conflict.

Still the old dangers remain, of inter-ethnic violence that leads to genocide. There is confusion. There is mistrust. There is fear. Pray for all people on God's earth.

Revd Jon Hale

DIARY AUGUST 2018

Thu 2nd 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

Sun 5th **Trinity 10**
 9.45am *Holy Communion at Birtles*
 11.15am *Holy Communion at Alderley*
 6.30pm *Family Service at Birtles*
Evensong at Alderley

Thu 9th 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

Sun 12th **Trinity 11**
 9.45am *Family Service at Alderley*
 11.15am *Holy Communion at Birtles*
 6.30pm *Holy Communion at Alderley (said)*

Thurs 16th 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

Sun 19th **Trinity 12**
 8.00am *Holy Communion at Alderley*
 9.45am *Holy Communion at Alderley*
 11.15am *Mattins at Birtles*
 6.30pm *Evensong at Alderley*

Thurs 23rd 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

Sun 26th **Trinity 13**
 9.45am *Family Service at Alderley*
 11.15am *Holy Communion at Birtles*
 6.30pm *Evensong at Alderley*

Thurs 30th 10.00am Holy Communion at Alderley

ROTA FOR AUGUST 2018

SIDESPEOPLE / LECTORS / WARDENS

D'T	TIME	SIDESPEOPLE	LECTOR	W'N
5th Aug	8.00am	(at Birtles)		
	9.45am	Mr A Claridge & Mrs W Liddle	Mrs W Liddle	MP
	6.30pm			AJH
12th Aug	9.45am	Mrs J Martin & Mr M Stonehewer	Mrs M Stonehewer	DH/JY
	6.30pm	Mrs A Robinson	Mrs A Robinson	AJH
19th Aug	8.00am			HW
	9.45am	Mr M Wilkinson & Mrs H Jabr	Mrs S J Wilkinson	MP/ KW
	6.30pm	Mr M Dyer	Mr M Dyer	AJH
26th Aug	9.45am	Mr G Woolley & Mrs M Woolley	Mrs A Davis	MP
	6.30pm	Mr G Barrie	Mr P Kershaw	AJH
	9.45am			
	6.30pm			

COFFEE is available in the Parish Hall after the 9.45am Service.

At the end of the Morning Service coffee and biscuits are provided by a stalwart group of volunteers in the Parish Hall.

Donations will be given to charity.

On why pews are better than chairs

The Rectory, St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

While it was good to see you when you visited us last Sunday, your casual suggestion to our churchwardens that chairs would be far more comfortable than our pews was not well received. You must remember that significant numbers in any congregation firmly believe that the more uncomfortable they are, the holier they must be. Pews, generally designed several centuries ago when legs were shorter and bottoms smaller, are conducive neither to comfort nor sleep - although Colonel Marchington achieves the latter unerringly every Sunday within minutes of arrival.

At least with pews, parishioners can make some pretence at kneeling, adopting that peculiar crouch only ever seen in church life. Attempt that with chairs and you are assured of sending the one in front sliding across the floor with a shriek any banshee would be proud of. Chairs may be all very well in your own church, so you can create space for the delights of liturgical dance and baby clinics, but we prefer something more immovable. Little Miss Thripp has, over the years, created something of a nest where she sits, quietly bringing in cushions, travelling rugs and her own supply of books and peppermints – although we did have to draw the line at the primus stove, since it encouraged Major Hoare to install a drinks cabinet in his pew.

Pews, unlike rows of chairs, also create territorial behaviour. If a visitor should sit in a pew where regulars have sat for the last 50 years, it is regarded as if it were the invasion of Poland. One innocent family once chose the pew where generations of the Psmith family have sat since dinosaurs roamed the land. The Psmiths had no intention of ceding territory peacefully and so for the whole of Mattins, one pew which should have held 6 people sat 9. When they stood to sing, the line exploded into the aisles on both sides, returning to their compressed state, necessitating staggered shallow breathing, when re-seated.

I will concede, however, that we made one mistake some years ago when the pews were re-varnished without having been fully cleaned first. The result is that every time the congregation stands, the organ is drowned out by the sound of tearing, while coats and jackets reluctantly part company with wood.

No, your congregation may relax in the luxury of padded chairs, but we will stoutly maintain our holy discomfort.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

Email addresses

The email address of the Office at The Rectory is alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com. Ken Wilkinson – the Church Administrator – works in the office on Wednesday and Friday mornings.

You can also contact the Rector on this email address: vicar@jkcahale.co.uk

COLLECTION TOTAL

Week ending	Gift Aid Envelopes	Non-Gift Aid & Misc Cash	Standing Orders	Total
Jun 3 rd	279.50	12.00		291.50
Jun 10 th	274.95	170.00		444.95
Jun 17 th	215.00	73.37		288.37
Jun 24 th	396.30	43.90		440.20
TOTAL	1165.75	299.27	646.00	2111.02

Donald Henderson Tel 01625 584008 or email orchardmain@ntlworld.com

NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB July draw winners

1st prize Anne Storey

2nd prize Will Ablett

3rd prize Juliana Maynard

Congratulations to all the winners

Your cheque or standing order gives you a chance of being the winner.

Forms can be found at the back of Church and in the Parish Hall Kitchen.

Over £6000 has now been handed over to St Mary's treasurer, towards the day to day running costs of the Church.

Thank you to all participants!!

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Summer is creeping on – hot and sunny!!

If you want to come to the Summer Lunch on August 21st at Wilmslow Garden Centre please let me know by Saturday August 18th. If you feel like joining us do come.

Marie has progressed with the Theatre outing on November 10th. There are 25 people going to that.

Please be aware of the Open Weekend Sept.29/30. (see page 6)

I am making a rota for the cafe. If anybody can help please let me know.

The cafe will be open from 11.00 am Saturday, also from after the brunch on Sunday.

Cakes would be very acceptable.

We have decided not to offer coffee after morning service on Sundays in August. It will give our few willing helpers a well earned rest!

Janet Adamson 01625 583320.

Walking

A group of friends from St Mary's are going for a walk on the **8th September 2018**. The details are given below and anyone interested is welcome to join the group.

If you do come along, you do so at your own risk as walking can be a hazardous activity. Children and/or dogs are also welcome but you have to take full responsibility for them. It is advisable that you have appropriate footwear and clothing with you to cope with any weather and ground conditions that might be met.

Colne Valley and Slaithwaite Moor

Starting at 10.00 am prompt on the 8th September from Marsden Railway Station (HD7 6EA). Road parking nearby.

Grid ref: SE046118, Map - OS Explorer OL21

Length: 8 miles.

Grade: Easy/Moderate over varied terrain. Two short hill climbs.

Further information: Packed lunch needed with drinks needed. Contact Will Ablett (01625 585180 or 07977 978620) with any questions. Planned coffee stop in Slaithwaite and lunch stop at the Rose & Crown Pub if anyone would prefer to re-fuel at a café/pub.

Prayer Calendar for the Parish of St.Mary, Alderley

Week beginning Sunday	Please pray for
5 th August	All households in the parish
12 th August	Noahs Ark Lane
19 th August	All who live alone in the parish
26 th August	Ancoats Lane

The church parish of St.Mary, Alderley includes the civil parishes of Nether Alderley and Great Warford. I have drawn up a prayer list of 52 entries (one for each week of the year) which has all roads in the parish that have residential properties, and all institutions, public amenities, pastoral priorities, and democratic bodies in and serving the parish.

The Rector writes about Prayer

We can all pray. We can all pray about the things that are of greatest concern to us. We can all give thanks for the joys and gifts that we are blessed with.

We can also pray with others as one body. That is why this magazine now includes the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer and the Parish Prayer Calendar. In the weekly news sheet that is handed out to all worshippers on Sundays at St.Mary's Church you will also find the daily Bible readings and the Psalm that are the focus of prayer every morning in the Church of England in Morning Prayer. If you cannot get to church and would like these daily Bible readings and Psalm please let me know and I will get them to you.

Fun Dog Show and Fete

Over Alderley Reading Room

Bank Holiday Monday 27th August

1pm

On Facebook go to overalderleyandbirtlesreadingroom

Diocesan Prayer Intentions for August 2018

The Benefice of Alderley & Birtles lies within the Diocese of Chester and the Deanery of Knutsford. Throughout the year, on a daily basis, you are invited to hold in prayer all aspects of Diocesan life in Christ. This is the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer.

August 2018

- 1st The parish of Marple
- 2nd The parish of Compstall (or Werneth)
- 3rd The parish of Whaley Bridge
- 4th The parish of Mellor

Sunday 5th Give thanks for ancient and lasting words to express of longings in prayer

- 6th Pray for the Deanery of Frodsham
- 7th The parish of Alvanley & Manley
- 8th The parish of Dunham on the Hill
- 9th The parish of Frodsham
- 10th The parish of Grange
- 11th The ecumenical parish of Hallworth

Sunday 12th Pray for the work of Retreat Houses. <http://www.foxhillchester.co.uk/whats-on/residential-retreats/>

- 13th The parish of Halton
- 14th The parish of Helsby
- 15th The parish of Kingsley
- 16th The parish of Norley
- 17th The parish of Norton
- 18th The parish of Runcorn All Saints

The current edition of the Diocesan cycle of prayer runs until 18th August. A new edition will be published after the date at which this parish magazine goes to press.

Thank you to Mark Wilkinson and Will Ablett for arranging Text Giving and Online Giving for St.Mary's Church.

Text Giving: Text SUND05 £5 to 70070 to donate £5 (the £5 can be any amount up to £10).

Online Giving: go to www.alderleychurch.co.uk and click on 'Donate to St.Mary's Church, Alderley'. There is no limit to the amount that you can donate by using online giving.

More people use a card for all payments now and do not carry cash or a cheque book. That's why more and more parish churches have Text Giving and Online Giving. These methods also enable giving by people who want to support St.Mary's Church but who do not come to the church or who live at a distance away. If you have queries about this please talk with Mark Wilkinson or Will Ablett.

Alderley Church News

July saw the launch of a new St.Mary's Church regular publication: Alderley Church News, aimed specifically at the new homes in Alderley Park. The first new home was occupied in May, and the new community will be growing fast throughout the summer and autumn. Every few weeks, **Alderley Church News** will be delivered to all the occupied homes in Alderley Park. If you would like to join the distribution team please let the Rector know

Change to worship at 9.45am on Sundays to make it more welcoming of younger families

When the Parochial Church Council met on 22nd March, it agreed that from 1st August this will be the Sunday service pattern at 9.45am:

- 1st Sunday: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) – as now
- 2nd Sunday: Family Service (Common Worship) – as now
- 3rd Sunday: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) – as now
- 4th Sunday: Family Service (Common Worship)
- 5th Sunday: to vary.

At the same meeting, the Church Council also agreed that we will aim to introduce Common Worship Holy Communion early in 2019 and that this might be either monthly or on the 5th Sunday, and that this will be decided by the PCC later in 2018. A Communion service in the Common Worship style is more accessible to strangers to worship and it uses language that is easily understood.

I know that the Book of Common Prayer is greatly valued: I value it greatly. I am also looking to the future and the need to bring in younger adults and their children. Changing from the Book of Common Prayer Communion service to the Common Worship service will be a significant change and I will do all I can to make the change in a sensitive way. Please don't hesitate to talk with me.

ST.MARY'S CHURCH
PARISH OF NETHER ALDERLEY & GREAT WARFORD SK10 4TW

www.stmarysalderley.com
www.alderleychurch.co.uk

OPEN WEEKEND
WITH
HARVEST FLOWER DISPLAY
ALSO
LOCAL WORLD WAR 1 DISPLAY

Saturday 29th September 11.00am – 4.30pm

&

Sunday 30th September 2.00pm – 4.30pm

St. Mary's 14th C church has a wealth of history!
Guided tours available

Stanley Mausoleum open. Free entry.

(light refreshments will be available throughout the weekend)

AND

'4 HANDS ON THE PIANO'

Saturday 29th September at 7.30pm

Tickets for the evening event at £10, available from
Michael Penlington (01625 530084) or Marie Stonehewer (01625 590105)
or Avril Lamond (01625 583985)

(including wine and canapes)

**Oasis Centre's fund raising Gala Dinner at Gorton Monastery
on Sunday 18th November**

St.Mary's Church has a significant supporting link with the Oasis Centre at Gorton in East Manchester. You can leave donations of food and other essentials in the basket at the back of St.Mary's Church whenever the church is open. Our sister church in the benefice of St.Catherine, Birtles also has established links with Oasis.

The Oasis Centre is a day centre in Gorton which aims to see God-given transformation for the people of East Manchester from chaos, isolation and hopelessness, to stability, community and fullness of life. Oasis provides an essential 'first rung on the ladder' for those who are hardest to reach: people whose lives are characterised by crisis, loneliness and despair. Oasis enables people to address the often complex issues behind their immediate needs, with compassion and respect.

Later this year, construction of a new building in Gorton for Oasis will commence. This new building will replace the cramped and out-dated accommodation that Oasis currently works in. Funds have been raised by the generosity of many people and many businesses to pay for this new building.

In order to pay for the fitting out of the new building, Oasis is holding a Gala Dinner at Gorton Monastery on Sunday 18th November this year. The purpose of the dinner is to expand Oasis' support base and regular giving capacity, and to raise funds to pay for the fitting out. St.Mary's Church has been invited by Oasis to host a table of 10 at the Gala Dinner. Would you like to be on a table hosted by St.Mary's Church? Please contact either of these Oasis supporters at St.Mary's Church by 9th September before St.Mary's Church books a table: Peter Reynolds on 01625 583120; or the Revd Jon Hale on 01625 585440.

To find out more about Oasis, go to its website: <http://oasisgorton.org/> Gorton Monastery: <https://www.themonastery.co.uk/the-venue/banquets-and-awards/>

Hello all,

On 25th June, I went over to Oasis, to meet Victoria. He provided her with all the money raised this year from the 10K run. The matching funding from Hilti has been submitted and approved so the total for 2018 should be £960 when the gift aid is also recovered.

Peter Reynolds