

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

25-11-18 - Evan Douglas Harris
Poppy Sophia Kennon

Weddings

Funerals

9-11-18- Neil Morris, followed by burial @ Great Warford Baptist Chapel
12-11-18 - Memorial service for Stuart Alan Turner.

FLOWER ROTA

Dec 2nd	Advent
Dec 9th	Advent
Dec 16th	Advent
Dec 23rd	Advent
Dec 30th	Christmas

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

The deadline for the next magazine is **Thursday 13th Dec 2018**
Please send all copy to:

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& Distribution: Peter Bean: 01625 582073

Large format copies of the magazine are available.

Rector Writes

December 2018

The Rector writes about the Prophet Isaiah

The Book of Isaiah is found in the Old Testament of the Bible. Isaiah is the appetiser – the essential preliminary – the scene-setter – for Christmas.

You may know Isaiah from:

- Handel's 'Messiah': "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace". Isaiah 9: 6.
- Bob Dylan's song 'All along the watch tower' (Were you watching Vanity Fair on TV in the Autumn? This was the song that was played as the carousel turned): "My Lord, I stand continually upon the watchtower in the daytime, and I am set in my ward whole nights: ⁹ And, behold, here cometh a chariot of men, with a couple of horsemen. And he answered and said, 'Babylon is fallen, is fallen; and all the graven images of her gods he hath broken unto the ground.'" Isaiah 21: 5-9

Isaiah is about the fate of the nations of Israel and Judah before they were overcome by the Kingdom of Assyria. Warnings of moral corruption and the seduction of riches are Isaiah's theme. In the year 734 BC, Judah – the Northern Kingdom - accepted protection from Assyria – but at great cost. Isaiah was a witness to these events and he recorded them. Isaiah was pleading with the people of Judah to put their trust in God. The primary strength of Isaiah is that he places God above all things.

- He writes early in the book about his own vision of God in the Temple, which marked him for his vocation.
- Throughout the turmoil of his times, Isaiah consistently describes the characteristics of God: the majestic, glorious God who demands justice among people and sincerity in their worship. God seeks faithfulness among the people, and this is called for all the more by Isaiah, the worse things become.
- Isaiah foretells a descendant of David who will be the Messiah – anointed by God – who will establish peace and justice in all nations, and who will make the knowledge of God known.

The Church of England provides a course of daily Bible readings. Throughout Advent, Isaiah is the book from which these readings are taken. I invite you to read each day from Isaiah throughout Advent, as I will be doing

(see page 6)

DIARY DECEMBER 2018

Sat. 1st	10.00am	Christmas Fair
Sun.2nd	First Sunday of Advent	
	8.00am	Holy Communion at Birtles
	9.45am	Holy Communion at Alderley
	11.15am	Family Service at Birtles
	6.30pm	Evensong at Alderley
Thur 6th	10.00am	Holy Communion at Alderley
Sun 9th	Second Sunday of Advent	
	9.45am	Family Service at Alderley
	11.15am	Holy Communion at Birtles
	6.30pm	Deanery Choral Evensong at Alderley
Thurs 13th	10.00am	Holy Communion
Sun. 16th	Third Sunday of Advent	
	8.00am	Holy Communion at Alderley
	9.45am	9 Lessons and Carols at Alderley
	11.15am	Nativity Play at Birtles
	6.30pm	9 Lessons and Carols at Alderley
Thurs 20th	10.00am	Holy Communion
Fri 21st	11.00am	Primary School Carol Service
Sun. 23rd	Fourth Sunday of Advent	
	9.45am	Family Service at Alderley
	11.15am	Holy Communion at Birtles
	6.30pm	Evensong at Alderley
Mon 24th	Christmas Eve	
	3.00pm	Crib Service at Alderley
	10.00pm	Christmas Communion at Birtles
	11.00pm	Christmas Communion at Alderley
Tue 25th	Christmas Day	
	9.45am	Holy Communion at Alderley
	11.15am	Family Carols at Birtles
Thurs 27th	10.00am	Holy Communion at Alderley
Sun 30th	First Sunday of Christmas	
	9.45am	Holy Communion at Alderley
	11.15am	Holy Communion at Birtles
	6.30pm	Evensong at Alderley

ROTA FOR DECEMBER 2018
SIDESPEOPLE / LECTORS / WARDENS

D'T	TIME	SIDESPEOPLE	LECTOR	W'N
2nd Dec	8.00am	(at Birtles)		
	9.45am	Mr G Hilton & Mrs W Liddle	Mrs W Liddle	MP
	6.30pm	Mrs L Kershaw	Mr P Kershaw	TF
9th Dec	9.45am	Mr A Claridge & Mr J Ratchford	Mrs A Davis	DH
	6.30pm	Mr M Dyer	Mr M Dyer	AJH
16th Dec	8.00am			HW
	9.45am	Mrs R Dyas & Mrs G Beeley	Various Readers	MP
	6.30pm	Mrs A Robinson	Various Readers	KW
23rd Dec	9.45am	Mr & Mrs G Woolley	AJH	TF
	6.30pm	Mrs A Robinson	Mrs A Robinson	AJH
24th Dec	3.00pm	Mr M Wilkinson & Mr T Fones	Mrs SJ Wilkinson	TF
	11.00pm		Mr K Wilkinson	KW
25th Dec	9.45am	Mr & Mrs G Woolley	Mr M Penlington	MP
30th Dec	9.45am	Mr M Wilkinson & Mrs E Jackson	Mrs SJ Wilkinson	MP
	6.30pm	Mr M Dyer	Mr M Dyer	AJH

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.

Animals that went to war

Over 16 million animals served in the **First World War**. They were used for transport, communication and companionship.

In 1914, both sides had large cavalry forces. Horse and camel-mounted troops were used in the desert campaigns throughout the war, but on the Western Front, new weapons like the machine gun made cavalry charges increasingly difficult. However, animals remained a crucial part of the war effort. Horses, donkeys, mules and camels carried food, water, ammunition and medical supplies to men at the front, and dogs and pigeons carried messages. Canaries were used to detect poisonous gas, and cats and dogs were trained to hunt rats in the trenches.

Animals were not only used for work. Dogs, cats, and more unusual animals including monkeys, bears and lions, were kept as pets and mascots to raise morale and provide comfort amidst the hardships of war

During WWI, it is estimated that 500,000 cats were brought to the trenches, and many more served on Navy ships. They helped the military by killing rats and other vermin that spread disease, and were sometimes used as gas detectors.

As one amazing story goes, a cat named Pitouchi was born in the trenches. His mother was killed when he was still a kitten. A Belgian soldier, Lieutenant Lekeux, adopted Pitouchi who went on to save Lekeux's life.....

.....:
"As Lekeux reached a spot near the German lines, he saw that they were digging a new trench. He hid himself in a shell hole nearby to make a sketch of the German works. He was so absorbed in his sketch that he did not notice approaching German soldiers on patrol. When he finally realized his situation, it was too late to run.

He decided to lie very still, hoping that the Germans would not see him, but unfortunately he heard one soldier say, "He's in the hole," so he knew he had been seen.

When Pitouchi heard the German say that, he jumped out of the hole onto a piece of timber. The Germans were startled and fired two shots at Pitouchi. However, as frightened as he was, Pitouchi was not hit, and he jumped back into the hole with his beloved Lekeux.

The Germans laughed and joked that they had mistaken a cat for a man and left. Lekeux finished his drawings and returned to the Belgian lines with Pitouchi on his shoulders."

COLLECTION TOTAL

Week ending	Gift Aid Envelopes	Non-Gift Aid & Misc Cash	Standing Orders	Total
7 th Oct	164.00	56.00		220.00
14 th Oct	204.00	43.65		247.65
21 st Oct	118.00	20.50		138.50
28 th Oct	328.00	49.72		377.20
TOTAL	814.00	169.87	1031.00	2014.87

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

NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB **November draw winners**

1st prize Margaret Austin
 2nd prize Linda Snape
 3rd prize Jenny Youatt

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!!

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.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

When you pickup your December Magazine, the Christmas Fair may be over. December 1st If it is not ? Please join us. We need all the support we can get. All detail in the November magazine.

The Carol Services are on December 16th.
There will be Coffee and goodies after the morning Service.
The Jubilee Committee are managing this.

2019 will be upon us. We are planning a Bridge Drive on Monday February 11th. 1.30 - 4.30.

Please put that date in your new Diary. We need to encourage some new faces. Please tell your friends. Again your support is essential.

It remains to wish everybody a Happy Christmas.

Janet Adamson 01625 583320.

Walking

A group of friends from St Mary's are going for a walk on the **5th Jan 2019**. 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.

A Stroll around Rainow

Starting at 10.00 am prompt on 5th January from The Poachers Inn, Bollington (SK10 5RE). Park on road nearby.

Grid ref: SJ944778, Map - OS Explorer OL24

Length: Just under 5 miles.

Grade: Easy/Moderate over varied terrain.

Further information: Hot drinks needed. It is intended to be back at the Poachers Inn for lunch for those interested. Contact Will Ablett (01625 585180 or 07977 978620) with any questions.

The Evans Theatre visit

It was a great way to spend a Saturday afternoon with friends, all twenty six of us – to watch Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat. Our thanks go to Marie Stonehewer for organising this for us. She worked hard making sure we all knew where to meet etc. and must have been very relieved when we were all safely gathered in and in our seats.

The performance was excellent from start to finish. It is impossible to pick out particular performances – the leading stars were stars! Joseph – Luke Clayton, the Pharaoh (Elvis in disguise) his father – Stephen Clayton, the Narrator – Vanessa Childs was on the stage all throughout the show. I must also say Joseph's brothers were amazing, obviously enjoying themselves, throwing themselves into their parts with great gusto.

The theatre was full, the children were as enthusiastic as the adults. It is a show for all ages and a story we all know whatever age we may be. Who could resist a coat of many colours, especially with a gold lining.

We left the theatre not knowing whether to sing or dance on the way home or both, secretly hoping Marie Stonehewer will be brave enough to organise another visit to the theatre in the future.

Roslyn Dutch



MOTHERS' UNION

“A Christmas Quiz”

Wednesday 12th December at 2.00pm

ALL ARE WELCOME SO PLEASE DO JOIN US!

Please pray for all who are considering attending 'Called to Serve' which is an annual event held in Chester Diocese for those who are interested in exploring licensed ministry in the church (ordination, Readers, Pastoral Workers, Church Army Evangelists, Religious Communities). It will be held in 2019 on Saturday 26th January at Foxhill House. For more information, email ddo@chester.anglican.org or phone Peter Bacon on 01928 718834 x 237. Booking is essential. The closing date for bookings is 18th January.

Prayer Calendar for the Parish of St.Mary, Alderley

2 nd December	Stubby Lane
9 th December	The Willows Nursing & Dementia Care Home: residents, staff, relatives of residents and the wider community of support.
16 th December	Bollington Lane
23 rd December	The Wizard pub
30 th December	Alderley Park

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

BIBLE STUDIES: The Book of Daniel and the apocalyptic roots of

Christian faith. Daniel raises questions that are highly relevant to us today, seeking to live our lives faithfully in a world of 'fake news' and megalomaniac empires. The Bible studies are in the Parish Rooms behind St Philip & St James church in Alderley Edge, mostly on the first Monday of the month starting 7.30pm. On Tuesday 4th December we will be looking at Chapters 3 & 4 of Daniel: "Who rules the world?" All welcome: all you need is an enquiring mind (and a Bible — preferably one with maps). For more information contact the Revd Jon Hale.

The Rector writes

In Advent and at Christmas there will be the usual full range of services and social events: something for everyone.

At the start of Advent, the Christmas Fair will be held in the Parish Hall at Church starting at 10.00am. The Barnby Choir will be singing Christmas carols.

On **Sunday 9th December** the Knutsford Deanery Choir will be with us for Evensong.

On **Sunday 16th December** the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols will take place at both 9.45am and 6.30pm. There will be coffee, mulled wine and mince pies in the Parish Hall after the 9.45am Service.

On **Christmas Eve**, the Blessing of the Christmas Crib Family Service is at 3.00pm followed by Holy Communion at 11.00pm.

On **25th December**, the Holy Communion service at St.Mary's Church is at 9.45am.

I look forward to meeting you on these occasions, and at other services and social events at St.Mary's Church.



CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday December 1st 10.00am – 1.00pm

Barnby Choir singing at
10.30am and 11.30am in Church

Wine and Mince Pies after 11.30am singing

Please come and join in

BRIDGE DRIVE

This has been organised for Monday February 11th in the Parish Hall starting 1.30pm. Tables will cost £26.

Please tell your friends, we rely on you to spread the word.

Let me know if you would like a Table. Jamet Adamson

The **Church of England** provides a course of daily Bible readings. Throughout Advent, Isaiah is the book from which these readings are taken. I invite you to read each day from Isaiah throughout Advent, as I will be doing.

Advent readings daily from Isaiah (an Advent calendar):

Sunday 2 nd December (Advent Sunday):	Isaiah 51: 4-11
Monday 3 rd	Isaiah 42: 18-end
Tuesday 4 th	Isaiah 43: 1-13
Wednesday 5 th	Isaiah 43: 14-end
Thursday 6 th	Isaiah 44: 1-8
Friday 7 th	Isaiah 44: 9-23
Saturday 8 th	Isaiah 44: 24 – 45: 13
Sunday 9 th (2 nd Sunday in Advent)	Isaiah 64: 1-7
Monday 10 th	Isaiah 45: 14-end
Tuesday 11 th	Isaiah 46
Wednesday 12 th	Isaiah 47
Thursday 13 th	Isaiah 48: 1-11
Friday 14 th	Isaiah 48: 12-end
Saturday 15 th	Isaiah 49: 1-13
Sunday 16 th (3 rd Sunday in Advent)	Isaiah 25: 1-9
Monday 17 th	Isaiah 49: 14-25
Tuesday 18 th	Isaiah 50
Wednesday 19 th	Isaiah 51: 1-8
Thursday 20 th	Isaiah 51: 9-16
Friday 21 st	Isaiah 51: 17-end
Saturday 22 nd	Isaiah 52: 1-12
Sunday 23 rd (4 th Sunday in Advent)	Isaiah 32: 1-8
Monday 24 th	Isaiah 52: 13 – 53-end

IVY COTTAGE TREE FARM

Racecourse Road , Wilmslow
Tel. 01625 531609

Enjoy the fragrance of a real Christmas Trees! Christmas Shop for trees, decorations etc. Is open from 20th November

They supply (with a generous discount) the Christmas trees for St.Mary's and \ donate the Christmas tree greenery for the decoration of the Church for Advent and Christmas

CAROL SINGING

We have arranged our annual Carol Singing for the nights of Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th December and as usual we will be visiting three pre-arranged venues on each of the nights.



Our two charities this year will be 'East Cheshire Hospice' and the 'N.S.P.C.C' and all the proceeds will be split equally. Last year we raised a grand total of £1400 over the two evenings!

Our happy band of 'singers' (all age groups) consists of any members of the Choir, Congregation and any 'Friends' of St.Mary.

Anyone wishing to join us should meet in the Church car park at **6.45pm on either of the two nights**. We are usually finished by approximately 9.30pm / 10.00pm.

Further details: Jenny Youatt (01625 585226)

CANDLE FUND

The candles around the Church during Advent and Christmas have become a feature at St.Mary's.

If you wish to make a donation towards the cost of the candles, envelopes are provided at the entrance to Church for your kind donations.

Michael Penlington