

# St.Mary, Alderley Cheshire



## Parish Magazine

July 2020

**At the time of writing, Her Majesty's Government is suggesting that in July public worship may start to be held again, although it remains to be seen if this is the case.**

**Church buildings were allowed to be re-opened in mid-June for private worship and for funerals.** Our sister church of St.Catherine at Birtles is open for private worship on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 10am to 12noon and 2pm to 6pm, and all are welcome there at these times. I am at the church on Fridays 4pm to 6pm. Until St.Mary's Church is re-opened, all funerals for the benefice will be held at St.Catherine's Church. I anticipate that for the foreseeable future, funerals will have a severe restriction on the congregation size and will be with social distancing.

**At the time of writing, St.Mary's Church has not yet been re-opened.** The checklists and risk assessment for re-opening a church building are published on the Church of England Coronavirus website. Part of the re-opening procedure is for the Churchwardens or their deputies to agree about areas of the building that will be roped off so that the area to be cleaned after each use is kept more manageable. There is also a need to agree arrangements for social distancing and cleaning, and how these will be carried out.

**I anticipate that when public worship does restart, congregation sizes may be smaller than usual because of caution about gathering together, even though social distancing measures will be in place.** Due to anticipated smaller congregations and because of the loss of income during lockdown, the Sunday services will be only at 9.45am and 6.30pm, and the 6.30pm services will be said. The services will be in the usual pattern except that the 6.30pm service on the fourth Sunday in the month will be Holy Communion. This is because the 9.45am service is now a Family Service. Two of our regular organists will not be available to play at St.Mary's Church in future due to their changed circumstances during lockdown (they have gone to live elsewhere) and it may be hard to engage an organist for every 9.45am service.

**If services may resume in July, and if we have been able to re-open the building, they will be:**

5<sup>th</sup> July (Trinity 4): 9.45am Holy Communion (BCP) & 6.30pm Evening Prayer (BCP)

12<sup>th</sup> July (Trinity 5): 9.45am Family Service (CW) & 6.30pm Holy Communion (BCP)

19<sup>th</sup> July (Trinity 6): 9.45am Holy Communion (CW) & 6.30pm Evening Prayer (BCP)

26<sup>th</sup> July (Trinity 7): 9.45am Family Service (CW) & 6.30pm Holy Communion (BCP)

BCP is Book of Common Prayer. CW is Common Worship.

Things will be different when we meet again for worship, but Christians are resilient, and the Lord will be worshipped in St.Mary's Church again as soon as we are able.

The funeral of Alan **HUSBAND** (90 years) of Welsh Row was held at Macclesfield Crematorium on 12th June.

**AUDREY DAVIES 20.7.27 –2.6.2020.**

Members of St. Mary's Church have been very saddened to hear of Audrey's death on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Audrey and Brian lived on Sand Lane for many years before moving to be near one of their sons in Cambridgeshire.

Audrey contributed fully to the life of St. Mary's. She was a committed Christian and a keen member of our Bible Study Group. Her artistic talents shone through in all she did. She was a joint Enrolling Member of the MU from 1982 for 6 years and brought the MU banner into being with professional help from a friend of hers, an embroidery designer Annwen Nicholas who helped the members of our branch when working on it.

Audrey used her many talents within the church; she was a Lector, flower arranger, pianist and, just to keep her busy ran a Keep Fit class until well into her 80s'

She brought her love of dancing and singing with her when she and Brian moved to Cheshire from Melton Mowbray; anyone who heard her read Joyce Grenfell's poems will never forget the experience.

With her death along with Brian's last year, St. Mary's has lost two hard working members who are greatly missed, and we send our condolences and prayers to Rob, Paul and their families.

Peter Bean, Peter Reynolds, Noni Watkins

**NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB**  
**Latest draw winners**

1 <sup>st</sup> prize	Shirley Bailey
2 <sup>nd</sup> prize	Helen Jabr
3 <sup>rd</sup> prize	Ines Jamieson

# TONGUE IN CHEEK!

My dear Nephew Darren

Visits from your parishioners are always welcome. But I did not expect them to return to you complaining because our pews are uncomfortable.

Pews are *meant* to be uncomfortable. The unshakeable belief of our congregation is that the more uncomfortable the pew, the holier the worship must be. By the same token, an 8am Service is more fervent than one at 11am, since it is much more socially inconvenient. If you add on enduring sub-zero temperatures and damp, then sainthood clearly beckons. Your people may be used to lolling in upholstered chairs in tropical temperatures, but I am sure such comfort places their souls in grave peril. Our pews were built five hundred years ago when people were several inches shorter and many pounds lighter and so could accommodate themselves on them perfectly adequately. The fact that a twenty-first century body is in constant danger of sliding off the seat and requires knees to be folded somewhere near ears at least helps to keep minds focussed – apart for Colonel Wainwright, who still manages to sleep peacefully throughout Mattins every Sunday.

I could point out that your chairs make kneeling almost impossible – although I suspect that posture is not encouraged in your church, as people would then be unable to read the words on your overhead projector or wave their arms about quite as easily during the hymns. While the majority of our congregation find the Anglican crouch perfectly adequate, you can see those who flop to their knees on hearing “let us pray” from the clouds of dust sent up from suddenly compressed hassocks, which were purchased to commemorate Queen Victoria’s Accession.

I may also point out that our box pews are very useful for modern times. Once a family is seated, with the door firmly shut, then any toddler is penned in and unable to use the aisles as a racing circuit. Medieval carpenters were clearly forward thinking people. Admittedly, box pew doors do tend to stick and few manage to look dignified while they wait for step ladders to be brought before they can climb out.

If only you would remove your chairs and substitute benches without backs, turn off all heating and replace carpets with slate slabs, I am sure your congregation’s religious zeal would soar.

Your loving Uncle, Eustace

## RECTOR of ALDERLEY

**The Revd. Antony Jolyon Hale (Jon)**  
Church Lane, Nether Alderley, SK10 4TW  
Email: [alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com](mailto:alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com)

**Benefice Administrator: Mr Ken Wilkinson**  
email: [alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com](mailto:alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com). Tel: (01625) 585440  
(office hours—Wednesdays and Fridays 10.00am - 1.00pm)

### WEBSITES

**www.alderleychurch.co.uk**  
Mark Wilkinson ([web@alderleychurch.co.uk](mailto:web@alderleychurch.co.uk)) 07879 657580

**www.stmarysaldерley.com** (our heritage)  
Jenny Youatt ([info@stmarysaldерley.com](mailto:info@stmarysaldерley.com))

**facebook—St.Mary's Church, Nether Alderley**  
[facebook.com/alderleychurch](https://facebook.com/alderleychurch)

**If services may resume in July, and if we have been able to re-open the building, they will be:**

### SUNDAY SERVICES

1st Sun (Book of Common Prayer) Holy Communion  
3rd Sunday (Common Worship) Holy Communion  
2nd & 4th Sunday Family Service)

Evening Prayer: 6.30pm (Holy Communion 2nd Sunday)

#### Hon Assistant Priest:

Revd.Canon Peter Hunt 1, Varden Town Cottages  
Birtles Lane, Over Alderley (01625) 829593

#### Church Wardens:

Mr Michael Penlington 3, Pownall Cottage (01625) 530084  
(Vice Chairman – PCC) Altrincham Road, Wilmslow  
email: [michael.penlington574@btinternet.com](mailto:michael.penlington574@btinternet.com)

Mr Ken Wilkinson 50, Bowerfold Lane, Heaton Norris (0161432 3490)  
email: [ken@stockport061.co.uk](mailto:ken@stockport061.co.uk)

#### Hon PCC Secretary:

Mrs Steph Wilkinson email: [pccsecretary@alderleychurch.co.uk](mailto:pccsecretary@alderleychurch.co.uk)

#### Hon Treasurer:

Mr Will Ablett 14, Chapel Rd, Alderley Edge (01625) 585180  
email: [will@abletts.co.uk](mailto:will@abletts.co.uk)

**Envelope & Gift Aid Scheme Administrator:**

Mr Donald Henderson 31, Trafford Road, Alderley Edge (01625) 584008  
email: [orchardmain@ntlworld.com](mailto:orchardmain@ntlworld.com)

**Electoral Roll Officer**

Mrs Helen Jabr (01625 585852) email: [helen@jabr.org.uk](mailto:helen@jabr.org.uk)

**Archivist**

Mrs Jenny Youatt (01625) 585226 email: [info@stmarysaldlerley.com](mailto:info@stmarysaldlerley.com)

**Organist:**

St. Mary's is currently without a regular organist. The Church is grateful to the many organists who have been playing service by service since August 2017

**The Church Choir:**

The Choir sings at the 9.45am and the 6.30pm services each week. Practices take place fortnightly on Wednesdays at 7.45pm. New members are welcome. Please contact any member of the choir.

**Church Flower Rota**

Mrs Avril Lamond (01625) 583985  
email: [avrillamond@btinternet.com](mailto:avrillamond@btinternet.com)

Mr Michael Penlington (Festivals) (01625) 530084  
email: [michael.penlington574@btinternet.com](mailto:michael.penlington574@btinternet.com)

**Captain of the Tower:** (*Practice 7.30pm Tuesdays*)

Mr Peter Robinson 1, Drumblefield, Chelford (01625) 860679  
email: [peterfiona@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:peterfiona@hotmail.co.uk)

**Prayer Book Society Representative**

Mrs Anne Dodd Long Spinney, Sand Lane, NA (01625) 583613

**Mothers' Union** (*3rd Wednesday at 2.00 pm*)

Mrs Anne Cockburn (*committee member*) (01625) 585242

**Parish Hall Bookings**

Keith Farrell, Wyche Barn, Nursery Lane, 07939 671344  
Nether Alderley. SK10 4TX

**Parish Hall Costs:**

£15 per hour - minimum 2 hours

**Burial Board:** (*Clerk*)

Barbara Thorpe 07717 244 537  
email: [clerk.napc@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.napc@gmail.com)



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