

St.Mary, Alderley



Parish Magazine

May 2021

The Rector's sermon on Easter Day

Acts 10: 34-43 & John 20: 1-18

Jesus willingly made himself subject to human sinfulness. All of humanity – Jew and Gentile – put Jesus on the cross, and on the cross, Jesus died to set all of humanity free from sin and death. Jesus willingly entered fully into the human condition. He did this for us all. He dies with all of us. In our death, we die with Christ, and in our death we rise to new life with Christ.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is, to use the Latin, *sui generis*. It is in a class of its own. There is nothing like it; nothing to compare it with. The uniqueness, the shock, of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ perplexed and bewildered and terrified. It was so unexpected and visceral that it made witnesses dumbfounded and frightened, and they behaved in strange ways, unable to take in what they were seeing. It was Mary who kept her head. Mary it was who stayed, and watched, and waited, and wept. Weeping has its purpose and it's not to be dismissed. Waiting makes us passive, which changes our perception. Watching hones our attentiveness. Staying, when others have left, gives us a sense of purpose, a calling, a destiny. The encounter of Mary and Jesus is one of many long descriptions in St. John's Gospel of individuals talking deeply with Jesus. We may talk deeply with Jesus when we pray. When we stay, and watch, and wait, and weep, we may well find ourselves praying with Jesus. And praying is a two-way conversation. After praying, we may find that we have changed our mind, or mood, our demeanour, our perceptions, our resolve. The Resurrection is our assurance that when we are praying, it is prayer that we are doing, and that our prayer is deep engagement with God. This is about our mortality. In our death, we die with Christ, and in our death we rise to new life with Christ.

We were not able to be here on Easter Day last year. Now we have a new perspective on our mortality and it's called 'pandemic'. One of the features of the past 12 months has been the emergence of online worship. Last Sunday morning on Zoom, and livestreamed on Facebook, there were twice as many people at worship than were worshipping in our two churches in total on a Sunday before the pandemic. This morning's service at St. Mary's Church is being livestreamed on Zoom and Facebook, but I don't think we have the resources to keep both Sunday worship in church and Sunday worship online going, week by week – unless someone can come forward to do this.

For me, I need a rest in April. It has been a privilege to write a weekly (until August last year) and then a fortnightly (since New Year) letter or email to everyone who is a regular or occasional worshipper at both our churches – 250 people in total. Thank you for our correspondence and our phone calls. But I can't keep that up, now that there are weekly services in church to plan and lead. I am pleased that Rachel Roberts – a licensed Reader in our Diocese, based at Alderley Edge parish church – has been seconded to us until the summer and maybe for longer. (pto)

Since late last year, I have been a member of the ministry team at Alderley Edge parish church, so that in these difficult times I have colleagues in ministry. While Rachel is seconded here, I also play a small part in the life and worship of St.Philip & St.James Church.

There will be generations who follow us, and the current pandemic will take its place in history. The early church was deeply traumatised by the events of the death of Jesus – and, indeed, by his Resurrection, and at the same time divinely inspired by the Holy Spirit. Out of that turmoil, and from the Day of Pentecost onwards, the church emerged as a flawed, yet determined body of believers. We have been through a hard time and the future is still uncertain. But that has never stopped the thriving of the church, rather, the church thrives on uncertainty because the one certain thing is our Lord, Jesus Christ. So this is a day of celebration! Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Services in May at 9.45am will be in the usual pattern:

1st Sunday: Holy Communion (traditional)

2nd Sunday: Family Service

3rd Sunday: Holy Communion (contemporary)

4th Sunday : Family Service

5th Sunday: Holy Communion (contemporary)

From the Registers:

Baptisms - none

Weddings - none

Funerals and Burials:

18th March. The funeral of Agnes 'Ines' JAMIESON at Macclesfield Crematorium

31st March. The funeral of Max ESSAYAN at St.Mary's Church followed by burial at Sale Cemetery.

NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB

Latest draw winners

1 st prize	David Mogg
2 nd prize	Barry Smith
3 rd prize	John Wareham

The Annual Meeting of St.Mary's Church

The St.Mary's Church Annual Meeting will be held in either Nether Alderley Parish Hall or in St.Mary's Church (depending on pandemic regulations) on Thursday 20th May at 7.30pm. If pandemic rules are such that we may not meet in person, then we will meet online by Zoom.

The Annual Meeting elects Churchwardens for the 12 months ahead and other members of the Parochial Church Council. The meeting will also receive the Annual Report and Accounts for 2020 together with the annual report on Safeguarding at St.Mary's Church.

Immediately after the Annual Meeting the Parochial Church Council will meet to appoint officers of St.Mary's Church for the next 12 months and the members of the Standing Committee.

Please come to the Annual Meeting. Notices about it will be in the church in advance of the meeting.

Tuesday's Social Meetings

Fiona and I have run the Zoom Social meetings for six months now. They have proved extremely successful. We have contact with around 50 people on a regular basis. Some join our Tuesday get togethers. They receive a weekly resume. Others just receive the resume. Some on my list get a phone call on a monthly basis.

All this has meant we know exactly who needs help and support, and we can activate it as required.

If anybody would like to join with this enterprise please let us know.

Janet. 01625 5833320. Fiona 01625 585180

St.Mary's MU News

60th ANNIVERSARY 17th MAY 1961 - ---2021

On 12th April 1961. A group of ladies met at the Rectory by invitation of Evelyn Pilling (Rector's wife)

Just as Mary Sumner had held her first meeting. This was followed by an enrolment service in church when approximately 30 ladies were enrolled.

What a long way we have come since then. Women stayed at home so this was a great way of getting out and meeting other local women with their babies and young children.

Today's world is rather busier with different challenges but amazingly MU has stood the test of time but we know differently. The kind of work that goes on within MU has far outreached Mary Sumner's vision with over 4 million members in 83 countries.

You may feel our part at St.Mary's MU does not fulfil much, but surely supporting each other is a gift from God. We need each other, we need a new future for our MU.

Ann Austin

Updated News

I have just spoken to Keith Farrell who has told me the Parish Hall will be available for us to use on Wednesday 21st July at 2pm and Rector is available to take our finishing service in church followed by a Celebration tea in the Hall. (See above)

I apologise for "jumping the gun" but as it is not possible at the moment to hold a committee meeting (Corvid) and the future is still unknown re the Parish Hall availability after July I thought it the correct decision and as soon as the committee are able to meet we can discuss the details etc. I feel a gathering together of us all is a priority at this time. Rachel Roberts (Reader) who is helping our parish at the moment has offered to be with us.

The future from then on is unknown until the Hall is back in use, In the meantime, keep well and God Bless

Noni Watkins

RECTOR of ALDERLEY

The Revd. Antony Jolyon Hale (Jon)

Church Lane, Nether Alderley, SK10 4TW

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WEBSITES

www. alderleychurch.co.uk

Mark Wilkinson (*web@alderleychurch.co.uk*) 07879 657580

www.stmarysaldерley.com (our heritage)

Jenny Youatt (*info@stmarysaldерley.com*)

facebook—St.Mary's Church, Nether Alderley

SUNDAY SERVICES

1st Sunday: Holy Communion (traditional)

2nd Sunday: Family Service

3rd Sunday: Holy Communion (contemporary)

4th Sunday : Family Service

5th Sunday: Holy Communion (contemporary)

Hon Assistant Priest:

Revd.Canon Peter Hunt (01625) 829593

Church Warden & Lay Chairman –PCC

Mr Ken Wilkinson (0161 432 3490)

email: ken@stockport061.co.uk

Hon PCC Secretary:

Mr P Kershaw (01625) 532969

email: pdkconsulting@gmail.com

Hon Treasurer:

Mr Will Ablett (01625) 585180

email: will@abletts.co.uk

Envelope & Gift Aid Scheme Administrator:

Mr Donald Henderson (01625) 584008

Electoral Roll Officer

Mrs L Kershaw (01625) 532969
email: pdkconsulting@gmail.com

Archivist

Mrs Jenny Youatt (01625) 585226
email: info@stmaryslderley.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:

all services are currently said because of Coronavirus regulations

Church Flower Rota

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

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

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

Mr Peter Robinson (01625) 860679
email: peterfiona@hotmail.co.uk

Prayer Book Society Representative

Mrs Anne Dodd

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

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

Parish Hall Bookings

Keith Farrell, 07939 671344

Parish Hall Costs:

£15 per hour - minimum 2 hours

Burial Board: (*Clerk*)

Barbara Thorpe 07717 244 537
email: clerk.napc@gmail.com



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