

St.Mary, Alderley



Parish Magazine

July 2021

From the sermon preached by the Rector on 13th June. Mark 4: 26-34

On Tuesday evening I took a walk that I have done many times before: out through Alderley Park and around the end of Radnor Mere, then through the wood to Bradford Lane. From there, I took the path up the hill towards Hayman's Quarry. This path is the parish boundary between Nether Alderley and Over Alderley. On the top of Finlow Hill I turned, and I began to walk down the path towards Bradford Lane, into the low sunlight. This is the place where the parish boundary makes an unexpected kink to take into Over Alderley parish a few fields, where, if the boundary had continued straight to Finlow Hill Wood, the fields would have been in Nether Alderley. Parish boundaries are usually understood to date from the 13th Century - formed from pre-existing land units – estates, or 'townships'. The kink in the parish boundary at the top of Finlow Hill suggests that in the 13th Century there were enclosures – fields and possibly habitation – there, and that they belonged to a land holding in Over Alderley. So, we may say that 700 years ago someone was living at, or near, Finlow Hill, and farming the land.

When Jesus of Nazareth spoke, using illustrations from farming, he was speaking directly to everyday experience. The toil of those who work on the land is essential to keep us all fed. In the 700 years since the parish boundary was drawn, that task has become more and more specialised, so that, for most people now, Jesus' parables of growth are not part of everyday life but more like primary school nature lessons. Jesus spoke in parables because people can be very literal in their understanding. A parable is a teasing, testing kind of story: it speaks in a way that makes you think. It tries to lift the hearer from a literal frame of mind so that they have to use their imagination. And a parable celebrates the way in which faith works. An invitation to faith is an invitation to lift one's sight above the cares of this life – above the daily rhythm and routine, and to hear – even in this daily rhythm and routine, God's invitation teasing us and testing us.

Today's parables are parables of growth. 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself. The emphasis is on the small part that the farmer plays in the process. Farmers work very hard, but the process of growth is a miracle of itself. In the same way, Our Lord is saying: 'Those who are disciples of Jesus must model themselves on the farmer. Just as the farmer leaves growth to the process of nature, so we must have faith in God to bring about His purposes'. We should not be impatient or discouraged. We must continue to watch, and to pray, and to be faithful to our Lord's commands to love God and to love and serve our neighbour.

(continued)

'A mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs'. The unspectacular and outwardly insignificant ministry of Jesus may not look like the sort of thing that can usher in the Kingdom of God, but the example of the mustard seed should prevent us judging the significance of the results from the current situation.

Taken together, these two parables have sustained hope in the church for the last two thousand years. This is why we are here, and it is in the hope of Jesus Christ that our parish church will remain, thrive and grow. To paraphrase St.Paul from our passage this morning from his Second Letter to the Church in Corinth: 'So we are always confident for we walk by faith, not by sight.

NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB

Latest draw winners

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 st prize | Mrs Ronelda Dyas |
| 2 nd prize | Mrs Sally Hildrup |
| 3 rd prize | Mr Harry Cataquet |

Flower Rota:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 4th and 11th July. | Janet Adamson and Hellie Jaber |
| 18th and 25th July | Fiona Ablett and Maureen Woolley. |

Times of services at St.Mary's Church on Sundays at 9.45am in July

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| Sunday 4 th July | Trinity 5 | Holy Communion (Book of C Prayer) |
| Sunday 11 th July | Trinity 6 | Family Service |
| Sunday 18 th July | Trinity 7 | Holy Communion (Common Worship) |
| Sunday 25 th July | St.James | Family Service |

At St.Catherine's Church, Birtles on Sundays at 11.15am in July

These arrangements might be changed if/when relaxation of Covid restrictions allows a 'Welcome Back to Church' service to take place.

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| Sunday 4 th July | Trinity 5 | Family Service |
| Sunday 11 th July | Trinity 6 | Holy Communion (Book of C Prayer) |
| Sunday 18 th July | Trinity 7 | Mattins (Book of Common Prayer) |
| Sunday 25 th July | St.James | Holy Communion (Book of C Prayer) |

Baptisms take place by arrangement with the Revd Jon Hale

Drinks after Morning service!

There is a plan afoot to start offering a drink following morning Service again.

It will be quite simple and final details are being worked on.

We need help to operate this. Sadly, if the help is not forthcoming it cannot happen.

Please think about it.

Contact Janet 01625 583320 or Fiona.01625 585180.

Luncheon

We thought it would be good to have a lunch time get together on Tuesday July 20th.

At the Drum and Monkey, off Heyes Lane. Alderley Edge at 12.30 PM. We can eat outside under cover. There is very good parking and easy access.

Do join us. Life is getting back to some sense of normality.?

MU NEWS—ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING

What a time we have all experienced over the past 18 months! As we begin to open up after lockdown, this gives us the opportunity to meet together again before the Parish Hall is closed for refurbishment.

Happily, this coincides with our Mothers' Union Branch 60th Year Anniversary. We plan to have a special celebration on **Wednesday, 21st July**, (so long as COVID regulations allow at the time) beginning with a Communion Service in Church at 2pm. This will be followed by a short, but important, AGM as we were not able to hold this last January. We will then conclude the afternoon with tea and cake in the Parish Hall.

I would urge all members to attend our celebrations if at all possible. We have important decisions to make about the year ahead (without the use of the Parish Hall whilst it is being refurbished) and we would like everybody to have a chance to contribute their ideas.

Noni Watkins

A Word Of Appreciation

In March 2017, I came into the unknown, for me, of Alderley Edge, to be near my family. Up until that point, I had lived my whole life in Uttoxeter in Staffordshire. Me being me though, I am always up for a challenge. I had never even heard of Alderley Edge, never mind move to live here. It was a big step, which I'm now pleased I took having made many friends.

They say time goes quickly when you are enjoying yourself and the last few years have certainly passed swiftly. Thanks to you all for welcoming me into the life and work of St Mary's, where I am now a regular worshipper. I have now adjusted to my new way of life, which takes a while. I'm pleased to say I did make the right decision to move. I feel I belong within the community and St Mary's, as everyone has made me feel very welcome - thank you.

We are all made by you, our Lord God and through you all the people of the World are connected. May our lives reflect your love so that we look after each other and share all the good things that you give us.

Ann Austin

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.stmarysaldlerley.com (our heritage)

Jenny Youatt (*info@stmarysaldlerley.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
email: orchardmain@ntlworld.com

Electoral Roll Officer

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

Archivist

Mrs Jenny Youatt (01625) 585226
email: 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:

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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