

WELCOME TO WORSHIP ON THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY SUNDAY

St.Mary's Church, Alderley & St.Catherine's Church, Birtles on 11th July 2021

Covid-safe practices must still be observed, so please make your offering on the plate at the back of church, and please leave all books and papers in your pew at the end of the service.

Today's Bible readings

Ephesians 1: 3-14

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Mark 6: 14-29

¹⁴ King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, 'John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him.'

¹⁵ But others said, 'It is Elijah.' And others said,

'It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.'

¹⁶ But when Herod heard of it, he said, 'John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.'

¹⁷ For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her.

¹⁸ For John had been telling Herod, 'It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.'

¹⁹ And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰ for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him.

²¹ But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²² When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, 'Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it.' ²³ And he solemnly swore to her, 'Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.' ²⁴ She went out and said to her mother, 'What should I ask for?' She replied, 'The head of John the baptizer.' ²⁵ Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, 'I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.' ²⁶ The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her.

²⁷ Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸ brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother.

²⁹ When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

- **Zoom worship at 6.30pm today will be led by Rachel Roberts, Reader and the preacher will be the Revd Jon Hale who will speak about Jewish / Christian relationships in 20th Century art.** Email the Revd Jon Hale this afternoon to be sent by email the Zoom link for the 6.30pm service today.
- **The delayed Annual General Meeting of the St.Mary's Church Mothers' Union Branch will be held in St.Mary's Church on Wednesday 21st July immediately after Holy Communion which starts at 2.00pm.** Refreshments in the Parish Hall will follow the AGM.
- **On Sunday 18th July at 11.00am in St.Mary's Church Mr Martin and Mrs Angela Davis will give thanks for their marriage and will renew their marriage vows.** You are welcome to attend this service which will follow on after the 9.45am service.
- **Please consider in prayer whether you are being called to serve as a Wedding Verger at St.Mary's Church.** Thank you to Fiona Ablett who will serve as the verger for the wedding of Leanne Tattam and Stuart Owen on 29th July and of Gareth Owens and Natalie Jackson on 6th August. Thank you to Ken Wilkinson who will serve as the verger for the wedding of Matthew Randall and Laure Manuel on 7th August. Please let the Rector know if you can serve as verger for weddings at St.Mary's Church on: (i) Saturday 31st July at 2.30pm (Daniel Muff and Charlotte Sexton); and/or (iii) Saturday 21st August at 12.30pm (Lydia Whittingham and Johnathan Minter).
- **Janet Adamson of St.Mary's Church is arranging a lunch at the Drum & Monkey in Alderley Edge – outside, under cover - on Tuesday 20th July at 12.30pm.** Please let Maureen 01625 582807, Fiona 01625 585180 or Janet 01625 583320 know if you wish to be at the lunch. Numbers need to be known in advance.
- **Please talk with Janet Adamson if you would like to help restart refreshments after the 9.45am service.**

If you live in Nether Alderley you should have received the latest edition of Nether Alderley News, produced by Nether Alderley Parish Council. Included in the newsletter:

- **Macclesfield Art Group will hold their Summer Art Fair in the Parish Hall Friday 16th – Sunday 18th July.** The Rector is working with the artists to set up the exhibition. Nether Alderley Parish Council asks for help throughout the time of the exhibition with serving refreshments, and washing up. www.macclesfieldartgroup.co.uk
- **There will be afternoon teas in the Parish Hall every Sunday in August from 2pm to 4pm.** Please let Nether Alderley Parish Council know if you can help with teas. Please let the Rector know when you can be in church so that it may be open when there are teas in the Hall.

St.Mary's Church, Alderley SK10 4TW in the Benefice of Alderley & Birtles. The Churchwarden is Mr Ken Wilkinson (tel: 0161 4323490). The Rector is the Reverend Jon Hale (tel: 01625 585440 and email alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com). The Honorary Treasurer is Mr Will Ablett (tel: 01625 585180). Online: www.alderleychurch.co.uk and www.stmarysaldерley.com and St.Mary's Church, Nether Alderley on Facebook. To give to St.Mary's Church go to www.alderleychurch.co.uk and click on 'Donate'. You can now donate via [paypal.me/stmaryaldерley](https://www.paypal.me/stmaryaldерley). St.Mary's Church has a long standing and lively supportive relationship with Oasis Project, Gorton, Manchester. The link person at St.Mary's Church is Lesley Marsh. <https://oasisgorton.org/>

St.Catherine's Church, Birtles SK10 4RU in the Benefice of Alderley & Birtles. The Churchwardens are Mr Michael Norbury (tel: 01625 583788) and Mr Chance Wilson (tel: 01625 861310). The Vicar is the Reverend Jon Hale (tel: 01625 585440 and email alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com). The Honorary Treasurer is Mrs Nicola Folkes (tel: 01625 860815 & nicolajaynefolkes@gmail.com) Online: <https://www.stcatherinebirtles.org.uk/welcome.htm> and St.Catherine's Church, Over Alderley on Facebook. To give to St.Catherine's Church go to the St.Catherine's Church website and click on 'Donate Here' to give via PayPal. St.Catherine's Church is rooted deeply in the Over Alderley / Birtles community: it produces Over Alderley & Birtles Monthly Messenger which is distributed free of charge to all addresses in Over Alderley & Birtles. The Editor is Jo Wilson and the Distribution Manager is Chance Wilson.

Mrs Rachel Roberts (Reader) is on secondment from St.Philip & St.James Church, Alderley Edge to the Benefice of Alderley & Birtles.