

St.Mary, Alderley



Parish Magazine

September 2021

From the sermon preached by the Rector at St.Mary's Church on 1st August

John 6: 24-35

In June I introduced to you the Seven Marks of a Healthy Church. Today we will look at the first of these: a healthy parish church is energized by faith rather than just keeping things going or trying to survive.

And the follow-on features of a healthy church which is energized by faith are these:

- worship and sacramental life: moves people to experience God's love;
- motivation energy comes from a desire to serve God and one
- engaging with Scripture in creative ways connects with life;
- nurtures faith in Christ: helping people to grow in, and share, their faith.

St.Mary's Church is not particularly sacramental. Our church building does not have an aumbry, so we can't reserve the sacrament of Holy Communion. We don't have Holy Communion every week: we alternate with Family Services, which are not sacramental. We have a balance between sacrament and word. The aim is that we become a healthier church by our worship opening us to a greater experience of God's love. So Rachel and I are planning a course of teaching at Family Services until Christmas, so that Family Services can be a deeper disclosure of God to us – albeit at a level suitable to all ages. We should be able to invite neighbours to come to church on a Sunday. The Family Service is the way in, and a confident and healthy parish church is an inviting parish church.

Since we restarted public worship, I have produced the weekly news sheet, and the main feature of this is the Bible readings set for the Sunday. I don't know how often you open the Bible and read it. If you don't read the Bible at any other time, then the Bible should be read aloud at worship on Sundays. Scripture is the living Word of God. At St.Mary's I have worked with Nether Alderley Parish Council to get a bi-monthly community newsletter through every door in Nether Alderley six times a year. It replaces the old St.Mary's 'parish drop', and sadly we have not got a community newsletter started in Great Warford.

(continued)

At St.Mary's the refurbishment of the Parish Hall – when it is done – will be the ideal catalyst for St.Mary's Church to provide new community activities. A healthier church at St.Mary's in future will identify actual community needs

in Nether Alderley and Great Warford, and will train up teams to serve those needs. Always it is the Gospel imperative that we respond to. For me, the imperative is that our Lord always goes before us, and that a faith-response is lively and dynamic. Energy, inspiration, creativity come from the Gospel.

From today's passage from John 6, the enquiry, the demand, the relentless pursuit of Jesus Christ: this is what drives the people. And for Jesus, it's the teasing and then the final proclamation. Jesus as the Bread of Life in St.John's Gospel is Jesus at the Last Supper and Jesus at our Holy Communion. And so the Gospel becomes alive, and it makes us enquire more of Jesus so that we are inspired and driven as the Body of Christ. Come and talk with Rachel or me about these things.

NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB
Latest draw winners

- 1st prize
- 2nd prize
- 3rd prize

Baptisms

None since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Weddings mid July to mid August

- 29th July: Stuart Anthony OWEN and Leanne Kimberley TATTAM
- 31st July Charlotte Elizabeth SEXTON and Daniel Nicholas MUFF
- 6th August Gareth David OWENS and Natalie Suzanne JACKSON
- 7th August Laure Marie Luçie MANUEL and Matthew Martin RANDALL

Funerals mid July to mid August

- 2nd August Mavis PLANT (82 years). Funeral service at Macclesfield Crematorium

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

Sunday 5th Sept Trinity 14 Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

Sunday 8th Sept Trinity 15 Family Service (Common Worship)

Sunday 15th Sept Trinity 16 Holy Communion (Common Worship)

Sunday 22nd Sept Trinity 17 Harvest Festival Family Service (Common Worship)

At St.Catherine's Church, Birtles on Sundays at 11.15am in September the service pattern has not yet been decided.

Flower Rota

5th September - Avril Lamond

12th September. - Wedding (11th)

19th September. - Michael Penlington

26th September. - Harvest

Reopening of the Oasis Centre July 2021

Oasis reopened in its new, purpose built Centre on 19 July 2021 after having been closed for 16 months! During those 16 months some of the staff had been furloughed and the centre existed just for emergency support and as a food bank. St Mary's contributed food at both Christmas 2020 and Easter 2021, thank you all.

I was nervous of volunteering in July - the thought of being in one room, with no open windows (because of the noise from traffic on Hyde Road) with 60 plus people was daunting. However, writing now four weeks on, I can report it is ok. I wear a mask the whole time, as do most of the staff and a few clients. Tables are spread out to encourage social distancing and there is hand gel available. Upstairs in the lovely new Education room there is one table around which we can fit 16.

It is good to see people again and hear their tales of the last year - most complain of boredom and not having gone out. As we know! The teaching of English as a second language (which I enjoyed most) has not yet begun but the plan is to begin in September. Thus we have had a predominantly white clientele and in Education we do maths on a Monday morning and 'project' work in the afternoons. I have been rapidly promoted to teacher the last two weeks because of staff absences and have had to cope with a supply teacher's worst nightmare eg the old fears of no pencils, resources, how to use a new photocopier etc. But somehow things seem to work out! There is immense good will at Oasis which I enjoy. Victoria was there on the first day of opening spreading kindness and optimism, which was lovely to see.

The shop is open and we need second hand cast offs please! My number is 01625 582959 if you have anything to donate, and Maureen and Jack Woolley are also willing to take contributions. Everything is gratefully received and St Mary's is considered to be an excellent source of stuff!

Lesley Marsh

RECTOR of ALDERLEY

The Revd. Antony Jolyon Hale (Jon)

Church Lane, Nether Alderley, SK10 4TW

Email: alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com

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

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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