

Parish Magazine
January 2024

From Nathan

Watching and Waiting

At this time of year, probably many of you will have Christmas organised. I have friends who finished their present shopping in October. They're annoyingly efficient! Me, well, I've not actually braved the shops yet but we have got some time to go....

Watching and waiting are two things we're not very good at these days. Everything is instant, and this is what we've come to expect. I'm just as guilty as anyone else. My smart phone pings me my emails and if I've not answered within an hour or so, people start to panic. If I want an answer to a problem, I search online and if the solution isn't instantly obvious, I get annoyed.

All of this makes the observance of Advent really difficult.

We're going into what the church calls a 'penitential season'. This is where we pause to reflect, to prepare for what is to come 'with acts of charity and kindness'. We are to examine ourselves and remind ourselves of the real meaning of this season. Hard, when the world has galloped on already and pretty much declared that it's Christmas.

It's not. It's Advent. One of my favourite times of the year. It's as if the waiting makes the long expected arrival of Christmas all the more wonderful, colourful and joyful. Try it. You might like it.

I guess that today we would call it 'practicing the pause'.

Church Registers

NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB Latest draw winners

1st prize Mark Wilkinson 2nd prize Fiona Robinson 3rd prize Helen Jabr

FLOWER ROTA

January 2024 flowers

7th - Michael PenJlington

14th and 21st - Sally Hilldrup and Gail Jackson

(continued)

At St Mary's, we have a great Advent planned, mostly involving lovely services, drinking mulled wine and eating mince pies. It'd be great if you'd like to join us.

As the weather turns cold, as the frosts return and as the nights get darker, the light at the end of the lane continues to shine, as it has for hundreds of years. This light is the light of Christ, dispelling all darkness and sorrow. Gosh, do we need that this Advent and Christmas.

As we get ready to celebrate, we remember those who will not be comfortable, well fed and warm, surrounded by friends and family. We pray for peace and peacemakers especially over the coming weeks.

Church News

Looking ahead to December. Nathan's plans are taking shape and there is much to look forward to.

The Christmas Eve services will be at 2pm and 10pm plus a service on Christmas morning and New year's Eve. busy busy!

I would like us all to share our thanks for all the wonderful cleaning, Altar dressing, Choir, Bellringers, weekly and Festival flowers. All these things make worship at St Mary's a pleasure.

Behind the scenes a huge amount of work has been undertaken this past year by members of various Committees, particular mention should be made of the team working on a contract to ensure continued use of the Parish Hall after the Restoration work to be undertaken by the Parish Council is completed.

Wishing the best to you all. Fiona Ablett

NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB Latest draw winners

1st prize William Ablett 2nd prize Rosylyn Dutch 3rd prize Juliana Maynard

The Sanctuary Of Home

When we come home late at night

Home is waiting in our sight

Somewhere we belong

Bricks and mortar keep us strong

Keep the bad out, let the good in

A place to feel comfortable within

Home is where we live each day

To be ourselves in every way

As home is where the heart is so they say

We are truly blessed to reside somewhere safe each day

RECTOR of ALDERLEY

REV CANON NATHAN JARVIS

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WEBSITES

www. alderleychurch.co.uk

Mark Wilkinson (web@alderleychurch.co.uk)

www.stmarysalderley.com (our heritage)

Jenny Youatt (info@stmarysalderley.com)

facebook-St.Mary's Church, Nether Alderley

SUNDAY SERVICES

1st Sunday:- Eucharist

2nd Sunday: - Eucharist

3rd Sunday:- Eucharist

4th Sunday: Eucharist

5th Sunday: - Eucharist

Church Warden & Lay Chairman -PCC

Mr Ken Wilkinson email: ken@alderleychurch.co.uk

Hon PCC Secretary:

Mr P Kershaw email: pccsecretary@alderleychurch.co.uk

Hon Treasurer:

Mr Will Ablett email: treasurer@alderleychurch.co.uk

Envelope & Gift Aid Scheme Administrator:

Mr Donald Henderson email: envelopes@alderleychurch.co.uk

Electoral Roll Officer

Mrs L Kershaw

email: electoralroll@alderleychurch.co.uk

Archivist

Mrs Jenny Youatt email: info@stmarysalderley.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:

Church Flower Rota

Mrs Avril Lamond email: avrillamond@btinternet.com

Mr Michael Penlington (Festivals)

email: michael.penlington574@btinternet.com

Captain of the Tower: (Practice 7.30pm Tuesdays)

Mr Peter Robinson email: peterfiona@hotmail.co.uk

Prayer Book Society Representative

Mrs Anne Dodd

Parish Hall Bookings

David Fairbotham 07951 888896

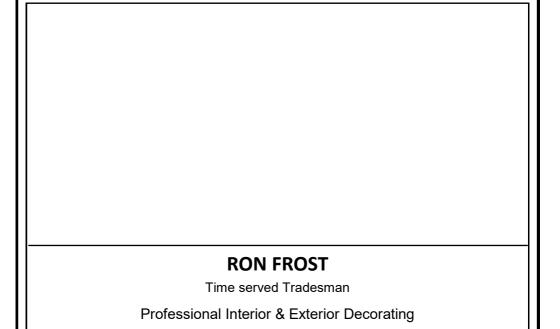
bookings.naparishhall@gmail.com

Parish Hall Costs:

£20 per hour - minimum 2 hours

Burial Board: (Clerk) 07717 244 537

email: clerk.napc@gmail.com



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