

St. Mary, Alderley



Parish Magazine

April 2024

From Nathan

One of my favourite books is *Chocolat*, and the film is even better. If you've not seen it, buy it now and watch it in Lent! It has an amazing star cast including Dame Judy Dench, who plays a rather cantankerous old lady, well-meaning when you get to know her and Juliet Binoche who plays a wandering single mother. It is set in a small French village in the 1950's, where she opens a chocolatier. IN LENT! The mayor, a devout Catholic, is doing all he can to resist the amazing smells coming from the shop, all hidden by brown paper on the windows to keep the Easter display a secret. On Holy Saturday, he can't stand it any longer and breaks into the shop. The next day, as people are walking to church, he is found, asleep, covered in melted chocolate in the shop window.

Everyone sees. Everyone gossips. Everyone is shocked.

How could this upright man allow himself to give in to temptation?

As Lent turns into Easter, a new light shines over the village, giving clarity and a new vision of how to live. Everyone is just that little bit kinder to each other and to themselves. I like to think that this is what happens as we move from darkness into light.

The shop owner forgives the mayor, as do the villagers. It is a story of forgiveness, renewal and new life. More importantly though, the mayor forgives himself and smiles, allowing himself to experience joy and new life in a way he'd not experienced before

The story of Lent and Easter.

I spoke to someone a little while ago who was talking about how she had felt weighed down and constrained all her life by the expectations on her as a mother, a wife, a professional and a generally upright member of society. I suggested that she could perhaps be kinder to herself, go out and meet her friends and celebrate life a little more, to loosen the collar, relax and be more of what she wanted to be

Church Registers

15th January

NETHER ALDERLEY 200 CLUB **Latest draw winners**

1 st prize	Will Ablett
2 nd prize	Harold & MD Cataquet.
3 rd prize	Donald Henderson

FLOWER ROTA

7th and 14th April - Michael Penlington and Flower Team

21st and 28th April - Avril Lamond.

(continued)()

Lent does not have to be heavy. It can be a time of movement, towards a new, lighter way of being.

. Today feels like a light day. We're on with our planning for Easter and beyond, but before all of that, we still have some way to go. However you experience this time of watching and waiting, I pray that you too will find new ways of being open to joy, light, forgiveness and fun. Even in Lent.

Palm Sunday March 24th at 9.45pm

Maundy Thursday March 28th at 7.30 pm at St Mary's, Bishop

Sam will be in attendance, again other **Easter Sunday March 31st at 9.45am** - British Summer Time ... be early!

Lenten services.... March 6th Siddington, All Saints.....March 13th Mottram St Andrew, Methodist Church.....March 20th Great Gawsworth, St James. Always good to visit other Churches.

Other diary notes

Coffee morning at De Trafford will be March 12th.

St Marys walking group survived Phil K's first leadership, thanks to Lesley! **Next walk scheduled for March 16th**, likely to be local and lead by Terry Fones

OTHER SERVICES ON REAR PAGE

EASTER FLOWERS

If you wish to make a donation towards the cost of the Easter Flowers in Church in memory of loved ones, donation envelopes are available in Church or if you contact me I will either send or deliver to you a donation envelope. Please write the name or names of those to be remembered on the back of the envelope.

An appropriate box for donation envelopes will be just inside the entrance to Church or I am happy to collect your donation or you can send it to me.

A list of loved ones to be remembered will be in Church over Easter and published in the magazine.

Cheques to be made payable to 'Alderley Church Flower Fund'
So many thanks for your support in the past

Michael Penlington 01625 530084 / 07720 050159

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WEBSITES

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www.stmarysaldерley.com (our heritage)

Jenny Youatt (info@stmarysaldерley.com)

facebook—St.Mary's Church, Nether Alderley

APRIL SUNDAY SERVICES

7th Eucharist

14th Eucharist

21st Family Service

28th Eucharist

all services at 9.45a

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@stmarysaldерley.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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