

THE MAGAZINE OF ST CHAD'S PARISH CHURCH LADYBARN



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FEBRUARY 2014
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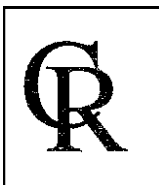
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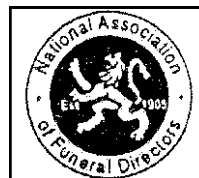
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February 2014

"It is best to approach Scripture with an open heart expecting to encounter God in the written Word. We will not so much 'read' Scripture as if holding it at arm's length, but let the words, images and stories enter our soul, become part of our consciousness and touch and change us. Our aim is to let Scripture soak into the soul letting the Holy Spirit within it unite with the Holy Spirit dwelling in us."

Adapted from the Church of Scotland "Starters for Sunday" study materials.



If you've been reading the church notice sheets over the past few weeks then you'll recognise the quote above; it's the one we've been using to draw attention to our new bible study groups which began during the last week of January. During our stewardship campaign last year a number of people expressed an interest in attending a bible study group and so after a bit of a delay here they are.

There will be a daytime group and an evening group and people are welcome to attend either; both will be meeting weekly and will begin by reading and meditation on the readings for the coming Sunday morning, although the pattern of what we study may change as the groups develop.

It is my hope that everyone will feel that the groups are accessible to them and that everyone who attends will feel able to discuss and question in a relaxed and friendly environment. So do come along, share your thoughts on faith and scripture, listen to other people's ponderings and questions and talk with folk you may not know very well.

11am – 12 noon (tea/coffee from 10.30am) each Wednesday morning in the hall.

8pm – 9pm each Thursday evening in the hall.

Everyone is welcome.

Reverend Elizabeth Davies
Priest-in-Charge

The Vicar:

The Reverend
E J Davies
1 St Chad's Road
Withington
M20 4WH
Tel: 445 1185

Churchwarden:

Diane Wynn
4 Holcombe Road
Fallowfield
M14 6QX
Tel: 286 3698

Churchwarden:

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Tel: 248 7689

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John Milner
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Lay Reader:

Helen Reid
Tel: 0161 434 4902

ALL ABOUT THE PARISH SHARE

What is the Parish Share?

The Parish Share is the money needed from the parishes to pay for ministry and mission across the diocese. It is based on the principle that the cost of ministry is shared across the diocesan family as a whole. Every parish benefits in important ways from paying their Parish Share to the Diocese and this is explained in more detail later in the article.

As many of you know, here at St Chad's we paid our Parish Share in full in 2013. We are therefore playing our part in enabling God's church to grow, most particularly within the Diocese of Manchester. The Parish Share makes up just under 70% of the income of the Diocesan Board of Finance. The remaining income comes from the Diocese's investment income and, where necessary, its reserves.

How is our Parish Share calculated?

Parish Share amounts are based mainly on average church attendance. Some consideration is also given to the results of the income survey carried out each year. Further adjustments are made using a formula that recognises that some parishes in poorer areas will need to be supported by others. This means that parishes in better-off areas help to fund places where people contribute in amazing ways, but do not have the financial resources to meet the cost of ministry. However, it is important to realize that 134 of the 260 parishes in the Manchester Diocese are more deprived than St Chad's. Those figures are based upon official statistics about poverty. We neither lose nor gain significantly from adjustments to the Parish Share based on relative wealth or poverty.

What is our Parish Share spent on?

By far the biggest proportion of our Parish Share is spent on supporting clergy, in various ways, throughout the Diocese of Manchester. There are approximately 700 clergy currently living and working within our Diocese.

300 of these clergy are working as parish priests, who are paid salaries (stipends), housing, and National Insurance costs. Other clergy are working as chaplains, or are retired and being paid a pension, or are Non-Stipendiary Ministers (NSMs).

All of the clergy mentioned above are eligible for ongoing training and education, also paid from our Parish Share.

So, thinking about our Parish Share in terms of proportions of spending, more than two thirds is spent on our clergy, in the various ways described above.

Continued on page 5

The other one third is spent in three main ways.

* The first of these is ongoing and essential training for lay people active in parishes. This includes offering training for Readers, for Church Wardens, Treasurers and Gift Aid Secretaries, PCC Secretaries, Child Protection and Health and Safety Officers.

* The second is grants to parishes for special projects and hardship grants to clergy and their families.

* The third of these is maintaining the Diocesan Office and its functions, including the Diocesan web-site, support for Stewardship Campaigns and Youth and Children's work and a contribution to the costs of the Cathedral.

What are the benefits to us of paying our Parish Share here at St Chad's?

* We currently have a full-time priest serving our Parish, with opportunities for further training if she wishes;

* We have the benefit of a newly trained Reader, and one very experienced Reader, working in our Parish, both of whom are eligible for further training and support if they wish;

* We have the benefit of two very experienced, retired clergy regularly supporting us in the Parish;

* We have the benefit of regular training opportunities for PCC members and Church and Parish Officers;

* We have the opportunity to apply for small grants from the Bishop's Mission and General Fund. These could support possible projects such as, for example, new Church Notice Boards.

Christian giving, whether individual or by a parish, requires a Christian attitude of generosity because we believe in a generous God. Our giving is in response to God's graciousness and all that has been given to us. However, here at St Chad's we should feel proud of ourselves that we are playing our full part in growing God's church in Manchester.

Just why are we cutting a gap in the rear choir stalls ?

Ever since 1952, organists of our church have had two ways to get to the organ bench. Some like me like to climb over the rear of the choir stalls. This for me is the easiest way, but it looks unsightly and depends on the organist being a bit agile. The 'official' route is through the door at the eastern end of the South Aisle and through the 'innards' of the organ. This way is poorly lit, narrow and tortuous, at one point the gap between an immovable pillar and an immovable part of the organ being only 15 inches wide. It opens through a second door behind the rear choir stalls onto a short passage which is itself only 12 inches wide at its base.

These arrangements may have been considered fine in 1953, but by today's standards of health and safety they are to an extent dangerous. They are also unacceptable in terms of disability access. Two visiting organists in the recent past have had great difficulty negotiating the 'official' route. One of them (Noel Preston from St Chrysostom's) played for us once before in 1948 (yes, that long ago) and did not remember any difficulty then in getting to the organ.

A few months ago I visited the British Organ Archive at Birmingham University, trying to find out the specification of our original organ that was destroyed by fire in 1952. I succeeded in this and to my surprise found a few architect's drawings of parts of the old organ. One of these showed a gap in the rear choir stalls, which was obviously the 'proper' way to get to the organ bench, but which was not replaced when the fire damage, which destroyed part of the rear stalls, was rectified. I have posted this drawing on one of our notice boards.

So, our little scheme, approved by Diocesan Faculty and being ably carried out by Peter Matthews, creates a safe passage for organists to get to the organ bench, but also takes us back to how this part of the church looked up to 1952.

Robert

Which Eucharistic Prayer are we using today?

A couple of people have been asking how they find out which Eucharistic Prayer we will be using on a Sunday morning. The letter (A-G) of that day's Eucharistic Prayer is on the board above the pulpit - it says EP and then the appropriate letter. To make things even easier we will also be putting the Eucharistic Prayer (A-G) on the weekly notice sheet.

During the different seasons of the churches year there is a special Preface - which is the part of the Eucharistic Prayer that goes after the opening dialogue and before we all join in singing, 'Holy, holy, holy....' The special Prefaces' are not in the service book because there are too many of them, but following the Preface we always rejoin the service book at, 'Holy, holy, holy'.

We use special Prefaces during the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and on special days such as Remembrance Sunday and Harvest, which means that there is a special Preface for approximately half of the Sunday's each year.

I hope that makes sense, please ask me to show you if it's not clear.

The Rev Elizabeth Davies

FRIDAY GROUP

We had a nice surprise the other Friday morning when we arrived at St Chad's to do our jobs. The wardens had left us a goodie bag containing biscuits and fruit in recognition of what we do and to thank us.

We tackle all sorts of things on Fridays including gardening (weather permitting) church cleaning, maintenance, and anything else that crops up, including the all important job of tea making!

We are always glad of any help. We meet on Friday mornings at around 10, we do whatever wants doing and stop whenever we feel like it or when we have finished, and have lots of cups of tea, cake, biscuits and fruit, and talk. It is a really good social event and at the same time helping the church.

Pam Race

RECYCLING FOR GUIDE DOGS 2013:

Thank you to everyone, who has added their empty ink cartridges and old mobile telephones to the box in church. It has been a very successful year, and now we have the support of Northenden Players Theatre who have also joined our scheme.

Mobile Telephones x 5 = £17.50
Empty Ink Cartridges x 313 = £313.00

£330.50

Please continue to save your old telephones and cartridges, 'Guide Dogs for the Blind' are so grateful for public support. There are more people who could benefit from a trained Guide Dog, than there are dogs available. Every Little Helps:

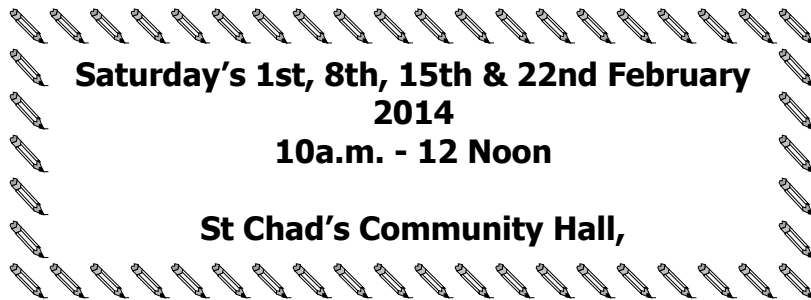
Barbara

October weekly collections Includes plates and envelopes

Dec 1 st	£1151.29
Dec 8 th	£186.70
Dec 15 th	£380.61
Dec 22 nd	£340.86
Dec 29 th	£381.23

St Chad's Artistic Explosion

**Explore your artistic side, join in
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**Saturday's 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd February
2014
10a.m. - 12 Noon
St Chad's Community Hall,**

**For further details contact Opal
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£2.00 per session

Ash Wednesday

This year Lent begins on

Wednesday 5th March.

There will be a service of Holy Communion

with the imposition of ashes

starting at 8pm.

Everyone is welcome



Fair Trade Fortnight 2014 February 24th – March 9th



It all started with bananas !

Fairly-traded bananas have been at the heart of Fair Trade since they appeared on our shelves 13 years ago. Now over a billion Fair Trade bananas are sold in the UK each year. But only 1 in 3 bananas in British shops are fairly traded so there is still a long way to go!

The Fairtrade Foundation estimates that there are millions of struggling banana farmers and workers, who are still not getting a fair deal. This year's Fair Trade Fortnight marks the launch of a nation-wide campaign aiming to make bananas fair.

But it's not just about bananas....

In the UK and Europe, about a third of all the food produced is wasted. Meanwhile many small farmers and their families in the poorer parts of the world go hungry. Unfair competition from huge multi-national companies means they struggle to earn a decent livelihood from their crops. The world wide food trading system is very unjust.

This matters to us. We depend on the food that small farmers produce, so we don't want them to go out of business. Around 30 million smallholders produce most of the world's coffee and cocoa, while tens of millions more grow tea, sugar.... and bananas!

How does it help to buy Fairtrade products ?

Just a quick reminder of the principles of Fair Trade.

When you buy any food with the familiar Fairtrade logo you can be sure that :

- *Producers have been paid a fair, stable price that does not vary,*
- *Producers have longer-term stable, trading relationships with their buyers,*
- *Producers have access to training and skills to develop their businesses,*
- *Producers get a little extra, the Fair Trade premium on their trading prices. They can use this, for example, to improve their storage facilities, or road systems.*

The church has played a **vital** role in promoting Fair Trade. **Fair Trade is about lifting people out of poverty** and so is a **key part of the mission of the church**.

Where can you buy Fairtrade products?

The Co-op has been a prominent supporter of fairly-traded goods for more than ten years. All its stores, including Ladybarn, stock a wide range of Fair Trade products including coffee, tea, excellent chocolate and wine (!) and, of course....bananas.

The regular Traidcraft stall at St Chad's doesn't sell bananas! However, coming up to Easter we will have all our usual goodies plus Easter cards and Real Easter Eggs. The Real Easter Egg was the first and only Fair Trade chocolate Easter egg to explain the Christian understanding of Easter, first produced in Manchester, with the support of Bishop Nigell! There are new varieties in the Traidcraft Spring catalogue....coming soon !

To mark Fair Trade Fortnight we are joining up with St Nicholas, Burnage in planning a Fair Trade fair at St Nicholas on Saturday 1 March. Watch out for more details – and please buy Fair Trade whenever you can.

Did you know?

Almost all the bananas sold in the UK are Cavendish bananas, probably descended from a single plant grown at Chatsworth House in Derbyshire in 1836.

Leslie Fletcher (who doesn't like bananas!) and Judy Fletcher (who does!)

DIARY FOR FEBRUARY 2014

2	Sunday	10.00am 6.30pm	Eucharist Evensong
4	Tuesday	7.30pm 8.00pm	Eucharist PCC
5	Wednesday	11am -12 noon	Bible Study in the Hall (Tea and Coffee from 10.30am)
6	Thursday	10.00am 8.00pm	Eucharist Bible Study Group (in the Hall)
9	Sunday	10.00am	Eucharist
11	Tuesday	07.30pm 08.00pm	Eucharist Ladies Group
12	Wednesday	11am -12 noon	Bible Study in the Hall (Tea and Coffee from 10.30am)
13	Thursday	10.00am 8.00pm	Eucharist Bible Study Group (in the Hall)
16	Sunday	10.00am	Eucharist
18	Tuesday	7.30pm 8.00pm	Eucharist Book Group
19	Wednesday	11am -12 noon	Bible Study in the Hall (Tea and Coffee from 10.30am)
20	Thursday	10.00am 8.00pm	Eucharist Bible Study Group (in the Hall)
23	Sunday	10.00am	Eucharist
25	Tuesday	7.30pm 8.00pm	Evening Prayer Needlework Group
26	Wednesday	11am -12 noon	Bible Study in the Hall (Tea and Coffee from 10.30am)
27	Thursday	10.00am 8.00pm	Eucharist Bible Study Group (in the Hall)

8 March ~ Saturday Parish Day with Bishop David to think about our faith, our mission, our future, ...following the Stewardship campaign. We are very fortunate to have Bishop David join us so soon after he has begun his ministry in Manchester.

1 February ~ Saturday 11.00am in the Hall: planning meeting for Bishop David's visit.

Everyone Welcome!

This Month's Saint.
March 1st.
David [In Welsh, 'Dewi Sant']
c.601.
Bishop of Menevia,
Patron Saint of Wales.

In Welsh David is, of course, Dewi, and is the only Welsh saint to be honoured outside Wales. As with so many early saints for all his fame very little was written about him until long after his death, in this case about 500 years, and even then there was, we might say, a hidden agenda in that his holiness and fame was used to back-up the claims of the Welsh church to be independent of Canterbury.

The picture pieced together from later legendary accounts is of a high born and devout priest. His mother was St Non. Dewi for a while lived the prayerful life of a hermit before becoming an energetic abbot and bishop. He was a founder of no less than 12 monasteries and was present at two church councils, at the first of these, the Synod of Brefi, he preached so powerfully that he succeeded St Dubricius as the Primate of Wales. His cathedral was at what is now St David's.

As he was known as The Waterman, it is likely that the communities he founded followed a strict spiritual discipline which was vegetarian and teetotal.

Over 50 ancient churches were dedicated to him, all in south Wales. Several Irish saints were reputedly his students. St David's flag is a yellow cross on a black ground.

These days, when 'nationalism' has such a bad name as a cause of wars and hatreds based on rivalry, it's natural that many Christians find the close association between Christian saints and national identity a compromising and embarrassing one. What are we to make of it?

One way of getting things into perspective is to recognise the historical inevitability of smaller social units like tribes coming together to form larger political entities like kingdoms.

The question then is whether or not these larger, national units are to be based solely on military might and power. The involvement of Christian saints in the process says not. Politics needs the spiritual. National identity needs to be based on more than political power. It's for this reason that at it's best the church has often led the way in encouraging the healthy separation of spiritual from political power, a process we know as secularisation.

Patron saints like Dewi Sant should be a reminder that political power can be a great corrupter and betrayer unless it is redeemed by things like prayer and the quest for uncompromised righteousness and holiness. Politicians need our prayers, especially the prayers of saints.

Albert Radcliffe.



Answers to the January Bible Quiz.

- [1] Jesus had four brothers: Joseph [Joses], Judas [Jude], James and Simon. [See Mark 6:3]
- [2] The Ten Commandments can be found in Exodus 20.
- [3] The Psalter has 150 psalms.
- [4] The New Testament was written in Greek.
- [5] St Luke was a doctor.
- [6] St Paul was a tent maker.
- [7] Jeremiah's scribe was Baruch.
- [8] The initials INRI on crucifixes translate from the Latin as Jesus of Nazareth King of the Jews.
- [9] Jacob wrestled with the angel at the brook Jabbok.
- [10] King Saul tried to kill David.
- [11] The Cherithites and Pelithites formed part of King David's bodyguard of foreign mercenaries.
- [12] Judas was the apostle who looked after the money.
- [13] Lazarus' sisters were Martha and Mary.
- [14] The Golden Calf was the idol made by the Israelites and worshipped in the wilderness.
- [15] The books of Wisdom in the Old Testament are: Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, the Song of Songs.
- [16] There are 39 books in the Anglican Old Testament.
- [17] There are 27 books in the New Testament.
- [18] Ezekiel had the vision of the Valley of Bones.
- [19] In an Anglican Bible the Apocrypha is found between the Old and New Testaments.
- [20] St Stephen was the first Christian martyr,
- [21] Lydia was a seller of purple dye.
- [22] The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse are found in the Book of Revelation. 6:1-8.
- [23] Traditionally, the Beloved Disciple of John's gospel is John the Evangelist.
- [24] Aaron was Moses' brother.
- [25] The Sermon on the Mount is found in St Matthew's gospel, chapters 5,6 &7.
- [26] Judith cut off the head of Holofernes. Her story is in the Apocrypha.
- [27] Joseph asked that his bones be carried from Egypt to the land of Canaan.
- [28] 'The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord.' Proverbs 20:27.
- [29] The shortest verse in the Bible is John 11:35. Jesus wept.'
- [30] The oldest manuscripts of St Mark's gospel end with the word, For they were afraid. 16:8.
- [31] The last word in the Bible is 'all'.
- [32] The Baals were the male fertility gods of the Canaanites.
- [33] In the New Testament, Melchizedek is named in the Letter to the Hebrews.
- [34] Samuels' mother's name was Hannah.
- [35] The prophet who heard the 'still, small voice' was Elijah. I Kings 19:11-13.
- [36] Vanity of Vanities is the opening phrase of Ecclesiastes.
- [37] David slew Goliath.
- [38] Matthias took the place of Judas among the apostles.
- [39] Simon of Cyrene helped Jesus carry his cross.
- [40] In his letter to the Romans St Paul commended 'Phoebe our sister' to the congregation there.

Parish Day with Bishop David

Saturday 8th March

Following on from last year's stewardship campaign, on Saturday 8th March Bishop David Walker, Bishop of Manchester, will be visiting St Chad's to help us to spend some time thinking about our faith, our mission and our future. We are very fortunate to have Bishop David join us so soon after he has begun his ministry in Manchester; I hope that as many people as possible will make this day a priority, come along and meet with the bishop and be a part of our shared exploration of the future for our church.

The timetable for the day will run something like this:

10.30 am refreshments

11 am Morning session begins

12.30 pm Lunch

1.15 pm Afternoon session begins

3pm Prayers to close the day

Whether you are a regular member of St Chad's or an occasional visitor everyone is welcome to come along and share the day.

Contributions for the Magazine

If anyone has any articles to be inserted into future issues of the magazine please could you let Christine Hindley have your copy by the 15th of the month. If it needs typing Christine will need copy by the 12th of the month. Please do not send articles in PDF Format unless there are logos included in your article.

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PARISH CONTACTS

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Child Protection Officer	Judith Fletcher/Leslie Bell 0161 248 7689

REGULAR SERVICES

IN CHURCH

Sunday	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
Tuesday	07.30pm	Holy Communion
Thursday	10.00am	Holy Communion

Also on the first Sunday of each month:

08.00am	Holy Communion
06.30pm	Evensong

IN THE HALL

1st Tuesday	08.00pm	PCC
2nd Tuesday	08.00pm	Ladies Group
3rd Tuesday	08.00pm	Book Group
4th Tuesday	08.00pm	Needlecraft Group

**Baptisms, Banns, Weddings or Funerals by arrangement with the Vicar.
Please inform her of any sick parishioners.**