

THE MAGAZINE OF ST CHAD'S PARISH CHURCH LADYBARN

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OCTOBER 2015

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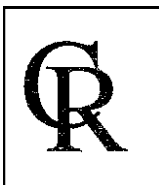
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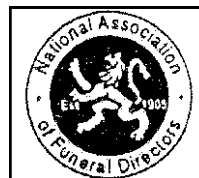
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October 2015

Autumn and Advent evenings

*Happy are those whose hearts are set on the pilgrim way.
(Psalm 84.5)*

October brings with it the certainty that summer has left us and colder days and darker evenings are here again. This time of year can be a busy time for Christians as we offer gifts for harvest and remember especially those around our country and our world who are in need, and as we move into a time of remembrance beginning on All Saints Sunday.

In November, as we move into the season of Advent and begin to look towards the beginnings of our Christian story once again, we will be spending Wednesday evenings exploring one of the Pilgrim courses.

The Pilgrim courses are a new series of booklets which explore Christian faith in a modern way by approaching the great issues of faith by participation in a pattern of contemplation and discussion. The booklet we've chosen for the weeks around Advent is called 'Church & Kingdom' and it explores the difference that being a Christian makes to our lives today, and the difference that the Christian community can make in the world.

We will, once again, be sharing these evening with our friends at Holy Innocents' church, so look out for details of which venue each evening will be held at. The evenings will be light-hearted and conversational, and there will be hot drinks and biscuits and time to chat during the evening.

As the Pilgrim courses are set over six weeks we will be beginning these evenings on Wednesday 11th November at 7.30pm.

If you would like a booklet for the evenings Elizabeth has them. There is no obligation to pay for the booklets; however some people like to make a contribution towards the cost. If you wish to contribute then £4 or £5 is sufficient.

Reverend Elizabeth Davies

The Rector:

The Reverend
E J Davies
1 St Chad's Road
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Tel: 445 1185

Churchwarden:

Judith Fletcher
5 Brecon Avenue
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Lay Reader:

John Milner
Tel: 07957 139002

Lay Reader:

Helen Reid
Tel: 0161 434 4902

Autumn/Advent at St Chad's & Holy Innocents

The Pilgrim course – *Church and Kingdom*

Evenings begin at 7.30pm at either St Chad's or Holy Innocents (venues to follow). Everyone is welcome to these friendly, informal evenings. Hot drinks and biscuits served.

Dates and themes

Wednesday 11th November – '*Praying through life*'
Wednesday 18th November – '*At home and at work*'
Wednesday 25th November – '*Living generously*'
Wednesday 2nd December – '*In all my relationships*'
Wednesday 9th December – '*Confronting the injustices of the world*'
Wednesday 16th December – '*Treading lightly on the earth*'

The accompanying booklet is available from Elizabeth.

Holocaust Study Day at Menorah Synagogue on Thursday 12th November 2015.

Each year for over ten years now I have been involved in the Holocaust Study Day at Menorah Synagogue. The Nazi's systematic slaughter of 6 million European Jews from 1941-45 is the best documented and most studied of the world's many genocides. To understand human nature and the nature of evil and to prevent such things happening again it's essential to come to terms with what took place at the heart of Europe. This half-day programme at Menorah Synagogue is a local and important contribution to our Christian understanding. I heartily recommend it. Programme details and Entry Forms can found at the back of Church.

Canon Albert Radcliffe.

From the Registers June 2015

Holy Baptism.

We welcome into God's family:

26th July Grace Rose Locke

There were no baptisms during April

Holy Matrimony

We asked God's blessing on the marriage of:

There were no marriages during April

Christian Committal

We commend to God's safe keeping the soul of:

Weekly collections (Includes plates and envelopes)

July

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| 5/7/2015 | £356.41 |
| 12/7/2015 | £225.92 |
| 19/7/2015 | £285.20 |
| 26/7/2015 | £343.50 |

August

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| 2/8/2012 | £382.50 |
| 9/8/2015 | £200.00 |
| 16/8/2015 | £267.80 |
| 23/8/2015 | £223.95 |
| 30/8/2015 | £288.83 |

Memorials and Notices from some Parish Churches

St Winnow, Cornwall

William Sawle Died 1651

"I was ill: am wel." (anagram).

Swimbridge, Devon. St James

John Rosier Died 1658 (a lawyer)

"Loe with a Warrant sealed by God's decree

Death his grim Sergeant hath arrested me

No bayle was to be given, no law could save

My body from the prison of the grave"

Edinburgh, Scotland

"Erected to the memory of John MacFarlane

Drowned in the waters of Leith

By a few affectionate friends"

Devon. Anonymous stone in the churchyard.

"Here lie I by the chancel door

They put me here because I was poor

The further in the more you pay

But here lie I as snug as they"

Continued on page 6

Continued from page 5

Swell, Somerset. St Catherine

"If aught thou hast to give or lend
This ancient parish church befriend
If poor but still in spirit willing
Out with thy purse and give a shilling,
But if its depths should be profound
Think of God and give a pound"

You are warmly invited to

A Science and Religion Evening

at St Chad's Church, Ladybarn

at 8.00 pm on Wednesday 7th October 2015.

The Subject:

'ROBOTS AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE'.

The evening will be led by Canon Albert Radcliffe and Mr Scott Midson, a PhD student who has recently completed his thesis on the subject of Robots. Robots and the algorithms that make them possible have been very much in the news this year. They are currently exploring Mars, assisting with operations and caring for the elderly, while a United Nations consultation at Geneva on the use of military robots [killerbots] was unable to arrive at any clear conclusions. Robots, or automated systems that apply the latest developments in Artificial Intelligence [AI] are increasingly doing what previously only human beings could do, like driving cars. Are there limits to their ability to render us obsolete? What religious questions do robots raise? Is Prof. Stephen Hawking right to warn us of their growing influence? These are just some of the questions the evening will tackle. There will be time for discussion and questions.

Entrance £2.00 Refreshments included.

Saint of the Month.
1st October.
Remigius [Remi], Bishop of Rheims, [c. 437- 533 AD.
Apostle of the Franks.

Christian nations give special honour to those who first brought them the gospel, and France which is well off for patron saints has St Remi, together with St Denys, Martin of Tours, Joan of Arc and Therese of Lisieux.

Remi was high born, saintly and immensely able and though still a layman was elected Bishop of Rheims when he was only 22. He was also well-placed for access to the royal court where the Queen, Clotilde, wife of Clovis, king of the Franks, was a Christian.

Remi's ministry at court and friendship with Clovis bore fruit when in 496, the king asked to be baptised. His motives were probably a mixture of the spiritual and the pragmatic. As a Christian he would have the support of the papacy and through its vast network of educated clergy a ready made civil service. And besides this he probably attributed his recent victory over the Alamanni, a powerful pagan German confederation of tribes, to God answering the prayers of Remi. 3,000 Franks were said to have been baptised with their king and the royal family, though, as insurance for their future as warriors, many it's said kept their sword arm out of the water. There's a sermon illustration in that somewhere!

This was a time when many people automatically took the religion of their prince and a personal faith might follow in due course. Remi was now in a position to build churches and establish dioceses like those at Tournai and Cambrai to build on what he'd begun. Such was his own example of the Christian faith that a number of those he appointed as bishops, like Vedast of Therouanne, were later canonised as saints. It was this Vedast who with Remi had been involved in the conversion of Clovis.

The reputation of Remi was such that in England six churches were dedicated to him. In Christian art the symbols of St Remi are a dove, this was because of the story that the chrism for Clovis' baptism was miraculously provided by a dove, a book, and a lamp.

Albert Radcliffe.

A Window on St Chad's.

On *Thursday 16th July* *St Chad's* was host to a Deanery Synod Pastoral meeting at which Bex Turner of Christian Aid brought the charity's work to life by telling the real life story of one of the recipients that we and other churches collect for each May.

'Not one was wasted!' On *Sunday 19th July* we held our annual *Strawberry Tea*, this year with guests from Churches Together. It was cheerful and enjoyable and raised £214 for the work of Christian Aid and £100 for Traidcraft. Sheila took the strawberries that were left over and made jam to sell for church. 'Not one was wasted!'

The joint *Poetry Evening* on Wednesday 29th July with St Nicholas Church was a great success. Canon Albert Radcliffe and The Rev'd Rachel Mann took turns to introduce their very contrasting poems. Rachel's were personal, full of feeling and at times quite passionate, Albert's were more observational and reflective and designed to make people think. And some actually rhymed! 'When can we do this again, people asked.

John Hadfield celebrated his 80th birthday at his home in Handforth on *Thursday 18th August* and a good number from St Chad's were made most welcome by his delightful family who put on a really good party for him.

Our Congratulations go to a number of people:

to Christian Smith (Sylvia's grandson) who has just started studying medicine at St Andrews' University. Christian was confirmed some years ago and attended St Chad's regularly with Sylvia.

To Nathan Knight, who has started working for the NHS in Altrincham, and

to Barbara Purvis for her energetic and show stopping performance as Margaret Blaxley with her singing of the song *Monumental Change* at St Nicholas' church in the musical '*The Tree of War*', by Oliver Mills and Rachel Mann.

Trena Radcliffe.

DIARY FOR OCTOBER 2015

| | | | |
|----|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| 1 | Thursday | 10.00am 8.00pm | Holy Communion Bible Study |
| 4 | Harvest Sunday | 10.00am 6.30pm | Holy Communion Evensong |
| 6 | Tuesday | 7.30pm 8.00pm | Holy Communion PCC |
| 7 | Wednesday | 11.00am | Bible Study Tea/Coffee from 10.30am) |
| 8 | Thursday | 10.00am 8.00pm | Holy Communion Bible Study |
| 11 | Sunday | 10.00am | Holy Communion |
| 13 | Tuesday | 8.00pm | Tuesday Group |
| 14 | Wednesday | 11.00am | Bible Study (Tea/Coffee from 10.30am) |
| 15 | Thursday | 10.00am 8.00pm | Holy Communion Bible Study |
| 18 | Dedication Sunday | 10.00am | Holy Communion |
| 20 | Tuesday | 7.30pm 8.00pm | Evening Prayer Book Group |
| 21 | Wednesday | 11.00am | Bible Study (Tea/Coffee from 10.30am) |
| 22 | Thursday | 10.00am 8.00pm | Holy Communion Bible Study |
| 25 | St. Chad's Sunday | 10.00am | Holy Communion |
| 27 | Tuesday | 7.30pm 8.00pm | Holy Communion Needlework Group |
| 28 | Wednesday | 11.00am | Bible Study (Tea/Coffee from 10.30am) |
| 29 | Thursday | 10.00am | Holy Communion |

NOVEMBER 2015

| | | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|---|
| 1 | All Saints' Sunday | 10.00am | Holy Communion |
| 3 | Tuesday | 7.30pm | Taize service at St. Nicholas, Burnage (No service at St. Chad's this evening) |
| 4 | Wednesday | 11.00am | Bible Study (Tea/Coffee from 10.30am) |
| 5 | Thursday | 10.00am 8.00pm | Holy Communion Bible Study |
| 8 | Remembrance Sunday | 10.00am | Holy Communion - ending with a short act of Remembrance |

You Never Know Who You Might Meet On Holiday!

In August, Trena and I booked into a tucked away Yorkshire hotel that pampers the retired: Nidd Hall, just north of what's said to be the happiest place in England: Harrogate. Nidd! The name comes from the Celtic word 'Nith', which means 'Shining River.' So what's a Welsh word doing in Yorkshire? And that's where, for a history Nerd, our holiday gets really interesting!

In Roman times, the ancient Britons of what's now Yorkshire were a Celtic tribe called the Brigantes who spoke a variety of Welsh. When the Romans left Britain in 410 AD, the Brigantes became a kingdom called Elmet which lasted until the year 616AD when the Anglians, from which we get our word 'English', of Northumbria invaded and took over.

And now St Chad [c634 – 672] comes into the story because in 664 AD the King, Oswiu, made Chad bishop of Northumbria and Chad, as we know from our first historian, the Venerable Bede, was a great traveller and preacher.

In the churchyard, less than a 100 yards from the hotel, were the remains of an ancient stone cross, which would have marked a Christian site and preaching point. Did St Chad preach there? As he travelled around his vast diocese, the odds are that he must have done because not long after his death an important Church Synod was held at the river Nidd and the cross would have marked the spot where it took place.

Like 'Nidd', 'Chad' is also a Celtic or Welsh name, indicating that though he was an Anglian Northumbrian Chad's name went back to the Celtic Kingdom of Elmet, as did his version of the Christian faith. Chad followed the customs of the northern Celtic church and not those of the southern Roman. The tensions and rivalries between the two traditions were eventually sorted out at the Synod of Whitby in 664AD, when Roman customs were declared the norm. It was moving to stand by the remains of the ancient cross at Nidd where almost certainly St Chad himself had once stood. You never know who you might meet on holiday.

And then, in 874, the the Danes settled in the area, just as they did around Manchester. Yarmer, a Danish word meaning 'ditch' is a place name near the church. Nidd was a quiet place after that, until in 1320, peace was disturbed by the Scots, celebrating their victory at Bannockburn [1314] pillaged Nidd and destroyed its church. The church was rebuilt the same year and again in 1866. This was the church Trena and I visited. It was like stepping back into the recent past! On the lectern was a copy of the King James Bible still used at services as is the 1662 prayer book.

As canon law once required, the royal coat of arms was on display, as was a nicely lettered board with the Lord's Prayer, the Creed and the Ten Commandments from which even children of my generation would learn them by heart as part of their preparation for confirmation! It took one back! The parish of Nidd still has a priest-in-charge, though today he's a retired clergyman.

'Always go to church on holiday,' I used to tell my congregation. 'You'll be surprised what you'll find and it'll be an education.'

Albert Radcliffe.

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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| Sacristan | Mrs Barbara Purvis | 0161 286 1062 |
| Magazine Editor | Christine Hindley | 0161 224 8067 |
| Tuesday Group | Mrs Jenny Black | 0161 286 3698 |
| Flower Arranging in Church | Mrs Barbara Purvis | 0161 286 1062 |
| Child Protection Officer | Judith Fletcher/Leslie Bell | 0161 248 7689 |

REGULAR SERVICES

IN CHURCH

| | | |
|----------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| Sunday | 10.00am | Holy Communion |
| Tuesday | 07.30pm | Holy Communion or Evening Prayer |
| Thursday | 10.00am | Holy Communion |

Also on the first Sunday of each month:

| | |
|---------|----------|
| 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.**