**CHURCH SERVICES**

**Sundays**

8.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) 1st & 3rd Sunday

 Morning Prayer ( Book of Common Prayer ) 2nd & 4th Sunday

10.30am Sung Eucharist ( Common Worship) 1st ,3rd & 4th Sunday

 Morning Worship (Service of the Word) 2nd Sunday

with Sunday Club (followed by tea or coffee fellowship)

Services on the 5th Sunday as announced

**Healing**

A Healing Service will be held on the 3rd Sunday of each month during the 8.00am communion service and also at 10.30am. Unless otherwise announced.

**Baptisms**

Baptisms will take place (by prior arrangement) at 12.15 pm, 2nd & 4th Sunday of every month, except during Lent. The November service is held on the third Sunday only To arrange a Baptism see Mr. Keith Houghton MBE after the 10:30 am service (approx 11:45am) ( 01942 797838).

**Arrangements for Weddings**

For weddings, parishioners should see Rev. Martin Cox at the Vicarage. Please telephone and make an appointment in advance (01942 883313) .

**Pastoral Needs and Visits**

Parishioners with pastoral needs (requests for counselling, personal problems or advising of illness) or any request of an urgent nature should contact the vicarage direct on telephone 01942 883313.

Housebound sick communions can also be undertaken and any parishioner not presently on the sick communion list, who wishes to be considered to receive such a visit, should advise clergy accordingly.

***Martin, our Team Rector, has a rest day towards the end of each week. Please make contact with him as you need to on 01942 883313 and he will respond to you as speedily as he can.***

**St. George’s Church**

We now have a website for you to use, with lots of up to date and interesting information. We welcome your feedback.

http://www.tyldesleystgeorge.co.uk

**The Parish Church of**

**St. George, Tyldesley.**

**March 2019**



Parish News

**OFFICIALS**

**Team Rector: Rev. Martin B Cox**

7 Holbeck Astley M29 7NL

***01942 883313***

**Team Vicar: Rev. Julian Hartley**

St. John’s Vicarage, Mosley Common

 ***0161 790 2957***

**Ordained Local Rev. Angela J Dand**

**Minister: *01942 879608***

**Reader : Mr. David Kerfoot**

 ***01942 870736***

**Churchwarden: Mrs. Kathleen Topping**

 ***01942 884746***

 **Mr. Iain Hodcroft**

 **07976 314012**

**Treasurer**

**“Together in worship, love and service”**

**March Edition 2019**

**March 2019 Reflection**

Dear friends in Christ

As we know there is something quite captivating about stories. Jesus is renowned for his stories and storytelling. Think of the Parable of the Good Samaritan or the Parable of the Prodigal Son.  We sing too of telling story. Think of the contemporary hymn, Shine Jesus Shine and the line ‘may our lives tell your story.’

I shared with you in the last edition of the parish magazine aspects of my own story related to the accident I had on Thursday 27th December 2018 at 2.15pm. I have shared this story with school children recently who were drawn into the drama of the events. Details of the story have specific meaning to me understandably.

Our Lent course this year focuses on story, the story told through the film The Greatest Showman. The film will be shown in full on Friday 1st March at St George’s, followed by a series of evenings throughout Lent across the three churches of our team. We will be seeking to understand the story during these evenings at a deeper level and apply our insights into our daily lives. Please do join us.

We do so as we once again tell the Jesus story and prepare ourselves for the joy of Easter by journeying with him through Holy Week to the cross. For as it has been described in the story of Jesus, his death and resurrection for the sin of the whole world is the best story ever told, the most important story ever told. May our lives more and more tell his story.

With my prayers for a holy Lent

Martin

Revd Martin Cox

Team Rector

**From the Registers January 2019**

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| **Date Service Communicants Children Adults**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 4th  | Holy Communion | 6 |   | 6 |
|   | Sung Eucharist | 35  | 8 | 32 |
| 9th  | Funeral  |   | 3  | 27  |
| 13th  | Morning Praise  |   |   | 6  |
|   | Sung Eucharist  | 33  | 8  | 36  |
| 20th  |  Holy Communion | 6 |   | 6 |
|   | Sung Eucharist  | 33  | 6  | 33  |
| 27th  | Morning Prayer  |   |   | 5  |
|   | Sung Eucharist  |   |   |   |
|   | With Holy Baptism  |  35 | 8  | 33  |
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**Collection Totals January 2019**

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| **Cash Cash GA Planned Giving GA Planned giving**£184.00 £0.00 £325.00 £241.50**Regular anonymous gift to the Restoration Fund** £10-00 / per week**Donations** £0.00 **Organ** £20.00 **Com. Fund** £16.00 |

**For this year’s Lent course we will be using material from the book**

***“From Now On”***

A new and original course by Rachel Mann.

Taking the film **“The Greatest Showman”** as a starting point, the course explores ways in which themes of faith, hope and redemption run through all our lives. It examines how each of us face and overcome doubt, temptation and prejudice, and how we can begin to live authentic lives.

Each session will include watching clips from the film but it is advised to have watched the full film before the sessions begin. If you haven’t had the opportunity there will be a showing at:

***7pm on Friday 1st March 19 @ St George’s***

*Sessions will take place from 7pm to 8.30 pm on the following dates:*

*Tuesday 12th March 19 (St George’s)*

*Tuesday 19th March 19 (St Stephen’s)*

*Wednesday 27th March 19 (St John’s)*

*Tuesday 2nd April 19 (St Stephen’s)*

*Tuesday 9th April 19 (St George’s)*

*Booklets will be provided with the relevant material but if anyone would like to purchase a personal copy of the actual book “From Now On”, it is available to buy at a cost of £6.99 from many on-line retailers.*

***Refreshments will also be provided***

Atherton and Leigh Foodbank

I am very grateful for the support from parishioners who regularly bring in food items for the foodbank. I estimate that during 2018, some 30 trays of food were taken to the foodbank for distribution to those in need.

Additionally, items of food and other donations were passed on to those who came into church in some distress; and via school passed directly to other families who were struggling.

Please do not stop donating!

BUT … during Lent, please consider making additional gifts of basic toiletries that the Foodbank can also pass on to local people in need.

Items such as tooth brushes, toothpaste, combs/brushes, soap, shampoo, shower gel, deodorant or hygiene products etc are always in short supply – particularly for men (… who also need razors and shaving cream!)

Please help, your additional gifts will be most appreciated.

Iain Hodcroft, February 2019



**March Flower List**

'We thank the following members of our congregation

for Altar flowers in March”

 3rd March. Mrs Mary Aspinall

 10th March. “Open for offers”

 17th March. Mrs Margaret Connor

 24th March. Mrs Maureen Porter

 31st March. “Open for offers”

We thank Mrs Agnes Smith for additional Birthday flowers in remembrance of her dear husband Paul on 3rd February.

On 17th February we remember Mr and Mrs T. A. Leonard with Altar flowers in their memory and with thanks for his kind legacy.

Also on that date we thank Mrs Marion Thomason for Altar flowers in Loving Memory of Clara Farrimond.

Please remember....there will be no flowers displayed on the Altar during Lent which begins on Ash Wednesday 6th March, but we will display any remembrance flowers around the church.



Dear Friends,

Very many thanks for your prayers, visits, cards, telephone calls, gifts and best wishes during Alan’s recent illness.

We have been quite overwhelmed by your kindness. Your support has been very much appreciated.

From Mavis, Alan and Beth Murgatroyd.

**Welcome to the Family**

Jonpaul O’Conner

Ruby Bell Bannion

*Newly Baptised*

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Flower Fund during February.

L.F

***Shrove Tuesday Buffet & Quiz***

A Shrove Tuesday Buffet & Quiz is being planned as a Team social event. It'll take place in St. Stephen's School at 7pm on Tuesday 5th March.

If you'd like to come and join in, please look out for our usual "sign up" sheet in church, or ask someone to put your name on it for you. We'll be asking people to contribute items to the shared buffet and looking forward to seeing what Shrove Tuesday dishes people come up with!

Julian is planning and running this event, so you can ask him for more details.... but don't expect him to give you a sneak preview of the quiz questions! He's working out a plan to ensure that teams aren’t too big, in the interests of fair competition, and also that teams have members of all three team churches in them, to make for a true “coming together” evening rather than an inter-church rivalry evening.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Advance Notice\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Further information will follow in due course but dates for the next Team Weekend at Scargill House are confirmed as Friday 10th till Sunday 12th May 2019.

If you want to know more about Scargill House you can explore their website:

[www.scargillmovement.org](http://www.scargillmovement.org/)

or speak to Susie Mallon / Iain Hodcroft who will do their best to answer your query.

**Meet the Team Clerk**

![20190123_155517[155]]()For 37 years I worked with children and families in a variety of community or residential projects. In May 2015 an opportunity presented itself and after 17 years of working with young offenders in a local authority secure unit I took early retirement. Since retiring I’ve had both my hips replaced, volunteered for 2 years at Fur Clemt Café, set up a weekly ‘Place of Welcome’ drop in session at St George’s church…and just generally been ‘mum’. I’ve gone to several concerts – Rick Astley was a definite highlight and the Kaiser Chiefs a disappointment. I’ve made time to sing [I am a member of the community choir All Singers Great & Small; I also sing in St George’s choir and as part of the Praise On group]. I also read, knit, bake…and in the past 18 months have developed an appreciation of gin!

I’m originally from Glasgow but having moved in January 1984 I have now lived in England longer than I lived in Scotland!! …..but Glasgow will always be ‘home’, its where my roots are. Although I moved around for work [Salford, Frodsham, Worcester, Lytham St Annes then back to Salford] I’ve lived in Tyldesley for about 27 years now. St George’s has been my church of choice for 22 years – since having Bethany baptised there in 1997. I have 2 daughters – Bethany is 22 and Amy 19. Bethany works for New Look and just before Christmas was promoted to Sales Manager and transferred from Trafford Centre to the Arndale in Manchester. Amy is in her first year at Liverpool Hope University, studying music at the Creative Campus.

Retirement afforded me time and space to become more involved in church and I rejoined the PCC in 2017. When the post of part time team administrator was advertised at the end of last year I decided I was ready to explore new challenges. The application process was a bit daunting – for the first time in over 22 years I had to write a CV and a letter of application. Although my previous employment was never directly as an admin worker every role I’ve undertaken involved a variety of admin tasks and I felt I had sufficient transferrable skills. The interview was a bit daunting – a series of questions from the Team Rector, 3 churchwardens [1 from each of the team’s churches] and the Business Manager from St George’s Central School took notes and provided an independent presence. I was successful and took up post from 1st December 2018.

It’s fair to say the job is ‘work in progress’ but my main function is to support Martin in his role as Team Rector and undertake tasks as directed by him to a) free up more of his time to attend to ‘ministering’ and b) help to ‘centralize’ team records. This is a part time post and my working hours are 36 over a calendar month; I don’t have set weekly hours and there has to be a degree of flexibility in when I work. I have a ‘base’ in the Vestry at St George’s and I tend to work there most Mondays but the flexibility of the job allows me to work from home too. So what have I done so far? Set up a ‘Team Diary’ to help track events and look for ‘clashes’. Working on Team Newsletters will be a regular feature so I’m currently working on one for Lent. I’ve taken minutes at a ‘team’ meeting re the Parish Share, updated records of weddings in St Stephen’s & St George’s to complete a quarterly return to the Registrar in Wigan [Julian completes this task for St John’s], responded to enquiries from couples wishing to be married in church and liaised with couples who have weddings already booked in the next couple of months. It’s amazing how time consuming making phone calls and sending emails can be! Although I’ve been involved in various team events and activities over the years I’ve found myself making more ‘formal’ links with churchwardens and people like Michelle, Andrea and Alan who produce the individual church magazines to share information.

In the first instance my workload is generated by Martin as Team Rector and I’m expecting the first 6 months or so will be busiest in some senses as we work out what specifics tasks will be allocated and the role develops so watch this space! I can be contacted on atmcteamclerk@gmail.com or by phone on 07873 149627.

Susie Mallon,

Team Clerk