

The Grapevine

Issue 11

£1



August & September 2019

The Church of England in Saddleworth



grace the love
hail Mary full
are you among
and women
is the blessed
fruit of
your womb
JESUS
holy Mary mother
of God pray for
us sinners now and
at the hour of our death
amen

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The Rector writes...

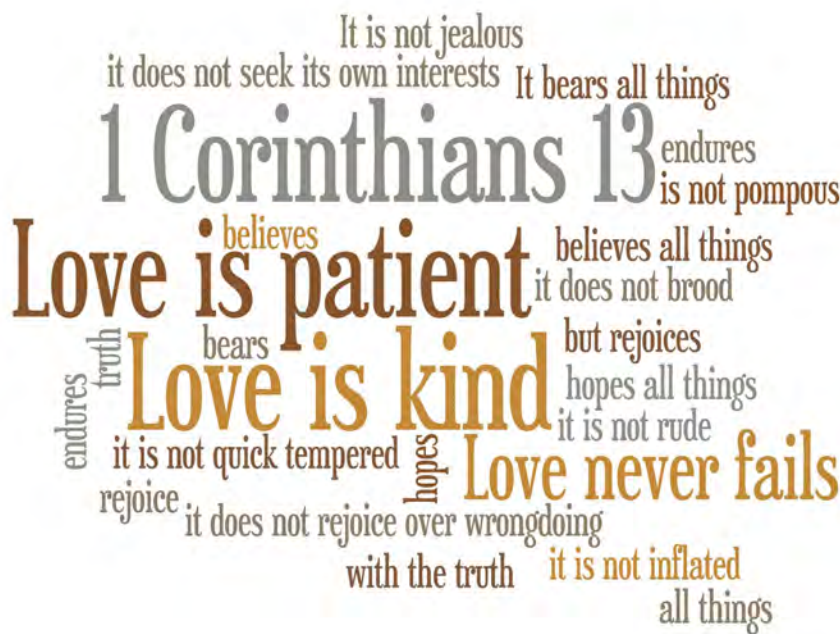
The Church is called by God to be a school of love. We are called to demonstrate love in our actions and relationships; in our attitudes and our words. In a world of fear and hate, in times of uncertainty and anxiety, when much that has been familiar and 'safe' feels threatened, God calls us to love.

The way to overcome fear and threat is to defeat it by naming it for what it is; through our love for one another; by our determination not to let fear divide us or destroy us. We are called to sing a different song – a song of love and intimacy; to dance to a different tune – the music of joy and tenderness; to move to a rhythm of forgiveness and courage.

Throughout the New Testament followers of Christ are reminded that they inhabit a different world and are to be a light on a hill, a beacon of hope in darkness.

Love is not something wish-washy, emotional, a soft option, a feeling. Love is a matter of will. Love is in itself an act of defiance. The Bible teaches us that perfect love casts out all fear. So let us define ourselves by love.

Sharon



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For further information contact Sue Willett on grapevineadvertising@cofeinsaddleworth.org.uk

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Mission Partnership: Manchester – Namibia



Our Diocesan Mission Partnership, between the Diocese of Namibia and the Diocese of Manchester, was established in 1995 and aims to encourage the development of faith and enrich the spiritual lives of people within the diverse social and economic cultures of the respective dioceses.

We do this through direct parish-to-parish links; currently five parishes and three primary schools within our diocese have strong links. We support various programmes, such as youth and adult exchange, education links, social and economic support, positive health schemes, poverty reduction, clergy training and support.

In the last issue of The Grapevine we alerted everyone to the plight of our mission partners in Namibia suffering the severest drought for many years.

An appeal for funding made across the Benefice, aimed at helping villages and orphanages most in need, raised £342.50.

Thank you to everyone who contributed.

The funding will be distributed by members from the 'Oshandi Trust' who will be visiting Namibia in August.

Watch this space for further news of our mission partnership.

Regular Sunday Services

St Thomas Delph

1st Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion (said)
10:30am Service of the Word

2nd Sunday 9:30am Informal Service
10:30am Holy Communion

3rd Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion (said)
10:30am Service of the Word
6:30pm Prayer for Healing
with Holy Communion

4th Sunday 9:30am Informal Service
10:30am Holy Communion

5th Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion (said)
10:30am All Age Holy Communion

Christ Church Denshaw

1st Sunday 10:30am Holy Communion (BCP)

2nd Sunday 10:30am Holy Communion (BCP)
6:00pm Evensong (BCP)

3rd Sunday 10:30am Holy Communion (BCP)

4th Sunday 10:30am Morning Prayer
6:00pm Evensong (BCP)

5th Sunday 10:30am Holy Communion (BCP)

Holy Trinity Dobcross

1st Sunday 9:30am All Age Eucharist (CW)
10:30am Holy Communion (BCP)

2nd Sunday 10:30am Morning Praise
and Sunday School

3rd Sunday 9:30am Little Fishes
10:30am Eucharist (CW)

4th Sunday 10:30am Family Eucharist (CW)

5th Sunday 10:30am Morning Prayer (BCP)

Christ Church Friezland

1st Sunday 9:30am Eucharist (CW)

2nd Sunday 9:30am Children's Eucharist (CW)

3rd Sunday 9:30am Morning Prayer

4th Sunday 9:30am Eucharist (CW)

5th Sunday 9:30am Eucharist (CW)

St Mary Greenfield

1st Sunday 9:00am Early Church ¥
10:30am Eucharist (CW)

2nd Sunday 9:00am Early Church ¥
10:30am Morning Prayer (CW)

3rd Sunday 9:00am Early Church ¥
10:30am Eucharist (CW)

4th Sunday 9:00am Early Church ¥
10:30am Eucharist (CW)

5th Sunday 9:00am Early Church ¥
10:30am Eucharist (CW)
6:30pm Eucharist

¥ 'Early Church' for children and young families.
On special occasions (e.g. Mothering Sunday,
Easter Day, Harvest, Christingle, Nativity, etc.)
we have just one service at 10:30am.

St Anne Lydgate

1st Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion
11:00am Children's Eucharist (CW)
(including Church Parade)

2nd Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion
11:00am Eucharist (CW)

3rd Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion
11:00am Morning Prayer

4th Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion
11:00am Eucharist (CW)

5th Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion
11:00am Eucharist (CW)

What we have is a communication breakdown!

Therapist: *Your wife says you never buy her flowers. Is that true?*

Him: *To be honest, I never knew she sold flowers.*



St Chad Saddleworth

On the 5th Sunday all three of the worship centres worship together. The venue is rotated.

29th Sept 9:30am Eucharist at Parish Centre

St Chad Saddleworth - Parish Centre

1st Sunday 9:30am Children's Eucharist

2nd Sunday 9:30am Eucharist and Sunday School

3rd Sunday 9:30am Eucharist and Sunday School

4th Sunday 9:30am Morning Prayer and Sunday School

St Chad Saddleworth - Parish Church

1st Sunday 11:00am Sung Eucharist

2nd Sunday 11:00am Sung Eucharist

3rd Sunday 11:00am Sung Eucharist

4th Sunday 11:00am Morning Prayer

St Chad Saddleworth - Kilngreen

1st Sunday 9:30am Family Worship

2nd Sunday 9:30am Eucharist and Sunday School

3rd Sunday 9:30am Eucharist and Sunday School

4th Sunday 9:30am Eucharist and Sunday School

Regular Weekday Services

Christ Church Friezland

Tuesday 9:30am Eucharist (CW)

Thursday 7:00pm Eucharist (CW)
non-alcoholic wine

St Mary Greenfield

Wednesday 10:00am Eucharist (BCP)

St Anne Lydgate

Wednesday 6:00pm Family Worship

Friday 10:00am Eucharist (CW)

St Chad Saddleworth - Parish Centre

Tuesday 9:30am Eucharist

September is World Alzheimer's Month

In Saddleworth we are working together to achieve Dementia Friendly Churches and the group, by that name, meet to discuss what we can do to further that aim.

Do you remember watching on television a man in a car with his Dad, who has dementia, singing along to his favourite CDs. The man is Simon McDermott and it went viral on YouTube and is still available to view.

Well, Simon is coming to Saddleworth to share the inspiring story of how music made a difference to his Dad, 'The Songminute Man'. Music is an important link to the past as the BBC "Dementia Choir" programme recently showed and it is amazing that songs are often remembered when other memories fade.



The Story of 'The Songminute Man'

Wednesday 18th September at 7:00pm



Boarshurst Band Club, Greenbridge Lane, Greenfield, OL3 7EW.

Entrance by Ticket only - £5 with all proceeds to Alzheimer's Research UK.

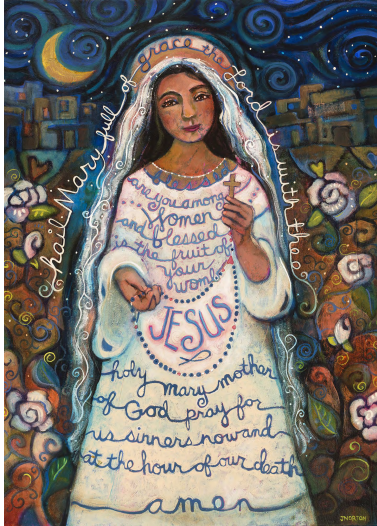
Further details available from Heather Shaw on 07943 128601 or by email hevshaw48@gmail.com

Front Page Artwork - 'Hail Mary' by Jen Norton

Jen Norton produces paintings and illustrations that celebrate faith, family and everyday moments, grounded in her Catholic faith.

She is a full-time artist who lives and works in San Jose, CA. She is always thrilled whenever someone chooses her work. We may see more of Jen's work in the future.

Here is the commentary from her website...



Growing up Catholic, we were taught to honour Mary as the Mother of God through reciting the prayers of the Rosary. Like prayer-bead traditions from other religious practices, the Rosary is designed to slow you down and facilitate meditation. During the prayers, one contemplates the "mysteries" of Jesus' life while honouring His mother as an intercessor for our needs. The practice strengthens us to avoid sin and open our hearts to the will of God. In troubled times, rote recitation can become a passionate plea, a lifeline to divine Grace.

Nothing can bring a parent to their knees quicker than something difficult going on with their child. This year found my husband and I having to hyper-focus our parenting skills on our teen child. Her transition to high school was difficult and we really had to open our hearts and minds to make the right choices for her future. In the end, we found we needed to change course and go in a completely different direction than we had imagined. Sometimes life is like that and you just have to let go and trust. I personally found great solace and wisdom in praying the Rosary during this time.

There are all kinds of arguments within Christianity about who Mary is and was. I can only say who she is to me. She was a teen girl, living in a Jewish territory on the edge of Roman rule. She was asked by God to "Be Not Afraid" as she became an unwed

mother who gave birth in rough conditions in a foreign land. She adored her young Son, and then felt the angst of parenting a teen when she lost Him at the temple. Her wisdom led Jesus to begin His ministry with his first miracle at the Wedding at Cana, and with grace, she stood by his side as a witness to his devastating death by Roman crucifixion. Mary has been there and beyond. She has dealt with more than I hope I ever have to, so I trusted her to help me. She has not let me down.

In the whirlwind that life offers, Mary urges us to be still, wait patiently, and get to know her Son. She leads us to Jesus, and pleads on our behalf. What good son would refuse his mother?

I was inspired during my "year of parental tribulation" to create this painting of the Virgin Mary in the modern folk style I have used in much of my recent work. The words of the Hail Mary prayer weave around and through her as she shows us the way to her Son. I am known to over-think pretty much everything, but I find solidarity in the simplicity of Mary. Maybe you will too.

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www.JenNortonArtStudio.com

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Monday 2nd September
2:00pm to 3:00pm
St Chad Saddleworth - Parish Centre
Station Road, Uppermill, OL3 6HQ
Music provided by Mike Hindson.
Art work by Janet Iles

Prayers, reflection and activity
on the theme of 'All Things Bright and Beautiful'
by Revds Barbara Christopher & Hilary Edgerton.



Church of England in Saddleworth

"Celebrating God's presence in all people."

Blessed Virgin Mary

The Blessed Virgin Mary, mother of Our Lord, is celebrated at different times of the year by the Christian Church.



She is honoured as 'God-bearer' or 'Theotokos' Mother of God in Greek and a term used particularly in Eastern Orthodox Christianity. She is the one who presents her Son to us as the source of all love and salvation. The title, 'Theotokos', has been in use since the 3rd century in the Syriac tradition. The Council of Ephesus in AD 431 decreed that Mary is the Theotokos because her son Jesus is both God and man: one divine person with two natures (divine and human) intimately and hypostatically united.

Theotokos is also used as the term for an Eastern icon, or type of icon, of the Mother with Child (typically called a Madonna in western tradition).

Nothing is known for sure of the place of Mary's birth or of her parentage. Only her name is known for certain, Mary or Miriam (in Hebrew), and that she had an aged relative called Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist.

The Gospel of Luke tells us that Mary was a young Jewish girl living in Nazareth and engaged to Joseph. A messenger from the Lord announced that she was to be the bearer of the Son of God to the world. Her response, "Let it be to me according to your word", and her life of obedience and faithfulness have been upheld ever since as a model for all who hear and obey God's word.

In Christian tradition Mary is often described as 'the second Eve' who unlocks Eve's disobedience.

Mary was present at the crucifixion of her Son and was with the apostles at Pentecost. According to the Gospel of John, at the time of his death Jesus commended the care of his mother to the beloved disciple which may explain why in Christian tradition her final years are associated with both Jerusalem and Ephesus.

The major feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated nowadays on 15th August throughout most of Christendom.



Big Picture Discussion Group Exodus Learning to trust God



**Starting on Wednesday
4th September for 6 weeks
7:45pm for 8:00pm**

at

St Anne's Church Lydgate

The Israelite people had to decide if God was for them or against them. It was a long learning curve!

Contact Hilary Edgerton 01457 871704
hilaryedgerton@cofeinsaddleworth.org.uk
or Val Stocker valstocker61@gmail.com



Church of England in Saddleworth

"Celebrating God's presence in all people."

Street Pastors



Street Pastors are a nationally recognised Christian charity group which was first founded over 15 years ago in east London by Revd Les Isaac. More information can be found about their foundation and history on the Ascension Trust website at

www.streetpastors.org

Subsequently, the Street Pastor initiative spread across many towns and cities. In Greater Manchester, Stalybridge was the first town to establish a team in 2010 by local visionaries, Phil and Angela Trewnard. Since then a number of other teams have established themselves across the Greater Manchester region. In each case this has involved local churches working together to establish local charity status.



Whilst the volunteers have a Christian background, their aim is not to share their faith in any explicit way. Street Pastors help to create a safer and less frightening environment by patrolling centres of local night life on a Friday or Saturday evening.

They help by diffusing heated situations, often helping people get home safely, offering first aid and supporting those who have become separated from friends or are suffering from the effects of alcohol or drugs. They protect vulnerable members of our community such as the homeless.

In each situation they work in partnership with Greater Manchester Police, local Council and business representatives. Over the years the impact of this has been seen in the reduction of local crime and anti-social behaviour.

We are pleased to announce that the Saddleworth area has now achieved operational charity status and is in the process of training up more volunteers on a comprehensive training programme involving themes such as youth culture, drugs, homelessness, conflict management and active listening techniques.

The first patrol took to the streets of Uppermill on Whit Friday. Street Pastors are instantly recognizable in their blue baseball caps and uniforms bearing the Street Pastor logo.

In the long term, we are hoping to have voluntary teams out at least once a week at the weekends and at local events such as Yanks, Saddleworth Show, and Rush Cart.

Could you be a Street Pastor?

YES! If,...

- † You are over 18 years old. There is no upper age limit, the older the better! Grandparents make excellent Street Pastors;
- † You have been part of a church for the past year and have the support of your church leader;
- † Can contribute something towards the cost of your training and official uniform.
A combination of local authority grants, police grants, donations from charities, and donations from churches help to cover the cost.

You can attend the ten training sessions currently taking place once a month on a Saturday over the course of a year. Any sessions missed can be completed the following year. Although you can join a patrol once you have completed three core topics.

You can go out one night a month with a Street Pastor Team. At least three Street Pastors are in a team.

We have four qualified Street Pastors and eight more in training. The more volunteers we have the easier it will be to staff regular patrols.

For more information, please see the website:

www.streetpastors.org

or email us at:

saddleworth@streetpastors.org.uk

and we will happily answer your questions.



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 07808 474743
sue@suewillett.co.uk

Big Picture Discussion Group Self Esteem



Continuing on Wednesday
31st July for two weeks

7:45pm for 8:00pm

at

St Anne's Church Lydgate

How to see ourselves as God sees us
*'wonderfully made', 'fully forgiven',
 'eternally loved', 'weak yet strong', 'poor yet rich'*

A discussion course based on
 what the Bible says about these themes



Church of England in Saddleworth

"Celebrating God's presence in all people."

Neil Brunskill

Tell us a bit about yourself.

Hello, I'm Neil. I have just finished my first year as an ordinand, training to be a priest in the Church of England. I'm originally from Liverpool, so I'm excited to be away from city-life.



Why will you be supporting the Church of England in Saddleworth?

A key part of my training is placements and putting all the theory and theology I have learnt into practice.

What did you do before you began training for ordained ministry?

I had worked for Lloyds Banking Group for five years and completed a degree at Liverpool Hope University in History and Philosophy.

What is your favourite Bible story?

Tough question! I suppose my favourite story is Gabriel visiting the Blessed Virgin Mary to pronounce her as the Mother of Jesus. In response

Mary exclaims *"Here I am, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."* Placed upon Mary is a task that overwhelms her. Yet, it is a task she is called to, and she responds in utter obedience. It reminds me that we are all called in our own unique way to something and we, like Mary, should respond to God's call in obedience, relying on Him to support and uphold us.

What are your theological interests?

Briefly, I am a fan of the big questions, known as systematic theology. For example, the problem of evil and whether God suffers; and religious language - how we speak about God. However, I am particularly interested in sacramental theology, especially on the Eucharist and also in liturgy – its history and current day usage.

How do you spend your free time?

I love baking, but my cassock hides it well! I also enjoy the theatre, art exhibitions, and walking around Saddleworth with Charlie my Jack Russell.

I'm looking forward to meeting you all in August, so please do come and say hello!

A view behind bars - 'Friendship'



Dave's mum drives across Liverpool to collect Phil's mum once a month. Phil's mum doesn't drive so it saves her a laborious trip when they both go to visit their sons in Buckley Hall. They started to get together when Dave and Phil became friends in jail. Now they say they are 'friends for life'.

In an environment where all is macho and about hiding any sign of need, friendships do emerge. I will hear occasionally of one man who tries gently to persuade his neighbour to keep going in his attempts to give up using 'Spice' and stay clean. Sometimes friendship is about being able to sit in another man's cell, or about the man who buys large quantities of cake from the bake shop, then shares it all out at lunchtime with whoever is near.

Sometimes the friendship is formalised. We have 'community advisers' who have trusted positions to help people know how to go about getting information or coping with life in a big institution. Or it may be that help comes from the green-shirted 'Listeners' who are available as peers to sit and hear someone's grief, or depression, or anger and try to point them in the right direction.

But sometimes they are just 'friends' in the sense that you or I would know the word. "Tell him I miss him, I'm thinking of him and I'm praying for him", said Dave one day when Phil had failed to appear for chapel and we both suspected he was in a bad way. "And tell him 'this is your Easter present'", he said, giving me a Cadbury's Creme Egg with a smile. Dave and Phil live on different wings of the prison. They don't get much chance to see each other, so he took his chance when I said I'd be visiting later in the day.



I repeated the message to a downbeat Phil who was, frankly, in a mess. His eyes lit up. "Did he really say that? Were those his actual words?" With a tear in his eye he took the egg, ate it there and then and smiled. Even prisoners need friends.

When he's in a good way again, Phil will try to organise his gym sessions so that he and Dave can workout together and have some more manly, upbuilding banter to keep each other going.

By contrast, what do we make of Ivan? He ended up in prison because, as a vulnerable young man who was often mocked, he was thrust into a situation which brought him trouble. He now regrets going with the crowd and letting himself get pushed into things which brought him a lengthy sentence plus a fear and mistrust of almost anyone.

He keeps himself to himself, looks fragile, doesn't keep himself clean and eats his meals alone. "We are his family" said one officer to me. "We are the ones he feels most secure with." It's true. He notices (too much for some people) what we do. It doesn't endear him to the other men. Being cosy with the staff to any degree creates dislike, which further perpetuates his isolation.

Although he faces the prospect of release very soon, because he has kept 'a clean sheet' and served his tariff, he fears the outside world. Coming up to retirement age, when asked what he looked forward to most, he said it would be to have his own place "so that I won't have to get involved with anyone else and I can keep myself to myself and shut the door and stay in all day if I want to do."

Ivan has an inbuilt suspicion of other people. In Chapel he sets himself on the end of a row, away from others and shares 'the Peace' uncomfortably. Even as a Christian it seems his greatest achievement is to try to not need others and certainly not to rely on them. He does not seem happier for it as some people do who are confident in their own aloneness. To me, his life looks like a bleak picture of withdrawn and fearful isolation.

"We are the body of Christ" said the apostle Paul as he wrote to Christians who needed to know how to get along with each other. Every part of the body needs the others. Friendship seems like something vital to life and never to be taken for granted.

Hilary Edgerton
HMP Buckley Hall, Rochdale

St Thomas Delph

Breast Foot Forward Update

As you'll no doubt remember Joyce Brown undertook to walk the Race for Life on Sunday 23rd June at Alexandra Park, Glodwick. Seeking to raise money to help beat over 200 types of cancer, breast cancer being just one of those, Joyce rallied her friends for sponsorship and raised over £1200. Joyce was doing this as a thank you to all of those who've supported her through the whole process from diagnosis of cancer to where she is now.



Well Done Joyce!

Two weeks before the event Jill Woods, now a member of St Thomas' church, decided to join Joyce in the Race for Life (as a runner) and in the short time available gained £200 sponsorship.



Meanwhile Jacqui Rosedale has organised a Bra Bank at church. The 'Against Breast Cancer' charity, which funds ground-breaking research by expert scientists, takes old and new bras for recycling and through their textile recovery project prevents the 'old' bras going into landfill. The bras are given a new lease of life in developing countries such as Togo, Ghana and Kenya, where bras remain too expensive to produce locally. To date Jacqui has collected over 400 bras and is now preparing to send her first batch off for recycling.



The Bra Bank will be in St Thomas' Church Hall Porch and is usually open on Monday mornings, Friday afternoons, and Sundays before and after the 10:30am service.

Thank you to all three of you for your efforts in raising the awareness of cancer, and of ways to help fund cancer research projects.

Saddleworth Science Faith week

The first ever Saddleworth Science Faith week will take place in the week commencing 15th September. Geoffrey Dent, Revd John Rosedale, and Michael Harvey made a bid to 'Scientists in Congregations' based at the University of Durham and were awarded a small grant. Several of the churches in the benefice have added both financially to the grant, and also worked to open up opportunities throughout the week.

Saddleworth was at the centre of woollen cloth production in the 18th and 19th centuries. This was all made possible by science and technology. As the population grew more churches were needed. It is recorded that Christ Church Friezland, Parsonage and School, were built through the philanthropy of woollen manufacturers. Therefore, we are hoping that the logo for the Science Faith week will be wool under a microscope with a cross.

The substantive part of the week will be taking Science and Faith Communicators into eight Saddleworth schools. There will be relevant, educational and exciting activities delivered by the Science and Faith Communicators, who have been trained through the God and the Big Bang project. The latter is a national outreach developed through the Diocese of Manchester Board of Education. Dr Matt Pritchard will be one of speakers. Not only has he a doctorate in Atomic Physics, but he also attends his local church and is a member of The Magic Circle.



One of the most exciting parts of the week will be the Question Time at the end of each school event. It is hoped that parents and carers will hear their children set the agenda and ask some fascinating science faith questions in parents' assemblies at the end of each session

In addition to the schools' work, we are hoping to arrange scientists, from within each of our congregations, to be interviewed during our Sunday services at the beginning or end of the week about the connection between science and faith. We are planning for our Children's Workers to have a Sunday School/Junior Church/Messy Church Science and Faith Sunday activity.

On the Sunday before or at the end of the week, each church in the benefice will have the opportunity of a science and faith liturgy which might also include sermons and intercessions linked to the subject. We are also planning at least two early evening Science Faith events.

Film and Theology

Our first film 'The Book Thief' attracted about a dozen people. It was agreed that halfway through we'd have an intermission where cups were refilled and some conversation started about the film. At the end of the film we had some questions which stimulated some conversation. This led us to discuss who were the persecuted in our own society and how we should stand up for them.



The next two scheduled films are:

4th August @ 7:00pm 'Sunshine on Leith' (PG)

A musical and fun film about love, home and family.
(With mild language, violence and sex references).

1st September @ 7:00pm 'The Bucket List' (12)

A touching tale of building friendships and growing in identity.
(Contains one use of strong language and moderate sex references).



Parish Contacts

Grapevine Coordinator	Geoff Dent	geoffreydent@btinternet.com	01457 874027
Church Hall Bookings	Alison Lambert		01457 875141

Christ Church Denshaw

Sunday School Adventure

In a departure from the usual rhythms of Sunday School, our youngsters from Sunday School were kindly invited 'over the border' on Sunday 9th June to visit Dobcross Vicarage to view the small holding that is kept by Gemma Moffat-Jackman and her husband Aaron, Assistant Curate in the benefice.

We weren't going to pass up this opportunity so we gathered our passports and embarked to Dobcross. The original intention was to use the Delph Donkey train but alas our timing was awry and we arrived a mere 64 years too late.

Our cross border reconnaissance party consisted of about 20 children and adults, ably led by our intrepid Sunday school teachers Jane, Gail and Jo and having made alternative transport arrangements we all eventually arrived in Dobcross on what turned out to be a rather pleasant and warm weekend morning. This was a surprise and a rare treat in the colloquially named Monsoon Season, sometimes referred to by its more formal name, June.

Gemma welcomed us all and spelt out a few ground rules so that we were safe, and then we proceeded with her and her children, Hope and Abraham, to wander around the farm.

There is a lovely and extensive collection of land and water fowl, including geese (named Little Richard, Priscilla and Elvis), ducks, chickens, some goats and a rather sizable flock of sheep. After viewing the birds we then had a wander out into the fields to have a closer look at the ram and his flock; unfortunately one of the sheep ducked back down the alley (little wonder really!).

Then we returned to the house to have a look at the newest arrivals on the farm: a baby duckling and a three week old lamb which were kept in warmer environs inside the house. What a thrill to see these babies at such close quarters. It's fair to say that these newcomers got quite a lot of attention.

Gemma covered lots of topics with the children, including animal welfare and what all the different animals eat and how often.

Fortunately our intrepid leaders had brought lunch, so we didn't have to eat what the sheep were on but instead we had a lovely shared picnic (it is safe to say no lambs were harmed in the production of

this picnic!). Afterwards we went into the church grounds next door and said some prayers out in the sun. Before we knew it our time was up and it was time to travel back over the border to Denshaw.

Not that security is an issue in Dobcross, but the goose provided a security detail for the duration of our stay to ensure that the transport was safe.



The children had a wonderful morning and we would very much like to thank Gemma, Aaron and their children for their generous hospitality.

Matthew Smith

(father of Megan and Nathaniel, Sunday School members)

Whit Friday Walk of Witness 2019

A Tale of Two Halves

Were he to be alive today and penned this article, Charles Dickens may have opened:

*"It was the best of weathers,
it was the worst of weathers,
it was the age of wisdom,
it was the age of foolishness!"*

Though the weather was not as bad as last year, our Whit Friday walk began in drizzle and by the time we reached our half-way point the heavens had well and truly opened. Nevertheless, our wise folk, armed with brollies and waterproofs to negate any suggestion of foolishness from less hardy folk, set off with cheery hearts and sang with gusto to the accompaniment of the wonderful Lund University Brass Band.



It was a delight to welcome this Swedish Band and a joy to sing our hymns to their beautiful renditions.

Our half-way point was a haven of warmth, hospitality and delicious food and drink. Once again, Andrew and Michael had kindly opened their home to us all and provided a wonderful repast, much appreciated and enjoyed by everyone, not

least our friends from Lund. We are so grateful for Andrew and Michael's generosity.

The contrast in weather could not have been greater as we began the second half of our Whit Friday Walk, celebrating and giving thanks for God's sending of His Holy Spirit to the world at Pentecost.

We descended the hill back into the heart of the village, bathed in glorious sunshine. There we sang several more hymns before completing our walk with more singing outside the church lychgate.

Revd Philip Williamson

Revd Canon Roy Chow



We also welcomed Revd Canon Roy Chow from Manchester who has joined us for several years now. Roy led our processions while we were in 'Interregnum' which he enjoyed, as he had previously organised the Manchester walks. Each year since Revd Philip Williamson has walked with us, Roy has been invited back to Denshaw and has readily accepted the invitation, enjoying all his visits - even in the rain.

Eco-Update

Within church, we are hoping to have a new boiler fitted soon which will lift the heating efficiency from F to A rating, obviously meaning better heating and a big saving on bills. We are also looking at lighting and water use which count for our score looking towards the Silver Award.

The time put in by volunteers, who spent a spare hour clearing fallen branches and deadheading daffodils, has paid off and we have enjoyed a lovely show of bluebells. The bluebells have attracted people to have quiet time in our grounds and look around them as a Community space.

We look forward to welcoming the Dry Stone Walling Association back over the weekend of 21st / 22nd September to run a training course for novice stone-wallers. This will be linked with the Heritage Weekend.

Those attending are asked to bring old boots or wellingtons, when they will be adapted into bird boxes and feeders to take back to your own gardens.



Christ Church Heritage Weekend will take place on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd September and church will be open on Saturday from 10:00am to 2:00pm and on Sunday from 11:30am to 3:00pm. Needless to say the usual supply of homemade cake, tea and coffee will be on offer once again.

We continue to progress with our efforts and are moving well in our attempt to gain Silver status.

Congratulations to:

Ella Simpson, a former pupil of Christ Church Primary School, has been chosen as Head Girl at Crompton House. Obviously Ella is delighted and will no doubt continue much of the voluntary work as possible, at the moment she helps at Bright Futures School in Grasscroft and teaches swimming. We all wish her well in this important 'A' level year and every success as she seeks to pursue a career in medicine.

Bob and Mary Rodgers received an invitation to a Royal Garden Party in May in recognition of their services to Whit Friday in Delph over the past fifty years. They were also presented with the Saddleworth Parish Council's Volunteer Award for their work at Christ Church in addition to their involvement with the Whit Friday Band Contests not just in Delph but throughout Saddleworth.

Parish Contacts

Grapevine Coordinator

Mary Rodgers

rodgers@delphman.myzen.co.uk

01457 874354

Holy Trinity Dobcross

Heritage Open Days

Opening Times at Holy Trinity

Thursday, 19th September - 10:00am to 3:30pm

Friday, 20th September - 10:00am to 3:30pm

Saturday, 21st September - 10:00am to 3:30pm

Sunday, 22nd September - 1:00pm to 3:30pm

As part of "Oldham's Heritage Trail" we warmly invite you to visit our church to see its beauty and learn something of its history. For over 200 years it has been a centrepiece of Dobcross village life. In the late eighteenth century, Dobcross was the main village in Saddleworth located at the crossroads of the routes through the area. It was also an important administrative, residential and commercial centre with the only bank in the area. The Saddleworth Bank was located in the village square; its location is still identifiable today.



As Dobcross became more prosperous, land was bought and a subscription list opened to raise funds to build a chapel – the Italianate clock tower was added later.

The churchyard, no less than the church, is an important part of our local and national heritage. It is rich in historical, natural and artistic interest. Preservation of its particular character and beauty in the local environment is vital. The church and the churchyard go together.

On your visit, you will find a leaflet outlining a tour starting at the entrance door. We hope that you will spend some time in our lovely Grade II listed building.

“The building stands to the glory of God, made known to us by Jesus Christ, in whose name worship has been offered since it was consecrated in 1787.”

Becoming an Eco Friendly Church

As part of our Mission Action Plan, we have recently taken up the Diocesan challenge of Eco Church. Revd Aaron Jackman is gathering a group of interested people and youngsters to plan a way forward. Our Sunday Club under the guidance of Claire Archibald and other leaders are working on a project to help the younger generation be aware of their surroundings:

“to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.”

A Visit to the Vicarage

It was decided to make a positive start by encouraging the Sunday Club to become “Eco Warriors”. To witness God’s creation first-hand, a visit was duly arranged to the “Dobcross Farm” at the vicarage for a group of children and parents.



Here they loved seeing the fourteen new lambs, including twins and triplets, born to eight ewes, together with numerous chickens, ducks and three geese named Elvis, Priscilla and Little Richard.

Aaron’s wife, Gemma, is keen that:

“Children learn some respect for local agriculture because without farmers where would we be. Having animals in Churchfields brings knowledge, joy and care for our farming culture. I hope that Holy Trinity’s little farm will continue to be a source of happiness for the village and foster awareness about farming in general.”

Back at church, the Eco Warriors will now turn their attention to recycling issues; watch this space.

With thanks to Ken Bennett for additional material.

Links with the Community

Whit Friday – the best day of the year for many in Saddleworth began with a Procession of Witness as over a thousand people, young and old, assembled in the Square. Tradition was the order of the day as we waited eagerly for the strains of “Hail Smiling Morn” before the short service, led by Revd Aaron Jackman and assisted by our friend Revd Canon Jim Burns, began.



The early rain slowly faded as the procession marched to Uppermill with Dobcross Silver Band, Dobcross Brass Monkeys and Dobcross Youth Band and our banner proudly carried. Thank you to the many helpers before and on the day.



A collection of £1162.64 was donated to the charity POPYRUS for the prevention of young suicide.

Charity Summer Concert was held on Saturday 23rd June in aid of Oldham Mountain Rescue Team organised by the Saddleworth Sing for Pleasure Choir.



We were delighted to welcome Musical Director, Deborah Williams, Accompanist Gordon Jackson, and Oldham Music Centre Service Woodwind Ensemble. The choir’s programme included traditional folksongs, sacred music, light classics and popular songs from “My Fair Lady”. A very enjoyable evening ended with choir and audience joining in to sing the Saddleworth anthem “Hail Smiling Morn”. In total £437 was raised for Oldham Mountain Rescue Team. Wow!

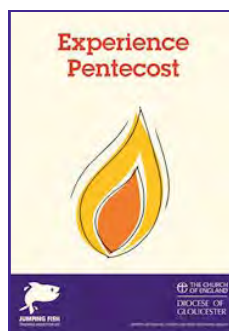
Christian Aid Week - Once again the house-to-house collection in Dobcross brought together church and community. A small team of volunteers went out around the streets delivering red envelopes and then collecting them in the biggest act of Christian charity in Britain.

This year the focus is the lack of healthcare for mothers in Sierra Leone. Our donations will help towards a maternity unit to reduce the exceptionally high infant mortality rates. Thank you to everyone; we raised £931.00.

Dorothy and Bob Townend
Area Coordinators

Links with School

Experience Pentecost took place on 3rd June



when Year 5 pupils visited key parts of the church to learn that Pentecost celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit and the gift of tongues to Christ’s disciples. The children asked many questions and wrote some lovely prayers which were left on the altar.

End of Term - A New School Year

For many of our young folk, the end of term means changes of some sort, depending on age and situation. All too soon, the beginning of September is here which can be a time of mixed emotions.

Some children will start nursery or school whilst others move on to secondary school, sixth form college or university. It’s a big jump and many will have reservations. With these changes comes the realisation for many parents that their offspring are becoming more independent and no longer seem to have need of them.

Cecil Day-Lewis explained that one day your child will walk away and your job is to let them go:

*“...How selfhood begins with a walking away,
And love is proved in the letting go...”*

We send our best wishes to all the young people leaving Holy Trinity Primary School at the end of term, especially Isobel Brogan and Anna Mooney who will be joining The Blue Coat School, and Luke Moore who will be joining Crompton House School.

Parish Contacts

Grapevine Coordinator	Dorothy Townend	r.townend@btinternet.com	01457 873861
Baptisms and Weddings	Dorothy Townend	r.townend@btinternet.com	01457 873861

Christ Church Friezland

Saddleworth Palestinian Women's Scholarship Fund

The women of Gaza and the West Bank struggle with electricity blackouts, contaminated water, food shortages, high unemployment and extreme poverty resulting from Israeli restrictions on the movement of people and goods. Money is short for higher education and the fund supports women working towards a degree.

Popular subjects include nursing, pharmacy, engineering, law and teaching English - all useful to secure a brighter future for their people. We have sent £874.71 to the fund which comes out of the donations made for tea and coffee after our Sunday service.

For more information please email:
saddleworth.pwsf@gmail.com

Jill Read

Horizons International

A big 'merci' from the five orphaned siblings at the "Loving Hearts Children's Home" in Haiti, who were directly supported by donations for after-service refreshments through Horizons International. Four of the children have settled into school and the eldest is having additional support.

For more information please email:
mail@horizonsinternational.org.uk



Cheques being presented by our churchwarden, Duncan Ross (who is in the middle) to:

- † Jill Read
Saddleworth Palestinian Women's Scholarship Fund
- † Colin Carson
Horizons International.

Pentecost Praise

Over 150 people celebrated God's giving of the Holy Spirit (or as Revd Rosie had reminded us earlier: the birthday of the Church) in this gospel-style service. Led by Revd Angela, it assembled a choir of children and adults from across Saddleworth churches and schools - all dressed in warm colours to represent the flames witnessed by those first believers. Revd John Rosedale explained the work of the Holy Spirit in making us different, through the use of water, lemonade, balloons and flame – a message that fizzed, popped and left a burning impression.

Thanks to all who organized and facilitated the service. What a night!

Eco Church & Fairtrade

A Eco and Fairtrade stall is now established monthly, after the second Sunday service, so stock up on store cupboard essentials and tasty treats.



Matt Carson has been confirmed as Deanery Eco Champion for Oldham East. It is an evolving role, but he will essentially report to the Deanery Synod about the Eco status of each church in the deanery. This will also help with the sharing of information between churches.

Art Exhibition

We will be holding our Annual Art Exhibition in church (a historic Grade II Listed Building located on Church Road, Friezland, OL3 7LQ) over the weekend of 21st and 22nd September.

Church will be open:

- † on Saturday from 10:00am and 4:00pm
- † on Sunday from 12 noon until 4:00pm.

There will be a Coffee Shop offering coffee, tea and cakes, as well as the art.

Any artists, professional or amateur, who wish to display any of their work should contact

Duncan Ross on 01457 835261
or email ross328@btinternet.com

Whit Friday Procession

It's always exciting and slightly nerve-wracking as we gather outside the lychgate, ensuring that banner carriers, brass band and various others are assembled.

This year, after a brief shower and some minor traffic disruptions, we set off with service sheets and collecting buckets to hand as the band played the traditional "Hail Smiling Morn". With few onlookers, despite the rain holding off, we headed into an atmospheric Uppermill - where the crowds showed their appreciation all the way onto the park for the religious service.

Being one of the first two churches off the field, we did not head for home, but instead walked to the viaduct and back accompanied by the glorious music of church bands and with the pleasure of recognising friends from other churches. Soon, it was time for the quieter journey back to base, but with the band still playing and a distinct feeling of satisfaction.

Terry Flynn



Art Exhibition

at

Christ Church Friezland

Church Road, Friezland, OL3 7LQ

on

Saturday 21st September

10:00am - 4:00pm

Sunday 22nd September

12 noon - 4:00pm

Refreshments available

To exhibit, contact Duncan Ross 01457 835261
email: ross328@btinternet.com



Thursday 1st August

2:00pm - 4:00pm

at

Friezland Church Hall

Positive Cycles will be available:

- to MOT your bikes;
- and to accept donations of any unwanted old ones.

Parish Contacts

Grapevine Coordinator	Yvonne Carson	grapevine.ccf@outlook.com	
ALM Worship	Duncan Ross	ross328@btinternet.com	01457 835261
ALM Community Outreach	Peter Whalley	joanandpeterwhalley@uwclub.net	07746 665404
ALM Prayer and Spirituality	Megan Harrison	megharrison64.aol.com	07817 771663

St Mary Greenfield

Whit Friday

I expect most of our churches will be mentioning Whit Friday and we are no exception. We enjoyed a wonderful day and this year we were once again very pleased to have The Right Reverend Mark Davies, Bishop of Middleton, with us.

You may remember that Bishop Mark suffered an unfortunate accident in Greenfield two years ago, when the brass cross on top of one of our banner poles inadvertently made contact with his head. Fortunately, he wasn't badly hurt. Brian, our churchwarden, issued him with a hard hat just to make sure he remained safe this time!!



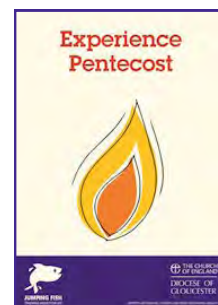
However, Bishop Mark must have trusted that lightning wouldn't strike twice and, after trying the hat for size and having his photograph taken, he decided he could risk not wearing it.

After an uplifting talk from Bishop Mark before we left church, we set out in the rain to walk and meet our Methodist friends at Road End. There, we were pleased to be joined by Reverend Gary Ridley on his first Whit Friday in Greenfield since he came to lead the Methodist Church in Saddleworth.

Continuing from there, the rain certainly did not dampen our spirits, nor did it dampen the power of the Holy Spirit, and for at least two thirds of the walk umbrellas were not needed!

Experience Pentecost

Due to school holidays and not wanting to cram too much into the week leading up to Whit Friday, our Pentecost celebrations carried on into the beginning of Trinity, when we held Experience Pentecost in church on Tuesday 18th June.



A group of helpers from both our Early Church and '10:30' congregations came together to prepare and lead the event, which was attended by years 3 and 4 from both St Mary's and Greenfield Primary Schools. It was a happy occasion during which we learnt as much, if not more, from the children as we were able to teach them. We, and they, are already looking forward to 'Experience Christmas' and 'Experience Easter'.



Saddleworth School

Arts and Music Festival

Just as we were pleased that both our village primary schools were able to take part in Experience Pentecost, so we were pleased to offer our church as a venue for the Saddleworth School Arts and Music Festival which took place during the end of June and in early July.

For four days, the Saddleworth School Brass Band led by Garrath Beckwith, who is Head of Music, used our church and played for the rest of the school as they took turns to visit St Mary's Church and other venues as part of their festival. From what I saw and heard, the quality of the performances was excellent and you could say that it was a resounding success!

Our Organ

Around the same time as Saddleworth School was celebrating its musical talents in our church, we were pleased to see and hear St Mary's Church organ being played once again, after being out of action for the previous six months whilst the three huge bellows and very many tiny 'puffers' were re-leathered.

The complexity of the work undertaken, and the skill involved in completing it was quite extensive. The organ is now sounding better than it has done for several years.

We intend to celebrate and give thanks by holding an afternoon tea and handbag sale, during which Graham will play the organ and we'll all be able to enjoy its melodious tones. The date for this event had not been decided at the time of writing, so please look out for more information.

Harvest Festival



A date that has been decided is our harvest festival, which will take place on 29th September. We will give thanks and praise to God at 10:30am with a joint service of both our congregations, now called "Together at St Mary's". A class, staff, and families from St Mary's School will also be joining us and the children will give a presentation. In the evening, at 6:30pm, a quiet and reflective service of Holy Communion with anointing and prayers for healing will be held.



Donations of non-perishable food for Oldham Food Bank, and monetary donations for the charity, WaterAid, will be gratefully received at both services.

From our Book of Remembrance

We remember those we love and who loved us, and who also loved our church. At this time we pray for those whose anniversaries occur in August and September. They are:

Eric Bourne, George Richard Bennett, Fred Green, Mary Christopher, Ada Partington, Ron Hingston, Audrey Greenwood, Rose Ellen Hallam.

**May they all rest in peace,
enfolded in the eternal love of God.**

With my love and all God's blessings,

Barbara

Parish Contacts

Grapevine Coordinator	Barbara Christopher barbarachristopher@cofeinsaddleworth.org.uk	01457 876802
Verger	Eva Holden	01457 873043
Organist	Graham Sheldon Graham.Sheldon@oldham.gov.uk	01457 513236
Flower Secretary	Pam Butler pambutler2@tiscali.co.uk	01457 876982
Gift Aid Secretary	Elizabeth Pilkington lizhp2170@lizhp2170.plus.com	01457 837268
Charity Shop Manager	Lynda McGowan shel48@live.co.uk	07708 996919
St Mary's School, Headteacher	Mrs S M Hall info@greenfieldstmary.oldham.sch.uk	01457 872264

St Anne Lydgate

Church and Community



Grotton had two celebrations over the weekend of 22nd/23rd June with a Gala at the Pavilion and a Community Gathering commemorating the life of Jo Cox at Lido House. Church members were involved in both happy events. A lovely community spirit.

On the Monday following I took in an asylum seeker who was referred by the Christian organisation called 'Hope and Home' (www.hopeathome.org.uk) which appeared in a Church Times article just before Christmas. Clearly there are costs and a need for fundraising. Here I, Richard, have a proposal.

My wife Elizabeth had accumulated a library of over 250 books on theology and church practice. I have catalogued them all and offer them to anyone who would like any of them in return for a donation to Hope at Home.

Please email me at ardee@phonecoop.coop if you are interested and I will send you the list which is in alphabetical order mostly by authors.

Richard Darlington

May Queen Fundraising

During my time as May Queen for St Anne's Church my retinue and I raised £2,100 which was to be split between Age UK Oldham and Church funds.

On 16th June we welcomed Nicola Shore and Anne Madden from Age UK Oldham to the morning prayer service. I presented a cheque for £1,050 to Nicola and then she spoke about the fantastic services which Age UK provide in Oldham and in particular the Life Story project...

"Everyone's story is unique and important. Our Life Story project works with older people to produce a personalised Life Story Book that can be shared with family, friends and carers.

"Our brilliant volunteer visitors and typists both play a central role in documenting the lives of older people. Volunteers visit clients on a weekly basis, and encourage them through friendly chats to reminisce and recall special events, people and places that have played an important part in their life. Using a form as a prompt, people are encouraged to share memories and include as much or as little as they want in their own story book.

"The information is then passed to one of volunteer typists who compile the stories into printed books, including special photos and images to bring the book to life. Once complete, we can organise a special Life Story presentation involving the volunteers, along with family and friends."

For more information visit www.ageuk.org.uk/oldham and follow links to 'Our Services', 'Home and care', and 'Life Story' or use this QR code.



I also presented a cheque for £1,050 to Al Gillian to be used on an Eco project within the church and grounds.

After the service we went into the parish hall to join members of the congregation for tea and coffee where Nicola and Anne had an information stall.

The morning was a great success and I am very grateful to all members of church who helped my retinue and I to raise such a fantastic amount.

Francesca Lloyd

20th Oldham Lydgate Guides

We strive to give girls the opportunities to express themselves freely and give girls experiences they may never get to have.

This year we have a big heroes and villains camp planned at Waddow Hall in Clitheroe where we camp every year and a trip to the Big Gig in Sheffield. This week we are off to Extreme Air to celebrate the girls' achievements in "Guiding" and to welcome new girl guides into our unit.

We had an amazing time at Saddleworth District's own campsite in Greenfield. We enjoyed pitching tents, making gadgets, especially washing up stands. We mostly enjoyed making smores and toasting marshmallows around the campfire and enjoying time spent together.

We enjoyed the Whit Walks where we joined with Lydgate Rainbows and Brownies to celebrate Whitsuntide as a collaborative unit.



If you or anyone you know are interested in coming and getting involved as a volunteer or as a guide then please email me on bingleyclo@gmail.com or ring on 07846431779.

Living Well Event

In April the Dementia Advocates from the Benefice organised a "Living Well Event". Joyce Brown spoke on dementia, but the idea was not just to focus on living well with dementia but to share ideas of how to live well generally in our later years.

There were talks on 'Lasting Powers of Attorney and Wills' by Rachel Damianou from Wrigley Claydon Solicitors, 'Nutrition and Healthy Eating' by Stephanie Doherty and the Caremark team, 'Information on IT' from Simon Ellison from Ellison IT, and a 'Keep Fit Class' led by Jenny Begley from Delph. The arm chair aerobics and more energetic moves caused some hilarity and good fun was had by all.



On a more serious note hopefully the message was spread that no one needs to be lonely or struggling in Saddleworth. There is lots going on to help us all live life to the full no matter what our age.

Recycling for Church funds

We are now in a position to collect various ICT equipment which includes, but is not limited to:

PCs, Laptops, PC Monitors, Servers, Tablets, Photocopier & Printers, Mobile Phones, Mice, Games Consoles, Routers, Keyboards, Cables, Smart Devices, EPOS Systems, etc.

Please bring them to church/parish hall for storage until collection.

For more information contact Sue Willett on 0161 425 7909 or 07808 474743

Parish Contacts

Grapevine Coordinator	Sue Willett	sue@nwsecretarialservice.co.uk	07808 474743
Parish Hall Bookings	Frank Boocock	fandmboo@btinternet.com	01457 873985
Junior Church	Lianne Marshall	lvmarshall@outlook.com	07725 650233
Baptism & Wedding Coordinator	Anne Smith		07507 339983
Sexton & Grave Enquiries	Al Gillian	patandalgillian@btinternet.com	01457 870162
Weekly Sheet Manager	Sue Willett	sue@nwsecretarialservice.co.uk	0161 425 7909

St Chad Saddleworth - Parish Church

The Friends of Saddleworth Church

Registered Charity No. 1042302

200 CLUB

Thanks to all who have supported our 200 Club during 2018 -19. During the year 102 numbers were bought for £20 each, so a total of £2040 was collected. Congratulations to all our lucky prize winners, who are shown below:

Draw	Winner	No.	Prize
May 18	Mrs R Stocks	87	£40
Jun 18	Mrs P Byrne	53	£40
Jul 18	Mrs M Harthan	45	£40
Aug 18	Canon Sharon Jones	80	£40
Sep 18	Mrs H Lennie	20	£40
Oct 18	Mrs M Fletcher	34	£40
Nov 18	Mr R Bunting	89	£40
Dec 18	Mrs L Fenton	26	£100
Jan 19	Mrs J Kenworthy	88	£40
Feb 19	Dr I Brett	91	£40
Mar 19	Mrs D Hall	55	£40
Apr 19	Mrs E Skinner	18	£40

The total paid in prizes was £540 so a wonderful £1500 profit was made. These monies were put towards helping 'The Friends' pay for new noticeboards at our three worship centres, repairs to the boiler, lightning conductors & pinnacles at the Parish Church, and repairs to the emergency lighting, water heater, central heating and the architect's survey at the Parish Centre.

The subscription rate for 2019 - 2020 for the 200 Club is the same as last year and the year before that! For one payment of £20.00 you are entered into 12 monthly draws. You have a chance to win £40 each month with one special draw in December of £100. Draws are made at the Parish Church on the last Sunday of the month. Prize-winners are notified personally.

If you wish to join, please contact our 200 Club Coordinator, Mrs Liz Rooke on 01457 810666 or email her at lizzierooke@gmail.com

Please note
All participants must be over 16 years of age.

Save Saddleworth Church

If you have been considering supporting:

- † 'Save Saddleworth Church (SSC)'
- † or 'Seeing is Believing (SiB)'

but were unsure how to do so, there are three methods available.

1. Those using internet banking may transfer cash directly from their account to our Parochial Church Council (PCC) account.

Our PCC Account details are as follows:

Name: Parish of St Chad Saddleworth

Number: 19373282

Sort Code: 09-01-53

Reference: Use 'SSC' or 'SiB' so that we know for what the money is intended.

2. Those using PayPal or a credit or debit card from an Internet browser can visit our Virgin Money Giving page.
 - Enter 'uk.virginmoneygiving.com' into your browser
 - Type 'St Chad' in the 'Make a donation' search field
 - Scroll down until you find 'The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Chad Saddleworth'
 - Click the 'Donate' button. You can now make your donation. There is an option to Gift Aid your donation.
3. As an alternative to a browser, if you have a mobile phone or tablet equipped with an app to read QR Codes, you can scan the code below which takes you directly to our donation page.



You can now make your donation. There is an option to Gift Aid your donation.

WhatsApp

Each of our worship centres have a WhatsApp group which shares information, gives information and is there to answer queries about events etc.

To join one or all of the groups please contact:

- † Parish Church: Liz Rooke 07980 419172;
- † Parish Centre: Peter Greenhalgh 07545 487326;
- † Kilngreen: Ian Brett 07968 042094.

We ask that everyone, who is a member of the WhatsApp groups, follow the following guidelines:

- † Please use for sharing & requesting information;
- † Please be polite;
- † Please send personal messages to the individual privately.

Dates for your diary

Monday 9th September @ 7:20pm

Open Rehearsal of Oldham Choral Society
All welcome.



Fri 13th, Sat 14th, Sun 15th September
Heritage Weekend



Thursday 3rd October

St Chad School Harvest Service



Sunday 6th October

Harvest Service



The Children's Society

This year we have collected a total of £566.09 for The Children's Society.



This is made up of £411.09 from the house boxes and £155.00 from Christingles in Church and St Chad's School

and the collection at the Christmas light switch on in Diggle.

I would like to thank everyone for their donations. I know The Children's Society is very pleased with the money we have collected and it will make a great difference to children that need their help.

Mavis Green

Yanks Weekend NAAFI Café 2019

**Sacred Heart Church Hall,
High Street, Uppermill**



Saturday 10th August

Sunday 11th August

from 10:00am to 4:00pm

**Tea, Coffee, Sandwiches and Cakes,
served in an authentic 1940s atmosphere
with wartime music, costumes and decorations**

**All the proceeds go to fund
the St Chad's Church and Sacred Heart Church
Whit Friday Procession of Witness.**

St Chad Saddleworth - Parish Church, Church Lane, Uppermill, OL3 6LW

Contacts

Grapevine Coordinator	Sarah Barlow	sarah.barlow@talk21.com	07775 613787
Assistant Wardens	Tim Edge		01457 872429
	Debbie McCabe		

St Chad Saddleworth - Parish Centre

St Chad's Seeds Group 2019



Seeds group meets for play and singing each Wednesday morning in term time at the Parish Centre between 10:00am and 11:30am. A wide range of toys and activities is provided. All pre-school children, parents and carers are welcome.

Healthy snacks and water are available for children, whilst parents and carers can enjoy something a little more indulgent in freshly-filtered coffee, a range of teas, and cakes, many of which are homemade, and fruit.

Seeds helpers are volunteers who are DBS certified and have received training in food hygiene.

Seeds celebrates the major Christian festivals with associated craft activities, such as: Easter bonnets, participation in Whit walks, Advent with distribution of Advent candles, and Christmas with the Travelling Crib. There is also a party which includes a visit from Father Christmas.

Each term, we hold a charity morning when the morning's donations (minus £20 contribution towards rent) are passed to a chosen charity.



We are grateful to the churchwardens and Parochial Church Council for the work they have done throughout the year to maintain facilities at the Parish Centre.

Seeds resumes after the summer break on Wednesday 11th September.



If you fancy a coffee and homemade cake on a term time Wednesday morning, do come in and see us. Details of all Seeds activities can be found on the Seeds news sheet which is available from the Parish Centre.

Inter-generational links

St Chad's Primary and Parish Centre.

Despite the slightly unpredictable weather, St Chad's Primary School have embraced spring and made preparations for summer with our friends at the Parish Centre.

What a pleasure it was to assist the parishioners of our local parish with the planting of their spring plants.



The tubs are in full bloom and we enjoyed painting the flowers with watercolour during a future visit.

Many thanks for the kind contribution of plants which look beautiful in our school entrance.

How lovely it has been to welcome our friends from the Parish Centre to school. We have enjoyed exploring Christian values; creating a stunning dove displayed in school.



We also enjoyed a wonderful afternoon completing world puzzles and chatting about global travel. Who would have thought that we had an Antarctic explorer in the group? The children were certainly impressed!

Sunday School

On 14th July, weather permitting, we will have Family Worship in the Rectory Garden followed by an end of year Sunday School party. We are very grateful that Revd Canon Sharon has offered the use of her garden again this year. Please bring a contribution to the picnic and pray for the sun to shine.

During August there won't be any Sunday School but children are welcome at all our services.

Please Note - It will be Rushcart on 25th August and there will only be a 9:30am service at Kilngreen and an 11:30am service at the Parish Church.

Sunday School will be starting the new academic year on 8th September at 9:30am at the Parish Centre. This takes place in our upstairs room while the adults worship downstairs.

Our group of dedicated helpers present the Bible stories to the children in interactive and creative ways that are meaningful to the wide age group of children. The session lasts approximately 30 minutes and the children then return to share the Eucharist with their families. Many stay for coffee and a chat afterwards and new friendships are made. All are welcome.

Coffee Mornings for Charity



Almost every other Saturday between 10:00am and 11:30am. Admission £1.

We have delicious homemade refreshments (including gluten free), a raffle, a bookstall and information about the charity we are supporting.

If you are in Uppermill and would like to pop in, we would love to see you... the kettle will be boiling!

Saturday 3rd August

Oldham Unity Project

Saturday 17th August

'Seeing is Believing' / 'Save Saddleworth Church'

Saturday 7th September

Francis House

Saturday 21st September

'Seeing is Believing' / 'Save Saddleworth Church'

Saturday 5th October

Prevent Breast Cancer

Dates for your diary

Sunday 6th October

Harvest Service

St Chad Saddleworth - Parish Centre, Station Road, Uppermill, OL3 6HQ

Contacts

Grapevine Coordinator	Sarah Barlow	sarah.barlow@talk21.com	07775 613787
Assistant Wardens	Margaret Fletcher		01457 874941
	Sarah Adams		01457 875126
Parish Centre Lettings	Joe Hughes		01457 873165



Oshandi AIDS Trust in Namibia is a Registered Charity (No. 1098669)



The 'Champagne and Strawberry Evening' was a great success. A good time was had by all at this now 'annual event' held at the home of Godfrey and Sarah Adams. The sun shone, strawberries were consumed, the 'Prosecco' flowed and Hilary Henderson kept the party going with her spirited piano accompaniment!

The £510.00 that was raised will help maintain our commitment to the support of children and families affected by HIV/AIDS and to the development of new projects, identified by the community and in consultation with OATIN Trustees who will be visiting Oshandi in August!

St Chad Saddleworth - Kilngreen

Dedication of New Aisle Carpet

In the last issue was an article about our new aisle carpet. The carpet was installed in memory of Evan Compston's wife, Hilary, and dedicated by Revd Hilary Edgerton.

Here are Evan and Hilary's Mum, Enid, at the service presenting the new aisle carpet in memory of Hilary.



Family Services

Family Services are All Age Worship, so everyone is welcome.

The Sunday School had spent a couple of weeks before the June Family Service looking at the meaning of The Lord's Prayer. They presented their findings to the congregation; e.g. 'Give us today our daily bread' means that God will provide for us everything we need, but this might not entail the latest iPhone or X-Box. Together with some Sunday School regular activities such as their 'warm up' and their take on the Peace, the children were brilliant. It was a truly enjoyable service which finished with the singing of The Lord's Prayer Caribbean-style.

A big thank you to ALM Ali O'Brien who led our July All Age Worship. We would welcome other local ALMs if they would like to consider leading a service for us. Please contact Janet Iles on 01457 877875 if you would be interested.

Family Service Dates

6th August Janet Iles - Authorised Lay Minister
1st September TBA
6th October Diggle Allotment Service
Family Worship Team
1st December Advent Service - TBA
15th December Sunday School Nativity

Whit Friday

Whit Friday started off rather wet. A big thank you to the ladies who helped on the afternoon before and made buttonholes for the congregation. We did not have the wonderful expertise of Doreen Hall this year, but I think her training has rubbed off, as we all felt pleased with the flowers that we made. Also, a big thank you to the Sunday School who created their beautiful head dresses and a lovely basket of flowers.



When the Kilngreen procession arrived in Uppermill we stopped and Diggle Band played Duncan's favourite hymn for him and Nancy, and the children presented them with the basket of flowers with love from us all.



The Fun of St Chad's All Stars

Why not think about joining us?

Kilngreen is the home of the local amateur dramatic society, St Chad's All Stars. In our society we are 'All Stars', whether you tread the boards, do set building and painting, twiddle the light and sound knobs, source or make props and costumes, do the makeup, make the tea at rehearsals and performances, or sell the programmes.

A lot of work goes into our productions and everyone gets a lot of joy from the shows. It only works because we all work together as a team. We have recently had some lovely new members join us. Here's what one new member wrote:

"I am so grateful to you all for welcoming me to the group and encouraging me to have the confidence to perform in the show. From the moment I walked into Kilngreen, I was completely out of my comfort zone, but I am so glad I got involved. I've met a group of lovely, kind, talented and dedicated people and despite spending some moments in a fog of knee-knocking fear, I have thoroughly enjoyed it and made some great friends"

Emma

This Year's Pantomime, Ali Baba, will be performed between 27th and 30th November with rehearsals on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7:15pm to 9:45pm, starting on 2nd September.



Parts are now cast, but we welcome anyone who would like to be in the chorus or help in other ways. If you would like to join us you will receive a very warm welcome, just turn up on a rehearsal night, or if you would like an informal chat first contact the All Stars Chair, Kate Millett on 07890 826331

Details of tickets will be available nearer the time; watch out for posters and adverts in future issues of The Grapevine and around Saddleworth. The pantomime is very popular so don't forget to order your tickets early!

Diggle School - 'Open the Book'

Over the last year I have been visiting Diggle School to present a Bible Story in an assembly. When Revd Duncan Rhodes retired, he asked me to take on this task for him, which I gladly accepted.

I use the 'Open the Book' scheme where children hear a story from the Bible; there is always something to ponder and take away with them.



I started last September, aided initially by Revd Angela Bryan. Together we presented the story of Creation from Genesis. The children were 'stars shining in the sky'. I have generally presented on my own; although occasionally Geoff is co-opted!

I make lots of props and encourage the children to participate in the story. The props for the story of Adam and Eve included a 4ft soft snake, tabards with 'Adam' and 'Eve' on for two children to wear, an apple, and a 'tree' made from a tablecloth!

When I did the story of Abraham and Sarah I borrowed the puppets we have in the benefice; these were well received by the children who engaged with the story.

My visits in March and April covered the story of Joseph. This led up to our All Stars production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat at Kilngreen which involved Diggle School choir; Joseph was definitely enjoyed by all the children.

Feedback from several parents indicates that their children look forward to the story and enjoy my visits. I really enjoy presenting the stories and helping the children to think about faith and the issues that the stories present. I am looking forward to starting again in September with a new batch of Bible stories.

Janet

Coffee Mornings at The Gate Inn

All older residents of Diggle are welcome to join us for our regular coffee mornings at The Gate Inn.

Dates for the rest of 2019 are: 17th August, 14th September, 12th October, and 16th November. Christmas Party - 7th December at Kilngreen.

St Chad Saddleworth - Kilngreen Church, Lee Side, Diggle, OL3 5JY

Contacts

Grapevine Coordinator	Sarah Barlow	sarah.barlow@talk21.com	07775 613787
Assistant Wardens	Lynda Barlow		01457 878338
Kilngreen Lettings	Lynda Barlow		01457 878338

School Reports

*“So encourage each other and give each other strength, just as you are doing now”
(1 Thessalonians 5.11)*



Do you ever look back with mixed feelings about your past school reports?.

We may have kept them for future reading. Some of us may keep them hidden so

that others may not read them.

There was one teacher who said *“his handwriting needs attention. Does Godfrey write with a telegraph pole?”*. There was another teacher who said *“he could try a lot harder”*. And my history teacher who said *“Godfrey possibly has ability, but he hasn’t used it this year in this subject”*. Succinctly put!

A teacher once told the young Albert Einstein *“you will never amount to very much”*. He was only 10 at the time; I wonder how he felt? Today, ‘Einstein’ is the nickname given to a class genius, I hope that teacher has eaten his words.

Gary Lineker’s teacher warned: *“He must devote less of his time to sport if he wants to be a success; you can’t make a living out of football”*

When I look back to my school days, I can see who encouraged me and who did quite the opposite. When we are young, we have big dreams and splendid plans for our future. Some adults encourage us, but sadly others put us down.

Reading back through my school reports, I was struck by the fact that if I liked the teacher, I liked the subject they taught and tried hard. However, if I didn’t like the teacher then sadly that subject became a lost cause.

Children and adults need encouragement just the way a plant needs water. Also, you don’t need to be a teacher to encourage others, whether they are young, old, or somewhere in the middle.

Ask yourself what you can do to spread a little joy and encouragement today; then go ahead and do it.

*Father God, help me to be ready with a kind word
or an encouraging comment to bring your love
into the world around me.*

Godfrey

This article was inspired by the book: *“Has anyone seen my glasses?”* Judith Merrell and Anna Caddy. Bible quote is from the Youth Bible.

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Millbrook Care Home enjoys a wonderful location in the popular town of Stalybridge in Manchester and is a welcoming, purpose-built home offering residential care in luxurious surroundings



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Maggie's Oldham follows the ideas about cancer care originally laid out by Maggie Keswick Jencks. Maggie lived with advanced cancer for two years and was determined that she should not "lose the joy of living in the fear of dying".

In order to live more positively with cancer, Maggie believed people needed information, stress-reducing strategies, psychological support and the opportunity to meet other people in similar circumstances in a relaxed and beautiful setting.

Built in the grounds of The Royal Oldham Hospital, Maggie's Oldham is a warm and welcoming place, full of light and open space; it is an uplifting, safe and calming environment. Our Centre has been designed to feel more like a home than a hospital with a big kitchen table at the heart.

At Maggie's there are qualified professionals on hand to offer an evidence-based core programme of support that has been shown to improve physical and emotional wellbeing. This includes psychological support, benefits advice, nutrition workshops, yoga and gentle exercise, relaxation and stress management, art and music therapy and support groups.

We support anyone with cancer, and their friends and family too. Our Centre is open Monday to Friday from 9am until 5pm, you don't need an appointment to come to Maggie's and all of our support is free.

Maggie is entirely funded by the generosity of our supporters through fundraising, voluntary donations and gifts in wills. Our aim is to make the biggest difference possible to people living with cancer and their family and friends.

Steve Meadows was diagnosed with stage 3 bladder cancer. After two aborted operations he underwent life-changing surgery, followed by chemotherapy.



"After the initial rollercoaster I was struggling to come to terms with my life changing diagnosis and traumatic experience in surgery. I was overwhelmed by the immediacy of it all, going from feeling fit and healthy to the extreme opposite. I couldn't walk to the end of my drive, I had excruciating fatigue. I could have died.

"Coming to Maggie's for first time I was perhaps at my most vulnerable but as soon as I walked through the door I felt calm and at ease in the peaceful and comforting environment.

"Maggie's has helped me to find ways to cope with the traumatic experiences I've journeyed through, breaking everything down into bitesize manageable pieces.

"I had a place to talk with others who understood how I was feeling. This made me feel normal again.

"I have found support at Maggie's that I haven't found anywhere else and it's a huge comfort to me that Maggie's is right here on my doorstep anytime I may need it."



Maggie's Oldham
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E: oldham@maggiescentres.org



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What do we do at N W Secretarial & PA Service and why do people use our service?

Making a difference...

In Issue 10, June/July 2019, I mentioned we had started typing a book for a new client who had been abused as a child. He had actually been sexually abused. We feel privileged to be working with this client; this is helping him to move on with his life.

He is also looking to help other people in the same position by getting his book published and by doing some public speaking.

Using some of my contacts, I asked for their help including my journalist friend, Ken Bennett, and Revd Hilary Edgerton, who is a prison chaplain. Recently I invited Revd Hilary along to an Antz Network meeting about: *'Reducing re-offender rates & how businesses can help ex-offenders'*.

This was well-attended by businesses and ex-offenders who shared their journey with everyone. They are now doing some amazing things to help other ex-offenders

rebuild their lives which is making an enormous difference in the community.

I mentioned how I am helping my client and they are putting me in touch with various people who can help my client further.

Shortly after we started working with this client he sent us an unprompted testimonial; excerpt - *'My experience so far has been amazing. I cannot praise them enough, and how they make you feel at ease'*.

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