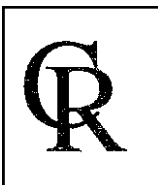


**THE  
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CHURCH  
LADYBARN**

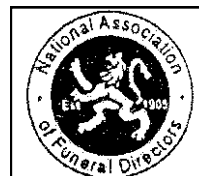


**MARCH 2013**

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## March 2013

**V**ery occasionally during parish ministry the bishop agrees that it's time for a parish priest to take a sabbatical. In order for this to happen a priest has to have been ordained for at least ten years and in their current job for at least three years, and a second or subsequent sabbatical can't be taken for at least ten years after the first one. So, these opportunities don't come around very often.

The bishop has agreed that this year would be a good time for me to take the opportunity of a sabbatical and so this will be happening in the autumn. From about the beginning of September until about the beginning of December I shall be away from the parish. My plan for this time is to spend a considerable amount of time studying a creative writing course with the Open University. I shall also take the opportunity to spend some time in retreat at two of my favourite retreat houses, the Community of the Holy Name, in Derbyshire and the Society of the Salutation of Mary the Virgin, in Worcestershire. And of course I shall have a holiday.

A time of sabbatical is a time of refreshment in ministry and a time of professional and career development. It's good for the priest but it should also be good for a parish and the churchwardens and I will try to ensure that it is. We will invite visiting priests to come and celebrate the Eucharist and preach for us, some will be those who have visited us before and some may be visiting for the first time, but I know that the people of St Chad's will make all of them welcome.

Visiting preachers and celebrants bring new ideas and thoughts into our worship and can help all of us to explore new and different ways of worship.

During the sabbatical the churchwardens will be responsible for the care of the church, the hall and the day to day running of the parish, with their help provision will be made for the taking of funerals and baptisms. John Milner, Reader at St Chad's, will be in charge of Sunday worship and any special services of worship which may occur during that time. It would be good to know that the whole congregation and parish are supporting these people during those weeks, so that life can run as smoothly as possible for us all.

**Reverend Elizabeth Davies  
Priest-in-Charge**

### **The Vicar:**

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

### **Churchwarden:**

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

### **Churchwarden:**

Judith Fletcher  
5 Brecon Avenue  
Burnage  
Manchester  
M19 2NJ  
Tel: 248 7689

### **Lay Reader:**

John D Milner  
25 Ashfield Lodge  
Palatine Road  
Didsbury  
M20 2UD

**Lent at St Chad's**  
**Quiet Day for Lent**  
**Saturday 16th March**  
**'Silence and Noise'**

**Led by Canon Albert Radcliffe**

Gather in the Community Hall for Tea/Coffee at 10.30a.m.

The day ends with a special Evensong in church at 3.00p.m.  
Led by the Prayer Book Society

Tea/Coffee at 2.30p.m.

Everyone welcome

Bring your own lunch

Hot drinks provided

The garden surface outside the hall has been replaced with a 'lazy lawn' (artificial grass) which has been funded entirely from grant money obtained from lottery funding.

## **Lent At St Chad's**

### **Wednesday Evening**

#### **"An Hour for Lent"**

A gospel reading and prayers with time for reflection,  
thoughts and discussion.

8.00p.m. - 9.00p.m.

Followed by Tea/Coffee and time to chat

20th February

27th February

6th March

13th March

20th March

In St Chad's Community Hall  
St Chad's Road  
Withington

### **Ada Hindley**

Christine and her sisters Margaret and Janice would like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts, prayers, flowers and cards on the death of their mother Ada.

We would especially like to thank Rev'd Elizabeth Davies for all the support she has given to our mother and Christine over the last twelve months whilst Ada has been so ill.

## **Stewardship: God's Generosity and our Response**

Any reflection on stewardship in preparation for the campaign at St Chad's in June must start with God. God gives to us abundantly and graciously in creation and redemption, and in sustaining life, day by day. The incarnation, the cross and resurrection, and the coming of the Holy Spirit reveal to us the astonishing depths of this generosity.

Christians are challenged to be generous in every aspect of their lives. This is not only about giving money, but also offering hospitality, giving our time and using our talents. Such generosity should be expected in our homes, in our workplaces and communities, and, of course, in our church life. This stewardship of God's gifts of talents, time and money is the outworking of faith.

In the parables of Jesus we are often shown what this generosity looks like translated into human behaviour. They included stories about the sharing of meals and financial resources, concern for the suffering of fellow human beings, and the giving of time to others. His stories were especially powerful because such generosity and concern were offered to those who might least expect them. We might ponder the significance of the provision made for an injured stranger of a different nationality in Jesus' story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10.25-37). We might reflect upon the parables of Dives and Lazarus, and the sheep and goats, both demonstrating how strongly Jesus rejects the meanness of spirit that allows some to suffer while others are cared for and well fed.

In the Gospels there are also stories about what Jesus said, and about how he acted. We note that Zacchaeus is inspired by his encounter with Jesus to make four-fold reparation to any he has cheated. Jesus responds by declaring, 'Today, salvation has come to this house' (Luke 19.8). We might consider the story of the wedding at Cana in Galilee when Jesus generously turns more water into wine than could possibly be consumed by the wedding guests (John 2.1-11).

April's magazine will have an article explaining how the stewardship campaign at St Chad's in June will work. An article in May's magazine will look at what is needed to maintain the worship and witness of St Chad's and the ways each of us can help. Please spend time praying for the work of St Chad's and that of other good causes you support. Keep up to date with what we are all doing so that your prayers and your giving are properly informed.

From Judy, Leslie and Diane (Members of the Stewardship Team)  
Adapted from "Giving for Life", © The Archbishops' Council, 2009

## **Easter and the Resurrection of the Body.**

'Do you believe in life after death?' Those who answer 'Yes' will probably explain that when they die their soul, which lives forever, will leave their body, which they no longer need and, they hope, go to heaven. This is the belief we call The Immortality of the Soul, and, for most Christians, it's what happens after death. It's the belief that in practice most Christians take with them to the funerals of family and friends; even though it's not the belief on which the Christian funeral service is founded. That belief is the one we confess in the creeds: The Resurrection of the Dead. These are two very different beliefs which, in many churchgoers exist side by side. Yet, although it's the more difficult of the two, in today's scientific world, belief in the resurrection of the body is the one that makes most sense.

To understand why, we need to appreciate the importance of what's known as Information Theory without which our modern world of computers, radio, television, mobile phones etc would not exist. We live in the Information Age in which, like our brains, the universe itself can be thought of as a complex information processing system.

Along with Relativity, Quantum Mechanics and the Standard Model in Particle Physics, Information Theory is now an important part of how scientists understand the world. In that world all information is held and conveyed through some kind of code.

So what does all this have to do with life after death? It hinges on the fact that as far as anyone knows all forms of information must be embodied within some physical reality, as say the genetic information, from which we are all constructed, is embodied in our DNA. The trouble with the idea of the immortal soul is that once the information, which is 'us', leaves the body there is no reality of which we are aware to carry the various codes out of which we human beings are constructed. It's at this point that belief and the best scientific understandings part company. For those who set no great store by science this hardly matters; but for those of us for whom religion and science need to travel as far as is possible in tandem, it matters a lot.

If we take Easter seriously and at their death commit those we love to the care and keeping of God in hope of the resurrection of the body, then our faith and our science can sit more happily together in the knowledge that all the complex codes which give us our personal identity in this life can, at some future point, be re-embodied in our resurrection body in the world and life to come. To use a controversial term in Information Theory, there is a 'conservation of information' which is possible in the resurrection of the dead for which there is no known parallel in the immortality of the soul.

And with the resurrection body, which, in the New Testament is always a spiritual body, there will also be a resurrected mind, it being inconceivable scientifically that the mind can exist without the body. We need to remember too that in the New Testament the resurrected mind is also a transformed mind: 'What we will be has not yet been revealed, but we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. [1 Jn 1:2]

Not everyone feels obliged to reconcile faith and science in this way but for those of us who do these are things to ponder.

**Albert Radcliffe.**

## DIARY FOR MARCH 2013

3	Sunday	08.00am 10.00am 06.30pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Taize service to mark Fairtrade fortnight
5	Tuesday	07.30pm 08.00pm	Holy Communion PCC Meeting
6	Wednesday	08.00pm	'An Hour for Lent' in the hall'
7	Thursday	10.00am	Holy Communion
10	Sunday	10.00am	Holy Communion
12	Tuesday	07.30pm 08.00pm	Holy Communion Ladies group.
13	Wednesday	08.00pm	'An Hour for Lent' in the hall'
14	Thursday	10.00am	Holy Communion
16	Saturday	10.30am  03.00pm	Quiet Day for Lent. See separate notice.  Evensong led by the Prayer Book Society. Everyone Welcome.
17	Sunday	10.00am 11.30am	Holy Communion Annual Parochial Church Meeting
19	Tuesday	07.30pm 08.00pm	Holy Communion Book Group
20	Wednesday	08.00pm	'An Hour for Lent' in the hall'
21	Thursday	10.00am	Holy Communion
24	Palm Sunday	10.00am	Holy Communion

***Continued on page 9***



*Continued from page 8*

## Diary for March 2013 Continued

### Holy Week

24	Palm Sunday	10.00am	Holy Communion
25	Monday	07.30pm	Holy Communion with reflection (short said service)
26	Tuesday	07.30pm	Holy Communion with reflection (short said service)
27	Wednesday	07.30pm	Holy Communion with reflection (short said service)
28	Maundy Thursday	10.00am 07.30pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion followed by Maundy Watch with Compline at 10.45pm
29	Good Friday	11.00am 12.30pm	Service before the cross Short service in Ladybarn village with those from other churches.
31	Easter Day	10.00am 06.30pm	Holy Communion Evensong.

**St Chad's Church,  
Ladybarn**

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

**Sunday 17th March**

**11.30am**

**In the hall**

## ***St Chad's Support for Sue Ryder***

After the Pop Up Shop held last year, we donated a number of unsold items to the Sue Ryder Shop on Ladybarn Lane. The items were "gift aided" which meant that the charity could claim back 25% extra on the cost of each item, from Inland Revenue. We have just been informed by Sue Ryder's Director of Retail that our donations have so far raised £40.50p, plus the extra 25%, which adds another £10 to the total. They will also let us know when any other of our items are sold. If you decide to donate anything to Sue Ryder it is worth remembering that these can be gift aided, just as cash donations can be. The staff in the shop have the relevant forms and will be happy to help you fill them in.

## **GUIDE DOGS**

We started our recycling for Guide Dogs a year ago. It has been really successful and during the last 12 months we have sent:-

107 used cartridges ( £1 each )  
13 old mobile telephones ( £3.50 each )

This means, that as a church, we have contributed **£152.50** towards Guide Dog training. Please keep saving your cartridges and your old mobile telephones ( You could even invite your friends to join in) We can really improve the daily life of a blind person by helping to train a guide dog. These dogs bring so much reassurance, confidence and friendship to people who live permanently in a dark and isolated world.

**Please leave your cartridges/phones in the box in church.**

Thank you  
**Barbara Leary:**

## **Contributions for the Magazine**

If anyone has any articles to be inserted into future issues of the magazine please could you let Christine Hindley have your copy by the 15th of the month. If it needs typing Christine will need copy by the 12th of the month.

### **CHERRY MANOR LANDSCAPES**

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## **PARISH CONTACTS**

P.C.C. Secretary	Christine Hindley	0161 224 8067
Treasurer	Mrs Muriel Hargreaves	0161 224 8802
Organist	Robert Nicholls	0161 225 0414
Sacristan	Mrs Barbara Purvis	0161 286 1062
Magazine Editor	Christine Hindley	0161 224 8067
Ladies Group	Mrs Jean Matthews	0161 445 5632
Flower Arranging in Church	Mrs Barbara Purvis	0161 286 1062
Child Protection Officer	Judith Fletcher/Leslie Bell	0161 248 7689

## **REGULAR SERVICES**

### **IN CHURCH**

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

Also on the first Sunday of each month:

08.00am	Holy Communion
06.30pm	Evensong

### **IN THE HALL**

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

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