

ALEXANDER & SONS

Est.2001

Household Repairs & Maintenance Service



Dripping Tap?
Sticking Doors?
Leaking Gutters?
Flaking Paintwork?
Steamed Up Windows?

WE CAN HELP!!!

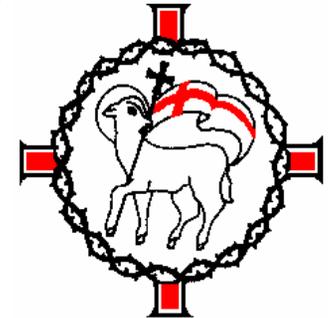
“No Obligation Free Quotes”

Tel: 0161 304 7356 / 07789 744329

.....
“An Old Fashioned Service, An Old Fashioned Price”

.....
Fully Insured. Insurance Approved. Reg: 2252013. NEBOSH

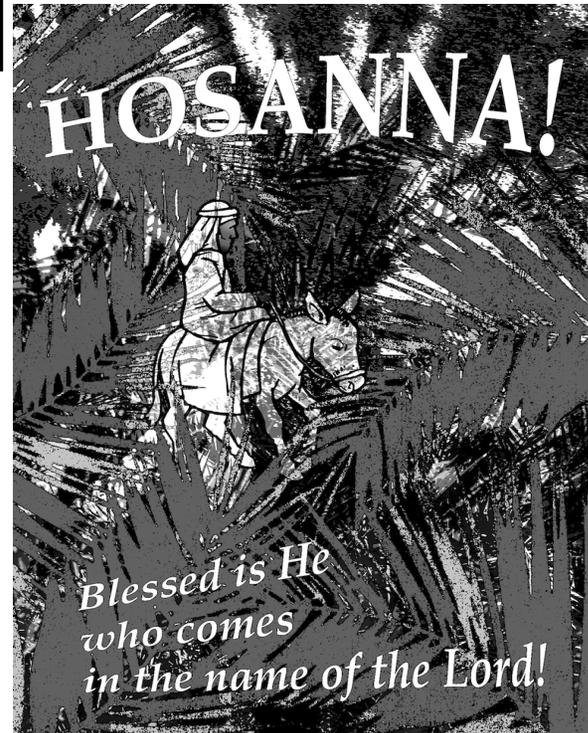
St George's Parish Church Stalybridge



Diocese of Manchester



35p



April 2011

St George's Church Stalybridge

Clergy

Vicar		338 2368
Curates	Revd Philip Brierley	303 0809
	Revd Keith Stewart	303 7483

Associate Priest	Revd Doreen Broadbent	330 9085
------------------	-----------------------	----------

Wardens	Mrs Nancy Nield	338 4985
	Ms Janet Vidler	303 7689

P.C.C. Secretary	Mrs Margaret Smith	338 3702
------------------	--------------------	----------

Treasurer	Mrs Julianna Stewart	303 7483
-----------	----------------------	----------

Magazine Editor	Mrs Linda Hurst	330 0518
-----------------	-----------------	----------

Worship

Sunday

8.30 a.m.	Holy Communion (2 nd & 4 th Sundays)
10.45 a.m.	Sung Communion and Sunday School (4 th Sunday – Family Service)
18.00 p.m.	Occasional Special Services as announced

Tuesday

10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
------------	----------------

To receive Communion at home when you are sick or housebound, or to have the name of a departed friend or relation entered in the Book of Remembrance, please contact one of the clergy or Wardens.

For Baptisms, marriages and funerals please phone the Vicarage and follow the information given.

95% of our families
would recommend our care



We offer long and short term residential, nursing and dementia care.
Contact us on **0800 012 1132** for more information
or visit our website: www.meridiancare.co.uk

care worth talking about

FAREWELL TO A FRIEND

On one of the first spring-like days early in March, a good number of our congregation gathered at Dukinfield Crematorium to say goodbye to Nellie Alcock. Nellie was such a familiar figure for many years, in the neighbourhood and here in church sitting in her usual seat in the back pew.

Gil and Derek Cooper remember her family moving into the newly built house in West Avenue when they were growing up nearby and where she lived for most of her 91 years. They told of the war years and the air raid shelter which on-one would use because it was dirty and smelly. Instead people would stand on their steps watching planes overhead, waiting for bombs to drop. They knew too of her dancing days, how much she loved going to social events and the local hops.

Dorothy Hewitt and her family were neighbours. Nellie worked at Calico Printers in Carrbrook and when Dorothy left school she took her on the first day of her new job there. That reminded Dorothy how she wasn't best pleased with *her* mum who made her go to work for the first time wearing white ankle socks. Later, when Betty Sykes worked at Senior Service, Nellie was in the laboratory there..

Mildred and Ken were with her as regular members of Old St George's until it closed. It seemed a sad time to them in 1967 but they settled happily and have remained here ever since. When she was no longer able to walk to church Mildred would pick her up each week to bring her for Sunday services and Minnie Walsh was her pastoral care visitor.

I only knew Nellie in the last 20 years or so of her life. Each Christmas she was my best customer for Willow Wood calendars. She would ask for 3 or 4, then think of someone else to give one to – one year ending up with ten to give as gifts to friends. I took a card for her 90th birthday and she was sitting looking with anticipation at the huge block of her favourite chocolate that Minnie had just taken her.

We'll miss her deep distinctive voice as we remember times shared over the years, chats over cups of tea at Ladies Guild, prayers said together, hymns sung together. Somehow I can't quite think of Nellie singing in the heavenly choir but I'm sure she will be at peace in her own special place with our Lord. As Bishop Christopher would say – another friend gone to Glory. Doreen

Thanks to a donation from Gladys Spencer Nellie's name will be entered in our Book of Remembrance.

+++++

Readings and Psalms for April 2011

Sun 3 rd	10.45	4th Sunday of Lent <i>Mothers' Sunday</i> Exodus 2.1-10; Psalm 34.11-20; 2 Corinthians 1.3-7; Luke 2.33-35
Tues 5 th	10.30	Ezekiel 47.1-9,12; Psalm 46.1-8; John 5.1-3,5-16
Sun 10 th	8.30 10.45	5th Sunday of Lent Ezekiel 37.1-14; John 11.1-45 Ezekiel 37.1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8.6-11; John 11.1-45
Tues 12 th	10.30	Numbers 21.4-9; Psalm 102.1-3,16-23; John 8.21-30
Sun 17 th	10.45	Palm Sunday Matthew 21.1-11 <i>Liturgy of the Palms</i>; Isaiah 50.4-9a; Psalm 31.9-16; Philippians 2.5-11; Matthew 26.14-27.end
HOLY WEEK		
Mon 18 th	20.00	Isaiah 42.1-9; Psalm 36.5-11; Hebrews 9.11-15; John 12.1-11
Tues 19 th	10.30	Isaiah 49.1-7; Psalm 71.1-8 1 Corinthians 1.18-31; John 12.20-36
Weds 20 th	20.00	Stations of the Cross
Thurs 21 st	20.00	Maundy Thursday Exodus 12.1-4,11-14; Psalm 116.1,10-end; 1 Corinthians 11.23-26; John 13.1-17,31b-35
Fri 22 nd	10.45	Good Friday Isaiah 52.13-53.end; Psalm 22.1-21; Hebrews 10.16-25; John 18.1-19.end
Sun 24 th	8.30 10.45 18.00	Easter Day Acts 10.34-43; John 20.1-18 Acts 10.34-43; Psalm 118.1-2,14-24; Colossians 3.1-4; John 20.1-18 Song of Solomon 3.2-5;8.6-7; John 20.11-18 BCP Holy Communion
Tues 26 th	10.30	Acts 2.36-41; Psalm 33.4-5,18-end; John 20.11-18

From the Registers

Baptisms



6th March

Luke Jones, The Moorings, Mossley
Leon Jones, The Moorings, Mossley
James Steven Barton, Staveley Avenue, Stalybridge

27 March

Lewis James Vickers, Elgin Street, Stalybridge
Lottie Rose Chell, Hamilton Street, Stalybridge

Funerals



28th February

Ann Wilkinson (72) Clarendon Road, Audenshaw

9th March

Jessie Birch (100) Parkhill Nursing Home and formerly of Wakefield Road, Heyrod

10th March

Paulette Davenport (60) Redhill Drive, Bredbury (Interment of ashes)
Lucy Wilson (74) Pine Grove, Dukinfield

As we have no 'From the Vicar' at the moment some members of the congregation have kindly agreed to take it in turn to write the lead article. This month Philip tells us more about Ordained Local Ministry.

LOCATION, VOCATION, LOCATION

Dear Friends

I am writing this article in the middle of March and the season of Lent has just begun. By the time you are (hopefully) reading it, we will be steeped in the solemn liturgy that leads us through the wilderness to Palm Sunday, Holy Week and, at the end of the month, the joyful celebrations of Easter.

As our worship changes with the Lenten season, we are also settling into a different routine, which we hope will be temporary, of parish life without a full-time vicar.

Since Ian left us in January, the question has been asked as to whether Keith or I would now 'be promoted' and become the vicar. This seems then a suitable occasion to say something about Ordained Local Ministry or OLM for short.

I was privileged to have been a member of the very first group of five people in Manchester Diocese to be ordained to this particular ministry. I was made a deacon in 1992 and ordained priest a year later.

This scheme came to fruition in our Diocese largely as a result of the vision of the then Bishop of Middleton, The Rt. Revd. Donald Tytler. The basic idea is that a parish identifies a particular need to be fulfilled (e.g. work with children, the elderly, communication, outreach etc.) and then nominates someone from within its own ranks to fulfil that need. The parish itself needs to meet certain criteria in order to be accredited for OLM and, once it has been achieved, the chosen person goes forward for selection for training for the priesthood.

The selection procedure is the same as for those entering full-time ministry. The course includes general theological training but is also geared to the specific job description of the ordinand. The training sessions take place on one evening per week and there are several weekend residentials during the three academic years that it takes to complete the course.

This was my experience, but our group, being the first, were very much the guinea pigs. The dynamics may have changed over the years but the principle is still more or less the same.

From Our Book of Remembrance

Apr 3	Alan Wilson	1970	Apr 17	Bertha Stanley	1965
	Fred Peck	1977		Dennis Baxter	2001
	William Dawson	1982	Apr 18	Edith Smith	1988
	Joan Brocklehurst	1994		Ada Sayce	1989
Apr 4	Grace Lee	1975	Apr 19	Mary Elizabeth Parkinson	1944
Apr 5	Percy Dudleston	1979		Doris Hibbert	1970
Apr 6	Herbert Brocklehurst	1975		Samuel Cook	1989
Apr 7	Ellen Ratcliffe	1937	Apr 20	Louis Bowler	1990
Apr 8	Alistair William Rose	1983		Lena Schofield	1997
	Forbes			Mary Wright	1989
Apr 9	John (Jack) Ireson	1987	Apr 22	Mark Allen Cowley	2009
	Kenneth Langton	2007	Apr 23	James Johnson	1984
	Howard Steven Fogg	2008		Jennie Cook	1995
Apr 10	Walter Bramall	1977	Apr 24	George Wardle	1997
	Minnie Talbot	1984		Joan Lindley	1983
	Freda Mary Day	1987		Doreen Iilian Pritchard	2009
Apr 12	Jacqueline Ruth	1987		Graham Webster	2009
	Gillaspy		Apr 25	John Jepson Thomas	1991
	Andrea Louise Johnson	2004		Alice Ann Walton	1998
Apr 14	Helen Shaw	1996	Apr 26	Elsie Beatrice Dugdale	1974
Apr 15	Ernest Norris	1965		Beatrice Isabella Brien	1985
	Joseph Parry	2007		Harry Blackburn	2003
	Alice Banks	2009	Apr 27	John Kenyon	2001
Apr 16	Joseph Shaw	1961	Apr 28	Ada Broadbent	1962
	Emily Spencer	1990	Apr 29	Laura Wright	2007

OLMs continue in their secular employment (the day job) and fulfil their job description in the evenings and at weekends. They do not receive any payment from the church or the Diocese, other than expenses for travel, postage etc. They remain perpetual curates and only in unusual circumstances would ever become the vicar. Even during an interregnum, they do not carry any legal responsibility for the parish – this is in the hands of the wardens and the Area Dean. We are extremely fortunate to be well cared for in this way here at St. George's.

OLMs are ordained priests just in the same way that a full-time vicar is. There is only one priesthood. It is the area of ministry which is different. The Church of England is having to rely more and more on those who are 'self-supporting ministers' and the focus of OLM may well have to change to keep up with this need. As the number of stipendiary clergy falls and more parishes move towards team ministry – the ideal of one full-time vicar for each parish is no longer the reality. Bishop Nigel's vision for the Manchester Diocese by 2025 places great emphasis on the ministry of OLMs and other 'volunteer' roles.

Both Keith and I are now retired from paid employment which frees us to offer more time to the parish. However, by the very essence that we are retired, it means that we are not in the first flush of youth (appearances can be very deceptive). OLMs must retire by the age of seventy, although they can receive the Bishop's permission to officiate at services. It would be wonderful if any of you felt that OLM was something you might be called by God to do and so continue the tradition of Ordained Local Ministry in this parish.

Throughout Lent the theme of our Sunday morning sermons is Vocation and guest preachers are talking to us about different aspects of ministry, both lay and ordained. There are many different paths to follow and these can also be explored at an event called Living Stones. These days are offered annually by the Diocese and the one for our Archdeaconry (Rochdale) takes place this year on Saturday 7th May from 9.30a.m. to 2.30p.m. at St. Martin, Castleton. If you are interested, please do go and have a look and maybe ask some questions. If you want any further information about this event then please have a word with me.

As we move toward Easter and the promise of new life that it brings, please pray for our parish at this time of change and give some thought as to whether you might be able to be a part of that change.

With my very best wishes to you all for a reflective Lent and a joyful Easter season.

Philip

Some dates for your diary April 2011

Friday	1st	3.00pm to 4.00pm	Cllr C. Patrick - Surgery
Sunday	3rd	10.45a.m.	4th Sunday of Lent - Mothering Sunday Service for Mothering Sunday
Tuesday	5th	10.30a.m.	Holy Eucharist
		11.15a.m.	Lent Discussion Group
Thursday	7th	9.30a.m.	Time 4 Fun 0 - 5yrs
Sunday	10th	8.30a.m.	5th Sunday of Lent - Passiontide begins Holy Eucharist
		10.45a.m.	Parish Eucharist with Guest & Junior Church
Tuesday	12th	10.30a.m.	Holy Eucharist
		11.15a.m.	Lent Discussion Group
		8.00p.m.	Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Thursday		9.30a.m.	Time 4 Fun 0 - 5yrs
Sunday	17th	10.45a.m.	Palm Sunday - Holy Week Blessing of Palms & Parish Eucharist & Junior Church
		12.30p.m.	Holy Baptism x 1
			HOLY WEEK
Monday	18th	8.00p.m.	Agapé Meal
Tuesday	19th	10.30a.m.	Holy Eucharist
		11.15a.m.	Lent Discussion Group
Wednesday	20th	8.00p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Thursday	21st	8.00p.m.	MAUNDAY THURSDAY Sung Communion of the Last Supper - Stripping of the Altars followed by Vigil
Friday	22nd	10.45a.m.	GOOD FRIDAY Service of The Cross
Saturday	23rd	2.00p.m. to 4.00p.m.	St. GEORGE'S DAY Fair Trade Afternoon Tea & Gift Day
Sunday	24th	8.30a.m.	EASTER DAY Holy Eucharist with Hymns
		10.45a.m.	A Service for Easter day
		6.00p.m.	Holy Communion BCP
Tuesday	26th	10.45a.m.	Holy Eucharist



WANTED : WEB PAGE MANAGER

We are looking for someone who would be interested in editing our web page.

Ideally this should be someone who is familiar with what's going on at St. George's.

Knowledge of Microsoft Word and an enjoyment of using a computer is all you need. Help will always be around.

Please take a look at the web page at: www.stg.org.uk and if you think you would like to have a go please phone 0161 338 3702.



Thank You.

+++++

'200' CLUB

If you are a member of the '200' Club April commences the year for 2011-2012.

To renew your application please see Mildred Bradshaw or ring 339 3225.

A total of £617 for St George's has been received with the same amount being paid out in three prizes each month.

I would like to thank our members for their loyal support to this fundraiser, and new members to this scheme would be greatly appreciated.

Mildred Bradshaw
'200' Club Treasurer

+++++

Rev Ian Stubbs is Licensed at Glossop

On Sunday 6 February 2011 Ian was licensed as Priest in Charge of Glossop at a special service help at Glossop Parish Church.

The licensing was conducted by the Bishop of Derby, the Rt Rev Dr Alistair LJ Redfern, assisted by the Archdeacon of Chesterfield, the Venerable Christine L Wilson.

As well as Priest In Charge Ian also became assistant curate of Hadfield, Charlesworth, Gamesley and Dinting Vale



+++++

March Crossword Solution

ACROSS: 1, Wine. 3, The alert. 8, Ooze. 9, Passover. 11, Garden Tomb. 14, Cannot. 15, Elisha. 17, Gethsemane. 20, Own house. 21, Lisa. 22, Flogging. 23, Stye. DOWN: 1, Wrong act. 2, Nazarene. 4, Health. 5, Assemblies. 6, Envy. 7, Turn. 10, Before long. 12, Iscariot. 13, Take care. 16, The Son. 18, Loaf. 19, Unto

+++++

Need some odd jobs doing?
Can't get round to finishing the decorating?



Then call
Brian Allsopp
on
0161 338 6834



Leaking taps
Curtain rails
Wooden Flooring
Professional Painter and Decorator
No job too small
Free estimates



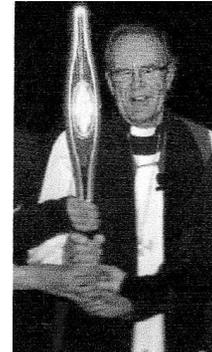
Looking for quality
advertising?
We still have some
advertising space available.
Full page £40 for 12 issues,
½ page £25, ¼ page £15

For more information see the
wardens or contact the editor
on 0161 330 0518



"It's the only way we can cope with all the
couples who want to get married on the
same day as William and Kate."

RUNNING THE RACE



It was just over two years ago, in March 2009, that Bishop Nigel visited our parish during his 'Run the Race' Parish Pilgrimages. Quite a few members of our congregation still wear the small red and gold badges we were given then. His visits to nearly 350 churches in our diocese were started in 2005 and completed just before Christmas 2010. He took with him one of the batons from the Commonwealth Games as a powerful symbol to encourage the members of each church to 'run the race look to Jesus and pass on His faith, hope and love'.

So on the last day of February it was a privilege to be at his service of thanksgiving in the cathedral which was attended by both the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. It was a very cold and frosty night and the queue was very long. To help speed us up the sidespeople were handing out service books while we were outside, but it still took 20 minutes of slowly moving forward before we reached the porch.

Inside there were six or seven large TV screens which were needed as the service moved to different parts of the building. The Dean welcomed the congregation by saying 'why stay at home and watch TV when you can come here and watch it'. We did see most of the service on screen but were within touching distance of the procession just once.

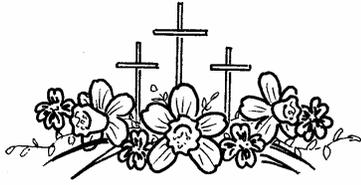
As we sang 'Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord' the two Archbishops walked past us on their stately way to the Regimental Chapel singing 'Glory, glory hallelujah'. A fitting phrase for the whole service. Bishop Nigel lead us in the prayer used in each of the churches he visited

Eternal God you call us to be a pilgrim people,
Grant that we may run the race that is set before us
With stronger faith, firmer hope and greater love;
That, persevering to the end, we in our generation,
May bear the baton of the Gospel with our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Amen

Not one to rest on his achievements you can see a picture of him on the front of Crux magazine for march. He is standing on the Coronation Street set reading the bible – the headline says 'Bringing the Bible to Corrie – Bishop Nigel swaps his pulpit for cobbles'

Doreen



Happy Easter!

A happy and blessed Easter to you! Easter is the most joyful day of the year for Christians. Christ has died for our sins. We are forgiven. Christ has

risen! He has risen indeed! We are redeemed! We can look forward to an eternity in his joy! Hallelujah!

The Good News of Jesus Christ is a message so simple that you can explain it to someone in a few minutes. It is so profound that for the rest of their lives they will be still be 'growing' in their Christian walk with God.

Why does the date for Easter move about so?

When's Easter in any given year? Easy – find the first Sunday after the full moon that follows the Spring Equinox (March 20 or 21). What? If it all sounds a bit confusing, well, here's the history behind it all...

It all began with the ancient Hebrews. They based their calendars upon the rhythms of the moon. These lunar calendars worked well for them, and everything was fine.

Then Christianity arrived – in the Holy Land, where the first century Jews were still using the lunar calendar. Fine. But then Christianity moved on to Rome, which was using a different calendar – one based upon the sun. (The Gregorian calendar, which we use today, and which is in widest use throughout the world, is based on the Roman sun calendar.)

Now establishing certain days in the year became difficult. Especially Easter. The results were often confusing. Early church leaders, both Jewish and Roman, agreed that everything to do with the coming of Jesus Christ had been prepared, even the position of the sun, the moon and the stars. They could not agree, however, on how to fix the day for the yearly celebration of Easter.

It was not until the fourth century, with the help of astronomers who took into account the position of both the moon and the sun in relation to the earth, that a decision was finally made. At last it was accepted that Easter would always be celebrated on the first Sunday after the full moon that follows the Spring Equinox (March 20 or 21). That is why Easter falls anytime between 22 March and 25 April.

+++++

Royal promises - and no escape clauses!

Probably not since the marriage of Prince Charles and Lady Diana in 1981 will so many people be watching a Christian wedding ceremony as will doubtless be on April 29th. The future heir to the throne, Prince William, will marry Kate Middleton in Westminster Abbey.

The solemn and moving words of the service will echo around the world: 'to have and to hold, from this day forward; for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part'. As one groom - a lawyer, needless to say - remarked to me, 'Not many escape clauses there!'

The exchanging of rings is equally uncompromising: 'all that I am I give to you, and all that I have I share with you'. All that I am? All that I have? My car, my laptop, my precious handbag . . . and my aching heart? All? It's such a comprehensive word; it leaves nothing outside its limits.

Marriage is, on these terms, the total giving of one person to another, for life. It's both wonderful and awesome. No matter how many weddings you attend, those vows still move you. This is what love, as God understands it, is all about. It's not 'I love you and I want you and I'm going to have you' (which is how modern culture sometimes portrays it) but about the total giving of one human being to another. It mirrors the self-giving love of God as we see it in the life of Jesus - which may be why St Paul compares the love of a husband for his wife to Christ's love for his people (Ephesians 5:25).

You may notice, as the service proceeds, just how often the word 'love' occurs in it. Indeed, the opening words sum it all up: 'God is love, and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them.' This is the great sacrament of love. On April 29th we can - wherever we are - share in its joy.

PC WIZARD

*'IS YOUR PC RUNNING SLOW ? 'WORRIED ABOUT SECURITY ?
'SPYWARE, VIRUSES, AND TROJANS ... REMOVED.*



NO CALL OUT FEE

FOR RELIABLE, FRIENDLY SERVICE

TEL: 07729910077 OR: 01613037689

Carr's

THE BAKERS
of Stalybridge
Wholesale and Retail



Est.1922
44-46 RIDGEHILL LANE
STALYBRIDGE
0161 338 2177
164 MOSSLEY ROAD
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE
0161 330 1341

Dave Etches

FREE ESTIMATES

Tel. 0161 430 6950

07976 959494

Plasterer

'Nutley'
125 Compstall Road
Romiley
Cheshire
SK6 4HX

ARCHITECT SERVICES



- Plans drawn
- Extensions
- Loft conversions and domestic work
- Building regulations
- Planning applications

Ring: Matt Hurst
07786994848

H. REVELL & SONS *LTD.*

A Family of Funeral Directors since
1888

Pre-payment Plans arranged

96 Stamford Street
Stalybridge

0161 338 2520

*Proprietors: N.T. Revell
K. Revell BA (Hons)*