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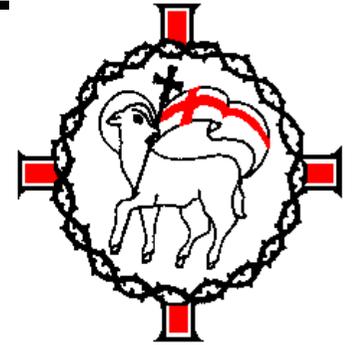
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Diocese of Manchester



35p



April 2012

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	Ms Janet Vidler	303 7689
	Mrs Gillian Cotton	303 2787
P.C.C. Secretary	Mrs Margaret Smith	338 3702
Treasurer	Mrs Julianna Stewart	303 7483
Magazine Editor	Mrs Linda Hurst	330 0518
Room Hire	Mr Norman Quest	338 4691

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
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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.

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From the Registers

Baptisms



4 March

Tia Louise Ryan, Tudor Avenue, Stalybridge
 Angel Leigh Ryan, Tudor Avenue, Stalybridge
 Lexi Louise Ryan, Tudor Avenue, Stalybridge
 Charlotte Ruby Kellie Jane Ryan, Tudor Avenue, Stalybridge

Funerals



4 March

Jean Ollerenshaw (83) Darnton Road, Ashton-under-Lyne
 (Interment of ashes)

5 March

Elsie Trelfa (102) St George's Nursing Home, Stalybridge
 (Interment of ashes)

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	Geoffrey Birch	2006		Doris Hibbert	1944
	Percy Dudleston	1979		Samuel Cook	1989
Apr 6	Herbert Brocklehurst	1975	Apr 20	Louis Bowler	1990
Apr 7	Ellen Ratcliffe	1937		Lena Schofield	1997
Apr 8	Alistair William Rose	1983		Mary Wright	1989
	Forbes		Apr 22	Mark Allen Cowley	2009
Apr 9	John (Jack) Ireson	1987	Apr 23	James Johnson	1984
	Kenneth Langton	2007		Jennie Cook	1995
	Howard Steven Fogg	2008	Apr 24	George Wardle	1997
Apr 10	Walter Bramall	1977		Joan Lindley	1983
	Minnie Talbot	1984		Doreen Lilian Pritchard	2009
	Freda Mary Day	1987		Graham Webster	2009
Apr 12	Jacqueline Ruth	1987	Apr 25	John Jepson Thomas	1991
	Gillaspy			Alice Ann Walton	1998
	Andrea Louise Johnson	2004	Apr 26	Elsie Beatrice Dugdale	1974
Apr 14	Helen Shaw	1996		Beatrice Isabella Brien	1985
Apr 15	Ernest Norris	1965		Harry Blackburn	2003
	Joseph Parry	2007	Apr 27	John Kenyon	2001
	Alice Banks	2009	Apr 28	Ada Broadbent	1962
Apr 16	Joseph Shaw	1961	Apr 29	Laura Wright	2007
	Emily Spencer	1990			

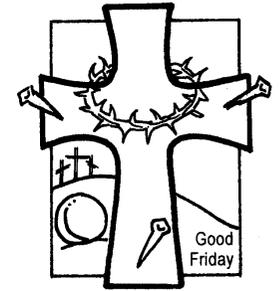


BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

To have the name of a loved one entered into this special book, and remembered in our intercessions for their anniversary please have a word with one of the wardens or one of the clergy.
 The cost for the special inscription is £7.50 per entry

From the Vicar

Dear Friends,



As we are now emerging from Lent into Easter, I was reminded recently about why it seems, so often, that we tend to blame God for everything when things go wrong yet seldom thank Him for when things go right. True or false? What does the bible say, especially about suffering? At first glance, not a lot, perhaps.

Job's wife actually said, "Curse God and die." Her husband longed for 'a death that will not come.' (Think of the euthanasia debate currently). How often do we ask ourselves, "Why doesn't God do something?"

Perhaps the Bible doesn't give simple, direct answers, but let's remind ourselves that we are fitted with brains and are free to use them, objectively or otherwise. Some suffering comes about because we have free wills; we enjoy a freedom delegated from God to humanity. Sadly, as we all know, it isn't always used humanely. Less dramatically, think of the story of Adam and Eve and the forbidden fruit. Think of the misused freedom the prodigal son 'enjoyed' (and the result!) World leaders are free to 'crucify the Lord of Glory'. Even in this country Christians are being put under increasing pressure to admit our supposed 'irrelevance' regarding affairs of state. Some kinds of suffering, for instance, from warfare or injustice, are the result of human abuse of this freedom to choose.

You have heard it said before that we live in a fallen world. Paul told the Romans that creation is 'frustrated' and 'in bondage to decay'. Sin affects us all. 'Thorns and briars' grow in the 'garden of the Lord.' Is it possible to see how some pain, grief or natural disaster, etc., might be explained?

Like it or not, I don't think we can duck the fact that we cannot soften the blow of biblical truth because, in a moral universe, suffering is sometimes the result of sin. Sin warps God's creation and spoils it.

As I say above, we have the God-given freedom to use our brains

for good or ill. Given that we exercise this choice in a physically stable, regular and predictable world and what happens? Is this not the very combination of circumstances which makes real choice possible? Surely this is what it says on the packet, but there is also a health warning - the fire that brightens and warms us can also burn and disfigure if misused. A packet containing the ingredients for a sinful life may also contain its own retribution so we must be careful how we open God's packet and be equally careful as to how we use the contents.

True enough, we all make mistakes and God will forgive and help us, provided we keep trying and remember a famous quote by Sir Robert Mark, a former Manchester City bobby who rose to the rank of Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, "The only man who never made a mistake never made a decision."

Thanks be to God.

Have a happy and blessed Easter.

Keith.



A Reflection on Holy Week...

All the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever were built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of mankind on this earth as powerfully as has that one solitary life.
anon

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Readings and Psalms for April 2012

Sun 1 st	Palm Sunday	10.45	Isaiah 50.4-9a; Psalm 31.9-16; Philippians 2.5-11; Mark 14.1-end of 15
	HOLY WEEK		
Mon 2 nd	20.00	Agape	
Tues 3 rd	10.30		Isaiah 49.1-7; Psalm 71.1-8; 1 Corinthians 1.18-31; John 12 20-36
Wed 4 th	20.00		Stations of the Cross
Thurs 5 th	Maundy Thursday	20.00	Exodus 12.1-4,11-14; Psalm 116.1,10-end; 1 Corinthians 11.23-26;John 13.21-32
Fri 6 th	Good Friday	10.45	Isaiah 52.13-end of 53; Psalm 22.1-11; Hebrews 10.16-25; John 18.1-end of 19
Sun 8 th	Easter Day	8.30	Acts 10.34-43; John 20.1-18
		10.45	Acts 10.34-43; Psalm 118.14-24; 1 Corinthians 15.1-11John 20.1-18
		18.00	Ezekiel 37.1-14; Luke 24.13-35 BCP Holy Communion
Tues 10 th	10.30		Acts 2.36-41; Psalm 33.4-5,18-end; John 20.11-18
Sun 15 th	2nd Sunday of Easter	10.45	Acts 4.32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1.1-2.2; John 20.19-end
Tues 17 th	10.30		Acts 4.32-end; Psalm 93; John 3.7-15
Sun 22 nd	3rd Sunday of Easter	8.30	Acts 3.12-19; Luke 24.36b-48
		10.45	Psalm 4; Acts 3.12-19; Luke 24.36b-48 Worship For All
Tues 24 th	10.30		Acts 7.51-8.1; Psalm 31.1-5,16; John 6.30-35
Sun 29 th	4th Sunday of Easter	10.45	Acts 4.5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3.16-end; John 10.11-18

8.30a.m. Holy Communion Service from February 2011

During the time that we are without a Vicar - the 8.30a.m. service of Holy Communion will be celebrated only on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month.

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Can't get round to finishing the decorating?



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Good Friday

Standing in the queue at the bank there was a commotion at the counter. A woman was very distressed, exclaiming, "Where will I put my money?! I have all my money and my mortgage here!! What will happen to my mortgage?! You can't do this to us!"

It turned out that she had misunderstood a small sign on the counter. The sign read: WE WILL BE CLOSED FOR GOOD FRIDAY.



Although it was a memorable service, the new showbiz couple in the parish hadn't quite got the idea of a donkey for Palm Sunday.

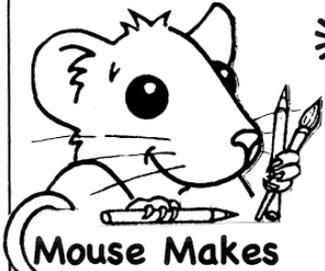


Congratulations to those of you who spotted the deliberate mistake last month! Sorry no prizes! Of course the clocks went forward, not back as printed—the demons of 'cut and paste', I remembered to change the date from October but not the text! Apologies to anyone who arrived at Church 2 hours too soon on Sunday 25th March.

March Crossword Solution

ACROSS: 1, Corinthians. 9, Abandon. 10, Eglon. 11, Spa. 13, Deem. 16, Hi-fi. 17, Abijah. 18, Ohad. 20, Myth. 21, Now see. 22, Knit. 23, Tide. 25, Arm. 28, Nahor. 29, All done. 30, Kind-hearted. DOWN: 2, Of age. 3, ISDN. 4, Tens. 5, Idea. 6, Nullify. 7, Hardworking. 8, Enlightened. 12, Praise. 14, Mad. 15, Vigour. 19, Abishai. 20, Met. 24, Is one. 25, Arid. 26, Male. 27, Slur.

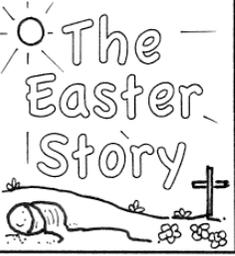
Some dates for your diary - April 2012



Mouse Makes

Jesus Christ is risen today!
our triumphant holy day,
who did once upon the cross
suffer to redeem our loss.

Sing we to our God above
praise eternal as his love,
for the Lord from death is raised
Father, Spirit, Son be praised!
ALLELUIA!



The Easter Story



Into Jerusalem
Luke 19:28-48



The Last Supper
Luke 22:7-38

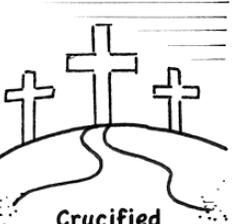
glue to 'betrayed'



Betrayed
Luke 22:1-3, 39-53

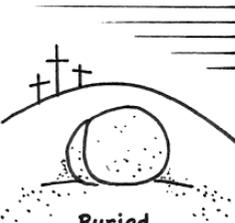


Condemned
Luke 22:54-23:25



Crucified
Luke 23:26-49

glue to 'Buried'



Buried
Luke 23:50-56



Risen
Luke 24:1-12



Jesus is Alive!
Luke 24:13-53

Make a mini Easter book: Cut out the strips, glue them together then zig-zag fold along the dotted lines.



April

Sun	1st	Palm Sunday - Holy Week 10.45a.m. Parish Eucharist & Junior Church 12.30p.m. Holy Baptism x 3 HOLY WEEK
Mon	2nd	8.00p.m. Agape
Tues	3rd	10.30a.m. Holy Eucharist
Wed	4th	8.00p.m. Stations of the Cross
Thurs	5th	MAUNDAY THURSDAY 8.00p.m. Sung Communion of the Last Supper - Stripping of the Altars - followed by Vigil
Fri	6th	GOOD FRIDAY 10.45a.m. The Service of The Cross
Sun	8th	EASTER DAY 6.00a.m. Sunrise Service - Arlies Lane 8.30a.m. Holy Eucharist 10.45a.m. A Service for Easter Day 6.00p.m. Holy Communion BCP
Tues	10th	10.30a.m. Holy Eucharist
Sun	15th	10.45a.m. Parish Eucharist & Junior Church 12.30p.m. Holy Baptism x 2
Tues	17th	10.30a.m. Holy Eucharist 8.00p.m. A.P.C.M.
Thurs	19th	9.30a.m. Time 4 Fun 0 - 5yrs
Sat	21st	2.00p.m. to 4.00p.m. Fair Trade Afternoon Tea/Coffee
Sun	22nd	8.30a.m. Holy Eucharist 10.45a.m. Worship For All
Tues	24th	10.30a.m. Holy Eucharist 7.45p.m. Knit & Natter (Craft Group)
Thurs	26th	9.30a.m. Time 4 Fun 0 - 5yrs
Sat	28th	7.00p.m. Quiz Night
Sun	29th	10.45a.m. Parish Eucharist & Junior Church

For more information please go to our website www.stg.org.uk

April 2012 Wordsearch

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Easter is the most joyful day of the year for Christians. We remember that Jesus gave his body and his blood on the Cross, to redeem us from our sins. We can pray 'Abba, Father,' because Jesus' death means we can now be accepted by God. Jesus 'bought' us with his blood – we are redeemed! We are the Easter people.

Triumphant

Crowds

Messiah

Praise

donkey

tomb

risen

Room

Passover

Bread

Wine

Body

Blood

Betrayal

False

Witnesses

cross

nails

Jerusalem

Pilate

Judas

Gethsemane

Trial

Crucifixion

S	A	D	U	J	S	E	I	L	M	A	O	T	P
U	D	O	N	K	E	Y	A	Y	I	T	N	K	N
S	O	W	N	O	R	Y	D	M	B	A	S	M	E
L	O	I	O	D	A	O	E	M	H	R	J	X	H
M	L	T	M	R	B	L	O	P	L	W	E	P	N
H	B	N	T	E	C	T	M	M	S	L	I	A	N
J	M	E	L	A	S	U	R	E	J	E	E	S	D
U	B	S	Y	R	I	S	E	N	S	S	P	S	T
M	O	S	C	R	U	C	I	F	I	X	I	O	N
I	G	E	T	H	S	E	M	A	N	E	L	V	B
I	S	S	O	R	C	C	R	L	H	N	A	E	S
T	W	P	D	L	I	P	D	S	R	I	T	R	A
A	R	I	A	L	A	A	E	E	P	W	E	B	S
E	I	H	A	W	H	R	L	H	N	U	S	N	T

Faith and the barbershop

A man went to a barbershop to have his hair cut and his beard trimmed. As the barber worked, they began to talk about various subjects. When they eventually touched on the subject of God, the barber said: 'I don't believe that God exists.'

'Why do you say that?' asked the customer.

'Well, you just have to go out in the street to realize that God doesn't exist. Tell me, if God exists, would there be so many sick people? Would there be abandoned children? If God existed, there would be neither suffering nor pain. I can't imagine a loving God who would allow all of these things.'

The customer thought for a moment, but didn't respond because he didn't want to start an argument. The barber finished his job and the customer left the shop. Just after he left the barbershop, he saw a man in the street with long, stringy, dirty hair and an untrimmed beard. He looked dirty and unkempt. The customer turned back to enter the barbershop again and said to the barber: 'You know what? Barbers do not exist.'

'How can you say that?' asked the surprised barber. 'I am here, and I am a barber. And I just worked on you!'

'No!' the customer exclaimed. 'Barbers don't exist because if they did, there would be no people with dirty long hair and untrimmed beards, like that man outside.'

'Ah, but barbers DO exist! That's what happens when people do not come to me.'

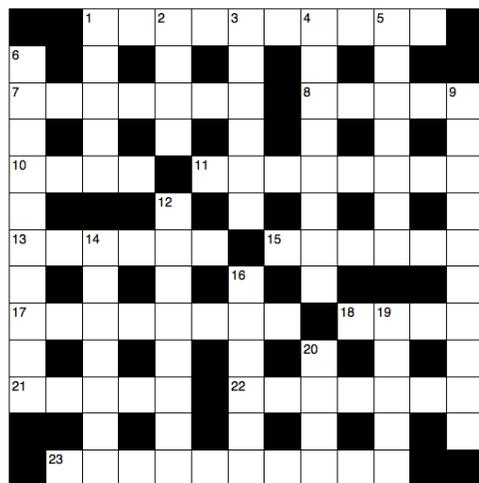
'Exactly!' affirmed the customer. 'That's the point! God, too, DOES exist! That's what happens when people do not go to him and don't look to him for help. That's why there's so much pain and suffering in the world.'

+++++

Preach

When a minister rehearses his sermon, is he practising what he preaches?

April Crossword



Across

- 1 'You are a chosen people, a royal — ' (1 Peter 2:9) (10)
 7 Exact copy (Joshua 22:28) (7)
 8 Jesus' first words to Jairus's daughter, 'My child, — — ' (Luke 8:54) (3,2)
 10 Idol made by the Israelites while Moses was on Mount Sinai (Exodus 32:4) (4)
 11 Role allotted to Joseph in Egypt (Genesis 42:6) (8)
 13 'Lord, when did we — — hungry and feed you?' (Matthew 25:37) (3,3)
 15 'Though seeing, they do — —; though hearing, they do not hear or understand' (Matthew 13:13) (3,3)
 17 Happening (1 Kings 21:1) (8)
 18 'Whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the — of Christ' (Philippians 3:7) (4)
 21 National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (1,1,1,1,1)
 22 Stamp on (Amos 2:7) (7)
 23 Liable to rot (1 Corinthians 15:42) (10)

Down

- 1 Of the pope (5)
 2 'The earth is the Lord's, and everything — — ' (Psalm 24:1) (2,2)
 3 Hebrew word for the kind of peace that Jesus promised (6)
 4 Member of a 16th-century Protestant reform movement in France (8)
 5 Sing out (anag.) (7)
 6 Ceremonial column of people on the move (1 Samuel 10:5) (10)
 9 One of the things love always does (1 Corinthians 13:7) (10)
 12 Esther's cousin who foiled a plot to assassinate King Xerxes (Esther 2:7, 22) (8)
 14 See cape (anag.) (7)
 16 'No one can — them out of my hand' (John 10:28) (6)
 19 Often mistakenly identified as the fruit that led to the first sin (Joel 1:12) (5)
 20 'He was led like a — to the slaughter' (Isaiah 53:7) (4)

'200' CLUB

If you are a member of the '200' Club April commences the year for 2012-2013. If you wish to renew your application please contact Mildred Bradshaw at church or on 01613393225.

A total of £606 has been raised over the last twelve months for St Georges with the same amount being paid out in three prizes each month.

I would like to thank our members once again for their loyal support to this fundraiser, and new members to this scheme would be most welcome.

Mildred Bradshaw
 '200' Club Treasurer

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Why does an interregnum sometimes last for so long?

Actually, there are no set rules on the length of time a church should have 'between vicars'. But every diocese will be bearing the following the mind:

An interregnum means one less salary to pay, and thus saves hard-pressed dioceses money. Secondly, it can be hard to find a suitable incumbent – there are ever fewer clergy to go round. Thirdly, once someone has been found, there is a seemingly endless consultation process between bishop, patron & parish to be carried out. Fourthly, even once someone has been found, approved by all, and is ready to come, extensive work may be needed on the vicarage. Finally, an incoming incumbent has to give notice of resigning. So, while it needn't be as drawn out as an American Presidential Election, sometimes it doesn't seem too far off!



This month we give you the third in a series on Queen Elizabeth II, looking back down the 60 years of her reign. David Winter, former head of Religion for the BBC, has compiled this for us. This month we consider the love and marriage of Elizabeth and Philip...

Diamond Jubilee: Elizabeth - pt 3. 'To love and to cherish'

In 2011 the marriage of Prince William to Catherine Middleton was the celebrity event of the year - and not just in Britain. The world-wide television audience for the wedding in Westminster Abbey was numbered in hundreds of millions and the media coverage bordered on the hysterical. It may be hard for people under seventy to believe, but the engagement and later the marriage of Princess Elizabeth to Lieut. Philip Mountbatten attracted a similar level of public interest 65 years ago, though the celebrity scene was somewhat more restrained in those days.

People had known for some time that love was in the air. The dark and petite princess was often to be seen with her tall and fair-haired escort. Speculation in the popular press was rife. Was the heir to the throne about to be engaged to this handsome young naval officer, despite his Greek and Danish family background - and even family connections with Germany?

Eventually the engagement was announced, to be followed by the information that Philip would renounce his Greek and Danish titles. Indeed, when they married he even gave up his family name, Mountbatten, though not without regret. 'Am I the only married man', he asked, 'whose children will not bear his name?' He became Philip Windsor - a more reassuringly British surname than his foreign-sounding family name, I suppose.

The wedding was eagerly anticipated. Britain was in the middle of long years of post-war austerity. Food was still strictly rationed, and the first months of 1947 saw a cruelly cold Winter, when the temperature refused to climb above freezing for weeks on end and coal was in short supply because trucks full of it were stuck in ice-locked sidings. People were wondering - if this was how it was for the victors, how were the vanquished faring? (The answer was, about the same, as it happens.)

So the prospect of a glamorous and splendid public occasion lifted the spirits. Thousands of people camped out on the streets of London on a damp November day to watch the royal carriages sweep past on their way

to Westminster Abbey, a to catch a glimpse of the bride, and then the married couple on their way back. Even in black and white photographs one could see how happy they were and the depth of their love for each other. This marriage, at least, was certainly made in heaven.

There was more public rejoicing the following year when their first child, Charles, was born, to be followed by Anne in 1950, Andrew in 1960 and Edward in 1964. The House of Windsor was truly in business again!



1947



2007

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HOPE launches free resources for Big Jubilee Lunch

To mark the 60th anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne, HOPE has announced a range of free resources which churches can use as they mark the Diamond Jubilee with a Big Jubilee Lunch on 3 June.

HOPE is partnering with the Big Lunch, encouraging and supporting churches to use this historic moment to build community, reaching out to people in villages, towns and cities. Check out HOPE's Diamond Jubilee video and download free resources - all you need to make your Big Jubilee Lunch a huge success.

www.hopetogether.org.uk