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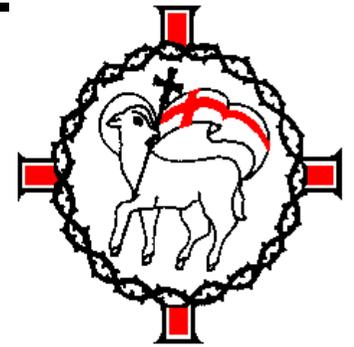
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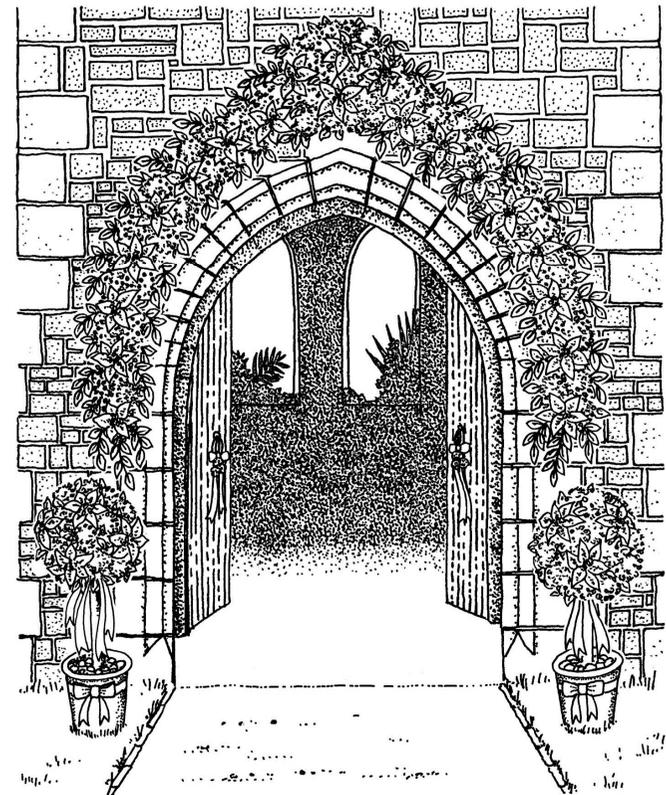
# St George's Parish Church Stalybridge



Diocese of Manchester

 **THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND**

35p



**July 2014**

# St George's Church Stalybridge

## Clergy

<b>Priest-in-Charge</b>	Revd Philip Brierley	0161 338 2368
<b>Assistant Priest</b>	Revd Keith Stewart	0161 303 7483
<b>Associate Priest</b>	Revd Doreen Broadbent	0161 330 9085
<b>Wardens</b>	Mrs Gillian Cotton	0161 303 2787
	Mr Derek Redeyoff	0161 338 4779
<b>Asst Warden</b>	Mrs Rose Hayward	0161 303 1731
<b>P.C.C. Secretary</b>	Mrs Chris Crabtree	0161 285 1775
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mrs Juliana Stewart	0161 303 7483
<b>Magazine Editor</b>	Mrs Linda Hurst	0161 330 0518
<b>Room Hire</b>	Mr Norman Quest	0161 338 4691

## Worship Sunday

8.30 a.m.	Holy Communion (2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays)
10.45 a.m.	Sung Communion and Junior Church (4 <sup>th</sup> 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 or Funerals please phone Philip (Priest-in-Charge) on 0161 338 2368. Baptisms are usually conducted at 12.30 pm on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.**

## From Our Book of Remembrance

Jul 1	Kenneth Gee	2008	Jul 19	Hilda Saville	1986
Jul 4	Norman Carter	1966		James Arthur Wright	2009
	Leonard Haigh	1976	Jul 25	Joseph Jones Davies	1949
	Doris Hotchkiss	2013		Constance Marshall	2002
Jul 5	Jason James Brander	2007	Jul 26	Joseph Sidney Holt	1954
Jul 6	Derek Arthur Castle	2003		Dorothy Thomson	2003
	Kathleen Hague	2007		Arlene Lesley Lancake	2006
Jul 7	Denis Ireson	1980	Jul 27	John Whalley	1970
July 8	Barbara Partington	2013		Beatrice Buckley	1992
Jul 11	Florence Reynolds	1997	Jul 28	Robert Docherty	2008
	Lily Margaret Stanley	2004	Jul 29	Matthew Gordon Wood	1981
Jul 12	Robert Smyth	2004	Jul 30	Alan Jackson	1988
Jul 13	Andrew Liepins	1981		Minnie Millin	1994
Jul 15	Fred Holt	1951		Alice Connor	2007
	Mary Emma Grimshaw	1975	Jul 31	Clara Cope	1961
	David Fred Harding	2006		Marjorie Tetlow	2000
Jul 16	Margaret Mary Noonan	1997		Florence Cooper	2002
Jul 17	Lorraine Whalley	2008			

## 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 £10 per entry



If anyone would like to take up the bread and wine at the offertory—to celebrate a special occasion, in memory of a loved one or just to take part, please have a word with one of the wardens or clergy for any Sunday this year.

## From the Registers

### Baptisms

*We welcome into the Lord's family*

#### 1 June

Robyn Louise Lendon-Blackwell, Windermere Road, Stalybridge  
Eden Rose Mather, Hanover Street, Stalybridge

#### 15 June

Ava Grace Turner, Matterdale Terrace, Stalybridge  
Evie-Louise McAllister, Linford Cottage, John Street, Heyrod  
Archie George Wilding, North Avenue, Stalybridge

#### 29 June

Oliver Jack Wilson, Hurst Bank Road, Ashton-under-Lyne  
Eliza-Paige Gwen Wibberley, Hanover Street, Stalybridge

### Weddings

*God is love, and those who live in love live in God, and God lives in them*

#### 7 June

Paul Gary Gilham and Gillian Ruth Pymm

#### 21 June

Michael Walter Beech and Carol Joanne Hastie

#### 26 June

*at Norbury Parish Church*

Matthew James Hurst and Kathryn Jane Bibby

### Funerals

*Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord*

#### 16 June

Joyce Hailwood (age 76 years) Hall Meadow Road, Glossop

#### 17 June

Gordon Alan Smith (age 83 years) Combermere Street, Dukinfield

#### 18 June

Henry Joseph Askew (age 88 years) Deramore Close, Ashton-under-Lyne

#### 24 June

Philip Dawson (age 76 years) fold Crescent, Carrbrook, Stalybridge

Dear All,

When you read this we will be in the church's longest liturgical season, ordinary time, when the liturgical colour is green. This season takes us through the summer months to the start of Advent. Ask yourselves what



sometimes happens in the summer months in this country – a hosepipe ban! Whether or not we agree with the calculations that make this necessary, it brings to mind, amongst other things, the question (posed in that well known hymn) whether or not Jesus ever set foot in England's "green and pleasant land?"

While we may never know the answer to that, it's a timely reminder about thinking of how we preserve our green and pleasant land, be it through flood or drought. While I personally believe that one of God's greatest gifts to us is our brain power, water must follow as a very close second. All life began in water and we can't survive without it. Indeed, it probably fair to say that the two are closely linked.

You might have seen the recent series of television programmes featuring the work in the North West of a well-known utilities provider. Well, last year, in my capacity as a chaplain at Manchester Airport, I was privileged to spend a day with the team who do similar work there. Obviously, this is not on the scale of a public utility company, but still on a very big scale, given the airport's scale and 24/7 operation. In both case we owe these teams a vast amount of gratitude.

Space precludes a full account of the day I spent with them but suffice it to say that so much of the things taken for granted by all concerned depends upon the daily work of these men in and around the airport. Briefly, samples of water taken to monitor purity or to detect pollutants (e.g. fuel or chemicals from spillages), foam (caused by gases) and visual checks to prevent blockages building up, especially in the drains.

Recently, on a warm day I was on my rounds in one of the non-public parts of the airport when I became aware of a foul smell and

saw it was coming from where these men were working. They had responded to the smell, and the cause? A seriously blocked drain, caused by an accumulation of articles flushed down the lavatories. You name it and it was there, the obvious and the not so obvious. Without wishing to be too graphic, let me simply state it was all there in a big, smelly, steaming, contaminated heap, waiting to be manually loaded and disposed of – properly. There wasn't much green about this lot!

I stated above that God has given us brains. He has also given us the ability (and the freedom) to use our brains for good or evil, the latter sometimes brought about through carelessness or thoughtlessness. If we are serious about keeping our country a green and pleasant land, then let us remember that, without water, our freedom would much curtailed. So, as the summer approaches, may we pray that God would remind us to use water carefully – and to flush thoughtfully!

With every blessing,

Keith.

+++++

**The New Seekers 'Read the Bible in a Year' Group**

Well here we are, half-way through the year, and we thought we would mark the half-way point by sharing with our church family what we have learnt so far. So it was at the Whit Sunday morning service that members of the New Seekers spoke about what had challenged them, encouraged them and what they have enjoyed the most up to now. This was the result:

**Challenge**

The discipline of reading the Bible passages daily and sticking to it (Juliana, Doreen and Elanor)

Understanding the Old Testament and how the early books are full of violence and quite frightening (Juliana, Elanor and Lynn) and how that relates to the New Testament and the teachings of Jesus (Juliana)

Freda shared that the challenge for her is to follow God's teaching in all of her life, to learn to trust God utterly, to relieve us from worry, anxiety and fear when things get tough and not to do things in our own strength but to allow God's strength to flow through.

Jojo said that due to worries about the Old Testament it feels like the seed

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falling among the thorns. She tries to understand but realises at times that worry takes over.

We summed up what challenged us by realising that all the facts and figures have been included for a purpose and without all the information contained in the early Old Testament books we wouldn't have a complete record of the people of God. Also to accept the often gory and brutal accounts of the history of the Israelites knowing that God doesn't behave as we would like – all sweetness and light – when His purposes often demanded Him to act severely with nations who were disobedient and self-centred (not excluding His own people!)

### **Encourage**

The warmth of the New Testament and having time out to enjoy the quiet time of the daily readings (Elanor)

To follow the readings now in church as they come to life more as we read along (Doreen)

The Psalms and Proverbs giving practical and sensible advice (Lynn and JoJo)

Freda said there is always something every day, especially if you've got problems – plus words from hymns, choruses etc. are often straight from the Bible

We also realise that throughout the Bible God's provision is on every page from creation onwards. Time and time again God forgives and blesses His people – establishing the covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob then establishing a new covenant with the coming of Jesus, the Messiah. The sacrificial lamb that atoned for the sins of the Israelites was made once and for all when the Lamb of God was willingly offered to atone for the sins of the whole world.

### **Enjoyed up to now**

Reading again about Miriam and the impact she made (Doreen)

Realising that the Old Testament is like a story book, and seeing familiar passages in the New Testament (Lynn)

Recognizing parts of the Bible and sharing my thoughts with the rest of the group (Elanor)

Digesting, chewing over God's word – you can feel His love (JoJo)

Freda admitted that even though she struggled with the Old Testament, the fellowship has been wonderful as we've discussed aspects of God's love and teaching from the Bible.

Juliana has enjoyed the journey so much she invites everyone to join us as we continue together

If anyone would like to join us you would be more than welcome. Please telephone Joyce on 0161 338 5602 (mobile 0789 108 2133) for further information.

God bless you all. Joyce

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"We've had a tip-off that the sermon is going to over-run again."

## CHURCH FINANCES

### June 2014 Weekly Giving

Date	Sunday	Open Plate	Envelope s	Total	Monthly Shortfall
1 June 2014	Easter 7	£70.95	£274.50	£345.45	
8 June 2014	Pentecost	£101.00	£221.50	£322.50	
15 June 2014	Trinity Sunday	£32.60	£337.50	£370.10	
22 June 2014	Anniversary	£42.45	£288.50	£330.95	
	Standing Orders etc		£804.00	£804.00	
	<b>Monthly Total</b>			<b>£2173.00</b>	<b>£1327.00</b>

\* Assuming £10 per adult per week needed for running the church this means we need £3,500 per month

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## 200 CLUB WINNERS

The 200 Club winners for June are:

1st Prize	£30	65	Judith Pymm
2nd Prize	£15	21	Timothy Hayward
3rd Prize	£ 5		Ann Winstanley

There are still some numbers available and the more members we have the more church funds benefit so if you would like to become a member please contact Rose Hayward on 0161 303 1731 or Juliana Stewart on 0161 303 7483

+++++



Ladies .....time to get your glad rags on St George's is holding a

## Ladies Day

with a

Traditional Afternoon tea on Saturday 9th August  
2pm - 4pm

Ladies will be encouraged to wear hats or fascinators.  
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## Readings and Psalms for July 2014

Tues 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.30	Amos 3.1-8;4.11-12; Psalm 5.8-end; Matthew 8.23-27
<b>Sun 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>3rd Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	10.45	<b>Zechariah 9.9-12; Psalm 145.8-15; Romans 7.15-25a; Matthew 11.16-19,25-end</b>
Tues 8 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	Hosea 8.4-7,11-13;Psalm 103.8-12; Matthew 9.32-end
<b>Sun 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>4th Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	8.30	Isaiah 55.10-13; Matthew 13.1-9,18-23
	10.45	<b>Isaiah 55.10-13; Psalm 65.8-13; Romans 8.1-11; Matthew 13.1-9,18-23</b>
Tues 15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	Isaiah 7.1-9; Psalm 48.1-7; Matthew 11.20-24
<b>Sun 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5th Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	10.45	<b>Wisdom of Solomon 12.13,16-19; Psalm 86.11-17; Romans 8.12-25; Matthew 13.24-30,36-43</b>
Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30	Song of Solomon 3.1-4; Psalm 42.1-10; 2 Corinthians 5.14-17; John 20.1-2,11-18
<b>Sun 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2nd Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	8.30	Romans 8.26-39; Matthew 13.31-33,44-52
	10.45	<b>Romans 8.26-39; Matthew 13.31-33,44-52</b> <b>Worship For All</b>
Tues 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	Jeremiah 14.17-end; Psalm 78.8-end; Matthew 13.36-43

### June Crossword Solution

Across: 1 Care, 3 Paradise, 8 Null, 9 Profaned,11 Legalistic, 14 Closed, 15 Stores, 17 Missionary  
20 Covenant, 21 Thai, 22 Trade-off, 23 Eden  
Down: 1 Conflict, 2 Religion, 4 Arrest, 5 Affliction, 6 Iona, 7 Eddy, 10 Allegiance, 12 Preached,  
13 Assyrian, 16 A son of, 18 Scot, 19 DVLA



## Saint of the Month

### 11 July Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, Father of Western Monasticism, c.550

Benedict was born in the region of Nursia, some 70 miles from Rome. He studied in the city, but found the hedonistic lifestyle of his companions overbearing, and withdrew to live as a hermit at Subiaco. As news of his life spread, he was joined by others, who formed an embryonic monastic community around him. Such were the numbers that joined him, that he eventually found himself directing twelve communities in the region of the Aniene Valley.

Rivalry and jealousy from local clergy eventually forced Benedict away from the area to Monte Cassino. He spent the last 17 years of his life establishing a monastery there, and during this time he wrote his 'Rule of life' for monks.

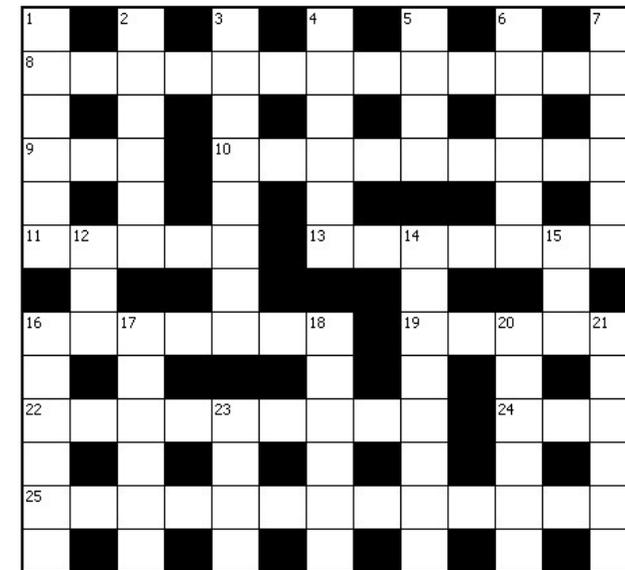
The Rule of St Benedict drew on ascetic tradition, including the 'Life of Antony', and the 'Rule of the Master'. Benedict's 'Rule' is not a list of instructions on how to live as a monk, but rather guidance offered in humility by a person of long experience in the Christian life. Benedict places great stress upon the role of the abbot in any monastic community, emphasizing the incarnational element of such a leadership position. He stresses the importance of this role, and also highlights the required behaviour and attitudes of the one responsible for the whole community. Obedience to superiors is an essential element of Benedictine spirituality, as obeying the abbot's directives and advice frees the other monks within the community to fully engage with, and worship, God. Benedict stressed that the motive for all obedience is not fear, but love, ultimately, the love of God. Humility before others, and God, is paramount. His 'Rule' was clearly subordinate to Scripture, and Benedict had a strong belief in the necessity of orthodox practice.

Benedict taught that the spiritual side of a person could not be divorced from any other part. For him, the whole of life is spiritual, because God calls the whole person and the whole person is to respond to God. The Rule spread quickly throughout the West, and it is for this that he has become known as the 'Father of Western Monasticism'.

If we do not venture to approach men who are in power, except with humility and reverence, when we wish to ask a favour, how must we beseech the Lord God of all things with all humility and purity of devotion. And let us be assured that it is not in many words, but in the purity of heart and tears of compunction that we are heard.

*Rule of Benedict, Ch XX*

## July Crossword



### Across

8 Academic who studies history of one of Israel's perennial enemies (13), 9 Take to court (Matthew 5:40) (3), 10 Absence of guilt (1 Kings 8:32) (9), 11 Of Tim (anag.) (5), 13 Deprive priest of ecclesiastical status (7), 16 Where Paul and Barnabas called en route from Perga to Antioch (Acts 14:25–26) (7), 19 'The earth is the —, and everything in it' (Psalm 24:1) (5), 22 'Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a — message when the body of elders laid their hands on you' (1 Timothy 4:14) (9), 24 Raincoat (abbrev.) (3), 25 Issue relating to sexual ethics dealt with in the controversial Papal Encyclical *Humanae Vitae* in 1968(13)

### Down

1 'The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a — for many' (Matthew 20:28) (6), 2 Upward slope (Nehemiah 3:19) (6), 3 'God blessed them and said to them, "Be — and increase in number"' (Genesis 1:28) (8), 4 'What God has — together, let man not separate' (Matthew 19:6) (6), 5 One of the partners which, with BEA, formed British Airways (1,1,1,1), 6 'This will be a — you. You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger' (Luke 2:12) (4,2), 7 Takers (anag.) (6), 12 'But the things that come — of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man "unclean"' (Matthew 15:18) (3), 14 'Then I set bowls — of wine and some — before the men of the Recabite family' (Jeremiah 35:5) (4,4), 15 Levitical eating laws were much concerned about animals 'that chew the —' (Leviticus 11:3) (3), 16 Llama-like animal noted for its wool (6), 17 The seed which fell among these was choked by them as it grew (Luke 8:7) (6), 18 Launch an assault against (Genesis 14:15) (6), 20 'Neither can you bear fruit unless you — in me' (John 15:4) (6), 21 John says of the healing of the royal official's son, 'This was the — miraculous sign that Jesus performed' (John 4:54) (6), 23 Inflict pain on (Acts 7:26) (4)

most vulnerable groups in society especially orphaned children and poor people.

After being selected to a government secondary school, the Providence Girls Secondary School, in 2005, FOMO has always supported my education by way of providing me with school fees, clothing, academic materials, moral support and all other support I needed for me to live a happy and successful life. I should hasten to mention that the support FOMO gave me when I was in secondary school made me have peace of mind and I always felt a sense of love and belonging, and that contributed greatly to my success at secondary school. It is, thus, with so much pride that I confidently say here that FOMO gave birth to my success which never ended at secondary school but actually saw me through into the corridors of the University of Malawi's Chancellor College in 2009.

Even though I was selected to college for a degree of Bachelor of Education Science, FOMO did not abandon me. The more I grew up, as a girl, and the higher I climbed the academic success radar is the more FOMO has been supportive to me. Today, I am in the fifth week of the last semester of my four year degree program at Chancellor College. Along the way, since I joined the University, there has been many challenges but FOMO has always availed itself in good time to provide me the support and the motivation to outlive such challenges.

FOMO Malawi has been a home to me, and it shall always be a lovely family as long as I live. I look back on the path my life has travelled but, usually, words fail me as they cannot fully capture my gratitude for the tremendous support FOMO has rendered on me since 2004.

I will soon graduate from college with a degree in Bachelor of Education Science, and my dream is to even go further with my studies by enrolling for a Masters' degree programme in Special Needs Education. I appreciate the support FOMO has given me, and I believe that I will as well be supported until I successfully attain a Masters' degree.

School has taught me a lot, but FOMO has been the only place I have gotten the most valuable and essential life education one would ever get in life. At FOMO, I have learnt and embraced that there is great value and satisfaction in serving and helping other people especially those in need like orphans, poor people and the elderly. I have also learnt that developing a community requires a person's commitment, passion and serving without expecting any gains in return. These, among many other things learnt, are the lessons that I have embraced and I would like to always put them into practice not only at FOMO but also in many other communities across the country and Africa in general.

## Some dates for your diary - July 2014

Tues	1st	10.30a.m. 1.00p.m.	Holy Communion Art Group
Thurs	3rd	9.30a.m. 7.30p.m.	Time 4 Fun 0 - 5yrs Tameside Community Voices Practice
<b>Sun</b>	<b>6th</b>	<b>10.45a.m. 12.30p.m.</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist &amp; Junior Church Holy Baptism x 2</b>
Tues	8th	10.30a.m. 1.00p.m. 7.45p.m.	Holy Communion Art Group Knit & Natter (Craft Group)
Thurs	10th	9.30a.m. 7.30p.m.	Time 4 Fun 0 - 5yrs Tameside Community Voices Practice
<b>Sun</b>	<b>13th</b>	<b>8.30a.m. 10.45a.m.</b>	<b>Holy Communion Parish Eucharist &amp; Junior Church</b>
Tues	15th	10.30a.m. 1.00p.m. 8.00p.m.	Holy Communion Art Group Moving Forward Meeting
Thurs	17th	9.30a.m. 7.30p.m.	Time 4 Fun 0 - 5yrs Tameside Community Voices Practice
Sat	19th	2.00-4.00p.m.	Fair Trade Afternoon Tea
<b>Sun</b>	<b>20th</b>	<b>10.45a.m. 12.30p.m.</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist &amp; Junior Church Prize Giving Holy Baptism x 2</b>
Mon	21st	7.00pm.	New Seekers (No meeting in August)
Tues	22nd	10.30a.m. 1.00p.m.	Holy Communion Art Group
Thurs	24th	9.30a.m. 7.30p.m.	Time 4 Fun 0 - 5yrs Tameside Community Voices Practice
Fri	25th	7.30p.m.	<i>Tameside Community Voices Concert at St John Street Club, Droylsden, in aid of Royal British Legion &amp; Cancer Relief</i>
Sat	26th	3.00p.m. 8.00p.m.	Wedding Quiz Night
<b>Sun</b>	<b>27th</b>	<b>8.30a.m. 10.45a.m.</b>	<b>Holy Communion Worship For All</b>
Tues	29th	10.30a.m. 1.00p.m.	Holy Communion Art Group

For more information please go to our website [www.stg.org.uk](http://www.stg.org.uk)

## **FOMO**

*St George's is a continuing supporter of FOMO and attached is an unsolicited report received from one of the girls who has benefited from the Direct Aid that FOMO has given and is still giving to the orphans in the Mulanje area of Malawi, currently 5000+.*

### **In Recognition of FOMO Malawi's impact on my Life**

By Gloria Solongwe

Socrates, one of the greatest thinkers of the ancient times, once said “an unexamined life is not worthy living.” As a people we all owe ourselves a duty to expend some considerable time examining our lives; thus, reflecting on where we are coming from, what we have so far gone through, and who are the people that have played a very crucial role for us to be where we are today. As I fully subscribe to Socrates' assertion, I feel greatly moved to put on paper a reflection of my life.

My life has been like a book with various chapters in it – with chapters that one would wish to read even if it means spending a couple of nights without sleep, and also with some other chapters that would force one to skip them just after seeing the subtitle of such chapters. But life is never one sweet song; and as we tread on the journey of life, there are many a challenge that we encounter. But we always survive, somehow we always do, of course with the help of many other people some of whom are not even our relatives, nor friends nor partners.

On the dawn of 31<sup>st</sup> July 1990, I was born. My birth, just like the birth of any child in a family or community, heralded the dawn of a new chapter of joy in my family. My birth was reason enough for joy and unity in the family of Mr. and Mrs. Solongwe, the two great angels who gave me the gift of life, loved me from the time I was born and took care of me despite the challenges they had.

My parents, though they were not learned experts on child psychology or theories of development, pretty well understood that it was in the family where every child gets the best life education the walls of a classroom can never offer. It was upon such an understanding that my parents' love and care for me, and my siblings, was premised.

It is the wish of every child to always live with or grow in the sight of his or her parents, but fate does not always accord us such a wish: in fact, fate always takes away people so dear to us at such times we desperately need them the most. And as fate would have it, I was robbed of my father when I was a very young girl, about 6 years old if my memory serves me right. I was in the first class of my primary school education when my father died.

Much as I was so young to notice anything, as I grew up I came to slowly understand the misery my life had become following the death of my father who was the breadwinner of the family.

Growing up with only my mother, life was very tough for me and the rest of my siblings. We struggled to make ends meet, and my mother could more often than not spend a couple of days without food just to ensure that the little that the family had was enough for us, the children. She loved us and tried her level best for us to develop love for school.

In 2004, the year I was expected to sit for my primary school leaving certificate of education (PSLCE) examinations, death again robbed me of my mother who had all along been a pillar of support, love, joy and hope in my life. The death of my mother printed an indelible hopelessness on my mind. I could not just think of how miserably depressing life could be like after the death of the woman I had grown to see an image of a father or breadwinner, a hero, and a strong willed woman who always did the best she could for me to get educated. My hope for a bright future was lost, and all the passion I had for school came to a halt: I was, in fact, hopeless because my mother's departure meant the death of my future as well.

Where I come from, in Mulanje and other surrounding areas, the death of one or both parents subjects children to an abyss levels of poverty and hopelessness; and more often than not it is such poverty and hopelessness that forces girls to get married at a very tenderly young age or even venture into prostitution as a way of ensuring that they survive the heavy blows life throws on orphaned children. I must confess that chances were very high that I could even get married at an early age as 14 years old because I had lost all hope and passion for school following the death of my parents.

However, Friends of Mulanje Orphans (FOMO) came to my rescue. The organisation gave me hope when I literally had none, and it refurbished my motivation and passion to go ahead with my studies. I would remain a cursed woman the rest of my life if I do not mention Mrs. Mary Woodworth, the passionate, loving, caring and kind woman behind FOMO Malawi, gave me support and encouraged me to focus on my education and live an optimistic life replete with goals to achieve at the end of the day.

FOMO Malawi has, since the death of my mother in 2004, been a place I identify with as my own home. I have found every support, love and care every child needs in his or her life. Actually, I have been raised with discipline, hard work and the spirit to stand up for and reach out to the