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29 Grosvenor Street, Stalybridge SK15 2JN

# St George's Parish Church Stalybridge

Diocese of Manchester

35p



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND



“Your word is a lamp  
for my feet,  
a light for my path”  
Psalm 119:105

**October 2014**

# St George's Church Stalybridge

## Clergy

**Priest-in-Charge** Revd Philip Brierley 0161 338 2368

**Assistant Priest**

**Associate Priest** Revd Doreen Broadbent 0161 330 9085

**Wardens** Mrs Gillian Cotton 0161 303 2787  
Mr Derek Redeyoff 0161 338 4779

**Asst Warden** Mrs Rose Hayward 0161 303 1731  
**P.C.C. Secretary** Mrs Chris Crabtree 0161 285 1775

**Treasurer** Mr Michael Davies 0161 338 5998

**Magazine Editor** Mrs Linda Hurst 0161 330 0518

**Room Hire** Mr Norman Quest 0161 338 4691

**Worship Sunday**  
8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)  
10.30 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

1 Oct	William Reynolds	1951	15 Oct	Kenneth Stevenson	1994
	Walter Meadowcroft	1980		Herbert Battersby	2009
2 Oct	Joseph Parkinson	1966	16 Oct	William Parkinson	1899
	Minnie Duffin	2004		Gillian Checkley	2007
3 Oct	Harry Shaw	1986	17 Oct	Albert Wood	1972
	Paul Thomas Sykes	1992		Eveline Travis	2013
4 Oct	Harry Lees	1984	19 Oct	Harry Hamilton	1982
	Barbara Robinson	2007		Dorothy Turner	2006
	Vera Redfern	2008	22 Oct	Stuart Priestley	1968
5 Oct	Gladys Worsnip	2002	23 Oct	Sidney Moorcroft	1989
6 Oct	Esther Wheal	1983	25 Oct	Myfanwy Spencer	1985
8 Oct	Olivia Haigh	1988		Muriel Grace Castle	2010
9 Oct	Ethel Stokes	1981	26 Oct	Dennis Selby	1981
	Alfred Benjamin Street	2007		Alice Kershaw Wood	1983
10 Oct	George Harry Garnett	1993	27 Oct	Paul Quaraby	2004
	Paulette Davenport	2009		Norrie Stewart	2007
11 Oct	Margaret Bates	1980	28 Oct	Ethel May Nuttall	2007
12 Oct	Alice Brierley	1985		Lily Burgess	2010
	Ellen Ridgeway	2001	29 Oct	John McKee	1986
	Joan Pilling	2012		Kyle Richard Turner	1987
13 Oct	Doreen Kay	2004		Eric Lister Jones	1995
14 Oct	George Alan Wilson	2010		Edna Smyth	2004



### 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

## **From the Registers**

### **Baptisms**

*We welcome into the Lord's family*

#### **7 September**

Archie Leo Wilkinson, Boulderstone Road, Stalybridge  
Emily Ann Oldham, Ridge Hill Lane, Stalybridge

#### **21 September**

Kaiden James Martin, Huddersfield Road, Stalybridge  
++++++

### **Weddings**

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

#### **13 September**

Mark John Powell and Chloe Elizabeth Pragnall

#### **27 September**

Marco Colin Teeney and Rebecca Louise Darby  
++++++

### **Funerals**

*Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord*

#### **26 August**

Gordon Thomas Wright, Harris Avenue, Denton

#### **1 September**

Vera Hague (age 89 years) St George's Street, Stalybridge

#### **17 September**

John Clarke (age 79 years) Springs Lane, Stalybridge  
++++++



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.

## **LOOKING AFTER ST.GEORGE'S**

### **"CHURCHES ARE ACADEMIES FOR THE TEACHING OF MORAL AND SOCIAL VALUES AND A PLACE PROVIDING PEACE FOR THE SOUL"**

This month's lead-article gives me the opportunity to describe how and why we keep our church 'up and running'. Subjects covered here are largely ecclesiastical and filled with interesting and new facts. In itself, my article is less enthralling but can I suggest **it is clearly of the utmost importance** and am sure you will be thrilled with its content, resulting in many of you readers queuing to join the various volunteer groups which you will read about herein!

May I start by saying that whilst not easy now, in many respects things are easier than they were!! The Old St Georges church had a stormy past with parishioner's unrest and the building itself falling down. We thankfully haven't had to contend with those issues. yet!

New St George's as it was initially called, is now in its 174 th. year and is a Grade 2 Listed building and a fine landmark in the locality. It is in relatively good condition and sited in neat and tidy grounds.

Since then it has served the local community admirably. We have a good congregation with several services each week, which crucially includes a Junior Church for our much younger members. In addition, much use is made of our community rooms by members and other groups for a myriad of purposes. These include; a thriving parents and tiny-tots group; Rainbows (uniform group); regular church fairs and socials for all ages; musical concerts; dancing classes; quizzes; coffee mornings and is even used as a Polling Station and Councilors surgery.

As a matter of course, we are required to have an Architect who advises us whenever necessary. They conduct an extensive examination of our buildings, resulting in a report grandly called the "Quinquennial Report". This gives us a five year plan for maintenance of the more major matters. The latter refers in the main to extensive repairs required to the roof and gutters. ( urgent but just 'holding together') Alongside pointing issues, this gives a total estimated cost of around £300,000 pounds, with our church having to find a hefty proportion of that sum! This could only be

achieved with massive aid from grant-giving bodies such as the Heritage Fund and is an ongoing aim for the future, of the Parochial Church Council. We have been unsuccessful in many recent bids for such large sums, as funds available are well short of that which is required for repairs to all churches bidding for cash-aid. Over the years however and through tenacious fund-raising efforts, smaller amounts of several thousands of pounds have been raised from/by church members resulting in us completing projects such as building a tasteful Garden of Remembrance in the grounds; the replacement of very old and inefficient central heating boilers; new lighting system in the Nave and very soon, the church will have its carpets replaced and more comfortable pew cushions. (a major relief to many!) So, major works aside, we are doing relatively well thanks to the generosity of many people.

The Architects Quinquennial Report is complemented by having our own extensive Maintenance Plan via which we do all preventative and maintenance tasks. These include; checking the safety of all 500 plus grave headstones, clearing drains, emergency lighting tests, electrical appliance and fire extinguisher testing , cutting the grass and pruning trees overhanging paths . The list goes on and on! This ensures all jobs are done and covers the safety of users of our church building and grounds.

We all know looking after our own house means decorating, cleaning, gardening and dealing with breakages through normal wear and tear. Imagine then, that your house is the size of St. Georges with grounds to match! I can tell you that there would be a need for full-time maintenance staff if all were to be kept in good order, with a price-tag to match.

Fortunately at St George's we have members who give a commitment in dealing with as many as they can of these 'housekeeping' matters, from leaky roof gutters to cleaning and polishing brasses. These wonderful people do a splendid job in saving money which can then be diverted towards other needs including paying for professional contractors where required. This was admirably demonstrated recently in our setting-up of a cleaning Rota made up of church members instead of paying for cleaners. In addition, many other jobs including the massive grounds maintenance tasks, are done by volunteers saving the church thousands

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of pounds over the year. Luckily, we have excellent tools available, headed by an indispensable sit-on lawn-mower for our extensive grounds. (We all like driving this around! ) Most importantly though, we are very fortunate in that some of our volunteers have professional experience in building management and trades from their working life. We certainly need more of these!

With running costs at St.Georges around £76,000 each year, you may well ask "is it all worth it? " To answer that question, I would ask you to consider "what would society be like if there were no churches - if they had all closed down because people thought they could do without them -they may say they can believe in God without going to church." However with no churches, where would those people get their faith to express at home? We need churches. We would be in a parlous state with little or no moral leadership! I am not aware of any other organization which could do this. We need help and encouragement (i.e. churches) to supply the lead in how to live good lives alongside one another. IT MUST BE WORTH IT..... IT'S GOT TO BE.

So basically, I have described what is involved in keeping a church open and why. They need to be kept alive. No-body does what churches do and there really is little to be wary of. We know of the bad things religious extremists have done over the ages and too many areas of the world are currently suffering from this. Nevertheless, there is so much good in all religions and it is this which must be focused on and openly promoted. One way we can do something about it is to keep our religious buildings- our special "Academies"- alive in our communities. This will go some way in helping achieve a more peaceful world. All we need then is for the world's politicians to do their bit!!

George Vernon (volunteer worker)  
October 2014

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## BEETLE DRIVE

The Beetle Drive planned for Wednesday 15th October has had to be postponed for operational reasons. We hope to re-schedule it for some time in the Spring.

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



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After his induction, Harry met the  
leaders of the other denominations

## CHURCH FINANCES

### August 2014 Weekly Giving

Date	Sunday	Open Plate	Envelopes	Total	Monthly Shortfall
3 Aug 2014	Trinity 7	£39.60	£278.50	£318.10	
10 Aug 2014	Trinity 8	£52.64	£298.50	£351.14	
17 Aug 2014	Trinity 9	£21.20	£254.50	£275.70	
24 Aug 2014	Bartholomew	£24.94	£239.60	£264.54	
31 Aug 2014	Trinity 11	£45.74	£127.50	£173.24	
	Standing Orders etc		£909.00	£909.00	
				<b>£2291.72</b>	<b>-£1208.28</b>

### September 2014 Weekly Giving

Date	Sunday	Open Plate	Envelopes	Total	Monthly Shortfall
7 Sep 2014	Trinity 12	£26.35	£365.50	£391.85	
14 Sep 2014	Holy Cross Day	£41.65	£311.50	£353.15	
21 Sep 2014	Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist	£38.13	£296.50	£334.63	
28 Sep 2014	Trinity 15/Harvest	£20.20	£459.50	£479.70	
	Standing Orders etc		£909.00	£909.00	
				<b>£2468.33</b>	<b>-£1031.67</b>

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

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## September 200 Club Winners

The 200 Club winners for September are:

1st Prize	£30	29	Victoria Hayward
2nd Prize	£15	86	Ella Walker
3rd Prize	£ 5	21	Timothy Hayward



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**Now open Willow Wood's new Coffee Shop is situated at  
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**Cappuccinos, lattes and even just a good old cup of tea  
are all available together with biscuits, home made cakes  
and scones.**



**Why not call in for a cuppa and a light snack and  
pick up a bargain at the same time?!**  
**Open 10.00am—3.30pm Monday—Saturday**

## Readings and Psalms for October 2014

Sun 5 <sup>th</sup>	16th Sunday after Trinity	
10.30	Isaiah 5.1-7; Psalm 80.9-17; Philippians 3.4b-14; Matthew 21.33-end	
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	Galatians 1.13-end; Psalm 139.1-9; Luke 10.38-end
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup>	17th Sunday after Trinity	
8.30	Isaiah 25.1-9; Matthew 22.1-14	
10.30	Isaiah 25.1-9; Psalm 23; Philippians 4.1-9; Matthew 22.1-14	
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	Galatians 5.1-6; Psalm 119.41-48; Luke 11.37-41
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup>	18th Sunday after Trinity	
10.30	Isaiah 45.1-7; Psalm 96.1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1.1-10; Matthew 22.15-22	
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.30	Ephesians 2.12-end; Psalm 85.7-end; Luke 12.35-38
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup>	19th Sunday after Trinity—Bible Sunday	
8.30	Colossians 3.12-17; Matthew 24.30-35	
10.30	Colossians 3.12-17; Matthew 24.30-35 <i>Worship For All</i>	
Tues 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	Isaiah 28.14-16; Psalm 119.89-96; Ephesians 2.19-

++++++

### September Crossword Solution

#### ACROSS

1 Access, 4 Blinds, 8 Rhyme, 9 Loyalty, 10 Antwerp, 11 Aenon , 12 Loftiness ,  
17 Satan, 19 Obadiah , 21 On earth , 22 Storm , 23 Exhale , 24 Depths

#### DOWN

1 Adrian, 2 Crystal , 3 Siege , 5 Lay bare , 6 Nylon , 7 Saying , 9 Lappidoth ,  
13 Funeral, 14 Spit out , 15 Ashore , 16 Thomas , 18 Teeth , 20 Aisle

CAP

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Tuesday's 7th, 14th and 21st October 2014  
Courses are at 2.30pm or 7.30pm

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Tony Bardsley, Anne Wellock or Vera Wormald  
or contact the church office on 0161 304 9308

life in response to God. Fully devoted to God, and fully prepared to give everything for others, his life of humility and action have led to him to be remembered as one of the most influential men of medieval times.

Most High, Glorious God,  
enlighten the darkness of our minds.  
Give us a right faith,  
a firm hope and a perfect charity,  
so that we may always  
and in all things  
act according to Your Holy Will.

*Francis of Assisi: Vocation Prayer*

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### All Souls Service

Our annual service All Souls Service, when we remember those who we love but see no longer, will be held on 2nd November at 3.00pm. If you would like the name of a family member or friend read out at this service, then please add their names to the list that will appear at the back of church towards the end of this month.

Everyone is most warmly invited to attend and to light a candle in memory of their loved one.

### I ❤️ STALYBRIDGE Clean Up Morning

Our next clean up morning in Stalybridge is going to be on Saturday 11th October, 9.30am - 1.00pm.

Amongst other things we will be tidying up the planters by the side of the canal with the help and guidance of the Canal and River Trust.

We will meet at Holy Trinity church at 9.30am and finish with a BBQ and Stalybridge Old Band will be there to entertain us. Should be a great morning. See you there!



## Saint of the Month

**4 October**

### **Francis of Assisi, Friar, Deacon, Founder of the Friars Minor, 1226**

The son of Pietro Bernardone, a wealthy cloth merchant, Francis worked with his father until he was 20. He was well known in Assisi for his love of parties and celebrations. In 1202, as a result of a border dispute between Assisi and Perugia, Francis was taken prisoner and held for a year. On his release he returned to Assisi and continued his energetic way of life. However, after a long period of illness and a further taste of army life, Francis began to grow weary of his lifestyle. He made a pilgrimage to Rome, and was greatly affected by the beggars that he met in the city.

When he returned to Assisi Francis resigned from his father's business and left his old friends behind. He stole a bag of cloth from his father and sold it, using the proceeds to repair church buildings. He was never reconciled with his father. While he was working on the Church of Saint Damiano one morning he heard a reading from Matthew chapter 10, in which Jesus asks his disciples to leave all behind them. Francis understood these words to be directly spoken to him.

People soon began to join the man who by now had a reputation for simple living and charity rather than for extreme behaviour and partying. He formed a group of followers, who called themselves the 'Friars Minor' and they quickly developed into a religious order.

The order spread, and Francis travelled. He attempted to reach Africa, but illness forced him back to Italy. He journeyed with the Crusaders, but preached a spiritual crusade rather than a physical war. He returned to Italy, and divided his rapidly growing order into manageable districts. He appointed other people to be in charge and wrote a 'Rule of Life'. Francis resisted seeking full approval for his order from the Papacy until 1223. By the time of his death there was a men's order, a women's order (instituted by Clare – feast day 11 August) and a lay order. He received the gift of stigmata in 1224, and died in 1226.

Francis is known as a gentle and generous man who radically altered his

## Some dates for your diary - October 2014

Thurs	2nd	9.00a.m.	Time 4 Fun (0 to 5yrs)
		7.30p.m.	Tameside Community Voices Practice
Sat	4th	10.00a.m. to 3.00p.m.	Table Top Sale
Sun	5th	<b>8.30a.m. Holy Communion</b>	
		<b>10.30a.m. Parish Eucharist</b>	
		<b>12.30p.m. Holy Baptism x 3</b>	
Mon	6th	7.00p.m.	New Seekers Bible Group
Tues	7th	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion
		1.00p.m.	Art Group
		8.00p.m.	Moving Forward Meeting
Thurs	9th	9.00a.m.	Time 4 Fun (0 to 5yrs)
Sat	11th	9.30a.m. to 12.30p.m.	Stalybridge Clean Up meet at Holy Trinity
		12.30p.m.	Wedding
Sun	12th	<b>10.30a.m. Parish Eucharist with Holy Baptism</b>	
		<b>12.30p.m. Shared Lunch</b>	
Tues	14th	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion
		1.00p.m.	Art Group
		7.45p.m.	Craft Group
Thurs	16th	9.00a.m.	Time 4 Fun (0 to 5yrs)
Sun	19th	<b>10.30a.m. Parish Eucharist</b>	
		<b>12.30p.m. Holy Baptism x 2</b>	
Tues	21st	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion
		1.00p.m.	Art Group
		8.00p.m.	Parochial Church Council Meeting
Wed	22nd	9.30a.m.	Silver Springs Academy Harvest Service
Thurs	23rd	9.00a.m.	Time 4 Fun (0 to 5yrs)
Sat	25th	3.00p.m.	Wedding
Sun	26th	<b>8.30a.m. Holy Communion</b>	
		<b>10.30a.m. Worship For All</b>	
Tues	28th	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion
		1.00p.m.	Art Group

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

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

The New Seekers are continuing to read through the Bible and at the time of writing have covered the following books: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms 1 - 104, Proverbs Chapters 1 - 32, Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, 1 Corinthians 1 - 12.....phew!! and have met in order to discuss many of the ways in which the reading of the Bible has helped us in our Christian lives.

The following is a poem that was shown to me and it just about sums up our New Seekers groups' adventure.

Yes I thought I knew my Bible  
Reading piece-meal, hit or miss  
Now a part of John or Matthew  
Then a bit of Genesis

Certain chapters of Isaiah,  
Certain Psalms, the twenty-third  
First of Proverbs, twelfth of Romans  
Yes I thought I knew the Word.

But I found that thorough reading  
Was a different thing to do.  
And the way was unfamiliar  
When I read my Bible through.

You who like to 'play' at Bible,  
Dib and dabble, here and there.  
Just before you kneel all weary  
Yawning through a hurried prayer

You who treat this Crown of Writings  
As you treat no other book.  
Just a paragraph, disjointed,  
Just a crude, impatient look.

Try a worthier procedure  
Try a broad and steady view.  
You will kneel in awesome wonder  
When you read the Bible through.

There will be an after church Bring and Share lunch on Sunday 12th October, to which you are all invited so that anyone who would like to know more about reading the Bible through in a year could come along and share the lunch with us, and maybe consider doing this wonderful thing themselves.

Further details can be obtained from Joyce Hansell (0161 338 5602)

# Mixed Blessings?



## Adventure into God!

An event for Rochdale  
Archdeaconry exploring  
children's spirituality with input  
from Revd Elizabeth Pope.

**7.30pm,  
Monday 13th  
October**

**St. Mary's Church  
Rushcroft Road  
High Crompton  
Oldham  
OL2 7PP**

We will also look at how parents  
and children can develop their  
spirituality together at home.

**For more information, contact:  
Revd Jo Farnworth;  
Rochdale Archdeaconry Young Adults Missioner  
0161 330 4925; joannafarnworth@aol.com**