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## St George's Parish Church Stalybridge

Diocese of Manchester

35p



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND



2015

# St George's Church Stalybridge



## Clergy

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

**Wardens** Mr Derek Redeyoff 0161 338 4779

Mrs Janet Vidler 0161 303 7689

**Deputy Wardens** Mrs Rose Hayward 0161 303 1731

Mrs Gillian Cotton 0161 303 2787

**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** Mrs Janet Vidler 0161 303 7689  
email: stgwarden@hotmail.co.uk

## 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 Dec	Dean Stanley	1976	19 Dec	Jonas Ward	2000
2 Dec	Harriet Shenton	1976	22 Dec	Jesse Wyld	1991
	Harold Harrison Rowbottom	1988		Gladys Jakeman	1999
	Harry Brayshaw	2001		Winifred Barnshaw	2005
4 Dec	Ellen Wooley Lomas	1970	23 Dec	Emma Gudger	1962
7 Dec	Edgar Jones	1990		James Stott	1983
7 Dec	Moreen Branwood	1943		Sarah Hannah Hague	1981
9 Dec	Jack Fitchett	1951		Dorothy Stott	2012
10 Dec	Jane Anne Greenhalgh	1978	24 Dec	Mona Jefferson	1988
	Malcolm James Donald	2008		Audrey Fallows	2012
11 Dec	Neil Kershaw	2013	25 Dec	Frank Buckley	1974
12 Dec	George Woolley Buckley	1990		James Reedy	1982
	Joseph Kinder	1929		Derek Hibbert	1992
13 Dec	Frank Turner	1976		David William Heap	1979
14 Dec	Gertrude Barbara Fitchett	1938		Ivy Holt	2009
	Ernest Ives	1975		Marion Beatrice Ogden	2013
	Nora Grace Council	2008	28 Dec	Emily Rosina Pendleton	1987
	Philip Edward Davenport	2010		Alfred Wilde	1988
15 Dec	William Dyson Duckworth	2010		Thomas Holt	2009
16 Dec	Eva Whittingham	1984		George Henry Burtoft	2010
	John Hague	1968		Alan Oldham Miller	2011
	Minnie Press	1984	29 Dec	Joan Pickles	2006
	Edith Longden	2008	31 Dec	Alice Shenton	1989
17 Dec	Anthony John David Gough	1993		Joseph Lees	2000
	Bertha Barnfield	1998		John White	2008
	Norman Quest	2001			
	William Hadfield	2012			
18 Dec	Martha Ireson	1937			
	Mary Lloyd	1999			
	Thelma Adnett	2005			
	Edith Brayshaw	2010			

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## 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*

#### **1 November**

Amelia Grace Beaumont, The Fairways, Dukinfield

#### **15 November**

Lottie-Lee Willis, Providence Street, Ashton-under-Lyne

### Funerals

*Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord*

#### **2 November**

Margaret Carrington (age 90 years) Stamford Court formerly of Broadhill Road, Stalybridge

#### **11 November**

Mary Roberts (age 90 years) Sand Street, Stalybridge

#### **19 November**

Leslie Percy Butterworth (age 86 years) Holyoake Street, Droylsden

#### **20 November**

Doreen Battersby (age 93 years) The Lakes Nursing Home, Dukinfield formerly of Springs Lane, Stalybridge

#### **23 November**

May Robinson (age 90 years) Staley House, Huddersfield Road, formerly of Demesne Drive, Stalybridge

#### **27 November**

Gary Cain (age 49 years) Baydon Avenue, Higher Broughton, Salford  
(at St Paul's 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.

## 175th Anniversary - A Year In Review

As we approach the end of our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year celebrations, I want to look back at the social events we have enjoyed and other happenings over the last twelve months.



We began the year in January, not with a social event, but with the laying of new carpet throughout the worship area. This replaced the one laid down almost thirty years ago and which was showing signs of wear and tear. Hopefully the new carpet will last us equally as long.

January, too, was the month for our traditional Senior Citizens' Party. This was held on 24th January and was enjoyed, not only by those who were invited, and those who took part in the entertainment, but also by the helpers behind the scenes. We are very grateful to all who work hard each year to make these parties so successful.

In February, some sixty members of the church went for a Celebratory Sunday Lunch at Stamford Golf Club. It proved so popular that we have just rounded off the year with a repeat Sunday lunch, in November, at the same venue. Many thanks to Stamford Golf Club for their hospitality.

On 20th March, a good number of us went Ten Pin Bowling at Hollywood Bowl in Ashton. Martyn Corcoran was the overall individual winner with the highest score and he was awarded a bottle of wine for his efforts. His team were also the highest scorers and each member was given one of our Anniversary Pens. We hope to repeat this very enjoyable evening during 2016.

During March we received the fantastic news that we had been awarded a substantial grant from the Listed Places of Worship Scheme to help with the much needed repairs to the roof and guttering. We are very grateful to the church members who put together our application for the grant and to the group who are working with our new Architects to set the work in motion.

The April event took place, appropriately, on St George's Day. The weather was absolutely perfect and a very small but happy group caught the Folk Train at Guide Bridge station, for a ride up to Glossop. Whilst there might have been only six of us from St George's, the live music group, Klezmer Collective, a traditional Jewish band, obviously had a big following with a large number walking from Glossop railway station to Glossop Labour Club to continue listening to them there. Afterwards, the band played on the return train journey back to Manchester Piccadilly.

Our Spring Fair in May, is always a pleasant day out and this year was no exception. In addition to all the usual stalls we held our Grand Prize Raffle Draw which brought in, very successfully, some much needed funds. Again, thanks to all those who supported the Fair in any way.

In June, we celebrated our Anniversary weekend in style. The church held an Open Day and visitors came along to look at all the historic photographs kindly lent to us by parishioners both past and present. Having borrowed, from Manchester Central Library, all the Archive registers of baptisms, weddings and funerals for both Old and New St George's, people could research a bit of their family history and this proved very popular. There was also a montage of photographs of past Rose Queens and their retinues. We were treated on the Saturday evening to a wonderful musical extravaganza, courtesy of Tameside Community Voices, who just go from strength to strength.

On the Sunday, we were delighted to have as our president and preacher, our area bishop, the Right Reverend Mark Davies, to make the event even more memorable. This was followed by a Bring and Share Lunch and, in the evening, by a Songs of Praise service.

To further enhance the internal fabric of the building, June saw the arrival of new padded seat cushions for the pews. These were financed by physical effort and some very generous donations and have proved to be most comfortable and welcome.

One event was organised especially with the children in mind. Following the Junior Church Prizegiving in July, the sporty ones amongst us, met in Cheetham's Park for a Picnic in the Park and a game of rounders. Because of baptisms, I was a little late arriving and sadly never got a chance to bat, but did manage to field and throw a very good ball back to the base keeper, who wasn't too thrilled, considering I hit her on the head! No damage done, though, thank goodness.

The Ascot Ladies day, our August event, once again, proved a huge success, with the ladies turning up in all their finery for a sumptuous afternoon tea. Sadly, our Crown Green Bowling challenge, also planned for August, had to be cancelled due to lack of support.

We held a Beetle Drive in September aimed at families and supported mainly by our Brownies and their parents.

October saw quite a few of us whisked off to top Mossley for an excellent walking Treasure Trail, whilst later in the month, we held a Race Night. This latter evening was not very well supported in terms of numbers attending, but was extremely profitable financially and much enjoyed by the participants. Again many thanks to the organisers of these events for all their hard work.

Unforeseen circumstances meant that the planned Parish Revue scheduled for October had to be postponed at short notice. A new date for this will be announced shortly.

Last month we held our Christmas Fair, and managed to get Santa Claus to spend some time with us, hot foot from Lapland. All who visited him in

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his wonderful grotto were awestruck. Thanks to all who helped in any way to run the Fair and made sure that Santa returned home safely.

Throughout the year, we have held a monthly Fair Trade afternoon tea – a lovely opportunity for a relaxed natter, and most months have seen our fun quizzes. The team who win set the questions for the following month and there is usually a wide spectrum of subjects. The next quiz is scheduled for Saturday 30 January 2016 at 8.00pm.

Each year inevitably brings sorrow when we lose faithful members of our congregation. In May and in June we were saddened by the deaths of Ken Bradshaw and Ethel Barber. Ken had been involved for many years with the Boys Brigade and Ethel with the Cubs and her cakes on the home-bake stalls were legendary.

Towards the end of the year we had our Quinquennial (five yearly) inspection of all aspects of the church building. This highlighted more problems than we had anticipated and also brought about the realisation that our generous grant would only be sufficient to fund quite a small part of all the necessary repair work. We are hopeful though that we will, once again, meet this year's Diocesan Quota obligation, which qualifies us to seek further funding and, of course, our own efforts to raise funds to keep our building in good order are ongoing.

It has been a pleasure during the year to welcome some new members to our church family from All Saints, Micklehurst which, most sadly, had to close its doors. We realise what a blow this must have been to them, but do hope that they soon feel at home here and want to stay for many years to come.

Very many thanks go to our small but willing band of volunteers whose ongoing work week in, week out, keep our services and the building and all that goes on within it, functioning so well. Some of the tasks that are undertaken are seen, but many are not and without the tireless efforts of these men and women we would be so much the poorer.

It has been a good year and with God's grace we look forward in hope to the challenges he sets for us in 2016.

With my very best wishes to you all for a very Happy Christmas and a very healthy and peaceful New Year.

*Philip*

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"I'm sorry Michael – even if you HAVE changed your ring-tone to 'Away In-A-Manger', it's still ALL mobiles OFF!"

## CHURCH FINANCES

### November 2015 Weekly Giving

Date	Sunday	Open Plate	Envelopes	Total	Monthly Shortfall
1 Nov 2015	All Saints' Day	£62.36	£297.31	£359.67	
8 Nov 2015	Remembrance Sunday	£76.75	£375.50	£452.25	
15 Nov 2015	2nd before Advent	£85.55	£300.50	£386.05	
22 Nov 2015	Christ the King	£86.90	£270.50	£357.40	
29 Nov 2015	Advent Sunday	£61.00	£256.50	£317.50	
Standing Orders etc.			£864.00	£864.00	
Monthly Total				<b>£2,736.87</b>	<b>-£1664.13</b>

*\* Assuming £10 per adult per week needed for running the church this means we need £4,401.00 per month*

### 200 CLUB

The 200 Club winners for November are:

1st Prize	£30	85	Joan Vickers
2nd Prize	£15	81	Kath Parker
3rd Prize	£ 5	57	P & G Clifford

There are still some spare numbers available and new members are always welcome—remember the more members we have the more money is raised for Church Funds. The cost is £12 per year per number. If you would like to join please see Rose Hayward or ring 303 1731.



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## Readings and Psalms for December 2015

Tues 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.30	Isaiah 11.1-10; Psalm 72.1-4,18-19; Luke 10.21-24
Sun 6 <sup>th</sup>		<b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b>
	8.30	Malachi 3.1-4; Luke 3.1-6
	10.30	Malachi 3.1-4; <b>Canticle: Benedictus</b> ; Philippians 1.3-11; Luke 3.1-6
Tues 8 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	Isaiah 40.1-44; Psalm 96.1,10-end; Matthew 18.12-14
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup>		<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b>
	8.30	Zephaniah 3.14-end; Luke 3.7-18
	10.30	Zephaniah 3.14-end; <b>Canticle: Isaiah 12.2-end</b> ; Philippians 4.4-7; Luke 3.7-18
Tues 15 <sup>h</sup>	10.30	Zephaniah 3.1-2,9-13; Psalm 34.1-6,21-22; Matthew 17.1-13
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup>		<b>4th Sunday of Advent</b>
	10.30	Micah 5.2-5a; <b>Canticle: Magnificat</b> ; Hebrews 10.5-10; Luke 1.39-45
Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30	1 Samuel 1.24-end; Psalm 113; Luke 1.46-56
Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Christmas Eve</b>
	23.45	Isaiah 52.7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1.1-12; John 1.1-14
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Christmas Day</b>
	8.30	Isaiah 9.2-7; Luke 2.1-20
	10.30	Isaiah 9.2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2.11-14; Luke 2.1-20
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup>		<b>John, Apostle and Evangelist</b>
	10.30	Exodus 33.7-11a; Psalm 117; 1 John 1; John 21.19b-end
Tues 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	1 John 2.3-11; Psalm 96.1-4; Luke 2.22-35

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### November Crossword Solution

ACROSS: 1, Thanks. 4, Banner. 8, Esher. 9, Azariah. 10, Compare. 11, Ishma. 12, Doorposts. 17, Oaths. 19, Galatia. 21, Papyrus. 22, Frail. 23, Listen. 24, Hyssop.  
DOWN: 1, Trench. 2, Ashamed. 3, Karma. 5, Ananias. 6, Neigh. 7, Reheat. 9, Areopagus. 13, Observe. 14, Satraps. 15, Compel. 16, Gallop. 18, Tapes. 20, Lofty.

# Christmas Services and Carol

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**Sunday 29th November at 6 p.m.**  
**Advent Carol Service by candlelight**

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**Wednesday 16th December at 8.00pm**  
**Carol Singing at Heyrod Village Hall**

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**Thursday 17th December at 5.00pm**  
**Carol Singing at Stalybridge Station**

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**Sunday 20th December at 10.30 a.m.**  
**Christingle & Toy Service**  
**Nativity Play**

**Bring a toy to put under the tree**  
**for the Children's Society**

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**Sunday 20th December at 6.00 p.m.**  
**Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**  
**by Candlelight**

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**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**Thursday 24th December at 4.00 p.m.**  
**Service of The Blessing of the Crib**  
**with Carols**

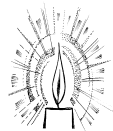
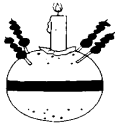
**Thursday 24th December at 11.45 p.m.**  
**Christmas Midnight Eucharist**

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**CHRISTMAS DAY**

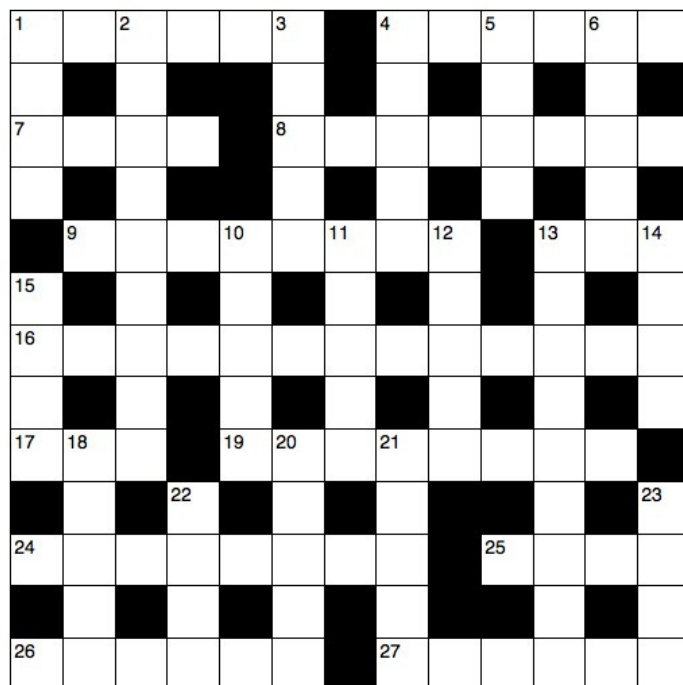
**Friday 25th December at 10.30 a.m.**  
**Christmas Day Eucharist**

*Come and worship Christ the New-born King*





## December Crossword



### Across

1 Rely (Psalm 62:7) (6), 4 stretches out the heavens like a —, and spreads them out like a tent to live in' (Isaiah 40:22) (6), 7 What the dove carried the olive leaf in, when it returned to Noah's ark (Genesis 8:11) (4), 8 Annoy (1 Samuel 1:6) (8), 9 Judah's last king, who ended his days as a blind prisoner in Babylon (Jeremiah 52:11) (8), 13 'They all — and were satisfied' (Luke 9:17) (3), 16 Eliphaz the Temanite was one; so was Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite (Job 2:11; 16:2) (4,9), 17 National Association of Evangelicals (of the USA) (1,1,1), 19 Popular song for New Year's Eve, Auld — — (4,4), 24 Able dock (anag.) (8), 25 The number of stones David chose for his confrontation with Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40) (4), 26 Elgar's best-known 'Variations' (6)  
27 Soak (Isaiah 16:9) (6)

### Down

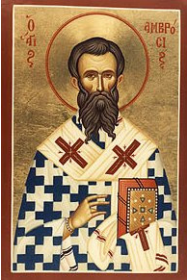
1 Money owing (Deuteronomy 15:3) (4), 2 Conciliatory (Titus 3:2) (9), 3 'Do this, whenever you — it, in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (5), 4 A group assisting in the governance of the Roman Catholic Church (5), 5 One of the gifts Joseph's brothers took with them on their second journey to Egypt (Genesis 43:11) (4), 6 'Reach out your hand and — — into my side. Stop doubting and believe' (John 20:27) (3,2), 10 Be outstandingly good (2 Corinthians 8:7) (5)  
11 'What — — that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?' (Psalm 8:4) (2,3), 12 Horse's feet (Judges 5:22) (5), 13 Notice (Deuteronomy 17:4) (9), 14 Comes between 2 Chronicles and Nehemiah (4), 15 One of Israel's northern towns conquered by Ben-Hadad (1 Kings 15:20) (4), 18 Narnia's Lion (5), 20 One of the two rivers in which Naaman would have preferred to wash (2 Kings 5:12) (5), 21 Avarice—one of the evils that come from inside people (Mark 7:22) (5), 22 Knight Grand Cross of St Michael and St George (1,1,1,1), 23 Jacob's first wife

(Psalm  
'He

## Some dates for your diary - December 2015

Tues	1st	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion
Wed	2nd	7.00p.m.	Stalybridge District Guides Carol Service
Thurs	3rd	9.00a.m.	Time 4 Fun (0 to 5yrs)
		7.30p.m.	Tameside Community Voices Practice
		7.30p.m.	Archdeaconry Eucharist at Church of the Epiphany, Droylsden
<b>Sun</b>	<b>6th</b>	<b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b>	
		10.30a.m.	Parish Eucharist & Junior Church
		12.30p.m.	Holy Baptism
Mon	7th	7.30p.m.	Memorial Service organised by Elizabeth Way
			Funeral Services
Tues	8th	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion
Thurs	10th	9.00a.m.	Time 4 Fun (0 to 5yrs)
		7.30p.m.	Tameside Community Voices Practice
<b>Sun</b>	<b>13th</b>	<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b>	
		8.30a.m.	Holy Communion
		10.30a.m.	Parish Eucharist & Junior Church
Mon	14th	7.00p.m.	Willow Wood Concert
Tues	15th	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion
		7.30p.m.	Parochial Church Council Party
Wed	16th	8.00p.m.	Carol Singing at Heyrod Village Hall
Thurs	17th	9.00a.m.	Time 4 Fun (0 to 5yrs)
		5.00p.m.	Stalybridge Churches Together Carol Singing at Stalybridge Railway Station
		7.30p.m.	Tameside Community Voices Practice
<b>Sun</b>	<b>20th</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	
		10.30a.m.	Christingle and Toy Service with Nativity Play
		6.00p.m.	A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols by Candlelight
Tues	22nd	10.30a.m.	Holy Communion
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>24th</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>	
		4.00p.m.	A Service of the Blessing of the Crib with Carols
		11.45p.m.	Christmas Midnight Eucharist
<b>Fri</b>	<b>25th</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	
		10.30a.m.	Parish Eucharist
<b>Sun</b>	<b>27th</b>	<b>First Sunday Of Christmas</b>	
		10.30a.m.	Worship For All
		12.30p.m.	Holy Baptism

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



## Saint of the Month

**7 December      Ambrose, Bishop of Milan,  
Teacher of the Faith, 397**

Born in Trier 337/9 and brought up in a Christian family, Ambrose was recommended as bishop in 374. Although he was a Christian he had not yet been baptized. After he accepted the position

Ambrose received baptism, ordination and consecration as bishop within a single week. His election as bishop is a testimony to his ability in government and his personal integrity. The Church in Milan was torn between two opposing theologies concerning the nature of Christ. The Arian party denied the full divinity of Christ, whilst the anti-Arian (or orthodox) party affirmed it. The two parties could not agree on a candidate for bishop and the argument spilled over into civil unrest. Ambrose was the only candidate both parties could agree on.

In the debate, Ambrose initially followed the decrees of the Emperor who was an Arian supporter. However he soon started to act for the defence of orthodoxy and pursued an anti-Arian agenda in his appointments and social affairs. One famous anti-Arian event occurred in 386 when the Arian party requested a church building in which to conduct their worship. Although agreed by the Emperor, the request was refused by Ambrose and he underlined the refusal by occupying the requested building with his whole congregation. The occupation lasted from Palm Sunday to Easter Day, and the time was passed by the singing of songs. It was the origin of Ambrosian chant in which hymns drew content from the religious events, rather than just Scripture. A prolific hymn writer, Ambrose became known as the founder of liturgical hymnody in the Western Church.

Ambrose had many disagreements with the Emperor Theodosius. Although a Christian, Theodosius had difficulty ruling his empire in a Christian manner, often blindly following the advice of his largely pagan court and occasionally over-reacting in a violent manner to quell public unrest. In 390 Ambrose's power over Theodosius was demonstrated. The people of Thessalonica murdered one of Theodosius' senior officers. The Emperor had the citizens invited to the

Circus and then sent in soldiers to massacre them. Records note that in three hours 6,000 citizens lost their lives. Ambrose's response was to withdraw the Eucharist from the Emperor, until he had performed public penance. Ambrose constantly challenged him over his behaviour and his policies, and pushed the boundaries of church influence deeper and deeper into the role of the State. In all this, Ambrose's main weapon was the withholding of the Eucharist from the Emperor and through this threat, Ambrose claimed for the Church the right of veto over the decisions of the State.

Ambrose was a staunch defender of the Church in a time of theological unrest and debate. He was unwilling to compromise the Church's position in society. He was also willing to act for the State, making several peace missions, and intervening in civil unrest on more than one occasion. Ambrose demanded integrity in leadership from the governing class, and from the Emperor in particular. He stated quite plainly that 'the Emperor is in the Church, not over it'. He died two years after Theodosius, on Good Friday 397.

Ambrose's 'Hymn for the time of Advent' shows how he could combine doctrine and song to produce images of theological beauty:

Redeemer of the nations come,  
That we may taste the virgin's fruit  
And every age in wonder gaze  
On such a birth, worthy of God!  
No earthly father's seed played here,  
But mystic Breath touched holy virgin womb:  
The Word of God took human form  
And human flesh blossomed divine.

*Hymn for the Time of Advent*

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