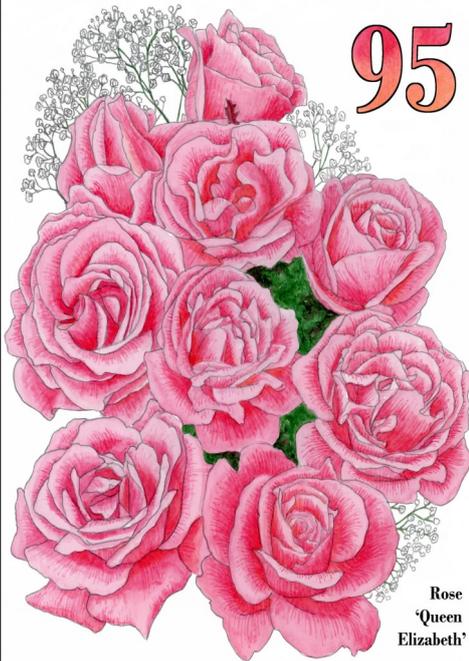


The Voice of St Paul's

June

2021



Editor: Virginia Lloyd
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A Letter from Rev'd Liz Rowles

Over the past 15 months we have spent a lot of time reflecting on loss, when through illness, death and physical separation, the 'normality of life' has altered for many people. This has been brought into focus as we marked the death of the Duke of Edinburgh and turned our thoughts to her Majesty the Queen, who at the age of 95 has lost her most loyal and devoted companion of more than 70 years.

The end of May also marked the 4-year anniversary of the Manchester Arena terror attack and a year since the murder of George Floyd. Coping with loss is a reality of life, and one that we do not like to contemplate unless we have to.

This was no different for the disciples, who in this post Easter period, found themselves alone and scared after the death of their friend, companion and teacher. Even when they discovered he was alive they still struggled with having to proclaim their Lord's resurrection. It was by no means easy. He could join with them for a meal, and then be absent again; he could appear to them in a room, and offer words of encouragement and then disappear again. They came to understand that he would leave them once again – but the outcome would be his indwelling spirit, rather than his physical presence.

Pentecost brought about a time of momentous change. The risen Lord was once again with his Father in Heaven, on earth his followers needed

strength and guidance to proclaim the Good News and to make disciples of all people.

June marks the start of a time of change for St. Paul's. Rev. Helen has moved on to pastures new and she goes with our love and our blessings after a wonderful service on 16th May, which saw the church full, a lovely occasion. Now we must look forward, pray for the Holy Spirit to descend upon us as happened on that first Pentecost, pray for the gifts of the Spirit and for guidance as to how we, at St. Paul's, in the Heaton, can proclaim the Good News and make disciples of the people we encounter.

Our Mission Action Planning Team has been thinking of ways to raise the visibility of the church, so that the people in our community know this is their church, FOR them. Following a break during the pandemic, our church bell will once again ring out on a Sunday morning to call people to worship, and our notice board will hold names of local streets that we will be praying for that month. We are hoping to hold 'coffee and cake in the church grounds' on the first Sunday of the month in July, August and September to tie in with the Heaton Moor Market. If you have any ideas for increasing our mission opportunities, please let us know, please pray for ways that we can be the hands, feet and heart of Jesus in our community.

Open my eyes

Open my eyes that I may see the deepest needs of men, women and children

Move my hands that they may feed the hungry;

Touch my heart that it may bring warmth to the despairing;

Teach me the generosity that welcomes strangers;

Let me share my possessions with people in need;

Give me the care that strengthens the sick;

Help me share in the quest to set prisoners free;

In sharing our anxieties and our love,

Our poverty and our prosperity;

We partake of your divine presence.

Amen.

Current Services at St Paul's

Sunday: 9.00 am Sunday Worship on Zoom
10.45am Parish Eucharist in church—please remember to wear a mask.

Wednesday: 9am Morning prayer on Zoom

First Friday of the month: 8.30pm Compline (Night Prayer) on Zoom. A peaceful reflective service.

Choral Evensong: 6.30pm Sunday June 27th

For further details please contact Revd. Liz 07763 188149

From the Register:

Baptism: May 2nd

Alfred McDonald Hayes

Burial of Ashes: May 5th Alan Sidebottom



The Banns will be read this month for these couples who are preparing to marry at St. Pauls :

Lauren Doyle and Alex Wilson

Eleanor Muir and Jake Griffiths

Joshua Holgate and Rebecca Snape

We pray for them as they plan their weddings.



Thank you to all who worked so hard in the gardening group in May.

The next meeting will be on **Saturday July 3rd 10 am—1pm**. All Welcome.

Thank you also to everyone who contributed during Christian Aid week.



Liz is taking a break 1st - 6th June and 23rd June - 7th July. Please contact the church wardens for anything urgent during this period.

At the APCM, which was held on Sunday 9th May, the following positions were confirmed:

Church Warden June Rolf Tel: 432 3431

Deputy Wardens Eleanor Doyle eleanor.doyle@outlook.com

Ann Worthington annw36@btconnect.com

The following members were elected to the PCC:

Alan Benvie, David Bradshaw (Treasurer Tel: 258 2698), Julian Hardstone, Margaret Hardstone, Judith McGovern (Minutes Secretary), John Prag and Gordon Viney.

The Warden, Deputy Wardens and Deputy Treasurer (Heather Davitt) are members ex-officio.



A few pictures from the happy (and sad) occasion on May 16th when we



said goodbye and thank you to (our) Helen, who had been with us for nearly 10 years.

