

**PARISH CHURCH OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, DAVYHULME**

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2024

**A GROWING, SERVING AND NURTURING CHURCH AT
THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY**

REFLECTION

Praying for the Ministry of the Church

At various points through the Church Year, we pause to pray specifically for the ministry of the Church. These days are called Ember Days and we have three at the end of the month on 25, 26 & 28 September. Ember Days give us an opportunity to give thanks for all those who serve God and their neighbour in various ways through the Church. Prayers are offered for lay and ordained leaders and there are some really good resources that the Church of England have produced for our praying. Here is a collect prayer for an Ember Day:

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful
people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Ember days also give an opportunity to pray for people who might be exploring new ways of serving God. Maybe people looking to explore ministry as a lay leader or as an ordained minister. With this in mind, we are really looking forward to welcoming John Muyita to serve as Assistant Curate from June next year. Please be praying for him and his family as he completes his final year of training before ordination.

God has been very generous to the parishes of St. Clement's and St. Mary's in providing so many people who serve the Church in such diverse and generous ways. During this coming Embertide let us all give thanks to God for those who assist with the smooth running of our parishes.

Here are some of the areas where we can give thanks to God for those who are so generous in their service: churchwardens; PCC members; ordained and lay ministers; safeguarding leaders; those who run children's Church and other activities; musicians; fundraisers & social events coordinators; treasurers and finance teams; group leaders, such as Mothers' Union; those who keep the church buildings and grounds safe, clean and tidy; hall bookings coordinators; flower arrangers; those who give their time so generously in ways that often go unnoticed; those who make generous financial

contributions to the Church's ministry; those who have administration roles; the list goes on...

All these areas are vital to the ministry of the Church – let us pray for those who fulfil these roles and give thanks to God for them. We can also pray that God will continue to call people into the places where he would like them to serve.

It's also worth remembering that a lot of our ministry falls outside the specific aspects of what we might call Church life. Many people's ministry is specifically in their workplace, at home with family, or looking after loved ones with whom they are connected. The Church's ministry extends to wherever people serve in love and the Spirit of Jesus. We are all ministers and God's kingdom comes wherever his people serve him with generosity and grace. Let us pray this coming Embertide that people will continue to respond to God's call to serve the world through the ministry of the Church.

There are varieties of gifts,
but the same Spirit.

There are varieties of service,
but the same Lord.

There are different kinds of working,
but the same God is at work in all.

There is one body, one Spirit, one hope in God's call;
one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

**There is one God, Father of all, overall and in all,
to whom Christ ascended on high.**

And through his Spirit he gives us gifts:

some are apostles, some are his prophets;
evangelists, pastors and teachers he gives us,

so that we can minister together

to build up his body,

to be mature in the fullness of Christ.

SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

**We can ensure you of a warm welcome as you join
us for worship at any of our services.**

Each Sunday and Wednesday

10.00am Eucharist

Children's Church each Sunday at 10.00am

**Tea and coffee are served in the hall after the
Sunday morning service.**

**Wednesday 4 September - we will be using the
Book of Common Prayer service at the 10.00am
Eucharist.**

For more information, please check the church website

<https://www.stmarysdavyhulme.org/>,

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15890/>



[St Mary the Virgin C of E Church, Davyhulme](#)



Instagram stmarysdavyhulme

GALA DINNER

Following last year's fabulous Gala Dinner, we have had numerous requests for this to be repeated this year. Good news! We have booked this event for Saturday 21st September, at the St John Henry Newman Centre, Davyhulme Road. Tickets this year

are £37.50 each which includes a 3-course meal and entertainment. Please do think about coming along and bringing your friends.

As we continue to raise money for church funds, there will also be raffles and other games on the night. For tickets, please contact Angela or Liz. Donations of raffle prizes are much appreciated; please see Liz/ Angela.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Our Harvest Festival this year will be on Sunday 6 October at 10.00am. As in recent years, our harvest gifts will be donated to Stretford Food Bank as will the gifts from St Mary school Harvest Festival.

CHURCH FLOWERS

I am sure that you have all appreciated the lovely flowers that enhance our church week by week.

If you would like to contribute towards the cost of these flowers, perhaps to mark a special occasion or in memory of someone special, please could you add your name to the list on the church noticeboard. Gift Aid envelopes are available if you are able to gift aid your donation. Thank you.

CHURCH FINANCE

Thank you to all those who give regularly and generously to the upkeep of this church. Only with the help of our church family can we keep continuing to meet the rising cost of maintenance and repairs that are necessary to maintain our church in good order.

If you would like to join the church giving scheme, or have any queries about giving, please contact Niki, the treasurer or Yvonne. The Gift Aid that we can claim on Gift Aided donations makes a significant contribution to church finances. Please do pray about how you may be able to continue to help financially and in so many other ways.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Friday 25 October – Back by popular request! Bingo Night with our very own Sue McGrane. Licensed bar.

Saturday 30 November – THE Christmas fair! More information next month.

DIOCESE

For up-to-date information about what is happening around our Diocese just click on this link and sign up to the weekly e-news.

enews@manchester.anglican.org

You are also invited to join the Diocese Transforming Prayer Community where you will receive a prayerful reflection in your inbox each week.

YOUNG PEOPLE

Some of our young people come along to the Sunday morning Eucharist now. Do remember there is also the Wednesday 10 a.m. service that may fit in with your commitments.

We also have a weekly activity sheet and reflection from Rootsontheweb.com that can be emailed wherever their studies and employment take you.

MOTHERS' UNION

The next meeting is Wednesday 11 September at 2.30 pm, all are welcome. We meet in the church for our Eucharist first then gather for refreshments and a chat in the hall afterwards.

CHURCH GARDENS

After a productive summer in our little veg garden, we are now looking for people to help with tidying around the borders of the grounds and flower beds for weeds and little tree saplings before the autumn leaves fall. As always, we are grateful to our lawn and hedge helpers. Please let us know if you could help. welcomed@stmarysdavyhulme.org

NEVER FORGOTTEN BABY PEER LOSS SUPPORT

Chelle sends a big thank you for all the support from the church in making the group a success please. A supportive safe space for anyone affected by baby loss. For further information and future dates please contact racheljenj@hotmail.com

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children's church activities are held in the hall at 10.00am on a Sunday and then we join everyone in church for the Eucharist. Stories, craft, songs, games, prayers for around 30 minutes. It has been special to welcome new families on a Sunday, and we are grateful for the extra adult help to lead the older children's group with bible study and discussion.

childrenschurch@stmarysdavyhulme.org

ECO CHURCH

During August we shared our vegetable harvest with the Ripple Effect who were excited to receive photos and an update of our work. By twinning our church garden, with a garden in Migori, Kenya we are now helping families access 3 years training in sustainable organic farming. King Charles is head of the patrons supporting [Ripple Effect | About us](#). You may want to consider twinning your garden too.

FOOD BANK

More people than ever are turning to food banks and the sharp increase in people needing help is outstripping food donations. Donations can be left at church on Wednesday and Sundays. They are also grateful for carrier bags too. Thank you.

QR CODE

This QR code will take you directly to the church contactless giving device. Using this via your phone, you are able to then make a donation directly to the church bank account. Thank you.

